

Spirituality Network Newsletter

Winter
2006-07

Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
which stay invisible till darkness falls
and discloses their pure and shining presence
beaming down in compassion on our turning world.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the watching shepherds to you,
of unpretentious folk, who, watching and waiting,
spend long hours out on the hillside,
expecting in simplicity some Coming of the One.

Deep peace of the watching shepherds to you.

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you,
who, swift as the wave and pervasive as the air,
quiet as the earth and shining like a star,
breathes into us God's peace and God's spirit.

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

*Mary Rogers, adapted from the traditional Gaelic
(from Earth Prayers, E. Roberts and E. Amidon, editors, Harper Collins, 1991)*

From the staff of The Spirituality Network, we offer our prayers
for peace on earth, goodwill toward all.

Carol Ann, Amanda, and Patricia

The Spirituality Network,
Inc. provides:

- Education and formation through the Wellstreams Training Program
- Spiritual direction referrals for groups and individuals
- Retreat planning and facilitation
- Programs to foster the spiritual life
- Connection to a variety of spirituality resources in central Ohio

As an ecumenical organization, the Spirituality Network serves people both within and outside of religious institutions.

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Sacred Journeys: Pilgrims of the Spirit

Saturday, January 13, 2007, 9am-1 pm, location to be announced

There is something mysterious that stirs a person to step out on the pilgrim's road. It may be a need to touch—or be touched by—a holy site. It may simply be that, as Augustine said: “the heart is restless until it rests in thee.” For countless centuries, whatever “it” is, it has stirred ordinary people to set out on extraordinary journeys.

We hope that you will be with us to hear about three extraordinary journeys made by three ordinary women over the summer of 2006. Barbara Davis made a 30-day silent retreat, Linda Schoen walked 900 km (nearly 600 miles) in 30 days on the Camino Santiago de Compostela in Spain, and Nan Weir traveled to the Holy Land just as Israel and Lebanon were facing off for war. Even for those of us who would prefer to stay put, their stories will inspire and encourage each of us to discover what is stirring within.

On a Pilgrimage into Silence ~ Barbara Davis

Pilgrimages come in many forms. A journey into silence for 30 days framed my own pilgrim's path in 2001. As a student in Wellstreams I had discovered a very special sanctuary in Still Point, an ecumenical retreat center in Saratoga Springs, New York, and the gift of prolonged silence.

As Joan Chittister suggests, “Silence is that place just before the voice of God. It is the void in which God and I meet in the center of my soul... To be contemplative we must put down the cacophony of the world around us and go inside ourselves to wait for the God who is a whisper, not a storm.”

These thoughts intrigued me so I accepted the invitation from Sr. Lillian, the spiritual director at Still Point, to return for a month-long immersion in silence and contemplation, art expression and dream work.

Living in a small hermitage for one, following the rhythms of nature, reconnecting with my body as a temple for my soul through yoga and tai chi in silence with others—all of these experiences remain as very significant blessings in my life and are like touchstones during harried moments of too much busyness.

This powerful pilgrimage reminds me daily that it is in the stillness that God can find me and that I can re-remember that God awaits my responsiveness to Spirit's call. I invite each reader to give yourself the gift of extended times in silence where God waits to whisper to you as well.

Walking in My Integrity ~ Linda Schoen

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering. Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you... But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord. Psalm 26: 1-3, 11-12 (New Revised Standard Version)

On my pilgrimage, I joined the spiritual community that has walked the camino route to Santiago de Compostela in Spain since the 9th century. According to Phil Cousineau in *The Art of Pilgrimage*, a pilgrimage is “a transformative journey to a sacred center” (p. xxiii) and is “a way to prove your faith and find answers to your deepest questions” (p. xvii). What are the deepest questions of your heart? I will share what mine were and how they were answered. What does it mean to “walk in our integrity”? What are the choices we must face and what “great congregation” do we discover when we risk to set out on the pilgrim's path? I will joyfully share the lessons with which I was blessed and the challenges of living into transformations.

Pilgrimage to Israel ~ Nan Weir

Pilgrimage is a combination of some of my great loves—travel, prayer, and retreat. There is something very special about being on retreat, with a praying community, in a holy place. My experience is that these places that have been prayed in for hundreds or even thousands of years are indeed “thin places”—places where the Divine presence is immediate.

The pilgrim often goes away in order to return more fully home. I never imagined that my exploration of sacred space this year would lead me to the Holy Land. Or that being on pilgrimage would lead me back home to a more spacious inner landscape.

