



# Spiritual Light Center

**Newsletter—May 2014**

## MESSAGE FROM BILL

**Dear SLC Family,**

Creating this newsletter proved to be a challenge to me. I intended to address the issue of spiritual healing, to look into the ways and means one can use to alleviate their own personal illnesses and discomforts. The more I researched this topic the more I found that spiritual healing might not best be seen from the personal, individual level. Indeed, Spirit appeared to be leading me into seeing healing as a communal and even universal event; that we are personally healed as we are swept up into the spiritual healing of our community and society at large.

There has been considerable discussion that our Center has experienced a “healing” or “resurrection” in the last several months. I clearly sense it too. The increased warmth and “family” atmosphere is palpable, impossible to miss, especially for those returning after a time away. For this I am supremely grateful. Perhaps this healing has been facilitated, at least in part, by our choosing to look beyond our own personal, egocentric desires of what we want the focus of the Spiritual Light Center to be, and instead allowing those demands to dissolve into an emerging communal mentality whose priority is the well-being of the spiritual family as a whole. All I can say for sure is that whatever’s happening is working.

It is my desire that we continue to foster the spiritual growth and healing of our Center, and in so doing bring about our own personal healing which will most certainly come as an added result. I have come to believe that spiritual healing is a lifestyle, an aligning ourselves with universal truths. It comes as we seek the healing and well-being of our community, our planet, and the harmonizing of our universe. True healing cannot be maintained individually, as a solely self-centered pursuit. May our reading this newsletter help us to further our own spiritual healing and better lay a foundation upon which we might continue on the path of health and spiritual unification with Divine Oneness.

Many blessings to you,  
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 the 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, May 1, 15, & 29, 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 further details.

**Thursdays at 6:30pm** come join us for our **book study**. We're continuing with The Sermon on the Mount by Emmett Fox. This book is filled with wisdom and has spurred some very lively discussion.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

**May 4, 11 a.m.**

**Dr. Richard Kimball**, facilitator of our Thursday meditations, will be share with us on "Meditation—The Power of Soul".

**May 11, 11 a.m.**

**A few of us from the Center** will perform a short play from Gary Renard's book Your Immortal Reality. We're calling it "How to Wake Yourself Up".

**May 18, 11 a.m.**

**Faye Corbett**, doctor of Naturopathic Medicine, certified in Reiki, reflexology and Pranic healing will speak on "Few Are So Loved". A warm welcome to her!

**May 25, 11 a.m.**

**Dr. Harvey Tritel**, retired cardiologist and former lay rabbi of Mountain Synagogue will present a talk entitled "After Egypt". Harvey is always interesting!

## FRIDAY SPIRITUAL EDUCATION

**Now at 6pm in the Hall**

**May 2 – Deborah Burris** will bless us with sacred sound conducting a Crystal Bowl Session.

**May 9 – Brenda Isaacs** will share her expertise in "Balancing Your Energy for Health through Healing Touch".

**May 16 – J. Robin Whitley, M.Div.**, poet, author and musician, shares with us "Stories & Music".

**May 23** – No group due to Memorial Day Weekend.

**May 30** – Not yet scheduled.



## OUR SLC METAPHYSICAL STORE with revised hours

Our store has reopened under the experienced management of Sandy Frary, certified gemologist. We are selling consignment or donated items including books, jewelry, gift and decorative items, original art, and handmade crafts and clothing. **The revised hours are Thursdays & Fridays 2 to 6pm, Saturdays 12 to 4pm, and Sundays after the service.** Come see the beauty! For information please call Sandy at 342-7843.

### OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### SPIRITUAL LIGHT CENTER INFORMATION

**80 Heritage Hollow Drive, Franklin, NC 28734**  
**Right behind the Gazebo Restaurant in Heritage Hollow**  
**828-369- 3065**  
**slcfranklin@ frontier.com**  
[www.spirituallightcenter.com](http://www.spirituallightcenter.com)



## *Reflections on Spiritual Healing*

☞ "Soon we learn that praying for our own healing may not be exactly the right prayer. The right prayer may more likely be, "Please show me the way of healing". Show me the healing path. Now we are closer to the possibility of healing. Healing becomes a way of life, not a single event. A way of life that affects others. And what might the healing path be? A path in alignment with Spirit. Rather than asking the Divine to extend a boon to us, we find ourselves asking to live according to Divine precepts that are beneficial for the whole, in such a way that benefits all beings. This turns out to be the way of our own healing. We have started to heal our lives so that our lives can heal us.

In my mind, there is a direct relationship between the healing of my body and the healing of the world. Where healing and peacemaking are one, they are the bridge between individual healing and the healing of the community. I do not ask for my healing without committing entirely to the healing of the world. As the world heals, my own healing is a sacred gift extended to me as well. The world's body. My body. The same. This is the very nature of healing." ~Deena Metzger, *Healing in Community*

☪ "For the life eternal, that which we call the One Life, lies outside and beyond all personal aspirations, and hopes, and fears. It lives and moves in all, and has lived and will live from eternity to eternity, ever the great enigma to all that is personal and temporary. The personal devotee who loses his life for his personal faith, doing so in the hope of a personal reward, it is still the personal 'I' who will meet in heaven with all 'I' hold blessed; 'my' friends, 'my' loved ones, 'my' ideal of a personal God and a personal Savior. This is not a renunciation, but an intensification of the personal, and therefore temporary and finite.

