



Veriditas 25th Anniversary

Timeline



1986 - 1987

1986

- Lauren arrives as Canon Pastor at Grace Cathedral.

1987

- Lauren is awarded a \$285,000 grant through Grace Cathedral from the Fund for the Enhancement of the Human Spirit to set up “Quest: Grace Cathedral Center for Spiritual Wholeness.”

“to address the spiritual hunger in this country by building a bridge of understanding between the traditional church and the nontraditional forms of spirituality that are springing up in our culture.”

1987 - 1989

1987

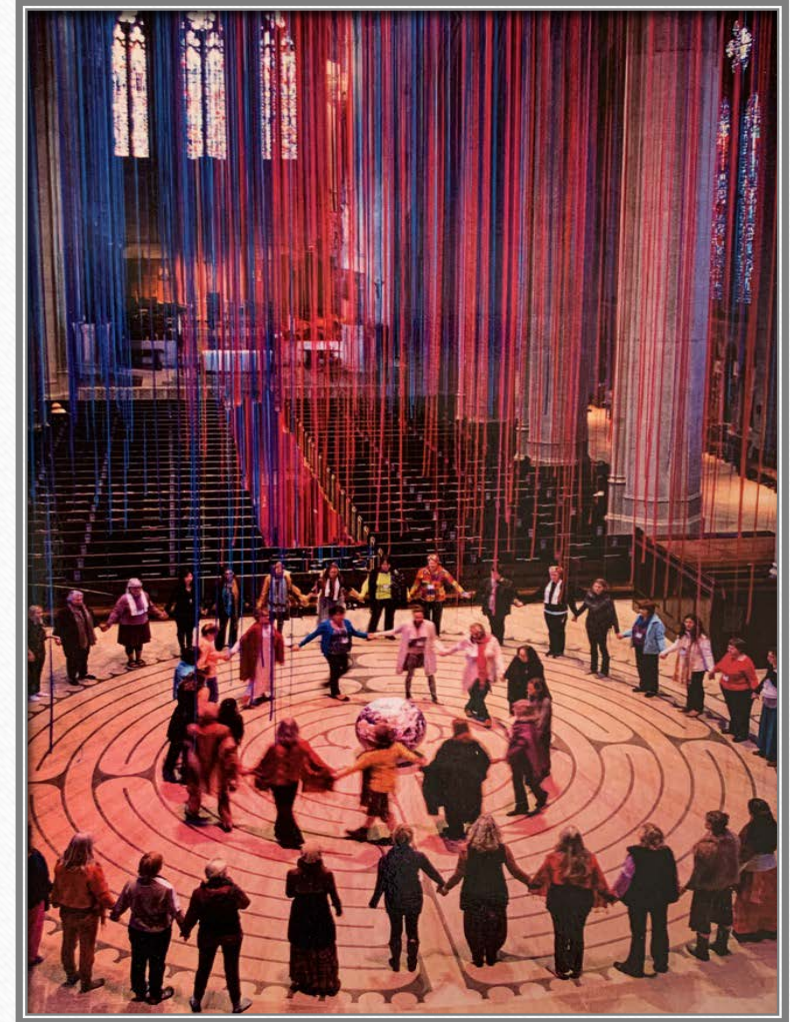
- First year of Women's Dream Quest was held and has continued for over 30 years to today.

1988

- Lauren searches for a tool for healing grief and helping people cope with the growing AIDS epidemic.

1989

- Quest hosts the Dalai Lama, Thich Nhat Hanh , Angeles Arrien, Jean Shinoda Bolen and others laying the groundwork for the discovery of the labyrinth.



1991

- Lauren attends a Jean Houston Mystery School Seminar, walks taped Chartres labyrinth for the first time.
- Lauren, Dean Alan Jones and others go to Chartres Cathedral. They move the chairs and walk the labyrinth.
- Upon their return, this same group sew and paint the first canvas labyrinth with Richard Feather Anderson's guidance.
- First group walk is held on new canvas labyrinth at the Common Boundary Conference on Sacred Stories. This produces the Common Boundary article published nationally about the labyrinth.



