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July/August | 2008

The Year of Appreciation

Spiritual focus



Unity of Salem's Mission Statement: Unity of Salem exists to empower people in their spiritual growth and to build a community of mutual support. We are a spirit guided ministry based in Unity principles of practical Christianity and other spiritual traditions.



The Thread of “Just Do It”

What's Mine To Do? What's God's To Do?

Thirty-five years ago, Susan Thomas (then Tippner) asked Rev. Gwen Normant at Unity of Portland how to get a Unity church in Salem, Oregon. Rev. Gwen replied, “Just do it!” That thread of “just do It” has run through the tapestry of the consciousness at Unity of Salem throughout the years.

When the two-year old fledgling congregation had an opportunity to buy the property that now houses our Spiritual Community, the “just do it” attitude carried the day. Each time we have knocked out walls and expanded our internal space, the “just do it” thread showed up and we did it. When we brought the current modular onto the grounds to house our offices and teen classrooms, we had to take out a loan and

mortgage our property. A seven-year loan was paid off in two and one-half years because of a “just do it” attitude.

Now our congregation has made an informed conscious decision to become a Program church. We have been a Pastoral church in size, culture and leadership for 35 years. It is time to grow, to expand and to make the adjustments in our culture and leadership to embrace a Program style church. Forty-five folks met and talked through their thoughts and feelings about this decision on Thursday, June 5th. When a standing vote was requested 40 plus folks stood for the Program church.

What does that mean? It means that there will be more small groups at Unity of

Salem, with trained leaders. It means that the minister will be more involved in creating and empowering groups rather than having a close personal relationship with many of the congregants. The leaders of the groups will be offering that one-on-one relationship. The intimacy of our Spiritual Community will not be lost, in fact, it will be expanded. It will simply look different as our small groups form and become stable.

Our job as we go through this expansion process will be to keep our consciousness focused on the WHAT and the WHY, and remember the HOW and the WHEN is Spirit's domain. Our WHAT is still focused on building a new sanctuary and transforming our nine sacred acres. It is a little like spring cleaning: You start washing down the walls, and then come to a window. You know the curtains need to be washed and the windows as well, so you

(Continued on Page 4)



YEARLY AFFIRMATION

I fairly sizzle with joy and appreciation as I spring forth in faith to do what is mine to do today.



A Message From The Board President

Dr. Bonnie Jean Young:

What a huge celebration we had at Unity of Salem on June 8th Youth Honoring Sunday! Every seat was taken and we had to put up additional seating. The energy was high with our youth receiving gifts of Prayer Books, Bibles, and Certificates of Graduation. The children in the Angel Place sang "My Roots Go Down, Down, Down into the Ground." A quartet sang "Colors of the Wind" and the Uniteens and Youth of Unity put on a drama about a South American Legend re: the interdependency of all life in the rain forest. It was a great way to close our school year Sunday School program. The Summer program will begin June 15th.

This past month many friends that we haven't seen for months or years have started to attend Unity again and find their way into active groups. New groups are beginning to take shape, such as the Men's group, a knitting and sewing group, and a Sunday After Service group (SAS). Information about other new groups will be announced in the Sunday Bulletins as well as in the Newsletter. Community Sharing sessions will be offered once every two months this year. Come join us to express your thoughts and listen to others.

New Board of Trustees members were elected at the May 20th Annual Meeting and Diane Van Gorder was elected as the congregation member for next year's Nominating Committee. The Board and its officers are as follows: Dr. Bonnie Jean Young, President; Peggy Brown, Vice-President; Rosie Dailey, Secretary; Carol Wilson, Treasurer; Ed Lent, Member; Sally Cummins, Member; Ray Nunez, Alternate Member; and Rev. Georgie Richardson, Minister.

Rev. Georgie provided the Board with a Revised Budget for 2008-2009 which was adopted unanimously. The budget will require a Faith Budget of approximately \$4,000 which is considerably less than last year.

