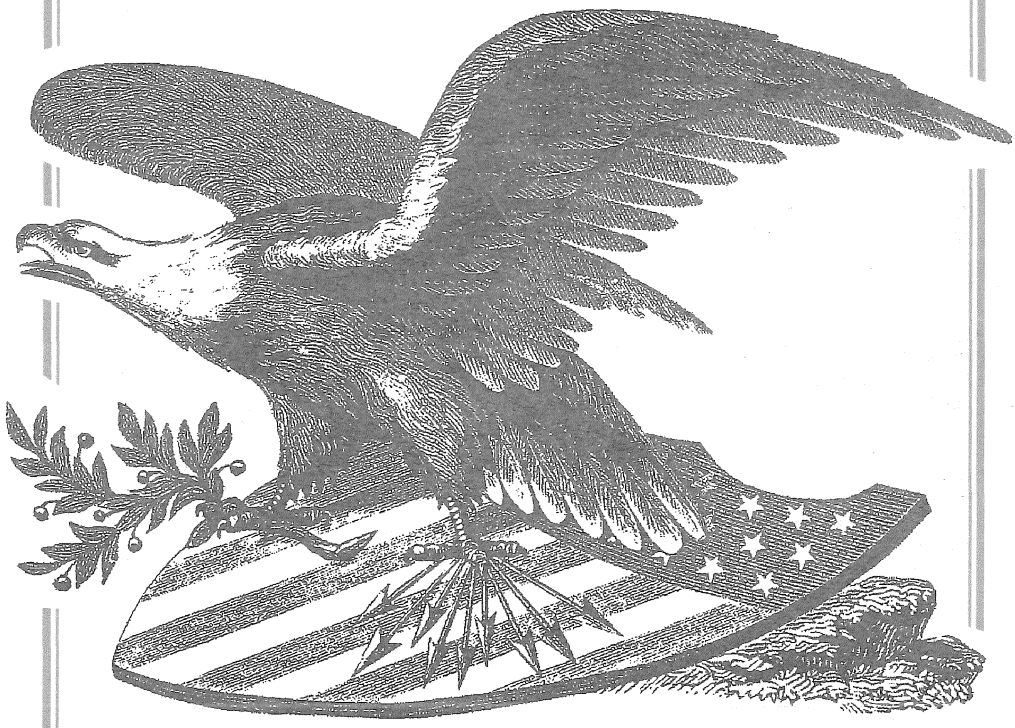
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JANUARY
2002

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Psalms 91:4

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THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST – SUMMIT

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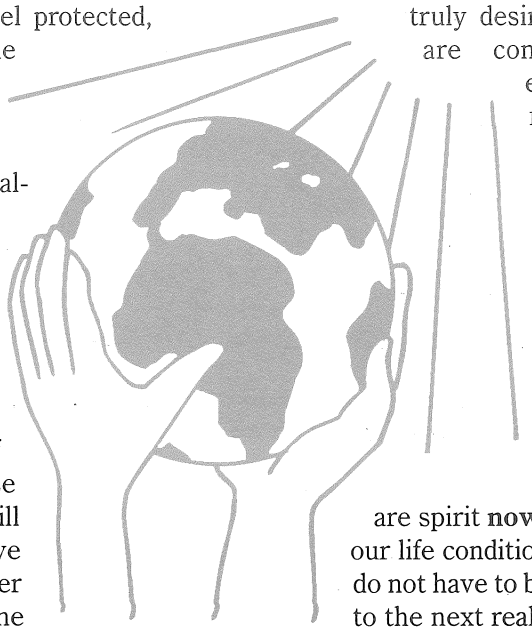
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The Religion Of Now!

BY THE REV. SANDRA PFORTMILLER, NST

The neatest things have occurred in my life since I allowed myself to be open to a spiritual existence and to spiritual happenings. When I need something I send the thought out, then it often appears in unusual ways to let me know that spirit's influence was present. If my mood needs a boost I'll become quiet and a gentle fragrance or touch from my loved ones on the other side of the veil gives me a lift, helping me to count my blessings. I feel protected, inspired, guided, and most of all loved by the unseen spirit friends. On a few wonderful occasions I've even seen the unseen or heard a direct communication. My life has completely changed since I became a Spiritualist, and it continues to change in wonderful ways. Spiritualism is happening all around me, in every aspect of my life, every day. It is the Religion of **now**. The Philosophy of Spiritualism teaches about life and afterlife, about growth and living each moment to its fullest.



Spiritual development is a natural part of an individual's soul progress. The Universe continually gets our attention so that we will grow, question and change. Most people have received some psychic experiences, often inner knowing, gut hunches, or have had a loved one that communicated with them from beyond the grave. Some feel confused about how to reconcile the religious beliefs of their youth with an event that was wonderfully real and uplifting. Often the subjects are taboo with the majority of those of their faith, with their family or their friends, so they do not tell many people, stuffing the matter into the recesses within.

Luckily, the gaps in understanding are closing, so more and more people are discussing their interesting spiritual experiences with others. There are many individuals who are reading, studying, taking classes to search for answers to their psychic occurrence. Hopefully they will find Spiritualism. It used to be "good religion / bad religion," or the orthodox religions versus the new thought religions. But, many are now recognizing that Spiritualism is a God centered religion, incorporating truths found throughout the ages in other philosophies and religious beliefs. Spiritualism is based on Natural Law and the belief in continuous life and continuous love; an expansive religion that helps expedite soul growth. As a Science, Philosophy and Religion, people are learning to view Spiritualism as a common sense way to live, and a way to heighten life now and life in the next realm.

The body, soul/mind and spirit of our triune being recognizes truth when the consciousness takes time to attune within. We must live a mindful life if we truly desire to expand spiritually, for we are consciousness. Every thought emanates energy attracting a force to the thinker. Spiritualism helps the seeker to recognize guidelines and pathways that expand the mind energy, and teach the importance of growth both now and in the future expression of life. Natural Law is the guiding principle of life and expansion.

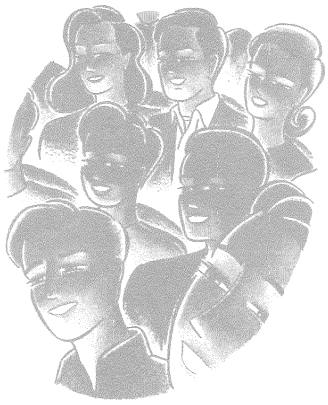
Why is continuous growth taught and considered so important to Spiritualists? We are spirit **now** and our consciousness reflects our life conditions. The lessons we master now do not have to be repeated and graduate with us to the next realm. Each time we practice being loving, caring for others or the Earth, being compassionate, being reverent, we grow in light and spiritual energy. Each soul upon the transition from the physical realm to the spiritual realm will find themselves associated with others of like mind.

We are immortal. We will exist forever, therefore it would seem logical to desire to exist forever in pleasant, loving surroundings with like minded family and friends surrounding us. The rest of our lives follows our energy now, so if we put forth the energy to grow now, while in the physical, it will create a continuity of positive energy when transmutation of the spirit is experienced.

Transmutation is the changing of one thing into another—different form, but the same essence. Humanity evolves in a spiral force, an upward direction as lessons are mastered. Sometimes a circumstance will be encountered, and one will question if they didn't already master that lesson. Often a portion of a lesson is repeated so one can

(Continued on next page.)

Friends



"If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you." – *Winnie the Pooh*

"True friendship is like sound health; the value of it is seldom known until it is lost." – *Charles Caleb Colton*

"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."

"Friends are the Bacon Bits in the Salad Bowl of Life."

"Friendship is one mind in two bodies."
– *Mencius*

"Strangers are just friends waiting to happen."

"Friends are God's way of taking care of us."

"If you should die before me, ask if you could bring a friend." – *Stone Temple Pilots*

"I'll lean on you and you lean on me and we'll be okay."
– *Dave Matthews Band*

"We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere."
– *Tim McGraw*

"My father always used to say that when you die, if you've got five real friends, then you've had a great life."
– *Lee Iacocca*

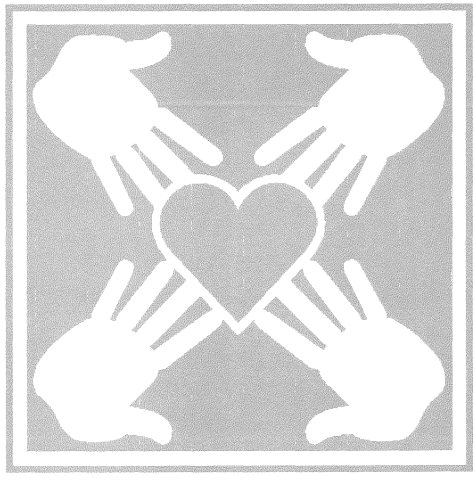
"Hold a true friend with both your hands."
– *Nigerian Proverb*

"A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words." – *Unknown* ◊

THE RELIGION OF NOW! *(Continued from previous page.)*

view the Law from the newly attained level, and see a different form of the same truth.

Spiritualism recognizes that all creation is of the Creator, with One soul in the Universe. This helps us to understand why the doorway to growth is always open and no soul is damned, for all are of God. The awareness of Oneness also demonstrates why what happens to one affects all others. God is love, loves all creation and wants only good for us. Love is the highest vibration of life. It creates a field of energy that helps bring healthy life experiences and the joy of harmony. "To love is to know Me, My innermost nature, the truth that I Am." *Bhagavad Gita.*

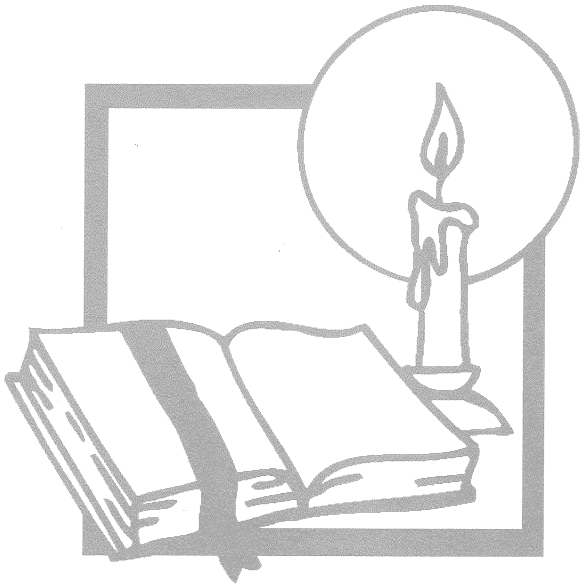


Each of us is an individualized concentration of Infinite Intelligence, the Living Spirit within; a unique expression of the Vital Life Force made manifest in the physical for a special purpose. We are but a reflection of the great Energy, to shine our spirit with the gifts and talents we have been given. "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." *1 Corinthians 12:4-7.*

It is a great blessing to know that we live forever and this is demonstrated by mediumship. We may lose temporary touch with someone if we don't think of them any more, but that does not mean they are no longer evolving in the next realm of life. Then one day a medium will bring us a George or an Aunt Emma from the land beyond and we will remember our friend and be grateful for the energy and love it took them to communicate with us. Spiritualism is such a blessing to us right **now** and for what it teaches us about the future. ◊

"Faith Based" Living

BY THE REV. CHARLENE KLEINSCHMIDT, NEW YORK



Lately the words "Faith Based" seem to have taken on an agenda all their own. When anyone wants to make a point between the secular and spiritual they espouse these words as if they held some magic charm to cure the ills of our material world.

However, I believe everyone lives a "faith based" life. What about the atheist and agnostic you may question. Their faith is based on their belief that this is all there is and there is no creator, or in the case of the agnostic that it hasn't been proven yet.

So it is with you and me. Whatever path we select, we choose to live on our own "faith based" belief, and this understanding creates the order of our lives. If we have chosen to follow the Spiritualist Principles and to take the words of our Fellowship Service to heart, then we will seek to grow spiritually in our daily lives. This is not an undue burden or as difficult as some may believe, for Spiritualism has demonstrated continuous life and love through mediumship. Our Spirit helpers have taught us about Divine Law, so accepting personal responsibility can be an immensely freeing experience. Spiritualists put their trust in the love and power of God.

Personal responsibility is not self-condemnation for the mistakes in our lives, but rather teaches us that as we correct our thinking, we grow. The knowledge of personal responsibility should allow us to understand we are free to see our past misadventures as learning tools to help us discover the path we truly wish to seek. We are frequently reminded, since yesterday is past and tomorrow has not come, that we must live in the present. This may seem contrary to the idea of learning from your past, but when you put what you have experienced into perspective you can grow from it. Worry over the future may lead to doubt and indecision, and hanging on to the past may stifle your joy and impede your progress today. The conscious mind lives in this moment and our responsibility is to decide how we will react to the current energy of today.

Look at your life pattern and how you are choosing to live it. If we resolve to live our lives here as spiritual beings, then can there be a difference between the choices we make secularly or spiritually?

As you think of your dreams for the New Year, take time to reflect on those who have touched your life this past year, then consider how you viewed their influence in your life. First, send them a blessing. Then think, did you have "faith" that all things work for the best, that all life is God sent? Have you considered that all influences are in your life for a season and a reason. Remember, that the opportunities of life come to us for our growth and in accord with Divine Law.

God is in all life. Ask yourself if the way you are choosing to live your life journey is based on the faith, trust and love you really want to demonstrate. Set your desires, then proceed into the New Year knowing that with God all things are possible. ◊

With God's Eyes

BY PATRICIA WALLACE, MAINE



"Johnny, Johnny!! Are you listening to me?" the teacher asked, puzzled since Johnny was a child who didn't normally daydream. "Johnny? What's going on in that head of yours?"

Johnny finally glanced up as he realized his teacher was speaking to him. "What?" he asked, absentmindedly.

"I asked what is going on in that head of yours?" the teacher repeated patiently; or was it impatiently?

"Well," Johnny said slowly, obviously still deep in thought, "I was wondering what color God is."

The teacher smiled at one of her best students and thought, how appropriate. "Why, God is all colors and no color," she said.

Johnny quietly took that in. "Okay, but I need to talk to Him. Where do I find him?"

"God is everywhere. He is in every flower, every tree, every bird."

Johnny tried to secretly glance out the window at the trees in the yard. "But when I look for Him I can't find Him. Maybe I should call His name."

"That's a good way to find Him," the teacher said. "He always answers when you call."

"But which God lives in the trees and which one lives in the flowers? How do I know which God to call to?" Johnny still looked confused. And he was trying hard, very hard, to ignore the laughter of the boys around him.

"What do you mean, which God?" the teacher asked. "There is only one God!"

