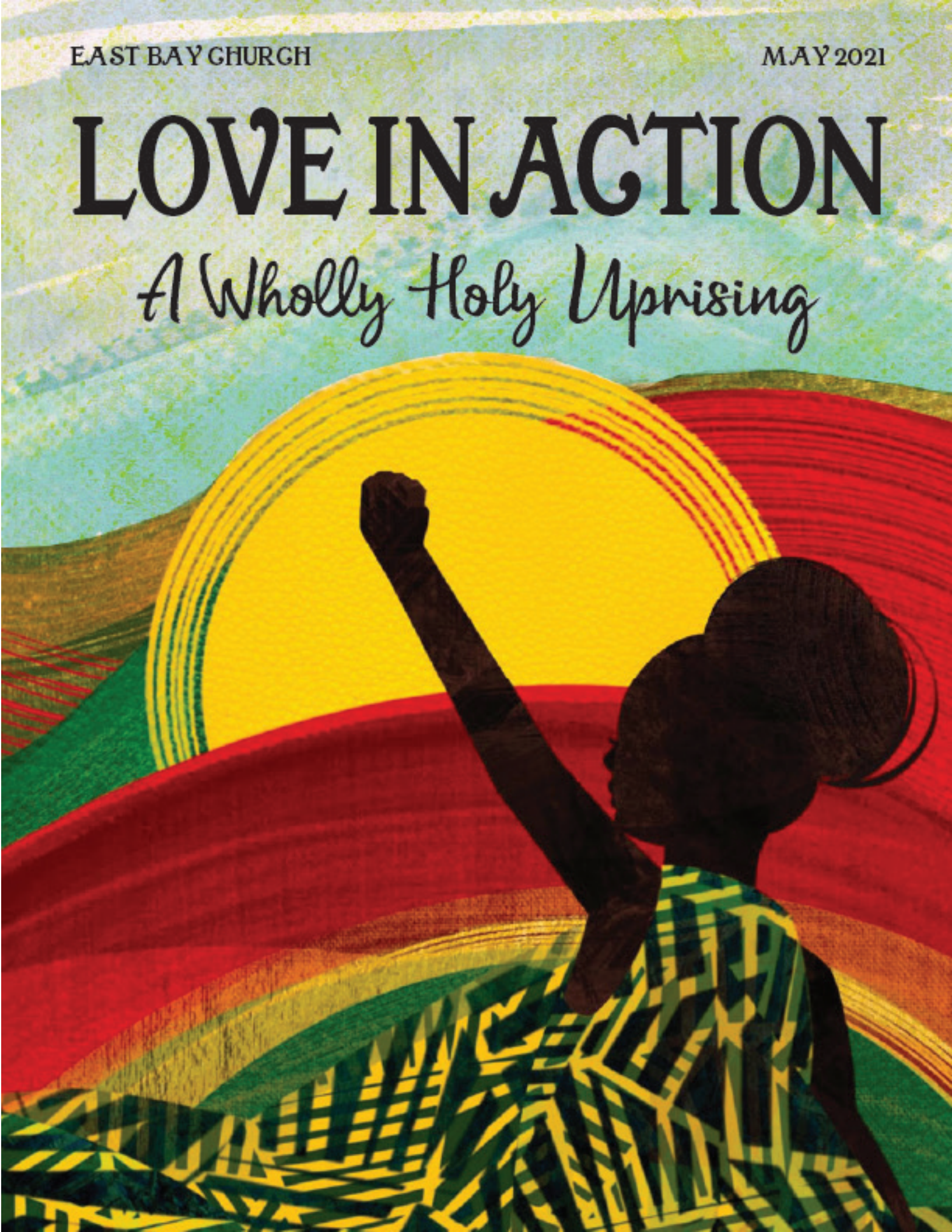
EAST BAY CHURCH MAY 2021

LOVE IN ACTION

A Wholly Holy Uprising



EAST BAY CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE

ECCLESIASTIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

REV. FRANCIONE, PH.D
REV. ANTHONY JACKSON
REV. GIL OLMSTEAD
CHURCH OFFICE
4130 TELEGRAPH AVENUE
OAKLAND, CA 94609

OFFICE HOURS

DURING SHELTER IN PLACE
CALL FIRST PHONE: 510-420-1003
EMAIL: INFO@EBCRS.ORG
WWW.EBCRS.ORG

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SERVICE

JOIN US VIA YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK LIVE
MEDITATION 10:15AM
SERVICE 10:30AM

DAILY MEDITATION

MONDAY - FRIDAY 12:30PM TO 1PM
JOIN US ON FACEBOOK LIVE

DAILY PRAYER CALL

MONDAY - FRIDAY AT 8:00 AM
FACEBOOK LIVE

WEDNESDAYS

MIDWEEK POWER HOUR
MEDITATION 6:15PM
HEALING SERVICE: 6:30PM
ZOOM LINK

EBCRS PURPOSE STATEMENT

We, the East Bay Church of Religious Science, are dedicated to the spiritual transformation of the entire planet. We are committed to being a point of empowerment allowing Spirit to direct every thought, word, deed, and action for personal transformation. Our purpose is to serve as a spiritual development center by making available the knowledge and practice of the Science of Mind to all people by fostering their spiritual, cultural and general well being, and to provide facilities for public worship, education and fellowship.

JOIN OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

June 6, 2021

Meditation:10:15am

Service: 10:30am

Speaker: Rev.Dereca Blackmon

Facebook Live@eastbaychurch

Youtube: Type East Bay Church into the search bar

LOVE IN ACTION NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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Please submit articles and poems for our June 2021 issue of Love in Action to ebcrsorg@gmail.com Next deadline: is 2pm, June 11, 2021. The June theme is "The Soul's Call."

ABOVE THE BOARD

WHERE LOVE AND JUSTICE MEET

By Rev. FranCione, Ph.D

When I saw this photo of my grandson Jalen and his friend Jordan, wearing these t-shirts taking a stand for the safety, systemic justice and freedom from hurt, harm and murder of one another's ethnic group, gentle tears fell from my eyes.

Yes! Black Lives Matter!

