

glad tidings

a newsletter of
the first spiritualist
church of salem

muriel karolides, pastor emeritus

shock then hope

by david leclair

In the early morning hours of November 22, 2006, the part of Danvers known as the Port, experienced something no one thought would ever happen—an explosion.

The lives of all the residents affected were changed forever. The shock and stress of that morning is hard to image for those not directly involved, but each life must handle it in their own way.

There was joy that morning, when we were able to return to our homes, to hear no one was hurt. That overtook the distress of seeing our windows boarded up, our doors secured with padlocks, and our homes completely destroyed.

Comfort came knowing all the people that were working to help us. Joy and pride of our town began to grow, starting with the first responders that entered a neighborhood not knowing what was going to happen. Town employees that gave of themselves to help us get our lives back. So many gave of their time and gave from their hearts—they are too numerous to mention.

Along with all the thanks we give, we cannot forget the Maple Street Church and the Polish club for their support and help. These organizations along with many volunteers (including from our own church) put on these Thursday night socials. These socials provide meals, but most of all bring people together who are displaced from the blast. It is a time for sharing and healing. A time to express frustrations and joys with people who have been affected in the same way, for it is difficult to relate these feelings to others who have not been affected personally.

We say thank you to those who sent out their prayers and thoughts for those in need in our great community and country.

Editor's Note:

Visit our new website at www.firstspiritualistsalem.org and share your thoughts about what you'd like to see on the website and read in the newsletter. Email at info@firstspiritualistsalem.org.

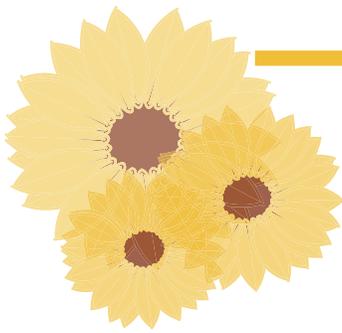
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glad tidings
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since 1894

pastoral committee
rev. bradley gosselin, nst, ch
rev. elizabeth gosselin, nst, cm
mrs. priscilla herrick, cm
mrs. nancy karolides, cm
mr. david leclair, ch



an open letter *by deb leclair*

Rather than a letter from the editor, an open letter to the church from member Debbie LeClair is presented.

Many people in Danvers Port are still not back in their homes. Those that are, like the LeClairs, are, all of these months later, trying to piece their homes and lives back together. To help support the neighborhood, the Maple Street Church holds weekly dinners at the Polish Club in Danvers. Guild Vice President Patti Brooks arranged for the First Spiritualist Church of Salem to provide two of those dinners during the summer.

an open letter of thanks

Dave and I would like to thank you who served and the others that participated behind the scenes for putting on the supper on July 12 and August 16. We felt so much pride in knowing that our church cared enough to help.

Dave and I just started attending the Thursday night suppers, and are so glad we did. These suppers mean a lot. They bring people together who have shared something. We can complain and they understand, we can cry and they cry with us, we share our joys and everyone is happy.

This is what getting out into the community is all about and now I realize how important it is. I hope that we can continue this with others in need. We will gladly be participants.

And this, as Spiritualists, is what we are about. And this is what our church is about and we are proud of it.

We may walk into a room of strangers—be it at the Polish Club or at our church—but we walk out with friends.

Thank you so much.

Debbie LeClair



debbie and david leclair enjoying the July 12 dinner hosted by the first spiritualist church of salem

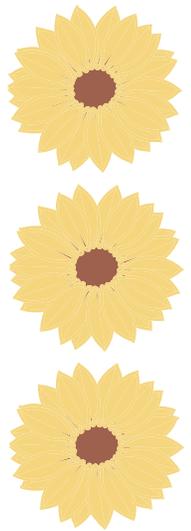
Your feedback is encouraged. Emails can be sent to info@firstspiritualistsalem.org with the subject line, To the Editor. You can also submit newsletter materials through this same email address.

