



THE LIGHT

THE MAGAZINE OF INNERFAITH MINISTRIES WORLDWIDE

DR. SHARRON STROUD - FOUNDER

DECEMBER 2007

THE FOUR AGREEMENTS:
THE LEGACY REVEALED

TRUE MEANING
OF CHRISTMAS
BY ERNEST HOLMES

THE BLESSING OF
MIRACLES
BY DR. SHARRON STROUD

A MAGNIFICENT MIX AT SIX: INSIDE INNERFAITH'S ANNIVERSARY

December 2007

The Light

The Magazine of Innerfaith Ministries Worldwide

Dr. Sharron Stroud, Founder

Publisher

Dr. Sharron Stroud

Co Publishers

Lee J. Friend and Kevin M. Smith

Graphics Editor / Layout

Kevin M. Smith

Content Coordinator

Lee J. Friend

Proofreader / Distribution

Linda Orrick

Contributors

Dr. Sharron Stroud, Rev. Ed DiNicola, Rev. Trent Blanchard, Mack Rogers, Dr. Terre York, Kate Porter, Linda Orrick, Carol Evans

Advertising and Other Inquiries

innerfaithlight@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE

Dr Sharron Stroud:
A Christmas Reflection..... 3

The Four Agreements:
The Legacy Revealed.....5

Trent Blanchard:
Happy Holidays.....6

The True Meaning of Christmas.....7

Cassidy's Angel.....8

A Magnificent Mix at Six.....10

A Holiday Treatment.....13

Service With a Smile.....16



DR. SHARRON STROUD
FOUNDER
INNERFAITH MINISTRIES WORLDWIDE

One God Many Paths

(760) 318-3196

WEDDINGS • COMMITMENT CEREMONIES
PRAYER MINISTRIES • MEMORIALS • CHRISTENINGS
SPIRITUAL & COUPLES COUNSELING

SUNDAY SERVICES
10 AM AT THE CAMELOT THEATER
2300 BARISTO ROAD PALM SPRINGS

(760) 464-9054 (CELL)
PO Box 9318 PALM SPRINGS, CA 92263
GODANDCO@EARTHLINK.NET
WWW.INNERFAITHWORLDWIDE.COM

A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

The ancients believed that the Winter Season was a form of the Earth Initiation, whereby humanity learns the Rite of Spirit over Matter, which constitutes a part of the mystic ceremonial of the Winter Solstice season. The Student of Truth seeks the esoteric meaning of the Nativity.

The Mystery of the Christos acknowledges the process of enlightenment which is accomplished largely by means of sound. The powerful intonation or Word sounded cosmically at this season lifts and harmonizes every atom of the planet and is accompanied by such a mighty burst of Light that all the world is enfolded in a divine radiance.

Ancient Wisdom tells of heavenly Hosts of Angels and Arch Angels singing in a majestic chorus of Peace on Earth and Glory to God in the Highest. Numerous and exquisite legends abound relative to the influence of the spiritual forces on the animal kingdom during this most gracious time. These legends all have their basis in the spiritual view, as animals are extremely sensitive to Inner plane activation.

It is during the Winter Solstice season that down through the ages, the Temple doors swing wide and those who aspire to come into at-onement with the Great Light of the world enter therein. To focus consciousness so completely



in life that there can be no negative reaction, and to so harmonize every body-atom with the rhythms of the Christ Song so that the spirit responds only to the high, the beautiful and the true is the requirement essential for this entrance.

The Ancient Temple teachings tell us that the goal of humanity's highest quest in the Earth Initiation of the Winter Solstice is the areole of the transcendent glory, the Christ Within, which is our divine life pattern. We are

beckoned forward upon the illumined way, as all the earth becomes resonant with the vast re-echoing music of His words that we shall hear when we have made this attainment to Christ Consciousness.

The Advent Season is known as the time of purification and preparation. It is the season when an aspirant seeks to attune themselves more fully to the joy of the coming Christmastide. If the Student of Truth knows something of the significance of the mystic Initiation of Christos Wisdom they enter with a much deeper understanding into the consciousness of the Advent Season. Early disciples of The Christ observed this as a period for receiving fresh revelation from on high, and especially favoring

Continued On Page 4

their own spiritual development. Definite preparation was made for what they hoped to receive when Advent reached its climaxing hour on Holy Night.

Everyone is familiar with the red and green of the Christmas Season as celebrated in western countries. Green is the color of new life. It is generally associated with spring, when the new plant life made itself visible in the northern hemisphere. However, it is at Christmas time that this new life first stirs within the planet, and that is why the wise seers of old used it as a decorative motif for midwinter festival. Red is the color of Mars. It is also the color of activity which surges through the planet when the Christ Ray is "reborn" within. The place of a planet's exaltation is where spiritual forces are concentrated. The red which belongs to Christmas is a pure, clear color produced by the transmutation of the heavier red of passion into the brightest tone of compassion. This comes with the change from the personal to the impersonal, from the Individual to the universal.

