

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a dense forest. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a dappled light effect on the path and foliage. The text "Celebrating 35 Years" is overlaid in a large, yellow, serif font.

Celebrating 35 Years

CHRIST IN THE WILDERNESS

A place for solitude,
prayer and reflection

Sponsored by the
Congregation of St. Joseph



35 Years

140 Changes of the Seasons

12,791 Sunrises and Sunsets

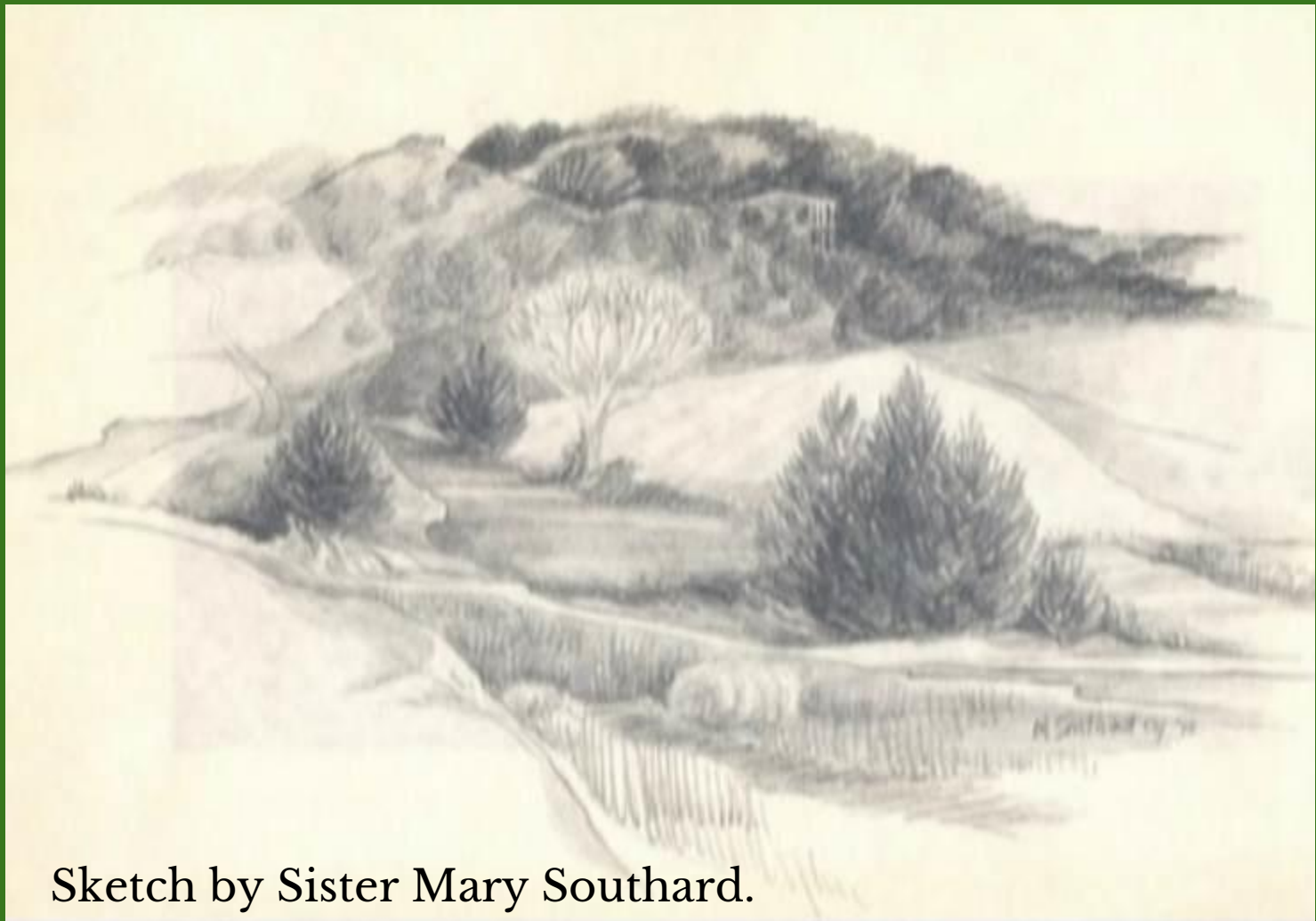
306,600 Hours of Silence & Solitude

255,504 Hours Spent in Retreat (since 1998)

Lives changed? Innumerable.

The idea of a
retreat center
began with Sister
Lorraine Mark.





Sketch by Sister Mary Southard.

1978: The first site.









1980: New site south of Stockton, Illinois.



First business office
of Christ in the Wilderness





Only source of water at
start of building

CHRIST IN THE WILDERNESS

A PLACE OF SOLITUDE AND PRAYER



THE STAFF LIVES AND WORKS IN QUIET AND
SOLITUDE AND STRIVES TO MAINTAIN
THIS ATMOSPHERE FOR RETREATANTS ;
THEREFORE TOURS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.
INFORMATION SHEETS ARE IN THE MAIL BOX.
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS:

CHRIST IN THE WILDERNESS
7500 SOUTH RANDECKER ROAD
STOCKTON, ILL. 61085

Location for Main House.













