

Spirituality Network Newsletter

connecting people with resources for spiritual growth

Fall
2006

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.

For Women on Their Spiritual Journey: Two exciting events with Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D.

Grail, Circles, and the Sacred Feminine: A Healing Story for Psyche and Planet. Women's Circles Workshop with Dr. Jean Shinoda Bolen

Saturday, October 14, 9:30am-4pm, First Community Church, South Campus, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus. Cost: \$50, including lunch

Co-sponsored by The Women's Place at The Ohio State University, First Community Church, and The Spirituality Network:

In her many publications and books, Jungian analyst, Jean Shinoda Bolen introduces us to the concept that we all carry within us many archetypes or symbolic energy complexes. These mythical complexes connect us to universal challenges that all humans must address during their life journeys. Through stories of Goddesses of the past, we can discover what challenges they faced and how they dealt with these issues. One of the most profoundly significant archetypes of our time is that of the Sacred Feminine, associated with these stories of old. We can recognize that we each carry within us the resources of this Sacred Feminine in our own decision-making and challenges. Through exploration of the power of sharing together in supportive circles that women do so well together, we can deepen appreciation for the universality of our journeys. We can also begin to experience the power of collaborative sharing and how this can actively contribute to the healing of our planet.

*Space is limited: priority registration deadline is September 15, 2006
Registration form on page 11*

Urgent Message from Mother Earth: Gather the Women and Save the World, October 13, 7pm, in 131 Hitchcock Hall, 2070 Neil Ave, The Ohio State University campus

This free lecture sponsored by The Women's Place at Ohio State addresses the power of women gathered in intentional healing circles. For more information, contact womensplace@osu.edu. Public parking is available at the Tuttle Ave. Parking Garage (near Ohio Stadium). Tuttle Ave. can be accessed from Lane Ave. between High St. and Olentangy Rd. From Lane turn south on Tuttle. The parking garage is after the second traffic light. Hitchcock Hall is adjacent to and east of the parking garage.

For more information about Bolen, see <http://www.jeanshodabolen.com/>

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Spirituality Network Events



Share in one of the “best-kept secrets” in Columbus since 1986. Invite a friend to—

Taste and See ...What The Spirituality Network has to offer

Thursday, September 21, 2005, 6:30-8:30pm, First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad St, Columbus

Many people today express a longing for more depth in their spiritual lives, yet do not know what is available to meet that longing. Join us for refreshments and learn what resources are available to help you explore your spirituality:

- Spiritual Direction
- Retreat Planning and Facilitation
- Community Events
- Speakers for your group, church, or organization
- The Wellstreams Ecumenical Training Program in Spiritual Formation

Book Signing: *A Week to Pray About It*, by Judy Johnson, M.T.S. (Cowley, 2006)

We are also very pleased to have author Judy Johnson with us to read from her newly published book: “A Week to Pray About It.” She will speak about the ways she found encouragement and support for her writing from The Spirituality Network. See Judy’s reflection on page 7.

Join us for refreshment for your body as well as your soul. Please RSVP: call 614/228-8867 or e-mail spiritnetwk@hotmail.com

We would love to come to your church, group or organization to introduce our resources. Call Amanda Stone Cushing to learn more: 614/228-8867

Preregistration is strongly encouraged. Please preregister for these Spirituality Network programs by calling 614/228-8867 or e-mailing spiritnetwk@hotmail.com

CURRENTS Continuing Education and Professional Enrichment Series presents:

New Possibilities: A Spiritual Approach to Retirement

Saturday, November 11, 2006, 8:45am-12noon, First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad St, Columbus

Registration: \$35 if PREPAID before November 6; \$50 after November 6

Retirement can be a rich time providing new awareness and understanding of yourself and others. The traditional idea of retirement has evolved dramatically over the past two or three generations, opening up many unexpected possibilities for us today. This workshop includes informal lecture, discussion, and individual reflection to help participants make meaningful choices as they navigate this new territory.

Whether you are already retired or beginning to think about the prospect in coming years, join us to explore this important topic.

Presenters:

Dr. Bob Gaffey, PhD, earned his doctorate in psychology at the Ohio State University. He has worked in various settings as an instructor in psychology, as director of psychological services at a public mental health agency, as a psychologist at Children’s Psychiatric Hospital, in private practice and as a consultant and trainer. His current interests are in retirement issues, in men’s spirituality and in responding to the voice of the Spirit in vocation.

Sr. Marialein Anzenberger, OP earned a master’s degree in Pastoral Counseling from Iona College, NY, and a master’s degree from Hunter College, NY. She has worked as a marriage counselor in addition to working with the Diocesan marriage tribunal for those seeking an annulment from marriage. Her current interest is in applying both spirituality and healthy living after retirement.

