

COMPANIONS

The Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Chapters are the Heartbeat of the Society



FROM THE C-IN-C

Jacqueline Schmitt

This year we give thanks for the Chapters where we gather in fellowship and prayer. Companions grapple with the deep questions when we meet, whether it is in person or on zoom. How can we strengthen our spiritual growth? How can we lift up the issues that burn in each other's hearts and lives? How do we live faithfully in a world of conflict and suffering?

At the core of who we are as Companions is the monthly Intercession Paper. We often quote spiritual guides and prophetic teachers, but we also use our own words to send each other prayers. We support each other as we strive to lead simpler lives, to strengthen our commitments to social justice, to pledge our hearts to peace, reconciliation, and the unity of all God's people. Above all, before all and after all, we give thanks.

We come from different walks of life with many perspectives and opinions, but we hold each other in Companionship. We share time together. We share prayer. We share nourishment. We share faith in a God who partners with us to make this world a better place.

We support the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross with gifts of our time and treasure, and with the service we offer in leadership. Companions do the work to keep 31 Chapters going. We serve on committees and manage zoom meetings. We offer hospitality and spread the Good News of Companionship among our friends in church and beyond.

I am deeply grateful for all that Companions give to enrich and strengthen our common life. I invite you to read these reports of what we do. It's a rich mix. I am honored to be part of this Society of Companions who walk the way of the Cross.

Jacqueline Schmitt

LEADERSHIP

Meet the SCHC Governing Board and Adelynrood Staff

Governing Board

- Companion-in-Charge, Jacqueline Schmitt
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- Companion-in-Charge of Discerners, Louise D. Valleau
- Development Committee Chairwoman, Victoria Crago Sicks
- Chairwoman, Nominating Committee, Melissa Buckingham

Year-round Staff

- Sarah van Gulden, General Manager
- Laura Landry, Membership & Reservations Coordinator
- Nicole Grace Frizzo, Communications Coordinator
- Phil Kourmanopoulos, Finance Assistant
- Stewart Guay, Facilities Manager
- Jim McAuley, Facilities
- Adam Segal, Chef & Kitchen Manager



HIGHLIGHTS

SCHC Chapters are the Heartbeat of the Society

- The importance of SCHC chapters was vividly demonstrated this year.
- Over **630 Companions** participated across **31 chapters** and almost half of our chapters had at least one meeting or event in conjunction with another chapter. Shared events ranged from zoom calls across the miles to in person chapter meetings and retreats held in new locations for the SCHC to gather.
- Throughout the 2022-23 program year, **almost a third of our 305 meetings were in person while the remainder were hybrid or virtual**. The expansion of joint meetings and new locations brought a total of **100 explorers** to our gatherings (as Discerners, Enquirers or Guests).
- Our intercessory work was supported by chapters who provided prayers for the monthly Intercessory Prayers, as well as strong support for the virtual prayers from Adelynrood (noon eastern time on weekdays). Plus, the intercessory prayers that were part of almost every chapter meeting.
- Based on the program year-end chapter reports, two themes emerged as equal focal points for programs and readings: **racial justice and/or creation care were areas of study** for 17 chapters. There was also strong interest for five chapters in exploring ways women's particular gifts build our community.
- It was fascinating to see the resources we used to deepen our Christian discipleship and strengthen our vows as Companions. Chapters read or had presentations on the following books:
 - Six chapters focused on Stephanie Spellers' **The Church Cracked Open**
 - Two chapters used the **Creation Care Cookbook: Building Knowledge, Hope and Agency** created for the 2022 Companion Conference.
 - Two Chapters explored **Braiding Sweetgrass** by Robin Wall Kimmer.
 - **Field of Compassion** by Judy Cannato was read in two chapters.
 - **Seeing the Unseen: Beyond Prejudices, Paradigms and Party Lines** by the Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith was read by two other Chapters.
- And there were 19 other books read by individual chapters (listed on the next page, if you want some recommendations)!



