

Unity of Salem Newsletter

March 2004

2004: The Year of Wholeness

Minister's Message

Hello Friends,

Have you ever asked yourself, "Why am I here?" "Why did I incarnate into this life experience at this time in history?" "What is my unique mission in life?" I think most of us have asked ourselves that question from time to time as we have awoken to an understanding that we are more than just a encapsulated bag of bones having a human experience.

As our understanding about our spiritual nature evolves and deepens, we ponder questions like these frequently. The truth of the matter is that each one of us does indeed have a very definite soul's mission to accomplish in this lifetime, and there is a hole in the fabric of the collective human experience when we don't express that mission. Many of us may have the same or similar "missions", but each of us has a unique vehicle in which to express that mission -- that is called our "vision".

There is only one of you, and the components that make up the special and unique "you" will never exist again. Oh, yes, I know about reincarnation, and indeed I believe in reincarnation, but that has to do with our soul. The soul reincarnates into a body/personality and that body/personality (which is you and me) is a unique combination of genes, experiences, ideas and expressions; and, never, never again will the uniqueness that is YOU exist. Wouldn't it be a shame to go through this life and never know what your mission is, or if you have been living it?

Well, the end of January, Paula and I attended a Life Directions seminar in Los Angeles put on by T. Harv Ecker of Peak Potentials. We went through three intense days of a deepening process and the majority of people attending (about 500 with and



additional 50 volunteers and 50 coaches) discovered their soul's mission through the process.

Some of the questions or information we needed to ask about ourselves were:

What have you ever dreamed of doing or being?

What are you good at doing, comes easily to you?

Someone could call you to get your assistance or opinion on.

Your favorite things to do now are.

Your favorite topics of conversation are.

The types of books or magazines you buy and/or read are.

What really excites you?

What gives you a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment?

Who inspires you?

What are some of the life challenges, hardships, issues, obstacles and pain you have faced?

If you have overcome them, how?

As we answered these questions (and more), we began to hone in on those things that are important to us and excites us. For me, personally, the one that really struck pay dirt was the last question about life challenges and issues. As I listed those things throughout my life which were challenges, and then realized that I had overcome all of them, I also realized that my mission has been about helping others overcome their challenges and issues. To assist others who have been raised in dysfunctional families (and 98% of us have been, friends) to erase the old tapes, heal the old wounds, and become stronger and wiser through the process, has been my mission throughout my ministry, and it is STILL my mission. Harv Ecker quoted Lance Armstrong as saying that he "accepts the obligation of the cure." I feel the same way.

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Sunday Service at 10:30 AM

Candace Norwood

President's Corner – March 2004 newsletter

I'm always wondering about things. Like, how responsible is someone for his or her actions if those actions are motivated by unconscious factors? I believe he or she is very responsible. I think the purpose of Earth school is to shovel as much as we can from our unconscious minds to our conscious minds. Therefore, we are responsible – if *responsible* is defined as *accountable*.

So then the question becomes how to become more conscious. The process of bringing what has been unconscious into consciousness is an extremely difficult one. It is hard to know what is unknown; however, *unconscious* is not the same as *unknown*. The knowledge is always there – it is simply not yet remembered.

The incentive to grow in consciousness is immense. For instance, it takes a fraction of the energy to tend to conscious forces as to unconscious ones. Unconscious forces keep us running in circles, feeding fear and feeling badly about ourselves. Knowing is, in itself, a certain measure of freedom.

One way to grow in consciousness is to identify patterns that develop over time and make deductions. Someone who repeatedly picks abusive or unavailable partners might deduct he or she unconsciously fears intimacy even while consciously craving it. An unconscious track of tape (intimacy = vulnerability) often runs alongside a conscious one (intimacy = companionship).

Another way is to become one's own objective observer and search out triggering events. One friend uncovered some inner wounds when she realized a comment had settled into the pit of her stomach (which for her meant self-esteem issues) and then she looked for the self-esteem connection. In so doing, she realized it felt similar to feelings she had as a child.

Another great way to find out about blind spots is to listen to one's critics. They're usually more than happy to provide detailed feedback.

There are some pretty notable disincentives to this work. Insights might feel right and yet be discarded because they paint an uncomfortable or even painful picture. This is to be welcomed and embraced, for it is the feeling of the shadow moving into consciousness – like childhood's growing pains. Not wishing to experience this pain is the payoff for much stunting consciousness.

