

Learning • Living • Love
TOGETHER

Fellowship Voyages

Volume 15, Number 1 – Sept/Oct/Nov 2011

Open at the Top

It is ingrained in our psyches that fall is a time to turn again to the process of learning after summer's warmth and relaxation. What a perfect time to explore how we learn and grow together and individually! It is also a perfect time to talk about the Fellowship's expanded vision of itself as a Teaching Learning Center and the debut of our newly revised School of Ministry.

The Teaching Learning Center draws from the New Thought founders' belief that their philosophy should remain "open at the top." The practice that flows from this tenet is central to the Center: as you learn and grow, there is always more to learn, more to know, and deeper understandings to explore. The wide array of workshops and classes offered last year were a testament to this practice as record numbers of attendees showed their willingness to participant fully in the experiences offered and dig deeply into the material.



By Denise Wootton
Steering Committee
President

The new School of Ministry stands on the shoulders of the earlier program and has retained the key components of a competency-based curriculum and the use of advisors to mentor students. The beauty of the competency-based curriculum is that students draw from all of their previous experience, spiritual practice and coursework as

they advance their studies.

What is different about the new School of Ministry is that we added rolling admissions, so students can enter at any point and advance at their own pace—completing each competency in a way that works best for them. We have also created a three-level approach inspired by the stages of consciousness. Level 1 is intended to help students shift from victim consciousness to empowerment. Here students develop practices and structures to support them in the realization of their dreams. Level 2 is

Enjoy this issue! Let the articles feed and encourage you to remember that each one of us is open at the top. We dedicate this issue to learning and invite you to recommit to your own learning and experience of the Divine.

See you at the Fellowship!

intended to shift students from living a personal agenda to living a divine purpose. Here students are growing in sacred service and assisting others in growth and development. Level 3 is intended to shift consciousness from being a vehicle of the Divine to being the full embodiment of the Divine and living in Oneness. Students who successfully complete all three levels qualify for ordination.

Excitement and anticipation are building around the Fellowship's newest classes and School of Ministry. Spend a day at the Fellowship's Michigan Avenue and feel the buzz—it is contagious.





**FELLOWSHIP
FOR TODAY**

*Learning • Living • Love
TOGETHER*

Sunday Service

5:30 p.m.
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East Lansing, MI 48823
(Lansing Korean United
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Beginning on Solid Ground

Recently I found myself in the back-to-school aisle at the local department store. Looking at all the products to assist students and teachers in the learning process, I was flooded with the pleasant childhood memories of getting ready for school. I loved the smells of the supplies, the clean notebooks, the unsharpened #2 pencils and the never-used erasers. More memories surfaced and I could feel the excitement of starting a new grade. I could experience how naturally I called myself a 5th grader even though I had not taken one 5th grade class. It



**By Reverend
Brad Miller**

was a lesson in embodiment—I took on the persona of the grade I was to enter.

As we begin our new year at the Fellowship for Today, as we step more fully into the vision of a vibrant, dynamic Spiritual Teaching / Learning Center, I would like us to consider our starting point. Are we like our childlike selves assuming we are already a 5th grader or do we see ourselves as missing something essential?

Many of us were probably taught in Sunday school that if we build a house on sand it would be easily knocked down and if we build our house on solid rock it would be able to withstand the storms of life.

I would like to use this metaphor as we embark on our own individual paths of personal development and Self-discovery at the Fellowship this year.

When I had the belief that I was broken and needed to be fixed, I would go from one self-help book or class or workshop to the next, each time thinking “this is IT!” Only later did I discover that I was caught in my old patterns and nothing had really changed. My behavior remained the same or I felt that I had failed because I was not able to keep up with the practice prescribed. These experiences compounded the sense of being broken and perpetuated the vicious cycle of disappointment. In these instances, my foundation for spiritual growth was not solid.

I propose that this year we start building our house, individually, and collectively,

on the Truth of our already perfect whole and complete Divine nature. As we attend Sunday services, classes, workshops and events, we familiarize ourselves with the truth; we are already complete. From this vantage point, each teacher, teaching and experience is simply a reminder of what is already so.

