



*We embrace the process of transformation in Christ both in ourselves and in others, through the practice of Centering Prayer.*  
Contemplative Outreach is a network of communities and individuals seeking the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit and to contribute to the renewal of the Christian contemplative tradition through the practice of Centering Prayer. Vision Theological Principal 1

Dear Fellow Mystics,

Our beloved Lord is risen! May the peace of Christ beyond all understanding fill you with His healing love.



On Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> **Jerome Lubbe** presented **The Whole Identity Profile Enneagram Workshop**, hosted by Debonee Morgan of Zeitgeist. Jerome has paired brain research with enneagram information and turned it upside down! Jerome's positive perspective emphasized that all are capable of being in every one of the nine spaces. You can find Jerome's NeuroTheology of Self-Care Course at <https://www.thriveneurotheology.com/offers/zqrGEFA2/checkout>. For more information on Zeitgeist programs, go to <https://www.debonee.com/zeitgeist.html>

On Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, **Tyler Perry** paid for all aged 40+ people's groceries at all Atlanta Krogers. How blessed we are Tyler reached out to his hometown folks.

**News from our Centering Prayer groups:**



**Debbie Engler-Key** reported their **Alpharetta Presbyterian Centering Prayer Group** began meeting by Zoom on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11a.m. Many commented that it had been hard to sit alone during their individual daily Centering Prayer time. They feel the paradox of socially distancing ourselves at this time of collective action and collective suffering across our planet and that their time together was nourishing. They will continue to meet weekly by Zoom.

**Jo Anne Green** hosted **St. Ann's Centering Prayer Group's** first Zoom meeting last Saturday in Marietta.

**Leslie Geer** has Zoom-facilitated 90-minute morning Centering Prayer retreats for two Saturdays at **St Anthony of Padua** as well as their Wednesday night Centering Prayer Group meeting. The participants really loved to be able to see and pray with each other. They appreciated her PowerPoint presentation on the Scripture readings for the Saturday retreat sessions.

**Shirley Lee** reports that **St. Bartholomew's Centering Prayer** began Zooming on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Participants immensely enjoyed the experience led by Bill Gould.

**Cindy Avens** states the **Cherry Log Christian Church Centering Prayer group** in Cherry Log, Ga. talked about gathering via Zoom but now most folks prefer simply to gather together in spirit, each in their homes at their usual time for prayer to connect in the Heart space. They are open to change in the future but presently are group-emailing each other a lot to stay in touch with how they're all doing and to share their experiences and inspirations.

**Vernon Dixon** reports the **St. Clare Episcopal Centering Prayer Group** in Blairsville had their first Zoom meeting on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Even though there were a few glitches, the group wanted to continue meeting by Zoom.

**Maggie Winfrey's Ignatius House Centering Prayer Group** has been meeting by Zoom for 3 weeks. They added a daytime meeting last Thursday at 1:00 pm for those who have conflicts with their evening time. Begun with fits and starts, they are learning the process and eliminating hackers by invitation-only admission. The group was thrilled that Rev. Stephen Hoffman of Tampa Bay Contemplative Outreach joined them March 31<sup>st</sup> and Jo Anne Green from St. Ann's CP Group in Marietta on April 7<sup>th</sup>. How wonderful we can now bridge the distance gap previously undreamed of.

**Linda Lee Davis** reports that **St Joseph's Centering Prayer Group** in Marietta is not getting together physically around the table each Wednesday but many centered, each in their homes at the same time from 7 to 7:30 on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Several in the group expressed it was an uplifting experience, as they had hoped.

**Wendy Darrow Maddox** has been hosting **St. Mary and St. Martha of Bethany Centering Prayer Group** meetings via Hangouts on Saturday mornings in Buford, Ga.

