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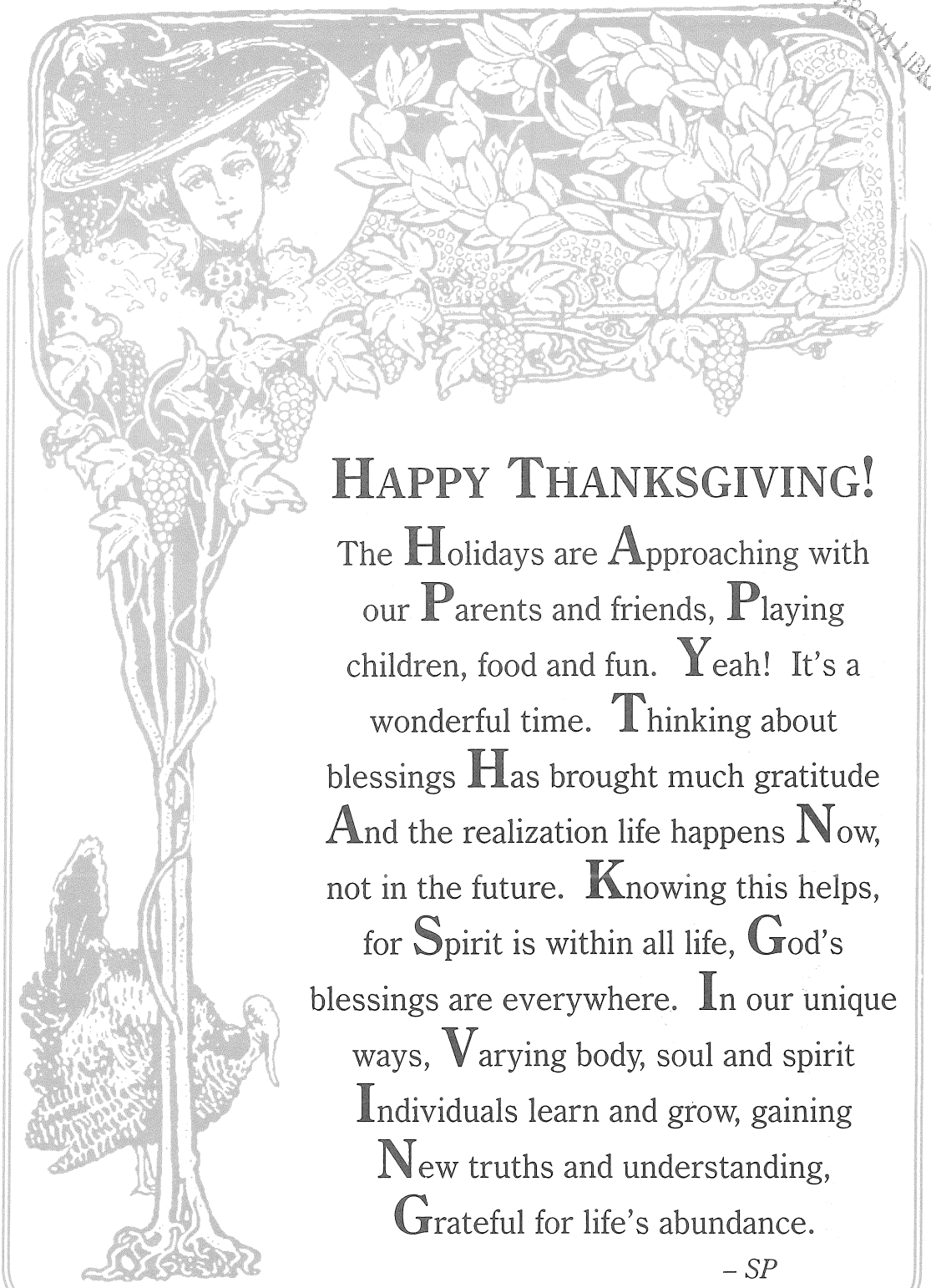
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Happy Thanksgiving!

The **H**olidays are **A**pproaching with
our **P**arents and friends, **P**laying
children, food and fun. **Y**eah! It's a
wonderful time. **T**hinking about
blessings **H**as brought much gratitude
And the realization life happens **N**ow,
not in the future. **K**nowing this helps,
for **S**pirit is within all life, **G**od's
blessings are everywhere. **I**n our unique
ways, **V**arying body, soul and spirit
Individuals learn and grow, gaining
New truths and understanding,
Grateful for life's abundance.

– SP

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Praise God For All Blessings!

BY THE REV. SANDRA PFORTMILLER, NST

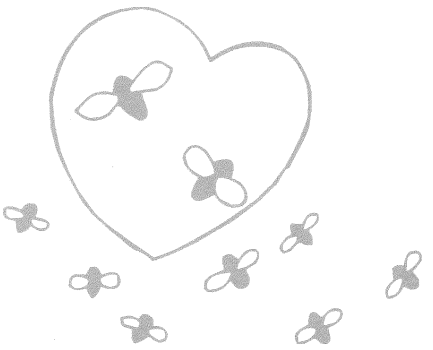
The Natural Law of Praise and Gratitude is a powerful form of affirmation. In reality this Law touches on several Laws and is a combination of part of many Laws. Let us explore Gratitude, how it flows according to Divine Principle and how, when we recognize the Giver of all Gifts and express our appreciation in thought and prayer, the Law will attract to us as an etheric mirror, a spiritual reflection of our inner beliefs. Praise releases the Life Force, or potent energies of your mind, activating the subconscious and superconscious, and neutralizing stress.

All things are given to each soul as they open themselves to receive. Everything comes from the Great Creator, so as we appreciate the abundance, the gifts of Spirit, we attract more goodness into our lives. Remembering the sun always shines, even though there are days with cloudy skies, helps us know that with God all things are good, helps us flow in harmony with nature and work with the Law of Harmony. The Law of Harmony acts as a generator of our lives, so as we try to keep our thoughts positive it will help keep harmony operative in our consciousness. Being thankful for the good in our lives works with higher energies to be receptive to balance and harmony.

Life is the creation of All That Is, the energy and expression of the Divine Source. The Law of Life controls the relationship between the individual and Infinite Intelligence, therefore, the greater the acceptance of One Life, the greater the abilities an individual soul's life expresses. As we allow and enjoy Divine Perfect Life to have a full expression, so does the power of Infinite Intelligence, the energy of Love grows within us. Without God's energy, creation, there would be no life, so life and all the good that happens are related. We know that God is Love and Loves each of us no matter what we do as we learn and grow on our personal pathway. Love is the fulfillment of the Law. The Divine Creator cannot separate Itself from Its creation. As we accept and honor the gifts given each of us, so will the higher energy expand. Nothing can disconnect us from Spirit or Love and this creative force is the highest vibration that can be attained. Recognize Infinite Spirit!

Divine Love unlocks hearts, heals broken bodies and spirits, and opens the doorway between the two worlds. The Love Principle is the action of giving and receiving. One of the first things a Spiritualist learns is if you want more love, give more love. Love is a giving, serving principle, a constructive force that lifts one's vibrations. There is nothing one can do or has ever done that can separate them from God or from God's Love. Love really is all there is and everything one does is influenced by it. It is the connecting link with the Divine, with other souls in the spiritual and the physical realm. We feel alive and uplifted when we experience love. Transformation and consciousness begins within as one opens their soul to their greater good, to Love and Light, to purification through spirit. How grateful we are for Love, it is something each of us can feel and share.

That which you praise is blessed by the essence of good energy that you release. It lifts the vibration of the thing praised and through the Law of Attraction and the Law of Cause and Effect positive energies are returned to the one who praises. Being grateful, praising or giving thanks is uplifting and rewarding. Be thankful for all Life, even when it seems less than positive, for there is a reason or a purpose for it to be as it is. Giving thanks creates a vibration in the ethers which is beneficial, attracting atoms of similarity on various levels, producing a positive effect.



Energy is cyclic, therefore, the mental processes of sending out gratitude contributes to the prosperity one will experience. The Universe provides all that we desire, all that we need, all that we want to accomplish. It is our openness and acceptance that creates our supply. By taking time to mentally acknowledge the blessings we already have in our lives, we remain open to receive even more. When we believe in abundance, we receive abundance. If we think in terms of unworthiness, self-limitations, poverty or lack our thoughts will cycle to us the same as if we accept all the good that God has for us. The external world does not answer our needs. If we attempt to get our good from people, places and things, it will elude us. Our supply comes from God the Source. It already exists for the Power of Infinite supplies all good, filling our lives as we are open to accept. *With God all things are possible.*

If there is not a demand, the Universe will not supply. If there is not a desire, a prayer, a request, the energy has not been placed into the ethers to return to us. Be grateful for the good you will receive and understand the Universe is filled with abundance, yet we only enjoy that which we discern in consciousness. Think and dream about your future being grateful that it is so!

Natural Law is the incalculable energy force of Divine

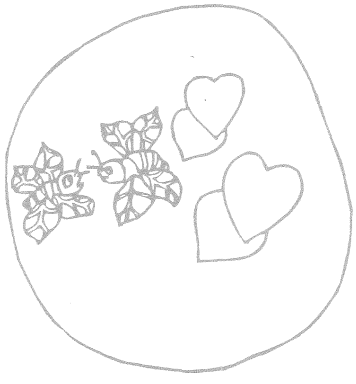
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PRAISE GOD FOR ALL BLESSINGS! *(Continued from previous page.)*

Mind. Mind pervades the Universe, is the means of communication, is creative energy, is the direction of energy, is the mould of each person. What a blessing that we each are given mind thought, consciousness—an attribute of Infinite Intelligence. We each have thoughts which vibrate in our own special way, creating a force field, an energy which moves into the ethers returning like vibrations. The more grateful and loving the thought, the higher the energy returned.

Let the meditations of your heart be pleasing unto God. When you think about how good your life is, so it is. As one thinketh, so it is reflected. Thoughts are creators, so do you think about the blessings in your life? Do you know that Divine Creator only wants good for you? Do you concentrate on the positive or the negative aspects of your life? Thoughts direct the course of atoms; emotions and intelligence together determine the vibration. Conscious thoughts are instructions given to the subconscious mind, which when in compliance with one's personality, will be acted upon through Divine Law. As we raise our vibrations we will change the outer manifestations of our life.

We are grateful to Infinite Intelligence for truth, which is right thinking, right action and right living. Each of us is inspired by the Divine seed within to express truth and to know truth. The purpose of spiritual disciplines is to clear away false ideas and open to the truth of the Divine Spark within us. The inner understanding of Perfection pushes away things that are unlike this energy of good. The Higher Self within knows and directs us when we become quiet enough to receive this guidance. It leads us in the soul's pattern to complete its purpose. God is All That Is. Therefore, as we put our trust and faith in Infinite direction, and when we put Divine Energy before the physical vibrations we will grow and be in harmony. Trust in the Oneness and Love of God and this casts out fear.



An energy force, visible or invisible, has a distinct rate of vibration which dictates its state of being. Without energy there would be stagnation, no change, no growth, in fact no life. Energy is the life of things. God is Energy or the life of all things. The rate of one's vibration is due to the influence of mind and soul, how we accept this vital force and our capacity to express it. As we lift our thoughts in love, trust and gratitude to Infinite Spirit, we lift our soul's vibration.

Universal Law is the working sequence that establishes constant order in the Universe and as we strive to follow these Divine Principles we establish order in our own lives. The Law is beneficial, non-judgmental, fair, just, automatic and a wonderful benefit to show us how to live, grow and bring balance into our consciousness, thus into our lives. How appreciative we should be that life is ordered, progressive and that as we reflect our trust in the Law, in God, so will our life be filled with plenty. The harvest of our thoughts are always attracted to us. We can depend upon it, we can affirm it. A positive statement to attract to us that which we want: "Love fills my heart and mind and I am open to all the good God has for me. Thank you, Spirit, for the joyous energy that surrounds me." Recognize all the beauty of life, sharing this upliftment with those you meet and you will be mindful of the great gift of life.

Make an inner commitment today to examine every day the many blessings in your life. This determined energy is sent out into the ethers as a magnet to draw the correct necessities for fulfillment. Do not be indecisive or "lackadaisical," for this will sabotage your mission. Each day write down ten of the multitude of things you have to be grateful for. This exercise helps you to concentrate on your blessings. The emotional desire to be mindful of your good that is behind your commitment gives energy to bring about more loving energy. The unselfish intent behind the commitment brings quick positive results. Be appreciative of all life.

As you make a daily list of your blessings, sometimes you might include specific items, individual people or personal attributes to your list, but make it different every day—be thoughtful and thankful. There is always something you can praise. One day I saw a beautiful sunrise and sunset. In between I saw two white doves, some wonderful cloud formations, the rain, a rainbow, a pink tea rose, a smiling friend, my dog with mud all over her nose, new growth on a young tree we had planted. That was my list to thank Spirit for that evening. Some days I sing my praise. Here is another sample list.

Loving Spirit I am so grateful for these things in my life:

1. for Spiritualism.
2. for communication with loved ones in the Spirit World.
3. for communication on many levels in the physical.
4. that I have known love and love continues to fill me.
5. for Natural Law to help me change and grow.
6. that I am becoming more aware of the spirit within.
7. for family, friends and pets.
8. for my health and well being.
9. for the beauty of nature.
10. for a philosophy that makes me think.

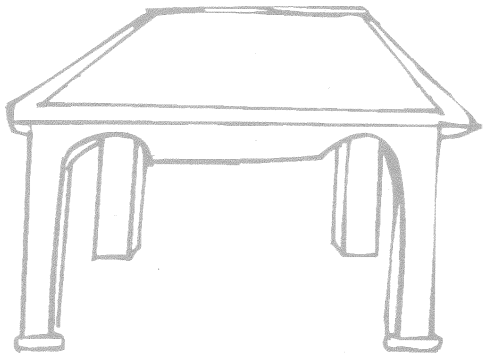
Thanksgiving day reminds us of a feast of food, and family or friends to share it with. That is, of course, another list—there is just so much to be grateful for—Thank You, God!

• • •

Irene's Table

BY THE REV. BERNICE FALLING LEAVES, Washington

When Spirit is in control, it is a wonderful and exciting story and just about anything can happen. It was Saturday morning, May 22, 2004, and it was a cleanup day at Camp Edgewood. Irene Tolivar had made her transition a while back and the family had taken what they wanted of Irene's possessions. We were to look for things that would be saleable for the "garageless garage sale." Everything was wrapped and wrapped again and boxed—there were many, many boxes and stuff to sort through. In the back of the many things was a smallish wooden card table, brown in color with wooden legs. As I dragged it out these special words came out, "This table is not going to be sold at the sale! It goes to the Spirit Center!" No one objected. It wouldn't have done any good anyway.



After three and a half hours of hard work, I'd "had it" and announced "I don't know about you gals, but I'm going home." As I turned onto the highway there was Irene in the front seat with me. "Hi Irene, what's going on?" I asked.

"I'm goin home with ya" she said, and she did—for 17 hours! "I wanna have de ladies who were workin wid me sit at de table tomarrow."

"Oh yeah?" I replied.

"Ya heard me. And ah wanna have my family *Bible* there too," Irene instructed.

I finally went to bed, but guess who was still there when I woke up at 6 a.m.? You guessed it, Irene. She repeated her instruction, but added "And I want ma chair dere too, and yo all are gonna sing *Goodnite Irene*."

Hum? Sort of pushy for someone I hardly knew in life. We'd visited a couple of times briefly after church, but that was all. "Okay, okay, leave me alone." After I said this, off she went—whew!

