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"Chaos is not something I enjoy."

WHO KNEW?

I Certainly Didn't. BY JUNE GUMZ

Have you ever learned something about yourself that changed everything? Recently I discovered that I fit on the autism spectrum; I have a mild case of Asberger's Syndrome. Having worked in Special Ed. for more than 20 years as a teacher's assistant, this observation was a long time coming. While I suspect some members of my family have Asberger tendencies, it never occurred to me that I do.



June Gumz, editor

One clue to my 'condition' is that I am very literal. Even after 77 years, if you tell me something to my face, I believe you.

Fortunately, I have made allowances for certain politicians and discernment comes into play every four years. Because I say what I mean, I assume everyone does; lots of disappointments over a lifespan.

Life in my brain is relatively simple – pretty black and white. It is amazing that I am not a conservative. For me, things are right or they are wrong – I'm not a nuance kind of person and consequently I don't always get the finer points of a situation or conversation. When someone says, "you know what I mean," I think I do, but often I don't.

Chaos is not something I enjoy. It is imperative that I can depend on quiet times and regular routines. For decades I have wondered why I was always the first to leave a meeting, church service or party. Now that I am familiar with traits of Aspy's, I understand it is a safety valve for me against too much stimulation and not anti-social behavior.

As individuals we each have a cross or two to bear. For some it is weight issues, for others fear of heights or mental quirks such as dyslexia. Conversely, we also have talents to share. Imagine how boring it would be if we were all normal in the same ways. If everyone was artistic, clever, athletic, musical, etc., how would we let our little lights shine?

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My new found awareness allows me to be less judgmental of others. Always being right is tiring! Now I can take a minute to examine an idea or situation and think, is this logical? Could the person be implying more than he/she is saying? What questions can I ask for elucidation? Awareness of Asberger's Syndrome is giving me permission to get more information to make decisions and clarify situations. It's a good thing.



Rev. Larry King

"God will help if you have some good ideas and a commitment to move forward."

MESSAGE BY REV. LARRY KING

WHO ARE YOU BECOMING?

The trick-or-treaters were at my house last night. The many costumed kids were eager for candy and equally eager to pet our two dogs as they helped greet the Halloween visitors. I asked everyone "Who are you, tonight?" and I got some expected (and unexpected) answers.

One little boy said, "I'm Superman, silly!" It wasn't clear from his costume, but he was as sure as could be. He told me all about fighting crime, flying to the North Pole and how exactly he would deal with Kryptonite.

A little girl said she was a princess and I asked which one. After all there are many, many princesses! She replied, "The one that gets exactly what she wants!" I think she's ready to start going to our spiritual center!

One little boy looks stunned by this question. He was in some kind of feline costume. Lion King? Tigger? It was hard to say. His mom whispered something to him, but he just turned red and left (with candy, of course). Another little boy who looked somewhat like an accident victim (Zombie? The Mummy?) said, "Me? I couldn't figure it out... so I put on this..."

So, now it's your turn. Who are you tonight? What are you in the process of becoming? You might say, "Not fair! It's not Halloween any longer. Why are you asking?" I'm asking because I think it's important. Do you have an idea of who you'd like to

become? Do you know what you like about yourself and what you'd like to change? Do you have goals to help you make progress in becoming your best self? God will help if you have some good ideas and a commitment to move forward.

We're not that much different from the trick-or-treaters. If we don't have a plan, we'll just drift through life. One day will end up being much like the last. This is fine, if you're satisfied with your life "as-is."

But, Superman had some clear ideas. He may not have had much of a costume, but there was clarity in him

about what it is to be Superman: the strength, doing good things, flying, etc. I bet that God will powerfully help this little guy in his plans for becoming.

In her book "The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity," Edwene Gaines explained the criteria for having a Divine Purpose or for becoming someone truly remarkable.

They're not so hard:

- Stand for something
- Make the world better than it was when you came into it
- Have fun

So who are you becoming?

Larry



BOARD UPDATE BY JANINE STEWART, CHAIRPERSON, PARTNERS IN PROSPERITY PROSPERITY

We are so blessed at PCSL! The annual **Prosperity Dinner** was held on October 20 as a thank you from the board and leadership of our community. Rev. Larry shared information about our outreach programs; Ann Forest Burns gave an update on the search for our new building, and attendees participated in discussion regarding what is working and what they would like to see more of. I encouraged everyone to submit their Intentional Giving cards and to consider accepting the challenge to tithe made by Edwene Gaines. Many hands were involved in getting this dinner put together. Please know how much I appreciated all the help with decorations, set up, and clean up.

