



Contact

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®
April/May, 1993



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Edie Skalitzky
Unity Church in the Rockies
Colorado Springs, Colorado

A statement which defines in a nutshell our key belief in Unity is, "There is one Presence and one Power in the universe, God the Good, Omnipotent." We have each thought, spoken, and contemplated the meaning of these words numerous times. I've been asking Spirit to

take me deeper into their significance and to help me look at them with different eyes. Here are some thoughts to ponder.

When we each found Unity and this basic teaching of the "one Presence and one Power," it probably was one of those great "ah-ha's." For attached to the idea of one Presence and one Power was the idea that this Presence was to be found in the depths of our own being. No longer was God to be sought outside ourselves for God was an ever-available indwelling Presence and unchanging principle by which to live our lives.

What has been coming to me for some time is that if we are not careful we will exclude, deny, ignore, and be blind to this Holy Presence which is everywhere present. Maybe we have gone to the opposite extreme of believing God can only be known within.

When we say God is everywhere, equally present, we usually mean God is to the same degree...here...there...at all times...and places. Even though we believe this concept, when it comes down

to allowing God to be present for us in/as a flower, a tree, a book, a teddy bear, a rainbow, another person, at that point we may find ourselves struggling, for then God is seemingly outside of us again.

Let us think about taking this powerful statement literally...that we can know Spirit, feel Spirit, be guided and loved by Spirit not only through an inner connection but through oneness with all that is about us. For is not all made of the essence of God and, therefore, has God within it?

It seems to me that God just might look like you and that sometimes God speaks to me through your voice, and that this beautiful earth is also home to God just as our Beings are home to God. In truth, there is nothing which is not God, so when our eyes, ears, mind, hearts are open to perceiving God everywhere, this Presence can touch us, heal us in a hundred million different ways.

See POWER on page 5

Contents

Broadcasting the Unity Message	10
Church Development & Management Issues	7
Conference/Convention News	13
Development Office News	6
Executive Director's Letter	3
Expansion News	4
Financial Statement	16
Intergenerational Education Ministry:	
Silence in the Classroom	19
Year of the Child News	18
Meet Your Association Staff	3
A Memorial	15
Partners in Ministry	9
Planned Giving News	7
President's Letter	2
<i>The Quest and Adventures on the Quest</i>	12

Volume 26, Issue 2

April/May, 1993

CONTACT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief..... Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor..... Cheryl Vestal
Graphics & Layout..... Cheryl Vestal
Circulation..... Glenn Mosley, Jr.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

The Editorial purpose of CONTACT is the purpose of the Association: the Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative and education programs.

Cover:

Association of Unity Churches
Headquarters
Lee's Summit, Missouri

Deadlines: 1st of the month, two months prior to issue date

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

Unity ministers from small, medium, and large ministries, and ranging in experience from recently graduated to some considering retiring, speak of stresses of ministry and the need for renewal and networking with colleagues.

As is understood by any minister in the profession even a short time, there is the typical clergy stress of balancing church administration, spiritual development of the church, pastoral care, and one's own spiritual development. Throughout the past few decades, other stressors have emerged at a dizzying rate, which affect clergy both vicariously (through congregants) and personally.

Our highly mobile culture, family unit restructuring, rising crime, substance abuse, unemployment, and increasing ethnic diversity are all issues with which congregants struggle--as well as clergy. Especially in Unity, congregants drive many miles to attend church. It is great when all of them are driving to a central location for study and worship. It is not so great when you, the minister, must drive from a central location to many diverse points to visit in hospitals, nursing residences, and homes. Some of you have shared the feeling that you use more time traveling and that you accomplish less.

At the same time two-family salaries require both parents to work, and one-parent families require extra hours after work with their families. Therefore this limits the quality and amount of volunteer assistance, so administrative loads for ministers increase. "I was not trained to be and I do not wish to be a CEO" is a

fairly common sentiment. Administering a ministry is increasingly complex with tax, legal, and building management decisions.

After being with you in small regional groups, talking with you one-on-one, reviewing my own feelings when I was in a field ministry, and viewing my own feelings in my administrative ministry, I am convinced that we all are, or have been, stressed at one time or another by the stresses in our congregants' lives, and by similar stressors in our own lives.

Together, we continue to search for, and to implement, perceived means of dealing with these stresses. We want and need our own spiritual resources to be replenished and they have tended to take a "back seat" to the needs of those we serve. Some mental health caregivers say that our needs need to come first, or we won't be able to help others. Whatever our feelings about priority, one thing

certain is that our needs at least need to show up on a list somewhere. And then it is necessary to follow through on taking time to spiritually, physically, socially, and mentally refresh ourselves.

Reading books clearly helps to stimulate thinking, exercise provides physical renewal, prayer and meditation is a cornerstone for spiritual renewal, and social interaction keeps us alert and balanced in our relationships.

One of my favorite experiences combines two of the four: social interaction with peers in a retreat setting, and sometimes just in a quiet conversation over a meal. Please help all of us locally, subregionally, regionally, nationally, and internationally to continue to foster the mutual networking of support in all areas of our personal and professional lives. And remember to join in our pre-conference retreat June 14 and 15, 1993. See you there?

Meet Your Association Staff

(The Management Team appreciates this opportunity; after the request was brought to our attention, we realized that we become so familiar with the work and educational background with our Association staff members that we overlook the fact that field ministers and church staff members would also like to become acquainted with the faces and voices at "the other end of the line." Thank you for asking.)

GLENN MOSLEY, Executive Director (see photo above) since summer of 1985.

Before that, Glenn was a field minister for 26 years, and he worked in Silent Unity for two years while a student minister. Glenn has traveled in 42 states and 45 countries (mostly during vacations while a field minister) since 1957.

Glenn has a large variety of field experience; he has ministered to one small, three medium, and two large ministries. He was an interim in one of the medium-sized ministries and an associate in one of the large ministries. Additionally, he pioneered one church while serving as the minister of another church.

Glenn enjoyed a unique experience a few years ago when he was invited to deliver one of the rededication addresses at the 350th anniversary celebration of an Episcopal (Anglican) church in Barbados, West Indies. Glenn was visiting the Reverend Emerson Brathwaite and his

pioneering efforts throughout the Island country. About every third congregant of this quite large church greeting Glenn after the services whispered in his ear that they either read Unity and/or were familiar with Emerson's work.

Glenn says that it is his pleasure to stand in a supportive role to every Unity minister and every Unity community.

SUSAN VELASQUEZ has been with the Association since 1990. She is a lifelong Kansas City area resident and has been married to husband Tony for over 25 years.

Before coming to the Association, Susan worked at one company for 23 years as bookkeeper, credit union treasurer, and computer programmer. She enjoys cooking, camping, motorcycling, and cats. She is a member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority and is active in the altar guild of her church.

Susan is a member of the accounting staff supervised by Young Bac. Her duties include taking orders by phone and mail, paying the bills, and assisting with payroll and pension accounting.





Joann Landreth
Associate Director/
Director of Placement/Expansion

The Association of Unity Churches Expansion Committee meets bi-annually as a support to the expansion work. This committee assumes responsibility for establishing domestic new ministries and study groups. In January a new policy was approved by the Association's Board of Trustees for starting new churches/study groups as follows:

(1) All pioneering churches and/or study groups must be affiliated through the Expansion Department of the Association of Unity Churches.

Rationale: The purpose for this policy is that the Internal Revenue Service is tightening its procedures for tax exempt corporations. All churches, pioneering churches and study groups are required by the IRS to submit financial statements to the Association of Unity Churches. When an organization is audited by the IRS, it must be able to prove that such documents have been requested on a regular basis. The financial statements will be requested regularly through CONTACT magazine and Minister's Letter. This should be a help to ministers working with study groups and will eliminate the need for the minister to request the financial statements. Ministers can still work with study groups within their own area in an advisory, counseling capacity. In this role, the minister's title will be Spiritual Coach which was recommended through

the Expansion Committee and is defined below.

(2) Upon approval to start a new Unity study group or church the Director of Expansion will locate a Spiritual Coach within a close proximity of the newly established work with a spiritual leader, licensed teacher, or minister. **A Spiritual Coach is responsible for the following:**

- A. Shares and believes in the pioneering spiritual leader's vision.
- B. Supports the pioneering spiritual leader and acts as an advocate.
- C. Helps the pioneering spiritual leader set practical and realistic goals to accomplish the vision.
- D. Is available for counseling.

Who can be your Spiritual Coach?

- A. The closest consenting licensed or ordained Unity minister.
- B. A member of the Expansion Committee.
- C. The regional representative who is a licensed or ordained Unity minister.
- D. Someone so credentialed by the Association of Unity Churches Executive Committee upon recommendation of the Expansion Committee (generally not a Unity minister).

Rationale: A Spiritual Coach is recommended for a number of reasons. First of all, the assignment of pioneering a new church is a monumental venture; one that requires many skills and generally the minister or leader undertaking this assignment usually performs all of the duties and responsibilities and detailed work required to build a church. Secondly, having a Spiritual Coach who believes in what is being undertaken, can objectively look at what is being done, and be readily available with counsel and feedback can be enormously helpful.

A special notice to all ministers who are currently working with study groups: This again is a reminder to you that even though all study groups, satellite groups, and pioneering churches will now be affiliated through the Expansion Department, you will continue to work with the group that you have started as the

Spiritual Coach. If you have any questions regarding these new policies, please feel free to contact me.

Two members of the Expansion Committee will be writing follow-up articles based on the Spiritual Coach concept, how working with the Spiritual Coach has produced excellent results in one pioneering ministry, and also a sharing of new ideas on how to utilize a Spiritual Coach to best produce the success, prosperity, and good that you are seeking in your group or church. Look for the two follow-up articles on the Spiritual Coach concept in the June/July Conference Edition of CONTACT and in the August/September edition.

An Invitation To Present Graduation Bibles

Ministers and individuals are invited to participate in the Graduation Bible Project, which has proved to be meaningful to the ministerial graduates. This project gives you the opportunity to present a deluxe edition of a large print Bible.

There will be 37 graduates receiving Bibles this year. If you would like to participate, please send \$45.00 made payable to the Ministerial Education Program, and note that it is for a graduation Bible. Address the envelope to: Gladys Branscum, %USRS-MEP, Unity Village, MO 64065. This check should be sent by May 1, 1993.

The inscription in the front of the Bible will state that it is presented by you and your ministry. If you would like the Bible to go to a particular graduate, please write the information on your check or in a note.



Shay St. John
Director of Development

Breaking Free of The Tomb

What a captivating time of year this is! The theater of life all around us is experiencing remarkable changes. A metamorphosis from the chilling bite of winter into the invigorating warmth of spring is happening. All things, large and small, are shifting gears into a new dimension of radiant living.

Yet before we can know the full extent of this springtime transformation happening within us and around us, we must be willing to let go the restrictions of the tomb. Jesus demonstrated for us the overcoming power of life. He allowed those who believed they could destroy His teachings and His body to do their work. Then he used His time in the tomb to harvest the fruits of His spiritual work.

Resurrection followed! His overcoming reminds us today that we, too, need a time apart from the activities of the world to discover the vast reservoir of spiritual reserves that support and empower us. As we allow them to work through us, we break free of the apparent restrictions of the past and step forth into a springtime of new growth.

Our Unity movement is a vibrant expression of the transformative power of spiritual principles. From humble beginnings in prayer circles of close friends, Charles and Myrtle Fillmore allowed the unlimited resources of God's expansive

good to flow through them. Step by step, building on the strength of united prayer, our movement has grown. Now its message of positive, practical Christianity encircles our world.

Our Association of Unity Churches is formed to serve and support YOU. Now is the springtime of our growth as we dare to vision the creation of our Living Curriculum for our children, youth, and families. This vital intergenerational program will empower spiritual growth among our entire congregation. We celebrate the unlimited spiritual resources that await our invitation to support this dream. And this invitation is personally extended to you now.

YOU are an essential part of the fulfillment of this dream. Together we can bring forth this curriculum. United in prayer and supportive in ideas, financial resources and creative visioning, we open to the joy of this miracle of spring. Listen as you break free of whatever tombs may have been restricting you and receive our invitation to join us in this project of love.

Write to us in our Development Office. Affirm your heart's commitment. Let your financial support be responsive to this creation as we move forward into a new dimension of service. Share your hopes and plans. Let the power of this transformative season so fill you with new insights and greater good that you break free into a new level of understanding, commitment, and acceptance of God's love enfolding you now.

Have a joyous Easter season, dear friend. I celebrate the miracles of this day moving mightily through you! And I love you!

Pooled Income Fund is an excellent opportunity to receive a lifetime income on your donation! For a brochure on this special planned gift that will benefit you, your local Unity ministry, and our Association of Unity Churches, contact our Development Department today.

Power

Cont'd from page 2

Last fall while Tom and I were on vacation, the Presence taught me through a little black squirrel. As I walked in the woods near a friend's cabin, a huge old tree beckoned me to sit with my back against its rough trunk. Sitting there with the sun embracing me, I felt a deep sense of gratitude for my life and for all life teeming around me. In my inner thoughts, I contemplated how much I desired to feel no fear toward anything and that nothing feared me. This was like a heartfelt prayer. No sooner had these thoughts crossed my mind but I heard the sound of something bounding through the dried leaves coming toward me. Wondering what huge creature was nearby, I turned and there within five feet of me was a small black squirrel with pointed fuzzy ears. For some reason I instantly let out a scream and the little critter ran for the safety of a nearby branch where it proceeded to chatter loudly about my frightening it. Here in an instant of time, in response to my silent prayer for knowing peace between myself and all life, was an opportunity to see where I was in that process. It was as if the Presence in the form of that beautiful animal was showing me how much work I still had to do to resolve and heal my fears (in whatever shape and size they come) so that I could indeed feel that deeper sense of peace and Unity with all creation. My gratitude was sent to the squirrel as I talked to it, and before long it scampered down the tree and came close while we shared some sacred space.

For me, in those moments, God was present, active, and available as that living creature who gave me such a valuable lesson. Some of the lesson being that God is within me, as me, and at the same time is without me, if I will open myself to however the Presence expresses itself at the time. It reminds me of the saying, "God meets us at the point of our need." How God may meet us is surely wondrous beyond words.



Deborah Turner-Bey
Planned Giving & Grants Officer

Gift Planning for Today's Needs and Tomorrow's Vision

For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. (Romans 12:4)

The churches, centers, and study groups that make up our Association of Unity Churches have been blessed with a unique heritage. Our strength and our mission are to be found in our name: Unity.

It is deeply satisfying to stand on the threshold of the new millennium, all members of one body, carrying forward the work begun by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore over a century ago. Unity continues to be "a link in the great educational movement inaugurated by Jesus Christ."

Your ministry has its own unique work to carry out, its own special way of blessing the community it serves. Your Association of Unity Churches knows it takes both human and financial resources to complete the tasks that are ours to do. Together, your ministry and your Association of Unity Churches can insure the future and participate more fully in the life of our vital, growing movement.

We invite you to carefully and prayerfully consider the three effective plans for creative giving listed below. Each carries its own unique benefits to the giver and the receiver. Each contributes in some

way to either help provide financial security today or endow the future of your church and your Association. Additional ways to use planned gifts to support your work and build for the future will be highlighted in upcoming CONTACT articles.

We are one body, in Christ, dedicated to live, serve, and teach the transforming principles demonstrated by our Brother and Way-Shower Jesus Christ.

WILLS...a simple, tax-free way to give.

Giving to the church is the most common way for your congregation to continue God's work beyond their lifetime. Yet many people do not take advantage of this simple method to support your ministry's work because they do not fully understand the opportunity a will presents.

Making a will is a relatively simple and inexpensive method by which a gift can be made to your ministry. It does not affect the donor's present or future standard of living but certainly benefits the donor and the church in many ways.

The satisfaction of knowing that one's "house is in order" has a way of enriching a person's entire life. The peace of mind that comes from using the resources one has been blessed with to provide for those people and causes dear to them throughout their lifetime is beyond measure.

Consider asking your ministry's supporters to include your church in their wills. This form of gift will endow your church and ultimately provide benefits which help secure its long term vitality.

LIFE INSURANCE...a resource for low-cost giving.

Sometimes a person has the strong desire to make a larger than average gift to support the work and growth of your church, but does not have the resources available in cash. In such cases, a small "obsolete" life insurance policy that has been purchased years ago to provide an education for a child, or to help protect a mortgage now paid may be the answer.

Many life insurance policies carry a cash surrender value. Depending on how long the policy has been held, the value of the policy in some cases could be quite substantial. The owner of an insurance policy which has accumulated a cash value can, at any time, request the cash surrender value of the policy which can

then be used in any way the owner desires.

In addition, a donor may choose to name your church as final beneficiary of any life insurance policy, or designate the church as recipient of annual dividends. In the first case, if at the passing of the insured the primary and secondary beneficiaries are no longer living, the face value of the policy would then go to the church. In the second case, a person currently receiving interest income for an insurance policy could choose to assign those benefits to your church.

A gift of insurance is another easy, low-cost way for members of your congregation to affirm their support for your work and your vision and can be applied immediately to meeting church needs.

SECURITIES...may provide the best means of making a gift to your church.

There are substantial tax advantages available to the donor who gives negotiable securities, especially if the securities have appreciated in value. Current tax laws offer special incentives for gifts of non-cash property.

For example: One of your congregation has decided to give \$1,500.00 to your church. The donor owns stock that has grown in value from the \$500.00 originally paid for it ten years ago to \$1,500.00 today. In a 31% tax bracket, your donor would save \$465.00 (\$1,500 X 31%) if the gift were made in cash. If however, a gift were made of the appreciated stock, your donor would save \$745.00 (\$465.00 + \$280.00 savings on capital gains tax). The reason for the additional savings is the donor receives a double tax benefit when giving a gift of appreciated securities. First, a tax deduction for the full value of the stock is allowed. And second, your donor does not have to pay capital gains tax which would otherwise be due if the stock were sold.

For more information on these and other giving plans, or if you would like to make planned giving information available to your congregation, please contact Deborah Turner-Bey here at your Association headquarters (816) 524-7414. I will be happy to send brochures on wills for your free literature table or information on conducting a planned giving workshop in your church.



Barbara O'Hearne
Church Development and
Management Consultant

An Update on Church Development and Management Consulting Services

The purpose of the management consulting services is to "support and complement the spiritual growth and development of the ministry." In order to achieve this purpose I work with churches and centers along a continuum of effectiveness and efficiency. This includes churches that are doing extraordinarily well in many areas and want to continue along this path, as well as those churches at the opposite end of the continuum who are in need of immediate assistance in many areas. Each ministry will be given high-quality professional services tailored to fit its individual needs.

In order to serve the ministers, board members, staff, and volunteers more effectively, a copy of the brochure describing the services I provide is printed at right. If you would like additional copies of the brochure, please contact me by telephone, FAX, or letter. (This information is included on the next page.)

I hope the information will assist you in understanding my services that are available to ALL ministries. It is a pleasure to work with you!

Church Development and Management Consulting Services

Purpose Statement:

The Church Development/Management Consulting Services provides Unity ministers, boards of directors, and key volunteers with state-of-the-art management tools and techniques which support and complement the spiritual growth and development of the ministry.

Thinking About. . .

bringing the leaders of your ministry together for a time of prayer, learning, discussion, planning and renewing commitment?

implementing new ideas for more balance in the administrative and spiritual aspects of your ministry?

getting committees to work more effectively and enthusiastically?

clarifying the mission, developing a vision for your ministry, and setting goals to actualize the vision?

improving and enjoying your relationship with the board and volunteers?

A Sampling of Topics:

- ☛ Minister/Board Relationship
- ☛ Team Building
- ☛ Assessing Board Effectiveness
- ☛ Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors
- ☛ Operations of the Board
- ☛ Recruiting and Orienting Board Members
- ☛ Organizing Committees for Effectiveness
- ☛ Developing a Strategic Plan (Mission/Vision/Goal/Implementation Plans)

Continued. . .

One Month In Advance:

Minister mails copies of meeting minutes, financial statement for the past 12 months; the current budget; planning summaries; the bylaws; two or three newsletters and Sunday bulletins; and any additional information that will tell the consultant about the ministry.

A final confirmation letter, along with a training packet, will be mailed to the minister for review and copying.

Board members complete the Board Assessment Questionnaire provided by the consultant.

The Day of the Workshop or Retreat:

Anticipate a day of prayer, sharing, discussion, brainstorming, planning, and even fun!

Be open, receptive, willing to participate, listen, and learn.

When Planning for a Minister/Board Workshop...

- there is a consensus decision by the minister and members of the board of directors recorded as a motion/vote in the meeting minutes.
- all board members, staff, and key volunteers agree to attend.
- several alternative dates are selected.
- contact Barbara O'Hearne to schedule a date. She can be reached by:

telephone	=	816-531-3353
FAX	=	816-753-8200
letter	=	4311 Rockhill Road Kansas City, MO 64110
- upon selection of a date, the minister and board president discuss with the consultant the workshop or retreat format and the tentative agenda.
- schedule the workshop in a comfortable meeting room with tables and chairs. The consultant will need a large flipchart on a sturdy easel, an overhead projector (with an extra bulb) and a screen.
- provide snacks and appropriate meals.
- provide books and articles on church growth and administration, non-profit management, board development, organizational development, and strategic planning. (The consultant will make available upon request.)

Cancellation Policy:

All workshops or retreats cancelled 30 days prior to the agreed-upon date will be charged for the cost of the consultant's non-refundable airline ticket.

Church Development & Management Consulting Services

Association of Unity Churches

P.O. Box 610

Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Professional fees and expenses borne by the Association of Unity Churches

Partners in Ministry

a network of spouses of ministers

In the months since the article I wrote about my process in dealing with the death of Shay's daughter, I came across the following writing that I would like to share with you. It is titled, "In The Vastness," and the author is the famous Unknown.

I am in the vast silence,
The silence with no beginning and no end.
I am the stars of no tomorrows and no yesterdays.
For me, there is no time and space
as it is with you--if you would only let go.

You are the vastness moving into vastness.
You are the stars of the unlimited vastness.
You are the vastness.

How can you be otherwise, when you are one with Me?
For out of the void, you came out of nothing,
For in being nothing, you are everything.

Do not spend all your time weighing this or that--how can
nothing be weighed?
Do not spend your moments in fruitless judgment,
For in judgment, there can only be sorry and even hatred.
For in your judgment, there is only separateness.
How can nothing be separateness?
For in being sister and brother to everything, you are my sons
and daughters of the vastness, of wholeness, of the great Cosmos.

Stop your separateness, for in doing so, you become caught in
time and space.
It is only in this imprisonment--in this separateness--that there
is death.

How can vastness be death?
For death is just in the mind.

Come, hold my hands.
Let me feel the warmth of your vastness that only I can try to create.
For I know you, all of you,
For I created you out of the void,
Out of the vastness of my love,
Where you will be now and forevermore--FREE.

Write:
Partners in Ministry
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Al Sears



IMPORTANT!

The Internal Revenue Service requires the Association of Unity Churches (to protect its tax umbrella) to receive financial statements monthly from all affiliated study groups and newly developing churches. By this notice we are requesting these financial reports be submitted monthly to also protect the groups' church tax-exempt status. Thank you!

DON'T MISS THIS

Loving the Child

Conference '93
Association of Unity Churches

June 15-19, 1993
Hilton Plaza Inn
Kansas City, MO

(see pages 13 & 14 for
information on special
award presentations.)

SPECIAL DAY!

Village Fun Fest
June 18, 1993
Unity Village, MO

BROADCASTING THE UNITY MESSAGE



Carolyn Craft
Radio/Media Consultant

The Unity message is being heard in more and more cities, more often. The Radio/Media Department honors your work in sharing a message of Truth via broadcasting in your area. As more ministries effect a broadcast outreach program, we are receiving new and creative ideas for programming and placement. The Reverend Leona Stefanko has achieved a winning formula for the utilization of broadcast (both radio and television). Her programs are innovative and deeply touch the heart of listeners in the Gulf Breeze, Florida, area. Here is an interview that Assistant Radio/Media Coordinator, Linda Harbin-Beard conducted with Leona:

Linda: How has radio or other media worked for you in your ministry?

Leona: I believe that because of my own background and my own particular talents and skills, media is the most natural way I can promote the ministry. The Emerald Coast Ministries, including Unity of Gulf Breeze won the Templeton Grant in 1991. We chose radio station WMEZ, the most widely listened to station, with an easy listening format, in the Northwestern Florida Mobile Area and ran two one minute spots--once in the morning and once in the afternoon--entitled "A Special Moment from Unity." Phone numbers were rotated among the ministries so that each ministry would have their number broadcast every fourth day. The messages were extremely successful. I felt that it was important to have a benevolent, all-encompassing message that went beyond specific religions but would apply to the

universal truths--love, generosity and positive points of view. In order to get the full value out of the messages, they would be broadcast at a certain time every day. I would say "tune in at 10:20 a.m. tomorrow or Monday."

Linda: How about your creative materials for the spot messages?

Leona: I wrote my own scripts. My goal was to help listeners feel a little better about themselves and have a hopeful, more positive attitude for the rest of their day.

Linda: And your half-hour radio program?

Leona: It was called "Positive Living." The messages delivered during the Sunday morning service are slower and more deliberate in rhythm than appropriate for radio. So I re-record the lesson for radio but with a more energetic tone of voice and it sounds more interesting.

I have also started a half-hour TV broadcast on our local cable TV. The program is called "Dimensions of the Human Spirit." Every week I interview an individual who has overcome challenges that were once thought insurmountable. The first part of the program is devoted to sharing their challenge. . . an accident that had left them paralyzed. . . the mother of a child who has muscular dystrophy. . . someone who saw their disease as incurable and then beat the odds. The rest of the time is spent in recognizing how the adverse condition was met and overcome, how many things they have learned from it and how they have grown. These stories are always very inspirational and very positive.

Linda: How do you measure your results from broadcasting?

Leona: We offer listeners a free cassette if they respond to the broadcast. The cassette is a lesson I give on Friendship Sunday called "What Is Unity?" They are then added to our mailing list. Sometimes outside response is not very measurable. However, I think the impetus for the tremendous growth that we have needed came from the feedback we first received from the radio broadcasting. . . and without the Templeton Grant we wouldn't have had the resources to go to the number one station. This helped us grow to

the point where we could be continuing our media work now.

Linda: From the time your media work started, what has been the growth in your church?

Leona: We began as a study group with maybe 20 to 25 people. We now average 50 to 65 people. Our market is not large but we are drawing from all areas and we continue to grow. Our mailing list has increased from 50 to almost 300.

Linda: What recommendations would you have regarding other types of broadcasting?

Leona: I will say check your market. Your market might not be like anybody else's. We thought drive-time would be perfect, but our station's demographics reflect strongest listening between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. We had wanted 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The station was correct.

Linda: When you first went on the air did your schedule run continuously?

Leona: After we were awarded the Templeton Grant, we aired on radio for about 10 months. As far as television, we had our media person take slides and write a script and I would do the voice over. The commercial was almost cost free. In the beginning we had sponsors but after a while we received beyond sponsors the \$100 or sometimes \$200 that was needed every month. We did a commercial for our Unity bookstore and it ran every week regardless of whether someone was sponsoring us or not.

Linda: Many ministers are being asked by cable companies to provide programs. What themes and/or programs would you suggest to them?

See RADIO on page 12



Linda Harbin-Beard
Assistant Radio/Media
Coordinator

Assn of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414



News for the Field

HEADQUARTERS

VOL. 2, NO. 6
APRIL/MAY, 1993

Glenn Mosley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Edie Skallitzky
President

HIGHLIGHTS



artwork by
Dennis Graham

Loving the Child Conference '93 **Association of Unity Churches**

**June 15-19, 1993
Hilton Plaza Inn
Kansas City, MO**

***Calling all children
hiding out in their
grown-up bodies
who long to be joyful,
funful, freeful
come out, come out,
wherever you are
and play in the now-sun
of your life.***

Call 1-800-525-6321 for hotel reservations

1993 is the "Year of the Child." No Unity conference is complete without our children's joyous participation.

Last year in Chicago forty wonderful children and infants attended our Children's Program, and it was a great success. We will continue exciting educational and spiritual programs for our children each year.

This year's program enhances our children's spiritual growth as well as brings them into more attunement with our family unity. Each day new and exciting activities happen. These include a variety of workshops and learning centers as well as our annual banquet with special guests!

Wednesday is an all-day outing with something to please every age group. Along the Kansas City Trolley route, the children visit such attractions as The Arabia Landing Steamboat Exhibit; Kaleidoscope, a creative children's experience sponsored by Hallmark, Inc.; The Coterie, a theatre for the child in all of us featuring the popular Dinosaurs; and the Toy and Miniature Museum, to name a few.

One of the highlights of the Children's Program this year is the Year of the Child Chorus. This chorus is directed by Lee Campbell who is forming a two-hundred voice chorus which consists of children from local Unity centers as well as those who are registered in the conference

Children's Program. The Year of the Child Chorus performs at the Opening Ceremonies on Tuesday evening, June 15, at 6:00 p.m., and play a dynamic part in setting the mood for the conference. The debut of our new Association of Unity Churches Superheroes--METAPHYSICAL MAN AND MIRACLE WOMAN--combined with the children's love and voices, are instrumental in bringing about the transformation of our archvillain, EGOMANIA.

Friday, June 18, provides an opportunity to let the child in all of us come forth and play at the VILLAGE FUN FEST held at Unity Village. Events include craft booths, food concessions, clowning, puppetry, a golf tournament, storytelling, nature walks, and various entertainers performing in the amphitheater throughout the day.

For optimum fun and excitement be sure to "Try for the Gold" at the 1993 Unity Family Olympics Aqua Tournament, Decathlon, Gymnastics, or Track and Field events. This memorable day has something for everyone.

Please make your plans now to attend this exciting, fun, spirit-filled week at the 1993 LOVING THE CHILD CONFERENCE. Call or write your Association office for further details.

**Debbie Ratliff-Ball
Conference/Support Services Coordinator**

The Ways We Serve. . .

What's new from us to you!

Radio Media Are you an enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in your community and the world? You may be a perfect candidate for **Communication Committee Network Member**. The member's commission and participation requires that energy be devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.):

- research
- feedback
- observation
- information
- tabulation
- creativity
- community awareness
- interfacing
- expanding consciousness
- checking market/church pulse
- defining and holding your ministry's vision.

Sound interesting? Talk with your minister or contact the Radio/Media Department for more information.

Education Services Did you know it is now possible for a licensed teacher, youth education director, minister, children's teacher or Uniteen/Y.O.U. sponsor to become certified in their area of emphasis? Through the Certification of Spiritual Educators Program, spiritual educators achieve increased professional credibility. Certification is not considered a requirement, rather a voluntary achievement that can be realized for those who desire it.

Requirements for certification include, CEP courses, training, practical experience, reading, recommendations, and a week-long intensive. The first week-long intensive (which may be taken at the beginning, middle, or end of your certification process) will be held at Unity Village, Missouri, June 19-25, 1993. The registration fee is \$180, room and board not included.

Consider attending the 1993 Minister's Conference in Kansas City with your minister, then stay to attend this "intensive." For more information concerning the pro-

gram or intensive registration forms, contact your minister, youth education director, or your Association's Education Department.

Innerworks and Fireworks! Registration for the Adults of Unity vacation retreat in the Rockies is coming up. This retreat is open to all Unity adults. The deadline for registration is May 1. Contact your Association's Education Department for more information on registration.

Development Planning a trip to Unity Village? If the timing is right, consider our fourth Thursday evening workshops. We continue April 22 with our Development Director, Shay St. John, presenting **Spiritual Gifts--Our Window to the World**. This informative workshop is based on the Kiersey Temperament Sorter and Unity principles. Discover the unique spiritual gifts only you can bring forth; appreciate the strength of differences as you achieve success and satisfaction; appreciate yourself and others more; realize how your behavior arises out of preferences rather than limitations; receive the keys to help you understand your Self better! This workshop is a rich blessing for individuals working in leadership within their church.

May 27 we will continue the theme of relationships with **The Way of the Heart--A Learning Experience in Loving Relationships**. Presented by Gerry and Cindy Sickler, this workshop provides an opportunity to look at those areas of our individual relationships which cause us problems or that we feel may need improvement. Cindy and Gerry openly and honestly share themselves, presenting the ideas and solutions that they practice in their relationship. The workshop is open to anyone, whether you're in a relationship or not.

For more information contact the Development Department.

Dreams Become Reality through the STARlight Annual Fund

Heartfelt thanks to our STARlight Team Members! Gifts to the 1992 STARlight Annual Fund are supporting ministerial students from India and Malawi, providing a complete library for the Unity Ministerial School in Nigeria, and assisting a pioneering ministry in British Columbia.

The gifts of STARlight Team Members made these dreams a reality. In 1993 gifts to the Annual Fund are supporting your Association's Year of the Child program.

If you are interested in more information about the STARlight Annual Fund which benefits your Association and the Year of the Child, contact the Development Department.

MUSIC

Review!

Our Association of Unity Churches Year of the Child Announces

"Come Share My Joy - Joy Songs for Children"

a compilation of works by many of our talented musicians and song writers in the Unity movement.

This is a superb collection of songs that motivate, inspire, and call forth the joy and love of the inner Christ. It's something you will treasure, whether you are a young child or an adult with a very young inner child.

To order call 816-524-7414, ext. 324.

Cassette (Stock #6033) \$7.95

Music Book (Stock #6034) \$8.95



Russia - Bridges to Oneness



You are invited to join Glenn Mosley, Executive Director of your Association of Unity Churches, and Shay St. John, Director of Development, for an inaugural tour to Russia August 6-20, 1993. Come experience the synergy of rebirth and transformation with members of Spiritual Unity of Russia as we share, teach, and create lifetime friendships.

Visit Moscow, one of the world's stateliest cities. Almost every structure appears to be on a grand scale, each steeped in history, both past and present. Travel to St. Petersburg, the elegant maritime city built by Peter the Great in the 18th Century. Located on the shores of the Baltic Sea, St. Petersburg rivals

Venice. See the city's unique blend of Russian and West European architecture mirrored in the hundred of rivers and canals that lace the city.

Fly to Ekatarinberg, located in the Middle Ural mountains near the European-Asian border. The Urals are renown for precious and semiprecious stones and gems such as crystals, alexandrite, emeralds, malachite, jasper, and marble. Visits will be made to museums, the house of Peace and Friendship, the city of Alapaevsk, and the Cathedral of Salvation and Revival. Woven throughout the travel itinerary are evening cultural events and get-togethers with our Russian Unity Family.

Russia is a region of legendary landmarks, extraordinary people, and very special art and culture. Not only is it timely to experience Russia, it is also timeless. . .for the markets, landscapes, and cityscapes Russia was. . .and for all that Russia is now and will become. Be there to breathe the spirit of freedom that has been released and share the excitement of a nation now in control of its own destiny. You can help build Bridges to Oneness with your brothers and sisters as you share your love and light with members of Spiritual Unity and the Russian people. For more information or to reserve your space for this extraordinary trip, contact STARbright Travel at 1-800-798-1451.

Association Offices Host 1993 Mid-Year Committee Meetings



Edie Skalitzky, President; Glenn Mosley, Executive Director.

During January we welcomed our Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, and other committee members for Mid-Year Committee Meetings. These individuals who lovingly serve provide the direction of the Association of Unity Churches for the coming months. Each member is sharing his/her expertise in serving and is representing a home ministry. How grateful we are to the Board, Committee members, and to all friends and members of home ministries who actually make all of this possible.

Nira Schreen
Executive Assistant



(l to r): Pat Barker and Victoria Lyle Lafser, board members; Young Bae, Association Comptroller; and Barbara Jeschke, Finance & Budget Committee Chairperson.

When making a gift to your local Unity church, your Association of Unity Churches, and/or Unity School of Christianity, it is important to specify, by name, which focus of the Unity movement you wish to receive your gift, tithe, or bequest. Your local church, your Association of Unity Churches and Unity School are separate legal and financial entities sharing a common goal to help people everywhere realize their divine potential.

Headquarters Highlights

Published bi-monthly by the Association of Unity Churches

Editor-in-Chief: Nancy Smith Elliott
Managing Editor: Deborah Turner-Bey
Graphics & Layout: Cheryl Vestal
Circulation: Development Department
Contributors: Debbie Ratliff-Ball
Judi Venturini
Nira Schreen
Daphne Starr
Nancy Smith Elliott

Who ya gonna call?

For your convenience. . .

Association of Unity Churches Staff

Division of Ministry Services

Glenn Mosley - Executive Director	352
Joann Landreth - Director of Placement/Expansion & Associate Director	337
K. Young Bae - Comptroller & Associate Director	322
Martha Mosley - Director of Institutional Advancement & Associate Director	335
Shay St. John - Director of Development	349
Deborah Turner-Bey - Planned Giving Officer	350
Nancy Smith Elliott - Assistant Director of Development	354
Carolyn Craft - Broadcast Ministry Consultant	343
Linda Beard - Radio/Media Assistant	345
Debbie Ratliff-Ball - Support Services/Conference Coordinator	329
Marsha Penrose - Support Services/Conference Assistant (part-time)	330
Cheryl Vestal - Computer Graphics Specialist	326
Myra Moore - Accounting Assistant/Insurance	323
Susan Velasquez - Accounting Assistant/Orders	324
Jody Smith - Placement Assistant	336
Connie Waitley - Receptionist	320
Jean Jensen - Bldg. Receptionist	321
Nira Schreen - Executive Assistant	352
Glenn "Bud" Mosley, Jr. - Production & Shipping Manager	342
Ron Lee - Shipping Assistant	328

Division of Education:

Mick Dustin - Director of Education & Associate Director	333
Trish Robinson - Licensed Teacher Consultant	346
Thomas Thorpe - Chairperson of Ministerial Studies & Skills	524-3550
Ray Wiggins - Int'l Consultant for Education Services	327
Judi Venturini - Year of the Child Coordinator	338
C. J. Floyd - Education Secretary	332

What is the Association of Unity Churches?

The Association of Unity Churches is spiritually affiliated with Unity School of Christianity in that it embraces the teachings of the co-founders, Charles and Myrtle Fillmore. The two organizations are financially and organizationally separate; however, there are many areas where these two organizations work in cooperation with one another.

The Association's main thrust is the establishment of Unity churches. The Association is, however, an organization separate and distinct from Unity School and operates by its own bylaws and by Unity ministers as a vehicle for administering the affairs of Unity churches and ministers. The Association is a nonprofit organization supported entirely by freewill offerings. It is a worldwide organization made up of about 600 ministries and about 250 affiliated study groups, along with some 100 informal prayer groups. The day-to-day operation of the Association is handled by a staff of employees who work as a team, and an Executive Director. It is governed by a twenty-one person Board of Trustees which meets twice a year, in January and June.

Association of Unity Churches

P.O. Box 610 • Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414 FAX: (816) 525-4020

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lee's Summit, Mo.
PERMIT NO. 41

SENT WITH LOVE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL

What is a Communication Committee Network Member?

- An enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in their community and the world. The member's commission and participation would require energies devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.): research, feedback, observation, inform, tabulate, community awareness, creativity, interfacing, expanding, consciousness, checking market pulse/church pulse, service, support, defining and holding your ministry's vision. This person could be serving as minister, a board member, public relations person, publicist, media coordinator, teacher, etc. Write us with the name of the person in your church/center who will be your Communications Committee Network Member.

We now have 28 ministries who have named their members:

Radio/Media Department Communication Committee Network Members

California:

Ada Davis & Virginia Good--Unity Center of Bakersfield, Bakersfield
Rev. Billie Blain--Sunrise Unity, Citrus Heights
Rev. Arthur Hammons--Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, El Cajon
John M. Bennett--Long Beach Unity, Long Beach
Kate Trelatsky--Unity Church of Merced, Merced
Rev. Emily Gillespie--Unity Church of Light, Concord

Florida:

Frank Kaiser--Unity Church for Christian Living, Miami
Rev. Jack Kern--Unity of Naples, Naples
John Howard--Unity of Sebring, Sebring
Victor Rosencrans--Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach

Georgia:

Rina Leadingham--Unity of Savannah, Savannah

Hawaii:

Peggy Van Cleve--Unity Church of Hawaii, Honolulu

Louisiana:

Jo An Burt--Unity of Shreveport, Shreveport

Michigan:

Dean Leutscher--Unity of Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids
Mary Jo Ruten--Unity of Jackson, Jackson
Grace Luckscherte--Unity of Livonia, Livonia

Missouri:

Sandra Hymel--Unity in Blue Springs, Blue Springs

Nebraska:

LeVonne Feller--Unity Church of Today, Omaha

New Mexico:

Bob Burns--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Las Cruces

New York:

Olga Sparman--Unity Pyramid of Truth, Brooklyn
Rev. Sue Smith & Pauline James--Unity Ch/Practical Christianity, Buffalo
Rev. Brenda Windell--Christ Church Unity, Rochester

Tennessee:

Liz Duckett--Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville

Texas:

Janet Meschi & Kristi Beckwith--Unity Ch of Brownsville, Brownsville
Ken Kenyon--Frist Unity Church of Positive Living, El Paso
D. Karen Wilkerson--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Tyler

Utah:

Ward McCarey--Unity of Salt Lake, Salt Lake City

Wisconsin:

Joan Phillipson--Unity Church of Christianity, Wauwatosa

Voices of Unity:

Christ Unity Church, Sacramento, CA:

"The Best Is Yet To Be" TV program-
(out of Sacramento to much of northern California and southern Oregon)

- Sacramento, channel 40 at 9:00 a.m.
- Bay Area out of San Jose, channel 48 at 9:00 a.m.
- Seattle Puget Sound Area, channel 22 at 8:00 a.m.
- Arizona, out of Phoenix, Prescott, channel 27 at 8:00 a.m. (northern Arizona, channel 7)
- Monterey Peninsula, cable channel 22 at 9:00 a.m.
- St. Joseph, Missouri, channel 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Unity Pyramid, Santa Maria, CA:

- Cable TV channels 21 and 22

Christ Universal Temple, Chicago, IL:

- TV Station 4

Unity Ch/North Shore, Evanston, IL:

- Radio 750 AM

Unity of Indianapolis, IN:

- Radio WXLW 950Kc AM, Fre. 3:00 a.m.

Detroit Unity Temple, Detroit, MI:

- Radio WQRS 105.1 FM, M-F 5:50 a.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. (on air continuously for the last 30 years)

Unity Church of Muskegon, MI

- Cable TV channel 24

Church of Today, Warren, MI:

- TV Channel 50 (Detroit) 8:00 a.m.
- TV Channel 33 (Cadillac) 10:00 a.m.
- Radio CKLW 800 AM 8:00 a.m.
- Radio WIFF 1570 AM 8:00 a.m.

Christ Ch of the Hills, Branson, MO:

- Local TV Channel 6

Unity Ch of P. C., St. Joseph, MO:

- TV KQTV, Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Asociacion Unity, Santurce, PR:

- Radio WSJ 1560 AM, Sunday 8:00

Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN:

- WNOX 99.1 FM and WNDD 99.3 FM;
Mon. 7:40 & 8:20 a.m.; Fri. 5:20 p.m.;
and Sat. 12:00 midnight.

Unity Ch of Christianity, Houston, TX:

- Radio KODA 99.1, Thur & Fri 7:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun. random

Ch of the Hill Country, Kerrville, TX:

- Radio KERV AM and KRVL FM,
mornings and evenings

Unity Ch/NE Tarrant Cnty, Hurst, TX:

- Radio 97.9 FM, Mon-Fri 8:25 p.m.,
Sat & Sun 7:25 p.m.

Write us about your broadcast outreach and we will add your church/center to the list.

RADIO

Cont'd from page 10

Leona: I'm convinced more than ever that each person's format has to come out of his/her own mission--his/her own unique individuality. I can't imagine giving somebody a format and expecting them to have the same kind of love for it or devote the same kind of time to it that I would do. I think each of us is going to have to develop something that years from deep down inside of us to be expressed. I wanted to address the spirit of overcoming as it is such an inspiration to me personally. I believe with all my heart that we can look deep inside us. . . at our credo and our particular gift to ministry. If you love your credo, your gift can't fail. . . I think this is our promise from God. Follow your heart's desire.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts and ideas.

Linda: Thank you for taking your time to let us know "What's Working For You."

The Radio/Media Department has audio/video samples of Leona's programs. She can also be contacted in Gluf Breeze to discuss her latest broadcast creations. We honor and applaud the work that she and many of you are effecting in broadcasting as we continue to share a message of Unity with our world. Stay tuned!

NOTICE!

We are accepting photographs of Unity ministries for possible use as the cover of CONTACT. The ideal photo size is 10 X 12. We are particularly interested in publishing photos of our ministries with members of the congregation included.

Send your photographs to: Association of Unity Churches, ATTN: CONTACT Magazine, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063.

South Central Unity Churches Association

and the
Unity Village Chapel
present
the

1993 Snow Mountain Family Retreat July 18-23

Coming to your church in June!

ANNOUNCING...

The Quest and Adventures on the Quest

by Richard and Mary-Alice Jafolla

Get ready! Get set! GROW! GROW!

The Quest and Adventures on the Quest, co-authored by Mary-Alice and Richard Jafolla, will serve as a catalyst for the spiritual growth of both veteran and beginning Truth students. And, properly promoted to your community, it can be used as a vehicle to bring new people into Truth and into your church.

The Unity Movement Advisory Council, a joint committee of Unity School of Christianity and the Association of Unity Churches, is very excited to bring you this powerful work. You now have a concise, systematic study program of Unity beliefs!

The Quest is a comprehensive presentation of Unity Truth principles written in fresh, contemporary, direct, and simple language. Both it and its companion activity book, *Adventures on the Quest*, are filled with modern illustrative stories and anecdotes that are fun and engaging, but that also teach Truth in ways that will be remembered and that are applicable to everyday life and conditions.

Richard and Mary-Alice will become your close friends on the journey. Their style is friendly, warm and colorful. They have linked together the major teachings

of Jesus from the New Testament with corresponding Truth concepts to produce fifty-two masterful chapters. This format is ideal for a year-long study program that can be done church wide, in study groups, or on an individual basis. Plan to join Mary-Alice and Richard at a special "Quest Workshop" offered at conference on Wednesday, June 16, from 2:30-4:20.

A special promotional package and a wonderful **Teacher's Manual** for ministers, licensed teachers, and lay teachers will be introduced and made available at the workshop. The promo package will provide ads and ideas designed to help you reach out to your congregation and to the community. The teacher's manual contains ideas and instructions on how to integrate *The Quest* teachings and activities into every aspect of your church plans. The Reverend Marj Britt, who has a Ph.D. in Education and Curriculum Development, was enlisted to help create the manual.

