

Unity of Salem Newsletter

May/June 2007

2007: The Year of Appreciation

Minister's Message

Many years ago I offered the congregation a metaphor about a church being like an oasis: some folks come to the oasis and they stay. They tend to the oasis over the years. They make sure things are kept in good shape and all is well for the visitors and guests who come in the future. Other folks come and they may spend months or years; still other folks attend for just a fortnight and feeling refreshed they go forth on their journey.



New Thought folks have a great desire – a great need – to feel free to come and go as they choose. Many will say that a Sunday at the beach is as Spiritual an experience for them as a Sunday in church. Others travel, still others visit other churches from time to time. As we highly encourage folks to listen to the guidance of their Indwelling Spirit, we do celebrate with them when they do so. God shows up in our lives in so many ways, my friends, and we grow spiritually when we seek and find Spirit in a variety of places and in a variety of experiences.

That is the up side to our freedom seeking natures.

Now let's look at this from the standpoint of those who live at the oasis and have committed to tend it, nurture it, and keep it vibrantly alive for you when you do wish to come and seek comfort and spiritual infilling at the oasis.

One day one of you who had been gone for several months came up to me after a service and said, "Georgie, it is so wonderful for me to know you are always here and the church is always here when I come." I was deeply touched by this comment, and I'm so pleased that this person (and probably others of you) feels that way.

So I recently asked myself: How can both of these needs be met? How can each of us at Unity of Salem honor our freedom-seeking Spirit, and still make sure that the oasis is kept in excellent condition, open, ready and eager to welcome you with open arms when you do decide that you need to be in church? And, that our excellence is also always available to guests when they arrive to

refresh themselves at our oasis?

I know that every person who calls Unity of Salem his or her Spiritual Home truly wants our church home to be kept in excellent repair. I know that every one of you would prefer that our Board and staff have as little stress around our financial circulation as possible. I am absolutely positive that you ALL want the staff (those who tend the oasis day after day) to feel appreciated and to be amply compensated for their dedication and commitment. Did you know that some of those on staff have been here for fourteen years, another has been here for eleven years, and I myself have been here for thirteen and one-half years? This is incredibly long term for a staff of our size and speaks eloquently to the dedication and commitment of the staff at Unity of Salem.

When I asked Spirit how all of these needs can be met, and how everyone can feel good about their church attendance, their need to go where they desire to go, when they choose to go, and still maintain the financial flow necessary to keep our church operating in a state of excellence, I received the inspiration for what you are currently reading.

Minister's Message Continues.....

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@holidaytouch.com
Webmaster
Kathy Munsel
Pianists
Rebecca Shepard

LICENSED TEACHERS

Diana Moskal
Ann Armstrong

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

New Board Member. The new alternate board member selected by the board of Trustees to fill out Denita Wallace's term is Sally Cummins. She is already at work, and attended her first Board meeting April 23rd.

Alternate in New Role. Since Reiny Leske resigned and moved to Ashland, Denita Wallace, the alternate on the Board, has moved into Reiny's position as Vice President and will finish out his term.

Annual Meeting May 20th. The Annual Meeting will be held on May 20th after church. Agenda items include: 1) Updating our By-Laws, 2) Reports to the members by Rev. Georgie Richardson, minister, and Dr. Bonnie Jean Young, Board President re: the activities for the 2006-2007 year, 3) Approval of last year's minutes, 4) Election of new Board members, 5) Selection of a representative to serve on the Board Nomination Committee, 6) Presentation of the unofficial Statement of Net Worth, and 7) Presentation of the Proposed 2007-2008 Operating Budget.

Rose Garden. Members of the congregation will say good-bye to the diseased roses in our rose garden. Over the years the roses have acquired diseases known as rose gall and fire blight. Both are viral diseases that are transmitted by soil and water. The roses will be removed and destroyed. Thank you to all the Unity of Salem Rosarians who tried so valiantly to nurse these roses to health, but it was a losing effort. A ceremony will be offered for all those wishing to thank the roses for years of pleasure they have given us. Watch the bulletin for when this will occur.

