



Spiritual Light Center

Newsletter -- February 2013

MESSAGE FROM JIM

Dear Spiritual Light Center Family and Friends:

I was thinking about our Mission Statement the other day. Although I like what it says I have begun to feel that it is too narrowly focused; we may be missing an important opportunity to become a force for good in our town and in the surrounding area as well. Take a look at it, as it is presented in this newsletter, and see if you might agree with me that it is pretty well oriented only to those of us who "belong to" the SLC.

The words of the mission statement are comfortable, but they do not carry an intention to be a place where people who are part of the "traditional church alumni association" can come to be spiritually nourished -- without having to deal with the fear, guilt, and shame that so often characterize those "other" places.

I suggest that an aspect of our mission here in Franklin is to spread the word that we are available to spiritual seekers of every kind, and to provide a place where they can come and share our search for the Source of all, without being required to adopt a set of doctrines in order to be accepted into the fold. I do not mean that we should try to "convert" folks who are well-satisfied with their spiritual homes; proselyting is not a practice that we want to get into. But let us affirm that we are a caring spiritual community that welcomes those who do not find the sort of spiritual support they desire in the more traditional settings.

It may be that a revision or expansion of our Mission Statement is needed. I ask that you think about this over the next few weeks, and suggest ways that we can not only "seek to develop our highest selves," but encourage other people to share their spiritual pathways with us in that "environment of unconditional love and respect for others" that we have come to enjoy and appreciate so much.

Namasté!

Jim Swanson

OUR VISION STATEMENT

The Spiritual Light Center is a peaceful and joyful fellowship of individuals, centered in love, dedicated to the God within, and honoring the many paths to truth.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We seek to develop our highest selves by continuous sharing of spiritual ideas, in an environment of unconditional love and respect for others.



**ONGOING EVENTS
in Fellowship Hall**

Every Tuesday at 5:15pm-
Join our insightful group as we watch a selected film of a spiritual nature, followed by discussion to develop our evolution. Afterward we select a restaurant and go out to eat!

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm-
Musicians and singers gather to share their love of music. Everyone is welcome. Please call Tom Tyre at 421-0520 for more information.

Every other Thursday, 5:15 pm- Please join us for our meditation group led by Dr Richard Kimball. He begins with an informative discussion on the practice of meditation followed by walking and then sitting meditation. Call Richard at 371-3425 for details.

Every Thursday at 6:30pm-
Come to a group discussion studying the Workbook in A Course in Miracles. This has a

powerful message. Expertly led ed by Arthur Cataldo.

Last Sunday of each Month-
Join us following our Sunday Celebration for a pot luck lunch. Bring a covered dish and join us for food and enjoyment.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

February 3, 11 a.m.

Carol Harrison, known as Nature’s Voice, will speak to us on “Shamanism”.

February 10, 11 a.m.

Kim May, a dynamic Science of Mind practioner and speaker, returns with the topic “Intention vs. Attention”.

Feberuary 17, 11 a.m.

Dr. Jim Swanson, our own long- term member and board president, will share a talk

entitled “Creating your own eality: The Seth Material.”

February 24, 11 a.m.

Lesley Reifert-Hughes, the author of “Little Old Ladies Laughing Out Loud” will be sharing with us on “Spiritualism”.

March 3, 11 a.m.

Barbara Brady

March 10, 11 a.m.

Sandra Lavender

March 17, 11AM

Rev. Ron Lindahn

March 24, 11AM

Rev. Frank Kish

March 31, 11AM

Bill Groves

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President..... Dr. Jim Swanson
Vice President Kay Smith
Secretary Bill Groves
Treasurer..... Clark Kell
Assistant Treasurer..... Carol Murley
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The Board of Trustees meets at 10 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month.

All members are welcome to attend.



Pray for Your Own Discovery

There exists some point at which I can meet God in a real contact with His infinite actuality. This is the “place” of God, His sanctuary—it is the point where my contingent being depends upon His Love. Within myself is a metaphysical apex of existence at which I am held in being by my Creator.

God utters me like a word containing a partial thought of Himself. A word will never be able to comprehend the voice that utters it. But if I am true to the concept that God utters in me, if I am true to the thought of Him I was meant to embody, I shall be full of his actuality and find Him everywhere in myself, and find my ego nowhere. I shall be lost in Him: that is I will find **myself.**

To be “lost” is to be left to the arbitrariness and pretense of the ego, the smoke-self that must inevitably vanish. To be “saved” is to return to one's inviolate and eternal reality in God. What one of us can enter into himself and find the God who utters him? Unless I respond to His utterance of Himself in me as He speaks in the center of my soul, I will no more know Him than a stone knows the ground upon which it rests in its inertia. We only know Him in so far as we are known by Him, and our contemplation of Him is a participation in His contemplation of Himself. We are contemplatives when God discovers Himself in us.



From New Seeds of Contemplation (1961) by Thomas Merton