



InSpirit

Newsletter of the *National Spiritual Science Center*

SEPTEMBER, 2001

MINISTERING IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

"The New Gospel"

NSSC GRADUATION AND ORDINATION, JUNE 24, 2001

Ms. Rosetta Hillary

**"Wherever I am, God is,
and how I'm handling myself
in that moment is a reflection of
God."**

– Iyanla Vanzant

Noted speaker, best selling author, and new host of her very own television talk show, Iyanla Vanzant presented an inspiring, uplifting message as she honored NSSC graduates and newly ordained ministers at the recent NSSC graduation. The event drew a record crowd of 150 NSSC members, friends, and families.

The New Gospel. "Ministering in the New Millennium" is about a "new gospel," according to Ms. Vanzant, who premised her remarks with the notion that theology has to change to serve the needs of the people. Speaking to everyone, not just ministers, Ms. Vanzant said that we must become "news reporters... to bring good news to people who have cancelled their subscription" to God. Let folks know that God is present in everybody and it's not about overcoming self-inflicted "sins." "You don't have to prove yourself to God" she said, "Being Okay with self is being Okay with God. Our mission, she said, is to build consciousness, spirit, and connection to God. .

It starts with You. Iyanla invites everyone to demonstrate the goodness of God, starting in stages with Self, then your family, then becoming a

catalyst for other people. "Your life is your ministry... You are the Bible for people. You may be the only Bible people read today." Therefore, Iyanla cautions "when you show up, leave your woes at the door." Too often, some try to "minister" while carrying the "emotional foundations of... a dynasty of anger." Before ministering to others, think, "it has to start with me." In other words, Iyanla says find the wealth within you first. "Live your life as an example - so people will say, 'I want some of that.'"

Minister Wherever People Are. Be a catalyst wherever you are by touching people. How? Demonstrate what spirituality looks like. Where does one serve? Iyanla response is your ministry can be your family, your place of work, schools, prisons, "the Giant (supermarket)," wherever people are. Your ministry then is to love people, to bring compassion, and to be light where there is misery.

Empowerment. How does one "minister" in the New Millennium? Iyanla urged everyone to give people the tools, information, and process to look within for God. "Light people's fires, remind them of how powerful and divine they are [by saying, for example,] 'You are wearing God well today.'" Cause them to challenge the unchallenged concepts within themselves.

Choice/Freedom. Iyanla cautioned those who "minister" to "be instructors, not controllers... allow people the freedom and insight to explore for themselves, think for themselves vs. embrace (Continued on p. 2)

A MAGICAL EVENING

Ms. Zuri Nia

On July 16th, the students and faculty of the NSSC School of Spiritual Science shared a magical evening of mutual love, respect and appreciation. Some fifteen or more dedicated, committed students gathered to honor the faculty of this prestigious school of Metaphysical studies. The theme of the evening was *metanoia*, which means "a fundamental transformation of mind or character, a spiritual conversion."

The seamless interaction and heartfelt participation of each student as they completed the preparations for this very special occasion were amazing. No egos intruded and the vibrations were great. The evening was a "team event," entirely planned and paid for by the students of the School who came together in service and leadership, providing everything needed with an attitude of excellence and humility.

As one of the students shared, "It was nice to be a part of toasting our teachers and to experience the emotions that were emitted." Another stated "I am very proud of what we created and invite the few students and faculty members who were not able to participate this year to join us next year."

A line of lit candles in small brown paper bags curved up the outside steps and walkway leading to the front door of the Center. As the instructors and other honored guests entered, they were greeted individually with love, joy and excitement, and (Continued on p. 7)

NEW MILLENNIUM MINISTER

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someone else's concept of God." Do not "control people in their approach to the divine. Inspire them to find it on their own. Coach them," she said, about choice and the power to make decisions. "Otherwise, it is your victory, not theirs."

Keep it real. Iyanla issued a profound message to those caught up in glamour or notions of "better than." "You've got to be a real person with real issues. You can't raise yourself above people." Embrace your own fear, your own anger. Issuing a call for honest self examination and responsibility, Iyanla said "Check yourself when you judge other people... but don't deny that you do it."

Tell the Truth. According to Iyanla, we "can't act like we don't know what's going on. Tell the truth, and tell it lovingly. Be the 'light within the church.' We can no longer afford to ignore the issues around homosexuality, racism, homophobia in the church," she said. "Be a friend to all, as long as you are not hurting anybody. Respect people enough to know they can handle your truth when you share your experience of what's going on." When you tell the truth – for example, "I'm very angry with you," she said this can be a "healing experience."

Give From a Full Cup. Iyanla noted that some of us give so much and forget that it is also important to receive. "Make sure your cup is full so that your giving is from the overflow." Know when to say "no." When you give on your reserves, others don't get your best.

