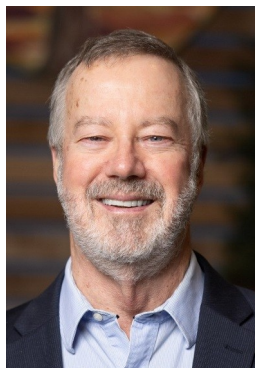


On the Wings of Love

August
2025

This month, our focus is on the Love in this teaching. Love, when embraced, has the power to elevate our relationships with ourselves and all of life, guiding us to new heights. Often, love is seen as an idea or ideal—a state to be attained. However, love is truly realized in our actions, choices, and behaviors. Embracing and exploring the ever-changing aspects of love is how we keep it alive, whether in meditation with ourselves or in communication with another. Love begins and grows, but it can also dull or become stagnant.

Each week, we will delve into the unique aspects of Love's transformative power. Our guide will be Thich Nhat Hanh through his book "Teachings on Love." We will follow the flow of Love as it rises, ascends, soars, hits turbulence and descends to become even deeper. While Love is the nature of the Divine, it - like all other expressions of the Divine - has many faces and facets. Our conditioned, ego-oriented self will like some of those faces better than others. I mean, who likes turbulence in love? But if we keep our feet and hearts solidly grounded in Truth, we can surf the waves and ways of Love and grow deeper and more expansive in our ability to embody and express Love. It's summer - let's go surfing!



Sunday Mornings

**Meet in person at
3437 Libby Road NE
Meditation: 10:30 a.m.**

Service: 11 a.m.

Zoom: 789 699 326

Senior Minister

Rev. David Robinson

"True love has the power to heal and transform the situation around us and bring deep meaning to our lives." ~ Thich Nhat Hanh, Teachings on Love

Rev. David will be away from Monday, August 4th, through Wednesday, August 13th. He will be enjoying driving his new Miata to Banff for a ministers' convo and the SOAR retreat. During that time, Rev. Carrie Masters will be our guest speaker on August 10th, and everything else will be handled by the Practitioners for prayer support and Carrie Barrett for Council/business matters.

~ Rev. David Robinson

Sunday Talk Titles: Book of the Month:

On the Wings of Love Teachings on Love

August 3: Living as Love

What are the foundations of love? Would you be interested in creating deeper connections and a more compassionate world? Join **Rev. Abigail Schairer, Guest Speaker**, in exploring a new way to transform yourself and the world.

August 10: A Higher Love

When we love ourselves, and when we extend love to others, we aren't engaging in separate acts of love. Instead, we are participating in a unified field of love that knows no boundaries. Let's explore this healing power as we learn to shift into a higher and deeper love. **Rev. Carrie Masters, Guest Speaker.**

August 17: Soaring in Love

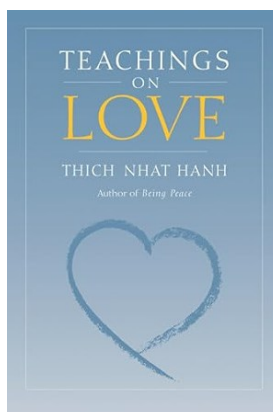
Dive into the boundless freedom and joy that love brings. Understand how living with an open heart allows you to soar to new heights, experiencing life with greater fulfillment and purpose.

August 24: The Turbulence of Love

Acknowledge and navigate the challenges and conflicts that love can present. Gain insights into maintaining harmony and resilience through mindfulness and deep understanding during turbulent times.

August 31: Love's Descent

Conclude your journey with a gentle descent, reflecting on the lessons learned and grounding them into your everyday life. Embrace the landing of love as a continuous process of growth and renewal.



Weaving together traditional stories, personal experiences, and a deep understanding of the Buddha's way of mindful living, Thich Nhat Hanh provides step-by-step practices that foster understanding and

intimacy in any relationship and extend our love even to those that cause us pain. Teachings on Love is a treasure-trove of guidance for couples, co-workers, or friends who wish to nourish the gift and strength of their relationships and deal creatively with their weaknesses and difficulties. We all yearn to experience a love that is deeper and more joyful. Teachings on Love provides a time-tested path that anyone can follow to nurture the deepest love in ourselves and others.

With a new introductory chapter by Thich Nhat Hanh

PHOTOS WANTED

We are looking for folks who love to take pictures of Center events, to be added to the website and/or the monthly newsletter.

Let's share with the world that we have fun events and fun people at our center.

Please submit digital photos to
SandyADellRScP@gmail.com

Thank you!

August Classes, Events & Opportunities



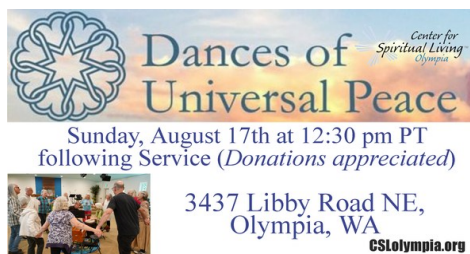
[Playing into Prosperity PlayShop](#)

Sunday, August 3rd at 1 to 2:30 pm PT
Join us for a hands-on, heart-opening workshop that blends spiritual insight with playful expression. Through art, imagination, and sacred reflection, you'll tap into your innate prosperity.



