

Soul Link

*"...fostering an awareness of and a response to the sacred in nature,
human nature, and events of everyday life."*

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SOUL LINK
together on the spiritual path

Soul Link Board

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SOUL LINK RETREAT

God: The Ultimate Other, or the Ground of Our Being?

The mystics of all spiritual traditions consider the distinction between humanity and divinity a blessed blur. For many of us "mediocre mystics" the notion of God we learned as children, namely that "He" is a separate and Supreme Being, is no longer viable. And the idea that our existence in the flesh and in the world is "fallen" and therefore less than holy, does not mesh with a felt sense of God's presence and the conviction that both ourselves and the earth are sacred. Although it is a matter of growth to feel and believe as we do, it can feel like we are straying from the beliefs of our family and/or faith community. Because this is so, it is important that we gather to articulate and support one another on our spiritual journey. Our retreat will offer the opportunity for conversation, contemplation, and connection about the things that matter most.

Date: January 26, 2019

Place: Broadmoor Community Church (315 Lake Ave.)

Time: 9:00 am (registration), 9:30-2:00 (retreat)

Cost: \$30 early registration (by January 20), \$35 at the door.

Lunch is included.

Scholarships available.

Information: Tom Stella (719) 648-3939

From *Christian Meditation* by James Finley

"Moments of spontaneous meditative experience can be understood as flash points of awareness as the person we are breaks forth into human consciousness. Suddenly, we realize a oneness with God that we intuitively recognize to be at once God's identity and our own. In moments of meditative awakening we obscurely sense that who we are and who God is, is in some inscrutable manner, one mystery. Sustained by this awareness, we realize that if we were to try to find ourselves as someone other than God, we would search in vain. If we were to search for God as other than ourselves, our search would be equally futile. For we realize that God is given to us, wholly and completely, in a oneness that is at once all that God is and all that we really are. We are not God. But we are not other than God, either."

QUOTE CORNER

☪ All men matter. You matter, I matter. It's the hardest thing in theology to believe.
G.K. Chesterton

☪ If I find Him I will find myself. If I find my true self I will find Him.
Thomas Merton

☪ Why should I seek? I am the same as He. His essence speaks through me. I have been looking for myself.
Rumi

☪ (We are) entrenched in the ignorance of our imagined otherness from God.
James Finley

☪ We don't have a soul, we are a soul. We have a body.
C.S. Lewis

BOOKS FOR THE JOURNEY

The Contemplative Heart by James Finley (*Sorin Books*)

The author recognizes the depth and range of today's spiritual yearning and refuses to settle for anything but its most profound possibilities. He opens our everyday living to the contemplative traditions, practices, and teachings that have been traditionally the preserve of the monk, and he does so without diluting them. He makes us realize that wherever we live, whatever we do, the richest possibilities of a contemplative life are within our reach – that they are in fact what we have been searching for all along.

Immortal Diamond by Richard Rohr (*Jossey-Bass*)

This book likens True Self to a diamond, buried deep within us, formed under the intense pressure of our lives, that must be searched for, uncovered, separated from all the debris that surrounds it. In a sense, like Jesus, it must be resurrected, and that process is not resuscitation but transformation. *Immortal Diamond* explores the deepest questions of identity, spirituality, and meaning.

The Gift of Being Yourself by David G. Benner (*Inter Varsity Press*)

Sages throughout the ages have agreed that there cannot be deep knowledge of God without deep knowledge of the self. Discerning your true self is inextricably related to discerning God's purposes for you. Paradoxically, the more you become like God, the more you become authentically yourself. Freeing you from illusions about yourself, Benner shows that self understanding leads to the fulfillment of your God-given destiny.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

JAMES WHITE LECTURESHIP

This year's James White lecturer is Rev. Dr. Miguel De La Torre, a professor of Social Ethics and Latinx Studies at Iliff School of Theology. Dr. De La Torre will be speaking on the weekend of May 10-12. For details call First Congregational Church (635-3549).

EVENTS AT UNITY CHURCH 1945 MESA ROAD

- The Best is Yet to Come is a series of meetings for those interested in recovery no matter what the addiction. The group meets on Mondays from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Contact Shenna at 205-3127.
- Way of Mastery is a class based on the book *The Way of Mastery*. For more information see the website shantichristo.com. Classes are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Information (471-4556)
- Chair Yoga is a low-impact and fun class that will challenge your body and mind through strengthening, stretching, balancing, and relaxing. \$10 suggested donation. Wear comfortable clothes. Meets on Tuesdays from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Information (471-4556)

PRIVATE RETREATS

Feeling the need to get back in touch with your soul? Are you longing for some silence and solitude? The Sanctuary of the Rose might be just the place – and it's right here in our own backyard. The Sanctuary is located in Cascade, CO. For more information check out the website www.sanctuaryoftherose.com or contact Ann Benson at thesanctuaryrose@aol.com.

BOOK GROUP

The Soul Link Book Group will meet on September 18 at the Old Colorado City library on Pikes Peak and Colbrunn from 6:30 – 8:00. When we gather there will be a new focus. Rather than merely discussing a book as we have in the past, we will use the book as a catalyst for sharing about ourselves. *Soul Link* is all about connecting with others at a deep, personal level. We are all on a spiritual journey – talking about what that is like for us can reinforce the commitment necessary to sustain the ups and downs inherent in such a venture. For the September meeting, bring a book that has meaning for you and that has helped you become more attuned to your soul. Subsequent meetings are on the following dates: October 23, November 13, December 18.

CABO SERVICE PROJECT

Through **Travel with a Purpose**, *Soul Link* is offering the opportunity to serve the poor of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Participants will serve people in hospitals, day-care centers, orphanages, and community kitchens. There will be ample time for R&R in the surf and sun. The group will leave on January 3, 2019, and return on January 8, 2019. Contact Steve Shapiro (719)495-3400. Learn more at www.thetravelconnection.info

COMING EVENTS

BOOK GROUP

FEBRUARY 26

MARCH 26

APRIL 23

MAY 28

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

OLD COLORADO
CITY LIBRARY
PIKES PEAK AVE &
COLBRUNN

SOUL LINK BOARD MEETING

January 20

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Soul Link Office



SAVE THE TREES AND THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING THE NEWSLETTER

To receive notice of the latest *Soul Link* newsletter via email, please contact us at soullink@soullinkonline.org or call the office at 648-3939 and leave your full name and email address.



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Mail-In Registration Form

Clip and return with registration fee no later than January 20, 2019.

Please complete information below and send it along with your payment of \$30 per person to:

Soul Link, Inc.
2514 W. Colorado Ave. Suite 205
Colorado Springs CO 80904

Name(s) of person(s) attending _____

Phone Number _____

Drop-ins are welcome the day of the retreat.

The registration fee at the door will be \$35 per person.

We hope you will invite a friend to join us for this time of quiet reflection and lively conversation.