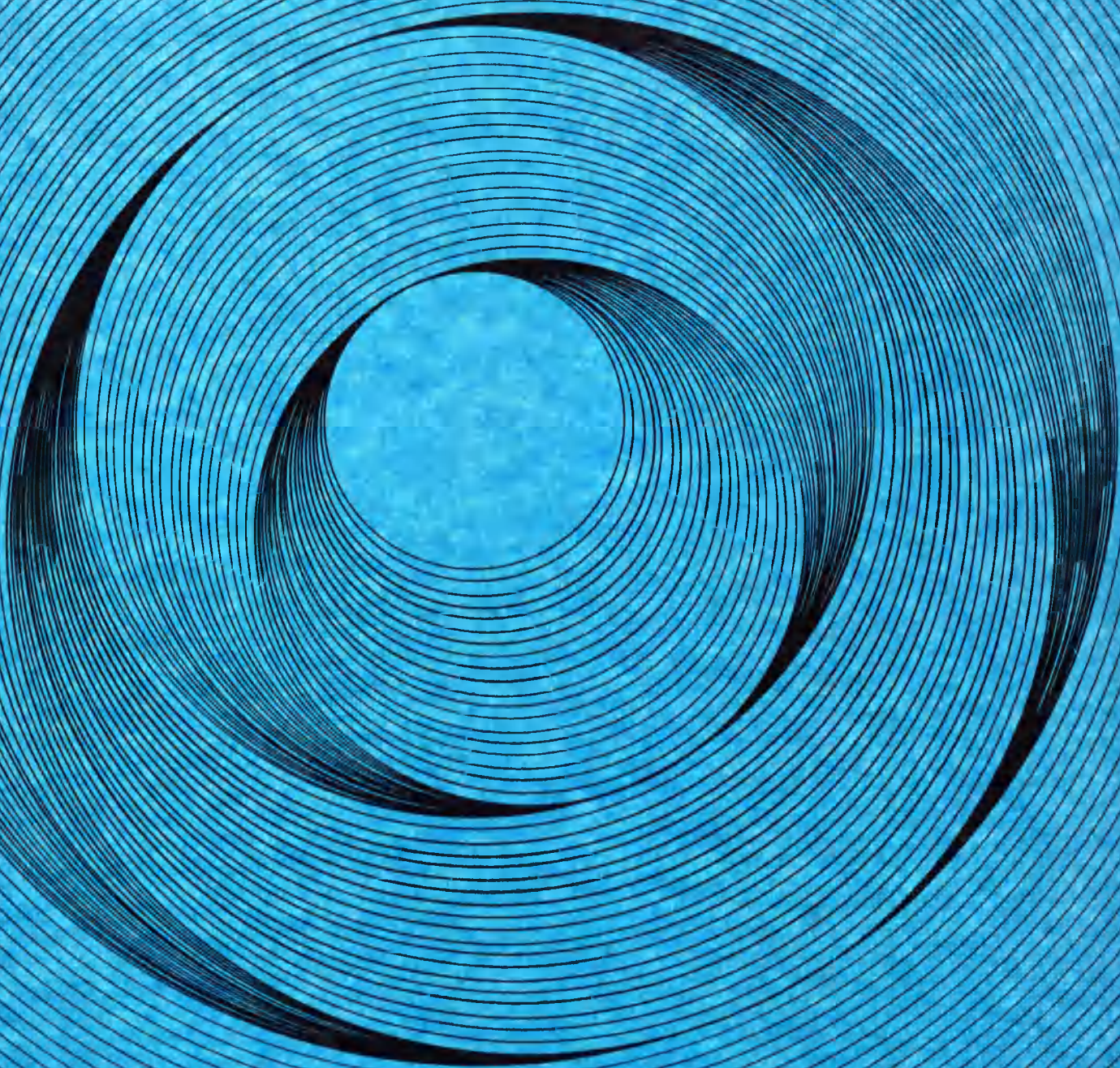


CONTACT



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AUC PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

After college my principal gave me advice that has continuously blessed my life. He said, "There is one thing you must do if you are to become an outstanding teacher. You must build an image in your mind and heart of yourself as a teacher." He went on to explain that even with all the knowledge available, only mediocrity would result unless one had an image that encompassed the highest qualities of leadership through teaching.

How we see ourself is vitally important. Not only do we need an image of ourself that is compatible with what we wish to achieve, but we need an image of our church. How do you see yourself and your church in relationship to your community? How do you see your community in relationship to your church?

Most Unity churches try various methods of getting more people of the community involved in their activities. Well-known speakers are promoted and various current interest programs are tried. However, the percentage of those who come to hear a guest speaker or participate in a special program and follow through by involvement is small.

The very uniqueness of Unity, the capacity of its teaching to help people help themselves, the knowledge that



Joyce Kramer

enables people to break out of the bondage of traditional beliefs, the inherent power to transform lives--all these things prove that Unity is one of the community's greatest assets. Since we serve the community, then why not let the community promote us?