Two new policies were adopted by the Board of Trustees at the first Board meeting of the 2008-2009 year. The first policy allows a person to receive a Nettie Eberhardt scholarship two times within a five year period, instead of once. The second policy will provide a guarantee of \$100 to teachers who offer a class on a love-offering basis or a negotiated percentage of the offering, whichever is the larger amount.

The design sketches of our new sanctuary were submitted by Nathan Good, our Architect, to the Unity CORE Team and our minister, Rev. Richardson. The Core Team and the Board of Trustees will give final approval during July. The final drawings will be placed on our website. The Board is considering a name change for Unity of Salem that will draw more hits on our website and will be more descriptive of who we are and what we offer.

The Board hosted a Community Gathering to discuss feelings about expanding our Pastoral Church to a Program Church and to hold a vote about such an expansion. Forty-five people attended. After much discussion and an opportunity for everyone to express their heartfelt ideas, a standing vote was taken. Forty people stood for expanding Unity of Salem to a Program Church and four people abstained, saying that they would be

(Continued on Page 4)

BOARD / STAFF AND LICENCED TEACHERS

BOARD MEMBERS

President – Dr. Bonnie Jean Young
Vice President – Peggy Brown
Secretary – Rosie Daily
Treasurer – Carol Wilson
Members – Ed Lent and Sally Cummins
Rev. Georgie Richardson
Alternate – Ray Nunez

STAFF

Minister – Rev. Georgie Richardson
Office Coordinator – Betty Sword
Minister's Associate – Diana Moskal
Youth Education
Ann Armstrong, Director
Bonnie Staebler, Youth Music Director
Erica Meyer, Assistant
Music Director – Rebecca Shepard
Choir Director – Lorena Ferry
Pianists – Rebecca Shepard and Dave Ferry
Multi-Media Team
Paula Wills – Director
Paul Wilson, Jane Minard, Jim Harris, CJ Jones, Caroline Collins, Randy Julian and Sharron Apple-Durham
Operations Coordinator – Nancie Anderson
Newsletter Coordinator – Paula Wills
PKWills@QuantumBreakthru.com
Webmaster – Paula Wills

LICENSED TEACHERS

Diana Moskal
Ann Armstrong

DIAL-A-PRAYER
503 364-6057

Website:
<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

Universe, you know what I want, bring it to me through the path of least resistance.



**2012 – Entering No Time
July 12th – 1:00–4:00pm
(\$15 Suggested Love Offering)**

**Facilitated by
Rev. Ruth Miller**

This workshop is Part 2. Last March we looked at what happens when we look through the eyes of other cultures that have predicted a time coming when the world, as we know it, no longer exists. Now we ask, "What may life be like on the 'other side' of 2012?"

Dr. Miller will explore some ideas about transformations that have been emerging alongside the Apocalyptic visions; visions of a new kind of culture, based on a global, post-industrial economy; and guidance and encouragement from some of the prophetic visions, describing what kinds of actions will carry people through.

The years ahead contain danger and opportunity--perhaps opportunity for something we haven't yet imagined?

Rev. Miller is a speaker, writer and coach with degrees in systems science, cybernetics, environmental studies and anthropology. After 20 years of working in academia and business, Rev. Miller was ordained as an independent New Thought Minister.

**28th Annual NW Unity
Retreat at Crystal
Mountain, WA
August 21st – 24th**

You still have time to sign up for the "Restory Your Life, Restore The World" retreat at Crystal Mountain, WA.

The featured guest speaker will be Christina Baldwin, author of "Storycatchers". You will also experience Rev. Richard Levy, David Roth, James Howard, Garnett Hundley and Beverly Daugherty.

Flyers are in the kitchen and remember the drawing for a refund of your retreat fee will be held August 10th, so get your application forms in the jar.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Upcoming Classes and Events

**Sacred Drumming –
Sacred Story
2nd Fridays of the Month
July 11th at 7:00 pm**

(Love Offering)

Christina Baldwin, author of "Storycatchers", tells us that "story is the *heart* of language;" and we know drumming is the *beat* of the heart.