"Oh, no," said Johnny emphatically. Could it be that his beloved teacher didn't know there were so many? "I heard my mother call him Lord. And when Mr. Bernstein got mad at David, he called for Jehovah to help him. Grammy was praying to Infinite Intelligence, and I saw a story on TV about the God they call Buddha and..."

His teacher promptly cut in, hiding a smile, he was so serious, "Johnny, these are names for the same God. But there is only one God."

"But why does He have so many names then? it sort of confuses things." Johnny was still trying to figure this one thing out.

"Well," the teacher responded, "Your mother calls you John-John, your Father calls you Son, and your friends call you Johnny, but some of them call you Buddy and I believe I even heard someone call you JJ the other day. But you are only one person. You just have many names. The same as God. He has many names because each person sees something different in Him as each of your friends see a different side to who you are."

Okay. Johnny could go along with that. But still he had a slight frown upon his face. Another thought was forming fast in that little, active, brain of his. Okay, God is only one, yet he is everywhere. And He answers when we call, always. And He probably knows what we are thinking about Him from the name we call Him just like I can tell if Mom is mad at me when she calls me John David McNally instead of John John. And He isn't any color, yet He is all colors. flashes of that image went through Johnny's head. He saw that God was red, yellow, blue—then the colors were stripes, and zigzags and finally, in his mind, he saw God as invisible, no color. And God was invincible, like Iron Man or Super Man, or Super Woman.

"So why does God allow such violence in the world? My mother said God would always protect us. But every day some one gets hurt. Why doesn't God protect them?"

"There may be many reasons that it looks like God doesn't protect us," the teacher said, knowing she had to be careful how she answered. "We have lessons to learn in life

(Continued on next page.)

WITH GOD'S EYES

(Continued from previous page.)

just as we do in school. Some of those lessons take time and can be hurtful while we are learning, but that doesn't mean God is not there. Have you ever fallen down and hurt your knee while your mother stood right by and took care of you and gave you a hug. It is the same with God. If you don't pay attention, you may get hurt, but God is right there to pick you up and give you love. But I agree that there could be a lot less hurt in the world if we learned to see through God's eyes." By now all the kids in the class had stopped snickering and were paying close attention.

Johnny cocked his head to one side, then the other. He was working out a serious problem by the look on his face. He was remembering when his cat Smokey was a kitten. Johnny had wondered how big he looked to the kitten, so he got down on the floor and crawled around, looking up at his parents from what he considered was the cat's point of view. He had seen what Smokey saw.

"People really need to learn to see through God's eyes, hear with God's ears, feel what God feels, and love with God's heart," the teacher said, "before the world can become a loving world with no violence." And she looked at all the students, "We can start right now. Each of us. One person at a time. Just for today, try to live by seeing through God's eyes."

All of a sudden Johnny's face lit up! I got it, he thought. I wanted to see what Smokey saw, so I pretended to be a cat. If I pretend to be God, I can see with God's eyes, I can feel what God feels, I can hear with God's ears and I can love with God's heart.



The light shining from within became brighter and brighter as Johnny realized what the rest of us are still trying to figure out. It is our decision if we want to love with God's heart. It is up to us!!!!! It is entirely up to us! ◊

Where the spirit does not work with the hand, there is no art.

– Leonardo da Vinci

CALENDAR CORNER

What happened in JANUARY throughout the years?

JANUARY 1, 2002

Happy New Year and let us set spiritual intentions for ourselves and for our world on this day. Then let us try to hold them in awareness and practice them throughout the coming year.

JANUARY 16, 1903

The birthdate of the **Rev. Joseph H. Merrill**, the sixth President of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches. Joe left the physical expression last year on January 26th just after his 98th birthday. It was a blue sky day for the Spirit World.

JANUARY 25, 1863

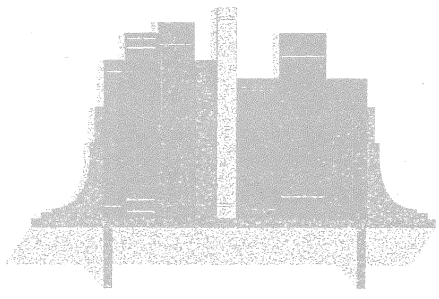
The **Children's Progressive Lyceum** was established by the Father of Spiritualism, Andrew Jackson Davis, at Dodsworth Hall in New York City, NY on this date. His hope was that the teachings gained by those in the lyceum would promote health of body, purity of thought and desire, love of truth in all we say, justice in all we do, the cultivation of reasonableness and spirituality. Davis received his direction for the lyceums by spirit revelation. The Lyceum department welcomes and encourages donations on Founder's Day.

JANUARY 21

Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday is observed to remind us of the unity of all races, creeds, and sexes that we may live in peace and honor of the One God in All Creation.

JANUARY 1919 and 1947

The dates when NSAC's two publications began. ***The National Spiritualist*** was first published in 1919 with Dr. George B. Warne, as the first editor and with the national board as co-editors and contributors. ***The Spotlight*** was first published in 1947 for the Bureau of Lyceums, with Elsie Butler Bunts as the editor. ◊



SPIRITUAL HEALING REQUEST

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Healing Prayers are requested for:

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because of the following conditions:

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Please send a "One A Day" packet to:

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I will pray with NSAC Prayer Groups:

DAY_____ NIGHT_____

If you should wish to make a **Love Donation** to help offset the NSAC Healing Center expenses, please send to:

NSAC HEALING CENTER
c/o Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST
3521 W. Topeka Drive
Glendale, AZ 85308-2325

To request information on "How to Form a Spiritual Healing Prayer Group,"

CHECK HERE ☐

The first week of each month the names received are compiled and sent to the NSAC Office for inclusion in the NSAC monthly mailing to all churches. Also many healers around the country receive the list. Because of the length of the lists an individual's name will usually be kept on the healing prayer list for one month unless we hear from you that more healing is required. We also request prayer groups to keep in touch with the National Healing Center throughout the year.

Prayer Healing is a wonderful way to practice Absent Healing, to help others, to share a prayer, and is something EVERYONE can participate in.

SPIRITUAL HEALING

– Prayer for Spiritual Healing –

I ask the great Unseen Healing Force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to restore me to perfect health.

I ask this in all sincerity and honesty and I will do my part.

I ask this great Unseen Healing Force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health.

I put my trust in the love and power of God.

TYPES OF HEALING



Magnetic Healing: The magnetic, or vital force, may be transmitted from the super-charged individual to the person in need. In Magnetic Healing, healers may make "passes" holding the hands away from the body and work through the aura of the recipient.

Mental, or Suggestive Healing: Mental healing is of help to persons who, through physical habits, modes of thinking, or undisciplined emotions, have upset conditions that promote ill health. Through transgression of Natural Law, harmony is brought about within the individual, which in turn prevents the polarization of the psychic current of curative attributes.

As one repeats affirmations, one produces benefits, as well, because of other reasons. Repeated affirmations may produce intellectual conviction or induce a spiritual faith. The repetition of an affirmation, at times, may in and of itself be a curative agent.

The Basis of Mental and Spiritual Healing: It is said that the physical body is the resulting manifestation of one's thoughts. Andrew Jackson Davis' *Magic Staff*—"Under All Circumstances, Keep An Even Mind," is healthy advice to live by. We can call upon healers in Spirit for assistance in maintaining or regaining our health. In so doing, we open the door for spirit contact. We ask—we receive.

Spiritual Healing: Spiritual Healing is the alleviation of physical or mental illness through the application of curative forces from the Spirit World by means of vibratory force.

The results of Spiritual Healing are produced in several ways:

(a) Spiritual entities working through the body of the medium and thus infusing curative, stimulating and vitalizing fluids and energy into the diseased parts of the recipient's body.

(b) By spiritual influences illuminating the brain of the healing medium and thereby intensifying the perception of the medium so that the cause, nature and the seat of the disease in the patient becomes known to the medium.

(c) Through the application of absent treatments whereby spiritual beings combine their own healing forces with the magnetism and

(Continued on next page.)



FAVORITE SAYINGS TO LIVE BY



"Perhaps writing and the spirit are one and the same thing, but life moves on and writing stays in a place."

– Anonymous

"The man (woman) who has no inner life is the slave of his surroundings."

– Henri Frederic Amiel

"We live by the power and authority of God. We are free of human limitation of any kind. We are limited only by the measure of what we will accept for ourselves. Our imagination becomes our order form."

– Nikki L. Goodman

"Wise, loving people must be present and accounted for. We need to be responsible for thoughts, words, and deeds, since all three work together. We're individuals but we're also living cells in a cosmic organism. We belong together. Let's live conscious lives as well."

– Dr. Margaret Stortz

"Truth, ever lovely—since the world began the foe of tyrants, and the friend of man.."

– Thomas Campbell, *Theodric*

"There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread."

– Mother Teresa

"The reason the universe is eternal is that it does not live for itself; it gives life to others as it transforms."

– Lao-Tzu

"And when we realize that our true Self is one of pure potentiality, we align with the power that manifests everything in the universe."

– Deepak Chopra, *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success*

SPIRITUAL HEALING

(Continued from previous page.)

vitalizing energy of the medium and convey them to the recipient who is distant from the medium, and cause them to be absorbed by the system of the recipient. *(Spiritualist Manual)*

The Process of Spiritual Healing: In spiritual healing, the healing force comes from spirit entities, and from Infinite Intelligence, as well.

The proper flow for the healing energy in spiritual healing is to move from the spiritual, into the mental, and then into the physical.

With contact healing, or the laying on of hands, the healers have good reason for placing their hands upon the healing recipient's head.

• RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of a Spiritual Healer: Because all things are tinged by that through which it passes, the Spiritual Healer should be in good physical health, clean in mind, as well as body.

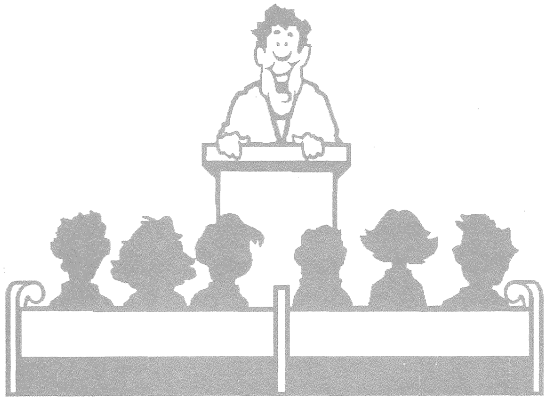
Responsibilities of the Healing Recipient: the healing recipient must assume responsibility for doing their part in a healing.

Things to Remember: All healing attempts to cure a condition may not be successful, due to various reasons. ◊

Compiled by Barbara Thurman.

Keeping Your Church Progressing

BY THE REV. RUPERT SIGURDSSON, NST, MAINE



For a church or camp to be successful, it requires the help of many individuals. The pastor may be the figurehead in most churches, but the work not witnessed by the congregation far outweighs the time spent presenting the services or classes.

Often, most of the planning will fall on the pastor or one who is retired and has the time to schedule the mediums and other events that are needed to make up a church program and keep it going smoothly. Events in most cases need to be scheduled at least a year in advance. In that way, mediums and speakers, or others that participate in the programs, can better plan their time.

A church or camp will only progress as long as a constant effort is being made to encourage new membership, and keep the service and other events interesting, as soon as that effort relaxes, the progress gained will quickly be lost.

There are many reasons for this, to keep our membership we need to hold the interest of the congregation. People do not come to a Spiritualist church because they were brought up in it, or because it is the thing to do. Sometimes, out of fear of a God that will condemn them to Hell if they do not attend a church, or sometimes out of just plain habit they attend the same religion they were taught in childhood. In some cases they choose a religion for business reasons to be in contact with the right people.

There are not many who grew up with the Spiritualist philosophy. Most come from either an orthodox philosophy and felt something was not quite satisfying, or had no former interest in religion and felt the need to search for something that would satisfy an inner yearning. Sometimes we satisfy these needs for a period of time and then they drift off still seeking satisfaction. It is up to us to satisfy that inner need that they are searching for.

Many coming to a Spiritualist church are far from "true" Spiritualists, often holding to their orthodox beliefs. Their main interest being the message from spirit and greetings from loved ones that they may receive during the service. Some come if their favorite medium is giving the messages that Sunday and others are only interested in the healing.

I have heard people mention that they like the Spiritualist church, but go to their regular church for their religion and send their children to Sunday school in that church. These people may even call themselves Spiritualists, but they are not Spiritualists for they have little interest in the Spiritualist philosophy, well-being or support of the church. True dedicated Spiritualists are few and seem to be only a small portion of our congregation.

This gives us a real challenge to make our services interesting enough to keep people coming, so that over a period of time we can present enough of the values of the Spiritualist philosophy, that they will realize how much it is adding to and benefiting their lives. We must show that we are not just a place to contact the spirit side of life, but a church that is teaching a belief system that can greatly enrich every area of their lives and create a desire for them to learn more and become "true" Spiritualists.

It is only by much effort and good planning of our services and classes that we can hope to achieve this goal, instead of a continued fluctuation of our membership. This is necessary to keep a steady progress from year to year.

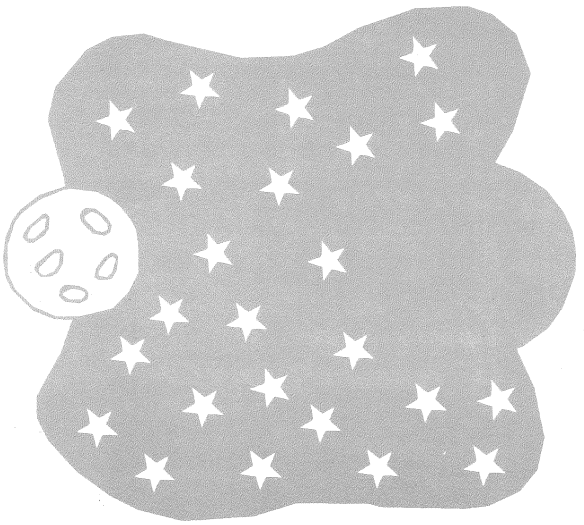
It is necessary to plan your services and classes so that those attending will feel that each week they have gained something of value in their day to day lives; something that has made their lives better, brighter and more interesting as they go through the week.

As Pastors, Teachers, Healers or Mediums, we can never rest on our laurels. We must always strive to do better. As the 4H motto states, "To make the Best Better," and always remember, nothing stays stagnant. A church is just the same as a business, it either continues to grow or slowly fades away. Don't let that happen to your church!

