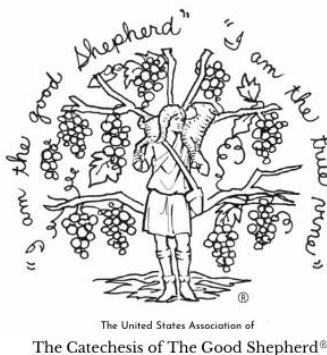




2022/23 CGSUSA
Annual Report

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

Mark 4:30-32



This report reflects the living out of our vision during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023. 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 ti. Puedes comunicarte a lourdesvazquez@cgsusa.org. Dios te bendiga.

Cover artwork: The Parable of the Mustard Seed by Kelly Latimore Icons. Used with permission.



CGSUSA

In the 48 years of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd being available through formation courses in the United States and with the presence of the United States Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for the past 39 years, we have seen the mustard seed of catechesis for children become rooted, watered, and growing well in our country. With over 4000 active members from 21 Christian traditions, we offer support and resources to parents, catechists, and others serving children. We estimate that Catechesis of the Good Shepherd serves 135,000 children and their families in over 6750 atria found in churches, schools, and homes throughout the United States. We have developed a library of 91 books and publications. We believe there may be approximately 6,500 catechists trained in CGS in our country. These catechists volunteer over 36,000 hours of monthly community service in their work with children, parents, and other caregivers, as well as with pastors and principals in parishes and schools.

We offer catechist support and resources to several countries, including England, France, Ireland, Scotland, Norway, Slovakia, and South Africa, to name a few. In addition, we serve in various ways the Missionaries of Charity in our country and around the world.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) has been in existence now for almost seventy years, listening deeply to children and their spiritual questions, discovering what resonates in their relationship with God. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd has grown and spread amazingly. At last count it is in 54 countries: Australia, Austria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, , India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Romania, Singapore, Thailand, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Poland, Puerto Rico, Rwanda, Serbia, Bosnia, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, South Sudan, Switzerland, Tanzania, Trinidad, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Uruguay, the United States, Venezuela.



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

WE 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, we will avail itself of written, voice and visual electronic media to maintain contact with catechists and others.

We 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.

We 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. We 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.

We 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.

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



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year I couldn't stop thinking about how the mustard seed grows from such smallness into a tree that shelters the birds of the air. A habitat not just for one kind of bird but a place a variety of birds call home.

While we are not yet who we will become we continue to make good progress. We have expanded into offering more resources for organizations like churches and schools while maintaining our resources for individual catechists. Podcasts reach out not only to members, but to others who seek to know the religious life of Christian children.

Combining your donations and membership dues with the Lilly grant has made it possible for us to focus more on catechesis before age three. We have been struck by the love these little ones show for the Holy Bible and for the communal meal, breaking bread together. More catechists will serve these youngest ones and their parents through the development of formation courses and adults to lead these courses.

Donations to the Tina Lillig Memorial Fund have made it possible to do much more this year. We awarded scholarships to catechists, grants for materials to churches and schools, and increased the number of bilingual courses for adults to better serve our Spanish speaking communities. These funds also reduced the cost of formation at National Courses in South Dakota, where the surrounding area had been underserved.

There is much to celebrate in this annual report. We sent association ambassadors to meetings of the USCCB, FORMA, The LA Congress, and the National Black Catholic Congress. We know that our association members were also planting seeds for our work in their churches, schools, and dioceses. Empowering members to reach out to our neighbor. As individual members, vendor members, and organization members we are all sheltering one another. Members helping members, and friends helping friends, a sign of the kingdom of God among us.

In the love of the Good Shepherd,

Sue Stuhlsatz-Reese

President CGSUSA Board of Trustees

susansr@cgsusa.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR



“With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?” We all delight in this question and pondering it with the children. Here at CGSUSA, we ask a similar question each year as we prepare the annual report for this association. The Board of Trustees and the staff prayerfully take a listening stance before our Good Shepherd and this year, the Mustard Seed parable presented itself to help us look back at the past year and the many gifts our Good Shepherd has blessed us with. The children delight in the growth and transformation found in the tiniest of seeds. We were faithful to keep a Kingdom perspective to the mission, purpose, and vision, whether it was in responding to the many questions and requests for help we receive from around the country, preparing for our many events and sharing resources or even in the financial stewardship of CGSUSA.

The CGS 32 Points of Reflection guide our work for the Association. So often, I remind myself that: we are what characteristic number 27 states: “faithful to the spirit of the mustard seed. (Matthew 13: 31)” This has truly been our way from the beginning of our Association. We have trusted that the “seed” of the work we do with children which is to announce the voice of the Good Shepherd in the hearts of the children will grow! The children have shown us this again and again!

In this spirit, many things have grown and transformed this year. Regional groups came together, Formation leaders continued their ongoing study and commitment together, those who sought scholarships and grants found support. We did the simple and ordinary things that we share in this annual report. We responded, we wrote reports, we visited with many, we were advocates for the religious lives of the children whenever and wherever we could be! All the while knowing that in the spirit of the mustard seed, there would be transformation and growth through with and in our Good Shepherd who calls us to abundant life.

In all of our work this past year, we were humble. In the parable, we know it takes time to transform from the tiniest and grow. The seed has at its heart the power to do so which is given from God. We were patient. We trusted. We were faithful to do the necessary work. This is always an education to humility! And we continued to learn from the children to be joyful. It has been a year of continued blessings from our beloved Good Shepherd knowing that’s what the kingdom of God is like!

In His Love,

Mary Mirrione

National Director

marymirrione@cgsusa.org



STEWARDSHIP OF THE CGS GIFT



Jesus asked the question “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?” He gave the hearers a moment to ponder. He adapted the answer to the capacity of the hearers with comparison of the tiniest of ALL seeds and how it grows into the most grandiose of all shrubs.

Clare, age 7 in her artwork (displayed later in the report), is so inspired by His words and her deep relationship with Our Good Shepherd that she can see the outcome of the seed turning into the Kingdom of God. The word “kingdom” represents something huge, like a dynasty or an empire. She sees the immensity with her heart and soul.

As I read about the birds and how they can take comfort and support from the shade of the large branches, so we (individually and as an association), can abide under the “shelter” or the “shadow” of the Almighty. Psalm 91:1

The vision of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (its staff, officers, and members) continues to expand, balancing taking care of business and tending to His sheep.

The growth of its members, sales, restricted donations (TLM & Lilly grants) and annual Oak Park Endowment Fund disbursements has in a way seen the mustard seed grow in a different way – more buckets on the financial reports.

The Association also received its second audit since 2014. We received a 2nd clean (unqualified) opinion, and the auditors identified no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