In his book, *Sacred Places, Pilgrim Paths: An Anthology of Pilgrimage*, Martin Robinson writes “for most (pilgrims), the sense of treading ground made holy by past events is crucial...to sense in the numinous realm an atmosphere of awe and wonder...an immediate sense of the holy...The experience of the pilgrim in actually walking in the way of others enables them to become a participant in all that has happened. The pilgrim becomes one with all who have gone before.”

From the moment I arrived in Jerusalem, I could sense the prayers and suffering of the people of the Holy Land. As we walked the land and listened to the stories of the people we met, I was certain that I had been called to this particular time and place to be a pray-er in this holy land. While praying amongst the head covered women at the Western Wall, I heard the Muslim call to prayer. I imagined that we were all—Christians, Jews, and Muslims—praying to the same God, at the same time, for the same thing: peace.

Creativity, Compassion and Hope: The Seventh Annual Arti Gras! Celebration of Art and Spirit

Saturday, February 17, 2007, 9:30am-3:30pm (registration begins at 9am), First Community Church, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus
FREE ~ Donations gratefully accepted

The name began with a playful pun on “Mardi Gras” 7 years ago. We envisioned a day to revel in creativity and to discover the freedom of the creative life, the way Mardi Gras represents revelry and freedom—albeit of an entirely different sort. Arti Gras! Celebration of Art and Spirit launched from playfulness into a delightful event.

Be with us again or for first the time! This annual event has become a highlight of our program year offering opportunities for hands-on creative experiences. Facilitators of “mini workshops” will invite participants to explore color, texture, sound, movement, and word as way of connecting to greater compassion and hope for themselves and the world. All of this occurs in an environment where it is “safe” to play! Cecilia Evans and Charleyne LaCarbiere, from New Orleans, will be cooking up a Creole feast for our lunch. (Last year, Charleyne and her sister, Tracy Bolds cooked some of the best gumbo, jambalaya, and etouffee we’ve ever had.) And to top it all off, Arnett Howard will be on hand to share his spirituality of music.

We will again offer the silent auction of original creative works. If you would like to donate an original work of art, please contact Pat Gibboney: 614/228-8867.

In addition, a portion of all donations will be shared with Women to Women Listening Circle. Women to Women provides a safe space for women to share their stories, discover wisdom and support as they move to break cycles of poverty, homelessness, and violence. The donations we receive will be shared with these women to provide a spiritual retreat later in the spring.

Further Exploration of the Sacred Feminine Discussion Group

Second Tuesday of each month, beginning February 13, 2007, 2-4pm, at the Spirituality Network. Free will donations gratefully accepted. All are welcome. Please call the Spirituality Network for more information or to register: 228-8867.

Our cultural heritage gives us images of the divine that are overwhelmingly masculine. How do women recognize and claim that they too, are created in God’s image? We will use art, creativity, story sharing, reflection, and discussion to provide opportunities to delve more deeply into the theme of the Sacred Feminine.

Men’s Spirituality Event

Saturday, March 24, 2007, 9am-2pm, location to be announced. Featuring Dr. Terry Davis, MD, cardio-thoracic surgeon at Columbus Children’s Hospital; active member of First Community Church; licensed pilot and grandfather.

Terry recognizes that his expression of spirituality and faith is quite different from his wife’s practices. Barbara Davis is a spiritual director whose 30-day silent retreats and body prayer are completely foreign to Terry. He will share his story and invite other men to discover and claim their own unique expressions of faith.

The Spirituality Network’s 20th Anniversary Celebration

Friday May 18, 2007, 6:30-9:30pm, featuring Edwina Gateley and the music of Arnett Howard
Saturday, May 19, 9:30am-3:30pm, a retreat day with Edwina

Edwina Gateley is dedicated to following God’s call in her life. To date this has led her to ministering in Africa, sojourning into the Sahara Desert and the wilderness to pray, founding the Volunteer Missionary Movement, befriending and ministering to the prostitutes and street people of Chicago, “God’s little ones,” and preaching the Good News: God is With Us. Edwina is a poet, theologian, artist, writer, lay minister, and modern-day mystic and prophet. She currently ministers to prostitutes and street people in Chicago through retreats and outreach. Edwina gives talks, conferences and retreats in the USA, Canada, Britain, and Ireland.

She was our keynote speaker at one of the first community dinners the Spirituality Network held in the mid-90s. We are delighted to have her with us again to celebrate 20 years of the Network!

See page 10 for books by Edwina Gateley.

February 13, 2007: The Women of Africa presented by Sr. Maxine Shonk, O.P. Sr. Maxine will share photos of women from her journey through Africa, allowing the photos to “tell their stories” and invite participants to connect to their own unique stories.

