



2015 Annual Report



*Center for
Spiritual Living™
Reno*



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Minister's Message

Welcome to Center for Spiritual Living, Reno's Year in Review 2015 – Our Annual Report

2015: "A New Design for Living"

Our theme for 2015 was based on Ernest Holmes and Willis Kinnear's book, "A New Design for Living" – we took chapters of this classic book and used them as our monthly themes. Themes such as "New Thoughts for Old," "You are Creative," and "Successful Living" were wonderful opportunities to delve deeply into Holmes' teachings and put into practice what we learned.



Reverend Liesa Garcia

The streamlined truth of what we are all about is: "The Power is within you to create the life you want!" The palette is in our hands to design a beautiful, healthy, harmonious, fulfilling life. It all starts with our thoughts and beliefs. Our individual and collective lives are the masterpiece of God.

Our Spiritual Center is an out-picturing of the good we are creating. All our volunteers, our staff, our Board of Trustees, our Prayer Practitioners, our music team—are all artists in this beautiful creation called Center for Spiritual Living, Reno.

Our intention in this annual report is to try to capture the essence of this amazing year so that a sense of the good that was accomplished may be felt.

I am so deeply grateful for all who have contributed in any and every way this past year. I'm grateful to everyone who contributed with their "time, talent and treasure" and those who contributed just by showing up. That's why we're here!

With love and gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Liesa Leggett Garcia



Do you remember your first visit to Center for Spiritual Living, Reno? Chances are it was to a Sunday Service. It's "The Gathering Place" for everyone!

What makes them so special? Is it the music? The meditations? The messages? The prayers? Is it the children? It's all of it! It's a collaborative effort on the part of the ministers, the music team, the prayer practitioners, the tech team, the ushers and greeters, the bookstore, the fellowship team and all the others who serve with such love and excellence. Each week, the Sunday Service is woven around a topic for the day, supporting the theme for the month, and the vision for the year. It all comes together for the purpose of creating a loving, nurturing, empowering place to experience the joy of community on a deeper level. It is obvious how much thought, planning and intention goes into each and every Sunday Service.



Our Sunday Service attendance has been pretty steady this past year. Overall, it has increased at the early service and remained about the same at the second service. The weekly average was 280 people—the 9:15 Service had about 95 people each week and the 11:00 service averaged about 185. While attendance in the Youth Ministry varies from week to week, it is on the incline, averaging 32 children each week from toddlers through teens. Watching us online each week are anywhere from 22-35 people.

Whether experienced in person or even online, weekly Sunday Services continue to be the anchor in the life of this Spiritual Community.

Board of Trustees and Financial Report

It is a sacred privilege and an awesome responsibility to serve on the Board of Trustees of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. Members have to meet the criteria established to take on this formidable role. The standards are high because there's a lot in their hands; they handle it with great consideration, respect and wisdom. The guiding principles of the Board of Trustees are faith, integrity and vision. Every matter of business is handled impeccably, guided by the vision, and deeply rooted in faith.

It is the members of the Board of Trustees who are charged with overseeing the business matters of the Church. They make vital decisions as to day-to-day business operations, as well as how and when to fund the large projects that arise. They are skilled at creating a budget and understand the dynamics of using it as a guide throughout the year. Board members meet monthly but communicate daily about these important matters.

JoAnn Blake has served nobly as the President of the Board this last year. Paul Miner, a long-time valued Board member, sadly, made his transition mid-year. We were blessed to have Jim Ramage step up as the new Treasurer. Other members in 2015 were Sally Young, Rodney Sumpter, Alexandra Musser, Gino Scala and Rev. Dr. Liesa Garcia. Scott Christianson moved to Oregon at the end of the year, vacating his position.

At the Annual Meeting this year, the Board is proposing additional by-law amendments to the membership, which include greater clarity about such things as Board committees, types of meeting, and requirements to serve as Board members.



2015 Board of Trustees

Pictured from left to right:

Back Row: JoAnn Blake, Gino Scala, Jim Ramage,
Rodney Sumpter, Scott Christianson, Alexandra Musser

Front Row: Rev. Dr. Liesa Garcia, Sally Young, Paul Miner,
Rev. Karen Neuweiler

Board of Trustees and Financial Report

Income over expenses continued in a positive trend in 2015. The total income for the year, including tithes and offerings, classes, special events, rental income, bookstore and more, was \$614,087 while our expenses were \$540,890. The difference is much appreciated, helping us to catch up from a few lean years.

Our balance sheet remains strong with a mortgage balance of \$286,634, and a combined balance of \$365,848 in the checking and money market accounts. This amount does not include Grow with God capital campaign funds, which are in a separate account.