When we meet new people in our lives, it takes many meetings to get to know them. We might see them at a class, at the store, or out and about in the community. If we think we might like to get to know them better, we invite them for coffee

or tea, we share our stories and we become more and more familiar with them. At some point a strong friendship might develop.

This is what we are doing with the Truth. We hear that we are a Divine Expression of Love, that we are whole and that nothing needs to be fixed. And then we become familiar with this new realization. We spend time with the Truth, experience it and try it out. We become its friend. That is what we are doing at the Fellowship. In our classes, workshops and services, we are becoming familiar with Truth, we are becoming stable in the knowledge and understanding of what is already so.

Let’s all test this in our own experience this year. As we affirm the Truth of wholeness in ourselves, we might just start seeing it in our friends and neighbors. We might begin to experience the teachings working in our lives. But only YOU can determine if that is true. So give it a try. We are all here to support each other in the remembrance of the Truth of our being and to assist each other in living to our fullest potential.

Let’s take on the attitude of a young child who is already identified with the success of his next grade and start this year on the solid foundation of the Truth of our full Divine potential as we join together in fulfilling our mission of Learning Living Love Together.

Back to School

Many people have heard of Helen Reddy, a popular female vocalist in the '70s who wrote the lyrics to the number one hit, *I am Woman*. Some may even remember that she received a Grammy Award for the song and during her acceptance speech she thanked God "because She makes everything possible." (A fairly radical statement at the time.)

But few know of Helen Reddy's lifetime interest in hypnotherapy and past-life regression or the fact that after 55 years in show business, she went back to school to earn a degree in clinical hypnotherapy. She was 60 years old when she graduated from the program.

What would make someone like Helen Reddy—who had a long and successful musical career, starred in movies and television, had her own television show, and performed on Broadway—what would make such a person go back to school at age 60?

She describes her journey in the book, *The Woman I Am*, where she explains that at age 11 she had an out-of-body experience that led her to realize that there is much more to us than our bodies. Since that time she has not had any fear of death nor any doubt that life is eternal. In her teens she became interested in hypnotherapy, reincarnation and metaphysics, which she continues to study and practice today.

Although singing and performing was her *career*, hypnotherapy and metaphysics are her *passion*, and when she retired from show business in 2002, she jumped into her passion with full force.

I had reached the point in my life where I had done as much as I could ever want to do in show business. There were no more mountains to climb—and I was tired. I had done it for 55 years and I had health issues which made me question how much time I had left; which poses the question what do you really want to do with that time?

Although she had been informally practicing hypnotherapy for many years,

what she really wanted to do was go back to school to develop her skills. "I knew that hypnotherapy would not only deepen my own spiritual growth, but would be essential in helping others in their own personal healing and discovery."

"I believe I am here at a certain time for a certain reason.

And one of those reasons is to help people through the shift." This shift is the evolution to a higher level of consciousness:

the shift from five-sensory beings to multisensory beings—from linear thinkers to multidimensional thinkers.

Fellowship For Today is participating in the shift by bringing back the School of Ministry to support people in the transformation of their lives and, by extension, the transformation of the world. Please join in the movement in consciousness.

As Helen Reddy says:

"Stay focused on the positive as much as possible... What you focus on expands."

Stay focused on the positive as much as possible. Allowing yourself to be consumed by negativity will enhance nothing in your life. What you focus on expands, energetically. Through our God-given gift of free will and the power of thought, we have the ability to create our own futures and a more peaceful existence. When the number of humans willing to take on this form of mental discipline reaches a critical mass, profound and positive changes will take place on this planet. I'm looking forward to seeing how far we can go.

Be part of the critical mass and join us as we go back to school together. This fall, invest in yourself. Take a class. Teach a workshop. Follow your passion. Develop your skills. Share your gifts. Be part of the shift. I give thanks for your willingness and participation.



**By Reverend
Erin Fry**

Fellowship Voyages

**An inspirational
newsletter by and for
Fellowship members
and friends since 1994.**

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For current events and time-sensitive news, see **FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**, distributed via email each Wednesday. To be added to this email list, send your request to info@fellowshipfortoday.org

Are You Ready?




**By Rex
Montague-Bauer**

I believe humanity has reached a major crossroad; we are at a turning point in the midst of unprecedented times in human history.

