



The Michael Messenger

Newsletter of the Rudolf Steiner Branch (NC)
of the Anthroposophical Society
in America

MARCH 2016
Vol. I, No. 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, March 7- RSBNC Board meeting 2 pm

**Friday-Saturday March 11-12 – AWSNA
Conference at EWS**

**Sunday, March 13 -First Class of the School of
Spiritual Science in the Eurythmy Room at
EWS 10:00 am**

**Saturday, March 19 –Talk by Carol Kelly in the
Brown Wing 7:30 pm**

**Sunday March 20 - PALM SUNDAY – Act of
Consecration of Man 10:30 am**

**Thursday, March 24th - HOLY THURSDAY -Talk
by Lynn Jericho 7 pm**

**Friday, March 25th -GOOD FRIDAY Talk by
Kathleen Wright at Avila retreat Center 1:30pm**

**Saturday March 26th -HOLY SATURDAY – Talk
by Edward Schuldt at the Frey Home**

**Sunday, March 27th -EASTER Sunrise Vigil at Judy Frey's 7am, followed by
Breakfast**

Wednesday, March 30 – Rudolf Steiner's Death Day



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EVENTS

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND -MARCH 19-20TH



Saturday Night March 19th at 7 pm Rev. Carol Kelly will give a talk:

“FROM INFINITE SUFFERING TO ALL-PREVAILING COSMIC LOVE”

Christ Jesus made Himself into that which is to live in every single human being. Through Him there came into the world what can come about through freedom and peaceful cooperation.” (The Christian Mystery)

As Jesus walked on earth he witnessed the terrible wretchedness of human beings bereft of Spirit. He suffered enormously because of what he must endure and bear. In His infinite compassion for human beings He brought forth the “Lord’s Prayer” and gave Himself to the earth and to all of humanity in communion with us. The radiance of His Being and the magnitude of this deed are only now in our time, beginning to be dimly understood. Let us walk further into this mystery.

At 8:30 pm, there will be a close of day service.

Location: Brown Wing of the Emerson Waldorf School 6211 New Jericho Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

Palm Sunday – March 20th, 2016 Sunday Morning services:

- Children’s story will be told at **9:30 am** with a brief children’s service beginning at **10:00 am**.
- The Act of Consecration of Man begins at **10:30 am**. Please do not enter late if possible.
- Snacks and circle time will begin at **12:00 noon**. Community announcements shared.

Our last priest visit of the school year will be with Rev. Richard Dancey June 4th – 5th 2016. For a Sacramental Consultation or to meet privately, please contact Rev. Kelly at carolkelly.cc@gmail.com or 845-803-2071

Christian Community Lay Services are held at 10:30 am on the third Sunday of the month at the home of Buddy and Sarah Smiley, 228 Forest Hill Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514. For more information call 919-951-4353 or email Lsmiley7542@gmail.com

EVENTS FOR PASSION WEEK:

Holy Thursday

March 24 7:00-9:00 PM

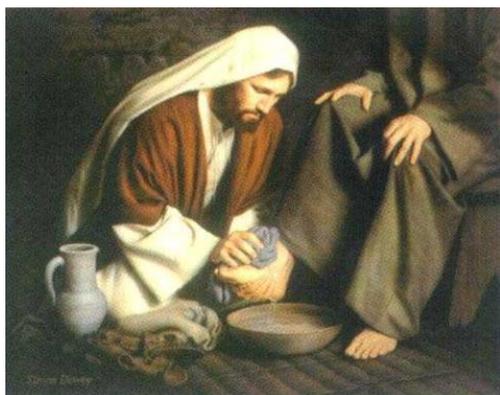
A Talk and Discussion with

Lynn Jericho



Community and Isolation: Exploring Our Personal Relationship to Social Mysteries of the Last Supper and Gethsemane”

As anthroposophists, can we find our own inner experience of these two events in the life of Jesus Christ? Through conversation and creative exercises, we will explore the dramatic polarities of community and isolation in our lives. We will consider devotion and betrayal as they support destiny. We may find our way to a deeper understanding of the Divine and the human aspects of our own lives by imagining the thoughts, feelings and intentions living in Jesus Christ during these extraordinary events. Facilitated by Lynn Jericho, 1250 Ephesus Church Road Apt L-23 Chapel Hill
RSVP: lynnjericho@gmail.com or 919-636-0430 or 919-240-4094



GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH

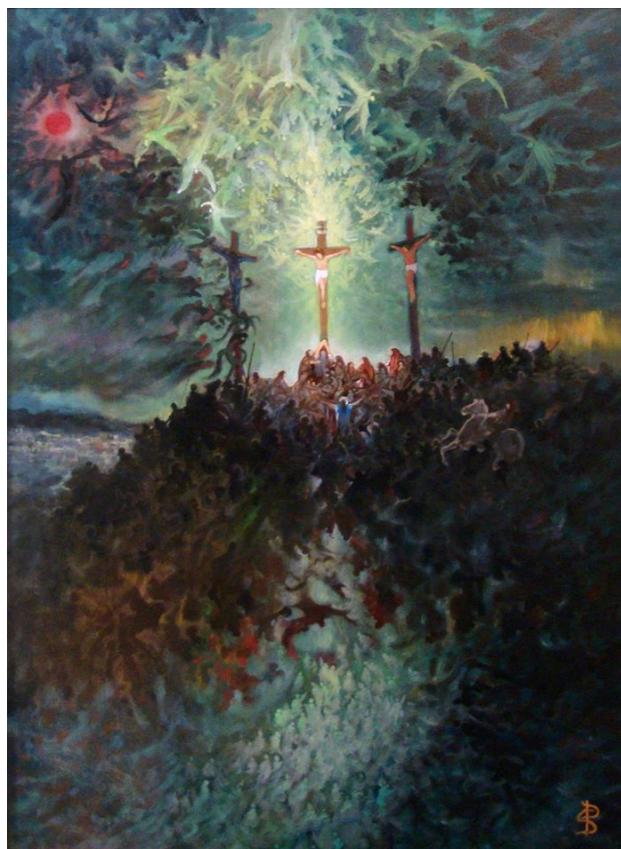
At Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Rd.

1:30-3 PM

The Stages of Christian Initiation

In the past, those who sought higher consciousness entered into Mystery Schools for training with a Priest-Hierophant who directed their every step. Today initiation occurs in everyday living without the help of an initiatory priest. At the time of Christ, it was impossible for one to have a full experience of Golgotha because mankind was still developing the Intellectual Soul. One had to wait until the development of the Consciousness Soul to become mature enough to experience inwardly the Imaginations which begin to reveal the true reality of the Mystery of Golgotha. Christ Himself has become the Teacher for the Path of Christian Initiation. Meditating on the St. John Gospel will eventually lead to a clairvoyant experience of the Mystery of Golgotha, according to Rudolf Steiner. On Good Friday we will explore the Path of these Stations of the Cross that are the basis for the stages of Christian Initiation. Referring to the lectures of Rudolf Steiner and the reflections of Kristina Kaine, who has written a book *Reflections on the Seven Christian Initiations in the Gospel of St. John*, we will explore how we can partake in this Mystery process with Christ.



