
Reflect



"It was the most profound weekend since - well, birth."

- Kevin Browne

SAVE THESE DATES!

Path to Spirit Warrior Weekends for 2026 - Michiana Christian Camp - Niles, MI ([Map](#))



August 21 - 23, 2026 - **Early Bird Discount—by July 21st**

October 23 - 25, 2026 - **Early Bird Discount—by Sept 23rd**

February 5 - 7, 2027 - **Early Bird Discount—by Jan 5th**

April 30 - May 2, 2027 - **Early Bird Discount—by March 30th**

To Register / more info: Pat Conlin, Enrollment Coordinator

Pathtospiritwarrior.com conlinp@washtenaw.org (734) 604-7405

Tuition - \$1150 / \$1000 w/ Early Bird Discount

Deposit to Register - \$100

What's happening in the months to come?

Thirty Years of Brotherhood, Community & Men's Work

Path to Spirit-Warrior (P2SW) celebrates its 30th Anniversary this year, and on **Saturday, August 1**, men from across the personal growth and men's work communities will gather in Lake Forest, Illinois, for a day of reconnection, reflection, and conversation.

The day will include:

- Interactive conversations on the future of men's work and what men need today
- Sessions exploring how intentional communities are created, sustained, and renewed
- Opportunities to reconnect with old friends and make new connections
- An evening dinner and Community Honors celebration

The evening program will feature a special conversation between P2SW founder David Lindgren and acclaimed filmmaker and author **Frederick Marx**.

Frederick is the Academy Award- and Emmy-nominated co-creator of *Hoop Dreams*, a longtime participant and leader within the men's movement, and the author of a forthcoming book on initiation, mentorship, and mature masculinity. Together, David and Frederick will reflect on community, men's development, and why this work continues to matter today.

Spouses, partners, friends, and extended family are all invited. Information about **tickets** for the afternoon interactive sessions, and the evening dinner and awards program is available [HERE](#).

Information about overnight lodging options, and train transportation to the event can be found [HERE](#).

P2SW Open Circles

There are monthly Virtual Open Circle meetings on the first Wednesday and third Monday of the month. There are also In-person Open Circle monthly meetings in Chicago and the Grand Rapids area of west Michigan. If interested, details can be found at the P2SW website via the link below:

[In-Person and Virtual Open Circle Meetings for P2SW \(Calendar\)](#)

"All of you is welcome in our Circle!"

P2SW Training Weekend April 24-26, 2026, Testimonials and Photos



There's a warmth introduced from your fellow man that most of us didn't know existed before this weekend. This was a journey of self-reflection and discovery, and this space was clearly made for that. We never know where life will take you but after this weekend, I am prepared for what's next.

- Benjamin Hughes



I often see healing and miracles happen in circle and on the carpet, and the P2SW retreat did not disappoint.

My intention going in was to be open, to heal, and to forgive. With the support of 25+ incredible staff members, I was able to observe past events, relationships, and emotions throughout my life in a completely new light.

Through the many processes and experiences, I found new meaning, deeper understanding, and a shift in how I move forward. Grateful for everyone who created and held space for such a powerful experience.

Sometimes the greatest shift is turning a lose > lose relationship into a win > win relationship — with others and with ourselves.

I love you.
I'm sorry.
Please forgive me.
Thank you.
Thank you again!

- Marcus Bosch



The Path to Spirit-Warrior weekend is ...

- a place that allows a man to identify and, more importantly, intimately confront the emotional difficulties that lay within;
- a place where the vulnerability to begin to address the weight of said emotional loads can emerge unencumbered by societal judgments;
- a space of personal historical introspection meant to illuminate past difficulties, likely arising within past and present relationships, permitting the shedding of light on present grievances with or afflictions within self;
- it's a fork in the road of one's life—one meant to permit the man to invite the power of his chosen spirit to ameliorate the toll imposed by the mentioned troubles through the initial release of their constraints.

I need not hinder your consideration of the weekend through a detailed examination of particular personal hardships that I intentionally faced during my weekend. Why not trust in the process that inspired me to write the preceding truths? If you wish to explore an aspect of what troubles you still, a truth not yet fully revealed to self, but probably aiding in the misshaping of your present, why not step forth and trust in the slightly mysterious process described therein.

- Brendan Vierk



On April 24 of 2006 at a sweet little spot, 36 men held space for six men to be touched, embraced, and welcomed in a community of men who are aware of their experience of being disconnected from the source and on a mission to encourage that connection around. I witnessed. I connected. I showed up authentically and consciously & it was well received. I Love You Always.

- iLya Pavlenko



I thought the weekend was great. My burden was that I stonewall my wife when we have an argument. The scenario is that she yells at me and I feel powerless. I stonewall (and do not engage with her) because I feel she will always win an argument. During the weekend, I originally felt this was not significant enough for me to take up the group's time and work on my burden. My mentor and others encouraged me to work on my burden which I did end up doing.

Since the weekend, I have made a commitment to engage with her when we have a disagreement rather than stonewalling her. I have metaphorically been putting myself in her shoes and have not had much reason to argue in the first place. I have been a little more considerate of her and that has made a big difference.