The most important thing to remember is to love one another in this process. Unearthed truths are like new plants that need time and tenderness to spread their roots. Uncovering the most vulnerable aspects of ourselves takes enormous courage and faith and it helps to remember that none of us is immune from this experience and that we're all in this thing together.

Light and love.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE CONTINUES..

Although I haven't experienced the health issues that Lance Armstrong experienced, in my own way I have "accepted the obligation of the cure" and shared my understanding, wisdom and process to help others rise above their dysfunctional past programming and live their lives through their wholeness.

I invite you to think a little deeper about your soul's mission. If you don't express your mission through your own unique vision -- then no one will and the world will be a sadder place, and the light a little dimmer.

Blessings,

Georgie

CHI-LEL FULL MOON RITUAL:

A full moon ChiLel ritual is held at Unity of Salem on the night of the full moon: Saturday, March 6th, and Sunday April 4th promptly at 6:00. Everyone is welcome.

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME RETURNS:

We spring forward an hour on Sunday April 4th. This is also Palm Sunday. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night April 3rd.

PRAYER WORKSHOP:

A Prayer Workshop will be held on Sunday March 21st following the worship service. Georgie will facilitate the workshop. Everyone is welcome. A light lunch will be offered.

GATHER THE WOMEN:

The theme for Gather the Women, which begins Sunday March 7, 2004 with a gathering for BOTH men and women at Loucks Hall, Salem Library, is HOW TO WEAVE A WORLD THAT WORKS. A world that works begins with a new kind of partnership:

- 1) one that recognizes both the value of each separate part and the power of our mutual interdependence.
- 2) one that creates a container large enough to hold the intentions and offering of all of us.
- 3) one that rejects the old competitive models of scarcity and holds instead the reality that we will create an environment of abundance only by working in collaboration.

There will be events (for women only) from Monday, March 8th through Friday, March 12th at Unity of Salem. Closing events will be held on Saturday, March 13th at the Salem Friends and a final event on Sunday March 14th, 2-4:00 at Unity of Salem. Saturday and Sunday are open to both men and women.



Unity of Salem sponsored this event for the first time last year and it was highly successful and well attended. Plan to join us for another exciting week as we "gather the women."

I am Alive, Alert, Awake and Enthusiastic. I am Whole. I am Free. Thank You God!

GREG TAMBLYN IN CONCERT APRIL 18!

Greg Tamblyn will visit Unity of Salem at 7:00 p.m. on April 18. Greg has offered concerts here twice previously and brings hilarity, reverence and irreverence to any setting.



From Kansas City, Greg has been a successful singer, songwriter, speaker and humorist for 20 years. He writes of cultural absurdities, kindness and gratitude, all delivered with a heaping helping of optimism.

Greg writes his own unique and insightful tunes, including *My Life is a Beer Commercial*, *The Shootout at The I'm OK, You're OK Corral* and *One Day on the Fields of France*.

His latest album is, *Saving the World From Whiny Victim Love Songs*, and you can hear samples of his music and learn more about Greg on his Web site: www.gtsongs.com. You don't want to miss this opportunity – it's truly a great time.

A love offering of \$10 is suggested.

DIANA'S DELIGHTS:

Here are two of many blessings that I wanted to share:

1. Last year we honored Sue Miller - a person in Salem who is making a difference in our city. She is the Executive Director of Family Building Blocks that is a community based, child abuse prevention program. They provide early intervention services at no cost to high-risk families with children six weeks to five years old. Sue invited Georgie and me to come visit sometime. So on Tuesday, Feb. 10, Georgie and I went on a field trip to Family Building Blocks on Lancaster, the former Chelsea's Restaurant that was donated to them.

We had a wonderful tour that also included seeing Cheryl Weatherly, who attended Unity of Salem years ago with her two little girls. Now she has 2 grandchildren! Cheryl supervises the programs at Family Building Blocks. Georgie and I were so impressed not only with the building but also with the spirit of love, care, and support that is so evident there. They are currently serving 65 children with 150 on the waiting list. There are parent trainings, home visits, breakfast and lunch for the children, classes with teachers and volunteers, as well as clothes and food for families that need them.

You might have seen "Reruns for Kids," at 1455 Commercial St. SE. This is a store in which all funds go directly to support Family Building Blocks. People can donate items (children's clothes and furniture in top condition) or take items in on consignment. More info is in a brochure on the kitchen counter. We bless the Family Building Blocks program in our city and give thanks for the difference it is making in the lives of children who attend as well as in the lives of people who serve so lovingly.

