

Creative Life



Creative Life Spiritual Center

• Our twenty-third year!

• Jesse G. Jennings, Founding Minister



New Year's Intenders' Circle

With practitioner **Sheryl Boyle**, who says, "As we bring in the New Year let us reinforce our intentions with the synergy of our collective energy and conscious support of each other. During the time of gratitude we will reflect on the past year and the good we intend to increase in the New Year. My experience with these sacred circles has been transformative and I welcome you to have your own magnificent experience as we share together. Wear comfortable clothes, and bring an item for the potluck dinner, plus a list of manifestations, gratitudes and intentions." Thursday, January 1, 6pm, in Builders' Hall. More info:

sherylboyle@yahoo.com

January 2009



The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes.

G. K. CHESTERTON

Younger This Year class



Science has shown that we can actually rebuild our bodies to be much younger. We've seen others do it. Why not us?

Diets and fads do not work. With a comfortable routine of exercise and good eating we can give ourselves more energy while letting our weight drift down to its proper level. We can avoid, not postpone, but avoid, 50% of all the ailments and diseases that come after the age of 50. The class will offer keys to this path. It's Friday night, all day Saturday, and Sunday afternoon, January 16-18, and is created and led by CLC member **Jerry Lane**. Cost is \$100. Please sign up in Builders' Hall.

jerry.lane@earthlink.net

The ^{NEW} Science of Mind Foundational Course

Heartfelt Living

The best of your life is about to begin!

- ☞ Learn how thoughts and feelings combine to form beliefs—and shape our life experiences...
- ☞ Discover how well spiritual mind treatment (affirmative prayer) works, in every area of life...
 - ☞ Gift yourself with a delightful, nurturing experiential playshop...
- ☞ Share your creativity in an artistic, musical or literary project during the closing celebration...
 - ☞ Connect with a group of other like-hearted people to form lifelong friendships...

Frankly, the course is pure magic: just ask any graduate! In this new format, it's 11 Monday afternoons, led by minister **Jesse Jennings** and practitioner **Yvonne Ryba**. Tuition is \$250 (payable in installments and/or by credit card) plus required books — *The Science of Mind* and a workbook — both available in our bookstore.

Please pre-register by signing up in Builders' Hall or by e-mail to info@creativelife.org.

Mondays, 3-6pm starting January 26



5326 Spring-Stuebner Road

• Spring, Texas 77389-4574

• info@creativelife.org

• www.creativelife.org

• (281) 350-5157



We're Grateful For...



♥ **Rev. Marsha Lehman**, who led the Visioning workshop and Board visioning on Nov. 22, then spoke on Sunday, Dec. 7...

♥ **Elly Hard**, for her wonderful presentation on Wednesday, Dec. 10...

♥ Everyone who assisted with our Thanksgiving blood drive, especially **Shirley & Ron Sandlin, Terri Fears, Tom Hooper**, and all who brought food and/or gave blood...

♥ **The Practettes**, who performed on Wednesday, Dec. 17: **Lynn Beckett, Sheryl Boyle, Valinda Huckabay, Lilia Reade-Pellicano, Ann Richardson, Yvonne Ryba** and **Tammie Sheets**...

♥ **J. J. McDonald** and **Ron DeLorme**, who worked on our plumbing, with cleanup help from **Jere Gardner, Gerardo Hernandez**, and **Tom Hooper**...

♥ The amazing *Children's Solstice* team of **Gayle Haulbrook, Anise Flowers**, and **Debra Morwood**, assisted by **Sydney Wemple** and her friend **Harley**...

♥ The incredible *Scenes of the Season* Winter Solstice celebration team of **Nancy Bonilla-May**, producer; **Melody Berryman**, co-producer; musicians **Geoffry Oshman** and **Bob Pryor**; sound and lights **Jere Gardner**; cast members **Lynn Beckett, Sheryl Boyle, Larry Dines, Robert Dupree, Tim Eatman, Peggy Engelhardt, Terri Fears, Jim Gibson, Jesse Jennings, Bill MacKenzie, J. J. McDonald, Sarah Pitzer, Jolena Purner, Sylvia Roeling, Bruce Ross, Lisa Ryan, Yvonne Ryba, Dick Schmelzkopf, Tammie Sheets, Jan Stump**, and **Kate Writer**; crew **Vickie Bortmas, Chip Carney, Aleena~joy Davis, Lynn Dines, Mary Ellen Dupree, Sharon Eatman, Elly Hard**, and the *Practitioner I* class who decorated the Great Hall; and everyone who donated items for the auctions...



