

**A NEW KIND OF SUPERHERO** BY JUNE GUMZ

The following is a true story that happened to me and my dog recently. It demonstrates that love for an animal is sometimes more powerful than common sense.

After a pleasant evening reading and watching TV, it was time for bed. At 1:30 a.m., my dog, Salty, woke me up because he needed to pee. While I appreciate the fact that

he chose not to do so on my bed, I wasn't thrilled to get up, go downstairs and let him out in the front yard.



June and Salty

At the end of my driveway is a street lamp that gives adequate light to keep track of my little twelve-pound Bichon Frise after sundown. As I waited for him to finish piddling on each bush and tree root, there was a fast-moving flash running across the front lawn. A coyote! It was headed directly for Salty!

It didn't matter that I was barefoot and in my pjs, I ran toward the animal shouting and waving my arms. It worked; the

distracted coyote changed direction and ran down a side street. Salty was safe and I was wide awake for the rest of the night.

When I emailed my brother, Steve, about the excitement, he replied "perhaps there should be a new superhero - Octogenarian Woman, who in her sleeping costume protects all creatures with small bladders."

Now, whenever I put on my pj's (sleeping costume), I do experience a sense of exhilaration that is new to me.

*"Love for an animal can overcome common sense!"*

INSIDE

Minister's Message.....2  
Board News .....3  
Volunteer Spotlight .....4  
Calendar .....5

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*“There is a laughter of God—  
let’s laugh it.  
There is a song of the  
Universe—  
let’s sing it.  
There is a hymn of praise—  
let’s praise it.  
There is a joy, a beauty;  
there is a deep,  
abiding peace—  
let’s experience it.”*

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*Ernest Holmes*

## MESSAGE BY REV. LARRY KING

# IT’S DIVINE!

Tickets are on sale for our annual **Divine Dining** program. This is the 9th year of this fund-raiser and it’s a real summer crowd-pleaser.

The concept is simple: we find ten people to throw a food-related party. Then the Center sells tickets to the parties.

The reality is less simple. Right away we learned that the program is more of a fun-raiser than a fund-raiser. We always price the tickets low enough for everyone to afford at least one of the parties. We also look for variety in the hosts and parties. This makes for a wide range of parties over the years. Some of my quirky-favorites have been:



Rev. Larry King

**Spaghetti Western:** Yes, there was the traditional spaghetti, salad and garlic bread. Then afterward we watched made-in-Italy Clint Eastwood westerns on TV. Classic!

**Bee Happy:** We had a lovely dinner of summer favorites and then enjoyed some bee-keeping tips around live bee hives. Yes: live bees.

**Talk Nerdy to Me:** Can any dessert compare to make-your-own ice cream with liquid nitrogen? No, I’m not kidding: instant ice cream and cryogenic research in one evening!

**Treasure in the Park:** Heard of geo-caching? After a lovely picnic lunch, the whole gang spread out over a large woodland park to find a set of visual clues. There were prizes for the folks who found them all. I almost won.

This year I’m intrigued by host Mary Hansel’s **“Biomimicry Bingo”** and by the Moffitt-Osborne family hosting **“A Party for The Whole Family”** at Playdate PDX. Of course, all the parties sound divine.

I hope you consider attending one or more of these special events. They’re a wonderful way to meet new people, try amazing food and, oh yes, help raise some money for your spiritual home.

*Bon Appetit!*

## NEWS FROM THE BOARD

BY JANINE STEWART

The full board met for its annual retreat in May. It was a time to get to know the newest members (Cheryl Collins, Nadine Moller and Sarah Stebbins). The main project was to charter a Strategic Planning Committee which has been a goal of Rev. Larry's for several years. The committee will use a format from the Home Office to create a 2-3- year operational plan for PCSL. A Strategic Plan takes us from being a reactionary board to a proactive board.

An Executive Team was established of Rev. Larry, Cheryl Collins and me, Janine Stewart. We will make the meeting agendas and prioritize action items in order to make the best use of our time. Several policies are up for review, as well as Rev. Larry's Letter of Call. A short-term Human Resources Team (Nadine Moller, Rev. Larry and Janine Stewart) will perform the reviews.

At the Annual Meeting, following a Board recommendation, the congregation directed the Board to pursue hiring an architect/space planner to come up with a plan for remodeling our current building. Jason Hutchison and Doreen Marchetti interviewed architects in our area and suggested that we hire ONE TO ONE, architect, Nicholas Locke, to prepare a base documentation, feasibility and concept report at an estimated cost of \$2100.00.

Be assured your Board is working hard on behalf of Portland Center for Spiritual Living.



## GOOD IN THE HOOD

Our N/NE neighborhood just finished celebrating its 27th annual "Good in the Hood" parade and festival. Its purpose is "to be a creative medium by which Portland residents, businesses and organizations can engage in music, food and resources while connecting people with experiences that strengthen unity in the community."

This is the second year that PCSL participated in the parade and festivities. It was a weekend-long series of events, multi-cultural booths, ethnic food, and entertainment. The parade was on Saturday, started at Emmanuel Hospital, and ended-up at King Elementary School Park (where most of the events and entertainment took place). We saw many of our supporters and friends along the parade route and enjoyed the company of so many local organizations.

