

The InnerFaith Light



A NEW THOUGHT COMMUNITY
Dr. Sharron Stroud Co-Founder



Volume 1, Issue 10, November 2005

The Holidays Are Upon Us!



Merry Christmas
& Happy Hanukkah

Yes, it is that most wonderful time of the year! The Season of Love is upon us once again as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child within our own hearts and souls, and the wonderful Festival of Lights in the Jewish Tradition.

Robert Fulghum of *All I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* fame once stated that *people who think good thoughts give good gifts*. He said it was the Brass Rule of Gift Giving. When asked what he wanted for Christmas he stated:

"It's delight and simplicity that I want.

Foolishness and fantasy and noise.

Angels and miracles and wonder and innocence and magic.

*It's harder to talk about, but what I really, really, really, **want** for Christmas is just this:*

I want to be five years old again for an hour.

I want to laugh a lot and cry a lot.

I want to be picked up and rocked to sleep in someone's arms,

And carried up to bed just one more time.

I know what I really want for Christmas.

I want my Childhood back.

I know it doesn't make sense, but since when is Christmas about making sense, anyway?

It is about a Child, of long ago and far away, and it is about the Child of Now. In you and me.

Waiting behind the door of our hearts for something wonderful to happen. A child who is impractical, unrealistic, simpleminded, and terribly vulnerable to joy.

A child who does not need or want or understand Gifts of socks, or potholders.

The Brass Rule is True."

Yes, people who think Good Thoughts Give Good Gifts!

The Prophet of long ago told us the greatest gift one can give is the gift of oneself. If we put our love into whatever we give, the gift will be imbued with a mystical aura of Beauty that transcends the *things of this world*.

Let us salute The Light within each one of us! Let us come together in joy and go out in Thanksgiving for the gift of Life that has been bestowed within us so generously! Let us be as the Wise Ones as they followed the Star in the East, symbolizing their own spiritual consciousness, the Light within.

Let us feel the energy of love as we give our Good Gifts. Let us shout Hosannas to the Highest for within the manger of our own heart

and soul a child is born and love abounds, once again.

In the dawning of the Spiritual Sun

For a moment all faiths became as one.

The Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, Jew

Became as One and somehow knew

That Mystic Voice that calls to me,

O yonder, yonder person I Am Thee!

Namast'e & Love,

Dr. Sharron Stroud

The Ministerial Team

Rev. Arline Hoover

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Rev. Valjean McGinty

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Rev. Roberta Temple

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Rev. Lou & Lloyd Brushett

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Jean-Claude Koven, author of GOING DEEPER, with Dr. Sharron Stroud

You are Courteously Invited

to the

Fourth Anniversary Celebration Brunch

Hosted at the Beautiful Home of Rev. Roberta Temple

1131 Rose Avenue in Palm Springs.

November 14, 2005

Immediately following the Sunday Service.

A sumptuous repast and beautiful music mark this spiritual milestone.

A Donation of \$25.00 is requested and a silent auction graces the festivities.

November Theme:

BLESSINGS ARE UPON YOU

- 6 Love Your Way To Success
- 13 Forgive Yourself To Success
- 20 Bless Yourself To Success
- 27 See Yourself As Success

November Special Events:

- 6 **Gay Pride Parade** - Dr. Sharron Stroud and the Ministerial Team bless our diverse and wonderful community in Joy and Celebration, right after Sunday Service. We are One.
- 13 **Fourth Anniversary Celebration Brunch** hosted at the home of Rev. Roberta Temple 1131 Rose Avenue in Palm Springs. A sumptuous repast and beautiful music mark a spiritual milestone. Silent auction. Donation \$25.00. Immediately follows Sunday Service.

November Wednesday Nite Live

- 2 **Karen Vizer**-Life Coach Consciousness Shifting pioneer, teaches you to Ride the Wave home to your true essential Nature!
- 9 **Frederic Delarue in Concert** – Renowned Composer and Visionary, Frederic graces the audience with: A Blessing From The Angels. A wonderful way to begin the Thanksgiving Season.
- 16 **Gwendolyn Awen Jones** - Angel of Light Healing - Work with Angels to awaken your Spirit. Understand how your thoughts and actions can uplift humanity. Choose to act with love and uplift humanity and all sentients, or you can choose to act in fear. Individual choices change world events daily..
- 23 **Thanksgiving Eve Service** Dr. Sharron Strouds wonderful message, *“The Prosperity Ritual of Blessing”*, music by JeriLynne , pumpkin pie and hot cider ring in Thanksgiving!
- 30 **The Wheel of Fortune** Rev. Sam illuminates your consciousness with an actual Wheel of Fortune you create for yourself. Everything on the Wheel of Fortune can come true and she shares the dynamic laws of the universe that can make this happen for you!

