

# glad tidings

a newsletter of  
the first spiritualist  
church of salem

muriel karolides, pastor emeritus

## president's message

*by rev. brad gosselin, nst*

**M**arch was our semi annual members meeting focusing on moving the church forward in its spiritual and material missions.

We passed a change to our bylaws affecting the Pastoral Committee. The term that the Pastoral Committee serves has been extended from one year to three years. The membership articulated that the longer term would give the Pastoral Committee a more appropriate time frame to implement its spiritual vision for the church.

The membership was also asked to continue its enthusiastic support of Guild functions. The Guild serves two purposes for the church: social and financial. It provides the activities for members and friends to be introduced to one another, to the church and to Spiritualism. The Guild is also important as the primary fund-raising body for the church. Their efforts, and the support of their efforts by members and friends, provide the funds for operational costs and maintaining the building and grounds.

I asked for a volunteer grounds committee to help with spring cleanup. We are in a historic district and it is important to look very good. Please see me if you are willing and able to help with this task.

The Guild is offering a fund-raising trip to Lily Dale this summer and details are found in a separate flyer. It will be a fun time and a rewarding experience. If you have never visited Lily Dale, this is your chance to experience the wonderful Spirituality of this historic place. You can stop by at the NSAC office and meet the wonderful staff that provides our church with so much.

Love and light,

Rev Brad Gosselin, President

### *Editor's Note:*

*Look inside this issue for several articles written by the Wednesday night class members as they share their experiences with you. All submissions are published at the discretion of the editor, board of trustees, pastoral committee, and or class teachers.*

volume 3 issue 6 designer/editor: pczewski

### inside this issue

**walking in their  
footsteps** 2

**development class  
series** 3

**class series  
continued** 4

**schedule** 5

**enclosed lily dale flyer**

### glad tidings

is a publication of  
the first spiritualist church of salem  
34 warren st., salem, ma 01970  
978-745-2098  
an affiliate of  
the national spiritualist  
association of churches  
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



## walking in their footsteps

*pat cizewski, editor*

**W**hen you enter the gates of Lily Dale, the oldest Spiritualist camp in the U.S., you immediately know this is no ordinary place. There are no phones, no televisions, and no air conditioning, but no matter...you won't miss them amid the Divine tranquility of Lily Dale. Preserved true to its 19<sup>th</sup> century character, it is a quiet hamlet where, for more than a century, spirit has been lovingly embraced and Spiritualism has thrived.

The Guild is offering a weekend excursion to Lily Dale as a major fund-raiser for the church. The cost of the trip is \$189 that includes room, gate fee, all regularly scheduled daily activities, and group shuttle transportation to and from Buffalo International Airport, and a fund-raising percentage.

Like several others from our church, I have been to Lily Dale and have done so as part of a church group. The experience is unparalleled for the sense of togetherness, healing, relaxation, camaraderie and upliftment. Who better to walk the paths throughout the village of Lily Dale, amid the old growth forest, by the lake (with resident swans Lily and Dale), and to the temples, library and museum than with your dearest Spiritualist friends, classmates and congregants?

When you visit the Marion Skidmore library, and I urge you to do so...there exists a guest book in their archives signed by notables of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There is a certain feeling, indescribable, when one senses that the very paths you are walking are the same as the ones they walked. The sights you see were their's. And the unfoldment you seek is the very same they sought...only now, it is, perhaps, they who guide and inspire us toward our greater individual unfoldment, and with it, the unfoldment and evolution of Spiritualism.

### **the tibetan monks of the deprung loseling monastery**

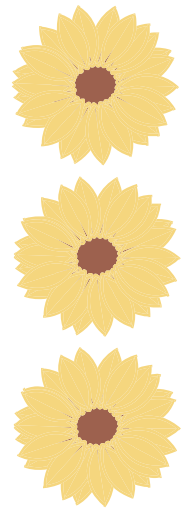
The weekend we are going to be there, so too, will the Tibetan monks of the Deprung Loseling Monastery. They are performing a consecration of the site on Saturday morning and then creating a sacred sand mandala. The fee (\$25) for this is extra and is not included in the cost of the trip. Special event workshops are fund-raisers for Lily Dale, so you will want to bring additional funds to participate in any workshops or special events being held that weekend. Though it isn't included in the cost of the trip, it would be remiss of me not to mention the extraordinary opportunity to hear the acoustical wonder of the Tibetan monks and bear witness to the wondrous creation of the sand mandala.

I hope you'll consider joining us for this extraordinary excursion.

*Your feedback is encouraged. Emails can be sent to [SpiritualistGuild@hotmail.com](mailto:SpiritualistGuild@hotmail.com) 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.



## development class series

### a spiritual journey

*by dotty crocker*

I have been sitting in the church development class for nearly 30 years. Spiritualism has been a part of my mom's family life for many years considering that my Grandmother Blaisdell was a Spiritualist Reverend. Because my mom was brought up in this religion, I was eager to learn more about it.