The magic of Christmas is intimately connected with the Star. The golden Star that shone in the sky above Bethlehem on that holy night. The Star is the Soul Signature of the Christ. As music produces exquisite geometric patterns in the ethers so also do particular modes of meditation. In the Christos Mystery Temples the basic pattern is the Star.

Underneath the beauty, color and rejoicing which animates the magic of Christmas, beneath all activity, hustle and bustle, there sounds an intonation more tender and beautiful than the singing of Angels and Archangels—the voice of the Christ through each other.

Yes, the magic of Christmas is characterized by a spirit of universal good will. Humanity is generally animated by friendly and generous impulses. This feeling of universal friendship finds its most joyful symbol in Santa Claus. It is He who makes his annual visit to the rooftops of the world on Christmas night distributing gifts and good cheer for everyone. He is known by many names in many different lands, but his spirit is always the same for he is the personification of the universal Good Will which Christ Consciousness brings each year to earth, and which is becoming an ever more powerful moving force in human consciousness throughout the world.

On Christmas Eve we will gather together at our annual Candle Light Service to share our Light and rejoice in the deepening Christ Consciousness we share, one with another!

Namast'e and Love for a Glorious Christmas!

Dr. Sharron Stroud, Founder



We are beckoned forward upon the illumined way, as all the earth becomes resonant with the vast re-echoing music of His words that we shall hear when we have made this attainment to Christ Consciousness.

The Four Agreements:

The Legacy Revealed

By Lee J. Friend

It was only about eight months or so ago that I discovered Don Miguel Ruiz's masterpiece "The Four Agreements". I had no idea what to expect from reading such a book, given that I assumed it was just another self help book. That was one of the first things I learned within the books pages. Do Not Assume. Lesson learned. As I read through the whole book in a single sitting I felt somehow changed.

The themes contained within "The Four Agreements" are universal. They are so simple to comprehend, and yet their simplicity somehow was lost on me as I grew up. By introducing the readers to things that somewhere along the line they might have forgotten, Mr. Ruiz provides so many "Oh yeah moments".

While reading "The Four Agreements" was life changing, the real reward from reading it comes long after you have turned the last page. What the real reward in it is when you take what you have learned and implement it. Truthfully, those simple four agreements have changed my

life. And while I wondered what took me so long to figure it out, I now know that it isn't when I discovered it but the fact that I finally did, when it was meant to happen.

Being so inspired by Don Miguel Ruiz I wanted to know more about the man. I emailed his official website and submitted some questions. While I do consider myself a somewhat proficient and gifted writer I decided rather than to try to explain Mr. Ruiz's teachings it was best to share his own words. Through the email I sent and a compilation of other interviews with Mr. Ruiz I now share with you his insights and thoughts.

"I think that now the world is ready for the truth. In The Four Agreements, my intention was to make it very small and simple so that anyone could understand it well. Before, there was a lot of superstition, a lot of things that made it difficult for everybody to accept the truth".

"It's all about acceptance of what we really are and not to try to be what we are not. You know, like a dog is always going to be a dog, a cat is always going to be a cat. And they don't know they are dogs or cats. They are just what they are and they are programmed to be the way they are. Then by following, let's say a different knowledge, it's accepting ourselves the way they are. It's through acceptance".

"The word Toltec means artist. You are the artist of your own world. The limitations you create disappear as soon as you become the artist you are, because, really, everything is possible. In your life, you are creating your own world".

**First,
we must
become
aware
that
we are
dreaming.**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The Christmas season has always been a magical time for me! It is filled with fond memories of my early childhood when my family was friendlier, kinder and more loving with each other. A time when we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ - by receiving presents mysteriously delivered by a man we didn't personally know, via a chimney we didn't have! I never quite understand the connection between my religions' Lord and Savior and this chubby, white-haired man in the red suit known as Santa Claus, but I sure didn't care. Christmas made this little boy a very happy camper!



see they are extremely similar. The thought that went through my mind was how this concept parallels the human experience. People might look different on the outside- have different colors, different cultures, different sexual orientations, different sizes and shapes but when we look more closely, we see we are all the same- spiritual beings having a human experience. We all want the same things – to be loved, cherished and appreciated. If we could only remember this fact more often, we would naturally become more compassionate, loving and respectful towards our fellow man and their personal beliefs!

As I grew older and began to realize the holidays were more than just receiving gifts, I started a journey to discover the true “reason for the season.” I researched the life of Jesus the Christ and the story and miracle of his birth - the event Christmas is based. I also gathered information on some of the other celebrations that took place around Christmastime. I learned about the Jewish holiday Chanukah, also known as the Festival of Lights, an eight-day celebration that commemorates victory over oppression and the power of miracles. I then discovered the African American tradition Kwanzaa, a week-long festivity patterned on the African celebration of harvest during which tribute is paid to the ancestors and to God while at the same time praying for another benevolent year.