In His love and peace,

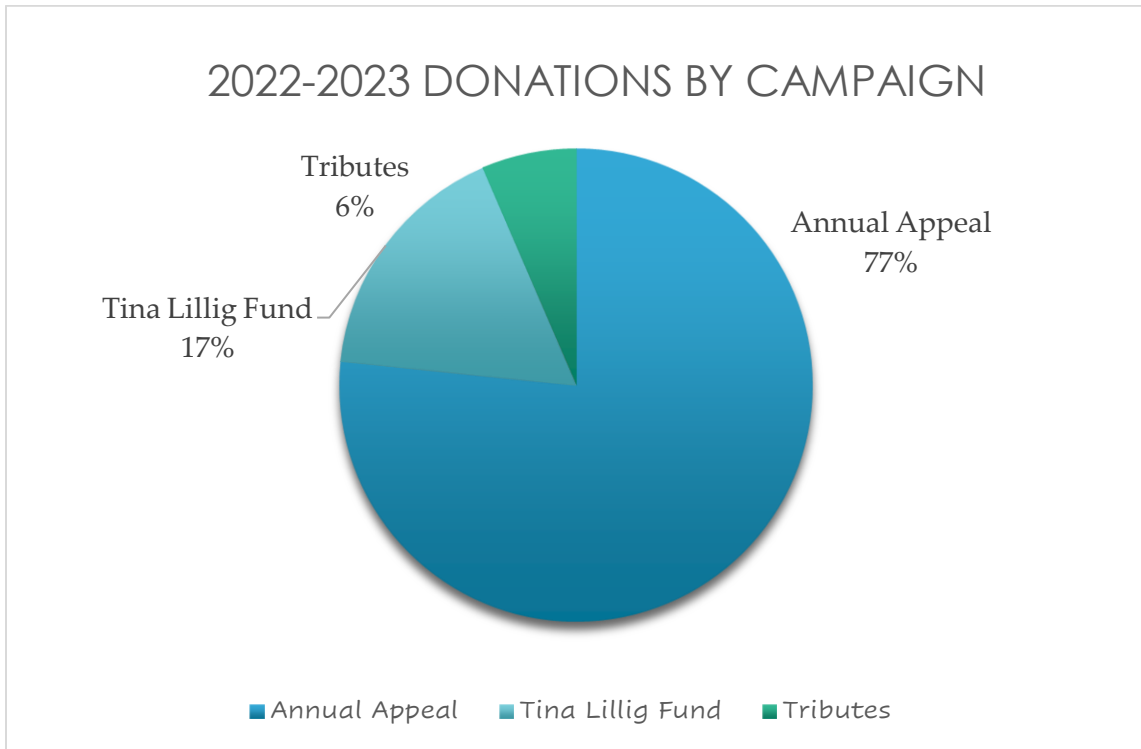
Molly Murphy

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.



GIFTS GENEROUSLY GIVEN, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED



343 Donors

687 Total Gifts

\$242,319. Donations Raised

\$350 Average Gift



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 to be 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 \$198,600 has been distributed since the inception of this fund in 2002. Ninety catechists have been supported in their formation with the average award of \$250. More than one hundred 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, provided support for Spanish speaking or Bilingual courses where we have Spanish speaking catechists in the formation leader discernment process by sending active Spanish speaking formation leaders and those in discernment to courses serving Spanish speakers in Georgia, Texas, and California along with providing support for the Level II and Level III National Courses in South Dakota this summer.

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 though the generosity of certain donors, we currently have designated support for:

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



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"

Jacki Aldrich	Anthony Dill	Ryan Dunning	Steve Galvan
Ariel Gray	Marianne Heames	Cecilia Iole	Matthew Irwin
Sara Harrington Jones	Mary Howard King	Mother J Malionek	Karen Maxwell
Kieran Miller	Mary Mirrione	Connie Moretti	Maria Muscado
Rachael Myers	Diane Olsen	Jo Ann Padgett	Claudia Petursson
Daria Raney	The Rice Girls	Michael Joseph Ruli	Joyce Scherer -Hooock
Andrew Sitterle	Mary Trotter	Annette Witte	Genelda Woggon

Episcopal Gather and Grow Team

The Children of the World



This year the following tributes were made “in Memory of”

Luke Acker	Evelyn Albracht	Cheryl Baranano,	Cheryl Bastyr
Curt Behnke	Julia Bennett	Francine Breedlove	Arther Brockman
Dennis Cusack	Francis Casey	Pietro Del Pizzo	Steve Di Lucca
Gloria Estrada	Annette Eyrich	Robert Fabrize	Eilena Gerber
Edward Gramling	Anna Mae Guida	Deborah Hadley	LeaAnn Handing
David Helmick	Catherine Hochstein	Carl Wayne Irbeck	Mary Jo Jennen
GG Kramar	Celestine Ley	Servulus Ley	Tina Lillig
Marie Corrales Marín	Mark Matera	Greg Matos	Arthur Mees
Gwynth Morgan	Mrs. Janet Nagel	Debbie Pacetti	Lorraine Perro
Santo Perro	Raymonda Pisut	Julia Rainero	Judy Schmidt
Edna Rae Schilling,	Ethel Schumacker	Carey Simons	Evangeline Sobczyk
Mary Teller	Norberto Cabral Torres	Celia Margaret Gonzales Torres	
Mr Frank Watson Jr	Jim Williams	Julie Linder Winkler	
Berta , Peter, Helen, Fred, Ludmilla			

In celebration for friends and family who have died this year.

“Our son received his early faith formation and sacramental preparation in the Atrium, and this has been a huge blessing for our family. Even though we moved and are now at a parish without CGS, it is a joy to see the seeds planted then continue to grow. We continue to financially contribute to the mission of CGS so that many others can receive this gift.”

*Jenny Gargac
Ada, Ohio*



OUR PATRONS

Amazon Smile
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 The Catechist's Husband
 Clavis David CGS Co-Op
 The Claude Bennett Family Foundation INC
 Diocese of West Tennessee
 Dorsey & Whitney LLP
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 Faith Expressions
 The Foley and Fredendall Charitable Fund
 Good Shepherd Center-Memphis
 Heartland CGS
 Lilly Endowment Inc.
 Liturgy Training Publications
 Gerard and Carolyn Martin Foundation
 Network for the Good
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Scottsdale AZ
 Resins and Rivals
 St Francis of Assisi Church
 St John the Evangelist
 St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church
 St Patrick Parish - Spokane, WA
 St. Peter Church
 St Richard Catholic Church
 THE SHEEPFOLD: The Pacific Northwest
 Consortium for CGS
 Shepherd's Staff
 Sunflower Region of CGS
 Your Part-Time Controller



Reflecting on a dozen years with CGS, the mustard seed parable is a perfect metaphor for how I have watched the catechesis grow outside the walls of the atrium. Just as a tree grows in complexity as it branches out, that has been my experience as a catechist and materials maker.

The joy of the children is infectious, when we say those words while lighting the candles at the prayer table.

Their joy is what waters my hope and keeps the catechesis deeply rooted in my life.

Meagen Farrell

Chief Learning Officer
 Mustard Seed Training

mustseed.org

2022/23 ANNUAL APPEAL



Clare, age 7 – St. Mary Catholic Church, Delaware, OH

Clare drew her artwork after receiving her first presentation of the Mustard Seed Parable, proclaiming, “I believe a tiny seed can grow into the Kingdom of God.”

Clare’s glorious announcement jumps off the page, as her understanding of the kingdom bursts forth from a tiny seed into a towering image of the kingdom! What a gift Clare gives us. Her artwork invites us into her heart, witnessing to her understanding of this marvelous work of God.

It is in moments like these, that we are convinced, yet again, of the value of our work – preparing a



place for children to encounter the living God. In their profound and innocent generosity, they enrich us with their proclamation of Our Good Shepherd’s Love. We are grateful for all our beloved donors who enriched us with a gift to the 2022 – 2023 CGSUSA Annual Appeal as we grow the Kingdom with Clare and all the children of the atrium! *Thank you always for your support.*

Claudia Pétursson,

CGSUSA Board Member and Annual Appeal Chair



Clare reminds me that if I have the faith the size of a mustard seed, God works in amazing ways! I know of the abundance that flows from one child, one pastor, one catechist, one dedicated room, one minute, and one “yes” given over to God in complete faith. God does His best work with the tiniest vessels. He sees the glory hidden in every small gift. God takes my hands into His, looks at the gift I may hesitate to give him, looks at it, looks at me, and smiles with tender gratitude. It is this look of love that sustains me in my work with children. Maria Muscado



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 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.

