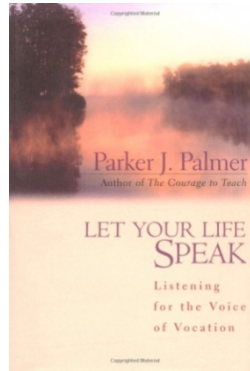


# *An Invitation from the Belmont University Teaching Center*



## *Courage to Teach: Let Your Life Speak*

*There's a lot we can do in the fast lane – we can grow and we can expand. But we cannot deepen, and we cannot integrate our experiences, unless we slow down.*  
-Angeles Arrien

Facilitators: Ben Curtis, Professor of Religion and Merrie King, Associate Professor of Education and Director of the Teaching Center (National Facilitators for The Center for Courage and Renewal, based on the work of Dr. Parker Palmer)

Amidst the hectic pace of university life, take time to pause and reflect. Join colleagues from Belmont and other local universities for a Four-Weekend Retreat Series entitled, *Courage to Teach: Let Your Life Speak*. In four, three day seasonal retreats, we will focus on the rejoining of soul and role, of reconnecting who we are with what we do. The attention is not on techniques or skills required in our work, but on renewing our inner lives.

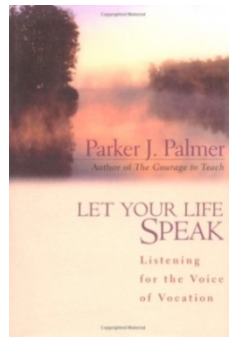
### Save the Dates

- |                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| • Seeds of True Self      | October 1-3  |
| • Paradox of Winter       | February 4-6 |
| • Work of Renewal         | April 8-10   |
| • Community and Abundance | June 24-26   |

### Interested?

- Read Information Sheet; Cost is \$100 (\$25/retreat), full amount payable upon acceptance into the program
- Ask questions: Contact Merrie King, [merrie.king@belmont.edu](mailto:merrie.king@belmont.edu) or 460-6044 or Ben Curtis, [ben.curtis@belmont.edu](mailto:ben.curtis@belmont.edu) or 460-6316
- Apply for a place: Submit application and brief statement to Nanci Alsup: ([nanci.alsup@belmont.edu](mailto:nanci.alsup@belmont.edu) or Fax, 615-460-5691)
- **Deadline: Monday, September 4, 2009, 4:00 p.m.**  
Applicants will be notified of acceptance by Friday, September 11.

# *Courage to Teach: Let Your Life Speak*



## *Information Sheet*

*New leadership is needed for new times, but it will not come from finding more wily ways to manipulate the external world. It will come as we who serve and teach and lead find the courage to take an inner journey toward both our shadow and our light – a journey that, faithfully pursued, will take us beyond ourselves to become healers of a wounded world.*

*-Parker J. Palmer*

### Background of Courage to Teach

Under the guidance of Parker J. Palmer, author of *The Courage to Teach* and *Let Your Life Speak*, the Fetzer Institute created the Courage to Teach (CTT) program, piloting an approach to professional development called “teacher formation.” This approach is rooted in the belief that good teaching flows from the identity and integrity of the teacher. The formation process invites educators to reclaim their own wholeness and vocational clarity, and makes connections between the renewal of a teacher’s spirit and the revitalization of education.

Courage to Teach programs are currently underway in a growing number of communities around the country and around the world. More information about Courage to Teach is available on the Courage Renewal website:  
[www.couragerenewal.org](http://www.couragerenewal.org).

### General Program Information

In this four-weekend series of seasonal retreats, we will focus on the rejoining of soul and role, of reconnecting who we are with what we do. The focus is neither on techniques nor skills required in our work, but on renewing the inner lives of professionals in education.

Typically, Courage to Teach groups consist of twenty to thirty participants who gather for quarterly retreats over a one-year period. In large-group, small-group, and solitary settings, the heart of the educator is explored by making use of stories from their own journeys, reflections on classroom practice, and insights from poets, story-tellers, and diverse wisdom traditions.

Participants are invited to speak honestly about their lives and work, and to listen and respond to each other – and to themselves – with encouragement and compassion. Because inner work takes time, participants are asked to commit to faithful attendance at all retreats.

### Specific Program Information

Facilitators: Ben Curtis, Professor of Religion and Merrie King, Associate Professor of Education and director of the Teaching Center (National Facilitators for The Center for Courage and Renewal, based on the work of Dr. Parker Palmer)

Where: Scarritt Bennett Center, Nashville

When: October 1-3; February 4-6; April 8-10; June 24-26

Note: These are not scheduled as over-night retreats.

Times: Thursdays 4:00 – 8:00; Fridays 8:00 – 4:00; Saturdays 8:00 – 12:00

Food: Included in the cost: Thursday dinner, Friday lunch, coffee and tea  
Participants will be invited to contribute snacks!

Cost: \$100 (\$25/retreat), full amount payable upon acceptance into the program  
Remaining expenses are covered by the Belmont Teaching Center

Participants: Belmont full time faculty are invited to apply  
Representatives from several local universities will also be invited to apply

Group Size: Approximately 24

Application: Submit application and brief statement to Nanci Alsup to Nanci Alsup:  
[nanci.alsup@belmont.edu](mailto:nanci.alsup@belmont.edu) or Fax, 460-5691

Deadline: Monday, September 4, 2009, 4:00 p.m.

Notification: By Friday, September 11

*Courage to Teach: Let Your Life Speak*  
*A Four-Weekend Retreat Series*  
*for Educational Leaders*

Scarritt-Bennett Center  
1008 19th Ave. South  
Nashville, TN 37212  
615.340.7500

October 1-3; February 4-6; April 8-10; June 24-26

APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2009, 4:00 p.m.**

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by Friday, September 11; Full cost of \$100 due and payable upon acceptance into the program

Along with the application, please include a 1-2 page response to the following statements:

1. What draws you to this work?
2. Speak to your willingness and ability to commit to the entire four retreat series.

Return via e-mail, fax, or mail to Nanci Alsup:

Belmont University Teaching Center  
1900 Belmont Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37212  
([nanci.alsup@belmont.edu](mailto:nanci.alsup@belmont.edu)) , Fax: 615-460-5691

Address questions to Dr. Merrie King ([merrie.king@belmont.edu](mailto:merrie.king@belmont.edu), 615-460-6044) or Dr. Ben Curtis ([ben.curtis@belmont.edu](mailto:ben.curtis@belmont.edu), 615-460-6316).