



Sunrise of the Spirit Midwinter Festival Sunday, 31st January 2021 Hershey, USA

New Year's Greetings from the Sweetest Michaelites on Earth!

With the advent of the New Year 2021 we are pleased to announce a Midwinter / Epiphany Festival scheduled for 31st January (weather permitting).

Mid-Winter Festival: “Epiphany and the World of the Stars”

10:30am ~ Arrival

10:40am ~ Festival Verse followed by Corps Study, “Sunrise of the Spirit”

12:30pm ~ Epiphany / Mid Winter **Community Potluck**

2pm ~ Shepherds' Play Introduction and Assignment of Parts

2:20pm ~ **Oberufer Shepherds' Play**: Dramatic reading in costume with Caroling and Processions through the Widow Logan House

Silver Lining of Coronavirus

While many Members and Friends endured unprecedented measures arising out of the coronavirus lockdown from early to mid 2020, there appeared to be a silver lining for Susquehanna Corps de Michael—*Anthroposophical Society in Hershey*. On or about Independence Day, and shortly after Commissioners of Lebanon County successfully seceded from the Governor's lockdown, Members courageously requested the resumption of *real in person* meetings in Body, Soul, and Spirit. The “Last Hurrah Festival” convened on Labor Day weekend with several newcomers, along with many regular participants. Turnout exceeded all expectations. We hope to reflect on the spiritual significance of this unexpected silver lining in a forthcoming edition of *Shining Waters*. **With your continued support and active participation fostering sisterly/brotherly *esprit de corps* we look forward to unfolding the life of the soul in community throughout the New Year 2021!**



www.corpsdemichael.org

Telephone: 717-964-3376



Give the Michaelites What They Want!

Continuing the silver lining exhibited Labor Day weekend and at the 30th Anniversary Michaelmas Festival, The Michael Room was packed for All Souls. Attendance protocols were inspired by *The Philosophy of Freedom*. The lively study was followed by a potluck and remembrances of departed souls offered by all participants. The remembrances included Corps Members ascended to higher worlds along with pioneers of Anthroposophy and Waldorf Education in the Susquehanna Valley spanning some eighty years. We also recalled Matthew Nathaniel Stephens and his 1999 restoration efforts preparing the Michael Room as a hallowed meeting space.

During the planning session for a Mid-Winter/Epiphany event, there was equal enthusiasm for both continuing with the cycle, *Man and the World of Stars*, and a festival study that would illuminate the meaning of Christmas, Three Kings, and the Thirteen Holy Nights. Remarkably, we are pleased to announce that an insightful Holy Night study is available in the cycle of preference, *Man and the World of Stars*. A generally overlooked lecture delivered on Christmas Eve 1922, our 2021 festival study is new for Corps de Michael. It affords an overview of the education of the soul made possible when one experiences the rhythm of the year through the festivals. Additionally, it illumines many overarching anthroposophical themes and kernels of truth specifically relevant to the time of year that offers the soul its most inward experience, The Thirteen Holy Nights. On 17th January we will give the Michaelites what they want by including all that was requested at the November planning session!

Sunrise of the Spirit (Corps study theme for 17th January)

Please check below for links to the audio and online versions of the study material for 31st January. Although not required, it is highly recommended to listen at least once to the inspiring study noting any thought or passage that strikes a chord in one's soul. Participants are invited to share these study 'jewels' at the opening of our Corps study.

A few of the themes included in the attached links:

- *The 'Book of Nature' or 'Book of the World' reminds us that every living thing on Earth is an image of what shines down to us from the **World of the Stars**.
- *Freedom is possible on Earth as a result of the Christ Impulse (a cosmic birth).
- *The greatest Light is born out of darkness
- *Twofold Christmas revelation: Peace on Earth (Shepherds) & Cosmic Logos on Earth (Kings or Magi)
- *Mid Winter Festival is the most conducive to inner revelation of the human being
- *The Christ Revelation begins with the Bible, but continues through the heart thinking of the free individuality
- *Michaelmas and the Michael Revelation prepare the road to a true Christmas Festival
- *Through Anthroposophy, the inner light of the Spirit can shine as brightly as the heavenly stars shone on the night of Jesus' birth.
- *The Thirteen Holy Nights must not become mere symbol; they are a living force.

Audio Link:

<http://rudolfsteinaudio.com/manworldstars/spiritual%20communion%20of%20mankind/2spiritcommunionmancourseyear.mp3>

Reading Link:

<https://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA219/English/AP1963/19221224p02.html>

Nota bene:

*This festival and study is a non-virtual in person real event honoring the **Way of Michael**.*

Friends and Members are welcome to attend any or all Epiphany/Mid Winter events providing they do not have coronavirus, are not exhibiting any symptoms of coronavirus, currently in quarantine for coronavirus, and/or had contact with anyone that: 1) tested positive for coronavirus, 2) currently in quarantine for coronavirus, or 3) exhibits any coronavirus symptoms.

At the same time we recognize that anthroposophical cognitive, meditative, nutritional, and medical practices combine to yield an enhanced immune system resistant to any virus/bacteria; and that a major factor in falling victim to corona or any virus is fear.

Participants agree to attend this event of their own free will and accept all responsibility for their person both while on the premises of Stonehaven Farms (Founded 1737), and following the event.

By consensus of Corps Members and to promote the free spiritual life in community, please leave cell phones and digital devices in your vehicle or place on 'airplane mode' if brought into the Widow Logan House.

For additional information or questions: please call: **717-964-3376** or write: thecorpsdemichael@yahoo.com

**Corps de Michael vous souhaite un Joyeux Noel ainsi que Treize Glorieuses Nuits de Noel,
Corps de Michael wishes you a Joyous Christmas and Thirteen Holy Nights,**



www.corpsdemichael.org

