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Dear Friends and Spiritual Family,

May the blessings of Divine Peace be upon each of you. If only we could reside in that Peace as we experience a busy year of change! In March we certainly received a wonderful message of this promise at Questhaven. The blue ceanothus bloomed in larger numbers than I can ever remember. Great rivers of blue blanketed the hillsides, leading each guest and worshipper the length of Questhaven road, up to the gate and into the grounds. It was as if to say, "All of life flows with the colors of Thee, Lord Christ. In Thy beauty we shine."

Our spiritual climb to God was magnified this past Easter, as well as when we journeyed through Lent, focused on the steps to mastery. It certainly opened my eyes to the momentous responsibility and task that is before us. With each Lent we need to remind ourselves of the Chinese proverb, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." May we find

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**Ongoing Activities—All are Invited**

Please call the office for further information—760-744-1500

**Meditations** are held on Wednesday evenings in Chapelito at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join in this time of reverent attunement that is led by Jean Michalewicz.

**Wisdom Classes**, led by the Reverend Blake Isaac, occur on alternating Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Chapelito.

**Pranic Healing Clinics** are conducted by Mary Clark, Ph.D., and assistants on the first Sunday of each month from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Academy.

**Servers in Action Days** are on the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. until noon.

**Classes** studying The Christward Ministry teachings include:

**Mondays:** (2nd and 4th) at 7:30 p.m. in Oceanside

**Wednesdays:** (1st and 3rd) at 1:30 p.m. in the Questhaven Academy

**Special Announcements**

**Men's Retreat on May 19th** from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Through nature, creativity, and discussion, come to expand your Inner Awareness with your brothers in Christ.

**Peruvian Mysticism Workshop on June 9th** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This experiential workshop features the teachings, healing techniques, and ceremonial rituals of Q'ero Shamans, direct descendants of the Incas. Presented by Karen Palmer, Ph.D., a Clinical Psychologist and Shamanic Practitioner.

**Vernal Retreat on June 22nd-24th.** The emphasis will be on music and the power of healing and renewal that comes through this expression. The Reverend Hal Lingerman will open with Healing Through Music, Friday night at 7:30 in the Church of the Holy Quest. The Saturday program will include William Zeitler at 9:30 a.m. with a presentation of *Glass Armonica*, in which he uses a series of pure quartz glass bowls for healing. This will be followed by a full day of experience in various forms of music, and a labyrinth walk.

**Journey to Glacier National Park from July 18th-25th.** Led by The Reverend Blake Isaac, this will be a purposeful trip into the beauty of nature's vastness.

# 2007 Spring/Summer Program

Sunday Services begin at 10:45 a.m.

## MAY — A Time for Inner Awareness

- May 6 *What Shapes Our Perception of Life and Truth?* The Reverend Blake Isaac  
 May 13 *“The Lord is with Thee” — Honoring the Divine Feminine*  
 The Reverend Jonathan Wiltshire  
 May 20 *The Value of Esoteric Truths* The Reverend Susan S. Cary  
 May 27 *Transition into the World of Light* The Reverend Phyllis Isaac

## JUNE — Looking for God in Nature and the Arts

- June 3 *Nature Beings—Our Unseen Helpers* The Reverend Blake Isaac  
 June 10 *Experiencing God in the Peruvian Andes* Karen Palmer, Ph.D.  
 June 17 *Fatherhood’s Opportunities and Challenges* The Reverend Elizabeth Wood

### VERNAL RETREAT—June 22nd, 23rd, 24th

- Friday 7:30 p.m. : *Healing Through Music* The Reverend Hal Lingerman  
 Saturday 9:30 a.m. : William Zeitler’s Glass Armonica, followed by other presentations  
 and a labyrinth walk  
 Sunday 10:45 a.m. : *The Voice of Creation—The Inner Dimension of Music*  
 The Reverend Jonathan Wiltshire

