

OIIM
Open International
Interfaith Ministry
News and Events



**Winter
2012
Issue 25:2**

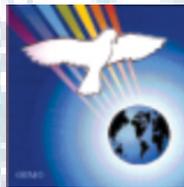
Connecting the Interfaith Movement

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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' and Practitioners' News and Calendar of Events:

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\$20 per Issue or \$50 per year for 3 Print Issues plus E-distribution and a line in our email signature (over 1000 contacts on our E-List sent almost weekly).



Welcome to www.interfaithconnections.org

OIIM Ministerial Team

We welcome all members and visitors to the Open International Interfaith Ministry (OIIM). Our ministers, trained through our Interfaith seminary program, the iNtuitive Times Institute (NTI) Interfaith Seminary 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 26 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, respectful and safe 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:



Rev. Sandi King, OM, PhD(TC), RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Counsellor; Co-founder/Treas.

Rev. Barry King, OM, PhD(TC), RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Medium; Co-founder/Pres.

Rev. Susan Eaton, CASC, OM, RSPd, Master Spiritual Director; Senior Minister/Bd. at Large



Ellen Hicks, BSc, MEd, CCC, NTI Professor of Counselling; Private Practitioner

Margaret Flood, OIIM Office Manager

Debra Lynn Sinclair, CASC, LM; Chapter Director

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WEB- SITES

OIIM: www.InterfaithMinistry.com

Spirituality/Holistic Health: www.iNtuitiveTimes.ca

Interfaith E-news: www.InterfaithConnections.org

Weddings: www.WeddingsOnPEI.ca

Educational Resources & NTI (Seminary): www.OIIM.net

Family/Personal Counselling: www.KingsWC.org

Psychic Readings/Resources: www.RevBarryKing.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*, and the *OIIM Registration Board's Standard of Practise*.



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Photo Gallery



Send us your photo



Rev. Sandi and Rev. Barry with their mentor Rev. Fred Cale receiving their PhD's in 1996



Volunteers, Diane McCloskey and Margaret Flood receiving their volunteer awards



Healing Gardens at the Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre



Rev. Carmen, Halifax, NS and Rev. Bibianne, Montreal at the Montreal, PQ IIIHS 36th Annual International Conference



Sand Ceremony



Prince Edward Island Ministers Sandi, Barry and Susan



Rev. Sandi and Margaret at a wedding



The New Interfaith Centre in Saint John, New Brunswick



Counselling and Reading Office



Waiting Room



Centre



Altar in Reading & Counselling Office



Centre's Administration



Spirituality VS Religion

Debra Lynn Sinclair, CASC, LM, Lay Minister,

Spiritual Practitioner Apprentice, Reiki Master/Teacher, Certified Hypnotist



“I’m not religious, I am spiritual.” This has become a common statement. It is almost as if religion has become a bad word. Often war, terrorism and the loss of rights has in the course of history, been all in the name of religion. No wonder it gets a bad rap.

The term religion refers to the personal practices related to communal faith, to group rituals and the communication stemming from shared convictions. Sometimes religion can be seen as very rigid and unyielding, but this same regimented structure of religion often allows for guidance and predisposed knowledge that can provide a base for some of us to grow and be secure.

Spirituality, on the other hand, seems to have few limits or restrictions and allows for the exploration of many possibilities. It is much more of an individual journey which does not rely upon a group of people or a sense of community to exist.

Neither spirituality nor religion can be absolutely right or absolutely wrong for everyone. Religion appeals to people who enjoy structure, community, tradition and rites, preferring to have their relationship with God based on these principles. Spirituality appeals more to individuals who prefer to relate to God in a more private and solitary manner often drawing on many truths of different religions that speak to them on a personal level.

So, can someone be religious and not spiritual? Yes. Can someone be spiritual and not religious? Yes. Can someone be both religious and spiritual? Absolutely.

For those of us who are drawn to both religion and spirituality we have revealed to ourselves the mystical heart that beats within the various paths to God or to the Self beyond the self. The Interfaith Movement - sometimes viewed with concern by religious traditionalists - is a result of the growing awareness of the commonality among different faiths. We have cracked the code of these sacred traditions plucking pearls of awakening from the shell of religious ritual and tradition. It is a testament to our enduring search for who we are and why we are here, on our personal paths of spirituality while embracing all faiths.

Perhaps it can be said religion helps people by guiding them, and spirituality helps people by freeing them. Both can bring us to moments of sheer amazement when we realize the absolute joy of achieving manifestation of our spirit. This is the pinnacle of what it means to be human.



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Island
Interfaith Ministry**



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Rev. Susan Eaton, CASC, OM
Master Spiritual Director

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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 Seven Directions

Earth-based spirituality has no statement of beliefs to which all followers adhere, although many do share some beliefs. One of the most important of these commonalities is respect for the Earth and concern for the environment. One of the ways this is expressed is through the seven directions - East, South, West, North, Above, Below, and Around. Each direction has associated spiritual symbolism and qualities, similar to the Classical Elements.

