

MAY 2010

community news

PLANS FOR SUMMER

DIVINE DINING: FUN YOU CAN TASTE BY JUNE GUMZ

Spring is here. The early bloomers have finished and the late bloomers are in full swing. The pink dogwood and rhodies are still blossoming forth in my yard. The hill nearby is covered with trees in various shades of green. Beautiful abundance is everywhere.

Speaking of abundance, the Center's annual Divine Dining plans are underway. People are deciding what sort of a gathering they want to host. Others are planning to attend as many food related soirees as possible. Last year, we had enough selections for even the fussiest eaters to choose from – everything from picnic food to Italian cuisine. I have it on good authority that one of our choices this year will be an authentic Japanese dinner with interactive sushi demos. Sachiko, my daughter-in-law, will be the hostess in my home. If I knew the other Divine Dining offerings, I would promote them too, but the booklet won't be completed for a few weeks. I know it is hard to wait.

The following are comments about last year's Divine Dining: You get to guess who said what.

- *My GPS failed and I got there in time for dessert.*
- *I thought "Mangia, Mangia" was feminine for mango, mango.*
- *I still don't know if the story Larry told at Laura's Divine Dining is true.*
- *The bear and the raccoons didn't show up at Nancy's gathering. I was disappointed, but the food was delicious.*
- *The mosquitoes attacked me at the vegetarian meal – guess they didn't read the invitation.*
- *Good friends, good food!*

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*Beautiful Abundance
is everywhere.*



Italian themed "Mangia, Mangia," hosted by Linda Rossi was one of many delightful Divine Dining events last year.



Divine Dining

Feed your body. Feed your soul.
Feed your Center!

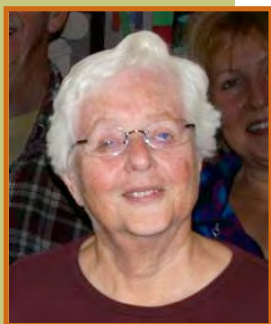
*LaRhonda, Shannon, Mike
and Brad singing "Oh, I wish
I was a Divine Dining eater...
(to Oscar Meyer tune).*

**Sign-ups begin in June
for July/August parties.**

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY BY JUNE GUMZ

IT'S MY TURN - JUNE GUMZ

Each edition of the newsletter has an article about members of our community. Now it's my turn. I'm not certain what to ask myself to bring out the quintessential me, but I'll give it a try.



June Gumz

*SOM provides peace
and continuity.*

Seventy-one years ago I was born in Boise, Idaho and lived there for approximately six months. From there, it was one town after another. The only requirement was that the towns have a J.J. Newberry store because my father managed them.

At the age of twenty (and two weeks) I married an older man of twenty-eight, with the stipulation that any children we had would get to grow up without a succession of moves. He kept his word and we were together for almost 48 years.

Our first child was stillborn but we had two healthy children after that and consequently three grandchildren, all boys. The oldest will be living with me this summer until classes start at Western Washington University in September. I visited the middle one in Austria last month and the youngest lives in Portland and keeps me young.

My interests over the years have been parenting, literacy, weight reduction (several times), photography, fostering Cambodian refugees, being a practitioner and assisting where I could on the board of trustees or the CORE Council. Presently, I am participating in an OHSU multi-year study about aging and its consequences.

The SOM philosophy is a major force in my life and has been for almost forty years. While my family doesn't resonate with it like I do, they benefit from the peace and continuity it gives me. I trust you know a little more about me than you did a few minutes ago.



June, with daughter Julie, on recent trip to Austria to visit Julie's son, Mark. Left: on a side street in Vienna; Above: photographing the grounds of Schonbrunn Castle, Vienna.

SPIRITUAL LEADER'S MESSAGE

VALUES SURVEY RESULTS – GRATITUDE!

Hello Everyone, I trust you're having a great spring season. With the economy improving, Church attendance up and three Science of Mind classes underway, it sure feels like new growth and vitality!

We've chosen this time to capture the inherent values of our Community through the use of a survey. With close to 50% of our average Sunday attendance responding, I'm pleased to present the results of our Values Survey.

