
The Theosophical Society in Detroit

Chartered in 1916 as a Branch of the Theosophical Society in America



MARCH 2020

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Programs begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. \$5 Suggested Donation
From 6:30 to 6:55 is time for socializing and browsing through the bookstore and library.

Mar 06 *The Sanctity of Life - Decadence and The New Think*

Presentation by Yusif Barakat

As we cannot create life, we should not destroy it! All of life is sacred: the animals, the trees, the mountains and the seas. All empires ultimately collapse from internal decay, where profits are deemed to be more important than the people. We need to take personal responsibility for all that happens to us and around us, remembering that we are creators and can create peace as well as war if we put our intentions to it. Yusif Barakat has devoted the last fifty years as an activist for world peace. A visionary, he sees humanity as All One People. Yusif's mission is to put an end to the scourge of wars and secure the preservation of Nature and Mother Earth.

Mar 13 *Foolish Superstitions, or The Will to Believe?*

Presentation by Randall Olson

"There are ... cases where a fact cannot come at all unless a preliminary faith exists in its coming... *faith in a fact can help create the fact*". What is the relationship between faith and belief, *precisely*, and what role does each play in our lives? What about religious or spiritual beliefs, are they somehow different than others? In his 1897 essay, *The Will to Believe*, William James clarifies these and other questions, and then proposes an incredible argument in favor of voluntarily adopting a faith-based attitude toward life. We will move carefully through the subtleties of this argument. Randall Olson studied Philosophy and Religion at Central Michigan University, where he graduated in 2015, and currently serves as the Vice President of the Theosophical Society in Detroit.

Mar 20 *Prana: The Missing Key to Spiritual Fulfillment*

Presentation by Chanda Parameswara

Learn how Prana or life-force is needed not just for vitality but is the key ingredient that makes one progress spiritually. The nature of prana will be discussed, how to utilize it along your spiritual quest, some of the key pieces in spiritual development from an energetic perspective, and what it means to be spiritually fulfilled. Chandan will also elaborate on energy anatomy through the 11 major chakras, offer insight into kundalini and how it is critical for achieving illumination, and guide you through a blissful meditation designed to rapidly accelerate spiritual development and help unlock your soul's potential. Chandan is a lecturer, instructor, Electrical/Computer Engineer University of Wisconsin- Madison, and an avid student of energy healing and spiritual subjects. Chandan is also trained in Pranic Healing® and Arhatic Yoga® under its founder Grand Master Choa Kok Sui as well as his senior disciples.

Mar 27 *A Map of the Field of Consciousness and Theosophical Meditation*

Recorded presentation by Pablo Sender followed by discussion. Facilitator: Sandy Naimou
Hindu yoga philosophy describes four states of consciousness – waking, dreaming, deep sleep, and a fourth state, which is the background that underlies the previous three. However, when interpreted in the light of Theosophical teachings, these states provide a map of the different planes of consciousness that extend beyond our physical experience. In this talk, Pablo Sender, Ph.D. will explore the philosophical and metaphysical aspects of the subject, forming the foundation for a Theosophical practice of meditation. Pablo has presented Theosophical lectures, seminars, and classes around the world and is the author of *Evolution of the Higher Consciousness*.

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27745 Woodward Avenue
Berkley, Michigan 48072-0906

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

If you have any questions or comments about our ongoing activities,
please call (248) 545-1961 or email theosodet@gmail.com

MONDAYS: 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 6:00 PM **BOOK STUDY**

The Astral Body and Other Astral Phenomena (Classics Series) by A.E. Powell.

In print since 1927, this study of our subtle body is based on the works of theosophical authors and noted clairvoyants, including H. P. Blavatsky, C. W. Leadbeater, and Annie Besant, and is one of a series of 5 books dealing with our dimensions of consciousness and our role in the Scheme of Evolution.

MONDAYS: 3RD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 7:00 PM **BOARD MEETING**

Open to all members of the Detroit lodge. Please contact the President at least three days beforehand if you would like something added to the agenda.

TUESDAYS: 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM **BOOKSTORE HOURS**

The lodge is open to the public for bookstore hours, book browsing and conversation. Best time for members to visit the library!

TUESDAYS: 7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM **MEMBERS' MEETING AND STUDY**

The Secret Doctrine

The Secret Doctrine is Helena Petrovna Blavatsky's magnum opus and a foundational Theosophical text. Join us as we explore the first volume, Cosmogogenesis.

WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Open Forum facilitated by Gary Contesti and Galen Garst.

This gathering is intended for exploring comparative studies of science, philosophy and religion. There typically is a short video, followed by an extended period for discussion.

THURSDAYS: 7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM **GROUP MEDITATIONS**

We are pleased to begin weekly meditations. Join us for this special time of meditation.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Theosophical Society in Detroit parking is limited. . .

The **good news** is. . .*the Vinsetta Garage restaurant (next door) offers*

free valet parking

for people attending our programs.

Just tell the parking attendant that you are attending a program at the Theosophical Society in Detroit.