Far deeper than that lies the path to life eternal. It lies within, not without; in the innermost of our own Being, in that Life which is itself the One Life, the One Being. The life Eternal which we can find will never be found in a heaven of personal bliss, where we seem to approach 'God' as we would approach the throne of an earthly king.

To know 'God' is to know our own life and Being as part of His Life and Being, and to merge all personal interests into that larger life which is 'no respecter of persons.' Let those who can do so, put away from themselves all that conceit which places them in some uniquely favoured relation to a 'God. For if we are to understand the term 'God' in any sense which is adequate to the conception of the universe in its totality, as the sum of all Being, all consciousness, and all manifestation, and not merely as an expression of one or other of those anthropomorphic conceptions which have gathered round special names of the deity in various ages: then we must recognize that that One Life, expressing itself in countless forms of manifestation, . . . lives and moves, and has its being in and through all." ~William Kingsland, *Esoteric Basis of Christianity*



☪ "We pray not so much that God take away sickness, sorrow, hurt or want, as we pray that we may be lifted up into the consciousness which is Christ. We pray not so much that God may grant this desire or that, but that we may be lifted up into the fullness of His Presence, for in that Presence illness and hurt fall into nothingness and all God's substance flows toward us to fill our every need." ~ Rebecca Beard

☞ "The planetary conditions we see before us are a mirror of our own inner state. They are a reflection of both inner chaos and growing wisdom, and the test of our evolutionary fitness will be determined by which of these we choose to cultivate. The wars and civil strife going on RIGHT NOW AT THIS MOMENT are but the collective symptoms of the inner unrest we all feel much of the time. Although the faces of generals and politicians may change, it is the same phenomena of inner struggle we see today that has been witnessed throughout history. Warlike intentions give rise to international disaster. History repeats itself, because our own inner hostilities and dissatisfaction keep repeating themselves. To recognize this fact is the first and most critical step for world peace and peacefulness. To truly progress we must stay focused upon spiritual good will, with the full knowledge that any intentionally held hostilities are ultimately an intentionally held self-destructiveness. The body of humanity to which we belong is an indivisible collective, and it is important to view it as such. For our own sake and self preservation, we must render aid to our neighbors and neighboring countries with an enthusiasm born of this spiritual understanding." ~Global Meditation Focus Group



☞ We are spiritually blind if we see ourselves merely as a body in a physical world competing against all other persons. Our ability to practice spiritual healing depends upon our conception of Reality. We cannot develop spiritual healing capability if we haven't moved out of the egomaniacal pattern of: "Oh God, please hurry and heal me of this affliction because it's very annoying and you know how I detest feeling anything but happy and contented." We suffer from spiritual blindness if we're limited to that constricting perspective of ego, if we can't see Reality from the perspective of others as well.

As we gain an understanding of spiritual healing, we learn to understand the larger context of our pain and illness. We discover there is a role that our illness plays in our life. One important way of understanding illness, darkness and suffering is to see these states as processes by which an individual becomes a healer. In classical terms this is called the "wounded healer" archetype which represents, for some, a process of initiation and of entry into the Higher Consciousness.

Of course, not everyone who experiences illness or difficult times becomes awakened by them. But for some who are prepared, it can be a process of metamorphosis. The challenge you face may awaken you to the possibility of moving into another dimension of being. Something moves you to another stage of development, and your entire life changes. Your personality and interests change. You may be led to work with others to help uplift, inspire, and heal them. Once the metamorphosis has taken place, you cannot go back to the life you previously led. You're now operating from an entirely new viewpoint.

The shamanic tradition affirms the rebirth of healers from their own personal states of darkness. During times when shamans experienced dire illness, in which they were often on the brink of death, they would find themselves in touch with an inner voice telling them that a new life was on the horizon, that they would gain an understanding through their particular predicament, and then awaken to a new life.

In his book *Healing and Wholeness*, John Sanford says there is something of the shaman in every person, and there is something shamanistic in every illness. If we allow ourselves to become conscious of the meaning of our illnesses and life challenges, we can awaken from them and go to the other side of them into states of healing and wholeness.

We gain an understanding that whatever is taking place is a necessary experience on our path to enlightenment. We realize that our greatest suffering may become that moment of darkness which constitutes a springboard into ultimate illumination. This kind of understanding goes beyond merely tolerating life and its vicissitudes; it is a process of changing our entire mind-set by seeing perfection in everything, appreciating that life consists of necessary steps toward transformation and wholeness. This way of discernment comprehends that facing challenges--and overcoming them--is a process in which consciousness is being awakened. We gain a special inner quality that is the mark of a transformed life, and so we achieve *true* spiritual healing.  
~ from *Spiritual Healing* by Norman D. Livergood



*W* "Every action of your life touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity."  
~ Edwin Hubbel Chapin