Transition

✶ **Sam Armstrong**, RSc.P., on December 13. See page 6.

Christening

✶ **Jace Adan Gaff**, son of **Stacie & Jeff**, was welcomed to our world in a ceremony on Sunday, December 21.

For Our Members

Our annual meeting will happen, as usual, on the last Sunday in January, which is the 25th. We'll hold a board election (two trustees are up for re-election to final two-year terms), hear some reports, and present the annual SuperK Award. Potluck snacks at 5pm, meeting at 6pm in the Great Hall.

Donations by Mail



These folks mailed in a gift between November 28 and December 27. *Thank you!*

Karen Atherton

T. A. Behenna

Linda Benthall

Rev. Myokei Caine-Barrett

Thomas Chelena &

Daniel Malachowski

Jack & Sandra Coffin

Jan DeVries

Larry & Lynn Dines

Sherilyn Edwards

David Ferrier

Ronald Ford

Russell Francois

Ed Greene & Ellie Liggett

Carol Hughes-McLain

Rochelle Joseph

Marcia Jones

Jay & Jeanne Maish

Michael & Nancy Martin

Katherine & Mac McKinney

Mary Ann Missman

Malené Njeri

Emily & John Parent

Judy Ramsey

Melissa Roth & Dennis Tardán

Carol Stromatt

Martha Tejada

Gary Waits

Bruce & Denise Wright

Creative Life

Spiritual Center

"I never knew there was a place that teaches what I've always believed!"

**5326 Spring-Stuebner Road
Spring, Texas 77389-4574**

Creative Life is a spiritual community in suburban Houston, Texas, teaching and living the Science of Mind, a transformational path first articulated by the American philosopher **Ernest Shurtleff Holmes** (1887-1960). We have activities for all people and interests, and welcome everyone, especially those for whom traditional Western religion has seemingly had no place. Serving greater Houston since 1985, Creative Life is a member of the *United Centers for Spiritual Living* (formerly known as the United Church of Religious Science), which dates from 1927. "Science of Mind" and the circle-and-v symbol are registered trademarks. Membership in our Center is a statement of your commitment to your own spiritual process, using the principles taught here as a springboard, as well as a way of shaping our Center's collective future and enjoying a symbiotic, caring relationship. No prior spiritual affiliation need be renounced in order to join us. Membership request cards can be found in the Great Hall vestibule, bookstore or requested by mail or email. Our next new member orientation happens next month.

CLC Board of Trustees

Ron DeLorme, *President*

rdelorme@sbcglobal.net

Rachel Lino, *Vice President*

rlino@sbcglobal.net

Jesse Jennings, *Secretary*

info@creativelife.org

Debra Morwood, *Treasurer*

debramorwood@sbcglobal.net

Melody Berryman

melodyberryman@sbcglobal.net

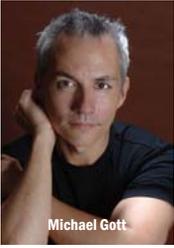
Nancy Bonilla-May

nbm8@aol.com

Carthel Smejkal

sidhe_signs@yahoo.com

Like to sing? Choir workshop!



Michael Gott

Singer, pianist and songwriter **Michael Gott**, Music Director of the Center for Spiritual Living in Dallas, is a performer you won't soon forget. From his background in such

