



Happenings

The Fertility of Spring

Ah, the fertility of Spring. Flowers and blossoms bursting forth and longer days. The dark depths of winter are finally gone. Oh, sure, a little rain must fall, but it just makes us greener.

This month, as all this bounty grows out of the womb of the earth, we explore the Divine Feminine. And, it just happens to be the month we celebrate women's history. Our talks this month will honor the Divine Feminine present within us all. In our model of the triune nature of God, this is the Law, the subjective level of bringing forth the images of choice.

Many of us grew up in religious traditions that denied the power of the feminine, yet worshipped idealized women like Mary. They were romanticized, not real women.

At my Catholic grade school I remember hearing a nun chastise a girl who was whistling. In a voice filled with outrage she said, "Do you think the Virgin Mary would whistle?" I wanted to say "yes." Probably so did the girl but we both knew the consequences of disagreeing with that particular nun.

There's a new springtime for the Divine Feminine also. Becoming freed from the shackles of old, dark dungeons of shaming and restriction, that feminine—in both women and men—is sending forth buds bursting into blossoms. While a few lingering ideas of winter still hang around, it is clear that consciousness is getting brighter. Join in celebration. ~ Rev. David



Sunday Mornings

At the Nova School
2020 22nd Avenue SE
Olympia 98501
Meditation: 10:30 a.m.
Service: 11 a.m.

Senior Minister

Rev. David Robinson

**Inside:
It's Annual Meeting
Time with a Special
Potluck Lunch,
Nourishing Our
Community Events
Return with Lots of
Scrumptious Choices &
Spring Classes**

HAPPY SPRING

Sunday Talk Titles

March 1st ~ The Holy Reimagined

Honoring the Divine Feminine in God is to honor it in ourselves and readily appreciate God in others.

March 8thth ~

Fierce & Tender Wisdom

The presence of the masculine and feminine aspects of life come from the One Mind, body and spirit.

March 15th ~ Law as Womb

The Law, like a womb, simply receives our fertile ideas.

Service followed by Annual Meeting.

March 22nd ~ Nurturing as Strength

We now consciously recognize and accept nurturing as strength.

March 29th— What's Your Preferred Pronoun? Spirit as Every Expression

Words are meant to describe, not define us. Words like female, male, gay lesbian, trans, bi, hetero, non-binary, cis-gender are all

Book of the Month

Wild Mercy: The Fierce and Tender Wisdom of the Women Mystics, ~ Mirabai Starr

 Mirabai Starr has untethered the sacred cow, turned on the dance music in the meditation hall and opened the doors to let the cloisters run free. *Wild Mercy* flows through the heart of all spiritual traditions and the heart of humanity. The women mystics in this book inspire us to listen deeply to hear the cries of the world and in our own way, with courage and commitment, respond. Mirabai so eloquently shares her soul, offering nurturance to all of us hungry for deeper meaning.”

~ Celeste Yacoboni, editor of *How Do You Pray? Inspiring Responses from Religious Leaders, Spiritual Guides, Healers, Activists & Other Lovers of Humanity*

The Coffee Team invites you to stay after the service on Sunday, March 1st



Rob Coleman and Ross Echterling are our official coffee brewers. But they are counting on you to bring some goodies to share.

“Life is Androgynous, i.e., It contains within itself both the masculine and the feminine factors. The male and the female of Creation come from One Principle; all come from the One and all will return to the One; all are now in the One and will forever remain in the One.”

~ Ernest Holmes,

SOM, 1926 Ed. Page 299

Core Council

Spiritual Leader Rev. David Robinson
Scott Kissel, President
Laura Farris, Vice President
Rob Coleman, Treasurer
Jean-Hill Miller, Secretary
Larry Gilliam, Member at Large

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Check us out on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/csloly

Website: www.cslolympia.org



Nourishing Our Community Fundraiser

Beginning on Sunday March 8th, the Nourishing Our Community event bid sheets will be on display at the back of the sanctuary. You will discover a vast array of temptations from lovely dinner parties to adventures around our beautiful area. However, there will be fierce bidding so don't just sign up...check back to make sure your bid is likely to land you on the guest list.

This is the most fun event of the year. As they say during Mardi Gras in New Orleans...Laissez les bon temps rouler—Let the good times roll!



