



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 2006

Spring is here upon us in Prayers For Peace Park, and what a glorious time of year it is! Delayed Winter rains have finally arrived to transform the cold, parched land into a verdant wonderland of surgent renewal and growth.

With the coming of Spring has come an attendant urge to purge ~ to clear out the accumulated clutter of our faded pasts, lay store the blankets of Winter's repose ~ and in turn, bring out a sense of sparkle in our environments as we clean and open up to the growing radiance of the Sun. Spring is a time of new beginnings. Inaugurated at the Vernal Equinox on March 20th of each year by the Sun's entrance into the Astrological sign of Aries, Spring is indeed the beginning of the "new year" from Nature's perspective. And so it is in our lives as we are able to align with the Universal Energies that sustain life upon this Planet.

Leading up to the Vernal Equinox and culminating on Easter Sunday is a 40 day period known as Lent, so called from the lengthening of days associated with Spring. Each year Lent provides an opportunity to give added focus to our soul-purifying intentions. Traditionally, observers will "give up" some-

thing 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 and detaching from the World. 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. 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.

This year, we entered into Lent with Mercury retrograde in the sign of Pisces. Though we often dread the thought of Mercury going retrograde ~ with the attendant delays, communication snafus, and mechanical breakdowns it

portends ~ it is also a very positive time for reflection ~ for reviewing our commitments, fine-tuning projects in motion, and considering options for the future. Mercury retrograde in Pisces is particularly conducive to realizations and understanding brought forth through flashes of intuition and experiences of direct "knowing." As such, this year's



Blessing Of The Crops Ceremony
atop Mystery Mountain

Lenten season has been particularly meaningful for those who've tuned in with soulful contemplation. There was a marked shift of energy as the Sun entered impulsive Aries with the Vernal Equinox followed by Mercury going direct a few days later and moving into Aquarius. These transitions were punctuated by a solar eclipse on March 29th, initiating the potential of sudden changes or breakthroughs of realization. Whether consciously attuned to these Cosmic forces or not, most of us have since been distinctly motivated to Be in the NOW and make manifest our intentions!

We 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, futherance 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 wholesome, 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 intent" ~ *all of the time*, not just on Sunday mornings or occasion of Prayer.

There are many opportunities for worship, study, fellowship, and endeavor sponsored by our Mission. We invite you to consider joining us! Every Sunday at 11:00am is a Devotional Service in the Chapel Of The Crystal Ray.

Through song, liturgical worship, and prayer, we invoke the Presence of the Ascended Masters and Angels of Light. A period of silent, meditational Communion highlights each Service. The first Sunday of each month includes a Healing Service accompanied by the sounding of crystal bowls with a universal call of the Om chant. We regularly sponsor or host workshops conducive to expansions of consciousness and soulic awakenment. Every Saturday, some or all of the members of our Priesthood will gather for "Project Day" to invoke our sacred prayer mantra, attend to maintenance needs of the Retreat, and work on special projects. There is a sense of inner pride and soul-fulfillment as one contributes to the efforts of a volunteer organization. For this is God made manifest, this is altruism put into effect.



**New Moon Fire Ceremony
with Pat McQuillon & Keith Burke**

Beginning in January of this year, Keith Burke with Pat McQuillon of the California Institute For Open Studies initiated a series of New Moon Meditations here at the Retreat. Each new moon marks the simultaneous completion of an ancient cycle as a new one begins. Through guided imagery and ritual, participants join to celebrate and reflect, setting goals for the coming month and putting in motion the manifestation of them. The Sunday before the Equinox, we honored the Plant Kingdom with our annual Blessing Of The Crops ceremony atop Mystery Mountain, praying for rain,

which has since been bestowed upon us! We then celebrated the Vernal Equinox with our Peace the 21st Meditation. It was a delightful evening for all three planes of our beings, culminating with a "dessert meditation" of silent reverence (until laughter burst out) for the delectable strawberries of the season. As members of the San Diego InterGroup Meditation Committee, we'll be facilitating the upcoming Three Meditation Festivals of Spring with the Full Moons in Aries, Taurus, and Gemini. The full

moon, in contrast to the new moon, is a time of heightened energy as the moon reaches its climax of lighted expression. Our task as meditators at that time is to channel the energy, anchoring it on the Earth plane to ensure its use for Good Purpose and Good Will.

Earlier in January, we inaugurated 2006 with an In Praise Of Creation workshop facilitated by long-time spiritual friend, Donna-Marie Terranova. She led us through processes that helped to peel away the onion layers of our outworn habit patterns and hone in on personal visions of quest for the time before us.. Then in February we hosted an “Ormus” workshop, presented by Barry Carter. Ormus is purported to be that “Elixir of Life” known to the alchemists of old. The week-end was filled with case testimonies, scientific research, philosophical musings, and hands-on participation. The event indeed verified that with the New Age dawning comes the rediscovery of ancient Wisdom and Truth, born anew to an upreaching Humanity. In March we enjoyed a Numerology workshop facilitated by Adrienne Abeyta of the California Institute for Open Studies. Participants explored the significance of the numbers revealed in their birth names and dates, then used the data of famous celebrities and other known figures to further develop

skills of interpretation and association. Coming up in May, we’ll be hosting a Constellation workshop with astrologer Anne Beversdorf. The Constellation process is a profound means of tuning in to the universal “knowing field” to bring about healing within the family line by unraveling and transforming perpetuated dysfunctions from hurts of the past into universal alignment, fostering crystal clear vision for moving forward on the Path.

