



Anthroposophical Society PORTLAND BRANCH

Newsletter

Special St. John's Tide Edition 2019

Fires of the New Baptism

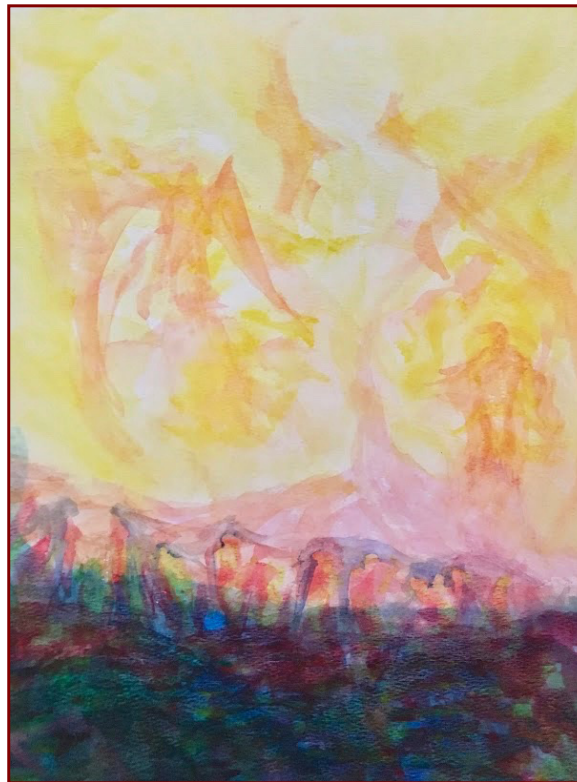
By Christopher Guilfoil

John the Baptist contextualized the mission of his life and work with the declaration, often translated into English, “repent.” With our modern means of understanding it could be said: change your hearts and minds; some say: change your thinking. This plea heralded the Turning Point of Time. In terms of the Trinity, and the three great spiritual calls, which sounded forth in the course of human evolution, John’s cry falls in the middle, between the call of Moses and the call of Rudolf Steiner.¹

In a similar manner to Moses and Rudolf Steiner, John brought practical applications for the renewal of contemporary life in his time. Before these new forms could develop one needed to make a change in one’s inner orientation. This of course would culminate in John’s most important social statement: “He must increase, but I must decrease. He who cometh from above is above all.”² Once again, as did Moses, a leading Master of humanity speaks of revelation from above.

When we come to the third spiritual call and the mission of Rudolf Steiner, this will radically shift. Rudolf Steiner, in collaboration with Anthroposophia, develops for humanity a path of initiation science that is no longer a baptism by water, or a so called “death sleep,” but now that

the Sun is on the Earth and 2000 years of development have taken place, the age of the Spirit begins. Pentecostal communities are now in the making. Paul’s revelation of a new community based upon “Not I, but Christ in me,” becomes a science of the spirit, a means available to all of humanity willing to heed John the Baptist’s plea.



Repent Sandra Burch Watercolor on paper 11" x 14"

It leads one to wonder if there is an equivalent in Rudolf Steiner’s work to the cry of John the Baptist. With the accomplished deed of the *Philosophy of Freedom*, and his standing before the Mystery of Golgotha in a festival of knowledge, what is Rudolf Steiner’s “cry in the wilderness?”

Moses’ call was to action – the Father; John the Baptist called forth the Word – the Son; and in our time Rudolf Steiner calls for cognition – the Holy Spirit, a more extensive change in thinking. In their sacrificial deaths much was metamorphosed for the sake of social reorientation.

The entelechy, or eternal individuality of John the Baptist came to new life in the poet Novalis,

he wrote aphoristically: “Nothing is more indispensable to true religiosity than a mediator that links us with divinity.”³ The existential crisis, or call, of today is to comprehend the esoteric, as well as exoteric meaning of this mediation.

Today we find ourselves 100 years into this third call. With our critical capacities of consciousness soul, freed

from dialectical polemics, we can mull over Moses, John the Baptist and Rudolf Steiner as mediators in the manner reflected above. On St. John's Tide we can build fires of the new baptism, we can leap over our errors in thinking, and strive together toward the cosmopolitan community where diversity and social justice is built on the red jasper of clarity in context.⁴

¹*Rudolf Steiner and the Masters of Esoteric Christianity*, Sergei Prokofieff, 2018

²Gospel of John, 3:30

³*Eternal Individuality: Towards a Karmic Biography of Novalis*, Sergei Prokofieff, 1992

⁴Red jasper is a stone of health and passion, and brings the courage to face unpleasant tasks and to rectify unjust situations.

