



Portland Center FOR Spiritual Living

MAY 2012

COMMUNITY NEWS

BEAUTY AND FUNCTION

SERVING TOGETHER BY JUNE GUMZ

There is much to be said for cleanliness and order. Parents have equated it with Godliness for centuries and children have resisted it for about the same number of centuries. I have attended churches where women are delegated to dust and polish the pews and wash and iron altar cloths regularly. God would be 'dishonored' with a less than spotless home of worship.

Portland's Center for Spiritual Living isn't quite as hide-bound as fastidious churches. We are also more democratic because we welcome any and all help when our building needs sprucing up. By allowing men and women to serve together, much is accomplished. People get to do what they are good at, it's social and as always, food is part of the bargain. Food is a requirement for any endeavor at PCSL.

Recently the Center had one of our inside and outside clean-up days. Since we don't have pews to polish or altar clothes to clean, emphasis was put on windows, the plantings, a dab of paint here and there, and little projects. The result is a more beautiful and functional place to meet each week. I think we have something to teach other churches about getting things done with a minimum of regulation and repetition. I wonder if God is impressed by efficiency?

Many thanks to all those who worked and played together as we spruced up the Center.

Kirk Abramowski	Sandra Clark	Aarlene Mosher
Gina Anderson	Emily Dickinson	Katie Phillips
Nansea Arquette	Suzi Farmer	Diane Thomas
Nancy Ashley	Ed Gray	Caralynn West
Anette Bolster	Jim McMartin	
Scott & Cheryl Bond	Connie Morrell	



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*Getting things done with
a minimum of regulation
and repetition.*



Rev. Larry King

We're at our best when we're involved in both newness and enjoying what we already have.

SPIRITUAL LEADER'S MESSAGE

EASY, BUT POWERFUL LIVING BY REV. LARRY KING

The first sunny week of late spring reminds me of that song:
"Summertime, and the living's easy."

I can close my eyes and think of all the sweet, slow, enjoyable moments of the summer. Picnics, barbeques, lawn chairs, hiking, iced tea and enjoying friends and family out in the yard. My partner Daniel and I are already planning our "Divine Dining" event. So easy, those lazy days of summer.

Late spring and summer are also natural times of creativity and great growth. Our bodies and minds are primed for learning and creative expression.

So let's have a balance this summer. Let's enjoy the weather and "easy living," but let's also find time for something new. Let's stretch a bit and add some newness into our lives.

Some people might want to enroll in a class—begin learning a 2nd language or learn more about themselves (check out PCSL's summer classes). Other people might like to try a new outdoor activity—photography, gardening, kayaking, or more. Still others might want to focus on creativity. I'm starting to write my first book and I know someone else who's taking a painting class for the first time.

Lazy days of summer? Yes, that sounds delightful—and let's combine it with some opportunities to expand our minds and hearts. We're at our best when we're involved in both newness and enjoying what we already have.

I know you'll make this a lovely and powerful summer!

Much Love,

Larry



Divine Dining
 at the Portland Center for Spiritual Living

FEED YOUR BODY.
 FEED YOUR SOUL.
 FEED YOUR CENTER.

Divine Dining Host Meeting
Sunday, June 3rd,
after the 2nd Service

Do you like entertaining? Would you like to share your home or recipes with friends from the Center? Consider supporting your Center by becoming a Divine Dining Host. Each Summer we invite a number of "hosts" to put on food-related parties. It's both a "fun" and "fund"-raiser. For more information contact Shana Devoréh at (503) 704-6992 or attend this "host" meeting to find out all the details.

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY

FOND MEMORIES BY JUNE GUMZ

There is a feature on my computer (and everyone else's possibly) that brings up pictures randomly on my desktop. The pictures stay for about 10 seconds and then another one appears. Since many of the pictures I have taken over the years have been of PCSL folks, I get reminded of members who have moved, changed affiliations or died.

The pictures bring back memories of retreats, picnics, building clean ups, special services, talent shows and musicians. As the pictures flip up, I can't help but wonder where some of those folks are who meant so much to our Center. A few have passed on, but many more have drifted away from us. Our initial greeting of newcomers is very friendly and heartwarming with roses, welcome packets and CDs. But after the first glow, do we start taking congregants for granted. I'm not saying we do, I am just wondering. Laura Bradley, our chief hugger, never lets anyone feel left out, but how about the rest of us?

