



DEAR FRIENDS OF THE WELL,

Just days before Sr. Marlene Schemmel entered into the fullness of God in May 2022, she said to me, “Bridge, you’ve got to keep The Well going for at least 10 more years.” It was a dream she held for decades and one she could not hold alone if it were to become a reality.



The story of the Well is a story of a team of Sisters of St. Joseph working together. In the mid-1990s Sisters Pat Bergen, Kathy Sherman, Janet Bolger, and others, dreamed a dream for Earth and gave birth to Allium, an Eco-spirituality Center. In 2000, Sister Marlene dreamed of a place for women to be nourished and nurtured and the Women’s Well was created. After a few years of operating independently, these two meaningful ministries merged to become what today is The Well Spirituality Center. Our history is a testament to the power of a community to dream a dream into a reality.

The Well is now entering its 24th year of existence. I, and all who have been a part of this growth, are grateful. The strength and endurance of this long-ago dream is rooted in our ability to pay attention to the needs of the time, pull together the energy of those who dream with us, and respond to the movement of the Spirit drawing us into the future. Over my 15 years at The Well, I have witnessed the creative power that is manifest when a group of invested people come together to share their talents, time and resources. There is one common thread that runs through it: SPIRIT IS MAGNIFIED and people are energized.

And now, as we stand on the edge of this Holy Season, a renewed dream is emerging, one that encompasses and expands on Sr. Marlene’s dream of a flourishing Well. In our pain-ridden world, **The Well is needed now more than ever.** We know we can’t solve our problems out of the same consciousness that created them. The Well offers a safe space to see and feel the pain and suffering of so many, to re-charge and re-imagine out of a new world-view. The challenge to build a just and thriving Earth community for all is great. Our vision of unity, our experience of spiritual community, our legacy of being a place to ask the important questions, and our evolutionary vision, position us to meet newly emerging needs. We strive to balance the outer world with an inner world of deep silence. We stand together in hope, grounded in Christ, as we respond to life’s challenges from a Spirit-led place of deep healing, unity and grace.

Yes, Sr. Marlene had a dream of a dynamic future for The Well. We invite you to be a part of realizing this dream. We thank you for your past generosity, and ask that you give again, at the level of your financial ability. Big dreams don't become reality without financial costs. Your monetary assistance, as well as your presence among us, is vital to the unfolding of our ideals through specific programming and other opportunities. With increased donor support we are able to do more and still keep our fees at an accessible level.

Please help us during this season of giving to hold the benefits of The Well within reach for all, to keep our budget balanced, and even more, to enable us to dream bigger because we will have the resources to do so!

May all your dreams come true this Christmas season! And thank you for helping us realize ours!



Bridget Sperduto

Bridget Sperduto
Executive Director

*“A dream you dream alone is
only a dream.
A dream you dream together is a
reality.”*

John Lennon