2. Congratulations, Ann Armstrong! It is indeed a celebration when the Licensed Teacher Program is completed! It takes many trips to Unity Village, commitment, time and energy! I love you, I bless you, and I behold the Christ in you!!!

NEW MEMBER CEREMONY:

We will be receiving new members into the church on Sunday, April 18th during our regular worship service. To join Unity of Salem one must attend an orientation meeting, two four-week Basic Unity classes, a Service Opportunity workshop and the Prayer Workshop. Prospective new members are assigned a mentor who is available to pray with and for them, answer questions and assist their process. Mentors also "stand up" with the new members during the New Member ceremony. This year we welcome into the church: Mary Williams, Rose Beutler, Beverly Dargo, Carol Blanchette and Marilee Corey. Sherie Smith will also join being "grandfathered" into church membership.

BOARD DECISIONS REGARDING THE EBERHARDT LEGACY:

\$112,638.	Legacy total
\$14,643.	Tithe (at 13%)
\$4,000.	Staff bonuses
\$4,658.	New copy machine
\$2,000.	Grounds maintenance person
\$1,000.	Set aside for equipment maintenance
\$5,000.	Estimate for landscaping around sign
\$4,000.	Estimate to paint church and bookstore
\$1,000.	Repairs around the church
\$60,000.	Investment

Balance remaining in savings account after all paid for approximately \$16,337. The foregoing is to give you a general idea of the financial decisions that the Board has made to date about the inheritance we received. Some of the amounts are estimates.

EASTER SERVICE

Our traditional Easter Service will be at 10:30 on Sunday, April 11th. We will celebration our Living Cross tradition and invite you to bring flower(s) to the service that day to be part of this beautiful ritual.

YOUR GOD-SEED JOURNEY
A Holy Week Experience

Beginning on Monday, April 4th through Fri. April 9th, Rev. Richardson will facilitate an experiential process entitled Your God-Seed Journey. We will be using Jean Houston's material of the same title. The experiential gathering will take place every night of the week, and one must commit to be there every night. Using the great metaphor of Jesus' life, we will superimpose our life journey unto the highlights of His journey. We will experience the Birth, the Baptism, the Temptations, Passover, the betrayal and Garden experience, and the crucifixion. As Jean says, "When actively engaged, these great journeys of the soul lead you from the frustrations of the personal-particular to the fulfillment of the personal-universal."

What do you have to do? You must sign up on the clipboard in the kitchen, you must be in your seat every night at 6:50, you must commit to being present and involved EVERY night of the week. There will be one love offering received on Friday night. We will be creating shared experiences as co-voyagers in the God-Seed journey as our in-depth preparation for Easter Sunday.



GEORGIE'S NEXT SERIES:

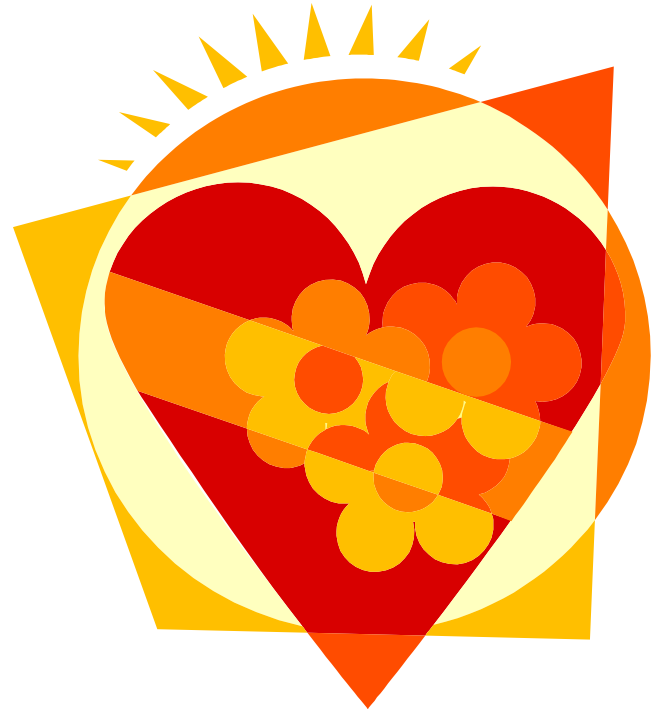
7 STEPS TO FREEDOM

A Lenten/Easter series

March 14-April 25, 2004

March 14	Nicodemus -- Victorious
March 21	The Seamless Robe
March 28	Judas Wore a White Hat
April 4 Palm Sunday	A Triumphant Entry
April 11 Easter Sunday	Christ the Lord is Risen Today
April 18	The Road to Emmaus
	New Member Sunday
April 25	All Things Are Possible

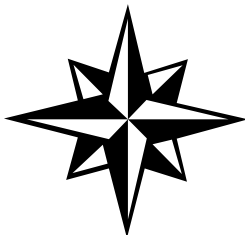
Be sure to join us for this exciting Lenten series as we look at 7 Steps to Freedom through the Easter story.



