



2016
ANNUAL REPORT

2016 Annual Report Contents

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Welcome to
Center for Spiritual Living, Reno's
Year in Review 2016 – Our Annual Report

Our theme for 2016 was “Creating a World that Works for Everyone.” This was the first year that all the Centers for Spiritual Living around the globe came together in a collaborative effort to share the same overarching theme. Each month, we took phrases from The Global Vision and made them alive in us.

Centers for Spiritual Living

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 for all creation.

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!

Our intention in this Annual Report is to do our best to capture the essence of this amazing year so that a sense of the good that was accomplished may be felt.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your Board of Trustees has been very active in 2016!

Project Spruce-Up. Beginning in the early part of the year Project Spruce-Up was started to review, fix and remodel our wonderful Center. Areas in need of attention were identified and the work was completed by volunteers and board members themselves. These included minor structural items, the complete remodel of the Center's foyer, repainting of the sanctuary and foyer, and the complete patching of the roof over the Youth and Education Center.

Technology Advances. The Board approved and saw to the implementation of new technical components to the sanctuary and live streaming, the overhaul of the Center's website and additional security to allow offsite monitoring.

Community. The Board, on behalf of all of us at the Center, continues to support community and worldwide agencies and some individuals who merit a gift of financial support for their "Good Works". See the report on "Circulation" for more detail and information.

Fiscal Duties. The board is always on top of the Center's finances. We continue to examine, monitor, and budget your funds with the highest degree of professionalism for the greater good of the Center. These include authorizing expenditures, filing of tax returns, monitoring the maintenance of the Center and authorizing repairs.

30th Anniversary Celebration. The Board believed that it was appropriate and prudent to honor Rev. Dr. Liesa for her 30 years in the ministry. This event was planned so there would be no cost for attendees. The event, attended by 230 was a great success. More importantly, it conveyed to Rev. Dr. Liesa how much her members and the Center appreciate her and her devotion to all of us and to the teachings of Science of Mind.

Accessibility. So often those in leadership are perceived as "untouchable". The present Board believes that it is important for the members to know who we are and that we are available to answer questions and to discuss any matters concerning the administrative business of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. This is the purpose of recognizing the Board at Sunday service, so that our faces are known to all. This is why we are joyfully present after service and at the Center's events, to be a presence for all to access. We are at your service!

Partners in Prosperity. No organization can work without a budget. In November the Partners in Prosperity Campaign again sought pledges from our members so that we as a Board can budget for the next year. The campaign is always a success thanks to you and we appreciate everyone who pledges following through with their individual commitment.

Grow with God. The Grow with God campaign has concluded, although it is forever open to additional donations. From this, we now have funds that the Board will be able to look to for the purpose of future facility growth. We especially are aware of a need for classroom space, as on many days there are several different activities occurring at the Center at the same time with really no way to properly accommodate them. This holds very true for the ever-growing Youth Ministry, which is in need of suitable facilities to meet their current needs and future growth. The Board continues to participate in visioning in this area to determine direction for a possible expansion, understanding that we also shoulder the responsibility of insuring that the Center is not burdened with debt.



2016 Board of Trustees
(back row) Jim Ramage, Rev. Karen Neuweiler, Alexandra Musser, Rev. Dr. Liesa, Sally Young, Erik Gals.
(front row) Rodney Sumpter, JoAnn Blake, Gino Scala

Rodney Sumpter, President
Board of Trustees
Center for Spiritual Living, Reno

Circulating Our Good

Center for Spiritual Living, 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 2016:

