

OIIM
Open International
Interfaith Ministry
News and Events

Spring Summer
2011
Issue 24:3

Connecting the Interfaith Movement

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OIIM-NTI University Seminars:

OIIM workshops, courses and programs are based on research. These articles summarize the research by our sanctioned Lay & Ordained Ministers, Registered Spiritual Practitioners, NTI Students and Instructors.

Chapters' News and Calendar of Events:



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Welcome to www.interfaithconnections.org

OIIM Ministerial Team

We welcome all members and visitors to the Interfaith Ministry. Our ministers, trained through our seminary program, The iNtuitive Times Institute (NTI) qualify: to carry internationally recognized clergy cards through the International Council of Community Churches, (ICCC) a member of the World Council of Churches; and as licensed Naturotherapists through the Canadian Association of Naturotherapists and Naturopaths (ANN). We hope you enjoy our publication and invite you to attend any of our events and celebrations.

OIIM has specialized in the Spiritual Arts for over 25 years. OIIM's motto is:

*"The paths are many, the truth is one
~ Love thy neighbour."*

OIIM has two missions:

- 1 *to be a bridge amongst the many different religious and spiritual paths; and*
- 2 *to validate mystical experiences in a reverent and respectful context.*

Many of our congregants embrace the Interfaith Path as their spiritual path and others enjoy our services and workshops as a support to their own faith path. OIIM's approach is inclusive, celebrating the spiritual, uplifting and joy-filled aspects of all traditions and diverse approaches.

When we look at the beautiful, diverse world that God has created for us to live in, it is clear to us that God is a God of Diversity. There is not just one type of tree, or one type of bird, or one type of flower, or one type of person. The world is populated with a multitude of forms including trees, birds, flowers and people in all shapes, sizes and colour. This diversity makes the world more beautiful.



OIIM Ministerial Team:

(back row L-R) Ellen Hicks, BSc, Med, CCC, NTI Professor of Counselling; Margaret Flood, *Rev. Barry King, OM, PhD(TC), RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Medium; *Rev. Sandi King, OM, PhD(TC), RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Counsellor; Debra Lynn Sinclair, CASC, LM; - *Senior & founding ministers.

(front row) Nancy Mercier, CASC, LM.

(absent) Rev. Susan Eaton, CASC, OM, RSPd, Master Spiritual Director.

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WEB- SITES

OIIM: www.interfaithministry.com

NTI (Seminary): www.intuitivetimes.ca

Weddings: www.weddingsonpei.ca

🌐 NTI Graduates from all five programs are eligible to be covered through most clients' extended health care plans as Naturotherapist through the *Association for Naturotherapists and Naturopaths (ANN)* in Canada.

🌐 OIIM Ordained Ministers are automatically accepted into the *International Council of Community Churches (ICCC)* with International recognition as clergy.

🌐 OIIM Lay and Ordained Ministers and Spiritual Practitioners adhere to the *International Code of Ethics for Spiritual Directors*.





Welcome to www.interfaithconnections.org

OIIM Ministerial Team



PEI Interfaith Centre
Revs. Sandi, Susan and Barry



The Centre angels watching
over Margaret and Rev. Barry



Rev. Susan
Presenting at a
Workshop & Service



Rev. Sandi and Rev. Barry - summer weddings



Lay Minister
Debra Lynn Sinclair
receiving her
Diploma

At Retreat: Professor Ellen Hicks at Left and
mid-below. Lay Minister Debra Lynn Sinclair
and Office Manager, Margaret Flood



Rev. Barry as a
budding National
Park Naturalist
in 1976

SSF 35th International Conference
Revs. Barry, Marilyn & Sandi - Revs. Michael & Sandi - Lay Min. Nancy, Rev. Marilyn & Michael



Healing Journeys

Debra Lynn Sinclair, CASC, LM, Lay Minister,

Spiritual Practitioner Apprentice, Reiki Master/Teacher, Certified Hypnotist



It is my honour to be facilitating a new program in our community called the "The Healing Journey." The Healing Journey Program is a comprehensive program of what people with cancer, other serious illnesses, or a crisis that may arise in one's life, can explore to help themselves. The skills learned through the program can improve communication with others, lessen anxiety and depression and provide a welcome sense of control.

While many of us dealing with a serious disease or crisis welcome emotional support, there is also much more that can be done when we look at ways to help ourselves actively in our journey towards health and peace of mind. I would encourage everyone, no matter where one is on their life journey, to explore vigorously the methods taught, (for example - daily meditation, reflection and journaling), and to seek out further resources in their communities for continuing studies.