So I contacted Judi, who had known Irene in real life, Menalee and Cynthia. We were the four Saturday workers. They were all willing. I also asked Mary, as she and her family had sat with a table for years, just to be sure that there would be enough energy to get the table started. Sometimes it is difficult to get results with first timers.

We sat down, put our hands on the wooden table and it **took off**. Wow! It went to Judi and hit her in the stomach, and it wasn't a gentle hit. So we moved the table back to a center position—guess what, it went right to Judi again. The fourth time I got smart and said, "Judi, Irene wants you to be the table medium." Only Judi knew that Irene was a table medium and used to do sessions at her cabin, and that they all sang *Goodnight Irene* to her all the time. It's always good to get confirmation, isn't it?

The table was very active, not just tapping, but pounding. We had to calm Irene down for fear the legs would break. Finally she quieted down a little—bong, bang! She spelled her son's name, then a message we didn't particularly want to hear, but one that was right on. There were lots of yes and no questions and all of us were experiencing cold chills, big time...I mean for real! This spirit had a lot of power for coming through for the very first time.

All at once she put her dark hands over mine. I asked if Irene had small hands. No, she had large hands. These were small, petite ones. I kept tuning into the movie *Ghost* and Whoopie. We laughed and laughed, and were thrilled with our session with Irene. We all fell in love with her spirit.

Next morning, Monday, there was Irene again. I had not yet gotten out of bed. She began, without waiting for a greeting. "Well, Dummy, ah was showin ya ah ben doin this since ah was a youngin." With that she was gone. How did she know a lot of my spirit friends refer to me as Dummy? It is supposed to be a joke. Now I have to learn more about Irene's physical life...and I am. Our second session was even more interesting, but that's another story. Good Night Irene! •

The Sixth Sense

BY THE LATE ELIZABETH HARRIS, DSNU, Canada

"But surely there are
more senses in Heaven
and Earth than you and
I have dreamed of."
– *Guy Murchie*

Spiritualists are called "the great sensitives," for not only do they use the normal five senses of hearing, seeing, touching, tasting and smelling, but have further developed to a remarkable degree the little understood "sixth sense" called telepathy.

The Sixth Sense called telepathy, or thought transference, is a sense Spiritualists constantly use, and it is considered a most important "process" used in communication. In fact, Spiritual mediumship is often defined as, "the method of transmitting information through a telepathic system of communication."

Not only are Spiritualists continuously in telepathic communication with discarnate spirits, but they also communicate by telepathy with individuals still on the Earth Plane.

These thoughts and impressions communicated from one individual to another occur perhaps as readily when two persons are hundreds of miles apart as when they are in the same room.

Telepathy is not deemed a physical process, for all authorities agree that we can completely rule out physical considerations. Moreover, the process has never been detected by any instrument, and no organ has been found in the human body capable of generating or receiving this communication.

Again, unlike ordinary methods of communication, in telepathy no language is required—only thoughts, impressions or visual images are involved. Often there is a strong link between the communicator and the recipient and the faculty is particularly marked in identical twins. The receiver becomes aware of the sender's thoughts when there is harmony between the two minds, and generally there is only one percipient.



Telepathy is a mental process and has a mind-to-mind relationship. Yet, surprisingly few people are aware of the telepathic process going on within themselves. They only become aware of the "product" or result of the process.

Often it is difficult to separate clairvoyance from telepathy because both powers are extra-sensory and use the same mental and emotional perceptions. Therefore, parapsychologists give the word "psi" (from the Greek letter designating para-normal) to telepathy, clairvoyance and precognition believing that these three faculties operate under the same conditions.

While telepathy is considered a major part of the intuitive process, it is not the same as intuition, though both telepathy and intuition bypass normal senses. Telepathy is simply a method of bringing in information that intuition may work on.

It has been suggested that telepathy may have been the original method by which primitive forms of life on the planet kept in touch with their surroundings, and that the ordinary sensory organs of seeing, smelling, hearing, tasting and touching developed later in their course of evolution.

As scientists have deduced that senses arose during the past few billion years of earthly evolution, they conclude, therefore, that some must still be in the process of evolving even to this day. One still mysterious evolving sense they have named "the sixth sense."

Although the process by which the sixth sense operates is still not completely understood by scientists, Spiritualists have made headway in understanding it. Yet, they are sometimes startled to become aware that men and women are not the only creatures on earth to have telepathic abilities. Animals and birds, it seems, experience them too.

For the direction-finding, homing, migration and water-finding of birds must be due to some form of telepathy, as well as the ability by wild animals to foretell dangerous situations from avalanches, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. And, when watching in the skies the amazing wheeling in regular formation of large flocks of Canadian geese heading south in the Fall, it is deduced that telepathic communication must be operating to control this movement.

Plants also have telepathic abilities

(Continued on next page.)



Happy Thanksgiving

Gratitude is a powerful, spiritual force for each soul because it brings into our consciousness the fullness of life and the blessings we each receive every day. Interestingly, the more grateful we are for the goodness of life, the more we are touched and transformed.

Thanksgiving Day is a time to remind us to not let our blessings go unappreciated, especially the blessing of family, friends and church.

Cicero said, "Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others." An attitude of gratitude is contagious and helps us to be "others centered" instead of being focused on ourselves.

Infinite Intelligence, Loving Source of All, we are so very grateful for life and all of the things in it. We know that everyone comes from Thee and everything is a blessing, is joy and love, is wholeness and harmony. We open our hearts and our minds to the beautiful Natural Law that guides us in all we do and we express appreciation for the abundance and beauty of each day. We have an attitude of enthusiastic expectation for that which we have not yet seen, knowing there are countless possibilities and indescribable gifts that are available to us. Every moment we are renewed with the energy and love of God and we say thank you, thank you, thank you.

• • •

THE SIXTH SENSE

(Continued from previous page.)

as biologists have proven. An amazing story has been told about Luther Burbank, the plant wizard of California who, by using telepathy, created 800 new species of plants, ranging from the Shasta daisy to the spineless cactus. Burbank was brought up by a telepathic mother and said, "I inherited my mother's ability and so did one of my sisters." So much so that he seldom used the telephone to communicate with his sister, relying on telepathy alone.

According to reports, Burbank hand-pollinated his plants using skills of intuition, and would communicate with them daily and intimately like a lover, alternately praising them, entreating them and tenderly soothing their apprehensions and fears.

To persuade one prickly cactus to quit sprouting needles, Burbank would gaze on it every morning with loving eyes, whispering mentally, "You have nothing to fear. Relax and trust me. No longer do you need your defensive thorns. I am your friend always. I love you and I will protect you."

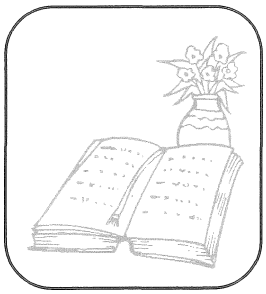


Burbank was convinced that plants had minds of some sort, probably simpler than the human mind, but in essence the same, and was convinced the vegetable kingdom has evolved more than twenty senses having to do with rain, soil, sunlight, pollinating and rival neighbors.

Without doubt, telepathy is a potent extra-sensory perception barely fathomed by science at the present time.

However, Spiritualists have developed their "sensitivities" and know that telepathy, the enthralling six-sense, does operate. For within Spiritualism, telepathy is constantly used in communication between compatible minds on the physical plane and compatible minds of discarnate beings.

Spiritualists are well aware of the remarkable sixth sense, and may wonder if all forms of life exhibit telepathic abilities. This may very well be proven true. •



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* ***Josetta Ludwig*** *of the Way Memorial Temple in Wheeling, West Virginia.*

A Study of Phenomena

There are three phenomena that will be reviewed in this essay: inspirational writing and speaking, independent and automatic writing, and trance.

Inspiration can be defined as "a state of psychic or spiritual awareness whereby the individual is susceptible to creative spiritual influence; such creativity demonstrated in the form of lectures, arts, sciences, or music" *(Contemporary Definitions of Psychic Phenomena and Related Subjects).* Thus, an inspirational speaker is "one who, being inspired, verbalizes thought-flowing ideas." An inspirational writer is "one who, being inspired, writes/records thought-flowing ideas." These two phenomena can be demonstrated in both the conscious state and the trance state.

Many inspirational speakers and writers can be found in the history of Modern Spiritualism. Cora L. V. Richmond, Emma Hardinge Britton and Wilberforce Colville are among the most prominent. Emma Hardinge Britton lists many others in her book *Modern American Spiritualism.*

It is said that true inspirational speaking or writing is not the product of the mind of the medium, but originates in the realm of Spirit and is transmitted through the medium. Even though it sometimes depends partly on the subconscious of the medium and partly on assistance received from Spirit, authentic inspirational speaking and writing can be characterized by certain features. Often the medium speaks or writes of subjects in the sciences and arts of which he or she has no personal knowledge. He delivers or writes discourses far beyond his own capacity, or she talks or writes in languages foreign to herself. Hudson Tuttle writes that an inspirational speaker/writer is one who is in a condition sensitive to Spirit and is able to receive the thoughts of Spirit. During a state of deep trance, the medium is not cognizant of what s/he is saying/writing. In a lighter trance state, the thoughts received take form and expression in the mind of the medium. Thus, there are varying degrees of inspirational speaking and writing.

The history of Spiritualism is also rich in the phenomena of independent and automatic writing. The difference between independent and automatic writing is that the former involves the production of writing without the medium being in contact with the writing instrument; whereas, with the latter, writing is produced while the writing instrument is held in hand. Spiritualism teaches that writing in this manner is a result of the control of a discarnate entity; that the medium is not using personal consciousness or will power to produce the written scripts. It is important to examine the content of the information received—that it is veridical or truth-telling, and to clearly identify the source to determine that it is not the mind of the medium, but from Spirit.

Many teachings from the World of Spirit have been received through properly developed independent and automatic writing. Mrs. Pearl Lenore Curran produced novels and poetry, including *Light from Beyond, The Pot on the Wheel,* and *"Telka."* The Rev. William Stainton Moses produced several books, including *Spirit Identity, Spirit Teachings,* and *Higher Aspects of Spiritualism.* Many, many written texts have been produced through this type of mediumship—the list seems endless.

A notable type of independent writing is slate writing, whereby writing, or even color writing or drawings are produced by Spirit entities either on an open slate or between locked slates, with or without a writing instrument. Along with independent/automatic writing, other related phenomena such as painting phenomena as well as direct writing. Their spirit paintings can be found at Camp Chesterfield, Indiana and at Lily Dale, New York. At the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco, California, there are twenty-two Spirit paintings produced through the mediumship of the Rev. Florence Becker. Spirit paintings and slate writing are also displayed at Way Memorial Temple, Wheeling, West Virginia, and the Morris Pratt Institute, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The phenomena of trance has been defined as "a state of altered consciousness somewhat resembling sleep, during which voluntary movement is lost as in hypnosis; a condition in which a spirit medium may allegedly be under the control of some external force for the purpose of communication from the dead" (New World Dictionary). Trance has often been confused with hypnosis. However, the mediumistic trance of Spiritualism involves being under the control of a discarnate being who transmits information, and not under the control of a person in the living who merely gives verbal suggestions. There are varying degrees of trance mediumship—in a light trance state, the medium can receive thought from Spirit and then express it in speaking or writing. The medium may also receive sense impressions or pictures or images which he or she then describes. The deepest state of trance is called direct-control, during which the medium is unconscious. This type of trance was demonstrated more frequently in the early

(Continued on next page.)

YOUR ROLE

BY JOSEPH KAMINSKI, California

Creative Visualization. We all have a special place in the history of Spiritualism. Discovering our True Higher Purpose as Spiritualists involves connecting and sharing that creative spark amongst ourselves. To fulfill our lives and goals, being creatively visual is very important in achieving what we want. Creative visualization is not just a technique, but a state of consciousness. We deeply realize we are the continuous creators of our universe, and we take responsibility for that at all moments. Manifestation through this creative visualization is the process of realizing and achieving practical results on the physical plane of our divine potential.

Discovering our Higher Purpose and Acting on it. A basic need for us as human beings is to make a positive contribution to the world and our fellow beings. It may involve many things, or it may be something very simple. It involves being ourselves totally and naturally, loving what we do, and doing that which comes easily and naturally. We all know in our hearts what our higher purpose is, but we may not consciously realize it or acknowledge it. People often hide from themselves and seek to avoid the power, responsibility, and light that comes with acknowledging and expressing their true expressions of life's purpose. By noticing the elements that tend to recur in dreams, ideas, and fantasies, notice the images that come to light. These are clues to the underlying meaning and purpose of your life. You will find that in using creative visualization, that your ability to manifest will work to the degree that you are in alignment with your higher purposes. I like to see my life as a work of art, and I believe yours is also. We interweave through time with many different opportunities every day.

Every moment is a moment of creation, presenting new opportunities, and is a moment of creation which contains infinite possibilities. *(One-hit Wonder*—Norman Greenbaum; "They're gonna fly me to the Spirit in the Sky...That's where I'll go when I die...")

Showing Respect, Thankfulness and Gratitude. Just as John F. Kennedy said so many years ago, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." I think in a way, the same applies to anyone's religion, including Spiritualism. What can we do for Spiritualism? By increasing our knowledge and awareness, by supporting the high education in Spiritualism, by sharing the word about our own experiences in the demonstration of the proof of Spiritualism, and by contributing financially to help the churches of Spiritualism flourish, we are participating in our own ways in assisting the causes of Spiritualism. Create a visualization of a growing, loving Religion, and keep that picture in your daily thoughts.

• • •

The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved

– *Victor Hugo (1802-1885)*

EDUCATION SPEAKS *(Continued from previous page.)*

days of Spiritualism and is considered very rare. The trance mediumships of D. D. Home and Mrs. Leonore Piper are among the most noted.

These phenomena—inspirational speaking and writing, independent and automatic writing, and trance—have been known throughout the ages in many religions of the world. Documentations are recorded in many sacred texts, including Biblical scripture. Throughout the ages, much beauty, knowledge, and teachings have been brought forth for humanity. Modern Spiritualism has brought a renewal of these ancient ways of wisdom.

• • •

The Third Great Aim Of Life

BY JUNE JOHNSON, California

Are you aware of what you want? A look at Hinduism may surprise you, both with its parallels to Spiritualism and the help it can offer you in clarifying your goals. Expert on world religions, Huston Smith, writes:

> *If we were to take Hinduism as a whole—its vast literature, its opulent art, its elaborate rituals, its sprawling folkways—if we were to take this enormous outlook in its entirety...*it would say: *You can have what you want.*

- Hinduism defines four basic wants, or aims, which represent successive levels of progression in the development of awareness: Pleasure, Success, Duty and Liberation.
- Discovery at each level naturally stimulates movement toward the next more perceptive level.
- Each level marks an actual change in how we see reality, an actual change in what we see as reality.
- Hinduism's Third Great Aim In Life, Duty, provides the foundation for all spiritual work.
- For the Hindu and the Spiritualist, development into the fully unfolded Spiritual state is the real aim of life.

Regarding aim number one: Hindu philosophy says as long as the basic rules of morality are observed you are free to seek all the pleasure you wish. Rather than suppress the desire for pleasure, fulfill it as richly and esthetically as possible. *Everyone eventually comes to the discovery that pleasure isn't all one wants.* Smith reports, *because it is wearing and too narrow and trivial and private to satisfy perpetually.*

The second goal, the wealth, fame and power of worldly success, should not be disparaged either, for it brings livelihood with dignity and self-respect. In the end, as before, wealth, fame and power are found wanting, as they are *exclusive, therefore competitive and precarious,* for, if you give any away, you end up with less. Smith quotes a Hindu saying: *To try to extinguish the drive for riches with money is like trying to quench a fire by pouring butterfat over it.* Worldly success is an insatiable goal, as it never fills the real want.

