



The In Touch

Volume 58, Issue 12

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

Ramblings from the Deacon.....

Article from Richard Rohr: Submitted by: Lee Grim

A Breakthrough in Consciousness

Franciscan Sister Ilia Delio describes spiritual maturation as a growth in consciousness and a radical surrender into divine love.

The first half of our lives is spent building an identity, establishing our security, defining our boundaries, creating a zone of safety, and having controllable order. We can liken this first stage of life to operating on lower levels of consciousness. Many religious people get stuck on the level of mythic consciousness, with a narrow, ethnocentric, law-and-order mentality. God is a superior being outside oneself, and fidelity to God means abiding by the laws of religion and church. Wholeness means nothing more than obeying the rules. Looking for one's center always outside oneself inculcates a basic sense of unworthiness, distrust of self, and subservience to those "better," "more qualified," or "superior" to counsel and guide.

What creates a breakthrough in consciousness, whereby authentic growth shifts from attention to authority outside ourselves to the inner law of the heart, is not simply growing old but, rather, it is growing inward in freedom: "If you make my Word your home," Jesus said, "you will learn the truth and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31–32). Freedom requires a breakthrough into unitive consciousness, a radical surrender and complete letting go, trusting the spiritual impulses of life....

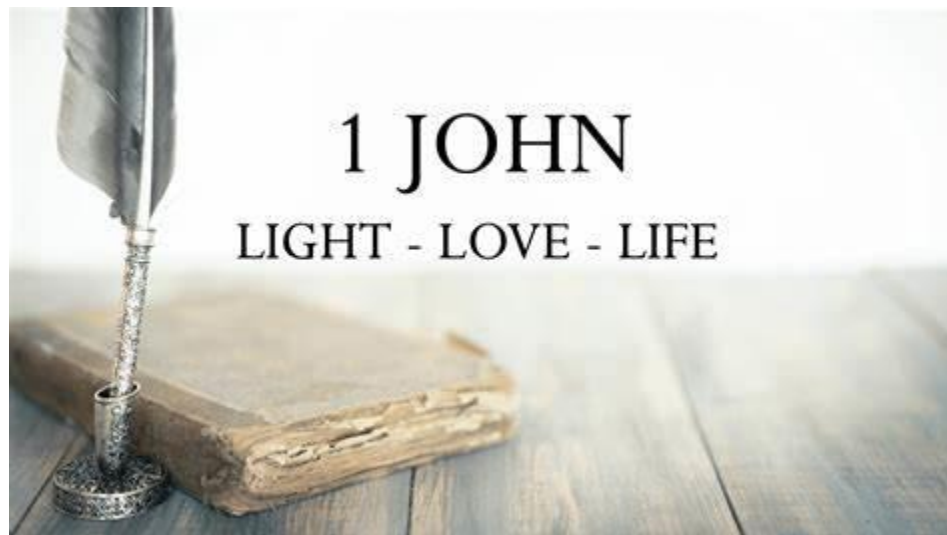
Life still breaks down as matter weakens and expectations fail, but the one who lives on the level of integrated consciousness lives in moments of failure or disruption with a lightness of spirit, a sense of openness to divine love, which appears like light shining through the cracks of darkness. Suffering is where divine love radiates in hidden darkness, where God is fully human; the power of life itself in the midst of disruption.

We [live into our divine nature] when we cling to this power of life, finding that this power within liberates us beyond the threat of death because “fear is driven out by perfect love” (1 John 4:18). Living into our divine nature is the source of our freedom and happiness.

We cannot know this deeper divine reality if we live only on levels of mediocrity and self-preservation. We are created out of love and are made to energize the world in love.... Aging can be either a life of nostalgia or a wholehearted engagement with the future. It is a disruptive process as things break down, friends and pets die, houses are sold, and memories of the past haunt the present. Months melt into years, and we find ourselves in the flow of life.

Growing inward by falling upward means learning from our mistakes.... Even if the felt experience of life dims, we are invited to let go and surrender to the wild love of God, living into the endless vitality of life itself. Letting go into God is coming home to our true selves, where we discover that our root reality is infinite divine love, and in love, we are eternally free.

Ilia Delio, “Falling Inward, Falling Upward: God, Self, and the Liberation of Love,” [*Oneing*11, no. 2, *Falling Upward*](#) (Fall 2023): 49–50. [Available in print](#) and [PDF download](#).





12/1~12/31 ~ Brent Schlieff

~ Charlie Klatt

~ Alexander Kennedy

~ Bill Bertram

~ Jim Davison

~ Alan Wright

~ Byrne Johnson

~ Sara Kennedy

~ Ladd Corrin



12/14 ~ Dixie Juel

12/30 ~ Mark Grim

Watch Holy Trinity Livestream On Facebook

Service bulletin is on our website: www.ifhtec.org

Sundays @ 10:00 am

Services can also be viewed on KCC-TV

CHRISTMAS KIDS' SHOP

Donations requested (Father gifts needed most)

Kids come shop for your adults! No money needed – payment will be a promise to do a good deed for someone else.

At Holy Trinity (820 4th St.), the church with the red doors.

Hours are: **Tues** 11/28 4:30-6:30 PM

Thurs 11/30 4:30-6:30 PM

Sat 12/2 10 AM - 1 PM

Tues 12/5 4:30-6:30 PM

Thurs 12/7 11 AM - 1 PM & 4:30 -6:30 PM

Sat 12/9 10 AM - 1 PM



Sunday 24th ~ 4th Advent Service 10 am

Christmas Eve Service ~ 4 pm

December '23 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
3 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 1st Sunday of Advent	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Molly	
10 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 2nd Sunday of Advent	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Erik Strand	
17 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 3rd Sunday of Advent	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Carole Johnson	
24 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 4th Sunday of Advent 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	? Jeanne Corrin	
31 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 1st Sunday after Christmas	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Georgeann & Andy	



December 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Altar Guild Donna & Karen Kids shop 10 am -1 pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Altar Guild George & Michele Kids Christmas shop 10 am -1 pm
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Kids Christmas shop 4:30 - 6:30 pm		Kids Christmas shop 11 am -1 pm 4:30 - 6:30 pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00a.m.	Ruby's Pantry 5:00 - 6:30 Vestry Meeting 5:00 pm					Georgeann & Michele
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline (Mel)					Carolyn & Molly
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. & Eve 4:00 pm	Merry Christmas 					Carolyn & Molly
31						
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						

