

Bright Eyes



April 2012

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J.T. & E.J. Crumbaugh Memorial Spiritualist Church

102 South Pearl Street
PO Box 174
LeRoy, IL 61752

309.962.9076



Pastor

Rev. Robert Bianchi, NST
317.428.8740
reverendbob@direct2spirit.com

Board Members

Butch Tull
217.875.9062
butchsautobody@ameritech.net

Rev. Sharon Bianchi, NST
317.574.1799
sharonbianchi2002@yahoo.com

Bonnie Crosier
309.830.2259
crosiermail@yahoo.com

Carol Thoman
309.530.2043
pahaowl@comcast.net

Judy Tittle
309.838.4735
judytittle@comcast.net

Lynn Utley
309.661.1248
llutley@gmail.com

Follow the The Law of Karma

by *The Reverend Sharon Bianchi*

We often hear in conversation the word "karma" without knowledge of the true meaning of the word. Someone may be going through a bad streak and will say "I must have been a bad person in a past life; I guess it's my karma."

Karma is simply the concept of "action" or "deed". It refers to both positive and negative experiences. Karma refers to the process of cause and effect. Action causes reaction. So, basically, whatever you do, something is bound to happen.

In the spiritual realm, with regards to karma, there is no right or wrong. Our spiritual development is about experience and fulfilling our true purpose. Punishment for our sins is a man-made concept designed to control man and is a false concept.

Nothing happens by chance. If you have certain kinds of situations that happen regularly in your life, this is your karma working to help you with what you need to experience.

When we properly understand karma, we can acknowledge the retribution we may need to make and the compensation we receive. Even though adherents of karma say we are now living under karmic debts from the past, we need to remember that we have a little thing called "free will". We are free to choose how we will meet and pay those debts. The freedom of will prevails under Karma.

But remember, Karma can bring forth good or bad, so use care in what you create. I know it sounds simple but anger begets anger and love begets love. Simply remember that "*What goes around comes around*" and you will always have good karma.



CHURCH WISH LIST

Paper towels • Trash bags • Business envelopes • Stamps

Save the Dates

Saturday, April 14 – 10 am Church Clean-up Day

We will be working on the garden and yard as well as doing clean up inside the church.

We invite all volunteers to bring their gloves, garden tools and cleaning supplies and we promise to make it a fun day.



April 21 – 1-4 pm Law of Attraction Workshop

We will host the Law of Attraction workshop conducted by **Marcelo Lepeley**. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve your space by e-mailing Rev. Sharon at sharonbianchi2002@yahoo.com or calling Bonnie Crosier at 390-830-2559.

You may also pay via credit or debit card to Bonnie. (*A small fee will apply for this type of payment*)

Join us for a fun filled day.

THE SIDEBAR

THE PAINTER

There was a tradesman painter called Jack, who was very interested in making a dollar where he could. So he often would thin down his paint to make it go a wee bit further. As it happened, he got away with this for some time.

The Presbyterians decided to do a restoration job on one of their biggest churches. Jack put in a painting bid and because his price was so competitive, he got the job. So he set to, with a right good will, erecting the trestles and putting up the planks, and buying the paint and...yes, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with the turpentine.

Well, Jack was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly done, when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder. The sky opened and the rain poured down, washing the thin paint from all over the church and knocking Jack off the scaffold to land on the lawn.



Now, Jack was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he fell on his knees and cried, "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?" And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke, "Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"



AND NOW A WORD... from our Pastor

Every New Year's we make resolutions to do something or to stop doing something. Whether it is to quit smoking or lose weight or take better care of ourselves, we usually have given up on those resolutions by early February. (You know you have!)

But we are given a second chance to make good on those promises. The beginning of spring, the celebration of Easter is a time of new beginnings—a resurrection for each one of us. Through His words and actions, Jesus instilled in his apostles the need for change and the need to live a life of love and forgiveness. He gave them the

knowledge and wisdom to go out into the world and teach others to live the same way.

This is a time of new beginnings for you just as it was for the apostles. Go out and make the positive changes you want or need to make in your life. There is nothing or no one who can hold you back from achieving what you desire except yourself. Remove any obstacles and push forward. Spring also means to "make a leap"; so take that leap of faith and rise up to the occasion of living the life you deserve.

Blessings for your love,

Pastor Bob

Being a Spiritual COMMUNITY

The J.T. & E.J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church has a growing congregation but we are so much more than a congregation. We are also a spiritual community. We come together to share, to heal, to pray and celebrate the fact that there is no death and life does continue after this change. But we are also individuals with our own needs, our own desires, our own strengths and weaknesses.

As a community we are there to offer support and to help and encourage each other to be all we can be, to strive to achieve our very highest and best and to always move forward.

When we work together with the guidance of Spirit in an atmosphere of love and peace, we can and do work wonders.

Our church community needs the love and light of each and every member to keep our church strong and proud of whom we are and what we represent. As Kathy Manikowski of the Plymouth Spiritualist Church in Rochester, New York states, "United we stand... We stand taller, we stand stronger, and we stand brighter. Together in the Light, Together we are One!"

RUMBLINGS from the President

by *Butch Tull, Board President*

Here we are; March has ended and everything is new and fresh. The flowers bloomed early, the trees are budding, the birds are singing once again.

I recently read a poem by Lizzie Doten and thought it would be fitting. I hope you enjoy it too.

The Spirit of Nature

I have come from the heart of all natural things
Whose life from the soul of the beautiful springs.
You shall hear the sweet wavering corn in my voice,
And the musical whisper of leaves that rejoice.
For my lips have been touched by the spirit of prayer,
Which lingers unseen in the soft summer air;
And a smile of sunshine that brightens the skies,
Has left a glad ray of its light in my eyes.
There is something in nature beyond our control,
That is winning the love of each soul;
We shall linger no longer in darkness & doubt,
When the beauty within meets the beauty without.
Sweet spirit of nature wherever thou art,
O, fold us like children, close, close to the heart;
Till we learn that thy bosom is truths hallowed shrine,
And the soul of the beautiful **is the divine.**

Happy Spring, Everyone! *Butch*



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