



Center Community News

The Newsletter of the Center for Sacred Sciences

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Holiday Party

Sometimes it's nice to just call off the search and enjoy the folly and foibles of samsara. Maybe have a party, make some music, eat some good pot-luck, and act like fools on the dance floor. Of course you can continue to practice at the same time, and maybe a few of us did.



Good food, good company

The 2009 holiday party on December 12th was notable for its extra-delicious food and its abundance of performers, many of whom joined in on stage with our customary and esteemed entertainers, Vinnie and Lou Principe. It turns out we have some fine musicians hidden amongst us, and some brave beginners who came out of the closet. Thanks to everyone who contributed their spirit!

Thanks to Ken Paul and Jane Harrison for the photos

CD Alert

Check the publications page for new CDs, cassettes, and MP3s of recent Center talks, including the much-requested 7-talk series on liberating emotions from the Fall 09 retreat.



Above: Vinnie Principe, Lou Principe, Merry Song, Gene Gibbs



Winston Maxwell



Robin Bundy, Deanna Cordes, Jane Harrison

Retreat Scholarship Fund

Center teachers often remind us that going on retreat is a primary way to deepen and stabilize our practices. The Retreat Scholarship Fund offers the opportunity for retreat to people who might not otherwise be able to attend.

CSS encourages everyone to participate in this fund either by a) not hesitating to request financial assistance for retreats, if needed, or b) contributing to this fund if you can afford to do so. Giving to this charitable cause is a great way to make one's own source of livelihood more meaningful, and taking advantage of retreat opportunities in order to Realize Truth can only benefit us all.

New CSS Board Member

Michael Strasburger, of Eugene, was recently elected to the Center Board of Directors. Mike and his wife Cathryn moved to Eugene in 2002 from Texas.

Mike completed the Foundations Studies Course in 2005 and has been a member of the Practitioners Group since then. He has been active at the Center as Assistant Retreat Coordinator, and we often see him cheerfully setting up chairs and busing teacups at Center meetings on Sundays and Wednesdays in his role as Facilities Manager. Mike has put in many hours helping the Center in its efforts to secure a meeting location which can also host the Center's extensive library,



provide sufficient parking for attendees, and be accessed by local public transit.

Thank you, Mike, and welcome to the Board.

Making Use of the Center

People who hear about CSS often ask about ways to become further involved with the Center. Here are some options:

Sunday talks: On most Sundays the Center offers a free public service beginning at 11 am. The program usually includes a short meditation, a talk by our spiritual director, Joel Morwood, or an associate teacher, and time for discussion. On the first Sunday of most months, instead of a talk, a video is shown about a particular spiritual tradition or teacher. The video is followed by a discussion and a cold-plate potluck.

Courses and seminars: For people who want to make a personal commitment to practice, there is the Foundation Studies Course for people in the Eugene area and the Distance Studies Course for anyone who cannot attend the Foundation Studies Course in person. People who complete these courses are eligible to join the Practitioners Group, attend our meditation retreats, and participate in our online discussion group. Occasionally, there are special seminars and workshops for practitioners, such as a dream workshop and the Quantum Koans seminar. Find information about the programs at centerforsacredsciences.org/programs.html.

Library: The Center maintains a lending library containing thousands of books, audio and video recordings, magazines, and journals from the world's religious traditions (see p. 7 for hours and location).

Center Publications: Joel's recently published book, **The Way of Selflessness**, provides an excellent overview of the Center's teachings and is available at the Center Library and for purchase. Find other books, articles, recordings, and back issues of the newsletter at the Center's website, <http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/>

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Spring—a Season for Precept Practice

I find that spring is a great time to examine two things...my garden and our third precept: *Not to injure or kill any Being heedlessly or needlessly.*

It's incredibly easy to spray, squash, poison, trap, or annihilate whatever creature takes a liking to my garden. Pests! Varmints! Be gone!! Clearly, the gardening experience is not exempt from joy one moment and suffering the next! One moment I am savoring the sweetest, juiciest cherry tomato, the next, I'm fretting over leaves chewed to a nub by some tiny invader.

I like to get up close and personal with my greens. I examine each and every new shoot or leaf and cheer it on. "You're doin' great! Keep up the good work!" Yup, I am attached to my baby sprouts.

