



September 30, 2015

Colette Hoff, Editor

## The Village eView

### On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System:

The American Association for the  
Furtherance of Community  
Convocation: A Church and Ministry  
Mandala Resources, Inc.  
Sahale Learning Center  
The EcoVillage at Sahale

### Faith:

*Belief that does not rest on logical proof or material evidence. ~Caren Goldman*

*FAITH IS A VERB vibrantly illustrates that faith should not be static, rigid or inflexible, but rather an emerging and continually developing process and because it means we must act on what we believe.*

~ Kenneth Stokes

### Upcoming Events

**A Quiet Retreat** – October 2-4

**Pathwork** – October 11

**Community Council** –

**Relational Group** – October

**Men's Cultural Weekend** – October 23 to 25

**Community Development Weekend** –

November 6-8 **THIS IS A CHANGE**

Someone likened faith to the wind: we cannot see the wind, we cannot hear the wind unless it blows against something, we can only feel the wind when it touches our skin or rustles our hair. Faith is like that wind. We cannot see what we believe in, we cannot hear what we believe in unless we open our eyes to the truth, but we can sure feel that our faith is justified by the joy we feel in our hearts. Remember, in the end, we all put our faith in something, so let it be the truth. ~ <http://www.allaboutreligion.org/definition-of-faith-faq.htm>

*... Faith as ultimate concern is an act of the total personality. It is the most centered act of the human mind...it participates in the dynamics of personal life.*

~ Paul Tillich, *Dynamics of Faith*, p.5

*For Tillich, faith does not stand opposed to rational or non-rational elements (reason and emotion respectively), as some philosophers would maintain. Rather, it **transcends** them in an ecstatic passion for the ultimate.*

~ Paul Tillich

*All the world is made of faith, and trust, and pixie dust.*  
~ J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*



## **Faith: Enhances: Trust; Balances/Counters: Hardened Heart, Difficulties**

By Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat

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### The Basic Practice

**Faith** defined as an acceptance of certain religious doctrines is an essential element in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. In Hinduism and Buddhism, it is an attitude of devotion that opens a gateway to spiritual practice.

In the broad scope of the spiritual life, we see faith not as something you have but as something you are in — a relationship. It involves an awareness of and an attunement to God's presence in our everyday experiences.

Practicing faith, then, is like developing any relationship. You have to give it time and attention. It requires you to see, hear, feel, and constantly remember your partner — God. Have confidence in the relationship's viability, even when you are facing mysteries, doubts, and paradoxes. Trust in this faith, even to the point of staking your life on it.

### **Why This Practice May Be For You**

Many people assume that the chief challenges to faith are disbelief and doubt, but the real stumbling block to faith is resistance to God or the hardened heart. In the Biblical traditions, the heart is used as an image for the deeper self, the true and total person. The hard heart is not open to the sacred. It is similar to eyes that do not see and ears that do not hear.

Difficulties can be catalysts to faith. During a dark night of the soul, sometimes all we can do is trust that this, too, will pass. Facing illness, death, or the myriad other challenges in our lives, we are strengthened by the knowledge that a Greater Power watches and waits with us. In the long run, **it's the relationship that matters.**

### **Daily Cue, Reminder, Vow, Blessing**

- ✚ Holding a rock in my hand is my cue to contemplate the solidness of my faith.
- ✚ As I get ready for bed, I remember that sleep is a sign of trust in God.



“I am fundamentally an optimist. Whether that comes from nature or nurture, I cannot say. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lays defeat and death.”

~ Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom: Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*

## Faith Is Indeed Like the Wind

Colette Hoff

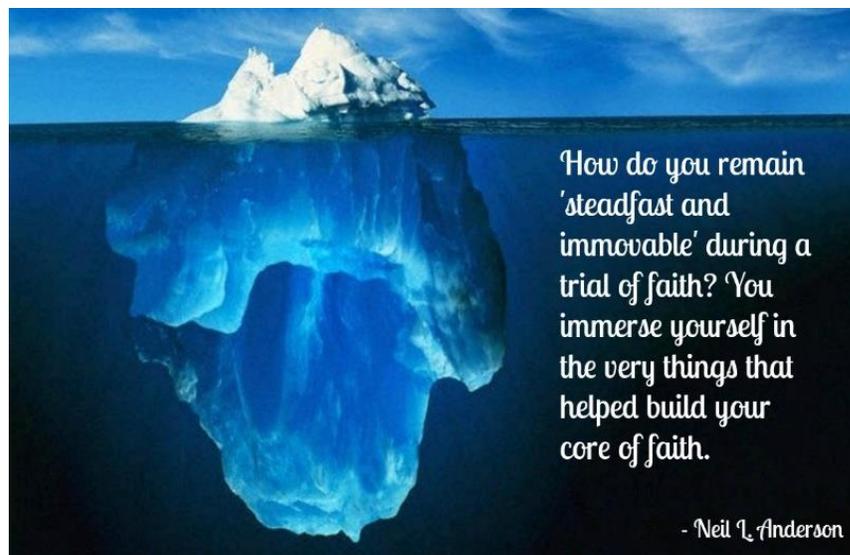
These quotes about Faith demonstrate the role faith can play in life. Kenneth Stokes has written a book titled *Faith Is A Verb* and stresses the need to take action congruently even as faith is illusive. All faith traditions encourage open-heartedness and a belief in relationship and connection with the Unknowable. Spiritual practices are intended to strengthen faith and practices are the activities of our convictions strengthening and growing the inner core.

Taking responsibility for what we can do is an aspect of faith and one-half of a natural tension with allowing love, support, skill and good feeling from family, friends, science, and the Divine on the other side. Barbara Brucker has illustrated these points with her recent experience of cancer. She put her self into doing all she could while having faith in her healing.

I have faith in the growth of our Goodenough Community as it continues to provide a relational context for many lives into the future. The Community Council is committed to staying the course and continuing to develop thereby offering events and programs that support spiritual practice, relationship and connection as well as opportunities for development at many levels of life. How does faith work in your life? Do you have a story?



*Faith is a path of the heart that enables us to perceive the mysterious meaning of life, to confront and overcome obstacles , life with doubt and paradox, and to be at home in the world where the Ground of Being id always present. ~Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat*



## **Meditation is Not Day Dreaming: A Quiet Retreat Consider Joining!**

On the weekend of **October 2 to 4, 2015**, we will be presenting a weekend to support your spiritual practices. We will be reviewing elements of spiritual practice with an emphasis on the importance of quieting the mind. A variety of meditation experiences will be offered, including walking, small groups, individual, observing the natural world as well as the use of quiet and rest.

You might want to attend this workshop if:

- You are carrying a burden in life,
- You are worried about something in your future
- You are working with your emotional life
- You carry tension and stress
- You desire to learn to meditate
- You appreciate group meditation

John and Colette Hoff are offering this workshop; John has taught meditation for decades and Colette is requesting John to bring his knowledge about meditation and prayer to this workshop. Participants will be invited to imagine a more serious and spiritual life for themselves.

**The workshop will be held at Sahale Learning Center beginning** at 6:30 p.m. Friday evening, October 2, and concludes at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 4. While there is a sliding scale, the suggested donation for the workshop is \$200.00 which includes room and board and learning materials. This event is sponsored by Convocation: A Church and Ministry, an interfaith Church that supports the work of the Goodenough Community.



By training in meditation, we create an inner space and clarity that enables us to control our mind. ~ Kadampa Buddhism, founded by Kelsang Gyatson

**Themes for Future eViews:  
October 7: Practical Spirituality**

# FAITH

IS TAKING THE FIRST STEP EVEN WHEN  
YOU DON'T SEE THE WHOLE STAIRCASE.

-MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

## Save these Dates !

### True Holidays - Dec 5:

We invite you to The Goodenough Community's **True Holidays celebration** this year on **Saturday, December** from 6 to 11 PM, at the Mercer Island Congregational Church. Please save the date – and watch the eView and email for more information to come.



The True Holidays party is a fun and family-friendly community event that has become an annual tradition for many, including those beyond the Goodenough Community. I'd love to see you there this year.