HIGHLIGHTS

Books Read by Single Chapters

- **40 Days of Gratitude (Lent)**, United Thank Offering
- **Encuentros/Encounters with/con Jesus**, Ema Rosero-Nordalm
- **Fear**, Trevor Noah
- **Following Jesus in a Culture of Fear**, Scott-Bader-Saye
- **Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle**, Ted Loder
- **Hallelujah Anyhow! A Memoir**, Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris
- **Holy is His Name**, Elis Hiu-Mei Lui
- **Losing Our Lives, Gaining Real Life** video, Stephanie Speller
- **Ninety Minutes in Heaven**, Don Piper
- **Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter**, Kelly Brown Douglas
- **Solito: A Memoir**, Javier Zamora
- **The 7 Deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism: A Call to Action**, Carter Heyward
- **The Book of Longings**, Sue Monk Kidd
- **The Female Ancestors of Christ**, Ann Belford Ulanov
- **The Flag, the Cross, and the Station Wagon**, Bill McKibbin
- **The Hidden Life of Trees**, Peter Wohlleben
- **The Scarlet Cord: Conversations with God's Chosen Women**, Lindsay Hardin Freeman
- **The Universal Christ**, Richard Rohr
- **Vital Signs of Faith: Finding Health in Your Spiritual Life**, Kate Moorehead Carroll
- **We Survived the End of the World: Lessons from Native America on Apocalypse and Hope**, Steven Charleston

HIGHLIGHTS

Adelynrood Programs and SCHC Meetings At-a-glance

- 37 in-person events (SCHC events, programs, guest groups, outreach)
- More than 20 virtual/hybrid events
- 13 summer programs held (including Open House)
- 2175 overnight stays
- More than 200 SCHC meetings took place across 32 Chapters worldwide



Scenes from the Forest School guest group who spent time with us in 2023.



We had Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis with us from the Poor People's Campaign.



Wu An Martial Arts held their first ever North American Training Camp with us in August. It brought almost 50 people here to uplevel their martial arts skills in the most picturesque of backdrops.

HIGHLIGHTS

Adelynrood Building and Grounds Improvements and Projects

Adelynrood Kitchen commercial dishwasher replacement, a major undertaking:

- This required demolition down through the floor and into the framing of the building.
- Re-frame and significantly reinforce the floor to hold the weight of such an appliance.
- Install tile floor with a floor drain.
- Replace all pertinent electrical wiring with code compliant wiring.
- Re-plumb necessary piping and drain waste lines.
- Install new dishwasher & attachments.



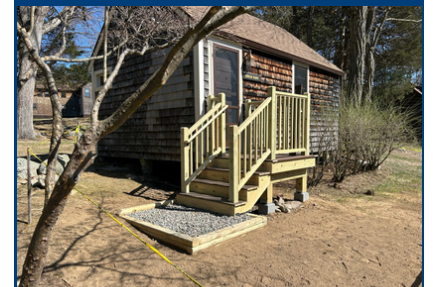
Dishwasher Before



Dishwasher After

Emile Hurd stairs:

- Replaced with code compliant stairs.
- Reinforcements to the sill and support posts of the cottage.



New Emily Hurd Stairs

Rain Gutter system upgrades:

- Replace & re-seal over 250 lineal feet of gutter.
 - Downspouts and fascia boards replaced as needed.
- Install over 250 lineal feet of leaf guard.

Room 35 Stairs:

- Replaced with code compliant.



New Room 35 Stairs

Tudor Brown trim painting of “House”:

- Over 250 lineal feet of work.

Juniper Lodge Basement water mitigation:

- The decades old water ingress and flooding is now mitigated.

Serene Meadows received a new roof:

- Asphalt shingles as well as some structural and cosmetic repair.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS

SUCCESSFUL OPEN HOUSE!

We hosted a lovely Open House, despite the rain!



