

A Place to Be

Spirituality Center

Accompanying those who seek meaning and purpose and something beyond themselves.

August-December 2021

Newsletter

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- ◊ Spiritual Companion Spotlight
- ◊ A Variety of Prayer Experiences
- ◊ Busy Person's Retreat

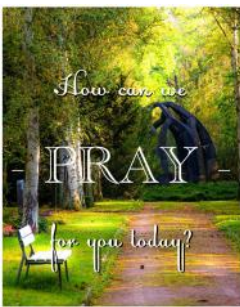
...And MORE!

Our programs and retreats can only be offered because of the generosity of our donors. As we strive to provide most offerings on a free-will basis, please consider making a donation to help make our offerings available to everyone.



Weekly online offerings

Kelly offers livestreamed offerings on Facebook
Live every week. **Tune in to join us:**
Praying with Beads, Mon/Wed at Noon
Contemplative Practice, Mon/Wed/Fri at 4:00 p.m.



We know this time has been difficult for many.
How can we help?
What can we do to make this time easier for you?
How can we pray for you?



With the blessing of the vaccine, we are mindful of the mixed feelings we have about how to gather. To accommodate, most of our programming is available both online via Zoom and in person. In accordance with CDC guidelines, vaccinated individuals will no longer be required to wear a mask at our gatherings or events. Please let us know if you have concerns; it is important to us that our guests feel comfortable and safe.

How to register:

Go online to www.aplacetobesc.org and click on "Register" link on the program description page. The donation for most events is due at the time of registration.

Financial assistance:

If you would like to attend a program but cannot manage the entire donation, please call

Kelly Lemens, Director, at (262) 277-1928 or email lemensk@aplacetobesc.org.

We are committed to serving everyone on their spiritual journey and will hold your request in confidence.

Social media: Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

www.facebook.com/aplacetobesc

www.instagram.com/aplacetobesc



In a world that often feels more divided than ever, we continue to pray for peace and unity: in our homes, our communities, our country and our world. Please join us in this effort.

If you are involved with an organization that is committed to peace and unity and would like our support in your efforts, please reach out.

COVER ART: Photo taken by Phil Block, a talented and accomplished photographer and good friend of *A Place to Be*. Phil is a retired corporate trainer and experienced small group leader in area faith communities.



As I make plans and begin preparations for this next semester, I realize that we are crossing the threshold into our fourth year of being. I am so very humbled by the presence and expansive spiritual space *A Place To Be* offers to seekers from around the world. We are ever mindful of the sacred trust placed in this presence and reverence the tender, longing

souls that seek us out. This is without a doubt the workings of the Spirit and we are honored to be conduits of It's love.

This four-year threshold also benchmarks three-plus years of support and encouragement by the St. John XXIII Catholic Community, our donors, ecumenical partners and the many, many folks who have joined us for one of our offerings. Your spirits have helped shape what *A Place To Be* has and continues to become - a home to seekers of all kinds. We've included in this newsletter some of the reflections and comments about your experience here at APTB. Saying "Thank You" just doesn't seem adequate for the gratitude that fills our hearts for your support and ongoing presence!

A significant development in our growth has been the addition of our adjunct facilitators. I am excited to welcome our good friends Ruth Hoenick, Craig Bergland, Jo-Ann Decker and Carol Hoopman with programs such as *Sacred Circle*, *Enneagram Workshop*, *Meeting God in Motherhood*, and our *Busy Person's Retreat*, not to mention serving as spiritual companions and spiritual mentors. We are so blessed by their presence in our community.

And so we are excited to share this Fall's offerings with you. May you find food for your soul, a light for the spiritual path and holy space in which to rest your Spirit.

Peace and all blessings,

Kelly

Welcome!

Our mission:

A Place to Be accompanies those who seek meaning and purpose and something beyond themselves.

Core Values:

- ◇ Sacredness: We believe in every person and all creation dwells the indwelling Spirit.
- ◇ Respect: Acknowledge the dignity, diversity, and worth of each person as a unique image of God.
- ◇ Community: Through prayer, empathy, listening and sharing, we create a safe, nonjudgmental, peaceful place.
- ◇ Hospitality: Welcome all with compassion, acceptance, and celebration.
- ◇ Professionalism: Commit to competence, quality, trust, and personal spiritual development.
- ◇ Emotions: We believe in the authentic sharing of ourselves through laughter, tears and joy.

Book Groups & Bible Studies

Spirituality Book Clubs

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm **or** Thursdays, 9:30-11:00 am

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens **Donation:** Varies by selection

These groups provides encouragement and fellowship for anyone looking to delve deeper into different areas of Spirituality. Join other seekers in studying a faith topic using a variety of genres followed by reflection, discussion, and prayer.

Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage by Steven Charleston

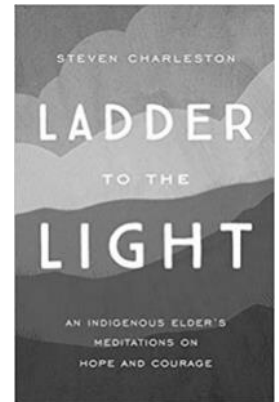
Wednesdays, beginning August 18, 6:30-8:00 p.m. or

Thursdays, beginning August 19, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Suggested Donation: \$25 (includes book)

They were as troubled as we, our ancestors, those who came before us, and all for the very same reasons: fear of illness, a broken heart, fights in the family, the threat of another war. And yet they came through, carrying us within them, through the grief and struggle, through the personal pain and the public chaos, finding their way with love and faith, not giving in to despair but walking upright until their last step was taken. My culture does not honor the ancestors as a quaint spirituality of the past but as a living source of strength for the present. They did it and so will we.

Choctaw elder and Episcopal priest Steven Charleston offers words of hard-won hope, rooted in daily conversations with the Spirit and steeped in Indigenous wisdom. Every day Charleston spends time in prayer. Every day he writes down what he hears from the Spirit. In *Ladder to the Light* he shares what he has heard with the rest of us and adds thoughtful reflection to help guide us to the light. Native America knows something about cultivating resilience and resisting darkness. For all who yearn for hope, *Ladder to the Light* is a book of comfort, truth, and challenge in a time of anguish and fear.



Cribbage Tournament Fundraising Event for A Place to Be

Saturday, November 6 • 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Plier's Full Circle Pub & Restaurant

\$60/team

Friendship, Fun, 50/50 Raffle and MORE!



For more information or to register your team, contact Dan Becker: beckerd@aplacetobesc.org

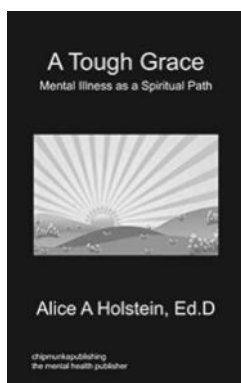
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Social Justice Book Series



Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. beginning August 16

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens **Donation:** Varies by selection



A Tough Grace: Mental Illness as a Spiritual Path by Alice A. Holstein, Ed.D

Suggested Donation: \$25 (includes book)

Bipolar disorder, also known as manic depression, affects approximately 5.7 million Americans, or 2.6% of the population. Domestic and other violence, drug usage, homelessness and alcoholism comes from undiagnosed or untreated manic depression, not to mention suicides and premature deaths from the side effects of preventative medications. Thousands can be rescued from poverty and the disrupted family and economic lives that accompany this illness. A new approach to treating manic depression is desperately needed.

Author Alice Holstein has lived with manic depression for over 40 years.

Excerpt: *No one told me that it would take so much effort to do the inner work essential to living life fully. No one told me that this kind of work would begin in earnest at mid-life, absorbing me afterwards for another 12 years with both intense suffering and breakthroughs as the manic depression unfolded.*

This book proclaims the revolutionary idea that mental illness can be a profound spiritual journey. A path filled with tests, trials and suffering, mental illness can be a kind of “tough grace” where people can reframe their experiences to understand them as a hero’s journey that creates wisdom and steely strengths. Join us as we read Alice’s story and explore how the illness ultimately forced her to acquire the knowledge and skills that produce creativity and inner happiness.

Meeting God in Motherhood: Opening Our Hearts to Moments of Grace By Mary Ronan Williams

Mondays: 9/27, 10/4, 10/22, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1; 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Facilitator: Jo Ann Decker

Suggested Donation: \$15 (includes book)

Motherhood often is an all-consuming endeavor, one where we can lose a sense of who are. It’s easy to feel like wiping sticky cheeks, kissing bruised knees, and checking homework is the totality of our earthly existence. Yet in God’s eyes, there is and always will be more to us than our role as mothers. Is it possible to meet God in the day-to-day task of raising a family? Could motherhood possibly be the fertile field of God’s grace? Encountering God in mothering can be a transformative gift. Join us as we reflect on God’s presence in the thick of motherhood and explore the gift God offers in these moments of grace. Sessions include prayer, reflections and small group discussions. *This program is not offered via Zoom.*



Book Groups & Bible Studies

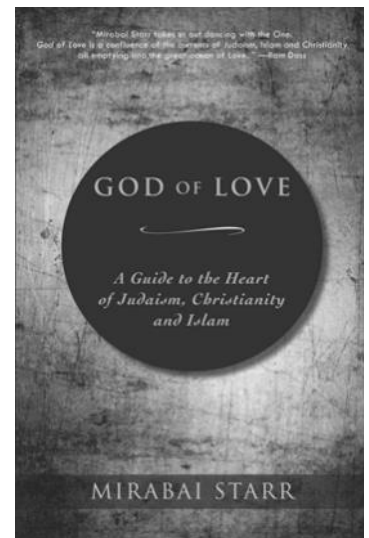
***God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity and Islam*, by Mirabai Starr**

Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 pm; 6 weeks, beginning October 7

Facilitator: Craig Bergland

Suggested Donation: \$25 (includes book)

God of Love is Starr's passionate and personal exploration of the interconnected wisdom of the three Abrahamic faiths. She shares an overview of essential teachings, stories of saints and spiritual masters, prophetic calls for peace and justice, and deeply engaging narratives from her own spiritual experiences. Starr guides us to recognize the teachings and practices that unify rather than divide the three religions, and sheds light on the Interspiritual perspective, which celebrates the Divine in all paths.