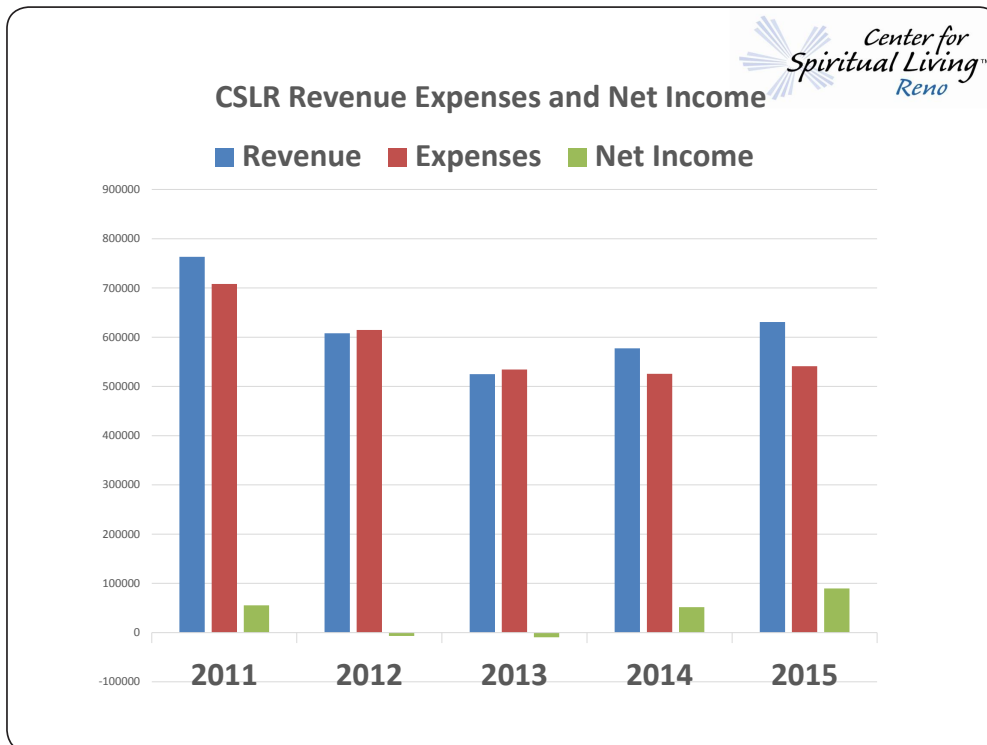
In 2015, we welcomed 43 new members who have committed their “time, talent and treasure” to Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. And CSL Reno is committed to them, by providing spiritual tools for their personal transformation.

We are grateful for the success of our 13th Annual Partners in Prosperity Giving Program in the fall of 2015, under the leadership of Jim and Lesa Ramage. The number of committed givers increased, as well as amount pledged of \$393,005.

2016 promises to be another fulfilling year at Center for Spiritual Living, Reno.



Lesa and Jim Ramage, Partners in Prosperity Campaign Co-chairs



Music

2015 was another full and special year for the Center for Spiritual Living, Reno Music Team with Joe McKenna and Lesa Ramage continuing to serve as the co-leaders.



Tiffanie Story continues to lead and direct the Heart Tones Choir, working hand in hand with Lesa and Joe. She and her fiancé, Jeff Martin, were married in the summer, honeymooning in South Africa. The Heart Tones choir performed seven times in 2015, including a performance with special guests Erika Luckett and Lisa Ferraro in November, who also offered an inspiring workshop just for choir members.

On the technical side of things, the Board approved the purchase and installation of new digital sound and lights systems, as well as a new projector that can show HD images on the screen. This enhances the entire Sunday Service experience.

Sunday music programs featured variety and new material sung by Lesa Ramage and others. Trudy Italiano continued to inspire as she sang solos and performed with different vocal groups that she organized as Trudy & Co. Ben Reino sang several times and also accompanied himself on the guitar.

Kevin Tokarz, Ron Savage and Nancy Barker alternate as the primary pianists with Ben Reino on drums, Joe McKenna on bass, and other talented musicians who supplement throughout the year.

Our Center continues to feature guest musicians for Sunday music and concerts. In 2015, we welcomed Eric Anderson, Cherie and John Shipley, Pat Esters, Eric Hansen, Steven Murdoch, Erika Luckett and Lisa Ferraro. Carol Maloney returned from several years living in Australia and we enjoyed her musical stylings once again. We enjoyed special events that featured music: Good Friday, Earth Day, Thanksgiving Service and Christmas Eve Service.



Lisa Ferraro, Rev. Dr. Liesa and Lesa Ramage

Our annual holiday variety show “OMG It’s Christmas!” on December 4 featured all in-house talent. They played to a packed house and set the tone for the beautiful season.

We look to 2016 with enthusiasm to create inspiring and beautiful music for our spiritual community. The purpose of the Music Team is Love and the vision is “to be instruments of Peace, Healing and Light.”