Following a talk on this topic by Kathleen Wright, participants will discuss their own understanding of the Mystery of Golgotha. They will then have the opportunity to meditate on the Stations of the Cross or walk the labyrinth on the beautiful grounds at Avila Retreat Center. Instructions for using the labyrinth will be handed out at Avila.

Members will gather in the parking lot at Avila at 1:30 PM sharp (please don't be late) and we will walk to one of the outdoor enclosed gazebos for our talk. The grounds at Avila Retreat Center are open to the public; however a "good will donation" was suggested by them, as our members may need to use the facilities indoors. We will take up a collection. Avila was chosen because of its extraordinary spiritual energy. If you have never been there, do check out the website which has a video of the grounds. It is: www.avila-retreat-center.com

Holy Saturday, Saturday, March 26, 7:00pm

At the Home of Judy Frey

55207 Broughton

Chapel Hill, NC

A Talk by Edward Schuldt:

“The Harrowing of Hell:

Christ’s Descent into the Interior of the Earth and How We Can Go With Him”



Christ’s Descent into the nine spheres of the interior of the Earth has been a topic of research for Edward Schuldt for many years now. It also plays an important role in a novel Edward is writing. Edward will demonstrate how the 9 spheres of the earth correspond to the stages of Christian initiation, as well as the Nine Beatitudes. This promises to be a fascinating exploration of a very esoteric mystery.

A light supper of soup and salad will follow. A limited number of participants may spend the night at Judy’s home in order to get up early for the Easter Sunrise (7:07 am). Please call Judy to see if there are any beds left: 919-928-8749 or simply arrive around 7 am or earlier.

Easter Sunday, March 27, 6:30 am.

At the home of Judy Frey



Please come to a contemplative Easter Sunrise Observance on Sunday morning. The Sun will rise at 7:07am. There will be a breakfast provided afterwards.

Many of you have been to our Sunrise Observance before. We sing, read Scripture, enjoy breaking bread and visiting with each other. There will be chairs and blankets, but please dress warmly. Whenever Easter falls in March, we have a greater chance of seeing the sunrise unobscured by leaves. We will greet the Sun inside if it rains.

EURYTHMY CLASSES FOR ADULTS RESUME IN MARCH



Wednesdays 5:45-7:15 PM

EWS Eurythmy Room

March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

April 6th (NO CLASS April 13th) 20th and 27th.

7 classes @ \$20 = \$140 for the session.

Payment in full for the session is required unless other arrangements are made. As always, barter is an option. Please do not stay away for financial reasons.

**Contact Christina Beck for more information at:
cbeck.river@gmail.com**

EURYTHMY FESTIVAL Saturday, April 23, 2016 10:30 am-12:30 pm In the Brown Wing at EWS

The Eurythmy Festival will consist of performances, demonstrations, Community Eurythmy and a short introductory talk by Christina Beck. Performances will be by Christina and her adult Eurythmy students. A suggested donation of \$10-20. would be appreciated. Please bring a brown bag lunch to share if you'd like to stay afterwards.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLABORATION COMPLETED COPIES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

After 15 years of collaborating, author Olga Wierbiecki and illustrator Crystal Mays have completed their children's book ***Squeek Goes Adventuring***. Olga Wierbiecki was one of the founders of the Emerson Waldorf School. Crystal Mays is the daughter of Robert Mays, Board President of our branch and Suzanne Mays, Both Mayses were also co-founders of EWS. Crystal was a student at EWS from Kindergarten through seventh grade. The book made its debut at a fundraising dinner for Crystal's move to Portland, Oregon. The book sells for \$18. Plus \$3.00 for shipping. If you are interested, please contact Suzanne Mays at 919-929-1073 or email her at suzannemays@gmail.com



ANNOUNCING....

The Triangle Biodynamic AG Network



The Triangle Biodynamic Network of the North Carolina Piedmont gathers on one Saturday each month. Its next meeting is March 19th from 2-4 PM at Infinity Farm, 1600 McDade Store Rd, Cedar Grove. The current topic of study is “Barrel Compost – what is it and how to make it?” We will prepare it at the meeting.

The Triangle Biodynamic Ag Network concerns itself with safe, sustainable, ecological and ethical agriculture and gardening. Anyone who has an interest in Biodynamic gardening and agriculture is warmly welcomed. Anyone can bring hopes, ideas, reports and questions on Biodynamic Agriculture and our kindred movements, namely, organic agriculture and permaculture.

TBDN's goal is to become aware of each other, help each other and teach each other about the healthy care of the earth using Biodynamic principles.

The format of our meetings is as follows:

First hour: Please come and share what us going on in your farm or garden.

Second hour: We will look at a topic from a lecture in the Biodynamic Agriculture Course by Rudolf Steiner. This portion of the meeting is led by Rich D'Angiolillo

Michael Judge, a history teacher at EWS is willing to facilitate our meetings. Carol St. John is willing to perform the admin portion by compiling email addresses and sending out notices of meetings. The “Stirs and Sprays” will continue based on the cycle of the year and will be conducted by Jon Lyerly.

Do support the farms in the Triangle that are using Biodynamics. These include:

Whitted-Bowers Farm in Cedar Grove (Demeter certified) see them at the Carrboro Farmers' Market or visit their website at www.whittedbowersfarm.com; Infinity Farm, 1600 McDade Store Rd, in Cedar Grove 919-732-1840;

Turtle Creek Farm at the Eno River Farmer's Market; email: mleonhardi@gmail.com

TBDN invites you to support Biodynamics by attending workshops, joining, volunteering, purchasing and donating to:

The Biodynamic Association of North America - info@biodynamics.cim; the Josephine Porter Institute 9VA) jpbiodynamics.org and Spikenard Bee Sanctuary (VA) info@spikenardfarm.org

Nineteen Attend Martha Kelder's Special 65th Birthday Party



We don't usually print articles about members' birthdays, but Martha Kelder's was so special we realized that we simply could not ignore it. Mindy Kash decided that Martha has been so good to her that she wanted to show her appreciation by throwing her the best party ever. She asked Judy Frey to host it and invited the entire RSB-NC membership. Nineteen people came laden with potluck foods and presents.

Mindy made a homemade blueberry cake and Kathleen brought a decadent organic chocolate cake. By strange coincidence, all three women will turn 65 within a short time of one another.

Marlene Joyce performed the delightful Waldorf Kindergarten Birthday Rainbow Bridge ritual for Martha. It was absolutely magical. Her husband Dirk sang and played on his guitar for her. Martha said that she wished everyone in the community could have such a beautiful celebration like she had.

The turnout was really amazing considering there was a tornado warning in effect and the radio kept urging us to take cover. Many stayed late to wait out the storm and the conversations that arose were among the most heartwarming this community has ever experienced. There was such a feeling of love in the room. Memories of past events and members who have crossed the Threshold came up. One member suggested that we post on the Calendar the dates of members' birthdays and death days so that we all have the opportunity to honor our brothers and sisters of Rudolf Steiner. March birthdays of our members include Linda Folsom on March 10 and Judy Frey on March 26.



(Photo Above: Mindy brings her homemade blueberry cake to Martha; Right: Martha opens presents as Marlene and Eve Olive look on; photos by Ruth Young)

Welcome Back Peg Carmody!

