



Portland Center FOR Spiritual Living

MARCH 2014

COMMUNITY NEWS

MEN ARE FROM MARS?

BUILDING CONNECTIONS BY JUNE GUMZ

Rev. Larry led a visioning process the first Sunday in March in which we were to discover an unfulfilled dream. I was surprised that anything appeared because I have been known to sit around with thumbs and middle fingers touching and legs crossed waiting for inspiration without much success. That Sunday, in the few minutes allotted for the exercise, I realized that my dream is to know my family better.

I have two brothers who live in Portland. Every month since our mother died in 1996, we have had a family get-together. We take turns hosting. My children and grandson are also included. It is always a pleasant affair with the usual questions: How are you? How's your health? Done anything interesting this month? Eating and smiling take up the rest of the visits. Occasionally someone has travelled and we get to hear about how the flight was or whether the right clothes were taken for the weather. But that is about it.

Here are a few things I know about my brothers: They are college graduates, non-religious/non-spiritual, confirmed bachelors with minimalistic tendencies, bookish, anti-pets and avid recyclers. They are also available when my fence blows down or something needs to be moved. What I don't know about them is what they believe, care about or feel.

Most of you are probably thinking, ask them for goodness sake! It isn't as easy as it sounds. There are taboo subjects such as religion, politics and FEELINGS. One-word answers are the best I get when a taboo subject is brought up. I sense that they feel I would have some mystical power over them if I knew some of their inner thoughts. My son shares their concerns; perhaps it is a male thing.

This year I will try to become a safe repository for snippets of personal information from my male siblings and son. Fortunately, I have one male member of the family who trusts me implicitly, my 10-year-old grandson, Pierson. That should last another two or three years. I'll enjoy it until he, too, joins the ranks of the evasive males.



June and her brothers as children.



Son and grandson.



INSIDE

Minister's Message	2
Get to Know Your Community.....	3
Thoughts	4
CORE Report	4
Event Calendar.....	5



Rev. Larry King

*Feeding the soul is
what we do best.*

FEEDING THE SOUL (and the Stomach!)

MESSAGE BY REV. LARRY KING

We're partnering with Oregon Food Bank in March to help collect a barrel (maybe two?) of non-perishable food to share with our less fortunate neighbors. Did you know that in our area, forty percent of children are in low income families? Oregon Food Bank distributed 92,000 food boxes for children in 2013 and the need is even greater so far in 2014.



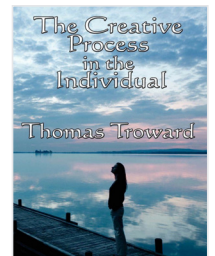
There's more information by the food barrel in the sanctuary, or you can call Suki McDonough at (360) 624-5615 for more information about what foods make the best donations.

But feeding the soul is what we do best—and *I have great news for you*. This spring we have classes and a Sunday schedule that will fill the bill quite nicely.

I'll be teaching the 10-week *Foundations* class on Tuesday nights. *Foundations* is ideal for people new to the Science of Mind or for someone who wants to review (or renew) the basic teachings at our spiritual center. Through group exercises, excellent class materials, reading and sharing, you'll find out why people have found this class to be so transformational.



Rev. Sharon will be teaching a new 8-week class, the *The Creative Process In The Individual* on Wednesday nights. The class covers material by one of Ernest Holmes' key influences, Judge Thomas Troward. The class features lectures, discussion, experiential exercises and readings from this essential New Thought writer and philosopher. If you've had *Foundations*, this new class is sure to interest you.



I also have some special Sunday services planned for moving us into spring. In March we're using Ernest Holmes' *How To Change Your Life* for inspiration. This book, written near the end of his life, is full of both inspirational and practical material that will help you "Change Your Thinking and Change Your Life." We'll spend some time each Sunday learning new ways to live more intentionally. We'll be spending an equal amount of time becoming more fully present to our lives through spiritual practice and personal awareness.