For just a few moments objectively consider how many people you know who have had major stress and life-changing experiences within the past six months? Now look beyond family, friends and acquaintances, also look at the local, national and international levels.

Most people agree that the physical, mental and emotional drama and stress in their lives is reaching a breaking point.

Mainstream media capitalizes on fear through portrayal of cataclysms, death, destruction, alien attacks, meteors, atomic warfare and natural disasters. Obviously fear sells. But never before has so much focus been placed on a specific date; one that is substantiated by ancient calendars ending and prophecies pointing to the end of the world in December 2012. What does this mean and what will it look like?



We will choose to be motivated by our Divinity, or we will be motivated by the collective unconscious.

No one knows for sure, but most feel a major shift is coming. Exactly what that will look like is uncertain. Will this shift take place on the physical, mental, emotional, and/or spiritual planes?

I recently attended a seminar presented by a psychic. People wanted to know, "What is my life's purpose?" They asked, "Can you tell me what my main blocks are so I can live the life I truly desire to live?" No one asked, "What do I need to do to acquire more stuff?"

In my private work I find people are hungry for knowledge. They want to uncover hidden parts of themselves that hinder their ability to be joyously present and to live fully purposed lives. The message is consistent and repetitive—"I feel a sense of urgency deep within to

take action."

Logically the next question would be, "Action with what?" Some will be drawn to find their life's purpose, some to gain knowledge, some to uncover unconscious patterns and embrace them. There will also be those that feel pulled toward Self-realization.

To achieve any of these things, we need to listen to the clear promptings from within, commit and take action! You may then ask, "How do I stay motivated to do what I committed to?"

We will choose to be motivated by our Divinity, or we will be motivated by the collective unconscious. The collective unconscious will guide you to buy more, work more, and watch more TV; anything to deny your inner prompting to take the action that will support your personal growth and enlightenment.

In order to stay motivated to act we must have inspiration. Each of us needs to figure out what inspires and motivates us.

For the last twenty-four years I have been studying with a teacher I love and respect. From the very beginning he would smile and say, "When the time comes for Humanity to fully transform, you will feel it deep within." In March 2011 he said for the first time, "This is it. Game on. Are you ready? If not, then get ready!" Inspirational and motivational to say the least!

We have a community that is full of talented, gifted teachers, seminar leaders, body and light body workers, breath instructors, spiritual counselors and healers. Are you taking full advantage of everything that is available for personal growth? If not, what will it take for you to be motivated? Inspired?

Each morning upon waking, before your brain fully engages, ask yourself, "What action can I take today to accelerate my awakening process and support humanity waking up as well?" When you get an answer, make a commitment to yourself. Take action. Find inspiration. And always remember to have fun!

My Greatest Teacher

I awoke this morning with this knowing: My authentic self is my best teacher. My journey has been to find my way back to this knowing. There have been many guideposts along the way.

Relationships, religions, books, teachings and teachers from many great perspectives have all molded and sculpted me.



By Linda McMahan

It all comes back to "how do I feel and what is true for me?"

I went to India raw, having just lost my son. I was searching for truth. What I found was my Divine. My teacher said, "There is no need to go to other lifetimes. We are here to experience this lifetime fully. All that you need to clear all other lives is here Now."

As I read Diana Looman's poem (see box)

posted by Rev. Brad Miller on Facebook I "real eyes" (thank you Michael Brown) that part of me is the Dancing Artist (my life theme). That's the one that loves to laugh and watch a butterfly dance and a dragonfly breathe. She is my only teacher and my door into a more magical, wonderful way of walking and living my talk.

Just returning from 17 days of ceremony, a part of the Sweet Medicine Sundance Path of Shamanic wisdom, I step into the second half of my life (118 years—I like that number) embracing the joy and beauty that surrounds me. Having experienced "The Oneness of all of Life," I send my prayers to the Creator and fully receive Grace to Dance my Dream Awake.

I invite you to join me in experiencing the fullness and beauty of living. Take the time for you to know you and simply breathe.

If I Had My Child To Raise Over Again

If I had my child to raise over again, I'd finger-paint more, and point the finger less.

I'd do less correcting, and more connecting.

I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.

I would care to know less, and know to care more.

I'd take more hikes and fly more kites. I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.

I would run through more fields, and gaze at more stars.

