

ANNUAL REPORT

CORACLE IN 2021 with a glimpse into 2022



*“You guys are touching the heart
of so many important matters,
and it feels like **you are really
coming alongside God’s children
to help us live at peace with Him
and the world around us!**”*

-Pastor in Baltimore

A LETTER FROM BILL

Dear friends and fellow-pilgrims,

As I reflect on the year 2021 and the ministry of Coracle, I'm amazed and a bit shocked. The year 2020 was so challenging for all of us, and God was so faithful. This past year has continued to be so challenging for all of us, and God (of course) has been faithful still! Coracle has continued to grow as we've sought to respond to more and more people who are somehow encountering God through our offerings. We often pray, "*Lord, lead to us who you want to meet through us,*" and God keeps answering that prayer, abundantly!

In a year marked for many by uncertainty, weariness, and weakness, it seems Coracle has gone from strength to strength, even if we've at times felt uncertain, weary, and weak ourselves! In most ways we have grown so significantly it almost feels like we're a different organization.

And actually, we are. The lessons learned from 2020 and the new ways we've discovered to offer ministry have meant that this year has seen our biggest programs ever and more people than ever before benefitting from what God is doing through us. The following pages tell those stories. And while our whole team has worked really hard, it truly is a testimony to God's work. It's been evident that it has been God working *through* us even as our own mission is exactly that: "*To inspire and enable people to be the presence of God in the brokenness of the world through Spiritual Formation for Kingdom Action.*"

We're often told that people are grateful for the spaces we create.

Space to talk about hard things and important topics maturely and as Christians.

Space to be renewed, even healed. Space to be met by the True and Transcendent and Beautiful.

Space to show up honestly to God and to others, and with my doubts.

Space to struggle with deep disappointments with the Church, and sometimes with God too!

Space to journey with a seasoned spiritual guide. Space to go on retreat.

Space to find new ways of thinking about God and to encounter him.

Space to work hard together for racial justice and healing.

Space to grip tightly onto our faith when it feels like it's slipping away.

Space for us to be who God has made us to be. Space to find new courage.

Space to love Jesus. Space to be challenged to love others. Space to grow and mature.

Space to be with others on the journey. Space to feel tethered during stormy seas.

One woman wrote to us, "*Thank you for all of Coracle's offerings- it has been such an anchor.*"

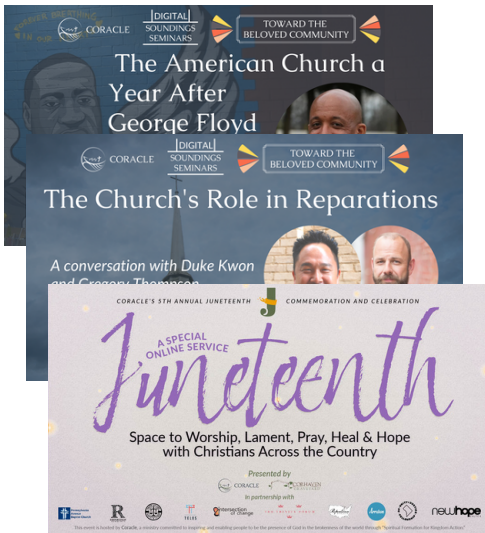


Thank you for making Coracle possible through your participation, support, prayers, and partnership. If it's true (and it is!) that God "*is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think*" (Eph. 3.20), it's also true that God is doing that through you. **Thank you!**

MAJOR 2021 INITIATIVES

A year-long initiative to help God's people engage and heal our country's racial brokenness with wisdom, courage, and charity.

**TOWARD THE
BELOVED COMMUNITY:**
HONESTY | SOLIDARITY | HEALING



1000+

people participated in our in-person & online offerings as part of this initiative.



Hush Harbor Chapel Clearing Day at Corhaven



Juneteenth Service Watch Party in Baltimore



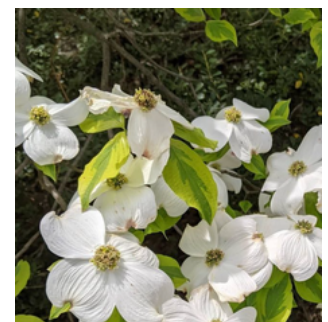
A multi-year initiative to help God's people heal from an extended season of anxiety and strain through encounters with beauty in varied forms.



