

# *The Spiritual Connection*

*The Portland Spiritualist Church monthly newsletter*

**April 2011**



*"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where Nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike."*

John Muir, The Yosemite, 1912.

The **annual membership meeting** will be held Friday April 8, 2011 at 7:30pm. It will be at the Portland Spiritualist Church sanctuary at 755 Main Street in Westbrook. Come to voice your opinions and concerns. You can also participate on your Board of Directors. Annual elections will be held and there are several openings this year. Please contact Mike Carter at 207-797-2039 or via email at [retrac55@peoplepc.com](mailto:retrac55@peoplepc.com) for more information.

If you haven't paid your membership dues by the opening of the meeting you will not be able to vote on decisions and elections.

We currently meet for services, classes and events at the Mission Possible Teen Center Building church in Westbrook (755 Main St) where we invite you to visit and learn about Spiritualism.

### **Sunday Services**

6:30pm to 8pm

Our services consist of three parts:

Hands on Healing/Inspirational Speaker/Validation of the Continuity of Life

April 3: Rev Pat Wallace, NST, CM – Gardiner

April 10: Mike Carter – Portland, ME

April 17: Rev Betty Simpson, NST – Hermon, ME

April 24: Gary Mascher – Litchfield, ME

### **Friday Night Development Classes**

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Classes are by donation unless otherwise noted

April 1: Becoming a Spiritualist & Development Circle – Rev Beth Carter, CH, CM & Mike Carter. By Donation

April 8: NO CLASS – Annual Membership Meeting

April 15: Meditation & Mediumship –Rev Graham Connolly, NST. By Donation

April 22: Gallery readings 7:00 – 9:30PM. \$10

April 27: To Be Announced

\*\*\* Gift certificates are available \*\*\*

Legend: CH – Commissioned Healer

LM – Licentiate Minister

M – NSAC Missionary

Rev – Reverend

CM – Certified Medium

MPI – Morris Pratt Institute Student

NST – National Spiritualist Teacher

*“Nature always wears the color of the spirit.”*

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

## **Mediums on the Move**

April 2 & 3: Michael Carter serves the Onset Spiritualist Church in Onset, MA

April 10: Michael Carter serves the Spiritualist Church of Eternal Life in Lewiston, ME

April 17: Graham Connolly and Sue Jalbert serve the Spiritualist Church of Eternal Life in Lewiston, ME

April 24: Michael Carter serves the Harrison D Barrett Spiritualist Church in Bangor, ME and Temple Heights Church, Northport, ME

## **Upcoming Events**

April 9: The Lewiston Spiritualist Church of Eternal Life will hold a Mediums Day Fair from 10am – 4pm at 191 Lisbon St., in Lewiston, ME. Parking is available at the Centerville Parking Garage off Canal Street on the 4<sup>th</sup> Level.

April 16: The Portland Spiritualist Church will be holding a Mediums Day Fair from 10am – 3pm at the Mission Possible Teen Center at 755 Main St., Westbrook, ME. There will be 15 minute readings for \$15, Auric Photographs; Jewelry & Gems; Healing; 50/50 Raffle and Baked Goods.

April 30: The Augusta Spiritualist Church will hold their Spring Mediums Day from 10am – 3pm. It will be a fun filled day with mediums and vendors. The church is located on the Corner of Court St. and Perham St. in Augusta.

## **What do you think?**

The name of our Common Ground box has become the “What do you think” box to avoid confusion with the Common Ground Fair. The question for April is “What spiritual healing experiences have you had?”. The goal remains the same, to answer questions or consider suggestions from members and congregants. Please be sure to drop your stories, questions and comments in the box on the information table in the Church sanctuary or by email to [lrpc@portlandspiritualistchurch.org](mailto:lrpc@portlandspiritualistchurch.org). Your input is important and you may remain anonymous if you like.

### **Board of Directors**

President: Rev Graham Connolly, NST, M - 207-655-6673

Vice-President: Lance Cyr - 207-854-2245

Secretary: Mike Carter - 207-797-2039

Treasurer: Sue Jalbert, CH – 207-831-7821

Directors: Angelea Errington-Cyr 207-854-2245

Sharon Gallant - 207-894-5094

Sue Gagnon

**There will be no Board meeting on April 10.**

### **Pastoral Committee**

Rev Graham Connolly, NST, CH, CM, M

Rev Beth Carter, CH, CM

Chris Owen, LM, CH, CM;

Eddita Felt

### **Hospitality Committee**

Keli Stander; Sharon Gallant; Isabelle Hart

### **Social Secretary**

Isabelle Hart

### **Newsletter Staff**

Sharon Kelley, Editor

Eva Giro, Arnold Howe

Check out the website at [www.portlandspiritualistchurch.org](http://www.portlandspiritualistchurch.org) for more information on classes, events, education and more.

*People are very much like trees needing to send our roots down for grounding and open our crowns toward the sun.*

## **Children Of Mother Nature**

### *Trees And People*

A tree that is beginning to grow sends roots down into Mother Earth even as it reaches and opens to the sky above, seeking nourishment from the sun and the moisture in the air and in the rain that falls. In the same way, we can envision ourselves as treelike beings, imagining that we have roots reaching down into the earth, energetic strands that keep us connected. At the same time, the crowns of our heads lift and open to receive nourishment from above. Just like a tree, we seek the sunshine and water we need to survive and thrive. Both trees and people serve as conduits for the intermingling of the opposite and complementary elements of air, water, sun, and earth.

We also share creative ways of growing, regardless of the challenges we come up against in our environments. Trees will even grow through rock, shattering it, in their effort to reach the air and light they need to survive. We are similarly resilient, with a built-in propensity for growth and the conditions that promote it. We find creative ways around the obstacles we confront as we move along our paths, moving toward the light that feeds us, just as trees grow around other trees and rocks as they make their way upward.

Contemplating the ways in which trees and people mirror one another brings us into alignment with the reality that we are part of Mother Nature. Our children, and the trees and their children, will live together on the earth as long as we all survive, sharing the elements and serving together to forward nature's plan. Walking in a forest can be a meditation, the interweaving lives of all living creatures and the planet on which we all take root and reach for the sky.

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