



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSALIST TEMPLE OF DIVINE WISDOM
PRAYERS FOR PEACE PARK
29455 Pamoosa Lane, Valley Center, California 92082

– IN THE LIGHT OF THE CRYSTAL RAY –

Dear Friends –

Late Autumn 2005

With another turn of the seasons, the year draws quickly to a close... and we are given opportunity, once again, to reflect upon the cycle of life and our role within it ~ our accomplishments, experiences, goals and visions ~ both realized and those yet dormant or perhaps fallen by the wayside. On many levels, it is time to take stock of our lives... What have we garnered in the year of 2005?

Autumn marks the time of the Harvest. And although in our modern-day world, we may lose touch with a true sense of those cyclic rhythms that perpetuate life upon our Planet, they are all around and within us. Throughout the Ages, native peoples, who have lived close to the land, have by necessity and deep reverence, acknowledged the importance of each season, paying homage to their Creator for sustaining them through the cycle of life.

So it was when the Pilgrims arrived here in America back in 1621, after a long, grueling journey across the Atlantic Ocean, that the American Indians shared of their rituals and fellowship in honor of the Harvest. And to this day, we re-enact the heritage of that blessing.

So it is that we Essenes here in Prayers For Peace Park contemplate, with thanksgiving, the

rich bounty of blessings bestowed upon us... Such words may seem trite in a modern-day, harried World, but it *is* true for us! For, in fact, we do give thanks *daily*, through the ritual of our Prayer Mantra, for the privilege to be caretakers of this precious Retreat.

Though it requires a fair amount of our time and resources, we are constantly reminded of God's Essence and Presence within it. For Nature ~ as God's Creation ~ replete with all its lessons, is allowed to fully express here. From the Cycle of the Seasons to the Circle of Life; all takes place here in Prayers For Peace Park and the canyon that embraces it.

White Eagle Point and the Temple Site above it are lofty reminders that our altruistic goals are indeed worth striving for. The mighty oaks, which grace the valley below,

give testimony to the strength of our Teachings and the harmony that can be achieved through philanthropic endeavor. There's the nurturing, perennial creek that ripples into the Park from Deva Dell to join the main-stream coursings from Moosa Falls further up in the canyon. Together they sustain a promise of serenity, cleansing, and surcease to those who will trust in the flow of God's timing.



Esoteric Conference 2005:
A Constellation for Humanity
led by Astrologer, Jim Hennum

Rock outcroppings that punctuate the canyon's profile serve as stalwart witnesses to the Power of Faith ~ providing for, upholding, and sustaining the Will of God...

"Blessings" take many forms, of course, and this year has been replete with its challenges! Yet as successfully facing them, we have come through the year stronger, wiser, and more adept to face what lies ahead. Obstacles have become stepping stones, delays a gift of re-evaluation, and limited resources the impetus to stretch our creative aptitudes. Through it all, with expanded awareness, we have become more compassionate in our understanding of the fate of others and how we as instruments of God may best serve to off-set, to ameliorate, and to heal.

The Retreat and our Ministry offer surcease from the harried World. It is a sacred space for reconnection to Spirit and rejuvenation in the ambience of Nature's embrace. We do give thanks for the opportunity to so serve and the fulfillment of soul it brings...

During the last several months, we've been honored to host a number of events, including Constellation and Astrology Workshops, Tai Chi Classes, Solstice and Equinox Meditations, Deeksha Blessings, and our Annual Esoteric Conference.

This year's Conference "*Steps on the Bridge To Enlightenment; Trust the Divine Essence Within*" was especially blessed with a sense of unity and purpose for all who participated. We gathered as Light Workers in support of one another, sharing our various talents and techniques for accessing the Divine. Spiritual alliances were substantiated between us, and as so fortified, we now move resolutely forward in our respective contributions to the Divine Plan unfolding.

So, back to thoughts of thanksgiving... Unfortunately, in our modern-day World, thanksgiving observances are cut short and circumvented by a "day after" merchant-driven frenzy of Holiday gift-buying, complete with a plethora of Santa's at every corner and shopping mall, sure to lose their magical sparkle by Season's end.

Fortunately, we in the Order Of The Invincible Light, along with our spiritual family, have been able to sidestep the truncating of Thanksgiving by extending the significance and sentiments of it over several days and into the

Advent Season to follow. We start with our Thanksgiving Pot o' Gold the weekend before Thanksgiving Day. The time of feasting, fellowship and uplifting programming all serve to remind us of the importance of gratitude and counting our blessings. Then, we participate with several other area churches in a Community Thanksgiving Service, sponsored by the Escondido Clergy Association. The service is truly a highlight, bringing together priests, pastors, and ministers, along with a combined choir to create a message and sound that no individual denomination could ever hope to duplicate. Thanksgiving Day itself is spent with family and friends. And then, we commit to infuse the Holiday Season with Gratitude, Love and the generous sentiments they naturally beget..

