

	Unity Church of Positive Living	
	UNITY LIGHT NEWS	
	January/February 2010	

NEW BEGINNING

Isn't it interesting that after we celebrate Christmas with the commemoration of the birth of the Christ Child and our own Spiritual Rebirth, New Years follows with its possibilities and new beginnings. It's a time for new ideas and dreams and new ways of living our life fullout!

This resurgence of a new spirit signifies a re-awakening of our relationship with God and the people who surround us. Also, with the new year we are open to the possibility of new relationships and friendships being formed. This new beginning and new spirit for living never goes on in isolation or alone. Our newness and freshness for life comes from our being connected to others and the flowering of new relationships towards people in our lives and our own willingness to "see all things anew!"

The question to ask ourselves is "How am I relating to life, people, the world and the opportunities presented to me?" Einstein stated, "The belief that we are separate is an optical illusion." As we put aside the belief in this optical illusion of separateness, a new perspective emerges and a new way of relating to others comes into focus in our lives. Our relationships now become more important and more meaningful to us.

Some questions to ponder:

How does knowing we are One in Spirit affect my behavior towards others?

What are my gifts and talents that I can use to support others on their journey?

What difference do I want to make in my church, my community and in my world in 2010?

Paul states it this way: "There is but one body and one spirit – with different expressions." Paul calls it the 'Body of Christ', perhaps we can call it the Body of Humanity. Love is expressed in our relationships. 2010 is the year for "Awakening Relationships." What possibilities come to mind when you see yourself in new relationships, in new ways of thinking and being this coming year? We are intimately connected to one another as Einstein says and as Paul states in his Epistle to Corinthians 12:12-27: "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ....Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

Take time to renew those relationships that move you forward in life, expand your thinking and inspire you to action! Our relationships can and do support our growth of loving and being more than we are today. The New Year calls us to grow and deepen our relationships by expanding our hearts to include more people and expand our understanding of what it means to be a member of a spiritual community and humanity. The call to us is to be our greatest!

The following are words of Marianne Williamson which can inspire us to move forward:

"We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us!"

Let us move into our power of greatness and express it for the good of all as well as our own good. We have the opportunity to make **2010 A 10 – THE BEST!** Let's go for it!

Peace & Love, Luigi



Unity Church of Positive Living

P.O. Box 910043

St. George, Utah 84770

435.674.7242

January 3, 2010

Dear Members and Friends of Unity:

You are cordially invited to attend our annual meeting on Sunday, January 24, 2010.

This will be a short meeting after the service to update you on our church and future visions. New board members will be elected at this time. As of this date, the following person has agreed to be candidates for the Board of Trustees: Mary Beth Abbott

The 2009 Board of Trustees focused on the following three priorities:

1. **Membership Growth.** This priority was visited each month. Numerous ideas were brainstormed and some implemented. The reality is that the Unity family needs to work together using various avenues in order to increase the membership.

2. **New Church Home.** A wonderful new home for Unity Church was found. Unity family working together made the move to our new/current home at the end of June 2009. A program called Helping Hands Families has also been put into place to help maintain our church building as well as facilitate the work of the church.

3. **Financial Sustainability.** For the year 2009, the challenge of meeting the monthly expenses was not met. The proposed budget at the annual meeting of 2009 was not workable. A revised budget was developed in March where some line items were trimmed or eliminated. Following the move to a new church home, a second budget was developed. This budget included only the necessary line items to operate the church. Even with this final revision, monthly expenses were not met.

The board has made the following recommendations for priorities in 2010:

1. **Financial Sustainability.** Consistently operating in the red time after time is not a sound business practice. Now is an opportunity for all of us to recommit to creating the financial support for our church community so we can meet our monthly expenses. **We can do this with all of us pulling together.**

2. **Membership Growth.** We all need to work together for this to become a reality. Analyze what is currently taking place and be creative in new ideas and processes. Focus on our chosen options and implement them with strong intention and continuous attention. As the membership grows, this ought to have direct consequences on priority, financial sustainability.

The priorities suggested are each independent in their own right, yet also had elements of interdependency.

Your support and participation is needed for these priorities to become a reality for our church family. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting and thank you in advance for your continued loving support and participation.

Faithfully yours,

Luigi Persichetti

Minister

Nancy McClain

Mary Beth Abbott

Board President

Howard Williams

Secretary

Treasurer

Our Unity meeting space:

198 N. 100 East



Our mailing address is:

P.O. Box 910043

St. George, UT 84791

To contact Unity Church:

Phone: 435-674-5025 (office)

435-229-7242 (Luigi)

Email: sgunity@ymail.com

Website: unitychurchofpositiveliving.org

BOARD NOTES

See Letters from Board and from President, Nancy McClain

HELLOS AND GOODBYE

We are pleased to welcome new Unity members: Debbie Collins, Sylvia DeVoss, Sharon Hafen, Jill Persichetti and Aaron Spikes. And we look forward to getting to know you better in the year ahead!

