

Annual Gathering Reports Annual Gathering Date: October 3, 2021

...A Spiritual Alternative

Current Board Members: Maria Schuchardt, Board Chair; Marya Wheeler, Vice-Chair; Janie Hooper, Secretary; Wendie Arison & Janet Salese, Treasurer (partial year each); and Madeline Pallanes, plus one open position.

- Report on the previous 12 months, September 2020 - August 2021

Financial Report / Funding Team

The following data are unverified income and expense values:

	Sunday Offerings	Total Income	Total Expenses	Facility Fund Contrib.	Net Income∇	Total Year Attendance	Average Weekly Attend.	Average Weekly Offering per Person
Est. Budget 9/21-8/2022	126,000	140,880	154,224	47,479 ©	<13,344>	2,600	50	48.46
9/2020- 8/2021 Act'l	122,132	128,227	110,203	47,499 ☺ (<6,461♣>)	18,024 §	2,101	40	58.13
Budget 9/20- 8/2021	126,500	140,860	139,564	47,479	1,296	3,250	62	38.92
9/2019 - 8/20 Actual	131,153	144,886	116,077	47,479 © ₩	28,809	2,596	49	50.52
9-2018 - 8/19 Actual	121,540	134,644	119,877	<13,306> ₽ ₩	14,767	2,991	58	40.63

 $[\]nabla$ Designated Funds are not included as available income. They can only be used for their intended purpose.

• We spent \$13,306 more of the Facility Fund than we took in this year in order to purchase 911 S. Craycroft Rd. We had a balance of \$21,287 at the beginning of the year and have \$7,981 remaining in the Facility Fund at the moment of this report.

♣ An additional designated fund, The Opportunity Fund, was created by the request of anonymous donations of \$12,000) for enhancing our marketing presence in Tucson. Additional funds continue to be added. We redeveloped our website from this fund and have increased our marketing presence. We also used these funds to put down a deposit on the video equipment we are purchasing to do livestreaming.

More than \$13,000 of net income was from Sunday rent 'forgiven' (use not possible) and no paid administrator. § More than \$19,900 of net income was from Sunday rent 'forgiven' (use not possible) and no paid administrator.

The Board of Trustees, Maria Schuchardt, Chair

In the last year, each Trustee served as liaison to a number of teams/circles and/or events. That meant that in addition to specific board activities, each board member supported other groups within our Center.

Specific Areas of Focus:

- Maria Schuchardt, Chair: Trustees, Hospitality, Wall Calendar, Directory (with Janet)
- Marya Wheeler, Vice-Chair: Youth Program, Newcomers Team, Hosts
- Janie Hooper, Secretary: Greeters, In-person Celebrations (when we can have them again), Altared States, Bookstore
- Janet Salese, Treasurer, Sacred Cinema, Full moon labyrinth walk, Directory (with Maria)
- Wendie Arison, Treasurer, briefly

[©] Annual payment on promissory note for sale of 4961 E 22nd St

- Madeline Pallanes, Member: Marketing and Communication, Outreach, Videography, Photography,
 Membership, Liaison to CSL Member Council & Spiritual Circles
- Rev Janis Farmer, Spiritual Leader: Ecclesiastical Core, Practitioner Core, Visioning, Education Programming, Day-to-day Operations, Music, Funding Team/Stewardship, and responsible for the overall Sunday Celebration experience. Focus Area: Education.

