### Higher Ground Newsletter

Lake Superior Interfaith Community Church

"Spiritual integrity through compassion, diversity and hope"

1414 East 9th Street, Duluth MN 55805 218-724-6554

SERVICE TIME 10:30 A.M

 Our potluck communion meal follows the service.

CHURCH BOARD

<u>President &</u> <u>Secretary</u>

Carol Gieseke (2020)

Vice President &

Financial Secretary

David Fritze (2021)

<u>Treasurer</u>

Andrew Merzwski (2021)

**Trustees** 

Cindy Fritze (2021)

Barb Steger-Kollath (2020)

(Term End Date)

#### Mission Statement

LSICC is committed to spiritual growth by offering our congregation and our community a house of prayer and meditation, and to lighting a path to learning and empowerment..

#### **President's Letter**

Greetings ... This is an exciting time at LSICC. Starting a year ago, we've offered a Quarterly Healing Service at the end of March, June, September and December. Beginning this January, we're adding to that with Community Meetings in January, April, July, and October (our Annual Meeting). We'll also have Circle Services in February, August (our annual picnic) and November. This means that on the last Sunday of each month, instead of having a guest speaker, we'll have a service focused on connecting with one another, sharing more of ourselves with updates and plans for the church, healing gifts and more thoughtful, heartfelt responses to circle topics. We're looking at where we are, where we've been, and where we want to go ... the energy has been getting "higher" week by week.

**Current status and previous year**: At our Annual Meeting on October 27, we reviewed the past year (finances and activities for the year), elected to one full two-year terms three people who had served as appointed Board members, approved some Bylaws amendments to clarify details for electing Board members, and voted to change our service start time. Services will now start at 10:30 all year ... no more summer and winter changes. We had lively discussions about the service time and options for how to bring in more money and, perhaps, spend it a bit differently.

**Times past:** On Sunday, November 17, we had a circle service. Those present were asked to respond to three questions:

- ♥ What does LSICC mean to you?
- What do you receive and/or want to receive from LSICC?
- What future do you want for LSICC?

Each person reviewed her or his past and present experience in our community. The responses were passionate, heartfelt and inspiring for everyone there. We ended with a deepened appreciation for one another, for what this church has been, and for what it can be in the future.

**Future hopes**: On January 26, our service will be a community meeting. We'll be voting on more tweaks (amendments) to our Bylaws to reduce the size of our Board for the current Board year, from President plus six to President plus four. Based on the current number of enrolled members, this seems appropriate for now. The Board is also asking to add the Financial Secretary as a participant in the budget process.

The Board will have other agenda items for that meeting which we'll share beforehand. If you have anything you'd like us to include at that community meeting, especially if it's something that requires a membership vote, please let me know by January 6 or sooner. In the meantime, may you experience the light and love that you are.

Gratefully yours, Carol Gieseke



Members may ask to receive newsletters by mail.



#### **BOOK SALE THANKS**

Many thanks to Jasmine Phoenix for, once again, taking the lead on our book/media sale, on October 11 and 12. Also, thank you to all who participated by donating books, helping with the sale (setting up, serving as a cashier, and cleaning up afterward) and buying books, and our deep gratitude to the generous donor whose cash gift contributed to the bottom line for the sale.

Our total income for the event is \$566.50.

#### Speaker Information

**December 1 – Barbara With –** Barbara is an author, composer, performer and psychic who has shared her work and music with us at LSICC on a regular basis since 1998. You can see all her work at www.barbarawith.com.

**December 8** – **Gary Boelhower** – Gary is professor of theology and religious studies at The College of St. Scholastica. He has taught at the secondary, undergraduate, graduate, and executive development levels; has administered educational programs for over 45 years; consulted with a broad range of organizations; given over a thousand professional presentations across the United States and in England, France, Spain, Canada and Mexico; and published scholarly articles, educational texts and poetry.

**December 15 – Richie Townsend –** Richie is a musician, amateur astronomer, and Tai Chi Chuan enthusiast. He received his BA in Religious Studies from the College of St. Scholastica and DMin from the University of Creation Spirituality in Oakland, California. Richie is currently employed by DAIP (Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs) and teaches Tai Chi and Qigong classes for Duluth Community Education.

**December 22 – Jasmine Phoenix –** Fond of humor, fire, and animals, Jasmine is looking forward to seeing if Spirit will prompt her to include any or all in her talk. She is an interfaith minister and spiritual director, as well as a past president of our spiritual community.

**December 29 – Quarterly Healing Service –** Individual healing will be offered by several practitioners during the service.

**January 5** – **Phyllis McCoy** – A member of LSICC since 1987, and channeling since 1983, Phyllis is inspired to follow Spirit, to serve clients in person and on the phone, and to serve our church. Wisdom guides her to a current message, so she is learning while she is sharing that message. Most important is that we are all together in this sacred creation!

