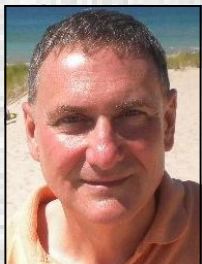




# Interfaith Inspirer

An Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth News Publication  
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## EVOLUTION OR TRANSFORMATION IN 2015?

by David Winfree

Most humans understand that life on Earth is evolving—that we are part of an expansive process, billions of years in the making, which may continue for billions more. Over millions of years, humanity has slowly evolved from furry creatures with small brains to slightly less furry creatures with slightly larger brains. Nonetheless, science indicates that physical evolution is not always slow, but sometimes moves in swift spurts.

Rapid transformation also takes place in culture and society. In the last few generations, there have been enormous leaps forward in knowledge, technology, business, government, social programs, and human rights. A great metamorphosis has taken place in the blink of an eye. What if humanity's spiritual evolution, which has been taking place with almost imperceptible slowness, over the course of thousands of incarnations, were to suddenly experience a rapid metamorphosis?

What if all we see around us is a cosmic, eons-long work in progress, and God, Divinity, Great Spirit, or Divine Mind is the expressive source, cause, and impetus of all that is evolving? What if this universe and each of us is in the very early stages of development, like clay that is being fashioned into a beautiful figurine but still looks lumpy, has some gaps and cracks that need to be filled, pressed, and smoothed, and needs a lot more shaping to reach its fullest potential?

Humanity has idealized religious concepts of a God that is too absolutely perfect to be associated with anything that is a messy evolving work in progress. The idea of a God, who works through eons-long evolutionary processes that are challenging and sometimes uncomfortable, in which the creative expression of the early, less-developed stages looks rough and imperfect, is difficult for many of us to accept. It is tempting to conclude that this work in progress universe must result from human error, a great forgetting, a separated state, or that this world must not be real, but an illusion; or that form intrinsically cannot be Divine.

The grand idea in Divine Mind is like the image of a great building in the mind of a master architect or a symphony in the mind of a great composer. The image, drawings, scale models, and blueprint specifications may be perfect at the highest levels—yet it requires process to bring forth the grand idea into form

upon the lower energetic and physical planes. By its very nature, the evolving form does not fully express the envisioned final state while in the early evolutionary stages. Various glitches and misalignments take place as it evolves. Repairs and realignments on the lower energetic and physical planes may be needed as the great idea moves toward its full expression.

Gradually, the Idea in Divine Mind becomes more fully expressed across all of the multiple levels of energy, being, and consciousness. We come a bit closer to the Divine Idea with every incarnation, to the extent that each of us consciously seeks to know and express the Divine Pattern and align ourselves with it. We may move out of alignment with it from time to time (we have a degree of free will regarding this), but the Divine Pattern in Divine Mind remains and we are continually lifted and guided toward it.

God does not work only through evolution, but also via rapid transformation. As we become awakened, conscious, and intentional participants in our own evolution, we discover that we have a choice between slow evolution and rapid transformation. We see that swift and great metamorphosis is possible. As each one of us consciously connects with and expresses the highly specific Divine Archetypal Patterns that Divinity expresses in us, as us, and through us (along with the general Divine qualities of Love, Compassion, Peace, and Joy) the Cosmic Pattern in Divine Mind, and the unique patterns of each of us within the larger pattern are more fully expressed, perfected, and fulfilled.

When we are expressing according to Divine Plan and deeply desiring to be of service, the power of the universe rushes to us, lifts us, fills us, and initiates great transformation. An intense desire arises to be the Highest Expression of Divinity that the INFINITE DIVINE would be in us, as us, and through us, and for all remaining impediments to be removed and to be fully equipped and transformed for greater service. DIVINE SPIRIT, DIVINE DEVIC BEINGS, those great hands and eyes of DIVINITY, centers of DIVINE INTELLIGENCE (sub-fields within the FIELD), and those who are further along on the path, encompass us, lovingly guide and lift us, and transfigure us to be of greater service. Love and increasing awareness of the all-pervading unity guide the expression of each conscious aspect of the whole, consciousness expands, form transfigures, and harmony increases. One celebrates the birth of the CHRIST in all things, seeing ever more clearly that I AM THAT – THOU ART THAT – ALL IS THAT.



