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| **Exploring the Transcendent****In Math** |

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| **Thinking about Montessori in God's terms****Transcendent = above and beyond normal/physical human experienceThe challenge of living in a physical worldA philosophical question. Are we physical beings who have a spiritual experience or are we spiritual beings who live in a physical dimension?To decide which, becomes the challenge of how we operate our Montessori classrooms.When we treat our vocation of Montessori teaching as somehow not spiritual but natural we miss much of the mystery of discovery that God has hidden in plain sight.Let’s explore the subject that might seem the furthest from “spirituality” – Math. Ugg say some who still remember the frustration and boredom of 2 times 2, 2 times 3 etc. How can that be spiritual (let alone Godly?) Yet, it is the preciseness of the math that speaks to the creator God who created our ability to fathom numbers and their relationship to each other – and to our lives.Both the telescope and the microscope function at extreme ends of the numerical spectrum. How do you explore the vastness of outer space or the miniscule space in a molecule, atom, or microbe without math? And before some exasperated student says who cares, let’s remember that they may have missed the lesson on mystery and wonder about our creator God because we were too busy multiplying 7 times 3 and 8 times 4. Somebody failed to give us the wonder lesson that leads to the mystery lesson about the God of the universe who counts the hairs on our head and knows our name.This is why The CMF conference theme this year is “Exploring the Transcendent – thinking about Montessori in God’s terms.”** |

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