



## Franciscan Renewal Center

Peace. Renewal. Good.

### Spiritual Directors at the Franciscan Renewal Center

Contact Cathy Olds at [spiritualdirection@thecasa.org](mailto:spiritualdirection@thecasa.org) to have a director contact you.



#### **Ruth M. Baker, MA**

Received her Spiritual direction training from Mercy Center, Burlingame, CA. Her emphasis in spiritual direction is prayer, discernment, life transitions, 12-step and Ignatian spirituality, grief and loss, and trauma. She is open to meeting with folks for a private retreat at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



#### **Ron Friesen**

Completed his spiritual direction training through Christian Formation and Direction Ministries and desires to explore the God within each of us, regardless of faith tradition. He has worked as a pastor and a chaplain for the ill, the dying, the grieving, and those experiencing homelessness. He is open to meeting with folks for a private retreat at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



#### **Charlie Brown**

Completed two years of spiritual direction certification through the Arizona Ecumenical Institute for Spiritual Direction. Charlie has worked for the Franciscan Renewal Center for 27 years and is currently the Executive Director. His experience and spiritual direction focus are grief and loss, divorce, Franciscan spirituality, prayer and pilgrimage. He has led several pilgrimages to Rome and Assisi.



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5802 East Lincoln Drive  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85253

480.948.7460 phone  
TheCasaFRC on social media

[thecasa.org](http://thecasa.org)  
*All are welcome.*



**Cathy Olds, MA**

Received her training in spiritual direction from the Arizona Ecumenical Institute for Spiritual Directors and holds a master's degree in theology from the University of Dayton. She has a love for Celtic and Marian Spirituality. She is the coordinator of the Spiritual Direction Ministry and a staff member at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



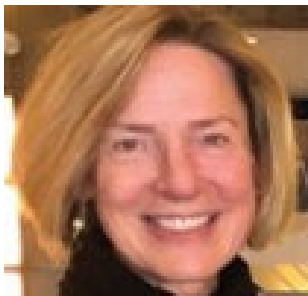
**Bonnie McCulley, MA, BCC, LPC, CDWF**

Provides a strong listening presence and safe, open space to share your sacred story focusing on life transitions: i.e, illness, trauma, and the emotional and spiritual distress experienced in loss and grief. Board Certified Chaplain (BCC), Licensed Spiritual Counselor (LPC) and Certified Spiritual Director (AEISD). She is open to meeting with folks for private retreats at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



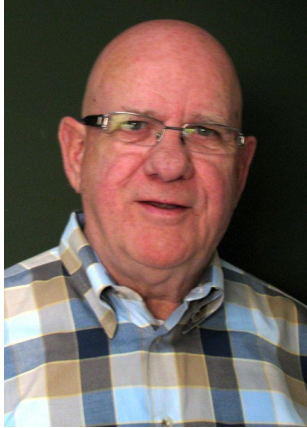
**Gladyce Jankey, MA**

She received her training in Ignatian Spiritual Direction through Creighton University and holds a master's degree in ministry and Christian Spirituality. She is available for general spiritual direction and to meet with folks for private retreats or to accompany them through the Spiritual Exercises.



**Milly Johnson, MA**

Received her training in spiritual direction from the London Center for Spirituality and holds a Master's degree in Christian Spirituality from the University of London. The emphasis in her practice is on Ignatian and Mystical spirituality, prayer, life transitions, and discernment. She is open to listening to every person's story and supports each person's journey - whatever life brings.



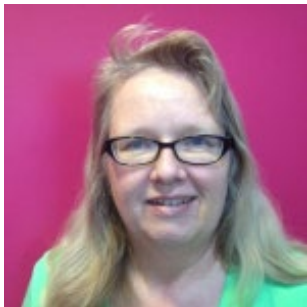
**Rene Perreault, Jr. OFS**

Received spiritual direction training from Sacred Heart University and is a secular Franciscan. He is a spiritual companion to people of all faiths, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those in recovery, with a passion for contemplative, ecological, Franciscan, and Ignatian spiritualities. He is open to meeting with folks on private retreats at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



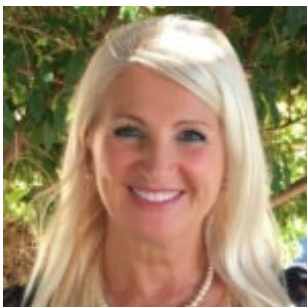
**Diane Owens**

Completed the Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction and is a member of the Casa's faith community. She is a writer and nature photographer who honors the intersection of spirituality and creativity. She also has a love for Ignatian Spirituality and is open to meeting with folks on private retreat at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



**Virginia Vollmer, OFS**

Received her certification in spiritual direction from the Arizona Ecumenical Institute for Spiritual Directors. She is a secular Franciscan and is open to listening to all on the journey of faith. She is open to meeting with folks for a private retreat at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



**Ria Tokkie**

Completed his spiritual direction training through Christian Formation and Direction Ministries and focuses her spiritual direction ministry on inner healing, contemplative life and bereavement. She is open to meeting with folks on private retreat at the Franciscan Renewal Center.



**Sheila Howe, MA**

Focus includes the mental, spiritual and physical well-being and transformation of those who seek her help and listening heart. Her spiritual direction training is from the Kino Institute. Sheila offers individual and couples spiritual direction online via Zoom or Skype.



**George Meiergerd, MS**

Completed his spiritual direction training through Christian Formation and Direction Ministries. His emphasis in his spiritual direction ministry is on healing of grief, intimacy of the Divine in nature, and support for veterans.



**Elizabeth Ursic, PhD, M Div**

Completed her spiritual direction training at Yale Divinity School. She is an artist and musician focusing her spiritual direction ministry on life transitions, inner healing, interfaith spirituality, contemplative prayer, meditation, women's spirituality and young adults.



**Katie Sullivan**

Received her spiritual direction training through Mercy Center. She has been a spiritual director for 25+ years and a lifelong researcher and practitioner of the interplay between our WellBeing and active relationships with our Living, Loving God. Katie worships and celebrates within the Franciscan Catholic Tradition and enjoys working with people of all faith backgrounds and traditions. She offers retreats and assists with spiritual direction on retreats at the Franciscan Renewal Center and is available for spiritual direction online by appointment.

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*Information updated March 2025.*