

Unity of Salem Newsletter

March/April 2007

2007: The Year of Appreciation

Minister's Message

Greetings, Friends:

Today, as I write this message to you, it is Valentine's Day. It is a day when all of our thoughts and our hearts turn to expressions of love. While we give that special person in our lives a card or gift, often Spirit stretches our thinking so we reach out and send a card to someone else – someone that Spirit knows could use that special gift of our thought of love.

Charles Fillmore teaches that Love is the glue that joins and binds the Universe together. Indeed, God IS love – and so are we. When we truly know this about our basic nature, then it is much easier to drop the walls, put aside the false self and connect with others through that powerful vibration of Love.

It is the vibration of Love that heals relationships. Authentic sharing through the vibration of Love has an extended life that reaches out and touches people and places of which we do not know. Scripture tells us that we reap in fields where we have not sowed. Authentic sharing sometimes means saying no to someone, when we are certain something is not ours to do. Authentic sharing means we own our stuff; we take responsibility for our actions and our words. It isn't about blaming another person, but instead is about the realization that our feelings are about us, they are not about what someone else said or did.

It is true that God can only do for us what God can do through us. Setting aside private agendas, knowing that no one and nothing is against us, trusting that wherever we are God is, all contribute to allowing Spirit to facilitate a healing within ourselves and within our relationships.



Maybe it would be a good idea to have a "Valentine's Day" every month just as a reminder that Love can build a bridge, and the Holy Spirit can work miracles in our lives when we are ready.

God never gives us more than we can handle, friends. We usually think of this in connection to the "bad stuff" in our lives; and, it is also true of the "good stuff" in our

lives. If we aren't vibrationally ready for the miracle of Love to do its healing in our lives, then it won't happen. Our job is to be willing for Love to enter, become aligned with the vibration of Love, and to allow It to assist us in opening ourselves so God can, indeed, give us that "more". Or, as Jesus put it, "it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." The question we then must answer for ourselves is simply:

Am I ready for the Kingdom to be part of my life?

Blessings,
Georgie



BOARD MEMBERS

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

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 &
Caroline Collins.
Operations Coordinator
Jim Wallace
Newsletter Coordinator
Stein Agaberg
stein.agaberg@hrc-cc.com
Webmaster
Kathy Munsel
Pianists
Rebecca Shepard

LICENSED TEACHERS

Diana Moskal
Ann Armstrong

NEWS from the Board of Trustees by Dr. Bonnie Jean Young

Several goals have characterized the work of the Board of Trustees this year: They are 1) to act as stewards who manage our finances effectively, 2) to interact with harmony and efficiency as a Board, 3) to improve the communication skills of board members, staff, and congregation, 4) to provide support groups and fun activities for the membership, 5) to review documents to see that the information is current, 6) to review our Youth Ed Program, and 7) to gather information about building a new Sanctuary and share that information with the congregation. During the last two months the Board has made the following progress:

GOAL #1 FINANCES--The Unity of Salem **Building Fund** continues to grow. The angel figures posted on the north wall of the sanctuary indicate that approximately \$13,345 was donated as of February 18th.

Rev. Richardson is in the process of **building a budget** for the fiscal year of 2007-2008. Preliminary figures will be discussed at the February Board meeting and then the final draft will be completed at the end of April, ready for the Annual Meeting of the membership in May 2007.

The Board **reviews our yearly and monthly income and expenditures** each board meeting and we are pleased to report that **we are in the black** and have the intention of completing the fiscal year in the black.

GOAL #2 BOARD CHANGES--**Reinhold Leske** is moving to Ashland and has resigned from the Unity of Salem Board of Trustees. Denita Wallace, alternate board member, will replace Reiny for the rest of this year. An alternate board member will be selected by the Board to fill out Denita's term.

The **Board Nomination Process** will begin soon to select the nominees to be presented at the annual meeting in May. If you are interested in serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, please let Rev. Richardson or the Minister's Associate, Diana Moskal know.

GOAL #3 COMMUNICATION--Rev. **Richardson** has offered a **conflict resolution course** this January and February called the "I" of the Storm. About 35 people have completed the course.

President's Message Continues.....

