

Unity of Salem Newsletter

September/October 2004

2004: The Year of Wholeness

Minister's Message

Hello Friends,

I have just returned from a journey to the "far country". You remember that place -- the place where the Prodigal Son sojourned. Perhaps you, too, have traveled to the "far country" and spent time there looking for yourself where you are not.



When the Prodigal Son did not find "himself" in the far country, he "came to himself" and returned Home. I feel as though I have spent a number of months "looking for myself where I was not." I love that phrase - it is so expressive!

As I sit here at my computer at the office, I feel overwhelmed with gratitude for this "little church on the hill", this place where God has sent me to serve - - to serve you who also call this place home. Long ago I decided that I had the best "job" in the world, and yet I spent some months looking for myself where I was not.

Perhaps we need to do that from time to time, friend. Perhaps we have to test our calling in order to deepen our trust in our calling. It is the grass is greener on the other side of the fence kind of thing. It is a questioning of Spirit, and yet when we uncover or discover our Life's Mission, our true Calling, then what is the point of such questing? Ah -- 'tis that human condition thing again.

Why did the Prodigal Son have to take his share of his father's inheritance and go waste it on wine, women and song? Why did he have to spend time feeding a farmer's pigs - before he "came to himself?" I do know that he learned what he needed to learn; I believe I have learned what I needed to learn, through the process of the journey. When that learning is complete, then there is that moment of true and complete surrender, and we come to ourselves -- we awaken.

And so I return "home" --- home to my calling as a Minister, home to my incredible church, home to the most enlightened, loving, growth-oriented congregation in the N.W. Region. Many years ago I offered a message on the theme of the church being an Oasis. Some come to the oasis for a long time, to lovingly tend the oasis, and be keepers of the oasis, others come for a fortnight, still

others simply spend the night and move on. Each one is sent by Spirit, each one takes their gift upon leaving, and leaves their gift as they depart. This incredible journey of life is truly an orderly process. There is nowhere we can be, even in the far country, where God is not. If you are experiencing a journey in the far country, know that God is right there with you. If you feel God has deserted you, look to yourself, for you and I separate from our God, our Home - God does not separate from us. If you are tired of the far country, tired of feeding the pigs, then surrender -- go home -- your Father/Mother God will embrace you, and love you, and welcome you back, and you will be filled with peace -- I know, for in this moment of typing this message to you -- in this moment of knowing I am to continue the High Watch for the oasis - for this little church on the hill - - I am filled with peace.

Peace and Blessings,

Georgie

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Ann Armstrong

DIAL-A-PRAYER
503 364-6057

<http://www.unityofsalem.com/>
E-Mail: unityonthehill@juno.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

**Applied Unity: Using Metaphysical Principles in
Healing**

by Jyoti Light, Board President

I'd like to share a personal experience with you all in which I've seen the awesome healing power of applying Unity principles and other metaphysical tools to a "physical condition". About a month ago, I was bluntly told by a medical professional that I might have cancer and might have to have a hysterectomy. Thus began a deep process of self-exploration. By canceling the "urgent" appointment they'd made for me with a specialist, I opted not to jump onto the fear wagon. I would not react in fear; I would respond in due time.

Next came bewilderment and a poignant examination of my motivations for living. I knew that how I thought about this "condition" would have an effect on its outcome, and I realized that I didn't know how I wanted to think about it. I'd been feeling rather weary of this mortal coil, weary of the mundane tasks of daily living to which I was attending on my own - from having the tires rotated to mowing the lawn, from getting my glasses checked to keeping the dogs flea-free. A part of me felt that I wouldn't mind heading on to the next Great Adventure. I didn't feel particularly attached to whether or not I continued to have a physical body. I sought guidance, and I said a prayer in which I surrendered the decision of whether "to be or not to be" to my Higher Self, acknowledging that my H.S. has the overview of the intent of my life and is therefore in a better position to make this decision.

Next I contemplated the ideas I had about dying. Did I think that despite not feeling joyful and light-filled here, I would nonetheless automatically feel joyfully light-filled once "there"? Well, yes, kinda.....after all, I'd be in "heaven"! You have your harps, your cherubs and your angels singing.....plus Elvis (if he's not at the Walmart!). Buried in my subconscious was a childlike image of heaven as a floaty, pastel place of constant peace, joy and benevolence. Now, as the adult metaphysician, I know that my soul continues on its journey, whether in or out of this particular body, and that whatever issues I've been "working on" here, I would still be working on sans corpus. You know the saying, "Wherever you go, there you are!" Could death be one more form of the oft-sought but rarely truly curing "geographical cure"? I believe the cure comes with internal spiritual healing work and ever-expanding awareness of Oneness, regardless of whether or not one is in a physical body.

