



MEALS:

Meals will be family style at Timber Lodge. We take turns “sloping, mopping, hopping, and stopping.”

What might I get out of a retreat?

*“I attended the retreat for the first time just thinking it would be an opportunity for a weekend escape from the busyness of life. I enjoyed getting to know several of the men during the work session and the afternoon free time touring the area. The weekend became special for me as I sat on a bench in the middle of the woods in prayer and for the first time in 47 years I heard an audible response from God, it is an experience I will reflect on for many years to come...
...I encourage you and your breakout groups to attend the retreat and not only grow closer to each other but spend time reconnecting with God.” Glenn*

SERVICE WORK PROJECTS:

Work projects will depend on the number of men and the skills of the men attending. Please let Paul know what specific skills you can provide.

LODGING:

Air-conditioned bunkhouse and A-frames. Please bring your own bedding, towels, personal items & pillow. Camp sites and RV electrical hook ups are available. Try to keep cell phones at home or off.

What can I expect when I arrive?

Friday:

- Arrive at Shannondale when you can – Get familiar with the location & the other men
- Retreat begins with an orientation meeting, welcomes and sharing at 10:00 p.m.
- Optional exploration of National Park and other scenic natural areas. We will gather at Main Street Café, 508 N Main St in Salem at 9:00 for a hearty breakfast and/or meet at Shannondale to unload and depart for exploration at 11:00. All you can eat catfish dinner at Ruby's Family Restaurant, 101 Main St in Eminence at 5:00.

Saturday:

- Hearty Timber firehouse breakfast
- Service projects at Shannondale
- Lunch and Afternoon Activities:
 - Canoeing – (\$40 extra cost)
 - Golf – (extra cost)
 - Hiking, Relaxing & conversation
- Steak Dinner
- Bonfire / star-gazing / conversation

Sunday:

- Breakfast and Clean-up
 - Church Service at Shannondale UCC



A \$20 deposit is requested by April 25. Make check out payable to and mail to retreat founder, Jonathan Jones, 7220 Chamberlain Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63130. Balance to be paid upon arrival at retreat (cash preferred).



For more information, contact Paul Koch, Disciples Regional Minister, at paul.cma@sbcglobal.net or 636-221-7065

Paul will be more than happy to speak to men in your church about Shannondale, jump-starting your men's ministry or other topics. He would appreciate knowing if you are coming so carpooling might be arranged.

What is Shannondale?

Shannondale Community Center is a mission project of the United Church of Christ serving the spiritual, educational, and economic needs of people in Shannon and surrounding counties. Created in the 1920's after the deforestation devastation in the Ozarks, Shannondale encompasses the Bucher Memorial Tree Farm, the oldest continuing tree farm in the state of Missouri and largest non-profit carbon credit investor. The tree farm illustrates continuing commitment to God's land and its resources.

Shannondale comprises 4000 wooded acres, 48 miles south of Rolla, 21 miles south of Salem and 21 miles north of Eminence on Highway 19. Its vast land is adjacent to Ozark National Scenic Riverways.



Why do we have this retreat? To Rediscover Your Soul in Nature!

This annual weekend draws men from many places in their faith journey to sacred ground. Through God's beckoning call for us to return to nature, together, we touch core aspects of our being. Service, play, rugged recreation, silent reflection in nature, sharing around bonfire, table fellowship, heart-felt worship, and many one-on-one deep encounters are just some of the ways this retreat helps us find ourselves and our spiritual center.

For some, Shannondale is a way to give back to a poor community. Some need the experience to get away from the hectic life in the city. Many enjoy the opportunity to spend time with other Christian men. It is an annual personal reflection on life and a reminder of our spiritual gifts.

Aside from the incredible experiences offered in one weekend, Shannondale jump-starts men's spiritual transformation in daily life. You owe it to your family and you owe it to your friends to experience meaningful time together by becoming their brother. This weekend makes it so.



What is this retreat all about?

For sixteen years, Mid-America Men have discovered Shannondale as a special place where we can get away and rest a while. Shannondale is unique from most locations since it has very limited cell phone coverage. We can really disconnect from the outside world and reconnect with God. Shannondale is a ministry to be experienced. For retreat participants, this ministry gives back many times over.

Return to the Wilderness *God Will Speak to You: Come Hear/Here for Yourself*

Mid-America Men & Friends Ozarks Getaway & Retreat May 3-5, 2019

SHANNONDALE Tree Farm & Retreat Center
Shannon County, Missouri / GPS: Timber
(Adjacent to the Ozark National Scenic Riverways & the new Echo Bluffs and Current River State Parks)

COST: \$75 per person – Includes Lodging & Food



- Purpose:**
- 1) Spiritual growth. For our sacred bonfire: bring a drum, tom tom, bongos, or any percussion instrument and a large garden stone (for a pillow.)
 - 2) Fellowship - many one-on-one, side-by-side times
 - 3) Mentoring opportunities to each other.
 - 4) Recreation & fun (optional Current River float)
 - 5) Great eating (Firehouse breakfast & steak dinner)
 - 6) Service to the Shannondale community
 - 7) Opportunity to recharge