What I found interesting is all of these events had a common theme- celebration of life, of miracles, of family and of tradition. With all of their apparent differences, when looking deep at their core, we

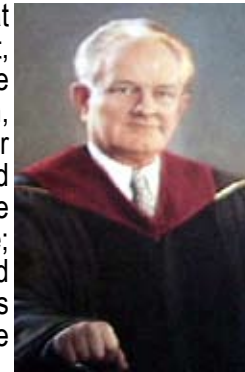
As a result of this research project, I changed the language I had been using during the holiday season. In the past without even thinking, I would wish everyone I came into contact with “Merry Christmas”. I have since updated my greeting to say “Happy Holidays”, which still grants the well wishes I intended before, but without the possibility of offending someone else’s culture, traditions or beliefs. This is a small, but subtle way of honoring and respecting others, which I believe brings more harmony and peace to our crazy world.

This newfound information also brought me conscious of the fact the holiday season, however celebrated, is really about cherishing and being grateful for the intangible gifts we have in our daily lives. Some of these include good health, good fortune and having a caring family and loving friendships- to name just a few. It then becomes another opportunity to show

Happy Holidays (Continues on Page 17)

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas reminds us of the great spiritual ideas that Jesus taught, which cannot change throughout the ages; they belong to every religion, every person, everyone who has ever lived or ever will live. Jesus expressed two great universal truths; first, that we are surrounded by a Divine Presence; second, that there is a Law of Good that responds to our faith in It. That is why he said it is done unto us as we believe...



with his presence, but the birth into human consciousness, into each one of us, of something transcendent and immediate and effective and available - the Divine Presence revealing Itself to us directly, personally, and intimately.

It seems that we should think of this birth in our own consciousness as a realization of love, of truth, of beauty, and of peace. And we should be filled with awareness of the Divine Presence in everything and in everyone. For surely this is the meaning of Christmas.

We must realize that each of us at the center of his own being does meet the living Spirit. What we celebrate at Christmastime is not just the birth of a traditional figure, not just the birth of the greatest man who ever graced this world

Ernest Holmes
From “The True Meaning of Christmas”



CASSIDY'S ANGEL

By Kate Porter

"Lord, help me make it home", I whispered to myself as I sped along the I10 freeway coming out of Los Angeles heading toward Joshua Tree and my home, Fat Quail Farm. A classic "dark and stormy night", the other cars raced by me, seemingly unaware of the dangers speed and pounding rain promised us all. It was nearing Christmas and the shoppers were obviously heading home with little thought other than their purchases. I worried about them. And myself.

Mile after mile the rain exploded on my windshield making visibility impossible. I could barely keep the car on the road. It was past midnight when I finally gave up and made the decision to stop at the next restaurant I saw and sit this one out, if possible.

I usually didn't do this...I didn't think it was safe. But this time, what really wasn't safe was continuing to drive in this downpour. Maybe it would pass...maybe a piece of pie and a cup of coffee would stop my shaking. Maybe, maybe...

Dry hair, warm hands, some friendly people, a great piece of pie and two cups of coffee later, I was ready to get on with my drive. The rain had slowed and it was falling quietly now...softly, the violent deluge just an unpleasant memory.

I gathered my things, held a newspaper over my head and stepped into the wet night. It was even darker than I remembered and to further complicate things, the light was out at the end of the lot where I'd parked. But I clicked my remote and my tail lights bright blink welcomed me. Head down, I hurried toward them.

Suddenly and without warning, a man appeared. He had a hat pulled down over his face (a hat in California??) and was wearing a long dark coat. "Right out of a movie..." I thought as I got ready for anything. It was all happening too fast...

"Maam"? I heard him say softly. I still don't know

why, but instead of rushing by him I slowed and answered, "Yes?" I expected him to ask me for some money and because the weather was so miserable, I put my hand into my jacket pocket, ready to give him something. "Maam," he repeated. Oh lord, he was reaching into his coat...had I made a terrible mistake by stopping to speak to him?

He spoke softly...almost inaudibly..."I can't take care of this little fella. Can you take him?" he said.

I stepped back momentarily confused. What did he mean? And then, as he pulled his hand out from under his coat, I saw that he held a puppy! Even in the dark, I could see that it was black and white, delightfully fuzzy and no bigger than a grapefruit. The man had held the little pup close to his heart and under his coat to keep him dry and warm.

"I just can't feed him right now and I'm worried about him..." he murmured apologetically.

"Yes, of course, I'll take him!" I said as I took the sweet little creature into my down jacket and curled it against my chest. It immediately snuggled into me. A part of me melted.

I could see the man's face now. He was younger than I'd thought and looked exhausted. Though he mustered a half smile, even in the low light, I could see that his eyes were sad. Oddly, there was something about him that calmed my fears.

I asked him his name and he told me "James". I also asked him if he was selling the pup. He hurriedly said, no, he just wanted it "to be safe". I pushed a \$20.00 bill into his hand anyway and thanked him for caring for the little guy enough to give him up. I assured him he had found a good home for him and that I'd make sure he'd live a happy life.