Laura Accettullo	Lynne Aldrich	Mary Alford	Rosamaria Alvarez
Lois C. Amador	Carol Anderson	Cynthia Anthony	Beth Armour
Mary Arnold	Jennifer Ashton	Kelsy Audet	Judith Backes
Julie Baltuska	Rachel Barden	Ellen Balke-Jones	Eduardo Baranano, MD
Lisa Baynes	Gerard Becnel	Shannon Bennett	Kathleen Bellefeuille-Rice
Kristi Beran	Shannon Bennett	Stephen Bernier	Marilena Berardinelli
Christina Binn	Pam Bold	Gaye Boyer	Jinny Bradshaw
Sandra Brophy	Carol Jean Brown	Julie Brown	Shelly Buchan
Cecilia Burke	Teresa Burks	Delphine Busch	Norma Cable
Yolanda Cabral-Menses	Elizabeth Calanchini	Erin Campbell	Mary Anne Caponegro
Paula Caravelli	Samantha Carroll	Frances Casey +	Maryhelen Castillo
Lynda Catalano	Mary Ann Cernovich	Susan Chacon	Teresa Chisholm
Mitsu Chobanian	Kristin Cillessen	Harriet Claiborne	Geraldine Cohen
Alice Coke	Rhowan Collins	Kristen Connell	Lisa Considine
Pamela Couthie	Marti Craighead	Colleen Crozier	Martina Crum Martin
Dr. Louis and Loretta Cuoco	Alexandra Daley	Maureen Daly	Ken Damlo
Joan De Cleene	Mandie DeVries	Katie Dewees	Pamela Di Lucca
Virginia Dill	Laurie Dirksen	Debbie Dobson	Patricia Dodge
Amy Donahue	Carol M Donahue	Catherine Donohue	Kathy Dowler
Daniel Dufault	Erica Dunning	Neil C. Duprey	Robert Eikel
Samantha El-Azem	Jodi El-Beri	Annette Eyrich +	Maria del Pilar Enriquez
Amy Farr	Mary Fay	Teresa Ferrara	Cindy Fisher
Martha A Foley	Patti Franz	Pamela Freidhoff	Sarah Marie French
Mary Ellen Galvan	Jenny Gargac	Dee Anna Garland	Ann Garrido
Alene Gates	John Gaylord	Donna Gazaille	Linda Gemmer
Jane Giovannucci	Brent Glasgow	Bridget Goertzen	Cindy Gonzalez
Lauren Gornto	Barbara Goss	Cathleen Gould	Kathleen Gourgues
Amy Graf	Sheila Gramling	Karen Grozak	Jeanna Hagen
Trinka Hamel	Evelyn Hausslein	Marie Heaton	Mary Heinrich
Clare Heinrich	Catherine Hill	Davette Himes	John Hissong
Betty Hissong	Jessica Hoskinson	Tracy Houston	Patricia M Huse
Edith Huseman	Susan Jett	Patricia Johnson	Matthew & Camila Irwin
Beverly Johnson-Miller	Pattie Jones	Kate Jonietz	Hyacinte Kabore
Linda Kaiel	Vicki M Kelley	Lisa Kelley	Kristen Kelly
Andrea Kelly	Danielle Kennedy	Mary Kenney	Barbara S Kiernan



Theresa Klinkhammer	Julie Kilian	Luci Kirk	Sr Mary Elizabeth Klier
Carolyn Kohlhaas	Patty Kondratko	Kristen Korneliussen	Marilyn Krause
Jennifer Kroeger	Michele Vavrus Krohn	Dorothy Anne Krsnich	Diana Kullman
Ruth Lacz	Kimberly Lally	Donna Larson	Kathleen Lawton
Karen Lefohn	Mara Lemcke	John Lillig	Vanessa Lopez
Marilyn Lorenz	Maria Ludlow	Arla Mangold	Catherine Maresca
Mary Ann Marschal	Lynn Marsh	Deb Martinek	Karen Maxwell
Mildred May	Lani McCarry	Frances McConnell	Micheal McConnell
Sandra McCutchon	Joyce Medrud Doyle	Pauline Meert	Arthur Mees+
Marian Menapace	Joan Miller	Erin Miller	Julie Miller
Laura Miller	Mary & Don Mirrione	Celine KMitchell	Sherry Mock
Mary Lou Mohn	Karen Momenee	Pam Moore	Vincent Moretti
Heather Morgan	Julie Morris	Frances Morrison	Nancy Murgalo
Molly Murphy	Maria Muscado	Sarah Myers	Fr Michael Nagle
Amy Nash	Tess Naval	Almarie Nefdt	Christa Nierzwick
Michelle & Adrienne Nepo	Mary Obermeier	Susan O'Connor	Shelley Olson
Nicholas Olson	Anna Ongaga	Matthew Orn	Barb Ortega
Marybeth Ostrander	Caroline Otte	Maria Paares-Paris	Augie & Trena Pacetti
Jo Ann Padgett	Evaliente Panganiban	Joseph Parker	Diana Parra
Evelyn Peasley	Ginger Peterson	Liisa Peterson	Claudia Petursson
Jemma Pham	Lynn A. Philip	Michelle Plesko	Gerri Porteous
Amy Porter	Barbara Pritchard	Olga Ptach	Anne Pulsifer
Casey Purcell	Joan Purucker	Stephanie Purvis	Marilee Quinn
Eugenia Ramon	Donna M. Rawa	Leah Rice	Katy Beedle Rice
Linda F. Riley	Sharon Robinson	Lynn Robinson	Denise Robinson
Marie Claire Roderick	Rebekah Rojcewicz	Mary Routt	Jaclyn Ruli
Cheryl Rundle	Peggy Ruopp	Kathy Rutkowski	Monica Ryan
Paula Sabatini	Judy Samudovsky	Elizabeth Santana	Margaret Schaefer
Amy Schneider	Demetra Schwieger	Christine Sherratt	Lisette Shields
Catherine Sienkiewicz	Erin Simmons	Dorothy Simonis	Kathryn Sitterle
Mary Sluka	Tara Speer	Carol Spindler	Sr Francine Mary Sousa
Ruth Stanley	Michele Starke	Debbie Stenovec	Nancy Stoll
Maureen Stone	Mary Stoner	Susan Stuhlsatz-Reese	Margie Stump
Becca Swenson	Polly Tangora	Vicki Tarazi	Wendy-Marie Teichert
The Most Rev David P. Talley	Dan Teller	Joann Terranova	Maria Theis
Angela Thomson	Renee Timbrook	Gloria Tirone	Marty Torres
Kathleen McDonald Tong	Joseph Trochta	Clarissa Troop	Donna Turner
Michele Turner	Mary Ufnar	Cynthia VanOrman	Anita Vettel
Pete & Laura Vandervaart	Vickie Voll	Rev. Catherine Volland	Jennifer Waggoner
Kara Waldeck	Gina Wanko	Kim Ward	Elizabeth Warfield
Barbara R. Waterkotte	Stephanie Weaver	Karen Webb	Cleo Wenzel
Kathleen A Willis	Maris Wimberly	Jackie Winchester	Lynn Winkelman
Mary Susan Wise	Chris Wisniewski	Annette Witte	Maria Wood
Theresa Woodley	Christine Woods	Therese Wright	Claudia Yopez
Carolyn A Wright, MDiv, DMin		Peter Zaccagnini	



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 by 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 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.

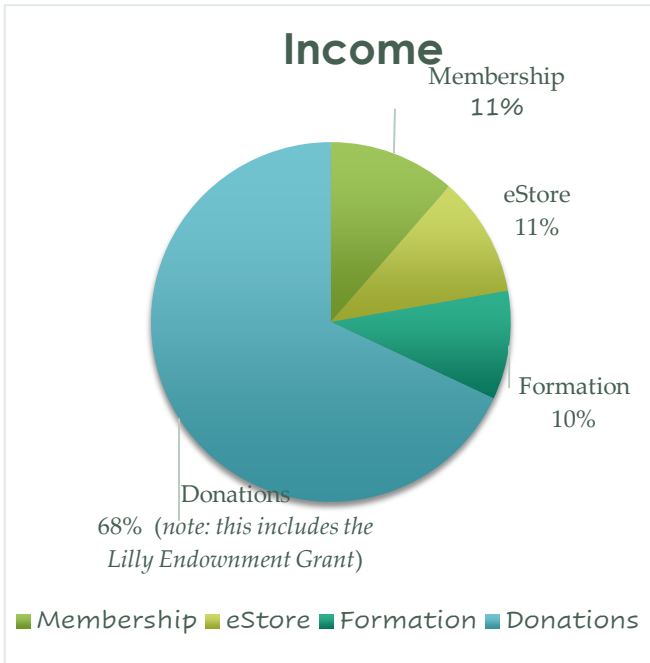
Appreciated Stock makes an excellent charitable gift. Under current tax laws, when an appreciated asset (such as stock) is sold, a capital gains tax is due. By making a charitable gift of the appreciated stock, you can avoid or delay the capital gains tax. You can also take an immediate income tax deduction 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.

