

# **The Michael Messenger**

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

**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2015**  
**Vol. I No. 1**



## **Michaelmas Events**

**September 11 and 25<sup>th</sup>** - Festival Singing Practice , 7:00 - 9:00.PM at the home of Joanna Carey, 4207 Neal Road, Durham, NC

**September 26** - A Michaelmas Conversation : “On Being Aware of Evil” , 3-5 PM led by Lynn Jericho at the home of Eve Olive, 5815 Mt Sinai Rd. , Durham 27705, RSVP: [lynnjericho@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjericho@gmail.com) or [919-636-0430](tel:919-636-0430)

**September 29** – EWS Michaelmas Pageant 2:00-3:00 PM at the Waldorf School (more details on EWS website: [www.emersonwaldorf.com](http://www.emersonwaldorf.com))

RSB Festival 7:00-9:00 PM in the Brown Wing: Music, Singing, Verses, Poetry (more details to follow on list-serve and website [www.anthroposophync.org](http://www.anthroposophync.org))

**October 1** – Lyre Concert with John Billing 7:00 PM in the Brown Wing of EWS (see article on page 2)

**October 3** - Biography Workshop with Sarah Putnam, PhD 1-4 PM in the Brown Wing of EWS “Harvesting Seeds of Our Soul to Carry into the Future”, cost : \$35. (see article on page 2)

**October 3** - Talk by Rev. Carol Kelly 7:30-9:30 PM “From the Beginning to the End of Time” in the Brown Wing of EWS (for details go to [www.christiancommunitync.org](http://www.christiancommunitync.org))

**October 4** - Act of Consecration of Man 10:30 AM in the Brown Wing of EWS

9:30 children’s story ; Food and Circle Time at noon -

## Calendar Details:

### Biography Workshop: “Harvesting Seeds of our Soul to Carry into the Future”

What soul endeavors in your life have borne fruit? What are the seeds that will bear fruit in the future?



This is a Biography and Social Arts workshop presented by Certified Biography worker Sarah Putnam PhD. In honor of the Michaelmas season in which we harvest what we have sown, we will reflect on the life lessons that have matured in this past year and the labor that has brought them forth. Which soul endeavors in your life have borne fruit, nurtured you and others and what are the seeds that will bear fruit into the future? Reflecting on the events that have shaped this past season, we will strive through artistic process and conversation to discover the working of the spiritual world in our lives. What seeds of soul will you be able to bequeath to the future, whether in this life or the next?

Sarah Putnam, Ph.D. is a gifted and experienced workshop leader who is adept in using a subtle touch to guide her students and clients to new insight and purpose. Her easy laughter and sensitivity to others make her workshops a safe place for personal discovery. They are also surprisingly powerful in building a sense of connectedness and community among the people who attend. Even if you have no experience in biography work and are an absolute klutz in anything artistic, do not despair. This workshop is for you and for all of us who want a deeper understanding of life's meaning.

**Saturday October 3, 2015, 1pm - 4pm The Brown Wing, EWS, 6211 New Jericho Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516 Cost: \$35 including materials**

**Registration required.** Please contact: Sarah Putnam - 336-972-8243 or Diana Haynes - 919-768-3969

### JOHN BILLING CONCERT October 1, 7-9 PM



John Billing is a master of the lyre. He hails from County Kilkenny, Ireland, but spends most of the year traveling around the world. A recent trip took him to China for a month. He is now on a three-month tour of the U.S and will be visiting the Kimberton community in PA before coming to NC. In addition to our concert on Oct. 1, Joanna Carey will be planning other venues for John in our area.

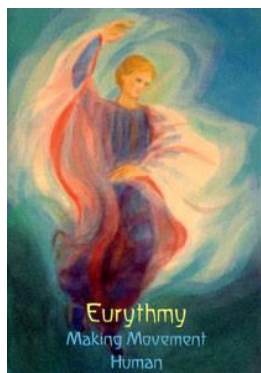
John will be performing music by J.S. Bach, Renaissance and classical music, music of the Irish bard Turlough O'Carolan and his own original music.

If you'd like to hear John's music check out his website:

[www.johnlyre.co.uk](http://www.johnlyre.co.uk) There are many videos of his playing, photos from his recent journeys and CD's you can order. See you in the Brown Wing, 7 PM, Thursday, October 1!

# CLASSES

## EURYTHMY CLASSES FOR ADULTS AT EWS



Adult eurythmy classes and workshops begin late September 2015 and will be **Tuesday evenings** and **Saturday mornings**, and other times occasionally. Special individual sessions or small interest groups on a theme can be arranged. Soul balancing exercises and music and poetry in eurythmy form the content of the classes.

For exact times, dates and fees please contact me.

Eurythmy in performance, workshops, talks and demonstrations, collaborations, on request. I welcome your interest.

more information, bio, resume, eurythmy resources, conversation, etc on request.

contact info: Christina Beck [919 643 2066](tel:9196432066) , [cbeck.river@gmail.com](mailto:cbeck.river@gmail.com)

## WERBECK SINGING with Joanna Carey



Thursday mornings 9-11 AM beginning September 10 through October 29 - "The School for Uncovering the Voice" or Werbeck method offers a renewed consciousness of the workings of the etheric life forces through awakening the body. It is through reuniting our consciousness with the etheric body that healing becomes possible both in the voice, in the body and in our soul spiritual nature.

