

# Companioning the Dying: Opening Fully to Living

## Application Instructions

Application and letters of recommendation are due by August 1, 2025. Should the program fill, earlier applications will be given preference. Classes begin September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and end in June 2026.

Full Program Tuition with 2 in-person meetings, 6 day-long virtual meetings on Zoom and one 3-day retreat \$975

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS** **(for sending via postal mail or email attachment)**

**Submit a cover sheet with your application** including the following information:

- Your Full Name
- Mailing address
- Phone number(s) where you can most easily be reached
- E-mail address (indicate preference if more than one)
- Name of person from whom you have asked for a letter of reference
- Whether you are requesting financial aid and a brief description of the personal or family circumstances under which you require financial assistance to take the program. Amounts can range from \$100 to \$500.
- How you heard about the program
- Whether you are currently affiliated with an organization or facility at which you are or will be doing your companioning and, if so, the name of that organization or facility. If you have no such affiliation, please indicate if you would like assistance in identifying potential companioning opportunities.

Please include an essay, no longer than two pages, telling us about yourself in relation to the Program, using the following reflection questions as a guide for the content of your essay. Include any other information you deem relevant.

- *What changes, nudges, invitations do you notice in your life right now that seem to relate to your consideration of this Program?*
- *What about the Program particularly attracts you?*
- *What hesitations do you feel about participating in the Program?*
- *Given your past life experience and knowledge of yourself, what can you tell us about your willingness and capacity to be in a learning, dialogic community with others of different experiences and faith traditions?*
- *Are you currently, or have you recently experienced any unattended issues of upheaval, loss, or turmoil in your life that might affect your full participation in the Program?*

- *Are there any other factors that might affect your participation in the Program, e.g. ongoing health issues, handicap accessibility, needing help with transportation, planned travel, etc.?*
- *Given your life as much as you can envision it for the next year, including your present commitments, can you make a commitment to complete the requirements of the Program? Please review the list of meeting dates to be certain you can attend all scheduled meetings.*

**We prefer that you email your application materials electronically to:**

**[leeanneblank@gmail.com](mailto:leeanneblank@gmail.com)**. Alternately you may send your application hard-copy (cover sheet, essay, and any other relevant information) by **U.S. Postal mail** to:

**Companioning the Dying: Opening Fully to Living**

**c/o/ Lee Anne Blank**, 617 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20851

Upon receipt of your application materials and a reference letter, we will respond in a timely fashion so that you can plan accordingly.

Please keep in mind that if finances are an obstacle for you, some limited scholarship aid is available based on need. Flexible tuition payment plans may also be available based on need.

**Scholarship aid or alternate payment plans should be requested at the time of submitting your application.** You will be informed of the amount of any financial assistance approved with your letter of acceptance into the program.