disparate musical disciplines as gospel, pop, opera, musical theater, classical piano and jazz, he has developed his own unique and exciting performance style. He performed in a variety of nightclub and special event settings in the Dallas area since the early 1990's, including a thirteen year engagement at the Mansion on Turtle Creek. In recent years, he has shared the stage with such internationally known personalities as Dr. Wayne Dyer, Dr. Deepak Chopra, Marianne Williamson and others. Other accomplishments include the release of nine albums; performances of his musical, *Split Ends* (co-written and performed by Dea Vise in Dallas and Los Angeles); and of his chamber opera, *Five O'clock Call*, in Tulsa. In 2000 he co-wrote a musical with librettists Joan Jenkins and Greta Muller called *All STRESSED Up With Nowhere to Go*. The show first premiered in the 2001 Dallas Festival of Independent Theaters, then opened to rave reviews and sellout crowds at the Kim Dawson Theater in Dallas. A licensed Religious Science practitioner, Michael will graduate in May from the Holmes Institute ministerial training. He visits CLC to perform his original compositions at the 9:30 and 11:00 celebrations on Sunday, January 11, and then lead a singing workshop for all interested musicians, 12:30-2pm (love offering for the workshop). This isn't only for our choir, but for everybody. No need to pre-register; just show up ready to wail. More info on Michael: <http://www.michaelgott.com>. More info on the workshop: clscmusic@comcast.net

Yoga classes

Yoga classes are coming soon to CLC! Do you consider yourself to be a "desk jockey" meaning that you "ride a desk" for many hours in the course of the day? Perhaps you have an old injury that pesters you every day maybe showing up as lower back pain, tight hips, or knee problems. Join practitioner **Sonya Nelson** as she introduces our community to Forrest yoga. Forrest yoga was created by Ana Forrest to use the age-old tradition of yoga to specifically address the physical challenges that plague modern-day men and women in Western culture. More details soon.

beginwithin@comcast.net

**Want to carpool to services?
Email Carthel Smejkal at
sidhe_sings@yahoo.com**



Creative Life couples are invited to renew their wedding or holy union vows in a very special ceremony, in the courtyard or Great Hall, depending on the weather. Please sign up in Builders' Hall to participate. There is no charge for this service and you're welcome to invite family and other guests. Sunday, February 15 at 1pm. info@creativelife.org

Conroe Study Group

meets alternate Thursdays, 1-2:30pm, at Chocolate Passion Chocolatier, 1520 N. Frazier St. in Conroe. A fragrance-free group, they are currently working their way through *The Science of Mind* text. For more information: **Wanda Loggins**, energycoach@aol.com

Hans York to perform



Hans York

German-born, Seattle-based, award-winning singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Hans York** accompanied Robert Palmer on German TV, toured as bassist with the New York Broadway Ensemble, played throughout Europe with master harp player Rüdiger Oppermann, performed a concerto as soloist on fretless bass with the "Ars Quittlinga" Chamber Orchestra (Concerto written by contemporary German composer Thomas König). Hans York co-founded the German Worldmusic cult band Moka Efti and recorded three CDs with them. He'll perform during both our morning celebrations on Sunday, February 15.

PJ Party Retreat

Calling all CLC women (and our many other women friends). Please save the date of March 28 (all day) and March 29 (all night) for our first ever all day and all night PJ PARTY RETREAT! Women can register for this Event Extravaganza beginning January 28. Be on the alert for more details to come. Email xlr8coach@aol.com.

Center Recordings



Jesse's Sunday encouragements, plus the opening meditation and closing treatment, are available on either CD or audio cassette. **By mail subscription:** prices are \$60 for 3 mos.; \$115 for 6 mos.; \$200 for a year; or \$350 for two years. Domestic postage is included. Subscribe in the bookstore, and you'll receive a shipment every two weeks. **Individual sales:** tapes (two Sundays) are \$6, and CDs (one Sunday) are \$4. Use the bookstore clipboard to order, and yours will be behind the counter when ready for pickup, or add \$2 postage for each item. Wednesday evening talks are also available for individual purchase.

Distance Learning!

Heartfelt Living. Can't make it here on Monday afternoons? Now you can relax in the comfort of your home and simply pick up the phone to be in instant connection with your classmates and facilitator. The only cost is having a long distance server, the class tuition and *The Science of Mind* textbook, available from CLC bookstore or any bookseller. *Heartfelt Living* is about growing a strong spiritual foundation in the study of the Science of Mind. See the front cover about the in-person class for more on what to expect. Thursday evenings, January 8 through March 26 (includes a workshop on prayer and meditation by phone), 6-9pm, facilitated by **Rev. Marsha Lehman**. Tuition of \$250 includes a workbook emailed to you to download.