# Ministerial Miscellany

By Dave Bell



Dear Friends,

As we begin this new year of 2015, I pause for a few moments of reflection. This month we celebrate the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Center. We are actually holding the Birthday Party in March, but we began holding services in January of 1998. I don't remember when we began the newsletter, but every month since, I have written a few paragraphs about coming events, current events and ideas for the future. It is still one of my favorite activities. I often marvel at the ease with which topics for talks show up. It never seems to get stale or troublesome to have something useful to say when Sunday rolls around. Pursuing that notion a little, I would suggest that being open to the movement of Spirit is what allows for such a free flow of topics and useful things to say. In fact, being open to the movement of Spirit is a good plan for all of the activities of one's life!

Heide and Kellie, our Youth Ed directors, are planning to base the 2015 curriculum on the book "Fifty -Two Family Values." They will select a different value each week. In an effort to co-ordinate the Sunday topic with the Youth Ed department, at least once a month, there will be an identity of topics. We begin the year on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> with Forgiveness. There is never a problem coming up with useful things to say about forgiveness. There is a rich body of work to report on and much literature to draw from.

On January 10<sup>th</sup> we are sponsoring another of the "Remembering Wholeness" events at the Center. You will have the opportunity to activate your own system of healing energies. Each of us is endowed with unlimited power through our beliefs, thoughts and actions. You will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in a very high vibrational field of energy. This will have the effect of switching on your own healing powers. It begins at 10:00 am. Volunteer meditators are asked to arrive at 8:45. I would not miss this.

As I write this we are closing the books on a very successful year from a financial standpoint. Pending final numbers, we are very close to increasing our working capital by \$10,000. When we began this past year, our goal was to achieve an increase of \$15,000, which would restore us to the place we were three years ago. Having now reached two thirds of that goal, we can be filled with gratitude to the community of contributors who made this possible. There is still work to do and a building fund that needs to become a reality. Let us be mindful that even mystics have bills to pay, and that spiritual organizations in particular, need to be good stewards of resources and plan for the future.

Blessings,

*David*

*Comm-  
nity  
Member  
of the  
Month*



**Caring Craig**

Thank you Craig for being so fabulous. As our CMM for the start of this New Year, we are so happy to have you share and give of yourself so generously and kindly.

Even with the fantastic team of volunteers that put together our night of music and raffling, you helped to bring it all together with your multitalented generosity: making our sound system work with some new things we so desperately needed, and of course playing music with Bliss. One of our favorite bands.

For those of you that might not know Craig, and I strongly suggest you take some time to chat with him some Sunday; He is that long lean fellow often found at the back behind our sound system, adjusting it and making it work for us during our gathering.

Here are some things that you might want to know about Craig...

Besides being an incredible musician, writing and playing his own music; he is a bit of computer wizard. He has helped with our website to make it a better place to visit. (And more change is on the way)

He is a middle school and elementary music teacher at Lincoln Consolidated schools.

He makes his lesson plans incredibly creative for his students by inviting them into music in ways that really

stimulate their creativity and stir their desires for more.

Wouldn't you want him for your children's teacher? YES!

Though we always like to hope that those we honor and care for, will love and respect their family and friends; a little bird named Alaura shared with me that Craig is truly loving and generous with his family and friends. Thinking of them first.

He loves cats and he was a HUGE help with setting up the Café 704 benefit concert.

Thanks Craig for all your love and support for the Center. I hope you get how important you are to us.

|                                    |              |                              |               |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Evolution or Transformation</b> | <b>pg. 1</b> | <b>Letter from Dave Bell</b> | <b>pg. 10</b> |
| <b>Ministerial Miscellany</b>      | <b>pg. 2</b> | <b>Golden Rule Flyer</b>     | <b>pg. 11</b> |
| <b>CMM</b>                         | <b>pg. 2</b> | <b>Caring Committee</b>      | <b>pg. 12</b> |
| <b>Faces of Faith</b>              | <b>pg. 3</b> | <b>Service flyer</b>         | <b>pg. 13</b> |
| <b>Calendar</b>                    | <b>pg. 4</b> | <b>Advertisements</b>        | <b>pg. 14</b> |
| <b>Peggy's Column</b>              | <b>pg. 5</b> | <b>World Peace Clock</b>     | <b>pg. 15</b> |
| <b>Nature Notes</b>                | <b>pg. 6</b> |                              |               |
| <b>Board Min.</b>                  | <b>pg. 7</b> |                              |               |
| <b>Café 704</b>                    | <b>pg. 8</b> |                              |               |
| <b>Youthful Spirits</b>            | <b>pg. 9</b> |                              |               |





## Community



**We served 43 people at the Christmas Dinner!**

### SHIFT OF CONSCIOUSNESS



**Monday Webcasts at 8:00 PM EST**

**Ongoing Weekly Monday Event  
David Winfree Leads a Discussion of the Content from His New Book  
*The Evolution of the Human Energy Field and Humanity's Ultimate Destiny***

**Full information and registration is at:**

[www.davidwinfree.com/soc](http://www.davidwinfree.com/soc)

### Community Input Wanted!

In an effort to provide outreach into the greater community the Caring Committee would like to hear from you about which organization YOU would like for us to support. Examples are AlphaHouse, Food Gatherers, Humane Society. Please contact Diane Gledhill at [diane82103@yahoo.com](mailto:diane82103@yahoo.com) to let her know your opinion.  
Thanks!!!



