



# Alumni Association Newsletter

August 2016

Vol. I, Issue I

## From the AFSI Alumni Association Membership Director

*Rev. Dr. Doris T. McGuffey*

Steve Jobs is credited with saying, "If you are working on something exciting that you care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you." It is from this energy and perspective that I serve the All Faiths Seminary International, Alumni Association as Director of Membership.

In March 2016, All Faiths Seminary International took the first step toward establishing an Alumni Association for its graduates. Rev. Dr. Kathleen T. Regan, Dean of AFSI, said in her letter of announcement that, "We are putting in place a plan to start the process of formally establishing our AFSI Alumni Association." She invited graduates to become members of, what she described as "a vibrant community of interfaith ministers and stakeholders committed to supporting AFSI Programs and committed to supporting each other through an array of spiritual, social and educational programs and activities." I believe this vision cannot become a reality without our active involvement and support. No one knows our needs better than we do.

This vision pushes me! And so I responded by becoming a co-creative force in its manifestation.

Yes, I am committed and care deeply about our vision for AFSI AA. My role in this co-creative process is to encourage graduates to become active members; to become active in the co-creative process to ensure that the association, as created, meets the needs of all concerned.

Many of you have acknowledged the need for an Alumni Association and are, also, advocates for its establishment. Thus far, fifteen graduates have joined. I do hope that others of you will, also, feel the power within the vision and become involved as active co-creative forces. I, especially, invite you to join me on the membership team to share the good news with other graduates about AFSI AA and its benefits. Together, we can establish the right and perfect support system for ourselves as a family of Interfaith Spiritual Leaders.

Our Alumni Association President, Rev. Dr. John Krysko is a committed and guiding force leading the way to the manifestation of our vision. Much love, attention and nourishment is needed for our vision to grow and thrive. I hope "the vision pulls you" toward becoming active, co-creative forces in manifesting our vision of AFSI Alumni Association. Join today and let's make it happen!

## First Annual AFSI Alumni Retreat

**Stony Point Center, Stony Point, NY**

**Friday, Oct. 21 - Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016**

**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

\$280/per person • \$400 single room option • Commuters: \$160

\$100 deposit (non-refundable) **due by August 31** • Balance due by September 30

**See attached flyer, page three, for further details!**

**AFSI Alumni Association**

P.O. Box 117

Shady Side, MD 20764

Dear Fellow Alums,

August 4, 2016

It is with great pleasure that I announce the formation of the Alumni Association of All Faiths Seminary International. This seminal interfaith organization has provided religious and spiritual training and education since 1999, and it is time to begin an alumni association.

The goals are simple and clear:

- Provide a means for members to keep in touch with classmates
- Assist AFSI in supporting graduates in their chosen calling through job postings, seminars, continuing education and retreats
- Highlight achievements and share inspirations with a newsletter
- Host an annual Retreat to continue the AFSI experience and friendships

Our first Annual AFSI Alumni Association Retreat will be held this fall at the Stony Point Center, just 30 miles north of New York City. The dates are Friday afternoon, October 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday afternoon, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The accompanying flyer and registration form provides the necessary information to participate in this next phase of the AFSI journey. Come join us as we explore the theme of "New Beginnings". The program will combine numerous teaching, healing and educational processes designed to assist us on our own journeys as well as providing break-out sessions to assist us in our own endeavors. We will also have ample time for fun, music and celebration.

Regardless of the vision, any organization is only as effective as its members. We are newly formed, but already a strong core is emerging to assist in this effort. This letter is an announcement, but it is also an appeal. We are not asking for money, but for the skills, love and intelligence that will help us make this association come alive. I will be sending out a questionnaire very shortly for your feedback and interests.

Warmest regards,

Rev. Dr. John Krysko,  
Alumni Association President, 2016-2017



# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual AFSI Alumni Retreat 2016

## *New Beginnings: Planting the Seeds*

Friday October 21 (3pm) to Sunday October 23 (ends after lunch)

### **Stony Point Center**

17 Cricketown Rd., Stony Point, NY 10980

- \$280/per person (members)
- \$400 single room option (members)
- Commuters: \$160 members • Extra Nights: \$110 per night
- \$100 deposit (non-refundable) due before August 31
- Balance due by September 30
- \$25 Alumni Association fee due at retreat for non-members

**Send check or money order payable to: *All Faiths Seminary Alumni***

c/o Rev. Dr. Doris McGuffey

P.O. Box 117

Shady Side, Maryland 20764

**Food:** vegan, vegetarian, and meat options available. They have a Farm-to-Table philosophy and fair trade practices - chocolate and coffee

**Transportation:** Stony Point can help arrange pick-ups at airports, Amtrak. A special discount from Newark airport is available. Call [845-786-5674](tel:845-786-5674) for more information.

#### **The Retreat Committee**

Alumni President: John Krysko (914) 483-7376

Membership Director: Doris McGuffey (310) 928-2865

Kathleen Regan (516) 659-9129

Bud James