Former Board President Peg Carmody moved back to the Triangle on March 8. She will be living at the home of Joanna Carey in Durham. Peg has come to finish up her dissertation and look for work. We are delighted to have her back and hope that she will take a break from her research to come to some of our events. We missed you!

From the Board

It's time to renew, reactivate or start up your membership in the Branch! We have already had several members renew and also include generous donations. **Thank you to all who have so far renewed and donated!**

How do your dues help the Branch? They provide the funds to rent meeting spaces and provide refreshments for festivals, events and Branch meetings, and to meet other costs such as speaker travel and honoraria. Your dues also fund scholarships for members to attend Anthroposophical conferences and report back to the membership what they learned. Finally, your dues provide money for the overhead of providing the various services to the Branch — web site costs, liability insurance, post office box rental, copying, supplies, etc.

Among the benefits of being a member of the Branch, you get access to the members' listserv and members' sections of the web site, and you can vote at the Annual General Meeting. In the future, we will also grant discounts to members for selected events.

There are several ways to join or renew your membership:

On-line renewal: Individual, \$50; Family, \$70; Student/Teacher/Senior, \$30

Membership & donation mail-in form: print out and mail it in with your check

Monthly on-line donation: counts as dues, minimum \$3 per month

Join or renew now!

CORRECTION! Shortly after our last issue came out, Robert Mays received a phone call from George Lucas's publicist, Anne Merrifield of Luca Films. She had read the article we printed about the connection between Star Wars and the Waldorf teacher who helped with the ideas for it. She informed Robert that George Lucas's children never attended a Waldorf School as we had written (Also he actually has no children of his own; his wife had children from a previous marriage.) Anne said that she was aware that this rumor has been going on for a long time and Mr. Lucas would like it to stop. (There are currently many websites that attest to this, including the Waldorf Answers website.) Anne explained to Robert that the probable origin of this misinformation was due to confusion with the fact that Harrison Ford (Han Solo) and the film's producer, Gary Kurtz's children went to Highland Hall Waldorf School. Kurtz had arranged for special screenings of *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Star Wars* to benefit Highland hall when those films came out. Anne Merrifield asked that we correct the information in our newsletter and Robert Mays has informed the websites who are carrying this false information that they need to correct their information too. We have amended the February issue of the Michael Messenger and the erroneous information is no longer in the issue on our website. We apologize for the error and hope you will understand why we believed the information. Many people had told us this and we have read it in Waldorf publications.. One member even said she was there while Lucas's kids were attending the school! KW

From Robert Mays – RSB-NC Board President.

I want to look back on the past year in the Branch at how the Board has assisted the life of the community and how we will carry forward into 2016.

The new Board took office in May 2015 with **a challenge to restore confidence in the Branch**. The task was several-fold – to improve communications and sharing among our members, to encourage, sponsor and support Branch festivals and events, to provide more openness and transparency in Branch governance and to restore order and clarity to the Branch's finances. We accomplished much of this through the following:

- Offering an excellent new monthly/bimonthly Branch newsletter, *The Michael Messenger*
- Developing a [new web site](#), including an on-line [interactive calendar](#), on-line [payments of dues and donations](#), more information [about the Branch](#) and [Branch governance](#)
- Replacement listservs for [RSB-NC-List](#) and [RSB-NC-Members](#) with a faster web provider and more secure management of the lists
- Sponsor and support for Branch festivals, with very successful celebrations of [St. Johnstide](#), [Michaelmas](#), [All Soul's Day](#), [Advent Sundays](#) and the [Holy Nights](#). We also actively encouraged workshops and similar offerings from Branch members.
- Sponsor and support for Branch events, including the [John Billing concert](#), [Glen Williamson's December presentations](#), and two Branch meetings (a [Conversation about the Society with Marian Leon and Elizabeth Roosevelt](#) and a [Report on the Anthroposophical Society AGM](#)).
- Bringing order to the Branch's finances by transferring accounting for the Branch to Quickbooks, adjusting bank accounts to reflect the specific restricted fund balances, and providing additional support for the Branch through free-will donations from each Board member.
- Providing community outreach by volunteering at the Emerson Waldorf School Holiday Faire

Another major challenge was to address [issues and concerns among a number of members](#) that resulted from events occurring prior to and at the 2015 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The new Board held four meetings open to the community. The Board concluded that although the process was problematic, the major concerns were heard to the best of our ability.

We also addressed another area of concern, about the [Board's role in the Branch and in the cultural and spiritual sphere](#). We held conversations with several individuals about this question and concluded that Board has a central role in all of the cultural activities of the Branch and so has a central role in the cultural life of the Branch.

Our Annual Membership Drive Starts Now!

In carrying forward into 2016, there are several items that the Board wants to emphasize. First, it's time to **renew, reactivate or start up your membership in the Branch!**

How do your dues help the Branch? They provide the funds to rent meeting spaces and provide refreshments for festivals, events and Branch meetings, and to meet other costs such as speaker travel and honoraria. Your dues also fund scholarships for members to attend Anthroposophical conferences and report back to the membership what they learned. Finally, your dues provide money for the overhead of providing the various services to the Branch — web site costs, liability insurance, post office box rental, copying, supplies, etc.

Among the benefits of being a member of the Branch, you get access to the members' listserv and members' section of the web site, and you can vote at the Annual General Meeting. In the future we will also grant discounts to members for selected events.

There are several ways to join or renew your membership:

On-line renewal: Individual, \$50; Family, \$70; Student/Teacher/Senior, \$30
Membership & donation mail-in form: print out and mail it in with your check

- **Monthly on-line donation:** counts as dues, minimum \$3 per month
- **Nominations for New Board Members are Now Open!**
- There are several vacancies on the Board, due to terms ending and personal reasons. Therefore, **we are seeking individuals who would wish to serve on the Board** and help shape the Branch for the future.
- **Self nominations are welcome!** Nominations should be communicated to the President by the nominee sending a short (200 word) biography that will allow voting members to get to better know you and the gifts you bring, including, for example, your vision for the future of the Board, your relationship to Anthroposophy, and the skills that can help with work on the Board.
- All nominations and nominee statements are due by Saturday, April 2, so sufficient notice can be given to the members of the people standing for the Board and their statements to the members.
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- **RSB-NC Annual General Meeting – Save the Date!**
- Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, April 23, 2:30 – 5:00 PM** at the EWS Richards Room. The agenda will include reports from the Board, committees and the various anthroposophical initiatives in our community. We will also have elections for new Board members.
- Current (dues-paid) members who wish to bring an item forward for discussion or a motion for a vote at the AGM need to get at least four other current members to agree to having the item or motion added to the AGM agenda.
- If you wish to add an item to the AGM agenda, please send the proposal, in writing with the sponsors' names, to the President by Saturday, April 2, so sufficient notice can be given to the members that the proposal is going to be included in the meeting.

