



Tree House Newsletter

JULY - SEPT., 2010

Dear Tree House Branches,

It is Pentecost Sunday. I am at the Osage Monastery, Forest of Peace. It is the 25th birthday of Tree House and "I thought" (as the disciples going to Emmaus) that we'd be celebrating! I didn't know I'd be on Sabbatical and that Tree House and "all of us" would be turning into caterpillar soup in our cocoons! God's thoughts and ways are still so far above ours and so filled with surprise and excitement for that which "lies beyond". We just don't know it yet in Tree House's life or in our individual spiritual journeys.

All is well. We have the Holy Spirit. We have Jesus with us all days even to the end of the world.

So, Happy Birthday, Tree House!



May we all keep hearing God's voice in the language that our hearts understand and that catches them on fire. And God must be going to throw a surprise birthday party for his son's Tree House! We have till next Pentecost after all.

*Love,
Cecelia Ann, SFCC*



COACHING TIP...

In however you're being called aside in your own Sabbatical, in your own life situations, your own cocoon of death and rising, losing and finding - consider this:

STAND AND LOOK AT THE AMAZING, REMARKABLE SIGHT OF YOU – (only then will we also see it in every person.)

*"We are shaping the world faster than we can change ourselves, and are applying to the present the habits of the past." Guess who said that?
– Winston Churchill!
Or Jesus: "Leave the dead to bury the dead and come follow Me."
(This is why we're cocooning - to be made NEW!)*

Shareholder's Report for 2009

646 people served in programs
67+ people & 351+ hrs. spir. direction
9,935 miles traveled

for 25 years:

50,041 people served
178,779 miles traveled

SABBATICAL MUSINGS from Cecelia Ann:

In past newsletters I've used the image of the cocoon and butterfly. Today I'd like to introduce the concept of Sabbath/Jubilee of our Jewish ancestors. In the book of Leviticus, a caring, attentive, and "I see you" God speaks to a weary Journeying people who are entering a new chapter of their lives. (We who are alive and responding to Spirit are always in or about to enter a new chapter of our lives!) "When you enter the land I am giving you, the land shall observe a Sabbath. Six years you shall sow your fields ... and prune your vineyard and gather in their yield, but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of complete rest for the land, for the Lord."(Lev.25) In her book Jubilee Time, Maria Harris writes: "This people's God begins by establishing a foundation of rest and re-creation – a spirituality for them ... they are to alternate work and withdrawal from work."

We hero children, type A personalities, workaholics, and all of us running from anything inside us – conscious or not – are snagged here by a loving God like a runaway

toddler at bedtime! Those of you doing “Sabbatical” (in whatever form) with Tree House and me are among the snagged.

Our Divine Parent so wants to “save” our lives and relationships, but our culture and our false selves so want us to keep doing more of the same (with the same results – otherwise known as insanity!)

I am one of the snagged ones! This sabbatical is to be complete – therefore, at least a full year – so that the lands of me may be restored, so that be-ing becomes more important than do-ing, so I know my worth is as a loved and perfect child of God, not in achievements.

How are you doing in these same categories? “When you enter this land I’m giving you, the land shall observe a Sabbath.” Sabbath: the time for quieting the heart; cessation or desistance from work or whatever over-runs our souls, whatever over-runs the truth of who we are: unique, unrepeatable, awesome reflections of the Divine. We don’t earn it, clean ourselves up for it, be perfect for it. It is. We are the little I AM in the great I AM. “Come aside and look at the amazing, remarkable sight of you.”

Let us continue journeying deeper into our own truth and joy.

Love from a fellow journey-er,
Cecelia Ann, SFCC



And the gift of TH goes on. . .

Is there any Word from the Lord?



“Live that full and glorious life that’s your true heritage. Be afraid of nothing. You have My wisdom, power, strength and understanding within you. Pluck out doubt, fear and uncertainty.”

And what do you have to say about Tree House?

(Your witnesses are tangible proof of God’s work in and among us.!)

✓✓ “Never before have I experienced what I experienced on this retreat... and it has not stopped since I came home. I have been searching for a really long time in and outside of the church for a way to feel and be ... – in God’s healing embrace. For much of my life I have heard the terms “offer it up” or “turn it over to Christ” or “surrender” or many other coined phrases – and so I would set out in fervent prayers

and novenas and rosaries and litanies (they are my favorite) – only to feel like a failure because whatever I was trying to be free of would just come back. I never felt relief or release.

“I have been to many different types of classes, . . . I am a member of a 12-step fellowship and faithfully work that program. [however] this is the first, maybe not first, but rather, shift in my spirituality that is making lasting changes. Although I came to the retreat with a mind as open as [I]... could come, I had the thoughts that this would just be one more weekend of learning about things that work for some

people, but probably wouldn’t work for me. Never did I expect what I experienced. I never knew it existed, so how could I expect it?

“... I believe I learned how to experience God’s love. How to be in His presence and be touched by Him. Your retreat did not so much teach me, but it gave me an opportunity to be led into what I have always needed – His healing touch.

“Life is still not easy and the past has not disappeared, what has changed, though, is my knowing that no matter what is going on, He is there and He is waiting for me to come back. ...this

I cannot put into words the peace it brings me

makes the pain of life bearable. I have a long way to go, many things to be processed, new behaviors and patterns of thinking to be relearned – but now, I am more open to them because of my close, close relationship with Him.

“...I cannot put in words the peace it brings me. ... I have Christ now in a way that could not be anymore real had my name been Martha and I lived 2000 years ago! I feel safe. I feel protected. I feel Christ’s ever present love.”

✓✓ God gave me a picture of my journey and said:

“Narrow is where you are now. You are progressing to peace. I will keep you from getting too close to deception and danger. Just continue to listen. You’ve already started by focusing on My word, the truth, rather than what the world says. Danger would come by staying in the pain, allowing it to overcome you.”

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