

THE LIGHTHOUSE

November 2017

Inside:

P2 Who We Are

P2 Board of Directors

P2 Spiritual Directions Committee

P3 Sunday Service Schedule

P4&5 Wednesday Meditation Circle

P5 Happy Birthday

P5&6 Pachamama Alliance-November Symposium

P7 Letter from the BC Muslim Association

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The Winds of Change

November drifts in with intentional fog on its breath and the wail of lost sight. Season of wind and colour, brisk mornings and rainy afternoons: a time to hold on to core values perhaps, as winds perverse enough to widow the trees leave a trail of past glories at our feet. Like Shakespeare's Lear, it is also a time to strip down to the essence of who we are, to sip the wine of knowledge and prepare for the darkness of the day and the coldness of the night. Like the trees, we can "raise naked arms to the sky, while sighing, pining for the loss" OR we can take heart and sing, dance and write poetry.

D. Joan Thomas (quote from "Autumn Leaves")



The Lighthouse November 2017
A Newsletter for Friends of the Church

We are a spiritual community supporting each other in exploring our personal journeys regardless of spiritual path or belief. Our community is comprised of a rich field of individual and collective energies that is ever changing and evolving.

While we are accepting of diverse expressions of belief, we recognize the interconnectedness of all things and the power of love and appreciation. We hold reverence for all life.

We welcome those who wish to share their journey with us through their insights, reflections, experience and creative self-expression.

We are open to inspiration and recognize that our openness to others' ideas enhance our own awareness and expansion.

We meet our basic human need to socialize, bond, cooperate, celebrate and have fun, in a warm-hearted way, through a variety of events and activities.

We acknowledge our opportunity to be agents of change in the world and we encourage and support service to others through individual and group activity.

We share our sacred space with the larger community.

With gratitude, we live thoughtfully on the Earth with kindness and compassion for all.

We welcome you.

Church of Truth – Community of Conscious Living
Sunday Service – 11:00 am

Working for You
Your Board of Directors

President	Brian Martin	778-430-1872
Vice President	Troi Leonard	250-532-3442
Inside Maintenance	Lorna Rennie	250-361-2079
Secretary/Treasurer	Deborah Hawkey	250-813-1747
Outside Maintenance	Bill Israel	250-744-0590
SDC Liaison	Bill Israel	250-744-0590

Your Spiritual Directions Committee

Laurence Beal	250-380-6429
Jane Campbell	778-533-7978
Linda Chan	250-380-6383
Chris Porter	250-588-6722
Marilyn Smando	250-516-9687
D. Joan Thomas	250-721-4054

Rentals Esther Hart 250-896-5933

Newsletter dbhawkey@gmail.com Submissions due by the 21st.

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

November 5 Aspiring to Be a Game Changing Leader:

An exploration in core values

Coordinator: Linda Chan
Moderator: Louisa Fiander
Meditation: Colin Lee
Speaker: Linda Chan
Greeter: Jean Gregson

November 12 Essence of Self

We will explore the 'essence of self' with a water ceremony. John Vanden Heuvel will join Jane Warren Campbell as we gather to learn about the essence of water and how it makes up the essence of self. We will discuss new discoveries about water's transformative abilities and healing effects. Then we will join as a group to bless and tone to water, filling it with love and healing, through our intentions. Please bring a small bottle to take some of the blessed water with you for your personal use or to offer to the ocean for healing.

Coordinator: Jane Warren Campbell
Moderators: John Vanden Heuvel and Jane Warren Campbell
Meditation: Included in ceremony
Greeter: TBA

November 19 Take Heart - Music and Poetry

The Heart's ache rocks the baby of creativity within the Soul and enables the artist in all of us to be born.

Coordinator: D. Joan Thomas
Moderator: Marvelous Trudeau
Meditation: TBA
Speaker: Frances Litman and D. Joan Thomas
Greeter: TBA

November 26 Winds of Change – Dragonfly Transformation/ Transition

Coordinator: Marilyn Smando
Moderator: Linda Chan
Meditation: Elsie Poliquin
Speaker: Jennifer Sager
Greeter: TBA

The dragonfly in almost every part of the world symbolizes change and change in the perspective of self realization and the kind of change that has its source in mental and emotional maturity and the understanding of the deeper meaning of life.

**Wednesday Meditation Circle
Church of Truth
111 Superior St.
Free or by donation
Everyone Welcome
7-8:30 p.m.**

November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29



We come together with the intent of deepening our relationship with the soul and group soul consciousness.