Future dates: March 13, April 10, and May 8. Subjects and locations to be announced

(See *The Divine Feminine* music recommendation on page 10.)

Patricia J. Gibboney, CFRE

Spirituality Network Board of Directors

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Maxine Shonk, OP
St. Mary of the Springs

Ex-officio:
Loretta Farmer
Spiritual Director to the Board

The Spirituality Network is celebrating its 20th Anniversary! During the past 20 years, this organization has been about people—dedicated, hard working, enthusiastic individuals committed to a Mission designed by the founding members. Individuals who were willing to share their gifts, knowledge, interests, and wisdom in order to enrich the life of the organization have supported the successes and the challenges of the past 20 years. Without them, The Spirituality Network would not have reached this milestone.

As we move forward toward the next 20 years, The Spirituality Network will still be about people—those who are looking for resources as they embark upon their spirituality journey as well as those who will provide those resources as companions, program and retreat facilitators, spiritual directors, event coordinators, and the numerous volunteers. Every individual contributes, in some unique way, to the success of The Spirituality Network. We cannot do it without you. Please join us as we step into the future.

Lenten Journal 2007

Available in January

Our annual ecumenical journal for the Lenten journey features daily readings for Lent with reflections and space to write your own journal response. The book is spiral bound to lie flat and foster the journaling practice.

Daily reflections written by Central Ohio parishioners, pastors, spiritual directors, and religious and lay leaders representing many denominations.

Ideal for the entire congregation, Lenten study groups, women's circles, support groups, prayer partners, and individual reflection.

\$4 per single copy; three copies for \$10; or \$2.50 each for quantities of 25 or more copies. Journals may be picked up at the Network office or mailed. If mailed, we will add a postage and handling charge. **PRE-ORDER NOW, QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED.**

Call the Spirituality Network to order: 614/228-8867 or write us at spiritnetwk@hotmail.com. We'll include an invoice with your order.

Wellstreams Workshop: Developing Spiritual Intelligence,

Saturday, December 2, 2006 9am-
3:30pm at Martin de Porres
Center. Registration fee: \$50.
Facilitated by John Savage.
Please preregister. Call for more
information: 614/228-8867.

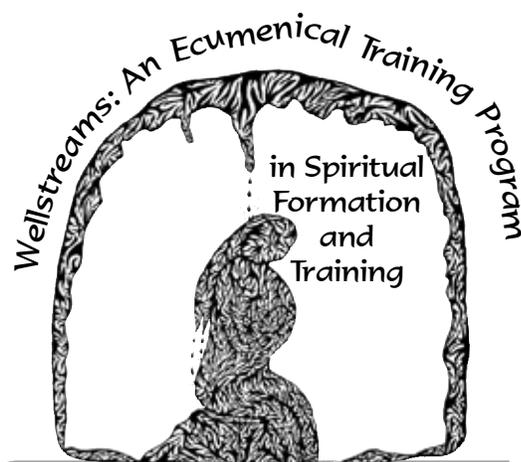
Artwork:
pp. 6, 7, 10 Sandra Torrijos/Isis International-Manila
pp. 5, Melvi Gelacio/Isis International-Manila

Wellstreams is about becoming real...the image of peeling an onion is common for the participants. We are encouraged to go deeper. With each layer I peel off, I move closer to the core of who I am, and being aware that God is inviting me to this special time of transformation. What a blessing it is that I am open and respond; it's all grace—and wonderfully freeing!

~ Sr. Linda Lewandowski, OSF

Wellstreams has been my weekly "oasis." Regardless of the way the rest of my life was going, I looked forward to class time because I knew I would be welcomed, accepted, and surrounded by love. Wellstreams was the place where the personal relationships with God and myself were nurtured and encouraged to grow.

~ Jacquelyn Dean



To borrow a great analogy, I liken myself to the seed that Jesus spoke of. The fertile soil for me has been Wellstreams. It provided the water, sunlight and warmth needed to blossom. Being surrounded by kindred spirits on the same journey supported my growth and allowed the roots to be established quite deep. The fruit? I'll keep you posted, but I know that I'll be in good company.

~ Carol Jones

The fifth class of Wellstreams is in their final semester, working with two outside directees, growing in their supervision groups and finishing up all their books and themes. Their final project will invite them into a time of reflection and enable them to integrate further their past experiences with their present experiences in Wellstreams as well as help them to reflect on the implications of the learnings and experiences of this 2½ years for the continuation of their journey and ministry. Some of the class are sharing short reflections at this time and more will follow in the next newsletter.

