

# e-Correspondence

from the Central Regional Council  
of the Anthroposophical Society in America



Whitsun/St. John's, 2015

## Communication Support:

If you are receiving this email as the contact person in your area, please forward it on to all the members in your group, branch or initiative. We want to ensure that all our members in the region remain connected. If you prefer that another member of your group be responsible for receiving and passing this on, please let us know. We need your help and thank you.

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## Speaking with the Stars project

The **Speaking with the Stars** project strives to empower us to ripen our speech, so we can work in a Michaelic way with the spiritual beings of the stars.

The full documents describing this ongoing project can be found on the Central Region webpage at [www.anthroposophy.org](http://www.anthroposophy.org)

## Central Region Annual Gathering October 7-8, 2015 – St. Louis, MO

**The Central Regional Council is beginning to look ahead toward our Annual gathering!**

Our regional gathering has been scheduled to take place just prior to the national Annual General Meeting in St. Louis, MO. We have arranged for space at the Sisters of Carondelet. During our time together we will reflect on our Speaking with the Stars project and open to what direction we may turn for our regional work.

More information will be coming in the months ahead, but please put these dates in your calendars if you'd like to join us.

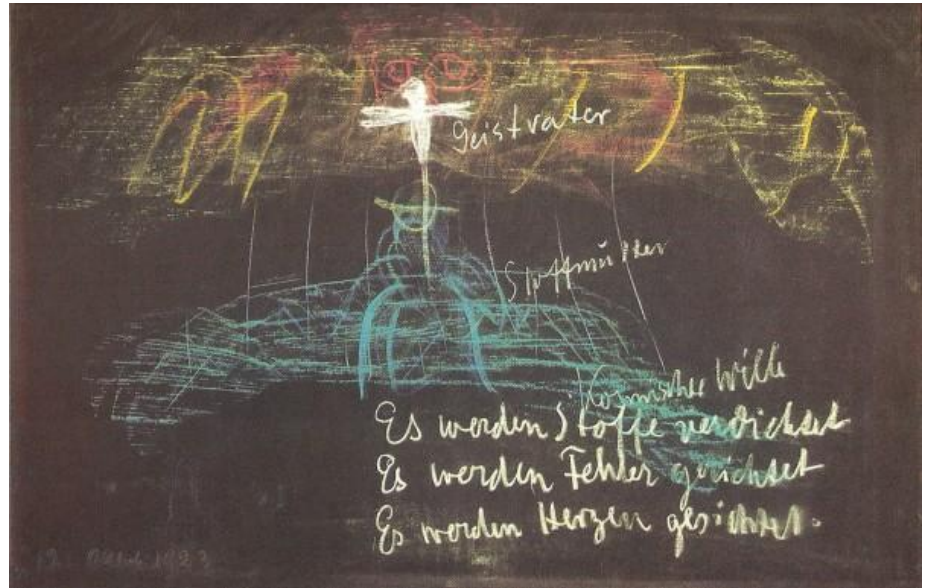
ALSO – Our next regional call will take place August 6<sup>th</sup> as we prepare for the final eclipses in the tetrad series beginning with the Solar eclipse at New Moon Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 2015, and ending with the Lunar eclipse close to Michaelmas on the Harvest Full Moon of Sept. 27-28<sup>th</sup> 2015.

## Four Seasons and the Archangels, Lecture IV: The St. John Imagination

By Rudolf Steiner October 1923, Dornach

“If we look with Imaginative perception into the depths of the Earth at St. John's-tide, we really have the impression that down there are the crystalline forms in which the hard earth consolidates itself — the very crystalline forms which gain their full beauty at the height of summer. At midsummer everything down below the earth shapes itself into lines, angles and surfaces... “

“So to spiritual observation there appears, as a kind of culmination, this picture: Above, illuminated as it were by the power of Uriel's eyes, the Dove (white). The silver-sparkling blue below, arising from the depths of the Earth and bound up with human weaknesses and error, is gathered into a picture of the Earth-Mother (blue). Whether she is called Demeter or Mary, the picture is of the Earth-Mother. So it is that in directing our gaze downwards, we cannot do



otherwise than bring together in Imagination all those secrets of the depths which go to make up the material Mother of all existence; while in all that is concentrated in the flowing from above we feel and experience the Spirit-Father of everything around us. And now we behold the outcome of the working together of Spirit-Father with Earth-Mother, bearing so beautifully within itself the harmony of the earthly silver and the gold of the heights. Between the Father and the Mother we behold the Son. Thus arises this Imagination of the Trinity, which is really the St. John Imagination. The background of it is Uriel, the creative, admonishing Uriel...”