December Theme:

The Mystical Christ

- 4 Discover the Christ Path Within You
- 11 Find Out How To Birth A New You
- 18 See the Star in the East Guiding Your Path
- 25 The Esoteric Energy Of The Christ Principle

December Wednesday Nite Live

- 7 **Frederic Delarue**, Master of music, composer of the sacred, illuminating work lifts you to the heights of Angelic Realms. Begin the Christmas Season with the Music of the Angels on High.
- 14 **Shaman Lynda Yraceburu - HandWalking: Ancient Gypsy Healing.** HandWalking, an ancient healing art, is an expanded knowledge of the Gypsy divination process Palmistry. *Vas Pesh* means HandWalking in the Rom dialect of the Gypsy Healer. We can reduce stress, relieve the pain, and facilitate the healing process.
- 21 **Medicine Woman Mari Mendoza** – Mari takes us on a Winter Solstice Medicine Wheel Journey. Throughout history, indigenous peoples have conducted rituals at this time of year as their part in perpetuating the dance of life. Given the turmoil being experienced in many parts of the Globe, we as walkers on the shamanic path need to keep the faith - to collectively hold the vision of light returning, of beauty being honored, of differences being valued, of knowledge being shared, of love touching all. In times of darkness, holding a essential vision of Light Returning.
- 28 **Rev. Arline Hoover – Pray and Prosper for the New Year!** A perfect opportunity to make your intentions crystal clear. It will be an evening of Speaking our Word and knowing that our prayers spiral up to return in full blown expression of that which has been sent before us. We will write our New Years Resolutions and see them manifest!

December Special Events:

4, 11, and 18 CHRISTMAS TOY PROJECT – Innerfaith joins hands with the Interfaith Community of Palm Springs to collect unwrapped Toys for the Children of the Coachella Valley. Chaplain Lloyd Brushett coordinates this event through THE WELL IN THE DESERT PROJECT.

24 Christmas Eve Candle Light Service 7:00 PM (at the Palm Springs Hilton Hotel at 400 E Tahquitz Cyn. Way) The Wise Men, The Gifts, and Your Soul's Purpose. Special Music by JeriLynne and The Dickens Carolers in full Christmas Regalia! A Wonderful Evening of Beautiful Christmas Music, Traditional Carols, A Sacred Candle for Each Of You To Make A Wish Upon the Star in the East. Dr. Sharron Stroud Presents: "You Are The Light Of The World"

Thanksgiving Reflection

by Galo Kostka

The original pilgrims focused on what they had, which they saw as abundance and for which they were deeply grateful. They did not try to have more than their neighbors but chose to share what they had, working collectively for the common good and rejoicing in the abundance of blessings bestowed upon all.

Thanksgiving is a time of honoring the memory of these wise, hard-working and good-hearted people. It is a time to share what we have with others and to direct our thoughts and attention to the abundance of our blessings. It is a time to reflect on our lives, what we have and what we do with our time, how we share with others and what legacy we leave to future generations. We would be wise to follow the example set by the Pilgrims as they spent weeks in preparation for the celebration of their heartfelt gratitude for the abundance of their blessings.

I gave thanks for the beauty and perfection of nature, warmth of the sun, comfort of breeze, perfection in the way the water of a stream funnels to the larger river, joining in harmony with

31 WORLD PEACE PRAYER - ANNUAL EVENT!

Courtyard Marriott at 4:00 AM (Noon Greenwich time) People all over the World will be praying simultaneously For World Peace. You can make a Difference for Peace! Your Energy creates a critical mass that can change the balance of our world consciousness. Experience the Peace Ceremony and Light a Candle for Peace

"Prayer is not an old woman's idle amusement. Properly understood and applied, it is the most potent instrument of action" - Mahatma Gandhi

that which is larger than itself and yet part of it. I saw the harmony in all of nature, the beauty of nature's babies, flowers and trees, deserts and mountains. All so very different and yet all containing the same perfection which is part of us.

