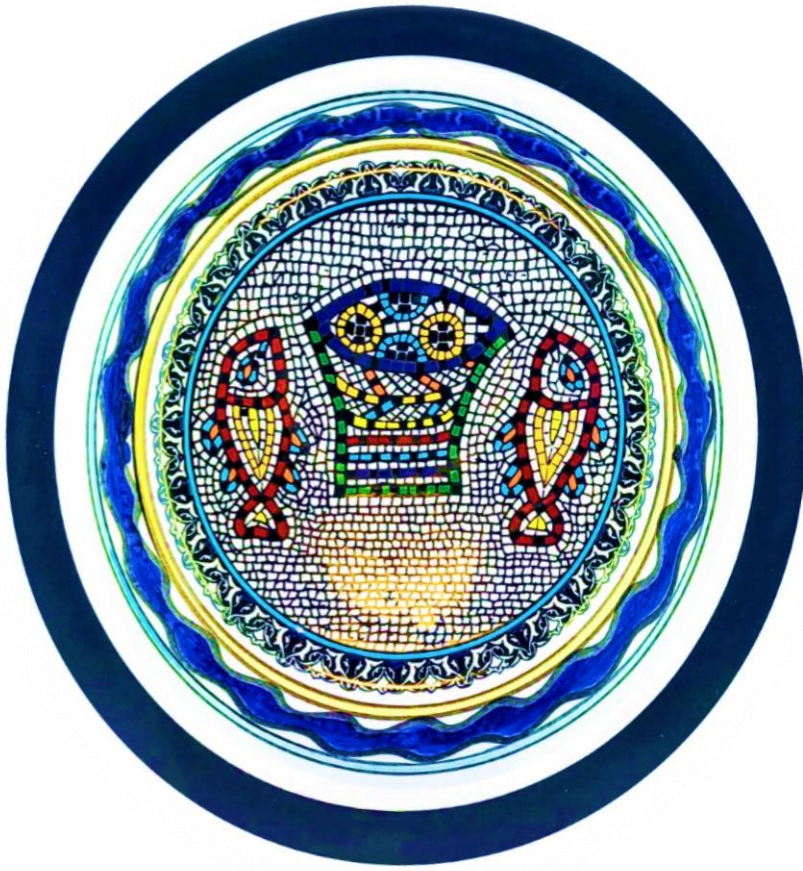




The United States Association of

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



2021 CGSUSA ANNUAL REPORT

And taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled.

What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

Luke 9:16-17



The United States Association of
The Catechesis of The Good Shepherd®

This report reflects the living out of our vision during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2021. In some instances, to maintain continuity, events beyond the fiscal year have been included. We were incorporated in the State of Maryland on October 7, 1986, as

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc.

National Offices are located in Scottsdale, Arizona; Marietta, Georgia; Memphis, Tennessee; Urbandale, Iowa.

A ti catequista hispana, te saludamos y te damos las mas expresivas gracias por tu apoyo a la Asociacion Nacional de la Catequesis del Buen Pastor en los EU. El grupo etnico de mas crecimiento en los EU es el nuestro y agradecemos tu gran colaboracion con nuestros niños hispanos. Sabemos que la CBP ofrece muchas herramientas para el desarrollo integral del niño o dentro de un ambiente a veces tan diverso. Si de alguna forma te podemos ayudar, escribemos. Queremos saber de tí. Puedes comunicarte a lourdesvazquez@cgsusa.org . Dios te bendiga.

Cover artwork is an original photo by Lisa Kelley

OUR PURPOSE

CGSUSA's purpose, prepared in consultation with Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, is to assist the involvement of children and adults in a common religious experience in which the religious values of childhood, primarily those values of contemplation and enjoyment of God, are predominant.

OUR MISSION

CGSUSA's mission is to support catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children.

OUR VISION

The National Association will work to make the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the writings of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi accessible to all.

Recognizing the need for clear and available communications, the National Association will avail itself of written, voice and visual electronic media to maintain contact with catechists and others.

The National Association will provide formation in accordance with the work of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, through the provision of a discernment process and training for formation leaders, offering regular retreats and conferences and the use of approved formation leaders' handbooks. In addition to current sites, courses in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will be held in colleges, universities, and seminaries across the United States.

The National Association will support the work of the International Council and work in harmony with it.

Material changes and new materials as recommended by the International Council will be translated and distributed to formation leaders and catechists through the National Association. The Association will provide a manual at each level with accurate and most excellent plans and schematics for constructing atrium materials.

Regional groups will be encouraged in every part of the nation.

The National Association will establish and maintain links with diocese and denominations represented by the membership and other formation and educational groups. The National Association will provide help and resources to assist catechists in adapting this work to the liturgy of their denominations.

The National Association will establish and maintain historical archives of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, making them accessible to members.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



2020-2021 challenged the board, staff, and members of CGSUSA in ways we never could have imagined. Following the sudden closure of atria in March, most formation courses were canceled for summer. We all settled in for more than a year of disruption to our routines at best, and illness and death of loved ones at worst.

The changes left members needing guidance on how to proceed in their parishes and schools. Additionally, cancellation of courses meant no registration fees to support formation, no new books sold to course participants, and no new catechists to become members of the Association. This potential loss of revenue threatened the financial stability of CGSUSA and the ability to retain an excellent staff.

CGSUSA was not about to let the pandemic stand in the way of its mission “to support catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children.” The staff, board, and membership all put forth an extraordinary effort to help the Association thrive.