Much to Celebrate at February Branch Meeting: Our Branch's 30th Birthday Rudolf Steiner's 155th Birthday Ita Wegman's 140th Birthday 1916 – its 100 year Culmination Now in 2016 Our Vision for the Future of our Branch

As the title above indicates, there was much cause for celebration as 17 branch members gathered in the Brown Wing on Saturday, February 20. Robert Mays opened the meeting with a welcome and then spoke of a celebration that happened on February 17, 1986 when our branch became an officially “recognized” group of the Anthroposophical Society. Robert read the letter we received from Herbert Hagens at that time. Robert also read the list of the 8 members who signed the petition for recognition and shared a little about what the community was like in those early days. Kathleen Wright recalled that last year we overlooked another important anniversary -- Last year was the 40th anniversary of the first Study Group in North Carolina. It was founded by Eve Olive in early Spring 1975. If we consider February 1986 our branch's birth, then February 1975 was our “Conception”.

Next Kathleen Wright gave a talk about the Year 1916 in Steiner's life. Every 100 years a “culmination” occurs – impulses begun 100 years ago are in some way “recapitulated” and energized in a new form. It is thus good for us to look back at what Steiner was doing back in 1916 and see what reflections of it are manifesting in the Society today. Likewise, what was occurring in the world back then is having repercussions today. Kathleen also briefly reviewed the 7 year cycles in Steiner's life and pointed out that 1916 was a “transition year” (the end of one cycle and the beginning of the next) in his life. We can also look at our own branch as being in a transition, although not with its 7 year cycles, but with the 30-year rhythm that corresponds to the life of Christ. Thirty was the age when Jesus entered into public life and allowed the Christ Being to enter his physical body at the Baptism in the Jordan River. It would be good for us to reflect on how our community might take up the Christ impulse and make it our mission to become more “public” in the community at large.

After Kathleen's talk about 1916, there was a half-hour break for a delicious chocolate birthday cake, and wonderful appetizer foods and of course, there was much socializing.

When the group reconvened, Kathleen spoke briefly about the challenges facing the Anthroposophical Society and our branch today, pointing out that the issues are very similar. She asked the question; how can we meet these challenges? Can we revitalize our community and have many more young people join us so that our branch will live on, or is our vision for the future simply adapting to old age and ways of meeting the Threshold? Members were very strongly engaged in the discussion that followed and there was a brainstorming of ideas for enlivening the branch and its activities that ensued. (Details at the end of this article.)

Next follows Kathleen's Notes from her talk at the Branch meeting.

The 7 Year Cycles in the Public Life of Rudolf Steiner

1902-1909 – the “Thinking” phase; he laid down the philosophy; wrote most of the basic books; gave the foundation in knowledge; guidance from Michael

1909-1916 – the “Feeling” Stage - the development of the arts – Eurythmy, Speech and Drama, architecture; building of the Goetheanum begins; sculpture and painting, the Mystery dramas are written and performed; the Calendar of the Soul is published. Gabriel is Steiner’s inspiration for the Arts.

1916-1923 – the “Willing” Stage - practical work in the world is introduced – Waldorf education, biodynamic farming, anthroposophical medicine; the Christian Community is begun; lectures on the threefold Social Order begin; all of these represent a “healing” impulse from the archangel Raphael

1923-25 -this unfinished 7 year cycle could be called the “Synthesis” sphere; Anthroposophy is now 21 years old and ready to move into the Social realm and expand the endeavors introduced in the previous cycle; the social realm is the area inspired by the archangel Uriel; Steiner’s unfinished work is left in our hands to complete

What was the world situation like in 1916? As with Steiner’s life, it was a world in transition. Much was “in the works” and would manifest in year or so.

In the “Center” (Europe) World War I had been going on for two years now, and what had begun as a ‘war of movement’ (armies moving across Europe) was now virtually immobile; now the soldiers were virtually buried in trenches, death traps for poison gas and grenades. Man had dug himself into the earth and there were no strategic breakthroughs or decisive battles possible in this situation. (In our present age we see parallels in the futile wars the US has been waging all over the Mid- East with the difficult terrains for battle.)

In 1916 Emperor Franz Josef of Austria’s death (Nov. 21, 1916) signaled the end of an empire.

In the West (America and the British Empire) 1916 was also a year of transition: Woodrow Wilson was running for President and won the election in November 1916 (Interesting that we are having a very contentious election this year too.). Before he was even inaugurated, in December of 1916, Wilson demanded that the warring powers in Europe make known their conditions for peace. A month after that, he made known his plan to “reorganize” the world. (America was to enter the war in April 1917.) Doesn’t this remind one of how the US is increasingly becoming the world’s police force? The fascist-sounding platform of Donald Trump reminds us of Wilson.

In Ireland, the famous Easter Rebellion of Michael Collins took place. A tiny, virtually powerless nation overthrew one of the greatest Empires the world had ever known. At the time, Ho Chi Minh was a student in Great Britain and he watched with great interest how little Ireland overthrew British rule much like David slew Goliath in ancient times. Ho Chi Minh was later to use what he learned from Ireland’s tactics to defeat America in the Viet Nam War many years later. Parallels to our times to the Collins’ uprising are the many rebellions happening all over the world against oppression.

In the East (Russia especially) cataclysmic upheavals were begun with revolutionary Bolshevik ideas spreading like wildfire. This was a transition year; the actual Bolshevik Revolution occurred in March of 1917, but the plans were laid down in 1916. Many old empires were collapsing and new ones coming into power during this turbulent time. Rudolf Steiner tried to call attention to these issues, but found few ears who listened. It will be interesting to see what is going on in Russia next year (the 199th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.) We may be getting some hints from Putin's obsession with Syria and the Ukraine.

Steiner's Work in 1916

While Europe was being devastated by war, death and destruction, on a hill in Dornach, a Temple for the gods, a Mystery School for Anthroposophy and a Theater for sacred arts was in the middle of its construction. Artists from all over the world had gathered there to work on this artistic and architectural masterpiece known as the Goetheanum or Johannesbau. Their activity was a counterbalance for the death-forces in the rest of Europe.

If one were to glance through a list of all the lectures Steiner gave in 1916 in chronological order, it would probably appear that he spoke about dozens of topics in no specific order. Yet, as Gunther Wachsmuth points out in his book *The Life and Work of Rudolf Steiner*, the lectures were organized into an organic evolving whole. Around New Year's Eve of every year Steiner would "diagnose" the ills of the time, both external and internal, and then "spend the rest of the year prescribing the remedies and all aspects of the illnesses."

And so on January 1, 1918, Steiner concluded in his New Year's address that the main illness of the time was "false thinking" which in turn leads to false actions, which bring about "catastrophes". He noted that the world had progressed tremendously in the creation of material things, but had sorely neglected thinking. Some examples he gave of this was that intellectuals were seeking to understand the human being through the animal kingdom and that they sought conceptions for the right social life in animal instincts. He said that there was a false emphasis on the satisfaction of physical needs, hardening the body, entertainment of the senses through sensationalism and the smothering of spirituality anyone who dared to speak of spirituality was considered "naïve" and such persons felt isolated. In many ways things are even worse today in these themes. Fortunately, although we have seen a great rise in skepticism regarding spirituality, there is also a rise in new thinking, meditation, reincarnation, and so on. Steiner's "prescription" for the evils of his time was for mankind to develop "clear, adequate thinking".

On January 2, Steiner further expanded on the theme. He lamented that so many people call "freedom" its very opposite – license.

