

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a tall, rusted metal wall, likely a border wall. In the foreground, a group of people are gathered. A man in a black clerical shirt and a rainbow-colored stole with a white cross is speaking to the group. The people are looking towards him. The sky is clear blue.

ANNUAL REPORT 2019
AND A LOOK INTO 2020...

CORACLE

INTHECORACLE.ORG

Coracle is a community striving together **to inspire and enable people to be the presence of God in the brokenness of the world through Spiritual Formation for Kingdom Action.** We are grateful for the talent, dedication, and generosity of this community, and we look forward to the ways in which the Coracle team will continue to grow in 2020.

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Cover Photo: "Eucharist at the Border"
 by Iona Haley



Dear friends and fellow-pilgrims,

It has been a huge year for Coracle in every way. As you'll see in the following pages, we have grown in every major area of ministry. But like the proverbial iceberg, there is much more hidden than what can be seen from the surface, and that's been true for us as well. To keep up with our ministry's maturation, the great number of people we're serving, and to prepare for future growth and impact, we've worked very hard this year on strengthening our systems, infrastructure, communications, and staff. Our board and staff have finished what we've called a **"Year of Strategic Discernment 2019"**, and God has led us, and we are looking forward clearly. You'll see more about that on pages 16-17 after you've flipped through this report and celebrated what God has done!

One of the most significant things to come out of our year of discernment is also the quickest to implement. **Our board voted to change the mission of Coracle**, adding a critically important phrase to our mission statement. Now, Coracle "exists to inspire and enable people to be the presence of God *in the brokenness of the world* through Spiritual Formation for Kingdom Action." **Brokenness surrounds each of us in a million and myriad ways**—in our very selves, in our families, in our relationships, in our society, in our workplaces, in our cities and communities, and around the world. You know this.

Jesus saw the brokenness of the world, and he did not ignore it or remain sheltered or abandon us. Rather he engaged. He came. He dove in deeply, and brought redemption, and created a different story. **This is the God we follow, one who engages pain in great power to bring healing and a different reality.**

In this change of mission statement we're getting more specific and drilling deeper into what Coracle has always been about. **We are about following Jesus and enabling others to do the same**, creating more opportunities for God to use many more of his people as his redemptive presence in a fractured world, wherever God has us and in whatever brokenness crosses our paths.

This is an exciting big picture, but what still really fires me up is the way I see God using Coracle to transform the lives of individual men and women. We are a spiritual formation ministry after all. One of our former Coracle Fellows wrote to me earlier this year and said, **"Coracle has made me really want to, with intention, be Jesus in the world. That's huge! Coracle has expanded my world."** Yes, this what we're about, and praise God that he's meeting and shaping and changing more people through our efforts.



Thank you for being a part of this story and a part of this journey, and making it all possible through your prayers, support, partnership, and participation. We're so very grateful for all the people who have been blessed by what God has done and is doing and also by those who support this work, like you. We're in it together, and God is with us!

By the Numbers	2017	2018	2019
Spiritual Directors	17	20	23
Directees	97	142	203
Coracle Fellows	20	27	28
Individual Day Retreats at Corhaven	152	159	162
Overnight stays at Corhaven	345	473	552
Group Retreats/Events at Corhaven	27	32	42
Group Retreats and Events Elsewhere	13	26	21
People on Pilgrimage	48	31	66
Subscribers to Coracle Weekly E-Newsletter	1,731	1,812	2,107
Followers on Social Media (FB, Insta, Twitter)	n/a	592	974

Who We Served in 2019

World Vision (Middle East/Eastern Europe)	The Falls Church Anglican (VA)
International Justice Mission	Restoration Anglican (Arlington, VA)
The Accord Network	The District Church (DC)
Anglican Relief and Development Fund	Truro Anglican (VA)
Theological Horizons (Charlottesville)	Christ Church Vienna (VA)
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (DC)	Church of the Resurrection (Baltimore)
The Anglican Diocese of Singapore	Gallery Church Patterson Park (Baltimore)
The Anglican Church of Nepal	All Saints Episcopal Church (Chevy Chase, MD)
The Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic (ACNA)	St. Luke's Home Fellowship (Woodstock, VA)
The Telos Group	Bethany Community Church (Laurel, MD)
Baker McKenzie Law Firm	Early Church (Harrisonburg, VA)
InnerChange–Central America	Wakemans Grove Church of the Brethren
Abara Frontiers	Eastern Mennonite Seminary
Rock Recovery	Massanutten Regional Governor's School
English Now School	Stonewall Jackson High School
Pioneers Missions Agency	... and more

We are grateful for our four key partner churches—**The Falls Church Anglican, The District Church, Restoration Anglican**, and now **Truro Anglican**. We hope and expect our church partnerships to keep growing in the coming years.

