

# The Soul of Leadership “Mini”: Decision Making and Discernment

February 16, 2015 – April 24, 2015  
Rolling Ridge Retreat Center, North Andover, MA

A ten-week program led by Dr. Margaret Benefiel and Rev. Susie Allen

## The Soul of Leadership “Mini” Programs

The Soul of Leadership “mini” programs are designed to provide participants with an opportunity to experience some of the learning and opportunities for transformation that Margaret Benefiel and Susie Allen offer in their 18-month Soul of Leadership Program.

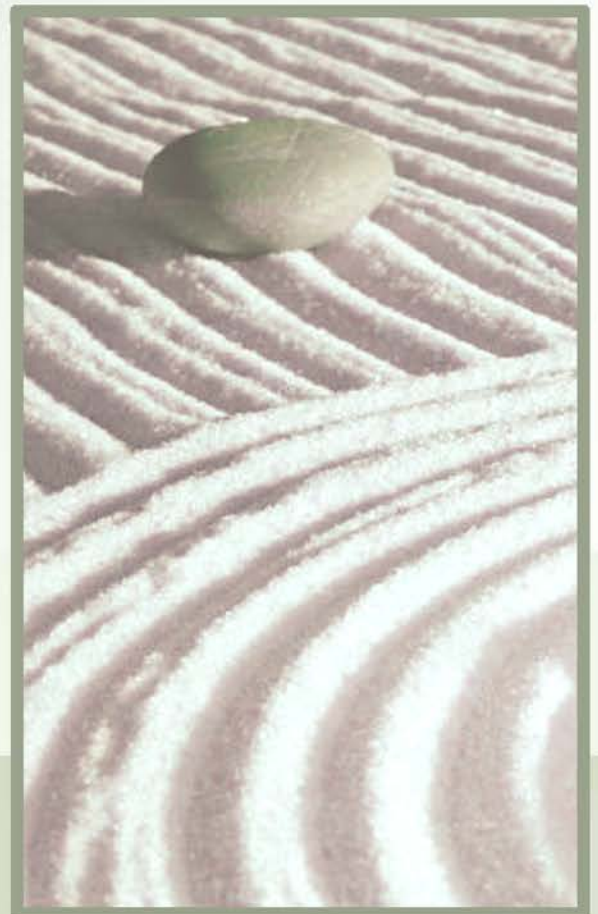
### The Soul of Leadership “Mini”: Decision Making and Discernment

Studies indicate that one-half of managerial decisions fail. Pressure for quick decisions, the culture’s overreliance on rational analysis, and the perceived need to appear decisive can impair a leader’s ability to make good decisions. What are the habits necessary for cultivating successful decision-making? What does the ancient practice of discernment teach about drawing on one’s whole self – heart, mind, soul, and spirit? What tools and support can leaders draw on to strengthen their leadership capacity, skill and success?

In this 10-week program, participants will:

1. Identify the times they have led with soul and learn how to do so more consistently.
2. Reflect on their own leadership experiences in light of the readings.
3. Learn to practice discernment in difficult leadership challenges.
4. Reflect on their own spiritual awareness and resources in relation to their particular leadership situations.
5. Learn to apply several leadership approaches and discern which is best for their own style and situation.
6. Experience community support and affirmation as they incorporate and develop new leadership skills.

We will meet in person twice – February 16 and April 24 (these will be day-long gatherings at Rolling Ridge Retreat Center in North Andover). In between, there will be three small group meetings, and online community.



# Here's what some of our past program participants have said about Soul of Leadership Programs:

*"I have found the Soul of Leadership to be an excellent venue for assessing and affirming acquired leadership style and abilities, and learning new leadership skills."*—Therese Taylor-Stinson, author, and co-convener/organizer of the Spiritual Directors of Color Network

*"The support network is wonderful- my 'sisters' in clearness committee are deeply soulful companions in this journey. The focus on heart integration with leadership challenges is a unique aspect."*—Pat Franklin, M.D., Professor and Director Orthopedic Research, University of Massachusetts Medical School

*"As a solo pastor, it's easy to lose my way as a leader. The connection with such mature professional colleagues provided me with the perspective, support, and learning I needed to be an effective leader."*—Rev. Judy Proctor, UCC

**Cost:** The cost of attending the 10-week program is  
\$1500 - corporate  
\$750 - non-profit or individual

**Application deadline:** January 20, 2015

**To apply, fill out our form:** <http://fs6.formsite.com/ExecutiveSoul/form7/index.html>

## **Margaret Benefiel, Ph.D.,**

Executive Officer of Executive Soul, LLC, has 20 years of experience as a consultant, coach, and spiritual director for organizations, congregations, and leaders. An adjunct faculty member at Andover Newton Theological School and a visiting lecturer at All Hallows College in Dublin, Ireland, Dr. Benefiel has also served as Chair of the Academy of Management's Management, Spirituality, and Religion Group. Over 1,000 executives, managers, and other leaders have participated in her seminars and



courses. Author of *The Soul of a Leader* and *Soul at Work*, and co-editor of *The Soul of Supervision*, Dr. Benefiel has also written numerous business and management journal articles.

## **Rev. Susie Allen**

The Rev. Susie Allen is a spiritual director, organizational and leadership consultant, and retreat leader. For over 6 years, Susie served as Associate Pastor at the Boxborough United Church of Christ, focusing on youth and family faith formation. Rev. Allen is a member of the Boxborough Well-Being Committee, which acts as a resource linking people to programs that help support healthy living. She offers spiritual direction and soul care programs for people



affected by cancer at The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden in Harvard, MA. Rev. Allen serves on the Program Committee at Rolling Ridge Retreat Center in North Andover, MA.