Yes! Stop Asian Hate!

With all the violence on the daily news, I thought:

What do these teens have to say about these declarations and calls for justice?

What do these teens have to say about their demonstrations of love?

I was inspired to ask my grandson, "How did you happen to wear these shirts? What do they mean to each of you? How do you and Jordan happen to be together?" Then I pondered:

What is the spiritual and biblical message being revealed to all of us from this act of love and inspiration calling for justice?

While interviewing Jalen, I learned:

Jordan and Jalen have been friends since second grade when they both played basketball with the Oakland Rebels, then located in Oakland's Jack London Square area. Now both attend and play basketball at Bishop O'Dowd High School.

Jordan's dad got the t-shirts for them. According to Jalen, "his idea was to support both movements."

Jalen went on to share that, "People in America need to be aware of what's going on… need to see how unfair it is that we have to go through these threats. We haven't done anything wrong… We were born this way. We deserve to be safe and treated fairly. Our shirts show we're all One."

Jalen's last statement affirms the scriptural TRUTH:

Because God is one, and because God is both just and loving… justice and love are united in God… justice and love were meant to be completely harmonious, interdependent and mutually reinforcing. In God's good creation, justice is meant to spring from love for God and for people and to seek shalom for all people.

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The Bible concept of justice goes beyond fairness and equal treatment. It teaches that justice begin and ends in God. God brought the universe into being and made it to be a place of justice. We humans are made to live justly in relation to God, to each other and to creation. As we live the love of the Eternal Spirit, the old self passes away and the new self begins to emerge. Wrongdoers gain empathy for victims of offenses and determine to live in new ways. Community can assist by living out justice and love toward those who hurt and those who injure. As Jalen says, and Jalen and Jorden demonstrate: We are One! ■

Blessed Be!