> *The individual whose development is not arrested will work his way through full delight in success and senses to the point where these pulls have been largely outgrown.*
>
> – Huston Smith on Hindu philosophy

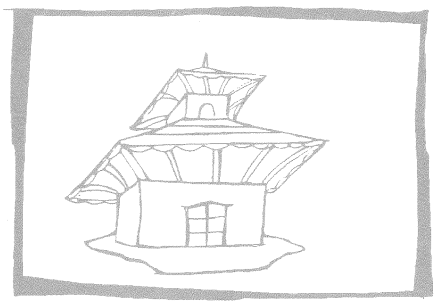
A Spiritualist parallel to this Hindu idea can be found in H. Gordon Burroughs advice: *Heaven is not gained by a single bound. Life is the ladder by which we climb, and experiences are the rungs upon which we ascend.*

The third great aim of life is Duty which is defined in the Hindu outlook as *the wish to do one's best and to give service.* We might begin this stage of awareness grudgingly "doing the right thing," or with a self-righteous sense of superiority, or, more sadly, enabling harmful behavior.

Indian philosophy tells us the rewards—of gratitude from others or self-respect—derived from dutiful conduct do not, of themselves, provide enough joy to completely satisfy the human heart.

Yet in striving to do our best and give service we learn to make the transition from a purely material view of the world to a growing awareness of our connection to others and a growing aspiration to serve with a sense of purpose.

Huston Smith comments: *The critical point in life comes when these things lose their original charm and one finds oneself wishing that life had something more to offer.* He continues, *True religion begins with the quest for meaning...with renunciation of the ego's claims, and opening to a larger self, a sense of community.*



It is in this sense that giving service lies at the foundation of our Spiritualist philosophy. Here are some examples:

In their book, *A Guide to Mediumship and Psychical Unfoldment*, Spiritualist workers W. and M. H. Wallis write: *If you are animated by a sincere desire to be of service to others, and not by personal ambition or mercenary motives, you are in the right mood to enter upon the work.* The true purpose of mediumship, in addition to proving the continuity of life, is to be of service to humankind by bringing, as the Wallis' state: *a quality of knowledge that surpasses the knowledge*

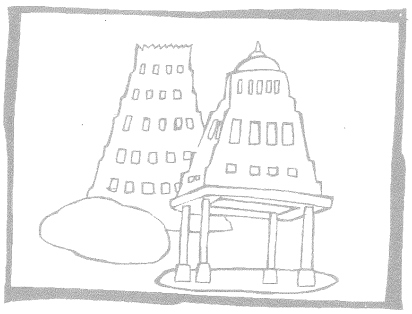
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men obtain alone. The study of life after death confirms for the Spiritualist our inner hope that conscious knowing and being continues after the death of the physical body, it also teaches us that the one basic, all-important task in the next state is the establishment of brotherhood and fellowship through service to others.

Burroughs writes: *Rendering greater service to our fellow man is rendering service to Infinite Intelligence, and in such service is found true happiness.*

Hinduism tells us *the problem life puts to man is to cleanse the dross of his being to the point where its infinite center will be fully manifest.* In the words of the Reverend Florence Becker, founding pastor of the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church: *Do not search foreign outer fields for Jewels or Gems of Truth. Search within your Soul, with Prayer and Service as the implements... You will clearly feel the Soul pouring forth the same Light and Wisdom to everyone alike.*



Mrs. Becker named fourteen sets of three inseparable qualities—representing the mental, spiritual and physical aligned in one unified expression—which she called the Faculties of Being. Study of these Faculties helps us to conceive of what true alignment is like. The first is the Faculty of DUTY, GRATITUDE and TOLERANCE. Long before I came to the language which identifies this Spiritual Faculty, I learned the power of these qualities when applied in concert with one another.

In the late 1960's, with our two young children, my husband, Carlton, and I were able to buy a brand new house under circumstances that filled me with intense **gratitude**. After moving in, I experienced a strong sense of obligation to repay the universe for our good fortune, which far exceeded expectations. I knew it was my **duty** to contribute to our community. A friend I admired had become a volunteer with the newly forming anti-poverty program in our town. When she and her husband were called away on business for an extended stay, I stepped in to continue her work, helping to establish a self-help program among people in the low-income Spanish speaking minority who faced significant prejudice.

I'd studied Sociology and Anthropology at UCLA and I'd lived abroad and traveled more than most. I'd not only developed **tolerance** for ethnic differences, I delighted in them and wanted to learn more.

Soon after beginning this work, I was elected by members of this low-income minority community to represent them at a county wide meeting to divide the money that would be coming from the Federal Government. The target community in the lower county, primarily African American, had a much larger population, with enough votes to carry a proposal to divide all the money based on population, which would not leave enough funding to staff an office in our town. My local group expressed a sense of futility and fear. I was warned of rumors that some in the urban area would carry guns. None in our group would come with me.

Not yet aware of the source of my inspiration and hope, I drove down the freeway to that evening meeting with a clear simple plan in mind for dividing the funds, a plan soundly supported by the participants in my town and in another smaller community in the far upper county. The plan had come to me whole in the middle of the night the week before.

When I arrived, the Black Elks Hall was filling to capacity. I seemed to be the only Anglo, and one of very few women. When it was time, I stood to recommend that we set up and staff local offices in each of the three areas with a Director, a Secretary, and an Outreach Worker first, then divide the rest of the funds, for Program, by population.

As I spoke, I was amazed to experience an invisible energy powerfully coursing through me. From the strength of the energy flow, I believe those who were gathered were actually amplifying the energy—as if this was, for them, common practice.

This was more than thirty-five years ago, yet I vividly recall what I now recognize to be the energy of spirit carrying my message into the dimly lit room, invisibly connecting me with each person there.

Almost immediately, there followed a unanimous vote to adopt the proposal as presented.

This was my first conscious awareness of collaboration with spirit, the time when, as my beloved American Indian guide now tells me, he first came to me to enlist my cooperation. That's how I know that duty, undertaken with a heart filled with gratitude and a tolerant open mind leads directly to harmony with Infinite Source.

This first Spiritual Faculty, **duty, gratitude** and **tolerance**, according to Mrs. Becker's understanding, enters through the energy center at the *throat*, and operates on the sense of *hearing*.

> The *NSAC Manual* on the Philosophy of Spiritualism states: *The whole duty of man in his mortal life consists in taking the first steps in the attainment of knowledge and in gradually developing his character and nature to harmonize with the fully unfolded spiritual state.*

For the Spiritualist, development is the real aim of life. Development brings an ever increasing ability to appreciate higher truth and its Laws, a gradual Liberation from focus on the experiences of the ego in the ever changing created world, and increasing application and awareness of the Faculties of our true Being, flowing out in harmony with

(Continued on next page.)

Things To Think About

BY MERRY BROWNE

"Slow But Sure"

To study nature is to learn about life. We have a visible reenactment of the truth of life as Journey to Perfection in the acorn, the only begotten of the oak tree, which has both the potential and the automatic emergence of becoming as the parent oak.

We are made in the image of God and are in the process of becoming Godly as slowly and surely as the acorn is grown toward its maturity—with the added ability to strive to be what we are becoming to aid our growth.



Evolution of consciousness is a very slow but automatic process, symbolized by the acorn gradually growing to an oak tree. But as the ancient sages taught, even though divinity lies within, the shining of its light is very dim in the lowly evolved and it is most helpful to know what it is becoming in order to focus on that instead of on what it is at any given level. To do so and to attempt to become that focus is called self-evolution, because one is aiding the unfolding process.

The lower end of conscious evolution is concerned with the self and the world—money and what it buys, whereas the other end of the spectrum is other people centered and spiritually oriented with developed spiritual qualities and interests that transcend worldly things. To know this and dwell upon it as well as try to become more and more of what we are is the teaching of those who have become spiritual as the swiftest route to perfection.

"Be Yourself"

When you don't approve
of your behavior,
Change it.
When it doesn't suit you,
Rearrange it.
Take a stand,
Be very mindful of it,
So you can.

• • •

THE THIRD GREAT AIM OF LIFE

(Continued from previous page.)

the Infinite.

Hinduism teaches: *Our real desires are for those things which lie on a deeper level: Being rather than not being; to know and be aware—for we are insatiably curious; and joy.* And, says Hinduism, *not only are these the things we want, we want each of them in infinite degree;* **Infinite Being, Infinite Knowledge, and Infinite Joy.**

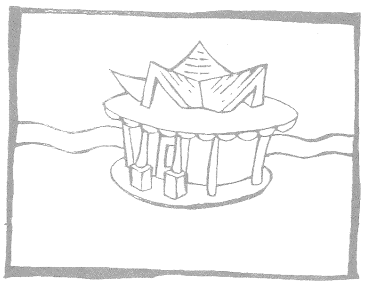
It is India's staggering conclusion, says Huston Smith, *that what man most wants, he can have. Hinduism teaches that Infinite Being, Infinite awareness, and Infinite Joy are not only within our reach, they are already ours.*

Spiritualist H. Gordon Burroughs provides deep insight into this process, telling us:

> **...when that state of consciousness is reached in which one can appreciate in full what is desired, the desire is fulfilled.**

- Hinduism defines four basic wants, or aims, which represent successive levels of progression in the development of awareness: Pleasure, Success, Duty and Liberation.
- Discovery at each level naturally stimulates movement toward the next more perceptive level.
- Each level marks an actual change in how we see reality, an actual change in what we see as reality.
- Hinduism's Third Great Aim in Life, Duty, provides the foundation for all spiritual work.
- For the Hindu and the Spiritualist, development into the fully unfolded Spiritual state, is the real aim of life.

I hope you will be "animated by a sincere desire to be of service to others," and "respond to Truths high call," as we say in our closing Hymn (Doxology #201), that you may all the sooner build the foundation for your realization that Infinite Being, Infinite Awareness and Infinite Joy are already yours.



• • •

Disposal Of The Mortal Remains

BY MICHAEL E. TYMN, Oregon

In the movie, *About Schmidt,* Schmidt, played by Jack Nicholson, is lambasted by his daughter for choosing the second cheapest casket, the one just above pine box in price, for his wife. The daughter comments that her mother deserved something better than that while also pointing out that everyone at the funeral took note of her father's frugality.

The scene hit home, as not many months before I saw the movie, I had to choose a casket for my father, who made his transition at age 94. As the funeral parlor representative showed me the selection of six or seven caskets available, I remembered some of the things I had learned in my metaphysical studies. My first concern was whether my father had actually "given up the ghost," i.e., his spirit body had left his physical body at that point in time. The second concern had to do with the teaching of Allen Kardec, the French psychical investigator, who stated that the affinity which continues to exist between soul and body after death is sometimes extremely painful "for it causes the spirit to perceive all the horror of decomposition of the latter."



In his 1916 book, *Raymond or Life and Death,* Sir Oliver Lodge, the esteemed British physicist and radio pioneer, in a séance with medium Gladys Osborne Leonard, discussed the subject with Raymond, his deceased son. Raymond told him that the body doesn't start mortifying until the spirit has left it. He went on to tell his father that he had witnessed a scene several days earlier in which a man was going to be cremated two days after the doctor pronounced him dead. "When his relatives on this side heard about it, they brought a certain doctor to our side, and when they saw that the spirit hadn't got really out of the body, they magnetized it, and helped it out," Raymond explained through Feda, Leonard's control. "But there was still a cord, and it had to be severed rather quickly, and it gave a little shock to the spirit, like as if you had something amputated. But it had to be done."

Raymond suggested that there should be a seven-day waiting period before cremation. "People are so careless," he said. "The idea seems to be 'hurry up and get them out of the way now that they are dead.'"

I finally told the funeral parlor representative that I wanted the casket that would deteriorate the fastest, explaining to him that there are indications that the faster the mortal remains are turned to dust, the quicker the materialistic soul lets loose of his attachment to the physical body. The representative gave me a very suspicious look. When I told him that, for the same reason, I did not want my father embalmed, the eyebrows really raised.

Out of fear of appearing cheap, not only to the funeral parlor representative but also to those who would be attending the funeral, I also opted for the casket just above the pine box in price. If it were entirely up to me, I would have chosen cremation for my father, but he had already purchased his plot and clearly preferred burial. My one attempt to discuss this subject with him when he was alive and lucid was met with immediate resistance, and so I did not further pursue it.

I welcomed the opportunity to delay burial for two weeks, not so much to permit friends and relatives to attend but to allow as much time as possible for my father's spirit to achieve separation and not be traumatized by the burial.

I had asked myself whether I could impose my own beliefs, vague and muddled as they are, on my father and opt for cremation rather than burial. My conclusion was that if I were *absolutely* certain that my beliefs are correct then I should override his wishes and choose cremation. But in the absence of *absolute* certainty, I had no right to disregard his wishes.

According to the Rev. Don Rose, a Swedenborgian minister, many Swedenborgians prefer to wait until after the third day for burial or cremation.

"Personally, I have very little concern as to what happens to the body," Rose continued, mentioning that both he and his wife are donating their bodies to science. "There is a place where Swedenborg says that we are gently taken care of regardless of what has happened to our bodies. It could be blown to bits, as so many are in the war, or crushed or mangled. Think of those astronauts. I have the sense that it is not something to worry about."

Rose added that the funeral homes near the Swedenborgian community of Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania know very well that folks will want a simple pine box.

I understand that all popes are encased in special airtight caskets and concrete vaults. It is possible that the Catholic Church, like Schmidt's daughter, has failed to recognize that when it comes to caskets and vaults, less may very well be more?

Mike Tymn is a freelance writer living in Depoe Bay, Oregon. He is editor of the quarterly bulletin published by the Academy of Religion and Psychical Research as well as a Trustee of that organization and its book review editor. He can be contacted at METGAT@aol.com or at (541) 765-3421. •

Positive Statements To Help Create a Positive Day.

Affirmations . . . NOVEMBER 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 When in doubt, sleep on it.	**2** Inspiration is an exciting moment to be acted upon.	**3** "Sometimes, a smile passes like a bolt, but its memory lasts a lifetime." – *Chazal*	**4** We cannot hope to understand another unless we respect their free nature.	**5** "Anybody who is any good is different from anybody else." – *Felix Frankfurter*	**6** Often when we are sad or lonely our thoughts turn within which inspires.
7 I am open to all the goodness this world has to share with me.	**8** "Age and time are but timidities of thought." – *Eugene O'Neill*	**9** Often, in order to change, we must break our personal laws.	**10** "It is not good to be too free, nor to have everything one wants." – *Blaise Pascal*	**11** I see all things as Divine and of Spirit today.	**12** Sometimes the happiest moments are the quietest moments.	**13** "Be yourself. The world worships the original." – *Ingrid Bergman*
14 Our mind and thoughts create our so-called reality.	**15** "Even within chaos there lies a latent structural order." – *Unknown*	**16** "Hot can be cool, and cool can be hot." – *Louis Armstrong*	**17** "If it is art, it is not for all. If it is for all, it is not art." – *Arnold Schonberg*	**18** Good writing, singing, speaking, creating is inspired by Spirit. – *Science of Mind*	**19** God is in thy heart, yet thou searchest for Him in the wilderness. – *Arjun*	**20** That which you admire in another, look within yourself.
21 Spirit continually whispers to us to guide us along our divine path.	**22** Stepping forward in consciousness brings our life's goal to reality.	**23** We provide the pathway for Spirit to deliver the gift.	**24** "When you have reached the mountaintop, then you shall begin to climb." – *K. Gibran*	**25** Transformation is a full participant activity.	**26** "Yesterday ended last night." – *Raymond Charles Baker*	**27** "The only real danger that exists is man himself." – *Carl Jung*
28 "Patience is the best cure for any tribulation." – *Plautus*	**29** Dream, renew, improve and move forward with Spirit.	**30** Whatever I think and choose today, is with me forever.				



