

cannot find a true lodgment within the heart. Learn to put fear aside. Learn to imbibe the qualities of love, tolerance, compassion, understanding, trust and faith. Allied with fact and knowledge. Knowledge removes fear. Where there is understanding, where there is a realization, there can be no fear. These are the qualities of the higher self, which are of the higher spirit being."

## Spiritualist Society of Burlington



Issue 12 November 2010

Welcome to Spiritualist Society of Burlington's "The Message" Newsletter. The Message is designed to complement our existing e-mail publication "Over the Ether" by allowing us to reach those members of our community who are not connected to the Internet or who may not be computer literate.

### Healing @ SSB

Healing is available, by appointment, on the second and fourth Monday of each month. Appointments are available between 6.30 pm & 8.30pm on a first come, first served basis.

#### November Dates:

8<sup>th</sup> November  
22<sup>nd</sup> November

#### December Dates:

13<sup>th</sup> December  
27<sup>th</sup> December

For an appointment, contact MaryAnn Leonard: 905 332 9934

### Who's On ...

#### November 2010

7<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Mazzotta  
14<sup>th</sup> David Jones  
21<sup>st</sup> TC Kendall & Rev. James Kinnear  
28<sup>th</sup> Rev Patti Tomczyk

#### December 2010

5<sup>th</sup> Rev. Len Spicer  
12<sup>th</sup> TBA  
19<sup>th</sup> Peace On Earth Candlelight Celebration  
26<sup>th</sup> Jana Hefferman

### Well Done Future Platform Workers

The Future Platform workers service on October 3<sup>rd</sup> was a complete success. Everyone who took part should be proud of their contribution and know that they are well on their way to being regulars on our platform and on platforms at other churches.

Taking that first step is never easy, but it was made that much more comfortable by the loving support of our community who joined us to make the whole event worthwhile.

### Have Your Say ...

*The Message* aims to keep everyone informed and perhaps educate in a way that is accessible and easy to understand. So, if you have any ideas as to what you may like to see included, please let us know.

### One Year already ...

It's been one year since the first issue of *The Message* ... where has the time gone?

To start our second year, we will be changing the look and including one or two different sections, so look out for your *new Message* in December.

### Contents

Feature Article

Upcoming Events

From the Platform

Words from Beyond

Healing @ SSB

Who's On ...



Spiritualist Society of Burlington  
Roseland Plaza, 3027 New Street, Burlington, ON  
spiritualist@cogeco.ca

## Feature Article

### *The Seven Principles Explained – The Continuous Existence of the Human Soul*

The Fourth principle of Spiritualism affirms the belief that life continues beyond our physical existence.

In considering the idea of continuous existence is the appreciation that there is a divine life force which created mankind and which sustains and maintains it. Man is an integral part of this divine life force and it is impossible to consider this force never having been in existence as it is to consider its ever ceasing to exist. It is, because of its nature, continuous. If God is continuous and mankind is an inseparable part of God, then man can do nothing other than accept the idea that human life is also continuous.

The soul or spirit are considered to be one and the same, that is, the immortal spiritual component of a living being. It is this element that survives separation from the earthly body.

The concept of continuity contains within it the idea of growth, increased understanding and wisdom. That we continue in some form beyond human earthly existence is not a new concept. It is known that many ancient peoples and ancient religious beliefs were confident of continued spiritual existence after death. The ancients accepted as natural that their ancestors survived the change from the incarnate state to the discarnate. They also accepted that their physically deceased, but spiritually surviving, ancestors had the ability to influence events affecting those still living on earth. The ancient peoples respected their ancestors in spirit in the same way as they had when those forebears were in their earthly existence.

Many religious philosophies other than Spiritualism accept the concept of life after death but few accept, as Spiritualism does, that the human spirit continues to progress after the transition called death. Evidence of survival has been demonstrated over many years to make the case for continuous existence. Spirit communicators and spirit phenomena of many kinds have provided strong, corroborative evidence for both scientific investigators and laymen alike. This evidence has confirmed that the soul retains its consciousness, intellect, character

and personality after the death of the physical body.

*Extract from The Philosophy of SNU Spiritualism 2007*

### Upcoming Events

#### December 2010

5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Sale  
12<sup>th</sup> Christmas Sale  
A variety of home-baked goodies /  
new & next-to-new decorations /  
hand-crafted items

19<sup>th</sup> Peace On Earth Candlelight  
Celebration

## From the Platform – By Peter Hatcher

Enlightenment often comes to us when we least expect it, everyone has probably experienced something like it, but we probably wouldn't call it that.

Part of the problem is that the term enlightenment has been hijacked to describe profoundly religious experiences that mere morals like us could never really hope to achieve. But in truth, enlightenment can cover a whole spectrum of experiences from what we would term mundane to the powerfully religious, and each of them are equally profound in their own right.

When we are enlightened, we start to function on a higher level of understanding, or perhaps a higher level of energy, we have more clarity in our thoughts and are more aware of what's going on around us.

Enlightenment isn't a destination. We don't achieve it and suddenly find ourselves to be all knowing and in touch with everything there is.

Enlightenment is actually the threshold to that new level of understanding, a new way of looking at things. It is like a landing on a staircase. When we reach it we are able to pause to realize that we have made progress and can rest if we wish, but it also allows us to continue on.

Once we cross that threshold of enlightenment, we look at things in a different way. We understand. We know. And the interesting thing is that once we achieve it, we cannot go back and see things in the old way.

Enlightenment is simply a choice we can choose to make. We can decide to be enlightened anytime we want, but we often hold on to the familiar fears and distrust to which we have become accustomed.

### Words from Beyond

#### White Feather speaks about Fear:

"Fear, you know, is the great enemy of the soul. Fear is the great enemy of the spirit. There are many, many battles being fought upon your world; disease, pestilence, anger, oppression, hatred, greed, selfishness ... but at the root of many of these lies fear. Fear saps and drains away the very vital energies of the spirit. Fear is like a cancer that emerges within the individual and grows, almost and often to the point where it consumes all rational thinking and you know, fear is at the root, at the heart of so much disease and illness upon your earth.

The greatest fear is fear of the unknown. Fear of that which is to be. Fear is born largely out of ignorance. Where there is knowledge, where there is understanding, there fear