NOTABLE HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

New Collateral

2023 Summer Program Brochure + One Sheet

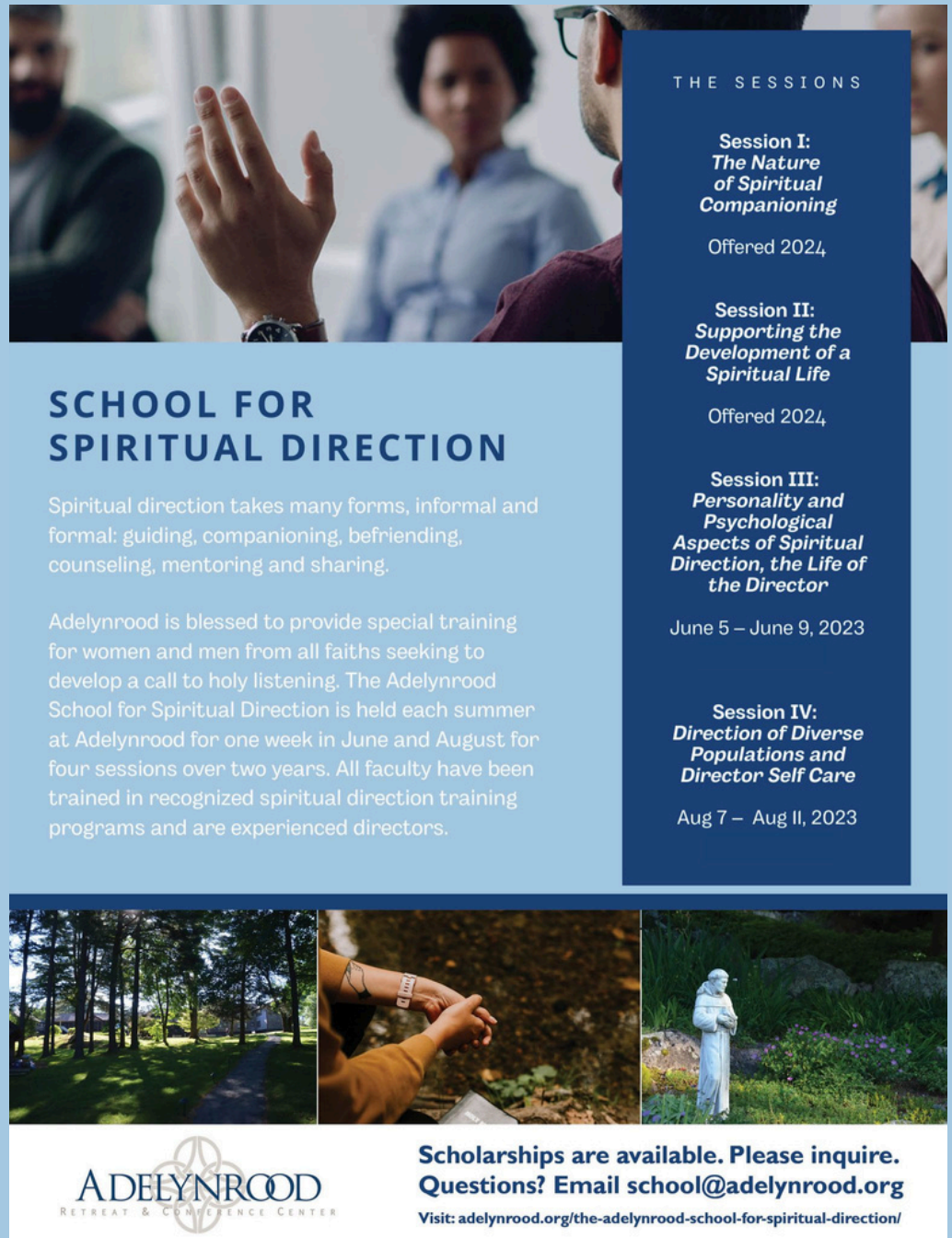


We crafted and distributed our 2023 Summer Program brochures and Summer Program single fact sheets. These were mailed out to Companions, Friends of Adelynrood, and our past guests, totalling over 6,000 people. We also dropped off brochures at 6 local libraries, posted on community boards and in coffee shops.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

New Collateral

School for Spiritual Direction Flyer



SCHOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Spiritual direction takes many forms, informal and formal: guiding, companioning, befriending, counseling, mentoring and sharing.