Sensational Summer Speaker Series

In 2015, Center for Spiritual Living, Reno hosted some very special guests, and put on some fun events for the entire community.

The Sensational Summer Speaker Series (also called Summer One-Nighters), engaged us in new ways and provided a variety of viewpoints and tools for spiritual practice, including our own Prayer Practitioners Lauren Alten (Emotional Freedom Tapping and Matrix Reconstruction), Kate Colby Nelson (Heartmath) and Beth Williams (Spirit As Movement). We introduced to our community Jo Harvey (Healing Addiction through Spirituality) from UNR, and Leisa Peterson, who presented The Art of Mindful Wealth.

Men's Spirit hosted a fabulous barbeque at Bartley Ranch in August, with the largest attendance ever. The men took charge of the grill while plenty of delicious salads, side dishes and desserts came with guests. The Youth took charge of the games.



The Practitioners created and hosted two inspiring events: an Earth Day meditation, honoring the sacredness of our planet and a Thanksgiving Service, giving everyone an opportunity to experience awareness around the many blessings in their lives.

We hosted a premiere movie, “Unity: One But Not the Same” was offered on a Friday night in November. It was powerful and thought-provoking, and a mighty call to us to remember that all life is precious and sacred.

CSL Reno was the site where the local opera group “P’Opera” gave a command performance—Broadway Meets Opera. Our own Stephen Murdoch starred in this hugely successful production.

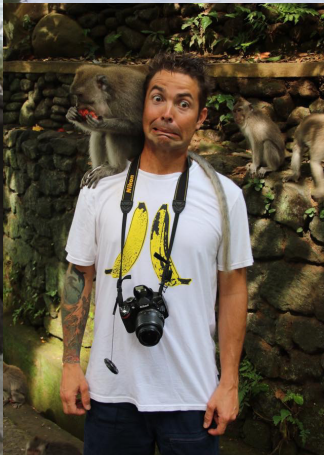
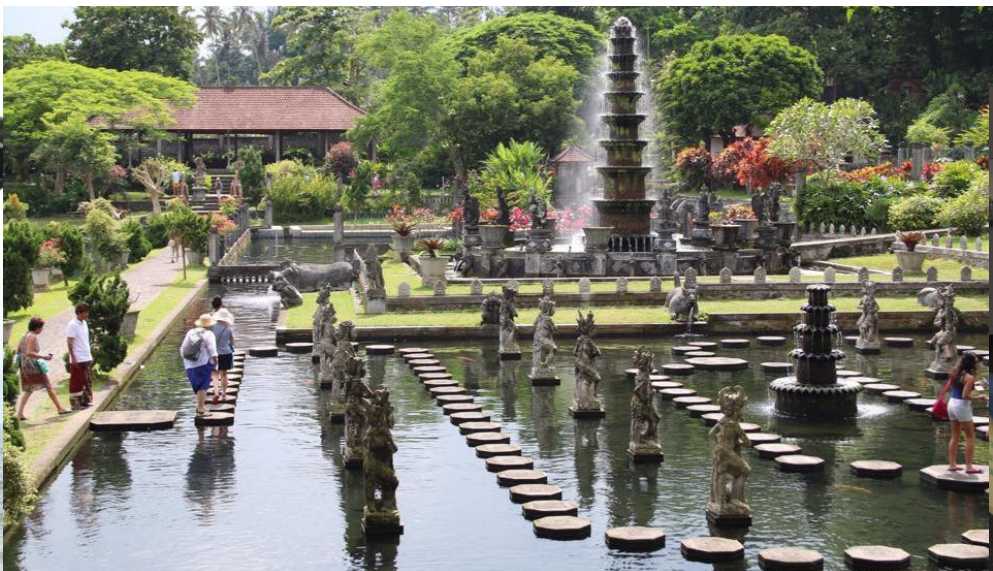
As always, we ended the year with a magnificent Christmas Eve candle light service, filled with inspiring words and beautiful music. Although it was a snowy day, the sanctuary was filled with the sacredness of the season and gave everyone an opportunity to light a candle for themselves and the world.

Spiritual Travel

This is a new category for CSL Reno—Spiritual Travel! 2015 marked the first year of hopefully many journeys as we travel together to other parts of the world to experience the diversity, joy and sacredness of Spirit.

In January 2015, 22 folks from Reno embarked on the long plane ride (20 hours!) to the island of Bali in Indonesia. Led by Jim Cramer of Spirit Tours, along with Rev. Dr. Edward Viljoen of CSL Santa Rosa, we felt safe and guided every step of the way. The group included 10 additional people from other Centers for Spiritual Living. Each morning, we shared a spiritual practice and yoga together. Staying in three different properties on different parts of the island, we were given a deep, rich, authentic and adventurous experience of the Hindu tradition through the eyes of the Balinese. The temples were the highlight! Every day was unique and spectacular. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

This is just the beginning! In February 2016, another small group from CSLR is traveling to Costa Rica. Rev. Dr. Liesa is planning a trip in the fall of this year to New England to retrace the path of our New Thought founders. As we look into the years to follow, Peru, Ireland and other destinations are all possible.