We Make the Road by Walking Bible Study (via Zoom) by Brian McLaren

McLaren

1st 3 Saturdays of each month, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

August 14-December 18

Suggested donation: \$20 (includes book)

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Our faith was never intended to be a destination; rather it is a path, a way out of old, destructive patterns into new and creative ones. *We Make The Road By Walking* book and Bible study offers a positive, practical, open, faithful, and fresh articulation of the Christian faith suitable for people in our dynamic times. Organized around the Liturgical calendar, the readings give an overview of the whole Bible and guide us through rich study, interactive learning, and personal growth. If you are seeking a fresh way to experience and practice your faith, in you're a long-term Christian seeking new vitality or if you feel out of place in traditional church circles, this book will inspire and activate you in your spiritual journey. Join us!

Parables: Stories with Intent (via Zoom)

Saturdays, 9:00 – 10:00 am

Beginning January 8, 2022

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Suggested Donation: \$25, includes materials

Jesus understood the power of stories. He often used them to teach transformative lessons, convey deep spiritual truths, and confront and challenge his audience to open their hearts to the kingdom. These same stories are equally relevant today. Join us as we explore Jesus' parables in their original context and discuss their meaning for us today.



Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians Bible Study

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Beginning August 24th

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Suggested Donation: \$25

Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians is the most personal of all his writings, and it reveals much about his character. Rich and varied in content, the letter reveals Paul's deep reflections about his relationship with this community, his vision and sense of values about a faith community as well as how Jesus' passion and resurrection are the pattern for his and all Christian life. Join us as we explore these and several other issues that have arisen in the Corinth Church and are still present in our Church today. The only supplies needed are a Bible.



Reflections from our Wednesday Book Group

This past year has presented so many challenges to our world. It was important to many of groups to continue meeting, connecting, and diving deeper into their spirituality together, which we were able to do safely via Zoom until we could come together again safely in person. A couple of our group members share some of their thoughts with us here.

About 5 years ago I began to notice that I needed something more in between attending Sunday Mass each week... (although I wasn't sure what "more" meant). I knew I needed something that would spark my soul and spiritual thinking.... something that would give me some new tools to help me nurture my relationship with God and others. A friend suggested that I attend a Bible Study class to find out what this big, beautiful book, the Bible, was all about. This is when I started to attend the Wednesday Evening Book Club as the first topic was the Timeline of the Bible. To be honest it was not only the readings from the Bible, but the people who attended the group and participated in the discussions that kept my spiritual journey in motion. This is why I continue to participate in the book club. Each 6-8 week session has a new book that is featured and combined with group discussions, it can inspire and stir your thoughts to help keep you invested in your love for God and your faith and



heart on fire! *The photo is of many of the books from the Wednesday Evening Book Club in the past five years that I have read....notice the book at the base.

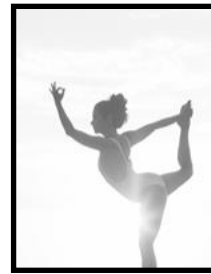
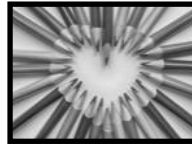
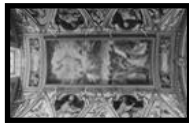
-Maria N.

I was first brought to A Place to Be by my strong desire to be with people.

Also, a belief in doing so will build upon my growing faith and love for all types of people. By choosing to continue participating I have broadened my types of reading materials and I so enjoy it. Our group has continued growing in numbers and in intriguing input from the participants. I enjoyed that we could continue meeting during the pandemic via Zoom. It made me feel like I was connected to the community while still being safe. A Place to Be is an amazing place to grow in relationships, knowledge and faith. The wine is an added bonus!

-Jo-Ann D.

Retreats & Other Offerings



Prayer Immersion Workshop

3rd Tuesday of the month (except December), 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Suggested Donation: \$25 each session

Have you ever wanted to try different forms of prayer but wasn't sure how or where to start? Join us each month to learn and practice different prayer experiences. Each session begins with a presentation on the specific prayer types followed by an experiential practice. Come and experiment with different prayer styles in a safe, fun, engaging way!

