

Unity of Salem Newsletter

November/December 2005

2005: The Year of Applied Spirituality

Minister's Message

As I sit down to write this message to you, it is already mid-October; and, this Newsletter will cover the last two months of 2005! We continue to affirm that "time is flying" and it certainly is.

2005 has been a traumatic journey for everyone. On a personal note, both my Father and my Mother passed this year as well as two of our beloved cats. On a Universal level we have experienced the Tsunami, Katrina and Rita and now the earthquake in Pakistan and that area of the world. Many, many souls have left planet earth this year. We know it is all part of our "journey" through this earth-school experience; and, the experiences of 2005 have flooded the collective consciousness with grief. Our journey both personally and universally is designed to bring us into a greater awareness of our relationship with and to our Creator -- God. Grief has the potential to serve us in expanding this awareness if we are so willing.

Which brings me to the purpose of my message to you this month: to share with you the direction Unity of Salem will be traveling in 2006. This idea of "journey" is prevalent throughout recorded history. The stories in our sacred literature, our mythology, fairy tales, songs, even the Tarot cards emphasize this journey -- a journey home to ourSelves -- home to a state of consciousness of wholeness, an experience of Oneness with God.

Our earth-school experience is designed to assist us in this journey. Opportunities are presented for us to gain understanding and insight through our experiences. As we awaken we seize these opportunities with an understanding of their purpose and the overall friendliness of the Universe. Until we awaken, we often fight against the experiences and



hold a belief in an unfriendly Universe in which we are the unlucky and unwitting victim of circumstances over which we have no control.

Our awareness and our willingness are the keys to our transformation, experiencing our Oneness with God, and unfolding to a fuller recognition of our true selves. Everything we need is available to us to complete our journey. All

the good in the world is here and has always been here. NO ONE is against us. Everything is in place for us! God has provided everything we need and every person to assist us along the way is standing in the wings waiting for their cue to come forward onto the stage of our personal lives. We either perceive these truths, or we don't, but our perception, or lack thereof, doesn't change the nature of the Truth.

We are created "in the image and the likeness" of God. Although we can't understand the full expression of God, there are certain Divine Qualities that we attribute to God: freedom, love, abundance, etc. These Divine Qualities are also ours. For our journey to wholeness, we have been seeded with certain gifts or powers, tools, which we are encouraged to use to discover and develop our innate Divine Qualities.

During 2006 we are going to focus on our Journey. Throughout the year, using stories, fairy tales and myths, we'll uncover and develop our powers -- our tools - and discover how we can use these tools to become one with our innate Divine Qualities.

Plan to join us as we travel through 2006 to discover THE NEVER ENDING STORY: GOD IS.

Blessings, Georgie Richardson

BOARD MEMBERS

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Jane Minard, Jim Harris,
Mattie Courtright & Caroline Collins.

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Webmaster
Kathy Munsel

Pianists
Christine Shepherd
Rebecca Shepard

LICENSED TEACHERS

Diana Moskal
Ann Armstrong

Communication--One of the Board's goals for 2005-2006 continues to be in the area of communication. The reports during our half hour **guest time at the Board meetings** have been valuable. Our September guest was Paula Wills Multi-media Director; and October guest Linda Petersen, spoke on a follow-up to the Community Gatherings. November guest is Rebecca Sheppard, Music Director, and December guest will be Jim Wallace, Grounds and Maintenance Director. On September 13th, the Board held the second **Community Gathering** evening. Board members expressed their gratitude for people who share from their hearts and talk about whatever is on their minds regarding their church experience at Unity. October 24th marked the last class of John Butler's "The I of the Storm". All of the Board of Trustees have been participating in this class on **Conflict Resolution** and have found this extremely valuable. Fifty-five people showed up the first night of class! What a challenging group. John Butler's insights and experiences have enriched the class content. Members of the Board of **Trustees wear a badge at all church events** and appreciate it when you talk with us about Unity and your experiences at Church sponsored events.