**January 12** – **Chuck Crom** – Chuck has explored many spiritual philosophies in the last quarter of a century. Of these, the most profound and transformative information has come through the association with what is usually termed channeled sources. This, combined with an exploration of dreamtime, has led to an understanding of the nature of self, that leaves the boundaries imposed by many belief systems behind, and opens profound and powerful avenues, to bringing a much greater awareness of the infinite you into your present experience.

**January 19 – Carolyn Sheets –** "I've been a member of our beloved church since the early 80's, when Rev was still here. He brought me so much! Since 1970, I've also been a student of the metaphysical path and began professional massage therapy the same year. Healing Ways has been my wellness business since 1983, and I see it flourishing for decades to come.

**January 26** – **Community Meeting** – We'll be voting on a couple of items, will share updates on the business and affairs of the church and will probably be discussing future hopes and plans.

Our speakers are the anchors of our Interfaith Sunday services. They come from all walks of life and spiritual concepts to share their knowledge in ways that enlighten and inspire us to live our lives at a higher level. If you or someone you know has a story to share with us, please contact Carol Gieseke to be scheduled.

## December 2019

42	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Speaker— Barbara With	2	3	4	5 Drumming 7pm	6	7 ACIM
12:30— Channeling						10:30-Noor
Unity Class 6:00-7:30						
8 Speaker— Gary Boelhower	9	10	11	12	13	14 ACIM
12:30—Board Meeting				Drumming 7pm		ACIM 10:30—Noor
Unity Class 6:00-7:30						
15 Speaker— Richie Townsend	16	17	18	19	20	21 ACIM 10:30—Noor
Unity Class 6:00-7:30				Drumming 7pm		
22 Speaker— Jasmine Phoenix	23	24	25	26	27	28 ACIM 10:30-Noor
Unity Class 6:00-7:30				Drumming 7pm		
29 QUARTERLY HEALING	30	31				
Tapping —12:30						
Unity Class 6:00-7:30						

Services will now start at 10:30 all year ... no more summer and winter changes.

#### WINTER GIVING TREE

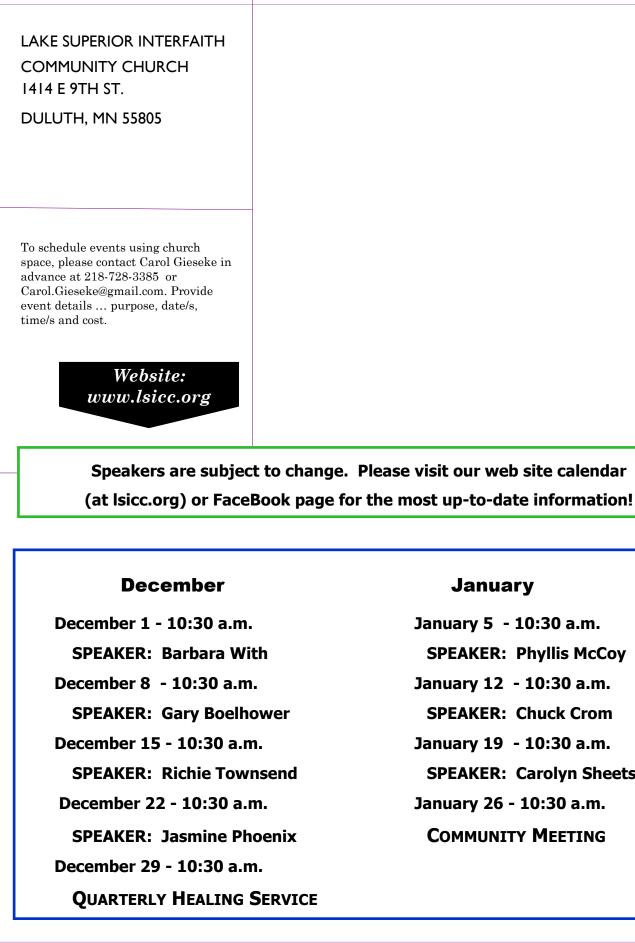
OUR TREE WILL BE SET UP FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. WE'LL BE COLLECTING HATS, SCARVES, MITTENS AND GLOVES FOR CHUM.

PAGE 4

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 Drumming 7pm	3	4 ACIM 10:30—Noon
5 Speaker— Phyllis McCoy 12:30-4 Angels & Miracles Unity Class 6:00-7:30	6	7	8	9 Drumming 7pm	10	11 ACIM 10:30—Noon
12 Speaker— Chuck Crom ?12:30—Board Meeting? Unity Class 6:00-7:30	13	14	15	16 Drumming 7pm	17	18 ACIM 10:30—Noon
19 Speaker— Carolyn Sheets Unity Class 6:00-7:30	20	21	22	23 Drumming 7pm	24	25 ACIM 10:30—Noon
26 Community Meeting Unity Class 6:00-7:30	27	28	29	30 Drumming 7pm	31	





#### January

January 5 - 10:30 a.m. **SPEAKER:** Phyllis McCoy January 12 - 10:30 a.m. **SPEAKER:** Chuck Crom January 19 - 10:30 a.m. **SPEAKER:** Carolyn Sheets January 26 - 10:30 a.m. **COMMUNITY MEETING**