☯ **East** is associated with the rising sun, and consequently with new beginnings, as well as with new ideas and inspiration, new goals and dreams for the future. Here we seek the blessing of the ability to recognize the opportunities of each day.

☯ **South** is associated with the heat of the sun at midday, the energy of heat and light which pushes plants to grow, as well as the energy and passion in our lives. Here we seek the blessing of the will to pursue our dreams and bring them to life.

☯ **West** is associated with the setting sun, and thus with endings and harvest, and the peace that comes when our work is done. Here we seek the blessing of the courage to follow our dreams and find the rewards.

☯ **North** is the part of the sky where the sun does not travel, and is therefore associated with darkness, night and rest. The North is also associated with the North Star. In this part of the sky at night the North Star is historically a guide for navigation and can be seen as representing spiritual guidance. The North represents the darkness

out of which comes light. Here we seek the blessing of the ability to see light in the dark times of our lives.

☯ **Above** is the sky, the air we breathe, the light, heat and rain, the fertilizing forces that promote and preserve life on Earth. It is the world of the animals who fly. Here we seek the blessing of the gift we receive in giving to others.

☯ **Below** is where we find the underground treasure of the Earth - the soil from which life grows, and the minerals which contribute to our material prosperity. It is the world of the animals who live within the Earth. Here we seek the blessing of abundance.

☯ **Around** us is the everyday world we live in with our sister and brother humans, the world of the animals who walk on the Earth and who swim in the waters, and of plants. As the animals and plants provide for us, so we must be good conservators of the Earth, nurturing and caring for our planet and all existence to the extent possible for each of us. Here we seek the blessing of the knowledge that Spirit surrounds and supports us at all times.

Rev. Susan Eaton,
CASC, OM, RSPd
Master Spiritual Director
revsusan@interfaithministry.com
Specialising in

- ☯ religious ceremonies
- ☯ spiritual healing
- ☯ earth energies
- ☯ earth religions
- ☯ weddings

*We give thanks for
all these blessings and
for the blessing of awareness
that although we are in
physical form,
we are spirit,
and
Spirit supports us
from all directions.*



Trauma In a Small Community

Ellen Hicks, BSc, BEd, MEd, CCC

NTI Professor of Counselling



Driving home from my office in another city recently, I became mired in 3 lanes of back to back trucks and cars. At first my reaction was irritation and concern that someone, not able to see around the semi - truck trailers surrounding us, would try to pull off to the side and drive up the shoulder or push in where there was one foot of space. My concern was further heightened since I was low on gas. What if I ran out of gas when I was stuck in a truck blockade?! I could cause an accident – not meaning to. Scanning the situation made me push into the right lane, so that if I ran out of gas, I would not stop the traffic flow or cause any more disruption.

As the traffic began creeping along, again, I had a feeling that there might have been an accident somewhere as well as construction lane closures. Moments later I came across flashing lights and emergency vehicles. A car was half under a transfer truck draped in cloth. I thought, “*Someone died here.*” The next day on the news came the story. A local 35 year old woman from the community had driven into the back of a parked transfer truck and

was pronounced dead at the scene.

Trauma in a small community is a phenomenon faced by many counsellors and spiritual advisors in the rural areas. Often we are called upon to respond to local emergencies many of which include death and trauma. How do we deal with the personal feelings of shock and loss when we are called on by our community to be a support? Even when we are experienced counsellors and spiritual advisors, we can still feel torn about how much we can do with Spirit's help when we are also feeling grief and loss.

As counsellors and spiritual advisors we are often expected to have all the answers to “why,” and yet we know that we do not have all the answers. We are able with Spirit's guidance to offer what gifts we can. We sometimes need to be reminded that grief and loss are normal aspects of our life journeys. With Spirits' help we can and do get through these tough times.

As a client reminded me the following day – a client who suffered from anxiety – if I let my anxieties continue to control me, I will miss my life. May we be reminded of the many blessings of Spirit in our lives, and feel its presence as we travel on.



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Trustworthiness of a Professional Helper

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

Graduates from OIIM's seminary program NTI are awarded the title of Apprentice, Registered or Master Spiritual Practitioners. As Spiritual Practitioners we follow a Standard of Practise and a Code of Ethics.

I've been working in the Helping Professions as a Canadian Certified Counsellor, Ordained Interfaith Minister and Master Spiritual Counsellor for more than 35 years. I have received three national awards and have been recognized in the 'Zonta's Celebration of PEI Women of the 20th Century' – I still learn every day how to improve my professional expertise. My career began with graduate degrees in Counselling and Education. Much of how I use my formal education has been learned through experience – on the job with a supervisor mentoring me. I'm committed to putting the interests of my clients first. I am a member of a number of regulated professions. My professional actions are therefore bound by my professional Standards of Conduct and Codes of Ethics. From this experience and education, I have learned that there are three basic principles to professional trustworthiness. The goal of the OIIM Registration Board is to ensure that those who work through us engage in these principles.

