

Contact

AUC Conference Edition

June 1980

Conference Commentaries

From Jack Boland:

Dear Friend,

The June 1980 Conference of the AUC was a course in miracles!

Could it be that God had this in mind for us all the time and, so, with a sly sense of divine humor arranged many months ago to have Jerry G. Jampolsky, M.D. come to give his workshop based on *A Course in Miracles*.

Dr. Jampolsky read from *A Course in Miracles*, these words attributed to the Inner Teacher, "Forgiveness is letting go of the past; letting go of whatever we think people did to us or what we think we did to them. Forgiveness is letting go of all that seems to separate us. Forgiveness is our source of Unity and in forgiveness we are joined together in a Unity of love. All healing begins and ends in forgiveness."

Healing is the breaking up of old patterns so that something new can happen. I am so very thrilled and happy that my final report to you as the President of the AUC is that with my eyes I have seen this healing activity taking place in our Association and our movement...with my ears I have heard the mellow words of God's healing love spoken among us...and with my heart I have felt that Great Healing Presence in everything that has taken place here. This Conference has been a course in miracles. We will never be the same again. All is well!

Vaya Con Dios,

Jack Boland

From David McClure:

Dear Unity Friends,

The theme of our 1980 Conference—"Together in Unity"—has become a reality. From the unveiling of the life-like portraits of the Fillmores, to the blessing given in person by all the Silent Unity Workers, to the business meetings filled with promise and possibilities, the Unity family came together in harmony and understanding this week and a new era of cooperation was born.

Even Jerry Jampolsky's children (who were a part of our Post-Graduate program) seemed to symbolize the growing pains the Unity family has felt in the past year as they told of their journey from fear to love and peace of mind. A great calm and a sigh of relief could be felt and heard from the top of the tower to the darkest recesses of the AUC offices.

The fighting is over. The work of becoming all that we can be has begun. The coming together of minds, hearts, talents, dreams and resources is the long-awaited answer to our prayer.

It was especially good to see familiar names and faces, who previously saw fit to stay away from Conferences, now present and accounted for and taking their place among the Family; offering their rich experience and support, signing up for committees and bringing their long-silent voices into the harmonious melody of "I Behold the Christ in You."

And the new Ordinands standing strong and tall, seem to herald promise of brighter things to come. The focus changed from organizational and political matters to planning and goals. The Unity Family was ready to set down, roll up its collective sleeves, and dream and grow together—in Unity!

Blessings,

David McClure

From Hal Rosencrans:

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

The early approval of the recommendations of the Executive Council by an overwhelming vote of the Conference body set the stage for a harmonious and productive time in our meetings. These recommendations were reported to you in a letter dated April 24, 1980. The two committees established by our President, Jack Boland, are off and running. They are the Executive Council Committee and the Coordination Committee.

Frequent meetings of both of these committees has demonstrated to all of the committee members the real desire of Unity School to form a closer bond of harmonious cooperation and their willingness to share in the responsibility of close communication.

Among other things the School is:

1. Exploring the possibility of our using equipment that will relieve the need of our purchasing similar expensive equipment for our AUC office.
2. Reducing the rental expense of this year's Conference facilities from \$4,020 to \$1,000.
3. Considering participating in the expense of our current remodeling project.
4. Giving valuable advice in our current effort to employ a computer in the AUC office.
5. Demonstrating a willingness to answer questions and to openly discuss and try to resolve areas where we have a tendency to step on each other toes.
6. Working with a "joint projects request form," developed by the Coordination Committee.

We appreciate your cooperation in the ongoing development of our movement. It is our proposal that time be set aside at the January meetings and at next year's Conference in June so those who still have questions, judgements and suggestions have an opportunity to share them with the AUC Board and the members of the Executive Council Committee.

It is our strong conviction that within the allotted two-year period, we, the Executive Council Committee, will have eliminated the need of our function and the Executive Committee of the AUC will be performing this all important job of fulfilling our goal of "working with Unity School in a Jesus Christ Spirit of love, tolerance and cooperation."