Rev. FranCione

Interim Minister

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Annette Lane
May 3

Gwen Valentine
May 4

Jeff Sanders
May 5

William C. Randle
May 6

Kristin Patton
May 7

Paris-Michael Page
May 10

Valerie Adinolfi
May 12

Patricia L. Baxter
May 13

Angelo A. Allen
May 18

Tina Maria Scott
May 18

Booker Dikes, Jr.
May 22

Leroy Appleby, Jr.
May 23

Mary Corrigan
May 25

David Pinkard
May 25

Rosalyn Hill
May 27

Jan Macdougall
May 30

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To find out about all EBCRS activities, click here. ■

PRACTITIONER'S CORNER

DID **YOU** MAKE THE LIST?

By KSuzanne Massey, RScP

For many, most days are filled with tasks, commitments and "to do" lists. There are promises that have been made to our intimates, our extended family and friends, work obligations, and our Spiritual communities. Promises made in the activity of the passions of our lives. The list extends and expands.

These lists provide the structure of our days. We move in and through the perimeter of these timelines. It matters not if the lists are written on paper or imprinted on the mind; we are affixed to them. The completion of these lists makes us feel accomplished. We feel good about ourselves, our abilities, our skills, our commitments. We feel like good lovers, spouses, parents, friends, employees, and on and on. A great deal of time and detailed attention is spent on doing for others.

In taking care of others, do we take time to care for ourselves? In the course of a day, how much time is spent jotting down tasks to be completed for self-care? Do we ever factor ourselves into the activity of the day? Are we in service to and for ourselves?

Well, for many the answer is no. What is your answer? Many have been told that self-care, being in service to the self, is a form of selfishness. Self-care is simply being an active participant in the creation of happiness and joy within oneself. It is the difference between surviving and thriving.

In the creation of "to do" lists for others; let us create a list for ourselves. This is the highest form of love and caring; self-love. ■

"We need to do a better job of putting ourselves higher on our own 'to do' list."

~ Michelle Obama

In Community,

KSuzanne Massey RScP

ORDER OUR 2021 CALENDAR! NOW 50% OFF!

The Practitioner fundraiser calendar is on sale now and you can order yours today. The cost of the calendar is $18.00 and it is beautiful. The link to purchase the calendar is below. You may also share the link with others.

ORDER NOW!

SPECIAL FEATURE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A WHITE ALLY?

By Joan Steinau Lester

I used to think I was among the wokest of the woke. Naturally I wouldn't have said so aloud, but after all, I, a white woman, had married a Black man before that was even legal, nationally. Raised our biracial children. Trained anti-racist leaders. Published pro-equity books and op-eds. Marched and chanted.

But after May 25, when George Floyd screamed for his mama and people poured out of lockdown, something new broke open inside me. As well as inside everyone I know.

Black friends grew bolder. Scorched by racism all their lives they'd adapted, these successful women had perhaps grown a bit cautious. Now I'm watching folks I've known for decades become fervently political. They're expressing rage, loudly, plus their fierce pride.

I'm also changing. I've understood for years the "free pass" my white skin has always provided. As when I shoplifted, in my 20's, from Woolworth's, and clerks never gave me a second glance, so busy were they following people of color. "You have such an honest face," white people have told me all my life. Which I understand translates to: "Your blue eyes and blond hair make me feel safe. As if I know you."

That white skin was protection when a white cop pulled me over at twenty-eight for driving with an expired license, and ended up driving me home – without even issuing a ticket. Not yanking me out of my car and flinging me to the ground, as a policeman did to Sandra Bland, a Black woman, also twenty-eight, who ended up dead three days later in a jail cell.

So I knew that. But I'm noticing something new: a shocking sense of entitlement. This isn't about how differently I'm treated at our racial checkpoints. These feelings ooze up from inside. In the subtlest ways, I actually feel more entitled than people of color, more used to being ushered to the front of the line or asked to lead. I expect that I can break society's rules without significant consequences. And I'm so used to this privileged position I've forgotten it's a luxury everyone doesn't enjoy. Like the day my Black companion refused to climb an Oakland chain-link fence when candidate Obama was about to speak and I wanted us to get closer. Knowing my friend as a rebel, I insisted and was surprised she wouldn't jump the fence with me, forgetting, in my excitement, the vastly different treatment we'd get if caught.