“So it is when one looks down into the depths of the Earth. And if one looks up to the heights, how is it then? The impression one has is of out-spreading cosmic Intelligence. Human intelligence — as I have often said — is not of much value at its present stage. But the heavens at midsummer give one the feeling that cosmic Intelligence is alive everywhere — the intelligence not of single beings but of many beings who live together and within one another. Thus we have up there the out-spreading Intelligence woven through with light; the living Intelligence shining forth (yellow) as the polaric opposite of the Will. And while down below we feel — in that blue darkness everything is experienced only as forces, up above we feel — everything is such that in perceiving it we are illumined, permeated, with a feeling of intelligence.”

## Uriel, the most unknown Archangel (selected excerpts for contemplation)

By Truus Gerats – 2011 (offered by the Viroqua Friends of Anthroposophy)

Why did Rudolf Steiner give us so much insight into the being of Michael and mention the archangel Uriel only two times?

Uriel, ruling guardian of summer heights,  
You with the all-penetrating gaze.  
From your eyes stream forth  
The light of the resting stars,  
Of the wandering moon,  
Of fire flaming powers of lightning.  
You watch and judge the reapers of the harvest,  
Of us, man on earth, usurpers of the light.  
You, Archangel Uriel, conscience of the world,  
Wisest among all angels.

~ From *Uriel*, a St. John's Hymn  
By Wilfried Hammacher, Translated by Truus Gerats

... From Rudolf Steiner's lecture we know that Uriel's intelligence governs all planetary and zodiacal activity in the cosmos and that in Uriel's thinking world thinking is embedded. His gaze is stern, making us aware of our faults and misdeeds, of our karmic debt to man and the earth. That's why Uriel wants us to develop a 'historic conscience'. ... While Michael wants us to develop a consciousness of man in relation to the supersensible, Uriel wants us to wake up towards an inner conscience.

...

Let it be our task to bring into visibility on a global scale what so many people, coming from an anthroposophical impulse, have established in numerous social projects all over the world. Let us feel a united front with each other

and with the many who, without knowing about Anthroposophy, are also working towards the same goals, of placing the human being (anthropos) center stage again. In the words of another Urielite, Paul Hawken: "In the chaos engulfing the world, a hopeful future resides while the past is disintegrating before us."

For the full article, click on the following link.

[http://sozial.goetheanum.org/fileadmin/sozialwissenschaft/2012/socialforum/Uriel\\_\\_the\\_most\\_unknown\\_archangel.pdf](http://sozial.goetheanum.org/fileadmin/sozialwissenschaft/2012/socialforum/Uriel__the_most_unknown_archangel.pdf)

### Thoughts to contemplate

from Mary Louise Hershberger, Fargo, ND

Dear Friends ~ This note from James Ulness regarding the Calendar of the Soul brings to my attention that what we are coming toward through its outer expression (in the Speaking With The Stars project) is also an inner reality that could open another direction for our work.

Today we take up Verse #6. (May 12-18)

"The meaning of this verse is more easily understood, but you may feel that you are far from what it says. Don't be discouraged. Soul growth is a long, gradual process. Hold what it says as a kind of road sign way ahead toward which you are steering. Those of you who tend to turn outward and are more focused on the cosmos (because of your karma) than on inner development and social issues may come to see the cosmos as Divine archetype sooner. But both paths (outer and inner) will meet and merge. All of us

will come to see, and understand, the sun, moon, planets and constellations operating within our soul. Then we will be a "citizen of the cosmos" as well as a good citizen on the earth."

~ James Ulness, Fargo, ND

*There has arisen from its narrow limits  
My self and finds itself  
As revelation of all worlds  
Within the sway of time and space;  
The world, as archetype divine,  
Displays to me at every turn  
The truth of my own likeness.*

*"There is yet another mysterious being, of whom both the Bible, and the spiritual research of Rudolf Steiner, have something to say, though very little. In the abundant stillness of midsummer, from the day of John the Baptist onwards, a quality is to be felt which is unlike all the other moods of nature, a deep questioning. It is as if man were being reminded that he does not belong only to the world he knows, but to something quite different as well, something beyond all the past and future he can imagine. Time is in debt to eternity. There is a great spirit who tells man of all the worlds in which he has a share, which he must serve in their turn; a spirit who speaks in man's deepest conscience. This spirit is named Uriel."*

from *Our Spiritual Companions* by Adam Bittleston

## Reports from our Region:

### Looking for new colleagues on the Regional Council

There are some changes ahead for the constellation of the Central Regional Council. Mary Louise will be stepping down as we complete the *Speaking with the Stars* project. Mary Louise joined the work of the council back in 2007 and has been our Treasurer for several years. She has been diligent in managing our limited resources, asking the right questions and guiding us toward clarity in our communications. We will be sending her off in October at our Annual Meeting.

