

# SpiritistNews

Year 8, Issue 1, Jan/Feb 2010



2nd U.S. Peace and You Movement  
March 20, 2010 - (Page 5)

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## SpiritistNews is back!

2010 is already here and the Spiritist News is back to our community after a year of standby. Welcome back!

The SSB started its New Year welcoming its community in the Second Spiritual New Year's Eve. Affirmations, virtue storytelling game (inspired in Ben Franklin's 13-virtue program), visualization, and prayer were some of the activities performed by participants in preparation for

the year that would arrive. So inspirational and peaceful...

This year, we have many things to celebrate, and most especially the Centennial of Chico Xavier, the medium of all times. The SSB will dedicate its Saturday talks to bring to its community the immortal teachings that he brought to life through his exceptional mediumship.

We also take this time to open the doors of the SSB services and volunteering programs to all who are interested in partaking in this journey of building a more spiritual world here on Earth!

May we feel closely to God in this 2010!

- Editors

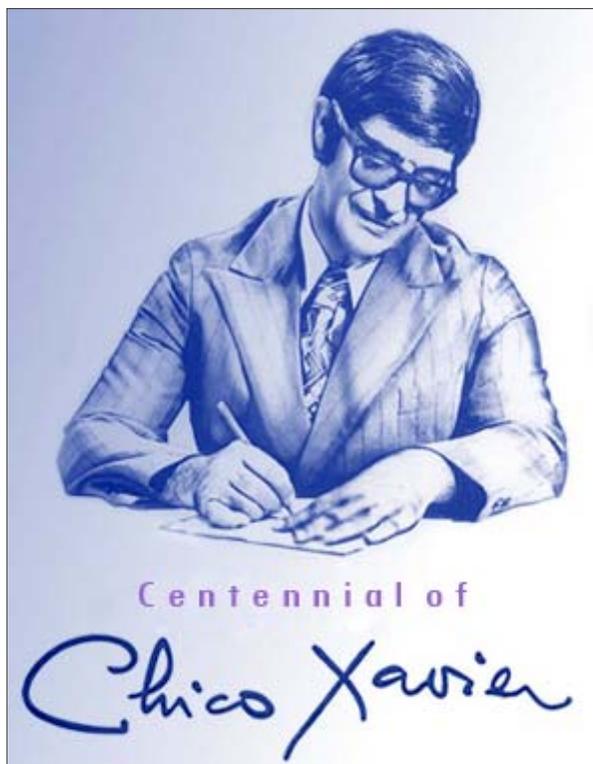
## Who is Chico...

Francisco Candido Xavier or Chico Xavier was the most prolific psychographic medium of all times. He was born in Pedro Leopoldo, Minas Gerais, Brazil, on April 2, 1910. He passed away on June 30, 2002.

Coming from a modest family, he could only complete his elementary school studies. His mother died when he was 4 and he had a challenging childhood.

He came across Spiritism in 1927 due to the healing treatment of his sister. Two months after his first exposure to the teachings of Spiritism, he was advised to exercise his writing mediumship. Four years later, he saw his mentor Emmanuel for the first time, who had advised him to be focused on discipline in order to succeed in his fruitful mediumistic works.

Chico Xavier psychographed more than 400 books of all genres. He donated all the proceeds of the books to charitable organizations. His humanitarian and charitable heart lives in his legacy, which has been making profound social transformation in Brazil and throughout the world.



## Natural disaster



A new natural disaster hits the planet. This time it was in Haiti, Central America. A 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck the impoverished island nation on January 12, 2010. The capital, Port-au-Prince, was completely destroyed. What takes years to build was vanished in less than 1 min (precisely 35 sec). And then a question was raised, why do disasters happen? Allan Kardec posed this question to the Enlightened Spirits in the compilation of *The Spirits' Book*. See them below.

*"All of a sudden everything was just falling apart.... there was no place to hide." - Haitian survivor*

**737.** *For what purpose does God inflict humankind with destructive calamities?*

"To impel them to progress more quickly. Haven't we stated that destruction is necessary for the moral regeneration of spirits, who acquire a new degree of purification during each new existence? You must see the end in order to appreciate the results. You only judge such things from your own personal point of view, and you regard such afflictions as calamities because of the injury they cause you. However, these hardships are often necessary in order to make things arrive at a better order more quickly, and to accomplish in a few years what would otherwise require many centuries."