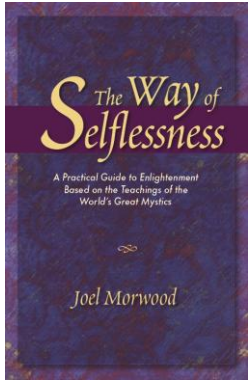
Years ago, if I saw an attacking snail I would dispose of it in a very unkind way. Then, I would reach for the snail bait, just to be sure all its other slimy friends got the message—you are not welcome in my garden! Or, without thought, I would grab a can of poisonous spray to wipe out whatever bug was doing damage.

These days, the words "heedlessly or needlessly" live in my garden too. I'm not as quick to mindlessly destroy what seems inconvenient or bothersome. The snails and bugs are just being who they are, doing what they do. Now, when necessary, I grab a can of compassion and apply as needed. It must work, because I still get *plenty* of tomatoes.

—JANET BLACK

Help Get the Word Out on Selflessness

Most of us who have read Joel's new book, **The Way of Selflessness**, have found it a great source of help and guidance. As the Center does not expend time and resources on aggressively marketing the book, CCN is providing information for those of you who wish to support Joel's teachings by telling other spiritual seekers about it. Here are a few ways to go about this:



1. Write a review of the book on Amazon.com so potential buyers will know just how great the book is! Here's how: First, write your review. You might want to look at

Amazon's [review guidelines](#) at the Amazon site. [Sign-up](#) (or sign-in) with Amazon, then go to the [Way of Selflessness page](#). At the bottom of the Product Details section, click the customer review link to submit your review.

2. Write a review on Lulu.com. Here's how: First, write your review. Take a look at Lulu's [review guidelines](#). [Register](#) with Lulu, then go to Lulu's [Way of Selflessness link](#). Below the book description, click the stars to rate the item, then click "Post a review."

3. Mention the book on appropriate email discussion groups, blogs, FaceBook, mySpace, etc.

Note: If you are reading the paper version of CCN, try reading it online at www.centerforsacredsciences.org and just clicking on the hotlinks to get to the abovementioned Amazon and Lulu sites.

Any understanding of the nature of reality automatically arouses great compassion because you see how we create so much suffering for ourselves and others when we don't see the essential emptiness of things. The more clearly we see things, the more we can realize our own predicament and the predicament of all other beings. Then naturally great compassion arises, genuine compassion, because you see what the problem is.

From an interview with Ani Tenzin Palmo in **The Unknown She: Eight Faces of an Emerging Consciousness**, by Hilary Hart, The Golden Sufi Center, 2003.

See page 7 for additional quotes from new books in the Center library.

Quantum Koans Revisited

The Quantum Koans Seminar, sponsored by CSS and led by Tom McFarlane, completed its 10th and final session on December 17th. Graduating were CSS practitioners Jack Yousey, Marleen Marshall, Pat Munden, Ken Paul, Steven Pologe, Jerry Daly, and Vip Short, and non-practitioner Robert Bushman. The seminar explored the relationship between scientific and spiritual worldviews. Students investigated the paradoxes and counter-intuitive features of quantum mechanics, with an emphasis on their relevance to mystical teachings and traditions. Here's what some of the grads reported:

Jerry Daly: *I used to think that whenever you looked really close at something, it always turned out to be other than what you had thought. From Tom's class I learned that if you look really, really, really, really close (quanta level), you discover that things are only what you thought. Many thanks to Tom for providing a fun and stimulating experience!*

Marleen Marshall: *It's really been helpful to get my mind on board with the spiritual principles I already know in my heart to be true.*

Ken Paul: *I have learned many times over that big answers only raise bigger questions, so I expected pretty much the same from the QK class. I was not disappointed when it delivered even more delicious confusion; so for me, there are now even more fingers pointing to the moon, which apparently isn't there even when we're looking at it.*

Steven Pologe: *The class presented scientific thinking in the area of Quantum Theory that supports some of the concepts which we are trying to understand in our CSS classes. It also was a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with some of our CSS brothers and sisters in a different format from our usual one as we tried together to wrap our brains around these intriguing concepts.*

Vip Short: *Since first being exposed to information about "quantum weirdness" many years ago, I kept it in the back of my mind that things are not actually what they seem... or that they are more than what they seem. Tom's review of this arguably most fundamental realm of sciences—which itself has numerous distinct and sometimes opposing interpretations—reminded me that Hamlet's remark to Horatio was a severe understatement.**

The seminar instructor, Tom McFarlane, is the author of **Einstein and the Buddha: The Parallel Sayings**. Tom holds degrees in physics, mathematics, and philosophy and is also on the Board of Directors of the Center for Sacred Sciences.