Hal Rosencrans, Chairman
Bob Stevens
Joyce Kramer
Dorothy Pierson

David McClure
Ruth Mosley
Art Hammons
Miki Bowen

From Ruth Mosley:

Dear Unity Friends,

On June 18, 1980, I read the Daily Word lesson that said, "Be Strong in the Lord." It also said, I am one with the presence, power and love of God. These words rang in my ears as I arrived at the Board meeting. On that day, I became Vice-President, and I felt humble and very proud to serve. It was at that moment I realized that this opportunity was a privilege not an honor. Honor is something that one earns after a lot of hard work; I have worked but my work has just begun. Therefore, you the people of AUC and Unity School are the "honorees" and I promise I will earn that honor in the months to come I know I will be strong because I am at one with the presence of God and all of you.

DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD

From David Williamson:

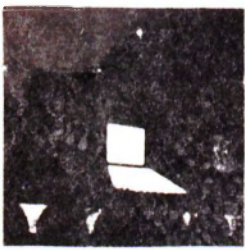
AN ACCOLADE TO JACK BOLAND

Our President this year was in a difficult and sensitive position. He was under strong pressure from many quarters. Opinions, egos, power blocks, caucuses, threats flew left and right.

I believe we owe a great deal to Jack for the fair and balanced way he has steered through these waters. There were those who wanted to do battle on the high seas and those who wanted to anchor in a quiet harbor. Jack has refused to drop anchor or to do battle. He has remained a strong captain of the AUC ship as we sailed through perilous passages.

He has been accused of ambition and over extending his authority in his Presidency. These are not justified by the facts. He has led the Board forth into a strong position where we are now more of a "real" Board and do the work that the board of an international organization of churches and professionals must do. We are not an honorary conclave or the rubber stamp for a few on the Executive Committee, but a forward-looking leadership from many corners of our Unity ministry.

Maybe only those of us who have served for many years in Unity and have had the privilege of working beside Jack have seen his complete dedication to the progress of Unity and his mature handling of tremendously difficult decisions. However, I, for one, hope many see his contribution and catch the vision for an expanded and greater Unity Movement.



Daily Word

A word for each day

A prayer for each need

UNITY VILLAGE, MISSOURI 64065

MARTHA SMOCK, EDITOR

June 17, 1980

Jack Boland, President
Members of the Association of Unity Churches

Dear Friends:

I am still glowing from the great outpouring of love I felt when you bestowed the honorary ordination upon me. It was one of the most moving experiences of my life, and an occasion I shall never forget.

I love and value all of you and the great work you are doing, individually and collectively.

In love and unity of Spirit,

Martha Smock

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

By
J. H. HARRIS, M.D.
Professor of Medicine,
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

Read at the Annual Meeting of the
American Medical Association,
Chicago, Ill., May 1, 1919.

Received for publication
February 1, 1919.

INTRODUCTION

The treatment of tuberculosis has been the subject of much discussion and controversy for many years. The various methods of treatment have been numerous and have varied widely in their principles and in their results.

In the past, the treatment of tuberculosis has been largely a matter of rest, diet, and the administration of drugs. The results have been unsatisfactory in many cases, and the disease has often proved fatal.

More recently, the use of the X-ray and of the radium has been introduced into the treatment of tuberculosis. These methods have been found to be of great value in many cases, and have led to a more successful treatment of the disease.

The purpose of this paper is to discuss the various methods of treatment of tuberculosis, and to present the results of a study of the subject.

The first part of the paper will deal with the history of the treatment of tuberculosis, and the second part will deal with the present methods of treatment.

Regional News

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS with Arthur Hammons:

Our Conference this year has been the most spiritual and productive time I can remember over the past several years.

I join you in giving thanks for the order, love, prayer, and accumulated consciousness which were combined to make this a time of growth, communication and sharing. Exciting too, were the many valuable ideas which came during those special times of sharing and the post-graduate work.