The staff produced countless resources for catechists and families, encouraging and nurturing renewed life in the “Domestic Church” – the home – where faith in Jesus is lived day to day. They sponsored free Zoom seminars to guide parishes, schools, and catechists as they made difficult decisions for their community and to allow conversations with others around the country facing the same questions. At the same time, CGSUSA staff applied for a Paycheck Protection Program loan and secured a loan to help keep the office staff intact. That loan has since been forgiven, and the staff secured another one during the second round of loans in March 2021.

The board met frequently to review financial projections, to monitor that all was moving forward with the 2020-2025 Purposeful Plan, and to support the staff.

CGSUSA members continued purchasing books and materials from the store and – as they were able – gave generously to the Annual Appeal and the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund. That support ensured that the Association would get through this time and that there would be scholarship money available to form new catechists and start new atria in underserved areas.

In my six years on the board, five as chair, I have had a bird’s-eye view of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd throughout our country and world. It is a labor of love by so many – all done with thanksgiving and joy before the mystery of the child encountering the mystery of God. From my perspective, I was not surprised that we all pulled together to assure the continuation of our mission. As I leave the board, I know that this work is truly blessed by God.

Barbara Matera
President CGSUSA Board of Trustees barbaramatera@cgsusa.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR



Many years ago, when we were just beginning to build our first atrium at St. Anne in Gilbert, I asked God for a word. Our parish was growing, in fact, our city was the fastest growing city in the country. Our parish had decided to have CGS for our children. We had 400 families. In three short years we grew to 5000 families. It was hard to keep up. I told God I needed some word of comfort. At Mass that morning, during the Gospel, deep in my heart, He gave me a word: ““You give them something to eat.” My Brooklyn heart responded instantly with “Are you talkin’ ta me?” Of course, I knew this was a miracle, yet in that moment all I could hear was more work. I was not happy! But after all these years of living this Gospel with Him, I am coming to understand what He has been saying to me from the beginning!

In The History of the Kingdom of God from Creation to Parousia, Sofia Cavalletti wrote that “The miracles are like sudden flashes of light that illuminate the reality of the kingdom and allow us to ‘see’ it.” It took a while for me to “see it.” And He has continued to remind me that all I need to bring is what I have and offer it to Him. In fact, my favorite announcement of this miracle is from John because we hear that it is the child who gives fully and completely all he has, and God blesses it and makes it abundant. So abundant that there are twelve baskets leftover. Haven’t we all experienced this in the atrium with the children?

The year has been so challenging, yet it has also been an experience of abundance. When we entered into quarantine, we did not know what to expect. We wondered how we would live our purpose and mission. Yet, as Sofia goes on to write: “The miracles are not only a fountain of marvels, but an announcement of hope.” This year we lived in hope. And in doing so, we found new ways to fulfill our purpose and mission. We saw evidence of struggle all around us, of course, but also many signs of hope. Catechists, formation leaders, board members and staff worked with a strong sense of mission to serve God and the Child.

As this fiscal year ends, it is hard to find proper words to express all we’ve endured - the people and opportunities we’ve lost, and the many ways in which we have thrived as a community based on the friendship of catechists. Through it all, and mingled throughout this Annual Report, I hope the true spirit and charism of CGSUSA shines through.

It has been a privilege to be a part of something so miraculous! I’m so grateful to our Good Shepherd for His love, for His signs and wonders. And I am so grateful to all of you. You have remained during an uncertain time. Thank you to all who have contributed to this annual report in so many ways, formation leaders, catechists, members, patrons, and customers. Thank you all for the incredible support you have offered CGSUSA this year. Together let us celebrate as we gather up the broken pieces!

In His Love,

Mary Mirrione,
National Director marymirrione@cgsusa.org

CGS FORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

The Association will provide formation in accordance with the work of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, through the provision of a discernment process and training for formation leaders, offering regular retreats and conferences and the use of approved formation leader's handbooks.



CGSUSA is privileged to sustain and advance the legacy of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in the United States through catechist formation. The Association serves as THE resource to the CGS community by forming both catechists and formation leaders in this method. We also offer guidance to catechists, as well as church and school leadership in creating and maintaining atrium environments that nurture the religious life of children. This past year we:

- Sponsored the Level I Study Group from June – August 2020 for Formation Leaders with 99 formation leaders.
- Sponsored the Formation Leader Discernment Seminar for catechists actively involved in CGSUSA's Formation Leader Discernment Process from October – November 2020 with 81 attendees including several from other countries.
- Sponsored, in collaboration with a team of formation leaders in Mexico, an Orientation Series for the *I Am the Good Shepherd* catechist guide and child's workbook for Year 1 and working with first grade children who cannot be served in an atrium. This offering was part of a pilot initiative in introducing these books and was offered to 20 catechists and formation leaders from February – May 2021.
- Sponsored a pilot Level II Study Group with 20 Level II formation leaders from February – March 2021.
- Sponsored a second Level I Study Group for 57 formation leaders from July – August 2021 for those who could not participate in 2020.
- All of these ongoing formation experiences were offered virtually.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis in 2020-2021, the Office of Formation responded to a range of inquiries and provided assistance and resources to interested persons, catechists, formation leaders,



and hosting site coordinators seeking courses to attend, host, and lead. We also counsel how best to continue meeting the demand for CGS catechist formation with the challenges of the pandemic. With a few exceptions made due to the pandemic, we remain faithful to passing along the gift of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through in-person catechist formation courses, whether for Infant-Toddler, Levels I, II, or III. This provides the best opportunity for adults to grasp the richness of the preparation needed to serve the religious life of children using this method of catechesis.



