



# Bear Valley Center for Spiritual Enrichment

*A Religious Science Community*

*"Open at the Top"*

## May 2019 Newsletter

**Sunday Services, 11:30 a.m.**

578 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake

P. O. Box 4184, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

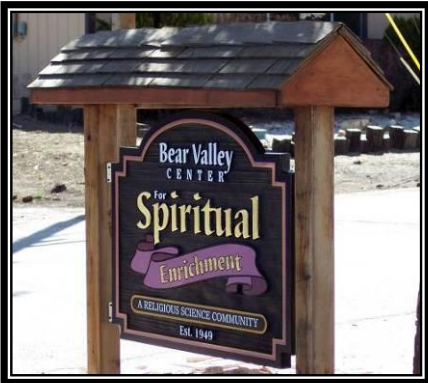
909-866-7100, Email: [info@bvcse.org](mailto:info@bvcse.org). Website: [www.bvcse.org](http://www.bvcse.org)

501C3 tax ID #95-3685187

*Our purpose is to inspire and nurture spiritual growth by accepting a loving, all inclusive community through teaching, healing, and serving, for the highest good of all.  
We are the Mind of God knowing, the Heart of God loving, and the Hands of God serving.*

Newsletter staff: Editor, Ellen Kesler – Layout Manager, Julie Grandi  
Newsies – Mac & Hamish Kesler

### *May Topics and Speakers*



**Month Theme:**

***"THE SPIRITUAL LAWS OF PROSPERITY"***

- May 5<sup>th</sup>**     **Nancy Walker, RScP**  
                  *"The Law of Attraction"*
- May 12<sup>th</sup>**    **Rev Ali Benjamin**  
                  *"The Law of Abundance"*
- May 19<sup>th</sup>**    **Rev Ali Benjamin**  
                  *"The Law of Cause & Effect"*
- May 26<sup>th</sup>**    **Nancy Walker, RScP**  
                  *"The Law of Circulation"*

### *May Calendar*

- May 1<sup>st</sup>**     **Meditation 10:00 a.m.**  
                  *at Carolyn Dawley's house*
- May 4<sup>th</sup>**     **Liz Harris Workshop**  
                  *"What is Your Goliath?"*  
                  *at the Center and beyond*
- May 5<sup>th</sup>**     **Sunday service 11:30 a.m.**  
                  **Zen meditation at 3:30 p.m.**  
                  *at the Center*
- May 7<sup>th</sup>**     **"Basic Principles" class**  
                  **w Rev. Ali Benjamin**  
                  **6:30 p.m. at the Center**
- May 8<sup>th</sup>**     **Meditation 10:00 a.m.**  
                  *at Carolyn Dawley's house*
- May 12<sup>th</sup>**    **Mother's Day**  
                  **Sunday service 11:30 a.m.**  
                  **Zen meditation at 3:30 p.m.**  
                  *at the Center*
- May 14<sup>th</sup>**    **"Basic Principles" class w**  
                  **Rev. Ali**  
                  **6:30 at the Center**

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## May Calendar (continued)

- May 15<sup>th</sup>**      **Meditation 10:00 a.m.**  
                          at Carolyn Dawley's house  
**Drumming 6:00 p.m. potluck**  
                          7:00 drumming circle  
                          At Marv Cira's home  
                          40200 Water Hole (Baldwin Lake area)  
                          (909.584.5278)
- May 19<sup>th</sup>**      **Sunday service at 11:30 a.m.**  
**ANNUAL MEETING following**  
                          service  
**Zen meditation at 3:30 p.m.**  
                          At the Center
- May 21<sup>st</sup>**      **"Basic Principles" class w**  
                          Rev. Ali  
                          6:30 at the Center
- May 22<sup>nd</sup>**      **Meditation 10:00 a.m.**  
                          at Carolyn Dawley's house
- May 26<sup>th</sup>**      **Sunday service at 11:30 a.m.**  
**Board of Trustees mtg**  
                          following service (tentative)  
**Zen meditation at 3:30 p.m.**  
                          at the Center
- May 27<sup>th</sup>**      **Memorial Day**  
                          Nancy's Sacred Circle
- May 29<sup>th</sup>**      **Meditation 10:00 a.m.**  
                          at Carolyn Dawley's house
- "In La Kesh" Sacred Circle**  
                          (Michael – at the Center)