Prayer Practitioners and Ministry of Prayer

In 2015, five Prayer Practitioners received their ten-year pins, and were honored at a Sunday Service for their years of dedication and consciousness. The recipients were Beth Williams, Lauren Alten, Robert Alten, Nancy Radford, Paul Miner and LuAnne Steininger.

Sadly, our beloved Paul Miner made his transition before he received his pin in honor of his ten years of service as a Prayer Practitioner. Paul was a constant and dedicated Prayer Practitioner and Board of Trustees member who gave to our community tirelessly, even while experiencing ill health. We will miss Paul greatly.

This year our Prayer Practitioners created and presented a special Earth Day service, with beautiful candles, inspiring music and a heart-felt honoring of our beautiful Earth and our own physicality.

At Thanksgiving, our Prayer Practitioners created a Thanksgiving tree that graced an entire wall of our foyer. People were invited to write gratitude notes on leaves and these were placed on the tree throughout the month of November. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, an inspiring service guided participants gently into Thanksgiving.

On the third Wednesday of every third month, our Practitioners offered the Taize service. This mid-week service provides an opportunity for contemplation, silence, community prayer, candle-lighting, music and inspirational readings.



Practitioners enjoying holiday fellowship and feasting.

Practitioners and Ministry of Prayer

**Our Prayer Practitioners are the “healing arm” of our Center.
They provide sacred service in many ways:**

- ♥ Holding consciousness during church services, which consists of being in continuous prayer for the service, our ministers, all those contributing to the service, and all those in the congregation at that time.
- ♥ After Sunday service, praying one-on-one with people requesting prayer and facilitating that process.
- ♥ Doing an invocation in Youth Church before the 11:00 service and blessing the offering at each service.
- ♥ Serving as the Ministry of Prayer on Sundays to receive the written prayer requests, pray over each request, and send all those requests out via confidential email to all Prayer Practitioners. Prayer requests are prayed over for 30 days.
- ♥ Doing the invocation, holding consciousness and speaking a closing spiritual mind treatment (affirmative prayer) at the monthly Board of Trustees meetings.
- ♥ Holding consciousness during classes held at our Center.
- ♥ Meeting privately with clients to discuss challenges clients are having, uncover any hidden beliefs underlying those challenges, then providing affirmative prayer (spiritual mind treatment) to declare the spiritual Truth of the client, resulting in a new experience for them.
- ♥ Serving as spiritual mentors (coaches) to clients and supporting them in walking their spiritual path.
- ♥ Teaching or serving as assistants for classes and workshops at our Center.
- ♥ Sending supportive letters and affirmations to those requesting prayer.
- ♥ Participate in the Annual Community Pet Blessing to provide prayer and blessings to our beloved pets and their families.
- ♥ Create and host special services and participate in services as requested by Rev. Dr. Liesa.



Sheryl Overstreet,
Youth and Family
Ministry Leader

“Joyous Expressions” was the vision for the Youth and Family Ministry this year. Sheryl Overstreet continued to masterfully lead the Youth and Family Ministry into growth, discovery and exploring the relationship with God, families and each other.

Sunday gatherings, monthly events and special activities were all facilitated and led by trained, dedicated and eager volunteers. Prayer Practitioners helped, as well.

Here are some highlights of what the children did:

- Each week, the youngest members of our Spiritual Community take part in a lesson, craft, story or activity which made our teachings come alive in their young lives through tailor-made curriculum or Village Days—it’s all fun yet meaningful, as evidenced by the rising number of children who come each week.
- At Easter, there was an egg hunt for all youth. Even the Easter bunny made an appearance. The kids wrote letters to God, and planted jellybeans that grew into colorful suckers.
- In December, the children created special Christmas cards and mailed them to a child in Schenectady, NY who is in the long process of healing after being badly burned.
- Ernel’s famous homemade gingerbread cookies were made and baked at Church for Santa’s Workshop Village Day for all youth (and then some!).



The teens also had a great year:

- A teen webinar connected our teens with their peers from other Centers in Columbia, MD, Edmonton, Alberta and Philadelphia, PA.
- A used book sale was held on two Sundays that benefited our teens. Our community was very generous with all the books they donated which positively impacted the Teens Camp Fund.
- The teens prepared dinner in support of families at the Ronald McDonald House.
- Teens and Youth and Family Ministry leaders volunteered at CSL Reno’s Annual Pet Blessing in October.
- Our teens prepared “Happiness Bags” for 20 homeless teens and were distributed through Project 150.
- The highlight of the year, though, was “Camp Sweetwater.” A three-day camp created in the home and yard of two of our very gracious members. The long weekend was packed with fun outdoor activities and opportunities to bond and connect. All the teens (and adults!) had a ball.