For Fiscal Year 2020–2021 we registered 126 courses and have given 1,127 certificates. Overall, we have 207 registered catechist formation courses at the end of the 2020–2021 fiscal year with 145 in progress and 62 that have registered but haven't started yet. These courses are served by approximately 160 of our 200 CGSUSA formation leaders and the Formation office. While most of our formation leaders lead courses in the United States, we also work with CGSUSA formation leaders serving courses internationally providing CGSUSA certificates in languages for courses held in countries where a CGS Association has not been established yet.

The Formation Leader Discernment Process prayerfully seeks to determine a catechist's readiness to serve as a CGSUSA formation leader. In Fiscal Year 2020–21, the Formation Leader Discernment Committee recognized 11 Formation Leaders. We continually and happily respond to a wide range of inquiries and concerns regarding CGS catechist formation.



Serving with me in the Office of Formation are Debbie Dobson, Course Registrar, and Claire Paglia, Administrative Assistant. (left to right)

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Maxwell, Director of Formation,
karenmaxwell@cgsusa.org

THE FRIENDSHIP OF MEMBERSHIP

Regional groups will be encouraged in every part of the nation. The United States Association will establish and maintain links with dioceses and denominations represented by the membership and other formation and educational groups.



One of the benefits of membership in CGSUSA is the friendship and support of catechists. Membership in CGSUSA allows members who are far away and have never met to share a kind of friendship as they participate in the ongoing conversation of CGS – its Montessori underpinnings, its scriptural and liturgical themes, setting up and maintaining an atrium, making materials, and the response of the child. We have lived this benefit and our members have embodied this in a most particular way in the last year.

As staff members, one of the great joys of our day is the opportunity to speak with members on the phone. Often the calls to the Membership Office concerns the renewal of a membership, the update to contact information, or to ask a question regarding materials, etc. Those who were not in a position to maintain their membership, CGSUSA was able to maintain it for them. Other members were able to be generous and pay for another's membership. In a time of trial, there were many things we did not do, were not able to do, but we were abundantly blessed by the gifts of our members.

In the last seventeen months, we have also engaged in a pastoral conversation regarding family, parish life, as well as our work with the children in the atrium. This year saw an expansion to reach our members via our digital resources, preparing multiple parent page newsletters, a monthly catechist note, a monthly celebration for the family, video(s), and resources for the child. Hundreds of members participated in our virtual gatherings for catechists and had opportunity to learn, share, build community, and reconnect with friends across the miles. This year our staff and board offered:

- Summer Seminar: Returning to the Atrium this Fall,
- Summer Seminar: The Child, The Adult, and The Environment
- Summer Seminar: Supporting the Domestic Church
- Fall Forum: Follow-Up Conversation: Returned, Restored, Refreshed!
- Advent Servant Song Retreat: The Song of the Prophet
- CGS and the Directory for Catechesis
- Lenten Servant Song Retreat: The Heart of the Prophet





The Regional Groups continued to offer opportunities for catechists to gather, both in person and virtually, to share information on returning to the atrium and to discuss their own diocesan guidelines; to offer book studies and to discuss the podcasts when courses had been interrupted by COVID; or simply to pray with one another and connect with friends and fellow catechists.

The CGSUSA Membership count has grown to well over 3,000 members, a nearly four percent growth over the previous year. We continue to work toward the creation of new members as well as member retention. In our desire to continue the conversation of CGS, our Facebook group *CGS Catechists Support and Discussion* has grown in members and in the depth of conversation found in its posts. Our members have shared with the Association what they have seen and heard in the atrium, the richness of their observations, and the beautiful responses of the child, both as the pearls and the beauty of their artwork. We look forward to this ongoing conversation as we live the friendship and support of catechists.



WHY AM I A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

From the very beginning of encountering this journey with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, I have always felt that I belonged to a family. A community of lifelong friendships, and as a member supporting this work, I truly believed in. Our membership provides us with all of the information on the website. The resources on the website have been a blessing in my work as a catechist and as the Director of Faith Formation. We use both memberships, individual and organizational.

This past year with COVID, we merged our English and Spanish programs into one program. I relied on the resources provided by CGS for our families in English and Spanish. The Parent pages kept our families informed. The resources provided were our Hispanic families' first time encountering CGS.

As a staff member, we were all on reduced hours, and the resources saved me time but helped keep our families connected. Having the materials manuals accessible on the website kept our atria current and up to date. Thank you, CGS, for making our work for families easier.



Rose Antognoli



RESOURCES FROM OUR ESTORE

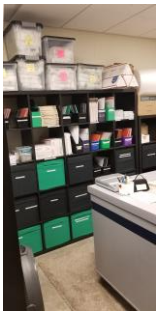
The United States Association will work to make the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the writings of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi accessible to all.



Our eStore provides 82 publications including English and Spanish books, raw materials, and unfinished resources for the Atrium, as well as those items that seem to be more challenging to find or not as readily available, such as practical life sets, brass items for the Altar work, and Good Shepherd statues from Rome.

In 2020 the store grew to offer 90 items in Shepherd's Closet and expanded to include Orthodox materials, *I am the Good Shepherd* book sets 1 & 2, Rebekah's long-

awaited *Life in the Vine; The Joyful Journey Continues*, the items for the Altar work in Level I & II, altar sets, and prayer table sets that so many families used during their time spent away from the atrium this past year and many beautiful gifts for catechists and the children.