President's message continues on page 3.....

President's Message continues....

So why stay? Well, there are the smells: the sweet, soothing smells of flowers, of the pines high up in the mountains; the songs of birds, whales, and my dogs' the sight, sound, smell and feel of the ocean. Ahhhhhhhh! Then there are the tastes: of sweet cantaloupe and Oregon strawberries. There is the joy of singing, of opening myself to be Spirit's flute and voice, to touch hearts and help heal hurts and fears.

How would I live differently, or more fully, if I stayed? What have I been doing in the world and what do I feel drawn to doing next? Thanks you and bless you Rose and Rose's dad, Chris Christianson, for helping to inspire the realization that I'm interested in hospice work and bringing our music into more places where people would be comforted and healed by it (including "mainstream" churches).

Still another piece of the healing puzzle lies in what has been blocked or stored in my body - second chakra stuff. I pulled out my resource books (The Sevenfold Journey: Reclaiming Mind, Body & Spirit Through the Chakras by Anodea Judith and Selene Vega; Carolyn Myss's Anatomy of the Spirit: The Seven Stages of Power and Healing ; Louise Hay's Heal Your Body - all are available in the bookstore now or will be soon) to remind myself of the issues of the second chakra - relationship - to people, to self, to money, to power; creativity; blame and guilt; control; the power of choice; ethics and honor in relationships. Carolyn Myss wrote, "The energy in this chakra enables us to generate a sense of personal identity and protective psychological boundaries.....the second chakra energy of a healthy physical ego keeps us able to interact with [the] world without having to negotiate or "sell" ourselves."

I made an appointment with a specialist of my choosing (a 3-week wait). I wrestled with the option presented and then made a decision to get the physical stuff attended to physically, while knowing that I have my second chakra work to do so that I won't grow more mysterious unidentified masses.

Along came Gary Springfield - inner child healing, grounding to the earth, and drawing in the golden Christ Light. His Golden Light meditation is a healing balm (available on tape or CD in the bookstore). I had the opportunity to sing "Healing Me Now" with Becky and Candace the day after Gary's visit. As we sang and Georgie guided us in a meditation, I experienced healing.

With the grace of Spirit, we can co-create "toolboxes" for use in guiding and growing ourselves on this physical plane, that we may remember and live from our Divinity and Oneness. I'm glad I remembered (and was guided) to use my tools; the tools are enabling me to do the work of healing rather than getting stuck in fear. In the words of Terry Lund, an awesome woman from El Paso who was for a time my Unity minister, "Friends, this stuff works!"

Somebody say "AMEN!"

BOOKSTORE NEWS

Many people have visited the Bookstore this summer and bought books which is great! The book that Jyoti Light has been using for her class, ONENESS has been very popular. There are still some copies available. Georgie will be referring to the book edited by Marianne Williamson, IMAGINE - What America Could Be In The 21st Century, in her Sept. Sunday messages. We had to wait several weeks to receive it so it must be good! It is now in paperback. We also have copies of POWER VS. FORCE by David Hawkins. Dr. Wayne Dyer said this book is "perhaps the most important and significant book I've read in the past ten years."

THANK YOU for patronizing the Bookstore. Our books are offered as a service to our spiritual community.

Blessings,

Diana Moskal

New Women's Group Starting in September!

The W.I.S.H. Circle (Women in Spirit and Harmony) will have its first gathering on Saturday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at the church. The WISH Circle is dedicated to play, connection and service, with the emphasis on FUN! We'll meet on the first Saturday evening of each month, with a different woman responsible for facilitating the activity each month. Activities may include games, crafts, music/dancing, movies, service projects, progressive dinners, etc., depending on the initiative and creativity of the women at Unity of Salem! Two people each month will sign up to provide snacks. A love offering or "dues" will be collected to reimburse any costs for supplies.

Our first gathering on September 4 will be Bunco night, with white elephant prizes brought by attendees. Look for printed invitations in the kitchen at the church. There will be a sign-up sheet in the kitchen as well for attendance and snack providers; it'll be helpful for planning if we know a week in advance how many women will be attending. Questions may be directed to Ruth MacLeod (503-399-7477, email oofie888@aol.com) or Jyoti Light (503-393-0429, email URHONORED@comcast.net).

So come on out and play with your Unity Sistahs!

ONENESS CLASS

The Oneness book discussion class will continue to meet on Thursday nights from 7:00-8:30 p.m. through September 2. The books have arrived and are available in the bookstore for \$17 (\$3 off retail). There are extras if you haven't attended the class but are interested in getting this amazing guide for the soul.

CO-ED RETREAT TIME AGAIN!