All Quest materials will be introduced at conference.

The Quest and Adventures on the Quest will sell for \$24.95/set. Separately: *The Quest* - \$13.95; *Adventures on the Quest* - \$19.95.

SPECIAL AWARDS TO BE GIVEN AT THE 1993 LOVING THE CHILD CONFERENCE



Debbie Ratliff-Ball
Conference/Convention Coordinator

Each year two individuals are honored with the prestigious Light of God Expressing Awards at the annual conference. These awards are given to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions toward the betterment of humankind. In keeping with the theme for this year's conference, *Loving the Child*, the recipients for 1993 are Mary Kupferle and Mr. (Fred) Rogers, children's advocates.



Light
of God
Expressing
Award

MARY KUPFERLE

Mary Kupferle, ordained in 1959, has served in churches in Lake Worth and Delray Beach, Florida. She has inspired thousands through her radio broadcasts. Dr. Kupferle's books and cassettes are distributed on a worldwide basis, used by

those who have no nearby Unity church to attend.

While serving as minister of Unity of Delray Beach, Mary also guided the progressive development of the Unity Elementary and Wee Wisdom Montessori School which served hundreds of children of all faiths through the sixth grade. With its philosophy paralleling Unity's basic belief in divine potential, youngsters began to learn to live this faith through meditation at three, four, and five years of age with the help of songs and prayer.

Dr. Kupferle states: "The award is, indeed, a special blessing and occasion for me."

FRED ROGERS

Fred McFeeley Rogers, better known to the world community as Mister Rogers, has provided a safe and friendly place for children to grow in worth and dignity as unique individuals for most of his life. Originally intending to enter the ministry directly after college, Fred entered the field of television to upgrade the condition of TV programming offered to children. Appropriately coinciding with the theme, *Loving the Child*, this year marks the 25th anniversary of his celebration of children in the award-winning PBS program, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

"For 25 years public television has given us the opportunity to communicate with children and their families. Our 'neighborhood' and our viewing 'neighbors' have grown in many different ways;

nevertheless, our original purpose remains: to encourage human beings to be honest with themselves and with one another, and to become convinced that each of us is a unique and precious part of our world. How grateful I am to be involved in this work. . .and this life!"

Rogers went on to become a Presbyterian minister, supplementing his bachelor's degree in music composition and graduate work in Child Care and Development. He was charged by the United Presbyterian church to work through the mass media with families and children specifically. As he constantly assures the children on his programs:

"There is only one person in the whole world like you, and I like you just the way you are." Rogers embodies this caring through his calling.

The recipient of virtually every major award in children's television and many special interest groups, the honors include the Peabody Award and three Emmys. He has also been awarded honorary degrees from over 25 colleges and universities. Besides broadcast projects, he has written ten children's books dealing with first experiences, produced videotapes and audiocassettes of learning lessons and musical memories, and founded a Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Child Care Partnership to assist child care providers, to mention a few of his efforts. Devoting his life to protecting children from harmful mass media, affirming their self-worth, and offering them a place to feel loved and understood, he is truly a gentle giant in the world today.



Mr. Rogers, with friends.

Recipients of Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Awards

The recipient of our newly-created Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Awards for 1993 are Hal and Lassie Rosencrans, co-ministers in West Palm Beach, Florida.

The couple first met at the Unity Training School while both were studying for the ministry. While Lassie says that she has been interested in the Unity church since her early teens, Hal recalls that his career began after a brief stop at the ministerial school in Lee's Summit, Missouri, during a drive to Colorado.

Hal and Lassie, ministers at Unity of the Palm Beaches, just celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in a church ceremony that commemorated the couple's 40th anniversary as co-ministers of the church as well.

"Throughout its 40 years, Unity of West Palm Beach has remained 'true to its concept' " Hal said. The church teaches the divinity of the individual.

Both were ordained as ministers by Unity School of Christianity, and Hal also holds a doctorate in divinity from the school. Hal was a member of our Association of Unity Churches Board for 18 years, during which eleven of those he served on the Executive Committee. He was also President of the Unity Minister's Association, the forerunner of the Association of Unity Churches. In addition, Hal is a lifetime member of the Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Foundation.

The couple has four children: James Rosencrans, Victor Rosencrans, Ardis Murphy, and Douglas Rosencrans.

(Excerpts taken from an article by Susan Beach which appeared in the Palm Beach Daily News. Reprinted with permission.)

Photo by Sig Bokalders



Hal and Lassie Rosencrans

Loving The Child Conference '93

When: June 15-19, 1993

Where: Hilton Plaza Inn
(Located on the beautiful Country Club Plaza)
One East 45th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
1-800-525-6321

Rate: \$65 per night single or double occupancy

PLEASE BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY AND MENTION THAT YOU ARE WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES TO ASSURE YOU OF THESE DISCOUNTED RATES. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE FILL OUR ROOM BLOCK AT THIS HOTEL IN ORDER TO HAVE AVAILABLE THE MEETING ROOMS NEEDED FOR CONFERENCE. IF THIS ROOM BLOCK IS NOT FILLED IT COULD RESULT IN CHARGES OF UP TO \$12,000.00 FOR OUR ASSOCIATION.

Don't miss this outstanding performer in concert.

WEDNESDAY, June 16, 1993, at 7:30 p.m.



White Eagle doesn't merely sing; he gives a deeply dramatic presentation of each song, acting out the part as if it were the moment in the evening's performance.

Appearing at
UNITY TEMPLE ON THE PLAZA
707 West 45th Street
Kansas City, MO 64112

For those registered for the 1993 LOVING THE CHILD conference, the ticket price is included in the registration fee. Additional tickets will be available at the door for \$10.00 each. Everyone is invited to attend this special evening.

A Memorial--

Love Is Alive

Billie Freeman graduated out of her body on the last Friday of January, 1993. Jim has written in *Unity* magazine about her long illness and their love through it all. Even as her mind and body let go, her happy disposition continued through to the departure. She died at home where she and Jim had lived almost 40 years. Many of us are her family and we acknowledge especially her son and daughter-in-love, Pete and Terry Rhea and her grandson Mike Rhea. Jim Freeman asked Bill Fischer to lead the celebration of Billie's life memorial service in a full-to-capacity Fillmore Chapel (in the building which to Billie was Silent Unity) on February 2, 1993.

Love is alive and always. The more years we live the more we know our experiences in love are what give meaning to life. Billie Freeman is an expression of love--love given abundantly--love enriching her own life and many of our lives.

My first memories of Billie are of her walking through the Unity halls hand-in-hand with Jim. They went everywhere hand-in-hand. Their romance appeared to grow with the years. Walking beside her I have had her hold my hand too--that's who she was. I remember her full skirts, ballerina slippers she usually wore, and wearing dramatic Christmas outfits to celebrate Silent Unity's joyous festivities of Christmas time. Then there were those joyous square dances on the Unity patio that she enjoyed.

I started working in Silent Unity the first summer of college and was one of her extended family long before I became a student minister. Jim was the head of the ministerial school and she was next to May Rowland in Silent Unity. More than teach us, they loved us. How many of us were taken home to be comforted, counseled, coached, even censured? Besides me, I remember Dan Perin, John Tant, Jack Kern, David

McClure, Tom Newman, and so many more she would recall. We were loved. We were all loved into being the best Unity ministers we could be.

Many evenings I spent in their home. Sometimes I had to help build a fountain or a fence or pull weeds, but I got to talk out all my great theories of life, always to her sincere interest. How many fabulous meals did I eat at their table? Too many to ever count. Then we would talk after dinner as well. Jim would usually start snoring about the time I got really into my drama of the week, and Billie would listen and listen, and listen some more. Such is the way of love. Her encouragement, and Jim's were and are important to me.

Being in Jim and Billie's home was an important mentoring process for many students over the years. She and Jim modeled for us their marriage, their wisdom, their gracious way of loving. It is in seeing love that we learn it best--more than hearing or reading about it. I remember watching Billie comb her mother's hair--the woman was so frail and Billie loved her so gently. She frequently combed May Rowland's hair the same way. Such personal devotion touched me.

I remember meeting Billie's sister, Mercedes, who operated her own traveling circus complete with elephants, clowns, and all. She and Billie were proud of their Cajun heritage from Louisiana where they didn't learn English until they started school. Billie studied ballet--and as a young woman wanted to dance professionally.

Instead her dancing spirit worked in Silent Unity for over 60 years. She was editor of *Daily Word* for several years until her dear friend Martha Smock returned to work. She wrote articles, let-

ters, pamphlets--one of my favorites is "Two Words," about her demonstrations from affirming Divine Order.

During my training to become a Unity minister I was Jim's secretary. From then on I was really part of the family. When Helen and I were married in 1961, Billie insisted we have the wedding and reception in their home. Billie cooked and served all the food including the wedding cake. Oh, it was a wonderful event--and she did it all without even taking a moment off work from her beloved Silent Unity. Billie Freeman was amazing in the amount of energy she brought to every activity, every affirmation, every idea, every person she contacted. She created many gourmet dinner parties for hundreds of us over the years, did all the work herself, waited on Jim's every desire, worked a full day in Silent Unity, wrote articles, critiqued Jim's writings if he asked her, and still had energy and patience to listen to the souls' struggles of the likes of me over my almost 40 years of knowing her.

I remember her intelligence and her wisdom. Her deep faith in God was infectious. Her absolute conviction in the power of affirmations changed me. And love. She loved many of us deeply. Her love seemed endless for Jim, for Silent Unity, for us who studied and worked in Silent Unity. How many dinners, picnics, lunches--even a few breakfasts did we eat at her table? How much loving listening did we receive? How many prayers? How many affirmations were spoken for us? How many words of encouragement were said to us? How much love? "Thank you, Billie, and ever thank you. Your love is alive--and well."

Stan Hampson
Palo Alto, CA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

On behalf of the Association of Unity Churches' staff and Board of Trustees, we extend to you our deep gratitude and appreciation for your past financial support. The love and faith you incorporate into your gifts make them special.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Fund Operations As Of January 31, 1993

INCOME-OPERATIONS	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Love Offerings	\$71,971.60	\$86,586.18	\$651,251.39
Other Income	<u>3,627.79</u>	<u>5,997.95</u>	<u>71,500.70</u>
	\$75,599.39	\$92,584.13	\$722,752.09
Less: Tithe Transfer	<u>7,722.16</u>	<u>9,373.50</u>	<u>70,123.07</u>
	67,877.23	83,210.63	652,629.02
Gross Profit Material	<u>4,451.14</u>	<u>6,887.90</u>	<u>64,754.31</u>
Total Income	<u>\$72,328.37</u>	<u>\$90,098.53</u>	<u>\$717,383.33</u>
EXPENSE-OPERATIONS	<u>\$68,828.46</u>	<u>\$66,121.02</u>	<u>\$749,344.91</u>
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ 3,499.91</u>	<u>\$ (23,977.51)</u>	<u>\$ (31,961.58)</u>

*Unity School Contribution to the Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided:

Month of December: 11,564.55

Year to Date: \$68,826.49

*This is a non-ledger item. It represents religious materials, book discounts, etc.

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALLS AND SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

*LONG DISTANCE WITH A PURPOSE

1. UNPARALLELED SAVINGS ON YOUR LONG DISTANCE PHONE BILLS

By purchasing a volume, AmeriConnect obtains its service at a major discount. . . and passes the savings on to you. And while other long distance service providers bill your calling time rounded to the next minute, AmeriConnect offers you billing in six-second increments. That means you pay only for the time you use, adding to your savings.

The result? Savings of 5% to 35% over most readily available AT & T, MCI and U.S. Sprint programs.

This offer is available to all Unity churches and parishioner business owners. So invite these individuals to participate in the savings. Any business in the United States can be an AmeriConnect customer.

2. YOUR BILL IS A SOURCE OF SUPPORT

AmeriConnect is committed to helping non-profit and charitable organizations with their fund-raising effort.

When you join the program, you are assured that AmeriConnect will pay a percent age of your net, collected long distance usage to your Association of Unity Churches.

In other words, AmeriConnect will make an automatic aggregate volume discount credit every time you pay your long distance bill, for as long as you use the service.

MAKE THE EASY SWITCH TO AMERICONNECT

Changing your long distance phone service to AmeriConnect is as easy as filling out the provided service request form.

We will make the switch for you with no interruption in your current service. Within 30 days, you'll begin enjoying all the benefits of the AmeriConnect.

- Easy 1-Plus dialing for all calls, no access numbers or extra codes.
- The "crystal clear" quality of the latest in fiber optic technology and service, including billing, operator assistance, and customer service.

*EVERYBODY WINS

AmeriConnect allows everyone to benefit. You can enjoy savings on your long distance bills with the satisfaction of knowing you're also supporting your Association of Unity Churches.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE AND RETURN TO

Max Ediger, 8927 Hall, Lenexa, KS 66219

1-800-735-PRAY (7729)

**INTERSTATE CALLS
ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.
16.9¢ PER MINUTE
ANYTIME OF DAY.**

THE LOWEST RATES

Our 16.9¢ per minute flat interstate rate is lower than AT&T ProWATS, Sprint Clarity, MCI Prism, or any other major calling plan. We also offer great savings on instastate, international and inbound 800 service.

Calling cards are available upon request.

Dear Unity Ministers:

Your Association of Unity Churches endorses this program with AmeriConnect to help support our ministry. Hopefully you will enroll in this program and be part of our efforts in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Glenn Mosley
Executive Director

Please Sign Me Up For AmeriConnect's Long Distance Service
*** No monthly fee!**

Main Telephone No.: () Customer Code (add'l digits after phone # on local telephone bill):
Customer Name (print exactly as it appears on local telephone bill):
Customer Address:
City: State: Zip:
Current LD Co.: Product #: 1169 Travel Cards ☐ Yes ☐ No # of cards:

If there are additional lines to be converted, please list all numbers on a separate sheet

I, the undersigned, hereby authorize AmeriConnect, a service of Amerifax, Inc. ("AmeriConnect") to obtain and manage long distance telecommunications facilities and services for me. I authorize AmeriConnect to inform my local telephone company. I have selected AmeriConnect to provide my primary long distance service for equal access 1+ dialing. I understand that I may designate only one long distance provider for each telephone number and the designation of multiple carriers will be invalidated. I have read and understand the terms and conditions of this agreement set forth and agree to those terms and conditions.

Signature

Terms and Conditions

Yes-I'd like to know how my church can benefit by enrolling in AmeriConnect's Fund-Raising program. Please have an AmeriConnect telecommunications consultant call to explain the details.

Name

Your Name and Title

Name of Person to Contact (if not you)

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone number of Contact Person

1. Subject to available, AmeriConnect shall obtain and manage telecommunications facilities and services for the customer, including but not limited to the selection of the customer's primary interexchange carrier (the "underlying Carrier"). If this Agreement is terminated for any reason, AmeriConnect may cancel or reassign the facilities and services obtained for the customer without any liability.

2. The customer agrees to pay AmeriConnect the applicable fees for services without any set off or disputed amounts. AmeriConnect agrees to give the customer a minimum of 30 days notice prior to changing rates.

3. The customer agrees to pay all charges due AmeriConnect on or before the 15th of the month following the date of the invoice for those charges. Any balance outstanding past the payment due date shall result in a 1.5% per month late charge as allowed by law.

4. The customer agrees to provide AmeriConnect with credit information upon request at any time during the life of this Agreement and authorizes AmeriConnect to verify customer's credit using that information.

5. The customer shall not hold AmeriConnect liable for any damages, either actual or consequential, in excess of the actual charges assessed under this Agreement.

6. The customer or AmeriConnect may terminate this Agreement on thirty days prior written notice to the other.

7. The customer acknowledges liability for charges resulting from fraudulent misuse of the customer's telecommunications equipment.



Judi Venturini
Year of the Child Coordinator

"Come Share My Joy- Joy Songs for Children"

Cassette and Music Book

It's here! It's inspirational! It's beautiful! It's fun! It's something you will treasure, whether you are a young child or an adult with a very young inner child.

I am so excited to share this news with you. (I wish you were listening to it right now.) Fred Bogert, Music Coordinator for the Year of the Child, has excelled beyond all expectation with his production of **COME SHARE MY JOY**. Fred Bogert, with the assistance of his wife Merilee Bogert, of Studio C Productions in Nashville, Tennessee, has worked for the last two years to put together a joysong album that not only is a resource for our children's programs, but a superb collection of songs that motivate, inspire, and call forth the joy and love of the inner Christ.

The songs used in **COME SHARE MY JOY** were submitted by many talented musicians and song writers in our Unity movement. We were overwhelmed by the wonderful response we had received from the field. This project could not have been such a success without your willingness to share your talents with us. However, we had to begin to pick and choose the songs that best met the purpose of the album.

In the earlier stages of the selection process, I gathered a small group of adults, teens, and children to rate the songs. Afterwards, I compiled the totals and submitted them to Fred. With love and wisdom, combined with the support of friends, family, and professionals in the field of music, Fred was able to select the songs that seemed most appropriate for the purpose of the album.

The recording of the album was the next phase of producing **COME SHARE MY JOY**. The music is eclectic; it includes pop, gospel, country and inspirational. The

album is laced with the voices of children. Diana Eng and Willie Randall are two of our children who sing solo. Voices of many children, which are too numerous to list, can be heard throughout the album.

There are many brilliant adult voices, too! Some of them are already well known in our Unity churches: Karen Taylor Good, Fred Bogert, Sandy Caulfield, Stephanie Jones, Roberta Madison, and Donna McElroy are among them. However, I would like to give special mention to Lytingale O'Shea who, like Diana Eng, traveled a great distance at her own expense to record at Studio C Productions. Also, Jill Stevens, Carol Johnson, Jan Mahannah, and Don Discenza, added their gifts of song by producing and recording songs at their expense.

The songs that were selected are intended for children to sing, therefore, the cassette was recorded in split track. This means that musical accompaniment is as close as switching to one speaker on your stereo! Now, if you have no musicians on your teaching staff, you can still have musical support to accompany the voices of your angels!

Ministers and music directors take note! You will want to incorporate some of the songs in your worship service and the **COME SHARE MY JOY SONGBOOK** is something you might consider for such purposes. If you are in a smaller church or study group, the split-track might come in handy.

It is my opinion that this album has a magical quality that will appeal to many adults in your congregation. You will want to let your bookstore manager know that they can order the cassettes and songbooks now.

Spirit has really blessed everyone by those who have worked so diligently and hard on this project. On behalf of the Education Services Committee, I would like to applaud you for this labor of love. I believe that many people, young and old, will be blessed as they share their joy through music throughout our churches.

COME SHARE MY JOY cassette (#6033/\$7.95--suggested retail price \$10.95) and songbook (#6034/\$8.95--suggested retail price \$11.95) are available through our Association of Unity Churches. Call 816-524-7414, ext. 324, to order them now.

National Observance of Children's Sabbaths October 15, 17, 1993

The Children's Defense Fund (a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that exists to provide a strong and effective voice for the children of our nation), in cooperation with a wide range of denominations and religious organizations, is coordinating a nationwide observance of Children's Sabbaths on October 15-17, 1993.

For more information write to The Children's Defense Fund, 25 E Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001; or call (202) 662-3589



Ray Wiggins
International Education
Services Consultant

Silence in the Classroom

Educators like Stephen D. Brookfield and Parker J. Palmer remind us of the value of space for reflection. "To listen for the truth that seeks us, to hear it speak its own name, we must be silent not only in God's presence but in the presence of all we would know," writes Palmer.

Brookfield observes that while teachers endorse action-reflection approaches to teaching, they give little opportunity for reflection by the learners. James E. Loder recognizes the importance of such space, which is often the source of insight.

Frederick Buechner is best known as a writer and preacher, but Buechner is also a teacher. He tells about a class session he once taught:

"Late one winter afternoon as I was walking to a class that I had to teach, I noticed the beginning of what promised to be one of the great local sunsets. There was just the right kind of clouds, the sky was starting to burn, and the bare trees were black as soot against it. When I got to the classroom, the lights were all on, and the students were chattering. I was just about to start things off when I thought of the sunset going on out there in the winter dusk, and on impulse, without warning, I snapped off the classroom lights. I am not sure that I ever had a happier impulse. The room faced west so as soon as it went dark, everything disappeared except what we could see through the windows, and their it was--the entire sky was on fire by then, like the end of the world or the beginning of the world. You might think that somebody would have said something. Teachers do not usually plunge students into that kind of darkness, and you might have expected a wisecrack or two or at least the creaking of chairs as people turned to see if the old bird had finally lost his mind. But the astonishing thing was that the silence was as complete as you can get it in a room full of people. We all sat there unmoving for as long as it took the extraordinary spectacle to fade slowly away.

"For over twenty minutes nobody spoke a word. Nobody DID anything. We just sat there in the near-dark and watched one day of our lives come to an end, and it is no immodesty to say that it was a great class because my only contribution was to snap off the lights and then hold my tongue. And I am not being sentimental about sunsets when I say that it was a great class because in a way the sunset was the least of it. What was great was the unbusyness of it. It was taking unlabled, unallotted time to just look with maybe more than our eyes at what was wonderfully there to be looked at without any obligation to think any constructive thoughts about it or to turn it to any useful purpose."

At moments like the one Buechner describes, teachers need to resist the pressure of "covering the lesson" in order to experience the holy togetherness with their students. Such moments are remembered for a lifetime and have the power to transform both students and teachers.

The teacher's anxiousness to finish a lesson is not the only thing that prevents more transforming moments from happening in classrooms. There is something in all of us that resists silence. Buechner writes:

"The way this world works, people are very apt to use the words they speak not so much as a way of revealing but, rather, as a way of concealing who they really are and what they really think. That is why more than a few moments of silence with people we do not know well are apt to make us so tense and uneasy. Stripped of our verbal camouflage, we feel unarmed against the world and vulnerable, so we start babbling about anything just to keep the silence at bay. But if we can bear to let it be, silence, of course, can be communion at a very deep level indeed, and that half-hour of silence was precisely that, and perhaps that was the greatest part of it all."

Robert Palmer, who stands in the Quaker tradition, sees the spiritual discipline of silence as that which can break the mind's dominance over learning. He writes, "In silence the rational mind wearies of seeking truth by main force and humbles itself to the truth that seeks us." Whether at the end of a question or in the middle of a story, a period of silence allows learners to reflect, internalize, analyze, and even imagine before responding with an answer or going on to the next point of the lesson."

As Mary Rose O'Reilly observes, "It requires a long time to take in a few words. On either side of the word we need a patch of silence, like the white space that defines a Chinese painting or the rests in music that permit the notes to be heard. By and large, our students are relentlessly overstimulated. They sing the body electric-plugged in, tuned out, motorized."

Like a teacher whose impulsive action cuts against the grain of accepted practice to take advantage of a spectacular sunset, VanGogh was an artist whose style stood in stark contrast to the artistic tastes of his day. He once wrote a friend saying that he was "suffering under an absolute lack of models." Frederick Buechner can stand as a model for those of us teaching who might otherwise be more timid about using silence to allow students to experience a moment of transcendent awe in the classroom.

Important Dates For 1993

Skills Demonstration Seminar
 Board Member Seminar & Retreat
 Pre-Conference
 Conference
 Village Fun Fest
 Certification of Spiritual Educators
 Licensed Teacher Postgraduate Week
 Adults of Unity Conference (Estes Park, Colorado)
 Y.O.U. Conference
 Skills Demonstration Seminar
 Executive Committee Meetings
 Board Member Seminar & Retreat
 Skills Demonstration Seminar

May 15-21 (Sat.-Fri.)
 May 22-28 (Sat.-Fri.)
 June 11-13 (Fri.-Sun.)
 June 15-19 (Tues.-Sat.)
 June 18 (Fri.)
 June 19-25 (Sat.-Fri.)
 June 19-25 (Sat.-Fri.)
 July 3-9 (Sat.-Fri.)
 July 17-23 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Aug. 21-27 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Sept. 13-15 (Mon.-Wed.)
 Sept. 18-24 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Oct. 30-Nov. 5 (Sat.-Fri.)

1993 Regional Conferences

Western	April 19-22	Kahnetah Resort in Oregon
Great Lakes	Sept. 19-23	Potawatomi Inn-Pokagon State Park, Angola, Indiana
West Central	Sept. 29-Oct. 1	Asilomar, Monterey, California
Eastern	Oct. 2-7	Hamilton, Ont., Canada
Southeast	Oct. 18-22	Lake Chatuge, near Hiawassee, Georgia
South Central	Oct. 18-22	Shreveport, Louisiana

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

 **Contact**

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Kansas City, MO
 Permit No. 754

HERITAGE ROOM
 UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY
 UNITY VILLAGE MO 00000

Contact

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

February/March, 1993



Contents

Broadcasting the Unity Message	11
<i>Twelve Reasons for Using Radio</i>	
Church Development & Management Issues	8
<i>Total Quality Ministry</i>	
Conference/Convention News	13
<i>Convention '93 News</i>	
Development Office News	6
<i>Fund Raising Myths</i>	
Executive Director's Letter	4
<i>Placement Procedures & Policies</i>	
Expansion News	5
<i>To expand. . .to bring the powerful life-focused message of Unity to greater numbers of individuals</i>	
Financial Statement	15
Intergenerational Education Ministry:	
Sunday Schools--Most Important Factor in Faith Growth	16
Hold Children in Light	17
Year of the Child News	18
Meet Your Association Staff	3
Partners in Ministry	10
<i>Doing It Alone</i>	
Planned Giving News	7
<i>Estate Planning</i>	
President's Letter	3
<i>Our beingness/Beingness is the greatest gift we can give</i>	
Sparkplugs	9
<i>A Daily Guide To Spiritual Living</i>	

Association of Unity Churches 1993 Conference

June 15-19

**Hilton Plaza Inn
Kansas City, MO**

*(see pages 13 & 14 for information
on special featured speakers)*

SPECIAL DAY!

Village Fun Fest

June 18, 1993

Unity Village, Missouri

Volume 26, Issue 1

February/March, 1993

CONTACT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor Cheryl Vestal
Graphics & Layout Cheryl Vestal
Circulation Glenn Mosley, Jr.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

The Editorial purpose of CONTACT is the purpose of the Association: the Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative and education programs.

Cover:

Unity South
Bloomington, Minnesota
Senior Minister: Philip Laporte

Deadlines: 1st of the month, two months prior to issue date

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Edie Skalitzy
Unity Church in the Rockies
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Some very interesting information has come to light through the work of a pioneering nurse named Carol Montgomery who is associated with the University of Colorado. She wanted to find out how deeply caring nurses remained healthy while maintaining close relationships with the patients they served. Carol knew that caregivers had been taught and had lived by the premise that they were supposed to care deeply for their clients while not getting too involved because of the very real potential of burnout.

In interviewing those nurses who had a reputation for being seasoned experts at caring, she discovered that they "did nothing" in particular that was caring. It was their genuine sense of presence, of being, rather than doing, which established a deep bond between nurse and patient. By letting this be the form of interaction, the nurses found themselves uplifted and nurtured with an expanded ability to tap into energy, love, and wisdom. They did not find themselves depleted or burned out by their deep, caring, close relationships.

This information can be helpful to us, for we are each caregivers, in that as human beings we naturally desire to give of ourselves to others in caring, compassionate ways. All too often though we find ourselves drained, empty, and short tempered for we are still attempting to do our work from the human vantage point. We have learned all sorts of helpful techniques and spiritual methods which we

may use to assist someone, but still are learning that the most valuable method of all is simply to be present to another. This knowledge is not to put down or invalidate the variety of systems which are available to us in our counseling and interacting with others, nor does it indicate we are not to be moved into some outer action. It does, however, bring to our awareness the power and mystery of presence.

Why is simply being present to another so difficult for many, if not most, of us? Is it not, in part, because we have accepted the idea that it is basically in the doing that something positive is accomplished? Is it not, also, because we feel uncomfortable and really do not fully know yet how to be gently, lovingly, consciously present to ourselves. . .to our own thoughts and feelings. . .which in turn creates a barrier to really being with others in their process of life? Is not the bottom line that we are still opening (and often closing) the floodgates of our own soul to allow the Presence of God to be

present to us?

Being with God, being with ourselves, being with another calls us, I believe, to surrender to compassion. Just the word compassion elicits a sense of kindness, tenderness, gentleness. Recall, with me, when we have come into meditation with a feeling of gentle surrender to God; hasn't this meditation been one where we knew more of our oneness with God and all creation, where we knew more deeply God's peace and love? When we have come to ourselves with this same sense of kindness, we have found less self-judgment and condemnation and greater acceptance and compassion for the rocks strewn on our road of life. When we approach another by bringing "soft eyes" into the relationship, we know what healing power is naturally generated.

I am grateful that the Loving Presence is ever guiding and assisting us as we contemplate and experiment with what beingness truly means and how our beingness/Beingness is the greatest gift we can give.

Meet Your Association Staff

(The Management Team appreciates this opportunity; after the request was brought to our attention, we realized that we become so familiar with the work and educational background and prior work experience with our Association staff members that we overlook the fact that field ministers and church staff members would also like to become acquainted with the faces and voices at "the other end of the line." Thank you for asking.)

JODY SMITH

(Jo Ann) has been with the Association since February, 1981, when she served as a back-up telephone receptionist, order clerk, and typist.

Jody became Joann Landreth's secretary in the Placement Department in August, 1983. Her job title is now Placement Assistant and her current duties include assisting ministers and ministries in the placement process, preparing birth-day cards for ministers and licensed teach-



ers, assisting with Minister's Letter, handling all correspondence regarding the Field Licensing applications, maintaining filing systems, typing, and other administrative duties.

CAROLYN CRAFT is an ordained Unity minister and holds a graduate degree in Broadcast Communications from UNC. She comes to us with over 20 years professional broadcast management experience. Now into her fifth year with our Association, Carolyn's responsibilities include broadcast media consultation, managing Templeton Radio/Media grant funds, creating broadcast productions and resourcing ministries using media. She is also currently ministering through Sunday talks, platforming, meditations, workshops, and seminars for churches within our Unity movement. She teaches Broadcasting and Truth classes for Unity School's ministerial education and continuing education programs.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

This past year Barbara O'Hearne conducted focus group meetings at all of the seven regional conferences for the second consecutive year. Barbara shared interim information to your Board of Trustees throughout the past 19 months. From these reports, we learned that many ministers are not completely acquainted with the way the Association's placement policies and placement office procedures function. Therefore, the Executive Committee has asked me to review the information for you.

Following are points that you need to be aware of regarding placement procedures and policies:

1) The Association's placement office acts only as an information clearinghouse. In other words, the placement office staff shares information on open churches with ministers and also sends resumes from interested ministers to the open churches. Ministers interested in specific open churches will receive a copy of the church vacancy information if it is requested.

2) *Church Boards* are informed that resumes from interested ministers should be sent through the Association office, and if the Board receives resumes from ministers directly they are asked to call the Association placement office to insure that the ministers are in good standing.

3) *For Ministers:* A signed copy of a Release of Information authorization form (see sample below) is to be sent with each minister's resume. This signed form must be mailed with the resume. Resumes will not be sent without it. Our attorney says that this release is part of the equal opportunity employer regulations which an information clearinghouse must provide a church (the employer).

4) *No staff member* of the Association of Unity Churches, including placement office staff, will recommend any minister. The Association legal counsel, George Blackwood, made it clear in 1979 that staff members are legally prevented from recommending candidates. The only information that the Association staff members may share is that the minister is eligible for placement. Staff must also inform churches if a minister is declared not eligible for placement.

5) As stated in point number one, ministers interested in a specific open church will receive a copy of the church vacancy information packet if it is requested from the placement office. An additional suggestion to the minister is, if invited to visit an open church as a ministerial candidate, it is wise to request an opportunity to go over the church financial statements with

the treasurer. Taking this step helps you to determine if all of the bills are current or if there are any outstanding debts and to get a clear picture of the overall financial stability of the church.

A packet of information has just been published *for ministers* who may be interested in seeking a new church. The packet includes suggestions for preparation of a resume as well as up-to-date placement policies and procedures. When you feel guided by Spirit to make a move, please feel free to give Joann Landreth a call at 816-525-5714.

For ministers and board of directors of an open church: The most important and significant factor to bear in mind as the placement process evolves is that **"all placement occurs through the activity of Spirit based upon the consciousness of the minister, board members, and congregants."** As ministers and boards move through the placement process, a wonderful opportunity is created for you to pray, let go, and let the activity of Spirit be the moving force to bring about right decisions and the highest and best for all concerned. May God bless you, each one, as Spirit guides you through a time of transition and change. The love and blessings of all of the Association staff are with you.

Sample

Release of Information Authorization

I, _____ (name of minister) authorize the Board of Directors of an Association member ministry to which I have submitted my application for employment, to obtain information from my personal and professional references in my previous ministries and from my other references listed on resume and submitted in my application for employment to your church.

This release of information authorization does ☐ does not ☐ include my present ministry.

This release of information authorization is effective for 120 days from the date listed below my signature.

(Signature of minister)

(Date)

(This form is included in the packet of information for ministers seeking placement.)

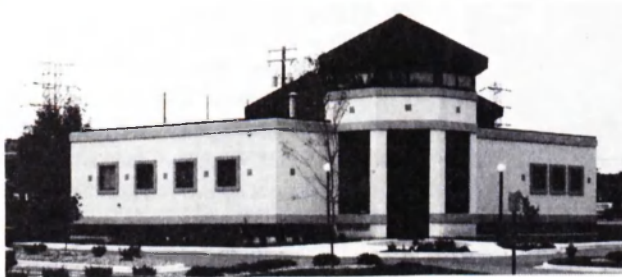


Joann Landreth
Associate Director/
Director of Placement

The experience of the establishment of a now growing, vital church under the sponsorship of Unity Christ Church, Minneapolis (Golden Valley), Minnesota, is a wonderful example of how the development of a church unfolds.

The idea of expanding Unity in the greater Minneapolis area was first imagined and then brought into manifestation. In 1982 a group of Truth students, who were formerly Divine Science members, approached Don Clark, the then minister of Unity Christ Church, about the possibility of starting a new church. The group under Don's sponsorship began holding adult classes in a high school. The sponsoring church helped by sharing a tithe. A year later an interim minister was employed who provided the organizational skills to incorporate, adopt bylaws, and establish a bookstore. Within a two-year period of time the interim minister was able to bring the church to the point of employing its first full-time permanent minister, Philip Laporte.

When Phil arrived in July, 1984, approximately 45 people attended the Sunday morning service. Phil provided the leadership that moved them into a new location in the community, and within about six months the congregation grew to number over 100. Phil then established a second service. In the spring of 1986, Phil and the board went on a retreat to



Unity South
Bloomington, Minnesota

conduct strategic planning for the church. Phil and the board unanimously agreed to make a commitment in consciousness to be in their new location within one year. By Memorial Day of 1987, they moved into their own church facility. (They had been paying \$1,600.00 a month rent and the mortgage payment on the new facility was \$865.00 per month.)

The sponsoring church continued to tithe to this newly-developing church on a limited basis. In 1985, the sponsoring church made a new commitment to continue to tithe to the church, but this time to the building fund. They also agreed that at the end of a year this tithe would be tapered off.

Phil Laporte stated that having a sponsoring church nearby with a mentoring relationship with the minister provided assistance to him and to the church in so many ways. Phil indicated that there was always someone to turn to and to sit down with face-to-face for counsel and suggestions. Phil stated that the spiritual support and especially the collaborative relationship with the minister and board members from the sponsoring church was always a support and yet they were encouraging the new church to stand on its own. Phil indicated that indeed it was building a spiritual family in the community.

Eight years later the two churches, though separately very unique, have congregations that support one another and both are very successful. Unity South in Bloomington now has an attendance of approximately 285. When I asked Phil what he felt might be the key to the success of Unity South, he stated that first having a clear vision of where he and the board and the congregation wanted to go was most important, and secondly to develop goals to implement the vision. He also stated that it was most important

to learn lessons along the way and be willing to process issues that came up.

Phil's counsel to other ministers establishing new churches is clearly to recognize that it is not the energy of the minister alone that builds the church; ministers need to share their own energy to empower board members and congregants and to lead them in being responsible for their own church. This helps them all to realize it is their ministry and that they and the minister work together as a team.

Unity South is a wonderful example of how a church was established under the umbrella of a nearby well-established church. It is also a clear example of how two churches working together in a cooperative supportive way can successfully bring forth continued growing churches in an area. Unity Christ Church now has approximately 1,000 in attendance and Unity South 285. It was my pleasure to be part of the special dedication of the newly built church on September 27, 1992 (see photo above).

The two Minneapolis ministers, and the two ministries in the neighboring city of St. Paul as well, have now agreed to support and cooperate with David Belton who is beginning an urban ministry in downtown Minneapolis--Unity Church of Minneapolis.

To expand does not mean to compete with, but to bring the powerful life-focused message of Unity to greater numbers of individuals. Ours truly is a life-focused teaching that helps individuals to bring transformation in their daily lives. God bless you as you join with us in visualizing the manifestation of our goal to spread the word of Jesus Christ. One most effective way to do this is for our wonderful Unity ministries to join in helping other churches to come into being through our expansion program.



Shay St. John
Director of Development

Fund Raising Myths

(Adapted by Shay St. John from an article in *Clergy Journal* by Ashley Hale)

Myths surround us. Joseph Campbell reminds us of the power of these myths to influence decisions, determine actions, and color emotions. Many of these myths are healthy; some are not. In fund raising, they can undermine successful programs, even before they begin. Following are some of our Unity myths.

➤ One:

The Fillmores did not fund raise.

Our cofounders utilized positive, practical fund raising techniques. Bricks, bonds, Prosperity Dollars, and much more funded our beginning. Neither Charles nor Myrtle hesitated to express Unity's financial needs. They asked, confident of positive responses to their requests.

➤ Two:

There is a 'right' time to raise money.

There are always reasons NOT to ask. From holidays to taxes to vacations, excuses block us. The best time to begin is when you are ready, the need is clear, and your people have ownership of the goals!

➤ Three:

It's easier to raise smaller amounts.

All too often we become so involved in raising "just enough to get by" that that is exactly what we get. Clear financial goals that reflect sound management get response. Stretch your asking beyond "critical need" into the realizable dream!

➤ Four:

Bonds are effective fund raisers.

Bonds require repayment. Fund raising is postponed, not fulfilled!

➤ Five:

Your minister is your best fund raiser.

Your minister is a spiritual, not financial, leader. His/her job is to create a contagious vision that inspires the faith, trust, and enthusiasm to enroll others in the financial support required to fulfill this vision.

➤ Six:

Five-year projects raise more money than three-year projects.

Probably not. They just spread the same money over a longer time.

➤ Seven:

Fund raising drives people out of the church.

Maybe. But usually only those whose support is minimal and will stay that way.

➤ Eight:

The ten largest gifts yield ten percent of funds.

They should net 25-50 percent.

➤ Nine:

Asking people to put their intended gifts in writing blocks success.

Some Unity people have a "history" with pledges. Consider Statements of Intent that may be changed when necessary. Our people want to help us plan. Inviting them to put commitments in writing anchors their vision with us.

➤ Ten:

"The church is always asking for money."

According to The Reverend George F. Regas, if Jesus were your minister, there would be a lot more talk about money. Over 60% of His teachings relate to material possessions and money.

➤ Eleven

Tithing is the answer.

After 2000 years, about 12 percent of all church goes tithe. Tithing is a vital tool for realization of prosperity. "Training wheels" to its practice is consistent, committed giving. As we invite Statements of Intent to meet our needs, we teach this powerful principle to our people.

➤ Twelve:

Anyone who is willing can lead our fund raising campaign.

Select your Development Team carefully. Train them. Let them lead by example. Invite your significant givers to join this vital team.

➤ Thirteen

What I need in my ministry is a professional fund raiser to lead my Development Team.

Unity's prosperity teachings are powerful. They align with many proven fund raising ideas. However, principle must take precedent over technique. Be sure your Development Team leader is well-grounded in Unity. Then rejoice if she/he also understands fund raising. Provide training if needed!

➤ Fourteen:

Giving is emotional.

Small gift and spontaneous giving may be emotional. Significant and extended gifts come as facts align with vision.

➤ Fifteen:

The endowed church is lucky.

Planned Giving is part of our work. But this evolves with time. When endowment becomes the primary source for See FUND RAISING on page 7, col. 2



Deborah Turner-Bey
Planned Giving & Grants Officer

Estate Planning

Personal priorities are the primary consideration in making an estate plan. For some, providing for heirs is the most important consideration. For others, financial security upon retirement is the primary concern. For still others, supporting the future work of charitable organizations is vitally important. Or perhaps for some, planning to avoid delays in property distribution is more a priority. Whatever your circumstances, needs, and priorities, estate planning is wise stewardship of resources.

What is Estate Planning?

The technical definition of estate planning is "the process of tying all assets into one package designed to provide for the planner the needed reserves in the event of financial emergency; to pay an income if totally and permanently disabled; to insure a lifetime income at retirement, and arrange a plan for the care of surviving family members and others at death." A simpler explanation might be "the purposeful arrangement of assets for the best benefit of the person making the plan, that person's heirs and charitable interests, according to the person's wishes at this time."

When is the Best Time to Make or Change an Estate Plan?

The best time to consider an estate plan is when you reach legal age. Many younger people do not feel it necessary to

have an estate plan because they are not aware that they have an estate. Your estate consists of any property of value, whether tangible or intangible. Your life insurance benefits, art, jewelry, copyrights, land, etc., are all personal property that can be included in an estate plan.

Also, there can be a number of changes in your life which signal a need to change or update your estate plan. Several contingencies are:

1. Change in your family situation.
2. Change in your business activity.
3. Change in your residence.
4. Change in your income.
5. Change in your health.
6. Change in your feelings about future plans.
7. Change in tax laws.
8. When you plan to make a substantial charitable gift.

Everyone has an estate. A carefully

considered estate plan can provide income for emergencies, retirement, or for your heirs. An estate plan clearly establishes your desires for meeting your financial needs, those of your family, friends, or charities. Remember that unless you plan for the distribution of your personal resources at death, the state will decide for you.

Contact your attorney, CPA, or other professional advisor regarding estate planning and how you can be the best steward of God's substance now and in the future. To learn more about using wills, Pooled Income Fund, and gifts of appreciated securities as elements of an estate plan, call or write **Deborah Turner-Bey at your Association of Unity Churches Development Office, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063; (816) 524-7414.**

Fund Raising

Cont'd from page 6

planning, membership loses its vital sense of ownership!

➤ Sixteen:

When consciousness is right, funds will be there. You won't have to ask.

Yes, God is our Source. This is a basic Unity Truth. "Ask, and you shall receive," our Way-Shower said. Our responsibility: balance the inner process of prayer/meditation with the outer process of action and asking.

➤ Seventeen

Giving my money only benefits the church.

Doug Lawson, in his book, *Give to Live*, reminds us of the synergy that happens as we give. Not only do we benefit the ministry; we experience increased health, joy, and well-being and live longer lives.

➤ Eighteen

Unity donors don't want to be recognized.

During Board Retreats we discussed the unspoken idea in our movement that our donors want anonymity. About 90

percent of our Board members would respond positively to acknowledgment of their support.

➤ Nineteen:

Thanking donors isn't necessary.

More than ever, donors must be thanked for their gifts. A thank-you letter has most impact when it is mailed within 48 hours of receipt of the gift.

➤ Twenty:

Ashley Hale, founder of Church Development Center, Inc., in San Jacinto, California, concluded with this myth: *"What I give is my business."*

He continues, "Giving in secret cannot build a strong giving congregation. We all need each other. Great givers make other great givers. Good givers make other good givers. Poor givers make other poor givers. Non-givers make other non-givers."

Let us choose today to break the fund raising myths that block the flow of God's abundant resources into and through our ministries and your Association of Unity Churches.

God is our Source! And so it is!



Barbara O'Hearne
Church Development and
Management Consultant

TQM--Total Quality Ministry

For the past nine months I have been studying the philosophy and concepts of Total Quality Management with a group of professional women. Our goal is to better understand the concepts of TQM through brainstorming discussion and designing strategies for implementing these ideas in a variety of management areas--including in ministry, of course!

Total Quality Management is a philosophy developed by Dr. W. Edwards Deming, the 92-year-old guru of TQM. Dr. Deming, born in 1900 in Sioux City, Iowa, is a statistician by training. He is recognized for helping the Japanese improve the quality of their products by improving the processes by which work gets done. Today, the Japanese are renowned for their high quality in contrast to the "junk" they used to produce.

Brian Joiner and Peter R. Scholtes, consultants with Joiner Associates, Inc., explain the concept of Total Quality Leadership their adaptation of TQM, as "an approach to management which focuses on giving top value to customers by building excellence into every aspect of the organization." And I also looked up the definition of quality which is "a characteristic or attribute of something; excellence, superiority, degree or grade of excellence" according to the American Heritage Dictionary.

One of the members of the "quality study group" mentioned above is Kathleen Harnish, a principal in a Kansas City and Denver-based company, 1st Principles Consulting. Ms. Harnish has been a protégé of Dr. Deming, studying and traveling with him as he worked with corporations and organizations throughout the country. She graciously agreed to be interviewed for this article.

I am very excited about the concept of TQM. Instead of Total Quality Management, may I suggest we look at the concept of Total Quality Ministry (sorry about that Dr. Deming) and how the process could work in a ministry.

Acknowledging that Ms. Harnish's experience has been in the for profit sector, we spent considerable time discussing the unique structure of Unity churches. I explained the role of the minister as spiritual leader and CEO; the roles and responsibilities of the elected board members in the planning, policy setting, financial resources, as well as their relationship to the minister. In many churches the boards are truly a "working board" in that they are the core volunteers who, along with the minister, get things done. Throughout our discussion we began to see that Total Quality Ministry (TQM) is a valid concept and many of the practices of quality management can become part of the process of ministry:

BO'H:

Define Total Quality Management as you have experienced it over the past several years in working with Dr. Deming and in your own consulting practice.

KH:

I believe TQM is a shift of paradigm or patterns of thinking, ways of looking at the world and our boundaries. Quality requires you to think differently; it is a philosophy of operation, not a program you drop into your organization, that encourages continual improvement of your products and services to better meet the present and future needs of your customers. Quality is so fundamental to a successful organization.

BO'H:

You said TQM requires a shift in our

current patterns of thinking. Would you explain some of the new thinking or beliefs as you see them.