This 8- week course "The Way of the Song" will be held at the home of Joanna Carey, 4207 Neal Rd.. Cost for the 8 weeks is \$150. Please call or email to register or inquire about more information: 919-885-7569 or [joannapcarey@gmail.com](mailto:joannapcarey@gmail.com)

Joanna is a master's level Werbeck teacher and therapist with 20 years' experience working with children and adults. (see article on page 7.)

## The Science of the Holy Grail with Kelly Calegar

This course is a "Michaelic-Sophianic initiative for consciously striving to become Sun-like". At each Sacred Circle, we will read one of 8 sacred texts of Rudolf Steiner on the mysteries of life between death and rebirth. There will be conversation on what it means to become sun-like, or Solarized – a Grail Bearer. We will utilize the seven I AM sayings of Christ, as well as the seven Words spoken by Christ on the Cross, and the Words of the Risen Christ. We will weave in the Parzival story, the story of the succession of the Grail King.

8 Wednesdays, 10-12 noon from September 30-November 18 at the home of Kelly Calegar 18 Haycox Ct., Durham, NC 27713; Cost: \$40.- 80 (sliding scale) Please register in advance with Kelly at [kcalegar@earthlink.net](mailto:kcalegar@earthlink.net)





A HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS WORKSHOP

## *The Nine Beatitudes of Christ* *an Exploration of Inner Development*

A ten week course given by  
*Karen Rivers*

- The nine Beatitudes & the Positive Karma of Humanity
- The Beatitudes relation to the nine sheaths of the human organism
- The Beatitudes as a formula for the stages of initiate consciousness
- The path of the soul's evolution and the spirit's destiny in the light of the Beatitudes
- Inner metamorphosis of the Human Soul
- Cosmic meaning of the Beatitudes
- The path of Christian esotericism as given in the Sermon on the Mount
- "Ye are the salt of the earth. Ye are the light of the world."
- The inner work of human evolution in relation to the Beatitudes

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon  
September 8 - Nov. 17, no class Oct. 20  
Location: 8407 Pickards Meadow Road  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516



Melissa Frank, *Angel*

Tuesday  
To Register: email [karen@karenrivers.info](mailto:karen@karenrivers.info)  
or telephone 919-942-2465

## Classes at the School of Spiritual Psychology in Benson, NC

"Contemplative Conversations on Christ and the Emerging Human as Healer", September 3-7; led by Robert Sardello PhD and Cheryl Sanders-Sardello

"Body-Soul-Spirit Harmony: Healing the Twelve Systems of the Body" September 17-21 and December 3-7

Classes of the School of Spiritual Psychology are held at the school's campus in Benson, Nc. For more information about registration, fees, etc, go to the school's website at: [www.heartfulsoul.com](http://www.heartfulsoul.com) There are also online courses you might be interested in seeing there.

## News from our RSB Members

**Rob Bowers** of Whitted-Bowers Biodynamic Farm in Cedar Grove, NC has been in the news with great news for Biodynamics. He has joined forces with Neal McTighe of Nello's tomato sauce (a local organic enterprise) to create a biodynamic tomato sauce. It is on sale this month at Whole Foods in Chapel Hill. There were write-ups about Rob and this new biodynamic venture in the Raleigh news and Observer on July 20 of this year and one in the Independent weekly on May 13. Be sure to get to Whole Foods this week and check it out. It won't last long! Hopefully the sauce will be so successful it will grow into a national item. If you feel like you'd like more BD foods in your diet, you may be interested to know that the Whitted Bowers farm sells its produce to the following restaurants in Chapel Hill and Durham:

Lantern, Il Palio, Pazzo, Oak Leaf, Scratch Bakery, Chicken Bridge Bakery, Pancuito, Glass Half Full, ONE Restaurant, Snap Pea Catering and Neal's Deli. And of course, there's always the Carrboro Farmers' Market Saturday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. (Photo: Neal McTighe and Rob Bowers check out the tomatos. Photo by Alex Tricoli )



**Ben Bingham** has recently published a new book: *Making Money Matter: Impact Investing to Change the World*. Ben will be doing a reading and book signing of his new book in the Kimberton, PA community on September 13. Hopefully we will have news about his doing the same here in our next newsletter.

Ben describes his book as "the culmination of 40 years of thinking about money from Steiner's worldview down to the current streams of social responsibility and positive impact." To

learn more about Ben's book or to order a copy, go to this link:

[www.booklaunch.io/gbenjaminbingham/makingmoneymatter](http://www.booklaunch.io/gbenjaminbingham/makingmoneymatter)

Ben frequently writes for the Huffington Post and you can find his articles at

[www.huffingtonpost.com/g-benjamin-bingham](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/g-benjamin-bingham)

**Suzanne Mays and Joanna Carey** attended the international lyre conference in Detroit at Wayne State University August 3-8. There were 95 lyrists from 14 countries present, ranging in age from 11 to 80! Suzanne was amazed at how many Chinese, Japanese and Brazilians came. The week included workshops, pedagogy work, comraderie and a public concert on August 7.