I'd do more hugging, and less tugging. I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.

I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.

I'd teach less about the love of power, And more about the power of love.

By Diana Loomans from her book, "100 Ways to Build Self-Esteem and Teach Values"

Check Out Our New Publication

Have you ever wondered what other people at the Fellowship really believe about God? Do you ever get overwhelmed just thinking about the magnitude of the question "What is God?" Have you ever wanted to compare your ideas about the Divine with others' ideas?

The Fellowship's newest publication, *My Concept of God*, can help. Not only will it give you a peek into the minds of ten Fellowshipians who wrote the articles but it will also nudge you into thinking deeply about your own concepts of the Divine.

These articles beg for your interaction and some take your breath away.

"My God is in the opening chords of Orff's *Carmina Burana* as it soars across the Wharton Center's Great Hall and lands, totally unexpectedly, in my heart."

"God is loving energy. This loving energy that I embrace flows like a calm endless river to nourish my soul's existence."

Other articles illustrate the conflict many of us

experience as we ponder these weighty matters.

"When I think about God my head and my heart want different things."

"My concept of God is vast and varied.

Sometimes I visualize God as a bright warm light. When I am scared God is a protector."

Some authors have questions and qualifications.

"I'm not sure I believe in God as a separate entity."

"Any God worth worshipping must be bigger than a mere creature's description of it."

And to others "God is consciousness, a force, an energy. We are all the One Child of God. God has no favorites."

These inspirational articles have been chosen from past issues of *Voyages*. They make great gifts for friends who have expressed interest in the Fellowship, or for those who would like a place to begin a discussion about God. They are for sale after Sunday service or at the Fellowship office for a donation of \$5 to \$10.



What teaching or spiritual teacher

My spiritual teachers are Panache Desai and my father, Brad Miller. Panache has taught me how to love myself and to just BE. My father has taught me to feel what I am feeling in the moment, rather than avoid the feeling. Because I understand myself and others more, I feel that I have more understanding and peace about my path in life. *Ashlie Artz-Miller*

The animals I take care of are my favorite spiritual teachers. They can communicate more through a simple look than many people can with a whole litany of words. They give unconditional love and loyalty and are fantastic listeners, never passing judgment or giving unwelcome advice. When their loved ones are down and out, they are at their side giving positive energy and warmth. *Michele Dykins*

I resonate with spiritual teachers like Karen Armstrong because the basis of her teachings comes from a deep understanding of religious history and personal experience. That personal experience helps me to better apply her ideas to my own life. *Matt Walker*

Because the Perennial Philosophy and Integral Approaches are inclusive and look at the common themes across disciplines and across time rather than looking at differences between teachers and traditions, they resonate with me. No one wins unless we all win. Respect all of life. We're all Bozos on this bus. *Rob Curtner*

If I were to pick one religious leader, it would be my beloved Paramahansa Yogananda who stressed throughout his life the importance of prayer, meditation and the keeping of good company with other truth-seeking souls. *Doug Clewley*

I continue to be inspired by and to learn from the early pioneers like Joseph Murphy, Emmet Fox and Ernest Holmes. There are, however, unexpected spiritual teachers in today's world. One such teacher is a 13-year old boy named Mattie J. T. Stepanek, a poet who passed away in 2004 from muscular dystrophy. He wrote about peace, hope, courage and love. He was wise beyond his years. *Mary Flynn*

I completely resonate with the work of Jerry and Esther Hicks who teach that your vibration dictates everything that shows up in your life. Your emotions are a way of knowing your vibration around something. The goal is to do whatever you need to do to feel good when you think about what you want. *Diane Blakeman*

The tagline, "Change your thinking, change your life" attracted me to the magazine, *Science of Mind*, 25 years ago. Ernest Holmes, the founder of Religious Science, who started this monthly periodical, became my first New Thought spiritual teacher. I try to allow all relationships and encounters to be instructional moments, since we all are students on Planet Earth and have the capacity to recreate ourselves every moment of every day. *Julia Freije*

Thich Nhat Hanh inspires me because of his simple, practical approach to Buddhism and his openness to all spiritual paths. Be mindful, notice your breath, meditate as you walk—these lessons always bring me peace. *Nancy Radtke*