* *There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.*

—Hamlet. Act I, Scene v

Looking Ahead – An Interview with Joel

Each year in August Joel delivers an Enlightenment Day talk to commemorate not just “his” enlightenment on August 13, 1983, but the potential for enlightenment inherent in us all. Last August, on the 26-year anniversary of his enlightenment, Joel offered a summation of how he sees his teachings have unfolded to date.

After his enlightenment Joel spent a year and a half living in Lone Pine, California in a cabin on the property of the mystic-philosopher Franklin Merrell-Wolff. During this period he wrote his spiritual autobiography, [Naked Through the Gate](#). At the time, Joel had no intention of becoming a teacher. He thought he could fulfill his karmic duty simply by completing his own testament to the possibility of gnostic awakening. But even Joel can be wrong. People began to ask him questions about their own paths, and Joel had no choice but to respond. (His first petitioner, [Andrea Pucci](#), is now a teacher in her own right, living in Bishop, California.)

During this time, Joel also met Maggie and [Amit Goswami](#). Amit was a physics professor with mystical leanings who taught at the University of Oregon in Eugene. While Joel shared his gnostic wisdom with Amit, Amit began to teach Joel about the philosophical implications of quantum mechanics. Through discussions they had over the next several years (which often lasted late into the night), both Amit and Joel began to see that science and mysticism are not as incompatible as so many people today believe. Could a new worldview encompass both in a harmonious way?

In 1986 Amit and Maggie invited Joel to come to Eugene and establish the Center for Sacred Sciences. From the very beginning CSS has had two missions. The first is to help individual seekers on their spiritual paths. The second is to help foster a new worldview in which science and mysticism can be seen as different but complementary ways of exploring the same underlying reality. As more and more students came to the Center seeking personal guidance, Joel began to concentrate on that aspect of the mission. Amit meanwhile continued to develop his scientific theories, eventually leaving the Center to devote himself full-time to writing, traveling, and lecturing. But even after Amit’s departure, fostering a new worldview remained an important, albeit secondary, goal of the CSS, and Joel has continued to work on it in his spare time, primarily in collaboration with Center member [Tom McFarlane](#), who holds degrees in both physics and mathematics.

At this year’s Enlightenment Day talk, Joel announced that from now on he will be shifting his focus from giving personal guidance to students to the task of helping to develop a new worldview. With the recent publication of his book, [The Way of Selflessness](#), plus a library containing hundreds of his recorded talks, Joel feels he has fulfilled his original vision of showing how the teachings of the mystics constitute a single current running through all the world’s great traditions (a vision, we might add, enlivened and enriched by Joel’s own gnosis and the crystal clarity of his writing). Moreover, because there are now a number of other excellent teachers at the Center, Joel feels he’s leaving his students in good hands. To elaborate on this change of emphasis in his work for CCN readers, Joel agreed to the following interview:



Joel with colleague Tom McFarlane

CCN: Why do we need a new worldview?

Joel: People need some kind of worldview—a way to organize and interpret their experience that makes sense. It’s also what holds societies together. You might say a society is a group of people who have a common worldview—at least in terms of fundamentals. Sharing a worldview is what allows us to cooperate, make plans, agree on values, and so forth. People who don’t share a worldview are just a

collection of separate individuals, like travelers on an international flight. They don’t constitute a real functioning society.

CCN: Will a new worldview help people attain enlightenment?

Joel: Worldviews are made of thoughts, concepts, ideas. Enlightenment transcends all concepts and ideas, so the answer is no—not directly. However, the worldview someone has can make a big difference in how they conduct their life. For instance, if your worldview tells you there’s no such thing as enlightenment, then you won’t even bother going on a mystical path. That was the case with me. I was a hard-core materialist, who thought everything mystical was nonsense. Then, at a critical point in my life, Samanthaⁱ introduced me to the ideas of people like Fritjof Capra. I read Capra’s book, *The Tao of Physics*, which was my first exposure to quantum mechanics. What an eye-opener! Here, I had been hanging onto a materialist worldview because I thought it was scientific, but the development of quantum mechanics had made materialism scientifically untenable. I didn’t become particularly interested in quantum mechanics at that time, but learning something about it did shatter my belief in materialism and so removed a big obstacle to my going on a spiritual path.

ⁱ Joel’s companion on the path—see *Naked Through the Gate*.

(continued from p. 4)

CCN: So what you're saying is, some worldviews are more conducive to mysticism than others.

