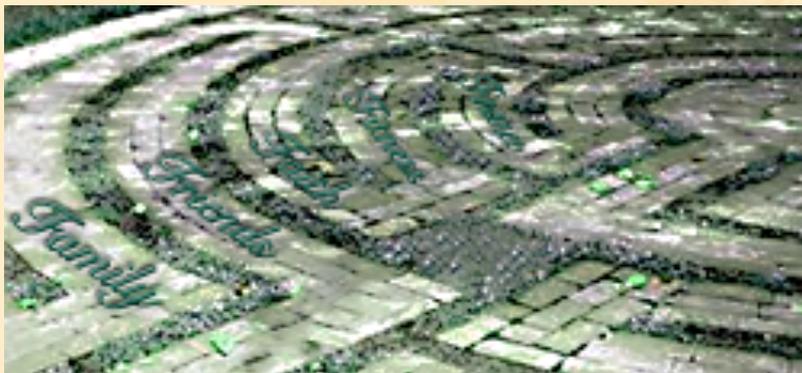


Dear Subscriber,

12/01/2014

## **Welcome December!**



December falls as expected for the next 31 days to serve as the time of celebration and remembrance for the entirety of the year past. It is rich in symbolism and cheer, and full of days that are both memorable in their reflective quality and

amusing in their anticipation of celebration.

In December there is a focus on family that seems to bring people together world wide. Culturally, spiritually and religiously there is a tie in December that binds us. It is the time of the Winter Solstice, which brings the natural order into focus mirroring for us the timeliness of the seasons. It is a time to notice our cycles of giving and receiving.

As it is the twelfth month of the year, one might consider the 12 paths of the Chartres labyrinth and walk each circuit in contemplation of the 12 calendar periods past. What message did you contribute each month and what might you have received? What was your cycle of giving and receiving for the year? As the final segment of your walk comes into view, what is being communicated for your year end?

***“In the circle, giving will always be a form of receiving and receiving a form of giving.”***

**The Labyrinths of Liminal Space**



The Annual Gathering in Del Ray Beach, Florida brought out the clever and creative designs, it brought people together and explored some purposeful new information to light. The Gathering is that liminal space for the creativity to flow and the purpose to expand allowing all to better understand this unique attraction we all have with labyrinths.

Liminal Space was the theme and it was explored as the threshold between knowing and not knowing. The labyrinth is that transition for us upon entering we discover the liminal space until we

depart. The Gathering's purpose is the theme, bringing members into the space knowing and unknowing, only to leave having crossed the threshold knowing.

*Photos from the event can be found on the [Labyrinth Society Facebook page](#), courtesy of BJ Mosher, Lars Howlett, Christina Britton and several other contributors.*

**Start planning now for next year's Gathering!**

**It will be held October 16-18 at the Way Cross Conference Center just south of Indianapolis in the most awesome color display of foliage in Brown County.**

[Info Flyer](#)

## **The Gifts of December... *who's up for a game?***



I like to think about the months of November and December as the embers... they are the months when we step back and begin to rem-ember. I also like to play games and do so to help organizations, groups and individuals rem-ember what is important, what is true and what will make the world a better place.

With the idea of playing and remembering, **I invite you to play a little game** this December with your labyrinth.

*If you do play, I would ask that you share the results with us on the [365 Club Blog](#) or send your messages and images by [email](#) and they will be loaded into the blog.*

## **The Game of 12 Walks for December:**

### **Objective:**

To walk at least 12 times this month with specific focus

## Rules:

You create a list of what is important to help you to do this with joy and ease.

## Set up:

- 1. Make a list of 12 items that are most important to you.
- 2. Find 12 different labyrinths that you wish to use for the play of this game.
- 3. Make a list of 12 different gifts/abilities/skills you have.
- 4. Think of 12 people who have made a difference in your year.

## The Play:

1. Commit to walking 12 times this month.
2. Find a new labyrinth each time you walk... be creative and think outside the circle, finger labyrinths, drawing, online, WWLL, Join a walk, paint, design, etc
3. Focus as you move into the labyrinth walk... what one item from your list pops up immediately from what is important?
4. As you reach the center, focus on what skill you have that matches or comes up from that importance.
5. As you find your way out of the center in reflection, focus on who among the list of people who contributed to your life this year in a significant way, would benefit from what is important and what you might do about it with your skill/talent or ability.
6. **From your walk today you will find an equation:**  
New Labyrinth + What's important + your talents/abilities + who made a difference = an interesting experience to repeat differently 12 times this month.

## How to WIN the game:

Play with your first thoughts, keep it simple, have fun, get creative, be imaginative and curious, play with an open heart, be ready to discover something new, enjoy yourself, say thank you, and remember... it's a game!

**Great Bonus Points:** Share with us on the [365 Club Blog](#) your discoveries, your gratitudes, and your wins and we all win! *Who's Game?*

*Image: World Labyrinth Locator*



## A Look Over the Shoulder

***What was your year in labyrinths like?***

"Yesterday I walked my snow labyrinth path to begin the winter trek to pack the winters down fall allowing for continual beauty of walking my woodland labyrinth thru out the year."

**Martha Erickson, Thoughts from Minnesota**

" ...When it was time to walk the Sacred Oak Labyrinth each

selected a staff. Wrapped in their mantles of silk and holding their staffs, they might have stepped out of the Old Testament.