James thanked me and walked slowly away toward the coffee shop and what I hoped would be a warm meal and at least a smile or two. The rain had stopped.

Minutes later found me at "Jack in the Box" asking for a hamburger without the bun and a cup of water. The puppy lay limp in my lap. Though I had just whispered to him what a lucky little boy he was, I knew he needed food immediately. As soon as my order came, I pulled around and parked and opened the bag to cool the meat. Suddenly, he sat up! His ears perked, his eyes brightened and this "lucky" little guy was ready for dinner big time!

Back on the road, the traffic was light and the sky was beginning to give up its moon. "Cassidy" lay sleeping, his puppy tummy fat and full, his sweet breathing deep. As I hurried along toward home, there was no question...for this lovely moment all was definitely "right" with the world.

"Cassidy" was the first dog rescued by the Critter Coalition. He was also the first dog at Fat Quail Farm to enjoy the nutritional benefits of crock-pot cooking. Under his furry coat, he was skin and bones. His little face was hang-dog and his eyes seemed dull. I even wondered at his level of intelligence because of his expression and I found myself determined to change what was potentially a life of fragile health. Having been a fan of the easy and health-ful style of preparing crock-pot meals, I started reading about the nutritional needs of dogs and soon realized the positive possibilities. It made sense to me that fresh protein and vegetables along with nutritional additions like olive oil and calcium could only help this little pup who had started his life so poorly.

As the months passed and the rich scent of meat, rice and vegetables would fill the house, Cass would become animated and curious. After tasting his first meal from what became his favorite place...the kitchen...the little guys appetite bloomed. I fed him several small meals a day and in time...about 6 weeks or so... he began to fill out, finally becoming even a bit chubby.

Today, 13 years later, this sweet canine soul has spent a life being the "Lord of the Manor." In that time dozens of dogs have come, been fostered back into health of body and spirit and ultimately been adopted into new and loving homes. The whole while not even

once did any one of them challenge the role Cassidy played in ruling his roost. They each seemed to know that this Alpha could be trusted to rule wisely and keep them all safe. And he did.

The dogs that have stayed, each having a special need of some kind making the usual adoption not really an option, still defer to our old man. They gather and lay around him as he sleeps in the sun or watches the day slip into dusk. They are now our family, gentle and clear, loving and loyal and Terre and I never let a day pass when we do not thank God for their deep, warm ways.

This story would not be complete without thinking of James...a young man down on his luck but still with a heart that found the love to save a puppy one wet, cold night so long ago. Thank you James, wherever you are. Merry Christmas and bless you for being... Cassidy's Angel.



*The time draws near the birth of Christ:
The moon is hid; the night is still;
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.*

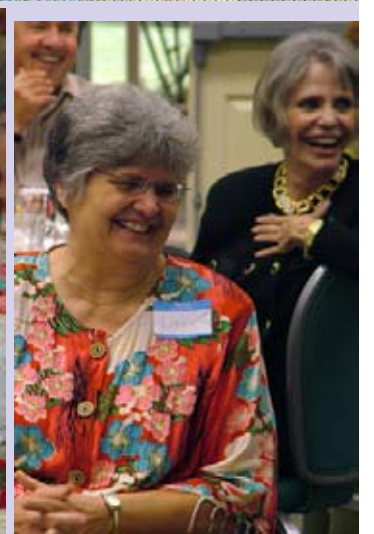
*Four voices of four hamlets round,
From far and near, on mead and moor,
Swell out and fail, as if a door
Were shut between me and the sound:*

*Each voice four changes on the wind,
That now dilate, and new decrease,
Peace and goodwill, goodwill and peace,
Peace and goodwill, to all mankind.*

~ Alfred Lord Tennyson



A Magnificent Mix At





(Volunteers In Progress)

Christmas Party

Friday Night
December 21st
at 6:30 PM

Hosted by
Dr. Sharron Stroud
Creating the Main Course!

Sign-Up in the Lobby to
Bring a Vegetarian Salad
or a Dessert

1359 Calzeta Way
Palm Springs

Innerfaith in the Community



Thanksgiving 2007

A HOLIDAY TREATMENT

By Lee J. Friend

In this special time of year and each and every day from the beginning of time into the outer reach of space and mind there is God. That God is here with me, by my side, in my heart and deep within my soul. God knows no limits, no prejudice or judgments. God knows no illness, pain or suffering. God is the true meaning of the season. His love is a gift that we can receive and we can share. God's love is eternal and his presence is constant. God speaks to me, through me, as me and for me. We are one.

I speak myself for Lee Friend knowing that God hears each and every syllable. I ask for nothing as all I desire is already mine. Instead I share with God the tidings of joy and love that blanket our planet with God's mercy, love and wisdom.