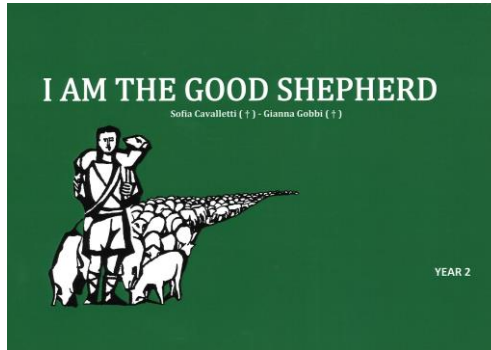


The eStore staff and volunteers are true blessings to all. Ernie and Jennifer are part-time staff that ship, make materials, and stock the estore. Our volunteers also help with materials and prepping items for the estore. Recently, Jennifer has moved with her family to another state. She is a tremendous gift and there will be one blessed atrium to gain her and all her skills! She will be missed.



Left to right:
Ernie
McCormack,
Jennifer
Waggoner,
Shirly Van Parys

This year we introduce the English translation of *I am the Good Shepherd* books for grade 1 and 2. These are now available for purchase in our store after one submits the request form. The *I Am the Good Shepherd* book series is designed for elementary aged children from first through fifth grades. Sofia and Gianna first wrote these books in the early 1970's. They were first published in 1972 and available through books stores in Rome. They were revised and expanded in 2005 and published in early 2006. They were not used in conjunction with the atrium. CGSUSA has been in the process of translating these 10 books from the Italian. This five-volume book series has a catechist guide and child's workbook.



My pastoral response for the past year was being attentive to what I was working with and looking for those in need. I came across a membership with a unique address and stopped to look it up. Only to find that a women's and children shelter in Ohio had an atrium for their children. I contacted the member and was able to gather more information to share with the staff of CGSUSA. I was truly moved by the devotion of these ladies who not only are serving these women and children, but are caring for their spiritual needs in the most wonderful way of sharing the Good Shepherd. We were able to share one of their newsletters in our CGS in Quarantine Journal – available on our website.

So, no matter where you look you may find an atrium or the need for an atrium. God Bless all those at Lydia's House.

Lisa Kelley
lisakelley@cgsusa.org

MEDIA

Recognizing the need for clear and available communications, the United States Association will avail itself of written, voice and visual electronic media to maintain contact with catechists and others.



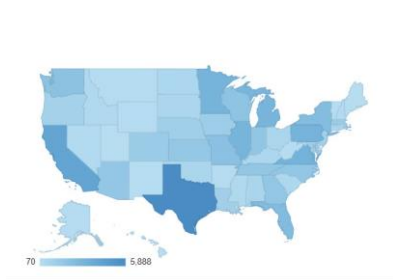
2020-2021 has presented CGSUSA Staff, our members, and many of our faith communities with ongoing challenges. The continuing need for social distancing, travel restrictions and reduced community gatherings has temporarily changed how we share The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and how we build a stronger community together. While we began this journey overwhelmed by the loss of the familiar, we have found abundance and hope in new ways of being together. As a National

Association, CGSUSA has made deliberate and considered use of technology to bridge the gaps when continued physical distancing has been necessary. We have also learned that our dispersed membership has found deep joy in the community and wisdom gained by gathering in digital meetings and events. While online gatherings will never replace in-person retreats and meetings, there will certainly be a place for such events permanently. As CGSUSA moves into the coming year, we plan to improve and automate select back-office systems and practices to free staff time for serving our members and community better. Continuing improvements, updates, and additions to the now two-year-old CGSUSA.ORG website will continue to occur throughout the coming year. We continue to work to improve and expand the CGSUSA.ORG offerings and structure to best serve our members' needs.

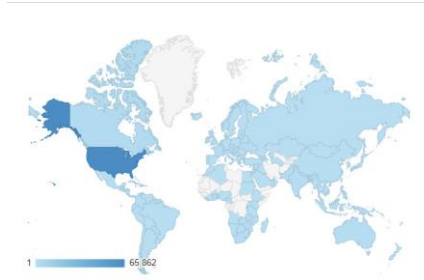


This year our website has had close to 125,000 visitors with over 300,000 individual sessions. It is quite amazing. We continue to fine tune a variety of features. Special event webpages for digital events have been developed. New pages have been developed to enable better search and access of CGSUSA Digital Events and accompanying resources. Where are our site visitors located?

In the USA:



In the World:



The Good Shepherd and the Child podcast, hosted by Kerri Mecke-Lozano, will soon enter its second season and continues to reach new audiences! In the first season, Kerri produced 43 podcasts which have been downloaded over 35,000 times. These podcasts have had a wide range of conversations from Freedom and Discipline with Claire Paglia, The Paschal Mystery with Carolyn Kohlhaas, Moral Formation with Rebekah Rojcewicz, to The True Vine with Vintner and catechist Tim Bell along with many others. We are grateful to all our speakers and our listeners! We hope that they continue to support and sustain our mission and purpose. In this season of solitude, *The Good Shepherd and*

the Child podcast has provided a delicate thread of connection among catechists across the miles. We are grateful to all our speakers and our listeners! We hope that they continue to support and sustain our mission and purpose.

This last year continues to teach us about being prepared, adapting, patience, communicating in new ways, and making wise choices. Remaining true and being essential have never felt more necessary. We may find ourselves returning to review our internal processes time and again this year as we work to be more efficient and to reduce costs. While I am certainly concerned about what challenges we may face in the coming year, I do not worry about our ability to find creative solutions and work together as a team to implement sound processes. CGSUSA will continue to leverage technology in ways that augment and expand the legacy of our founders while remaining faithful to the 32 Points of Reflection that have always guided our path.



Elizabeth Warfield
elizabethwarfield@cgsusa.org

STEWARDSHIP OF THE CGS GIFT

Sustaining and advancing the legacy in a financially sustainable way.



