



# glad tidings

a newsletter of  
the first spiritualist  
church of salem

muriel karolides, pastor emeritus

## a wonderful friend of the church

*by gary hansen*

**B**rother Nicodemus, or Brother Nick as most people called him, was a wonderful friend of the First Spiritualist Church of Salem. He was a member of the Tuesday night class for more than 25 years.

His great love was education. He was first a teacher, and later, the Library Director at St. John's Prep in Danvers. He dedicated his career not just to educating, but inspiring, the younger generation. Some years after he left St. John's, the Northshore Sunday newspaper ran a feature story on Brother Nick. When the article appeared, he received many phone calls and letters from his former students. Some had gone on to serve in the Peace Corp and many others worked in the helping professions. All of them were so anxious to let Brother Nick know how he had changed their lives.

Brother Nick was always a spiritual seeker. In the 1970s, he decided to enroll in a spirituality class at Middlesex Community College in Bedford. At this class, he would begin a lifelong friendship with the teacher of that class and pastor of the First Spiritualist Church of Salem, the Reverend Gladys Worsencroft.

In future issues, we will explore some of the many lessons given by Brother Nick

*Brother Nick is often remembered in the spiritual unfoldment classes at the First Spiritualist Church of Salem. For those that knew him while he was on the earth plane, they recount warm and tender memories of Brother Nick. For those who did not have the privilege of knowing Brother Nick in his physical form, there is delight in getting to know him through the message work in the circles. Gary Hansen, author of this series of articles, was a close associate of Brother Nick. He has generously and happily agreed to contribute these articles to Glad Tidings. A long time member, Gary is now a trustee on the Board of Trustees for the First Spiritualist Church of Salem.*

### Editor's Note:

*This series of articles is written by members of the First Spiritualist Church of Salem. Visit our website at [www.firstspiritualistsalem.org](http://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](mailto:info@firstspiritualistsalem.org).*

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### *glad tidings*

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the national spiritualist  
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since 1894

### pastoral committee

**mrs. mary ciaramitaro**  
**ms. patricia cizewski**  
**mrs. priscilla herrick, cm**  
**mrs. nancy karolides, cm**  
**mr. david leclair, ch**

ch—commissioned healer ch  
cm—certified medium cm



## answering the call

*by pat cizewski, editor*

**W**e're back for the start of an exciting year at the First Spiritualist Church of Salem after an event-filled summer. From the church trip to Lily Dale to the church picnic at the Willows, fellowship continued throughout the summer months.

One of the very special activities was the block party held in the Danversport neighborhood celebrating the recovery and restoration of their homes since the November 2006 paint factory explosion. Finally, with the neighborhood back to normal after such a long and traumatic ordeal, a celebration was in order!

The First Spiritualist Church of Salem participated in the block party and secured donations from Friendly's Ice Cream (for world-class ice cream sundaes) and the Chowda Van, courtesy of Legal Sea Foods, for world-class New England clam chowder. Following is a thank you note written by Janet Lettich on behalf of the neighborhood:

***Dear members of the Spiritualist Church of Salem,***

***Thank you all so much on behalf of the Danversport neighbors for your wonderful and generous contributions to our block party on August 10. The Legal Sea Foods chowder was a big hit as well as the Friendly's ice cream sundaes.***

***Your continued support, kindness, and compassion to us all will always be remembered.***

***We can't thank you enough for the gifts you have given to us from the very beginning. Thank you.***

The trauma that befell the Danversport neighborhood gave our church a renewed sense of commitment to the larger community. Though it would have been easy for our church to remain insular, our members took it upon themselves to reach out and lend a helping hand by sponsoring two of the community dinners organized by the Maple Street church. In this way, we were given the opportunity to practice our 6<sup>th</sup> principle that states: "We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule, 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'" For those church members who participated, they answered the call of Rabbi Hillel of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC, "If not you, who? If not now, when?"

May this new church season see us build upon this idea of community as we find new ways to reach out and answer the call to Spirit and service.

