



# Vessels of Peace

Women Embodying Peace ...  
Inspired by the Sacred Feminine ...  
Serving Divinity, Humanity, Earth

VESSELS OF PEACE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
JULY 2006 - ISSUE #29

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## FEATURE ESSAY

### What About The Men? by Lynda Terry

During my recent book tour, I often heard this question from women I encountered at my programs and book events. I also heard it from a few men, although most men who came to hear me speak seemed to get what Vessels of Peace was about and expressed their support. In any case, here is how I have been answering this query:

First of all, I assure them that the mission of Vessels of Peace is inclusive - that by offering a space from which women may collectively strengthen their embodiment and presencing of peace, we contribute to an increasing capacity among women to serve **all** of humanity and the earth.

I explain that Vessels of Peace is comprised of women because the guidance I originally received specified that it be that way for several years. I assure them that at some future date, according to that original guidance, we will be directed to specifically create support for men who are called to be vessels of peace. For now, men are welcome to join our email list, and also to offer donations, if so guided, to support our work.

I then share how the work of Vessels of Peace is of service to men, because at this time on the planet, for most men, it is not "safe" to choose the way of the Feminine, to choose the way of peace. The majority of world cultures do not make it easy for a man to turn away from expectations of how a man "should" be ... and in many places, his life would be much more difficult or even in danger for choosing peace and for embracing the Sacred Feminine within him. And *that no one, male or female, can truly choose a life of peace without also choosing a*

*life that honors and makes space for feminine ways of being and relating.*

I explain that, as more and more women awaken to serving as vessels of peace, as more and more of us connect for the purpose of collectively “holding the space” for a peaceful humanity and world, the vibration of our world culture will begin to change. Our collective presence as embodiments of peace will precipitate a steadily strengthening process of transmuting ignorance, fear and resistance to awareness, compassion and openness. The “field of peace” - a very real energy phenomenon - will become stronger, more tangible, more visible - and reach into every aspect of life, because that is where it resides. We can't see it because we've lost the awareness of our place within that field and its place within us.

I go on to say that, as this process unfolds, the men of the world will be able to more openly and easily move towards peaceful ways of being and doing; the path, in a sense, will have been cleared for them to do so. Cultural constraints will begin to loosen in the outer world, and in the inner world, men's vibrational frequencies will be changing - partly in response to the powerful collective intention of women, the immense resonance that arises from so many women aligning their will with the Divine Will of the Feminine.

I also tell them that I am not the only one talking about this, that many spiritual teachers and leaders are as well - many of them men. I often read to them this quote from Sufi teacher Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee's book, “Spiritual Power: How It Works” (page 62):

*“We are the connections that need to be made, the pathways of the future. In our relating we carry the seeds of our collective development, which is why women have such a central role to play. Women understand more fully the importance of relating, how we are all connected together and form part of the whole. They carry these connections in their physical and spiritual bodies in a way that is foreign to men. On a higher level some women are able to magnetize these interconnections with a spiritual energy or substance, which enables the connections that are being made to directly communicate at the level of oneness. This means that when these human connections are made, the individual can awaken more quickly to the consciousness of oneness. ... Part of our redemption of the feminine is to acknowledge that certain work can only be done by women. The interconnections of life belong to the wisdom of the feminine and a woman's body holds the knowledge of how the worlds interrelate. ... the feminine knows how the divine is present in every cell of creation.”*

I then share how there is corroboration for this understanding about women's unique role in recent scientific research - how, in studying women's unique capacities for resilience, longevity and networking, it has been discovered that women's secretion of oxytocin increases when they network with one another, when they “tend and befriend.” This chemical creates measurable changes in the brain such that, all a woman has to do is *believe* in her network of support - her women friends/family can be thousands of miles away - and the oxytocin release process occurs! The release of oxytocin makes not only the women, but those around them, less stressed and more peaceful. (*For more on this research, see note about my July 19th post in The Vessel, below*).