I enjoyed receiving healings and messages in church and thought how wonderful it would be to someday be able help people by giving messages and/or healings like those given in this church. The sermons were always beneficial, too; relevant to what was going on in my life.

My reasons for attending class include: learning and understanding more about Spiritualism; learning to meditate and, therefore, be able to calm my mind from the stresses of daily life; being a part of a group of friends who are all searching for better understanding about life from spirit, as I am; restoring balance in my busy life; and learning more about healing and mediumship to assist others in their understanding of life.

Taking this class is beneficial to me because it helps me to relax, and without it, I feel lost. I enjoy meeting each week with my classmates and teachers and those in spirit who come to guide us along our spiritual paths.

By sitting in class this year, I hope to see progress in my healing and mediumship abilities. I hope to be able to do a better job of "moving myself aside," so that spirit can more readily work with me. For me, the spiritual development road has been rather slow, but I look forward to the day when I can see, hear and feel spirit.

The journey continues.

### keeping peace

*by gary hanson*

I joined the development class in the 1970's because I was seeking to find peace in my life. I have been attending class off and on since then.

This is my first time attending the members class, though I have been a member of this church for a long time. By continuing to participate in class, I hope to grow spiritually and keep a wonderful sense of peace in my daily life.

I have met so many wonderful seekers of truth among my many classmates throughout the years. I consider myself blessed to have had the benefit of our earthly teachers and our spirit teachers.

## 2007

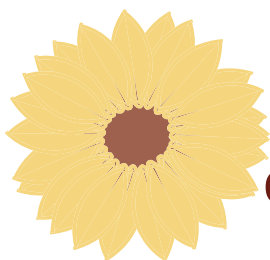
### board of trustees

*rev. brad gosselin, president*  
*mary ciaramitaro, vice president*  
*nancy karolides, secretary*  
*rev. elizabeth gosselin, treasurer*

*trustees*  
*patricia cizewski*  
*joyce defazio*  
*naomi ellis*  
*sue hinckley*  
*david leclair*

### guild officers

*gerri ganey, president*  
*patti brooks, vice president*  
*pat cizewski, secretary*  
*jeff ganey, treasurer*



## class series *(continued)*

### lifelong learning

*by sue hinckley*

**A**fter coming to church for awhile, I realized that this was the place I wanted and needed to be. This was the place that had the answers I was seeking to my questions about life.

I joined the development class to learn about Spiritualism and how to communicate with spirit. There is no greater feeling than to feel spirit next to you.

There is so much I have learned, but truthfully, I have just scratched the surface. We are in class because we will always need to read the next book, listen to the next talk, receive from spirit, and give out what we have received.

I have met so many wonderful people that have shown me there are many, many ways to learn about mediumship, healing and looking within to find yourself....that I just want to go on learning....

### of like minds

*by kathy wheeler*

I enrolled in the development class to be part of something with people of like minds. I felt I needed more structure and consistency in my development. I was born with an enormous appetite for learning and felt that spirit led me here to further my development.

Unlike other places I have attended where egos ran high, this is a place where humility and humbleness are required. We are taught that ego gets in the way of accurately receiving messages from spirit.

These classes have also been beneficial to me in helping with my fear of public speaking. Each week, I feel my confidence growing to reach my ultimate goal of conquering my fear.

My expectation from these classes is to become whatever Infinite Spirit has in store for me while maintaining humility and humbleness along the way.

## 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

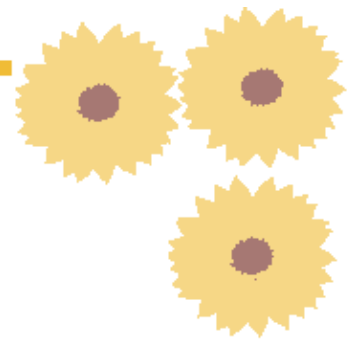
private healing by appointment only

28 riverside street

danvers

978-774-2559





## 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:

**april 1**  
annual student service

**april 8**  
easter

**april 15**  
rev. steve hermann

**april 22**  
tba

**april 29**  
tba

## e v e n t s

### raffle basket

tickets for the raffle basket are available every Sunday during the lunch between services.

### the drawing room

private readings with spirit-inspired drawings by rev. betty gosselin. \$40 donation, saturdays by appointment only. rsvp 978-774-1571.

### all message circle

held one monday per month, these all message circles are conducted by the rev. betty gosselin and nancy karolides, certified medium. limit 12 participants per circle, \$15 donation. call 978-774-1571 for schedule and rsvp.

### medium's day

may 4, time to be announced  
private readings with the church's nationally certified and student mediums; reiki and therapeutic chair massage; gift table; snack bar.

### lily dale trip

june 29 to july 1, \$189 incl. room, daily events, gate fee and group shuttle to and from Buffalo Int'l airport. See separate flyer for details.