In a year full of chaos and confusion, the vision of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (it's staff, officers and members) has not wavered. We have truly experienced the miracle of the loaves and the fish amongst us. Where we saw lack of sales and courses cancelled, our Good Shepherd provided through the generosity of its members and donors.

Where members were suffering financially, the organization gifted memberships and not being able to outgive our heavenly father, members who could, gave more than they normally would, or gifted memberships to others in need.

We experienced the gracious giving to our annual appeal from retired members, new catechists, donors related to catechists, active catechists and from a dear one who left a legacy gift as she departed this physical life and entered life eternal.

The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund saw an abundance of funding that richly blessed our catechist's and atria nationally. The fruit of such giving blesses those that teach and enriches the spiritual lives of the children in our midst.

It is my privilege to work with so many whose defined purpose in life is to nurture the religious potential of the child. I humbly thank you for the opportunity.

To God be the Glory.
In His love and peace,
Molly Murphy

Molly Murphy
mollymurphy@cgsusa.org



With grateful thanks to our members, donors, store customers and those who share their time, talent, and treasure with us, helping us to continue to live out our mission and purpose.

RESPONSE TO THE GIFT

As the Association has grown, so has the number of projects in support of our members. For any nonprofit organization, raising money is a challenge. For us, this is especially true because our way of life is rooted in a spirit of poverty and essentiality. Therefore, how do we best ensure a stable future for the work of CGSUSA? How do we best invite a prayerful response of time, talent, and treasure? How can we become more sustainable as a community? While we have a number of possibilities, the three primary ways are through the Annual Appeal, the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund, and by Major Gift donations from those with the capacity and heart for the child.

Annual Appeal Each year we send out a call for support of our mission. Gifts to the Annual Appeal provide vital operating support and help to sustain and grow our Formation, Publications and Membership plans.

The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund (TLM) was created to support the growth and development of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through catechist formation, missionary outreach, and the work of CGSUSA.

Major Gifts

Cash: CGSUSA is grateful for any gift, large or small, that supports the work of nurturing the child's relationship with God. Donations in the form of recurring gifts or multi-year pledges help us to plan responsibly. Donors have the option to create monthly, quarterly, or annual giving schedules.

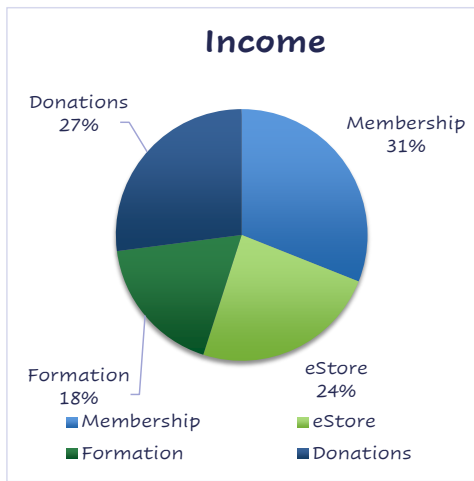
Appreciated Stock makes an excellent charitable gift. Under current tax laws, when an appreciated asset (such as stock) is sold, a capital gains tax is due. By making a charitable gift of the appreciated stock, you can avoid or delay the capital gains tax. You can also take an immediate income tax deduction for the current fair market value of the stock, no matter what was originally paid for it.

Legacy Gifts: A bequest through your will or trust is one of the most simple and popular ways to make a gift that will live on after you. You can make a gift bequest to benefit CGSUSA by providing a dollar amount, specific property, or a percentage of your estate, either designated or undesignated. A Legacy Gift can reduce your estate taxes. In many cases, a simple change to your will can add this bequest and does not require rewriting your most recent will.

Life Insurance is another simple way to make a substantial future gift at a level that might not be possible for a straight cash donation. Name CGSUSA as the owner and beneficiary to receive the proceeds of an existing life insurance policy. You will receive a tax deduction for the approximate cash surrender value, thereby reducing your tax liability in the year of the gift.

CLOSING BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 2021

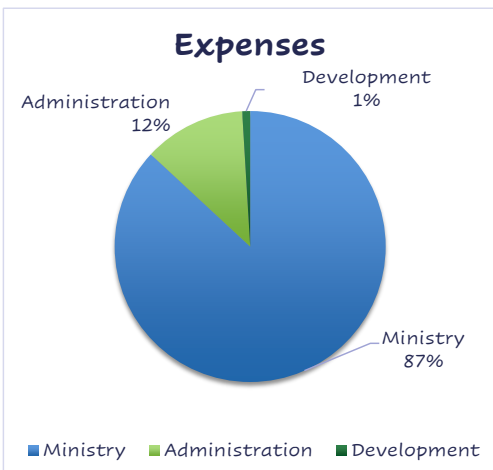
PROFIT & LOSS JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021 TOTAL REVENUE \$666,135.00



ASSETS

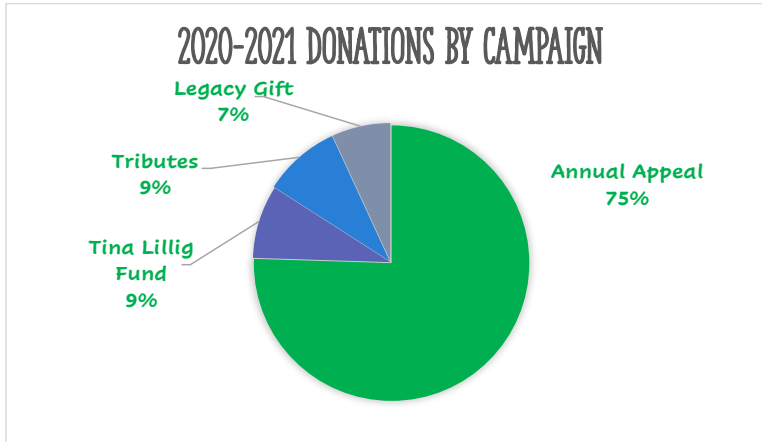
Total Checking/Savings:	\$ 362,445.00
Total Current Assets:	\$ 454,040.00
Total Other Current Assets:	\$101,570.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 83,010.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$547,250.00