Our sixth class of 16 members began their journey in August, meeting about 4 times a month around two core courses, The Dynamics of Transformation and Trends in Christian Spirituality. They are adjusting to the process and discovering the importance and gift of having companions to accompany them as they begin the journey.

It is not too early to begin to think about applying for the 2008 class. The application process will open formally in September 2007. If you want information now or have questions, please do not hesitate to call the Wellstreams Office (228-8867).

Two years ago, I stepped out in faith on a journey with an uncertain destination. I didn't quite know where I was going or just how I was to get there. I had very few preconceived notions except that the journey would likely give me answers to questions of faith and insight to know how to live a spiritual life. Rather, much to my surprise, this remarkable journey has given me wonderings and noticings and unimaginable amazing grace. It has been an ongoing discovery of diverse and awesome places unseen before. It has yielded the unfolding of rough terrain to reveal sights both messy and beautiful and worth exploring. It has brought with it the passage of time to experience births and deaths, and resurrections. Mostly, it has opened an expanse of horizon presenting before it the awesome Mystery of where and how God dwells in all that is.

I have always been particularly fascinated with and fond of kaleidoscopes: their colors, shapes, hues, designs, changeability, interest, connections, angles, light, shadows, movement. The Wellstreams journey for me is like living inside a kaleidoscope.

~ Katherine Murphy

There are so many ways that Wellstreams has touched and continues touching my life. This experience has been life changing for me in so many ways. First and foremost, it means to me being at "home" weekly with persons whom I cherish as soul companions on this journey of life. We share in prayer, deep listening, supporting, guiding, questioning, breaking bread, practicing skills, discovering spiritual direction as an art, praying for crises and joys in our lives, and just being. The seeds of this experience sometimes grow and sometimes do not. It is always a "both-and"! The awakenings, aha images, prayer, giving, receiving, darkness, light, consolation, desolation, and discovery of places with myself have been gifts, all. The learning is difficult, challenging, sometimes confusing, wonderful, creative, bringing clarity and always pushing out the boundaries of me, of discovering more about my true essence, of my relationship with God, others, and myself. I wonder sometimes what to do with Wellstreams and definitely wonder what I will do without it! And I know that this experience will continue to be a true gift in my life. Thanks be.

~ Sue Ulmer

∴ complicit in creation

Ellen Fox, Artist ∴

We are made in God's image and God is The Creator. That says it all. Well, maybe it's not that easy, but it is that simple. We are creative beings who have been stifled and lied to about what it means to be artistic. I can't draw a straight line or draw anything that looks like anything else. For most of my life I believed the "lie" and stifled my creativity. Now, I reject that "lie." I have named myself Artist. I believe that God speaks to me through music, dance, paint, clay, words, and fabric, indeed, all of creation. That is my definition of "artist."

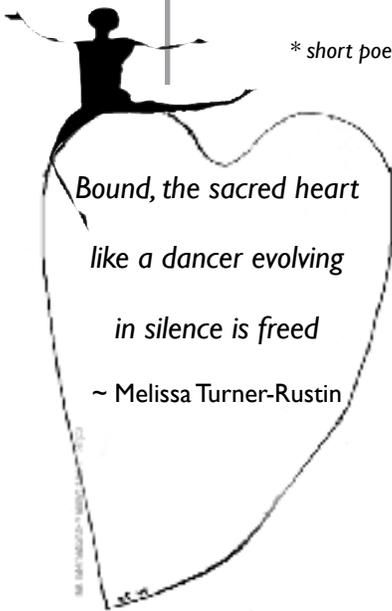
I was first introduced to the idea of art as prayer when I was a Wellstreams student. This idea was a seed planted. At first, I was caught up in comparing my work to others, particularly the work of a friend whose paintings were beautiful. I wanted mine to look like hers. It took a long time to begin to honor my own prayer with colors, shapes, and textures. The beauty and wisdom revealed was amazing when I didn't think or plan, but just asked God to speak to me. I discovered the importance of creating from my inner space, to trust the results, creating from my intuition rather than my logic. I believe we move toward healing the world when we create our piece of the whole.

As my creativity seed began to blossom, I was diagnosed with the "best kind of breast cancer." Turning to art helped me to feel both the fear of cancer and the celebration that it was the "best kind." I painted mandalas and wrote cinquains* to give images and words to my experience. This helped me to be present in my experience in a more contemplative way. Creating art helped me center.

I have become a "creative compulsive." It is not unlike being addicted to breathing. I took singing lessons as way to find my "voice," through clay sculpture I learned to accept my body in a deeper way; I joined a writing group and an Art N Spirit group where we explore "The Mystery" in community.

