

The Michael Messenger

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

APRIL 2016
Vol. I No. 6



Calendar of Events for April

Saturday, April 2 - 1:30- 4:00 PM Painting Workshop with Martha Kelder – page 3

Friday, April 8 – 7:00-9:00 PM – RSB-NC Planning Group – page 7

Sunday, April 10 - 10:00 AM – School of Spiritual Science Class lesson 18

Saturday, April 16 - 1:30-4:00 PM Painting Workshop with Martha Kelder – page 3

Sunday, April 17 – 10:30 AM - Christian Community Lay service page 5

Saturday, April 23 - 10:30 AM - Eurythmy Festival – page 3
12:30 – Annual General Meeting of the Rudolf Steiner Branch in the Richards Room
(article on page 2)



Pascua de Resurrección

RSB-NC Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, April 23, 12:30 – 3:30 PM** at the Emerson Waldorf School High School. The agenda will include reports from the Board, committees and the various anthroposophical initiatives in our community. We will also have elections for two Board members.

We will start off with a Eurythmy performance

Christina Beck will present a short Eurythmy performance of two musical pieces and a meditative verse by Rudolf Steiner. Her presentation will coincide with the end of a Eurythmy Workshop she is giving that morning, and she has invited the members of the Branch to the performance as well. After the performance we will begin the regular Annual General Meeting. The detailed agenda is listed [on the Branch calendar](#).

If you wish to bring an item for discussion at the meeting...

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, as required by our bylaws.

Nominations for New Board Members are Still Open

There are two vacancies on the Board, due to terms ending. 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.

So far, we have received two nominations (Diana Haynes and Kelly Calegar) but nominations remain open. 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.

Join the Branch or Renew Your Membership Now!

We usually spend a long time checking members in at the AGM because members do not renew their membership until the meeting. Reduce the delays and join or renew now!

[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

In person at the AGM: you can renew when you come to the AGM, but we recommend renewing earlier, to avoid the long line!

If You Don't Renew Your Membership by the AGM...

We will send you a reminder email and then, unfortunately, you will be dropped from our membership rolls.

The benefits you will lose include (1) access to the members' listserv and members' sections of the Branch web site, (2) the ability to vote at the AGM and Special Meetings of the members, and (3) discounts to members for selected events.

-Robert Mays, RSBNC President

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.



Two Painting Workshops with Martha Kelder:

Seeing With New Eyes:

Beholding the Spirit In Nature

Saturday, April 2, 2016

1:30-4:00PM

At the home of Sarah and Buddy Smiley

You are invited to attend a Spring creative arts workshop which will include plant observation, drawing, writing and watercolor painting.

Limited to 10 participants so please call first to see if space is still available.

Fee: \$35. (sliding scale is offered)

Please pre-register with Martha Kelder at Martha.kelder@yahoo.com or phone 919-942-2112

And:

The Magic of the Rainbow:

Experiencing Goethe's Color Circle as an Image of Wholeness

Saturday, April 16 from 1:30-4:00 PM

Richards Room in the EWS High School

Fee: \$35. (sliding scale if needed)

Please register early by contacting Martha at Martha.kelder@yahoo.com or 919-942-2112

New Singing Class Begins April 18th

Joanna Carey will be offering a singing class "School for Uncovering the Voice" starting on April 18. It will be for 6 weeks and ends on May 23rd. the time of the class will be 12:00-2:00 on Mondays. The course will be offered at Joanna's home at 4207 Neal Rd, in Durham.

These are classes for those who wish to uncover their voice and experience a more positive experience with singing. It is available at a time for parents and others who are free to come during the day.

Please register by April 15th for the new term of classes. Email: joannapcarey@gmail.com

Cost is \$120 for the entire session.

Limited to 8 people.

A commitment to the full time is required. If you are unable to attend a session, other arrangements may be possible. It's a joyous and fun-filled experience in a safe and easy environment.

