



FALL 2019 OPEN CAMPUS 8-WEEK COURSE PRESENTED BY **THE SALAAM NETWORK** AND THOMAS JEFFERSON UNITARIAN CHURCH (4936 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40222)

**October 24, 2019: *Islamic Mysticism: The Sufi Path with Music and Movement***  
Presenter: Jim Aalen, Sufi

The Islamic call to a rich inner life now known as Sufism began a century after the death of the Prophet Mohammad (Peace and Blessings be upon him) in response to dry ritual and use of the belief system as a political tool. The search of mystics for ultimate reality predates Islam and lies at the heart of major religious traditions. A path of the heart, grounded in The Unity of Being, the Sufi tradition strives to bring deep insight into the person and the universal. During the presentation the central devotional practice called *Zikr* (a chant of remembrance of Allah) and other Sufi musical and dance prayer will be experienced.

**Jim Aalen** is the Administrator of *The Salaam Network*. His status as a vowed member and monk of the Passionist Religious Congregation brought him to Louisville fifty years ago. Jim still is closely involved with the Passionists in Louisville and their Western Province. He graduated from Bellarmine University, *Magna Cum Laude* in English and Communications. Jim took advanced studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He has been a *mureed* (disciple) of the **Universalist Sufi Order** founded by Hazrat Inayat Khan for more than two decades, and has led Sufi dancing and chanting in Intermountain West and Kentucky. He is currently a member of the Threshold Society of Louisville, the **Mevlevi Order** founded by the Sufi Poet-Philosopher Mevlana Jelaluddin Rumi. He enjoyed a multifaceted forty year career in marketing and advertising with clients including Paramount Pictures, Chili's, Zales Jewelers, Southwest Airlines and PetSmart.



**THE SALAAM NETWORK**

*Striving to make our Beloved Community of Louisville Whole*