### Three "Happy Hatters" at the Felting Workshop

#### FACES OF FAITH

You are invited to participate in the next *FACES OF FAITH EVENT* sponsored by The Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. *FOF* allows you to meet people from our community who pose as "books" telling you the story of their personal spiritual journey. Each time you "borrow" a "book", you'll learn (one-on-one) about a different spiritual practice, religious belief, or turning point of faith. Each "reading period" is 25 minutes. You will be able to hear directly from those who go by Buddhist, Hindu, Conservative Jew, Muslim, Atheist, Christian Scientist, New Thought, Baha'i, Methodist, Quaker, Interfaith, Southern Baptist, Mormon, Catholic, Messianic Jew, Non-denominational Christian, Mystic, Scientologist, Evangelical Christian, Sikh, Reconstructionist Jew, Unitarian Universalist, Multi-faith, Mennonite, and AFS Host Family. Check out our library offerings on our website, [www.irtwg.org](http://www.irtwg.org) by clicking on the flyer at the bottom of the HOME page.

\$5 suggested donation per person or family.

WHEN: Sunday, January 11, 2-4 pm  
WHERE: Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor

For more information, call 734-424-1535 or email [gbrides@umich.edu](mailto:gbrides@umich.edu)

### Mark your calendars!

#### **CAFE 704 CONCERT SERIES**

##### **Saturdays**

**January 10, 2015: Madcat Ruth**

**Feb. 14: Spirit Singing Band**

**March 14: Harmony Bones (Jeanne Mackey)**

**April 11: Lisa Pappas/ Michael Weiss**

**May 9: Shekinah & Friends**

#### **PEACE GENERATOR**

**Janu. 16**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS:**

**Every Tuesday  
7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Reiki Share with  
Malcolm Shaffner**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **QCC**

**Jan. 25**

**Immediately following the service!**

#### **Golden Rule Workshop**

**Jan 11**

**1-2:30 p.m.**

**Free to whoever would like to have this**

**Cat "Tree," about 2 feet high, maroon color**

**See Esther for details on how to pick it up!**



The Service  
begins at  
10:45 a.m.

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

***The speaker  
and topic of  
the service is  
in bold/italic***  
R indicates the  
reader  
M indicates the  
meditator  
MU indicates the  
musician.

Board  
meeting this  
month is on  
January 18  
  
QCC  
is on Jan. 25

Birthdays are  
indicated in  
***bold/italic***  
***Happy***  
  
The newsletter  
submission  
deadline is  
January 18



**1**

Noon—1:30 p.m.  
ACIM  
  
6:30—8:30 p.m.  
Science of mind

**2**

***Susan Major***

**3**

8:30 a.m. AA  
  
7:30 p.m. Drum and  
Dance Jam

***Fred Sauer***

**4**

***Dave B./  
Forgiveness***  
R: Bonnie D.  
M: TBA  
MU: Katie Geddes

Potluck

***Peggy Lubahn***

**5**

6:45 p.m. ACIM  
  
7 p.m. Great Bal-  
anced View Video  
Meeting

**6**

10:30 a.m. The Power  
of Now Discussion  
Group  
5:30 p.m. Commu-  
nity Gathering  
7—8:30 p.m. Reiki

**7**

**8**

Noon—1:30 p.m.  
ACIM

**9**

**10**

8:30 a.m. AA  
  
8 p.m. Café 704

**11**

***Dave B./  
Timeless Meister  
Eckhart***  
R: Esther R.  
M: TBA  
MU: NightFire with  
Curtis Glatter

1 p.m. Golden Rule  
Workshop

**12**

6:45 p.m. ACIM  
  
7 p.m. Great Bal-  
anced View Video  
Meeting

**13**

10:30 a.m. The Power  
of Now Discussion  
Group  
5:30 p.m. Commu-  
nity Gathering  
7—8:30 p.m. Reiki