This Christmas shall not only celebrate the birth of a babe in a manger, but a rebirth of love and peace throughout the world. In the simplest gestures and ordinary locales, hearts and mind shall be raised into the Christ consciousness.

A bell will ring in a square announcing the generosity that lives within us all. A reading of The Night Before Christmas shall not only mark a beloved tradition but will awaken the child to all who listen.

An evergreen tree will be cut down and trimmed for the sole purpose of reuniting loved ones. The physical gifts beneath that tree shall pale in comparison to the knowingness of the love that was put into them.

A knock at the door followed by a group of carolers will remind an elderly couple that they are not alone. The lyrics will provide them with cherished memories seemingly lost forever.

Small children will awaken with the ability to truly believe in something, knowing deep down that they are loved.

The hungry shall be fed, not just for one day, but every day. Their minds and bodies will be filled with nourishment. They shall know the true meaning of abundance.

Those down and out shall find hope again and their hearts will beat with pride. They shall want for nothing, as God provides them with everything they need.

The religions of the world shall rejoice as one, all celebrating in unison the good fortune that God provides.

All wars shall come to an eternal end and the path to peace shall be guided through the love of God and one another. Enemies shall become friends and sorrow will be replaced by joy.

Old acquaintances shall not be forgotten, but remembered fondly.

A Christmas wish will result in a realization that all is within and with God.

The sick shall be healed, alive and well. To return to the place of health and awareness that keeps them vibrant and content.

Miracles will happen not because they are asked for but because they are realized.

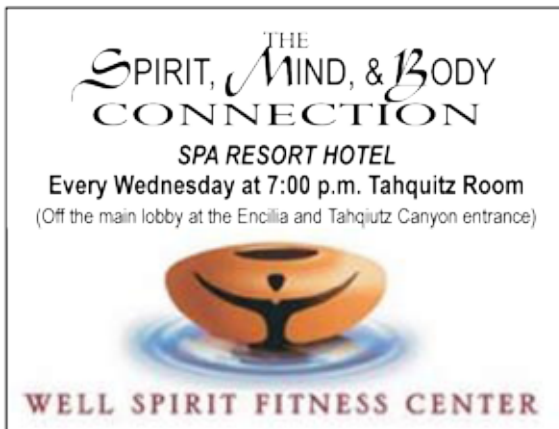
Most importantly these things shall not occur only on December 25th but each and every day. The spirit of the season shall remain constant allowing each of us to share the gift of ourselves with the universe.

One voice shall speak to each of us, and we shall listen intently. We shall speak back without hesitation or fear knowing that we are heard and never alone. These words shall provide a sense of belonging and acceptance.

My words I speak I know are those of God and I completely thankful knowing that God has heard each and every wish. I gratefully accept the goodness and light that he sheds on me and the world, and release to the universe my visualization of the world at peace. I am confident in Gods love and that this holiday season is one of joy, prosperity and health.

And so it is.





December

5th – Marcel Masoud Bassirian – Rumi and the World

UNESCO has designated 2007 as the year of Rumi. Marcel, who has been doing presentation on Rumi for many years in Palm Springs and Nationwide, will discuss Rumi and the world.

12 – Joseph Sheehan – The Magi, Star in The East and The Birth of Christ

Joseph will discuss this topic from an astrologer's point of view and share his wonderful wealth of information and experience with us. He holds a masters degree in Holistic Health from J.F.K University in California. He also studied Western Spirituality at St. Mary's University in Texas along with Eastern Spirituality at Vidyajoti Institute in New Delhi. His inner quest led to his study of astrology which he realized provided a profound tool for gaining insight into the Soul's evolutionary journey.

19 – Frederic Delarue – Christmas Concert With The Angels

Experience Christmas with the Angels through the medium of original scores of our local award-winning composer Frederic Delarue.

26 – There will be No Wednesday Nite Live Service in Honor of the Christmas Holidays.

January

2nd – There will be no Wednesday Nite Live Service in Honor of New Years.

9 – Denise Myers – The Power of Choice

Join Denise to learn more about her book which is fueled by the Eleven Fundamental Principles of Choice. This workbook is designed to help people make positive empowering choices in their daily lives. It is an excellent tool for those who are just

starting their positive journey, for those who just need a reminder of how much power we really have, and how being positive can change your life and that of those around you. Denise will inspire you to make every day choices count. She is also a Reiki master teacher, intuitive, and a third generation Tea leaf reader. This presentation is an introduction to her Power of Choice Seminar on January 20, 2008.

16 – Trent Blanchard – Finding YOUR Personal Freedom

Triple A's for the Soul Book Discussion

Triple A's for the Soul- Your Pathway to Personal Freedom practically assist people in removing the obstacles that prohibit them from having a joyful life experience. Rev Trent shares the stories of his own life with the intention of assisting you in healing yours. The book contains twelve chapters, each containing an Article, an Affirmation and Action steps. Follow this path and you will surely find freedom from self-imposed limitations. Rev. Trent Blanchard, MA is a spiritual teacher helping others remove the obstacles that get in the way of life. Trent works in a variety of capacities including individual life coaching, workshop facilitation, and public speaking engagements. The ordained minister and certified addiction specialist is a contributing writer to several top regional publications and is a published author both nationally and internationally.