Going home and feeling a sense of fullness now puts us in the positive position of being to our congregations what this conference experience has been to us. Let us go forth with a renewed sense of service through: love, prayer, increased communication, and fresh new ideas.

God bless you as you safely journey home.

DATES TO REMEMBER!

Jan. 11-16 Board Meetings
at Unity Village, MO

June 8-14 AUC Pre-Conference
at Unity Village, MO

June 15-19 AUC Conference
at Unity Village, MO

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL NEWS with Charles Lelly:

Great Lakes Unity Regional Conference will have its annual Conference September 7 through 10, in Toledo, Ohio; Wally and Josephine Tooke are the hosts. Sidney Harris, the nationally known syndicated columnist, will be the keynote speaker and will offer an accredited continuing education course during the Conference.

Creative Idea Workshops will be offered during the Conference, they are expected to be of major interest.

OVERSEAS REPORT --West Germany:

Das Deutschsprachige Unity-Lehramt is the name for a vital, growing Unity teaching center in the German language. This ministry now has three ordained ministers active in the work, plus three teachers in training. We minister to 22 study groups in West Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, with an attendance at our lectures from 60-250 people. Our work operates through offices in Berlin, West Germany, and Zurich, Switzerland.

A monthly meditation guide and a contact letter are mailed to 7,800 addresses in 26 lands around the world. All material including books and cassettes is mailed out upon request, on a love-offering basis.

There is an active prayer healing ministry called "Silent Friends in Unity."

The Dial of Prayer reaches friends in Berlin, Hamburg, Hannover, and Munich, Germany; Zurich, Switzerland, and Vienna, Austria.

The main emphasis of our work is through our Seminar programs. We have in the past held our seminars in hotels in mountain areas or quiet hotels which lend themselves to stillness.

But we have a dream! And soon our dream will materialize. We plan a Seminar Center with hotel accommodations, restaurant, an assembly room, meditation rooms, an art room and a swimming pool--all this in the middle of a beautiful forest in central Germany.

We will build a new age Center which opens to individuals opportunities to experience Truth as an expression and development of the oneness that we all are.

Join us in prayer as we joyously move into this new age of demonstration through the power of Divine Love.

If you have friends or relatives, who speak the German language, and desire to have Unity information or cassettes; please write to this address:

Unity Lehramt
Clausewitzstr, 5
1000 Berlin 12
West Germany

Peter & Carolyn Wenzel

From Alan Rowbotham:

Beloved Friends:

After an exciting and eventful Conference, we in your Association office are in the process of following through on the implementation that always comes after a time of decision-making. We are busy writing letters to new members of the Association, filling orders, carrying out placement procedures for ministers and ministries in the midst of change and continuing on with all the details involved in the operation of your Association office on a day-to-day basis.

Those of you who were present at Conference know that an Office Evaluation Committee has been appointed to study the structure and services of your AUC office and that I have been appointed Acting Director of Ministry Services in this interim period until the evaluation is completed and recommendations are made. I will be working very closely with the appointed Committee and with David McClure, our new President of AUC, in helping to bring about the best possible working structure as we move forward in a new spirit of harmony and cooperation with Unity School. You will also be interested to know that the Coordination Committee is meeting regularly on day-to-day issues and projects which concern both the AUC and Unity School. We have a good harmonious relationship and there is a progressive feeling established in our Committee which is being fully recognized and appreciated by Unity School.

In my newly appointed position I will of course be continuing to serve you in the way your executive staff have served you in the past; with love, with faith and with a sense of joy in the growing feeling of togetherness becoming more and more evident in our Unity movement.

Please keep us, the AUC staff, your elected officers, and the Office Evaluation Committee in your prayers as we seek to arrive at the best possible solution for the structure of the AUC office that would enable us to meet the needs of our Association in the most efficient and effective way. Thank you for your loving support.

