

Interfaith Inspirer

An Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth News Publication

VOL. XIII, NO. 06, June 2017

"Hello, Goodbye" ~ The Beatles



You say yes, I say no You say stop and I say go go go, oh no You say goodbye and I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello I say high, you say low You say why and I say I don't know, oh no You say goodbye and I say hello (Hello goodbye hello goodbye) Hello hello (Hello goodbye) I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello (Hello goodbye hello goodbye) Hello hello (Hello goodbye) I don't know why you say goodbye (Hello goodbye) I say hello/goodbye

Why why why why why do you say goodbye goodbye, oh no?



and I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello You say yes (I say yes) I say no (But I may mean no) You say stop (I can stay) and I say go go go (Till it's time to go), oh Oh no You say goodbye and I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello Hello hello I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello hello

You say goodbye

Doors closing, doors opening Doors closing, doors I'm opening I am safe – it's only change I am safe – it's only change

Ministerial Miscellany

By Lauren Tatarsky

"And suddenly you know; It's time to start something new and trust the magic of beginnings." –Meister Eckhart

As I sit here trying to find the words to capture this powerful time of transition at ICSG, I find myself feeling deeply moved. After nearly twenty years

of incredible commitment to the foundation, growth, and spiritual evolution of this space and its community, Dave steps back as Senior Minister to enjoy retirement, his wonderful wife Judy, building trains, and free Sundays. What an incredible accomplishment, one of the highest there is, to have built from the ground-up a community of love and sacredness.

It is truly my immense honor to be Dave's successor and step into the role of Senior Minister. Each moment of reflection about the opportunity that has been granted me fills me with awe, gratitude, and deep appreciation. I want to thank Dave and all of you who have built ICSG into the amazing community and spiritual home that it is today and I commit myself fully to carrying us forward with integrity, intention, vision, and a whole lot of love. I so look forward to connecting with each of you, to growing together, to stumbling and stretching, loving and laughing. It's hard to say just what this journey will hold, but I know in the depths of my heart it will be a beautiful one. Thank you for giving me the honor of walking this path with you.

I want to make you aware of two things happening in June. First, in an effort to connect with each of you and get to know you better, on June 4th I will be collecting personal letters from anyone who would like to write me. Feel free to bring your letter with you that day, or we will provide paper and pen during the potluck after the service. These letters are confidential (I will be the only one reading them) and the topic is wide open! What would you like your new minister to know? Ideas include: What's going on in your life? Tell me about your spirituality? What does the center mean to you? What do I need to know about ICSG? What is your vision for our future?

Lastly, I want to encourage everyone to join me on June 25th from 12:30-2p for a get-to-know-me event. We'll begin with a potluck and some casual mingling and then you'll have an opportunity to ask me any questions you might have and get to know me a little better.

Thank you all, again, from the bottom of my heart for the deep honor of being your leader and your spiritual companion. Let's trust in the magic of beginnings, shall we?

With Love, Lauren

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Community Member of the Month



By Jeanne Adwani and Johanna Nader

This month we honor Dawn Swartz, our choir director. In addition to directing the adult choir, serving as back up to Alaura, Dawn has taken on the children's choir. Dawn also teaches piano and violin in her home studio. We are so blessed to have such a musical talent in our community!

She is our Chorale director bringing the celebration of many talented voices together for our joy and inspiration.

Dawn says she is "so grateful for the Center because they've called out my gifts, helped me hone them so I can become more of who I am." Dawn's day job is Spiritual Care Coordinator at Grace Hospice. She is mother to Max Kestrel, whom you may have seen at the piano, accompanying some of our musicians during the service.

A fun fact you may not know about Dawn is that the lovely piano that now graces our Sanctuary came from her mother's house. Dawn has her mother's other piano in her home studio.

Dawn obviously comes from a musical family, and we are so grateful that she shares her musical talents to our community!

Thank you Dawn for being your lovely, colorful self. We love and appreciate you.



VIDEO PROJECT PLANNED

In honor of Dave Bell's retirement, the creation of a video by Patti Dallas, a new resident of Ann Arbor, is being planned which will include interviews with Dave and our new senior minister, Lauren Tatarsky. There will also be clips from past services, comments from community members, and music.

After seeing a presentation of her video work, Sue Booker asked Patti if she would consider producing a video about Dave and the center. After attending a couple of Sunday services, Patti became interested herself in the center, and liked the idea of creating the video. Patti and Delyth met to discuss what might be included in the project, and how to cover the cost of production. They decided the DVD's would be made available for sale, with part of the sales used to compensate Patti, and a portion going toward the ICSG Building Fund. This was approved by the Board of Trustees at the Board Meeting on May 21st, 2017.