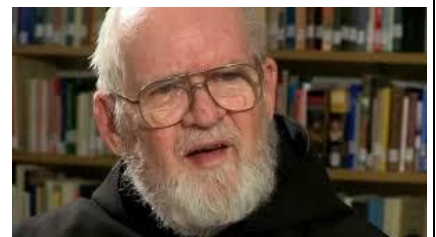
**Rebecca Parker** is scheduling all **Martha & Mary's classes** on Zoom. Information about them is at <https://www.maryandmarthasplace.com/classes/>.

**Our Lady of the Assumption Centering Prayer Group** has begun Zooming, and they are recording their meetings for people who cannot join at 7 on Wednesdays. If you would like to join them, email Chris Thompson at [deaconchristthompson@gmail.com](mailto:deaconchristthompson@gmail.com) .

**Cathy Crosby** reports the **Episcopal Church of the Redeemer's Centering Prayer (ZCP) Group** is meeting successfully via Zoom, and they all agree the connective energy is still very present, even though they are physically separated.

**St. Thomas More** began Zooming last Wednesday. Members felt it was quite moving to sit in silence with friends who were made present thanks to streaming. They will continue to do this each week until it's safe to meet in person again.

**Please pray for Father William Meninger** the last living of the three (Keating, Pennington, and Meninger) who created the method of Centering Prayer. He has been in residence at Spencer Monastery in Massachusetts for surgery in Boston to remove a carcinoma behind his right ear. Before surgery two brothers from the Monastery brought him holy water from Lourdes and Fr. William said, "Everything...Everything...Everything...is a grace." After surgery he remarked "his meditations were bringing him closer to the Passion of Christ as Holy Week approached as well as being joined with the suffering of the world." His book *The Loving Search for God* beautifully illuminates the Cloud of Unknowing in present day terms.



**Our own Stephen Reynolds** from Transfiguration Centering Prayer Group, Lay Cistercian and “root-rock-reggae” singer-songwriter, has hiked all over the world and written two books: *The Blissful Gaze* and *Trapdoors in the Floor of Heaven*, contemplative guides for the New Testament and Old Testament respectively. You can find his songs at [www.reverbNation.com/stephenreynolds](http://www.reverbNation.com/stephenreynolds).

We draw hope from Fr. Thomas’ encouragement: “In Centering Prayer, by participating intentionally in the Paschal Mystery, our prayer periods become a liturgy without words, a celebration of one’s own union with Christ and of participation in the inner life of the Trinity, Every little drop of experience is of almost inconceivable value and vastly transcends ourselves. In other words, the Divine Energy that is accessed by each one’s participation in Christ’s passion, death and resurrection becomes a kind of universal prayer for the needs of the whole human family. It has a radiation that is truly apostolic, apostolic in the sense of transmitting the grace of Christ into this world...” *Intimacy with God*

May the risen Christ, who lives and gives us life, bring healing to you and your loved ones, keep you safe, and give you peace,

Maggie

### Cancellations:

Ilia Delio, OSF, Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> in Cannon Chapel at Emory and Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of St. Philip. Subscribe to her newsletter at <https://omegaCenter.info/about/ilia-delio/>

April 17-18 Workshop by John Dear at Our Lady of the Assumption Church

April 18<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop at Chestnut Ridge Christian Church, Reschedule date TBD.

May 30, 2020 – 9 am to 3 pm at Cherry Log Christian Church in Cherry Log, GA – Reschedule date TBD



## On-Line and Virtual Opportunities

**Thanks to our Transfiguration Centering Prayer Group Leader Rena Cresman, who developed this great list of videos:**

- The health benefits of CP practice: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxClvu5rqw>
- Compilation of the two videos from Fr. Keating on the method including a 20-min sit with Fr. Keating. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg9Nzj3kiYo>
- Excellent presentation on CP given by Rev Cynthia Bourgeault to a multi-spiritual gathering <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aQmQu4lufo>
- 2 hour, 53 minute video with Fr. Basil Pennington presenting a CP retreat with a transcript:
- Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fM0RRe3miqq>
- Transcript <http://www.innerexplorations.com/catchspmys/a.htm>