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Yesterday Is History; Tomorrow Is Mystery; Today Is A Gift.

BY THE REV. JUDY MERRILL, DSNU, CANADA



There is only one place that we are able to affect the experiences of our lives—that is in the gift of today. When we dwell constantly on the past, we are rehearsing, not living life to the fullest.

In the past, we have hurts; we have pressures of social conditioning; we have pressures of our parents expectations; we have pressures of the expectations of others in our environments, who seem to be someone we should be listening to; in the past we have all of life's challenges through which we grew. They have led inexorably to today, to the person we have become.

If the past is to become history, we must put all of these hurts, longings, expectations, etc. in the past where they belong. We must look forward to living our lives as we would like to direct them as a better, stronger, loving individual. They can no longer hold the ability to hurt us, unless we give them that power and strength.

The way to move forward into today, into this new year, is to take all the lessons of the experiences and use them as tools for the present. Leave behind the emotion and dwell in the spirituality of the lesson to be gained. Do not repeat mistakes, but learn to live in the now with the lesson learned and moving forward to the next lesson of life.

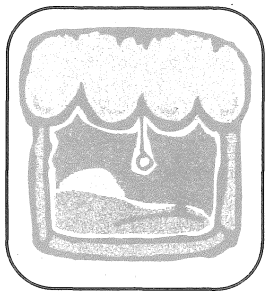
Our destiny, our future, holds mystery of what can and will be in our lives. The way we make our dreams come true and grow in spirituality, is to constantly change. To move with the lessons into new and brighter experiences through the lessons of the past.

Live each moment as an adventure, given by God to enhance our joy of life. When we have accomplished this, we can always move forward into whatever life (and even death) has to offer as an adventure in growth and not as an ending of life or existence.

We are eternal beings and have the capacity to grow in our learning experiences. We will (and can) fulfill every dream, goal, talent, skill within our being by constantly changing and growing with our life's experiences.

Every adventure of life is a stepping stone to the next on our journey. If we measure and learn from each step, we will be using the adventure as a tool of growth. This is it, life is not a rehearsal. Live in the present, the now, and accept the gift of God's love in all adventures that cross your path.

The wise person does not carry the past as baggage, but leaves it behind to take care of itself. The wise soul uses today to create a wonderful yesterday, so that the mystery of tomorrow can become the gift of today. ◊



Each month ***The National Spiritualist*** *will feature the writing from a student who is currently taking the education course from the Morris Pratt Institute. Featured this month is an essay written by the* ***Rev. Alisa F. Butler, NST,*** *of the Church of the Living Spirit, NSAC, Phoenix, Arizona.*

Death, Dying and The Spiritualist Philosophy

Throughout time, most people have not accepted death as our final end. If humanity accepts death in this way, they will surely lose much of the meaning of what it is to live. The meaning of death has been the most long-standing question of humankind. Men and women have asked many questions related to the issue of death. Do we survive the death of the physical body? If so, where do we go, and what sort of existence is it? What do we look like if we survive and our physical body is left behind on earth? If we do survive, how does it affect our present life and what does our present life mean to it?

Collective attitudes, within groups of people, have formed regarding death and dying. People throughout the centuries have gained comfort and hope by sharing attitudes and opinions on that which is inevitable, death. The collective effort of humanity's study and understanding of death has resulted in all of the major religions of the world. Death has become a major creative force due to its being the shared destiny of the human race. Its influence has effected literature, poetry, art, and music over the ages. Philosophers have always been aware of the creative source of the subject of death, and Plato taught that the art of philosophizing was really the art of studying the problem of death.

The ancient people's concept of death centered around the idea that it was some sort of mysteriously supernatural event. With the sophistication of civilizations the death theme became more complex and varied. Gods in the image of man came about, and their deaths served to symbolize life conquering death and resurrection gaining ascendancy over the grave. All major religious doctrines adhere to some kind of basic belief in life after death.

As time passed, attitudes about death and dying remained about the same, but diversification of opinions between societies did occur. The United States has trouble thinking about aging and death, and is a "death denying" society. This has caused all sorts of problems for our society. It has affected the way we take care of those who are dying, as they are often fled from, instead of being helped. We do not know how to discuss death and Americans often use humor or jokes to relate their feelings about things often considered taboo to openly discuss. Our jokes are very telling regarding our attitudes on this subject. We hear comedians joke about sex, politics, religion but rarely, if ever, death. It is supposed to remain hidden in the depths of our consciousness, frightening, and misunderstood. Some of the ancient beliefs seem progressive, compared to the United States attitudes on death. We even train our physicians that they have failed if their patient dies and fails to recover from an illness.

In contrast to the United States, many other societies are considered "death-affirming." In these societies, death is viewed as a natural process. The religions of Hinduism and Buddhism treat death in an instructive manner. They teach that unless we can live life in the full acceptance of the fact that one must die, an individual's life can never be filled with a true sense of meaning and effectiveness. Jewish religious law provides for "death with dignity." Terminal illness and death are directly confronted and support, comfort, and encouragement are offered to the dying person. It sounds like our society could learn some things from these other religious beliefs.

The individual's attitudes, and concepts, are as important as the collective attitudes toward death. For those of us who do want to understand and learn how to relate to and help the individual going through the process of dying, Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross's study on the terminally ill can be of assistance. She found that the individual goes through five stages which are denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and finally acceptance. The individual will experience these five stages uniquely and no one individual will go through them exactly the same, but the knowledge of these stages is a great help to both the dying person and those close to him.

What a contrast the Spiritualist philosophy is to the manner in which most of our society looks, or better to say, doesn't look at death. Our society needs to put away their fears and taboos and learn how to open their eyes to reality. We die, it is a part of life, it is a fact, our denying it is painful and limiting to our growth and understanding. Many of the other major religions in the United States are not helping this problem. But Spiritualism faces death and gives us knowledge, hope, understanding, compassion, and yes, even the ability to look death in the eye and say we are ready for you.

Spiritualism teaches us that we are more than our physical body. The physical body is just the instrument that

(Continued on next page.)

Humor to put you in Good Spirits . . .

"Live so you won't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip." –*Will Rogers*

An intellectual is a person who can listen to the William Tell Overture and not think of the Lone Ranger.

During a tour of a cave, a nervous tourist asked, "Are there any bats in this cave?"

The tour guide replied, "There were, but don't worry, the snakes ate all of them."

If toast always lands butter side down, and cats always land on their feet, what would happen if you strapped the buttered toast on the back of the cat and dropped them both?

Why is it called "rush hour" when your car barely moves?

"A dog doesn't bark at a parked car."



A Lyceum teacher asked her class who could tell her why George Washington is called the Father of his country. Little James asked, "Did they do a DNA test?"

"Being a philosopher, I have a problem for every solution." – *Robert Zend*

The brain is as strong as its weakest think."
– *Eleanor Doan*

Money is something you've got to make in case you don't die." – *Max Asnas* ◊

EDUCATION SPEAKS

(Continued from previous page.)

houses the soul. The soul is eternal, and neither does it, nor can it die. Spiritualism teaches us that the person, the individuality of us, does not change after death. What a person is before death is exactly what he remains after it. It teaches us that death is natural and nature's way of promoting us from the restricted life on earth to the expanded life of an etheric existence. Spiritualistic philosophy shows us that death is the doorway to further growth, and that it is necessary for further individual development.

Spiritualism does not ask us to believe what it teaches just because Spiritualists say that is the way things are. Instead, through mediumship, Spiritualism not only proves what it teaches, but adds an entirely new dimension of understanding to death and dying. Through mediumship and psychic accounts, we can learn from the spiritual perspective. We can hear from those who are already there! What a final blow to the fear of death this is.

Another recent phenomena that has been studied that we can learn from, and that also supports Spiritualist philosophy is the near-death experience. Individuals all come back from this experience with a renewed dedication to life. They tell us that it is not what we did in our lives, but why we did it, that is important. They tell us that they did not experience instant enlightenment, that instead they were the same there as here. They stress the need for all of us to cultivate a sincere love for our fellow life travelers. Experiencers of the near-death phenomena tell us that knowledge is important and that it is a never ending process that continues after death.

Our lives do not remain the same, we are constantly experiencing change. We can change our attitude and beliefs, like our clothes, and create a happier life for ourselves, and with it we don't even realize that the old attitude can be considered dead. In doing this, we transform one set of thinking for another. Change is the stuff of life—we change partners, our jobs, the way we think or look at things. In death, we only change our environment and our mode of existence. If we do not learn to accept death as fact, we can lead empty, non-productive lives. We cannot wait for tomorrow to do what we need to do in our lives. Spiritualism and its teachings of the Law of Continuity make us aware that we must use today to grow, to learn, and to become the most that we can be. To understand that the individual continues after the change called death really brings home the importance of what we do today.

I cannot help but think of what a difference would take place in our society if more believed, as we Spiritualists believe. The fear of death would be gone. People would be able to communicate in a supportive way with those who are about to go through the change called death. Our youth would not think it was going to be over for them at the age of thirty. Well, we can each do our part, and try to let others know about this, literally, life saving philosophy of ours! ◊

Positive Statements To Help Create a Positive Day.

Affirmations . . . JANUARY 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 A new year, a new beginning to dedicate to God.	**2** Today, I turn a new page in the book of life; I begin anew.	**3** Our reality is the present. "We are tomorrow's past." – Mary Webb	**4** Open your heart to Spirit, then reach out to others in that love.	**5** "Most of the stars in the universe cannot even be seen." – J. Audouze
6 "I close my eyes, the better to see." – Paul Gauguin	**7** Let God's plan and God's Love be your guidepost to life.	**8** Spirit is continually at work in your life, creating and blessing.	**9** "Hidden in your deepest feelings is your highest truth." – Neale Walsch	**10** Emotional challenges are actually gifts telling us to go deeper within.	**11** Each step into the unknown begins right where we are with surrender.	**12** Our past affects us if we are thinking about it and bringing it to the present.
13 "The more we love today, the more we may find to love in our past." – Chandler	**14** "A man does not have to be an angel in order to be a saint." – Albert Schweitzer	**15** My thoughts reflect abundance love and joy.	**16** "Life can only be understood backwards, but must be lived forwards." – Kirkegaard	**17** Prioritize your activities. Be an idealist—declare you will complete them all.	**18** Surrender to the higher power within you and know who you are.	**19** "Life is the childhood of our immortality." – Goethe
20 Stay strong in Spirit when the road gets bumpy.	**21** Today, I honor my feelings, my hunches and intuition.	**22** "Ideas are strange things, they only work if you function." – Santayana	**23** Small acts of kindness, done with love are very powerful.	**24** Pray for guidance, then listen for the plan to unfold.	**25** Accept yourself and others just the way you/they are.	**26** Today I am a sponge to absorb spiritual love and wisdom.
27 "Above all, love each other deeply." – 1 Peter 4:8	**28** Use your gifts of Spirit to help others and you will be blessed.	**29** I am open to experience the flow of God's energy through me.	**30** Authentic inspiration brings forth our divine nature.	**31** God is a fire, and we are all little flames." – Anne Rice		



Best Wishes for a Peaceful New Year!



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KRAMER, Rev. Hillary, NST, Certified Medium, 15 Huntwood Dr., 12065 - (518) 371-8975.

EAST AURORA

KLEINSCHMIDT, Rev. Charlene, NST, Certified Medium, 1071 Wish Circle, 14052-9656 - (716) 652-4972.

KLEINSCHMIDT, Albert C., Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 1071 Wish Circle, 14052-9656 - (716) 652-4972.

FARMINGVILLE

LLOYD, Rev. Nancy A., NST, Certified Medium and Counselor (call or write for appointment); Mail: P.O. Box 7, 11738-0007 - (631) 736-1058.

HOLBROOK

BERG, Rev. Virginia, Pastor, A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, NSAC, 1280 Claas Ave., 11741-3902 - (631) 588-3150.

LILY DALE

BURDICK-CAREY, Rev. Beverly, Certified Medium, 13 3rd St.,P.O. Box 1087, 14752 - (716) 595-2205.

• NORTH CAROLINA •

HENDERSONVILLE

GRIFFITH, Rev. Gail, NST, 200 Crestview Dr., 28791 - (828) 891-1312, gailgriffith@juno.com.

• RHODE ISLAND •

State Wide

KENT, Lynn, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, table-tipping physical phenomena workshops, private consultations and home gatherings, public lectures/seminars, website: www.spiritmedium.com, email: lynnkent@spiritmedium.com - (401) 245-8307.

KENT, Brian, Licentiate Minister, Commissioned Spiritualist Healer, specializing in Spiritual healings, website; www.spiritualist.net, email: briankent@spiritmedium.com; 28 Third Street, Warren, 02885 - (401) 245-8307.

• OHIO •

FAIRBORN

MOSCHKE, Rev. Raymond J., Comm. Healer, 1468 Ironwood Dr., 45324 - (937) 878-1165.

• PENNSYLVANIA •

ALLENTOWN

ZERNICEK, Rev. Ludwig, NST, Pastor of Getter Memorial Church; mail: 323 N. 8 St., Apt. #3, 18102, email: rev_lance@entermail.net; (610) 770-7560.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN

BROWN, Mrs. Frances Cervin, Licentiate Minister and Certified Medium, 2723 S. Congress, Apt. 2309, 78704 - (512) 447-2188.

HAMNER, Rev. Dr. Jean, NST, Certified Medium, Commissioned Healer, Angels of Light Pastor, P.O. Box 4001, TX 78765-4001 - (512) 836-8829. Private consultations by appointment, public lectures, classes and workshops.

BELLAIRE

JESSUP, Rev. Jovita V., NST, Comm. Healer, Certified Medium, 5213 Chestnut Lane, 77401 - (713) 664-0737.

EDINBURG

MUSE, Rev. Evelyn, Minister, Certified Medium, NST, 1104 Susan Dr., 78539 - (512) 383-2510.

DALLAS

HANSON, Arthur E., Licentiate Minister and Healer, Rosie Lee, Licentiate Minister, 4653 Cedar Tone Dr., 75211-7723.

• UTAH •

ST. GEORGE

SAVAGE, Virginia, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, 1444 Basswood Way, 84790, (801) 634-9467. Summers: Box 1064, Lily Dale, NY 14752 - (716) 595-3046. Phone reading available.

• VIRGINIA •

ALEXANDRIA

KRITHADES, Rev. Christine, NST, 8725 Stockton Pkwy., 22308 - (703) 799-4774.

ARLINGTON

BATES, Virginia E., Licentiate Minister, 2716 N. Lexington St., 22207 - (703) 538-5164.