## JULY — Learning from Great Souls and Mystical Experiences

- July 1 *Washington—The Man, His Mystique, His Mystical Vision for America*  
 The Reverend Susan S. Cary  
 July 8 *The Spiritual Journey of Benjamin Franklin* The Reverend Blake Isaac  
 July 15 *Finding the Interior Castle—The Way of Teresa of Avila*  
 The Reverend Jonathan Wiltshire  
 July 22 *Holy Messengers—Great Souls Who Inspire Us* The Reverend Elizabeth Wood  
 July 29 *Spiritual Insights of the Treasures of Glacier Park* The Reverend Blake Isaac

the Divine strength to follow God’s call when given and to take that step.

My family and I enjoy watching a friendly roadrunner who regularly visits the area at Questhaven around our house. He gracefully glides from one area to another. Alert and in the moment, he pauses and pecks—pauses and pecks. This roadrunner is in balance with life—at one with God’s plan for it.

We have so much to learn from nature about us. The other day I took a walk with my children on Open Sesame Trail. We made a special effort to pause every now and then to just sense what God wanted to show us. From the birds to the white ceanothus that were just coming out, nature’s mysteries were happily revealed. We even captured the picture on the cover of the resting “Rock Being” at Singing Springs.



That day I was reminded of the importance of listening to God. What peace came when I did! Like the roadrunner, I was taking the time to pause and listen before acting. Sometimes it takes a certain strength to follow what comes when you listen, but if you follow with a courageous heart, God always brings meaning and value to that experience.

Following that call, I have personally given notice to leave my position as Principal at Rancho Santa Fe Middle School so that I might have more time to serve Christ through the ministry here at Questhaven Retreat. I have accepted a 50% teaching contract and a part-time staff position at the ministry so that I can be more involved as Director. I can not tell you how much joy this brings to my life and how eager I am to make this transition. How blessed I feel that God has opened so many doors for this to be possible.

Anne Carlson used this quote from the Masters during Lent, “These words are for you to consider and reconsider. The difference between your acceptance and rejection of the Light is sometimes no more than your backward glance into the shadows from which you should have long ago emerged. Know that by facing the Light you will meet that which the shadows and all your vague dreamings can never even suggest to you. That joy which is from the Source expresses the supreme and everlasting happiness and power of the infinitely highest.”

So work well and be steadfast. Give your attention to the inner callings of God and let that step of faith within you emerge.



Your Brother in Christ,  
 The Reverend Blake Isaac

# The Ocean of Endless Inspiration

by The Reverend Flower A. Newhouse

Originally printed in Inspiration Magazine, March 1941



The Reverend Flower A. Newhouse, founder of Questhaven Retreat, in the 1930s.

Creative realization has touched man since the beginning of history. The Bible contains many assertions that were contrary to popular thought, but that were ultimately proven to be true. In Job 26:7 we learn about the law of gravity, yet it was written centuries before this fact was recognized. Job 38:31-32 likewise explains that the planets move, though Galileo ages later was ridiculed for such a belief. Until the time of Columbus, men imagined the earth was flat, but the Bible clearly states, in Proverbs 8:27, "He setteth a circle upon the face of the deep." Then in Isaiah 40:22 we read, "It is God that sitteth upon the circle of the earth."

Not until the end of the 18th century was conception understood. It was generally thought that men supplied the seed and that women matured it until the season of birth. Genesis, however, tells about the "seed of woman," so here, too, was evidence of the

Word of God foretelling the discovery of science. As the ages pass, those things upon which we may have looked with "wise" superiority will be revealed to us as facts.

The great sum of Truth has not been drained. We have but launched our thoughts upon the shores of its immensity. We have still to cruise into the uncharted deeps. There are certain things we have found true of the great within. We know that the superconsciousness will produce whatever is called persistently to its attention. The great sea of creative energy will invariably wash upon the shores of physical manifestation those ideas that drifted upon its face. The hidden seed labors to send up green shoots in much the same manner that a mental image will strive to duplicate itself in the objective world.

