

NOVEMBER 2010

## community news

### OUR SANCTUARY

A COMFORTABLE PLACE BY JUNE GUMZ

The space we call our sanctuary was originally a place for fabricating displays for businesses. It is now a center for like-minded folks to meet in a beautifully lit golden room for Sunday services, ordinations, talent shows, weddings, etc. The addition of velvet curtains provides a lovely backdrop for our stage and artistic panel that dominates the room.

The evolution of the sanctuary was done as the funds and permits became available. A committee worked out the color scheme, volunteers did some of the initial painting, and professionals were hired to do electrical and structural work while we held services in a tent for several months. Renting a tent was expensive, but there was an air of excitement each Sunday, especially if the wind was blowing or the rain was bouncing off the canvas.

On October 29, 2010 Rev. Larry King was ordained. Personally, I felt as if the sanctuary was being used for its highest purpose that evening. Ministers from other congregations, practitioners, congregants, musicians and friends shared in the charged atmosphere of joy and commitment. We could have had the service anywhere, but our sanctuary was the most comfortable place of all. We feel at home there.



Newly ordained Rev. Larry King being presented by Rev. Wanda Gentile and Rev. Lynn Johnson.

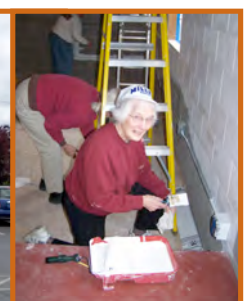
This month the annual talent show, which is a fundraiser for our musical team, was held November 13th in the sanctuary. Many of our talented members were willing to showcase their musical, comedy, or writing skills. Others provided treats for intermission. The annual show is always like a Sunday when the message or the music is extra powerful; no one wants to leave the building.



Original entrance...



interim tent...



volunteers painting.

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Cheryl Clark, RScP

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*An atmosphere of joy  
and commitment...*

## GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY BY JUNE GUMZ

### CHERYL CLARK, RSCP — LIVING FROM LOVE



Cheryl Clark, RSCP

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*"Life is a buffet to be enjoyed."*

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In 1998 Cheryl Clark attended one service at The First Church of Religious Science in Albuquerque, New Mexico and was hooked. She had joined the One Spirit Book Club previously and discovered that an "inclusive, expansive and open at the top" spiritual community actually existed and she wanted to be a part of it.

When asked who influenced her most in her life, family was the answer. Her parents allowed her to explore and choose for herself without preconceived limitations or make-believe rules. Her dad demonstrated integrity, a strong work ethic, competence, athleticism and wisdom. Her mother showcased sincerity, creativity, compassion, integrity and a love of people and life long learning. Her grandmothers liked to play, seek adventure and just be ornery if the situation called for it.

Pinning Cheryl down about her interests is like herding the proverbial cats. A direct quote from her, "life is a buffet to be enjoyed." Her buffet includes leading transformational education groups, hiking, cycling, snorkeling, travel, sports, music, dance, laughter, dogs, learning, being in service, and golf. Because she has to be 100% present in the moment, at ease, and in the flow, she believes that golf is a spiritual practice. This may also account for her success as a practitioner and group facilitator.

Among Cheryl's life experiences are trekking the Himalayas, bicycling from Banff to Jasper on the Canadian Ice Field Parkway and completing the Portland Marathon. She has worked for the US Forest Service for 28 years and now for the Federal Highway Administration. She is a civil engineer who does executive coaching, workshop facilitation and retreats.

Cheryl Clark envisions an education program that provides opportunities for people to take charge of their lives, explore their potential and consciously put spiritual principles to work. "My intention is to live from love; there's nothing more powerful."



Cheryl has been an active participant at the women's retreat and youth church.



## SPIRITUAL LEADER'S MESSAGE

### HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Hello Everyone,

If you're like me, the November and December holidays are a fun time with friends and family. Since we tend to add all this "fun" on top of our regular activities, it can also be challenging. How do we "make the Spirit bright" and still keep the house clean and our jobs going? How can we make this a special time and still have a balanced life?

One way is to really understand what makes things special for you and the people you love. So often we spend hours searching for the "perfect gift" or making the "choicest meals" or decorating the house "just so." Is this really what makes things memorable, though?

