

"All differences in this world are of degree, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything."

- Zwami Vivekananda

COMMON GROUND INTERSPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY CELEBRATION OF SPIRIT* October 1, 2017

- Welcome
- Announcements
- Gathering Chime & Invocation
- Honoring Earth Tradition
- Affirmation

I see myself as one with the Creator and one with all life.

My oneness with the Creator blesses me and those around me.

I share a consciousness of the Creator's everincreasing good with all in my life.[†]

- Music for Gathering: This Little Light of Mine
- Joys & Concerns
- Music for Reflection: What is This Life?
- Quiet Time for Personal Reflection
- Inspirational Reading
- **Discussion** (see facing page for topic)
- Offering with Music
- Peace Song
- Prayer of Protection

The light of God surrounds us; the love of God enfolds us; the power of God protects us; the presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is, and all is well.

Today's Discussion Expressions of Unity

Many spiritual paths have some expression of our unity. In some cases unity is overt. For example, *A Course in Miracles* reframes Christian atonement (i.e. reparation for a wrong) as "At-ONE-ment" (unity consciousness). Mystics report the actual *experience* of unity. For some unity is more subtle. For example, the Golden Rule in its many expressions can be heard in the context of compassion for others (in the sense we are all "brothers and sisters")—yet we are also separate individuals. Alternatively, the Golden Rule can be heard with a more explicit sense of unity—"If I harm others I am harming myself!"

Where is your sense of unity on this continuum? Has your conception of unity changed over time? How might our sense of unity impact the world?

Announcements

Welcome to our first official Sunday Celebration! While we have been meeting for five weeks in our "pre-launch" period we now have notices in the newspaper. We encourage everyone to extend invitations to those you think might enjoy our group.

Authentic Spiritual Conversations meets every Tuesday, 7-8:30pm, Duncan Law Building (2nd Floor), Chinook Room, 2021 Marine Drive, Astoria, OR.

Finances (weekly)

Rent	\$40.00
Salaries	\$0.00
Misc	\$ 4.79
Year-to-Last-Week:	
Income:	\$249.00
Expenses:	\$223.51

^{*} We recognize in a gathering of diverse spiritual seekers, the words we have chosen will not be connecting with everyone. We invite you to inwardly translate these words and rituals to those of your path—perhaps Creative Intelligence, Ground of Being, God, Creator, Universal Mind, Spirit of Nature, or Power Greater than Yourself, or...?

[†] Our affirmation today is derived from Unity affirmations.

Mission Statement

This Fellowship is an inclusive community dedicated to the unfolding spiritual journey of each individual by engaging our minds, our hearts, and our actions.

- "All the teaching of the Prophets is one; one faith; one Divine light shining throughout the world.
 Now, under the banner of the oneness of humanity all people of all creeds should turn away from prejudice and become friends and believers in all the Prophets." 'Abdu'l-Bahá (the Bahá'í Faith)
- "The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people when they realize their relationship, their oneness, with the universe and all its powers, and when they realize that at the center of the universe dwells Wakan-Tanka, and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us. This is the real peace, and the others are but reflections of this. The second peace is that which is made between two individuals and the third is that which is made between two nations. But above all you should understand that there can never be peace between nations until there is known that true peace, which, as I have often said, is within the souls of men."
 - —Black Elk (Oglala Lakota-Sioux)