



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 –

Spring 2004

We greet you with hope, anticipation, and joy as the Promise of Spring bursts forth all around us. Though the Winter rains have fallen short of expectation this year, Nature valiantly persists in its myriad expressions of birth and renewal. We are grateful and so privileged to bear witness to the cycle of the Seasons in a canyon setting left relatively undisturbed by man's relentless development upon the Southern California Landscape. Prayers For Peace Park is truly a surcease from a harried world...

Which is not to say that we in the Priesthood merely lounge around in meditative bliss! Those of you who know us well will undoubtedly attest that we, as true Essenes, are ever *do-er's* of the Word. For our Order, the Order Of The Invincible Light, is one of volunteer service. No one draws a salary or stipend from the Temple's coffers. As an effective team, we attend to operations of the organization, ongoing maintenance and improvements of the grounds & facilities, furtherance of the Teachings given unto us, and participating in outreach programming of ecumenical and philanthropic portent. All of this is done as integrated with a healthy family life, career, and other social prerogatives. The trick for we Essenes is to live a genuinely whole-

some, integrated life ~ not one of hypocrisy or double-standards. Though we may not wear our clerical garbs on a day-to-day basis, we are still quietly and devotedly living and expressing as Essenes. The word *Essene* means "purity of essence." And all true Essenes will ever strive to be soulically clean so as to express their Godhead, or "good intents" ~ *all of the time*, not just on Sunday mornings or occasion of Prayer.

Each year, the 40-day period preceding Easter known as Lent provides an opportunity to give added focus to our soul-purifying intentions. Traditionally, observers will "give up" something near and dear to them as a symbolic sacrifice in respect for Jesus' prayer and fasting when he wandered in the Wilderness preparing for his Ministry. For we Essenes, Lent is taken to a deeper level, whereby we strive to permanently root out of our lower natures that which hinders us from being the best we can be in our service to the Christ and as representatives of Him. When we are successful, we indeed prepare ourselves for a resurrection of the Christ-potential within and to thereby consciously receive the Redeeming Light of the living, Ascended Lord Christ Emmanuel.



Calla Lilies out at Deva Dell
rise up to the Glory of Spring

“Giving up” and “letting go” often go hand-in-hand. And in a modern-day World of ever increasing information overload, vying interests and priorities, and the demand of the Universe for us to move forward into the New Age, we must come to terms with our own lives and resolutely *give up* or *let go* of that which no longer works or serves to that end. A key concept to embrace in this endeavor is to *simplify*. For how can we possibly live in a state of purity and clear intent when we are distracted, bogged down, or torn asunder by a myriad of dysfunctional, worn-out habit patterns? How can we be open to receive the New Age and its promise of soulful Freedom and Enlightenment if we are clogged by the dusty details of a cluttered life? (As a long-time “clutter-meleon,” such words are expressed for this writer’s sake as much as anyone else who might benefit from them.) Consider the beautiful simplicity of the calla lily. Would its clear message of “purity” come forth in a garish, competing display of kaleidoscopic colors and textures? All has its place in the Universe, yes, but not all must be at place in our individual lives! Contemplate upon that which is truly important to you and follow that beam of expressive

being. Be sure to take note of Newsletter contributions from our younger generation ~ Jason Crandall, Christine Crandall, and Sarah Simpson. It is heartening to see the spiritual awareness unfolding and maturing in each one of them!

This year of 2004 is indeed unfolding into a busy one filled with shifts, adjustments, and changes. Some we look forward to; others may be of necessity due to circumstances beyond our control or a conscious determination to rectify unwholesome conditions. With regard to the Retreat, we are happy to announce that contributions to our “Repair Fund” are now being put to use as we pursue re-roofing the Chapel and Hearthside. We’ve been coping for a number of years with leaking problems and an impending threat of wildfire due to the wooden shake construction. A decision was made by the Board to switch to an asphalt-type shingle so as to be cost effective, while correcting the leaks and maintaining a compatible look with the Alpine architecture. We procured a local roofing contractor, Hector Melendez, who with his crew are working miracles for Easter morning! Unfortunately, be-



Altar Space at the Temple Site atop Mystery Mountain

cause of the large surface area entailed with the roofing project, we will need to “phase” construction to allow for further fund-raising, as the whole project will exceed \$20,000. So please do keep us in mind when considering tax-deductible donations!