New Contract Negotiated--A new contract has been negotiated with Ennis Mary, the landscape maintenance person who mows and edges the lawns and cleans the flower gardens around the sanctuary. Ennis will now include the rose garden in the edging and weeding. He also does the maintenance for the homes in the McNary Golf Course area. You may recognize his talent for pruning and sculpturing evergreen bushes.

Final Report on Fire Safety Inspection--Attached to the September minutes is the First Safety Inspection completed by Vice President Reinholdt Leske with the assistance of Northside Electric. Several items were selected for bringing up to standard. For example, a team headed up by Jim Wallace will clean out the barn and a new metal fire cabinet will be purchased to house gas cans, paint, and other flammables.

New Policies on Fire Safety and Training. President Bonnie Young proposed new safety policies for the Board to consider at the October Board meeting. As Board Policies are passed by the Board of Trustees they are placed in a Notebook named Unity of Salem Board Policies and Procedures. This notebook is available in the main office.

President's Message Continued.....

DIAL-A-PRAYER
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<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

Here Come The Bears:

For the past 12 years, Unity of Salem has collected Teddy Bears (and other fuzzy creatures) that are then given to homeless children before Christmas. By the time they leave our church they are filled with love. You are invited to bring a new bear (or more than one!) to church during November and the first week of December so we can fill them with hugs and love in preparation for their new home and their new job of loving a child. The Realtors organization hosts a Christmas party for these children and our bears will be part of the party. The party is scheduled for December 10th, so our bears will be leaving the church on December 9th - earlier than usual. Be sure to bring your bear early so it can be filled with love for that special child.

Thanksgiving Service:

November 20

Our traditional Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday, November 20th. You are invited to bring gifts of food that Sunday (or the Sunday before). The food gifts will be given to the Salvation Army. Food items most needed include canned meats (tuna, chili, stews) canned fruit or juice, pasta or pasta meals, peanut butter or easily opened and served meals. Soup is an excellent item to bring since it is nourishing and easy to prepare. As part of the service, you will be invited to bring your gift to the altar. It is awesome to behold the generosity of our congregation. Please plan to be here to participate in this important ritual of outpouring love and generosity.

Okie Dokie -Christmas Party

December 11

Many of us had the unique and wonderful opportunity this summer to join together after Sunday service for a fantastic lunch at the Okie Dokie Coral in Turner. Thank you, Beverly Dargo, for suggesting this fun time.

We have made reservations at the Okie Dokie for a group to go back for a Christmas gathering on Sunday, December 11th at 1:00 PM. There will be a full turkey dinner with all of the trimmings and the cost is a love offering to the Doernbecker's Children's Hospital. The space is limited, you'll want to sign up right away for this special event.

Charley Thweatt

"Angel on My Shoulder"
CONCERT/MINI-WORKSHOP
Sunday, December 4th 1 - 3 p.m.
Suggested donation \$15.00

**We'll join in song
and join in our hearts
with music that takes us
both deeper and higher.
We'll also experience
that place of eternal silence
and connection with a simple and
powerful workshop exercise.**



Charley Thweatt has been a presenter for spiritual organizations and metaphysical conferences for over twenty years, throughout the U.S., Europe, Australia and Japan. He has appeared on American TV and radio with his original songs, including *You're an Angel, Take Your Power Back & Dancers in the Light*.

**Healing From Depression And Anxiety
A Workshop Led By Douglas Bloch**

SUNDAY, NOV. 13, 1:30-4:00 PM
SUGGESTED LOVE OFFERING: \$25

Douglas Bloch, M.A., is an author, teacher and counselor who writes and speaks on the topics of psychology, healing and spirituality. He earned his B.A. in Psychology from New York University and an M.A. in counseling from the University of Oregon. He is the author of 10 books, including the inspirational self-help trilogy WORDS THAT HEAL: AFFIRMATIONS AND MEDITATIONS FOR DAILY LIVING; LISTENING TO YOUR INNER VOICE/ and I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS; as well as the parenting book, POSITIVE SELF-TALK FOR CHILDREN.