I like *A Course in Miracles* because it is so practical. The Course's teachings on forgiveness and giving over my will (ego) to Spirit strengthen me every day. *Bill Diedrich*

Emmet Fox speaks to me because he is able to give me everyday solutions to problems. He wrote for the common person, not other religious scholars. He taught that God was in everything and everyone before Quantum Physics was even thought of. His book, "Power Through Constructive Thinking," has been my lifelong bible. *Murphy Cutler*

Michael Brown has the key that opens my heart and mind because his way with words brings me understanding. His "The Presence Process" and "Alchemy of the Heart" were very instrumental in my growth and awareness. *Linda Carrington*

I am influenced by Taoism. I love the natural world order that begets the fundamental beliefs of Taoism and the respect that is given to Heaven, Earth and Humanity along with the view that everything is interrelated. My garden has been my biggest teacher this spring/summer in regards to the natural order of life! *Renee Kubbs*

Which resonates with you? Why?

Tom Stone, a mentor of mine, has developed a model he calls "The Core Dynamics of Human Conditioning" along with the "Eight Techniques of Pure Awareness." His work is all about coming into Presence and is really powerful stuff.

Bill Paddock

A Course in Miracles has stuck to me like glue since I first heard Fellowshipians and FFT speakers talk about it in the 1980s. The simplicity of the teaching resonates with me, but more so, I know when I read it that it is the Truth. The teacher of the Course I find most profound is Max Raines. His settings of Course materials into music have made an indelible imprint on my mind. They are with me literally daily, wherever I go.

Doug Austin

What most resonates with me are the sayings, "There are many paths up the mountain" and "All religions contain some truth." Following any one religion exclusively is too limiting. I believe in accepting truth wherever it can be found. I find the experience of God to be much more meaningful than adherence to any set of doctrines or dogmas.

Mary Molloy

One of the very most important teachings for me has been the idea of NOT KNOWING. It is when I come from a place of NOT KNOWING that I can really open to all the surprises and delights of life's offerings. And even more essential for me—I finally get much needed relief from my incessant, judging mind chatter.

Deb Parks

I immediately resonate with teachings that start with "God is Love" and "We are all part of God." Sherry Evans' book, *The Roads to Truth*, made me aware of just how many teachers have converged on this perennial philosophy. For me the meaningfulness of a teaching diminishes quickly if rules and hierarchy replaces direct experience. *A Course in Miracles* is my favorite teaching; it directly states that God is Love, we are all part of God, and spends its entire 1,300 pages training us to experience that, and only that.

Jeff Tomboulion

I resonate with the 12-step approach because the steps are well-articulated and the teachings can be applied to many different life situations.

Char Brooks

A Course in Miracles' workbook provides a right-brain approach to bring me to the place where I will accept that I am a Child of God. The text and teacher's manual work on my left-brain to bring me to the same place and to the acceptance that my brother is sinless so I can see myself as sinless.

James D. Noble

These teachings inform my life: My only work is to release the blocks I have put up to God's LOVE and to remember that I ALWAYS have a choice. My only lesson is to embrace the idea that I am still as God created me.

Mark Mandenberg



Fellowship School of Ministry

... A History Lesson



Although the dream of developing a school for Fellowship ministers was held in the hearts and minds of several Fellowshipians for many years, it was not until 1996 that the Education/Ordination Committee was appointed by the Fellowship's Steering Committee. Their charge was to "develop an educational component of the Fellowship for Today with the purpose of offering a curriculum leading to ordination of individuals who complete the requirements of the school's plan." Shortly after, I was hired



**By Reverend
Karen Arndorfer**

spiritual community; spiritual unfolding; intellectual, emotional, physical, community, social and spiritual healing; and, encourages a personal response to the call to service.

▲ to offer a curriculum that teaches the history, practice and essence of various spiritual paths and religious traditions.

▲ to coordinate all educational endeavors of the Fellowship for Today.

The school's first class began in September 2000 with nine students. The work of this initial class culminated

in the ordination of four Fellowship ministers in

January of 2003: *Beth Bogue, Kay Taylor, Heather MacLachlan* and me.