Count your blessings!








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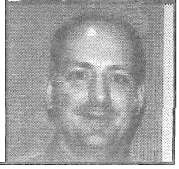
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LERCH, Rev. Jeannie Kerr, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, seminars, private consultations, 335 Piney Ridge Rd., 32707-3805 - (407) 834-5378, e-mail: lerch5378@aol.com.

DAYTONA BEACH

SIKORA, Rev. Arlene, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, private consultations, 2800 N. Atlantic Ave. #516, 32118 - (386) 228-3864.

OCALA

HAGER, Rev. Elaine S., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, seminars, private consultations, 9 Wood Ridge Dr., 34482-6683 - (352) 873-1951, e-mail: revelaine@cfl.rr.com.

WATSON, Rev. Sharon, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, seminars, private consultations, 9 Wood Ridge Dr., 34482-6683 - (352) 873-1951, e-mail: sawatson@cfl.rr.com.

ORLANDO

OTZELBERGER, Rev. E. Ann, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, seminars, private consultations, 4332 Woodlynne Lane, 32812 - (407) 826-0807, Fax (407) 826-0469, e-mail: revann@bellsouth.net.

SANFORD

AWTRY-SMITH, Rev. Marilyn, NST, Certified Medium, avail.for Speaking Engagements, Public Demonstrations and Private Consultations, 118 Wax Myrtle Dr., 32773 - (407) 322-7585, e-mail: awtry7smith7@aol.com.

• ILLINOIS •

CHICAGO

BOESEN, Rev. Marian, Certified Medium; Consultations by appt.; P.O. Box 826, Rock Falls, 61071, (815) 626-5788.

COVERSON, Rev. Marrice, NST, Certified Medium; Private consultations by appt. only, seminars, 5341 S. Cornell, 60615 - (773) 493-1967; e-mail: spiritspks@aol.com.

HEYWARD, Rev. Florence, Comm. Healer, Certified Medium; Pastor, Spiritualist Church of Truth, 6343 W. Cuyler, (708) 452-8754.

WILLIAMS, Rev. Arsenia J. Williams, NST, Certified Medium; Classes, seminars, workshops, private consultations, 10913 S. Parnell Ave., 60628 - (773) 995-1911, Fax (773) 995-9325; e-mail: arsenia9325@hotmail.com.

• INDIANA •

GARY

JAMES, Rev. Jesse Jr., Medium, by appt. only, 1301 Pennsylvania St., 46407- (219) 885-0091.

INDIANAPOLIS

BIANCHI, Rev. Robert, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 9004 Woodmoss Lane, Apt. 1B, 46250 - (317) 570-0094; e-mail: reverendbob@direct2spirit.com.

• IOWA •

CLINTON

HORSTMAN, Rev. Bonnie & Harvey, NST, Certified Mediums, 1958 Glendale Rd., 52732 - (563) 242-8460.

DAVENPORT

BUCHHOLZ, Rev. William E., Medium and Comm. Healer, 806 E. Thirteenth St., 52803-4240 - (319) 326-3201.

• MAINE •

AUGUSTA

TRACY, Rev. Margaret M., Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 27 North St., 04330-5007 - (207) 623-7264.

WALLACE, Earl L, Licentiate Minister, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345 - (207) 582-6745; e-mail: Godfreed@AOL.Com.

BELFAST

PARRY, Rev. Nancy Marshall, NST, Certified Medium, Healer; private readings, public lectures, classes, workshops, retreats; 28 Merriam Rd. #201, 04915 - (207) 338-4690; e-mail: clown@mint.net.

HARTFORD

NORRIS, Virginia, Licentiate Minister, Comm. Healer, 25 Camp Rd., 04220-5207 - (207) 597-2600.

SIGURDSSON, Rev. Rupert, NST, Comm. Healer, 25 Camp Rd., 04220-5207 - (207) 597-2600; e-mail: rupert@megalink.net.

LEWISTON

NYE, Rev. Gloria, NST, Certified Medium, 191 Dyer Rd., 04240 - (207) 786-4401; e-mail: glorygirl@midmaine.com.

LINCOLNVILLE

CROES, Rev. Lois, 2574 Atlantic Hwy., 04849.

• MARYLAND •

GLEN BURNIE / BALTIMORE

ROTHAMEL, Rev. John Edward Jr., NST, Certified Medium, Classes, Lectures, Seminars, Consultations, (410) 590-9187; e-mail: JRothamel@cablespeed.com.

TAKOMA PARK

MEERSCHAERT, Rev. John, Certified Medium and Comm. Healer, private consultations by appointment, 8716 Bradford Rd., Apt. 5, 20901 - (301) 585-0261, e-mail: seesspirit@aol.com.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

LOWELL

WINGOOD, Rev. Kenneth, 300 Douglas Rd., 01852 - (978) 454-4163.

WORTHINGTON

SULLIVAN, Rev. John F., Pastor of First Spiritualist Church of Springfield, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, classes, counseling, private consultations, public lectures, 480 Huntington Rd., P.O. Box 392, 01098 - (413) 238-5344; e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com.

• MINNESOTA •

ROCHESTER

YOUNG, Rev. Joyce E., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 4814 115 Ave. NW, Byron, 55920 - (507) 775-6358; e-mail: jeyoung@rconnect.com.

YOUNG, Rev. John E., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 4814 115 Ave. NW, Byron, 55920 - (507) 775-6358; e-mail: jeyoung@rconnect.com.

• NEVADA •

CARSON CITY

HOBLITT, Emma, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer; 893 Vista Park Dr., 89705 - (775) 267-9988.

RENO

BUTLER, Rev's Tom and Lisa, NST, Directors NSAC Dept. Phenomenal Evidence, Comm. Healers, Certified Mediums, Directors American Assoc. of Electronic Voice Phenomena, P.O. Box 13111, 89507, e-mail: phenomena@nsac.org, web sites; http://nsacphenomena.com & http://aaevp.com.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM

BAUMHOFF, Mary Lou, Certified Medium, P.O. Box 2223, 03079-1152 - (603) 898-8854, Fax (603) 893-3603.

WINDHAM

SNELL, Rev. Catherine, NST, Certified Medium, by appt. only, 23 Pleasant St., 03087-1775 - (603) 880-3599; e-mail: csnell45@adelphia.net.

TRAVIS, Rev. Janet, NST, 23 Pleasant St., 03087-1775 - (603) 880-3599; e-mail: jtravis24@adelphia.net.

• NEW YORK •

BELLMORE

RIVERA, Rev. Milagros G., Medium and Spiritual Counselor, Healer; Readings and Classes, 1830 #21 Bellmore Ave., 11710-5567 - (516) 781-9773.

CLIFTON PARK

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.

HOLBROOK

BERG, Rev. Virginia, Pastor, A Sanctuary of Infinite Spirit, NSAC, 1280 Claas Ave., 11741-3902 - (631) 588-3150; e-mail: VBergLI@optonline.net.

HUNTINGTON

SCHOELLER, Rev. Richard P., NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, by appt. only, 26 Sabbath Day Path, 11743-2752 - (631) 271-2985; e-mail: RPSchoeller@netzero.net.

LAKE RONKONKOMA

DUFFIELD, Rev. Patricia Anne, NST, Certified Medium, Comm. Healer, 10 Ackerly Lane, 11779 - (631) 588-5869; e-mail: kenpatduff@hotmail.com.

LILY DALE

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

KINCAID, Rev. Sylvia W., NST, 5 Fourth St., P.O. Box 261, 14752-0261 - (716) 595-8280; e-mail: Sylkin@netsync.net.

WEST BABYLON

LLOYD, Rev. Nancy A., NST, Certified Medium and Counselor (call or write for appointment); Mail: 10 Muncy Ave., Apt. 301, 11704 - (631) 669-3226; e-mail: nlloyd@suffolk.lib.ny.us.

• NORTH CAROLINA •

HENDERSONVILLE

GRIFFITH, Rev. Gail, NST, 175 Crestview Dr., 28791 - (828) 891-1312; e-mail: gailgriffith@juno.com.

• RHODE ISLAND •

State Wide

KENT, Revs Lynn and Brian, Certified Medium and Commissioned Healer; Private consultations by appt., home gatherings, specialize in physical phenomena table-tipping workshops, public readings for charity; (401) 245-8307; e-mail: lynnkent@spiritmedium.com; website: www.spiritmedium.com.

• OHIO •

FAIRBORN

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

• PENNSYLVANIA •

McKEESPORT

BRYNER, Ella, Medium, Comm. Healer, 401 Pirl St., Apt. 4H, 15132 - (412) 673-7880.

PORT VUE

KRALL, Frances, Medium, 582 Upston St., 15133 - (412) 678-2091.

• TEXAS •

AUSTIN

BROWN, Mrs. Frances Cervin, Licentiate Minister and Certified Medium, 2721 S. Congress, Apt. 2111, 78704 - (512) 447-2188.

EDINBURG

MUSE, Rev. Evelyn, NST, Minister, Certified Medium, 1104 Susan Dr., 78539 - (956) 383-2510.

HOUSTON

JESSUP, Rev. Jovita V., NST, Comm. Healer, Certified Medium, 5655 Meadow Creek Ln., 77017 - (713) 947-6586.

LOCKHART

HAMNER, Rev. Dr. Jean I., NST, Certified Medium, Commissioned Healer, Angels of Light Pastor, 2714 FM 713, 78644-4163; Private spiritual consultations by appointment, public lectures, classes and workshops - (512) 376-5310; e-mail: ALSCNSAC@AOL.COM.

• 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, 5904 Mt. Eagle Dr., Unit 318, 22303-2500 - (703) 317-1707.

HAMPTON

BROWN, Rev. Carol A., NST, 712 Big Bethel Rd., 23666-2802 - (757) 826-9652.

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 A., NST, Certified Medium, 1717 Besley Rd., 22182 - (703) 938-2512.

VIRGINIA BEACH

CRIBB, Rev. Kathleen, 900 Park Landing Ct., 23456 - (757) 471-2414.

• WASHINGTON •

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.

• CANADA •

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

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

• 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; Pastor, Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, (623) 581-5544; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing and All Message Service, 2nd Wed. of the month at 7:30 p.m. Tues. Classes 7:00 p.m., call about location; website: www.churchofthelivingspirit.org.

• CALIFORNIA •

CALIFORNIA STATE SPIRITUALISTS' ASSOCIATION
Pres., Rev. Sandra Cook, (805) 965-4474; Secy., Melissa J. Haddick, 640 The Alameda, Berkeley, 94707-1602, (510) 524-0910, ext. 2, Fax (510) 524-1027; e-mail: cssa@mjaustin.com.

AUBURN - Spiritualist Chapel of the Pines
457 Grass Valley Hwy. #7, 95603; Sun. Serv. 10:00 a.m.; All Message Serv. the first Fri. of month, 7 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. George Brenner; Pres., Pauline Conrad; Secy., Viretta Fiero, (530) 823-1816, Fax (916) 663-4691.

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.

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 - second 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., 4800 Auburn Folsom Rd., #63, Loomis, 95650, (916) 652-4568; e-mail: rdawson@wizwire.com.

SAN BERNARDINO - Temple of Spiritual Truth, NSAC
732 N. Sierra Way, 92402. Sun. Serv. & Healing 11:00 a.m.; Secy., Richard Patteson, P.O. Box 7006, Riverside, 92513.

SAN FRANCISCO - The First Spiritual Temple, NSAC
No weekday evening classes at this time; all correspondence and inquiries to the Rev. Alfred A. Conner, NST, Secy./Treas., 69 Idora Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127-1057, Tel. (415) 564-2260.

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. David Burr, NST; Pres., Sonny B. Gee; Secy., Engeltie Lauderback; website: www.GGSC.org.

SAN JOSE - The Spiritual Science of Life Church, NSAC
"The Friendly Church," 729 Morse Street, (Corner of Morse St. & Naglee), 95126; email: tssolc@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., Rev. Sandi Deckinger, 649 16th Ave., San Francisco, 94118, (415) 751-1384; 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: churchofthecomforter@earthlink.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 7:00 p.m.; Call for information on the Rev. Foard Memorial Library.

• COLORADO •

LITTLETON - Chapel of Spiritual Awareness
Pastor, Patricia J. Haskins-Schott, (303) 973-9993; **All mail** to: 6457 S. Xenon St., 80127; website: Go to www.spiritual-awareness.org; Call for information.

• 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., Rev. Lynn Gaffin; e-mail: slynnh@aol.com; website: www.nlspiritualist.com.

NEWINGTON - The Church of The Infinite Spirit
Masonic Temple, 80 Walsh Ave., 06111; Sun. Serv. 10:30 – 12:00 the second and fourth Sundays during Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., April, May and June. Open the first, third and fifth Sundays in Dec., and the first, second and fourth Sundays in March. Closed July & Aug.; Pastor, Allen Noddin, 174 Daley St., Forestville, 06010; Pres., Michael David Taylor, 42 Randall Ave., West Hatford, 06110, e-mail: shaktiflex@aol.com; Secy., Rosemary Wolff, 1229 Winsted Rd. #93, Torrington 06790, e-mail: lsage@snet.net. Contact Mary Ann Noddin at (860) 582-7385 for further information.

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.

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 thru August. For more information, please call the church; Pastor, Joyce Orcutt, 133 Wales Rd., Andover, 06232, (860) 742-7846; Licentiate Minister, Clinton Cady, P.O. Box 67, 06226; President, Renee Provost, P.O. Box 370190, W. Hartford, 06137; Secy., Marie Kuper, 106 Old Andover Rd., Hebron, 06248, (860) 228-0762.

• 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., Michael Gallion, (202) 237-7659; Secy., Rev. John Meerschaert, (301) 585-0261.

• 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., Stanley L. Pierce, 6458 So. Maryland, Chicago, 60637, (773) 324-1065.

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., Sandy Kilemek, 531 Pottawatomie Trail, Porter, IN 46304.

CHERRY VALLEY - Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp, Inc.
8002 Service Rd., 61016, (815) 332-5359; Camp Season: June 1 thru Sept. 30; Serv., 10:30 to 11:00 Healing Meditation, 11:00 to 12:30 Church Service, Pot Luck follows; Pres., Ken Boesen (815) 626-5716; Secy, George Kittnar (815) 633-9150.

CHERRY VALLEY - Christabelle Spiritualist Church
8002 Service Rd., 61016. (815) 332-5359; Healing Serv. 10:30 a.m., Worship Service 11:00 a.m. every Sunday, Oct. thru May at Cherry Valley Spiritualist Camp; Pastor, Rev. Marian Boesen, (815) 626-5716; Pres. Kenneth Boesen, (815) 626-5716; Treas., Martha Witt, 1204 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville, 60560, (815) 553-2517.

CHICAGO - First Spiritualist Church of Harmony, Unity & Truth
Located in Tucker Smith Washington Spiritualist Temple, 6146 S. Ashland Ave., 60628; Worship Services 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. the 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays of the month and on some common religious holiday Sundays. Secy., Antoinette Preston; Pastor, Rev. Arsenia Williams, 10913 S. Parnell Ave., 60628.

