Walking Towards Love
Walking In Love
Walking With Love



Women's Retreat Day American Church of Paris April 20, 2017

The Rev. Jill K H Geoffrion, Ph.D. www.jillgeoffrion.com praywithjillgeoffrion.wordpress.com



The labyrinth is often considered a metaphor for the journey of life. One who walks the labyrinth may be likened to a pilgrim.





PILGRIM RITUAL

May our minds be clear (prayer hands at head)

Our hearts open (hands opening at heart level)

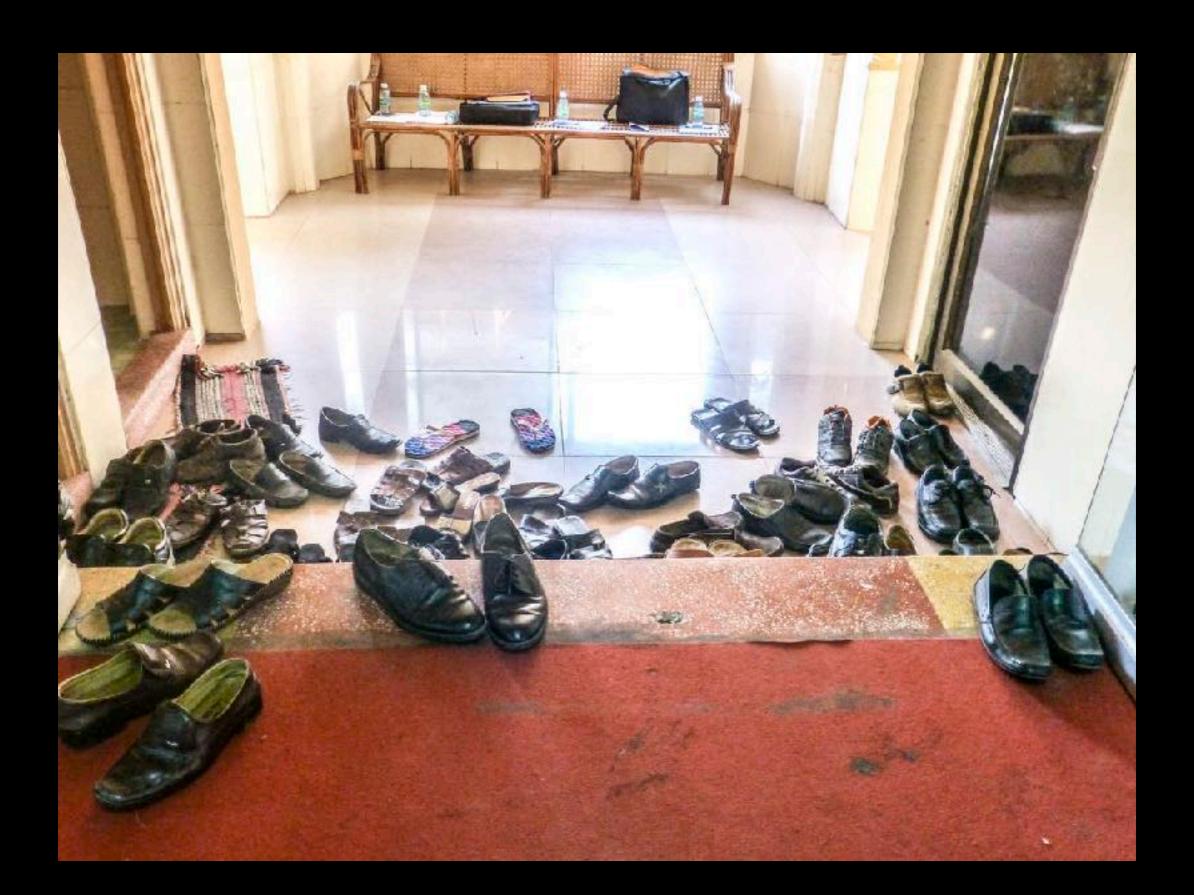
Our spirits free
(little fingers linked like a
butterfly
on either side of the heart,
then extending outward in a big
circle)

As we journey home (hands over belly)

And serve in love (hands reaching out)

Created by Cielle Tewksbury 1938-2014

In the 6th century it was St. Benedict, founder of the Benedictine Order and author of Benedict's Rule, who understood that "we are all co-travelers who need one another if we are to get home."



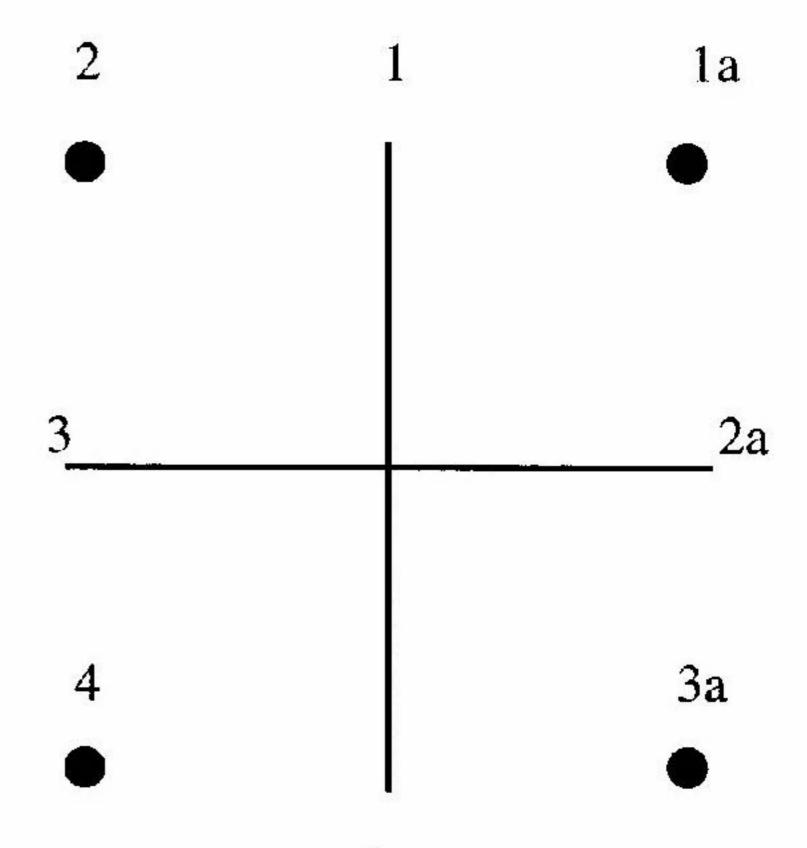
Prayer Exercise:

What do you NEED most today?

Put those four needs next to each dot.

One by one "build"/draw
a 3 circuit labyrinth connecting your needs to the cross of Christ.

Ask God to be connected today.



Ministries of building, researching, teaching, & photographing labyrinths around the world





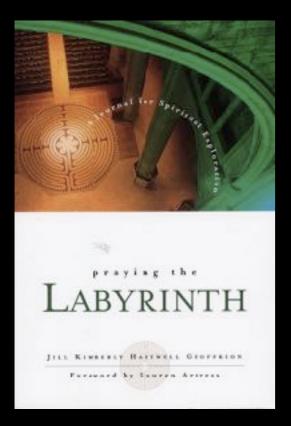


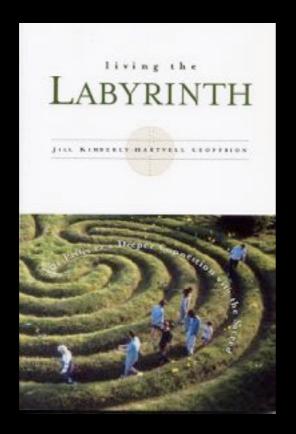


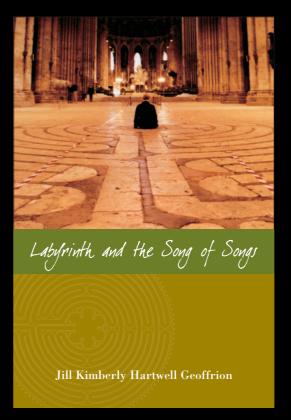


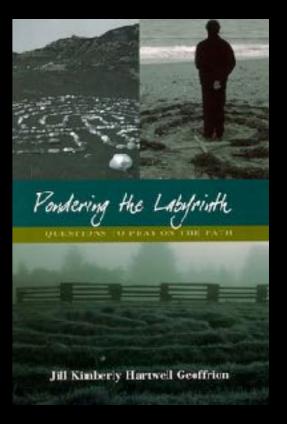


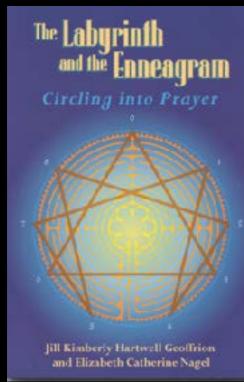
"May my teaching fall like rain, and my words, distill as the dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants." Deuteronomy 32:2

