

Unity of Salem Newsletter

January/February 2006

2006: The Never Ending Story – God Is

Minister's Message

Happy New Year, my friends!

I'm not sorry to put 2005 behind me. 2005 has been a hard year for our world. Many of us have personally felt the pain of loss; and, collectively we have experienced deep sorrow around our world for the loss of lives and property during the many natural disasters that we have experienced worldwide.

In many ways 2005 was a year of death; and, yet we know that "death" is simply another word for transformation. It is the period of breakdown that we may experience a new beginning -- a new break through.

Break through is happening! It begins within ourselves first: we feel pain and compassion, we reach out to others through our hearts, wallets, hands and feet, and we do what we can to lift up one another. Individual Americans have rushed to parts of the world where America is a dirty word and through one-on-one help they have begun to change the picture of America in the minds of the people of these countries. The changes we are looking and praying for will begin as a grass roots movement -- it will begin with you and me, my friends, not with the governments of the world. When the motivation of individuals like you and me is pure, when we reach out to those in pain and suffering through the power of Love, we are creating that "break through" energy together. It isn't going to come from the elected leaders of the world -- it is going to come in and through the real leaders of the world -- those of us who willingly allow the Christ within to guide and lead us.

The Buddha tells us:

"The thought manifests as the word;
The word manifests as the deed;
The deed develops into habit;



And habit hardens into character.

So watch the thought and its ways with care,
And let it spring from love
Born out of concern for all beings."

This year at Unity of Salem we are focusing on embodying certain Divine Qualities. As we declare through our thought and word which Divine Quality we will intentionally embody, we will then act through that Quality (the deed). Gradually the

action or deeds will develop into a habit, and we will find that we don't have to consciously think about acting as Love, Peace, Joy, etc, but that it is now part of our character; and, we discover we ARE the Divine Quality which we have intentionally called forth from within us. As each of us begins to think, speak and act AS specific Divine Qualities, the world will begin to respond. Jesus told us that when He (as the Christ) was lifted up, all would be lifted with him. You and I, my friend, have the power to lift the world -- will you join me -- I can't do it alone.

Peace and Blessings,
Georgie

January 1, 2006:

Join us for our traditional Burning Bowl service on the first day of the New Year. We will also offer a Taize Healing Prayer service at 6:30 that evening. What a wonderful way to start the New Year - release unhealthy, unwanted beliefs or habits in the morning, attend the healing prayer service in the evening, and open ourselves to the theme for 2006: THE NEVER ENDING STORY: GOD IS!

BOARD MEMBERS

President ----- Dr. Bonnie Jean Young
Vice President - Reinholdt Leske
Secretary ----- Denita Wallace
Treasurer ----- Carol Wilson
Members ----- Dick Thomas
Ed Lent
Alternate ----- Peggy Brown

STAFF

Office Coordinator
Betty Sword
Minister's Associate
Diana Moskal
Youth Education Director
Sharon Viehdorfer - Director
Bonnie Staebler - Youth Music Director
Erica Meyer - Assistant
Music/Choir Director
Rebecca Shepard
Multi-Media Team
Paula Wills - Dir.
John Meyer, Paul Wilson,
Jane Minard, Jim Harris,
Mattie Courtright & Caroline Collins.
Operations Coordinator
Jim Wallace
Newsletter Coordinator
Stein Agaberg
stein.agaberg@hrc-cc.com
Webmaster
Kathy Munsel
Pianists
Christine Shepherd
Rebecca Shepard

LICENSED TEACHERS

Diana Moskal
Ann Armstrong

DIAL-A-PRAYER
503 364-6057

<http://www.unityofsalem.com/>

E-Mail: unityonthehill@aol.com
Unity of Salem

Phone: 503 364-0156

Office Hours: 10-4 Mon. - Thurs.

P.O. Box 3518

Salem, OR 97302

Sunday Service at 10:30 AM

LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD--from Bonnie Young, President

This month has been a reflective time for me. I have been looking back at what the Board and our teams have accomplished and looking forward to our tasks in the coming months.

Finances--When the new Board of Trustees took office in June, the former President had called for a financial review and we had no budget for 2005-2006. The new Board hired a CPA firm. The senior Partner of the company confirmed that our books were accurate, recommended that we purchase a business version of the software we had been using, that we record our business transactions in detail in the minutes, and establish financial policies that would clarify our routine procedures. By August, the membership adopted the new budget. We have developed new financial policies and I am happy to report that **Unity of Salem is financially in good health.**

Our **financial tasks for 2006** are (1) to build a new budget that reflects the needs of the teams, staff, and membership for 2006-2007, (2) to support our plan for Energizing 9 Acres with financial and volunteer efforts; and (3) to continue to monitor the needs and expenditures of the staff and teams to assure continued confidence in our financial health.

