



# Meditation Monthly International

## Agni Yoga and Obstacles

*Agni Yoga*, sutra 257. How should one understand the benefits of obstacles when one is told that psychic energy, acting as a magnet, attracts all possible advantages? Truly, when a large ship increases its speed the resistance of the waves increases too. Similarly, many obstacles are brought about by our own striving. It is this process that attracts to us unexpected actions by an opposing will. If they are very strong, our own counterstroke will develop accordingly. Most important, the currents opposing us should be strong, because then our flame is ignited.

*Agni Yoga*, sutra 262. Although much is spoken about obstacles, little use is made of them. Understanding how to make use of obstacles infuses joy into one's work. But as soon as an obstacle appears, people usually begin to think of their own feelings, forgetting the advantage that has been offered to them. People prefer that everything be done in a usual way, by conventional means. But We prefer unexpected actions and equally unexpected results. People are happy when the occurrences in their lives are the most ordinary, but We wish them greater success than this. Teach them to weigh the real harm and the usefulness of what occurs. It is difficult to send currents of unusual success to people when they prefer to avoid unusual ways. We all know people who live in self-satisfied comfort. If they could only know what they lose because of their ease! People want to preserve all their petty habits, forgetting that the habits of the spirit follow from the habits of the body. The spirit weakens, and begins to fear courageous action. Thus, people become commonplace, with the same conventional joys and sorrows.

Let us learn to rejoice at obstacles, knowing that the welcomed obstacle can be used to speed success. And this success will be like a fishnet overfilled with an abundant catch. Therefore, let us direct our eye to our surroundings and understand from what perils we are

being protected just by our devotion to the Teacher. But often we trust the Teacher in great works and are less certain in small ones. Often we see the great obstacles, while overlooking the multitude of small ones that lie within sight. After all, a small, unnoticed scorpion strikes just as poisonously as a large one. An eagle eye is needed, not so much to discern the mountain as to see the smallest grain of sand.

*Supermundane II*, sutra 258. Urusvati knows that many complex obstacles must be overcome before We can help people. Imagine a narrow mountain path filled with galloping riders, or a street crammed with a crowd running in panic. Then imagine trying to save from the stampede an individual who is not prepared for the help that is offered to him. We cannot hold back the crowd because great confusion would result, and if

*continued on page 6*



## Networkers' Letter

### Dear Friends,

I was thinking this morning about the topic of obstacles. Some people are afraid of obstacles; others believe obstacles provide an impetus for spiritual growth. The Teaching of Agni Yoga tells us that we should bless the obstacles for through them we grow.

What are obstacles? Obstacles are tests for success. What obstacles are you presently facing in your life? Have you created a plan to overcome your obstacles? For example, some people are unable to control their speech; this is a difficult obstacle, but not impossible to overcome. If one becomes successful in taking control over his speech, he will find his relationships improving, his magnetism increasing, his ability to help others ever increasing and his inner life filled with a joyful peace. Overcoming obstacles develops and strengthens our spirituality; our spiritual beingness. Overcoming obstacles prepares us for handling grave dangers with courage, intelligence, and wisdom. Overcoming obstacles creates endurance, making the disciple stronger than opposing forces. Obstacles are always found on the path of spiritual transformation. There is no transformation, no growth, until we meet with obstacles.

Learning how to overcome obstacles strengthens our beingness in such a way that we will never give up; overcoming obstacles builds courage and strengthens our inner resolve. Many people give up and try to escape when they meet up with difficulties. In discipleship training, obstacles are created so the disciple can strengthen his or her spiritual muscles and become a great servant of humanity. It is so interesting that God created life in such a way that every minute the sons of men, who are the Sons of God, can meet obstacles.

When I was attending the University, I was fortunate to have a master violinist for a teacher. He was a taskmaster. While my friends in the sorority were out drinking and playing on weekends, I was "sequestered" in the practice rooms of the conservatory, trying to master the various musical exercises

he gave me as disciplines, to not only become a better violinist but also a better human being. Week after week he would pound on me to become better and better, giving me practical exercises; physical, emotional and mental exercises to eliminate my fears and insecurities, to overcome my limitations and laziness, until I was worthy to perform in front of a most critical audience—a selected group of master violinists from different universities from around the state. It took me four years to overcome many obstacles in readiness for such a performance. In the end I learned that it was not the performance that was important but the growth gained from overcoming the many obstacles I had brought with me that first year of study. I learned endurance, fearlessness, patience, beauty, harmony, rhythm, self-respect, and gratitude, as well as an increased skill in musical performance. I learned not to fear obstacles but to search for obstacles that would gradually help me surpass myself.