So can self-help make a difference? Does it make a difference to try to help yourself and what might self-help achieve? There are two kinds of benefit that might come from your own efforts: the first being peace of mind, and the second, perhaps an effect on physical healing.

The first benefit - a more comfortable state of mind, more sense of control, less anxiety and depression - is something you can

confidently expect if you work at techniques of not only body, but mind and soul healing. Physical symptoms, like pain, nausea, sleeplessness and fatigue are often relieved. This is no small thing. Nobody wants to exist in a state of extreme fear, depression or discomfort. But what about affects on disease? Does the improved mental state that good coping skills bring translate into an effect on disease? This is still a controversial question. Self help skills add a weight on the side of healing when we put our own body healing mechanisms (immune system and hormones), medical treatment, and then our own self-help efforts up against the illness itself. It is important to understand, however, that practising mental self-help does not guarantee any effects on disease or crisis. But thus, there is no reason for reproach or guilt if you try and fail - the disease may be too vigorous to overcome. But it is important to remember that any self-help skills you develop can bring you greater peace of mind during this experience of your life journey. The ultimate goal is to proceed on this journey of life with grace and peace, no matter what is handed us.



Debra Lynn Sinclair
CASC, LM, Reiki Master
Spiritual Practitioner Apprentice



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Thursdays 7-9PM
Service: 1st Thursday of month
Workshops: 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th
Fee Non-members \$30
32 Greenwood Dr., Ch'town

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Earth-Based Spirituality

Rev. Susan Eaton, CASC, OM, RSPd,
Master Spiritual Director, Reiki Master

The Seasons of Spring and Summer

We can follow the cycles of Nature as guides on our journey through our days and lives, from the daily rising and setting and rising again of the sun, to the changing seasons - spring to summer to autumn to winter and so to spring again - to the great cycles of birth and death and rebirth.

The summer and winter solstices are the two extremes of the earth's journey around the sun. At the two equinoxes, spring and autumn, the day is balanced between night and daylight. The Spring equinox, which in 2011 took place on March 20, is when the days begin to grow longer, and the nights shorter. Spring represents dawn; planting of seeds and new growth; the beginning of our physical life. At the harvest time of the Autumn Equinox, we symbolically gathered in all the things we accomplished during the year. At the Winter Solstice, we began a time of reflection on what we harvested and chose the items of special value, the seeds of our future goals.

We are now moving through the season of Spring; it is the time of beginning, with its renewal of our selves as well as the renewal of the Earth, and the seeds that waited for the right time can now begin to grow. Spring brings us inspiration for our spiritual journey through life. Now is a time for us to begin the new activities and projects that we sorted out during the rest and introspection of Winter. Or we may feel a renewed energy and vitality to continue on our chosen path. It is still customary to do "spring cleaning" in our homes, so that we start this new cycle with a clean house. This is also an opportunity for us to clear our thoughts, to make room for new ideas, to be open to inspiration and to make new plans.

Since ancient times, peoples around the world have celebrated the end of Winter and the coming of Spring on or near the Spring equinox. The Christian celebration of Easter is timed according to the Spring equinox, although it does not fall on that day. The familiar rabbit and eggs are universal symbols of Spring.

After the renewal of Spring comes the warmth and abundance of Summer. The Summer solstice, on June 21 in 2011, is the longest day of the year, and the shortest night. Summer represents mid-day; our most productive time of life; adulthood. This is a time when we are more active in the world. It is a time to have fun and celebrate the joys of life, both socially and in nature. We have barbeque parties, beach parties, garden parties; festivals and agricultural fairs; and most of all, we have fun with our friends.

Summer is also the time when the days begin to grow shorter, although we have many more weeks when the days are longer than the nights. At this time, gardens and crops flourish and grow to maturity. We find many flowers blooming, as well as fruits such as strawberries and early vegetables ready to pick and enjoy. Our projects and activities begin to show the promise of fulfilment and the rich rewards we will gain when they come to fruition. We tend to our gardens and crops, to give them the best chance to ripen, as well as tending our projects to ensure successful completion. During Spring and Summer, may the light of Spirit grow and glow within us as we support and encourage each other on our journeys through life.



Spirituality and Chronic Disease

Ellen Hicks, BSc, BEd, MEd, CCC



Have you ever met with a client who is experiencing great discomfort due to a newly diagnosed chronic disease who is asking for your help? If you have, it can be a life expanding process for you both. Many chronic diseases like MS, Celiac disease, Colitis or other chronic disease require people to modify their lives due to daily medication schedules, fatigue levels and pain levels. Anger and frustration and the feelings of “why me?” often seem to be part of the disease effects on people thus testing their spiritual belief systems as well.

So how can you as a spiritual practitioner really help your clients?