PROFIT & LOSS JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021 TOTAL EXPENSES \$558,997.00



LIABILITES & EQUITY

Total Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00
Total Other Liabilities	\$ 61,090.00
Total Liabilities	\$61,090.00
Total Equity	\$485,380.00
TOTAL LIABILITES & EQUITY	\$546,470.00



401 Donors
 659 Total Gifts
 \$171,253.00 Donations Raised
 \$260 Average Gift

GIFTS GENEROUSLY GIVEN, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

Our discipline each year in setting mission objectives and working toward accomplishing them has allowed CGSUSA to do what it set out to do: to help people enter the work of CGS and to make CGS accessible to children throughout the country and the world. This past year was a great challenge for everyone.

Yet, we witnessed great support for our work around the country. Like the 12-bushel baskets in the miracle of the loaves and fish, the gifts have been abundant and astonishing. We have simply tried to serve the child and, in doing so, have inspired many people to join us in our efforts.

LOVING TRIBUTES OFFERED

Tribute gifts are a unique way to celebrate, honor, and remember those people who make a difference as well as the occasions that matter. This year, *in memory* of those who have died, many gave gifts to their lasting legacy. And many recognized and offered gifts *in honor* of their family, special friends, catechists or formation leaders, a wedding, anniversary, birthday, or retirement. These personalized tribute gifts sustain CGSUSA and our mission to support catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children. Your gift is a thoughtful and essential way to show you care while making a difference in the religious life of children, their families, and communities. We send a personalized card acknowledging your thoughtful donation to the recipient of your choice. Each card features artwork by a child in CGS. These cards make wonderful holiday, birthday, baby shower, or celebration gifts. Unlike traditional gifts, a tribute card has a profound impact. It shows not only that you care about your recipients but also that you are actively participating in CGSUSA's mission.

THIS YEAR THE FOLLOWING TRIBUTES WERE OFFERED "IN HONOR OF"

All the Pacific Coast Region Donors	All those who serve humanity in need	
Fr. Chris Aridas	CGSUSA	Bruce and Teresa Chisholm
Kathleen Christopher	Debbie Dobson	Leo Ernstes
Annette Eyrich	Patti Franz	Anna Mae Guida
Mary Heinrich	Micki Hill	Gretchen Homer
Silas Huber	Joanne Hutson	Dawn Howe
Lisa Kelley	Julie Kilian	John Lillig
Mother Judith Malioneck	Barbara Matera	Karen Maxwell
Angela Miller	Mary Mirrione	Ernie McCormack
Celine Mitchell	New baby boy Mulay	Molly Murphy
Kaki O'Flynn	Claire Paglia	Ivonne Paris
Barbara Powers	Lynn Robinson	Kathy Rock
Rebekah Rojcewicz	Michael Joseph Ruli	Beverly Sanders
Andrea Slanker	Debbie Stenovec	Susan Stuhlsatz-Reese
Lourdes Vazquez	Elizabeth Warfield	The Children of the World



THIS YEAR THE FOLLOWING TRIBUTES WERE OFFERED "IN MEMORY OF"

Alphonse Ambrosia	Ava Apairo	Arnold & Eugenia Beumer
Jeanne Bluemer	Sharon Brockman	Joyce Calanchini
Marge Crotty	Kathryn Cummings	Kathy Brigid Cummings
Bruce Cummis	Collin Devlin	Pat Dulsky
Francesco Ferrara	Jerry Fitzpatrick	Ryan Fredrickson
Terri Furiga	Celia Gonzales Torres	Laura Gregory
Jerry Hancock	Tony Huseman	David B. Jones
Tina Lillig	William Lippman	Steve Maroney
Claire McCutchon	Cyndy Mulhern	Art Olszewski
Matt Parowski	Kolbe Prust	Betsy Robinson
Dorothy Sally	Ronald Roger Schuler	Evangeline Sobczyk
Donald Somes	Leslie Talley	Walter VerKamp
Barbara Watts	Trish Zinkula	Those lost to soon

The parents of Deacon Kelly and Maureen Stone

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion,
For God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

OUR BELOVED DONORS

As a nonprofit organization, CGSUSA relies on the generosity of donors who have both the heart and capacity to support its mission. Historically, most of our donors have been the catechists and formation leaders themselves. In falling in love with the work, they finance their formation, the purchase of books, the making of materials, and opening atria, and then additionally, they join as a member and support the Annual Appeal. CGSUSA does not seek growth for growth's sake. It seeks growth in its community to respond to the organic growth for CGS. Those who share CGSUSA's passion for nurturing the child's relationship with God but who do not feel called to serve as catechists top a long list of beneficiaries of the work that CGSUSA seeks to cultivate.