**Eve Olive** attended a Renewal course in Wilton, NH this summer given by Chris Bamford. It was called “Co-workers, Sisters and Friends” and focused on the six women who were really significant in helping to establish Anthroposophy. Eve says that it was “totally fascinating” and that she hopes that Chris will write a book about the topic before long. The women discussed were Mathilde Scholl, Edith Maryon, Johanna von Keyserlink, Elizabeth Vreede, Lily Kolisko, and Ita Wegman. “Apparently Steiner felt that women understood him better than the men did”, says Eve.

**Marlene Joyce** also attended the Center for Anthroposophy’s Renewal Courses this summer. She participated in a silk marionette production of “The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily”. The 13 puppeteers had only four days to rehearse for the puppet play, but it went off well. Teachers for the course were Joan Almon, Janene Ping and Debra Spitulnik. The huge puppets had been “resting” in Joan’s attic for many years, when Karine Finser got the idea to have a show for this year’s students and Joan readily complied. The play was filmed and will be available on vimeo soon, so do check it out!

Marlene also enjoyed immensely a course called “Roots, Leaves, Flowers, Seeds and Spirit” with Deb Soule of Rockford, Maine. Deb is the author of *How to Move Like a Gardener*. She is also the owner of Avena Botanicals. Deb taught her students how to make teas, tinctures and salves using herbs from the garden to heal. Also included in the course was plant sketching and Eurythmy.

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**Have an artist do your hair!**

**Support an EWS family and get expert hair color and cuts by artist/hairdresser Nancy Moore.**

**Beautiful hair for everyone!**

**Call for appointment, 919-260-2495 or make your own at [www.nancyannmoore.com](http://www.nancyannmoore.com)**



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## **New Biography and Social Art Program in Chestnut Ridge, NY**

**JULY 2016**

**NEW Cycle, NEW Format. Applications being accepted NOW!**

Two Phases: Foundations in Human Becoming, an intensive immersion into biography and social art; Facilitator Training, bringing this work out into the wide-world. Each Phase meets for

two years - four weeks each year . Applications now being accepted. Center for Biography and Social Art; for more information, [center4biography@gmail.com](mailto:center4biography@gmail.com).

## ***Mysteries Inherent in the Human Voice***

### ***By Joanna Carey***

#### ***The voice -***

What does it conjure up when we hear the word?

We hear: "The Voice of God", "The Voice of the Angels".

We speak of our inner voice or of the voice of others.

How is it different listening to people chatting at a social event from the voice of Martin Luther King giving even a small speech to impassioned civil rights leaders?

How many different ways do we use our voice? Have we ever heard our own voice on a recording and been surprised as to how it sounded? What was that surprise?

What nuances do we create with our voice depending on what we're hoping to convey or express?

How is writing emails to express emotions or thoughts different from speaking with a person or persons in person?

How have we come to cover up or gloss over our true feelings or thoughts by expressing ourselves through technology? How do we mask our voice when we need to hide our true thoughts or feelings?

How are our emotions- our sympathies and antipathies, our inspirations, our hurts or joys or judgments or our empathy, expressed through our voice?

Or what about those times when we simply lose it and shout our frustration, anger or sadness or experience it in another?

And finally have we ever experienced a difference in our voice or in the voice of another when the higher self is speaking into a space? Do we notice how we listen differently because of a recognition of that higher space within me or another?

How do we care for our voice?

Has it ever occurred to us that it needs care? What benefit would that bring?

How would caring for the voice allow a truer me to sound?

How often do we long to express ourselves in new and inspired ways?

How often do we hesitate to speak our thoughts to others for fear of sounding silly or unenlightened?

How often do we wish we could sing, perhaps like someone we've heard singing before?

Consider exploring these questions by attending some classes through the School for Uncovering the Voice.

Through this path, new possibilities emerge in both singing and speaking.

Experience new resonant centers within through the opening of our hearts, our listening capacity, the body that learns to breathe once again with enlivened memory.

The exercises offered through this stream are inspired out of the living waters of Anthroposophy. They are simple, user-friendly, safe and bring immediate relief from the all too common tensions residing within.

There is no need to know anything about singing or speaking. Each person's goals are different, but the results will carry a more universal quality, that heals and rejuvenates.

As recognized in all anthroposophically inspired arts, there are certain living forces inherent in the human being which contribute to the health needed for living on the earth. These living etheric forces are available to us through the exercises by reconnecting the body with that which sounds and surrounds us in all time and space.

The School for Uncovering the Voice or the Werbeck method offers a renewed consciousness of the workings of the etheric life forces through awakening the body. It's through reuniting our consciousness with the etheric body, that healing becomes possible both in the voice, in the body and in our soul spiritual nature.

