

Collage "Waking Up" by Doug Van Houten



The end of the world as we know it is not the end of the world, full stop. Together, we will find the hope beyond hope, the paths that lead into the unknown world that lies ahead.

— The Dark Mountain Manifesto (Kingsnorth & Hine)

The times are urgent, let us be slowed down by the beings that exceed us. ... The times are urgent, let us be released from the traps of the things we already know.

--Bayo Akomolafe author of *These Wilds Beyond Our*

Fences: Letters to My Daughter on Humanity's Search for Home

What would it be like to surrender to mystery? What would it be like to slow down, to stop trying to fix the world for ourselves, for our grandchildren, and for all the creatures of this planet, and instead take their hands, and the hands of our ancestors, and the hands of our great great grandchildren and with fierce love make a path by walking it?

BEYOND HOPE

Choosing fierce love in a time of catastrophe

a retreat at Rolling Ridge, near Harpers Ferry, WV ~ October 13-15, 2023

with Jim Hall, Cheryl Hellner, and Lindsay McLaughlin

By now we must see that we are witnessing the end of a world. Much of what we have known, including our way of living on the planet, cannot endure.

We are grieving, bereft, confused, and lost.

This is when and where our work begins.

Climate collapse is too small to describe the trouble we're in.

We must dive in way upstream.

This is a retreat for those who yearn to move beyond the hope that we can fix our problems, and instead choose a way to live with fierce love, surrendering to mystery amid the deep predicament in which we find ourselves.

Mystery resides among the more than human: tree and forest, mountain and river, fox and turtle, hawk and bramble. By learning to love fiercely and by reweaving

these ancient relationships we might possibly become creatures who have a place within the unfolding story on the far side of the end of the world as we know it.

The path is small and branching, hardly a path at all...but we will set forth.

Join us to

- wander the sacred land of Rolling Ridge listening for the wisdom of the wild inhabitants of the forest, mountain, and river

- listen to our own stories of how we are living courageously as we stand on

the edge of a world that is unraveling – stories of how we are walking uncharted paths into the unknown world that lies ahead, longing and dreaming of a world that we cannot imagine but that we know in our bones will be a home for all

- gather for council and to listen to an old, old story to encourage our hearts. We will dance in sacred circles, sing, and breathe together with each other and most especially with our sacred kin all over this special land, kin who eagerly await our coming.

\$350 single occupancy; \$250 shared (full or bunk); \$200 camp
Register at www.friendsofsilence.net