In the Teaching we are blessed to realize that life gives us obstacles throughout our life, so we can actualize our beingness, our potential, our virtue, our life's purpose. Obstacles are given to us so we can grow, so we can learn about our weaknesses and eradicate them from our nature.

*"We possess the power to both create and destroy obstacles." (Leaves of Morya's Garden I)*

*"Does it not seem strange that I speak so often about patience, about obstacles, about vigor, about the endlessness of struggle? Precisely, at different times and on different sides do I forge the armor of fearlessness. Remember, this tempering cannot be completed in a single hour. In different temperatures is the sword tempered; even Buddha affirmed that at the happiest hour one should recall the misfortunes, but without diminishing joy. But tempered joy knows no fears. Joy is a special wisdom." (New Era Community)*

Shanti,




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Cover picture, *Padma Sambhava* by Nicholas  
Roerich

# Difficulties

by Lesley Vann

Are we ready to consider how to rejoice at obstacles? Are we ready to harness the gifts our difficulties present to us, transforming them into triumphs? We know that in the space of just *one moment*, our entire lives can change! We know also that our obstacles are man-made, and thus all obstacles may be surmounted and transformed!

Our Path of Ageless Wisdom offers transformation, a vision of our Futures, and practical tools for actualizing our highest possibilities. What is possible in life is the transformation of self, of family, of group, nation, and all humanity. We seek planetary transformation and the liberation of humanity from its bonds of suffering, ignorance, and spiritual delay. As we evolve, we free our Elder Brothers (the Brothers of Humanity, the Watching Ones), who await our growth into increasing light, wisdom, love, and beauty.

We grow by the conquering of difficulties, and we graduate as souls. We grow by experimenting and mastering our inevitable crises, and we eventually free our Angels. Thus our difficulties produce, eventually, conscious souls who will have continuity of consciousness. We read in the Teaching, “Have you finally learned to rejoice at obstacles? Can We be assured that what seems like an obstacle will multiply your resourcefulness tenfold? Can We accept you as conquering warriors?”<sup>1</sup>

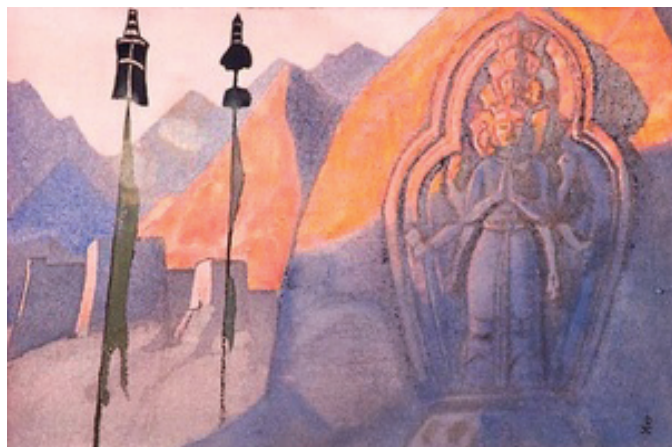
Difficult times can be defined as periods exacting great effort or struggle; situations full of trouble, danger, or embarrassment; and moments when obstacles may prevent intended progress. Difficulties require more effort, labor, and sacrifice than we had anticipated. Difficult times can include setbacks, hardships, times of disappointment, and suffering. Yet we know that on the other side of pain, our triumphs await. Through surmounting our obstacles and pain, Life forms something precious within us. The

old adage, “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade” presents a creative view of our difficult times.

When we are, as a great Sage writes, “cooked and baked” in life, we are being tested; and, as a result, we will be even more trusted by Life. We experience both peaks and valleys, and we experience these cyclically. We surmount our difficulties by recognizing their temporal nature saying, “This, too, shall pass.”

We know that whatever we focus on we magnify and draw closer. So how beautiful it is to cling to Hierarchy during crises, and thus fuse more closely with the heart of the Master. This requires our striving. And we accept our limitations, while striving to improve.