"Thankful, Gratitude" is the highest personal value reflected in our community—with 62% of people choosing this as one of their key personal values. "Spirituality/ Faith" and "Joy, Humor, Fun, Play" were chosen nearly as often.

As befits a Spiritual Community, **"Spirituality, Faith"** was the most selected value that best represents our Church right now—selected by 70% of the people responding. **"Joy, Humor, Fun, Play"** and **"Education, Learning"** were also most frequently selected.

The survey did not show any strong impetus for changing our Community Values. Although **"Creativity, Innovation"** was chosen most often—it was only chosen about 30% of the time. Other proposed values were chosen even less often. Although we will find ways to more fully express Creativity at the Center, I believe that the survey indicates we've done a pretty good job of understanding and responding to the basic needs and values of the Community as a whole.

Based on the Survey results, I will be highlighting **"Gratitude"** in the fall with an excellent book, **"Thanks!"** by Robert Emmons. We will continue (of course!) having fun and good play throughout the year as we celebrate our Spirituality and deepen our connection to God. We'll also work on developing some workshops to highlight the creativity within us all.

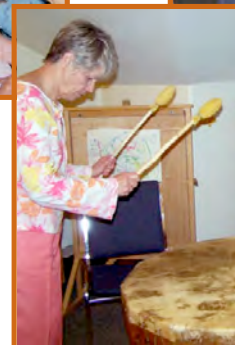
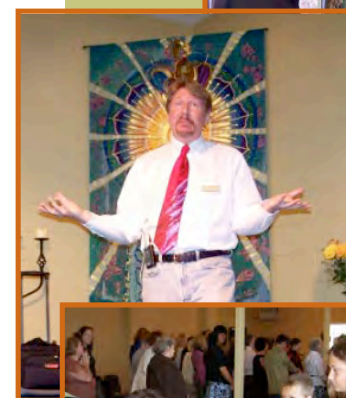
We're looking forward to sharing a great summer with you, here at our Center. Have you planned your **"Divine Dining"** party yet?

Much Love and Many Blessings!
Rev. Larry King

Larry



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



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*Opening Hearts
Igniting Minds
Making a Difference*

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PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY REV. SHARON LEE FOLEY

CLIENT: How do I bolster my faith when nothing seems to go right for me?

PRACTITIONER: Observation and practice. Observation is key because it allows us to “see” what we may be telling ourselves about the world, about ourselves, about God. By practice, I mean reading writings that you find uplifting, such as Ernest Holmes, Emilie Cady, Joel Goldsmith — just to name a few. And, spending some time each and every day in meditation and prayer.

What we are telling ourselves is a prayer, so knowing what that is assists us in changing what we are automatically affirming into what we want to affirm.

You already have faith. It is just a question of what you have faith in. Believing that “nothing goes right” reveals faith in just that. Opening yourself up to the good that is God that is you through reading, meditation and prayer can turn faith in “nothing goes right” into “the good that is God is me”. Try it.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

MAY

DIVINE DINING

Sun, May 23 - Host Party Applications Due
Host a Divine Dining event or party. Feed your body, feed your soul, feed your Center!
Contact Shannon at 541-270-5975.

JUNE

DIVINE DINING

All Month - Sign up for July/August parties.

CELEBRATE SPIRIT AS WOMAN

June 17-20, Silver Falls Conference Center
Join us at annual Women's Retreat as mystical coach Maggie Cole, RScP, facilitates three days of love, laughter, tears and celebration. For more information, contact Rev. Sharon Lee Foley at 503-668-9806.

All events held at the Center
unless otherwise noted. Details at
www.pcsl.us/calendar.

JULY

DIVINE DINING

Sign-ups continue for August parties.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

July 25, Peninsula Park
Join us for our Center's Annual picnic. We'll meet at Peninsula Park following the Second Service. Beverages, Hamburgers, Veggie burgers and hot dogs are provided by the Center. Bring your favorite picnic dish to share, as well as your enthusiasm for fun, games, and friendship.

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

DRUMMING CIRCLE, 2nd Fridays
TRANSCENDENCE 12-STEP, Wednesdays
WOW BOOK STUDY, Thursdays
FORWARD FLOW, bring your donations to the Forward Flow table. For more information contact Suki McDonough: 360-624-5615 or Annette Sanders at 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.