

A Journey to India

Spiritual Experiences and Theological Reflections

A lecture series, "A Journey to India: Spiritual Experiences and Theological Reflections," will be held Tuesday evenings March 6, 2012 through April 3, 2012 at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 20900 Chenal Parkway in Little Rock.

Classes will be from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. under the auspices of the Interfaith Center of the Institute for Theological Studies at St. Margaret's.

The series is free and open to the public; childcare will be provided with notification to debsilascooper@gmail.com prior to each session.

Through a series of dreams and meditations, the Rev. Susan Sims Smith was called to make four trips to India: first – Pondicherry, Auroville and Kerela; second – Mysore; third – to the Himalaya Mountains; and fourth – leading a group to several cities in South India. This travel has been between 2010 and 2012.

The series features an introductory session by the Rev. Dr. Christoph Keller, followed by four weeks of reflection and photographs by the Rev. Sims Smith about her journeys.

Topics of weekly lectures are:

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

What do Christians believe about the souls of Buddhists, Muslims, Atheists, and Jews?

Presented by the Rev. Dr. Christoph Keller

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

Journey to Pondicherry and Kerala, India

Trust, Joy, Oneness and Lessons about Sri Aurobindo's concept of "Spiritual Immobility"

Presented by the Rev. Susan Sims Smith

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Journey to Mysore, India

Lessons on connection, music, and community from Sri Ganapaty Sachindanda Swamiji

Presented by the Rev. Susan Sims Smith.

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Journey to Tawang and Bomdila Monasteries in Arunachal Pradesh, India

Days with the Tibetan Buddhists, and lessons on safety and love

Presented by the Rev. Susan Sims Smith

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Journey to Auroville and Mysore for Shivaratri

The mystery of call and obedience

Presented by the Rev. Susan Sims Smith

There will be time for discussion, questions, and theological reflections during each session.

“In the spiritual journey, surrender and obedience bring us closer to our true nature,” said Rev. Sims Smith. “That true nature blesses us and blesses those we serve. These trips have been primarily about obedience and surrender and the surprises that the Divine has in store for us along the path.”

For additional information, call 801-0272, email theinterfaithcenter@gmail.com, or visit the website for the Institute for Theological Studies at St. Margaret's: itssm.org.