“Let the straitened [difficult] times also be blessed.”<sup>2</sup> Why are difficulties a blessing? What is developed and constructed within us as the result of our sufferings? The Teaching reminds that, if we do not currently have a crisis in our lives, we should create one! Why is this? How is crisis a natural laboratory for growth, leadership, and service? How do challenges serve the purposes of the soul and build each of us into functioning and conscious souls? I’m sure each of us can answer these questions in our unique ways and, in searching for answers, can form conclusions, shedding light upon our circumstances. Our positive beliefs about life’s pressures open doorways into higher consciousness and out of suffering. For example, by taking a positive view, we see that our difficulties have a cleansing and purifying effect. We find that on the other side of pain is joy. Problems help us discover that joy overcomes pain and dissolves pain.



Chenrezi by Nichola Roerich

It is said, “Men learn by means of evil that good is best.” It also is said, “Where you stumble lays your treasure.” Viewed this way, it is a privilege to stumble and to unlock our buried treasures. Unlocking our treasures means unbolting our portals. We open priceless pathways toward our Higher Selves, and there we find guidance, direction, and vision. In Joleen DuBois’s talk, *Three Kinds of Men*, she says, “It is through inspiration that you find your vision.” Our vision can lead us Home, into the Spirit of Peace, transcending our obstacles in the dense worlds.

Life is difficult, yet people—just like nations, institutions, and group organisms—change and grow; and difficulties and hardships are resolved in due time. An inspiring passage in the Bhagavad Gita tells us that all things have a beginning, middle, and end, and that an enlightened person delights not in transience. In fact we are asked to remain non-attached to all our life experiences, positive and negative. Our detachment helps us ride the waves of turbulence to triumph. We bounce back. We become resilient.

A Sage reminds us that whatever comes to us naturally *is for us*. Whatever we take through forcing is not ours and will not last. *So crises test our faith*. We learn to embrace



*Signs of Christ* by Nicholas Roerich

the lessons presented to us, while at the same time striving to transform our lessons into triumphs. Crises then can become times of creative tension and resolution.

Crises confront us with decisions. We confront both danger and opportunity during many crises. We face a door that appears closed, but it is a door that can, with effort, be opened. Opening that door can lead to our expansion. We can move into a greater sense of identification with humanity, we can enter the domain of humility, and we can cleanse ourselves of past errors, preparing ourselves for future victories. To be victorious is our birthright and is modelled for us by many who have suffered into greatness.

Our obstacles are purposeful. Obstacles help us gain detachment. “Give up desire and all is joy,” said Buddha. We are told that Earth is a planet of pain and suffering. We are “subjected to pain and suffering because something is being worked out through this experience.”<sup>33</sup> Difficulties help us meet ourselves, confront and face ourselves, and become our true Self. We recognize the value of self-observation and monitoring. We know the importance of daily review.

Difficulties present themselves through our glimmers, illusions, habits, desires, etc. *These are our inner difficulties.* *Outer difficulties* are situations and events that seem to be our obstacles, and that we register as painful, frustrating, or disappointing. Whether inner or outer, we can conquer our obstacles. We can master each door that tries to block us, and opening these doors, we can experience success and an expanding consciousness.

Noticing those situations that are pressuring our growth is valuable. We also need to be alert to the possibility that some situations call forth our *personality tendencies*, throwing us back into personality goals and living. Striving for growth and victory requires our vigilance and greater discrimination to see what subtleties are at work. We can ask ourselves, “Will my decision be of service and

will it bring more understanding and more good into this situation, or will my action create a new problem?” We would probably agree that these kinds of difficulties are subtle and sometimes remain unnoticed by those close to us. Our crucial tests sometimes are weathered alone and within. These are the crises of the soul, and they can propel us into greater light, love, and beauty.

Difficulties are valuable. *Difficult times make us overcome our obstacles.* We are told, “If you don’t have a crisis in your life, create one!”<sup>34</sup> Difficulties open our hearts to our Solar Angel’s guidance, to human and planetary need, and to suffering wherever it exists. We become humble through our tests and trials. We see ourselves, others, and the world more realistically. We pierce through glamour, illusion, and maya as a result. Difficulties strengthen our sensibilities, our logic and reason, and our heart qualities, leading to the spiritual integration we seek on the Path.

Sometimes our failures become our greatest life lessons learned. As I was typing this, I noticed that “learned” and “leaned” were the same words, except for the “r.” And what came to mind is that we *lean*—we lean on others and outside help—when we are not actively striving and *learning* from our crises, our opportunities. A period of crisis is a moment of examination and testing. Our spiritual muscles are tested. Each incarnation gives us the chance to experience mistakes and failures and then to surmount these. When we respond, we can experience breakthroughs and expansions.

