Dear TLS Members,

**In preparation for the Annual General Meeting, 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 Saturday, October 1 at 9-10:30am, MT as part of the Annual Gathering Event at the Franciscan Renewal Center (the Casa) in Scottsdale, Arizona. We hope everyone at the Gathering will plan to attend. 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 Beth Langley (chair), Ruta Janulevičienė, Janice Lewis, Kay Whipple and David Gallagher. Beth Langley accepted an appointment to the Board to complete Karen Kelley’s term which will expire in 2023. 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 Gathering either in favor of or against the slate the Nominating Committee has prepared.**

**The Nominating Committee is proud to present the following 2020 Slate of Candidates for Election to the Board of Directors:**

* **Carmel Stabley (renewing member)**
* **Frank Faine (renewing member)**



**Biographies of the Nominees**

Carmel Stabley

VP of Community

Regional Reps Chair

Carmel Stabley is an Advanced-Certified Labyrinth Facilitator with training through Veriditas in Chartres, France, as well as labyrinth studies and pilgrimages in Sweden, Spain, Germany, and Iona. Carmel serves on the Board of Directors for The Labyrinth Society and has been a Chairperson since 2016, working in areas of community building and membership, while developing a global network of Regional Representatives. She is also a World Labyrinth Day Committee member.

Carmel also hosts monthly walks and seminars throughout Pennsylvania and the surrounding area. There she creates labyrinth experiences and provides teaching on the history, sacred geometry, and the mental, physical, and spiritual benefits of the walking meditation practice. She is the originator of the Labyrinth Connection of Susquehanna Valley, a group of walkers with a newsletter and Facebook page by the same name, which connects walkers to events. She is also a Certified Contemplative Leader, Certified Group Spiritual Director, Reiki Practitioner, and retreat planner.

Carmel works on the creative edge between the present and the next step when facilitating and inviting others to emerge in authentic ways to their best awakened selves.

As a workshop leader, event planner, and contemplative leader, Carmel weaves ceremony, ritual, and nature into her work to create a lasting touchstone for others. Her award-winning career in marketing and advertising helps to bring her creativity, networking skills, and service to others to the forefront in all endeavors.

A graduate of Faith School of Theology Charleston Maine, (now Faith Bible College International)  <https://www.faithbci.org/>, Carmel holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theological Studies with a minor in Pastoral Theology, graduating cum laude. Through silence and solitude, her personal Centering Prayer and labyrinth practice have guided her to service in  “Witnessing, Waiting, and Walking with Others.”

Franklin Faine

VP of Outreach

Education Chair

Franklin Faine is a spiritual director, Veriditas-trained labyrinth facilitator, and retreat leader living in Orlando, FL.  His work centers on companioning, healing, and teaching through spiritual direction, labyrinth walks, and retreats for all persons, organizations, and communities on their journeys to embrace life affirming spiritual paths. He is also a writer, poet and musician whose most current project is completing a book entitled: The Encircling Embrace: Exploring the Mystic Hospitality of the Labyrinth, In addition his professional background includes time spent as pastor for two United Church of Congregations in Florida; experience as a chaplain in a variety of healthcare settings with specific emphasis on coping with the spiritual and emotional challenges chronic illness, death and dying. In addition he has been a psychotherapist specializing in holistic approaches to promoting well-being of mind, body, and spirit as well as work as a life coach helping folks in the areas of career/life transitions. He has also served on the boards of a diverse array of non-profit organizations, such as the Orlando Chapter of American Society for Training and Development, as Program Chair; with the Association for Professional Chaplains Annual Conference Committee as Local Arrangements Chair, and most recently as Vice-President for Development for Gay Men of Wisdom, a national educational organization designed to promote a positive vision of gay men’s gifts to all persons and our planet.

In his labyrinth work his areas of interest and expertise are exploring/discovering ways to use the labyrinth experience and process to build open, inclusive, and nurturing communities. It is his passionate belief the labyrinth offers us both as individuals and communities a place and a path where we may find welcome for our authentic selves and our gifts as we discover its encircling embrace across the varied/diverse places, circumstances and locations from which we may come.

Education:

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)    Seabury-Western Theological Seminary

EdS     Mental Health Counseling, University of Florida

BA/MA Speech-Communication, University of South Florida

Other educational accomplishments being a Verditas trained labyrinth facilitator and completion of four units of ACPE approved Clinical Pastoral Education

***(Please continue to the next page for the separate Proxy Ballot)***

**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 **Friday**, **September 30, 2022**

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**2020 Slate of Candidates for Election to the Board**

**Carmel Stable Frank Faine**

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

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

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

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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)