



SILVER SPRING ZENDO
ONE HEART SANGHA

June 1, 2010

Dear Friends:

In reading the website recently, I was particularly captured by our opening statement: “The One Heart Sangha is a multifaith community of Zen students who sit together on a regular basis to support one another in staying awake, moment-by-moment, in all of life.” We bring who we are to the sangha. I bring my primary faith tradition as a Protestant Christian who for many years has practiced contemplative prayer. I find a space to nourish the practice in this community.

I bow in gratitude for the presence of this *sangha*, a gathering of people from different traditions who come together to practice zazen, sitting together in silence. The community as a whole is enriched by everyone’s presence and the diversity of faith traditions we represent. I celebrate our sangha, a community gathering that welcomes all, wherever we find ourselves on the journey.

The sharing of our abundant gifts marks one significant blessing of this sangha. We exist as a community because you offer generosity in service and financial resources. Together we offer gratitude to our resident teacher, Sensei Rose Mary Myoan Dougherty for the sharing of her wisdom and counsel. For all the ways you give, I thank you.

Through its conversations and deliberations, the council has established a recommended donation level of \$20 per month. Contributions given quarterly or half-yearly help minimize the work of our Treasurer, so we thank you for this consideration. Regardless of your ability give above, below, or at the suggested amount, please consider yourself a valued member.

Your presence enlarges the community. Your financial contributions support our community through rent of church space, teacher training, insurance, supplies, website, and mailings. Your contributions also provide financial support for scholarships to sesshins.

The year has been filled with many practice opportunities: winter Ango (peaceful dwelling) with accompanying booklet for daily insight and support; fall, winter, and at-one-ment sesshins; street retreat; and weekly/monthly sittings. We have also shared potlucks and a movie night.

Please make a practice of regularly checking our website: www.silverspringzendo.org. There you will find a listing of our current council members, an interactive calendar, and other helpful links including our new yahoo group. Mark your calendar now for the sesshin: September 1-5 at Holy Trinity Spiritual Center in Pikesville, Maryland.

Peace,



Michael Koppel
President

Please complete this form and include it with the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

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A member of the Silver Spring Zendo/One Heart Sangha is a person committed to supporting the sangha's life. Support is demonstrated in the following ways:

- the cultivation of one's own practice
- regular sitting with the sangha (weekly sitting, monthly zazenkai, sesshins) as distance, health, and other life circumstances allow
- financial support according to one's means.

We recognize that some also hold membership in another sangha. Your commitment itself is most important. (Please check one of the following).

_____ I wish to become/remain a sangha member and receive related mailings/e-mails.

_____ I do not wish to be a member of the sangha, but I want to remain on the mailing list.

_____ Please remove me from your lists.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

e-mail:

Financial Contribution (suggested \$20.00/month or whatever your means allow).

Monthly=\$20

Quarterly=\$60

Half-yearly=\$120

Yearly=\$240

Please make checks payable to: **Silver Spring Zendo**