Center for Spiritual Living™ Olympia

Happenings

Gratitude Expanding

November 2026

Sunday Mornings

Meet in person at:
3437 Libby Road NE
Meditation: 10:30 a.m.
Service: 11 a.m.
Or On YouTube:
https://bit.ly/YouTubeCSLO

Senior Minister
Rev. David Robinson

The Law of Prosperity is the Law of Giving and Receiving. We must do both to fully activate and experience the blessings of the Law. This month, we will practice both aspects of this one flow. We'll begin by finalizing our commitments to support the ongoing work of this Center in 2027. The first Sunday, we'll have a lovely and powerful recommitment ceremony for those who are members to consciously recommit to CSL Olympia. And, others who aren't yet members can take the first step by joining the members in making a financial commitment of support.

The second Sunday, we'll ask "How Much Good Can I Stand?" Hopefully, you're ready to expand your willingness to receive. We'll celebrate the completion of our Prosperity Program with a delightful High Tea (yes, wear gloves and dress appropriately!) Along with tea will be delightful finger foods and good company.

Then we move fully into receiving with gratitude. Often, people receive, but don't consciously realize it. On the third and fourth Sundays, two wonderful guest speakers, Deborah Gayle, RScP (who will have just facilitated the regional Practitioner retreat) and Rev. Buffie Finkel will guide us in deepening our gratitude.

The final Sunday, Rev. David and the Youth will help us experience The Peace that Passes Understanding. It should be a very lovely and heart filled month. I hope you'll join us! Oh, and remember to both turn your clocks back on Nov. 1st and to vote by the 3rd.

~ Rev David Robinson



Sunday Talk Titles: *Gratitude Expanding*

November 1: Belonging

We stand as a community, committed to growing, expanding, and shining our Light in the world.

November 8: How Much Good Can I Stand?

The Infinite can only do for us what It can do through us. How open are we to even greater Good?

November 15: Climbing the Ladder of Abundance

We'll explore seven levels of supply and how we can climb higher.
Speaker: Deborah Gayle, RScP

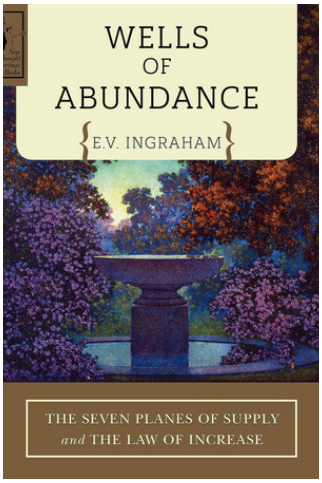
November 22: Hold on To Your Hat!

How do we stay grounded in our world today, when the winds of change are blowing so strongly?
Lets explore together how our tools can support us through the holidays ahead, with special focus on love, gratitude, and of course, beloved community.
Speaker: Rev. Buffie Finkel

November 29: The Peace That Passes Understanding

The God quality of Peace doesn't depend on external circumstances, but on inner perception. Yet that inner perception expands into outer experience.

Book of the Month: *Wells of Abundance by E. V. Ingraham*



Do you know what Prosperity feels like? Is it solely experienced on a physical level when you are surrounded by symbols of wealth and riches? Or is it a peaceful state of mind without any worries, illness, or stress?

One thing is for sure . . . there is an unlimited supply for anyone willing to understand the principles that shape your perception of prosperity and wealth. Understanding that supply means more than just meeting our need for air, food, water, and shelter. Ingraham helped the world to see the spiritual side of supply as the inner foundation of peace and happiness from within.

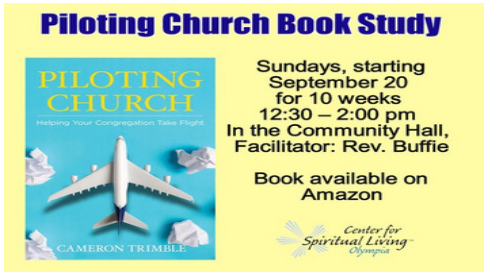
These are the principles E.V. Ingraham (1882-1978) wrote about in WELLS OF ABUNDANCE while active at Unity Village in Lee's Summit Missouri over 80 years ago. He joined the staff at Unity School in 1919 and organized the Sales department that supplied literature to Unity centers. This is where he soon became acquainted with Douglas DeVorss, who was the Unity Sales Director before he founded DeVorss & Company in Los Angeles in 1929.

In this updated edition, DeVorss Publications has enhanced the meaning by making subtle changes that allow the message to be all-encompassing for all readers.