The First Canvas Labyrinth 1991

- **December 31, 1991:** Lauren organizes first major public event: 24-hour New Years Eve Event with Bobby McFerrin at Grace Cathedral – Singing for Life. Over 5000 walk the labyrinth

Jeff Saward credits it as the single most important moment in the Labyrinth Revival.



1992



- Lauren working part time as the Canon for Special Ministries, continues her labyrinth work, traveling extensively, and shaping workshops to meet the needs of the groups who invite her.
- Robert Ferré reads Common Boundary article about Lauren and Labyrinth at Chartres.

1992 - 1994

Jan 1992-March 1994

- The canvas labyrinth is opened in Grace Cathedral on the third Wednesday night with Musica Divina, and the first Sunday after services in silence.

1994

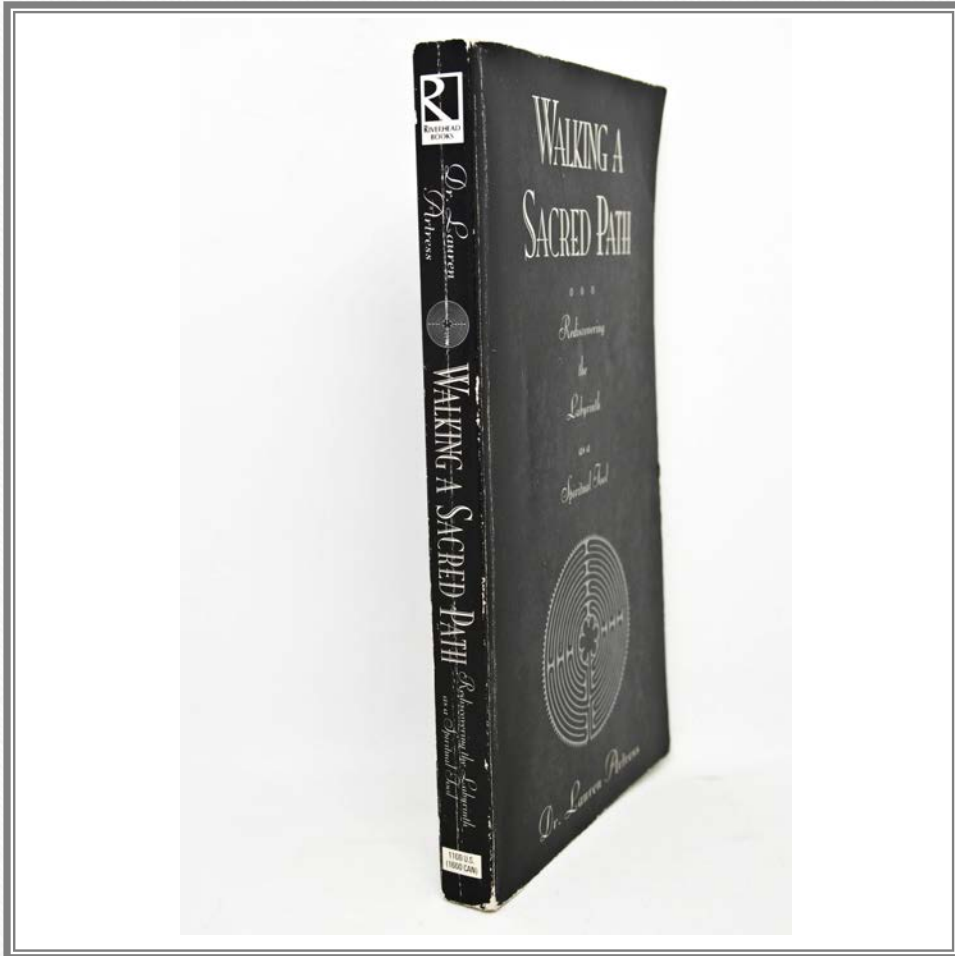
- Wool Tapestry Labyrinth is installed at Grace, dedicated and opened to the public daily.