Difficulty is the oil lubricating our systems and rejecting those atoms and cells in inertia. The difficulties and obstacles confronted by the personality when it strives toward its goals of havingness and knowingness are important. These difficulties may lead us into spiritual crises of values, crises of reorientation, crises of consciousness. Sometimes we confront crises of beingness, and these are spiritual tests and opportunities for our expansion and expression upon the Path.

We read that every seven years the soul tests its instrument, presenting crises. These tests can be assimilated and surmounted. This is a boon to our unfoldment, empowering our breakthroughs from inertia and contentment. For we know that when we are content, we may become unmotivated to make our needed changes. Obstacles and tests propel forward our transformation. So when we strive continuously, we transcend ourselves. Whether each opportunity will be grasped depends upon whether we react or respond to that experience. When we try to remain comfortable physically, emotionally, and mentally, we might be clinging to the known and predictable—the realm of little risk and little reward.

To transcend our crises, we can align with the soul and the group, and then focus upon positive solutions. These solutions are always available. We garner them through incessant striving. Are we up for the task? As we think about our futures and make efforts to actualize goals, we grow closer to our true Selves. We solve our problems by recognizing and pursuing new horizons—and there are always new horizons.

When conquering our obstacles, we evolve. We coordinate and integrate our personality. If we remain steady on the Path, we eventually attain Soul-infusion. Our soul fuses with the Soul and later the Self (or becomes the full expression of the Self). We become as MM says, “fiery Warriors”—Arhats, Lions of the Desert. As it says in the Bible, Psalms 82:6, “Ye are Gods.” We need courage to actualize this, to act *as if* and *then live accordingly*. We know our intentions, thoughts and feelings condition our outer lives. Our consciousness

shapes our worlds, our destinies. Since we are Gods, the obstacles within and outside are not lasting. They are temporal and thus, illusory.

By creating aspiration and love for a vision, eventually we “factualize” this vision; we become what we’ve envisioned. We actualize our physical, emotional, and mental investments; we evolve and eventually graduate into the Supermundane, the Superhuman Kingdom. We conquer each of our difficulties through striving. So our growth may be measured by our ability to conquer obstacles. If these difficulties do not arrive, the inner pressure needed for us to surmount our obstacles is not present.

Difficulties are necessary to evoke the inner pressure, eventually causing us to take action, emerging victorious. This is the life of unending spiritual tension, experience, progress, and success. Through pressures, spiritual tension and our commitment to overcome each obstacle, our consciousness expands and reaches a higher elevation. This translates into more effective living on the physical, emotional, and mental planes. For example, after meeting with difficulties and suffering, we criticize less, gossip less, and no longer engage ourselves in slander and treason. We exercise perseverance, forbearance, patience and empathy. We identify more with the human family. We see the big picture.

Difficulties also enable us to be more accepting and to strive for self-acceptance, love, and contentment. We realize that, no matter how puzzling circumstances may be, underlying circumstances lies the wise hand of Life, directing karma. We learn that Life is ethical and just, and that we have what we should have, and do not have what we should not have. As we trust more, we find true needs are met, even if desires are denied. So difficulties can evoke trust. When we meet with difficulties and hard times, we meditate more, pray more, aspire more, and use our intellects more.

When we meet with our own difficulties or those of others, our hearts open. Our hearts conquer challenges, providing unshakeable tools to stand firm and unmoved no matter what is happening in the outer

world. As we confront and resolve challenges, we grow and also gain compassion for the hardships of those dear, near and far; we attain compassion for the human condition.

As we increase our virtues, we increase our soul qualities; and as we grow in soul awareness, we grow in strength to surmount our difficulties. As we do this, we stand increasingly on our own feet. We become independent and then interdependent. We do not lean on others. We work out our own salvation, as Christ said; and as MM said, we do this with our own hands and feet.

When people and situations fall short of our hopes, we can examine our roles in causing this. For example, we are told that the parts of our personalities that are still impure and “unredeemed” attract difficulties from the outer world. And what we dislike in others often is a key to what we are harbouring or what we dislike in ourselves. Our lives are our mirrors for observation, study, and transformation. How boring it all would be without trials and difficulties. And our willpower would not be exercised! When we face disappointments, when our expectations and dreams are dashed, we “keep on keeping on.” We develop endurance and Will. We exercise balance.

Things that seem easy to us now at first were difficult. Our difficulties teach us patience. We find we can be transformed and healed through our struggles, and that conflicts can evoke growth. The Bible says, “All things work together for good, for them who love the Lord.” The Teaching says that pain lands us at the feet of the Lord. Whenever we are in pain, something precious within us is being born.