Enjoy a series of group classes to be held Thursday mornings beginning September 10th or give yourself the gift of private lessons if you are in need of deeper healing work.

## **MARIAN LEON AND ELIZABETH ROOSEVELT VISIT RSB-NC TO DISCUSS REORGANIZATION OF THE EASTERN REGION**

On August 29 at 1 PM, 33 members and friends of the Rudolf Steiner Branch gathered in the Brown Wing of the Emerson Waldorf School for a conversation about the future of the Eastern Region of the Anthroposophical Society. The meeting had been called by Marian Leon, of Ann Arbor. She was accompanied by Elizabeth Roosevelt of Atlanta who is the Program Associate. This was the ninth meeting of its kind in the eastern region for Marion, following the dissolution of the Eastern Regional Council in November 2014.

Marion noted how impressed she was with the size of our community and with the balance of age groups represented. (What she may not have realized is that all 9 young people were teachers at the Waldorf School.) Elizabeth then became moderator for the meeting and introductions were made around the circle. The American Verse was recited at the beginning and end of the meeting.

Marian began the conversation with a history of the regional councils and a little about the current situation. She spoke a little about the Collegium and the CAO, and how the Collegium for the School of Spiritual Science is the only one in the world.

Some of the questions Marian and Elizabeth asked our community were: What are people hoping for in their work with the Society and with Anthroposophy? How can the Society, in all its forms better embrace those active in the movement? How can those active in the movement feel more connected with the Society? Where do people feel most naturally connected with geographically? How might we strengthen our connections within our geographical area? Are there questions, ideas and suggestions to bring back to the national society?

The need for finding and keeping younger members was brought up. Suggestions were made that getting more tech savvy would help (social media, webinars, livestreaming, etc.) There were diverse opinions on that topic.

The importance of better communications was discussed. Marian announced that a resource directory is forthcoming.

Marian explained that she had just one more ERC meeting to attend (in Pennsylvania) and then the fruits of her work were to be brought to the General Council during October's AGM where some concrete plans for the reorganization of the region would take place. The question was asked as to what Marian thought that plan might look like. She responded that one proposal was to divide the eastern region into 3 or 4 subregions and have two representatives from each area. She liked the idea of the representatives working together on a study, perhaps of *The Life, Nature and Cultivation of Anthroposophy*. There would be meetings among the representatives and reports brought to the General Council. More details would be ironed out at her meeting with the General Council.



There was a very positive feeling in the room of good will toward the Society and one another and a hope for the new plan to re-enliven the Eastern Region.

## **Meeting of North American Classholders With Virginia Sease** **August 21-24, 2015, Spring Valley, New York** **By Suzanne Mays**

The following is report of some things directly applicable to both friends and members of the Anthroposophical Society and to members of the School of Spiritual Science. About 80 class holders from Canada and United States met in Spring Valley, New York to convene about the work of the School of Spiritual Science and to meet with Virginia Sease from the Goetheanum and the North America Collegium. This meeting was long overdue. The last time the North American class holders met was in 2009.

Virginia Sease opened the conference by stating: "This meeting is an extremely important event. For the first time the Collegium of North America is meeting with the circle of North American class holders. Our work is deeply connected with the Goetheanum, something that is usually taken for granted and thus in bringing this fact to our attention we are also remembering Rudolf Steiner...The Collegium is unique, stable and has been continuous for a long time, closely cooperating with its National Council and with Dornach. It is a unique moment to bring all of this momentum of the Collegium with its sphere of section representatives together into the sphere of the class holders."

Virginia Sease went on to explain that in September 1913 on a dark, stormy evening 800 people stood in a deep earthen pit to witness the laying of the Foundation Stone of the First Goetheanum. By 1922 it was lost to arson but is still present in the ether sphere. Today's Goetheanum is healthy, strong, vibrant. Repairs to the 91 year-old building are being done. 100,000 visitors a year come to the Goetheanum. A great shock happened on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The world changed for the Goetheanum. On January 14<sup>th</sup> it had a balanced budget but by 8AM January 15<sup>th</sup> a drastic financial reversal set in motion. The currency exchange rate of the Swiss Euro to the pound and dollar dropped significantly. The staff at the Goetheanum quickly jumped into the situation and with dedication decided on a plan to take a reduction in salary (of about a 7.5% decrease) to cover the deficit.

Virginia Sease wanted the class holders to know that the Goetheanum leadership and staff are ever increasingly aware of the periphery of the Anthroposophical Society outside of Dornach and stated that the circle of North America class holders is better coordinated than anywhere else in the world, thanks to the long-standing work of Herbert Hagens and Penelope Baring.

