

CSL Newsletter – July 2015

HAPPY CANADA DAY TO YOU ALL!!

Minister's Message

It's so easy to believe that external things hold the power in life. We think money, or lack of it, determines our abundance; we think other people's behaviour determines our happiness; we think success or failure, as the world defines it, determines our self-worth. When we do this, we are living our lives from the outside in – and in this teaching – we know that doesn't work.

It is ultimately our thinking more than our outer circumstances that determines whether we live lives of harmony and peace or of pain and despair. We all know wealthy people who are depressed. Madonna, for example, said she has no idea what happiness is. And we know people who are ill who are joyful.

A scientific worldview dominated Western civilization for centuries, pronouncing the external world the only "real" world. That which we can see, hear, touch, taste and feel was deemed reality, and the mind was thought to wield little or no power in either creating or transforming material circumstances.

In the past century this worldview began to change dramatically. In fact, it has been overthrown by science itself! Quantum physics and other cutting-edge theories show consciousness to be more than a mere witness to external events: It is now recognized for its role in causing and transforming events. As sages have proclaimed throughout the centuries, the world is but a reflection of what we think. As we change our thoughts, we can change our world.

In the realm of thought, there are two main categories: thoughts of love and thoughts of fear. Every single moment, we choose between the two. If we think with love, then we are more likely to behave lovingly and to attract love from others. If our hearts are closed, we are more likely to act out of fear. Fear-based behaviour tends not to look like fear but like anger or jealousy; it elicits reactions from others that reflect our fear rather than our love.

At any moment, we get to change our minds – to make another choice. God created us to co-create a world of harmony and peace and joy, which the love in our hearts gives us power to do. With every thought, we choose heaven on earth or hell on earth, for ourselves and for all the world. We have the power to bless or blame, to forgive or judge. With our thoughts we have the power to honour or mock, to believe in miracles or deny the possibility that they ever happen. When our minds move in harmony with love—through forgiveness or prayer or the simplest tender thought—then mountains move and the universe shifts.

Our Beyond Limits Class has been dealing with a process to move from fear to faith – to understand our core beliefs and to see how they affect us.

What I know for sure is that God is more powerful than anything else. When I turn my pain, anxiety, grief or fear over to the One Power, I'm lighting a candle in the dark recesses of my mind.

We have the perfect tools in Science of Mind to move the mountains we place in front of us. Spiritual Mind Treatment/Affirmative Prayer works miracles! When we focus upon the good, the Power of Love itself, everything is possible!

Affirmation of the Month

Floating on a stream of unconditional thankfulness, I shout for joy; I am FREE! I am free to claim oneness with the great power of the universe that created me. I am free to express my full potential, chart my course, and harvest the riches.

Daily Spiritual Message

If you receive this newsletter, you most likely receive Rev. Carrie's daily Soul Prints message. It goes out each week-day morning. Feel free to pass it along to friends and ask if they wish to subscribe. You can also do this by sharing Soul Prints on Facebook. It's now posted there daily as well.

President's Report

Every month seems to be a busy one at the Centre. There is still ongoing tweaking to the Order of Service. We now have our Congregational Songs up on the screen, thanks to Bonnie Youngman. We have been adding new equipment to enhance our sound system and we are hearing the difference now. Many thanks to Louise Eldridge, Nelson Brunanski, and our Chorus, and to our soloists, for the great music.

International recording artist, Nathen Aswell was a guest soloist June 14th. He followed with a concert Sunday afternoon. It was well attended and everyone had a great time. Nathen has a home base in Vancouver and one in Nevada, but he has said he would like to come back often. He really enjoyed the energy of our Centre.

Most of our new branding is complete. Shannon Oatway has spearheaded this project and both she and Rev. Carrie have been hard at work ensuring all our materials have the same look. Rack cards and business cards are available for people to circulate. Our website should be live very shortly.

Thanks to Michelle Marier for taking on the task of ordering our new signs. Jack Spencer added wheels to them for easier mobility – and the signs now reflect our new name and our branding.

Rev. Joanna ordered our new name tags and they have arrived. They look great. It's still possible for you to order one if you wish to have one. Please specify to Joanna whether you want a tag with a pin or with a magnet.

We celebrated Father's Day with special Ice Cream Sundaes, and look forward to a picnic at Joanna's home July 19th.

More exciting things are in store for us in the coming months.

All is Good.

Love and Blessings,

Anne Millar, President

Prayer

The essence of our teaching is Spiritual Mind Treatment/Affirmative Prayer. Our prayer team has begun to do treatment, one on one, each Sunday immediately following the service.

Jennifer Tennant, a licensed Religious Science Practitioner, has joined our group. She will be scheduling those who will be doing prayer each week.

Revs Carrie, Joanna, Blenda and Raymond, and Practitioner Jennifer, were all on deck the last Sunday in June.

Rev. Carrie says, "We are a Centre that prays with and for its people. We want those who wish to experience prayer on a Sunday to have the option to do so. This is typically a fee based service that includes spiritual counselling but there is no charge on Sundays.

REV. CARRIE'S THEME FOR JULY

WISDOM FOR A SUMMER DAY

Talk Titles

July 5th - Life's too short to walk it alone.

July 12th - The Wisdom to Succeed

July 19th - Beyond Reason

July 26th - Prayer of the Heart

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC!

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

And our heartfelt gratitude to Nelson Brunanski for taking over leadership of our High Spirits Chorus. They are bringing a whole new energy to our Centre! Louise and Nelson are great together and the chorus is a wonderful addition to our Sunday services. Some of our professional singers have joined in on Sundays, creating a terrific sound! And there is room for more to join. You don't have to have had musical training. You just need to love to sing! Speak to Nelson on any Sunday if you'd like to join in! Or email revcarrie@telus.net and she'll pass it along.

MUSIC SOLISTS FOR JULY

Thank you so much to all of you for sharing your beautiful gifts with our community!

July 05: Elizabeth Adams

July 12: Lillian Slanina

July 19: Jenny Rhodes

July 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 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!

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.

Prayer Scarves: We are beginning a new tradition to provide prayer scarves or shawls to members of our congregation who have lingering illnesses. Irene Parkinson has created the first one and Rev. Carrie is attaching a prayer to it. If you know of someone with a serious illness who would benefit from one of these gifts, please contact Jeni or Rev. Carrie.

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 so that you can get to know one another!

ONGOING EVENTS

Amazing Grays: Bi-monthly meetings are suspended for the summer.

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.