Linda Sickles & Christi Johnson,
Co-Chairs

Continuing Religious Science Education

 With Spring comes the final series of classes for the 2019-2020 year. Our foundational class will be Self Mastery, running for eight weeks from early April through the end of May.

There may also be another class for more advanced students. Check out the Information table and website for details.



**Spring flowers can't solve
all the problems but
they're a great start.**

Potluck Panache

A potluck lunch will be served after the service on March 15th so we can all enjoy the annual meeting. You are invited to contribute. As you are aware, we don't have a kitchen and lack serving utensils so be sure to bring yours. Please label all accompanying containers and utensils with your name and provide a description of your dish along with the ingredients. This is especially important if there are any potential allergens such as nuts, seafood and gluten. Vegetarian, and gluten-free options are always particularly appreciated.

This potluck will roughly coincide with St. Paddy's Day so a dish that is green or otherwise reflective of Irish cuisine would be especially fun.

Help setting up and doing the clean up afterward would be very much appreciated. Please see me in the next couple of weeks to assure this will be a team effort.

~ Kelly Phoenix, Hospitality Chair

It's Our 15th Anniversary

 April 26th is the 15th anniversary of the incorporation of our Center. We honor the intrepid souls with a vision who set out on the adventure that has grown into today's Center for Spiritual Living—Olympia.

Kathy Gilliam is formulating plans and building a team to create a wonderful celebration event. If you are interested in helping out, let her know at: mkgilliam@comcast.net.

Youth & Family Program

March's youth program theme is **You Are Rooted in the Divine.** when we will honor our divine feminine which naturally exists in all life.

First Week: Your Personal Self

We have within us the ability to tune into what is sometimes called our big self—the God/Spirit self and act from love, peace, kindness and confidence every moment. All it takes is our awareness and willingness to believe we are rooted in the divine.

Our “This is what I’m made of!” activity will include powerful God qualities artistically designed around a self-image.

Second Week: Creating Sacred Relationships

Relationships we have with others or ourselves are strengthened when they are built on the foundation of truth and authenticity. Being our true selves is not hiding behind an idea of who we think others want us to be. It is being true to our Divine nature.

Youth will explore ways to practice truthfulness and play “Complement/ Appreciation Tag” taking turns creating appreciation statements for each person. They will reate their own living legacy describing how they wish to be remembered.

Third Week: Demonstrating the Invisible

The nature of our being is rooted in wholeness—peace, happiness, harmony, joy and abundance. Making choices based on the present moment, from our highest self, we are in alignment and operating in all our glory. That is our birthright.

Participants will explore examples of opposite energies and how we can exist and create from balancing the two. Our activity will demonstrate the invisible power of the universe which we came.

Fourth Week: Truth within You

Operating as Universal Mind opens the door for us to find our own path of understanding and relationship to the Divine. It also allows us a greater perspective to witness how others may choose to experience Spirit/God in their own way and that’s okay.

Artistic versions of their Spirit will be created by the youth. They will then share their personal form of expression.

Fifth Week: Spirit is Expression

Our fifth Sunday is our youth/adult service. The youth and teens will guide the CSL community in discovering how to recognize, honor and express our divine feminine.

~ Adrienne Cherry, Youth Program Director



Youth and teachers enjoy learning and playing together.



A Beautiful Opportunity

Every Sunday a volunteer arrives early to set up the altar. Some of the results are extravagant. Sometimes it's as simple as a small table and a few candles. But every altar contributes to the beauty of the service.



It isn't difficult and doesn't require highly developed creative skills. It just takes 20 minutes or so to pull out a tablecloth or two from a bin overflowing with colorful choices, add some candles and silk flowers—there are lots of them—and voila! An ordinary table has become the focal point for the service ahead.

For more combined years than they can count, Kathy Gilliam, Buffy Finkel and Doug Pape have been regularly producing visual delights, both complex and minimalist. They would love to add a few more people to join them on the Altar Team. They'll coach you through it a couple of times until you feel comfortable.

You can bring something lovely from home like a special vase or a bunch of fresh flowers from your garden. Or just use what is at hand in the altar supplies cupboards.

