

# PROGRAM 2017

## Monthly meditation practice

On the second Saturday of the month,  
from Friday 6pm to Sunday 9am.

Silent time of contemplation with intense meditation. See website: [../meditprogram.pdf](http://../meditprogram.pdf)

Dates for monthly meditation practice:

Feb. 10-12 / March 10-12 / April 7-9 / May 12-14 /  
June 9-11 / July 7-9 / Aug. 11-13 / Sept. 8-10 / Oct.  
13-15 / Nov. 10-12 / Dec. 8-10.

*Cost: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

*We are ready to organise a day of introduction to meditation if someone wishes it. Please announce yourself!*

## Monthly community days

On the third Saturday of the month,  
from (8.30am or) 12.30pm to 4.30pm.

DCH is a non-residential community where we try to discover new ways of sharing and of supporting each other on our practical and spiritual path.

We meet each month for lunch and in the afternoon share about a theme.

When the weekend workshops described below happen, they do on this same third Saturday of the month and become a more intensive part of our regular community meetings.

Dates for community days (from 12.30pm to 4.30pm - except for workshops): Jan. 21 (picnic on the beach)/ Feb. 18-19 (workshop) / March 18 / April (Easter) none / May 20-21 (workshop) / June 17 / July 15 / Aug. 19-20 (workshop) / Sept. 16 / Oct. none / Nov. 18-19 (workshop) / Dec. 16.

Four times a year we have also, before lunch, a working bee in the morning (from 8.30am). At 12.30pm we continue with lunch and the community sharing described above. You can take part in the morning only, or afternoon only, or both, as you prefer.

Dates for community days with working bee:  
March 18 / June 17 / July 15 / Sept. 16.

*Cost: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

## February 18-19:

### A time to find new ways of living

Workshop. From Sat 9am to Sun 5pm.

Facilitator: Yves

When we believe that life is sacred, we discover new priorities: this is a radical change of mind. And we feel the need to adapt our ways of life to this truth. We have to learn how to do this and it is not always that evident! Luckily matter is a great teacher to make visible what happens in our relationships with our surroundings and to help us find more adapted ways of living.

We will investigate why we behave as we do under the pressure of conformism in very practical issues of our daily life, such as (true) needs, resources, work, nature, land, technology. Then we will explore how a change in our values, attitudes and behaviours can bring more peace and happiness into our being. We will look at these different aspects of our life in a very practical and playful way. It is all about joy, not guilt!

*Cost for accommodation and meals: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

## May 20-21:

### Listening to the call for meaning in our hearts

Workshop. From Sat 9am to Sun 5pm.

Facilitators: Ursula and Yves

Inspired by Viktor E. Frankl, Viennese psychiatrist (and young contemporary of Freud), who "tested" his thoughts on humankind's need and search for meaning in the crucible of his experiences in Auschwitz, we will examine how we, too, can resist the fear messages of today's public debate and media, develop resilience and discover our innate will to meaning and its freedom through the uniquely human capacities of self-transcendence and self-detachment.

*Cost for accommodation and meals: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

## June 24 + Sept. 23:

### Enneagram 3

Workshop. Twice on Sat. from 9am to 5pm.

Facilitators: Ursula and Yves

After the two past workshops led by Sr Kathleen and Fr Ken, we will deepen our knowledge of the Enneagram through two sessions of guided self-observation (June + Sept.). These workshops are especially designed for the participants of the previous sessions, but remain open to anybody who wants to discover more about their own profile. If needed, please contact us to organise a short time of accelerated training.

The Enneagram provides a description of 9 fundamental personality spaces. This representation helps us to identify our personal patterns and to better understand who we are and why we behave

as we do. The system is dynamic and the characters are interactive: we are not stuck in a box but we are shown how we can evolve and develop our special gifts.

*Cost: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

**August 19-20:**

## **True Self - False Self**

**Workshop. From Sat 9am to Sun 5pm.**

**Facilitator: Yves**

The true self reveals our deeper nature that is impossible to grasp but remains the core of our being. It is too often prevented to lead us because our false self wants to keep control and shine. With the help of Richard Rohr and Thomas Merton we will examine how these two antagonistic energies cohabit in us and how we can recognise them despite the many subterfuges the false self uses; and how we can feed and free our true self.

*Cost for accommodation and meals: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

**November 18-19:**

## **Mythical reading of sacred texts**

**Workshop. From Sat 9am to Sun 5pm.**

**Facilitator: Yves**

There are many different ways to read sacred texts (such as the Upanishads, the Sutras, the Bible, the Quran): these texts can be understood literally, historically, symbolically, mythically. We will read a few of them and develop our ability to get different understandings, on these different levels. This workshop intends to open us to a more subtle understanding of traditional teaching that goes beyond words and representations. Reality cannot

indeed be described with words. We have to learn how to open to our imagination and our intuition (our spirit).

*Cost for accommodation and meals: DCH donation plus contributing some food to share.*

## **Booking and fees**

If you intend to participate, please contact us. The only income of DCH is through donations. You are invited to participate free of charge but are also asked to leave a donation that will allow someone else you do not know to take part later in another meeting. This system allows people with no financial means to be present. When fees for facilitators or special costs (transport, preparation of food) apply, they will be shared between the participants, in addition to the DCH donation.

Bank references: see on cover page.

## **Working bees**

The infrastructure at DCH is adapted for welcoming around 12-15 people. It means there are three houses to be maintained, a big garden and orchard to feed the visitors, a lot of wood to be cut for heating the many rooms, one km of dirt road to be upgraded after the rain, etc. This is a lot of work, we need your precious help to maintain the place. You are welcome to stay here for free for a longer time if you are ready to give a hand.

*Participate in our regular working bees.*

*Enrol in our list of regular workers.*

**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST  
TO KEEP INFORMED!**



*Desert Creek House is:*

- *A place for prayer and contemplation, in a search for unity.*
- *A place for a simple way of life, in a search for harmony with nature.*
- *A place for sharing and community, in a search for reciprocity.*

## **PROGRAM 2017**

Main activities in this year:

- regular meditation (2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month),
- regular community meetings (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of the month),
- 4 workshops examining who we are and how we live (February, May, August, November),
- 2 workshops about the Enneagram (June and September).

## *Desert Creek House*

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