Visiting as a Spiritual Practice. "Visioning is an 8-week Science of Mind class that is more than a 'how-to' course. Visioning is a powerful spiritual practice that transforms our lives as we participate in it. With this in mind, we come together with open and receptive hearts and minds to increase our understanding of visioning and to reaffirm our willingness to transform." Facilitated by **Rev. Marsha Lehman** in the company of others ready to learn this practice, you will embark upon the adventure of bringing the future into the present, engage in focused attention with strengthened intention, and experience life transformation as you practice visioning, meditation and affirmative prayer. 6-8pm Tuesdays for eight weeks (starting January 6, through February 23). Tuition of \$175 includes a workbook emailed to you to download. You will need a phone with headphones providing a clear connection; two hours of time to totally focus on our class; email access for communication between classes; at least one hour each week for completing homework. Questions or to pre-register: xlr8coach@aol.com

Midweek Celebrations 7pm Wednesdays Live music, too!

Jan. 7

If We Say It's All One, Then Everything Must Be Included, with minister **Jesse Jennings**

Jan. 14

Which is Not to Say We Might Not be Prone to Judge Some of It, with minister **Jesse Jennings**

Jan. 21

Topic and speaker to be announced

Jan. 28

Guidance from God: What and What Not to Reasonably Expect, with minister **Jesse Jennings**

WEDNESDAYS

The Good Life group



Sandra Check

The Prosperity (or AHH) Group has become *The Good Life!* The time will stay the same: Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 or so. The format will be to start with a meditation which will ground and center us and also allow anyone who can't be there exactly at 5:30 to join a little later. The book discussion will start no later than 6pm and will sometimes be accompanied by a worksheet, small group, or experiential activity. The first book will be Raymond Charles Barker's *Treat Yourself to Life*. The group is now led by practitioner **Sandra Check** and **Bill Downs**. Info: sandra.check@sbcglobal.net

THURSDAYS

Lunch of Like Minds



Cathy MacKenzie

A bunch of CLCers lunch together Thursdays at different restaurants from 1960 to The Woodlands, and you're invited! To get on the invitation list: **Cathy MacKenzie**, cmackz@comcast.net

A Course in Miracles discussions



Bill MacKenzie

A Course in Miracles is "a unique, universal, self-study spiritual thought system that teaches the way to Love and Inner Peace is through forgiveness." (www.acim.org) We're in our fifth year of regular weekly meetings and this month we will be starting over in the *ACIM Text*. With practitioner **Bill MacKenzie** at 7pm Thursdays in the library. Open to all; join anytime. Donation. More info: billmackz@gmail.com

CLC's Fun-Loving Singles



Bob Pryor

This group is for all Creative Life Spiritual Center friends or members who are single, divorced or widowed and age 21 or over. We welcome all singles regardless of ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, who are interested in a safe, open environment to meet, form friendships, participate in group events and just have FUN! The goal of the group is to promote camaraderie among singles. It is not a matchmaking or therapy support group. We will generally meet at least once a month after late services on a Sunday for lunch, and additional events will be posted on our website. Some of the types of events we enjoy are group lunches • holiday meets • movies, plays, live music • Renfest • Field trips to zoo, museums, etc. • much more. If you wish to participate, please email **Bob Pryor** or **Lilia Reade-Pellicano** for more information on how to join.

robertmpyor@comcast.net
lprpellicano@aol.com

After-Festival Book Sale



in the south lobby of the office building
 20% off all displayed books, calendars and other items
 (30% off to our Festival workers)
 ends January 4

Sunday book study



Debra Morwood

invites you to discuss the book, *Why God Won't Go Away: Brain Science and the Biology of Belief* by Andrew Newberg, M.D., Eugene d'Aquili, M.D., Ph.D., and Vince Rause. "In *Why God Won't Go Away*, Newberg and d'Aquili document their pioneering explorations in the field of neurotheology, dedicated to understanding the complex relationship between spirituality and the brain... The neurological basis of how the brain identifies the "real" is nothing short of miraculous." facilitated by practitioner **Debra Morwood**, this runs from 9:45-10:45am each Sunday in the youth wing. Donation. Books are available in the bookstore.

debramorwood@sbcglobal.net

Guided meditations



Malené Njeri

Come open yourself up to the spirit of the morning as either practitioner **Malené Njeri** or **Shirley Sandlin** will lead half-hour guided meditations in the meditation room (off the south lobby of the education building, downstairs) on Sundays from 10:20-10:50am.

njerim@sbcglobal.net

ssandlin0624@esagelink.com

Creative Life Sundays

Come at 9:30 or 11:00 to enjoy the new series

On the Causes of Things



Our Basic Teachings

"I Love Myself the Way I Am"

A chance to sing, laugh, and be here now

Welcome and Announcements

Thank you for being here today!