- ✧ Begin by really showing listening to your client's life story. Often recognition of their life journey is a first step to helping them. How often have we experienced relief when someone who has truly listened to us even though there was no quick cure for our situation?
- ✧ Give your clients a safe place to express and explore their emotions and reactions to having an illness which impacts their lives often in unseen ways.

- ✧ If you offer alternative healing methodologies as part of your practice, you may wish to introduce appropriate healing practices to the client and have them 'try out' what works for them. Helping clients to take ownership of their disease symptoms as much as possible, grants clients control and freedom which they may not find in their medical treatment options.
- ✧ Relaxation and prayerful meditation techniques can be used to help them deal with the frustration and pain of their disease while allowing them to build upon their own spiritual practices.
- ✧ As your clients learn to take charge of their self care and spiritual journey, great healing can take place.

I hope that as you offer your own spiritual practices and healing to others, you will begin to receive the gifts from journeying with your clients - which I have been blessed to experience. As one client shared with me, “I have been to many counsellors in the past but you are the only one who 'got' me.” I believe that what she 'got' was a gift from Mother/ Father/ God and I was pleased to have been the one through whom it was delivered.

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Sacred Geometry

*Nancy Mercier, CASC, LM, Lay Minister,
Spiritual Practitioner Apprentice*

Plato defined Sacred Geometry as “knowledge of the eternally existent.” Since early times, humans recognized an oneness in nature and the Universal Force that governed it. It was realized that at the heart of all the diverse manifestations of life lay certain core fundamentals that shaped the universe and determined its interactions. These were expressed in numbers, sounds, forms and symbols. Because these were understood to be the blueprint of life itself, God's drawing-board as it were, they came to be regarded as sacred. They were integrated into art, architecture and spiritual practises in many cultures. The principles gave rise to mathematics and the sciences; but as our minds became more rational and less intuitive, many key concepts were forgotten. These became shrouded in secrecy as esoteric lore. These 'lost' elements were a science in themselves, dealing not just with empirical laws but also energy, consciousness and holistic resonance. Sacred Geometry offers us the chance to revive this wealth of awareness. Its principles can benefit us whether we are creating art, designing buildings, healing people or producing a nurturing environ-ment for ourselves.



Icosahedron) and are considered to be the building blocks of all life as we know it: our physical bodies, cells, DNA, plants, animals, crystals/minerals, planets, solar systems, stars, galaxies and Universes. Platonic solids are also thought to create an energy matrix around us (our Aura) and the Earth that some scientists now call the 'Earth Grid.' Pyramids and ziggurats (flat topped pyramids), sacred temple complexes and stone circles around the world are placed on energy vertices (the acupuncture points in the energy body of Gaia or Mother-Earth). Being within a structure or space fashioned with Sacred Geometry, is considered to be like being within a model of the universe. The vibrational quality of sacred space therefore is thought to bring the body, mind and spirit into harmony with the universe.

The Flower of Life is thought to be one of the most potent sacred geometric shapes known. It contains the Fruit of Life symbol believed to be the source of all that exists in the whole universe. Leonardo DaVinci studied the Flower of Life's form and its mathematical properties. He drew the Flower of Life itself, as well as

Prana, Ki, Chi, to name a few are considered to be a Life Force Energy, a Spiritual Energy. The secret of Sacred Geometry is not about geometry per se, it's about vibration or energy that takes on geometrical forms! To the ancients, Sacred Geometry was a guarded topic restricted to spiritual initiates only, since it was believed to be important knowledge revealing the secrets of our universe. Over the past 100 years the veil begun to lift. Some contemporary scientists now explore the concept that all creation is vibration. An example of vibration as creation is how Hinduism regards the sacred 'OM' sound of Brahman as the vibration or frequency that creates the physical world.



components therein, such as the Seed of Life. He also drew geometric figures representing shapes such as the platonic solids, a sphere, a torus, etc., and also used the golden ratio of phi in his artwork; all of which may be derived from the Flower of Life design! Making a sacred geometric grid by laying out crystals and gemstones in the Flower of Life pattern creates a powerful energy vortex. This energy can be used to facilitate self-healing, healing others, self-attuning, mediation, prayer, distance healing, affirmations, environment energising, space clearing, communication with your higher self, and connection with the sacred and earth energies.

The Platonic solids are five geometric forms (Cube, Tetrahedron, Octahedron, Dodecahedron,

Sacred Geometry, by influencing positive intent in your actions, can assist in choosing to experience the joy in life you're truly built for!