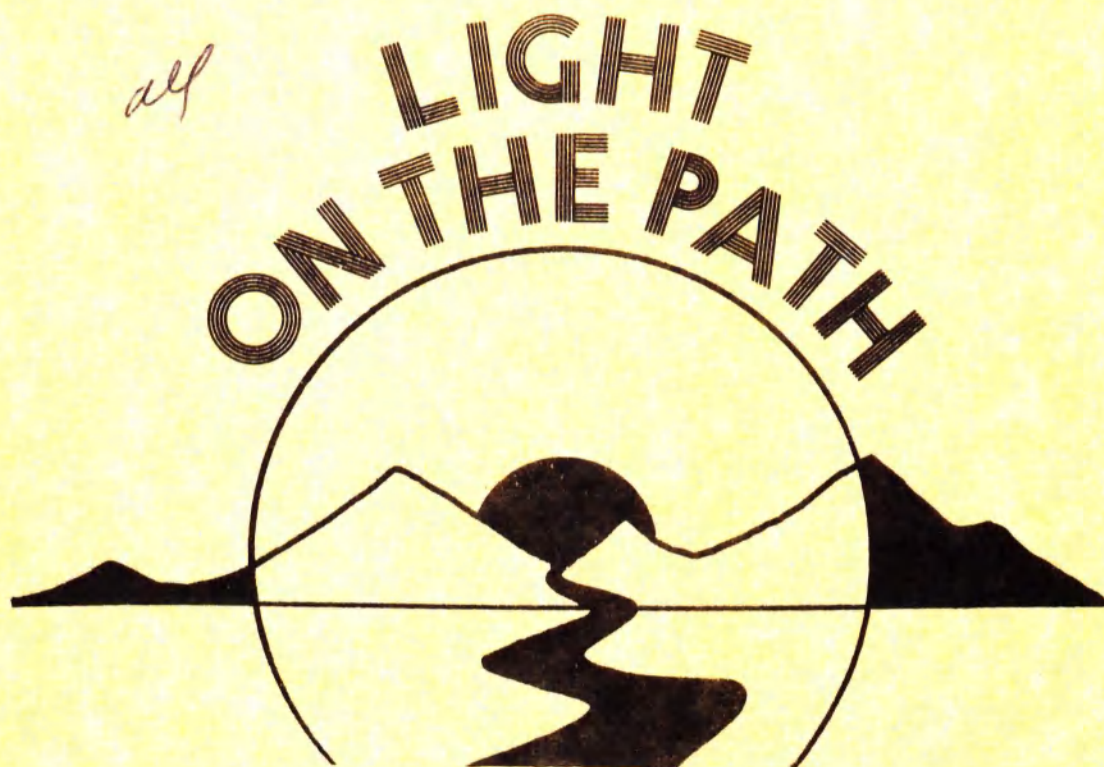
Love and Blessings,
Alan Rowbotham
Acting Director of Ministry Services

From Charles R. Fillmore:

We at Unity School of Christianity were encouraged by the events we witnessed at the recent annual Conference of the Association of Unity Churches in June. Although for the past several years our two organizations seem to have drifted apart, now we have made a start toward greater understanding of each other's goals and purposes. As in any human relationship, with greater understanding can come better harmony and an increased desire to work together.

The fact of the matter is that we are two separate organizations, with separate incorporations and styles of management. However, in a very real sense, we are sister organizations, for we both have grown out of the same great ideas that were expressed and developed by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore years ago. As siblings, we can see ourselves as different expressions of the original founding idea. We have different areas of expertise, but our far-reaching purposes are basically the same: to spread the word of Truth as we understand it, and to help people know the reality of their own inherent divinity. With service to God and to humanity as our constant concern, we cannot fail. So it is with hope and expectation that we look to the future as Unity moves ahead with faith, integrity, and vision as its watchwords.

