



Third Annual Festival for the Unborn

Saturday, March 16, 2024 3-5PM

In the EWS Eurythmy Room

Join us for an afternoon of Eurythmy, Poetry, Prose, conversation and Refreshments centered around the theme of the unborn awaiting incarnation on Earth.

How did this festival originate, you may ask. For many years Christian Community Priest Gisela Wielki and her friend eurythmist Dorothea Mier pondered the question – why do we have a festival for the dead, but none for those about to be born? In their discussions they came to the conclusion that there are really three festivals on the theme of birth – All Souls Day which celebrates birth into the Spiritual world, Christmas which celebrates the birth of Jesus, and one for the unborn awaiting their next incarnation. Because All Souls Day is 54 days before Christmas, they decided the festival for the unborn should occur 54 days after Christmas. In looking at the calendar they realized that the date was close to the festivals of Imbolc and Candlemas (Feb, 1-2) The Celtic festival of Imbolc celebrates the goddess Brigid, whom legend tells became the midwife of the Christ Child. Gisela and Dorothea brought the first Festival for the Unborn to Spring Valley, NY four years ago. Joanna Carey, Eve Olive and Bride Alona McWilliam were so inspired by the event that they brought the festival here to Chapel Hill three years ago. It has been happening here in March, however, not February, and that is also appropriate. Steiner spoke of how in ancient times most conceptions occurred in March and most births in December. Catholics actually celebrate a “Day of the Unborn Child” on March 25th, which is the Feast of the Annunciation. For more inspiration on welcoming the unborn to Earth and about their journey through the planetary spheres to get here, read Peter Selg’s book *Unbornness*.