DIAL-A-PRAYER
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Unity of Salem

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Salem, OR 97302

Sunday Service at 10:30 AM

Manifesting the Dream - continued

By Jim Harris

Hello friends. This is just a brief note to keep you up to date on the progress we are making in manifesting our dream for a new sanctuary. Although we have lost a valuable member of our team, Reiny Leskey, due to personal and health reasons and will be losing our beloved team of Ellen and Don McCaig due to their move to Virginia later this spring, the Core Team has affirmed their dedication to doing the work necessary to bring our dream into reality. We will continue to seek the input and feedback from you, our spiritual family, and will continue to keep you fully informed at each step of the process. As the need arises, we may also be asking some of you to participate as members of subcommittees to help develop plans for certain specific areas of the project where you may have a particular interest or expertise.

For now let me give you a brief run down of where we are right now.

Current status;

- As you all can see from our angel wall, Reverend Georgie's process of attraction is paying great dividends as our new sanctuary fund continues to grow every week.
- We have compiled the results of the first survey of the congregation and presented those results at a congregational gathering on 1/28.
- We have developed a "short list" of options based on the results of survey #1 and will be presenting that short list to you, the congregation, for feedback in a second survey on 2/11 & 2/18.
- We will take the results from survey #2 and prepare a list of recommendations that we will take to the Board at their next meeting on 2/26.
- We have had preliminary contact with a soils engineer regarding our site and we will be taking that information to the Board as part of our recommendation package.

Once we have received Board approval for a specific size and location for the new sanctuary we will begin the design process for the new building as well as begin the development of a master plan for our Village on the Hill.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of this sacred project.

Jim Harris - Core Team Leader

For your Unity of Salem Core Team: Rev. Georgie, Diana Moskal, Don & Ellen McCaig (Joey too), June Hadlock, Kara Driskel: Dick Thomas, Alice Sawyer, Michael Sutton, Bonnie Jean Young.

Youth Education News

Kids Camp 2007

Parents of elementary-aged children, time to set your calendars for June 23 through June 26 for the once-a-year Kids Camp opportunity.

Kids Camp, a Y.O.U. service project, is a 4 day - 3 night communion with Spirit. Daily activities led by YOUers from regional churches include large group funshops, small family group discussions, singing, meditation, swimming, walking, games, prayer and vespers. This event is sponsored by the Western Region Association of Unity Churches and the Western Region Youth Team.

Registration forms will be available in the Angel Place in March.

Y.O.U./Uniteens

YOUers and Uniteens will share a joint film adventure and discussion group February 25th through March 18th featuring "The Celestine Prophecy." This insightful film is a must see.

Angel Place/Unitots

The Angel Place kids continue the adventure of Celebrating Our God-Selves through Bible stories, literature, games and hands-on activities.

We look forward to a spirit filled experience with all you YOUers, Uniteens, Angels, Unitots and Cherubs.

See you Sunday!

Sharon Viehdorfer, YED

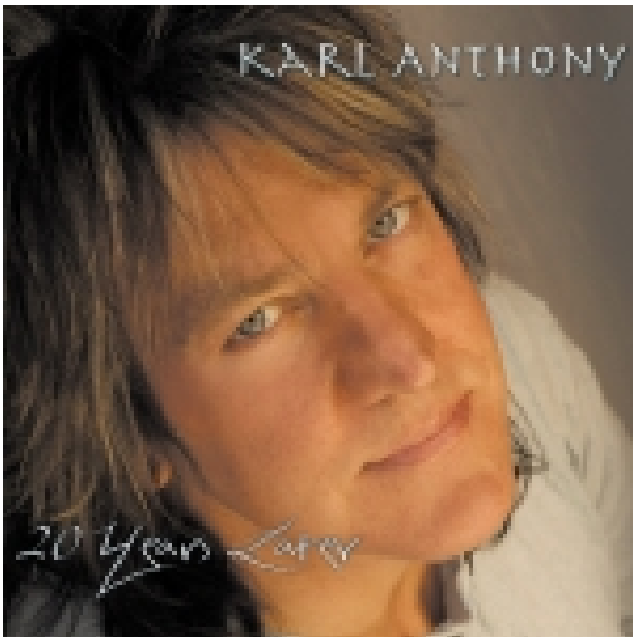
Karl & Jeanne Anthony in Concert

Monday, May 21st at 7:00 pm.

Come and hear the story unfold and celebrate a musical career of bringing the community together.



Jeanne Anthony interprets Karl's Lyrics with a graceful dance of American Sign Language.



Welcome to a SpiritPath Retreat

Strengthen your awareness of the Presence of God within your self and within the sacred ground of Unity Village

The Gift of Silence

March 29 – April 1

Bring peace and spirituality into your life. The simple act of being quiet is a wonderful way to do it.