Sophia Foundation School of Choreocosmos presents:

"Entering the Temple of the Human Heart and Dancing with the Stars"

A 5-day workshop
with Cosmic and Sacred Dance
given by Karen Rivers
Musical Accompaniment by pianist
Marcia Burchard
July 25 - 29, 2016
Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
4907 Garrett Rd
Durham, NC 27707



Our cosmos is an entire community of stars that dance through the depths of infinity in an orderly spiral fashion. The cosmos calls to us to become aware that everything is sacred and connected—one life, one source, one spirit—, that the cosmos has a soul with which we can learn to communicate. The great work of alchemy tells us that we have our source in the starry ground of the Cosmos, that we are literally star-life in every cell of our being. The whole of cosmic and planetary evolution is an alchemical process, an ongoing process of creation and transformation, of dissolution and regeneration. The great work of alchemy refines the base metal of our understanding so that we—evolved from the fiery substance of the stars—can know ourselves as spirit. It heals the deep wound in the soul that has come into being because of a sense of alienation, loneliness and separation from the divine. It tells us who we are and why we are here. The marriage between the solar and the lunar aspects of the soul, the fiery gold of the masculine element and the volatile silver of the feminine, creates a union between mind and soul, head and heart, between the Solar King and the Lunar Queen. A new Stellar Consciousness can arise that consummates the sacred marriage of soul and spirit, and of heaven and earth.

In Sacred Dance we will prepare a Liturgy to the Earth to offer healing forces for the regeneration of the planet, as well as dance "The Rose of the World", honoring five stages of humanity's spiritual history, culminating with the arising of a new world culture based on Love and Wisdom. We will engage in Sacred Drama that has as its goal the metamorphosis of the human soul, the reintegration of that part of us which is separated from the Divine. Goethe alludes to the mystery of metamorphosis as having to do with Divine Love and the Eternal Feminine.

Topics that will be addressed:

- The formation of a new etheric heart organ
- Awakening the Heart Chakra
- Stages of inner work to enter The Holy Grail of the human heart
- Etherization of the blood and the interior of the Earth
- The Holy of Holies in the Great Temple of the Earth

Choreocosmos, the school of Cosmic and Sacred Dance, was founded by Robert Powell, PhD, and co-founder of the Sophia Foundation, with the intention of aligning one's self harmoniously with the spiritual-cosmic world and to celebrate the relationship of the human being with the cosmos and the earth. It leads to a living experience of the earth and cosmos expressed in the inner life of Nature (four elements), and through the movements of the planets against the background of the zodiac. Choreocosmos derives from the cosmic aspects of eurythmy, an art form introduced to the world by Rudolf Steiner during the first quarter of the twentieth century. The endeavor of Choreocosmos is to elevate the soul to a conscious experience of the harmony of the spheres, and to awaken the human heart to the presence of the Divine, thereby opening a path toward a conscious experience of the soul's divine origin within the weaving of the holy substance of Love and the divine essence of Wisdom, foundational to all creation.

For information about Robert Powell and books he has authored see www.sophiafoundation.org.

The cost of the course is \$545

(or \$495 if your registration is received by May 15, 2016).

A place will be reserved upon receipt of the registration form and a \$100 deposit (see registration form below).

Some accommodations with a local participant may be arranged.

Community Meals: Please indicate if you would like to participate in community meals - five lunches, two dinners (Tues. & Thurs.), and snack catered by Steven Lambeth. Cost: \$145

Final payments are due July 10, 2016.

Daily program

Monday, July 25, to Friday, July 29, 2016

The program will end Friday at 5:30 p.m.

9:30 – 10:45 AM Cosmic and Sacred Dance

10:45 – 11:15 AM Break

11:15 – 12:30 PM Study/Conversation

12:30 – 1:45 PM Lunch

1:45 – 4:00 PM Singing/Sacred Drama

4:15 – 5:30 PM Cosmic and Sacred Dance

There will be a Sophia Grail Circle on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

Tuesday evening: Liturgy to the Earth

Thursday evening: The Mystical Wedding

Friday afternoon: The Rose of the World

REGISTRATION

Entering the Temple of the Human Heart

July 25 – 29, 2016 Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Durham, NC

Name _____ Telephone () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Email _____ Zip Code _____

Registration received by May 15: \$495 Registration _____

Registration received after May 15: \$545 Meals _____

Community Meals: \$145 Total : _____

Deposit: — \$100 _____

Amount due July 10: _____

Please mail a deposit of \$100 payable to the Sophia Foundation with the registration form to:

Sophia Foundation 4500 19th Street, #369, Boulder, CO 80304, USA.

