

Dear Sangha Friends,

There are over 150 people on our Sangha mailing list. We ask twice a year whether or not you would like to be removed from the list and each time we ask, we have 2 or 3 who opt out. We continue to add a few people every month as well.

This illustrates how many of you feel connected to this community in some way, whether you are able to attend our meetings or not. We hope that you will be inspired to engage in an active way.

Summary of our “re-founding” goals and strategies.

At our next meeting on Sunday, October 6 we will work on timelines and our personal commitments. September 2020 we will see how we are doing.

Re-Messaging Sangha: We are clarifying our focus on meditation (Prayer in the Cave of the Heart) both as personal practice and in community and our study of all the world’s Wisdom traditions.

- We will be open and inviting to our meetings.
 - We will refine and update our common prayer
 - We will create new strategies for reaching out to new members
 - We will initiate classes/retreats and other opportunities for people to learn how to meditate
 - We will initiate a large scale Public Action for Public Meditation in conjunction with equinox and seasonal changes. All local groups who meditate regularly will be invited.
 - We will continue to initiate and support interfaith efforts such as Tent of Abraham
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- All modalities of prayer will be encouraged and honored: poetry, art, chant, service to community, body (yoga) and earth.
 - Our website will be current and active

Organizational Structure: We are in need of people willing to actively serve on our leadership/service committee. It will meet monthly to plan and serve as oversight for communication and organizational needs. Please come forward if you are interested in serving a 2-3 year term. We may come knocking on your door.

New Year’s Vigil Re-Focus : “Caring for Creation-Peace on the Planet”

Our theme this year will be focused on Reconciliation to the younger generation and animals. We will target all youth groups and partner to shape the event. Perhaps a “Jesus tipping the tables moment”. It will be an inter-faith effort to plan rather than just invite presenters. Many ideas...needs shaping. Possibly open Mic with youth alternating with silence.

Study Focus We will be reading together Fr. Cyprian's book "**Prayer in the Cave of the Heart**". You can find used copies on Amazon, or Kindle. We have a few copies you can check out from the Sangha Library. Feel free to invite people. This is a foundational text for Sangha Shantivanam. **All meetings are 4:00pm-6:00pm followed by vegan/vege potluck.**

Oct. 6 All Sangha Prayer/Meditation and Strategies Meeting

Oct 20: "Cave of the Heart" Preface pg. vii

Nov 3 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 1

Nov 17 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 2

Dec 1 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 3

Dec 15 Community Potluck

TENTATIVE 2020 Dates

Jan 5 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 4

Jan 19 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 5

Feb 16 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 6

Mar 8 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 7

Mar 22 "Cave of the Heart" Ch 8

FIELD TRIP TO NEW CAMALDOLI HERMITAGE

Cyprian has been on sabbatical and returns Oct. 1. We will know soon if there is a date in the fall that he might be available for a retreat with us. Or, we will aim for early next year.

Thank you for staying in touch and for your prayers. And thank you to our sangha friend and consultant Liz Lindsley who skillfully helped us to re-focus our gaze.

In Service,
Ziggy