

Living in the Balance February 2014

Look to this day:

For it is life, the very life of life.

In its brief course

Lie all the verities and realities of your existence.

The bliss of growth,
The glory of action,
The splendor of achievement
Are but experiences of time.

For yesterday is but a dream
And tomorrow is only a vision;
And today well-lived, makes
Yesterday a dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well therefore to this day;
Such is the salutation to the ever-new dawn!

Kalidasa



Something for adults on a cold, indoor day....
You will need....

- Construction paper.
- Scissors....preferably the blunt end one's for children.
- Old magazines.
- Hot chocolate and whipped cream.

Instructions:

- Prowl through the magazines and see what takes your eye. Cut things out, but don't stay in the lines. Make the edges take shape as they will.
- Arrange the pieces on some paper and glue as you will. Make up a story to tell yourself while you drink your hot chocolate.
- Repeat.



So at the end of this day, we give thanks for being betrothed to the unknown."

John O'Donohue

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Calendar considerations.....

Anderson School of Theology for Laypersons

Dr. Walter Brueggemann, February 16, 2014 There are three opportunities to hear Dr. Brueggemann on this date. Dr. John Philip Newell, November 9, 2014 For more information http://astlonline.org

The Sophia Institute

Intuition and Writing: Fueling the Creative Fire with the Voice of your Soul, February 7 and 8 The Feminine Co-Creator, with Barbara Marx Hubbard, February 28 and March 1 Embodying Spirit in Everyday Life with Joan Borysenko, March 14 to March 16 Solace with David Whyte, April 11 and 12 The Book of Awakening, with Mark Nepo, May 16 to May 18 Charleston, SC www.thesophiainstitute.org

Kanuga Conference Center

Iconography: The Gospel in Line and Color, February 15 – February 21
The Bowen Conference: Beyond the Shepherd: Re-imaging God with Lauren Winner, February 16 – 18
Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, NC
www.kanuga.org

The Anchorage

United in Prayer Day

Ignatian Retreat Monday, February 24 – Friday, February 28 or Friday, March 28 – Monday, March 31 at Mepkin Abbey, Moncks Corner, SC Spring Quiet Day, Friday, April 4 – Greenville, SC Spring Directed 4-day group retreat, Monday, April 7 – Friday, April 11 at Mepkin Abbey www.theanchorage.org

Contemplative Outreach of Charlotte

Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop Saturday, March 1, 2014, 10 AM - 4 PM Calvary Lutheran Church, 950 Bradley Street NE, Concord, NC http://cpcharlotte.org

Contemplative Outreach of Middle Tennessee

Lean into Lent, Centering Prayer Retreat, March 9 – 14, 2014 St. Mary's Center, Sewanee, Tennessee www.centeringprayermidtn.com

Contemplative Outreach of Greater Greenville

9:00 until 3:00, Saturday, March 15, 2014 Christ Church Episcopal, Greenville, SC Event contacts are Jacqueline Mickley at jacquelinemickley@gmail.com or Judy Lineback at judylineback@charter.net or 864-246-3973





Calendar considerations.....

Southern Dharma Retreats, Hot Springs, North Carolina

And to the Source Kept True, March 20 – 23

Working with Emotions the Buddha's Way, March 29 - April 3

The Nature of Awareness: Insight and Meditation for Experienced, April 25 – May 2

Marriage of Yoga and Meditation, May 23 – May 26

For more information about retreats and the schedule

http://www.southerndharma.org

Barbara Brown Taylor

Saturday, March 22, 2014 Mary & Martha's Place, Atlanta, GA www.maryandmarthasplace.com

Lake Junaluska

Signature Series with Rachel Held Evans, February 22
Spring into Writing: A Fearless Writing Retreat, March 22 – 23
Peace Conference, March 27 – March 30
Lake Junaluska, NC
http://www.lakejunaluska.com/peace

Greenville Friends of Jung Spring Event

Howard Tyas presenting
Friday evening, March 28
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Greenville, SC
Watch for details at www.greenvillefriendsofjung.com

Interfaith Forum of Greenville

Sacred Space: The Promise of Peace and Understanding. A film and discussion, Thursday, March 20 at 7:00

The Kroc Center, Greenville, SC

National Day of Prayer, Thursday May 1, 2014 in cooperation with Furman University. http://www.interfaithforum-sc.org

Montreat Conference Center

Spring into Writing: A fearless writing retreat, March 22 – 23, 2014

Montreat, NC www.montreat.org

Summer Dream and Spirituality Conference

May 25 - 30, 2014

Offered by the Haden Institute and held at Kanuga in Hendersonville, NC www.hadeninstitute.com

The Year of Altruism Greenville, SC

The mission of the Year of Altruism is to encourage and celebrate altruism in thought, speech and deed, focusing the community on fostering acts of kindness in its organizations and individuals.

For details and schedules to go http://yearofaltruism.org





About Spiritual Direction -

- Offers a space and time for you to explore, reflect upon, and deepen your relationship with God.
- Provides a haven from the daily busyness of the outer world and opens a time to be still and to reflect on your inner journey.
- Is a companioning relationship grounded in dialogue and discernment.
- Explores ways you may integrate spirituality into your daily life.
- Is not limited to any one spiritual practice or tradition.
- May involve one or two meetings or multiple meetings over time.

You may wish to consider spiritual companioning if you are —

- Longing for a deeper relationship with the Divine
- Looking for a place to dialogue about spiritual questions
- Seeking ways to connect with the Spirit in a more intentional way
- Discerning ways to live in a more integrated and whole way
- Standing at a crossroads in your life
- Exploring new or fresh ways to be in relationship with God

For more information about Spiritual Direction, please feel free to contact me by phone 864-246-3960 or via email at wmeade@meadellc.com

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The photos in this month's journal are my work. All the photographs were taken in 2012 in Ottawa and Quebec City.