A former radio talk show host and popular public speaker, Douglas has given hundreds of lectures and workshops to businesses, schools, church groups, recovery centers and national psychology conferences. He has also appeared on radio and television shows across the country. Douglas currently leads healing from depression and anxiety support groups in the Portland area. His newest book, HEALING FROM DEPRESSION: 10 WEEKS TO A BETTER MOOD, has been called "a lifeline to healing."

Bookstore

During the month of December, all books in the Bookstore will be 20 percent off as a THANK YOU for your patronage. We could not have a Bookstore without you! It is a good place to do your Christmas shopping and gift certificates are available! Some best sellers include: REAL LIFE RITUALS by Karyl Huntley, HEART OF THE SOUL by Gary Zukav, THE CALL by Oriah Mountain Dreamer, INSPIRATIONS OF THE HEART by Michael Beckwith with Artistic Expressions by F. Rassouli, and POWER THOUGHTS, 365 Daily Affirmations by Louise Hay.

Fearbuster Group

Starts Wed. Nov. 2, Please contact the office for class starting time

For 6 weeks on a love offering basis
Led by Bill Gordon

Discover how working with a group of like-minded individuals, committed to supporting each other can help you move beyond fear to a life where risks will be taken, opportunities seized, and your dreams fulfilled. Using the principles and tools in Rhonda Britten's pioneering book, FEARLESS LIVING and with the Fearbuster Study Guide you'll learn how to master the fears that keep you from feeling like a true success and having the life you want.

Chaplaincy Team

The Chaplains are continuing to meet monthly and are connecting with each other in this process that is such a gift to everyone! We had a wonderful potluck hosted by Jane Minard and Jim Harris that was such fun. We miss Mary Williams as she moved to Maine. She gave each of us a picture of her and the girls which we all enjoyed receiving at our September meeting. We continue to take turns praying with people on Sundays after the service that is such a blessing to the person praying as well as to the person receiving prayer. We also make Wellness Calls once a month. If you would like a Chaplain to call you monthly, please call the office. Diana Moskal is willing to train more people to become Chaplains next year. Watch for further information or see Diana.

New Member Orientation:

Sat. December 10

There will be a new member orientation meeting on Saturday, December 10th, 10:00-12:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in the modular, in the YOU room. If you are interested in joining the church, or just want more information about the church, you are welcome to attend this meeting.

**I am One with God. The Spirit of God is in and through all aspects of my Life.
Wherever I am, God is!**

President's Message continues...

Ad Hoc Committee on Plans for Unused Church Land. The first meeting of the Ad Hoc group was held in October. A list was made of all the ideas that have been presented to the committee members so far. The committee consists of Board members Reinholdt Leske, Dick Thomas, Peggy Brown, and members at large Kara Driskell and Jim Harris. The list will soon be posted and if your ideas are not included, please add them to the master list.

Landscape Material Selected for Unity Sign.

The Board selected Large Leaf Photinia as the evergreen background for the Unity Sign at the front entrance of our property. These trees grow quickly, change in color from green to red during growth periods, are easily pruned, and do not require a lot of water.

The Board of Trustees is working hard to develop the policies and procedures for carrying out the business of the church. We believe this is the best way to interact with Reverend Georgie Richardson and her staff of dedicated workers and volunteers to foster the growth of Unity of Salem. We hope you are pleased with the results. We love our work.

Unity Of Salem Board Of Trustees Response To Recommendations From The H.O.M.E. Team

The Board of Trustees agrees to do the following:

Provide training opportunities for all Board members and key leaders in:

- 1.1 Leadership Skills
- 1.2 Communication Styles, and
- 1.3 Conflict Resolution

Provide training opportunities for selected board members and staff in the operation of the new software or the use of QuickBooks Pro reports.