## May Birthdays



- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| May 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Mindy Mathewson |
| May 11 <sup>th</sup> | John Miller     |
| May 17 <sup>th</sup> | Dr. Cal Pramann |

## Board Article

When I moved to Big Bear in June of 2018, I didn't realize what a big leap it was. I didn't know a single soul. Luckily, I made a really good friend at the Film



Festival and, thank God, I joined the Bear Valley Center for Spiritual Enrichment! I have met so many nice people. Coming to the Center has put life in my life. It is fun to see everyone on Sundays and see familiar faces at other events during the week. I am so glad I am a member.

I have learned so many great things to do up here because of joining the Center. I want to thank Elva Chavez for telling me about the Writer's Group and thank Bob Greenan for leading it. I want to thank Carolyn Dawley for having Wednesday meditations at her house because it makes it more cozy and thanks to Cliff Rautenberg for bringing his family of dogs, making it extra healing and fun. Thanks go to Marv Cira and Coral Keating for hosting the drum circles and Eric Reid (and Mike and Cindy Bode), for Sunday meditations. Thanks, also, to Art Harriman for his 9am, "Waking Crew" group. These activities have really enriched my life and I want to thank each member of the congregation for being there and welcoming me. I also want to thank Gloria Meade for showing me what enthusiasm and passion can do, and to Tom and Millicent Cook for setting an example of an enduring, loving relationship.

I have really enjoyed being a member of the Board of Trustees at BVCSE. Unfortunately, I have had longer and more frequent family obligations down the hill and have decided to resign as a member of the Board. I love the Center and it is important that it continues to be a special place. It has been a pleasure to have direct input into decisions that make it great. We are lucky to have such a unique "church" up

here. There are so many “normal” churches in Big Bear, and I think it is in our favor that we are “the only game in town” if you are a truly spiritual person and not a prisoner of traditional religions. Although, it is sad when we have Sunday service and there are only 10 or 20 people in attendance. When I heard that at one time, the Center was filled to capacity, it made me hopeful that this could happen again. Maybe we should hold an “open house” and have everyone invite one friend, or remind former members that we are still here and have exciting new leadership.

It has been fun to be on the Board, sharing ideas, and helping steward such a wonderful congregation in this beautiful place. I hope a few of you decide to join the Board and contribute your ideas and time to the Center.

Namasté,

***Kim (Kiki) Williams***

### ***Board of Trustees***

**President:** *Sherry Noone*

**Vice President:** *Nancy Walker*

**Secretary:** *Michael Benjamin*

**Treasurer:** *Ellen Kesler*

**Members at large:** *Noreen Caswell*

*Gloria Meade*

*Kiki Williams*

### ***March Attendance***

|                       | <u>Adults</u> | <u>Children</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>3/03</b>           | <b>22</b>     | <b>1</b>        |
| <b>3/10</b>           | <b>28</b>     | <b>1</b>        |
| <b>3/17</b>           | <b>31</b>     | <b>1</b>        |
| <b>3/24</b>           | <b>22</b>     | <b>1</b>        |
| <b>Totals</b>         | <b>103</b>    | <b>4</b>        |
| <b>March Averages</b> | <b>25</b>     | <b>1</b>        |

### ***March Financials***

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Income              | \$ 5,017        |
| Other               | 965             |
| <b>Total Income</b> | <b>\$ 5,982</b> |
| Expenses            | \$ 5,610        |
| <b>Net Income</b>   | <b>\$ 473</b>   |

However, in addition we had “extraordinary” expenses this month:

|                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Annual insurance                    | \$1,053        |
| Minister expense                    | 650            |
| Wages, vacation, holiday            |                |
| Compensation to released            |                |
| Administrative Assistant:           | \$2,913        |
| Workshop expense                    | \$1,783        |
| (ANTN conference for                |                |
| Nancy Walker per contract)          |                |
| <b>Total Extraordinary Expenses</b> | <b>\$6,354</b> |

### ***Our Prosperity***

In March, Imagine donated \$1,000 from the General Fund to assist with our extraordinary expenses.

### ***Our Billboard Contributors for March Bills***

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Gas   | None             |
| Water   | None             |
| Electricity                                     | None             |
| Phone/Internet                                  | None             |
| Mortgage  | None             |
| Grizzly   | None             |
| Snow Removal                                    | Kailani McDaniel |
| <i><b>We are so grateful for your help!</b></i> |                  |

## ***MAY***

### ***TOPICS and SPEAKERS***

#### **Theme for May – “The Spiritual Laws of Prosperity”**

We are here to enjoy life and we each have within us everything that is necessary and required to do so! This month, our focus is on prosperity - not only financial prosperity, but true prosperity which includes all areas of life. We will be sharing four spiritual laws that will support you in identifying, accessing, and implementing the invisible power within you; the key that unlocks life's abundance.

#### **May 5      Nancy Walker, Practitioner      “The Law of Attraction”**

“Every person is surrounded by a thought atmosphere. This mental atmosphere is the direct result of his conscious and unconscious thought, which, in its turn, becomes the direct reason for, and cause of, that which comes into his life. Through this power, we are either attracting or repelling. Like attracts like and it is also true that we may become attracted to something which is greater than our previous experience, by first embodying the atmosphere of our desire,” Ernest Holmes, The Science of Mind. Nancy will discuss our natural essence of being vibrational beings and how we can become a vibrational match to our desires.

#### **May 12      Rev. Ali Benjamin-      “The Law of Abundance”**

“There is a kingdom of abundance of all things, and it may be found by those who seek it and are willing to comply with its laws,” Charles Fillmore. Rev. Ali will introduce three keys to unlock the kingdom of abundance so that you can experience greater vibrancy of being and prosper in all aspects of life. “... beyond everything you think you want, what you truly seek is quite basic: a life of wholeness, a life of peaceful satisfaction. The irony is that such a world already exists...you don't have to earn abundance—you have to learn how to accept it,” Dennis Merritt Jones.

#### **May 19      Rev. Ali Benjamin      “The Law of Cause and Effect”**

It is said that “home is where the heart is”; where is your heart? Rev. Ali takes us on a journey home to the heart of oneness. In New Thought, we know that change begins within – clean-up your thinking, clean-up your life, care for our planet and all life. April 22nd is Earth day – a time to reflect on our beautiful Earth home, so bring some ideas to share on how we can tend and care for our environment.

#### **May 26      Nancy Walker      “The Law of Circulation”**

“It is only as we allow the Divine current to flow through us on and out, that we really express life. The law of giving and receiving is definite. When the law of circulation is retarded, stagnation results,” Dr. Ernest Holmes. Nancy will share with us how to be “in the flow” in all areas of our lives. We have received the ultimate gift of life, and if we understand how to be in the flow, we will always have more than enough to share and to spare.

*(Editor's note – with the starting of the “Basic Principles” class last month, I thought it would be of interest to our readers to hear how the magazine we now know as “Science of Mind Magazine” got started. This information comes from an article printed in 2012 in celebration of the magazine’s 85<sup>th</sup> year in publication and was contributed by Art Harriman who was a close friend of Adela Rogers St. John.)*

### **The Beginning of “Science of Mind” Magazine**

-Jeannette Quinn Bisbee

“It is to be the purpose of this periodical...that there is such a thing as Truth and that it may be known in a degree sufficient to enable the one knowing to live a happy and useful life, wholesome, healthful, and constructive; to engage in all the activities of life without being depressed by them, and to feel certain that his future is in the hands of an eternal Power.”

-Ernest Holmes in the first issue of “Religious Science”, 1927. The Magazine went on to become “Science of Mind”.