One of our other Retreat improvements involves a replacement of the picnic tables on the Chapel patio. Reverend Wes found a product that serves as the upright brackets for supporting the wooden bench and table boards. What’s unique about the brackets is that they can be converted to serve as benches with backs or placed together as benches with table tops. This ingenious invention will give us the versatility of providing pew-like seating for outdoor ceremonies as well as traditional picnic tables for our Pot of Gold buffets. Another improvement was the recent purchase of some cast-aluminum park benches for the Temple Site. Positioned around a central altar, the benches now serve as an outer, manifest anchor of the Chapel space atop Mystery Mountain, where the future Temple in etherea awaits! A special thanks to Jean Treash, and Jol & Eleanor Frenzel for their contributions towards this acquisition.

Shifting to outreach programming, we’re happy to announce that our next Newsletter will be available “on-line”! Long-time friend and supporter, Laurel Barbour, is designing a web page for us, so we can join the “Web” and become a part of the Internet. Plans are also in the works for our annual Esoteric Conference in the Fall. A committee will begin meeting soon after Easter. Please let us know if you would care to participate on the committee or have suggestions for speakers and other presentations. In the works are Buddhism, Astrology, Constellations, Aura Cleansing, and more...

We invite you to join with us on Easter Morn. Our sunrise service atop the Mountain will have added significance with the altar space created there, and our Devotional Service to follow in the Chapel below with inspired programming, fellowship, and feasting promise to make it a glorious day. Come join us as we celebrate Jesus’ triumph over death, his Ascension as the Christ, and our own triumphs on the Path... And may God’s Light and Love be ever with you.... Namasté

-Bp. Terre Lien

The Colors of love

What are the colors of love? Red, Pink, and White? What do they mean? Here are some of my definitions:

REd - The soft petals on a red rose. The red stripes on our nation’s flag symbolizing our nation’s bond through love and honor. A sunrise and sunset. Rosy cheeks. The love that we share for or with someone else. The red color of the rainbow.

Pink - The soft petals on a pink rose. The pink clouds on a sunrise or sunset. The pink tint in a sunrise and sunset.

White - The pureness in each one of us here today and those not with us. The white stars and stripes on our nation’s flag symbolizing the peace of our nation standing together.

You may have other definitions of the colors red, pink, and white. Think about them - and what do they mean to you?

-Sarah Simpson, age 12

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 5..... THE THREE MEDITATION FESTIVALS OF SPRING: Sponsored by the San Diego
 May 4 Intergroup Meditation Committee to assist humanity in reproducing the inner Kingdom of the
 June 2 Soul upon the plane of Earth. 7:30pm at Friends Meeting House, 7380 Eads Ave., La Jolla.
 Call (858) 451-1509 or (760) 749-3489 for further information.
- April 9..... COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: Sponsored by the Escondido Clergy Associa-
 tion. 12:00 noon at the Congregational Church of Escondido, 1800 N. Broadway, Escondido.
 (760) 745-3320
- April 11..... EASTER: Come raise your hearts and minds with us as we celebrate the Ascensional Glory of
 The Living Christ! This special day will begin with a sunrise pilgrimage to the top of Mystery
 Mountain for a rededication of the Temple Site. We'll rendezvous in Prayers For Peace Park at
 5:30am to caravan to the top of the mountain. After the Ceremony, a continental breakfast
 will be served in the Hearthside. A High Mass will follow in the Chapel at 11:00am, with the
 Pot o' Gold starting at 1:00pm. Meal tickets are \$6.50 adults, \$3.00 children 3-12, and
 toddlers under 3 free. We'll have an Easter Egg hunt between the service and the buffet, and
 there will be plenty of time to browse in The Rainbow's End Gift Shop. Join us for as much of
 the day as you can!
- April 18..... JIN SHIN JYUTSU: An afternoon of "hands-on" participation in the techniques of this
 ancient healing art. Participants will learn the locations of specific "keys" on their own bodies
 so as to perform self-help transformation. Workshop will follow our regular devotional Service
 & potluck lunch. Call practitioner Jean Treash at (619) 291-8245 for further information.
- June 6..... BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
- June 21..... PEACE THE 21ST MEDITATION: A Summer Solstice meditation for global peace will be
 held 'round a camp fire, here at Prayers For Peace Park. Pot luck at 5:30pm. Please arrive by
 6:45pm for the group meditation/visualization, which will begin promptly at 7:00pm.
- June 27..... INDEPENDENCE DAY Pot O' Gold: Watch for information in our next Newsletter.

- Project Days Apr. 10, May 1 & 15, June 19 & 26, July 10 & 24... 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 A HEALING SERVICE evoking the Presence of Inner Peace Assistance from the Ascended
 each month Masters and Angels of Light directly follows the regular Eucharistic Service. Anyone feeling a
 need is welcome to participate.
- Food Basket A receptacle for donations to Interfaith Community Services' Crisis Center is available here for
 all who would care to contribute.

