

**Governing Board of Contemplative Outreach**  
**Minutes of the extended meeting on Zoom**  
**Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**final**

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenny Adamson, Nick Cole, Kathy Di Fede, Maru Ladron de Guevara, Adal Henriquez, Phil Jackson, Pat Johnson, Julie Saad, Tom Smith, Carol Quest  
OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Mary Jane Yates, Administrator

**Friday evening Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 6 – 8:30 pm**

Centering Prayer led by Nick. Approval of 10-6-2020 meeting minutes.  
Check in.

**Saturday morning Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 9 – 11:30 am**

9 am: Centering Prayer followed by reading and reflecting together on the 2020 Intentions.

Jenny—Live and share the prayer, especially with those who have limited means. Volunteer community. Global community. Interspiritual outreach.

Nick—Accountability, GB. More volunteer help and expertise. Bring Centering Prayer into daily life.

Tom—Listen and respond. Chapter support including tech support and financial support. Global and international support in a concrete way. Simplicity. Interspiritual dialogue.

Mary Jane—Resilience. Simplicity. Global support in a real and concrete way. Interspiritual dialogue. Partnering.

Phil—Live and share the prayer. Evolving spirituality. Recognition of disequilibrium. Interspiritual outreach. Accountability. Simplicity.

Carol—Live and share the prayer. We are here to do Centering Prayer. Chapter and global support. Simplicity.

Pat—Prayer always happens. That is who we are. Communication! Support in every way of chapters/international. Transparency.

Adal—Evolving spirituality. Continue discussion of our own evolving spirituality. Simplicity. Interspiritual dialogue. Partnering.

Julie—We are about the practice and support the practice. Ask community what they want in programs. Input from other contemplative teachers.

Chapter support. Global support. Be able to sense and respond. Learning from ECI. Interspiritual dialogue. Partnering.

Kathy—Live and share the prayer. Support for chapters and global community. Simplicity.

### **Saturday afternoon Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>**

12:30 pm: Centering Prayer. Discussion of chapters versus community (ECI) Zoom has expanded what we mean by community (local community/global community).

Priorities for 2021 for staff.

1. Support for the emergence, expansion, and development of Centering Prayer chapters/communities around the world.
2. Share the prayer/simplicity/back to basics.
3. Explore dialoguing and/or partnering with other Christian contemplative groups.
4. Reach out to volunteers, supporting volunteer engagement in any way we can as well as seeking their expertise.

Mary Jane would like to continue exploring opportunities to dialogue and possibly partner with other contemplative groups.

As part of the conversation about Interspiritual dialogue, Jenny volunteered to write an article for the e-bulletin about interspiritual dialogue referencing the book “The Common Heart.” Everyone agreed that would be a good idea.

Mary Jane brought forward hiring 2 people for technological support. One for IT help with website, email, etc. would be part time. The second one for the program piece such as Zoom, podcasts, and online courses.

### **Sunday morning Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am: Centering Prayer.

1. September 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Bi-Annual Conference. Discussion about whether to cancel, move to 2022, or have a Zoom conference this year. There was a suggestion to talk to a Colorado corporate lawyer regarding our financial responsibility if we cancel the reservation we already have for 2021. Also, to find out if we could move the conference to 2022 with the same contract. Mary Jane agree to talk to Kathleen and Marie.

2. Reports on Chapter Support calls. Kathy met with Oregon coordinators. The call went very well. Everyone was very open to sharing about how their chapters were doing, including any difficulties. A couple of people felt that the website needed to be simplified. Jenny's sense of the call she was on was that awareness of Contemplative Outreach Ltd and the resources available was limited. Another comment was that there wasn't much information or support for United in Prayer Day this year.
  
3. Discussion of Mary Anne Best's retirement. Everyone agreed to present Mary Anne with a \$5000 (net) retirement check. We also discussed the possibilities of a (Zoom) celebration of Mary Anne with Circle of Friends.
  
4. The next Governing Board meeting is Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> noon EST.

The meeting ended with a brief one word check-out.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Di Fede  
Secretary