



Spiritual Directors in Europe

February 2022

LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP

To open the recent EC meeting, Liina used love as the theme — looking ahead to St Valentine's day. She used an extract from "Le Petit Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.



You may like to ponder on the power of loving relationships and their impact on yourself and those you accompany.

"The fox said, "Go and look again at the roses. You will understand now that yours is unique in all the world. Then come back to say goodbye to me, and I will make you a present of a secret."

The little prince went away, to look again at the roses.

"You are not at all like my rose," he said. "As yet you are nothing. No one has tamed you, and you have tamed no one. You are like my fox when I first knew him. He was only a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But I have made him my friend, and now he is unique in all the world."

"You are beautiful, but you are empty," he went on. "One could not die for you."

And he went back to meet the fox... (The fox said), "And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

"What is essential is invisible to the eye," the little prince repeated, so that he would be sure to remember.

"It is the time you have wasted for your rose that makes your rose so important."

"It is the time I have wasted for my rose—" said the little prince, so that he would be sure to remember.

"Men have forgotten this truth," said the fox. "But you must not forget it.

You become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed. You are responsible for your rose..."

"I am responsible for my rose," the little prince repeated, so that he would be sure to remember.

EC—KEY UPDATES

The EC met on 8 February. Here are a few details of what was discussed.

Training

There was a long discussion about what EC had learnt about the training initiative and where this might go in the future.

They found there was much good material but also knew that some members had not felt included which is not part of the SD-Europe ethos.

It was felt very important that the EGM should offer Members another chance to reconnect with each other—to explore how things are in their lives and then to focus together on where the Spirit might be leading.

Details of the Meeting, the Zoom link and links to some supporting documents are included in the newsletter mailing.

As a long time was spent on this, EC looked only briefly at other issues.

Iceland 2022

Bookings are doing very well and the Houses at Skálholt are filling up! We have reserved rooms in a nearby hotel (transport will be provided).

EC looked briefly at the programme and agreed that we could focus on this after the Training has been resolved.

SD-Europe Finances

A few people have responded to the question about a Membership subscription. They thought this was a good idea and it will come to the EGM for discussion.

GETTING IN TOUCH

SDE Chair, Lehel Lészai

✉ chair@sd-europe.eu

Booking and membership details: Kathryn Turner

✉ secretary@sd-europe.eu

Membership fee/ finance enquiries: Teemu Salminen

✉ treasurer@sd-europe.eu

Gatherings and Meeting programmes: Liina Sander

✉ fourthmember@sd-europe.eu

ANNUAL MEETING 2022
PILGRIMAGE:
HEAR THE LAND SPEAK
4-9 MAY 2022

Bookings have been coming in for our visit to Iceland and our accommodation is filling up. There is some availability in the Main House and in Long House. There is also good availability in The Organist's House which is close to the main building. All rooms in Bishop's House are booked but there is space for sharing for one man and one woman.

Because we were running out of rooms, Teemu our Treasurer has negotiated a special deal with a local hotel, Blue Hotel Fagrilundur. This is in the nearby village of Reykholt, about 10 minutes' drive from Skálholt. Breakfast will be taken at the hotel. Transport to Skálholt will be provided.

The programme will be similar to previous meetings but with some changes to suit our amazing destination. There will be a pilgrimage day but also shorter contemplative walks around Skálholt. We will also have a silent day with opportunities to use that silence to hear the land speak.

We hope also to welcome local people interested in learning more to join us for one session. This is a great opportunity to share the joy of our ministry and encourage others to join it.

UK MEMBERS—USEFUL INFORMATION

A UK member put forward the idea of combining GBP payments and using GlobalWebPay to make one payment to SD-Europe. This incurs a standard fee regardless of the size of the payment. Our Company Secretary has agreed to be the "host" and to arrange the payment. Alas, this is too late for those who have paid in full, but for those still to pay—and for future events, this will make life much easier! Contact Kathryn or Teemu for more information.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 19 February 2022

Later this month, we will have an opportunity to meet together online. We will reflect on SD-Europe and the training of Spiritual Directors as well as hearing more about the planned pilgrimage to Iceland.

Here are approximate times for the event. (**UTC time—please check your local time!**) The Zoom link and background documents are attached to the newsletter mailing.

08.45 Log-in opens

09.00 Welcome and Opening Prayer

09.15 Spiritual Direction Training update.
Reconnecting with each other.
Break.

Conversation on Spiritual Direction training.
Main group—feedback and discussion.
Where to from here...

11.30 Iceland updates

Membership subscriptions

Estonia 2023!

11.50 Closing Prayer

12.00 Meeting ends.

RESOURCES FOR LENT!



Resources will be online shortly. If you have anything to share, please contact Liina as soon as possible!

Keeping
a Holy Lent



Thingvellir National Park—part of our Iceland Pilgrimage