



INTERFAITH INSPIRER

WE SHALL SURVIVE EDITION #11

MAY 2021



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SHORTENED VERSION DURING THE PANDEMIC

MINISTERIAL MISCELLANEOUS BY ANNIE KOPKO

It is May 2nd already. I usually write this and pass it on to Heide sooner for our newsletter, but I am glad I didn't. I get to think more about the talk today (Sunday) from Mara Evenstar. I have been getting more emotionally moved by our services lately, and today was no exception. I had to get up at one point and walk across the room to move a box of tissues closer to me.

It seems that everyone is showing up to do very high levels of service at this time. I feel deeper and deeper levels of meaning and intention are showing up at our services and pouring out of those of us willing to be channels for deeper love than we can imagine. We are being one with each other, and allowing the expressions of our love. I know what it means when they say "We are all in this together", that we deeply need each other to come through this particular virus event together, and to know that truth we must each take in that idea, acknowledge healing is happening, and make it happen for ourselves. For although the reminders of all that we are and have come together to share come from one another, the reality that enables it to happen is our Spiritual Loving Self deep within.

As we begin to open and feel the healing of the increasing warmth in the weather and everywhere in nature, let's remember it is the same healing and warmth around and within ourselves for each other and the miracles it brings to our shared lives.

Throughout the week many of us attend groups and classes on Zoom. Each week on Monday, Layla Ananda sends out the links to your email. They can be found on the website also: interfaithspirit.org.

Blessings for a really great month.

Annie



SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICES FOR MAY 2021



May 2

Service Leader: Rev. Annie Kopko

Message: Mara Evenstar “Encountering the Faces of the Beloved”

Reading: Annemarie Howse

Meditation: Holly Makimaa

Special Music: Katie Geddes & David Vaughn (at the Center)

May 9

Service Leader: Rev. Lyriel Claire

Message: “*Mothering Day*” Open Mic (facilitated by Delyth Balmer)

Reader: TBA

Meditator: TBA

Special Music: Peter Madcat Ruth (at the Center)

May 16

Service Leader: Janet Somalinog

Message: Rev. Lyriel Claire “Creating Positive Energy”

Reading: Laurie Knerr

Meditation: Bob Hopkins

Special Music: Don Digirolamo (from home)

May 23

Service Leader: Rev. David Bell

Message: Randall Counts “Pentecost: A Celebration of the Higher Self”

Reading: TBA

Meditation: TBA

Special Music: Dan Bilich (from home)

May 30

Service Leader: Rev. Delyth Balmer

Message: Ali Hussain, PhD “Art in Memoirs: Following the Traces of Our Creative Source”

Reading: TBA

Meditation: TBA

Special Music: Janet Cannon (at the Center)

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.

THE CATBOYS TALK ABOUT COVID-19

By Peggy River Singer

The Catboys are (in alphabetical order at their request) Alvin, Atticus, Jasper, and Tobie. Jasper transitioned two years ago, and is just as insightful and sassy on the other side as he was while here. This article is an excerpt from a recent conversation, or as we like to call it, a Talking.

Peggy: Good evening, boys!

Cats: *Good evening Miss Peggy!*

Atticus: *We would like you to visit, like you used to. When will we see you again?*

Peggy: It's not easy to say. Mom and Dad and I all want to be able to visit in person like we used to. But there are still rules we need to follow to be safe, with the Great Illness still so powerful.

Cats: *We don't really understand all that, will you explain?*

Peggy: The Great Illness affects humans, makes them very ill, and very many people around the world have died. It keeps changing, and new kinds of illness keep forming. So, it's pretty scary. And it's important for us to follow the rules of covering our faces, and not being with other people as we used to, to help avoid spreading the germs -- the seeds of the illness. It's called Covid, I'm sure you've heard that name many times.