KH:

My experience has been that TQM is a shift in beliefs in three areas. Number One, it is a shift *away from* the belief that quality costs time and money to the understanding that focusing on quality actually saves time and money. There are fewer mistakes, fewer delays, less rework and better use of resources and people. Number Two, it is a shift *away from* the belief that managers have all the answers to the understanding that the people doing the work know how best to improve it. And Number Three, TQM is a shift *away from* the belief that to achieve quality we need more and better people to the understanding that quality can be achieved with the people you have right now--simply by leading and training them differently.

BO'H:

What value does TQM have over the conventional way of "doing business"? For example, I encounter people in churches--ministers and board members--who dislike all of the discussion of business and money. They believe "we are a church--not a business." I agree, they are a church and I share with them the concept that it is the job or "business" of the minister and board members to insure the church will be there in the future. Part of this includes dealing with money, by insuring there are funds available to pay the bills today and set aside funds for the future.

KH:

As I see it TQM can help a ministry by emphasizing four key points: 1) a focus on the congregation and their needs; 2) employee involvement in improving work processes or how they get their jobs done; 3) an emphasis on improving the process, or the way work gets done, rather than on improving within just a department, say for example the youth education or a committee of the board; and 4) leading

Continued...

TQM from the top in order to link strategic planning with process improvement efforts.

BO'H:

Let's examine the four points you mentioned as they might be implemented in a Unity church or center.

KH:

As you have explained the work you do with the churches, I know that you encourage ministers and boards to assess the congregation on their needs either through focus groups or surveys. This is an important ongoing activity, and quality means you exceed those needs by providing the best classes, or Sunday services, music, etc.

For those ministries with staffs (be they paid or non-paid) committed to quality, the minister would work with them on how to continually improve the manner in which the work gets done in the ministry. TQM philosophy believes that people want to do a good job and to use their talents to make the organization and its goods and services better. This philosophy, I believe, would be very acceptable in a church. Once quality becomes key for staff and volunteers they will take responsibility for improving things.

With regard to improving the process, studies I have read indicate that 85 percent of the problems a business faces are not people problems, but problems with processes--the ways in which the enormous amount of work gets done in a church. For example, is there consistent communication between the minister, staff, board, and committees to make sure they all understand how work gets done across functional areas in the ministry? When a change happens in one area, let's say in giving, what is the impact on the programming or outreach efforts of the church? When and how is this communicated with everyone--minister, staff, board, volunteers, congregation, and the other people the ministry is there to serve?

Finally, without the total commitment of the minister and board to want to shift to a TQM philosophy really nothing much will happen. The leadership has to set the tone and create a culture that allows TQM to thrive. This includes the values, mis-

sion, and vision that are in the strategic plan. It means identifying key processes that must be continually improved and establishing guiding principles that shape behavior, policies and procedures, and organizational structure.

BO'H:

Thank you for sharing your experiences and your beliefs about the value of TQM. Any final thoughts for the readers of CONTACT?

KH:

I believe the concepts of TQM fit perfectly within the structure of a church.

Quality is about creating a culture where people are the most important asset. It is so fundamental to the basic values and the way we treat people. This is a new way of teaching people how to work together. When we institute TQM we are saying we are going to try to live the basic values of the organization in everything we do.

BO'H:

In closing I would like to share a quote that I read and have taken with me as I work with ministries and other organizations:

To achieve quality, you must ask, listen, think, and then do.

Sparkplugs



Talk Topics and Sermon Starters from Unity Publications

Now in NEW Softbound Edition!

**This month: NEW! *A Daily Guide To Spiritual Living* by Jim Rosemergy
505 pages, new softbound \$12.95, hardbound \$19.95**

Did you know???...

...that *A Daily Guide To Spiritual Living* has been used with great success as a year-long spiritual growth and development program for entire congregations?

...that it has been the focal point for weekly classes throughout the year, and during certain seasons, such as Lent?

...that Jim Rosemergy is available, by invitation, to do a kick-off workshop for your church, just as he has done for several other churches around the country?

...that there is material in it for 48 powerful Sunday talks?

To help you understand the appeal of this masterful work, the following excerpts were selected, at random:

"In 'The Lord's Prayer' . . . it appears that if we fail to forgive the people in our lives, God will not forgive us. This is not true." (Week 16 - Day 106)

"In Hebrews 11:3 it is written, 'What is seen was made out of things which do not appear.'" (Week 34 - Day 233)

"...the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever he does, that the Son

does likewise'. (Jn 5:19) . . . Jesus is revealing an aspect of our relationship to God. . . ." (Week 43 - Introduction)

As you read the full text of each day quoted above, you will see a common thread. Jim Rosemergy presents that which is puzzling or seemingly contradictory, and makes it clear and easy to understand with a minimum of words. Then he gives easy-to-follow instructions on how to appropriate the Truth of each topic into personal awareness and conscious daily life.

Thousands have found *A Daily Guide To Spiritual Living* instrumental in helping them gently embrace the spiritual path. This is why it has become one of Unity's best selling books and is being recommended so widely.

In addition to the beautiful hardbound edition, it is now available, without changes or revisions, in a bright and colorful softbound design, ideal for journaling and chronicling thoughts and insights.

To order, call (816) 251-3571 or write to: Sales Department, Unity School of Christianity, Unity Village, MO 64065-0001.

Partners in Ministry

a network of spouses of ministers



Al Sears

At the 1992 South Central Regional Conference I was able to attend a workshop given by Dr. Maria Nemith. It was an excellent workshop, and one of the things she shared with us I would like to pass on to all partners in ministry and ministers because we so often find ourselves trying to do the job alone. The story illustrates what can happen when we try to do those big jobs alone.

The title is...

Doing It Alone

I am writing in response to your request concerning block number 11 on the insurance form which asks for the "cause of injuries" wherein I put "trying to do the job alone." You said more information was needed, so I trust the following will be sufficient.

I am a bricklayer by trade and on the date of injuries I was working alone laying brick around the top of a four-story building when I realized that I had about 500 pounds of brick left over. Rather than carry the bricks down by hand, I decided to put them into a barrel and lower them by a pulley which was fastened to the top of the building. I secured the end of the rope at ground level and went up to the top of the building and loaded the bricks into the barrel and flung the barrel out with the bricks in it. I then went down and untied

the rope holding it securely to insure the slow descent of the barrel.

As you will note on block number six of the insurance form, I weigh 145 pounds. Due to my shock at being jerked off the ground so swiftly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Between the second and third floors, I met the barrel coming down. This accounts for the bruises and laceration on my upper body. Regaining my presence of mind, again I held tightly to the rope and proceeded rapidly up the side of the building, not stopping until my right hand was jammed in the pulley. This accounts for my broken thumb.

Despite the pain, I retained my presence of mind and held tightly to the rope. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of bricks hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the bricks, the barrel now weighed about 50 pounds. I

again refer you to block number six of the insurance form and my weight.

As you would guess, I began a rapid descent. In the vicinity of the second floor I met the barrel coming up. This explains the injuries to my legs and lower back. Slowed only slightly I continued my descent, landing on the pile of bricks. Fortunately, my back was only sprained and the internal injuries were only minimal. I am sorry to report, however, that at this point I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope. As you can imagine, the empty barrel crashed down on me.

I trust this answers your concern. Please know that I am finished "trying to do the job alone."

Author Unknown

I hope this helped brighten your day. God bless. Write **Partners in Ministry**, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063.

NOTICE

Please check the following listing carefully as some 1993 meeting dates have changed:

March/April, 1993: Executive Committee Meetings

Begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 29, through Wednesday, March 31, 1993. (U.M.A.C. meetings follow, April 1 & 2.)

June, 1993: Minister's & Licensed Teacher's Conference (at Hilton Inn-Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri).

Pre-Conference meetings, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 11, 12, 13. Committee meetings start at 9:00 a.m. on Friday.

Monday & Tuesday, June 14 & 15 - **Spiritual Retreat**. Location not definite at this date.

Conference begins Tuesday evening, June 15 through Saturday, June 19, 4:00 p.m.

September, 1993: Executive Committee Meetings

Begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 13, through Wednesday, September 15, 1993. (U.M.A.C. meetings follow, September 16 & 17.)

**In This Issue:**

- The Fourth Thursday Workshops Resume in the New Year
- Your Letters Are Important To Us!
- Caring NOW! An Update On The Living Curriculum
- Where Are They Now?-- Retired Unity Minister Still Active in Florida
- Year of the Child - A Worldwide Celebration
- Dorothy Pierson Is Serving As Interim Minister in Monterey
- Join Glenn and Shay In Russia -- Make Your Plans Now!



Do You Own Your Church??

By Julie Montague, Editor

In past years church was the gathering point of the community. Usually there were only a few in any given neighborhood or town. Your parents picked one, and that was that. Nearly everyone attended church or synagogue in this country. Whether we attended from joy, guilt, or fear, church became a place for social service, as well as spiritual expression.

The '90s are giving us an opportunity to shift our perceptions about church. No longer do we go to church simply because our parents did. We are in the midst of a culture shift, a change in race mind, and if we observe and understand, we can be in a position to guide and lovingly respond to the changes rather than reacting negatively out of fear.

Yes. Even Unity churches, as progressive in our thinking as we are, need to constantly look at whether we are responding to the needs of people in our local communities today. We can no longer expect our ministers to do it all for us or to do the community build-

ing alone. It is time to become shareholders, owners in our churches. This means we take responsibility for how our church IS in the world.

A good place to start is with new people coming to your church for the first time. What do they experience when they are there? Are you sizing them up as visitors? Do you call them visitors or newcomers? Or are they made to feel like a new part of the family? There is a difference and they can feel it. One church I know has a rule that if you sit next to newcomers in church, you are automatically their "brother" or "sister" for that Sunday. You make sure you introduce yourself and remember their names. And you personally invite them to the social hour where you introduce them to at least five other church shareholders.

What does it mean to be a shareholder or owner of a church? In some ways it is very similar to owning a home or business. You are responsible for the health of your church, spiritually, physically, and financially. It is your job to be part of its

See Mission on page 3, col. 2

Assn of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414

Glenn Mosley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Edie Skalitzy
President

Julie Montague
Editor

THE WAYS WE SERVE. . .
What's new from us to you!

**The Fourth Thursday
Evening Workshops**

After a couple of months off for the holidays, our evening workshop series resumes in the new year. If you are planning a trip to Unity Village, plan to attend one of the Fourth Thursday Workshops held at our new world headquarters in Lee's Summit. Participants describe them saying, "This was the best workshop of this kind I have ever attended," or "The tools I have learned will make a difference in my church. Thank you!"

Workshops are held on the **fourth Thursday** of each month from **7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.** in the Association's board room, **401 SW Oldham Parkway, Suite 210, Lee's Summit, Missouri.** Join us! Call **524-7414, ext. 355**, to reserve your space.

February 25, 1993

Planned Giving
Deborah Turner-Bey and Shay St. John

March 25, 1993

How To Grow Your Ministry
Through Broadcasting
Carolyn Craft

**Your letters are
important to us!**

Headquarters Highlight is a combined effort between the staff here at the World Headquarters of Unity churches and the field. We receive letters from people like you and we include them in subsequent issues of Headquarters Highlights. Our purpose is to bring you Unity interest stories that you can relate to personally. However, sometimes the information we receive is not entirely accurate or complete. If our articles unintentionally omit something important, please forgive us, and let us know so we can get it in the next issue! Thank you.

**Development Department
Association of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414, ext. 355**

**The Living Curriculum -
Our Home For the
Future**

Our children are growing up in a very different world than the world in which we grew up. Violence in our high schools is beyond anything we ever imagined. If our world is to have the future we all want, we must all do our part today to bring up our children with the spiritual awareness that will transform the planet. We have tried unsuccessfully for centuries to apply human solutions to human problems. We need spiritual answers, and leaders of tomorrow with the awareness to put spiritual law to work for all of us.

**1993 IS THE YEAR
OF THE CHILD!**

*Editor's note: This is an ongoing column in celebration of Unity's Year of the Child-1993. Judi Venturini, ordained Unity minister, school teacher, and Year of the Child coordinator, will be contributing most of these articles. We would also like news from you! How is your church celebrating the Year of the Child? Write us with your stories: **Association of Unity Churches, Attn: Julie Montague, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063.***

Our Association of Unity Churches has declared 1993 as the Year of the Child! The Education Services Committee's mission for the Year of the Child is to support the Unity churches to enhance and expand their ministries with children and youth. With this purpose in mind we have:

- * Put seventeen new items in inventory for our children and youth education departments;
- * Hired a full-time staff person, the Year of the Child Coordinator, to assist our churches;
- * Provided our ministers and Youth Education Directors a quarterly newsletter;
- * Developed promotional items for the year of the Child;
- * Created a Certification Program for spiritual educators, which will be offered for the first time

June 19-26, 1993.

While we continue to look at new ways to support our churches, many of our local churches are exploring new ways to minister to children and families. The most exciting part of my job as Year of the Child Coordinator is hearing about some of the wonderful and creative ways our churches are doing this. Here are a few highlights:

➤ Churches without a children's program are setting their vision and putting things in place to begin an education program for children.

➤ Unity of Overland Park's family council has explored and recommended guest speakers that will support families. Adele Faber, noted author and workshop presenter, visited Overland Park in November.

➤ Unity Church of Madison is planning to provide daycare for children of teenage moms while they attend school. These young mothers will reap the added benefit of being trained as daycare providers.

➤ Unity Church of Maui is planning a community event that will deal with healing racism within families.

➤ Church of Today in San Diego has plans to open a school.

➤ Unity of Christ Church of St. Louis, Missouri, has focused on increasing education staff with a program called "Teacher Profile." A member of the education staff is featured in a special place in fellowship hall. They have moved from nine to fifteen staff members since they implemented this project.

These are only a few of the wonderful ways our churches are making a difference in the lives of children in our Unity movement as a result of this commitment they have made. Each individual person can make a difference, also. I ask you to search your heart and think of some way you can share your gifts with children. Here are a few ideas:

- * become a prayer partner with a child.
- * call a latchkey child every day to see that they are safe.
- * volunteer in the nursery.
- * compliment a child who is doing something positive.

- * volunteer to teach a craft, read a story or rock babies once a month at church.
- * as your youth education director if she needs any assistance. Even cutting out patterns for a craft project can be gratefully received.

Most of all, always see the best, the highest and the Truth in all of our children. Know that every time you do, you are reflecting the Christ to them.

Blessings!

Judi Venturini

Year of the Child Coordinator

Connections. . .

Where Are They Now! Retired Ministers Still Active in Florida

E. Bruce Paddock, of Port Charlotte, Florida, wrote us about two retired Unity ministers in Florida who are very dear to him. They are very dear to us also, so thanks Bruce for your letter and comments. He writes: "One of these is the Reverend Mary Hinkle (Duffy), who lives in Sarasota, Florida, and as you know is very dear to me, as I know she is to you. She has served Unity for thirty years."

"The other is the father of the Reverend Loren Flickinger, minister of Unity in Venice, Florida. The Reverend Max Flickinger is ninety years old and I understand studied under Charles Fillmore."

We thank God for the wisdom and love these two have given to our movement over the years, as they have touched the lives of so many.

Monterey Ministry is Expanding!

The Reverend Dorothy Pierson, co-minister of Christ Unity Church in Sacramento, is also serving as

interim minister at their outreach ministry in Monterey. They have an office, prayer chapel, and bookroom now in downtown Monterey in addition to the Sunday meeting location. From the November/December Newsletter of Christ Unity Church:

"The Sunday attendance has more than doubled and is growing. The prayer work that we are all doing seems to be attracting Unity students to the Monterey/Carmel area. So many seem to have just moved there and were thrilled to find a Unity church to attend. The people are as excited as we are."

We join with you in knowing that this ministry is going to be a strong representative of the Unity message and will prosper, blessing thousands of lives in that area. Thank You, God!

MISSION

Cont'd from page 1

building up and to protect it from being torn down by negativity. It is your choice what to build. Are you building a loving family reaching out into the community for good/God? Or an Ivory tower institution? Is it a place where people come to be spiritually fed on Sundays or do they also see it as a place to serve God as they practice being the clearest expression of the Christ?

As an owner, your job is to constantly monitor the mission of your church (why it exists in the world), and make sure you are personally being what you say you are collectively. It is time we walk the talk, and that is not always easy. However, it is one of the most rewarding, joyful, and spiritually growing things you can do. If you take on the responsibility of church ownership, you will find ever more exciting ways to love people and for them to love you back. This could be the most important thing you will ever do. Booker T. Washington said, "Remember that wherever our life touches yours, we help or hinder. . . wherever your life touches ours, you make us stronger or weaker. . . There is no escape--man drags man down, or man lifts man up." There is no better place to lift people up

and make them stronger than your Unity church. We are all one in Unity. MISSION STATEMENTS FROM UNITY CHURCHES--ARE WE PERSONALLY LIVING UP TO WHAT WE SAY WE ARE COLLECTIVELY?

Here are some awesome Mission and Vision Statements from Unity churches around the country:

From Unity Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, Tony Robuck, minister:

Mission Statement: Unity Church in Charlottesville is dedicated to community and global transformation through individual spiritual awareness and transformation. We accomplish this by applying in our daily lives and principles of practical Christianity as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ and revealed by the Christ Spirit within each of us.

From Unity Church of San Antonio, Sunny Stone, minister:

Mission and Vision Statement: Unity of San Antonio is a radiating center for creative spirituality where people come in worshipful praise to acknowledge God and all creation as one; to offer themselves to Spirit for continual transformation; to serve God by serving others; to heal self through healing Mother Earth.

From Pomona Unity Church, Joan Baker, minister:

Our Mission: The mission of Pomona Unity Church is to provide an atmosphere of unconditional love and acceptance for everyone. We offer all people the opportunity and the means to discover the Christ within themselves.

Did you Know?

It is important to specify the Association of Unity Churches by name when making your gifts, tithes, and any bequests. Our Association or any individual Unity church does not share in gifts made to Unity School, Silent Unity, or the overall Unity movement. Our Association of Unity Churches is a separate legal and financial organization whose focus is supporting our field movement. Unity School, Silent Unity, and our Association of Unity Churches share a common goal to help people the world over realize their divine potential.



**You're invited to be a
Unity Ambassador to Russia!**

Our Association of Unity Churches
Announces:

"Bridges To Oneness Tour"

led by
Glenn R. Mosley, Ph.D., Executive Director
and
Shay St. John, Director of Development

August 6 - 20, 1993

Join Glenn and Shay on this exciting trip and see history in the making. Yes, you can make a difference on this planet. All you have to do is reach out a hand, with love, to a Russian brother or sister.

Package Cost: \$2,995.00
including airfare

Love grows one by one, two by two,
four by four, love goes around in a
circle and winds up knocking at your
front door. (Y.O.U. Joysong)

For more information call:
STARBRIGHT TRAVEL: 1-800-798-1451

Association of Unity Churches

P.O. Box 610 • Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414 FAX: (816) 525-4020

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lee's Summit, Mo.
PERMIT NO. 41

SENT WITH LOVE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL



Carolyn Craft
Radio/Media Consultant

Twelve Reasons For Using Radio

1. Everyone listens to radio. There are more radio sets in circulation than television sets or daily newspapers. Adults listen to radio on an average of three hours and twenty-seven minutes a day.
2. Radio is the first news source from 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. More people get their first news during the day from radio than from TV and newspapers combined.
3. Radio is the medium that is everywhere. . .indoors, outdoors, in cars, 99 percent of homes have radio. . .almost six working-order radio sets per household. Ninety-five percent of cars have radios.
4. Radio is for all seasons. There are no off-periods. Research shows that, unlike other media that fall off in summer, radio's audience stays high and consistent all year long.
5. Radio delivers total reach. . .and radio reaches 95.8 percent of people 12+ in a week. Eighty-two percent in a day. Radio reaches 96.2 percent of adult women.
6. Radio reaches 97 percent of women 25-54, 96 percent of men 25-54.

7. Radio is cost efficient. Since 1967, radio's cost per thousand is up least. . .less than newspapers, TV and outdoor advertising.

8. Radio is flexible. When necessary, radio users can change copy schedule on short notice. You aren't locked into the built-in deadline delays of newspapers, direct mail, etc.

9. Radio is a personal medium. Listeners identify with radio personality. Its one-to-one relationship produces loyalty and response.

10. Radio is a frequency medium. It is relatively inexpensive to reach listeners a number of times a week with the same money it costs for a single one time newspaper ad and repetition is necessary to be heard.

11. Radio lets your program stand alone. Often in newspapers, your advertising is on the same page or section and gets lost visually.

12. Radio reaches those who won't see a newspaper today, or don't bother to read the ads. From 6:00 a.m. until midnight, more people are listening to radio than reading newspapers.

(Radio Advertising Bureau)

From 1924 Unity Publication:

Unity Radio Broadcasting Station

"Unity School has purchased the Western Radio broadcasting equipment. . . .

"A room is being built above the carpenter shop for his use in this work. This room will have a private telephone wire. Mr. Adair tells us that at least fifty calls will come over this wire before each lecture that is broadcast. People do not wait for the time for broadcasting, but start calling over the telephone about ten minutes before time for the broadcasting to start. They want to know whether there will be any broadcasting; if so, what and when. . . .

"We feel that this new department is a big step upward in Unity's great work of spreading Truth into every corner of the earth. The testimonials that we receive from people all over the country speak eloquently of the work that can be accomplished through the radio. Ever alert for new methods, Unity has welcomed this opportunity to improve the radio service to its friends."

Spanish Radio Programs and Radio Spots Now Available

Asociacion Unity de Cristianismo Practico in Santurce, Puerto Rico, is beginning a new expansion of their ministry by making available their 30-minute radio programs and 60-second radio spots. These programs, in Spanish, are done in a style not localized to Puerto Rican issues, and will be appropriate for broadcasting within any Spanish-speaking community. Each 30-minute program includes an interview time, an editorial and a meditation, plus space at the end for a personalized tag message from your ministry.

Request your sample cassette of a 30-minute radio program in Spanish by writing to:

Asociacion Unity de Cristianismo Practico
% Rev. Enrique Toro
PO Box 12108 - Loiza Station
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00912
Phone: 809-722-5358; FAX: 809-722-4591

(A listing of all 45 available programs and spots and other information on this new ministry will be included with your sample cassette.)

What is a Communication Committee Network Member?

- An enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in their community and the world. The member's commission and participation would require energies devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.): research, feedback, observation, inform, tabulate, community awareness, creativity, interfacing, expanding, consciousness, checking market pulse/church pulse, service, support, defining and holding your ministry's vision. This person could be serving as minister, a board member, public relations person, publicist, media coordinator, teacher, etc. Write us with the name of the person in your church/center who will be your Communications Committee Network Member.

We now have 25 ministries who have named their members:

Radio/Media Department Communication Committee Network Members

California:

Ada Davis & Virginia Good--Unity Center of Bakersfield, Bakersfield, CA
Rev. Billie Blain--Sunrise Unity, Citrus Heights, CA
Rev. Arthur Hammons--Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, El Cajon, CA
John M. Bennett--Long Beach Unity, Long Beach, CA
Kate Trelatsky--Unity Church of Merced, Merced, CA

Florida:

Frank Kaiser--Unity Church for Christian Living, Miami, FL
Rev. Jack Kern--Unity of Naples, Naples, FL
John Howard--Unity of Sebring, Sebring, FL
Victor Rosencrans--Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, FL

Georgia:

Rina Leadingham--Unity of Savannah, Savannah, GA

Hawaii:

Peggy Van Cleve--Unity Church of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI

Louisiana:

Jo An Burt--Unity of Shreveport, Shreveport, LA

Michigan:

Dean Leutscher--Unity of Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids, MI
Mary Jo Ruten--Unity of Jackson, Jackson, MI
Grace Luckscherte--Unity of Livonia, Livonia, MI

Missouri:

Sandra Hymel--Unity in Blue Springs, Blue Springs, MO

Nebraska:

LeVonne Feller--Unity Church of Today, Omaha, NE

New Mexico:

Bob Burns--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Las Cruces, NM

New York:

Olga Sparman--Unity Pyramid of Truth, Brooklyn, NY
Rev. Sue Smith & Pauline James--Unity Ch/Practical Christianity, Buffalo, NY
Rev. Brenda Windell--Christ Church Unity, Rochester, NY

Texas:

Janet Meschi & Kristi Beckwith--Unity Ch of Brownsville, Brownsville, TX
Ken Kenyon--Frist Unity Church of Positive Living, El Paso, TX
D. Karen Wilkerson--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Tyler, TX

Utah:

Ward McCarey--Unity of Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, UT

Wisconsin:

Joan Phillipson--Unity Church of Christianity, Wauwatosa, WI

Voices of Unity:

Christ Unity Church, Sacramento, CA:

"The Best Is Yet To Be" TV program-
(out of Sacramento to much of northern California and southern Oregon)

- Sacramento, channel 40 at 9:00 a.m.
- Bay Area out of San Jose, channel 48 at 9:00 a.m.
- Seattle Puget Sound Area, channel 22 at 8:00 a.m.
- Arizona, out of Phoenix, Prescott, channel 27 at 8:00 a.m. (northern Arizona, channel 7)
- Monterey Peninsula, cable channel 22 at 9:00 a.m.
- St. Joseph, Missouri, channel 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Unity Pyramid, Santa Maria, CA:

- Cable TV channels 21 and 22

Christ Universal Temple, Chicago, IL:

- TV Station 4

Unity Ch/North Shore, Evanston, IL:

- Radio 750 AM

Unity of Indianapolis, IN:

- Radio WIUX 1350 AM, Sun. 8:15 a.m.

Detroit Unity Temple, Detroit, MI:

- Radio WQRS 105.1 FM, M-F 5:50 a.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. (on air continuously for the last 30 years)

Unity Church of Muskegon, MI

- Cable TV channel 24

Church of Today, Warren, MI:

- TV Channel 50 (Detroit) 8:00 a.m.
- TV Channel 33 (Cadillac) 10:00 a.m.
- Radio CKLW 800 AM 8:00 a.m.
- Radio WIFF 1570 AM 8:00 a.m.

Christ Ch of the Hills, Branson, MO:

- Local TV Channel 6

Unity Ch of P. C., St. Joseph, MO:

- TV KQTV, Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Asociacion Unity, Santurce, PR:

- Radio WSJ 1560 AM, Sunday 8:00

Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN:

- WNOX 99.1 FM and WNDD 99.3 FM;
Mon. 7:40 & 8:20 a.m.; Fri. 5:20 p.m.;
and Sat. 12:00 midnight.

Unity Ch of Christianity, Houston, TX:

- Radio KODA 99.1, Thur & Fri 7:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun. random

Ch of the Hill Country, Kerrville, TX:

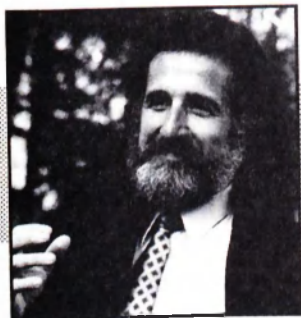
- Radio KERV AM and KRVL FM,
mornings and evenings

Unity Ch/NE Tarrant Cnty, Hurst, TX:

- Radio 97.9 FM, Mon-Fri 8:25 p.m.,
Sat & Sun 7:25 p.m.

Write us about your broadcast outreach and we will add your church/center to the list. Stay tuned!

Come and be inspired by the featured keynoters at the 1993 Convention!



Barry Kaufman

Barry Kaufman is the author of seven books, including the best-selling *Son-Rise*, *A Miracle to Believe In*, and *To Love Is To Be Happy With*. They have been translated into 18 languages and are required reading at 280 universities for courses in psychology, education, religion, and special education.

With his wife Suzi Kaufman, Barry is founder and codirector of The Option Institute & Fellowship, which offers individual counseling and workshops in personal growth, parenting, and family life, and creating loving relationships. The Institute conducts programs for families with special children as well.

The Option Institute was established as a living and learning center where they could teach more people, perhaps precipitate more apparent "miracles" and spread the word that there is a loving and caring solution to all situations.

This teaching and therapy center is located on an 85 acre mountaintop estate in western Massachusetts. The beauty of the property and location offer a place where peace and tranquility aid the healing process of the programs offered.

In addition to his frequent appearances in mass media throughout the country, Barry (known as "Bear") has lectured in universities and hospitals and taken his teaching to the remotest part of Appalachia, to the Andes in South America, and to the cities and countrysides of Europe, Canada, and the United States.

Now, in his first book since he established The Option Institute, Bear expresses the best of what he has come to understand in his work. *Happiness Is A Choice* represents the cutting-edge of Barry Kaufman's

evolving teaching, focusing on empowering your moment of change, the moment in which we can make self-acceptance, inner peace, joy, and love immediately tangible through easily implemented tools.

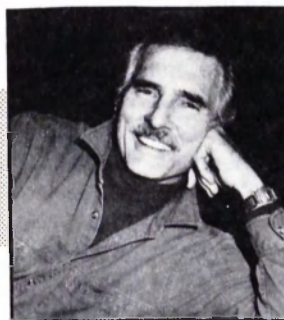
Dennis Weaver

Dennis Weaver, known for his television and movie roles in "Gunsmoke," "Gentle Ben," and "McCloud," is an environmentalist par excellence. A much sought-after speaker, Dennis is continually being invited to share his views on the environment. . . be it at the United Nations, the Governor's Conference, Windstar, or with associations and universities.

In 1983 Dennis, Valerie Harper, and several concerned community leaders founded Love Is Feeding Everyone (L.I.F.E.). Once providing supplemental food to 400 people each week, through Dennis' leadership as President and Chairman of the Board of Directors, L.I.F.E. now supports 108 agencies who collectively are feeding 115,000 hungry people a week in Los Angeles County. L.I.F.E. now serves as a role model for groups throughout the U.S. who wish to launch a program like L.I.F.E. His work with L.I.F.E. earned Dennis the 1986 Presidential End Hunger Award.

Through their deep commitment to the environment, he and his wife Gerry have become known as pioneers in "earth friendly" architecture, having built an environmentally sound home, constructed of recycled tires and beverage cans in Colorado. It is called an "Earthship"--independent, sustainable living space. . . a living space that is not dependent on archaic centralized energy systems that are greatly damaging the planet. The "Earthship" is the brainchild of Taos, New Mexico, architect, Michael Reynolds.

Dennis Weaver. . . actor, humanitarian, environmental activist. Whether helping feed the hungry, speaking for world peace, or taking a stand on healing our wondrous



Mother Earth. . . by his example and commitment, he inspires others to help bring about a shift towards oneness and love.



C. W. Metcalf

C. W. Metcalf's work has been prominently featured in many publications as well as PBS, CNN, and the NBC Today Show. It was his work as a hospice volunteer with young cancer patients that led C. W. to develop his unique and successful approach, originally entitled The Humor Option.

"When I first went to work with cancer patients, I thought I'd last maybe a few months. I've been volunteering for over ten years now. These people, especially the children, have become my gurus, my teachers. It was from them that I learned humor was a skill set, an attitude that was common among people who thrived in crisis, trauma, and change."

Metcalf defines humor as "a sense of perspective." "It's learning to take yourself lightly, even though you take your work seriously." Anyone can develop a sense of humor, he adds. In workshops and seminars he teaches people to use their imaginations - what he calls the "right hand of humor." He also helps people overcome their fear of foolishness.

"You have to remind yourself you do have a sense of humor, that you have access to it. In this world, people are taught to deal (seriously) with problems. Lightheartedness, laughter, are not equated with highmindedness and intellect. People associate it with a sign of simple-mindedness." "The truth is, one of the signs of the onset of certain mental illnesses is the inability to laugh."

C. W.'s presentations are renowned for their unique combination of heart, laughter, silliness, and the serious, bottom-line benefits.



Sir John Marks Templeton

Sir John Marks Templeton is one of the most successful investors Wall Street has ever known. But more important to John Templeton than his long and successful career as an investment manager, is what he has chosen to do with his fortune. An active and committed Christian who believes in the power of religion to create good in the world, he devotes himself to what he characterizes as God's service. "For twenty years, I have tried to devote a major part of my time to helping churches and charities of all kinds, and all nations, with the thought that, in the long run, it is far more important than helping people physically, mentally, or financially."

The most lucrative cash prize in the world, over \$400,000 is awarded to a living person annually who has been instrumental in expanding man's knowledge of the love of God, thereby furthering the quest for a quality of life that mirrors the divine. The Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion is 19 years old; Mother Teresa was the first recipient.

The Templeton Prize is not a prize for saintliness or mere good works, or endeavors on behalf of social justice. It is a prize for original and fruitful spiritual projects that increase man's love of God or lead to a deeper understanding and breakthrough in religious knowledge.



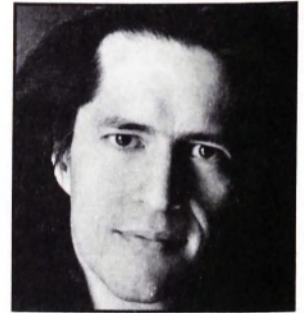
**Debbie
Ratliff-Ball,
Conference/
Convention
Coordinator**

White Eagle Moore

January 19, 1989. It was the end of the Inaugural Gala that the announcement came: "And now joining the Mormon Tabernacle Choir for a stirring finale, from the Sioux Indian tribe, operatic tenor White Eagle."

Twelve million Americans blinked in astonishment as White Eagle strode to center stage, over six feet tall, handsome, in the classic tuxedo, his long, straight black hair flowing to the middle of his back. And they blinked again when out of his mouth came one of the finest young operatic voices to be heard in the business today--crystal-clear, heroic, with passionate resolve in the vibrato. But more striking than the voice was the feeling, the conviction, the spirit--the look and the sound of a true warrior soul.

White Eagle doesn't merely sing; he gives a deeply dramatic presentation of each song, acting out the part as if it were the only moment in the performance.



White Eagle is the son of Marrles Moore, a Sioux Indian and member of the Rosebud tribe in South Dakota. Beginning in 1973, he embarked on an extended eight-year road trip, traveling for three years as musical director and soloist of Re-Generation (a 14-member vocal group), and then for five years as part of a vocal duo. During this period he performed in more than 4,000 concerts and was heard by over five million people.

After graduating from the prestigious Merola Opera Program in 1985, White Eagle became the first Native American to sing leading roles in both opera and American musical theatre.

In addition to his professional career, White Eagle plans to develop a Fine Arts Center for Young Native Americans. "I want more than anything to return in kind the faith and encouragement my father gave me." To that end he continues to devote a portion of his time and resources to the Marrles Moore Home for Troubled Indian Youth that his father has established in Antelope, South Dakota.

***Calling all children hiding out in
their grown-up bodies who long to be
joyful, funful, freeful
Come out, come out, wherever you are
and play in the now-sun of your life.***

Join us as we celebrate the Year of the Child at the 1993 Conference to be held at the Hilton Plaza Inn, located on the beautiful Country Club Plaza, June 15-19. Exciting workshops, a fun-filled children's program, inspiring keynote speakers, and uplifting music are all planned to make this an enlightening and memorable week.

This year, more than ever, we will have the opportunity to let the child in us come forth at the VILLAGE FUN FEST which will be held at Unity Village on Friday, June 18. Some of the events include: craft booths, clowning, food concessions, games, puppetry, golf tournament, entertainment, craft-making, storytelling, and more!

For optimum fun and excitement be sure to "Try for the Gold" at the 1993 UNITY FAMILY OLYMPICS in the Aqua-Tournament, Decathlon, Gymnastics, or Track & Field events. This memorable event has something for everyone!

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

On behalf of the Association of Unity Churches' staff and Board of Trustees, we extend to you our deep gratitude and appreciation for your past financial support. The love and faith you incorporate into your gifts make them special.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Fund Operations As Of November 30, 1992

	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
INCOME-OPERATIONS			
Love Offerings	\$54,985.86	\$48,339.38	\$492,693.61
Other Income	<u>2,828.24</u>	<u>4,490.86</u>	<u>61,874.96</u>
	\$57,814.10	\$52,830.24	\$554,027.41
Less: Tithe Transfer	<u>5,972.49</u>	<u>5,241.61</u>	<u>53,027.41</u>
	51,841.61	47,588.63	501,541.16
Gross Profit Material	<u>4,825.41</u>	<u>8,109.83</u>	<u>53,415.27</u>
Total Income	<u>\$56,667.02</u>	<u>\$55,698.46</u>	<u>\$554,956.43</u>
EXPENSE-OPERATIONS	<u>\$56,551.81</u>	<u>\$66,250.56</u>	<u>\$614,187.25</u>
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ 115.21</u>	<u>\$ (10,552.10)</u>	<u>\$(59,230.82)</u>

***Unity School Contribution to the Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided:**

Month of October: 12,034.79
Year to Date: \$49,888.85



Ray Wiggins
International Education
Services Consultant

Report Shows Our Sunday Schools Most Important Factor in Faith Growth

by Ray Wiggins

If there ever was any doubt about the importance of Sunday school spiritual education, a Search Institute project report should have laid it permanently to rest. Released in March, 1990, this study of effective congregations in six mainline denominations was probably the most comprehensive research ever undertaken in the churches. It concluded that "effective Christian education is the most powerful single influence congregations have on maturity of faith. While other congregational dynamics also matter, nothing matters more than effective Christian education."

After noting that ingredients in an effective educational program are identifiable, the study report went on to say that "most of them can be implemented by any congregation, regardless of size or location." The "bad news," according to study data, is that "many of the factors needed for effectiveness in Christian education are not currently operating in large numbers of congregations. Hence, a need for reform in Christian education is clear." The "good news" is implicit in the report's prediction that "if congregations heed the call for strengthening Christian education, many of the problems now plaguing mainline denominations may be arrested, including the highly publicized loss of members, and the equally troubling

problem of member inactivity."

The assignment of responsibility for the spiritual education ministry of our Unity congregations clearly falls to the minister and the board. Where congregations are large enough to appoint an Education Services Committee, said committee does the basic research, goal setting and planning for the educational work of the church but still it is the board and the minister who intelligently study, approve, fund and evaluate the spiritual education work for all ages.

As a part of our "Year of the Child" project, your Association of Unity Churches has produced a valuable resource for boards and committees and/or Youth Education Directors to use in planning an effective spiritual education ministry in your church. Entitled, "New Directions in Spiritual Education" (order #6029, \$13), this resource contains a wealth of information and planning procedures to move your congregation forward in its work with children, teens, and adults.

Weekly, I hear reports of new and exciting plans and programs in our churches from across our nation. More and more of our congregations are realizing the truth of the Search Institute report outlined above and are capturing a new understanding of the importance of their spiritual education ministry. It is heartwarming to see more and more of you making a commitment to "take care of the children."

NOTICE: A leadership team of youth education directors, teachers, sponsors, and Y.O.U'ers leave for Russia August 1, 1993. Join us. Phone 816-524-7414 today and ask for Ray.

Certification of Spiritual Educators Intensive June 19-25, 1993 Unity Village, MO

A required training event for
teachers, sponsors, youth education
directors, licensed teachers, and ministers
seeking certification.

Registration Fee: \$180
(room and board not included)

For registration forms
write to the Education Department of
your Association of Unity Churches



Lynn Michael
Education Services Assistant

Hold Children in Light

As the Year of the Child continues to unfold in all God's glory, I ask you to join with me in prayer for all the children of the world.

I am not usually one for reading newspapers; they often seem so hopeless and dismal, especially when I am working to start off a new year on uplifting and pleasant thoughts. Recently, however, I got hold of the December 18, 1992, issue of the *Kansas City Star*, and an article entitled "Future bleak for youth, report says," caught my eye. The article stated:

"Millions of children are unready for school, unsafe in neighborhoods and are victims of needless illness, disability, and death. . . [The United States,] in fact, has more poor children than famine-stricken Somalia."

Titled "The State of America's Children" and released by the Children's Defense Fund, the report also found that:

- A child is murdered every three hours.
- One of five children lives in poverty, and every 53 minutes a child dies of poverty.
- Every 12 seconds a child drops out of school.
- About 2.7 million children were reported abused or neglected in 1991, and 429,000 were in foster homes, group homes, or institutions.

Now, I am the kind of person who, upon reading such astounding statistics, has the initial reaction of, "What can I do to stop this insanity?!" and then feels frustrated

because, on the outer, there just doesn't seem to be a whole lot I can do. What does one do about children who do not know where their next meal is coming from? Or about children who do not expect to live until they are 25? Or about children who do not feel worthy enough to finish school? Or about children whose family environments are abusive? Or. . . well, you get the idea--what is one to do?

Two days after having read this article, and after having spent some time with delightful preschoolers and Santa Claus, I attended one of The Reverend Mary Omwake's services at Unity Church of Overland Park in Overland Park, Kansas. Mary made a beautiful request of the congregation that I would like to extend to each of you.

The request is to KNOW for all the children of the world LOVE; KNOW for them PROSPERITY; KNOW for them SAFETY and COMFORT; KNOW for them WISDOM and DIVINE GUIDANCE; KNOW for them WHOLENESS and HOLINESS.

I do not know God's higher plan for the children, and it would be presumptuous of me to say I did. I do know that as we ask for and KNOW as Truth the divine protection of our world's children, it will be granted abundantly--and we will be shown what our part is to be in this process.

I thank God in advance of this answered prayer, and I thank you for joining me in knowing that God's children are being blessed fully!

Adults of Unity Conference 1993

July 3-9
Estes Park, CO

International Youth of Unity Conference 1993

July 17-23
Unity Village, MO

Watch your mail for details
or contact Ray Wiggins
at your Association of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610 - Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414



Judi Venturini
Year of the Child Coordinator

Unity of Oak Park Harvests Their Good!

It was a delightful experience for me to be invited to my "home away from home"--Unity of Oak Park, Illinois--to participate in facilitating an intergenerational family retreat.

Inspired by the Association's convention in St. Charles, Illinois, Richard Dale Billings (minister of Unity of Oak Park) and his board of directors looked forward to planning a fall retreat. However, like the Holy Family, they found no room at the inn. As they explored facilities for this event, they found that they were booked way in advance by other groups.

The retreat planning committee met once again. During a brainstorming session, they decided that this was an opportunity to put their families first and have their first intergenerational family retreat. As a result of much planning and enthusiasm, in late October of 1992 Unity of Oak Park opened their doors and hearts to young and old alike and participated in "Harvesting Our Good Retreat."

If you are thinking you would like to have a family retreat for your congregation, perhaps you will find some benefit from the following suggestions given by Oak Park's planning committee.

Commit to having an intergenerational family retreat:

It is essential that the minister and board make this part of their vision for the upcoming year. In fact, when planning the church calendar for the year, set the time aside. Plans should begin about six months in advance. This gives you ample time to form a planning committee and to attend to all the details.

Select a planning committee:

This committee, comprised of three or four dedicated people committed to overseeing the project, should meet about six months prior to the event. They should plan to meet monthly and maybe more often as the event gets closer. It is helpful to include one board member who can take back the monthly reports and can address any specific concerns or questions of the board of directors and the minister. The success of the family retreat will rely heavily on the excitement and enthusiasm of the board and minister.

Oak Park's planning committee consisted of Richard ; Leona Moeller, the board president; Jeannine Stallings, youth education director; Mary Martin, past board member and active parent; and Jim Napolitano, who has had experience in organizing retreats--each bringing their unique and special talents to carry forth their vision. You will want to look for people with a variety of gifts to share in the planning of your retreat.

Creating their vision was the first task tackled by the planning committee in Oak Park. It stated: "Our Harvest Retreat will focus on the many ways of offering ourselves in joy through intergenerational sharing. Through meaningful experiences and exchanges, we will affirm Unity of Oak Park as our extended spiritual family by expressing and sharing our unique talents. We will explore paths which will lead us deeper into our hearts through fun, laughter, music, service, inspiration, prayer and the meditation." With this as their mission, they began to plan their weekend activities.

Plan the retreat:

Brainstorming around a theme such as "Harvesting Our Good Retreat" helps the committee focus on the types of activities they want to have during the weekend. Also, Unity of Oak Park drew from the talents of many of their congregants. Therefore, being aware of the special gifts within a congregation is a key to having a successful retreat. Mary Martin stated, "Using the talents of our own people helped create a deeper feeling of family." In fact, as a direct result of this retreat, the Yoga class under the leadership of Diane Coates, Yoga teacher at Unity of Oak Park, has filled to capacity and a new class in T'ai Chi has been offered.

Recruit Volunteers:

After the planning committee identifies the activities, they should select team leaders and recruit volunteers to oversee each area that needs to be implemented. The team leaders are needed for specific areas such as food, decorations, infant care, children's programs, etc.

Continued...

Each team leader will need volunteers:

- a) Recruit more volunteers than you need because of attrition.
- b) Recruiting can be done through posters, announcements--written and verbal--and press releases. "When you warmly welcome helping hands and loving hearts, people respond," says Mary Martin.
- c) Team leaders should meet with volunteers up to six weeks in advance. It is important to form a bond between them and to provide them with specific information regarding their responsibilities.

Publicize the Retreat:

It is important for people to know about the retreat in advance so that they can reserve the time to be part of the family retreat. "Teasers" on bulletin inserts were used to build interest for the "Harvesting Our Good Retreat" at Oak Park. They read: "Coming--Harvesting Our Good Retreat! Reserve these dates for this intergenerational event. More to come!"

There are many other ways to publicize your event. Plenty of announcements by the minister who is excited and committed to the purpose of the retreat will be the best publicity. Testimonials by others who took part in prior retreats can help encourage attendance, also. Unity of Oak Park involved the children in this aspect of the planning. They made a large color banner which was displayed in Fellowship Hall. Be sure to have volunteer sign-up sheets available in visible locations, so your volunteers can sign up.

Scheduling the Events:

There needs to be a variety of events scheduled. Be sure that the schedule includes activities that will appeal to a variety of ages. (See the program at right that Oak Park used for some ideas.) It is also important to have times when everyone can come together. During my opening talk on Friday evening, I invited the children up to the platform and I interacted with them as I taught the lesson. (This was quite an interesting experience, but well worth doing!) I used the idea of the people in Jesus' day going up on a mountain for a retreat. My Biblical basis for this was multiplying the loaves and fishes as written in John.

All the workshops were open to young and old alike. It was not unusual to see a senior drift into a workshop where their inner child or a teen could come alive among a group of adults. It is important to have baby-sitting available for the infants and toddlers for parents who would need a break. The most beautiful part of the weekend in Oak Park was the examples of responsible parenting. It was not uncommon for someone to pick up someone else's toddler and distract them or to see an infant fast asleep on their dad's shoulder.

