

CHURCH MINISTER & DIRECTORY OF MEDIUMS

Reverend Ella Groves

Donna Kiss, Mary Jane Kapteyn, Louise Gebhart

Private Readings - Call 403-283-1102

2008 TAX RECEIPTS

Charitable Donation Tax Receipts will be issued at the end of January or beginning of February 2009 if your total annual donation to CFSC for 2008 was twenty-five dollars or more. Receipts can be picked up at the church while those not claimed by mid-February will be mailed. If you have recently changed your mailing address, make sure that the church has your new address.

THE 2009 WINTER/SPRING CALENDAR

The **Winter/Spring Calendar**, which provides an overview of the programs sponsored by the CFSC from **January to June, 2009** will soon be available. Copies of the calendar can be picked up at the church or reviewed on the church website – www.calgaryfirstspiritualistchurch.ca. You will find a wide range of events including church socials, a variety of workshops and dates for a number of visiting mediums. Look for special **February Events** such as:

- **Crystals and Stones**, two-day workshop with **Donna Kiss** on Sat Feb 21 and Sun Feb 22
- **Winter Social - Munchies, Music and Messages** on Sat Feb 28.

IN MEMORY OF RONALDA SHAND

Irma Arlene RONALDA Shand was born August 29, 1933 in Regina, Saskatchewan and passed into the Spirit World at the Bethany Care Center in Calgary, Alberta on November 30, 2008 at the age of 75. She is survived by her sister, Frances Street, her five children, Victor Eggins, Ronine Sharp, Bonnie Ziegler, Barbara Mayes, Jacque Mayes and her ten grandchildren.

Ronalda will be remembered for her great sense of caring and the way she reached out to people in need both in her professional work as a therapeutic counselor and her volunteer work in the area of literacy, aids prevention education and hospice work in B.C. When RONALDA moved to Calgary, she joined the CFSC and soon became involved in helping others. In 2000 and 2001, RONALDA offered to lead a daytime group. This Drop-in Circle was an opportunity to combine her knowledge of Spiritualism and counseling to help people cope with their life issues. RONALDA also served for a number of years on the Program Committee.

In remembering RONALDA Shand, we will think of her willingness to serve others. Silver Birch teaches us about the importance of service as part of our spiritual journey. "We require instruments who will be dedicated to serve. I've said it before, and I will repeat, service is the coin of the spirit. To serve is noble because in service you are expressing the divinity within you."

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & AGM 2009

Marlene Harris is now taking **membership renewals** for 2009. The fee is \$30. The benefits of being a member are placement in a development circle, reduced cost for workshops, use of the library, etc. Please see Marlene about the criterion for becoming a Full Member or an Associate Member. The CFSC Board wishes to welcome all new members.

The **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held on **Sunday, February 22 at 8:30 pm** following the Sunday Evening Service. The purpose is to install a new Board and to hear annual reports from the committees who help to run the church. If you have items for the agenda, please inform the Board President, Tom Groves, at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. If you are a full member and wish to serve on the Board, see a member of the Nominating Committee: William Pelech, Laura O'Connor and Delmar Hunter.

LEGACY DONATION If you've found the church has been good to you, giving you support and opportunities to grow, heal and develop, here's a suggestion. Think about how you could give back to the church through a legacy donation when you are updating or making out your will.

CALGARY FIRST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH JANUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY	7:30 pm	SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE	
Jan 4	Speaker:	Dr. Maureen McWilliams	
	Topic:	<i>The Looking Glass Self - Seeing Yourself As You Really Are In The New Year</i>	
	Medium:	Louise Gebhart	
Jan 11	Speaker:	Lucia Lastella	
	Topic:	<i>Science to Prove Consciousness Survival After Death</i>	
	Medium:	Donna Kiss	
Jan 18	Speaker:	Dr. David Jones	
	Topic:	<i>Sai Baba and His Teaching Images</i>	
	Medium:	Mary Jane Kapteyn	
Jan 25	Speaker:	Rev. Ella Groves	
	Topic:	<i>From Adversity to Spiritual Growth</i>	
	Medium:	Donna Kiss	

WEDNESDAY 6:30 – 7:15 pm HEALING SERVICE
Enjoy an opportunity to receive Spiritual Healing with the church healers.

WEDNESDAY 7:30 pm ALL MESSAGE SERVICE

Jan 7	Mediums:	Louise Gebhart, Elsie Pytel, Vreny Zumbuhl
Jan 14	Mediums:	Mary Jane Kapteyn, Susan Gormley
Jan 21	Mediums:	Donna Kiss, William Pelech, Elsie Pytel
Jan 28	Mediums:	Louise Gebhart, Jane Fleming

NOTE: Due to personal circumstances, program arrangements may be subject to change.