There are many ways that this can happen. The majority of people in your church have some contact with at least one community organization. These groups are looking for resource persons who can be called upon to share ideas in a logical, orderly and meaningful way. Add to that the enthusiasm and vitality of the speaker and a favorable image of Unity is created

in the eyes of the community.

Gradually as a leader becomes known in the community, various opportunities are presented. An element of time and stability is necessary. As a result of our growing image of our church as an asset to the community, we have many opportunities come to us. For example, twice during the past year we have been featured on the "church page" of our local newspaper. In each case these come at the request of newspaper reporters. Newspapers need material of public interest and value.

Through the request of the program director of the YWCA, I have recently completed teaching two classes, "Building Inner Strength" and "Dynamics of Success" in their program. Other courses will be taught next term.

For several years, the Adult Education Department of the public school requested classes for their evening program. Unity is promoted indirectly, but most effectively. Many other opportunities have come to us through this positive image-building.

As we give out freely in service, we can rightly expect our communities to provide greater ways to expose more people to the Truth. A wholesome consciousness of Unity in the minds of the community will assure us of continued growth and unfoldment.

Sincerely,

Joyce Kramer



REGIONAL NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL NEWS with Marlowe Kline:

Unity of Roanoke Valley, Virginia, served by Alan and Kathryn Rowbotham, held a one-day retreat at the Peaks of Otter Lodge located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. "We began our retreat by reading the Daily Word (continued on page 4)



Members and friends of Unity of Roanoke Valley who attended the one-day retreat at the Peaks of Otter Lodge.

REGIONAL NEWS

(continued from page 3)

and then went outside for a few limbering up exercises," said Alan. "Back inside, we gathered in a circle and interviewed the person next to us. We introduced him to the group and told what Christ-like qualities we had observed in him. He, in turn, told why he had come to the retreat. In addition, everyone had chosen a prayer partner with whom we took a nature walk."

Members of the **Eastern Regional Conference** met at Manresa-on-Severn September 26-30. In the absence of **Charlene Linnell**, president, **Alan Rowbotham** presided at the meetings assisted by **Kathryn Rowbotham**, acting secretary. For the past nine years, the Eastern Regional Conference has held their meeting in retreat-resort type settings to give the members a time of renewal before the flow of work of the winter season. Business meetings were held in the morning and discussion groups, meditation, times of mutual help and renewal were held in the afternoon and evening. This year, a loving, Southern hospitality atmosphere was generated during the meetings as those attending enjoyed sufi dances, joy singing, and evening meditations in the chapel. A report on AUC activities was also shared by **Bob Sikking**, Executive Director of the AUC, and **Joyce Kramer** and **Stan Hampson** presented the Prosperity Post Graduate Course to round out the Conference.

Robert P. Sikking was guest speaker for **Luis Perez**, minister of **Ministerio Unity de Cristianismo Practico**, **New York, New York**, during the latter part of September. Fifty charter members were taken into the new ministry during the Sunday service. This ministry has also established a new Dial-A-Prayer. Luis would like all ministries with Spanish speaking people in the area to have the number on file for easy reference: El Gran Consolador (The Great Counselor), 24 hours a day, **212-498-6069**.

Unity of Hempstead, New York, served by **Ida Bowles**, minister, celebrated the dedication of their new facilities October 8 through 10. A two-story brick building was purchased last spring and the second floor has been completely remodeled and redecorated to make a kitchen, dining room, four spaces for biofeedback activities, office, prayer room, literature area, and sanctuary. The ground floor space is now occupied by two small stores and a large room. "It is space to grow into," said Ida. The sanctuary seats 120 and was beautifully decorated by Ida. Special guest speakers for the dedication of the building were **Jim Lewis** and **Johnnie Coleman**.

Unity Church of Truth in Toronto, Canada, served by **Jim Sherman**, minister, developed and put into action a Sunshine booklet for their Sunday School. "Sunshine" consists of messages of joy, peace, and harmony geared to enrich the lives of Sunday School students who may purchase the booklet for .50 each. "This way, they receive the pride and incentive for use that their parents receive with Daily Word", said Jim. "Sunshine will be a twice yearly publication and centers will soon be receiving copies.

Two special events were celebrated at **Unity Truth Centre of Montreal, Canada**, served by **Jean Grover**, minister. October 3 was **May Duncan Day**, a day set aside to honor the founder of the Truth Centre nearly thirty years ago. In a beautiful service honoring May, the large downstairs meeting room was renamed the May Duncan Fellowship Hall. A "Weekend to Remember" was also held November 6. **Robert P. Sikking** presented slides about the AUC and the local ministry's part in it and served as the guest speaker at the Sunday morning worship service.

Montclair Unity Church, New Jersey, celebrated its 37th anniversary as a group, its 14th year in the present building, and the 10th anniversary of **Marlowe Kline** as minister by holding an art exhibit and sale on November 6. Oils, pastels, water colors, photographs, and sculptures were displayed throughout the church. This was arranged by members of the Seminar Committee which has been a vital part of the growth of the church.