LEARNING HOW TO LET GO -- and -- LET GOD.

For many years my mother had a poem on her refrigerator. It is old, curled and yellow now, it has moved from her frig to mine, and it moves me as deeply today as it did the first time I read it.

As children bring their broken toys,
with tears for us to mend,
I brought my broken dreams to God,
because He was my friend.
But then, instead of leaving Him
in peace to work alone,
I hung around and tried to help,
with ways that were my own.
At last, I snatched them back and cried,
"how can You be so slow?"
"My child," God said, "what could I do?
You never did let go."



Birthdays

Mar. 3 rd	David Adams Katherine Harper
Mar. 7 th	Pres Preston
Mar 8 th	Marianne Ort
Mar 11 th	Diana Moskal
Mar 24 th	Carol Wilson
Mar. 25 th	Richard Thomas
Mar. 26 th	Keith Mills
Mar 28 th	Sandy Collins
Mar 29 th	Reiny Leske Adrian Smith
Apr. 1 st	Bob Bryant Kay Swift
Apr. 3 rd	Pauline Alden
Apr. 9 th	Georgie Richardson Melodee Glaser
Apr. 13 th	Sandra Gregory
Apr. 15 th	Linda Morgan
Apr. 17 th	Dick Strong
Apr. 27 th	Paula Wills
Apr. 28 th	Estella Leske

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.

Tuesdays: A Course in Miracles, in the modular, 7:00 p.m.

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

First Fridays: The Great Mother's Circle 7-8 p.m. Please call Alexis McKenna at 503 838-1040 if you plan to attend.

Mar. 7: Pathfinders 9:00 a.m.; **and** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p

Mar. 7th – Mar. 14th: Gather the Women

Mar. 15: Unity Basics II begins @ 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 21: Pathfinders 9:00 a.m.; **and** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 28: Workshop 7:00 p.m. – Shamanic Journey to the Upper World.

Monday April 4-Fri. April 9th: Your God-Seed Journey, a Holy Week experience.

May. 16: Annual Meeting following Worship Service.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU! AND HATS OFF TO:**

Tim Buckley for serving the Board of Trustees for the past 8 months. Although Tim has stepped down from his Board commitment, he continues to serve on Pathfinders and is working with "Gather the Women". We appreciate your gifts and contributions, Tim.

Our Y.O.U. group for the two lovely books that they presented to the congregation as a post Christmas gift. Also for the delicious Mexican Dinner they prepared and served the church.

Estella Leske and her "team" for putting on our Teddy Bear Tea on Feb. 15th.

Jim Wallace for agreeing to be the Grounds/Building Team leader.

Ann Armstrong for teaching the Unity Basics I and II classes.

Diana Moskal for offering THREE workshops during the first six weeks of the New Year.

Alexis McKenna for leading the Gathering of Women to take place at Unity of Salem the week of March 7th.

June Hadlock, Kara Driskell and Daeryl Lewis for the beautiful dance presentations.

The choir for continuing to hold the vision of a choir.

Carol Wilson for coordinating the Care Team.

Victoria Halsey for coordinating meals for Bob and Lois.

Katherine Harper and the H.O.M.E. team for the fantastic job they have been doing with the MAP process.

March Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.	1.	2. 7:00 pm: A Course In Miracles	3.	4. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	5.	6.
7. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science Gather the Women Starts	8.	9. 7:00 pm: A Course In Miracles	10.	11. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	12.	13.
14. 6:00 pm: Paladins	15. 7:00 pm: Unity Basics II begins	16. 7:00 pm: A Course In Miracles	17.	18. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	19.	20.
21. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	22.	23. 7:00 pm: A Course In Miracles	24.	25. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	26.	27.
28. 7:00 pm: Shamanic Journey continues	29. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	30. 7:00 pm: A Course In Miracles	31.			

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