It's time to step up for the good of the company. See Kathy, Buffie or Doug. They would be thrilled become your altar coaches.

Practitioners

Teresa Bielenberg
Linda Bremer
Sandy Dell
Susan Einhorn

Buffie Finkel
Marlisa Johnson
John J. Mulhall
Alex Perlman

Council Report

The CSL Core Council is assisting with plans for several exciting events this year. They include the Lacey Family Fun Fair, our 15th anniversary celebration and our second Holistic Fair this fall. All these events are affirmations of the impact we can have on our greater community. At our Annual Meeting we will elect new members to the Core Council. If you are a current member please make sure to attend so you can vote for our new council members.

The Annual Meeting also marks the day I step down from participating in the Core Council. Thank you to each of you for allowing me to have the opportunity to be of service. This has been a wonderful, enriching and challenging experience. May you all continue to experience prosperity and manifestation of the miraculous. Joy and peace to you all. ~ Scott Kissel

Women's Circle

Carol Kautzman has invited members of the CSL Women's Circle to an event sponsored by Friendly Water for the World on Saturday, March 21st from noon to 2 p.m. It is called **There's No Such a Thing as a Free Lunch Free Lunch**. Guests will be served a lunch consisting of traditional Kenyan food. This African nation has been one of the many focuses of Friendly Waters for the World. Come and learn more about all the places where local people are making and using life-changing water filters.



For more details watch for the monthly email from Carol. If you are not on the email list please contact her at:

ckremedy4u@gmail.com.

Alex Perlman: A Continuing Journey



I am fairly new to CSL Olympia, so here's a little background about me, and my spiritual journey.

I was born and raised in Washington state as a Presbyterian by a father of Jewish heritage and a Christian mom. I come from pioneer stock through my mom's family named Frost and Morgan who settled Frost Prairie in Thurston County in the mid-1840s. My father's grandparents immigrated from Ukraine in 1906 to escape the genocide of the last Russian czar.

My youth was split between Spokane and North Seattle. Disillusioned by the perceived hypocrisy of one-day-a-week Christianity I left the church at 17. Following service in the U.S. Navy I was a telephone lineman in Snohomish and North King counties for about 10 years.

In my 20's I began reading anything that gave me a feeling of connection to Spirit. I backpacked and camped every summer, feeling much closer to God outdoors than I'd ever felt inside a church. I came to realize being inside a building is not necessary to having a spiritual experience.

I continued reading about world religions, looking for similarities. I marveled at how each managed to coerce its adherents into believing theirs was the true path to God. I remained disconnected from organized religion, preferring to experience what I now call God's peaceful presence as I took in the beauty of nature in the mountains, along rivers and seacoasts. I learned to sit quietly with unfocused gaze for extended periods while experiencing personal quietude.

During my 40's I began to realize that what I felt, thought and acted upon in my reality created my outcomes. I read more and tried to integrate new thoughts about being spiritually connected to God and to others.

I learned the value of service to community as a trained adult leader, Boy Scoutmaster and while cooking for a feed-the-homeless program at St. Mark's Cathedral where I began attending. I loved the meditational aspects of the services

but was not receiving a deeper connection to Spirit. I wanted more. I literally bumped into my more—the Science of Mind—at CSL Seattle. Finally, I'd come full circle to my spiritual home. It was also where I met my life partner and love, Karla Oman.

Every CSL has its own story and the CSL mother ship fosters every member congregation to grow as a place that honors all paths to God. Science of Mind, as taught by CSL, supports an individualized style of learning and expanding spiritual consciousness. CSL Seattle, and now CSL Olympia, are part of my expanding spiritual consciousness, inextricably linked to the greater consciousness we all share—the One Life Within. It is a place where I can make a difference in service to others without forming judgments or enabling fears. I am a work in progress as I continue to learn the blessings of leaving behind the 4 Cs—complaining, criticism, comparison and condemnation.

Today, I am anchored in my spiritual practice knowing I am guided and fully supported by Spirit moving in, with and through my life in all ways. I now experience a Peaceful Presence I call Spirit. I am blessed to be a Science of Mind Practitioner, our tradition as taught by Ernest Holmes and as it is further illumined by our CSL Ministerial body and all those who seek Truth.