Spirit has been working grandly in **Lynchburg, Va.** **Becky Clark**, minister, states, "We have made arrangements to lease, with option to buy, a church home. We moved into the building December 1 and started Youth Education Classes January 1. The building will also provide room for a book room, library, and a prayer chapel."



NORTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS with **David McClure**:

James Dillet Freeman was able to start his workshop "Prayer—The Master Key" with musical harmony barbershop style recently at **Unity Church of Truth in Spokane**.



Pictured with **James Dillet Freeman** are members of the **Spokane chapter of the Sweet Adelines** who provided barbershop harmony for his workshop held recently at **Unity Church of Truth in Spokane**.

(continued on page 5)

REGIONAL NEWS

(continued from page 4)

Spokane has the distinction of the only group of ladies from Sweet Adelines, Inc., to sing religious songs exclusively in barbershop harmony. According to **David McClure**, minister, "This group of ladies have a busy schedule at many religious affairs, but they felt particularly honored to meet and appear with Jim and feel the magnitude that he and the members of the church projected."

Also, David was recently invited to give the invocation at dedication services for the Australian sundial on the former site of the Australian Pavilion at Expo '74. The invitation came from **David H. Rodgers**, Mayor of Spokane. The Sundial, Australia's gift to Spokane commemorating that nation's participation in Expo '74, was dedicated at a special ceremony on September 24, the second anniversary of Australia's "National Day" at Expo. Among those present was **John D. McCredie**, Australia Consul General. David was selected for the program because of his five year involvement in the formation of Unity ministries in Australia and New Zealand.

David and **Elaine Travis** have adopted three children from one family. **David**, 7; **Martha**, 5; and **Joyce**, 2½, joined the Travis family in late August. David serves as minister of **Unity Church of the Valley** in **Yakima, Washington**. We welcome the Travis children to our AUC family.

Tom Sikking, minister of **Unity Center** in **Portland, Oregon**, reports that a new work is underway in Vancouver, Washington, under the capable leadership of **Terri Burkett**, associate minister from Unity Center. An organizational meeting was held in late September with a number of Unity ministers and interested Vancouverites attending. Regular activities are underway and quarters for offices and meetings are being procured.

A special meeting was held November 21 in the Georgian Lounge of the Empress Hotel in Victoria, British Columbia. The purpose of the meeting was to plan the possibilities of developing a Unity ministry in Victoria. **Max Lafser**, minister of **Unity Centre of Practical Christianity** in **Vancouver, British Columbia**, hosted the meeting and a number of Unity ministers

participated. Highlight of the evening was the showing of the film "Charles Fillmore: American Mystic."

Marni Stewart, minister of **Unity on the North Shore** in **Vancouver, Canada**, recently sponsored the first Unity women's retreat ever held in Canada. All women ministers in the area attended.

Mary Fourchalk, minister of **Unity in Action** in **New Westminster, Canada**, tells of a highly successful series of lectures on meditation and the Mind of Man and Woman conducted by **John Alexander** in New Westminster. John was instrumental in founding the Mind Institute of Toronto and Vancouver.

Jeannie Horton, minister of **Missoula Unity** in **Montana**, reports a very successful two-evening seminar entitled "Live and Be Free Through Psychocybernetics" recently held at the center. **David** and **Barby McClure** of **Unity Church of Truth** in Spokane, Washington, conducted the seminar.



GREAT LAKES REGIONAL NEWS with Jack Boland:

A leadership training program is in progress at **Detroit Unity Temple, Mich.**, according to **David Williamson**, minister. Taught by **Frank Koehler**, associate minister, the course offers a valuable model for centers desirous of utilizing their congregations' talents and skills. "The main thrust of the program is to help the individual tap his own creative ability, to learn how to recognize and encourage creative expression in others, and to teach principles and techniques of goal setting, communications, motivation and speaking involved in the leadership role," said Frank. Prior to becoming a minister, Frank served as a consultant to business in the field of training and management development. His teaching approach combines spiritual principle with practical application.

Larry Miller, minister of **Overland Unity Center, Overland, Missouri**, has been using a bookkeeping, accounting tax service from which he feels other centers

might find benefit. "Using this system has saved much time and has eliminated the necessity for an elaborate bookkeeping system," said Larry. A monthly profit and loss statement, a detailed general ledger, balance sheets for tax purposes, and a monthly payroll register are some of the services rendered. The service is also quite economical. In order to obtain more information about this service, address all inquiries to: **Comprehensive Accounting Company, 901 East Galena Boulevard, Aurora, Illinois 60505**.

The **Great Lakes Unity Regional Conference** was held September 19-22 in Cincinnati, Ohio, with **Unity Temple of Truth, Robert Wasner**, minister, and **New Thought Unity Center, Jack Barker**, minister, serving as host centers.