*Your feedback is encouraged.*

Emails can be sent to [info@firstspiritualistsalem.org](mailto: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*

**W**

elcome back! A new church season started September 7 and offers us another opportunity for like-minded friends to renew their search for spiritual growth. After a summer of rest and renewal of the physical and spiritual self, we return to church.

The Pastoral Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the Guild have made plans for a season of new programs and opportunities for each to take an active part in the growth and success of your church and community. We will continue to offer the congregation our love and cooperation to help each as they search for greater understanding.

Each of us is here to serve the needs of the congregation and the community, so please feel free to ask for help, assistance, or explanation as needed.

In Love, Light and Healing,  
Rev. Brad Gosselin, NST  
Church Board President

## happy 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, muriel!

Let us not forget to wish our pastor emeritus, Muriel Karolides, a very happy birthday on September 27. Muriel turns 95 on that very special day.

Her decades of service to the church, the NSAC, and to Spiritualism has earned her a special place in the annals of this church, this religion, but especially, within our hearts. To send your warm and celebratory wishes to her, please address your card to: Muriel Karolides, Radius Health Care Center at Danvers, 56 Liberty St., Danvers, MA 01923.

## unfoldment classes

**meditation**

**spirit communication**

**healing**

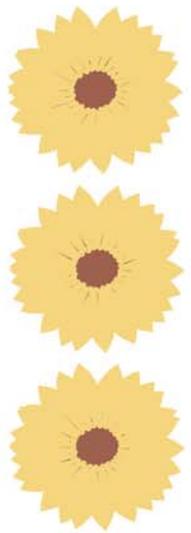
**natural law**

If you are interested in your spiritual unfoldment, the First Spiritualist Church of Salem offers two classes: one for non-members and one for members.

If you are not a member of the church, please speak with Priscilla Herrick about enrolling in the Tuesday night class that begins on October 14.

Church members can speak with Nancy Karolides about enrolling in the Wednesday night class that begins on October 15.

Priscilla and Nancy are both nationally certified mediums with the National Spiritualist Association of Churches. The Tuesday night class teaches healing with David LeClair, commissioned healer; and the Wednesday night class teaches healing with Rev. Bradley Gosselin, NST and commissioned healer.



## 2008 meeting schedule

### board meetings board and church members only

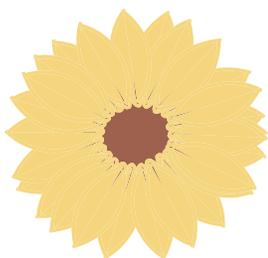
September 27  
3:30 pm

### guild notes

please submit ideas for fund-raisers, fellowship activities, and educational seminars to [info@firstspiritualistsalem.org](mailto:info@firstspiritualistsalem.org)

### board of trustees

rev. bradley gosselin, president  
mary ciaramitaro, vice president  
laurie drake, secretary  
joyce de fazio, treasurer  
patricia cizewski, trustee  
naomi ellis, trustee  
sue hinckley, trustee  
gary hanson, 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](mailto:info@firstspiritualistsalem.org). Place "healing" in the subject line. Names that are submitted are forwarded to the healers of our church to be remembered in their healing meditations as well as being placed in our newsletter. Please take the time to send your healing thoughts and energy to those on our healing list:

### *for our loved ones*

Amy Rose	Anthony	Brookie	Helen
Jason	Jeff	Jen	Karen
Kathy	Kayla	Kim	Kristen
Kristen S.	Madesyn	Millie	Phoebe
Rick	Raymond	Sandy	Stas

*We also place the names of our companion animals on our healing list. If you have an animal in need of healing, please do not hesitate to place it on our healing list.*

## Upcoming Reiki Workshop:

October 25 – 1 pm to 4 pm; intro to Reiki, self-healing, healing of animals, and a drawing for a free Reiki treatment.