1995

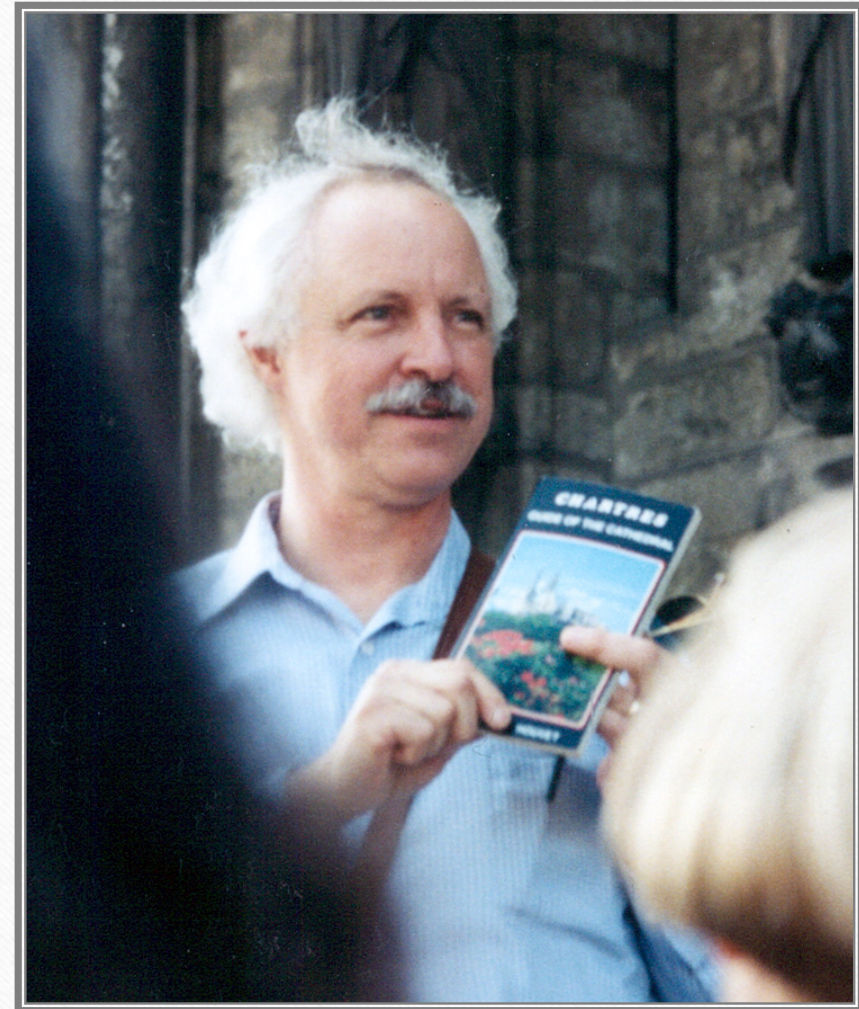
1995

- *Walking a Sacred Path* is published – soon after Lauren received 60 workshop invitations,
- **Veriditas formed and incorporated as 501c3 with the initial vision of peppering the planet with labyrinths.**



1995

- Robert walks Chartres Labyrinth for the first time and meets Francois Legaux with translation by Malcom Miller and facilitates candlelight walk at night.
- Robert teaches himself to draw the Chartres labyrinth with compass/ruler.
- Lauren meets Robert, needing someone to make canvas labyrinths, and someone to help lead pilgrimages to Chartres and Germany. Robert steps in and creates his first canvas labyrinth sending it to Veriditas for approval.
- Robert founds St. Louis Labyrinth Project which becomes Labyrinth Enterprises and his labyrinth career begins.





1995

1995

- Outdoor Permanent Labyrinth installed at Grace Cathedral and opened to the public.
- Tom Keelan volunteers full time for Veriditas as Lauren's assistant.
- 1st Labyrinth Conference is held in New Mexico – organized by Jean Lutz.

1996

1996

- Veriditas doors open Jan 1996 / Tom Keelan – Associate Director as first paid staff.
- Shannon Silva hired paint canvas labyrinths from Labyrinth Enterprises.
- Robert sponsors Lauren to lead first Veriditas pilgrimage to France and Germany.
- Lauren meets Francois Legaux in Chartres.
- 2nd Labyrinth Conference held at Omega Institute organized by Jean Lutz.