THE CORACLE FELLOWSHIP

2019 marked the third year of the Coracle Fellowship program, and we have enjoyed another very special group of men and women dedicating a year of their lives to going deeper with God. The Coracle Fellowship continues to be Coracle's primary spiritual formation program and has been a powerful and transformative experience for our 28 Fellows this year, leading many to new places in their faith and in their lives. God keeps showing up in personal and beautiful ways and we are privileged to be a part of it.

Coracle Fellows Class of 2019



"While I know that is was the work of The Lord, I am so grateful for the Fellows program and you! It was such a transformational and life changing experience. My life was changed and continues to change in remarkable ways!"

-Coracle Fellow



Coracle Fellowship Vocation Retreat
in Washington, D.C.

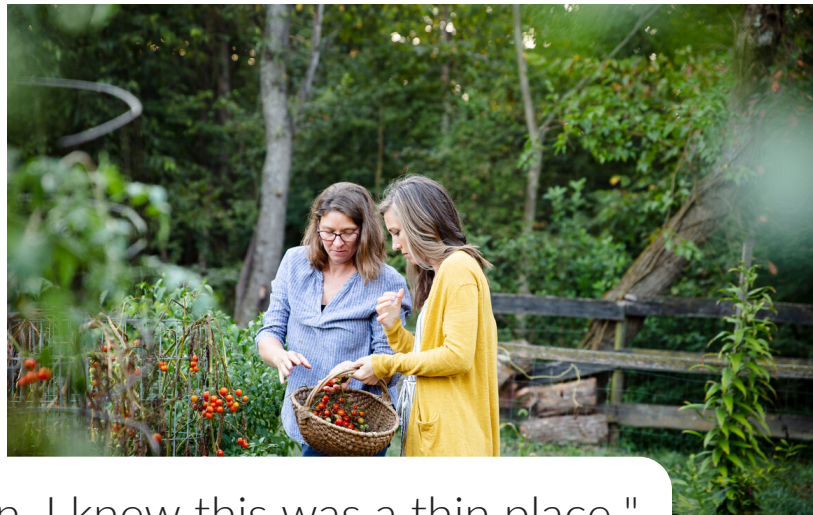
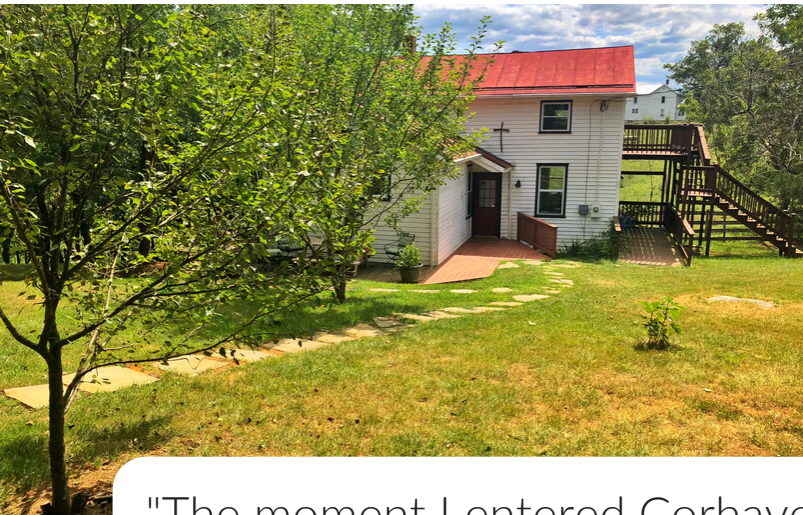