Communication-- Our recent activities include:

- Two Community Sharing meetings,
- A suggestion box for requests for certain titles of favorite music
- Several chats with our Energize Our 9 Acres Committee
- Several sing-a-long potluck dinners hosted by John and Blythe
- A Christmas Party at the Okie Dokie Corral
- Presentations from team leaders about their needs and their plans
- A workshop on communication styles
- A class on conflict resolution
- Several musical programs have all enhanced the interaction of our membership

Our **communication plans for 2006** will include:

- Opportunities for anyone to talk with the Board about concerns or dreams prior to our meetings.
- A workshop in the spring on communication styles.
- Two additional Community Sharing meetings (one in January and one in March)
- A Board Planning Meeting
- The Annual Meeting

Grounds and Buildings-- We have made several updates to our grounds and buildings. We have purchased a new John Deere Tractor-Mower, making maintenance of our grounds much easier. We have negotiated a new contract with Ennis Mary adding weeding and edging of the rose garden to the tasks already performed. Ron Miner Landscape Company completed the landscape plantings around the Unity sign in front of the property. These plantings include the large leaf photinia which will be the back - ground for the sign and many grasses and ground cover which will hold the bank in place and will not require much watering. *President's Message Continues....*

PRAYER WORKSHOP:

Prayer is the cornerstone of the Unity movement. It was through prayer that Myrtle Fillmore was able to heal her body, and then assisted her husband, Charles in his healing, as well as many other people. Silent Unity is the Prayer ministry for Unity that has been in constant prayer for over 120 years.

Georgie will facilitate a Prayer Workshop on Sunday afternoon Jan 29 after the Worship Service. A light finger food lunch will be served just prior to the workshop. If you would like to increase your prayer life, and learn more about prayer, please plan to join us. The workshop will be held in the Modular.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERIES:

Beginning Jan. 8th Georgie will begin a new series on the metaphysical interpretation of the Wizard of Oz.

Beginning February 26th a series on The Journey That Never Was will begin. This series will assist us in hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit within. A class will be offered to assist us in this process. See details in this Newsletter.

EXTREME MAKE OVER OF OUR HOUSE OF CONSCIOUSNESS:

A Class facilitated by Rev. Georgie Richardson

Tuesday evenings from Feb. 21 through March 28 at 7:00. Class will be on a love-offering basis.

During this class you will have an opportunity to place an intention into the field of all potentiality to embody a certain Divine Quality. Perhaps you will choose a quality of Abundance, Beauty, Joy, Balance, Peace or Patience. There are 18 Divine Qualities we will be working with throughout this year.

To assist ourselves in the process we will be using one of the twelve tools or gifts with which we were born: imagination, faith, strength, wisdom, love, etc.

During the six weeks of the class we will work together to do an Extreme Make over of our House of Consciousness, and we will have fun at the same time. Please sign up for the class. The Sign Up sheet is on the kitchen counter.

THE JOURNEY THAT NEVER WAS:

A Class facilitated by Rev. Georgie Richardson

On Thursdays beginning March 2nd we will begin a new class which is designed to assist us in listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Based on a book and program of the same name written by Candace and DavidPaul Doyle, we will ask questions, discuss, and do exercises to assist in our process.

On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 26th Sharon Viehdorfer will offer a workshop on connecting with our Inner Oracle (see details herein). This workshop will greatly assist our class work.

Our final class will be a workshop on April 9th after the Sunday service from 1:00-5:00 with Candace and DavidPaul further teaching us how to hear and follow the voice of the Holy Spirit.

We will conclude the series, workshops and class with a Celebration Dinner at a local restaurant.

The Thursday class will be offered in the afternoon on Thurs from 1:00 to 3:00 (**if there are enough people who sign up for an afternoon class) and also in the evening from 7:00 to 9:00. PLEASE SIGN UP FOR YOUR PREFERENCE.

The class will be given on a love-offering basis. Sharon's workshop will be on a love-offering basis. The workshop on April 9th with the Doyles will be \$40.00 a person.