Key events this past year included:

- We had the opportunity to hear from a variety of amazing people to share their message and talents! I personally felt blessed by their performances.
- CSLT offered an online workshop on Race and Identity, by Ashley LaRussa, April 17, 2021
- The Daily Spiritual Practice, begun in March of 2020, continued. Rev Janis led the practice Monday Saturday, for over a year. Then Bev Holland, RScP CSL Tacoma, led the group one day a week. Now it is a team effort with a different host each day. Individuals continue to enjoy the sharing and the practice. CSLT's reach is expanding.
- We received the third payment (of five) from the sale of the property on 22nd Street.
- The Center joined a matching SOM Foundation Endowment for \$25,000 (designated Facility Fund monies). We anticipate a better return on our investment than we can get elsewhere.
- There were two in-person gatherings during the year. A goodbye (for the summer) lunch for Greg and Marsha at a local eatery, and an open house was hosted at the education center on August 7 for those who wanted to visit in person.
- While we had no live youth groups, we learned about CSL Youth & Family resources online that the Home Office has put together. These lessons will be very helpful. We've also joined an online CSL youth group community that meets and shares ideas.
- We welcomed Sharon Whealy RScP and are grateful for her work.
- Moving forward with acquiring video/livestreaming equipment.
- Establishing an Instagram account
- Every Sunday is a true Celebration with Rev Janis' Reminders and our fabulous musicians.

During this unique year CSLT has moved forward and embraced the goodness of living.

Education Team - Board Liaison, Rev Janis Farmer: We successfully fielded certificated classes in early evenings this past year, entirely online. We also attempted to host a "visioning" certificated class, which did not attract enough registrants. The Roots class was extended an additional month as students wished to read and discuss Thomas Troward's *Dore Lectures*.

During the last 12-months, 21 students have completed CSL Certificated Classes, which included:

Foundations of The Science of Mind Roots of The Science of Mind Power of Your Word

Our non-certificated classes continued on other days and times, and with additional facilitators. A diversity of facilitators (Keith Gorley, Pat Masters, and Rev Janis) shared their knowledge and gifts during this 12-month period on a wide variety of topics (all online). Books included: both Barbara Marx Hubbard's *Emergence* and Derrick Rydall's *Emergence*, Karen Armstrong's *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, Emerson's *Essays*, Julia Cameron's *The Prosperous Heart*, Rick Hanson's *Resilient*, Dennis Merritt Jones' *The Art of Being*, Frederick Bailes' *Hidden Power for Human Problems*, Ernest Holmes' *This Art of Life* and Mary Morrissey's *Prosperity Plus III*. Rev Janis facilitated an online Living in Gratitude during November 2020. There were well over 600 points of engagement and connection in these many, diverse classes.

Ecclesiastical - Rev Janis Farmer: Since we were entirely online, and not paying rent at The Gregory School, we had funds to support guest speakers and guest musicians almost every month of the year. Speaking (only) were our own Keith Gorley, Dr Karmen Smith, and Cynthia James. Speaking and singing were: Jami Lula, Robin Hackett, Faith Rivera, Jan Garrett and JD Martin, Gary Lynn Floyd, Greg Tamblyn, and Cerise Patron. During our Sunday Celebration Services we also explored: Raymond Holliwell's Working With The Law, Dr Barbara Marx Hubbard's Emergence, and Rick Hanson's Resilient. In the next few months we will explore Lissa Rankin's Mind over Medicine and Edwene Gaines' Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity.

Daily Morning Spiritual Practices continued (on zoom). September 2020 - August 2021, an astounding 3200+ points of contact were made, and 305 readings and spiritual mind treatments have been shared. Early in 2021, Bev Holland, a licensed practitioner at CSL Tacoma and Maria Schuchardt agreed to lead the daily practice on Tuesdays so Rev Janis could take a class in Spiral Dynamics with a group in Europe. In early August, Rev Janis handed off the daily practice to a group of committed volunteers who have agreed to continue the practice of daily gathering, at least through September, and then we will re-negotiate how, and whether, this daily practice will continue.