One part of the conference included a day-long meeting with 12 out of 16 members of the North American Collegium (pronounced cōl-lāg-ē-ūm). Sherry Wildfeuer of Kimberton, PA., who has been on the Collegium from the beginning, presented an oral history of the Collegium. From time to time when a member leaves the Collegium, another new member joins as the replacement. The Collegium meets twice a year and is composed of active section members nominated by section leadership. The members of the Collegium are not section leaders and are not necessarily class holders. They are approved by the executive council in Dornach. Their research for the past 21 years has included how the sections relate to the General Anthroposophical Section -- the section that every member of the School of Spiritual Science is a member of; in other words, "What is the content and what is the activity of the General

Section?" The unformed realm of the General Anthroposophical Section – aside from the reading of the class lessons – needs to become more tangible. Topics to deepen this inquiry have included over the years: the First Goetheanum and how it continues as an invisible spiritual temple in our time that feels like our true home; biographies of the members of the original executive council who were appointed by Rudolf Steiner; Christian Rosenkreutz; the four ethers; the nature of exoteric and esoteric research according to all indications Rudolf Steiner gave. The booklet *A WAY TO SERVE* that was originally printed in serial form for the Society's newsletter is an outgrowth of work the Collegium had done. The Collegium is currently taking up the theme of the Foundation Stone Meditation that replaced the physical structure of the First Goetheanum and was laid in the hearts of human beings at the 1923-24 Christmas Conference when the Anthroposophical Society was founded anew. This intensive, on-going work of the Collegium is not happening anywhere else in the world. Virginia Sease wants the Collegium to continue.

Of the sections founded at the Christmas Conference in 1923, Rudolf Steiner kept under his direction two: the General Anthroposophical Section and the Pedagogical Section. Both sections are dedicated to finding the true human being – the universal human presented in the class lessons and the spiritual human individuality as outlined in *THE STUDY OF MAN* that Rudolf Steiner gave as lectures to prepare the first Waldorf teachers. Human development is a key theme to connect the research sections with the general section.

The Collegium with its section representatives desires a more active connection with the General Section of the School of Spiritual Science. An agreement was accepted by all class holders present at the conference to receive regular communications from the Collegium and then pass on the communications to the members of the First Class and to the Society membership. The Collegium sets an example for other small communities of how the various professional sections can work together out of the common, uniting activity of the General Anthroposophical Section. The world needs to see that the School is a growing body of knowledge that is applicable for dealing with global issues.

In the late 1980's Manfred Schmidt-Brabant, who worked closely with Virginia Sease in the Executive Council at the Goetheanum, set forth a new direction for the work of the School of Spiritual Science. He changed the designation "class reader" to "class holder." He encouraged free rendering of the class lessons by class holders, encouraged conversations about the class lessons by class members, and encouraged collaboration with other class holders. Virginia Sease emphasized that a class holder needs to learn how "to stand quietly and in a natural way present such sublime lessons." Class holders do not teach anything. Neither do they hold any special status. The work of a class holder is not a position. It is a task, a responsibility, to present the class lessons in such a way to enhance the class members' awareness and help them think of things in a new way. In German the designation for the School of Spiritual Science is "Gesellschaft", a very good term that indicates that everyone in the School is journeying together, mutually supporting each other in their quest for knowledge and experience of the spiritual worlds. "Class reader" used to be the term for the person who held the class lessons, a term that in English and translated into German meant the same but when it was changed to "class holder" this caused a problem, especially in German-speaking countries. The word "class holder" is very good in English because it denotes a task, not a position, prestige, power, but "class holder" is not so easy to translate into German because an inappropriate nuance of status, esteem, authority is attached.

The questions now for the General Anthroposophical Section have to do with how to so stimulate itself to become more vibrant, visible, comprehensive. Will the next generation wish to

carry this esoteric School further? The younger generation is not interested in the past, not interested in authority. They do possess the attitude: "If there's a problem, there's a solution." What capacities and tools do these so-called millennials possess to contribute towards improving the social ills of the world? Are they searching for a group that strives to develop the universal human being and can skillfully interface within the context of a world-wide community? What can the General Section of the School of Spiritual Science in North Carolina do differently to bridge both to the younger generation as well as to the professional sections of this esoteric school?

Virginia Sease spoke quite earnestly about the relevance and value of the Anthroposophical Society in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, particularly in regard to an event that could go by unrecognized unless there is a group awake to it. Rudolf Steiner in 1909-1910 publicly spoke about the etheric sphere of the Cosmic Christ and stated that from the year 1933 on more and more people would have the experience of meeting the Christ in the etheric realm. Virginia Sease impressed on the class holders that every single person incarnated since that time has the **birthright** to have this experience of the etheric reappearance of the Christ and this experience needs to be accompanied by knowledge of what that event is. No other individuality except Rudolf Steiner has been able to transmit knowledge and instructions about this event. People who have an experience of light may not necessarily have been in the presence of the etheric Christ, but might have been in Lucifer's, unless the transcendental encounter is life-transforming. The 'I AM' of the human being is synonymous with the true 'I AM' of Christ. This 'I AM' does not incarnate at birth but waits until the human being dies and rejoins in spirit. The true 'I' is the Christ Being. Its accessibility is connected with Micha-el. Rudolf Steiner gave direct indications of how to work with Micha-el both in the Karma Relationships lectures during 1924 about the Supersensible School of Micha-el that culminated in the early 1800's, as well as within the class lessons that Rudolf Steiner gave in the earthly esoteric School of Micha-el. Micha-el's instructions are: "Announce what is most important by word of mouth, not by literature or printed word." In other words, communicate person to person. Christ's utterance continues today and we must continue to listen. Christ never ceases to reveal himself anew even to the end of time. We must listen and make a free space for this Being to be heard and experienced. We can stand in awe that Rudolf Steiner was able to bring what Micha-el wishes for humanity and what Christ says to us today. It is grandiose. Our modern technological