Joel: That's right. Materialism has no place for enlightenment; we're just a bunch of atoms bouncing around to no purpose. You can't even derive any moral values from such a worldview, let alone the notion that there might be some transcendent dimension to all this. Sacred worldviews, on the other hand, have a built in "exit" sign, you might say. They use concepts to make sense of our ordinary experience, but they also contain teachings that point beyond concepts to enlightenment, realization, moksha, marif'a, gnosis, union with the Divine—call it what you like.

CCN: You mentioned moral values: where do they fit in?

Joel: In sacred worldviews, moral values are all based on acting out of selfless love and compassion. The more selfless you are, the more happy you will be, because the more you will be manifesting your true Divine nature, which transcends the illusory self altogether. So sacred worldviews uphold love and compassion as being values themselves rooted in the sacred. In a materialist worldview, the primary value is to look out for yourself. Looking out for others has only an instrumental value. It might make life a bit more pleasant for everybody, but that's about all. That's not very motivating.

CCN: But why do we need a *new* worldview? Aren't there lots of sacred worldviews still around to choose from? You, yourself, draw on the teachings of mystics from all the great traditions. Aren't these traditions based on sacred worldviews?

Joel: Yes, they are. And anybody who knows my teachings knows how much I honor and revere them. But while traditional teachings concerning enlightenment are still valid (and always will be), many of the secondary teachings about how the world works have been made obsolete by science. Look at Tibetan Buddhism, for instance. It contains some of the most sophisticated techniques for cultivating mindfulness and compassion essential to anyone walking a spiritual path. However, these techniques are presented in the context of a worldview that sees the cosmos being composed of five "energies" correlated with the five elements of earth, water, fire, wind, and space. Now this schema may still be useful—especially for working with certain psycho-spiritual states—but you can't use it to build an airplane or a computer. For those things you need science. So this can be a big problem for a lot of modern seekers. They end up living a kind of philosophically schizophrenic life. They have a traditional worldview which guides their spiritual practice, and an incompatible worldview based on science, which guides their practical life. Wouldn't it be nice to have a single worldview that embraced both?

CCN: Are you talking about a worldview where science validates mystical teachings?

Joel: Actually, it's the other way around. Science can never validate mystical teachings, nor does it need to. Enlightenment is what validates mystical teachings. It's not mysticism that's undergoing a crisis, it's science. We talk about having a scientific worldview, but ever since quantum mechanics destroyed its materialist underpinnings, science doesn't really have a worldview. As a method, of course, it still works fantastically well, but no one can explain why anymore.

CCN: So, why *does* science work? In your E-day talk you seemed to hint that part of the answer might be that it works because the questions science deals with are phrased in a particular language—mathematics—and therefore must be answered in that language. If that's so, is your intent here to create a new kind of language that both scientists and mystics can converse in?

Joel: We don't need to create a new kind of language. We just need to show how mystics and scientists can both use mathematics to converse. However, this will require a reformulation of the foundations of mathematics along lines suggested by [G. Spencer Brown](#) and others. What this entails is seeing that mathematics is based on creating a precise distinction. The whole complex system is then built as a repetition of this simple act—creating more distinctions and distinguishing different kinds of distinctions. That's what Tom's been working on. He's the mathematician here. [Note: see Tom's article [Play of Distinction](#) in Holos.] So I won't say anything more about it except that I will point out that this approach is perfectly compatible with what mystics of all traditions have been saying about language in general. All languages create distinctions which we then superimpose upon the underlying non-dual reality. That's what gives us different experiences of the world. The only difference between the language of mathematics and what we might call "natural" languages is that natural languages tend to create *qualitative* distinctions, while mathematics allows us to make *quantitative* distinctions. When we superimpose quantitative instead of qualitative distinctions on the underlying nondual reality, we can carve it up and put it back together in much more precise ways. So there's really no mystery about why science works so well when we view it from a mystical perspective. Anyway, that's one of the things Tom and I see as being a key component in creating a new worldview.

(Continued on p.6)

CCN: You said in your talk that worldviews are made of concepts which are ephemeral, and that any worldview will last only as long as it's needed and then be replaced. Consequently, there is no possibility of coming up with a worldview that's ultimately true. I guess the question is, why spend so much time on something that ends up being transitory?

Joel: Well, first of all, as I already said, people need worldviews to function. And, from a mystics' perspective, some worldviews are better than others because, although they don't contain the ultimate truth, they can point to it. So working on a new worldview is a form of service, like working on a cure for some disease. Also, from the beginning of my path, there's been this thread of science woven into it—first with Samantha introducing me to quantum mechanics, then meeting Amit, which was completely fortuitous, and finally having Tom join the Center. So where did all that come from? Growing up, I was never really interested in science. It's like it's been foisted on me as part of the whole spiritual enchilada.