Iyanla graciously stayed long after the service had ended to sign programs, books, and take countless pictures with graduates, family and friends. It was a memorable occasion for all indeed.

Ms. Vanzant is also Director of the

Inner Visions Center for Spiritual Life Maintenance, in Silver Spring, MD.

(Ms. Rosetta Hillary is entering her third year at the NSSC School of Spiritual Science.)

ATTENTION
Spiritual Science Students
Election and Student/Faculty
Potluck

Saturday, 9/22/01 6-10 PM

ELECTIONS - NSSC Board of Directors Student Representative!

Present your qualifications, views, and interests to your fellow students. Voting takes place at this meeting. New Student Rep. will be seated at the October meeting. Position lasts until next student election, September, 2002. (Contact 3rd year student, Tia Oliver, for more info.)

POTLUCK: Bring entrees; salads, raw veggies & dips; burgers/ hotdogs (and buns) to grill; chips&dips, drinks, deserts. (If it doesn't rain, grill will be set up in the back yard.)

MUSIC: Bring lively CD's, drums, percussion instruments, guitars, **clapping hands, voices, happy hearts and dancing feet!**

WILLIE JOLLEY SEMINAR
Driving Change Through Personal
and Professional Development

Rev. Mary Hall

Willie Jolley is an award winning speaker, singer and author. Chosen one of the "Top Five Speakers in the World" by Toastmasters International, he is also the author of the international bestseller, *"It Takes A Minute To Change Your Life,"* and the exciting new book, *"A Setback Is A Setup For A Comeback!"*

He hosts the syndicated radio and television show, "The Magnificent Motivational Minute," and works with organizations that want to accelerate growth and "set their people on fire" to create top performers. Jolley speaks on

Driving Change Through Personal & Professional Development, Leadership and Teambuilding.

The June 20, 2001 workshop I attended, which was included in a series called "The Challenges of Change," was presented at the World Bank before a conservative international audience. Mr. Jolley is confident and bold in his presentation. He has the ability to take some very profound esoteric truths, simplify and synthesize them, and share them with the masses.

Jolley's candid references to his personal life, taken from excerpts from his books and music, and synthesized through his musical and oratory gifts and bold presentation style, connect instantly with his audiences. Combined with a loving personality, his philosophies, and principles and strategies for success inspire workshop participants to want to do more, be more, and achieve more. Mr. Jolleys' philosophies for success include:

Life = Challenges = Growth

Never do what's comfortable, do what is necessary.

Insight = Intuition Think on the power of your dreams; Imagine more. If your dream is big enough, the problem is small.

In Put – Out Put Learn from everything and share.

Vision / Decision / Action How can you have a "Dream come true" if you don't have a dream? Either you decide and act on life, or life will decide and act on you! Vision without Action is an illusion. Action without Vision is confusion. But Vision mixed with Action can change the World!

Desire How badly do you want it?

So, what would you do today if you were serious? Decide what you want.

1. Write it down and be specific.
2. Read goals 3x day.
3. Read again at night.
4. Set date of accomplishment.
5. Think of it often. (Cont. on p.7)

NON-DENOMINATIONAL MINISTERS... WEDDING SHORTAGE

Rev. Marsha George

Do you realize that weddings are a 60 billion dollar industry? The Baltimore, MD / Washington, DC / Northern Virginia region shares in this huge industry with it's offering of beautiful mansions, parks, water side settings, and hotels that cater to wedding couples. Go to a newsstand and peruse the bridal magazines and see for yourself the huge dollar amounts advertisers pour into attracting wedding couples to purchase their specific services or offerings.

Today, couples are finding it difficult to locate a minister to be their officiant. Many couples do not belong to a church, synagogue or mosque but desire to have a spiritual service in lieu of a civil ceremony. Or, they are of different religions (i.e., Christian-Non-Christian, Jewish-Moslem, Methodist-Mormon, Presbyterian-Baptist;) and their respective places of worship will not officiate for the couple unless they both are members and/or attend religious instruction classes.

Many couples desire to participate in creating and writing their own wedding ceremonies. They want the service to reflect their love, commitment and spiritual outlook. They seek the compassionate administration of rituals and the administration of the Holy Sacraments.

These sacraments can be personalized to accommodate the needs of the individuals, couples and families that are being served. The philosophy I offer to couples when they contact me is that I will do the wedding ceremony based on their views and desires, so that together we create a reflection of their relationship, love and commitment. I stay neutral and see myself offering a service to couples who want

to create a beautiful and meaningful wedding service. I meet with the couple for a no-obligation interview and give them examples of wedding services tailored to their choices.