culture challenges Micha-el's call to re-enliven human speech. The only thing in the human being which is not sense delusion, not maya and can go over to the next planetary condition of Earth is the word that resounds out of the human being. Only what human beings have spoken in their words will not disappear. That is the terrain for Christ to draw near to us. Our thoughts need to live into the thoughts of another human being. The content can be untrue, but the fact that there is speaking is true and can last. Anthroposophy is the guiding light for this recognition of Christ.

**Elaine Upton and Suzanne Mays at the Class Holders conference**

## Rudolf Steiner Foundation Coming to Durham

Friday, September 25, 6:00 - 9:00pm

You are invited to join RSF Social Finance and its Shared Gifting partners for a fun and engaging evening hosted by Eastern Carolina Organics. Meet RSF staff, grantees, borrowers, and others in the community.

RSF is in Durham to facilitate a daylong Shared Gifting circle of 12 local non-profits working to promote socially and ecologically sustainable food systems which we believe are an important part of resilient local economies. Following the meeting we will gather friends, partners, community members, funders, and family to join us to learn more about the Shared Gifting model, celebrate local and sustainable food non-profits, and to enjoy an evening of food and drink!



**Location:** Eastern Carolina Organics, 2210 E Pettigrew St, Durham, NC 27703

**Have Questions?** Contact Ellie Lanphier 415.561.6164 [ellie.lanphier@rsfsocialfinance.org](mailto:ellie.lanphier@rsfsocialfinance.org)

### About Eastern Carolina Organics

Started in 2004 as a project of the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Eastern Carolina Organics (ECO) is a private, farmer/worker-owned for-profit company with a mission to support established and emerging organic farmers while improving the supply of local organic produce. ECO is a "Food Hub" that markets and distributes wholesale Carolina organic farm produce to retailers, restaurants and buying clubs. They currently work with over 60 growers and 100 customers throughout the state of North Carolina. ECO is an RSF borrower.



Drawing on the theme of the year, "The I Knows Itself - in the light of Michaelic World Affirmation and World Connection," this year's program will offer vignettes on how anthroposophy in the United States is meeting homelessness, addiction, isolation, urban violence, genetic engineering and many other challenges confronting our society today.

Through our inner work and personal initiative, anthroposophy is making an impact in the world. As a group of striving individuals, how might we "see" one another — "hear" the longings in each or our hearts, and bring healing to these troubled times? Throughout the conference, we'll be building a picture of engagement through hearing about the unique initiatives of individual anthroposophists, and by meeting directly with one another through eurythmy, speech and biography work. We will warm our soul life and practice new ways of meeting in community. Can



we help one another find our way in anthroposophy, and together create the space within the Society to welcome everyone working within the anthroposophical movement?

Registration forms at [www.anthroposophy.org](http://www.anthroposophy.org)

## STUDY GROUPS AND WORKING GROUPS

**Christian Community Study Group**, reading *The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric*; meets Sundays 4-5:30; next meeting September 27 at the home of Kathleen Wright, 4615 Greenglen Drive, Durham, NC; call 919-309-9622. The venue and time may change after this meeting, after the group discusses their wishes.

**Reading For the Dead Group** will begin the 2nd of two lectures given on the 10th and 11th of October, 1913. The title of the 2nd lecture is called: *Descriptive Sketches of the Spiritual World*. This lecture can be found on the Rudolf Steiner Archives. Please make a small donation for printing from that source; meets at the home of Joanna Carey 4207 Neal Road, Durham, NC From 7 PM- 9 PM; meets every other Thursday September 10 and 24<sup>th</sup>; October 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. RSVP [joannapcarey@gmail.com](mailto:joannapcarey@gmail.com)

**Rose Cross Study Group** meets Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 PM; reading *Christ and the Human Soul*; followed by *Revelation: Talks to Priests*; At the home of Judy Frey, 55207 Broughton, Chapel Hill; RSVP 919-928-8749 or email: [damaris12@nc.rr.com](mailto:damaris12@nc.rr.com)

**Threshold Care Group** usually meets once a month on Mondays at the home of Jenny Bingham; however, Jenny will be away this month, so we will update the meeting schedule next month; call Jenny for more information at 919-241-4304.