We are therefore looking forward to welcoming a new member. We have been hoping a eurythmist would join us and that time has come! We're delighted to announce that Raven Garland, a trained and experienced eurythmist has stepped forward. She works in a number of Waldorf Schools and is based in Iowa. She worked with us on other projects and most notably our annual meeting in Little Rock, AK where she was a key artist in co-creating our *Parzival* Pageant.

As is our process we will recommend Raven to our regional members, as a future council member, when we meet in October. She is a welcome and exciting addition to our colleague circle.

### Holy Week and Easter 2015 *Speaking with the Stars* Reflections

Holy Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> was the day many of the "Beehive Cluster" groups were committing to join in a region-wide response to the cosmic activities of solar and lunar eclipses as well as the significant time in the course of the year. There were people gathered in all directions joining in some common celebratory activities as well as those independently created for their specific location. Many groups reported on their *Speaking with the Stars* through our facebook page. The relevant posts are included here for those who haven't been following. They are offered as a reflection as well as inspiration toward future deeds in our work to be connected to one another as well as to the Beings and energies streaming toward and through us.

[Rosalilian Alvarez](#) (Ann Arbor, MI)

[April 6](#)

On Good Friday we had a surprise visit from a cute flying bat that circled around us as Barbara, Kathy and I were making preparations for the next day, somehow it has gotten in and our good friend John Beck took him out gently. He allowed him to catch him very willingly. In Native American medicine bat is a symbol of death, rebirth and initiation very fitting to the mood and to the work we are all doing.

Our experience in Ann Arbor was very sweet, we gathered at 6am at the Society (headquarters) and before going out to view the eclipse we did the halleluiah. Upon our return we had a wonderful breakfast, followed by activities; walking the 7 pointed star, reading from Emil Bock's book and finishing up with an artistic expression of planetary seals.

I have to say I am speechless about what I experienced in community, but in a few words I felt like Mary Magdala, I turned and there he was in the mist of all of us, in each of us a shining risen Christ his love so profound, the new sunrise. To match this feeling and to complete my weekend, I attended the Christian community service the next day and after lunch there was a talk about the Christ, Mary Magdala turned and met the Christ as the gardener of our soul.

Thank you for your inspiring sharing, I held you in my meditation as beams of light gathering throughout North America, creating centers of peace and love in which the Christ can resurrect.

[Sonja Michaels](#) (Little Rock, AK)

[April 6](#)

Beautiful Easter this year, with the starry sky added to our worship/ceremony! Thanks to you all for giving impetus to include the celestial events in our celebrations.

We met for a reading on Palm Sunday, then began Easter week with each of us remotely participating in the Eurythmy Hallelujah together. (Interesting sentence, huh? Since we are distant from each other, we decided to just choose times to commit to performing the Hallelujah, so we would all be performing at the same time.)

On Saturday morning we witnessed the eclipse, full moon occurrence and sunrise.

Then, we invited a few members of the public to participate in our Easter Anthroposophical Ceremony. Our ceremony included Steiner readings on the Mystery of Golgotha, the Eurythmy Hallelujah performance, and a lighting ceremony to symbolize the Risen Christ.

This season felt very much like a "group" Anthroposophical event. Thank you.

Sonja, Travis, Christine, Virginia

[Margaret Runyon](#) (New Orleans, LA)

[April 4](#)

It has been (continues to be!) an amazing week here in New Orleans. And of course it is the 9th(!) anniversary of our 2006 Easter Pilgrimage. That work, along with all that the stars and planets are offering, is definitely reverberating through our little group's experience of this Holy Week.

Every evening, starting with Palm Sunday, we've met at my house to read Emil Bock's account of the planetary gesture for each day. This morning at 6:46 CDT, we took up individually the Twelve Moods "horoscope" verse for the eclipse along with some eurythmy Hallelujahs. This afternoon, we were joined by special guests Ute and Alexander Wooge and Jeremiah Turner at Rita's for 7-pointed star eurythmy, a potluck supper, and the Saturday reading from The Three Years. Tomorrow evening's Easter reading will finish what has been a very special week, indeed.

Thanks to all of you for helping to prepare and carry this stellar work!

[Marianne Fieber](#), (Viroqua, WI)

[April 5](#)

Saturday morning a group met in Viroqua, WI for a sunrise walk through the wooded acre. We offered songs, verses and the hallelujah in eurythmy. We held the intention for the region and world with our courageous reverent vessel. We returned to the home of Marianne Fieber and Joseph Dhara for a potluck breakfast and conversation followed by our study. We opened with the Stars verse, walked the 5-pointed star in eurythmy, sang Harmony of the Stars and heard reflections and offerings for this day. We continued our study of Human Questions Cosmic Answers with lecture 2. It was a lovely, modest event and we enjoyed celebrating with the regional consciousness on this special day.