CCN: Foisted on you by whom?

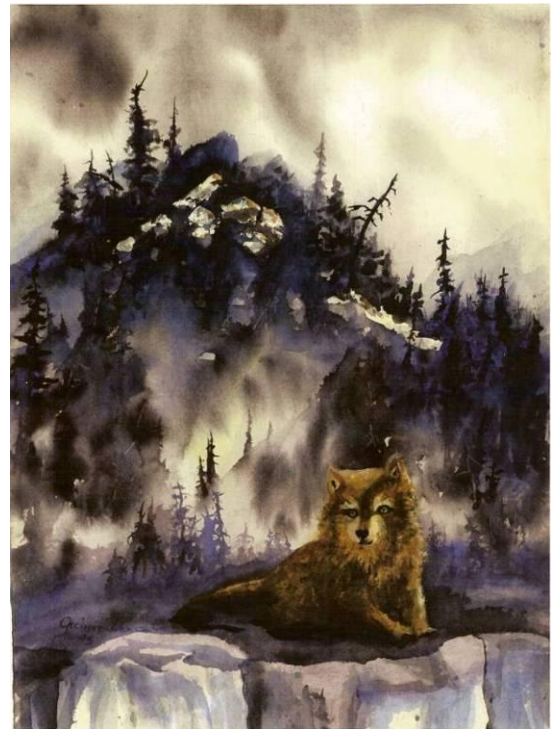
Joel: I don't know. Call it grace if you like. Anyway, the thing is, now I *am* interested. I love it! It's like I feel called to think about a worldview the way a musician feels called to make music—even though, by the way, music is very transitory. Each of us is called to manifest the Divine by participating in life in our own particular way. So that's what this is—the way I'm called to participate in life.

CCN: Can you give some concrete examples of how you propose to convey this new worldview to others? Do you have a plan, or are you taking this step by step to see what evolves?

Joel: (laughs) That's a pretty high-class problem at this point, since we don't yet have a well-formulated worldview to put out there. What we want to do initially is go to conferences, make presentations, and get feedback. Ultimately, Tom and I may collaborate on a book, or perhaps a series of books. First, however, we need to develop our ideas more fully and then see how they connect up into a coherent whole. After that we'll decide how best to communicate what we've got and, hopefully, get others interested in working on it as well.

CCN: You said in your talk that you would not be abandoning the Center, just changing your emphasis, and that you would continue the Sunday talks and leading the Fall retreat. I'm just checking to make sure I've got that straight and can put it in print.

Joel: Yes, I will continue giving Sunday talks, and I'll be leading the retreat next fall, but over time I expect to hand over more teaching responsibilities to others. I'm not getting any younger and this worldview work, which has been on the back burner for quite awhile, is demanding more and more of my attention. It's not something I really have a choice about.



Watercolor by Megan Greiner

Wolf . . .
Teacher,
Pathfinder . . .
Moon-dog to the soul,

The mountain's peak
Shows clearly
Out of the fog,
He could easily retrace
The well-worn path
Skyward, but waits,
Guiding our faltering
Earth-bound steps
As we, in our eagerness,
And our arrogance
And our ignorance
Fall
Again
And again
And again,

Wolf . . .
Teacher.
Pathfinder,
Sharing great Truths
You honor us, Joel.

—Megan Greiner

This year's Enlightenment Day Talk, *Enlightenment: a twenty-six year perspective*, is available at the Center library and [online](#). See the publications page insert for additional resources on science and mysticism and the Center's paradigm for a new worldview

LIBRARY CORNER

Library Hours

Tuesday Evenings 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

1571 Buck St., Eugene (see map, last page)

A Note from the Library Director: The following quotes come from books new to the Center's library. I hope you'll be able to visit the library soon to partake of these and many other new books. You might also enjoy the Center's Facebook page where quotes like these, quotes from the Center's teachers, and other items of interest to the CSS community are published regularly.

www.facebook.com/pages/Eugene-OR/Center-for-Sacred-Sciences/419000820312

I am of the nature to grow old. There is no way to escape growing old. I am of the nature to have ill health. There is no way to escape ill health. I am of the nature to die. There is no way to escape death. All that is dear to me and everyone I love are of the nature to change. There is no way to escape being...separated from them. I inherit the results of my actions of body, speech, and mind. My actions are my continuation.

