

June-July Issue

Contact

Volume 19, Issue 6

SPECIAL ISSUE



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Max Lafser
Unity on the Plaza
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Friend

I love "Our" Unity movement! I love all I know it stands for in the world today. I love you who have given such large portions of your life for its furtherance. I have even come to love the struggle to keep defining "Unity" between ourselves so that we function as clearly and concisely as possible ever mindful of our mission.

For years I thought of the movement as unique. And yet our historical profile looks very much the same as other religious groups.

Did you know that every religion, large or small, began with a personal experience of one individual? One person had a vision, a revelation, an awakening. That person's life was transformed by the consciousness of a unique relationship with the Infinite. One revelation, one mystical experience, one changed life—and a religion was born. Rarely has a religion been consciously and deliberately started. In each instance, there was a moving experience followed by the natural urge to convey the "Truth" to others—

to help others make the same inner discovery and share the same experience. This was true for Buddha, Mohammed, and Jesus. And in Christianity alone the divisions and sects based upon a personal experience seeking to lead followers through a certain door is overwhelming. In every case the founder had but one objective—to help others find the same relationship with God as he had found. His was a mission of uniting people to God, a mission of unity. The very word religion stems from a word meaning "to tie, to connect". All religion is actually a uniting work. The key word is unity.

In the evolution of each religion, the founder gathers disciples around him, trains them and sends them forth to spread the "good news" of the new relationship to God. There is little organization, little form or ritual or dogma. The teaching is simple and compelling. Throngs of people follow and listen. Many are helped and healed. The founder "moves on" to a new experience. The disciples and those whom they train begin to organize for efficiency. They codify the teachings for simplicity. They add

Continued on page 2

VICE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As the President-elect of the Association of Unity Churches, I add my blessing and thankfulness for you and your presence here in San Diego at one of the very few conferences that the Association has ever held away from the grounds of Unity Village. The experience here on the West coast shows that the AUC is an organization that is willing to experience change as it—we—explore(s) avenues of greater service to those whom we serve.

The office of President of our Association is both an honor as well as it is a responsibility. The President serves as chairman of the Executive Committee as well as the Board of Trustees, and as such has the joy of bringing together the already dedicated minds and hearts of all those who serve our Association. I step into this office with thankfulness to the process and those who have served the process of bringing me to the office as it has brought others to the same office in the past. Yet I am also mindful of the truth that anyone in our ordained membership could serve this position as well as I—perhaps even bet-



Larry Swartz
Unity of Tucson, Arizona

ter than I. So, this allows me to simply realize that as in past years, this next year will be but an opportunity for us to move together and bring the AUC into yet more fulfillment for more people.

Over the past year Max Lafser has served our Association well. Actually, his service extends over the past 2½ years, for prior to his year as President, he served as Vice President for 1½ years. Now that's dedication and service and represents hours and hours of meeting time, travel time, airport waiting time, telephone time and letter writing time—

Continued on page 2

MINISTRY SERVICES PERSPECTIVES

BACK TO THE FUTURE



Glenn R. Mosley
Director of Ministry Services

Technically, the Association of Unity Churches was begun April 2, 1964, by a small group of ten ministers and their ministries. Practically, the Association was adopted by an overwhelming number of the Unity field ministries as their vehicle of service and support in June, 1966.

During these twenty years, our organization has functioned and non-functioned, grown and not grown, experienced "victory and the agony of defeat" (albeit temporary), has supported and been supported by ministries, and has provided those member ministries human resources, administrative, and educational programs.

We held "people conventions" in Kansas City in 1970 and 1973, in Philadelphia in 1976, our country's bicentennial year, and now we're convening the Association's fourth "people convention" in San Diego in this our 20th year.

Like the people who make up the Unity field movement, our Association has learned a great deal; we have learned what doesn't work and what does; what to avoid doing, and what to do.

We're learning from our history, so we're choosing those parts of history we wish to relive and those upon which we wish to build with new and very different outcomes.

Twenty years ago we looked to the present and future after reviewing briefly our history. June, 1986, after a brief review of twenty years, we again look to the present and future. Looking to the present, adding our collective talents, energy, physical, financial, and spiritual investments, and shaping goals for programs and services, we are contributing to our future. Multiply all these with our collective "faith and work", and by 1990 Unity truly can

Continued on page 2

THE FUTURE OF UNITY



By Connie Fillmore

As Executive Vice President of Unity School of Christianity and a member of Unity's founding family, I am often asked to share my vision of Unity's future. As you probably know, we are about to enter our second century of prayer and spiritual service. The Unity movement will be celebrating its Centennial in

1989, so this is a very important time for us.

It was about 100 years ago that Charles and Myrtle Fillmore achieved the healings that changed their lives and paved the way for the Unity teachings. All of us are familiar with the story of how Myrtle overcame a lifelong disease by changing her thinking about it and turning to God for help. Charles became interested in the source of this miracle, and through his own study, prayer, and meditation, he too was healed. These physical overcomings led to changes in other areas of their lives. By turning over all they had to God—by releasing worries and concerns to Him and learning to rely on Him for everything—the Fillmores were healed in body, mind, and circumstances. They

Continued on page 3

PLACEMENT & LIAISON



Joann M. Landreth
Director of Placement
and Liaison

Welcome to the Association of Unity Churches 20th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Conference! Conference is always the highlight of my year for it's a joy to have amidst the busyness of Conference activities those times of fellowship and sharing with Unity ministers, teachers, and friends. I'm grateful for your presence here in San Diego for this special event.

Since I don't have a regularly scheduled feature in **Contact**, I'll take this opportunity to share briefly about some of my primary job responsibilities.

Placement: Placement activities continue to require much of my time. Many of the 1986 graduates are placed; Spirit has a way of opening ministries each year at the right time. If you as a Unity minister have just been placed, or you as a board member have just employed a new Unity minister, and you have ideas or information that you feel will help to

improve the placement process, let us know.

Liaison: Board members often are not aware that the AUC offers liaison assistance. When a ministry moves through a time of challenge, often a liaison representative, who can be more objective than individuals who are directly involved in the situation, can be extremely helpful. However, because of the autonomy of our member churches, the AUC cannot get involved until invited. If you need assistance at any time, give me a call!

Standards Process for Licensed Ministers: Last year is the first year for some time that the graduates received licensed minister status for their first year in the field. The Standards Committee Ordination Process Evaluation (SCOPE) for these ministers, as you know, was a newly developed procedure. If you as a licensed minister or as the board of a licensed minister who just went through the SCOPE procedure have ideas, suggestions, or recommendations on how this procedure can be improved, again, let us know.

I am delighted to serve you, Unity minister and ministry, as Director of Placement and Liaison. I, as a staff member of your AUC, am always open and receptive to your input on how I can better serve you! Please feel free at any time to share with me.

Once again I greet you with love, and trust you will enjoy Spirit's Journey, Unity's 1986 Convention. I'm glad you are here!

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER Continued from page 1

symbols for teaching purposes. As the movement becomes more widespread, ecclesiastical bodies are formed and a priesthood is created. Years pass, and we find buildings, ritual, theology that tells and retells the message. All religions tend in time to become caught up in a religion of form, and the religious experience ceases gradually to reach the heart and heal the body.

"Why should we not have first-hand and immediate experience of God?"

In his famous Divinity School Address in 1838, Ralph Waldo Emerson inflamed the religious community when he asked, in effect, "Why should we not have first-hand and immediate experience of God?" Today a growing number of individuals are asking the same question. Why should we not discover the presence and power of God in ourselves today, as Jesus discovered the presence in himself in his day? And this is why I love the open endedness of Unity.

When Jesus was asked to sum up his concepts of religious law, drawing upon the basic truths he had learned in the synagogue as a child, he said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self." Jesus knew that love is that which

harmonizes, integrates and unites, love is unity. This unity is what religion is all about.

Love breaks down all barriers, destroys all walls, fills in all gulfs, wipes out all sense of separation and isolation. Love makes possible the awakening of the higher consciousness in man and leads to a first-hand experience of God. The word is unity, and love brings about unity.

Isn't this what our Unity movement is about? Unity School of Christianity, The Association of Unity Churches, Silent Unity, Unity Centers, study groups, ministers, teachers, students. The developing of the consciousness of unity with God, with life, with all intelligence and all substance. Armed with this consciousness, this awareness, we will achieve the only purpose of Unity, to help mankind know its secret. In a very real sense there is only one real church in the world. Unity has professed it at the core of its very beginning. Charles and Myrtle clearly stated it. It is that place of relationship within every person where the human merges into the divine.

"Love breaks down all barriers, destroys all walls, fills in all gulfs, wipes out all sense of separation and isolation."

The Unity movement I love is devoted to the source of this idea—that the great and only strength of the world and the people within it is our unity

with God. The sole purpose of Unity is to help others have "a first-hand and immediate experience of God."

Thank you, Emerson, for asking the question. I love you. Thank you, Charles and Myrtle for asking it again. I love you. Thank you, Unity, for making it possible to discover it is not only possible to have a first-hand experience of God. I love you.

"The word is unity, and love brings about unity."

This has been the best year of my life. I have been so impressed with our unity in Unity. It has been my greatest joy to have served as the President of the Association of Unity Churches and to see miracles taking place across our whole movement. I love you.

MINISTRY SERVICES PERSPECTIVES

Continued from page 1

be a household word. Where will we, the Unity field movement be by the next time Halley's Comet appears in 2062? or by 2066? How will our Unity grandchildren and great grandchildren view what we are creating? Individually our efforts cannot accomplish what we can do together. Together, by 2089, Unity's bicentennial, we can cut a major swath across the face of the universe.

Contact Staff

Editor-in-Chief Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor Chris Gaither
Graphics & Layout Barbara Smith

Editorial Purpose

The Editorial Purpose of **Contact** is the purpose of AUC: The Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative and educational programs.

Table of Contents

	Page
As I See It	16
Association of Unity Churches Annual Report	4
Church News	14
Clearinghouse	11
Financial Report	5
The First Five Years - Part II	9
Issues in Management	8
Light on the Path	16
Ministry Services Perspectives	1
Partners in Ministry	7
Placement & Liaison	2
The President's Letter	1
Sparkplugs	10
Vice President's Letter	1
Youth Education	18
Youth of Unity	20

VICE PRESIDENT'S LETTER Continued from page 1

more than I am certain Max would like to even consider possible. Consider the gifts he and his ministry have given to the AUC and perhaps personally bless him with a verbal "thank you" or a written note—he deserves it.

The Association of Unity Churches is an organization of service, and this service has been defined better over the past couple of years than perhaps it has ever been. One of the major areas of service that have been provided has been management assistance to any minister or board requesting it to take place in his/her ministry. The expense of this service has been considerable in dollars, but in mis-management savings the cost should be but a fraction of what might have been called for in liaison time and expense. Now this seminar/workshop is on video tape

and will provide the same training for each and every ministry and minister should they wish to avail themselves of this level of knowledge.

But as with all things, it is up to us. If you have read any of my past articles in **Contact**, you will have read my thinking on another need for Unity ministers and ministries having to do with our actually becoming the professional servers within a profession that pre-dates any profession (save one) upon our earth. And, the initial step toward this realization and actualization is a desire to be such; and to be such we must know how and then make a commitment to doing what we know.

Unity, more than any other teaching of a similar nature, possesses the ability to truly help more people and serve more needs. But we will only do this from a posture of professionalism and oneness, consistency and strength. Our professionalism will come from

choosing a level of integrity that cannot ever be questioned; our oneness from maintaining a memory of our Spiritual purpose and calling; our consistency from always being the same regardless of where we are or who we are with; our strength from supporting the idea of Unity and allowing the AUC to be the organization that represents us and is, therefore, deserving of our loyalty and support.

If you receive a letter or telephone call from me during this next year asking you to serve, please give serious thought to this most valuable gift that you can give. Regionally and nationally let's endeavor to make this a year of offering ourselves in service so that Unity through the Association of Unity Churches can move toward the greatness that it can be. And, thank you for allowing me to serve as the President for this next year. Keep me in your prayers and love as I shall do with you and for you.



MINISTRY PROGRESS IN CHARLESTON

Editor's Note: The following is condensed from an article which appeared in the Sunday, November 3, 1985 edition of Charleston, South Carolina's The News & Courier/The Evening Post. The portions detailing the history of the Unity movement have been omitted.

The Unity Church of Charleston, Mary Ann Finch, minister, is only the third Unity church in South Carolina. Columbia and Greenville have Unity churches also.

Born and reared in Detroit, Rev. Finch was married there and after 20 years as a wife and mother, was divorced there. Since she was a Roman Catholic at the time, her divorce cut her off from the church's sacraments, so she quit going to church at all.

After accompanying her sister and a friend to a Unity church service, Rev. Finch became so involved with Unity that she entered the Urban Ministerial School in Detroit. She continued her ministerial studies at Unity School of Christianity at Unity Village and was licensed as a Unity minister in 1983 and ordained in 1984.

Rev. Finch went to Charleston to found a church after finishing ministerial school in 1983. She had never been to South Carolina before and was the only black person involved with the movement in Charleston at the time, but she says she was not frightened. She knew God was there and there was no need to be afraid. Since then the church has added blacks and whites, and its membership now numbers 75.

THE FUTURE OF UNITY Continued from page 1

rebuilt their lives through prayer and reliance on God.

Unity today rests on the solid foundation that Charles and Myrtle Fillmore created. They caught the vision of a more perfect world—a world of harmony, peace, abundance, and health; a world where people see one another's similarities more than they see their differences. In the past 100 years, Unity has grown from an idea in the minds of one couple to an international network of prayer and spiritual education. In any given year, we know that more than four million people are touched by Unity's various outreaches, and we are certain that we actually reach many more than that. All over our world, people are catching a glimpse of the Truth about themselves: that they are more than flesh-and-blood creatures living out a difficult existence in an imperfect body. Every person on our planet is a child of the living God, heir to the spiritual riches of life, wisdom, and abundance.

"Spiritual laws exist not for a chosen few, but for everyone."

This is what Jesus Christ came to tell us and to show us. He gave us the all-time most graphic demonstration of the ability to overcome adversity. He did not merely heal His body of a life-threatening disease: He overcame death itself. He died and then rose from the dead to prove that it can be done, that human beings are

more than they appear to be. And we, as His spiritual heirs, are as capable of overcoming our difficulties as He was.

Friends, truly the most powerful Truth that Unity has to offer is very simple: If anyone on this planet can change his life, be healed, or triumph over extreme circumstances, then **everybody** on this planet can do it. Spiritual laws exist not for a chosen few, but for everyone. The Truth is that we are all God's children, and we are all meant to live happy, prosperous lives in healthy bodies.

"In a very real sense, Unity's future depends on you."

If Jesus Christ could overcome death, then Charles and Myrtle Fillmore could be healed and prosper. If Charles and Myrtle could be healed and prosper, then I can triumph over my personal challenges. And if I can triumph over my challenges, then you can triumph over yours. You can be free, happy, healthy, and prosperous—and so can every other person in our world.

In a very real sense, Unity's future depends on you. Unity is not a separate entity in and of itself. It is made up of all the incredibly diverse individuals who study and pray with us, and who put Truth to work in their lives. Unity's future will be shaped by the personal, individual spiritual growth of Unity people everywhere. Its course will be directed by the call of human need. As human needs are met and transformed by burgeoning spiritual understanding, then Unity will sub-

tly change its approach to meet the next need that is revealed.

Our world is on a steady course toward greater expression of the divine pattern for the manifest realm. Unity is very much a part of this process. Humankind will not be "saved" through the intervention of God into human events, but through the redemptive efforts of each of us as we go about the daily business of prayerful, spiritually based living.

So this, my friends, is my vision of the future of Unity. I believe that God will continue to work in and through every person who is a part of the Unity movement. As individuals grow in spiritual understanding, are healed, prospered, and blessed in all aspects of their lives, the spiritual energy of these positive changes will transform their part of the world. Bit by bit, thought by thought, life by life, our world will be moved toward fuller expression of God's divine idea of perfection. I will continue to do my part in this process, by praying, seeking divine guidance, and basing my actions on the guidance I receive. When you and every other person in Unity does the same, we create a "newer world"—a world of oneness and light, of harmony and peace. Of unity.

The 1986 conference of the Association of Unity Churches is a special time for all of us. As we come together with a united vision of a more perfect world, let us never lose sight of that perfect Truth that indwells us all. We will be blessed in our times of prayer; we will be prospered by the new ideas we hear; we will be sustained by the awareness of God's Presence everywhere. The future is up to us. Let us begin now to create it the way it's meant to be.

NEW POSITION FILLED



Twice in the past sixteen months, the Expansion Committee strongly urged our AUC Board of Trustees to add staff to our Expansion/Conference Department to work with Ron Tyson.

We are very pleased to announce that Susan Eng, a June graduating minister, has accepted the new position as Associate Expansion/Conference Coordinator. She begins July 8, 1986.

Susan Eng was from Unity Christ Church in San Francisco where she taught classes and served as president of the Board of Directors. Susan was the top salesperson in northern California for Century 21 Real Estate. She and a partner opened a real estate office and mortgage company. Susan served in the AUC Expansion Department part time while a full time student.

In her new position, among other activities, Susan will implement activities suggested

by both the Expansion and Executive Committees; with Ron, create new programs, assemble and dispense starter kits, update and edit materials for reprinting, provide assistance and consultation to outreach ministries in expanding study groups, and assist with Conference arrangements, registration, etc.

"We envision expansion of field ministries as a primary thrust between now and the year 2000."

We envision expansion of field ministries as a primary thrust between now and the year 2000. We're excited that Susan Eng has agreed to assist in this "cutting edge" part of our ministry.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

We welcome any comments, criticism, or suggestions you may wish to share with us regarding this special Conference issue of Contact. Send to Contact, Association of Unity Churches, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063. We look forward to hearing from you.

If you have any news regarding events happening in your church that you would like to share with others in the field, we are now accepting articles for possible inclusion in next year's Conference edition of Contact. Send them also to us at the address given above.

Thanks for your interest and support. We really appreciate you!!

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

Annual Report 1985

The Association of Unity Churches (AUC) is spiritually affiliated with the Unity School of Christianity insofar as it embraces the teachings of the School's co-founders, Charles and Myrtle Fillmore. Although the two organizations are financially and organizationally separate, there are many areas where they work in cooperation with one another.