Three Basic Principles of Trustworthiness:

1. *The fundamental commitment of a helping professional is to hold **the interests of their clients as paramount**. The intention must be to serve the client and not our own ego. When the professional offers insights, recommends or advises, it must always be with the best interests of the client in mind. We must hold steadfast to the basic premise that clients resolve their own issues – we do not fix them – we are simply guides. There must be a commitment to be there for the client until the issues are resolved. These are a necessary part of being trustworthy.*

2. *Being trustworthy as a professional also means **confining your work to areas where you have relevant experience and expertise**. This means you know your professional scope of practise and that with your clients you stick to your professional knowledge base. In the field of the Spiritual Arts Practises where there is little regulation, licensing and certification – scope of practise for each specialization is hard to define. Considering the lack of Registration, Licensing and Certification Boards, many practitioners are left to make it up as they go along. One of the goals of the OIIM Registration Board is to assist you by defining the scope of practise, and having a body that validates the helping professional in one of the four Spiritual Arts Practises that we register NTI Graduates in: Spiritual Counselling, Spiritual Healing, Spiritual Mediumship and Spiritual Direction as well as our Ordained Interfaith Ministers. In addition our graduates undergo a lengthy term of Apprenticeship (during and following their first year of study) so that they may learn from the experience of their mentors. OIIM Apprentices are trained with entry level knowledge in all of our specializations. An art form and craftsmanship is based on two things – knowledge of the craft and extensive experience. Our Registered Practitioners have up to three years additional training in their area of specialization. We offer the title of 'Master' to our Spiritual Arts Practitioners who have at least twenty years experience in their field of specialization and have received some sort of public recognition.*





Trustworthiness of a Professional Helper

The OIIM Registration Board:

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

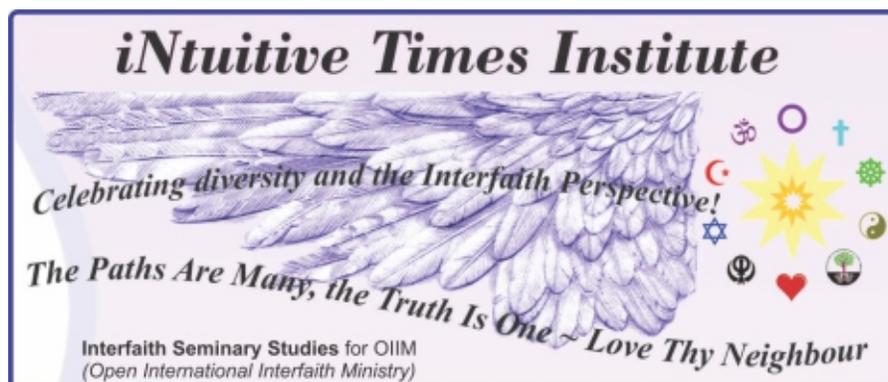
A practitioner doesn't acquire the necessary experience in a few years to be awarded the title of 'Master.' It takes time to hone the skills to be able to provide the professional encounter client's deserve and to assure and earn their trust.

3. Next on my list of important professional commitments is **transparency** — in other words, say what you are going to do, then do what you say. Transparency means you bring to the client's attention any potential for conflict of interest concerns, define clearly and stick to your scope of practise, and disclose at the onset the legal commitment you can make with respect to confidentiality, engaging other professionals outside of your skill set and note taking. The client needs to be in a position to exercise discernment about deciding if you are the right fit for them.

Those three commitments go a long way toward making the helping professional trustworthy, and trustworthiness is basic to being a professional. I have a long-standing commitment to this form of professional trustworthiness. Being a member in good standing of a duly recognized profession is difficult in the field of the Spiritual Arts. The OIIM Registration Board, composed of professionals with years of experience and extensive training, goes a long way to defining consistent professional

behaviour, establishing a professional Code of Ethics and a Standard of Practise, and giving the public a place to lodge a complaint should you feel that your OIIM practitioner is not following the professional Standard of Practise or Code of Ethics that we have set out.

We require the same level of demonstrated mastery of a defined body of knowledge, apprenticeship under an established member of the profession, and conformity to established practices as do other professional helping bodies such as Canadian Certified Counsellors and Registered Social Workers and Psychologists. We are just beginning to give professional definition and parameters to the Spiritual Arts Practises. Just as it takes years, if not decades of experience to develop one's skill set, it too will take years to refine the definition of our professional parameters. But we can make a commitment to being trustworthy — that commitment is the reason I see myself as a professional. I would like to see everyone practising the Spiritual Arts make a similar commitment. To not do so, can cause harm to clients – making trustworthiness for us all that much harder to establish.



