



MorningStar Adventures

An Eco-Spiritual Retreat Center

20564 Morningstar Trail

LeRoy, Michigan 49655

December 6, 2016

Dear Friends,

For 35 years, MorningStar has provided a sacred, contemplative space for those who wish to connect deeply with the Divine. Nurturing those on the pathway, Julie Keefer wrote these words in 2006, and today they are as relevant as ever:

Learning to live more intimately and sustainably is the root religious call of our time. Religion is meant to join opposites and polarities, not further divide us from ourselves, one another, and nature. But this takes willingness to change, to be where we are, to persevere, if at all possible, in the circumstances or chaos we are in. It is a quest to overcome all that divides through fear of the "other." As we face and accept our deepest fears and our deepest contradictions, the light of love and grace leads us into the dawning of human authenticity grounded in intimacy and truth, integrity and wholeness, community and service. Life becomes reorganized around what matters most: right relationship with all life. This is the context which will sustain our lives with abundance and goodness.

The abundance and goodness that Julie writes about is evident in the loving support that our dear friends have given to MorningStar over the years. It is with deep gratitude that we close another year and look to the future with great optimism. Since our last communication with you, blessings have abounded:

- **A festive open house in October brought loyal friends and generous donors to help MorningStar in its quest to grow the board of directors and set a course for the next generation of its mission.**
- **Ambitious work has begun with an energized board of directors along with a professional consultant to craft a strong future for MorningStar.**
- **The wisdom and rich history of the MorningStar Sisterhood is being preserved through the establishment of an esteemed emeritus body.**

Those who love MorningStar are working hard to insure a solid future. Will you partner with us in this effort? For those who have been a part of the **Circle of Morning Stars** through planned monthly giving, we thank you and encourage you to continue this gifting on into 2017. Please consider a year-end gift that will help sustain MorningStar as it provides empowerment for the journey to wholeness and love. Here are some ways that you can support the work ahead:

- * \$25 per month will help us keep spreading the good news of MorningStar Adventures
- * Three monthly gifts of \$50 will keep the cabins warm & cozy
- * Two monthly gifts of \$100 will help keep us insured
- * Ten monthly gifts of \$200 will cover the salary of a new property manager
- * Five gifts of \$500 will keep the lights glowing for nearly a year
- * Three gifts of \$1,000 will go a long way towards the necessary repairs and maintenance on this beautiful, sacred space which provides so much healing respite.

May each and every one of us be a beacon of hope and love as we venture with the MorningStar mission into this new year.

With love and gratitude to each of you, as our extended community, for what you bring to MorningStar,

The MorningStar Board of Directors and the Wise Emeritus Sisterhood