He foretold of terrible times ahead when people would be forbidden to do anything for the welfare of humanity. (one thinks of all the insane laws in America today such as outlawing raw milk, GMO labelling, fluoridation of water, banning organic medical treatments for cancer, banning the purchase of solar panels in Florida, and so much more.) He also foretold that people would be forbidden to teach anything outside the "authorized halls of teaching". He warned that people are not paying attention to these rising concerns.

After 10 days of lectures in Dornach, Steiner began to travel around Europe continuing with his theme. He was on tour for most of the first part of the year, returning on July 18 and from then on, he mostly stayed in Dornach. Although his theme of the year had been about "false thinking" which relates more to the first 7 year cycle of his, he was to continue on the work of his second

7 year cycle as well, which involved many Art projects. During this year Steiner gave 158 lectures. To us that may sound like a lot, but for him this was actually a really slow year when one considers that he gave over 500 lectures in 1924! That is because he was so involved with Art and Drama.

Before delving into his Art and drama work, some of the lectures he gave should be mentioned. These include "The Mission of Spiritual Science and its Building in Dornach", "How Can Research Be Carried Out in the Supersensible Nature of the Human Being"; "The Harmony Between Spiritual Research and Natural-Scientific Research – Misunderstandings in Regard to the Former and the Building in Dornach Devoted to It."

He gave a lecture cycle in Berlin starting on January 25 on "Necessity and Freedom in Cosmic Events and in Human Conduct".

Another spiritual practice of Rudolf Steiner's was to look back to themes from the previous 7 – year cycles that he had worked on and expanded upon them. He looked to his book ***The Philosophy of Freedom*** and raised its thoughts to a higher level, talking about the origin and development of inner freedom out of the Cosmic process of Becoming and how Higher Beings work beside the human being.

In February of 1916, Steiner began lecturing on one of his favorite pieces of literature, Goethe's ***Faust***, which was perfect for his theme of the year.

On June 18, Steiner's good friend, Helmuth von Moltke died. Moltke had been Chief of the General Staff of the German Army at the onset of World War I. Steiner gave the Eulogy at Moltke's funeral and said that Moltke was 'like a forester who often fails at his first attempt to plant a forest, but in the second attempt succeeds.' Steiner had had high hopes of Moltke helping to save Europe with Anthroposophical ideals, but his death came too soon. A fascinating write-up of Moltke's life and friendship with Steiner, on earth as well as beyond the grave is recounted in T.H. Meyer's book ***Light for the New Millennium***.

In June and July of 1916, Steiner gave a cycle on the re-formation of the Social Life called "Cosmic Being and Egohood". This expanded on the theme of the senses which he had spoken of 7 years earlier. He now revealed that there are 12 senses, not merely the 5 with which we all are familiar. Wachsmuth calls this lecture the "gateway to the areas of activity for this third 7-year cycle."

Also in July of that year, Steiner began a lecture series that has been put into 5 volumes called "Cosmic and Human History". It includes such themes as "The Riddle of the Human Being" and more talks about the 12 senses.

From August-Sept, he gave a lecture cycle called "The Spiritual Background of Human History" and there were talks on memory, habits, thinking, conscience and the influence of spiritual beings on the human organism. In "The Riddles of the Soul" Steiner described the 3-membered structure of the human being, which he had first spoken of 33 years previously. The ideas in it metamorphosed into his theory of the threefold Social Organism, which eventually would evolve into his Threefold Social Order.

From September to October, Steiner gave a series of lectures called "Inner Impelling Forces in the Evolution of Humanity". He also spoke about ancient Atlantis and how its evil forces recapitulated in the Mongolian invasion and in the black magic of the Mexican mysteries. (Had he

lived to see what Hitler wrought, we are quite sure the Nazi dictator would be connected to this evil stream as well. We certainly see horrible invasions and torture all over the world today as well.)

Dr. Steiner traced the history of Greek and Roman culture, the Middle Ages, and the 19th century, showing the rise of materialism and the urgent need to develop a new capacity of thinking which would lead to the spiritual. Wachsmuth tells of how even history professors were astounded by Steiner's incredible memory for details and insights into world history.

Throughout October, Steiner gave lecture on Goethe and Faust, Goethe's poem "Die Geheimnisse" ("The Secrets"), the Knights Templar and Wagner's *Parzival*. He also spoke of the polarities of East and West and their balancing in the Middle – both in the world, as well as in the human being. In November he devoted his lectures to the life of Goethe in a series of lectures that became the book known as *The Karma of Vocation*.

The artistic work Steiner had begun during his second 7 year-cycle continued. During this year, Steiner directed many plays including *Faust I and II*. This was especially significant because although the German people loved *Faust I* and considered it their national work of literature, they found *Faust II* to be incomprehensible, and so it has virtually never performed in public theaters. Steiner had first put on *Faust I* in 1915 with Eurythmy and some but not all of the scenes. In 1916, *Faust I and II* were performed in their entirety at the Goetheanum in the Schreinerei. Steiner gave lectures to the members about Goethe's *Faust*. Two volumes of books were created from these, *Spiritual-Scientific Comments on Goethe's Faust: Faust the Striving Human Being* and *The Faust Problem*.

Steiner also directed the Mystery dramas and the Oberufer Christmas Plays. For all of these he trained the actors, directed the production, made sketches for the costumes, make-up and scenery.

Using 700 "lantern slides", Steiner gave many lectures on the history of Art from October 1916 through December of that same year. He also spoke about the revival of literature. And of course he had to have some scientific lectures so - One was concerned with "Understanding Illness in Connection with Metals" and another on "The Effects of Sound on Columns of Smoke."

One important spiritual revelation Steiner made during this year of 1916 was that esoteric knowledge must no longer be kept secret. The ancient secret knowledge must be renewed, purified and lifted to the stage of consciousness of the present time and be made available to all. "What is right for this time is openness." He also stated that "All hatred among people is a battle against the Spirit."

One of the best antidotes he prescribed for the horrors of the times happened while Steiner was working with Edith Maryon on the statue known as *The Representative of Humanity* or simply "The Group". The two of them had made many small models of the statue-to-be, but Steiner was not satisfied for a long time. He kept feeling that something was "missing". He needed something in the upper left-hand corner. Suddenly one day it was as if a Rock Being emerged from the clay and Steiner knew that it was right – this was "World humor" or the "Cosmic Jester" as he has become known. Amidst all the agony and turbulence of life, we must not forget our sense of humor – and this he realized in 1916. Humor, along with "the inspirational sources of art and literature, and through the laying of a path for a new Social Order, were the contributions Steiner made toward the solution of the problems of that fateful year of 1916.

