Dear TLS Members,

**In preparation for the Annual General Meeting, that will be virtual this year, the Nominating Committee has put together a slate of candidates that we recommend to stand for election to the Board of Directors.** Voting will take place during the Annual General Meeting that will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021 at 5 pm as part of the Virtual Gathering Event. If you wish to attend you will be given the opportunity to register for this session for free closer to the event. Enclosed is a proxy ballot that can be submitted by mail or email prior to the Gathering if you will not be attending.

**The Nominating Committee consists of Ruta Janulevičienė, Kay Whipple, and David Gallagher serving as advisory members. The Nominating Committee, which is one of the Society’s standing committees, is charged with finding, interviewing, and selecting nominees to the Board, beginning with a general appeal to the membership for recommendations. This task is taken very seriously and much attention is given to careful interviews that are often conducted by several members of the Nominating Committee and/or the Executive Committee.**

Once elected, Board Members serve a three-year term except in the case of being reelected to serve as an elected Executive Committee Officer in which case, the Board Member may be reelected to serve out the remaining length of their term as an Officer. Although Board Members are elected to the Board in general, each Board Member assumes responsibility for one or more committees. In the course of their term they may serve in various capacities.

We are a widespread group not living in close enough proximity for us all to know one another. This is why we have a geographically widespread Nominating Committee to search for people to take on leadership roles. Thankfully, through technology, we have the ability to support and encourage committee involvement, no matter where members are located.

**We have always offered the membership an opportunity to vote on the slate as a whole. Election of the slate requires a majority of both those TLS members who are present at the Annual General Meeting and those who send in proxy ballots. If a majority is not attained, the slate does not pass and the Nominating Committee continues to search. We encourage you to vote either by proxy or in person at the Virtual Gathering either in favor of or against the slate the Nominating Committee has prepared.**

**The Nominating Committee is proud to present the following 2021 Slate of Candidates for Election to the Board of Directors:**

* **Janice Lewis**
* **Kathryn McLean**
* **Yadina Clark**
* **Athena Dugan**
* **Tim TenClay**
* **Karen Kelley**

**Biographies of the Nominees**

**Janice Lewis**

After nearly a decade of working in the Christian church community in the U.S. and Canada, Janice decided to form her own business, JaniceTime.

Janice is a certified Pastoral Care Specialist and a Spiritual Director who was part of the team that created a new spiritual practice called “Contemplative Fire.” She also is a certified Life Coach and a practitioner of Christian and Buddhist meditation methodologies.

She is dedicated to working with people so they can reach their full potential and realize their dreams.

She has served on the board of the International Coach Federation Chicago and has been a leader with the eWomenNetwork, Dream University®, and Engaging Speakers in Chicago.

Janice is currently volunteering her time with Chicago Lights, an organization dedicated to supporting and meeting the needs of children, youth and adults who are facing the challenges of poverty in Chicago.

Janice owns four canvas labyrinths and created the Traveling Labyrinth Workshop to bring walking meditation, and the benefits of spiritual and personal development to a broader audience.

Some examples of Janice’s work with the Labyrinth include: International Coach Federation Chicago Team Building Retreat, Elam Davies Social Service Center Labyrinth Talk and Walk, TLS Annual Gathering Workshop with the Labyrinth and the Enneagram Labyrinth walks with a variety of organizations, First Presbyterian Church, The Chicago Temple, Bodhi Prem Yoga Center, the Dream Quest Chicago and more!

While living in Canada Janice earned certification with Veriditas and after having made two pilgrimages to Chartres France to walk the labyrinth she earned Advanced Facilitator Certification with Veriditas. Janice is also an Advanced Certified Personality Consultant with the Enneagram, she is a member of the International Enneagram Association and certified in the PeaceMaker Circle technique.

**Kathryn McLean**

In 1998, Kathryn first encountered labyrinths while attending a Presbyterian Church (USA) urban ministry conference in San Francisco as a new seminary graduate. That experience inspired her to learn more about labyrinths through Veriditas and engage the labyrinth in her service as congregational minister initially; and then also in her work as a Board Certified Chaplain in hospitals and retirement communities, as a Spiritual Director, social justice advocate and retreat/pilgrimage leader. Kathryn previously served on the Veriditas Council and is a Veriditas trained Advanced Facilitator and has researched the role of labyrinths in community through the doctoral program at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL and has presented her work at TLS events. She is interested in encouraging, supporting and resourcing the growing labyrinth community through the work of collaborative labyrinth research so that we can more deeply understand the role and impact and possibilities the labyrinth has for individuals, groups and communities around the world.