Cathy and I were the last in line at the Hilton for Friendship Sunday again today but I had the good fortune of sitting next to Lloyd and Lou. They are truly inspiring with all that they do and are very dear to my heart. We are blessed to have them in our spiritual family. They emanate the true Spirit of Giving with all the work they are doing as the Chaplains of the Homeless here in the desert, on behalf of you and Innerfaith Ministries Worldwide. Our community is a blessing to all!

Thank you so much for your inspirational message this morning and for making us feel better than we felt when we arrived. And congratulations on your new award! I know you have received many, and each one is richly deserved. Our congregation is honored that you have chosen to inspire, lead and enlighten us and all the other ways you joyfully serve us and fill all of our needs. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for all your wonderful gifts to us. I love you!

Blessings of light & joy...

Ministry of Prayer

The Desert Rose Miracle Working Ministry of Prayer stands ready to support you in your prayer requests. Every Sunday Morning and Wednesday Service we have a Ministry of Prayer table for you to fill out your request and we pray over them for 30 Days. This is a powerful group of trained ministers and practitioners of the New Thought movement.

No class of people on earth believes more in prayer than we do. Our whole theory is based not only on the belief in Spirit, but in the availability of It—Its immediate response. We even go so far as to say in everyday language:

"Pray right and God cannot help responding."

A Prayer for World Peace

I know there is but One Mind, which is the Mind of God, in which all people live and move and have their being.

I know there is a divine pattern for humanity and within this pattern there is infinite harmony and peace, cooperation, unity and mutual helpfulness.

I know that the mind of humankind, being one with the Mind of God, shall discover the method, the

way and the means best fitted to permit the flow of divine love between individuals and nations. Thus harmony, peace, cooperation, unity and mutual helpfulness will be experienced by all.

I know there shall be a free interchange of ideas, of cultures, of spiritual concepts, of ethics, of educational systems and scientific discoveries – for all good belongs to all alike.

I know that, because Divine Mind has created us all, we are bound together in one infinite and perfect unity.

In bringing about world peace, I know that all people and all nations will remain individual but united for a common purpose of promoting peace, happiness, harmony and prosperity.

I know that deep within every person, the divine pattern of perfect peace is already implanted.

I now declare that in each person and in leaders of thought everywhere this divine pattern moves into action and form, to the end that all nations and all people shall live together in peace, harmony and prosperity – forever.

So it is now.

--- Ernest Holmes, 1950



A Study of Praying Hands - Albrecht Durer, 1508

On Line Prayer Request

You are invited to open your life to this healing and prospering action through our on line prayer request form . *To access it, visit our Web site at www.innerfaithworldwide.com and click on **prayer request**.* When you submit your prayer request, you enlist the support of our Prayer Team who know the Truth for you and acknowledge God's presence in all aspects of your life. You will receive prayer support on this concern for 30 days and requests may be submitted as often as needed or desired. Spiritual Mind Treatment uses the Power of Universal Mind to bring changes in your daily life. There is a Power for Good which anyone can use anytime, anywhere. You can make affirmative use of this Healing Energy within you Now. Often in response to Spiritual Mind Treatment, you may realize changes for good in every area of your life.

Editor's Kitchen

In a return to last issues "cookie theme", the holidays are a favorite culinary time for me – when the tastes and scents of traditional dishes and delights waft gently from the kitchen, tickling the palate.

Tradition bears substantial weight in my cooking at this time of year, but tradition aside, the best end-products typically result from refusing to compromise when it comes to flavor – better **ONE** really good cookie than 4 rather adequate ones. The disappointment of cookies with that just barely off flavor resulting from using margarine rather than butter, the strangely rubbery texture of marshmallow crème fudges, and other culinary misfortunes did not breed enthusiasm for second-rate ingredients in my heart, nor a vast amount of compromise on such matters in my psyche.

This recipe, unaltered, is one of my earliest childhood cookery recollections. Rolling the balls of dough, then dipping them in crystalline colored sugars, and finally putting them on the still warm cookie sheets as we prepared to throw another batch in the oven in a kitchen rich in the holiday aromas of shortbread, gingerbread, chocolate, coffee, and the faint wisp of bacon from a traditional farmers breakfast.