Since our first ordination ceremony, the school has seen the ordination of two other classes. The second class ordained 5 ministers: *Kathleen Coe, Linda Harrison, Paula Lawrence, Nancy Radtke* and *Janet Skole*, and granted a certificate of completion to *Elise Harvey*.

Before beginning the third class, the Visioning Board decided that it was important to offer two courses of study: 1) ordination, which required completing all of the competencies outlined, and 2) a certificate of completion for spiritual growth and development which required completion of all classes and seminars plus a special project.

In 2009, four students were ordained and one successfully completed the non-ministerial track. This included the Fellowship's current minister, *Brad Miller* and its Steering Committee President, *Denise Wootton*, as well as *Vee Nash* and *Delyth Balmer* who acted as one

of the interim ministers following my retirement. *Bob Finks* was granted a certificate of completion.

With this new venture, it was important to continue to analyze and revise the curriculum with input from students and advisors. Each class contributed greatly in further developing FSM.

The Fellowship School of Ministry has offered a variety of classes, workshops and seminars for the community consistent with its purpose. Nationally recognized spiritual teachers such as Gary Renard, Terri Cole-Whittaker, Edwene Gaines, David Friedman, Paul Ferrini, Nouk Sanchez and Tomas Vieira were engaged for the benefit of the students as well as the Mid-Michigan community and beyond.

The FSM has been a unique experience because it was based on fulfilling competencies, rather than fulfilling hours of instructional time. The responsibility of achieving the curriculum competencies was placed in the hands of students, and with their advisory team, they developed a plan for completion based on prior personal and spiritual education, work history and experience. To help balance this very individualized endeavor, classes were offered covering many important areas of the curriculum, encouraging students to be both teachers and learners and to work together in the community of the Fellowship For Today.

The Fellowship School of Ministry has focused the spiritual development of many people on a trans-denominational perspective that highlighted New Thought in the context of all wisdom traditions. The school is now beginning a new chapter in its history. May it continue to be the inspiring, stimulating and life-changing experience described by past students!

*...the spiritual development of many people
on a trans-denominational perspective...*

as a consultant to coordinate research on current schools and to present a proposal to the Steering Committee for the development of a school of ministry.

In January of 1999 the Fellowship Steering Committee appointed a working Visioning Board to bring the Fellowship School of Ministry (FSM) into existence and I was appointed the Director of the school. The Visioning Board recommended a competency-based curriculum and the use of advisory teams to mentor students.

The purpose of the Fellowship School of Ministry has been:

▲ to support personal and spiritual development resulting in the ordination of ministers, the development of teachers/leaders, and personal enrichment opportunities for the community.

▲ to advance the philosophy of the Fellowship For Today through creating a learning environment that facilitates the development of healthy relationships;

Fellowship School of Ministry Graduates Comment On Their Experience

BETH BOGUE – In our classes in the Fellowship School of Ministry we studied many of the great New Thought philosophers, including Charles and Myrtle Fillmore, Emma Curtis Hopkins, and Emilie Cady. Each of these people emphasized the power we have over our own lives and they demonstrated ways in which we can control our health, prosperity, and sense of well being. From them I learned how to turn over my greatest challenges to the Divine Spirit within.

Our classes in Comparative Religions and Spiritual Teachings provided insights into how similar the basic principles of the world's great religions and spiritual traditions are, and they provided me with a stronger sense of oneness with the peoples of the world.



Beth Bogue

HEATHER MacLACHLAN – Being a part of the first class of the Fellowship School of Ministry (Class of 2003) changed my life. I now feel that I have a lot I can share and teach; I want to inspire people to be more grateful and positive in their lives. My ministry training has even influenced my massage practice in the way I listen to clients and use guided meditations with them.

A Course in Miracles and New Thought teachings continue to influence me in my life, my interactions with others, and the content I use to inspire others when I speak publicly. (I was surprised that through the program I grew to enjoy speaking in front of groups.)

For the last four years I have been an on-call chaplain at Sparrow Hospital as a result of completing the Fellowship School of Ministry program. I love being of service to dying patients and their families and have had the honor of conducting some memorial services. This work has enriched my life and inspired me to get my Masters Degree in Hospice and Palliative Care at Madonna University in Livonia.



**Heather
MacLachlan**

Prosperity Plus!