With gratitude, let us consciously embrace Advent ~ the time of preparation ~ as an opportunity to resolve our personal goals for the year and bring them into final, expressive being. Let us share the fruits of our labor with love and compassion. Then, let us go within to till the fields of our inner-most being that we may be ready to receive the promise of our Lord Emmanuel come Christmas morn.

-Bp. Terre Lien



Esoteric Conference 2005:
Tai Chi with Pamela Allen

THE SOUND OF FALL

This time of the year asks for us to think about what we have and what we are grateful for. I am thankful for music. It can always bring out your emotions, and certain ones, depending on the style. Music can help relax, and help you notice little things in your surroundings, that you might not have noticed before. Music is also a great communicator, and can be found expressed through every culture. Therefore, you can always have something to share. When you create music, you are communicating and expressing emotions. It can help you release pent up feelings and just lighten your load. For example, when the Crystal Singing Bowls are played in Church, it helps me to relax and open up. It enables my subconscious to clear me out, without thinking. -Jason Crandall

THANKSGIVING

"I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thanksgiving is important to me because it is a time to open our hearts and share with others. We are able to get together with friends and family that we may not have had the chance to interact with for a while. Long ago, this time was set aside to give thanks for everything that we had worked so hard for. Let us carry on this tradition by giving thanks for the time that we can share with each other.

We can enjoy the smells and a warm sense of serenity that can wrap us into a dream. The perfect picture is easily painted in my mind when Fall arrives and the trees start turning colors. The glorious golden sun shines through to warm everything. People laugh at jokes that might not be that funny. Of course, there is a glazed turkey right from the oven with cranberry sauce, never forgetting the mashed potatoes and carrots. The colors that Thanksgiving brings echo in many different forms, such as food, the trees, our clothes, and the sunsets. All of these make me thankful for everything the God has created for us to enjoy. Let us fill our hearts with love and gratitude, and share it with others.

-Christine Crandall



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Dec. 17..... **CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** The Crystal Ray Choraliers will join Santa on an all-day excursion to bring holiday cheer to friends and shut-ins.
- Dec. 18..... **DEEKSHA BLESSING FOR CHILDREN:** Toddlers to teenagers are invited to an afternoon of Deeksha Blessing (Energy Transfer) facilitated by Ravi Krishnamurthy and his wife Monica, of the Oneness University in India. There will be a discussion session for the older children following the blessing ceremony. \$15, 1:30 - 3:30pm, Prayers For Peace Park. Call (408) 546-5468 or (760) 749-9344 for further info.
- Dec. 21..... **PEACE THE 21ST MEDITATION:** A Winter Solstice meditation for global peace will be held in The Chapel Of The Crystal Ray. Potluck at 5:30pm. Please arrive by 6:45pm for the group meditation/visualization, which will begin promptly at 7:00pm. Contact Bp. Terre at (760) 749-3489 or Msgr. Mary at (760) 749-1361 for more information.
- Dec. 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE:** Join us in worship and sacred caroling by candlelight in the Chapel Of The Crystal Ray, 8:00pm. Refreshments to follow 'round a Yule Log in the Hearthside.
- Feb. 5..... **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**
- Feb. 12..... **HEARTS A' GLOW Pot O' Gold:** Come join us for our annual Talent Show. Details in our next Newsletter.

Look for our next Newsletter with events to be scheduled early in the New Year: **Mystery Of Life Seminar, Flower Essence Workshop, New Moon Meditations and more!**

- Project Days** Dec. 3 & 10, Jan. 7 & 21, Feb. 11... It is important to us to complete the tasks at hand, keeping up with maintenance duties and improvements for the Grounds. Through loving, hard-working hands and a variety of talents, we shall be "do-ers!" All willing helpers are appreciatively welcome!
- Hobby Lobby** **Dates to be announced.....**The Hobby Lobby team will be getting together to make items for sale at upcoming Pot O' Golds. If you would be interested in supporting or being a part of this group, contact Bp. Elizabeth at (760)749-9344. Come share your light and help us with your hands and ideas!
- Every Sunday** **SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins at 9:30am in the Hearthside. Visitors are welcome! (No sessions on Pot o'Gold Sundays) **DEVOTIONAL SERVICES** in The Chapel Of The Crystal Ray begin at 11:00am. All are encouraged to come early for periods of quiet meditational in-going. Feel free to bring along a picnic lunch to enjoy afterwards in fellowship or in solitude on the Chapel Grounds...
- First Sunday each month** **A HEALING SERVICE** evoking the Presence of Inner Peace Assistance from the Ascended Masters and Angels of Light directly follows the regular Eucharistic Service. Anyone feeling a need is welcome to participate.