Dozens of these would erupt from the oven...yet always vanish miraculously before New Years rolled around...I offer this family tradition to the congregation, and hope that each of you find the time to bake at least one batch and share it with others – and if you are a novice cook, or kitchen-phobic, this is a safe and easy recipe to make a first venture upon...and nearly always garners praise from recipients. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Christmas Ball Cookies

1 cup butter
1/3 cup sugar
2 tsp water

2 tsp vanilla
2 cups flour

Cream butter and sugar; add water and vanilla. Mix well. Add flour and chill for 3 to 4 hours. Shape into walnut-sized balls. Dip in red or green colored sugar.

Bake on ungreased cookie sheet about 25 min at 325 degrees. Doubling or Tripling the recipe is a GOOD thing

Recognition

Dear Dr. Stroud,

You are to be congratulated as a noted and eminent professional in the field of communication and as such, recognized by us for your important contribution, by the International Biographical Centre. Of the many thousands of biographies from a wide variety of sources investigated by the research and editorial departments of the IBC, a select few are those of individuals who, in our belief, have made a significant enough contribution in their field to engender influence on a local, national, and international basis. Ratification of your nomination by the Awards Board is now complete and it is therefore my great honour to name you as an inaugural member of the IBC.

You have been selected as one of the IBC's TOP 100 COMMUNICATORS - 2006.

This accolade is credited to those individuals that have fulfilled a standard of merit in the eyes of their peers that is beyond the norm. As a symbol of personal achievement in their field for the common good, it is a lasting tribute to that which can be achieved by a very select few for the benefit of the many.

By accepting and receiving this distinguished and coveted honour, the recipient dons the mantle of excellence. The International Community offers its respect and gratitude to you - one who is a light to us all.

Sincerely,

*Nicholas S. Law
Director General
International Biographical Centre
Cambridge, England*

The Awakening

by Rev. Sam Satkin



Of all the holidays, with the exception of my birthday, Christmas was just "One of the Best" for me. Everyone seemed to be happy, our home was made beautiful with a great tree and decorations. The food was always the best that the cooks could prepare.

And Santa Claus, and presents, and presents, and presents...

When I found out there was no Santa Claus, my world seemed to stop for awhile. There was a big letdown. Oh well, I still had the decorations, the food, and the presents.

If only at that time I had the story of the spiritual meaning of Christmas. I am sure that I would have understood, but the meaning of the metaphysical truth of Christmas became alive in my consciousness many years later. Then, as now, to know and consciously experience within my mind and heart.. "The holy child that comes to birth in our own soul." The child, the all-knower, the "I am" within.

I would like to share the facts within the story of the "Birth Of The Child" within, as it was told to me by my mentor...

In the legends of the Orient, the Wiseman represents those who have come to understand that there is one supreme power and intelligence

in the Universe. The star that led them across the wilderness to the manger represents our spiritual intuition. Such intuition can lead us across the waste spaces of our own human experience to the divine child within. The virgin soul means the soul that looks to God alone, and it is this condition of the soul in which all spiritual ideas come to birth... and, of course, the manger is the seat of our consciousness.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called wonderful, counselor, father; the Prince of Peace.

Many times you have heard me say that God is my life and my government. Let me say to you, once you have contacted the mystic power within, and have allowed it to take over the responsibilities of restoring and building a life of affluence and joy... it will direct and govern all of your affairs from the greatest to the least, without effort, without mistakes, and without trouble to you..."and the Government shall be upon his shoulders."

Today I make my mind a stable...and welcome the Christ idea of perfect spiritual man. I give my gifts of my attention, my love, and my substance to this wonder child born within me. I am reborn into the truth that I, too, am the wonder child. As the wonder child, I receive the gifts from the wise man...of gold... of the riches of spirit... of frankincense... the beauty of spirit and of myrrh... the eternity of spirit... my guiding star is my spiritual intuition which is beyond all known intelligence.

And the beauty of this story is that it has no ending... it is ongoing... manifested again and again, as Gods presence is made visible in you and me and in all creation.

My Christmas Prayer

In the infinity of time where I am; I celebrate the presence of God in my life. Divine Spirit exists at the center of my being... The most high is enthroned in my soul. And so it is now and forevermore,

Amen

CELEBRATE WITH US

Camelot Theater

760-318-3196

Baristo & Farrell in Palm Springs

Every Sunday Morning at 10:00 Am

Guided Meditation at 9:30 AM

InnerFaith Ministries Worldwide

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