

Unity Church of Peace

Spiritual Center of St. Louis

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**Happy
New Year**

January 2011

Theme: *God's Gift of the Kingdom*

Lesson Titles:

January 2 - *The Burning Bowl Service*

January 9 - *"Key One: Make the Commitment"*

January 16 - *"Key Two: Hold the Vision"*

January 23 - *"Key Three: Build a New Awareness"*

January 30 - Guest Speaker: Rev. Le Remington -
"How Do We Grow Our Garden in the Winter?"

Sneak Preview

Thursdays
Feb. 3rd, 10th, 24th
and **March 3rd,**
10th, 24th and 31st
"The Keys to the
Kingdom" class
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



January Affirmation

"I step into the natural flow of abundance by being a giver to life."

Minister's Message



Dear Unity Friends,

As I write this message, I take an occasional glance out of my kitchen window onto the bright whiteness of the snow that fell last Sunday morning, December 12th. I have always loved the snow, especially the first heavy fall of the winter season. This particular snowfall, however, brought with it for me a reminder of an important lesson in letting go of outcomes, and trusting in divine order.

As many of you know, our guest speaker on that Sunday was the well known author and teacher, Raphael Cushnir, who had flown here all the way from Portland, Oregon to grace us with his wisdom and inspiring insights. After picking Raphael up at the airport Saturday evening, David and I took him to Whole Foods so that he could buy some needed organic items. On our way out of the store, we marveled at the beautiful flakes of snow that had started falling, but my wonder and appreciation quickly turned to worry, as I envisioned the snow - or worse yet, ICE - that could potentially keep people from coming to church the next morning to see and hear our delightful speaker, Raphael.

Thankfully, I immediately recognized my ego's folly, and turned my concern into a type of affirmation, saying aloud and to myself, "*The weather will be perfect tomorrow for church.*" However, what I forgot to do was allow that "perfection" I sought to be defined by Spirit, instead of my ego's notion of perfection at that moment, which of course, meant, "no more snow, clear roads, etc."

As it turned out, the snow kept falling, and the morning brought slippery roads and, to put it mildly, much-less-than-ideal conditions for driving. As I listened to the phone calls and read the emails of all those people who had decided to stay home,

my ego became more and more invested in the outcome of what looked to be a very poorly attended church service and workshop. I felt so bad for Raphael, who had come so far to be with us, but he did not seem to be the least bit disturbed by these meteorological developments.

When the three of us arrived at church that morning at 9:30, I was thrilled to see the holiday lights in the sanctuary already turned on, and several of our members downstairs, already busily preparing for the potluck Christmas party. It was then that I realized the Truth - that no snow or weather conditions had the power to keep our good from us. I then finally affirmed to myself, "*I release the outcome, and trust in Spirit to bring about the highest good!*"

Anyone who did venture out that morning to church will know that the service turned out splendidly, with at least 50 people in attendance. In addition, the potluck was a great success, with delicious treats, some of which had been brought the day before by those who knew they would not be comfortable driving in the snow. After the fun and holiday fellowship, Raphael's workshop was attended by 25 people, all of whom greatly benefited by his loving presence and profound insights.

This event was a powerful reminder to me that Spirit is always working through every situation for our highest good. However, we must listen to that still, small voice, release our ego's attachment to the outcome, and step into the flow of life, while continuing to give our love and blessings.

So throughout this month, I invite you to affirm with me often, and with conviction, "*I step into the natural flow of abundance by being giver to life!*" And please remember that God is blessing you now, and always! Happy and healthy New Year to all!!

Love and Many Blessings,
Reverend Sallie Fox



President's Notes



Dear Friends,

By the time this newsletter is printed all of us will have celebrated the Christmas holiday and will be making plans to ring in the New Year. With this in mind I would like to offer a wish for myself and for all of us at Unity Church of Peace. My wish is for all of us to consciously participate in the upcoming January Sunday lessons which are based on the series *The Keys to the Kingdom*. The class will also be taught by Reverend Sallie on 7 Saturdays beginning January 8. The description of the classes is contained in the December newsletter. The Keys are:

1. Make a commitment
2. Hold the vision
3. Build a New Awareness
4. Make room for the new
5. Let go of the past
6. Count the blessings
7. Live in the flow

What an awesome way to begin the New Year. Even if we are not all able to attend the classes, just consider what a positive impact working with these principles can have for each and every one of us. In addition, Unity Church of Peace will benefit immeasurably each time one of us expands his or her Christ consciousness, each time one of us discovers a new way to be of service, each time one of us gives from newfound abundance.

I wish all of us a Blessed New Year.

Love,
Joan Langer

Tidings from the Treasurer



Hi everyone,

I hope all of you I had a wonderful Christmas.