- Robert Bolton





P2SW Leader Profile: Jim Seide

Every Path to Spirit-Warrior leader brings a unique story to the circle, and Jim Seide’s journey reflects a lifetime of leadership, service, family, and an unwavering commitment to helping other men discover their authentic selves.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Jim attended public and Catholic schools before graduating from Detroit Catholic Central High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Michigan–Dearborn and a Juris Doctor in tax law from Wayne State University.

Professionally, Jim has spent more than 30 years serving as a Certified Public Accountant, attorney, Chief Financial Officer, and trusted business advisor. His career has taken him from Fortune 500 companies to venture-backed startups, with expertise in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, tax strategy, and executive leadership. In 2003, he founded Ascendeus, LLC, a firm specializing in fractional CFO and corporate tax consulting that has since expanded to include legal, accounting, and bookkeeping services for clients across the country.

While his professional accomplishments are impressive, family remains Jim’s greatest source of pride. He and his wife—whom he jokingly calls “she who must be obeyed”—have three daughters and three young grandchildren spread across Michigan, France, and Chicago.

Finding Brotherhood

Jim’s introduction to Path to Spirit-Warrior came through longtime friend Ren Snyder.

“Ren told me that P2SW and MKP were places where men could connect spiritually without judgment,” Jim recalls. “He said that at P2SW he had never felt so loved in his life.”



At the time, Jim had very few close friendships with other men. Most of his relationships centered on common interests like sports and rarely ventured beyond the surface. Having trusted Ren for more than 35 years, Jim decided to attend a weekend with an open mind, not knowing exactly what awaited him.

That decision changed his understanding of brotherhood.

A Different Kind of Leadership

Jim believes leadership begins with showing up authentically for others.

“I bring enthusiasm and joy to our gatherings,” he says. “I bring empathy, love, and patience for those carrying burdens.”

Although his business experience allows him to contribute practical skills to the organization, Jim finds his greatest fulfillment in mentoring new brothers.

“It is much more challenging—and much more rewarding—to shepherd new brothers through the initiation process and help them find solace in who they are and the gifts they have but never recognized.”

Helping another man discover his own worth, he says, is among the greatest rewards of being a leader.

The Weekend Is Only the Beginning

When asked what he hopes every new Spirit Brother carries home from the weekend, Jim’s answer is simple: “I want them to know they are not alone.”

He wants every new Spirit Brother to understand that there will always be brothers who are ready to listen, encourage, and walk beside them through both life’s rewards and its hardships.

But Jim also believes the weekend is only the beginning.

“One weekend alone is not enough,” he says. “Men need to come back and be renewed in the love and spirit they found.”

Every Spirit Brother, he believes, possesses unique gifts forged through life’s successes, failures, pain, and loneliness. Those experiences become meaningful when shared to support another man on his own journey.

Living the Principles

Jim believes one of the greatest challenges facing society today is the erosion of trust.

“We often discover that the people we look to for inspiration turn out to be charlatans,” he says.

For that reason, he believes Spirit Brothers have an opportunity to model something different.

“We must use what we’ve learned to promote courage and resilience while being honest about both our strengths and our weaknesses.”

Living with integrity and transparency allows others to see authenticity in action. Jim believes that authenticity—not titles or accomplishments—is what ultimately earns trust and inspires people to grow.

Authentic, Not Perfect

Jim describes himself as someone who no longer hides who he is.

“I have no fear of receiving negative emotional responses from others,” he says. “Lead, follow, or get out of the way has always been part of my personality.”

He admits that his directness and impatience can sometimes rub people the wrong way, but he also believes authenticity requires humility.

“I am very willing to admit my mistakes, defer to those with better knowledge, and apologize when I am appropriately corrected.”

That combination of confidence and humility reflects the leader Jim strives to be.

His journey through Path to Spirit Warrior has reinforced a simple but powerful truth: men are not meant to walk alone. Through authentic relationships, shared vulnerability, and a willingness to serve others, Jim continues to help build the kind of brotherhood that first inspired him to say “yes” when a trusted friend extended an invitation many years

Thank You to Our Monthly Donors

Every month, a dedicated group of men quietly invests in the mission of Path to Spirit-Warrior through recurring monthly gifts. Their faithful support provides a dependable foundation that helps us plan ahead, strengthen our programs, and continue creating transformational experiences for men.

Whether large or small, each monthly gift makes a meaningful difference. We are deeply grateful for the generosity, trust, and commitment of these brothers.

With heartfelt appreciation, we thank our current monthly donors. Here’s a partial list:

- David Hancock
- Pat Conlin
- Eric Cooper
- Ellen & Bill Costantino
- Matt Frantz
- Tim Goldich
- Harry Hitzeman
- Mark Miller
- Paul Najar

Thank you for helping sustain the work of P2SW month after month.

Interested in becoming a monthly donor? Your recurring gift—of any amount—provides ongoing support that allows P2SW to continue serving men and expanding its mission. Visit [this page](#) of our website to learn more.



Share the work of transformation and
spiritual empowerment with others

How can I support the work of Path to Spirit-Warrior?

1. **Thank you to our sustaining donors who are contributing in total about \$500 a month for P2SW!** You're invited to join them!
2. **Tell** the men and women in your life about this transformational work.
3. **Volunteer:** your abilities to advance a wide range of projects. Contact **Jay Stark-Dykema** at jrsdykema@gmail.com for more information.
4. **Donate:** Your generous support is received with gratitude, and will be used for the transformational work of the P2SW Training.

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