Starting on Friday, July 11th at 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. and continuing on the second Friday of the month, we will come together under the guidance of Debra Vedder to drum and tell our stories. As the drumming stirs our stories, we will be invited to go to the altar, pick up the Talking Stick and return to our seats. As the drumming quiets, we will then begin to share our sacred story. When our sharing is complete, the Talking Stick shall be returned to the altar and the drumming will continue until the next person is guided to share.

Plan to join us for our first Sacred Drumming – Sacred Story to experience a wonderful and fulfilling release.

There will be a basket to receive your financial love offering.



**Inspired Acoustic Music
by Charley Thweatt
July 20th – 1:00–3:30 pm
\$15 at the door**



Charley Thweatt will be returning to Unity of Salem for a heart opening concert and spiritual workshop.

Music is powerful and in the hands and heart of this musician, our walls melt and the group becomes one. Also experience moments of deep spiritual connection and profound playful joy that will leave you with the feeling you've just attended an all day spiritual retreat!

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

Join us for a Potluck Lunch from 12:15 to 1:00 pm, prior to the workshop. Bring a dish that you would love to share with others, so we may fill up physically before we fill up spiritually.

**Sacred Circle of Prayer
Every Thursday at 6:30 pm**

"The only object and aim of this society is to get people to listen to that 'still small voice' and to know that GOD will lead them to all wisdom, health and happiness if they will but spend a few moments a day in His company." Fillmore's: Society of Silent Unity 1891.

Did you know that people in over 115 countries all over our planet pray the monthly Sacred Circle Prayer? This blessed time in the silence is Unity's foundation. The circle remains unbroken, Unity of Salem continues the Sacred Circle of Prayer every Thursday night from 6:30 to 6:55. Come join your Unity Chaplains in this Holy 118 -year tradition.

WHAT'S NEXT?

(Continued)

Harmonic Wealth DVD Attracting The Life You Want July 18th 7:00 p.m. (Love Offering)

“A bold and practical presentation that unlocks the secret to true wealth and fulfillment.” Join James Arthur Ray, one of the teachers featured in the hit movie “The Secret,” as he shows you the way to Harmonic Wealth...The formula for success in all five key areas of your life: **financial, relational, mental, physical and spiritual...**

Harmonic Wealth will open you up to a whole new way of living through an effective blend of cutting-edge **scientific findings** and timeless **spiritual truths**.

Here's some of what will be covered during this presentation:

- *New internal programming and behavior patterns that will send you soaring to new **heights of success...**
- *How to **get rid of unconscious limitations** that have held you back from your unlimited potential...
- *How to **develop new habits** of thought and action that guarantee your on-going ability to succeed...
- *The secret to exponentially increasing your own **energy level...**

...and that's just the start. **Are you ready to be truly wealthy?** Let James be your guide to a life of Harmonic Wealth...

Quote of the Month Gift Recipient

Everything and everyone is connected through a subtle energy. This connection is evident in the music of Karl Anthony. Because there is a "ground swelling surge of enlightenment" occurring within the heart of humanity, I was blessed to receive a free ticket to hear

this talented performer share music from the heart at Unity of Salem! What a delight to be part of this dance of peace, joy and love that Karl sang about! A great big "Bear Hug" to each and everyone at Unity of Salem and thanks for the opportunity to hear Karl!

Love & Blessings, Susan

“Just Do It” (Minister's Message Continued)

stop with the walls and take down the curtains, get them into the washing machine and clean the windows, then you continue to scrub down the walls, until you realize a small piece of furniture needs to be emptied and moved to another room. You stop and do that, etc. etc. All of the time the goal, or the WHAT is the spring cleaning. Even while we focus on the expansion of our Spiritual Community into a Program style church, we have not lost sight of the WHAT: building a new sanctuary and transforming our nine acres.

