

Minister's Message

My first Remembrance Day in West Vancouver, I wandered over to the Cenotaph across from the West Van Library. I was with a friend whose father was killed in a war and we were both sombre. It was raining lightly and there seemed to be a sea of black umbrellas around us – and though it is now many years since that day – I can still smell the air, feel the rain on my face and the unexpected tears that spilled over as aircraft in formation flew overhead. One plane was behind the other three – a tribute to those who didn't return home.

There was the laying of wreaths. One mother had lost five sons in the World War II. A trumpeter playing the Last Post. My friend stood stoically beside me: he showed no sign of emotion. I couldn't speak – not until afterward as we made our way to a favourite café for hot chocolate.

He asked what I was thinking and I blurted out that when that mother laid her wreath, and whenever I see something like this on Remembrance Day, I can't figure out why they aren't screaming. I think it was Peter Gzowski, decades ago, who said he expected a woman, brandishing a silver sword, to come riding in on a white horse and to cast a spell over the assembled crowd – and the screaming would become a crooning, and the crooning would become a lullaby, and soon, all the world would sleep, and when they awakened from the spell, the memory of war would be erased from their memories. There would be no more guns, no more uniforms, no more fighting – and women and children would walk through the streets singing and handing out flowers to everyone around them. There would be laughter and celebration and there would be Peace on Earth.

After so many centuries, I continue to live in disbelief that people can kill one another. I see poppies and have mixed feelings: Do I buy one and wear it in remembrance of those who died on foreign soil or in aircraft that were shot down? Or do I choose to focus on peace and pay no mind to war? A few years ago in Vancouver, someone was selling white poppies for peace. That was something I could support but I haven't seen white poppies since.

With Remembrance Day rapidly approaching, my heart lurches yet again – but today, I commit to hold peace in my heart and mind; to pray that the dark night of the soul of the human race ends and that we all move into a golden age where we see peace in the souls of all humanity – where that man is my brother – that woman my sister – those children part of my family – the one great family that is the collective consciousness of God in expression.

*Peace and love to you all.
And so it is.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October was a very eventful month!

Our Starry Starry Night was a wonderful event. If you missed it, you missed out on a special evening.

Our Music Director did a fabulous job in directing and producing this special evening. Thank you Louise. Also thanks to the wonderful musicians who performed for us.

Thanks to Phyllis Comrie for doing a great job in heading the committee to make this event so great. And thanks also to Christine Rerrie for organizing the intermission goodies. Thank you to everyone else who contributed to make this event memorable. Jennifer Tennant did a great job on the sound.

Our volunteer pizza lunch October 25th was great fun. This was our way of saying thank you to all who give so much of their time to us. November is shaping up to be an exciting month as well. Nancy Shipley Rubin will be speaking Sunday morning and giving a workshop from 1 – 3:30 in the afternoon.

Our annual Christmas pot-luck lunch will be Sunday November 29th with a wonderful turkey dinner.

Our membership is growing. We have had four new members this month and extend a warm welcome to Jacaline Homych, Jennifer James, Bridget Kulbaba and Elizabeth Claire.

Every week, we give out roses to new people. It's exciting to see our Centre grow.

That's all for now. All is good!

Love and Blessings,

Anne Millar

Affirmation for November

**I am as a tiny mustard seed complete with all the God potential in the universe.
Today I choose to live in unlimited possibility and I am abundantly blessed.**

The Centre for Spiritual Living Victoria Presents

GENERATING LIGHT

**With Nancy Shipley Rubin
And Manager Errol Rubin
Direct from Hawaii**

**Sunday, November 8
11 a.m. Lecture**

1-3:30 p.m. Workshop

- Discover how to be present and grounded in your essence.
- Find practical ways to find your voice, acknowledge what your needs are and learn to be supported.
- Learn to make better decisions that support your essential self.

Living with your heart open and your creativity available is a gift. It is something we have to learn to do, rather than wait to the right circumstances to bring about satisfaction. Generating Light provides clarity on the path and tools to overcome obstacles for you to live in your essential self and express your true nature.

