

The Light of Vedanta

The monthly newsletter of the Vedanta Society of Western Washington (established 1938).

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Founder: The late Swami Vividishananda

President: Swami Bhaskarananda

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"As many Faiths...so many Paths." – Sri Ramakrishna

MAY 2019

ABOUT VEDANTA

Vedanta, or the Perennial Religion, popularly called Hinduism, is perhaps the most ancient religion in the world. It believes in one God who has both "personal" and "impersonal" aspects. God-vision can be obtained through various paths called "Yogas." It believes in reincarnation, the law of cause and effect and the divinity of all souls. This religion is distinguished in not having any founder. Its holy scripture, the Vedas, consists of divine truths that were revealed to ancient saints of India who preferred to remain anonymous. The idea of harmony of all faiths is inherent in the teachings of Vedanta. The Vedas teach: "God is One, different sages call the same God by different names."

LECTURES AND CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM, a lecture is given by a swami at the Society's chapel on different aspects of the Vedanta philosophy and religion and related subjects. In addition to the Sunday lecture, a study class on *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna* is conducted by Swami Bhaskarananda on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Mother's Children is a program for our members' children of ages 3 to 16. It is held every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM. Its aim is to inspire the children through play and moral education to become good and noble individuals while also giving parents the opportunity to attend the lecture.

DEVOTIONAL SINGING

Every Sunday evening at 7:00 PM, we have singing of "Ram-Nam" in Sanskrit and other devotional songs in English, Hindi, and Bengali.

LIBRARY

The Society has a lending library for members. It contains books on Vedanta, religion, philosophy, mysticism, biographies, culture and more.

RETREAT

The Society owns a beautiful 21-acre property called the Tapovan in Snohomish County, 45 miles from Seattle. Every month a day long retreat program consisting of holy readings, devotional songs, and a potluck luncheon is held at the Tapovan. (**This program is for members only, please.**)

BOOKSHOP

The Society's bookshop has a fine selection of books covering all aspects of Hinduism and Vedanta. There are books on other religious traditions as well. Many religiously oriented gifts and items are also available. The bookshop is open before and after lectures; for other times please call.

GLOBAL VEDANTA

The Society has been publishing the quarterly journal *Global Vedanta* since 1996. The journal aims to present Vedanta in a lively and thought-provoking way, with engaging articles, humorous pieces, Vedanta news from around the world, poems, cartoons and more. Subscription rates are \$12/year in the USA; \$14 US/year in Canada and Mexico, and \$18 US/year in all other countries. Please visit our website or call our offices to subscribe or learn more.

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone wishing to express their appreciation and sustained support for the Vedantic ideals may become a member of the Society, subject to the approval of Swami Bhaskarananda. Annual dues are \$60 and life membership is \$1000. For further information, please inquire of Swami Bhaskarananda or the Secretary.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Swami Bhaskarananda is glad to help sincere spiritual seekers with practical instructions in regard to personal prayer and meditation, etc. However, those who receive spiritual instruction from the Swami are expected to be members. Appointments may be made after lectures and classes or by calling the Society.

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Seattle WA 98102

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MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Class at 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda				
			1	2	3	4
<i>Loving God as Mother</i> Swami Bhaskarananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program</i> 11 AM <i>Ram Nam</i> 7 PM		Class at 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda				Karma Yoga Day at Tapovan 9AM-5PM
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>The Problem of Self Interest</i> Swami Brahmamananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program</i> 11 AM <i>Ram Nam</i> 7 PM		Class at 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda				Monthly Retreat at Tapovan, the Society's retreat near Arlington (conducted by Swami Bhaskarananda) 11:00 AM (members only)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<i>Remembering Lord Buddha</i> Swami Avikarananda 11:00 AM <i>Children's Program</i> 11 AM <i>Ram Nam</i> 7 PM		Class at 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda			Swami Brahmamananda goes to Vancouver, BC 	Swami Brahmamananda returns from Vancouver, BC 
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>Swami Abbedananda - A Gem of Sri Ramakrishna</i> Swami Atmajayananda 11:00 AM <i>Ram Nam</i> 7 PM		Class at 7:30 PM <i>The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i> given by Swami Bhaskarananda				
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SWAMI ATMAJAYANANDA GOES TO VANCOUVER, B.C.

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Atmajayananda will go to Vancouver, B.C., on Sunday, May 5th to conduct their service and to give a talk entitled *Freedom—A Sacred Inner Thing*. He will return the same day.

KARMA YOGA AT TAPOVAN, THE SOCIETY'S RETREAT

Karma Yoga Day at Tapovan will be held on Saturday, May 11th, from 9 AM to 5 PM. There will be a potluck lunch. Please RSVP Swami Brahmamananda at 360-435-6373.

RETREAT AT TAPOVAN (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)

On Saturday, May 18th, from 11 AM to 3 PM, Swami Bhaskarananda will conduct a retreat

for members at Tapovan, the Society's property near Arlington. After the service there will be a potluck luncheon.

SWAMI BRAHMATMANANDA GOES TO VANCOUVER, B.C.

At the invitation of the Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia, Swami Brahmamananda will go to Vancouver, B.C., on Friday, May 24th to conduct their service and to give a talk. He will return the next day.

CHANGES TO THE REGULAR SCHEDULE

The following regularly scheduled events are cancelled this month:

- The Children's Program on May 26th.



Words of Wisdom

The winds of grace are always blowing, but you have to raise the sail.

If you must be mad, be it not for the things of the world. Be mad with the love of God.

When the divine vision is attained, all appear equal; and there remains no distinction of good and bad, or of high and low.

~ Sri Ramakrishna