



Columbus Center for Spiritual Living
Columbus, Oh 43214
614-216-0340

www.columbuscsl.org

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

Rooted In Spirit, Thriving In Possibility

Columbus Center for Spiritual Living

Mission

We are a spiritual community that supports, inspires and advances the global vision of a world that works for everyone, one person at a time, starting with me.

Essence: *We are the joyful expression of Spirit evolving.*

Blessing: *We are a catalyst for growth in spiritual consciousness and wholeness.*

Values: *Love, Spiritual Living, Compassion, Inclusiveness, Diversity, Financial Health & Prosperity, Honoring All Voices*

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Introduction

This Annual Report provides an overview of Columbus Center for Spiritual Living's Minister, staff, leadership, and various operational groups/committees for 2016. The primary intent is to provide the Center's members and visitors with a year-end snapshot, including financial position, and to highlight what is ahead in the coming year.

Minister's Report

It was a challenging year for our Center in many ways. We said final farewells to long-time member, Karen Thorp, who made her transition. We watched as friends left, whether moving out of town, or simply moving on, and that was hard for everyone. And yet, we also saw a lot of new people coming through the doors, whether through classes, services, or special events. We are seeing signs of resurgence, both in attendance and in giving. Average attendance in 2016 was 119 adults and 10 children.

Move the Needle on Climate Change, which started as a three-week class, developed into a powerful group who gave us monthly challenges to do easy, simple things to ease the strain on our environment. Soul Session has become a highlight of each month as we deepen together in spiritual practice.

We had some wonderful guests during the year; Reverends Sharon Ramey, Lee Wolak and Michelle Wadleigh served as guest speakers, and seven of our own practitioners stepped up to share what they've learned.

We offered nine certificated (registered with home office) courses as well as Prosperity Plus II and Geography of Grace during the year, with a total of 89 participants. These courses are where we really learn to put our principles into practice. If you haven't yet taken Foundations or Beyond Limits, sign up – you will be glad you did because your life will change for the better! We also offered a number of workshops, including Mandala Workshop, Laughter Yoga, The Art of Noticing, How to Become a Writer, Nia and Integrated Energy Therapy.

We welcomed to our Center new Artists-in-Residence, Lisa Ferraro and Erika Lockett, and have watched our music department grow and develop, now serving upwards of 30 people in the choir, soloists and song leaders. Lisa and Erika offered several music workshops during 2016, and have done an exquisite job creating "our sound," including original songs and arrangements. Singer Gary Floyd guested at Soul Session and gave a concert that we'll remember for a long time.

Columbus Center sponsored four retreats in 2016: the CORE Council Retreat, Women's Retreat, Practitioner and Ministerial Regional Retreat, and our Camping Retreat. We got out into the community in such projects as the Pride Parade, Earth Day booth, Habitat for Humanity, and Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

Looking Ahead

Our theme for Sundays in 2017 is "Values-Based Spiritual Living." We join more than 120 other Centers for Spiritual Living in exploring each week a facet of our shared values – compassion, love, spiritual living, continuous improvement/evolution, diversity and inclusivity, financial health, creativity, integrity, safety, transformation, accountability, community service, and communication.

We will be talking a lot about building spiritual community during 2017. If you have wanted a group to hang out with, to talk about life with, to break bread with, to grow spiritually with, consider becoming a leader or host for a small group. The groups meet once each month and there will be a quarterly gathering of all group leaders (Leadership Council) to ensure we have open lines of communication, support and training for leaders, and more.

Thank you so much for being part of this Center. Please join us as we build an even more vibrant, loving community in 2017.

Much love,

Rev. Molly

Rev. Molly Cameron

Staff and Practitioners

Rev. Molly Cameron, Minister and Spiritual Leader



Rev. Molly Cameron is the founding minister of our Center. She moved to Ohio in 2007, and in March of 2008, along with a group of bright, talented and enthusiastic folks, opened our doors. Rev. Molly is an ordained Religious Science Minister and serves as vision-caster and spiritual leader. Rev. Molly's office hours are from noon to 6, Monday-Wednesday and Saturday. If you wish to speak with her, please call the office at (614) 216-0340 or email revmolly@spirituallivingcolumbus.org

Robin Brookhouse, Operations Director



Robin Brookhouse is our operations director and serves the Center by managing the office and the Center's daily operating affairs. She works with Rev. Molly, and serves as a Leader Champion for the Leadership Council, and manages associated teams and groups to provide direction and focus by creating a welcoming atmosphere and encouraging all who wish to serve at the Center to find the right fit for their interest and expertise. Robin's office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, and can be reached at (614) 216-0340 or email robin@spirituallivingcolumbus.org.