"First, I am a human being ~ that I may be a human doing"

- Shaida Johnston



Sunday School Members Hang Peace Prayer Flags
at the Temple Site

PEACE PRAYER FLAGS

Peace is a beautiful, comforting sounding word. Even writing the word peace can instill feelings and emotions of contentment, Spiritual Light, Spiritual Love, and Divine Trust. The lovely white dove, often portrayed with the olive branch within its beak, kabalistically symbolizes peace. Carrying an olive branch symbolizes an offering of peace.

As noted in the Encyclopedia, history reveals that Peace Prayer Flags are first known to have been created in the land of Tibet in the year 1042. These Tibetan Prayer Flags are thought to promote good fortune and to dispel danger. They are, translated in English, called "Wind-horses." These horses ride on the breeze. They carry prayers to the universe to benefit all sentient beings.

On September 21st 2002, during a revival of our annual Esoteric Conference, Donna-Marie Terranova facilitated

a project for each attendee to create a Peace Prayer Flag. We hung them from an oak branch in Prayers For Peace Park.

As part of this year's Conference, new Prayer Flags were created. Each of the participants fashioned a Prayer Flag, using colored markers, to depict personal expressions of righteous intent toward manifesting Peace. The Prayer Flags now grace the Temple Site atop Mystery Mountain after a ceremony sponsored by the Light Of The Rainbow Sunday School.

Peace Prayer Flags are among God's Blessings. May peace prevail, wherever they may be hung.

- Msgr. Mary Lien

A NEW HOME IN PRAYERS FOR PEACE PARK

I have been a part of the spiritual community at Prayers For Peace Park since May of 2001. What a wonderful time I have had attending Sunday services, Peace the 21st Meditations, our conferences and classes.

At the conference, the 32 year anniversary of the temple was celebrated. What an accomplishment! So many years of dedication and commitment have led up to the days we are now experiencing. Now is the time to enjoy the fruits of our labor and to hope and plan for the days ahead.

Soon, my son Matt and I will be full time residents of Cloud Nine, the apartment above the gift shop. I anticipate a wonderful season of deepening friendships and a greater understanding of the why of what we do at the temple. I embrace the universalist perspective of honoring other teachings and faiths. I have tripped over some of the wordiness in the Mystery of Life, but trust that time and continued study will help my understanding of the teachings. We will again set some time aside to study the teachings, something I desire.

My personal hopes and goals are to add to the trail system and explore the 80 acres under our care. I have a desire to gather rocks and make a medicine wheel, a place of reflection and healing. Last Spring we made flower essences and will do that again in the new year. So much we can do together and so much to learn from each other. Let's play while we do the work that will keep this ministry going. We need you.

This is a place for your light to shine and the needs of your soul to be met. I know it has been that for me. Sending love to you, our extended family and hopes that you'll find your way to Prayers for Peace park one of these days soon. I close with words from Ghandi, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Peace.

-Jennifer LaVine



THE ART OF BEING

We all have different ways to help us adhere to spirituality. It may be serene music or uplifting works of art. It may be the way we feel when we wear a certain color or don a special ring. It might be going to church or special meditations, burning candles or incense, it may even be a workout at the gym ~ the way is not as important as the result. We need to find the ways that are meaningful to us, not just going through the motions, but truly getting connected and closer to God.

Many critics complain that ritual, especially in the church, is empty and has no meaning. The emotional significance behind patterns of prayers and behaviors has been lost. But why? Are we doing too many things, preoccupied with what comes next? Have priests and pastors learned to guard their infusion of emotions into their expression lest they be accused of misconduct? Has the emphasis on money and growth superseded the time necessary to learn the subtleties of ritualistic observance? Are we seeking God, asking and listening and desiring a meaningful experience?

Essenes have long utilized and appreciated the importance of ritual. We celebrate a liturgical form of worship, availing ourselves of songs, gestures, prayers and inspirational words to help us rise in consciousness and commune with the Ascended of Heaven. Every step we take, even walking up the steep walkway from the Park to the Chapel and Hearthside, is done with mindful consideration to rise in consciousness. Bells help us focus, prayers help us let go of that which distracts us. Beauty surrounds us. Just as there is a saying, “you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make him drink,” the ritualistic observance you seek is only as meaningful as the heart and mind you put into it. Trust that there is meaning beyond the obvi-

ous. Ponder it, ask about it. Let yourself be a child full of questions and wondering at the magnificence of a God-filled church. Increase your connectedness with God. *You* must want, *you* must open to it. The sacredness will never penetrate a cynical heart.