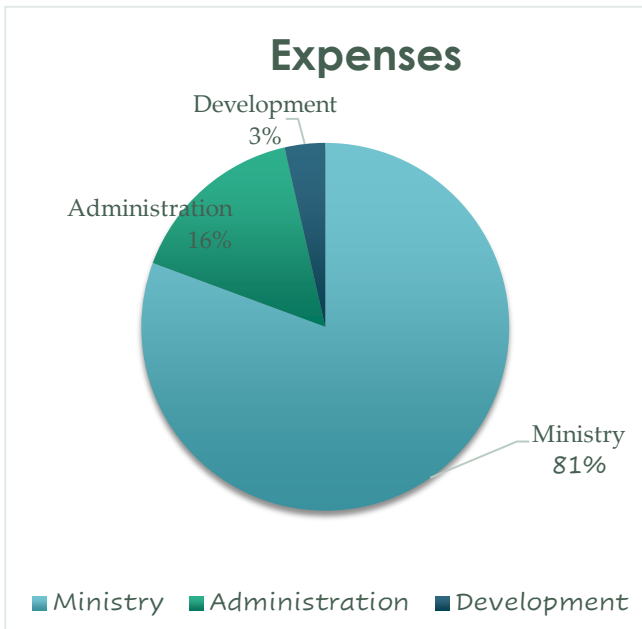
Life Insurance is another simple way to make a substantial future gift at a level that might not be possible for a straight cash donation. Name CGSUSA as the owner and beneficiary to receive the proceeds of an existing life insurance policy. You will receive a tax deduction for the approximate cash surrender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



CLOSING BALANCE SHEET June 30, 2023



Profit & Loss
July 2022 – June 2023
Total Revenue \$930,515



Profit & Loss
July 2021 – June 2022
Total Expenses \$971,708



CGS FORMATION HIGHLIGHTS



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 in forming catechists and formation leaders in this method. We also offer guidance to catechists, church and school leadership in creating and maintaining atrium environments that nurture the religious life of children.

Over 220 CGSUSA Catechist Formation Courses have been completed this past fiscal year, and 2282 certificates were awarded. We have 238 courses registered with our association at this time. We service these courses through a course registration process, responding to various questions and providing resources to hosting site coordinators and formation leaders, and sending CGSUSA Certificates upon course completion. More than half of the 200 CGSUSA-recognized formation leaders (about 130) actively serve these courses. There are approximately 80 catechists involved in the Formation Leader Discernment Process for recognition as Level I, Level II, or Level III Formation Leaders.

The Office of Formation, in collaboration with other CGSUSA staff:

Sponsored two national catechist formation courses in Rapid City, South Dakota – Level II and Level III that began June 14-23, 2022, and concluded June 13-22, 2023. Participants attended from the Northern Plains – North and South Dakota - as well as from other states and three countries (The Netherlands, Canada, and South Africa). Level II was co-led by Marty O’Bryan and Diane Olsen. Level III was co-led by Julie Baltuska and Marilee Quinn.

Sponsored and facilitated the second Gather and Grow, A Gathering for Episcopal and Anglican Catechists, October 24-28, 2022, in Atlanta, GA.

Sponsored and facilitated the first annual Infant-Toddler Catechist Conference, December 1-3, 2022, in Scottsdale, AZ, for catechists who completed Infant-Toddler Formation. We are also working diligently on documentation of catechist formation and the observations from catechists serving toddlers as part of the Lilly Grant we received for the Infant-Toddler initiative. This included 2022 site visits to Toddler Atria in Iowa, Virginia, and Arizona.

Sponsored another national Infant-Toddler Catechist Formation, with Part 1 March 20-26, 2023, in Atlanta, GA, with 47 participants and led by Elizabeth Calanchini. Part 2 will be at the same location on March 17-22, 2024.



Sponsored and facilitated a hybrid Formation Leader Discernment Seminar beginning February 2023. Part 1 had five online meetings, and Part 2 is onsite in Atlanta, GA, October 2-6, 2023, for 50 catechists actively involved in the Formation Leader Discernment Process.

Planning an Orientation to the I Am the Good Shepherd Year 1 Books for Spanish-speaking catechists facilitated by Claudia Margarita Schmitt and Beatriz Hernandez for August 2023.

Our work continues to reach around the globe as we offer services and resources to catechists and formation leaders in other countries, particularly Canada, South Africa, Indonesia, Taiwan, Norway, England, France, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia.



Debbie Dobson, Course Registrar, debbiedobson@cgsusa.org, serves with me in the Office of Formation.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Maxwell,

Director of Formation,

karenmaxwell@cgsusa.org



THE GROWTH OF MEMBERSHIP



Three areas of growth this year have centered upon the accomplishment of our digital resources, the increase in our membership in both numbers and response to member needs, and the continued development of our regional groups, especially in relationship with our upcoming anniversary celebration in 2024.

Digital Resources

We provide our members with an array of regular digital resources each month, as well as support pieces through the year that offer nourishment and help sustain them in their ministry and offer convenience in not only the ease of use but for the accumulation of the most excellent sources.

The monthly parent newsletters are a prevalent communication piece for families, which are also shared by parishes and (arch)diocese on their respective websites, etc.

The open rate for our monthly digital resources is consistently at 65-77%, which exceeds industry standards which sit at 37-44%.

Membership Growth

We have seen strong growth of our work at the local, in the (arch)diocesan, and regional communities. Our membership has grown by 15.93% over the previous year. Our membership includes individual catechists as well as organizations, i.e., churches, schools, diocese, seminaries, universities, regional groups, etc. In the last year, our membership grew to 4,203 members, and two months into the first quarter of the new year we have surpassed 4,450 members. We project that we will exceed 4,750 active members in the coming year.

A significant part of our growth has been an outreach to our organization members via the establishment of regular zoom gatherings. This year we will offer our first zoom gathering for those that offer The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in the school setting. Establishing Catechesis of

We are grateful for members, who let us know how much the monthly digital resources support their ministry, here are but a few such examples recently shared with CGSUSA:

- What a deeply spiritual gift to cherish and take precious moments of reflection to truly open and Be with this day...There is so much richness to glean in this month's In the Meadow. Feeling so incredibly blessed to be in this work...
- I am always so happy to receive the CGS Member Memo by email. It is a WONDERFUL source of varied experience and timely information. I'm not sure who is responsible for all the content, but please extend my gratitude for their efforts.
- I just wanted to thank you for the Holy Spirit song and putting it on Vimeo. I am able to download it and get the words! I'm so excited! This will let me build my song catalog much more easily! Thank you again!



the Good Shepherd in a traditional or parish school setting is a gift for the entire school community. The spirituality that is nourished in the Atrium environment has the potential to permeate the entire school community, and to assist the family in living their faith more authentically at home. We have also continued to offer additional resources that serve to impact their role in the community. Since the formation of our regular zoom gatherings, we have also seen a growth and interest in regional groups, which allow for our members to connect with and build relationships with one another.

Regional Groups

The relationship and the collaboration among members are held in the vision of CGSUSA “Regional groups will be encouraged in every part of the nation.” The regional group is a place where our members find local support and fellowship. In our first Organization Zoom Gathering, we focused on connecting with other members, and to have the opportunity to discuss what is the most urgent or pressing need for their community.

