## Important information on the FBCA Women's Ministry 2026 Retreat

When is the retreat? February 27-28, 2026 (Friday-Saturday).

Where is this retreat? We will stay at the Maryland Inn, which is a part of the Historic Inns of Annapolis. The Maryland Inn was built in 1772 and is located in the heart of downtown historic Annapolis. The Maryland Inn will provide dedicated meeting space for FBCA's retreat where we'll study as well as dining rooms where we'll enjoy our meals together. If we exceed our block of guestrooms, then we will add guestrooms in the Robert Johnson House (2 minute walk) or the Governor Calvert House (4 minute walk).

**How do I register?** Click **THIS LINK** to register and pay for the retreat. Registration opens on December 16, 2025, and closes on January 20, 2026.

What will we do during the retreat? We will enjoy worship, fellowship, music, meals and discipleship sessions led by guest speaker <a href="Laurie Davis">Laurie Davis</a>. Laurie is a writer, speaker, and ministry leader. Her debut book, <a href="Emotional Hoarding: Letting Go of the Stuff That Keeps You Stuck">Letting Go of the Stuff That Keeps You Stuck</a>, is due out with Moody Publishers in March 2026. Laurie's writing has been featured in <a href="Guideposts">Guideposts</a>, and she joined the Proverbs 31 First 5 writing team recently. On Sunday, March 1, Laurie will join us at FBCA during both worship services to share more from the themes of her book during an interview with Pastor Robert.

## What are the pricing options I need to know when I register?

- · <u>Private room for an individual is \$230</u>. This includes a guestroom and dinner for Friday night plus breakfast and lunch on Saturday.
- · Shared room for an individual is **\$155**. This includes a guestroom to share with a retreat roommate fitted with two beds for Friday night, dinner on Friday plus breakfast and lunch on Saturday. If selecting this option, you will be asked to enter your roommate's name in a designated area of the registration form. We will accommodate shared

requests when making room assignments with the hotel staff.

**How will I get there?** Due to work and family commitments of the women who will be attending the retreat, we are not setting a firm departure time or providing a bus. Rather, we encourage you to drive to Annapolis when your schedule permits. We also encourage you to explore carpooling options with other women attending the retreat who have a similar schedule. The hotel is offering our group a discounted parking rate of \$35 per car per night. Parking instructions will be provided on the itinerary for registrants. While the drive time from FBCA to the Maryland Inn is approximately 50 minutes, it will vary with traffic and departure times. Check-in is 4:00pm. If you plan to arrive early, please notify Lea Anne so that she can work with the hotel to accommodate any early arrivals with rooms available or baggage storage.

Is any financial assistance available? Yes, we do not want the cost of the retreat to prevent you from attending. Please contact <a href="Pastor Reed">Pastor Reed</a> or <a href="Lea Anne">Lea Anne</a> to discuss how we may help whether full or partial financial assistance is needed. These conversations will be discreet and confidential.

Where will we eat? On the evening of our arrival, we will enjoy a buffet dinner together in the hotel at 6:00pm in the Treaty of Paris dining room. Our first worship and study session is at 7:00pm in the Duke of Gloucester room. A classic buffet breakfast for our group will be served near our meeting room on Saturday from 8:00am-9:00am. Following breakfast, we will meet to worship and study at 9:30am. Boxed lunches will be provided, so that you can head out for some free time. Our final session of the retreat will begin at 2:00pm and concludes by 4:00pm.

**Who is invited to join?** Any woman who wants to participate may go. Please share with friends who are interested in the wonderful fellowship and discipleship that the women's ministry at FBCA offers.

**What is the theme?** This year's retreat theme is "Loved, Lifted, and Renewed." We will spend time in God's word, speaking to worthiness, addressing worry, and releasing any bitterness.

What is my deadline to register? Registration opens on December 16 and closes on January 20. Please don't wait until the last minute (if possible) as room reservations are first come, first serve.

## What should I pack?

- · Casual, comfy clothes for cold weather;
- Toiletries, PJs, any medications needed;
- Your Bible and a notebook or journal along with the pens or pencils you prefer;
- Your ID (the hotel may ask for it, and it will be required for some tours);
- If you plan to tour, shop or exercise at or around the hotel, pack accordingly;

What will I eat if I'm a vegetarian or have other dietary restrictions? The hotel chef will accommodate any dietary needs as long as we provide advance notice. Contact Lea Anne by emailing <a href="mailto:lfoster@fbcalexandria.org">lfoster@fbcalexandria.org</a> or calling 703-596-2775 (calls only, no texting capability) with your request.

What will we do when we're not meeting or eating? In the itinerary you'll receive, you will see some free time is built into the retreat. You may decide how to use these pockets of time whether resting, visiting with friends on the retreat, shopping, visiting the <a href="Maryland State House">Maryland State House</a> or <a href="U.S. Naval Academy">U.S. Naval Academy</a> nearby, enjoying a <a href="walking tour">walking tour</a>, or a combination of these options.

**May I register without a credit card?** The most efficient method to secure your spot on the retreat is to register electronically through the church database with **THIS LINK**. If that isn't a viable option, please contact Lea Anne by emailing <a href="mailto:lfoster@fbcalexandria.org">lfoster@fbcalexandria.org</a> or at 703-596-2775 to discuss registration and payment options.

What if I register, but then need to cancel? In accordance with the general refund policy across FBCA ministries, 50% of registration costs are non-refundable. We recognize that circumstances may arise preventing a registrant from attending. Please know that we are unable to offer a full refund due to the costs incurred through deposits and leading up to the event.

May I stay in the hotel on Thursday night before or Saturday night after the retreat ends? Yes, the hotel has agreed to honor the discounted rate for any guest who would like to spend a second night. The FBCA retreat reservations include one night only, so any additional stay should be booked directly with the hotel by calling 710-263-2641 to provide payment information to the hotel for a Thursday or Saturday stay.