Teens and advisors provide a delicious dinner to Ronald McDonald House



Teens and advisors enjoying fun, community and spiritual growth at Camp Sweetwater

Volunteers

Sacred Service (our term for Volunteering) is at the heart of our Spiritual Community. A sincere “Thank You” to all who served the Church in 2015. More than 250 volunteers in 13 areas of service contributed hundreds of hours to the Center. This contribution is integral to the Center for Spiritual Living, Reno (CSLR) and the commitment to Sacred Service is so appreciated.

There are many opportunities for Sacred Service at CSLR and everyone is encouraged to find an area of interest so they, too, can experience the joy of giving. When people choose to give of their time and talent through Sacred Service, both the volunteer and the Center benefit. It’s an opportunity to make friends with like-minded people and to deepen our spiritual practice while doing something helpful to expand and strengthen our Spiritual Community. It is also one of the stated requirements to maintaining one’s status as an active, loyal and supporting member of our Center.

Ongoing areas of Sacred Service include:

- Administrative Support
- Bookstore Staff
- Education Team
- Fellowship Team
- Sanctuary chair set up
- Plant Care (Indoor)
- Ushers and Greeters
- Youth Ministry
- Care Ministry
- Community Services
- Special Events
- Tech Team
- Building and Grounds

“The best way to find yourself is it to lose yourself in service to others.” Gandhi



The Grow with God Fund was established four years ago for the purpose of creating a foundation for the next phase of growth and expansion for Center for Spiritual Living, Reno.

This fund, separate from the general fund, currently has a balance of \$195,165 and continues to grow monthly. Every dollar pledged and given has been designated for its committed purpose of expansion and/or improvement to the existing facility or the acquisition of a new one. The three-year Campaign wrapped up in July, although some pledges are still in process of completion; and, of course, we're open and greatly receptive to further contributions.

Throughout the year, the Board of Trustees has been visioning, discussing, contemplating, and considering the best and highest use of the Grow with God Expansion Fund, as well as listening to the ideas and desires of our congregation and those who have generously contributed for this purpose.

The options identified for the next phase of our expansion are:

1. buy land and build a new facility; or
2. buy a new existing property; or
3. renovate and remodel our current building to create more space for classes, fellowship, youth and storage, thus maximizing efficiency.

The Board has decided that the best use of our money, time, energy and resources is #3—stay where we are for now and do what we're able to do to fulfill this purpose. Many more discussions will be offered, as well as visioning and planning sessions to clarify and move forward. The Board will invite others to participate, as well.

The Board also sees the value of being part of the technological revolution of the 21st century and the unlimited potential inherent in it. Creative on-line programming could be a way to reach an enormous yet untapped audience.

What unfolds for us in the next few years is more than the completion of a needs assessment checklist; it is fulfilling the vision, purpose and mission of our current Spiritual Community, and looking ahead at the generations that follow in our footsteps. We stand on the shoulders of those founding members of 53 years ago as we continue to create a space where people can practice positive spiritual principles in the heart of a loving community.

Bookstore

Our onsite Bookstore, Sacred Path Books and Gifts, is filled with beautiful, helpful and inspirational items to support its patrons on their spiritual path.

Managed by Linda Galloway and staffed by friendly, helpful and enthusiastic volunteers, Sacred Path Bookstore serves not only members from our own Spiritual Community but draws from the larger community, as well. It is open Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm and Sundays, 10:15am-12:30pm.

The Bookstore promotes a high quality “book of the month” that coincides with Rev. Dr. Liesa’s theme, offered at a 20% discount. The inventory is stocked with books that supplement classes that are sponsored at CSLR. In 2015, other irresistible specials were offered, including reducing the cost of all CD’s. Products are priced reasonably and have a wide appeal.

Each January, the Bookstore closes for a few days for inventory. This year, the process was easier and more accurate than ever which reflects well on our administrative team and the capable volunteers. The Bookstore is not in the business to make high profits, but due to good business practices, it always runs in the black.

Metaphysical and spiritual books, candles, decorative pillows, lanyards, essential oils, wall hangings, plaques and so much more are available in this beautiful shop that benefits so many.