NORFOLK

CUTLER, Rev. Lelia E., NST, 7310 Midfield St., 23505-4126 - (757) 480-3799.

SPRINGFIELD

GEHMAN, Rev. B. Anne, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 5409 Backlick Woods Court, 22151 - (703) 354-5767.

VIENNA

STRANAHAN, Rev. Patricia, NST, 1717 Besley Rd., 22182 - (703) 242-8823.

• WASHINGTON •

BREMERTON

HICKS, Anne, Licentiate Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, P.O. Box 4126 S. Colby, 98384 - (360) 876-9701.

SHAW, Maureen, Licentiate Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, P.O. Box 4126 S. Colby, 98384 - (360) 876-9701.

SEATTLE

PEMBERTON, Rev. LaVerne, Ordained Minister of Church of Spiritual Unity, 3827 S. Mead, 98118 - (206) 722-2348.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

GREAT CACAPON

STARR, Rev. Barbara, NST, Comm. Healer, 4245 Woodmont Rd., 25422 - (304) 258-4861.

WHEELING

GASBER, Rev. Velma, 104 N. Broadway St., 26003, Pastor of Way Memorial Temple - (304) 232-5795.

• CANADA •

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

ROSSNER, Rev. Dr. Marilyn, Ph.D., Pres./Pastor, Spiritual Science Fellowship, 1974 de Maisonneuve W., H3H 1K5 - (514) 937-8359.

DIRECTORY OF NSAC CHARTERED CHURCHES & AUXILIARIES

• ARIZONA •

PHOENIX - Church of the Living Spirit, NSAC
Meeting place: LaQuinta Inn, 2510 W. Greenway Rd., 85023; Mailing address: 3521 W. Topeka, Glendale, 85308-2325; Co-Pastors, Rev. Gene & Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, (623) 581-5544; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday Classes 7:30 p.m., call about location.

PHOENIX - Harmony Chapel, NSAC
1522 W. Encanto Blvd., 85007-1203.

• CALIFORNIA •

CALIFORNIA STATE SPIRITUALISTS' ASSOCIATION
Pres., Rev. Sandra Cook, (805) 965-4474; Secy., Evadell Sordelet, 5537 Whitney Ave., Carmichael, 95608, (916) 481-8729.

AUBURN - Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines
457 Grass Valley Hwy. #7; Mailing address: 461 Grass Valley Hwy., #19, 95603; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Fri. All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m., except last Fri. of month; Pastor, Rev. Louis Potter; Pres., Pauline Conrad; Secy., JoAnna Gallo, (530) 823-1816; .

MONROVIA - The Spiritualist Church of Revelation
200 W. Colorado Blvd., 91016; Sun. Services 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Martin Pina; Pres., Mary Munerlyn; Secy., Rev. Toni Ervin; Church phone (626) 256-3403; E-Mail: Greenry@earthlink.net.

REDWOOD CITY - Redwood Church of Spiritual Science, NSAC
149 Clinton St., 94062-1515.

SACRAMENTO - Central Spiritualist Church, NSAC
2500 Marconi Ave., Suite 209, 95821-4855. Mailing Address: 4800 Auburn Folsom Rd., #63, Loomis, 95650-9328; Sun. Serv. 10:00 am.; Classes - first Tues. of the month 7:00 p.m., last Tues. of month Healing and All Message Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Pres., Denise E. Bell; Pastor and Secy., Rev. Sandra G. Dawson, NST., (916) 652-4568; e-mail: rdawson@jps.net.

SAN BERNARDINO - Temple of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
732 N. Sierra Way, 92402. Sun. Serv. & Healing 11:00 a.m.; Secy., Richard Patteson, 10939 Hole Ave., Riverside, 92505.

SAN FRANCISCO - The First Spiritual Temple, NSAC
672 South Van Ness Ave., 94110-1306 (between 17th & 18th); Sun. Serv., 2:00 p.m.; No weekday evening classes at this time; all correspondence to: Rev. Donald McFarland, Secy., 405 Sixth Ave. #3, 94118-3027.

SAN FRANCISCO - Golden Gate Spiritualist Church
1901 Franklin St. (Corner of Clay) 94109; Sunday, Lyceum 9:30 a.m., Sept. thru May; Healing 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Wed. Healing 7:30 p.m., Serv. 8:00 p.m., (415) 885-9976; Pastor, Rev. Donald Haddick, NST; Pres., Sonny B. Gee; Secy., Engeltie Lauderback.

SAN FRANCISCO - San Francisco Spiritualist Society
1832 Buchanan (between Bush & Sutter); Church phone, (415) 927-2139; Sun. Serv., 6:00 p.m.; Pastor Rev. Barbara Thurman, (415) 924-1106; e-mail: sfspiritualist@yahoo.com; All mail to Secy., Rev. B. Thurman, 200 Marina Vista, Larkspur, 94939-2144.

SAN JOSE - The Spiritual Science of Life Church, NSAC
"The Friendly Church," 729 Morse Street, (Corner of Morse St. & Naglee), 95126; email: tssole@hotmail.com; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Sunday; Pastor Rev. Louise Peruch, NST; 5409 N. Staple Way, 95236, (209) 887-2043.

SAN LEANDRO - Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds
1550 San Leandro Blvd., (Deaf Comm. Center) 94577; Sun. Serv. Healing 10:30 a.m., Reg. Serv. 10:45 to 12:00; Co-Pastors, Rev.'s Betty and Don Nauratil, (925) 283-1449; Pres., Jean McFarlane, 816 Cary Dr., 94577, (510) 483-5630; All mail to Secy., Rev. Betty Nauratil, 1048 Via Roble, Lafayette, 94549-2925.

SANTA BARBARA - Summerland Spiritualist Church of The Comforter
1028 Garden St., 93101; (805) 965-4474; Pastor, Rev. Sandi Cook, NST, e-mail: guide01@gte.net; Sun. Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Devotional Serv. 11:00 a.m., Wed. Message Serv. 6:30 p.m., Unfoldment Classes Sunday, Monday 1:30 p.m., Thursday 7:30 p.m.; Call for information on the Rev. Foard Memorial Library.

• COLORADO •

LITTLETON - Chapel of Spiritual Awareness
Forte Music Academy of Music, The Market Place at Ken Caryl, 10143 W. Chatfield Ave., Suite 15, (303) 797-7227; Sun. Healing & Meditation Serv. 9:30 to 10:15; Worship Serv. 10:30 to 11:30; Spirit Greetings 11:30 to 12:00; Beginning Spiritual Awareness and Advanced Unfoldment Classes are offered; Licentiate Minister, Dorothy M. Haskins; Pastor, Patricia J. Haskins-Schott, (303) 973-9993; **All mail** to: 6457 S. Xenon St., 80127; Internet site: Go to www.spiritual-awareness.org.

• CONNECTICUT •

CONNECTICUT STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
Pres., Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., B5, New London, 06320-3346; Secy., Verline Eldridge, 34 Starr St., Norwich, 06360.

NEW LONDON - New London Spiritualist Church
2 Moore Court, 06320; (860) 440-3150; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m., Thurs. All Message Service 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Rev. Lynn Gaffin, 70 Dell Ave., #B5, 06320; Secy., Constance A. White, 51 Riverview Ave., 06320; email: cwa@pocketmail.com.

NEWINGTON - The Church of The Infinite Spirit
Masonic Temple, 80 Walsh Ave., 06111; Sun. Serv. 10:30 – 12:00 on Sept. 9 & 23, Oct. 14 & 28, Nov. 11 & 25, Dec. 2, 16 & 30; Year 2002, Jan. 13 & 27, Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10, 24 & 31, Apr. 14 & 28, May 12 & 26, June 9 & 23; Closed July & August; Pastor, Allen Noddin, 174 Daley St., Forestville, 06010, (860) 582-7385; Licentiate Minister, Joyce Barlow, 183 Loomis Drive, Unit 101, West Hartford, 06107, (860) 561-1489; Pres., Mary Ann Noddin, 174 Daley St., Forestville, 06010, (860) 582-7385; Secy., Joan Wooster, 101 Leffingwell Ave., Waterbury, 06710, (203) 574-2017.

NIANTIC - Ladies Aid Society Camp at Pine Grove
June 16 - Sept. 11. Services, Sundays at 2:30, Tue., Thur., Sat. 7:30. For a program listing all Summer activities write to: Acting Secy. Susan Ferency, 12 Butlertown Rd., Waterford, 06385.

NORWICH - National Spiritualist Church of Norwich, Inc.
29 Park St. (off Main St.), 06360, (860) 886-8522; Secy., Sandra Morse.

OLD GREENWICH - Albertson Memorial Church Of Spiritualism
293 Sound Beach Ave., 06870; (203) 637-4615; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m., all welcome; Pastor, Rev. Melvin O. Smith.

WILLIMANTIC - The First Spiritualist Church of Willimantic
268 High St., 06226, (860) 423-5774; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. Sept. thru May; service twice a month June, July, August. For more information, please call the church; Healing Service Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Sept. thru May; in Summer a Healing Service is held on the Thursday after there has been a Sunday Service; Pastor, Joyce Orcutt, 133 Wales Rd., Andover, 06232, (860) 742-7846; Licentiate Minister, Clinton Cady, P.O. Box 67, 06226; Pres. & Secy., Renee Provost, P.O. Box 370190, W. Hartford, 06137.

• DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA •

WASHINGTON - The Church of Two Worlds
3038 "Q" St., N.W., 20007-3080, Phone (202) 333-5114; Web: TwoWorlds.Org; email: Info@TwoWorlds.Org; Sun., Healing 2:00 p.m., Serv. 2:30 p.m.; 3rd Wed.: Healing 7;30 p.m., Message Serv. 8:00 p.m.; Fri.: Unfoldment Class 7:30 p.m.; Pres., John E. Rothamel, Jr., LM, NST; Secy., Robyn A. K. Rothamel (410) 590-9187.

• FLORIDA •

ORLANDO - Spiritualist Church of Awareness, NSAC
3210 N. Chickasaw Trail (P.O. Box 571043, 32857-1043), (407) 678-3688 Please leave message; Sun. Adult Lyceum 10:00 a.m., Sun. Serv. 10:30; Wed. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Healing, Lecture, Messages at all services; Co-Pastor and Pres., Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch, NST, 335 Piney Ridge Rd., Casselberry, 32707-3805, (407) 834-5378; Co-Pastor and Treas., Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, NST, (407) 826-0807; Secy., Stacy K. Davis, 10509 Jepson St., 32825-6606, (407) 658-7624.

• ILLINOIS •

ILLINOIS STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Secy., Rik Kristinat, 920 N. Franklin St., Ste. 205, Chicago, 60610.

BURNHAM - Puritan Spiritualist Church, NSAC
13906 Greenbay Ave., 60633-1614; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Pastor, Anna Gross, 10930 Ave. "M", Chicago, 60617-6929; Secy., Rozanne Langreder, 3344 E. 186th St., Lansing, 60438, (708) 418-5157.

CHERRY VALLEY - Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp, Inc.
8002 Service Rd., 61016, (815) 332-5359; Camp Season: June thru Sept., Nov. thru May; Serv.: First Sun. of each month at 1:00 p.m.; Pres., Arsenia Williams; Secy., Richard Taylor.

CHERRY VALLEY - Christabelle Spiritualist Church
8002 Service Rd., 61016; Healing Serv. each Sun. 10:30 a.m. followed by Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. at Cherry Valley Spiritualist Church. Serv. every Sun., Mid-October thru May; Pres. Kenneth Boesen, (815) 626-5716; Secy., Martha Witt, 1204 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville, 60560-1141, (630) 553-2517.

CHICAGO - The Church of The Spirit
2651 N. Central Park Ave., 60647-1101, (773) 489-5422; Chicago's Oldest Spiritualist Church; Sunday Family Worship - Healing 10:00 a.m., Worship Serv., 10:30 a.m.; Worship/Message Serv., Wed. 7:00 p.m., Development Class 8:00 p.m.; Pastor, Ms. Marrice Coverson; Secy., Dr. Alan Tenczar.

CHICAGO - Spiritualist Church of Truth
6343 West Cuyler (1/2 block north of Irving Pk.) 60634; Serv. 2:45 p.m., Healing, Lecture, Messages every Sunday; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Florence Heyward; Secy., Judith Galar, 4050 N. Oriole Ave., Norridge, 60706-1117, (708) 452-8754.

CHICAGO - Tucker Smith Washington Spiritualist Temple
6146 S. Ashland Ave., 60636, (312) 436-0366.

LE ROY - J. T. & E. J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church
102 S. Pearl St., 61752-0174, (309) 962-9076 (leave message); Lyceum 1:00 p.m., Healing/Meditation 2:00 p.m., Devotional/messages 2:30 every Sunday; Pres., Chuck Johnson, (309) 888-9393.

• INDIANA •

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE, NSAC
Secy., Hertha Comstock, 1221 E. California Rd. #217, Fort Wayne, 46825-6106, (260) 373-2843; Pres., Rev. Jessie James, (219) 885-0091.

GARY - First Spiritualist Church, Inc., NSAC
2430 W. 11th Ave.; Serv. Sun. 3:00 p.m., Wed. 8:00 p.m.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Jesse James, Jr., 1301 Pennsylvania St., 46407; Secy., Verillia Shaffer, P.O. Box 4278, 46404; Unfoldment Classes Sat. 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Lyceum Sun. 3:00 p.m.; Jacqueline Crooms, 853 Grant St., 46403.

INDIANAPOLIS - New Dawn Spirit of Light Church, Inc., NSAC
3637 W. 10th St., 46222-3376; Sun. Serv: 11:00 a.m. Healing - 11:30 a.m. Worship and Message Serv. - Kids Time 11:00-11:30 a.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m. Development class; Every 5th Sunday All Message Service, covered dish dinner; Secy., Marilyn Smith, (317) 291-9550; Pres. & Lic. Minister, Mildred Schlagel, (317) 291-0799.

MICHIGAN CITY - Spiritual Science Church, NSAC, Inc.
314 W. Coolspring Ave., 46360, (219) 874-6002; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Ruth Novak, (219) 872-6621; Asst. Pastor, R. Bianchi, L.M.; All corresp. to Rev. Ruth Novak, 7008 W. U.S. 20W #7, 46360.

• IOWA •

CLINTON - First Spiritualist Church
5416 - 6th Ave. So., P.O. Box 123, 52732-0123, (319) 243-3233.

CLINTON - Mississippi Valley Spiritualist Assoc. Camp
P.O. Box 75, 52733-0075; 2002 Camp Season, 7-6-02 thru 8-18-02; Rev. Bonnie Horstman, Secy., NST, (563) 242-8460.