I have been the minister for many traditional Christian services; however, the majority of the weddings where I am the celebrant are not religious in the traditional sense, yet they are scripted in a beautiful, personal and spiritual form.

Here are some basics financial facts for ministers performing weddings in our Metropolitan area. The current fees ministers are receiving for performing weddings, including attending the rehearsal, are: Northern Virginia between \$300 to \$450, typically \$450. In Washington, DC the fee can range between \$350 to \$600, averaging \$400 per wedding. In Maryland, fees run from \$250 to \$450, and average \$300. This information is based on my sample and personal experience.

Another difference I've found among ministers, is that many will NOT attend the wedding rehearsal. Personally, I think this is a very important part of my service because it gives me an opportunity to connect with the couples' parents and family members. Often I also accept the rehearsal dinner invitation. I do charge extra - half again of the basic wedding fee to attend the rehearsal. My experience has been that couples are very grateful to have me in attendance at both the rehearsal and rehearsal dinner. They are more than willing to accept a higher fee for my time and expertise to be an active participant in their wedding plans.

How do you attract couples to your ministerial services? One of the most effective and economical marketing efforts you can make is to get your name on the vendors list at wedding sites. Look at a bridal magazine and select the hotels, (Continued on p. 8)

COMING SOON !!

NSSC 60TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Service-Responsibility- Growth

Saturday, November 10, 2001

Gallaudet University Kellogg
Conference Center

Renowned Guest Speaker

Contact Rev. George Quillet at
202.398.4036 or

grquillet@home.com for more
information.

JABEZ

Rev. Kathryn D. Gibson

Tucked inside a long genealogy of the descendants of Adam, Jacob, David, and King Solomon, is a short description of a request made of God by a man named Jabez. Only three sentences long, this biblical passage in 1 Chronicles, is considered by many as a powerful testament to the rewards of a personal relationship with God and the effectiveness of prayer.

Thanks to the efforts of Bruce Wilkinson's New York Times best seller, *The Prayer of Jabez*, thousands of people around the globe have adopted this prayer as their own, discovering a new way of looking at the value and power of prayer in their personal lives.

"Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, 'because I bore him in pain.' And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, 'Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!'" So God granted him what he requested." (1Chron. 4:9-10, NKJV)

Little is known about Jabez, other than he was an honorable man, "more honorable (Continued on p. 4)

JABEZ continued from p. 3

than his brothers," and that his mother "bore him in pain." We do not know the circumstances surrounding his birth, and can only guess what conditions prompted his mother to give him a name that literally means "He will cause pain." We do know that as a result of whatever challenges life brought his way, Jabez reached a point where he felt compelled to call on God's help. And, we are told that "God granted him what he requested."

It is the promise in the words of the last sentence, "*So God granted him what he requested*" that attracts attention. For centuries people have searched for quick fixes, and miracle cures through special incantations, spells, magic formulas and urgent prayers to a force outside of themselves to step in and take over, producing the results they need. And because we are also told that God granted Jabez his request, many people now recite his prayer daily, hoping to find personal miracles within the wording of Jabez's petition.

Prayer has been described as talking to God, to the deity of our choice. The messages we send to the Creator through our unconscious and conscious thoughts and wishes are also prayers. Most prayers take the form of petitions – earnest entreaties for God to do something, to intervene in our lives.

Successful people in business or the arts will tell you they know what they want as their end product and have a picture in their minds of what the project, report, or product will look like at the end. They also carry a strong belief in the success of their project and know they will reach their goals.

Faith that what we desire will happen, and focusing our thoughts into a purposeful statement about the outcome of our desire, are the two basic components to manifesting our desires. Add an invocation to a higher power

and an expression of gratitude, and you have a prayer. Place your statement of purpose into a rhythmic cadence or rhyme, or set it in a formulaic structure, and you have created what some call a spell or magic formula. Rituals involving the use of incense, candles, symbols, specific colors and aromatic oils may serve to heighten the focus and raise the vibrational level of the setting and intention. Clearly visualizing the finished goal furthers the process of attracting it into your reality. The particular style used doesn't really matter. It's the intention underlying the words that is important.

Oh, that You would bless me indeed. In his prayer, Jabez asks God to bless him, to bless him very much. Too often we ask God to bestow blessings on others, but are hesitant to ask for God's blessing for ourselves. Ask God to bless you! And see yourself surrounded in the glow of God's healing love.

Enlarge my territory. What is your territory? Your job, relationships, home? Yes, all that and more. Ask that they be expanded, enlarged. Include your consciousness, your awareness, your money in the bank, all activities you enjoy. All of these make up your territory, your domain. Ask that your vibrational level be increased, your inner voice magnified. There is no limit to God's abundance. See it expanding in ever increasing waves through every aspect of your life.