Information: Karen Rivers 919-942-2465 or karen@karenrivers.info

Christian Community Lay Services on Sunday, April 17 at 10:30 am at the home of Buddy and Sarah Smiley, 228 Forest Hill Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514. The lay Service consists of a Verse, Bible reading, discussion, singing, a closing verse and brunch. All are welcome. For more information call 919-951-4353 or email Lsmiley7542@gmail.co

Christian Community Retreat

April 8th - 10th 2016

The DC Christian Community will be offering an Easter retreat and time of renewal at Foxhaven retreat center, an hour north of DC. Rev. Richard Dancey and Rev. Carol Kelly will be co-leading the event. The program will include Christian Community Services morning and evening, study and conversation, artistic work, walks in the countryside, singing, cooking and eating together, laughter and good times.



The Foxhaven retreat will be on a sliding scale of \$150-300/person, depending on what you can do to help and what you can afford. We want this to be affordable to all and simply hope to break even.

There are many lovely rooms in an old farmhouse, many with more than one twin bed, a few with double or queens. If you are a person who needs a private room, or a couple, you should specify that. Last time, we made it work to everyone's satisfaction and had a great time.

The retreat will begin at supper time on Friday, April 8th. Arrive between 4-6 pm. North Carolina people should allow for a six hour drive. Maybe a group can carpool together! We end on Sunday afternoon after the Services and Brunch together.



We will cook simple, healthy meals for ourselves, with one or two helpers. If you have dietary restrictions, please bring along some substitutes, ie. for gluten intolerant folks. There are beds with linens, towels, good, clean, spacious bathrooms, a lovely living/meeting room with a huge fireplace, a "dairy parlor" for services, meetings, artistic work, with a reconstructed Siloh which has GREAT acoustics for our music and singing! Deadline for sign-up: MARCH 20th. Join us in this nourishing retreat with kindred spirits in a beautiful location, to fully experience the wonder of Easter.

"It was the best retreat I've been to...bar none. From the artistic and poetic to the food and the setting....it was divine!" Carol St John participant in 2014.

Contact Diana at dh@christiancommunitync.org for more information, to register or to arrange car pooling.

Our NC Website: christiancommunitync.org

DC Website: <http://www.ccqwb.org>

Our Priest: Rev. Carol Kelly, (845) 803-2071



RSB-NC Planning Group Invites New Participants To Meeting on April 8 at 7 PM

The new planning group that was announced in last month's *Michael Messenger* will be meeting on Friday, April 8 at 7 PM at the home of Kathleen Wright. The group will be planning events for the upcoming year as well as Festivals. We welcome new members. So far there are about five people who have expressed an interest. We do want to make it clear that it has always been the policy in our community that individuals may at any time offer to host a festival or event on their own if they prefer not collaborating with a group. Our newsletter gladly publishes announcements of all anthroposophical events and even of Michaelic groups' events who may not have even heard of Rudolf Steiner.

The Christian Community of Greater Washington-Baltimore announces a fundraiser-concert with:

Magical Strings

Friday, April 29th at 8pm
at the Seekers Church in Takoma Park
(276 Carroll Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20012)



Philip and Pam Boulding, playing their own handcrafted Celtic harp and hammer dulcimer, have been described by the Washington Post as *"sonically gorgeous"*. Their unique compositions will transport you to Ireland and beyond!

Tickets can be purchased at
<http://magicalstrings.brownpapertickets.com>.

[Click here](#) to check them out on YouTube!
For more information call [301-404-5578](tel:301-404-5578).



Flow Salon

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 the whole family! Call for appointment:

[919-260-2495](tel:919-260-2495) or make your own at www.nancyannmoore.com

Email: nancythehairartist@gmail.com.

Rudolf Steiner Library Has Reopened!

