



Spiritual Light Center

Newsletter--November 2013

MESSAGE FROM BILL

Dear SLC Family,

Fall is a time for reflection. The autumn leaves can get us to thinking. It's in this season I do my best reflecting on who I am and what I most want in this life. Perhaps in this season of color and beauty we as a community can reflect on who we are and what sort of beauty we want to project into the world. When people think "Spiritual Light Center", what is it we would like them to call to mind?

Absolutely more than anything I, personally, want us to be known as a place of peace, harmony, and inclusiveness. By this I mean I wish every vestige of every conceivable wall to come tumbling down. Images of Joshua at Jericho come to mind. Everyone sounds their trumpet about something. May ours be about breaking down walls that divide and inviting into our family those who have not felt welcome.

I've heard lots of talk about planetary alignments and the coming new age of oneness, but are we yet ready? World unity will not occur only by education of brains. It must come by changes of heart, and this is manifested by how we speak to and treat one another.

Our world and each of us is marred with hurt and wounds. Denying these with a concealing smile only makes matters worse. What is needed is not more spin and masks. What is needed is healing. That's what we're in business to do. For many years I've heard the term "reconciliation church" tossed around. If we as the Spiritual Light Center are about anything, we are about reconciliation, inclusivity, healing, and openness.

May that healing begin in our own lives and hearts to allow the illusion of distinction, division and boundaries to dissolve. Our loving words and behavior toward one another is the trumpet we blow and the name by which we will be known.

Many Blessings, Bill Groves, President

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

Every other Thursday, November 14 & 28, at 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.

Thursdays at 6:30pm come join us for a **new book study**. We've just begun reading The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz. It's very inspiring and easing to read. You'll love this one!

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

November 3, 11 a.m.

Rita deMaintenon, a retired educator, currently a speaker and folk artist from the Asheville area (originally Frankfurt), will speak on "Spiritual Solutions".

November 10, 11 a.m.

Dr. Harvey Tritel, who served for years as lay rabbi at Mountain Synagogue in Franklin, will speak on God is a Verb. He's a keeper whose talks are always fascinating!

November 17, 11 a.m.

Ubuntu, our area's gift of song that can send your soul soaring skyward, is joining us again in a Celebration in Chorus.

October 27, 11 a.m.

Carol Harrison, known as "Nature's Voice", a professional animal communicator, teacher, and shaman, will speak on Gratitude for Self.

Due to scheduling changes we don't yet have a lineup of speakers for December.

OUR NEW SLC STORE HAS OPENED!

Our new store and resale shop in the Fellowship Hall is doing very well, better each week!. We are selling items on consignment or donated, including books, jewelry, gift items, decorative items, art, household goods and crafts. We have received some spectacular merchandise, but we still need your good, saleable donated items (no clothing please). Our store is open Thurs, Fri, and Sat 11-5 and Sunday 12-4. For further info contact Martie Taylor at 828-342-7382. Please stop by and visit this beautiful space our community has created, and take something wonderful home with you!



OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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SPIRITUAL LIGHT CENTER INFORMATION

80 Heritage Hollow Drive, Franklin, NC 28734
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Thoughts to Ponder

“I want to use this practice: Whenever I express my views, thoughts or anything I deeply believe, I will welcome any opposing view or thought. I will listen with caring attention to what the other says, accepting it no matter how different or antagonistic it seems to be.

I will also deeply and sincerely thank them.

I will abstain from feeling accused or judged.

I will acknowledge the other as my shadow, an integral part of me who has accepted to relate with me.

I believe that to manifest a vision requires its opposite, the other polarity.

If my vision is truly holistic, I am not in a position to oppose any alternative vision.

I intend to learn to accept what appears to be opposite, no matter how unpleasant or contrary it is. I believe that only in releasing the urge to be right, unity can be experienced and manifested.

I have tried all other options, and they have not worked, and this is the only one I have left. And for this purpose I am open to be patient, promoting the gestation of this healing process, for I know that all is one.” ~ Franco Santoro

☞ “As long as we share our stories, revealing our strengths and vulnerabilities to each other, we reinvigorate our understanding and tolerance of the little quirks of personality that in other circumstances would drive us apart. When we live in a family, a community, where we know each other's true stories, we remember our capacity to lean in and love each other into wholeness.

I have read the story of a tribe in southern Africa called the Babemba in which a person doing something wrong, something that destroys this delicate social net, brings all work in the village to a halt. The people gather around the "offender," and one by one they begin to recite everything he has done right in his life: every good deed, thoughtful behavior, act of social responsibility. These things have to be true about the person and must be spoken honestly. The time-honored consequence of misbehavior is to appreciate that person back into the better part of himself. The person is given the chance to remember who he is and why he is important to the life of the village.

I want to live under such a practice of compassion. When I forget my place, when I lash out with some private wounding in a public way, I want to be remembered back into alignment with myself and my purpose. I want to live with the opportunity for reconciliation. When someone around me is thoughtless or cruel, I want to be given the chance to respond with a ritual that creates the possibility of reconnection. I want to live in a neighborhood where people don't shoot first, don't sue first, where people are Storycatchers willing to discover in strangers the mirror of themselves.”

~Christina Baldwin



☞ “The overall purpose of human communication is - or should be - reconciliation. It should ultimately serve to lower or remove the walls of misunderstanding which unduly separate us human beings from one another.” ~ M. Scott Peck

☞ “The way you help heal the world is to start with your own community.”

~ Mother Teresa

☞ “When our eyes see our hands doing the work of our heart, the circle of creation is completed inside us, the doors of our soul fly open and love steps forth to heal everything in sight.” ~ Michael Bridge

☞ “To be healed means to be joined with the whole. To be ill means to be disconnected from the whole.” ~Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

☞ “Eventually you will come to understand that love heals everything, and love is all there is.” ~ Gary Zukav