From our "Taste of Sabbath" Event at Corhaven this summer



**SPACE
for
GOD**
Beauty



The Dogwoods were out in force at our Contemplative Nature Walk at the National Arboretum

ESSENTIAL CHRISTIANITY

by Rev. Bill Haley

"As for many, these past couple of years have been so disorienting as it relates to our cultural evangelical Christianity and the church. We are finding our faith growing deeper and deeper personally, but felt this need to be grounded in a way that your teaching is doing for us.

We were encouraged and refreshed in a meaningful way."

We developed this new online course out of a strong desire to re-capture a vision of the **expansive beauty of the Christian faith and life** in a climate and culture that so often obscures it. We had the joy of guiding around **100 people** through the course this year, and the response has been deeply encouraging.

We believe this will be a powerful resource for many years to come, and we plan to continue refining and offering it in 2022 and beyond!

"I found it to be so rich and encouraging to examine the truths and essential story of our faith... I feel invited by God to go deeper into the reality of His love, his calling, his vision for my life and for this world."

OTHER ONLINE OFFERINGS

SPACE for GOD

We continued our weekly devotional series helping people connect with God through **spiritual practices, beauty, and Scripture.**

Over
65 Sessions Recorded
(and counting!)

35-40 People Each
Week

"I want to let you all know how meaningful and encouraging my Tuesday mornings with Coracle have been. I have been so enriched and blessed by many voices all praising our Lord."

Monthly seminars helping us think Christianly about a wide range of topics relevant to following Jesus in a broken and beautiful world.

Topics Covered:

- The Imagination
- Peacemaking
- Christian Ethics
- Racism & Reparations
- Education
- Neuroscience

DIGITAL SOUNDINGS SEMINARS

Over **940** Registrants
From **39** States
&
14 Countries

Helping God's People Grow

"The Fellowship and Coracle have had a powerful and lasting impact in our lives."

Our 5th year of Coracle Fellows saw nearly 100 men and women navigate the shifting ground of COVID restrictions with grace and hope that the Lord would show up no matter the circumstances. *And he did!*

Whether gathering online or in-person at Corhaven and in Baltimore, it has been wonderful to witness the personal and beautiful ways people are able to grow deeper in their faith through this program.

ONLINE

What started as a COVID experiment has turned into something we will continue to offer during our 12-month program every year. God shows up, and people are blessed, even over Zoom!

20 *from* 10 *and* 4
Online States Countries
Fellows

at CORHAVEN

Now in its **5th year**, this class embarked in the midst of COVID uncertainties and much upheaval in our country. The Lord was faithful to their particular needs and desires, and we are so blessed to have journeyed with them!

"Being a Coracle Fellow this year has been a very enriching experience and has deepened my faith in ways I couldn't have imagined."

in BALTIMORE

The inaugural class of **60 Fellows** entered year two of the twenty-month program with momentum and a deep desire to know God and to know one another.

"The fellows program has been a Godsend... Both the teachings and the consistency of a community of like-minded Christians asking deep questions have been invaluable... I'm excited for the potential of Baltimore Coracle Community."

We are particularly excited that by May 2022, **we will have graduated over 200 Coracle Fellows**, creating really special opportunities to invest in the continued growth of our growing alumni community!

Outdoor Eucharist at a Baltimore Fellowship Retreat



Coracle Fellowship Reunion in July



Julia Gadfelter (Baltimore '22)

The Coracle Fellowship has been an enriching and filling experience. As we focus on spiritual growth in community, I've found myself speechlessly engaging with God more frequently. As an artist, I tend to articulate best with images, so I chose to do the same with this fellowship by attempting to visually depict the heavenly concepts which we are studying. **The more I learn about God, the more I am speechless in his presence.** I pray my images bring others to the same place of wonder toward our Heavenly Father.



"Coming Home"



Drew Martin (Corhaven '19)

The Coracle Fellowship expanded my vision of what it meant to be an apprentice of Jesus, leading me to more fully understand God's heart for justice, the poor, needy, oppressed... AND His invitation for me to be His hands and feet in the world. As my heart and vision continued to expand, I began to wonder how I could live this out in my community, so I joined the outreach ministry at my church. After serving on this team for some time, I put together a proposal (which served as my Coracle Fellowship Final Project) suggesting how the current outreach ministries at the church could be strengthened and expanded, in hopes that the church community more fully lives out Isaiah 1:17 -> "Seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow."