**738.** *Couldn't God employ other methods instead of destructive calamities for improving humankind?*

"Yes, and they are employed every day, for God has given to each of you the means of progressing through the knowledge of good and evil. However, humans do not take advantage of them; thus, it is necessary to afflict them in their pride and make them feel their own weakness."

**a) —** *But the moral person succumbs to these calamities along with the wicked. Is this just?*

"Throughout life humans relate everything to their body, but after death they think differently. As we have already stated, the life of the body is almost nothing – a century in your world is but a *flash in eternity*. The sufferings that last a few of your months or days are nothing, and are only a lesson that will serve you in the future. Spirits, who have preexisted and have survived everything else, comprise the real world. They are the children of God and the objects of the divine kindness. Bodies are no more than disguises under which they make their appearance in the world. In the great calamities that decimate humankind, they are like an army, which, during war, sees its uniforms tattered, worn out, or lost. The general is more concerned for his soldiers than their uniforms."

**b) —** *But aren't the victims of those calamities actual victims nonetheless?*

"If we considered life as it is in itself, and how insignificant it is in comparison with the infinite, the less importance we would attach to it. In another life, those victims will find ample compensation for their sufferings if they endured them without complaining."

Whether death results from a calamity or an ordinary cause, to each of you the means of progressing through the knowledge of good and evil. However, humans do not take advantage of them; thus, it is necessary to afflict them in their pride and make them feel their own weakness.

**739.** *Are destructive calamities useful from a physical point of view, notwithstanding the hardships they cause?*

"Yes, they sometimes modify the state of a region, but the good that results from them is usually only felt by future generations."

**740.** *Couldn't calamities also be moral trials for humankind, exposing them to the most afflictive needs?*

"Calamities are trials that furnish men and women with an opportunity to exert their intelligence and to demonstrate their patience and resignation before the will of God. At the same time, it enables them to develop sentiments of self denial, self-detachment and love for their neighbor – if they are not dominated by selfishness."

**741.** *May we avert the calamities that afflict us?*

"Yes, in part, but not as is generally supposed. Many calamities are the consequences of your own improvidence. As you acquire knowledge and experience you become able to avert them; that is, to prevent them if you know how to study their causes. Among the ills that afflict humankind, however, there are those of a general nature that pertain to the designs of Providence, and from which all individuals receive, in a greater or lesser proportion, the share for which they are responsible. They can do nothing about those except resign themselves to God's will. But even these ills are usually aggravated by the carelessness of humankind."

Among the destructive calamities that are natural and independent of human actions we find plagues, famine, floods, and inclement weather conditions that are fatal to the productions of the earth. But in science, in works of art, in improvements of agriculture, in crop rotation and irrigation, and in the study of hygienic conditions, hasn't humankind found the means to neutralize or at least mitigate such disasters? Aren't certain regions that were formerly devastated by terrible calamities protected nowadays? Therefore, what will humankind not accomplish for their material well-being when they know how to make use of all the resources of their intelligence, and when, caring for their own self-preservation, they know how to ally it with the sentiment of true charity for their fellow beings?

**The Spirits' Book** by Allan Kardec, q/a 737-741



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# The New Era



God is one, and Moses is the spirit whom he sent on a mission to make him known not only to the Hebrews but to pagan peoples as well. The Hebrew people were the instrument that God used to deliver the divine revelation through Moses and the prophets, and the vicissitudes of these people were meant to impress the eyes and bring down the veil that had hidden the Divinity from humankind.

God's commandments given through Moses contained the seed of the broadest Christian morality. However, biblical commentaries have restricted their meaning, because, put into practice in all their purity, they would not have been understood; nevertheless, the Ten Commandments remained the shining frontispiece, the beacon that should have illumined humankind on the road it was to travel.

The morality taught by Moses was appropriate for the state of advancement of the people it was called to regenerate, and these people, semi-primitive with regard to the perfection of their soul, would not have understood that it was possible to worship God by means other than burnt offerings, or that they should forgive an enemy.

Their intelligence, noteworthy from the materialistic point of view and even from that of the arts and sciences, was morally quite backward, and they would never have been converted under the rule of an entirely spiritual religion; they needed a semi-material representation, like the one the Hebrew religion offered them. Hence, burnt offerings spoke to their senses, whereas the idea of God spoke to their spirit.