**Yadina Clark**

Yadina Clark is a labyrinth artist, researcher, educator, and musician. She is involved in labyrinth typology research and pattern analysis and has created labyrinth path length calculators and a color-coded map of over 250 labyrinths in New England. “[Labyrinths of New England](https://yadinaclark.wixsite.com/labyrinthsne)” began as a graduate research project and became the umbrella term for much of her labyrinth work. This has included temporary and permanent installations, finger and tabletop labyrinths, walk facilitation, labyrinth workshops, and mindfulness playshops.

Dee earned a Master of Fine Arts in Intermedia from the University of Maine where she specialized in labyrinth design and permaculture and continued her studies in music composition and performance. In addition to teaching about labyrinths, she has been involved in education for many years in music and environmental education. She brings her music and labyrinth skills together for occasions such as solstice and equinox celebrations.

**Athena Dugan**

Athena is a Certified Veriditas Labyrinth Facilitator and a Regional Representative with TLS for the Philadelphia area.  She creates temporary labyrinths for public and private events.  She has collaborated with Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park Conservancy in a workshop where the participants also made a labyrinth.  Athena annually installs a temporary labyrinth for the Philadelphia Pagan community events.

Athena owns an online Pagan shop named Earth’sEnergies that sells her handmade jewelry and wood-burned crafts.  As a co-facilitator of a Wiccan group, she too is a co-facilitator with the drumming group Earth Drum Circle in NYC.  Her Facebook page, Walkers of the Labyrinth, shares her labyrinth journey and other labyrinth-related events.  Athena hosts monthly labyrinth walking meditations, and LIVING LABYRINTHS, a monthly online podcast blog, introduces the listeners to Labyrinth makers and their specialty.

As a Certified Soundbath practitioner, a Mindfulness meditator, she also studies the Chakras and Reiki.  A lover of traveling, Athena is sure to find a labyrinth to walk wherever she visits.

**Tim TenClay**

Tim describes himself as a “Husband, Father, Pastor, Baker, Knitter, Labyrinth Facilitator, Pizza Maker, Bicycle-r, and all-around Love-to-Learn-New-Things-er.” His undergraduate studies at Central College (Pella, IA) were in music and world religions; he received his Masters of Divinity in Holland, MI and his Doctorate of Ministry in Worship and Spirituality from Northern Theological Seminary in Lombard, IL. He is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America and has served churches in Michigan, New York, and Italy.

Tim is a Certified Veriditas Labyrinth Facilitator and the TLS International Regional Representative for Italy. He is the creator of Lets talk Labyrinths (Instagram: @letstalklabyrinths) and often describes labyrinth use as an “archetypal spiritual discipline.” He believes labyrinths are a profound tool for facilitating emotional, psychological, relational, and spiritual health and wholeness for all people regardless of their background, religion or philosophical beliefs.

**Karen Kelley**

Karen Kelley is a TLS Regional Rep for Texas, Veriditas Advanced Labyrinth Facilitator, spiritual director, SoulCollage® Facilitator, Boundless Compassion Facilitator and retired computer programmer. Karen received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, cum laude, from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, Louisiana. After working for IBM on the Space Shuttle program at NASA’s Johnson Space Center, Karen’s path turned to motherhood. The labyrinth found Karen when a friend suggested she attend a walk at a local church in Houston. Immediately hooked, she continued the journey and has held several volunteer positions with both TLS and Veriditas. Karen is married to Keith for 38 years and they share an adult son, Lance. She enjoys travel, using EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) and the labyrinth to help herself and others heal their emotional pain, and attending and organizing labyrinth events as often as possible.

**PROXY BALLOT**

If you are unable to attend this year's Annual Meeting and wish to vote for candidates for the Board of Directors, please electronically deliver this proxy ballot by replying to this email or send through postal service to Labyrinth Society Ballot, P.O. Box 736 Trumansburg, NY, 14886-0736. For your vote to count this ballot must be received no later than **Thursday**, **October 21, 2021.**

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**2021 Slate of Candidates for Election to the Board**

* **Janice Lewis**
* **Kathryn McLean**
* **Yadina Clark**
* **Athena Dugan**
* **Tim TenClay**
* **Karen Kelley**

**I vote for the slate of candidates**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I vote against the slate of candidates**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* I would like to become active in TLS by serving on a committee.  YES \_\_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_\_
* If you marked YES, which committee(s) interests you?

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(Finance, Nominating, Educational Resources, Public Relations, Publications, Proofreading, Special Projects, Research, Membership, Energy Keepers, Website, Gathering)