The approach to the creative abundance is so simple. Ardent desire, steadfast expectation, and reverent attention are the needed qualities. These powers, when sincerely united, make their own craft, which in silence is put out into the invisible sea. Contact with the waters of truth stirs, quickens, and opens one to conceptions that fall into the vessel of the mind, like myriads of stars falling into the ocean of

## Ministry Moments

EASTER RETREAT: A heartfelt thanks to all the visible and invisible helpers who helped to bring everything together for the 2007 Easter Retreat. The Lenten meditation series—*The Thirty Three Steps to Spiritual Maturity*—prepared us for the Holy Communion service Friday evening, as we honored the Lord Christ with music, sacred dance, and ceremony. Sunrise service on Inspiration Point renewed our spirits, as Christ's Resurrection Light enveloped the planet. Sunday's talk, *Christ Victorious: Our Model of Becoming* was given by The Reverend Jonathan Wiltshire. Special thanks to Laurel Rivera for coordinating the retreat.

YOUR JOURNEY IN CHRIST: This is the title of The Reverend Hal Lingerman's new book. He explores our daily communion with the Christ as we journey through Lent. The book contains reflections, themes, and affirmations to deepen our loving union with the Great Creator. The office has several copies available for purchase.

LABYRINTH RETREAT: On March 24th, Marsha Jehn led a Labyrinth Retreat to celebrate the Spring Equinox. There was a series of three labyrinth walks: a silent walk in the morning, a Native American Gatekeeper walk at midday, and a sunset walk following Sufi dancing. Each walk brought through a different energy and purpose, drawing those participating closer to God.

FELLOWSHIP OF MOTHERS: A group of young mothers has been meeting to share in Christian fellowship and parenting support. On Saturday of Easter Retreat, they organized an egg-coloring event for the sunrise breakfast and held a fun-filled hunt for all the children. If you are interested in participating with this group, please contact Danielle Isaac (daniellei@rsf.k12.ca.us).

EL DESEO: Special thanks to Craig Cuthbert for painting the outside of El Deseo. The finishing touches really add to the beautiful radiations this place emanates.

ROAD CLOSURE: Ever since closing the road, we have noticed a significant decrease in disruptive traffic at our gates. Please pray for the continued protection of that solitude as we work with our neighbors to understand its importance.

## The Spirit of the Wind

James Hulbert ©

As the grasses of  
The field wave, we see  
The spirit of the wind  
Move across the meadow

As the branches and leaves  
Of the trees dance  
And flutter, they embrace  
The wind and its rhythms

Each form is exercised  
And strengthened  
By playfully resisting,  
Bending, swaying to and fro

Until finally, when the time  
Comes - now, to fall  
To the ground, the leaves  
Let go and follow the wind

This invisible spirit  
Urgently coaxes  
Each seed to transcend  
Its attachments

To spring forth and  
Explore the world -  
To nurture and repopulate  
The countryside with beauty

## Beauty and Truth

By Flower A. Newhouse

Excerpted from a 1945 article by Flower A. Newhouse

Man needs beauty as he needs health and goodness. Beauty is to the spirit what bread is to the body. Because the requirement of beauty is not always as apparent as other “drives,” it is often neglected or forsaken. At some later period, man’s character becomes anemic and unstabilized, if for too long beauty and harmony have been treated as strangers. Knowing how greatly beauty complements living, Emerson said, “Let us build altars to the beautiful necessity.”

In the tomorrows to come, the temples of man will again make beauty the co-equal of truth. We vision churches preparing worshippers for truth by having beauty lead them upward in consciousness until they are ready to receive the word. On the altar, at a given signal, a great painting might be unveiled which would center the rapt attention of the audience. Music that interprets the painting in musical tones could change the absorption of the people from the picture to the music’s interpretations of the same idea. Later, one or several worshipful dancers could help expand the theme of the day into graceful bodily reverence. The sermon should express the accepted truth eloquently and helpfully. In this way, we prophesy, truth and the arts will sometime again be unified to give emphasis and helpfulness to man’s communion with God.

eternity. We must act on these thoughts by writing about them, working upon them, and finally sharing them with others.