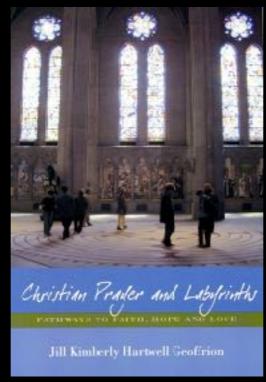


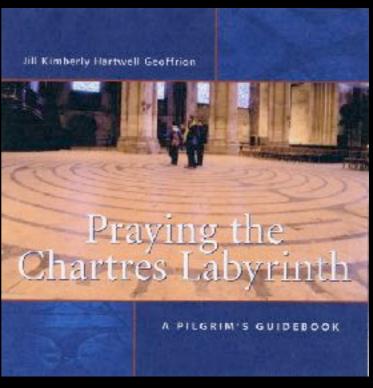




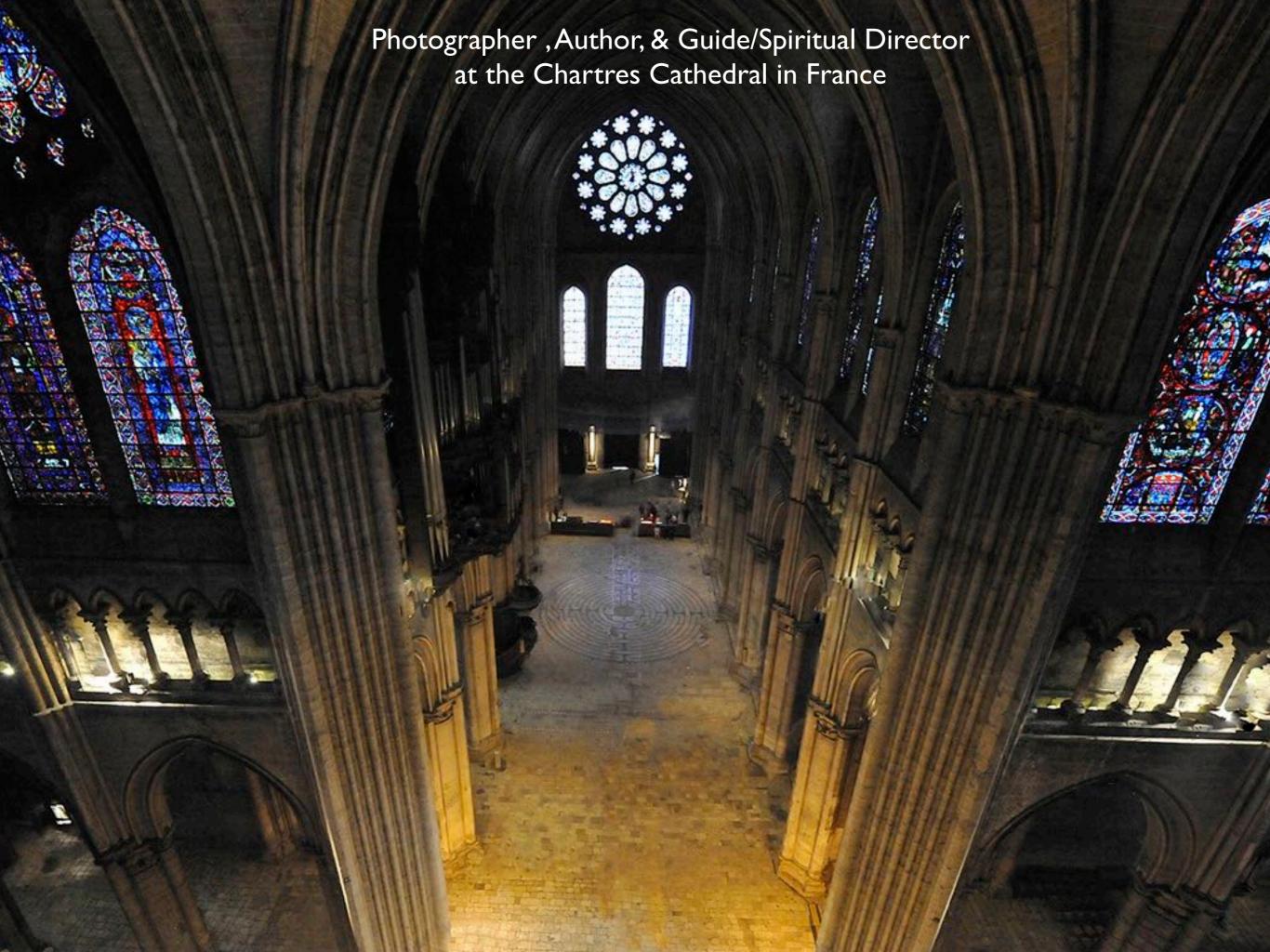




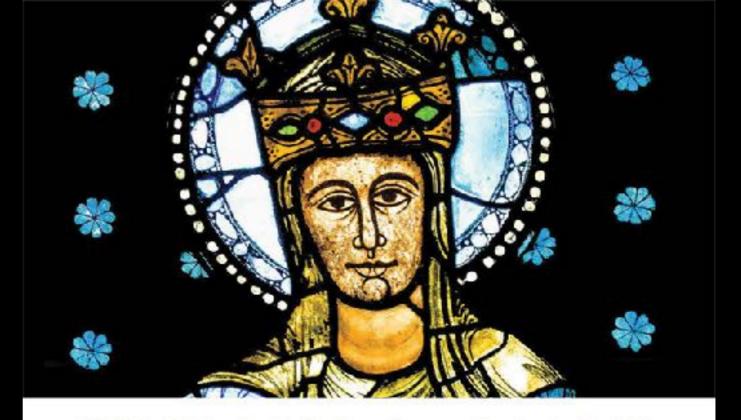




Books by Jill on labyrinth prayer



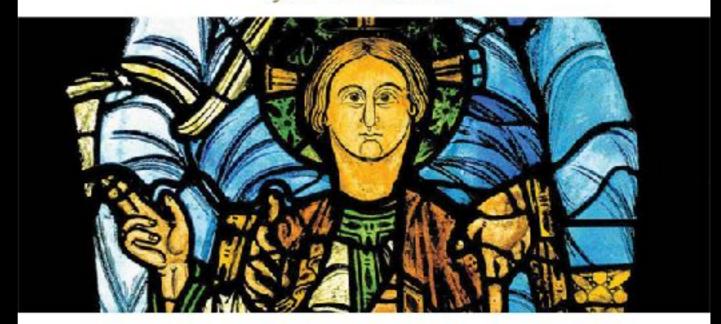
Release date: October, 2017



VISIONS OF MARY

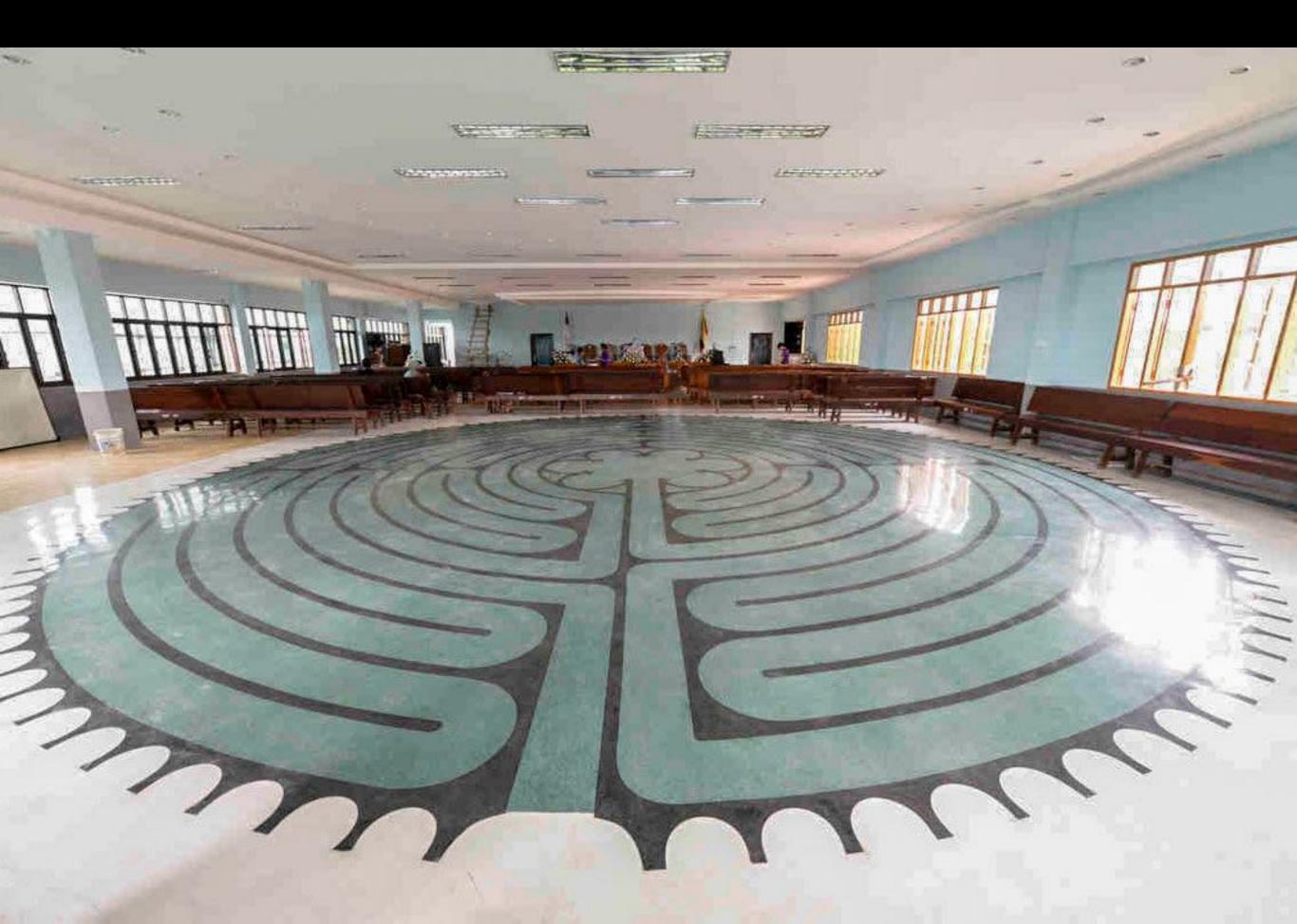
Art, Devotion, and Beauty of Chartres Cathedral

Jill Geoffrion





Introducing Labyrinth Prayer





Taking a prayer walk with God.