The CURRENTS Series offers continuing education and professional enrichment opportunities for those in companioning professions. These offerings are particularly suited for spiritual directors, chaplains, Stephen Ministers, clergy and lay leaders and anyone who wishes to deepen their spiritual life. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Network Events

Join the Spirituality Network in hosting our friends from Compassionate Communications—Central Ohio as they present the well-proven NVCsm model developed by Dr. Marshall Rosenberg, PhD in these two programs.

Connecting with Compassion: An Orientation to Nonviolent Communicationsm

Thursday, October 5, 2006, 7pm-8:30pm, First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad St, Columbus.
FREE—All Are Welcome

You will be introduced to the history, development and use of this powerfully peaceful form of communication, which has been taught throughout the world, as well as an opportunity to experience it.

For more information or to register, contact Tracy Wimberly or Andy Workum at 614/558-1141 or ccco112@sbcglobal.net.

The mission of Compassionate Communication-Central Ohio is to promote peace, eliminate violence and work through conflict by systematically using NVCsm in Central Ohio and beyond. We envision a community where we live in peace and compassion for all..

Living in Peace, Connecting with Compassion: A Nonviolent Communicationsm Workshop

Friday, November 3, 2006, 7pm-9pm and Saturday, November 4, 2006, 9am-4pm. First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad St, Columbus. Cost: \$95 includes Saturday lunch

Join certified NVC trainer, Jeff Brown in an in-depth exploration of the Nonviolent Communication process. From the nvcoho.squarespace.com website:

“With its focus on human feelings and needs, the practice of NVC emphasizes emotional intelligence over intellectual analysis in expressing what’s going on in people. With its reliance on objective observations rather than evaluations NVC avoids making people defend themselves from value-laden judgments. And by employing clear requests in place of demands, NVC raises the bar for communication skills by allowing everyone to get their needs met on their own terms, without coercion, fear of retribution, or loss of self-esteem.”

For more information or to register, contact Tracy Wimberly or Andy Workum at 614/558-1141 or ccco112@sbcglobal.net.

Sacred Feminine

Finding the Sacred Feminine Discussion Group will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month, September through November. Each session includes presentation, reflection, and discussion. Please call 228-8867 to register so that we can plan accordingly for space, materials, and refreshments. Free will donations gratefully accepted.

September 12, 2006: Urgent Message from Mother, a look at the “wisdom” work of Jean Shinoda-Bolen. 2pm-4pm at the Spirituality Network Office. Facilitator: Barbara Davis. The book is available at the library and through our website’s link to Amazon.com (see p. 10).

October 10, 2006: Coming Home to Myself—Book Discussion. 1pm-4pm at the home of Marcia Morley, in Grove City. This special gathering will provide an opportunity to explore the unique ways each of us has found to “come home” to ourselves. Discussion will begin in response to the book *Coming Home to Myself* by Jill Mellick and Marion Woodman. Co-facilitated by Amanda Stone Cushing and our hostess, Marcia Morley. The book is available at the library and through our website’s link to Amazon.com (see p. 10).

PLEASE NOTE: This session is limited to a maximum of 16 people. PLEASE PREREGISTER.

November 14, 2006: Gratitude. 2pm-4pm at the Spirituality Network Office. A reflection and discussion on the power of gratitude. Prepare your heart as you prepare your hearth for the holiday of Thanksgiving. Facilitator: Bobbie Gill

Executive Director

Patricia J. Gibboney, CFRE

a message from the

The Spirituality Network's ministry began 20 years ago and the dream of success continues! Through the years the organization has been enriched by the individuals who have sought out the resources for their spiritual journeys. We have been blessed by those who have benefitted from the Wellstreams Training Program and in turn, have chosen to minister and share their learnings with others. We are truly grateful for our benefactors, those individuals, groups and organizations that have gifted us with their time, talents and treasures. We would not be here without you!

During the past 20 years we have received many testimonials from those whose lives have been changed or influenced by The Spirituality Network. It makes us realize how important it is to encourage one another as we work together to fulfill the Network's mission.

As we develop programs, workshops and gatherings in the upcoming months, a sense of celebration will be incorporated. We encourage you to participate as often as possible, and to recommend The Spirituality Network to friends, colleagues, and family. We are also interested in your feedback and comments as we step forward into the next 20 years.