Prayer Practitioners

A Prayer Practitioner is a licensed professional trained in the use of affirmative prayer (spiritual mind treatment). Affirmative prayer is a powerful source of healing, of bodily, mental, and financial health, and of overall life improvement. After our Sunday celebrations, the professional Prayer Practitioners offer, free of charge, "one-minute miracles" of prayer. A "one-minute miracle" means a practitioner takes a short time to discuss the situation – not the story, but the concern or problem. Then the practitioner prays, giving what we call a Spiritual Mind Treatment. This affirmative way of *knowing the spiritual truth* in any situation is a powerful way of changing consciousness. Practitioners are also available for longer one-on-one sessions. Just ask or call one of the practitioners!

Columbus Center Prayer Practitioners



Jay Barnes, RScP

Jay has served on the CORE Council and the Vision Core, as well as the Practitioner Core and he is the Leader of the Sound Tech Team. Contact Jay at rscper@gmail.com

Rose Callahan, RScP



Rose received the very first Diana Thornton Award for Sacred Service, and has served in many capacities at the Center. Email: rose.callahan@gmail.com Phone: 614-46-LOVE1



Mary Dinneen, RScP

Mary currently serves as the leader of the Ushers Team and teacher in the adult curriculum. Contact Mary at: mdinneenphs@me.com

Linda Farrenkopf, RScP



Linda is our newest practitioner and serves on the Vision Core. Contact: lindafarrenkopf@gmail.com



Dana Horton, RScP

Dana has also served for 7 years on the CORE Council as Treasurer. Contact: dehorton@aep.com

Catherine Long, RScP



Catherine graduates from ministerial school this summer. She is currently nominated to serve on the CORE Council in 2017. Contact: metamin2016@gmail.com



Ami Papadopulo, RScP

Ami is in her last year of ministerial school and serves as a teacher in the adult curriculum. Contact: amipapa21@gmail.com

Kristen Peairs, RScP



Kristen also serves on the adult teaching team. Contact: kulinaire@gmail.com



Margie Salmons, RScP

Margie also serves as a Leader Champion in the Care Structure and as an adult teacher. Contact: mfish@att.net

Practitioner Interns: Janelle Carroll, Joanie Bauman

On Leave of Absence: Wendy Adaska

Leadership

C.O.R.E. Council

The C.O.R.E. Council serves a function similar, but not identical to, a corporate Board of Trustees. Its responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Receive input from all Cores and areas of the Center and synthesize it into a clear direction and operational plan
- Prioritize, coordinate, and apply resources
- Monitor overall health and unfoldment of the Center
- Serve as communication hub
- Act as final decision-making body for Columbus Center for Spiritual Living
- Financial stewardship
- Planning and implementation
- Organizational structure
- Public relations
- Policy and procedures
- Representation of congregants

The C.O.R.E. Council consists of up to six elected members of the community, a member of the Vision Core, and Rev. Molly Cameron. To be eligible for election by the full community to the C.O.R.E. Council, an individual must have taken, or agree to take within their first year on the Council, at minimum the Foundations class. In 2016, the Leadership Council included the following members along with Rev. Molly:

Kathy Rausch, Chair – Kathy (and Tom) have been attending CCSL regularly for 7 years and became members early on. Kathy has attended most of the classes available through CCSL and has made many lifelong friends. There is nothing more enjoyable to Kathy than to be with her CCSL family. She has found a place where people are having fun and are nice to each other while growing spiritually and sharing as a community. She has been very involved in many aspects of the Center including the Youth Program, the Choir, Song Leaders, Marketing Committee and Compassionate Care. Kathy and Tom started the annual “Love Lights” fund raiser.



Anne Allen, Vice-Chair – Anne Allen was one of the original Charter Members for Columbus Center for Spiritual Living. She was introduced to Centers for Spiritual Living after going on a “tour of churches” in an effort to find a community where she felt spiritually fed. Anne has served the Youth Program, and is dedicated to continual personal growth and has taken courses offered at the Center since joining. Anne married her high school sweetheart, Mike, and is blessed to have two fantastic daughters. Anne is in charge of Analytics at JPMorgan and is also a graduate of The Ohio State University.