WHY? Well, we have something special here at Unity of Salem. We own (free and clear) nine sacred acres in the middle of a very busy South

Salem community. For us this is a place of peace and serenity; and, it can be for others as well. We teach a philosophy and theology that the world appears to be very hungry for if the turn out for Oprah's Webinar partnership with Eckert Tolle and THE NEW EARTH is any indication. So we keep our collective eye on the WHAT and the WHY, and trust that Spirit will arrange the HOW and the WHEN. We continue to pull the “JUST DO IT” thread that is intricate to our community's consciousness forward into a vital, prosperous, thriving Unity of Salem. Gwen Normant handed Susan Thomas the end of that thread, and it continues to thrive and grow in the JUST DO IT consciousness of Unity of Salem. So, my friends, LET'S JUST DO IT!!

Blessings,
Georgie

Myrtle Fillmore's Healing Legacy A Historic Healing Workshop July 27th 1:00 p.m. (\$15 Suggested Love Offering)

Unity was founded on the personal healing story of Myrtle Fillmore. Myrtle was dying of TB when she heard the now famous words: “You are a child of God, you do not inherit illness.” Those words led Myrtle to establish a program of healing herself through her own consciousness, and then she and her husband, Charles, went on to form Unity.

Rev. Eleanor Fleming has been ministering in the original Unity church for six years. She walks the hallways where Myrtle walked, she sits in Myrtle's office where Myrtle prayed for the healing of thousands of people. Rev. Fleming has access to many unseen photos, stories, early writings and even a silent movie. She will bring all of this and much more to Unity of Salem through her workshop.

Plan to join Rev. Fleming for this exciting trip into the history of Myrtle Fillmore's legacy to us.

President's Message (Message Continued)

happy, no matter what was decided. Three members of the Board met with the CORE Team in June to discuss possible future directions now that the plans for the Sanctuary are completed. Stay tuned for further information.

The summer promises to be full of fun and activities. Charley Thweatt is coming in July to do a musical concert and a workshop. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity.

The Board and I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Board of Trustees.

Dr. Bonnie Jean Young, President.

OTHER NOTABLE HAPPENINGS

Exciting Happenings At Unity of Salem

So Much Is Happening at Unity of Salem We Have To Change The Newsletter

Wow, we are growing in activities as well as consciousness. So much needs to be said that we have to change the newsletter format to fit it all in. You will notice that we no longer will be providing a two month calendar of events in the newsletter itself. You can download the calendar in .pdf format (Adobe Reader format) right off the website or pick up a copy of the calendar in the kitchen of the sanctuary.

It is so exciting to actually have to find more space to cover all that which is going on in our church community.

Thank you to all the teams and groups this is making our growth possible.

APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE CORNER

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to:

Many thanks to **Blythe Eastman** for her class on Lift Chi Up – Pour Chi Down. It was well received, and we appreciate Blythe sharing her knowledge and expertise.

Thanks to **Tom Raphael, Diane Van Gorder, and Steve Shepard** for joining the Grounds Team with Nancie Anderson. The grounds are looking wonderful. Thank you for all of your dedication and hard work.

Thank you to **June Hadlock** for stepping into the Leadership role for SAS (Sunday After Service). (See June's article about SAS in this Newsletter).

Thank you to the wonderful Team Leaders for the Women's Retreat: **Ann Armstrong, Sharon Viehdorfer, Sally Cummins and Val Guerrazi**. A "Royal" time was had by all.

In April, the Chaplains in training and the Chaplains already trained spent a Saturday together for a day retreat at the church to connect, bond and have fun! Indeed, we did have fun - weaving a beautiful pattern with yarn, acknowledging the wonderful gifts in each other, singing, eating lunch and doing a beading project!

