



SEEDS

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GOOD NEWS *Associates*

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Introducing Christine Hall. . . .

by Jan Wood

The primary mission of GOOD NEWS Associates is to undergird and help liberate individuals who are called to non-institutional ministries. Every person of God is called to minister through the circumstances of her/his life. You are a minister. I am a minister. We are being faithful to our own sense of call in infinite shapes and textures. Commonly our sense of call leads us into career choices that become vehicles of our gifts and expertise. The work sustains us with resources and often gives us a sense of place and groundedness of purpose. Some are called into areas of ministry for churches, missions and community service. Again, the work is usually the source of income as well as an arena of faithfulness. However, some are called to a life of ministry that doesn't fit in the ready-made slots. It is work that needs to be done in the world—but it doesn't usually pay the bills. The holistic ministries of writers, artists, musicians, speakers, spiritual directors and contemplatives are often left on their own to figure out how to configure the work of their ministry and still support themselves. GOOD NEWS Associates exists to come alongside these particular callings as a channel of resources, identity, visibility and community.

We are delighted to introduce our newest Associate,
Christine Hall!

Christine Hall, a native Alaskan, is a 20 year member of the Religious Society of Friends in the unprogrammed tradition. Chris now lives with her husband, Jim, and son, Isaac, on Whidbey Island, north of Seattle and is active among Quakers in the Northwest. She holds a Masters Degree in Transforming Spirituality from Seattle University's ecumenical School of Theology and Ministry. As an experienced spiritual director, educator and retreat leader, she is called to teach and nurture individual's spiritual lives, Quaker communities and the larger Society of Friends.



For years, Chris has carried a vision and a yearning for a Contemplative Study Program in western North America. She has discovered that her joy comes at the intersection of academic exploration, contemplative spiritual formation and experiential action. In joining GOOD NEWS Associates, she is empowered to bring her vision into reality. Beginning in September 2012, Chris will offer [Way of the Spirit: A Contemplative Study Program](#). Participants will be equipped to live fully into their unique gifts in service to others through a series of residential retreats, with assigned readings and contemplative communal reflection. An [introductory retreat](#) will be held November 4-6, 2011.



Chris also offers both traditional spiritual direction as well as [directed individual retreats](#). The directed retreats offer time away in solitude with an overnight stay in her simple Whidbey Island guest house. The experience blends spiritual direction with peaceful hours overlooking a quiet woodland meadow, watching the deer and listening to birds.

Chris spent most of her life in interior Alaska appreciating the wilderness and extreme weather alike. She misses the summer-time midnight sun but enjoys the balmy winters in Puget Sound. Nature, art and music are integral parts of her joy.

She began doing water color painting when her son, Isaac, was a baby because she could finish an entire painting during his nap time. She continued her painting of interior Alaskan scenes as she swatted mosquitoes and kept an eye out for bears. She sings in a community chorus on Whidbey Island, plays a bit of piano, and loves attending choral concerts in big cathedrals.

Welcome, Chris!

Jan Wood is the Executive Director of GOOD NEWS *Associates* in Seattle, Washington. She has a ministry of speaking, writing, consulting and spiritual direction. She is author of *Christians at Work, Not Business as Usual* and co-author of *Practicing Discernment Together, Finding God's Way Forward in Decision Making*.

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