I still cannot draw a straight line nor paint anything you would recognize. Yet, I am a pilgrim to this land of dreams and symbols where God resides, and where ordinary words cannot express the depth. I have found a graceful way to connect with The Mystery. I have found a way to nurture this tender connection. I believe that God will speak to you through art if you will listen. Perhaps you would like to join me on the journey? We could meet at Arti Gras.

* short poems of five lines, usually unrhymed, made up of respectively, two, four, six, eight, and two syllables.



My Magnificat! :

Kathie Houchens

What angel is this?
You come to whisper surprising news—you're pregnant!
Once again, in God's perfect time
A seed is planted deep within.
It is the Spirit's gift of new life
To be nurtured,
attended,
awaited.
Eventually to be birthed
I am surrounded by many Elizabeths who understand, out of their own
expectancy.
This is special!

What new experiences will come?
I cannot anticipate, only participate!
As in physical pregnancies,
unique,
wondrous,
awe-filled.
I smile, even laugh.
The Sarah in me wonders at the timing, but believes in God's power.
This is, and will be.

What is my part, Lord?
I hear you say "My grace is sufficient."
Take each day,
each new step,
Every sensation of new life
amazed,
inspired,
confirmed
That Creator God continues to create,
And it is good!

Kathie Houchens is a Wellstreams student, musician, Spanish instructor at OSU, wife, mother, and grandmother.



Isis International-Manila/Sandra Torrijos

Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center

2734 Seminary Rd SE Newark, Ohio,
740/928-4246

Now offering facilities for private and directed retreats. Call Marguerite Chandler, OP, for further information.

Ohio Dominican University Center of Dominican Studies

Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall, 1216
Sunbury Rd, Columbus; 614/251-4722;
e-mail: colbyc@ohiodominican.edu

The Death Penalty: How Just Is Our System of Justice? featuring Sr. Helen Prejean, March 6, 2007. Sr. Helen Prejean is a Sister of St. Joseph, Medaille, Louisiana. Her book *Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States* was on the New York Times best seller list for 31 weeks. FREE. Please register in advance.

St. Thomas More Newman Center

64 W Lane Ave, Columbus, 291-4674

Why Are Catholics So into Sacramentality?
January 10, 7:30pm. Presenter: Fr. Rod Damico

The Catechism: Old and New. The Development of Doctrine, February 7, 7:30pm. Presenter: Jim Grove

Introduction to Centering Prayer, February 23, 7:30pm. Presenter: Fr. Vinny McKiernan

Church Mothers and Fathers: Saints Then and Now, February 28, 7:30pm. Presenter: Fr. M. Edmund Hussey

The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein

2365 St. Johns Rd., Maria Stein, Ohio; toll free 877/925-7625; spiritualcenterms@bright.net; http://www.spiritualcenter.net/.

Advent People, December 9, 9:30am-4pm: Mary and Elizabeth, Jesus and John speak to us in the scriptures. Fr. Stephen Fitzhenry, OP from Columbus will lead this Advent day of reflection. \$25 donation includes lunch and weekend liturgy.



Compassionate Communication Central Ohio

For all events, contact Tracy Wimberly or Andy Workum at ccco12@sbcglobal.net or 614/558-1141; www.nvcoho.org

What you say next... will change your world: Tools for Tough Conversations, January 30-31, 2007, Confluence Park Restaurant. A 2-day conference with Dr. Marshall Rosenberg, founder of the Nonviolent Communication Process.

First Community Church

Caring for Your Sacred Self, January 20, 2007, 9am-1:30pm, First Community Church, Grace Hall, 3777 Dublin Rd

Our fourth year for this event. This year's theme is "Sacred Images." Choose two of four 1-hour classes offered by some of our church members who have experience in presenting on this topic. Luncheon is included.

\$15 preregistration, \$20 at the door. Open to the public, men are welcome! Contact MaryEllen Hett, 614/488-0681 ext 226 for a brochure and registration form.

Spring 2007 Spiritual Searcher: Women in the World of Jesus: Foreign Women, Sinful Women, Healed Women, Friday evening March 9, all day Saturday, March 10, 2007. Presenter: Amy Jill-Levine, professor of New Testament Studies and Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender and Sexuality at Vanderbilt University. Details available soon. Call First Community Church, Office of Religious Life and Learning, 614/488-0681 ext 226.

Hosted indoor labyrinth walk for groups or individuals, 5-8pm (please start your walk no later than 30 minutes before closing): November 19-20, December 17-18, January 21-22, February 25-26, March 18-19 at North Campus, 3777 Dublin Rd.