Dana Horton, Treasurer – Dana is employed at AEP as Director of RTO Market Design in the Regulatory



Division and has been with AEP for over 30 years. Dana has been married to the lovely Mary Dinneen. Dana and Mary have three children total – Michael Dinneen, Byron Horton, and Lizzy Horton. Dana has been an active member of CCSL since discovering the Center in 2008. In 2013 he became a licensed Practitioner. Dana has also been a member of CORE Council for six years as Treasurer.

Jim Broyles, Member – Jim Broyles, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Grove City,



helping individuals understand and move past their blocks to growth. He is an experienced organization leader and has served as past president and current board member of the Ohio Psychological Association. He has also served as a member of the Service Providers Coalition, a committee of professionals responsible for the annual A Matter of Pride Conference, which provided training for mental health professionals on LGBT issues. Jim has also served as past chair of the Ohio Psychological Association’s LGBT Task Force. He and his partner David live in Westerville.

Carol Thomas, Member – Carol served on the CORE Council while she was Vice President of Information



Technology at Columbus State Community College. She is a higher education technologist, educator, policy work, activist, and published author, and has subsequently taken a position in Concord, New Hampshire. We were sorry to see her go, and wish her great success in her new life!

Peggy Wallace, Vision Core representative – Peggy participated in the founding of the Columbus



Center for Spiritual Living and became a charter member. Since then she has been joyfully involved with Sacred Services including Greeter, Usher, Service Coordinator, and CORE Council Secretary. Peggy is a retired Registered Nurse with 40 years of experience in the healthcare industry. Her newest adventure is volunteering as an airport Ambassador at Port Columbus where she assists many a weary traveler.

The Council’s key accomplishments for 2016 include:

- Sent Rev. Molly to Financial Freedom Academy sponsored by Centers for Spiritual Living to learn more about capital campaigns;
- Initiated 360-degree feedback survey for our minister;
- Agreed to CORE Council training with professional coach, Amy Watson;
- Solidified the link between Vision Core and CORE Council
- Agreed to CORE Council training with professional coach, Amy Watson;
- Agreed to Minister training and coaching with professional coach, Amy Watson
- Watched the budget closely to evaluate and adjust as changes have impacted the Center

Looking into 2017, the Council’s focuses will be:

- Creating a budget that meets the needs of the Community without sacrificing quality.
- Revising the Center Bylaws and finalizing Policies and Procedures.
- Developing our leadership skills and applying them to our Center.
- Rekindling the vision for our Center’s growth and financial stability.
- Grow the newly formed Stewardship Committee to plan for our financial future.

Vision Core

The Vision Core meets regularly to conduct visioning sessions, creating a field of consciousness which is sensitive to the impress and guidance of Spirit. The results of these visioning sessions are communicated to the C.O.R.E. Council, and become the basis for the unified direction and evolving pathway of the Center.

In 2016, the Vision Core members were:

- Elaine Ireland, Chair
- Peggy Wallace, Representative to C.O.R.E. Council
- Linda Farrenkopf
- Care Gerdeman
- Candy Lucas
- Caren Truske, RScP
- Rev. Molly

Nominating Core

The purpose of the Nominating Core is to seek out and cultivate the most highly qualified nominees to fill each elected position within the organizational model of the Center; to interview and assess the qualifications of nominees; and to determine and present an annual slate for each elected Core.

In 2016, the Nominating Core members were:

- Steve Ulrich, Chair
- Helen Ware
- John Morris
- Deb Joseph
- Karen Thorp (Karen made her transition during 2016)

Music - Artists-in-Residence, Lisa Ferraro & Erika Lockett

2016 was a year of change for the Music Team. Lisa Ferraro and Erika Lockett moved to Columbus from Berkeley with the express interest in sharing their gifts with Columbus Center as Artists-in-Residence. Lisa has taken the lead, directing Sunday mornings, song leaders and The One Voice Choir. She is a native of Pittsburgh, where she has been an in-demand local performer while also touring nationally and internationally. Lisa debuted an original composition with Marvin Hamlisch and has performed and recorded with many jazz legends. She has written music for ABC TV's Wife Swap; Polygram Films; and the PBS play *The Other Side of the River*. Lisa was commissioned by Major League baseball and the Pittsburgh Pirates to write and perform the song *More Than a Man* commemorating the late great Roberto Clemente. In 2009, she and Erika were selected from among thousands of musical groups to perform their songs at the 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia.