- \$40,500 was tithed to the larger organization, Centers for Spiritual Living.
- For the second year, we supported a “Good Works Tithe,” for the purpose of benefiting the works of centers, organizations or individuals that add to the growth of New Thought and Science of Mind in the world, thereby enriching our lives. A total of \$13,250 was given to the following: Ministers Ongoing Education Conference, CSL Shanghai, CSL San Jose’s 60th Anniversary, CSL Peninsula, CSL Southeast Louisiana, CSL Edmonton, CSL Whittier 60th Anniversary, Lisa Ferraro and Ericka Lockett’s Music Ministry, the Alchemist Movement, Centers for Spiritual Living Archives, the Christ Church of Co-Creation, and Temenos Spiritual Center in the Ukraine.
- The Education Ministry tithed \$1,136 from class registration fees and the Ministry of Prayer tithed \$390 from donations received. Among the recipients of these tithes were the Christ Church of Co-Creation and the Spiritual Living Archives.
- Recipients of the Board of Trustees bi-monthly **community gift** were the Nevada Humane Society (in memory of Emma), Rise and Dine, Camp TLC, Moms on the Run, and Nevada Youth Empowerment. \$1500 total.
- The Sacred Sisters raised nearly \$2,000 through their rummage sale and farmers markets for local and global nutritional and education programs.
- The Annual Community Pet Blessing raised more than \$400 in donations for animal rescue programs in our community.
- Besides monetary donations, volunteers of CSL Reno shared their time and talent with the Northern Nevada Food Bank, a coat drive for UCP and a blood drive in conjunction with United Blood Services.

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

After four successful years, the Better Business Breakfast, as part of the Business Ministry of CSL Reno, came to a conclusion at the end of the year. The group that has been the passionate project of Ileana Vassiliou, met monthly to provide support to each other in creating thriving and successful businesses by using spiritual principles.



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 continues to meet the third Saturday of each month in the Youth and Education Center of CSL Reno for breakfast and fellowship. This year they again hosted a

summer barbecue at Bartley Ranch Park. They sponsored the Annual Blood Drive and two visits to the Food Bank.

Grateful acknowledgement to Dave Asher and Robb Burgermeyer for steering Men's Spirit for many years. In the fall, Rev. Steve Yarborough assumed leadership.

Sacred Sisters

In 2016, the Sacred Sisters had several fundraisers that consisted of a rummage sale and several farmers markets, for the purpose of supporting local and global nutrition and education programs. They have continued to "do good" in the world.

Young Adults

At the end of the year, a new group was being formed for the 18 to 30-Somethings. Their intention has been, so far, to connect with one another, to get to know each other, and just to have fun. It is open for anyone in this age group-- single, married, in relationship, with or without children, gay or straight... all are welcome. They have established the fourth Wednesday from 7-9pm as their time to meet.

Sacred Path 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 featured “book of the month” that coincides with Rev. Dr. Liesa’s theme. The inventory is stocked with books that supplement classes that are sponsored at Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. Products are priced reasonably and have a wide appeal.

Bookstore Manager, Linda Galloway, leads a crew of friendly, knowledgeable volunteers that includes Ginny Ogden, Irma Gamboa, Sue Riley, Barbara Winge, Carol Brennan, Marianne Thomas and Jennifer Fields.

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.

2016 Annual Report
Care Ministry

Under the faithful and diligent direction of Judie Mastroianni, the Care Ministry continues to fulfill its mission and purpose to express God's love through service to others.

The Intentions of the Care Ministry Volunteers are:

- To show up as the presence of Love
- To embrace the gift of serving others as we in turn, serve ourselves
- To grow spiritually through each act of kindness provided to others
- To share our individual gifts and talents through the Creative Mind of God
- To serve our Spiritual Community with compassion, in time of need, with ease and grace
- To be fully supported and financially prospered in the Joy of this Ministry.

In 2016, more than 29 meals were provided to friends and members of our Spiritual Community. There were nearly 30 home, hospital and phone visits. Eight people were provided rides to and from doctor appointments.

Rev. Chuck Sances joined the team of committed members as a Pastoral Care support.

In October, Men's Spirit Care Outreach was created to assist the Care Ministry. It included: Joe Mastroianni, Jim Ramage, Dave Asher, Ray Hopper, Dave Urbanac and Rick Morley. They assisted with rides to the doctor and moving one of our members from Reno to Carson City.

The Care Ministry has more than 25 volunteers who assist our members in loving, helpful ways.

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 2016:

- The Art of Abundance (9-months)
- Mantra Meditation with Dr. Abey
- The Grief Recovery Process
- The Spiritual Side of Caregiving

Certificated classes completed were:

- Foundations
- Meditation Is More Than You Think
- Roots of the Science of Mind
- The Power of Your Word
- The Power of Decision

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

Communications

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. The end of 2016, we were in the process of creating a new, user-friendly website that will make its debut in early 2017.
- 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.