SERVICE WORKSHOP:

Diana Moskal, Chaplain Facilitator and Unity Licensed Teacher, will conduct a workshop on service opportunities on Sunday, Feb. 19 after the service in the modular. A light finger food lunch will be served just prior to the workshop that will finish around 2:00.

I have always liked the quote "Service is the natural expression of one who is spiritually awakened. It is not something we do; rather it is a way of life." As we serve together, we create a strong, loving and spirit-filled community. I invite you to attend this workshop to be aware of the many opportunities that exist for all of us to serve from our hearts. If you have any questions, please see Diana Moskal.

CHAPLAINCY TRAINING

Last March, eleven people took the Chaplaincy Training from Diana Moskal. They have been serving in various ways at Unity of Salem making Wellness calls, praying with people on Sundays, assisting at various rituals, making home/hospital visits and attending monthly meetings. It has been absolutely AWESOME for me to work with such dedicated Chaplains and I am willing to train more people! It is with joy and heartfelt gratitude that I invite anyone to consider becoming a Unity of Salem chaplain. I have prepared a brochure that describes the training for people to read which is on the kitchen counter. In the brochure, Georgie says "I highly encourage a person to become a member of our Chaplain team and experience how God will use you to uplift, heal and support others."

DREAMS, A WINDOW TO THE SOUL WORKSHOP

Sunday, Feb. 12 from 1:00-4:00

Katheryn Haines will facilitate a workshop on dreams. There is a sequential ordering of our dreams that is one of the many tools our soul uses to guide us. As dreams are given more conscious attention, deeper communication with the soul and its intention is attained, achieving a stronger sense of personal vitality and direction.

Please bring a recent dream if possible. Katheryn is the author of the book, "Dreams, A Window to the Soul", has 2 degrees in psychology and has worked extensively with dreams. Everyone welcome. Please bring a recent dream if possible. Cost is \$25.

PATHFINDERS

Starting Sunday, January 15

Ed and Kay Lent will be facilitating "Pathfinders" at 9:00 AM in the Bookstore. Thereafter, it will be held on the first and third Sunday of each month.

Everyone is invited to come for a discussion of various topics; all are focusing on applying Unity principles in everyday life.

Meet a Chaplain

Hello there,
My name is Estella Leske I've been a member of Unity of Salem since May, 2003. I had participated with the prayer team in Spokane and we were learning about "coming apart for awhile". As soon as Diana announced she would be attending training to become a chaplain I was moved to sign up and what a wonderful experience it has been for me.

I spent years "praying for strength" that was in my former associations as a Catholic or Lutheran girl. My what a relief to know I can go inside, **Listen, connect, place an intention and let go and let God.** I feel so honored anytime any of you ask me to pray with you, Thru my bones first is what Rev Sherry Lady has taught us so I learn more each time we are in prayer. I'll be attending another workshop on the Taize prayer healing Services in February so Thank you, Diana for stepping forward in this new service to our community and to you, Georgie for giving us your Blessings as we extend our outreach to our congregation and community at large.

Blessings and an Angel to walk along with each of you Today.
Estella.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THESE DATES:

April 9th Workshop: Journey That Never Was with Candace and DavidPaul Doyle

May 22 Karl Anthony In Concert

CONGRATULATIONS:

Lorena and David Ferry had a new baby girl in November. Welcome baby Aliya and congratulations to the Ferry family.

There is One Presence and One Power in the Universe and in my life -- God, the Good, Omnipotent.

President's Message continues...

Speaking of signs, there are new signs made by Campbell Sign Co. On each building you see signs with the name of the building in addition to the letters required by the Fire Department for fast response. New signs are also posted at the Exit and Entrance Roads. **In 2006**, as a result of the recommendations by the Energizing 9 Acres Committee (Reiny Leske, Chair), the Board of Trustees and Jim Wallace, the Director of Grounds and Buildings, will be planning and putting into place a plan to use more of our acreage for the benefit of our membership. This will continue to be an open process with lots of volunteer help welcomed.

Computer Updating and Training--Betty Sword and Denita Wallace have teamed up to learn the new office software. They have developed new report formats for income and expenses, and payroll. They still have smiles on their faces, and positive statements to make, so I believe this part of our world is going well. **In 2006** Rev. Georgie Richardson will work with the other Board members to **design a data gathering system** that meets our needs and responds to the HOME Team's recommendations

New Programs and Training--Two new successful programs are operational: The Chaplaincy Program under the direction of Diana Moskal and the Readers Theatre Program coached by Bonnie Young and Bonnie Staebler. These programs have a substantial number of participants and have become an integral part of the Sunday Services. **In 2006 training will take place** for the **Media Team**, the **Sunday School Staff**, the **Readers Theatre**, **Chaplaincy candidates**, and **Ushers and Greeters**. Ed and Kay Lent will also start a **new Pathfinders Class**.