CSL Reno believes in and practices the spiritual principle of The Law of Circulation through its tithes, gifts and services. Here are the ways we gave in 2015:

- \$36,000 was tithed to the larger organization, Centers for Spiritual Living.
- The Education Ministry tithed \$1,481 from class registration fees and the Ministry of Prayer tithed \$442 from donations received. Among the recipients of these tithes were the Ministers Ongoing Education Conference, Wise Women Press and the Spiritual Living Archives.
- Recipients of the Board of Trustees bi-monthly community gift were Northern Nevada RAVE Family Foundation, Spirit Tours for Nepal Charity, Camp TLC, Food Bank of Northern Nevada, Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, and the Adolescent Treatment Center - totaling \$1,800.
- The Sacred Sisters raised \$2,474 for local and global nutritional and education programs, as well as collecting food and clothing for local programs.
- The Annual Community Pet Blessing raised nearly \$600 in donations for animal shelters and rescue activities in our community.
- This year, the Board of Trustees implemented a “Good Works Tithe” to benefit works that add to the growth of New Thought and Science of Mind in the world. A total of \$5,600 was sent to The Association for Global New Thought (AGNT), the Regeneration Program (scholarship program supporting young people in ministerial school), the Minister’s Ongoing Education Conference, and the Christ Church of Co-Creation.
- The Green Team, primarily composed of Stevie Robards and Stacey Wilson and their families, kept its commitment to maintaining our Adopt-A-Spot on Peckham Lane.



A Sunday at the Sacred Sisters Farmer's Market.



The Green Team honors our commitment to Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful and clean this section of Peckham Lane.

Affinity Groups

An Affinity Group is a group of people linked together by a common interest, a shared concern or purpose within Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. Each of these groups is open to new members at any time.

Better Business Breakfast

Completing a third year as part of the Center for Spiritual Living, Reno Business Ministry, the group, organized and led by Ileana Vassiliou, met monthly to provide support to each other in creating thriving and successful businesses by using spiritual principles. In 2015, the group featured in-house presenters, including Rod Sumpter, Gino and Juli Scala and Devin Sizemore. There were 11 speakers who each shared spiritual tools that they used in creating their own successful business lives. Each meeting offers a delicious breakfast, a dynamic speaker and prayer support. 20-35 people attend each breakfast; everyone who is drawn to the subject matter is welcome to attend.



Men's Spirit

For over 10 years, this group of men of all ages and interests have been committed to their own spirituality and to building friendships. Using the general format of a Master Mind group, they provide ongoing prayer support for one another. Men's Spirit meets the third Saturday of each month in the Youth and Education Center of CSLR for breakfast and fellowship. This year they again helped host a summer barbecue at Bartley Ranch Park. In addition, a large group of them (as well as others) gathered at the home of one of our senior members to assist him with many needed projects around his home and property.



Sacred Sisters

Women of all ages and interests are welcome to participate in this group which emphasizes service. Funds raised through their annual rummage sale and summer farmers markets have contributed significantly to local and global nutrition and education programs. They periodically host a variety of social events.

Center for Spiritual Living, Reno is savvy about all the ways technology helps us to communicate our message and our events. A few of the tools the Center uses to reach out and connect with members, friends and the larger community are:

- Our website – www.cslreno.org – is where we communicate about classes, workshops, upcoming events. It's where one can access live streaming, register for classes and workshops online, find a Prayer Practitioner who is a perfect fit, read about the background of our Center and our ministers. Our website explains who we are and what we believe. It's also where our Annual Report and Annual Membership Meeting notices are published.
- CSL2U is the weekly email of current and upcoming events, as well as inspirational messages.
- Facebook is another way we communicate with the larger community. We invite folks to “Friend” us and “Like” us on Facebook at Center for Spiritual Living, Reno where there is the opportunity to interact and get involved with other interested community members and see updates on the latest events and happenings.
- The Inspiration Line allows anyone to access a weekly inspirational message from our Prayer Practitioners at 775-826-6966. Just call, listen and be comforted by prayer.
- Mailings (snail mail) are notifications of special events, birthday greetings to members, responses to prayer requests, business matters and more.

And, of course, you can always call the Center to speak to a friendly and helpful staff member—a vanishing service in these days of highly evolved technology. Even after business hours, a phone call will still get you much needed and up-to-date information. They are happy to help!

Methods of communication continue to evolve and CSL Reno is committed to staying on the cutting edge in discovering and using them in order to stay connected and to continue to grow our expanding community.