Broadcast Network

The quality of our live Sunday broadcast and special events increased significantly in the last two years. Averaging 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. Prayer Practitioners monitor our chat sessions during each week's 11:00 a.m. broadcast, answering on-line questions and taking prayer requests. We also provide 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, Allen Ashby, and Carle Bumpus, do a phenomenal job.

"Now that the dust has settled from our move to California, last Sunday we streamed your 11 am service - the picture perfect, the sound like we were in the room, it was greatly enjoyed and appreciated! What a high quality production!" ~ Lynn and Malcolm M.

"We are so grateful for how easy it is to access this live Sunday Service through the website. The quality is impeccable—best we've seen. We were even able to watch it on our TV through the computer. We felt like we were in the room!" ~ Charles S.

Music

2016 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.

The Heart Tones Choir Performed 4 times – 2/21, 3/20, 5/15 & 6/26. Choir Director Tiffanie Story resigned in June. We are currently and actively searching for a new Director and the Choir is on hiatus until that person is found.

The Music Team is strong in number and enthusiasm. Lesa Ramage sang and played for dozens of Sunday services and presented many new songs for all to enjoy. Pianist Kevin Tokarz moved out of the Reno area in July but the rest of our regular pianists increased their participation and we have never been lacking. Ben Reino continues to play each Sunday with his youthful energy and tremendous talent. Trudy Italiano has become a vital member of our team and has performed as a soloist or led various groups like the Sisters of Soul. Her spirit, talent and ability are all appreciated. Our awesome Steven Murdoch performed as well.

CSL Reno hosted many special musical guests in 2016 including Felice Garcia, Pat Esters, Anton Mizerak & Laura Berryhill, Robin Hackett, Rev. Dr. Michael Gott, JoAnn O'Brien, Gary Lynn Floyd, Alan Pierce, Dani Hall, Mark Emerson, Matthew Andrew and Jasmine Johnson.

Music was performed at these special services and events: Good Friday, Earth Day, the Robin Hackett Concert, the Michael Gott Concert with Workshop and Reception, many Memorial services, Rev. Dr. Liesa's 30-Year Celebration in August, Thanksgiving Service, the Holiday Variety Show, and the Christmas Candlelight Service.

Taizé Services were presented quarterly with an average attendance of 20 people. Lesa Ramage sang and played for all four.

CSL Reno music team members participated in and helped produce the monthly Alchemist Theatre shows that we began to sponsor in June. Also the Reno Youth Jazz Orchestra presented a concert in May that was very well attended by followers of the group and our own congregation.

The Music Team enthusiastically looks to 2017 as an opportunity for more wonderful music presentations that are diverse, exciting, beautiful and inspiring.

Prayer Practitioners and Ministry of Prayer

In 2016, four Prayer Practitioners received their five-year pins, and were honored at a Sunday Service for their years of dedication and consciousness. The recipients were Laura Arneson, Doyle Brown, Morgan Sandberg, and Rev. Steve Yarborough.

Our beloved Ginny Ogden, Prayer Practitioner Emeritus, received special recognition for 30 continuous years of service, all in our Center. We are indeed blessed!

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

The Practitioners also offered an inspirational and moving “Practitioner Sunday” in August. Gretchen Giambra, Ginny Ogden and Rev. Steve Yarborough were the featured speakers. All Practitioners were introduced to the congregation by the year in which they graduated.

In October, they gathered for a day of meditation, prayer, and deepening at their annual retreat.

At Thanksgiving, our Prayer Practitioners created a “Giving Thanks” 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.



Prayer Practitioners: Ileana Vassiliou, Jason Giambra, Deanna Smith, Lesa Ramage, Nancy Radford, Laura Arneson, Vicki Dale-Knopf, Beth Williams, Doyle Brown, Gretchen Giambra, Lauren Alten, Robert Alten, Jackie Horner, Morgan Sandberg, LuAnne Steininger, Sylvie Moonjay, Kristin Lewandowski. Not Shown JoAnn Blake, Kate Nelson, Ginny Ogden, Kim Brewer and Sally Young.

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.
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ Holding consciousness during classes held at our Center.
- ♥ Meeting privately and professionally with clients, providing affirmative prayer, spiritual counseling and/or mentoring.
- ♥ Teaching or serving as assistants for classes and workshops at our Center.
- ♥ Sending supportive letters and affirmations to those requesting prayer.
- ♥ Creating and hosting special services and participate in services as requested by Rev. Dr. Liesa.

