

# Soul-Link, Inc.

“ . . . fostering an awareness of and response to the sacred in nature, human nature and events of everyday life.”

Volume VIII, Issue 1

Winter 2010

**SOUL LINK**  
Together on the Spiritual Path

## Soul Link Board

Ruth Heine  
Eva McGeehan  
Sheilah Shapiro  
Patrick Smith  
Tom Stella

## Soul-Link, Inc.

2514 W. Colorado Ave.,  
Suite 205  
Colorado Springs CO  
80904  
719.648.3939



[www.soullinkonline.org](http://www.soullinkonline.org)

## SOUL LINK RETREAT

### *“Every Bush Is a Burning Bush: Discovering the Sacred In Our Midst”*

Many of us go through our day and our life unaware of the sacredness that underlies who we are, where we live, and what we do. When we get lost in the everyday demands of life in the world we fail to realize that those very demands are a doorway to the divine. The Truth we long for is not to be found apart from our life but at the heart of it. This earthy consciousness is at the core of contemplative spirituality; it is basic to living a full, healthy, and happy life. Our retreat will be an exploration of the sacred character of life, an examination of the reasons we are so often blind to it, and a sharing about ways we have found to become, and remain aware of it.

**Date:** January 23, 2010

**Place:** Broadmoor Community Church (315 Lake Ave.)

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

**Cost:** \$30 early registration, \$35 at the door. Lunch included. Scholarships available.

**Information:** 648-3939

## *From An Altar in the World*

by **Barbara Brown Taylor**

What is saving my life now is the conviction that there is no spiritual treasure to be found apart from the bodily experiences of human life on earth. My life depends on engaging the most ordinary physical activities with the most exquisite attention I can give them. My life depends on ignoring all touted distinctions between the secular and the sacred, the physical and the spiritual, the body and the soul. What is saving my life now is becoming more fully human, trusting that there is no way to God apart from real life in the real world.

*continued on page 2...*

...from page 1

In a world of too much information about almost everything, bodily practices can provide great relief. To make bread or love, to dig in the earth, to feed an animal or cook for strangers – these activities require no extensive commentary, no lucid theology...In a world where faith is often construed as a way of thinking, bodily practices remind the willing that faith is a way of life.

## Quote Corner

*The miracle is not to walk on water but on the earth.* - Thich Nhat Hanh

*The day of my spiritual awakening was the day I saw – and knew I saw – all things in God and God in all things.*  
- Mechtild of Magdeburg

*It is forbidden to taste of the pleasures of this world without a blessing.* - The Talmud

*There is nowhere to go, nothing to do, and no one to become.* - Buddhist saying

## Books For the Journey

### ***The Re-Enchantment of Everyday Life* by Thomas Moore (Harper Perennial)**

Moore explores the natural wonder of everyday life – in trees, food, home, garden, art, furniture, stories, sex, business, politics, and ritual. To live without feeling magic or enchantment in external things...is to tumble into long-term “loss of soul” in modern life. This book is invigorating, demanding, and revolutionary.

### ***An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor (Harper One)**

In *An Altar in the World* Brown-Taylor shares how she learned to encounter God beyond the walls of any church...From simple practices such as walking, working, and getting lost in deep meditation on topics like prayer and pronouncing blessings, Taylor reveals concrete ways to discover the sacred in the small things we do and see. Something as ordinary as hanging clothes on a clothesline becomes an act of devotion if we pay attention to what we are doing and take time to attend to the sights, smells, and sounds around us ...Under Taylor's expert guidance, we come to question conventional distinctions between the sacred and the secular, learning that no physical act is too earth bound or too humble to become a path to the divine.

### ***This Blessed Mess* by Patricia Livingston (Sorin Books)**

We all know the experience of chaos in our lives. Pat Livingston shows us that creation happens through this chaos, not in spite of it. In dozens of stories drawn from everyday life – stories of birth and death, conflict and comfort, anxiety and peace – she shares with her readers a lifetime of taming chaos.

# Events of Interest

## ***Wednesday Night Lecture Series***

In this six part Harvard interactive lecture, professor Michael Sandel challenges us with difficult dilemmas and asks our opinion about the right thing to do. He will address some of the hot topics of our day – affirmative action, same sex marriage, patriotism and rights...Each class is free standing and prior viewing is not necessary. Coffee and dessert will be provided. Dates: January 6,13,20,27, February 3,10. Time: 6:30 – 8:30. Place: Broadmoor Community Church. Contact Scott Lovaas (473-1807 ext. 112).

## ***Pillar's Philosophical Café***

A place for intelligent, stimulating discussion on a variety of topics. Meets every Tuesday morning from 10:00 – 12:00 at Broadmoor Church. Contact Charlie Coon (636-2004).

## ***Introduction to Buddhist Meditation***

Colorado College professor David Gardiner will lead this two-session workshop on meditation in the Buddhist tradition which will take place on January 14 and 28 from 7:00 – 8:30 at Broadmoor Church. Cost is \$10 per session. Contact Scott Lovaas (see above).

## ***Friends of Emerson***

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882) was a philosopher, essayist, and poet who is considered the leader of the Transcendentalist movement. Like his friend Thoreau, Emerson was a critic of the social and religious status quo of his day - and of ours. Friends of Emerson meet twice monthly (Thursdays) from 4:00 – 5:00 in the library at First Congregational Church (Tejon and St Vrain). Upcoming dates are Jan. 14, 28 Feb. 11, 25 Mar. 11, 25 Ap. 8, 22. Contact Lucy Bell for more information (576-5371 or lucybell@comcast.net).

## ***Coming Events***

### **Potluck Discussions**

Jan 11, Feb 28,  
Mar 8, Ap 11  
6:30 – 8:00pm  
BCC

### **Book Group**

Jan 26, Feb 23  
6:30 – 8:00pm  
Agia Sophia Bookstore  
2902 W. Colorado Ave.

### **Board Meeting**

Jan 20  
5:30 – 6:30  
(Soul Link Office)

### **Film Group**

Jan 31 (Constantine's  
Sword)  
6:30 – 8:30 pm  
BCC (West Bldg)

## ***Save the Date***

### **Soul Link Spring Retreat**

April 24, 2010

**As our mailing list grows, so does the cost of mailing the newsletter. If, in lieu of receiving a hard copy of the newsletter via snail mail, you would be willing to receive an email stating that a new newsletter is available on our website at [www.soullinkonline.org](http://www.soullinkonline.org), please call the Soul Link office 719-648-3939 and leave your full name and email address. We will continue to print the newsletter, but the cost of printing and postage is significant. We are trying to be good stewards of our limited funds.**



**Soul-Link, Inc.**

2514 W. Colorado Ave., Suite 205

Colorado Springs CO 80904

719.648.3939

www.soullinkonline.org



**SOUL LINK**  
Together on the Spiritual Path

.....  
***“Every Bush is a Burning Bush:  
Discovering the Sacred in Our Midst”***

***Saturday, January 23, 2010***

Mail In Registration Form

*Clip and return with registration fee no later than January 17, 2010*

*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 reflection and conversation.