[Regina Brenner](#), (Twin Cities, MN)

[April 5](#) · [Edited](#)

21 friends met early Saturday morning at the Mississippi to watch the moon, fully eclipsed, setting in the west, while the sun was rising in our back. We blessed the situation with the verse and several Halleluiahs as well as a reading of Ephesians 6:10. A joyful breakfast potluck at the Dietzels followed.

[Linda Bergh](#) it was a sacred time - the eclipse, the slow coming of dawn, and being in community in the quiet of the Mississippi River just enough below the road to feel outside of normal time



[Hazel Archer Ginsberg](#) (Chicago, IL)

Our dedicated group here in Chicago began with sunrise walks by the lake every morning starting at the Spring Equinox Solar eclipse thru Holy Week, studying Emil Bock and working the 7-pointed star. On Holy Saturday we had a perfect clear sky. We sang, read Psalm 23, & did the Hallelujah in the 7-pointed star. I gave a presentation on the relationship between the interior of the earth & the path of Christian Initiation, then we had an artistic exploration of the Rose Cross, as we held the light while the earth cast its shadow on the face of the Easter Moon. The sunrise on Easter morning opened us to a glorious tone for our afternoon gathering which included Eurythmy, story, study and song. What an amazing journey! Thank you all for this profound working! ~

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR REGION?

**June 21, 2015 at 3:00 pm**

**“The Mystery Journey of Johannes and Maria” Highlights from Rudolf Steiner's**

**Four Mystery Dramas** WITH GLENN WILLIAMSON & LAURIE PORTOCARRERO

Camphill Village Minnesota, St. Martin's Hall, near Sauk Centre, MN

Suggested donation - \$ 20

Contact Carol Nichol if you have questions ([cawa12@charter.net](mailto:cawa12@charter.net))

-on behalf of GRACE (Great River Anthroposophical Circle Endeavors)



**JULY 10 – 12, 2015**

**North Dakota Anthroposophic Counseling Psychology  
Introductory Workshop**

With William Bento, Ph.D. and Roberta Nelson, Ph.D. and  
Eurythmy by Karen Derreumaux

Maryvale Retreat, Valley City, ND 58072

For more information: Call Mary M. Hart at 916 741-3010 or email [admin.apana-services.org](mailto:admin.apana-services.org)

## AUGUST 2015

### Inviting Lyre Friends from Around the World . . .

#### The Lyre as Instrument for Peace: Giving Ear Toward Understanding and Reconciliation;

2015 International Lyre Conference 3-8 August, 2015

2015 Lyre Pedagogy Conference 1-3 August, 2015

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, USA



What is the task of the lyre in our time? What is the full reality of the lyre tone? Is it possible that there is more to this instrument than we, in our richly varied endeavors, have so far managed to bring about? Contemplating a thematic focus for the next International Lyre Conference, the Board of the Lyre Association of North America, inspired by the suggestions of Channa Seidenberg, has felt compelled to ponder these questions in the context of our present global situation and to consider whether the lyre may have something particularly important to offer in our time. We have found it of interest to remember that during each of the regencies of the Archangel Michael\* throughout history, there has actually been a lyre on the earth. We wonder if the existence of the lyre in our contemporary world may suggest that this instrument, with its unique tone, has the capacity to elicit new thoughts about how we might learn to work together. How could this be so? The sounding of even a single lyre tone evokes a listening response – not just the usual “listening to,” but a deeper “listening into.”

**The e-Correspondence** will be created four times per year in anticipation of the quarterly festivals. This is a change from a monthly rhythm. We wish to continue hearing from all 39 our members, groups and branches throughout the Central Region. Your contributions to this publication provide inspiration to others planning for or coordinating events in their own areas.



If you have any suggestions or contributions for upcoming issues, please send them to Marianne Fieber at [marianne.fieber@yahoo.com](mailto:marianne.fieber@yahoo.com). In the subject line, indicate that they are for the e-correspondence. We hope this format will help us reach members in a timely way with information that is of interest.

#### Some simple guidelines for submissions:

- \* Electronic submissions only to [marianne.fieber@yahoo.com](mailto:marianne.fieber@yahoo.com)
- \* Poetry or thoughts coming out of your work with anthroposophical ideas
- \* Activities taking place within the Central Region
- \* Reports and photos from anthroposophical events offered by Groups, Branches or Initiatives
- \* Activities which are led and/or developed by members living within the Central Region

Note: We reserve the right to edit contributions as needed.

#### **The Central Regional Council is:**

Dennis Dietzel, Roseville, MN

Marianne Fieber, Viroqua, WI

Mary Louise Hershberger, Fargo, ND

Alberto Loya, Ann Arbor, MI

Hazel Archer-Ginsberg, Chicago, IL