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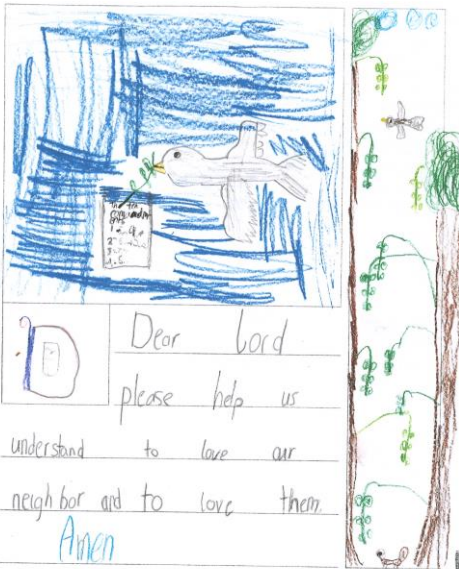
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2020/21 ANNUAL APPEAL

And a little child shall lead them...Isaiah 11:6



The Good Samaritan – William, age 8
St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Amarillo, TX

“Dear Lord, please help us to understand to love our neighbor and to love them. Amen.”

“And a little child shall lead them,” the prophet Isaiah proclaims. What purity of heart, William leads us to embrace! And what a profound insight: that we understand we are commanded to love our neighbor, and then do it!

As we have experienced, 2020 has turned out to be an unprecedented year in this command to love our neighbor. This love has so many faces: to see one another as sisters and brothers, to bind wounds both physical and spiritual, to share our resources of both treasure and heart.

This past year as we worked to raise the CGSUSA Annual Appeal for 2020-2021, we prayed with William. We responded to his proclamation and allowed his prayer to inspire us in our good work of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for the sake of all the children and all the families wherever this may lead us.

This year the annual appeal raised \$109,785.00. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our donors and members during a difficult year. The Annual appeal funds made up 79% of our donations and were critical to being able to carry out our mission.

Thank you always for your support.

Claudia Pétursson,
CGSUSA Board Member and 2020-2021
Annual Appeal Chair



THE TINA LILLIG MEMORIAL FUND



The mission of the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund is to support the growth and development of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through catechist formation, missionary outreach, and the work of the United States Association of The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGSUSA).

To these ends, the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund offers a source of **financial aid (in the form of partial scholarships)** to applicants who would find paying the full tuition of a course a hardship.

The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund is a source of **grants** for missionary outreach to organizations working to open atria in underserved regions of the United States.

The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund also **supports the purpose, mission and vision of the National Association** through direct support to the Association.

Monies for financial aid and grant awards come from direct donations to the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund from members of the United States Association of The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGSUSA) and others who are interested in supporting this aspect of the work.

Over \$160,000 has been distributed since the inception of this fund in 2002. Sixty- five catechists have been supported in their formation with the average award of \$250.

More than 80 communities have been supported with grants for courses and materials.

This past year the TLM Fund supported the CGSUSA Vision by providing translation services, publication, and an orientation workshop for the new *I am the Good Shepherd* book series.

When you make a gift to the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund, you affirm with us that the greatest gift we can offer children is the time and space to enjoy a relationship with God.

Do you or your community need financial support? Apply to the TLM Fund! Beyond our standard scholarship program, and through the generosity of certain donors, we currently have designated support for:

- People of Color
- CGS in Connecticut
- CGS in Texas
- CGS in Georgia

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEES

Development Committee

The Development Committee advises, supports, and collaborates with the Board of Trustees and the staff of CGSUSA. The responsibilities of the Development Committee include:

- working with board and staff to recommend realistic fundraising goals and creating appropriate action plans to achieve goals
- reviewing donations history on an ongoing basis and making recommendations for appropriate actions
- providing recommendations and monitor plans and goals for routine communication with donors, cultivating Major Gifts (\$1000 or more), increasing member donations, expanding constituency base (within the limits of available human and technology resources)
- helping generate creative content and realistic methods for the above.

Engagement Committee

The Engagement Committee collaborates with the Formation Director and Membership Coordinator to establish rapport with all communities for the purpose of making CGS accessible to all, honoring the spiritual values of childhood and nurturing the formation of a consciousness which is oriented to the construction of the history of salvation in justice and solidarity. The responsibilities of the Engagement Committee may include:

- Assessing CGSUSA's website, written publicity, and social media presence for representation of diversity and inclusion.
- Identifying and engaging faith communities in social or cultural settings that are not currently served by CGS.
- Attending worship and/or other events to experience the culture of the faith community, especially as it pertains to children.
- Inviting interested people in these communities to visit an atrium.
- Offering to do a seed-planting event for CGS in their community.
- Inviting interested people to a formation course, listening for any obstacles, and attempting to overcome them.
- Supporting their efforts to establish an atrium in their community to the extent possible.

Episcopal Committee

The Episcopal Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the National Director and the Director of Formation on CGSUSA issues as they relate to the Episcopal community. The responsibilities of the Episcopal Committee may include:

- adapting formation content to meet the needs of Episcopal communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles
- adapting materials to meet the needs of Episcopal communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles
- evangelizing within and across Episcopal communities
- encouraging, supporting, and engaging Episcopalians in the work of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee serves the entire Board by providing preliminary review and clarity of items to be considered for future Board meetings. The responsibilities of the Executive Committee include:



- providing orientation and education to the Board in areas that include (but are not limited to) governance, human resources, development, and legal issues
- initiating a Strategic Plan
- establishing and overseeing working groups, as needed
- monitoring Board action items.

Extraordinary Form Committee

The Extraordinary Form Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the National Director and the Director of Formation on CGSUSA issues as they relate to the Extraordinary Form community. The responsibilities of the Extraordinary Form Committee may include:

- adapting formation content to meet the needs of the Extraordinary Form communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles
- adapting materials to meet the needs of Extraordinary Form communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee advises, supports, and collaborates with the Board of Trustees and staff of CGSUSA in developing and maintaining effective financial practices. The responsibilities of the Finance Committee include:

- developing and maintaining sound financial and bookkeeping procedures
- monitoring the financial status of the association
- reviewing and making recommendations in consultation with hired, professional accountants on decisions that have a financial impact to CGSUSA.