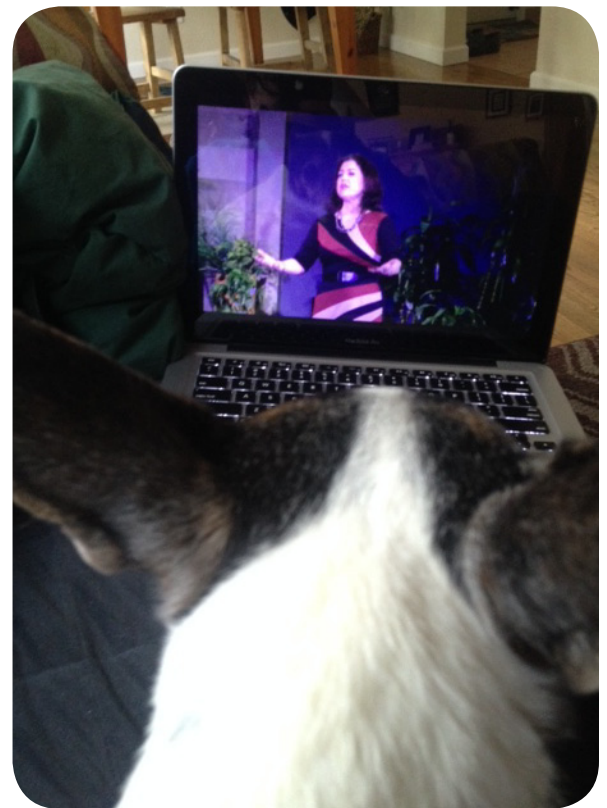
CSL Reno Broadcast Network



In 2015, the CSL Reno Broadcast Network made the transition from analog to a full high definition broadcast with the purchase of a new HD projector and video switcher creating great strides in developing its broadcast ministry. Congregants in the sanctuary can now view what's happening on stage as well as having an enhanced HD image on the big screen. Additional viewing monitors were added to the cry room and the youth church so viewers can watch the service in real time.

The quality of our live Sunday broadcast and special events increased significantly in 2015, and the number of broadcast transmission incidences decreased quite dramatically. We also now average approximately 30 people watching from all over the world each Sunday from their homes, hotel rooms, hospital beds and even while flying. It's been a meaningful way for friends and members to stay connected. We've also added a Prayer Practitioner to monitor our chat sessions during the broadcast and a meditation channel, which broadcasts all the Sunday meditations for viewers to watch during the week.

Always looking for better ways to utilize this technology, Joe Garcia has diligently developed this ministry from the beginning. He oversees its operation every single Sunday, as well as special events. He and his team, consisting of Kent Morris, Alan Ashby, Kay McCarthy, Cameron Daugherty, Carle Bumpus and Chuck Morris do a phenomenal job.



We are looking forward to 2016 as we will be creating presentations, classes and special events developed specifically to broadcast to a larger audience of viewers in the community. We also plan to add a subscription service and store, in order to purchase downloads or DVDs of archived services, classes and special events. The possibilities are endless.

Classes and Workshops

Regardless of subject matter, this is the only thing worth teaching: how to uncover our original Center and how to live there once it is restored. ~ Mark Nepo

“Borrowing knowledge of reality from all sources, taking the best from every study, Science of Mind brings together the highest enlightenment of the ages.” – Ernest Holmes

To support us in our spiritual growth, the following life enhancement classes and workshops were offered in 2015:

- The Game of Life and How to Play It
- Living the Lessons: A Year with Emma Curtis Hopkins
- Tuesdays with Morrie
- Mantra Meditation with Dr. Abey
- Einstein Meets Ernie – Based on the book “E-Squared” by Pam Grout
- Twelve Conditions of a Miracle
- Spiritual Fitness



Certificated classes completed were:

- Foundations (3)
- Principles of Financial Freedom
- The Power of Decision
- The Essential Ernest Holmes.

The final class night of every certificated course is dedicated to students' presentation of their "class project." This is an opportunity for each student to put into form the impact the class has made in their lives. From poetry, to dance, to various forms of art and expression, students can demonstrate how the teachings of that class has changed their lives for the better.



“Life goes better with class!” is the motto of the Education Ministry. Participating in classes engages us in our spiritual studies, assists us in keeping our focus on Truth, provides inspiration, uplifts our spirits, and often motivates us to begin again in our spiritual practice if we’ve let it slip away. And there’s more! Classes provide the opportunity for personal growth, friendships with like-minded people, and the fun of learning something new.



“Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.” - Socrates

In Memoriam

This year, two of our dearest, most dedicated, long-time members made their transitions. We miss them deeply.



Paul Miner

After a two-year bout with leukemia, Paul Miner made his transition on June 19, 2015. Paul began his spiritual journey at Center for Spiritual Living, Reno in 1989. He had always been drawn to the practice of positive principles in his life and our Center was the perfect fit for him and his wife, Denise and their family.

Paul immediately jumped into service at our Center. He took classes and began Practitioner Training in September 2003 and over the years, was an active part of our Ministry of Prayer, steadfast in his commitment to always knowing the greater Truth about every situation. He served four terms on the Board of Trustees and was particularly gifted as the treasurer.

He courageously championed for his own health but eventually had to let go. He had a big heart, a big spirit and will forever be remembered for his generosity.



Brenda Goff

Brenda was born in England and experienced World War II from a close-up perspective. She moved to America as a very young woman, where she would eventually end up in Reno, and marry Bill Goff. They were married for 40 years and enjoyed their life together traveling, as beekeepers, and deeply rooted in the community, as well as our Church. Bill is the longest, active member of our Church and we honored him at our 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2013. A lovely, classy, poised woman, Brenda is so very missed.