All of the Chaplains were honored on Sunday, May 4 with a beautiful ceremony and a reception after church. Six new Chaplains were dedicated: Sharron Apple, Carol Goodwin, Randy Julian, Sherry McClure, Jim McCreary and Barb Vandepas. The Chaplain team has now increased to 14 people! That is AWESOME! We will be saying goodbye to Barb Hill as she moves to Bethel, Alaska in July. Besides serving on the Sunday Service Team and the Taize

Chaplain Team

Team, Barb has been the "keeper of the prayer container" in the Sanctuary - blessing the prayer requests and sending them to Silent Unity where the requests are held in prayer for 30 days. She will be taking her wonderful Chaplain energy to a new place and our blessings for a new and wonderful experience go with her.

If you would like a Chaplain to pray with you once a month or would like a hospital or nursing home visit, please call the church office.

Blessings and Gratitude,
Diana Moskal, Chaplain Coordinator



Thank you, **Diana Moskal**, for continuing to lead our Community Gatherings.

Many thanks to **Sharon Viehdorfer** who has served our Youth Education Department for 16 years. Sharon is retiring from that position; AND

Many thanks to **Ann Armstrong** who is stepping into the position as Youth Education Coordinator.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July:

- 2 Ralph Gingerich
- 4 Ed Lent
- 14 Michael Sutton
- 18 Jim Harris
- Jane Minard
- Jackie Smith
- 22 Caroline Collins
- 27 Elayne Randall
- 31 Don McCaig

August:

- 1 Paula Johnson
- 10 Tonya Jeffries
- 13 Cristy Bailey
- Carolyn Hakanson
- 16 Joanne Icovino
- 18 Ginny King
- 22 Tammy McCammon
- 23 Ila Holmes (Raphael)
- 25 Jim Wallace
- 27 Dave Munsel

YOUTH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Angel Place Summer Film Festival

With the theme "The Future Starts Today," Angel Place teacher Erica Meyer has planned an exciting summer program. June focused on the awareness of what is happening in the environment with the DVD, "An Arctic Tale." In July, "The Last Mimzy" will present the idea that We can make a difference. "Muppets in Space" will conclude the summer in August focusing on the topic: We can create the New World.

The summer program is always more relaxed as families go on vacation and attendance fluctuates. We will be using music from Karl Anthony and other New Thought musicians as Teacher Bonnie takes a break. Popcorn during movies, chalk drawing on the sidewalks, and outside activities are some of the ways we will augment our movie program as we continue to incorporate Unity's 5 principles throughout the summer. We thank all the Angel Place teachers for continuing their dedication to the children!

Sharon Viehdorfer Honored

Sharon Viehdorfer was honored for her 16 years of excellence in guiding the Youth Education Department of Unity of Salem. On Youth Honoring Day, Rev. Georgie Richardson presented her with an "Oscar Angel" for her years of dedication and service. Then, the children presented a basket of cards of appreciation from children, parents, teachers, and congregants. Thank you, Sharon, for the strong foundation you have built, your dedication, the wisdom and guidance you shared with all of us, and the way you modeled how to be with the children. You will be greatly missed! We appreciate your willingness to share your expertise with those of us who will carry on as you step into new avenues of service to Unity of Salem and to the larger Unity Movement.

Youth Honoring Day

On June 8, the sanctuary buzzed with the enthusiastic energy of our children and youth as they practiced and took part in our annual Youth Honoring Day. The Uniteens and YOUers served as ushers and greeters, presented the program, and graduate Michelle Brown read the daily word and brought in the Christ Light. Several alumni of our youth program attended the service. Each child and youth was honored and presented with prayer books to use at home. Victoria Shepard, McKenzie Bridges, and Logan Bell were presented certificates of graduation and welcomed into the Uniteen program. Celestina Nunez was given a Bible and certificate as she entered the YOU program and Michelle Brown was honored as she graduated from active participation in YOU.

Comments afterwards ranged from "I didn't know we had so many children; Could you feel the amazing energy present?" to "We want to have them be present more often." We will see how that can happen while still maintaining our goal of providing an age-appropriate and meaningful spiritual program for our children.

