

Holiday Practices

The holidays can be overwhelming. We tell ourselves we will focus on "the reason for the season," but then school concerts and shopping and family gatherings and work parties crowd out the joy we were hoping to experience. It happens nearly every year. How do we make an intentional shift? I am looking to engage a cohort group in reflections about spiritual practices at the holidays and working those practices into our daily routines in a way that makes sense and is easy to do.

I'm excited to announce a six-week coaching cohort on Holiday Practices starting Monday, September 11th and running through Monday, October 16th via Zoom from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. CT. If you are interested in participating in this cohort, please register via the RSVP form on the upcoming events page via the A Place of Grace web site (URL in the signature below) by Friday, September 8th. Space is limited to eight people, so register soon! *A Place of Grace is offering-based. Electronic offerings may be made via Venmo (@Julie_Gvillo) or PayPal.me/JulieGvillo.

Artful Expressions of Grief

And I've scheduled the Artful Expressions of Grief series with Gary at the gallery on Tuesdays starting October 3rd through November 7th (potentially 14th if we need to adapt for Halloween) from 5 to 7 p.m. (*October 10th will start 30 minutes early because I have a 7:00 meeting.) Registration fees for this event will be \$10/person which only covers materials. As part of our weekly worship, the offering box will be present to support the work of A Place of Grace and Von Dell Gallery & Studios.

Artful Expressions of Grief will offer opportunities for participants to work through their grief, tell their stories, and participate in worshipful work while creating a completely original piece to honor the release of the grief they are experiencing. This grief can be related to the loss of a person, a pet, a job, or an expectation. Space is limited to eight people in order to make sure each person has the space they need to share, so please register soon via the RSVP form on the upcoming events page on the APOG web site, and sending your registration fee to secure your spot. Fees may be made electronically via Venmo (@Julie_Gvillo) or PayPal.me/JulieGvillo or you can send a check to A Place of Grace, 348 Snake Road, Dorsey, IL 62021.

The September Prayer Art Retreat is Thursday, September 21st, 2023 at Von Dell Gallery & Studios from 6 to 9 p.m. Communion will be shared. Please register by 9/19.

A Place of Grace Communications Survey

A Place of Grace has so many options to resource your individual and congregational spirituality, and Commissioned Pastor, Julie Gvillo, cannot wait to add you to email update lists in the areas that interest you in particular! Click here to take a four-question survey that will result in your getting exactly the information you need to support your spiritual life: <https://forms.gle/7N5ApsRxwhwFuQCj6> . We cannot wait to hear from you!