Decide what data needs to be gathered and develop an action plan in concert with privacy regulations.

Update informational media, as needed.

Review the functions of the Prayer Ministry, the Chaplaincy Team and the Care Team to clarify areas of responsibility.

Review the curriculum for children and youth at Unity of Salem.

Institute and support regular "potlucks", social events, and community gatherings.

Review and update Board policies as needed.

August 22, 2005 (Signatures of all Board members followed.)

Service Opportunities

There are many ways to serve at Unity of Salem! If you need more information or have any questions about any of our Service Teams, please see Diana Moskal. There will be a short Usher/Greeter meeting after church on Sunday, Nov. 6 in the Sanctuary. It is for everyone who is currently serving as an Usher/Greeter at our Sunday services and is also for anyone interested in being on this team.

Movie – December 2nd - 7:00 p.m.

Plan to join us to view a screening of a special movie called "The Consciousness of The Christ: Reclaiming Jesus For a New Humanity." This movie that was filmed in the Holy Land features narrative by Andrew Harvey, Barbara Marx Hubbard and Marianne Williamson. It presents the Christ as the most recent, diligent historical research finds him -- empowering those he teaches with their own God nature, turning the world upside down wherein love prevails always, living the sacred marriage of the divine feminine and masculine, transforming all forms of fear and oppression into love and freedom.

The movie is highly recommended by Unity Village, and we are pleased to bring this special screening to Unity of Salem. What a wonderful reminder of the "reason for the season." Plan to bring your friends. Cost \$10.00 at the door.

Christmas Eve Service:

Saturday, December 24th 7:00 p.m.

Our traditional candle lighting Christmas Eve service will be held at 7:00. p.m. This service is so meaningful to all of us. This year we will be inviting some of our children to participate in the service. Plan to join us and bring your family and friends to this special service.

Christmas day is on Sunday this year. Ann Armstrong will be offering the message.

January 1, 2005:

Join us for our traditional Burning Bowl service on the first day of the New Year. We will also offer a Taize Healing Prayer service at 6:30 that evening. What a wonderful way to start the New Year - release unhealthy, unwanted beliefs or habits in the morning, attend the healing prayer service in the evening, and open ourselves to the theme for 2006: THE NEVER ENDING STORY: GOD IS!

"Remember The Gifts"

During the hustle and bustle of the holidays, we may experience sadness, pain and loneliness and find it easier not to honor our pain. When the emotions are painful, our soul is trying to tell us something. If we seek relief from the pain by forgetting, ignoring, bucking up or going on, we can't hear the message.

To help us "remember the gifts" as the result of a loss, you are invited to attend a ritual created by Georgie Richardson, Rosie Daily, and Diana Moskal on TUESDAY, DEC. 13 at 7:00 PM.

Please bring a sacred object (or a Christmas ornament) as a symbol of the gifts that the loss of a relationship, pet, job, friend/and or relative has given you, to place on the altar or on the Christmas tree.

Taize Healing Prayer Service:

Nov. 6th and Jan. 1st

You are invited to attend the Taize Healing Prayer service at 6:30 on November 6th and January 1st. During this sacred prayer service we call forth the names of those for whom we wish to pray and have an opportunity to come forward and receive specific prayers for ourselves. Plan to be with us on the first Sunday of the month for this sacred service.