Cats: *[thoughtful] We understand illnesses, we cats are subject to several scary illnesses. Now we will know what is meant when we hear "Covid", thank you.*

Tobie: *It seems like this scary illness might make people pay lots of attention to any little ache and pain, of any kind. Scared it might be the Covid. No wonder the world's energy is so jumpy and chaotic!*

Peggy: Exactly, now you've got the picture for sure. We humans are feeling not-ourselves, nervous, because of this long time of waiting for a conclusion. Even though we are getting shots that will stop the Covid [Cats: Shots? Ewww!], and much is being learned about how to cope with it, there is still so much worry. I've felt it too, even though I'm not as afraid as many people are. How do you cats cope with all this swirling twirling energy?



Cats: *[promptly]* We sleep our bodies and use our minds to influence, to persuade, to soften and gentle, the emotional energies we can reach. Many many many other animals of all kinds sizes species are doing the same, for the love of our humans and love for our Earth Mother.

Atticus: *It is natural for us as you know, to work with energies. Before, we did not have a name for these strange new illness energies. Now that we have the name, we shall have more power.*

Most humans think in terms of FIGHTING such things, it is natural to their [way of] thinking. We WORK WITH, working toward finding the balance place where all can become in harmony together. The balance of illness and health, positive and negative in all its forms and wonders, complexities beyond imagining. Let it also be said that many humans, aware and unaware, are doing similar work on the Other Levels, often in Sleep Time. It is a great coming together, stupendous in scope, such as has not been seen in a thousand generations!

Peggy: I can honestly say I'm stunned to hear this, boys. But at the same time, it feels so obvious. I'm a little embarrassed I didn't figure this out myself.

Atticus: *[modestly]* Well, you know, you're only human! *[joke]*

Peggy: Definitely! How about the Plant Folk, the Stone Folk, the Fae Folk?

Tobie: *We think there is some involvement among Otherfolk, but because this is a human disease, mostly human-involved Folk have undertaken this effort. Domestic parrots in particular have their own unique powerful "flavor" of energy work that is not yet apparent to most humans. [I see an image of a large Macaw nodding to me.] Same can be said of other animals. And many of the Master Healers among the Fae are working in their own way.*

Peggy: What about animals like cattle, many of whom are not well treated by humans?

Tobie: *Understand that they are much more than they seem, just like all living things. Some hold resentment and anger against humans, others do not and join in the massive healing efforts for the good of all.*

Peggy: Jasper, we haven't heard from you yet.

Jasper: *I have been listening listening, even sitting still instead of running and playing! I understand the serious-ness of this Talking, these explainings from each one here. I am proud of my brothers! We make a powerful Family Team!*

Peggy: You certainly do! How about you, Alvin?

Alvin: *I have been listening and adopting [absorbing] this new information. I understand better now the fearing of all the human friends. The energy of it has been weighing me down sometimes. I think I will feel better now.*

Peggy: Anything else anyone would like to add?

Cats: *Hope. Always, Hope.*

Peggy: Thank you boys, good night.

CONSTRUCTION OF A PRAYER – PART 15 BY ROBERT HOPKINS

O Creator of the Universe Who was manifested in Jesus Christ, Buddha, Confucius, Gandhi, Quimby, Moses, Muhammad, Bahá'u'lláh, and Rumi, Whose Spirit spreads and reigns throughout the world: I pray in gratitude for all the wonders of the world, wonders of the Universe. I pray for release from all negativity, all distorted thinking and all inappropriate judgements. I pray for commitment to the highest good, commitment to the truth, commitment to love. I pray with acceptance of all the blessings and miracles that have come into my life. I pray in celebration of all the blessings and miracles I have accepted and all the wonders for which I am grateful. I pray for peace. I pray for harmony.

As I neared the end of the prayer I was designing for myself, I was convinced that I was making a firm commitment to make this prayer a daily occurrence. More than that, I was determined that I would attempt to follow the Islamic tradition of saying it five times per day. I learned about the circumstances identified for each of those five times in that Islamic ritual. Since I was operating from a joyful, affirmative position throughout the prayer, my determination was somewhat flexible. I would do my best to observe those Muslim times, but I would not be rigid with myself. I decided that I would not insist that I lay down whatever I was doing in the midst of a busy workday or active evening to begin the prayer. I would be gentle with myself about the timing, yet insistent with myself about the frequency of five times per day.