During the evening, we will have the chance to reflect on the kind of holiday season we'd like to have as well as being able to spend time with friends, co-workers, and families (all in one place!) There are planned activities for children, plus food, libations, and a fun silent auction.

**This year again we are happy to be led in contra dancing  
by Sherri Nevins and her musician friends!**

Winter Solstice Bus Trip - Saturday, Dec 19: With your friends and family, enjoy this day-long journey that embraces the longest night of the year. We will board a chartered bus and travel over Snoqualmie and Blewett Passes to the beautiful Bavarian Christmas village of Leavenworth. Then we'll head to Eagle Creek Ranch, just outside of Leavenworth, where a horse-drawn sleigh ride awaits us, followed by a buffet dinner. [Please register with Elizabeth now](#) (last year we sold out). *Additional information coming soon.*



### **A Relationship Group**

By John L. Hoff

**Tuesday, October 6 at 7:30 p.m.,**  
3610 SW Barton St.

I have been inwardly drawn to offer some leadership to a process in which individuals can examine the way they relate to others and make some improvements. We each offer the same relationship to most other people. Early in my life I lived very closely with Tlingit natives in the Yukon and was impacted by the relationship they offered me. Since then, I have studied relationships all the way through the doctorate level of academia. I want to share my knowledge for improved relationships with some people who would help me re-appraise what I know and consider with me how we apply this knowledge to life: friendship, families, and colleagues.

I am inviting you to an on-going group and a weekend in February. This group is intended for **anyone (being in a couple is not required)** seeking to improve relational abilities and deal with old attitudes about relating. There will be an intellectual exploration of the nature of relationship and the skills required including some reading. The interactions of the group are also a source of learning and improves skills. In addition, I will be giving assignments each week and you can expect to be challenged to examine your relationships past present and future. We will discuss all of these things at our first session.

Let me know (John Hoff [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) ) that you are interested in a relational / educational counseling approach to personal development. I also invite anyone to have a conversation with me about the group and your potential involvement. The cost for each evening will be \$30.00.

### **Pathwork: Sunday, October 11**

**On Sunday October 11, at 7:00 p.m.** we invite all interested to participate in a **“Pathwork Process,”** a process of sharing our own faith journeys and problems with development. The focus is on what is happening in our lives now and not on an earlier history. It is a process in which we **coach each other** and elicit insights from those who have done psychological and relational work with themselves. John and Colette Hoff have been asked to provide leadership and to resource us thematically. **John and Colette would each welcome meeting with anyone interested in attending.** Email [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) to RSVP. Pathwork meets at the Community Center at 3610 SW Barton Street in Seattle. You are welcome even if you are just a little curious!

### **Community Development Weekend, November 6 to 8**

**We postponed our community development weekend until the weekend of November 6 to 8.** We need a good talk about what we want from community and what each can offer to help. How should we shape the future of the community? Many of you consider yourselves friends of the community and do contribute in many ways. So much gets done through the volunteer efforts of many. Would you seriously consider coming to our community development weekend at Sahale? **We are looking for new Board and Council members as well as filling many other roles.** Everyone doing a small part will make the difference in the continuation of this work. If you love Lab, Sahale, any of our offerings, please bring your wisdom and join in the energy for the future of our community.



Save this date: **A major decade birthday**

November 15: **Celebrating 80 years with Jim Tocher**  
Community Center, 3610 SW Barton St. Seattle



The deAnguera Blog: Tent Take Down 2015



The two times of the year you really see teamwork in action are the erection of the White Tent in June and its take down on my birthday in September. For four brief summer months the tent is up for our summer activities as well as any wedding parties who may wish to use it.

The left hand photo shows Douglas DeMers, Josh DeMers, Evelyn Cilley, and Yako Serras working to remove an end pole. On the right Douglas is helping undo the ties holding two roof skins together.

Once again we were privileged to have the leadership of Norm Peck. We all knew how to follow his directions down to the last detail. The older members including myself all know enough to be able to follow the necessary steps.

We were very grateful for our interns: Pharaoh Kuykendahl, Evelyn Cilley, Yako Serras, Anthony Jepson, and Tanya Krazcik. They provided the youthful energy needed. They along with Josh DeMers were the young people appearing to help take over as we get older.