Formation Committee

The Formation Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the Director of Formation in discerning the direction and content of the CGS Catechist Formation. The responsibilities of the Formation Committee include:

- supporting the development of, and collaborating in catechist formation and formation leader courses and resources
- clarifying current materials including updates, on an ongoing basis
- identifying and advising areas of ongoing catechist and formation leader formation
- supporting, advising, and collaborating on international work that surrounds formation, the CGS method, materials, catechist observations, and publications (including translations).

Governance and Nominating Committee

The Governance and Nominating Committee is a Board Committee that develops, oversees, and performs ongoing evaluation of the Association's policies. The committee monitors compliance of the Board, staff, members, and committees with CGSUSA bylaws. This committee also prepares a slate of candidates selected from nominations submitted by the membership for open positions on the Board of Trustees. The election is held at the Annual Meeting of CGSUSA members. The responsibilities of the Governance and Nominating Committee include:

- developing, overseeing, and performing ongoing evaluation of CGSUSA policies and bylaws every three years and recommending any needed changes
- recommending procedures for evaluating the Board and the Chairperson
- recommending ways to orient and educate Board members
- reviewing the job descriptions of responsibilities and expectations for Board members and the Board Chairperson
- recommending nominees for election and reelection to the Board, by utilizing a competency matrix that profiles the Board's current makeup compared to its list of



needed competencies as a means of analyzing areas to emphasize in recruiting new Board members

- developing and implementing succession planning for the Board, including nominations, reelections, and elections of board members
- overseeing and reviewing the board's self-assessment and improvement process every one or two years
- engaging in ongoing consultation with legal counsel regarding legal and regulatory issues that affect governance.

Journal Committee

The Journal Committee collaborates with the National Director and Liturgy Training Publications (LTP) to prepare, edit, and produce the annual CGSUSA Journal. The specific responsibilities of the Journal Committee include:

- consider theme for Journal beyond current year
- identify authors and solicit articles
- send releases to authors
- assign editors for articles
- complete edits and style to submit to LTP editor
- write letter from the Editors, back page
- determine art, prayers, and pearls for Journal
- receive and proof galleys.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the Board of Trustees and staff of CGSUSA to invite and welcome people from a broad spectrum of Christian denominations and geographic regions to become members of CGSUSA. The specific responsibilities of the Membership Committee include:

- inspiring members to remain and respond through their service in both the atrium and in the national association
- planning and cultivating membership drives (such as highlighting member benefits, utilizing social media for announcements, etc.)
- providing resources that support current members (up-to-date Membership Welcome Kits, regular communication with members, new member newsletters, etc.)
- providing resources to serve the children and their families in the atrium community (monthly parent newsletters)
- supporting the Membership Coordinator in implementing a Membership Marketing Plan that includes contacting and re-inviting "lapsed" CGS members
- providing updated information to the Membership Coordinator for the CGSUSA website, including the Atrium Locator
- cultivating ongoing fellowship and connection to the national and international community of CGS catechists
- strengthening and supporting regional work
- acquiring new members and retain and support existing members by responding to their needs as individuals, parishes, and regions
- encouraging active engagement of current members.

Methodist Committee

The Methodist Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the National Director and the Director of Formation on CGSUSA issues as they relate to the Methodist community. The responsibilities of the Methodist Committee may include:

- adapting formation content to meet the needs of Methodist communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles



- adapting materials to meet the needs of Methodists communities while staying true to CGS methodology and guiding principles
- evangelizing within and across Methodist communities
- encouraging, supporting, and engaging Methodists in the work of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- developing Methodist sponsorship for special events and financial support for the work of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Orthodox Committee

The Orthodox Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the National Director and the Director of Formation on CGSUSA issues as they relate to Orthodox communities. The responsibilities of the Orthodox Committee include:

- adapting formation content and materials to meet the needs of Orthodox communities, staying true to CGS methodology and principles
- evangelizing within and across Orthodox communities
- encouraging, supporting, and engaging Orthodox Christians in the work of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- developing Orthodox sponsorship for special events and financial support for the work of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Spanish Speaking Committee

The Spanish Speaking Committee supports, advises, and collaborates with the National Director, the Spanish Speaking Coordinator, and the Director of Formation on CGSUSA issues as they relate to Spanish-speaking communities. The responsibilities of the Spanish Speaking Committee include:

- assisting with material manual translation
- assisting in prioritizing CGSUSA documents that need to be translated into Spanish
- assisting in identifying translators
- communicating the needs of Spanish-speaking communities in developing more bilingual atria
- evangelizing within and across Spanish-speaking communities.

Tina Lillig Memorial

The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund (TLM) Committee accepts and reviews applications for scholarships and grants, and recommends the disbursement of financial aid for scholarships, grants and missionary outreach that support the mission and vision of CGSUSA. The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund was created to support the growth and development of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through catechist formation, missionary outreach, and the work of the United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGSUSA). The responsibilities of the TLM Fund Committee include:

- compiling requests twice a year, verifying membership and course registration of applicants
- verifying course attendance of scholarship recipients
- discerning and recommending support/award amounts for National Director's final approval
- following up as needed with applicants and recipients
- collecting testimonials from recipients for impact report.



CGSUSA CONTACT INFORMATION

For the CGSUSA Board of Trustees

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Field Code Changed