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Accepting the possibility of renewal.

ARE DRIVEWAYS SPIRITUAL TEACHERS?

ANGST OR OPPORTUNITY BY JUNE GUMZ

For many years I have not liked my driveway. Each morning, as I went out to pick up the newspaper, I felt a twinge of dismay and disgust at the new rocks that broke off from the concrete structure leading to my garage. On my morning walks I convinced myself that my driveway was the worst in the neighborhood. Surely it would bring down the house value by thousands if left in its present condition.



Living with the cracks, holes and lousy patch jobs.

In the past I had gotten bids on replacing it and they were so out of my league, I resigned myself to living with the cracks, holes and lousy patch jobs. Then one day last month a big Tonga man came to the house and gave me a reasonable bid! I am a cool enough senior to know that you don't let guys who come to your door replace your driveway. However, on the off chance that he was legitimate, I asked my son to check him out. He was licensed, bonded and insured! The company is a family affair, several brothers.

We agreed on a price and the work began. It seems that my driveway would never have really given way; it was eight inches deep! It took one man seven hours of nonstop air hammering to dislodge the old concrete. All those years of convincing myself that it would disintegrate were mistaken. While the blemishes were real, the sturdiness would always be there. It wasn't until I had given up the idea of replacement that the opportunity to actually do it manifested itself. The lesson for me was to release my daily angst and accept the possibility of renewal.



Seven hours of non-stop air hammering.



Renewal manifested.



Rosemary Teetor

Helping her students develop confidence in their ability to learn.

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY BY JUNE GUMZ ROSEMARY TEETOR – Quietly Busy

The secretary of our CORE Council is a quiet, sincere lady who has more interests and plans after retirement than anyone I know. Rosemary Teetor teaches GED and college success skills at the Harmony Community Campus. Her students receive new thought and AA principles to improve their success, not realizing the source of the materials and ideas. The important part of teaching for Rosemary is helping her students develop confidence in their ability to learn.

Writing fiction, non-fiction and poetry, genealogy “chasing dead people,” yard work and playing with the grandchildren fill her spare time now. When she retires the list grows much longer: more writing, practitioner training, physical fitness routines, reading and studying. That’s not all. Do you know anyone else who wants to learn to play the euphonium, especially to participate in the annual Tuba Christmas concerts? Photography with a complicated still photo camera is another goal. Working with dogs, on obedience and agility, and possibly sheep herding training rounds out her post retirement agenda.

Several decades ago, Rosemary’s mother introduced her to New Thought. “Science of Mind is where I am now on my life-long spiritual quest. I knew I was looking for God since I was 10. The journey has taken me into, and out of, a number of churches and schools of thought.” Matthew Fox wrote a book titled Many Wells, One River. “SOM is one of those wells which tap into Truth. I hope to continue to grow with SOM and PCSL for a long time.”

One of the things Rosemary would like you to know about her is that she gets to know people slowly and likes to converse with one person at a time. What seems like “aloofness” is her way of taking care of herself. She is grateful to be in a community of people who are seeking their own Truth and giving her space to find hers.



Setting up at the Community picnic.

Rosemary and her dog, Galen, in August of last year, at Sheltie Daze. Galen won “tallest sheltie” at a little over 22” tall at the shoulder. He’s HUGE.

SPIRITUAL LEADER'S MESSAGE BY REV. LARRY KING

SUMMER – A Time to Enjoy the Fruits of Our Intentions

Having spent yesterday at the Annual Picnic, I'm reminded of how much I love our Spiritual Community. Beyond good food and great company are the intentions we share about having fun as we deepen our understanding of Spirituality. I can't wait for the Divine Dining program to start in August. We'll have many more chances to support our community in fun, companionship and spiritual unity.

I'm also pleased with how much we've accomplished this year so far. In meetings last fall and winter, we created plans for **growth**, **newness** and a **deepening** of the Spiritual Nature of our Center. It's a pleasure to see these plans unfolding during the summer growing season.

Have you noticed Youth Church lately? We set some intentions to double the space for our youth program and over the spring we made it happen through the generous extra pledges we received from you all. The space has doubled—and so has attendance. Most Sundays we now have classes in two age groups, with two teachers and helpers for the expanded youth program and greater number of kids.