1983: Mariglen is finished.



Main House finished in 1983.

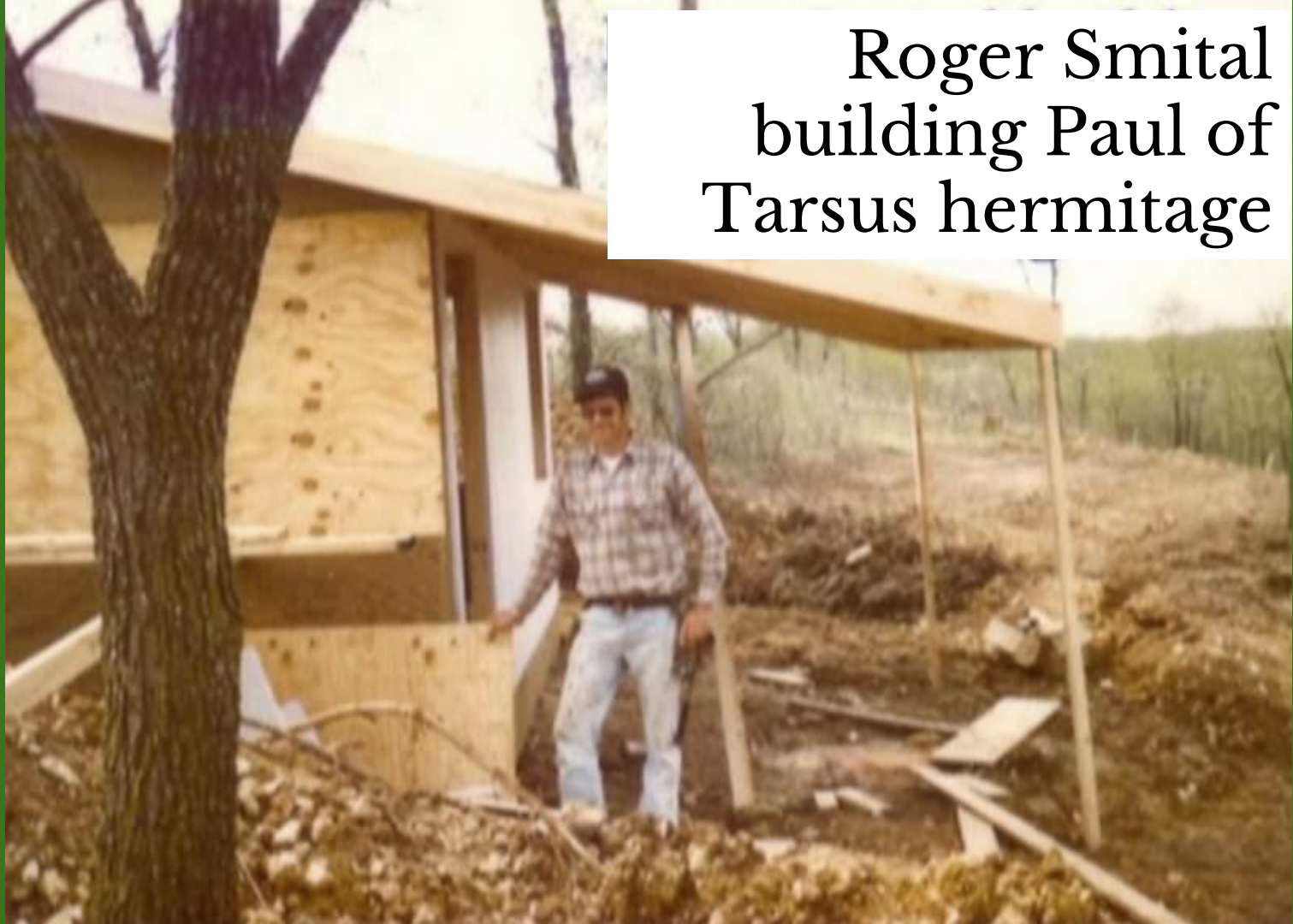
Tour in 1984



1985: Chicken House converted to Chapel



Roger Smital
building Paul of
Tarsus hermitage







First retreatant at Paul of Tarsus, Martha Wiegand, O.P.



1992



1985: Addition finished on Main House.



1994: Working with retreatants



1995: Construction begins on Sabbath Place







1998: A tornado struck the area





1999: Tree planting



2002: New Executive Director
Sr. Julia Bathon and Frank
Schwartz



2002: Renovation of the Granary





Sister Julia working on the Granary

Board Members as of June 4, 2005:



Seated: Jean Noble, Sr. Julia Bathon, OSF, Martha Bartholomew;
Standing: Sr. Joanne Vallero, CSJ, Kathy Carroll, Richard Hudzik, Marion Tuttle,
Becky Potter, Michael Nees, Barbara Bernhard.