September 21: Exploring and Praying With Our Images of God

October 19: Praying with Scripture via Lectio Divina and the Imagination

November 16: Reflecting with Visio Divina

January 18: Meditation and Sound Prayer

February 15: Writing as a Mode of Prayer

March 15: Using Art to Connect with the Heart

April 19: Praying with Body Movement

May 17: Sound Vibration as Prayer

Bereavement Support

Every 1st Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm

Facilitators: Kelly Lemens

Donation: Free-will offering



The journey through grief is not easy. There is help along the way - it can come from those around you, like family and friends, or others who have experienced grief before you. You'll have the opportunity to process your own unique experience while receiving the comfort and support from others who have personally experienced loss.



Forgiveness Workshop

Thursdays: September 9, 16 & 30; 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Suggested Donation: \$50

The quality of human life on our planet is nothing more than the sum total of our daily interactions with each other. Each time we help, each time we harm, we have a dramatic impact on our world. Because we are human, some of our interactions will go wrong, and then we will hurt or be hurt, or both. Forgiveness is the way we set those interactions right; it is the way we stop our human community from unraveling.

Do you struggle with forgiveness? In this 3-part workshop, we will explore the mysteries of forgiveness, probe how we can freshly engage with the process of forgiveness, and reflect on how forgiveness can transform both us and the world.

Sacred Circle



1st Friday of the month, beginning September 10th,
10:00 am – noon

Facilitator: Ruth Hoenick

Suggested Donation: \$10 per session

Sacred Circle is for anyone desiring a deeper awareness of themselves and God, the opportunity to explore their own inner territory, and dialogue with other seekers. Through contemplative dialogue, *Sacred Circle* provides sacred space for compassionate listening, both to our inner selves and to others, in a way that restores our sense of self and God. Each session begins with a contemplative practice before reflecting and exploring a sacred writing. *This program is not offered via Zoom.*

Busy Person's Retreat

September 13 – 17

Suggested donation: \$50

A “Busy Person’s Retreat” is a time of focused prayer and companion journeying. This Online Busy Person’s Retreat gives the participant an opportunity to make a retreat in the midst of a daily, busy routine of life, using a daily suggested scripture passage, some written reflections and other optional resources (i.e. videos, audio scriptures, and messages to one of our spiritual companions). This retreat will help you learn how to make time for prayer and meditation even in the midst of a regular busy schedule. Check out our website for more information.



Retreats & Other Offerings

Return to Life Divorce Recovery Series

Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Oct 7, 14, 21,
Nov 4, 11 & 18

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Donation: Free-will offering

Need hope and healing during a separation or after a divorce? *Return to Life* is a six-week series which offers support, resources and fellowship for those in the process of divorce and beyond. Sessions consist of a dvd presentation led by Marianne Skrobiak, M.S., M.A., LPC, followed by group sharing facilitated by Kelly Lemens. *This program is not offered viz Zoom.*



Enneagram Workshop

Saturday, November 13, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Carol Hoopman

Suggested Donation: \$35

Many people think of the Enneagram as a personality test, but it is so much more than that. When used correctly, the Enneagram is an excellent tool for learning about personal and relational strengths and growth opportunities, while allowing us to form deeper connections with others and ultimately with the Divine. Join us as we learn some of the history and context of the Enneagram, take our own assessments, and begin to understand personal development as it relates to the Enneagram.

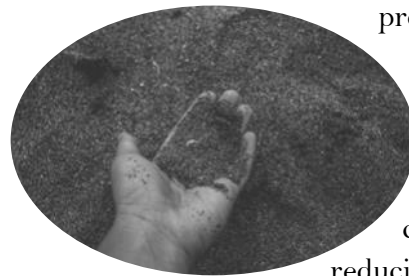
Winterizing Your Beds: All You Need to Know About Prepping Plant Beds for Winter

Saturday, October 16, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Facilitator: Dr. Nicole Tautges, Ph.D

Suggested donation: \$20

Fall is the best time to prep your flower and vegetable gardens for spring! Join us for an in-depth discussion of soil health and fertility



preparations, plant residue management and fall composting and learn about possible cover cropping to aid in reducing soil erosion. Get

equipped with everything you need to know!

Advent Day of Reflection

Saturday, December 5, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Suggested donation: \$20

Join us as we journey through Advent with prayer, reflection, small group sharing and artistic expression. Explore how your Advent journey could deepen your Christmas experience this year.



How to register:

Go to www.aplacetobesc.org and click on "Register" link on the program description page. Donation for most events is due at the time of registration.

Day of Solitude

Donation: \$35, includes optional spiritual companioning session and simple meal

Yearning for a day to unplug and pause from the demands of life? You are invited to spend a day of solitude at the Center where you are given



permission to simply BE. Solitude offers a place to listen to and rest in God. Choose a day that works for you. Begin and end the day with prayer with a Spiritual Companion. You will be offered a private, comfortable room and a simple meal. Options include attending Daily Prayer, using our art supplies, enjoying a walk, and meeting with Kelly Lemens, Spiritual Companion, if you wish.

Healing Hands, by appointment

Practitioner: Maria Giordano, HCT

Donation: \$55 for a one-hour session



Hands on healing is a complementary healing technique for stress-reduction and relaxation to improve health and well-being.