Living in the Joy of the Moment

April 11 – 15

Celebrate the Presence of God in each moment.

Celebrating Your Essential Self: An LGBT Retreat

May 3 – 6

A weekend retreat for gay and lesbian children of God

For more information:

(Toll-free) 1-866-34-UNITY

www.spiritpathonline.org

E-mail: retreats@spiritpathonline.org



Easter Sunday:

April 8th is Easter Sunday. We will have one service at 10:30 and will have our traditional Living Cross ritual. We invite you to bring a flower (or flowers) to church that Sunday for the ritual.

I Look for the Good in my Life Experiences. With Faith in an Abundant Universe, I offer Gratitude and Appreciation as I move through my Day.

President's Message continues...

Dr. Bonnie Staebler and Dr. Bonnie Young offered a **Communication Styles Workshop** for 19 congregation members. Watch for the announcement of a sign-up for a second opportunity to take this fun workshop.

A **Community Building** experience was held in February around the topic of **Healing** the Energy of the Music Department Across the Years. Fifteen people participated.

A **Vision Building** experience was held with the **Salem Unity Chaplains**. The guest leader was **Galen Cashman** from Wilsonville, OR. Chaplains reported that the experience was very helpful.

Board members and staff will participate in a **training in April** sponsored by Corvallis Unity and held at Unity of Salem. Participants will receive training in a new **interviewing process called "Appreciative Inquiry"**.

GOAL #4--SUPPORT GROUPS AND FUN ACTIVITIES-- **Judith Forrest** is meeting twice a month with a small **support group** who have special **nutritional challenges**. The group members are making great strides toward their individual goals.

The **"ASK" support group** continues to meet once a week to report their progress in applying the principles found in the "Ask" book.

Pathfinders led by Kay and Ed Lent meet twice a month before church in the bookstore to discuss the application of Unity Principles in their lives.

The Board of Trustees has enough volunteers to offer **refreshments and fellowship time** downstairs **every Sunday** after church. Please join us on **March 4th** to express our love and best wishes to two families who are moving from our midst--**Don and Ellen McCaig. and Reiny and Estella Leske**.

In **March** the Board will be sponsoring **Work Party days** to spruce up the grounds and the flower beds in preparation for Easter. The first party will be focusing on the **pruning of the Roses** in our Memorial Rose Garden. Watch for the announcements on Sundays for exact dates. They are usually on **Saturdays from 9 a.m. till 12 Noon with a lunch provided**.

Readers' Theatre performed during the Sunday Service on February 18th. This group will also be a part of Rev. Richardson's message during the **Easter Service**.

The **Choir for the Easter Service** begins **practice on Wednesday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. If you like to sing, please join us for rehearsal. Our Director, Rebecca Shepard, makes a CD for each of us, so we can rehearse our parts at home, too. Wow!

On March 1st and 2nd, the Readers' Theatre group and some Unity staff members read **Dr. Seuss books** to the children at Hallman Elementary School in Salem/Keizer School District as part of Unity's service to the community.

GOAL #5--REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS AND PROGRAMS **Ed Lent**, Board Member and chair of the **By-Laws Review Committee** presented their work to the Board in January. The Board accepted the **proposed changes** and has authorized them to be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in May.

Dr. Bonnie Young, Board President is organizing a **new team to review the print and media information** about Unity of Salem to see what changes need to be made to update the material. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact her.

President's Message Continues.....

President's Message continues...

Peggy Brown, Board Secretary, is **chair of a new Board committee** whose task is to **review the Youth Education Programs**, especially the curriculum. Sharon Viehdorfer, Youth Ed Director, and Bonnie Young will serve on the committee. Please contact Peggy if you would like to serve as a member representing the congregation.

GOAL #6--PLANNING THE NEW SANCTUARY

The **Unity Sanctuary Core Team** held a **meeting with the congregation** to share the **results of the surveys** about where the Sanctuary should be built and how many people it should hold. Members of the team were present to answer questions and report what the next steps in the process will be.

Jim Harris, chair of the Sanctuary Core Team, met with **the Board of Trustees** at their February meeting to share the results of the two surveys of the congregation and to **propose the next steps** for the Team and the Board. The Board expressed continued appreciation to Jim for his leadership and to the Team for their dedication and work.

The Board of Trustees wishes to thank everyone who works on the various teams and all those who come to church and fill out surveys from the Core Team. When we all work together everything flows like a river.

