

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Bridges Foundation offers opportunities to anyone seeking to deepen their relationship with God and God's people through ongoing formation grounded in the experience of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Everyday Life. The foundation members assist individuals in spiritual growth so they can transform themselves and their world.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deacon Dave Harpring, *President*  
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### Incoming 2022 Directors:

Carl Greiner  
Gary Peterson  
Karen Siebenberger  
Sharon Tan  
  
Steve Givens, *Executive Director*  
Vicki Harpring, *Magis Facilitator*  
Sue Givens, *Bookkeeper*  
Jon Givens, *Webmaster*

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT – DECEMBER 2021

In continued trying times, the Bridges Foundation maintains its mission of offering the 19th Annotation Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Exercises in Everyday Life, to the people of the St. Louis area and many living outside the St. Louis region. In the fall, Bridges and Magis were able to resume in-person meetings using appropriate safety protocols, while offering an online option for those unable to join in person. There are 45 retreatants in Bridges. Magis has 65 participants, with seven small groups.

The Foundation's finances continue to be stable. The endowment fund continues to grow. With this financial security, the Board is continuing to look at ways to reach a wider and more diverse audience in promoting and offering of the Spiritual Exercises.

To that end, a Strategic Planning Committee was formed earlier this year to develop a new strategic plan for the Foundation, to help guide its activities over the next several years. Gary Peterson and Steve Givens facilitated the process over a several month period. The Board at its November meeting approved the Plan. The four strategic objectives are:

- > Creating a Spanish-speaking retreat in partnership with the Archdiocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry and the St. Louis Hispanic Catholic community.
- > Reaching and serving a wider ecumenical range of Christians.
- > Expanding to a more-inclusive geographic range, including online formats and other physical sites in the Greater St. Louis Area.
- > Enhancing the ongoing formation, spiritual support and enrichment of prayer companions and other members of the Bridges community, both in person and online.

Please review the committee reports below. These committees are vital to the work of the Foundation. Each committee brings innovative ideas forward for consideration and then works to put board recommendations into action.

Three directors are leaving the board in January 2022: Laurie Hannigan, Sella Roman, and David Harpring. We thank them for their years of faithful service, even as we welcomed four new directors in November 2021: Carl Greiner, Gary Peterson, Karen Siebenberger, and Sharon Tan. Officers for the coming year are: President- Maureen Herrmann; Vice President- Jill Carnaghi; Treasurer -Theresa Tadrack; and Secretary- Joan Kletzker.

Steve Givens began his tenure as executive director in January 2021 and is making a very positive impact on the Foundation, its operation, and its footprint in the wider Jesuit community. Steve continues to oversee the expansion and user-friendliness of our website; please take time to visit it.

The Board appreciates the continued prayers, commitment, and generosity of the Bridges Community. Bridges continues its mission to provide the Ignatian Exercises to the people of the St. Louis region.

**Dave Harpring**  
*President*

## Bridges Ignatian Retreat in Daily Life

The 19th Annotation Retreat of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola sponsored by the Bridges Foundation is currently serving 45 retreatants, including 18 online participants, more than twice the number of retreatants last year. This retreat bridges one's spiritual life with everyday life and provides a structure and process aimed at assisting the retreatant in an ever-deepening relationship with God and increasing awareness in ridding oneself of inordinate attachments. The retreatant and an experienced companion meet for 34 one-hour sessions. In addition to the individual sessions, weekly or monthly group meetings are held at each site for the purpose of providing a communal experience and to offer reflections and faith sharing on various movements of the Spiritual Exercises. The schedule includes a Faith Sharing Retreat in October, a Marketplace Spirituality Retreat in the spring and a Sending Celebration and Dinner in mid-May.

## Magis – Greater Understanding, Love and Service

The Magis Program, structured for those who have completed the 18th, 19th or 20th Annotation Retreat, resumed meeting in person in fall 2021 while still offering an online option. Magis functions to support the participant in growing and living the Ignatian Way within a community setting. Currently we have 65 participants and seven small group facilitators. The program meets for seven 3-hour Saturday sessions, beginning in September and concluding in April. Each gathering begins with two presentations on various movements of the Exercises followed by small group sessions on various Ignatian topics.

THIS YEAR'S SPEAKERS ARE:

**Preparation Days**—Hung Pham, SJ

**First Week**—Sr. Carla Mae Streeter, OP

**Call of the King**—Steve Givens

**Second Week**—Danielle Harrison

**Discernment**—Marian Love

**Third Week**—Matthew Baugh, SJ.; and

**Fourth Week**—Michael Dooley, SJ.

After the presentations, each person participates in one of seven small groups, namely:

**Teilhard and The Spiritual Exercises**

led by Miriam Wesselmann, SSND and Ron Nimer

**Ignatian Traditions of Prayer**

led by Tom & Dale Auffenberg

**Inner Compass: Finding Our Creativity in the Spiritual Exercises**

led by Steve Givens

**Dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises**

led by Mark McKenzie, S.J.

**ONLINE ONLY Dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises**

led by Mark McKenzie, S.J.

**Peer Supervision/Consultation**

led by Hsin-hsin Huang, PhD; and

**Prayer Companion Training**

led by Marian Love and Michael Harter, SJ.



