

glad tidings

a newsletter of
the first spiritualist
church of salem

muriel karolides, pastor emeritus

class: a part of my life

by rev. betty gosselin

I have been sitting in class for more than 20 years.

Each year has been different than the one before.

As I have changed through the years in my knowledge, understanding, perceptions of people, spirit within and spirit phenomena, so has the class changed through the participation of old friends, new acquaintances, materials presented, teachings and rich experiences of growing in the presence of people here on the earth plane and people of the Spirit World.

Every year throughout the class season, my eyes and heart feel opened to the love that Spirit expresses through others in the class. It is always amazing to me to have the evidential message come through as I greet a loved one through the words coming from one of my classmates.

There have been times when I have been greatly inspired to find answers within the ideas expressed by the lessons provided and the discussions that follow.

Sitting in class is part of my life.

Editor's Note:

If you are a member of the Tuesday or Wednesday night development class and would like to participate in this series of articles about the reasons you sit in class and the benefit you gain from it, please submit your writing to your teacher or to the editor. Depending on the number and length of submissions, several articles may run in a single issue of Glad Tidings, and articles may be edited for length. Submissions are published at the discretion of the editor, and teachers.

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glad tidings

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pastoral committee

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a new year a new look a renewed purpose

pat cizewski, editor

Glad Tidings, the newsletter of the First Spiritualist Church of Salem, has a new look, and with it, a renewed purpose.

Not only is progression a part of the normal course of events in both physical and spiritual life, but it is essential to it. What began a few years ago as a simple means for informing the church body about upcoming events is evolving into a vibrant vehicle to reflect our progression as a church family and a spiritual community.

More changes are on the way including a new website masterfully created by Laurie Drake. Look for information within the newsletter and the website geared toward upholding the positive, uplifting vision of a church community that we love and happily sustain. The newsletter, flyers and website will continue to keep pace with that emerging vision to support it, reflect it, and further it.

Your feedback is encouraged in response to these efforts. Emails can be sent to SpiritualistGuild@hotmail.com with the subject line, To the Editor. You can also submit newsletter materials through this same email address.

May the spirit of renewal bring the abundant realization of our best and highest hopes to each of us, and to the church, in this New Year.



The renewed energy at the church is showing in so many positive ways, such as the loving (and anonymous) effort that gifted these beautiful decorations to the church in December.

declaration of principles

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, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
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.

president's report

by rev. bradley gosselin

The calendar year has turned, but our church season continues into the New Year.

a look back

In December, the Guild President, Gerry Ganey, presented the treasurer of our Board of Trustees with a check for more than \$2,000 resulting from Guild fund-raisers held between September 2006 and December 2006. Thanks to the Guild and all the members and friends who have supported them in their programs. Your ideas, volunteerism and contributions made the prosperous difference.

No less valued and appreciated are the individuals who have made donations and dedications separate from the Guild during this past year. Each gift of money, time and effort is a treasure for spirits both here (the congregation) and hereafter (our loved ones and guides).

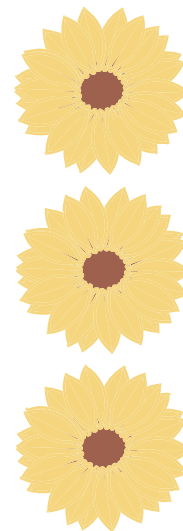
a look ahead

The Guild has some new and interesting ideas for fund-raisers scheduled in the coming months including an Angel seminar on January 20 and a Pampered Chef Kitchen Show on February 10. Look for the flyers and soon-to-be-posted list of these and other upcoming events. Please keep your support of the Church and its Guild constant and true. It is through your charity and generosity that the church can maintain its building and grounds and keep its doors open to serve Spirit and our little community.

We will be having a special service in January to dedicate our new healing chairs. Various church members donated these chairs in memory of their loved ones. Our gratitude is extended to them for their generosity as well as Spirit's gratitude for the remembrances.

Member Laurie Drake and others are working on a new web site and we are looking toward the completion of this new addition to our church. A lot of work and time is involved in this project and we greatly appreciate their efforts. When it is finished, it will be for all to see and to help spread knowledge of our church throughout the Greater Boston community. I would also like to take this time to thank our editor for her beautifully newly designed newsletter.