As we look towards the future and our fortieth anniversary as an association, we will invite our regional groups to help identify team members facilitate the sharing of information, i.e., the mapping (census) of atria, the history of CGS in each of the regions, and the documentation of this current moment in our history.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Heinrich,

Membership Coordinator,

maryheinrich@cgsusa.org



RESOURCES FROM OUR eSTORE



We begin building our atria with a few wooden pieces, some fabric, and some small, tiny seeds. In the CGSUSA eStore, we began with only a few simple products, and each year we continue to grow, and we are grateful to our members for their support.

The CGSUSA eStore provides 110 publications including books and brochures in English and Spanish, raw materials, and unfinished resources for the Atrium. Members will also find 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. We have grown to offer 210 items in the Shepherd's Closet, our newest additions include a Moses statue for Level III atriums, processional cross, and fair-trade Good Shepherd Cross.

The eStore staff and volunteers are true blessings to our association. Our staff includes Christine, Ernie, and Megan. They are part-time staff whose work includes shipping, making materials, and stocking the eStore. We also have several wonderful volunteers to help with materials and prepping items for the Shepherd's Closet.



This year we introduced a few new publications:

- *The Gospels*
- *Gift of Infinite Mercy Sofia Cavalletti and Pope Francis on the Sacrament of Reconciliation* by Patricia Coulter
- *Following God's Pedagogy Principles for Children's Catechesis* by Sr. Mary Michael Fox OP
- *Holy Seeing A Visual Invitation to Prayer* By Brother Ignatius Feaver O.F.M cap
- *A CGS Companion for Praying the Rosary* by Julie Baltuska
- *The Tiny Seed: A Parable* and *I went to Mass, What did I see?* by Katie Warner and illustrated By Meg Walen (two ex-bambini)



Yo Sol El Buen Pastor guia and album 1 & 2 and *El Niño Alegre* arrived this year along with several other publications. We continue to add Spanish titles to our store to help our growing Spanish community.



Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. It has small beginnings; the results are unexpected. Shepherd's Closet began as a small seed in a garage, providing materials for catechists. As time has passed and it merged with our Good Shepherd Publications, this little seed has sprouted and grown to serve more catechists, churches, and schools than ever. Our place where this seed flourishes is small but mighty. What once was a once a week shipping event and using one cart to hold the outgoing packages it has grown to shipping 4 days a week with most days having 2 full carts of packages. There are a few more staff but we still manage to stay personable with every order, phone call or email we receive. Our customers have a face, a name and are our friends, this is something we treasure.

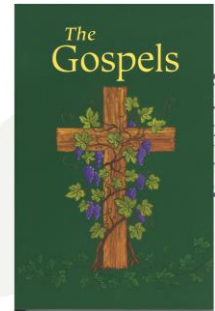
Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kelley

lisakelley@cgsusa.org

Store Manager

With Megan Kelley, Chris Wisniewski and Ernie Mc Cormack



Catechist comments:

"I received two copies today of the new CGS publication, The Gospels. They are just lovely. They will immediately go into my Level 2 and Level 3 atria, and I'll share this book with catechists everywhere I go. Just wanted to let you know you pleased I am."

Thanks for all your help and special TLC!

"Unpacking my parcel was "Christmas in March"! "The Gospels" will truly delight the children, especially First Communion children who will receive their own copy."



RESOURCES IN SPANISH



We are seeing an increase in the need for resources for Spanish speakers and are working to meet that need in a variety of ways. During the past year we have moved *Life in the Vine* along the translation process, and it is now in its final stages at Liturgy Training Publications. The Commemorative Journal for our 40th Anniversary will be available in Spanish as well as in English.

This past year three Spanish language courses were subsidized to better provide for the increased demand for formation in Spanish. The course locations were chosen in places where a Spanish speaking catechist was identified as a possible future formation leader to allow for mentoring with hopes of increasing the number of Spanish speaking formations leaders. Subsidized courses were held in Georgia, in Texas, and in California.

With the Lilly grant, we have begun development of a 13-segment 30-minute video series. This series will allow CGSUSA to share with parents, caregivers, pastors, and others ministering to the family in the church, showcasing best practices for nurturing the young child's relationship with God. It will be in both languages.

We held an orientation to Year 1 of *I am the Good Shepherd* in Spanish.

We continue to use *Lexicon*, as we are tonight, to make events more accessible to our Spanish speaking catechists.

The Spanish speaking staff and committee are committed to meeting the needs of Spanish speakers in our association and providing translation assistance to make resources available.

Respectfully submitted,

Lourdes Santiago

lourdesvazquez@cgsusa.org



MEDIA

The Roots of Change

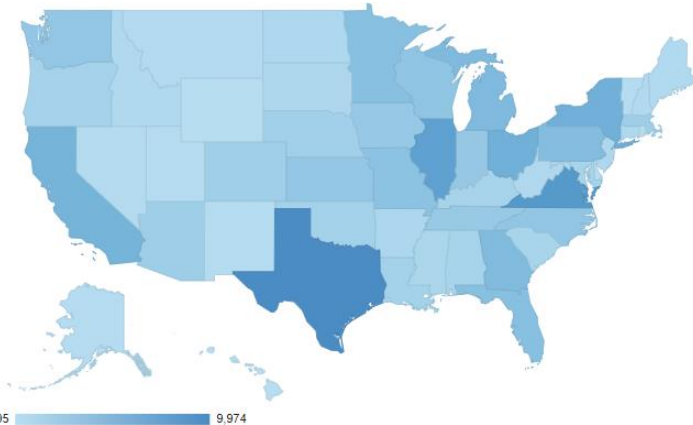
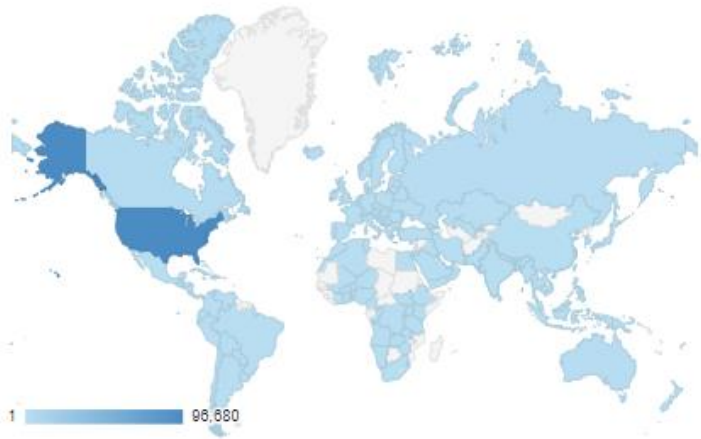
CGSUSA.ORG, the website and digital home for the United States Association, has a refreshed design as of July 2023. What is less visible are changes in other systems and tools used by CGSUSA to perform daily tasks ranging from processing store orders to accepting donations and membership renewals to formation course registration. Changes with the previous website's host set CGSUSA on the current path to make these strides into the future, and it is likely the path CGSUSA would have chosen for this particular year. But, like the mustard seed, we must grow in the soil where we are planted and rely on the strong roots of our past. The changes we make this year, however challenging, will create a foundation for continued growth and will permit CGSUSA to explore additional offerings and newer tools.

The Year in Review

While much work has gone into the transition of the tools and systems over the past year, it was also necessary to continue to maintain CGSUSA. ORG and serve our members to the best of our abilities. During 2022-2023, 88.5% of site visitors were based

in the United States. Canada, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Australia, and France comprise the top five international locations, and 100 countries hosted five or more annual visitors to CGSUSA.ORG. Visitors from all 50 states and the District of Columbia accessed CGSUSA.ORG this year, and Texas, Virginia, Illinois, Ohio, and New York and were home to the greatest number of visitors. We've been monitoring the increasing number of site visitors accessing the site using mobile devices over the past several years. This year, visitors are now evenly split between those who use a traditional desktop or

laptop computer and those who use a mobile phone or tablet to view the site. This will be important to our new site design and to our member and visitor support plans going forward. We remain committed to providing excellent member and visitor support throughout the implementation of all projects this year, and we will be refining responsibilities throughout the first half of next year.