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



Our summer season is nearly over. We had a wonderful trip to Lily Dale after church closed last season, and I am sure you will hear, read and see much more about the visit.

summer camps

There is still time to visit our summer camps, the Wigwam in Onset, MA and several in Maine. Elizabeth and I served Temple Heights Camp on the 27th through 29th of July. Information for services and programs at the camps are available through the NSAC.org website with links to churches and camps.

relax and enjoy

If you cannot visit a camp, take some time to visit a pond, a lake, or the ocean and enjoy the sounds of the waves, the water, and the white caps. Listen to the soothing sounds of the water and enjoy. Or, you can take a walk in the woods and enjoy the quiet sights and sounds from Mother Nature in all her beauty. Relax, refresh, and recharge your batteries for a wonderful return to a new season at church on September 9.

new website

Visit our new website, with thanks to Laurie Drake and Pat Cizewski for their hard work and talents in building a new site for our church. They will be able to keep the schedule of speakers, programs and other news up-to-date. Many thanks and blessings to both.

Enjoy the rest of vacation, but make plans for an early and exciting list of programs this year starting with John Goldinham's workshop on September 16. John will also do the evening service that night. Information is available on our website at www.firstspiritualistsalem.org

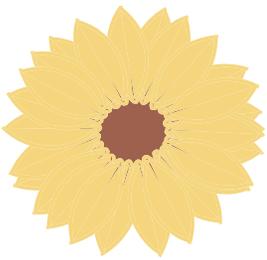
In Love and Light,
Reverend Bradley Gosselin, NST
Church Board President

2007 meeting schedule

board meetings
board and church members only
sunday, september 23
following the regular evening
service, olmstead hall

guild meetings
everyone is welcome
schedule to be announced

board of trustees
rev. bradley gosselin, president
mary ciamitaro, vice president
nancy karolides, secretary
elizabeth gosselin, treasurer
patricia cizewski, trustee
joyce defazio, trustee
naomi ellis, trustee
sue hinckley, trustee
david leclair, trustee



Healing

It may be summer, and the church is at rest, but our healers are not. There is always time to pray, to send our healing thoughts. Please take the time to send your healing thoughts and energy to those on our healing list:

for our loved ones

- Kelly
- Helen
- Phoebe
- Jim
- Mark
- Jeff
- Jen
- Kim
- Roseann and Rick
- Charlotte

And for our companion animals

Smokey – (cat) for his transition to the spirit world and to Kathy H. and her family as they bear this sadness

- Abbey (cat)
- Timmy (cat)
- Tigger (cat)
- Bear (cat)
- Maggie (horse)

To place someone on our healing list, submit the name through our email address, and place "healing" in the subject line:

info@firstspiritualistsalem.org

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

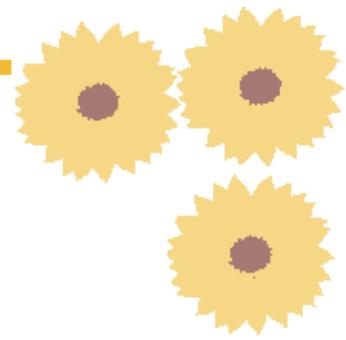
private healing by appointment only

28 riverside street

danvers

978-774-2559

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sunday services

all services are open to the public
newcomers welcome

early service begins at 5:30 pm

students from enrolled in development class demonstrate mediumship by inspiration speaking and spirit greetings. a light lunch is served following the early service.

healing service begins at 6:30 pm

service includes meditation, prayer for healing, and spiritual healing given by the church's healers

regular service begins immediately after healing service

featured guest speaker and message medium schedule as follows:

september 9
nancy karolides

september 16
john goldingham

september 23
marylou baumhoff

september 30
rev. eleanor fisher

e v e n t s

channeling in trance

an all day workshop with new zealand medium john q. goldingham.
please rsvp to 978-774-1571.

cost: \$35, includes lunch

look for other events coming soon! stay informed of the church schedule of events at our new website:

www.firstspiritualistsalem.org

for questions, comments, feedback, or to give us your ideas contact us at our church email:

info@firstspiritualistsalem.org

all emails are read