Care Structure

The Care Structure is a network of service and social circles designed to both accomplish the work of the Center, while at the same time giving care to the individuals within those circles. Each circle strives for a leader and leader-in-training, and these self-directed teams design their own processes for action. Our minister is the director of the program; however, it is the Leader Champion who cascades the information and care down through the organization. Leader Champions are Robin Brookhouse, Margie Salmons, and Catherine Long. Rev. Molly also serves as Leader Champion to several of the groups below. We currently have more than 75 individuals giving service to the Center on a dedicated team.

Leadership Council

Made up of small group leaders and leaders-in-training, this Council meets every quarter to break bread together and discuss the state of the Center. Information is disseminated to the teams and received from the teams, helping leadership keep up-to-date with what's happening in the Center and what actions, reaching out, or programs are needed

Compassionate Care Team

Members of the Compassionate Care team support our community with unconditional love and assistance during times of illness or surgery, grief, or emotional difficulties. We reach out in sacred friendship, without judgment, to listen and to care. Our mission is to provide a caring supportive environment to help meet individuals' needs during physical, emotional and spiritual challenges. If you feel called to serve on this amazing team, please talk with Team Leader Michelle Fought.

Youth Program

The Youth Program is where the Center children learn about their and everyone else's oneness with God and divine creativity. We have six people dedicated to bring top-quality education to our young ones: Janelle Carroll, curriculum writer; Anne Strayer, Marty Knapp, Monica Linson, Stephanie Rawlins, and Briana Miller. Talk to your children about what they are learning – I think you'll be surprised and pleased. WE WELCOME VOLUNTEERS to serve as teacher's helper! If you're interested in working with our kids, please talk with Robin Brookhouse – 614-216-0340.

Adult Education Team

Adult education is provided by Rev. Molly and a group of practitioners working closely together to provide classes that help people enlarge their consciousness and overcome their habituated thinking. Margie Salmons serves as the coordinator of the program, making sure the needs of the students come first. Classes include "certificated" (registered) classes from our home office, short spiritual development courses, and courses and workshops from our Community members. During 2016 we provided nine classes and eight workshops.

As we look forward to 2017 we plan for at least eight certificated classes. What's new in 2017 is our offering of a variety of workshops by Community members, taking advantage of the wealth of skills

and talents among our people. If there is a subject on which you would like to see a class, please let Rev. Molly know.

Sunday Service Teams

Sunday mornings require a lot of sacred service! Follow is a list of teams and their leaders:

Prosperity Counters –	Ann Strasser
Ushers –	Mary Dinneen, RScP
CD Duplication –	Janelle Carroll
Greeters –	Bernadette Laughlin
Slides –	Robin Brookhouse
Sound Technicians –	Jay Barnes, RScP
Service Coordinators –	Lisa Chambers
Visual Arts –	Paul Miller

Social Teams

The Men’s Group dissolved last year after several years of success. Because these circles are self-forming and self-guiding, some teams fulfill their purpose and fade until someone else assumes leadership. Our male population is growing, so it is only a matter of time before another group appears.

In 2016 the men's group met many times. There were dynamic outside speakers brought in and many informal get togethers. A 2017 Men's Retreat may be planned. If you are interested in joining the men's group and/or participating in a Men's Retreat please contact the CCSL office.

Dinner Out Together

This is a monthly dinner at a local restaurant on the first Saturday evening of the month. Paul Miller leads the group, and all are invited to attend.

The focus of the Care Structure in 2017 and beyond is to encourage the formation of more small groups, serving a social function for our Community. We invite all who would like to step forward for the planning and implementation of any small group, based around common interests. You will be assigned a Leader Champion who will help in the process and support the group’s success.

Financial Information

The Center exists for and through the generous support of the community. We continue to operate on a very lean budget. The Treasurer, Dana Horton, Reverend Molly, Robin Brookhouse, and the Leadership Council continuously monitor the financials and are always looking for ways to control expenses and increase income without negatively impacting the quality of the Sunday services or the services to the community.

Although we would sometimes like to be isolated from the effects of the world, even CCSL has reflected the general unrest in our country and in our world. The Center experienced lower attendance and lower giving through the second and third quarter of 2016. However, based on more recent activity, we are confident that both attendance and giving are on the increase now, and we are committed to building a strong sense of community so that everyone has people close to them to “lean into” when life becomes difficult.