Highlights of this year's program included a time of sharing with **Robert P. Sikking** and an introduction to the new youth education curriculum presented by **Judith Sherman**. Very productive business meetings were conducted by **William T. Hines**, president, and the following were elected to serve the region for the forthcoming year: **Gary Jones** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, President; **Larry Kendrick**, Evanston, Illinois, Vice-President; **Shirley Bring**, Flint, Michigan, Secretary; and **Richard Billings** of Oak Park, Illinois, was reelected for another five year term to serve as Regional Treasurer. The new alternate regional representative is **Robert Wasner** of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The final day of the Conference included a post graduate seminar on Prosperity conducted by **Joyce Kramer**, AUC President, and **Stan Hampson**, Field Services Coordinator.

Each spring and autumn, it has been customary for **Unity-by-the-Side-of-the-Road's (Cincinnati, Ohio)**, numerous study groups around the area to come together in a kind of spiritual family reunion. At least once a year, guest speakers are planned for the retreat celebrations held at the beautiful Hueston Woods Lodge near Oxford, Ohio. This year's featured speaker was **Rocco Errico** of the Aramaic Bible Center who presented a seminar entitled "God, Mysticism, and You." Sessions were held from 10-12 noon and from 2-4 p.m., with luncheon served to approximately 75 Unity friends at the main lodge. On (continued on page 6)

REGIONAL NEWS

(continued from page 5)

Saturday night, the retreat guests had a harvest time party with cider and doughnuts and played musical chairs with pumpkins given for door prizes. Saturday evening's party concluded with a musical talent show followed by meditation and spontaneous responses from those involved. "Such retreats offer an opportunity for many creative members and friends to share their talent in unstructured ways," said **Ginny Hinners**, minister of Unity-by-the-Side-of-the-Road. "It was a technicolor, sunny weekend in a beautiful woodland setting. Perhaps the gift of the outdoors was the most spiritual gift of all for those in attendance."



SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL NEWS with **James C. Lewis**:

Unity Church of Denver, Colorado, served by **James C. Lewis**, has received extensive advertising coverage of its wedding chapel and book store in the Denver Yellow pages. According to Jim, "The wedding chapel ad brings in most of our weddings. We are now averaging about fifteen weddings a month. Some are large ones with receptions. I have a Wedding Hostess that handles all arrangements for the large ones and even the rehearsal." The book store advertisement has prompted the church to print stationery with a tasteful letterhead and picture showing the interior of the store.

Marjorie Kass, Unity's "circuit rider" and minister of the **Church of the Open Road, Dallas, Texas**, recently conducted a joy dynamics seminar in the Village Chapel at Unity Village. The seminar included techniques on how to improve one's life, heal one's body, and prosperity. Marge is open and receptive to anyone wishing to have such a seminar. She may be contacted at Box 20512, Dallas, Texas 75220.



SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL NEWS with **Loren Flickinger**:

Unity in the Pines, Brooksville, Florida,

where **Paul Funk** serves as minister, is happy to report the completion of a new kitchen and dining hall. The new facility was enjoyed recently with two well attended workshop seminars. **Jack Kern**, minister of Unity of Naples, Florida, conducted a most effective and interesting seminar-workshop entitled "Spiritual Techniques for Improving Eyesight." Another seminar-workshop featured **Alma Wallace**, a teacher at Unity of Pompano Beach, Florida. Mrs. Wallace, 81 years young, demonstrated the particular yoga exercises which, in six years, transformed her from an arthritic cripple in a wheelchair to the abundant health she now enjoys.

Members of **Unity Church of Pompano Beach, Florida**, were quite surprised during the Sunday morning service July 4 when their minister, **William Clark**, presented them with a Unity flag. Designed and hand-sewn by Bill, the flag was carried in the processional during the opening of the church service that morning.



Bill Clark is pictured with a Unity flag designed and hand-sewn by himself.

The **Southeast Regional Unity Ministers' and Teachers' Conference** was held October 17-20 in Tallahassee, Florida, with meetings and lodging at the Hilton Hotel. Registration for the Conference was held October 17 followed by a public lecture with **Robert P. Sikking** as featured speaker.

Business meetings were conducted on Monday and a very capable **Joan Goodman** presented a youth education program followed by **Ross Goodman**, minister of First Unity Society in Tampa, Florida, who presented a report on the annual Southeastern Retreat in St. Petersburg. **Charles Neal**, minister of Unity Center of Practical Christianity in Miami, Florida, gave a brief summary of the nature of the

office of Regional Representative and reiterated the suggestions given in the Barton Associates Report. It was announced that the annual Southeastern Retreat would be hosted by **Hal and Lassie Rosencrans** and held August 15-19 in Palm Beach, Florida. **Jack Kern** and Unity of Naples will host the 1977 Southeastern Regional Conference in October.

On Tuesday, **Joyce Kramer**, AUC President and **Stan Hampson**, Field Services Coordinator, presented the regional Post Graduate Course on Prosperity. This was followed by a discussion with Stan. The rest of the day was devoted to free time.



SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS with **G. Arthur Hammons**:

On October 4, **Max and Frances Flickinger**, ministers of **Christ Church, Unity in Riverside, California**, sponsored an exchange day. Lunch was served by the ladies of the church and all the ministers of the region had a chance to be together and exchange ideas with each other about their expanding ministries.