Will Rowe (Corhaven '20)

I joined the Coracle Fellowship to get clarity on my future vocation as I move into my mid-60s. **The program was a refresh and brought truth, relationships, and vocation to the surface for me.** In short, Kingdom Action, a major theme of the Fellowship, surfaced and helped renew my call to peacemaking and reconciliation in my local context. This culminated in my Capstone project for the Fellowship Program -- a Racial Reconciliation Seminar, "**Gathering in Humility to Listen, Learn, and Serve,**" which featured 18 speakers and included close to 150 participants from 51 churches across the country in January of this year. I am grateful for all who were involved in the Seminar and how the Fellowship Program experience encouraged me in this work.



Scan to
Watch or
Listen



BALTIMORE



Scott Buresh
Community
Minister

We have delighted in the work of "Spiritual Formation for Kingdom Action" this year in Baltimore. The **Coracle Fellowship in Baltimore** continues to flourish, with 55 fellows traveling together in deep transformation. We offered the largest **open retreat** in our history with 60 participants joining us for Advent. We have also grown in the number of **spiritual directors and directees** served.

In engaging our community we have raised nearly \$20,000 to help fund **Hope Garden**, a garden for prayer and reflection in the heart of the historic Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood. We have also been invited to partner with George Hopkins and **BUILD** to be agents of hope and repair in our city.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA



Danny Nasry
Community
Minister

It was a sincere joy to transition back to in-person ministry over the course of 2021 in NoVA. Monthly **Coracle Community Gatherings** offered an alternative space for folks who wanted a small group focused on quiet and deep listening. An unexpected blessing was our contemplative journey through season 1 of **The Chosen**; many of those who gathered said Jesus felt real, tangible to them– that their faith was infused with “feeling” that they hadn’t ever experienced. Finally, we had the privilege of offering **three open retreats** this fall in NoVA– each an intimate gathering intended to help us connect with God in unique and refreshing ways. I am thrilled to discover what the Lord has in store for us in 2022!

SHENANDOAH VALLEY



Ken Wettig
Community
Minister

While a number of things could be highlighted regarding 2021 in the Valley (Creation Care Retreat, Artist Collective, Advent Concert etc.), one of the themes that surprised us has been Coracle’s ability to **facilitate meaningful conversations among pastors and ministry leaders**. Much of this focus initially began to take shape through our Spring initiative "An American Lent: Pastoral Foundations" with over 20 ministry leaders from different denominations engaging conversations around racial justice. Since that time, a number of pastors have asked us to continue playing a similar role engaging numerous topics, and we hope to continue hosting “**Pastors’ Roundtable Discussions**” to help promote church unity in the Valley.



CORHAVEN

Our 17-acre retreat home in the Shenandoah Valley was a truly special place for rest and restoration for many during this long and challenging season. We were so grateful to re-open this space to individual retreatants, small groups, and even a few larger group gatherings, like our Creation Care Camp and Taste of Sabbath events this summer.

33

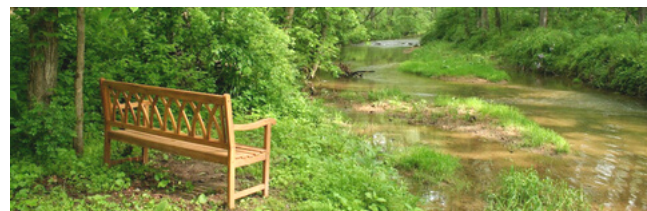
Group Retreats
& Events

135

Retreatants

"Corhaven is truly a holy ground and you all are anointed stewards."

"God met me through a time of rest and centering in Him. I had a place and space to meet with God and wrestle with Him over brokenness in the church and where to go from here, including the beginnings of some important healing and forgiveness."



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Margot Eyring
Spiritual Direction
Coordinator

Coracle's community of Spiritual Directors continues to grow in numbers and depth of experience. We represent various Christian traditions and approaches to direction. Spiritual directors meet regularly to hone and deepen our own practices of spiritual direction as well as refreshing our relationships with God. Offerings by directors include individual and group spiritual direction, supervision, retreat leadership, courses, writing and speaking—many offered both in-person and online. Our hearts delight in holding space with anyone seeking God on a journey of deepening connection, discernment, and Shalom, of coming to know themselves as beloved, and of loving others as themselves.

