

Unity of Salem Newsletter

March/April 2006

2006: The Never Ending Story – God Is

Minister's Message

At Unity of Salem we have a team called Unity Friends. We also have a fund called Unity Friends fund. As a church we tithe one percent of our monthly tithe into that fund, translated into dollars that is about \$100 to \$130 a month. During any given month we might disperse anywhere from \$100.00 to \$400.00, and yet the fund never dries up -- the cup is always full. How can that be so? Well, from time to time, Spirit guides some dear soul to give a gift of \$500.00 (more or less) designated to Unity Friends, and with our one percent tithe the cup remains full.

This idea of the cup always being full even when we give out much more than we tithe to the fund, came to me a week or so ago when we wrote a check for \$205.00 to help someone (who had had heart surgery) with an overdue power bill. This came on the heels of writing a check for \$209.00 a week prior to help a family of four -- mother, 2 sons and a 16 year old eight month pregnant girl, get into a motel - they had been living in their car.

That same evening, February 2, 2006, when I went home, still feeling so grateful for our "full cup," I was watching the news. There was a short piece on Bono's invitation to the President's prayer breakfast. Bono was named Science of Mind's Spiritual Hero of the Year. He is the lion-haired, sun-glassed front man of rock super-group U2. He is an Irish rocker who works relentlessly to help the poor particularly in Africa. As part of his message to the President and those in attendance at the prayer breakfast, he made an astonishing suggestion. This suggestion is in essence (in my mind) the macrocosm to the microcosm of our one percent tithe to our Unity Friends fund.



Here are a few of the quotes from his remarks to the National Prayer Breakfast (you can read the whole of his remarks at <http://www.data.org/archives/000774.php>):

He began by saying he felt rather uncomfortable at a Presidential Prayer breakfast. "I'm certainly not here as a man of the cloth, unless that cloth is leather," he said. He continued by saying that while man makes laws in the great city of Washington, he wanted to talk about "higher laws," and he began to talk about the poor in our world.

He said that it isn't about charity. It's about justice. "Let me repeat," Bono said, "It's not about charity, it's about justice. ... justice is a higher standard." He quoted facts about how many people are dying in Africa every day from preventable, treatable diseases, for lack of drugs we can buy at any drug store.

The point that he finally made, and the point of my sharing this with you, he admitted, put him on "very thin ice." He addressed Mr. President, Congress, people of faith, people of America: Bono said: "I want to suggest to you today that you see the flow of effective foreign assistance as tithing ... which, to be truly meaningful, will mean an additional one percent of the federal budget tithed to the poor."

Minister's message continues.....

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Sunday Service at 10:30 AM

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES--by Dr. Bonnie Young,
President

Building Maintenance. The heaviest rainfall in years has brought its set of challenges for our Unity staff--a leak above the sun porch, a south gutter pulled away from the roof, excess water beating on the south door causing it to swell, and ground water seeping into the basement. Dr. Jim Wallace, our Director of Grounds and Buildings, has been working with contractors to solve these problems.

Rose Garden Pruning. The roses are "pushing out their leaf buds earlier again this year. If you are interested in learning how to prune roses, call me at 503-856-8065. You will be asked to adopt 4 roses. The first one I will demonstrate on. The second rose you will practice on, the third and fourth roses we will prune together. I will provide the pruners.

How simple is that? We will provide an "Adopted by_____" sign to designate your contribution to the Unity of Salem Rose Garden. Our first volunteer was Diane Van Gorder.

Finances. The Board received a proposal from a nearby developer who wanted to purchase one or two lots on Fabry Road and have the use of our entry and exit roads. The Board considered the pros and cons and rejected the offer.

Regional Trainings and Meetings. Sunday School staff attended the Northwest Youth Leadership Training. Rev. Georgie Richardson and Diana Moskal attended the Regional Board Meeting in Port Townsend, Washington. Rev. Richardson is the new Chaplain for the Regional Board. Congratulations, Georgie! Estella Leske and Rev. Richardson attended the Taize Healing Training for Trainers held at Triangle Lake outside of Eugene.

Readers Theatre. Thank you to the twenty-one members of Readers Theatre who helped Rev. Richardson in her Wizard of Oz Series--a metaphysical interpretation. We heard comments such as "I really got it this time" and "The idea that my boss might be responsible for my greatest spiritual growth never occurred to me before."

Evening Meeting for Congregation. Watch the announcements for an evening meeting to discuss ways to energize our entire nine acres for the benefit of our members. A committee of board and congregation members led by Reiny Leske, Board Vice Chairperson, has a proposal to make to the congregation and we will welcome your responses.