On Saturday I did a workshop on Joy-filled Family and

I had about twenty-five participants from the age of five to a few of our senior friends. It is a challenge to keep everyone's attention, but it can be done if there are a lot of interactive, experiential activities. It is not unusual to get some of the most profound insights from the children. During a brainstorming session on finding joy, a young lady blurted out, "Joy comes from the silence!" Everyone was deeply touched.

Unity of Oak Park's "Harvesting Our Good Retreat" was a monumental step toward a greater commitment to family. Richard said, "We are builders of family--personally and collectively. We are moving toward a universal concept of family." Please join in this movement through opening your hearts to new ways to be inclusive of children and family during 1993--Unity's Year of the Child.

Harvesting Our Good Retreat Unity of Oak Park Program

Friday night, Oct. 23, 1992

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 6:00-7:15 p.m. | Dinner |
| 7:30-8:15 p.m. | Program--Opening Prayer,
Announcements, Opening Speakers
Love Offering |
| 8:15-8:30 p.m. | Music |
| 8:30-8:45 p.m. | Closing Meditation |

Saturday, October 24, 1992

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8:00-8:45 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 8:45-8:50 a.m. | Break |
| 9:00-9:45 a.m. | Opening prayer
Program: Revival of Spiritual Family Values |
| 9:45-10:00 a.m. | Break |
| 10:00-10:45 a.m. | Workshops:
Clowning Storytelling
Meditation Yoga |
| 10:45-10:55 a.m. | Break |
| 11:00-11:45 a.m. | Program: Family Prayer
(in conjunction w/Silent Unity) |
| 11:15-11:45 a.m. | Children's nature meditation |
| 11:45-1:15 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:15-2:15 p.m. | Workshops:
Family shield/banner Storytelling
Pumpkin decorating T'ai Chi
Spiritual Dancing |
| 2:15-2:25 | Break |
| 2:30-3:20 p.m. | Intergenerational Workshop:
The Joy-Filled Family |
| 3:20-3:30 p.m. | Break |
| 3:30-4:00 p.m. | Program: Service of Gratitude |
| 4:00 p.m. | Closing: Joy Songs |

Important Dates For 1993

Executive Committee Meetings
 Skills Demonstration Seminar
 Board Member Seminar & Retreat
 Pre-Conference
 Conference
 Village Fun Fest
 Certification of Spiritual Educators
 Licensed Teacher Postgraduate Week
 Adults of Unity Conference (Estes Park, Colorado)
 Y.O.U. Conference
 Skills Demonstration Seminar
 Executive Committee Meetings
 Board Member Seminar & Retreat
 Skills Demonstration Seminar

March 29-31 (Mon.-Wed.)
 May 15-21 (Sat.-Fri.)
 May 22-28 (Sat.-Fri.)
 June 11-13 (Fri.-Sun.)
 June 15-19 (Tues.-Sat.)
 June 18 (Fri.)
 June 19-25 (Sat.-Fri.)
 June 19-25 (Sat.-Fri.)
 July 3-9 (Sat.-Fri.)
 July 17-23 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Aug. 21-27 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Sept. 13-15 (Mon.-Wed.)
 Sept. 18-24 (Sat.-Fri.)
 Oct. 30-Nov. 5 (Sat.-Fri.)

1993 Regional Conferences

Western April 19-22
 Great Lakes Sept. 19-23

Eastern Oct. 2-7
 Southeast Oct. 18-22
 South Central Oct. 18-22

Kahnetah Resort in Oregon
 Potawatomi Inn-Pokagon State Park,
 Angola, IN
 Hamilton, Ont., Canada
 Lake Chatuge, near Hiawasse, GA
 Shreveport, LA

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

 **Contact**

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Kansas City, MO
 Permit No. 754

HERITAGE ROOM

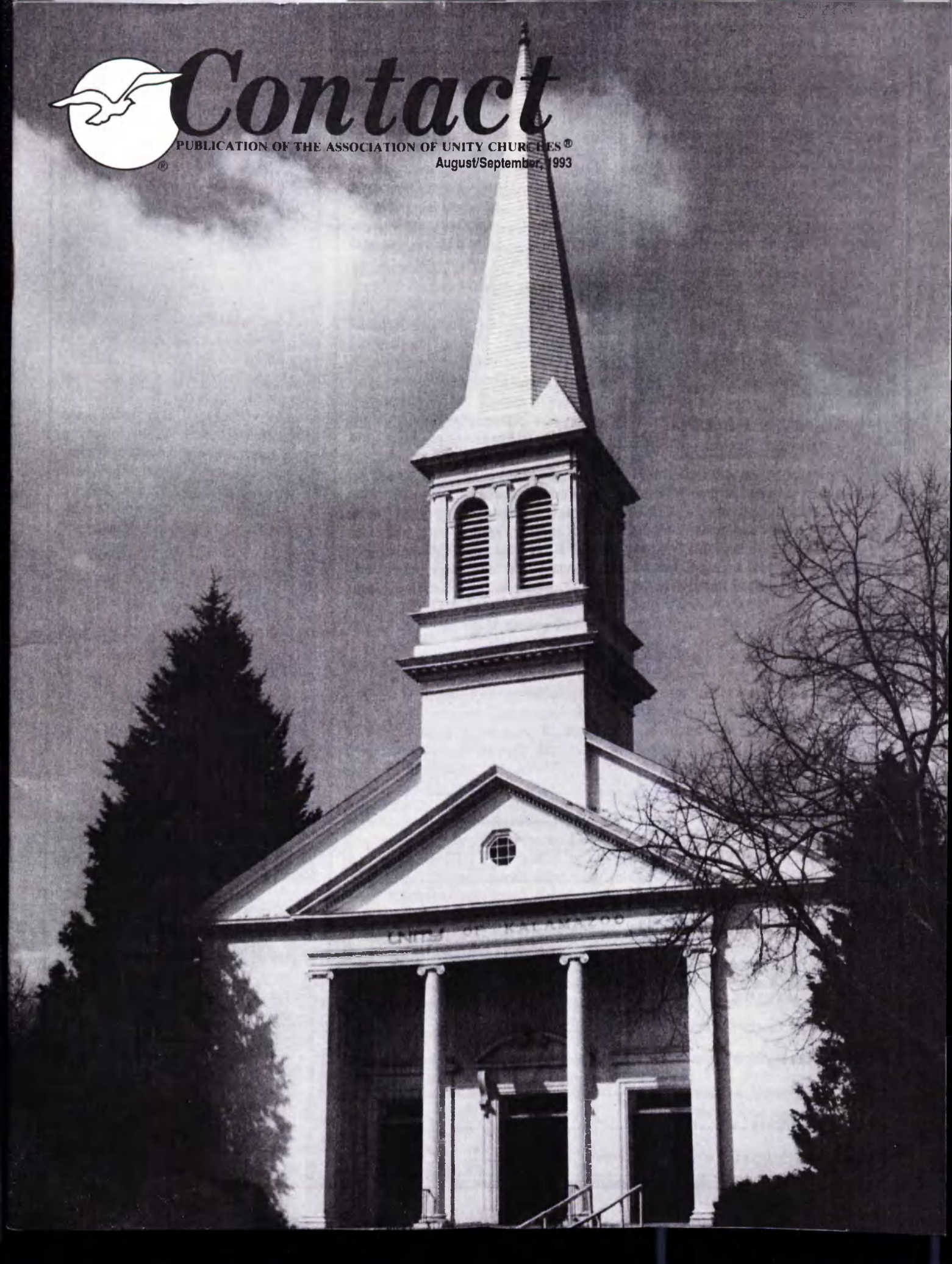
00000



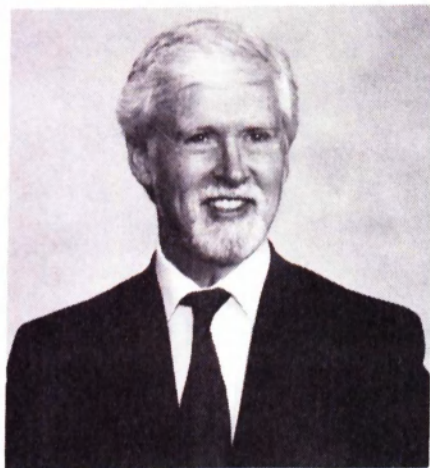
Contact

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

August/September, 1993



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Alan Rowbotham
Unity of Roanoke Valley
Roanoke, Virginia

How do you select titles for your talks? In my own case, I might choose to do a series inspired by a particular book, in which case titles are chosen fairly naturally and easily. Other times topics present themselves from material I may be studying or what's "up" for me at a particular time. But sometimes topics and titles

seem to come God-given and in strange ways. Let me give you an illustration of this.

During last April's executive committee meetings Debbie Ratliff-Ball, Marsha Penrose, Pat Barker and I had lunch together to discuss the program for the closing ceremony at June Conference. We were at "The Asia Restaurant" in Lee's Summit, so at the end of our meal we were each given a fortune cookie. The message in mine said, "Someone is speaking well of you." I thought, "That's nice," put it in my pocket and promptly forgot about it. Driving back to the Association office, Debbie asked me to be sure to give her my title before I left the next day. I assured her I'd been thinking about it and would get it to her, then I put my attention back upon my driving. Well (you think you already guessed it!), the words of the fortune cookie came back to me, "Someone is speaking well of you," and resonated in my heart. Almost immediately following came the Scripture, You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." I was able to tell Debbie my title before I got out of the car: "You are my

beloved!" . . . and I was well pleased!

So that's how my title came for the topic that was already developing in my mind (around the importance of us loving and accepting ourselves in the midst of challenges). But that wasn't the end of it!

In May, a dispute arose in our church and I had cause to remember the reminder of the fortune cookie and the words of the Scripture. When in the midst of differing opinions and conflict, it often seems that the negative assumes magnified proportions. It was in the midst of this that reassuring notes of love and support came to us and I gratefully remembered to put things in their perspective--"Someone is speaking well of you!" Among the notes and cards were included the following "paradoxical commandments of leadership" by Kent Keith. I reprint them here to remind you whenever you may be faced with challenging situations or challenging people in your own ministry:

1. People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered: Love them anyway.
2. If you do good, people will accuse you

See *BELOVED* on page 6

Contents

Broadcasting the Unity Message	10
Church Management Issues	8
Development Office News	6
Executive Director's Letter	3
Expansion News	4
Financial Statement	12
GOOD NEWS!--Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund	14
The "I" Word--The Minister Assistance Team	22
Intergenerational Education Ministry:	
Spiritual Education in the Year 2000	19
Year of the Child News	17
Meet Your Association Staff	9
Planned Giving News	7
President's Letter	2
Regional Officers List	13
Youngest Attendant to a Unity Conference`	23

Volume 26, Issue 4

August/September 1993

CONTACT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor Cheryl Vestal
Graphics & Layout Cheryl Vestal
Circulation Glenn Mosley, Jr.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

The Editorial purpose of CONTACT is the purpose of the Association: the Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative and education programs.

Cover:

Unity Church of Kalamazoo
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Minister: Carol Amos

Deadlines: 1st of the month, two months prior to issue date

August/September, 1993 **Contact**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

"Can I . . . Will I . . . Can I?"

"Can I get in? Will I be accepted? Can I make an impact?" are the first three questions visitors to a church service have. They need to hear, to see, and to experience that the answer is "Yes!"

The "revolving door syndrome," (sometimes called "in the front door and out the back" syndrome) probably is not possible to stop completely from happening. It is safe to say that at least a few of our Sunday church visitors are not "ready" and do not return for years, if ever.

Much as I would have preferred not to face it when I was in a church, I think it is also safe to say some (perhaps many) of our Sunday visitors were ahead of me and my message and they did not return for years, if ever. Even then, perhaps their return was to see if I had yet "caught up," and, therefore, might have something useful for them to hear.

Acknowledging the risk I've taken above at oversimplifying the two ends of the "church shopper" continuum, what about all the people in between?

It takes more than a well-constructed and well-delivered lesson and it takes more than a moving program of music to a perfectly-executed service to get those visitors to return.

It also takes more than a tongue-in-cheek publishing of the following suggestions, along with their accompanying statistics: "Do not ride in automobiles; they cause 20 percent of all fatal accidents. Do not stay at home; 17 percent of

all accidents occur in the home. Do not walk on the street or sidewalk; 14 percent of all accidents occur to pedestrians. Do not travel by air, rail, or water; 16 percent of all accidents happen on these. However, only .001 percent of all deaths reported occur in worship services. Hence, the safest place for you to be is in church. Sunday school is also relatively safe."

What does it take to get visitors and newcomers (people who have returned after their first visit) to return?

For starters, it takes desire on the part of the minister and other leadership to have them return.

Fostering inclusion is not automatic in the small church any more than it is in the mid-sized or large churches.

Logistically, welcoming and including visitors, familiarizing newcomers, and assimilating new members, could be easier than in larger churches, but it still takes desire and well-executed plans to make it happen.

The "small church syndrome" is a fact of ministry. Many congregants say they want their church to grow, but they do not mean it. I suppose that's true of some clergy too. As the theme song of the now defunct "Cheers," television program suggests, it's so nice to go "where everybody knows your name."

Church professional and lay leadership need to recognize and create strategies to transform when possible, and to transcend when necessary, the inertia created by the desire to remain small.

In twenty-six years of field ministry I served one small church, three mid-sized churches, and two large churches. I served one 15-month interim assignment, and I pioneered one church while serving in another (these were two of the three mid-sized churches already mentioned).

All sizes of ministries, and various sized cities seemed to me to need very similar processes for identifying and welcoming the visitor, such as encouraging the newcomer to continue involvement, and to find ways of assimilating of the new member into ongoing participation

Most of the 210+ Unity ministries I've spoken in and/or visited greet visitors during announcements asking them to stand to receive a packet of information (often with a ribbon or flower to wear indicating they are a first-time visitor).

I'm impressed with the practice of some Unity ministries which have sev-

eral greeters trained and experienced at "packet spotting." The visitor is greeted personally after the service, and is not only invited but escorted to the place of coffee and fellowship. This one visitor is the only assignment the greeter has this day. One portion of the assignment is to be certain that s/he gets a personal introduction to the minister as well as to others. By design, they are introduced to other greeters and visitors with the intention of identifying three to five "names with faces." The other greeters are trained to take note of the name and face of each visitor to whom s/he is introduced, in the event that the "visitor" becomes a "newcomer" in the next few weeks. The visitor then receives a telephone call from the minister or lay leadership within 36 hours and a welcome letter within 3-5 days.

At least three or four times a year there needs to be a two-to-four week orientation series (probably on Sunday afternoons) with refreshments. Depending on the size of the Orientation group, you might ask each person (include at least 6 greeters and other church lay leaders and ask them to participate as well), to tell a little about themselves and what brought them to this Unity church. In a non-threatening way, they will see commonality not only with other newcomers, but with the church leaders as they tell what and how they were led to the church.

In the second session (or second half of the first session if the group is small) since the newcomers have shared a little of their history, share a brief history of Unity and then a brief history of the local church.

In the third (or second if small) orientation session, minister and lay leadership share specifics of educational programs, additional worship service information (types of Easter, Christmas, etc., services) fellowship opportunities, congregational events, information about classes for membership, if required, and service projects. This is where they tell you their interests and/or skills and what they would like to do. Be sure they list at least 3-5 volunteer possibilities. It's a good idea to end this session with dinner (or lunch). This gives newcomers and members further informal opportunity to continue getting acquainted.

See Executive on page 5



Joann Landreth
Associate Director/
Director of Placement/Expansion

In the June/July Conference Edition of CONTACT an article was included from Victoria Etchemendy, who shared information on the idea of spiritual coaching as she pioneered a ministry in Lake Oswego, Oregon. Listed below is an article written by Victoria's spiritual coach, Jan Carothers, a certified personnel consultant with an Oregon firm in Portland. This firm offers many services that could enhance the work in churches. Victoria gives high praise to her spiritual coach, Jan, for the development that has been accomplished through Jan's guidance. Following is the article, "Coaching the Visionary Minister" written by Jan Carothers.

Much love and many blessings flow forth to Victoria Etchemendy, minister, and Jan Carothers, spiritual coach.

Coaching the Visionary Minister

If you have a vision for building a unique organization to glorify Spirit in each life and to uplift the lives of individuals following their spiritual nature, such a vision may be too big to contemplate entirely alone. Common wisdom suggests that leadership can be lonely, but it doesn't need to be quite so lonely or frustrating as it has been for many ministers. In a world that can seem full of apparent limitations and obstacles, leaders need special support.

What is a Spiritual Coach?

All ministers deserve their own spiri-

Expansion Churches/Study Groups:

All affiliated newly-developing churches and study groups are required to send a monthly financial statement to the Association of Unity Churches. Internal Revenue Service requires the Association to have these financial statements on record. This protects the Association tax exempt umbrella for all churches and study groups as well as protecting tax deductions for contributors to your church and/or study group.

tual coach, preferably an objective individual outside their group or congregation, knowledgeable in metaphysical and organizational principles. The coach needs to have supporting and directing skills, tailored to the minister's particular needs, strengths, and commitments.

What athlete does not have a coach? Does the coach play for them? Obviously not. The coach simply empowers them through skillful coaching. The same with ministry. The great coach may not be a minister, but must understand great ministry.

Founding ministers particularly benefit from this kind of working relationship. Among my current ministerial clients, four have pioneered their own unique ministries, each in a different state.

In November 1990 the Reverend Victoria Etchemendy asked me to be her spiritual coach and we've worked together monthly since then. At that time her new ministry was called Unity Fellowship and had grown, over nine months, to thirty people attending Sunday services. Renamed in 1992, the Unity World Healing Center clearly reflects her compelling vision. In three years, with a weekly average of ninety people, and an elegant new facility, she and they have come a long way!

When we began, Victoria was mainly occupied with the ongoing Sunday to Sunday work and with each new creative project. She was pulled from task to task, rather than building a leadership team.

My approach to the coach's job is total commitment to the success that my clients design and to progressively keep asking more questions. Through coaching, Victoria realized unless she focused on larger strategic issues, she could stay enmeshed in detail with little time or energy left to lead the vision.

Coaching provided the support, perspective and information she needed to tackle more of the management and leadership tasks. Victoria encourages each new participant to bring their particular

strengths to the Center. Now she has enrolled and trained a group of leaders, called the Steering Team, who have assumed many major responsibilities of the church.

Unity World Healing Center is run through prayer, planning, and creativity. My role is to encourage her to have faith in her own strengths--following inner direction and creativity that are her gifts. When problems arise, we talk, seek guidance, draw on technical wisdom, design a solution, test it, implement it and evaluate it for the intended result.

The challenges she now meets easily were unthinkable to her two years ago. Her willingness to do new and uncomfortable tasks, such as communicating her vision publicly and frequently, have enhanced her leadership skill and depth and provide an inspiring example. The coaching supports her to keep moving along the path, pausing to celebrate the wins, and then to continue to declare and follow her vision.

A Pathway Through Overwhelm

No matter how vivid, pioneering ministers have many tough days--days when they doubt, when they forget to listen inwardly and then give in to their fear! Will this work? Is this the right direction? Will the money appear? Will people with key skills appear at the right time? Though ministers are trained teachers of Principle, even they sometimes need to be gently reminded who is the source and for what are they building?

A spiritual coach shines light on a pathway through overwhelm by assisting the minister to remember the Truth, resolving their issues, one at a time, in priority order.

Coaching sessions clarify the activities that will realize the vision of the church. When the minister's emphasis centers around communicating the vision

Continued...

and creating opportunities for the vision to inspire others, the people to fulfill this vision present themselves.

Two conditions are required for effective coaching.

- 1) The minister must be coachable, be personally committed to the coaching process, and be willing to devote regular time to it.
- 2) The coach must be willing to support the vision of the minister and the congregation and not to impose his or her own agenda for a particular kind of church.

Support for Risk Taking

In assuming progressive risk, Victoria uses the coaching both as a sounding board for more comfortable ventures and as a guide for exploring "unknown" territory. UWHC has sponsored major speakers, such as Alan Cohen and Jennifer James, and community-wide education events not normal for an organization their size. Recently they remodeled an expansive new facility.

Working with Victoria is exciting. She practices her faith, she listens inwardly and "puts feet on her prayers." An important part of the process is to re-examine all her previous assumptions and experience from 13 years of ministry, choosing what can benefit this new ministry and releasing the rest. Her enthusiasm creates an atmosphere of growth, and loving celebration.

Our relationship is mutually energizing. Her inspired vision is so compelling that she is willing to do whatever it takes to lead it into reality. It's also clear that with a vision called world healing center, we don't know how it is going to be accomplished. It is a process of experimentation, with Spirit as compass, using every available source of information.

With 18 years in New Thought, 20 years of board leadership in churches and

nonprofits and a professional background in training and management consulting, I've learned to ask the questions that reduce doubts and fears, to identify real issues, and to generate creative solutions so the minister/leader is free to keep the organization focused and sailing on course.

Many New Thought churches use me to assist in specific areas of ministry--such as priority setting, providing structure, developing leaders and training for leadership teams.

Often a pioneering minister-leader who is brave enough to plant a new church may not be as practiced at turning over responsibilities to others. A spiritual coach can assist in effectively moving from doing it all themselves to enrolling and empowering others early in the ministry, long before they take on paid staff.

I can remember Victoria's joy as she found a skilled, loving person to do the accounting and another to manage the bookstore. We found ways to use money more effectively and made it a priority that Victoria pay herself a modest salary, and increase it every month. Over time she has found a creative way to bring in a part-time administrator.

Personal Benefits of Coaching

Many ministers I work with comment that having a spiritual coach removes some of the burden of listening from their spouses and other family members. They get to be a normal family again instead of having the role of worried, or worse, critical partners.

Building a new ministry is so demanding that I encourage ministers to use the coaching to support them in balancing other important parts of their life, like health, recreation, and relationships.

Who will be your Coach?

How do you choose a spiritual coach?

If you are creating a church, consider coaches who have knowledge and experience in churches, boards, nonprofits, teamwork, volunteers, ministry, business, education, vision, marketing and empowering and training others. Equally important, they should be genuinely excited about you.

When considering a potential coach you might ask yourself: Do they make it easier for you to believe in the possibility of your vision? Can you ask them "embarrassing questions" about things you think you're already "supposed" to know? Are they challenging as well as compassionate? Are they Spirit-based? Do they have evidence of leadership success in their own life? Do they "light your fire?" If so, you may have found your coach!

Executive

Cont'd from page 3

The last in the orientation sessions occurs during the following Sunday worship service. List their names in the Sunday program, introduce them and welcome them to the congregation, irrespective of whether they plan to become "official" members. The coffee and friendship hour that day is in their honor.

Afterwards, be sure newcomers are recruited to help stage the Easter flower service, Christmas candlelighting services, picnics, and any church or community service projects.

- 1) "Can I get in?"

Normally, from a physical point of view, the answer is "Yes!"

- 2) "Will I be accepted?"

The answer to this question depends on the desire of professional and lay leadership and their collective abilities to transform this desire into action on the part of many. God knows the minister alone cannot do it.

- 3) "Can I make an impact?"

Even the newly-attending person who is aware that s/he has such a question usually is hesitant to volunteer. Recruit them. Show them they can make a difference.

Help the person coming through the front door to hear, to see, and to experience "Yes!" to the three questions above.

Most won't ask where the back door is.



Jan Carothers, certified personnel consultant, is senior associate of an Oregon firm, a four-year-old Northwest management consulting company built on the foundation of seventeen years of her professional experience in executive search, corporate recruiting, human resources, include leadership and planning retreats, facilitation and mediation for conflict resolution, team building, power to lead seminars and coaching great performance: bringing out the best in your people.



Shay St. John
Director of Development

Fund-raising Ideas From the Field

These creative ideas from our various ministries may provide a spark for you. Our newly revised Development Manual contains these ideas and much more. Be sure to order a copy for your ministry today!

To Prepare for Fund Raising:

Tony Roebuck in Charlottesville, Virginia, used four clear steps, executed over a four-week period, to prepare his people for a capital campaign. They focused first on thanksgiving, second on giving, designing T-shirts for everyone; third on gathering spiritual resources; and fourth on forgiving. In this way, they prepared the spiritual soil for asking in love!

April Fool's Party:

Donors were invited to an April Fools Party on the outside of the invitation. Inside--big letters: DON'T COME! Instead, send us the cost of your tuxedo rental, new dress, or love expressed.

There really was not a party, but the donor's attention was certainly attained.

This came from a non-Unity nonprofit organization I support. They got my check, too, as a result of this most effective attention getter.

I have seen "plays" on this theme, such as a *nonbake* bake sale to which you donate the cost of baked items. Or a *nonpotluck*. Be creative and innovative!

Love in Action Volunteer Program:

Unity Church of Overland Park has an incredible volunteer program. Their continuous invitation to join their volunteer program has an effective cover: calligraphied "Love in Action" with red hearts pouring forth from all around it--and "The Honor to Serve" as a hallmark of those who participate.

Their affirmation: "I am Love in Action!" The second page of their invitation lists all the many areas in which volunteers are needed. For more information, contact the ministry for updates and success stories.

Thank you, Mary Omwake, and all who make this ministry a dynamic expression of the living Christ!

(P.S. Volunteers not only give of their time. Statistics prove that those who volunteer also contribute at a higher level of their financial resources!)

Suggestion Box Blank:

Unity of Sebring (Florida), Andy Conyer, minister, has a great suggestion box blank. It invites the suggestions of all congregants. At the same time, it provides space for the person making the suggestion to affirm his/her own willingness to support the addition of the idea with a personal commitment of time, talent, and treasure!

Suggestion boxes are very effective in creating a sense of ownership of the ministry. Consider a form for making these suggestions that encourages responsibility for bringing the suggestion into reality.

A Square Foot of the Church:

Unity of Tallahassee (Florida), Nancy Worth, minister, sold square feet of the church to pay for an addition. Those who bought a square foot or more were given a "square foot" pin made by a member in the church. It was a "Square" of wood with a foot sticker diagonally across it.

Other ministries have sold "A Chunk of the Church," a seat in the sanctuary, etc., to fund building costs.

And now...your creative ideas! Share them with us for our next revision on the manual.

Pooled Income Fund is an excellent opportunity to receive a lifetime income on your donation! For a brochure on this special planned gift that will benefit you, your local Unity ministry, and our Association of Unity Churches, contact our Development Department today.

Beloved

Cont'd from page 2

- of selfish, ulterior motives: Do good anyway.
- 3. If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies: Succeed anyway.
- 4. The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow: Do good anyway.
- 5. Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable: Be honest and frank anyway.
- 6. The biggest men/women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men/women with the smallest minds: Think big anyway.
- 7. People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs: Fight for a few under dogs anyway.
- 8. What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight: Build anyway.
- 9. People really need help but may attack you if you do help them: Help them anyway.
- 10. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth: Give the world the best you have anyway.

I said in the beginning how some titles seem to be God-given--even if you might at first have thought inspiration from a fortune-cookie was frivolous to say the least! Let me know how you select your titles and topics, and any special outcomes you may have experienced.

The dispute at our church may not yet be completely resolved, but I'm remembering the words--and I ask you to remember them for yourself:

"Someone is speaking well of you!"



Deborah Turner-Bey
Planned Giving & Grants Officer

Association of Unity Churches Pooled Income Fund On Line and Ready To Receive Gifts!

Our newly established Association of Unity Churches pooled Income Fund is a trust fund created to ensure the future strength and viability of our Association while creating a vehicle for giving which allows our donors to retain an income for life. By combining your resources with those of other Unity friends, you can be at the heart of our efforts to build a strong Association of Unity Churches while also enjoying the long-term financial benefits of a life income agreement.

When you contribute to the Fund, your gift is "pooled" with others and invested by an experienced trustee. Income earned by the fund is distributed proportionately each year to all contributors. Your income from the Fund is determined by the number of units of the Fund represented by your gift and Fund's annual earnings. Gifts are constantly added to the Fund so assets are continually diversified with the aim of achieving both income and fund growth. Your income varies as the size and earnings of the Fund change from year to year.

You can participate in our Pooled Income Fund by contributing as little as

If you have a surplus over and above your needs, you are not fulfilling the righteous law by letting it lay idle. Set it into circulation by giving it to some good cause--lending it to the Lord--and it will return to you again in due season multiplied. No one ever regretted the money that was given to help the good.

Charles and Myrtle Fillmore

\$5,000. You can also add to the Fund at any time in increments of \$2,000 or more. This represents a significantly smaller contribution than the \$25,000 or more required for individual charitable remainder trusts. Yet our Pooled Income Fund affords you the tax and income benefits normally experienced with individual trusts.

At the death of a contributor, his or her income can continue to be paid to another beneficiary named by the donor. Your Association receives the full use of that portion of the fund's units represented by your gift at the death of the last beneficiary.

People in all types of situations who want to support the work of our Association of Unity Churches find the Pooled Income Fund an attractive option:

- * A person approaching or in retirement years who can use a supplement to present income.

- * Someone who owns securities that yield only a small income and wants to increase income as well as make a gift.

- * People over age 55. Generally, the older you are when you make your contribution, the greater the tax benefits.

- * A couple or any two people who want extra income now plus the security of knowing the income can continue after the death of one.

- * Anyone who is intrigued by the idea of giving and receiving income but may not choose to give in the amounts generally required for a separate trust.

Here is an example of how a donor participates in our Association Pooled Income Fund and avoids being "locked in" owning low-yield securities.

Example: Mr. Glass, 65, planned to include a \$10,000 charitable bequest of stock to our Association of Unity Churches in his will. He would also like to increase his income now because the \$10,000 stock he plans to bequeath yields only two percent per year in dividends.

If he sells the stock, which has risen substantially in value since he purchased it ten years ago, and reinvests for a higher yield, he will incur some capital gains tax. However, if Mr. Glass transfers the \$10,000 of stock to our Association Pooled Income Fund, he reinvests the full fair market value of his stock, bypasses the capital gains tax, and receives an income tax deduction for his gift. If the income tax deduction is greater than the amount he is allowed to deduct in one year, he can deduct any "excess" over the next five years.

Such a gift results in:

- * Increased personal income
- * A charitable gift to support the work of our Association
- * Income tax and estate tax savings.

The Association of Unity Churches Pooled Income Fund is a loving way to support our evolving, expanding services to the field, and to receive a lifetime income for yourself and your loved ones. If you would like more information about our Pooled Income Fund or a personal analysis of how the Fund can benefit you and your family, please call me at (816) 524-7414, ext. 350.



Barbara O'Hearne
Church Management Consultant

Association of Unity Churches Strategic Plan 1993-1998

Our Association Board of Trustees, serving as the Strategic Planning Committee, commissioned the holding of focus groups in every region throughout the country to gather input from you, our Association members. It then analyzed and processed the massive amounts of data received from the focus groups. With great deliberation and prayer they drafted a set of Core Values, a Mission Statement, and a Vision Statement.

In an effort to confirm what the Board believed the field was saying about the Association a series of "feedback" focus groups were held at all regional meetings during 1992. Input from these focus groups gave the Strategic Planning Committee guidance in preparing the final document including the priority goals from the field.

This strategic plan will be used to help the field ministers, licensed teachers, headquarters staff, committees, and the Board of Trustees plan, monitor, and evaluate the strategic direction for our Association as we move to the year 2000.

Special thanks to all of you who have participated in this plan.

Planning Process

Since April, 1984, our Association of Unity Churches has benefited from the results of three strategic plans. During the January mid-year meetings in 1991 the Association Board of Trustees passed a

resolution to begin the strategic plan process one year earlier than usual. The additional time was required to gather input from field ministers, licensed teachers, and staff about their perceptions of the Association, where it has been, what was working, what the needs of our members are, and where we are being guided to go as an association serving its members.

The planning model illustrated below was designed to get maximum involvement from as many members of our Association all over the United States as possible.

Core Values

We affirm the following core values as embodied in the Unity teachings and way of life.

We believe in:

- * our common unity with all life and the "new commandment" of Jesus Christ: "That you love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34);
- * universal principles and spiritual values as revealed and demonstrated by Jesus Christ and the continuing revelations of the Christ presence;
- * practicing prayer and meditation as our primary means of becoming conscious of our oneness with God.

We demonstrate these values through:

- * caring, responsive, and spiritually nurturing relationships in our common unity with one another.
- * communication from a level of spiritual integrity that is trustworthy, clear, open, and timely;
- * standards of excellence which promote spiritual leadership that inspires us to live and teach a God-centered life;
- * quality spiritual education that

supports and nurtures children, youth, and adults.

Mission Statement:

Our mission as an association is to serve, support, assist, and love one another.

Vision Statement:

We, as an association practicing the principles taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ, serve one another all over the world with loving leadership, integrity, and excellence.

Our vision is expressed through a consciousness of:

- * love
- * prayer
- * authenticity
- * open mindedness
- * equality
- * cohesiveness
- * responsiveness
- * relevance
- * decisiveness
- * progressiveness
- * professionalism

We are committed to living a God-centered life, continually developing and providing creative, spiritually sound, and socially responsible programs, materials, and training. We assist and support one another as we serve humanity in all its cultural diversity.

The programs, services, and training provided throughout our Association are (listed alphabetically):

- * application of new technology to ministry
- * clearinghouse for placement procedures

Continued...

Planning Model:

Focus groups held at regional meetings conducted by Management Consultant Barbara O'Hearne.	Results compiled January & April, '92 Board of Trustees analyzes & drafts Core Values, Mission, Vision and Goals.	"Feedback" focus groups held at regional meetings to give board input/direction. for final document. Field recommends goals.	Results compiled January & March, '93 Board of Trustees analyzes and writes final Core Values Mission, Vision, and Goals.	Final document presented to 1993 Conference for ratification.
---	--	--	--	---

- * excellent postgraduate programs
- * expanded CEP through regional presentations
- * full-service intergenerational and intercultural education programs
- * full spectrum of group benefits and services
- * jointly produced programs and publications
- * licensing and ordaining of qualified leaders
- * ministerial assistance, mentoring, and spiritual renewal programs
- * models for ministry
- * multi-media resource center
- * ongoing research and development
- * practical skills and resources for community services
- * procedures for sabbatical leaves
- * professional policies and procedures
- * qualified conflict management
- * resources for building projects
- * spiritual resources and support services
- * trained interim ministers

As an association with a sound financial base, we provide an excellent physical facility, which serves as our home office. In our continuing development and growth as an association, we will:

- * deepen our relationships through mutual trust, respect, and appreciation
- * provide a spiritually-based living curriculum
- * pay off our current mortgage

As a spiritually-based association, we are an innovative, professional, and loving ministry of service.

Goals:

In order to achieve the shared vision as determined by ministers, licensed teachers, and staff, the following goals will guide our Association over the next three years.

In deepening our relationship with God, ourselves, and one another, we, as members of our Association, commit to the following goals:

1. To lovingly support one another through authentic sharing and by being sensitive and responsive to one another as individuals.
2. To lovingly support our youth and families by developing a spiritually-

based living curriculum relative to the needs of the 1990's.

3. To identify and implement ongoing professional education and training by providing up-to-date materials, resources, and skills development.
4. To continue creating an effective and professional organization that demonstrates quality management while serving our members.
5. To enhance communication with one another in clear, direct, and effective ways.

6. To expand and increase our tithing base that, combined with fiscal responsibility, supports desired services and products and an excellent home office facility.

Update

on Barbara O'Hearne Service

Barbara O'Hearne may now do follow-up consultation/visits with ministries within eight to eleven months after the initial visit. Such follow-up is permissible provided the ministry has made progress in implementing suggestions/materials from her original visit and needs additional help to complete implementation.

--Glenn Mosley

Meet Your Association Staff

(The Management Team appreciates this opportunity; after the request was brought to our attention, we realized that we become so familiar with the work and educational background with our Association staff members that we overlook the fact that field ministers and church staff members would also like to become acquainted with the faces and voices at "the other end of the line." Thank you for asking.)

SHAY ST. JOHN has served as Director of Development since January, 1990. Prior to coming on staff, Shay served as a Unity field minister. She pioneered the ministry in Savannah, Georgia, moving from there to Unity Christ Church in San Francisco, California, where she stayed for six years.

While in San Francisco, Shay served on the West Central Regional Board and was elected Regional Representative. While on the Association's Board of Trustees, she was elected to the Executive Committee. In addition, Shay served on the Ministerial Education Committee (MEC) and the Conference Program Committee.

In addition, Shay became actively involved in AIDS outreach in San Francisco, participating in the Meatphysical Alliance, the AIDS Foundation, and hospice. She worked actively with Father John McGrann, founder of KAIROS House, and served as first president of



that Board. KAIROS House is now considered a national model of service to care-givers and over 14 other such non-profit agencies are in place.

Prior to ministry, Shay taught Spanish and German in high school and college. She has two daughters and five grandchildren. She is married to Al Sears, coordinator of Partners in Ministry, and they celebrate eight years together this month.

Shay's passion is to our Unity movement. She affirms abundance, spiritual growth, and healthy ministries worldwide. In whatever ways she can serve and help this vision become a reality, she is ready!

CONNIE WAITLEY has been with our Association since May, 1990, where she began as the back-up telephone receptionist and data entry. Connie became

our receptionist in June, 1991, and her responsibilities include directing your calls, mail opening, accounting assistant, volunteer coordinator, building maintenance liaison, conference room scheduler, and air travel coordinator.

Connie is also a licensed real estate saleswoman and a single parent of three daughters--Jennifer, Julie, and Anna.



BROADCASTING THE UNITY MESSAGE



Carolyn Craft
Radio/Media Consultant

Often the Radio/Media Department receives music tapes, sheet music, and/or letters from musicians willing to share their creations. And quite often, because I sing, I receive requests from minister asking about possible new music in sheet form for their musicians. I have personally heard Joy's original music and highly recommend her songbook. Here is the information:

Songs of Joy

Joy has been composing, arranging, and singing her songs in Unity churches for years. Many people have asked to have these songs in a book so that others can sing them. Now, at last these wonderful original songs are being compiled into book form.

The songbook, SONGS OF JOY, will be available September 1 and will include over 30 songs on the spiritual journey, healing, peace, love, and nature.

Joy's PEACE ANTHEM cassette was produced for the International Peace Conference "Seeking the True Meaning of Peace" held in Costa Rica in 1989 and attended by 600 people from 20 countries and all the major religions. Keynoted by Oscar Arias and the Dalai Lama, PEACE ANTHEM was performed at the opening ceremonies by the National Chorus of Cost Rica and Metales Paz brass quartet.

THIS IS MY MOTHER'S WORLD was produced for the Earth Summit in 1992. Joy was part of the Sacred Earth

Gathering during the Earth Summit and performed her songs in concert.

Cost of the songbook will be \$75. To reserve your copy, order copies of Joy's

cassette tapes, or schedule a concert you can contact Joy at Joyful Sound Co., 2010 S. Broadway, Pittsburg, KS 66762; (316) 231-3188.

How does our Association of Unity Churches tithe?

This question is often asked when working with boards and ministers. Recently, I was encouraged to share this information in CONTACT.

Our Association tithes 11% and in numerous ways. The following is an incomplete list of the ways we reach out beyond ourselves to bless the growth of our Unity movement.

- We tithe to the expansion of our field movement, providing funds to growing ministries stretching forth to hire their first ordained minister.
- We tithe \$500 grants to new ministries moving into ministry space that will be open at least five days a week.
- We tithe the services of Barbara O'Hearne, our Church Management Consultant, to train our boards in effective ways to empower their ministries.
- We tithe the services of Shay St. John, our Director of Development, to work with boards in the arena of fund raising.
- We tithe to the growth of our international ministries through scholarships to international students, materials to bless the services these ministries provide, and moving expenses of first minister. Twenty-five percent of all STARlight funds go to this outreach, expressing our commitment to more than a tithe of the resources received.

Yes, our Association tithes. We move beyond the letter of the law (10%). We express our commitment to the spirit of the law, affirming joyously, God is our source. Our Association of Unity Churches is lavishly prospered as all things work together for our highest good now. This affirmation is spoken each day in our Association staff's morning prayer circle, recognizing that each ministry, each minister, each licensed teacher and each congregant is included in this prosperity decree.

--Shay St. John
Director of Development

What is a Communication Committee Network Member?

- An enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in his/her community and the world. The members' commission and participation would require energies devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.): research, feedback, observation, inform, tabulate, community awareness, creativity, interfacing, expanding, consciousness, checking market pulse/church pulse, service, support, defining and holding your ministry's vision. This person could be serving as minister, a board member, public relations person, publicist, media coordinator, teacher, etc. Write us with the name of the person in your church/center who will be your Communications Committee Network Member.

We now have 28 ministries who have named their members:

Radio/Media Department Communication Committee Network Members

California:

Ada Davis & Virginia Good--Unity Center of Bakersfield, Bakersfield
Rev. Billie Blain--Sunrise Unity, Citrus Heights
Rev. Arthur Hammons--Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, El Cajon
John M. Bennett--Long Beach Unity, Long Beach
Kate Trelatsky--Unity Church of Merced, Merced
Rev. Emily Gillespie--Unity Church of Light, Concord

Florida:

Frank Kaiser--Unity Church for Christian Living, Miami
Rev. Jack Kern--Unity of Naples, Naples
John Howard--Unity of Sebring, Sebring
Victor Rosencrans--Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach

Georgia:

Rina Leadingham--Unity of Savannah, Savannah

Hawaii:

Peggy Van Cleve--Unity Church of Hawaii, Honolulu

Louisiana:

Jo An Burt--Unity of Shreveport, Shreveport

Michigan:

Dean Leutscher--Unity of Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids
Mary Jo Ruten--Unity of Jackson, Jackson
Grace Luckscherte--Unity of Livonia, Livonia

Missouri:

Sandra Hymel--Unity in Blue Springs, Blue Springs

Nebraska:

LeVonne Feller--Unity Church of Today, Omaha

New Mexico:

Bob Burns--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Las Cruces

New York:

Olga Sparman--Unity Pyramid of Truth, Brooklyn
Rev. Sue Smith & Pauline James--Unity Ch/Practical Christianity, Buffalo
Rev. Brenda Windell--Christ Church Unity, Rochester

Tennessee:

Liz Duckett--Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville

Texas:

Janet Meschi & Kristi Beckwith--Unity Ch of Brownsville, Brownsville
Ken Kenyon--Frist Unity Church of Positive Living, El Paso
D. Karen Wilkerson--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Tyler

Utah:

Ward McCarey--Unity of Salt Lake, Salt Lake City

Wisconsin:

Joan Phillipson--Unity Church of Christianity, Wauwatosa

Voices of Unity:

Christ Unity Church, Sacramento, CA:

"The Best Is Yet To Be" TV program-
(out of Sacramento to much of northern California and southern Oregon)

- Sacramento, channel 40 at 9:00 a.m.
- Bay Area out of San Jose, channel 48 at 9:00 a.m.
- Seattle Puget Sound Area, channel 22 at 8:00 a.m.
- Arizona, out of Phoenix, Prescott, channel 27 at 8:00 a.m. (northern Arizona, channel 7)
- Monterey Peninsula, cable channel 22 at 9:00 a.m.
- St. Joseph, Missouri, channel 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Unity Pyramid, Santa Maria, CA:

- Cable TV channels 21 and 22

Christ Universal Temple, Chicago, IL:

- TV Station 4

Unity Ch/North Shore, Evanston, IL:

- Radio 750 AM

Unity of Indianapolis, IN:

- Radio WXLW 950Kc AM, Fre. 3:00 a.m.

Detroit Unity Temple, Detroit, MI:

- Radio WQRS 105.1 FM, M-F 5:50 a.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. (on air continuously for the last 30 years)

Unity Church of Muskegon, MI

- Cable TV channel 24

Church of Today, Warren, MI:

- TV Channel 50 (Detroit) 8:00 a.m.
- TV Channel 33 (Cadillac) 10:00 a.m.
- Radio CKLW 800 AM 8:00 a.m.
- Radio WIFF 1570 AM 8:00 a.m.

Christ Ch of the Hills, Branson, MO:

- Local TV Channel 6

Unity Ch of P. C., St. Joseph, MO:

- TV KQTV, Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Associacion Unity, Santurce, PR:

- Radio WSJ 1560 AM, Sunday 8:00

Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN:

- WNOX 99.1 FM and WNDD 99.3 FM;
Mon. 7:40 & 8:20 a.m.; Fri. 5:20 p.m.;
and Sat. 12:00 midnight.

Unity Ch of Christianity, Houston, TX:

- Radio KODA 99.1, Thur & Fri 7:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun. random

Ch of the Hill Country, Kerrville, TX:

- Radio KERV AM and KRVL FM,
mornings and evenings

Unity Ch/NE Tarrant Cnty, Hurst, TX:

- Radio 97.9 FM, Mon-Fri 8:25 p.m.,
Sat & Sun 7:25 p.m.

Write us about your broadcast outreach and we will add your church/center to the list.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

On behalf of the Association of Unity Churches' staff and Board of Trustees, we extend to you our deep gratitude and appreciation for your past financial support. The love and faith you incorporate into your gifts make them special.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Fund Operations As of April 30, 1993

INCOME-OPERATIONS	April	Year to Date
Love Offerings	\$77,910.00	\$77,910.00
Other Income	<u>20,815.28</u>	<u>20,815.28</u>
	<u>\$98,725.28</u>	<u>\$98,725.28</u>
Less: Tithe Transfer	<u>7,793.06</u>	<u>7,793.06</u>
	90,932.22	90,932.22
Gross Profit Material	<u>3,858.07</u>	<u>3,858.07</u>
Total Income	<u>\$94,790.29</u>	<u>\$94,790.29</u>
EXPENSE-OPERATIONS	\$71,157.21	\$71,157.21
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$23,633.08</u>	<u>\$23,633.08</u>

*Unity School Contribution to the Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided:

Month of April: \$7,075.87

Year to Date: \$7,075.87

*This is a non-ledger item. It represents religious materials, book discounts, etc.