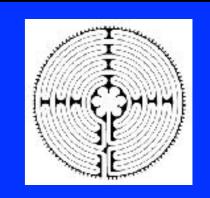


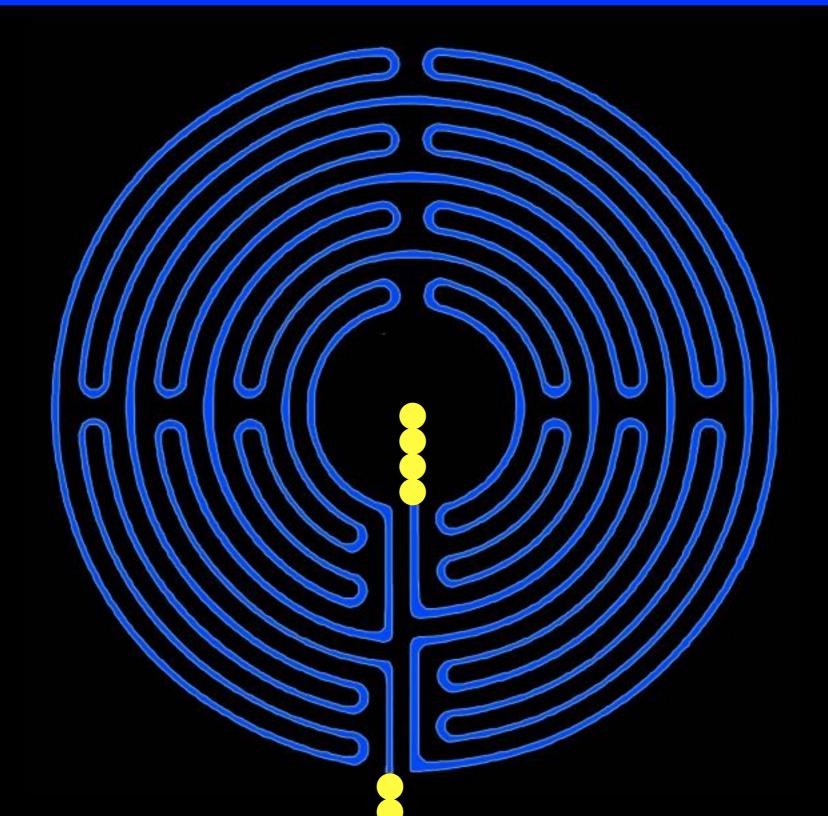


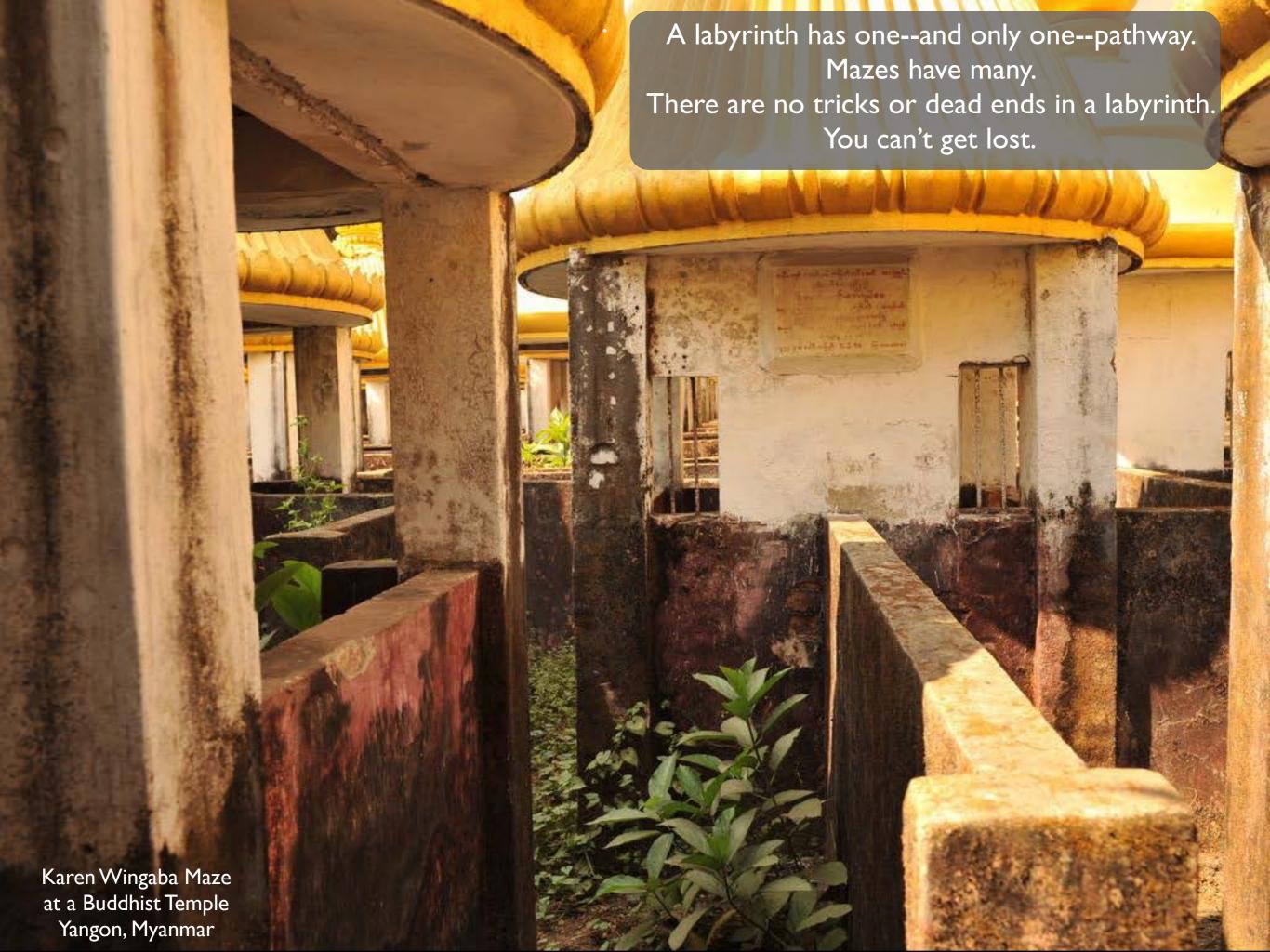


Labyrinths are designs that consist of a single, winding path that begins at the periphery and leads to a central space.

The way out is on the same path, but in the opposite direction.







Historical labyrinths exist all over the world. The oldest is approximately 4,000 years old. It is found in Goa, India.



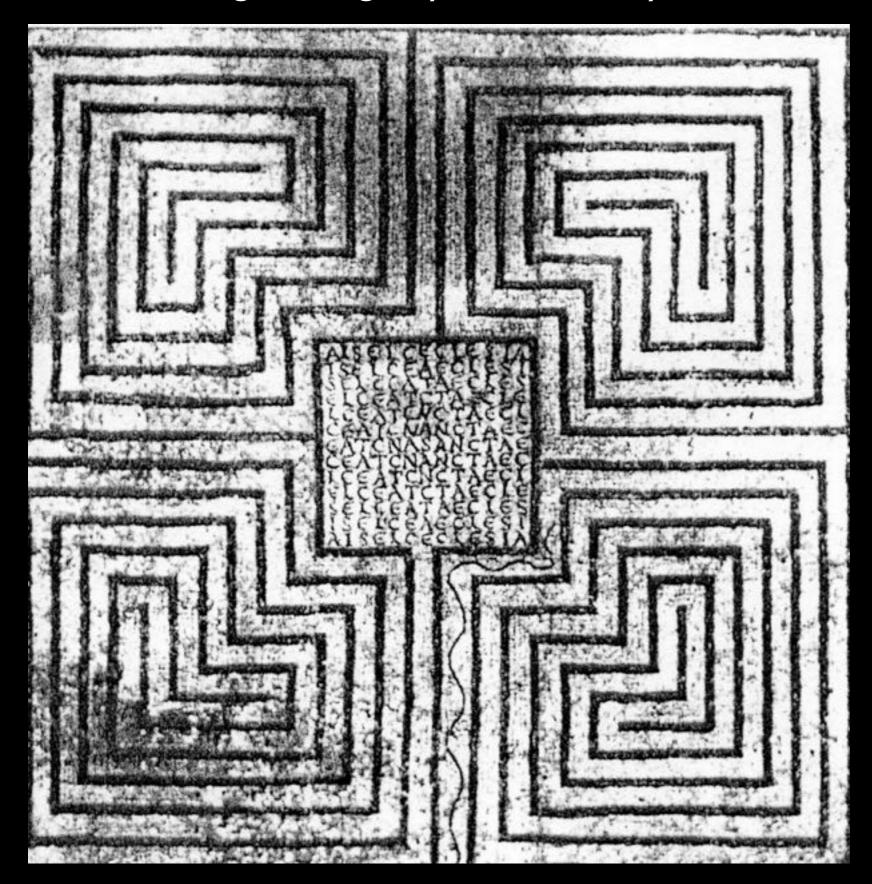


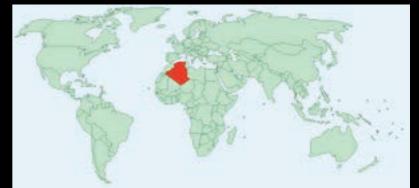


Goa, India 2,000-2500 BCE

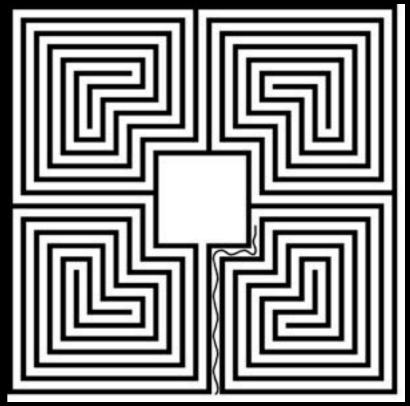
Pansaimol Labyrinth
©Jeff Saward see Labyrinths and Mazes & www.labyrinthos.net

Christians began using labyrinths as early as 324 A.D.