In-House Rituals & Celebrations (zoom). We held the Celebration of Light on Winter Solstice with 30 attending and the Endings and Beginnings Ritual on New Year's Eve with 28 attending. We also hosted daily Meditation Practices on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Community Inreach/Outreach – Rev. Janis, Maria Schuchardt and Madeline Pallanes

• Community Envisioning - Rev Janis again led our envisioning practice this past January with 11 people in attendance. We looked for ways to connect and interact in this most unusual time. These were our ideas for 2021:

Virtual (on zoom):

- Monthly Movie Discussion Group Janet to take the lead on the first one.
- Six-week home book study on Julia Cameron's The Prosperous Heart (three facilitators)
- Zoom Room First Sunday Potluck Gregg Molzon and Marsha Merten to host the first one
- Wednesday night speaker on racial inclusion and equity, late April Marya Wheeler to set up
- Potential musicians to contact for Sunday services (or other musical evenings) include: Faith Rivera, Jan Garrett & JD Martin, Cerise Patron, Gary Lynn Floyd, Jami Lula...

In-person, (masked and socially distanced, if in group)

- Monthly full moon labyrinth walk continues, Janet lead
- Potential community field trips: (These great ideas never really got traction)
 Sandhill cranes (near McNeal); Lavender fields in bloom (near Oracle); Colossal Cave (near 'north Vail'); Wonderland of Rocks in the Chiricahua National Monument (Day hiking only. Hiker shuttle currently suspended)
 - Another idea to explore Having an unrecorded outdoor service.

Considering the year we've experienced, we did pretty well in creating what we intended.

- Our 2020 Credo was retained: CSLT inspires spiritual expression in community with all and offers an accepting, loving and peaceful way of living a joyful, healthier, and more abundant life.
- **Diversity and Inclusion** On April 17th, we hosted an introduction to Diversity and Inclusion (Race and Identity) with Ashley LaRussa of Roux Events LLC. 18 persons attended (zoom) including some members of Maria Schuchardt's online Practitioner One class. Thank you for introducing this speaker, Marya!

• The 2022 Community Envisioning date will be announced in December, once we figure out how we are best able to meet.

Community Outreach in the time of Covid is a challenge. We know the best way to share with others is to bring/invite them to a CSLT event. Now, the invitations are to our zoom room on Sundays, daily practice, book studies, special events, and for classes. All of which have seen new people coming to join in. The second-best way for people to find us is on the internet and our website. We've added more ways to learn about both CSLT and CSL, in general. The new calendar format and style highlight current as well as upcoming events. Thank you, Maria and Mariann, for all you contribute. You can find multiple resources on our site, including Board Minutes, Blog essays and current event information at <u>tucsoncsl.org</u>.

--- Team Reports ---

Administration – Rev Janis and a cast of "dozens": Rev Janis continues to serve as the primary administrator for our Center. She continues to receive support for many administrative tasks. Maria Schuchardt provided calendar and blog upload services. She also created the 2021 wall calendar featuring art and photographs of our community participants. Mariann Moery created our marketing materials used in our advertising. I am delighted to have Janet Salese assume the Treasurer's duties. We enjoy our competent remote bookkeeper, Kim Reeves, and her assistant Lisa Besst. Rev Janis very much appreciates each of these regular administrative supporters.

Facility Team – Rev Janis (interim): Members of a loosely arrayed team maintained the office and education center at 911 S Craycroft; they assist in weeding the parking lot, trimming the bushes, changing furnace filters and light bulbs. We hired a plumbing company to repair a leaking toilet.

Funding Team – Rev. Janis (Interim): Part of the charge of the Funding Team is to assist the congregation in choosing a local charity that CSLT supports with 5% of our regular donations each year. Each November, members of the congregation are encouraged to identify local organizations that they believe support self-determined living. Then the top three are identified to speak for a few moments on a Sunday during December. The first Sunday of January, the congregation selects the organization CSLT supports that year. This year, we heard from three organizations: Literacy Connects, Old Pueblo Community Services and Youth On Their Own. The congregation voted to support Old Pueblo Community Services again during 2021. We will be seeking nominations for the 2022 year in November.

Music Team – David Prouty, Team Leader

<u>Our beloved in-house volunteer singers</u>: It is wildly difficult to arrange for singers to participate with the Orchestra as long as we are meeting virtually. Leona Freeman did make a recording with our band once during this past year. We look forward to the day when live music can be presented more easily.

