

**Governing Board of Contemplative Outreach
Zoom Meeting Minutes September 6, 2022
Approved**

Governing Board Members Present: Jenny Adamson, Phil Jackson, Pat Johnson, Jim McElroy, Diane Ryan, Julie Saad, and Carol Quest

1. Opening Reflection: *Introducing Centering Prayer from THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST:*

A creative vision releases an enormous amount of energy and can transform society beyond our wildest dreams...The power of the stars is nothing compared to the energy of a person whose will has been freed from the false self system and who is thus enabled to co-create the cosmos together with God.

2. Approval of Minutes: *August 2, 2022 minutes were approved by consensus*

3. Additional signers for COL account

Diane Ryan, Pat Johnson and Mary Jane Yates will be signers on the COL account. Tom Smith, member of the finance committee will remain as a signer.. Kathy DiFede and Kathleen Gilgannon will no longer be signers.

4. Search for new GB members: *Three, possibly four, applicants will be recommended for Board interview.*

5. Conflict Resolution Document: *The Governing Board will offer a Conflict Resolution Process to the organism in a future article. The article will explain how both conflict and resolution can be gifts from the Holy Spirit prompting us to grow and evolve.*

6. Meeting with Staff and Chicago Chapter Sept. 11-16

- Time is scheduled for going over the schedule when we arrive at the retreat center. .*
- Covid tests before and after we travel. Bring rapid tests for testing on second day.*
- Discussion from staff questions from the "2022 CO Governing Board's Reflection on Its Role"*

Regarding collaboration, the Board's role is to maintain a "Crow's Nest View." By meeting together the Board hopes deepen relationships with Staff. Collaborating involves the whole organism, getting broad input. The Board trusts the Staff's wisdom in carrying out their responsibilities in harmony with the current Board intentions. The Administrator helps to facilitate the interaction with Staff, but the Board also has direct opportunities— including the upcoming meeting in Chicago.

7. Closing reflection: from *FRUITS AND GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT* pages 63, 66, 67

We are part of a plan that we do not know much about. We are trying to follow it and need the guidance of the Holy Spirit through the Gift of Counsel...The result of many of our practices, including centering prayer, is to establish a state in which our spiritual will is constantly turned to God. At some point, any specific practice may prove to be a hinderance to the divine action. We may be doing something to help God out when God doesn't need any help. The Gift of Counsel suggests the kind of cooperation we should offer to God, and it suggests when it is no longer useful. Then we should just rest in God.....The Gift of Counsel is a peaceful inclination to continue to do what we are doing or to change what we are doing. We can ignore it. It is a suggestion. Take it or leave it. To develop that sensitivity requires work on our part to maintain inner silence, but once it is established the only time we have to take action is when we notice a loss of peace.

8. Next scheduled Board Zoom Call is on October 4 at 12:00 PM Eastern Time

*Respectfully submitted,
Carol Quest, Secretary*