

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

WHY I SERVE

by Karen Lueck, FSPA

I serve as a board member of the Franciscan Spirituality Center because I want to be a part of this welcoming community. As a Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration, I have dedicated my life to our FSPA mission: “to manifest God’s love in the world; to bring new life, meaning, and hope to a suffering and searching humanity; to heal with compassion and forgiveness; to proclaim the Gospel in word and action.” The Franciscan Spirituality Center is a living example of that mission. When I walk through the doors of the FSC, I feel that welcoming spirit and loving presence.

I meet people, both staff and seekers, who inspire me to be a better person, to do all I can to bring this spirit to the world. Whether it is through an art class, a workshop on shame, a group healing from trauma, a facilitation on grief, a gathering to combat racism, the ongoing Spiritual Direction Preparation Program, a retreat in nature, an exploration of Franciscan values or a chat over coffee in the cozy gift shop – all are efforts to bring healing and new life to the world.

And I love working with the other board members. They are people from all backgrounds and ways of life who recognize the importance of the FSC mission and want to do everything they can to facilitate that process. This all might sound like very serious work, and it is, but what I also love about the board is our ability to laugh. Joy permeates our meetings and helps us to go forth, bringing that joy and hope to a world so in need. I feel blessed to be a part of it.

FUN FACT: Sister Karen was a cheerleader in high school. You can purchase a copy of her book about leadership, “**Cheering for the Good: Leading When It Matters,**” in our Sophia Bookstore. While you are browsing, enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee or tea.

