

A MINISTRY IN THE DIOCESE OF LANSING



# Institute for Spiritual Direction

703 E. Main Street DeWitt, MI 48820 | [www.isdmichigan.org](http://www.isdmichigan.org) | 517.388.5291

Summer 2021 | Issue 10

## THOUGHTS FROM FR. DAVID



*"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* John 8:12

Christ is the Light of nations. Through the Holy Spirit the Institute for Spiritual Direction eagerly proclaims the Gospel to bring the light of Christ to all people. This light shines brightly, kindly and serenely on us all. The ISD desires to be joined more closely to our Communities as we help others attain fuller unity in Christ.

This past year, the alumni of ISD created what we call our "Council of Ministries." This council will shape and form the ongoing mission of our calling. This newsletter will introduce some of the work already completed.

Our Vision: Holy Spirit inspired ministry leadership where believers grow into the fullness of maturity in Jesus Christ through spiritual direction.

Our Mission: Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to form and equip Christian leaders in Spiritual Direction that they might accompany others in their transforming relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

And our Values:

- the universal call to holiness through the Holy Spirit to inspire, invite and accompany the Christian on their journey toward spiritual growth and maturity.
- Lectio Divina as a way to encounter Jesus Christ and his Sacred Heart.
- Christian spirituality as rooted in the Magisterium and informed by the historical wisdom of the saints.
- hospitality through a nurturing and welcoming environment.
- the ecumenical nature of our community where all are welcome.
- integrity and professionalism through fostering ongoing human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation.

My hope is for you to be inspired to see where you can contribute your special talents and charisms to ISD as we move forward bringing the gospel message to all.

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE MINISTRY OF ISD

There is exciting news for the Institute of Spiritual Direction. Our Institute has been very successful in developing spiritual directors and is now taking the next step to grow. As part of this next step, the new "Council of Ministries" has been meeting to establish the structure and plan to allow the ISD to thrive as we look to the future. All ISD Alumni are invited and encouraged to join together in the work that the Holy Spirit is doing through this Council of Ministries for the future of our Institute.

To recap this journey, in March of 2020, Father David invited all ISD alumni to be part of a new leadership group called the "Council of Ministries." The Council of Ministries is a working group that guides and coordinates all the phases of the Institute for Spiritual Direction at St. Francis. This Council of Ministries will be supported by various subgroups or committees that will provide a multitude of new growth opportunities for the Institute of Spiritual Direction as well as for ISD Alumni!

The Holy Spirit is at the heart of our Institute of Spiritual Direction and now is empowering this ministry to even greater service. At the Alumni Retreat on August 12th, you will have the opportunity to hear about this significant work and how the Holy Spirit is calling it to grow and flourish. Please mark your calendars for August 12th starting at noon, as the future of our ISD ministry is presented!

Nancy Theis  
Moderator of the Council of Ministries

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE INSTITUTE?



Faith Fest 2021 was a little wet—make that very wet. But that did not dampen the joy of the crowd as Jordan Feliz was one of several acts to lead the crowd in songs of worship. God truly “rained” down blessings and all the faithful fans enjoyed the awesome music and fireworks, even in the rain. Be sure to set aside June 25, 2022 for Faith Fest 2022.

### INSPIRATIONAL LYRICS: JORDAN FELIZ

*“He’s light for the shadows. He’s hope for tomorrow. He’ll always be there through the sun and the rain. You’ve got to believe it, before you can see it. And you can walk on ‘cause He’s making a way. Just gotta have some faith, faith. You gotta have some faith, faith. When you don’t see it, but you believe it anyway. Faith, faith”*

From Faith by Jordan Feliz, as performed at Faith Fest 2021

### UPCOMING EVENTS

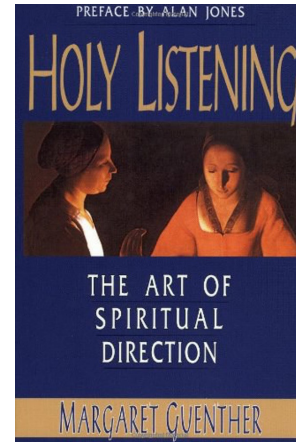
- Ignatian Weekend Retreat: July 9-11, 2021
- Directed Ignatian Retreat: July 11-17, 2021
- Visit [www.stfrancis.ws](http://www.stfrancis.ws) for more information

Institute for Spiritual Direction Alumni Day: August 12, 2021. Join us for a day of fellowship, teaching, planning for the future, and good food. We will begin at 12:00 with lunch and end with dinner after the 4:00 Mass. Watch for your invitation for all alumni which will be coming soon.

## WHAT'S IN YOUR CROCKPOT?



### TASTY INGREDIENTS FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL STEW



#### Snake Tales

Margaret Guenther in her book “Holy Listening” refers to a cherished artifact of hers, a molted snake skin; a vivid reminder of the cost required for growth. She posits; is the shedding of skin by the snake relieving or painful? She replies, “probably both”. When we outgrow or are forced to change by circumstance, the tearing away of some aspect of ourselves or situation happens as the pulling off of old tissue is not a clean break. And new tissue is left exposed and vulnerable, not yet hardened or aware of its purpose. These are the wounds we encounter in direction and perceiving them serves us well as a guide.

Thank you, Joan Plumley, for this colorful reflection.



Institute for  
Spiritual Direction

For more information on the Institute for Spiritual Direction, on how to become a spiritual director, or how to find a spiritual director, please visit [www.isdmichigan.org](http://www.isdmichigan.org), or email Fr. David Rosenberg at [drosenberg@isdMichigan.org](mailto:drosenberg@isdMichigan.org).