8 New
Directors

33 Total
Directors

Serving over 325 Directees
in 2021

Companionship for the Spiritual Journey



Sarah Kohrs
Director

502

Participants in
CG Programs

God's plans for a sacred site like Corhaven Graveyard are always spectacularly unexpected. In 2021, as national news diffused over last year's race tensions, new opportunities arose in Shenandoah County. I'm grateful and humbled to have been a part of five Community Work Days; a Seven Bends Lecture Series entitled "Down by the Riverside" which explored burial practices for enslaved individuals; three "Space for God" offerings – including one that revealed a contemplative, virtual experience of the graveyard; and so much more. You are invited to make Corhaven Graveyard a meaningful part of your life. **The site is always open, dawn to dusk, seven days a week.** May God meet you there.

"It could take more than a lifetime to grasp the histories and implications of our countries, but learning something is way better than willful ignorance. I notice more, and I am keen to pass along anything I can to others that I have learned. I listen differently too."
-Online Book Club Participant



Patty Prasada-Rao
Coordinator

It was a pivotal year for the Repentance Project. Hundreds of people across the country found their way to the "An American Lament" and "An American Lent" devotionals. Under the leadership of Patty Prasada-Rao, the online version of the devotional was able to add some stunning artwork from African American painters and sculptors to enhance the experience of this transformative journey. Over the summer, the **Leadership Team agreed to make Repentance Project an official part of Coracle's ministry** and to migrate the American Lent/Lament devotionals to the wonderful folks at Arrabon. We look forward to hiring a full-time Repentance Project Director in 2022 who will help us discern what is next for this good work of God!

COMMON GOOD THINGS®



**Tara Haley &
Susan Den Herder**

Common Good Things enjoyed a slow return to normal throughout 2021. In April, we attended the Spring **Market at Ballenger Farm** in Hamilton, VA alongside other local makers. We returned for the Autumn Market stocked with all of this season's homemade jams for another beautiful event day. We also joined a collective called **Shop Made in Virginia** which now carries two of our products and opened its first brick and mortar store in Old Town Alexandria this November. Meanwhile, we continue to delight in our work within the larger body of Coracle sharing gifts, food and beauty with so many!



EVENT PARTNERS



Designed2Connect

DITA Duke Initiatives in
THEOLOGY & THE ARTS



SPEAKING & MEDIA



THE DIOCESE OF
CHURCHES
FOR THE SAKE
OF OTHERS

THE FALLS
CHURCH
ANGLICAN

CORNERSTONE
TRUST



GALLERY CHURCH

PIONEERS



Friends from the Journey in 2021

ONLINE MINISTRY

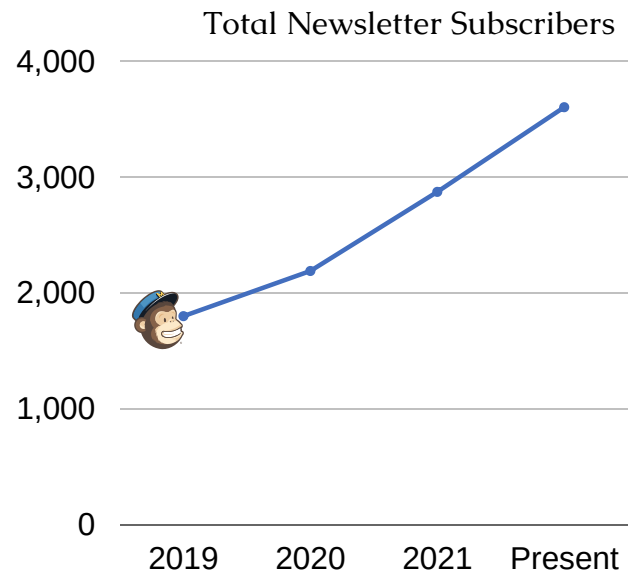
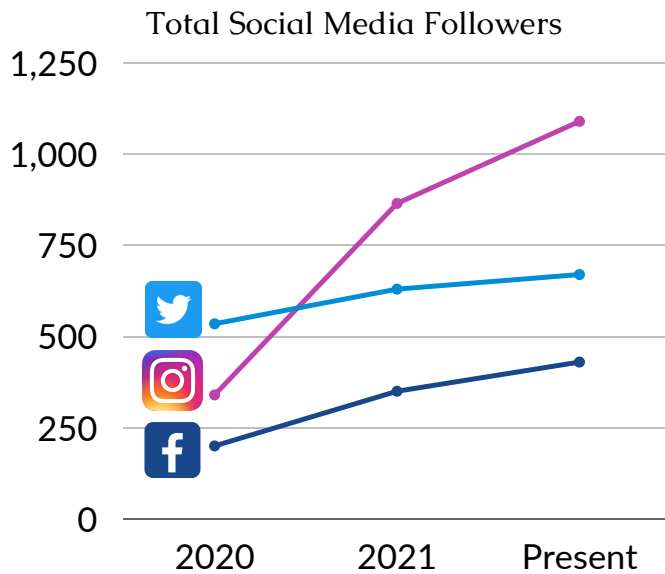
We are grateful so many people continue to find value in the online gatherings, resources, and newsletters we create!