During March, we're also holding the popular "AfterWords" discussion group which gives the Sunday service a greater voice—*yours!* We gather after the 2nd service to discuss the material covered that Sunday and to provide inspiration to each other. It's also a great way to meet new people and share your perspective.

And don't get me started on our Easter service! We're still in the planning stages, but between fabulous music, a youth presentation and a personal re-dedication ceremony, I promise you a Sunday that you won't soon forget.

Larry

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY

RYAN LIVESAY: Abracadabra*...and so it is. BY JUNE GUMZ

For those who attended the **Starlight Talent show** at PCSL last November, you are already familiar with Ryan Livesay. He humorously announced each act and increased our sense of wonder with his magic tricks.

Ryan and his wife, Jessica, moved to Portland from Southern California in 2012 and sought out a Science of Mind church. They found PCSL and immediately felt at home. "It is a nice facility, without being pretentious. It is welcoming, non-judgmental, positive, and in line with all the important parts of what we believe."

Ryan has a BA in Theatre Arts and he used to do ventriloquism, comedy, magic, mime, acting and singing. He also spent some time working in restaurants as a magic bartender and strolling close-up magician. Celebrity Cruises hired him for magic comedy and he performed for corporate events in Las Vegas.

Due to a number of factors, including the economic crash in 2008, his priorities changed. Stability became an important factor in his thinking. Having a wife and family became more important than travelling and being on stage. Ryan went back to school and earned his RN license. He is now a charge nurse at Rose Villa which is a non-profit retirement facility with a full-service health center.

The Livesays decided that before buying a home and having a child they would move to an area where they wanted to retire. After quite a bit of debate they chose Portland. They are settled in their jobs, are in the process of buying a home and their first child is on its way. Another exciting thing for them is that Jessica's parents are moving here in time for the debut of Baby Livesay!

Ryan told me his perfect day will be when he is sitting in their new home, with sunlight streaming through the many windows of their spacious living room. "I will sit with my arm around my beautiful wife, who is feeding our healthy newborn baby, while knowing that the grandparents are close enough to invite for dinner."

"We have manifested it; step by step, thought by thought, decision by decision, action by action. And now the seed we planted, watered, and tended is about to emerge from the soil. My perfect day is coming."

When Ryan's life slows down a bit, he would like to get back to doing comedy magic on a regular basis again.



Ryan Livesay, RN
and magician



Above: Ryan, as MC, performing
and introducing acts at the
Starlight talent show.

Right: Publicity photos
from professional tours.

"...the seed we planted,
watered, and tended
is about to emerge
from the soil."

*Abracadabra derives from an Aramaic phrase 'I will create as has been spoken.'

THOUGHTS: BY REV. SHARON LEE FOLEY

LIFE IN MOTION

There are beautiful delicate deep purple crocuses in my front yard. Three stunning little plants that seemed to burst out of the dirt one day. They announce the coming of spring, which is officially March 20. There is something so brave about them. Even though it is bitterly cold and wet and windy, there they are. Those three little purple flowers just blooming away. Life is like that, I think. There is something about life that demands that we burst out and bloom, even when life might feel cold and wet and windy. There is that within us that longs to express anyway. Sometimes it's cold and wet and windy. Sometimes it's warm and bright with sunshine. There's a website called, "Plants in Motion" that shows in time lapse purple crocuses opening up. As I watched that video I found myself smiling. I don't know why but I was filled with joy watching those little flowers open up. Plants in motion. We are life in motion. Everything changes. Some changes are easier to move with than others. It helps to know that underneath all that changes is that which does not. That there is that around, within and as us that is changeless in its perfection and that perfection is the truth of us. There is a joyful beauty in that. Spring – life in motion.



Rev. Sharon Lee Foley

There is something about life that demands that we burst out and bloom.

CORE COUNCIL UPDATE: BY DIANE THOMAS, CHAIR

We're getting ready for our Annual Business Meeting on March 30th, at 12:30. Members will be asked to vote on a slate of candidates to represent them on the CORE Council:

- Joan Brown-Kline (new member)
- Dee Hartman (term renewal)
- Jessica Livesay (new member)

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting. We will present our financial report to close out 2013 and a business report on attendance, tithes and programs. We will also give you a review of how we're doing so far in 2014.