[Community Sound Bath](#)

Friday, August 8th, 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Mark your calendar for every second Friday this summer (August 8, Sept. 12) for a guided meditation and wonderfully immersive sound bath. Hosted by Hillary from Soluna Soundworks.



[Dances of Universal Peace](#)

Sunday, August 17th, 12:30 - 2 pm
Simple movements to live music. No experience necessary, dances are taught to the whole group.



[Listening Circles](#)

Monday, August 18, 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Buffie Finkel facilitates an opportunity to deeply listen and be heard in a supportive and judgment-free circle of trust. Bring your open heart.



[Summer Community Picnic & Potluck](#)

Sunday, August 24th, After Service

Come and have fun with others from CSLO and their guests. CSLO neighbors are invited! Make new friends!

Find all the scheduled events: <https://cslolympia.org/>

AUGUST YOUTH PROGRAM:

Love in Motion: Cultivating Compassion, Courage & Connection

This month is a reminder that love is not passive — it's an action, a presence, and a practice. Through mindfulness, creativity, and connection, our youth are not only learning love, they're becoming it.



August 3rd: Launch of Love

We begin by exploring the *foundation* of love — the love that lives within us. Inspired by the Four Immeasurable Minds (loving-kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity), youth reflect on how love grows when we offer it freely and without condition. Through breathwork and storytelling, we explore: *What does love feel like in me?* Youth create “Love Lanterns” — hand-crafted paper lanterns symbolizing the light they carry and share with the world.

August 10th: Love's Ascent

Love lifts. Youth look at how love elevates our sense of purpose and connection. Using Thich Nhat Hanh's daily vow — *“to bring joy in the morning and relieve suffering in the afternoon”* — we explore how small acts of care can make a big difference. After a Loving-Kindness meditation, youth play a “Joy Tag” game where they share compliments, kind acts, and words of encouragement to uplift one another.

August 17th: Soaring in Love

When we open our hearts, love becomes a wind beneath our wings. Youth explore what it means to *soar in love* — to live with openness, creativity, and trust. Youth participate in a guided visualization, then collaborate to build “Wings of Love,” a

large collage made from feathers decorated with words and images that represent how love moves in their lives.

August 24th: The Turbulence of Love

Love isn't always easy. Youth reflect on the *challenges* that come with loving others — and ourselves — fully. Inspired by mindfulness teachings and Science of Mind principles, youth discuss how to stay grounded during conflict. Through role play and calming breathwork, we explore compassionate responses to misunderstanding and hurt. Youth will then create “Peace Pebbles” with calming affirmations to take home or gift to someone in need of kindness.

August 31st: Love's Descent

As our journey through love gently concludes, we reflect on how love can become part of our everyday rhythm — not just an idea or a feeling, but a way of *being*. Youth choose one of the Five Mindfulness Trainings from Plum Village that speaks most to their hearts. Together, they'll prepare a “Love in Action” presentation to share with the community for the 5th Sunday Youth/Adult Service.



**More Youth
Information
on Page 7**



Council News Corner, Craig Francis

Hello CSL Olympia!

Here are some of the things that
council has been up to:

- CSL is looking forward to the **Community Picnic** coming up on August 24th. We would like to invite our neighbors at the church, so David and Craig are working on an invitation to be handed out. Distribution will be done in early August by Craig, David and Lachlan.

- And the music must go on! Recently we have had to **replace 2 pieces of equipment for the music and AV team**. Our key board has been having fits and finally gave up the ghost. Brent was gracious and used his personal key board while a replacement solution was found (THANKS BRENT!). We have been enjoying the new Yamaha keyboard for the last few weeks. Also, we had to replace the hand-held microphone due to a broken battery case. Both of these were able to be purchased because of your contributions and benefit us all. THANK YOU!

- **The Council works closely with the Finance Committee to support the financial health of the Center.** This month we oversaw establishing policies to make sure there are sufficient funds available at all times, plus a little reserve for things like keyboard purchases. To this end, the Council approved the recommendation to have a \$10,000 reserve in savings at all times, along with \$10,000 in checking. Steps have been taken to move some money into a more liquid form to be available.

- Council and Finance are also examining the ramifications of **Microsoft**

“sunsetting” Windows 10 in October and what that will mean for the Center’s computers.

- Adrienne has put forth a proposal for a **Harvest Festival** in late September. Council decided we needed a little more information before proceeding.

- Rev. David let Council know that we are **collaborating with two other CSLs - Tacoma and Burien** - to support each other’s education programs. Known as PACE - the Pacific Northwest Alliance of Centers for Spiritual Living Educational Committee - we will be advertising each other’s classes giving our communities more options from which to choose.