The Miracle of Sanity

Rev. Sandi King, BA, BEd, MEd, PhD(TC), OM, CCC, n.d.,
Reiki Master., RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Counsellor

I would like share with you the 'miracle of sanity.' I believe that we all go through some sort of life experiences that helps account for us acting in insane ways from time to time. In other words, at certain times in our lives it would be natural and perfectly understandable to react to insane circumstances with imprudent behaviours. The exception would be reacting sanely to these insane circumstances.

Let me give you a personal example. Without going into great detail, I will share with you that my childhood was challenging. My mother was an alcoholic who was herself raised by a violent alcoholic. It is easy to understand why she did the things she did. She simply did what she was taught, and having never felt a deep unrestricted love, she was never modeled how to love in a sane, unconditional way. She therefore repeated the cycle that she was raised in.

Now, there is an interesting experience that she had that I also will share with you. At around age six, she saw a vision of Jesus Christ at the foot of her bed. From what I understand, she was given some negative feed back about that experience and proceeded to live in fear of the phenomenon. I wonder what would have happened had someone validated for her that she was indeed protected by guardian angels and indeed Jesus Christ himself? Did this leave the door open for her to be possessed by a lower level spirit needing alcohol? Did it simply undermine her faith in a heaven world or the Divine? I don't know but I feel that it was a critical time for her soul. I also feel that her soul was significantly suppressed during the time I was growing up with her.

At periodic and brief moments, I had glimpses of my mother's true soul or Self, and she had a beautiful spirit. She is a wonderfully creative and intelligent soul. Unfortunately those moments were few and far between for me as a child.

I want to share with you a scene from my child hood. When I was about four years old, I had a visitation from an angel. I was at my father's parents house, which is were I spent my summers. I don't remember a whole lot about the angel other than that it was there. I mentioned it to my Grand mother. I don't really remember her reaction to the angel specifically but I do remember her taking me on her knee and telling me that she knew I had the wisdom to handle my mother.

Now this was a very powerful experience on many fronts. First she *validated that I had a challenge in dealing with my mother*. Everyone else was afraid of her and just went along with her to keep the peace. And here was someone who admitted to me, a four year old, that my mother was disturbed. She didn't label her. She didn't judge her. She didn't say things to turn me against her. She simply stated that my challenge in life was dealing with my mother and *secondly, she validated that I had the wisdom to do so*.

I didn't care where this wisdom came from. I had it. My grandmother said so. She gave me faith to draw on my own resources to deal with her. In doing this she also *gave me hope*. She said I know you can deal with her. You will be alright. She also let me know that she loved me and trusted me. This was a big secret to let out of the family closet, even if to just speak to family about it.

My perceptions of my world were validated in that instant. I had my faith in an afterlife or heavenly world affirmed. My faith in myself was validated. And I was given hope through the love of my grandmother. The three most precious gifts - faith, hope and charity. I believe that it is these three gifts that help to break the cycle of family violence or dysfunction. I was blessed by and open to the grace of God in that moment.

Continued on next page



The Miracle of Sanity - continued from previous page

This blessing was reinforced every summer by my father's sister, my Aunt. I spent a good deal of time in the summer at her place, which was close to my Grand parents place. At the end of every summer, she would give me her phone number on a small scrap piece of paper and tell me that if I ever wanted to come to her home, to just call collect and she would take care of it. WOW! Empowerment too. If I wanted to leave, I had family to go to. That's all she said. A simple phone number on a scrap piece of paper validated my world that something was wrong, without laying blame, placing judgements, or turning a child against their mother. She respected my spiritual journey here on earth while offering me security.

Faith, hope and charity - the three gifts that empower one to react sanely to an insane world. The requirements for the Miracle of Sanity. What I'm going to talk about is how these gifts were manifested in my life to create a calm amidst the storm, that have allowed me to be the eye of the storm.

First and foremost, everything is in the way we see it. Optics, both internally and externally tint the world that we live in with our own individual colour. You see someone untrustworthy, I see them trustworthy. You see charming, I see love. You see imagination, I see spirit. You see devastation, I see a challenge. It's all in how we see the world. Our perceptions, colour our reactions to them.

What I had as a child, was an "Aha" experience. My base perceptions fell into place and created my reaction to my childhood and teen years. My vibration was altered. I simply knew there was a Higher Power. I believed in my ability to cope with whatever that Higher Power brought my way. I believed in my mother's inherent goodness. I believed I did not create her dysfunction and I believed that I was protected by Spirit. These beliefs empowered me to grow despite sometimes stifling conditions.



My sense of power came from my internal beliefs, not my social position. I didn't have to borrow strength from my position, because the position of a child is one of no power. Therefore, I was empowered at a very early age to develop inner power and strength. This is the gift that my mother gave to me. She paid dearly for that gift but what a wonderful gift for a mother to be able to give a daughter.