After being the coordinator of the <u>retirement party.***</u> public access station in Yellow Springs, Ohio for several years, Patti began producing videos on her

own. Her focus has been community and family historical portraits, a few samples of which can be viewed on her website, <u>www.pattidallas.com</u>. Earlier in her career, she and another singer produced several audio recordings and a video for young children under their own label, Golden Glow Music

(goldenglowmusic.com). They are proud recipients of the Parents' Choice Award. Patti will be making her recordings available for sale to the ICSG community.

Note from Delyth: We are truly blessed to have Patti show up in our midst and offer her videography talent to us for this project. Patti is willing to accept whatever funds are collected through the sale of her music recordings and the sale of the DVD's as remuneration for her work. I thoroughly enjoyed viewing Patti's video creations and will be first in line for our Center's story on DVD.

There will be a list to sign for pre-orders of the DVD's at Dave's retirement party.



Clouds

By Rob Fagerlund

Sitting in the yard this afternoon, I watched the clouds high above, swiftly flying by. I recalled times as a child I would lie on my back doing the same thing, believing it was not only the clouds but the blue sky as well that went by. The sky itself, all of it, was one grand and sentient creature, kindly there for me at all times.

I still believe it.



1						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Service begins at 10:45 a.m.						
The speaker/ topic are in bold/italic R indicates the reader M indicates the meditator MU indicates the musician. 4 Welcome Lauren! R: TBA M: TBA MU: Interfaith Choir, Youthful Spirits, and Friends Potluck	The newsletter submission deadline is June 18 5 10-noon Dynamic Transformation 6:45 p.m. ACIM 7 p.m. Great Bal- anced View Video Meeting	Birthdays are indicated in <i>bold/italic</i> <i>Happy</i> <i>Birthday!</i> 6 10:30 a.m. The Power of Now Discussion Group 5:30 p.m. Commu- nity Gathering/ Potluck and Reiki Share	Board meeting this month is on June 18 7 6:30-8:30 p.m. Crea- tive Writing Work- shop	1 Noon—1:30 p.m. ACIM 5 p.m. ESL class 6:30—8:30 p.m. Science of Mind 7:15-8:30 p.m. Speaking Circle 8 Noon—1:30 p.m. ACIM 7:15-8:30 p.m. Speaking Circle	2 7-9 p.m. Healing Energy Session with Gregory Weathers 9 7-9 p.m. Healing Energy Session with Gregory Weathers	3 8:30 a.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Drum and Dance Jam 10 8:30 a.m. AA 8 p.m. Café 704
	Melanie Fuscaldo	Toni LaJeunesse Dawn Swartz				Paul Jurgensen
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<i>Rev. Lauren: Sacred Community</i> R: Norah R. M: Nicholas D. MU: Janet Canon	 10-noon Dynamic Transformation 6:45 p.m. ACIM 7 p.m. Great Bal- anced View Video Meeting 	10:30 a.m. The Power of Now Discussion Group5:30 p.m. Commu- nity Gathering/ Potluck and Reiki Share	6:30-8:30 p.m. Creative Writing Workshop	Noon—1:30 p.m. ACIM 6:30—8:30 p.m. Science of Mind 7:15-8:30 p.m. Speaking Circle	 7-9 p.m. Healing Energy Session with Gregory Weathers 7-9 p.m. Peace Generator 	8:30 a.m. AA 8 p.m. Spiritual Cinema
18 <i>Rev. Annie: The Gift</i> <i>of an Emotionally</i> <i>Resilient Spirit</i> R: Esther R. M: Marice C. MU: Interfaith Drum-	 19 10-noon Dynamic Transformation 6:45 p.m. ACIM 7 p.m. Great Bal- anced View Video 	20 10:30 a.m. The Power of Now Discussion Group 5:30 p.m. Commu- nity Gathering/ Potluck and Reiki	21 6:30-8:30 p.m. Crea- tive Writing Work- shop	22 Noon—1:30 p.m. ACIM 7:30 p.m. Urantia Book Study 7:15-8:30 p.m. Speaking Circle	23 7-9 p.m. Healing Energy Session with Gregory Weathers	24 8:30 a.m. AA
mers	Meeting	Share				Annie Kopko
25	26	27	28	29	30	
<i>Rev. Lauren: Lib- eration Inside and Out</i> R: TBA M: Joy P. MU: Eden West	 10-noon Dynamic Transformation 6:45 p.m. ACIM 7 p.m. Great Bal- anced View Video Meeting 	 10:30 a.m. The Power of Now Discussion Group 5:30 p.m. Community Gathering/ Potluck and Reiki Share 	6:30-8:30 p.m. Creative Writing Workshop	Noon—1:30 p.m. ACIM 7:15-8:30 p.m. Speaking Circle	7-9 p.m. Healing Energy Session with Gregory Weathers	
		Heide Kaminski Sharon Hayward				