The practice of mindful breathing can help you to look deeply into the nature and roots of your fear. Because of this, I recommend practicing the Five Remembrances as a breathing exercise:

Breathing in, I know I am of the nature to grow old. Breathing out, I know I cannot escape old age...

The World We Have: A Buddhist Approach to Peace and Ecology, by Thich Nhat Hahn, Parallax Press, 2008.

It is difficult for me to remember the old way of my life—to re-experience how it felt—yet I very much want to be able to do that, if I am to convey the nature of change. It's almost hard for me to quite believe I didn't always see things the way I do now. I have to work at the idea that most people see the world through radically different eyes—that they can little imagine there is any alternative way to perceive the life that “comes at them.”

I have this impulse to climb up onto a rooftop and shout to the echoing hills, to all who will hear, It's simple. Just do it. You have such power, such freedom. You little know how constantly and how deliberately you turn away from the very thing you most fundamentally want.

This is what hindsight does for you. It isn't very helpful.

And yet perhaps it is illuminating...

When Fear Falls Away: the Story of Sudden Awakening, by Jan Frazier, Weiser Books, 2007.

To say 'have no expectations' is already jumping the gun. Can there be awareness of expectation right now? Listening to its buzzing? Listen to that. See that. The fundamental changes that happen to us don't happen through intention or will power, but through simple awareness. It's almost like magic . . . if you're made truly aware and not just using the concept of awareness.

The Silent Question: Meditating in the Stillness of Not-Knowing, by Toni Packer, Shambhala, 2007.

My testimony is that life is against all dualism. Life is One. Therefore, a way of life that is worth living must be a way worthy of life itself. Nothing less than that can abide. Always, against all that fragments and shatters and against all things that separate and divide within and without, life labors to meld together into a single harmony. Therefore, failure may remain failure in the context of all our strivings, hatred may continue to be hatred in the social and political arena of the common life, tragedy may continue to yield its anguish and its pain, spreading havoc in the tight circle of our private lives, the dead weight of guilt may not shift its position to make life even for a brief moment more comfortable and endurable, for any of us—all this may be true. Nevertheless, in all these things there is a secret door which leads into the central place, where the Creator of life and the God of the human heart are one and the same. I take my stand for the future and for the generations who follow over the bridges we already have crossed. It is here that the meaning of the hunger of the heart is unified. The Head and the Heart at last inseparable; they are lost in wonder in the One."

Howard Thurman: Essential Writings, edited by Luther E. Smith, Jr., Orbis Books, 2006.

To love the other whatever the cost and lead the battle against the self.

In my chest the treasure of the just is buried. If there is enough for one let's share it, there is enough for all.

Sufi Rapper: The Spiritual Journey of Abd al Malik, by Abd al Malik, Inner Traditions, 2009

(Perhaps the most unusual book within the batch currently being prepared for circulation—Jennifer Knight)

In order to serve God, one must have access to the enjoyment of nature, so that one might sit and meditate in view of flower-decorated meadows, majestic mountains, flowing rivers, and so on. For all these are essential for the spiritual development of even the holiest of persons.

Rabbi Avraham ben Ha'Rambam in Ha'Maspik L'Avodat Hashem, quoted in **Daily Kabbalah: Wisdom from the Tree of Life** by Gershon Winkler, North Atlantic books, 2009.

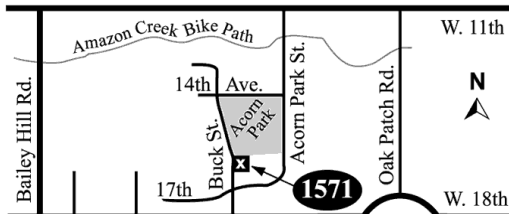


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MISSION AND PROGRAMS

The Center for Sacred Sciences is dedicated to the study, practice, and dissemination of the spiritual teachings of the mystics, saints, and sages of the major religious traditions. The Center endeavors to present these teachings in forms appropriate to our contemporary scientific culture. The Center also works to create and disseminate a sacred worldview that expresses the compatibility between universal mystical truths and the evidence of modern science.

Among the Center's ongoing events are Sunday public services with meditations and talks by the Center's spiritual director, monthly video presentations, and—for

committed spiritual seekers—a weekly practitioners' group and regular meditation retreats. The Center also maintains an extensive lending library of books, audios, videos, and periodicals covering spiritual, psychological, and scientific subjects. In addition, the Center provides a website containing teachings, information, and other resources related to the teachings of the world's mystics, the universality of mystical truth, and the relationship between science and mysticism. The Center publishes a newsletter containing community news, upcoming programs, book reviews, and other information and resources related to the Center's mission.