Coracle Fellows Reunion in 2019

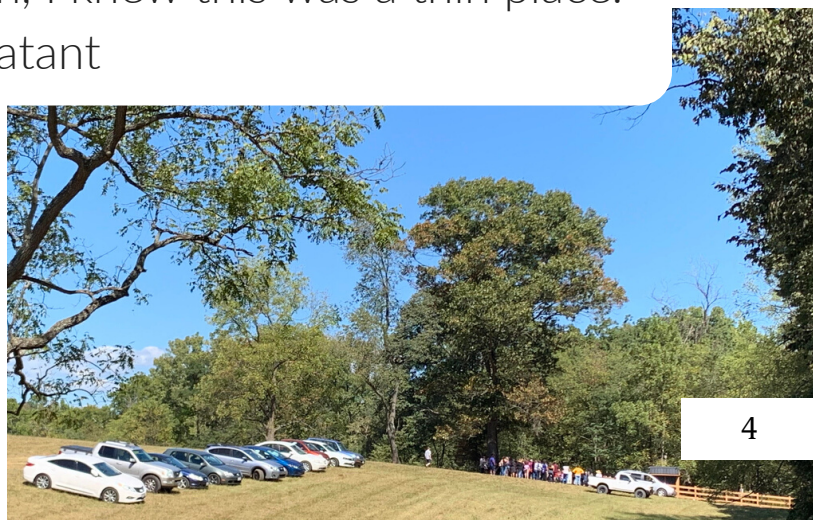
CORHAVEN

Corhaven is Coracle's retreat center in the Shenandoah Valley. It is the primary hub for the Coracle Fellowship retreats, also hosting several hundred individuals on retreat in addition to dozens of group retreats and events that have used this special place in 2019.

We are thankful for the many improvements to the grounds and facilities we accomplished this year, which enable Corhaven to remain a space of care and hospitality, a place to meet with God and be met by God.



"The moment I entered Corhaven, I knew this was a thin place."
-Retreatant



DECADE OF CORHAVEN CELEBRATION

On September 21st, over 125 people made their way from all over the country to Quicksburg, VA to celebrate a decade of God's faithfulness in and through Corhaven. Everyone enjoyed a feast offered by Tara Haley and team, heard and shared stories of how God has met them at Corhaven over the years, sang together in worship, and caught a vision from Bill about how he hopes the Lord will continue to bless people through this unique place in the years to come and the larger vision of Coracle going forward.



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

In 2019, we added 4 new Spiritual Directors, bringing our network up to 23, serving over 200 directees in the Mid-Atlantic as well as across the country with virtual meeting capabilities, with the help of Margot Eyring. We are excited to continue to expand this platform, so that more people can 1) answer God's call to be a spiritual director and 2) find companionship and guidance in their spiritual journeys as directees.



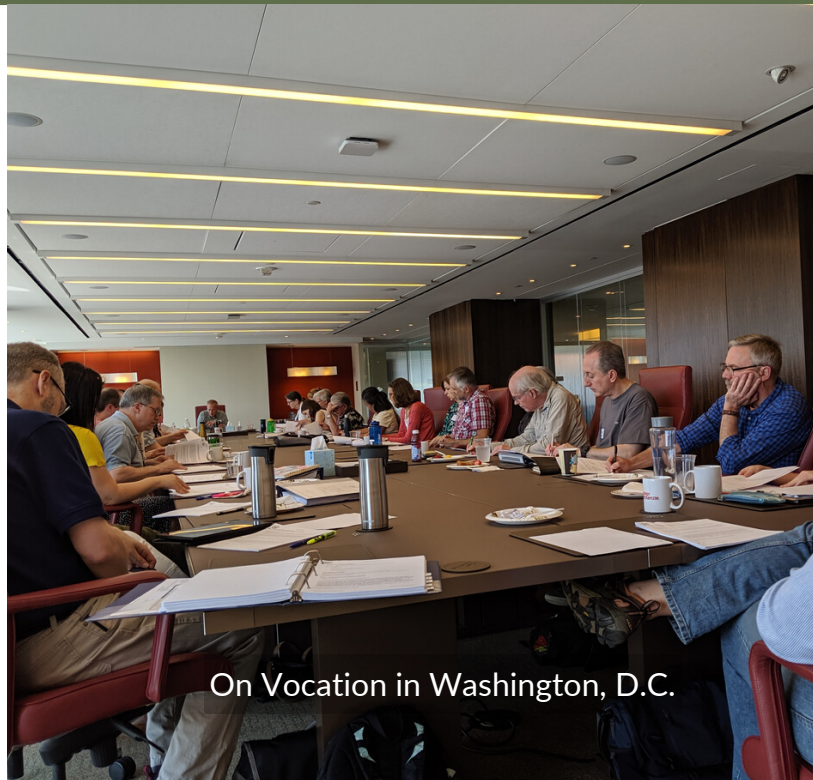
CORACLE

GROUP RETREATS

In addition to the Coracle Fellowship program at Corhaven, we have been able to make Coracle's formation resources available through 53 group retreats and events from Corhaven to Northern Virginia, D.C., Maryland, and elsewhere. Topics have ranged from singleness to Advent to the Eucharist to pain, and it has been wonderful to partner with many local churches and other organizations along the way.