Oct. 24-26 at Camp Cascade

For many years Unity of Salem has been offering a co-ed retreat in October in the beautiful mountains around Detroit Lake at Camp Cascade. Thirty or more of us gather for reflection, bonding, stretching, singing, drumming and dancing and just getting to know each other. This year the theme is: ONE GIFT - ONE PEOPLE - ONE NATION - ONE WORLD. Discover if you are a fire person, a mineral person, an earth person, a water person ----- or ---- a Witch, and see how each of us, with our elemental gifts, create a Whole, and what happens when we bring our gifts together in synergistic cooperation. WOW! You don't want to miss THIS co-ed retreat! Sign up on the sign up sheet in the kitchen and reserve your place now! Total cost is \$95.00 that includes all of your meals and two nights lodging.

LIFE WITHOUT ANGER:

Sunday, Oct. 3, 2004 - 1:00

(\$20.00 suggested love offering)

Are you tired of getting angry at things you really don't want to be angry at: the dog digging a hole in the yard (dogs will be dogs, you know), the guy who cut you off on the road (you don't know his story; maybe he is rushing his wife to the hospital to have a baby), and so forth. Are you tired of angry people around you? Well, if you can relate to these examples, plan to join Dean Van Leuven on Sunday, Oct. 3rd following the Worship Service and experience his workshop Life Without Anger. His book, of the same name was awarded the prestigious 2004 Visionary Award at the International New Age Trade Show for its work in showing how we can change the way we deal with anger. A light lunch will be served by the church prior to the workshop.

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

THE CHURCH ON THE HILL

(Kathryn G. West)

There's a Unity church on the top of a hill,
It's the loveliest church, so peaceful and still.
Away from the tumult, the noise and the din,
It's radiant with a glow that shines from within.
Its door is wide open to one and to all,
"come seek and find Me," is its loving call.

For here in this church on the top of a hill
Is a place where a hungry soul may fill
His heart, with joy and an unknown peace,
And blessings and happiness find increase.
An imposing cathedral could do no more
than this loving church with the open door.

Christ's presence is there, you can hear Him say,
"come follow Me, this is the Way."
It is nourished and fed by God's love and grace,
This beautiful, peaceful, hallowed place.
To give all of God's blessings to you is its will,
This beautiful church on the top of a hill.

Thank you, Rev. Betty Owers, for sending this
beautiful poetic reminder to us of the incredible
blessing our congregation as been given by
God....

This Church on the Hill.

**DEAR FRIENDS,**

I will be attending the "Unity Chaplain Program"
- Trainer's Workshop on Aug. 19-22 in Phoenix,
Arizona. Could be rather hot there but
everything will be air-conditioned, I hope!

As I read the materials for this training, I felt
like this would be an avenue for me to extend
my heart, hands and feet in a new way of
service. My goal is to come home renewed,
restored and rejuvenated to train people in our
congregation to expand our pastoral care
services. I don't know exactly what that will
look like yet! I am looking forward to seeing
how Unity of Phoenix reaches out in prayer,
comfort and support to their spiritual community
through this Chaplain Program.

There will be more information after I arrive
home!

Peace and Blessings,

Diana Moskal

P.S. Pres and Candy Preston plan on attending
this also!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US
ON**

SAT. SEPT 11, SEPT 25 AND OCT. 2

September 11 at 9:00 am - come help us paint
the barn red! Bring your favorite paintbrush.
Sign up if you can be there to help. Lunch will
be served.

September 25 we will paint the inside of the
sanctuary. Please sign up if you can for this one,
too.

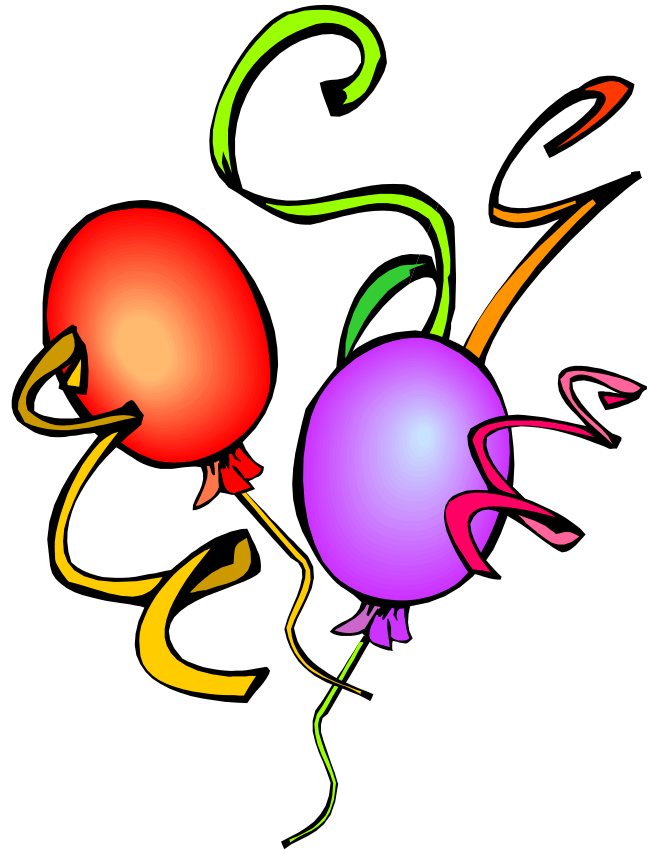
October 2 - for all of you people who like to
clean things up, or if you really want to be of
service to the church, sign up for this inside
clean-up day. Let's make things bright and
cheerful!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER*Thurs. Sept. 9, 2004*

