

September 2020

Dear Members and Friends of the Faust Branch,

Welcome to a new year with the Faust Branch. We are eagerly looking forward to resuming our meetings and conversations as students of Anthroposophy.

We are enclosing our dues letter and the calendar for our meetings through the end of November. At this point, it is clear that we will not be able to have in-person meetings, at least not in the immediate future. We have been working hard to create a schedule of online (Zoom) offerings for the coming weeks.

We are also interested in bridging with other anthroposophical communities and study groups. In that spirit, we have decided to invite people from other regions of the western states to join us for three of our four lectures during the Michaelmas season of our fall program.

Dues Considerations

It is important to support all cultural sphere activities in this time of social distancing. We are planning a full program of lecture evenings, studies and festival offerings. While the Zoom platform is not socially ideal, it does afford the opportunity to avail ourselves of speakers from other branches and from across the country.

We are not proposing to raise dues at this time. However, given our recent pattern of slight decreases in yearly membership (due in part to our aging membership), we do not feel it prudent to reduce them.

Venue decisions will not affect expenses since we have not paid rent for the past few years. Stipends paid for room set-up at RSC were budgeted from savings this past year, and if the government allows us to meet in person in the future, we will have similar expenses wherever we meet.

We continue our infrastructure support for such items as website, office, mailing, and newsletter, etc. Although we can reduce expenses for refreshments and travel this year, we will be increasing our honoraria expenses due to our expanded Zoom lecture program.

Paying dues at the supporting level will be particularly advantageous this year because of the number of lectures scheduled.

The outward course of our lives has been changed in every respect since the spring of this year. Our interactions with other people have been challenged in significant ways. However, we can take strength and guidance through our relationship to Michael, the spirit of our age.

May our commitment for truth live in the face of all lies, our grounding in love bless a world struggling with hate, and our courage for good deeds overcome all fear and doubt.

With warm greetings,

The Faust Branch Coordinating Committee