PROFESSOR POLYPHEMUS By Peggy Lubahn

Back on April 17, I found a cocoon lying on the grass near our mailboxes. It

was about the size of a butternut, beautifully crafted from leaves wrapped and secured with silk by the caterpillar architect. Moths and butterflies have always been an important part of my life; and I was instantly transported back to the summers I spent helping with nature classes for kids, where they learned all about moths and butterflies and raised caterpillars to release as adults.

When the pupa felt the warmth of my hand it wiggled around, tapping against the inside walls. I explained that it was dangerous for it to stay where I'd found it; and asked if it would like to stay in my home or in another safe location outside until it was ready to hatch. It seemed my home would be satisfactory, so I set up a screened enclosure in my living room. Now it was time for some fun homework: I figured out the cocoon belonged to a Polyphemus, one of our showiest big moths. I hoped I could get some good photos when it hatched.

As they say in the movies, Time Passed... Meanwhile, I was studying for an animal communication class, so my head was full of "set aside your assumptions" and "treat all beings as your equals." Well, all that wisdom went poof the evening I glanced over at the cage and OH MY GOSH SHE'S HATCHED!

She was sitting quietly, resting after the hard work of squeezing out of that cramped cocoon and pumping fluid into her wings. The wings looked fine, no wrinkles, which meant she'd probably fly soon.

WHERE ARE MY NOTES? WHAT DO I DO? Obviously I needed to get her outside, so I picked up the cage -- but not carefully enough since she responded by squirting out some very smelly goo on the coffee table. I set the cage on a shelf in my patio, then I took out a chair and some reading material and my cell phone so I could take pictures. I plunked myself down to keep her company and "protect" her from hungry birds and squirrels, and waited breathlessly for the big moment!

But Polly just sat there. According to the experts, she was supposed to take off immediately to find a suitable spouse and deposit her belly full of eggs before her seven-day lifespan ended. I shifted the cage around gently to take some photos, and she squirted more goo (right on my cell phone this time!) to protest the disturbance.

Now it was getting late, and it was so cool that I worried Polly might not have the energy to fly. She firmly declined to go back into the house, so I reluctantly left the open cage where it was. I won't claim that I didn't worry or fret about her, but I had calmed down and I apologized for interfering with her personal plans and decisions.

She was still there the next morning, uneaten but quite chilled; and at noon, and at 5 pm when I went out to teach a class. And she was still there when I got home at 9:45 pm, but she was exercising her wings. I spoke to her softly, thanked her for allowing me to share her life, and offered heartfelt blessings.

The next morning, the cage was empty except for the cocoon, which I still have. You can read a lot into a simple cocoon: it's a symbol of hope and rebirth and new adventures and reinventing yourself. It will serve to remind me to "treat all beings as your equals," and that fragile little flutteries don't always need help and protection although they will appreciate loving support offered with a humble heart.

Even more important than that, I now understand that there was a reason no one else saw that cocoon sitting in plain sight. Polly had agreed to devote part of her brief life to mirror MY reluctance to move forward into new adventures. Once she saw that I "got it," she felt free to go on her way.

Spiritual guidance from an enlightened moth ----PRICELESS!

May Board Highlights Submitted by Pat Root, Chair

Prior to the annual working board "retreat" at the Center on May 13, member Ray Fix announced his decision to leave the board for personal scheduling reasons and board alternate Marlena Studer stepped forward to take his place. Ray first made sure that Marlena, who brings a lot to the board, intends to be an active member.

All board members, Lauren, and Delyth attended the entire retreat, Dave and Annie joined us for lunch and a visioning activity. Board priorities for the coming year were identified and ranked, as follows:

#1 Strategic Visioning

#2 Membership Growth including engagement/retention

#3 Fundraising

#4 Evaluations of senior minister, administrator, and perhaps the board itself.

#5 Review of board policies and other pertinent documents

The board officers for this year are Tony Nader (Secretary), Mary Alice Truitt (Vice Chair), and I will serve as Chair for one last year.

Many thanks to Sally Searls who developed • and facilitated the retreat. It takes a lot of commitment and organizational ability to pull • off this kind of event!!!

The board's regular monthly meeting was on May 21. As to finances, Delyth explained that it is typical for us to be in the red for the first four months of the year.

There was a general discussion of the possibility of resuming our spiritual practice of contributing (tithing) to outside groups, and some ideas of <u>how</u> to go about doing it were mentioned. This practice was suspended a few years ago when times were hard for the Center. The question of whether we can afford to resume this spiritual practice was referred to the Finance Committee.

A videographer named Patti Dallas is creating a historical tape about the Center. The venture will be funded by sales of the tape at Dave's retirement party on Saturday June 17.

There was a general discussion about the State of Michigan's requirement to have someone designated as Treasurer. At the board's request, the Finance Committee is dealing with this matter and will (hopefully) make a recommendation to the board about moving forward with this requirement.

This was Dave's last board meeting as Senior Minister. The board unanimously and enthusiastically approved the following statements and requests from him about his future plans:

- Continue facilitating the Monday Course in Miracles study group
- Perhaps attending a seminar on Non-Violent Communication
- New name tag identifying him as Senior Minister Emeritus
- Retain his Interfaith email address
- Donation of his office furniture and books (if he can borrow a book on occasion)
- Continue working with the Order of Universal Interfaith (OUnI) and continue to use our mailing address for that group

To avoid meeting on Father's Day, the next board meeting will be on Sunday June 11. All are welcome to attend!







You are invited to a

Retirement Gala in honor of Dave Bell Saturday, June 17, 6 - 8 p.m. Short program at 7 p.m.

> Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth 704 Airport Blvd, Ann Arbor Ml

Join us to honor Dave for 19+ years of service as the Founder and Senior Minister of the Interfaith Center

Everyone Welcome - Light Refreshments

In lieu of gifts Donations to the ICSG building fund in honor of Dave happily accepted Please make checks payable to ICSG Building Fund

For more information contact Sally @734-646-1349



Café 704 Concert David Mosher Saturday, June 10, 2017 8 – 10 pm (Doors open at 7:30 pm)



Come enjoy the music of singer-songwriter and multiinstrumentalist David Mosher performing a rare solo show of all original material. Dave is known for his work with Blackthorn, the Raisin Pickers, The RFD Boys, and Wild Swan Theater.

Café 704 entry: Donation at door (suggested \$8 each or 2 for \$15)

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd, Ann Arbor 48108

Sweet treats, soda, bottled water and hot beverages are available for donations. The Café is in a converted warehouse behind Motel 6.

http://interfaithspirit.org/cafe-704-coffeehouse/





Happy Father's Day to all the men who are a role model









Love, Líght, and Laughter Heide, Kellie, Tommy, Dawn, and the Youthful Spirits





Image from peaceseeds

Caring Committee Contact List

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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 mommyk@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/interfaithinspirerinterfaithinspirer.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, and Lindsay.

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- BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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- Mary Alice Truitt, vice-chair
- Tony Nader, secretary
- Marlena Studer, member
- Lindsay Passmore, member
- Tommie Parkerr, member Steve Orlowski, member
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- board@interfaithspirit.org

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Education Directors Tommy Kaminski, Nursery

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Marilyn, Chair

The Caring Committee





Heide and Kellie, Vice Co-chairs



Tommy,



Khristian



Annie



Delyth, Liaison



Idgie



Jan







Judy





Michael

Jack

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 <u>in crisis</u> 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!

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 PrepConsulting (type)				
Child CareErrandsCleaningYardworkSnow Shoveling				
Healing/energy workHousehold DonationsClothing Donations				
Caregiver BreakSend CardsComputer HelpHealing Music				
Fun CompanionshipPet CareMassageMoney Donation				
ListeningPrayersRespite CareJoin Caring Committee				
Other				
Limitations and additional information:				

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Written by our very own formerly Youthful Spirit, now adult member of the Center, as well as the nursery worker for two years, this book is a hoot to read!

Available on Amazon: amazon.com/Comedy-Rule-World-Fantasy Or you can get a signed copy at the Center!



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- Pharsee: زمان نمای صلح Polish: ZEGAR POKOJU
- Portuguese: Hora da Paz Romanian: CEASUL PĂCII
- Russian: <u>ЧАСЫ МИРА</u> Spanish: <u>UN RELOJ POR LA PAZ</u>
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