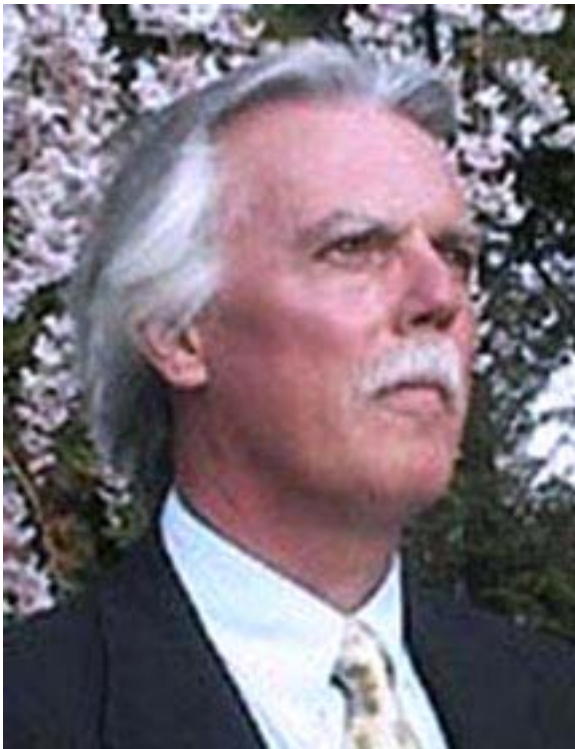
President's Message Continues....

THE COMING TIMES

Weather Dynamics, Polarity Shift, Geologic Upheaval, and Global Conflict

Sunday, April 30, 1:00-3:00 PM
\$20 at Unity of Salem

Dr. Hairfield decided to serve his country by joining the military during a rather troubled era. His duties led him to Vietnam. The hardships of the vicious battlefields profoundly disturbed him. His search for peaceful answers guided his steps within the walls of a Zen Buddhist monastery in Quang Ngai, S. Vietnam, where he took refuge whenever possible. After his return to the U.S. he studied and received a B.A. in Psychology. Pushed by his craving for the bright light of Truth, he traveled to Patanjali Province, India, then to Nepal and into Tibet on two separate occasions. In Tibet, he adapted to the life of a Monk, and for two years, he continued his research and honed the talents Spirit gave him, learning to become a Reiki Master and teacher of several other healing techniques.



On his second return home, he received a Doctorate in Metaphysics.

Through his years of studies with Zen and Tibetan Monks, Ishaya Monks, as well as Cree and Blackfoot Native American nations, this true American Monk offers an unparalleled approach to understanding how we influence our own outcome in life. In 2000, he was inspired to communicate his knowledge and experiences in his book, ONCE UPON A PARABLE - A Journey into Life that is now in its second printing.

He lives and works in Reno.

For more info, see his website: www.hairfield.com

2006 Women's Retreat

"JUST BE"

Gleneden Beach – June 2-4, 2006

Facilitated by Ann Armstrong, Estella Leske, Sherri Smith and Christine Shepard.

Cost \$115 – payable by May 1st
(Plus shared cost of one meal for the group)
A few partial Scholarships are available.
See Ann if you want more information.

Jesus said, "Come ye apart for a while" and this is just what we are planning to do – Gather together, apart from the busy "doings" of our lives, just "Be". Be who we truly are! Be Joyful! Be Playful! Be Authentic! Be Creative! Be one with God!

Signups will start Sunday, March 5th 2006. We have room for 18 participants. Be sure to get your name on the list early!

JOURNEY THAT NEVER WAS:

A class led by Rev. Georgie Richardson

Thursdays, March 2nd through Sunday April 9th, a class will be offered in the afternoon and evening on Thursdays entitled The Journey That Never Was. Based on a book of the same title, we will be exploring how to listen more clearly to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Please sign up. A love offering will be received.

TAIZE HEALING PRAYER SERVICE:

Sunday, March 5, 2006 - 6:30

This prayer service takes its name from a monastic community founded in 1940 by Brother Roger in Taize, France. Young adults from all over the world and all faiths visit Taize taking part in week-long intercontinental meetings. The Taize Community seeks to render its prayer accessible to everyone and this intention has moved out into the world making the prayers, songs and chants now familiar in many languages on every continent.

This is a meditative sacred service of song and prayer that builds our inner connection with our Higher Power. In this Healing Prayer service we move toward a process of wholeness in all levels of our being: body, mind and spirit. We affirm that with God all things are possible, and that the healing which starts during the prayer service continues in the days, weeks and months ahead.