Youth Education Program to be reviewed by Board Committee. The Board of Trustees is appointing a committee to review the curriculum and activity offerings for our young people of all ages. Peggy Brown, Board member, will chair this committee. Anyone wishing to serve on this committee should contact Peggy. We have been honored at Unity of Salem to have our Youth Ed Director, Sharon Viehdorfer, serve as an official curriculum writer for the Association of Unity Churches.

Appreciative Inquiry Training Attended. Seven Unity of Salem Board members and staff attended the all day training in the "Appreciative Inquiry" method of gathering information about why our members come to our church and what attracted them to come and to stay. People from all over Oregon came to the all day event. Unity of Salem provided lunch for the attendees.

As this church year comes to a close, let me extend the Board's appreciation to you who have allowed us to serve in this special capacity.

.....Love to all.....Bonnie Jean

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

Update on New Sanctuary Project

As part of our continuing commitment to keep you informed of our progress on the new sanctuary project we are providing you with this update.

On March 11th the Board of Unity of Salem directed the Core Team to proceed with the development of plans for the new facilities as follows:

1. The new facilities are to be for a sanctuary to seat 299 persons
2. The new facilities are to be located on site 'D' (the site just south of the existing Rose Garden site)
3. The Core Team is to begin to make preliminary contact with the City of Salem to determine what requirements the City will have for the project
4. The Core Team is to begin the process of seeking out the services of an architect for the design of the new facilities.

In considering the directives of the Board the Core Team came to the realization that the directive to place the new facilities on site 'D' was truly Divinely inspired. It made us realize that the roadway running in the middle of our property in front of the existing sanctuary was in fact creating a physical and psychological barrier to our site being whole. The Core Team, therefore, determined that the best option for creating a truly integrated "Village on the Hill" is to remove the existing incoming roadway and to widen the existing outgoing roadway to accommodate two-way traffic. This will allow for a design to create a "Village Square" with parking in the center and our existing and new facilities surrounding the square. We will be proceeding to investigate the potentials for this concept as we move forward with the design for the new facilities.

We are also beginning the process of contacting the City of Salem to find out what requirements the City may have for the property. Thus far there does not appear to be any major zoning issues that will have to be dealt with. Once we have a design professional on board we will make more in depth contact with the City and find out more specific

requirements for water, sewer, zoning, parking, landscaping, building code, etc.

We are currently in the process of determining the scope of our project. Decisions regarding that scope will be made based on a number of factors that are currently being formulated. The current direction is leading us to investigate the phasing of our new facilities beginning with the new sanctuary and utilizing existing facilities to accommodate our other needs.

We are also in the early part of the process for seeking the services of a design professional to work with us on the actual design of the new facilities. We have several good leads on architects who have designed other churches in our area. We will be pursuing those leads in the next few weeks.

Additionally, we are investigating several possible types of buildings that we could use for our new facilities. These include pre-manufactured structures, geodesic domes, modular buildings as well as more conventional types of construction.

As we promised we will continue to keep you informed all along the way and will seek your advice and input as we come to decision points. Don't forget that the Core Team has set aside time for you to address the team at the beginning of our scheduled meetings. So if you have comments, concerns, ideas or inspirations feel free to contact one of the Core Team members to get on the agenda for the next meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8th at 7:00 PM.

Thank you for your prayers and for your continued support.

Namaste' – The Unity of Salem Core Team

Pathfinders

Pathfinders will meet on May 6 and 20 at 9:00 AM in the Bookstore. Everyone is welcome! The group studies basic Unity principles and how to apply them in life. The group will meet in May and then take a break for the summer. THANK YOU Ed and Kay Lent for facilitating Pathfinders! You both are very much appreciated!

Karl & Jeanne Anthony in Concert

Wednesday, May 23rd at 7:00 pm.

