Bringing God Into It-A Five Week Pathwork Lecture Study

by Mary Elliott

"Bringing God Into It" brought together a group of women where our sum exponentially exceeded our parts in ways I have never experienced, bringing rockets of growth and change to each of us. As the weeks went by, I experienced an unraveling of multiple layers of my God image, bringing me closer to an actual relationship with God. As we worked on the idea of dancing with God, I brought into my soul substance a new way of relating – a dance! I count too in this relationship – what a concept – rather than being on the receiving end of "Pronouncements From On High" which I then must submit to in order to do the will of God.

On our last day of class, a message rang through me, "Mutuality makes closeness safe." Even after these years of Pathwork, it was a revelation to me that I could have a "back and forth" with God and that we could create together. Yes, mutuality makes closeness safe. Like a good parent, God may say, "It is not advisable at all for you to stick your finger in that tempting light socket" and I may choose to listen or not, taking responsibility for my creation. And whatever my creation for that moment, as I apply my Wildly Positive Interpretation (fondly referred to as WPI) to it, I strengthen the positive neural pathways in my brain and weaken the negative ones. I strengthen the conviction that even my negative creations, properly held, reap positive results. I bolster my new belief in a loving God – opening me to wildly positive possibilities in my life, expanding my limited mind to contain what it has not dared to contain up until now.

Last week, I saw a bumper sticker (one of those black and white oval ones) with the letters WPI. Life is Good.

by MichaelAnn Walstad

"Bringing God into it" was, for me, about participating in and witnessing miracles, miracles that came from deep and profound inner realms and miracles that came from other dimensions. Ours was a group of six incredible women plus our beautiful leader, Carolyn Tilove, whose attentiveness to the development of this curriculum led to a synergistic coming together of content and readiness.

I took away two profound learnings from this class. One was the creation of a practice that deepened my relationship with God and opened me to an experience of intimacy that had not existed before. I danced with God, and I am still dancing with God. The other was a shift in vision that allowed me to see what we called "wildly positive interpretations (WPI's)" of our experience. For example, if I asked what the WPI was of something seemingly negative, the response might be, "What we want you to know is that you are strengthening a part of yourself that isn't ready yet to receive what you have asked for." With this new tool, I began to ask to trust all that came my way, whether from the outside or from within my being. How else could I surrender to God in the mutuality of the partnership I sought, if I did not trust Him with myself and my well being.

The class has been over for several weeks, and the miracles are continuing. Using the metaphor of a garden, I have understood for a long time that my job is to prepare the soil, choose and plant the seeds, water and weed, but it is the mystery of God within the seed that causes it to grow. Last night, I experienced myself as the seed, with the mystery of God unfolding within me. How miraculous and awesome is that?!

by Marilyn Eppolite

I have always had a rather tenuous relationship with structure. I tend to make structure a tool for self abuse, looking for elusive perfection and then dismissing the whole format as being too rigid. Yes, blame it on the structure rather than on my perception of it. Maybe it was time to look at that. The class format and lecture gave me a structure that I was finally ready for. I was able to make a breakthrough, changing my attitude towards the holding of structure into something that was positive rather than something set up to destroy me. I worked with my desired outcome statement for over two weeks, making it so it landed in me as a summation of what I really wanted to create. What really gave it juice was when I put it into a structure of time, a measure of accountability. Wow, did I fight that one! That's how I knew my statement of desire (what I wanted to create with God's help) was the perfect statement because I needed God's assistance in creating it. It just couldn't happen any other way.

As I went through the five weeks, I asked for God's help and I received it. Sometimes it came in tiny ways, sometimes it showed up as if by a miracle. It astounded me that the structure of setting up time to focus on asking for help kept me consistent without being trapped by the restriction. I finally felt the holding and support that I needed to accomplish my goal. Now that I reached my goal that I set up in the class, I can use the format to create other things in my life, by bringing God into it. I am already working on my next goal...and the structure feels just fine.

A Pilgrimadge: Every Step Brought Self-Discovery

by Elaine Stago

Dear Pathwork,

As many of you know from CCC Day this summer, I was about to embark on a pilgrimage to walk the El Camino in Spain. And so I did. I flew to Barcelona Sept 12, 2011 and after several days, I went to Bilbao and then made my way to a small village in France.

On Sept 20, I started day one of hiking up the Pyrenees with my backpack. I was in such gratitude for being here and surrounded by the beautiful mountains that the tears just flowed. At the end of the day, I had crossed the mountain and was back in Spain.

On Saturday, Oct 22, I arrived in Santiago Compostela having walked 33 consecutive days for a total of 494.6 miles. I felt wonderful (and still do) for having walked this journey though there was a bit of sadness to have to take my boots off.

I never anticipated arriving in Santiago with over a week to spare. What a lovely surprise to now have the luxury of moving slowly back into the world. So I spent a couple of extra days in Santiago and then decided to see southern Spain. I flew to Seville (2 days), train to Granada (2 days), bus to Cordoba and then a train to Madrid where I already had booked a reservation in a hotel and flew home from Madrid on Thurs, Nov 3. This extra week and travel gave me a chance to slowly "reenter" which turned out to be an excellent choice for the time.

There are no words to describe the people, place and the path except to say it was the rhythm of the day with one step in front of the other. And now that I am home, I am trying to be more conscious of my steps that feel softer as I do .

WISHING YOU A HEALTHY and HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.
Blessing and love, Elaine.