<u>The CSLT Orchestra</u> remained stable this year with Chris Wheeler on drums, Michael Zimmerman on electric guitar, James Gunn on bass, and David Prouty on keyboards. The Orchestra provided weekly inspirational music (often compiled from tracks they recorded separately, which Michael Zimmerman fitted together.)

<u>Paid Guest Musicians included</u>: Jami Lula, Robin Hackett, Faith Rivera, Jan Garrett and JD Martin, Gary Lynn Floyd, Greg Tamblyn, and Cerise Patron all sang and spoke during Sunday services. Michael Zimmerman stepped up as Guest Musical Director so David Prouty could have a little time off.

Practitioners – Rev Janis Farmer, Board Liaison: Shelly Dunn worked with Rev Janis to provide 'Practitioner Services' for our community, for much of this past year. Shelly provided 2 - 3 pre-service Sunday meditations each month. Shelly and Rev Janis covered evocations, high watch, and the opportunity for individual prayer and spiritual guidance. We are grateful for Shelly's steadfastness. Shelly decided to relinquish her practitioner license in June.

We welcomed Sharon Whealy, who transferred her membership and her practitioner license to CSLT in June from CSL Bakersfield. Since joining us, Sharon has assumed Sunday morning practitioner services two Sundays a month and has also provided 5th Sunday practitioner coverage. She has expressed interest in assisting Rev Janis in certificated classes. Rev Janis looks forward to this possibility.

Maria Schuchardt, practitioner-in-training, also started providing platform, meditation and behind-the-scenes practitioner support.

In this 12-month period, almost 600 individuals took part in the Sunday morning meditations, and the Truth was known for 36 web prayer requests, plus a conversation and handful of requests that didn't come in through prayer@tucsoncsl.org. These spiritual leaders recorded demonstrations (answered prayers) and compiled monthly Thoughts and Affirmations in support of Rev Janis and the Sunday Reminders. Prayer practitioners are always available individually for affirmative prayer or spiritual counseling, or anonymously through the on-line prayer request.

Vision Core — **Rev Janis Farmer, Board Liaison:** The first Thursday of each month, the Vision Core visioned on "the highest vision, highest ideal for CSL Tucson". All are welcome to observe the process; anyone who has been trained in the visioning process is welcome to participate. Vision Core currently meets on zoom, the sorts of visions gleaned, and the quality of the visionings have changed, as we have remained virtual. Approximately 1/3 our Vision Core participates independently at this time.

Maria Schuchardt, Board Chair – Team Reports

Hospitality Team – Maria Schuchardt, Team Leader: Since we are not meeting in person the hospitality team has nothing to report. We are looking forward to getting together and having potlucks.

Our CSLT Annual Wall Calendar - A beautiful CSLT wall calendar was created with photographs by Cheri Anderson, Mariann Moery, Beryl Varno, and artwork by Carolyn King.

Marya Wheeler, Board Vice-Chair - Team Reports

Host Team – Marya Wheeler, Team Leader & Board Liaison: The Host welcomes the congregation to our service and sets our intentions for the service by repeating the Opening statement concerning sacred space and our shared One Life. The Host also shares announcements and prompts the congregation to greet each other on zoom, asking everyone wave and give virtual hugs. Team members over the past year: Holly Baker, Jeff Jackson, Pat Masters, Beryl Varno, Nicole Miller and Marya Wheeler.

NewComers Team – Rebecca Bushner Team Leader: No newcomers welcoming program has been in effect since we have not been meeting in person. Thank you Rebecca for heading this team.

Youth Program – Marya Wheeler, Team Leader & Board Liaison: No youth program was in operation because we did not meet in person. However, Marya has participated in a discussion with other Youth Program directors hosted by the CSL Home Office. A new curriculum is available however we have many lessons that have been prepared and not used yet. Whether the Youth Program will be in effect

when we begin meeting in person is uncertain due to youth not being able to be vaccinated. Further discussion with Home Office will be had before a decision is made.

