

CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING VICTORIA

NEWSLETTER – April, 2015

A message from Rev. Carrie

We are approaching that day of the year that makes many Religious Science ministers twitchy! It's Easter!

A vast number of ministers of this faith treat Easter just like any other day of the year. It makes them uncomfortable to talk about Jesus, about a crucifixion, about the resurrection of Christ.

When I talk to them about it, I find that most of their discomfort comes from using the "J" word – or Jesus – as part of their talks. It is curious to me, since Ernest Holmes, our founder, uses "Jesus" on average once in every third paragraph of our textbook! However, I have come to realize that their discomfort lies in the fear that people in their congregation who have been wounded by traditional Christian churches, may run for the exit signs if they hear the name uttered.

One of the fundamentals of our faith is that Jesus is the way-shower, the example, rather than the exception, of who we all may become. Jesus said: "God has made you. The Divine Spirit is already within you. This is your Father who desires only your good." And about miracles: "These things ye shall do and more so."

Jesus was a man – and yes, the son of God - BUT we are all sons and daughters of God. We were all created out of the same "stuff." The same Power that was in Jesus is in each one of us in the same measure. The difference is that we may not have embodied it the way Jesus did, where he was in complete alignment with God – and Ernest Holmes reminds us that to the degree that we embody it, we become the Christ.

*Spirit has already provided the Law of Mind, giving us the use of a power greater than we are. If we only learn to live in recognition of this presence and in harmony with this law, then the miracle of life and love will take place. Jesus coupled the knowledge of spiritual truth with the thought **there is a law of mind which acts upon our beliefs and brings into our experience those things which we believe.***

Jesus laid no restrictions on the willingness of this power to operate for us, other than to say that everything we think and say and do should be based in a consciousness of love -- in a realization that we must become one with others, even as we are already one with God.

In the consciousness of love, there is no fear, so let us celebrate this beautiful Easter season, healed of our past wounds, and acknowledging the rebirth of the Christ within us, just as we look out in awe and wonder at the splendour of nature that is rebirthing around us.

God is in us – each one of us equally – and in every beautiful leaf, blossom and flower that has come forth in all its glory. We are so blessed! And so it is!

AFFIRMATION FOR APRIL

There is a Power for Good in the Universe and it lives, moves and has its being in me! I direct this Power with my own positive thoughts to create the life I have longed to live and I see it unfolding before me now!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ANNE MILLAR

Hi everyone.

I am of course happy to announce that we are officially: Centre for Spiritual Living Victoria! All the paperwork is completed and a new website and new branding are underway.

This past month of March has just flown by and it has been a very busy month indeed. First the Board had its Planning meeting. This is when we tentatively book the dates for the year's Special Events. We have an exciting array of them coming up and one of particular significance is the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of our Centre September 13th. It's going to be an exciting affair, beginning with Rev. Carrie's installation ceremony on Friday, September 11th, a concert on Saturday, September 12th, and our Sunday service and celebration on the 13th.

Drs. Kenn and Deborah Gordon will be special guests for the three days and will be guest speakers at our Sunday service!

Our Goods and Services Auction in March was a great success. We had a lovely Meet and Greet lunch with Rev. Carrie on March 22nd, and our Pot Luck will be March 29th.

Soon it will be Easter and some of our members will be off to Quadra Island for the Circle of Love Gathering that is featuring some of leaders in Centres for Spiritual Living.

I am very happy with our wonderful new Board. It will be a pleasure to work with them. I am also extremely pleased with the Sunday Services. Rev. Carrie's talks are very inspiring. All in all I am a happy president.

Love and Blessings to all! *Anne Millar*

ONGOING EVENTS

Amazing Grays: This women's spiritual discussion group meets on the 2nd Friday of each month. Please call Doreen Maxwell (250-383-7374) for more information.

Treasure Table: This is a PLC fund raising event. Please bring your unwanted treasures for others to buy and cherish! Takes place the 2nd Sunday of each month. Bring your treasures to share.