The Taize Prayer Service carries the flavor of the healing movement that began in Unity over a century ago when many people were healed through Myrtle and Charles sacred prayer consciousness.

Please join us on Sunday, March 5, 2006 at 6:30 for this sacred prayer service.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY:

Sunday, March 5th, Unity of Salem will welcome the following folks into membership: C.J. Jones, Sally Cummins, Ginny King, Diane Sutton, Michael Sutton, Elayne Thomas, Roland Clark and Lydia Clark.

SPRINGING FORWARD:

Sunday, April 2nd, Daylight Savings time begins. Mark your calendar, tie a string on your finger, and do anything else that will help you remember.

PALM SUNDAY - April 9th

The authors of *The Journey That Never Was*, David Paul and Candace Doyle will be with us during the Worship Service and will be offering a four hours workshop on the process of listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit -- that still small voice within. We will complete our class/workshop experience by joining together for a celebration dinner. A reservation sheet will be available for your use.

Workshop: Sunday April 9th - 1:00-5:00

Cost: \$30.00 each (some full or partial scholarships are available)

Dinner: 6:00 that evening

MAUNDY THURSDAY:

Maundy Thursday, April 13th is the night of Passover -- the night before Jesus was arrested and eventually crucified. It is the night He washed the feet of the Disciples and offered them the bread and wine as symbols of His body and blood. These elements are symbolized as the substance and life of God.

Join us as we come together in a traditional foot (or hand) washing and partake of this sacred ceremony - the Eucharist. Please sign up for this sacred ceremony.

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 16

We will hold our traditional Easter Sunday service at 10:30. Please bring a flower(s) that we may, once again, create together the Living Cross as part of our service.

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

President's Message continues...

Unity Staff and Readers Theatre Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday at Hallman Elementary School. Fifteen members of the Unity of Salem staff and the Readers Theatre read stories in 15 classrooms (kg-5th grade) to help promote literacy on Dr. Seuss' Birthday, February 28th. Many Salem business and community organizations donate time in this way to schools. This is just another way that Unity of Salem is involved in outreach to the larger community.

New Policies Added. New Fire Safety Policies were developed with the assistance of Doug Corey, Marion County Fire Safety Educator, and a member of Unity of Salem. The policies were adopted by the Board at the February 27th meeting. Thank you, Doug.

New Procedures Outlined. A monthly list of Rose Garden Tasks was accepted by the Board in March. This list will provide the basis for requesting volunteer help in the Rose Garden. Would you like to be a Unity of Salem Rosarian?

Items in Development. The following projects are in various stages of development:

1. A Data Plan for Unity of Salem.
2. A Review of the Sunday School Curriculum for Children and Youth.
3. A Budget Plan for Fiscal Year 2006-2007.
4. A Community Sharing Gathering in March.
5. A Report from the "Energizing 9 Acres Committee" to the Congregation at an Evening Meeting.
6. A Workshop on Communication Styles

These are busy times, my friends, and your Board of Trustees is pleased to serve you in the gathering of thoughts and ideas, the development of policies and procedures, and working with the staff in carrying out the business end of the church. Please let us know if we are meeting your expectations.

Minister's Message continues...

When I heard the suggestion of the "one percent" tithed to the poor, I remembered again our Unity Friends cup always being full. But you know, that isn't totally accurate because a number of years ago our church stopped tithing that one percent to that fund and the fund gradually became depleted. It has ONLY been a "full cup" since we resumed tithing one percent to it. Through this one percent we have been able to help folks pay their rent, their power bills, put food on their table, have a meaningful holiday season, take a bus trip to California for a special medical procedure, get a tire for a car so this person could get to work, supply back packs and school supplies for homeless children, and on and on. All of those needs have been met through one percent.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our country picked up on Bono's challenge? Can you imagine how many lives would be saved, how many children would go to bed with a fully tummy, how many people would be lifted up? As Bono reminds us:

Love is on the move, Mercy is on the move, and God is on the move.

Blessings,
Georgie



Seasons of Our Lives

A workshop of Personal Discovery and Spiritual Growth

Facilitated by
Ann Armstrong, Licensed Unity Teacher

Sunday, March 26th 2006 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

"To Every Time there is a Season, and a Time for Every Purpose Under the Sun..."
Ecclesiastes: 3.1

All our life is a circle! We spiral around again and again, hopefully learning and growing with each cycle. In this workshop we will use the metaphor of the Four Seasons as we recognize and energize our Spiritual Gifts (our own special and unique combination of Talents and Divine Qualities) for our own Growth and Transformation, as well as that of our world.