On Race at the Falls Church Anglican



On Vocation in Washington, D.C.



On the Eucharist at Truro Anglican

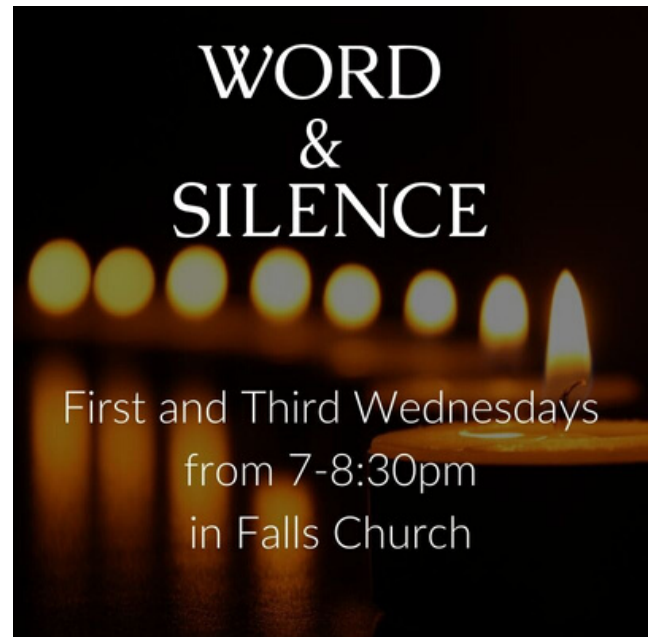
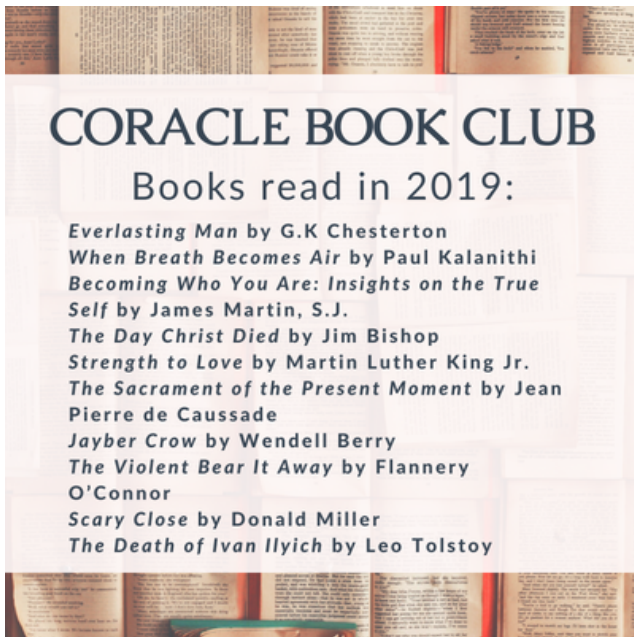


"Journey to Justice" at Restoration Anglican

CORACLE COMMUNITY

Northern Virginia

In 2019, we focused our programmatic efforts in Northern Virginia to build a more structured model for community and formation, providing places for Fellowship alumni and others to continue on their journey of spiritual maturation together. Our recurring programs include Word & Silence - a time of respite and refreshment in God's word through *lectio divina*, a monthly book club to grow in community through shared discussion, and moving forward in mission together.



Coracle is picking up steam in Baltimore under the direction of Scott Buresh. We were able to offer our favorite 3 retreats (on Lent, Advent, and Creation) once again to over 55 people, and lead discussions on racial reconciliation. We have also discerned that in September, 2020 we will launch a two-year version of the Coracle Fellowship program in Baltimore, an exciting expansion of our flagship spiritual formation program.