Adelynrood is blessed to provide special training for women and men from all faiths seeking to develop a call to holy listening. The Adelynrood School for Spiritual Direction is held each summer at Adelynrood for one week in June and August for four sessions over two years. All faculty have been trained in recognized spiritual direction training programs and are experienced directors.

THE SESSIONS

Session I:
The Nature of Spiritual Companioning
Offered 2024

Session II:
Supporting the Development of a Spiritual Life
Offered 2024

Session III:
Personality and Psychological Aspects of Spiritual Direction, the Life of the Director
June 5 – June 9, 2023

Session IV:
Direction of Diverse Populations and Director Self Care
Aug 7 – Aug 11, 2023

ADELYNROOD
RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

Scholarships are available. Please inquire.
Questions? Email school@adelynrood.org
Visit: adelynrood.org/the-adelynrood-school-for-spiritual-direction/

We developed a new informational piece for the School for Spiritual Direction.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

New Advertising Placement

Newburyport Chamber of Commerce Ad Placement



14-acre grounds, immersed in nature,
for individuals and groups looking to
hold retreats and offsite meetings.

Overnight Accommodations
Flexible Indoor/Outdoor Spaces
Freshly-prepared Meals
Summer Programs

46A Elm Street, Byfield, MA
978-462-1589 | Adelynrood.org

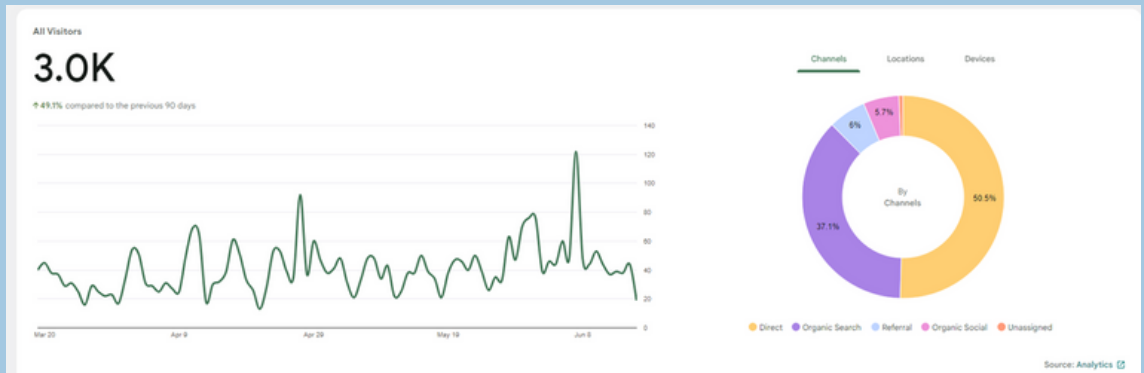
We crafted an ad for placement in the 2023 Newburyport Chamber of Commerce Guidebook, which is distributed to hundreds of local community locations.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