Sincerely,
Reverend Bradley Gosselin, NST, President



2007

regular events

the drawing room

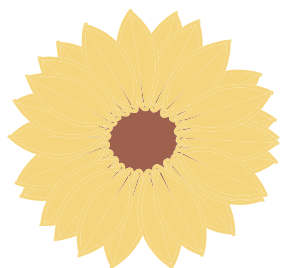
the drawing room readings are offered by the Rev. Elizabeth Gosselin, NST. These private readings are accompanied by Spirit-inspired drawings. Held on Saturdays by appointment only. Call 978-774-1571 to schedule your reading. \$40 donation, 100% goes to supporting the church educational fund.

all message circles

all message circles resume in January. Nancy Karolides, CM and Rev. Elizabeth Gosselin, NST bring spirit greetings to all in attendance. Limited seating for 12 individuals. \$15 donation. Call 978-774-1571 for schedule and reservation.

guild meetings

open to members and friends of the church. Meetings scheduled for Jan. 7 at 1 pm and Jan. 14 at 3 pm, Olmstead Hall.



pastoral letter

by rev. elizabeth gosselin

As we begin a New Year, the Pastoral Committee sends to all our best wishes for a safe, healthy and wonderful New Year.

In honor of the season, this year the committee has started a new program of having the church open on the holiday evenings for social visiting and some spirit communication.

We hope to keep this program as part of our ongoing yearly plan.

The thought of the New Year brings thoughts of renewal, and brings forward many plans to carry on with what we have enjoyed in the past, and to make changes for the better through what we have learned. As Spiritualists, we know that the Natural Law of Evolution is always in motion and that we will change as everything around us changes as well. This fact gives us the opportunity to go forward with great excitement and expectation of good things for the future.

As we move forward, we can effect change for the better through our thoughts, prayers and actions. Our remembrances of the good aspects of what we have experienced bring us happiness and move us forward with great energy. Let us give our best to this New Year, remembering that each day is a complete new start on our developing path.

Love and Light,
Reverend Elizabeth Gosselin, NST

prayer for spiritual healing

I ask the Great Unseen Healing Force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to Restore me to Perfect Health. I ask this in all Sincerity and Honesty, and I will do my part.

I ask this Great Unseen Healing Force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help, and to restore them to perfect health. I put my Trust in the Love and Power of God.

healing services

Healing is available every Sunday evening beginning at 6:30 pm. The healing service begins with prayer and song followed by a meditation, at which time our healers are available to give healing through the laying-on-of-hands.

The congregation participates by contributing their own healing thoughts and prayers during the meditation and in sending absent healing to those whose names have been placed in the healing book.



the olmstead healing center

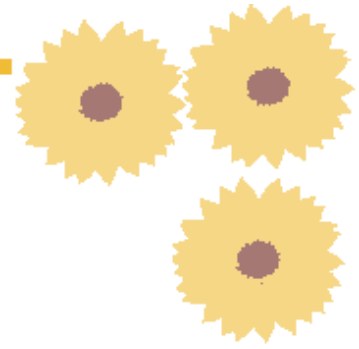
David LeClair, certified spiritualist healer

private healing by appointment only

28 riverside street

danvers

978-774-2559



church schedule

all sunday services, early/healing/regular, are open to the public. everyone is welcome.

early sunday service

5:30 pm, featuring our student workers as they prepare for platform work and national certification.

healing service

sundays, 6:30 p.m., featuring our church's healers, meditation and prayer.

regular sunday service

immediately follows the healing service
featuring guest speakers

joyce difazio, january 7

tba, january 14

patricia Cizewski, january 21

nancy karolides, january 28

tba, february 4

Mary Ciaramitaro, february 11

a light lunch is served between the early and healing services

all services and fund-raisers are open to the public and all are welcome.

e v e n t s

an evening with the angels

saturday
january 20

5:30 pm

\$25 includes dinner

reservations
encouraged call
Joyce at
978-927-5565

pampered chef kitchen show

saturday
february 10

2 pm, free
bring a friend or two