**Cultural Group** meets every other Thursday at 3 PM at the home of Joanna Carey to plan festivals and events; all interested persons are welcome to attend; this month September 10 and 24<sup>th</sup>; RSVP [joannapcarey@gmail.com](mailto:joannapcarey@gmail.com)

## Other Groups in North Carolina

**Asheville** has two study groups:

Every other **Thursday night** from 7-9pm. Reading aloud Steiner books/lecture series with discussion. Reading in advance is preferred. Contact: Marie Davis [\(828\)273-5647](tel:8282735647)

**First Sunday of the month Study Group**. Meets 3-7pm. Studying a lecture series focusing on the Threefold Social Order. First hour- study of lecture presented by a member. Second hour a personal sharing by another member related to work in the world or social questions. Followed by a pot luck for community building. Contact: Marie Davis [\(828\)273-5647](tel:8282735647)

**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](mailto:sputnam01@att.net)

## Events at Nearby Branches

“**The Principles and Practice of Anthroposophic Medicine**”, a workshop with Dr. Ross Rentea September 17-19 at the Waldorf School of Atlanta, 827 Kirk Rd., Decatur, GA. This event is sponsored by the Atlanta Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America, the Martin Clinic, True Botanica LLC and the Lili Kolisko institute. For more information, contact Enid Hancock at 715-663-0576 or email her at [enidyork@yahoo.com](mailto:enidyork@yahoo.com)

Weekend workshop on the **Mysteries of Water** with Jennifer Greene, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Washington D.C.; check out the website [www.ccgwb.org](http://www.ccgwb.org)

## News from the Christian Community:

The Washington D.C. Christian Community Affiliate will be having a farewell send-off for Rev. Patrick Kennedy on Sunday, November 8 following his last Act of Consecration with the community there. Patrick and his family will be moving to Spring Valley, NY so that Patrick may teach at the Seminary there. He will eventually become the director of the Seminary after a year of training with Rev. Bastian Baan. Rev. Richard Dancey will be taking Patrick's place in the DC/Maryland community. We wish Patrick the best of luck in his new endeavor! Patrick was the visiting priest in our community for a while, so many are fond of him.

Theme for the Year 2015-2016:

**“The I Knows Itself” –  
in the Light of Michaelic  
World Affirmation  
and World Connection**

“Know your self  
and your self will  
become the world;  
Know the world  
and the world will  
become your self.”

## Readings for the theme of the year include:

Rudolf Steiner: *Anthroposophical Leading Thoughts* [GA 26], Michael Letter of November 16, 1924, “The World Thoughts in the Working of Michael and in the Working of Ahriman.”

*Ibid.* Michael Letter of August 31, 1924, “The Condition of the Human Soul before the Dawn of the Michael Age.”

Immanuel Kant, “Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung?”, *Berlinische Monatsschrift* (December, 1784) pp. 481–494.

On-line:

[www.uni-potsdam.de/u/philosophie/texte/kant/aufklaer.htm](http://www.uni-potsdam.de/u/philosophie/texte/kant/aufklaer.htm) English:

<https://archive.org/details/AnswerTheQuestionWhatIsEnlightenment>

Emphasis added by Helmut Goldmann.

*Anthroposophical Leading Thoughts*, Michael Letter of August 31, 1924.

Rudolf Steiner, *Karmic Relationships*, vol. 3, “The New Age of Michael,” Lecture of July 28, 1924.

*Ibid.*, Lecture of July 1, 1924.

Rudolf Steiner, *Awakening to Community* [GA 257], Lectures of February 28 and March 4, 1923;  
 Rudolf Steiner: *Inner Aspect of the Social Question* [GA 193] Lecture 3, Zurich, February 11, 1919.

Rudolf Steiner: *Letters to*  
 February 3, 1924.

Johann Wolfgang von  
*Snake and the Beautiful Lily.*

**For more about the theme of the**  
**[www.anthroposophy.org/theme](http://www.anthroposophy.org/theme)**



*Members* (from GA 260a), letter of

Goethe: *The Tale of the Green*

**year, go to**

## FROM THE BOARD

**Treasurers Report:** Income from dues this year is \$1315, down slightly from last year's \$1455. Membership is correspondingly lower at 34 this year, compared to 37 last year and 49 in 2013.

We have had extra expenses this year of \$200 in room rental for the 'Members Concerns' meetings and \$500 for the purchase of liability insurance. The board has therefore been concerned that we would not have enough funds to hold the branch meetings, events and festivals planned. Our President made a special request to board members to make extra donations to the general fund, to help prevent a shortfall, and Board members have since donated a total of \$1275, bringing the general fund to a total of \$1630.

These additional donations may still not be enough to fund the Cultural events that are in the planning stages right now. We hope to bring two professional one-man shows by Anthroposophical actors, as well as several recognized speakers and other musical events to our branch, this winter and spring. It is hoped that additional members' donations and event entrance fees will be enough to cover these extra expenses. If you would like to join the board in donating an additional amount to support the cultural life of our branch, you will help make these special events possible. You can make a donation on our website by credit card or by mailing in a check. All contributions are tax deductible and very gratefully received. RH

**Events Committee:** Diana Haynes is the coordinator for all branch activities and our website calendar. Please notify her well in advance of your personal events so we can avoid conflicts in scheduling. She and Judy Frey will represent the board in terms of organizing help to sponsor 'branch approved' events. DH

**Website Committee:** Be sure to check the website regularly to see all the updates on our events calendar. We also welcome contributions of articles or links that you think would be beneficial or interesting to our membership. Contact Robin Haynes our webmaster for offering your help. RH

**Outreach Committee:** Our first meeting will take place shortly after Michaelmas. Our primary goal is to increase membership, especially among younger folks so that our branch will grow and become more diverse. We hope to forge a closer relationship with the Waldorf School community, the Foundation year students and the near-by universities. We are also very committed to supporting cultural events that can be promoted in the larger community. If you have ideas or time to help implement this vision, please contact Kathleen Wright at [kathleenwright51@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenwright51@gmail.com)

## From the Editor

I hope you have enjoyed the debut issue of *The Michael Messenger*.