PART THREE OF OUR BRANCH MEETING: THE CHALLENGES FACING ANTHROPOSOPHY TODAY

1. Membership Issues: The vast majority of members are getting very old. Most will be dead or incapacitated in the next 10 years. How can we attract the missing generations? Membership has declined in Europe and America. Fortunately it is growing in Asia and Africa, but those are very economically poor areas so economic issues arise as well. It is estimated that there are 10-50 times the number of people in the anthroposophical movement as there are in the Society. How can we encourage those in the Movement to see how it was Steiner's intention for all to support their "Mother" as he called the Society.
2. Negativity – We see two polarities in attitude: On the one hand there are the members who claim that due to the negative history of the Society it is a sham. Examples of this are numerous blogs criticizing the Anthroposophical Society and the negative books that have been published lately. Two are by T.H.Meyer and concern the history of the Society. They are : ***The Development of Anthroposophy Since Rudolf Steiner's Death*** and ***Milestones in the Life of Rudolf Steiner***. While his facts are true, his conclusions and opinions give us no positivity or hope for the future. Definitely not Michaelic material! On the polar opposite side, we have members and officers saying things like. "The past does not matter. We need to move on and not look back." Sweeping the karma of the Society under the rug solves nothing and alienates those with a conscience. And of course, there are many who have no knowledge of the Society's past and don't seem to care. One must confront the Double and heal the wrongs one has done.
3. Negative comments about the members themselves. We have all heard the membership accused of being "cold, critical and intellectual" and of " all the bickering" that goes on. Many have left the Society and the branches because of this. While such behavior needs to change, we might also ask - What would happen to Anthroposophy if the Society folds. How will members find each other? How will Steiner's initiatives retain their "esoteric core". Without the Society there is a danger that Waldorf Schools will become mere alternative schools and Biodynaemics simply another organic method with special sprays.
4. There seems to be resistance to looking at Steiner's original intentions for the General Anthroposophical Society.. Peter Selg has brought this up to so many groups, but only his own Swiss Society is studying this issue.
5. Poor contact with the outside world. Why are so many newer groups such as Mindfulness getting more attention and followers than the Anthroposophical Society? We need to ask: what is the world looking for and what can Anthroposophy offer them for it? We need to become more visible in the world and to join with other Michaelic groups of like mind in co-sponsoring conferences and retreats.

Question put to the Branch members – What is your vision for our branch? How can we overcome these challenges? How can we attract more young people?

Many wonderful suggestions arose from the conversation that ensued. All agreed that the number one reason our community has not grown with new and younger people is because somehow the connection with the Waldorf School has deteriorated over the years. In the beginning of our community, the School and the Branch were symbiotic. We did virtually everything together. Many parents and teachers were members of the

branch. That is no longer the case and hasn't been for at least 10 years. Obviously, our first step is to re-connect with the school. Some suggestions for this were:

Get to know the new Administrator;
 contact the PTO President about our doing Talks for the parents,
 join the school's list-serve; ask them to join ours; .send them our newsletter via their list-serve
 Ask to speak to the Foundation Studies Students about our branch and the Anthroposophical Society; have a luncheon with them; volunteer to help at the annual AWSNA conference at the school

Outreach ideas for the community at large:

Putting up a sign at the local universities that say: "Who is Rudolf Steiner? What is Anthroposophy?" and offer talks about these topics.
 Or come up with topics that are attractive to students: like "Conversing with Spiritual Beings", "Sex and Spirituality";
 Create a Branch flier with information about our activities and how to join;
 create a year-long flier of events to hand out at community events;
 create a large banner for our information table that can be set up at school fairs and community fairs;
 advertise in local New Age-style magazines such as Natural Awakenings;
 give talks at the Oasis in Carrboro – a café that allows people to put on an event for free and they even advertise it for you!

Activities to encourage our own members and inactive former members to re-connect with us:

Have more local speakers – Ben Bingham is willing to give talks on Economics or The Calendar of the Soul;
 One requested for a Workshop called 'Blessed by Illness';
 another recommended "Meeting the Threshold";
 another suggested we have a "Anthroposophy in NC" conference where local initiatives each put on a workshop or give a talk or artistic presentation. This could also be opened to the public.

There is much food for thought and work here. Please let the Board know if any of these ideas appeal to you so much that you would be willing to help out.

BRANCH MEETING INSPIRES NEW PLANNING GROUP

Following the suggestions made by members at the February 20th Branch meeting, the Board decided to take up as many of the ideas as possible to present in the next two years. Diana Haynes and Kathleen Wright, who are Board members, opened a new Planning group to any interested members. The first meeting took place on March 8. Linda Folsom and Martha Kelder joined the group. Judy Frey and Tatiana Zybin will also be part of the group, but were unable to attend the first meeting. We certainly hope more of you will join to support our efforts.

One idea that had been brought up was creating a yearly Calendar of events to be published every September. This was the practice in our community many years ago during the time that Eileen Bristol was here. We also are in the process of designing a Branch brochure to

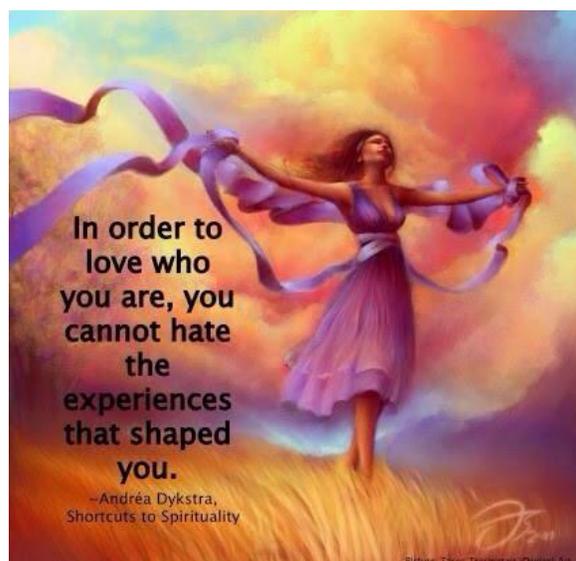
be handed out at events of compatible organizations. We all discussed a logo for our branch and Martha is taking up the task of composing some options. There are also plans in the work to better connect with the parents and teachers at EWS, and to hold more events that are open to the public. Before the school year is out we intend to have a talk at the Oasis Café in Carrboro, which is a popular place for “cultural creatives” to gather. A number of guest speaker ideas were proposed. Most were tabled as being too expensive at this time.

One that looks very promising is a lecture/workshop by a young man, Julian Roberts, on the topic “Transforming Evil in Everyday Life”. We also encourage local members to make presentations. Preparations are in the works for Ben Bingham to give a workshop on the Calendar of the Soul around Whitsun time. Martha Kelder will be presenting a series of painting workshops with the theme “The Risen Christ in the Etheric”. More details will follow in our next newsletter.

The Planning Group’s next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 5 at 7 PM at Kathleen Wright’s home. We moved the time to an evening in the hope that those who couldn’t make an afternoon, might be able to attend at a later time. If you are interested in helping out with one particular event or festival or want to join to enrich the cultural and spiritual life of our community, please be in touch. Kathleenwright51@gmail.com or dhaynes@earthlink.net.

Sandy LaGrega Leads Workshop At National Biography and Social Art Conference

Sandy LaGrega of Greensboro, along with two other colleagues, led a workshop at the National Biography and Social Art Conference at Sunbridge College. The topic of the workshop was “Wounds and Wonder: Divining the Feminine”. This theme evolved out of the theme of the 2015 World Biography Conference last June in Dresden, Germany which was on “The Wound”. Earlier this year, Sarah Putnam presented a similar workshop for our community based on the Wound as portrayed in *Parzival*.