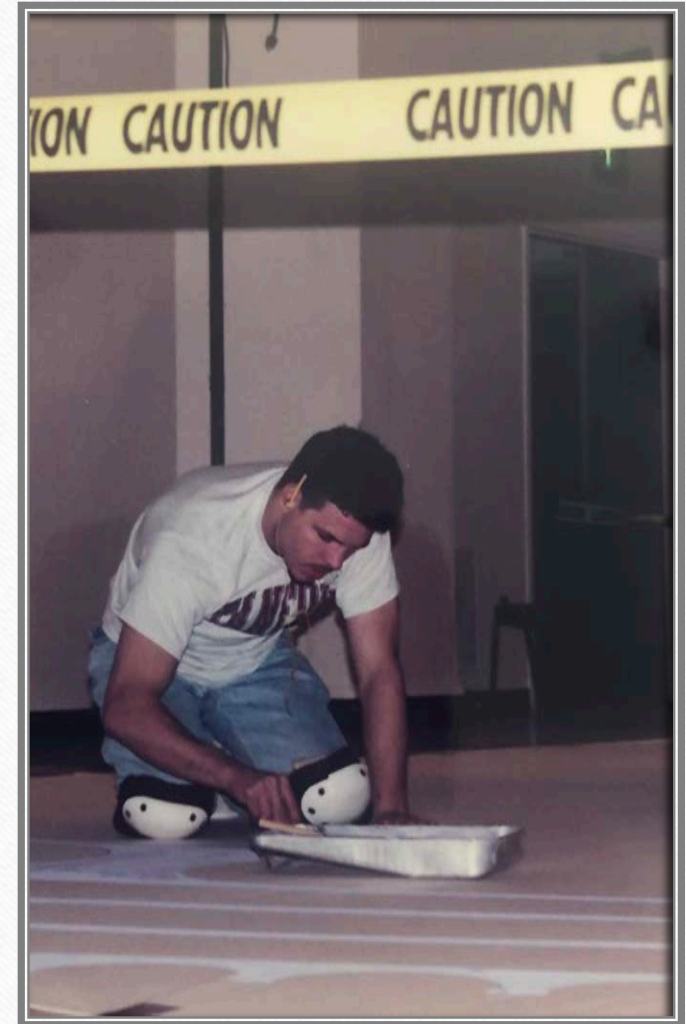
1997 to Present

We began painting Robert's canvas labyrinths in
Gresham Hall at Grace Cathedral.

It is a cottage industry that supports Veriditas
First Robert Ferre, with loving memories of Judy
Hopin

Then John Ridder of Paxworks

Currently Lisa Moriarity



1997 - 1998

1997

- Second pilgrimage held with Robert & Lauren in Chartres.
- Funds raised to bring Francois Legaux to Grace Cathedral.
- First Facilitator Training held.

1998

- Francois Legaux visits Grace Cathedral and later dedicates New Harmony Labyrinth in Indiana.
- The Labyrinth Society is formed at conference in St. Louis.





1997 Honorary Cn Francois Legaux

- Francois Legaux was made Honorary Canon of Grace Cathedral on his visit in 1997.
- Alan Jones was made Honorary Canon of Chartres Cathedral in 1999. This created a political bridge for our events in Chartres Cathedral.



1999 - 2002

1999

- Lauren takes a three-month sabbatical in Chartres in apartment provided by Francois Legaux.
- Veriditas begins to host pilgrimages every May in Chartres. Francois suggested it feature Mary, so the program was called 'Let Us Walk with Mary.'

2002

- Name of Chartres Pilgrimage changed to 'Walking a Sacred Path.'

2004

- Veriditas has serious financial difficulties. All staff laid off and Veriditas office moves from Grace Cathedral to offices in the Presidio in San Francisco.
- Later that year, Roberta Sautter is hired as Administrative Coordinator and Barbara Ludlum begins as volunteer Financial Controller.
- Lauren forms the Veriditas Council.
- Worldwide Labyrinth Locator is launched as a joint project of TLS and Veriditas.
- Terri Holbrook, Lisa Steckley and Jeannette Hermann step into manage Walking A Sacred Path



2005



2005

- Gary Petersen joins Veriditas as Board Chair.
- Veriditas Mission is updated “To facilitate the transformation of the human spirit through the labyrinth experience.”
- Veriditas begins annual online auction fundraiser.

2006 - 2007



2006

- John O'Donohue teaches at Chartres.
- Dawn Matheny is hired as Executive Director.