It is the way of institutions that people come and go. However, spiritual communities are more personal and intimate. I am including some pictures of people from our past. Do they conjure up memories for you as they do for me? Look carefully and relive an experience or two from our Center's history.



June Gumz

*"Old friends pass away,
new friends appear.
It is just like the days.
An old day passes,
a new day arrives.
The important thing is
to make it meaningful:
a meaningful friend –
or a meaningful day."*

- Dalai Lama

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA OR STORY TO SHARE?

Our newsletter is evolving. I know that PCSL is abundant with creative folks with ideas and stories to share. Our newsletter seems to be a natural place to try them out. So, if you have something to share send it to greetingsjg@comcast.net. I am excited by the prospect of exposing some of our writers to the Community News audience.

– June Gumz, editor

Opening Hearts

Igniting Minds

Making a Difference

JOIN US AT THE CENTER

PORTLAND

Center for Spiritual Living

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Portland, Oregon 97211

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E-MAIL info@PCSL.us

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NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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NEW YOUTH GROUP • BE PART OF AN INCLUSIVE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

PCSL is starting a Youth Group! If you are (or if you know) a teenager looking to highlight your spiritual side in a supportive peer environment, please take note of this first meeting at the Center. For more information contact Angelica Jackson at 530-228-3515.

Thursdays, starting May 24th, 6:30 pm



COMING EVENTS • GET THE LATEST UPDATES ONLINE AT www.pcsl.us/calendar

JUNE

DIVINE DINING HOST MEETING Sun, June 3rd, after 2nd Service

Each Summer we invite a number of "hosts" to put on food-related parties. It's both a "fun" and "fund"-raiser. For more information contact Shana Devoréh at 503-704-6992 or attend meeting to get the details.

PET BLESSING

Sat, June 16, 10am - 12:00 noon
11941 NE Siskiyou St., Portland OR 97220
Join us as we enjoy and bless the pets we so love. We will have refreshments, photo opportunities and kids' activities. Bring unlimited pet photos to bless, or your well-mannered pet to be blessed in person. We'll accept pet food donations for "Second Chance Companions" and "Animal Aid." For more info, contact Shana Devoréh at 503-704-6992 or Diane Thomas at 971-570-1670.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: SPIRIT AS WOMAN

June 21-24, Silver Falls Conference Center
Sponsored by PCSL and facilitated by Rev. Sharon Lee Foley and team at Silver Falls Conference Center. Join us for a weekend of love, laughter and tears as we remember the beauty, the power and the love that we are. \$480 paid in full by May 31st. Register at the Center or call Rev. Sharon at 503-668-9806.

JULY

ANNUAL PICNIC

Sun, July 15, 12:30pm – 3:30pm
Peninsula Park, 700 N. Rosa Parks Way
Join us for family fun at our Center's annual picnic. Bring a friend to grow our community. PCSL will provide the burgers, veggie-burgers and "dogs." You provide your favorite picnic potluck side dishes to share.

All events held at the Center unless otherwise noted.

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

BREAKFAST WITH THE MINISTER: Sat, 9:00am
To make your reservation or for Info, contact Dee Hartman at 360-831-8033.

DRUMMING CIRCLE: 2nd Fri, 7:00pm

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP: For information, contact June Gumz at 503-653-7132.

TRANSCENDENCE 12-STEP: For information, contact Nancy Ashley at 503-880-0308.

W.O.W. WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY: Thur, 10:30am

GET INVOLVED

PAID POSITIONS AVAILABLE

YOUTH CHURCH TEACHER

If you have a desire to work with kids while teaching Science of Mind principles, please contact Angelica Jackson 530-228-3515, or Rev. Larry King 503-460-2623. We are looking for regular and substitute teachers.

SHOP SAFEWAY FOR PCSL

SIGN UP for eScrip and we'll link your Saway card to PCSL. A small portion of each purchase will come to support your Spiritual Home. Sign up at the back table or call the Center Office at 503-261-0677 for info.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

HOSPITALITY TEAM: One Sunday a month, 9:00am service. Call Kathy Batten 360-931-0371.

CLEAN TEAM: Cleaning and light maintenance for three hours, once a month. Contact Anette Bolster 503-970-4116.

FORWARD FLOW-12 MONTHS OF GIVING: For info, Suki McDonough 360-624-5615.

HEART TO HEART: Support during an illness, loss or other transition. Contact Rev. Sharon Lee Foley 503-668-9806 or Lexy Dillon 503-663-5817.