Spirituality Network Board of Directors

Barbara Davis, Chairperson
Spiritual Director

Dr. Brad Binau
Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Linda Bryant

Tom Carlisi
Winners League Foundation

Donita Roberts Harris
Spiritual Director, Circle of Hope

Jeanne Marlowe

Wayne Rapp
Rapp Productions

Sharon Reed
Ohio Dominican University

Alex Rodriguez
Nationwide Insurance

Dan Schleppe
Spiritual Director

Maxine Shonk, OP
St. Mary of the Springs

Ex-officio:
Loretta Farmer
Spiritual Director to the Board

Welcome New Board Members

At the Annual Meeting on June 28, five new Board members were selected to serve a three year term. Welcome to Linda Bryant, Wayne Rapp, Sharon Reed, Alex Rodriguez, and Sister Maxine Shone, OP. They join Brad Binau, Tom Carlisi, Donita Harris, Jeanne Marlowe, and Dan Schleppe as Trustees. Barb Davis will continue another terms as President and Loretta Farmer will serve at Spiritual Director to the Board. We are blessed by the dedication of these individuals.

In Memoriam

The passing of Mike Larkin on May 2, 2006 has left a deep void in The Spirituality Network family. Mike was a kind and gentle man who touched the lives of many. He first became involved with The Spirituality Network through his wife, Marilyn. He attended many of the Wellstreams classes with her and when Marilyn completed the program, Mike was award an "honorary certificate." Our sympathy and prayers are with Marilyn at this time.

The Wellstreams Ecumenical Training Program in Spiritual Formation and Development presents:

Family Systems

Saturday, October 14, 9am- 3:30pm, Martin de Porres Center, St. Mary of the Springs. PLEASE PREREGISTER by calling 228-8867. Cost: \$50; optional lunch, \$5; must be preregistered by October 4 to be included in the lunch count.

This day will include an interactive presentation on the basic elements of family systems, inviting participants to reflect personally and with others on what we have received from our forebears and how that might affect our own behavior in interpersonal relationships.

Michael Jupin is an Episcopal priest currently serving in West Virginia and also chairperson of Healthy Congregations, Inc., based at Trinity Lutheran Seminary. He continues the work on Family Systems begun by Peter Steinke and Edwin Friedman.

Developing Spiritual Intelligence

Saturday, December 2, 9am- 3:30pm, Martin de Porres Center, St. Mary of the Springs. PLEASE PREREGISTER by calling 228-8867. Cost: \$50; optional lunch, \$5; must be preregistered by November 22 to be included in the lunch count

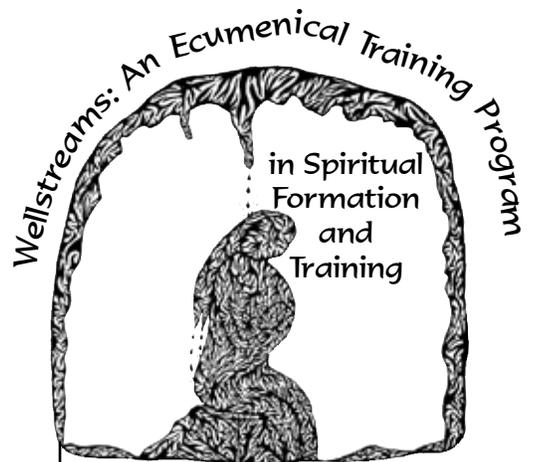
Dr. John Savage developed this workshop after completing his research in the area of spiritual intelligence and identifying seven spiritual characteristics. This training will help us develop strategies and skills in identifying and developing these characteristics and will be of interest to all who want to find greater meaning and purpose in their relationship with God.

Dr John Savage, D.Min, is an author, United Methodist Pastor (retired), trainer, psychotherapist and consultant. He has served as adjunct professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, Seabury Western Institute and other educational institutions.

Wellstreams 10th Anniversary Celebration

In January 1996 the first group of students gathered to begin their journey together in the Wellstreams Spiritual Direction Training Program. Since that group finished their coursework, three more classes have completed the five-semester program, with a fifth class nearing completion in January 2007.

During the earliest days of The Spirituality Network, there was talk about forming our own training program in Spiritual Formation and the Art of Spiritual Direction. In 1992 Sr. Carol Ann Spencer, O.P. headed a committee whose task was to explore the feasibility of such a program. Over the course of the next 3 years, as committee members began to recognize the wealth of local talent, the curriculum and faculty began to take shape and The Wellstreams Ecumenical Training Program gradually came into focus. During these past 10 years, 52 participants have



completed the training, with 18 more ready to finish up in January of 2007. The fifth class just began on August 25. Wellstreams has evolved to include a second "companioning" track and is now likely to add an optional sixth semester. This is quite an achievement to celebrate!