23 – Sandy Brewer – The Empowering Promise of You

No matter what happened yesterday, no matter how challenging it may have been or may still appear to be, it pales in comparison to the recognition of who we are at the core of our being today. The promise of us and the potential of all that we can become are eternal. Join us for a vibrant, uplifting evening of the triumph of the spirit and expansive possibilities on how to shift our point of view and create a new dawn. Sandy presents with humor, insight and authenticity based on her more than 30 years as a counselor, coach, speaker, teacher, and humanitarian. Sandy's own path out of extreme darkness caused by horrific childhood abuse and near death experiences into the life-changing healing light of all that we are is memorialized in her memoir, Pursuit of Light, An Extraordinary Journey. Her work has been featured on NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, and a documentary about her life and work has been televised nationally.

30 – Ahriah Vocare – Best Year Yet

If you couldn't fail, what would you want to accomplish in the next 90 days? If you don't write down your goals, you won't get them. If you don't create an action plan, you won't take action. If these are areas in your life that you want to improve, this is the New Year jump start you've been looking for! Based on the book Your Best Year Yet!, Ahriah will teach you how to create the focus and support to achieve your top ten goals, this year and every year. Ahriah partners with her clients to clarify, align, and act on what is truly important to them in life. Her training as a certified teacher, coach, psychotherapist, and channel enhances her work with a bold, fresh, and authentic style. This presentation is an introduction to the upcoming workshop that Ahriah is offering in February.

CELEBRATE WITH US

December Theme:

THE MYSTICAL CHRIST

December Affirmation:

As my humanness gives way to the Divine the Christ Consciousness within me arises triumphant and victorious!

I and my Father/Mother God are one! And so it is!

- 2 - Discover the Christ Path Within You
- 9 - The Blessing of Miracles
- 16 - Blessings of Peace
- 23 - Blessings of Grace
- 30 - The Path of Enlightenment

Friendship Sunday Brunch

The first Sunday of each month

Please join us at the Hilton Hotel (across from the Spa Casino on Tahquitz). Special price \$7.95 to InnerFaith members and guests! All are welcome.

Healing Service

9:30 AM each Sunday morning

Facilitated by the Ministerial Team; experience healing energy and the joy of deepening spirituality

Centering Meditation

By Musicians

9:50 AM each Sunday Morning in the Sanctuary Theater.

Prayer Ministry

Rev. Ed DiNicola will assist you with your prayer request at the prayer table in the foyer and pray with you personally if you desire.

Canned Food Drive

Chaplain Lloyd Brushett collects canned goods for our partner in charity at The Well in the Desert. Please leave your canned food donations at the designated place in the foyer.

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24th 7:00PM
Hilton Hotel, Downtown Palm Springs

Come share Christmas Eve with our Innerfaith family. This beautiful service will feature music by Norman Lasiter and Jan Hasman. A sacred candle will be given to everyone, as our beloved Dr. Sharon presents, "Ypu Are The Light of the World". Deicious desserts will be shared.

Founder's Circle

Become a member of the Founder's Circle. Join today by tithing \$100 or more a month over your regular contribution. To join, write Founder's Circle on your check. Talk with Rev. Lloyd Brushett at 770-9263 about the miracles that come from giving to a Purpose larger than yourself.

THE MINISTERIAL TEAM

Rev. Ed DiNicola.....	760-567-5862
Rev. Trent Blanchard.....	760-481-4445
Rev. Arline Hoover.....	760-360-8918
Rev. Lou & Lloyd Brushett	760-770-9263
Dr. Sam Satkin.....	760-327-9610
Rev. Sharon Gibson.....	760-992-9682
Rev. Roger Bambenek.....	760-318-9977

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Volunteer Opportunities Abound!

Mack Rogers

Innerfaith Volunteer Coordinator
Minister-in-Training



you can begin NOW. Whatever your talents, abilities, or passions happen to be, they can all be channeled into something that benefits your whole Innerfaith spiritual community.

Please feel free to call or email myself or Donna Britton (Asst. Volunteer Coord.) to share your ideas and volunteer:

Mack Rogers Phone 328-6764
Email: mackrogersps@aol.com

Donna Britton Phone 668-9133

Thank you so much to all our current volunteers and the many blessings you have contributed to our community. We couldn't do our "church on the move" without you! Please remember the special Christmas Volunteer Dinner Party at Dr. Sharron's home on Friday, December 21st. It is always a fun nite and Dr. Sharron really does up a nice little party to make sure you all feel honored and appreciated. See you there!