For newness, we've expanded our Internet offerings to reach people far and wide. Not only are we up-to-date on our podcasting, but also in May I added a blog to provide some mid-week inspiration and a forum for dialog and sharing. It can be reached from our website at www.pcsl.us/blog. Many thanks to Mike Watters and Cheri Smith for keeping our web presence so powerful and complete.

Through the rest of summer, I'm focusing on deepening a connection to God and our strength in knowing how powerful we are, using Ernest Holmes' book "A New Design for Living," as for inspiration. Written near the end of his life, the book has an authority of experience and an easy-to-read style that has given me many ideas for Sunday talks and spiritual practice.

All my love and blessings for the rest of the summer,

Rev. Larry King




Rev. Larry King

We created plans for growth, newness and a deepening of the Spiritual Nature of our Center



Our annual Community picnic at Peninsula Park was enjoyed by one and all – food, fun, friends... and funky music!



In Bloom

ANNUAL PCSL COMMUNITY RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

» Join us for the fun, the food and the *spiritual magic* that is Menucha. Our annual retreat to the beautiful Columbia Gorge features workshops for men, women, families and children. There's something for everyone as we explore our spirituality *in full bloom!*

\$185 early-bird adult price (if paid by August 1)

\$210 regular adult price

\$ 27 child (7-12) price; children under 7 are free

Price includes two nights lodging (shared rooms) and five meals at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center, 38711 Historic Columbia River Highway, Corbett, OR. www.menucha.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Labyrinth Walk • International Peace Dancing • Card and Board Games • Candy Affirmations • Tie Dye Shirts • Cartooning • Haiku

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Silent Meditation • Guided Meditation • Men at Choice • Women at Choice • Personal Covenant

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: During adult sessions a special nature hunt has been planned, along with other games and activities. Children are invited to participate in all other activities along with a parent.

SIGN UP AT THE CENTER TODAY

PHOTO GALLERY

"CELEBRATE SPIRIT AS WOMAN" RETREAT



2011 Celebrants at Silver Creek Falls Conference Center.



YOUR SPACE

RESIST NOT EVIL BY KATHLEEN ANDERSON

I recently read an article on corporate and political greed and the misuse of power. It took me back to when I lived in New York/New Jersey and was dealing with some demons of my own.

In the wee hours of the morning, from out of a sound sleep, I suddenly sat bolt upright in bed with the words “Resist not evil” coming out of my mouth. I have long gotten little epiphanies every so often in exactly the same manner. I thought this one was crazy. “What do you mean ‘resist not evil’? If we don’t fight the buggers, they’ll take over the world.” Yet the words kept reverberating in my mind. “Resist not evil. Resist not evil.” They had a familiar ring somehow. Where had I heard them before? Well, you probably already know where I heard them before, they were the words of Jesus.

At the time I was dealing with an “evil” landlord in New Jersey. The more I fought him, the more like him I became and the more ways he found to skirt the law. Eventually, I got it. Fighting evil feeds it. Evil cares not where its fuel comes from; it will thrive equally well on righteous indignation as on dark deeds. You cannot win by fighting. You can only win by giving your thought, your power, your energy and, most especially your heart to what it is that you desire. Whatever you fight will grow. Fight injustice and injustice will grow. Fight war and war will grow. Fight poverty and poverty will grow.

Jesus did not fight the injustice experienced under Roman rule in Palestine. He did not fight anything. He taught love and empowerment, joy and the peace that passes understanding. He taught the kingdom of heaven, here and now. Right here, right now.



Kathleen Anderson

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA OR STORY TO SHARE?

Our newsletter is evolving. I know that PCSL is abundant with creative folks with ideas and stories to share. Our newsletter seems to be a natural place to try them out. So, if you have had an epiphany, such as the one by Kathleen Anderson, and want to see it in print, send it to greetingsjg@comcast.net.

I am excited by the prospect of exposing some of our writers to the Community News audience.

– June Gumz, editor

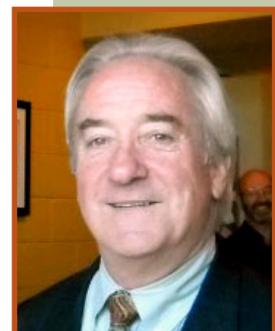
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

THRESHOLD – A Spiritual Growth Program

Believe it or not, the Federal Bureau of Prisons has a spiritual growth program. “Threshold” has been adopted by the Oregon Department of Corrections to help inmates who are within 6 months to a year of release follow a spiritual pathway, learning how to demonstrate love and service to their families and others, becoming responsible members of their community and growing their understanding of their own unique character and their relationship to God.