It was a pleasure to add our energy to the diversity present for Good in the Hood and to show the Unity in our Community!

*Larry*

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

BY NADINE MOLLER



Sandra Clark is the woman with the beautiful smile and calm demeanor who has been serving our PCSL bookstore needs for 16 years. She recently stepped out of her leadership position yet continues to assist on Sundays. On a recent Sunday afternoon, I asked her a few questions regarding her volunteer service. Here are her answers:

“I’ve been a reader and a library card user since elementary school so the bookstore seemed a good fit for me. I joined PCSL in 2003 and started managing the bookstore about a year later. I had no prior retail experience so it’s been on the job training. I had much help from others who had retail experience. We carry books but I also carry items from our PCSL member artists and authors. This keeps our inventory fresh and also helps to support them and the community. I enjoy the camaraderie with other volunteers and meeting so many members and visitors. Some of my favorite recollections are the terrific compliments our bookstore receives, especially from visitors from other Centers for Spiritual Living.”

With her selfless service, Sandra continues to touch many lives in subtle and not so subtle ways. Next time you are in the bookstore and leave with a smile, know she has touched your heart.

## FREEDOM

BY PATRICIA PALIN

Let us speak of freedom,

Free to move around with ease, free to think our own thoughts, free to feel joy, free to express who we are.

Free to dream, free to move towards your dream, nurture you dream.

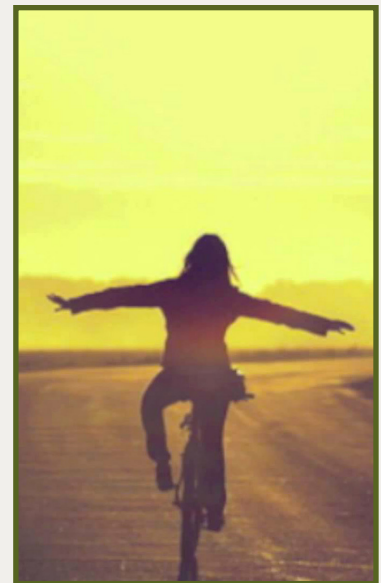
Free to use your intuition, to listen to your inner voice.

Free to give of yourself, to share your enlightenment.

Free to branch out, to bloom.

And last but not least, to free ourselves from the mold others would have us fill.

Set yourself free – spread your wings and fly.





*Opening Hearts  
Igniting Minds  
Making a Difference*

JOIN US AT THE CENTER

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**COMING EVENTS**

Ticket Sales Now Underway

**DIVINE DINING**

Feed your body. Feed your soul.



Bring your social calendar and be ready to buy tickets for your favorite parties. Support your Center and have a great time with fun, friends and food. Enjoy your summer with Divine Dining! Tickets are available for sale in the sanctuary after the first and second services each Sunday.

JULY

**ANNUAL PICNIC  
& BRING-A-FRIEND SUNDAY**

Sunday, July 14th after the 11:00 AM Service  
Peninsula Park; 700 N Rosa Parks Way

Bring a friend to our 11:00 AM service and meet everyone afterwards at Peninsula Park for our Annual Picnic. We'll provide the burgers, veggie-burgers and "dogs," you bring a side dish. Diane Thomas would also like to have a few volunteers to help

*Fellowship • Friends • Food • Fun*



with the event. Contact her at (971) 570-1670.

**AFTERWORDS OVER LUNCH**

Sunday, July 28th, 12:30 PM

Oregon Public House, 700 NE Dekum

Join us for our luncheon discussion of the Sunday message. Meet at the back of the sanctuary and we'll walk to a nearby restaurant and enjoy a meal and discussion together. For more information, contact Janine Stewart (451) 359-7552 or Marci Beck (503) 710-4587.



*All the power of the universe is with you. Feel it, know it, and then act as though it were true.*

*Ernest Holmes*

SEPTEMBER

**AIDS WALK PORTLAND**

Saturday, September 7th at The Fields Park in the Pearl  
Join our combined team "Centers for Spiritual Living" as we support Cascade AIDS project to help Oregonians living with HIV and AIDS. You can register online or donate to the cause on our Team Page. There's more information at the back of the sanctuary.



**KOMEN "MORE THAN PINK" WALK**

Sunday, September 22 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park

Join our team as we support the Komen foundation in its vision of "A World Without Breast Cancer." You can register online or sign up at the back of the sanctuary. For more information, contact Danah Buix at (360) 232-3188.



AUGUST

**PCSL COMMUNITY RETREAT  
Become Your Own Superhero!**

This 3-day retreat is a time of expanding spiritual practice, forming deeper relationships, laughing and playing in an atmosphere of joy and creativity. Our Community Retreat is family-friendly with special programming for the kids and inspirational workshops for the adults. The retreat is held at the Menucha Retreat Center in the middle of the Columbia Gorge with hiking trails and a swimming pool. Get more information or register today.

\$275 Adult Early Bird Special (through July 23rd)

\$300 Regular Adult Price

\$ 40 Youth, 7-12 (younger children free)

\$ 10 additional charge for special meals