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Email: info@calgaryfirstspiritualistchurch.ca

Feedback & Comments: comments@calgaryfirstspiritualistchurch.ca

Website: www.calgaryfirstspiritualistchurch.ca

ONGOING GROUP MEETINGS

SUNDAY	5:00 – 6:30 PM	YOUNG PEOPLE'S SPIRITUAL GROUP Jan 11 - Facilitator: Mary Grace Nelson
MONDAY	7:30 PM	A.S.H.A. HEALING Starts Jan 5 Open every Monday except holidays—Donations Welcome
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	A COURSE IN MIRACLES Starts Jan 13 Drop-in Discussion Group - Facilitator: Greg Deabler – Contribution \$5
FRIDAY	7:30 – 9:00 PM	EVENING MEDITATION GROUP Resumes Jan 16 -- Facilitator: Rev Ella Groves
SATURDAY	9:45 AM	ADVANCED ENERGY HEALING Jan 17 & 31 —Enter <u>East Door</u> —Donations Welcome

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR JANUARY

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SPIRITUAL GROUP

with Mary Grace Nelson

Sunday, January 11

5 to 6:30 pm

ADVANCED ENERGY HEALING CLINICS

Saturday, January 17 & 31

9:45 am

Enter at the East Door

MEDITATION & SPIRIT AWARENESS GROUP

with Rev. Ella Groves

Friday, January 16

7:30 to 9 pm

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2009

See Marlene Harris



DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH FOOD BANK ARE APPRECIATED

YOUTH GROUP 2009

The **Young People's Spiritual Group** will continue to meet in the New Year 2009. This group holds a meeting once a month on **Sunday** from **5 to 6:30 pm** prior to the regular *Sunday Evening Service* and is coordinated by **Mary Grace Nelson**. It is an opportunity for discussion and growth where like-minded people between the ages of 16 and 30-something explore ideas, beliefs, spiritual directions for self enhancement, etc. Everyone is invited to bring friends, and check it out on **Facebook** or on the church website at www.calgaryfirstspiritualistchurch.ca. Pick up a poster on dates, topics, speakers, etc. On **January 11** the topic and discussion will be the *New Year's Astrology* and is sure to be interesting and lively!

GIFT FROM THE SCC

The **Spiritualist Church of Canada (SCC)**, a national Spiritualist organization, will be celebrating its **80th Anniversary** in 2009. The Calgary First Spiritualist Church received its Certificate of Affiliation as a member of the original organization, Spiritualist National Union (SNU) on October 4, 1929. A banner commemorating this anniversary was sent as a gift and now hangs in the church. The sunflower on the banner is the symbol used by the SCC:—"As the sunflower turns its face to the light of the sun, so Spiritualism turns the face of humanity to the Light of Truth."

The idea of forming a national organization started on September 29, 1928 when a delegation of representatives of Spiritualist Churches from Toronto, Hamilton and Stratford met at Britten Memorial Church in Toronto, Ontario. The purpose of this meeting was to establish and form a union of Spiritualist Churches in Canada. Interest in forming such a union came from Spiritualists all across Canada. These included churches in Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Hamilton and Stratford, Ontario as well as western churches in British Columbia and centers like Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Wynyard and Winnipeg. All were in agreement that the time had come to organize Spiritualist churches from across the nation.

The plan chosen was simple:

- Linking up all the Churches in Canada into one Union.
- Aiding churches in better organization and efficiency.
- Training and certifying mediums and speakers.
- Organizing tours of prominent workers.
- Helping struggling churches and starting new ones where needed.
- Discouraging churches existing for private gain only.
- Starting a Spiritualist Newspaper.

It was from this first meeting held on April 27, 1929 that the Spiritualist National Union (SNU) was incorporated by the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada. In 1974, SNU of Canada amalgamated with the remaining churches of the National Spiritualist Association of Canada Inc. (an association of private enterprises) that had been incorporated by the Government of Canada on July 5, 1928. The next change was in 1978, when the SNU of Canada changed its name to Spiritualist Church of Canada (SCC). The SCC has been in existence now for 80 years and the Vision and Actions of the original members are as alive today as they were back then.

MEDITATION AND SPIRIT AWARENESS GROUP RESUMES

I would like to thank all the people who have been patiently waiting for the Friday Meditation Group to start up again. This group began meeting in October 1998 and was originally known as the 'Sharing Your Personal Journey to Spirit: a Meditation and Sharing Group'. This makes it one of the longest running drop-in programs offered by the church, and it has been of great benefit to many people. Over the years, it has been a place to discuss psychic experiences, open to the presence of Spirit, explore your psychic gifts, share the spiritual journey and challenges of life, and make friendships with like minded people.

The **Meditation and Spirit Awareness Group** starts on **January 16, 2008** at **7:30 pm**. Mary Jane Kapteyn is leading her development circle downstairs on Friday nights at the same time, so please arrive early so that both groups can be begin at 7:30 sharp. All are welcome to join the meditation group. My wonderful Guides and I look forward to sharing the journey with you.
—Rev. Ella Groves