White supremacy, I see anew, is a finely woven scrim of presumptions, layered deep, about how I can freely operate in the world. Perhaps even a subtle belief that it's my fine capabilities giving me that extra access. The feeling is as thin as gauze and as hard to catch, but when I glimpse it I see the subtle ways I assume good treatment. As should we all, but since some of us don't get it, what makes me think I deserve preferential care? And demand it when it is not forthcoming?

This sense of entitlement also

leads me to automatically take charge, rather than sit back and listen to others' opinions. Once at an East Bay Church women's choir rehearsal – where I was the only white member that evening, among a group of Black women – the director asked us to move our chairs to new positions. I suddenly heard myself directing other choir members, pointing, "Put those chairs over here for the sopranos." One alto, a friend, gave me the side eye.

"White people always have to be in charge, don't we?" I said to her, trying to cover my embarrassment with a light tone. "Hard habit to break."

She muttered, letting me know a "joke" wouldn't undo it.

After all these years, imagine my surprise as I realize at a deeper level how firmly I've bought the white superiority lie. No matter my politics, my close Black friends or family members, I share a cultural bias that slips into assumptions about myself and my relation to others.

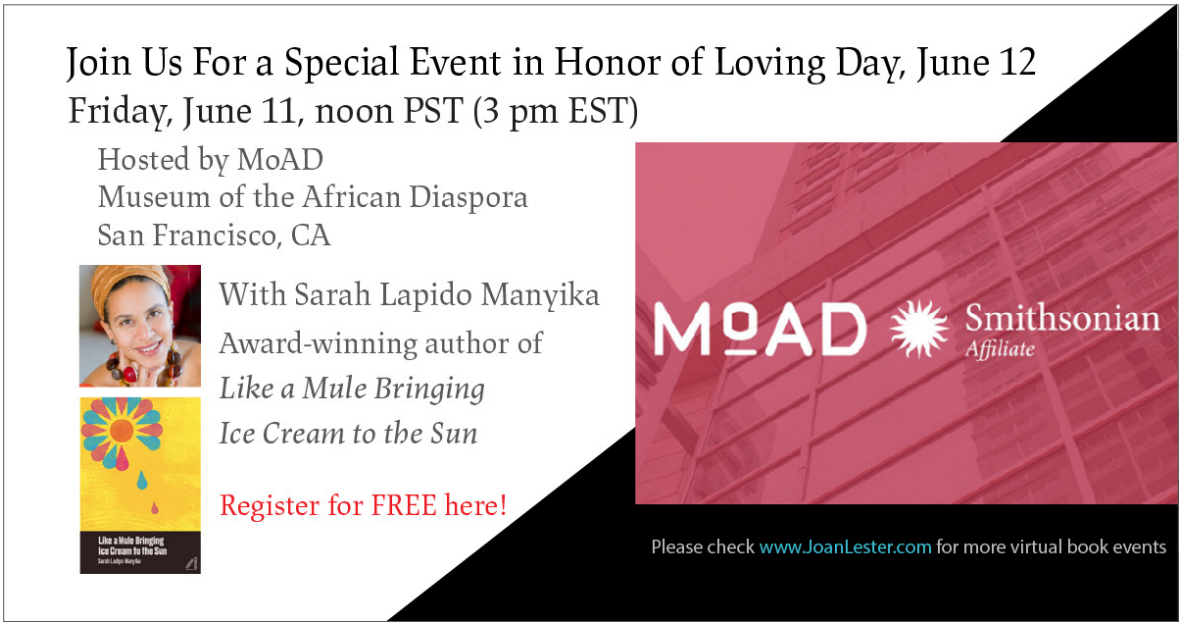
It could hardly be otherwise. 400 years of discrimination have employed a self-justifying lie. That's why we have *Black is Beautiful* movements – to combat the myth of inferiority. Now I'm undergoing a mirror-image process for whites, digging deep, trying to root out those old supremacist habits. It's an internal task, one I thought I'd completed years ago, but I'm cycling through again as this era of racial reckoning reveals new layers of distortion.

