

Björklunden Seminars

“Vacation with a purpose”

AUGUST 25-30, 2024 AT BJÖRKLUNDEN



Faith Builds a Chapel: The Legacy of Winifred C. Boynton

Course Description

The Norwegian “stavkirke” chapel is the icon of Björklunden, and sits like a jewel at the edge of the forest, facing the shore of Lake Michigan. Visitors often ask, “How did Winifred and Donald Boynton come to create such a unique work of art?”

What is the story behind the chapel and the woman who conceived of it, designed and painted its frescoes, designed and helped carve its wooden pieces?

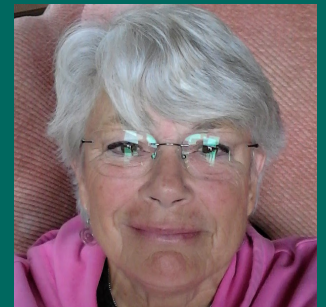
In her book, *Faith Builds a Chapel: Story of an Adventure in Craftsmanship*, Winifred shared “the joys and struggles, successes and failures” of creating the Norwegian stavkirke at Björklunden from 1939-1947. Her goal was “to bring into light the experiences of these past years, to build again with the tools of memory, our Chapel...built for the glory of God.”

This seminar will provide an in-depth study of the chapel's creation, carvings and murals, as well as the Viking myths, Biblical passages and personal stories behind them. By reading and discussing *Faith Builds a Chapel*, we will “hear” the artist's story in her own words, learning about the nine summers during which she and Don created the chapel.

Using her book, the chapel itself, family archives and albums, this seminar will be held in Winifred's studio, and will help us appreciate more fully the unique vision, creativity, spirituality and legacy of Winifred Case Boynton.

Required Materials: *Faith Builds a Chapel* by Winifred Boynton

Instructor



Marjorie Graham

Graham, M.A., granddaughter of Winifred and Donald Boynton, taught college English, Humanities and Women's Studies until 1995.

She lives in Walnut Creek, CA and facilitates Women's Studies seminars, especially on women's history and creativity.

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