**The Portland Branch
of the Anthroposophical Society
Invites you to
Save The Dates!**

**See the attached calendar & fliers
for more information and more events**

Tuesday, August 6

Besso Namchevadze Piano Concert

Sunday, August 11

Eurythmy Conference Performances

October 7

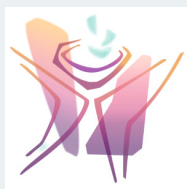
'Courage', Art Hall Exhibit celebrating Waldorf 100.
Artist submissions requested by August 15.

October 11-13

Social Understanding, Gender & Sexuality with Lisa Romero

November 2

All Souls Observance



Calendar of the Soul

Week 7

My self it threatens to take flight
By world's clear light drawn mightly.
Now my divining enter
With strength upon your rights,
Replace for me the power of thought,
Which in the senses glory
Inclines to lose itself.

Week 8

The senses' might grows stronger
In union with the God's creating,
Subduing my power of thought
To the dullness of a dream.
When being Divine
Would with my soul be one,
The human thinking must
In dreamlike state abide.

Week 9

Forgetful of my self-determin'd will,
World-warmth, heralding the summer,
Fills all my Soul and Spirit-being.
To lose myself in light
My Spirit vision summons me,
And divining forcefully proclaims,
'Oh lose yourself, to find yourself anew!'

Week 10

To lofty summer heights
The sun lifts up its radiant being,
It takes my human feeling
Along into its wide domains.
In depths of soul sensation stirs,
And my divining darkly tells:
'In time you will come to know
A being Divine has felt you now!'

Calendar translation
by Liselotte and William Mann

For Calling the Spirit Back from Wandering the Earth in Its Human Feet

by Joy Harjo

Put down that bag of potato chips, that white bread, that bottle of pop.

Turn off that cellphone, computer, and remote control.

Open the door, then close it behind you.

Take a breath offered by friendly winds. They travel the earth gathering essences of plants to clean.

Give it back with gratitude.

If you sing it will give your spirit lift to fly to the stars' ears and back.

Acknowledge this earth who has cared for you since you were a dream planting itself precisely within your parents' desire.

Let your moccasin feet take you to the encampment of the guardians who have known you before time, who will be there after time. They sit before the fire that has been there without time.

Let the earth stabilize your postcolonial insecure jitters.

Be respectful of the small insects, birds and animal people who accompany you.

Ask their forgiveness for the harm we humans have brought down upon them.

Don't worry.

The heart knows the way though there may be high-rises, interstates, checkpoints, armed soldiers, massacres, wars, and those who will despise you because they despise themselves.

The journey might take you a few hours, a day, a year, a few years, a hundred, a thousand or even more.

Watch your mind. Without training it might run away and leave your heart for the immense human feast set by the thieves of time.

Do not hold regrets.

When you find your way to the circle, to the fire kept burning by the keepers of your soul, you will be welcomed.

You must clean yourself with cedar, sage, or other healing plant.

Cut the ties you have to failure and shame.

Let go the pain you are holding in your mind, your shoulders, your heart, all the way to your feet. Let go the pain of your ancestors to make way for those who are heading in our direction.

Make a giveaway, and remember, keep the speeches short.

Then, you must do this: help the next person find their way through the dark.

Ask for forgiveness.

Call upon the help of those who love you. These helpers take many forms: animal, element, bird, angel, saint, stone, or ancestor.

Call your spirit back. It may be caught in corners and creases of shame, judgment, and human abuse.

You must call in a way that your spirit will want to return.

Speak to it as you would to a beloved child.

Welcome your spirit back from its wandering. It may return in pieces, in tatters. Gather them together. They will be happy to be found after being lost for so long.

Your spirit will need to sleep awhile after it is bathed and given clean clothes.

Now you can have a party. Invite everyone you know who loves and supports you. Keep room for those who have no place else to go.

Make a giveaway, and remember, keep the speeches short.

Then, you must do this: help the next person find their way through the dark.

Joy Harjo is the new US poet laureate.

She is Professor of English and American Indian studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Upcoming Christian Community Events
with Reverend Sanford Miller

Save the Dates

2019 - October 17 to 20

2020 - April 30 and May 1 to 3

See our blog for details and other events:

ccoregon.blogspot.com

or Contact Christine Badura:

badura88@hotmail.com

Two Eurythmy Conferences, a Eurythmy Sharing,
and a Piano Concert

This summer, the **West Coast Summer Eurythmy Intensive** is coming to the Portland Waldorf School August 2 - 11. Two important events are worthy of note: On Tuesday August 6, 7PM at Classic Pianos, 3003 Milwaukie Ave. S.E. Besso Namchevadze the conference pianist will give a concert of classical music. Anyone who remembers Besso's last concert in August of 2017 can confirm that it is a "not to miss" event!

On the final day of the conference, August 11 at 3:00PM at the Portland Waldorf School the eurythmists will share the conference content (in part, Eurythmy of the Cultural Epochs). Participants will also share a group music piece and solos. Please note these two events in your calendar. Further details will come in the August newsletter.