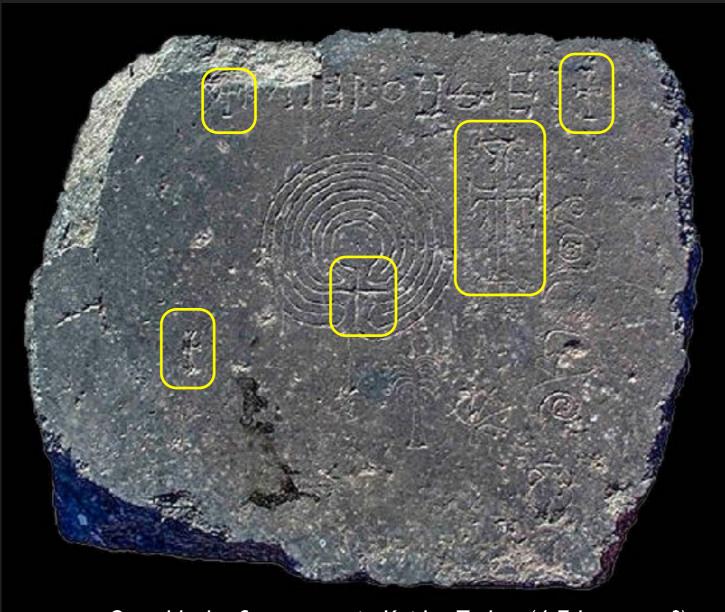








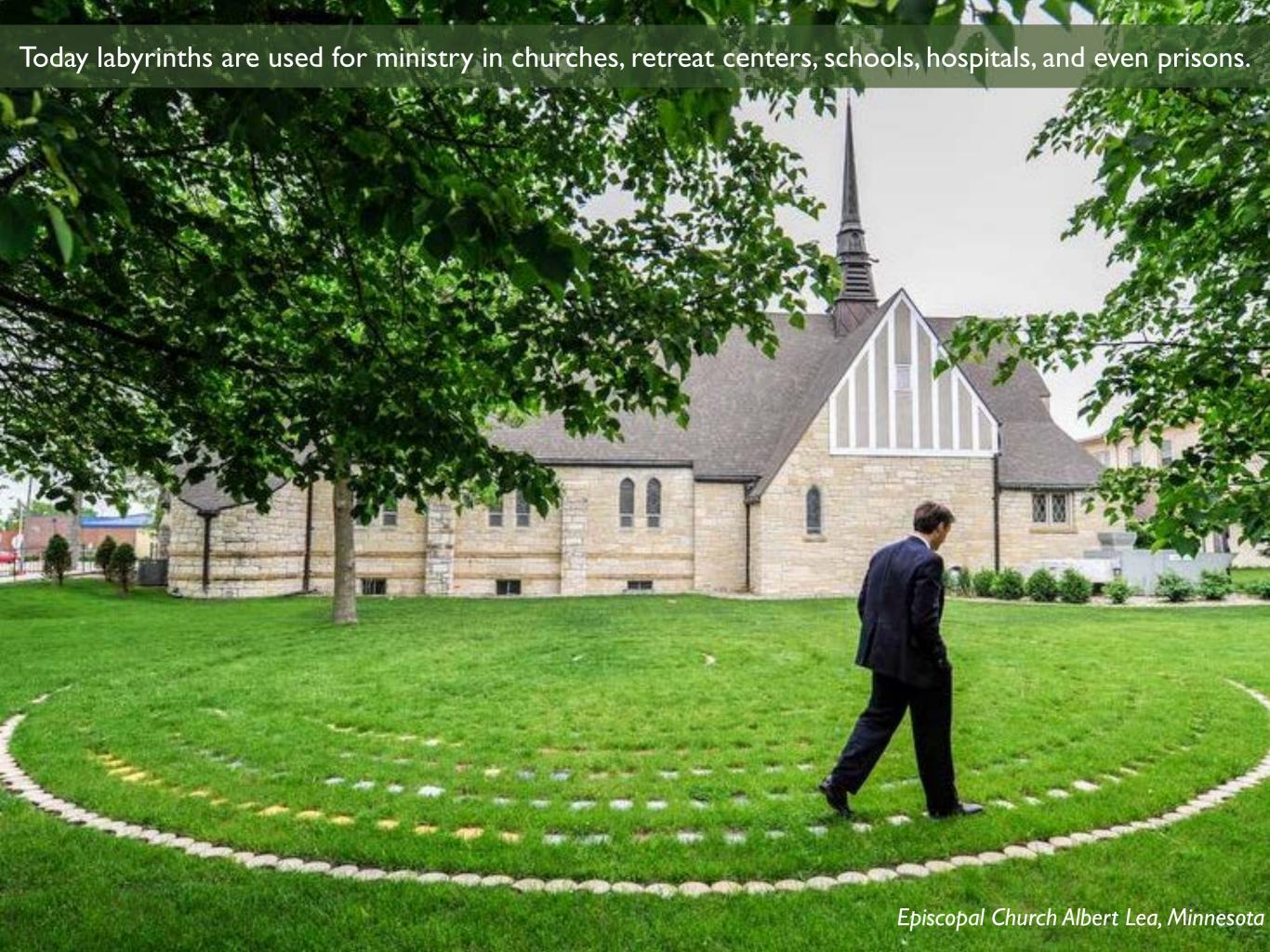
The cross is an integral element of all the earliest Christian labyrinths that have been found. Note the dominant cross shape that defines the pattern and the four crosses around it.



KRYIE BOETHEI

LORD HAVE MERCY

On a block of masonary in Knidos, Turkey (4-7th century?)
See: Staffan Lundén, "A New Labyrinth in Knidos." Caerdroia 33 (2003) 4-6.
Photo: Christine Özgen



There are 5,320 labyrinths in over 84 countries that are currently listed on the world-wide labyrinth locator at www.labyrinthlocator.org.

Myanmar Institute of Theology

ID#4993

Church or Place of Worship; School or Educational Centre

By appointment

Indoor

Permanent

Address: Seminary Hill, Insein

Yangon 11011 Myanmar view map

Directions/notes: Located on the seminary campus in Insein Township, about 20 minute taxi ride from downtown

Contact: Dr. Maung Maung Yin Peace Studies Center

Phone: 95-1-643115/640168

Email: m.i.theology@mptmail.net.mm

Web: http://mitheo.com/index.html

Private owners: The labyrinth is located in the Faith, Hope and Love Chapel on the 5th floor of the Global Education Building.

Admission: Donation welcome

Type: Medieval

Chartres replica

Material: Terrazzo

Designer: Jill and Tim Geoffrion

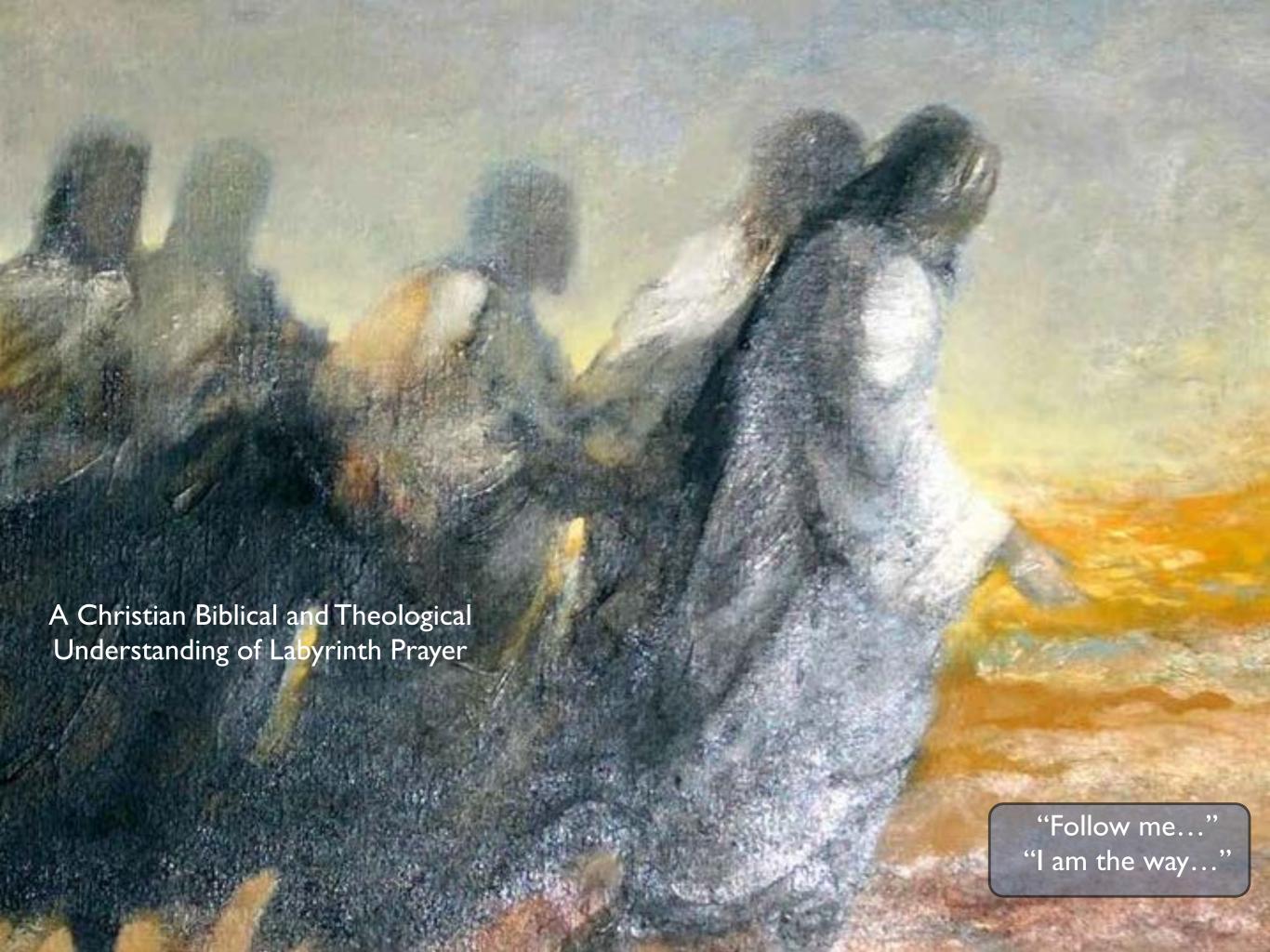
Builder: Jade Construction

Size: 36 feet

Date installed: March 2012



Chapel Labyrinth, Global Education Building

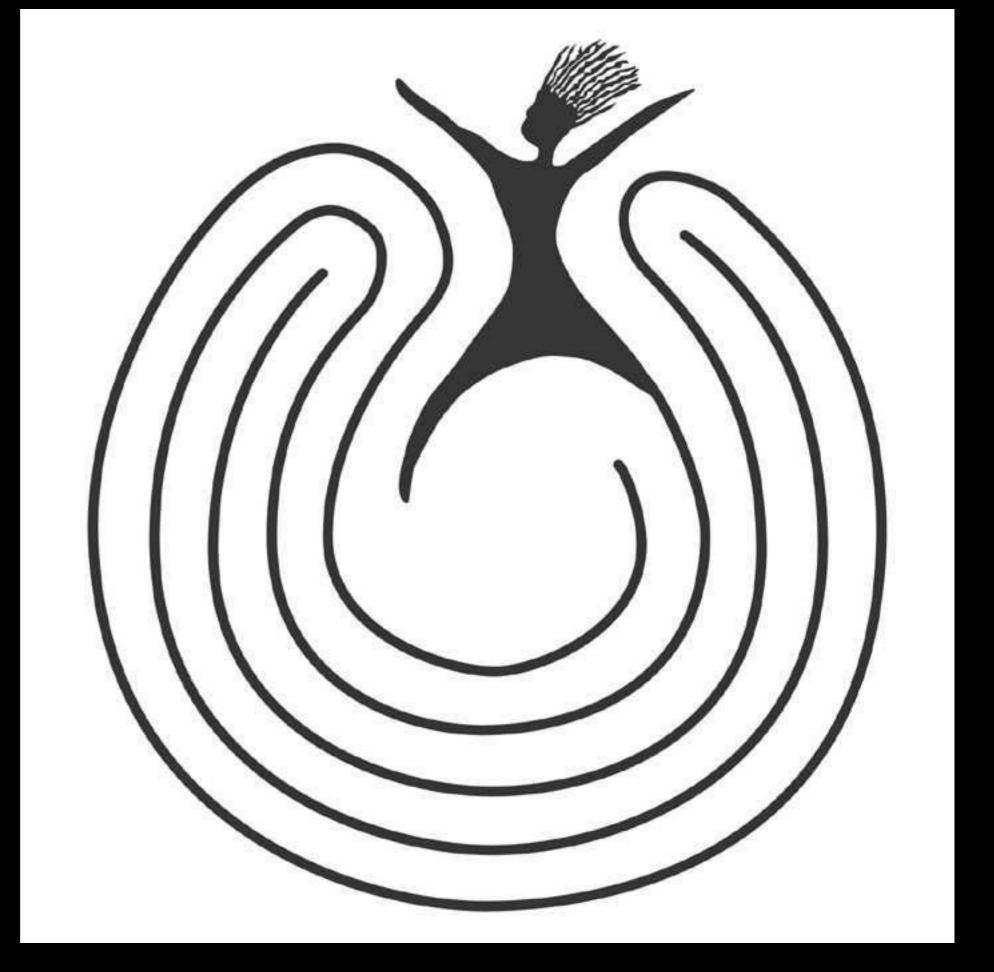


Symbols help us to grasp and remember what is most important.