Building/Development Fund

INCOME-OPERATIONS	April	Year to Date
Love Offerings: Building Campaign	\$ 4,570.65	\$ 4,570.65
Love Offerings: Caring NOW!	1,896.21	1,896.21
Love Offerings: STARlight	5,181.28	5,181.28
Other Income	<u>1,257.97</u>	<u>1,257.97</u>
Campaign Revenue Total	<u>\$12,906.11</u>	<u>\$12,906.11</u>
Grant Income: Templeton Foundation	<u>43,000.00</u>	<u>43,000.00</u>
GROSS REVENUE	<u>\$55,906.11</u>	<u>\$55,906.11</u>
LESS: Transfer To Other Funds		
Building Campaign to Building Account	3,446.74	3,446.74
STARlight To Year of the Child Account	1,336.58	1,336.58
STARlight to General Fund	2,673.16	2,673.16
Caring NOW! to Building Account	428.88	428.88
Caring NOW! to Curriculum Account	<u>1,032.66</u>	<u>1,032.66</u>
Total Transfer	<u>\$ 8,918.02</u>	<u>\$ 8,918.02</u>
NET REVENUE AVAILABLE	<u>\$ 46,988.09</u>	<u>\$ 46,988.09</u>
Expenditures From Grant Income	<u>\$10,873.02</u>	<u>\$10,873.02</u>
Expenditures From Love Offering Incomes	<u>\$2,718.62</u>	<u>\$2,718.62</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$13,591.64</u>	<u>\$13,591.64</u>
INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$33,396.45</u>	<u>\$33,396.45</u>

Assn of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414



News for the Field

HEADQUARTERS

VOL. 3, NO. 2
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 1993

Glenn Mosley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Alan Rowbotham
President

Loving The Child Conference June 15-19, 1993

HIGHLIGHTS



Your Association's 1993 *Loving the Child* Conference was so much FUN! This was my first conference and I just had to share the wonder-filled times with all of you. This issue of **Headquarters Highlights** is a special edition devoted to "highlights" of this year's conference.

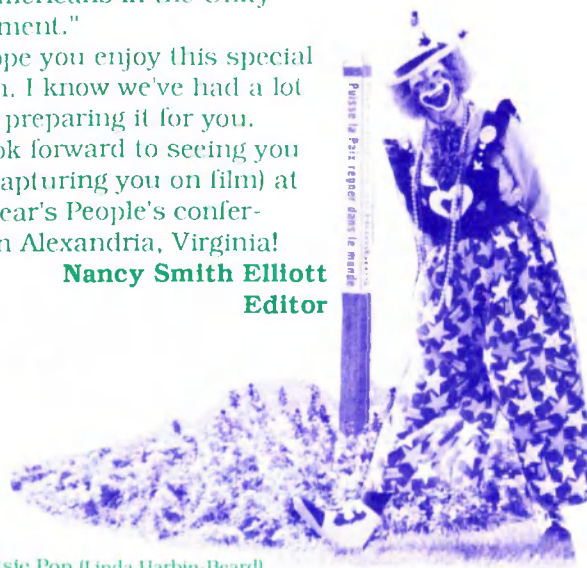
Every day was chock-full of events. The conference officially opened on Tuesday, June 15, but starting the Friday before, your Board of Trustees and various committees were already hard at work creating and reaffirming plans for the coming year. Opening events included a special program by our children's chorus and keynote speaker, Barry Neil Kaufman.

The week was filled with business meetings, workshops, activities for our children, spiritual renewal, special presentations, and of course, meeting old and new friends. The evenings brought awe-inspiring speakers such as Barry, C. W. Metcalf, and Dennis Weaver. An extraordinary concert performance by White Eagle captivated a full-house Wednesday night. We

wound up the week with a Fun Fest at Unity Village and closing ceremonies that included a distinctive presentation, "The History of African-Americans in the Unity Movement."

I hope you enjoy this special edition. I know we've had a lot of fun preparing it for you. We look forward to seeing you (and capturing you on film) at next year's People's conference in Alexandria, Virginia!

Nancy Smith Elliott
Editor



Tootsie Pop (Linda Harbin-Beard)

We arrived on Monday morning to find bare walls in the Exhibition Hall. But by Monday afternoon the pipe and drapes were up.



Let the fun begin!



Exhibitors went to work quickly creating exhibits which were not only pleasing to the eye, but also to the mind!

Along with the recipients of the Charles & Myrtle Fillmore and Light of God Expressing Awards, your Association was honored during Conference by the Mayor of Kansas City with the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, the Association of Unity Churches focuses on children with varied and special programs from more than eight hundred individual Unity Churches and centers; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Unity Churches has been dedicated to helping and educating children for over one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, the Association is devoted to creating a better atmosphere for the children of Kansas City, and

WHEREAS, children are our nation's most prolific resource in all fields of endeavor including being the administrators of our life in the future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EMANUEL CLEAVER II, Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, do hereby proclaim 1993 as

"Year of the Child"

in Kansas City, Missouri, and urge all citizens to honor the accomplishments of the Association of Unity Churches.



City Councilman George Blackwood presents Proclamation to Glenn Mosley, Association Executive Director.



Lassie and Hal Rosencrans, recipients of the Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Awards.



Mr. McFeeley from Mr. Roger's Neighborhood accepted the Light of God Expressing Award for Fred Rogers, shown here with Fran Schapperle from the Templeton Foundation.



Edie Skalitzky passes the President's Gavel to Alan Rowbotham.



Edie Skalitzky presented the Light of God Expressing Award to Mary Kupferle.



Unity children were an integral part of this year's conference. They were involved in a variety of daily activities. Tuesday they joined with children from the Kansas City area to delightfully entertain the entire conference body. The Rainbow Kids chorus, led by Lee Campbell, performed opening night as part of the program featuring Metaphysical Man and Miracle Woman. At Thursday's banquet we sat enchanted as Gaia Tossing, assisted by Elizabeth Phillips, led the children in a special presentation that included even the youngest tot.



Friday at Unity Village was a rollicking good time as the inner child came out to play! Young and old alike were entertained by clowns, stage entertainment, crafts, nature-walks, puppetry, and a family Olympics.



Association President Alan Rowbotham accepting the key to the city of Unity Village from the Reverend Chris Chenoweth.



Who ya gonna call?

For your convenience. . .

Accounting

Associate Director/Comptroller--Young Bae	
Accounts Payable--Susan Velasquez	324
Billing Information/Insurance Questions--Myra Moore	323
Orders - Regular (placing & shipments)	324
(Orders - Personalized--see Institutional Relations listing)	
Pension Information	322 or 324
Production & Shipping	
Manager--Bud Mosley	
Assistant--Ron Lee	

Development/Fund Raising

Director of Development--Shay St. John	
Assistant Director--Nancy Smith Elliott	
Development Officer, Planned Giving & Grants--Deborah Turner-Bey	
Development Office	354

Education

Associate Director/Director of Education--Mick Dustin	
Assistant in Education--C. J. Floyd	332
Children and Youth--Linda Gower	344
Intergenerational--Ray Wiggins	327
Licensed Teacher Coordinator--Trish Robinson	346
Radio/Media Coordinator--Carolyn Craft	
Radio/Media Assistant--Linda Harbin-Beard	345
Year of the Child--Judi Venturini	338
All other questions	332

Executive Office

Executive Director--Glenn Mosley	
Executive Assistant--Nira Schreen	352

Institutional Relations

Associate Director/Director of Institutional Advancement--Martha Mosley	
Bylaws	341
Conference/Convention/Support Services Coordinator--	
Debbie Ratliff-Ball	329
Assistant--Marsha Penrose	330
Receptionist/Accounting Support--Connie Waitley	320
Receptionist--Jean Jensen	321

Ministry Services

Associate Director/Director of Placement-Expansion--Joann Landreth	
Address Information/CONTACT--Cheryl Vestal	326
Placement Assistant--Jody Smith	336

Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Campaign

During conference, Catherine Ponder's ministry, Unity World-wide, generously offered to match all gifts received from the Building and/or Statements of Intent affirmed and received, by September 30, 1993. Statements of Intent are to be completed by April 30, 1994. Catherine Ponder has kindly offered to supply individuals and ministries contributing to the campaign copies of her prosperity books and cassettes. Catherine is offering a complete autographed set of her books to individual donors giving \$500 or more!

We have before us an unprecedented opportunity to clear our mortgage debt. We then have the freedom to concentrate our efforts on curriculum development for children, youth, and families. We invite you to join in living our vision to serve one another all over the world. Your Association--meaning you, your neighboring ministry, and all involved in a ministry--is committed to continually developing and providing creative, spiritually sound, socially responsible programs, materials, and training. We serve with loving leadership, integrity, and excellence.

For more information contact the Development Department.

Association of Unity Churches

P.O. Box 610 • Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414 FAX: (816) 525-4020

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lee's Summit, Mo.
PERMIT NO. 41

SENT WITH LOVE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL



Printed on recycled paper

Association of Unity Churches Regional Officers 1993-1994

	South Central	Western	Great Lakes	Southwest	West Central	Eastern	Southeastern
President	Hellen Saunders Omaha, NE 402-453-3264	Sandra Weisner Port Angeles, WA 206-457-3981	Jack Barker Cincinnati, OH 513-961-2527	Blair Tabor San Diego, CA 619-280-2501	Victor Jenkins Vacaville, CA 707-447-0521	Ed Myler Flushing, NY 718-353-5887	Chad O'Shea Arden, NC 704-684-3798
Vice President or President Elect	Nita Buckley Shreveport, LA 318-425-4401	Faith Moran Sacramento, CA 916-368-3950	Richard Everts Indianapolis, IN 317-635-4066	Richard Byrd Los Angeles, CA 213-759-7567	Marylee Revels Redwood City, CA 415-366-7932	Audrey Palmer Lebanon, NJ 908-236-7923	Greg Barrette Delray Beach, FL 407-276-5796
Treasurer	Frank Pounders Dallas, TX 214-826-5683	Carl Stouffer Federal Way, WA 206-838-4202	Diane Sickler St. Louis, MO 314-631-2466	Marie Thompson Green Valley, AZ 602-648-1918	Billie Blain Sacramento, CA 916-729-2047	Sam Windell Rochester, NY 716-473-0910	Chad O'Shea Arden, NC 704-684-3798
Secretary	Clare Austen Columbia, MO 314-443-1324	Pat Bosh Portland, OR 503-234-7441	Pauline Larsen Rochester, MI 313-656-0120	Joseph Della Sorte Los Angeles, CA 310-838-4761	Joel Hughes Stockton, CA 209-466-5569	Frank Munkel Newport News, VA 804-249-4499	
Regional Representative	Gary Simmons Fayetteville, AR 501-442-0680	Rebekah Alexander Boise, ID 208-377-08843	Violet Davis Des Plaines, IL 708-297-0997	Beth Ann Suggs Ventura, CA 805-658-1059	Harold Johnson Sacramento, CA 916-368-3950	Carmen Byam Laurelton, NY 718-712-1020	Betty Sicking Jacksonville, FL 904-355-5100
Alt. Regional Representative		Linda Spencer Bellevue, WA 206-747-5950	Donna Gilsdorf Rochester, MI 313-656-0120	Joan Baker Pomona, CA 909-629-3035		Tony Roebuck Charlottesville, VA 804-978-1062	Marleen Davis Jacksonville, FL 904-287-1505
LT Regional Representative	Mary Robertson Arlington, TX	Veda Almy Tualatin, OR	Caroline Trout Plymouth, MI	Jeanette Suggs Phoenix, AZ	Billie Jo Hallmark San Francisco, CA	Janet Hatheway Virginia Bch, VA	Deloris Aldacosta Linville, NC
1993 Regional Meeting Dates	Oct. 18-22, 1993	April 19-22, 1993	Sept. 19-23, 1993	Sept. 28-Oct 1, 1993	Sept. 29-Oct 1, 1993	Oct. 2-7, 1993	Oct. 18-22 1993
Location	Sheraton Bossier Shreveport, LA	Kah-Ne-Tah Resort in Oregon	Pokagon St Park Angola, IN	Hanalei Hotel San Diego, CA	Asilomar Monterey, CA	Hamilton, Ont. Canada	Field Stone Inn Hiwassee, GA

Please notify Nira Schreen of any changes.

(816) 524-7414, ext. 352

Thank you for your help.

!!GOOD NEWS!!

Beloved Unity Family--Yoo-hoo!

I bring you tidings of great joy and GOOD NEWS!! This letter from Catherine Ponder opens the way for us to pay off our Association building, so we can then direct our full energies to the development of a living curriculum.

Before us the "fields are white unto harvest." Catherine's response to a request for MATCHING FUNDS allows us to free up an old debt (our mortgage). Doing this clears the way for our next step--the creation of a curriculum for children, youth, and families.

Between now and September 30, 1993, please prayerfully consider STRETCHING your giving. Any gifts received and/or Statements of Intent affirmed for receipt by April 30, 1994, will be matched by Catherine Ponder's Unity Worldwide ministry.

Your Board of Trustees unanimously endorsed a "Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Campaign." We have 70 days to respond.

Our current mortgage is \$594,123.24. Gifts of \$300,000 will completely clear this debt. Please do not shift funds that would normally be sent. Stretch beyond present giving into a vision of greater good, wherein your financial intentions are doubled.

Your prayers, gifts, and Statements of Intent are gratefully accepted. Let's know that we now have a match already in hand; your gifts empower us to burn our mortgage--symbolically in September of this year; before you at our 1994 Convention in Washington D.C.

Together we can do it!! Thank you, radiant expressions of the living Christ.

Love you!

Mike Matoin, Chairperson
Capital Campaign Committee

P.S.: Remember, we have 70 days--until September 30--to burn our mortgage! AFFIRM YOUR SUPPORT NOW!

Dr. Catherine Ponder, Minister

Unity Church WORLDWIDE

Affiliated with the Association of Unity Churches, Inc., Unity Village, Missouri

June 11, 1993

Shay St. John
ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

Dear Shay:

In response to your letter of June 3, 1993, my Trustees and I have agreed that we will be glad to match any and all donations to the Building Fund of the Association.

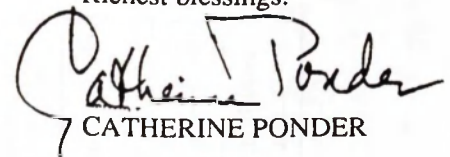
UNITY WORLDWIDE will match the total amounts given by all other Unity groups to the Building Fund, as per your date of September 30, 1993. We understand that some of those amounts may actually be paid later, but should be pledged and guaranteed by that date.

UNITY WORLDWIDE will also donate an order of at least six copies of any or all of my (the Ponder) books to the church bookstore, or for class work, etc., to the Unity donors of the Association Building Fund on a one time basis (for those who so wish).

My son, Richard Thrower, as one of our Trustees and Business Manager, will be administering the UNITY WORLDWIDE donation to your Building Fund, as well as our gift of my books to the Unity donors who wish to order them.

I trust this will be a help with your Building Fund and the completion thereof.

Richest blessings.


CATHERINE PONDER

WITNESS:


RICHARD THROWER



Light the Fire

To: Mike Matoin, Chairperson
Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Capital Campaign
Association of Unity Churches Development Department
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Dear Mike,

In the absolute assurance that God is the Source of my supply, I affirm joyous support of our Association of Unity Churches' Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Capital Campaign. Catherine Ponder's ministry, Unity Worldwide, has lovingly agreed to match all gifts received and/or put into a Statement of Intent through September 30, 1993. She extends an invitation to churches to receive a minimum of six copies of each of her books as a special thank you gift. Yes, I am a special part of bringing this dream of full pay-off of our building into form, knowing we can then move forward in the creation of a living curriculum to bless our children, youth, and families.

After prayerful consideration, I affirm my financial support of this Campaign. Joining hands with yours, I am part of the unity in Unity that establishes Divine Order and frees us from this obligation and debt. This Statement of Intent reflects the minimum financial support I will share **before April 30, 1994**. I understand this support is over and above what I presently give our General Fund.

Consciousness in prayer also precedes manifestation. I affirm with you:
*Through faith in God and unity in Unity, we lovingly work together within our
Association of Unity Churches to expand the future of our Unity movement.*

CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT OF INTENT

I intend to support our Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Capital Campaign for our Association of Unity Churches in the amount of \$_____ given **before April 30, 1994**.

I will make this gift on a schedule as follows (Please check one):

_____ Monthly in the amount of	\$ _____
_____ Quarterly in the amount of	\$ _____
_____ Semi-annually in the amount of	\$ _____
_____ Annually in the amount of	\$ _____

If it is more convenient, regular charges can be made to your Visa or MasterCard.

Card number: _____

Exp. date _____

_____ Please send me reminders of gifts not received according to the schedule indicated above.

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: (____) _____

State, Zip: _____

Date: _____

(signed and printed)

Dear Unity Family,

Catherine Ponder's generous offer is deeply appreciated by all of us who share the united vision of a debt-free headquarters. As her "thank you" to all churches who contribute, Catherine Ponder will donate a minimum gift of six copies of each of her 15 books, plus a six-hour Prosperity Cassette series. These books alone retail for over \$725.

Catherine's commitment to our pioneering ministries is well-known by all of us in the movement. This inventory of 90+ books will be sent to every ministry contributing to our Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Campaign, if they so desire. Both Catherine and her son, Richard, want our study groups and young ministries to know of their commitment to these groups. Whatever size gift, the books and cassette tape series is our sincere gift of thanks for your completion of this shared vision.

Ministries may request a larger gift of Catherine's books if they so desire. These requests will be handled on an individual basis. Individual donors of \$500 or more will receive a complete set of Catherine's books, autographed by her.

All book orders will be handled through our Development Department. Please fill out your request when you return your gift or Statement of Intent. Upon completion of your Statement of Intent, your order will be forwarded to Catherine Ponder. If you need the books prior to that time we will work with you to make that possible.

Both Catherine and our Association of Unity Churches desire to leave no one out. Our united vision is to burn our mortgage at our June, 1994, conference in Washington, D.C. Together we can do it! Your gifts will make a difference in the fulfillment of this dream.

In love and light, I AM

Shay St. John

P.S.: Stretton Smith has generously agreed to donate \$10 for each 4-T student enrolled by September 19! He invites churches to consider a similar gift. If you have not yet set up your 4-T class, contact Stretton today at 408-624-6057.

Burn The Mortgage Matching Fund Campaign

Your gifts to the Building Fund (to pay off the building mortgage) through September 30, 1993, or Statement of Intent to be completed by April 30, 1994, will be equally matched by Unity Worldwide, Catherine Ponder's ministry.

In addition, you may receive at no cost to you any or all of Catherine Ponder's books as listed below subject to the following:

Ministries = no dollar limitation
Individuals = \$500 or more

Please return your check(s) and/or Statement of Intent(s) to this office. To receive the books, you must complete, sign, and mail to this office the order request below:

☐ PLEASE SEND ALL OF THE BOOKS LISTED BELOW:

☐ PLEASE SEND ONLY THE BOOKS I HAVE CHECKED BELOW:

☐ Complete Prosperity Course--6 Hrs on cassette

BOOKS:

- ☐ The Millionaire from Nazareth
- ☐ The Millionaire Joshua
- ☐ The Millionaire Moses
- ☐ The Millionaires of Genesis
- ☐ Open Your Mind to Prosperity
- ☐ The Healing Secrets of the Ages
- ☐ The Dynamic Laws of Prayer
- ☐ The Dynamic Laws of Prosperity
- ☐ The Prosperity Secrets of the Ages
- ☐ The Dynamic Laws of Healing
- ☐ Open Your Mind to Receive
- ☐ The Prospering Power of Love
- ☐ The Secret of Unlimited Prosperity
- ☐ Dare to Prosper
- ☐ The Prospering Power of Prayer

SIGNED: _____ (Ministry)

NAME & ADDRESS OF MINISTRY: _____

SIGNED: _____ (Individual)

NAME & ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL: _____

For Office Use:

Total Donation: \$ _____

Return to:

Development Office
Association of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063



Judi Venturini
Year of the Child Coordinator

Survey Summary

In the last issue of the "Year of the Child" newsletter I included a survey of activities and programs our churches have initiated as a result of the Year of the Child. Here is a summary of those that were returned to me. Perhaps they will plant some seeds of possibility for your future plans for your ministry to children and families.

Ideas initiated during the Year of the Child:

- * Wrote a Year of the Child anthem
- * Children/Uniteens performed before congregation
- * Using Year of the Child Program Pack
- * Introduced meditation
- * Introduced the twelve powers
- * Community fair
- * Selected Year of the Child Coordinator
- * Recruited new volunteers
- * Parenting workshop
- * Intergenerational activities
- * Established an arts and crafts class once a month
- * Family retreat
- * Developed a playground
- * Bulletin boards focused on children
- * Earth Day
- * Grandparent's Day
- * Children's Day
- * Established a Youth Advisory Council
- * Family service once a month
- * Minister added a short lesson for children before they return to classrooms
- * Once a month staff is given Sunday off and children first participate in service, then go back for a video

- and popcorn and are supervised by volunteers.
- * Play about Myrtle
- * Created a vision team
- * Coordinated the lessons with the adult program
- * Self-esteem seminars
- * Year of the Child bulletin w/Year of the Child article posted
- * Adopted a low-income day-care
- * Child of the month
- * Special Wednesday program to honor the child of the month
- * Yoga for kids
- * Bulletin inserts w/affirmations
- * Spiritual baptism, whereby children make their own commitment to the Christ within their own being
- * End of the year, planning a celebration
- * Lesson centered on virtues
- * Pre-school implemented
- * Using *Sunday Circle Curriculum*
- * Banner for the sanctuary
- * Display the children's artwork
- * Child reviews the monthly activities before the congregation and affirmations are shared
- * Weekly assembly started
- * Story circle once a month with the adults from congregation reading
- * "Family of Friends Potluck" / monthly
- * Twelve Powers quilt
- * Children's choir
- * Children's banquet
- * Service projects With "Save the Children."

Ways The Children Participate in the Service:

- * Carry the Sunday school offering to the altar with the church ushers
- * Peace Song
- * Congregation honors the children with a birthday
- * Day of the Child program
- * Singing
- * Pass out Year of the Child affirmations to congregation
- * Pass out affirmation flowers on Easter
- * Object lessons by minister
- * Children often share original poems, piano solo, etc.
- * They have their own service two times a year
- * Read the *Daily Word* once a month
- * Assist with the setting up
- * They greet at door
- * Ring church bell
- * Kitchen angels

- * Share lesson of the day at the end of service
- * Special sharing on holidays
- * Children's page in local newspaper once a month

Intergenerational Activities

- * Family Day
- * Church picnic
- * Sunday Brunch
- * Family Retreat
- * Teddy Bear Sunday
- * Kite Day
- * Prayer partners between adults and children
- * Valentine affirmations passed out by children
- * Children visit nursing home
- * Made flags for memorial day
- * Collect books for the homeless
- * Adults sponsor Bible for child
- * Bookplate on promotion Sunday and a child goes to the microphone to thank the adults
- * Love parade
- * Reverse the offering
- * Carnival
- * Adopt a grandparent program
- * Day of the Child
- * Special Fellowship Hour to help everyone get better acquainted
- * Baby pictures of congregants on Year of the Child bulletin board--names will be revealed later
- * Play workshop for healing
- * Church banners
- * Halloween party
- * Family Game Night
- * After lunch, offer creative experience for children of all ages
- * Baseball games

Ways to Minister to Families:

- * Vacation church school
- * Family counseling
- * Parenting workshops
- * Family retreats
- * Encourage ways parents can be involved in Sunday school
- * Child-care at church activities
- * Seminar for children planned during seminar for parents
- * Day parent's can go shopping at Christmastime
- * Child-rearing class based on spiritual principles
- * Classes on parenting in the 90's
- * Parent insert page for bulletin
- * Movie night for families
- * Youth directory
- * Counseling for children in transition
- * Article in newsletter

**I JUST WANT TO BE
WHAT YOU
WOULD HAVE OF ME**

**I DO NOT NEED
TO UNDERSTAND
I DO NOT NEED
TO KNOW YOUR PLAN**

**I ONLY NEED
TO LET YOU
EXPRESS THROUGH
TO HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME**

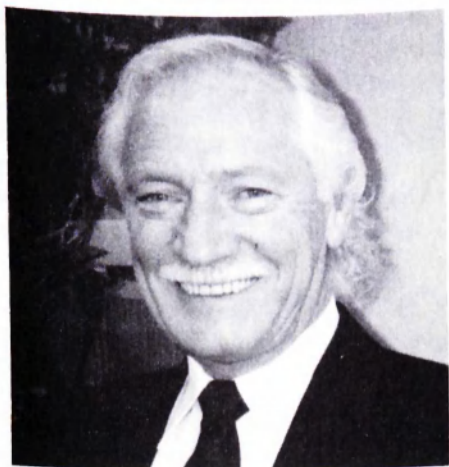
**I HAVE A DREAM
IT IS MY GOAL
TO FREELY "BE"
AND KNOW I'M WHOLE**

**IN BALANCE TRUE
IN TUNE WITH THEE
BY "LETTING" YOU
EXPRESS THROUGH ME**

**I DO NOT NEED
TO UNDERSTAND
I DO NOT NEED
TO KNOW YOUR PLAN**

**I ONLY HAVE ONE TOTAL NEED
TO LET YOU HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME.**

--Trish Robinson



Ray Wiggins
International Education
Services Consultant

Spiritual Education in the Year 2000

The beginning of a new era is a good time for spiritual education planners to take a look at some of the factors that affect our ministry with children, teens, and adults in our congregations.

Here are six factors which I think are important:

1. TIME

No matter what we try to do in the church, we are always competing with other, often very worthwhile causes, for the time of our members. The increasing number of single parents and two-income families, girls and boys athletics, community education/recreation programs for adults, service organizations, community concert series, music and dance lessons, extracurricular school activities, ad infinitum, all are factors that make it necessary for families and individuals of all ages to budget their time carefully. The frenetic pace of contemporary life challenges us to (1) help families deal with the stress it causes; (2) to help them work out their priorities and make choices within the framework of their values; (3) to carry on programs in the church traditionally dependent on volunteers who may no longer have time to give; (4) to be as effective as possible in scheduling events and programs for the sake of participants and volunteers; (5) to make every event/program so worthwhile that people will make time to come back for another.

2. INVOLVEMENT vs. ENTERTAINMENT

"Sesame Street" has produced a generation waiting to be entertained as they learn, but this demand may also reflect the attitudes of adults who spend much of their time

watching televised athletic events and other forms of entertainment. For many people, young and old, church life is another spectator sport. We need to find ways to involve people in thinking about Truth and putting it into action. One way to do this is through the arts: music, drama, dance, literature, art. We can, for example, provide opportunities for purposeful participation in art activities for worship, a concert, a play, a literary magazine or an art show or let them experience live or televised art forms and react to the content through group discussion. Another way is to offer opportunities for service projects in particle time frames: an evening to help youth collect canned goods for a food shelf, an hour a month to call on a shut-in, a week to work on habitat for humanity project. We can include group discussions/study and worship in these opportunities whenever possible.

3. AN AGING POPULATION

There are more adults living longer and healthier lives than ever before and they are better educated. Spiritual educators in the church need to take advantage of research that has been done on faith development in adults and work harder at offering a variety of learning opportunities relevant to adult needs especially at two critical times; young adults establishing their families and homes and people facing mid-life crisis of various kinds. We need to do away with the idea that adults always have to learn in the traditional way and provide resources with more creative and interesting teaching methods that can still be prepared in the time available to most adult leaders. We also need to recognize the potential of older adults who are giving leadership to the spiritual education program of the church and offer them opportunities to use their skills in areas that concern them.

4. CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

So often we try to work against contemporary culture. We need rather to let it work for us. For example, (1) we can use videos of music or movies as springboards for discussion; (2) look for Truth insights in books, tapes of people like humorist Garrison Keillor and share laughter and thoughts on his work; (3) use the daily newspaper to raise issues for discussion; (4) combat the loneliness of many people by organizing support groups for people recovering from grief or facing a serious illness or dealing with a social or chemically dependent problem; (5) make people aware of critical social needs such as safe-houses for abused women and children and suggest ways that they can help. The possibilities are endless.

5. ECUMENICITY

We live in a secular world and we will be more effective in our teaching if we work together with other churches in our community. There is more that unites us than separates

Continued...

us. Leadership training of all kinds (teachers, youth leaders, musicians) can be done more effectively in this way. Ecumenical music festivals, fellowship events, service projects, and/or seasonal worship services can inspire and encourage individuals to be faithful in their study of Truth.

6. CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Although we will not be such a youth-oriented culture by the year 2000, there will still be a need for a creative ministry with children and teens and their families. Congregations need to take this responsibility seriously and see it as a ministry that goes beyond the traditional Sunday morning or Sunday school setting and include opportuni-

ties to learn about life in a variety of ways by participating in that aspect of life. Congregations will need to have an attitude toward children and teens that encourages them, that takes a personal interest in them, that serves as their mentors and which shows appreciation for their effort in their schools and in their church and in their community. We need to be a supportive family for children and youth especially those from the ever-growing ranks of non-traditional homes.

These are some of the factors that challenge Unity as we creatively move to the end of this 20th century. We trust that the wisdom of God will be ours and the courage to use all of the multitude of resources available to us in meeting that challenge will come forth.

Spiritual Educators Intensive



Unity's first Spiritual Educators Intensive was held at Unity Village June 19-25, 1993. Seventy-one individuals participated in the week-long program geared to enhancing the capabilities of educators and directors working with children and youth.



Linda Gower

As fall approaches, Youth Education Directors across the country traditionally go through the process of reviewing the old year and preparing for the start of a new school year. If the past year did not go as you had hoped, this process may leave you less than enthusiastic about what lies ahead. This process reminds me of a walk I took in the woods one day.

As I walked down the tree-lined path, the crunch of dry leaves broke the silence. Leaves that still clung to the trees were changing colors as if to announce the coming of a new season. All around, trees were dropping the old in preparation for the approaching changes in their world.

I wandered off the path down to the little stream. I knelt down and picked up a stone from the water. It was worn satin smooth and glistened in the sunlight. I watched closely as the droplets of water evaporated and the glistening left. Though the original beauty was no longer there, the mineral composition of the stone could now be seen and it sparkled with a new beauty.

I quietly strolled further down the stream until I came to a tree that had fallen across the water. I walked out on it and sat watching the water flow beneath my feet. I wondered what this place looked like 50 years ago. I felt sure the same boulders were probably there and some of the trees, too. The water had obviously been carving its way through this same terrain for many years. The birds and flowers were definitely not the same ones as back then, but there were probably other birds and flowers of some kind. I wondered if perhaps, just perhaps, it was not as beautiful back then.

As I watched, a golden leaf bobbed along in the water. The leaf ducked under a small wavelet and then temporarily rested against a rock. Lazily it wandered on down the stream until it was out of sight. The leaf's passing brought an unspoken knowing. I surveyed the scene again. I realized that though everything before me had evolved from what was there in the past, the present beauty was whole and complete in and of itself and was not tied to the past.

I was suddenly filled with a sense of liberation and I remembered a long-forgotten quote, "You can never grow beyond your concept of yourself." I felt a need to symbolically mark this day as a release of past limitations in my life. I selected a fallen twig that had many little off-shoots to represent all the "birds, flowers, and stones" from my past. With clasped hands I gently held the twig and blessed it as a contribution to who and what I am today. I looked up through the trees toward the caressing warmth of the autumn sun and declared, "Through the Christ Spirit within, I now set at liberty my oppression from past inadequacies." I then lovingly released the twig into the water and watched it flow away, until it was no more. As I left the woods that day, I felt I had opened up a broader horizon for myself.

With the coming of a new season, if you find your review of the past year leaves you feeling weighted down, perhaps it's time to bless and release. Take your "flowers, birds and stones" from that time, bless them for the growth they provided, and then gently release them into the flow of eternity. As I found with the stone that I removed from the water, there may be an even greater beauty waiting to shine.

God in Me Awards Presented

Seven Unity of Fairfax (Oakton, Virginia), youth participate in the God in Me program as a community-sharing event. Group activities included a nature walk, cooperative games and activities and service projects to the church and greater community. The youth culminated the program with an award ceremony as part of the Sunday celebration service with Bill Wilson, minister; Suzanne R. Lubkowski, director of youth/family services, and Anthony Aiken, scoutmaster. Suzanne and Anthony served as the group's counselors.



Pictured above (front row, l to r): Teddy Presley, Christine Eidman, Lauren Fay, Michael Fay, Seth Wilson, Ricky Wagner, Johnny Wagner. **(back row, l to r):** Suzanne R. Lubkowski, Y/F director; Sandy Presley (mom); Terri (Eidman) Singleton (mom); Susan Fay (mom); Bill (minister) and Shakti Wilson (parents); Melessa and John Wagner (parents); Anthony Aiken, scoutmaster.

The "I" Word

*by Dr. Ed Golden, Unity minister
Minister's Assistance Team Committee Member*

A couple of years ago, a group of ministers assembled during our committee meeting time and formed a group that was called at that time, The Minister's Intervention Team. The group immediately met with stiff opposition and had its name changed to The Minister's Assistance Team. Its purpose remained obscure for some time, but one point was quite clear; this team would not do interventions.

While we certainly need to be very careful about how we deal with problems as delicate as helping an impaired minister, we can also proceed with a full understanding of just what is involved in an intervention if it becomes warranted.

First, I want to explain what an intervention is not. It is not a carelessly orchestrated attack on an unsuspecting and healthy minister. If the intervention proceeds as it should, there will be no mistake about whether or not such intervention is necessary for the benefit of everyone involved. It is not a group of well-meaning fellow ministers who have been to a two-day seminar who are out wielding the power of God by intruding on a situation they don't have the proper training or experience for. Finally, it is not an event, but rather a very orderly and time-consuming process that involves everyone affected by compulsive, addictive behaviors. This is not about focusing on the impairment of one person. The fact is **YOU DO NOT GET AN UNHEALTHY PERSON OUT OF A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.** It just simply doesn't work that way. Very few, if any, will be able to identify, confront, and bring about a healthy solution to a problem such as addiction until it has gotten into advanced proportions.

The reasons are really quite simple: 1)

Ministers have their "Messianic Complex," which tells them that they are immune. 2) Boards and congregations have denial, because if they have a minister who develops a compulsive, addictive illness, they may not want to deal with it, mainly because they don't know how to. 3) The people who do know how to recognize the problem and make an early intervention before things get too desperate are not allowed to get involved until the situation becomes dire. This would be your regional liaison, or MAT members. We do have some ministers who have the credentials and experience to be involved in interventions.

What is intervention, and how does it proceed?

First, there must be someone in the arena of the problem who is healthy enough to notice there is something wrong. This person would then have a vehicle to make those who can help be aware that indeed some help is indicated.

Second, a confidential investigation will ensue to determine to what extent the problem exists, and what course of action might be indicated. Then a decision can be made to either proceed with the intervention process or use some other form of remediation.

If a decision is made to proceed with an intervention, the professional who is retained will begin what will probably be the most difficult part of the entire evolution, the part of educating and unifying those who will participate in the actual confrontation. This confrontation in many instances will never occur, because during the process the walls of denial come down, and the individual with the problem seeks help before the appointed time. As I mentioned, you do not get an im-

paired person out of a healthy environment. Compulsive, addictive, and co-dependent behaviors will be present in others. Many of these may be key people who are going to be part of the confronting body. These must be trained and may require therapy as well. This must all take place prior to any thought of an actual confrontation by a group on the person who is acting out an addictive illness.

Once the team has been picked, trained, is well enough and unified, there is yet more work to be done. It is not enough to simply bring someone into a room full of people, issue ultimatums, and live happily ever after. There must be a multi-layered treatment plan developed.

Negotiation is part of the process. If a person is willing to attend support group meetings, but is not willing to go to a residential program, then the team must decide if this is acceptable. People need to understand the difference between negotiation and manipulation, as both can find their way into this process. The team must decide what they will and will not settle for and then stick to their choice. If an impaired person can manipulate the group into something that is less than satisfactory, and everyone knows it, then the team was not healthy enough to do the intervention.

It must be decided at what point the person who is the focus of the intervention is going to be told, if he or she asks about what the group is up to. Many times, just the fact that the group is working on "his/her" problem, will be enough for the impaired person to seek help.

Continued...

The professional who directs the confrontation must help the group develop brief scripts, and decide which order they will be presented, as well as the time and place of the confrontation. Anyone who cannot contain his/her own emotional pain, which would allow the impaired person to retaliate, will not be allowed to take part.

All contingencies must be covered. If it is a minister, there must be someone to fill the pulpit, office duties, pastoral care, etc. Insurance companies will be checked to see what coverage is provided. A treatment facility will be selected, with a bed on stand-by. Transportation, salary continuation, family visits, etc., must all be worked out in advance.

When all the above has been carefully considered and executed, then a very brief interview which should last no more than about 15 minutes will be led by a professional intervention specialist. Each person in the group will in turn, share his/her feelings, concerns, recommend that help is obtained, and as a last resort, give what limits they have set on the relationship, such as, "If you refuse to get help, you will not be allowed to continue in your position." Or, "As soon as you have finished treatment, you will be welcomed back."

The remainder of the intervention is

going to take months, or even years, as the recovery process is going to take some time. Everyone must be willing to make post-recovery adjustments. It will not be easy, but if followed persistently, a healthy environment will exist in which addictive, compulsive illness cannot thrive.

The hope is that we can all have a greater appreciation for the process, and a higher level of trust in a most valuable tool for helping our impaired ministers and members recover from a very sneaky and lethal disease. Properly trained, we, as fellow ministers, can offer a confidential, empathic, and strength-based approach to helping our fellow clergy and lay leaders to enjoy sharing their God-given gifts of ministry. The truth is, we are all going to have an intervention of some sort if we become addicted. Why not make it with people who care, and love, and most of all, understand and know what to do.

(Comments from the author: The above article is based on the Johnson Institute model of intervention and my own professional experience. I have been doing interventions for years, and really believe in the value of this process, if it is done properly.)

Correction

In Expansion News article in April/May issue under who can be your Spiritual Coach #C it should have read:

The Regional Representative who is an ordained Unity minister (not licensed or ordained).

Attention

South Central Region

The new mailing address for Unity of Fayetteville (in Fayetteville, Arkansas) is: **241 W. Spring Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701.** Gary Simmons, minister of Unity of Fayetteville, is the Regional Representative of the South Central Region.

World Record Holder at Loving The Child Association of Unity Churches Conference Basks in Accolades



The World Record for "Youngest Attendant to a Unity Conference" goes to infant **Douglas Allen Ball**, born Tuesday, June 15, 1993. Douglas graciously accepted all the love and attention this year's conference goers and volunteers could dish out while mom **Debbie Ratliff-Ball** (Conference Coordinator), dad **Michael Ball**, and sister **Becky** made sure this year's conference ran smoothly.

Douglas was born at the Medical Center of Independence, Missouri, at 4:30 a.m. He weighed a hearty 7 lbs. 13 1/2 oz. and was 20 inches long. When asked to comment on his new World Title, Douglas simply yawned and winked. So secure was he that his Title would go unchallenged for many years to come, he declined to make a speech.

Important Dates For 1993

Skills Demonstration Seminar
Executive Committee Meetings
Board Member Seminar & Retreat
Skills Demonstration Seminar

Aug. 21-27 (Sat.-Fri.)
Sept. 13-15 (Mon.-Wed.)
Sept. 18-24 (Sat.-Fri.)
Oct. 30-Nov. 5 (Sat.-Fri.)

1993 Regional Conferences

Great Lakes	Sept. 19-23	Potawatomi Inn-Pokagon State Park, Angola, Indiana
Southwest	Sept. 28-Oct. 1	Hanalei Hotel, San Diego, California
West Central	Sept. 29-Oct. 1	Asilomar, Monterey, California
Eastern	Oct. 2-7	Hamilton, Ont., Canada
Southeast	Oct. 18-22	Lake Chatuge, near Hiawassee, Georgia
South Central	Oct. 18-22	Shreveport, Louisiana

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

 **Contact**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 754

HERITAGE ROOM
UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY

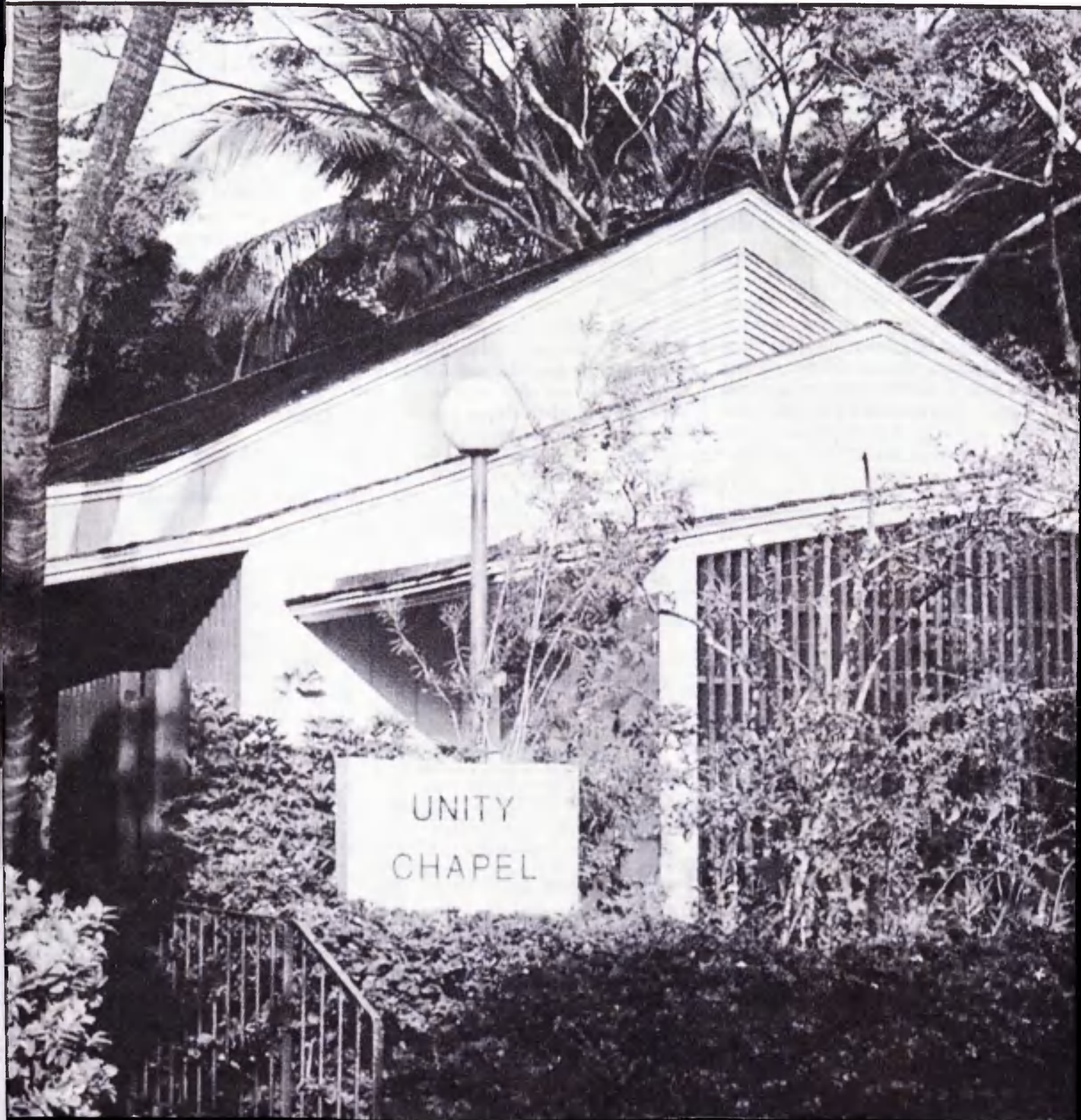
UNITY VILLAGE MO 00000



Contact

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

October/November, 1993



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Alan Rowbotham
Unity of Roanoke Valley
Roanoke, Virginia

When we looked over *The Quest* material after June Conference, Kathryn (my wife and co-minister) and I decided we would do a six-week introduction to it at our church on Tuesday mornings during the summer, with the idea that it would whet people's appetites for starting a whole year of study in the Fall. We began talk-

ing about the idea right away, and as soon as the books came in, we were holding them up at Sunday services--and they began to sell like crazy. So, in addition to the scheduled Tuesday morning class, we decided to offer a simultaneous six-week introduction to *The Quest* on Tuesday evening encouraging people to sign up for the class they wanted to attend.

About sixteen people signed up for the morning class and about twenty-five for the evening session. Forty-three people showed up that first morning and another forty-three in the evening! On the second week each class had just short of fifty people--*excited* people! This added up to almost a hundred people out of an average attendance of about 250 at Sunday services. Three times we had to reorder books. People are *hungry* for this stuff--it is great basic Unity with an emphasis on application and process that people of all levels of understanding can take hold of, work with, and enjoy. Both Kathryn and I are working with the activities right along with everyone else and finding them valuable--and often challenging--in our own personal spiritual journey.

Don't be fooled by the seeming simplicity of some of the activities--answering the questions honestly and in depth can be very revealing! So, if you haven't already started teaching *The Quest*, maybe our experience will encourage you to get started as soon as possible.

Significant factors in the appeal and transforming potential of *The Quest* are that the study lends itself perfectly to classroom work, home study and personal application in a process-oriented way, and that it has small-group involvement and support built in.

Encouraging you to use *The Quest* material is not the only reason I'm talking about it. I think we as an Association can learn from it! One of the most important elements in *The Quest* is the coming together in small groups to share with and support one another. As you've probably experienced in your church, people are sometimes reluctant to get together in this way. But when they do and they open up with one another, miracles happen. Ministers, I've discovered, are no different from anyone else. Many of us resist a *See QUEST on page 8, col. 2*

Contents

Broadcasting the Unity Message	9
Church Management Issues	7
Development Office News	5
Education News	16
Executive Director's Letter	3
Financial Statement	15
The History of Unity in Puerto Rico	11
Intergenerational Education Ministry:	
Choosing to Encourage	20
Critical Mass	23
Year of the Child--Transforming Bible Study	18
Light on the Path	17
Meet Your Association Staff	8
Partners in Ministry	12
Placement News	4
Planned Giving News	6
President's Letter	2

Volume 26, Issue 5

October/November 1993

CONTACT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor Cheryl Vestal
Graphics & Layout Cheryl Vestal
Circulation Glenn Mosley, Jr.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

The Editorial purpose of CONTACT is the purpose of the Association: the Association of Unity Churches is dedicated to supporting and strengthening its member ministries by providing human resources, administrative and education programs.

Cover:

Unity Church of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii
Senior Minister: John Strickland

Deadlines: 1st of the month, two months prior to issue date

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

"I should like to exercise poetic license and say that God still walks the Russian streets, still lives in peasants' hearts, still 'haunts' the churches, and, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, still speaks to Russian youth." ("Inside Russia," by Glenn Mosley, minister, Detroit Unity Temple; *Weekly Unity*; 12-21-69, p. 11.)