Just as perception tints our world, the way in which we perceive also tints our world. If you see things from the inside out, then that can limit how you perceive the world. Seeing the world from the outside in, means that, for example, if you feel you might be ostracized for joining a particular group that you enjoy, then you limit what you tell friends and family about it. It also means that you are not free to experience that group fully and to see it for its full benefit to you. Your perception is tainted by fear of social rejection.

Seeing things inside-out is a process. The internal constantly changes, and so therefore does your external perceptions. What you were afraid of yesterday, holds no fear today. And what you are afraid of today will have no hold on you tomorrow.

When we are afraid of things, this develops an unhealthy dependence on our perceptions. As we reduce and eliminate fear from our life, we heal our inner spirit and develop our evolving perceptions that foster a healthy interdependence with others. We can choose to see the good in each person that comes our way and take that seed of goodness and strength.

As we nurture it with love, honesty and care, we empower that person to be blessed, just as my grandmother and aunt did for me, with the divine grace of faith, hope, and charity.

My message to you today is to trust your inner judgements, don't let them be tinted by social pressures or perceptions, offer your love to everyone who crosses your path and to be aware that whenever you have the opportunity to be honest and caring, you may actually be blessing someone with the opportunity for the miracle of sanity in an insane world.



About Ouija Boards as Tools

Rev. Barry King, BSc (Hon.), PhD(TC0 OM,
Reiki Master, n.d., OIIM RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Medium



Recently I have had a number of people asking about Ouija Boards (Talking Boards). In most cases people start with the assumption that Ouija Boards are evil and negative and that they should be shunned. Many people have the same opinion about any divining tool for Spirit communication including tarot cards, crystal ball gazing, etc. The simple truth is that all such tools are neither negative nor positive. It is all about how they are being used and who is using them.

The Ouija Board (or magic board) can be a very controversial subject. The name 'ouija' comes from a combination of the French and German words for 'yes' and was a popular form of entertainment last century when there was a resurgence of interest in Spiritualism. Ouija boards became very popular in the 1960's, a time of resurgent interest in all things occult and metaphysical, and were sold in many countries as a board game. Ouija Boards work and yet they are approached by many as a game being sold in shops alongside Scrabble and Monopoly. This is where many of the problems begin.

There are many different types of Ouija Boards, which can have differing layouts and can be made from a variety of materials. The board usually consists of the letters of the alphabet, 0-9 in numbers and the words, "Yes" and "No." The user or users of the board lightly touch a pointer (sometimes called a planchette) and the pointer moves and spells out the answers to questions asked of the ouija. Usually this pointer is mounted on castors to help it move freely about the board.

A simple form of the Talking Board can be made by placing the letters of the alphabet, 0-9 in numbers and the words, "Yes" and "No," on paper or cards on a table. A small overturned glass can then be used as a pointer. Sitters lightly touch the glass which moves and spells out the answer to the questions.

A Ouija Board is a form of channeling and must be used with respect. The

important point to remember here is that "Like attracts Like."

Ouija boards do work, but the sort of entities you are likely to attract is directly related to the level of spiritual development of the participants and their intent. Also, the level of preparation and location has to be taken into account.

Talking Boards are not by nature positive or negative. They are tools which can be used in positive or negative ways. Trivializing or treating their use as a game is inviting problems. The following are examples of how one should not use the Ouija Board.

Example 1: A group of drunken friends go to a haunted house and take a Ouija Board to see if they can call up some spirits. It is obvious that if the house is haunted, there are earth-bound spirits who usually died in sudden or tragic circumstances present. They may be just sad or confused, or they may be downright malicious.

Example 2: A group of friends get together to have a fun evening playing a 'harmless game' with those in spirit. The participants usually want to ask questions about their love life and future lotto wins and treat the whole thing as a bit of fun - as do the entities attending. This type of gathering usually brings a similar gathering from the other side who all want to have a go. There may be deceased relatives, but more often it is mischief makers who will tell you anything, and much testing of the board by various entities. In this situation, the results are more likely to be trivial like the questions usually asked. Without prayfulness and respect, there is the real danger that a negative entity could come through.



Remember a Ouija board is just a tool for contact which relies on no practice, learning or spiritual development to make it work. It's like dialing a random telephone exchange and hoping for the best. However, with practice, learning and spiritual development the chances of getting through to the right person are greatly increased.



The Ouija Board is best used by people who regularly work on their own spiritual development and get together to use the board. They are relaxed and open. Their intent is for spiritual guidance rather than earthly pursuits. They fill themselves with love and open with a prayer of protection to allow only positive vibrations to work through the Board. These people are much more likely to meet their spirit guides or a teacher making first contact. Their higher channels of communication are open to higher realms. There may be those among them who are psychically and spiritually developed who help attract the higher teachers. Even these people may get some low level interference because the astral level overlaps the physical.