Love and Blessings to all,

During this holiday season and heading toward the New Year, you may wish to consider giving the gift of yourself to your spiritual community here at Innerfaith. Volunteering, as in the sense of our New Thought beliefs, actually creates the opportunity to manifest your good intentions into sacred action, as you serve, without condition, a power that is greater than yourself alone. As you do sacred service, you meet other dedicated, like-minded individuals, who have deepened their faith by serving others. Indeed, you will find, if you keep all senses attuned, that you are getting back far more than what you give. It is a "Win/Win Opportunity." So what are you waiting for?

Here are some general areas for you to consider:

Fundraising, Public Relations, Special Projects, Sunday Set-up, Wednesday Nite Live Setup, Ushering, Greeting on Weds or Sunday, Bringing Special Foods for Sunday after church, Audio-Visual, Event Signage, Blowing up Balloons on Sunday morning, Church Photographer, Children's Program, etc.

All of these are ministries, yes ministries that

Happy Holidays (Continued)

thanks for the abundance we have in our lives, which simply is a continuation of the holiday we celebrated recently, Thanksgiving!

Coming to this understanding of the true notion of the season was wonderful, however I was keenly aware we live in a world where the holidays strongly focus on the exchanging of tangible gifts. This fact can make it both wonderful and at the same time, extremely stressful! I used to get totally anxious running around buying each person in my life something that would show my love and appreciate for them, which didn't leave much time for actually enjoying the Christmas traditions I loved - hence taking away a bit of the magic I once felt about the season. The holidays should be about celebrating, not stressing.

With this in mind, I started on a campaign to make the holidays simpler and less stressful for both my loved ones and for myself. I had discussions with my family and friends about limiting our spending, with the exception of the children. We agreed to keep our gifts under a certain amount of money, then placed the names of those we needed to buy for in a hat and picked a name, to which we would buy one, special gift. This cut down our shopping list considerably. We also advocated making homemade gifts, which would show love and thoughtfulness towards the person for whom it was made. Everyone then breathed a great sigh of relief!

The next step for me was to recapture some of the wonder, magic and excitement I felt as a child about Christmas. I made a list of activities I loved doing during the days and weeks that lead up to that special day. I loved listening to and singing Christmas music. I loved getting together with my friends to enjoy their company. I loved decorating the Christmas tree, and perhaps my favorite was sitting in front of it in

the dark, watching the lights sparkle and shine. I then took this list and incorporated as many as I could into the holiday season.

What excites you about the holidays? What can you do to simplify the season and make it more enjoyable and less stressful? These are questions worth investigating and answering for yourself!

The holiday season is about celebration of life, of miracles, of family and of tradition. It is about treating others in gentler, more loving and kinder ways. It is about remembering the events that brought you excitement and wonder during your childhood and then doing them now, as adults. But perhaps most important is remembering that the true gifts we give each other are love, care, kindness and support throughout the year.

Happy Holidays to all!

- Trent Blanchard



be the change you want to see in the world.
Mahatma Gandhi

trent blanchard...
life coach

motivation
life dreams realized.

www.trentblanchard.com
760.481.4445

define purpose • remove obstacles • embrace divinity • claim joy

"Then, everything is possible. The limitations you create disappear because you realize you created them, you create your own story and it changes all the time. How it changes depends on who you're talking to, how you feel at the moment".

"What is difficult is not to understand. The difficulty is you must unlearn and understand that it is our dream of life that is difficult. It is important to begin accepting experience the way it is, then it becomes easy. When you realize that you don't have to be how everyone wants you to be you can enjoy life".

"The Toltecs have three levels of mastery of awareness of truth; three levels of seeing through these lies that create conflicts in our minds, lives and world".

"First, we must become aware that we are dreaming. We are dreaming all the time. When the brain is awake, we have awareness that what we perceive are projections that come from light. Reflection of light comes from everywhere to the eye; just like a movie. We see only light, light projecting objects".

"It's all very virtual reality. Like when we see a mirror, we know everything that exists inside the mirror isn't real but it looks just like outside. When we touch it, however, we touch only the surface of the mirror. Everything is in our eye, our brain. It is all a virtual copy".

"Yes, we are dreaming all the time. When we are sleeping, it is still a dream, but we dream from memory. In dreams we see everything we remember. When the brain is awake, we are

living in present time; the matter we see is the frame of the dream. When you know you are dreaming, everything is possible and nothing has consequences. But when you are awake, there are consequences. It is all about awareness".

"Sooner or later we'll find out the majority of beliefs we have are nothing but lies. The point is to get to the place where you accept existence as it is. There is nothing you can do to change what already exists; rather, we must surrender to trying to be what we are. It is wonderful to be human, to find out the only thing we can do is experience and enjoy life as much as we can".

"You are here on a mission, that mission, and that is enough. If you try to transcend, you'll fail because it is not authentic to do so. You must be authentic. You are unique and there is no one like you. The only way to make it is to be you, not better, or worse. There is nobody better or worse than you".

