

~ SPIRIT ~

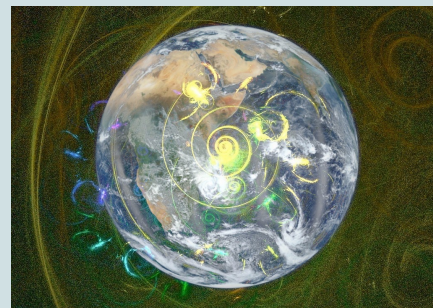
Monthly notes and inspiration from Louisiana Spiritual Directors, Inc.

January 2018

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

Isaiah 43:18-19

Image by E. Bourque



The members of the LASD Board wish all a holy and growth-filled 2018!

A letter from your LASD Board President

Happy New Year and may you and your families receive many blessings in 2018!

Here's a quick update on what has been going on with the LASD Board since the last conference.

The most exciting news is: our new website is launched! This was a huge endeavor but it has been well worthwhile. Check it out www.louisianaspiritualdirectors.org and register for the April 2018 conference—*Utilizing Wisdom's Transformational Perspectives in Spiritual Direction*. Our presenter, Bill Redfield, an Episcopal priest and clinical social worker, comes from New York and is highly recommended as an inspiring and challenging speaker.

As regards the website, we are looking for one or two volunteers who are open to being trained for the updates, which should be minimal. We really don't have the funds to pay someone. These individuals can be, but do not need to be, board members.

Finally, with the help of the board, Elsa and Melinda have spent many hours weeding through and revising the membership list by making personal calls and email follow-ups. If you haven't already paid your 2017-2018 dues, you can do so online or by snail mail. If you know any trained spiritual directors who are not LASD members, invite them to join.

Again, please click on the [website link](#) and register for the 2018 conference. The presentations offer us so much for our ministry and the socializing can't be beat!

Peace,
Jane L. Hebert



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LASD MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: REMINDER

Over the past several weeks, our board members have been making personal contact with potential and renewing members about the benefits of membership. While we have received overall positive responses from you, we are still waiting on several to submit their dues for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. If you have not yet done so, please submit them as soon as you are able via [this membership form](#).



UPCOMING RETREATS AND WORKSHOPS

**Tending the Soul of Marriage:
A Married Couples' Retreat**
St. Mary of the Pines Retreat Center
Chatawa, Mississippi

Presenters: Robin and Easton Hebert

February 16-18, 2018

St. Ignatius of Loyola gifted the church with his Spiritual Exercises in the sixteenth century. They provide the basis for silent retreats even today. But what wisdom might St. Ignatius offer us for our modern-day lives and families? And how can married couples utilize the exercises for their own spiritual growth on a daily basis?

As Lent begins, join Robin and Easton for a journey into Ignatian spirituality, embracing concepts that will aid your spiritual growth as individuals and as married couples. Included in retreat will be pockets of silence and time for deep personal sharing within the context of prayer.

Suggested donation: \$360.00 per couple.

For reservations, call Sr. Sue Von Bank at 601-741-3209
or email svonbank@ssndcp.org.

**Finding the Gift of the Shadow:
Accepting and Embracing Your Unloved Side
(for trained Spiritual Directors)**

Archdiocesan Spirituality Center
Metairie, Louisiana

Presenter: Sr. Janice Bachman, OP

Saturday, March 3, 2018
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

This workshop will explore some very practical aspects of the ways in which the shadow may help or hinder one's spiritual development and the critical need to be in relationship with one's own creativity. Specific ways to uncover, explore, and work with one's shadow will be highlighted and applied to spiritual direction.

Please register by calling (504) 861-3254 or email archspirctr@arch-no.org.

**"24 Hours for the Lord"
A Lenten Silent Retreat**

Rosaryville Spirit Life Center
Ponchatoula, Louisiana

Directors: Sr. Lucy Silvio, Dianne Hanley, Melinda LeBlanc

March 23-24, 2018

As Lent comes to a close, in the last days before Holy Week begins, offer God 24 hours of presence. This retreat offers plenty of quiet prayer time, encouraged by short reflections and scripture passages given by directors.

[Register now at this link.](#)

Walk With Me: Spiritual Direction With the LGBTQ Community
Spiritual Directors International Conference
St. Louis, Missouri

Presenter: Bradley A. Leger, Ph.D.

April 26-29, 2018

[This workshop](#) will explore the intersection between LGBTQ issues, spirituality, and interdependence within society and consider ways to create communities of culturally competent spiritual directors who are developing a sense of commitment and inclusivity towards LGBTQ people and their loved ones. This will be accomplished through covering relevant current issues; providing accurate, pertinent statistics and terminology; information on the aspects of human diversity; and providing appropriate tools for this ministry.

[Register now at this link.](#)



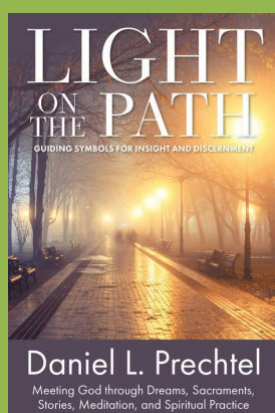
**READER'S
CORNER**

***Light on the Path:
Guiding Symbols for
Insight and Discernment***

by Daniel L. Prechtel. New
York: Morehouse Publishing,
2016

Easy to understand model of
spiritual discernment for
individuals and groups.
Introduces an array of
powerful spiritual practices.
Connects spiritual practices
with psychological
understanding and social
insight.

[Read more . . .](#)



**SOMETHING TO
PONDER . . .**

*"Try not to resist the
changes that come your
way. Instead, let life live
through you. And do not
worry that your life is
turning upside down. How
do you know the side you
are used to is better than
the one to come?"*

[Rumi](#)



TAKE NOTE

**SDI New
Contemplatives Initiative**

For more than twenty-five
years, Spiritual Directors
International has gathered
people from around the
world and across traditions at
annual educational events.
The New Contemplatives
Initiative, which began in
2012, was created to better
understand and engage with
emerging spiritual directors.

[Read more . . .](#)



Keeping your membership current . . .

Let's not forget that our membership
status is concurrent with the fiscal year
which runs from July 1 - June 30. To
access a membership form or to pay
online, please click on [this link](#). If you
have any questions, please contact [Elsa
Mendoza](#).



Comments? Questions? Suggestions for future articles?
Want information on membership?



Louisiana Spiritual Directors, Inc. (LASD) is an association of trained Spiritual Directors formed to promote continuing education, fellowship and information for Spiritual Directors within Louisiana.



www.louisianaspiritualdirectors.org

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