Two of Unity's most prolific writers, **Sue Sikking**, minister of Unity By The Sea in Santa Monica, California, and **Catherine Ponder**, minister of Unity Worldwide in Palm Desert, California, have released information about their new publications. Sue has new cassette tapes that are available covering "Lessons in Truth," "Healing," "Prosperity," and "The Twelve Powers." Catherine has just released her newest book entitled The Millionaires of Genesis published by DeVors and Co. Catherine is busily engaged in preparing the manuscripts of several more books in this "Millionaire series."

Unity of San Diego, served by **Jay Dishman**, minister, had a very successful, gala dinner honoring people in the San Diego area who had contributed to the area's good. Several radio, television, and newspaper personalities were present and honored. Unique door prizes were awarded and a delicious dinner was served. The highlight of the evening was the awarding of the Honorary Doctorate to **Marion Brown** by **Rev. Robert Stevens**, minister of Christ Church, Unity also in San Diego.

PERSON TO PERSON

with
bob sikking



There are lots of ways in which we have the opportunity to evidence growth in our Movement. Most of the time, we count warm bodies that fill the seats or the pews in our churches. A lot of time, we tend to count eyes instead of noses and come up with long figures, but still it is an attempt on our part to be conscious of, to experience and behold growth in all that we are and all that we do. Sometimes, we measure growth by the number of digits in our financial statement or the number of letters that we handle or prayer requests that we deal with or weddings or funerals.

Another way to see growth is to behold the willingness and ability in our Movement to honestly evaluate our own position and the progress that we are making as an organization. Our response to the recent Barton Associates Survey gave us an opportunity to see growth and to see ways in which to increase the growth of our Movement as a whole. Sometimes, it is a little scary to "rock the boat", but it is one of the healthiest things that we do. It is important to be sure that when we do so, attendant with that evaluation and consideration is the readiness and willingness to take positive, affirmative action.

As a part of the action taken at Conference in Philadelphia this summer, three special committees were appointed which

were not listed in CONTACT last month since they are not standing committees. These three are committees to evaluate specific aspects of our Movement. The first one is the **Executive Office/Executive Committee Research Committee**. This Committee consists of **Paul Barrett** as Chairman, **Grover Thornsberry**, **Bill Helmbold**, **Mary Kupferle**, **Bob Means**, **Gwen Norment**, and **Tom Coates**. The Conference body determined that this Committee should be made up of three past Presidents of either AUC or UMA and three who have never served in that capacity, these to serve under the chairmanship of our President-elect. This Committee is going to have a real challenge in being able to find a way in which to spend sufficient, productive time to evaluate the function of the Executive Office and the Executive Committee. We, in the Executive Office, look forward eagerly to their involvement with us and their responses and reactions and recommendations. Perhaps you have some thoughts that you feel would be appropriately valuable to members of this Committee. If so, drop a line to Paul Barrett. He's eager, open, and receptive and wants to do the best possible job for our Movement.

The second Committee is the one to **research the position of Regional Representatives**. This is under the chairmanship of **Charles Neal** and the Committee will consist of **Alan Rowbotham**, **Miki Bowen**, and **Gary Jones**. The area of the responsibility of Regional Reps has been one that has come under considerable consideration, criticism, and concern. I know that Charles will be very eager to have any input that anyone would feel led to share. If you have thoughts and ideas that you feel are significant and important, share them with Charles so that he might, in turn, share them with his Committee as they move forward to fulfill the

mandate of the Conference body to evaluate the position of Regional Representative.

The third Committee is the **Doctorate Committee**. This Committee consists of **Lillian Matthews**, Chairman; **Hal Rosencrans**, **Bob Stevens**, **David Monument**, **David Williamson**, **Mary Hinkle**, and **Phil Pierson**. The matter of the doctorate has been one that has had very strong feelings expressed and warrants our best efforts, our best faith, before they can report back to the Conference body next June. If you have thoughts and feelings that, in your judgment, have not been adequately or appropriately heard, do write to Lillian. Her commitment to the Unity Movement is beyond question. She will be open and receptive to any thoughts, any suggestions, any ideas that you may have to share.

All of us have a responsibility now, having given a commitment to these Committees, to be supportive of them with our thoughts and ideas, but we have an even more important responsibility and that is to have faith that there is a Spirit that works through our Movement. That Spirit reveals and unfolds the perfect will of the Father. What our Movement needs more than anything else is our faith--yours and mine. Through the structure as it now has unfolded, there is the ability to share whatever kinds of ideas are meaningful and helpful. When we come back together in June, we'll have the opportunity to make decisions collectively that will be for the highest good of all concerned.

As we launch into this new year, we're going to see growth like never before. Let us rejoice and give thanks in advance for that growth that blesses every aspect of our Movement and blesses all whom we are privileged to serve as a result. Thank you, Father, for this great, new, wonderful New Year.



"ACTIVITY OF SPIRIT"

Stan Hampson
Field Services Coordinator

CONTACT magazine begins the new year with several obvious changes. Through the years, our AUC has continually sought to improve the services and coverage of this magazine written especially

for our ministers, teachers, Board members, and interested lay leaders. Continuing in this direction, we have begun with a new cover which we will repeat each month on a different color paper.