New Members in Preparation-- Eight people have indicated an interest in becoming members of Unity of Salem and are in the process of completing the requirements. **In 2006**, the Board and the membership will welcome these new members as fully participating active voters at the Annual Meeting in May.

Sunday School Youth Team--The Sunday School is fully staffed and several leaders plan to attend the Northwest Youth Leadership Training. **In 2006** a **Review of the Curriculum** by the Board of Trustees will be completed as part of our "Response to the Home Team Recommendations."

Community Service--Unity of Salem has demonstrated our love and compassion for others in a number of different ways this year. We have continued to send some of our tithing to other Unity churches and community programs who practice what we believe about empowering others and building community. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina we sent \$4,430 to the Unity Church of Christianity in Houston to feed homeless people housed at the Dome. We sent \$434 to the earthquake victims in Afghanistan via NW Medical Teams. We gathered thirty seven backpacks for the Salem-Keizer S.D. Homeless Program. And, with the help of Bonnie Staebler's students at Willamette School of Education, the backpacks were filled with school supplies. At Thanksgiving our members donated 10 barrels of food for the Salvation Army. On Dec. 10th Unity Friends (chair, Diane Van Gorder) delivered over 165 bears to the Realtors Assn. Christmas Party for Homeless Children. On Dec. 11th forty people from Unity gave love offerings to Doernbecker Hospital at the Okie Dokie Corral in Turner. On Dec. 19 Unity Friends delivered many bags of coats, hats, and mittens to Union Gospel Mission. Unity Friends also purchased Christmas gifts and gift cards for two teenagers, and a family of a single mother and two children. Our Care Team helps our own members who may need food brought in, or a ride to church. The music department (Rebecca Shepherd, Music Director) has brought in significant performers for the enjoyment of the members, friends, and community. The choir has been involved in Sunday Service, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Special Programs as well as providing carols for the South Salem Rehab Facility. **In 2006** we will continue our church tithing practice, and begin our **drive for additional backpacks and school supplies** to start the New Year in school. Our Care Team (chair, Carol Wilson) will continue its service to our members who need temporary assistance. And the choir will begin its preparation for the Easter Service, singing songs along the way each month.

I am certain that within these reflections of the past seven months my memory might have missed an activity or two. Just let me know and I'll write it down for my yearly review when we celebrate at our Annual Meeting. My heart is full; I appreciate each and every one of you, and I love working with the Board members who have dedicated their time and effort in making this the best possible Christmas for Unity of Salem. Love to all and a blessed New Year for our church community.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Jean

CULTIVATING YOUR INNER ORACLE

A Workshop with Sharon Viehdorfer
 Sunday, February 26, 2006
 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Love Offering will be taken

What is your inner oracle? How do you hear your inner oracle? How can your inner oracle guide your life?

Join us for a three-hour workshop that is fun-filled, enlightening and practical.

Practice with daily life tools that will give you feedback on how you commune with your own soul via your inner oracle. Expect to be amazed and delighted at how easy it is to access your oracle.

Traditionally, an oracle is a source or seed of wisdom; a god-given message. There is no place that God is not. Wherever there is God, there is an oracle. God's seeds of wisdom are planted in every human, animal, plant and mineral whether organic or inorganic, man-made or natural. If you have eyes to see, ears to hear, fingers to touch or a tongue to taste, you cannot miss your personal oracle.

There is no such thing as a question too dumb for your oracle. Nor is there any situation too tough for wisdom's right response.

Come on in. Let's practice cultivating our inner oracles together.

Sharon is the Youth Education Director for Unity of Salem, a member of the Unity Regional Youth Team, an ordained minister, and has a Bachelor of Arts in Education. She has taught youth in early education programs, adults in personal development programs, and designed curriculum with the Regional team. She is also an award-winning Oregon poet, a mother of two sons, and a life-long explorer of human consciousness.