New Followers & Subscribers across All Platforms

1000+ ↑ 23%

Total Website Visits

53K ↑ 6%



3100+ from 46 and 25
Participants in Online Gatherings States and Countries

"New Growth at Corhaven Graveyard"



Over the last 12 months, we have raised nearly **\$100,000** towards the creation of:

- A **"Hush Harbor" Open-Air Chapel** at Corhaven
- A 25x36' **Peace Pavilion** at Corhaven Graveyard
- A Multi-Purpose **Hope Garden** at the Strength to Love II Garden in Sandtown, Baltimore

We are deeply grateful for the many who generously supported these Kingdom-building endeavors!

How We're Growing

INTO 2022

In 2019, our board and staff completed a “Year of Strategic Discernment.” Wanting to faithfully steward what God was doing through this work, it felt only responsible to get a bit more focused and think longer-range about the ministry precisely so that more people could be ministered to. You know what happened in 2020.

Having picked up the task again in 2021, our board recently voted to adopt a three-year strategy to 1) strengthen our existing programs, 2) develop new resources to meet emerging needs, and 3) build the operational infrastructure to support the pace of growth we’ve been experiencing.

This will take many forms. This coming year we are focusing our efforts on...

- Significantly **expanding the Coracle Fellows Program**, whether physically or digitally or both.
- Getting “**Essential Christianity**” into a form that is most effective and replicable and make it available to as many people as possible.
- **Coming alongside church congregations** to offer what they feel is especially needful that matches what we are the most good at providing, and adapting some of our existing content into different forms so it can be more available and useful to more groups.
- Significantly ramping up the **Repentance Project**’s efforts towards racial healing by hiring a full-time director to generate new programs and initiatives, as well as to help ensure that Coracle’s many efforts towards this goal are well coordinated and integrated.
- Strengthen all of Coracle’s community initiatives in **Northern Virginia/DC, Baltimore**, and the **Shenandoah Valley**, and discern new regions to grow into as God leads.
- Increase our ministries of **spiritual direction** and the retreat ministry of **Corhaven**, including clarifying more cohesive initiatives around creation care.
- **Enhance our online presence** and resources to make them easily findable and most accessible
- **Increase the diversity of our ministry** at every level– board, staff, and spiritual directors.
- And as always, **keep on listening to God** for whatever else or new God might have us do. This has always been the way Coracle has grown the most and most creatively, by listening to God and then being faithful to respond.

Finances and an Invitation



Thank you for making all this ministry possible!

Thank you for enabling so many people in this past year to be formed and equipped and empowered to do some good in the world and do God's work in the world. With where we're headed in 2022, there's much more to do, many more people to bless and serve, and much more brokenness to redemptively engage. And we'll do it, with God's help, and hopefully with you too.

We have so many offerings now online— wherever you are, you can join us, and we hope you will. And we so appreciate your prayers, so please do that, and there's information on how to join our monthly prayer team on the back cover.

With the growth we've experienced and where we're heading, it's probably not surprising to you that our budget for next year makes its biggest jump in the **almost 10 years Coracle has existed.**** It's consonant with where we feel like God is leading us, and we're confident God will provide, in part through you.

Would you consider how you can financially support the ministry of Coracle to meet, help, bless, disciple, form, and minister to all the folks God is leading to us?

Information about how to do that is on the back too. **Thank you.** Truly, thank you.

This has been and will be a lot of work. When I look at the scope of it and find myself intimidated, I recall the two deep reasons why we're doing all this. They're simple:

We're doing all this because 1) the world is broken and 2) Jesus is Real.