A woman who was widowed at the age of sixty-seven sought inner direction as to the employment of her energies and time. Like thunder from the heavens, the Spirit of Truth spoke to her of painting. Without any previous expression or training, this challenged widow began to paint. Thirteen years passed, and at the age of eighty, she has oil paintings that are lauded the country over.

Every convenience in our homes, everything we use and know, was first an inspiration in the consciousness of some individual who was responsive to it. The last book, symphony, invention, program, or recipe shall never be known, for life, progress, and unfoldment are continuous.

That our days shall be more intelligently filled, that our services be effectively and efficiently rendered, that our relationships be loving and gracious, and that our dreams be meaningful, let us commune with the ocean of endless inspiration. Each moment will then be eventful, and every event an occasion of growth.



Where the Tears Go by Ann Rothan ©

*I am a soul who has taken on the cloak of mortality. In my true selfhood, I am free. I am invested with capabilities and powers that belong to Godhood. I am a citizen of that experience which includes all the good creations of Divinity. . .*

*From this world, from the limitlessness of energy, beauty, and creativity, I draw new glowing embers of remembrance.*

– The Wise and the Strong

# Meet Jonathan and Miara Wiltshire

by Lucy Wold



We are indeed blessed to have the Wiltshires in our spiritual family! Jonathan's talent as a spiritual artist and speaker and Miara's gentle presence and gifts as a dancer touch each one of us, but it is their deep spirituality and love for the Lord Christ that brings them together in service at Questhaven. Their interesting journeys reveal how they came to join us.

As far back as she can remember, Miara wanted to learn about Jesus. When her mother left the more limited thinking of the Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles and turned to that of

a teacher of esoteric truths in Malibu, Miara was deeply saddened because, although he spoke of the Christ, he did not talk about Jesus. She decided she could not really know Jesus because she did not belong to a church. To know Him became her quest.

A whole new world opened up for Miara when she was ten. She enrolled in a ballet class and later traveled with her teacher to China and Europe, attending intensive dance workshops and putting on performances in ballet, modern jazz, and tap. At U.C. Irvine, Miara majored in dance and minored in psychology, wanting to combine dance and working with people. She fell in love with modern dance and after college, moved to New York City where she stayed with friends. They introduced her to the Church of Christ but she was uncomfortable with the rigidity of their beliefs and did not feel Jesus in that church. She quit dancing, uncertain where it would lead, and after nine months in New York, returned to Southern California.

A friend's book, *Dance Movement Therapy*, answered Miara's questions about how she might use dance. She entered a two-year dance therapy program at UCLA where she worked with children at risk in society. Psychotherapy using movement was a perfect fit. She especially liked working with seniors, and today works with very active and independent seniors, teaching body conditioning classes, as well as Pilates for young adults through Mira Costa Community College.

and have an immediate source of inspiration. We need to shed the concerns of the world and focus when we step outdoors, allowing the scene before us to take its effect. Freeing ourselves in this way allows us to experience nature's cleansing and rejuvenating power. Then, as we walk down a lane or up a mountain trail, we give our full attention to what is before us, taking in the beauty and presence that is there.

Awareness is the third key to unlock the door of nature's classroom. We need to use all of our senses and be aware on all levels of being to receive fully. It is our lack of depth that keeps us from receiving the most of our experience in nature, so we want to come with awe and reverence. In listening for the bird song or the rushing wind through the trees, we have to silence ourselves and become more aware of our surroundings. All of our senses come alive when we smell the pungent pine needles and the sweet fragrances of flowers or feel the rough bark of a tree. As we become more aware of our outer surroundings, we expand our consciousness to receive from the inner side of nature.