What season are you currently in? Is it the Spring of New Idea, New Beginnings and New Growth? Are you in the Summer process of Tending to what you have Created, as well as Pruning and Weeding out what no longer serves you? Or is it in the Autumn of Reaping the Harvest of your efforts? Maybe for you it is Winter, the time of Rest and Renewal awaiting the start of the next cycle.

Join us as we learn to flow with the energies of the Seasons to create the life that we envision.



Birthdays

Mar. 3 rd	Katherine Harper
Mar. 7 th	Pres Preston
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
Mar. 29 th	Adrian Smith

Apr. 3 rd	Pauline Alden
Apr. 9 th	Georgie Richardson
Apr. 10 th	Enola Pease
Apr. 13 th	Sandra Gregory
Apr. 15 th	Linda Morgan
Apr. 16 th	Barb Hill
Apr. 27 th	Paula Wills
Apr. 28 th	Estella Leske



Food Bank

The blue Salvation Army barrel is in the kitchen area. You are welcome to bring non-perishable food items anytime. When the barrel is full, they will come and pick up the food items to be distributed to families. This is a wonderful opportunity to give to our Salem community!

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.

Saturdays: In March & April – 9:30 a.m. – Spring Forest Qigong.

Mar. 2nd: Class “The Journey That Never Was”. Facilitated by Rev. Georgie Richardson. Through April 9th.

Mar. 5th: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore. Facilitated by Ed and Kay Lent **and:** Taize Healing Prayer Service 6:30 p.m. **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 19th: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore. **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 26th: Workshop 1:00-4:00 p.m. “Seasons of Our Lives”. Facilitated by Ann Armstrong.

Apr. 2nd: Daylight Savings time begins – **Spring Forward.**

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

Apr. 13th: Maundy Thursday – the night of Passover – come and join us in a traditional foot washing – the Eucharist.

Apr. 16th: Easter Sunday – Please bring Flowers to create our Living Cross.

Apr. 30th: Workshop “The Coming Times” – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Facilitated by Dr. Steven Hairfield.

May. 22nd: Karl Anthony in Concert.

June. 2-4th: Women’s Retreat – “Just Be”

Aug. 17-20th: Northwest Region Retreat at Fort Worden in WA

Oct. 6-8th: Co-Ed Retreat at Menucha

Thank You, Thank You! And Hats Off To:

David Shepard and Jim Wallace for lovingly redirecting the abundance of water that wanted to flow into our basement. Thank you so much for your creative redirection.

Bonnie Young and Bonnie Staebler for doing such a wonderful job of directing the Reader’s Theater group during our Wizard of Oz series; and,

To ALL of the Reader’s Theater group for devoting their time, talent and energy toward a very successful Oz series,

A special thank you to our two Totos, **Ariel and Victoria** for being willing to crawl around on all fours after Dorothy.

Jim Harris, Chaplain for leading the 9:30 meditation time during the Oz series.

Rebecca Shepard and John Meyer for being the music folks for our Taize Healing Prayer Services.

Mentors for new members: **Paula Wills, Bonnie Staebler, Dick and Susan Thomas, Rosie Dailey, Jane Minard, Peggy Brown and Jim Harris.**

Linda Peterson for watering the plants so faithfully.



March Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.		March	1.	2. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	3.	4. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
5. 9:00 am: Pathfinders New Member Service 6:30 pm: Taize Healing Prayer Service & Noetic Science	6.	7.	8.	9. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	10.	11. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
12.	13.	14.	15.	16. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	17.	18. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
19. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	29.	21.	22.	23. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	24.	25. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
26. 1:00 pm: Workshop – “Seasons of Our Lives” facilitated by Ann Armstrong	27. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	28.	29.	30. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	31.	

April Church Calendar

April						1. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
2. Daylight Savings Begins: Spring Forward 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Taize Healing Prayer Service 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	3.	4.	5.	6. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “The Journey that Never Was”	7.	8. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
9. 1:00 pm: Workshop – “The Journey that Never Was” by DavidPaul & Candace Doyle	10.	11.	12.	13. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Maundy Thursday	14.	15. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
16. No Pathfinders Today Easter Service – Please bring Flowers for the Living Cross 10:30 am 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	17.	18.	19.	20. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	21.	22. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong
23./ 30. 30 th : 1:00 pm: Workshop – “The Coming Times” with Dr. Steven Hairfield.	24. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	25.	26.	27. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	28.	29. 9:30 am: Spring Forest Qigong

**Unity of Salem
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