STUDY GROUPS AND WORKING GROUPS

Christian Community Study Group, reading *The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric*; Sundays 4-5:30 pm at the home of Kathleen Wright, 4615 Greenglen Drive, Durham, NC; call 919-309-9622 for more information.

IANDS (International Association of Near Death Experiences)

Dates for meetings for the rest of 2016 are: March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18 September 15, October 20, November 17 and December 15; meetings are at 7 PM at the Rhine Center, 2741 Campus Walk Ave., Building 500, Durham, NC 27705. We will be having guest speakers present their experiences and insights from their NDEs. Contact Robert Mays for more information at 919-929-1073 or email at mays@ieee.org

Thursday, March 17 - 7:00-9:00 pm at the Millennium Hotel in Durham, Ellen Dye will speak about her NDE

Saturday, March 19 - 2:00-4:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3313 Wade Ave., Raleigh, Ellen Dye will also speak

Reading For the Dead Group- reading: *The Inner Nature of Man and the Life Between Death and Rebirth* (Vienna April 9th-14th, 1914) by Rudolf Steiner; meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month: February 11th and February 25th.at the home of Joanna Carey 4207 Neal Road, Durham, NC from 7 PM- 9 PM every other Thursday; RSVP joannapcarey@gmail.com

Rose Cross Study Group meets Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 PM; reading; *The Book of Revelation and the Work of the Priest*; at the home of Judy Frey, 55207 Broughton, Chapel Hill; RSVP 919-928-8749 or email: damaris12@nc.rr.com

Threshold Care Group usually meets once a month on Mondays at the home of Jenny Bingham; call Jenny for more information at 919-241-4304 or email her at jennybingham7@gmail.com

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Other Groups in North Carolina

Asheville has two study groups:

Second and fourth **Thursday nights** from 7-8:30 PM. Reading: *The Christ Impulse and the Development of Consciousness*. This is a committed group with lively discussions on how Steiner books are applicable to our lives today. Reading in advance is preferred. Contact: Marie Davis [\(828\) 273-5647](tel:828-273-5647)
Email: md79397@yahoo.com

First Sunday of the month Study Group. Meets 3-6pm. Focus is on the Threefold Social Order. Currently reading *Spiritual Science as a Foundation of Social Forms*; First hour:reading. Second hour: discussion third hour: a Pot luck dinner. contact: Marie Davis (see above)

Clemmons (near Winston-Salem) has four Steiner/Anthroposophy Study Groups led by Sarah Putnam; contact Sarah for more information at 336-972-8243 or email her at sputnam01@att.net

Greensboro –Study group meets on Mondays 2:30-4:30 pm; reading According to Luke: The Gospel of Compassion and Love Revealed by Rudolf Steiner. All are welcome; The Sophia Center for Life Studies/Crossings Care also meets to promote natural death care work; contact Sandy LaGrega for more information at 336-908-4664 or email; sandraclagrega@gmail.com

The Nature of Singing

(Upcoming Singing Class to begin soon)

By Joanna Carey

There is something in the nature of singing that poses a challenge for us in our times. Our whole relationship to music and song has changed from our original experiences of this lofty and spiritual art.

According to Rudolf Steiner, before we could speak, we sang. As we were closely akin to the spiritual entities in our early experiences of living on the earth, we were guided by the songs of the Gods.

Our whole concept of self was one in harmony with the sounding of the hierarchies.

We praised and glorified God through song.

As we further incarnated, we created songs and developed instruments to support our musical needs for spiritual expression. Religious, devotional life was expressed musically along with the Word.

Musical expression was an integral part of daily life.

All activities such as hand work, cleaning, the making of various foods, haying, all farm related activities had their corresponding songs. Everyone felt that singing was a natural part of everyone's life - it belonged to everyone.

With the full nature of materialistic thought and living, singing and musical expression has become more and more an individual experience and one delegated to the "Stars", those who excel to a certain standard and work solely as entertainers with all others becoming listeners. More and more people have become silent in their musical activities choosing to instead listen to others shine in their singing or playing of music.

Recorded music has become the norm as passive listeners.

Jurgen Schreifer, the sole remaining student of Valborg Swardstrom Werbeck, was quoted as saying "We are now the silent generation."

The joy of singing has left us. Though there are many groups who have now begun to sprout up over the past decade or so, singing informally in the home or at small gatherings is as foreign as it is rare.

Werbeck sought to bring a new relationship to song, borne out of her many personal struggles as an operatic singer. Through discovering exercises out of her own spiritual research, she was able to heal her own voice strained by the rigors of operatic life.

Additionally, her association with Rudolf Steiner encouraged her to find and develop methods for healing of the body, soul and spirit through song.

With the complete support of Steiner and Eugene Kolisko, (Anthroposophical doctor), Werbeck brought the world of song back to the everyday life of people and their activities.

We are all aware of the need for healing in all levels of society.

Music is a gift of the Gods for us to connect with ourselves and with one another. All too often however, we become threatened and paralyzed when asked to sing, as if singing and learning a song were an imposition on our lives.

We don't understand why rounds were invented, why everything seems so high, why intervals seem so strange, etc.

The whole experience has become a seemingly unbearable challenge for many.

If we think about this, remembering our origins, can we see how far we have fallen from the original joy in singing for praising, thanksgiving, communion with others, for the joy of work!

May we welcome this seeming challenge of singing with a renewed outlook of positivity, joy and trust in the process while loving ourselves in our imperfections and our striving.

We were given an organ in our body expressly created for singing. The future of our own destinies will be enhanced with the realization that we are meant to be singing human beings,

alive with the fire of love and gratitude for the many gifts given to us to support our time on the earth.

It is also part of the new mysteries that the individual human voice has a special place in our hearts and in the world. When we experience our true voice either in speech or in singing, we become who we truly are. Experiencing these moments is rare, but well worth working toward. Our voices are gifts that bring us closer to the truth of our higher selves. Come join the precious experience of sounding!

Join us in an upcoming class beginning March 7th and continuing for the next 4 Mondays - 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th. a 4 week course in pedagogy, phenomenology and therapy.

Registration is now so I hope that you will consider trying this process.

We will work with simple breathing patterns to relax our bodies and open ourselves to the gift of air. We will then learn simple exercises to begin the process of healing and rejuvenating our voices.

All voices, problems, issues, etc. are welcome.

It's the desire to sing that is important.

\$80 for the 4 (2.5 hour) classes.

Tea and oranges will be served.

Lovely, home atmosphere - safe and friendly.

There are 6 of us so far. There's room for a few more.

Emerson Waldorf School Events

RE-IMAGINING DIVERSITY CONFERENCE – March 11th and 12th

The Emerson Waldorf School invites you to join us for this comprehensive conference with keynote lecturer Dr. Sonya Horsford, a prolific, award-winning author and university professor who specializes in educational leadership and critical race theory in education.

Friday, March 11th 7-9 PM Keynote Address; Saturday, March 12th 9am-4pm Lecture and workshops. (Go to the website www.emersonwaldorf.org to view the conference brochure and to register.