Spiritual Travel

Spiritual Travel is a way for friends and members of our Community to get together to see the world together, to engage in daily spiritual practice that is meaningful for the region, the culture and the history of the region. Led by Rev. Dr. Liesa Garcia, in partnership with Spirit Tours, it's been a wonderful shared experience that has broadened our perspective on the world and life.

In October, 22 folks from CSL Reno flew to Maine to visit the areas that were home to our New Thought founders Phineas P. Quimby, Ernest Holmes, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Emma Curtis Hopkins. Besides Belfast and Camden, Maine, they visited Boston, Massachusetts (where they visited Emerson's home, which still stands), as they traced the path of New Thought in America. Each day included a lesson about the person being studied, meditation and exploration. Every day was unique and spectacular—and fall in New England was spectacular. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

In August 2017, another group from Center for Spiritual Living, Reno is forming to travel to Machu Picchu, Peru. As we look into the years to follow, Ireland and other destinations are all possible.

2016 Annual Report
Staff

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.
Our staff consists of

- Rev. Dr. Liesa Leggett Garcia, Senior Minister
- Rev. Karen Neuweiler, Assistant Minister and Education Team Leader
- Rev. Steve Yarborough, Assistant Minister and working with Men's Spirit and the Young Adults Group
- Rev. Chuck Sances, Pastoral Care
- Kim Brewer – Administrator of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno
- Linda Galloway – Communications Coordinator and Bookstore Manager
- Gretchen Giambra – Youth and Family Leader (assumed this position in May 2016 when Sheryl Overstreet retired)
- Joe McKenna and Lesa Ramage – Music Ministry Leaders

2016 Annual Report

Special Events

In 2016, Center for Spiritual Living, Reno hosted some very special guests, and put on some fun events for the entire community.

We started the year with the dynamic Don Miguel Ruiz, Jr. who offered a workshop on “The Mastery of Self: Toltec Wisdom as a Guide for Relationships”.

25 couples participated in Dr. Liesa’s “Renewal of Vows” ceremony on Valentine’s Day. So much love in the room!

In April, we hosted bestselling author of “E Squared,” Pam Grout, to an evening of creativity and joy.

The 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 Lauren Alten, Jeffrey Purtee, Donna Hartley, Dr. Bob Woodard and Shelley Pearson.

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.

In July, we were blessed with the return of Michael Gott for a wine reception, a concert and a Sunday workshop.

In August, more than 30 people from our Community got together to attend a Reno Aces Ballgame.

On August 26th, the entire congregation got together to celebrate Rev. Dr. Liesa’s 30th anniversary in the ministry, as well as receiving her honorary doctorate from Centers for Spiritual Living.

Gary Lynn Floyd blessed us with his beautiful music in a special concert in early fall.

The Alchemists have graced our stage once a month since last May. They are an interfaith community which combines progressive spirituality with elements of theater to produce an inclusive, inspiring experience. Through music, meditation, and engaging sermons, The Alchemists aims to raise awareness, provide practical tools, and create a safe space for patrons to build a connection to Spirit.

The Prayer Practitioners hosted a beautiful and meaningful Thanksgiving Service.

The music team of Joe McKenna and Lesa Ramage crafted an amazing Holiday Variety Show that played to a packed house and included in-house talent and was capped by a visit from Santa, himself.

As always, we ended the year with a magnificent Christmas Candle Light Service, music. The sanctuary was filled with the sacredness of the season and gave everyone an opportunity to light a candle for themselves and the world.

Volunteers / Sacred Service

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 2016. 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 and the commitment to Sacred Service is so appreciated.

There are many opportunities for Sacred Service at Center for Spiritual Living, Reno 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 active, loyal and supporting member of our Center.

Ongoing areas of Sacred Service include: Administrative Support, Building and Grounds, Bookstore Staff, Care Ministry, Education Team, Fellowship Team, Facility Care & Maintenance, Gardening and Landscape, Outreach Community Services, Special Events, Tech Team, Ushers and Greeters.

Youth and Family Ministry

Our Youth Ministry Program is a place where children, teens and adult volunteers are supported in their Spiritual Growth. It is a place for learning and growing with Spirit by experiencing the Principles of the Science of Mind, the lessons of The Virtues, and Spiritual Practices that are the foundation for creative expression.