CLINTON - Sunflower Spiritualist Church
10 Mt. Pleasant Park; Mail to: P.O. Box 6, 52733-0006; Sun. Serv. at 10:00 a.m.; Co-Pastors, Rev. Harvey and Rev. Bonnie Horstman, NST; Secy., Rev. Bonnie Horstman.

DAVENPORT - Spiritualist Harmony Church
1429 W. Seventh St., 52802-1212, (319) 324-9659; Sun. Healing Serv. 1:30 p.m.; Worship & Message Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Lyceum Classes available; (Closed during July and August.); Pastor, Rev. William E. Buchholz, 806 E. 13th St., 52803-4240, (319) 326-3201; Secy., Pat Peck.

• MAINE •

MAINE STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Pres., Graham Connolly, 25 Fessenden St., Portland, 04103, (207) 879-0424; Secy., Betty Simpson, 715 Newburgh Rd., Hermon, 04401, (207) 848-2273; Treas., Jeanne Bower, 159 Northport Ave., Belfast, 04915, (207) 338-1355.

AUGUSTA - Augusta Spiritualist Church
P.O. Box 2492, 04338; Pastor, Earl L. Wallace; Secy., Patricia A. Wallace, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345, (207) 582-6745; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Thurs. Awareness Class 7:00 p.m.

BANGOR - The Harrison D. Barrett Memorial Church, NSAC
114-118 Harlow St., (under Tesoro Restaurant); Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Secy., Betty Simpson, 715 Newburgh Rd., Hermon, 04401, (207) 848-2273, e-mail address is simpsonb@hermon.net. Church services may be canceled for the summer months or inclement weather. Please call the secy. for more information.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Camp
Mail address: R1, Box 91, Canton, 04221; Open July and August - Service, Seminars and Classes; Secy. Virginia Norris, LM, CH; Pastor, Rev. Rupert Sigurdsson, NST. For information, Phone and Fax (207) 597-2600; E-Mail: rupert@megalink.net.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Center
Mail address: R1, Box 91, Canton, 04221; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., followed by a potluck lunch; Classes Wed. 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Secy., Virginia Norris, LM, CH; Pastor, Rev. Rupert Sigurdsson, NST; For information, phone (207) 597-2600, E-Mail - rupert@megalink.net.

MADISON - Madison Spiritualist Camp
Located at Lakewood Village, Rt. 201, six miles north of Skowhegan, ME. We meet July 10th through August 11. Schedule to be announced. For information, contact President John Davidson, 74 Central Ave., Waterville, 04901, phone (207) 877-2204; e-mail jdavidson@panax.com. There are no accommodations for the general public for rooms, camping, or meals. There are plenty of locations in the surrounding area.

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritual Camp Assoc.
Shore Road, Northport on Penobscot Bay; Camp session is from mid-June through the Sunday after Labor Day. A different featured medium each week. Church services at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tues., Thurs. and Fri.; Sun. Pot Luck 5:00 p.m.; class Mon. at 7:30 p.m.; Message Circles Wed and Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Workshops/seminars Saturday. Accommodations with kitchen privileges available; for a program or information, call (207) 338-3029 (Apr.-Oct.) then (207) 338-4690, or P.O. Box 311, Lincolnville, 04849-0031; Pres., Pam Strickland, P.O. Box 93, Owl's Head, 04854, (207) 594-9038, e-mail: pstone48@aol.com; Secy., Patricia Wallace, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345, e-mail: PMICH619@aol.com.

NORTHPORT - Temple Heights Spiritualist Church
Shore Road, Northport; Services 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Temple Heights Spiritual Camp from May to October and at Excelsior Lodge on the Shore Road, Saturday Cove, Northport from Nov. to April; (207) 338-3029; Pres, Jean E. Bower, 159 Northport Ave., Belfast, 04915, (207) 338-1355; Secy., Carol A. Fricke.

PORTLAND AREA - Portland Spiritualist Church
719 Main St., (Unitarian Universalist Church), Westbrook; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6551 PTS, 04102; Sun. Serv. 6:30 p.m.; Fri. Class 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Michael Carter, (207) 797-2039.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

MEDFORD - Medford Spiritualist Church, NSAC, Chapel of Peace
Sunday Services held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 147 High St.; Services at 5:00 p.m., Healing Lecture and Messages; Summer Services run from June to end of August: Held on Tues. Evenings at 7:30 p.m.; For Info. call Acting Pastor/Treas., Sandra Millen, 103 Columbus Ave., Salem, 01970, (978) 744-0546.

ONSET - On-I-Set Wigwam Co-Workers Spiritualist Camp
Season opens June 9th till Labor Day weekend; Camp phone (860) 439-1395; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Wed. Open Class 6 p.m. & Service 7:30 p.m.; Mediums Day's - Message Circles - Workshops/Seminars scheduled; Secy., Rev. Susan Ferency, 12 Butlertown Rd., Waterford, CT 06320, (860) 439-1395. Prior to season call or write for a full program.

SALEM - First Spiritualist Church of Salem
34 Warren St., 01970; Sun. Early Serv. 5:30-6:00 p.m.; Lunch break 6:00-6:30 p.m., Healing & Evening Serv. 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Telephone for weather cancellations, (978) 745-2098; Church season is Sun. after Labor Day - June; Pres., Bradley Gosselin, 147 Sylvan St., Danvers, 01923 - (978) 774-1571, e-mail: BGoss92409@aol.com; Secy., Nancy L. Karolides, 144 Boston St., Middleton, 01949, (978) 774-4048.

REHOBOTH - First Spiritualist Church of Brockton, Inc., NSAC
Services held at Agawam Grange Hall, Junction of Routes 44 & 118, (12 min. from Providence, RI); All mail: Linda Kent, Secy., P.O. Box 206, Swansea, 02777-0206; Healing—Devotional Service—Spirit Messages; Services Sun. 10:30 a.m.; Unfoldment Classes Sept. through May; Mediums', Special Classes, and Seminars. Please consult the Web at www.fscbrockton.homestead.com; e-mail: lynnkent@spiritmedium.com, or Toll Free: 877-568-7315.

SPRINGFIELD - The First Spiritualist Church of Springfield, Inc.
33-37 Bliss St., 01105, (413) 732-1234; Worship Serv., 2nd Sun. after Labor Day until last Sun. in June at 10:30 a.m.; Development classes Wed. at 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. John F. Sullivan, P.O. Box 392, Worthington, 01098 - (413) 238-4495, e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com; Pres., Tom Ruelke; e-mail: bigrock@adam.cheshire.net; Church web-site can be found at www.masslive.com at the community link.

• MICHIGAN •

MICHIGAN STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOC. OF CHURCHES
Pres., Marcia Hyatt, 4161 Buckingham, Detroit, 48224-3538; Secy., Marjorie Elaine Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, South Branch, 48761-0089, (989) 257-4133.

CHARLEVOIX - The Golden Rule Spiritualist Church
07444 Old US 31 North, 49720-9422, (231) 347-9601 or (231) 347-7916; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m., April thru June, and Sept. thru Nov. - we may have services in the colder months, but please call ahead to confirm. (No "church" services during July and August because our "camp" operates in the same location.) Located halfway between Petroskey and Charlevoix. Turn on Murray Road and immediately turn right on Old 31 N - go 8 tenths of a mile on the left; Pastor, Rev. Cosie Allen, NST; Website: www.churchseek.net/church/goldenrule.

CHARLEVOIX - Northern Lake Michigan Spiritualist Camp
Please see Golden Rule Spiritualist Church listing for contact information, driving directions, and website address: Open July and August for Sunday

services at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday services at 7:30 p.m.; Potluck follows Sunday service and bonfire with snacks follows Wednesday service; Classes, circles and readings/private consultations available. Pastor, Rev. Cosie Allen, NST.

DETROIT - First Spiritualist Temple of Detroit
4161 Buckingham, 48224-3538.

LESLIE - Flower Memorial Spiritualist Church
West Bellevue at High St.; Sun. Lyceum 11:00 a.m., Church Serv. 10:45 a.m.; Pres., Dennis Goddard; Secy., Coleen Goddard, 6818 Kingdon, Halt, 48842-2108, (517) 694-8107.

OXFORD - Spirit of Harmony Chapel, NSAC
340 North Lapeer Rd., 48371; (810) 814-9172.

ROYAL OAK - First Spiritual Temple
3224 Greenfield Rd. (1 1/2 blocks So. of 13 Mile), 48073-6534; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Marguerite Gutt, NST, (248) 548-2240.

SOUTH BRANCH - Chain Lake Spiritualist Camp Association
8000 W. Chain Lake Rd., 48761-0089; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m., June 4, 2002 through Sept. 1, 2002; Annual Retreat July 7-12, 2002; Lyceum Dir., Dawn Hyatt; Pres., Donald Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, 48761-0089; Secy., M. Elaine Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, 48761-0089, (989) 257-4133.

• MINNESOTA •

MINNEAPOLIS - Second Spiritualist Church
2230 Lyndale Ave. N.; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Secy's., Chrissy & Melanie; Pres., Beth, P.O. Box 6115, 55406, (612) 529-0781.

MINNEAPOLIS - Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church
Services at Lake Harriet Comm. Church at 4401 Upton Ave. S., 55410.

ROCHESTER - Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church
Services Mon., 7:00 p.m., 21st Century Building, 2130 S. Broadway, Ste. 170; Pastors, Rev. Joyce E. Young, NST, and Rev. John E. Young, NST; Secy., (507) 775-6358; Mailing address, P.O. Box 7312, 55903.

ST. PAUL - Spiritual Science Church
411 Main St., 55102; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; Pres., Joan LeDuc, 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116, (612) 255-4609 (church) or (612) 699-4858 (home); Secy., Maureen Florés, c/o 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116-1255.

• MISSOURI •

ST. LOUIS - Fifth Spiritualist Church
6026 S. Kingshighway Blvd., 63109-3558; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing, Meditation & All Message Service, 1st Wed. of the month at 7:00 p.m.; Student Minister/Pastor, Toye E. Stinson, 566 Old Highway 100, Villa Ridge, 63089, (636) 451-2838; Secy., Lisbeth Tintera, 6025 S. Kings Highway Blvd., 63109-3558, Home Phone (314) 845-3492.

• NEBRASKA •

OMAHA - Spiritual Science & Philosophy Church, NSAC
321 Hascall St., 68108-2121; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Sunday Philosophy Class Noon when scheduled; Pastor & Secy., Alace Jayne Fanslau, 321 Hascall St., 68108-2121, (402) 345-0101.

• NEVADA •

LAS VEGAS - Spiritualist Desert Church, NSAC
953 E. Sahara Ave., Commercial Arts Bldg. #D-12, 89104; Mailing address: Box 82134, 89180-2134; Tel. or Fax (702) 257-7506; Sunday Serv. 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.; Healing & Meditation Serv. Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Classes available; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Stewart, NST; Secy., Marcia Forkas.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM - The Church of Spiritual Life, Inc.
Masonic Hall, 109 Main St., Rt. 97; Mailing address: P.O. Box 414, 03079; Year Round Services; Regular Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wed. classes p.m.; Call Pastor, Rev. Kenneth Wingood, (978) 454-4163; Secy., Mary Lou Baumhoff, (603) 898-8854; http://www.homestead.com/NHSpiritualist.

• NEW JERSEY •

MERCHANTVILLE - Stow Memorial Foundation
Robert Egby, P.O. Box 339, Westville, 08093.

WESTVILLE - Church of Eternal Life
243 W. Olive & Folsom Sts., 08093; Sun. Healing Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Worship & Message Service 11:30 a.m.; Telephone for weather cancellations (856) 456-2196; Pastor, Lillian Joyce, 400 McCort St., RR #4, Berlin, 08009, (856) 767-1651, e-mail lil@netzero.net; Pres., Edith Pedrick, 123 E. Oakland Ave., Oaklyn, 08107, (856) 854-4317; Secy., Kathleen M. Pollack, 1762 Crown Pt. Rd. #537-A, Thorofare, 08086, (856) 848-7053.

• NEW YORK •

ALBANY - Capital District Spiritualist Center
c/o Robinson, 106 Lorraine Ave., Schenectady, 12304.

CLIFTON PARK - Spiritualist Open Center
Pastor, Rev. Hillary Kramer, NST, 15 Huntwood Dr., 12065, (518) 371-8975.

EAST AURORA - First Spiritualist Temple
29 Temple Pl., 14052, (716) 652-5018; Sun. Healing Service 10:30 a.m.; Lecture and Message Service 11:00 a.m.; Social Hour 12:15 p.m.; Dinner Day 3rd Sun. of month followed by Circles or All Message Service; Secy., Donna Azzarelli, (716) 691-3406.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Assembly
5 Melrose Park, 14752, (716) 595-8721, Fax (716) 595-2442; Office Hours, Sept.-June, M-F, 10 a.m.-2 p.m; June-Aug, M-F, 9 a.m.-4p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-12 Noon, closed Sunday; Camp Season: Last Friday in June to day before Labor Day; contact Lillian F. Farnham, Secretary.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Spiritualist Church
Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing & Message Serv. each Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Betty C. Schultz, (716) 595-3304; Secy., Sueanna Vollmar.

LONG ISLAND - A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, Inc., NSAC
Healing & Worship Service, Sun. 11:00 a.m. at the Smithtown Masonic Temple, 34 River Road, Smithtown, NY; Pastor, Rev. Virginia Berg, (631) 588-3150; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Nancy Lloyd, (631) 736-1058; Mailing address: 1280 Claas Ave., Holbrook, 11741-3902.

LONG ISLAND - Temple of Metaphysical Science, NSAC
15 Oak St., Patchogue, 11772; Sun. Serv.: Healing and Worship 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Catherine Snell, NST; Asst. Pastor, Rev. Janet Travis, NST; Mailing address, Mr. Edward Freidlein, Corresponding Secy., P.O. Box 1150, West Babylon, 11704, e-mail: TMS@hoflink.com; http://www.TMS-Li.org.

ROCHESTER - Plymouth Spiritualist Church
Meets at Days Inn, 384 East Ave., Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pres., Joanne Antinore; Pastor, Robin Higgins, (716) 227-6291; Mailing address: 201 Springfield Ave., 14609.

• OHIO •

OHIO STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 5, Ashley, 43003.

ASHLEY - Ashley Spiritualist Camp Association
Wooley Park Drive, P.O. Box 277, 43003; Secy., Nikki DeWitt, (740) 747-3825, e-mail: www.members.Tripod.com/AshleyCamp.