This is true of the symbol of the labyrinth.



Finger labyrinth experience



The dancing woman labyrinth: used by permission, see pathsofpeace.com

Symbols help us to grasp and remember what is most important.

This is true of the symbol of the labyrinth.

From your experience of the Dancing Woman Labyrinth what did you grasp that is important?



The underlying structure of many labyrinths is a cross.







....you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and soul.

Deuteronomy 4:29

"Christian life is an on-going response to Jesus' authoritative call, "Follow me."

The following of Christ is often imaged as a journey.

David Liedl, Labyrinth retreat leader



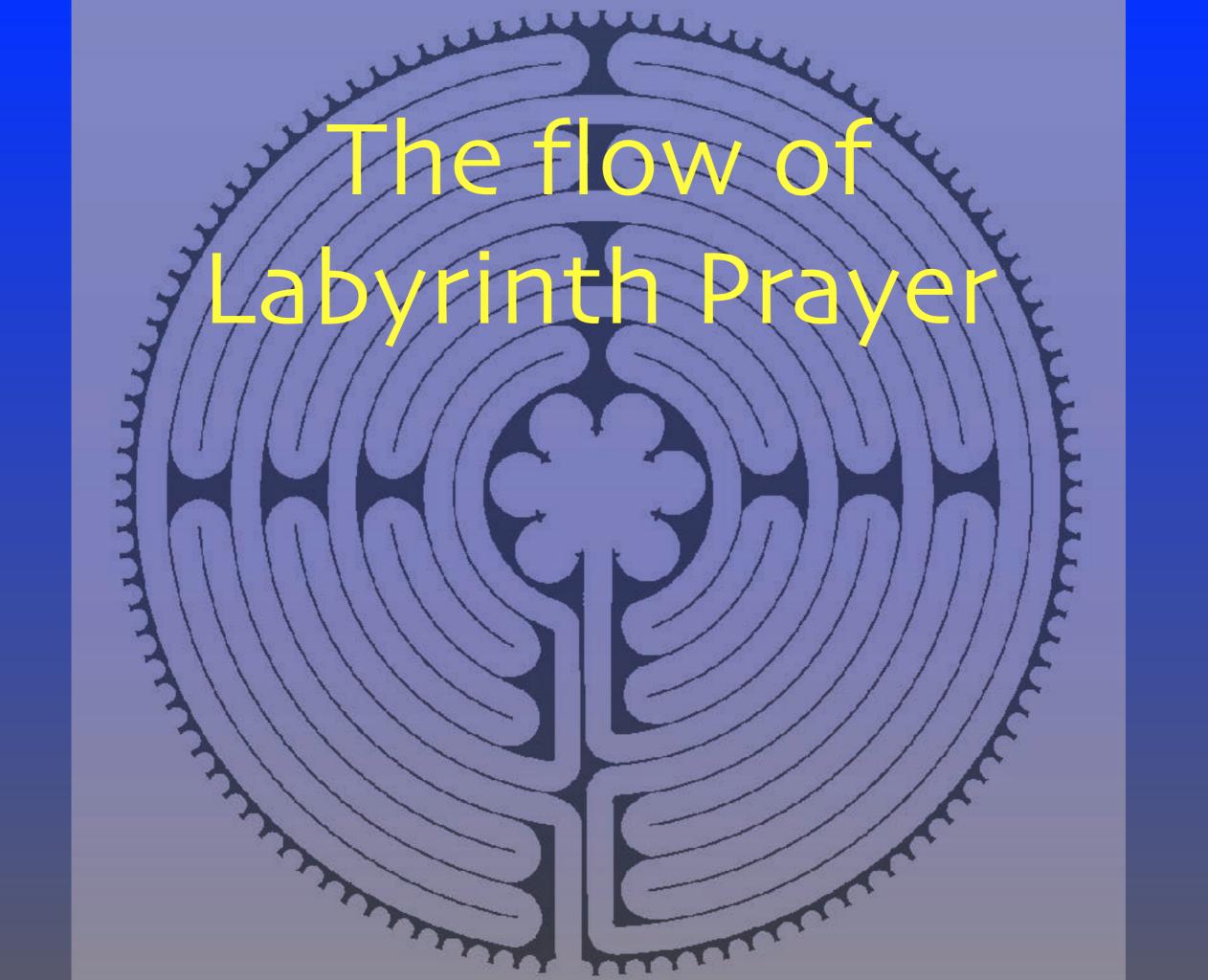


We come to the labyrinth as Christians.

Christ walks with us as we move on the labyrinth.



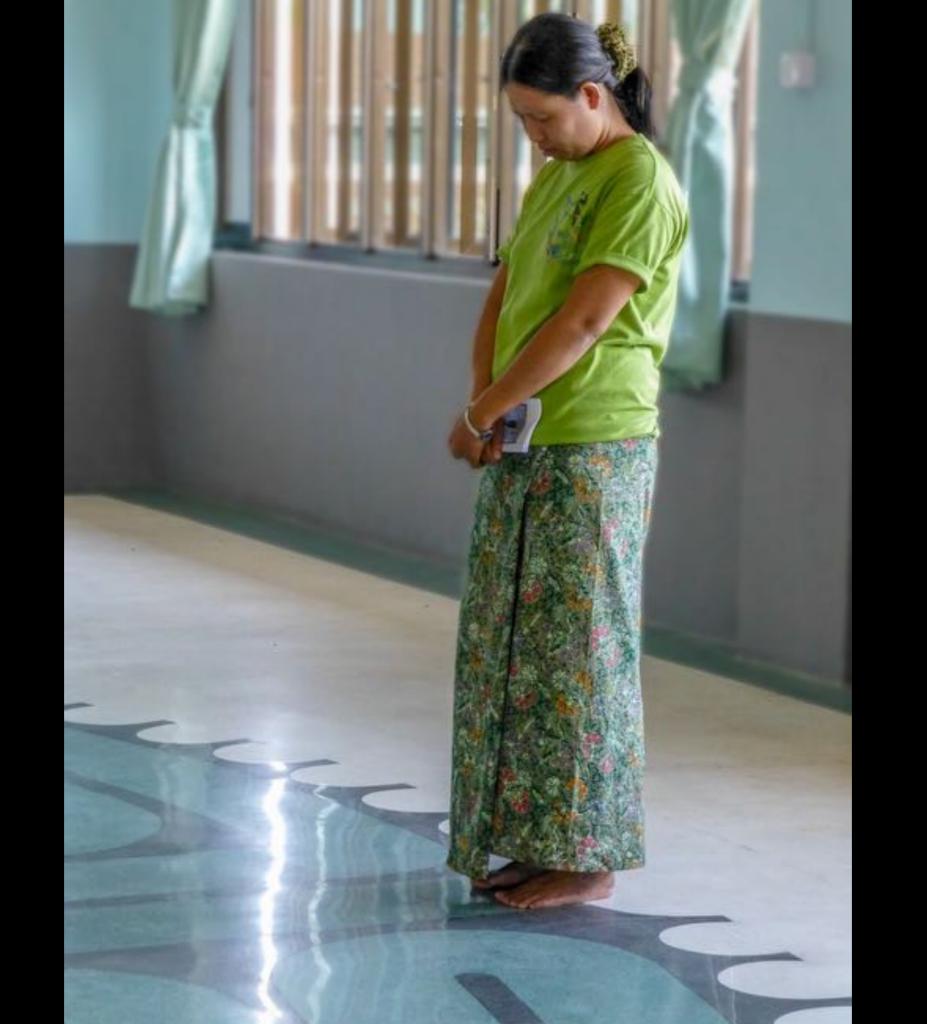
Church Garden Labyrinth, 7 circuit "heart of Chartres", Baltimore, Maryland, USA



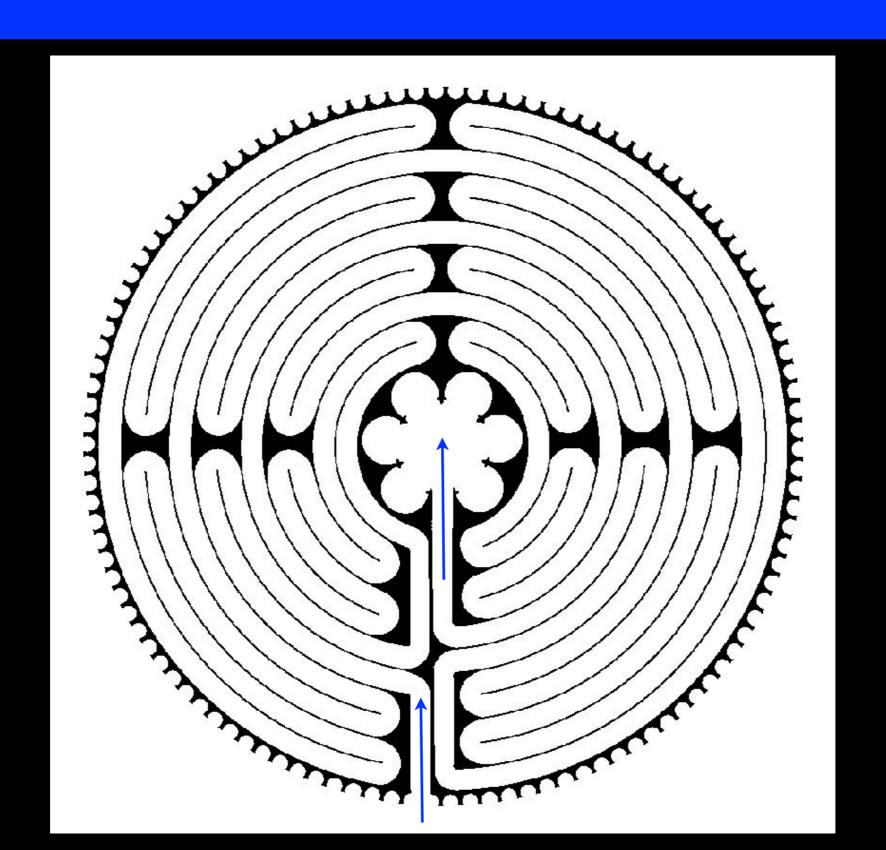
Before entering: Prepare yourself for your walk.