The 10th Anniversary Dinner on June 24, 2006 was an opportunity to reconnect with former classmates and to celebrate the ongoing success of the program. A raffle to benefit the scholarship fund featured items such as retreat packages, massage and reiki sessions, handcrafted jewelry as well as certificates for Network programs and services. In addition to the raffle, \$1,750 was given in honor of Carol Ann for the scholarship fund; she was also given a gift certificate to the Inn at Cedar Falls from participants, friends, and colleagues. A special commemorative pin was designed for the occasion and given to all who had completed the program.

We are deeply grateful to all who have journeyed with us over these past 10 years and look forward to many more!

Special Thanks to
The Anniversary Planning Committee:

Sr. Carol Ann Spencer, O.P.
Amanda Stone Cushing, class of 1998
Myra Stull, class of 2000
Sue Leitch, class of 2002
Melissa Turner-Rustin, class of 2004

those who know

Ellen Fox

Those who see God everywhere are those who know. Sometimes I am blind. Sometimes God breaks through powerfully. One of those times was the birth of my granddaughter Katie. I was honored when my daughter-in-law invited me to be with her during her labor. Toward the end of her labor she turned on her left side and asked me to rock her hips. I did and when the nurse came through she said, "Oh good, that's just what makes them decide to come." I had never thought of a baby deciding, but I basked in her kind words and continued. Sure enough Katie was born shortly.

After I got to know Katie, who is a feisty young lady, I imagined what that time might have been like for her.

I could picture her in the womb with her hands on Kelly's pelvic bones protesting. "Don't make me do this. I'm good where I am. You don't understand, I'm not like you. I don't breathe air. Please don't make me do this." And yet somehow the rocking enticed her to let go and let the strong waves of contractions move her along.

She emerged and after what must have been a frightening moment for her, she did breathe air. She did have what she needed for the next leg of her journey.

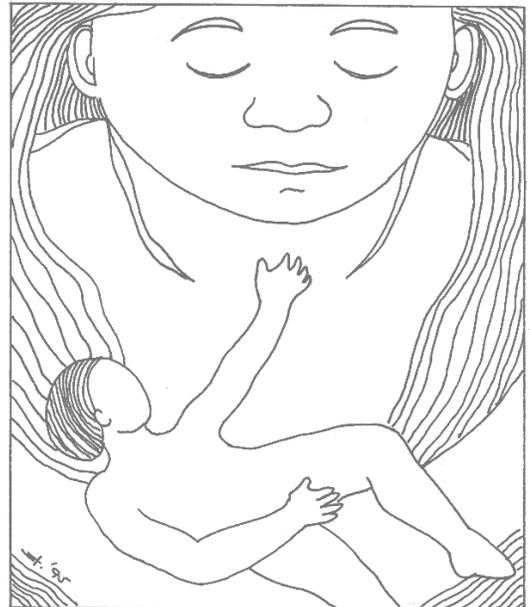
So do we all. I trust that my 96-year-old father did when he died a short time ago. Sometimes it is more difficult to trust during the less traumatic parts of our journey. It feels as if we really have a choice about whether or not to surrender to the waves that are moving us out of our current womb. But often we are no longer as comfortable as we pretend. We have grown too large for the space. The vessel which holds us is pouring us out and we hold on as if we have forgotten that The One who calls us home is trustworthy.

May we be rocked into birth.

May we rock one another.

May we choose to go where we are going.

Ellen Fox is a spiritual director, massage therapist, and artist.



Isis International/Mantla/Sandra Tomijos

Deer and Dreams

Judy A. Johnson

They saw me first, or more likely heard me; I was making a racket, picking my way over the trail's exposed tree roots and the rocks still muddy from the storm two days before. Being young deer and wild, they scrambled from the narrow river to safety on the opposite shore. When I finally looked up at the sound, expecting nothing more than squirrels, I saw two white rumps and raised tails.

Barely hidden by the trees, they stopped and stared. I didn't move, but bowed and cooed to them of their beauty; I tried to look deer-like—not an easy task, despite the extra “leg” of my stick. My stillness or cooing must have lulled them. After a few moments first one, then the other, took a few steps toward the bank. Slowly, turning several times to check on my deer lawn-statue imitation, they crossed further down the narrow, shallow river and went up the cliff.