The Gospel of Matthew 11:28 offers: “Come to me, all you who labor and carry burdens, and I will give you rest.” If we do all that we do, with a connectedness to God Above, we will find a sense of peace and necessary strength to help us keep on keeping on. To be in accord with God, through any unpleasant situation, will help us to bear all things and rejoice in others. Our conduct and the state of our heart will be the proof of faith well lived.

Each Sunday, here in the Chapel of The Crystal Ray, our rituals and heartfelt intent help to build the Eucharistic Edifice. Ethereal columns and spires are erected through our spiritual intent and connectedness, with the grand gloriola dome expanding as we stand to sing “Glory be to God on High.” Twinkling, scintillating, this etheric structure will last for hours on the Inner Planes, sustaining appreciation, love and joy, enhancing the over-all vibrations of the surrounding area.

Our connectedness with God, our inner peace, is a process. Continued dedication and ritualistic adherence to our devotion to God becomes a way of life, a living faith. “...The more you who are scion of light competently project from a purer proximity to your innermost Christ-conscious spiritual promptings, the more brilliantly you are enabled to soul satisfyingly express the light of your God-ly Potentials.” [THE MYSTERY OF LIFE, pg. 20] Peace be with you, and may you be peace through your connectedness with God All Good.

-Bp. Elizabeth Crandall



“A priesthood represents a Religious Order. Therefore an understanding of what constitutes ‘A Religious Order’ as such, should increase one’s awareness of the significance of its environmental impact for a community, Regional, National and International level of consciousness as respects a cognizance of God All-Good. For this will become evident through an overall attitude in areas reflective of it.

Being reflective of an attitude indicative of a deep and abiding love for God, a Highly Dedicated Priesthood can be understood to function as a co-ordinated body of individuals committedly given to God through a desire to serve for the increasing appreciation of all which in Spirit and in Truth, is recognizable *as* God.

And as all true Essenes know, the word ‘God’ means *All Good*.”

- Archbishop Elizabeth Clark,
from the manuscript
AS CLARION CALLED

THE CREED of THE ORDER OF THE INVINCIBLE LIGHT

We believe in God as The Eternal, Creative Source of the Spiritual Force of All Good, and that the Spiritual Essence of God’s Infinite Power is reflective through all goodness wherever present.

We believe Spirit involitionally seeds as primordial soul-life to proceed evolutionally to and through the human state of being.

And we rejoice in the knowledge that upon the ful-fulfillment of their outer times of carnate expression, souls of the essence of Eternal life, attain Ascension.

We believe in an Etheric Realm of Ascended Beings of which The Christ is Divine Hierarch. And it is The Christ whom we venerate as Head of The Church.

Most joyously we believe in the God-given right to seek cognizant Communion with Ascended Masters.

And as aware God’s Light is Universal, we know it cannot be franchizingly claimed as denominational. Therefore our Endeavor is directed toward Religious unification through The Aquarian Dispensation’s Crystal Revelation, in which we whole-heartedly believe. Amen.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

For untold hundreds of years, the Season of Thanksgiving was annually observed by the peoples who later became known as the North and South American Indians. It was a time to respectfully reflect on the Providential Blessing made possible through the bounties of Mother Nature and Father God ~ The Radiant Sun. And it was a time for the appreciative sharing of one’s bounties with others.

Hannukha, as long observed by the Hebrews as the annual beginning of The Festival of Lights, closely approximates The High Holiday Season of Thanksgiving and the calendared Time of Advent. It is marked in *both* cultures as a *Period set aside* for honest self-examination in the interest to become more selfless and considerate of others through improving one’s character. And as in each Hebrew home the eight traditional candles of the Menora are lighted at the beginning of Hannukah, it is for recalling of the bravery of the Macabees through their stalwart stand against the Syrian and Greek invaders at the time of Apollonius.

The Moslems also observe a Festival of Lights, but their celebration is closer to Oniferee, or our Easter-tide. It too, is elicitly expressive of much of religious significance reflective of profound respect for “Allah” *God All-Good*, as made understandable to them by the Prophet Mohammed.

How glorious is the Beneficence of Light as Light; of Light in its clearest registration of Truth; of Light in its refractive dispersion of Spectrumnal Grace, and of all which becomes imbuingly effective of goodness by way *of* it!

With this in mind, as we festively light up our homes to an irradiantly scintillating reminder of what The Christmas Season means to us all, and of how perfectly *The Christ* personifies *All Good* in Spirit and in Truth ~ let us pray that through each and every day of this Advent Period and the coming year, we may lay more and more treasures by in Heaven.

-Archbishop Elizabeth Clark,
from her Sermon “*Treasure Laid By In Heaven*.”