In addition to all our regular features reported as we receive them, we plan to have more of David McClure's "Uni-Tickles", estate planning and tax ideas from various authorities in those fields, information on pulpit exchanges, information on seminars available, ideas on how to get on the radio, and Sunday lesson outlines with illustrations. All of these things and more are coming soon.

One concept we'd like to develop could be called "Issues." This would be a forum to discuss the pros and cons of various issues that arises in churches and in our AUC.

What ideas do you have? What topics might you like discussed? Let us hear from you.

As your personal activity of Spirit requires a dialogue of listening to the source and speaking the word, so do our AUC communications need to go both ways. We need to hear from you. Starting this January, overwhelm us with your ideas and comments. This will be the best year ever. We're counting on your help.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

We know that each member of the Association of Unity Churches joins us in extending thoughts of love, appreciation, and special blessing to our fellow members who have birthdays in February:

February

1	Susan Colombero Betty Owers
2	Emerson Brathwaite Ruth Cox Harry Young
3	Al Ransford Ruby Rawlins
4	Thelma Hembroff Edna Lowe Sue Page Sune Richards
5	Freda Butner
6	Carl Bonham Rosita Friedman
7	Rowland Jenkins
11	Robert R. Barth David Schumacher
12	Jim Sherman Sarah Switzer
13	Hazel Erisman Adah J. Jones Priscilla Purdy Pearle Swallow

February

14	Vera Harper Mildred Kennedy Catherine Ponder Bob Wallet
15	Ruby Gillespie Mary Lou Watkins
16	Ed Myler
17	May Duncan† Randy Schmelig
18	Candida Wright
19	Helen Chapman Elvira Hicken Lee Stahl*
20	Dorothy Breese Genevieve Robinson
21	Joan Bacon
22	Mabel Donaldson Fermor Manley† Gloria White
23	Kay Arndt Jack Groverland
24	Margaret Cain Ruth Johnston Max Lafser Warren Meyer
25	Marion Brown Martha Cole Jane Weber Lucile Johnston Ruth Seaton

February

26	Howard Armstrong Nicolina Benitez Michael Murphy Viola Zeliff
27	Marvin Anderson* Donald Curtis
28	Floyd Howard Graeme Johnson* Marilyn Witherspoon*

† Minister Emeritus

* SMRS Student Minister

IN MEMORIAM

James A. Decker, senior editor and book editor for the Unity School of Christianity and editor of Unity Magazine, made his transition November 15, 1976.

Jim became an editor for the school in 1949 and was named senior editor in 1967. He was the author of three books: Magnificent Decision in 1963, The Right Answer in 1967 and What Will You Have? in 1973. He had been listed in Who's Who in the Midwest the last four years.

He taught creative writing at Unity's School for Ministerial and Religious Studies and at the Unity Institute for Continuing Education. He was born in Prairie City, Ill., and had attended Park College from 1934 to 1936, when he returned to Prairie City and founded the Decker Press.

As Jim continues on the eternal voyage of life, our prayers and blessings are with him.

Eva Conover, a retired Unity minister, made her transition on October 29, 1976, in Rock Island, Illinois. Eva served as minister in Springfield, Peoria, and Bloomington, Illinois. She also served in the Telephone Prayer Room before retiring.

We know each member of the AUC joins in thought and prayer as we bless Eva in her spiritual ongoing.

Edna Ducro, a retired licensed teacher made her transition on November 10, 1976. Edna was licensed in 1957 and served as teacher and counselor at Unity By-The-Sea, Santa Monica, California.

We extend special blessings of love and God-speed to Edna in her eternal ongoing.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

Statement of General Fund Operations

Eight Months Ended 11/30/76

	Nov.	Year to Date
INCOME—OPERATIONS:		
Love Offerings	\$35,125.42	\$236,683.63
Other Income	1,610.16	23,189.49
	<u>36,735.58</u>	<u>259,873.12</u>
Less: Tithe Transfer	3,512.54	23,668.36
Gross Profit Materials	<u>3,123.15</u>	<u>12,821.89</u>
Total Income	<u>36,346.19</u>	<u>249,026.65</u>
EXPENSES—OPERATIONS:		
General Office	29,007.01	207,353.13
Education Dept.	<u>9,217.37</u>	<u>77,148.17</u>
Total Expenses	<u>38,224.38</u>	<u>284,501.30</u>
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSE:	<u>\$(1,878.19)</u>	<u>\$(35,474.65)</u>

SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Second year ministerial students (left to right): John Wingfield, Dennis Neagle, Barbara Provost, and Jeffrey Shumsky.

John Wingfield, a native of Washington, attended the University of Puget Sound where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. Upon graduating from college, John served as a member of the group home staff of the University of Puget Sound and served as a conversational English instructor of the Youth Exchange Service in Tokyo, Japan. A member of Unity of Olympia, Washington, John assisted in the Sunday School and taught various evening classes. He is well versed in Japanese, Spanish, and German and enjoys music, hiking, skiing, and crafts. John and his wife, **Jane**, reside in Lee's Summit.