Be Quiet – Listen – You Are Guided ...

Rev. Suki Garson BA, MBA, D.H., NLP

NTI Student, Dundas, ON



I recently planned a road trip from Ontario to NYC. I was going to pick up my daughter who had been in the City studying all summer and, I had, to make it back to Ontario, on schedule, for a wedding rehearsal and two weddings.

A few weeks prior to my departure, I murmured to myself that I probably should get a service on my car and, promptly forgot ... message ignored. I had planned on stopping in Rochester and Albany to visit with friends along the way and then drop down to NYC. After a lovely visit with one friend, I thought, I don't want to go to Albany. I contacted my Albany friend and stated that I just felt that I needed to get into NYC earlier and would not be popping in to visit. I turned on my GPS and it took me an entirely different route based upon where I was at that moment.

Another couple of hours I was in the centre of NY State, which is beautiful countryside although not intensely inhabited. There was a sign that said New York to the left and my GPS told me to go to the right. I did not know what to do and asked out loud ... I chose to follow the sign.

As I continued the journey, the weirdest message appeared on the dashboard of my car. It stated that I should get a service within 1000 km or 265 days. I travel at least 1000 km per month. I was puzzled. It had my attention. I knew that I needed to stop and

check the oil level. If I knew this, why did I pass not one but 6 exits off the highway. Finally I said, "This one!!" I had almost passed the exit when I decided that was the exit which I had to take. I made a rather fast turn and at the end of the ramp turned right towards the Getty Service Station. As I pulled in, I promptly did a U turn and went to the other service station. This little village had 2 service stations, a bank, a McDonalds (of course) and ... Well while I was filling up with gas and asking myself why did I behave this way, there it stood, right in front of me, Napa Auto Parts Store.

I went in and explained to a delightful young man that I happen to be one of these women who knows NOTHING about mechanics and could he help me. I explained the message and asked if he would check my oil. ... "What oil," he asked. My car was dry. I contacted VW to ask what oil I am supposed to use and Napa Auto Parts do not carry it. Seeing my distress, another delightful young man asked if I knew where my owner's manual was ... "Yes, I know that much." It provided alternate oil.

As I drove away, still shaking, all I could say was, "Thank you God, thank you guides and angels. I heard you ... please continue to talk to me, I promise to listen."



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THE OTHER SIDE - No Words Can Explain

Rev. Suki Garson BA, MBA, D.H., NLP - NTI Student, Dundas, ON

We live on earth
 In a physical body.
 We are called home
 In a spiritual body.
 Fear not the journey
 For it brings such love.
 You move beyond the worries
 And only know tranquillity.
 Ringing or whistling or whirring
 Noises quite loud
 Speeding through the vacuum
 To the darkness of the void.
 Imagine closing your eyes
 And begin to float
 Out of your body.
 Then look back to see yourself
 You can see but cannot be seen.
 You can hear but cannot be heard.
 Initially it appears limited
 Then you recognize it is limitless.
 Momentarily feeling alone
 And then being met
 Your guardian has arrived
 Caring for you, you are so safe.



There are no words for the brilliance
 Everything is beyond language
 Superlatives fail to explain
 Exquisite communication of no language
 Surrounded in a mist of sorts
 Cared for and loved by the spirit of light
 Held and nurtured by loved ones,
 Re-connecting to your soul group.
 Loved, cherished, peaceful
 You are asked to assess
 Are you ready?
 Did you accomplish?
 Have you grown?
 The instant review
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Rhythms - A Spiritual Principle

Rev. Barry King, BSc (Hon.), PhD(TC), OM.

Reiki Master, n.d., OIIM RSPchmd, Master Spiritual Medium



Have you ever thought about the concept of rhythms from a spiritual perspective? Over the last while, I have noticed that Spirit during spiritual/intuitive readings has been using the word “rhythm” more often than ever before. Most often the word “rhythm” seems to be mentioned when suggesting that someone is resisting making changes to some aspect of their life which is making them unhappy. It is also clear that the changes they are suggesting have more to do with how the client thinks than with what is going on around them. The changes in their thoughts include rejecting emotions such as fear and guilt. These changes are translated into a change in their behaviours which affects how they address the issues that are making them unhappy.

When I decided to explore the idea of rhythms from a spiritual perspective, the first thing I thought about was music. In this context, a rhythm was the flow and ebb of sound as it repeats itself connecting with other elements of the music and harmonizing. This repetition is predictable and has a comfortable feeling because in part it is predictable. It feels familiar and comfortable.