Janie Hooper - Board Secretary - Liaison Team Reports

Secretary: I signed the membership transfer form acknowledging Licensed Practitioner, Sharon Whealy formally joining CSLT, and mailed out thank you cards to our major donors. Welcome Sharon!

Altared States Team - Pat Masters, Team Leader: Since no services were held in person at the Gregory School this past year, we had no need for floral arrangements. Thanks to Pat Masters for heading up this team.

Bookstore Team – Wendie Arison, Team Leader: There was no active bookstore since there were no services at the Gregory School this past year. Books, calendars and Science of Mind magazines were still sold through the office. Thanks to Wendie Arison for her dedication to Bookstore.

In-person Celebrations: We did have one CSLT Board Meeting at our office and education center on S Craycroft in person on July 15th, 2021; and an Open House from 10:00 am-2:00pm at the S Craycroft office on Saturday, August 7th. Typically we honor our major donors during the year with a private Gratitude Dinner just for them. That hasn't been possible in the year of online only connection. We thanked our major donors individually and sent them a complementary wall calendar. Thank you, one more time!

We also typically honor and celebrate our volunteers with a party. This most unusual year has precluded us from celebrating in person. These parties will return when gatherings and celebrations become comfortable in-person once again!

Greeters Team - Donna Hall, Head Organizer of Greeters: Since no services were held in person during the past year, there were no greeter activities. Great thanks to Donna Hall for heading up the Greeters team. We look forward to greeting in whatever form it takes when we re-convene in person.

<u>Janet Salese, Board Treasurer – Liaison Team Reports</u>

Sacred Cinema – Marya Wheeler assumes Team Leader role when she leaves the Board

Due to the pandemic, we were not able to gather to watch movies together as we did previously. However, beginning in February, we began an Online Sacred Cinema Discussion Group. The movie of the month is announced in the weekly newsletter. Participants watch the movie on their own, then come together on the 3rd Sunday of the month via Zoom to discuss the movie. Janet Salese had been leading these discussions. Marya Wheeler steps up to take over as team leader beginning in October.

Prosperity Plus III Alumni MasterMind Group - Shelly Dunn & Marya Wheeler, Team Leaders Group began meeting in May 2020, continues to meet twice a month on Zoom. Shelly Dunn and Marya Wheeler take turns facilitating. The group is open to all alumni of Prosperity Plus III.

Full Moon Labyrinth Walk: The Full Moon Labyrinth Walks began October 31, 2020 with the full blue moon supermoon. Janet Salese continues to lead these walks that take place at the Unity of Tucson's outdoor labyrinth on full moon evenings.

Directory: 22 individuals sent their contact information to be included in the new CSLT directory. The directory was sent out in September by e-mail. It will be updated monthly and resent when changes are made. Janet Salese and Maria Schuchardt are heading up this project.

CSLT Creatives: The CSLT Creatives was formed after the completion of Foundations by class members who wanted to come together to encourage each other's creativity. The group meets monthly at a member's residence to work on individual creative projects. Thank you Susan Seid and Ethel Lee-Miller for hosting the in-person gatherings.

Madeline Pallanes, Member – Liaison Team Reports

Marketing/Communications Team (MarComm) - Mariann Moery, Team Leader: Our weekly email newsletter continues to thrive and serves as an even more direct communication source. In it, we continue to publish an article written by a board member, Rev. Janis includes inspirational quotes, a spiritual practice, links to supporting practices and readings and (currently) links to other sites for online communities. We continue to look for other individuals who have a story to share with the community about their personal growth, success, or experience.

Currently we have 521 active newsletter sign-ups. We regularly remove those that have not opened a newsletter in over a year. 39% of those who have signed up typically read our newsletter, and 30% of those typically click on a link. We have also gained 41 additional "likes" on our Facebook page, to bring our total to 838 (and we have 919 'follows'). We remain open for new writers, marketers, and creators to add their own style of communication magic to Marketing Communications.