The tithes and contributions were down for the month of December. The contributions for the second week of December were below \$700.00. Of course, this was due to the weather and we had a very small congregation. We also had to pay \$235 for the removal of the snow from the parking lot and sidewalk (Dec. 12) and salting the parking lot and sidewalk due to the ice on Dec. 16.

We need to try and recover our deficit if possible. We seem to be just one or two weeks in advance of payroll and other expenses. This is a little scary.

Your contributions are tax deductible, and we will be sending you a letter by Jan. 31st to confirm the amount for income tax purposes.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support to keep our beautiful church going in 2010, and I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Blessings,
Bonnie Faraone
Treasurer of the Board





"The Keys to the Kingdom"

Have you been experiencing a sense of lack in your life? Do you ever feel unworthy of receiving and enjoying the abundance of this universe? Do you want to learn how to release those limiting thoughts, beliefs and habits that no longer serve you, and only seem to keep you from fulfilling your highest potential?

If you have answered "Yes" to any of these questions, you won't want to miss out on the next class to be taught by Rev. Sallie Fox, titled, "*The Keys to the Kingdom*". The class will meet on the following Thursdays - Feb. 3, 10, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 24 and 31 - from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the church basement.

The class is based on a powerful program of prosperity consciousness-building, by well known New Thought minister, Rev. David Owen Ritz. The program is designed to help us identify and change our limited beliefs about abundance, happiness, and success.

The Keys to the Kingdom is not about simply getting more money or accumulating material things. It is actually a guide to help us develop a higher level of spiritual awareness, and an understanding of the spiritual foundation of true abundance. It teaches us how to create a life that is in greater harmony with spiritual law.

The *Keys to the Kingdom* is also designed to strengthen our spiritual community by helping us see the relationship between our spiritual growth and our participation in our spiritual community. Few people realize that the full value of spiritual community can only be attained when they treat their church as a place to contribute their support, participation, and talents. This class will help us deepen our relationship with Spirit, and make the connection between giving and receiving, using Jesus' profound prosperity lesson in

Luke 12:22-34 as a foundation.

The ideas from this class will also be shared in a series of 7 Sunday lessons, which will help students understand and use the spiritual principles presented in class. Please come and join us on a powerful spiritual journey to healing and true prosperity!

Here are the seven "Keys":



Key One: Make the Commitment - "*The world was not given to you; you were given to the world. Step into the natural flow of abundance by committing yourself to becoming a giver to life.*"

Key Two: Hold the Vision - "*You will not rise higher than your personal vision for your life. Expand your vision and follow your bliss. Believe in your highest potential and you will realize it.*"

Key Three: Build a New Awareness - "*Your limiting beliefs have always held you back. A new awareness of the truth of your being will set you free.*"

Key Four: Make Room for the New - "*The Law of Circulation works to the benefit of those who understand its operation. When you create a vacuum in your life, the universe always moves in to fill it.*"

Key Five: Let Go of the Past - "*Holding on to regrets and resentments from the past saps your creative energy. Release your energy through forgiveness of self and others.*"

Key Six: Count the Blessings - "*You always attract what you focus upon. The daily practice of gratitude focuses your creative energy on the good in your life, thereby multiplying it.*"

Key Seven: Live in the Flow - "*Abundance is not just a spiritual quality; it is a way of life. Incorporate the principles of abundance into your daily living, and abundance will be your way of life.*"

Unity Light Seekers

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

We send A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our group during 2010. I believe we all enjoyed listening to our guest speakers, and socializing with each other. Hopefully this year we will keep our regulars and gain some new UNITY LIGHT SEEKERS. We are learning more about each other and the world around us.

At the December meeting our very own UCOP member, Marty Thurman, talked to us about her 25 year career in Law Enforcement, and how Love is as an important ingredient in what she does. Thank you so much Marty for sharing your experiences with us.

We are waiting to hear from astrologer Bud Norton to see if he can be our guest for the **January 25th** meeting.

Rich Vergara, a member of UCOP, will speak to us **February 22nd** on Spiritual Gifts we all have, and how to recognize them.

We hope you all will consider joining us. We meet every month in Fellowship Hall at 11 a.m.. We bring a sack lunch to enjoy after our speaker is finished; and we enjoy fellowship with each other, often times our guest speaker joins us.

We want to thank Patsy Colin for our new name. We started out as Aging Gracefully, then we decided we needed a new name. We voted and Patsy's suggestion, UNITY LIGHT SEEKERS, won.

If you have a special topic you would like to learn about, whether you have a speaker in mind or not, talk to one of us (Joyce or Carol) and we will do our best to bring someone in that we all can learn from.

BLESSINGS OF LIGHT AND LOVE TO YOU AND THOSE YOU LOVE.

Joyce Jackson, Carol Powers

Musical Musings



Thank you all for making 2010 a wonderful year of music at Unity Church of Peace! We had so many wonderful guests throughout the year!