CLASSES

Rev. Carrie will begin teaching classes this month. The first class will be “Beyond Limits.” This course is the dynamic new ten-week offering that takes the foundational principles and offers them in a new format – replacing the old Foundations curriculum.

Topics include Oneness, spiritual mind treatment, the reciprocal universe, the Creative Process, hidden beliefs, and other essential principles. It also offers new wording and ideas for presenting our basic ideas in new ways.

Suggested start dates are Tuesday, April 21st or Thursday, April 23rd. They can be afternoon or evening classes. And the location will depend upon the number of people who register.

If there is a sufficient number who register on both days, we can do two classes – perhaps one in the afternoon and another in the evening. We want to make this possible for everyone, if we can.

Class fees for ten weeks \$245 - cash, cheque or credit card. This may also be paid in weekly instalments of \$25 per week if that is your preference. (This is \$50 below the price applied by Head Office – and we will pay your accreditation fees of \$45 out of the registration fee).

If there is interest, Rev. Carrie will also teach a prosperity class that has great popularity in the movement.

Sign up sheets will be available in the social room or you can let Rev. Carrie know directly. Her email address has changed, so please email her at revvedupcarrie@yahoo.ca.

No one will be turned away because of lack of resources. Please speak to Rev. Carrie if you need special consideration to take this class.

For those on the road to Practitioner studies, this will be the first course offered. But the path is the same for everyone until after the first two years.

REV. CARRIE'S TOPICS FOR APRIL

Theme – Tap Into your Personal Greatness

April 5 – Easter Sunday - Listen to Your Power

April 12 – Move Into the 20 Percent

April 19 – Practising the Power

April 26 – The Quantum Zone

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC!

KUDOS to Louise Eldridge for her dedicated leadership in our music program. With changes in music, she is going the distance to rehearse with our soloists to introduce new music on Sundays!

Angie McNabb has had to resign as director of the High Spirit Chorus – but we will announce the new leader as soon as we can have a meeting to solidify details. And, if you feel called to join the chorus and can carry a tune, there's still time to sign up! Please give your name to Louise and she will pass it along.

Soloists for April

April 05: Merissa Cox Easter
April 12: Lillian Slanina
April 19: Nelson Brunanaski
April 26: Darlene Haynes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Co-op Number: Don't forget to use Michelle Marier's Co-op number when getting gas as the rebate is coming back to the Center. **29857**

Thrifty Foods Gift Cards: A wonderful way to support the financial health of our Centre is to use a Thrifty's Food Card. We have lots of them! Please see Pat Alfke Wright, or while she's on vacation, see Rev. Joanna Drewry, if you don't yet have one. When you load up your card and use it to buy groceries, the CSL Victoria receives 5% of everything you spend! We are reaching toward our goal. **two weeks to go. WE CAN DO IT!!! PICK UP YOUR CARD THIS SUNDAY!!! AND IF YOU HAVE ONE, FILL IT UP AT THRIFTY'S AND GO SHOPPING!**

Pastoral Care Cards: Do you know someone in our congregation who is ill or in need of a pick me up? Contact Jeni Hillier at 250 598-8802 or j.hillier@shaw.ca. She would be happy to send a card.

Please note: From time to time we will take pictures or videos of people at services or events to put on our Website or Facebook. Please let us know if you do not want to be included in this.

SACRED SERVICE

There are many ways to give to our Centre and one that is really important is that of Sacred Service. That means being part of a group of wonderful people who volunteer in various capacities. There are all kinds of ways to serve, so if you feel called to be part of a great team, please speak with Jeanne Rioux or with Rev. Carrie.

Our intention is to have each new volunteer serve one Sunday each month for a three-month period to see how they enjoy the service and fellowship; and then to have the opportunity to switch to something else if they prefer.

Rev. Carrie will have a special tea at her new home once she settles in so that you can get to know one another!