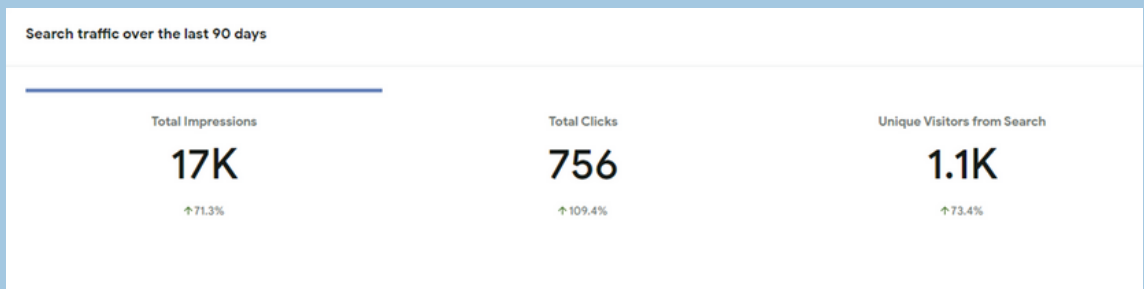
Websites

Google Analytics for Adelynrood Website

90-Day Site Visitor Recap



90-Day Search Traffic Recap



Top Performing Pages

Title	Pageviews
1. Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center – A Place of Peace /	3,184
2. Programs & Events – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /events-list/	1,656
3. Accommodations – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /accommodations/	431
4. Facilities & Grounds – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /facilities-grounds/	377
5. Groups & Meetings – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /groups-meetings/	344
6. The Adelynrood School for Spiritual Direction – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /the-adelynrood-school-for-spiritual-direction/	340
7. ADELYNROOD OPEN HOUSE – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /event/adelynrood-open-house/	336
8. Contact Us – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /contact-us/	309
9. HONORING THE ORIGINAL STEWARDS OF THE LAND – Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center /event/honoringtheoriginalstewardsoftheland/	291

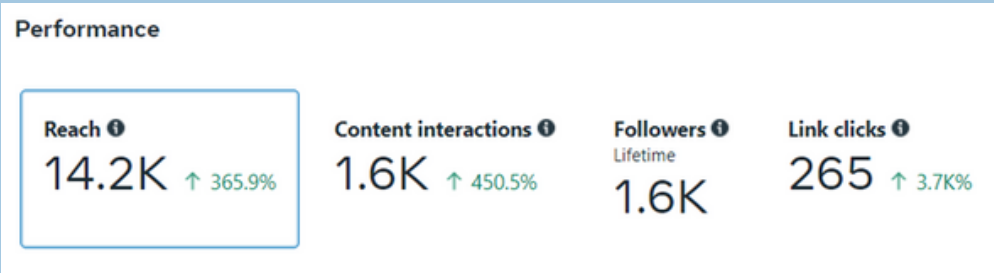
We launched Google Analytics to keep track of our Adelynrood website traffic and trends in search. This way, we can adjust our web strategy for Adelynrood to bring more visits and ensure the best possible visitor experience. We launched Analytics on our two other websites in 2024 and will be reporting on those in next year's Annual Report.

NOTABLE HAPPENINGS (CONT.)

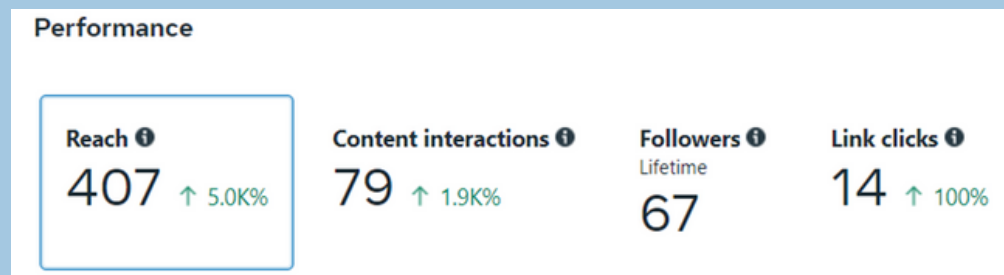
Social Media

Facebook and Instagram Highlights

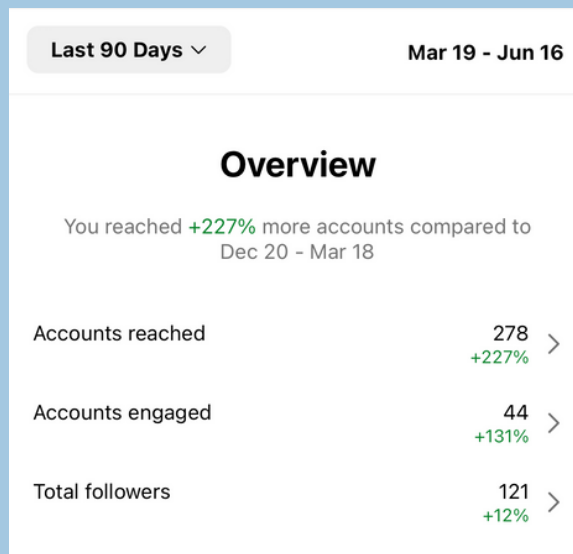
2023 Adelynrood Facebook Page Insights (Entire year)



2023 SCHC Public Facebook Page Insights (Entire year)



Adelynrood Instagram Insights (Past 90 days only)



SCHC Instagram Insights (Past 90 days only)



Wonderful increase for all accounts! Worth noting that Adelynrood reach and interactions are up significantly year over year (500+ percent from 2022 to 2023!) The public SCHC Facebook page, new in 2023, can be used as a tool to introduce and encourage women to engage with the SCHC.