The early part of the year, Sheryl Overstreet continued to bless the Youth and Family Ministry with her steadfast and creative leadership. In April, Gretchen Giambra, RScP accepted the position as YFM Leader when Sheryl retired.

There are dedicated, patient and faithful volunteers who serve in the Youth Church on Sundays, guiding with a lesson plan, crafts and games. Kristin Lewandowski has developed much of the curriculum. 30 volunteers have made a wonderful, enriching program. The teens have flourished under the leadership of Grayson Hall and Chase Morris, along with Jason Giambra, RScP.

Here are the highlights of what the teens accomplished this past year:

- In January of 2016, five teens and two advisors went to the Winter Camp in Northern California, "To Infinity and Be One."
- In April, the teens took part in the Earth Day Project Tree Planting.
- In May, Gretchen and Jason went to Buckhorn Camp in Idylwild in Southern California.
- Also in May, CSL Ohana Day celebration for youth, families and volunteers.
- In July, nine teens and three advisors attended the Centers for Spiritual Living Teen Summer Camp at Camp Buckhorn. Theme: "Your God Is Showing."
- The first week of August, the teens hosted a used book sale; proceeds of more than \$400 went to their camp fund.
- In the middle of August, teens and parents were part of the volunteer team that cared for our parking lot during the Greek Festival, under the leadership of Joel Peixoto and Michael Brazier, raising nearly \$2,000 for the camp fund.
- At the end of October, the teens and advisors had some good bonding and fun time at the Coconut Bowl, dressing up for Halloween and enjoying bowling and pizza.
- In December, the teens, in conjunction with Men's Spirit, hosted a Christmas Tree Sale Fundraiser.

In Memoriam

In 2016, we sorrowfully said good-bye to five beloved members of our Spiritual Community. While we know their souls continue to experience their lives in new and wonderful ways, and that one day we will meet again, we still miss them deeply and appreciate the difference they made in our lives.



Frank Gamboa

Frank and his wife Alba, his sisters Elvia and Irma, have been long-time members of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno. Even during most of his illness, Frank never missed a Sunday. He was devoted to Alba, he loved the positive messages he heard, and he loved being prayed for. He accepted his diagnosis with a quiet dignity and was an example for us all. Frank made his transition on April 3rd.



Adele Clayton

While still relatively new to CSL Reno, Adele jumped in wholeheartedly and became entrenched quickly into our Community. She took classes, volunteered and made friends. She especially loved being part of the music program and specifically the choir. It is there that she met and developed a deep and loving relationship with her beloved life partner, Ray Hopper. The two of them had an inseparable bond. Adele was a true light in the world. Adele Clayton made her transition on August 11th.



Sandra Adamson

Sandra, along with her husband Dick, were members of Center for Spiritual Living, Reno for more than 20 years, and up until she got sick, Sandra was always very active in our Community. Sandra was the first to volunteer and to help organize events. She had incredible organizational skills and paid attention to every last detail. We will remember her impeccable taste and her ability to have the most fun of anybody on one of our game nights. Sandra cared deeply about others and was the first to reach out to help, when needed. After a long courageous struggle with cancer, she made her transition on August 7, 2016.



David Bale

The tall, elegant, handsome, white-haired man who was friendly to all and never missed a Sunday, left us just before Christmas of last year on December 8th. Dave had been a student of New Thought for several decades and became a member of our Church in 2003. He was a Stanford graduate, had many varied interests and several successful careers. Rev. Liesa married him and his beloved, Alexandra, and they had several wonderful years together before she passed. Dave was involved in many community activities, as well as our Men's Spirit, and was a regular attendee of Tai Chi. He had an insatiable appetite for knowing about *everything*—and we know his journey for experiencing all of life continues.



Emma Sue Garcia

Emma was truly CSL Reno's Goodwill Ambassador. When Rev. Liesa and Joe Garcia got her as an eight-week old puppy in 2002, she started coming to Church every Sunday for the next 14 years. She loved everybody and made all feel welcome. Even if people were shy about talking to other people, they felt safe with Emma. She was sweet, calm and so loving. It was heartbreaking to all of us when she left us on April 13th of this year, but we are so grateful for the experience of having known her and feeling as though she belonged to us all.