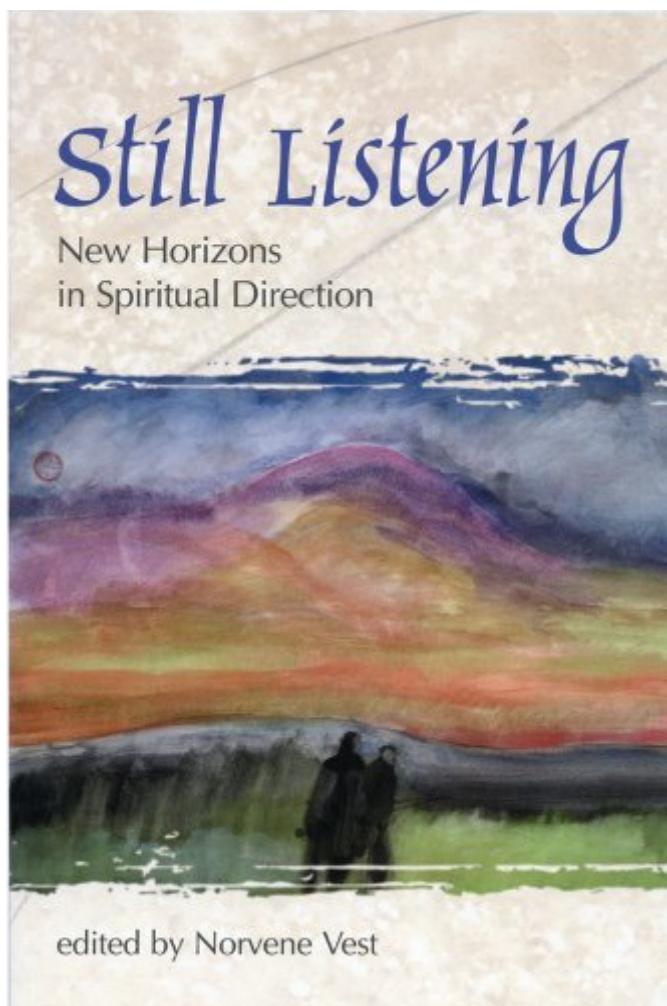


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# Still Listening: New Horizons In Spiritual Direction



## **Synopsis**

In this inspiring volume, spiritual directors share the wisdom gained from their personal experience in helping those who face challenges and crises. Â Everyone struggles from time to time, and spiritual direction is the careful and compassionate listening one person offers to another as both experience the presence of Godâ™s spirit. Practiced by clergy and laypeople throughout the history of the Christian tradition, spiritual direction can open a pathway to guidance and support as well as a greater awareness of grace. Â In this collection of eloquent and honest essays, a wide variety of spiritual directors from different faith traditions reveal how they employ this practice, as they accompany those dealing with challenges such as drug addiction, abuse, poverty, church drop-outs, gay and lesbian issues, death and dying, and social justice. These pieces also address spiritual direction in settings from congregational to corporate, consider the needs of different generations, and examine using art as a healing tool. Gathered together by a leading practitioner, these candid and loving accounts offer solutions, suggestions, and hope for everyone who feels called to service in this way. Â Contributors include: Joseph D. Driskill (Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA); Juan Reed (Chicago, IL); Rich Rossiter (Oak Park, IL); Sandra Lommason (Davis, CA); Howard Rice (Santa Rosa, CA); Tom Cashman (Federal Way, WA); Steven Charleston (Episcopal Divinity School); Barry Woodbridge (Rancho Cucamonga, CA); Margaret Guenther (Washington, D.C.); Betsy Caprio Hedburg (Culver City, CA) and Kenneth Leech, (London), Janet Ruffing, and Norvene Vest.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

As a spiritual director, I find this to be an informative and useful guide.

Norvene Vest is an experienced spiritual director, author, workshop leader, Episcopal laywoman, oblate of a Roman Catholic monastery, and graduate of a Protestant seminary, who is especially known for her books on Benedictine spirituality for the common life. In *Still Listening: New Horizons In Spiritual Direction*, Vest dons the role of editor to compile engaging, thought-provoking essays by seasoned spiritual directors from a variety of faith traditions to address issues of concern on the subjects of abused persons, the poor, church drop-outs, homosexuality, the congregational setting, the corporate arena, general issues, the addicted, the dying, the use of art in spiritual directions, and social justice. *Still Listening* is very highly recommended reading for both the pastoral community and the non-specialist general reader with an interest in spiritual approaches to life issues, circumstances, and challenges.

While it's true that a collection of essays may be uneven in quality, the depth of insights in *Still Listening* makes it a must-have for my library. As a seeker and student, I find myself challenged by many of the essays, lifted to hope by others. The final essay, *The Graph of Spirituality: Understanding Where We Are Going by Knowing Where We Have Been* by Steven Charleston, is worth the price of the book and leaves me wishing this 56-year-old were going to be around long enough to see the new horizons in spirituality that the 21st Century will bring.

This book pulls together key voices in the contemporary western world of Christian spiritual direction. Each contributor speaks from a wealth of experience and study on a critical issue encountered in soul care. Whether the reader is comfortable or not with the assumptions and conclusions, the extensive notes and thoughtful stance of each author is well worth the reader's

time and money.

Book was received in good time as promised.

There's no major flaw with this book, it is just that she should have cut some the writing by one-third. Spiritual direction is one of those trendy things in spirituality right now that has actually been around a very long time. This is a good book about it with solid information. I found many of the the writing styles a little distracting, some of it seems like the writers are a little impressed with themselves.

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