Birthdays

Nov. 1 st	Marilee Corey
Nov. 6 th	Linda Androes
Nov. 6 th	Stein Agaberg
Nov. 9 th	Bonnie Jean Young
Nov. 9 th	Joyce Little
Nov. 18 th	Richard Bass
Nov. 20 th	John Meyer
Nov. 24 th	Jim McCreary
Dec. 4 th	Linda Wixon
Dec. 10 th	Diane Van Gorder
Dec. 11 th	Bonnie Staebler
Dec. 11 th	Sharon Apple-Durham
Dec. 14 th	Denita Wallace
Dec. 18 th	Candy Preston
Dec. 19 th	Carol Blanchette
Dec. 21 st	Joan Manuel
Dec. 21 st	Victoria Halsey
Dec. 21 st	Jyoti Light
Dec. 22 nd	Kathy Munsel
Dec. 23 rd	Lois Jones
Dec. 26 th	Nancy Snider

Church Office Closed:

Monday, December 26 - Monday, January 2, 2006

Our church office will be closed from Dec. 26 through Jan. 2nd to give our staff an extended holiday season. If you have an emergency, you may call Georgie at 503-373-3624. Messages will also be checked on our voice mail. There will be no Thursday meditation on December 29th.

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.

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

Nov. 2nd: Fearbuster Group – Led by Bill Gordon.

Nov. 6th: Taize Healing Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. **and:** Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 13th: Workshop – "Healing From Depression and Anxiety" – at 1:30 p.m. Led by Douglas Bloch.

Nov. 20th: Thanksgiving Service at 10:30 a.m. Noetic Science, Y.O.U. room 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 4th: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. – "Angel on My Shoulder" – Concert/Mini-Workshop with Charley Thweatt.

Dec. 10th: New Member Orientation 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 11th: Okie Dokie Christmas Party.

Dec. 13th: "Remember the Gifts" – 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 24th – Jan. 2nd: Church office Closed.

Jan. 1st: Burning Bowl service **and** Taize Healing Prayer at 6:30 p.m..

Thank You, Thank You! And Hats Off To:

Diane Van Gorder and **Bonnie Jean Young** for working in the rose garden. **Myrtle Sprong** for "weeding" the flower beds.

David Shepard for fixing our slow draining sink downstairs.

Ann Armstrong, Sandra Gregory, Barbara Hill and **Peggy Brown** for assisting with the children's church.

Erica Meyer and **Val Guerrazzi** for their dedication to our children's church.

Steve Shepard for stepping into the leadership of the Uniteen group.

Ana Brown and **Margarita Nunez** for assisting with the Uniteens.

Stein Agaberg and **Marilee Corey** for continuing to serve our YOUers.

Carol and **Paul Wilson** for hosting Kathy Zavada. **Bonnie Lou Staebler** for her consistent service of music for our children.

Sharon Viehdorfer and **Steve Shepard** for driving our YOUers to retreat.

John Meyer and **Blythe Eastman** for hosting our potlucks.

Blythe Eastman for gifting our church The Bushman and Riding the Bear statues.

Renee Shearer, Beverly Dargo, Ginny King and **Sandra Gregory** for hosting our coffee and cookie social time.

AND, MANY THANKS TO ALL OF THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO GIVE OF THEIR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES TO UNITY OF SALEM.

CALLED TO SERVICE

Dedicated to all of the wonderful volunteers at Unity of Salem whose unselfish gifts of their time, talent and energy and love make our Spiritual Home such an amazing sacred place.

Called by Spirit,
Called by Love,
They share their precious gifts.

With open hearts,
They show the Way,
To fill an unmet need.

Giving time and talent,
With generous, loving hands,
They do the work that needs to be done,
In their own amazing way.

Through it all their Christ Light shines,
Blessing all they do.
They support our spiritual family,
And bless our sacred home.

Jim Harris - 2005

November Church Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. – Youth Education is available.		1.	2. Fearbuster group.	3. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	4.	5.
6. 6:30 pm: Taize Healing Prayer Service 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	7.	8.	9.	10. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	11.	12.
13. 1:30 pm: Workshop – “Healing from Depression and Anxiety”	14.	15.	16.	17. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	18.	19.
20. 10:30 am: Thanksgiving Service 6:30 pm: Noetic Science	21. 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	22.	23.	24. Noon Meditation/ Brown Bag Lunch	25.	26.
27.	28.	29.	30.			