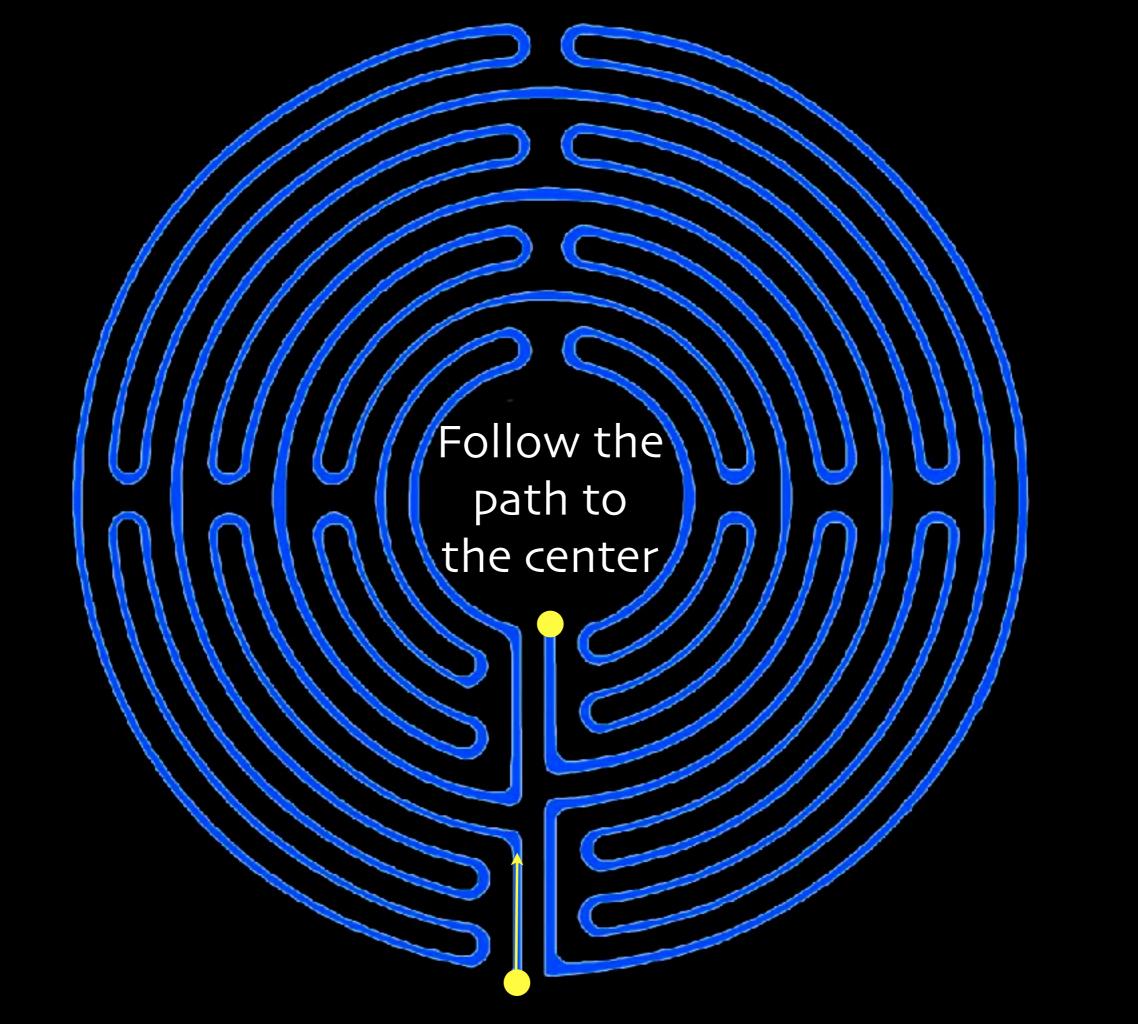


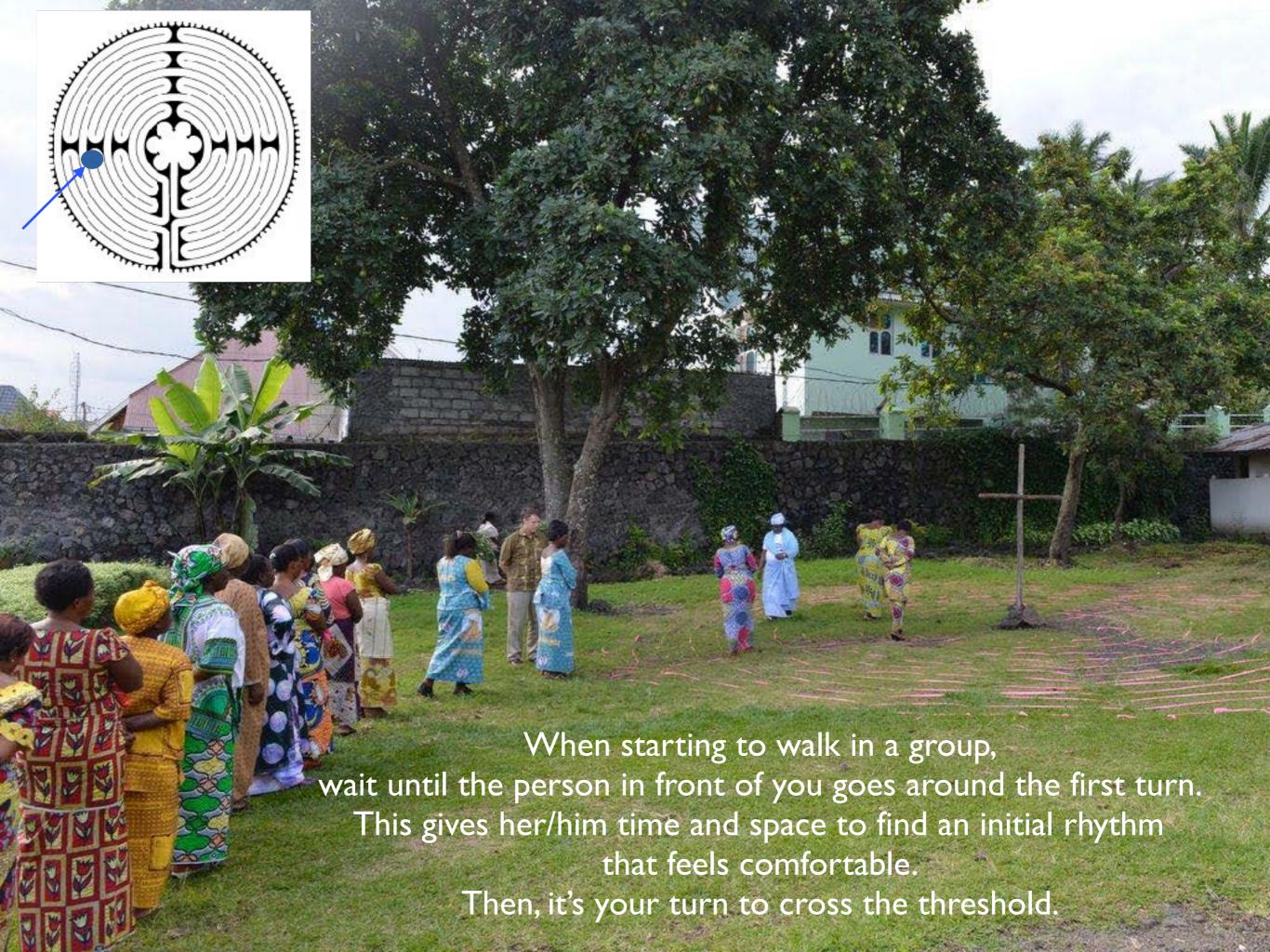
Ask God for what you want or need. One example: "God, show me your love."



You enter the labyrinth through its threshold, its "gate" or "door." Then, you follow its pathway to the center while you pray.