**14**

**15**

Noon—1:30 p.m.  
ACIM  
  
6:30—8:30 p.m.  
Science of mind

**16**

Peace Generator

***Shekinah  
Errington***

**17**

8:30 a.m. AA  
  
8 p.m. Spiritual  
Cinema

***David Mellor***

***Alaura Massaro***

**18**

***Annie K.***  
R: TBA  
M: TBA  
MU: Laurel Feder-  
bush

Board meeting  
CC meeting

**19**

6:45 p.m. ACIM  
  
7 p.m. Great Bal-  
anced View Video  
Meeting

**20**

10:30 a.m. The Power  
of Now Discussion  
Group  
5:30 p.m. Commu-  
nity Gathering  
7—8:30 p.m. Reiki

**21**

7-9 p.m. Shamanic  
Journey

**22**

Noon—1:30 p.m.  
ACIM

**23**

8:30 a.m. AA

**24**

***Vivian Sanders***

***Lucie Nissan***

**25**

***Dave B./The  
Personhood of  
God***  
R: TBA  
M: TBA  
MU: Old Friends

QCC

**26**

6:45 p.m. ACIM  
  
7 p.m. Great Bal-  
anced View Video  
Meeting

**27**

10:30 a.m. The Power  
of Now Discussion  
Group  
5:30 p.m. Commu-  
nity Gathering  
7—8:30 p.m. Reiki

**28**

**29**

Noon—1:30 p.m.  
ACIM

**30**

8:30 a.m. AA

**31**

***Suzanne Hop-  
kins***

***Marice Clark***





## Peggy's Profiles January

### SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW GNOMES?

**Gnome**  
(pronounced "nome")

A mythical being of a legendary race endowed with exceptional vision and heightened human sensitivities; their task is to provide assistance to all living things. Gnomes symbolize integrity, honesty and hard work.

*Art by Shelly Laband*

The movie "Gnomeo and Juliet" got a lot right! Gnomes really do look like our garden statues. They love to take care of gardens, and they're great at building things. They are brave, patient, resourceful, and love music. Like the fairies, gnomes LIVE IN JOY.

However, the movie was wrong on one major point: gnomes ARE NOT warlike! Their whole culture is based on sharing, mutual respect and support, and cooperation. In fact, gnomes are often called on to mediate disputes among Nature Folk and other non-human beings (animals, trees,

stones, etc.).

The gnome folk represent the Earth and are considered one of the four sacred Elementals, along with Salamanders (Fire), Sylphs (Air) and Undines (Water). They prefer to live close to the earth, on the surface or in elaborate underground dwellings. Gnome clothing is very practical and durable, and usually includes a pointed cap of red or blue. They can be as much as three feet tall, if they want to be; but their "default size" is about 12 inches.

Since gnomes have no wings, they usually get around on their own two feet. They often negotiate with birds and other animals for rides if they want to travel any great distance – or just for fun!

If you still think gnomes are just a charming myth, it might be time to reconsider. Long ago, humans and gnomes worked together to care for the Earth. Today, specially selected young gnomes are taking human form and are growing up with enlightened human families. And gnomes from all over the world are traveling to California to attend a new Gnome University, where they are learning to work with humans. These gnome volunteers are excited about helping to restore our ancient harmonious partnership worldwide!

## Interfaith Pop

*(as recommended by Rob Fagerlund)*

### 5D (Fifth Dimension) by the Byrds

Oh how is it that I could come out to here and be still floating

And never hit bottom and keep falling through  
Just relaxed and paying attention

All my two dimensional boundaries were gone, I had lost to them badly

I saw the world crumble and thought I was dead  
But I found my senses still working

And as I continued to drop through the hole  
I found all surrounding

To show me the joy that innocently is  
Just be quiet and feel it around you

And I opened my heart to the whole universe and  
I found it was loving

And I saw the great blunder my teacher's had made

Scientific delirium madness

*[or, if you prefer, as I do, "And I saw the great blunder my preachers had made*

*Dogmatic delirium madness " ~ Rob]*

I will keep falling as long as I live

All without ending

And I will remember the place that is now

That has ended before the beginning

Oh how is it that I could come out to here and be still floating

And never hit bottom and keep falling through  
Just relaxed and paying attention







Image from [peaceseeds](http://peaceseeds.com)

### Caring Committee Contact List

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Jack Richards, [handymanjack45@gmail.com](mailto:handymanjack45@gmail.com),  
734-489-5703  
Beth Rockwell  
Idgie Patterson, [bdgidg@gmail.com](mailto:bdgidg@gmail.com)



### Nature Notes by Rob

#### Trees

Is there any end to benefits trees share with the world? Not only humans, but the entire world receives beauty, inspiration, paper, shade, wood, building material, syrup, food, home, exercise and air purification, along with so much more.

