

Our Spiritual Directors

Amy Hoover



Amy has been offering spiritual direction for over 20 years. She received a certificate in spiritual direction from the St. Joseph Educational Center in Des Moines, IA . She then continued her education and received her Master's degree in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University. She trained as a dream work facilitator at the Haden Institute and is a SoulCollage® facilitator. She is experienced in individual, group and retreat direction using the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. After 9 years as the Director of the Creighton University Retreat Center, she returned to Ohio to assist her aging parents. She continues to journey with people in spiritual direction and supervision. She enjoys dream work, playing bridge and pickle ball. Amy has two grown children, four grandchildren in Nebraska.

She meets with people virtually and can be contacted by email
Email: akhoover1965@gmail.co

Stacy Hennessy



Stacy is trained in Ignatian Spirituality through the SDI program at Milford as well as in the Enneagram. These tools have allow her to practice attuning her ear to the senses and the capacity to “see God in all things”: joy, sorrow, surprise, anxiety, hope, promise, love, rejection, etc. Her experience in spirituality involves work in overseas missions, pastoral care, classroom teaching, navigating grief and loss and suicide, meditation, breath work, and dream work. She is a parent, widow, and retiree who practices one-on-one direction, workshops, and retreat work. Stacy has also collaborated on three books and is working on a fourth. She lives in the Indianapolis area and is available to meet in person, by zoom or by phone.

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Tom Sparough



Tom is familiar with the winding road of following God's call. He is a retired professional storyteller, juggler, retreat facilitator, author of six eclectic books, including the guide book to the Heart to Heart video series *Discern and Decide*. Tom and his wife, GERALYN, are active in marriage ministry and are long-time members of St. Clare Catholic Church. He is a keen listener and a lover of questions and has a master's degree in psychology and bachelor's degree in journalism. Tom is an outdoor enthusiast. Spiritual direction sessions take place in his home office in Northside, or by Zoom. He can be reached by email or phone, and accepts clients both in person and virtually.

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Sr. Donna Steffen, SC



Donna, a Sister of Charity of Cincinnati, trained in Spiritual Direction at the then Jesuit Renewal Center, has an MA in Theology from the Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley; and is a certified Enneagram teacher and labyrinth facilitator. Her background includes parish ministry, RCIA, and authoring Discernment in Christian Initiation (LTP). She annually directs and coordinates several retreats at the Jesuit Spiritual Center, and is part of the Spiritual Direction Internship staff. Donna listens contemplatively with each person for the movements and invitations of God. She attends to feelings and dynamics within everyday life, inviting the person to notice their "edge" or focus for prayer. She meets in her home office in E. Walnut Hills, Cincinnati.

She can be reached by email : Dfsteffen@aol.com

Marc Greenberg



Marc's approach is to meet each person where he or she is and to nourish the personal movement of God in each person. He respects each person's individual spiritual journey, orientation and beliefs. He completed his training as a Spiritual Director at the Jesuit Spiritual Center (JSC) in Milford, OH. In addition to meeting with directees, he also helps train new Spiritual Director Interns at the JSC. He is a husband, father and grandfather. Marc's focus in spiritual direction is on you and your unique relationship with God – as you understand God. His role is to listen compassionately and walk with you, whether God seems close, distant or absent. He can be reached by email or phone, and accepts clients both in person and virtually.

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Liz Tassone



Liz Tassone has been a Spiritual Director since 2010 and has been trained as a contemplative and interfaith spiritual director by Sycamore Spirituality Center. For six years she was part of the teaching team for Sycamore Spirituality Center and helped to mentor students learning the art of spiritual direction. Liz has training with Ignatian Spirituality and is also a certified teacher of Mindfulness Meditation. She seeks the Divine in everyday life and enjoys the writings and teachings of the Mystics.

Liz is currently seeing new clients. She meets clients in Loveland or on Zoom.

Her Email is liztassone@gmail.com

Colleen Witchger-Furey



Colleen Witchger-Furey is a spiritual director/companion, social worker, and registered yoga instructor with a lifelong interest in body, mind, and soul connection. Colleen holds masters degrees in Social Work & Administration from Gallaudet University. Her spiritual direction formation was completed at the Jesuit Spiritual Center, Milford, OH and is trained in the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. She enjoys both outdoor adventure and quiet time with her family. Colleen meets with individuals in Loveland, OH and remotely through zoom.