I see now that claiming "wokeness" is itself a sort of smug self-congratulation, exactly the kind I'm determined to move beyond. Thanks to the *Black Lives Matter* Movement – and all those who've risked lives and careers – for never giving up, pushing white allies into a deeper kind of work. We are at a milestone moment; there's no turning back.

Joan Steinau Lester, Ed.D., is the author of six books. Her latest is the memoir Loving Before Loving: A Marriage in Black and White *(University of Wisconsin Press, 2021).*

www.JoanLester.com

Join Joan for an event honoring Loving Day (June 12). Information below.



SPECIAL FEATURE

REMEMBERING MY FATHER: FRED DOUGLAS JOLIVET

By Linda Jolivet

Linda Jolivet has been attending East Bay since the late 1990s. In this special feature, she celebrates and honors her father, Fred Jolivet, and all the men like him, who persevered no matter what and made their California dreams a reality.

Children are usually oblivious to their parents' hardships, struggles, and pain. We all, at one time or another, thought that our parents were old-fashioned or outdated. We didn't think about any sacrifices they might have made. As kids, we think it's all about us and what they can and should do for us!

Then we grow up.

We begin to place our fathers in a historical context and understand the dedication it takes to get up every day, work hard and take care of a family.

The fathers who raised my generation – I'm a Baby Boomer – didn't spend time whining about the hardships of life. Most, like my father, were World War II veterans. He fought in the Philippines. I had no idea of the heartbreak that he and other Black soldiers faced returning from war to find that they had fought for a country that still disrespected and diminished them.

As children we don't understand the sacrifices our parents make for us or the pain and deep disappointments life often holds for them. They may share a few stories here and there but those just scratch the surface.

One story my dad shared was about his time in New Orleans. He was working in an auto body repair shop and a white worker showed him his paycheck. It was twice the amount of my father's even though Daddy was doing the hardest, dirtiest labor. Daddy told the shop owner that he wasn't going to complete the job and the owner called the police. When the officer arrived, Daddy told him, "you just as well shoot me now because I'm not doing any more work here." Someone convinced him to finish the work and they advised him to get out of New Orleans.

So many of my father's generation fled the South to escape overt racism, oppression, and violence. They sought freedom, opportunity and a better life for themselves and their families. Isabel Wilkerson chronicles this in her book, The Warmth of Other Suns. My father and most of his army buddies and childhood friends left Louisiana for the Golden State, landing in Oakland in the 1950s. My mother, older sister and I joined him afterward while Mom was pregnant with my younger sister.

Dad looked for work for months. He said that in those days, East Oakland was almost all white. One shop owner told him he had never met a good "colored" body and fender man. Daddy kept looking and ended up going back to that shop and making an offer they couldn't refuse. He told the owner, "look, I'll work for you for a week for free and if you don't like my work, you don't have to pay me." That was how he got his first job here in Oakland.

So often Black fathers have had to prove their worth – beyond skills, education, and experience. Daddy taught us that we had to be twice as good to be equal, and still would not necessarily be treated fairly and that we represented the entire race in whatever we did. My siblings and I took that to heart. We all graduated from college and three of us received master's degrees.

My father didn't have much formal education but he was a really smart man. He would later realize two of his many California dreams: becoming his own boss and opening his own auto body shop and owning a Cadillac. ■

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

NEW USE FOR OLD TECH

By Mary Allen

Our community partner, Youth Spirit Artworks or YSA, is an interfaith job-training and support program committed to empowering homeless and low-income young people throughout Alameda County. YSA has focused on the unique unmet needs of transition-age youth. That vision led to the development and launch of the area's first Tiny House Village specifically for youth ages 18-23.

East Bay is proud to support this incredible endeavor with our time, talent and treasure. In addition to housing, the Village provides residents wraparound supporting services, activities and amenities.