A single tree is literally an entire community. Insects, spiders, birds, caterpillars, and squirrels live in trees. Even the Bufflehead duck lives in the holes formerly lived in by woodpeckers and Northern Flickers. Opossums, raccoons and other mammals seek shelter in trees, and snakes, woodchucks and other animals seek shelter beneath its mighty root system.

Trees are beautiful year round. I love the beautiful bare winter trees. Stripped of leaves, stripped to their essence, they are revealed as pure spirits reaching for God.

Trees, and groves of trees, play a central role in many mythologies and religions. In Meso-american mythologies the tree represents the cardinal directions of north, south, east and west. In Norse mythology, Yggdrasil (IG-Dres-il) the

mighty ash tree, reaches into the nine realms, including Asgard, the home of the gods, and Midgard, where we live. Three stags, an eagle and a dragon live in its branches. The Norse Gods hold their assembly at the tree. At its base is the well Mímisbrunnr, at which the major god Odin sacrificed an eye to gain the Wisdom of the Ages. Some experts believe Yggdrasil has shamanic origins as well.

The cross of Jesus is sometimes referred to as a tree.

Once my father and I were taking a walk in the woods and talking about church, which was important in my family, especially my dear mother. Dad surprised me by saying, "I can feel closer to God by looking at that tree over there then by sitting in church listening to a sermon." It surprised me when he said that, and even more when he leaned toward me and said in a low voice, "Don't tell your mother I said that." That has given me laughter for decades.

Again, trees are a community, and all creatures to whom trees are central are a part of that community. All of them are part of the One community. I am grateful for these beautiful living symbols of All are One.



## Board Meeting Notes from December 14, 2014

### *Minister and Administrator's Reports*

Dave has been counseling and visiting people. Also, he has been discussing curriculum for Youth Ed with Kellie and Heide (based on book about 52 Values) to be tied in with Sunday sermon topic. Dave will be taking off 4 months in 2015. Delyth reported that Youth Ed volunteers cleaned up storage room. Now they are looking for ways to provide space for teens (perhaps moving bookstore).

### *Committee Updates*

**Finance:** Budget/Spending Plan - we are in the black. Hurray for our efforts to stay within budget! Judy commented that we have done a lot of work this year and she complimented everyone for their hard work.

**Leadership:** Please read Minutes from meeting

**Caring:** 43 people served at Thanksgiving Dinner. Caring Committee gave out 22 fifty dollar gift cards and will be providing Christmas Dinner. Meijers has donated two \$200 gift cards. Jeannie's Art Fair raised \$138 for the Caring Committee. Thank you Jeannie!

**Fundraising:** Considering Smile Amazon to raise money for ICSG.

### *Old Business*

#### Marketing Plan

Lindsay, Sally, and Jeannie met Nov. 17 to begin marketing plan timeline. Discussion ensued about "Be a light unto the world" logo versus painting on sanctuary wall. Shekinah has volunteered to give our logo a more modern look. Jeannie will talk to a videographer and is creating photo permission form.

Discussion ensued on need for user-friendly software for our website. Lindsay, Jeannie, and Craig B. have volunteered to work on our website.

Lindsay suggested having articles on

our website about various ICSG members, under "About Us."

### Secretary/Minutes Keeper

Jeannie proposed recording Board meeting and giving it to someone to transcribe and summarize main points.

Delyth suggested LiveScribe Echo Smartpen that which you download to computer and it converts recording into text.

### *Continuing Discussion*

"Who we are"; "Interfaith/Interspiritual;" Dave does not want to change name or drop concept of Interfaith, but thinks that we need to embrace interspiritual words. Board generally agreed with "Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth and Interspiritual community,"

### *New Business*

In January, greeters will be giving out updated welcome packets. We would like to have volunteers available to welcome visitors, and we will ensure that we collect contact information so we can follow up with any guests.

### *Important Dates*

Next Board meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Sunday in January, the 18th, in order to approve the Budget/Spending Plan for 2015.

Next QCC will be held on Jan. 25. We got feedback from people who want to have fellowship on potluck Sundays, not attend a QCC meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held on March 8. Bob's, Sally's, and Judy's terms are up. Nominating committee is Judy Sauer, Dave Bell, and a congregation member. Lindsay suggested approaching people to be on the board at this time because they may be looking for ways to give service in the new year.

Sunday Celebration Services  
are held at 10:45 a.m. at  
704 Airport Blvd.,  
(off S. State Street) near I 94



### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Spiritual seekers joining in community to attract others of like mind, creating an atmosphere and structure to foster and stimulate our individual and collective spiritual growth.*

### **CONTRIBUTORS WANTED!**

We would love to have your input in the newsletter: spiritual moments, movie/book reviews, exciting announcements, poems, etc.