I say that the women called to be vessels of peace are among those whom Eckart Tolle calls the frequency-holders, “anchoring the frequency of the new consciousness on this planet.” And that our particular “piece” of this work is peace. For others it may be another aspect of the new consciousness; for us, it is peace. We “carry the code” for peace - biologically, emotionally, spiritually - and the energy of the Feminine aspect of Divinity has activated it within us. Through our collective holding of space, our network continues to awaken, grow and strengthen. We don't just believe this network is there; we have experienced it - in our teleconference call meditations, through our emails, when we work with the Vessels of Peace spiritual practices, and in the countless synchronicities of connection and confirmation.

And somewhere towards the end of this long response to their question of “what about the men,” the energy shifts. It's as if a light goes on in the room as well as within those present.

People get quiet, and a knowing arises in the silence. One sees heads nodding, smiles arising, and eyes filling with tears. The electricity of the moment is palpable - and a sense of relief can be felt, as people let go of their last bit of resistance, their last "objection," any remaining skepticism or jadedness. In that moment, I know they are experiencing how *big* this quiet little phenomenon called Vessels of Peace actually is.

I hope *you* know how big this is. I hope you feel this very real network of women supporting you. And I hope you will join us in September as we learn how to hold the space of being on retreat in the midst of the world. We are asked to call forth the experience of retreat, the power of retreat, the peace of retreat, **where we are**. Because the world needs our presence.

In November 2002, while facilitating a guided meditation program, an inner voice that I knew to be the Sacred Feminine made this request, and asked that I convey it to others, whenever so guided ... and I am guided to do that right now. Here is her request, whispered gently yet insistently, over and over:

*"I need you to be present ... I need you to be present ... I need you to be present ..."*

It is through honoring that request that our call to be vessels of peace will bear fruit ... for men ... for women and children ... for the earth ... for *all* of Life.

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*Note: To learn more about Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee's work and to order his book, "Spiritual Power: How It Works," go to the website: [www.workingwithoneness.org](http://www.workingwithoneness.org)*

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## NEWS & EVENTS

### THE BLACK MADONNA - MARY MAGDALENE TOUR

Presented by the Beloved Community

August 12 - 26, 2006

France

We are excited to share with you that this tour will be led by Vessels of Peace Visioning Circle member Nitya Richmond, who is a Seminary of Spiritual Peacemaking coach and a recognized authority on the Black Madonna, Mary Magdalene and the Grail energies! Locations to be visited include Rennes-le-Chateau, Mont Segur (site of the Cathar massacre) and Chartres. There also is a pre-tour trip to Lourdes. To find out more, go to this link on the Emissary of Light website: [www.206tours.com/beloved](http://www.206tours.com/beloved)

### HOLDING SPACE

The Sacred Practice of Serving Through Stillness & Presence

A Vessels of Peace Virtual Retreat

September 21, 2006 - The International Day of Peace

Location: Wherever You Are!

In this crucial time of the world and humanity in transition, a new way of being on retreat is asked of us: rather than going to a physical location that is removed from the day-to-day world, we are being asked to create a space of retreat **in the midst of** that world, where we are. We are to call on collective intention, technology and grace to connect with one another across space and time. This form will enable the transformative energy of retreat to expand

across large areas and affect many more people than just those actively participating in the retreat.

We will offer this new form of Vessels of Peace retreat on September 21, 2006, the UN International Day of Peace. Last year, you may recall, the Visioning Circle was on retreat in Colorado and observed this day there. This year, we want to expand our observance to include the entire VoP community as well as others who may feel drawn to join with us.

Look for a special email in early August with details about how you can participate in this day of retreat from wherever you are! For now, we hope you will reserve the date on your calendar, ask for the day off, etc., so you can take part!