Baltimore



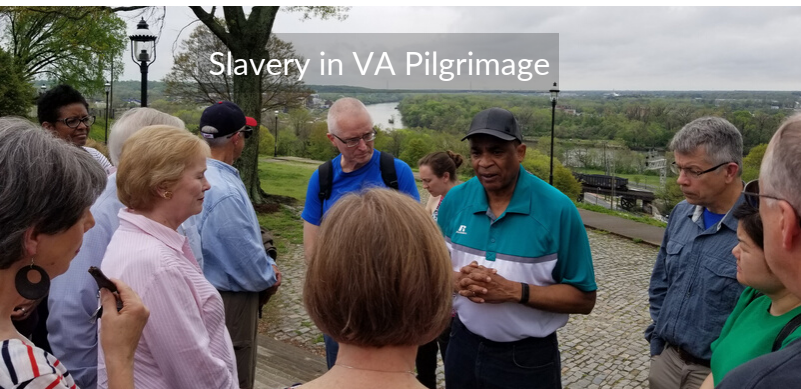
PILGRIMAGE

We are grateful for the robust set of pilgrimage opportunities we offered in 2019. We took five trips to three continents, exploring both the beauty and the brokenness of the world together with spiritual practices, prayer, and service in community. Pilgrimage is a very deep formation opportunity where a person is able to see God at work in other parts of the world and through other people. We are thrilled that 65 men and women were able to journey with God together this year with Coracle and our partners.

Israel/Palestine Pilgrimage



Slavery in VA Pilgrimage



"This has been one of the most amazing experiences I've ever had, and I think that's because the Camino creates a daily rhythm that I don't normally give myself permission for but is always available to me."
-2019 Pilgrim

Walking the Coastal Camino in Spain



On Pilgrimage in Guatemala



Walking the Coastal Camino in Spain

RACIAL RECONCILIATION

Coracle is committed to healing the wounds of racial injustice in our country by providing resources and experiences geared towards helping Christians engage this area of deep national brokenness with the healing and reconciling love of Christ.



The Repentance Project is a racial reconciliation ministry co-founded and made possible by Coracle since 2015 and led by Jacalyn Barnes. It exists to encourage racial healing by communicating the systemic legacies of slavery, building relationships, and creating opportunities through formation, repentance, and repair for a just future. This has taken the form of “An American Lament,” a 7-week devotional calling American Christians to recognize and repent of the historic and ongoing existence of systemic racism in America, and “An American Lent,” a Lenten devotional with the same aim which was downloaded and used by thousands of individuals, small groups, and churches across the country in 2019.


Slavery in Virginia Pilgrimage

This April, Coracle led 26 men and women on a 2-day racial reconciliation pilgrimage exploring the history and legacy of slavery in Virginia. The enthusiasm for this pilgrimage was so great that we will now offer it every spring.



RACIAL RECONCILIATION

The Corhaven Graveyard

A group of people, including a woman in a straw hat and a man in a white shirt, are gathered around a wooden kiosk with a corrugated metal roof. The kiosk has a display board with various papers and photos. The background shows a sunny outdoor setting with trees and a fence.

The Corhaven Graveyard is a historic burial ground for 25 enslaved African-Americans which now serves as a powerful sacred space for education and spiritual experience, and a physical manifestation of Coracle's commitment to both racial reconciliation and creation care under the leadership of Sarah Kohrs. In 2019, nearly 500 people interacted with the Graveyard, cultivating the memorial garden, preserving the site, participating in a tour, studying the native flora and fauna, and stewarding the natural environment.



FOR THE WORLD

Over the past several years, Coracle has built long-term relationships with ministry partners across the globe who are committed to building up the church, sharing God's love, and bringing the Kingdom of God into the brokenness of their local contexts. We have clarified our international ministry focus on Nepal, Israel/Palestine, and Guatemala.



In Caesarea



At Tent of Nations in Bethlehem

This year we took 20 people on pilgrimage to Israel and Palestine with the Telos Group, continuing a long-standing commitment to peacemaking in the Holy Land.