We try to have the newsletter ready for final editing by the third Sunday of each month. Please send contributions to Heide at [momnyk@tc3net.com](mailto:momnyk@tc3net.com) with "Interfaith submission" in the subject line. If you do not mention Interfaith, your email might get kicked right into the recycle bin by my spam filter.

If you cannot email your contribution, you may give it to Heide on Sunday.

**To receive the online newsletter, go to <http://lists.interfaithspirit.org/listinfo.cgi/interfaithinsp-irer-interfaithinsp-irer.org> to subscribe.**

Want to hear from us throughout the week? Receive or send email through Interfaith Yahoo by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/InterfaithSpirit/>

Namaste from your newsletter team:  
Heide, Esther, Deane and Steve.

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Judy Sauer Chair  
Jeanne Adwani, secretary  
Sally Searls, member  
Bob Hopkins, member  
Lindsay Passmore, member  
Pat Root, member  
Diane Gledhill, member

Board email address is [board@interfaithspirit.org](mailto:board@interfaithspirit.org)

#### **STAFF**

David Bell, Minister  
Delyth Balmer, Administrator and Associate Minister  
Annie Kopko, Associate Minister  
Laura Massaro, Music Director  
Heide Kaminski and Kellie Love, Youth Education Directors

#### **NEWSLETTER/WEBSTAFF**

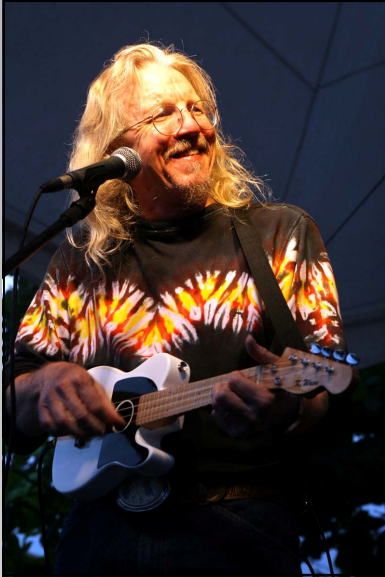
Heide Kaminski, Editor-in-Chief  
Esther Reilly and Deane Erts, Proofreaders  
Steve Lyskawa, Webmaster

#### **NEWSLETTER ADDRESS**

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# Café 704



**Peter Madcat Ruth**  
**Musician - Grammy Award Winner**

[madcat@madcatmusic.net](mailto:madcat@madcatmusic.net)  
[www.madcatmusic.net](http://www.madcatmusic.net)  
[www.youtube.com/user/petermadcatruth](http://www.youtube.com/user/petermadcatruth)

Peter Madcat Ruth is a champion of the long-standing tradition of the one-man band. A solo show by Madcat is a high-quality musical event to be seen and heard.

Madcat sings and plays harmonica, guitar, high-hat, ukulele, jaw-harp, banjo, kalimba, penny-whistle and pretty near anything else he can get his hands on.

Madcat's repertoire of songs which he has written or collected over the last 50 years is quite eclectic. Blues and American Roots Music songs predominate, but elements of Jazz and World

Music are also part of the mix.

*"When Madcat gets going you'd swear there's a three piece band standing behind the curtains backing him up. The variety of orchestral textures and multiple rhythms he can produce is astonishing."*

Renaldo Migaldi  
Michigan State News

*"One comes away impressed, not only with the skillful arrangements but with the jovial informality with which he performs. His act is great fun to watch."*

Michigan Daily

Peter Madcat Ruth has established an international reputation through his exhilarating, riveting virtuosity on the harmonica. His expertise on this instrument has amazed audiences world-wide. He is equally at home playing blues, folk music, jazz, country, or rock and roll. Performance Magazine refers to him as *"A harmonica virtuoso who is rapidly approaching legendary status."*

Madcat's music has been evolving for over 50 years. It started in the Chicago area in the early 1960's, with Madcat playing folk/blues on guitar and harmonica. By the late 60's he had immersed himself in the Chicago Blues and was studying harmonica with Big Walter Horton. In the early 70's, Madcat moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he was a key presence in two of Ann

Arbor's finest progressive rock bands: New Heavenly Blue and Sky King. By the mid 70's, Madcat was touring the world with jazz pianist Dave Brubeck. In the 80's, Madcat went solo, infusing the folk/blues tradition with elements of rock and jazz. In 1990, Madcat teamed up with guitarist/singer Shari Kane to form the duo Madcat & Kane. For the past twenty-three years they have been touring nationally and internationally. In 1998, Madcat teamed up with Chris Brubeck to form Triple Play and also started performing with Big Joe Manfra in Brazil.