Hands on healing

combines deep breathing, meditation, and light touch to bring balance to your body, mind, and spirit. Benefits include: releases stress and pain, calms anxiety and depression, enhances the immune system, improves sleep patterns, and maintains health. Contact Maria book an appointment at mariag@healinghandsenergy.com.

Radical Grace Virtual Retreat

Facilitator: Kelly Lemens

Suggested Donation: \$50



The spiritual journey invites us to examine closely those things that get in the way of our relationship with the Divine. Radical grace is needed to help us in the process. In this retreat, we explore three movements that get us closer and closer to a pure heart, to “will the one thing” – union with the Divine. Through Radical Hospitality, we open our heart to ourselves; Radical Humility invites us deeper and deeper into our impure hearts; which will ultimately lead us into Radical Transformation into who we are created to be. Each movement of this retreat includes prayer, reflection and an artistic exercise intended to bring us deeper into the material and into our own personal journey. Also included is 1 hour spiritual companioning session with Kelly Lemens to explore and unpack the retreat experience, if desired. All materials provided at no extra cost. Access to videos and retreat materials provided upon registration.

Radical Grace is one of our online program offerings. Other programs available online include:

A Journey Through the Bible and **The Sacred Art of Fasting**.

Visit our website for more information and to register!

Spiritual Companionship

Spiritual companionship is the process of sharing one's sacred stories with a trained, compassionate listener. It can be helpful to anyone seeking spiritual growth, healing, or a deeper connection with God and others. It is a time-honored practice of compassionate, non-judgmental listening to another in a safe setting where what is shared is held with reverence and confidentiality.

A trained spiritual companion will listen intently, patiently, and confidentially as you share your sacred stories. Your spiritual companion will journey with you as you navigate through life's complexities and transitions, and be a trusted guide as you discover your inner wisdom. Spiritual companions do not offer counseling, advice, or problem solving. Rather, they accompany you as you explore your own spiritual path.

Why Spiritual Companionship?

Seeking God is a universal human quest - common to all ages and to all cultures. Growth in the quest for God happens when we pray with honest, authentic desire. The spiritual companion helps an individual to sort out the various desires in their life and to recognize and respond to their desire for God. Do you desire a compassionate, non-judging listener? Do you long to grow spiritually and communicate with God? Qualified spiritual companions can help you place yourself freely before God and reflect on your life experiences. Spiritual companions are often thought of as "trained listeners," or people who guide you to discover what is already within you.

Typically, spiritual companionship is one hour long and occurs monthly and/or during a directed retreat.

Suggested donation is \$50 per hour. If the donation is beyond your means, please request a scholarship. No one will be turned away because of the inability to pay.

Our Spiritual Companions



Kelly Lemens

lemensk@aplacetobesc.org



Ruth Hoenick

1raheducate@gmail.com



Craig Bergland

craig.bergland@gmail.com

Please check out detailed biographies on each of our Spiritual Companions at www.aplacetobesc.org.



Getting to know

Craig Bergland

I was born and raised in the Milwaukee area and, with the exception of my twenties, have lived here all my life. My childhood spiritual formation was nominal and church attendance was sporadic at best. It was when I started at Marquette University and had to take required theology credits that I started to gain a different perspective. Suddenly, I was exposed to people for whom religion made a difference and wasn't nearly as compartmentalized as my experience had been. I began to discern a call to ordained ministry that would take nearly twenty years to realize. Along the way, I became a dedicated student first of Christianity and later of Eastern religions. I have either led or participated in services of almost every Christian denomination, and have studied Buddhism and western Hinduism for fifteen years. Today I identify as Interspiritual and as a contemplative. My primary practices are contemplation, spiritual study, and spiritual journaling.

Having spent most of my thirties working in various parts of the mental health world, I tend to believe that it isn't possible to have a healthy spirituality without a healthy psyche. While spiritual companions are not therapists, I do believe it is essential to keep the whole person in view. A healthy spiritual life is integrated with all of life rather than compartmentalized from it. We might say that the goal of the spiritual life is an ever-growing wholeness. That's as good a definition of salvation as I have heard! My goal as a spiritual companion is not to have a goal. I have learned that the path is the goal, and a spiritual companion accompanies their clients on the path of that client's choice. The values I bring to that process are compassion, gentleness, patience, deep listening, and a touch of humor.

My companion in the picture that accompanies this article is our youngest grandchild, Zoe. She lives with her mother Brandie in the Phoenix, Arizona area.