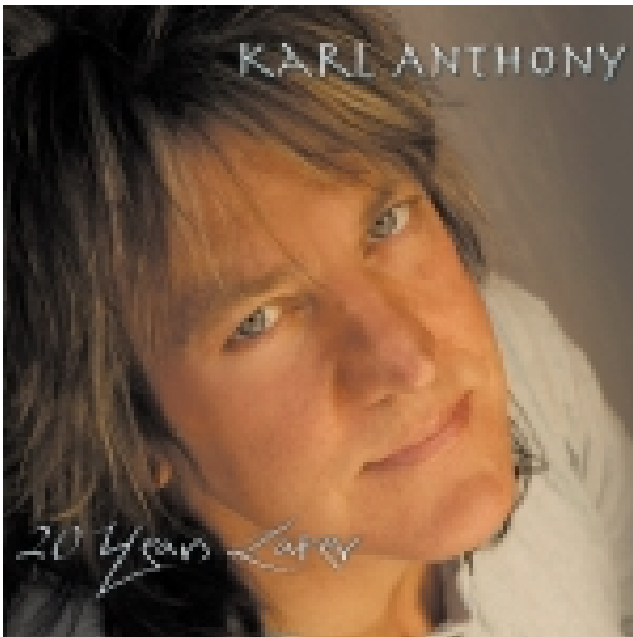
Please note the date change

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

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.



Please visit the website: www.karlanthony.com/

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 fun shops, small family group discussions, singing, meditation, swimming, walking, games, prayer and vespers. The Western Region Association of Unity Churches and the Western Region Youth Team sponsor this event.

Registration forms are available in the Angel Place and see Sharon Viehdorfer for more information.

Unity of Salem's Annual Meeting: Sunday, May 20th:

Our annual meeting will be held at 12:00 on Sunday, May 20th following our Worship Service. We encourage all members to attend the meeting as we cover such business as the annual budget, election of Board members and revision of our by-laws. See bios on proposed Board members elsewhere in this newsletter.

Abraham DVD Showing:

Unity of Salem will show Abraham DVDs on the first three Fridays in May: May 4, 11, 18th at 7:00. A love offering is appreciated.

Youth Honoring Sunday

Every June we dedicate a Sunday service to honoring our children and their spiritual journey. We also honor all the willing people who assist with our youth. Please join us on Sunday, June 10th for this important service at 10:30 AM.

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.

**Proposed Board Members****Bonnie Jean Young**

Active in Unity for 13 years, I became a member in 1995. I took classes from Rev. Georgie Richardson and Rev. Betty Owers and celebrated my good fortune in finding a church home where people practiced Unity principles. I became involved--team leader of the Building Committee (1 yr.), Uniteen Leader (5 yrs.), Sunday School Greeter (1 yr.), Unity Friends (3 yrs.), choir (6 yrs.), and coach of Reader's Theatre (3 yrs.). I have also taught workshops and presented at conferences. I have served on the Board of Trustees for the past 2 years as President.

Ed Lent

I am a semi-retired physicist, semi-working for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. My wife, Kay, and I began attending Unity in 1997 and have been members since 1998. Unity has become our spiritual home.

Unity has served me well, in many ways. I have served on the Board of Trustees in the past and found it very rewarding. It is a way for me to give back to the church - with your blessing, I would like to again serve as your representative on the board.

Carol Wilson

I first came on the Board as an alternate. When a Board member resigned, I filled out his term and then served for the past 2 years. Unity of Salem has given me so very much. Serving on the Board is a small way I can give back.

I am currently treasurer, which fits well with my work schedule. I have flextime during the day to come into the office and sign checks or make trips to the bank.

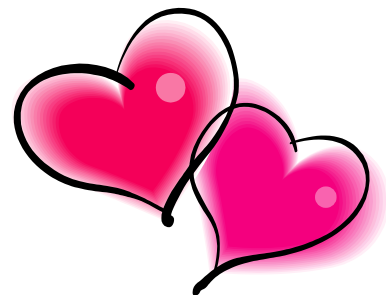
I am married to Paul Wilson. In addition to our Unity Family, we have one daughter, three grandchildren, 8 llamas and two cats.

Rosie Daily

I am honored to be considered for the Alternate position on the Board of Trustees. I chose Unity of Salem as my spiritual home in 2001 and became a member in 2003. I have enjoyed taking classes, being a mentor for new members and especially enjoy participating in Reader's Theatre. I cherish our sacred ceremonies of Taize, Remembering The Gifts, and Taking of the Shawl. I have many fond memories of my time here and look forward to experiencing many new ones.

My purpose is to be and share Joy, even during times of challenge or sadness. I believe every soul who is guided to Unity of Salem is welcome here - welcome home! I come to this service with a full and open mind and heart. Thank you for this opportunity!

I AM JOY, Rosie



Minister's Message continues...