At this time, we are sad to say goodbye to Nancy McClain who is moving too many miles away! We deeply appreciate Nancy's generous commitment and skilled leadership in moving the church forward this past year. She will be missed. We wish her well in following her "Star" on the next step of her journey.

UPDATE ON FINANCES

Nov. Income \$3,680 (includes \$500 transfer from savings)

Nov. Expenses \$3,449

Dec. Income \$3,952 (Includes \$1,000 transfer from savings)

Dec. Expenses \$4,234



HELPING HANDS PROGRAM

In December the Helping Hands of Love Family headed by Carmen and Joe Gomez got the program off to a fine start by enlisting members of their "family" to serve Unity and help in the Sunday services..... Thank you, for all your upfront and behind the scenes helping hands!

Helping Hands of Joy headed by Marianne & Dave Ayers will be our helping hands in January and Helping Hands of Peace headed by Sylvia DeVoss and Dave Dougherty will assist in February. Watch for news of a congregational activity during the coming months planned by the families. And answer the call to lend your talents before, during or after the service when asked by your family! Many hands make light work and make it fun too!



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January 4, 2010

Dear Unity Family,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as President of the Board of Trustees for 2009. This year has provided me with many education experiences challenges, and wonderful opportunities to meet, share, care, work, and play with an extraordinary group of special people, Unity Family. I have been humbled and spiritually blessed to be a part of all these interactions. For me, to be of service sharing my time, talents and resources to Unity Church and family has been very rewarding and fulfilling. It is now time for me to move on with my personal life and my purpose in life, in New Mexico.

My hope, for Unity Church and its wonderful family, is years of growth, financial abundance, service, joy, love, and peace.

Namaste,,

Nancy McClain

THANK YOU!

To **Roger Munford** for cooking the Thanksgiving turkey, adding pictures and photos to church walls, and donation of file cabinet for office and rocking chairs for children's room.

To **Ray Mendoza** for installing dimmer switch in meditation room, new lights and new (matching) carpet in sanctuary space.

To **Judy Warren (and Gordon)** for re-creating beautiful stain glass windows in our new space just in time for our Christmas services!

To **Dave Dougherty and Chuck Agne** for their help with the memorial service for Terry Manis.

To **Carmen Gomez** for her help in assuring hospitality is covered and supplies are in cabinet.

To **Carmen and Joe Gomez and their Helping Hands of Love family**-- one and all for their upfront and behind the scenes help and getting the Helping Hands program off to a fine start.

Janis Wick again for her help with typing & computer input.

To **Marianne Ayers** for offering her talent to lead new Unity Youth group and speak in Luigi's absence.

To **Nancy McClain** for her donation of vacuum & for her leadership on the Board this past year.

To **Gaylene Knoke** for organizing Christmas Program concert and leading the music during Sunday services.

To **ALL** bringing tasty dishes for our Thanksgiving potluck and contributing canned goods for DC&S.

To **ALL** helping to move our church forward, giving generously of your time, talent and treasure.

To **ALL** of you who make our Sunday services run smoothly.

2010: YEAR OF THE 12 POWERS

Unity International has designated 2010 the Year of the 12 Spiritual Powers. Their annual calendar highlights one power per month. This can be ordered or downloaded from www.unity.org/calendar if you would like your own copy. Luigi has just completed a series of Sunday talks and evening class exploring the 12 Powers. In conjunction with Unity Churches around the world in 2010, we will emphasize one Power each month and continue to develop our 12 Spiritual Powers.

PRAYER MINISTRY NOTES

You may contact Rev. Luigi for personal prayer needs. Silent Unity at 800-669-7729 is also available for 24-hour prayer support. Mid-week prayer and meditation will be on Wednesdays, at 11:00 AM.

Meditation Practices

Come and explore the many modes of meditation! This year, once a month we plan to have a presentation on different spiritual practices and an opportunity to practice various forms of meditation. On Saturday, February 6 at 10 AM Cathy Sylvia and Rev. Luigi will lead a Labyrinth Workshop and teach the practice of Walking Meditation. In March, Jill P. will lead a poetry workshop with a chance to read from our favorite poets and write some of our own. Dates will vary by month and depend on availability of presenters. If you would like to share a favorite meditation practice, please see Jill or Luigi or call 674-0335.

 **Music, Music Music** 
from Gaylene Knoke

This year has been a great year of music for Unity I think. We have learned many of the congregational songs and the special music has been a success. Please let me know if you have any ideas and suggestions. I would like to have a spring program in March. As always, the Unity Ensemble is looking for musical people that would like to participate. Please contact me by email (gaylenek2@yahoo.com) or at 635-9073. I really do enjoy working with all of you and I wish you well.