Some projects we're working on to help increase attendance and member retention:

- additional "Bring A Friend" Sundays
- enhanced "Welcoming" materials
- expanded volunteer appreciation
- regular congregational lunch/brunch dates

Core Council member Jim Buix is preparing an energy audit for the Center. Within a few months we will have a plan to replace some of our lighting so the building will be more cost and ecologically effective. We also have a group working on potential fund raising activities for later in the year, to help stabilize our financial picture in 2014.

Please join us at the annual meeting! We always look forward to answering questions and making our operations here at the Center as transparent as possible.



Diane Thomas
CORE Council Chair

Working to create and maintain a wonderful environment for Spiritual growth

Opening Hearts
Igniting Minds
Making a Difference

JOIN US AT THE CENTER

PORTLAND Center for Spiritual Living

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

MARCH

LOUISE HAY MOVIE

Sun, March 16, 1 – 3pm

Louise Hay is a Science of Mind minister, world renowned for her philosophy and books. Her work has helped thousands of people learn about self-love and expanding one's potential. Come and learn more from her film and a discussion led by Dr. Pamela Jeanne. This event/movie is free for everyone.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sun, March 30, 12:30 – 2:00pm

Everyone is welcome to join us at the Center's annual business meeting. We'll be covering our 2013 end-of-year financial reports and plans for 2014. Members will be asked to vote on a slate of CORE Council members.

PLANNING A MEETING OR SPECIAL EVENT?

Consider having your event at the Center. Contact Pamela Jeanne at 503-720-8999 or Sarah Stebbins at 503-957-6528 or email at stebbins.sarah@gmail.com for pricing and information.

APRIL

FOUNDATIONS CLASS

10 wks, starts Tue, April 15, 6:30 – 9:30pm

Rev. Larry King

Foundations is ideal for people new to the Science of Mind or for someone who wants to review (or renew) the basic teachings at our spiritual center. Through group exercises, excellent class materials, reading and sharing, you'll find out why people have found this class to be so transformational.

THE CREATIVE PROCESS IN THE INDIVIDUAL

8 wks, starts Wed, April 16, 6:30 – 7:30pm

Rev. Sharon Lee Foley

Join Rev Sharon Lee Foley in an exploration of what we mean when we talk about the Creative Process and how we can translate that idea into real and lasting change in our own lives. The class covers material by one of Ernest Holmes' key influences, Judge Thomas Troward.

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.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP:

If you enjoy taking pictures and would like to share your experience with others, sign up on the interest sheet in the sanctuary. For more information call June Gumz 503-653-7132.

TRANSCENDENCE 12-STEP:

For information, contact Nancy Ashley at 503-880-0308.

WOMEN OF WISDOM BOOK STUDY: Thur, 10:30am.

For more information, contact Sandra Clark at 971-275-7111.

eSCRIP: Link your Safeway card to eScrip and a small portion of each purchase

 will support PCSL. Sign up at back table or call Jessica Livesay at 940-616-4678.

GET INVOLVED

YOUTH CHURCH TEACHER

This is a wonderful chance to have fun with kids while teaching Science of Mind principles. There are two groups of children – younger group is from 0-6 and the older group from 7-12. If you have a desire to work with either group please contact Angelica Jackson 530-228-3515. We are looking for regular and substitute teachers. Both receive stipends to offset expenses.

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. I am excited by the prospect of exposing some of our writers to the Community News audience. If you have something to share send it to greetingsjg@comcast.net. – June Gumz, editor

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

HOSPITALITY TEAM: One Sunday a month, 9 or 11am 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 call 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.

USED SCIENCE OF MIND MAGAZINES NEEDED:
If you're finished with old copies of the SOM magazine, the Center would like to "recycle" them in our visitor packets. Please drop them off in the Center office or contact Laura Bradley for more information: 503-465-0015.