One of the great lessons nature teaches us is patience, for in this kingdom there is no hurry, there is no dissatisfaction. The life cycle for everything is in God's timing and purpose.

The fourth key is at-one-ment for unlocking nature's gifts. It is through our love of God that we become more sensitive and intuitive to the Divine Presence working through nature. Nature's supreme value is the ability to draw us out of ourselves to contact the Divine. Humility is another great lesson we learn as we behold the immensity of nature's vastness. Our own problems and demands are insignificant in comparison.

Joy is nature's keynote, as love is humanity's, and we feel this joy and gratitude when we are in attunement with all of life. We feel reverence for life and emptied of self in the awe of nature. We know that the whole atmosphere around us is alive with color, music, and presences, and we are part of that oneness.

Rabindranath Tagore expresses this oneness through nature when he says: "In the stillness I hear in every blade of grass, in every speck of dust, in every part of my own body, in the visible and invisible worlds, in the planets, the sun, and the stars, the joyous dance of the atoms through endless time—the myriad murmuring waves of rhythm surrounding Thy throne."



Bryce and Summer Isaac at Singing Springs

# Keys to Unlock Nature's Secrets

By The Reverend Phyllis Isaac

*"Come forth into the light of things. Let nature be your teacher."*  
William Wordsworth

With the summer months ahead giving us long hours of sunlight, it is an invitation to get out in nature. We want to make the most of this time when we are immersed in a great outpouring from the nature line of evolution. From May to November, we come under the influence of great Intelligences who serve God, our Creator. These nature devas and angels inspire us, and their work is the renewal and blessing of all nature with beneficial rays of energy and light, while giving to the earth their rituals of initiations. The emphasis for this time of year is on the beauty of holiness, and it is our opportunity to renew our awareness in the importance of nature as a revitalizing force and Divine teacher.

Nature possesses a school of wisdom all its own, as William Wordsworth intimated. We may enter this school if we have the keys to its classroom. These keys to the earnest student are what could be called the four A's: appreciation, attention, awareness, and at-one-ment. By looking at these keys, we find ways to unlock the secrets of nature's wisdom and beauty.



*Lord of the Mountain* by Jonathan Wiltshire ©

When we become conscious of God within every form of creation, our love and appreciation increases, lifting and purifying our attitude toward all that we see. Then the hidden side of nature begins to reveal itself to the beholder. The more exposure we gain through spending time in the great outdoors and reading books about the grandeurs of nature by naturalists, the more our appreciation will grow.

The second key of attention is developed through practice and concentration. Nature is not remote—limited to parks and wilderness areas. All around us, as close as our backyard, we can discover its mysteries

On her continuing journey to find Jesus, Miara explored many religious traditions and moved frequently. In 1994–1995, she was living on Thanksgiving Lane, just off Questhaven Road, and began attending services at Questhaven to experience *The Lord's Prayer*, which is movingly sung by the entire congregation every Sunday. To her, Questhaven is a beautiful marriage of Christianity and esoteric teachings. Here she finally found the Jesus she was seeking.

While staying at *Casa de Angeles* and helping on the grounds, Miara learned that Joy Day needed help. She soon moved in with Joy to fill that need. At Easter she surrendered all her negative feelings about dance and received the great gift of dancing in the church—a gift of reverence and grace she bestows on each of us whenever she dances.

Jonathan, also from Southern California, came to Questhaven as an artist. He began drawing at his grandmother's home when he was five. In the fourth grade, when he saw a beautifully illustrated book about explorers, he proclaimed, "This is what I want to do!" At 26, he learned about Flower's teachings, first hearing her speak in 1974. By January 1975, he had moved to Escondido to be a part of this work. Flower invited him to take the position of night security guard at Questhaven, saying, "I believe you need grounding."