We also had a very successful **Divine Dining** season. Ten hosts, five of them new to this event, provided food and activities that kept our community engaged and connected all summer long. Thank you to everyone who participated.

A new **Prosperity Team** has been formed (Len Stanley, Corrine Vostal, Sam Gates, yours truly) and will be meeting in the near future with Rev. Larry to calendar events for the coming year. Due to the change in our music program leadership, we are postponing the talent show to this coming spring. Other new ideas are being considered for additional activities that will bring us together.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be on the board and to chair this important team for PCSL.

Yours in abundance!



Janine Stewart
Board Member at Large



THE PIE-EYED OPTIMIST
Host: Rev. Lynn Johnson



SWIM, SPLASH,
COOL DOWN PARTY
Host: Kathy Marshack



TALK NERDY TO ME
Hosts: Sam and Damon Gates



FIESTA DEL PARAÍSO
Hosts: Rev. Larry King and Daniel Hutchison



Opening Hearts
Igniting Minds
Making a Difference

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COMING EVENTS • GET THE LATEST UPDATES ONLINE AT www.pcsl.us/calendar

NOVEMBER

THANKSGIVING MUMS

Order and dedicate yours!

Help decorate the sanctuary for our Harvest Potluck Sunday and have a Thanksgiving table decoration! You may also honor a loved one in the Sunday program through your purchase. Order them through November 13th for display on November 20th. Pick up your plant after the second service at the Harvest Potluck. The cost is \$15.00. For more information call Dee Hartman (360) 831-8033.



HARVEST POTLUCK

And "Bring a Friend" Sunday

Sunday, November 20th, after the 2nd Service

Join us as we gather for a Fall potluck in celebration of the bounty of Spirit present in our Community. The Center provides turkey and ham; you bring your favorite side dishes to share for our "Thanksgiving." Let's expand our loving community by bringing a friend this Sunday!

GRATITUDE SERVICE

Wed, November 23, 7pm – 8pm

Be a part of this annual service where, through music and sharing, we celebrate life and its many blessings. Offer gratitude for all of your many gifts this year, as well as set your intentions for future gratitude in 2017.

DECK THE HALLS

Sunday, November 27th, 12:30 PM

Join us after the second service as we decorate for the holidays. We'll have eggnog and mulled cider on hand to enjoy with cookies and holiday music. Together we'll create a lovely space to enjoy Solstice, Christmas and beyond! Bring an ornament in red/gold/green to put on our Christmas tree and cookies that you might share with our hospitality team.

DECEMBER

STUFFED TOY COLLECTION

We've partnered with Portland Police's "Sunshine Division" to collect new and gently used stuffed animals to be given to children in distress. Bring them in during December and we'll love-them-up in our sanctuary seats. For more information, contact Rosemary Teetor 503-956-5232.



SOLSTICE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 21, 7pm-8pm

A service filled with light, music, readings and a remembrance of the birth of the Enlightened One that lives within us all. This service fills the heart and soul.

JANUARY 2017

GOLDEN BOWL SERVICE

Sunday, January 1, 9am & 11 am

On the first Sunday of each year, the Center hosts a ritual service where we each release something that is an untruth in our consciousness, and set a focused intention to embrace a quality of Spirit during the upcoming year. Much more powerful than a resolution.

ON-GOING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

HEART TO HEART: Support during an illness, loss or other life transition. Contact Rev. Larry King 503-501-6599.

BREAKFAST WITH THE MINISTER: Sat, 9:00am

For Info, contact Dee Hartman at 360-831-8033.

TRANSCENDENCE 12-STEP FOR WOMEN:

Sat, 9:00am-noon

All activities held at the Center unless otherwise noted. GET MORE INFO at www.pcsl.us/calendar.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: GET INVOLVED!

YOUTH CHURCH TEACHER: Have fun with kids while teaching Science of Mind principles. There are two groups of children – younger is from 0-6 and the older from 7-12. We are looking for regular and substitute teachers. Both receive stipends. Contact Sean Larkin 530-228-3515.

HOSPITALITY TEAM: One Sunday a month, 9 or 11am service. Contact Erin Hurt at 360-909-4971.

USED SCIENCE OF MIND MAGAZINES NEEDED: Please bring old copies to the office. We would like to "recycle" them in our visitor packets.

USHERS & GREETERS AND THE "CLEAN TEAM"

Become that friendly smile that welcomes people to our spiritual home. The "Clean Team" maintains our clean and lovely environment. For more information, contact Anette Bolster at 503-970-4116.

COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAMS:

A free way to support PCSL. A portion of your purchases at Amazon.com (Amazon Smile) and Fred Meyer (Community Rewards) can be credited to your Spiritual Center. For more information, call PCSL office at 503-261-0677.