Whatever young people decide to stay with us will be the future of the Community. It may take folks a while to decide if they want to put down roots or not. In my case Sahale was obviously my final destination. That could be because I am an older person who can take care of whatever income needs I have.

Working with the White Tent puts all of our commitments to the test. Time and again I am amazed by the dedication of our members and interns. When called they were willing to

step up to the plate. That willingness has enabled our community to survive through the years regardless of the challenges.

I doubt if church members could show that kind of dedication. That's because often their relationships are shallow so they usually just do the minimum expected. I have also found this to be true of other groups I have explored including one political party. Parties and social causes can conjure some energy. Ultimately we have to get to know our personal stories as well as our shared destiny to be really effective and committed. That's why we have our Human Relations Lab. That's when any group or cause can become faces and names. That's what makes friendship possible. Friendship provides the ongoing energy needed to sustain any cause.

Karl Marx talks about how our modern industrial way life fragments people's lives into unrelated bits. In my experience this has caused me to be a shallow person. Working with the Goodenough Community brings the wholeness back. Our successes show what's possible. Our actions are the equivalent of the Wright brothers' first three flights at Kitty Hawk. The longest of these flights was just 59 seconds but those seconds were all that was needed to prove that powered flight was possible.



Down to the skeleton roof frame by Saturday. We still had a lot of work to do in folding and stowing the roof skins as well as taking up the dance floor panels.



## News of Members and Friends

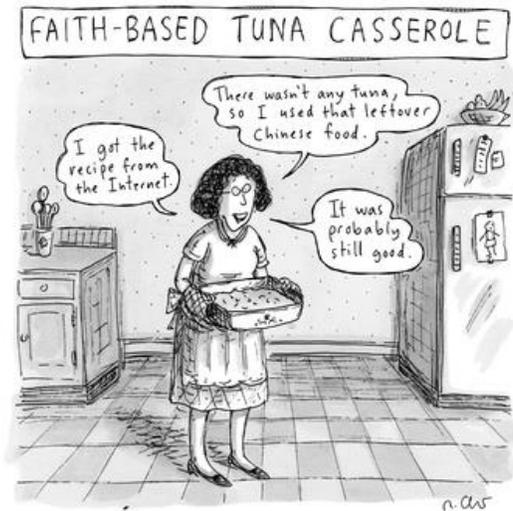
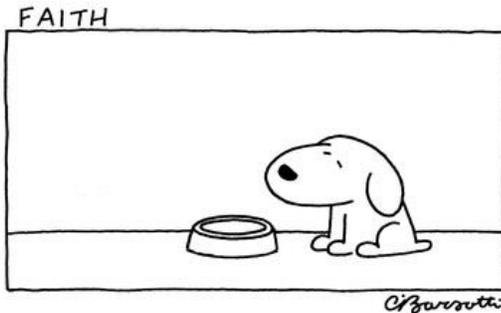
Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson

### Rebecca (Becky) Sampson

We send our prayers and love to the family of Becky Sampson, who is in end stage cancer. Becky is the mother of Irene Perler, mother-in-law to Bruce Perler, and beloved grandmother of Sarah and Wes Boone.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 🎂 Happy birthday, **Richard Kenagy**- October 1
- 🎂 Happy #50, **Eric Sieverling!** October 2.
- 🎂 Happy birthday, **Kathy Scott** - October 2.
- 🎂 Hannv #9. **Sonhia Caroline Hoff** - October 2



"Your inability to turn off your critical voice, combined with your fear of disappointing your overbearing, demanding father, is causing you to lose faith in your fastball."

SIPIL4SS  
G.N.  
COLLECTION

## Cultural Programs & Events in 2015

*For the Goodenough Community, cultural life is an arena for creative expression. All programs and events are open to the public. We welcome your interest and participation.*

*Over thousands of years human communities have organized not only their work life but also their relational and cultural life. The Goodenough Community organizes its cultural life around encouraging human development—through our programs for men, women, committed couples, families and around age groupings. Cultural programs usually encourage maturity, responsibility, and the development of valued relationships. Some of our programs bring everyone together with a seasonal emphasis. Following, are program offerings for the next period on our calendar.*

“Community is a word that captures the fullness and wholeness of humans together.”