One of our happiest highlights thus far this Spring has been the wedding of our dear friend Anthony Alfer to his bride Carolina de Alba Luna Garza. The ceremony acknowledged appreciation for the harmonious blending between two people of two different cultures, with a prayer that it be symbolic of what is transpiring person by person, family by family, community by community to one day bring about the Golden Age...

Now, let us take these last days of Lent to each one go within to seek out that which has yet to be transformed, that we may, as so purified, be blessed to rise up in the Glory of Christ come Easter morn. And may the balance of your Spring be ever filled with hope, vision, and fruitful bearing... Namasté

-Bp. Terre Lien



Tony Alfer & Carolina de Alba Luna Garza
get married in the Park, March 25, 2006

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 13.....** **THE THREE MEDITATION FESTIVALS OF SPRING:** Sponsored by the San Diego Intergroup Meditation Committee to assist humanity in reproducing the inner Kingdom of the 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.
- May 13**
June 11
- April 14.....** **COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:** Sponsored by the Escondido Clergy Association. 12:00 noon at the First United Methodist Church of Escondido, 341 S. Kalmia, Escondido. (760) 745-5100
- April 16.....** **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 27.....** **NEW MOON MEDITATIONS:** Keith Burke and Pat McQuillon of the California Institute for Open Studies will lead participants through a meditation designed to celebrate and reflect, setting goals for the coming month and setting in motion the manifestation of those goals. Prayers For Peace Park, beginning at 7:00pm. Potluck at 5:30pm. Call (760) 749-3489 or visit the website www.californiaopenstudies.com for further info.
- May 26**
June 26
- May 6** **CONSTELLATION WORKSHOP:** Release your Heart, Renew your Soul, and Awaken to the Nobility of your true, Inner Self. Reflecting themes from Shamanism, Astrology, and cutting edge Psychotherapy, Constellation Work allows one to engage with the soul's environment, gently moving into resolution those issues that detract from one's psycho-spiritual strength. Facilitated by astrologer Anne Beversdorf. (760) 749-3489 to RSVP or for further info.
- 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.

- Project Days** Apr. 15 & 29, May 20, June 10... 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 join us afterwards for potluck lunch on the Retreat 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.
- Food Basket** A receptacle for donations to Interfaith Community Services' Crisis Center is available here for all who would care to contribute.

IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE... JUST ANOTHER LENT!

During a workshop at the American Universalist Temple of Divine Wisdom, a few months ago, the participants looked toward the future. This involved looking at the immediate next few months, and those in attendance agreed... It doesn't need to be... just another Lent!

Many of us, "on the Path," want to bring ourselves more fully into our spiritual lives. We live for this in our striving and labor to address our personality and its trappings and return ourselves to the wise guidance of our Inner Self.

Lent, traditionally, focuses on purification, fasting and almsgiving. In this magnificent new era, as we stand upon and within its brink and dawning, how might we use this holy season to bring us into greater peace... and thereby an extension of this peace to Humanity?

In this last week before Easter, may I suggest a few thoughts to ponder...

What is something, very simple and practical, that you have been longing for... in relation to your spiritual life? Has it been a deeper commitment to a daily practice, to more

spiritual study, to reaching out in service? If so, Lent can be the perfect time to focus on the momentum forward. With both spring and the full moon celebration of Easter bringing us ever closer to opportunities of new beginnings, Lent may be approached with the energy of a genuine embrace, rather than just another time to endure.

For myself, I have chosen my "Lenten practice" to be forgiveness. I have been searching my heart for where the

pained strains of grief and loss, as well as seemingly justified emotional withdrawal, are burdening my heart. In this adventure of forgiveness, I have committed to releasing the doors that have been slowly locking around my heart and acknowledging the spiritual import of the forgiveness process.

It will not be just another Lent... when we recommit to spiritual truths, address our personality crevices and cleavages, and look to our future with faith, hope and love.

May you find Beauty in this season... and meaning in its promise... and great Joy as we await the full moon celebration of The Coming One.

