Welcome November

It is the 11th hour of the year and on this first day of the month we are also engaging with the floating hour of time that we are told balances existence. It is the hour where we wonder how to honor its sudden presence into our routine and the hour in which we might ask what we have done with all the time in the world we thought we had.

In the labyrinth we find the liminal space (in between moments), the contrast of Chronos and Kairos time (the ordered and the quality of time) and the specious present (before and after time), all mixed purposefully for our discovery. We look to understand timelessness with our desire to be limitless and from this integral union we discover the profound reality of gratitude.

What generates our aptitude for this attitude is the practice of it harvested in each step we make towards this glimmering truth. In the different directions the labyrinth provides us with we can also be mindful of our yield with larger perspective with each turn we take into our center. It is at the core that we find a place that seems to defy logic and comprehends all relationship of time as gratitude.

Be blessed in your journeys in this month of great and full steps.

Interesting Designs

One may have the traditions of classical, medieval and contemporary in mind with regard to the designs of the labyrinth, though I find there is another emerging category to notice. It is that of material design and from this many interesting shapes emerge. There is a redesign of the customary when non-traditional objects are placed in service of outlining the support for the structure and purpose of a labyrinth. It calls for ingenuity, but also a new element of the morphic field of its design. It tends to call forth something many are curious about, purpose.

When designing a labyrinth we want to know of its purpose so that form can fit function, yet what is occurring is an extension of purpose for many temporary installations. I have found most of my designs have fallen into this category without realizing and now see so many more that find it reaches a new audience in their backyard of comfort ability and invites them in more familiar tones.

For those more steeped in tradition, this only brings more to see value in the simplicity, though for the world overwhelmed and in stress and for a society that is looking down, whimsical and innovative design reaches out to remind us of some forgotten moments. The labyrinth has a way of taking the meander and making it into an instrument of directional purpose for its interesting wandering path.
The Annual Gathering in Southern Indiana invited an opportunity from seed to stem and limb to limb for each to find a unique space and place to fit into what was created. There was much in seeing the depth of what the labyrinth can offer when we add a different perspective and for one such as presenter Maia Scott, who has limited sight, her perception and reception of the labyrinth is quite an interesting path to follow. What we can learn from each other is that when we plant the seeds and nurture it, we find growth is inevitable; it just might branch out in ways we had not planned. The unexpected was part of the enjoyment because it lent a surprise and delight to the undertakings.

In our 365 Club reception we laid out a choice of candles in thickness and asked each of our participants to walk with a candle that represented their relationship to commitment. It was not about commitment to our group or TLS, simply the concept of commitment. Each chose true and in the welcoming and the sharing of what we as a club are all about, we lit ideas, dreams and opportunities to walk with holding our commitment to it close.

What was shared was meaningful in the discoveries of what it means to come together, be supported and having the ability to accomplish. What came from our experience was a sense of what collaboration is and how in our club it matters to be seen, heard and contributive just like anything we might desire in life, it helps when we are not alone. In the end, what was understood without so many words was that to have the collaboration, communication and connection, we must contribute and commit to it to discover it.

How similar is that to consummating our walk? This was an opportunity to gratefully share what the me can be when we gather...
Updating our Innovations

We launched our private Facebook page on October 1st and have since had new members join the 365 Club as a result. We still have about 100 members who have yet to join us, though this might also help us to find and direct more relevance in what the club can offer its membership. No one is obligated to join us and there is great respect for our membership, as it exists, though without communication it is at best a guess regarding what would be of value to members.

Thus far we have had poetry, a few authors to our blog, innovative ideas, how people walk, sharing in depth and appreciation for the unique different approaches in which we walk the path. There is appreciation for education and insight and it is the most communication I have ever seen in our membership so already I know as we move into the last months of the year, it is done so with great respect and hope for those committed to a daily relationship with the labyrinth.

Many thanks to all who have stepped up and contributed!

Our Blog

So far a few have expressed interest at becoming a regular author for the blog and what a wonderful thing to think we might one day have a daily entry. For now it is good news just to receive a share via email and enter it into the blog, so easy and very meaningful. I connect those blog posts to our Facebook page so they can click without having to go searching.

What if for November, we each took a walk this month on the aspect of gratitude, a time of thanks each may have encountered on the labyrinth or something to do with the blessings of this committed daily walk and appreciation. It could be for you or for others too. Just write out a paragraph, add a photo if you wish and send it along to our email and we can fill the month with grateful posts... what if? Email your Gratitude Walk
Only 30 Days…

For each of these days I give thanks to all the inspiration the 365 Club has given in the years I have been a member. It has spurred my creativity, called me to write more and be on time and accountable in a committed fashion. It has uplifted me when I didn’t know I was not doing or being what I wanted and it has been a beautiful reminder of what possibilities lay within.

I have greater perspective and help others in coaching and guidance to find new perspectives with the metaphors of the labyrinth. The labyrinth is what introduced me to the concept of joy and laughter and from their I am living my hearts desire in playing games to inspire a more comprehensive understanding of our human potential. All this from putting one foot in front of the other in a dedicated way each day.

Today I begin the Annual Game of Thanks I designed ten years ago with a group to understand the invaluable aspect of play and using the powerful concept of gratitude. In my appreciation for this path of possibility, I walk each of the 30 days with great thanks for staying committed and in company of others who have stayed committed too; it says I am never alone and on the right path.

Many blessings and gifts of gratitude for you,

Lynda Tourloukis
365 Club Chair, Labyrinth Society

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