After months of moving, renovating and cataloging, the Rudolf Steiner Library is open for business again at its new location, 351 Fairview Ave., Suite 610, Hudson, NY 12534-1259. So if you'd like to borrow a book or do some research, just go to the national website www.anthroposophy.org and click on the "Rudolf Steiner Library" link at the top of the page. You will find all the information you need for borrowing books, requesting information and a complete listing of the 27,000 books available. For more information, you can go to their blog or Facebook page, or phone 518-944-7007 or email: rsteinerlibrary@gmail.com

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: 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, April 21 7-9 PM – Marcia Hebrank is a Near-Death (NDE), Shared –Death and Death Experiencer. She will be speaking in the Millennium Hotel, Meeting Room 504 (1st floor), 2800 Campus Walk Ave., Durham (across from the Rhine Center). Link: <http://www.meetup.com/IANDS-Meetup/>

Saturday, April 23, 2-4 PM Sharon Goetemann Milliman - had a near-death experience when a lightning bolt passed through her body. Her spirit moved upward and she found herself totally enfolded within the most beautiful pink and gold clouds. She will be speaking at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Raleigh, 3313 Wade Ave., Raleigh. Link: <http://www.meetup.com/IANDS-Raleigh-near-death-and-spiritual-Experiences/>

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 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

Triangle Biodynamic Network- Next meeting Saturday, April 9 2-4 PM at Turtle Creek Farm in Cedar Grove, NC; contact Mary Leonhardi for directions and any other details at mleonhardi@hotmail.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 (Asheville). 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

Angels & the Afterlife with Robert J. Grant Saturday, April 2, 2016 9:00 am – 4:30 pm at the UU Fellowship Hall in Durham

Robert J. Grant is well known for his in-depth, inspiring lectures on numerous subjects based on the Edgar Cayce readings.

Highlights include:

The role of angels and archangels in the psychic work of Edgar Cayce.

Angelic appearances in modern day near death experiences.

"What Dreams May Come" - The truth behind the fiction of the Richard Matheson's masterpiece novel.

The light at the end of the tunnel - Edgar Cayces readings for people approaching the death transition.

George Ritchie, M.D. - Author of "Return From Tomorrow" NDE roadmap to the afterlife.

"Let there be light" - a guided meditation for relaxing and healing.

Time reserved for questions, book singing and meet/greet the author.

Robert J. Grant is considered by many people around the world as one of the most knowledgeable historians, researchers and lecturers on the Edgar Cayce legacy. He is well known for his in-depth lectures, great sense of humor, and passion for the Readings. He's authored 5 books and countless articles. His best-selling book, *Edgar Cayce on Angels, Archangel and the Unseen Forces* is now in its 21st printing. He is also the author of *"The Place We Call Home: Exploring the Soul's Existence After Death, The Magdalene diaries, Love and Roses from David, and Universe of Worlds.*

Robert's 35+ years of study of the Cayce work began under the mentorship of Hugh Lynn Cayce at age 19. He spent much additional time being taught and mentored by other spiritually awakened souls. More than anything, he wants to come and share this priceless, timeless information that, as he said, "Exists nowhere in the known world!" Rob is so excited to return to the Triangle area to see old friends and meet new ones.

Please note: This is not an Anthroposophical event; however, many of our members will be interested in the subject matter being presented. It does require pre-registration and showing up at the door may not give you a seat.

To register contact Linda Thompson at [919-790-9130](tel:919-790-9130) or email at: ltompson123@nc.rr.com

Cost is \$60. with pre-registration, \$65 at the door.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

4907 Garrett Road, Durham, NC 27707

website: www.edgar cayce.org



A Message from the Eastern Regional Council Carrying Group:

“Anthroposophy may be the means of each man's learning to see that it is not a mere chance that he happens to be born in a particular place at a particular time, but that he has been put of necessity by the law of spiritual causation — by Karma — just in the place where he is; he learns to recognize that it is his own fitting and well-founded fate which has placed him amidst that human community in which he finds himself. His own powers and capacities too will become apparent to him, as not allotted by blind hazard, but as having their good meaning in the law of cause and effect.

And he learns to perceive all this in such a way that the perception does not remain a mere matter of cold reason, but gradually comes to fill his whole soul with inner life.

The outcome of such understanding will be no shadowy idealism but a mighty pulse of new life throughout all a man's powers. And this way of acting will be looked upon by him as being as much a matter of course as, in another respect, eating and drinking is. Further, he will learn to see the meaning in the human community to which he belongs. He will comprehend his own community's relation to other human communities, and how it stands towards them; and thus the several spirits of all these communities will piece themselves together to a purposeful spiritual design, a picture of a single, united mission of the whole human race. And from the human race his mind will travel on to an understanding of the whole earth and its existence.”