Charles R. Fillmore
President, Unity School of Christianity



1980 Young Adults of Unity Retreat —August 18-22

REGISTRATION FORM Y.A.U. RETREAT

NAME _____

SEX _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Roommate preference: ☐ No Preference

Name _____

Address _____

I have enclosed _____ registration fee for:

- Check One: ☐ Shared Cottage (\$85.00 per person)
☐ Single Cottage (\$95.00)
☐ Shared motel (\$110 per person)
☐ Single motel (\$150)

All fees include meal tickets. If you are not paying the full registration fee at this time, a \$25.00 deposit is required. No refunds unless reservations are cancelled by letter at least 4 weeks before the first day of the retreat. The balance is due upon arrival at Unity Village.

Mail this to: Reservations Office
Unity Village, MO 64065

There is a \$30 registration fee for Young Adults retreatants not staying on the Village grounds. (This does not include meals).

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE Y.A.U. RETREAT

We need to know the transportation plans of all retreatants who need transportation from their arrival point in Kansas City to Unity Village. We look forward to the return of this information as soon as possible. Thank you. We bless your journey.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Airline _____ Flight _____ Arrival Time _____

Busline _____ Arrival time _____

Railroad _____ Arrival time _____

Note: Transportation and accommodations will not be available prior to or after the retreat dates.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| * James Dillet Freeman | * Sallye Taylor |
| * Meditation & Healing | * Linda Pendergrass |
| * History of Unity | * Course in Miracles |
| * Maggie Finefrock | * Films |
| * Prayer Workshop | * Love and Loving |
| * Metaphysical Bible | * Disco |
| * Robert & Barbara Varley | * Singspiration |
| * Counseling | * Swimming |
| * Golf | * Tennis |
| * Picnic | * Talent Show |
| * Hiking | * Oman and Shanti |
| * Gary Jones | |

For further information call or write:

Greg Barrette
c/o Association of Unity Churches
Unity Village, MO 64065
816-524-7414

SONGS VOTED NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW SONGBOOK

In the April issue of CONTACT we printed a list of one hundred songs to be included in the new songbook. These songs had received a positive response from the field in the survey that had been sent to interested ministers.

I wish to thank the dozen ministers and teachers who took time to make their preferences known by responding to that article. Each suggestion will be prayerfully considered by the committee during the June meetings.

In the same survey that had been sent out, there was an opportunity to register a negative response to any hymn. These negative responses were tallied by Sharon Patterson, Unity School representative, and are listed on the following pages. The ones with the plus marks (+) indicate correspondence, later received, to include these in the new book.

Once again, if you are not happy with this list, please make your wishes known to us. That's the only way we will know of your preference. Thank you!

--Marilyn Rieger, Chairman

P.S. Our Committee has been reviewing some of Christina Hovemann's music and would like to include several of her songs in our new book. So far, we have been unable to reach her. If you have any information as to her whereabouts or present address, please let us know. Thanks very much!

UNITY SONG SELECTIONS (green book) to be omitted:

- + No. 2, All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
 - " 4, Hail to the Brightness
 - " 7, How Beauteous on the Mountains
 - " 9, Love of Jesus, All Divine
 - " 12, There is Sunshine in My Soul Today (1st set of words)
 - " 14, O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea
 - " 15, Yes, God is Good
 - " 19, O Could My Life's Expression Be
 - " 27, Ancient of Days, Who Sittest Throned
- + " 30, This Is My Father's World (Fillmore setting)
- + " 34, O What Everlasting Mercy
 - " 38, Blest Are the Pure in Heart
 - " 39, Lord, on Thee Our Souls Depend
 - " 41, If I Would Serve
- + " 42, I Can Hear My Saviour Calling
 - " 44, Master, Speak! Thy Servant Heareth
 - " 45, Out of Sadness into Gladness
 - " 46, We May Not Climb the Heavenly Steps
 - " 48, My God, Is Any Hour So Sweet?
 - " 52, Send Down Thy Truth, O God
 - " 53, All Power Is Given Unto Me
 - " 56, Journey's End
- + " 61, O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee
 - " 65, Be True to the Best You Know
 - " 66, Humility
 - " 69, Christ in the Soul
 - " 70, A Psalm of Praise
- + " 72, I Longed to See the Christ
 - " 79, Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls
 - " 81, Hear the Words of Wisdom Calling
- + " 82, Onward, Comrades, Onward
 - " 83, Wilt Thou Be Made Whole?
 - " 85, Oh, Bliss of the Purified
- + " 87, We Have Heard the Joyful Sound
 - " 93, Jesus Is Ever Near
 - " 95, I Will Sing You a Song
 - " 98, Father, Lead Me Day by Day
 - " 101, Prince of Peace, Control My Will
 - " 103, Lead Us, O Father, in the Paths
 - " 114, My Shepherd is the Lord
 - " 116, Our Father in Heaven
 - " 120, Lo! the Army of our King
 - " 122, My Peace I Leave with Thee
 - " 126, I Know I Love Thee Better Lord
- + " 127, Love Lifted Me
 - " 129, Inheritance
- + " 130, Thou Art the Way to Thee Alone
 - " 131, Since Jesus Is My Friend
- + " 141, 'Neath the Stars a Song is Ringing
 - " 142, Royal Babe in Rest So Lowly
 - " 147, Hark the Sound of Holy Voices
 - " 154, O the Joy to Feel and Know

UNITY SONG SELECTIONS -- omitted (continued)

- No. 156, Be Ye Doers of the Word
- " 160, Thou Must Be True Thyself
- " 168, We Are Workers All
- " 170, The Joy of Truth
- " 171, My Heart Is Pure
- " 172, The Path of Truth
- " 174, The Blessed Way
- " 175, Awake, Awake
- " 176, My Spirit Yearns
- " 178, Freedom Calls
- " 179, How Other Could It Be
- " 180, Resurgence
- " 181, Awaken
- " 184, What About Today?
- " 186, Out of Shadows into Light
- " 191, A Rendezvous with Youth
- " 200, God Is My Sight
- " 201, I Look to Thee
- " 202, Prayer
- " 203, Thy Will Be Done
- " 204, Myself His Very Nest
- " 214, The Faith to Pray
- " 216, Trusting and Resting
- " 219, Teach Me, O God
- + " 224, Thou Art My Life
- + " 225, The Grateful Heart
- + " 227, Jesus, Lover of My Soul
- " 228, Man Became a Living Soul
- " 229, Thou Art
- " 232, Years Are Coming
- + " 236, Be Ye Prospered
- " 237, In God We Trust
- " 240, The Lord Will Provide
- + " 241, Cast Thy Bread upon the Waters
- " 243, Know Thou
- " 244, A Living Fountain
- " 247, Awake, My Soul
- " 248, Thou Lord of Life
- " 249, We Feel the Heart of Silence
- " 251, O That Will Be Glory
- " 253, I Will Lift Mine Eyes
- " 257, My Prayer
- " 260, River of Healing
- " 262, Live for Something
- " 264, Bon Voyage
- " 270, Birthday Greeting
- " 272, The Spring-tide Hour
- " 275, Dear Jesus Take Me as I Am
- " 277, We for Christ
- " 279, Who Made the Stars?
- " 288, I Open My Bible Book and Read
- " 291, Help One Another

- No. 301, Holy, Holy
- " 302, Be Merciful unto Us
- " 304, The Lord's Prayer
- " 305, Bow Down Thine Ear
- " 307, All Mine Are Thine
- " 308, If I Be Lifted Up

Hymns from UNITY IN SONG
(gold book) to be omitted:

- No. 3, Reach In
- " 5, In Tune
- " 32, Divine Relay
- " 70, Life Is a Wonder
- " 75, Turning to Thee
- " 77, Listening**
- " 88, Going Forward
- + " 97, Ready
- " 105, Freedom
- " 108, In Thee
- " 114, God Is Guiding Me
- " 117, I Accept
- " 119, Speak the Word
- " 120, River of Love
- " 122, Omnipresence of God
- " 123, Watching and Waiting
- " 124, Song of Praise
- " 130, In the Light
- " 133, You Have Opened My Eyes
- " 134, Order**
- " 138, Greater Things
- " 139, Father, Please
- " 141, Calmness
- " 147, God in Action
- " 148, I Thank You, God**
- " 150, Wonderful Child**
- " 154, Imagination
- " 157, Now

** Re-evaluate for a Sunday
School section.

1-8

IMPORTANT:

To insure that your check is credited to the proper account within the AUC offices it must be properly identified. Money received with no identification is assumed to be a tithe and put into the general fund. Either enclose the top portion of your statement or clearly identify what your payment is for. Doing this will reduce the operations overhead and help improve the AUC staff efficiency.

To improve our operating efficiency by lowering handling and inventory costs we are making the following changes in ordering and shipping procedures effective May 19, 1980:

BULLETINS AND STATIONERY SETS WILL BE SOLD IN LOTS OF FIFTY (50) PIECES ONLY. STATIONERY MAY BE ORDERED IN PARTS (FIFTY ENVELOPES OR FIFTY FIRST-SHEETS, ETC.) OR FIFTY SETS WHICH INCLUDES ALL THREE PIECES (LETTERHEAD, MAILING ENVELOPE, AND L/O RETURN ENVELOPE).

Pricing is:

*Stationery	Quantity 50 sets	\$3.50
*Stationery	Quantity 100 sets	7.00
<i>*Price includes all three pieces in each set.</i>		
Stationery, Letterhead only	50 pieces	\$2.00
Stationery, Letterhead only	100 pieces	4.00
Stationery, Envelopes only	50 pieces	\$1.50
Stationery, Envelopes only	100 pieces	3.00
Stationery, L/O Return only	50 pieces	\$1.75
Stationery, L/O Return only	100 pieces	3.50
Bulletins	50 pieces	\$1.50
Bulletins	100 pieces	3.00

AN EXPERIMENT IN LOVE

I BEHOLD THE CHRIST IN YOU

By Frank B. Whitney

I behold the Christ in you,
Here the life of God I see;
I can see a great peace, too,
I can see you whole and free.

I behold the Christ in you.
I can see this as you walk;
I see this in all you do,
I can see this as you talk.

I behold God's love expressed,
I can see you filled with power;
I can see you ever blessed,
See Christ in you, hour by hour.

I behold the Christ in you,
I can see that perfect one;
Led by God in all you do,
I can see God's work is done.

AN EXPERIMENT IN LOVE

From a lesson by Jack D. Kern
on April 22, 1979

When Jesus told us to seek first the kingdom of God, which he said was an inner kingdom, he was giving us a valuable lesson in spiritual prosperity. It was a lesson in everyday, down-to-earth prosperity, too, for he was talking of food, clothing and shelter. He told us to get things right on the inside, and the things on the outside would take care of themselves. First things first. But the lesson in spiritual prosperity goes deeper. He was telling us how to solve problems, especially problems between people, that seem to go beyond our ordinary means of solving them. He was telling us to solve them on an inner level, a heart level, the level of unconditional love. It's a beautiful way, a way we all ought to be aware of.

We call this way by many names--beholding the Christ, the inner way, holding another in the light. The name doesn't matter. This way can be used at any time. Often it is used only as a last resort because it is indirect, and we usually try the more obvious ways first.

Let's say, for instance, that someone we love is going in a direction that appears wrong. It could be a husband who smokes, a son who seems to be drifting, a sister who is having an affair with a married man. What do we do? How do we handle it? We usually begin on a VERBAL level. We tell, we ask, we try to convince, we make judgments. This usually deteriorates into nagging, whining, threatening, cajoling, and about this time communication stops. The backlash; when we push so hard in one direction, the other person may go even farther in the other direction just out of stubbornness.

