

MESSAGE FROM REV. CARRIE

A friend called me Sunday night to ask if I was going outside to see the lunar eclipse. I of course grabbed a shawl and rushed out on the deck to look for the moon. It was mostly hidden behind a grove of trees. So I rushed to another deck on the house to see if I could see more clearly from there. It was about the same. I then went out the front door and walked up the driveway but it was even worse. I could just see rays of light in the sky.

I contemplated taking my car and going for a drive to find an open space and then thought the better of it and sat down at the table to write.

I was in a peaceful space in my heart and mind and as I looked ahead of me, out the window, there in full view, was the eclipse happening! I watched it turn a rusty red as the earth fully blocked the sun from shining on the moon and then I saw it slowly begin to emerge, brilliantly shining and as it did, it did, it cast a reflection below it on the same window. It was the “super moon” – the last time we would see an event like this for many years. And it was glorious!

I smiled to myself. Here I was, sitting peacefully, watching a breath-taking event. I had been scurrying around trying to find it but as I sat still, it found me. Life is so much like this: I can sometimes be so busy trying to get everything done that I miss what is most important that is staring right at me.

How many things have I missed in the past from rushing about? This moon was a gift with a special message. Sitting quietly, observing what is right in front of me, brings me the greatest blessings.

What I know for sure is that when I make time for meditation and prayer, I can count on the light to uncover ideas, thoughts, blessings that have been eclipsed by me. I resolve here and now to spend more time in quiet contemplation than in frenetic searching. Life is so beautiful. And so it is!

SPECIAL THANK YOUS

My heart is still over-flowing with love and gratitude for all of you who attended my installation and to those of you who worked overtime to make it such a special evening! It is one that I will treasure forever!

Phyllis Comrie, as team leader, you went the extra mile right to the last minute, to make the evening so beautiful. Your organizational skills and follow-through were amazing! Louise Eldridge, without your enormous contribution with all the choir and soloists, it would not have been nearly as memorable. I've been to many ministerial installations and there were none that could top this one!

It was lovely to have many friends attend from other places – and to be flanked by so many ministers. I'm so grateful to have had long-time friends/teachers/mentors on stage. Drs. Kenn and Deborah Gordon, Rev. Darlene Schneider Chase, Rev. Terry Shea, and our own beautiful Rev. Joanna. Each did a fabulous job.

Congratulations to you all for the gifts that you are!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

This has been a very eventful month.

Rev. Carrie's Installation on September 11, 2015 was a thing of beauty. There was music, there were speeches, and there was ceremony and much, much more music! Thanks to all for making this a memorable night.

There were many out of town guests, a pre-event no host dinner and a Saturday no-host Brunch.

To round out the weekend we celebrated our 25th Birthday as a Centre. Many of the guests stayed over for the Birthday Celebration and we had over 80 people in attendance. **WOW.**

Many thanks to the Rev. Drs. Kenn and Deborah Gordon for participating in this exciting weekend. Rev. Dr. Kenn gave a very inspiring talk on the Sunday morning.

Thanks to Phyllis Comrie for doing a great job in heading the committee to make this dual event so great.

We had a successful Pot Luck Lunch Aug 30.

We had a special guest speaker on September 20th.

Maasai Elder Clamian Kitesho talked about his journey from extreme poverty to being a successful business owner who now supports his beloved community.

That's all for now.

All is Good.

Love and Blessings
Anne Millar

AFFIRMATION FOR LIVING

I am so grateful for all the blessings in my life and especially for the knowledge that the Power that created this vast universe, powers my life with infinite love and joy!

MUSIC FOR A STARRY STARRY NIGHT!

This coming Saturday, October 3rd, is the night of our big concert and it's an exciting line-up of musicians!

Our fabulous music director Louise Eldridge has been working day and night, literally, to put together this best-ever concert for us!

Soloists will be: Elizabeth Adams, Merissa Cox, Darlene Haynes, Lillian Slanina and Jenny Rhodes. Accompanying Louise will be world-class musicians Larry Skaggs on cello; violinist Pablo Diejecke and Viola Liz Massi.

The evening will close with a ten-minute sing-a-long to music from a Broadway musical that we all know well!

Complimentary refreshments will be served during the 20-minute intermission.

Tickets are available by emailing revcarrie@telus.net or you may purchase them at the door.

This is a "starry night" to remember!!

NANCY SHIPLEY RUBEN COMES TO OUR CENTRE

International speaker/mystic Nancy Shipley Ruben will guest at our Centre Sunday, November 8th. Nancy is on an annual Canadian tour and this will be her first time in Victoria.

She will also present a workshop from 1-3:30 that afternoon. Tickets will be \$25.

Nancy first came into the spotlight many years ago in Vancouver when she channelled "Aurora." She gave up channelling awhile back and now takes her spiritual message to many cities/countries.

Nancy and her husband Errol are based in Hawaii – and are lovely, down-to-earth people!

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.

REV. CARRIE'S TOPICS FOR OCTOBER

October 4 - The Pygmalion Effect

October 11 – Mad, Crazy Blessings

October 18 – Falling Up

October 25 – The Circle of Zorro

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. 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 October

October 4 – Merissa Cox

October 11 – George Roberts

October 18 – Nelson Brunanski

October 25 – 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 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!

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.