COMPANION CONFERENCE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Theme: Sacred Lives, Sacred Voices.

We experienced a lovely conference in 2023. It was wonderful to share time with all who made it. We recalled the sacred lives and sacred voices in our own lives and the roles they played in our sacred formation as daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers, and as Companions.

There were inspiring presentations from Laura Drum and Kathy Romain, and heartfelt sermons by Br. Reginald and Janet Waggoner during Companion Day and the Closing Eucharist.

You can view the recordings [here](#).



COMPANION CONFERENCE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you for
supporting
the Society!

2023 GIFTS IN HONOR, MEMORY OR THANKSGIVING

In memory of Mary Stoughton

Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing,
The George and Mary Wawro Charitable Fund #

In memory of Kristin Wood

SCHC - Ann Arbor Chapter #

In memory of Tish Brown

SCHC - Ann Arbor Chapter #

In memory of Judith Schwenk

SCHC - Potomac River #

In memory of Karen Schoelles

SCHC - Philadelphia Chapter #

In memory of Karen Schoelles

Tom and Tracey Miles #

In memory of Phyllis Endicott and Anne Davis

SCHC - Parker River Chapter #

In thanksgiving for the life of Alene Tate

SCHC - New Haven Chapter #

In memory of Nance Wier

The Jack Jr. & Nancé Foules Wier Endowment #

In honor of Laura Drum

Phyllis T. Arbegast #

In memory of Marilyn Berthelette

Kathryn Aubry-McAvoy

In memory of Anne Davis

Sarah Bates #

In memory of Karen Schoelles

Roland Berube #

In memory of Emily Morgan

Jan Bolger

In memory of Annie Dimon

Lynnsay Buehler

In memory of Susan Butler

Jim Butler

In memory of Anne Davis

Carol S Carpenter and Susan Kinniburgh

In memory of Ruth Strang

Barbara Cavin

In memory of Karen Schoelles

Joseph Cejka

In honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of Charles and Laura Drum

Laura I. Chegwidzen

In memory of Anne Davis

With deepest sympathy, Clark School

In memory of Emily Barry and Martha Cole

Susan Schwend Cox

In memory of Kristin Wood and Tish Brown

Barbara Cushing

In honor of Laura Drum

Dr. Elizabeth Drum and Marc DiNardo #

In honor of Donna Tetrault

M. Chotard Doll

In memory of Susan Butler

Deborah Smith Douglas

In honor of Laura Drum

Elizabeth T. Drum *

In honor of Jackie Schmitt

Joan Findlay Dunham

In thanksgiving for Anne Johnson Davis

Her family and Katharine Evans

In memory of Elsa Walberg

Sarah Motley Fischer

In memory of Jane Case Allen Foster

Carole C. Foster

In memory of Judith Schwenk

Pamela Gordon Frick

In memory of Scott MacLellan

Sally Fullman

In thanksgiving for Adelynrood

Patricia L. Gaukler

In thanksgiving for Charles and Laura Drum anniversary

Patricia L. Gaukler

In memory of Edith Moore

Anne R. Green

In memory of Irma Wyman

Anne R. Green

In honor of Charles and Laura Drum anniversary

Linda A Hafich

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2023 GIFTS IN HONOR, MEMORY OR THANKSGIVING (Cont.)