Colleen can be contacted at 513-515-1152 voice/text or email cwitchfurey@gmail.com

Sr. Joyce Diltz, PHJC



Sr. Joyce lives in Donaldson, Indiana where she offers spiritual direction and individually directed retreats at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference. She facilitates ongoing groups for dream work and spiritual direction supervision. In her work she draws from a variety of approaches to help people recognize and respond to God: scripture, imagination, drawing, journaling, fairy tales, dance, clay, dreamwork, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, and more. Joyce holds a Masters degree in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University, a Doctor of Ministry degree in Spiritual Direction from the Graduate Theological Foundation, and a certificate in dreamwork training from the Haden Institute. For 25 years Joyce served as the founding director of Bethany Retreat House in Indiana where she directed retreats she also did teaching, vocation and formation ministry, and hospital chaplaincy.

She meets with others both in person and on Zoom and can be reached at
Email: bethanyrh@sbcglobal.net.

Julie M. Murray



Over the past 48 years Julie has developed a full-time private practice of Interfaith Holistic Spiritual Direction. She trained in 1977 at the Jesuit Renewal Center, Milford, OH in the Ignatian tradition of the Spiritual Exercises as her formative set of lenses for contemplating her own and others' spiritual journey and discerning our deepening freedom in relationship with self, others, the world and the Divine. At the conclusion of that Internship, she was invited to join the staff at Milford where she was involved full-time in developing a variety of new offerings, working on personally directed retreats and the Internship in Spiritual Direction staff. She integrates, if a client so desires, a variety of holistic healing modalities and tools, including Biospiritual Focusing, the Enneagram, Brennan Healing Science ("Hands of Light" Healing) Integrated Kabbalistic Nondual Healing, Hellinger Family Constellation work, the wisdom of the 12-Step programs, Tibetan Buddhist healing practices and other healing modalities. Julie is especially influenced by the Christian Mystical tradition with teachers like Meister Eckhart, Teresa of Avila, Ignatius Loyola, John of the Cross and Elizabeth of the Trinity.

Julie lives in Clifton Heights, she can be reached by email or phone, and accepts clients both in person and virtually.

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Todd Long



Rooted in years of pastoral experience and in forming new spiritual directors, Todd offers a Christ-centered, contemplative, and deeply incarnational approach to spiritual direction. His desire is to create a spacious, prayerful environment where you can listen for God's movement in your life. He accompanies individuals across many walks of life—laypersons, clergy, church leaders, vowed religious, couples, those in recovery, and LGBTQ+ persons. Todd has training in Ignatian Spirituality, Centering Prayer, contemplative practices, stages of faith development, the Enneagram, IFS-informed, yoga, breathwork, somatic awareness, and supervision. He offers a complimentary 30-minute consultation to explore whether it's a good fit.

He can be reached by email or phone, and accepts clients both in person and virtually.

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Dan Roche



Dan Roche has been a spiritual companion to many for over 20 years with certification in spiritual direction from Creighton University. He has a master's degree in education from Xavier University. Dan has long experience in social justice, family systems work, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, and contemplative prayer. He is certified in Myer/Briggs. After graduation from Notre Dame University, he entered Gethsemani Abbey as a novice of Thomas Merton. The following year he entered the Jesuit Order and left after nine years to serve as a community organizer for five years in Hong Kong and India. Dan has taught high school, directed the Family Life Office for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and then was Director of the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford, where he continues to facilitate retreats. He has been active with the Kairos Prison Ministry for twenty years and is currently involved with the Ignatian Spirituality Project and mentoring formerly incarcerated men. He is a husband of 46 years, father and grandfather. Dan meets with companions in his home in Mt. Lookout.

He can be contacted by email: drochel@zoomtown.com

Kim Rae Connor, PhD



Kimberly Rae Connor, PhD, recently retired after several decades on the faculty of the University of San Francisco, a Jesuit Catholic university, where she taught courses across a variety of topics in religious and literary studies while also sustaining a robust research agenda that resulted in several books and many articles on religious life and culture with a particular emphasis on African American religious expressions. A life-long Christian, her immersion in the Jesuit mission inspired her to convert to Catholicism and to train in spiritual direction at El Retiro Jesuit Retreat Center. She has attended and led many retreats inspired by the Ignatian tradition, guided others through the 19th Annotation retreats, and currently is writing a book on poetry and the Spiritual Exercises, believing that encounters with literature enrich our capacity for developing our imaginations. She also adapted her experience with and enthusiasm for the Spiritual Exercises into a course for management students at USF which she continues to teach online in the hopes that the encounter will help students develop the capacity to manage not just their careers but their lives. She has relocated to Bellevue, KY, to support her parents during their vulnerable geriatric years. She welcomes seekers from Northern Kentucky or the Cincinnati area for in-person or virtual conversations.

