

glad tidings

a newsletter of
the first spiritualist
church of salem

muriel karolides, pastor emeritus

a place of spirit

by patricia brooks

We all have a story of how we found this church, unless you were one of the fortunate to be born to it. I've been told that when it was time, I found this church. But it took time and searching for me to find it.

I spent years reading whatever I could get my hands on about spirit, mediums, natural law and anything that I thought would lead me to something more than the organized religion of my youth.

I didn't know Spiritualist churches existed. I didn't know there was one practically in my own backyard.

I had been to several Spiritualist Churches and kept looking. When I came here I was all by myself. I didn't have people to come with me. It was hard for me to do. As soon as I walked into this church I knew it was different. I "felt" it. Spirit is here. People listen. People were warm and friendly. I felt welcome.

We are all very different people at this church, but we have a common love of Spirit. As I got involved and learned more about the people here, I found that even if we disagree we can get along and work for Spirit. This is what I was looking for. I developed a love for this church very quickly. I found people that were honest in their beliefs and had love to share. I was amazed! I had never seen this before in organized religion.

By the time that I was eligible for membership I had done a lot of soul searching. I'm not usually a joiner. Well, that was about to change. Membership is a responsibility. It is a commitment. Membership means that you will do what you can to support the well being of this church. We are all different with different ideas. We each bring something that wasn't here before. What we do here is pull together to make this a loving and welcoming place of spiritual growth.

Before I joined this church I had to look at myself. What was I going to give back? What was I able to do? In my daily meditations and my prayer I ask spirit what I need to do. I don't think that Spirit asks for much from us. They guide and love us always. What is needed will change along the way and we need to change with it. We need to remember those that came ahead of us but be willing to work with each other and with those still yet to come. I joined this church instead of others because I felt that was possible here.

Editor's Note:

This is the first in a series of articles written by members of the First Spiritualist Church of Salem about what attracted them to Spiritualism and this church. 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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pastoral committee

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

ch—commissioned healer ch
cm—certified medium cm
nst—national spiritualist teacher



a look back, a look ahead

by pat cizewski, editor

It is said that one must know where one has been in order to know where one is going. As we begin a new church season, this fourth volume of *Glad Tidings* will feature articles that both look back and look ahead.

We begin with a new series of articles written by members of the church about what attracted them to Spiritualism and to the First Spiritualist Church of Salem. As member Patti Brooks writes in the first of this series, "We all have a story of how we found this church." This year, we'll be telling our stories.

Yet, our stories are not complete without a look at the stories of those who came before us: the founder, Mrs. Ruth Olmstead, and her daughter, the Rev. Gladys Worsencroft, our own Pastor Emeritus Muriel Karolides (celebrating her 94th birthday this month), and the dedicated men and women who served Spirit and our church. By honoring those who came before us, we can be encouraged by the way they overcame their struggles, awed by their strength, and inspired by their commitment to Spiritualism. No doubt, we continue to be guided by those early workers who have since made their transitions to the Spirit side of life, but who continue to hold this little church in their hearts.

To contribute your story about how you found Spiritualism and the First Spiritualist Church of Salem, or an anecdote or story about Mrs. Olmstead, Rev. Worsencroft, Muriel Karolides, or other workers who have served our church, please email them to: info@firstspiritualistsalem.org and place "To the Editor" in the subject line. Articles may be edited for length and/or structure.

Or send your information via regular post to:
First Spiritualist Church of Salem
34 Warren St.
Salem, MA 01970
Attn: Editor

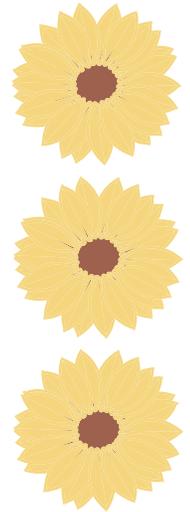
Please do not send original materials (such as photographs) because we cannot guarantee their safe return.

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

Welcome back!!

It has been a short wonderful summer. It started with our trip to Lily Dale after church closed last season and ended with the picnic at the end of August.

Hopefully you are all rested and excited about a new church season. The Guild has already started making plans for a fun-filled exciting season, while continuing the necessary fund raising activities.

Blending the two together. raising money and having fun sounds great. The first program is an all day workshop on September 16th by John Goldingham from New Zealand. Information and details are elsewhere.

Elizabeth and I will be away the first Sunday as we journey to Rochester, NY for the International Spiritualist Federation (ISF) Conference. We will be reacquainting ourselves with friends from around the globe as we have missed the last three years of ISF. We usually meet with 100 to 200 friends from around the world for an exciting week of teaching and learning from tutors from many countries and cultures, while sharing our love of Spiritualism.

In closing, I would like to thank Pat Cizewski and her volunteer crew who did such a wonderful job cleaning the grounds and making the outside presentable: Joyce DeFazio, Steve Quintiliani, Laurie Drake, Gerry Ganey, and Jeff Ganey. Thank you on behalf of the Church Board, the Pastoral Committee, and the membership. It is the dedication of all who donate their time, effort and various skills that allows this church to stay open, prosperous and most importantly, Spiritual.

Thank you.