In thanksgiving of the life of Anne Brautigam

It has been my wonderful privilege to be the brother of Anne, and to attend the same college for three consecutive years. She lived an admirable life, an example to us all.
Peter M. Hall #

In memory of Ronald

Bernadette Hartshorne

As a Friend of Adelynrood

Jennifer Hoenig *

In memory of Mary Elizabeth Bard Stoughton

Eugene Holtsinger

In thanksgiving for the life of Alene Tate

Barbara R. Hopwood

In thanksgiving for Judith Berling as AC in C

Marguerite Judson

In honor of Charles and Laura Drum

Stephen M Kareha

In memory of Mary Stoughton

Lois T. Keen

In memory of Louise Bessire, Susan Butler and Alice Comiskey

Joy Kiser

In thanksgiving for the Rev. Dr. Carter-Heyward and her book "The 7 deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism"

Betty J. Lane

In thanksgiving for Teresa Gocha and Nikki Wood for the challenges they presented during the Annual Meeting and Assembly

Betty J. Lane

In memory of Marydale Schmidt

Marie K. Lavis

In honor of Laura and Charles Drum who have just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary

Kathryn Elizabeth Leber

In memory of Anne Davis

Leo Lemere

In memory of Catharine Brett Smith

Jan Heckenkamp Logan

In honor of Alinda Stanley

Nancy S. Lowers

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In honor of Sarah Motley Fisher

Nan Peete

In honor of Pat Trumbull and Anne Moore

Faith Crook Perrizo

In memory of Elsa Ph. Walberg

Barbara S. Perry

As a Friend of Adelynrood

Katherine Peterson *

In honor of 65th anniversary of Charles and Laura Drum

Debbie Pinkowski #

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Craig Martin Schoelles

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In honor of Frank Griswold

Karen Lynne Sisk

In honor of Jeanette Renouf

Rita Jane Smalling

In honor of the 65th anniversary of Charles and Laura Drum

Terry and Barbara Smith #

In memory of Mary Stoughton

Kate Smith

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2023 GIFTS IN HONOR, MEMORY OR THANKSGIVING (Cont.)

In memory of Kirby Dahman

Linda A. Snider

In honor of the 65th anniversary of Charles and Laura Drum

Lee & Sally Snyder #

In memory of Catharine Brett Smith

Judy Soncrant

In honor of Julie Propst

Carol Borne Spencer

In thanksgiving for Anne Davis

Alinda C. Stanley

In thanksgiving for Frank Griswold

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In thanksgiving for the life of Marydale Schmidt

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In thanksgiving for the life of Kristin Wood

Alinda C. Stanley

In thanksgiving for the life of Anne Brautigam

Alinda C. Stanley

In thanksgiving for the life of Lorene Potter

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In thanksgiving for Alene Tate