ASHTABULA - First Spiritualist Church
4230 Main Ave.; Sun Serv., 2:00 p.m., Healing & Clairvoyance; **TELEPHONE FOR WEATHER CANCELLATIONS** (440) 293-7056; Pres., Charles J. Benes, 8513 Creek Rd., Williamsfield, 44093, Secy.-Treas., Dorothy A. Benes; Services are held starting with the 2nd Sunday in September and continue through the last Sunday in May. The Church Book Shop is open every Sunday. Church is not in session during June, July, and August.

COLUMBUS - First Spiritualist Church of Linden
1751 Aberdeen Ave., 43211, (614) 263-1631; Pastor, Natalie Smith Blakeslee; website: http:www.loveandlight.com; e-mail: NATALIE@LOVEANDLIGHT.COM; e-mail or call for church program and list of classes and development circles.

COLUMBUS - Spiritualist Church of Spirit Revelation
1081 E. Weber Rd., 43211.

DAYTON - Spiritual Life Center, NSAC
611 Watervliet Ave., 45420, (937) 878-1165.

MARION - Memorial Spiritualist Church
667 Henry St., 43302-6137; (614) 387-8887.

• OKLAHOMA •

OKLAHOMA CITY - Central Spiritualist Church
2348 N.W. 36th St., Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Lyceum Sun. 1:00 p.m.; Pastor, Juanita Oyer; Pres., Charlotte Griffin, 1306 S.W. 38; Secy., Juanita R. Oyer, 6216 S.E. 10th St., 73110, (405) 732-7975.

• PENNSYLVANIA •

ALLENTOWN - Getter Memorial Church, NSAC
1123 Oak, 18102; e-mail: getter@entermail.net; Lyceum 9:30 a.m. with Sun. Service to follow at 10:00 a.m. including healing and message work; Pastor, Rev. Ludwig Zernicek, NST; e-mail: rev_lance@entermail.net, phone (610) 770-7560; Pres., Sharon George-Politz, C.M., (610) 434-3454; Secy., Susan Zernicek, e-mail: getter_sec@entermail.net. or phone (610) 770-7560.

McKEESPORT - First Spiritualist Church
809 Locust St., 15132, (412) 672-1272; Sun. Serv. 1:00 p.m., Healing, Lecture and Messages; Pres., Carol Perella, P.O. Box 1981, Pittsburgh, 15230-1981, (412) 461-7002; Vice Pres., Jim Rocky, (412) 381-7584, Ella Bryner, (412) 673-7880, Secy. Colleen Bambling, 125 Tuscola St., Pittsburgh, 15211, (412) 431-1838.

PHILADELPHIA - Second Spiritualist Church
423 S. Broad St., 19147, (215) 735-9630; Lyceum Sun. 4:30 p.m.; Healing and Worship Service 5:30 p.m.; Wed. all message, 7:45 p.m.; Pastor, John E. Faison, Sr.; Co-Pastor, Betty Hutt; Secy., Gladys M. Faison, 2118 N. Natrona St., 19121, (215) 232-9219.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN - Angels of Light Spiritualist Church
9704 1/2 Chukar Circle, chapel walkway to the right. Devotional, healing & message service followed by adult lyceum 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2PM; Rev. Dr. Jean Hamner, Pastor, P.O. Box 4001, Austin, TX 78765-4001; (512) 836-8829.

AUSTIN - First Spiritualist Church
4200 Ave. "D", 78751, (512) 458-3987; Devotional, healing & message service every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.; Pres., Tom Denney; Corr. Secy., Beth P. Fitzherbert.

CAMERON - First Spiritualist Church
802 S. College Ave., P.O. Box 1152, 76520; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Lunch 12:00; Second Service 1:00 p.m.; Third Sun. of each month; Pastors, Mrs. Frances Brown, Licentiate & Medium, 2723 S. Congress, Apt. #2311, Austin 78704, (512) 447-2188, and Rev. Evelyn Muse, NST, 1104 Susan Dr., Edinburg, 78539, (512) 383-2510; Secy.-Treas., Verna Hentz, 406 E. 7th St., (254) 697-3912.

DALLAS - Second Spiritualist Church, NSAC
13610 Midway Rd., Suite 212; Devotional, Healing and Message Serv., 2nd and fourth Sundays each month at 2:00 p.m.; Class/Circle following service at 4:00 p.m.; Pres., Ann Council, (972) 218-7220; Secy./Student Pastor, Robert Croteau, (972) 675-9080; Mail: 1318 Guildford St., Garland, 75040; e-mail: SSC@SSCNSAC.ORG; http://SSCNSAC.org.

HOUSTON - First Church Of Divine Science, NSAC
2115 Turner Dr., 77093; Mailing Addr.: P.O. Box 11088, 77293-1088; Pres., Rev. Jovita Garcia-Jessup; Rev. Marie W. Smith; Secy., Norma L. Freshour, 2280 Des Jardines, 77023-5118; Sun. Serv. 2:30 p.m.; Wed. open healing and meditation 7:30 p.m.; Messages from Spirit 8:00 p.m.; Fri. Spiritual Development 7:30 p.m., (713) 695-2550; e-mail: ITZNOWOO@aol.com.

HOUSTON - Church Of Divine Spirit
8010 Wier, #1, 77093-6138.

SAN ANTONIO - Louise Scholtz Memorial Chapel, NSAC
1627 Pan Am Express Way No.; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Pastor, Garrett H. Scholtz; Treas., Elizabeth Dolyak, 19211 Sandyglen, 78240, (210) 641-6589.

TAYLOR - First Church of Psychic Science, NSAC
1300 W. 4th & Ferguson, P.O. Box 1113, 76574; (512) 251-5425.

• VIRGINIA •

FALLS CHURCH - Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, NSAC
222 No. Washington St., 22046 (at the Woman's Club), (703) 645-8060; Healing Service each Sunday 10:00 a.m., followed by Worship Service at 10:30 a.m., September through June; Pastor, Rev. B. Anne Gehman; Pres., Wayne Knoll; Secy., Rita O'Connor, 8334 Idylwood Rd., Vienna, 22182, (703) 204-2821; e-mail: finder@cais.com.

NORFOLK - The Memorial Spiritualist Church, NSAC
307 W. 37th St., 23508, (757) 622-5070; Service held on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Healing available at 7:00 p.m. Sun. and Wed.; Pres., Fred H. Brown; Secy., Rev. Lelia E. Cutler, NST; Lyceum Director, Beth Yates.

• WASHINGTON •

DES MOINES - Church of Divine Grace, NSAC (www.DivineGrace.org)
Services held on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. at Des Moines Masonic Temple, 2208 S. 223rd St.; All Correspondence to: Allers, 1113 S.E. 323 St., Auburn, 98092, (206) 824-7454; e-mail: Info@divinegrace.org.; Pres., Bernie Allers; Secy., Lezlie Deuchress.

MILTON - Camp Edgewood, NSAC Assoc.
1228 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354; Tel. (253) 927-2050, Fax (253) 927-7531; Pres., Anne Larson, (253) 474-8052; Secy., Karen Wennerlind.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Lillian Johanson; Pres., David Chapman, Sr.; Secy, Denice Chapman, P.O. Box 646, Milton, 98354.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Unity, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Church Serv. Sundays, 2:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. LaVerne Pemberton, (206) 722-2348; Pres., Colleen Mohler, 1210 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354, (253) 927-2365; Secy., Judi Johnson, (253) 927-7445.

• WEST VIRGINIA •

WHEELING - First Spiritualist Association of Wheeling WV.
(Way Memorial Temple) N. Broadway & Maryland Sts., (304) 233-5065; Sun. Lyceum at 9:30 a.m.; Healing and Worship Serv. 10:45 a.m.; Wed. Healing 6:30 p.m., Message Serv. 7:00 p.m.; Lyceum Conductor Beverly Goff, Asst. Conductor Melvina Taylor; Pastor, Raymond Jones, 104 N. Broadway St., 26003, (304) 232-5795; e-mail: rayjones@prodigy.net; Web-site: www.waymemorial.org/; Open Circle Tues.. 7:30; Pastor, Ray Jones; Temple open Sept. thru June.

• WISCONSIN •

WEST ALLIS - First Spiritualist Church of West Allis
6228 W. Washington St., 53214; Sun. Healing & Worship Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Pamla Ashlay, (414) 545-7650; Pres., Manila Kochanski, W1371 Hwy. O, Oconomowoc, 53066, (920) 474-7332.

WONEWOC - West Wisconsin Spiritualist Camp Association
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• CANADA •

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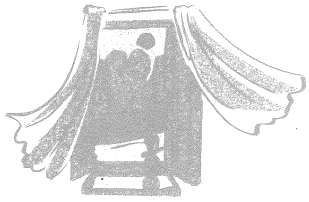
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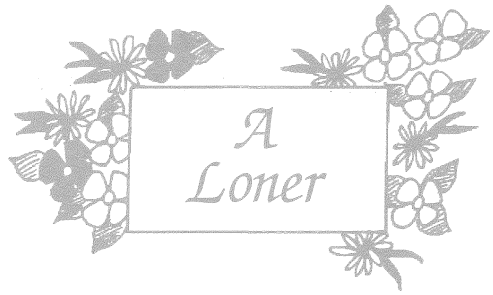
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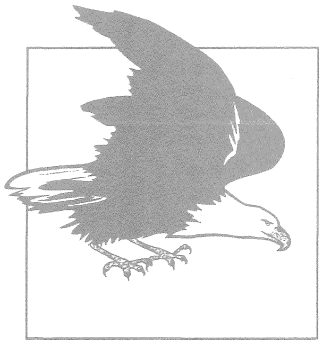
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I tear down the walls of opinion
That separate my brother from me.
I set him free
From the projection of myself
So I may see him as he is.
I will not measure him
With the yardstick of yesterday –
For perhaps in the night
An angel of light
Revealed to him what he is
And today he may be that.



By Ray Kopman

Just a whisp of breeze
a gem stone
a branch
just a bit of moonlight
a meadow flower
a fallen feather
just a whisp of breeze
that's me



A Bold Eagle

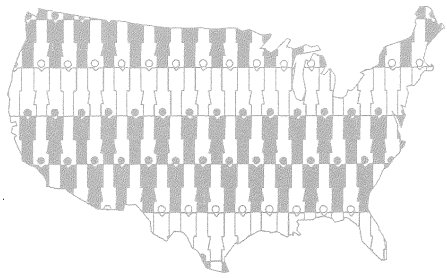
By Ray Kopman

Subtle shades of action,
gentle waves of grace
Flowing from eternity
to my humble space.
Memories of moments,
of love hover
close to me
Memories of action,
a BOLD EAGLE
set free.

I hear the call of spirit
ringing in my soul.
I hear, feel the hand of God
as it takes control.
TIME to bathe in God's
eternal tide
in order to be free,
I must reach out and
share God's gifts
with humanity.

In God We Trust

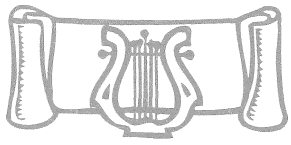
Our National motto and our pledge.



Mahatma Gandhi stated: "When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love has always won. There have been tyrants and murderers and for a time they seem invincible but in the end, they always fall—think of it, ALWAYS."

TNS has received many articles concerning the events that changed our world on September 11, 2001, and this is the first month we are able to include them. We could fill a magazine with these thoughts, but feel a few excerpts from the many submissions will convey the views of thinking people.

We each might remember that before change can come about, there is often a tearing down of the old to make way for the new. Progression requires room and light to thrive. As our new world and new year unfolds, let us develop and maintain an attitude of Trust in God's Process, for we know there is a Divine Plan.



Priscilla Clough, Massachusetts, submitted:

January is the month of new hope, new visions, and aspirations. With every incoming year, the individual stands on a fresh rung of the ladder of achievement. Will we advance, or will we remain as we are? Will we totter from a trembling foothold?

In Roman mythology, the God Janus, possessed two heads facing in opposite directions, the god of gates and of new beginnings. His temple, open in time of war, was closed in peaceful times. Do you think the people of today are not a little bit like Janus, greeting the New Year with double thoughts of peace and war. With one face they vow peace and goodwill and with the other face they secretly cling to fear and distrust thoughts.

There are those who close their minds to new thoughts and would live within the four walls of the temple of the mind, never changing. Like the priests of Janus, they are open to suggestion in times of conflict, but indifferent to progress in times of peace.

Every door in the temple of Janus looked two ways, so also are there two ways open to us in every enterprise. Shall we choose the one-minded, the life of least resistance, the views of sameness, or shall we forge ahead? Or shall we choose to know that God has a purpose in all things and that change brings growth...



Submitted by
the **Rev. John E. Young**, NST, Minnesota:

"Prayers For Peace"

James Twyman has played peace concerts and planted Peace Poles all over the world. He is collecting one million Peace Prayers to be published and delivered to world leaders. You all have an opportunity to take part in this important work toward bringing peace to our world. He is asking everyone to e-mail their one line prayers on their web site at peaceprayers.com. The completed work will be a book of about 7000 pages.

Complete information on James Twyman and his work, books and music can be found on the internet at http:11www.emissaryoflight.com/james-twyman.htm. Your prayer entered here will go all over the world.



Part of an article by
the **Rev. Ruth Novak**, Illinois:

As I drove to church this morning on I-94, the electronic traffic information sign, that for months has read "construction ahead, expect long delays," now read

(Continued on next page.)

"UNITED WE STAND." Cranes down the road had American Flags waving in the breeze on their extended towers. It was 200 years ago that Francis Scott Key penned the words to *The Star Spangled Banner*. Those words and that banner are so meaningful to us right now...

It is most important that we, as a nation, continually, collectively and beautifully turn to God through prayer. In times past we have felt so strong and powerful that we lost track of our vulnerability. Our nation was founded upon prayer and cannot exist as a great nation without prayer. In God we trust, and only God can provide to us that guidance that we need during times of trials so that we may continue to move forward, to meet the challenges, and to preserve this great nation as a whole and free country...

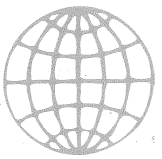
Let us, as Spiritualists and as Americans, focus our intentions on the powerful energy force of Infinite Intelligence, sending out this loving energy we receive from the Source around the world for compassion, humility, clarity, honor and peace. Let us create in our thoughts and prayers an energy of light to touch the hearts of all humanity, to illumine their minds with Spiritual Truth, with Understanding of God's Law. Instill within each soul a longing and a hunger for love, peace, healing, and light, this is our prayer. We know with God there can be a resolution of peace for the whole world. There is only One Source, the same Spiritual Energy, but many different paths leading to God. Let all paths be inspired and filled with spiritual light.



