

June 20, 2020 – Weekly Devotion
Love of Spirit Spiritualist Church, NSAC
First Bloom



As our community starts to come out from quarantine, family and friends get together for some much-needed fellowship. Some are getting together for cookouts, or maybe just stopping by to say hello. Others are meeting those they love in public places outdoors. Our roots with those we care most, run deep and life seems to center around the relationships that sustain this experience called life.

Those who are most dear help shape our personalities defining commonalities that bring a variety of emotions. I've had friends who became grandparents during this time of pandemic. I've known of a few who still had a small wedding. There have been those who have made their transition to the World of Spirit. In all of these instances, the common element missing was the absence of family and friends to add extra meaning. The deep seeded relationships were missing in times of joy, celebration, and sadness.

Neighbors have planted gardens where plants are thriving to produce a source of security through nourishment. From the darkness of the winter, these plants restore faith in new life; rejuvenation. The Natural Law of Sowing and Reaping is prevalent this time of the year by planting the seed. Watching a seed which has been placed in the ground, watered, and nurtured, producing a plant which will reap a rich harvest in the months to come.

First Bloom – by Ruth Cobb

It's barely mid-June, but already the first sunflower has bloomed here. It's a small one, topping one of the shorter stalks in the patch, and I wonder how this particular one managed to make its presence known to the sun long enough to burst into bloom. In an otherwise crowded small space, it might well have been overshadowed by taller plants with larger leaves.

But somehow, this one overcame obstacles of wind and battering rain. It stands proudly next to the house, quietly proclaiming the hope of brighter days ahead for all who pass by. Through its ability to coexist with neighboring plants, this one has demonstrated its strength and "made its voice heard" amid the din of traffic and human interaction.

This single bloom is part of a family of flowers that have populated this corner for more than a decade now. Each year, the small "forest" regenerates and creates a visual invitation to those who live here, and those who merely move through on their way to some other place.

The roots of these sunflowers are surprisingly strong, and they grab hold of the earth and cling tenaciously even after the rest of the plants have completed their cycle of life for the season. In so many ways, the additional vibrant blooms that will soon emerge offer reassurance and inspiration to the humans in this place. If we grow together and let our collective beauty shine through, we will strengthen this place and share a meaningful message that can reverberate throughout the community.

Moral: When you sow goodness into your heart you will harvest a life in which you intended.

Life is about seeds and sowing and reaping. It's about planting the seeds of intention. Thoughts and actions are seeds. What thoughts and actions you are planting? Yes, sometimes even the best of plants can be overcome by weeds that will choke them. Much like our personal lives. Sometimes even the best intentions can be overcome with something that will try to change the outcome.

Intention starts with a seed which will do nothing till it is planted. The harvest will come in a different season meaning the seed needs time to grow. If your intentions are of the highest and best, you will always reap more than you sow. The more you sow, the more you reap. In order to have a healthy life, you must weed your garden from time to time. People will come and go. You see, life really isn't much different than the seed. What seeds do you plan on planting this week? What will determine your Law of Harvest?

May God keep you safe and well,

Bonnie.

God of spiritual growth. I pray I always be inspired to be the best human I can be. I pray for those who seek inspiration that they may also see the importance of their intentions. I pray that the white light of God always shines so that everyone turns their face to the sun and the light of truth. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be holding a church service on Zoom, Sunday church service time at 5pm.

The invitation has been included in the body of this email.

- **Starting Tuesday, June 23, Love of Spirit will host Observed Facts, Spiritualist Philosophy through Zoom.** A link will be sent to you in a separate email. You are invited to join us for discussion
- **Members: you should have received your membership renewal letter.** We appreciate your membership in the past and thank you for your continued support.
- **Online services will continue** for the rest of the year. Given these times, the Board has decided to continue meeting through Zoom until we are sure everyone can gather safely.
- **If you want to continue to support the church,** we have added a “DONATE” button on the first page of our website. <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/>. Thank you in advance for your continued support and a special thanks to those who have contributed. If you don't feel comfortable with PayPal and still want to help your church, contact the church through info@yourloveofspirit.com
- **For past devotions and copies of Sunday Sermons** go to <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/Devotions>
- **Members:** Annual Meeting will be held July 19. Please bring your lawn chair as we will be voting for board seats that end this year.
- **For updates** visit our website: <https://www.yourloveofspirit.com/>
or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/YourLoveOfSpirit/?ref=bookmarks>

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
2. We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.
4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”
7. We affirm the moral responsibility of individuals, and that we make our own happiness or unhappiness as we obey or disobey Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any soul here or hereafter.
9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL HEALING

I ask the great unseen healing force to remove all obstructions from my mind and body and to restore me to perfect health. I ask this in all sincerity and honesty, and I will do my part.

I ask this great unseen healing force to help both present and absent ones who are in need of help and to restore them to perfect health. I put my trust and love in the power of God.