Technology is a key part of the success of this program and an opportunity for you to support the Tiny House Village directly. YSA is asking for donations of new or used computers, laptops and/or tablets. Residents need computer devices to attend workshops and classes, complete applications and other paperwork, do homework and more. The computer donations are even more valuable because the residents will be able to hold onto them once they eventually leave the Village.

Donations like this can make a huge difference in the Young Adult Village residents' ability to succeed in their self-sufficiency endeavors.

If you feel called to support this incredible cause, please contact:

Dani Longo
Site Supervisor
YSA Tiny House Village

Cellphone: 925.239.6559

Thank you so very much for your support of the Youth Spirit Artworks Tiny House Village.■

Mary Allen has been an active member of East Bay Church for several years. She currently serves as a Trustee overseeing the church's community partnerships.

ONENESS CIRCLE

ONENESS CHAPTER EIGHT

By Helen Anderson, RScP

Several East Bay practitioners have come together to read Oneness. In February 1998, rasha began a profound dialogue with the universal Presence, Oneness – the Divinity we all share. Word for word, she transcribed the principles for a new understanding of the mystery we call "life." Each month, practitioners will share their perspectives on the teachings in each chapter. We invite you to read along with us. This month, Helen Anderson shares her thoughts on the eighth chapter of the book.

When extreme discordant situations cease to "push your buttons" and are swept away, you begin to create a different adventure.

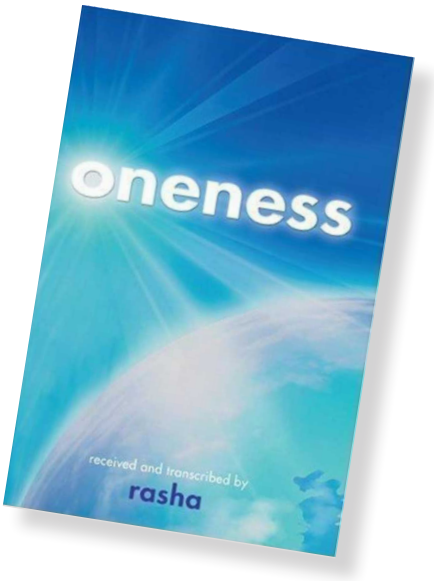
The question arises, "What do you want to experience?" There are no limitations, only endless possibilities. As one anticipates and expects the optimum outcome for all concerned, the outcome cannot help but be manifested. When you honestly, openly, and unabashedly fantasize about what you truly yearn for or dream of, you set into motion the energetic parameters of manifesting your heart's desire.

Without reservation and without compromise, one must relinquish the self-doubt and unworthiness thinking that keeps one anchored in disappointment and poverty consciousness. In order to experience liberation, one has to take a blind leap of faith by releasing attachment to the outcome and knowing that there is nothing to fear.

By consciously shifting one's intention to the highest and the brightest good of the collective and oneself, an individual can secure a state of being that is free to explore the joy of Divine will in alignment with her own.

In other words, let's go within to that Sacred, Secret, Silent place. That place where we know something wonderful, grand, and magnificent is operating in our lives. We don't have to worry about what to say, write, or do because She who sent us directs, supports, and supplies us on our journey to awakening. We are never alone. I am healed as I let Her teach me.

Amen. ■



INTENTIONAL GIVING PLEDGE

CREATE YOUR PLEDGE

HONORING FREEDOM EVENT • **JUNE 18-19, 2021**

TO HONOR THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM. FEATURING BLACK LEADERS AFFILIATED WITH CENTERS FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING, THIS VIRTUAL EVENT WILL PROVIDE INSPIRING SPEAKERS, UPLIFTING MUSIC, AND AFFIRMING SPIRITUAL PRACTICES. MORE INFORMATION HERE

East Bay Church *of Religious Science* A Center for Spiritual Living

EAST BAY CELEBRATES 2021 GRADUATES

Join us in celebrating the Class of 2021
on Sunday, June 13th
We will celebrate all graduates
from pre-school through College

We are proud of
the Class of 2021, and
we acknowledge
their success

Please submit a photo or video by 9pm on June 10th
See more details at www.ebcrs.org/graduation-2021

CELEBRATING THE DIVINE MASCULINE

Celebrate your Dad or favorite father figure with us on Father's Day, June 20th.