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, Rev. 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., P.O. Box 174, 61752-0174); (309) 962-9076; Sundays-Adult Lyceum 11:00 a.m., Service 12:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Bob Bianchi, NST; Pres., Joseph Meyer; Secy., Sharon Bianchi, (317) 570-0094. website: www.crumbaughchurch.org; e-mail: reverendbob@direct2spirit.com.

• INDIANA •

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE, NSAC
Secy., Bonnie J. Darby, 7274 Lakeside Woods Dr., Indianapolis, 46278, (317) 329-1217, Fax (317) 329-1218, e-mail: BDarby02@aol.com; Pres., Rev. Jessie James, (219) 885-0091.

GARY - First Spiritualist Church, Inc., NSAC
2430 W. 11th Ave.; Serv. Sun. 3:00 p.m.; Pastor & Pres., Rev. Jesse James, Jr., 1301 Pennsylvania St., 46407; Secy., Angeletta Banks; Unfoldment Classes 1st & 2nd Sat. of each month, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Lyceum Sun. 3:00 p.m., Jacqueline Crooms and Donna Emery.

INDIANAPOLIS - New Dawn Spirit of Light Church, Inc., NSAC
New Dawn Spirit of Light Church is hosting the Indiana State Association of Spiritual Science 100th Annual Convention on June 4th, 5th and 6th, 2004. Join Indiana in celebrating 100 years of Spiritualism. Anyone interested in attending our Convention, for more information please contact Rev. Mildred Schlagel, (317) 291-0799, e-mail: webmaster@newdawnchurch.org, or Bonnie Darby, (317) 329-1217, Fax (317) 329-1218, e-mail: BDarby02@aol.com.

MICHIGAN CITY - Spiritual Science Church, NSAC, Inc.
314 W. Coolspring Ave., 46360, (219) 874-6002; Sun. Serv. 12:00 Noon; Pastor, John Kampf, (574) 298-5080; Secy., Karen Ketchum, (219) 362-1878; Treas., Regina Schultz, (219) 229-0544.

• 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; 2004 Camp Season, 7-10-04 thru 8-20; Stella LaTour, Secy., (219) 871-0686.

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, (563) 324-9659; Sun. Healing Serv. 1:30 p.m.; Worship & Message Serv. 2:00 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. William E. Buchholz, 806 E. 13th St., 52803-4240, (563) 326-3201; Vice Pres., Joy Strasser, (563) 445-1144.

• MAINE •

MAINE STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
Pres., Graham Connolly, 66 Martin Heights, Raymond, 04071, (207) 655-6673; 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, (207) 622-8980, corner of Perham & Court Sts.; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Thurs. Awareness Class 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Co-Pastor, Earl Wallace, (207) 582-6745, e-mail: godfreed@aol.com; Co-Pastor, Vaikko Allen, (207) 622-2799, e-mail: vallen@adelphia.net; Secy., Phyllis Norton, e-mail: secretaryasc@yahoo.com.

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: simpsonb@hermon.net. Church services may be canceled due to inclement weather; From July 1 to third Sun. in Sept. the church may hold evening church services or cancel church services for the summer. As of this printing Gallery Readings are held the second Friday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m. Please call the secy. for more information.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Camp
Mail address: 25 Camp Rd., 04220-5207; Open July and August - Service, Seminars and Classes; Co-Pastor & Secy. Virginia Norris, LM, CH; Pastor, Rev. Rupert Sigurdsson, NST. For information, Phone (207) 597-2600, Fax (207) 597-2295; e-mail: rupert@megalink.net.

HARTFORD - Pinpoint of Light Spiritualist Center
Mail address: 25 Camp Rd., 04220-5207; Sun. Serv. 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., followed by a potluck lunch; Classes Wed. 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Co-Pastor & 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 11th through August 15th. Schedule to be announced. For information, contact President John Davidson, 74 Central Ave., Waterville, 04901, phone (207) 877-2204; e-mail: jdavidson@gwi.net; Secy., Debi Ludden. 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 Labor Day. A different featured medium each week. Church services Sun. at 2:30 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. at 7:30 p.m.; Gallery Readings at 7:30 p.m. on Mon.; Message Circles Wed. & Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Workshops/seminars on Sat.; Accommodations available; June-Sept. call (207) 338-3029; Off season contact Pres., Earl Wallace at (207) 582-6745 or 124 Spring St., Gardiner, 04345; e-mail; godfreed@aol.com or Secy., Sue Jalbert, 66 Martin Heights, Raymond, 04071; e-mail; cats2@maine.rr.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, 04915-6003, (207) 338-1355; Secy., Aloha Foley, Belfast, 04915-6003.

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., Graham Connolly, (207) 655-6673; e-mail: pschurch@maine.rr.com.

PORTLAND - Inner Light Spiritualist Church
32 Thomas St. (Welliston-West Church), 04102; Secy., Linda Smith, P.O. Box 2484, So. Portland, 04116-2484.

• MARYLAND •

GLEN BURNIE/BALTIMORE - The Light Center Spiritualist Church
HELD AT: 13 1st Avenue SW, Glen Burnie, 21061, (410) 761-7666. OFFICE: 7851 Foxfarm Lane, Glen Burnie, 21061-6324; (410) 590-9167, Fax (801) 730-9109, Info@LightCenter.org, www.LightCenter.org. SERVICES: 1st Sunday: MPI Study Group - 10 a.m., Devotional Serv. - 11 a.m., Thought Exchange - 12:30 p.m.; 3rd Sun: Adult Lyceum - 10 a.m., Devotional Service - 11 a.m., Seminar - 12:30 p.m.; 5th Fri: Healing/Message Serv. - 7:30 p.m. CLASSES: 1st Fri: Meditation - 7:30 p.m.; 2nd/3rd/4th Fri: Development - 7:30 p.m.; EVENTS: Workshops, Guest Speakers/Mediums, Picnics, Field Trips, Seances, Circles, Dinners, Community Awareness/Aid Programs.

• MASSACHUSETTS •

MEDFORD - Medford Spiritualist Church, NSAC, Chapel of Peace
Sunday Serv. held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 147 High St.; Serv. at 5:00 p.m., Healing Lecture and Messages; 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.

REHOBOTH - First Spiritualist Church of Brockton, Inc., NSAC
Services held at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday at the Anawan Grange Bldg., junction Rts. 44 & 118; Mailing address: P.O. Box 145, 02769, e-mail: firstspiritualistchurch.com. For more information contact Secretary Jodi Sheffer at (401) 885-3838.

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.

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 with sign-up; Pastor, Rev. John F. Sullivan, P.O. Box 392, Worthington, 01098 - (413) 238-5344, e-mail: jsulli1942@aol.com; Pres., Tom Ruelke, 86 Orchard Hill Rd., Littleton, NH 03561, e-mail: bigrock@localnet.com; Secy., Denise St. Pierre, e-mail: Denise1957@aol.com.

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, *(Continued from previous page.)*

• MICHIGAN •

MICHIGAN STATE SPIRITUALIST ASSOC. OF CHURCHES
Pres., Marcia Hyatt, 4161 Buckingham, Detroit, 48224-3538; Secy., Rev. Marguerite I. Gutt, NST, 813 E. Evelyn, Hazel Park, 48030-3106, (248) 548-2240.

CHARLEVOIX - The Golden Rule Spiritualist Church
07444 Old US 31 North, 49720-9422, (231) 347-3899; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m., except during July and August because our "camp" operates in the same location. (During cold weather months it is advisable to call our Secretary just in case. We held services for the winter of 2001/2002, but weather is beyond our control.) 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 and Certified Medium; website: www.churchseek.net/church/goldenrule; Contact Person: Jinki Boyer-Goodwin, Secy., 9546 Ingleside Rd., Levering, 49755, home phone 231-537-2938.

CHARLEVOIX - Northern Lake Michigan Spiritualist Camp
Please see Golden Rule Spiritualist Church listing for contact information, driving directions, or website www.nlmsc.org: Open July and August for Sunday services at 10:30 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 and Certified Medium.

FERNDALE - First Spiritualist Temple of Detroit
2724 Goodrich, 48220; Sun. Serv. 8:00 a.m.; Secy., Diane Smith.

LESLIE - Flower Memorial Spiritualist Church
Jackie North, e-mail: J91943@AOL.com, (517) 589-9259.

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 1, 2004 through Sept. 1, 2004; Annual Retreat July 11-16, 2004; Lyceum Dir., Dawn Hyatt; Pres., Donald Weichner, 8022 W. Chain Lake Rd., P.O. Box 89, 48761-0089.

• MINNESOTA •

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. 140; 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) 225-4609 (church) or (612) 699-4858 (home); Secy., Gerold Kemling, c/o 2169 Scheffer Ave., 55116-1255.

• MISSOURI •

ST. LOUIS - Fifth Spiritualist Church of St. Louis
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, 9540 Miriam, Overland, 63114, (314) 423-3516; Secy., Lisbeth Tintera, 901 Peace Haven Dr., 63125, (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
3355 W. Spring Mountain Rd., Ste. 68, 89102, (702) 876-8783; Service times: Sun. 11:00 a.m., Tues. 6:30 p.m., Thurs. :30 p.m., Healing Meditation, with a Spiritualist development class following the service, every welcome. Vicky Homann, Pres., (702) 369-9449, e-mail: VickyVJean@aol.com.

• NEW HAMPSHIRE •

SALEM - The Church of Spiritual Life, Inc.
Masonic Hall, 109 Main St., Rt. 97; Mailing address: P.O. Box 144, 03079; Year Round Services; Regular Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Wed. classes 7:15 p.m.; Call Pastor, Rev. Kenneth Wingood, (978) 454-4163; website: http://www.NHSpiritualist.homestead.com.

• NEW JERSEY •

WESTVILLE - Church of Eternal Life
243 W. Olive & Folsom Sts., 08093; Sun. Healing, Worship & Message Serv. 11:00 a.m., (856) 456-2196 for cancellations; Pastor, Lillian Joyce, 300 McCourt Ave., Berlin, (856) 767-1651, e-mail: spiritone@snip.net; Pres., Russell E. Joyce, 300 McCourt Ave., Berlin, (856) 767-1651; Secy., Kathleen M. Pollack, 1762 Crown Pt. Rd. #537-A, Thorofare, (856) 848-7053; website: http://users.snip.net/~spiritone.

WENONAH - Stow Memorial Foundation
Muriel De Young, 305 Carnegie Ave., Wenonah.

• NEW YORK •

EAST AURORA - First Spiritualist Temple
29 Temple Pl., P.O. Box 465, 14052, (716) 652-5018, www.FST-East-Aurora.org; 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; Secy., Rae Cogar-Shelton, (716) 648-3881.

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 Donna S. Riegel, Secretary.

LILY DALE - Lily Dale Spiritualist Church
Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Healing & Message Serv. each Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Pres., Michael Pillsbury, e-mail: pillsbury@madbbs.com; 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 Rd. (Nisequogue River Rd.), Smithtown; Pastor, Rev. Virginia Berg; Asst. Minister, Rev. Patricia Anne Duffield, NST, (631) 588-3150; Mailing address: 1280 Claas Ave., Holbrook, 11741-3902; e-mail: asisli@optonline.net.

LONG ISLAND - New Horizons Spiritualist Church
Meeting: at 10:00 a.m., 1130 N. Broadway, Massapequa; Classes available; Mail to: Frances Werbeck, Secy., 43 Grand St., Lynbrook, 11563, (516) 593-7213; Pastor, Rev. N. A. Lloyd, NST, 10 Muncy Ave., Apt. 301, W. Babylon, 11704, (631) 669-3226, e-mail: nlloyd@suffolk.lib.ny.us.

LONG ISLAND - Summerland Church of Light, NSAC
Healing and Worship Service: Sunday 10:00 a.m. service held at 225 Wireless Blvd., Hauppauge; Church Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5209, Hauppauge, 11788-5209, (631) 732-0421; Pastor, Rev. Richard Schoeller, NST, (631) 271-2985.

LONG ISLAND - Temple of Metaphysical Science, NSAC
So. Ocean Ave. & Baker St., Patchogue, 11772; Sun. Serv.: Healing and Worship 11:00 a.m.; Pastor, Rev. Hugo Ruiz, NST; Mailing address: P.O. Box 3400, Patchogue, 11772, 800-316-1231; website: http://www.TMS-Li.org.

ROCHESTER - Plymouth Spiritualist Church
29 Vick Park A, Rochester, 14607; (585) 271-1470; Voicemail (585) 234-2362; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m.; Third Wednesdays All Message and Healing Services 7-9 p.m.; Plymouthspiritualistchurch.org; Pastor, Robin Higgins; Pres., Joanne Antinore.

• OHIO •

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

ASHTABULA - First Spiritualist Church
4230 Main Ave.; Sun. Serv., 2:00 p.m., Healing & Clairvoyance; **TELEPHONE FOR WEATHER CANCELLATIONS.** Pres., Dorothy A. Benes, 8513 Creek Rd., Williamsfield, 44093; Phone: (440) 293-7056; For information contact: Charles J. Benes, 8513 Creek Rd., Williamsfield, 44093; Phone: (440) 293-7056. **LET PHONE RING.** Services are held starting with the 2nd Sun. in Sept. and continue through the last Sun. in May. Church is not in session during June, July, and Aug.

COLUMBUS - First Spiritualist Church of Linden
1751 Aberdeen Ave., 43211, (614) 263-1631; Pastor, Natalie Smith Blakeslee.

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

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

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, *(Continued from previous page.)*

• 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, Secy., Dianne English, 820 Stanton Ave., Pittsburth, 15209.

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 - First Spiritualist Church
4200 Ave. "D", 78751, (512) 458-3987; Devotional, healing & message service every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.; Pres., Wanda Garcia; Corr. Secy., Dora Hamburg.

CAMERON - First Spiritualist Church of Cameron
Pres., Pearlie Kreneck, P.O. Box 1152, 76520-1152, Fax: (254) 697-2275.

DALLAS - Second Spiritualist Church, NSAC
4905 Inwood Dr., Rowlett, 75088; Devotional, Healing and Message Serv., 2nd and 4th Sunday's each month at 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.; Class/Circle following service at 4:30 p.m.; Pres., Julie de Araujo, (972) 276-8232; Student Pastor, Robert Croteau, (972) 675-9080; Mail: P.O. Box 464, China Spring, 76633; e-mail: SSC@SSCNSAC.ORG; website: 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., Liana Liles, 20214 No. Briar Dr., 77073; e-mail: L_creat@hotmail.com; 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.

McMAHAN - Angels of Light Spiritualist Church, NSAC
2714 FM 713, Lockhart, 78644-4163; Devotional, healing and message serv. followed by class/circle, 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2 p.m.; Pastor and Secy., Rev. Dr. Jean I. Hamner, (512) 376-5310; e-mail: ALSCNSAC@AOL.COM.

SAN ANTONIO - Louise Scholtz Memorial Chapel, NSAC
1627 PanAm Expwy. North, 78208-1143, (210) 225-2354; Sun. Serv. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Co-Pastors, Hector Caldera and Alex Sifuentes.

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 N. Washington St.; Mailing Addr. CSE (NSAC), P.O. Box 6535, 22040--6535; (703) 645-8060; website: www.TheCSE.org; e-mail: thecse@TheCSE.org; Year-round Serv.; Healing Serv. each Sun. 10:00 a.m., followed by Worship Serv. at 10:30 a.m.; Children's Lyceum 10:00 a.m., Sept. through June; Judy Griesse, Lyceum Dir.; Pastor, Rev. B. Anne Gehman; Pres., Wayne Knoll; Secy., Larry Leonard, 5905 Sherborn Lane, Springfield, VA 22152, (703) 569-1541; e-mail: larry@larryleonard.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., Ann Marie Croteau; Lyceum Director, Beth Yates.