Birthdays

Jan. 1 st	June Hadlock
Jan. 3 rd	Beverly Dargo
Jan. 3 rd	Al Tippner (turns 90) 8301 Mission Gorge Rd. #113 Santee, CA 92071
Jan. 19 th	Ann Armstrong
Jan. 19 th	Helen Bibleheimer
Jan. 23 rd	Blythe Eastman
Feb. 1 st	Rev. Betty Owers 114 East Ridge Dr. Miami, FL 33157
Feb. 17 th	Robin Paulissen
Feb. 19 th	Mattie Courtright
Feb. 22 nd	Deborah Day
Feb. 27 th	Myrtle Sprong

DISCOVER THE POWER WITHIN YOU

A class led by Ann Armstrong will start on Thursday, Jan. 12 for six weeks on a love-offering basis. The class will focus on this classic book (DISCOVER THE POWER WITHIN YOU) by Eric Butterworth. Copies of the book are in the Bookstore.



COMING ATTRACTIONS...

Daily: Pause for Peace 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.

"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with God's love in my heart"

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. service and youth education, 10:30 a.m.

First and third Sundays: Pathfinders 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore – Everyone Welcome!

Thursdays: Noon meditation, followed by brown-bag lunch.

Dec. 24th – Jan. 2nd: Church office Closed.

Jan. 1st: Burning Bowl service at 10:30 a.m. service **and** Taize Healing Prayer at 6:30 p.m.

and: Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 15th: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore. Facilitated by Ed and Kay Lent **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 29th: Prayer Workshop – Led by Rev. Georgie Richardson.

Feb. 5th: Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 12th: Workshop – "Dreams, a Window to the Soul" 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Facilitated by Kathryn Haines.

Feb. 19th: Service Workshop – Led by Diana Moskal **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 21st: "Extreme Make Over of Our House of Consciousness" – Class led by Rev. Georgie Richardson.

Feb. 26th: Workshop "Cultivating Your Inner Oracle" – 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Facilitated by Sharon Viehdorfer.

Mar. 2nd: Class "The Journey That Never Was". Facilitated by Rev. Georgie Richardson.

Apr. 9th: Workshop "Journey That Never Was" – Facilitated by Candace and DavidPaul Doyle.

May. 22nd: Karl Anthony in Concert.

Thank You, Thank You! And Hats Off To:

Jim McCreary who is now preparing our Visitor's packets.

Jim Harris, Ed Lent and Sharon Viehdorfer who changed out the Wisdom Wall.

Jim Wallace who so lovingly looks after our building and grounds.

Denita Wallace for all of her computer help.

Diane Van Gorder and the Unity Friends for being special Christmas Elves.

SURRENDER IN FAITH

Caroline Collins 11/1/05

When fear and doubt creep in,
I surrender.

Though my strength may be faltering
and my knowledge limited,
I surrender,
for God's strength and knowledge are a
limitless wellspring.

I surrender
Giving all the burdens of my heart to
God and letting go of all expectations
and control,
I surrender.

Giving life my best effort while
detaching from any particular
outcome,
I surrender

Being created in the image of God,
there is no obstacle that I was not
designed to overcome ... when
I surrender.

Knowing that my mind and body can
meet all situations with greater
purpose and awareness when guided by
Spirit rather than ego,
I surrender.

There is no greater expression of
faith than surrendering to the Divine
presence within, for surrender truly
is faith in action.

So,
from that place of Faith where I am one with God
and with God all things are possible,
I surrender.

January Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.		January				1.
1. 6:30 pm: Taize Healing Prayer Service & Noetic Science	2.	3.	4.	5. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	6.	7.
8.	9.	10.	11.	12. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	13.	14.
15. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	16.	17. 7:00 pm: Community Building	18.	19. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	20.	21.
22. After the Service: Chaplaincy Info Meeting	23. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	24.	25.	26. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	27.	28.
29. After the Service: Prayer Workshop	30.	31.				

February Church Calendar

February			1.	2. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	3.	4.
5. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	6.	7.	8.	9. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	10.	11.
12. 1:00 pm: Workshop – "Dreams, a Window to the Soul"	13.	14.	15.	16. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 pm: Class – "Discover the Power Within"	17.	18.
19. 9:00 am: Pathfinders After the Service: Service Workshop 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	20. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	21. 7:00 pm: Class – "Extreme Make Over of Our House of Consciousness"	22.	23. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	24.	25.
26. 1:00 pm: Workshop – "Cultivating Your Inner Oracle"	27.	28. 7:00 pm: Class – "Extreme Make Over of Our House of Consciousness"				

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