She can be reached by email : connork@usfca.edu

Charles (Chuck) Kohl



Chuck is a 2022 graduate of the Jesuit Spiritual Center's Spiritual Direction Internship and has been a companion of seekers since 2020. Having been trained at JSC, Chuck is steeped in the Ignatian tradition. In recent years Chuck has been a student of the Franciscan charism and is well equipped to accompany those seeking and choosing that which leads to a deeper relationship with God. In addition to offering traditional spiritual direction, Chuck is available to lead retreatants in St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises and in Guided Meditation using scripture or other spiritual texts. Chuck generally works from offices at St. Boniface church in Northside but is available for Zoom meetings.

He accepts clients both in person and virtually and can be reached by email. email: chuck2kohl@gmail.com

Roger Johanningman

Roger is a Spiritual Director practicing at the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford, the Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church, and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Roger received his graduate certificate in Spiritual Direction from Mt. St. Joseph University, his psychology undergraduate degree from Harvard University, and an MBA from Xavier University. Roger believes that Spiritual Direction is a safe environment for you to share your story and helps you notice where God is active in it. It isn't simply about relationship with God alone; it is about living out your faith in the real world. In addition to Spiritual Direction, Roger advises families in business when they are planning to transition from one generation to the next. Roger also coaches business executives, and facilitates executive peer groups. Roger and his wife, Nancy, live in Columbia Tusculum. They have two adult daughters, and four grandchildren. He can be reached by email or phone, and accepts clients both in person and virtually.

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Sr. Charlotte Hobelman, SND

Sister Charlotte Hobelman is a Sister of Notre Dame of the USA Province and a graduate of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute at John Carroll University. She walks with those seeking a deeper relationship with God through spiritual accompaniment focusing on God's provident care and love in the highs and lows of the Paschal Mystery in one's personal life story. She offers spiritual direction and retreats in both English and Spanish. Sister Charlotte has served in ministry for many years with those living on the margins of society as a high school teacher and in social and pastoral ministry on the international, national, diocesan and parish levels. She was an SND missionary in Jinotega, Nicaragua for eight years. At present she serves as a pastoral minister at a Hispanic parish in the Diocese of Cleveland and serves as a spiritual director and retreat leader. She also co-hosts a monthly, virtual Sunday grief support group via Zoom for the Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Diocese of Cleveland.

She accepts clients both in person and virtually and can be reached by email.
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Cissy Eyre

Cissy Donovan Eyre, MA desires to foster a welcoming and safe presence where her directees feel listened to and accepted. She holds a Master degree in Christian Spirituality including a certificate in spiritual direction and directed retreats from Creighton University. Having been trained in Ignatian spirituality, she uses an evocative-contemplative technique—paying attention to the directees' experiences and feelings to examine where God's presence is felt in their lives. She hopes to offer a space where directees can slow down and where silence feels nourishing rather than intimidating. Art, dreams, embodiment practices, and active imagination are some of the avenues directees may wish to explore in direction to help deepen their relationships with God.

Cissy is available to meet in person or online using Zoom and can be reached by email.
email: cissyeyre@gmail.com

Kathleen R. Smythe



Kathleen has a Ph.D. in African history and has taught history and sustainability at Xavier University for 28 years. Her research involves oral history where listening and trying to appreciate the world of the person she is learning from is key. She is always aware of the need to keep her agenda on the back burner, something that she has found helpful with spiritual companionship as well. She loves learning about and trying to inhabit the Jesuit mission broadly and Ignatian teaching and spirituality more specifically. A lifelong Protestant, and member of the Cincinnati Friends Meeting (Quaker) where she finds the silent worship and expectant waiting quite resonant with contemplative prayer of the Catholic tradition. The invitation to being rather than doing is needed as a regular reminder. She recently completed a two-year Spiritual Director training program with the Midwest Province of the Jesuits. Kathy is an avid outdoorsperson and finds that she feels closest to God/Spirit there and regularly practices Tai Chi and appreciates writing. She has two grown children, and amicably divorced five years ago.

She accepts clients both in person and virtually and can be reached by email.
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