**Name Change:** Some of you may be wondering why there is a new name for the newsletter. The main reason is that there are a number of changes. *The Sophia Sun* was more like a magazine in its scope. It was very time consuming for me to do, and although positive feedback greatly outnumbered negative, I did hear occasional criticism that it was “too long” and had too many “long articles”. Some people told me they felt overwhelmed by the size and that they don’t read long articles. So this new newsletter is going to be more “reader-friendly”; long articles will be a rarity and no more page-long fliers. It will be focused more on news than feature articles. It also will now be primarily for our branch, not the entire southern region. I will include events from communities that are a day trip away, however, plus important national events, such as the AGM. This newsletter will not be available as a hard copy; it will only be electronic. It will be posted on our website.

**Frequency:** I have also pondered the question as to whether this newsletter should be published monthly or bi-monthly and I have decided that it will depend on how much is happening. Some months are much busier than others. Also, we got a late start this month so Nov. 1 will probably be the next publication date. If you want to know “what’s happening” in the meantime, just check our website’s calendar at [www.anthroposophync.org](http://www.anthroposophync.org) and as ever, the list-serve will keep you informed as well.

**Feedback and Suggestions:** I welcome feedback and if there are any particular kinds of articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. Past suggestions have included articles by Steiner, a question and answer column about Anthroposophy, biographies about our members, the history of our community... What interests you?

**Ads:** We will be welcoming ads as a fundraiser for the branch. Ads for anthroposophical events and classes will of course be free. Ads for goods and services that are not anthroposophically-related will cost \$1.00 per line with a \$5.00 minimum.

**Submitting articles:** Notices of upcoming issues will be sent out a week or two before articles are due; however you can submit articles any time. Please avoid sending pdfs. They are difficult, if not impossible to work with. I literally have to completely redo a document if it is a pdf. Please send articles as Word documents or jpegs. Much appreciated!

**Editing:** The editor’s job includes making decisions about length, wording, grammar and spelling, and in rare cases, even deciding whether a topic or article is relevant or appropriate for the newsletter. If this is not acceptable, please let me know, and I will send back your article with my recommendations for editing. Otherwise, please know that there may be changes.

Best Wishes for fruitful endeavors during this Michaelmas Season!

*Kathleen Wright*





## In Memory of William Bento (RIP June 5, 2015)

For William's obituary, go to:

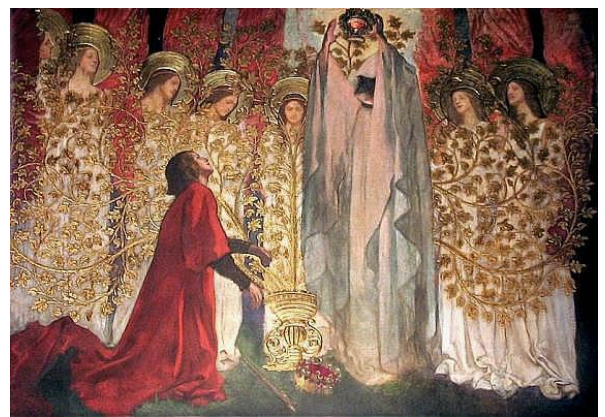
[www.apana-services.org/about/William-bento-ph-d](http://www.apana-services.org/about/William-bento-ph-d)

### The Priesthood of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

There is a priesthood of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
 Wherein the sacraments are no longer held  
 As in the days of old,  
 But are administered in the Encounter from soul to soul.  
 They are invested with a spiritual word  
 And a light-filled gaze full of healing life.  
 Out of them  
 Streams the force of goodness,  
 The Power of Christ  
 Working in the world as the substance of Love,  
 They will to create  
 The New Jerusalem upon the Earth.  
 They will to do this  
 As a sacrament of the Second Birth  
 ~William Bento

*William wrote the above as a sequel to Karl Konig's verse "The Knighthood of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century":*

There is a knighthood of the 20<sup>th</sup> century  
 Whose riders do not ride through the  
 darkness of  
 Physical forests,  
 As of old, but through the forest of



Darkened minds.

They are armed with a spiritual armor,

And an inner Sun makes them radiant.

Out of them shines healing,

Healing that flows from the knowledge of the Human Being as a Spiritual Being.

They must create inner order, inner justice,

Peace and conviction in the darkness of our time.

They must learn to work side by side with Angels.