**WOMEN, PEACE & THE SACRED FEMININE**  
A Morning Workshop and Evening Program  
Tuesday, October 24, 2006  
The Red Shoes  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

VoP founder Lynda Terry will offer an inspiring exploration of this theme from her spring speaking tour at The Red Shoes women's center in October. The morning workshop will be for women participating in an 11 Intentions book study group beginning in September, and the evening program will be open to the general public. For more information and to register, call 225-338-1170 or email [redshoes@bellsouth.net](mailto:redshoes@bellsouth.net)

**INITIATION ALONG THE NILE**  
A Journey from Light into LIGHT!  
November 3-16, 2006  
Egypt

Vessels of Peace Visioning Circle member Nitya Richmond is a busy woman! In addition to the tour to France in August, she will co-lead this spiritual adventure with well-known Egyptologist John Anthony West (whose NBC documentary "The Mystery of the Sphinx" won an Emmy in 1993). Nitya says: "I envision this trip as very much a claiming of the power of the Divine Feminine in its greatest mystery, that of the power of self-regeneration, and the initiation aspect is a COLLECTIVE one." For more information or a brochure, contact Julia Dekker at [jrdekker@cyberpc.com](mailto:jrdekker@cyberpc.com)

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Lynda and the women of the Visioning Circle would be happy to support you in offering a VoP event in your area. If you would like to schedule a retreat or workshop, a book discussion group, or a meditation circle, please contact us through the web site or [info@vesselsofpeace.com](mailto:info@vesselsofpeace.com). In some cases we can facilitate the event; in others, we can offer support, advice, retreat outlines and additional information.

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## THE VESSEL BLOG : RECENT POSTS

### THE BIOLOGY OF WOMEN

For more about the studies on women's ways of connecting, as mentioned in Lynda's essay, "What About the Men," see this July 20 post from Lynda.

### VoP CIRCLE ALTAR PHOTO

See a photo of the beautiful altar that VoP Circle facilitator Maya Scherer created for her circle in Troy, Ohio, posted July 19th.

### BROWN RICE CASSEROLES & 11 INTENTIONS STUDY GROUP

In the June newsletter, Lynda mentioned a wonderful brown rice casserole that VoP Barbara Dulmage, Toledo, Ohio, served during her stay. Some of you requested the recipe, which Barbara has graciously supplied for us. Find it as the second blog post for July 3rd. The first post for that date is VoP Visioning Circle member Karen Latvala's sharing about how her 11 Intentions book study circle is doing - maybe reading her account will inspire you to start your own book study circle!

### NEW! MONTHLY AUDIO GUIDED MEDITATIONS WITH LYNDA

During her book tour, Lynda left periodic audio posts on The Vessel which anyone could listen to by going to the blog and clicking on the play button. Now, Lynda is going to try a different idea: recording a monthly guided meditation for you to listen to at your convenience! This new service will debut on July 22, feast day for Mary Magdalene who, as presented in the Gospel of Mary, exemplifies what it means to be a Vessel of Peace. Make a note on your calendar to go to The Vessel on or after the 22nd and let Lynda guide you in invoking the presence of Mary Magdalene energy in your life!

### WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

You can add your comments to written posts on The Vessel by clicking on the "Comments" link at the bottom of each posting. To access the blog, go to the Vessels of Peace web site and click on "read more" under **The Vessel - VoP blog**. (Or use this link: [vesselsofpeacevc.blogspot.com](http://vesselsofpeacevc.blogspot.com))

You also can leave a comment by phone on the Vessels of Peace Comment Line. Simply call this number and extension: 214-615-6505 ext 3362

You have up to 20 minutes for your message. There is no fee other than your normal long distance charges. Note that the number is shared only via the VoP email list, not on the VoP website or blog, so you may want to write it down or print out this email to have it handy.

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## TENDING THE VESSEL

*Note: This space is for sharing experiences, thoughts, favorite quotes, etc. that support being a vessel of peace for ourselves and for others. Please send contributions and feedback to [info@vesselofpeace.com](mailto:info@vesselofpeace.com).*

## SHARINGS & INSPIRATION

*“An authentic woman is a holder of space, a womb for new life and birth. That is why I work with women. It is time for us to wake up, to find the voice of our wombs, to hold hands, claim the earth as our collective womb. To broadcast, communicate with dance, song, art, write, speak and create a culture for our planet. A culture that reflects the truth of our global family of love, of joy and of peace.”*

- Sharon Riegie Maynard, founder of [www.sisterspace.net](http://www.sisterspace.net), from a speech given at the IFLAC Pave Peace Congress in Los Angeles, August 2005. Link to speech: [www.sisterspace.net/politics.html#anchor\\_327](http://www.sisterspace.net/politics.html#anchor_327)

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## SUPPORT FOR THE JOURNEY

### VOP CIRCLES

Women in several locations will be forming or already have started Vessels of Peace Circles for meditation and/or 11 Intentions book discussion. Below are those we know about so far. Please contact [lyndaterry@vesselofpeace.com](mailto:lyndaterry@vesselofpeace.com) if you have started a group or want to start one, so we can get that information on the website and in the newsletter.