From its brown, faded cover, to its former name “Religious Science, A Magazine of Christian Philosophy”, reading the first issue offers a nostalgic and timeless walk through history. In that pioneer issue, the purpose of the magazine was stated: “In taking the important step of publishing a monthly magazine, the Institute of religious Science has but one objective – still greater service – to our members, the community in which we live, and to humanity everywhere.”

Only a thousand copies were printed for the first issue and small in size – only 36 pages. One of the earliest readers to snap up one of those rare first issues was Adela Rogers St. John, one of the most famous newspaper reporters of the twentieth century, whose close friend, Hazel Foster, suddenly married a preacher in October 1927, named Ernest Holmes. The same month as the wedding, he began the publication. Adela shared her memories of Holmes in the April 1987 issue stating, “He was very enthusiastic about the magazine. It was part of his vision for making an understanding of Truth universal. Throughout the years, he encouraged keeping the content up-to-date, but wanted the daily meditations with their companion treatments to remain at its heart.”

That first issue was packed with a depth of material; essays, a question and answer section, original poetry, a treatment, and articles disputing the misinterpretation of Jesus’ teachings. Many features of that issue are still present. The “Department of Healing” has “morphed” into the World Ministry of Prayer. The “Daily Guides to Richer Living” which we read today were just a single-sentence affirmation that headed each page. The main feature article was written by Holmes: “The Theory of Visualization” and his thoughts about the technique still commands students in a distinct and vibrant fashion.

(To be continued next month.) 



## ***MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> - SAVE THE DATE!***

**Our Center's Annual Meeting will be May 19<sup>th</sup>.** This is your opportunity to get a re cap of what has been happening and discover what is planned for the next year. It is also time to vote new Board of Trustees members.

If you are interested to be an active member in this exciting time of change for our Center by serving on the Board, please see a present Board member for an application.

## ***What's the Haps***

■ After much prayer and discussion, the Board of Trustees has decided to eliminate the position of Administrative Assistant. This position has been held by Sandy Morrell-Lucia for the past many years. We are so grateful to her for her years of service and we wish her well. At this time, Board Members have agreed to step in and distribute needed functions among the Board members. ***Anyone*** wishing to volunteer by helping in the office is welcome to contact any board member.

■ On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Larry Huffman will be going to St. Mary's in Apple Valley for open-heart surgery.

■ May 25<sup>th</sup> will be Art Harriman's last Saturday performing at the Barnstorm before he leaves to go back to New Hampshire for the summer months. (Would that make him a "Sun Bird" rather than a "Snow Bird"???) Remember, this year he will be the Grand Marshall in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Ashland!



***Your editor, Ellen***

***"A World to Share"*** (excerpts from a poem by Dean Walley)

**There is a world to share...**

a world as fresh as morning  
as bright as a dream of sunlight on wide water...  
as peaceful as a prayer.

**We can walk there together**

away from the cities...  
toward a green forest, silently awaiting us...  
full of secret places no one has seen before...  
and we can find a morning world to share  
...a world refreshed by night  
...awakened by the sun.

**It is the springtime of the day and promises unfold around us...**

...opening flowers, budding trees...  
...the first bird songs of morning.

**The morning is like the beginning of friendship...**

...unsure, hesitant, expectant.  
First light out of darkness...  
...hope for what lies ahead..

**...JOY.**

## *Something New & Different*



Let's try something different! How about a Sunday talk followed by a Saturday class? Good idea? I thought so too!

Please join me for this interesting new Sunday talk/Saturday classes. We'll all have an opportunity to grow spiritually and share a common experience.

Here is what is coming.

**April 28<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**What Is Your Goliath?**

This talk is based on Michael Beckwith's, *40 Day Mind Fast and Soul Feast*. The talk will concentrate on facing the Goliath within each of us. I'll develop the understanding that one's strength comes for the Source and the god within. All is one. The class will go deeper into "All Is One". A few *40 Mind Fast Soul Feast* will be available through Imagine Bookstore. We'll review our individual manifestations and I'll talk about the history of the Pebble Plain; its plants and flowers. We'll have lunch and go on our first sacred trip into nature. I'll encourage folks to bring their cameras as the flowers will be in bloom. There will be a silent meditation on the Pebble Plain.

