



GGSC News

Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco, California

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Message from the President

Falling in Love Again



I must admit that fall is my favorite time of year. Ushered in by the Autumnal Equinox- a day of perfect balance, when light and darkness are exactly equal- it is a place in time to pause and take a breath between the fire and vigor of summer and the cold and repose of winter.

As a riot of color bursts forth from the trees, that special, golden September light reveals the magical in everything it touches, illuminating Nature's very essence in all its generous abundance. But there is also a melancholy that hangs like autumn mist at the edges of that light, for we know that we are entering a transition and with transition comes loss, and yet the essence of our blessings is unchanging and eternal.

Paradoxically, the time when the year begins to wane is the time of greatest abundance. This blend of decline and bounty reminds us that the earth provides us all we need to face the challenges to come. On a deeper level, nature provides us with not only her harvests, but her strength, wisdom and endurance, too.

The Autumnal Equinox- this place of perfect balance between the Light and the Darkness- was for

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Church building rear deck repairs are complete!



Before



After

We are happy to report the repairs and reconstruction of the church rear deck and covered porch area are complete. The demolition, remedial and new construction work was overseen by the church maintenance committee, with David Haddick, June Johnson and Michael Franklin taking the lead. The shabby sunroom was removed, a new deck was installed, and new guardrail and handrail were installed. A new ramp and steps were also built. Gutters were installed, plus painting. New doors are ordered and will be installed when received. In the meantime, a mural was painted by the church caretaker, Gene

Carpenter. The overall cost was approximately \$65,000.

We now have an enlarged deck with the original covered porch restored, which has created additional meeting and gathering space for our church members and visitors.

This has been extremely important project for our church. A building over one hundred years old needs constant attention, and repairs are ongoing. Donations are gratefully accepted to help offset the cost of this construction work and ongoing project costs. Please donate to assist this worthwhile effort at our web page, at www.ggspiritualistchurch.org.

Hands-On Healing In Person Has Resumed

Golden Gate Spiritualist Church is resuming hands-on healing in the healing chapel at church on Sunday mornings, beginning at 10:30 a.m. According to the National Spiritualist Association of Churches, the definition of a Spiritualist Healer is "one who either through one's own inherent powers or through mediumship, is able to impart virtual, curative force to pathologic conditions." Also, "With contact healing, the actual physical contact assists the healer transfer curative energy to

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Healing Chapel

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my Celtic ancestors, a time of Great Tides; the Gateway of the Year; the time of the Great Feast, known by many names to many people, for the truth is reflected from many mirrors. Races long gone called it by names forgotten; our children's children will call it by names not yet conceived. But all of those people, now lost in the mists of time, knew the importance of this particular change of seasons, this waning and blessing, and even as they joyfully celebrated the glorious, abundant summer, they prepared for the earth's tip toward winter and darkness, not only by laying in supplies for the long night, but also by preparing themselves to balance internally, to turn within to find the strength to carry them through the "death" of winter to the new light at the end of the dark days.

We also can and should follow this age-honored tradition and, at this time when light is perfectly balanced with dark, search for equilibrium in ourselves. As we feel the days slowing and a new chill gathering at the edges of our reverie, it is time to reassess, to reinforce our metaphorical roots, to drive them so deep into the heart of the earth that no winter frost can diminish them. This is a perfect time to return to our center, to journey inward to access that deep store within us, that place that will nourish us through the coming weeks of growing darkness. It is a time for returning to a sacred place within; to the source of all life, creation and inspiration – that we might take stock, replenish and give thanks. The falling temperatures, the shortening days, give us time to ponder, to let go of all things that no longer serve to enhance

our spiritual journey. This is a time to consider what we will take with us, of the warmth and light, into the dark. What will sustain us during the coming winter? What will enable us to step over the threshold into the dark with intention and trust?

As we feast and give thanks for the bounty of the harvest and all the fruits of our work, relationships and spiritual journeys, we contemplate the mystery of transformation as life dances on eternal.

The blessings of the season to all.



SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICE

We are excited to announce we will be having a Sunday service presented by Celebrate Life! Progressive Spiritual Community on Sunday, November 13 at Golden Gate Spiritualist Church. Celebrate Life! is a member of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches and is also located in San Francisco. They are a progressive Spiritualist Community that inspires and empowers people to achieve and celebrate their fullest human and spiritual selves.

