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Dear Conference participants,

We're very happy and excited that you have decided to join us for the weekend of 13-15 September, for our very first conference designed to help all of us, both monastic and lay, find new inspiration and support in our spiritual lives. We hope and pray that such conferences will be a regular occurrence, as we have the space and facilities to organise such meetings at our monastic community's residence in upstate New York. This is something entirely new for us, and we ask that you bear with us as we gain experience. We are also split between 2 monasteries right now, in France and upstate New York, and limited in numbers. That's the main reason why it's been difficult in being more timely about finalising a schedule and program for the conference and sending you information.

Since we're able to host the conference at our residence and don't need to lease premises or organise catering, there's no need to pay in advance. You can pay by cash, check, via PayPal or Zelle upon arrival. If you're driving and can bring your own bed linen and towels, that would be a great help to the sisterhood.

The Mountain View complex has dormitory style accommodations, and we will do our best to make you as comfortable as possible.

You're welcome to sing and/or read at the divine services. We will use a combination of Church Slavonic and English. All of the lectures and presentations will be in English.

Our main speaker will be Fr. Lazarus Gahles, a scholar of Scripture and Orthodox Theology. I'm sorry I don't have more detailed information on his background to provide right now, I'm sure he'll fill us in at the conference. I have heard him speak several times, and he's an excellent and very inspiring speaker. The other speaker will be myself. While I have no distinguished degrees to brag about, I try to speak from my more than 40 years experience of monastic life, and knowledge of what sort of problems and questions come up when people come to a monastery seeking advice or assistance. Other clergy and monastics that will be present at the conference will participate in the round table discussion.

Just to complicate matters, there are 2 Abbess Evfrosinias at Mountain View right now: myself, Abbess Evfrosinia Molchanov (the Russian Evfrosinia), and Abbess Evfrosinia Nikolic (the Serbian Evfrosinia). Since I cannot be absent from our monastery in France for any great length of time, Vl. Akakije, the bishop in Serbia that the Lesna monastery is under, has very kindly blessed my dear Serbian friend to be in the US for now, as the acting superior of our Search of the Lost community, in the hopes that this will help our community grow and develop more quickly.

Please fill out the attached form, so that we can make this conference more of a success, in all ways. Thank you!

Abbess Evfrosinia (Molchanov) and sisters



## Celebrating the Church New Year

A conference for Orthodox women organised by the Search of the Lost monastic community  
13-15 September 2024

### REGISTRATION

Last name	First name
email	telephone no.
Your parish?	How did you learn about our conference?
Do you have any food allergies that we need to be aware of?	What topics or questions would you like to see addressed at the conference?

You can email this to [lesna@orange.fr](mailto:lesna@orange.fr) in advance, or bring it with you. Thank you!