Format For the Evening Includes:

7 p.m. Opening of Meditation Circle and Welcome (Opening of the Circle, Lighting of Candle, Welcoming People to our Sacred Space, Sharing of “Flower Essence”)

A Short Guided Process to Prepare for the Body for Meditation followed by Chanting the sacred “OM” three times before we enter into Silent Meditation.

7:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Silent Meditation.

At 7:40 p.m. ring chimes once and Attendees are invited to Silently and Individually set a Meditation Intention to the Service, Love & Healing of Others or continue with Silent Meditation.

7:45 p.m. Ring Chimes three times. Silent Meditation Ends and Attendees will be invited to stay for the Sharing Circle or quietly leave.

7:47 p.m. Sharing Circle begins – Attendees are free to contribute to the circle anything they wish to share stemming from their meditation and day to day life. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle(s) and set an intention.

8:20 p.m. Closing of Sharing Circle - Take-away Thoughts, Toning or Chanting, Put out the Candle, and Close the Circle.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We Celebrate with YOU!



Jennifer Hastie	November 3
Marilyn Smando	November 8
Marek Losinski	November 12
Joyanna Wilkinson	November 17
Jane Gerlach	November 21
Deborah Hawkey	November 21

LESSONS FROM THE PACHAMAMA ALLIANCE: NOVEMBER SYMPOSIUM

FACILITATORS: Michael Tacon and Chris Bullock

DATE: Saturday, November 4, 2017

PLACE: Church of Truth, 111 Superior St.

TIME: 10-4 p.m. Some snacks and refreshments but bring a lunch.

COST: \$15 donation. This event is a fundraiser for the Church of Truth.

In 1995, the Achuar, an indigenous group in the Amazon rain forest in an area spanning Ecuador and Peru, reached out to American activists Lynne and Bill Twist, for help in protecting their territories from the advance of oil companies interested in exploiting the land for fossil fuel extraction. Lynne and Bill went back to San Francisco to found the Pachamama Alliance, an organization that has organized journeys to the Amazon for North Americans to learn from indigenous tribes there, and has raised millions of dollars to help the Achuar purchase and protect their land.

However, the Pachamama Alliance also does work deeply relevant to all North Americans, not just those who have been in contact with the Achuar and other Amazon

peoples. The message of the Achuar to Lynne and Bill, and all North Americans, was that indigenous land and culture would never be safely protected until North Americans were able to escape from and change the “dream of the modern world,” the dream that happiness could only come from endless and spiritually deadening consumption of material goods. As an

alternative vision, the Achuar referred to an ancient prophecy, shared by many Andean and Amazonian indigenous cultures, that the a time would come when the Eagle – representing intellect and the mind – and the Condor – representing wisdom and the heart – must come together to ensure the continued existence of humankind.

To fulfill this prophecy, and help change the “dream of the modern world,” the Pachamama Alliance evolved the Symposium as a teaching tool, using video and up-to-date research to explain how the “dream” has evolved to the point where we have dramatically overshoot the earth’s carrying capacity, and to present viable alternatives in both vision and action to move us away from our present disastrous course towards a more fulfilling and connected existence. The connectedness that Pachamama works towards is not just in our relations to the other beings who share our world, but also in the connections between environmental sustainability, social and economic justice, and spiritual fulfillment. Pachamama’s point, and it’s one that we, as facilitators, deeply resonate with, is that none of these three is possible without the other two.

“Lessons from the Pachamama Alliance” is a shortened version of the Pachamama Symposium, with some discussion also – thanks to material supplied by Linda Chan—of the new educational programs Pachamama is developing to train environmental, social and spiritual activists. For more information on the November event, contact chrisbullock@shaw.ca

Submitted by Chris Bullock





بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

جمعیة مسلمی بریتش کلمبیا

The B.C. Muslim Association

VICTORIA BRANCH

Good Afternoon:

I am sending you this letter as the Imam of the Masjid al-Iman which is located on Quadra Street in Victoria.

My intention, the intention of the Muslim community, is to introduce ourselves to you and your congregation with the hope that we might have an opportunity to meet each other if we already haven't, and dispell any misunderstanding and fears that our respective members might have.

The media plays no small part in furthering information that can cause unrest and confusion. Our community strongly feels that peace will come to our world when knowledge and valid information is shared. That is our purpose. That is our hope. That is our only intention.

To that end, we are offering an open invitation to you and any members of your congregation who would be interested in honest discussion about any topic that is of concern or interest. Should a very informal visit to the mosque be of interest that could be arranged as well.

You will find my card attached to this document. I would be delighted to talk with you further. If we put our heads together in the spirit of humanity and love, I am confident that we will be able to come up with an occasion that will be enjoyable and helpful for all.

Sincerely,

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