2007

- Dawn begins as Executive Director.
- Marion Woodman teaches at Chartres.

2008 - 2009

2008

- Veriditas begins Advanced Facilitator Training and the Master Teacher Program so that others are trained to continue Lauren's work.

2009

- Veriditas moves from the Presidio to the Earthrise Retreat Center in Petaluma necessitating staff changes.
- Pam Cole comes on as Veriditas' Bookkeeper.
- Deerheart Labyrinth is built at Earthrise Retreat Center.



2010



2010

- Veriditas receives a grant to hire additional staff. Annika Moore (then Anne Bull) hired as Administrative Assistant, later becoming the Marketing, Communications and Website Manager.
- Council and Board establish the Melissa Postnikoff Scholarship to train facilitators who will be taking the labyrinth into underserved populations.
- Board Chair, Gary Petersen launches Sustaining Giving Program for Veriditas.



2011 - 2012

2011

- Roberta Sautter leaves Veriditas.
- Veriditas builds Chartres Labyrinth in the secret garden at the Hotellerie St. Yves in Chartres France.

2012

- Veriditas launches new integrated, multifunctional website.
- Chris Katzenmeyer creates the Legacy Labyrinth as a fundraiser in the auction for Veriditas.



2013

2013

- Additional staff added:
 - Kathleen Stewart as Administrative Assistant/Event Coordinator;
 - Rita Canning as Development Manager.
- Facilitator Subscription Program is launched as a way to bring additional services to facilitators.
- Veriditas gets new labyrinth-centered logo and an updated mission statement “to inspire transformation through the labyrinth experience.”
- Educational webinar program established.

2014 - 2015

2014

- The First Legacy Labyrinth is built in La Falda, Argentina by Veriditas Board of Directors.
- First Labyrinth Summer School is held at the EarthRise Retreat Center.
- Veriditas holds event with Angeles Arrien and Alan Briskin at Earthrise.

2015

- Gary Petersen departs as Veriditas Board Chair followed by Sarah Elliott and the late Lee Matthew.
- Veriditas celebrates its 20th Anniversary.
- Online store is created and launched.





2016

- Jenny Slama joins Veriditas as Admin. Ass't and Auction coordinator
- Veriditas launches Accredited Presenter program for Advanced Trained Facilitators to become eligible to lead qualifying workshops.

2017

Featured Courses



Crafting a Finger Labyrinth with Beads and Glue

Make your own beautiful finger labyrinth

 Karen Kelley

\$10



Defining, Drawing, and Designing Labyrinths (Full Course)

Learn the ins and outs of labyrinths from Classical to Chartres and create your own contemporary...

 Lars Howlett

\$179



Defining and Drawing Labyrinths (Session 1: Classical Labyrinths)

Learn the ins and outs of Classical Labyrinths as we dive into the original archetypal design! Dra...

 Lars Howlett

\$99

[View All Courses](#)

- Veriditas launches online learning with a course by Helen Malcolm.
- Veriditas changes from Master Teacher model to Faculty model, implementing a Train the Trainer program for select Advanced Trained Facilitators to teach Facilitator Training.
- Facilitator Subscription program becomes VIA: The Veriditas International Association for professionally trained labyrinth facilitators.



2018 - 2019

2018

- Veriditas moves offices to the Foundry Wharf near downtown Petaluma, along the river.

2019

- Legacy Labyrinth splits off to become its own non-profit.
- Veriditas receives anonymous donation that clears all debt.

2020

- Due to the pandemic, Veriditas has to cancel all in-person events at Grace Cathedral, Chartres Cathedral, South Dakota, and at New Harmony Indiana.
- Amidst the pandemic, Veriditas begins to offer free weekly online finger labyrinth walks.
- Veriditas then creates virtual programming to replace in person events and holds its first workshop and Facilitator Training on zoom.
- Veriditas creates option of payment plans for Facilitator Training and sliding scales on most events.
- Lars Howlett joins Veriditas to provide social media coordination.