Evocation

Centering ourselves in the eternal moment

"Universal Love Enfolds Me"

A time to deepen within, and then connect with each other

Encouragement

A talk by minister **Jesse Jennings** on conscious living today

Nature's Table is Ever Filled

Our Thought and Emotion is the Use We Make

Infinite Spirit and Immutible Law

Seeing What's at the End of the Fork

Spiritual Mind Treatment

An affirmative prayer, the heart of our spiritual practice

Group Song

An old favorite, or the latest new song we're starting to learn!

Giving Time

*Divine love, through me, blesses and multiplies all the good I am and have, all the good I give and receive.
 I am prosperous now, and so it is!*

Musical Moments

with **Geoffrey Oshman**, the **CLC Singers**, and friends

Closing Circle and "Peace Song"

Something wonderful is happening through you right now!

Eustace "Sam" Armstrong

Our long-time practitioner colleague, the absolutely beloved Sam, graduated to his next experience in living on December 13, after an illness, at the age of 86. Sam was a practitioner for many years with the Houston Center for Spiritual Living (formerly the First Church of Religious Science), and a pillar of the local West Indian community, particularly the Barbados Association of Greater Houston. Sam was (and, in his new sphere, no doubt remains) quiet, reflective, deep, and loving in the most authentic and least self-conscious sense. We mourn his loss and yet are keenly aware that the echo of his life will reverberate around and within us always. Sam's life was celebrated in a memorial service on December 20, at Unity Church of Christianity in Houston, with minister Jesse Jennings officiating, and many Religious Science practitioners and ministers in attendance. Keeping Sam in blessed memory are his four grown children—Donna, Noel, Nigel, and Jacqueline—seven grandchildren, a host of other relatives, and countless friends. Condolences to the family will be received care of Nigel Armstrong, 16523 Monte Carlo Lane, Houston, TX 77053.



Power Up with Positive Prayer

What exactly is a "Religious Science practitioner"? Literally, a practitioner is anybody who practices something; our Religious Science practitioners are trained in the *art and science of spiritual support using affirmative prayer*, and are committed to serving your needs. Each has spent literally hundreds of hours in training, to direct natural compassion into helping you through listening, caring, and using spiritual mind treatment — affirmative prayer — to reveal the truth of you that is greater than any apparent limitation. Each is licensed by the United Centers for Spiritual Living, and engages in ongoing study and spiritual development.

CLC's Practitioner Team

Mind remakes your world!

Our licensed Religious Science practitioners are trained in the art and science of spiritual support using affirmative prayer, and are committed to serving your needs. Have a new goal, an old problem, or a question about applying our teaching? Work with a practitioner and watch what happens with conscious use of the Law of Mind. Access them by leaving a prayer request in of the boxes, by attending one of their events (see at right), or by appointment. Events are free of charge; one-hour appointments are fee-based.

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Help is Nearby

Our Creative Life practitioners are outstanding spiritual support persons, available to lovingly and confidentially assist you, and are at your service...

- **Sundays** at "The Power of Prayer" in the Practitioners' Loft, where requests are received and acted upon in a small group setting, or with the practitioner of your choice in the Great Hall or garden for a quick "meet and treat"...

- **By appointment**, on an individual fee basis for a one-hour session of spiritual support and treatment...

- CLC members receive an annual invitation by mail for a free "**birthday checkup**" with the practitioner of your choice (see list at left). Just pick up a form in the Practitioners' Loft and call for your appointment...

- **More options** requesting and receiving prayer support include using a form on our website by going to www.creativelife.org/links/prayerrequest.php. Further, trained, skilled practitioners await your call to the UCSL World Ministry of Prayer, 24 hours a day, every day at (800) 421-9600 or by email to prayer@wmop.org.