Madcat's experience is extensive. He has been an invited guest performer at many harmonica festivals in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. His harmonica playing is heard on over 100 CDs and LPs. National television and radio appearances, symphony orchestra performances, radio, television advertisements, and harmonica workshops all attest to Madcat's reputation as one of the best and most versatile harmonica players in the world.

Madcat is more than an expert musician. He is also performer who has such a good time playing music that audiences ranging from pre-schoolers to senior citizens delight in his performances. His enthusiasm is unpretentious and contagious.





# Youthful Spirits



*Hello all!*

Happy holidays from the Youthful Spirits! We hope you enjoyed our presentation and don't forget to let your light shine! In case you missed it, here are some pictures for you to enjoy.

2015 is going to be a year full of exploring virtues. We found a website, [52virtues.com](http://52virtues.com), that listed 52 virtues, one for each week... We hope to try and tie them into the weekly message presented during the service. Here is a list of the virtues that we plan to learn about in 2015. We hope you join us in learning about these virtues and how they apply to many faiths and spiritual paths:

*assertiveness, caring, cleanliness, commitment, compassion, confidence, consideration, cooperation, courage, courtesy, creativity, detachment, determination, diligence, enthusiasm, excellence, flexibility, forgiveness, friendliness, generosity, gentleness, helpfulness, honesty, honor, humility, idealism, integrity, joyfulness, justice, kindness, love, loyalty, moderation, modesty, orderliness, patience, peacefulness, perseverance, purposefulness, reliability, respect, responsibility, self-discipline, service, tact, thankfulness, tolerance, trust, trustworthiness, truthfulness, understanding, unity.*

For the first week, we will be talking about forgiveness, a good way to start a new year is by letting go and forgiving.

**"Being forgiving is giving someone another chance after they have done something wrong. Everyone makes mistakes. Instead of revenge, make amends. Forgive yourself too. Instead of feeling hopeless**

**after a mistake, decide to act differently, and have faith that you can change."** ~ 52virtues.com

We look forward to spending 2015 learning about ourselves and others and how we are all children of light!

*Love, Light, and  
Laughter  
Heide, Kellie,  
Tommy, and  
Alex*





Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth  
704 Airport Blvd.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
(734) 327-0270  
[www.interfaithspirit.org](http://www.interfaithspirit.org)

December 2014

Dear Members and Friends of Interfaith,

*"Be a light unto the world."*

Last year at this time we asked for your help. You responded in a very positive fashion, and we are extremely grateful. We have made significant progress in restoring our working capital, and we have managed to have a positive net-income for the year. And there is more work to do. We still have a way to go in restoring our working capital balance, and we want to begin creation of a building fund for the day when we choose to move. Prudence dictates that we have the capacity to fund a move before we need or want to move. Assuming that December is like the rest of the year, we will have reached two thirds of our goal of a \$15,000 increase in our working capital. This is excellent, and we need to pay attention to trends.

After successfully living within our budget for the first time ever, we want to enlist your aid in keeping us on track toward true financial stability. Ideally, we would have working capital of \$40,000 and a building fund of another \$30,000. While these may seem daunting challenges, we have made significant progress. The Ministerial Team, Board of Trustees, Finance Committee and Leadership Team have endorsed the following suggestions for improving our financial health.

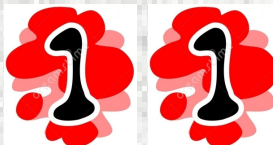
- First, consider making a year-end "Gift to the Interfaith Center." This will help us to more quickly reach our goal of boosting our working capital.
- Second, consider making a quarterly contribution to our "Building Fund" which is in addition to your regular contributions to the Center. We need to get this started, so lets just do it!
- Third, consider becoming—if you haven't done so already—a sustaining supporter of our Center by committing to some form of automatic giving through Pay Pal, ACH withdrawals from your financial institution, or regular charges to your credit card.
- Fourth, make sure that you are signed up for one our grocery reward programs. This is absolutely free money. Everyone buys groceries. Busch's and Kroger are the easiest and most rewarding programs. If you need help in getting signed up, please see Craig Harvey. You might even consider asking your neighbors and friends to sign up with us if they are not using this program for some other non-profit.

We will carry on our teaching and spiritual support services while we grow our financial resources. Over the years, we have served as a safe, loving space for people to pursue their interest in spiritual matters. We invite you to help insure that we can continue by giving what you can financially, and inviting friends to come and experience the loving and welcoming energy of our Center activities.