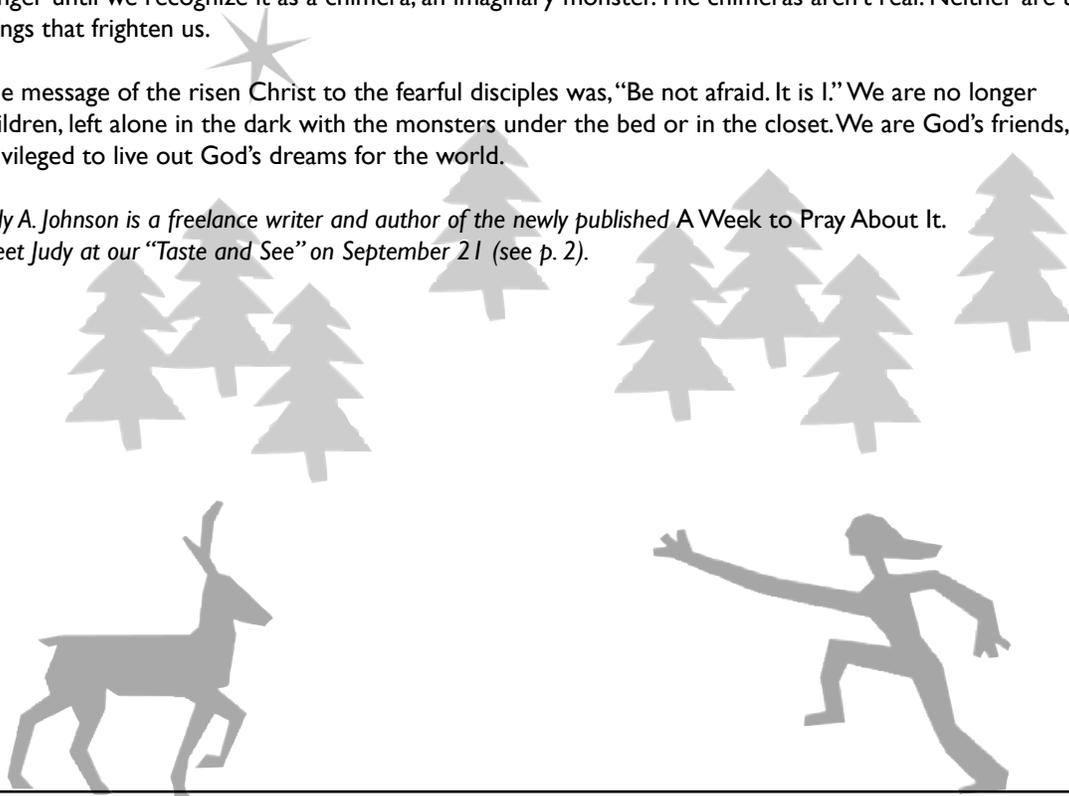
I walked the path along the river, marveling at the double gift I'd been granted: to have seen them at all, then to have them decide I wasn't danger enough to stop them from reaching their goal. And thus came a third gift—a lesson in persistence.

Some things are worth doing, even later, even poorly. The deer demonstrated that if I wanted to cross the river, I should do so, despite any cautious delays. “Dreams are like a bird that mocks, flirting the feathers of its tail” is a line from a poem I memorized decades ago. At midlife, I have seen many of my dreams come to fruition, after years of apparent feather-flirting mockery. These fulfillments scare me. A dream comes to pass, and who knows what might change? I'd learned to live without the dreams, even told myself they didn't matter, all those high-minded ideals of my college days, the deep longings of my thirties.

But if a goal is worth pursuing—even if we briefly lose sight of it—then it's worth our standing a while in the trees, assessing the apparent danger. We can wait on the bank for as long as necessary, regarding the danger until we recognize it as a chimera, an imaginary monster. The chimeras aren't real. Neither are the things that frighten us.

The message of the risen Christ to the fearful disciples was, “Be not afraid. It is I.” We are no longer children, left alone in the dark with the monsters under the bed or in the closet. We are God's friends, privileged to live out God's dreams for the world.

*Judy A. Johnson is a freelance writer and author of the newly published *A Week to Pray About It*. Meet Judy at our “Taste and See” on September 21 (see p. 2).*





Community Events

First Community Church

Global Warming: How Serious Is It? What Are Its Causes? What Can Be Done About It? November 12, 4:30 pm. Grace Hall, North Campus, 3777 Dublin Rd, Columbus. Presenter: Dr. Lonnie Thompson. Open to the public, no registration, no fee.

Fall 2006 Spiritual Searcher Lectures: Getting Outside the Christian Comfort Zone, Tuesdays, September 19-October 10 and Sunday, October 15, 7-8:30pm, \$10 per session or \$35 for all five sessions. Main Sanctuary, South Campus, 1320 Cambridge Blvd, Columbus.

Paul Alan Laughlin, PhD, professor of religion and philosophy at Otterbein College and author of *Getting Oriented: What Every Christian Should Know about the Eastern Religions But Probably Doesn't*, will present a 5-week lecture series, "Getting Oriented in India: The Many Paths of Hinduism." For information, MaryEllen Hett, 488-0681 ext. 226 or mhett@fcchurch.com.