In addition, the conference organizers are looking for anyone who may be able to host a eurythmist for the 10 days of the conference August 2-11. Alternately, if you would be interested in helping to prepare lunches (soup and salad) for the conference on any of the days August 3-6 or August 8-11 please let us know.

For questions or responses please contact Carrie Mass:
carecare0@gmail.com or Don Marquiss: 503-626-7606

There will also be an ATHENA conference at PWS from July 21-27. If you have space to host a Eurythmist for this event, please contact Jolanda: 503 896 3345 or jolandamf44@gmail.com

A Call to Artists for Work on the Theme Courage

The Art Hall at Cedarwood Waldorf School is pleased to announce a collaboration to celebrate Waldorf 100. The exhibit will be installed by September 19, the 100-year anniversary of the founding of Waldorf education, followed by an opening reception on October 7, Portland's First Thursday Art Walk.

Submissions by artists working out of the spiritual impulse of Anthroposophy reflecting the theme of the season, COURAGE, will be accepted and curated by email (.jpg please) through August 15. Please send to robin@robinlieberman.net.

Notification of acceptance and mailing/shipping guidelines will go out by August 31. We plan to install "salon" style to accommodate as many two-dimensional works as possible. As usual, we ask artists to donate 50% of their sales as a pay-it-forward gesture for the future of the arts.

The Portland Branch Newsletter is published monthly to serve Branch members and friends. To learn more about the Portland Branch of the Anthroposophical Society, contact Diane Ramage at 971-271-7479.

To submit an article or a calendar item email it to Valerie Hope, valerieannhpdx@aol.com. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Items selected for publication may be edited for style, content and length.

To sign up for our newsletter/email list go to:

<http://www.portlandbranch.org> and click on the button at the top of the right hand column on the home page.

The newsletter and calendar are posted on the Branch website, www.portlandanthroposophy.org. Paper copies are available at the Pohala and Healthbridge Clinics; and the Cedarwood, Michael & Portland Waldorf Schools, and Swallowtail School.

Our current newsletter team: Design, layout, and illustrations Christopher Guilfoil; editing and proofreading Lauren Johnson; Calendar Jeremy Davis; printing and distribution Jerry Soloway; webmaster Angelica Hess; treasurer Ruth Klein; editor, Valerie Hope

The Portland Branch thanks the following Members & Friends for their Dues and Generous Donations in 2019:

Cyndia Ashkar, Christine Badura, Sandra Burch, Wes Burch, James Conlon, Jayne Cronlund, Jeremy Davis, Michael Givens, Ali Givens, Mark Hope, Valerie Hope, Lauren Johnson, Lisa Jones, Anne Kollender, Ruth Klein, Tom Klein, Robin Lieberman, Judith Levin, Martin Levin, Brian McClure, Virginie Novak-Hoover, Robin O'Brien, Padeen Quinn, Jeff Rice, Diane Ramage, Deborah Smith, Jerry Soloway, Rebecca Soloway, Elizabeth Webber

We will gratefully receive your Branch membership dues (\$50 or what you can afford).

Send to: The Portland Branch c/o Ruth Klein
12286 SE 41st Court, Milwaukie, OR 97222

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the following who generously provide spaces for our many activities: Dr. Joan and John Takacs for their long-standing donation of Bothmer Hall; the Portland Waldorf School; and the Cedarwood School.



Another Way to Donate to the Portland Branch

If you shop at Amazon and use the following link, a small donation, .5% of the price of your eligible purchases will be donated to the Portland Branch. smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1269233

Physical Medicine & Injury Rehabilitation



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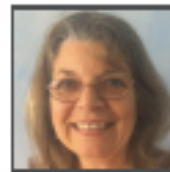


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In lecture one of the "Study of Man" Rudolf Steiner explains "The task of education conceived in the spiritual sense is to bring the Soul-Spirit into harmony with the Life-Body... The child only begins to breath in the right sense of the word when he has left the mother-body.... As we breath in, we are continually pressing cerebrospinal fluid into the brain: and, as we breath out, we press it back again into the body.... We may say that breathing is the most important mediator between the outer physical world and the human being who is entering it."

In my 30 years experience of practicing Advanced CranioSacral Therapy (CST), I have found that most of us need help in resolving imbalances that originate from birth, our entry into the breathing experience. CST is one of the few modalities that I am aware of that has the potential to normalize our breathing by assisting self correction (Perhaps playing a part in a proper "education", assisting the harmonizing of the Soul-Spirit and the Life-Body). ~ Benjamin Bell

If you have a friend or family member interested in CST, bring them along to your first session for a free session.
(Please be sure to reserve two consecutive appointment time slots, one for each of you.)