Reverend Erin Fry first heard about the Prosperity Plus class from her friends who were taking it at the Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth in Ann Arbor. As with many other great ideas, news of this amazing class traveled quickly by word-of-mouth.

Rev. Erin mentioned it to Rev. Brad; he ran with the idea and the class was brought to the Fellowship. Rev. Erin reports, "It has been one of the most powerful and important classes that I have taken in prosperity. Mary Morrissey is a masterful teacher and there is so much material that it is a class worth repeating." In fact, at the end of the 10 weeks, some in the class formed a study group and are doing the class again on their own.

Barbara Kinsey says, "Because of the Prosperity Plus class, I now have a new way of thinking to help me deal with events that in the past would have paralyzed me and left me feeling powerless. I am excited about the possibilities that are available to me as I think, talk and act from my visions for myself and not from my circumstances."

Prosperity Plus reminded Diane Blakeman, "To dream big,

set goals, and know that the universe will always provide." Learning to tithe was one of the best things about the class for Diane. When she tithes she finds, "Peace fills the space my excuses took up. Tithing is a way to state that I believe and trust all will be provided. Prosperity Plus deepened my trust and faith in the universe and helped me develop my desires. This is a great gift."

Jon Addiss found that Prosperity Plus allowed him to focus and accomplish more in the area of empowering others to prosper and grow. This was done through investing in and cleaning up the home foreclosure blight in Lansing's neighborhoods. Jon says, "The national Saving America Home Investors (SAHI) network has the Prosperity Plus course to thank for the spark that gave rise to its creation."

Prosperity Plus is a 10-week video-based course taught by Mary Morrissey. It will be offered this fall at the Fellowship for Today on Thursdays, Oct. 6 through Dec. 15, 11 a. m. to 1 p.m. There is a \$49 fee for the course materials. Contact the Fellowship to register.

**The next Prosperity Plus class:
Fellowship Offices
Thursdays, Oct. 6 – Dec. 15
11 a. m. – 1 p.m.**

Give Yourself a Chance

Although we don't call them diaries much any more, the diary or journal remains unquestionably one of the most exciting, fulfilling tools for our spiritual growth.

Why journal? The journal allows for daily benefit as well as life-long advantage. They are one. Daily, it allows us to realize and let go. It allows us to process our days more clearly, to stay in our day: right there, recording and being with our actions, feelings and moods of the moment. It helps us to allow for our feelings, to better understand our actions, and to develop our discipline in a mild way. Give it ten minutes a day.



Journals bless us. Gently we become more willing to be the observer, to connect with what's inside us. We start with the concrete: the events, circumstances, and the people who color our lives. We are descriptive. We explain things. As we write the external, the details of our lives, we mysteriously realize the general, the central, and the source. The journal helps us to see our life as it is, to realize it more fully, to discover who we really are.

Thus we see what we have created. This is our spiritual truth. This is our course in miracles. "I have created the world I see." The journal is an incredible way for us to face the world we have created. It enhances our ability to become our potential.

Gently we tell our own story as only we can, only for our personal benefit, which inevitably enhances the world. The journal is something you do for yourself. Yet, we are the world. To do for you is to do for the world. It is to admit that you take yourself seriously. It is to admit that your life matters and is worthy of your attention. It is to realize the outer/inner connection.



By MaryEllen Pearsall

To journal is to acknowledge the value of your inner connection. It is to nourish it, to honor it, to daily become more aware of it. *A Course in Miracles* tells us that it is our thoughts we must change. The journal helps us to become aware of our thoughts like no other book possibly can. Therefore, it can be instrumental in

changing them. The journal is a gift to ourselves, as we become a gift to the world.

I believe we are our own best teachers. We can learn as much through reading our own thoughts as from any scholar. We know the truth. The journal helps us listen to ourselves. It helps us to discover our truth, to remove the blocks from that truth. It helps us see ourselves more clearly. We gently grow, discovering our own brilliance as we allow ourselves to express it.

Give yourself a chance. Experience the wisdom of your own inner being. Pick up your pen, keep your hand moving, gather inspiration that can pick you up in days to come as you grow more and more familiar with your true nature—which is *our* true nature—which is love.