The first paragraph above was the last paragraph of an article *Weekly Unity* Editor Hugh Horne asked me to write after I returned from the U.S.S.R. in September, 1969. There were 28 people on that tour.

Eighteen Unity ministers, licensed teachers, and lay persons returned from 14 days in Russia (and one day in Finland), on August 20, 1993. Those on the tour were Ana Quintana and the Reverend Norma Rosado of Santurce, Puerto Rico; the Reverend Tony and Mrs. Kathryn Roebuck, Charlottesville, VA; Patricia Glancey, licensed teacher from Clint, Texas; our tour escorts Frank and Daphne Bush, Sebastopol, California; the Reverend Mayola SaltPaw, Detroit, MI; Ora and Barbara Weeks of Edwardsburg, MI; Howard and Jo (licensed teacher) Stanton, Christiansburg, VA; licensed teacher Grace Sparhawk, Rochester, NY; Leo Schneider, Lyndhurst, OH; Glen and licensed teacher Mary Ballinger, Fairway, KS; Ray Wiggins, and yours truly, Lee's Summit, MO.

The youth in the Soviet Union in 1969 proudly stated on the one hand, "I am an atheist" while all the time they were

making gods of their national leaders. Especially common were the statuary, tapestries, and paintings of Lenin. The government's ideology had become a philosophy, which was clung to with religious fervor, with Lenin as chief prophet.

In fact, the deification of Lenin was clear evidence of humankind's need for God. If people are denied the right to worship God, they will build a "god."

In 1969 the U.S.S.R. Intourist Bureau determined and monitored all visitors' whereabouts.

In 1993, Russia's (only former U.S.S.R. nation we visited) Intourist provided assistance as requested and they allowed time and space for us to meet with Russian citizens as we preferred. They even helped make it happen.

The purpose of our "Bridges of Oneness" tour was manifold:

1) To begin leadership training for those who will become licensed teachers (C.E.P. Extension Courses).

2) To further investigate ways we can be helpful to the former communist countries in transforming their lives and their nations.

3) To tour legendary landmarks of religious and national significance to our Russian friends.

4) To co-create with our Russian friends an environment where we could truly build Bridges of Oneness and experience each other as "Family." The words and experiences were to weave a carpet upon which we walk into our collective future. It is my feeling that all eighteen Americans felt that we far exceeded our purposes and our expectations.

We met in Moscow with Mikhail Zykov and his support team, both salaried and volunteer. We met and had several hours of in-depth exchange on two occasions with many of the Spiritual Unity of Russia members in Moscow. We even had the chance to welcome Alexandra Zyкова to her homeland and to present her with an engraved desk set in behalf of our Association membership. (She arrived from the U.S.A. the second day of our Moscow meetings.) Most of the folks we met in Moscow were young to middle-aged adults. We expressed ourselves in three languages--Russian, Spanish, and English; we corrupted all three languages with halting efforts to speak each other's language. Ray Wiggins led us in community-building songs. We sang with real

people, we talked and laughed with real people, all of us felt the hearts of each other--real people, and we cried with real people. Most of all, we were loved by and we loved real people.

Ray Wiggins and I were interviewed on tape for an hour and one-half program by Ms. Naistia Vakmuykova and Mikhail Zykov for Radio Russia in Moscow. The interview will be aired both as one program and also cut into one question-one answer segments and aired intermittently over several weeks. Radio Russia reaches throughout the former U.S.S.R. with three hundred million people and another thirty million people beyond those borders. Because television is so limited, it is estimated that one-third of the 330,000,000 or 110,000,000 people will hear the interview in its entirety.

Our next people-to-people Spiritual Unity of Russia stop was in Ekaterinburg (Katherine begins with an "E" in Russian, Ekaterin's town). And what people we met in that town! Not many adults; Spiritual Unity ages run from midteens to middle-age, most between 15 and 25. We experienced similar sharing times such as we enjoyed in Moscow. We exchanged simple gifts and experienced profound love.

While walking with the Youth of Unity members in a park, I came across a mini-political rally. A "heated" political rally! One was calling for the return of a monarch by finding the descendants of a known 93-year-old Romanoff and bringing them to "the throne." One called for the return of communism; and the third was a social democrat. Strongly-held positions, all!

Sergey, the youth with me said, "I think the older people (the three rally spokespersons were 35-45 years of age) don't know what they want. I think we (referring to youth) do know what we want. I think we want God and capitalism."

Thirty-nine people took C.E.P. Extension Course credit in Ekaterinburg. The classes were taught by ministers Tony Roebuck and Mayola SaltPaw and licensed teacher Grace Sparhawk. Approximately twenty-five of these students were under age 25. We shared singing, talking, laughing, crying, and loving with them all. The Ekaterinburg Spiritual Unity group is under the direction of Dr. Irina Kochergina.

See *RUSSIA* on page 11, col. 1



Joann Landreth
Associate Director/
Director of Placement/Expansion

One of the greatest joys of my employment as Director of Placement is the facilitation of the placement process for ministers and the board of trustees of an open church. The Association of Unity Churches' Board of Trustees has approved procedures for a minister who is seeking a new church and also for the board of trustees of a church seeking new ministerial leadership. Packets of information on these procedures are available to ministers and the board of trustees of a church upon request.

Occasionally, a church that has received a resignation of the minister may choose to employ a spiritual leader under special dispensation while moving through the process of seeking new leadership. Often the board of trustees has the feeling that the consistency of one speaker and spiritual leader lends itself to maintaining the regular Sunday attendance and income during a transitional period. Employment under special dispensation is a temporary assignment and is not to be considered a permanent assignment. New policy was adopted by the Association's Board in June, 1993, for employing a spiritual leader under special dispensation. Following is the new policy and procedures:

Expansion Churches/Study Groups:

All affiliated newly-developing churches and study groups are required to send a monthly financial statement to the Association of Unity Churches. Internal Revenue Service requires the Association to have these financial statements on record. This protects the Association tax exempt umbrella for all churches and study groups as well as protecting tax deductions for contributors to your church and/or study group.

New Policy Adopted June, 1993, by the Association's Board of Trustees

Procedures for Employing Spiritual Leadership Under Special Dispensa- tion from the Association of Unity Churches (Section 4.01(c)--Association Bylaws).

Employment under special dispensation is temporary--NOT PERMANENT! A spiritual leader employed under special dispensation is to serve only until a Unity minister with appropriate credentials can be employed.

A member church of the Association may retain its membership without an ordained or licensed Unity minister by writing a letter to the Director of Placement and Expansion requesting authorization of a spiritual leader under special dispensation. At least one of the following criteria must be met by the individual to serve as spiritual leader:

- A. Be a licensed Unity teacher or have at least 90 credits in the Continuing Education Program.
- B. Have an ordination with another approved denomination with similar philosophy to Unity, and be willing to attend CEP sessions with the intent of acquiring licensed teacher status.
- C. Have the recommendation of an ordained Unity minister, demonstrated leadership skills, and be willing to attend CEP sessions.
- D. Have the recommendation of the

Board of Trustees of a church in good standing, demonstrated leadership skills; (this criteria is for churches maintaining church activities with a spiritual leader and having the intent to employ Unity leadership with appropriate credentials within a two-year period).

When the letter requesting special dispensation is received in the home office, the Director of Placement and Expansion will discuss and request input from the Regional Representative involved, the Director of Education, and the Executive Director. The Regional Representative and at least two of the directors from the home office staff may authorize and approve special dispensation of a spiritual leader.

A letter requesting this special dispensation is to be sent to the Association office, and receipt of a letter authorizing and approving said special dispensation is to be in hand prior to the employment of the spiritual leader.

Many times we have received questions regarding the above procedures. I trust this helps clarify the process, and please know that I am here to serve you in any way I can to help in the process of employing ministerial leadership and a spiritual leader under special dispensation. In Romans 8:28 the Apostle Paul states, "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose." I know that everyone involved in your ministry and in the Unity movement around the world is about the purpose of serving God through serving humankind.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE NEWS



Shay St. John
Director of Development

How Do We Begin A Fund Raising Program?

Fund raising is new to Unity. More accurately, planned fund raising is new to Unity. We have taught prosperity, provided opportunities for financial support, shared the vision of future projects, and led by example through our own personal giving.

Yet the "myth" that Unity does not ask for money is deeply ingrained. Therefore, begin fund raising gently--BUT DO BEGIN! Let it develop its natural place in your ministry as ownership is taken of its programs. Following are simple steps for moving forward into the creation of a strong Development Program without as much resistance as you might otherwise encounter.

Order a Development Notebook from our Development Office and read it through to stimulate ideas.

To insure a constant flow of resources, hear the truth of these words:

MANAGEABILITY lead to
CREDIBILITY which increases
ACCOUNTABILITY which insures
FUNDABILITY which results in
VIABILITY and loving service!

The following suggestions increase the success of fund raising work. Check off items as they become an integral part of services you provide.

☐ 1. Enroll your board first in the idea of planned fund raising. Their support is crucial to your success. Ask members to list three things they enjoy about serving on the board. Then have them list three difficulties in board service. Seek ways to transform difficulties into joys.

☐ 2. Enroll your staff and key volunteers. Do a similar exercise to the one above. Encourage open communication and trust.

☐ 3. Provide clear job descriptions to board, staff, and volunteers. Include fund raising as a vital part of service on the board.

☐ 4. Track your statistics. Know the average dollar gift received Sundays, at classes, etc. Identify those who support consistently. Know your donors.

☐ 5. Keep your mailing list growing and accurate. This list is your most valuable ongoing communication link! Make your newsletter both informational and inspirational!

☐ 6. Seek ways to develop a high public image. Unity is no longer the best kept secret in town! Be visible in your community.

☐ 7. Vision with your board the creation of a development team. Prayerfully seek guidance about its leader(s) and members.

☐ 8. Be patient and loving with the process. It takes time to see desired results. Involve key supporters in visioning the projects, goals, and financial health of your ministry.

☐ 9. Educate your congregation! Have the board share monthly during Sunday services where you sent your tithes. Communicate clearly and often the "costs" of ministry.

☐ 10. Commit to financial accountability to your donors. Good stewardship is essential. How do you report to your donors? How often?

Use simple cash flow statements in newsletters. One possible format is as

follows:

Income for May:	\$ 12,000
Expenses	\$ 9,800
Tithes	\$ 1,200
Balance	\$ 1,000

Speak in layperson's language!

☐ 11. Don't "democratize" fund raising. This is a "lose-lose" situation. Create "levels" of support so each member feels a vital part of your work. This creates a deep sense of personal ownership.

☐ 12. Create enthusiasm for the vision of your ministry. Remember, people give to people who have a contagious vision! Keep that vision alive and visible. Communicate your vision and your mission often. Print it in newsletter and Sunday bulletin!

Live from your mission. It guides programs you present and goals you set--if you let it!

☐ 13. Set achievable financial income goals with board and development team. Make them a vision team for long-term financial health of all your projects. Avoid "crisis" fund raising if possible!

☐ 14. Make quality services a priority! Regularly review each area of ministry. Invest in what it requires to do the work well.

☐ 15. Honor differences between fund raising, fun raising, and friend raising (a.k.a. socials). Don't burn your board out on bazaars, bake sales, car washes, etc. Let these activities come from other groups in your ministry who understand the value of these projects to bring people together. See funds that arise from these events as "icing on the cake," not the cake itself.

☐ 16. Keep minister out of the "asking" circle if possible. Special cases where the minister is the right person to "ask" are the exception, rather than the rule.

Minister's job is to keep the vision ALIVE and GROWING!

☐ 17. Create a Case Statement of who and what you are. Why will the work you do make a difference in the world? Let this guide fund raising and educate potential donors.

See **FUND RAISING** on page 6, col. 3



Nancy Smith-Elliott
Assistant Director of Development

Deborah Turner-Bey is leaving our Association to start a mentor program for unemployed and underemployed adults in the Kansas City area. We will miss her, but we know her work will bless this community as it has our Association of Unity Churches.

I will continue to provide planned giving information. However, future articles will also cover a variety of topics to inform and enhance your ministry's growth and development.

Planned Giving Information Available This Fall

Watch your mailbox in October for our mailing containing information on year-end giving. During the final months of the year, many people review their financial plans and goals. Although gifts to your ministry are greatly appreciated whenever they are received, gifts to your Unity ministry before December 31 can be income tax deductible for your donors who itemize. This allows the donor to stretch his or her giving power by enjoying the greatest possible tax savings.

Along with the mailing, you will receive a brochure developed specifically for use in Unity ministries. Additional copies of the brochure can be ordered at no charge for your free literature table.

Over the last year CONTACT articles

have highlighted the different types of planned gifts and how they can benefit you and your congregation. Our next step is to provide information on planned giving that can be shared with your board, congregation, friends, and supporters.

In the planning phase is the creation of a quarterly planned giving newsletter. You will receive a copy of the first issue in the first quarter of 1994. The newsletter will feature articles on who is likely to benefit from estate planning, in-depth articles on specific gift plans, tax benefits to your donors, examples of how planned gifts are being productively used, tax law updates, how to conduct planned giving educational programs in your ministry, and other helpful, informative news.

An integral part of this newsletter will be your input. Send us your stories of how planned giving has affected your ministry: the successes, your experiences, tips, etc. Has a legacy allowed your ministry to do something it may not have been able to do? Network your story through this newsletter.

You may be wondering whether this information is important. If opening opportunities for your congregation to support the work of your ministry is important, then yes! Throughout the country today there is \$846 billion in CDs, \$3 trillion in pension plans, \$8 trillion tied up in the probate system. This is a tremendous amount of money tied up in low-interest or non-yielding plans. Teach members of your congregation how they can increase their income, offset and/or minimize capital gains when they sell long-term property, stocks, or assets. Your congregants can realize tax benefits, and at the same time support the work of your ministry.

Being a good steward of God's abundance blesses both the ministry and the individual. Educating your congregants to the opportunities of planned giving opens new channels for the flow of good to increase many times over.

Help your Association help your ministry by paying close attention to the information you receive in October. We are here to provide you with information, materials, and support to assure the health and continued growth of Unity ministries everywhere.

Fund Raising

Cont'd from page 5

☐ 18. Planning brings efficiency, economy, and effectiveness. A formula from the Templeton Institute for Excellence in Religious Nonprofits states: Efficiency + Economy + Effectiveness = Excellence = Increased Fundability.

☐ 19. Have your Association's Development consultant come work with your board and development or leadership team. Often an "outsider" can break through resistance, provide insight, and open doors that are difficult for you to open. Use this resource to make your work easier.

☐ 20. Remember: Put God first. . .
Give God the glory. . .
And have fun in the midst
of letting God be God in you!

Dear Caring Now,

We, too, care about seeing to it that our centers offer only the best to Unity's children, youth, families, and ministers. That is why we, as Spiritual Educators from all over the Great Lakes Region, want to seed the fund for our **Living Curriculum** with contributions totaling \$500. We see this seed calling forth its own to grow and multiply abundantly! To Myrtle Fillmore's query, "Who will take care of the children?" we respond with a heart commitment: WE WILL!

Over 50 years ago the March of Dimes fought a crippling disease when people responded to a call to mail in one dime. We make the call to all who share Myrtle's commitment to send \$10 (or more) to **Caring Now** to start our good paving the way to manifest a **Living Curriculum** in this decade.
**In love and light, joy and faith -
Great Lakes' Spiritual Educators
Who Care Now**



Barbara O'Hearne
Church Management Consultant

Congregational Systems Inventory

George Parsons and Speed Leas, two highly respected consultants with the Alban institute, have recently published a Congregational Systems Inventory. I had the opportunity to interview George Parsons about the Inventory.

According to George Parsons the inventory evolved from many years of working with conflicted congregations. Over the years, they had a number of conversations about defining "health in congregations." As consultants their interest was in helping congregations cope with change. Parsons said, "the congregation's capacity to handle or introduce change or find ways to align the parts of the organization to work more effectively."

Parson translated the work of Richard T. Pascale of Stanford University Graduate School of Business to church environment. Pascale, author of *Managing On The Edge*, suggests that organizations well suited to change can live with contenting opposites in a healthy tension.

The Congregational Systems Inventory includes a brief introduction to congregation systems theory. The authors state that "all organizations live between the excess of chaos and overcontrol. Congregations are likely to be at their best

when they maintain a healthy tension between the requirements of living in community (integration) and the need in each person to be an individual (differentiation)."

Parsons and Leas believe "living in tension means living with contention." If the level of contention is too low a congregation may become rigid in their way of thinking and doing. If there is too much change and contention in a ministry such behaviors as anger, chaos and the congregation loses its ability to achieve its goals. The ministry is stuck!

The inventory examines seven dimensions of a congregation's system. At both ends of the dimensions are polarities. These "contending opposites are both needed for effective and vital congregational functioning." Parsons and Leas believe a healthy tension is needed in each dimension. A ministry has the opportunity to live in the tension between these opposites and utilize the tension as a source of energy to bring about change.

The seven dimensions produce a measurement and lets the congregation see how well it is living in a healthy tension. The seven dimensions are:

Strategy - the way congregations put their vision into practice, also called planning or mission.

Authority - the ability to influence decisionmaking in the congregation. The extent to which authority is concentrated in a few people or dispersed to a larger group.

Process - the information sharing and decisionmaking procedures. The extent to which these procedures are clearly defined and regulated or variable and left to the discretion of individuals.

Pastoral Leadership - the ability of the (pastor) or minister to generate intended change in an organization.

Relatedness - the way the members work together either cooperatively or independently.

Lay Leadership - the ability of the lay leaders to generate intended change in a ministry.

Learning - the orientation toward the past or the future as congregation strives to improve its life and ministry.

Parsons recommends the Inventory be administered "episodically" or when there

is reason to introduce major change into the life of the congregation. Some examples might be prior to hiring a new minister, prior to developing a long range planning, prior to adding additional staff or prior to beginning capital campaign.

The Inventory can be administered by ministers, consultants or anyone with experience in working with organizations. In order to gain a complete assessment of a congregation the authors suggest a minimum of 12 to 15 people complete the inventory and a composite score is created. These people must know a lot about the congregation, have been around awhile, and be able to view the congregation from different perspectives.

The Inventory has 70 pair of choices and the respondent is asked to check the response that most closely describes the congregation. There are no right or wrong choices. Interpretation of the inventory produces a score between 0 and 10 for each dimension described above. Scores plotted toward the center (4-6) indicate an approximation of optimum tension between polarities or contending opposites. Scores plotted toward one end (0-3 or 7-10) indicate a loss of tension and a dominance by one opposite or the risk of excessive reliance on that tendency.

Let's look at the dimension of strategy or the way congregations put their vision into practice. The polarities or contending opposites on the scale are "planned" at one end and "spontaneous" at the other end. Excessives or scores of 0-3 at the "planned end" of the scale might be interpreted as "looking good on paper replaces effectiveness," "spontaneous leaders lose interest or are driven out." While excesses or scores of 7-10 at the "spontaneous end" of the scale might be interpreted as "goals may be defined at a planning retreat and then forgotten," "lack of goal agreement produces repetitive conflicts." Additional interpretations for both ends of the scale are provided.

Living in the "tension" or scores of 4-6 might be interpreted as "the congregation knows its goals and priorities, resources are used in relation to the goals and priorities," or "the congregation's grassroots are consulted" to name a few.

Continued...

Again, several interpretations are provided.

In those dimensions where congregations are not living in a healthy tension the Inventory suggests appropriate ways to create and live in the tension. The authors believe it is important to get out of the excesses at either end of the scales.

When asked about the limitations of the Inventory, Parsons said, "It only looks at organization dynamics and does not tell about congregational life. Such as trying to identify the unwritten rules or norms in a congregation." The people completing the Inventory have to know a lot about the congregation from different perspectives and this could present challenges in some ministries.

Parsons is very excited about the successes of the Inventory as a result of field testing. He believes it does measure the seven dimensions. It has helped clergy and lay leaders see and understand the congregation at different levels and produced practical agendas the leadership can adopt. Parsons said, "It has helped people live more comfortably with the opposite to live a healthy life together."

The Congregational Systems Inventory is available from George Parson and Speed Leas at the following address.

The Alban Institute, Inc.
1475 Ferry Street
Eugene, OR 97401
(503) 485-3743

As your church management consultant I am enthusiastic about this Inventory and plan to incorporate it into my work with ministries in the fall. My goal is to assist ministers and boards of trustees in continuous improvement in the quality of life of your congregation.

Update

on Barbara O'Hearne Service

Barbara O'Hearne may now do follow-up consultation/visits with ministries within eight to eleven months after the initial visit. Such follow-up is permissible provided the ministry has made progress in implementing suggestions/materials from her original visit and needs additional help to complete implementation.

--Glenn Mosley

Quest

Cont'd from page 2

deeper level of sharing and involvement with one another while on the other hand we're crying out for opportunities to do so! Well, the opportunities are present and growing. Let me just review a few of them: Spiritual Renewal Retreats at Conference; the Networking idea that was started by Marj Britt and the Church Growth and Development Committee and that is now being expanded through the leadership of Mary Omwake; Regional Conferences, where there is the opportunity to get together with others on a more sharing level; and membership on a committee that meet midyear as well as at pre-conference (I've always felt that even though committees do very real and valuable work their real purpose is for people to get together in a small group to share love and ideas with one another). This coming Janu-

ary I'm encouraging committee members to come in early and spend some retreat time together. The Board has been doing this for a couple of years now. It certainly makes a difference in the way we relate to one another in business meetings!

In the first chapter of *The Quest*, the "soul-talk" affirmation is "I am at Possibility Junction." I believe that we're at Possibility Junction in the Association of Unity Churches. We can choose to work together and share with one another for the good of all, or we can hold back and hold on to our own individual ministry, going it alone and "doing our own thing." The choice is ours. We have lots to share with one another! As presidents of our Association, Pat Barker, Joel Baehr, and I have made a commitment to share and work closely with one another in a common theme of "working together." We invite you to join with us.

Questing with you, in Christ love.

Meet Your Association Staff

(The Management Team appreciates this opportunity; after the request was brought to our attention, we realized that we become so familiar with the work and educational background with our Association staff members that we overlook the fact that field ministers and church staff members would also like to become acquainted with the faces and voices at "the other end of the line." Thank you for asking.)

GLENN "BUD" MOSLEY, JR., has been with the Association of Unity Churches since the summer of 1986. There are many Unity people who knew of his presence before he was born at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, thirty-four years ago.

Bud is our Shipping, Receiving, and Production Manager. He keeps up on all the latest shipping and mailing methods and costs. He is trained in First Aid and is certified CPR by

the American Red Cross. Bud oversees the Bookstore and Exhibits for the Ministers' Conference/Convention. He also helps maintain our building as safety coordinator. (Bud and his assistant, Ron Lee, played a major role in the moving and setting up of our



offices in our new building).

Bud's hobbies include woodworking, water skiing, whitewater rafting, bicycling, photography, and clowning. The two newest people in his life are a wonderful and pretty lady, Julie, and a terrific kid, Trevor--and they were all married July 7, 1993!

RON LEE, Shipping Assistant, came to the Association in March of 1991. His responsibilities include all mailings, UPS, processing orders, and inventory control. Ron also assists in any way needed by the staff of our Association.

Prior to coming to the Association, Ron worked for a major aerospace firm as mechanical/electrical inspector.

Ron and his wife, Marti, make their home in Lee's Summit with their children Christi and Nick. Ron enjoys volleyball, basketball, softball, hunting and fishing, and spending time with his family.



BROADCASTING THE UNITY MESSAGE



Carolyn Craft
Radio/Media Consultant

Dear Ministers,

It is with much celebration and reflection that I complete my time at the Association of Unity Churches as Radio/Media Consultant effective July 22, 1993. Over the past five years you, our Association staff, and Sir John Templeton have blessed me with your support and commitment in sharing a message of Unity via broadcasting. Along with my professional relationship with each of you, I have received the boundless gifts of healing, transformation, friendship, and love. In all ways you have touched me and I have grown.

One of the most tender things that I have experienced during my tenure here is the deep awareness of oneness among our entire Association family from continent to continent. Wherever we are and with whomever, there is a sense of connectedness that surpasses any feeling of being alone or separate. I once believed my broadcast family to be expansive. Little did I know how precious it would be to one day have the awareness of Spirit breathing everyone and all creation.

You have shown me how practical spirituality can be lived and grown in all ways. I see each of you expanding in light and walking in the finest of vibrations--of love, of harmony and of sister/brotherhood. Know that I will continue to be available by phone or letter with respect to your involvement and/or questions about broadcasting. I plan to begin a broadcast campaign with Unity of Win-

ston-Salem soon upon arrival there and will continue serving on our Association's media committee. I have accepted the position of minister with this growing spiritual community effective August 22.

Be assured that over the next few months, your questions and media outreach needs can be addressed by Linda Beard, who has been of tremendous support and influence as my assistant during the past two years. A radio management professional has been hired to fill this position effective October 1st. Martha

Mosley will be notifying you of his start date and the gifts and expertise he brings to your Association's Radio/Media department.

I have each of you forever in my heart. May our paths continue to meet along the way.

In Unity and Divine Friendship,

Carolyn Craft
Broadcast Ministry Consultant

A Letter From. . .

Jim Verkest
Radio/Media Coordinator

For me, life has always been filled with the excitement of change and new beginnings. It is a new beginning that has me writing this short article to you this month. I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you as the new Radio/Media Coordinator for the Association of Unity Churches.

My experience in radio is primarily as an owner/operator, with my wife Mary, of two commercial radio stations in the Green Bay, Wisconsin, area. My experience in sales, marketing, and management, however, goes back nearly thirty years. Charles Fillmore many, many years ago believed that radio--at the time a new communications technology--was a fantastic way to communicate Truth to a vast audience. Charles Fillmore was right then and he would be even more right today because of the growth of the medium and its ability to reach virtually one-hundred percent of all adults in the country.

It is my vision to be able to provide new leadership and new ideas to the radio broadcasting department that will allow it to be a sustaining resource to the Unity churches and centers throughout the Association. Carolyn and Linda have provided a number of outstanding creations to be used to get out the Voice of Unity. I trust that the excellent work in this area will continue. I hope to dedicate more effort in the overall marketing of the mission of Unity churches and centers in specific areas of the country through the effective use of broadcast media. I will be bringing ideas to you on how to get broadcast communications to be the most effective source for you to reach people who need to hear the Unity message.

I look forward to starting my new role with the Association October 1st. My time will be dedicated to meeting the needs of the people in the field so please do not hesitate to call on me. I will in turn be asking you to identify for me your greatest needs and priorities in my new area of responsibility so that I can respond to them through this department as quickly as possible. I feel very blessed to have this opportunity and I ask your prayer support as we begin this new quest together.

What is a Communication Committee Network Member?

- An enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in his/her community and the world. The members' commission and participation would require energies devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.): research, feedback, observation, inform, tabulate, community awareness, creativity, interfacing, expanding, consciousness, checking market pulse/church pulse, service, support, defining and holding your ministry's vision. This person could be serving as minister, a board member, public relations person, publicist, media coordinator, teacher, etc. Write us with the name of the person in your church/center who will be your Communications Committee Network Member.

We now have 39 ministries who have named their members:

Radio/Media Department Communication Committee Network Members

Ada Davis & Virginia Good--Unity Center of Bakersfield, Bakersfield, CA
 Rev. Billie Blain--Sunrise Unity, Citrus Heights, CA
 Rev. Emily Gillespie--Unity Church of Light, Concord, CA
 Rev. Arthur Hammons--Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, El Cajon, CA
 John M. Bennett--Long Beach Unity, Long Beach, CA
 Kate Trelatsky--Unity Church of Merced, Merced, CA
 Russ E. Deck--Unity of Palm Springs, Palm Springs, CA
 Ruth Langdon--Christ Unity Church, Redding, CA
 Debra Reilly--Unity Temple of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
 Carol Keefer--Unity of Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze, FL
 Frank Kaiser--Unity Church for Christian Living, Miami, FL
 Rev. Jack Kern--Unity of Naples, Naples, FL
 Andy Conyer--Unity of Sebring, Sebring, FL
 Rev. Hal Rosencrans--Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, FL
 Rina Leadingham--Unity of Savannah, Savannah, GA
 Peggy Van Cleve--Unity Church of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
 Laura Jeske--Fox Valley Unity, Batavia, IL
 Veronica Crawford--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Springfield, IL
 Cindy Sickler--Unity Church of Salina, Salina, KS
 JoAn Burt--Unity of Shreveport, Shreveport, LA
 Dean Leutscher--Unity of Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids, MI
 Mary Jo Ruten--Unity of Jackson, Jackson, MI
 Grace Luckscherte--Unity of Livonia, Livonia, MI
 Sandra Hymel--Unity of Woods Chapel, Lee's Summit, MO
 LeVonne Feller--Unity Church of Today, Omaha, NE
 Bob Burns--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Las Cruces, NM
 Olga Sparman--Unity Pyramid of Truth, Brooklyn, NY
 Rev. Sue Smith & Pauline James--Unity Ch/Practical Christianity, Buffalo, NY
 Rev. Brenda Windell--Christ Church Unity, Rochester, NY
 Bridget Brown--Unity Center Church, Cleveland Heights, OH
 Rev. Julia Topa--Unity Chapel of Light, Tallmadge, OH
 Liz Duckett--Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN
 Janet Meschi, Kristi Beckwith & Rev. Ellen Gardner--Unity Ch of Brownsville, Brownsville, TX
 Ken Kenyon--Frist Unity Church of Positive Living, El Paso, TX
 Laveria Holland--Unity Church of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX
 Rev. Carol Record--Unity Ch of NE Tarrant County, Southlake, TX
 D. Karen Wilkerson--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Tyler, TX
 Ward McCarey--Unity of Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, UT
 Joan Phillipson--Unity Church of Christianity, Wauwatosa, WI

Voices of Unity:

- Unity/Palm Springs, Palm Springs, CA**
 • Radio KDES AM 920, 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 p.m., Sun. (30 minute program)
- Christ Unity Church, Sacramento, CA:**
 "The Best Is Yet To Be" TV program- (out of Sacramento to much of northern California and southern Oregon)
 • Sacramento, channel 40 at 9:00 a.m.
 • Bay Area out of San Jose, channel 48 at 9:00 a.m.
 • Seattle Puget Sound Area, channel 22 at 8:00 a.m.
 • Arizona, out of Phoenix, Prescott, channel 27 at 8:00 a.m. (northern Arizona, channel 7)
 • Monterey Peninsula, cable channel 22 at 9:00 a.m.
 • St. Joseph, MO, channel 2, 9:30 a.m.
- Unity Pyramid, Santa Maria, CA:**
 • Cable TV channels 21 and 22
- Unity of Sebring, Sebring, FL:**
 • Radio WCAL FM & WITS AM (six spots daily)
- Unity of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI:**
 • Radio KCCN 1420 AM, Sun. 9:00 a.m.
- Christ Universal Temple, Chicago, IL:**
 • TV Station 4
- Unity Ch/North Shore, Evanston, IL:**
 • Radio 750 AM
- Unity Ch of Springfield, Springfield, IL:**
 • Radio WVEM FM Friday 7:30-7:45 a.m., TV Community Access Channel 4, Thursday 7:30 p.m.
- Unity of Indianapolis, IN:**
 • Radio WXLW 950Kc AM, Fri. 3:00 p.m.
- Detroit Unity Temple, Detroit, MI:**
 • Radio WQRS 105.1 FM, M-F 5:50 a.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. (on air continuously for the last 30 years)
- Unity Church of Muskegon, MI**
 • Cable TV channel 24
- Church of Today, Warren, MI:**
 • TV Channel 50 (Detroit) 8:00 a.m.
 • TV Channel 33 (Cadillac) 10:00 a.m.
- Christ Ch of the Hills, Branson, MO:**
 • Local TV Channel 6
- Unity Ch of P. C., St. Joseph, MO:**
 • TV KQTV, Sunday 9:30 a.m.
- Unity Village Chapel, Unity Village, MO:**
 • Radio KLTH 99.7 FM, Sunday 7:00 a.m. (week delay broadcast)
- Christ Unity Ch, Albuquerque, NM:**
 • Radio KQEO 920 AM, Sun. 8:05 a.m.
- Associacion Unity, Santurce, PR:**
 • Radio WSJ 1560 AM, Sunday 8:00

See VOICES on page 11, col. 3

The History of Unity in Puerto Rico

by Norma Iris Rosado

In 1947, the minister Rafaela Melendez and a group of scholars seeking the Truth, started meeting for reading and discussing of metaphysical subjects. The group quickly grew and it was necessary to move to a larger space. The growth was noticeable not only in numbers but also in the change evidenced in their attitudes.

The new space quickly became too small and with a collective consciousness of faith as the impelling factor, they decided to buy a piece of land and build a permanent site for Unity. The new facilities were available in October 1968.

Dr. Concha Melendez, Rafaela's sister, who was also a prestigious writer and university professor in Puerto Rico, attended Unity School, becoming a Unity minister in 1959. Upon her return she joined the group adding a new dimension as a lecturer. Under her leadership the Spanish *Daily Word* translation began.

Unity in Puerto Rico has always been an institution of service and education not

only for individuals but also for families as a whole. This educational outlook much needed to diversify in order to meet the needs of all groups served. Thus a ministry addressed to children and youngsters was necessary and greatly stressed. A school to develop new leadership was established and it operated from 1973 to 1980. Most of the leadership of licensed teachers and ministers that we now have in the entire Spanish movement developed within this school. The school was closed, but the need was still present and pressing. In 1987 a new school was opened with new goals and visions. As a result new leaders emerged and brought about the creation of new study groups in various places on the island. All these Spanish groups, led by licensed teachers, are under the umbrella of the original church established by Rafaela Melendez and now under the ministry of Norma Rosado. There is also an English speaking group

that is under this ministry. At this moment it is on its way to becoming an independent church.

In Puerto Rico there are two other churches which are affiliated with the Association of Unity Churches and Unity School of Christianity. One is under the leadership of the Reverend Olga Rojas and the other under the leadership of licensed teacher Zoraida Colondres.

Unity in Puerto Rico has also established a retreat center that serves not only our congregation but also all the Puerto Rican community. We broadcast for our island and the Spanish movement as a whole. The translation of the Unity literature is also among the tasks that we accomplish.

As we celebrate our 46th anniversary of Unity in Puerto Rico, we look forward to maintaining personal growth and development as our main goal as well as that of the Spanish movement, according to God's plan for us.

Russia

Cont'd from page 3

We ate in the Ural Mountain Region's former communist headquarters building (now democratic government regional headquarters). It was from Ekaterinburg we made a brief visit into the Siberian Region. Nobody was detained.

On our flight home, we were with 200 members of another denomination who had a religious rally in Kiev, Ukraine (Ukraine is also a former country of the U.S.S.R.). They baptized almost 7,000 people at one meeting. More than half of them were under 25.

Seven percent of the Russian nation's population is involved with the Russian Orthodox Church. Approximately fifty percent are Moslem. The other forty-three percent are any/all other religions--Christian and non-Christian, and mostly non-committed believers. Few still claim atheism. Not surprisingly, over ninety percent of the Russian Orthodox followers are 60 plus years of age.

However, since there is much cross-breeding of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian government, the church is working to bar non-Russian church leaders from Russia and to "contain" the growth of any religious fervor which is not related to Russian Orthodoxy.

We toured and visited historical and religious sites. We established ties with people which will be life-long.

Spiritual Unity of Russia's business manager Eugen Tkachenko met with us in St. Petersburg. We captured on video, so far as we know a "first" in the Russian language. He sang "God Is Blessing You Now;" (second verse of "Happy Birthday To You").

I'll conclude this letter about my second Russian tour which was twenty-four years after my first by saying, "I should like to exercise poetic license and say that God still walks the Russian streets, still lives in peasants' hearts, still 'haunts' the churches, and, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, still speaks to Russian youth." (Ibid.)

Voices

Cont'd from page 10

Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN:

- WNOX 99.1 FM and WNDD 99.3 FM; Mon. 7:40 & 8:20 a.m.; Fri. 5:20 p.m.; and Sat. 12:00 midnight.

Unity Ch of Christianity, Houston, TX:

- Radio KODA 99.1, Thur & Fri 7:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun. random

Ch of the Hill Country, Kerrville, TX:

- Radio KERV AM and KRVL FM, mornings and evenings

Unity Ch/Christianity, Nacogdoches, TX:

- Radio KFSA AM 860, Sun. 8:00 a.m.

Unity/NE Tarrant Cnty, Southlake, TX:

- Radio 97.9 FM, Mon-Fri 8:25 p.m., Sat & Sun 7:25 p.m.

Unity Ch/Tidewater, Virginia Bch, VA:

- Radio WADC 1050 AM, 10:30 a.m. Parkersburg, W. Virginia, (15 minute programs)

Write us about your broadcast outreach and we will add your church/center to the list.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY



Al Sears

Has this ever happened to you?

I still don't know how it happened. One day Louis and I were sipping hot tea and listening to classical music in the living room. The next day--wham! I'm a fishing widow.

There's a lot more to fishing than just fish. Within this four-letter word (ahem), hides enough paraphernalia, must have's, and absolute necessities, to boggle the checkbook and cause any sporting goods salesperson's eyes to gleam!

Anyone who ever read Huck Finn knows that all you need to fish is a bamboo pole, a string, a safety pin, and bait. Apparently, contemporary fisher-persons don't read Huck Finn anymore. Fishing today is a whole new can of worms.

The major purchase is the bass boat. Today your boat must be named after the fish you intend to catch. Then, you need several fishing poles; the spin caster, the bait caster, the Bass Master faster caster . . . you get the point. Next, you need hundreds of plastic thingies with names like Pig & Jig, Whoo Daves Woo-Worm, and Sluggo. These names identify various kinds of bait--crank bait, jerk bait, spinner bait. Of course, before you go to the lake, you stop at the bait shop and buy a bag of worms and two dozen minnows. These are what you intended to fish with all along.

No one in their right mind would attempt to fish without first subscribing to at least three bass-fishing magazines. These magazines cover everything from

"The Winter Cover Bass Love Most" to "How To Pronounce Woo Daves." They also tell you why the very fishing tackle you just purchased isn't as good as the very fishing tackle they are currently advertising.

Throw in snacks, gasoline, the new vehicle powerful enough to pull the boat, tournament fees, rain gear, hats with Bass Pro names on them, and a few lost lures, and you've got fishing the American way!

This all reminds me of religion the American way. The array of literature, videos, audio cassettes, and computer software makes it easy to be informed about everything from budgeting and organizing to communication styles and psychology. We can buy desk sets, plaques, and pictures inscribed with scripture verses. Our kids can play with super heroes with religious values, write with pens that bear spiritual messages, and play board games adapted for the religious family's use.

Good stuff! So I was surprised when someone once advised me to put down my tapes and books and magazines, and rest. "What will I do?" I asked. "Pray! Walk! Meditate! Garden! Read Daily Word! Think! Sleep! Play with your kids!" was the answer.

It took a while, but I learned to peel away the excess and put away the distractions. I learned to bake bread and sit down with a good novel. I learned to read to my son and I learned to talk with my daughters. I learned to find advice in the Bible and find fellowship with a few good friends.

Weary after the search for the right church, the right doctrine, the right attitude on the gifts, the right relationships, the right communication tactics, and the right lifestyle to go with it all, we may find ourselves crumbling under the weight of the information. The fun has gone out of our religion--the joy in our relationship with God lost somewhere among our self-help books.

It might feel good right about now to grab a fresh can of worms and a bamboo pole and head for some living water. . . after all, that's what you'd intended to do all along.

*My thanks to Julie Rohlfing
for the majority of this article.*

NEW! NOTE CARDS and ENVELOPES

ARE HERE!

SETS OF 50 FOR
\$9.00

SMALL BLUE LOGO ON
ON CARD FRONT
AND ENVELOPE

ORDER PAPER COLORS

#2207 White

#2213 Ivory

#2219 Gray

#2224 Rose

THESE ARE IN STOCK,
ORDER FROM SUSAN.
816-524-7414, ext. 324 or
FAX: 816-525-4020

CUSTOM STATIONERY IS BACK!

(see order form at right)

CALL SUSAN
FOR YOUR ALL-NEW
SAMPLE PACK.

INCLUDES NEW ITEMS:
REMITTANCE ENVELOPES
and
NOTE PADS

Assn of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414



News for the Field

HEADQUARTERS

VOL. 3, NO. 3

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1993

Glenn Mosley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Alan Rowbotham
President

Celebrate!

Y(OUR) STARlight!

The beauty of a starlit sky has inspired the human heart for centuries. As a child I remember the awe I felt when my science teacher told us the hundreds, thousands, even hundreds of thousands of light years that traveled to brighten the night's star-studded symphony.

As we kick off our third annual STARlight Fund campaign we celebrate the STARlight shining throughout our Unity movement in support of our growth internationally. This issue of **Headquarters Highlights** is a celebration of our international growth. Articles throughout this issue spotlight your Association and STARlight's commitment to our worldwide Unity movement.

Do you know that your Association is a nonprofit organization supported entirely by freewill offerings? It is a worldwide organization made up of over 600 ministries, 250 affiliated study groups, and 100+ informal prayer groups. STARlight, our Annual Fund campaign, provides additional support for day-to-day Association operations. It also affirms the growth of our Unity movement internationally by dedicating twenty-five percent of all funds received to this vision. Therefore STARlight's ongoing focus is to assist international ministerial students and/or pioneering groups. Our 1993-94 STARlight campaign returns to this original theme.

An extension of our expansion activities involves the youth of our world. In our 1992-93 campaign, STARlight joined your Association's Year of the Child program in its renewed emphasis on the spiritual education of our children. We support Myrtle Fillmore's founding vision and the Association's mission of a deep commitment to

the spiritual unfoldment of our children.

Since 1973 your Association has been actively involved in supporting the expansion of our international Unity movement. Your Association has provided various types of financial assistance to ministries in Canada, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Colombia, the Bahamas, Russia, Nigeria, Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Australia.

Our International Consultant for Education Services, Ray Wiggins, has worked extensively in Russia. Ray has trained both youth educators to work with the youth in Moscow and Ekaterinburg and the youth themselves. Your Association assisted the YOU International Fund in bringing three delegates from Russia and two from Mexico to the Youth of Unity Conference at Unity Village this summer. Financial assistance has been provided for international delegates since 1983.

Young Bae, your Association's Comptroller and an Associate Director, is currently in ministerial school as a student in the Administrative Leadership Program (ALP). Young is from Korea and in addition to his work as Comptroller he has a primary goal to translate Unity literature into Korean. Young has already translated **The Golden Key** pamphlet for Unity School's World Outreach Department.

Your Association supports the spread of Truth principles over radio waves. In Nigeria, Ghana, Central & South America, Europe, and Asia, our gifts to **Radio for Peace International**, supports Unity radio messages broadcast to over seventy nations.

STARlight gifts in 1992 provided over 450 books which make up a complete ministerial library for the Unity Ministerial School in Nigeria. The Nigerian school trains six students at a time. Students were sharing one set of books with their instructor. Now, each student has access to individual copies of required books.

HIGHLIGHTS

See STARlight on page 4, col. 3

Youth of Unity Conference Host International Delegates



Y.O.U. group from Ekaterinburg.

Three delegates from Russia and two from Mexico attended our International Y.O.U. Conference at Unity Village this summer. Contributions to the Y.O.U. International Fund assists in aiding these delegates by

sharing a portion of their costs.

Two Y.O.U. chapters are firmly in place in Russia. There is one in Moscow and one in Ekaterinburg, part of Moscow in the Ural Mountains. Both chapters have an atten-

dance of 20 or more. These chapters meet weekly.

Our Ekaterinburg Y.O.U. is ready to offer the first Y.O.U. Conference to be held in Russia, August 18-21, 1994. Planned and led by the Russian Y.O.U'ers, this Conference will be open to delegates from Canada, United States, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Africa, and Europe.

Y.O.U. delegates from Mexico City returned to start our first Y.O.U. chapter in that city. Recently we learned that 10 acquaintances at Teresa Lopez are ready to begin meeting regularly for prayer and study of Unity.

Young people of the world are eager to experience the love and affirmative acceptance available in Y.O.U. and to put into practical use in their lives the powerful Truths taught and demonstrated by Jesus the Christ.

Ray Wiggins

Int'l Education Services Consultant

Year of the Child

dedicated to the spiritual advancement of all children. . .

In 1993 your Association celebrated the Year of the Child. Twenty-five percent of all funds received by STARlight in our 1992-93 campaign directly supported this project. As its mission the Year of the Child pledged, "To motivate, guide, and support Unity churches to enhance and expand their ministries with children and youth." It's been an exciting year as individuals and ministries dedicated themselves to this vision.

Nineteen ninety-three saw the first child-related Association conference, *Loving the Child*, held in Kansas City, Missouri. The week was filled with activities for children and the inner child within all individuals. Children were treated to a special week-long program that included a variety of workshops, learning centers, and daily outings.

They also joined the children from local Unity centers in the Rainbow Kids Chorus. This chorus performed at a number of functions and joined in a program that introduced new cartoon superheroes--Metaphysical Man and Miracle Woman. The children joined the dynamic duo to bring about the transformation of archvillain, Ego-Mania. Needless to say, a fun time was had by all. Capping off the week's activities were the Unity Family Olympics at Unity Village.

Coordinator Judi Venturini was instrumental in the success of the children programs for the conference. Her accomplishments also include the quarterly publication of the **Year of the Child Newsletter** sent to Unity ministries worldwide and ongoing support of new curriculum. Through the newsletter Judi has shared articles from experts in the field of parenting and education, ideas from our churches, introduced new educational mate-

rials, made available new song books, cassettes, and videos, and promoted the importance of children in our ministries. The Year of the Child brought to the forefront new mini-curricula and programs developed by Unity teachers and writers throughout our movement.

Judi believes that through making children our top priority and through the healing of our own inner child we will make a vast contribution to the healing of our planet. Kansas City Mayor, Emanuel Cleaver II, upon proclaiming 1993 the Year of the Child in Kansas City echoed Judi when he said, ". . . children are our nation's most prolific resource in all fields of endeavor including being the administrators of our life in the future. . ."

STARlight is proud to have supported the Year of the Child. We thank all those individuals and ministries who became STARlight Team Members in support of this very special project.

STARlight Scholarship Recipient Welcomed to Ministerial School

Thangluaia was in the throes of a decision. Could he really travel half-way around the world to become a licensed and ordained Unity minister? His wife said, "You have been called by God. Don't worry about us. We'll be okay. You must go."

A hearty welcome was given to Thangluaia by Unity School of Religious Studies. Your Association's STARlight Fund and The World Outreach Department of Unity School are working together to support Thangluaia and Dick Kumlaki, from Malawi, through ministerial school. Dick is attending the Unity School in Nigeria.

Diana McDaniel, a first year ministerial student and part-time Development Officer for your Association, spoke with Thangluaia about his organization, "Lalchhungkua."

Thangluaia is from Mizoram, A North Eastern state in India bordering Burma and Bangladesh. The 700,000 residents of Mizoram are all Christian, not Hindu as one might expect. Thangluaia is the Chairman of "Lalchhungkua," an organization with approximately 5,000 members. This organization originated in 1979 when Thangluaia and some others began to believe differently from their mainstream Christian brethren. As Thangluaia puts it, "We received a new teaching." When I asked him from where had they received this teaching. He said simply, "From God." He and his brethren were expelled from their churches. They decided to unite. His group thought they were the only ones in the world who believed this new way; yet they searched for those of like mind.

Thangluaia and his wife attended a conference in Amsterdam, Holland, featuring Billy Graham. They felt sure that among the 4,000 ministers and many speakers they would surely find one who thought as they did. Not one could they find. Thangluaia said, "Now we were sure we were the only ones in the world who thought as we did, so we decided to spread the word, to teach others."

One day a friend's wife was going to Massachusetts and Thangluaia



Thangluaia, first-year ministerial student.

asked her to bring him a book on religions. In this book he found Unity and a synopsis of its teachings. He wrote to Unity School, posting it simply to Unity Village, Missouri 64065. He received a reply from Ron Tyson, head of the World Outreach Department. They had corresponded for a couple of years when Ron brought Thangluaia to the attention of STARlight as a candidate for a ministerial school scholarship. Association Trustees approved the scholarship in January, and Thangluaia began school this past July. Thangluaia is certainly here by divine appointment!

"Lalchhungku Unity" has 57 meeting places/churches that they call "branches." The "Lalchhungkua Unity General Headquarters" (GHQ) has five officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer. There are four pastors, four evangelists, and three office staff members. GHQ has an Executive Committee of fifty persons. In 1985 the General Assembly developed a Constitution and elected its first Chairman, Thangluaia. Elections are held every two years. Thangluaia was elected again in 1993. This year's General Assembly voted to affiliate themselves with the World Outreach Department headquartered at Unity Village in Missouri. We welcome you, Thangluaia, and want to thank "Lalchhungkua" for sharing you with us.

Diana McDaniel
Development Officer

Costa Rica - A Blossoming Ministry!

In 1989, under the umbrella of your Association's Expansion Department, Diane Plamondon pioneered a new ministry--Unity in Costa Rica. It started with only two congregants, but the ministry has truly blossomed. Earlier this year Diane left Costa Rica. Juan Enrique Toro and Rita Marie Johnson became co-ministers. The ministry changed its name to Unity of San Jose, Costa Rica. At a recent Friendship Sunday there were over fifty people in attendance.

In August a group from Unity in Santurce, Puerto Rico, visited Unity of San Jose. Juan Enrique used that opportunity to kick off the beginning of Hispanic Unity. He conducted a special Hispanic service and workshop.

Juan Enrique and Rita Marie would like to welcome you to Costa Rica as guests of Unity of San Jose. Costa Rica is known worldwide for its peaceful consciousness and its biological diversity. Your Unity family in San Jose includes a Bed & Breakfast owner, professional tour guides, and experts on flora and fauna. For a vacation that would include not only tourism but Unity fellowship and spiritual inspiration contact:

Rev. Rita Maria Johnson
SJO-401
P.O. Box 025216
Miami, FL 33102-5216
Tel./FAX: 011-506-28-6051

We are thankful for the expression of God shining through Juan Enrique and Rita Marie in San Jose. They lead the way for a ministry filled with wonderful blessings.

Headquarters Highlights

**Published bi-monthly by the
Association of Unity Churches**

Editor: Nancy Smith Elliott

Graphics & Layout: Cheryl Vestal

Circulation: Development Department

Contributors: Glenn Mosley
Diana McDaniel
Nancy Smith Elliott
Ray Wiggins

Who ya gonna call?

For your convenience. . . (816) 524-7414

Accounting

Associate Director/Comptroller--Young Bac	324
Accounts Payable--Susan Velasquez	323
Billing Information/Insurance Questions--Myra Moore	324
Orders - Regular (placing & shipments)	322 or 324
(Orders - Personalized--see Institutional Relations listing)	
Pension Information	322 or 324
Production & Shipping	
Manager--Bud Mosley	
Assistant--Ron Lee	

Development/Fund Raising

Director of Development--Shay St. John	
Assistant Director--Nancy Smith Elliott	
Development Officer--Diana McDaniel	
Development Office	355

Education

Associate Director/Director of Education--Mick Dustin	332
Assistant in Education--C. J. Southern	344
Children and Youth--Linda Gower	327
Intergenerational--Ray Wiggins	346
Licensed Teacher Coordinator--Trish Robinson	345
Radio/Media Coordinator--Jim Verkest	338
Assistant Radio/Media Coordinator--Linda Harbin-Beard	332
Year of the Child--Judi Venturini	
All other questions	

Executive Office

Executive Director--Glenn Mosley	
Executive Assistant--Nira Schreen	352

Institutional Relations

Associate Director/Director of Institutional Advancement--Martha Mosley	
Bylaws	341
Conference/Convention/Support Services Coordinator--	
Debbie Ratliff-Ball	329
Assistant--Marsha Penrose	330
Receptionist/Accounting Support--Connie Waitley	320
Receptionist--Jean Jensen	321

Ministry Services

Associate Director/Director of Placement-Expansion--Joann Landreth	
Address Information/CONTACT--Cheryl Vestal	326
Placement Assistant--Jody Smith	336
Expansion Assistant--Bets Kirby	351

STARlight

Cont'd from page 1

STARlight assisted a pioneering ministry in Canada, and is currently helping to support international ministerial students.

STARlight is pleased to be working in alliance with the Unity School World Outreach program to provide assistance to ministerial students Thangluaa from India and Dick Kumlaki from Malawi. Dick is attending the Unity Ministerial Training School in Nigeria. Thangluaa is attending Unity School of Religious Studies at Unity Village here in Lee's Summit, Missouri. We had the opportunity to interview Thangluaa for this issue.

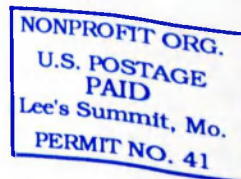
STARlight. Yes, its nature is light. But what are the differences and the similarities between the starlight that shines in the skies we look up to see and the STARlight we shine throughout our Unity movement as we support its growth? Your gifts to STARlight begin their work NOW. Light years are not required before you see the difference those gifts make. And yet, light years from now, the impact of today's gifts will continue to be a blessing!

Association of Unity Churches

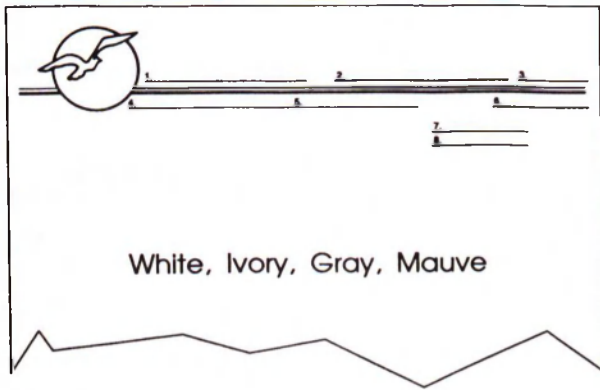
P.O. Box 610 • Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414 FAX: (816) 525-4020

SENT WITH LOVE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL

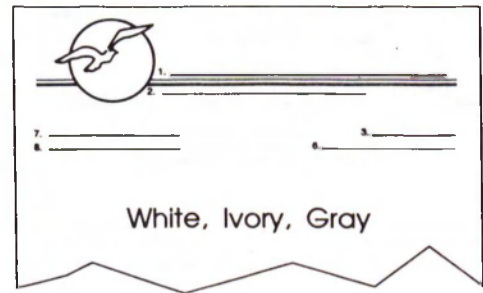
☐ Would you like to receive HH?
Check here and return with
your address.



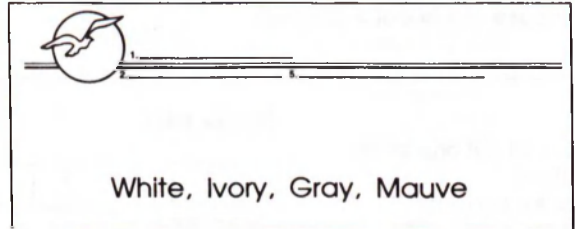
LETTERHEAD (8 1/2" x 11")



NOTEPAD (5 1/2" x 8 1/2")



#10 REG. ENVELOPE



Please circle color desired.

Please fill out one form per item
(Each line has an 30 character maximum)

INSTRUCTIONS:

(Please read carefully, copy will be entered **exactly** as information is indicated on this form.)

1. All lines should be filled out in both upper and lower case.

2. Check character spacing & punctuation carefully.

3. All abbreviations will be interpreted identically.

4. Line Format is indicated per product on the given examples above. Check placement carefully.

Please Print

1.	<input type="text"/>	Church Name
2.	<input type="text"/>	Street Address
3.	<input type="text"/>	Telephone
4.	<input type="text"/>	Mailing Address
5.	<input type="text"/>	City - State - Zip
6.	<input type="text"/>	Facsimile
7.	<input type="text"/>	Name
8.	<input type="text"/>	Title

OFFICE USE ONLY

PLUS FREIGHT

QUANTITY AND TYPE:

Order from

Association of Unity Churches
P.O. Box 610
Lee's Summit, MO 64063-0610

Phone: (816) 524-7414
Fax: (816) 525-4020

Letterhead (8 1/2" x 11")

☐ 500 (\$59.50)

☐ 1000 (\$69.50)

Second Sheet (8 1/2" x 11")

☐ 500 (\$30.00)

☐ 1000 (\$45.00)

#10 (Regular) (4 1/8" x 9 1/2")

☐ 500 (\$64.50)

☐ 1000 (\$74.50)

Notepad (5 1/2" x 8 1/2") 50 sheets per pad

☐ 10 (\$80.00)

☐ 20 (\$120.00)

If you have special mailing or billing instructions, please write on lines below.

COMMENTS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

On behalf of the Association of Unity Churches' staff and Board of Trustees, we extend to you our deep gratitude and appreciation for your past financial support. The love and faith you incorporate into your gifts make them special.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Fund Operations As of July 31, 1993

INCOME-OPERATIONS	July	Year to Date
Love Offerings	\$ 54,870.12	\$262,534.40
Other Income	<u>5,438.20</u>	<u>51,391.20</u>
	\$ 60,308.32	\$313,925.60
Less: Tithe Transfer	<u>5,553.78</u>	<u>26,477.51</u>
	54,754.54	287,448.09
Gross Profit Material	<u>9,435.28</u>	<u>24,474.61</u>
Total Income	\$ 64,189.82	\$311,922.70
EXPENSE-OPERATIONS	\$ 85,415.89	\$317,282.78
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ (21,226.07)</u>	<u>\$ (5,360.08)</u>

*Unity School Contribution to the Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided:

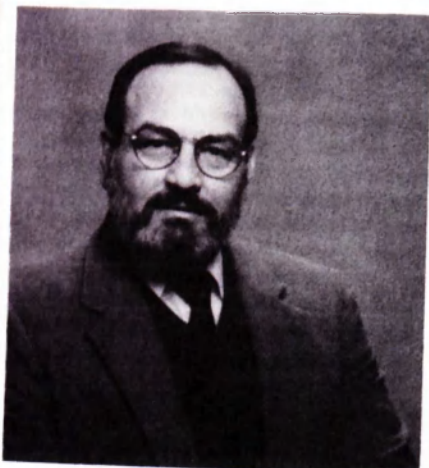
Month of June: \$10,394.69

Year to Date: \$20,135.18

*This is a non-ledger item. It represents religious materials, book discounts, etc.

Building/Development Fund

INCOME-OPERATIONS	July	Year to Date
Love Offerings: Building Campaign	\$ 90,701.54	\$ 166,224.89
Love Offerings: Caring NOW!	27,098.96	38,015.87
Love Offerings: STARlight	2,347.33	13,076.94
Other Income	<u>415.66</u>	<u>3,720.05</u>
Campaign Revenue Total	\$120,563.49	\$221,037.75
Grant Income: Templeton Foundation	<u>43,000.00</u>	<u>86,000.00</u>
GROSS REVENUE	\$163,563.49	\$307,037.75
LESS: Transfer To Other Funds		
Building Campaign to Building Account	67,999.91	124,642.42
STARlight To Year of the Child Account	586.83	3,269.22
STARlight to General Fund	1,173.66	6,538.44
Caring NOW! to Building Account	214.05	1,213.31
Caring NOW! to Curriculum Account	<u>20,136.42</u>	<u>27,324.82</u>
Total Transfer	\$ 90,110.87	\$ 162,988.21
NET REVENUE AVAILABLE	\$ 73,452.62	\$ 144,049.54
Expenditures From Grant Income	\$ 17,480.58	\$ 56,519.57
Expenditures From Love Offering Incomes	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 17,480.58	\$ 56,519.57
INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 55,972.04</u>	<u>\$ 87,529.97</u>



Michael "Mick" Dustin
Director of Education

Aren't we all interested in knowing what it takes to present an inspirational, thought-provoking, and power-filled class or workshop? Much study and practical field work has been done in seeking to understand the adult learner. Truly there are ways to enhance the presentation of our time-proven Truth classes.

The article I am having reprinted here could start you off on a whole new personal growth path. Though we know, understand, and apply the principles of practical Christianity in our personal lives, we also have a responsibility to seek ways in which we can help others apply this Truth in their lives as well.

Francoise Morissette is a professional trainer and adept at training trainers. Her insights into adult learning have helped people all over the world to be more of the teacher and trainer they are capable of being. We can all benefit from her insights into this not-so-difficult process.

If you are interested in the work Ms. Morissette is doing for your personal growth or perhaps as a presenter in your region, you can contact her at the address provided in this article.

To Great Beginnings!

There you are: the first class of your "Lessons in Truth" series is about to begin and you feel both excited and anxious. You go over your notes once more and pray it will be all right. Students are arriving and you smile as you greet them.

Well... 7:30 p.m., time to start! You take a deep breath and plunge into your introduction. As you talk about the birth of Unity and the life of Emilie Cady, you

progressively notice something is wrong.

It is not working the way you had anticipated. They are not warming up; some look uncomfortable, others look puzzled. You become increasingly self-conscious and start forgetting the next points in your outline.

Sound familiar? Well prepared about content, we sometimes overlook process. Process? Yes, the other dimension, the glue that holds content together and makes it stick. And at no other time is process more important than at the kickoff of a new class. Why?

✓ Because first impressions are created in four seconds or less and confirmed in the next four minutes. Once they are formed, they are very difficult to change.

✓ Because adults experience a fair amount of anxiety at the onset of a new learning experience.

✓ Because you need to understand the level, motivation, and expectations of your audience early on, so you can pitch the content appropriately.

✓ Because your group needs to bond quickly in order to establish the trust and openness necessary for sharing and meaningful learning.

Twenty years in training have powerfully convinced me of the importance of setting the right tone.

Here are some tips on how to do it:

• Short Introduction

Keep your introduction to a minimum (5-7 minutes) during which you don't give a lot of content. At best, provide an overview of the series, its objectives or administrative details. Concentrate more on establishing rapport with your audience and showing yourself as a real person rather than hiding behind your role.

• Break the Ice

Launch your participants into an ice-breaker--the more interactive, the better. There are two basic types of ice-breakers: topic and participant related. The topic variety enables you to find your group's pulse about the topic, focus their thoughts and harmonize their energies around it, and identify their expectations.

Some examples of topic oriented ice-breakers include team quizzes, songs with

accompanying questions, reactions to quotes, drawing of an object representing their feelings about it, etc.

The participant variety enables people to get to know one another quickly in a safe environment. Anxiety levels drop because students are involved in an activity and centered on others. Bonding happens more rapidly, they relax--and so do you.

Here are some examples: participants share about themselves along a structured format, they interview one another to find clues, they form teams along guidelines, they find the owner of an object and share on its meaning.

Now you can start talking about content. But remember to vary the format every 15/20 minutes; from lecture to demonstration, role-plays, case-studies, discussions, simulations, films, etc.

Research indicates adult learners enjoy one format without losing interest for about 15 minutes; then, energy starts to fade and they become restless. Pacing is also important: from interactive to reflective activities, from intellectual to emotional ones, from quiet to exciting, etc.

Effectively managing the learning process ensures better results with assimilating content; it also builds in personal meaning into the experience, and facilitates forming relationships that support and deepen learning.

So here's to great beginnings!

For more ice-breaker ideas consult:

The Encyclopedia of Ice-Breakers, published by Pfeiffer & Company; in the U.S.: 8517 Production Avenue, San Diego, CA 92121; in Canada: 4190 Fairview St., Burlington, Ont., L7L 4Y8

For more process tips consult:

The "Info-Line" series published by the American Society for Training & Development, 1630 Duke St., Box 1443, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Francoise Morissette is a member of the Ontario Society for Training and Development, the National Society for Performance and Instruction, and the American Society for Training and Development where she serves on the executive of the International Professional Practice Area. Fully fluent in both English and French, Francoise has travelled across Canada and throughout Europe, training thousands of people in the areas of Career Planning, Trainer Development, Management, and Communications.



Judi Venturini
Year of the Child Coordinator

Transforming Bible Study

Recently I found an inspiring resource I would like to share with you. It is a book written by Patricia W. Van Ness called *Transforming Bible Study With Children*. She was influenced by the work of Walter Wink of the Aubon Institute.

I met Walter earlier this year when he was a guest facilitator for the MEP students at Unity School of Religious Studies. It is from my experience with Walter Wink that I became convinced that this methodology would bring new depths of inner transformation for those whom we serve. It is based on a whole brain approach, which many educators who are on the cutting edge of education, believe will bring us into a new paradigm.

Walter recommended Patricia Van Ness' book for our children's spiritual educators. I have reviewed it and would suggest that you might want to experiment with this method for studying the Bible. The same methods can be applied with adults or groups of people of various ages.

The Transforming Bible Study approach to Scripture assumes that children not only have the capacity to discover Truth, but that they need to discover Truth for themselves. To teach this way requires that the teacher be willing to undergo the same process as the child: empowerment to discover Truth for oneself, learning to think, living in the openness of the questions. Van Ness says, "We teach the way we were taught unless we have had some kind of transforming educational and spiritual experience. That's why there has to be a new paradigm, a new way of looking at Christian education, a basic change in our understanding of what we are about and how we are about that."

The purpose of the transforming Bible study method is to encounter God, Creator, Word, Holy Spirit, as revealed to us through our Christ nature. It uses the Socratic, dialogical method of asking questions. The steps are:

1. Accessing
2. Analyzing
3. Amplifying
4. Applying what is learned

Accessing

This step is done through reading the passage. This can be done as a drama. Children are assigned the characters in the story and, if necessary, you might need to assign a narrator. If reading a Psalm, the children should read antiophonally--one part of the verse by one group, the other corresponding section by another group. Other parts of the Bible, such as The Lord's Prayer can be read by everyone in unison.

Analyzing

In this step you study the text critically and intelligently. The children are given some background on the social and political setting of the text. Also, you may want to talk a little about the context in which the text was written. This is a good time to show the locations on a map, to show current pictures of the countries in the Mideast, or refer to social studies or television programs that can help the children relate to the context. Resources such as a concordance, Bible dictionary, or a interpreter's one volume will be helpful to you to prepare. Your minister can help guide you in your research.

Amplifying

This is the experience of the text. This can be done through acting it out. The words do not have to be memorized. Let the children express the text in their own words. This will reveal to you how they perceive the text.

Miming is an excellent way in which all the children can participate in the amplification process. Have each child mime the characters and then talk about how they felt about their experience.

Once the story is clear in each child's mind, the leader begins by asking questions. To create the questions, go through each verse of the text and write all the questions which occur to you. As the children act out the story, begin to question them. Go with the flow and let their response be! There are no wrong responses.

Continued...

Applying what is learned

This is the most crucial step. This is where we take the lesson into the right brain and creatively express how the parable applies to our own personal life. You can have the children draw, sculpt, paint, dance, move, and rip or cut paper. Have them share only if they are willing.

To be successful in this method, we, as educators, must be willing to be in the process ourselves. Charles L. Whitfield remarks that "spirituality is experiential. We cannot know it ultimately through our intellect or through reason. It is not knowable. It is only be-able." When we are willing to be, we are liberating the child within ourselves. We will become the mirrors of wholeness and integrity to our children and truth will be our life.

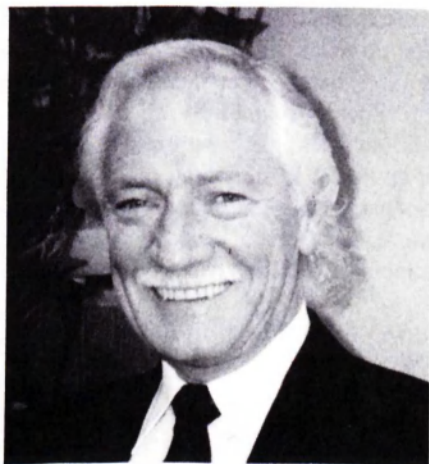
Children's Grace Prayer

I want to know you God
For I AM your precious child.
I place myself in Your hands
Because You and I are one.
I AM now ready to know myself as Love.
Show me what I need to know,
And make pure love of all that I Am,
So the Christ light may shine
As You in me for others to see
Thank You, God, for making it so.

Youth of Unity Conference Delegates 1993 Unity Village, Missouri



**Plan NOW for Conference 1994
July 30 - August 5
Snow Mt. Ranch, Colorado**



Ray Wiggins
International Education
Services Consultant

Choosing To Encourage

by Margaret Haney

*(Reprinted with permission of ALERT, May 1991,
a teacher resource magazine of the Presbyterian Church.)*

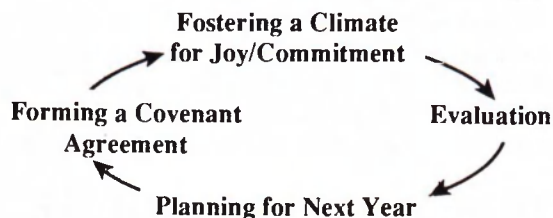
"I didn't know until I got here this morning that the bell choir was scheduled to rehearse during the church school hour," said Sam Froehlich to his pastor one Sunday morning. Sam's frustration was evident; he was the teacher for the youth class, and he had prepared a session for the morning that he was eager to teach--in fact, he had used more of his spare time than usual to prepare this week because he was so excited about the way the material in the session addressed the lives of his students. He had not realized that the youth bell choir was scheduled to participate in worship that morning and that many in his class would be involved. "No one told me," he said, trying unsuccessfully to hide his feelings of disappointment and anger.

The congregation to which Sam belongs does not intend to cause anyone to be discouraged, but the experience of that morning led Sam to rethink his commitment, even though he knew the error was unintentional. "Deep down," reflected later, "I just didn't feel appreciated."

Most congregations experience similar occurrences more often than we like to think. We have learned a great deal over the years about supporting volunteers, but we get so busy attending to other things that the result of our behavior is often discouragement. The question is, How can we intentionally foster a climate in our congregation that encourages volunteers? Because if we do not become more intentional about our support, we have chosen, by default, to create discouragement.

The most widely neglected component in the process of building and maintaining a network of committed

volunteers in the church is the support system provided by the congregation. Ways exist for the church to plan to provide support for the persons who serve the church. The following chart illustrates the steps in a support system for volunteer ministry throughout the year.



This is a continuous process that may be entered at any point and that provides a plan for intentional affirmation of volunteers. When plans are made for forming the agreement and fostering an affirming climate, the choice will have been made to encourage volunteers.

Forming a Covenant Agreement

The process of recruiting volunteers is critical in providing support. When persons are asked to serve in any capacity, the invitation should include a clear definition of what they are being asked to do and why that ministry is considered essential to the congregation. Writing a "covenant agreement" that outlines the ministry for which the person is being recruited may seem troublesome, but in the long run, it helps clarify the expectations of both the congregation and the person who responds to the call to serve. Such covenants may be long or short, but all need to include the following information:

1. *The name of the position.*
(i.e., church school teacher, grades 1-2).

2. *The purpose of the position.*

Include a simple statement about why the position is essential. If the position is one within a group, the purpose of the group should also be stated. (This person is responsible for nurturing a class of first- and second-grade children in Unity's Truth Teachings.)

3. *The duration of the position.*

This section should specify how long the person is expected to serve and when the term begins and ends. (The person is expected to teach one year, beginning the second week in September and continuing through August of the following year.)

4. *The expectations of the congregation.*

This section should not repeat the purpose of the position; rather, it should state responsibilities that are

Continued...

often assumed, but not often clearly stated. (The person is expected to be prepared and present in the classroom fifteen minutes before class begins and is expected to attend teacher training sessions.)

5. The relationships that can be expected.

Because the volunteers need to know to whom they can turn when they need assistance, this section is essential for spelling out their relationships with "caregivers" in the congregation. (This person may turn to the youth education director for assistance for resources and materials.)

6. The necessary qualifications for the task.

This segment should describe the kind of person the church wants in the position. (The major quality sought in a person in this position is to be one who affirms six- and seven-year-old children and who is able to love and accept them; he or she should be seen as a person of faith and commitment, with some background in Bible and the basic teachings of Unity.)

7. The kind of support the person can expect from the church.

This section should describe how support is provided and what the person can expect from the church as he or she goes about the task. (Resources for an adequately equipped classroom will be provided by the congregation; curriculum and reference materials, as well as supplies, will be provided; quarterly teachers' meetings at church and fall and spring teacher education events are offered, with expenses paid by the church.)

The process of writing "covenant agreements" for each position may seem overwhelming, but they make clear the nature of the commitment on the part of the congregation and the volunteer, and they provide a secure and supportive foundation for this important reciprocal relationship. The underlying assumption of such an agreement is that the position is one worthy of the time and energy given by the volunteer, as well as the congregation and its leaders--a strong affirmation indeed!

Fostering a Climate for Joy/Commitment

It is not enough, however, to write a clear description of mutual responsibilities; it will be necessary for the congregation to make plans to carry out the promises made in the covenant agreement and to hold persons accountable for their ministry. Every good support system is intentional about the satisfactions provided for those who volunteer in ministry. The following are some things to be considered:

1. Celebrating the ministry of all persons.

Lyle Schaller has pointed out that every support system

must have an intentional reward system, ensuring that volunteers are thanked, faithfulness is recognized, and gratitude felt by other church members is expressed. Any activity--luncheons, litanies during worship, gifts at the end of a period of service, valentines or thank-you notes, smiles of appreciation--anything that highlights the importance of the work of the volunteer and the appreciation of the congregation for that work is critical to a climate of support. Such appreciation cannot be left to chance.

2. Listening to and responding to the needs of volunteers.

Every volunteer needs materials and resources as well as appreciation. At the same time, persons bring to their ministry a variety of reasons that encouraged them to agree to serve. David McClelland indicates that everyone is seeking one or more of these achievement needs: (a) affiliation; (b) achievement of a task; and (c) a sense of effectiveness.

When listening to the needs of volunteers, ask them what they wish to gain from the experience. For example, some persons have a strong need to enjoy the friendship of others; others may have little need for friendship, but may wish to use their talents to make a contribution of high quality. Still others may need to feel that they have made a difference in another's life. Listening to these needs and systematically recording them will be important as you affirm and support volunteers in the congregation.

Once it is determined what a group of volunteers hope to achieve from their experience, plans can be made to address the needs through the experiences provided for them. For example, dialogue groups, lunch conversations, sharing time in team meetings--all are important to the "affiliative" volunteer; appreciation expressed for a job well done is critical to the needs of the "achievement-oriented" volunteer; and opportunities to make decisions and implement them will make a significant difference to the volunteer who has a need to feel effective. Again, these elements in a good support system need intentional effort if they are to increase the satisfaction of those who volunteer for ministry.

3. Keeping volunteers informed.

The case of Sam Froehlich illustrates the importance of this aspect of a supportive climate for volunteers. Intentional planning must create opportunities to share critical information--such as phone calls, newsletters, regular briefing meetings, and personal visits. These and other means can help eliminate feelings of frustration, anger, and discouragement as volunteers do their work. Keeping people informed is another way of telling them that they and their ministry are important.

Continued...

4. *Providing opportunities for growth.*

Congregations that provide the means for continuing education, skill development, and spiritual growth offer essential ingredients in the support they provide volunteers. These categories of support will probably require budgets as well, although they do not need to be expensive. Continued growth is an important aspect of a support system, and as in the case of other elements, it must be planned and budgeted for.

5. *Providing opportunities for dialogue*

An important element in the life of any congregation is a sense of "belonging," of being cared for. Volunteers who share common ministries--such as board members, church school teachers, committee members--provide a supportive climate for one another when an opportunity arises to get together not only to work, but to enjoy each other's company. They come to know one another as persons who share common interests and concerns. "Support groups" are common in life today as responses to this significant need. The partnership dynamics of any group can be enhanced by such opportunities. When individuals come to know one another in such encounters, tensions tend to disappear, creative ideas for service emerge, and the congregation's call to each member to minister is enhanced. Such sharing and support help prevent burnout in hardworking people.

Providing Opportunity To Evaluate and Negotiate

An essential element in a good support system is the clear indication that the volunteer is considered to be an important member of the team. Ongoing evaluation of both the volunteer's work and the response of the congregation to his or her needs (material and spiritual) is another way to foster a climate of support. This may include having someone phoning a church school teacher at home, asking, "How is it going with you today?" and staying on the phone long enough to listen to the response--questions raised, problems articulated, self-doubt expressed, joys to be counted. It is important that such calls contain no prepared agenda, but are made simply to hear what the volunteer is thinking and feeling.

A more formal approach is to schedule conferences at intervals to discuss ways in which the congregation can respond to the needs of the volunteer and in which the needs of the congregation can be met in the ministry of the volunteer. Such dialogue is critical to the development of a vital congregational ministry. The volunteer can grow in faith and expertise through an ongoing process of feedback, evaluation, affirmation, and necessary change.

As part of the congregation's responsibility for nurturing the faith of its members, it must be sensitive to the needs of its volunteers so it can be appreciative and

affirming, recognizing, listening, and challenging them--all of which contribute to their growth and to that of the congregation itself.

Planning for Next Year

Care in forming a "covenant" and in fostering a climate of joy and mutual commitment to ministry are two elements that are critical to the life of any congregation. This cannot be left to chance, it requires intentional planning.

Involve your volunteers in planning for next year and its events. Look over the evaluations: What went well and should be repeated? What changes would enhance the program for next year? Do you need additional help in some areas? Can you work more training into the overall plan for next year?

Do not plan for a volunteer to continue for another year without checking with that person. Sometimes circumstances make it difficult for a volunteer to continue. Listen for "hidden" reasons preventing a person's continued active participation that may point to a lack in the support system.

The better the planning, the better the program. Keep the process chart (given earlier) and refer to it often, making an intentional choice to encourage.

Margaret Haney is Associate for Leader Development: Governing Bodies, Education and Congregational Nurture Ministry Unit.

Important Dates To Remember:

Regional Consultants' Conference
February 23-28, 1994
Kansas City, MO

Adults of Unity Conference
July 16-22, 1994
Unity Village, MO

Youth of Unity Conference
July 30 - August 5, 1994
Snow Mountain Ranch, CO

Russian Y.O.U. Conference
August 11-25, 1994



Linda L. Gower
International Education Services Assistant

Critical Mass

"Critical mass" had not been a concept that was part of my everyday thoughts since the time I was studying physics seven years ago. So when we were asked to create a personal vision at the Spiritual Educators' Intensive in June, I was surprised that the term somehow became embedded in my brain. I wasn't even sure I remembered the exact definition of "critical mass" and I certainly couldn't imagine what that had to do with my vision. I knew the vision I had seen was of a world of peace, at peace because children were supported in maintaining the Christ consciousness they are born with. I saw a world that was in harmony with the thoughts of God, a world that had become the kingdom of heaven. I also knew the pragmatic part of me said there was a missing link. How could the whole world come to know peace just because children were expressing their Christ-self? I pondered how to put into words what I had seen and what I knew in my heart was true, but what didn't make sense.

As embedded thoughts have a way of doing, the term "critical mass" kept popping into my mind. Finally, I pulled out my *Dictionary of Physics*, dusted it off, and proceeded to look up the term. As I sat on my living room floor and read the definition, goose bumps covered my body. Until then, I had known what my vision was, but understanding it and having the words to describe it had eluded me. A lay version of what I read follows:

CRITICAL MASS is the point at which enough individual elements have come together to cause an explosive chain reaction. Critical mass depends on:

- 1) the purity of the material used,
- 2) the presence of reflectors around the material,
- and

3) the distribution of the elements.

I immediately understood. What, I thought, could be a purer material than the innocence of a small child? I remembered in Matthew how the disciples had asked Jesus, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Jesus lifted up a small child and said to them, "Truly I say to you, unless you change and become like little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." And again in Luke, Jesus said, "Permit the children to come to me, and do not stop them; for the kingdom of heaven is for those who are like these." I wondered which quality these small children possessed that Jesus was talking about. Was it the purity of mind that little children have, the purity of mind that lacks negativity, doubt and suspicion; those qualities that clutter the mind of adults and keeps us from seeing God? Or was it the purity of motive and purity of intention of a small child? Perhaps it was all of these. Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Yes, the children are surely the pure material in the critical mass equation.

Now, what might be the reflectors around the children? Could that be the presence of adults who consistently strive to practice the presence of God in their lives? Doesn't it say in Proverbs 27:19, "Just as water reflects the face, so one human heart reflects another." And wouldn't adults living in their Christ consciousness reflect the luminosity of a pure heart just as surely as the moon reflects the brilliance of the sun? What better reflectors could the children have than the presence of adults expressing their Christ-self?

With a distribution of adults around the world practicing the presence of God and supporting children in maintaining an unhindered flow of Christ consciousness in themselves, then we could actually attain critical mass. We could start a momentum that couldn't be stopped. Even as the momentum that brought down the Berlin Wall could not be stopped, so, too, an explosive chain reaction of Christ consciousness could bring peace to the world.

The next day at the Intensive I shared these thoughts with the class. So many people asked for a copy of my vision, that I agreed to print it in my next CONTACT article. So, for my wonderful co-participants at the Spiritual Educators' Intensive, and for anyone else who would like to contribute towards reaching critical mass, I lovingly share the following vision:

I envision a time when children around the world are supported in maintaining the pure flow of Christ consciousness that they are born with. And a time when enough adults lovingly reflect the presence of God within themselves, that we reach critical mass. With this explosive chain reaction, the Christ-self within all will be actualized and peace will reign on earth.



Trish Robinson
Licensed Teacher Consultant

Victories to Victory!

We move from victory to victory to Victory!

What we label something has a direct influence on us, our thoughts about it, our actions and reactions, and our present as well as the immediate future.

We've all heard the ancient analogy (cliche), "Some say the glass is half full while others say the glass is half empty." They both are viewing the line of fluid at the same place. Both are factually correct. The attitude is different; and not just about the half full/empty glass. (Some would say their consciousness is different--one has more of a "prosperity" consciousness while the other has more of a "lack" consciousness. While many of us have learned that "failure" is a necessary step to true success, we still label them FAILURES and this just may have a *less-than-desirable effect on us*.

Think about Thomas Edison when he was asked how it felt to have over a hundred failures before he made a light bulb that worked. Thomas Edison replied that he didn't have ANY FAILURES, he had learned over a hundred ways NOT to make a light bulb.

It occurs to me (and maybe it did to you some time ago) that we can eliminate the word "failure" from our vocabulary and be the happier for it. *Label* it a "victory step," "a step toward victory," "a step in the victory process," or "a learning/growing experience." I have had many, many victories and they ALL brought about "The Victory."

For me to distinguish from what others may call a failure, it is an uncomfortable, or less comfortable victory

on my way to an exhilarating Victory. Others may still have failures if they like--I have victories and Victories! YEAH GOD!!

Not too long ago I became aware, wide-awake-aware, that I had been "caught up" in situations, circumstances, and people. I had been taking everything and everyone, INCLUDING ME, too seriously. Well. . .as soon as I realized it I started asking myself, "How could I have. . ." and replied to myself quickly and vehemently, "Who cares? I did, I'm happy I'm back--out of stuff--now let's get on with living life."

It came to me shortly after, that part of what it was all about was to increase, deepen and broaden my awareness of just how important it is to "let God," "let" things come together. I like to call it "glorying in God."

I thought I knew before, now I KNOW even more so that checking me out often to make sure that I'm not taking anyone or anything too seriously, is one of the wisest and most beneficial things I can do for myself, others, and the universe.

God loves us just as we are and when we enjoy each moment in praise to God and joying in God, we find ourselves doing and serving with little or no thought behind it. The WONDER is, we accomplish more and better, easier than when we are working at it and thinking about it. While praising and joying in God mountains get moved. Like the song says--without even knowing how!

I think it has something to do with *not* doing--letting! God does NOT force even our good upon us. I can be dangerous to our well-being, our health and relationships to force ourselves, an outcome, ANYTHING!

I remember when I caught on to, "if s/he knew better--s/he would do better." "If I had known better, I would have done better." SO FREEING! GLORY IN GOD!

Insight shared with me by a dear friend:

"It's time we quit 'practicing the Presence' and recognize/accept that **WE ARE the Presence.**"

A new Trishism:

I no longer behold the Christ in you--"I behold the Christ you are."

Important Dates For 1993

Skills Demonstration Seminar

Oct. 30-Nov. 5 (Sat.-Fri.)

1994

Mid-Year Meetings
Field Licensing Training--Year I
Field Licensing Training--Year II
Executive Committee Meetings
Skills Demonstration Seminar
Board Member Seminar & Retreat
Licensed Teacher Postgraduate
Pre-Convention (Alexandria, VA)
Spiritual Renewal Retreat (Alexandria, VA)
Convention (Alexandria, VA)
Adults of Unity Conference
Y.O.U. Conference
Skills Demonstration Seminar
Executive Committee Meetings
Board Member Seminar & Retreat
Skills Demonstration Seminar

Jan. 16-21
Feb. 21-24
Feb. 28 - Mar. 3
April 11-13
May 14-20
May 21-27
June 11-16
June 17-19
June 20-21
June 21-25
July 16-22
July 30 - Aug. 5
Aug. 20-26
Sept. 12-14
Sept. 19-23
Oct. 29 - Nov. 4

1993 Regional Conferences

Eastern	Oct. 2-7	Hamilton, Ont., Canada
Southeast	Oct. 18-22	Lake Chatuge, near Hiawasse, Georgia
South Central	Oct. 18-22	Shreveport, Louisiana

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

 **Contact**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 754

HERITAGE ROOM
UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY
UNITY VILLAGE MO 00000

Contact

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®

December, 1993/January, 1994



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Alan Rowbotham
Unity of Roanoke Valley
Roanoke, Virginia

and people would bring bread and canned goods and coal into the church in thanksgiving for an abundant harvest and for later distribution to the poor.

On that year when I became conscious of Thanksgiving Day and what it really meant, I was in my first year of ministerial school. In September of that year, after starting school in August, I got a letter from my mother in England saying that my father had died two weeks previous and asking why I had not responded to the telegram she had sent. I had never received the telegram. You can imagine my grief and sense of loss, not to mention my anger at not receiving the telegram and regret for the pain I had caused my mother by not responding. She and my father were separated at the time of his death but still it must have been hard for her to understand my lack of response. Fortunately I was in a small support group in school and their caring love helped me accept my loss and move through the grieving process. In early November of that year my wife and I were divorced and she returned to England with our four children. It was hard to understand and accept that all this was happening when it seemed I had already given up everything to enter ministerial school and I spent many hours howling at the moon and

asking the inevitable question, "Why?"

On Thanksgiving Day I attended the service at Unity Village Chapel. Sig and Jane Paulson were the ministers there at that time. I don't recall what was said that transformed my feelings of grief and loss into release and thanksgiving for God's good in my life, but I do know that I started to cry sometime during the meditation, stopped for a while, then started up again during the message. After the service I rushed out, went to the Peace Chapel, sobbed my heart out, then experienced one of the most profound meditations I ever had for about two hours. Thanksgiving Day has been one of my favorite services since that time.

Another favorite service that Kathryn and I have been conducting each year for about six years now in the early part of December is a special memorial service for parents who have lost children. The people who attend are participants in grief groups at two of the hospitals in our community. By the time of the service the church is already partially decorated for Christmas with lights, but there is no emphasis on the Christmas season in the service itself. It is a time of music and prayer and a message which acknowl-

See *SERVICE* on page 7, col. 1

Contents

Broadcasting the Unity Message	8
Church Management Issues	6
Conference/Convention News	10
Development Office News	4
Executive Director's Letter	3
Financial Statement	11
Intergenerational Education Ministry:	
Alternatives to Sunday School	14
The Greatest Gift of All	13
Year of the Child--Believe It Or Not	12
Light on the Path	15
Meet Your Association Staff	7
Planned Giving News	5
President's Letter	2

Volume 26, Issue 6

December, 1993/January, 1994

CONTACT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief Glenn Mosley
Managing Editor Cheryl Vestal
Graphics & Layout Cheryl Vestal
Circulation Glenn Mosley, Jr.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

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

Cover:

Unity Church of Truth
Massillon, Ohio
Minister: Charlotte Brown

Deadlines: 1st of the month, two months prior to issue date

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

This issue covers both Christmas and New Year's celebrations. May you and those you love and serve experience a most blessed Christmas Season and a fruitful New Year!

From the point of planning in a field ministry setting, perhaps this issue should be an Easter/New Year's edition, with Easter representing the backward glance necessary to planning. In fact, this letter will be a potpourri of messages.

Item 1:

Planning your church year calendar, whether it began in September or begins in January, requires at least a backward "glance," if not a really close look.

Setting goals for 1994 and beyond is one thing, and achieving them is a very complex process. As has been said, "The problem with heaven is what you have to do to get there."

One thing we must know is our ministry's history, as well as present position, in order to plan for progress. A college History professor once told a son of mine, "Those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it--next semester." And so do we in ministry also need to learn from history. . . or repeat it.

Knowing and at least briefly looking backward, like the two-faced Roman god who looked backward and forward and was therefore involved in the beginnings

of all new ventures, gives us a decided advantage as we plan. Only after knowing our history well, can we know what to keep, and what to release.

Item 2:

In September I attended the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago. So did Jim Freeman, Chris and Karen Jackson, Rosemary Fillmore Rhea, and several Unity teachers, ministers, and laypeople.

The Parliament reminded me of a dead mackerel in the moonlight. It both shines and stinks.

The Parliament shone by the organizers and the financial backers and the work such a Parliament demands. It also shone brightly in some of the corridor conversations and in many presentations.

The Parliament stunk because most of the presenters who are very high-ranking among major religious movements arrived in time to deliver their address and departed shortly thereafter. They were not present with each other to be mutually influenced.

It stunk because of a brawl between two sects that had to be stopped by Chicago police. It stunk because at least one major contingent left because two other contingents were present.

The Parliament shone because of the meetings (in small circle groups) of those who were known as the Parliament of the people. They identified commonalities, problems in ministry, and shared experiences of how to deal with some of those problems, and they exchanged addresses. Charles and Myrtle Fillmore were at the first Parliament in Chicago in 1893, and I didn't see one face in September that I recognized from 1893. The next Parliament scheduled for 2093, I refuse to attend. I'm going to be busy that week.

However, the Templeton Foundation (a Parliament donor and guarantor) of which I am a board member, is encouraging Parliament organizers to consider an event every two to five years.

My feeling is that world religious leaders, like political leaders, need to see each other often. Leaders of world religions need to "catch up" with political leaders, in my view.

Item 3:

Since September 19, I have spoken in Traverse City, Michigan; Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; and helped Al LaBrec dedicate his new church in Neptune, New Jersey (formerly of Asbury Park). I have immediate plans to speak in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to help dedicate a pioneering ministry and to install its co-ministers, Ann and Jim Ashby; York, Pennsylvania; and Springfield, Missouri.

Item 4:

The Fall Regional Conferences all have had similar responses to both the *4-T Prosperity Program* and *The Quest*: full steam ahead. As our Association president reported and discussed progress regarding a living curriculum and conferences heard Mary-Alice and Richard Jafolla present *The Quest* workshop, there was one spontaneous question which arose in each conference thus far.

Since U.M.A.C. recruited a manuscript that might generate several off-shoot programs (i.e., computer-evaluated correspondence course by Unity School, CEP course work in a ministry, audio and video programs, youth education curriculum, and an adult systematic study of Unity principles) and since the manuscript the Jafollas produced is a good foundation for such programs, "how come" no one is working on youth education curriculum based on *The Quest*?

Someone is. Charlotte Carter, author and developer of *Sunday Circle* is working on *Sunday Circle* on *The Quest*.

I'll attend the Southeast and South Central Regional Conferences next week (Oct. 18-22).

In all instances of the first four regional conferences, I heard high praise of the Unity School representatives who attended and gave reports and answered questions. Thanks from all of us to Marge Dale, Bob Barth, Bill Dale, and Chris Jackson.

The sounds of "excitement" are in the air for the way our regions are working, the way our Association is working, the way Unity School is working, and the way we are all "working," "praying," and "playing" together.



Shay St. John
Director of Development

Matching Funds Make Miracles Happen!

At our 1993 June convention it was a joy to announce a Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund program to pay off our building debt. Positive field response has been affirmed that will allow us to completely eliminate this mortgage by April, 1994. Catherine Ponder's ministry, Unity Worldwide, made this miracle conceivable through its willingness to match all funds received or affirmed by September 30, 1993. Ministry and individual support has confirmed that this miracle is believable!

Gratitude from all of us at our Association Headquarters flows to each of you who are making this dream achievable. Catherine Ponder, her son, Richard Thrower, and others from her ministry will join in our celebration of this success at our People's Convention in Alexandria, Virginia, next June. Plan now to be a part of this history-making event!

Matching funds work. Within your ministry, the challenge of a matching fund program is exciting. All of us want to feel that our gifts, regardless of their size, will make a difference in the success of a dynamic vision. An invitation to your top donors to provide matching funds for the fulfillment of your ministry's dream may provide the vital spark required for achievement of your goals.