Please submit your Photo no later than June 17th at 9pm

Go to www.ebcrs.org/2021-fathers-day to upload your photo.

East Bay Church *of Religious Science* A Center for Spiritual Living

Sponsored by the East Bay Music Ministry
Thank you for supporting our Fundraiser!
We are excited to offer our first event "personalized" East Bay Fan – to the community.
Funds from the sales will go towards our church beautification project for new floors in the church Sanctuary.
East Bay Church of Religious Science
A Center for Spiritual Living
East Bay Church Essential Fans Fundraiser
Limited Edition
Front
Back
I'm an Essential Fan
Your photo
I'm an Essential Fan
East Bay Church of Religious Science

Wednesday Night Power Hour
Meditation: 6:15pm
Service: 6:30pm
Join Us Every Wednesday on Zoom
www.ebcrs.org/wednesday-night-power-hour/
June 2, 2021
East Bay Church of Religious Science
A Center for Spiritual Living
Our Speaker is Rev. D. Jacquelyn Edwards
Our Topic is *Pulled by Vision*

ABIDING, GLIDING, SLIDING INTO THE AGE OF AQUARIUS

By Harriet Tubman Wright

Harriet Tubman Wright, MS, MA is a life-long learner, spiritual sojourner and cultural creative. She lives her values of freedom, justice, peace, wholeness, creativity, community and service through liberating engagement with others. This poem is featured in her third book of poetry, Always Love. *Visit www.thewrightresort.com to learn more about Harriet's work and to purchase a copy of* Always Love.

Abiding, Gliding, Sliding into the Age of Aquarius

As if we had not already been put through enough changes,
mostly not of our own choosing,
The near future requires deeper dimensions of conscious change,
that we become co-creators of a New World.
The deeper transformation has already begun and continues,
ready or not, like it or not!

Although we are required to wear masks for the foreseeable future,
This stage of evolution requires authenticity, vulnerability,
truth-telling raw and real!
Not the time for ignorance or unwillingness.
We're on the trial of Our Lifetime and that of Planet Earth.

Our capacity to survive, thrive, revive requires
Love in all its dynamic dimensions,
Light in all its fortuitous facets,
Co-Creation in its highest, boldest, deepest frequencies,

For Peace All Over The World…

East Bay Church *of Religious Science*
A Center for Spiritual Living

East Bay Church of Religious Science
Weekly Ministy Program
June, 2021 Update

SUNDAY

SUNDAY SERVICE
Meditation: 10:15am
Service: 10:30am

YOUTH & FAMILY
12:00pm to 1:00pm
Please contact
Stacy Saadiq at
ebcrsyouthandfamily@gmail.com

AFTER SERVICE PRAYER
Call: 669.900.6833
Meeting ID: 977 3859 4793
Password: 030144

MONDAY

MORNING PRAYER
8am to 8:30am
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

MID-DAY MEDITATION
12:30pm to 1:00pm
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

TUESDAY

MORNING PRAYER
8am to 8:30am
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

MID-DAY MEDITATION
12:30pm to 1:00pm
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

WEDNESDAY

MORNING PRAYER
8am to 8:30am
Facebook Live

MID-DAY MEDITATION
12:30pm to 1:00pm
Facebook Live

MID-WEEK POWER HOUR
6:15pm Meditation
6:30pm Service
Zoom Link
https://zoom.us/j/91791685888?
PW: bW1tQ3U3ZnVNTzlLWHlQYWJW
MWdxUT09

THURSDAY

MORNING PRAYER
8am to 8:30am
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

MID-DAY MEDITATION
12:30pm to 1:00pm
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

FRIDAY

MORNING PRAYER
8am to 8:30am
Facebook Live
Live@eastbaychurch

MID-DAY MEDITATION
12:30pm to 1:00pm
Facebook Live
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