I know that some of you who are reading these words are committed tithers. I know that when you go out of town, on vacation, or simply decide to stay home and watch a ballgame on TV that you will either send in your tithe or put it in the offering the following week. Your commitment to your tithing practice is deeply appreciated. I also know that tithing is a difficult concept for other people, and some folks are just not comfortable with the idea at all. However, as tithing is simply a method to move us into a consciousness of committed giving, perhaps those who cannot bring themselves to embrace tithing, might just be in complete agreement with choosing a monthly figure which is comfortable and making a personal commitment between themselves and their God to support "their" Spiritual Home every month in much the same way that we make our house payment, car payment, or set aside money to go on trips, out to dinner, etc.

I really believe that those of us who call Unity of Salem our Spiritual Home agree that our church is of great value and it deserves to be supported in all ways. Therefore, I am inviting you to support the vision of excellence and of Empowering People and Building Community with your financial contributions both when you are in attendance and when you are unable to be in attendance. I believe if you are reading this Newsletter, and this message, then you care about your Spiritual Home; and, when you are away from home, if the "home fires" are to be kept burning, then it is up to you to supply the financial fuel to keep them burning.

My prayer is that as you read this message that you will open your hearts and your minds to the inspiration and guidance of your indwelling Spirit regarding your financial support to Unity of Salem, in the same manner in which you listen to Spirit's guidance in other ways in your life.

With loving appreciation,

Georgie

Birthdays

May 1 st	Bea Sotomayer
May 2 nd	Barbara Vandepas
May 2 nd	Mary Tippner
May 13 th	Rosie Daily
May 16 th	Steve Shepard
May 17 th	Ellen McCaig
May 21 st	Roger Heusser
May 26 th	Sherri Smith
Jun. 2 nd	Sherry McClure
Jun. 7 th	Sarah Monahan
Jun. 13 th	Inge Burke
Jun. 15 th	Nadine Heusser
Jun. 22 nd	Dorothy Lucas
Jun. 25 th	Jessie Hopkins
Jun. 25 th	CJ Jones

N.W. Regional Family Retreat:

We will be going back to Crystal Mountain for the family retreat! The dates are: August 16-19, 2007. Mark your calendar and set aside time to join with other friends throughout our Region. Our featured presenter will be Raphael Cushnir. He is well known for his fun-loving, music-loving nature.



Unity of Salem Retreats

Georgie Richardson and Diana Moskal started leading Retreats in June 1996. After coordinating 2 retreats that year, and 4 retreats in 1997, we decided that 2 retreats (one in June for women and one in the fall for men and women) a year would work best! Ann Armstrong, Val Guerrazzi, Sharon Viehdorfer, and Estella Leske will be leading the Women's Retreat in June at the beach. There is still space for this retreat - June 1-3. See Ann Armstrong if you are interested in going.

We have continued to have retreats because people keep saying how much they enjoy them. We build spiritual community by getting acquainted with each other and retreats provide that opportunity. It is also a gift to you - time to renew, relax, and "be."

We will be having our Co-Ed (men and women) Retreat at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, Oregon. It overlooks the Columbia Gorge with 100 acres of lawns, woodlands and gardens. We will start with dinner on Friday night, Oct. 26 and finish by noon on Sunday, Oct. 28.

The theme for the Retreat will be revealed in the July/August newsletter! Georgie Richardson, Rebecca Shepard and Diana Moskal are the facilitators. Rebecca shares her beautiful gift of music throughout the weekend. The cost of the retreat will include 2 nights lodging and meals for \$175. In order to meet our payment deadline with Menucha and to reserve your place for the retreat, please sign up and pay a \$100 deposit by July 15. Checks can be made out to Unity of Salem. The sign up sheet and an envelope for money will be on the kitchen counter.

We want anyone who desires to attend a retreat to do so. Financial assistance is available.

The website for Menucha is: www.menucha.org. The labyrinth at Menucha was half finished when I checked on April 12. Hopefully, it will be finished by the time we come in October!

Any questions, see Diana Moskal!