The Association's main thrust is the establishment of Unity Churches; it is separate and distinct from the Unity School and operates by its own bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. The AUC was incorporated in June, 1966 by Unity ministers as a vehicle for administering the affairs of Unity Churches and ministers; it is a nonprofit organization supported entirely by freewill offerings.

vision and aim of furthering the Fillmore tradition of "Practical Christianity" as demonstrated by Jesus Christ. While maintaining a viable central organization, AUC's larger purpose is to support the development of individuals through local ministries.

As an international service organization dedicated to spiritual unity, AUC supports the interdependence of its members through prayer, communication, and the combining of energies and resources to serve humanity.

Support services provided by the Association include administration of international Association affairs; training, licensing, and ordination of ministers; licensing of teachers; consultation in liaison and creative projects; training and materials in youth education;

Association. It well may be the services are so routine that ministers and boards forget that operating their church would be vastly different if their church was totally independent of AUC.

The following services are among the many AUC offers its ministries:

—A free copy of the **Yearbook** and the **Directory of Unity Ministries and Affiliated Study Groups**.

—Yearly identification cards for ministers and licensed teachers.

—Educational programs for ministers, licensed teachers, and churches.

—Placement service for ministers desiring a ministry position or wanting to relocate, and for centers seeking a new minister. Available from AUC is a list of placement procedures that spell out exactly what is involved in the process of seeking a new minister. AUC works with each ministry and minister personally to insure open, orderly, and harmonious matching of talents and needs.

—Liaison assistance for each region. A call to AUC will put you in touch with the nearest Liaison Representative.

—The coordination of the move of ministers through a national moving agent.

—Policies for licensing and ordination of Unity ministers. These are handled by the Licensing and Ordination Committee and the Standards Committee.

—Licensing of Unity teachers.

—Professional Enrichment Programs for ministers and licensed teachers. These are continuing education programs designed to update the training of ministers and teachers and to help improve their skills.

—The promotion of Y.O.U. and YAU. There is a YAU/Y.O.U. Coordinator on staff and trained YAU/Y.O.U. consultants in each region.

—The development and coordination of youth education materials and youth education related activities. A Youth Education Coordinator is on staff and Youth Education consultants are available

in each region.

—Materials and teaching aids, such as bulletins, **Guidelines for Unity Board Effectiveness**, and **Service Manual**, are available.

—AUC provides the following magazines and newsletters: **Contact** and **Minister's Letter**. These publications are published regularly and sent to ministers and ministries providing current information on the activities of AUC and the Youth Services Department.

cludes life insurance and medical coverage.

—Two different retirement programs.

—Representation on Ministerial Education Council (MEC) and Education Liaison Committee. MEC is responsible for ministerial education (training of ministers), and the Education Liaison Committee is responsible for liaison between students and faculty.

"The Association of Unity Churches is a global network of ministries, ministers, teachers, and laypersons sharing the vision and aim of furthering the Fillmore tradition of 'Practical Christianity' as demonstrated by Jesus Christ."

"The Association is people in churches, centers, temples, and study groups around the world in spiritual fellowship spreading the universal Christ message of love in action."

AUC is a worldwide organization made up of over 400 ministries and nearly 200 affiliated study groups, along with some 100 informal prayer groups. The day-to-day operation of the AUC is handled by the Director of Ministry Services and his staff and is governed by a twenty-one person Board of Trustees which meets twice a year, in January and June. The Executive Committee, comprised of members of the Board, meets in April and September.

THE PURPOSE OF AUC

The Association of Unity Churches is a global network of ministries, ministers, teachers, and laypersons sharing the

media and communication of dynamic ideas; educational and inspirational retreats and conferences; placement and support of ministers; and other evolving functions deemed beneficial by the membership.

The Association is people in churches, centers, temples, and study groups around the world in spiritual fellowship spreading the universal Christ message of love in action.

Statement of Purpose
Planning and Goals Committee,
1981

WHAT AUC DOES FOR YOU

Unity ministers, teachers, and churches are served in some way every day by the

—Free literature from Unity School. Available to all member ministries and affiliated study groups, this literature helps advise and strengthen all Truth work.

—New study groups. An **Expansion Guidebook**, Outreach Packets I through VI, along with other expansion material is available to assist in developing new groups. An Expansion Coordinator is on the AUC staff to assist these developing groups, and there are expansion representatives in each of seven regions—Eastern, Southeast, Great Lakes, South Central, Western, West Central and Southwest.

—Regional and National Conferences. Annual conferences are held in which ministers, licensed teachers, and delegates may participate. Professional Enrichment Programs are scheduled at all regional and national conferences.

—A health care insurance program for ministers and employees of member churches. This program currently in-

DURING 1985

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, as our Planning Committee, has identified goals which include:

—The continued development and evaluation of programs that relate to AUC's defined statement of purpose.

—The ongoing development of an operational structure which enhances existing or new human resource potential for the organization.

—The continued collaboration and definition of mutual goals with Unity School.

—The continuance of the present level of financial support and the development of new channels for additional program related revenue.

—The development of effective public relations programs and strategic marketing for all Unity ministries and for AUC.

The Executive Committee continues to review accomplishments related to the identified goals, and to prioritize, revise, and develop new goals

and action plans for 1987. A highlight of goals and action plans accomplished in 1985 include:

—Contracting ongoing Management Consultant field training sessions with Barbara O'Hearne. Session options include:

- Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members
- Supervisory Skills Development
- Planning and Goals
- Strategic Market Planning

Barbara is scheduling trainings on a first come, first served basis; please call her directly at (816) 333-1743. Professional fees and expenses borne by AUC.

—The development of a written administrative manual that includes personnel policies for staff, detailed job descriptions for all staff positions, and administrative operating procedures for the AUC office.

—Youth Award Program Dedication and publishing of **The Best of Agape**.

—Current Job Descriptions for all management staff; program plans with quantifiable objectives by each manager.

—Committee Commissions and defined responsibilities.

—Development and distribution of Public Relations Packet.

—AUC/US Task Force (ongoing).

—Management Training **Contact** article monthly by Barbara O'Hearne began May, 1986.

—Hired a Chairman of Ministry Studies.

—Implemented a clinical pastoral education program.

—Task Force researched Regional Minister Advisor Services; pilot program began April 1, 1986 in Western Region.

—Developed church policy and administrative procedures manual; distributed to field ministries.

—Performance evaluation structure; review of DMS and management staff.

—International Ministries Task Force created (ongoing)

—Existential Position defined:

system that will effectively monitor financial resources and expenditures.

A great many organizational challenges and opportunities exist for AUC. Creating this yearly planning process ensures that the organization will continue to strive to define its goals in relationship to the needs of its member ministers and ministries.

STAFF

Office of Ministry Services—Carries out the policies of the corporation, is responsible for ministerial and board consultation, overall administration of operations, fiscal management of the corporation, and design

Myra Moore, Accounting Assistant—Insurance

Education Department—Plans, budgets, and coordinates education programs, publications, and activities of AUC; serves as resource to field ministries regarding policies, educational goals, and programs; coordinates the Skill Demonstration Seminars and the Licensed Teacher Postgraduate week; develops ministry studies curriculum; coordinates the Expansion Program of Outreach Ministries and related study groups; responsible for the overall planning, coordination and supervision of YOU and YAU Conferences and youth educational services.

James C. Robinson, PhD., Director of Education

Jody Smith, Administrative Assistant

Production & Shipping Department—Handles mailing, inventory control processing, and shipment of all orders. Production and Shipping Manager

Chris Palmarine, Shipping Assistant

BOARD OF TRUSTEES * (Executive Committee)

Richard Barnes *
Unity of Delray Beach
Delray Beach, Florida

Jay Dishman *
Unity Center
Atlanta, Georgia

Violet Assam
Unity of Trinidad & Tobago
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, West Indies

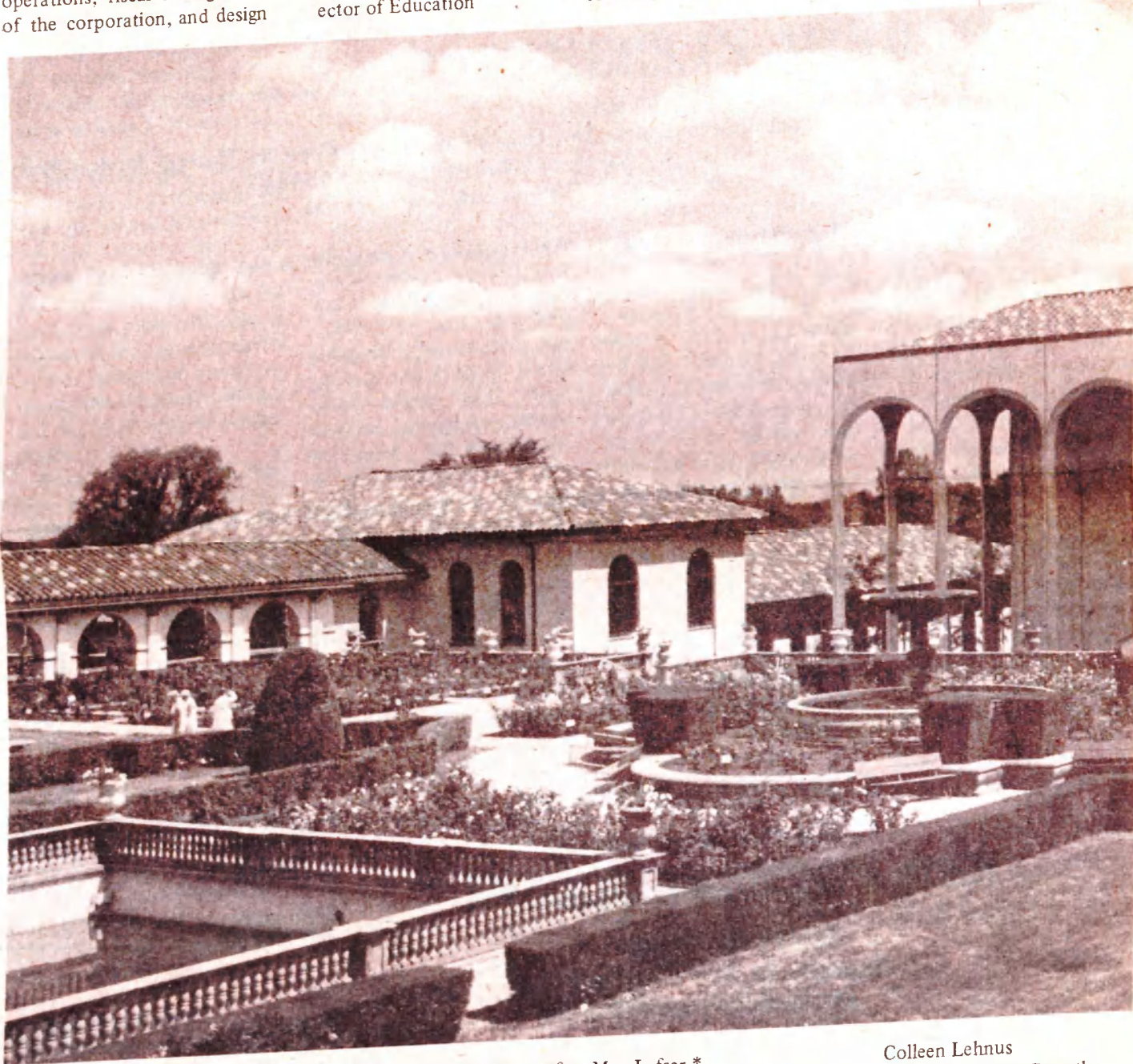
Pauline Beauregard
Unity Church of Descanso
Descanso, California

Maya Brandenberger
Unity Church of Truth
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Howard Caesar
Unity Church of Christianity
Houston, Texas

Bob Ellsworth
Unity of Vancouver
Vancouver, Washington

Robert Hill
Westside Unity Church
Culver City, California



of AUC publications.

Glenn R. Mosley, PhD., Director of Ministry Services
Martha Loehr, Executive Secretary
Faith Moran, Receptionist
Chris Gaither, Graphics and Composition Specialist
Lavella Sizer, Typist
Barbara Smith, Graphics Assistant (part-time, MEP)

Accounting Department—Supervises overall fiscal operations, handles compensation and benefits program.

Young Bae, Business Manager
Marge Poole, Accounting Assistant—Orders

Judith Sherman, Chairman of Ministry Studies
Trish Robinson, Education Secretary
Ron Tyson, Expansion and Conference Specialist
Tim Pettet, International YOU/YAU Coordinator
Joyce Culey, Youth Education Coordinator
Clare Austen, Youth Services Assistant

Placement - Liaison—Provides consultation to ministers and boards regarding placement and liaison.

Joann Landreth, Associate Director and Placement-Liaison Coordinator

Max Lafser *
Unity on the Plaza
Kansas City, Missouri

Charles Lelly *
Unity Temple
Louisville, Kentucky

Jim Rosemergy *
Unity Church of Truth
Spokane, Washington

Scott Sherman *
Unity Church of Truth
Seattle, Washington

Larry Swartz *
Unity of Tucson
Tucson, Arizona

Albert Abdulky
Unity Church of Stockton
Stockton, California

Colleen Lehnus
Unity Center for Growth
Omaha, Nebraska

Nancy Neal
Unity Church of Christianity
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Marilyn Rieger
Unity Center of Independence
Independence, Missouri

Mayola SaltPaw
Unity Church of Inkster
Inkster, Michigan

Edie Skalitzky
Unity in the Rockies
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Gene Sorensen
Unity of Livonia
Livonia, Michigan

AUC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the AUC is to support Unity ministries in sharing with people everywhere the universal principles of Truth as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ.

AUC PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative, and educational programs.

—The conversion of all finance recording systems to a comprehensive automated data

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

Statement of General Funds Operations
Eleven Months Ended February 28, 1986

INCOME—OPERATIONS:	Month	Year to Date
Love Offering	\$ 62,694.70	\$ 598,177.10
Other Income	2,040.48	17,638.59
	<u>64,735.18</u>	<u>615,815.69</u>
Less: Tithe Transfer	6,269.47	59,817.71
	<u>58,465.71</u>	<u>555,997.98</u>
Gross Profit Material	2,477.01	73,829.69
	<u>56,988.72</u>	<u>629,827.67</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 60,942.72</u>	<u>\$ 629,827.67</u>
EXPENSES—OPERATIONS:		
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 54,298.60</u>	<u>\$ 647,064.58</u>
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ 6,644.12</u>	<u>\$ (17,236.91)</u>

Unity School Contribution to The Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided
Month of February, 1986 — \$ 5,145.09
Year to Date — \$ 87,975.45

(Note: This contribution is a non-ledger item and does not appear on the AUC financial statement)

STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS & FUND BALANCE Years ended March 31, 1986 and 1985 (Unaudited Statement)

	1986	1985
Revenues:		
Love Offerings	\$ 650,683	\$ 580,733
Interest Income	9,000	20,830
Other	17,103	19,639
	<u>676,786</u>	<u>621,202</u>
Tithe Transfer to Expansion Fund	65,068	58,073
	<u>611,718</u>	<u>563,129</u>
Gross Profit on Sale of Material	71,321	49,659
Income Available for Operations	<u>\$ 683,039</u>	<u>\$ 612,788</u>
Expenses:		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 407,255	\$ 394,584
Travel	49,280	37,546
Depreciation	21,923	20,821
Other	44,647	39,760
General & Administrative	203,350	206,797
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 726,455</u>	<u>\$ 699,508</u>
Excess of Income over (under) Expenses	(43,416)	(86,720)
Beginning Fund Balance April 1, 1985	\$ 212,230	\$ 298,950
Ending Fund Balance March 31, 1986	<u>\$ 168,814</u>	<u>\$ 212,230</u>

Unity School Contribution to The Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided
April 1, 1985 - March 31, 1986 — \$ 93,804.91

(Note: This contribution is a non-ledger item and does not appear on the AUC financial statement)

MAKING YOUR WILL

Should you make a will?

What is a will? A will is your direction in writing, controlling the disposition of your property at death. As long as you are alive, it does not transfer any of your property or give to others any rights to your property.

Who can make a will? Any adult of sound mind can make a will. If he or she is subjected to fraud, duress or undue influence at the time of making the will, however, the will can be set aside by the courts. Non-citizens as well as citizens can make wills. The right of a minor to make a will is limited; the law on minors' wills varies from state to state.

Do you need a will? You have, no doubt, heard a person say: "I don't need a will because I don't have very much money, and anyway, the law will take care of distribution of my property." Yes, the law will distribute your property, but the chances are that the distribution would not satisfy you if you were there to witness it. Furthermore, you are probably worth much more than you think you are. When you determine your net worth, remember your life insurance, your pension and profit-sharing benefits, stock options and other executive compensation payable on death.

If you die intestate (leaving no will), your property passes according to state law. Under the laws of intestacy your close relatives will share in your estate, but most often not in the way that you would have wanted.

Gifts to Charitable Institutions

A gift by will to a school, college, church, hospital, museum, health organization or other charitable institution benefits the institution of your choice and can provide significant estate tax savings for you. The gift may be in cash, securities, real or personal property. It may be made outright or in trust.

Before drafting your will, consult the charitable institu-

tion and your lawyer to discuss the various methods of making charitable gifts. Some of the methods are:

1. Outright gifts.
2. Gifts for a particular purpose, such as a memorial or a building fund.
3. Gifts of income usable for any purpose.
4. Gifts of income usable for a particular purpose.
5. Gifts of principal of a trust for any purpose.

Charitable institutions prefer unrestricted gifts in order to avoid the possibility that the purpose for which a gift is given becomes obsolete. It is possible, however, for you to specify that the property be used for a special purpose and at the same time protect the charitable institution if that purpose should become obsolete.

Life income gifts. Your will can create a trust which will pay life income to a survivor. On the survivor's death, the trust principal is delivered to the designated charity. For estates which would otherwise be subject to tax, life income gifts provide substantial estate tax savings. We would like to give you and your advisors further details.

Some states have laws limiting the amount that can be willed to charitable institutions over the objections of close relatives. And some state laws deny a charitable institution a gift from an individual who dies shortly after making his or her will. Your lawyer will tell you about the law in your state.

The estate planning consequences of gifts to the Association of Unity Churches depend upon your unique circumstances. We would like to give you additional information about charitable gifts and discuss with you and your advisors the most advantageous ways to make them.