Community Euchre Nights

4th Mondays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.: 8/23, 9/27, 10/25, 11/22

Facilitators: Jenny & Kenny Mitchell

Donation: Free-will offering

We are SO excited to be bringing back one of our favorite monthly social events! Join us for a fun evening of snacks, fellowship and cards at A Place to Be Spirituality Center! Whether you are a Euchre pro, novice, or just want to learn a new game, please join us. All are welcome! This is a free-will offering social event. Come learn, play, and enjoy an evening of cards with us! Please contact Jenny Mitchell with any questions: mitchellj@aplacetobesc.org, 414-339-0561. **No registration needed.**



Friday Art Fun Nights

3rd Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: 8/20, 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17

Facilitators: Varies

Suggested Donation: \$15

TGIF! At the end of the week, don't we all deserve to relax, enjoy amazing company, and let our creativity shine? Join us for our Friday Art Fun Nights, where we welcome guests to participate in an evening of art and refreshments. Each month we will feature an instructor-led art project with supplies on hand for anybody who would like to join us in creativity and friendship. Whether you are a seasoned artist or have no art experience, we would love to welcome you for socialization and self expression at our Friday Art Fun Nights!

Registration requested so we can make sure we have enough supplies.

It's BACK!

Fishes & Loaves Potluck & Game Nights

Friday, September 10, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Fridays, Oct 12, Dec 10 & Jan 14, 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Donation: Free-will offering

Join us for food, fellowship, and friendship. Bring your own pre-packaged meal, and have a socially distanced evening of friendship with the A Place to Be community. Beverages will be provided.

No registration necessary.



Friends of the Center

A Place to Be Spirituality Center relies on donations to keep our programs, retreats, and spiritual companioning affordable and accessible to all who seek support. With your support, we can continue offering life-changing programs and retreats to meet the spiritual needs of adults, offering hospitality, peace, hope, gentle care. Whether you've contributed in the past or are ready to make a first-time gift, would you consider making a monthly gift? Year-round, consistent support is vital to sustaining our ministry.

Friends of the Center is a monthly giving program that fits your budget. You decide the amount of your gift and authorize your bank to transfer that amount from your checking account directly to *A Place to Be* Spirituality Center. It's that easy! Not only is it convenient and safe, but your donation goes further by reducing administration, postage, and paper costs.

You can designate your gift to our scholarship fund or to our general donation fund. Either way, know that you are helping others on their path to connecting with God, meaning, and wholeness. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information and an enrollment form, visit www.aplacetobesc.org and click on *Support Us* button or call (262) 277-1928.

Over these past few months, A Place to Be has found itself, like many, in the midst of unique challenges. The need to serve did not end, and in fact became more necessary for our friends and community.

One of the challenges we faced was interacting with individuals either socially distanced or remotely. In response a number of our programs and events were offered virtually via Facebook Live and YouTube. What we discovered through this, is that the virtual world is beyond our traditional physical boundaries of Saukville/Port Washington, even beyond Ozaukee County. Because of the virtual offerings, A Place To Be is now serving people across America, and indeed across the globe.

The real discovery is that APTB is being called to serve no matter where our neighbors and friends are located, and therefore, many of the programs and events that you see in this newsletter are being offered both in-person and virtual.

During this time, we have also searched for other ways to reduce barriers. The APTB Leadership team has recommended that as many programs as possible be offered as a 'Free Will Offering'. This allows participants to contribute only what they can afford. Through the generous support of our friends in the APTB community we believe that this opens the door to many that may not have otherwise been able to participate.

We encourage you to share this newsletter and invite your friends to signup and participate for one of our many offerings.

We thank you for your support and participation at A Place To Be and we look forward to seeing you (maybe virtually) at our next event.

Mark Goeden, APTB Leadership Team Member

Where to Find Us

A Place to Be Spirituality Center is located in Parkside Community UCC Building next to Grady Park on W. Dekora St. in Saukville.

Enter under the awning in the back of the church.

Hours of operation:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Other times by appointment.

Telephone: (262) 277-1928

Email: information@aplacetobesc.org

Website: www.aplacetobesc.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Registration Process

Please visit the *A Place to Be* Spirituality Center website at www.aplacetobesc.org to register for each session. The donation is required at the time of registration. If you would like to pay in installments or register by phone, please call (262) 277-1928 or send an email to information@aplacetobesc.org. We accept credit cards, personal checks and cash for all registrations not completed online. The donation must be made in full prior to the start of the program to be a confirmed participant.

Refund Policy

Cancellations made at least 48 hours before the start time of an event will qualify for a refund.

Registration Deadlines

Many programs/retreats have a registration deadline. This will help us make important decisions regarding the status of the program/retreat. Many programs fill quickly; early registration is recommended to guarantee placement. Prompt registration also help reduce the possibility that a program or retreat might be canceled due to insufficient enrollment, an issue that inconveniences both participants and presenters.

Scholarship Information

We honor and respect everyone in their search for spiritual healing, growth and renewal and will not turn anyone away because of inability to pay. Our scholarships are based on need and the type of program or retreat. We give scholarships to anyone who asks for financial assistance for spiritual direction and partial scholarships for programs or retreats. Please contact us for more detailed information about scholarships and payment options for specific retreats and programs.

Our Leadership Team



Dan Becker



Karen Becker



Barbara Bode



Bob Burant



Barb Dickmann



Mark Goeden



Chris Lear



Fr. Patrick Wendt

Our Staff



Kelly Lemens
Director



Jenny Mitchell
Marketing Coordinator



Have you visited our Spiritual Resource Library?