Dennis Neagle came to Unity Village from the state of California to enter SMRS. He attended and was actively involved in the programs of activities of Unity Church of San Gabriel and Christ Church Unity in San Diego. Dennis is a graduate of San Diego State University where he holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and completed work on his master's degree while employed as an elementary teacher. While a student in SMRS, Dennis serves as a tour guide for the Public Relations Department of Unity School. In addition, he enjoys golf, piano, and jogging. Dennis' wife, **Kit**, is currently a first year student in SMRS.

Barbara Provost entered SMRS from Dallas, Texas. A graduate of Southern Methodist University, Barbara holds a degree in business and personal management and served as an Executive Secretary for various businesses and corporations. In addition to her secretarial skills, Barbara has also taught business subjects and served as a lecturer in business education at S.M.U. Prior to entering the ministry, Barbara was actively involved in a Unity study group in the Virgin Islands. While a student she has worked in the prayer room of Silent Unity. Barbara is married. Her husband, **Bill**, is an accomplished pianist-composer.

Jeffrey Shumsky is from Buffalo, New York, where he was actively involved in Unity Church of Practical Christianity. Jeff served the Buffalo ministry as a Sunday School teacher, and a member of the Board of Trustees. An advanced guitarist and excellent choreographer, Jeff specializes in writing and singing his own songs and has choreographed dances of universal peace. He is fluent in French, Spanish and Hebrew and assisted in providing the voice-overs for the current "Unity Today" program heard nationwide. While an SMRS student, Jeff serves as a Tour Guide for the Public Relations Department of Unity School. He is single.

NEW EDITOR FOR UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY

Thomas E. Witherspoon, a 1976 SMRS ordinand and a long-time newspaper editor and publisher has been selected to replace James A. Decker as Unity magazine editor and book editor for Unity School of Christianity.

The appointment, which includes a position on the Executive Committee, was effective December 1, 1976.

Before entering the ministry, he was a newspaperman for fifteen years. Following graduation from Indiana University in 1959 he served in various capacities on newspapers around the country.

While in SMRS he contributed five articles to Unity magazine and started research on a biography of Myrtle Fillmore. The book is projected for publication late in 1977.

"Unity magazine has been doing an effective job of communicating Truth," Tom said upon assuming his duties. "Changes will be made, however, which I think will make the magazine an even more vital tool for spreading the Truth message. One thing is certain: I will invite contributions and suggestions from field ministers and teachers, and I hope to involve them more in the magazine."

Tom's wife, **Marilyn**, is a second-year ministerial student and employee of the school's education department.



S.M.R.S. APPLICATIONS FOR 1977-78

Please remember that the School for Ministerial and Religious Studies is eager to receive applications for September 1977 admission to SMRS. However, please do not encourage anyone to go through the admission procedure whom you personally, as the minister, would not recommend to become a Unity minister. Anyone who is a *serious* candidate may receive an Application for Admission by writing to: **William L. Fischer, SMRS, Unity Village, Missouri 64065.**

ATTENTION!!!

Christ Church Unity, San Diego, California, served by **Robert L. Stevens**, is presenting a Seminar for Ministers on Church Management and Successful Ministerial Attitudes. They are now accepting reservations for February 10-15, 1977. The seminar is restricted to 36 registrants. A \$25 deposit is required. Please send your deposit and travel requirements to **Ms. Pat Fleeson, Aloha Travel Agency, 5700 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92115, or call (714) 583-ALOHA.** Subjects to be included are *Ministerial Attitudes, Church Development, Unity Friend Program, Counseling Principles, Music Ministry* and more. The total price of the seminar is \$150 per person, including meals, and double-occupancy hotel accommodations. Travel expense not included. ALOHA World Travel can help work out the most advantageous trip arrangements for you.

THINKING EXPANSIVELY

with R. Scott Sherman

This column indicates not only the expansion efforts of the AUC Outreach Program led by its author in the Chicago area, but will regularly report other expansion projects by any member ministry. If you have an expansion project or idea, please write:

R. Scott Sherman
AUC Outreach Director
622 Cress Creek Drive
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Among the emerging new activities of expansion throughout the Association of Unity Churches is the cooperation of varying regional groups in helping expansion activities grow in their areas. I have recently been a part of the activities of the Great Lakes Unity Conference (GLURC) and the Northwest Unity Regional Ministers Conference who have established procedures for encouraging new ministries to serve people in their areas. I am also aware that there may be other expansion programs active in the regions but these two are of special note. The GLURC has established a special committee made up of five representatives and their treasurer to review re-

quests for assistance of newly forming Unity works throughout the region. The funds for this activity have been developed over the years and placed in a special GLURC expansion fund to which Great Lakes ministries may contribute individually throughout the year. This fund enables newly forming groups to serve and to maintain the support of other ministries in the region. This has two very important results: (1) this enables the ministry to begin with a firm financial base and (2) provides evidence of the support of other nearby ministries to the newly forming one. The GLURC has asked me to serve as coordinator for this activity so that we can assure that the same standards of reporting the financial and growth activities of the new ministry are applied both in the initial grant stage and as the Center develops. In this way we know that our support is truly as effective as it possibly can be. In the Northwest, the system has been used for several years whereby member ministries send their ministers on successive Sunday evenings to help begin a work in an area where Unity people there seem to be ready for full-time services. Generally