Please call or write:

The Association of Unity Churches®

P.O. Box 610

Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063
(816) 524-7414

'86 MINISTERIAL CLASS VISITS WEST CENTRAL REGION

This year's ministerial class received a warm and loving reception when they visited 11 Unity centers in Northern California in March. "Not to mention the outstanding food and accommodations," commented Dick Mantei, class president. Including the panel discussions, over 20 area ministers participated.

Mantei added that, "All the ministers shared their experiences in an open and frank

manner. We had an opportunity to balance classroom theory with actual field experience and practice."

Everyone agreed that the joint funding of the trip by USRS, the region, and the students is an important aspect of the ministerial training program.

"Thank you, West Central Region, for your love and support."



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

By Karin Mosley & Weaver Hess

On Not "Talking Shop"

You can take the minister out of the church but can you take the church out of the minister?

Ever find yourself in a social setting with your ordained one and only and suddenly realize you're talking shop? How easily the conversation drifts to the church. And how readily we get involved—even in our various "partner" roles. It could be a simple question directed to your spouse—"What do you do for a living?" or "What business are you in?" I've known a few "People of the Cloth" who prefer to say, "I'm a teacher"—which is true—and doesn't demand that everyone in the room straighten up and fly right!

One of the most often-asked

questions among non-Unitics is "What does Unity teach?" That's one of my favorites! I jump right in with both feet along with my minister-spouse. Fun isn't it?

And yet, isn't it funny how often we look at our spouse and say, "Tonight we're not talking business. Let's leave the church out of our evening-day—vacation time together." And before you know it—you bring it up! I've done it time and time again. Why?

At the same time our minister-spouse received "the calling" to the ministry, our path was directed; our soul's journey began the same path. Our dedication to Unity, to the teaching of Truth, began to grow and develop and take root as we supported our spouse in his/her journey.

Like Glenn once said after my lamenting over not being able to leave the church out of our day off—"You can't make tomato juice out of oranges." Huh? When your commitment to Unity and its teachings is so much a part of your total life, why try to ignore it? It's OK.

So—you talk "church"—enjoy! Realize your commitment is great! Praise yourself! We know how great you are!

We'd love to hear from you. Write to Partners in Ministry, c/o AUC, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063, or phone Tuesdays or Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (816) 524-7414. All letters and phone calls are strictly confidential.

We love you; we bless you, and oh, how we appreciate you!

INNER ADVENTURES

David McArthur
Unity Church of Missoula
Missoula, Montana

Last October I participated in the most powerful retreat experience I have ever had the opportunity to facilitate. I was invited by INNER ADVENTURES, a company formed by my brother, Thomas McArthur, who is also a member of our church, to conduct a spiritual retreat for seven days while floating the Salmon River ("River of No Return") in Idaho. We experienced 7 days in the wilderness that were free of stress and strain and everyone was nurtured into a deep and very meaningful inner experience. I was renewed and so were all the others. All I did was handle the spiritual program and everything else—

outfitters, food, transportation, communication—was taken care of by INNER ADVENTURES.

INNER ADVENTURES' only purpose is to provide the wilderness part of a spiritual retreat experience. It provides retreats, open to the public and advertised nationally, that are facilitated by Unity ministers and other spiritual teachers. It will also set up a retreat specifically for your church, to be facilitated by you.

For more information, please call or write David McArthur, Unity Church of Missoula, 201 University, Missoula, MT 59801.



ISSUES IN MANAGEMENT

Barbara O'Hearne
Management Consultant

Meetings, Meetings, Meetings!

How many telephone calls have you made this past month and were unable to reach the person you called, because they were in a meeting? How many of these meetings were necessary, productive or even well planned? Every month, throughout the country, Unity ministers and boards of directors meet. These Board meetings are of critical importance to the ongoing effective management of the church. The management objective of a Board meeting includes:

1. To provide for Board meeting in which Board members can carry out their primary responsibility of determining policies through which the operations of the organization can be implemented.
2. To be informed about all phases of the organization's operations.
3. To exercise a stewardship role with regard to the organization's finances.
4. To assure that the operations of the organization are

"Why does the mention of the word 'meeting' bring to mind more negative and unpleasant experiences than positive ones?"

being conducted in a manner consistent with the stated purposes and goals.

Clearly the purpose of the Board meeting is important. Why does the mention of the word "meeting" bring to mind more negative and unpleasant experiences than positive ones?

Rather than looking at how meetings don't work, let's investigate how to plan and run an effective Board meeting. Two approaches will be discussed—the psychological and the practical.

"Is there a hidden agenda that might influence the Board's functioning?"

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH

By asking some straightforward and very direct questions in three areas, participants, goals, and history of the group, the meeting leader/planner can become aware of the dynamics of the group.

The participants. "Who's coming?" may be an obvious question. As Boards change in numbers and composition of members, so does the need for specific information. Asking questions such as:

- Why has the individual been elected to the Board?
- What do the members

want from the meeting?

—What is known about the individual Board member's interest and goals?

—Is there a hidden agenda that might influence the Board's functioning?

—Do the members come with individual biases toward the Board in general, the minister and/or the tasks at hand?

—What are the personal skills and strengths of the individual members?

—What are the personal limitations of the members that might affect the functioning of the Board?

Realistic goals. Meeting planners need to have an idea of the goals that can be reached. Questions about realistic goals, the commitment of Board members' time and level of involvement should include:

—Are the tasks priorities of the congregation and of the Board?

—What strategies need to be implemented to get the Board to listen to one another and to work together on tasks?

"What are the expectations for this meeting?"

—What information do the Board members have and/or need to have in order to work on the tasks and issues at hand?

History of the Board. Prior to each Board meeting, the president should think about the unfinished business of the Board. The questions related to tasks and issues might include:

—Was the last meeting a success? If so, how? Or, was it a failure for the participants?

—What are the expectations for this meeting? Just another meeting?

—What are the sources of conflict and frustration?

"By paying close attention to details the leader can plan for the success of the meeting."

Effective meeting planners, who take the time to answer the above questions, will have good information to begin building a plan for their meetings. The Board president is generally the person responsible for designing an effective and efficient meeting plan. Putting together an agenda 15 minutes before the scheduled meeting is not an uncommon behavior. This kind of preparation not only discounts the contributions of the Board members' time in a two to three hour meeting, it almost insures another mediocre session.

THE PRACTICAL APPROACH

By paying close attention to details the leader can plan for the success of the meeting. The following checklist has proved very helpful for many organizations.

1. Number and duration of Board meetings are adequate to conduct the Board's business.
2. Board meeting procedures follow a set pattern such as Robert's Rules of Order.
3. Agendas are jointly constructed by the chairperson and the staff assigned.
4. Agenda approval is the first item on any meeting's agenda.

5. Agendas and previous meetings' minutes are sent out in advance. Concise background material is sent out in advance to aid in understanding issues involved.

6. Minute taking is a staff function enabling full participation by all Board members.

7. A majority is always present.

8. Staff are adequately involved in meetings.

9. Board meeting dates are set well in advance and a reminder sent as each meeting approaches.

10. Meetings are achievement oriented and productive.

11. Board meetings begin and end on time!

If meetings tend to be the same, most likely we have all observed that the persons chairing meetings tend to act the same in their leadership role. We often learn to run a meeting from previous experiences, which have been good and bad. Several factors contribute to the lack of competent leadership in running meetings. Few leaders are trained in effective and efficient management of meetings. Models and behaviors are seldom evaluated by those attending the meetings with respect to the appropriateness of their leadership style. As a result, without feedback from participants, the leader has no information positive or negative and continues to run the meetings in the same manner.

Even if feedback were given to the leader, the old patterns that are well ingrained and habitual are often hard to change. Are you stuck in some old habits that need to be changed?

A few tips that may prove effective for your next Board meetings include:

—Establish regular meeting times and locations.

—Meeting notice with return card (attendance, proxy assignment).

—Include date, time, place on the agenda.

—Use the management of chairs to your advantage.

—Have coffee, ashtrays, wastebasket, other needed equipment on site.

—Table-top name tags (identification across the room).

—Don't be afraid of dissension.

—Emphasize the "WE" in the group's decisions.

The good intentions of meetings, in resolving organizational and individual needs is of great value. To draw people together, create teams to solve problems, share ideas, express feelings and support for each other, to share in the decision making process and to gain commitment for those decisions is a truly rewarding experience.

"Emphasize the 'WE' in the group's decisions."

Through well planned meetings, Board members, ministers and ultimately the congregations will benefit from the satisfaction of accomplishing mutually important goals.

References

- Center for Management Assistance, handouts on Board Dynamics, 1984.
- Napier, R. W. and Gershenfeld, M.K., **GROUPS Theory and Experience**. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1981.

THE FIRST FIVE YEARS PART II



LOVE ONE ANOTHER

By Jim Rosemergy

"Seek first the kingdom . . . and all these things shall be added unto you," is the foundation of a spiritual life and the cornerstone of a thriving ministry. It enjoins us to awaken to the presence of God individualized as us. This realization manifests itself in a variety of ways in a ministry. In the previous installment of The First Five Years we considered the idea of prayer and its unfoldment in the collection of people we call a church. Our premise was that as this consciousness developed, the ministry would be in step with the onward stride of God. In this article we are going to consider ideas aligning us with Jesus' commandment to "love one another . . ."

It is probably true to say we search for love more than any other quality of Spirit. The truth is our nature is love, and therefore Jesus' commandment is for us to express our spiritual essence. Of course, this is not a matter of words. Action is demanded, and our people will listen with their hearts rather than their ears. They will also want to see expressions of love, and the one they will look to is the minister.

SIMPLE THINGS

Through the years I have stumbled upon simple activities which compliment the obvious inner work necessary for love to make itself known. One little act we all "stumble upon" is the hug. Books have been written about the art of hugging. They may describe the mechanics of hugging, but what written word can describe

the heart's desire to say, "I love you"? It is a wonderful sight to see people walking up to one another and their arms flung outward to say, "I care."

Whenever I am at church I always take time to hug each staff member or volunteer who is there. In my case I acquired this delightful habit while I was in the Navy. Realize, of course, I did not hug my men, but I did take time each morning to walk on the flight deck and be with them. It is a simple thing, but it declares, "he cares!"

Also as I speak with people, whether it is in counseling or in casual conversation, I reach out and touch them. The touch is undoubtedly unnoticed by their conscious mind, but at a deeper level the soul knows I care.

"It is not so much what a person does, as what they are, that is appreciated."

Through the years I have written short notes to thousands of people expressing gratitude for their service to the ministry, but also to give thanks for them. I think this is an important distinction. It is not so much what a person does, as what they are, that is appreciated. Also, as a minister I try to stay aware of the things people are experiencing, whether they be challenges or triumphs, and convey the simple message, "I am with you."

Currently, in Spokane, we

have a phrase we use to bless our children while they are in the service each Sunday. After a mini-lesson we become still (the kids are as still as kids can be) and we affirm: YOU ARE LOVED, SPECIAL, AND IMPORTANT. The phrase is catching and people are using it to express love to one another. We have even had buttons made up declaring this statement.

"You are loved, special, and important."

Essentially, it is important to encourage the congregation to express their loving nature. Joining with the people to bless a lay minister of the month during a Sunday service allows for this divine expression. Flowers are given and special acknowledgement of their contribution to the ministry is a natural part of this simple act of caring.

Special days are important too. Birthdays are an opportunity to say to a staff member or key volunteer that the universe celebrates their entry into this earthly plane. No gifts are necessary, only a card and the message, YOU ARE LOVED, SPECIAL, AND IMPORTANT.

An appreciation dinner is another way to say love is the way we walk in gratitude. It is a fun and love-filled evening when the board and minister put on a gala dinner for those who have volunteered their services to the ministry during the course of a year. I cannot describe the feelings of love flowing through me while serving spaghetti sauce and then vacuuming the carpet after such an evening. I might add it is also a good idea to single out youth workers for such an affair and have yourself and the youth director, etc., express your appreciation.

Finally (actually there is no finally, for Spirit always illumines us with myriad ways to love one another), I think social get-togethers are important. Specifically, I am speaking of get-togethers with groups of people who work in key areas in the church. I have learned a monthly potluck for receptionists, bookstore workers, etc., is a fun time. After lunch a speaker shares a helpful idea for daily living or a brief training is scheduled. Also, such gatherings are arranged for youth volunteers and prayer center workers. In addition, it is a good idea for the minister to share some quality time with these workers on a regular basis. In Spokane, I teach a monthly mysticism class for the prayer center and conduct a youth education workshop each quarter. Such activities keep me busy, but isn't the Father's business love?

TO BE CONTINUED

1985 TEMPLETON RADIO GRANT

By Ross Tucker
President, Suncoast Ministers

Editor's Note: The following report was prepared in the 10th month of a year's cooperative Association of Unity Churches radio project between the Templeton Religious Trust Fund and Suncoast Unity Ministers, Inc., on Florida's west coast.

When word was received that Suncoast Unity Ministers, Inc., a sub-regional organization of the Southeast Conference, was to receive the 1985 radio grant through the Templeton Religious Trust Fund as adjudicated by the AUC's Media/Communications Committee, the question was "Now what?"

This was the first time the \$10,000 grant had been awarded to a group of ministries instead of a single Unity church or center—and on a matching basis. Scripting help was immediately provided by Rev. Jack Kern, Unity of Naples, who has had a long-standing daily program. Yeoman service came from Wayne Sexhauer, an advertising executive in St. Petersburg and member of First Unity Church. Wayne was responsible for both production and placement.

The major thrust of the project was educational awareness based on practical life application. Instead of focusing in on specific locations, worship times, class hours or dulcet tones of sponsoring ministers, the object was to reach people where they were. Sample: "Sure, you used to go to church . . . and it did feel right. But, somehow you never get around to going anymore. Ever wonder why? Was it all those 'Thees' and 'Thous' that made it hard to understand?"

Each message concluded with "Try Unity, that's U-N-I-T-Y: Unity Church. The church you go to on Sunday to give more meaning to every day of your week," or similar wording depending upon the target audience, i.e., "The church to bring your children to on Sunday to give more meaning to every day of their life." We felt Sexhauer's layman's scripting approach fit right in to the educational awareness emphasis.

As a result of carefully tailoring the 60-second spots to a diverse listening audience (the so-called "un-churched" audience in any given community is estimated up to 50%) we believe we pioneered an im-

portant avenue. To the "late, late" night crowd we said "So you're out hitting all the hot spots . . . You've been to all the clubs . . . partied . . . had fun?! But something deep inside you tells you . . . something is missing!" To parents we said "What are you doing for your children to insure their future happiness regarding how they feel about life?"

To those seeking meaning we examined new beginnings ("each and every day we wake up is a special day with a sparkling, brand new beginning") and developing their potential ("It's a matter of knowing . . . perhaps, being assured. It's that simple.").

Near the completion of the project, Suncoast ministers reported they felt the time devoted and funds expended to have been most worthwhile with a continuation in a more limited form forecast. The biggest single benefit was realizing the great need to continue to work together to build a bigger and better Unity movement on the west coast of Florida.

My own personal survey at Unity of Port Richey underscored the tremendous urgency nationwide for this type of outreach. Of the 18 new members taken in during February, 11 reported they could be considered as "frequent listeners." Of this group, six had heard two or more of these spots and were "favorably impressed" with what they heard.

This has been an exciting year and our understanding of radio's dynamic impact has grown by leaps and bounds!

Templeton-Suncoast Radio "Box Score"

Total investment: \$20,000, projected expenses \$19,998—\$19,342 actual air time, \$656 production costs.

Four major stations used (all FM format): WZNE, now WCRL (rock) 125 spots, WWBA (better listening) 156 spots, WQYK (modern country) 200 spots, WAVE (contemporary/jazz) 192 spots. Total 673 (projected through April, 1986).

Actual air times varied from early morning to "late, late" evening. Stations selected in FM frequency offered 100,000 watts maximum power and featured extensive area coverage. Broadcast frequency either weekly or every-other-week basis for 52 weeks.

ONE LAST TRY

Jerry Bartholow, Co-Chairperson
Public Relations/Media Committee

Jesus promised to make us fishermen—"Fishers of People"—if we follow Him. When you go fishing, do you select a bait that is attractive and pleasant to you, or do you select the bait that will attract the fish? Of course, a successful fisherman studies the world of the particular fish he desires to catch and makes his bait attractive to the fish.

There seems to be some question in the minds of many ministers and truth students about the use of the word "try" in our national campaign. That was my first reaction, too. In my ministry I teach that it's impossible to try anything—you either do or you don't. The problem is that in the history of Unity there have been more don'ts than do's by the general public simply because they don't know we exist! We have been trying to speak to the world, but we use a language they don't understand.

The world is a "trying" place. Everybody in the world is "trying" to find the answers. They're trying traditional Christianity—they're trying to make ends meet—they're trying to patch up their relationships—they're trying to find a cure for cancer and AIDS—they're trying to find a way not to destroy one another—they're even trying one another—in court and in other ways. The world is trying everything—well, almost everything—they

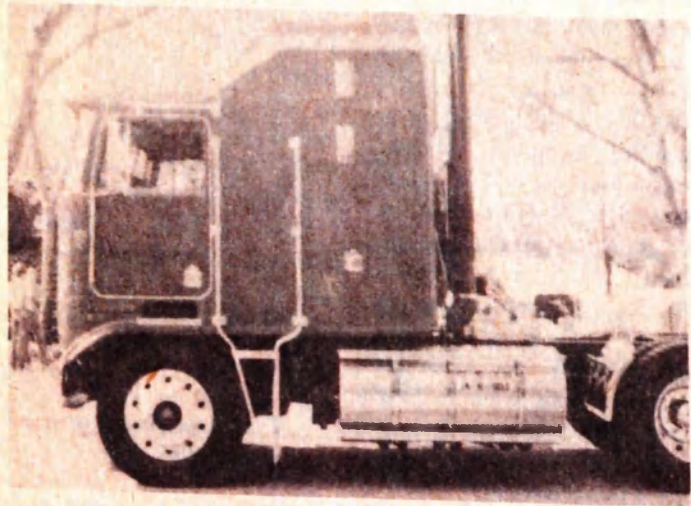
haven't tried Unity yet!

"They haven't found Unity yet because you haven't asked them to try!" These are the words of J. Ross and Associates, the advertising firm who recommended the "Try Unity" campaign. "To attract the world you must speak a language the world can understand." We selected a national advertising firm to help us market Unity because we have not been overly successful "in house." We're so steeped in our own ways that we don't see the ways of the world—and that's good—unless you're going fishing!

The "Try Unity" campaign is designed to be attractive to the general public, not to truth students, and from the reactions we're getting both from the general public and from truth students—it's working very well! The sample ads you have in your new public relations manual are very effective for newspapers, radio and television. We're coming out with many more tools and ideas that will be effective in helping us reach our goal of making Unity a household word in all the world by 1990.

The campaign is working for those who are working with it. What we're giving the world is the opportunity to make "ONE LAST TRY" and make it a good one!

Try "Try Unity"—you'll like it!



TRUCK BLESSING

Unity Church of Irving
Irving, Texas

Bill King, Minister
Proudly Blesses and
Dedicates the

Kenworth Aerodyne
henceforth known as
Peregrine

owned and operated by
Vernon Proefrock
Prescott, Arizona
Date of Manufacture
October 31, 1985
Date of Delivery
November 7, 1985
Date of Blessing
November 10, 1985

SPARK PLUGS

Talk Topics and Sermon Starters from Unity Cassettes
and Unity Publications

*For June: HOW TO USE
THE POWER OF PRAYER,
a book by Harold Sherman, &
THE POWER OF PRAYER,
a three-cassette album
by Harold Sherman*

Prayer, a cornerstone of the Unity way of life, is probably one of your most popular talk and sermon topics. Now, in a book and a three-cassette album, both by Harold Sherman, are some fresh thoughts on prayer that will be useful to you. The book and the album offer correlating material; however, each is complete alone.

In the book, *HOW TO USE THE POWER OF PRAYER*, the first chapter is "Love, the Essential Key to Prayer." Harold Sherman states: **Through love and love alone is it possible for us to express our feeling for God and sense His feeling for us in return.** He explains his ideas for getting in contact with God in a much more intimate, understanding, and demonstrable way than ever before. He also addresses the age-old question about the why's of poverty, sickness, heartbreak, sorrow, accidents, and various circumstances. This chapter alone has enough basic material for a talk.

In following chapters, the author gives excellent suggestions to prepare the mind for prayer, stresses the importance of faith in praying, and offers a chapter on reestablishing faith.

In his album, *THE POWER*

OF PRAYER, Harold Sherman helps the listener develop what he terms a "knowing contact" with God. He suggests ways to emerge from the point in consciousness "where your own thinking leaves off and the intelligence that is God begins." Specifics about prayer positions and attitudes are given and model prayers are included for your use or adaptation.

This book and album offer dynamic suggestions for using the power of prayer successfully, discussing in depth:

—prayer preparation techniques

—the use of cause and effect

—hints about specific prayers

—praying in a crisis

—prayers for children, families, peace, business, healing, the alcoholic, companionship, personality improvement, and all people.

The 224-page book, *HOW TO USE THE POWER OF PRAYER* by Harold Sherman, is \$5.95. The three-cassette album, *THE POWER OF PRAYER*, also by Harold Sherman, is \$15. They are sold through the sales department of Unity School.

*For July: The Greatest Love
and The Dr. Wayne Dyer
Seminar, by Dr. Wayne Dyer*

Every center, church, class, and individual will want to avail themselves of this three-cassette album by Dr. Wayne Dyer, one of the world's fore-

most proponents of mental and spiritual health. Taped during a seminar, Dr. Dyer talks about actions and reactions that all people experience. He speaks informally to help people:

—make responsible choices

—liberate themselves from negativism

—free themselves from guilt, worry, depression, failure, addictions, and other syndromes

—become "healthy, fully-actualized" human beings.

As Dr. Dyer addresses choice-making, he states that this process influences all of life. In pointing out guidelines that encourage people to make good choices, he uses examples everyone relates to such as:

"Traffic just is—it doesn't care what it does. It is not doing anything to you, it just is. Your reaction to traffic is the result of what is going on within you before you got into traffic."

He reminds us that we have the ability to take a present moment and make a miracle out of it. In every situation we can live life at our fullest capacity.

The Greatest Love and The Dr. Wayne Dyer Seminar is a three-cassette album by the author of the best-selling books, *Your Erroneous Zones*, *Pulling Your Own Strings*, and *The Sky's the Limit* (these books are not available from Unity School). **The Greatest Love and The Dr. Wayne Dyer Seminar** is available through the Sales Department of Unity School of Christianity.

It may seem unusual to bless and christen a truck, but we can't underestimate the importance of a truck to the long-haul driver.

We leave our house or apartment in the morning—a house that is well divided for our convenience, and we drive our car a short distance to our place of work. Again, we enter a place, usually air-conditioned, spacious, often divided into areas for different uses. Most have comfortable rest areas and lunch rooms. In the evening we again return to our home with all of its conveniences.

This is what a truck is for the owner-operator. The truck is his house, his sleeping quarters, his prayer room, his occupation. The life of a long-haul trucker is often confined to his truck alone. Oh, sure! He stops along the way for a meal and maybe a shower and fuel, but most of his hours are spent behind the wheel, drinking coffee, or up in the sleeper. This is the trucker's home, his occu-

pation. His very existence revolves around his truck, as the cowboy's life once revolved around his horse.

To order a truck to his exact specifications is often an unrealized dream for many who move the goods of this nation. To realize this dream is a great highlight of a lifetime. It's akin to the average person building their dream house, but goes even further for a trucker.

The truck and the driver have a love affair, a oneness is created between truck and driver that goes beyond the comprehension of mere mortals.

It seems irrational to love a truck, to be at one with a truck. But trucking is more than a living; it is a life, and the truck is involved so completely that it is indistinguishable from the trucker. Truck and trucker are a unit, they exist for each other—a complete merging of one into another.

Yes, it is proper to bless this truck. To christen it, and even

to dedicate it and its work to the glory of God. It is man and machine serving Mankind, a high calling indeed.

Vern, this truck is a creation of God and Man working together—God supplying the Divine Ideas, Man converting those ideas into a piece of machinery to serve Mankind, so I charge you to give good care and maintenance to this divine creation that we call a truck. It is given to you to use in the service of Mankind and to provide abundance to those who serve behind its wheel, and to bless those whose cargo it carries.

Do you accept the responsibility of caring for and nurturing this truck, that it may serve you and your fellow human beings? (I do)

What name do you give to this truck?

I therefore christen this truck (truck's name), and bless it in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Let us pray.

UNITY CHURCH FORMS FOUNDATION

By Jim Rosemergy
Unity Church of Truth
Spokane, Washington

There is a movement within all churches and all people to more deeply experience the truth that God is our abundant, unlimited supply. One aspect of this evolving consciousness is to open ourselves more fully to potential tangible channels of the unseen, infinite supply. The Unity Church of Truth Spokane Foundation has become such an open door through which the ministry may be blessed, and be a blessing.

The idea originated during a monthly meeting of one of our committees, the prosperity committee. As long range goals for avenues of service to our congregation and community developed, it was obvious that funding was necessary for these services to be realized. A recommendation was made to the church board to form a foundation whose essential purpose would be: to provide a channel for church members and others to express their spiritual nature of love and generosity through gifts of an enduring nature for special projects in support of the Unity ministry. The trustees, seeing the possibilities for the ministry, approved the concept, and we preceeded in incorporating the foundation. Obviously, bylaws and articles of incorporation were written and were of a standard variety. However, there was the stipulation that the church board would elect and have the power to recall members of the foundation's board. Other than this and a quarterly reporting system, the foundation was and is a separate legal entity from the Unity Church of Truth in Spokane.

However, all involved realize that the mission of the foundation will be to assist the church in fulfilling its mission of serv-

ice in the community. After the legal matters were addressed, the church board elected the first trustees for the foundation. We gave attention to those with a developed prosperity consciousness, as well as skills which might benefit the work of the foundation. The trustees included a stock broker, an accountant, a lawyer, insurance and real estate people. And, of course, they all had a love of the truth teachings and the ministry.

The foundation's trustees' first task was to develop a policy manual. Such a guide is essential and is also something that changes and evolves as the trustees fulfill their responsibilities. Current areas governed by the policy manual are:

1. Communication and Coordination (between the church board, board president and senior minister.)

2. Gifts and Tithes (the foundation tithes to its channel of spiritual good.)

3. Invasion of Trust Principal (only for specific projects proposed by church board. In general, capital contributions are to be regarded as seed from which the foundation will gather a harvest, and that the church will normally gather its benefits only from the harvest.)

4. Investment Policy (consistent with basic rules of prudence, diversification, and acceptability for similar charitable organizations having trustees who must act in a fiduciary manner.)

5. Promotion of Foundation (through seminars and "fire-side chats"—friendly, at home sharing with church members and friends.)

6. Seminar Personnel (selections will be made at the discretion of the foundation

trustees consistent with considerations of certification, speaking ability, etc.)

Secondly, the foundation conceived and had printed a small pamphlet illustrating the purpose of the foundation and outlining methods of giving beneficial to the ministry and to the individual as allowed by state and federal tax laws. Examples of charitable gifts considered in the pamphlet are: Gifts of Appreciated Assets, Gifts of Low Yielding Assets, A Charitable Lead Trust, Donation of Home (you live in it the rest of your life), a Gift of Life Insurance, and, of course, the Income Tax Charitable Donation.

Ideas, consistent with the stated purpose of the foundation, continue to surface. For instance, gifts to the foundation instead of memorial flowers is a likely consideration for some individuals. Our foundation has prepared an attractive gift card for this purpose with the following inscription: In loving gratitude... for the blessing that you are, a gift has been received by the Unity Church of Truth Spokane Foundation. Thank You, Father.

Obviously, the foundation is a potential channel through which the Father's bounty may flow to and through the ministry. However, it is essential for us to realize it is an avenue of the Source and not the Source itself. Therefore, we do not look to the foundation for our good. God is our good and our Source. In this way the Spokane foundation is not only a potential channel of the Father's bounty, but that which reminds us of our need to continue to "seek first the kingdom..."

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



Coletta Long, minister of Unity Community Church in Kingwood, Texas, married Curt Hamilton, a life-long Texan, on January 12, 1986. They met at Unity Community Church.

In March, 1986, Jack Kern, minister of Unity of Naples, Florida, celebrated 25 years in the ministry. Stan Hampson was keynote speaker for a testimonial banquet held in Jack's honor. Jack received the gift of a desk and credenza, and a brass plaque containing a poem by Jim Freeman will be attached to the desk.

Jim Lewis, minister of Unity Church of Denver, Colorado, and his wife, Charlene, will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary on July 21, 1986. They met in the Silent Unity parking lot where the Inn now stands. They both worked in Silent Unity while Jim was in the ministerial program. They lived on the Village, and their first daughter was born while they were there. Jim says, "It has been 30 wonderful years, and it all began in Unity, and it will continue on for many more."

Also, just this year in February, 1986, Jim finally achieved another educational goal: he received his Ph.D. When he left Unity School in 1959 to go to Washington, DC, Jim had only had two years of a Business School beyond high school and the ministerial training in Silent Unity. He began working part time on his B.A. at Syracuse University while he was there. He completed two years at Syracuse and finished the last two toward a B.A. at Denver University. Jim says, "I thought that would be enough,

but Spirit had different plans. A number of years ago I got off my motorcycle and went back to school working on my M.A. I thought that would be it, but again I was stopping short, so I continued on. I am glad today that I kept going, for now I have the Ph.D. All this extra study has been a great blessing and help to me in the ministry."



Lourdes Collado, minister of Asociacion Unity de Cristianismo Practico de Caracas, in Caracas, Venezuela, was awarded a plaque for her part in the organization of the Pan-American Retreat which was held the week of September 9, 1985.

The plaque reads: The Unity brothers of the American countries confer the present plaque to Reverend Minister Lourdes Alvarez de Collado in recognition for the excellent organization of the first Panamerican Retreat done in the Margarita Island, Nueva Esparta State, Venezuelan Republic.

Caracas, November 24, 1985

Catherine Ponder, minister of Unity Worldwide, Palm Desert, California, has recently been listed in *Who's Who in Religion*, *Who's Who in America*, and *Who's Who in the World*.

A number of Catherine's books have recently been revised and are now available through DeVors & Company. These include: *The Dynamic Laws of Prosperity*, *The Dynamic Laws of Healing*, *The Healing Secrets of the Ages*, *Open Your Mind to Prosperity*, and *The Prospering Power of Love*.

CLEARINGHOUSE

Unity of Louisville, Kentucky has 110 blue hymnals it will send to anyone willing to pay the postage. They will send all or part of the 110 copies.

If interested, contact Donn Treadwell, Unity of Louisville, 757 South Brook Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40203.

Unity Church of Peoria, Illinois is looking for one copy of *Sermon on the Mount* by Emmet Fox and several copies of *Make Your Dreams Come True* by Stella Terrell Mann, both of which are now out of print.

Please call Patty Edwards, (309) 682-8554 or 686-1695, or send them to Unity Church of Peoria, 3127 N Avalon Pl., Peoria, Illinois 61604.

Unity Center of Bartlesville, Oklahoma is in need of 50-75 used copies of *Unity Song Selections* song book (good condition). If you have song books for this group, please contact Unity Center of Bartlesville, 825 Cherokee, Bartlesville, OK 74003.

HOLD THE PHONE BILL

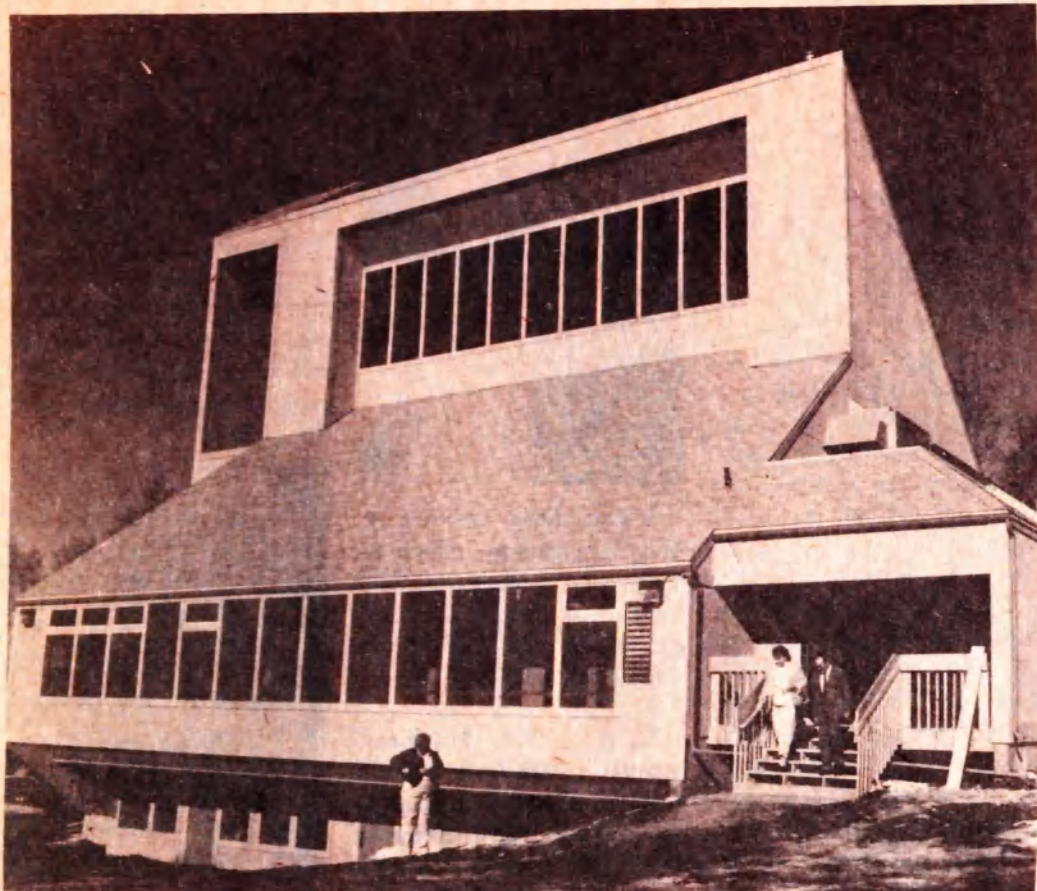
Cathy Carver, minister of Unity Church of Carlsbad, California, reports that when their church office moved, they incurred an unreasonable telephone installation/connection bill from Pacific Bell. In disputing those charges, Cathy discovered that churches are eligible for a special non-profit rate, and tax exemption.

The church has now filed

with Pacific Bell for "nonprofit religious" rates and asked for a retroactive billing adjustment for the past 6 years (since their incorporation in March 1980). Cathy has also written to the Public Utilities Commission so they "encourage" Pacific Bell to cooperate.

Check your phone bills! You may be able to save money.

NEW HOME FOR UNITY OF ANCHORAGE



"A remarkable two-year adventure for a church of this size."

That's how **Polly C. Dozier**, minister, described the protracted process of building a home for members of **Unity of Anchorage, Alaska**. "It was," she says, "a process marked by many growth opportunities for Unity services and activities as well as members, but it has been worth the wait."

The church is now a spiritual home for Unity and will accommodate close to 400 Unity members and friends every Sunday, summoning them to a beautiful wooded hillside site, where its distinctive tower overlooks the Anchorage bowl. Already, the 11:00 a.m. service is very full, commented Dozier.

"I feel a deep commitment to the ministry here because I know how powerfully Unity is effecting people here, and the new church building is an extension of that," Dozier commented, emphasizing the metaphysical relationship between church structure and mission.

"We are like a watch tower in consciousness—our role here is to hold the Light and be there as a particular path of light for those who are wanting spiritual transformation. So many people come up from 'the lower 48' searching for a higher way of life, and they are often going through tremendous changes and even crisis. They are 'ripe' for the Unity message!"

Ours is a northern spiritual consciousness, expressing tremendous energy, vitality and enthusiasm. Light just pours through the architecture of our building and thus our new church home symbolically represents the human soul as a

chalice of the pure white light of the Christ. Our interior is white and really reflects the sunlight that comes into our solarium which runs the length of the sanctuary. We hope to have plants growing there soon! Light also pours through the clear story windows which run parallel above the solarium. Over the chancel area is a large, special window which catches the light coming in through a clear story in the tower.

"It is a beautiful place in which people can really enjoy worship activities and spiritual study."

When Dozier arrived in November of 1983, church members had already been discussing a permanent home and raised \$50,000 to that end. Then, in December, came the first in a series of dramatic events—a letter raising rent on the existing downtown church site from \$800 to \$5,000 per month.

"We were occupying an historic downtown building right across from the museum. It was extremely valuable property. We had to either rent it for \$5,000 a month, or buy it for a couple of million," Dozier remembers.

The church building committee analyzed city-wide property values and decided the hillside parcel it already owned represented the best value for the project they intended to undertake. Just as important, "It is a beautiful

place in which people can really enjoy worship activities and spiritual study," says Dozier.

Thus began a "courageous move" launching the church "out into the depths of a building campaign."

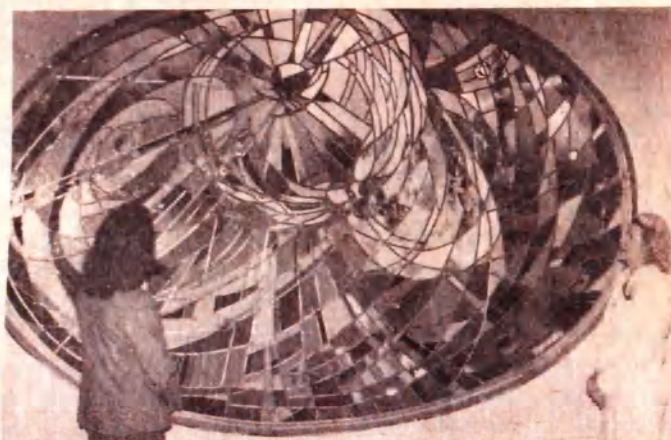
Church members expressed their approval of the effort by raising \$250,000 in the initial six weeks of the campaign. Another \$111,000 was raised in 1985, enough to secure a \$550,000 bank loan with. With the land, the church appraisal will approximate \$1,250,000.

A multitude of challenges seemed to greet Unity of Anchorage each step of the way. Interim office and worship space arrangements had to be made. The Sunday services were held in Grant Hall at Alaska Pacific University, and administrative offices and mid-week classes were located at The Tudor Centre, a modern office park near the University.

"We had incredible zoning troubles. The zoning up here has to be one of the most difficult in the U.S.," said Dozier. Design changes required by the city for churches cost \$200,000 and a lost building season. Initial construction bids were too high. City inspectors making arbitrary requirements and overlapping authorities drew church leadership into continuous negotiations before a certificate of occupancy was issued.

In the end, though, Dozier and other church leaders reflect the effort was worth the price on every level, financial and otherwise. Worshippers are grateful for the badly needed space required for a fast-growing church, and the drive half-way up the Chugach Mountains, looking over Anchorage, is a reward in itself.

NEW CHURCH FOR UNITY OF AUBURN, CALIFORNIA



Sunday, August 5, 1984, was **Unity of Auburn's** (California) first Sunday in its new church home. What a celebration we had! Mostly volunteer labor has converted a former hardware store into an elegant church containing a sanctuary seating 165, three offices, a large fellowship hall (to be used for several Sunday School classrooms), a spacious and inviting bookstore, and a kitchen. We went from hardware to software! It is not totally completed as of this writing, but we have "work parties" every weekend, and many volunteers help during the week also. A large meditation garden is planned on the property next to the building.

For the four years that **Billie Blain** has served the ministry in Auburn, she has focused on building the 'inner church' first. She taught that as an environment of love, harmony, and peace was established within, forming the mental equivalent of a beautiful church, the outer church would take place. This is just what happened. We leased a building (with plenty of parking space) and quite literally built the inner church. In five weeks a marvelous crew of Unity people went to work, led by a very talented licensed contractor from the church, and all the work was done in a spirit of love and cooperation. It was indeed a miracle.

This is an interim step for the church, as there are plans for a future building on many acres, but that is down the road. Right now we couldn't be happier with our new church!

Our last Sunday, July 29th, in the second floor of our suite

of offices in the State Theatre Arcade was also a miracle. On this last gathering in our cramped, split-view room, the congregation was told to pick up their chairs and walk. And everyone did. Seven trucks were lined up outside, and did we ever get moved quickly, and we had fun doing it. All things are possible when there is a spirit of harmony, joy and cooperation.

The Church Gets a Window

In November 1985, a most gorgeous stained glass window was installed. It was the result of one year of prayerful committee meetings, interviews with many stained glass artists and very successful fund raising. A very talented artist in the church drew the first sketches and full size pictures. A skilled and famous stained glass artist was hired to build the window. The window measures 9 x 11 feet and is oval shaped. The symbology of the window sets the tone for the future, permanent home of Unity of Auburn. The new church will use the window as a focal point of the structure, and as a pictorial representation of the purpose of Unity of Auburn. The window represents a peace-filled world moving in a cosmic harmony of glorious color depicting the beauty of the galaxy. The artist caught the dynamic movement of the solar system and has used various jeweled prisms representing stars and planets. A representation of Halley's comet marks the year this great artwork was created. The colors used are purples, pinks, blues, greens, with some yellows.

UNITY OF ROCHESTER, MI

THE HOME THAT FAITH BOUGHT AND LOVE REBUILT

By Diane E. DeFazio



As many Unity centers have probably started, Unity of Rochester was first an idea, then a study group, then a satellite, then a congregation, and then a church. Striving, growing, and forming for 12 years.

The formative years slowly made a solid conglomerate of faith and Truth bonded with love and friendship. Dona Gilsdorf emerged/migrated from Unity in Royal Oak, Michigan. As teacher, counselor, and minister, she helped guide the growth.

As the group grew, so did the excitement. Love's electricity charged through the hands clasped at the end of each service. Joy bonded the loving camaraderie while singing "Let peace begin with me". Strength became solid as the foundation was laid with prayer and faith.

That spirit, that faith, that Truth in knowing divine order is what brought the people of "The Church of the Daily Word" into its new church home.

At first meeting in a hall, and then a commercial building, the group formed a strong nucleus. This small bud needed a place to grow, bloom, unfold, and bear fruit. It was time to transform from a "seed" idea.

At the annual meeting in January 1983, the request was formally put forth. "We need a church home where we can expand... where we can grow and nurture". Asking for what was needed and expecting God's abundance to give more than was ever dreamed, thirty members and friends set forth in faith.

As thanks was given for the blessings unseen and yet to come, things started happening. Church buildings came forth, but didn't "come through". A building fund was underway. Faith was built with every challenge, every prayer.

As Paul said in his letters to the Hebrews (Chapter 11:1), "Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence not seen". Everyone knew the church was on its way. The group as a whole was open and receptive to God's guidance, love, and abundance.

As each building presented itself, the Administrative Board, the members and Dona would discuss, inspect, and pray. It almost became disheartening as so many places didn't seem to be "right". Then the thirty minds came together and made a minimal list of requirements that this "right" form should have. The needs included a Youth Education area, a sanctuary to hold more people, offices, and a bookroom.

From that coming together, all of one mind, things happened very quickly. Two days later to be exact, someone called and told of a church building very close by that was for sale. The Building Committee, the Board members, any one of the thirty or so members and friends walked in and knew nearly instantly that this was home!! The prayers and discussion following all led to that innate "rightness".

When it's right, it's right. When the seed is ready to come forth, nothing can stop it; not the cracks in the walls that let one see outside; nor the bugs; nor the bats; nor the plumbing problems; nor the unfinished windows; nor the lack of money. Unity of Rochester was ready to come forth!

The challenges were met and overcome in such beautiful and perfect order. The group again with single purpose set about to raise the funds needed. These thirty or so members and friends raised the \$12,000 needed in 6 weeks on faith alone. Their faith in God's abundance literally paid off.

The abundance flowed more richly than anyone could have imagined. In one month, from the date of purchase to the first Sunday morning service on March 4th, everyone pitched in, patched up, nailed, painted, glued, scrubbed and waxed nearly every square inch. Amazing demonstrations of time, love, monies, and needed items blessedly appeared. Rooms were scrubbed, painted, carpeted, and furnished; cracks were patched; the attic fumigated; the windows were finished and Love-lor blinds were hung; the plumbing was fixed and the Wingspan was put in place; all because of donations.

A special bond of friendship came to all the workers. Again, there was one mind working together in a beautiful, loving, happy harmony.

The joy, the exultation of that first Sunday morning service was shared by those who knew the ultimate feeling of faith culminating into "things seen".

The work goes on—fixing, restoring, building, and refinishing. The joy goes on—expanding, unfolding the wings of free spirit, nurturing the youth and spreading the word. In her first message, Dona spoke of the commitment of the new church, "We are a church of prayer, healing, teaching, preaching, and fellowship".

We are "Unity of Rochester—Church of the Daily Word". We are the church home that faith bought and love rebuilt.

Dona M. Gilsdorf was ordained a Unity minister on Sunday, June 4, 1985, at Unity of Rochester, Michigan.

Onita Meyer, a Unity minister and Dona's mentor and long-time friend, officiated over the beautiful and very meaningful service.

Several members of Dona's family participated—singing, laughing, praising, and reminiscing. Everyone wanted to be included in the service, and in one way or another, the love and appreciation for Dona showed through. At several points, there was not a dry eye in the sanctuary, as friend after friend expressed the joy they shared.

The congregation presented Dona with a beautiful gold cross with the Unity wings, to be worn on a gold chain.

A reception followed in the church fellowship rooms. Tables with beautiful flowers, crystal and silver trays abundantly filled with hors d'oeuvres and sweets, were all prepared by the women.

Long-time friends, family, fellow ministers, and the children of the Youth Education Department were so much a part of this very special occasion, it seemed as if everyone was being consecrated through their representative, the Reverend Dona M. Gilsdorf.



EASTER TIFFANY WINDOW UNVEILING

On Easter Sunday, March 30, 1986, at a 9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service, Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, California, unveiled and dedicated an 18 foot by 11 foot Tiffany Art Glass Window, designed and created by Mr. Louis Comfort Tiffany in his New York Studios in 1900. Everyone in attendance, from the youngest to the oldest, assisted in the unveiling by participating in the releasing of 4,000 balloons.

This beautiful, unique gift is a jewel of American and inspirational art. The Window, encased in a substantial free standing wall and shielded by protective glass, is the largest and most detailed Tiffany Window in Southern California. The Carroll family of El Cajon donated the Window, which G. Arthur Hammons, minister, discovered in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in a church which was to be demolished.

PEACE POLE PROJECT DEDICATION

Palm Sunday, March 23, 1986, there was a special Peace Pole Dedication at Unity Church of Des Moines, Iowa, during the 11:00 a.m. Devotional Service. This dedication not only marked the beginning of this local church's active participation in The Society of Prayer For World Peace, but also acted as one of the first steps towards the construction of Unity's, yet to be constructed, Prayer Tower and Peace Chapel. The new construction is hoped to be started yet this year with a completion date sometime next spring. The prayer ministry at Unity will hold prayer for world peace and prayer for individuals on a twenty-four hour a day basis, similar to the perpetual prayer vigil which has been held at Unity Village, Missouri, for nearly one hundred years.

The Peace Pole Project was started by the late Masahisa Goi's daughter, Masami Saionji, who has acted as the chairperson of The Society of Prayer For World Peace since his passing in 1980. Goi believed that the prayer and message, May Peace Prevail on Earth, would one day become the unifying

force of our planet. His hope was that through prayer a great transformation will take place in planetary consciousness for the New Age. As an international symbol of peace, the peace poles have been sent the world over by the Chiba Japan based society. The message, May Peace Prevail on Earth, decorates the four sides of the poles in a multitude of foreign tongues. The aim of the project is to have at least one pole in each of the 167 countries of the world. At present poles are being used in 51 countries.

Unity of Des Moines feels that the society is right when its chairperson says, "World peace begins in the hearts and minds of each individual. All planetary citizens working toward inner development and world peace are considered to be members of the society in Spirit. Let us spread the vibrations of peace and harmony. May Peace Prevail on Earth." To which William T. Hines, minister of Unity of Des Moines says, "Amen, that certainly includes our church and most of Des Moines and Iowa, I pray and hope."

50 YEARS IN DAYTON

By Bette DeTurk
Unity of Dayton, Ohio

The earliest discernible date for an organized Unity work in Dayton is October 24, 1924. At that time, Mrs. Lida Disher was the center leader. Unity Center was under the sponsorship of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Elias Andrews of Cincinnati.

Mr. Frederick E. Andrews assumed full responsibility for the Dayton ministry from February 1, 1927 to June 1928, supplying teachers and conducting services and classes.

In June, 1928, Anna L. Riehm came from Peoria, Illinois at the request of Mr. Andrews to assume the leadership of Unity in Dayton. The name of the Dayton ministry became Dayton Unity Center.

During Mrs. Riehm's ministry in Dayton, she was assisted by a Dr. Maxwell (scientist) and a Dr. Kauffman. In August 1933, Mrs. Riehm took a six month leave of absence, and Drs. Maxwell and Kauffman took over the Unity work. Mrs. Riehm made her transition on January 18, 1934, while en route to Dayton to return to the ministry. Drs. Maxwell and Kauffman continued to work with the center in her absence.

In early 1934, Francis Gable lectured in Dayton and found the people desirous of having an organized Unity center affiliated with Unity School. On April 1, 1934, Ethel J. Crouch came to Dayton from Silent Unity to begin a 23 year ministry as the leader of the Dayton Unity work. The name was changed to the Unity Society of Christianity.

In November 1943, the center work was moved to more spacious quarters, where it continued for almost ten more years. Then, in September 1952, Unity Society of Christianity purchased a large house at 1008 Grand Avenue and the Dayton Unity work was moved into its own building.

Ethel Crouch left the Dayton ministry April 28, 1957, and Michael Giannuzzi assumed the leadership of the Dayton Unity work. During the time Michael Giannuzzi ministered in Dayton, much work was done to beautify the building and to make it more serviceable for a congregation. Then on March 13, 1960, Michael Giannuzzi resigned leadership of the Dayton Unity work due to a health challenge.

On April 29, 1960, Joel W. Baehr assumed the leadership in Dayton effective June 1, 1960. During Joel Baehr's two years in Dayton, Sunday services were moved to a larger meeting place. The name of the

Dayton Unity work was officially changed to Unity of Dayton, and in June 1962, the building at 1008 Grand Avenue was sold. Joel Baehr resigned as leader of Unity of Dayton on June 21, 1962.

During the next six months, while seeking a new minister, the work was held together—with regular Sunday services and Sunday School—by a small but dedicated group of people. All of the Center furnishings had been placed in storage and they met at the Young Women's League.

On November 18, 1962, Bette DeTurk conducted her first service as the new minister of Unity of Dayton. In December 1962, the center furnishings were moved out of storage and into a small house which served as a center for offices and weekday classes and literature sales. The congregation continued to meet at the Young Women's League on Sundays through September 27, 1964.

On September 29, 1964, Unity of Dayton moved all of its activities into 735 South Main Street. One year later, when a new lease could not be negotiated, the center office was moved to a temporary location—the minister's apartment. Sunday services were held at the YWCA.

On April 1, 1966, another temporary location was acquired for center offices and weekday classes, with Sunday services still being conducted at the YWCA.

Finally, on September 23, 1966, Unity of Dayton's location at 5158 Old Troy Pike was purchased. Groundbreaking for the new building for Unity of Dayton was held on October 19, 1966. Grover Thornsberry, then minister of New Thought Unity Center in Cincinnati, was guest speaker and officiated at the groundbreaking.

The building was finished on October 29, 1967, and the first service held in the new location was a Consecration-Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 5, 1967. Dedication Services for the new building were held on May 18, 1969. The guest speaker was Robert P. Sikking, Executive Director of the Association of Unity Churches.

At the Annual Membership Meeting in March, 1974, it was announced that Unity of Dayton had already paid off half of its 30-year mortgage in six years.

On October 24, 1974, Unity of Dayton celebrated its 50th anniversary.

CHURCH NEWS

Unity of Roanoke Valley, Alan and Kathryn Rowbotham, ministers, purchased a Rodgers York 650 organ for their church. The organ was dedicated at the Annual Membership Meeting on November 17, 1985, and a demonstration was given by the Rodgers Organ consultant, Gary Lowe.



Shirley Winner



Amalie Frank

On October 20, 1985, Unity of Muskegon, Michigan, Shirley Winner, minister, dedicated their new building. Amalie Frank, former minister at the church, was invited to be part of the dedication. Unity of Muskegon evolved into a ministry under the loving care of Myrtle Silva.

On Sunday, July 28, 1985, at a special membership meeting, there was a vote of 100% of the members present to sell the house the Unity Church of Christianity in Topeka, Kansas, had been meeting in for over 25 years and another 100% vote to buy an interim building for use until their own facility is built.

The unanimous vote comes from much hard work from the Board, the minister, Don Jennings, and his wife, Carolyn, and in getting the homework done, but most through staying open to the "direction" and guidance of Spirit every step of the way.

Outreach of Unity on the North Shore, Alec Evason, minister, reaches new heights! "We're on the air—in the air!" exclaimed Virginia Smith, Board President of Unity on the North Shore in Evanston, Illinois. On her way back from Hawaii she flipped to the Nightingale Conant audio channel on the American Airways plane and heard Dr. Wayne Dyer. She recognized it as the recording which had been

made of his visit with Unity on the North Shore. Nightingale Conant had asked the church for the tapes and is marketing them internationally. Unity School will be offering them later in the year.

Unity Church of Sun City, Arizona, held dedication services for their new church on November 10, 1985. The late Charles Korfhage was minister at that time. Phillip and Dorothy Pierson were guest speakers for the occasion, and Alice Yensen, licensed teacher, was platform assistant. The new sanctuary seats 208 and is completely paid for.



Theresa and Jessica Clark, youngest members of Unity Church of Alfred, Maine.

Unity Church of Alfred, Maine, has discovered a new use for a discarded service station sign. John Smith, owner/operator of Kallis Garage in Alfred, gave the church the sign, and they have definitely put it to good use!



Frank Vincent McClelland with his mother, Nancy.

Frank Vincent McClelland of Christ Light Unity, Excelsior Springs, Missouri, is pictured with his mother, Nancy McClelland, receiving 2 pairs of wings on membership Sunday.