***A Course In Miracles* Study Group Schedule:**

- ◆ Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m., 10th Floor, Boji Tower, corner of Capitol and Allegan. Facilitated by Beth Monteith & Doug Austin. Call Doug for more information, 517-377-0838.
- ◆ Tuesdays, 7 p.m., 2237 Luwanna Dr., Lansing. Call Dan Maynard or Carol Krauz for information, 517-719-0003.

◆ Wednesdays, 9:15 a.m., Fellowship for Today office. Call Brad Miller for more information, 517-505-0782.

◆ Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., Fellowship for Today office. Call Bill Diedrich for more information, 517-332-0176.

◆ Thursdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Fellowship for Today office. Call Jeff Tomboulion for more information, 517-980-1504.

Oneness Blessing (Deeksha) Schedule:

- ◆ Mondays, 7:30 p.m. – Linda McMahan's home, 2520 Devonshire Ave., Lansing 48910. (Mt. Hope & Penn.) Space is limited so please confirm attendance at 896-4822 or email: lindamarie1@comcast.net. Love offering.
- ◆ Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Fellowship offices. Love offering.

◆ 1st Sunday of each month after Fellowship service, 7 p.m. For information contact the Fellowship office, 517-337-4070. Love offering.

◆ For more information about the Oneness Blessing visit: onenessuniversity.org



Calendar of Events *and workshops*

SEPTEMBER 7 & 21

Lansing Kirtan (chanting)..... 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 11

Sunday Morning Experience

Kate and Stephanie of Spirit Weavers 10 – 11:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

Fellowship School of Ministry Open House 6 – 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 14

Art of Forgiveness—Group Painting Experience 6:30 – 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 17

Forgiveness Workshop: Why is this Happening to Me Again?

Rex Montague-Bauer 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18

Anniversary Celebration Concert —

Sing Your Song!..... 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 20

Fellowship School of Ministry fall classes begin 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 25

Fellowship For Today Membership Meeting

following Sunday service 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 28

Introduction to Balanced View/Great Freedom

Rob Michalowski..... 7 – 8:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 26

Consciousness Building Group—Amalia Frank

Mondays..... Noon – 12:45 p.m.

OCTOBER 2

Sunday Morning Experience: Opening Up To Miracles

Deb Canja..... 10 – 11:30 a.m.

OCTOBER 3

Balanced View/Great Freedom Informal Community

Video Meeting, every Monday 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

OCTOBER 6 – DECEMBER 15

Prosperity Plus class, Thursdays 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

OCTOBER 22

Mindshifters and Stillpoint Breathing Workshop

Rex Montague-Bauer 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

NOVEMBER 6

Sunday Morning Experience: Law of Attraction

Jane Aldrich..... 10 – 11:30 a.m.

“Sunday Morning Experience” Debut

“Let’s create this together,” Rev. Brad Miller said of the Sunday Morning Experience to the 25 participants who attended on Aug. 7. The Sunday Morning Experience provides a platform for those in our community who have spiritual gifts to share, supports spiritual growth through community, and gives participants an opportunity to connect with others in a deep way.

The “morning” began with the dynamic Sheila Cook giving a presentation on energy modalities and the principles behind energy work. Sheila then guided participants through an experience based on this work. A time with feedback on the structure of the program was followed by ample time for snacks and visiting. The Oneness Blessing was then given and the session ended with Debbie Collins (who organized the event) giving participants an opportunity to participate in the Master Mind process. Each person asked for one thing they wanted and all participants shared what impressions or visions they saw for that person. Everyone was fully engaged in this very moving experience and many new friendships were born.

Join us on September 11 for the next Sunday Morning Experience and be part of its evolution!

For more information, or to register for any events listed, call the Fellowship office at 517-337-4070 or email info@fellowshipfortoday.org. Also visit fellowshipfortoday.org for information, dates and times.



Visit our new website fellowshipfortoday.org and learn more about our spiritual community!!



~ OUR SUNDAY SERVICE ~

5:30 p.m.

2400 E. Lake Lansing Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

(Lansing Korean United Methodist Church)

Sunday Service Calendar
can be found at:
fellowshipfortoday.org



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*“Be ye transformed
by the renewing of your mind.”*

– Romans 12:2



*“Learning is a treasure
that will follow its owner everywhere.”*

– Chinese Proverb