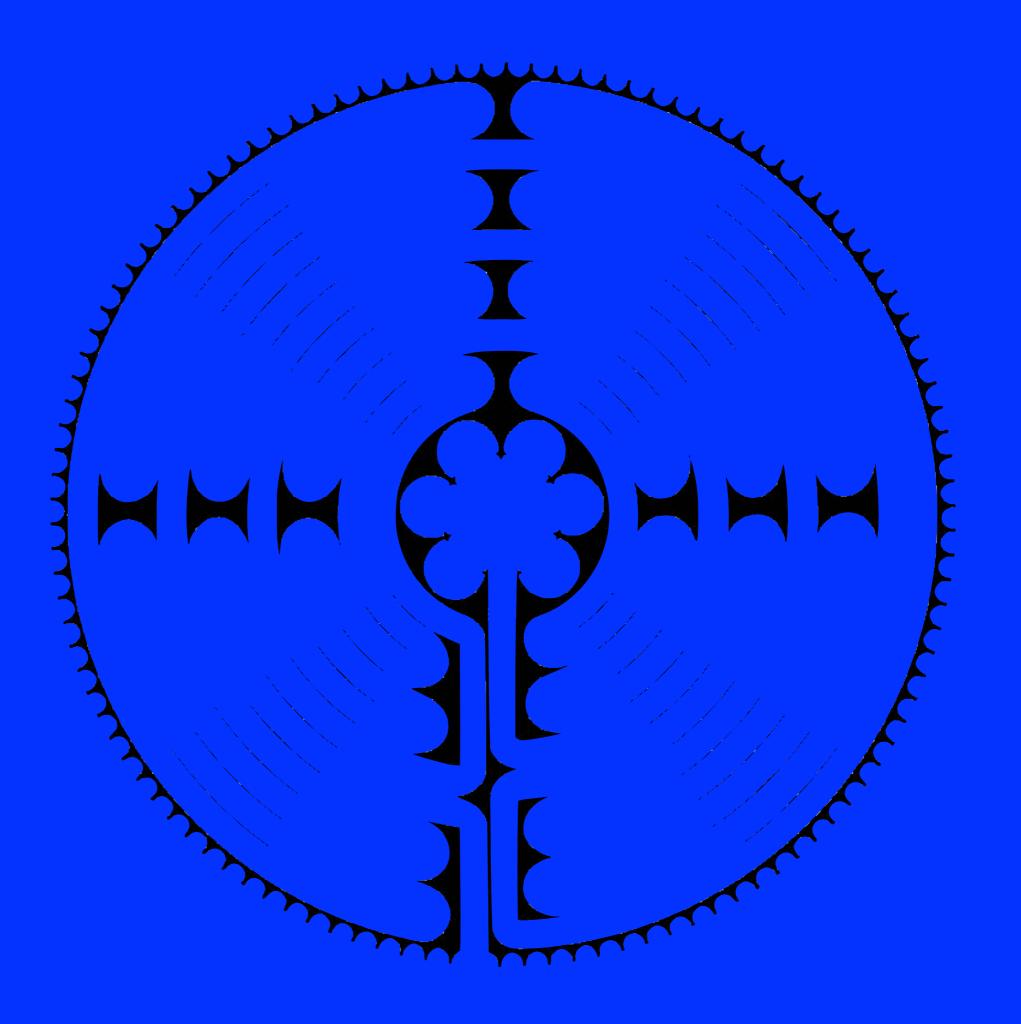






You are being led to the center.

You can trust the path.





Walk at your own pace. It may change. Follow your internal rhythm.



Pay special attention as you turn. If you want to stop, do!







You can get turned around, but it's not a problem.

You will end up either in the center or at the threshold.



D. R. Congo



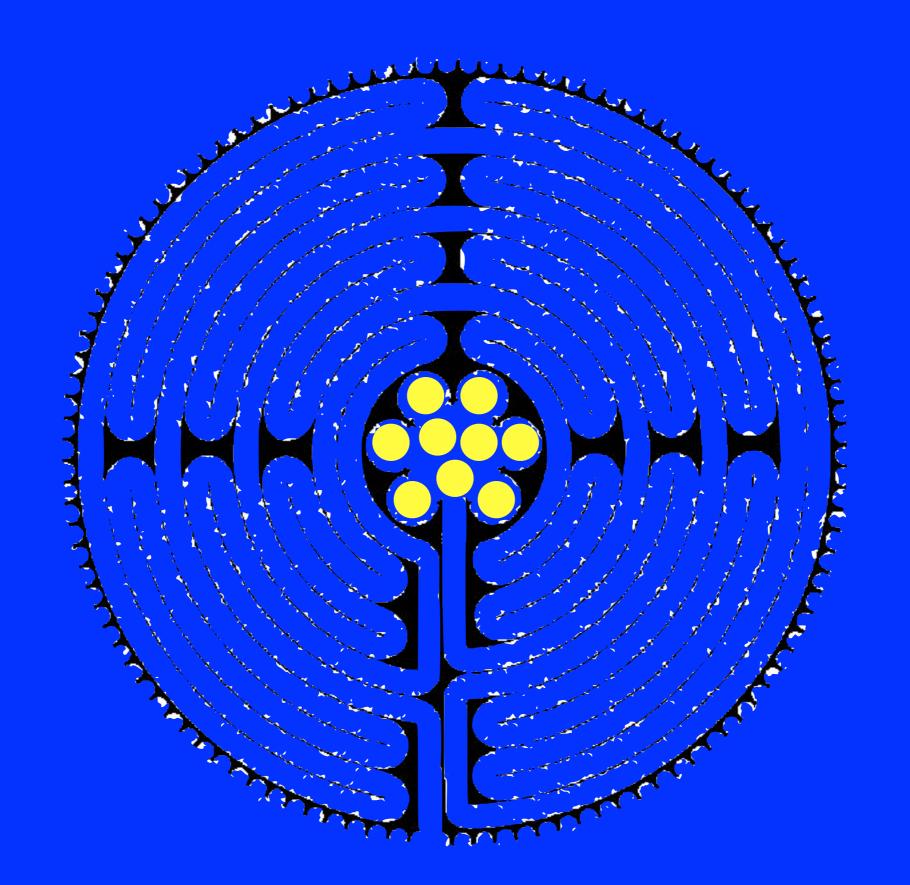
When walking the labyrinth you can move around another person, or let someone "pass" you.



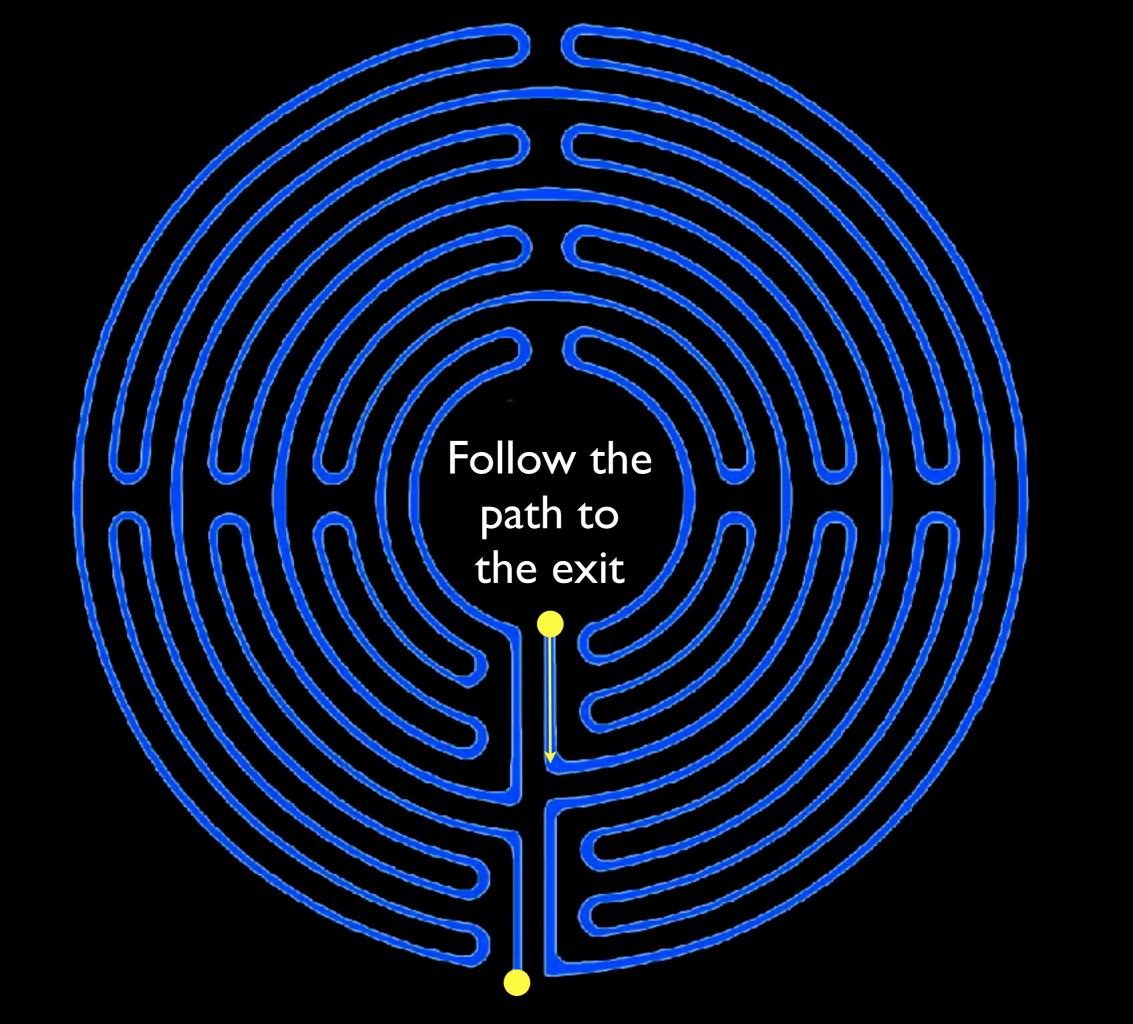
Gotland labyrinth in ruins of the St. Lars church, St



There is room in the center for many people.