Workshop fee: \$30

Facilitators: Reiki Masters, Laurie Drake and Mary Ciaramitaro

## 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



## summer reflections

by nancy karolides, pastoral committee

The summer was a time for rest, relaxation and fun. Though the church was closed for Sunday services and classes, we were open on July 19 and August 9 for healing and meditation at our Saturday Healing Center held in the sanctuary of our church. It gave us a wonderful time to just sit in the silence with our own thoughts and to feel the love and energy from our loved ones and to connect with those in attendance. I have attended these healing sessions and it has always been a great rejuvenation for me.

Our healing center schedule has been set for the entire upcoming season, and I hope you will participate to reap the benefits and offer your own prayers and energy for healing yourself and your loved ones.

Summer is also a time when we visit the ocean, lakes, and mountains. It is a time when we can enjoy the warming weather after a long cold winter. It is a good time to walk in the parks and in our neighborhoods and reconnect with our neighbors, friends and relatives. It is a time for picnics, barbecues, and eating lots of ice cream...much like we did at our Annual Picnic at Salem Willows on August 17. As always, it was a great time and lots of fun and laughs.

What ever you chose to do this summer, I hope you found happiness, health and wisdom and remembered that the Natural Laws are always working for us with our good decisions. In this way, you will have prepared for this new season in your life and with the church as we embark on new learnings in services, classes, the Healing Center, and other special events.

Many blessings as we open our vibrant Church once again and share with each other all that we experienced during our summer hiatus and all that we hope for in this new season.

### healing center

The First Spiritualist Church of Salem offers dedicated days for healing. One Saturday per month, the church's healers gather to serve, free of charge, the congregation and greater community by offering healing to those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing.

Each healing day begins with an opening prayer, the recitation of the Prayer for Spiritual Healing, and a guided meditation. Soft, uplifting instrumental music plays in the background. Attendees come and go to meditate, sit in quiet prayer, receive a hands-on healing, place a name in the healing book, and/or visit with one another downstairs in Olmstead Hall where there is always a pot of coffee made and sweet treats.

The Healing Center will be open the following Saturdays in 2008:

**October 18**

**November 8**

**December 13**

**refresh • rejuvenate • restore**

### lunches

Every Sunday between the early and healing services, the Guild serves lunch in Olmstead Hall. In the past, someone would sign up to purchase, prepare and serve the meal. This same individual would be responsible for cleaning up afterwards, too.

This year, the Guild is trying a new way. Instead of preparing the meal at home and carting it to church, there are pre-made meals frozen in the freezer. There are also other options, such as spaghetti, soup, and so forth stored in the kitchen cabinets.

The sign up sheet now has two columns: one for the person or persons who volunteer to prepare the lunch on the premises, and one for the person or persons who volunteer to clean up.

If you are inclined to bring a dessert or platter of food, all contributions of fresh, wholesome food are still welcome. Questions? See a Guild member.

Bon appétit!

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## sunday services

all services are open to the public  
newcomers welcome

## student service

5:30 pm

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

## regular service

begins with healing at 6:30 pm

featured guest speaker and message medium schedule as follows:

**september 14**

sue gehling

**september 21**

rev. john sullivan

**september 28**

eleanor fisher

**october 5**

patricia cizewski

**october 12**

susan ferency

**october 19**

mary ciaramitaro

**october 26**

rev. steve hermann

## Healing Saturdays:

October 18

November 8

December 13

## Upcoming Events

All Message service—September 27, 5 pm

Reiki Workshop—October 25, 1 pm

## e v e n t s

### saturdays, the drawing room

private readings with spirit-inspired drawings by the rev. elizabeth gosselin, nst.

by appointment only  
call 978-774-1571

### monday circles

held one monday per month, space is limited to 12 participants.

call 978-774-1571 for the schedule and to reserve your place.

circles are conducted by the rev. elizabeth gosselin and nancy karolides, cm.

for more information about the church or the religion of spiritualism contact:

[info@firstspiritualistsalem.org](mailto:info@firstspiritualistsalem.org)

all emails are read