A facilitated indoor labyrinth walk with a theme, followed by an opportunity for individual reflection and sharing in small groups, will be offered at 7pm on January 22 (Healing), February 26 (Drums and Bells; bring an instrument if you have one!), and March 19 (Trust Walk).

Check *firstnews* newsletter for changes or additions: www.fcchurch.com.

Jung Association of Central Ohio

Jung Haus, 59 W Third Ave, Columbus; 614/291-8050; JungACO@core.com; www.jungcentralohio.org

Living the Unlived Life, December 9, 9:30am-12:30pm (registration 9am). Presenter: Jerry M. Ruhl, Ph.D. Location: First Community Church, 1320 Cambridge Blvd. Members \$35-\$40, nonmembers \$40-\$50 (Reduced fee for registration by December 1).



This seminar explores the essential developmental task in the second half of life—rectifying the loss of abandoned dreams and unrealized potentials to achieve our ultimate life meaning and purpose. By exploring un-lived life we learn to rise above fears, regrets, and disappointments to embrace the full measure of our being. Well-grounded Jungian psychological concepts will be discussed as tools. Jerry M. Ruhl, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist in private practice near Dayton. He has studied spiritual practices in Japan, Bali, Thailand, Nepal, and India.

Martin de Porres Center

2330 Airport Drive, Columbus;
614/416-1910; martindeporres@
columbusdominicans.org; www.
columbusdominicans.org/mdp

Justice Video Series, Thursdays, 7pm, free.

January 25: Dying to Live and Strangers No Longer. Both films provide a

profound look at the human face of the immigration issue, exploring who immigrants are, why they leave their homes, and what they face on their journey.

February 22: Turtles Can Fly. Depicts young Iraqis waiting for the U.S. Army to roll over their village on the border of Turkey. (In Kurdish with subtitles)

March 11: Dead Man Walking. Recounts the journey of Sr. Helen Prejean (played by Susan Sarandon) with Louisiana death row inmate, Matthew Poncelet.

April 26: Turtle World and Kilowatt Ours. These films reflect immigrants' struggle for a more dignified life and the search to find God in the midst of that struggle. Both films are produced by The Center for Latino Spirituality and Culture at Notre Dame University.

Sacramental Waiting, December 16, 10am-4pm. This day will be spent praying/waiting in the spirit of our East

African brothers and sisters and in the spirit of our Old and New Testament ancestors. Suggested donation is \$15, includes lunch and snack.

The Passion of Jesus through the Eyes of Women, February 17, 10am-3pm. Suggested donation is \$20, includes lunch. Please register by February 12. Barbara Reid, OP, a Dominican Sister of Grand Rapids, MI, will explore the various interpretations of the death of Jesus found in the gospels and Paul's letters, especially for women. Barbara is Professor of New Testament at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Radical Amazement, March 17, 10am-3pm. Suggested donation is \$20, includes lunch. Please register by March 12. Join us in an exploration of the cosmos that evokes radical amazement and invites us into a contemplative awareness of the connectedness of all creation. Judy Cannato, M.Ed., M.A., is a spiritual director on the staff of River's Edge in Cleveland, Ohio.

Ongoing Groups

Spiritual Sharing Group

The Interfaith Association of Central Ohio (IACO) invites you to share concerns, exchange views, and build relationships on the first Wednesday of each month from noon-1pm, at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 S. Grant Ave., in the first floor conference room. For information contact Jeanne Marlowe, 476-8802; JAMarlowe@juno.com. IACO, an organization representing eight faith groups (Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islam, Jain, Jewish, and Sikh), offers a variety of meetings in other locations. To receive e-mail updates, contact IACO@iaco.org.

Centering Prayer Groups

Led by Fr. Vinny McKiernan, CSP, at the Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Avenue, Columbus, every Monday 7-7:45pm and every Tuesday 12:15-1pm. 291-4674; e-mail: vinnycsp@yahoo.com

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 30 W. Woodruff Ave., Columbus, on Friday mornings, 6:30-7:45am, for centering prayer and praying the Divine Office. Justin Lanier, 484-9055.

