

# MAY 2024

# NEWSLETTER

## President's Message

**Doug VanOrsdall**

Dear Beloved Community of SLC Franklin,

WELCOME to the month of May here in the beautiful western North Carolina mountains where we all love being a part of these gorgeous surroundings! As the gentle caress of Spring begins to unfurl its tender fingers, painting the world in hues of new beginnings and fresh possibilities, let us gather in the warmth of its embrace, hearts wide open to the symphony of renewal that dances upon the air.

In this season of awakening, both literal and metaphorical, let us pause to reflect on the profound wisdom woven into the very fabric of nature, offering us guidance and inspiration as we navigate the ever-changing landscapes of our lives.

Just as the earth sheds the weight of winter's frost to make way for the vibrant tapestry of flora and fauna, so too do we have the opportunity to shed the layers of our past, releasing that which no longer serves us, and stepping boldly into the boundless expanse of our own potential.

For Spring is not merely a season; it is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit, a gentle reminder that coming out of the darkest of times, there exists the promise of light.

In the garden of our souls, let us plant the seeds of hope, nurturing them with love and care, trusting in their ability to bloom into magnificent blossoms of possibility. For it is often in the face of change, in the midst of uncertainty, that we discover the true depth of our strength and the vastness of our capacity for growth.

Like the tender shoots that push their way through the hardened earth, we too can rise above adversity, reaching ever skyward towards the radiant sun. Having our own in-house master gardener extraordinaire,



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Sue Ditch, to always give us the best advice on tending to those outdoor gardens we plant in our yards, businesses and places of worship, let us turn to our own in-house minds to direct us in a positive direction to be our guide so we can be our absolute best, as we plant the individual landscapes of our lives.

As we stand on the threshold of this new season, let us embrace the call to transformation with open arms, for it is through change that we are granted the opportunity to rewrite the script of our lives, to craft a narrative that speaks to the very essence of our being.

Let us not be afraid to venture into the unknown, for it is within the fertile soil of uncertainty that our wildest dreams take root, unfurling their new blooms in a glorious display of courage and resilience.

Dear friends, let us take this moment to celebrate the arrival of Spring, not just as a time of year, but as a state of mind, representing a symbol of hope and renewal that resides within each and every one of us.

Let us embrace the journey ahead with a sense of wonder and curiosity, knowing that with every step we take, we are inching ever closer to the bright and beautiful future that awaits us.

In the words of the renowned poet Rumi, "*Let yourself be silently drawn by the strange pull of what you really love. It will not lead you astray.*"

As a collective spiritual family, let us welcome this new season with open hearts and open minds, ready to embrace the infinite possibilities that lie ahead!

*With love and abundant blessings~*

Doug



## Apache Blessing

May the sun bring you  
energy by day,  
May the moon softly restore  
you by night,  
May the rain wash away  
your worries,  
May the breeze blow new  
strength into your being,  
May you walk gently through  
the world and  
Know its beauty all the days  
of your life.



# Prayer for My Soul

By Pam Keyser

Hey, Holy Self, live not in yesterday, let sorrows be past and gone.  
The blueprint was just a launching, not to be held to today.  
Soul-self, sketch the outline again and fill it with detailed bright colors.

The initial design, full of wars and pain, nothing you need this day.  
Use that energy for this time, for building on the present.  
Past failures do not reside there, my dear soul, your scar is a keepsake.

You have constructed a new self, rich with the lessons you have mastered.  
Be proud, but don't take pride, for victories shall also vanish.  
Do not constipate your energies on metal trophies and glass shrines.

My Soul, give no thought to other people's gain or turn green with envy  
Show me that gratitude and grace are peace no wealth can equal.  
Take delight in *no one's* ruination, thinking it elevates you.

So, Spirit, what is allocated for a wise soul to pay heed?  
To what do we lend our energies, vitality, life force?  
Answer: Sow seeds of love, be bold, abide in the eternal now.