Walking the Labyrinth, tentative indoor "winter" schedule: October 22-23, November 19-20, December 17-18, January 21-22, February 25-26, March 18-19 at North Campus, 3777 Dublin Rd. Check the website for changes or additions: www.fcchurch.com.

Martin de Porres Center

2330 Airport Drive, Columbus; 614/416-1910; martindeporres@columbusdominicans.org; www.columbusdominicans.org/whatwedo/outreach/deporres.htm

Inviting the Voice of the Soul, Tuesdays, August 29, September 26, October 31, November 28, 1:30-3:30pm

Join us as we invite the voice of our souls to speak to us through our own original artwork and poetry. Various

media will be used, and time will also be available for writing: August, collage-making; September, mandalas; October, masks; November, wreaths. Presenters Ellen Fox and Bobbi Gill are artists and spiritual directors. Attend any or all sessions. Suggested donation: \$15 for the series.

Dreamers and Doers: Making the Connections, September 30, 9:30am-4pm

This conference, inspired by the life and work of Marjorie Tuite, OP, and commemorating the 20th anniversary of her death, will address the issues of social justice, women, and empowerment in both local and global contexts. Register by September 20. Suggested donation: \$10, includes lunch.

Centering Prayer, October 21, 10am-12:30pm

Come and explore Centering Prayer, "the total disarmament of the heart." Input and facilitation by Fr. Vinny McKiernan, a Paulist priest on the staff of the St. Thomas More Neuman Center and a member of the Spirituality Network. Suggested donation: \$5.

Feast of Martin de Porres, November 5, reception 1-2pm; program 2-4pm

At the third annual celebration of the feast, Teresita Weind, currently serving in leadership for the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, will explore the message of Martin de Porres in her presentation, "You Are Not for Sale!" Preceded by a reception for Fr. Jim Hasse, SJ, whose awe-inspiring exhibit of paintings titled "Dark Grace" will be on display in the Center until December 6. Free and open to the public. Offered in partnership with Black Catholic Ministries of Columbus.

Healing The Planet One Song at a Time, concert November 17, 7-9pm; workshop November 18, 10am-3pm

A fun weekend with "Earth Mama," Joyce Johnson Rouse, explores the connections between our health and the well-being of our ecosystem.

Through music, movement, and the visual arts, we will celebrate the interconnectedness of all things and learn ways to promote sustainable living on the planet. Concert: \$10 adults; \$5 children under 12.

Suggested workshop donation: \$25, includes lunch. Please register by November 13.

Offered in partnership with Shepherd's Corner and the Office of Preaching, Justice, and Care of Creation.

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/>

Centering Prayer: The Prayer of the Heart, September 10, 10am-3pm, \$15 donation, includes lunch. RSVP by September 2

Centering Prayer very intentionally enables us to love the mystery of God and to very intentionally have faith that God loves us unconditionally. Join with Father Vincent McKiernan, CSP, for this day retreat.

Gospel Women: Models of Self Relationship and Church, September 23-25, Friday, 7pm-Sunday, 1pm. Donation: \$120 single, \$185 couple, \$60 commute. RSVP by September 16.

A contemplative weekend retreat spent with saintly women for scary times in our world, local culture, and Church. Listening and watching the women of the Gospels so as to see and hear images and words of encouragement and hope in the midst of contemporary difficulties, hardships, and challenges. Father Greg Comella is a member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Cincinnati Province.

The Spirituality of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, October 1, 10am-2:30pm. Donation: \$13, includes lunch. RSVP by September 23.

St. Thérèse's spirituality has transformed the Church's understanding of holiness. Her "little way" taught us that doing ordinary, everyday things with great love transforms us and the world around us. Presenter: Larry Reichley.

A Day with Julian, November 12, 10am-3pm. Donation: \$20, includes lunch. RSVP by November 4.

A time to become acquainted with the life and writings of Julian of Norwich and to reflect on her relevance to our own spirituality. The day will include a dramatic monologue based on her writings. Presenter: Reverend Vernagaye Sullivan, pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Waverly, Ohio.

Jung Association of Central Ohio

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

Bollingen Lecturer, Maureen Murdock, a depth psychotherapist in private practice in San Francisco and teaches at Sonoma State University, will give two presentations at First Community Church, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus:

Black Madonna as Portal to the Sacred Feminine: Lecture and Slide Presentation, October 6, 7-9pm,

The Heroine's Journey: Healing the Deep Wounding of the Feminine, October 7, 9:30am-3:30pm,

2nd Saturdays Coffee and Conversation at Jung Haus. Each month a different topic. FREE. Call for more information.