-Donna-Marie Terranova



A Contemplative Walk along Tranquility Trail during January's In Praise Of Creation workshop

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

SPRING

Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. It is a time of creation and of cleansing. Animals are having their babies, bringing new life into this world. Plants spring forth from the earth and enrich our lives with their beauty and fruits. Nature's efforts can be easily translated into our lives, because it is the time to "kick the covers off," to clean up and move forward with our productive lives. "Spring cleaning" can benefit our souls as well as our surroundings. There is a freshness about that encourages us to let go and enjoy ourselves after we get our work done. Just as spring rains clean the winter dust away, this time before Easter known as Lent provides an opportunity for us to look at ourselves and our emotions and try to improve so that we may grow strong and healthy, refreshed like the new plants, and prepare ourselves to commemorate the resurrection of Christ. In my opinion spring is a time for improvement and beauty.

-Jason Crandall



*This is a wonderful time...
 It is a time of love and bloom,
 And bright colors like a lime.
 It is when Christ rose from his tomb.
 This is a time when we find the hope
 That we have lost deep within;
 To run and fly and cope
 with the despair that some call sin.
 It is a time of beauty and grace.
 The promise with God that we keep
 grows stronger with every pace.
 We create less reasons to weep.
 Everything grows grander with nature's
 awakening ring.
 This time that we love is spring.*

-Christine Crandall

THE ART OF BEING

Spring has begun this year with aspects of winter lingering and toying with our psyches, giving cause to ponder our focus and plans~ what is important, and what motivates us. Ideals and resolutions set forth with the New Year have been slow to manifest, laying dormant, as it were, for the right conditions to grow into being. Yet one could find reasons to delay indefinitely, waiting for a perfect time to expend the energy to work toward our purpose and destiny. Such delays affect our soul growth, hindering progress through avoidance, procrastination, laziness or misdirection. No matter what circumstances arise to shift our plans and alter our schedules, we have something to learn and benefit from that could not have happened any other way. We can make the most of all situations, not labeling them as “good” or “bad,” but trusting that we are in the right place at the right time to do God’s Will.

Every child of God, every soul of Light can find within the Power of God, the energetic source we need to grow and thrive. As humans we tend to ignore Nature’s subtle instinct and intuition that help us push ourselves beyond immediate response and gratification. Plants and animals are full of examples of heroic efforts to survive and provide for lasting generations. Stored energy is released with the promise of life-giving force. Are we aware of our stored energy, or has it been lost or forgotten over time, unutilized or acknowledged?

Lent, a period of inner searching and soul contemplation preceding the celebration and promise of Easter, is a perfect time to search for our stored energy probably overlooked due to busy schedules, computers, concrete, freeways and deadlines. A most precious and sacred part or our being, protected within our spirit body, is our monadic source. It is the very spark of God within, pure spirit essence for stimulus and motivation beyond human tampering or manipulation. As souls of Light, our monadic source will never change, be altered, or permanently lost, as it *is* God. May our desires for renewal and rebirth at this time of year include a conscious awakening of our “piece of God” within, feeling joyous love and gratitude that it is there, helping us to express our best and highest Good. It is spiritual energy awaiting direction.

Dr. W. M. Lewis of The Self-Realization Fellowship has said that Easter is a sacred time to “Restore the birthright of Christ Consciousness.” Our spiritual connections with The Christ and Ascended Masters have been blocked or closed off, impeding the flow of Light and Love from Above. The Christ Light is there, faith is there, we just need to “open the window and let the light flow in and out.” May we learn to trust God within, invite The Christ within, and renew our course to help manifest the Divine Plan on Earth.

-Bp. Elizabeth Crandall



“So, as becoming wise beyond surmise to one’s own “I AM” - which is one’s instinctive monadic force of egoic intensification, one may awaken consciously to the Cosmic import of each other I AM throughout Creation - as understanding why, while yet of individualized entitous-force, no one could assertedly lay claim to radiatingly comprising the Omnipotency of God’s totality.”

-THE MYSTERY OF LIFE pg. 126, channeled
by Archbbishop Elizabeth Clark from Ilion, the
Beloved Ascended Master John



“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.



EXPANDING THE OPENING OF OUR “DOORS”

Members of this Christ-centered Ministry are of volunteer service and feel it a privilege to thus serve God All Good. Priesthood members are a spiritual family of an authentic Essene Order known as the Order Of The Invincible Light, which received it’s ordination authorization from the Essene Order of The Golden Grail, founded by the Beloved Apostle John in 38 A.D. within that very first church called Christian. A primary purpose of our organization is to offer clarifying enlightenment on Spiritual Truths amongst all of God loving peoples on Earth and to reveal and secure Jesus’ original teachings.

We offer Liturgical Services every Sunday in the Chapel of The Crystal Ray. Please know that you are always welcome to worship with us! The Hearthside Rectory is a part of this facility, and a neighboring building houses the Rainbow’s End Gift shop, a workshop-classroom facility, and caretaker’s apartment. Know that our Retreat is available, at the Temple Board’s discretion, for spiritual workshops and other special events. For we encourage a sharing in expansions of consciousness. Enlightenment is received on many levels through our experience of mental, soulic, and spiritual dimensions... These are “Doors” of our perception to the Divine.

-Msgr. Mary Lien