EWS PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION SPONSORS ADULT EDUCATION LECTURES

This engaging series will offer time for lecture with teachers representing the early childhood, the grades and the high school. There will also be time for community connection, grounding the teachings through direct experience and Q&A. Location: High School Brown Wing

Save the dates and more info on the series:

- **April 24: Developing "Feeling"** -Speakers: Benjamin Trueblood (Grades), Kyle Dunlap (Early Childhood) and Laura Guinean (High School)
- **May 13 Developing "Thinking"** - Michael Judge (High School), Kyle Dunlap (Early Childhood) Shannon Wiley (Grades)

Education for willing, feeling, and thinking is something that has been central to Waldorf education for 100 years. In recent years, more and more schools have picked up this phrase, or its "head, heart, hands" counterpart. Today it is used by public schools, academic prep schools, and so many other types of schools that it seems almost meaningless. Through the upcoming lecture series, our faculty will elaborate on what exactly "head, heart, and hands" means in the Waldorf school. We will explore the ways in which a very intentional and carefully-structured pedagogy develops each of these fundamental capacities to its fullest, and builds one upon the other, until graduating young adults with fundamental human capacities that serve for a lifetime: strength of will, liveliness and depth of feeling, and clarity of thinking.

FROM ANTHROPOSOPHY.ORG:

THEME OF THE YEAR 2016-2017 – “How Can We Grow in Self-Knowledge Through Our Experience of Evil?”

Offers from the Traveling Speakers Program

The Traveling Speakers Program (TSP) is a member enrichment initiative founded several years ago by the General Council. Since its inception, the program has been wonderfully developed and carried on a voluntary basis by Margaret Shipman, a member in Los Angeles.

Sometimes a community has burning questions and would like to take these up with someone for whom the subject has been a “red thread”—a topic lived with and studied earnestly over time. The TSP connects communities with speakers. There is no formal list of speakers or topics. Rather, the whole program is a work in progress, reflecting the striving in communities across the country.

While continuing to support other questions living in communities, in 2016 TSP will offer two special topics in connection with initiatives from the Goetheanum:

2016/2017 Theme of the Year

To support our work with the theme, self-knowledge and the experience of evil today, we offer biography workshops. Biography practitioner Leah Walker has pointed out that Rudolf Steiner gave “biography work” as a tool for social renewal. “The consciousness soul imparts the characteristic of shutting oneself off from the rest of humankind, of living more in isolation. Hence, there are greater difficulties in getting to know the other person, and in getting to trust one another; a detailed process of getting to know one another is necessary.” (How to Meet the Soul Needs of Our Time, Zurich, Oct. 10, 1916).

International Faust Conference

To support the summer international conference on Faust at the Goetheanum August 1–5, TSP is offering workshops on this most suitable subject for our time! Whether one attends the conference or not, the drama’s themes of temptation and striving live in our world today. What can we understand by bringing the insights of anthroposophy to the pictures presented in the drama?

How does the TSP work? It is possible to have a full weekend conference (Friday evening through Sunday noon), with talk on core anthroposophy, an artistic activity, and time for conversation. The national society pays the speaker’s honorarium and travel expenses and \$50 towards an artistic activity. The host community is asked to make all necessary meeting arrangements and take care of the speaker’s needs during his or her stay.

You may request a weekend for this year or next even if you have had a visiting speaker in the past. For more information, please contact Margaret Shipman at 323-462-7703 (Pacific Time) or shipman2005@sbcglobal.net including your phone number.

**DON’T FORGET TO “SPRING FORWARD”
YOUR CLOCKS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13!!
IT’S DAY-LIGHT SAVINGS TIME AGAIN**

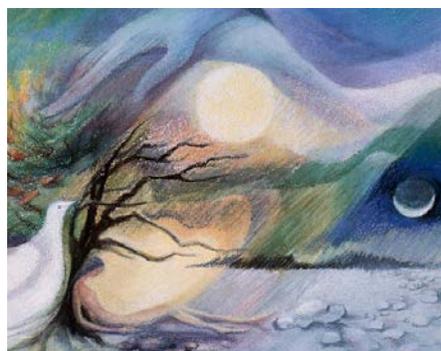
Center for Ecozoic Society presents:

“LIVING THE CREATIVE LIFE: ART, BEAUTY, ECOLOGY”

Featuring Sandra Lubarsky, PhD; Mary Southard, CSJ; and Marcus Peter Ford, PhD Includes workshops on art, writing, music, and dance

April 29-30, 2016

Church of Reconciliation, Chapel Hill, North Carolina



The importance of beauty and of art for ecologically-minded people is underrated, or at least seldom discussed. “Aesthetics,” while remaining as a subject matter of philosophy, is underdeveloped. Alfred North Whitehead made the interesting comment that “the teleology of the universe is beauty.” What if for a weekend you could consider—be immersed in—Art, Beauty, Ecology?

Painting by Mary Southard, CSJ



Sandra Lubarsky, is Chair of Sustainable Development at Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina. Before coming to Appalachian State University, Dr. Lubarsky created and established one of the first graduate programs in sustainability in the country, the MA Sustainable Communities at Northern Arizona University. In the 15 years that she directed this program, she mentored more than 100 graduate students and served on numerous doctoral committees. She has authored and edited three books and dozens of essays. She is currently completing a manuscript on beauty and sustainability and the importance of beauty as a public value.



Sr. Mary Southard is a life-adventurer fascinated by the wonder and creativity of the cosmos, most especially our Earth. Her unique art explores the great gift of existence with all its beauty and longing, its passion and mystery. In addition to being a professional artist, Mary is also an experienced educator, retreat director, and spiritual companion. She delights in being with others as they awaken to new dimensions of their creativity. Mary’s art commissions and other work have taken her to many places in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Australia. Publications include a yearly meditation calendar currently distributed around the world, book and journal illustrations, and book cover art.



Marcus Peter Ford is Professor of Humanities, Emeritus, at Northern Arizona University. He is the author of four books: *Beyond the Modern University: Education for the Good of the World* (Greenwood Press, 2001); *The Founders of Constructive Postmodern Philosophy: Peirce, James, Bergson, Whitehead, and Hartshorne* (State University of New York Press, 1993); *A Process Theory of Medicine: Interdisciplinary Essays* (Edwin Mellon Press, 1988), editor and contributor; and *William James's Philosophy: A New Perspective* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1982).

Sandra Lubarsky and Marc Ford are planning to start an experimental college in Arizona in the coming year. For additional information, contact ecozoicsocieties@gmail.org or call Vicky Olive at (919) 672-5522.

A BLESSED EASTER TO ALL OUR READERS!



The Michael Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the Rudolf Steiner Branch (NC), located in Chapel Hill, NC. The RSB-NC is a branch of the Anthroposophical Society whose national headquarters are in Ann Arbor, Michigan and its international headquarters are in Dornach, Switzerland. **Mailing address;** Rudolf Steiner Branch NC, P.O. Box 16024, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Website: www.anthroposophync.org on the websites you can find links for our calendar, application for membership to our branch, application to join our email list-serve and much more. Check it out!

Submitting articles, announcements and reviews: Please send Word documents or jpgs. (no pdfs. please) for graphics to the **Editor: Kathleen Wright** at: kathleenwright51@gmail.com Or call her at 919-309-9622

Ads: \$1.00 per line; minimum order \$5.00. The ad must be something of interest to our anthroposophical community.