Lynda is happy to offer a VoP group facilitation orientation session by phone to any VoP group facilitators, as well as to call in to your group as a guest facilitator. Contact her at the email address above to arrange for either service.

Santa Rose, California: VoP Circle. Meets first Saturday of the month, 11 AM. Next meeting: August 5th. For more information and directions to location, email Lynda at [lyndaht@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndaht@sbcglobal.net) or call or email Beth at 707-584-4201, [bblevins@jps.net](mailto:bblevins@jps.net)

Salida, Colorado: 11 Intentions book study group. In progress. Contact Karen at 719-942-4758 or [karen@consciouslifequest.com](mailto:karen@consciouslifequest.com) about when the group will be open to new participants.

Toledo, Ohio: Barbara is interested in beginning a VoP Circle in her area. If interested in participating, contact her at 419-381-6898 or [Songisspirit@aol.com](mailto:Songisspirit@aol.com)

Troy, Ohio: Maya began a VoP Circle in Troy on July 12th. If interested in participating in future gatherings, contact her at 937-440-9049 or [whitewolfgaia@yahoo.com](mailto:whitewolfgaia@yahoo.com)

Lewisberry, Pennsylvania: Suzanne is interested in forming a VoP Circle in the central Pa. area

and has a lovely space in her home for hosting it. If you want to participate, email or call her at: 717-938-3257 or [SGrenager@aol.com](mailto:SGrenager@aol.com)

New Zealand: Women's Circle has begun that includes some VoP practices and study of the 11 Intentions book. For more information, contact Jacqueline via email at [SpiritualPeacemaker@Paradise.net.nz](mailto:SpiritualPeacemaker@Paradise.net.nz)

### ORDER THE 11 INTENTIONS BOOK!

You can order The 11 Intentions book (retail price: \$14.98) in the following ways:

By credit card, through the lulu.com website at this link: [www.lulu.com/content/184845](http://www.lulu.com/content/184845)

Through PayPal. Send your payment to: [lyndaht@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndaht@sbcglobal.net)

By check or M.O. (U.S. funds), made out to Lynda Terry. The price is \$19 (\$14.98 plus \$4.02 shipping). Mail to: Vessels of Peace, P.O. Box 9006, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Note re multiple book orders: If you order 2-6 copies via the lulu.com site, you will get free shipping. Discounts are available for multiple copy purchases of 5 or more if purchased from Lynda directly; call 707-538-2070 or email [lyndaht@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndaht@sbcglobal.net) for details.

### VOP SPIRITUAL MENTORING SESSIONS

If you long for more support in your spiritual journey, individual mentoring sessions can be very helpful. As someone who has traveled the path from seeking to embodying peace, and now lives and serves from the abiding peace of the heart, Lynda will walk with you as a guide and mentor.

Each mentoring session, which lasts up to 90 minutes, begins with a brief centering process and concludes with an intuitively guided meditation that is unique to you and where you are in your journey. Sessions can be in person, if you live in the Northern California area, or by phone. Lynda also can do small group tele-sessions, if you have a VoP circle (or want to form one), and your circle would like to work with her for a period of time.

If your heart feels called to work with Lynda in this way, please email her at [lyndaht@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndaht@sbcglobal.net) or call 707-538-2070.

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### SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE TO VoP NEWSLETTER

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Vessels of Peace is an international circle of women inspired by the Sacred Feminine and committed to serving Divinity, Humanity, Earth by presencing peace in their lives and in the world. For more information, go to [www.vesselsofpeace.com](http://www.vesselsofpeace.com)