- Council is beginning the process of **creating a strategic plan** for the Center. We began with visioning and are currently looking at both our own personal values and the values we think would be a great expression of the Center. The process will be expanded to include the entire community.

- Not playing with a full house: **Council is currently down one member** and we are looking for one more person. If you are interested, please reach out to Carrie or Rev David.



Practitioner Corner with Linda Bremer

*"To be humble, to be kind - It is a giving of the peace in your mind
To a stranger, to a friend - To give in such a way that has no end
We are love, we are one - We are how we treat each other when the day is done
We are how we treat each other and nothing more"* (song: Nothing More)

Listening to this song, I felt an innate acceptance of love in my life. I also felt a deep connection to Universal Love. I believe that love, in its purest form, is a force that lifts, heals, and transforms. It transcends language and circumstance, connecting our souls across divides we once thought impassable. Whether it's romantic, platonic, familial, or the compassion between strangers, love possesses an astonishing ability to pull us from darkness into light.

To experience the uplifting power of love is to feel seen, valued, and accepted—not for perfection, but in spite of imperfection. It's the warm reassurance of someone holding one's hand through life's turbulence, the unexpected kindness of a stranger offering help when we need it most. These moments, fleeting or enduring, have the power to reignite expectancy, restore faith, and remind us we are never truly alone.

Science of Mind offers a profound and timeless understanding of love—not as mere

emotion, but as the essence of Life itself.

Holmes believed that love begins with self-awareness. "The love of the all Good is within me and around me," he wrote, emphasizing that love is not something to be found outside of ourselves but something we must awaken from within. To Holmes, loving oneself is a sacred acknowledgment of one's divine nature.

Love is inseparable from the universal law that responds to our thoughts and beliefs. When we love, we are in harmony with this divine law, and through love, we attract more of the good we desire. Holmes encouraged us to consciously choose love in our thoughts, words, and actions, believing that such choices create peace, health, and abundance - not only for the self but for the world. Love is active, not passive. We must ***be*** love in every interaction. This means cultivating compassion, forgiveness, and generosity. Holmes taught that by seeing the divine in others, even those who challenge us, we rise to our highest potential.

"Love points the way, and law makes the way possible," he said, underscoring the balance between heartfelt intention and spiritual principle.



Practitioners

Teresa Bielenberg
Linda Villegas Bremer

Sandy Dell
Susan Einhorn
Buffie Finkel

Rev. Carrie Masters
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

**August 3:
Rev. Abigail Schairer**

*Guest speaker for Sunday
Service and host of the
Playing with Prosperity
Playshop*

A vibrant, colorful poster for the 'Playing into Prosperity' workshop. It features a background of swirling colors and large, stylized flowers. The title 'Playing into Prosperity' is written in a large, flowing script. Below it, the text reads 'A CREATIVE EXPLORATION OF ABUNDANCE' and 'Ready to invite more joy, flow, and abundance into your life?'. At the bottom, it says 'Join us for a hands-on, heart-opening workshop that blends spiritual insight with playful expression. Through art, imagination, and sacred reflection, you'll tap into your innate prosperity and leave feeling uplifted, inspired, and more connected to the Source of your good.'

**Playing
into
Prosperity**

A CREATIVE EXPLORATION
OF ABUNDANCE

**Ready to invite more joy, flow, and
abundance into your life?**

Join us for a hands-on, heart-opening workshop
that blends spiritual insight with playful expression.
Through art, imagination, and sacred reflection,
you'll tap into your innate prosperity and leave
feeling uplifted, inspired, and more connected to
the Source of your good.

**No experience necessary—just bring your curiosity and
an open heart!*

Sunday, August 3rd

1:00—2:30

\$25

Facilitated by Rev. Abigail Schairer



**See more Community Images
on the website:**

[https://cslolympia.org/
our-community-in-pictures/](https://cslolympia.org/our-community-in-pictures/)

Youth Corner



*Olympia and Seattle CSL
Teens unite for a soulful
Sunday — connection, class,
and BBQ under the summer
sun!*



WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Women's Coffee is on summer break until September 9th.
For more information, contact Jennifer: Jennifer@cslolympia.org

The Women's Circle is on summer break until September 20th.
Contact [Carol Kautzmann](#) for more info.

MEN'S GATHERING NEWS

The Men's Gathering meets on the second Saturday of each month, beginning with a potluck at noon, typically at the Center. Contact [Denny Kautzmann](#) for more info.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is taking the summer off, returning in September.
Contact [Caroline Fenn](#) for more info.

Core Council

President: Carrie Barrett
Vice-President: Kathy Gilliam
Secretary: Cherie Gordon
Treasurer: Craig Francis
Member at large: Susan Strobel (on hiatus)
Spiritual Leader: Rev. David Robinson

August Birthdays

August 1 - Sherry Reisner
August 7 - Lorrie Chase
August 13 - Larry Gilliam
August 20 - Rev. Carrie Masters
August 24 - Greg Laura

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Brent Pendleton &
Heather Matthews
MUSIC TEAM

Shani, & Crow
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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