Summer Youth Fundraisers Rummage Sale – August 1st – 3rd Car Wash – August 31st

The Spring Rummage Sale was such a success that an extended one is planned for the weekend of August 1-3. You may start bringing items to donate July 6. The Youth fundraisers help provide funds for Uniteen and YOU (Youth of Unity) members to attend retreats and rallies, important parts of the youth program. We welcome your participation in all the fundraisers. Be generous in bringing your donations,

It Takes A Village . . .

In answering Myrtle Fillmore's question, "Who will take care of the children?" and planning for our vision of an expanded and vibrant Youth Ed Department, we are putting out a call. It is a call for more of our congregants to be active with our children and youth. Several wonderful souls have already answered the call and said an enthusiastic "yes."

Starting in the fall, I have a vision of 4 teachers every Sunday in the Angel Place downstairs. This will allow us to have age-appropriate groups and activities for Cherubs, Unitots, and younger and older Angels. In addition we have created a new position: an "Angel Greeter." Persons who say "yes" to this role will spend about a half hour downstairs greeting children as they arrive, available to greet late arrivals, and then join the adults upstairs for the regular service. We envision some times of expanded music when our Unity musicians spend time with our children and youth. Do you have a skill or hobby that you would like to share?

Because we would like our teachers to have some Sundays when they can also get their spiritual infilling, we need many of "our village" involved.

Thank you for answering the call!!
Youth Ed Coordinator,
Ann Armstrong

giving your time and in bringing friends to buy at the sale.

The Uniteens and YOU members have several options for this summer. They may wish to "hang-out" with the Youth Sponsors, Steve, Merilee, and Ally and help plan the fundraisers and activities that are planned for this summer and fall. They may like to attend a church service with their parents or the Sponsors. They are also welcome to be helpers in the Angel Place.

OTHER NOTABLE HAPPENINGS

Sunday After Service Gathering SAS

My name is June Hadlock and I want to introduce a new group to everyone at Unity of Salem. We are the Sunday After Service gathering – SAS for short. In a nut shell, I would describe the intention of our group as: *To create a time and atmosphere right after the Sunday message that we can come together and talk about the Message in a way that enriches and deepens the experience for all of us.*

We meet in the gathering place (in the sanctuary) from 12:15 to 1:15 and it is open to whoever wishes to share, listen, and contribute questions that we can all ponder. We bring finger food to share with each other and find out about how the message met our soul's journey. There is a different facilitator at each SAS so everyone that wishes to participate in this way is invited to sign up on the sheet behind the coffee station. I am the Team Leader and, if you wish to speak with me about being a facilitator, (or have a concern) please don't hesitate to call me.

Our very first SAS was Sunday, June 1, 2008 and was a resounding

(Continued)

success! There were over 15 people that attended and the questions were very stimulating. It proved to be a time of joy, laughter, and a way to get to know one another even more. I personally enjoyed sharing and finding out how differently we felt about commitment (which was the Sunday message) and how our entire lives have been impacted by acts of commitment. The honesty with which people spoke was wonderful and I want to thank those that took time out of their precious lives to attend this deepening experience. I left feeling more connected and stayed that way longer because of the sharing.

If you wish to attend, please feel free to come and join us. If you are able to supply finger foods, that is also appreciated. I encourage you to write down those "aha" moments when something in the message, reading, or song reaches a place in you that you would like to share or receive more clarification/ideas about. You never know how one question can change a life.

Hope to see and hear from you all soon! Affectionately, Junebug

2008 Women's Retreat

The 2008 Women's Retreat, "Surrendering to Your Most Excellent Self" was held May 30 - June 1st at Gleneden Beach. We stayed at the Beachcomber and met at Unity by the Sea. The four facilitators, Ann Armstrong, Sharon Viedorfer, Val Guerrazzi, and Sally Cummins, guided the event by commencing with a royal celebration when twenty two women were crowned either: Diva, Queen, Princess or Goddess. The Crowning Ceremony was complete with bubble blowing, a regal cape, and actual crowns in which participants proudly sported for the remainder of the retreat.