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



Cycles are patterns or methods in God's evolving Creations. Our planet experiences seasonal cycles. Each season, literally and symbolically, initiates a renewed focus in life's progressions. We are now in the season of Spring. Spring is an Anglo-Saxon word that means "rising." Winter's repose of inner strengthening gives rise to growth and renewal. Once again we see in nature new growth. We smell fragrance from opening flowers. We hear joyous birds chirping. All these can inspire increased desires for us to "blossom" and reawaken our inner, spiritual light-love energies.

During quiet time, in taking deep breaths, with the awareness of infilling our emotional, mental, and physical beings with God's Breath of Life, His Energy of Light and Love create a rhythmic alignment patterned to receive, then reflect God's Essence.

Expressions through music likewise create rhythmic alignment that inspire the reception and reflection of Goodness. Music is one of the oldest and most important artforms. It is all around us. It can harmoniously unite us.

Our Temple's choral group, The Crystal Ray Choraliers, recently added to our repertoire a medley from the musical "Godspell." Our hearts rise with love and anticipation as we give voice to the Christian responsibilities invoked by the words.

When Jesus entered into Jerusalem, crowds of people waved palm fronds, kabalistic symbols of tribute. *"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."* Each one of us can awaken our inner Christ consciousness to Glorify and to give tribute to God. *"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."* In glorifying God, we reflect His Will of Light-Love Energy thus helping to create *"the Beautiful City of Humanity."*

-Msgr. Mary Lien



"Prepare ye the way of the Lord..." Be ready for anything that comes. Have love for The Christ in your heart.

"You are the light of the world..." Be bright and unique, one of a kind, a life uncommon.

"Day by day..." Take everything one step at a time. Set an example and watch what we do. All our actions should let our inner light shine as we prepare the way of the Lord.

-Christine Crandall, age 13



"Oh, dear lord, three things I pray: To see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, follow Thee more nearly..." Oh, Lord, I want to be more like you. I want to know and love you to the greatest extent. I want to follow in your footsteps so that my example can help prepare the way for you.

-Jason Crandall, age 15



A WALK IN CONTEMPLATION

In this fast paced world we live in, the ability to be renewed and refreshed can seem foreign or unachievable. Who has time to take a breath, let alone pause or take a break? There's too much to do!

In his letter to the Church at Philippi, Paul tells us that during his spiritual journey he has experienced almost everything. He has been rich/poor, hungry/full, afraid/bold. As Saul of Tarsus, he had been one the most fervent persecutors of the Christians, and now he was Christianity's greatest evangelist. Paul had learned that he could do, live, and endure any circumstance "through Christ who strengthens me." Paul's message to us is simple, "Look at where I came from and what I have come through. If I can do it, anyone can. I want to let you in on a secret; you never have to do it alone. By myself I was nothing; with Christ I am invincible. You can do it too."

God knows our wants, needs, and desires before we even do. He knows our strengths and weaknesses; our every thought, feeling, and intent. When we confess our sin there isn't anything not known; rather it is self-acknowledgment and ownership of our shortcomings that begins the process of forgiveness and renewal.

We are encouraged to think about what is good, pure, and lovely. Not that these are all we should consider, but they are the things that can refresh and renew us. We don't need to live with rose-colored glasses on. It's unavoidable to spend some time dwelling on negative things in the world and in our lives, but too much focus on those aspects empowers them. Instead we should empower the things are good and fruitful, so that they in turn can renew and empower us.

In reading John's story of the loaves and fishes, we find that Jesus was concerned not only with food for the body, but for the soul as well. In blessing and dividing the

loaves and fishes, we see that knowledge and wisdom are meant to be shared with those who are hungry for it. In blessing and giving, the giver receives and is blessed.

Crumbs were gathered up, and nothing was left for waste, for more was available than could be consumed at one time. Nothing of Truth is ever wasted, but we may only be able to digest a little at a time. We will never know all things. Creation is immense and our ability to comprehend the infinite is limited, our mental and emotional vocabulary too narrow. Truth will always be there when we are ready for more. In a way, being fed by the Spirit is like eating Chinese food, you will fill up quickly and are satisfied, but an hour later you are hungry for more. This cycle of fulfillment and hunger provides us with a spiritual drive, an ache to be filled, so that at some point we too will be humbled like the psalmist and cry out, "Abba, Father."