Our library features a variety of books, cd's and dvd's on a multitude of topics, available to check out, to foster personal and spiritual well being.

As we are expanding our library, if you have spiritual books that you would like to give a new home, we are accepting donations. If they do not fit in our library, we will pass donations along to St. Vincent de Paul.

We would like to extend a very special THANK YOU to Cathy Wiedmer for cleaning, organizing and resetting our library. It looks incredible.

Come check it out!

GIVE BLOOD



American Red Cross

You can make a difference.

We would like to express our gratitude to all who have come out to donate or volunteer for the blood drives we have been hosting for the American Red Cross. It's truly incredible to see how eagerly community members come together to give a piece of themselves for others in need. There is currently a critical need for donations, and we will continue to hold blood drive opportunities.

In June, the blood drive at A Place to Be was a record-breaker for us, as well as for the town of Saukville, with enough blood to save **138 lives!**

THANK YOU!

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held **Friday, September 10 from 1:00-6:00 p.m.**

Visit www.redcrossblood.org to register.



Do you like what we are doing at A Place to Be? Please tell your friends about us, or invite them to join you at one of our offerings!

Weekly online offerings

Kelly offers livestreamed offerings on Facebook Live every week. **Tune in to join us:**

Praying with Beads, Mon/Wed at Noon
Contemplative Practice, Mon/Wed/Fri at 4:00 p.m.

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

Tues. 8/3 Bereavement Support, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 8/10 Summer Book Study, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. 8/14 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Tues. 8/17 Summer Book Study, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 8/18 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. 8/19 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Fri. 8/20 Friday Art Fun Night, 6:00 p.m.
Sat. 8/21 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Mon. 8/23 Euchre Night, 6:00 p.m.
Tues. 8/24 Bible Study (Paul), 6:30 p.m.

Wed. 8/25 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 8/26 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Fri. 8/27 Celebrate Abund. BBQ, 5:00 p.m.
Sat. 8/28 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Mon. 8/30 Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Wed. 9/1 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 9/2 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Tues. 9/7 Bereavement Support, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 9/8 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 9/9 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Forgiveness Wkshp, 6:30 p.m.
Fri. 9/10 Sacred Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Blood Drive, 1:00 p.m.
Fishes/Loaves Potluck, 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 9/11 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Sun. 9/12 Peace Prayer Service, 2:00 p.m.

Mon. 9/13 Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.
Busy Person's Retreat
Tues. 9/14 Bible Study (Paul), 6:30 p.m.
Busy Person's Retreat
Wed. 9/15 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Busy Person's Retreat
Thurs. 9/16 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Forgiveness Wkshp, 6:30 p.m.
Busy Person's Retreat
Fri. 9/17 Friday Art Fun Night, 6:30 p.m.
Busy Person's Retreat
Sat. 9/18 Labyrinth Cleanup, 9:00 a.m.

Mon. 9/20 Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 9/21 Prayer Immersion, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 9/22 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 9/23 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Sat. 9/25 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Mon. 9/27 Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m.
Euchre Night, 6:00 p.m.
Tues. 9/28 Bible Study (John), 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 9/29 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 9/30 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Forgiveness Wkshp, 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

Fri. 10/1 Sacred Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Sat. 10/2 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Mon. 10/4 Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m.
Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 10/5 Bereavement Support, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/6 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 10/7 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m.
God of Love, 6:30 p.m.
Fri. 10/8 Parkside Vendor/Crafts
Sat. 10/9 Parkside Vendor/Crafts
Mon. 10/11 Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m.
Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.

Tues. 10/12 Bible Study (John), 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/13 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thur 10/14 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m.
God of Love, 6:30 p.m.
Fri. 10/15 Friday Art Fun Night, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. 10/16 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Winterize Your Beds, 10:00 a.m.
Mon. 10/18 Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m.
Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 10/19 Prayer Immersion, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/20 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.

Thur 10/21 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m.
God of Love, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. 10/23 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Mon. 10/25 Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m.
Euchre Night, 6:00 p.m.
Tues. 10/26 Bible Study (John), 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/27 Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Thur. 10/28 Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
God of Love, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. 10/30 Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.

Calling all amateur landscapers!

On **Saturday, September 18 from 9:00 a.m.-noon** we will be laying stone, weeding, and planting flowers to beautify our labyrinth. If you would like to help us with this task OR if you have perennials you would like to donate to this contemplative space, please let us know! Thank you!



Cribbage Tournament

Saturday, November 6 • 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Plier's Full Circle Pub & Restaurant

For more information or to register your team,
contact Dan Becker: beckerd@aplacetobesc.org

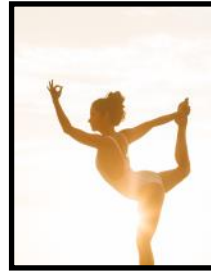
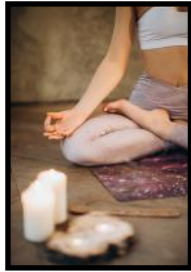
Calendar of Events (cntd.)

