

# Prairiewoods

A Place of Peace  
and Transformation

# 2016

ANNUAL REPORT

### Dear Friends:

The sign at the entrance to Prairiewoods says, *"All are welcome."*

If you have been to Prairiewoods, you know that by *welcome*, we mean the warm hospitality so deeply rooted in our Franciscan heritage. And when we say *all*, we mean people of any culture or background, on any spiritual path. Truly, all are welcome!

As a friend to Prairiewoods—guest, program participant, retreatant, volunteer, donor, neighbor—you have personally experienced this welcome. More than that, you have contributed to the atmosphere of peace and healing that has transformed so many lives in our first twenty years!

You have helped Prairiewoods impact the environment, change lives and renew spirits—and *we are truly grateful!*

What Prairiewoods has to offer is vitally important: 70 acres of woods and prairies in which to reconnect with nature and experience the interdependence of all creation; programs and retreats that focus on spiritual growth, renewal and understanding; a generative community co-creating a shared future and holding space for what is emerging.

*In a turbulent and rapidly changing world, our community needs Prairiewoods.* Your gift can ensure that Prairiewoods remains a place of peace and transformation by helping us present a rich and varied slate of retreats and programs, while also keeping the cost to participants affordable. Plus, your gift now is automatically multiplied by a donation of matching funds through our Rooted & Growing campaign, so this is the perfect time to donate. Thank you for contributing to Prairiewoods' welcoming spirit!

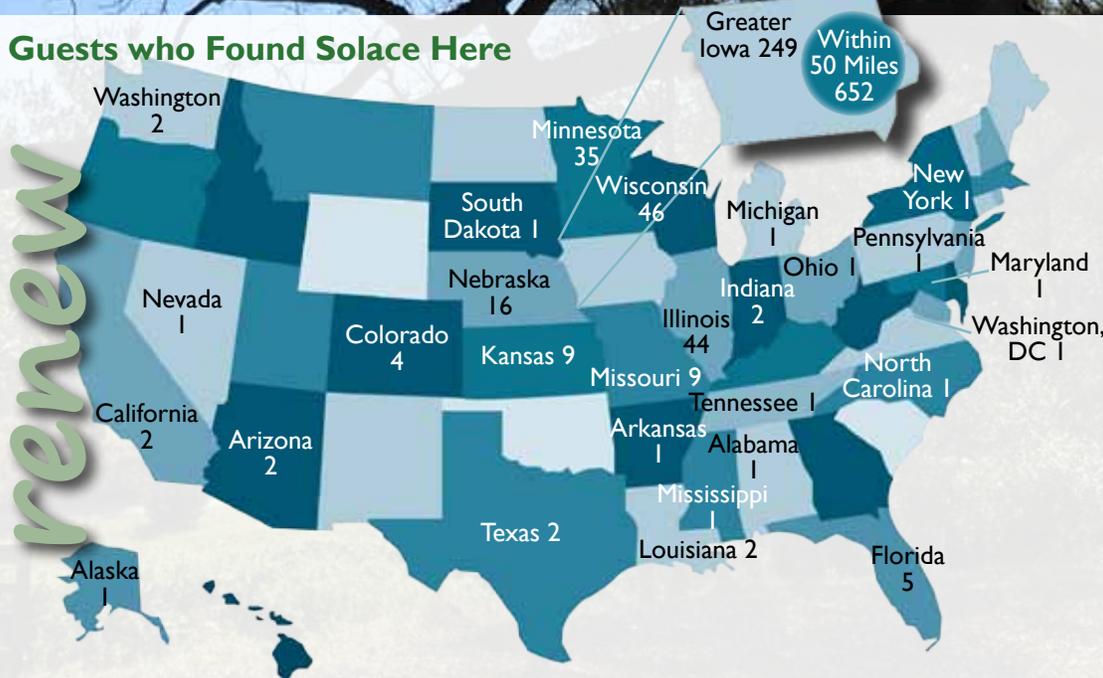
Peace and all good,

Jenifer A. Hanson, Director

### Highlights from the Last Fiscal Year

- Aug. 2015:** Celebrated Pope Francis' eco-encyclical *Laudato Si'* with *Praise Be* series of programming focused on eco-spirituality
- Sept. 2015:** Kicked off 8<sup>th</sup> annual *Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life (SEEL)* retreat that lasts 9 months
- Sept. 2015:** Hosted Iowa's 1<sup>st</sup> native music festival with *Sweetgrass Flute & Nature Fest*
- Oct. 2015:** Began hosting 8-week *Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction* classes
- Dec. 2015:** Provided meaningful gift-giving options at annual *Holiday Bazaar* and Cedar Rapids' 18<sup>th</sup> annual *Alternative Gift Market*
- Jan. 2016:** Launched 2016 with announcement of 25 spiritual retreats
- April 2016:** Welcomed Diarmuid O'Murchu, MSC, and Peter Mayer to annual *Spirituality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* conference with 230 people
- May 2016:** Completed East Culvert Project to reshape eroded banks of Dry Creek to help our community with stormwater mitigation
- June 2016:** Celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 200 friends at *Garden Party* fundraiser, raising \$31,325 for future of Prairiewoods

### Guests who Found Solace Here



2,065  
nights spent in Guest House &  
2 solar-powered Hermitages

825  
holistic services received,  
including massage, reflexology  
& healing touch

1,525  
spiritual direction sessions  
experienced with  
8 certified spiritual directors

help

5,403  
hours of volunteer time  
donated by

174  
individual volunteers &  
5 service groups

learn



Holistic Health  
Programming

Spiritual  
Programming

Ecological  
Programming

4,476  
people attended  
393 Prairiewoods  
programs & retreats

3,220  
people attended events  
hosted in meeting spaces  
at Prairiewoods

grow

34  
different types of produce grown in  
gardens shared with Metro Catholic  
Outreach (MCO)

634  
pounds of produce given to those in  
need through MCO's food pantry

7,991  
healthy meals served at Prairiewoods

conserve

100  
solar photovoltaic panels  
produced

21,858  
kWh of energy,  
which is enough  
to power 2 homes  
for a year

support

Grants &  
Donations

Gift  
Shop



Holistic  
Services

Space  
Rental

Endowment  
Interest

Programming

**Income**

July 2015-June 2016

Grants & Donations  
\$431,531

Programming  
\$190,432

Endowment Interest  
\$152,983

Space Rental  
\$73,382

Holistic Services  
\$67,242

Gift Shop  
\$41,931

Other Income  
\$2,588

**Total**  
**\$960,089**

**Expenses**

July 2015-June 2016

Salary & Benefits  
\$604,381

Administration & Upkeep  
\$73,817

Programming  
\$59,899

Restricted Gifts  
\$38,882

Marketing  
\$29,584

Gift Shop  
\$25,164

Food Services  
\$24,446

**Total**  
**\$856,173**

Thank you for all YOU helped Prairiewoods accomplish in 2015-16!  
For a complete list of donors, please visit [www.Prairiewoods.org/Donate](http://www.Prairiewoods.org/Donate).