The service will be in person and on Zoom. Truth Irwin will be the conductor for the service. Truth is a Transformational Therapist, visionary, Life Coach, hypnotherapist and conscious breathing facilitator. She is the originator and developer of the program known as Consciousness Management and the Evolution Training.

Leading the meditation remotely through Zoom will be the Rev. DeeDee Freeman, a NSAC Ordained Minister, Teacher and Healer. She has is currently at the Mystical Spiritualist Church in Prescott, Arizona and the NSAC church of the Living Spirit in Prescott, Arizona. She also teaches classes related to Spiritualism at the Yavapai College in Prescott, as well as private spiritual development workshops to help people develop their intuitive abilities.

The speaker will be James Bae, a spiritual medium and healer who has been aware of spirit around him since childhood. He has been studying at the Arthur Findlay College in England since 2013. He is the head of the Pastoral Committee at Celebrate Life and has been the Secretary and Treasurer at Celebrate Life since 2015. James is also working towards becoming a Licentiate Minister with the NSAC.

Auset O'Neal will be one of the two mediums remotely through Zoom during the service. She has a mediumship certification from the Holistic Studies Institute in New York City, where she has conducted many Message Circles as well as at the Spiritualist Church of NYC's services and psychic fairs. Auset has presented workshops and webinars, and is the author of the upcoming book "Intuitive Secrets: How to Activate and Accelerate Your Psychic Abilities – Without Scaring Yourself Silly."

The other medium for the service is Mary Mathias, a Licentiate Minister through the Morris Pratt Education Course in 2005. At age 15 in prep school, Mary met a blind girl who was the catalyst for her becoming an eye doctor. The

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 inspiration for living a spiritual life came from her mother and grandmother, who were both ordained Spiritualist ministers. This is an opportunity for us to share our church experiences. There will be a potluck after the service. Please plan to join us for an exciting opportunity for us to share our spiritual journey and experiences.

For more information regarding Celebrate Life! Progressive Spiritual Community see their web page at www.celebratelivesf.org



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the recipient. The healer's hand or hands are placed upon the recipient's head or shoulders, or both, they thus become a conduit through which this energy flows. The spiritual healer may be acting as a transformer of the spiritual energy to make it more readily absorbed by the recipient," according to the NSAC.

Join us before the service at church for this wonderful opportunity to experience hands-on healing.

NSAC National Convention

The NSAC Convention 2022 will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on October 9 - 14, 2022. The last convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin was in 2019. A two year hiatus due to the pandemic has resulted in a number of items to be addressed in the business sessions. Also scheduled is a workshop in trumpet mediumship, followed by a scheduled demonstration of trumpet mediumship with Rev. Lorraine Radice, NST and Rev. Havivah Richards, NST. The

Ministerial Association, National Spiritualist Teacher Club, Spiritualist Healers League and Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society groups will also meet during the convention. Convention business sessions are slated for Wednesday, October 12 through Friday, October 14th. The delegates from GGSC are June Johnson, Barbara Dullea and Susan Hazard. They will report to the Board of Directors after the convention.



AUTUMN

The autumn is a gipsy, when the frost is in the air;
 A joyous, tattered wanderer, with sumac in her hair.
 She passes field and meadowland, and hangs her banners there;
 At night her crimson campfire wafts its perfume everywhere.

The autumn is a priestess, when the leaves are brown are sere;
 She takes her forms of worship from a faded yesteryear.
 Her robes of mist float round her as she burns an incense sweet,
 And bows before her woodland gods who do not know defeat.
 She plucks the flaunting banners down that once she hung so high,
 And sets their blazing colors on her altar in the sky.

-Hattie Anundsen



What is Samhain?

Samhain is the traditional Celtic celebration of the end of summer and the beginning of winter, the "darker half" of the year. Pronounced as "SAH-win", ancient Celts considered the day the new year. Samhain ended summer and the harvest season with celebrations, and was an acknowledgement of the veil between the living and the dead being at its most thin. It was an acknowledgement of death and rebirth. The fire festival celebrations begin on October 31, and end November 1 in the evening. Bonfires were lit and sacrifices were made to appease the gods. The people would carve faces into rutabagas and other root vegetables to frighten off potentially evil spirits. In the New World, pumpkins were substituted, becoming Jack o' Lanterns. The trick or treat phrase originated from offerings being left out to appease visiting mischievous spirits, who would attempt to trick and tease mortals. Costumes were worn to confuse and afford protection from any potential tricksters. The current Halloween practices are diluted but entertaining shadows of the early important celebrations of the Old World.



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