Our Unity Cafe brought in a little under \$100, so we will be having a fund-raising event for the music program very soon. I am thinking a taco bar would be nice sometime in early February. :-)

Look forward to January, 30th, when we will have Steve Shenkel share some marvelous music with us! He is bringing his new partner in song, an amazing singer named Deborah Sharn.

Thank you to the Unity Singers, Judy Moebeck and all of our wonderful Unity Musician volunteers for a wonderful year of music.

Blessings in Song,
Michele VanHoose
Music Director



Welcome to Our New Members

Unity Church of Peace and our New Member Welcome Team are excited to extend a warm welcome to our most recent new members: **Sandy Manz, Anita Louise Miller, Dr. Jeannine Owen, Vicki Salsman, and Trish Richardson-Turek**. We welcome these wonderful people, and celebrate them as they deepen their commitment to their spiritual journey and our church community.

The Prayer Chaplain Lighthouse



Starting this January members at Unity Church of Peace will start receiving a wellness call from a Prayer Chaplain to help support you in prayer. Much like Silent Unity, a Prayer Chaplain will pray with you about anything, including the good things, and please know that all prayers are held in confidence. If you would not like to receive a wellness call you may let the Prayer Chaplain know at that time, or you may contact the Church Office to let us know. The Prayer Chaplains will also be available at Sunday Services to support anyone who would like to receive a prayer, or you may contact the Prayer Chaplain Phone Line at 314-631-2466 ext. 3 to leave a message and a Prayer Chaplain will return your call as soon as possible.

"Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding" (Proverbs 3:13)

E-PRAYER

Some of you may not know Unity Church of Peace has an E-PRAYER group going. Many people have asked for prayers from this group, and I am happy to say that good outcomes have followed the prayers by this group for people in our church family.

Anyone interested in joining our prayer group, simply call Carol Powers at 314-481-5062, or send me an email at bacpowers@sbcglobal.net. I will add you to our prayer list. As prayer requests come in I simply send them forward to our PRAYING FAMILY, who then add the person to their prayer list.

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Page Turner

Hello everyone,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Can you believe, it's 2011? We Hope you all had a good 2010, personally I (Carol) am happy to have it behind me.

We want to thank Heidi Moore for all her hard work in the Book Nook during 2010. Heidi has decided to take some time off. We wish her well and will welcome her back when and if she is ready.

That leaves us, Marty Thurman and Carol Powers working in the Book Nook. We really need another one or two volunteers. It is not a hard job, it is fun meeting new people, and folks we already know come back to chat. There is no stress, everyone is very nice and cooperative. Please think about it and let one of us know, or tell Rev. Sallie or Barb Gallo.

As you know, we no longer take subscriptions for *Daily Word* or *Unity Magazine*. We do have current issues of each of these, but you will have to order your own subscription with the cards available in the magazines.

Heidi ordered many interesting and informative books. Come browse, and possibly, purchase one for yourself or someone else. We also have greeting cards, CDs, and pamphlets available.

We appreciate your purchasing from us as our church does benefit from them. Our hours are after church until 12:30. We appreciate the correct amount of money, or a check, as we do not keep money in the Book Nook.

NAMASTE,

Marty Thurman and Carol Powers


The Metaphysician

With the "Keys to the Kingdom" class approaching January 8th, I am taken back to a very powerful message contained in Matthew 17:24-27, and how the conscious realization of that message can aid us to bring forth good in areas of our lives we may seem to limit at times such as our time, talent, and treasure.

When Jesus and the apostles had reached the city of Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax saw Peter (who represents the Spiritual Power of Faith) and asked him if his Master would pay the tax. According to Elizabeth Sand Turner in *Your Hope of Glory*, "It was custom for every Jew over twenty years of age living in Palestine or in foreign countries to pay a tax of half a shekel for the ransom of his soul unto the Lord, and also for the maintenance of the Temple in the Holy City. Peter was accustomed to paying the tax and perhaps almost subconsciously answered for Jesus also." When Peter went to Jesus to get the money he seemed almost amused that he was asked to pay a tax for the rescue of his soul. He teased Peter by saying, *"What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute? From their children or from others? When Peter said, "From others," Jesus said to him, "Then the children are free."*

Elizabeth Sand Turner goes on to say that this particular instance is one of those occasions in which we get a glimpse of the human side of Jesus and the cordial and friendly relationship he had with his apostles. Jesus knew he had taught Peter a great Spiritual Truth, which is that those who have awakened to the Spirit of Life within them need not pay a tax for the good that is already theirs in life. Although Jesus had Peter cornered he would not desert his friend in his hour of need. Jesus then said,

"However so that we do not give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook; take

the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me." 