From ***Anthroposophy and the Social Question***, Rudolf Steiner (1906)

Over the past year, we have explored the work and form of the Eastern Region. Following conversations with members, we developed a vision for restructuring and bringing new life to our geographic area. We shared this picture with you in the fall, and a proposal went to the General Council for review.

We proposed developing three new regions (Southeastern, Mid-Atlantic, and Northeastern), each of which would hold a regional gathering. Out of these gatherings would come the recommendation for a representative to the General Council. The General Council has requested that for the time being one representative be chosen to represent all three newly identified regions on the Council. Normally the regional Council suggests one of their members as a representative, and that person is then confirmed by the General Council. The General Council has also requested that the three newly identified regions consider themselves sub-regions for the immediate future.

We recognize that the process of establishing these new regions will take some time. We also believe that it is important for the regions to move forward with renewed representation during this important time in the life of the Society. With that in mind, we have decided to put forward a member of our working group to serve as the representative of the overall Eastern Region in this time of transition. We have recommended Elizabeth Roosevelt as the Eastern Region representative to the General Council for this time. Elizabeth lives in Atlanta, GA, where she recently completed a class teaching cycle and served as Faculty Chair at the Waldorf School of Atlanta. She is currently the Program Coordinator for Admin Institute. Elizabeth came as a participant to the first meeting about our region held in Spring Valley in January 2015. There she was recognized by those present as a key individual in helping to shape and serve the life of the Society in the Eastern Region. Elizabeth is a member of the School for Spiritual Science and the Section for Social Sciences.

In addition to her many qualities, the Carrying Group believes it is important that someone familiar with the work that has evolved over this past year shepherd the process through to its conclusion. Those of us on the group have agreed to support Elizabeth as needed.

We have also turned our attention toward planning the regional gatherings. Kimberton and Atlanta have stepped forward for the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern regions, and we are in communication with the Heartbeet community in Vermont to consider hosting a gathering in the Northeast. Atlanta is suggesting the weekend of September 9 & 10, and the Kimberton area the weekend of November 5 & 6, 2016. Keep your eyes out for the save-the-date for the Northeast and for more details about all of these events! Anyone will be welcome to attend any of these events regardless of where you live.

We look forward to working together with you in our three smaller regions to strengthen the life of the Anthroposophical Society in our area. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth.

(ejroosevelt@gmail.com, 404-558-5716)

Sincerely,

Jennifer Greene, Herbert Hagens, Marian Leon, Elizabeth Roosevelt, Sherry Wildfeuer, Nathaniel Williams

Lemniscate Arts presents:
"Opening the Realm of New Mystery Drama"
 based on Rudolf Steiner's four Mystery Dramas.
 A collaborative Readers Theater event
 May 14 & 15, 2016, in Copake, NY



The Working of the Spirit
 written by Michael Burton from an outline of scenes and
 events by Marke Levene
 Saturday, May 14 ~ 10:30 am to 5:30 pm

and
 Anthropos'
Future Dawning
 A new mystery drama about Rudolf Steiner's characters in their next incarnation . . . in the
 not-too-distant future.

written by Glen Williamson
 directed by Laurie Portocarrero
 Sunday, May 15 ~ 10:00 am to 7:30 pm
 Contribution \$15.00 - \$45.00 per presentation
 For tickets go to
www.workingofthespirit.org
 Tel: 207-841-4760

Lemniscate Arts, registered 501(c)3
 Fountain Hall, Camphill Village USA
 84 Camphill Rd., Copake, NY 12516

It is our expectation that copies of both plays will be available for purchase at these events.

Save the Date for next AGM!

This year's annual conference and AGM will be held October 6 – 9 at Threefold Educational Center in Chestnut Ridge, NY. The core planning group, Barbara Renold, Laurie Portocarrero, Ray Manacas, Virginia Hermann, Torin Finser and Marian Leon, began meeting in December to talk about themes and intentions for this year's conference. Several threads are being carried as the program comes into expression:

- The evolution of consciousness as expressed in drama. Under the direction of Barbara Renold, speech artists and eurythmists are rehearsing scenes from *Oedipus Rex*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the *Trial of the Soul* and these

will be performed throughout the conference. Thank you to Creative Speech North America for a grant to help fund this work!