NOVEMBER

Mon. 11/1	Mom's Group, 6:30 p.m. Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.	Mon. 11/8	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.	Wed. 11/17	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 11/2	Bereavement Support, 6:30 p.m.	Tues. 11/9	Bible Study (John), 6:30 p.m.	Thur 11/18	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m. Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 11/3	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Wed. 11/10	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Fri. 11/19	Friday Art Fun Night
Thurs. 11/4	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m. Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m. God of Love, 6:30 p.m.	Thur 11/11	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m. Divorce Recov/Supp, 6:30 p.m. God of Love, 6:30 p.m.	Sat. 11/20	Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Fri. 11/5	Sacred Circle, 10:00 a.m.	Fri. 11/12	Fishes/Loaves Potluck, 5:00 p.m.	Mon. 11/22	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m. Euchre Night, 6:00 p.m.
Sat. 11/6	Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m. Cribbage Tourney, 12:00 p.m.	Mon. 11/15	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.	Tues. 11/23	Ecumen Thanksgiving, 6:00 p.m.
		Tues. 11/16	Prayer Immersion, 6:30 p.m.	Tues. 11/30	Giving Tuesday

DECEMBER

Wed. 12/1	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Thurs. 12/9	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Fri. 12/17	Friday Art Fun Night, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs. 12/2	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.	Fri. 12/10	Fishes/Loaves Potluck, 5:00 p.m.	Sat. 12/18	Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.
Fri. 12/3	Sacred Circle, 10:00 a.m.	Sat. 12/11	Bible Study (Road), 9:00 a.m.	Mon. 12/20	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. 12/4	Advent Day of Reflec, 9:00 a.m.	Mon. 12/13	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.	Tues. 12/21	Blue Christmas, 6:30 p.m.
Mon. 12/6	Social Justice Bk Club, 6:30 p.m.	Tues. 12/14	Bible Study (Paul), 6:30 p.m.	Wed. 12/22	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
Tues. 12/7	Bereavement Support, 6:30 p.m.	Wed. 12/15	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Thur 12/23	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Wed. 12/8	Spirituality Book Club, 6:30 p.m.	Thur 12/16	Spirituality Book Club, 9:30 a.m.		



Prayer Immersion Workshop

3rd Tuesday of the month (except December), 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Suggested Donation: \$25 each session

Have you ever wanted to try different forms of prayer but wasn't sure how or where to start? Join us each month to learn and practice different prayer experiences. Each session begins with a presentation on the specific prayer types followed by an experiential practice. Come and experiment with different prayer styles in a safe, fun, engaging way! More information on page 7.

GIVING TUESDAY November 30, 2021

We will once again be participating in this one day global generosity movement. We are so appreciative of those who have supported us for the past, and hope you will consider supporting us again this year. More information to come on our social media accounts and website.

Save the date:
Art Regatta Fundraising Event
Friday, January 28
Details to come

We are collecting original artwork and silent auction items now for our main fundraising event of the year. If you have items you would like to donate, please contact us.

Community Connections



**Celebrate Abundance Harvest
BBQ Potluck**
Friday, August 27, 5:00 p.m.
Join us!

We are so fortunate for a wonderful community of ecumenical partners! All are welcome to join us for these collaborative services where we join our friends from:

Christ the King Lutheran Church
First Congregational UCC
Grand Avenue Methodist Church
Living Hope Lutheran Church
Parkside Community UCC
Redeemed Christ Church of God - Household of God
St. John XXIII Catholic Church

GIVE BLOOD



American Red Cross

You can make a difference.

September 10, 1:00-6:00 p.m.
166 W Dekora St. Saukville



**Parkside Community UCC
Fall Vendor & Craft Show**

October 9, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
166 W Dekora St. Saukville

*For information about registration as a vendor/crafter,
please contact Mary at 414-651-1255 or loshipping79@gmail.com.*

**Ecumenical
Community Peace Prayer Service**
Sunday, September 12
2:00 p.m.

**Ecumenical
Thanksgiving
Service**

Tuesday, November 23
6:00 p.m.

For information about community events, visit: www.aplacetobesc.org/calendar-of-events.html

Save the date:
Art Regatta Fundraising Event
Friday, January 28

Details to come

We are collecting original artwork and silent auction items now for our main fundraising event of the year. If you have items you would like to donate, please contact us.

Physical address:
166 W. Dekora St. Saukville, WI
Inside the Parkside UCC Community Building
(Entrance under the awning by the parking lot.)

Mailing address:
1800 N. Wisconsin St.
Port Washington, WI 53074

Phone: (262) 277-1928
Website: www.aplacetobesc.org
Email: information@aplacetobesc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/aplacetobesc
Instagram: [aplacetobesc](https://www.instagram.com/aplacetobesc)