

The Paradox of Oneness

As winter releases its “death grip” - making all things appear dead - and Spring reminds us of the ever-recurring resurrection of Life, we take some time to contemplate that expression of Life.

This month, for the talks, I’ve chosen a series of talks that Ernest Holmes gave at the Asilomar Conference in 1958, called Oneness, in which he explores the paradoxes of Oneness. When we contemplate the Infinite Oneness, we like to think of it being a certain way. Perhaps that way is kind, gentle, wise, loving, and such. But the Allness is just that - ALL-ness.

In the Bhagavad Gita, Krishna - the embodiment of the Infinite One - shows Arjuna - who represents humanity - ALL of his beingness. At first, Arjuna uncovers the wonderful, sweet, divinity. But soon he realizes that Krishna is death as well as life, a light that burns to consume all things, all creatures rushing to destruction like moths to a flame. He sees that God’s radiance is both a great light and a burning fire.

If we are truly going to know God - and, since we are one of God, to know ourselves, we must look at all of it. Just like we need to see winter in order to appreciate spring, we see the seeming paradoxes of the Divine - and



our place within that paradox. We come to understand that we are safe - but our limited beliefs - that which we identify as our “self” yet really isn’t - are not safe. We come to understand that seeming opposites are, in reality, the same essence, two sides of the same coin.

Join me for a powerful journey. And don’t hold onto your cloak of beliefs - it’s going bye-bye.

Rev. David Robinson

March

2 0 2 5

Sunday Mornings

Meet in person at

3437 Libby Road NE

Meditation: 10:30 a.m.

Service: 11 a.m.

Zoom Meditation: 10:45 a.m.

Zoom: 789 699 326

Senior Minister

Rev. David Robinson

Sunday Talk Titles: **The Paradox of Oneness**

Book of the Month: ***Ernest at Asilomar***

March 2: Fear is Faith

Our fears - and their results - are actually our faith in the manifestation of what we fear.

March 9: Bondage and Freedom

The only agenda of the Universe is freedom. But we can use the freedom to get ourselves really stuck!



March 16: Time and Timelessness

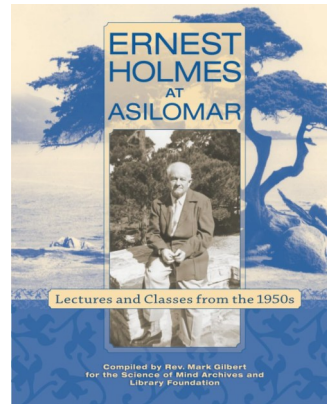
Time is the plaything of the Timeless. Do I let time run me, or do I live as a timeless being in the experience of time?

March 23: The Relative and the Absolute

We tend to separate on from another - this from that. But these are two aspects of the same beingness.

March 30: The Finite and the Infinite

Ultimately, there is only the Infinite, yet we only experience the Infinite through the finite. Our Youth will join us to help explore.



Asilomar and Ernest Holmes. Asilomar and Religious Science. Asilomar and Science of Mind. The deep history of Asilomar itself, enriched by the history of Religious Science, adds texture and context to this collection of lectures

and classes presented by Dr. Ernest Holmes at Asilomar in the 1950s.

Readers will forge the connection between this sacred place and this spiritual leader's teachings. Captured in this volume are the words spoken by Holmes to those who attended the Religious Science conferences during the final decade of Holmes's life. These summer gatherings were a special time for Religious Scientists and for Holmes himself.

The transcripts gathered here detail what Holmes believed was important to share with the people already deeply involved in the movement. As such, they are, to a degree, advanced metaphysics presentations, building on the basic concepts of Science of Mind and New Thought. For the long-time spiritual seeker and one familiar with the basics of Science of Mind, these talks will reinforce and broaden your understanding, taking you deeper into the philosophy. Be prepared to be challenged.

This month's talks are based on the 1958 lectures.

Compiled by Rev. Mark Gilbert for the Science of Mind Archives and Library Foundation.

March Classes and Events

Rap with the Rev

March 2nd

After Service (12:30 to 1:30 pm PT)
In the Center's Sanctuary

Open Discussion with Rev. David
on the first Sunday of the month.



CSLOlympia.org



Rap with the Rev Sunday

Sunday, March 2nd 12:30 to 1:30 pm PT

A great way for new and old members to connect, share stories of their spiritual path, & ask questions.