The recognition that there is something out there that is greater than us, that there is a Power, a Presence, a Knowledge, a Love that exceeds our highest expectations and dreams, is a source of strength and renewal. No matter how strong or important we think we are, isn't it reassuring to know that we are not the ultimate authority?

We are imperfect people in an imperfect world. Ultimately, there is someone else in charge. There is someone to look up to, to seek guidance from, and to pray to. How empty would the vastness of creation feel if that were not so? We can be apart, yet are never alone. During his 40 days of solitude in the desert, Jesus was never truly alone, for he lived in the presence of the Father, and was refreshed and renewed. This too has been promised to us. If we live in the presence of the Father, he will always be there, ready to refresh and renew our spirit, during this season, and always.

-Rev. Wes Simpson



THE ART OF BEING

Spring is here, and we welcome longer days, more Light, and the fulfilled promise of Nature in bloom. Frogs sound from the creek, bees hum in the trees, and wisteria blossoms cascade about the Sanctuary windows of the Chapel of The Crystal Ray. Appreciating this harmony fills our hearts with joy and gratitude for the very Goodness God Is. Lent has been an especially focused period this year, with concerted efforts to follow through on our commitments to overcome aspects of ugliness within our Beings. Essenes strive to give up and sacrifice something unbecoming in order to better serve and reflect The Will Of God. Unique as we all are, our goals will vary. The important thing is to be successful and able to rejoice with the Lord Christ come Easter Morn.

In the book of Romans Chapter 12, the Apostle Paul encourages us “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” This renewal and transformation will come through practiced alignment with Christ-consciousness. As we use prayer and meditation to rise in consciousness, clearing away stress, distractions and a lack of balance, we will be refreshed and prepared to follow the path of righteousness. Renewal and transformation are energized by each successful soul goal, each time we say “no” to our addictions, each time we stay aligned with the power of All Good.

Every Sunday we offer the Prayer Of The Sacred Flame during our Eucharistic Service. We pray, “O Divine, All-Gracious Redeemer, through the humility of sincere compunction for our untoward waywardness, we reach toward Thee in purifying aspiration. May

the sacred flame of sublimation enkindle within our hearts the burning desire to dedicatedly sacrifice that which is of beastliness within our lower natures. ...May we grow in grace as we pay our karmic debts, and be renewed through the power of our minds to align with the Holy Spirit.”

The purpose of our life on earth is to learn and soulfully grow, to create goodness, yet how often are we responsible for hurting someone, lashing out in anger, deceiving, belittling, cheating -and as we betray each other, we also betray their monadic spark of goodness within, we betray God. Our defense reactions, which protect our weaknesses, cloud our ability to communicate. Defense reactions, guarding our most vulnerable truths, cloud our ability to perceive with clarity. They cloud our ability to project with clarity. They cloud our ability to proceed with clarity. They take away from the pure simplicity of being a child of God.

So why not trust in God, and let go of some of our hindrances? Truth is good. No more pretending, no more secrets -it is time to be who we really are, and openly and honestly work toward who we long to be.

Anyone who has seen the Chapel in the last two weeks can't miss the power of transformation! We have almost completed Phase 1 of the re-roofing project. For years we have wanted to re-roof the church buildings, but we didn't have enough money, or we didn't want to change the look of the shingles, -yet to see the progress thus far, it is so right! Clean, refreshed, organized, and far more practical for southern California where fire is such a hazard. We were uneasy about the structural integrity and what might be found under the old shingles,



Our “Repair Fund” at work:
Re-roofing the Chapel



“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 coordinated 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-fillment 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.



[cont. from pg. 7] and we are pleased to report that everything uncovered thus far has been sound.

Our roof can be a metaphor for us. Where the high pitch of the roof and the steeple represent our aspirations pointedly reaching to God Above, we should not hesitate to get rid of dead wood and clean up our ways. Where the steeple had not weathered well and deteriorated due to constructional flaws, it can be corrected and held together the proper way for lasting stability. Although we do not have enough money raised for the entire re-roofing project, we have found a contractor who will do the job in phases allowing us to raise funds in between. We made the decision to correct a worsening situation

and things fell into place. The same can be with our personal desires to transform. When a change is needed and the decisions made to progress, things will fall into place. The right choice, no matter how difficult, will leave your heart calm. A child of God will never lose their inherent source of goodness. We can correct, transform and renew.

What a glorious reason to rejoice! With hope, faith and The Christ’s Forgiving and Redeeming Light, we will evolve in good grace. Join us on Easter Sunday and see not only our fantastic new roof, but see into our souls as well, and know our love for God and All Goodness is eternal.

-Bp. Elizabeth Crandall