It occurred to me that the sense of predictability and comfort could have a lot to do with why people choose to be unhappy by staying in a “rhythm” which clearly is not working for them. Many people find that the unknown creates anxiety because they fear what they do not know. Predictability, therefore, means comfortable, even when it is not necessarily right, because it is familiar. We have the illusion that we know how to deal with the challenge because it is familiar. A familiar rhythm or pattern can be very hard to break out of because of the misconception that somehow we know it and therefore have some comfort in it.

So what Spirit was saying to people I was talking to is that they had to change their rhythm – they had to set a new flow. They had to change how they think so that they could change how they reacted internally to the challenges they were facing. They needed to step out of the familiar groove which was making them unhappy and find the pattern which would make them happy. This meant that they had to step onto unfamiliar ground and take a chance. Even though they could not change the world around them, they had the power to change the things they could control and change their reaction to the things they could not control. This would empower them to move forward and help move them closer to their greatest good and joy.

Since it was Spirit sharing with me, I continued to look at it from a Spiritual perspective. I went to the *Kybalion* because I realized that “rhythm” is one of the 6 principles of hermetic philosophy. In the *Kybalion*, we learn about rhythm. It states:

Everything flows out and in, everything has its tides; all things rise and fall; the pendulum swing manifests in everything the measure of the swing to the right and the measure of the swing to the left - rhythm compensates.

The principle of rhythm embodies the truth that in everything there is manifested a measured motion; a “to” and a “fro” movement; Rhythm is manifested in all phenomena of the universe - the creation and destruction of worlds, the rise and fall of nations, etc. There is always action and reaction, an advance and retreat.

Therefore the word “rhythm” means that everything is in motion – the pendulum swings back and forth from birth to death, from happiness to unhappiness, from sadness to joy, etc. The swing of the pendulum is always evident - birth – growth – maturity – decadence – death and then – new birth. Suns spring into being – then at their height of power begin the process of retrogression and after eons become dead masses of matter, awaiting another impulse which will begin the process anew.

“So it is with all great movements, philosophies, creeds, fashions, governments, - everything.”
Kybalion.

Science understands rhythm and considers it a universal law. Nothing is ever at rest – all is in motion – all movement has a rhythm. From a spiritual perspective, rhythm is also manifested on a vibrational or spiritual plane.

This adds a new insight into the notion of “rhythms” since it suggest that change and movement to and fro is very much part of the natural order of things. It would appear that we are destined to experience the good and the bad aspects of the to and fro swing of the pendulum. This seemed to present a complication to the goal of being happy as a natural state for us. So how do we deal with this type of rhythms?

The answer is relatively simple – we change how we think. As a spiritual principle, the idea of rhythms states that even though we cannot change the absolute flow of rhythms, we can change through our consciousness how it affects us. As we increase our vibration and raise our consciousness so we can raise ourselves above the negative effects of rhythms which are part of the physical world.

This allows us to not feel and be raised above the negative swing of the pendulum. It is like raising yourself above something and letting it pass beneath you. This means that we can make the choice to not allow our challenges to impact us negatively. We can through our thoughts rise above those things that can make us unhappy and choose behaviours and attitudes which will allow us to be true to ourselves and be joyful - happy.

This means that by developing our awareness and being conscious in life we can deny the negative swing of the pendulum's influence over us. All who have achieved a degree of self-mastery accomplish this more or less unknowingly and refuse to allow their negative mental states/moods to affect them.

You can see this happening to people every day. If you think about it, you will realize how the principle of rhythms has had an effect on you and probably still does. With awareness and making choices that move you to your greatest good, you can experience joy and light in a world – in a life which is constantly in motion.

Reject fear of the unknown and trust the universal rhythms as they move you though challenges which allow you to grow through them with joy and love. If you assert your will, you can rise even higher and escape being carried along with rhythms. Give power to only the positive in your life and learn the secret of filling yourself with joy and being happy.



Rhythm

*“When you lose the rhythm of the drumbeat of God,
you are lost from the peace and rhythm of life.”*

- Cheyenne proverb

I Am the Light

Margaret Flood, BA (Hon. Soc. Dev. St.), NTI Student



All you need is Love

You have come to me in pain
There is no sun only rain.

You have tried but only failed
And now your hope has paled.

So much sadness, so many tears
Looking for life, you only find fears.

I lead you through the pain
And slowly a new life is gained.

Buried underneath
Is all that life has to bequeath.

Looking inside what do you see?
It's your spirit now set free!

You have learned to forgive and love
You have found the peace of the dove.



I Am the Light

I am walking my day
Travelling through the autumn reds and yellows.
This path is familiar; it leads to the corn field.

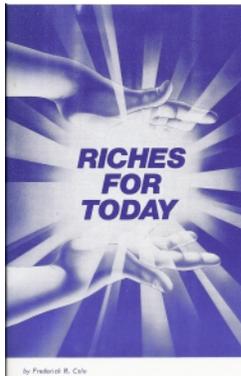
Corn golden and ripe
Stalks yellow and wilting.

