



---

# Living in the Balance

## July and August 2017

---

### Gleanings from Wendell Berry.....

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound...  
I come into the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives with forethought  
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light. For a time  
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.



We have lived by the assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives, so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption that what is good for the world will be good for us. . . We must recover the sense of the majesty of the creation and the ability to be worshipful in its presence. For it is only on the condition of humility and reverence before the world that our species will be able to remain in it.

© Wanda Meade

The earth is what we all have in common.



Always in the big woods when you leave familiar ground and step off alone into a new place there will be, along with the feelings of curiosity and excitement, a little nagging of dread. It is the ancient fear of the Unknown, and it is your first bond with the wilderness you are going into.



All right, every day ain't going to be the best day of your life, don't worry about that. If you stick to it you hold the possibility open that you will have better days.



---

*Calendar considerations.....*

---

**Center for Spiritual Wisdom Brevard, NC**

Short Introduction to Centering Prayer, August 19 and 20

At Valle Crucis Retreat Center, Valle Crucis, NC

This and other offerings <https://center4spiritualwisdom.org/about/>

---

**The Walter E. Ashley Memorial Lecture Series presents**

The Reverend Matthew Wright, an Episcopal priest, writer, and retreat leader working to renew the Christian Wisdom tradition within a wider inter-spiritual framework

October 20 – 22, 2017

First Congregational UCC, 1735 Fifth Avenue W, Hendersonville, NC 29739

For more information, please go to [www.fcchendersonville.org](http://www.fcchendersonville.org)

---

**Ruby Sales,**

Founder of The SpiritHouse Project

Sunday, October 1

Anderson School of Theology for Laypersons, Anderson, SC

<http://astlonline.org/>

---

**Cynthia Bourgeault**

The Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta, Georgia

Saturday, March 17, 2018

<https://www.stphilipscathedral.org/>

---

**Barbara Brown Taylor**

The Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta, Georgia

Saturday, October 28, 2017

<https://www.stphilipscathedral.org>

---

**Lake Junaluska Retreat Center**

Interfaith Peace Conference, November 16 – 19

[http://www.lakejunaluska.com/events/spiritual\\_enrichment/](http://www.lakejunaluska.com/events/spiritual_enrichment/)

---

**Southern Dharma Center**

Intimate with All Things, July 8 – 12

Seeing Clearly, Opening Up, July 19 – 23

Cooling the Mind, Expanding the Heart, July 29 – August 3

Awakening Together, an Insight Dialogue Retreat, August 3 – 13

The Intimacy of the Moment, August 17 -- 20

Buddhism and the 12 Steps, August 31 – September 4

Jhana and Insight, September 9 –15

[www.southerndharma.org](http://www.southerndharma.org)

---





---

## *Calendar considerations.....*

---

### **The Sophia Institute, Charleston, SC**

Heartwork – Being a Spirit in the World, Mark Nepo, September 15 – 17

Energy Medicine for Healthy Living, September 22 – 23

Mindful Advocacy for Personal and Community Resilience, October 6 – 7

See the website for these and other one day events. [www.thesophiainstitute.org](http://www.thesophiainstitute.org)

---

### **St. Mary's Retreats**

Art Workshop...The House as Metaphor, August 11 – August 13, 2017

St. Mary's Retreat Center, Sewanee, TN

<http://www.stmaryssewanee.org/about/events/2017/06/04/eight-day-centering-prayer-retreat.2268432>

---

### **Advanced Centering Prayer Retreat**

Valle Crucis Retreat Center, Valley Crucis, NC

November 26 – December 2, 2017

Contact Becky Hannah for more information (828) 702-3518

---

### **Greenville Interfaith Forum**

Annual Interfaith Dinner Dialogues

Thursday, October 19, 2017

---

### **Awakening Soul – Sacred Revolution**

Diana Butler Bass and John Dominic Crossan

November 9 – 12, 2017

Lutheridge Conference Center, Asheville, NC

<http://www.awakeningsoulpresents.org/awakeningsoul-events/17-sacred-revolution/>

---

### **Silent Retreat Weekends**

October 6 - 8 and December 1 – 3, 2017

Order of Saint Helena, North Augusta, South Carolina

<https://www.osh.org/events.html>

---

### **Kanuga Conference Center**

Faith, Art and Creative Expression: A Liturgical Arts Conference,

August 20 – 24

Lansing Lee Conference, October 22 – 29

Enneagram, October 26 – 29

Icon Writing with Teresa Harrison, November 13 – 18

[www.kanuga.org](http://www.kanuga.org)





## About Spiritual Direction —

- Offers a space and time for you to explore, reflect upon, and deepen your relationship with God.
- Provides a haven from the daily busyness of the outer world and opens a time to be still and to reflect on your inner journey.
- Is a companioning relationship grounded in dialogue and discernment.
- Explores ways you may integrate spirituality into your daily life.
- Is not limited to any one spiritual practice or tradition.
- May involve one or two meetings or multiple meetings over time.

### You may wish to consider spiritual companioning if you are —

- Longing for a deeper relationship with the Divine
- Looking for a place to dialogue about spiritual questions
- Seeking ways to connect with the Spirit in a more intentional way
- Discerning ways to live in a more integrated and whole way
- Standing at a crossroads in your life
- Exploring new or fresh ways to be in relationship with God

\*\*\*\*\*

For more information about Spiritual Direction, please feel free to contact me by phone  
864-246-3960 or via email at [wmeade@meadellc.com](mailto:wmeade@meadellc.com)

Wanda Meade, M.Ed.  
Completed Haden Institute in Spiritual Direction Program  
PO Box 14940  
Greenville, SC 29610

*The photos in this journal are my work. The photos on the opening page are from Berlin. Several sections of the old Berlin wall have been painted over with murals. Checkpoint Charlie has street entertainers dressed as US soldiers who will pose with you for a tip. The other photos are random shots from our time in the Baltic Sea area....late May and early June 2017.*