That Your hand would be with me. Visualize the hand of God guiding your life. Be aware that God's "hands" are also the people who support and love you, both on this earth plane and on the other side - your guides and guardian angels, family members who have gone on and continue to watch over you with love. Recognize with gratitude all who have made significant contributions to your life. Know that you are never alone. (Cont. on p. 8)

IN MEMORIAM

Mamie Ruth Edwards Taylor
beloved sister of
Rev. Mother Mary T. Braganza

GRACE THE BUTTERFLY

April Dawn Snell

A butterfly flies high above my head
today, against a sky of crystal blue.
And the sun shines through her
wings of orange and black

Casting an illusion of hot coals
and charred wood.
How long was it before this fire
and earth that flies above my head
could glide across the wind?

She's beautiful and her shape
contains the fire within.
How long did she stay
metamorphosing in the darkness
of her own self-imposed cocoon?
And did she know of the beauty that
awaited her?

She catches a glimpse of herself as
she soars across the still waters of
her soul and stops
to peer deep into her eyes,
and she smiles.

And I hear her silent prayer, "Lord let
the waters of my soul stay still
long enough so that I own my beauty
and know who and whose I Am".

And I hear her silent thoughts,
"I will be remembered by those who
know what it is to change and honor
what it is to become."

As she takes off for flight she
looks down at her reflection, and
the waters stir slightly from the
flutter of her wings distorting her
reflection and within
that very moment she honors
who she is, and what she is becoming.
Grace the Butterfly.

(Ms. April Snell is an NSSC Healer and
an active member of the Center.)

BOOK GARDEN

A book is a garden carried in the pocket.

– Arabian proverb.

***In Search of Self - Through
Eyes of Spirit***

Author - Evelyn White-Bey

Reviewer: Rev. Kathryn D. Gibson

Evelyn White-Bey's book of poems, *In Search of Self - Through Eyes of Spirit* was published this summer by Xlibris (ISBN: 0-7388-6118-9, Trade Paperback, \$16.00). A treat is in store for her many fans.

Many of you have followed her work for the past several years in the pages of *InSpirit*, and heard her read her poems in person in many settings, including the "Poetic Visions" readings sponsored by the Center. Evelyn White-Bey is also an NSSC minister and last year, co-taught SS 101 and 102 at the NSSC School of Spiritual Science.

In Search of Self is a collection of poems spanning nearly twenty years of her experiences. As Rev. White-Bey states on her book jacket, "these poems grace every fabric of our lives, including our fears, family, education, relationships, fantasies, death, nature and spirituality. These poems will inspire, soothe, anger; bring laughter, compassion, and tears. May these poems touch your heart and warm your soul. So find that comfortable chair, settle in, relax and enjoy the journey. Treasure them."

The Xlibris website (xlibris.com), where *In Search of Self* can be purchased, shares the following description of Rev. White-Bey's background and poetry collection:

"Growing up in the deep, rural south, Evelyn White-Bey found solace and escape in writing poetry – her poetry became her best friend. She has been writing poetry since elementary

school, although those earlier poems are lost to the wind. You see, in the eleventh grade, her English teacher told her, 'You can't make any money writing poetry, no one writes poetry anymore. Find something else to do.'

Of course, she was devastated. Evelyn stopped writing for nearly ten years. She has since picked up the pen and has been writing poetry ever since. She has learned over the years that your goals are your own and it doesn't matter what others think or say. Her motto: 'Follow your Spirit. Follow your heart.' She is."

And we are, as we move through the pages of her book!

DANCE!

Evelyn White-Bey

One night, I desired
to dance
So I danced
Until I became soaked in perspiration
I danced and danced
until I became exhausted
Still I danced
I danced and danced until
I became intoxicated
until Spirit and I became One
And I forgot who I was

Then, and only then,
did I truly dance!

(From *In Search of Self, Through Eyes of Spirit*, Rev. Evelyn White-Bey, 2001.)

After Death - What?

Author - Leoline L. Wright

Reviewer: Ms. Starlene Joyner Burns

Published by the Theosophical University Press, *After Death - What?* was originally part of a set in the 1930s and '40s; the revised Electronic Edition was produced in 1998.

The author, Leoline L. Wright, was a person with a passion for sharing

theosophical information on the subject of death and wrote a set of books on the topic. In this publication, her objective is to remove the fear of death, and to help others understand what happens after the dissolution of the elements of a body. She takes her readers through all of the stages the soul goes through as it moves toward "devachan" or "heaven."

Death is not a mystery in the sense of something that cannot be understood. The truths about death are within the reach of all of us. The real reason why we die is because deep within us, the spiritual self feels the call of its "homeland."