The Center for Sacred Sciences is a non-profit, tax-exempt church based in Eugene, Oregon, USA. We rely chiefly on volunteer labor to support our programs, and on public donations and membership pledges to meet our operating expenses. Our spiritual director gives his teachings freely as a labor of love and receives no financial compensation from the Center.

Center Community News is published three times a year by the Center for Sacred Sciences. Submissions, comments, and inquiries should be sent to:

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newsletter@centerforsacredsciences.org

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CSS CALENDAR

MAY 2010 – SEPTEMBER 2010

MAY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 Video* 11 am	3	4 Library 6:00–8:30	5 Practitioners 7:30
9 Talk 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	10	11 Library 6:00–8:30	12 Practitioners 7:30
16 Talk 11 am	17	18 Library 6:00–8:30	19 Practitioners 7:30
23 Talk 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	24	25 Library 6:00–8:30	26 Practitioners 7:30 (ALL)
30 Talk 11 am	31		

* JOSEPH CAMPBELL: The Message of Myth

In this video, the second of a six-part series called The Power of Myth, renowned scholar Joseph Campbell discusses the meaning of creation stories and the transcendence of opposites.

JUNE 2010

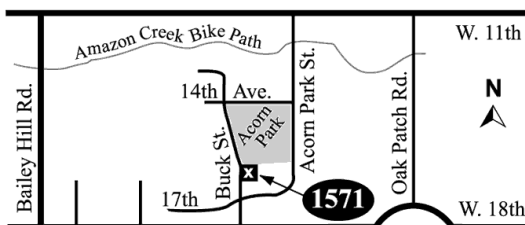
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1 CLOSED	2 Practitioners 7:30
6 Video* 11 am	7	8 CLOSED	9 Practitioners 7:30
13 Talk 11 am Library CLOSED	14	15 CLOSED	16 Practitioners 7:30
20 Talk 11 am	21	22 CLOSED	23 Practitioners 7:30
27 Talk 11 am Library CLOSED	28	29 CLOSED	30 Practitioners 7:30

* Merton: A Film Biography

A comprehensive documentary about Thomas Merton, the famous 20th century Christian mystic and monk who reached out to bridge the gap between Christianity and other faiths.

LIBRARY ADDRESS:

1571 BUCK ST., EUGENE, OREGON



PHONE: (541) 345-0102

JULY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 CLOSED	5	6 CLOSED	7 Practitioners 7:30
11 Video* 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	12	13 Library 6:00–8:30	14 Practitioners 7:30
18 Talk 11 am	19	20 Library 6:00–8:30	21 Practitioners 7:30
25 Talk 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	26	27 Library 6:00–8:30	28 Practitioners 7:30 (ALL)

* Thich Nhat Hanh: Peace Is Every Step

This wide-ranging documentary recounts the efforts of Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, to teach Buddhist methods of mindfulness and compassion in troubled regions around the world.

AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 Video* 11 am	2	3 Library 6:00–8:30	4 Practitioners 7:30
8 Enlightenment Day Talk 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	9	10 Library 6:00–8:30	11 Practitioners 7:30
15 CLOSED	16	17 CLOSED	18 CLOSED
22 CLOSED	23	24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED
29 CLOSED	30	31 CLOSED	

* Taoism: A Concise Introduction

This short documentary introduces us to one of the most ancient of humanity's great religious traditions, Chinese Taoism, with its subtle teachings of ying and yang, energy and balance, flow and harmony.

View the calendar on the web!

<http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/calendar.html>

SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 CLOSED
5 CLOSED	6	7 CLOSED	8 CLOSED
12 CLOSED	13	14 CLOSED	15 CLOSED
19 Talk 11 am	20	21 CLOSED	22 Practitioners 7:30
26 Talk 11 am Library 2-4:30 pm	27	28 Library 6:00–8:30	29 Practitioners 7:30

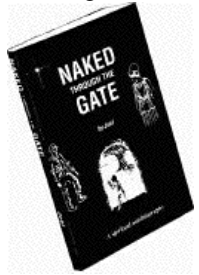
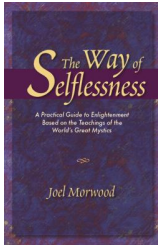
* NO VIDEO

Center Publications

The Way of Selflessness: A Practical Guide to Enlightenment Based on the Teachings of the World's Great Mystics

By Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences, 2009, Paperback, 364 pages, \$27.95 (or from www.Lulu.com for just \$18.00)

A distillation of Joel's teachings on the path of selflessness drawn from his extensive study of the world's mystical classics. Will help seekers in any (or no) tradition understand and take to heart the teachings of the mystics of the great traditions.