We will have a meditation service at noon on Thurs. Sept. 9th to acknowledge Unity's World Day of Prayer. Please join us in the Sanctuary and bring a sack lunch so we may break bread together after the service.

**GOOD-BYE BOB BRYANT:**

Our wonderful, creative, and humorous Bob Bryant, husband of Lois Jones, left this physical plane on Sunday August 8th. His memorial service was held on Sat. August 28th. Bob was a "behind the scenes" kind of guy who did many things around the church. You know those birthday cards that you receive from Unity on your birthday? Bob and Lois have been sending those out for many years. We will miss you Bob, and know that you are now resting with the Angels.

***Birthdays***

Sept. 1 st	Betty Sword
Sept. 10 th	Nancie Anderson Kay Lent
Sept. 12 th	Lisa Lee
Sept. 15 th	Ruth MacLeod Becky Shepard
Sept. 16 th	Susan Thomas
Sept. 19 th	Linda Peterson
Sept. 24 th	Jean Beeson
Oct. 4 th	Sharon Viehdorfer
Oct. 5 th	Alice Sawyer
Oct. 8 th	Emiily Wieczorek
Oct. 19 th	Kara Driskell
Oct. 20 th	Sharon Burge
Oct. 29 th	Paul Wilson
Oct. 30 th	Peggy Brown

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.

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.

Sept. 2nd: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.: The Oneness Class facilitated by Jyoti Light.

Sept. 4th: 7:00 p.m.: The W.I.S.H. Circle gathers downstairs in the Church.

Sept. 5th: Pathfinders 9:00 a.m.; **and** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 9th: Word Day of Prayer: Meditation at Noon in the Sanctuary.

Sept. 11th: 9:00 a.m.: Come and help to paint the Barn red.

Sept. 17th: Pathfinders 9:00 a.m.; **and** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 18th: Potluck at 5:30 p.m. and Song Circle at 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 25th: 9:00 a.m.: Come and help to paint the Sanctuary.

Oct. 2nd: Church cleanup day – inside and out!

Oct. 3rd: Workshop 1:00 p.m. – "Life Without Anger" – facilitated by Dean Van Leuven.

Oct. 22-24th: SPIRITUAL RENEWAL RETREAT - for men and women! At Camp Cascade.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU! AND HATS OFF TO:

Tim Buckley and Dick Thomas for their silent "angel" work on our grounds.

All the Paladins who showed up to help clean up and pick up the goat grounds. It was a very big job, and you are loved, blessed and appreciated.

Ralph Stevens and his many helpers who have worked EVERY SINGLE Thursday in the rose garden. If you have not stopped to notice the beauty of our rose garden please do so, and give special thanks to Ralph for his loving dedication.

Tory Bowen for her many months of service on the Power Point team -- you will be missed Tory.

Jyoti Light for facilitating the Oneness group. We are all blessed by your willingness to share of your time and talents.

Ann Armstrong who completed the Incredible Journey class earlier this summer.

Diana Moskal who listens to Spirit so beautifully and has traveled to Phoenix to go through a Chaplaincy training which she will offer to us -- watch for further details.

Lisa Lee who stepped forward to help out with the Power Point team.

AND, all you wonderful people who signed up to help paint the barn, and the sanctuary and to do a final clean up before we get new carpet laid.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP THERE IS STILL TIME!

September Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.			1.	2. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	3.	4. 7:00 pm: The W.I.S.H. Circle
5. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	6.	7.	8.	9. World Day of Prayer: Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	10.	11. 9:00 am: Barn Painting
12. 6:00 pm: Paladins	13.	14.	15.	16. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	17.	18. 5:30 pm: Potluck 7:00 pm: Song Circle
19. 9:00 am: Pathfinders 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	20.	21.	22.	23. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	24.	25. 9:00 am: Sanctuary Painting
26.	27. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	28.	29.	30. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch		

Unity of Salem
1777 Fabry Road
PO Box 3518
Salem, OR 97302

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED