



INTERFAITH INSPIRER
WE SHALL SURVIVE EDITION #8
NOVEMBER 2020

Contents:

Page one: Ministerial Miscellaneous

Page two: Order of services

Pages three through five:: Peggy's column

Pages five and six: Bob's column

Page six: Board members

Page seven: Board of Trustees

Page eight: Tommy's newest book



SHORTENED VERSION DURING THE PANDEMIC

MINISTERIAL MISCELLANEOUS BY ANNIE KOPKO

Beyond Gratitude.

This is the time of year when we are remembering to be truly grateful for all that we are blessed to have in our lives, our job, our family, our cozy home, our bills paid. What about being grateful for what and who we are being? What about being grateful for whatever is unconditioned in ourselves and in our lives? I know how important it is to appreciate all that we have and all that we have accomplished, but all those things are conditional, and they will change over time, and pass away. And anything can change instantly and scares us when it does. Remember the last time your car “broke down” or failed you in some way? It felt like a struggle to bring it back to normal.

Are you remembering to be thankful for your courageous heart? Are you thankful for all your capacity for joy, fun, and laughter? Are you remembering all the love around you in the world that feeds your soul? Our attention is drawn to all the difficulties in the world, but can you remember the love and joy that is the underpinning of human consciousness and is experienced by most of us every day? Do you remember to look around you and feel the beauty there, no matter what you see? Like the next baby at the grocery store, and the dog you meet on your walk? When you do remember, it is because you are the beauty, you are the love that you seek. Only because of what is in you, are you able to see it everywhere.

Being in the company of this community of angels playing and exploring and giving all they've got to this human experience helps me remember who I really am and what I am becoming.

You will find the activities of this Interfaith community listed on our website and all the links in your email so you can join the Sunday service, study groups, and classes available to everyone each week. We love it when you join us. And we love it whenever you can make a financial contribution too. There is a spot on our website, and our address is there too, for snail mail.

Many Blessings, Annie

SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2020

November 1

Service Leader: Rev. David Bell

Speaker: Revs. Annie Kopko and Delyth Balmer

“Day of the Dead: Remembrances”

Reader & Meditator: Laurie Knerr

Special Music: Tom Voiles

November 8

Service Leader: Rev. Delyth Balmer

Speaker: Rev. Annie Kopko “Do You Accept the Challenge?”

Reader: Annemarie Howse

Meditator: Joy Pendleton

Special Music: Lenore Wiand

November 15

Service Leader: Annie Kopko

Speaker: Steve Bhaerman (AKA Swami Beyondananda):

“Spontaneous Evolution: A Universal Love Story”

Reader: Mary Alice Truitt

Meditator: John Lang

Special Music: Craig Brann

November 22

Service Leader: Rev. Lyriel Claire

Speaker: Paulette Stenzel “Experiencing Spirituality Through Service: Doors Will Open”

Reader: Mary Alice Truitt

Meditator: Joy Pendleton

Special Music: Don Digirolamo

November 29

Service Leader: Janet Somalinog

Speaker: Rev. Dave Bell “We Are All Mystics”

Reader: Craig Harvey

Meditator: Janet Fry

Special Music: Curtis Glatter

PEGGY'S COLUMN

AUTHOR BIO

Peggy River Singer is a Lightworker, animal communicator, medium, faerie ally, Reiki practitioner, and lifelong writer. She combines her gifts to help create harmonious relationships among all who share the Earth. Connect by phone at **734-548-0194**; and by email at newbluecanoe@aol.com. Articles about her experiences and insights are posted on her blog, angelsfairiesandlife.wordpress.com.

IN THE COMPANY OF RAIN

Let's play with free association for a few minutes. What do you think of when you hear the word Rain? *Sprinkle, pour, drizzle, washing, cleaning, clearing, replenishing, soothing, refreshing, nurturing, restoring, splashing, lakes, ponds, puddles, Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head, shower heads, floods, monsoons, deserts, rain forests, aquifers, mud slides.*

This list reminds us that no matter who you are, or where you live, or what you do for a living, RAIN MATTERS. Rain -- and its absence -- has been hugely important to humans from the very beginning. And our spiritual, emotional and physical relationship with rain goes far beyond scientific facts and figures.

I've always treasured the soothing sound of a steady rain. When I began meditating in the 1990's, I found that on rainy days my meditations were deeper and more satisfying. Around the same time, I developed a habit of picking up my guitar when it was raining. I liked to think that Rain was listening to me play, and the lower air pressure and humidity seemed to add some nice resonance to the sound.

As a fledgling Communicator, I wondered one day whether I would be able to connect with Rain. I sent thoughts of love and appreciation, and a virtual hug; and asked for some kind of response. Moments later, the gentle rain had suddenly become quite a downpour. Right in front of my door.

Today, it is my great pleasure to be able to share a conversation I had with this multi-talented Being who is so vitally essential to the health and welfare of the planet and all who share it.

Peggy's column, continued

Peggy: Good morning, Rain! I'm afraid I cannot pronounce the name you just gave me; may I address you as Rain instead?

Rain: *Surely!*

Peggy: Thank you. Will you tell us something about your day-to-day activities?

Rain: *That could be described broadly as "oversight" of the planet's relationship with water in the form of rain, or a lack of rain. I am given responsibility -- by Creator -- for coordinating this very complex and sophisticated system.*

Peggy: Do you exist or work within the structures of linear time?

Rain: *Not exactly. Of course I must observe yearly cycles and seasons; however, I am not subject to linear time in the same way humans are.*

Peggy: Do you experience emotions? I have felt, sometimes, that you are smiling when I talk to you while you are visiting my area.

Rain: *I shall say that I am capable of **perceiving** the emotional expression of such loving gestures as you describe, though I am not endowed with any emotional capacities.*

Peggy: What is your favorite aspect of all your responsibilities?

Rain: *It is satisfying to see greenery flourish after I have blessed the land.*

Peggy: Your tasks also include withholding rain, and delivering damaging rain. How do you view that aspect of your work?

Rain: *It is one part of my duties. I consider it to be an element of the balancing that must be maintained.*

Peggy: My own experiences of rain include empowering meditation and creativity, appreciation of my home's comforts, easing of sadness; and playfulness, when I kick off my shoes and rush outside to dance among the raindrops. Why do you think humans respond so strongly to your energetic presence?

Peggy's column, continued

Rain: *Humans are, I believe, composed of approximately 60% water. Your earliest development occurred in the ocean. Your cells are alive, the water in your cells is alive. All water in all its forms, is part of the planet's hydrosphere, the Sacred Ocean of this world. Like calls to like.*

Peggy: Tribal peoples have traditions of calling for rain when it's needed to save their food supplies. Can you explain how this works, and why it sometimes does not work?

Rain: *This is all about the emotional connections that can be made, just as your story suggests in the beginning of this talking. The practitioner who BECOMES the rain, FEELS the drops on his face and his tongue, wiggles his toes in the mud, welcomes every drop as a beloved friend, is usually successful. Some do not achieve that level of BEINGNESS and oneness, so are less effective.*

Peggy: How about when we use science to try to create rain by seeding clouds and other methods?

Rain: *Even when the intentions are honorable -- the saving of crops and human lives -- such manipulations are unlikely to result in completely controlled precipitation. Forcing, demanding, TAKING from the Earth is the exact opposite of the very nature of Gaia and all she stands for.*

Peggy: You are so familiar to us, and yet we'll never know all your secrets. Will you share something that you'd like us to know about you?

Rain: *I shall say, I am without form, without physical expression, yet I exist as surely as the chair you are sitting on. Open your mind to wonder, to connection. I am not the only such Being who cares for the planet. Acceptance, appreciation and offering relationship changes everything. We are done.*



A PRAYER – BY ROBERT HOPKINS

A LITTLE PRAYER

I caught myself in a train of thought this past week in relation to another one of the many tasks I perform in the course of my daily life. I suddenly realized how often I have thought this very thought on previous occasions: “I could have done better”. Then an unusual word popped up: “But ...” I realized that I wanted to finish that sentence and that I had just completed reading a little booklet I got years ago from Unity Church of Christianity entitled Gratitude and Grace. Suddenly I had the three words that followed but: “I am grateful”. So I had my completed sentence (I thought) “I could have done better, but I am grateful”.

Having just finished the pamphlet on gratitude and grace, I was led to ponder exactly what was I grateful for? The following flowed fairly smoothly, thereafter. “I am grateful for what I have. I am grateful for what I have done. I am grateful for what is in front of me and I am grateful for what is in front of me to do.” When, I put it all together, I realized how this mantra would help me to look back in satisfaction, appreciate and help me to focus on the present. This would give me a positive outlook in a healthy movement toward the future.

Then I was struck by one final idea. This was good as a mantra for healthy thinking, but more than that it was a PRAYER FOR THE RECOVERING PERFECTIONIST in me. With that in mind, here is the prayer in its totality for those of you who are also struggling to overcome your perfectionist tendencies:

“I can do better, but I am GRATEFUL. I am grateful for what I have. I am grateful for what I have done. I am grateful for what is in front of me. I am grateful for what I have in front of me to do.”

Board of Trustees

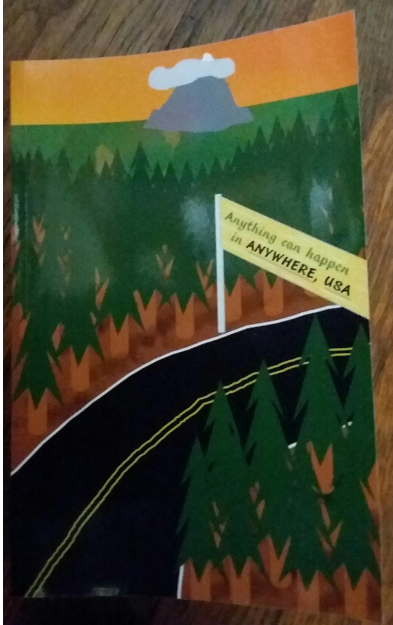
Marice Clark,
Vicki Davinich – Secretary,
Erik Nowakowski – Co-Chair
Donald Prevost-Hart,
Pat Root,
Mary Alice Truit – Co-Chair,
Tracy Worcester

Board meetings are held on **Zoom** the **3rd Sunday** of each month from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced. The meetings are open for all to attend and community input is greatly appreciated.. You may communicate with the board by email at board@interfaithspirit.org .

DRUMROLL, PLEASE....

Anywhere, USA: An Adventure Away from Reality

Magic, myths, and monstrous creatures: what more could you want during these troubling times? Take a break from real life and escape to *Anywhere, USA*, a town of dark secrets, rural charm, and a history cloaked in mystery. Join along with Jules and Elliot Paige as they dive headfirst and blindfolded into a world they never knew existed, where fairytale creatures—both good and bad—roam the Earth (or at least roam this one national park in Washington State). There, they will fight for their lives and for the town they've come to call their home, not only discovering the great evil that lurks beneath, but also a little something about themselves as well. Available on Amazon. Suitable for ages 13+.



Type: *Thomas A T Kaminski Anywhere, USA* into the Amazon books search bar, free delivery for prime members :-)