2020 Board of Directors



2020 Staff



2020 Faculty



2020 Council



To be continued ...



wake up world
IT'S TIME TO WAKE AND DRIVE

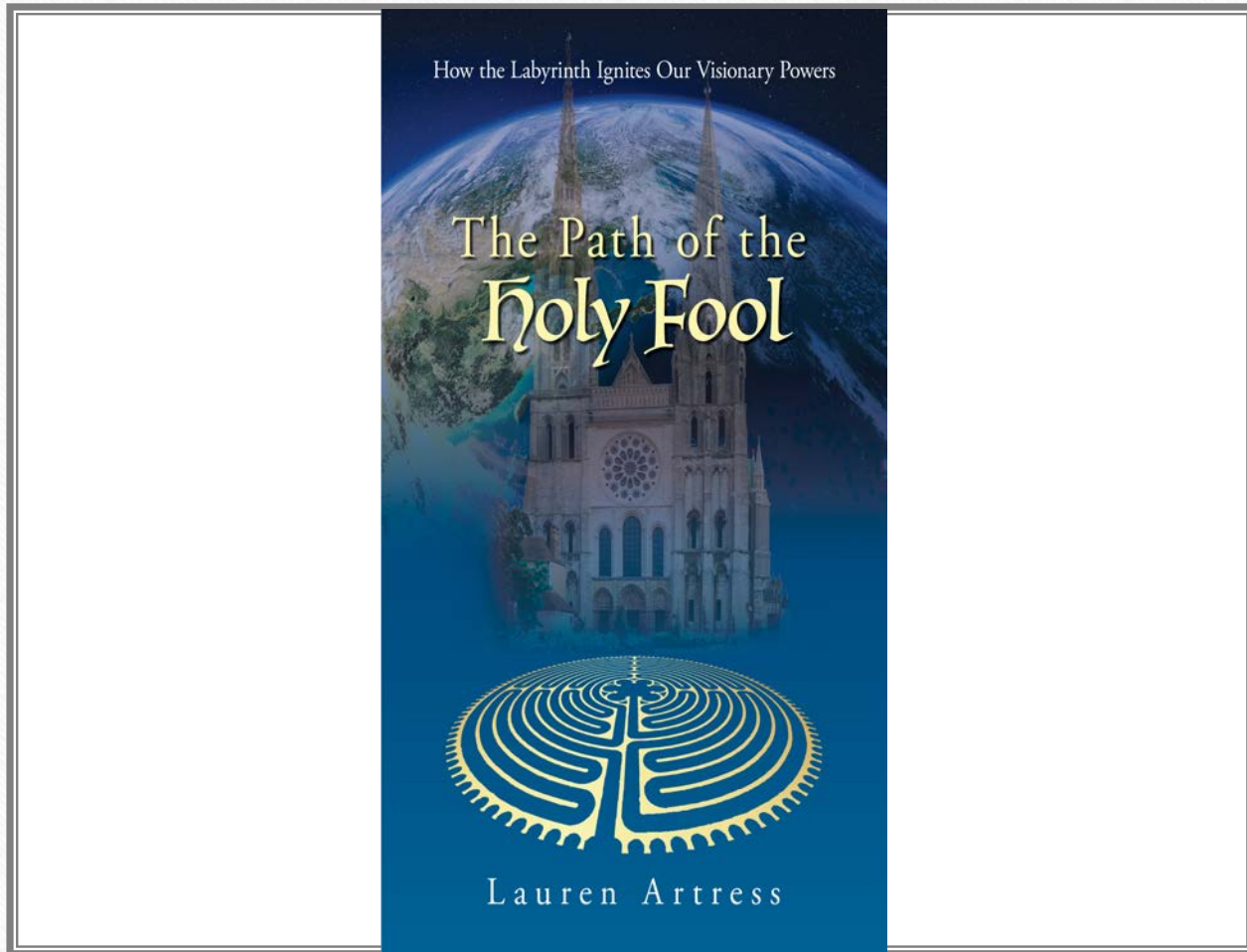


**Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,
committed citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.**

– Margaret Mead

Break Out Groups

- What is one of your favorite Veriditas events, OR labyrinth memory?
- Each group will be facilitated by a faculty, council, Board member or facilitator.
- Each person will have two minutes to share; make sure to appoint a timekeeper.



The Path of the Holy Fool

- How the Labyrinth Ignites Our Visionary Powers
- eBook pre-sale
- Print on Demand
- Audible/Amazon