Man is not a body, for that is illusory. He is a center, a unit of consciousness embodied in a garment of impermanent flesh. We should not say "life and death" but, "birth and death" because we do not think of birth as a final thing. For death and birth are themselves twin manifestations of this universal law of periodicity.

There are seven principles that must be understood regarding what happens after death and how the inner spiritual self abandons, one by one, the garments or vehicles through which it gains experience. There are various after-death states.

Kama-loka is one such state. It is a place that exists beyond the physical plane where every entity goes after death. All entities pass through Kama loka. Some move beyond this state because their life on the physical plane was in harmony with God's Divine Law. Those who chose a left-handed path, a path of selfishness, or premeditated hurt to others, will be attracted to Kama-loka and will seek to remain in that state so that they can have a place to continue acting out their desires.

The Karma-loka after-death state is important for us to understand, for it has a very real bearing (Cont. on p. 8)

ON GRIEF

Dr. Ellen Anderson

Grief has a way of opening the heart and allowing the soul to touch the depth of suffering that brings us all together at the core. One can't think him/herself through grief but rather must navigate with the heart. Grief leaves its mark on everyone because we only grieve when we care, and learning to care and to have compassion for ourselves and others is the greatest lesson available to any of us.

Grief has been my greatest teacher and, thereby, my most constant and true friend..

(Dr. Ellen Anderson is entering her third year in the NSSC School of Spiritual Science.)

THE HERBAL CORNER

Rev. Rhonda Manduke, ND, CNHP

Body Cleansing

Managing your own holistic health program may require that you learn a new vocabulary and explore new worlds. The first part of any holistic healing process is usually a cleansing program. Cleansing helps to support the body's ability to eliminate wastes. It assists in eliminating excess toxins that may be overtaxing certain organs in the body. It may also help to eliminate some symptoms such as bloating, gas and the general discomfort associated with toxic accumulations.

Body systems and organs affecting the elimination process are: the digestive system and colon; the kidney and urinary system; the liver and blood; the lymphatic system; the skin; and the respiratory organs. Different types of herbal actions are recommended for each of the above.

A laxative is recommended for cleansing the digestive system and colon. Laxatives aid in opening the bowels.

Diuretics promote the flow of urine and are recommended for cleansing the kidneys and urinary system. Hepataics or "alteratives" are recommended for clearing the liver and the blood. Hepatic herbs are used in the treatment of liver disorders.

An alteratives promotes the general well-being of the entire body. Herbal alteratives improve the supply of nutrients to the tissues as well as aiding the elimination of toxins from the body's tissues. Alteratives and lymphatic tonics are recommended when clearing the lymphatic system. Lymphatic tonics promote the health of the vessels carrying the lymphatic fluid.

The skin is the largest organ in the body, and you shed a lot of toxins by promoting and encouraging the skin's natural cleansing functions. A diaphoretic is a cleansing herb which assists in promoting perspiration

The respiratory system is cleared through the use of expectorants and anti-catarrhal (nasal mucus membrane inflammation) herbs. Expectorants assist in the removal of mucus from the lungs and assist the body in promoting coughing which eliminates the excess mucus. Additionally, cleanses can be used to rid the body of parasites and to anti-parasitic and anti-microbial herbs assist the body in fighting off diseases.

The recommended program is to activate, rebuild and cleanse the body if it is in a weakened state; if you are relatively healthy, you may choose to cleanse rather than build up your body's systems.

There is no use in taking vitamins and minerals if your digestive system is not able to absorb them. Also, you are not doing yourself any favors if you do not assist your body's ability to heal by implementing a cleansing process. Any stress you can take off of your body will add to your energy and vitality level. Remember, it took a while to get

your body that way, so it will take a while to rebuild.

Spiritual attunements also assist the body in remembering the correct vibration. Each organ has its own vibration. The body is unable to hold its correct vibration when it is clogged or fed improperly. Whole and organic foods, a balanced diet, exercise, and proper breathing are needed on the physical level. But, all the good food in the world will still produce an acid environment if your thoughts are negative. So balance must be sought mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

Honor your body, it is your temple. It is what allows you to go forth and reap the riches of the kingdom. Health is your birthright; and to claim it you must take proper care of your body. In the next issues, we will learn about internal and external herbal remedies.

(Rev. Rhonda Manduke is a doctor of Naturapathy and a Certified National Health Professional. She lives in Harrisburg, PA, lectures at NSSC and gives workshops.)

ANNUAL NSSC MEMBERSHIPS / RENEWALS

New and renewed NSSC annual membership fees run from July 1st to June 30th. Membership confers voting privileges, and insures remaining on the *InSpirit* mailing list, as well as 10% discounts on workshops & "bookstore" items.

GOOD NEWS! Rev. Cornelia Jones is the new NSSC Membership Chairperson! She mails out membership cards, keeps the membership list updated, and encourages member participation.