Naked Through the Gate: A Spiritual Autobiography

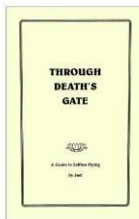
by Joel, Center for Sacred Sciences, 1985. Paperback, 262 pages, \$11.95

Joel's personal account of his remarkable spiritual path, ending with a Gnostic Awakening.

Through Death's Gate: A Guide to Selfless Dying

by Joel Morwood, Center for Sacred Sciences, 1996. Paperback, 83 pages, \$6.95

A guide to death and dying from a spiritual perspective, including teachings and practices from the world's great mystics.

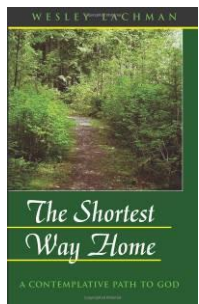


The above three books may be ordered at <http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/catalog.html>

Book Publications by Members

The Shortest Way Home: A Contemplative Path to God

by Wesley R. Lachman, O Street Publishing, 2008. Paperback, 136 pages, \$10.95



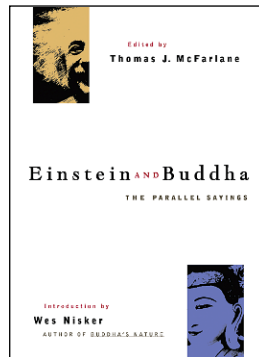
This book lays out the extraordinary spiritual discoveries that can be made by looking at ordinary experience rather than dogma or religious concepts. It is a logical, step-by-step presentation of the path of spiritual realization starting with dissatisfaction and ending with divine union. The chapters end with a *You find out* exercise so the reader can test what has been read against his or her own experience. Written simply and clearly, this short book assumes a minimum knowledge of Christian scriptures and story. Includes relevant quotes from the scriptures and from contemplatives new and old. **The Shortest Way Home** is an introduction to the contemplative or mystical path for those seeking a radically new and deeper way to God.

All books on this page may be ordered easily through Amazon.com (www.amazon.com)

Einstein and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings

by Thomas J. McFarlane,

Ulysses Press, 2002. Paperback, 176 pages, \$14.00



This remarkable book contains over 120 sayings from the founders of modern physics paired with parallel sayings from the seminal works of Buddhist, Hindu and Taoist contemplatives. *Einstein and Buddha* is a fascinating collection of quotes that challenges us to think deeper about the relationship between modern physics and mystical insight. Although these two ways of understanding and investigating reality have significant differences, the parallels suggest that they share a mysterious and profound connection.

New Recordings

<http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/catalog.html>

New CDs

Enlightenment: a twenty-six year perspective

Joel, 8/9/2009, 47 minutes

Sweet Little Babies

Todd Corbett, 4/26/2009, 58 minutes

Treasure Hunt for God

Fred Chambers, 5/17/2009, 35 minutes

Liberating Emotions Series (Set of Seven)

Seven Talks from the Fall 2009 Retreat

Spacious Awareness, Joel, 10/16/2009, 69 minutes

Understanding Emotions, Joel, 10/17/2009, 61 minutes

Desire and Aversions, Joel, 10/18/2009, 62 minutes

Pride and Envy, Joel, 10/19/2009, 60 minutes

Ignorance, Joel, 10/20/2009, 61 minutes

True Nature, Part 1, Joel, 10/21/2009, 62 minutes

True Nature, Part 2, Joel, 10/22/2009, 59 minutes

Liberating Emotions Series (above) is also available as an MP3 AUDIO SET

CSS resources on new worldview available at the Center library and in the online catalog:

DVD:

Universal Principles of Mysticism and the New Paradigm

Joel, 2005, 71 minutes

CDs:

What Are Sacred Sciences?, Joel, 10/27/02, 57 minutes, cd133

Logos and the New Worldview

Tom McFarlane, 6/22/03, 68 minutes, cd243 1833

Consciousness: Two Worldviews

Joel, 10/29/00, 65 minutes, cd132 1370

Quantum Mechanics and Consciousness

Joel, 1/26/97, 77 minutes, cd164 1070

Beyond Theories, Tom McFarlane, 1/11/04, 46 minutes, cd280

Articles:

Science and Mysticism in the 20th Century

by Joel, Summer-Fall 1999

<http://www.centerforsacredsciences.org/teachings/science.html>