The following is an excerpt from a book received through a talking board by two Baptist ladies who have worked with the Board for a number of years. For this book, the entities working through the Board asked that they sit every night for thirty nights to receive a meditation for each day of the month. The book is titled "*Meditations in Daily Living ... A Search for Self-Truth*" and is published by King's Wellness and Counselling in Charlotte town, PEI.



Appreciate Each Day

Each day is precious unto itself.
To fully appreciate each day,
you must think of it as the very last time this day will be here to be used and lived in.

No matter how similar the days,
this one will never again be repeated. How do you want to spend this last day?

In appreciation of its gifts?
In excitement of its possibilities?

Will you instead,
not pay it any particular attention -
as another one will be by tomorrow?

The choice is clearly
only yours to make.

Some Guidelines for Using a Ouija Board

Location: Do NOT choose a place where you suspect earthbound entities are gathered, or places which will generate fear in the participants, ie: graveyards, haunted houses, sites of tragedy. Choose a place that feels good - has the right vibrations, a home where loving people live, or a room usually devoted to learning and meditation.

Time: Nighttime is usually better for these things because of the reduced amount of electrical activity and interference in the atmosphere. As with most things, some days are better than others for various reasons.

People: A chain is only as strong as its' weakest link. If you have 3 people of positive intention and one negative, it will lessen the chances for positive results for the others. While the board will still work with skeptics in the room, their negativity will not help.

Size: Keep your group size limited to around four. If there's an extra person, they can take notes and everyone can have a go at this. The more people involved, the more varied the results and contact may be.

Protection: This is very important. Don't just repeat a few words, visualize it. Start with a meditation where you concentrate on - cleansing your own body, aura and chakras with a visualization of silver rain - filling your bodies with white light and extend this to engulf the room you are in, and beyond if you can - call upon your guides to protect you and ask them to allow only information and entities through for your highest good.

You may prefer to use a familiar mantra, poem or prayer while doing the visualization. The important thing is your intent. You want to feel love and fill the room with it until you feel good. Do not be afraid. If you feel fear, don't go ahead with the session. Feel the love envelope and protect you. That love will attract entities who vibrate to that love. Do not use alcohol or drugs prior to the session.

Accessories: By all means enhance your session with accessories. They will add to the atmosphere in more ways than one! Some gentle new age music in the background, candles and incense

can help. If you don't have any preferences, use something like sandalwood or patchouli to help protect you.

Communication: Treat astral entities the way you would like to be treated by anyone. They are not there to be commanded by you. They have come to communicate at your invitation, so treat them as a guest in your home. If a naughty child comes through, their antics can quickly become tiresome. Ask them to leave and call upon your guides to take them away.

Don't call upon specific people to come and talk unless you have a good reason. Remember, a long deceased relative may be no longer living near the earth plane and it can be very inconvenient for them to get through. They may even be reincarnated, so the entity who answers may not be the one you are expecting.

If a deceased relative seems to come through seek confirmation. Ask them personal questions about things that are not generally known - but remember not to be thinking of the answers in your head at the time - let your mind go blank.

Discernment: Ultimately you have to be the judge of the information you receive. To believe everything that comes through on the board just because it's from the other side is extremely gullible, and is like believing everything that you read in the newspaper or see on TV. If your intuition tells you there's something wrong, there probably is. If the information you're getting seems new to you, compare it with other channeled material and see if you're comfortable with it. Always thank the entities who come to talk with you. When you've finished your session, thank all the gathered entities and ask them to go in peace back to where they have come from. Then cleanse the room again with white light.



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Common Myths about the Spiritual Arts Practises

The OIIM Registration Board:

Rev. Sandi King, Rev. Susan Eaton and Ellen Hicks

- ✧ Mediums raise the dead - Contrary to this popular belief, Spiritual Mediums cannot raise the dead; nor can they call the dead up at will. A Spiritual Medium simply opens up to receive a spirit communication and those on the other side come to the Spiritual Medium when they are ready, willing and able to do so.
- ✧ Mediums are fortune tellers – Spiritual Mediums cannot tell fortunes. The personal choices people make create the future. What Spiritual Mediums can see are the potential ramifications of particular choices and actions and suggest new ways of addressing challenges.
- ✧ Mediums have all the answers - This is incorrect. It is the role of a Spiritual Medium (as well as the Spiritual Counsellor and Spiritual Director) to support and empower a person in dealing with challenges, recognizing that it is our choices that help us learn and grow.
- ✧ Mediums (and psychics) are more spiritually evolved - Spiritual Mediums and psychics are not necessarily more spiritually evolved than anyone else and, like everyone else, they are on a road of spiritual advancement and growth. However, it is most desirable that Spiritual Mediums be highly spiritual and dedicated people who recognise and accept their sacred responsibility, not only to themselves, but also to God, the spirit world and the recipients of any spirit messages. The OIIM Registration Board ensures this in its registrants.
- ✧ Anyone coming to a Spiritual Healer for spiritual healing must have faith – Spiritual Healings are most effective when accepted consciously or unconsciously by the recipient as it is for their own best good. The intentions of both the healer and the recipient are important factors to Spiritual Healing. Some people have been helped without their conscious knowledge. This has been the case, for example, when Spiritual Healing has been provided through distant Spiritual Healing or when Spiritual Healing has been given to a

recipient who is too ill or too young to understand. But the recipient would be open to Spiritual Healing on the unconscious level and the trained Spiritual Healer would have said a prayer that Spiritual Healing only happen as it is for the person's own best good.

✧ Spiritual healing eliminates the need for health care from physicians and surgeons - Spiritual Healers do not deny that these and other health care professionals are necessary. Spiritual Healers believe in complimenting, not replacing, other health care services.





Shediac, NB Interfaith Centre ~ Schedule and News

Register with Arcadia Angelic Sanctuary nm@arcadia-angelic-sanctuary.com

TENTATIVE Schedule of Events Spring/Summer 2011 - Shediac Interfaith Centre: to register and/or make an appointment for private sessions and/or ask to receive regular emails, contact Lay Minister Nancy - Fee: \$30; OIIM Members are entitled to free participation at most OIIM Events. Our recommended donation is \$20 per event. For a list of OIIM Workshops/Courses frequently offered: www.interfaithconnexions.org

JUNE

- ✂ **Friday, June 3rd, 7-9pm: Workshop Divine Feminie** with Rev. Susan Eaton, CASC, OM, Master Spiritual Director
- ✂ **Saturday, June 4th, 2-5pm: Interfaith Celebration Service** with Rev. Susan Eaton and Lay Minister Nancy followed by "Breaking Bread Fellowship Potluck Meal"
- ✂ **Monday, June 13th, 7-9pm: Workshop Working with Crystals Part II** Lay Minister Nancy: ✂ Experience the healing power of crystals and sacred stones; ✂ Connect to your own healing power through experiential crystal exercises; ✂ Experience the magnification of channelling Divine energy.
- ✂ **Monday, June 20th, 7-9pm: Workshop Sacred Geometry** Lay Minister Nancy: ✂ Explore sacred & mysterious sites; ✂ Design sacred art; ✂ Explore the transformational power of geometry.

✂ **Monday, June 27th, 7-9pm: Spiritual Cinema Presentation**

JULY/AUGUST

- ✂ **Sunday, July 24th, 4-7pm: Potluck BBQ**
- ✂ **Sunday, Aug. 28th, 4-7pm: Potluck BBQ**

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Stratford, ON Interfaith Centre ~ Schedule and News

Register with dgsinclair77@hotmail.com

☞ Wednesday afternoons
1:30-4:00pm
REIKI

Practitioner-Deb Sinclair,
Wellsprings, Stratford, Ont.

☞ 2nd Wednesday of month
7 - 9pm
**INTRODUCTION TO
CHAKRAS**

Facilitator-Deb Sinclair,
Stratford Interfaith Centre

☞ 3rd Friday of month
7:30 - 9:30pm

SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

Facilitator-Deb Sinclair,
Stratford Interfaith Centre

☞ 4th Friday of month
7:30 - ? pm

SPIRITUAL CINEMA

Facilitator-Deb Sinclair,
Stratford Interfaith Centre

☞ Ongoing

**By appointment - private sessions
REIKI, SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**

Practitioner-Deb Sinclair,
Stratford Interfaith Centre



*Debra Lynn Sinclair,
CASC, LM, RH, Reiki Master,
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Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre

Register with Rev. Sandi revsandi@interfaithministry.com

TENTATIVE Schedule of Events Spring/Summer 2011 - Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre: *to register and/or make an appointment for private sessions and/or ask to receive regular emails, contact Rev. Sandi. Wksh Fee: \$30; OIIM Members are entitled to free participation at most OIIM Events. - Recommended donation \$20 per event. OIIM Workshops/Courses frequently offered at www.interfaithconnexions.org*

Check out the full Interfaith ConneXtions Volume 24- 3 Sping/Summer 2011 at www.interfaithconnexions.org