### 2022-2023 Bridges Retreat in Daily Life

Registration begins May 1 and closes August 25, 2022

More information at: <http://bridgesfoundation.org/programs/bridges-foundation-retreat/>

### 2022-2023 Magis – Greater Understanding, Love and Service

Registration begins June 1, 2022. More information at: <http://bridgesfoundation.org/programs/the-magis-program/>

**Marketplace Spirituality Retreat** on April 8-9, 2022.

The retreat is open to all who have received the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Updated information at: <http://bridgesfoundation.org/programs/marketplace-spirituality-retreat/>

**Ignatian Community Retreat** on July 9, 2022, led by Fr. Hung Pham, S.J., of the Office of Ignatian Spirituality. This retreat is open to all. See <http://bridgesfoundation.org/programs/ignatian-community-retreat/>

# accomplishments of the standing committees in 2021:

## MARKETING COMMITTEE

- Made frequent contact with the Bridges community regarding important information, program reminders, registration deadlines, and Ignatian spirituality via social media, targeted emails and quarterly eLink newsletter. Highlights include:
- Reviewed the means by which retreatants learned about information sessions to inform planning for future promotion. This year, targeted emails to former retreatants, social media and print advertising worked together to generate great turnouts for information sessions, yielding a record number of retreatants.
- Created regular Facebook Live “Bridges Conversations” interviews with members of the Bridges community.
- Regularly reviewed website and social media analytics to guide website improvements and a new and more targeted policy for Facebook posting.
- Regularly updated website with news, member profiles, and Ignatian spirituality videos, including all videos from last year’s Magis program.
- Continued planning for new marketing video, to be produced by summer 2022.

## PROGRAM CREATION AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

- Offered and assessed the Bridges Retreat in Daily Life. All of the meetings from January to May were virtual. We were able to move to in-person in September and are operating at four sites as well as hosting an Online Only group. We also offered both in-person and online Faith Sharing Day and planned both options for the

Marketplace Spirituality Retreat and the Sending Celebration Prayer Service, as well as the Prayer Companion Morning of Sharing.

- Offered and coordinated ten information sessions to market the Bridges Retreat at several sites throughout the St Louis region during the summer of 2021.
- The current 2021-2022 Bridges retreat is being offered at Webster Groves Christian Church, site coordinator is Carol Brescia; Sacred Heart Valley Park, site coordinators are Cheryl Rauschenbach and Mary Fehner; St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, site coordinator is Pam Mason; St. Francis Xavier College Church, site coordinator is Linda Leib; and the Online Only Group, site coordinators are Sharon Tan and Hsin-hsin Huang.
- Two experienced prayer companions are mentoring two first-year prayer companions.
- Planned, offered and assessed the Magis—Greater Understanding, Love, and Service Program, providing ongoing formation of prayer companions and enrichment for others who have received the Spiritual Exercises.
- The new on-line Magis Program consists of pre-recorded Magis presentations and attending the on-line Dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises. Both are requirements for all prayer companions. Formation was offered virtually by Fr. Mark McKenzie, SJ.
- We usually plan and organize the July Ignatian Community Retreat. Because of Covid restrictions, it was canceled for the summer of 2021. We are currently planning for the in-person retreat to be held in July of 2022.

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Continued the online late-July appeal honoring the feast day of St. Ignatius.
- In early December, developed and distributed the annual appeal letter to key constituents.
- These appeals help to meet the increasing costs of offering the Bridges Retreat in Daily Life.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

- For last fiscal year, subsidized 64% of Bridges Retreatants in varying amounts, and for Magis, subsidized 100% of the Prayer Companion attendees and 23% of the non-Prayer Companion attendees in varying amounts. Subsidies are made possible by the general donation fund as well as by the donated services of some Prayer Companions and Magis speakers and facilitators. Income for both Bridges and Magis is earned from pledges made by retreatants and attendees in any amount they can afford.
- Received a \$2,000 grant from the Angela Merici Fund, thanks to efforts of Sr. Thomas More Daly, OSU.
- Filed Form 990 with the IRS for fiscal year 2020-2021 and issued any required Form W-2s or Form 1099-NECs for personal services payments made during 2021.
- Able to receive qualified donations of appreciated equities from any person who wishes to make such a gift.
- Able to receive cash or security donations from a qualified retirement account as directed by the owner of the account if the donation is made pursuant to Section 408(d)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code and the owner is over age 70-1/2.

# fiscal status report

	FISCAL YEAR		
INCOME	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021*
BRIDGES RETREAT**	\$21,468	\$18,299	\$15,010
MAGIS**	\$18,918	\$15,835	\$17,677
SPECIAL EVENTS***	\$710	\$2,010	\$0-
OTHER SOURCES	\$2,471	\$3,450	\$4,660
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$43,567</b>	<b>\$39,594</b>	<b>\$37,347</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
ADMINISTRATION	\$1,417	\$1,538	\$454
BRIDGES RETREAT	\$21,121	\$22,751	\$17,187
MAGIS	\$15,748	\$15,468	\$16,866
SPECIAL EVENTS***	\$3,477	\$3,229	\$0-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$41,763</b>	<b>\$42,986</b>	<b>\$34,507</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$1,804</b>	<b>\$(3,392)</b>	<b>\$2,840</b>
Donations/Fundraising	\$13,098	\$10,255	\$9,426

\*Because of a change in fiscal year end, 2020–2021 includes 13 months of income and expenses.

\*\*Includes donated services.

\*\*\*Special Events include Ignatian Community Retreats and other events held for the benefit of the entire community. Because we are cash basis, special event income and expenses are sometimes reflected in a different fiscal year than when the event actually occurred.

## information sessions

### BRIDGES RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE INFORMATION SESSIONS

During each summer, the Bridges Foundation offers Information Sessions for those who desire to make the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. For any questions regarding location, date and time of the 2022 Information Sessions, visit our website or call 314-401-2072 or email [executive.director@bridgesfoundation.org](mailto:executive.director@bridgesfoundation.org).

#### Find us at:

- [bridgesfoundation.org](http://bridgesfoundation.org)
- [facebook.com/bridgesfoundationst/](https://facebook.com/bridgesfoundationst/)

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