Surveys of people of all ages (including children) have shown that what makes things special are people. It's not the toy or gift that may be soon forgotten. It's not really how the tree was trimmed or how the food tasted. These are nice things—but generally not something that is remembered years later.

People agree that what makes a holiday memorable is having quality time with the people you love. Ernest Holmes, the founder of Religious Science, said, "It is when the self goes with the gift that it becomes an offering of love."

Let's make this Holiday Season an offering of love. Let's simplify and focus our attention on our loved ones in an immediate way. Let's converse. Let's make decorations together. Let's cook together. Let's give ourselves permission to be the gift that we share with each other.

Those of us in leadership at the Center look forward to seeing you at one of our holiday services—and we would love to meet more of your extended family. Maybe our Christmas Eve or Solstice services could become part of your family's tradition?

All my love and blessings  
for the holidays,

*Larry*



Rev. Larry King

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*"It is when the self goes  
with the gift that it  
becomes an offering  
of love."*

*- Ernst Holmes*

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Candle lighting and singing  
usher in the return of the light  
at our Solstice service.




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*This is the time.  
We are the people.  
This is the place.*

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## PORTLAND Center for Spiritual Living

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*Opening Hearts  
Igniting Minds  
Making a Difference*



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## PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY CHERYL CLARK, RSCP

### Got Talent? Of course you do.

"Are you in the talent show?" "Nah, I really don't have any talent." I overheard this conversation and it gave me pause. Why do we say we have no talents?

I think our culture significantly influences the way we see ourselves. The concept of talent is associated with performing activities such as singing, acting, dancing, music, painting or sculpting. If we drop the cultural programming and look at the raw facts, we can appreciate how talented we really are. Try this out. As a baby we come into this world completely helpless. We breathe, swallow and excrete, that's about it. For everything else we had to develop skills to do everything. That takes talent and patience. From a spiritual perspective, each of us has unlimited potential, creating our experiences from moment to moment. Our task now is to focus on doing it with conscious intention, fine-tuning a talent that is already working perfectly.



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### NOVEMBER

#### GRATITUDE SERVICE

Wed, November 24, 7pm

*Be part of our Annual Gratitude Celebration for Life and its many blessings. Join us for music and sharing. Everyone is welcome.*

### DECEMBER

#### SOLSTICE SERVICE

Sun, December 19, 11am

*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.*

#### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Fri, December 24, 7pm

*Carols, candlelight and good cheer fill this Holiday service.*

#### GOLDEN BOWL SERVICE

Sun, December 26, 11am

*A ritual service to release an untruth held in our consciousness, and set a focused intention to embrace a quality of Spirit during the upcoming year.*

All events held at the Center  
unless otherwise noted.  
Details at [www.pcscl.us/calendar](http://www.pcscl.us/calendar).

### JANUARY

#### WINTER CLASSES

##### • MEDITATION IS MORE THAN YOU THINK

Wed, Jan 19 - Mar 9, 6:30-9:30pm, 8 wks  
Taught by Rev Sharon Lee Foley

*Learn and practice different forms of meditation in an experiential format that can be used at home.*

##### • ROOTS

Thur, Jan 20 - Mar 24, 6:30-9:30pm, 10 wks  
Taught by Kate Barrett, RScP

*An introduction to the writings of three people who profoundly influenced the founder of Science of Mind, Ernest Holmes: Ralph Waldo Emerson, Thomas Troward and Emma Curtis Hopkins.*

#### REGISTER NOW!

At the Center or online at [www.pcscl.us](http://www.pcscl.us)

### ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

**DRUMMING CIRCLE:** 2nd Fridays, 7pm

**LUNCH BUNCH:** 2nd and 4th Sundays, 12:30pm

**MEN'S GROUP:** 1st and 3rd Sundays, 12:30pm

**WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY:** Thursdays, 10:30am

**FORWARD FLOW—12 MO OF GIVING:**

For information, Suki McDonough 360-624-5615 or Annette Sanders 971-227-9050.

**ABOUT US:** **PORTLAND CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING** is a community of people dedicated to *Opening Hearts* by knowing that the Divine Presence of Good lives in and as every person; *Igniting Minds* by teaching people how to use this Power for Good to create the life they want; and *Making a Difference* in the world by using love to remember that we are One with all of life and with each other. We enrich global consciousness by demonstrating the Wisdom of Spiritual Principles in all our affairs.