MAY

- ✧ **Thursday May 5, 7-9pm - Interfaith Celebration Service** - *Join us in Celebrating the Many Paths of Spirituality*
- ✧ **Thurs. May 12, 7-9pm - WORKSHOP: Message Circle** Rev. Barry: ✧ Heavenly messages for the soul for each participant; ✧ A talk with questions and answers on Matters of Spirit; ✧ An uplifting evening with like-minded people.
- ✧ **Thur. May 19, 7-9pm - WORKSHOP: Research Angels, Djinns and the Human Connection** (each night explores different research and experiments) Rev. Barry: ✧ Learn about these powerful supernatural beings ✧ Exercises to strengthen positive connections to Spirit.
- ✧ **Thur. May 26, 7-9pm - WORKSHOP: Sacred Geometry** Lay Minister Nancy: ✧ Explore sacred & mysterious sites; ✧ Design sacred art; ✧ Explore the transformational power of geometry.

JUNE

- ✧ **Thursday June 2, 7-9pm - Interfaith Celebration Service** - *Join us in Celebrating the Many Paths of Spirituality*
- ✧ **Thur. June 9, 7-9pm - WORKSHOP: Working with Crystals Part II** with Lay Minister Nancy: ✧ Experience the healing power of crystals and sacred stones; ✧ Connect to your own healing power through experiential crystal exercises; ✧ Experience the magnification of channelling Divine energy.

- ✧ **Saturday June 11, 2-4pm PEI-IM Interfaith Centre's 15th Anniversary Celebration** ✧ *Join us for an open house, reception and at 3pm the formal ceremony with prayers, blessings, invocations, short thank you, local review and chat about Interfaith on a global scale. Enjoy the Healing gardens and the Centre for a casual, peaceful and joy-filled afternoon.*
- ✧ **Thursday June 16, 6-9pm - PEI-SSF-IM / OIIM's Annual General Meeting** ✧ **6pm - Potluck** - we let the Divine organize so bring whatever speaks to you; ✧ **7pm-AGM** with Summer Solstice Blessing, Chapter up-dates, and help plan next year's program; ✧ **8pm - Spiritual Nature Walk** with Revs. Barry and Susan.
- ✧ **Thursday June 23, 6-9pm - First Interfaith Summer BBQ/Potluck** ✧ *Join us in breaking bread with like minded spiritually oriented people.*
- ✧ **JULY AND AUGUST**
- ✧ **Last Thursday of July (28) and August (25) Interfaith Celebration BBQ/Potlucks** ✧ *Join us in breaking bread with like minded spiritually oriented people and connect with your Interfaith friends.*

There is no place like Prince Edward Island in the summer-time - Enjoy!

PEI Interfaith Ministry On-going classes for current participants:

- ✧ **Spiritual Stress Busting** - 3rd Wednesday each month May 18 and June 15 - 7-9pm
- ✧ **Mediumship II** - Friday May 27 and June 17 - 7-9:30pm





A World Alliance of Interfaith Clergy Growing Its Connections

By Rev. Philip Waldrop, Board Chair



A World Alliance of Interfaith Clergy - Conference Date and Location Announced

Hello Interfaith Connexions readers!

A World Alliance of Interfaith Clergy (AWAIC) is expanding its connections. We are currently taking on four initiatives:

- a) Developing a friendly cooperative relationship with the Council of Interfaith Congregations - USA, whose members are congregations and seminaries. AWAIC's members are ministers and seminary students individually.
- b) A similar friendly relationship is being developed with Order of Universal Interfaith, whose members follow a contemplative, meditative Interfaith path (along with their ministry) - some are ordained, some are not.
- c) Building a network of Interfaith "Cooperation Circles" to be led by interfaith ministers. The circles choose their own outreach locally, but would be connected to the global network of circles linked with the United Religions Initiative.
- d) Developing a new relationship with Berkeley, California-based seminary, the Chaplaincy Institute for Arts and Interfaith Ministry.

These activities are all in their beginning phases, and we welcome input and inquiries and involvement.

AWAIC has also announced the date and location of its 4th Annual Conference: September 30 - October 2, 2011, at the Stony Point Center, in Stony Point, New York, north of New York City, in Rockland County. On its grounds, the Stony Point Center has small Jewish, Islamic, and Christian communities, who work together in many projects at the Center.

Topical themes for the conference are "Interfaith Now and in the Future" and "Interfaith 101", which has session on practical and cutting edge aspects of interfaith ministry.

We are close to booking a lively music group that focuses on chants of many faiths - to be presenters and concert-givers Saturday night October 1.

For more information contact chair@worldinterfaithclergy.org or visit the website www.worldinterfaithclergy.org.

*Many blessings!
Rev. Philip Waldrop*



AWAIC 2008 - First Annual Conference



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