Blessings,

David T. Bell, Senior Minister

Delyth Balmer, Administrator, Associate Minister





## GOLDEN RULE

*'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'*

*- Matthew 7:12*

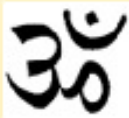


### *The Golden Rule Workshop*

*Sunday, January 11*

*1-2:30 p.m.*

*Interfaith Center  
for Spiritual Growth*



### *Explore*

- the message of the Golden Rule
- the message of the Golden Rule for you
- the Golden Rule & its implications for society



*with meditation, discussion, and videos*

**Cost: whatever the Golden Rule guides you to give**

**Contact: Heide Kaminski**

**(517) 423 9001**





# *The Caring Committee*



*Marilyn,  
Chair*



*Heide,  
Secretary*



*Joyce,  
Treasurer*



*Delyth,  
Liaison*



*Judy*



*Idgie*



*Malcolm*



*Andy*

*Diane*



*Dana*



*Annie,  
Liaison*



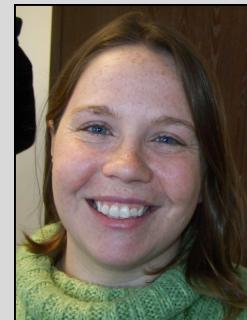
*Tommy,  
Youth Ed rep*



*Chuck*



*Jack*



*Kellie*



*Tracy*

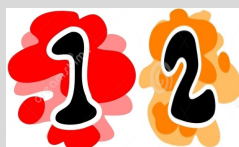


*Beth*



*Connie*

*If you have a service to offer,  
please contact [Marilyn](#)*



## Interfaith Caring Committee Survey

We are looking for your participation and support of fellow Interfaith members in crisis in any way that is appropriate for you. If you are called on by a caring committee member to support a particular need, you always have the opportunity to decline if it doesn't work for you at that time. Please fill out this survey as completely as you are able. All gifts, skills, and talents are appreciated. Thank you for taking the time!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Part of town you live or work in: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_ Best times to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all areas that you are willing to participate in and specify any limitations...

\_\_\_ Driver (Interfaith/appointments) \_\_\_ Craft Teaching (type) \_\_\_ Counseling (type)

\_\_\_ Medical Equipment loan (type) \_\_\_ Meal Prep \_\_\_ Consulting (type)

\_\_\_ Child Care \_\_\_ Errands \_\_\_ Cleaning \_\_\_ Yardwork \_\_\_ Snow Shoveling

\_\_\_ Healing/energy work \_\_\_ Household Donations \_\_\_ Clothing Donations

\_\_\_ Caregiver Break \_\_\_ Send Cards \_\_\_ Computer Help \_\_\_ Healing Music

\_\_\_ Fun Companionship \_\_\_ Pet Care \_\_\_ Massage \_\_\_ Money Donation

\_\_\_ Listening \_\_\_ Prayers \_\_\_ Respite Care \_\_\_ Join Caring Committee

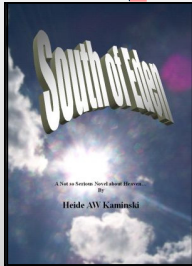
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Limitations and additional information:

I currently have need of (be specific):



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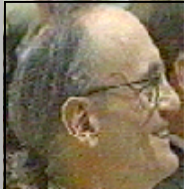
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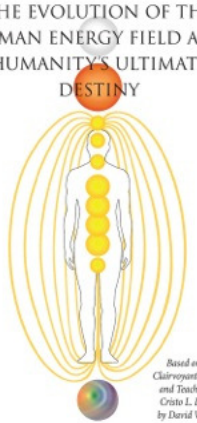
  
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"The Peace Clock"**



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EVERY DAY AT 12 NOON FOR ONE FULL MINUTE

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**Synchronized Intention is the Key**

- With an alarm, a bell, a note or any other method that works for you - remind yourself when it is noon in your time zone.
  - Acquire the active participation of your company, your school, community, city, state and nation.
- Involve radio and television - have them broadcast the PEACE CLOCK name, slogan and logo accompanied by one minute of silence every day.
  - Above all - approach all interactions with others in peaceful, constructive and creative ways.
    - Copy and share this information with as many people as you can.

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- Portuguese: Hora da Paz Romanian: CEASUL PĂCII
- Russian: ЧАСЫ МИРА Spanish: UN RELOJ POR LA PAZ
- Swahili: SAA YA AMANI <http://peaceclock.org/>