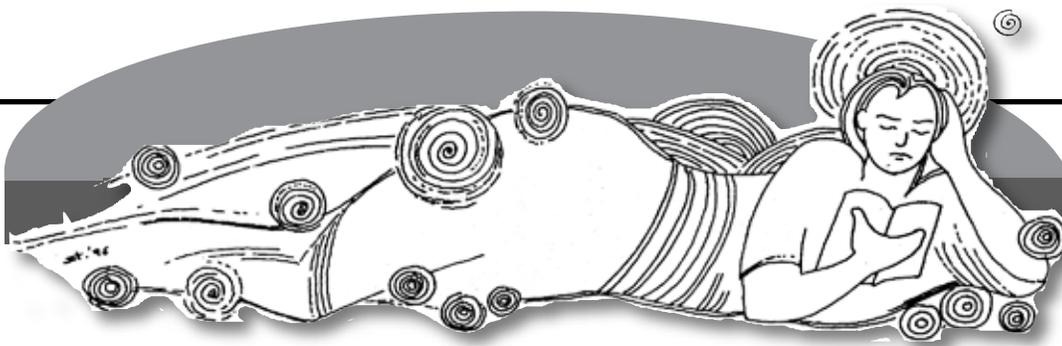
Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, every Thursday, 9:30-10:30am. 416-1910; www.columbusdominicans.org/mdp.

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

Second Wednesday of every month, 2-3pm. Books to be considered at this monthly gathering are selected by the group. Join us for lively conversation with others who share your love of reading! Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus; 416-1910; martindeporres@columbusdominicans.org; www.columbusdominicans.org/mdp

Blue Heron Sangha

Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, every Tuesday, 7:15-8:45pm. This is a mindfulness community in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh. For additional information, contact Sandy at scoen@columbus.rr.com.



Books (and music) for your spiritual life

Books by Edwina Gateley

A Mystical Heart (Crossroad Classic, 1998)

A Mystical Heart is a collection of 52 meditations, one for each week of the year. Gateley offers a mixture of her own prayers, poems and reflections as well as the words of mystics and prophets, along with suggestions to develop spiritual practices during the week.

Psalms of a Laywoman (Sheed and Ward, 2001)

Edwina Gateley has created a stirring set of psalms well suited for daily meditation and as a beautiful resource for leading group devotions. She opens her heart by sharing her own life and ministry, inviting readers to reflect on their own experience of "God With Us." From the editor's review: "With a poet's eye and a believer's heart, Gateley reveals the metaphysical in the practical, the mystical in the ordinary, and the divine in the human."

Growing into God (Sheed and Ward, 2000)

This collection of poetry leads readers to discover their own deep spiritual well within. Using themes of disillusionment, fear and despair moving to those of faith, joy and love, Gateley speaks directly to the spiritual hunger of our overburdened, chaotic modern world.

More Titles by Edwina Gateley

I Hear a Seed Growing: God of the Forest, God of the Streets (Source Books, 1990)

A Warm, Moist Salty God: Women Journeying towards Wisdom (Source Books, 1993)

There Was No Path So I Trod One (Source Books, 1996)

Soul Sisters: Women in Scripture Speak to Women Today, with Louis Glanzman (Orbis Books, 2002)

Christ in the Margins, with Robert Lentz (Orbis Books, 2003)

And for children (of all ages):

God Goes on Vacation (Source Books, 1994)

God Goes to Church (Source Books, 1999)

Forgotten Among the Lilies, by Ronald Rolheiser (Doubleday, 2005)

The author of *The Holy Longing* explores the debilitating obsessions that often dominate our lives and offers down-to-earth guidelines for learning to leave our fears anxieties, and guilt "forgotten among the lilies."

Recommended by Sr. Marialein Anzenberger, O.P.

The Divine Feminine: A Musical Meditation on the Mystery and Spirit of Woman by various artists (Telarc Recording, 2006)

This compilation of choral, chamber and operatic pieces includes a wide variety of composers, including Hildegard von Bingen, Bruckner, Berlioz, Hovhanness, Holst, Orff, Pärt, Prokofiev, and Tavener, among others. Beautiful and meditative, this CD offers a selection of traditional classical works that celebrate the divine feminine.

Recommended by Amanda Stone Cushing, Spirituality Network Program Coordinator

Sacred Ground by Sweet Honey in the Rock (Earthbeat Recording, 1995)

This CD features the powerfully moving "Would You Harbor Me?", the hopeful "Prayer to the One," the traditional "Balm in Gilead" and the joyful "We Are." Anything I have heard from these remarkable women has been inspiring, with this collection being my favorite and most uplifting. I often use this CD as a resource for prayer gatherings.

Recommended by Amanda Stone Cushing, Spirituality Network Program Coordinator

Help the Network When You Buy

For the purchase of any books, music, or gifts, visit our website, www.spiritualitynetwork.org and use our link to Amazon.com. The Spirituality Network will receive a donation of a portion of your purchase price. Visit today!