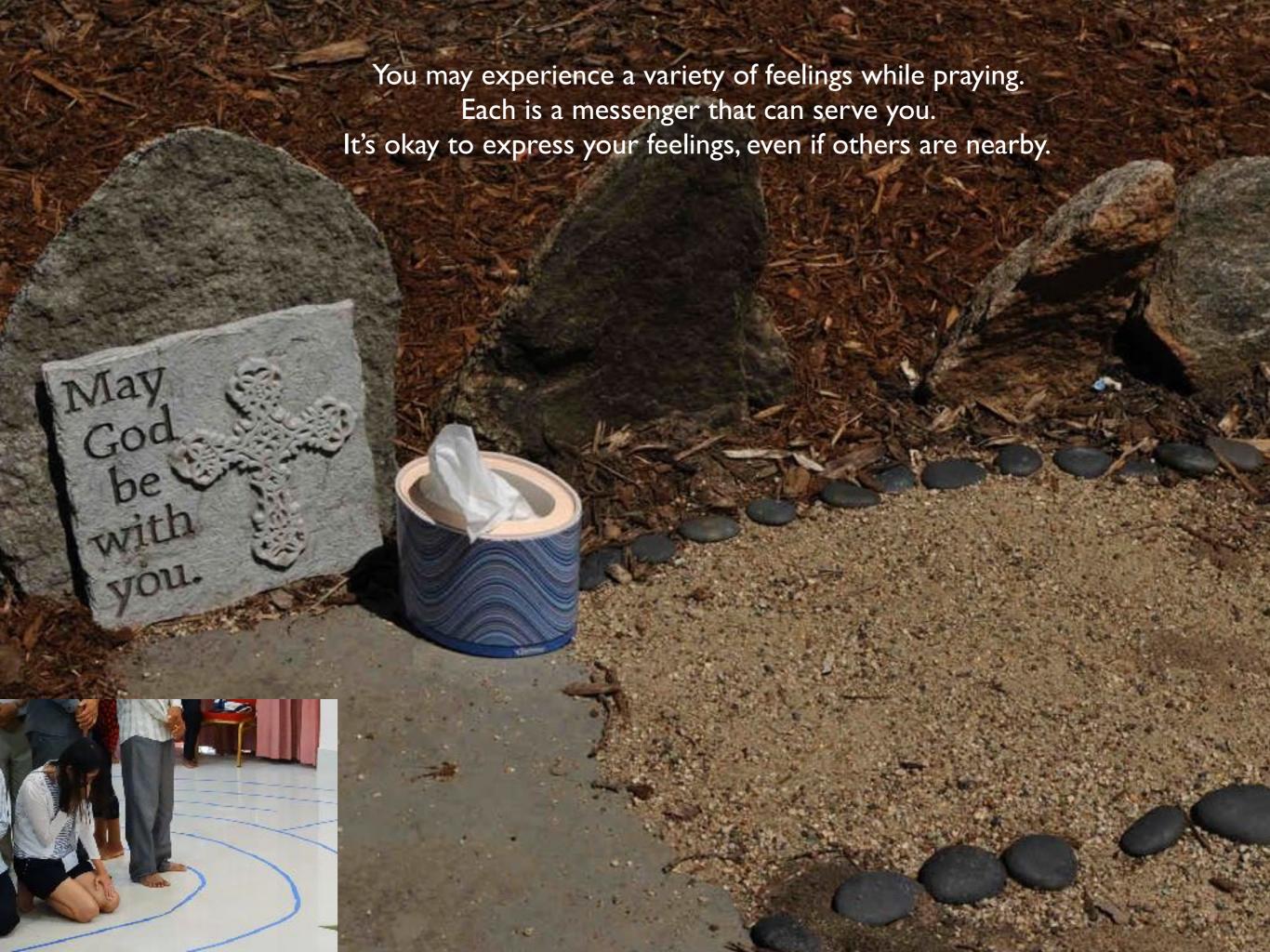




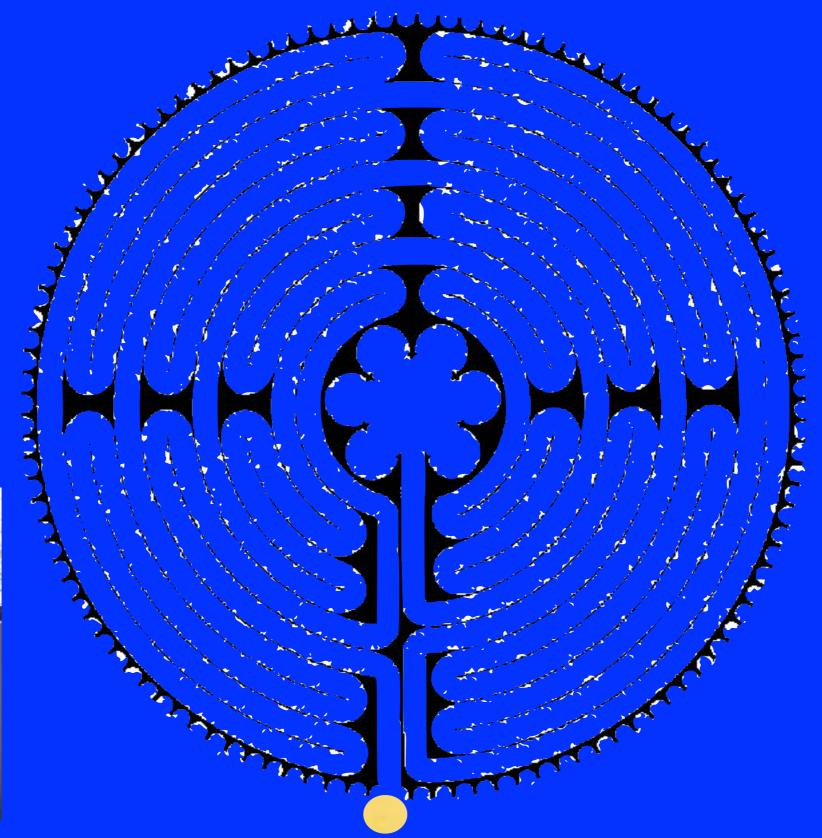
Prepare yourself to leave the labyrinth.







Make time for personal reflection.





Your prayer using a labyrinth is likely to take you places you don't expect to go. You can always decide what is best for you. You can always leave a labyrinth.



Canvas 7 circuit Chartres-style labyrinth Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey (USA)

Labyrinth Prayer as Spiritual Practice
The more you "practice", the more natural and useful it will become.









Suggested Labyrinth Experience:

God, about love...
or
God, love me...

Now the LORD came... calling, "Samuel! Samuel!"
And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."
I Samuel 3:10



What did God communicate?



Finger Labyrinth Prayer

The Love of God Labyrinth for Use with Fingers, Eyes, or Pen



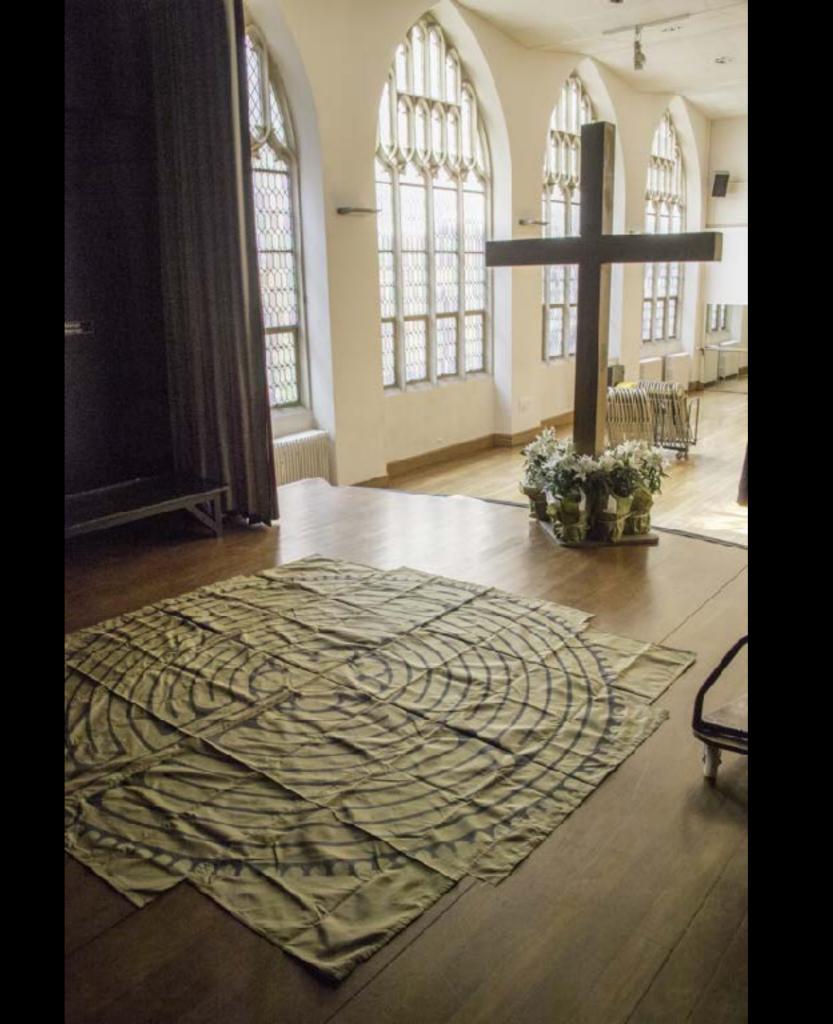
Enter, crossing through the threshold, following the pathway until you reach the center. When you are ready, reenter the pathway, following it until you re-cross a threshold to the outside.

Design ©2017 created & permission for italiae Khup Zo Mang (Chin State Phyarman). For more into an lasy miths see www.jillgedinion.com on www.jillgedin









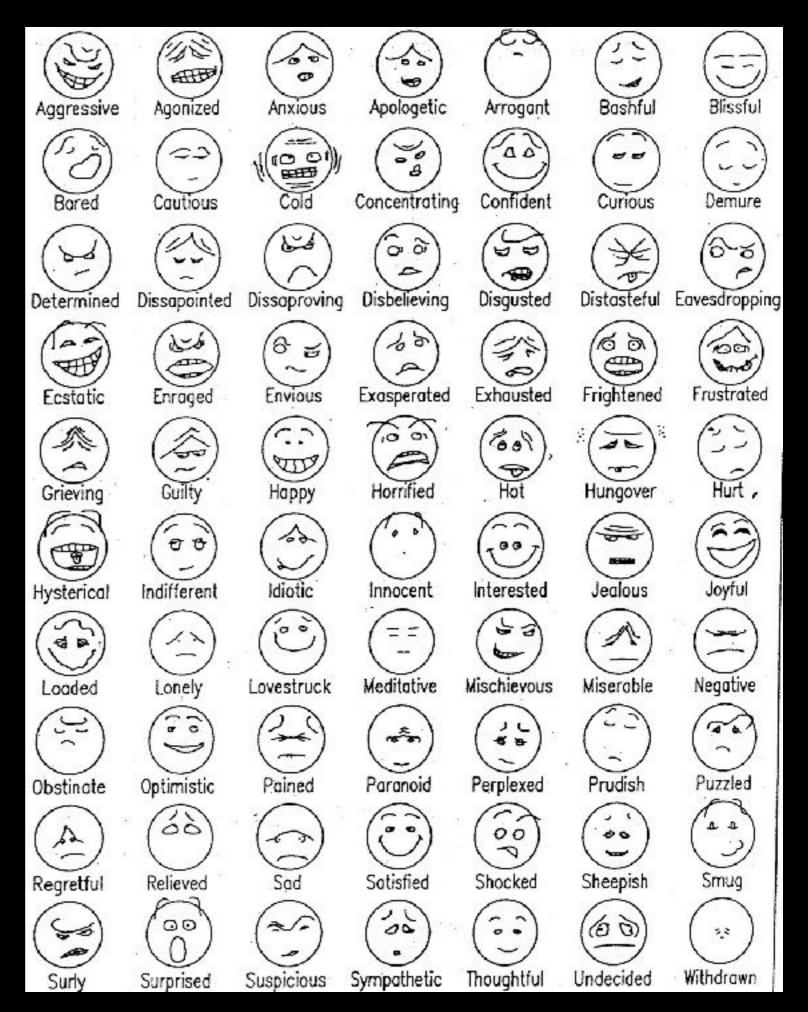






Right now I am feeling...





God communicated...