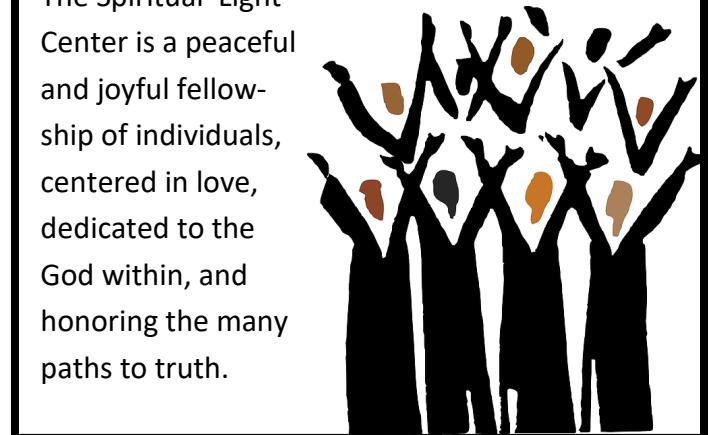


## INDOOR YARD SALE PLANNED

We are collecting donations for a fundraiser on June 22 and 23. The sale will be for one weekend only. Please drop off clean and new or gently used donations in the Fellowship Hall's Healing Room Thursdays or Sundays when the building is open. Thanks!!!

## Our Vision

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.



# Three Degrees of Shade

by Master Gardiner Sue Ditch

**Light Shade**—This type of shade is determined by the number of hours sun reaches the ground and the quality of the light.

## Annuals for light shade

Flossflower aka Ageratum

Cup flower aka Nierembergia

Lobelia

New Guinea Impatient

Sweet alyssum aka Lobularia

Wax begonia aka Begonia

Vinca aka Cathamathus roseus

**Part Shade**—Part shade is 4-6 hours of sun per day or all day dappled sunlight.

## Annuals For Part Shade

Black eyed Susan Vine aka Thunbergia Alata

Browallia

Flowering tobacco aka Nicotinia alata

Impatiens

Ivy Geranium aka Pelargonium peltatum

Larkspur aka Consolida Aja is

Love in a mist aka Nigella sativa

Spider Flower aka Cleome

**Full Shade**—Full shade means 2-4 hours of light per day. No annual can survive with less light. The plants on this list will tolerate it, but will also grow in part shade.

## Annuals for full shade

Coleus aka Solenostemon

Dragon wing begonia Forget me not aka Myosotis  
Sylva tick

Fuchsia

Monkey flower aka Mimulus

Wishbone flower aka Torenia Fournier



**THURSDAYS AT 3:00**

*Join us in the Fellowship hall for thought provoking videos and conversation, followed by supper and more fellowship at a local eatery. Everyone is welcome, members and nonmembers alike.*



(If you are a member of the Spiritual Light Center and would like to have your services listed in the newsletter, please contact us at [slcfranklin@frontier.com](mailto:slcfranklin@frontier.com))



## OUR FIRST SPIRITUAL INTERFAITH BAPTISM



# **MACON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

# **PLANT SALE**

**Good selection of native plants, perennials, dahlias and other plants for the home garden**



**Saturday June 1, 2024**

**8:30am - Noon**

**Environmental Resource Center**

**1624 Lakeside Drive**

**Franklin, NC**

**(Next to the Landfill)**

**Cash or check only**



## Newsletter Submissions Wanted

This is your newsletter. Help us to improve, be current, and shape it into something you look forward to receiving every month. We are looking for member generated articles, poems, quotes, photos, recipes, tips, event announcements and anything else that you feel might be of general interest.

Looking forward to hearing from you at  
[slcfranklin@frontier.com](mailto:slcfranklin@frontier.com)



**SAVE YOUR STUFF**

We are planning to hold a one-weekend-only indoor Rummage sale June 22 and 23rd to help rebuild our treasury. Any and all clean and gently used donations will be most gratefully appreciated.

### Our Mission Statement

We are developing our highest selves by continuous sharing of spiritual ideas in an environment of unconditional love and respect for others.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on 2/29/24.....\$10153.47

Income.....1899.00

Expense.....1683.39

Balance on 3/31/24.....\$10369.08



The Spiritual Light Center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Drive in Franklin (28734) right behind the Gazebo Restaurant in Heritage Hollow. 828-369-3065

[slcfranklin@frontier.com](mailto:slcfranklin@frontier.com) [www.spiritualightcenter.com](http://www.spiritualightcenter.com)

If you would like to contribute to SLC, we have a PayPal account, <https://tinyurl.com/SLC-donate>. This link takes you to a page where you can easily donate one time or make a recurring donation.