The Staff is committed to the vision and purpose of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno and works both independently and together to achieve the established goals.



Pictured from left to right:

Front: Reverend Liesa Garcia, Senior Minister; Kim Brewer, Center Administrator;
Linda Galloway, Bookstore Manager and Communications Coordinator;

Back: Sheryl Overstreet, Youth and Family Director; Lesa Ramage, Co-Leader, Music Team;
Reverend Karen Neuweiler, Assistant Minister.

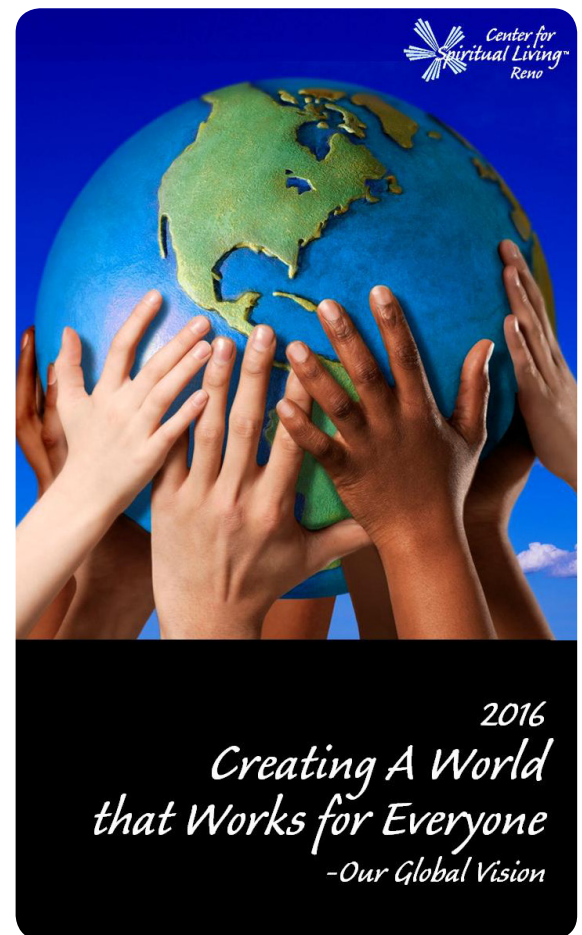
Not pictured: Joe McKenna, Co-Leader, Music Team

A Look Ahead - 2016

A few years ago, a small group of ministers from Centers for Spiritual Living got together and asked the question, wouldn't it be wonderful if all our centers agreed upon a central theme for a year in the fulfillment of our vision? The resounding answer was Yes! This year, 2016, is the fruition of that question of possibility. Our theme for the year is "Creating A World that Works for Everyone" and more than 100 spiritual centers in our larger movement—all around the world—are exploring the possibilities of awakening within each of us our part in this movement.

Each month, we'll be taking one of these statements from the expanded Global Vision and using it as our monthly topic:

- We see a world that works for everyone, where all people, all beings, and all life are honored as expressions of the Divine.
- We believe in the unity of all life, and that the highest God and the innermost God is one God.
- We see a world in which we are surrounded by Creative Mind, where we rediscover our personal creative power.
- We see a world in which kinship with all life prospers, where we respect and honor the interconnectedness of all life.
- We see a world in which spiritual guidance is valued and where we are called to conscious social action.
- We believe the ultimate goal of life to be complete emancipation from all discord of every nature, and that this goal is sure to be attained by all.
- We see a world where there is a renewed emphasis on beauty, nature, creativity, art, and aesthetics.
- We see a world where communities are meaningfully involved in service to the world.
- We believe that Heaven is within us and that we experience it to the degree that we become conscious of it.
- We believe in a world that works for everyone, where communities are points of universal peace, love, and power.



This year, we'll be part of this peaceful revolution, taking conscious social action as service to the world and seeing the inner Truth being fulfilled in the outer world.

The Global Vision

We see a world that works for everyone

Where **all life** is honored as expressions of the **Divine**

Where **people** live according to spiritual **truth**

Where **humanity awakens** to its spiritual magnificence

Where humanity rediscovers personal **creative power**

Where we live as **one global family**

Where **kinship with all life** prospers

Where **unity and connection** are emphasized

Where **forgiveness** is the norm

Where **spiritual guidance** is valued

Where we are called to **conscious social action**

Where people have enough food, homes and a sense of **belonging**

Where there is **peace, harmony and justice** for all.

Where **resources are valued**, cared for and **shared**

Where communities are meaningfully involved in

service to the world

Where there is a renewed emphasis on

**beauty, nature, creativity, art
and aesthetics**

We envision a world that works for everyone and all creation.



*Center for
Spiritual Living*TM
Reno