November Classes, Events & Opportunities



Daylight Saving Time is ending on November 1!
Don't Forget to Set Your Clocks BACK
on Saturday Night!



Piloting Church Book Study

Sundays thru December, 12:30to 2:00pm

Informal conversations, one chapter per week, facilitated by Rev. Buffie in the Community Hall.



2027 Prosperity Program Events

11-1-2026 Member Commitment/Recommitment Ceremony

11-8-2026 High Tea Party



'Join or Die' Movie Viewing

Friday, November 20 at 5:30 pm

Join or Die is a film about why you should join a club—and why the fate of America depends on it.

Spiritual Partners Sharing-Our-Center Events

Monday Chair Yoga with Deniece, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 5:30 to 6:15 pm
Mindfulness Northwest Retreat with Holly Bond, Saturday, Nov.7, 9 am - 4 pm
Community Meditation Sound Bath with Hillary Myers, Fri., Nov. 13, 6—7 pm
Dances of Universal Peace with Marti Dimock, Sunday, Nov. 15, 12:30 pm
Interfaith Works Events, Tuesday, November 24, 7:15 pm (Meditation)

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

November YOUTH PROGRAM:

Gratitude Expanding

November asks us, what does it mean to truly understand someone else? This November, our Youth & Family community will explore Expanding Empathy—learning to listen with an open heart, recognize our shared humanity, and discover how every interaction offers an opportunity to grow. Through reflection, meaningful conversations, creative activities, and everyday spiritual practices, youth will explore how empathy helps us build stronger relationships, deepen our understanding of ourselves, and create a more compassionate world.



November 1 — What It Means to Be Empathetic
Value: Presence & Authentic Connection

Empathy begins with how we show up for others. Youth will explore the difference between listening to respond and being fully present with someone. They'll discover how simple choices—pausing, breathing, listening without judgment, and resisting the urge to fix everything—can make room for genuine connection.

November 8 — Understanding with Empathy: Listening to What Isn't Said
Value: Deep Listening & Compassion

Sometimes the most important parts of a conversation go beyond words. Youth will practice paying attention to feelings, body language, and what someone may be struggling to express. They'll explore how listening without interrupting or rushing to offer advice can help others feel seen, heard, and understood.

November 15 — Empathic Learning: A Gift of Life
Value: Self-Awareness & Growth

Every person we meet has something to teach us. Youth will explore how different experiences and perspectives can expand their understanding of themselves and the world. By approaching conversations with curiosity instead of judgment, they'll discover how empathy helps us learn, grow, and recognize our shared humanity.

November 22 — Empathy as an Expression of Gratitude
Value: Gratitude & Compassionate Connection

Even challenging interactions can reveal something valuable about ourselves and others. Youth will consider how moments of misunderstanding, discomfort, or vulnerability can become opportunities for learning and compassion. They'll practice finding gratitude in everyday encounters and recognizing the ways our relationships invite us to grow in love.

November 29 — Embodying Empathy Every Day
Value: Oneness & Everyday Compassion

Empathy becomes a spiritual practice when we bring it into our everyday choices. Youth will bring together what they've explored throughout the month and consider how kindness, thoughtful listening, patience, and nonjudgmental understanding can shape their relationships and communities. On this fifth Sunday, youth and teens will have an opportunity to share their empathy journey through a personal story, a lesson learned, a creative reflection, or one small action they want to practice moving forward. Together, we'll celebrate how listening with open hearts, honoring one another's experiences, and practicing compassion help create a world where everyone belongs.

Center for Spiritual Living Olympia
Youth & Family Program

Council Informational Corner with Carrie Barrett



As we step into November, here is what our Core Council has been working on behind the scenes to keep our church community supported, connected, and growing.

Council is preparing for upcoming staff evaluations and updating several staff contracts to ensure our dedicated team is well-supported and equipped for the year ahead. In exciting ministerial news, we are thrilled to share that we have officially hired Rev. Buffie as Staff Minister! And an administration staff change is in the early stage of rollover, as Rev. Carrie is replacing Tiffany in her role with CSLO. Join us in gratitude to Tiffany for the years she has served us.

To foster a deeper sense of connection and communication on Sunday mornings, Council members are taking turns serving as the primary point of contact each Sunday. Whether you have a quick question, need assistance, or just want to connect, the designated Council member on duty each week is named in the announcements.

Council recently finished reading Piloting Church, taking away valuable insights as David D. described in last month's newsletter. Remember, Buffie is hosting conversation forums with this book after service on Sundays. I've attended a few of the gatherings, and participants are having deep, lively discussions about the chapter topics. No need to commit to all of them to join.