Such a miracle demonstrates the fact that all we need to meet our needs is at hand. When we awaken to a level of Christ Consciousness we will always know just what to do in order to bring needed substance into manifestation in our lives. The gold in the fish's mouth tells us that plenty exists in the most unexpected places. We should never limit supply to channels that we know of, but we should keep our consciousness receptive to the idea of abundance in order that good can manifest in any of God's ways.

-Chris Czarnecki
(*Your Hope of Glory* by Elizabeth Sand Turner, pages 187-188)

E-Prayer continued

I recently had someone who is on the list, and who we prayed for, tell me how comforting it was to know church family is praying for her. She was too ill to get up, but she could just look at her computer and know she was being prayed for. She is getting stronger and stronger and all tests were negative.

If you know of someone needing prayer, whether they belong to Unity or not, just let me know and we will add them to our list.

PRAYER HELPS NOT ONLY THE PERSON BEING PRAYED FOR, BUT ALSO THE PERSON DOING THE PRAYING. Thank you all. I wish you a HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS, JOY FILLED YEAR.

Carol Powers

Home Care for Veterans And Their Spouses

As many of you know, both Pat Brooks and I have been working at the same company, Veterans Home Care. When I started there, it occurred to me that there are many people in our church who are veterans and may know others who could use the service we provide, now or in the future.

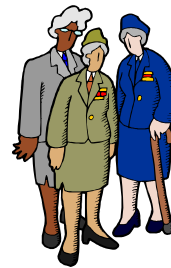
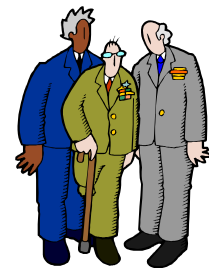
The company is about 8 years old and is one of the fastest growing companies in Missouri and in the nation. Bonnie Laiderman founded the company after her mother's death because she had never received the advantage of this benefit. The company is devoted exclusively to veterans and their spouses who need home care assistance with their daily living activities (cleaning, transportation, medication reminders, meal preparation, walking, transferring, etc.)

The benefit is called Pension with Aid and Attendance. It is available from the Veteran's Administration for any veteran, or surviving spouse, whose medical expenses exceed their income by 5% or more. Primary residences are excluded, as are a limited amount of savings. The company performs the financial analysis, which includes the cost of home care, as well as sources of income like social security, small pensions, etc. If, after taking multiple factors into consideration, the individual and or spouse qualify, Veterans Home Care goes to work. They help the individual apply for the benefit, they provide the home care up-front at their cost and, after 4 months of waiting, they make sure that the benefit promised is delivered into the individual's account. They withdraw it to retroactively pay for the care and continue to receive those payments for as long as the service is active.

The paperwork is extensive and difficult for most people to understand. This is why our service is growing. In addition, the VA watches the use of this money like a hawk, and if it is not used for medical expenses, they ask for it back. So our job is to keep the person compliant with the regulations.

Having home care can help a person stay in their home longer. It is also transferable to an assisted living arrangement. For whatever reason, the VA does not promote this benefit actively. If you think you may benefit from this service - no charge to you - or you know someone who might, please see Pat or me, and we can give you the appropriate information and tell you whom to contact.

Thank you,
Judy Townsend

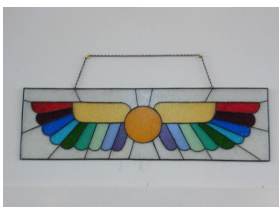


Happy Birthday!

Rosemary Gomez	Jan. 6
Cyndie Rhodes	Jan. 7
Paul Wiseman	Jan. 7
Robert Christl	Jan. 10
Sharon Anderson	Jan. 13
Donna Fowler	Jan. 13
Janet Callahan	Jan. 19
Jim DeGuire	Jan. 26
San Mueller	Jan. 27
Karen Sanchez	Jan. 27
Heather Turek	Jan. 28
Rev. Sallie Fox	Jan. 30
David Brown	Jan. 31



We hope you will join us after church for a special birthday celebration on the second Sunday of the month, January 9th, in Fellowship Hall.



Prayer Corner



Begin Anew

God is continually giving me opportunities for new beginnings

One of the important lessons in my spiritual development is learning to release the past so that I can live fully in the now, in the presence of God.

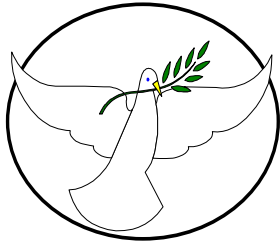
I know that I bring my past with me to any new beginning, but I choose to take only whatever adds to my enrichment and up-building. I carry with me the understanding I have gained from my experiences, but I let go of the excess baggage of guilt and regret.

As I do, I gain greater knowledge from each new experience. God is continually giving me new understanding and the opportunity of a new beginning.

I release myself and others from limitations from the past and the mistakes in the past. I choose to let go of yesterday's mistakes and begin anew.

"For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light."

—Ephesians 5:8



Unity Church of Peace

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