Musically Yours, Gaylene



Reading Library News

Anyone interested in assisting in checking in new books or reshelving returned borrowed books, please speak with Cathy Sylvia (673-6156). There are some brand new books from authors who have sent preview copies to the church. They can be borrowed from our Library. If you borrow and read one of these, perhaps you could write a review on one of these for the newsletter. Thanks to a generous donation of old books, there are also more Unity classics available to borrow!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

from Mary Beth Abbott

The children's curriculum will emphasize The 12 Spiritual Powers in conjunction with Unity's theme this year. In January and February there will be activities around the Powers of Faith and Strength. If you would like to assist in the Sunday School, preparing and leading a lesson, reading a story, creating a craft for the children, please speak with Luigi or Mary Beth.

UNITY YOUTH PROGRAM

from Marianne Ayers

Attention Teens!

We are looking for teens between 13 to 18 to meet twice a month on Sundays during the regular service. The goal is to explain & explore spiritual Truths. We also want to be able to travel to other Unity Centers for Y.O.U. events.

January 10 & January 24 are the dates for next month. We will meet at the same time as the regular service. Please call Marianne for any questions 435-628-7665 or e-mail davenmarianne@q.com.



UNITY HIKERS NEWS

from Dave Dougherty

In November Dave led a small group of intrepid hikers (5 men!) on the Yellow Knolls Trail, the day after a rain. The rain actually had hardened the sand, and made walking easier. We all enjoyed the interesting knolls, slickrock formations, and checkerboard patterns. The December Temple Quarry hike was postponed due to snowy, wet weather and a muddy trail, so this hike is re-scheduled for January. All are always welcome on the hikes! Remember to bring water and a snack.. Sign up at church or call Dave Dougherty at 627-0966 or 435-313-3276.(cell) for more details or to sign up.

Saturday, January 9 - Temple Quarry Hike

This is where the pioneers hiked and carried down rocks for the St. George Temple. See beautiful views and large quarry rocks! Take Airport Rd. to 265 S. (Black Hill Park) to Donlee Drive. Turn left and **Meet at Trailhead at 9 AM.**

Saturday, February 13 -Hike to Ft. Pierce Petroglygh Site

This hike is 1.5 to 2 miles round trip, much of it uphill. 4 WD vehicle is needed for last mile, but hikers can be shuttled in. **Meet at Unity Church at 9 AM for car pooling.**

UPCOMING UNITY EVENTS

Sun. Jan. 3 –White Stone Sunday. Set your Intentions for 2010.

Sat. Jan. 9 – Quarry Trail Hike – Meet at Trailhead at 9 AM. See hike news for details.

Sun. Jan. 10 – Youth group meeting during the service at 10 AM (meet in Meditation Room)

Sun. Jan. 17 – Maxine Shutt will be our guest speaker.

Fri. Jan 22 – Holy Lands Evening Tour. 6:30 PM. Julie Hawk will present photos, tales and artifacts from her recent trip to the Holy Lands. Bring a hearty snack to share for supper/fellowship.

Sun. Jan. 24 – ANNUAL MEETING following the service. Bring a favorite finger food to share.

Sun. Jan. 24 - Youth group meeting during the service at 10 AM (Meet in mediation room)

Sat. Feb. 6 - Labyrinth Walk and Workshop – facilitated by Cathy Sylvia and Rev. Luigi. 10AM

Sun. Feb. 7 - Board Meeting

Sat. Feb. 13 – Hike to Fort Pierce Petroglyph site. Meet at Unity Church at **9 AM** to carpool. Call Dave Dougherty at 627-0966 or 435-313-3276 (cell) to sign up. See hike news for details.

Notes: The Unity Healing Circle is taking a break for a few months to re-organize.
Midweek Meditation and Prayer resumes on Wednesdays.

ONGOING EVENTS

Meditation & Prayer: **Wednesdays at 11 AM**

Course in Miracles classes:

Mondays at 5:30 PM;

Thursdays at 6 PM;

Byron Katie Group-**Thursdays at 7:15**

You're invited.....

Unity Church of Positive Living
ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2010
(after 10 AM Sunday Service)

Come Share Your Ideas
about growing and expanding our church community.

Please bring your favorite finger food to share.

Unity Church of Positive Living
P.O. Box 910043
St. George, UT 84791-0043

PLEASE check the box
if you no longer wish to
receive this newsletter.
Then mark return to sender.

	January Lessons	Service Assistants	Music
Jan. 3rd	Power of Release	Howard Williams	Tracie McFarlin
Jan. 10th	Basic Principles of Unity	Nancy McClain	Gaylene Knoke
Jan. 17th	Maxine Shutt, Guest Speaker	Marianne Ayers	Lolita Hagio
Jan. 24th	You are a Divine Being	Gaylene Knoke	Open
Jan. 31st	Affirming our Faith	Gordon Warren	Gordon Warren
	February Lessons	Service Assistants	Music
Feb. 7th	Spiritual Power of the Mind	Howard Williams	Tracie McFarlin
Feb 14th	Love Rules the Day	Gaylene Knoke	
Feb. 21st	Taking Right Action = Success	Marianne Ayers	Lolita Hagio
Feb. 28th	Being Strong in Spirit	Open	

Sunday Services 10 AM at 198 North 100 East
435-674-5025 (church office) 435-229-7242 (Luigi's cell)