

Worship Sharing • SEYM 2013 Gathering

Becoming Whole in Body, Mind, Spirit and Planet

THURSDAY

Quotes

"And God saw that it was good." - Genesis 1:31

"We do not love people because they are beautiful, but they seem beautiful to us because we love them." -Russian proverb

"Healing ourselves of dualism, of hierarchy, of anthropocentrism (human-centeredness), of 'pie in the sky,' of authoritarian images of God, we open ourselves to trees, mountains, birds, animals - all Gaia's manifold life - and find that healing is a two-way street."

- Elizabeth Watson, *Healing Ourselves and Our Earth*, 1991

Queries

In what ways do I endeavor to be a "beneficent (kindly, compassionate) presence" with all my relations (myself, Planet Earth's inhabitants)?

What am I doing - or intend to do - to show children that I try and I care about their/our future and present?

In what way(s) do I express my love for myself? for Planet Earth?

What wisdom have I found in: children? adults? teens? a relationship of some kind I'm engaged in?

What wisdom have I found in myself? In what ways am I wise?

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FRIDAY

Quotes

"You desire faithfulness in the inmost being, so teach me wisdom in my heart...Let me hear the sound of joy and gladness; you have crushed me, but make me rejoice again. Turn your face away from my sins and wipe out all my iniquity. - God, create a pure heart for me, and give me a new and steadfast spirit. Do not drive me from your presence or take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your deliverance and grant me a willing spirit to uphold me." - Psalms 51:6-12

"Please don't let me die." - Kimani Gray, African American boy, 16 years old, what he cried out after police shot him with 7 bullets and before they let him die, on Saturday, March 9th, 2013, in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, New York, USA

"On the far side of despair...lies hope." - Elise Boulding, late European American Quaker & womyn's herstorian, author, & "public Friend" (who shared her wisdom with SEYM in the 1980's)

"Begin anew." - paraphrasing Thich Nhat Hanh, Vietnamese Buddhist monk & poet & the only person Martin Luther King Jr. nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, living in exile in France

Queries

One thing I will consider doing - or have done - to get unstuck from the paralysis in responding to the overwhelmedness of society's problems (or one problem) is or was....

In what ways do I express my grief and/or frustration with the state of society/world/humankind?

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SATURDAY

Quotes

"God, you are my God; I seek you eagerly with a heart that thirsts for you & a body wasted with longing for you, like a dry land, parched & devoid of water. With such longing I see you in the sanctuary & behold your power & glory. - Your unfailing love is better than life; therefore I shall sing your praises. Thus all my life I bless you; in your name I lift my hands in prayer. I am satisfied as with a rich feast & there is a shout of praise on my lips. - I call you to mind on my bed & meditate on you in the night watches, for you have been my help & I am safe in the shadow of your wings. I follow you closely & your right hand upholds me."

- Psalms 63:1-8

"What is needed on our part is the capacity for listening to what the earth is telling us...Our sense of the earth must be sufficiently sound so that it can support the dangerous future that is calling us. It is a decisive moment."

- Thomas Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*, 1988

"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive & go do it. Because what the world needs are people who have come alive."

- Howard Thurman, late African American theologian

Queries

What has been my contribution to deepening the meeting for worship experience for myself, and hence, others?

What am I willing to do - to take on or give up - to deepen my experience of meeting for worship so I may more easily sense what God is asking of me, my meeting, re the Climate Crisis? other matters?