An excerpt from an article by
Laura Lee Perkins, Maine.

...As Spiritualists, we have a strong connection to the spirituality (of all others). We believe that connection with deceased loved ones is as ongoing as life itself. The journey that death brings is as filled with mystery as the journey of life is at birth. It is in exploring the unknown Mystery through Spiritualism that we come into a deeper meaning of life.

Walking into a cemetery is much like walking *forward into our past.* The upright and fallen crosses are much like peoples' lives. Dignity and personal integrity are upright experiences, while deception and confusion are fallen times. As we enter into the dark of winter, a time of deeper contemplation and eventual knowing, we can choose to plan a path to our own burial ground. We can choose to live in the light of the sun or in the darkness of the sun's shadows.



A paragraph from a letter by the
Rev. Connie Smith, California.

Yes, the dark clouds are covering our planet. All we can do is to pray, with faith, knowing and trusting God. I've learned much about prayer. There is a difference when we pray with our lips alone or when we feel our prayers from the **depth of our heart.** (The recent events in America have helped us to pray from the heart. Let us remember to pray in this manner all of our lives.)



A poem submitted by
Loll Washburn, California.

Our September 11

When the terrorists struck our sight unseen
We, Americans were stunned as we bring;
Courage and love from this heartache and grief
Because we are strong in our strength and belief;
To all of those that left quickly we say,
You need to know we stand strong as we pray;
For your awakening, sad as it seems
There is a reality of Light that beams.
We all have been stung in disbelief
But we, as Spiritualists know there's relief;
God is supreme in all His wisdom
Knowing indeed His power is given.
We need to realize this pain and strife
Is part of being in our journey of life.
Please then learn, as you all must do
This Light internal is part of you;
Believing and guided for whatever seems
Spirit gives all, their thoughts and their dreams.

God Bless America!

U – United
S – Spiritualist
A – Associations

(Continued on next page.)

U – Don't Underestimate our Unity
S – Our Soul Symbol is Strength
A – We are Aware, Astute and Animate

U – Unique
S – Strong
A – Amazing



Marilyn Awtry Smith, from Florida,
sent prayers from many religions.
Here are a few.

Baha'i Prayer for Peace

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity. Be fair in judgement, and guarded in thy speech. Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger. Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring. Be a breath of life to the body of humankind, a dew to the soil of the human heart, and a fruit upon the tree of humility.

Muslim Prayer for Peace

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful. Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has created us and made us into tribes and nations That we may know each other, not that we may despise each other. If the enemy incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust God, for the Lord is the one that heareth and knoweth all things. And the servants of God, Most gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them, we say "Peace."

Sikh Prayer for Peace

God adjudges us according to our deeds, not the coat that we wear: that Truth is above everything, but higher still is truthful living. Know that we attaineth God when we loveth, and only victory endures in consequences of which no one is defeated.



An excerpt of an article
published in the *Arizona Republic*,
written by
The Rev. Richard Rogers.

The soul of our nation and its people have many questions since the horrendous events occurred in September of 2001, but the answers are not simple or easy... We have been given the very spirit of God and we are expected to use it for good. We have been given the wisdom of God that we may discern what is for good and what will cause us pain and suffering. We have been given free will. Because we have free will, God allows us to create or destroy. The choice and the responsibility are ours.

If we have the power to create and destroy, the question then becomes why have we not aimed higher? Why have we not created a world that honors all? Why have we not created a world where there is enough food for all or where everyone has the opportunity for education? Why are we spending so much energy on creating ways to destroy each other?

We are called now to celebrate our nation and to mourn our loss. We are called to seek justice without vengeance. We are called to look again at our vision for our world. The Psalmist writes, "People without a vision soon perish." It is time for a greater vision for our world. We need a vision that sees more than how to defend ourselves. We need a vision that inspires us and calls us to be willing to work together for a common good.

We need not wait for our leadership to give us this vision for it is written in our souls. We must be inspired to use our power for something greater than we have known before. We must be the ones willing to be bold. As "we the people" hold a new vision of what could be, the leaders will surely follow.

What is the greatest vision you have for your world? Would you be willing to spend five minutes a day holding your vision of the world in prayer?

It is time for prayer—no longer for God to save us...but rather for God to guide, inspire and strengthen us to do the work that is before us. It is time to entertain new ideas that will lead to a new course of action and a new reality. It is time to believe in ourselves and in each other. It is time to envision ways for the world to live together. May the events of the last month be enough to awaken us from our sleep and invite us into the world that could be.

(Continued on next page.)



An article by
The Rev. Jean Hamner, NST, Texas.

PULLING UP!

A Spiritualist had e-mailed Rev. Jean Hamner about seeing holy men spirits each time she went to church. She wondered why they were coming to her and what their message was, so she asked Jean Hamner, who wrote in the cover letter, "Right in the middle of doing all my e-mails one evening, I apparently went into trance. When I came to, I thought I had fallen asleep at the keyboard until I saw that I had just written and sent the following..." Here is part of what was received and sent, some summarized, some quoted:

Inter-plane teachers from the Spirit World are contacting mediums, as go-betweens, to bring directions from those in the higher planes who are going through a transition to an even higher plane. As one plane moves up, so do all planes move in tandem with other planes great leaps. All of creation, all the octaves, are rising up a step all at once. A great shaking and thundering is in the universe as this occurs. Yet it is not the end of the world, it is just the end of the world as we know it making room for a higher order for us all. We will all either leave our bodies behind as we move up, or we will acquire a higher perspective and wiser interpretation of occurrences, or we will move into a period of forgetfulness. In the period of forgetfulness, many will forget God, forget to turn to the Light, forget Goodness and Righteousness. Many will cling to what should be left behind, forgetting that it is what moves **up**, the *Soul Consciousness and Awareness*, that is of value. The world is teetering between **Mindfulness of the Truth and forgetfulness of God.**

Occurrences in the earthplane are a trickle-down effect from the top rising, thus pulling up the lower ranks (us). This PULLING has a ripping and tearing effect as some of us see it from our earthbound perspective, but it is just a separation of those who need to leave from those who do not need to leave at this time in order for them to progress. One does not weep and mourn for the fine roots of a carrot which come out of the ground with the mature carrot, nor does one grieve the fine particles of root left in the ground which are no longer part of the carrot, but are transformed back into dirt. So we do not need to grieve for those who are pulled up by the higher transitions of their lineage. We do not understand the spiritual aspects of each "victim's" hardships in this life or their so-called death. The Truth is that these things are foreordained. Why does one suffer in hunger and distress and another does not? Why does one leave the body behind and another does not? From our perspective, it makes no sense, but from the higher perspective, they are simply being pulled up by their circumstances. No food? No clothing? No shelter? No human dignity? This is not punishment. This is a winnowing, of which some are lifted up in their soul, and others are forced to reflect upon soul matters.

Many will suddenly turn to the light of God in these times. Do not be surprised. Others will grasp and fight as their soul reaches out for God's love and light while the twists of their mind and ego are still hooked into the material and ignorance. Humanity is feeling the pull and Spiritualism can help ease the confusion experienced as growing pains of the soul. Know that **soul growth is always Good!**

Pray that we can **do good** and help alleviate suffering in order to make others aware of the great move the world is making now. Our acts of Love and Compassion will keep our soul awareness focused on the Light that we may all see the world from the Higher Perspective, from the perspective of those attempting to **pull us up.** Let us align our vibrations with this Truth that we may let go of all that is not needed to move up, yet retain all that will make us comfortable as we make the transparent transformation and transition. For many will *not* die of the earth body, but will die to materialism. Many will die to so-called basic needs which are not basic to the soul.

Do not curse or condemn, do not hate or forget to love, those who seem to be causing "suffering." Pray for them, also, that they may see the Light, for their own change to Light Workers can come in the twinkling of an eye. Even the worst of them could be just another Saul who might turn into another Paul. There is always hope, even for the most wicked, in this life and in the afterlife. There is always hope. "Without the dark of night there could be no star."

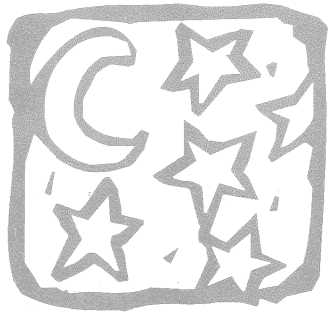
As the world refocuses and our sight is refined, redefined by greater soul awareness, many will come to our inner vision from the Spirit Realm to encourage us and all humanity on the path of truth. Let us move up with Love.



There was much on the Internet, in the newspapers, on radio and television, and our e-mail continually receives input on the life events happening in our world. Spiritualists support prayer, peace and thoughts of harmony. Let us send out thoughts of love, not anger or fear. Let us be of Good Will to All of God's Creation. We close this compilation article with a quote from Mother Teresa: "There is only one God and He is God to all; therefore it is important that everyone is seen as equal before God." In this time of reflection and uncertainty, put your Trust in the Great Universal Force of Love and Light. ◊

Twilight Time

BY ELIZABETH HARRIS, DSNU, CANADA



The most tranquil and happy period is midway between sleeping and waking—between rest and activity.
– Andrew Jackson Davis

How we love the twilight hour—the mysterious time when we hover on the thin edge midway between rest and activity, when for a brief time the mind drifts, and thoughts review the many events of the day. The time when we can turn our attention to half-remembered ideas—review them, arrange them and bring them to fresh new light.

It is at this astonishing time that the best thoughts are conceived, and the time when one can feel the most profound happiness. For the mind is in its finest mood at the twilight hour when the brain is not supercharged with blood and nervous energy; when the heavens are tranquil; when the dreamy folds of night close in upon the senses; when all the vast landscape glimmers; then into the mind drifts burning thoughts and words. This is because all the faculties have become harmonized.

Andrew Jackson Davis describes this condition as **True Harmony—the Genius of the Spirit.** It's a perfectly natural condition, and anyone can obtain it. It doesn't depend on any outside artificial stimuli or meditation. It's as simple and normal as **day-dreaming.***

This same condition of supreme harmony is necessary for **true inspiration.** For in the tranquil lull, swinging gently between being "alert" and "not alert" as between slumber and wakefulness, the faculties become suspended, allowing ideas to drift and flow through the mind. Then, slowly as if by seepage, but most often bursting forth in spontaneous and unexpected flashes of overwhelming power, original ideas enter the mind. This is a common description of inspiration and how it comes about.

Stuart Hamblen, the cowboy singer and songwriter describes how his famous song, *It Is No Secret What God Can Do*, was written. He says: "That night, waiting to go to sleep, I heard the grandfather clock strike midnight, and at that very moment the song flew into my mind. I got up from bed, sat at the piano, and in exactly 17 minutes the song was finished, words, tune and all."

But if inspired material breaks through in a sudden rush as in Hamblen's case, the individual may have difficulty remembering it in all its details. Chopin often took weeks to write the music he received in moments of inspiration.

Every mind is able to aspire. Different minds give rise to different degrees of inspiration. One may be an inspired linguist, another an inspired poet, another a musician, and yet another an inspired philosopher, but inspiration only flows under conditions of True Harmony. As Andrew Jackson Davis in *The Great Harmonia* says: "The appetites must be allayed, the passions chastened, the affections softened, then the Law of Harmony changes the very elements of common life into inspiration."

Spiritual healers understand True Harmony and the Twilight State when **attuning to spirit.** They describe attunement as: "I put myself into a quiet calm state—not actually thinking, not meditating, not pursuing nor withdrawing, but into a kind of LIMBO state—more like how I feel at twilight time—not quite asleep and not quite awake. When I'm in this serene and peaceful mood, I begin to sense the presence of my spirit helpers."

And the great healer, Harry Edwards, describes attaining attunement with spirit for healing purposes as:

"It is a simple, natural act. It is almost like 'dozing' but with the consciousness of inner-mind awareness. It is a **subtle state** between consciousness and spirit awareness—very difficult to describe in words.

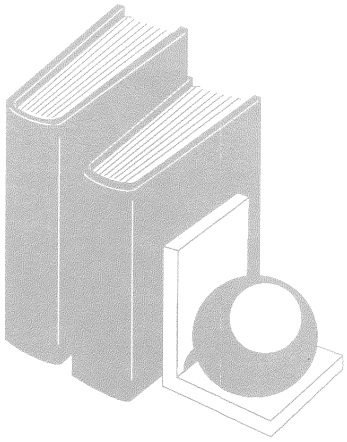
It is not mental concentration nor trance, but rather an abandonment of the mind to spiritual things. Nor should one try to make the mind a blank, for this is not possible.

It is not attracting spirit entities to you. You are not sitting for trance or for any spirit entity to take possession of your faculties."

Harry Edwards goes on to say, "All spirit attunement requires harmony in its fullest sense, for attunement is not mental concentration, but the opposite." He describes simple exercises to induce harmony as: tenseness must be avoided, let the mind dwell on beautiful things, take a mental holiday into a garden of beauty, envisaging the glory of the flowers with all their color and scent.

Although True Harmony experienced the natural way at Twilight Time, or induced in spiritual attunement, is not for the purpose of enticing spirit entities, nevertheless, this does happen. When we're in this mood, in this beautiful harmonious condition, spirits can and do make

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CONSCIOUSNESS

BY MARY ANDERSON, CALIFORNIA

I asked, "Speak to us on consciousness."

"What part of consciousness do you want to understand? The inward consciousness or the outward consciousness?"

"Both," I replied.

The following is the inspirational message I received.

The inward consciousness demands an awareness. The outward consciousness operates from your ability to think, make decisions, and to choose because of your free will. It's the reasoning within your mind which takes one from thought to action, to an effect. Outward consciousness helps one to take the necessary steps to fulfill the final outcome. Conscious choices are recorded into your sub-conscious—but, at the same time the sub-conscious knows and is aware of the Consciousness of the Overself. A mind which is the God Mind, and the awakening of the outward consciousness, falls deeper into the inward consciousness. It is like a paradox.

The One Spirit with its inward consciousness permeates each individual spirit and it is that consciousness that is creative, is intuitive, and is the medium to know truth. Have I confused you?

Spirit is all knowing and changeless. It does not seek Truth. It is unconditional and self-existent. The conscious mind of the overself is permanent and the conscious mind of the ego self is impermanent. Until we make that connection, there will remain pain and suffering as identified by the ego self. When one communes with the conscious mind of the Overself, the outward expressions momentarily cease to exist and there is a transcendence absent of sensations and desires.