UPCOMING events

*Pathwork Studies Workshop**

FEAR OF BLISS VS. THE LONGING FOR IT. Saturday, April 28. 10AM-4PM. "Co-existing with your fear is an inherent longing for your true birthright, which is a state of supreme bliss, sublime joy…" In this all day workshop based on PGL#170, we'll explore the blocks to happiness, "the hidden little games" you play with yourself and others, and begin to embrace our real selves. ★ Led by Gayle Lacks. 215-576-7933. gaylelacks@verizon.net. Location: 711 West Avenue, Suite 2, Jenkintown, PA 19046. RSVP by 4/25/12. Cost: $50.00.

Six Week Group

SUBJECT TBD. Five Tuesdays April 10 - May 8. 10AM-12:30PM or 7-9:30PM. These groups usually have a focus on our relationship with God in one form or another and include lecture study, process, homework, meditation and prayer. Exact subject matter will be sent out in a message via email in March. The group is limited to six people. ★ Led by Carolyn Tilove. 215-752-9894. ctilove647@gmail.com. Location: 901 Bellevue Avenue, Hulmeville, PA 19047. Please register by April. Cost: $225.

***Pathwork Studies Workshops can be offered at a low cost because they are sponsored by the region.** All Pathwork lectures are available on www.Pathwork.org.*

Save the Date!!!

CCC Day • Saturday, June 2, 2012

Abundance!!! As a Pathwork community, we have abundance in our upcoming CCC Day. First there is meeting and greeting our lovely Community, people you may have not seen for awhile. Then there is the wonderful opportunity to take Commitments, our particular way of deepening our journey on this wonderful path. And finally, there is Celebration: two graduations, TP-5 and the HTP training, and a wonderful graduation speaker, Moira Shaw, who was one of the original Pathworkers and knew Eva personally. What a way to complete another great year of learning and growth as a community. Join us!!!

MOIRA SHAW

Moira initiated her spiritual journey in 1966 by working privately with Eva Broch Pierrakos. She joined Eva's helper-training group in 1967. In trance, Eva channeled The Guide, a spiritual entity of surpassing wisdom. The Guide "delivered" 258 messages known as the Pathwork Guide Lectures. For a bit of drama, Eva once told Moira that Moira was her daughter when she, Eva, "died a drug addict in the gutter."

Years later, Moira "translated" the complex Pathwork teachings into The 50-50 Work. Her husband, Bert, helped develop these teachings internationally through helper training programs, workshops and lectures.

Today, Moira and Bert work and teach as 50-50 Pathwork helpers in Bearsville, a hamlet of Woodstock, New York.

On a more personal level, Moira is an artist who "translates" spiritual concepts into soft sculptures, using 18th century hand-woven wool.

~ Moira Shaw, December 6, 2011.

Philadelphia Pathwork® Region Helpers

Carolyn Tilove, MA is a certified Pathwork helper and founder of the Pathwork in the Philadelphia area. She joined Pathwork in 1975 and has taught Pathwork and Pathwork Helpership training in Brazil, New York, Michigan, Philadelphia and Virginia. Her office is in Hulmeville, PA. **215-752-9894 / ctilove647@gmail.com**

Sharon Lee Balsama, M.Ed, NCC is a certified Pathwork helper and has been a psychotherapist since 1980, specializing in spiritual psychology, family systems, therapeutic arts and relationship therapy. She is certified by the Institute of Imago Relational Therapy. Her office is in Lansdale, PA, near Bluebell. **610-222-4688.**

Joyce Belmonte is a certified Pathwork helper and bodywork therapist. A former teacher at the Barbara Brennan School of Healing, Joyce specializes in body-centered personal and spiritual growth work. She integrates massage, Cranial Sacral Therapy, structural integration, Trager and energy work with Pathwork principles. Her private practice is located in West Chester, PA. **610-793-4321 / jbelmonte@erols.com**

Carol Day is a certified Pathwork helper and a hands-on practitioner of energy healing, Trager bodywork and Cranial Sacral Therapy. In addition to teaching yoga and meditation, she is a graduate and former faculty member of the Barbara Brennan School of Healing. Her office is located in Trenton, NJ. **609-392-7855.**

Gayle Lacks, M.D. is a certified Pathwork helper and is also a holistic psychiatrist integrating spirituality with individual, couple and group psychotherapy. Her office is in Jenkintown, PA. **215-576-7933.**

Kay McCarthy is a certified Pathwork helper and was a scientist and corporate manager for 25 years. She is now following her dream of weaving together the Pathwork teachings and shamanic healing practices and is interested in bringing the Pathwork teachings to Quakertown and the Lehigh Valley. **kaymcc@worldnet.att.net**

Catherine Nelson, Ph.D. is a certified Pathwork helper who works with both people and animals. Trained in Philadelphia, she lives in Bozeman, Montana where she has created the "Rocky Mountain Pathwork." She is a graduate and faculty member of the Barbara Brennan School of Healing and a graduate of Society of Souls, a school for Kabalistic Healing. She also does energy work, including kinesiology, Shiatsu, Reiki, Mari-El and Cranial Sacral Therapy. **www.Rockymtnpathwork.com**

Pnina Polishook, MA is a certified Pathwork helper and offers the Pathwork to individuals and couples. She also has a healing practice with essential oils and energy work. She is a graduate and teacher at the Barbara Brennan School of Healing. Her office is in Merion Station, PA. **610-667-1176 / pnina.polishook@gmail.com**

Donna Evans Strauss is a Ph.D. candidate at Union Institute and Dean of the Senior class at the Barbara Brennan School of Healing. She has a private Pathwork, healing and psychotherapy practice in Doylestown. **215-345-8789 / DEStrauss@aol.com**

Renee Joanna Whatley is a licensed psychologist working with adults and adolescents in individual, group and family contexts. She is a trained family therapist. Her private practice is in Philadelphia. **215-472-6454.**