PCSL is participating in the Threshold program in two very important ways: first through the service of volunteer mentors from the Center who will sponsor these individuals on their spiritual journey, and second by providing space at the Center on a weekly basis where the participants can continue their Threshold studies after release from prison. The program is new and folks haven’t met the criteria to be in the program outside of the facility yet. When folks get out of the facility and choose to keep up their spiritual work, ED GRAY will lead a weekly group at PCSL.

PCSL has become involved with Threshold through New Thought Prison Ministries which takes the “change your thinking and change your life” message into the Coffee Creek Women’s Facility in Wilsonville and the Columbia River Men’s Facility here in Portland.



Ed Gray

Opening Hearts
Igniting Minds
Making a Difference

JOIN US AT THE CENTER

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 Spiritual Living**

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NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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COMING ATTRACTIONS / EVENTS

JULY

SUMMER SPRUCE-UP/CLEAN-UP

July 24th, after the 11:00 AM Service

Join other congregants after the 2nd service as we "spruce up" the Center and its grounds. Feel free to wear your grubbies at the Service and help us make our Spiritual Center shine!

AUGUST

DIVINE DINING

On-going Aug – Oct



Coming soon, to a table near you! It's time to sign up for Divine Dining events, where members host meals to raise fun and funds for the Center. Feed your body, feed your soul, feed your Center! For more information, contact Shana at 503-261-0677.

WORKSHOP: Life in the Middle—Embracing the Mid-life Journey

Saturday, August 27, 10-3:00
 Facilitator, Rev. Lynn Johnson

For anyone between the ages of 35 and 80 who has begun to ask life's biggest questions – and really wants the answers. Come experience "Life in the Middle" – you will be uplifted and astonished as your soul begins to guide your heart. Includes potluck lunch. \$30

SEPTEMBER

IN BLOOM! Annual Community Retreat
 Sept 23-25 at Menucha



Join us for the fun, the food and the spiritual magic that is Menucha. Our annual retreat to the beautiful Columbia Gorge features workshops for men, women, families and children. There's something for everyone as we explore our spirituality in full bloom! Sign up at the Center.

\$ 185.00 early-bird adult (paid by Aug. 1st)
 \$ 210.00 regular adult price
 \$ 27.00 children 7-12 price (under 7, free)

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

DRUMMING CIRCLE: on Summer hiatus

LUNCH BUNCH: 2nd & 4th Sun, 12:30pm

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY: Thur, 10:30am

FORWARD FLOW: For info, Suki McDonough 360-624-5615; Annette Sanders 971-227-9050.

HEART TO HEART: Support during an illness, loss or other transition. Contact Rev. Sharon Lee Foley 503-668-9806 or Lexy Dillon 503-663-5817.

TRANSCENDENCE: Join us again this Fall for a 12-Step meeting where the higher power is our own True Selves. For more information, contact Nancy Ashley at 503-880-0308.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

PAID POSITION AVAILABLE

YOUTH CHURCH TEACHER OPPORTUNITY

This is a wonderful chance to have fun with kids while teaching Science of Mind principles. There are two groups of children – the younger group is from 0-6 and the older group from 7-12. If you have a desire to work with either group please contact Lexy Dillon (503) 663-5817, or Rev. Larry King (503) 460-2623. We are looking for regular and substitute teachers. Both are paid positions.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HOSPITALITY TEAM: Duties include making coffee, setting up treats one Sunday a month, 9:00am service. Contact Pat Lloyd 360-253-9779.

CLEAN TEAM: Cleaning and light maintenance for three hours, once a month. Contact Anette Bolster 503-970-4116.

VIDEOGRAPHER: The Center plans to create some short videos. If you have experience and would like to help, contact Rev. Larry, 503-460-2623 or Mike Watters, 503-752-3868.

All events held at the Center unless otherwise noted. Get latest updates/details at www.pcsl.us/calendar.

ABOUT US PORTLAND CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING is a community of people dedicated to **Opening Hearts** by knowing that the Divine Presence of Good lives in and as every person; **Igniting Minds** by teaching people how to use this Power for Good to create the life they want; and **Making a Difference** in the world by using love to remember that we are One with all of life and with each other. We enrich global consciousness by demonstrating the Wisdom of Spiritual Principles in all our affairs.