Frankie wanted to join the church some time ago but decided it would be more meaningful if he completed the God In Me award program first. "It's a special day," Frankie said. "I have a better understanding of God In Me. I'm excited to be a member of Christ Light Unity because we believe God lives in everyone and that makes me happy."

"It's a special day . . . I have a better understanding of God In Me."

HUG-A-HERO!!

The following is a reprint of the promotional flyer sent out by Unity of Auburn, California, encouraging participation in their Hug-A-Hero booth at the Auburn Fair September 5, 6, 7, and 8, 1985. According to Billie Blain, minister at Unity of Auburn, the booth was a total success. The Fair Manager said it was the best booth ever at the Fair. More than 3,000 people were acknowledged by hugs, blue ribbons, and certificates stating their "heroship."

"Hero" (definition): One who gives lovingly to others and asks nothing in return.

Purpose—The purpose of Hug-A-Hero is to share with our community the belief in the goodness and light present in all of us and to afford them (as well as ourselves) the opportunity to acknowledge that goodness and light.

How—Hug-A-Hero will be a success if we all take part. First, Unity needs the names and addresses of your Heroes. Your Heroes may be big or small, young or old, friends, relatives, or neighbors. Second, we want you to ask one another to look for that Spark of Heaven we all possess, the very Spark which will grow to brighten the whole world. Everyone is and knows Heroes and now is the time to call that beautiful part of ourselves forth.

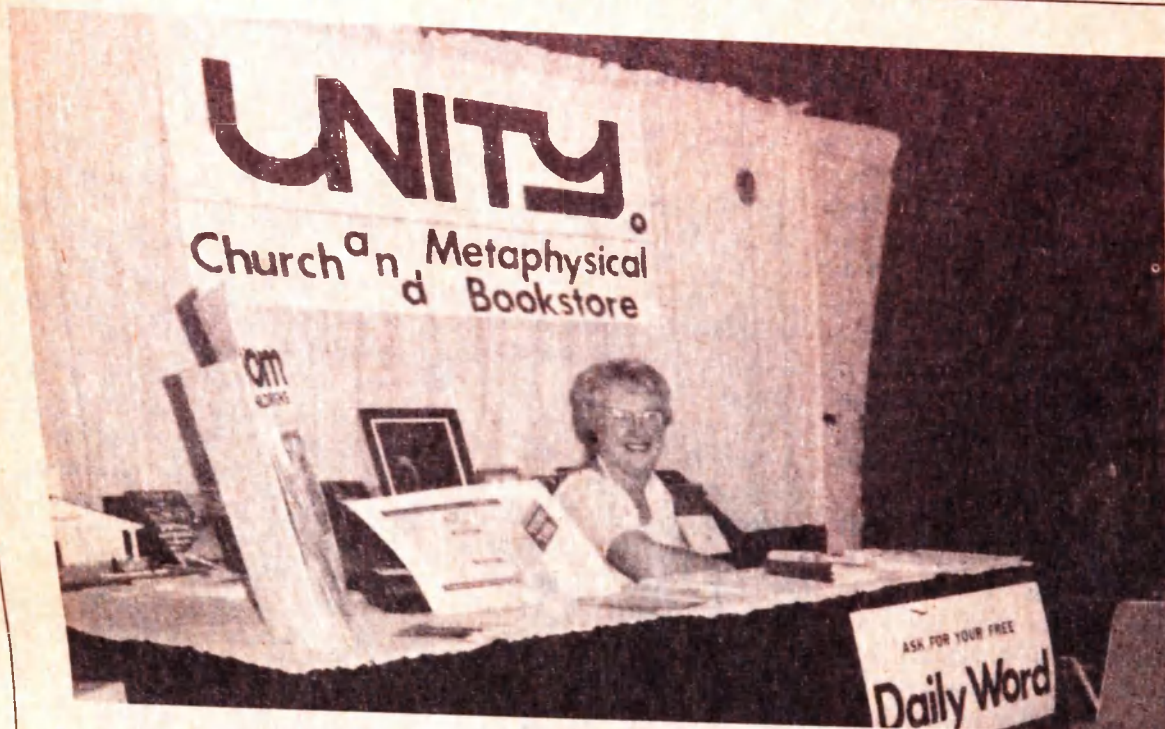
Then What—Each Hero will receive a certificate and a letter inviting them to our Hug-A-Hero booth at the Auburn Fair (Sept. 5, 6, 7 & 8). Heroes' names will be posted for all to see, and those Heroes will receive a hug, a blue hero ribbon, and a cookie. We will continue to ask for names during Fair time.

"More than 3,000 people were acknowledged by hugs, blue ribbons, and certificates . . ."

What Hug-A-Hero Is Not—We will not hand out church literature (unless specifically requested); Hug-A-Hero is not a membership drive. We will not ask for money from our friends in the community; Hug-A-Hero is not a fund raiser.

Goal—Our goal is to give lovingly to our community and ask nothing in return. Our goal is to be a Hero and have fun doing it.

We need your help. Bring us your Heroes; spread the word. Come and be a Hero hugger, give as little or as much time as you can to help with certificates or addressing envelopes, donate cookies or candy and most importantly keep looking for the light!



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

**Patricia L. Bosh, Minister
Quincy Unity Center
Quincy, Illinois**

Jesus said, "Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all the house."

It has long seemed to me that the Unity message is the lamp that can give light to the world. It also seems to me that we have "put it under a bushel". In how many towns and cities across this country are the Unity Churches or Centers almost a well-kept secret? I found when I came here to Quincy, an average city, an All-American City, the Unity Church was indeed hidden. Certainly, the good and loving

people here did not intend for this to be so, and they wanted to come out from under "the bushel" and let the Unity light shine.

So, Unity Church of Quincy went to the Adams County Fair, taking with us part of our bookstore, big signs, every piece of free hand-out literature we could muster, a display about Wee Wisdom, and a model church. There were a few doubtful souls, but we were able to man the booth from 10 to 10 for 6 days. What an adventure it was!

One direct result of our fair experience was a feature article

in the newspaper that covers a large area. That article has resulted in an awakened recognition of Unity, as a church, in this community. I feel it in the various ministerial programs I am involved in and individuals in the congregation are receiving inquiries about Unity. The best thing is the whole new spirit of oneness, enthusiasm and pride in the church.

I heartily recommend to my colleagues in similar situations—small cities with small churches that seem to lack visibility and credibility—that they consider taking the "lamp" of Unity to the local fair.

ATTENTION! Please read! POSTGRADUATE CREDITS

This is to clear up some confusion and give up-to-date information. Please address all information and questions concerning postgraduate credits to Trish, AUC Education Dept.

To teach for credit, you must have ten (10) valid (current) credits. You start off with ten (10) credits when you are licensed as a Unity minister or teacher. All postgraduate credits are valid for three (3) years. Credits obtained in June 1983 become invalid in June 1986. Credits in January 1984 come off the books in January 1987. Et cetera!

When you receive your "card" from AUC, on the back it has the number of "current credits". Below that there may be a dash followed by a number and date. This signifies you will lose that number of credits on that date. (3 years will have passed since you earned them). The reference will pertain only to credits that will become invalid in the coming year. On the date listed subtract the number from the "current credit number". That's how many you will have then, if you do not accrue more in the meantime.

AUC Conference and Regional Conference give work-

shops for credit. You must sign in if you are taking them for credit.

Credits from Other than Unity Conference:

Often there are college courses, workshops, and seminars in your area that contribute to your teaching knowledge and/or skills. Many of these we give postgraduate credits for. Send us a flyer or: description, leader's name, place, date, and hours attended. We will let you know if we credited you and how many credits you received.

If you are doubtful about receiving credits and would like to know ahead of time, send us the information concerning course, workshop/seminar and we will let you know if you will receive credit for attendance.

It takes many hours to get your cards ready for mailing. We are attempting to keep you updated without added time and work.

I do hope this clarifies "postgraduate credits".

Once again: Please remember—for anything concerning postgraduate credits contact Trish, AUC Education Dept. Thank you!

GROWTH WITH UNITY IN LAFAYETTE, LA.

By Lynn Archer



Front row (left to right): Louise Rutan, Virginia Peck (licensed teacher), Deborah White-Curtis. Back row (left to right): Ray Clay, Shirlee Clay, Jo Ann Benit. Not shown: Catherine and Ed Blanchet, Lynn Archer, Cheryl Hebert, Don White.

Great things are happening in Lafayette. Our Wednesday night study group, led by Licensed Unity Teacher, Virginia Peck, has recently completed its first year. That in itself is good news, but we were not satisfied. We wanted more spiritual growth and understanding.

We, as a group, decided that we wanted to have our own Sunday services. The nearest Unity Church is in Baton Rouge, which is seventy miles away and not convenient for many of our people to attend.

Virginia presented our idea to Grace Merrick-Harvey, minister of the Unity Church of Christianity in Baton Rouge. Grace and Virginia immediately responded to our need.

We held a general meeting and elected a steering committee and have now founded Unity in Lafayette, a satellite of the Baton Rouge church. We are meeting on the first and third Sunday of each month with different persons from the church in Baton Rouge helping deliver our message. We are also continuing our Wednesday night study group.

We have just completed our third month of Sunday services and are now visualizing a permanent location, expanding to a weekly Sunday service, and our own resident minister.

With the loving guidance and help from Grace and the Baton Rouge group, it will become a reality much sooner than many would expect.



AS I SEE IT

James C. Robinson, Ph.D.
Director of Education

January 3, 1986, I began my second year as Director of Education. The first year was very good, full of opportunities for me to learn and to grow.

In my first article I outlined what you have a right to expect from me. By way of review:

1. You can expect an open door, an open mind, an open heart to your educational needs.

2. You can expect warm cooperation from me, because I believe in what you are doing, and I, too, have dedicated my life to ministry.

3. You can expect me to be an experienced resource person who is willing to work with you to facilitate your ministry.

4. You can expect from me the development of plans and programs that will be thought-

fully organized, carefully coordinated, properly budgeted and personally supervised.

5. You can expect to hear from me—often—so you can know what is going on and can offer me feedback.

In response, you have not been bashful in making known your education needs. The education staff, on the other hand, has responded as timely, responsibly, and personally as possible. We truly feel a oneness with you; your letters and phone calls reflect a reciprocity of that for us, too.

On behalf of the AUC Education Staff, I want to thank you—all and to offer our blessings upon you and your work. Please be assured that my initial pledge still stands. We are as close as your phone.

Before she departed for a new assignment in Germany, Unity Chaplain (CPT) **Sonja Creech** was decorated with the Army Commendation Medal for her rich ministry with soldier-students at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. Why not write and send her your blessings. Her address is: Ch (CPT) Sonja Creech, 90th P&A Pn., Kaiserslautern, APO NY 05227.

USRS Instructor **Judy Sherman** has completed teaching her first Administration Core. She has many additional duties, all field ministry oriented, and is making a significant contribution to the education of future Unity ministers. I suspect that her impact at the school is just beginning.

Licensed teacher **Trish Robinson**, my executive secretary, represented the Education staff at the April South Central Unity Churches Association (SCUCA) Regional Conference. Trish returned full of enthusiasm (not that she didn't take any with her). Trish continues to serve the educational interests of the field, giving special leadership to licensed teacher administration, Skill Development Seminar (SDS), and Postgraduate Week.

The much needed Licensed Teacher Regional Representative job description has been distributed to each region. To the best of my knowledge, SCUCA was the first to adapt it to their needs and adopt it officially. Congratulations.

YOU/YAU Coordinator **Tim Pettet** recently visited the USSR, taking pictures and other peace gifts to the young people there. The group consisted of 28 YOUers, ages 15 - 18 and 13 adult advisors, among whom was Unity Minister **Vicki Lafser**. As of this

writing we haven't had a chance to talk, but I know Tim will have many stories to tell and experiences to share.

Youth Education Coordinator **Joyce Culey** has been busy conducting training workshops, consulting, and developing educational material. Got a problem/challenge/what do I do now??? Call Joyce. She is not only experienced and knowledgeable, but she helps keep the staff aware of the need for detailed planning (High "s" & "c" on Performax, you know!).

Research Medical Center Chaplain **Carol Nash** is now a certified supervisor of supervisors-in-training. **Jim Robinson** is a member of the Research Chaplain Department Advisory Committee.

Clare Austen, creative genius of the Education Department, was selected for Unity School's Ministerial Education Program. You have seen many of her professional layouts but not her name. When we need a creative way of doing something, we ask Clare. Congratulations to Clare.

Gone is the backlog of candidates awaiting SDS. Qualified folks are invited to the SDS as quickly as they can come. The key word, of course, is **qualified**.

Alton Purifoy has been hired as Chaplain/Spiritual Counselor by the Addiction Drug Unit, Doctor's Hospital, Shreveport, Louisiana. Alton is an experienced drug rehabilitation counselor, and is working toward becoming a licensed Unity teacher.

Jim Robinson has prepared seven psyche-spiritual seminars/workshops. These are designed to be fun and informative, cognitive and experiential. They are life-centered, drawing upon

a variety of sources to explore stress; identity and freedom; memory; symbols and spiritual reality; when God seems gone; the biographical psychology of Carl Jung; and leadership style and its effect on work and personal relations.

Harriet Fudge continues her ground-breaking ministry at Drug Rehabilitation Alcohol Group (DRAG), the drug and alcohol halfway house where she is chaplain-counselor. Hats off to Harriet for her good work in this very challenging setting. Why not send her a blessing at D.R.A.G., 2940 N. 17th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66104.

The Education Department, in cooperation with licensed teachers, has founded an Association of Honorary Licensed Teachers. Thus far **Betty Pilgrim**, **Bill Fischer**, **Marj Britt Pearsall**, and **Ron Field** of Unity School for Religious Studies (USRS) have been so honored, as have been AUC field ministers **Bill King** and **John Salunek**, and AUC director **Glenn Mosley**.

Did you hear about the "Wheaties Award"? At the close of the 1985 Licensed Teacher Postgraduate Seminar, the attendees, picking up on my saying, "The greatest thing since Wheaties", created the Wheaties Award. They gave it to me with appreciation for the seminar. At the February 1986 seminar the award, a box of Wheaties decorated with a ribbon and the picture of Mary Lou Retton of Olympic fame, was made an annual rotating award. This year's recipient was **Ara Helen McDonald**, given in recognition of distinguished service as a Licensed Teacher Regional Representative.

"LIGHT ON THE PATH"

Trish Robinson
Licensed Teacher
Education Department Secretary



It has long been recognized that whatever field or profession one has chosen, continuing education is important to remain effective. This is why it is strongly recommended that you keep your Postgraduate credits current, even if you are not teaching classes for credit. There are many beneficial courses, workshops, and seminars out there, yet let us remember how important it is to have refresher courses in Unity Basics.

We are representing Unity, living Unity, growing in Unity.

Therefore, it certainly makes good "Unity sense" that we benefit from sharing and nourishing each other by attending AUC Conference and/or Regional Conference as often as we can. And, of course, Postgraduate Week for licensed teachers.

Newsflash

Next SDS (Skills Demonstration Seminar) is August 19-24. Fall SDS is November 2-7, 1986.

ORDERING REMINDER

Please remember that a new procedure is in effect for the ordering of holiday bulletins, letterheads and envelopes. This will assist all in assuring timely delivery. Please order your holiday materials the 1st of the 3rd month prior to the holiday. For example, Thanksgiving 1986 materials need to be ordered no later than August 1st. Christmas 1986 materials need to be ordered no later than September 1st.

WEE WISDOM SCHOOL FOUNDER



DR. ELIZABETH CASPARI

**By Trish Robinson
Licensed Teacher
Education Department Secretary**

"The world of tomorrow walks on the feet of the little children of today."

"Don't be fooled by little bodies, they are very old souls."

"The saviors of the world are waiting to be born; they are only looking for the right natures: Where are they?"

These are quotes that Dr. Elizabeth Caspari, Wee Wisdom School founder, refers to often in conversation. She also speaks of "The Vision of Myrtle Fillmore" and asks, "Who will take care of the children?" Her eyes never leave yours as she waits for an answer.

"The world of tomorrow walks on the feet of the little children today."

Elizabeth Caspari, an intelligent, lively, caring woman is one of the few living students of Dr. Maria Montessori. She met Dr. Montessori in India and became her friend and student. Dr. Caspari founded and directed for 15 years the Institute de Chateaux d'Orex, Switzerland, and her courses in Pedagogy were recognized all over Europe. She never gave up her music, though she did give up her musical career to begin another, training teachers in the "Montessori Method" and giving the Montessori Message, establishing schools in many States and in Mexico City. She has also been recently invited to India to establish a school, as well as Australia, Switzerland, and the Philippines.

In her mid-eighties, with

eyes that sparkle, she is eager to talk about her burning desire to have Unity ministers, who she sees as the hope of the world, incorporating the Montessori Message/Method into their youth education. She said more than once, "There are people who pick up on the 'method' but that is only half."

Dr. Montessori gave a message that would change the world if understood and correctly applied. Education is much more than the mere transmission of knowledge." She goes on to say that the work of the teacher involves the bringing of man into contact with the spirit within and should be let to operate through him. In Dr. Caspari's vision, proper education of the children is the key to world peace.

"The work is here because it is the divine destiny of the United States to lead the world. The children must be guided to become the leaders of the world."

Her enthusiasm is contagious and one feels the love radiating from her when she talks of Unity. It is quite an experience to have her share humorous and moving moments when she worked with the children in Unity Wee Wisdom school. She will be in Independence, Missouri in September to teach the Training Course. I am grateful to have met her and eagerly look forward to being with her again soon. She, herself, is an experience.

"Don't be fooled by little bodies, they are very old souls."

CHILDREN TEACH WHAT THEY LEARN

**By Deri Joy Ronis
Licensed Teacher
West Palm Beach, Florida**

It occurred to me the other day, after much thought, that some of the greatest lessons I have learned have come through children. I believe that those of us who are led to work with children are child-like at heart. Dr. Jerry Jampolsky, who just gave a workshop at Unity of the Palm Beaches to an overflowing house, kept emphasizing the point over and over that children are teachers of peace. Did not Jesus instruct us to become as little children? It seems more clear to me now than ever before that we need to enter the child's world and listen to what they are saying. They seem to have the vision of innocence and good naturally, without being told anything.

"...children are teachers of peace."