Love and Blessings,

Rev. Brad Gosselin
Church Board President

upcoming activities

see flyers for more details

september 16 (sunday) channelling in trance all day workshop

september 20 (thursday) trance demonstration workshop

october 20 (saturday) mediums day (readings, reiki, therapeutic chair massage)

november 3 (saturday) the law of attraction seminar and pizza night

november 6 (tuesday) non-members development class begins

november 7 (wednesday) members development class begins

november 17 (saturday) pampered chef fund-raising party

2007 meeting schedule

board meetings

board and church members only

tuesday, september 18
7 pm, olmstead hall

guild meetings

all are welcome

sunday, october 7
4 pm, olmstead hall

board of trustees

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



healing

If you know of someone who is in need of healing, please submit the name through our website at info@firstspiritualistsalem.org; subject line: "healing." Names are forwarded to our healers and placed in the newsletter. 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,
Roseanne and Rick, Charlotte, Amy Rose

And for our companion animals

Abbey (cat), Timmy (cat), J (cat), Maggie (horse), Gracie (cat)

building community

The church has a new website! After considerable planning, Laurie Drake (webmaster) and Pat Cizewski (editor) have launched a new website for the church.

"We are still building it, but like in the movie, *Field of Dreams*, where they say, 'If you build it, they will come'—that is what is happening with the website," says Drake. "We had 140 hits and three emails in the first week: a request for healing, a request for the newsletter (from Arizona), and a request to visit the church (from a minister in Great Britain)."

It hasn't been glitch-free, however. "When we registered for the domain name, we checked the nonprofit box, but we were assigned the .com suffix instead of .org. We've since corrected it, but we need to ask everyone to bear with us through these little hiccups," explains Drake.

"For the past year, I've been focusing our materials on the theme of building community," says Cizewski. "Some of that effort, for example, has been to add articles written by the members and friends of the church."

"We ARE the church," emphasizes Drake. "Everything we do, everything we put out there reflects on the church and shows the public who we are; hopefully, our efforts will generate interest and people will want to learn more and come visit us. In Spiritualism, like the world of the internet, community is a huge idea...and building community through the use of the internet just makes so much sense."

Visit and then bookmark www.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

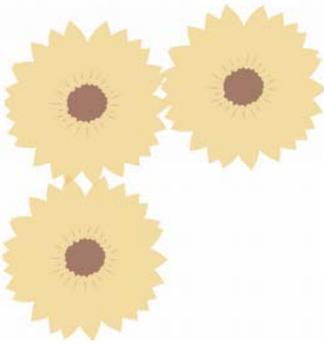
David LeClair, certified spiritualist healer

private healing by appointment only

28 riverside street

danvers

978-774-2559



lily dale moments

Visiting Lily Dale was a long overdue event for me, but sharing this experience with dear friends, and especially with my daughter, made it a trip worth waiting for. Each moment was an echo of the voices and works of some of our more recent pioneers, many of whom it was my pleasure to know personally. The greatest gift that I carried away from Lily Dale was a renewed awareness of the incredible legacy that has been left to us and a sense of gratitude to those who labored long and hard to make it so.

Priscilla Herrick



lisa cheney (priscilla herrick's daughter) greets the morning from the porch of the maplewood hotel



I never felt so at peace as I did that whole weekend. I think I found the peace within myself to be a better Spiritualist.

Arlene Malvitch

While it is always an exciting and uplifting experience to visit and walk the grounds of Lily Dale, it was especially enjoyable this trip. To share the joy, excitement and awe of those members visiting for the first time brought back memories of our first visit. Words can never express the depths of my inner self as I discovered the magic of Spirituality walking the grounds the first time. To share these feelings with church members is a reminder of what this beautiful religion offers to each and everyone each and every day.

Rev. Brad Gosselin

The peace and natural beauty of Lily Dale is hard to describe. It's like stepping back into a simpler time. I brought some of the lessons home with me. I have gotten more creative with ways to add peace and simplicity to my life.

Patti Brooks

arlene malvitch receives blessings from a tibetan monk at the special healing ceremony

The trip was more than I could hope for. When we arrived at Lily Dale, we went off to explore. The amount of energy that radiates from every building, every tree, every blade of grass, and the history that is felt in every location, is so intense. There were new levels of understanding of spirit and energy and a newly formed kinship for one another. I found a renewed faith in myself and my abilities.

I am grateful for the entire experience: the meeting places, inspiration stump, the library with its books, the parlor in the Maplewood Hotel with its spirit paintings, the museum with its artifacts, and the monks and their beautiful mandala. These things and more I will never forget.

Deb McGee

Painted Sand



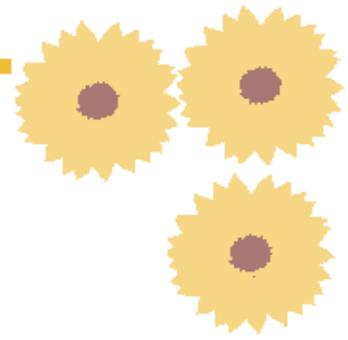
photo by pat cizewski

Making the Mandala



photos by sue hinckley

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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

trance workshop with lionel owen

tuesday, september 20
attendance is limited, please
call for availability
978-774-1571

cost: \$25

mediums day

saturday, october 20
noon to 4 pm

private readings:
\$25 for 20 minutes
reiki, therapeutic chair massage:
\$20 for 15 minutes

law of attraction seminar and pizza night

dr. tatarunis, hypnotherapist
and sal's pizza!

saturday, november 3, 5 pm
\$30, all are welcome

pampered chef party

saturday, november 17, 2 pm
just in time for holiday shopping!
look for other events coming
soon! stay informed of the church
schedule of events at our new
website:

www.firstspiritualistsalem.org