**Center for Action and Contemplation** offers daily reflections and online courses at [www.cac.org](http://www.cac.org).  
Check out James Finley's podcast on CAC at [.](#)

**To find a Centering Prayer group near you** Contact the facilitator for virtual meeting details at <https://www.contemplativeoutreachatlanta.com/centering-prayer-groups>

**Encountering Silence** Podcast by Carl McColman, Cassidy Hall, and Kevin Johnson at <https://encountering Silence.com/>

**James Finley Podcast: "Sink into the Taproot of Your Heart"**  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bonus-sink-into-the-taproot-of-your-heart/id1494041647?i=1000469272203>

**James Finley Podcast: "Turning to the Mystics"**  
<https://cac.org/podcast/turning-to-the-mystics/>

**Have a Holy Interruption Retreat** at <https://shalem.org/programs/online/holy-interruptions/>

**Ignatius House Centering Prayer Group**, Tuesdays 7:30 pm and Thursdays 1:00 pm, contact Maggie Winfrey at [maggie.winfrey@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.winfrey@gmail.com) to receive invite to join Zoom conference.

**To find a Centering Prayer Group near you**, go to <https://www.contemplativeoutreachatlanta.com/centering-prayer-groups>

**Join the online Meditation Chapel** at Contemplative Outreach Ltd. Several times available at <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/join-community-prayer-online-meditation-chapel>

**For films for discovery and transformation during the pandemic** including Walter Brueggemann and other spiritual greats, go to <https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/>



### Calendar of Events

*Spread the word to your friends and group members.*

Register on our website at <https://www.contemplativeoutreachatlanta.com> under "Upcoming Events."

**We will meet remotely if conditions require that for our safety.  
Details will be developed as we receive more information.**

#### Quarterly Coordinating Team Gatherings for 2020:

Sundays – 1-3 pm June 14, Sept 6, Dec 6. *If you can offer your place of worship as a venue for our meeting, please contact us at [coatlantageorgia@gmail.com](mailto:coatlantageorgia@gmail.com) .*

#### Days of Reflection

- ❖ Revolutionary Contemplatives Day of Reflection date, time, venue TBD
- ❖ Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020 – Dia de los Muertos Day of Reflection at Hazelbrand Farm  
Registration TBA

#### Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshops

#### Retreats

- ❖ **May 14 to 16, 2020** – Camp Mikell Conference Center, Toccoa, Details TBD
- ❖ **June 28, 2020** – Mary & Martha’s Place at St. Dunstan’s Details TBD
- ❖ **July 17 to 19, 2020** - Ignatius House- Centering Prayer, Mindful Walking, and Yoga
- ❖ **October 28 to Nov 1, 2020** - 5 Day Intensive/Post-Intensive Retreat Monastery of the Holy Spirit – To register contact Patti Wilson at (770) 760-0959 or [retreat@trappist.net](mailto:retreat@trappist.net)
- ❖ **May 12-16, 2021** – 5 Day Intensive/Post-Intensive Retreat at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit, Conyers, GA. To register Patti Wilson at 770) 760-0959 or [retreat@trappist.net](mailto:retreat@trappist.net)
- ❖ **November 7-12, 2021** – 5 Day Intensive/Post-Intensive Retreat at Ignatius House.

Be still and know that I am God. Ps 46:10

Silence Solitude Solidarity Service

*“Hope is in the infinite mercy and power of God... a combination that is sure fire because it’s not relying on oneself or one’s good deeds or some slug of merit from part of life.”* From the video "A Life Surrendered to Love" Thomas Keating

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Contemplative Outreach Atlanta

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Coordinator Maggie Winfrey [coatlantageorgia@gmail.com](mailto:coatlantageorgia@gmail.com)  
Find a Centering Prayer group, read our newsletters, and see what is coming soon.