• WASHINGTON •

KENT - Church of Divine Grace, NSAC
Services held on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at The Spiritual World, 216 First Ave. So.; All Correspondence to: Allers, 11113 S.E. 323 St., Auburn, 98092, (206) 824-7454; e-mail: Info@divinegrace.org.; Pres., Bernie Allers; Secy., Lezlie Deuchress; website: www.DivineGrace.org.

MILTON - Camp Edgewood, NSAC Assoc.
1228 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354; Tel. (253) 927-2050, Fax (253) 927-7531; Pres., Colleen Mohler, (253) 927-2365; Secy., Karen Wennerlind.

MILTON - Church of Spiritual Unity, NSAC
Camp Edgewood - Church Serv. Sundays, 2:00 p.m.; Pastor, LaVerne Pemberton, (206) 722-2348; Pres., Colleen Mohler, 1210 - 26th Ave. Ct., 98354, (253) 927-2365; Secy., Catherine Cesaro, (206) 782-3779; e-mail: csunsac@yahoo.com.

• 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.; Tues. Development Circle; Wed. Healing 6:30 p.m., Message Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Fri. Open Circle and Discussion. Lyceum Conductor, Beverly Goff, Asst. Conductor, Josetta Ludwig; Pastor, Rev. Raymond Jones, 104 N. Broadway St., 26003, (304) 232-5795; e-mail: pastorray@1st.net; Church website: http://users.1st.net/pastorray; Church e-mail: waymemorialtemple@1st.net. Church open year round.

• 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; website: fscwa.org.

WONEWOC - West Wisconsin Spiritualist Camp Association
304 Hill St., 53968, 1-800-974-7035 or (608) 464-7770; Open mid-June to mid-September.

• CANADA •

BRITTEN MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CANADA
657 Lansdowne Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M6H 3Y2.

CHURCH OF SPIRITUAL WISDOM
674 Kennedy Rd., Scarsborough, Ontario M1K 2B5; Sun. Serv. 2:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing, Lecture & Message Serv., Thurs. 7:30 p.m.
Delphi Center for Development, Enlightenment, Spiritual Healing; Contact Rev. Judy Merrill (416) 264-6758; e-mail: jmmevolve@yahoo.com.

THE FIRST SPIRITUAL CHURCH OF MONTREAL
2186 St. Catherine St. West, Montreal, Quebec, H3H 1M7; English Serv. - Sun. 2:00 p.m. & Wed. 7:30 p.m.; French Serv. - Sun. 4:30 pm., 2nd & 4th Wed. 7:30 p.m; Rev. Mary Amato, Minister, (514) 365-0661.

THE FIRST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH OF GALT
72 Grand Avenue North, Cambridge, Ontario, N1S 2K9; Sun. Serv.: Healing 2:30 p.m., Devotional 3:00 p.m.; Summer (June, July, Aug.): Healing 6:30 p.m., Devotional 7:00 p.m.; Meditation, healing and message circle, Wed. 7:00 p.m.; Development & Healing Classes available; Pastor, Rev. Ed Kenning (semi-retired); Pastor, Rev. Karen Charles (519) 622-7177; website: http://members.rogers.com/fscg; e-mail: fscg@rogers.com.

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP
Office: 1974 de Maisonneuve W., Montreal, QC H3H 1K5, (514) 937-8359, Fax (514) 937-5380; Location: Days Inn, 1005 Guy St., Montreal; Sun. Serv. 7:30 p.m.; Mid-Week Serv. Thurs. 7:30 p.m.; Classes, Workshops, Teas, Meditation, Conferences, Discussion Groups, Spiritual Healing, Message Circles, Visiting Mediums; Pres./Pastor, Rev. Dr. Marilyn Rossner.

SPIRITUALIST CHURCH OF CANADA
83 Ottawa Street North, Hamilton, Ontario, L8H 3Y9; Pres., Rev. Alva Folkes; website: www.spiritualistchurchofcanada.com.

SPRINGDALE CHURCH, TORONTO
30 Merritt Rd., Toronto, Ontario M4B 3K5; Sun. Serv. 3:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing & Messages, 7:00 p.m. Address and Spirit Messages; Tues., 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing & Meditation; Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Healing, Messages and Open Development Circle; Development Classes; Pastor, Rev. Doreen Bauld, (416) 759-3958.

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National Spiritualist Association of Churches
P.O. Box 217, 13 Cottage Row
Lily Dale, New York 14752

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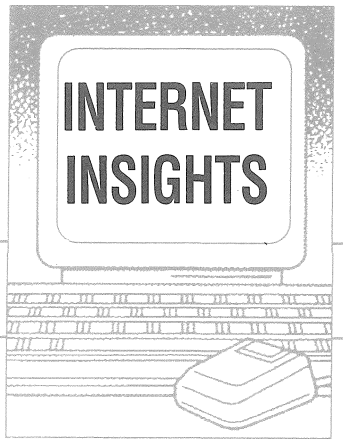
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A PENNY

You always hear the usual stories of pennies of the sidewalk being good luck, gifts from angels, etc. This is the first time I've ever heard this twist on the story. Gives you something to think about.

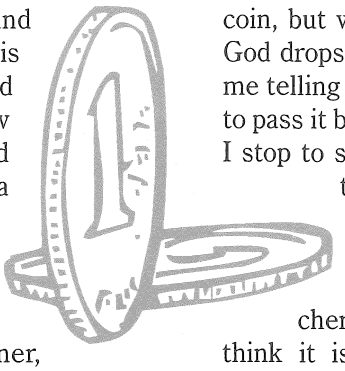
Several years ago, a friend of mine and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home. My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.

The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live.

The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.

As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband. He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment. Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts. Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny.

He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?



Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it no longer. She casually mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value.

A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before! What was the point of this?

"Look at it." He said. "Read what it says." She read the words "United States of America."

"No, not that; read further."

"One cent?" "No, keep reading."

"In God we Trust?"

"Yes!"

"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him? Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray, I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful.

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I cannot change. I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message.

It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful! And, God is patient...

Have a blessed day! •



A joyful and pleasant thing it is
to be thankful.

– Book of Common Prayer

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES
DEPARTMENT OF PHENOMENAL EVIDENCE

November 2004 Department of Phenomenal Evidence Report

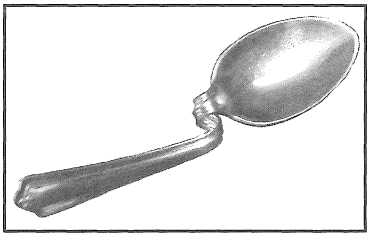
BY THE REVS. TOM AND LISA BUTLER, NST

Still Working. We have had several reports regarding contact from the Reverend Barbara Thurman. The Reverend Catherine Snell had called Barbara just days before her transition, asking her for advice on a spoon bending class that Catherine was to teach. She was sitting with another Spiritualist at Temple Heights Spiritualist Camp the morning Barbara made her transition. A cool breeze moved between them and they both knew that it was Barbara. In California, Barbara had just made her transition. Two days later, Catherine was teaching the spoon bending class that she had been worried about. To her amazement she spoke about spoon bending for forty-five minutes, describing how it related to this and helped with that. She felt certain that Barbara was helping her through Inspirational Speaking.



The Reverend Barbara Thurman (sitting) with American Association of Electronic Voice Phenomena Founder, Sarah Estep.
Photograph by Becky Estep

Catherine was very pleased with her presentation but next she had to bend a spoon along with her class! She was relieved when her first spoon did bend and related that, "It was not a fantastic bend but it did bend." She picked up her next spoon and knew within her that Barbara was up at the front of the class with her. She was electrified as she watched the spoon make two loops, a Barbara Thurman trademark.



Marie McDermott lived near Barbara and often drove her to church when she was too sick to drive. Marie also helped set up the chairs for the service. Marie related to us how Barbara talked on those drives about her student's abilities and how best to bring those abilities out. Marie was with Barbara the day before she crossed over.

The next morning, Marie dreamed about Barbara. She woke up to find a glowing Barbara beside her bed, healthy, looking fifteen years younger and smiling. In typical Barbara fashion, she told Marie, "It's time to stop resting on your laurels and finish the Morris Pratt course." Marie called Barbara's house but knew that she would hear that Barbara was finally out of her body.

We also have been lucky enough to receive communication from Barbara. On July 4, we went to our experiment room and placed a note and a picture of Barbara on the counter. The note explained that we would conduct experiments at 6 pm each night, trying to reach her. That first night we were just going to meditate and try to tune in to her and let her know what we were doing, but half way through the mediation, Lisa felt the need to get the recorder and record. We did not receive a message from Barbara on that recording, but after calling on her we recorded a man's voice saying, **"Barbara Thurman happy...is busy."** The next two nights, we did not receive anything we could say was pertinent to Barbara Thurman. In the Wednesday night session, we were trying to find out how long Barbara would be busy. You can hear Lisa say, "We recorded a man saying, **'Barbara Thurman happy...is busy.'"** Immediately after this, a voice that we recognized as Barbara, only younger, said, **"I'm right here,"** in that definite kind of voice that she has.

Barbara is doing what she said she would and we are sure that she will continue to help many here in the physical from her new perspective on the other side of life.

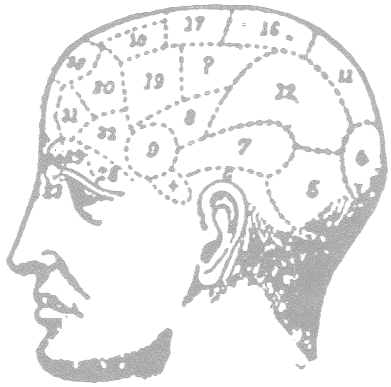
Mind over Matter. Loyd Auerbach wrote about his experiences with Martin Caidin in his book, *Mind Over*

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Matter (Kensington 1996). Caidin was able to move things with his mind. Loyd writes that, "It became clear that people could learn to do PK as long as they believed it possible...The limits we put on our own physical performance are seemingly only one part physical and one part mental. With some appropriate intent and the ability to at least temporarily ignore or shrug off the limitations others place on us, what is impossible becomes quite possible." From Fate June 2004, "The Psychokinetic Zone."

Life after Death. NBC 10 in Washington State did a piece on the work of Dr. Melvin Morse, M.D. Morse is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington and a neuroscientist who studies the near death experiences of children. You may remember Morse as the author of *Closer to the Light* and *Into the Light*.



Morse used to believe that people who were interested in near death experiences just wanted to be on television talk shows but then he resuscitated a 7 year-old girl who had been underwater for nineteen minutes and was clinically dead. First she described her own resuscitation from a birds eye view. Then she drew a picture of her unborn brother with a big red heart and told Morse that she had to come back to her body to help her mother with her unborn brother. The baby boy had heart disease when he was born.

Morse now believes that people who have a near death experience are actually stepping into another realm of existence. "One child told me it was a light who told her who she was and where she was to go...I want to interact with that light that tells us who we are and where we are to go while we're still alive. That to me is a challenge of the near-death experience." From: www.nbc10.com/news/3253894/detail.html

Tate Memorial Lecture. Henry Burton Tate willed money to the British Society for Psychical Research 'for the pursuance of such activities as may lead to the establishment of the theory of survival after death.' Tate stipulated that the Society hold two public lectures each year, to be named the Gwen Tate Memorial Lectures and that these lectures be on "the continuing existence of consciousness."

The Society was fortunate to have Dr. Anabela Cardoso present the evidence for survival offered through Instrumental TransCommunication (ITC). ITC is the term used for a wide range of communications coming from discarnate people that are received through electronic media such as audio and video recorders, radios, telephones and computers. Dr. Cardoso outlined the history of ITC and summarized some of the work of recent and current researchers. She went on to explain the various methods used for receiving ITC communications, in particular Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) and Direct Radio Voice (DRV). Dr. Cardoso then played many samples of her DRV communications. From: Psychic World, July 2004, "Dr. Anabela Cardoso Delivers the Gwen Tate Memorial Lecture at the Society for Psychical Research on London on May 20th 2004" by David Fontana

Mapping empathy in the brain. A team of scientists led by Dr. Tania Singer of University College of London has conducted fMRI (functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging) brain mapping experiments to determine the psychological character of empathy. Couples thought to be close friends were used in the experiment with the female connected to the fMRI and the male subjected to electrical shock applied to a hand. While the one receiving the shock expressed the pain in the expected regions of the brain associated with pain as well as that associated with an emotional component of the pain (the "pain matrix") the partner connected to the fMRI responded to the pain in only the emotional areas of the brain. According to Dr. Singer, [this] "...suggest that the neural substrate for empathetic experiences does not involve the entire "pain matrix." We conclude that only that part of the pain network associated with its affective qualities, but not its sensory qualities, mediates empathy."

As Michael Colmer pointed out in the July 2004 *Psychic World*, this research may have important implications for mediumship. For mediums who feel the message as a physical condition, this research argues that the medium will respond in the regions of the brain associated with empathy but not the regions associated with the physical experience of pain. Similarly, a spiritual healer will often sense the condition of a sitter as a corresponding discomfort. This research argues that that experience is restricted to an empathetic response.

Much more research will be required, but it is possible that scientists will find ways to better develop the empathetic response if desired. Precedence for this can be found in the work of Robert Monroe and the Monroe Institute (www.monroeinstitute.org). For Spiritualists, it proves once again that the brain is the physical embodiment of our etheric selves, and that the regions of the brain involved with empathy are in fact just the embodiment of empathy felt by our etheric self. From: www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/~tsinger/

Please send information about phenomena in your church, life or community to the DPE, Tom and Lisa Butler, PO Box 13111, Reno, Nevada 89507, or via email to phenomena@nsac.org. Your donations to the DPE, same address, are tax exempt and will help fund our work in the department. •

THE WORK OF SPIRIT

BY DR. GIL GILLY, Arizona



He had been missing for at least three days. He was only twelve years old when he disappeared and his parents were frantic. They were strangers visiting in a large city and presumed their little boy was traveling back to their small little town in the care of relatives and friends when they discovered him gone. Franticly Joe and Mary were retracing their steps and searching everywhere for their son, when they finally found him in the midst of a bunch of Doctors and other Learned Men at a Temple. They scolded him saying, "son why have you done this to us, we have looked all over this city for you with much fear and sorrow." That Boy according to Luke, Chapter 2, Verse 49, said to them, *Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business.*

Several years later, this same boy, now a man, was speaking to a large crowd of people anxious to learn *his way* when he was asked, according to John 6, Verse 28, "What could they do that they too might work the works of the Lord." This is what He answered, ...*Go and share what ye have learned with all the World.* That commanding answer may be why his teachings have been the most powerful emergent force in the world for over 2000 years, and are still going strong.

"Our Father/Spirit's Business" is what the church is all about. And "Sharing with all the World" is what the National Spiritualist Association of Churches (NSAC) is all about. The NSAC endorses the most advanced approach to the study of Spirit communication, past and present; and now, more than ever, is the time for us to share this with all the world. That is why your membership in your local church and their participation in the NSAC are so important. As you sow, so shall you grow.

The NSAC has, since its beginning over 100 years ago, attracted to its membership the spiritual giants of the Spiritualist movement. The NSAC is still the place where the most prominent ministers, researchers, teachers, leaders, speakers and authors are linked together. But between you and me the real reason for its existence is a person like you and me going about God's Business when we study, support, and share the NSAC Principles with everyone we know, what better way to share with all the world. Remember, it is the Divine Source that sustains you. It is your privilege to take care of God's business.