As we approach the 1990's and the 21st century we need to prepare ourselves with a global curriculum that will help our children today prepare for the world tomorrow. Our churches and spiritual centers are a perfect place for this type of education to begin to infiltrate the mainstream of society. Each one teaches one. At present, some of the public schools have adopted peace education curricula, but they are few and far between. This type of education helps children get in touch with conflict. They may not know what the word conflict means at age 3, but when they walk into a room and pretend to be shooting a gun at you, they know that the gun will kill someone. I recently had that experience with an adorable three year old. He was pretending... he said. I asked why he would want to pretend to kill someone? He said, "for fun!" I asked where he learned about guns? He said, "from my Dad." It occurred to me that children are so malleable and don't really understand such items as guns—or even the concept of death—and more importantly, killing someone. I believe as we teach spiritual education to children coupled with practicality in the everyday world, that they can teach their parents the idea of "they will

know war no more." When I took the time to explain to the little boy why we don't pretend to shoot people, he really listened. Whether or not his behavior will change depends a great deal on the educational models he receives both at home and on television. This outcome is also dependent on what kinds of toys he plays with and what kinds of books he reads. Can we imagine for a moment what it would be like if there were no movies on television that portrayed violence; or no soldier or army toys? Can we find a responsible alternative and start to teach our children not only about peace within, but peace on the outer? I believe the time is long overdue to start to impact the media with peace stories and education.

In Unity, we teach children about peace within. This is usually through biblical stories and characters. We, ourselves, are learning to put the metaphysical meaning of these great truths into action. Dag Hammarskjöld said, "In this era, the road to holiness necessarily passes through the world of action." Charles Fillmore referred to the race consciousness that needs to be changed in humans. I believe as we encourage the children to be themselves, and try to role model positive behavior, that little by little, the change will take place.

"They will know war no more."

If it is true that children teach what they learn, then we, who are their teachers, have the great privilege and responsibility to allow them to teach us what they know. We often think that people mirror ourselves and are told if there is something we don't like about another, it is, perhaps, because it is there in us first and we unknowingly recognize it. My proposal is, therefore, that as we observe the children and listen to what they say and do, that we can learn a great deal about who we are, not only individually, but collectively. In view of the fact that the United Nations has declared 1986 to be the International Year of Peace, it seems that

this theme is a recurring one every time we turn on the television or open the papers. From Isaiah we learn, "Thou shalt decree a thing and it shall be added unto you." Unity, too has taken up the cause of peace, for it is indeed an idea whose time has come. Hence, we have sent a Citizen Diplomacy group to Russia, and are participating in the Planetary Commission's December 31, 1986 project. We are involved and should not forget to let the children be actively involved. Encourage pen pal letters with Russian children, or any of the numerous projects available through Fellowship of Reconciliation in Nyack, New York at 523 N Broadway (10960), or the Ground Pairing Project out of Seattle, Washington; or create your own idea!!

"Thou shalt decree a thing and it shall be added unto you."

Above all, let us hold a positive image both in thought and deed. When you catch yourself responding in ways that are not peaceful, try to make a shift and ask "How would Jesus have handled this?" Ask the children to consider the same question when having a problem. In closing, I would like to quote what Dr. Willis Harman said in his 1986 Letter from the Institute of Noetic Sciences, "Because of the interconnectedness of all minds, affirming a positive vision of peace may be about the most sophisticated action any one of us can take."

Blessings of Shalom!

"If it is true that children teach what they learn, then we, who are their teachers, have the responsibility to allow them to teach us what they know."

AUC'S EDUCATION DEPARTMENT? NEVER HEARD OF IT!



Joyce Culey
Youth Education Coordinator

This June is a month of celebration. It is the 20th anniversary of the Association of Unity Churches (AUC), graduation for ministerial students and time for many, many glorious weddings. June also marks my one year anniversary with the AUC. This year has been one of fun, frustration, excitement, worry, learning, growing, learning, growing, learning...

One major area I am continually learning more about is what role the AUC plays in education within the Unity movement. In the past, as a youth education teacher, I often wondered what resources were available to answer my questions. Was I to be a teacher or a babysitter? Who would train me how to be a teacher? How would I know if I was a good teacher? As a Y.O.U. sponsor, there were many times when my searching for the "right" ways to work with teens led me to the minister, regional Y.O.U. coordinator, youth education director and the library. Was I supposed to be a teacher or a counselor? What kind of training should I have? When was I supposed to be a disciplinarian; one of the gang? And then, as a youth education director, my understanding grew with the sudden discovery of the AUC—so that's where the curriculum came from!

Today, as the AUC's Youth Education Coordinator, my understanding grows even more. Not only does AUC provide curriculum, but many other resources, including people, things, and ideas! Isn't it strange that it took so many years and different positions

before my understanding reached a fairly well-informed level? But the memory of those periods of questioning remain with me. I wonder, was I the only one who went through that searching? I doubt it. But even more important, is it possible that there are people today asking the same kinds of questions?

"How would I know if I was a good teacher?"

Based on the inquiries received, it would appear that the questioning continues. I used to think that there was a tremendous need for educating the field ministries. Today I believe that there is not so much a need for educating as there is a need for continuous distribution of information. Information to the field of the available resources within the region, within the AUC and from other sources. And so, we tell people—daily, it often seems—about the regional consultants and coordinators, about the inventory items, about training sessions... The energy which results with each inquiry is incredibly special. Such exchanges quietly but emphatically confirm the need and value of ministry of and for children and youth. The Education Department of the Association of Unity Churches is here to serve you—with people, with things, and with ideas. All you need to do is call, write, or stop by!

REGIONAL YOUTH EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

Their popularity is increasing and their names to some are 'church-hold' products. It has come to our attention, however, that there are still a few folks out there who have not yet heard about these incredible resources!

Available in every region are dynamic consultants who offer expertise and professionalism in the ministry of youth education. In addition to providing annual teacher training workshops, the consultants work with youth education directors and write a quarterly newsletter. Many also work with ministers and boards for the effective administration of a youth education program in the church and hold weekend retreats which include training sessions for youth education staff. The types of services available are varied, but each consultant has at heart the ministry of the child.

If you have not yet met your regional youth education consultant, you are encouraged to do so. Also, during the SPIRIT'S JOURNEY convention, visit the youth education display for additional information regarding your consultant and the possibilities for your region!

EASTERN REGION

Gailen Twentyman
P.O. Box 53
Roanoke, VA 24002
(703) 344-6704

Gailen has served as the YE Consultant and YOU Coordinator since March 1983. She has been both YE Director and YOU sponsor at Unity of Roanoke Valley. These experiences shine through as Gailen does both jobs with equal love and enthusiasm.

SOUTHEAST REGION

Betty & Al Fleming
1181 Anclote Road #5
Tarpon Springs, FL 33589
(813) 934-0282

Betty and Al have been actively involved in youth education for the past 25 years. Their experience and expertise offer much to youth ministry. Betty and Al combine their talents in workshops, classes, special talks and more.

GREAT LAKES REGION

Ann Caton
2515 Burrmont Road
Rockford, IL 61107
(815) 397-8134
(815) 965-5343

Ann has been the YE Consultant for two years in addition to serving as YE Director in Rockford, Illinois. Ann has

a background in Unity youth education and as a teacher in public and private schools. Her love for children has many forms of creative expression.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Iris Williams
900 E. 17th Street
Plano, TX 75074
(214) 324-8557
(214) 233-7106

Iris enthusiastically serves the region in several ways. She has been the YE Director at Unity Church of Dallas for four years and facilitates parenting classes, intergenerational activities and family counseling. She has been involved in Unity for 8 years and is also a licensed teacher.

WEST CENTRAL REGION

Sarah Ann Gaevart
3923 Camden Avenue
San Jose, CA 95124
(408) 266-5128
(408) 995-0191

Sarah Ann has been involved with Unity's youth education program most of her life. She was a YOU'er, a Sunday School teacher, a YE Director and is a licensed teacher. In addition to serving as regional consultant, Sarah is also currently the YE Director of Christ Church Unity in San Jose and the program manager for the children's program during SPIRIT'S JOURNEY convention!

SOUTHWEST REGION

Beverly Goodwin
2760 Ariane Drive #102
San Diego, CA 92117
(619) 483-7254

Beverly is new to the youth education consultant group, but she brings an energy and vitality resulting from her 25 years as a Truth student. Beverly taught elementary school for a number of years in the Midwest before relocating to California where she is a member of Unity of La Jolla.

WESTERN REGION

Marelu Smith
648 166th NE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(206) 641-8510

Marelu has served the Western Region since January 1983. Her home church is Unity of Bellevue, where she was the YE Director for four years. Marelu is also a former junior and senior high school teacher and currently offers parenting classes. She also co-coordinates the region's annual summer KID'S CAMP program.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES OF PEACE

The meaning and expression of peace has been given much attention by many children throughout the Unity movement. A variety of activities have taken place in local churches—some small, some large. Listed below are examples of just a few of the events that have taken place.

Children's Peace Calendar—Sponsored by the Association of Unity Churches, an art contest was held for a 1986 children's peace calendar. Over 150 children contributed to the contest from which 13 drawings were selected. **PEACE BEGINS WITH ME** was the theme for the beautiful 9 x 12 full-color calendar.

"Participation in peace awareness projects will help develop a conscious awareness of becoming co-creators of peace."

Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, Florida—According to Deri Ronis, Youth Education Director, participation in peace awareness projects will help develop a conscious awareness of becoming co-creators of peace. The youth education department at Unity of the Palm Beaches participated in several events, including the children's peace calendar contest, the Peace Panel ribbon which was sent to Washington in August 1985, the Fellowship of Reconciliation Project, the "We Want Peace" contest sponsored by the Hungarian Peace Council and the Youth of Unity "Reach Out For Peace" tour to the Soviet Union.

Unity Church of Christ, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania—Inspired by the children's peace calendar contest, the entire youth education department participated in a special Youth Sunday. One special project resulting from this event was the creation of a peace quilt. Each child expressed his or her vision of peace on a square of fabric. The completed quilt then represented, to the entire group, how each individual expression of peace is connected with one another.

"Each child expressed his or her vision of peace on a square of fabric."

RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS PROGRAM

Education Department



Rev. Jim Lewis with Mike Golinski and his parents
Unity of Denver, Colorado



Gillian Stone with her parents
Unity of Denver, Colorado



Ian Ross
Unity of Albany, New York

The purpose of the Religious Emblems Program developed by the Association of Unity Churches is to give young people in Unity a practical method to achieve a basic spiritual understanding of the Truths taught by Unity. Our goal is to support and recognize young people, in the presence of the church body, for their achievements and to provide recognition by all participating youth agencies.

The following children were recently honored for the completion of the GOD IN ME program:

Melissa Biggar, Unity on the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri

Mark Bradstreet, Unity on the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri

Eric Danton, Unity of Denver, Colorado

Abigail Forrester Jorandby, Unity of the Palm Beaches, W. Palm Beach, Florida

Mike Golinski, Unity of

Denver, Colorado

Keenan Hendon, Unity of Ft. Collins, Colorado

John Lister, Unity of Denver, Colorado

DuVal Moore, Christ Church of Rochester, New York

Ian Ross, Unity Church of Albany, New York

Theresa Stariha, Unity on the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri

Gillian Stone, Unity of Denver, Colorado

"GOD IN ME" AWARDS PRESENTED



On Sunday, October 20, 1985, Alan and Kathryn Rowbotham, ministers of Unity of Roanoke Valley, presented Unity's "God in Me" awards to Cub Scout Scott Price and to

Girl Scout Cindy Sherman.

Cindy and Scott worked hard to earn their emblems, completing a notebook and various projects that involved becoming more aware of them-

selves, of seeing God in nature, helping others, appreciating their church, and working with various Unity concepts.

DISTINGUISHED YOUTH SERVICE AWARD

The Distinguished Youth Service Award is a national recognition developed by the Association of Unity Churches in cooperation with a number of national youth agencies. Its purpose is to acknowledge men and women, lay persons and

ministers who have given their time and energies to the church and the spiritual development of the young people of Unity. The following adults were recently awarded this honor:

Mrs. Jean Bilohorka, Unity

of the Palm Beaches, W. Palm Beach, Florida

Doris M. Kostin, Unity of Livonia, Michigan

Royce Gorseth, Unity Church of Truth, Spokane, Washington

YOUTH MINISTRY IN THE UNITY MOVEMENT

By Peggy Jovan
Youth of Unity
Western Regional Representative

For me personally YOU has meant several things. There is a song that Whitney Houston sings. Part of it says, "I believe the children are our future. Teach them well, and let them lead the way." This really applies to YOU. I have had several "teachers" on the chapter, regional, and international level.

What I value most in YOU is the fact that we all have the freedom to study and express our feelings. Now being an officer on the Regional level, it is nice to put everything I've been taught into action. Also, I have the freedom to do the things I would like to have

church. I always enjoyed my "church" activities, but I knew there must be something more to God than paper plate crafts.

When I joined a Unity Sunday school class, everything my teachers told me rang true with me. I wasn't told what or where God is; I was allowed to experience His love.

In my few years on the planet I have created a world with many interesting lessons. It has helped to have knowledge of Truth's practical teachings. I feel YOU has helped me to learn that life is a celebration of God's love, and each moment I make that choice.

happen. I appreciate the time the sponsor and coordinators want to share with us. I believe that it makes for better connection with both age groups.

By Jackie Green
Western YOU Coordinator

Youth Ministry in the Unity movement continues to grow right along with all people involved—people of all ages—myself included.

As in the past, the youth program continues to provide a place for adults to nurture their own spiritual understanding as well as to nurture the spiritual understanding of the younger ones.

New innovative methods of presenting truth principles continue to be pioneered in the area of youth ministry.

Seeing the total Unity congregation as a church family continues to be the view from the youth part of the family.

Continuity continues to offer stability (building on past experience), mobility (acting now with resources at hand), and possibility (planning for next steps).

Next steps include upgrading the programs for participants at all levels of youth ministry to meet the needs of the NOW with built-in plans to continue to meet needs in an orderly method always open to the guidance of Spirit along the way.

By Chris Garrett
Acting Regi. Rep.
Great Lakes Region

I was introduced to Unity teachings when I was about eight years old, while I was still attending a more traditional

By Mary and Robert Ornelas
YOU Coordinators
Great Lakes Region

Five years ago we received the cosmic 'womp' to commit ourselves in a new way to ministering to young people. We both were involved through the education system and had been serving young people also through our local YOU chapter.

Much of our focus for the past five years has been on order and organization within our regional YOU structure. Currently we would like to focus more on leadership training for our officers as well as more sponsor training and assistance.

Most sponsors hold a regular full time job, and this is a volunteer position for them. Depending on the size of the group, as well as the needs, it may sometimes feel like a full time position. This is a critical time for young people as you well know, and it takes a special person who will commit themselves to working with 14-18 year olds.

We believe in the practicalness of the Unity teachings because they are working in our lives and in the lives of those we work with in YOU and those we teach Truth to on a daily basis. We look to the day when the movement will have many full time positions filled in the youth ministry structure. Currently we have many outstanding professionals who are committed and serving in volunteer positions and find themselves pulled between their jobs and their real love, which is working with kids within the Unity framework on a paid basis. We see this happening in the near future. The youth are worth it!!

YOUTH OF UNITY, CITIZEN DIPLOMACY AND THE SOVIET UNION! THE WORK GOES ON!

Timothy Pettet
Youth Ministry Coordinator

The major event of the 1985-1986 International YOU Service Project, the citizen diplomacy tour of the Soviet Union, has happened. However, the process is not complete. There is much sharing and reporting left to do. Many individuals and groups within Unity churches and in our communities, supported and sponsored YOU citizen diplomats. Trip participants will return to these individuals and groups to share their experiences and observations.

The initial effort to make connections in our communities and enlist support for the trip was very valuable. Many said that the increased awareness of the youth presence in the church and the church's presence in the community made the whole process worthwhile before the trip even began.

Yet, the experience of the trip itself was so rich and transformative that the sharing and educational work that is happening afterwards takes on great significance. Many of the personal blessings and learnings may not be fully articulated or even understood for years. The opportunity the experience provided for participants to learn, grow, stretch, and deepen was in proportion to the extreme nature of the polarities encountered. Twenty-eight teenage and fourteen adult Americans of both sexes, from diverse backgrounds and with different expectations, lived



Tim Pettet, Youth Ministry Coordinator, poses for a photograph with two Ukrainian girls. Both are studying English in the evening along with their full time studies during the day. On the left is Vicki and on the right is Sandy (their English names). Vicki is studying mathematics. The photo was taken by YOUer Jenny Bishop.

and traveled together for two weeks in the alien culture of a country that has been called 'enemy' for several decades. Teen/adult, male/female, friend/enemy, American/Soviet; these are just some of the polarities that provided Spirit with the raw material for some in-depth educational work.

However, what rises to the surface for me as the most urgent message that I have to share following our experience involves the stated purpose of the service project and the trip; peacemaking and citizen diplomacy. I feel a deep need to affirm the importance of more and more Americans traveling to the Soviet Union to engage in people-to-people peacemaking.

Carrying messages of peace and friendship to the people of the Soviet Union is good and necessary. The messages are received gratefully and graciously. What seems to me to be of even greater importance and urgency is the impression that many of us have to share upon our return. Through talking with individual citizens, by witnessing the presence of a peace education curricula in the schools and youth organizations, by experiencing the presence of state produced billboards and banners extolling the need for peace, and by hearing the grief and pain that still exists due to the Soviet loss of life in WWII, the clear

impression I received is that the desire for peace in the Soviet culture is very strong.

Eric Barron, 2nd Vice President of the International Youth of Unity, articulated this very well when he shared a bit of honesty with our group near the end of the trip. He said, "I traveled to a foreign land believing I had come in peace. When I came to know this land and its people, I also knew my own world, and I now realize that I may not have come in peace. I certainly leave in peace."

Transformations of the kind that Eric and many others have experienced in this process evolve out of a confrontation of polarities. As Americans we

have been instilled with the values of individualism and competition. The Soviet culture instills a value of collectivism and cooperation. One might say that our culture is more masculine (Uncle Sam) and their culture more feminine (Mother Russia). We discover on a personal level that in order for the masculine and feminine to be balanced and to relate successfully we must be able to say 'yes' to both. We get into trouble on any level when we insist on making one side of any polarity right and the other wrong. On the personal level, we often identify ourselves with a particular aspect of a polar relationship and try to bolster our self-esteem by making the other side of the polarity wrong or not good. Can this phenomenon be translated wholistically to apply to our national consciousness?