The Good Shepherd and the Child podcast, hosted by Kerri Mecke-Lozano, continues in its third season with 25 new episodes. The podcast has been downloaded almost 80,000 times this year, a 56% increase over last year! This year featured several multi-episode series dedicated to topics of special interest, including book studies and family life.

The Next Stage

Throughout 2022-2023, we have been planting the seeds and tending the roots of a new tree for CGSUSA. With the recent launch of the redesigned CGSUSA.ORG, we see the first stalks of this new plant begin to emerge. The 2023-2024 year will be full of growth and change for the CGSUSA staff, and we hope to begin to expand offerings on the website and beyond soon. The lesson of the slow-growing mustard seed starting small and creating room to accommodate many is an excellent guiding principle to hold close during this time.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth Warfield



Kerri Mecke-Lozano



and Jennifer Waggoner

Media Team cgs@cgsusa.org

As catechists, the children provide us with numerous occasions to pause and turn our attention to the true, the good and the beautiful. Without even knowing it, the child is leading us to encounter God in a profound way. CGS USA has observed the needs of its members and responded with an outpouring of care and compassion. This year, I feel particularly drawn to contribute to the Annual Appeal in support of these ongoing efforts! Elizabeth Burghart CGSUSA Board Member



LILLY ENDOWMENT INC. GRANT

In support of our Infant-Toddler Catechist Formation and Development of Atria



For many years we have been attentively studying how to better serve children who are younger than three years of age in a way that is in keeping with the spirit of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. In doing so we are also mentoring their parents, caretakers, catechists, faith communities and pastors. We are actively engaged in observing young children's responses to the encounter with Christ in the same manner that our co-founders did in their early years with three- to twelve-year-old children. In this new work, we are looking to see the youngest child, as well as ourselves, in light of our dignity through Baptism as "children of light" and as "priest, prophet and king", pondering selected Scripture and liturgical texts that nurture our relationship with God. We are considering how the most essential themes of CGS could be offered to the youngest children, accompanied by appropriate CGS materials, in addition to materials modeled on those of the AMI Assistants to Infancy Training Course. We are also exploring the environments, the "atria", for the youngest from their beginning and how these environments can best be prepared to meet the religious potential of the youngest child. The children's response has been beautiful, consistent, and amazing.

The Lilly Endowment became aware of our work and invited us to apply for three grants to support our work with the youngest children. We received grants for a total of \$1,230,000.00 to strengthen our Infant Toddler ministry in atria across the United States. With this grant we will continue to gather research from around the country, document the experiences catechists are observing in working with the youngest children, develop Infant-Toddler formation courses, workshops, media and technology and resources for those who care for and form the youngest of these children. This grant contains a five-year plan that will be an ongoing, sustainable part of our association's mission and vision. It contains:



- **Catechist Formation and Course Content**

We have had 18 seminal courses throughout the country, with 414 catechists receiving formation. We have referred to these courses as seminal until we had experienced the framework of the proposed content enough to know that this offers a good foundation for



preparing catechists to work with the youngest children and to see how this preparation gave insights and understanding to the infants and toddlers.

We are gathering observations from catechists and parents from their experiences in the formation and setting up toddler atria so that we can document our observations with the littlest ones. We are in the middle of a national course right now. We have 35 toddler atriums around the country and have been visiting several areas of the country where toddler atria have been established to meet with catechists and parents and learn more about these youngest children. To aid our efforts in documenting what is happening with infants and toddlers we are holding an annual Infant-Toddler Catechist Conference for those catechists who have completed the CGSUSA Infant-Toddler Formation courses.

- **Formation Leader Recognition Process**

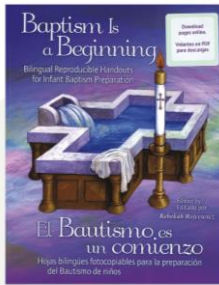
We have developed a list of current Level I Formation Leaders and catechists who potentially could serve as Infant-Toddler Formation Leaders. We have held numerous discussions about what this formation leader will need to do in order to be best prepared for this role. We will invite potential candidates for this role to an Infant-Toddler Formation Leader Discernment Seminar which will be sponsored by the Lilly Endowment Grant.

- **Atrium Environments for Nido and Toddlers**

We are now making site visits to areas of the country where Toddler atria have been established. This is still a small, budding work. We are finding that these little ones have a great love for the Bible, every toddler atrium we have surveyed lifts this love and affection up as essential to these young children. We are also seeing the importance of the communal meal in light of the Eucharistic Banquet. The children show a great capacity for freedom and relationship with God, each other and the adults present. We are documenting what materials the children are most attracted to and how they use them. The prayer table, the meal table and the outdoor environment are most used by them. This grant also holds funds for the development of atria in the seven regions of our country. One environment has been built at the National Office in Scottsdale, Arizona. Another is being built in Marietta, Georgia with plans for building others around the country.

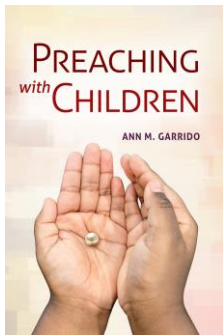


- **Parent, Pastor, Priest, and Church Leadership Education**



Baptism is a Beginning: With the grant from the Lilly Endowment, we will also have the opportunity to hold seven diocesan/regional workshops around the country that will help faith communities prepare parents, families, godparents, and sponsors for the Baptism of a child and provide continuing support and formation after the child's Baptism. *Baptism Is a Beginning (Bautismo Es un Comienzo) Bilingual Resources* is a book that contains 18 digital pamphlets that can be accessed online and reproduced for distribution to families in either English or Spanish. This book is enriched by the insights of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi and edited by Rebekah Rojcewicz. Each event will host 175 people from churches, dioceses, CGS centers, and other church leadership. Each participant

would receive the *Baptism is a Beginning* book, along with related resources.



Preaching with Children: The grant will also provide for 7 Formation Workshops in Seminaries as part of clergy formation. These workshops, built from the book *Preaching with Children*, would offer practical help for ordained and lay ministers, preachers, and catechists in crafting specific homilies for children. The author of the book, Dr. Ann Garrido, would draw on insights gleaned from *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* by helping preachers to understand key characteristics of childhood and children's spirituality. The workshop will also present ways to reflect on Scripture through the lens of the young child. Each event would host 75 seminarians. Each seminarian will receive

the *Preaching with Children* book, along with related resources.

We are also preparing a 13-segment 30-minute video series. This series will allow CGSUSA to share with parents, caregivers, pastors, and others ministering to the family in the church, best practices for nurturing the young child's relationship with God. We will produce two series, one in English and one in Spanish. We will also design and develop a mobile app for adults to access selected CGSUSA resources and tools, especially parent and caregiver resources

We are grateful for the kindness, help, and support of the Lilly Endowment staff and financial resources that have been shared with us. We believe that this viable and worthy project will be great benefit to countless children and adults. With St. Paul, we "kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he may grant you in accordance with the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."



OUR WORK WITH THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (USCCB)

We continue to work with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) who have become even more appreciative of our unique approach in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Each year CGSUSA is invited to attend the meeting of the USCCB Subcommittee of Evangelization and Catechesis which looks for consistency with the Catechism. This has been an opportunity to speak of the Association's work with children and adults. In a recent presentation from the Chair of the Evangelization and Catechesis, Bishop Andrew Cozzens, spoke about Evangelizing Catechesis. He made a statement regarding CGS: "I do believe the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd really has already been ahead of us in the whole model especially in terms of understanding the kerygma, accompaniment, and the whole understanding of the beauty of discovery. They have such a beautiful way to share the faith."

The Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis has developed a definition of evangelizing catechesis based on the new Directory for Catechesis to guide the work of both the Committee, the Subcommittee on the Catechism and this new Institute: "At the heart of the Church's mission to all people, an evangelizing catechesis seeks to deepen a personal encounter with Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit: It proclaims the core message of the Gospel, the kerygma; it accompanies people to a response of faith and conversion to Christ; it provides a systematic exposition of God's revelation within the communion of the Catholic Church; and it sends out missionary disciples as witnesses to the good news of salvation." Certainly, something that fits with our work.

To assist in living out this "Evangelizing Catechesis," a new **Institute on the Catechism** was launched by the USCCB in Baltimore, November 10-12, 2022. Mary Henrich and Mary Mirrione were invited to attend. This Institute is not a physical structure. Rather it is an "initiative" to accompany publishers and users of catechetical materials in changing times for the Catholic faith in the U.S., as more people leave the church, and the church sees a rise in Latino Catholics.

The Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis has also launched the National Eucharistic Revival which is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to the Eucharist in the United States by helping to renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. This event will take place July 17th – 21st, 2024 Indianapolis, Indiana, at Lucas Oil Stadium and other nearby venues in downtown Indianapolis. Mary Mirrione has been invited to serve on the committee for the family track and is working on this the committee to develop the NEC Family Care Working Committee Charter. Part of that charter is to look at programing. CGSUSA have been invited to offer talks on the religious life of children and to set up atria for the event for those children who are already in atria around the country and to help others know of the work. We will be offering breakout sessions for the families along with offering tHeART of the Child Art Exhibit, and a Nido environment, a Toddler atrium and Level 1, 2 and 3 Atria.



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.

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 bi-lingual 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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**THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE
CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2023 and 2022

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc.
Scottsdale, Arizona

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc., which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Adoption of New Accounting Guidance

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. adopted the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, and all subsequently issued clarifying ASUs as of July 1, 2022. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.



Wegner CPAs, LLP
Madison, Wisconsin
October 6, 2023

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 194,779	\$ 496,552
Accounts receivable	3,410	5,505
Accrued interest receivable	16,921	-
Investments	1,055,707	-
Beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF	431,827	352,301
Inventory	106,730	100,694
Prepaid expenses	1,884	-
Operating lease right-of-use asset	20,166	-
Equipment, net	138,980	42,732
Total assets	\$ 1,970,404	\$ 997,784
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable	\$ 50,563	\$ 44,461
Accrued payroll	6,910	4,937
Accrued vacation	13,043	11,477
Deferred revenue	109,866	98,355
Operating lease liability	20,238	-
Total liabilities	200,620	159,230
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	796,598	835,002
With donor restrictions	973,186	3,552
Total net assets	1,769,784	838,554
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,970,404	\$ 997,784

See accompanying notes.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS		
REVENUES AND GAINS		
Sales	\$ 399,815	\$ 377,222
Less cost of sales	<u>(232,211)</u>	<u>(212,012)</u>
Sales, net	167,604	165,210
Contributions	242,319	282,774
Membership dues	244,374	215,808
National events	119,440	89,073
Regional course registration fees	90,445	78,954
Gain on Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness	-	61,090
Royalties	6,119	8,761
Interest	7,390	808
Investment return, net	22,628	-
Change in value of beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF	<u>30,196</u>	<u>(54,815)</u>
Total revenues and gains without donor restrictions	930,515	847,663
EXPENSES		
Program services	782,924	510,033
Management and general	154,087	184,407
Fundraising	<u>34,697</u>	<u>13,474</u>
Total expenses	971,708	707,914
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS		
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	<u>2,789</u>	<u>8,179</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(38,404)	147,928
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS		
Contributions	972,423	700
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>(2,789)</u>	<u>(8,179)</u>
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	<u>969,634</u>	<u>(7,479)</u>
Change in net assets	931,230	140,449
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>838,554</u>	<u>698,105</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,769,784</u>	<u>\$ 838,554</u>

See accompanying notes.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023			
	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	Total
Personnel	\$ 293,159	\$ 94,562	\$ 17,016	\$ 404,737
Conferences and meetings	223,279	297	-	223,576
Professional fees	67,877	28,155	6,000	102,032
Office expenses	71,408	15,246	10,815	97,469
Grants to others	40,462	-	-	40,462
Depreciation	36,481	-	-	36,481
Information technology	19,659	5,892	-	25,551
Occupancy	14,924	4,814	866	20,604
Travel	15,675	41	-	15,716
Insurance	-	4,472	-	4,472
Interest	-	608	-	608
Total expenses	\$ 782,924	\$ 154,087	\$ 34,697	\$ 971,708

	2022			
	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	Total
Personnel	\$ 230,953	\$ 108,838	\$ 6,262	\$ 346,053
Conferences and meetings	105,331	415	-	105,746
Professional fees	19,586	42,475	-	62,061
Office expenses	55,284	15,101	6,865	77,250
Grants to others	20,475	-	-	20,475
Depreciation	37,748	1,185	-	38,933
Information technology	26,449	5,420	-	31,869
Occupancy	12,810	6,037	347	19,194
Travel	1,397	-	-	1,397
Insurance	-	4,936	-	4,936
Total expenses	\$ 510,033	\$ 184,407	\$ 13,474	\$ 707,914

See accompanying notes.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ 931,230	\$ 140,449
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash flows from operating activities		
Depreciation	36,481	38,933
Net unrealized gain on investments	(1,473)	-
Change in value of beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF	(30,196)	54,815
Donated stock	(61,000)	(76,000)
Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness	-	(61,090)
Amortization of operating lease right-of-use asset	18,609	-
(Increase) decrease in assets		
Accounts receivable	2,095	(5,505)
Accrued interest receivable	(16,921)	-
Inventory	(6,036)	(9,098)
Prepaid expenses	(1,884)	-
Increase (decrease) in liabilities		
Accounts payable	6,102	33,895
Accrued payroll	1,973	1,178
Accrued vacation	1,566	(139)
Deferred revenue	11,511	4,907
Operating lease liability	(18,537)	-
Net cash flows from operating activities	873,520	122,345
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of equipment	(132,729)	(6,400)
Purchases of investments	(1,054,234)	-
Distributions from beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF	11,670	7,598
Net cash flows from investing activities	(1,175,293)	1,198
Net change in cash	(301,773)	123,543
Cash at beginning of year	496,552	373,009
Cash at end of year	\$ 194,779	\$ 496,552
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES		
Noncash investing activities		
Donated stock	\$ 61,000	\$ 76,000

See accompanying notes.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activities

The United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Inc. (the Organization) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children. The Organization began with the work and observations of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, and sustains and advances the legacy of the Organization by forming adults in this method and serving as the resource to the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd community so that a prepared environment can be created that nurtures the religious life of the child. The Organization is an association that serves in collaboration with those in the Church and beyond as a respected voice on the child's spiritual development. The Organization is primarily supported by contributions, membership dues, and sales of books and materials.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable primarily represent amounts that are owed for registration fees for National events. Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to be collected from outstanding balances. As of June 30, 2023 and 2022, management has determined, based on historical experience, that all amounts are fully collectible and no allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary.

Beneficial Interest in Assets Held by Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation

The Organization established a fund at Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation (Foundation). The agreement between the Organization and the Foundation states that the transfer of assets is irrevocable and that the transferred assets will not be returned to the Organization. However, the Foundation will make annual distributions of the income earned on the fund subject to the Foundation's spending policy. The agreement also grants variance power to the Foundation, which permits the Foundation to substitute another beneficiary in place of the Organization if the Organization ceases to exist or if the Foundation's board of governors votes that support of the Organization either is no longer necessary or is inconsistent with the needs of the community. The fair value of the fund is based on the fair value of the underlying assets as reported to the Organization by the Foundation. Little information about those assets is released publicly. The estimated fair value does not necessarily represent the amounts that may be ultimately realized due to the occurrence of future circumstances that cannot be reasonably determined.

Inventory

Inventory consists of the Organization's books and materials and is valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined using the weighted-average cost method.