We use NON-VERBAL communication, too, but at this point we probably use it in disapproving looks, tears, disgusted sighs, and coolness. And the non-verbal message gets across but the message is usually one of rejection, and it doesn't help much. At this point, most of us don't know what to do. We may throw up our hands, feeling we've done all we can.

Some students of mind may begin at this point to use what they mistakenly call "positive thinking." Words are no longer effective, non-verbal persuasion hasn't worked, so they begin a kind of under-the-breath chant like this: "You will quit smoking,

you will quit smoking, etc." I don't really know what to call this. It's a kind of "sophisticated voodoo" without the pins and dolls; but it's not positive thinking. Positive thinking is constructive, expectant thinking that doesn't try to force any specific course of action, but looks for and expects good in everything.

But there is a way to reach and help others on a non-verbal spiritual level. It can be a first resort or a last resort. It's the one we mentioned at the start--beholding the Christ, or holding another in the light. It's the inner way, the Christ way of the inner kingdom of love and light. I call it the kingdom without the power and the glory. This way has nothing to do with one person trying to exert power over another. When we think we know best, and we try to make another person do our will "for his own good," we are on a power trip. And usually--if we are honest--it's not just for his good, but for our convenience or peace of mind.

Sometimes we like the glory, the credit. "Look how I straightened him out. All he had to do was listen to me. I know best." Isn't this trying to play God?

But the way we want to go is the way of the kingdom of love within. No force. No power trip. No credit. It's a quiet way; there's no way we can take the credit. It is heart level. . . heart to heart. . . unconditional love. Not "I love you when you're nice," or "I'll love you when you quit drinking," but just "I love you." No qualifications, no conditions; just love. We might be happier if the one we love quit drinking, or got a job, or married us, but our love doesn't hinge on that. It is love that simply accepts, warts and all.

I call this way, this technique, an experiment in love. "Experiment" is a good way to think about it. It is something we try out to see if it works. (It does, but each one has to find that out for himself.)

Here's how to conduct your experiment in love:

1--SET A SPECIFIC TIME FOR YOUR EXPERIMENT. Make it long enough to give it a chance to work, and short enough for you to handle. I like a period of three to six weeks. I pick a holiday, a birthday, an anniversary that's three to six weeks away, and set that as my target date. I agree with my inner Lord that by that time I will see a change.

2--IGNORE OUTER ACTIONS FOR THAT TIME AS FAR AS CRITICISM IS CONCERNED. Praise is great, but try not to let the actions of the one you are holding in the light "get to" you. Remember, you are working on an inner level; you're not so concerned with the outer for now.

3--HOLD HIM IN THE LIGHT. At least once a day, take ten or fifteen minutes to see him surrounded with the light of God, happy, whole, free, fulfilled, confident. You don't try to direct his actions; you simply hold him in the light. Then, any time during the day that he comes to mind, take a moment to surround him with light in your mind's eye.

4--EXPECT RESULTS, BUT DON'T BE SURPRISED IF GOD'S ANSWER IS DIFFERENT FROM YOUR DESIRE. What kind of results?

A. HE CHANGES. This happens often. You begin to notice a light in his eyes. He stands taller, seems more aware. He begins to know he is being guided by his own Lord. You have freed him.

- B. **THE SITUATION CHANGES.** Something changes with a job or with other people involved. The change may not be what you expect, but something is beginning to move.
- C. **NOTHING CHANGES, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER ANY MORE,** which means
- D. **YOU'VE CHANGED,** which can be the most beautiful answer of all. You're learning unconditional love and non-resistance, which are among life's real treasures. You've touched the real kingdom, and lots of good will be added to your life.

The end result is, when you try to bless others with light, you find you are standing in the light, too, and you are blessed every bit as much as the one you've tried to help.

Affiliated with the
Association of Unity Churches
Unity Village, Missouri 64065