# Soul-Link, Inc.

". . .fostering an awareness of and response to the sacred in nature, human nature, and events of every day life."

Volume II Issue 2 Fall 2004

#### SOUL LINK RETREAT Finding What Matters, Sharing What Counts: Making the Most of Our Lives



Did you ever have the gnawing sense that there is more to life than you were in touch with? Many of us merely skim the surface of the vast, sacred depth that lies hidden in the ordinary, everyday reality or our responsibilities and relationships. Our retreat will challenge us to wake-up to what we've been missing, and to have the courage to build our lives and relationships around what matters most.

Date: November 6, 2004

Place: Julie Penrose House, 1661 Mesa Av. (behind the Broadmoor)

#### Soul-Link Board

Marty Fernandez Jim Francek Eva McGeehan Patrick Smith Tom Stella

#### Soul-Link, Inc.

2413 N. Cascade Ave. Colorado Springs CO 80907 (719) 776-2672

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www.soullinkonline.org

**Time:** 8:30 (registration), 9:00 - 2:30 (retreat)

**Cost:** \$20 pre-registration, \$25 at the door. Lunch included. Scholarships available

Information: 776-2672

#### WILD GEESE by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.

You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves.

Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine. Meanwhile the world goes on. Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain are moving across the landscapes, over the prairies and the deep trees, the mountains and the rivers. Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting—over and over announcing your place in the family of things.

#### What Matters Most

The story is told about a monk who, while walking prayerfully one day, happened upon an priceless gem lying on the road. He stooped down, picked it up, put it in his pocket and continued on. A thief accosted him shortly after, searched his backpack, but found nothing of value. The monk, remembering he had found the precious stone, took it from his pocket, gave it to the thief, and wished him well. The next day; the thief returned, gave the gem back to the monk and said, "Take back this jewel and give me what allowed you to let go of it so freely."

What matters most is not what we have, but how we deal with what we have and who we have in our life. Most of us get caught up in the busyness of life – so much to do, so little time – and fail to recognize the precious gem that is us, others, and life itself. Since, despite our best intentions, our lives are not likely to get less busy, we must learn to look with different eyes at what and who we have. If we look with the eyes of appreciation – the word means "go to the precious", we may begin to see what we have missed. And having seen differently, perhaps we might begin to live differently.

The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls.

-Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 1890

## Soul Link Book Group Off and Running

About ten Soul Linkers have agreed to gather on a monthly basis to discuss books that pertain to the spiritual life – these are not necessarily "spiritual books." New members are welcome. If you are interested please contact Marty Fernandez (550-3199).

#### Volume II, Issue 2

### Soul-Link Film Club Going Strong

Over the past several months, an average of eight people have gathered to view and discuss videos that have some significance for the spiritual life. This "artsy" crowd has watched such films as "Second Hand Lions," "Bruce Almighty," "Antonia's Line," "Children of Heaven," and "What The Bleep Do We Know." If you would like to participate contact Lori Rose (574-9578) or Joe Burke (531-0343) soullinkfilmgroup@gbronline.com.

## Body, Mind, Spirit

Because Soul Link believes in holistic health, we encourage/sponsor events that nourish all aspects of our being. Trainer Wade Mitchell has offered, at a discounted rate, to help anyone interested in attending to their physical well-being. Call Wade at **321-7675** to set up an appointment. His gym is located in the Plaza of the Rockies at 111 S. Tejon.



"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of Nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy."

- George Bernard Shaw

#### Bishop Spong in Colorado Springs

Retired Episcopal bishop, theologian, and author John Shelby Spong will be here October 22-24. He is an outspoken advocate for those who find themselves on the margins of institutional religion, and a critic of Christian churches that have lost the spirit of the founder – which ones haven't! His presentations will be as follows:

Oct. 22 at Shove Chapel, Colorado College, 7:30pm "Jesus Before the Creeds"

**Oct. 23** at First Congregational Church, 9:30 – 12:00 "What Did Paul Mean When He Called Jesus the Pascal Lamb?" 1:30 - 4:00 "Did Jesus Die For Our Sins: What Is the Source of This Strange Idea?" A \$20 charge covers both workshops.

Contact Rory Wolfe (389-6636) to register.

**Oct. 24** at First Congregational Church, 10:30am worship service and 9:15 Adult Forum

Soul-Link has a new phone number:

776-2672



Soul-Link, Inc. 2413 N. Cascade Ave. Colorado Springs CO 80907

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Joe Uveges in Concert Just over a year ago Soul Link sponsored a concert featuring Joe Uveges, Phil Volen, and Jim Sokol. On January 14, 2005 at 7pm, Joe will entertain us again. The concert will take place at First Congregational Church (Tejon and St. Vrain) at 7pm. The cost is \$10. This may be your only notice, so mark your calendar.

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## **Coming Events**

Oct .22-24: Bishop Spong (CC and First Cong. Church)

Nov. 3: Soul-Link Board Meeting (Soul-Link House, 5:30)

Nov. 6: Soul Link Retreat (Julie Penrose House)

Nov. 8: Potluck discussion (Soul Link House, 6:30)

" " Dec. 13: " " Jan. 10: "

Jan. 14: Joe Uveges concert (First Cong. Church, 7:00 p.m.)



Finding What Matters, Sharing What Counts: Making the Most of Our Lives

Saturday, November 6, 2004 Mail In Registration Form-Clip and return with registration fee no later than October 31, 2004

Please complete information below, enclose your check in the amount of \$20.00 per person (includes lunch). Mail to: SOUL-LINK, INC. 2413 N. Cascade Ave. Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Name(s) of person(s) attending

Drop-ins are welcome the day of the retreat. The Phone number registration fee "at the door" will be \$25.00 per person. We hope you will invite a friend to join us for this time of reflection and conversation. For more information, call 776-2672.