ANNUAL MEETING

March 9th

Potluck After Service
Meeting: 1 to 2:30 pm PT
In Person and on Zoom



Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 9th, 1:00 to 2:30 pm PT

Our annual gathering to learn about the state of the Center, elect Council members and gather in community. Potluck before the meeting.



Sunday, March 16th at 12:30 pm PT
following Service (Donations appreciated)



3437 Libby Road NE,
Olympia, WA

CSLOlympia.org

Dances of Universal Peace

Sunday, March 16th, 12:30 - 2 pm PT

Simple movements to live music. No experience necessary, dances are taught to the whole group.

LENT IS COMING! March 5th

Two ways to participate: A daily thought and practice for each of the days of Lent or a weekly thought and practice for the season, coming out each Saturday morning. Sign up for one or both of these messages:

[Lent Messages](#)

First Day of Spring March 20th!!



Find all events on our website: <https://cslolympia.org/>

March YOUTH PROGRAM:

"Life is a journey, not a destination." Youth will explore how to navigate life's waves, trust their inner voice, surrender to change, plant meaningful intentions, and embrace growth. Through explorative games, planting seeds, and dance, they will discover ways to stay centered and flow with life's unfolding.



March 2: Navigating the Tides of Life

Life is full of ups and downs, but by centering ourselves, we can navigate challenges with mindfulness. Youth will participate in a mindful breathing exercise and a fun balancing game where they try to stay steady on one foot while visualizing themselves as anchors in the ocean. They will leave with a greater ability to pause, observe their thoughts, and stay grounded amidst life's waves.

March 9: The Still Small Voice

Our intuition, like Pepe the Cricket, guides us beyond logic to deeper truths. Youth will practice listening to their inner voice through a quiet reflection exercise and engage in a "trust walk" where they navigate an obstacle course while blindfolded and guided by a partner. They will gain confidence in recognizing and following their intuition in everyday situations.

March 16: I Got It, I Lost It

Awareness of truth can come and go, much like waves in the ocean. Youth will explore this by writing down limiting beliefs, crumpling them up, and tossing them into a "release bin," followed by a tug-of-war game representing the struggle between ego and true nature. They will walk away understanding the illusion of loss and embracing the wholeness of Spirit.

March 23: Planting My Intentions

Just like seeds grow into plants, our thoughts shape our experiences. Youth will write their intentions on paper, plant them alongside real seeds, and play a relay game where they "grow" their intentions by watering imaginary plants. They will leave with an appreciation of patience and faith in the Creative Process.

March 30: Blossoming in the Swaying

Growth happens naturally when we trust the process of life. Youth will participate in a movement meditation, swaying like trees in the wind, and play a "freeze dance" game to practice flowing with change. They will walk away with a deeper trust in life's unfolding and their ability to adapt with grace.

More youth info on page 7



Council News Corner, Susan Strobel



Happy March from your Core Council

Some of the many things I love about Core Council:

- A Practitioner is in virtual attendance throughout our 2-hour meeting. They offer the opening and closing prayer and hold us in prayer throughout our meeting.
- One of the Council members is asked to bring a reading to share
- We then each check in, keeping in mind how we are mobilizing our CSLO mission, purpose, and vision.
- Our meeting then commences, led by our blessed president, Angelina O'Conner. She took this job the same year she finished her Practitioner studies. She shines despite the heavy load.
- I love the other members, Buffie Finkel, RScP, Reverend David, Kathy Gilliam, Lynn Elliott, and Cherie Gordon. Each one adds thoughtful perspectives to a topic.

We are looking for three new members for the coming year. Please consider if this may be one way you can contribute to our CSL community.

~ Susan Strobel

ANNUAL MEETING



Our Annual Meeting is a wonderful time to connect with other members, and find out what's happening, both in the previous year and plans for this year.

During this time, we elect new Council members - three this year - ask questions and get an overview of Youth, Finances, a message from the minister, as well as any other insights into the operations of the Center.

This year, we'll also talk about the overview of our process to create a Strategic Plan for CSLO for the next 3 - 5 years.

The Annual Meeting is on Sunday, March 9th. We'll have a potluck following the service, then the meeting begins about 1:00 and generally goes for an hour.

All - member or not - are welcome to attend, though only current members can vote. (Membership consists of taking a foundational level class and pledging your financial support to the Center.) Come see what's up!

Zoom option is available!