We chanted "Home" as I thought they might relate to the movie ET and that "Home" would be more acceptable than "OM" to some of their parents. I then asked them to focus on their hearts and told them an animal would appear to walk with them.

As they began the journey to the center of the labyrinth I watched these children transform into masters and avatars as each shape-shifted into another identity..."

**A selection from Clarice O'Bryan's very moving share earlier this year**

"I became obsessed with the pattern almost immediately. While I was walking in that very first time, I had the thought that I wanted to be doing this every day and I found this thought funny because I didn't do anything "every day" other than the usual bodily necessities. By the time I came out of the labyrinth, I knew where on our property I was to build it. That was a Wednesday. We built ours the following Sunday (February 6th, 2011)."

**A selection from Nancy Voogd, sharing earlier how she was moved and how she moved others later.**

"Usually I do not hear my steps. Usually I do not see my steps. Unusual snow covers the labyrinth today. I hear the crunch of my steps. I lighten the load and Land as gently as the snow. I see my entering steps as I Leave my exiting prints. A re-living occurs. A re-turn. But nothing is as usual."

**A poem from Suzanna Alexander**

"Looking back at the year that was, I recall a quiet lull in the beginning of the year and the use of many finger labyrinths and candles moving life into the metaphoric indoors. The spring yielded the snowy labyrinths still, migrating to the muddy, puddled and squishy between the cold toes labyrinths as the adventure to the external world of walking began. The summer beckoned the lawn mower and the quick trips to designs etched in the landscape as revisits from last year.

The late summer brought world wide travel, adventure and inspiring creations with others. The Laughing Labyrinth across the sea mirrored its portable sister that travels with me and continued the fall traveling nationally investigating new destinations for walking. The approaching winter pulls the jacket close, though there is a hold out for the last long walks of meaningful dialogue with this path that shares itself so freely."

**Lynda Turloukis, 365 days on the path**

**A Note of Thanks,**

The 365 Club has shifted alignment, evolving for a more purposeful existence. Kay Kinneavy has shared some insightful ideas over the years and been on top of making sure the efforts of the everyday walking club were acknowledged and appreciated. A simple appreciation for the gift of giving well and acknowledgement for her contributions.

While on the path of appreciation, the solid support of David Gallagher, the appreciation of John Rhodes and the ever present all encompassing assistance of the mighty Kay Whipple are an integral part behind the scenes in loving support that continually share the highest regard for our club membership and activities. We are blessed to contribute in such an environment as this.

## With one foot into next year...



### What does 2015 bring to mind?

It is only 32 days away and beckons a whole new beginning. As you find yourself reviewing your year past, take a moment and share some ideas for a better tomorrow.

This is your club and knowing what is useful and beneficial keeps the direction of our new year on task

and on target of what is beneficial. Here is a happy little list that might provoke some thought in how the 365 Club can benefit you, do me a huge favor and click reply or write to me at 365Club to help me focus the compass.

*The Circle of Giving and Receiving for our membership moves and is moved by you with 12 simple ideas that inquiring minds might want to know or already know and just need a pleasing prompt to share:*

1. I like to hear stories about the walks and uses of others. I will share my own to help it move.
2. I like to hear about labyrinths in other places. I will share a story or picture of a labyrinth I have found that we might find interesting.
3. I like to know more about ways to share the labyrinth with others. I will tell you one way in which I share the labyrinth with others.
4. I like to create labyrinth designs and see others. I will share a design of mine.
5. I like to hear about the labyrinth used in unique ways. I will share how I use the labyrinth in specific ways.
6. I like to hear the pros and cons of offering a labyrinth publicly. I wish to offer labyrinth to the public and these are questions and thoughts I have about it.
7. I love to hear the poems of walkers. I will share a poem I have from a walk experienced.
8. I love to hear about research and news about the labyrinth. I have some research that may be of interest and some news that others might like to hear about.
9. I like to read about the metaphors and personal insights others gain

from a walk. I will share some metaphors observed and moments of insight on the labyrinth.

10. I like to hear about how others find the time to walk daily. I will share how I find the times to walk.

11. I like to know how to make finger labyrinths from different materials. I will share how I have attempted or created finger labyrinths and where they might be most useful.

12. I would like to know who the labyrinth beckons and why. I will share how it drew me in and why.

*Image: @labyrinthlessons.com*

## A Year Well Traveled



Much has changed in our year and for me, so much was unexpected and constant in its accelerated pace. The metaphors from the daily walks have been revealing and somewhat reassuring to know that even when I didn't know, my feet found the right path, or at least one that accommodated well. I traveled much and am still far away from home as the year closes, though in reflection my journey has taken me to the family that was my first home, Mom. May you all find your sense of return to home as the year comes to a close.

Change is continually moving us and while accepting it is our individual journey, the reflection and time taken for a daily walk can be reassuring and confirming in its reminder to use our moments well and be present to what it is we ask.

I am moved by the way the year finds its end, like the walk that completes itself once we begin, all in natural order. Time seems illusive when we are busy and endless when we are waiting. Whether your year was busy or slow, I hope it was filled with the richness that life offers and as you reflect upon your own year's journey, may you consider the labyrinth as your guide, the 365 Club as your path support and the Labyrinth Society as your extended home for connection and purpose.

*May you find loved ones caring and sharing the space of the year's end as you reflect on the jewels 2014 has bestowed. Bless your holidays, families and purpose with abundant health and happiness!*

Lynda Turloukis, 365 Club Chair  
[Questions, Clever Ideas or Concerns?](#)

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