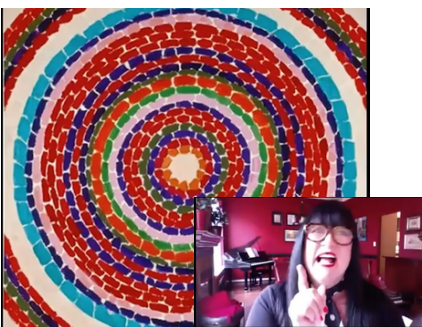
Because of that, we're going to dive in deeply, move out strongly, and move forward courageously, giving strength and help to as many as God leads to us in this long ongoing season of challenge, confusion, and uncertainty.

Yes, that's right! **Coracle celebrates 10 years of ministry next year. Stay tuned for how we're going to mark and celebrate that!

On the journey,



A Little Beauty & Gratitude



I want to leave you with something that really blessed me this past year. We had the privilege of hosting **Jan Haugen** for one of our "Space for God" sessions, and she did a terrific job helping me to practice active gratitude, while at the same time opening my eyes to the beautiful artwork of African American painter, **Alma Thomas**. Enjoy!

Scan to Watch



STAFF

Wanda Bickers	Baltimore Administrator & Spiritual Director
Scott Buresh	Community Minister & Spiritual Director
Erin Chartier	Bookkeeper
Susan Den Herder	Business Developer
Margot Eyring	Spiritual Direction Coordinator & Spiritual Director
Bill Haley	Executive Director & Spiritual Director
Tara Haley	Director of Creative Care
Sarah Kohrs	Director of The Corhaven Graveyard
Anna Martinez	Administrator
Drew Masterson	Director of Communications & Development
Rick Mastroianni	Virtual Minister & Spiritual Director
Danny Nasry	Community Minister
Karla Petty	Director of Program Development
Patty Prasada Rao	Repentance Project Coordinator
Ken Wettig	Community Minister

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Christine Buchholz (*Secretary*)
Kendrick Curry (*Co-Chair*)
Rich Dean (*Co-Chair*)
Bill Deiss (*Treasurer*)
Kate Harris (*Asst. Treasurer*)
Robert Krech

ASSOCIATES

Bill Deiss
Kit Elmer
Carla Mueller
Barbara Ryan
Abigail Whitehouse

CHURCH SUPPORTERS

The District Church
The Falls Church Anglican
Restoration Anglican Church

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

Kayla Allen	Gabriel Dodd	Susan Marks	Yonce Shelton
Wade Ballou	Debra Donnelly-Barton	Andy Peck-McClain	Heather Strube
Desiree Barker	Daniele Evans	Leanne McPherson	Christine Warner
Ann Bodling	Mary Gardner	Dawn Muench	Vernée Wilkinson
Dave Bonselaar	Lynnette Hughes	Adriana Nicholson	Linda N Winter
Amy Boucher Pye	Stacy Jessel	Gwen Paduch	Kristen Yates
Reina Brekke	Claire Kelly	Patsy Reese	

ADVISORY BOARD

Rick & Shannon Campanelli, George & Liz Connors, Jeff Conway, Todd & Judi Deatherage, Dan Denton, Max & Kate Finberg, Aaron Graham, Ted & Kellie Haddock, Hans & April Hess, Steve & Lynnette Hughes, Soren & Ever Johnson, Jeff & Mona Lindeman, Robert Mackay, Brad & Lauren Noyes, David & Emily Powell, Gail Scherer, Chris & Christy Shaw, Tom & Annie Steinle, Lauren Taylor, Josh & Molly Yates

The People Who Make Coracle



(Not Pictured: Sarah Kohrs & Patty Prasada Rao)

COMMON GOOD THINGS®

commongoodthings.com

IG: @commongoodthings



corhavengraveyard.org

IG: @corhavengraveyard

FB: @corhavengraveyard



repentanceproject.org

TW: @repentanceproj

FB: @repentanceproject

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

We cherish your presence with us on this journey with God, together!

To join our Prayer Team, please email communications@inthecoracle.org

To Donate online, please visit:
www.inthecoracle.org/support
or simply scan this code with your phone's camera and tap the link:



Checks can be made payable to **"Coracle"** and can be sent to:
2883 Quicksburg Rd.
Quicksburg, VA 22847

inthecoracle.org | [@inthecoracle](https://www.instagram.com/inthecoracle)