## Our Incarnation: A Most Special Journey...

**- Is the moment of incarnation a solemn one for the spirit? Does it accomplish it as something serious and important?**

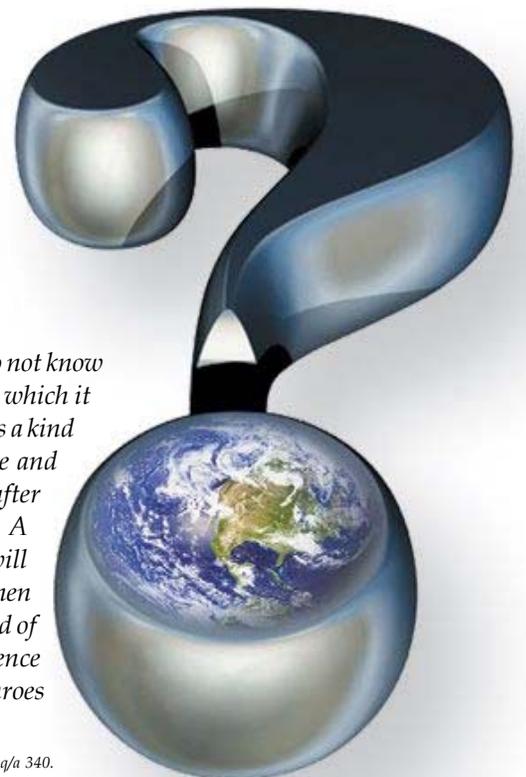
"The spirit is like a traveler embarking on a dangerous voyage, not knowing if it will meet death on the waves ahead."

*Travelers who set out on a voyage are aware that there are dangers ahead, but they do not know if they will run aground. The same applies to a spirit. It knows the kind of trials to which it will be submitted, but does not know if it will succumb. Just as the death of the body is a kind of rebirth for the spirit, reincarnation is a kind of death, or rather, a kind of exile and confinement for the soul. It leaves the spirit world for the corporeal world just as after having been a human being it leaves the corporeal world for the world of spirits. A spirit knows that it will incarnate, just as a human being knows that he or she will die. Like humans, however, the spirit only becomes aware of it at the last moment, when the appointed time has arrived. Then, in that supreme moment, confusion takes hold of it, similar to someone in the throes of death. This confusion lasts until the new existence is firmly established. Thus, the commencement of reincarnation is a kind of death throes for the spirit.*

Christ was the initiator of the purest and most sublime morality: the evangelical Christian morality that is to renew the world, bring men and women together and make them brothers and sisters; that is to enable charity and love for one's neighbor to blossom forth in all human hearts and create a common solidarity amongst all humans; a morality, in short, that is to transform the earth and make it a dwelling place for spirits more highly evolved than those inhabiting it today. It is the law of progress, to which nature is subject and which is self-fulfilling, and *Spiritism* is the lever that God is employing to enable humankind to advance.

The time has come in which moral ideas must be developed so that the progress contained in the designs of God may be realized. These ideas must follow the same route that the ideas of liberty - their forerunners - traveled. However, one should not believe that this development will occur without struggle. No. In order to reach maturity, these ideas need to be discussed and argued over so that they may attract the attention of the masses. Once attention is fixed on them, the beauty and sanctity of Christ's morality will touch people's minds, and they will become interested in a science that provides them with the key to the future life and opens to them the doors to eternal happiness. It was Moses who opened the way; Jesus continued the work; Spiritism shall finish it.

- The Gospel According to Spiritism by Allan Kardec, Chap1, item 9.



- The Spirits' Book q/a 340.

## THE MAP OF A SPIRITIST CENTER

The expansion of anything in Nature begins with the first step. Like a river, its expansion begins with a drop. The growth of a baby begins with the first cell and then another cell, and another, and another one. And a full body is formed. For many, they resemble miracles of life. For us, they are a natural consequence of the law of God.

The works of goodness on Earth are in their march of progress. Although the darkness of ignorance still mounts, lights - flashing lights - come in great number, and are actually in great demand.



The Spiritist center, in general, is a part of the progress of goodness on Earth. Any center that devotes itself to the goodness of others, and loves each and every person who approaches it and searches for greater wellbeing, this center, is then entitled to a natural growth, fortification, and expansion. We talk about the expansion of its resources, of its works, of its services, - at all levels -, ones that the eyes can see and the hearts can feel, but the eyes cannot actually perceive it, unless they are the eyes of the soul.

It is not on the incarnates to define the map of the expansion of any center. Its planning began in the spirit realm and its new steps will continue to be planned in the spirit realm.

And you may ask what is on you to do, if you are not actually in charge of the planning or the expansion of it. "You are the instrument," we answer. You are the bridge. You are the one who voluntarily applied for the opportunity to help us make the plan and the expansion come true.