On the practical side, to run a profitable and viable business today it is necessary to first think it through. The church business today bears very little resemblance to the way things were done 50 or even 20 years ago. Competition is extremely heavy and more varied than ever before. What are you doing that makes you more sought-after than your competition? The message is perfect but the presentation needs upgrading.

BUT what's that you say? You need a plan, a diagram, a blueprint, and a way to get started? Does the local organization, the church, or the study group you attend have a plan you can involve yourself in to get the Spiritualist message out to all the people in your community? If not maybe it is time to help each other develop one. And that is another reason to be a member of the NSAC. Group membership in the NSAC adds credibility and stability to your organization.

Consider this—if for some reason there were hundreds or maybe thousands of like-minded people gathering with you at any given time in your own group or congregation, what kind of energy do you think would be produced? Do you want your attendance to double or enlarge to 10, 20, or even a hundred times its present size? On the other hand would you be able to handle that kind of growth? Are you ready to demonstrate what you promulgate?

Some of you might alibi a small attendance with the trite excuse that the people that are supposed to be there will be, or when the student is ready they will find you.

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Don't lie to yourself, every community, including yours, is loaded with people that are ready to benefit from our message but have never even heard of you or your membership. There are plenty of truth seeking folks in every community that are more than ready, willing and able to be a part of a well thought-out study of Spiritualism. It's the "Creator's Business;" you're supposed to exhibit it aggressively to "All The World."

If you really want to grow it takes an organized and active plan. There is no such thing as standing still. When you stand still you are going backward and slowly deteriorating. If you do not have a plan to increase your membership you definitely have another plan and that plan is not to grow. If you have a plan but it is not organized, specific, and active you may get a straggler here and a little bit there and that adds up to leftovers and class-hoppers that the well-organized, viable, and promotional minded organization leaves on the fringes.

Do not let the illusion of "less is best" delude you; it is completely irrational to perpetuate erroneous thinking. The hard reality is that church growth goes hand in hand with spiritual growth. Our job is to provide a place, the teaching, and an atmosphere for the individual to learn how to identify and develop their own spiritual growth. The NSAC's job; through their Principles, Conventions, Publications, and Leaders is to assure that you and your organization are kept up to date and moving in the right direction. The NSAC is there for your benefit and wants you to be successful.

Maybe you need a clear understanding of what a spiritual enterprise is, it is a business, "God's Business," a business of teaching truth and helping each person that comes to us discover their true essential nature. The very purpose of our existence is to further Infinite Truth. If those statements are true; then why are we not full and overflowing at each of our meetings? Is not our message of Spiritualism logical, scientific, attractive, or spiritual enough? Could it simply be that we are not making enough of a concentrated effort to get the word out to the masses? If this last question hits a sore spot in you, and if your meetings are not full and overflowing, the next step is to start planning now how to get the word out to each and every person in your immediate area. Start NOW to constantly let the community you live in know you are there; tell them what you are doing and invite them to join you; and the next thing you know your meetings will be full and overflowing as the world beats a path to your door.

There is not another system of belief, Religion, or Philosophy that has the message we have. I have not found any spiritual, religious, or philosophical emphasis anywhere that has a more wholesome perspective than Spiritualism. Where else can one participate in a study that produces such great results and has such consistent answers to life's deepest questions? We have such wonderful freedom in our search for truth, so much meaning and joy in our teaching. Anybody that thinks for themselves are seekers of truth and could not possibly want to be anywhere else.



Jesus, when lost from his parents said: "Don't you know I must be about my Father's Business." Do you know what the "Creator's business" is? It hasn't changed or been altered with Spiritualism it has only become more usable, more understandable, and more meaningful. It may be time to redefine that statement to say, "Infinite Intelligence's business is my business" and like Jesus directed, I am going to "tell all the world."

The integrity of you, a Spiritualist, is at stake, not in what we say or teach, but in what we do. An ad on the Church page is not enough. Other persuasions blatantly prospect and pursue for new members in an extremely aggressive fashion. You do not have to use the same techniques they do, but you should use the same enthusiasm and effort. So when you plan, be creative, progressive, aggressive, and active. Some of you might think that it is beneath our dignity and crass to openly recruit new members. Just the contrary, we are advocating Spiritualism, and that in its self creates dignity. Maybe the other guy's methods sound and look cheap, but it pays off and he doesn't have the message we have.

Start now, today, even before you formally formulate your marketing plan—pick up the telephone and call at least one person and invite them to one of your functions. Tell every solitary person you meet what you are doing and when and where. Remember, you are not just doing this for yourself, you are following orders from the greatest Spiritualist teacher and medium that ever lived, Joe and Mary's boy: **Jesus.**

You are offering something that is real, something that is true, and something that will work in a human's everyday life. That is what "God's business" is. It is imperative that we impress on each and every member that they are also in the Spirit's Business and their job is to "go forth and tell all the world" too. After all, this business has a great pay scale and is complete with benefits. The person that says I don't need a meeting, or a class to be spiritual, may be telling the truth but they are not doing their part. The person that feels simply going to a development Circle, a church or study group is all they want to do, are always welcome, but they are not "About Spirit's Business" either. To be satisfied with the same old stagnant assembly is a sure route to (self destruction) oblivion. This holds true for an organization as well as an individual. An organization has to multiply and be fruitful or it dies.

Take a look around you; are all the members about the same age? Do you have

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THE WORK OF SPIRIT

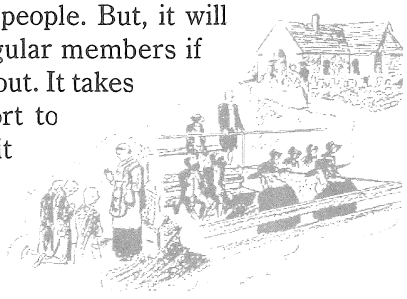
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a varied group in your meetings, business people, retired people, housewives, professionals, blue-collar workers, and families? What about a youth group, an intermediate group, and even a toddler department? If your answer to any one of these is "No we don't" then it is past time to change what needs to be changed, correct what you do not have, and strengthen what you do have. We especially need the young people, after all, they are the future and the future is now in the making.

In the interest of building a workable plan I encourage you to talk among yourselves. Explain the urgency, the importance, and the necessity for growth. Encourage each other to step outside of your regular attendance and to make it a challenge to see how many first timers each member can bring. Recognition is a powerful tool. I encourage you to use every available medium of advertising and publicity to announce even the smallest or mundane happening. I encourage you to let your present members brainstorm and create a plan with you. Most important I encourage you to keep a sense of mission uppermost in your mind. "Go and tell all the World."

Advertising helps but it is not the answer; publicity is nice but it is not the answer; they are both necessary but if we, and by we I mean every member of your congregation, are not working the plan and thoroughly engaged in "Living Spirit" we are not going to grow. The telephone and personal word of mouth, combined with meaningful presentations, pertinent spirit greetings *(messages)* and a warm and friendly crowd, always has been and always will be the most effective means of increasing church growth. Affirmations are designed to raise our awareness and establish a fact. Aggressive action compliments an affirmation and makes it tangible. Ben Franklin said it best when he stated, "God helps those that help themselves."

The NSAC may be offering the services of various speakers to visit your church, and that is always a good way to get a little extra recognition and publicity to attract new people. But, it will not attract even the regular members if you do not get the word out. It takes energy and a lot of effort to be a worker for Spirit and bring into being a growing successful church. Are you up to the challenge?



About the Author: Doc Gill *(The Profit Prophet)* advises for some of the worlds largest management firms helping businesses operate more efficiently and improve their net profit. After making a survey of various churches and Spiritualist groups across the country, he offers these words. •

CALENDAR CORNER

What happened in NOVEMBER throughout the years?

OCTOBER 7, 2004



There was no Calendar Corner in the October issue, so a belated Happy Birthday Greeting to the **Rev. Catherine Snell**, NST, a NSAC Board Member. Hope your year will be a great one.

NOVEMBER 2

Election Day, a time when you can do your part to choose those who you feel will follow the Laws of God to guide our country.

NOVEMBER 11

Veteran's Day, a time to pray for peace and ask for a blessing on all the men and women who served their country.

NOVEMBER 17, 1827

Ascha W. Sprague's birth date. As a child prodigy, she began teaching school at the age of twelve in Vermont. Ascha developed crippling arthritis at twenty, but she was almost completely healed by prayer. This created a strong interest and she developed spiritual healing abilities. Ms. Sprague was called "the Preaching Woman" because of her strong trance lectures. She was intelligent, militant, fought for human rights, debated and spoke out in all fields before most women had entered into world affairs.

NOVEMBER 25, 1861

The Rev. Ellen Whitwell was born on this date. As a minister, teacher, lecturer, clairvoyant, clairaudient, and trance medium, she was a wonderful partner to her husband, Joseph P. Whitwell, the third president of the NSA. She served at National and State Conventions, at camps and mass meetings and at churches around the country.

NOVEMBER 25



Happy Thanksgiving to you and to your family. Spend some special time today to Count Your Blessings, Name Them One by One!

NOVEMBER 2004

Mother Teresa, a Roman Catholic nun, would have turned 94 in November of this year—she graduated to the Spirit World September 5, 1997. The name of this spiritual woman, who was the Nobel Peace Laureate, is synonymous with caring and love. Mother Teresa spent most of her life and energy helping the poor and needy around the world, but mainly in Calcutta, India. •

Thinking Of Thoughts

BY JUDY MERRILL, DSNU, Canada



Thoughts are things! Thoughts create! They can create and enhance all that appears in our lives as opportunities and challenges. They are the motivation and intent behind all that we accomplish in life.

Given this highest of priorities in our lives, what do we do about our thoughts? Do we give them any consideration? Do we just randomly allow their ebb and flow in our lives?

Unfortunately, for most of us, we give little or no consideration to our thoughts and they may find the lowest possible denominator in life, through the natural flow to negativity. It is easier to think in the negative than to take control of our thoughts and turn them into positive motivation and intent.

Let's look at how most of us begin our day—usually in chaos, hurry and confusion. Then we wonder why all the events of our day continue in this vein.

We are awakened in the morning by an alarm clock. This is usually a startling and nerve jangling sound that startles us into wakefulness. Hence begins where our thoughts will lead. Into the chaos of nervous energy we fill our minds with the rush, rush, rush of another busy day. What to do, where to go, who to go with—etc. go our thoughts.

We wake all others in our households, from spouse, to children, to pets and begin the day with making breakfast and getting everyone started on their journey of another day. We get into the habit of yelling and nerve bending in their world as well.

We are all finally out of the house and on our mode of transport to work (school, events, etc.) filling our minds with what awaits us at our next stop. We are worrying about the meetings we have to keep, the preparations we have to make for business, and all the little, niggling details of a stress-filled day. Before we can even arrive, we have created mental chaos and confusion.

When we do arrive at our destination, we jump start right away into the stream of activity. We buzz from one crisis to another, putting out the fires of chaos and confusion.

Following all this stress, we arrive home again to face another family situation. We have begun in chaos, we have proceeded in stress, now how are we going to face this aspect of our lives?

Alternatively...

We can turn the clock radio to music instead of the nerve jangling buzz. Our awakening can be gentle and peaceful. As our minds awaken, we can consciously think about a simple affirmation of peace and calm. We can take a few minutes to affirm our intent for a peaceful and calm day.

Instead of being responsible for all the others in our household, how about allowing them the same prerogative, waking to peace and calm. Set their radios to wake them gently. Let them decide if they will have breakfast and be on time or not. Put the personal responsibility back to those who can handle it for themselves.

As you ride to work, notice all the places where humans have planted flowers to enhance our environment. Even in city living, many are opting for balcony planters and in every spare inch of ground space, someone is planting flowers, shrubs or trees. This brings life and harmony back to the harsh environment of cement and pavement. Why haven't you noticed this beauty before?

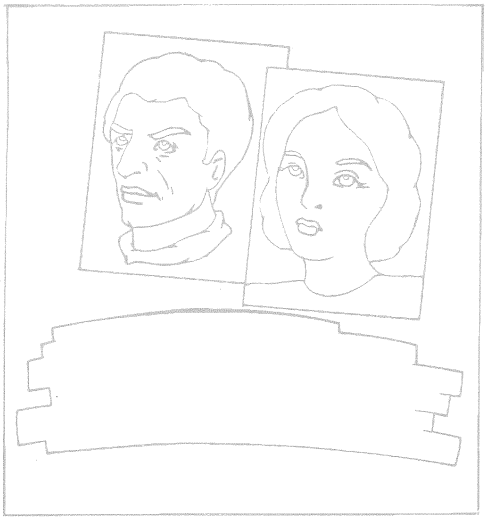
Arriving at work refreshed means you can better handle all the crises falling your way, without the stress and negativity of chaos and confusion. You have found peace within and work to maintain it during your day. Repeating your affirmation during the stresses of your day will keep the peace within.

Remember, all things take time. It took you some time to accumulate the bad habits, now it may take some time to accumulate the good ones. The balance and harmony of your inner spirituality will be the result of the peace you seek. Think about your thoughts and let them create beauty, joy and balance in your life. •

"As no true work since the world began was ever wasted, so no true life since the world began ever failed."
– *Emerson*

Looking Beyond The Personality

BY LAURA LEE PERKINS, Maine



It is our individual personalities that determine who we are and how we are perceived by others. Our personalities are intertwined with a myriad of identifiers and experiences that have molded us into who we are today. Our spiritual beliefs and the ongoing expansion of our spiritual awareness are also important components in who we are and how we live in this world. And all of the above contribute to how we make decisions and how we relate to others.

We are living, breathing, physical organisms with the power to hold grudges or to forgive. We can remember past injustices and cling to them like a security blanket, or we can look forward to working together and plan how to make compromise more plausible in our daily lives. We can live from a position of self-protection and fear or we can live from a position of unconditional love and trust. Most of us live somewhere between these two poles.

Which path do you choose when confronted with adversity? Are your decisions conscious or are they knee-jerk reactions? Do you allow yourself time to think before responding when you feel defensive or challenged? And do you contemplate just how your response might affect the other as well as yourself? As we travel the road of life, we must face these questions so that we can handle difficult situations with a knowing that "win-win" results are always possible. It is in the exploration of difficulties that we often find common ground. We call the process mediation and the results are usually a compromise.

How often is it important to you to "be right?" How often does someone "rub you the wrong way?" How often do you critique others' actions? And how do you move from a position of critical judgment to one of meditation and acceptance? What is the process that you use to question your own motives and actions? In past experiences, did both sides lose? How could both sides have felt like winners? Did you ask the other side what was the most important consideration to them at that time? Are you willing to budge so that a compromise can be reached?

Sometimes problematical situations arise because we do not like another's behavior and feel a need to speak up about it. Perhaps we feel that they are headed in a direction that is not in their best interest. Often it is very difficult to understand how to accept another's decision when their decision feels "wrong." Just because we allow another the space to make a decision and thereby grow as a result of the consequences, does not mean that we are *supporting the decision*. There is a significant difference between telling someone that you think they are making the *right* decision and supporting them through their decision process—no matter what their choice. Caring about them for who they are rather than for what they do is a huge challenge to most of us.

When we disagree with their choices is when we have the opportunity to express unconditional love. We can listen, express our opinion, be patient with what might appear to us as rationalizations, and watch as events unfold that might even "prove" that we were "right." But perhaps the learning that occurred from the process is much more important than the outcome. Can we accept that in the very beginning stages and be compassionate? And where do we draw the line regarding the amount of time and energy and personal involvement? These are our parts of the unconditional love equation. The Great Spirit watches how we use the *free will* that is our birthright.