**June 30<sup>th</sup> - July 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Keep the Yeah and Kick the But**

This talk is based on Jack Kornfield's book, *No Time Like the Present*, referring to the chapter, "Elegant Imperfection - 80% Perfection is Enough". The tyranny of perfection will be developed. The class will view the YouTube story of David Roche, teacher and humorist. He was born with a huge tumor on his face. The removal and treatment of the tumor left David disfigured. His story is inspiring as it proves that 80% perfection is perfect. Discussion will follow. We'll review our manifestations, have an opportunity to practice being present in daily moments and have lunch. Our outing will be in the forest where we'll be examining the trees with 80% perfection in mind. Again, I'll encourage cameras or paper and colored pencils.

**August 25<sup>th</sup> - September 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Where Are Your TRAPS?**

Look at the substance of life, not the trappings. What are the things that are keeping you from fulfilling your greatest potential? The class will feature *God's Golden Eye*, an Ian Murphy movie that takes us back in time to discover what the giant white rock meant to the Indians, why the miners blew it up, and the message for today. We will visit the God's Eye after lunch.

**October 27<sup>th</sup> - November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Turn Over A New Leaf**

This talk will focus on changing your story and not dwelling in your negative stories. The source for the talk and the class is *Change Your Story, Change Your Life* by Carl Greer. We'll do an exercise to allow participants to rewrite a personal story they wish to change. We'll note that changing the story is a process; mine took years of work, but the journey to have an ending that I understood, and was comfortable with, was worth the journey. The goal is not a "happy" ending, but an ending you'll accept and understand. After lunch, we'll go to Crystal Mountain; another spiritual location in our valley.

*Liz Harris*

## *Bye, Bye Don Meline*



Our Don (or Donald as his mother always called him) passed away recently, and unexpectedly. He wasn't feeling well and left work at Stater Brothers to go to the Emergency Room. He checked in, was signing paperwork to get in, and the staff noticed he wasn't looking good. They immediately took him in and 20 minutes later he was gone... from heart failure.

Both Don and his mother, Elva, were long-time church members and participants. (His mom Elva was a practitioner.) Our church meant a lot to the Donald.

He is survived by his niece, Katherine Viterise and her daughters Audry & Tiffany, all living in Big Bear. Katherine is making his memorial arrangements. He will be cremated and ashes buried June 5 at 11:00 a.m. at the Riverside National Veteran's Cemetery and we are all invited to attend. They will be having

lunch at the Mission Inn after the service, so please contact Julie Grandi if you would like to attend. ([juliegrandi@charter.net](mailto:juliegrandi@charter.net), or 909-709-8670)

As you may know, Don was a huge train buff and built lots of model trains. He was in several clubs and was well known as a model train builder.


We don't have a charity mentioned for donations – but you could also send a donation to his niece who is having to pay all the cremation expenses, etc. (Katherine Viterise, P.O. Box 2307, Big Bear City, CA 92314).

*Donald T. Meline*

August 1, 1932 – January 18, 2019

## *ADVERTISE!*


Let your spiritual community know about the services and products you provide. *We want to support you!* You are invited to advertise your business in our monthly newsletter, which reaches over 300 people. Please provide camera-ready art and a check for \$25 to the church office (or any Board member) for the June issue by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Call 909-866-7100.



**Are you a Caregiver?**

*CarePartners of Bear Valley*

*is a support group providing friendly & insightful tips for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's, dementia & other illnesses.*



For further information  
Please call Mary Andresen  
909-585-7958  
*or Ellen Kesler*  
*909-585-1062*

Please join us at 1 PM  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays  
Senior Center  
42651 Big Bear Blvd



Holly says....

***Attitude is everything***

***so....***

***Pick a good one!***

*and pass it along....*