



# GGSC News

Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco, California

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## Message from the GGSC Board President

Every time the Summer Solstice rolls around, I am compelled to pull out and play my original vinyl 45 rpm recording of "A Summer Song" by the British duo Chad and Jeremy. In my opinion, this is one of the most beautiful pop songs ever written, and it also speaks to me on several levels, capturing the passion and peril of summer.

Here is how the song begins:

*"Trees, swaying in the summer breeze,  
Showing off their silver leaves  
As we walk by.*

*Soft kisses on a summer's day  
Laughing all our cares away  
Just you and I.*

*Sweet, sleepy warmth of summer nights  
Gazing at the distant lights  
In the starry sky."*

Who amongst us has not thrilled to – or at least dreamed- of a summer romance? Unexpected; fiery; passionate; life-affirming, sometimes life-altering. Summer romances are unique relationships, as summer itself is unique. In summer, the days are longer and warmer, the light is brighter and clearer, the breezes soft and ripe with the perfume of flowers.

And it is not just the physical attributes of summer that are different. There is a feeling, an emotional component of summer that opens us to new experiences, different ways of looking at and understanding the world around us. Summer is the only season

which does not have a distinct pattern. In spring we plant (literally and figuratively). In autumn we work hard gathering and preparing for possible trying times ahead. In winter, we hunker down, husband our resources, and wait for spring. But summer has an in-between rhythm that can take us to many places in our minds and in our lives. It is no coincidence that schools let out for the summer, businesses shorten their hours, and most people go on vacation. The warmth and power of the sun beckon us to try more, do new things, be –at least for a short while- a new person.

Throughout history, so important was the Summer Solstice and the season it heralded, that many cultures erected fabulous, intricate edifices to mark the exact moment of the turning to summer. To name just a few: Stonehenge in Great Britain; the twin pyramids and the Sphinx in Egypt; the Ajanta Caves in India; the Externsteine Rocks in Germany. All around the world, over the course of many millennia, millions of people celebrating, sometimes worshipping, the arrival of summer.

To these ancient peoples, the sun was the symbol of the divinity, and its life-giving warmth was paramount in their existence. The sun – the source of light to every living thing – was a unifying force, a blazing fire- the giver of life itself. So it is not surprising that is has held so much importance through the ages.

*(Message from the Board President,  
continued on page 3)*

## SPECIAL EVENT

On Sunday, July 23, 2023, there will be a special, combined service of Golden Gate Spiritualist Church and Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community. Guest Speaker and Medium will be The Reverend James Kinnear, founder of the Spiritualist Society of Burlington, Ontario, Canada. Reverend Kinnear has worked as a medium, lecturer and teacher for over 30 years, in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

Reverend Kinnear will also be presenting an all-day "Spirit Inspired" mediumship Workshop at Celebrate Life Spiritualist Community on Saturday, July 22, 2023. ***Please use the Celebrate Life's Home page to register if you are interested.***

## Special Wednesday Evening Services

This year, every month with five Wednesdays will have a special evening service. The fifth Wednesday will have an in-person, all message service with social time for all to share. The next two services are scheduled for Wednesday evening on **August 30th** and **November 30th**.

This is your opportunity for demonstration of spirit communication, with a social hour and refreshments afterwards. Our first and third Wednesdays are on Zoom only, but these special services will be in-person only.

Mark your calendars with August 30, and November 29 for this opportunity to share this special time together.



## CHURCH GARAGE SALE

Mark your calendars to join us in discovering new treasures and interesting items to purchase at our church garage sale on **Friday, August 18** and **Saturday, August 19**. We will have many varied items priced to sell. We are doing a “spring” cleanup to create more space and light in the church for future events. We are not accepting donations for this sale, but would appreciate volunteers to assist us for a few hours or more to set up, conduct and clean up after the sale. Please contact June Johnson by email at [2palmsimoon@msn.com](mailto:2palmsimoon@msn.com) (that’s a numeral 2 and a numeral 1) for offering assistance.

### What was happening in 1924?

Rev. Florence Becker founded the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church at its current location in 1924. What else was happening in San Francisco in 1924?

- The California Palace of the Legion of Honor was opened
- July 1<sup>st</sup> saw direct, regular transcontinental airmail service between San Francisco and New York
- The copper Wheat penny, an inaugural series of the Lincoln cent, saw an overall average mintage of 90 million between San

Francisco, Philadelphia and Denver.