Haus-Full-of-Books Sale to benefit the Jung Association. Books, CDs, and tapes donated by book lovers on Spirituality, Psychology, Cooking, Literature, Fiction, etc. September 17, 1-5pm, at Jung Haus.

St. Francis Spirituality Center

200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin; 419/443-1485; retreats@stfrancisspiritualitycenter.org; www.stfrancisspiritualitycenter.org

Mini Franciscan Retreat, September 16-17 (5:30pm Saturday-5:30pm Sunday). Presenters: Sisters Leanne Kerschner, Geraldine Nowak, Paulette Schroeder. \$25

Pray with Francis and Clare, explore their values and way of life, and see how Franciscan communities in Ohio try to live their Gospel values today.

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center

1250 Tiffin St., Fremont; 419/332-6522; e-mail: olprc@ezworks.net; www.pinesretreat.org

Desert Day Retreat: The Colors of Your Life, September 19, 9am-3pm, \$20. Led by Marianne Longo, RSM.

Reiki Circle, September 20, October 8, 7-9pm, \$5. Sharing time for Reiki practitioners.

Gift of the Harvest Years, September 27, 9:30am-2:30pm, \$15. Sister Paulette Schroeder, OSF presents a day of reflection and prayer, and relaxing yoga practices for those living their retirement years.

Reiki III, October 8-11, \$850. Breta Gorman, RSM teaches the art of Reiki in this 4-day workshop for practitioners who have completed Reiki I and Reiki II courses. CEUs available for nurses. Class begins at 1pm October 8, concluding Wednesday, October 11 at 2pm.

Desert Day Retreat: The Sacrament of Letting Go, October 17, 9am-3pm, \$20. Led by Wanda Smith, RSM.

Toast the Trees, October 18, 5:30-8:30pm., \$35/couple. Fr. Lou Papes from Lakewood, Ohio, will again lead this evening for couples. The evening begins at 5:30 with appetizers, with dessert following the presentation.

Reiki I, October 19, 8am-8pm, \$225 (includes manual). Sister Breta Gorman leads this all day workshop for those with a desire to learn the holy art of Reiki. CEUs available for nurses at an extra cost.

Fall Women's Retreat Weekend, October 27-29, \$125. A weekend retreat for women to celebrate their giftedness, and share their spiritual journey, led by Wanda Smith, RSM and the Spirituality Team.

Desert Day Retreat: The Courage to Listen, November 7, 9am-3pm, \$20. Led by Breta Gorman, RSM.

St. Thomas More Newman Center

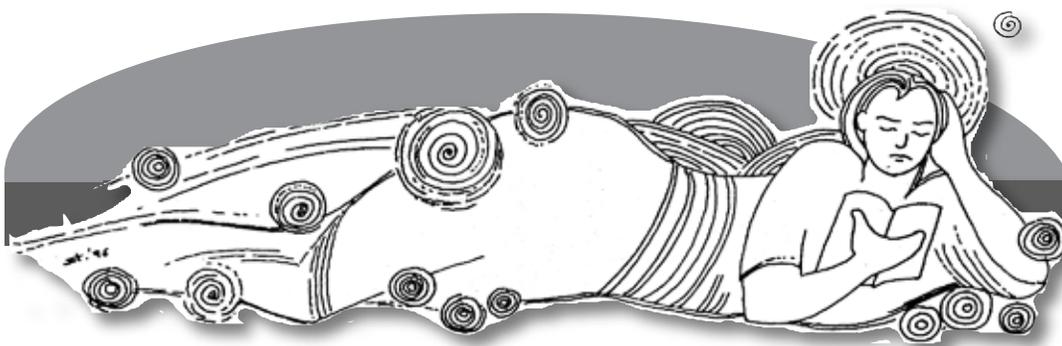
64 W Lane Ave, Columbus, 291-4674

The Bible: How to Read It and How to Understand It, September 27, 7:30pm. Presenter: Mary Koors, MA from Pontifical College Josephinum with a concentration in Scripture, adjunct instructor in scripture at Ohio Dominican University

Jesus Was a Storyteller: How Do the Parables Speak to Us Today? October 25, 7:30pm. Presenter: Karen M Gagel, MA from Pontifical College Josephinum with a concentration in Scripture, has taught a class at Columbus State called "Bad Girls in the Bible."