Grail, Circles, and the Sacred Feminine: A Healing Story for Psyche and Planet

On Saturday, October 14, 2006, Dr. Jean Shinoda Bolen joined a group of approximately 70 women to explore the Sacred Feminine and women's unique sources of wisdom. Dr. Bolen, clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco and Jungian analyst, shared stories and insight that encouraged the participants to tap into these inner sources of wisdom. In the workshop, she explored the symbols and archetypes of the wounded Fisher King, the healing Grail, and the three phases of goddess: woman as maiden, mother, and crone. According to Dr. Bolen, "We can be affected by a story as much as we can be by a dream, if its symbols and events have a certain mystery and power for us that in turn evoke our own memories and thoughts." (*Crossing to Avalon*, p. 127). When we become cut off from sources of meaning, without a connection to the sacred feminine, the inner landscape becomes a wasteland.

Stories such as the Grail give us alternate ways to look at wastelands, woundedness, and how healing might occur (through asking Whom does the Grail serve? or Who is in need of healing? rather than staying silent). In the legend, the Fisher King is wounded and in a wasteland since he is cut off from "the spiritual communion vessel." Dr. Bolen extends the traditional telling of

the story by exploring the role of the woman who carries the Grail, who has never been separated from it, and her capacity for healing.

We were given further opportunity to explore the symbols and stories with which we resonant through guided meditation. Dr. Bolen led us into our own images of healing, wisdom, and sense of pilgrimage. From the sacredness of the silence afterwards, it held meaning for the many women present. Finally, we joined each other in sacred circles where we were invited to give voice to our deepest concerns and joys. With the support of the circles, we were encouraged to consider any action arising from those heart stirrings.

Dr. Bolen is the author of many books, including *Urgent Message from Mother: Gather the Women and Save the World*, *Crossing to Avalon*, *Crones Don't Whine*, *Goddesses in Everywoman*, and *Gods in Everyman*. Individuals interested in specifically exploring the deep wisdom found in sacred circles can do so by reading *The Millionth Circle*. Also unique to this workshop was the wonderful partnership between The Spirituality Network, The Women's Place at The Ohio State University, and First Community Church. Each group brought unique resources and strengths to the day, which allowed this event to be possible and deeply meaningful.

Linda Schoen, *Spiritual Companion*



Wish List

First-class stamps (39¢ stamps)
Office furniture
Hospitality supplies (coffee, tea, etc.)
Sturdy folding table
Mailing/address labels for laser printer (1" x 2 5/8")

(If you feel called to provide any of the above, please phone us to arrange delivery. THANKS!)

Interested in Wisdom Circles?

The Spirituality Network is open to helping women form Women's Wisdom Circles, which would meet on a monthly basis. Learn more about wisdom circles at an information meeting, *Tuesday, December 5, 7-8:30pm* at the Spirituality Network. Please RSVP to Amanda Stone Cushing at spiritnetwk@hotmail.com.

To receive updates on Network and Community events via e-mail, write to us at spiritnetwk@hotmail.com (subject line: "updates list").

The Spirituality Network
444 E Broad St
Columbus OH 43215

The Spirituality Network is a 501(c)3 nonprofit ecumenical organization founded by Christians of the contemplative tradition.

Beginning in 1986, the Spirituality Network was envisioned as an interfaith outreach to address the "thirst for the God of Life." Though the Network was founded and has been sustained primarily by individuals from the wide spectrum of Christian faith, our aspiration is to be a community of acceptance and inclusion.

It is therefore, our vision that:

The Spirituality Network will be an inclusive resource for individuals and groups in Central Ohio who share a desire for spiritual growth and for helping others on their spiritual paths. Through a rich and diverse network of resources, we seek to provide a lasting sense of hope, peace, and purpose for our community.

Our programs include:

- Wellstreams Ecumenical Program of Spiritual Formation and Training
- Spiritual Direction Referrals
- Retreat Planning and Facilitation
- Continuing Education for Spiritual Directors and those in companioning ministry
- Women to Women Listening Ministry

Don't Keep It a Secret!

We are often referred to as "the best kept secret in Columbus." As a friend of the Network, you know that this is the kind of secret you don't want to keep. We all see the growing thirst for spiritual exploration and growth, but most people don't realize the wealth of offerings available right here.

You can help spread the word about the Spirituality Network by inviting us to introduce some of our resources to your church, group, or organization. Spiritual Direction, contemplative prayer, spiritual practices, retreat and small group leadership are just a few of the ways we might assist your community.

Call Amanda Stone Cushing for more information: 614/228-8867.