

The Rev. John D. Willard V

Contact John at:

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Number of years as a Spiritual Director: I have been practicing spiritual direction since 2004.

Availability: I have a dynamic schedule that fluctuates, so it is best to contact me and make an appointment. I am based in Charles Town, WV.

Education, Training, Certifications and Experience: I started doing spiritual direction because people simply came to me seeking direction and it unfolded organically. I have taken the first year of the RUAH spiritual direction classes at Richmond Hill in Richmond, VA.

Specialties/Focus Areas: I come from an Ignatian background and use various methods and techniques, as needed by the individual. I have spent much time with people transitioning out of homelessness, addiction, and living on the margins.

Style of Spiritual Direction: As a spiritual director, I believe we are taking a shared spiritual journey. I like to meet a couple times then decide if we both feel it is a match. If it is a match, I find it best to meet for an hour on at least a monthly basis, but not more than every other week. I prefer working on an academic schedule of September through May, taking June through August off. Sessions should not be pastoral counseling, or other types of counseling sessions, rather this should be a focus on becoming more mindful of what the Divine is doing in your life, and exploring how the Divine speaks to, and through you. I typically charge a fee of \$100-125 per session, but I reserve the right to wave fees or barter services.