■ Colette Hoff

### Programs & Events:

Third Age Gatherings

The Conscious Couples Network

Family Enrichment Network

The Men’s Culture

Women’s Culture

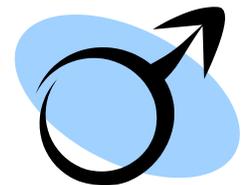
Human Relations laboratory

Sahale Summer Camp

True Holidays Celebration

## Men’s Program

**Theme: Friendship among Men**



The men of the Goodenough Community have for years had a program in which they can support and educate each other on ideals of men around the world. We deal with such questions as “are there characteristics of sound maleness that should be lifted up and taught to other generations of men?” The Goodenough Community has always thought so and we have several programs a year where we lift up ideals and goals for our lives as men. Bruce Perler is currently the spokesperson for our men’s group and here is an announcement from him about a planned weekend this fall. -JLH

### Men's Gathering Weekend at Sahale - Save the Date, Friday October 23 to 25

Mark your calendars for **October 23 - 25**, Friday evening through Sunday afternoon and consider men friends of yours you'd like to invite. We'll be continuing with the theme from Lab 2015; The Path from Stuckness to Freedom.

Personally I'm finding this is an excellent focus for my own development work as a man.

Please join me for a weekend of good conversation, work together time and enjoying the beauty of Sahale in the fall.

Warmly,

**Bruce Perler**

RSVP to [bruce\\_perler@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce_perler@hotmail.com)

### **Creativity Weekends**

October 9-11

November 13-15

Please contact Kirsten Rohde for more information or to RSVP about any of these weekends.

[krohde14@outlook.com](mailto:krohde14@outlook.com)

206-719-5364

### **Women's Culture**



Hollis Guill Ryan

In September we began a new year in the women's culture, a year of exploring our journeys as women on "The Path of Freedom."

As is our custom when we gather as women, we will take time for inward reflection, we will share stories, we will give nurture and receive comfort. We will sing and stretch and share lunch. Our gatherings are informal and welcoming. Over the programmatic year, each gathering builds on the preceding ones yet each is discrete. We encourage you to attend as many as you can, but it is not necessary to attend them all. We invite all women who enjoy the company of women to join us as we learn, practice, and grow in our journey.

**Fall dates include: Saturday, October 24; and November 21.**

Come join us!



**Save the date**

**True Holidays Celebration**

**Saturday, December 5, 2015**

This event has more than 25 years of history and is held early in the holiday season in order to deepen and enrich the winter holidays for people of all faith traditions. This interfaith celebration will again be at the **Mercer Island Congregational Church** and begins at **6:00pm**

*Kirsten Rohde will be our host and guide.*

**Mark your calendars for Lab 2016!**

**The Human Relations Laboratory**

**August 7 to 13, 2016**

**Sahale Learning Center**

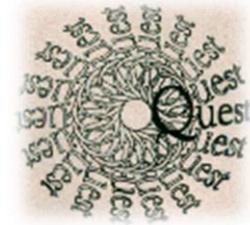
*On the Kitsap Peninsula near Belfair*

[www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org) (360) 275-3957



**Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center**

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual well-being, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest's counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and be more effective in relationships.



**Call John (206 963-4738), Colette (206-755 8404) or Colette and John at Sahale – 360 275-3957.**

Currently, John and Colette are now visiting with clients at the new community center, 3610 SW Barton Street, Seattle 98106 as well as Sahale.

*People of faith  
should root transformative action  
in the spiritual disciplines  
of prayer, meditation, and contemplation.  
While traditionally such practices  
served as stepping stones  
to the realization of a transcendent goal,  
today we need a wider spiritual vision  
that can encompass the divine  
and the mundane,  
the transcendent and the immanent,  
in an integral whole.*

*~Venerable Bhikkhu Bodhi*  
Submitted by Bill Kohlmeyer