- Presentations working with the Theme of the Year, *self-knowledge and the experience of evil today*, as we strive to birth the consciousness soul individually and within our communities.
- Integrating the members' meeting within the entire weekend experience by placing the various reports within the flow of the conference.
- Weaving together these threads to support our conversations on the life and cultivation of anthroposophy within the Anthroposophical Society in America.

The planning group invites you to participate with us in our study preparation. We are currently working with Lecture 3 in *Michaelmas and the Soul Forces of Man*. Tuesday night's call will capture where we are in the planning process; share with you our study and how the study is informing our process; sharing our questions and hearing *your* questions and concerns. We hope you can join us!

Our next online meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3.

We look forward to speaking with you Tuesday evening!

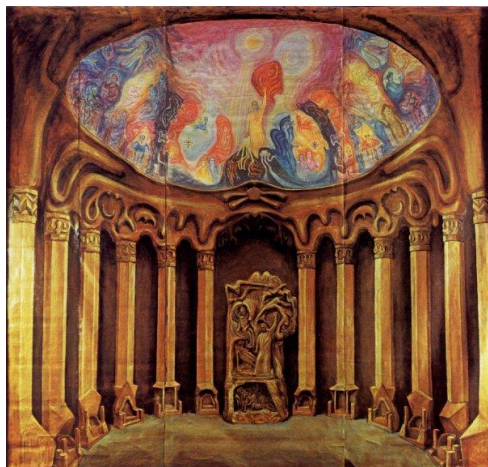
Warmly,

Virginia Hermann, Ray Manacas, Laurie Portocarrero, Barbara Renold, Torin Finser and Marian Leon

Reimagining America: A Threefold Working Conference July 8-10, 2016 Kimberton, PA

In the coming year, we arrive at a significant moment in the spiritual history of America in the light of anthroposophy. This time offers an opportunity for rebirth, and we hope you will join us as we work toward the renewal of American society in the light of social threefolding. The summer of 2016 marks the approach of the 30th anniversary of the Chicago conference with Manfred Schmidt-Brabandt which initiated the Social Sciences Section work in North America. On July 12, we have the 199th birthday of Henry David Thoreau, deeply connected to the spiritual biography of our country. Further consider that we are approaching the time that 99 years will have passed since Rudolf Steiner's initial presentations on the threefold nature of our society. From seed to thought or deed takes 33 years; intensity takes another 33 years; and completeness takes a further 33 years. Then it is time for the seed to be resurrected and transfigured. One hundred years bring a certain completion, and it is time to create a new impulse. Now that 99 years will have elapsed, new opportunities may be arising to bring these thoughts into action on a broader and more public scale. What needs to remain to maintain integrity and what needs to grow and develop? Issues such as immigration, education, incarceration, agriculture, income equality, and health care are all in the public discourse. What can a threefold, spiritual perspective offer the issues of our time? Can we meet these challenges by turning them to the good, bringing forth a re-imagination of America? Where in our society do we see the practical initiatives which tend toward a strengthening of a threefold impulse which is slumbering in our hearts and in the American Soul? The old established order is based on the dominance of economic interests which have captured politics and culture through an ideology of materialism and power. Yet there is a new order emerging—one that is based on a spiritual understanding of the human being and of society. We invite participants who are ready to co-create in the spirit of renewal. A prior understanding of the concepts of social threefolding will be necessary. We will be working together in small groups and sessions not to debate our various understandings, but to formulate responses to the burning questions of our time in

the United States. We will be joined by Gerald Häfner, co-leader of the Section for Social Sciences at the Goetheanum and former member of the European Parliament. Co-sponsored by the Social Sciences Section in North America and the Council of Anthroposophic Organizations For more information please contact Claus Sproll (claus@sproll.net) or Christ Schaefer (christopherschaefer@gmail.com).



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 website 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) or 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.

Note: articles and announcements of events are not considered ads. We print articles of interest to our members at no cost.