The earth is dry and grey and silty.
My beautiful black and white companion runs with me
Her tail a-swish with adventure.

I am happy too, feeling this is my place.
And then

I begin to fill up with light and knowledge.
There is the brightest of lights within me
Not that I see but that I feel

I Am the Light.



Book Review: "Riches for Today" by Rev. Dr. Frederick R. Cale

Reviewed by NTI Student, Margaret Flood

In Fred Cale's book, *Riches for Today*, he describes a simple method that will enable all of us to receive what we need in life – the so called miracles that will

bring into our lives all that we need to be fulfilled, happy and successful. All we need really is faith, positive thinking and effort.

We are soul, our true nature is spiritual not physical. Many people see God as outside ourselves, but as we learn to look inward we discover that the Divine is within us. And when we accept that we are spirit then this makes perfect sense. As we ask for help in this

earthly life – we reach out to God where we rediscover our connection in truth, and at the same time reach inward to develop and strengthen what has been lost to fear and negativity. We have stepped onto the earth choosing a life that will have challenges, not to hold us back but to have the opportunity to grow in the direction of our soul's purpose. Guided by this purpose and the principle *Love thy Neighbour*, we ask for God's help so we may move further on our path. I think this is the meaning of Mark 12:2:

'I tell you therefore: everything you ask and pray for, believe that you have it already and it will be yours.'

The simple steps to receiving what we need, as out-lined by Rev. Cale are:

1. Using the freedom of choice that you have, decide what you need – be positive and specific.
2. Consider the consequences of this in your life and be sure it will be beneficial to you.
3. Ask God for help, that you receive what you need.
4. Put your own effort into trying to make this request happen.
5. Picture in your mind that you already have fulfilment – begin to see yourself using this gift already – this can be attained by meditating daily. If you have negative thoughts, believing you don't deserve or won't receive then use affirmations – they are to be written and read daily.
6. Have faith that God will supply you with what you need. Fear and doubt can cause you to lose faith. Your mind must have positive and uplifting thoughts. Creating white light around you will help to dispel the negativity and bring peace.
7. Remember that thoughts are things.
8. You receive always at the right time.
9. Use your gift wisely and always with respect for others.

The affirmations I have written all have to do with the 'big things' in my life now: my children as they struggle with their life events, my efforts to lose weight and become more healthy (lower blood sugar and blood pressure), my studies with the ministry, my connection to spirit and just life in general as I live day to day.

➤ *I am connected to spirit and my life today has purpose and meaning.*

➤ *I am a serious student who is reading, contemplating and writing today. In my studies I find truth.*

➤ *The health of my physical body is important to me. I choose to eat nourishing food today. In this way I love myself.*

➤ *My soul has a purpose. The fears and challenges I may face today bring me closer to understanding and accepting my life as it is on earth.*

➤ *I am letting go of my adult children and allowing them their own discovery of their soul's purpose. My love nourishes their soul and that is all they need from me.*

As I was reading Rev. Cale's book, I had a revelation. There are a number of quotes from the Bible in the book. I remember we had to read the Bible in grade school (imagine that today!) and of course did not understand a word of it. I never looked at the Bible again and my experience with the Catholic Church made sure I never wanted to open that book again. But when I was reading Rev. Cale's book I felt strangely drawn into the scripture he quotes.

I have always been reluctant to use the word God as it was so closely tied to all those negative experiences I had in the church and at school. After reading this book, it was the first time I felt OK with using the word God and knowing it could mean Spirit, One, Universe...

And a further revelation – that time in the corn field I felt God was around me and then in me – at the time I could only describe the feeling as God but that word God was such a negative word to me that I didn't want him there. But now

...



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M.Ed., C.C.C.

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Stratford, ON Interfaith Centre ~ Schedule and News

Register with dgsinclair50@yahoo.com

STRATFORD, ON INTERFAITH CENTRE PROGRAMS

Wednesday afternoons

1:30-4:00 pm

REIKI

Practitioner - Deb Sinclair
Wellsprings, Stratford, Ont.

4th Friday of month

7:30 - ? pm

SPIRITUAL CINEMA

Facilitator - Deb Sinclair
Stratford Interfaith Centre

2nd Wednesday of month

7:00 - 9:00 pm

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHANGELS

Facilitator - Deb Sinclair
Stratford Interfaith Centre

Ongoing

REIKI, SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Private Session
By Appointment
Practitioner - Deb Sinclair
Stratford Interfaith Centre



Debra Lynn Sinclair,
CASC, LM, RH, Reiki Master,
Spiritual Practitioner Apprentice
Director of the
Stratford, Ontario
Interfaith Centre



Saint John, NB Interfaith Centre ~ Schedule and News

More info, to register or to be put on our e-list RevSandiKing@gmail.com

506-214-1753

SAINT JOHN, NB INTERFAITH CENTRE PROGRAMS

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

MEDITATION GROUP

Wednesdays 7-9PM

January 11, March 21 and April 11

INTERFAITH CELEBRATION

SERVICES

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Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre

Register with Rev. Sandi revsandi@interfaithministry.com

TENTATIVE Schedule of Events Winter 2012 - Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre:

to register and/or make an appointment for private sessions and/or ask to receive regular emails, contact RevSandi@InterfaithMinistry.com. Wksh Fee: \$30; OIIM Members are entitled to free participation at most Thursday night OIIM Events. - Recommended donation \$20 per event.