Tax deductible membership fees:

Individual	\$35
Family (2 adults & children under 18, <u>exclusive</u> of Minister's Fee)	\$50
NSSC Minister's Fee*	\$45
(*For NSSC Minister's only)	
NSSC Charter Renewals	\$50

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shown to a seat at the dinner table elegantly set with white linen, china and glassware. Each setting was marked by a place card and a vase containing a single rose and a spray of babies breath. Candles were everywhere . . . on the dinner table, inside stairway, and the altar. Small white lights sparkled across the archway and along the baseboards. Lively music, mixed by a student, played in the background. A delicious vegetable lasagne complemented by a salad of mixed baby greens with a zesty homemade dressing was served. A choice of peach pie or pound cake, coffee, and tea completed the meal.

The evening's activities opened with a welcome from the now Reverend George Quillet, who had just completed his fourth year, and served as our Master of Ceremonies.

George graciously set the tone as he gave a reading from a modified version of *The Torch Bearers* who "lead through service and life, humanity out of illusion into the light of Truth. These are the law-givers and saviors, the light-bringers, way-showers, truth-tellers, servant leaders, history benders and without these souls' constant action in the world, humanity loses its way and the light of Life is snuffed out." How appropriate a message to acknowledge our teachers at the National Spiritual Science Center!

Third year student, B. Amon James, blessed the gathering with his magnificent voice. One student said she felt chills run through her body as he sang "God Bless the Child."

Second and third year students, Tia Oliver and James Grier read an inspiring excerpt from *Conversations with God, Book III*, by Neale Donald Walsch. " . . . And what is your own deepest truth about Who You Are? I am . . . a great teacher. A great teacher of eternal truth . . ."

Selected students from each class gave highlights from the previous

year. Alicia McGraw played a special music tape which was dedicated to Rev. Sally Henderson, her third year teacher who is leaving the School on sabbatical.

Rev. Renee Pringle, at that time also a fourth year student preparing for graduation, gave an expressive description of her journey as a student along the way. All the students present found some aspect of her experiences mirrored in their own.

A brief intermission followed, giving the students the opportunity to transform the space by breaking down the dinner tables and positioning chairs for the teachers and their guests in a semi-circle. George Quillet led the teachers and guests in a guided meditation taken from Richard Harris' rendition of *The Profit*, with a specific emphasis on 'giving.' At his conclusion, the teachers opened their eyes to find that before each knelt a student holding a gift box containing a individual gemstone "Giving Tree."

A major highlight of the evening was a special ceremony by the students honoring Rev. James Jones and his great service to the Center. Rev. James, held in great reverence by the students and ministers, is a prime example of what "ministering" is all about. He is always present at services, and consistently has loving words or some bits of advice and encouragement to pass on to others. Rev. James makes a point of visiting each class at the beginning of each school year to welcome and encourage them in their studies.

Each student participated in the moving ceremony. Waves of love kept flowing through the room! Our instructors reached out to each other, holding hands, some weeping, and each feeling full inside. Rev. James later described his feelings, "Words cannot truly tell all! The warmth and love in the room was very, very high. To be there was truly a blessing."

The evening ended with the first, second and third year classes paying tribute to the (Continued on p. 9)

**WHEN YOU WANT TO GIVE
PEOPLE A PIECE OF YOUR MIND...
GIVE THEM THE BEST PIECE!**

— Rev. James Jones

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6. Dream and Imagine.
7. Develop plan of action.
8. Action steps – Do 3 things toward your goals every day
9. Stay Positive

This is the second event where I had the pleasure of experiencing Mr. Jolley – I recommend him as "must" to experience. He is a classic example of a leader who re-created himself. He went from being a local lounge singer to become one of America's most effective speakers and trainers. He has developed a frame-work that can transform a group of diverse individuals into a team that "Thinks Like a Team, Works Like a Team, and Wins Like a Team!" He is versatile, intense, exciting, innovative and dynamic.

Willie Jolley is a product of the DC Public Schools, and a graduate of the American University, with a BA in Psychology and Sociology, and an MA in Theology. His musical background includes record contracts with CBS and Mercury labels, background vocals for national recording artists Jean Came and Phyllis Hyman, featured vocalist for jingles with Pizza Hut, Black Entertainment Television, Phil Donahue, and the Washington DC theme song. Jolley is also a five time Washington Area Music Association (WAMMIE Award) winning vocalist with numerous credits as a television and film personality.

Mr. Jolley's wisdom inspires everyone he meets and his life has been supremely blessed. I believe the following key statement sums up his philosophy for success: "When your heart is right toward God, He is obligated to orchestrate the circumstances, the events and situations of your life to bring you (Continued on p.8)

JOLLEY continued from p. 7

into the knowledge of the things you need to know and people you need to know that are critical for the fulfillment of your purpose and destiny in life."

