Dear Friends,

As we write this report on the activities of the Henri Nouwen Society during 2019, we cannot help but be keenly aware of how dramatically our world has changed with COVID-19. We are so grateful for the opportunities we had this past year to share Henri’s words of comfort and reassurance, and our prayer is that those words continue to minister to people in meaningful and life-changing ways in these uncertain times.

We are profoundly grateful to all our donors and supporters for your generosity and commitment to our work. Clearly, you recognize that our programs and outreaches are deserving of your support. Here are the highlights of what we accomplished with your help:

• The number of subscribers to our Daily Meditations and to our Lent and Advent Weekly Reflections rose to over 54,000. Thanks to those of you who shared these spiritual gems with family, friends, and colleagues around the world.

• Our social media platforms and acclaimed podcasts continued to have an impact. People are spiritually hungry – perhaps more so because of the uncertain times in which we find ourselves.

• Our Courage for Caregivers retreats continued to be a valuable spiritual resource to those caring for a loved one at home. Much of the success of Courage for Caregivers, including the development of Michelle O’Rourke’s new book for professionals — Healthy Caregiving (published in March 2020), is due to the generous grant made available by Stronger Philanthropy. We are immeasurably grateful to have them partner with us on this vital and much-needed ministry.

• Our new book Following Jesus, based on six talks Henri Nouwen gave in 1985, was very well received. It was featured in our popular Advent online book discussion in December. Hundreds of readers from around the world participated in the discussion.

• The release of A Spirituality of Fundraising Workbook Edition was accompanied by an engaging and well-attended workshop at Tyndale University. This workbook is a rich resource for every organization that needs a new vision to inspire creative fundraising among its constituents.

• We continued to develop the wonderful play based on the life of Henri Nouwen. We are in awe of the creative, talented multi-national team that has come together in New York to ensure that this powerful story will be an unforgettable theatrical event.

• We worked with students from Redeemer University to examine how best to serve college-aged students who suffer from loneliness and depression. We are so grateful for the valuable input and ideas offered by these compassionate young people.

• We began production on The Wisdom Project, a new outreach to grade school children aimed at equipping them with the tools for wise decision-making and positive actions. This project represents our deep desire to introduce Henri to new audiences. We wish to thank the Pro Deo Foundation of Southern California for supporting this dynamic and innovative initiative.

Thank you for helping make 2019 one of our most significant and successful years ever!

Sincerely,

Karen Pascal
Executive Director

Sean Mulrooney
Chair

www.henrinouwen.org

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The **Henri Nouwen Society and Trust** exists to help people to encounter and accept the unconditional love of God that was at the heart of Henri Nouwen's spirituality and the central theme of his teaching and writing. We do this by publishing, preserving, and promoting Henri’s literary works; conveying Henri’s wisdom through online resources including daily meditations, podcasts, and book discussions; convening in-person and virtual conferences and workshops; and partnering with others to bring Henri’s ideas and insights to spiritual seekers around the world during uncertain and challenging times.

These complementary activities provide the needed financial capacity and incur the related costs to continue the work of the Society & Trust as illustrated in the financial report.

*Raymond Glennon, Treasurer
Karen Pascal, Executive Director*