Check out the full Interfaith Connections
Volume 25-2 Winter 2012 at
www.interfaithconnections.org

WEB-SITES

OIIM: www.InterfaithMinistry.com

Spirituality/Holistic Health: www.iNtuitiveTimes.ca

Interfaith E-news: www.InterfaithConnections.org

Weddings: www.WeddingsOnPEI.ca

Educational Resources & NTI (Seminary): www.OIIM.net

Family/Personal Counselling: www.KingsWC.org

Psychic Readings/Resources: www.RevBarryKing.ca

Workshop Facilitators and Service Officiants

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

☞ **Rev. Barry King**, BSc. (Hon.), PhD(TC), OM, n.d., Reiki Master, OIIM RSPchmd and Master Spiritual Medium

☞ **Rev. Susan Eaton**, OM, CASC, Reiki Master, OIIM RSPd and Master Spiritual Director

JANUARY:

TH 12 - SERVICE enjoy an evening of sharing meditation, uplifting talk, song and prayer and messages or healing from Spirit. (Donations welcomed.)

TH 19 - WORKSHOP 1 - Astral Travelling/Out-of-body Experiences with Rev. Sandi - *Course Description:* ☞ Experience in a controlled and safe environment an out-of-body experience; ☞ As one learns to manage and control one's energies through astral travel we can regain balance, a feeling of overall well-being, control of negative stress, increase in self-confidence, emotional balance, and clarity of insight; ☞ Enjoy a deep relaxation while visiting worlds known and unknown.

TH 26 - WORKSHOP 2 - Research on Connecting to Spirit with Rev. Susan - *Course Description:* ☞ An experiential workshop for personal use; ☞ Devoted to enhancing one's personal connection to Spirit; ☞ Exploration of research and experiments.

FEBRUARY:

TH 2 - SERVICE enjoy an evening of sharing meditation, uplifting talk, song and prayer and messages or healing from Spirit. (Donations welcomed.)

TH 9 - WORKSHOP 3 - Message Circle with Rev. Susan - *Workshop Description:* ☞ 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.

TH 16 - WORKSHOP 4 - Faeries with Rev. Susan - *Workshop Description:* ☞ Discover the healing power of connecting to Spirit through faeries; ☞ Connect to your own faerie and discover the joy and healing energy they bring to you; ☞ As we explore this connection through meditation and visualization - we see the extraordinary in the ordinary, touch the spiritual reality of our world and ourselves, and often come in touch with our joy guides.

TH 23 - WORKSHOP 5 - Spiritual Alchemy: with Rev. Susan - *Course Description:* ☞ Understanding the alchemical and transformational process of spiritual and personal growth; ☞ Experience the alchemical process of spiritual transformation; ☞ See the duality of how the physical process reflects the spiritual process; ☞ Clarify the meaning of symbols and symbolism in your life; ☞ Enjoy a healing meditation.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEDIUMSHIP?

☞ *Mediumship CLASSES WILL START IN MARCH* - must have Level I & be a current OIIM member - If interested please contact RevSandi@InterfaithMinistry.com



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MARCH:

TH 1 - SERVICE enjoy an evening of sharing meditation, uplifting talk, song and prayer and messages or healing from Spirit. (Donations welcomed.)

TH 8 - WORKSHOP 6 - House Blessings with Revs. Barry and Sandi - *Workshop Description:* ☽ Learn to bring out positive energies in your home; ☽ Use tools such as crystals, Holy Water; sacred symbols and dowsing rods; ☽ Explore how to create a personalized, purifying and cleansing house blessing, creating a tranquil oasis for all.

TH 15 - WORKSHOP 7 - Past Life Regression with Rev. Barry - *Workshop Description:* ☽ Heal the present through healing past lives; ☽ An exploration of research on reincarnation; ☽ A powerful tool for self-exploration and inner healing; ☽ Letting the past be a guide to your future; ☽ Can help you deal with today's phobias, fears, relationships and physical discomfort.

TH 22 - WORKSHOP 8 - Animal Spirit Guides and Totems with Rev. Susan - *Course Description:* ☽ Discover the healing power of connecting to Spirit through animals; ☽ Connect to your own nature spirits and discover the joy and healing energy they bring to you; ☽ Experiential workshop.