**3281 Harriet Road, Victoria, BC
Workshop—\$25 at the door**

For information: email revcarrie@telus.net

**BREAKING LOOSE TO PROSPERITY
USING SPIRITUAL ECONOMICS!**

Rev. Carrie Hunter and Rev Joanna Drewry

A Ten-Week Accredited Class in FOUR SATURDAYS! This gives you plenty of time to practise shifting consciousness around money!

**November 7th, November 28th, January 9th and January 16th
From 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Learn how to work with the flow of life instead of against it. Develop a prosperous attitude about money, health and love. Release your success power. Reap greater rewards from your work. Reverse financial adversity. Achieve true security. Create abundance through the power of giving. Maintain your inner focus on affluence.

NOTE: THIS CLASS WILL BE HELD AT 250 Douglas Street in the Polynesian Room. The doorbell is to the left of the main door. It is not on the keypad.

SPECIAL OFFER! For those signing up immediately, there will be a \$100 discount. Payment is due at the first class.

Investment in YOU - \$350 if paid by November 7th after that, \$395 or \$100 per month for four consecutive months. 10 percent discount for CSL members. Accreditation fees are included.

This is a class that counts toward Practitioner Pre-requisites. (Special terms may be arranged with Rev. Carrie) You may pay by credit card on PayPal on our website at www.cslvictoria.org Please make a note if you plan to do that.)No one will be turned away because of lack of funds!

Email Carrie at revcarrie@telus.net to register!

SPIRITUAL MIND TREATMENT/AFFIRMATIVE PRAYER

Our prayer team has been offering treatment following Sunday services and this is proving to be extremely popular with those attending. Many are reporting exciting results!

We are a prayer-based faith and our professional practitioners are happy to offer this service free of charge on Sundays. For longer sessions and spiritual counselling and coaching, feel free to book an appointment with one of our practitioners/ministers. Revs Carrie, Joanna, Blenda, Raymond and Jennifer are available for appointments.

November Talk Titles

Rev. Carrie will be on holidays for two weeks in November and Rev. Joanna has very kindly agreed to take services those two Sundays.

November 1 – Everything is Copasetic - Rev. Carrie

November 8 – Nancy Shipley Ruben Guest – Awakening the Light

November 15 – Rev. Joanna – Living Out Loud

November 22 – Rev. Joanna – Choosing Joyfulness

November 29 – What if Mary Had Said “NO?” - Rev. Carrie leads our first Advent Sunday.

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. Nelson returns s back from holidays and together, he and Louise 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.

Soloists for November

November 1– Elizabeth Adams

November 8–Merissa Cox

November 15- Lillian Slanina

November 22-Jenny Rhodes

November 29- Nelson Brunanski

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 provide prayer scarves or shawls to members of our congregation who have lingering illnesses or challenges. Irene Parkinson and Bonnie Youngman have created several of these and they are so appreciated by those who have received them! Rev. Carrie attaches prayers to the scarves before gifting them. 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

Give us the "gift of you" at our Sunday services! There are many ways to serve at our Centre – everything from greeting to set-up – to making coffee and washing dishes. Speaking of washing dishes, Jeni Hillier has been washing up after all of us for months!! Time to lighten the load and have a different person doing it every week! Jeni, you're wonderful and you are always cheerfully going about your tasks, whatever they may be.

Know that all of you who give of your time are loved and appreciated! And if some of you have not yet committed to volunteering, please contact Rev. Carrie or Jeanne Rioux to discuss opportunities!

Among them are:

Sunday set-up (chairs and sanctuary)
Set up information table and put things away afterward
Place Inserts in Sunday programs
Book Table Set-Up
Book Table sales and take-down

Greeting
Coffee Set Up
Serve Coffee and Goodies
Kitchen clean-up
Social Events
Marketing
Sound
Flowers
Chorus

We are in the process of doing job descriptions for each task. Let Rev. Carrie know which team you'd like to join!!

ONGOING EVENTS

Amazing Grays: Amazing Grays: This women's spiritual discussion group meets on the 2nd Friday of each month. For information, please contact Christine Rerrie at crerrie@shaw.ca

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.