

Triangle Centre New Year Newsletter February 2018



Dear Friends

Happy New Year! As promised in our last newsletter just before Christmas, we return to you with this latest edition. We are very pleased to be able to share the following article from Steve Nation, our friend and co-worker at the Lucis Trust in New York, originally published in Caduceus Journal, Issue 97, Spring 2017. <http://www.caduceus.info>

The UN and the Aquarian Spirit.

It's an incredible time to be treading the spiritual path. The universal spirit of Aquarius flows through the ethers. As a result, recognition of the wholeness and oneness of life is dramatically reshaping psyche and society. From spirituality, religion, and psychology to law, education and media to economics, politics and international relations: ancient habits of separateness are constantly rubbing up against new revelations of wholeness, leading to friction and growing pains. Despite conflicts breaking out into violence in various parts of the world; despite the growing economic inequality within nations and between nations – there is a sense that Aquarius, bringing with it an intuitive, almost instinctual understanding of wholeness, is an unstoppable force.

But right now, confidence in an Aquarian future is being questioned. In part this questioning is a response to rising separatist forces instinctively opposed to Aquarius; in part, it reflects a general deepening and stirring of consciousness amongst those who seek to align with the sources of wholeness they find within. Life is demanding of us that we take a new step towards the Divine Self. It is a time for each of us to shine a light on our own path of bridging between soul and personality; a time for responsibility, discrimination and discernment as we seek to refine our alignment with the Principles and Powers of the Self: Truth and Beauty, Wisdom and Love.

Wholeness and the UN

The personal call to deepen our spiritual alignment is reflected in society. The United Nations provides a good lens to observe humanity's path towards wholeness. Not surprisingly, most of the media's coverage highlights daily headlines of conflicts and flash-points. After all the UN was created to be a space where conflicts and potential conflicts might be contained and managed within the context of evolving principles of law and the relatively new concept of the rights of citizens to be protected from abuse by oppressive governments and leaders. Through the highly-charged atmosphere of disputes and crises tragically effecting millions of people (Syria, Somalia, South Sudan) governments of the world are rubbing up against each other with increasing intensity. National sovereignty is at times in a confrontational relation with a rising identity of our togetherness as a species – and this makes news.

Yet there is something else happening at the UN which is rarely in the news. This is the persistent, on-going work of harmonizing the actions of nations for the common good. It has never been more alive and focused than it is today. Think about the vast community of people becoming drawn into development work centred around the UN's Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs). Hundreds of thousands of people, from every region of the world, are finding that they are being changed by the work they are doing as part of this emerging global mobilization; their life's meaning and purpose is acquiring a new significance. They work as consultants, academics, NGO's, national civil servants, international civil servants, professionals, businesses and private partners with UN agencies and governments. In esoteric terms, it is as if a new discipleship community is emerging as increasing numbers become involved in projects designed to meet mutually agreed UN objectives at local, national and global levels. The way we human beings learn to serve is by serving, and despite all the problems associated with any major endeavour like this, there is an overwhelming transformative effect on the lives of many involved with development projects and of those served by these projects.

New Leadership at the UN

At the beginning of the year the public face of the UN changed with the swearing in of a new Secretary-General, former Portuguese Prime Minister and UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres. Posts in recent months on the World Goodwill at the UN Blog (www.lucitrust.org/blog_wgun/) highlight the unusual human qualities that he brings to the job. As well as having exceptional experience at the highest level in fostering inter-government cooperation and in working with NGOs, he has a deep personal commitment to development. For example, soon after resigning, mid-term, as Portuguese Prime Minister in 2002 because his minority government was floundering, he travelled several times a week to slum neighbourhoods on the outskirts of Lisbon to give free math's tuition to children. This was never reported in the news at the time because, as a Guardian report notes, *what he was doing was personal and not for show*. There is more evidence of his human qualities from a recent meeting he had with representatives of women's civil society groups at the UN. Referring to SDG Goal 5, he opened the meeting with the comment: *Let's spend the time we have together with me listening to your insights. We want gender parity, 50-50, by 2030. How do you see it happening?* Throughout the meeting, he responded to questions with news of new practical steps the UN is taking to raise the profile of women and women's issues. And he noted his concern that there needs to be a free flow of communication between civil society and those in political positions. In a recent speech in London Guterres emphasized the need for the UN to reform its operations and structures so that it can better respond to emerging global challenges. *There is one thing that must be clear for me. The objective is to serve people. The objective is not to be a protagonist, or to be in the media, or to be in the news, or to become popular. The objective is to serve people.*

As well as a new Secretary-General, the UN also has an inspiring new Deputy Secretary-General, Amina J. Mohammed, former Minister of Environment in the Nigerian Government, and Special Advisor to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Post 2015 Development Planning. She brings a passionate and visionary approach to the SDGs. In her first address in her new post she spoke of a *rising tide of optimism and empowerment* but noted that too many have been left behind; the benefits of globalization have not been equitably shared so that *half the planet's wealth is controlled by a handful of rich men*. Inspired by the vision of the SDGs she noted that the UN development system *has a unique, once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver a better future for all humanity. We cannot afford to squander it*. And in doing this she acknowledged that the 2030 agenda *requires that we [the UN] reinvent ourselves to better service Member States*.

The Book Shop - Sale:

Please find enclosed with this newsletter our Retail Book Pricelist. We have reduced prices to cost or less so as to move stock on from our shelves out to where it can more usefully make a difference to the lives of you, our readers. Please take advantage of this offer which is our pleasure to make available to you. Not only are the books at unbeatable prices, we'll post to you at no extra cost within New Zealand.

The Library:

We have recently completed a stocktake of our library and uploaded the catalogue onto our website, see <http://www.trianglecentre.org.nz/library.html>

We are so pleased to have completed this task and look forward to serving you with easy access to our wide selection of nearly 900 books. Check out the catalogue and feel totally welcome to borrow a book. When you place a book request (by snail mail or email) we will communicate with you in order to provide you with our bank account number for you to make a deposit of just \$5 to cover postage. We will then send you your book request and ask that you return the book by the due date (loan period one month). When you make a deposit please insert your surname and phone number in the reference fields. Alternatively, you may just be local, in which case please phone 027 2891422 or email information@trianglecentre.org.nz and we will be in touch and arrange to rendezvous at the Centre.

Pisces Solar Fire Festival

We will be meeting for meditation celebrating the Pisces Solar Fire Festival on Thursday the 1st of March in the Centre at 124 Wellington Road, Paekakariki at 7.30pm. Please join with us, wherever you are. Everyone welcome! RSVP: barbara@aspiredesign.co.nz for the meeting in Wellington city. Actual time of the full moon/sun is 1:51 p.m. on the 2nd of March.

Keynote: **I leave the Father's home and turning back, I save.**

The Newsletter & Mailing List:

We are sending this newsletter to all our contacts. Where we do not have your email contact you will have received this newsletter via ordinary land-based post. In which case can we please ask you to update your contact details. If you now have an email address – thereby making communication a whole lot easier and more efficient, please drop us a line to information@trianglecentre.org.nz - thanks. Or please write to Triangle Centre, P.O.Box 25, Paekakariki. Alternatively, ring Ralph on 04 9057 232 or 027 289 1422

Loving Blessings

Co-workers
Triangle Centre