- Saints Peter and Paul Church at 666 Filbert Street was built.



### 2023 National Spiritualist Association of Churches Annual Convention

The 2023 Annual Convention will be held on Sunday, October 29 through Friday, November 3 in Niagara Falls, New York. The location is the Seneca Niagara Resort and Casino, and the reservation cutoff date for special rates through NSAC is Monday, September 25, 2023. Church delegates will be meeting to conduct the business of the national organization. This will include reading of reports, financial status, elections and committee meetings.

If you are interested in being a delegate for the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church and have been a member for at least a year, please let us know.

### Church Update

In our April newsletter, we announced a partnership between the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church and Celebrate Life! Progressive Spiritualist Community. Celebrate Life! have decided to continue their current space rental in San Francisco at this time. We are continuing discussions to share services, and keep the door open for future space sharing in the future.



### Hands On Healing

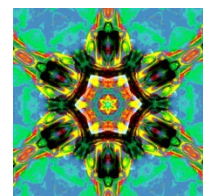
Hands on healing, or contact healing, has resumed in our healing chapel. What does it involve?

Contact healing is the physical contact from a spiritual healer who is acting as a channel for spirit in assisting the transfer of curative energy to the recipient.

The process begins with permission from the recipient for the healer’s hand or hands to be placed upon the recipient’s head, shoulders, or both. Many contact healers place one hand upon the recipient’s forehead and another upon the back of the neck. Contact with the head and shoulders are sufficient for the purpose of healing. Touching the recipient any other place on their body is unnecessary.

Through the connection with spirit and the touch on the recipient, the healer becomes a conduit through which healing energy flows.

The process is silent; words are not necessary. Healing may be felt immediately, or up to sometime afterwards. Healing occurs at many different levels, and your spirit healers will continue to work with you even after you have left the healing chapel.



*(Message from the Board President, continued from page 1)*

Today, we do not worship the sun, and we do not devote ourselves to it the way our forebears did, but we do still feel and acknowledge the “pull” of summer. The season calls to us, practically demanding that We open up, enjoy, expand – that we have that romance, take that chance.

But there is more to it than that. The final component of summer is a spiritual one. Within the rhythm of summer, as we celebrate our abundance and good times, we must also remember that the sun and its glorious fire is symbolic of the fire of Infinite Intelligence within us, tying us to all humanity, for all history. Summer is a time to connect with our ancestors, to re-connect with ourselves. We must use our internal, spiritual fire to build our spiritual bridge to the future and dream the dreams which will sustain us as we move through the dark seasons, until it is summer once again.

As the song ends:  
*“They say that all good things must end some day.*

*Autumn leaves must fall.*

*But don't you know that it hurts me so  
 To say goodbye to you?*

*Wish you didn't have to go,  
 no, no, no, no.*

*But when the rain beats against the  
 window pane*

*I will think of summer days again  
 And dream of you.”*



## A FRIENDSHIP BLESSING

May you be blessed with good friends.  
 May you learn to be a good friend to yourself.  
 May you be able to journey to that place in your soul where there is great love, warmth, feeling and forgiveness.  
 May this change you.  
 May it transfigure that which is negative, distant, or cold in you.  
 May you be brought in to the real passion, kinship, and affinity of belonging.  
 May you treasure your friends.  
 May you be good to them and may you be there for them.  
 May they bring you all the blessings, challenges, truth, and light that you need for your journey.  
 May you never be isolated.  
 May you always be in the gentle nest of belonging with your

*anam cara* by John O'Donohue

## Church Wish List

The rebuilding of the rear deck, steps, handrail and ramp at sanctuary platform have been completed. We are always grateful for donations to help fund these repairs. Now we need to ask help with a new garage door and garage door opener, so we may continue to keep the garage in good working

order. Please consider a donation to our garage door and opener fund to assist us in keeping the church building in good working order, in order to continue to serve you.



Donations may be made through:

- The Golden Gate Spiritualist Church website on PayPal
- Mailed to our address at 1901 Franklin Street, San Francisco, California 94109
- In church during the church service

*We are a charitable organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.*



### GGSC NEWS

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To receive GGSC News, please send your name as well as the email address to which you want the News sent to: GGSC Information, [info@ggspiritalistchurch.org](mailto:info@ggspiritalistchurch.org). It will sent as a PDF file to your email.