God bless Mr. Jolley and his work!

(Rev. Mary Hall is an active member and lecturer at the National Spiritual Science Center.)

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mansions, and other venues that are being advertised in your area and call them, or mail your business card with a cover letter, and/or wedding brochure describing your wedding services.

You may decide to advertise in one of the bridal magazines. A small add in *The Knott Wedding Pages* will cost approximately \$1,500 for four issues over the course of a year. A web page is an excellent selling tool too. (See my web page for example at: www.maggiedot.com/7Destiny/ There are photos of myself officiating at a wedding; a sample non-denominational ceremony; a list of venues where I have performed weddings and biographical information.)

Rev. Joyce Kline, a graduate of the Baltimore Spiritual Science Center offers a comprehensive "Wedding Workshop" for Spiritual Science ministers. This workshop covers every aspect of marketing your ministerial services, preparing, and performing a wedding ceremony. (See InSpirit's "Networking" column for more info.)

It is a professional courtesy to pay a referral fee to any minister who refers you if the couple contracts with you to be their officiant. I receive and pay between \$10 to \$25 for each referral that results in a wedding service commitment. Ministers must work together, networking to provide our services to the communities in which we live.

To perform a wedding many states

require you to be officially registered with that state. Washington, DC requires registration as an ordained minister at the Marriage Bureau (\$35). In Maryland, NO registration is required of an ordained minister. However, both Virginia and West Virginia require registration at a county court house.

Rules vary in Virginia according to local jurisdiction. Occasionally employees or clerks of the court in Virginia try to challenge the legitimacy of "non-traditional" church ordinations. This is a violation of First Amendment Rights. Do not allow this unacceptable and illegal conduct to deter you. Check with several Virginia courthouses to determine which is best for you.

In most state jurisdictions, the general requirements are: your Ordination Certificate, a notarized letter from the Spiritual Science Center you graduated from, stating that you are a member in good standing, and completion of an official application. Some require your signature on the application be notarized.

I hope this information will be useful to you as Spiritual Science Ministers in service to our metropolitan community.

(Rev. Marsha George is a graduate of the Baltimore School of Spiritual Science and has been performing weddings for over 13 years. She is also a professional astrologer, with a large clientele. Rev. Marsha founded and directs a four-year on-line School of Spiritual Science. www.silentlightschool.com..

She may be reached at 304-258-3860.

JABEZ continued from p. 4

And that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain! To not cause harm to others is a basic tenant of many religious doctrines. In the *Lord's Prayer*, Matthew 6:7-9, we also ask to be delivered from evil. Ask that all manner of negativity be kept from you so that it has no power to express itself in any way through your

experience. Command that it go to the Light to be transmuted to the highest level of energy possible.

So God granted him what he requested. Take responsibility for the consequences of your actions, your thoughts, your words. Co-create with the Universe in manifesting all that you intend, request and desire.

A metaphysical version of Jabez's Prayer might read this way:

God/Goddess/All That Is, Bless me! and enlarge my territory, my aware-ness. Keep my guides, guards, angels and positive energies surrounding me at all times. Keep me from all manner of negativity, that it has no power to express itself in any way through my experience, and that I not cause harm to others. Universe, co-create with me and manifest all that I intend, request, desire. Thank you.

Take a moment before going to sleep at night and upon awakening in the morning to reflect on your day. Express gratitude for the gifts inherent in all your experiences, for health, for wealth, for life itself. And ask God/Goddess to bless you, to bless you very much, indeed!

(Rev. Kathryn Gibson teaches the second year at the NSSC School of Spiritual Science, and is a member of the NSSC Board of Directors.)

After Death-What?

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upon human progress and happiness. Just as the physical plane has its places (jails and asylums) for those who are wicked and chose to hurt others, Karma-loka is the plane of Hades or what many Christians know as Hell. Kama-loka is not so terrible for those on a right-hand path. However, it is a horrible place for those who are genuinely wicked and seek to hurt others.

Devachan (the Heaven world), is a state of sleep, recuperation, peace and bliss. The period (Continued on p. 9)

After Death-What?

continued from p. 8

of time spent in devachan lasts on an average, 1,500 years. But the rule for an individual is one hundred years in devachan for every year of life on earth.

Those who spend a low average of 1,500 years, do so because they are part of the large percentage of individuals who, because of their materialistic natures, build within themselves no foundation for the spiritual joys of devachan (heaven). Therefore, they are not able to remain long apart from reincarnation on earth.