Shamanism Training for Women, a 1-year program of deep healing and service, meeting once a month (Saturdays, 9am-3pm), begins September 9. For more information: www.deborahling.com

Casa Uno Advanced Consciousness Training, 2-year distance learning program for experienced Spiritual Directors and other spiritual leaders, begins May 2007. Co-facilitated by Deborah Ling and Diana McKendree, experienced international retreat leaders. For more information: www.deborahling.com



Books (and music) for your spiritual life

Where God Was Born: A Journey by Land to the Roots of Religion by Bruce Feiler (William Morrow, 2005). Available from Amazon.com; see below.

Where God Was Born is a treasure of knowledge about the Middle East, Biblical history, and religious/cultural development in the context of both ancient and modern times. At a time in history when the Holy Land is besieged with violence, this new book invites greater understanding between religious traditions. Feiler presents a blend of travelogue, history, Bible commentary, memoir, current events and passionate preaching. Expanding his ideas presented in his earlier book, *Abraham* (2002), he asserts that the moral essence of the Bible is beyond nationalism, politics, or land. Feiler travels through Israel, Iraq, and Iran all in the midst of war and chaotic unrest, visiting ancient religious sites looking for clues as to what they might teach us about the future of relations between people of different religions.

Recommended by Amanda Stone Cushing, Spirituality Network Program Coordinator

Friends, Original Piano Music by Phyllis Cole-Dai

This professionally recorded and produced CD provides nearly an hour of music from the heart, dedicated to friends who have shared the joy of music and music making with composer and pianist, Phyllis Cole-Dai. She is donating a portion of proceeds from the sale of every "Friends" CD to urgent humanitarian relief efforts in Darfur, Sudan. She invites us to reach out to Darfur by making a purchase.

To order your copy of "Friends" please send a check or money order for \$17 (includes shipping) to Phyllis Cole-Dai, 712 6th St, Brookings, SD 57006. You may also e-mail Phyllis at coledai@brookings.net for additional information.

Many of you may have met Phyllis at our first *Arti Gras* in 2001, or perhaps heard her speak at various churches in the area about her experience of living on the street during Lent of 1998. Her book, *The Emptiness of our Hands*, with photos by James Murray, chronicles this extraordinary experience. The book is also available through the author at the above address.

Recommended by Amanda Stone Cushing

Crossing the Unknown Sea: Work as a Pilgrimage of Identity by David Whyte (Riverhead Books, 2001). Available from Amazon.com; see below.

"Has anybody here seen David?" Overbusy and overstressed, one day David Whyte inadvertently asked a roomful of colleagues this question about himself. This epiphanic loss of identity propelled him across an unknown sea: Quitting his job, he dedicated himself full time to writing poetry. As he chronicles his personal pilgrimage in this book, Whyte explores the voyage of discovery that is the pursuit of God's unique call to each of us. He contrasts this with the damage we do to our souls by being disengaged from our daily toil. What to bring on such a journey? According to Whyte, the necessities are wholeheartedness, passion, courage, and an aroused heart or spirit. And the reward? "To have a firm persuasion in our work—to feel that what we do is right for ourselves and good for the world at exactly the same time—is one of the great triumphs of human existence." Recommended for anyone who wants to face Monday morning with a blessing, not a curse.

Recommended by Sandra Kerka, Spirituality Network newsletter editor

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!

Registration Form
Grail, Circles, and the Sacred Feminine: A Healing Story for Psyche and Planet
Women's Circles Workshop with Dr. Jean Shinoda Bolen

Space is limited: priority registration deadline is September 15, 2006

For more information: womenspace@osu.edu

Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Lunch will be provided, please indicate preference: Vegetarian Nonvegetarian

\$50, checks only, made out to The Ohio State University

Mail check and registration form to:

The Women's Place,
The Ohio State University
400 Stillman Hall
1947 College Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210

Organizational affiliation: The Spirituality Network

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.

International Women's Writing Guild

The Central Ohio Region welcomes all to its free monthly gatherings. Practice writing, critiquing, and public reading in a supportive, multicultural dialogue circle. To receive e-mail updates, contact JAMarlowe@juno.com; see www.IWWG.org.

September 9, 10am-3pm, Columbus Public Library, 96 S. Grant Ave, conference room I

October 7, 10am-12pm, Worthington Public Library, 820 N. High St. Worthington

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. 614/291-4674; e-mail: vinnycsp@yahoo.com

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

Second Wednesday of every month, 2-3:15pm. This monthly book club is facilitated by Marialein Anzenberger, OP, and Colleen Gallagher, OP. 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; 614/416-1910; martindeporres@columbusdominicans.org; www.columbusdominicans.org/whatwedo/outreach/deporres.htm

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

Wish List

Rolls of first-class stamps (39¢ stamps)

Coffee (regular and decaf)

Hospitality supplies

Paper shredder

Standard file folders

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

Artwork:

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