Practitioner Corner with Sandy

You Are the Best Thing

I read an article in the Science of Mind Magazine recently: "You are the Best Thing That Ever Happened to You."

That phrase stuck in my head for days. I am the best thing that ever happened to ME. Let that sink in for a few moments. Our best thing is not our family, our religion, our community, our country ... it is each of us individually! After all, who impacts us the most other than ourselves?

According to author Sally Robbins, "*All the power, glory, and beauty of the universe (is) accessible by this human being – ME!*"

Too often, many of us judge ourselves by what we have not done or been. Thoughts like I am not pretty enough, rich enough, smart enough (or similar phrases) run through our heads too often. Then, of course, we judge ourselves! Or am I the only one who does that?

Making the shift from thinking negatively about ourselves to remembering we are the best thing that ever happened to us takes a real commitment. I, along with Sally, believe that the best way out of this negativity we take on is to practice gratitude. This is especially important during times when we don't feel grateful.

Practicing gratitude during the biggest tragedies in my life helped me remember that I am still the best thing despite my circumstances. I learned my greatest lessons during this time. I not only found goodness in myself but saw and felt the goodness of those around me.

Sally says, "*In every moment, we get to choose the vibration we attune to.*" Sometimes, this is challenging as we tend to get swept into the vibration of the world – which, as you know, seems bleak at times.

Currently, the world around us seems unstable and chaotic. Yet, I am apprehensive about focusing too much on this because it is not helping to lift the consciousness of myself or those around me.

Instead, I am choosing the vibration I wish to attune to during this time. I am actively letting go of fear—fear of the unknown ahead of me and fear of dealing with the carnage around me. As I can step up and remember that I am the best thing that ever happened to me, those around me will begin to feel the same.

Remember: You are the best thing that has ever happened to you. Now, we just need to act like it.



Practitioners

Teresa Bielenberg
Linda Villegas Bremer

Sandy Dell
Susan Einhorn

Buffie Finkel
Angelina O'Connor
Tim Robinson

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



COMMUNITY EVENTS CORNER

February Game Night Fun



Youth Corner

Youth explore and express the qualities they wish to nurture in the new year through creative activities and games.



CSL YOUTH SEE LOVE EVERYWHERE!

LOVE UNITES US

Together in Love

Nourishing Our Community (NOC) FUNdraiser Coming Up!

Beginning March 2nd through March 30th, we will be accepting applications to host Nourishing Our Community Events!

Event bidding will begin on April 6th and be open until April 27th.

This year due to our 20th Anniversary Party we ask that no events be scheduled for May 2nd, 3rd, or 4th.

Questions? Ask [Tiffany](#)

See more Community Images on the website:

<https://cslolym pia.org/our-community-in-pictures/>



WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Women's Coffee meets Tuesdays at 11 AM at Panera near the Capitol Mall. All women are welcome to come chat and connect. For more information, contact Jennifer: Jennifer@cslolympia.org

The Women's Circle meets on the third Saturday of the month. Contact [Carol Kautzmann](#) for more info.

MEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Men's Group has decided to suspend Men's Coffee on Wednesdays until further notice. The men also meet on the second Saturday of each month, beginning with a potluck at noon, typically at the Center. Contact [Denny Kautzmann](#) for more info.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first Monday of every month from 1:00 - 3:00 at home of Caroline Fenn to knit and crochet shawls to share with congregants in need. Contact [Caroline Fenn](#) for more info.

Core Council

President: Angelina O'Connor, RScP
Vice-President: Lynn Elliott
Secretary: Cherie Gordon
Treasurer: Buffie Finkel, RScP
Member at large: Kathy Gilliam
Member at large: Susan Strobel
Spiritual Leader: Rev. David Robinson

March Birthdays

March 5 - Jennifer Howie

March 8 - Kelly Phoenix

March 13 - Sylvia Schroeder &
Rev. David (he expects chocolate cake!!)

March 26 - Bob Miller

STAFF

Brent Pendleton &
Heather Matthews
MUSIC TEAM

Shani, Crow, & Michael
A/V TEAM

Adrienne Cherry
YOUTH DIRECTOR

Marlisa Johnson
BOOKKEEPER

Tiffany Merkel
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Sandy Dell
**WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER,
ONLINE MARKETING**

Darshan Gregory
**CUSTODIAN &
GROUNDSKEEPER**

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