Investments

Investments at June 30, 2023, consist of certificates of deposit and US government bonds. The Organization reports investments in debt securities at their fair values in the statements of financial position. Unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets in the accompanying statements of activities.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Equipment

Purchases of equipment in excess of \$2,500 are recorded at cost and depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method.

Contributions

Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions expire (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished) in the reporting period in which the revenue is recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from donor restrictions.

Program Service Revenues

Revenues from sales of books and materials are recognized when the sale takes place. Cost of sales includes costs of goods sold as well as shipping and handling costs to send the merchandise to customers.

Revenues from membership dues is recognized on a straight-line basis over the dues year. Membership is voluntary; therefore, no accounts receivable is recorded and delinquent dues are not recorded as revenue until received. Dues received in the current year for the ensuing year are presented as deferred revenue in the statements of financial position.

Revenues from national events consists of fees for national courses taught by the Organization. Revenue is recognized when courses are held.

Revenues from regional course registration fees are flat fees received per registration for providing recordkeeping and certificates of regional Formation courses. Revenue is recognized when courses are held.

Leases

The Organization does not recognize short-term leases in the statement of financial position. For these leases, the Organization recognizes the lease payments in the change in net assets on a straight-line basis over the lease term and variable lease payments in the period in which the obligation for those payments is incurred. The Organization also does not separate nonlease components from lease components for all classes of underlying assets and instead accounts for each separate lease component and the nonlease components associated with that lease component as a single lease component. If the rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable, the Organization uses a risk-free rate as the discount rate for the lease for all classes of underlying assets.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Expense Allocation

The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program service or supporting activity. Therefore, these expenses require allocation on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated include personnel, office expenses, and occupancy, which are allocated on the basis of estimates of time and effort. All other expenses are charged to program services or supporting activities based upon the types of services performed and expenses incurred. The following program services and supporting activities are included in the accompanying financial statements:

Program Services – Activities related to supporting catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children.

Management and General – Activities necessary to manage the financial reporting and budgetary responsibilities of the organization.

Fundraising – Includes staff time and related expenses to communicate with prospective funding sources.

Adoption of New Accounting Guidance

On February 25, 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*. The guidance in this Update and all subsequently issued clarifying Updates supersede the guidance in FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 840, *Leases*, and creates FASB ASC Topic 842, *Leases*. The main difference between previous guidance and Topic 842 is the recognition of assets and liabilities by lessees for those leases classified as operating leases. A lessee should recognize in the statement of financial position a liability to make lease payments (the lease liability) and a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset for the lease term. Also, under Topic 842, disclosures are required by lessees and lessors to report useful information to users of financial statements about the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases.

The Organization adopted the requirements of Topic 842 as of July 1, 2022, using the optional transition method that allows the Organization to initially apply the new guidance at the adoption date and recognize a cumulative-effect adjustment to the opening balance of net assets in the period of adoption. The Organization's reporting for the year ended June 30, 2022, is in accordance with the previous guidance in Topic 840.

The Organization elected the package of practical expedients permitted under the transition guidance within Topic 842. This package allowed the Organization to account for its leases that commenced before the adoption date without reassessing whether any expired or existing contracts are or contain leases, the lease classification for any expired or existing leases, and initial direct costs for any existing leases.

The adoption of Topic 842 resulted in the recognition of operating lease right-of-use assets of \$37,166 and operating lease liabilities of \$38,775 as of July 1, 2022. The adoption of Topic 842 did not have a material effect on the Organization's change in net assets or cash flows.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Estimates

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenue and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Income Tax Status

The Organization is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Date of Management’s Review

Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 6, 2023, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 2 – EQUIPMENT

Equipment consist of the following:

	2023	2022
Furniture and equipment	\$ 12,447	\$ 9,414
Computer hardware	3,040	3,040
Website	238,446	109,804
Equipment	253,933	122,258
Less accumulated depreciation	114,953	79,526
Equipment, net	\$ 138,980	\$ 42,732

NOTE 3 – PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Organization received two loans totaling \$122,180 under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). On March 1, 2021, the SBA preliminarily approved forgiveness of the Organization’s first draw loan. On August 17, 2021, the SBA preliminarily approved forgiveness of the Organization’s second draw loan. The Organization must retain PPP documentation in its files for six years after the date the loan is forgiven or repaid in full and permit authorized representatives of SBA to access such files upon request. SBA may review any loan at any time at its discretion. Therefore, SBA may review the Organization’s good-faith certification concerning the necessity of its loan request, whether the Organization calculated the loan amount correctly, whether the Organization used loan proceeds for the allowable uses specified in the CARES Act, and whether the Organization is entitled to loan forgiveness in the amount claimed on its application. If SBA determines the Organization was ineligible for the loan or for forgiveness in whole or in part, SBA will seek repayment of the outstanding loan balance.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 4 – BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN ASSETS HELD BY OPRFCF

Composition of and changes in beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFC are as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF at beginning of year	\$ 352,301	\$ 338,714
Contributions	61,000	76,000
Disbursements	(11,670)	(7,598)
Change in value of beneficial interest	<u>30,196</u>	<u>(54,815)</u>
 Beneficial interest in assets held by OPRFCF at end of year	 <u>\$ 431,827</u>	 <u>\$ 352,301</u>

NOTE 5 – NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Christian parenting of infants and toddlers program	\$ 961,065	\$ -
Scholarships for national events	<u>12,121</u>	<u>3,552</u>
 Net assets with donor restrictions	 <u>\$ 973,186</u>	 <u>\$ 3,552</u>

NOTE 6 – LEASE AGREEMENT

The Organization leases office space under an operating lease requiring monthly payments of \$1,688 that expires on May 30, 2024. Total lease cost for the year ended June 30, 2023 was \$20,604.

Other information related to operating leases is as follows:

Cash payments classified as part of operating cash flows for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities	\$ 19,718
Right-of-use asset obtained in exchange for new lease liability	38,775
Weighted-average remaining lease term	11 months
Weighted-average discount rate	2.92%

The maturity of operating lease liability as of June 30, 2023, is \$20,238, which consists of the minimum lease payments of \$20,256 less imputed interest of \$18 for the year ending June 30, 2024.

Rent expense for the year ended June 30, 2022 was \$19,194.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 7 – INVESTMENTS

Investments at June 30, 2023 consist of the following:

Cash equivalents held by investment managers	\$ 5,707
Certificates of deposit	650,000
US government bonds	<u>400,000</u>
Investments	<u>\$ 1,055,707</u>

Certificates of deposit are held at three different national financial institutions. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures accounts at each institution up to \$250,000. At June 30, 2023, the Organization’s certificates of deposit balances were completely insured.

U.S. government bonds are valued using a market approach that uses as inputs observed interest rates and yield curves, prices in active markets for similar assets, and prices for identical assets in inactive markets that have been adjusted by observable indexes, which are Level 2 fair value measurements.

Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such change could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of financial position.

NOTE 8 – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

The following reflects the Organization’s financial assets as of the statements of financial position date, reduced by amounts not available for general use within one year of the date of the statements of financial position because of donor-imposed restrictions. General expenditures are defined as all budgeted programmatic and operational expenses.

	2023	2022
Financial assets at year-end	\$ 1,270,817	\$ 502,057
Less those unavailable for general expenditures within one year due to:		
Contractual or donor-imposed restrictions:		
Restricted by donor with purpose restrictions	(973,186)	(3,552)
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 297,631</u>	<u>\$ 498,505</u>

The Organization’s cash flow fluctuations during the year are attributable to timing of contributions and program service revenues. As part of the Organization’s liquidity management, it structures its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023 and 2022

NOTE 9 – CONCENTRATIONS

The Organization maintains its cash balances at two national financial institutions. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures accounts at each institution up to \$250,000. At June 30, 2022, the Organization's uninsured cash balance was approximately \$52,000. At June 30, 2023, the Organization's cash balances were completely insured.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, approximately 51% of the Organization's revenue was from one foundation.