Chaplaincy Team

Our Chaplains will be honored on May 6 during the Sunday service. They are an AWESOME team who serve in various ways such as: praying one on one with people after Sunday services, visiting people who can't attend on Sundays, making monthly Wellness phone calls, holding the High Watch for the Board of Trustees during their meetings, energizing and mailing prayer requests in the prayer container to Silent Unity and planning the World Day of Prayer service in September.

A Unity Chaplain is trained to hold spiritual space, lovingly listens, prays from the heart and honors confidentiality. The Unity Chaplain Team is a service opportunity with a one-year commitment. THANK YOU to the following people who have taken this step on their spiritual journey to serve as a Chaplain: Barbara Hill, Joanne Icovino, Ann Armstrong, Jane Minard, Rebecca Shepard, Sharon Viehdorfer, Blythe Eastman, Caroline Collins and Diane Van Gorder.

If anyone is interested in the Chaplain training (must be a member of Unity of Salem), see Diana Moskal.

P.S. There are various ways to submit a prayer request:

1. Fill out the prayer request form that is in the Sanctuary and place it in the stained glass container. Barb Hill mails these requests to Silent Unity once a month.
2. Call the church office at 503-364-0156
3. Send an e-mail to: unityonthehill@aol.com
4. Call Silent Unity at 1-800-669-7729
5. E-mail Silent Unity – www.silentunity.org/



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.

May 4th: Abraham DVD showing at 7:00 p.m. Also on May 11th and May 18th.

May 6th: 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.

May 10th: Youth Honoring Sunday.

May 20th: Pathfinders at 9:00 a.m. in the Bookstore. Facilitated by Ed and Kay Lent **and:** Annual Meeting after the Worship Service **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

May 23rd: Karl Anthony in Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Please note the new date.

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

Jun. 3rd: No Pathfinders during the summer, **and;** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Jun. 17th: Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 16-19th: NW Regional Family Retreat at Crystal Mountain.



Thank You, Thank You! And Hats Off To:

Jim Wallace for continuing to cut up the trees Mother Nature blew over and for taking care of the debris around the area.

Sally Cummins, Bea Sotomeyer and all of the helpers who worked so hard to clean up the McCaigs home and arrange for the sale.

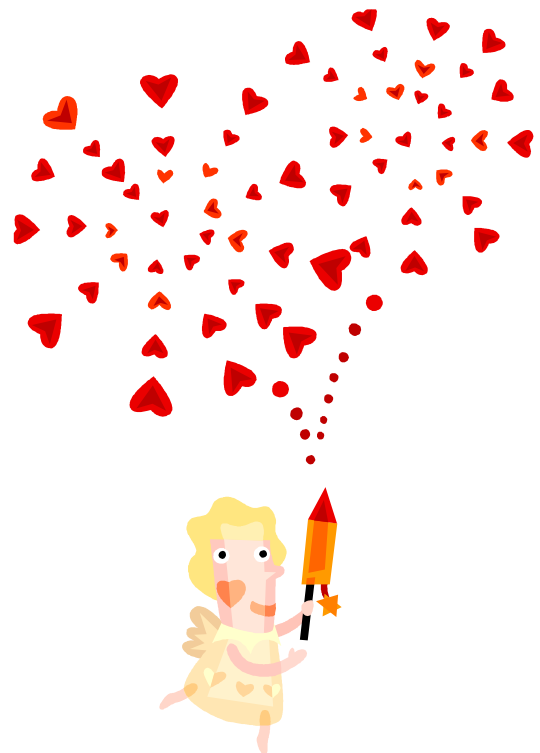
All of the folks who helped to clean up the grounds on March 17th.

Thank you **Ed Lent, Jim Harris,** and **Sharon Viehdorfer** for the beautiful quotes on our Timeless Wisdom wall in the Sanctuary! The quotes are:

Nothing to do, nothing to force, nothing to want, and everything happens by itself. - Lama Gendun Rinpoche

May you live every day of your life. - Jonathan Swift

If you can dream it, you can do it. - Walt Disney



May Church Calendar

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

June Church Calendar

					1.	2.
3. 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	4.	5.	6.	7. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	8.	9.
10. Youth Honoring Sunday	11.	12.	13.	14. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	15.	16.
17. 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	18.	19.	20.	21. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	22.	23.
24.	25.	26.	27.	28. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	29.	30.

**Unity of Salem
PO Box 3518
Salem, OR 97302**