speaking, these meetings begin on a Sunday evening and continue until such time as the ministry can support full-time services and its own minister. Recent ministries developed there have been in Anchorage, Alaska; Burien, Washington; and Salem, Oregon. At this time the Northwest Regional Group is working with the Outreach Program in development of Boise, Idaho and quite possibly Salt Lake City, Utah, in the near future. A study group, established through the efforts of **Lora McAfee**, have brought the Boise group to the place where January Sunday evening services are being strongly considered. A post card mailing approved by Unity School will announce the formation of the new group and Northwest Unity ministers will present lessons each Sunday evening beginning early this month.

These activities suggest the kind of support that regional groups can give to the Outreach efforts of the AUC and Unity School. I would strongly urge each regional representative to be prepared to discuss possibilities for such Outreach cooperation within the region at our January Conference of Committees at Unity Village. In this way not only will Outreach happen in the area where we are actively working but other areas may be well served in addition.

PLACEMENT

Placement occurs through the activity of Spirit. Your Field Services Coordinator notifies all active Unity ministers of churches seeking leadership through his placement report published separately. Ministers interested in placement notify the Field Services Coordinator who forwards their resumes to churches requesting leadership. Your Field Services Coordinator is directly responsible to the Board of Trustees of the Association of Unity Churches and utilizes the resources of the Placement Committee, Regional Representatives, and the Executive Committee in facilitating placements. Since the last issue of CONTACT, the following activity of Spirit has been accomplished in placement:

Augusta & Athens, Georgia

satellites of Atlanta and will stay on as permanent minister.

Robert Preston is making great strides forward in these

Chicago, Illinois

grown into the Unity Church of Chicago. **Polly Dozier** began there December 23.

Our AUC outreach activity in downtown Chicago has

Hot Springs & Pine Bluff, Arkansas These two ministries are sharing the services of **Bill George** starting December 1. Special thanks to **Donald Bould**, for his assistance in working out these arrangements.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

the ministry in Philadelphia December 1.

Our joyous blessings go with **John Salunek** as he assumed

St. Louis, Missouri

assumed leadership of this Unity ministry on December 27.

Our blessings go forth to **Brendan O'Keefe** as he as-

San Gabriel, California

outworking of Spirit.

Lee Hannaford, interim, has been requested by unani-

Waco-Temple, Texas

Lowell Turner which began December 29.

We rejoice with the activity of Spirit for placement of

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Jan. 4-6	Northern California Regional Conference, Asilomar, California	June 25-July 8	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 3, Unity Village, Mo.
Jan. 17-18	AUC Mid-Year Council of Committees meetings, Unity Village, Mo.	July 9-22	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 4, Unity Village, Mo.
Jan. 19-21	AUC Board of Trustees meetings, Unity Village, Mo.	†July 17-23	Snow Mountain Ranch Retreat, Granby, Colo., hosted by Unity Church of Denver
†Feb. 12	Youth Education Seminar, Dallas, Texas, hosted by Unity Way Church, conducted by Helen Nairn	July 23-29	Summertime Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
Feb. 24	Youth Education Seminar, Bakersfield, Calif., hosted by Unity Center—Bakersfield, conducted by Shirley Bonham	August 6-12	August Festival Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
March 12-25	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 1, Unity Village, Mo.	August 15-21	YOU Conference, Unity Village, Mo.
March 18-20	Spiritual Retreat, Henry Horton Park, Chapel Hill, Tennessee, Sponsored by "The Group" Unity Center of Memphis	August 22-25	Northwest Regional Conference, Great Falls, Montana, hosted by Unity Church of Truth
March 26—April 8	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 2, Unity Village, Mo.	*August 23-26	YAU Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
April 9-15	Easter Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.	†August 27—Sept. 2	Mid-Season Festival, Unity Village, Mo.
April 11-14	South Central Unity Churches Association (SCUCA) Regional Conference, Houston, Texas, hosted by Unity of Houston	*Sept. 10-16	Autumn Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
April 12	Post Graduate Program on "Prosperity," Houston, Tex.	*Sept. 24-30	Harvest Festival Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
May 21-27	Maytime Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.	*Oct. 8-14	Indian Summer Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
June 4-10	Rose Festival Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.	*Oct. 15-28	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 5, Unity Village, Mo.
June 12-17	AUC Pre-Conference, Unity Village, Mo.	*Oct. 29—Nov. 11	U.I.C.E. Study Program—Session 6, Unity Village, Mo.
June 19-23	AUC Ministers/Teachers Conference, Unity Village, Mo.	Nov. 19-25	Thanksgiving Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.
		Dec. 21-27	Christmas Retreat, Unity Village, Mo.

*Revision

†Addition

Happy
New Year!