Discrimination brings insight as we navigate the subtleties of light and darkness, for “evil,” as Joleen’s talks have recently pointed out, can cloak itself as light. Discrimination helps us sort out which of our obstacles stand



*Battle in Heaven* by Nicholas Roerich

in the way of what is truly meant to be our Path, our destiny; and distinguish these valid spiritual tests from “obstacles” to our desires that are not, after all, intended for our lives by the soul. Battling misappropriated “obstacles,” we run after the wrong path, the wrong direction, the wrong job, wrong mate, etc. These are things that proverbially “are not meant to be.” There is a huge difference between obstacles to “what is meant to be,” and obstructions to what we desire that is not our soul’s intention, and therefore, are wrong for us. Discerning this crucial difference leads us to take correct, fruitful action. When certain outcomes we’ve hoped for never manifest, this does not necessarily imply difficulty. Instead this may reveal the agelong protection of our Solar Angel.

On the path of overcoming setbacks, our virtues, faith, and joy propel us forward. We transform vices into virtues. We move from emotional to mental to spiritual polarization via our increasing alignment. We get there with study of sacred and humanitarian material, sacrificial service, meditation, and transformational visualizations. The Teaching emphasizes life’s predictable cycles and crises as fodder for the Master Potter to sculpt our individual and collective “clay.” For this to be successful, we must submit to the Soul or Master’s sculpting with an overall sense of faith. Doing so, we can practice spiritual obedience. We can apply optimism and good humor in anticipating our successful resolution of all obstacles on our way, for the Way is crowned with obstacles.

Composer Georg Friedrich Händel emphasized the stupendous obstacles faced by Master Jesus: “He was despised.... despised and rejected ... A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.” As Christ faced momentous difficulties with compassion and forbearance (“My Father forgive them, for they know not what they do”), we have a monumental example to consider as we confront our own (relatively small) difficulties. When we compare our own trials to those of others, we recognize how miniscule our challenges really are. We develop perspective and co-measurement. When harnessed constructively, difficulties can help release us from the prison house of ego.

Confronting the normal vicissitudes of life certainly can encourage pessimism and self-pity, but these are overcome as we live the life of the Observer and observe how our problems pale in comparison with the horrors faced daily by scores of others. The United Nations reports that billions of people live in abject poverty. In light of the heavy obstacles faced by our brothers, how can we conclude that ours are spectacular?

We are part of humanity. We all suffer at times, yet we can transform! Job losses are transformed into new careers, new futures. Illnesses are transformed into messages from Life about living more healthfully. And when the Soul “calls Home” Its shadow, even death cannot stop the striving servant of light for long. As the Bhagavad Gita says, “For whoever has left the body will take a new one, so why grieve, O mighty armed warrior?”

To really conquer our difficulties then, we adopt the spirit of warriors. This will open our hearts, clear our paths of responsive living, surmount spiritual tests, and then expand our consciousness upon higher spirals. We will live in radiant joy, beyond the constraints of time, space, and dense matter. We will laugh at the temporality of life, we will construct our sacred Chalice, and we will discover that “striving is the boat of the Arhat.”<sup>5</sup>

Eventually we will master all obstacles and graduate into Higher Worlds, allowing our Solar Angel also to graduate into further Evolutions. Until then, our difficulties may be “surfing” by listening to our Angel’s guidance. Of course we also must work to become purified and sensitive

to this Higher Guidance. Sometimes our pride prevents our sensitivity. Sometimes our pride causes us to seek to show a “together” face to the world, as if we have our lives completely in control and need no assistance (from a Higher Source or other well-meaning sources).

We know there are no secrets, and that on some levels all is known. Our thoughts and motives are known by those with eyes to see and ears to hear. So we cannot hide, and *we should not seek to hide*. We should seek, in humility and sincerity, to obey the inner impulses of the Soul, the Guidance of the Teacher, the Master in the heart.

As we know, sometimes our “obstacles” are really feedback from Life that we are heading in the wrong direction. We would then recognize that our intended desire is not, after all, our karma; and not having our desire is not an obstacle. It is possible to force outcomes to occur, but these will not bear fruit long term if karma is violated or avoided. Forcing creates resistance and reactions. Accepting, acquiescing, and transforming bring magic. With creative daring, solving our difficulties at the level of cause, we melt obstacles and live victoriously. Difficulties prepare our victories as *future warriors*. This is one of the gifts our challenges confer.

The Teaching says, “Let us learn to rejoice at obstacles, knowing that the welcomed obstacle can be used to speed success.... I rejoice if you understand that obstacles are really opportunities.”<sup>6</sup> Through our opportunities, life’s challenges evoke our motivation and irrepressible striving. During our dark nights we can remind ourselves, “This is just a curtain. I will open that curtain, then forge ahead toward my eternal blooming.”<sup>7</sup> We can remind ourselves that all barriers are artificial. These barriers require our striving to make breakthroughs. Every time we reach toward our flowering and make a breakthrough, we are getting closer to the Self. Therefore let us embrace our Futures—the easy and the difficult—as the true spiritual Warriors we are.

1 *Agni Yoga*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., sutra 72. © 1997 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

2 *Fiery World I*, sutra 10. © 1943, 1969 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

3 Lucis Trust, *Inner Sight*, aired on WOR Radio 710 AM on September 23, 2007.

4 Lucis Trust, *Inner Sight*, aired on WOR Radio 710 AM on September 23, 2007.

5 *New Era Community*, sutra 55. © 1951 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

6 *Agni Yoga*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., sutra 262, 494. © 1997, Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

7 Lucis Trust, *Inner Sight*, “The Value of Crisis,” Parts 1–4.

*continued from page 1*

We stopped him, for even one moment, he would be crushed. However, it is quite different when the one who is to be saved can sense that help awaits him. As if by a magnet he can be drawn to a safe place that has been prepared for him. But for this to happen he must be ready to accept the rescue.

We should also note the difficult cases, such as the person who imagines that he is ready to accept help, but in fact resists it with his entire being. Such contradictions are not unusual. On the contrary, it is full cooperation, when help can be rendered, that is exceptional. It is deplorable when man assures himself that he is ready, but his own nature makes cooperation impossible.

We can affirm that the most energy is spent not in giving help, but in overcoming the obstacles to its acceptance. It is impossible to imagine the diversity of these obstacles! Among them are many varieties of karmic conditions—ativism, ignorance, and dull-witted skepticism. These obstructions must be overcome not only in the person who is to be saved, but also in those around him. These difficulties are among the labors of the Brotherhood.

The Thinker taught about free will, which can make man divine.



## June / July 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**The Florida (Sarasota)**  
WMEA Study Group meets at 9:30 a.m., on alternate Thursday mornings in Sarasota. Please call **Ginette Parisi** at (941) 925-0549 for complete information.

**The Ohio (Marysville) WMEA**  
group meets monthly for Sun Festivals. For upcoming meeting dates and times, please call **Kathy O'Conner** at (937) 642-5910.

**The Puerto Rico WMEA**  
Group meets weekly to study the Teachings. Please call **Roxana Badillo** at (787) 275-0972 for complete information.

**The Oregon (Lebanon)**  
WMEA Study Group meets each month for a meditation gathering. Please call **Vickie Stevens** at (541) 258-6142 for complete information.

**The Colorado (Longmont)**  
WMEA Study Group meets each month for New & Full Moon meditation gatherings. Please call **Doreen Trees** at (303) 651-1908 for complete information.

### June 2008

- Sun. 1** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"Christ & the New Group of World Servers"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center  
Noon: *Men's WMEA Study Group – New Frontiers*
- Tues. 3** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 4** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 8** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"One Humanity & the Teachings"** with Lewis Agrell, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 10** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 11** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 15** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"Father's Day"** with Richard Woodard, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 17** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 18** **Sun Festival of Gemini – The Festival of Humanity.** Lecture and meditation with Rev. Valarie Drost, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 22** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"How to Approach the Teaching"** with Gay Hendin, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 24** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 25** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 29** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"The Christ Nature"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center

### July 2008

- Tues. 1** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 2** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 6** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"The Birth as Initiation"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center  
Noon: *Men's WMEA Study Group – New Frontiers*
- Tues. 8** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 9** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 13** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"The Words of Christ"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 15** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 16** **Sun Festival of Cancer**, lecture & meditation with Rev. Joleen DuBois 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 20** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"The Army of Christ"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 22** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 23** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center
- Sun. 27** Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture **"The Glory of Christ"** with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:00 a.m., Creekside Center
- Tues. 29** Class: **The Teachings of Torkom Saraydarian**, 7–8:30 p.m., WMEA Center
- Wed. 30** Class: **Battling the Dark Forces**, 7–8 p.m., WMEA Center

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