It makes sense to note this determination to be gentle with myself as I begin to talk about peace and harmony. I have personally experienced a long history of perfectionism and have gone so far as to write a short prayer which I have called: “A Prayer for the Recovering Perfectionist”. I have come to realize that one key manifestation of the perfectionism is an extreme amount of self-criticism. At times this self-criticism is so harsh as to border on the brutal. I have also realized that being that hard and un-forgiving of oneself helps to pave the way to extremes of judgement and expectations of others. Since these judgements and expectations are often not negotiated or even discussed with the other person, an insistence upon them is totally without justification. But, of course, my rationalization was that “if I can be so hard on myself, it is not unreasonable to be demanding a lot of others as well”. Such a pattern is far from a path toward peace or harmony.

There was another important reason that I wanted to include the request for peace and harmony in my prayer. It had been the case that I had been affirming my desire to pray for peace and harmony on a daily basis. I had been writing in my evening journal that I had (or had not) prayed for peace and harmony each day. I had been doing so for somewhere between five and ten years. Therefore, it seemed fitting that if I were going to create the prayer that was to be a part of my day – five times a day – it would be wise to include peace and harmony within it. In so doing, I could expand my commitment to pray for peace and harmony each day from one to five times daily without too much more effort than I would be expending in saying the overall prayer.

This still does not speak to the issue of: Why peace? Why harmony? From the time of my activism in the anti-war movement in the 1960s, I have held strongly to the value of peace. I have made a study of pacifism and admired the non-violent philosophies of Jesus, Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. I was familiar with the long and noble tradition of the Society of Friends and how their community has been at the forefront of much of the opposition to war throughout the history of America. I believe in the cause of peace and I believe that in the wake of consistency of peace, harmony emerges. I believe that harmony is the natural state of all races and cultures of humankind. Further, the ideal relationship between humanity and all the living organisms with whom we share the planet is one of harmony as well.

This five-decade belief in peace and its flowering into the tranquility of harmony has not always been manifested in my own thoughts, attitudes and behaviors. It was more than three decades ago that I was persuaded to believe that peace was a process that began from the inside out. One cannot realistically affirm the value of peace without taking steps to assure that it is at the core of one's own life. This realization alone did not bring me to peace and harmony. I have been compelled to acknowledge that peace and harmony is an ongoing pursuit. I cannot attain it for just one day and expect it to remain thereafter. If there is to be peace and harmony in my life and in my surroundings, I must affirm the need for it and seek to accomplish it on a day-by-day and sometimes moment-by-moment basis. Therefore it seems that a prayer said a mere five times a day declaring my value for it and desire for it is a step in the right direction. It is my sincere hope that this affirmation of commitment and aspiration will guide me. If I am off-track, it is my desire that five times per day I can re-center myself and ask The Creator to help me recover and rediscover peace and harmony.

Board of Trustees

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 .

Marice Clark

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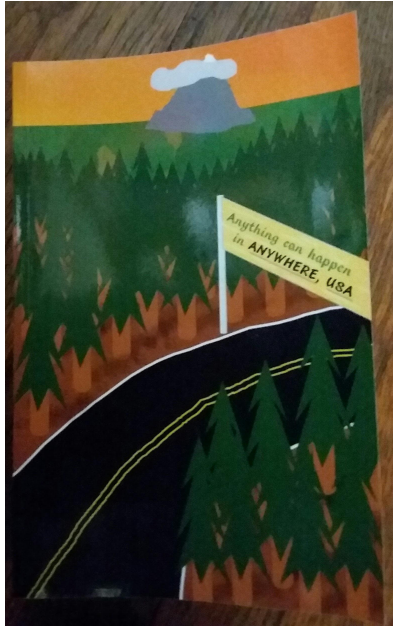
Mary Alice Truitt

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 :-)