I believe it can. When the masculine and feminine are in balance there is a mutual recognition of the necessity of both. The more people from both countries that make contact and create friendships, the more this shared global consciousness will lead our governments to the same conclusion that many of us have already reached. Friendly relations between the US and the USSR would not only be mutually beneficial, but are becoming absolutely necessary to ensure the safety and survival of the planet and its inhabitants.



Gathered in front of the Hotel Cosmos in Moscow are the participants in the Youth of Unity citizen diplomacy tour to the Soviet Union. Not pictured is Larry Schlick, photographer.

The group of 24 that flew out of Seattle met the group of 18 that flew out of New York in Helsinki. We boarded a bus and headed for Finland's border with the Soviet Union.

It was the middle of the night when the Soviet army border guards collected and inspected the passports of 28 teenage and 14 adult Americans. A couple of bags were

randomly selected for inspection and we were back on the bus and on our way to our first Soviet city, Tallinn, in the Republic of Estonia. It was the smoothest and easiest border

crossing Judy Smith-Blackwell, our tour leader from Global Concepts, had ever seen or heard of.

The group left the border guards smiling. That was the first fulfillment of our intent as a group of American citizen diplomats in the Soviet Union. Many more such fulfilling experiences were to follow over the next two weeks as our group traveled from the Baltic city of Tallinn to the Ukrainian cities of Kiev and Cherkassy and finally to the political capital of the USSR, Moscow, in the Republic of Russia.

The experiences that filled the group's citizen diplomacy goals happened in many dimensions. In some instances the entire group was in situations that allowed it to speak with one voice. In other situations, smaller groups were able to meet and make friends with Soviet citizens. Some of the meetings were made possible by connections Global Concepts provided to us. Others

occurred because of the efforts of members of our group.

In another dimension, some of the most meaningful citizen diplomacy activity happened on an individual basis in the here and now. A teddy bear given to a child at the Kiev airport; a conversation with a priest during an unplanned visit to a small and very active Russian Orthodox church; or a conversation with a non-English speaking woman standing in line at a cafe.

"The experiences that filled the groups citizen diplomacy goals happened in many dimensions."

Several brief stories are presented here to provide the reader with a glimpse of the diversity and richness of the experience that greeted our Youth of Unity citizen diplomats.

MAKING FRIENDS, HERE AND THERE

By Dean Logan
International YOU 1st Vice President



Dean Logan, international 1st vice-president of the YOU (center) and Karen Barnett of Olympia, Washington, engage a young Soviet woman from the Ukrainian city of Cherkassy in conversation. Ron Rodda and Rev. Vicki Lafser listen. Photo taken by Larry Schlick.

When I first spoke to our congregation concerning the Soviet trip, I shared with them that I had a dark vision of the Soviet Union. In my mind I'd see it as a concentration camp. If nothing else, on the trip, I wanted to change that vision, and boy did I! The country is a beautiful, clean, and bright place. The structure of buildings and the artwork are incredible.

"The country is a beautiful, clean, and bright place."

Something that I experienced which had significant impact on me was meeting a Soviet man the same age as me. We were in the same social and educational standing in our respective countries. It was so incredible to openly share with my co-soul in the Soviet Union. We discussed everything including world affairs, girls, sports, and our lifetime goals. I felt a connection with him that was so close to the kind I have with my best friend, and I had only known him about half a day.

It occurred to me that I can become close like that with people here also if, as with the Soviet, I let the little idiosyncrasies that annoy me go, and

"Take the time to look into people's eyes and see what they're not saying."

see them as fellow humans on the journey of life.

Too often we take for granted the core person within all people and we miss connections that are possible. Take the time to look into people's eyes and see what they're not saying. See them for what they are—a whole person. Let the little things go and open up to relationships.

A DEEPER MEANING

By Brett Tillander
International YOU President

The Soviet trip was amazing. I believe the trip worked. People learned more and experienced more than anyone could begin to imagine. We set out to change the world and realized in many different ways that we need to look within first.

"The line in the peace song, 'Let it begin with me,' will hold a new and deeper meaning for me."

I was touched by the work that occurred in our group and by the demonstration of peace within the group. The line in the peace song, "Let it begin with me," will hold a new and deeper meaning for me.



Chris Villa looks as if he is trying to fathom the depths of this bust of the Soviet revolutionary leader, Lenin. Chris lives in Hollywood, California, and is pictured in a museum in Kiev. Behind him is the figure of a working woman who is also presented as a hero. Photo by Larry Schlick.

THE PIONEER PALACE IN KIEV



Members of the Youth of Unity citizen diplomacy tour group are seen here in a Pioneer Palace room where young members of a weaving hobby circle work on their projects. Photo by Larry Schlick.

"This is what we came for!" Comments like this one were not uncommon among the group of Unity teens and adults during the group's visit to the Pioneer Palace in the ancient Ukrainian city of Kiev. The entire group was first greeted by members of the International Club at the Pioneer Palace. The International Club is one of several hobby circles available to Soviet youth. Hobby circles are groups devoted to learning activities in one of many specific cultural areas. This nationwide institution offers cultural educational opportunities during young people's free time.

After a brief explanation from our hosts of the history of Kiev, the building, and the nature of the Pioneer Palace experience, our group presented members of the International Club with gifts. International Youth of Unity Officers, Brett, Dean and Eric presented a beautiful banner representing a rainbow bridge between the two nations. This banner was created for our trip by members of the Unity Church in Philadelphia.

Members of the International Club led a tour of the facility showing the rooms that house the activities of many different hobby circles. These included a sewing class, a folk instrument orchestra, a room where children were sculpting clay, a room where stuffed animals were being created, a classical dance demonstration, and a performance by a small electrical music combo, plus much, much more.

Each time a performance or demonstration ended, members

of the Unity group would meet and mingle with the young Soviets and their teachers to exchange gifts, handshakes and smiles. In one instance the intensity of this exchange was magnified many times. It was in a hobby circle where a group sang to us. The YOUers then asked if they could respond in song. Given the OK by the interpreter, the group sang the Peace Song with a great deal of emotion. One of the teachers who understood English was moved to tears by the message and the feeling of the group. The sharing between individuals that followed the singing was most meaningful.

One of the hobby circles was led by a woman who, it certainly could be said, personified enthusiasm for her work. She was a dramatics instructor and had prepared her young students to share some action songs with us. The "Hokey-Pokey" and "If You Are Happy and You Know It" are just as much fun in the Soviet Union as they are here.

At the end of the group's time with this hobby circle, the dramatics teacher shared a bit of Ukrainian wisdom and a blessing with our group. She explained that it is often said that if you want to get to know someone, you only need to do one thing. You may want to take them home for tea and conversation, but to really know them you only have to look into their eyes. She told the group that she had looked into many of our eyes and that she knew that she had made many new friends.

"That is what we came for."



A child in a park in Kiev. Photo by Jenny Bishop, YOUer from Bellevue, Washington.

RASHID SHARES HIS WISH

During the first day of our stay in the city of Tallinn, in the Republic of Estonia, we toured the oldest part of the ancient city. A protective wall used to surround the city and we visited a museum that was housed in one of the towers that made up a portion of the wall.

On the top floor of the tower our group met their group. A group of junior high

age students were visiting Tallinn on their spring break. They were from the autonomous Republic of Tartar. Tartar is home for a community of Turkish descendants in Russia.

Scott Hammell, a YOUer from Dallas, Texas, and Rashid made the original connection. Rashid and his classmates all study English in their school and were very curious about life in America. Rashid and the

others were eager to share information about their home and life.

Rashid drew a map for us so we could see where his home is and he wrote a message for us to share with everybody in America. He wrote, in English, "We want peace. We want love. That is the wish of Russia's people."

SOVIET SCHOOL VISIT WAS A GOAL FULFILLED

By Linda Menees



This photo, taken by YOUer Jenny Bishop, shows the tile roofs and narrow streets of the ancient city of Tallinn in the Republic of Estonia. The photo was taken from the top of a tower that was part of a wall that surrounded Tallinn.

Linda Menees is the YOU sponsor at the Unity church in Bremerton, Washington.

and we met Vicca and some of her friends in her home. She prepared tea for us and we visited for several hours.

Vicca and I talked about her school. I asked her what time she left for school each morning and she said 8:00. I asked her if I could go with her. She said yes. We asked her mother about the school visit and she said, "Yes, why not?"

"We were asked many questions and were entertained by music and bright smiles."

The next morning we boarded a metro (subway) at 7:00 a.m. and went to Vicca's flat. We walked to school with her and met her teacher and other teachers in her school. We toured the building and I gave out gifts to the Soviet children that had been made for them by kids back at home.

We were asked many questions and were entertained by music and bright smiles. It was a very meaningful experience for me. I will remember it always. Those people were so warm and loving to us that when we left, my heart was so full that I cried.

Later when I shared with our group about my visit to the school someone said, "Of course you made it into a school, ye of little faith."

A CITIZEN DIPLOMACY FOLLOW UP ON THE KIEV PIONEER PALACE



Members of the YOU group watch as Dean Logan (left) and Scott Hammell present a banner made at last year's YOU conference to a representative of a Pioneer Palace in Moscow. Photo by Larry Schlick.

Linda Menees, a YOU sponsor from Bremerton, Washington, was visiting a cafe near the Farmer's Market in downtown Kiev the day after the group's visit to the Pioneer Palace. It was late afternoon and a group of 10-12 year old girls who had demonstrated their ballet for us the day before came into the cafe. Recognizing Linda as

a part of the group that had visited, they approached her excitedly. They were eager for conversation with their new American friends.

Our group schedule did not allow for a lengthy meeting that afternoon, and Linda wanted to have more of us present to enjoy the time with these girls. We were leaving for

Cherkassy the following day but would be back to Kiev the day after. Linda set an appointment with the girls to meet in the same cafe two days later. They were there and so was Linda with more of her fellow citizen diplomats. The connections were strengthened and the friendships grew.

My trip to the Soviet Union was a very special experience for me in many ways. One of my goals in traveling there was to see their schools. My two children are in elementary school and that is where I spend a great deal of my time doing volunteer work. I was very curious to experience and understand schools in the Soviet Union.

We were told upon arrival that it would be impossible to actually visit a school. This was because the children had just been on school break and no one would be prepared to receive us so soon after a recess.

"My desire to see a school in action was very strong."

I tried to accept this, but it just did not feel right. My desire to see a school in action was very strong. Others in our group helped me affirm that a school visit would occur somehow.

Near the end of our stay in Moscow, Tim Pettet made a connection for one of the younger YOUers to visit the home of a little girl named Vicca who was 12 years old. I went with Tim and the YOUer



Michelle Macris (left) of Hollywood, California, and Eric Barron, international 2nd vice president of YOU share some lighthearted moments with new friends in Cherkassy. Photo by Larry Schlick.

GORBACHEV WOULD BE PROUD

"Gorbachev would be proud. We drank to peace and friendship with American friends and not a drop of alcohol was present." These were the words of our hostess, Natasha. Natasha is an English teacher in the Soviet Union and works with the peace committee in one of the cities that our Youth of Unity citizen diplomacy tour visited. Her husband, a computer programming instructor at a technical institute, and their eight year old son hosted two separate meetings with us in their home. Cakes, cookies, tea, and

strong Russian coffee were present in abundance, as was a lot of conversation. There was much celebration between Natasha's family, her young adult students, and members of our group.

Natasha's comment was in reference to the emphasis that her new leader has put on reducing the production and consumption of alcohol in the Soviet Union. It was also a reference to the sincerity that she believes is present in Gorbachev's stated desire for peace and friendship between our countries. She also made com-

ment about the increased activism among the general Soviet population and the encouragement they are getting from Gorbachev to become more active and responsible.

Our evenings with Natasha's friends and family were rounded out with group singing of American folk songs, that she uses as fun tools for teaching English, and with the ceremonial exchange of gifts and souvenirs of our too brief stay with this warm, informative, and very interesting group of new Soviet friends.

PEACE CHILD SPACE BRIDGE

Douglas Quimby
Unity Center of
Positive Christianity
St. Paul, Minnesota

Samantha Smith, the young girl from the United States who visited Russia to establish peace, still lives in the hearts and minds of millions of people the world over. On December 2, 1985, a Peace Child Spacebridge between Minnesota USA and Moscow USSR was a living, loving, inspiring experience for those of us in the audience. Unity Center of Positive Christianity, St. Paul, Minnesota, was represented by ten children and five adults who participated in singing, laughing, talking, waving, applauding and experiencing peace with the Russian audience.

Peace Child Spacebridge is a NOW experience that demonstrates the potential for world peace. Samantha had a consciousness of peace that reaches above all human barriers and says "yes" to the peace of God among all mankind.

During the Spacebridge satellite network recording there were moments of high joy vibration, tears brought on by caring, laughing and knowing that we really are One. There were sustained chill bumps moving up and down our spines—we knew then there was more taking place than just the outer activity!

The highlights of the broadcast were: Two young the-

spians, one in Minnesota and one in Moscow, reaching out and "touching hands", speaking and singing together as they performed a segment of the play "Peace Child" in both languages; joint musical performances by young people in Minnesota and in Russia; and John Denver renewed acquaintances with friends he met in Russia this past summer and shared his music, love, and his desire for peace with both audiences.

This is a thrilling and ongoing experience for us at Unity Center of Positive Christianity because we are making "peace" our theme for 1986. Realizing peace in the outer expression must begin in our consciousness, we are making a commitment to think, speak and act peace.

On New Years eve at our Burning Bowl Service we included a time of focusing on the concepts of the Planetary Commission by John Price and on the ideas presented by PEACEVISION to "visualize World Peace." We began our peace meditation time for December 31, 1986, which in Minnesota was at 6:00 a.m. We invited the congregation and all friends to take time each day at 6:00 a.m. to rise above outer appearances and hold the thought of world peace—Jehovah Shalom.



Scott Wacholtz (extreme right) and Eric Barron listen to Karen Barnett relate a story during meal time conversation in the group's hotel dining room in Kiev. Judy Smith-Blackwell is at the table with them. Photo by Larry Schlick.

MY SOVIET EXPERIENCE

By Dawn Markiewicz

I had a wonderful time. I found the Soviet people to be very friendly and eager to speak with me about my country, what I thought of their country, and what I was going to see while I was there. Also, the country itself is beautiful.

There are posters advertising peace, monuments, and statues to be found literally everywhere. I was treated with utmost hospitality. I enjoyed it so much I am looking forward to going again in July.

THE DAWNING

By Jeannine Bell

I went on a mission to spread the word, to make love and friendship things known and by all heard. There are three steps to peace, I said to myself, first peace with yourself, the easiest I thought, then peace with your community, so often sought.

Finally peace with the world. This, I said, was the most difficult part.

With these three steps the world can be taken in our hearts.

I journeyed on to Tallinn and Kiev

Cherkassy and Moscow too, where I met beautiful people but, alas, too few.

Their hearts were full of love and friendship to share.

They, too, as I did, loved and cared.

I have learned that Soviets are ready for peace.

They have made peace with themselves, their communities, too.

The only step left is peace between me and you.

SAMANTHA SMITH'S SOVIET COUNTERPART

Samantha Smith made a big impact on the Soviet Union. School children spoke her name to us many times. An organization of Soviet citizens responded by sending a Soviet school girl to the United States. Natasha had just returned to Moscow prior to our visit.

The Peace Committee in Moscow held a press conference for Natasha, and two members of our group talked their way into the event. Most of the proceedings took place in Russian, but Thom Ricks and Robert Malone (both of Texas) were able to make the following observations:

Natasha was beautiful and very charming. She enjoyed visiting American homes and thought the home-cooked food she experienced was very good.

She thought the restaurant food she ate tasted like chemicals. She was overwhelmed by the generosity of her American friends. The many gifts she received had to be shipped back separately.

She saw Rocky IV and cried because of the inaccurate way the Soviet people were depicted. An American school boy approached her and told her that he used to believe that the Soviet Union was the center of evil. He said he would never think that way again after meeting her. She understood how he would think that after seeing Rocky IV. She was shocked at the violence and blood she saw in other movies here. She loved tacos and seemed very interested in world peace and in both of our countries getting together.

SUBSCRIPTION PERIODICAL UNDERSTUDY

- ☐ I would use such a periodical.
- ☐ I would help promote subscriptions by including subscription forms in my newsletter, from the platform and by other means.
- ☐ I would not help promote subscriptions.
- ☐ I would ☐ would not ☐ advertise on a paid basis.

I am responding as:

- ☐ congregation member
- ☐ minister
- ☐ licensed teacher

☐ I support this project because:

☐ I do not support this project because:

Signature _____
(optional)

Your Association of Unity Churches Board of Trustees commissioned an editorial task force to explore publishing a subscription periodical to better serve our Unity ministries. It will reach out to draw new people into churches, market tapes, books, workshops, and other activities offered by Unity ministers and teachers.

This project pursues the Association's goal of serving and helping you to extend your ministry to more and more people. Such a project calls for a large investment of time, energy, and money. We ask your response to such a vehicle. Would you promote building, circulating and advertising to make it pay for itself?

How will this benefit you and your ministry? This is a partial list:

—Provide written pieces that would supplement and extend your ministry through instructional "how to" lesson formats with prescribed activities and discussion starters that could be used by ministers or lay leaders for classes, home groups, or for individual spiritual enrichment.

—Themes would include the Unity teachings applied in issues of relationships, prosper-

ity, prayer, healing, Bible, death and dying, parenting, rebuilding after divorce or death of a partner, creativity, world peace, leadership, volunteer service, and others.

—AUC's vision of expansion and bringing people to the realization of the practical application of truth and transformation will be kept in sharp focus.

—Paid advertising of quality cassette programs, video tapes, books, seminars, workshops, or retreats would get your unique message out and expose people to the variety of our teachers.

—Churches could be featured.

—Interviews of individuals in a variety of walks of life—celebrities, business and political leaders, ministers, and other people—on how Truth principles work in their lives and other pertinent topics.

Hopefully, you are thinking of other possible benefits to you and the people you serve and will serve.

Please fill in your tear out survey form below and return to the Media table before leaving conference. **DO IT NOW!** Thank you for your input in this important decision.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®
P.O. Box 610 Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 4559
Kansas City, MO