TH 29 - WORKSHOP 9 - Channelling with Rev. Barry - *Workshop Description:* ☽ An exploration of the nature of channelling life from the other-side through Spirit communication; ☽ An opportunity to experience ectoplasm, direct communication with guides, angels, prophets, sages and entities of a higher vibration; ☽ Normally there are healing and inspirational messages for the group and for each participant; ☽ Only positive, constructive and up-lifting messages are channelled. *Prerequisite:* ☽ Level I Course; ☽ OIIM Membership; and ☽ Participants must have approval to attend.

APRIL:

TH 5 - INTERFAITH Holiday to celebrate Easter week end.

TH 12 - WORKSHOP 10 - Spiritual Healing and Vibrational Energy with Rev. Susan - *Workshop Description:* ☽ Discover the commonalities of the many different healing modalities such as Reiki, Therapeutic Touch, Seiki and Laying on of Hands; ☽ Connect to your own healing power through experiential exercisers; ☽ Experience the healing power of channelling the energy of the Divine; ☽ Enjoy a healing meditation.

TH 19 - WORKSHOP 11 - Dream Interpretation - the Psychic Connection with Rev. Barry - *Workshop Description:* ☽ Learn to tap into the information in your dreams as the window to your unconscious; ☽ Learn how dreams can be a bridge from the unconscious to assist you in solving challenges of the conscious mind; ☽ Learn how to discern when dreams are the window to the Spirit world; ☽ Learn to discern what is from your unconscious, the Spirit world and your intuition; ☽ Learn to interpret the symbolism of your dreams.

TH 26 - WORKSHOP 12 - Healing and Connecting to Spirit - an Exploration of Healing Crystals and Stones with Revs. Barry & Sandi - *Workshop Description:* ☽ Discover the healing power of crystals; ☽ Find out what colour and crystals have in common; ☽ Understand the physical and the esoteric properties of crystals; ☽ Use high vibrational crystals and experience your personal power exponentially; ☽ Experience healing exercisers using crystals and stones; ☽ Enjoy a healing meditation.



Prince Edward Island Interfaith Centre - NEWS:

25th Anniversary Celebration

We have been going for 25 years. Margaret is planning a Celebration in April or May. If you would like to help, get in touch with her at flood.margaret@gmail.com



AWAIC Developments to Better Serve Our Members



Rev. Philip Waldrop, Board Chair

It is a pleasure to announce several programs and initiatives that are underway to continue to serve AWAIC's members better.

First, AWAIC is building a new, improved website at www.awainterfaithclergy.org. The site launch is on schedule and is set for January 1, 2012. It will feature:

- clearer site navigation and a more eye-pleasing format.
 - a more user-friendly member's directory with better organization
 - more in-depth info on our programs and initiatives.
- Shortly after the launch we will also revamp the membership application and renewal process. We welcome inquiries and suggestions at aworldalliance@gmail.com

Next, AWAIC is launching a committee to create a Continuing Education Recognition Program for AWAIC members. Further, we plan to create a network of providers of Continuing Education. This committee will start its work in January 2012, and includes representatives from interfaith seminaries, AWAIC, and The Temple of Understanding. The Temple of Understanding has provided interfaith education programs since 1960. Again, inquiries and suggestions to aworldalliance@gmail.com

In October 2011, at our annual conference, we announced the Interfaith Gateway Cooperation Circle, which is a coordinating and support circle for members creating their own Interfaith Cooperation Circles.

AWAIC's Circle and new circles are connected to

the global network of Cooperation Circles of United Religions Initiative. For more info contact aworldalliance@gmail.com.

One such joint activity is AWAIC's participation on the committee setting criteria for the ongoing Huston Smith Interfaith Educator awards. Huston Smith himself selected the first winner, Dr. Donald Bryant, of Waterloo, Ontario. The idea is to select a winner from among interfaith seminaries, and then from a wider arena in alternating years. Dr. Bryant's award represents the wider arena, and has been awarded to him for his decades-long work and his writings on interfaith understanding and peace-building.

AWAIC is also starting to plan its next annual conference for Fall 2012., Due to feedback from conference attendees, the site selection committee is seeking a venue easily reached from a major airport, at reasonable cost. We are also considering adding pre- and post-conference classes. Further, the conference committee is investigating ways for electronic participation-at-a-distance for our geographically dispersed membership. For suggestions, inquiries and comments, contact us at aworldalliance@gmail.com

I am excited about all that is going on at AWAIC. I invite your comments and inquiries. Currently use aworldalliance@gmail.com, or see our website after Jan 1, 2012 at awainterfaithclergy.org.

*Namaste,
Rev. Phil Waldrop*



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The Paths Are Many, the Truth Is One ~ Love Thy Neighbour



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