The weekend included spiritual, thought-provoking Sacred Circles, amazing music, a Time Tunnel Meditation, an Angel Walk, and writing a private love letter from the present self to the past self, supporting the journey into the future.

The retreat also included an afternoon of play and relaxation, where individuals created a collage of paper by tearing strips of patterns, textures and colors, cutting into tiles, and assembling to create personalized cards, which, together with their love letters will be mailed to them in the distant future.

The weekend concluded with a heartfelt service presented by Ann Armstrong at Unity by the Sea, and included a summary of the fellowship, growing and bonding experienced by the women as they surrendered to their most excellent Selves.

Old Story, New Story

Twenty-three courageous wannabe authors chose to explore their old story and create a new story. Georgie invited us to let go of a trait no longer needed and to envision a new way to be. Through a six week process with a spirit-chosen partner, we supported and encouraged each other. We identified what was no longer serving us, let it go, resisted, visualized a new us, resisted, the new story developed, and was born. The end result was a published work complete with title, dedication page, and pictures to mirror our story. On the 5th night two souls read their stories. We honored our work with a celebration at the last class with invited guests. The sanctuary was transformed into an elegant ambiance with white cloths on 10 round tables, hor'dorves, candles, and flowers. Fifteen more brave souls in their finest attire read their stories to a spellbound audience.

The writing was professional and the reading was moving, soul-searching, revealing, compelling, humorous, and exquisite. Some stories were fun or painful childhood memories viewed from an adult perspective. Some had dreams of who they had always wished they could be and were now ready to claim. Some had visions of places to visit or go back to. There were analogies, metaphors, children's prose, adult non fiction, and poetry. All were remarkable! We were grateful to take the wisdom the old story offered and choose a newly envisioned self. As a class, we held the high watch for each other while each participant crossed the abyss to the next trapeze. We identified with others' personal struggle and cheered knowing we would all make it! To end our celebration Georgie and Diana gave each participant Storycatcher, a book by Christina Baldwin about "Making sense of our lives through the power and practice of story".

Looking Ahead

Pathfinders, a small group studying metaphysical principles, will begin again on Sunday Sept. 7th at 9:00 a.m. in the bookstore. Everyone is welcome.



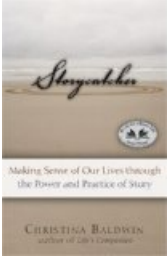
BOOKSTORE CORNER

(HIGHLIGHTED BOOKS/CDS OF THE MONTH)



NOTICE: Unity of Salem is now a full Associate of AMAZON.COM. You can purchase any Amazon.com product through the Unity Associate website and Unity will receive up to 10% of the cost of the item. Just go to either www.UnityofSalem.com and click on the Amazon.com link or go directly to <http://astore.amazon.com/wwwunityofsal-20>. You will stay on the Unity page throughout your complete order and then be transferred to Amazon.com for payment.

STORYCATCHER - Making Sense of Our Lives through the Power and Practice of Story
by Christina Baldwin.



Georgie read from this book in a recent Story Writing class - which by the way was a great class! Therefore, we could hardly wait to get our own copy! Lauren Artress, author of **Walking a Sacred Path**, says "Christina Baldwin is a masterful storyteller! In **Storycatcher** she weaves a tapestry of story that captures the dynamics of storytelling: its power to heal, to acknowledge our longing, and to articulate the hidden places within our being. Curl up with this book and a new world will open to you."

By the way, Christina Baldwin will be presenting at the 28th Annual NW Unity Retreat at Crystal Mt., WA on August 21-24. A number of us are looking forward to participating in her workshop! In the flyer for the retreat, she says that becoming a Storycatcher is the source for individual spiritual development and social activism. In this Unity retreat participants will practice how to 'restore' their lives and how that work leads to restoring the world.

Unity of Salem
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