The Sea of Galilee

FOR THE WORLD

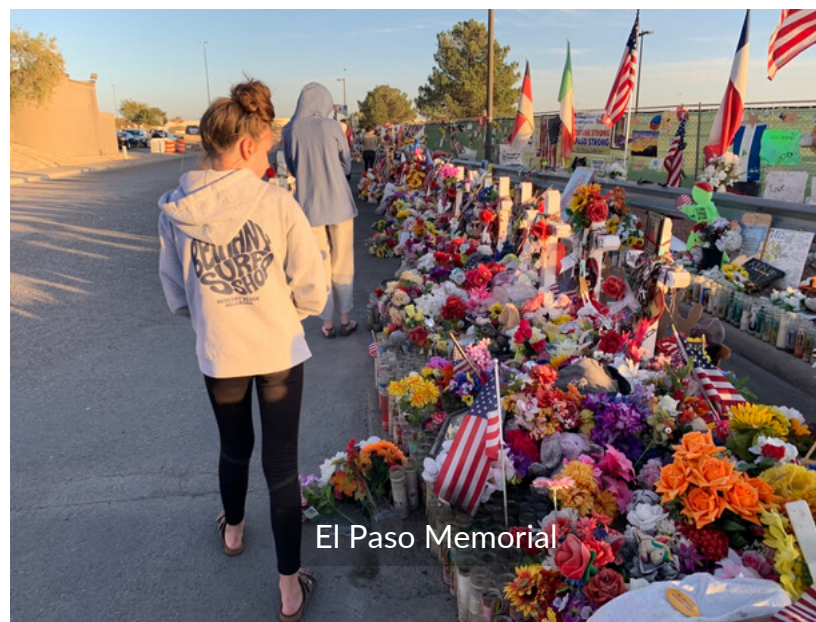


Praying in Xela

12 of us also traveled to Guatemala and the US-Mexico border to better understand the plight of the thousands fleeing violence, famine, and poverty in Central America. While on this trip, we formally agreed to an ongoing partnership with InnerChange-Central America, which we expect will lead to many more trips and opportunities to serve and be served in the years to come.



Eucharist on the Border Wall



El Paso Memorial

Soon after, we hosted a Soundings Seminar for about 65 people at Restoration Anglican Church where trip participants shared their stories and some statistics, and offered several practical next steps that Christians can take to better love men and women from other countries at our border and in our neighborhoods.



COMMON GOOD THINGS

Common Good Things - Coracle's "business as ministry" - continues to create new items and collaborate with artists and artisans to celebrate their craft. With a focus on natural ingredients, we have added more sustainable and low-waste products that underscore the value of creation care and the vocation of business. After a successful year, we wrapped up 2019 with a Holiday Makers' Market and look forward to having our products more widely available online next year.

Common Good Things is made possible by the efforts of Tara Haley and Susan Den Herder



COMMON GOOD THINGS



BEHIND THE SCENES

Much of 2019 was also spent seeking to steward the steady growth Coracle has experienced by overhauling our technological tool kit, shoring up our infrastructure and systems, and discerning a 5-year strategic plan. We pray these investments of time, energy, and resources will enable us to grow well as an organization so that we can continue to serve well those led to us by the Lord.



We updated our logo while preserving it's rootedness in the image of a small community riding the waves of life in a vessel under the sign of the cross.



CORACLE

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We completely overhauled our website so that the nearly 1,500 people who visit our site every month can more easily connect with and navigate the breadth of the formational programming and resources that we offer.

[RETREATS](#) ▾

[SPIRITUAL DIRECTION](#) ▾

[KINGDOM ACTION](#) ▾

[FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM](#)

[COMMUNITY](#) ▾

[PILGRIMAGE](#)

[JOURNAL](#)



We also invested in a new customer relationship management software (CRM), Neon, to facilitate better data management, communications, fundraising efforts, and service to our donors and supporters.

In re-designing our website, we paid special attention to making our primary online devotional resource, the **Coracle Journal**, more easily accessible, searchable, and beautiful. In 2019, we curated formational reflections from 24 authors, collecting over 2,200 page-views per month.



TESTIMONIES

"Corhaven has a special place in my heart because being there always brings me back to center." Retreatant

"God met me deeply, in new and profound ways. It was the first time in a long while that I cried tears in awe of God's love for me." Retreatant

"In these Coracle Fellowship months together the Spirit has healed me by allowing my heart to forgive. This forgiveness has allowed more love to flow in and therefore flow out. The Spirit has guided me into truth about who I am, my true identity which emboldens me to live it out in ways I have lacked the courage to do so in the past." Fellow

"Sometimes you don't know how much you need something until you show up. Corhaven and the Fellows Program was that unexpected, amazing, perfect answer to prayers that we hadn't had words for-- we do now. Our words are, 'Thank you so much for being a vessel to help us draw near to God then & still.'" Fellow

"I felt present with Him. I felt profoundly loved. I felt invited into the space that pre-existed before I arrived." Retreatant

"God penetrated the room and each of us where we were." Baltimore Retreatant

INTO 2020

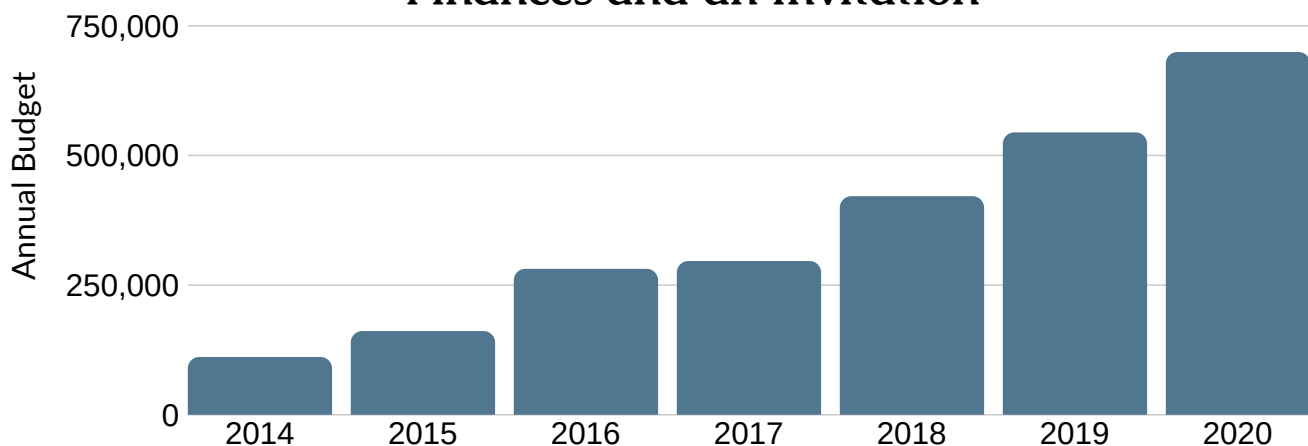
The results from our team's "Year of Strategic Discernment" were very powerful. Over the next 3-5 years we are focusing on 5 major areas:

- 1) Significantly refining and increasing our spiritual formation offerings
- 2) Procuring and significantly expanding Coracle's physical spaces to accommodate more people and programs
- 3) Developing new resources to support our expanding programs
- 4) Expanding and deepening our efforts at Kingdom Action in our six areas of focus
- 5) Building and strengthening our infrastructure and staff to handle this growth and much more that is coming.

While we will of course continue to offer the ministries God has already given us, specifically in 2020 we will run our fourth year of the Coracle Fellowship at Corhaven *and* launch the Coracle Fellowship in Baltimore this September. God-providing, we hope to expand the physical property of Corhaven. We will publicly launch the Coracle Community, expand our church partnerships, increase our spiritual direction ministry, increase the number of people participating in our pilgrimage and mission trips, move forward in our ministries of racial reconciliation, significantly increase our fundraising efforts, increase our staff, and grow our board. Basically, in all areas of our ministry, we expect to see growth and are focused on that. It's really this simple: **we want to help more people be met deeply by God, thrive in God, and be used redemptively by God in the world.**

In a major development, for the first time **I will begin working full-time for Coracle starting in January, 2020.** Coracle and The Falls Church Anglican will significantly deepen our partnership, and I will continue to preach at The Falls Church somewhat regularly. I am glad to maintain strong connections at The Falls Church and am excited to be able to focus my full attention on growing the ministry of Coracle.

Finances and an Invitation



God's faithfulness, your prayers, and your generous financial support have always been what has made this special ministry possible. We are blessed with so many partners in so many ways. **Thank you!**

As we look forward to the coming year—and I've never said this and it's really true—we need your support more than ever. Simply put, **we believe that God is leading us into more, and that's going to require the support of more.** I really appreciate your help to enable me to go full-time with Coracle, and your help to enable the whole ministry to move boldly forward in the directions we've discerned God is leading us. **Would you consider how you can financially support the ministry to make all this possible?** Information on how to do that is on the back cover. Thank you.

And more than money, please join us; **be a part of what God is doing in our midst** and where God is taking us. It's exciting for sure, even if intimidating. And more than anything, **please pray for us.** I am convinced that God is in all this, and that we need to pray more than ever for his power and provision to accomplish what God is calling us to do.

On the journey,



Coracle exists to inspire and enable people to be the presence of God in the brokenness of the world through Spiritual Formation for Kingdom Action

To Donate online, please visit:
www.inthecoracle.org/support

Checks can be made payable to
"Coracle" and can be sent to:
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