Love to all---Bonnie Jean

Welcome To Our New Members:

On Sunday, March 25th, ten people will be received into membership at Unity of Salem. They are: Sharon (Sherry) McClure, Lorena Ferry, David Ferry, Wendy Radspinner, Alan Radspinner, Barb Vandepas, Randy Julian, Ana Brown, Tonya Jeffries and Karen Henderson. There will be a reception following the service so you will have an opportunity to personally greet and welcome our new members.

Birthdays

Mar. 11 th	Diana Moskal
Mar. 24 th	Carol Wilson
Mar. 25 th	Dick 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	Rev. Georgie Richardson
Apr. 10 th	Enola Pease
Apr. 13 th	Sandra Gregory
Apr. 15 th	Linda Morgan
Apr. 16 th	Barb Hill
Apr. 24 th	Diane Sutton
Apr. 27 th	Paula Wills
Apr. 28 th	Estella Leske

Unity of Salem's 2007 Women's Retreat

June 1-3, 2007

Glenden Beach, Oregon

Come join the women of Salem Unity in Sacred Circle as we acknowledge and nurture the Feminine Aspects of the Divine with singing and toning, sharing, dance, creation and ritual.

Retreat Team: Ann Armstrong, Estella Leske, Val Guerrazzi and Sharon Viehdorfer.

Cost: \$115.00 (Plus shared cost of one meal for the group).

Payment Due by May 1, 2007.

A few partial scholarships are available. See Ann Armstrong or Rev. Georgie Richardson.

Sign-up will start Sunday, March 11, 2007.

Space is limited so get your name on the list soon.

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.

Mar. 4th: 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.

Mar. 18th: 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.

Mar. 25th: New Member Service

Apr. 1st: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore, **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Apr. 8th: Easter Sunday – We will have our traditional Living Cross Ritual at the 10:30 Service.

Apr. 15th: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore, **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Apr. 19th: Class "The Keys to the Kingdom" starts. Facilitated by Rev. Georgie Richardson.

May 21st: Karl Anthony in Concert at 7 p.m.

Jun. 1-3rd: Unity of Salem's Women's Retreat in Gleneden Beach.



Thank You, Thank You! And Hats Off To:

Jim Wallace who repaired the tile in the entrance hall of the modular and tending to the paint on our railings.

Jim Harris and the Unity Core Team for the dedicated work they are doing in preparation for our new Sanctuary.

Many thanks to our new Hospitality Team: **Ana Brown, Tonya Jeffries, Diane Bunn, Sharon Apple-Durham, Sherry McClure, Sandra Gregory and Beverly Dargo.** We are also deeply appreciative of all of the years that **Ginny King** served on hospitality and for her willingness to continue as a substitute.

Paula Wills who showed the Abraham DVDs three Friday nights in February.

Jim Harris for collecting donated shoes for people in Afghanistan.

Diane Van Gorder and Nancie Anderson for cleaning the carpet in the Sanctuary.

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO FRIENDS:

As difficult as it is to say good-bye to friends who have been part of our Spiritual Family for many years, we understand when Spirit is guiding them to a new destination. We know that there will be great joy and great growth in their new location, and that they will meet new wonderful friends.

And so with mixed feelings we say good-bye to Reiny and Estella Leske and Estella's son, Darcy; and, we also say good-bye to Don and Ellen McCaig.

The Leskes are moving to Ashland and the McCaigs are moving to Virginia. We will deeply miss both of these wonderful couples. There will be a reception to honor them following the Worship Service on March 4th.

March Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.				1. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	2.	3.
4. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	5.	6. 7:00 pm: Unity Core Team Meeting	7.	8. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	16.	17. 9:00 am – noon: Spring cleanup day
18. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	19. 6:30 pm: Board Meeting	20. 7:00 pm: Unity Core Team Meeting	21.	22. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	23.	24.
25. New Member Service	26.	27.	28.	29. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	30.	31.

April Church Calendar

1. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	2.	3. 7:00 pm: Unity Core Team Meeting	4.	5. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	6.	7.
8. Easter Sunday	9.	10.	11.	12. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	13.	15.
15. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	16.	17. 7:00 pm: Unity Core Team Meeting	18.	19. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch Class – “Keys to the Kingdom” Starts	20.	21.
22.	23.	24.	25.	26. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	27.	28.
29.	30. 6:30 pm: Board Meeting					

April Church Calendar

Unity of Salem
PO Box 3518
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