When the seasons of life change and the transition from one season to the next happen, sometimes one can barely realize that there is any change. When Winter is finished and Spring comes up, we barely realize that inside each flower and each tree there are elements that sooner or later will blossom. And one day, when we least expect, we take a glance at nature around and we see true flowers blooming on the trees and on the soil and in the fields of life.

You are a part of nature. Do not worry about seeing progress. *Just move with progress.* Trust your Divine seed because it is in your inner growth that the growth of the collectivity will appear. And as such, others will benefit from the foundation of your inner growth, one that is solely based in the feeling of love.

Many blessing for your efforts! And may we all keep in mind that a true Spiritist is the one who works on their inner transformation, which is actually the goal of each and every service that we provide. Such services shall allow the awareness to expand the levels of consciousness and, thus, feel the unconditional love of God permeating your lives.

Dear children, allow the balm of love to envelop you. Do not resist it. Do not illude yourself in control. Immerse yourselves into this balm, so we can more easily operate with you and through you.

Blessings,  
- Joseph

*Psychophonic message received through Vanessa Anseloni at the SSB mediumistic meeting on January 25, 2010.*

## BOOK DONATED TO THE U.S. PRISONS



Last November and December, the SSB and The Spiritist Magazine donated hundreds of magazines and *After the Storm* books by Joanna de Angelis to more than one hundred Federal and State Prisons of the United States. The idealization of the project began in the Mansion of the Way in December 2007. We also express our gratitude to Divaldo Franco's generosity in giving the books.

# Emotional Balance for a Healthier Life



Saturday, March 20, 2010

6:30pm - 10pm

Doors open at 6:00pm

University of Maryland College Park  
The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center  
Joseph & Alma Gildenhorn Recital Hall  
College Park, MD

Free admission

For more information:

[www.peaceandyou.net](http://www.peaceandyou.net)

Tel.: 410-382-5328

*"...So then, love your soul and also look after your body which is the instrument of the soul!"*  
- George A. Proctor Spirit (S.A.S.)

## SPEAKERS:



### Emotional Balance and Spirituality

- Divaldo Franco

Doctor Honoris Causa in Humanities, Ambassador of Peace, International Spiritist Medium, Speaker and Humanitarian.



### The Science of Emotions and Health

- Lydia Temoshok, Ph.D. (will receive the Peace and You Award)

Professor of Medicine and Director, Behavioral Medicine Program  
Institute of Human Virology of The University of Maryland School of Medicine. Leader in groundbreaking research on emotions and health.



### Vision and Prescription for the New Medicine

- Claudio Petrillo, MD and Silvia Knoploch, MD

Dr. Petrillo is the Director of Rehabilitation Program and Dr. Knoploch is a Senior Attending Physician at the Norwalk Hospital in Connecticut. They have committed to Integrative Medicine and a new medical paradigm. Co-Authors of three books, amongst them *Eternal Bonds of Love*.



## SPONSORS:

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# ROADMAP

FOR THE SPIRITIST STUDY AND PRACTICE

Want to learn Spiritism?  
Would you like to become a Spiritist Practitioner?

The Roadmap Program for the Spiritist Study and Practice focuses on the sole goal of promoting the study and practice of Spiritism, while contributing to the formation of Spiritist practitioners at the Spiritist Society of Baltimore, Inc. It welcomes everyone to take its courses without distinction to sex, race, religion or nationality. Each class comprises of a 1 1/2 hour-study session and it is divided into three (3) phases.

Phase I	SPIRITISM 101	THE SPIRITIST SCIENCE	ADVANCEMENTS ON THE SPIRITIST SCIENCE
Phase II	THE SPIRITUAL LAWS OF THE SPIRITIST PRACTICE	THE SPIRITIST THERAPY	PRACTICE ON THE SPIRITIST THERAPY
Phase III	INTRODUCTION TO MEDIUMSHIP	MEDIUMSHIP I	PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR MEDIUMSHIP

New classes open on March 25

Open courses:

**Spiritism 101** and **The Spiritist Science**

Free Admission. Registration Required.

Thursdays 7:30 – 9:00 pm

## DIAPERS

On January 9, the SSB collected diapers, which were then donated to the Center for Pregnancy Concerns ([www.cpcforhelp.org](http://www.cpcforhelp.org)).



The managers were truly grateful and shared with us that they welcome our help always!

Check their website. They have been doing a great job! And share about their services with any parent-to-be that you think may need help. Thank you for your loving donation.

## Book Drive For Liberia

Our Book drive was a success!