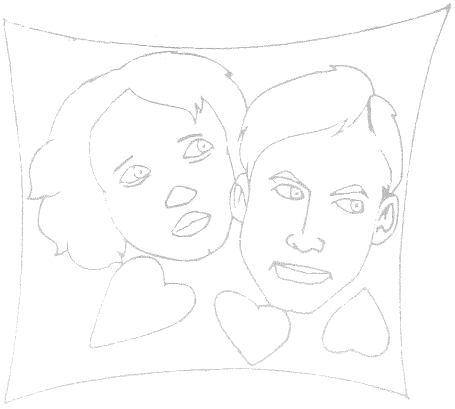
What if the experience is truly the *gift* in dealing with difficulty? And what if we are drawn into a situation because the process benefits both sides in some unforeseen way in the beginning? These questions can offer us expanded views of conflict and difficulty. We often hear that in every problem is an opportunity; maybe this is really true! Living through the process is not easy, but it is educational if we pay attention and learn from our interactions with each other.

Unconditional love is about supporting—not about agreeing with others' decisions. There is a difference. You might wish that a friend was not filing for divorce, over-spending their budget, or fighting with another. Those

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choices are theirs. We might not agree with their path, but we can still be there to listen, to care, and to learn from the experience of loving unconditionally. And often it is one group of people arguing with another group—sometimes within our own churches. Then we may feel more empowered by the numbers involved, but we also have to remember the increased potential for damage.



We do see competitive behaviors and people feeling threatened within our Spiritualist church families. What are we doing when there is disagreement within the place that so many come for comfort and emotional safety? How do we support each other's individual paths within a church community when competition arises? How often do power issues split churches which might be struggling in other ways into two smaller fragments? And isn't it the unity that we need to strive towards rather than separation? Our numbers are dwindling and we need to focus on goodness and mercy towards all as our church boards strive to make decisions that will be in the best long-term interest of Spiritualism. It is unity that we strive towards in Spiritualism—not separation. It is in finding the common thread that keeps us tied to our church that we weave a stronger fabric of spiritual unity. I view this fabric as bright and multicolored with the essence of every person who makes a colorful contribution to our church families.

This is the true challenge—how to have a vibrantly active church community that meets the needs of its congregation? This is the true challenge and a real test of issues relating to power and dominance; if we focus on who "wins" then everyone loses in the end. Churches are about serving as mentors and role models for those who walk in our doors...and we *are* the church. We must walk our talk.

Many people leave church families because of the struggles they experience within the church itself. Anger and disagreement and splintered relationships leave many feeling disappointed and abandoned by that from which they came to seek solace. Fear often feeds the church fires, and the church community can be left feeling charred and partially destroyed. This is when some congregations split, with both fragments being required to rebuild. Let us all remember that we can take the time to listen, to treat each other with dignity and respect—we CAN walk our talk! It is a challenge that we, as Spiritualists, must meet. •



Select Holiday Gifts That Are Spiritual!

There are many Spiritualist gifts that would make wonderful presents for your family, friends or church family. Some suggestions are: a subscription to *The National Spiritualist* or *The Spotlight* for the younger set; a book or tape selected from the NSAC Bookstore; a paid spiritual reading certificate with one of your church mediums; a paid healing certificate for a spiritual healing; or a musical tape or compact disc that will bring hours of joyous listening. Let your gifts be thoughtful and uplifting.

The Ruth I Knew; My Hero

By Victoria J. McKnight



THE REV. RUTH NOVAK

The Rev. Ruth Novak passed to spirit on June 8, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. Ruth Novak has served as Pastor to the Spiritual Science Church of Michigan City, Indiana for over forty years. She served selflessly, graciously, nobly, happily and humbly. Ruth touched the lives of thousands, always for the better. She was dedicated to serve with joy and unconditional love. Ruth was LOVE, total and complete unconditional love. There was no room in her for anything else; she overflowed with love for all God's children. She often told me that she never met anyone that she did not love. This was possible because she was able to look past all human weaknesses and see the God in each person, and she loved that person's God light without reserve.

The world has been made a better place because of her precious and pure energy, her devotion to her Infinite Spirit. But Ruth was humble; always refusing to accept credit for any of the wondrous changes she was a part of creating. She constantly stated: "It is not me. I am only a wire to God and the Spirit World." But what a loyal and strong wire she was. She served her God with joy. She was so grateful to be Spirit's servant. Ruth always taught that this Earth Plane is just a school, preparing us for our place in Spirit. She insisted that not a day went by that she did not learn something useful to make her a better person. She told all of her students that she was in Kindergarten and only wanted to accept all that was sent her way so that she could graduate into the beautiful world awaiting all of us.

And she did make her beautiful graduation, leaving all of us missing her beautiful smile, her wonderful stories, her constant prayers for us, her wise guidance, her willingness to always be there for anyone in need, her total and complete trust in God and the Universal Laws. "Watch your actions and your thoughts because you may be the only *Bible* some people ever read," she told me so many times and she lived by what she said. We miss our best friend, our mentor, and our mother. But we know she is where she deserves to be. She is living in the light...because Ruth was always a light on Earth. "All things are possible through God," was one of the last things she said to me before she moved on from this place of challenges to the reward she so richly deserved.

So many years ago, a woman, discouraged, hopeless, and beaten down, knocked upon the door of her humble little green trailer. She had been told that this woman named Ruth would be a big influence on her life. So in complete desperation, she went to this woman named Ruth, totally oblivious of who she was and what she believed. Ruth opened her door, took one look at this sad creature, and opened her arms. Her smile, as always was radiant, her energy was so comforting and warm. From that point forward that woman's life changed and changed...always for the better. Now that woman, me, lives to honor Ruth and Spiritualism. If I can do a fraction of the good that Ruth did, I will count my life spent well. Ruth taught me to trust and learn from all of life's lessons. She taught me to open up my heart, to be brave enough and strong enough to trust my God and know He will always be there, especially when I am scared and feel my world is caving in on me. "Peace be still, and know that I am God," she would say to me to comfort me.

Happy graduation to my Hero, my mentor, my best friend, my spiritual mother, my salvation!! Congratulations for a job well done.

Tell everybody I am on my way
new friends and new places to see.
With blue skies ahead, yes,
I am on my way and there is
nowhere else I would rather be.
Don't cry for me. I am on my way,
and there is no place I would rather be.

– Taken from Brother Bear

New York Lyceum Retreat

• An "Excellent Adventure"

By Pat Sullivan

I thought the First Annual Lyceum Retreat might be exciting, but when I heard one of the children say how much she was looking forward to the trip because she never stayed in a motel before, I began to look upon the weekend as an adventure. I started thinking about the movie "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure" with Kenu Reaves.

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For the children, the anticipation almost outdid the event. But the presenter, Arsenia Williams, created wonderful workshops for all. She outdid herself with fun learning games, marches and songs. She helped us to touch in with our guardian angels, by drawing our angels, naming them, and seeing the colors that emanate from them. Then, people whose angels were the same color gathered together to study one Spiritualist Principle. My group was gold, and we decided to work on Principle Six, "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." Mrs. Williams made every learning project just like playing.



I think everyone would agree we had an "excellent adventure." And just as Bill and Ted found at the end of their adventure, we found that each of us is an "excellent" being.



• Lyceum Retreat

By Tina M. Lynch

Ms. Pat Sullivan (our teenage group leader), Mrs. Stephanie Dunlap and I were so pleased to be able, on April 30th through May 2nd, 2004, to attend a wonderful weekend Lyceum. The National Spiritualist Association of Churches Department of Lyceums, The Light on a Hill Lyceum Retreat held at The First Spiritualist Temple of East Aurora in East Aurora, New York.

Gladys Kellerman, President of the First Spiritualist Temple of East Aurora greeted us at the Talley-Ho-tel and gave us a wonderful tour ride on the way to the church. Upon our arrival we were again greeted warmly, introduced to the Lyceumists who attended the Illinois Lyceum and fed goodies and snacks. It was fun getting acquainted with each other.

After registration the next morning, we began our day with a prayer and music. The Rev. Arsenia Williams, the Director of the NSAC Department of Lyceums, began the workshop with Marching and Calisthenics. We all went outside to practice marching and the correct way to hold our flags and banners. This was so much fun that all of the adults joined the children in marching. We learned a new song to sing while marching that made it easier to remember our steps.

We all enjoyed a great lunch together after working very hard on our marching. Then the Rev. Arsenia Williams began to talk to us all about the light that is within all of us. Mrs. Williams also gave each child in attendance a glow in the dark star to represent our lights and that we need to remember to let our lights shine. The importance of allowing our inner selves to shine bright, was a great discussion among the children.

At craft time, we all made beautiful animals that were made colorful by weaving colored strips of paper through them. Each child got to pick their favorite animal to decorate, and it was a marvelous time for the children. We also made our very own megaphones on which we put our names along with the date of the Lyceum Retreat. The children had a great time placing their favorite sayings about the Lyceum on their megaphones. The kids all agreed that "LYCEUM ROCKS" was the best phrase to use for their megaphone.

After dinner, the winners of the "Lyceum is for Families" essay contest was announced, I am so very proud to announce that of the four New York state Lyceums we had several winners from our very own A. J. Davis Memorial Lyceum in Lily Dale. There were two sets of awards, one by State and one on a National basis.

On Sunday, May2nd, 2004, we began this day with our Lyceum Worship Service being held in the church. Our service was conducted by the children and it was the most wonderful service I have attended in quite some time. We had a great turnout for adults attending the children's service. After our service, the adults had their service, and the Rev. Arsenia Williams gave a beautiful sermon on the importance of Spiritualism for our children, as it will be they who take our religion into the future. Great Job Mrs. Williams!!



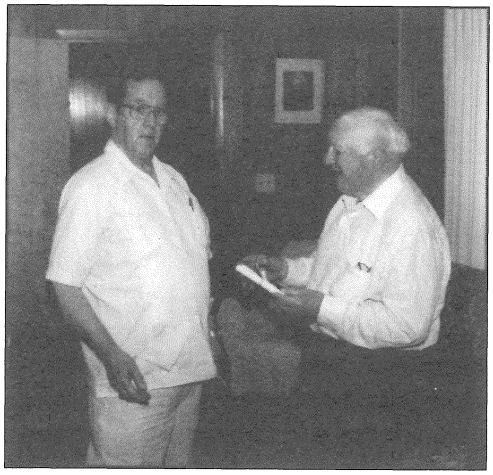
The First Spiritualist Temple of East Aurora then invited us all as their guests for lunch. One thing is for sure, you will never go hungry in East Aurora. They serve enough food for everyone, and then some.

We had a total of nine children representing the Lily Dale Andrew Jackson Davis Memorial Lyceum, Kristen

(NOTES – Continued on next page.)

Thankful For Our Spirit Friends

BY THE REV. CHARLENE KLEINSCHMIDT, NST, New York



When I wrote the Lily Dale article in October, I had a picture I wanted to put with it, but it disappeared. Tonight as I was rummaging through some papers, it suddenly appeared right where I had put it, so I wouldn't misplace it. The picture was taken at the Morris Pratt Institute building in Lily Dale in the summer of 1994 during Pastoral Skills. The gentleman on the left is the Rev. Bryan McCotter and on the right is the Rev. Joe Sax. Both could be cocky and opinionated, yet they were always there for you when you had a question.

I'm quite sure the two of them had fun watching me hunt high and low for their picture. They both enjoyed a good laugh, loved to tell stories and didn't mind making themselves the brunt of the joke. Have you ever noticed how much Spiritualists love to laugh, especially at their own foibles?

I learned many lessons from Bryan and Joe. When I was discouraged over my progress, Joe would remind me, even if you did not agree with a MPI lesson, it stretched your mind and let you decide what you did believe. He would always end by reminding me to keep on keeping on. Bryan taught me to stand up for my beliefs, even if it meant a heated discussion with someone I thought I should not question. He had a way with a tale, and when there were problems, he always had a joke to tell.

Have you ever stopped to think of all the people you have met through Spiritualism? How many did you discover were just simple people like yourself, looking for the light of Spiritualism and trying to the best of their ability to pass it on? Sometimes in our desire to put people on a pedestal, we expect them to be larger than life. When we discover they are just as prone to the mistakes and misunderstandings of the human existence as we, we may become disillusioned and hurry off looking for a new master who will give us all the answers. Instead of finding a master we find people with interesting and individual perspectives. Sometimes we agree with them and other times we find their views opening our minds to an opposite thought. What a blessing to be free to disagree and have the right to agree to disagree without fear of retaliation.

We speak of loving people wherever they are on the spiritual journey, too often we mean only if it is convenient to our plans. In doing so, we soon see nothing but their frailties and forget they may have much to share with us. As you learn to take people where they are and love them (in spite of themselves) you gain valuable insights into yourself as well as them.

When you take time to count your blessings, don't forget your spiritual friends, on both sides of life. Sit back, remember the good times and lessons you have shared. Count how many ways they have enriched your life. When you think of all the people Spiritualism has brought into your life, you'll discover they have given you many reasons to make everyday a Thanksgiving day.

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NOTES FROM THE FIELD *(Continued from previous page.)*

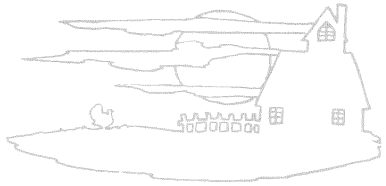
Pattison, Shaina Stone, Heather Keech, Karie Paganello, Ashley Dunlap, Michelle Lynch, Johnathan Dunlap, Melissa Lynch, and Paige Dunlap. Each of the children came to the conclusion that this was the best weekend of their lives! They have already been planning to go to the next Lyceum Retreat. No matter where it may be, they want to go.

Prior to our departure, I was approached by the Rev. Arsenia Williams and asked if I would like to serve as the New York State Department of Lyceums Superintendent. As I told Mrs. Williams, it would be an honor for me to become the NYS Lyceum Superintendent.

We are all grateful to the Lily Dale Spiritualist Church for helping the children, the Lyceum teacher, Ms. Pat Sullivan, Stephanie Dunlap and myself to have and enjoy such a wonderful experience.

• • •

POETRY



Thanksgiving

Autumn delivers shortened days,
Cooling to color verdant trees,
And harvest crops in Nature's praise
The blessings of God to receive.

We give thanks for food, light, air,
For sun, for soil, for showers,
For friends and family we know care,
For blessings received every hour.

MONTHLY

Humor to put you in Good Spirits . . .



Church Bulletin Bloopers

- "The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church."
- "The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning."
- "Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community."
- "The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy."



Those who study Spiritualism came "to the conclusion that there are worlds of different density surrounding and interpenetrating our globe. Each one is much larger than this earth, but we have no idea of their size or how far apart is each surface. When thinking in terms of vibrations, we enter a region beyond our three dimensional world, where size and distance have no comparative meaning. These greater worlds, one beyond the other, evidently reach far out into space, and yet each one interpenetrates the other and this earth, to form a vast range of vibrations, of which those which make up our world might be taken as an inch in comparison to a mile.

"Within this immense gamut live myriads of men and women who once lived on earth, to die and start their climb onwards and upwards on this ladder, each rung of which is made up of another world, and each world is composed of vibrations of ever greater frequency. This vast population is forever moving up and down between the surfaces of these different worlds on which they live, and those living on surfaces nearest to this earth, who retain their earth memories, are our constant but unseen visitors, who still take an interest in us and keep in touch with what we do and think."

– *Where Two Worlds Meet*, by Arthur Findlay

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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 soul here or hereafter.

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



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