The Center’s financial highlights for 2016 include:

- Last year our expenses exceeded our income by \$28,800. This was the first time in the 9-year history of the Center that we experienced a net loss for the year.
- The primary reason for the net loss in 2016 was a significant decrease of over \$23,000 in General Offerings.
- The Center ended the year with \$78,000 in savings.
- Although General Offerings in recent months have improved, the CCSL Leadership is preparing for further expense reductions by releasing our office space on High Street, and reviewing all of our operations for potential cost reductions. All decisions are made on a collaborative basis with the highest vision for the Center at heart.

Financial Information

Overview

The Center continues to exist for and through the generous support of the community. We operate on a very lean budget. Our Treasurer, Dana Horton, along with Reverend Molly, and the C.O.R.E. Council continuously monitor the financials and search for ways to control expenses and increase income without having any negative impact on the quality of the Sunday services or the services to the community.

The Center's financial highlights for 2016 include:

- Net income was Under net expenses due to a significant decline in General Offerings.
- The average weekly attendance in 2016 was 119. The average weekly donation was \$34.90/person. This was down from 127 average attendance and \$35.80/person donation in 2015. If either of these were to increase by 20% (a reasonable intention based on our past growth) we would be a sustainable Center, able to grow both our outreach and music programs and be a light for more people in this world.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of December 31, 2016

Bank Accounts	\$ 13,817		
Building Fund	\$ 6,957	Liabilities	\$3,017
Savings Account	\$ 71,040	Equity	\$88,477
Other Assets	\$ 6,637		
Total Assets	\$91,494	Total Liability & Equity	\$91,494

While we, like you, continue to face some challenges and managing cash flow on a daily basis is not always fun, we feel strongly about the financial health of the Center. We are taking active steps to turn first-time visitors into long-time members.

The complete financial information is posted on-line throughout the year at www.columbuscsl.org/about-us/elected-leadership/governing-documents. Treasurer Dana Horton and Rev. Molly are both always open to questions.

Statement of Income and Expenses through December 31, 2016

Operating Income	
General Offerings	212,620
Special Programs	3,723
Other Income	<u>3,475</u>
Total operating income	219,818
Operating Expenses	
Compensation	120,651
Facility	34,325
Administration	13,241
Music	43,711
Tithing to CSL	21,311
Other Expenses	<u>28,636</u>
Total op. expense	<u>248,634</u>
Net Loss	(28,815)

Ways you can help

Annual Pledge

Your annual pledge contributions to the Center are invaluable to operations, as are other financial gifts beyond your pledge. In-kind gifts of material goods and services can also be helpful to the Center – please contact Dana Horton to discuss.

Contributions

We realize that some of you have not made an actual pledge to the Center. Your contributions on Sunday make up the remainder of our income and we appreciate you very much for contributing.

Gifts in Kind

Building materials, hospitality supplies and food, and similar things can be donated to the Center, *as can your time and talent*. If you have a knack for décor, finances, gardening, or anything else that would benefit the Center, please know your time and talent are welcome here!

Planned Giving / Estate Planning

Gifts made as part of estate planning can help ensure the smooth and healthy operation of the Center. Please talk with Rev. Molly or Dana Horton to find out how to make a gift to the Center part of your estate planning.

Amazon

Visit the Center website and click on the Amazon link; purchases made through this partnership DOES NOT cost you anything BUT DOES result in valuable commission income to the Center. Or to make it even easier, register under 'Amazon Smile' and designate Columbus Center for Spiritual Living as your recipient.

Local Grocery Shopping

Through Kroger, you can name the Center as designee for these companies' community giving program. Every time you shop, "points" are attributed to the Center and periodically we receive a check from your grocer. Go to www.kroger.com to designate Columbus Center for Spiritual Living! Just remember that some of these designations must be done annually.

Serve

Your presence and contribution to any of the existing groups is welcomed with open arms. Or do you have other ideas that will contribute to a more vibrant, active, loving Center? Just talk with Rev. Molly or anyone on the leadership team to propose new ventures in sacred service or connection.

Think ABUNDANCE

When you think of the Center, think abundance! Keep our financial well-being in your prayers and affirmations. Know that we are a thriving, healthy community reaching out to those who are looking for the kind of loving, accepting, welcoming place we build together.

Thanks

Thank you so much for your participation in the Center! We exist for you, but we certainly couldn't do any of what we do without you!