We are continuing our progress on the church website update to make our online presence more welcoming and easy to navigate for both longtime members and newcomers. We've got a design layout we like and are working on choosing topics to have on each webpage and where to have them.

Following the completion of a foundational class by three teens, Council recently discussed the possibility of altering CSLO's membership process to allow for teens aged sixteen and older to become members.

A handful of people have shared their desire to help on the events team we are assembling, dedicated specifically to planning and hosting church events, nurturing our community gatherings. Let Rev. David or myself know if contributing with this group is your desire as well.

Finally, our Prosperity Campaign for 2027 is wrapping up. We are grateful for everyone's generosity and commitment throughout this shared effort, which strengthens our ability to serve both our congregation and the broader community. I'm excited to celebrate with you at the High Tea.

Practitioner Corner with Susan Einhorn



"The mystery of life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to experience."
~ J.J. van Der Leeuw

Your Eternal Friend

Developing a personal relationship with God is a deeply transformative journey that transcends religious ritual and moves into the realm of daily companionship. It is not about adhering to a rigid set of rules, but about cultivating a meaningful, heart-to-heart connection with the Creator. Like any healthy relationship, building an intimate bond with God requires intentionality, communication, trust, and quality time.

The foundation of this relationship is built on communication, primarily through prayer and reflection. Prayer should not feel like a formal recital of rehearsed scripts; instead, it is an open, honest conversation. Speaking to God about your joys, anxieties, gratitude, and doubts invites the Divine into your daily life. Complementing this is the act of listening, which often happens when you study sacred texts or sit in silent reflection. Immersing yourself in spiritual study allows you to understand Spirit's nature, and how it's nature is reflected in you.

Another vital element is intentional time and presence. In a fast-paced world, it is easy to relegate spirituality to a weekly service or a quick prayer before meals. However, a deep relationship thrives on consistency. Creating a daily habit—whether it is a morning devotion, a quiet evening walk, or a few moments of gratitude before bed—signals that this relationship is your priority. In these quiet moments, you learn to recognize the Presence in the ordinary rhythms of your day.

Furthermore, developing intimacy with God requires trust and surrender. True relationship means involving God in your decision-making and trusting Divine timing, even when life feels uncertain. When you surrender your need for control and lean on faith, you begin to experience Spirit's guidance and peace in tangible ways. This trust is deepened when you join a community of faith. Sharing your spiritual journey with like-minded individuals provides accountability, encouragement, and a broader perspective on how God works through others.

Ultimately, a personal relationship with God is a lifelong process rather than a final destination. It is marked by grace, patience, and continuous growth. By embracing the Sacred with an open heart and seeking the Beloved within all of life, you create space for a vibrant, enduring connection that anchors your soul and transforms your perspective on the world.



Practitioners

Teresa Bielenberg
Linda Villegas Bremer
Sandy Dell
Susan Einhorn
Rev.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

2027 Prosperity Campaign

In October, we began our annual prosperity program, an invitation to you to commit to being a sustainer and owner of this Center. The program will conclude on November 1st with a recommitment ceremony for members, then a celebration tea party on Nov. 8th.
You're invited to dive into the consciousness of abundant prosperity in every area of your life and let your freedom and Good expand, and Share Your Joy!



More Details

Wishing everyone a Happy Thankgiving



Youth Corner





WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Women's Coffee group meets Tuesdays at 11 at Haagen's.

The Women's Circle meets the third Saturday of the Month. Contact Carol Kautzmann for more info.

MEN'S GATHERING NEWS

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

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meet the first Monday of every month. Contact Caroline Fenn for more info.

Core Council

President: Carrie Barrett
Vice-President: Greg Laura
Secretary: Hillary Myers
Treasurer: Craig Francis
Member at Large: David Dickinson
Spiritual Leader: Rev. David Robinson

November Birthdays

Nov. 2 – Shani Banai
Nov. 10 – Marlisa Johnson
Nov. 11 – Mary Wilde
Nov. 28 – Max Myers
Nov. 29 – Susan Strobel

STAFF

Brent Pendleton
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Shani Banai & Kefa Crow
A/V TEAM

Adrienne Cherry
YOUTHDIRECTOR

Marlisa Johnson
BOOKKEEPER

Tiffany Merkel
ADMINISTRATIVEASSISTANT

Sandy Dell
WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER, ONLINE MARKETING

Darshan Gregory
CUSTODIAN & GROUNDSKEEPER

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