Alinda C. Stanley

In thanksgiving for the life of Companion Eve Morrow

Alinda C. Stanley

In thanksgiving for the life of Companion Elsa Walberg

Alinda C. Stanley

In memory of Roberta Walmsley

Peter Stebinger

In memory of Kristin Wood

Marcia K. Stone

In honor of 65th anniversary of Laura and Charles Drum

Stephanie A. S. Stover

In memory of Anne Brautigam

Anne T. Street

In memory of Elizabeth Cobb Boyd

Betsy Boyd Strong

In honor of Anne Street

Harriette H. Sturges

In honor of Prue M Fitts and Prue S Wilson

Suzanne P. TenBroeck

In thanksgiving for Louise Valleau and Marti Hunt

Jane A. Tomaine

In honor of Charles and Laura Drum

Olivia C. Tramontana

In memory of Judith Schwenk

Annette Gottschalk van Hilst

In memory of Irma Wyman

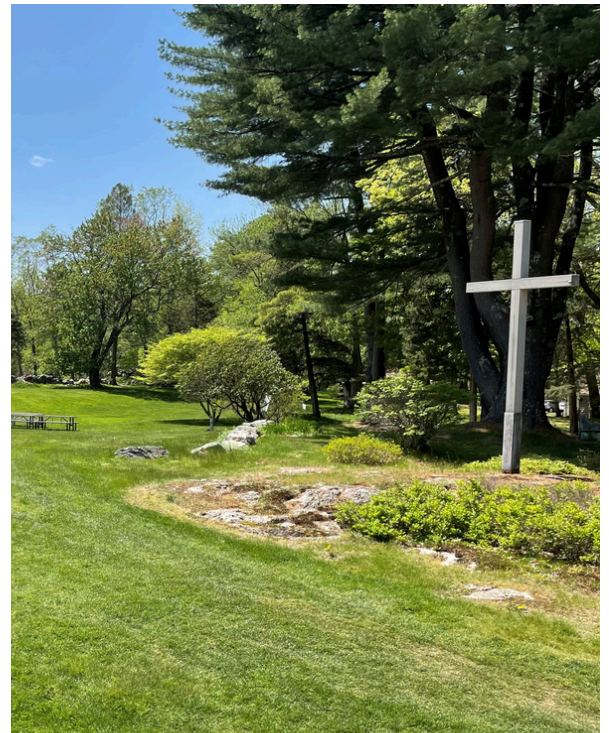
Marilyn K. Wall

In memory of Josie Maxwell and Gladys Hall, for the love of companions

Martha Lyn Ward

In memory of Eleanor Spinney

Cynthia Wasdyke *



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- Alexandra M. Woody
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- Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing # d
- Tom and Tracey Miles #
- Wu An Martial Arts LLC #

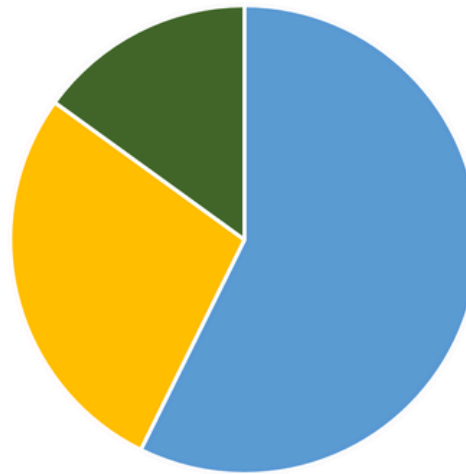


ESTATE PLANS

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| • Margaret P. Aldrich | • Eileen E. Harakal | • Kathy M. Schlecht |
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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

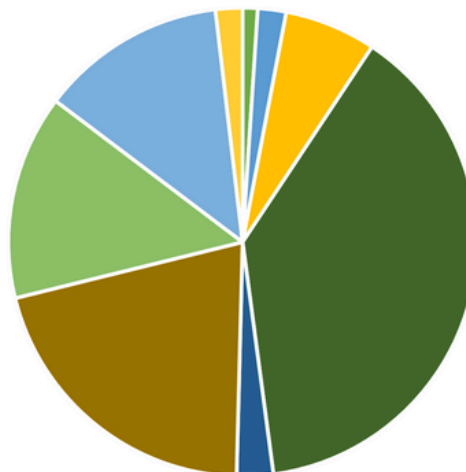
INCOME



Total Income: \$627,874

- GENEROUS GIFTS \$359,789
- MISSION & MINISTRY INCOME AT ADELYNROOD \$173,675
- RESTRICTED AND INVESTMENT INCOME \$94,410

EXPENSES



Total Expenses: \$1,336,422

- SOCIETY LEADERSHIP \$13,838
- ACCT, BANKING & LEGAL \$84,533
- SHARING OUR STORY \$33,364
- BLDG SAFETY AND EMERGENCY REPAIR \$189,038
- PROGRAM EXPENSES \$24,849
- MINISTRY & OUTREACH \$26,155
- MINISTRY SUPPORT STAFF/PAYROLL/TAXES \$515,540
- BLDGS, FURNISHINGS & GROUNDS \$277,137
- MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY AND SEASONAL PAYROLL \$171,698

Note:

The difference between income and expenses (\$708,548) was taken from our various funds-SCHC (90.7%), Emily Morgan (6.8%), and Scholarship Funds (2.5%).

THANK YOU

Thank you to the volunteers and staff who helped pull together the data for this 2023 Annual Report. Below you will find additional photos of staff, Companions and volunteers taken throughout the year!