It is important to live a decent life, a clean, manly or womanly life, and not bother yourself about Kama-loka, because most of you won't know anything about it after you die; you will just pass through it like a meteor. It is also true that the purer side of our present consciousness will be dreaming blissfully in devacan while the god within, the spiritual self or monad, carrying us "in its bosom" is pursuing its divine adventure through the pathways of the solar system.

Overcoming death, that is, to carry the consciousness without break from life to life, is the one great result of true occult training. To overcome the power of death and its conditions, one must first overcome the thirst for life. You will never fully understand death nor its mysteries as long as you concentrate your attention on the physical body in which this flame of consciousness wraps itself.

Follow the consciousness within you, become acquainted with yourself, get to know yourself better. Follow this flame of consciousness inward, (to some this means upward toward heaven) and then you will no longer fear death.

Leoline L. Wright sums it all up in this small book about what happens after death. She walks you through the death process in each chapter, starting

with the physical and ending with the soul's evolution into its various stages of change.

This book is a must read for those that are truly interested in understanding the various stages of the death process. It would also be of help to those who have recently lost a love one and to those accepting death as the ultimate medical prognosis. This book will help to remove the fear of dying, so that it can be embraced with willingness and not fear.

I chose this book because it was online at the Theosophical University Press and aligned with the topic for my class (Death and Dying). It is important for those who are interested in research to use the on-line libraries, because the Internet is becoming a tool of choice, and it is replete with information that is no longer in print. However, it does not eliminate the need for research in the field.

(Ms. Starlene Joyner Burns is entering her 2nd year at the NSSC School of Spiritual Science. This review was written for SS102: *An Examination of Death, Dying, & Post-Earthly Life.*)

MAGICAL Continued from p. 7

graduating fourth year students to the tune of Whitney Houston's rendition of "One Moment In Time."

Each student later echoed the feeling that the experience was quite rewarding and satisfying. The faculty had never before been acknowledged in this manner, and to be a part of such a special event made us feel honored and blessed. "This was an example of what can happen when a group of people get together and give from LOVE."

We are certain this is the beginning of many splendid events yet to come.

(Ms. Teresa Tunnell also contributed to this article. Ms. Nia and Ms. Tunnell are entering their third and second years, respectively, at the NSSC School of Spiritual Science.)

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WEDDING WORKSHOP

Rev. Joyce Kline, a graduate of the Baltimore Spiritual Science Center, draws on her background of performing over 600 weddings, to offer a comprehensive "Wedding Workshop" for Spiritual Science ministers.

The workshop covers all aspects of marketing ministerial services, preparing, and performing a wedding ceremony. Included is a 3-ring note-book with examples of vows, addresses, benedictions, readings, & rituals, along with suggestions on counseling and planning a wedding ceremony with the couple. Workshop fee is \$100. Call 410-526-9092.

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NSSC SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

ALL ACTIVITIES, unless otherwise indicated, are held at the Center's northwest, Washington, DC location: northern end of Walter Reed Medical Center; ½ block east of Alaska Ave., 3 blocks west of Georgia Avenue; one mile west of Tacoma Metro and one mile south of Silver Spring Metro station. From Silver Spring Metro catch the S2 bus to Alaska and Fern St.

SUNDAY HEALING AND WORSHIP SERVICES: Services begin on time.

5:00 PM, Healing Service - Ministers and advanced students channel spiritual healing for those present; balancing and aligning body, mind, and spirit.

6:00 PM, Worship Service - Ministers and advanced students present a healing prayer, followed by a channeled or inspired commentary relevant to today's lifestyles, and ending with practical, inspired messages from Spirit.

SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCE: Classes begin week after labor day in September, one evening a week, 6:30 - 9:30 PM, two 18-week semesters; \$450 /semester. To register, or receive brochure, leave a message at the Center.

FULL AND NEW MOON MEDITATIONS: Meditations begin on time. A guided meditation is presented to augment awareness of the energies available to humanity at these times and to uplift the spirit. 6:50 PM Tues - Thurs. If date falls on Saturday or Monday, Services are held that Sunday at the 6 PM service.

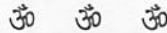
SPIRITUAL HEALING / PRAYER LIST: Prayers for those who are ill, undergoing treatment, facing surgery, or moving into transition. Leave a message on our answering service, or notify one of the ministers at the Sunday evening service.

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS: Workshops and special programs are offered on a variety of metaphysical topics. Call Center for info.

PERSONAL GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING: Non-denominational Graduate ministers of the Center are available for individual spiritual counseling, and all ceremonies and rituals (marriages, funerals, christenings, blessings and cleansings) which enhance the outer and inner spiritual life of our community.

ALL ACTIVITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION: Call (202) 723-4510 for information on Center activities and special events. For further information or questions, leave name, phone number, and a message. We'll get back to you, ASAP!

(Please let us know if your address changes.)



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