"Everyone is living in their own dream, making their own story. Don't make assumptions about it. Use words to tell your own stories. Just do best what only you can do. By doing this you are truly living, experiencing, enjoying life."

It's all about acceptance of what we really are and not to try to be what we are not.




Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they do when they stick together.

Verna M. Kelly

SPIRIT OF BUSINESS

Sirius Rising



Ed DiNicola
Spiritual Counselor
Palm Springs, CA 92264

Home: (760) 325-7926
Cell: (760) 567-5862
efdinicola@dc.rr.com

Aligning spirit with consciousness



Reverends
Louise and Lloyd Brushett
Chaplains

128 Via Entrada
Cathedral City, CA 92234
Phone (760) 770-9263



Nanci Sorin
Singer, Actress, Voice Teacher, Voice Overs

760-771-6751

Enhance Your Singing or Speaking Voice

VOICE OF THE WINNER
Technique of the Stars

www.nancisorin.com
nanci@nancisorin.com

Ralphs

ROD McKUSICK
Wine Steward

RALPHS GROCERY COMPANY
#181-Smoketree
1733 E. Palm Canyon Dr.
Palm Springs, CA 92264-1630 (760) 325-5664
E-mail: winesteward-smoketree@stores.ralphs.com



The Norman Lasiter Gallery
CASTELLI ART FRAMING

1570 S. Palm Canyon Dr.
Palm Springs CA 92264

Phone: 760-327-3700
Fax: 760-327-3777
www.castellipalmsprings.com
norman@castellipalmsprings.com

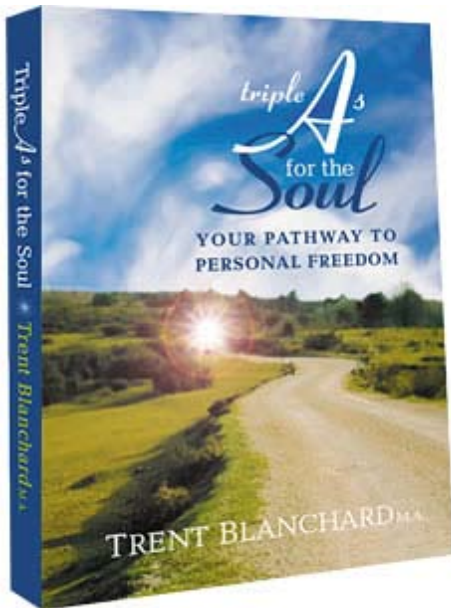



KMSGraphic Design

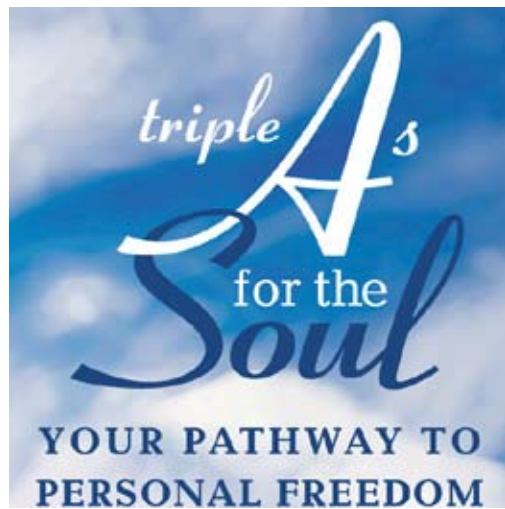
Graphic Design * Illustration * Logo Design
Desktop Publishing * Multi-Media
Photo Restoration * Advertising * Forms

(760) 397-5525
kmsgraphicdesigner@gmail.com





Available
December
2007



Triple A's for the Soul contains twelve chapters, each including an **A**rticle, an **A**ffirmation and **A**ction steps. Read one article, focus on the given affirmation and work the suggested action steps. Follow this path and you will surely find freedom from self-imposed limitation.

In This Book You Will Discover

- WAYS TO UPDATE SELF DEFEATING BELIEFS
- HOW TO OVERCOME LIMITING THOUGHTS
- PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL LIVING

"Trent Blanchard is a teacher who truly practices what he preaches. He won't ask you to do a thing for your personal growth that he hasn't already done himself. Let him lead and positive results are sure to follow." **Dr. Garry Corgiat, Psychotherapist**

"This book is a blueprint for your life. Follow Trent's 12 steps to self-awareness and ultimate freedom." **Michael Moleney, Interior Designer, ABC Extreme Makeover/Home Edition**

Trent Blanchard, M.A. is a spiritual teacher helping others remove the obstacles that get in the way of life. A life coach in private practice in Palm Springs and Los Angeles, CA, Trent works in a variety of capacities including individual life coaching, workshop facilitation, and public speaking engagements. The ordained minister and addiction counselor is a contributing writer to several top regional publications and is a published author both nationally and internationally. His weekly radio show, "Ask the Life Coach", is continually one of the highest rated programs of its kind. For more information visit www.TrentBlanchard.com.



life dreams realized!