Later Jonathan took computer training at Coleman College, married and had two beautiful girls, Chalice and Betheny. The end of this marriage was a great trial for him, but his years of training under Flower sustained him. Finding Questhaven was like coming home for Jonathan. Through her exemplary life and her psychological, esoteric, and mystical teachings, Flower awakened in him a deepened understanding of what it means to have the experience of God. She introduced him to the Living Lord Christ, Masters, Angelic servers, and the loving Questhaven family. Jonathan knew this was his path and gave himself over to follow the Holy Quest. In 1981, he was ordained by Flower as a minister.

One Sunday, while seated with the choir, he noticed a lovely dark-haired woman enter the sanctuary. His mind registered, "Ohhh!" but he dared not even hope that he might get to know her. They did go out a few times, and at first, neither thought the relationship would continue. Happily, though, the few times led to many, and love began to deepen between them. Miara knew if she kept seeing Jonathan it would lead to marriage. She prayed to God for help—the whole idea of marriage was foreign to her. That night, she dreamed that Jonathan took her deep down into the earth into a cavern and showed her treasures. When she awoke, she knew God had answered her prayer. Thereafter, each morning when she left Joy's house, next door to Jonathan's, she found a little drawing and love note on her car.

Jonathan and Miara married in May 2000. Their dog, Galahad, joined them in July of that year; Nicolas Aryon Wiltshire blessed the family with his presence in November 2001. Nicolas, now five, is very close to his father, who sees his son as a mature soul who is inquisitive and thinks of others. Miara feels that her marriage to Jonathan, and her son Nicolas, are the best things that ever happened to her. She is so grateful that Jonathan, through his familiarity with Flower, brings this high soul to light since Miara never met Flower. Miara talks to Nicolas about Jesus, the Golden Rule, the importance of loving your neighbor and of her own devotion to Questhaven. Nicolas attends a Waldorf School based on the teachings of Ruldolf Steiner and loves Questhaven.

To make a living, Jonathan has worked in the field of Information Technology for many years at Callaway Golf Company. Three or four years ago, he felt an inner prompting—in reality a demand—that he be about the business of painting. Although it sometimes conflicts with other things in his life, Jonathan knows he must obey what is happening within. Miara understands his quest and feels that his art conveys spiritual insights. They are now nearing a new time in their lives when Jonathan can dedicate his weekdays to the creation of spiritual art. Jonathan hopes his art will contribute to Questhaven's expression. Miara wants to keep serving and growing and remembering that we are here for the Christ.



*Mount Rainier* by Jonathan Wiltshire ©

## *Renovation of Former Day Residence*

by Daryl Carlson

If you have been on the grounds recently, you might have wondered about the sawing and hammering you heard. These sounds represent progress.

When our dear Joy Day became in need of assisted living, the home that she and her husband, Vernon, had occupied for many years on the grounds of Questhaven Retreat became vacant. Jonathan and Miara Wiltshire expressed a desire to move from their current residence and offered to renovate the Day's home at their own expense. As this was advantageous to both The Christward Ministry and the Wiltshires, permission was granted. The Ministry will not incur costs that would have been required to provide a useable building, and Jonathan and Miara will have a home better suited for the needs of their family.

A huge plus is that Jonathan now will have a view of the entrance to Questhaven Retreat and will be able to keep a watchful eye on activities there. Vernon Day originally had the house sited for this very reason — so that he would be able to see the gate.

Improvements being made include: stucco on the exterior, new double pane windows, improved insulation and attic ventilation, and an enlarged kitchen and eating area. The hallway is also being extended to provide access to Vernon's old office, which will become the master bedroom. Along with all this, there will be plumbing upgrades, including new fixtures in the bathroom.

The building that Jonathan and Miara are currently in will be utilized as an art center by The Christward Ministry for art-related events and workshops. Jonathan will be the "Artist in Residence." The building will also provide overflow guest accommodations if needed.

With joyous anticipation we look forward to early completion of the work and to Jonathan and Miara continuing their blessed service to The Christward Ministry in their new home.



Wiltshire Home in Progress