In the coming months I hope to meet and get to know everyone connected to CSL Olympia better. For now, I'll conclude with this brief affirmation I received from Spirit:

"I move through this world without fear,
I stand for Peace;
I move through this world without hate,
I stand for Love;
I move through this world with Balance,
Harmony and Wisdom,
I stand for Wholeness."

~ Alex Perlman, RScP

Meet Dee Bright



Ask Dee Bright to share her latest hobby with you. This involves ancestry searches for her mother's birth parents. Genealogy has provided hours of adventure for her. Her quest to identify her

mother's birth parents led her to have her DNA tested at Ancestry.com. She was surprised and delighted to find she has several first and second cousins who are related to her on her mother's side. From that information, she was able to pinpoint her birth grandfather.

This led to communicating with her first cousins and visiting them in Oregon this past July. Dee continues her search for her mother's birth mother and hopes to identify her soon. She will be presenting her research at the March 12th meeting of the Olympia Genealogy Society.

She has lived in Washington State for three years and finds so many things to explore. Her intention is to broaden her enjoyment of the Pacific Northwest by visiting Alaska. This research-minded individual will enlist another of her hobbies, reading, in order to prepare for this trip. Another of Dee's pastimes is her dog buddy, Cody. Together they take walks each day for their mutual exercise.

Dee's background includes attending college in San Jose, California and earning her Master's Degree in San Bernardino where she was born and raised. Dee retired from a career in college counseling There she worked

with students, primarily women, who were receiving welfare benefits. "I loved my students and being able to help them in attaining their career goals," Dee said.

An experienced Science of Mind student, Dee was introduced to it in the 1970's. "What appealed to me was the philosophy that we are all manifestations of the one Mind, that we have responsibility for our choices," Dee explained. While in California, Dee took many CSL classes. "The classes I took from the fabulous Rev. Carrie Masters were my favorites."

In Dee's two years of attendance at CSL Olympia, she has been a participating member who adds fun and laughter to everything she does. Dee has stepped forward to be on the Prosperity Team, Info Table once a month, and chairs the Prayer Shawl Ministry, a group she particularly loves. Dee enjoys the Nourishing Our Community events and has attended several. About the people at CSL, Dee says, "I enjoy everyone so much."

A great memory for her is when she attended a women's conference where the Dalai Lama was interviewed by Marie Shriver. "During the interview, His Holiness stated that women are the salvation of the world and I've taken that very seriously," she said. "It made me realize how important it was to empower the women I assisted in planning their college path and to ensure they realized their worth and potential. It gave me the courage to be the best person I could be."

~ Linda Sickles



**Call the message phone:
(360) 255-7878, ext. 4 to
listen to a prayer recorded
each week by a Practitioner.**

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry invites you to join us
on Wednesday, March 11th at The Firs ~
3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

**The Firs is located at 426 Lilly Road NE.
Our wonderful Toy Kay hosts us at
The Firs which we greatly appreciate.**

**All yarn enthusiasts are invited to join us as we
create shawls and lap robes to comfort those in our
community dealing with grief, illness or loss. If you
are new to knitting or crocheting or want to learn,
please come. Our lovely group will get you started.
For more info call Dee Bright at (951) 746.0861**



**The Women's Circle will meet on
Saturday, March 21st at a special time.
See page 5 for more information.
All CSL women are warmly invited to attend.**



*Coffee &
conversation
...a way to
make deeper
connections.*

**What better way to get to know
folks in our community than over
a cup of coffee, tea or soft drink.
Please come when you can and
enjoy some lively conversation.**

Men gather upstairs at Bayview Thriftway
Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon.

Women meet in the lunch room at Hagen's
on Olympia's west side, 10 a.m. on Fridays.

Sacred Sunday Evenings

On the third Sunday of each month—March 15th this
month—you are invited to meditate, listen to an
inspiration or two in the Buddhist tradition of a dharma
talk, and engage in spiritual practice. It is a deep, lovely,
sacred time. Join us at Rev. David's monastery—aka his
home—from 6 to 7 p.m. for this time. No food, no cost, no
dogma. Just sweet, deep time with Spirit in communion
with others. If you need the address, please contact Rev.
David at cslorevdavid@comcast.net.

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