



PEACE HILL CONTEMPLATIVE COMMUNITY

2024 Winter Newsletter



Cole Arthur Riley Coming to Durham in February 2024

Author of NYT bestseller, *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us* and just released *Black Liturgies*, Cole Arthur Riley is coming to Durham for two public appearances on February 16th, 2024. Cole Arthur Riley is the creator and writer of Black Liturgies, a project that integrates spiritual practice with Black emotion, Black literature, and the Black body. Her work can be found on [instagram@blackliturgies](https://www.instagram.com/blackliturgies)

An afternoon presentation on February 16th will be held from 2-3:30 pm at Miller Morgan Auditorium on North Carolina Central University campus. For more details and to register: <https://peacehillavila.org/event/dignity-justice-and-joy-holding-on-to-our-dignity-in-challenging-times/>

On the evening of the 16th, attendees will gather at Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church in Durham from 7-8:30pm. A book signing will follow the presentation. Books available prior to and at the event. For more details and to register: <https://peacehillavila.org/event/dignity-justice-and-joy-holding-on-to-our-dignity-in-challenging-times-2/>

Both events are free, and registration is recommended.

Both events are co-sponsored by Duke University Chapel, Living the Word Justice and Equity Ministry, Resource Center for Women & Ministry in the South, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, and Episcopalians United Against Racism.

Kitchen Rehabilitation Underway During Winter Break

A new year brings a new kitchen to Avila! Following demolition, the space will be shiny and user-friendly by mid-January with new stoves, dishwasher, metal shelving, floor tile, cookware, and electric wiring. The work is being done by Jordan Curtis, who serves as Avila's Maintenance and Repair Manager for Self-Help, the facility owner. Peace Hillers including Pat Eder, Phil Mathews, and Terry Allebaugh, have provided Jordan some volunteer assistance along the way.



New Event Series at Avila by Peace Hill

Breathing Space is a recurring opportunity that takes place at Avila, 711 Mason Road on the second and fourth Fridays of each month from 4-5 pm, starting January 12, 2024. With guidance from various facilitators, participants will come together to stop, breathe, and experience stillness at deeper levels. Meditation, prayer, nature walks, noble silence, reflection, and music are some various engaged in these sessions. Sessions will end with a brief time of sharing. No registration needed; simply show up at Avila. Posted signage will direct to that week's meeting space.

Turning Points: Season to Season will offer participants the opportunity to gather at Avila on the solstices and equinoxes. The intention of these day-long retreats will be to hold a space for each other to acknowledge, integrate and celebrate the silent changes in nature and within our own beings. Silence, stillness, journaling, and sharing will be the primary practices during these gatherings. 9 am – 3 pm at Avila, 711 Mason Road, Durham NC Tuesday, March 19; Thursday, June 20; Sunday, September 22; Saturday, December 21. Registration will be required and there will be a fee for these events.

A Brief Respite is a monthly series tailored to nonprofit leaders offering them a chance to slow down for a moment, catch their breath, be still and be connected to the essentials of air, ground, sky, and one another. Participants gather at Avila, 711 Mason Road Durham from 10 am – 1 pm with lunch provided. There is no charge, but registration is required. Email terry.allebaugh@gmail.com for more information.

2024 Overnight Retreats by Peace Hill at Avila: Mark Your Calendars



Howard Thurman Retreat, April 5th and 6th

An overnight retreat led by Dumas Harshaw and Phil Mathews

The Seven Homecomings, May 3rd and 4th

An overnight retreat led by Karen Ziegler

Celtic Christianity, October 24th – 26th

A two-night retreat led by Terry Allebaugh

Visit our New Website: <https://peacehillavila.org/>