Choose what master you will serve. To become the servant of the Overself does not give up your freedom, but frees one to live and move and have their being from the One Source which is spontaneous Omnipresence. ◊

TWILIGHT TIME *(Continued from previous page.)*

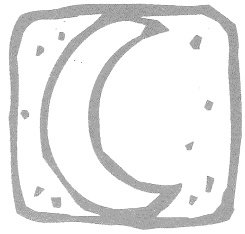
their presence felt. We need not always reach out for them, for they will come when the conditions are right. And the state of True Harmony is the perfect time.

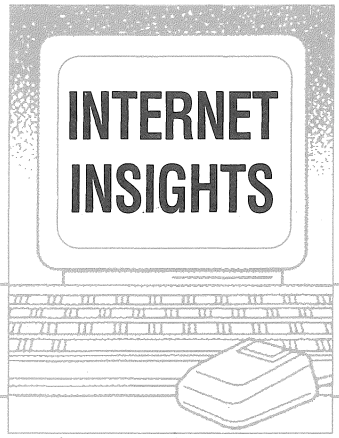
We can truly say that the most tranquil and happy times, the most rewarding ones are when, for brief moments, we know and feel True Harmony. We can reach this state at Twilight Time, that brief quiet time between sleeping and waking, when for fleeting moments the mind drifts and the faculties are harmonized. We can reach it occasionally through simple day-dreaming. We can become inspired and attune with spirit when we reach this state. And in these glorious moments we can know the most profound happiness possible.

That blessed mood –
In which the heavy and the weary weight
Of all this intelligible world,
Is lightened:
That serene and blessed mood,
In which the affections gently lead us on;
While with an eye made quiet by the power
Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,
We see into the life of things.

– William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

*Peter D. Ouspensky, the Russian philosopher says we have dreams continuously, both in sleep and in the waking state. In fact, dreams never stop. We don't notice them in our waking state amidst the continuous flow of visual, auditory and other sensations. A striking thing about the dream is that it is not subject to the will. ◊





Count Your Blessings

– Author Unknown

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following:

There would be:

- 57 Asians; 21 Europeans; 14 from the Western Hemisphere, both north and south; 8 Africans
- 52 would be female; 48 would be male
- 70 would be non-Christian; 30 would be Christian
- 89 would be heterosexual; 11 would be homosexual
- 6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all would be from the United States
- 80 would live in substandard housing; 70 would be unable to read; 50 would suffer from malnutrition; 1 would be near death; 1 would be near birth; 1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education; 1 would own a computer

When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent.

The following is also something to ponder...

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness...you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation...you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death...you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep...you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a stash someplace...you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

God's Boxes

– Author Unknown

I have in my hands two boxes which
God gave me to hold.
He said, "Put all your sorrows in the black,
And all your joys in the gold."

I heeded His words, and in the two boxes
Both my joys and sorrows I stored
But though the gold became heavier each day
The black was as light as before.

With curiosity, I opened the black
I wanted to find out why
And I saw, in the base of the box, a hole
Which my sorrows had fallen out by.

I showed the hole to God, and mused aloud,
"I wonder where my sorrows could be."
He smiled a gentle smile at me,
"My child, they're all here with me."

I asked, "God, why give me the boxes,
Why the gold, and the black with the hole?"
"My child, the gold is for you to count your blessings,
The black is for you to let go."

Life's Lessons

– Andy Rooney

A daughter complained to her father about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved a new one arose.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled

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three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to a boil. In one he placed carrots, in the second he placed eggs, and the last he placed ground coffee beans. He let them sit and boil, without saying a word.

The daughter impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. In about twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. then he ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl.

Turning to her he asked, "Darling, what do you see?"

"Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied.

He brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take the egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. She smiled as she tasted its rich aroma.

She humbly asked, "What does it mean Father?"

He explained that each of them had faced the same adversity, boiling water, but each reacted differently.

The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. But after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior. But after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened.

The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

"Which are you?" he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks at your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

How about you?

Are you the carrot that seems hard, but with pain and adversity do you wilt and become soft and lose your strength?

Are you the egg, which starts off with a malleable heart? Were you a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a divorce, or a layoff, have you become hardened and stiff. Your shell looks the same, but are you bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and heart?

Or are you like the coffee bean? The bean changes the hot water, the thing that is bringing the pain, to its peak flavor when it reaches 212 degrees Fahrenheit. When the water gets the hottest, it just tastes better. If you are like the coffee bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and make things better around you.

When people talk about you, do your praises to God increase? When the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest, does your worship elevate to another level?

How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean? I've learned... That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

Voice Mail

– Author Unknown

We all have learned to live with "voice mail" as a necessary part of modern life. But have you wondered, "What if God decided to install voice mail?" Imagine praying and hearing this:

Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select from one of the following:

- Press 1 for Requests
- Press 2 for Thanksgiving
- Press 3 for Complaints
- Press 4 for all other inquiries

What if God used the familiar excuse... "I'm sorry, all of our angels are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and will be answered in the order it was received, so please stay on the line."

Can you imagine getting these kinds of responses as you call God in Prayer:

If you would like to speak to:

- Gabriel, Press 1
- For Michael, Press 2
- For a directory of other Angel's, Press 3
- If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, please Press 4.
- To find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, Press 5, enter his or her Social Security number, then press the pound key. (If you get a negative response, try area code 666.)
- For reservations at "My Father's House" please enter J-O-H-N followed by 3-1-6.
- For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive here.
- Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow.
- This office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again Monday after 9:30 a.m.
- If you need emergency assistance when this office is closed, contact your local pastor.

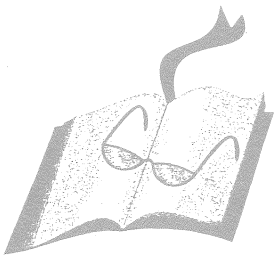
I AM THANKFUL GOD DOESN'T HAVE VOICE MAIL, AND LISTENS WHEN WE PRAY!!!!! ◊

Dignity does not consist in possessing honors, but in deserving them.

– Anonymous

Things To Think About

BY MERRY BROWNE



"Trust The Process"

Although our finite minds cannot grasp the outworking of the Providential Plan of Evolutionary Life, if we are observant we can see the good that comes from even the most devastating challenges from hindsight viewpoint. All of us are guilty, I suspect, of thinking couldn't there have been an easier way to learn life's lessons? In contemplating this question, it came to me that learning by rote from educational materials was merely accepting an idea as true without truly knowing it to be true, whereas experiencing it left no doubt of its factuality.

One can learn a lot from study of the truths of life and **observe** that people are at various levels of evolvement which allows us to accept them at their level of doing the best they can at that stage. Thus it is, we can roll with the punches of life.

"Easy Calm—Easy Glow"

If you wish to be
As summer night and evening star,
Take life as it comes,
And people as they are.

If I try to see you as perfect, you will disappoint me often and often bitterly. But if I see you as a work in progress, I will not expect you to be perfect, and I can love you compassionately. Please do the same for me.

The hardest thing in the world to resist is being loved.

A current publication of *World Goodwill* is stressing the need for International Unity and pointing out that it is the ultimate end of the Plan of the Creator. Science in its search for this Plan called "Teleology" is saying the same thing, that life is self-organizing and moving with purpose toward a desired end. My contribution to this cause of global connectedness is as follows:

"International Unity"

We're all in this boat together,
Each is assigned an oar,
Learning to pull together
Is what this experience is for,
Getting in sync is the secret,
Rowing as one 'gainst the tide
of life's ever white water challenge,
to enjoy the thrill of the ride.

Writing in *Spirituality and Health* magazine, Psychiatrist, Elisabeth Targ cites the many and various instances of extra sensory experiences in people at large who fear telling them lest they be thought "crazy." We who have paid our dues in this area can sympathize with empathy and empower people to speak up by telling them when we had the choice to conform or inform—we chose the latter.

"The Secret of Life"

From the morning of my knowing
to the midday of its flowing
to the signs of evening's silent, setting sun,
and on unto the midnight
and another day's faint, first light
my mind has never wavered
as it constantly has savored
the sweet tastes of joyous living
in the lovely gifts of giving
from the heart.

"The New Year is opportunity to renew vows of marriage to Godliness."

"New Year's Day with is for happiness for everyone, let us extend it to all days in the year." ◊

Questions & Answers

Taken from
"Tapas"
A newsletter *TNS* receives from India.
(Compiled by Shyamala Devi)

Q **Why is Meditation important?**

A Because Meditation opens the doors of Spiritual Wealth.

Q **Is it alright to do anything while meditating?**

A Meditating is silencing, doing nothing. If you are doing anything, it cannot be Meditation.

Q **Does Meditation heal?**

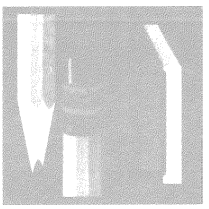
A Yes. But it depends on the technique also.

Q **Do positive emotions help Meditations?**

A Any emotion comes in the way of Meditation. Meditation is going beyond emotions. Positive emotions help us in Transformation, but not in actual Meditation.

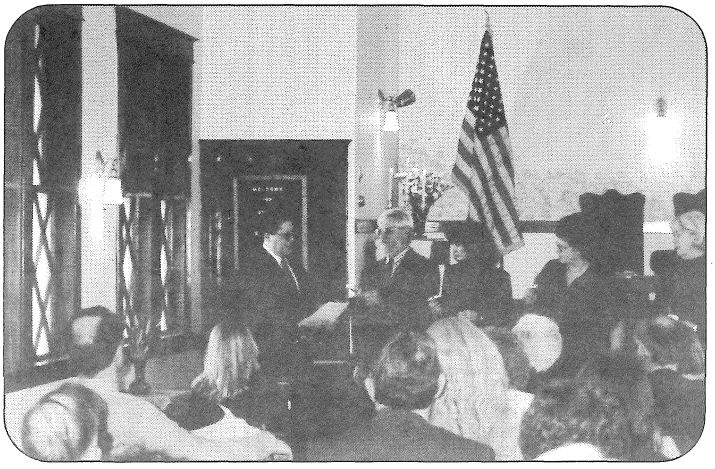
Q **What is the primary purpose of Meditation?**

A To release our Awareness that is imprisoned in our body, mind and intellect and shift it to higher levels. Then the Awareness expands. In the expanded state of Awareness, we experience the Infinity (God) and manifest it in different ways, through emotions, thoughts and acts. ◊



Courage is fear that has said its prayers.
– Dorothy Bernard

Maine Remembers



Rededication Ceremony, March 4, 2000: Pastor Earl L. Wallace lights our candles as we dedicate our church and ourselves to the "loving works of Infinite Intelligence."

Recently, we became aware that since there are so many new members in the church, we are losing touch with the history of our church. So we planned a wonderful Sunday morning in remembering all of those who have gone before us in our church here in Augusta, Maine. From going over all the boxes of old papers, we found that our church started as a small group of people who called themselves **The Sunflower Club**. This was in 1905!!!

We invited the area churches to attend a Rededication Ceremony on March 5th. (The Augusta Spiritualist Church first opened its doors for service on March 2nd, 1924.) At the ceremony, we rededicated the church *and ourselves* to the "loving works of Infinite Intelligence" as we lit candles in remembrance. The church was full and the voices rang out, filling us all with love. The tears that fell only emphasized the feeling of unity with all who have passed through our doors.

And unity there was! Without knowing what we were planning, a member of our church came to a membership meeting in February. Vaikko Allen then asked if he could purchase a new flag for the church, as the one we had was out of date. Sure! Who are we to turn away a gift given in love? His wife, Heather McPhee, (both members of our Development Class) had been receiving images of faces that we soon realized were the same as those whose pictures we had tucked away in a back room. We felt that their energies were with us, encouraging us to acknowledge the past. And while putting together the program, (we fashioned it after the information on the original program we found in old newspaper clippings), we were astounded to find that a flag was donated to the church during that first Service!!!

We sifted through the papers and put together a history of the church. On display, we presented the members with old books, old photos, and a list of past members dating back to 1905! Since some old books were destroyed by improper storage, we encourage all of you to gather and preserve your history.

The response that we received was so overwhelming that we may initiate an annual rededication for ourselves as well as renewing the love we have built within this Church.



Candlelight Service

Camp Season in Maine

The Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Camp in Hartford, Maine, closed its summer camp season with a picnic on September 2, 2001. The day was lovely, the people great, the food yummy, and all were thankful for our wonderful summer Spiritualist Camp.



SUMMER CAMP

MORRIS PRATT INSTITUTE ASSOCIATION
- Pastoral Skills Course -

PASTORAL SKILLS brings you knowledge of pastoral responsibilities in ninety-six hours of class work. Included are lectures, guest speakers, hands-on pastoral experiences through role playing of life-like situations, of funerals, special services and study into areas of counseling, such as: pre-marital, marriage, suicide, family dynamics, violence, chemical dependency, death and dying, and the grief process. The class is open to any dedicated student, and at this time Pastoral Skills is a required course for the NSAC Licentiate Minister certification.

Class size is limited. Early registration is necessary. A **deposit of $50** is required **sixty (60) days** in advance with full payment required thirty (30) days in advance, if not on the payment plan. **Complete information for the site will be sent upon payment** of a deposit. If eight students are not enrolled for a session thirty days in advance, the session may be canceled.

For further information call the MPI Office at:
414-774-2994 or fax: 414-774-2964,
or email: mpratt@execpc.com

2002 SITES AND DATES:

- **LILY DALE, NEW YORK:**
  Lily Dale Spiritualist Camp – Two Week Session
  June 15 – 7:00 p.m., Orientation; **June 16-28**, Classes
  Instructor: Rev. Sharon Snowman, NST
- **TEMPLE HEIGHTS CAMP - MAINE:**
  Two Week Session
  Sept. 7 – 7:00 p.m., Orientation; **Sept. 8 – Sept. 20**, Classes
  Instructor: Rev. Ann Otzelberger, NST
- **MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN:**
  Morris Pratt Institute – **Split Session – Two Years**
  Week One: Oct. 25 - Nov. 1, 2002 – 7:00 p.m., Orientation
  Week Two: April 12-18, 2003
  Instructor: Rev. Pamla Ashlay, NST

CLASSES: Daily - 8 hours, classroom; Sundays - specified church assignments. Materials: List will be provided upon payment of deposit. Required books will be provided. Additional books may be ordered at site.

PASTORAL SKILLS REGISTRATION FORM

Morris Pratt Institute, 11811 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226-3342 • 414-774-2994

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Declaration of Principles

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.

2. We believe that the phenomena of Nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.

3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.

4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.

5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.

6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you do ye also unto them."

7. We affirm the moral responsibility of individuals and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws.

8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.

9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.



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