On January 27, 330 lbs of book donation arrived in Monrovia, Liberia. The hundreds of Spiritist and non-Spiritist books will go to a library for Women's College.

DHL kindly shipped it for the SSB free of charge.

Thank you all who helped us with this book drive!



"The one who is not devoted to the liberating action of work becomes a drag on the economy and society."

From the book *Happy Life* by Joanna de Angelis / Divaldo Franco

CHERISHING LIFE FORUM



Learn the Spiritist view of  
 - Abortion,  
 - Suicide,  
 - Euthanasia,  
 - Death Penalty

Keynote speaker:  
 - Julio Carvalho, BS

House speakers:  
 - Leonardo Vieira  
 - Vanessa Anseloni, PsyD, PhD.

Saturday, Feb 13, 2010  
 6pm- 8pm

Followed by  
*Fundraising Organic  
 Dinner.*



Spiritist Program for Youth and Children

Who: children and teens (4-15 y/o)

When: Saturdays,

5:45 – 7:15 PM

(February 6th - Feb 27th, 2010)

ROADMAP PROGRAM

for the Spiritist Study and Practice  
**CLASSES START ON MARCH, 2010**



Julio Carvalho is a B.S. in Biology and Psychology by Kean University. Currently, he is a Mental Health Worker in the Psychiatric Department at Trinitas Hospital Union County Jail. Mr. Carvalho is also the founder and current general coordinator of the Divine Light Spiritist Center in New Jersey.

JOIN OUR ACTIVITIES

FRATERNAL COUNSELING  
 &  
 SPIRITUAL TREATMENT

These services are offered every  
**Monday** from  
 6:15pm to 7:45pm.

Mediumship Educational  
 Meetings  
 (by invitation only)

These meetings take place every  
**Monday** from 8:00pm to 9:30pm  
 for the study and practice of  
 mediumship according to  
 Spiritism.

ROADMAP FOR THE SPIRITIST  
 STUDY AND PRACTICE

This meeting is offered for those  
 who are interested in learning  
 Spiritism and also to become  
 Spiritist practitioner. **Thursdays**  
 from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

Seasonal  
 Spiritist Program for  
 Youth and Children  
 S P Y C

Please, contact us for more info.  
 Phone: 410 - 382-5328 or  
 410-837-0991  
 e-mail: [ssb@ssbaltimore.org](mailto:ssb@ssbaltimore.org)

Activities are free of charge !!!

2010 SSB Calendar - Saturdays at 6pm

January

MONTH OF REBIRTH

- 2 - Holiday break  
No meeting
- 9 - Movie Screening: BIRTH  
(Movie reflection)
- 16 - Inspirational Book  
Delight - Talks  
SSB Speakers
- 23 - Cases on Reincarnation  
Carol Strosnider
- 30 - Workshop:  
Attuning with the  
Missionaries of Light  
Vanessa Anseloni

*"Whenever Divine Justice  
 calls us to account,  
 if we are found working  
 for the benefit of others,  
 Divine Mercy orders that  
 our burden of debt  
 be suspended indefinitely."*

- Chico Xavier

February

MONTH OF  
 CHERISHING LIFE

- 6 - Joyful Movie  
Larry Boy and the Rumor  
Weed: The Power of Words  
(SPYC kickstart)
- 13- CHERISHING LIFE FORUM  
*Learn the Spiritist view of  
abortion, suicide,  
euthanasia,  
and death penalty.*  
  
Keynote speaker:  
- Julio Carvalho, MS  
  
House speakers:  
- Leonardo Vieira  
- Vanessa Anseloni, PsyD, PhD
- 20 -Spiritist aid to never  
give up  
- Celia Batista, PhD
- 27 - ... And Life Goes On  
- Vanessa Anseloni, PsyD, PhD

*Enchant your heart with  
 one of the most compelling  
 accounts of the afterlife.*

UPCOMING

2010 WORKSHOP SERIES

(Saturdays)

- Jan 30 - The Missionaries of Light
- Feb 27 - ...And Life Goes On

**Free Admission !!!**

**Talk followed by Passes\***

**Fundraising Organic  
 Dinner at 7:45pm**

\* Passes is a Spiritist therapeutic technique  
 used to foster spiritual balance and healing.

OUR SERVICES LOCATION

22 W. Padonia Rd -  
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**Stay away from inferior  
 conditions; acquire higher  
 understanding.**

- Emmanuel/Chico Xavier  
 (Our Daily Bread, Ch.6, p.26)