Mariglen in 2004



2004



During the next ten years, CITW has embraced community involvement in Stockton . . .



Eagle Scout Projects



Open House Tours

and at the LaGrange Park Center.



The CITW Ministry goes about preserving the prairie habitat and wildlife



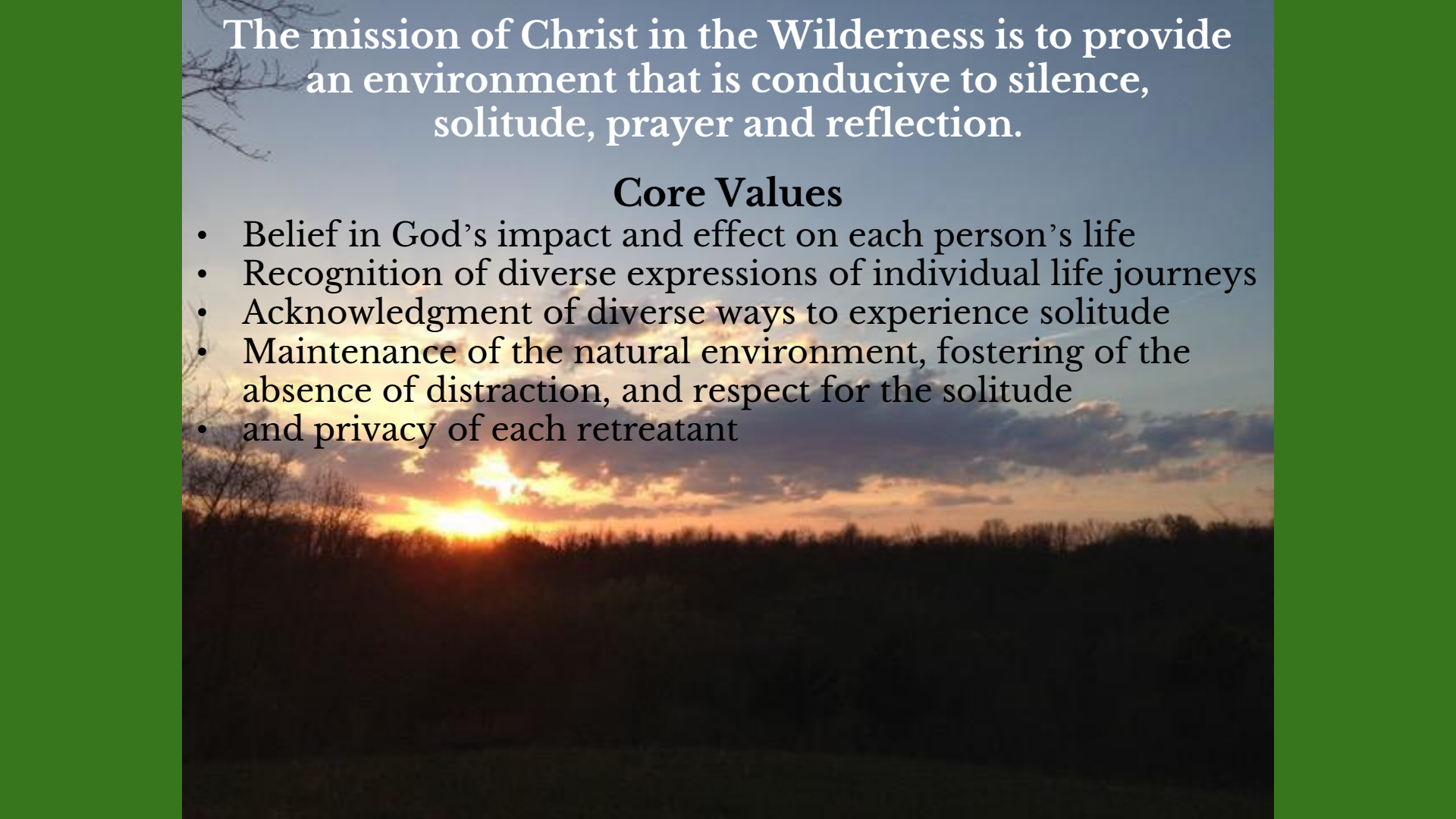




Leveraging grants from the state, CITW is constructing riffles to preserve the flow of the creek running through the property, preventing erosion from floods.



2015 Board: Left to right: Amy Kostbade, Executive Director Julia Bathon, Don Vicha, Treasurer Julie Snow, Mary McAuliffe, Secretary Maria Hill (CSJ), Chris March (CSJ) and Chair Michael Nees.



The mission of Christ in the Wilderness is to provide
an environment that is conducive to silence,
solitude, prayer and reflection.

Core Values

- Belief in God's impact and effect on each person's life
- Recognition of diverse expressions of individual life journeys
- Acknowledgment of diverse ways to experience solitude
- Maintenance of the natural environment, fostering of the absence of distraction, and respect for the solitude and privacy of each retreatant