



SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER

Where Spirit Is at the Center of Life

YOU CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE

Dear Friend,

I'd like to introduce you to Tina. Tina is 24 years old. She's wondering what the future holds for her. Will she marry and, if so, whom? Will she remain in her current occupation, or change careers? How involved will she be in her religious community? Tina's decisions will affect the course of her entire life, for better or worse.



It can feel overwhelming to face life-changing choices—and not only for the young. It's true for all of us: the mother of a troubled child or the man going through a midlife crisis. Likewise, the elderly individual coping with loss and trying to decide among medical options. At every age, people need support to make the wisest possible decisions. **The Spiritual Life Center provides this support by helping us consider our choices in the light of Divine Wisdom.**

But we offer even more. Our dedicated spiritual directors help people deepen their prayer life, find peace, work for justice, and live in harmony with creation. They also **welcome people into the Spiritual Life Center community—a sacred place of deep listening and respect for all.** How essential it is to have such communities in the midst of our troubled world! With your help the Spiritual Life Center will continue to serve people like Tina at a time when some nonprofit organizations have ceased operations.

THE SPIRIT IS ON THE MOVE

As the COVID-19 virus began to spread anxiety, isolation and illness, the Spiritual Life Center responded immediately. **We recognized that people would not be able to come to the Center for our services, so we took our services to the people.** We tripled the number of programs we offer, providing them via the internet. Approximately one-half third of those taking part in the new programs are new to the Spiritual Life Center community.

Over the last ten months participants in our programs have shared their spiritual stories with one another, deepened their experience of prayer and meditation, and learned about various spiritual topics. Such topics include Celtic spirituality, dealing with spiritual dryness, confronting systemic racism, and much more. Meanwhile we have continued the traditional services we have rendered for nearly 40 years, namely, individual and group spiritual direction as well as supervision and training in our two-year Internship program. Some of those new to the Center have begun to receive spiritual direction.

How were we able to respond so strongly? Financial support from people like you was a big part of it. So was the dedication of the many creative volunteers who stepped forward to lead our new programs. **Above all, we have been able to meet the need so proactively because of the guidance and power of the Spirit.**

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Unfortunately, the disruption caused by the coronavirus has caused the Center's income from spiritual direction to decrease by about 20%. Income from the new programs has helped offset the loss, but we still need your financial support to balance the budget.

Trusting in the Spirit's continued providence, I am turning to you for help in meeting our winter fundraising goals. Please be as generous as you can. And be assured that we are grateful for a contribution of any amount.

You can donate online by clicking on this button:
Or mail a check to the Center at 303 Tunxis Road,
West Hartford, CT 06107. You can also set up
recurring payments or a pledge by calling the
office at 860-243-2374.



In this season of Thanksgiving I am deeply grateful for all that those who are part of the Spiritual Life Center community have done through the years as donors, volunteers, committee members, directors, directees, trainers, and/or supervisors. With gratitude in my heart, I invite you to join in supporting the Center by donating today. May you experience anew the joy that comes from generosity.

Rev Oscar Brockmeyer



PS

How has the Spiritual Life Center made a difference in your life? Please make a difference in the life of someone like Tina. The benefits last a lifetime!

PLEASE CONSIDER THESE POSSIBILITIES

If you are subject to required minimum withdrawals from your IRA, there may be tax advantages of directing a charitable distribution to the Center.

Note that the new CARES Act allows you to write off a gift of up to \$300 for 2020.

You might consider a gift of stock—it may be a means of lowering your capital gains tax while enhancing people's lives.

And please consider providing a legacy in your estate plan to support the Spiritual Life Center in the years to come. I invite you to call me at 860-942-2934 to discuss any of these options.