The ad we placed in the "Explorer" weekly newspaper (distributed over 5 Tucson area communities, potentially reaching over 100,000 households) did not appear to bring any new guests to our offerings. We did not renew our subscription, but instead shifted our additional advertising dollars to "Tucson Weekly". We continue to advertise in "Natural Awakenings Magazine" for regular and special events.

We produced coordinated releases for each special guest (speaker/musician) we enjoyed this past year. The information was shared across multiple platforms – our website, Natural Awakenings, our Facebook page and our newsletter.

With our new Office/Education Center more easily accessible, and our re-designed website, we had begun to work on publicizing our presence. However, much of that work remains on hold. A few congregants have picked up postcards to leave behind in public areas (coffee shops, gyms and libraries).

Videography & Photography - Mariann Moery, Team Leader: Since we have been entirely online this year, few photography opportunities have arisen. Videography has been limited to YouTube uploads of Sunday Celebration Services. We have begun to purchase the videography equipment that will allow us to livestream our Sunday Services when we return to meeting in person. A grant application has been prepared and submitted to the Hefferlin Foundation to cover part of the cost of the videography equipment; one of the reasons they exist is to promote the Science of Mind teaching on livestreaming.

Membership Team – Pat Masters, Team Leader: We welcomed 1 membership transfer during this past year, Sharon Whealy, who also transferred her practitioner license to us from CSL Bakersfield. We will be holding online membership classes during October, if there is interest. We may also be holding in-person classes at the office, if there is interest.

Membership classes are a two part process. The first class is an introduction to the principles of the Science of Mind. The second class is about how CSL Tucson operates. Those who have successfully completed 'Foundations of the Science of Mind' needed only to attend the second of the two classes.

Volunteer Coordination: Volunteer service is coordinated by individual team leaders and encouraged during membership classes.—Each individual is encouraged to find his/her niche through volunteering in our Center. We know each person has an opportunity to experience a greater sense of connectedness through belonging to a service team and/or a social group.

-- 2021-2022 Planned Events and Activities --

- Jami Lula, September 19, 2021 on zoom
- Certificated and non-certificated classes, book studies, other educational opportunities
- Daily Morning Meditation Practice (as long as individuals are willing to host the daily sessions)
- Madeline Pallanes and Sharon Whealy may start an in-person or online Spiritual Circle where the contents of the current month's Science of Mind Magazine (aka Guide for Spiritual Living) will be discussed.
- Marya Wheeler continues as our liaison to the CSL Youth and Family Ministry
- Madeline Pallanes continues as our liaison to the CSL Member Council.
- Opportunities to socialize virtually, and ultimately in-person
- In-person or virtual celebrations, rituals, shared practices
- Community Envisioning Weekend, January (date to be determined)
- Multiple guest speakers, some with workshops

- Election of Board Members -

We have two seats open for three-year terms, and one seat open for a one-year term. One seat has been recently filled by a volunteer, approved by the Board (Thank you, Janet Salese). We'll be taking nominations from the floor from interested, qualified parties. Those interested in, and qualified to, serve on the CSL Tucson Board may briefly address the congregation during the Annual meeting on October 3rd.

To be considered qualified for Board service (from the Bylaws, posted on the <u>tucsoncsl.org</u> website), a candidate must: be loyal, financially supporting and an active member of the Center; be willing to accept the responsibilities of membership on the Board of Trustees; not be related to, nor have a live-in relationship with a member of the Board of Trustees, or with an employee of the Center; have completed 60 hours or its equivalent of Science of Mind certificated class work, one class of which must be "Foundations of The Science of Mind," or as determined by the Minister (it is strongly encouraged that the prospective Board members have also successfully completed "Visioning"); not be compensated for their Board service (except for the Minister); and have been a member of The Center no less than 6 months. Board members must also successfully complete a criminal background check, which will be paid for by the Center.