How can this happen? First, you need to know who your potential significant donors are. Second, you need to know the vision and passion of these significant donors--what is it that truly inspires and motivates their support? Third, you need the courage to invite a matching gift.

There is a "risk" with a matching gift. If response from others isn't there, the matching gift will not be received. However, when your vision is clear and the congregation holds ownership of that vision, response to a matching fund will almost always be forthcoming.

Statistics from the nonprofit fund raising sector confirm that when 50 percent of the funds required are already in place (or assured through matching gifts), response from potential donors is far more likely to bring forth fulfillment of the financial requirements. People like to be part of what is already moving toward success. It becomes exciting to make a financial investment in the vision of a project that has a reasonable certainty of achievement.

When your ministry is beginning a major project, look to your key donors and volunteers to "set the tone" for success. Before the project is even announced to the entire congregation, invite specific donations from those who will make success of the project believable to the whole body.

Consider inviting a matching gift challenge when possible. It is true: matching gifts make miracles happen! May these miracles of success bless each vision of your ministry.

Your Association's Development Department is here to serve you. Please contact us at any time to explore successful ways to insure ongoing financial resources required to live your vision! If a development program for your board and key leaders feels appropriate, call (816) 524-7414, ext. 354 to schedule a time for this to happen.

Again, thank you for your response to our Burn the Mortgage Matching Fund Campaign. **As each Statement of Intent is fulfilled, by April 30, 1994, we will celebrate the accomplishment of a miracle!**

MAGICAL MUNIFICENT YOU - 1994



March 11 to 13

A Spiritual Retreat

featuring

Rev. Stretton Smith,

Rev. Howard Caesar,

and Dr. Serge Kahili King,

for all

Unity, 4-T and Prosperity Students!

Join us for a

Learning, Living, Loving

and Truly Abundant

Life Experience on the

BIG ISLAND OF HAWAII

AT THE KONA-HILTON HOTEL

Hosted by

Diamond Head Unity

Church of Hawaii

Rev. John Strickland

and Windward Oahu Unity

Rev. Bob Wasner

For more information, ministerial discounts, and brochures, call or write:

Suzanne Cameron

Unity Church of Hawaii

3608 Diamond Head Circle

Honolulu, HI 96815

(808) 735-4436



Nancy Smith-Elliott
Assistant Director of Development

Charitable Giving Makes Dreams Possible

The spirit of charitable giving makes possible countless dreams of men and women willing to give of themselves for the benefit of others, doing work that makes a difference in the world. We in Unity share a commitment to serve one another all over the world with loving leadership, integrity, and excellence as we practice the principles taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ.

Recognition of and support for charitable giving are part of our country's rich legacy. This legacy includes current tax laws which provide generous incentives for those who make charitable contributions: measures which literally give back to the donor! It's not too late to act for tax savings. Gifts made before year's end can reduce or eliminate anticipated tax increases caused by retroactive provisions of the new tax law.

The best assets a person can give are stocks, certain bonds, and other securities (including mutual funds) which have appreciated and been owned long term—at least a year and a day. Donors receive a double tax benefit. They can deduct the full fair market value of their appreciated assets at the time the gift is given (not just what they paid originally). They save again by avoiding all capital gains taxes on their "paper profit." The savings from

the charitable deduction and from bypassing the capital gains tax combine to result, for some donors, in an after-tax cost of as much as 46 percent less than an equivalent gift of cash.

Robert F. Sharpe & Company, Inc., a planned giving consulting firm, offers the following example from their recent publication, *Charitable Giving and the 1993 Tax Act: Surprising opportunities for those who plan*:

Mr. S has learned that he will be liable for approximately \$5,000 in additional taxes as a result of the retroactive tax increase enacted by Congress. A portion of his income will now be taxed at federal rates as high as 39.6 percent. At that rate he would need to deduct approximately \$12,500 to eliminate the additional tax.

He had already planned to make charitable gifts of approximately \$7,500 before the end of this year.

As part of his investment portfolio, Mr. S owns securities valued at \$20,000 for which he paid \$5,000 in 1987. He considered selling these securities, but hesitated, as his capital gains tax could be \$4,200 or more.

After consultation with his tax advisor, Mr. S decides that instead of giving cash this year, he will make gifts of the appreciated stock to satisfy outstanding pledges.

Until this year, the alternative minimum tax might have limited the deduction Mr. S could take to only \$5,000, his cost basis of this asset.

Under the provisions of the new tax act, however, he will be allowed to deduct the full \$20,000 value of the stock, including the \$15,000 in "paper profit" which would be subject to capital gains tax if he sold the stock.

Because his gift is \$12,500 more than the cash he had planned to give, Mr. S will benefit from an additional \$5,000 in tax benefits, which will eliminate the additional tax he would otherwise have to pay under the new, higher tax rates.

Most of us never think of ourselves as

philanthropists. Those times when we compare what we are able to contribute in a monetary sense with the size of the task before us, it's easy to be overwhelmed. But by taking advantage of tax laws which recognize the work of your ministry and provide tax incentives like those noted here, more and more Truth students are having a lasting impact on the future of our Unity movement.

Consult your personal financial tax advisor for further information in this area. And thank you for blessing our Unity movement.

Curriculum Development Continues!

Your Association of Unity Churches continues to move forward with its exciting plans to create a living curriculum for our children, youth, and families. A Task Force of board members, youth education experts, and Association staff is currently reviewing 1993 conference input from you, our field ministers. Input from regional conferences is being added to that information.

Continue to vision with us the creation of these much needed materials. Your prayer support and your financial support allow this dream to become a reality! Thank you for your ideas, your love, and your input as we move forward into the fulfillment of this project. Our time line for its completion is directly related to the financial resources available.



Barbara O'Hearne
Church Management Consultant

Board of Trustees Manual

Recruiting the right people for the board of trustees is an exciting and often time-consuming job; however, it is an investment in the future of the ministry worthy of the time and effort. While acknowledging that recruitment is important, it is the first step in the ongoing process of board development. The critical job of orientation and training of trustees is often minimal or totally neglected. A trained board trustee is a more effective trustee. A trained board trustee is a more satisfied board trustee. A trained board trustee will be able to utilize his or her gifts and talents in supporting the mission and vision of the ministry.

One of the tools I have developed to assist boards in the recruitment phase, the orientation and training, and ongoing operations of the board is a board of trustees manual.

A well-designed and up-to-date board manual can be used by the nominating committee when they talk with potential board trustees about their willingness to serve. One might consider this the initial orientation to operations of the ministry and board. (Also, please see your ministry's copy of the "Policy Manual for a Unity Ministry.")

Once the trustee is officially "on board" the manual becomes an important tool in the orientation and training phase. Shortly

following the election of new board members a two to four hour orientation program is held. Key parts of the board manual are reviewed; however, this is only one part of the board orientation. The trustee will need to read and re-read sections of the manual over a period of time to become familiar with all the information.

The manual provides a single source of information about the ministry. By having this information organized and readily available, questions that may come up during board meetings, are often easily answered by referring to the bylaws, previous meeting minutes, financial statements, etc. I believe it increases a board's ability to make more informed decisions by having information at hand.

The outline below is one that I have recommended to many ministries. I find

most ministries have some or all of the information available in various files in the church office. But it requires getting the information organized and made available to board members and the staff working closely with the board. The most functional format I suggest is a three-ring binder with tabs and an index listing the major sections. By using this format you can easily find the needed information and continually update the manual.

As an elected member of your Unity church you have made a commitment to give of your talents and expertise, your time at board and committee meetings and your tithe to support your ministry. These commitments are important to you and to the growth of the ministry. Finding ways to help you fulfill these commitments is one of the joys of my position as Church Management Consultant.

Board of Trustees Manual

1. Board roster with addresses and phone numbers.
2. Calendar of dates for board meetings and special activities/events for twelve months.
3. Listing of officers of the board and a general description of their duties.
4. Articles of incorporation and bylaws.
5. Organizational chart.
6. A copy of the rules, policies, and procedures.
7. Current budget.
8. Copy of the ministry's audit from previous year.
9. Listing of staff members and brief descriptions of their job responsibilities.
10. Committee structure and names of current members.
11. Strategic plan which includes the mission, vision, goals, objectives, action plans, budget projections, etc.
12. A set of board meeting minutes from the previous year.
13. Special reports or studies completed in the previous year.
14. Annual report to the congregation.
15. Descriptive brochures, newsletters, and PR materials.

Service

Cont'd from page 2

edges their grief and loss. Some of the parents themselves participate in the service through singing, playing tapes, and sign language for the hearing impaired. We have a table (which has now become two tables) for memorabilia of their loved ones, such as photographs, baby shoes, baseball caps, medal ribbons. During the service we have a time of reading the names of their loved ones and lighting of candles in remembrance of them in the same way we light candles during Christmas Candlelighting service. Then we invite people to come and walk by the memorial tables before returning to their seats for their own quiet time to soft music at the conclusion of the service.

Last year's service was the first one after my youngest son, Carl, had taken his own life the previous January. Just before I went out to the sanctuary for the service, the grief group coordinator said to me, "It's going to be different this time!" And it was indeed. As I said to the people assembled there, before I had walked beside them but now I walked among them. It wasn't an easy service to do but it was deeply meaningful for me and Kathryn and I believe for the people also. As always there were lots of tears, but there were also many expressions of it being a healing time, where loss is transformed into an expression of release and a deeper sense of God's presence is felt.

I share these experiences with you simply because I'm aware that the holiday season holds painful memories for many people as well as joyous memories, and because I know that each one of you serving in ministry is in a position to help people to transform loss into release and to pave the way for a deeper spiritual awakening. Sometimes the loss is through divorce, the death of a loved one, or loss of a job, the loss of friends to another location, or perhaps the loss of people who have decided to leave your church for one reason or another. That loss can be transformed into release and the joyous realization of the immediacy of God's presence. To this end, in closing, I'd like to offer you the following prayer poem, sent to us by a beloved friend who left our ministry not long ago.

I am willing to trust the spirit of God for another,
I will not worry, fret or be unhappy over you.
I will not be anxious concerning you.
I will not be afraid for you.
I will not blame you, criticize you or condemn you.
I will not give up on you.
I will remember first, last, and always that you are God's Church, that you have God's spirit in you.
I will trust this spirit to take care of you, to be a light to your path, to provide for your needs.
I will think of you always as being surrounded by God's loving presence, as being enfolded in His protecting care,

as being safe and secure in God.
I will be patient with you, I will have confidence in you.
I will stand by in faith and bless you in my prayers,
Knowing that you are growing, knowing that you are finding the help you need.
I have only good feelings in my heart about you.
For I am willing to let you live your life as you see fit.
Your way may not be my way, but I will trust the spirit of God in you to show you the way of your highest good.

Author Unknown

Yours in God's healing presence,

Meet Your Association Staff

(The Management Team appreciates this opportunity; after the request was brought to our attention, we realized that we become so familiar with the work and educational background of our Association staff members that we overlook the fact that field ministers and church staff members would also like to become acquainted with the faces and voices at "the other end of the line." Thank you for asking.)

DEBBIE RATLIFF-BALL comes to us from Unity School of Christianity where she served for over 16 years. She previously worked as associate producer in the Audio/Video Cassette department.

Debbie's duties include all functions of the annual conferences and conventions such as scheduling keynote and workshop presenters and entertainers, negotiating with hotels and airlines, coordinating volunteers, planning children's and infant's programs, audio/video requirements, promotion and publicity. Debbie is also the Support Services Coordinator and is responsible in creating and developing new products, inventory items, and custom orders.

Debbie, along with her husband Michael, enjoys scuba diving, dancing, and enjoying their daughter Becky and



their "Year of the Child" baby, Douglas Alan!

LINDA BEARD has been with the Association since January of 1992. She comes to us with over 24 years of professional telephone experience in engineering, sales, marketing, information systems and financial budgeting. In her present position as Assistant Radio/Media Coordinator her responsibilities include telephone consulting with field ministries, teaching/assisting with MEP and CEP classes and workshops, production work at the recording studio, creation/design of flyers and pamphlets for marketing radio, handling orders, maintaining inventory of resources, departmental budget tracking, and all departmental correspondence, filing, and records. Linda completed her studies to become a licensed teacher in October and plans to teach additional classes at Unity of Independence. She is also a professional clown and teaches clowning workshops. Other hobbies include photography, dancing, painting, sewing, reading and time spent with her horse, a black Tennessee Walker named Bud.



BROADCASTING THE UNITY MESSAGE



Jim Verkest
Radio/Media Consultant

This is a very important time for me to be starting as the new Radio/Media Coordinator for the Association of Unity Churches. One of the most important projects that we are working on right now is the new PSA program that I hope by now all of you have begun to hear about. More information will be in your hands very soon on the program, but let me just say that if the creatives that we will be providing to each of the churches and centers are properly used, it will result in a very positive and fulfilling response. I have listened to the demos that have been produced and I believe that you will agree that they are excellent. If we see that they get to the right broadcast facilities, they will get the Unity "feeling" to a large group of people. The more people know about the Unity message the more they will embrace it.

As I indicated in my letter in the last edition of CONTACT, I intend to work as closely with each ministry as I can to develop well-planned-out broadcast ministries. I have begun to receive calls from ministers in the field and I encourage more of you to call. I would like to do the very best job for you I can. Much of what I will initially want from you is information. I will want to know what you are currently doing and what you have tried in the past. I need to know as much about your current congregation as I can and whom you would like to attract to your ministry. The more I know, the better I will be able to help you.

It is my experience that there is a "key" to success in every broadcast market and

for every user of broadcast media. I believe that I will be able to help you find that "key." I have heard people say, "I tried radio once, but it didn't work." I have heard that said about other media as well. The fact is, all media work, they just work differently. All media have their strengths and their weaknesses and we must determine what works best in each unique community. I believe in the power and effectiveness of radio, but my marketing background will let me judge fairly the merits of all media. If print or TV is more cost-effective in your market, I'll tell you and even give you some advice to follow up on with the right media consultant.

My role as Radio/Media Coordinator can be an exciting one for me and a fulfilling one for all of us! The Radio Advertising Bureau likes to say, "Radio - It's Red Hot." I agree that the electronic media is where it is at when it comes to reaching people with a message. Over 96 percent of all adults listen to radio daily. The average home has 5 plus radios in it. Radio is an intrusive medium that puts a message directly into memory even without a conscious decision being made to listen to it. Let Linda Beard and me help you use radio to effectively spread the Unity message and raise the consciousness of all for a better world.

Voices of Unity:

Write us about your broadcast outreach and we will add your church/center to the list.

Unity of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK:

- Radio KFQD 750 AM/KLEF 98.1 FM/KEAG 97.3 FM, rotating schedule of spots

Unity/Palm Springs, Palm Springs, CA

- Radio KDES AM 920, 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 p.m., Sun. (30 minute program)

Christ Unity Church, Sacramento, CA:

- "The Best Is Yet To Be" TV program - (northern California and southern Oregon)
- Sacramento, channel 40 at 9:00 a.m.
- Bay Area out of San Jose, channel 48 at 9:00 a.m.
- Seattle Puget Sound Area, channel 22 at 8:00 a.m.
- Arizona, out of Phoenix, Prescott, channel 27 at 8:00 a.m. (northern Arizona, channel 7)
- Monterey Peninsula, cable channel 22 at 9:00 a.m.
- St. Joseph, MO, channel 2, 9:30 a.m.

Unity Pyramid, Santa Maria, CA:

- Cable TV channels 21 and 22

Unity of Sebring, Sebring, FL:

- Radio WCAL FM & WITS AM (six spots daily)

Unity of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI:

- Radio KCCN 1420 AM, Sun. 9:00 a.m.

Christ Universal Temple, Chicago, IL:

- TV Station 4

Unity Ch/North Shore, Evanston, IL:

- Radio 750 AM
- TV Cable Channel 2, Wed. & Fri. 11:30 a.m.; Sun. 2:00 p.m.

Unity Ch of Springfield, Springfield, IL:

- Radio WVEM FM Friday 7:30-7:45 a.m., TV Community Access Channel 4, Thursday 7:30 p.m.

Unity of Indianapolis, IN:

- Radio WXLW 950Kc AM, Fri. 3:00 p.m.

Detroit Unity Temple, Detroit, MI:

- Radio WQRS 105.1 FM, M-F 5:50 a.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m. (on air continuously for the last 30 years)

Unity Church of Muskegon, MI

- Cable TV channel 24

Church of Today, Warren, MI:

- TV Channel 50 (Detroit) 8:00 a.m.
- TV Channel 33 (Cadillac) 10:00 a.m.

Christ Ch of the Hills, Branson, MO:

- Local TV Channel 6

Unity Ch of P. C., St. Joseph, MO:

- TV KQTV, Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Unity Village Chapel, Unity Village, MO:

- Radio KLTH 99.7 FM, Sunday 7:00 a.m. (week delay broadcast)

Christ Unity Ch, Albuquerque, NM:

- Radio KQEO 920 AM, Sun. 8:05 a.m.

Asociacion Unity, Santurce, PR:

- Radio WSJ 1560 AM, Sunday 8:00

Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN:

- WNOX 99.1 FM and WNDD 99.3 FM; Mon. 7:40 & 8:20 a.m.; Fri. 5:20 p.m.; and Sat. 12:00 midnight.

Unity Ch of Christianity, Houston, TX:

- Radio KODA 99.1, Thur & Fri 7:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun. random

Ch of the Hill Country, Kerrville, TX:

- Radio KERV AM and KRVL FM, mornings and evenings

Unity Ch/Christianity, Nacogdoches, TX:

- Radio KFSA AM 860, Sun. 8:00 a.m.

Unity/NE Tarrant Cnty, Southlake, TX:

- Radio 97.9 FM, Mon-Fri 8:25 p.m., Sat & Sun 7:25 p.m.

Unity Ch/Tidewater, Virginia Bch, VA:

- Radio WADC 1050 AM, 10:30 a.m. Parkersburg, WV, (15 minute programs)

What is a Communication Committee Network Member?

- An enthusiastic person eager to share the message of Unity in his/her community and the world. The members' commission and participation would require energies devoted to the following with respect to media (broadcast, print, internal communications, etc.): research, feedback, observation, informing, tabulating, community awareness, creativity, interfacing, expanding, consciousness, checking market pulse/church pulse, service, support, defining and holding your ministry's vision. This person could be serving as minister, a board member, public relations person, publicist, media coordinator, teacher, etc. Write us with the name of the person in your church/center who will be your Communications Committee Network Member.

We now have 41 ministries who have named their members:

Radio/Media Department Communication Committee Network Members

Robert B. Francis--Unity of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK
 Ada Davis & Virginia Good--Unity Center of Bakersfield, Bakersfield, CA
 Rev. Billie Blain--Sunrise Unity, Citrus Heights, CA
 Rev. Emily Gillespie--Unity Church of Light, Concord, CA
 Rev. Arthur Hammons--Christ Church Unity of El Cajon, El Cajon, CA
 John M. Bennett--Long Beach Unity, Long Beach, CA
 Kate Trelatsky--Unity Church of Merced, Merced, CA
 Russ E. Deck--Unity of Palm Springs, Palm Springs, CA
 Ruth Langdon--Christ Unity Church, Redding, CA
 Debra Reilly--Unity Temple of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
 Carol Keefer--Unity of Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze, FL
 Frank Kaiser--Unity Church for Christian Living, Miami, FL
 Rev. Jack Kern--Unity of Naples, Naples, FL
 Andy Conyer--Unity of Sebring, Sebring, FL
 Rev. Hal Rosencrans--Unity of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, FL
 Rina Leadingham--Unity of Savannah, Savannah, GA
 Peggy Van Cleve--Unity Church of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
 Laura Jeske--Fox Valley Unity, Batavia, IL
 Rev. Susan EngPoole--Unity Church on the North Shore, Evanston, IL
 Veronica Crawford--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Springfield, IL
 Cindy Sickler--Unity Church of Salina, Salina, KS
 JoAn Burt--Unity of Shreveport, Shreveport, LA
 Dean Leutscher--Unity of Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids, MI
 Mary Jo Ruten--Unity of Jackson, Jackson, MI
 Grace Luckscherte--Unity of Livonia, Livonia, MI
 Sandra Hymel--Unity of Woods Chapel, Lee's Summit, MO
 LeVonne Feller--Unity Church of Today, Omaha, NE
 Bob Burns--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Las Cruces, NM
 Olga Sparman--Unity Pyramid of Truth, Brooklyn, NY
 Rev. Sue Smith & Pauline James--Unity Ch/Practical Christianity, Buffalo, NY
 Rev. Brenda Windell--Christ Church Unity, Rochester, NY
 Bridget Brown--Unity Center Church, Cleveland Heights, OH
 Rev. Julia Topa--Unity Chapel of Light, Tallmadge, OH
 Liz Duckett--Unity of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN
 Janet Meschi, Kristi Beckwith & Rev. Ellen Gardner--Unity Ch of Brownsville, Brownsville, TX
 Ken Kenyon--Frist Unity Church of Positive Living, El Paso, TX
 Laveria Holland--Unity Church of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX
 Rev. Carol Record--Unity Ch of NE Tarrant County, Southlake, TX
 D. Karen Wilkerson--Unity Church of Practical Christianity, Tyler, TX
 Ward McCarey--Unity of Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, UT
 Joan Phillipson--Unity Church of Christianity, Wauwatosa, WI

Notice

Address Update for Materials Sent To Russia

When sending books and materials to Russia, please send UPS and use the following address:

**Road of Survival and Freedom
605 Furman Avenue
Corpus Christi, TX 78404**

Youth & Family Ministry Director Needed

Unity of the East Valley is seeking a full-time Youth and Family Ministry Director to begin January, 1994.

For more information, or an application, please contact D'Etta Baehr by telephone (602) 830-6495, or by mail: 2700 East Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85204. FAX: 602-832-8325.

Recap of Responses Regarding Curriculum From The Conference Body - June 1993 Conference

QUESTION 1:

Does this goal still have value for you? Why or why not?

Total Responses: 190

Yes Response: 140

No Response: 7

Yes...if, but, however: 22

Unclear Response: 21

Some consistent thoughts expressed were:

- Strong desire for youth education curriculum
- curriculum to be based on Unity principles, the Bible and be Jesus Christ centered

See RECAP on page 10, col. 1

CONFERENCE/CONVENTION NEWS



Debbie Ratliff-Ball

Conference/Convention Coordinator

I am truly amazed at how quickly time passes. This is very evident as I watch my son, Douglas Alan, grow. He is now four months old and it seems like yesterday when at only five days old he joined all of us at the 1993 *Loving the Child* Conference. I appreciate the love and support given to my family during this time. It was a blessing to all of us.

From my family and your family here at your Association of Unity Churches headquarters, we invite you to a:

CELEBRATION OF CHANGE THROUGH SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY



Be sure to make your plans now to attend the 1994 Unity People's Convention which will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia, June 21-25, 1994. The Radisson is located just minutes from Capitol Hill, National Airport, the Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, The Smithsonian and downtown Washington, D.C. Complimentary transportation to and from Washington National Airport and the Metrorail station is available.

What a great opportunity this will afford everyone to attend the convention and see the exciting sites of Washington, D.C. Rates at the Radisson Plaza Hotel are \$79.00 for single, double, triple, and quad. These rates are available three days prior to and three days after the convention. To make your reservations, call 1-800-333-3333.

Many wonderful keynote speakers and workshop presenters will be speaking daily on a variety of exciting subjects. So join us and be inspired, educated, and motivated at the 1994 CELEBRATION OF CHANGE THROUGH SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY.

For registration information about the 1994 UNITY PEOPLE'S CONVENTION, please write Association of Unity Churches, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063; or call 816-524-7414, extension 329 or 330.

Recap

Cont'd from page 9

- the materials reflect the needs not only through this century but into the 21st century

QUESTION 2:

What needs to be present for you to support this goal financially over and above your support to the General Fund?

Total Responses: 185

1. Desire and need for clear communication as to the why, what, when, where, who of the project.

(a) Outline of purpose of living curriculum

2. Materials to be:

(a) Practical, simple, timely, meaty, Bible-based, Jesus Christ oriented, with a Unity focus--28

(b) Drawn from present resources (including available materials and field resource persons) while developing new curriculum--12

(c) Teacher friendly--5

3. Ways to assist project's success:

(a) Keep ministers, church boards, and congregations regularly apprised as to what this program presently offers and where we are in time line unfolding of the project.--38

- ideas on how to get boards and congregants interested in project including financially interested in it

(b) Samples of materials to be field tested with feedback as to usability--36

(c) Have this be a line item--separate it from other fund raising efforts

-Materials to be affordable for all churches.

-Clear plan for raising the necessary funds

(d) A clear commitment to the

project and visible follow through--24

(e) Hire a person to develop curriculum--9

**Compiled by
Educational Review Task Force**

MEMBERS

Richard Everts David McArthur
Ray Wiggins Judi Venturini
Jim Fisher Beth Ann Suggs
Pat Barker

Edie Skalitzky, Chairperson

NOTE: The Task Force will meet in January, 1994, to formulate proposed recommendations.

CORRECTION: Francoise Morissette's address is (Oct/Nov, 1993 issue):

**Francoise Morissette
17 Warwick Ave #3
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M6G 1T5**

HEADQUARTERS

Alan Rowbotham
President



We all join in wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season with happiness and prosperity throughout the coming year.

HIGHLIGHTS

Debbie Pate
 Linda Lower
 Jay Wiggins
 Linda Harbin Beard
 Judi Venturini
 Susan Velazquez
 Shay St. John
 al Jean
 Marsha Penrose
 Cheryl Kuhl
 Glenn Mosley
 Jean L. Luch
 Tracy Smith
 Diana McDermott
 Judy Smith
 Michael Austin
 Nira Sabreen
 Jenni
 Beth Kirby
 Martha Mosley
 Ron Lee
 Ruth Peterson
 Jim Barber

Your Association of Unity Churches Staff

Your Association of Unity Churches Staff

Bridges of Oneness Russian Tour

In August of this year a group of eighteen Unity ministers, licensed teachers, and lay persons traveled to Russia with the *Bridges of Oneness* tour. The purpose of this tour was manifold:

- To begin leadership training for those who will become licensed teachers (C.E.P. Extension Courses).
- To further investigate ways we can be helpful to the former communist countries in transforming their lives and their nations.
- To tour legendary landmarks of religious and national significance to our Russian friends.
- To co-create with our Russian friends an environment where we could truly build *Bridges of Oneness* and experience each other as "family." The words and experiences were to weave a carpet upon which we walk into our collective future. It is my feeling that all eighteen Americans felt that we far exceeded our purposes and our expectations.

We met and had several hours of in-depth exchange on two occasions with many of the Spiritual Unity of Russia members in Moscow. Most of the folks we met in



Participants of the *Bridges of Oneness* tour to Russia: **First Row (l to r):** Glenn Mosley, Patricia Glancey, Howard Stanton, Norma Iris Rosado, Mayola SaltPaw. **Second Row:** Grace Sparhawk, Ana Quintana, Kathryn Roebuck, Velma Stanton, Barbara Weeks. **Third Row:** Tony Roebuck, Ora Weeks, Ray Wiggins. **Fourth Row:** Mesha (Russian guide), Mary and Glenn Ballinger, Ted Schneider, and Daphne and Frank Bush.

Moscow were young to middle-aged adults. We expressed ourselves in three languages--Russian, Spanish, and English; we corrupted all three languages with halting ef-

forts to speak each other's language. Ray Wiggins led us in community-building songs.

Our next people-to-people Spiritual Unity of Russia stop was in Ekaterinburg. Thirty-eight people took C.E.P. Extension Course credit in classes taught by ministers Tony Roebuck and Mayola SaltPaw and licensed teacher, Grace Sparhawk. Approximately twenty-five of these students were under age 25.

We toured and visited historical and religious sites. We established ties with people which will be lifelong. We sang with real people, we talked and laughed with real people, all of us felt the hearts of each other--real people, and we cried with real people. Most of all, we were loved by and we loved real people.

--Glenn R. Mosley
Executive Director

Russia in 1994

Ray Wiggins will be returning to Ekaterinburg for two weeks in August. At that time the Ekaterinburg Y.O.U. will hold a four-day conference. They would like to extend an invitation to Y.O.U. groups around the world to attend.

In making this people-to-people connection Ray would like to invite ministers, licensed teachers, and Y.O.U. sponsors to join him in continuing to teach, empower, and strengthen the youth of Russia and their spiritual leaders.

If you or your group would like a preview of the Russian experience, Ana Quintana from Puerto Rico, captured events of the *Bridges of Oneness* tour on video. Moments such as Eugen Tkachenko, Spiritual Unity of Russia's business manager, singing *God Is Blessing You Now* (second verse of *Happy Birthday*) in Russian. You may contact Ana through Asociacion Unity de Cristianismo Practico, P.O. Box 12108, Loiza Station, San Juan, PR 00912; (809) 722-5358.

If you or your Y.O.U. group would like more information about the Russian Y.O.U. Conference, please contact Ray Wiggins, International Consultant for Education Services.

Association Adopts New Strategic Plan

The pictures on this page were taken at regional meetings attended this year by your Association's Executive Director, Glenn Mosley. There are eight regions, seven representing the United States, one representing Canada, plus one International region representing the rest of the world. Representatives are ministers selected by the regional body with each region determining the number of representatives. Regional representatives act as liaison officers between your Association Board of Trustees and the region and represent the interest of the region in all corporate matters.

In June of this year your Association adopted a new Strategic Plan. In 1991 your Association Board of Trustees, serving as the Strategic Planning Committee, commissioned the holding of focus groups in every region throughout the country to gather input from Association members. It then analyzed and processed the massive amounts of data received from the focus groups. With great deliberation and prayer they drafted a set of Core Values, a Mission Statement, and a Vision Statement.

In future issues I will share with you all the components of the Strategic Plan. The first step was the planning process. A planning model was designed to get maximum involvement from as many members of our Association as possible. In-

formation was gathered not only from field ministers in the regions but also licensed teachers and church staff members. Input was requested about their perceptions of the Association, where it has been, what was working, what the needs of our members are, and where we are being guided to go as an association serving its members.

To get maximum involvement from members of our Association all over the United States a planning model with the following steps was developed:

- ✓ 1991 - Focus groups held at regional meetings conducted by Management Consultant, Barbara O'Hearne.
- ✓ January & April, 1992 - Results compiled--Board of Trustees analyzed and drafted Core Values, Mission, Vision, and Goals.
- ✓ 1992 - "Feedback" focus groups held at regional meetings to give board input/direction for final document. Field recommends goals.
- ✓ January & March, 1993 - Results compiled--Board of Trustees analyzed and wrote final Core Values, Mission, Vision, and Goals.
- ✓ June, 1993 - Final document presented to 1993 Conference for ratification.

Our mission as an Association is to serve, support, assist, and love one another. Since becoming editor

for *Headquarters Highlights* in May, I have supported our mission by informing congregants about the inner-workings of your Association. *HH* does appear in *CONTACT*, a publication from your Association directed to the professionals in our movement, however its primary focus is to the individual within our ministries. This series of articles concerning the Strategic Plan is just another avenue in getting to know your Association better.

If you have questions or need assistance with a particular project your ministry is undertaking, never hesitate to call upon your Association staff. We are here to serve, support, assist, and love one another.

In Unity,

Nancy A. Smith

Assistant Director of Development



South Central Regional Conference, Shreveport, Louisiana (l to r): Clare Austen, minister in Columbia, MO; Pat Barker, 1st Vice President-Association and co-minister in Cincinnati, OH.



Eastern Regional Conference, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (l to r): Henry Burrell, licensed teacher, Cambridge MA; Johanna Mak, minister of Unity in Cambridge, MA; Glenn Mosley, Executive Director-Association; Carmen Byam, Eastern Regional Representative and minister, Laurelton, NY.



Southeast Conference, Hiawassee, Georgia (l to r): Larry Church, minister in Myrtle Beach, SC; Mary Ann Finch, minister in Charleston, SC; Alan Rowbotham, President-Association and co-minister in Roanoke, VA; unidentified; Mary and Jimmie Scott, minister in Nashville, TN.

Who ya gonna call?

For your convenience. . . (816) 524-7414

Accounting

Associate Director/Comptroller--Young Bae	
Accounts Payable--Susan Velasquez	324
Billing Information/Insurance Questions--Myra Moore	323
Orders - Regular (placing & shipments)	324
(Orders - Personalized--see Institutional Relations listing)	
Pension Information	322 or 324
Production & Shipping	
Manager--Bud Mosley	
Assistant--Ron Lee	

Development/Fund Raising

Director of Development--Shay St. John	
Assistant Director--Nancy A. Smith	
Development Officers--Diana McDaniel & Al Sears	
Development Office	355

Education

Associate Director/Director of Education--Mick Dustin	
Assistant in Education--C. J. Southern	332
Children and Youth--Linda Gower	344
Intergenerational--Ray Wiggins	327
Licensed Teacher Coordinator--Trish Robinson	346
Radio/Media Coordinator--Jim Verkest	
Assistant Radio/Media Coordinator--Linda Harbin-Beard	345
Year of the Child--Judi Venturini	338
All other questions	332

Executive Office

Executive Director--Glenn Mosley	
Executive Assistant--Nira Schreen	352

Institutional Relations

Associate Director/Director of Institutional Advancement--Martha Mosley	
Bylaws	341
Conference/Convention/Support Services Coordinator--	
Debbie Ratliff-Ball	329
Assistant--Marsha Penrose	330
Receptionist/Accounting Support--Connie Waitley	320
Receptionist--Jean Jensen	321

Ministry Services

Associate Director/Director of Placement-Expansion--Joann Landreth	
Address Information/CONTACT--Cheryl Vestal	326
Placement Assistant--Jody Smith	336
Expansion Assistant--Bets Kirby	351

Planned Giving

As the year-end approaches and you begin planning for the new year, you may consider making a gift to support the work of your Unity movement. By taking advantage of new tax laws which recognize the work of your ministry and your Association and provide tax incentives, more and more Truth students are having a lasting impact on the future of our Unity movement.

We will be happy to provide you with information about planned giving options. Planning NOW determines the best way to structure your year-end and annual giving plans. Your inquiry will be treated in complete confidence. This information is offered as a service to our Unity friends, with no cost or obligation. Please feel free to write or call your Association's Development Department today.

Headquarters Highlights

Published bi-monthly by the
Association of Unity Churches

Editor: Nancy A. Smith

Graphics & Layout: Cheryl Vestal

Circulation: Development Department

Contributors: Glenn Mosley
Nancy A. Smith
Ray Wiggins

Association of Unity Churches

P.O. Box 610 • Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-7414 FAX: (816) 525-4020

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lee's Summit, Mo.
PERMIT NO. 41

SENT WITH LOVE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL

☐ Would you like to receive HH?
Check here and return with
your address.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

On behalf of the Association of Unity Churches' staff and Board of Trustees, we extend to you our deep gratitude and appreciation for your past financial support. The love and faith you incorporate into your gifts make them special.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Fund Operations As of August 31, 1993

	August	Year to Date
INCOME-OPERATIONS		
Love Offerings	\$ 46,522.60	\$390,087.00
Other Income	<u>16,440.80</u>	<u>(13,168.00)</u>
	\$ 62,993.40	\$376,919.00
Less: Tithe Transfer	<u>(4,768.00)</u>	<u>(31,245.51)</u>
	58,225.40	345,673.49
Gross Profit Material	<u>6,786.90</u>	<u>31,261.51</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 65,012.30</u>	<u>\$376,935.00</u>
EXPENSE-OPERATIONS	\$ 75,188.25	\$392,471.03
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ (10,175.95)</u>	<u>\$ (15,536.03)</u>

***Unity School Contribution to the Association of Unity Churches Through Services Provided:**

Month of August: \$11,899.49

Year to Date: \$46,325.01

*This is a non-ledger item. It represents religious materials, book discounts, etc.

Building/Development Fund

	August	Year to Date
INCOME-OPERATIONS		
Love Offerings: Building Campaign	\$ 42,747.17	\$ 208,972.06
Love Offerings: Caring NOW!	1,934.84	39,950.71
Love Offerings: STARlight	2,187.30	15,264.24
Other Income	<u>1,127.18</u>	<u>4,847.23</u>
Campaign Revenue Total	<u>\$47,996.49</u>	<u>\$269,034.24</u>
Grant Income: Templeton Foundation	0.00	86,000.00
GROSS REVENUE	<u>\$47,996.49</u>	<u>\$355,034.24</u>
LESS: Transfer To Other Funds		
Building Campaign to Building Account	42,747.17	195,336.29
STARlight To Year of the Child Account	546.83	3,816.05
STARlight to General Fund	1,093.66	7,632.10
Caring NOW! to Building Account	154.31	1,367.62
Caring NOW! to Curriculum Account	<u>1,334.32</u>	<u>28,659.14</u>
Total Transfer	<u>\$ 45,876.29</u>	<u>\$ 236,811.20</u>
NET REVENUE AVAILABLE	<u>\$ 2,120.20</u>	<u>\$ 118,223.04</u>
Expenditures From Grant Income	\$ 15,620.22	\$ 72,139.79
Expenditures From Love Offering Incomes	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 15,620.22</u>	<u>\$ 72,139.79</u>
INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ (13,500.02)</u>	<u>\$ 46,083.25</u>



Judi Venturini
Year of the Child Coordinator

Believe It Or Not

One of the questions that is asked over and over again by spiritual educators when I do workshops and teacher trainings is: "What are appropriate ways to handle negative behavior in children on Sunday mornings?" Of course the comic in me wants to reply, "The same way you deal with negative behavior on any other morning." But I do understand that as spiritual educators, we are keenly aware that we want to exemplify the Christ to those children we serve.

Any change in behavior has to be an inner change--a transformation. That is any lasting change in human behavior is intrinsic in nature. It is very human to try to change behavior extrinsically through external controls. This is true for us as well as our children.

How many of you have made a New Year's resolution to lose weight or to stop smoking, only to find the first cookie or cigarette entering into your mouth a few days later? This occurs because whatever we try to change in life will persist. When we have an inner transformation, the behavior will fall away and not even be an issue.

Taking a look at the illustration on behavior, we can begin to understand how this works more clearly. At the inner core of our being we have many beliefs about ourselves and others. Many of these are in error of our true, inner characteristics as children of God.

To illustrate, a friend of mine once observed that a group of people I know saw me as being clumsy, which is quite the opposite of how she perceived me. In fact, she had always admired how graceful I was. After she pointed this out to me, I began to observe that every time I was with this particular group of people, I would spill and drop things. I had the realization that I accepted this belief, especially when I was in their presence. I saw that this was not true. With this insight, my behavior had a dramatic

change. I have the belief that I am graceful and my expectations for myself are based on that belief.

All of our expectations come out of our belief system. Therefore if a child believes that s/he is not loved, s/he will not expect to be treated by others lovingly. It is from this expectation that s/he will form her/his attitudes.

How many times have we told children that they have a bad attitude about life? Attitude is defined as our "habit of thought." In Unity we teach that thoughts are thinking plus our feeling. We teach that the thoughts we dwell on will form who we are in life. As we teach our children about affirmations and denials to change these old thought habits, we will help them to establish a new belief system about their identity, which will change their expectations, attitudes, and judgments.

Our judgments come out of our attitudes. We can identify our judgments by listening to our self talk. When we listen closely to what children say about others, we can become keenly aware of how they feel about themselves. We can help our children through teaching them to pray for their enemies and to forgive themselves for the times they have acted like them.

"Self talk" is very important because it creates our own experiences. Through teaching about the power of the word we can give them the vital tools to shape their futures. We can model this by being mindful of how we use our words. Do we find ourselves saying things like, "The children are driving me crazy," or "That child is a monster?" What do we language about our ability to teach the children?

We all behave as if our beliefs were true. Charles Fillmore defines belief in *Revealing Word* as "an inner acceptance of an idea as true." He goes on to explain that there are hidden false beliefs we hold individually and as a race. I believe that one of our primary jobs as spiritual educators is assisting our children in changing any of these false beliefs. When we do, there will be a shift in their behavior that will shape their entire lives in a powerful way.

Many people will use the quote, "Spare the rod, spoil the child" as a justification to use extrinsic or outer controls to make children conform to the way they "believe" children should act. Historically, shepherds use their rods to gently guide the sheep to safety. A "good shepherd" would never use force of hit his sheep. In fact, they have established such deep trust that the shepherd can call and his flock will follow his voice. In the Middle East many flocks are kept together in one fold at night, but as morning comes the shepherds call their own sheep and lead them to pasture (John 10:1-4).

Let our voices resonate to the Christ in every child. Let's teach the children to listen to the inner voice that calls them to the Good Shepherd. As we show children how to develop their own inner guidance, they can function responsibly. In the words of Bruno Bettelheim, "The fundamental issue is not punishment at all, but the development of morality--that is, the creation of conditions that not only allow, but strongly induce a child to wish to be a moral (self) disciplined person."



Linda L. Gower
International Education Services Assistant

The Greatest Gift of All

With Christmas fast approaching, many of us are putting serious consideration into the perfect present for those on our gift list. As parents, friends, and perhaps even youth educators, we may have a child or two on our gift list. If we stop for a minute to consider what those children give to us, we realize it is something enormous--nothing less than faith, wonder, love, laughter, and trust. Children give in innocence and without question what cannot be bought in any store for any price--themselves.

And what are we to give them in return? Surely it needs to be more than the games, the toys, and the candy that clutter the floor Christmas morning. Surely what they give to us by just being themselves, could only be repaid by somehow giving them a better world to live in.

That may sound like a tall order to fill, but it may be easier than you imagine. If you're a Truth student, and I assume you are if you're reading this article, you're on a spiritual quest. Your degree of dedication to that quest may vary, not only from one individual to another, but also within yourself from time to time. But you *are* on a quest. In some way, you are always seeking that which brings you into a close, loving relationship with the Lord of your being. During this quest, each of us will at some time discover a "pearl of great value" as Jesus described in Matthew 13:45-46.

Some may experience this pearl as if they were suddenly stricken with illumination and everything finally fits into place. Others may experience this as a gradual knowing that what they are doing is a way for them to experience a closer relationship with God. However you experience your pearl, it makes your world a better place to live in.

A pearl of great value is a gift to you from the Holy Spirit. You will probably experience more than one of these gifts as you move along your path toward the ultimate Christ experience you are seeking. In fact, it is quite possible that you have already received several of these pearls.

Okay, now back to the practical application of all this. If you have had an experience of spiritual Truth, and it has made a meaningful difference in the way you relate to the source of your being, how does that connect to giving a child a gift?

A pearl of great value is like the love described in The Magic Penny song. The more you give it away, the more you have. Yes, what I'm saying is that you can give your pearl of great value to a child as a gift.

To give a pearl as a gift, you must first study and become very aware of exactly what it is in your life that led to your discovery of that Truth, or what it is you do that has led to your enhanced spiritual relationship with God. In other words, you need to carefully examine your pearl of great value so you know exactly what it is and how it came into being. Next, consider if this is something that is appropriate for a child and could, in some way, be beneficial to that child. If it is, then you are presented with the opportunity to convert that experience or that practice into a gift that will make a better world in which our children may live.

Since we are each a unique individualization of God, it makes sense that our pearls may also be very unique. For that reason, I can't tell you exactly how to convert your pearl, but I can share with you how I received two of my pearls and how I translated them into something for the children in my life.

One very special pearl I received is one that is known to many people in the Unity movement. In February of 1991, I attended a workshop at my church that was given by Debbie Tyson, a visiting teacher from Unity Village. During her workshop she shared The Grace Prayer with us. The Grace Prayer is based on the last words of Jesus and is a very powerful prayer for anyone who is looking for transformation. For a year and a half, I played with this prayer, using it on and off, and of course my results were "on and off." Then I took Debbie's "Grace Awakening" class at Unity Village and began to use the prayer consistently to start my day and to end my day. It wasn't long before I realized that I was indeed holding a pearl of great value.

When I returned to Unity Village in October of 1992, I spoke with Debbie to see if a children's version of the Grace Prayer might be beneficial. She agreed it might and I went home to translate my pearl into a gift for the children. A word of caution here, one reason I checked with Debbie before going ahead with this project was to assure that this type of transformative prayer would be appropriate for children. Though children are certainly not the "swine" Jesus refers to in Matthew 7:6 when he advises us to use discernment in choosing with whom we share our pearls, they also may not be ready for the pearls we receive and consideration should be given to this.

After much prayer and mediation, I had a children's version I felt followed the lines of the adult prayer. I consulted with Debbie for final approval and then I had a gift for the children in my church. The Children's Grace Prayer has since been published in the Year of the Child

See GIFT on page 16, col. 1



Ray Wiggins
International Education
Services Consultant

Alternatives to Sunday School

Why do we offer classes for students only on Sundays?

Unity has "bought into" a religious educational system by which all the other churches function, namely, The Sunday School Movement of the 1800's. Most of us were raised thinking that Sunday was when we "did" church, the time when we "did" Christian Education. We found that the connection with what we studied on Sunday and its application to our "real" lives was far stretched. We saw the world divided into "religious" and "secular."

There is another way.

Let's look to Jesus, our Way-Shower, and how he taught. He taught every day of the week, in a variety of settings, with a variety of styles and in a manner which made his teachings make sense in everyday life.

We can also teach in this manner. Here's how:

Think about it. Educators who have researched learning theory tell us that persons learn best when they select their own learning, when they receive the teaching repeatedly but in different forms, when they want to learn the subject, when they have the time and opportunity to explore the subject matter related to its value and use in their lives, and when all of their senses and learning styles are involved in the learning process.

How do we as spiritual educators do this?

a) We can produce materials which encourage choice in learning (individualized learning). This includes everything from developing reading clubs (i.e., The Visionaries Club in Youth of Unity), workbooks, and computer programs and games.

b) We can provide more time in a variety of settings from which children and their families have more choices. For

example, what most churches call "Vacation Bible School" (VBS) provides for longer blocks of class time with more consistent attendance than we have on Sunday mornings. What if we provided more than just the one week a year? How about a miniature VBS (an over-night/lock-in) on a Friday and Saturday about twice a year? How about hiring, yes hiring, teachers and a director to organize and teach once a month (or once a quarter) an all-day Saturday school for which parents pre-register and pay in advance with a minimum registration required. These "Super Saturdays" could start at 9 or 10 a.m., and continue until 3 p.m., with lunch and snacks served.

The above mentioned alternative settings in which we could do our teaching provide longer periods of time for teaching with a consistent and predictable attendance. And that's not the end. The possibilities are as limited as your imagination, which we know is unlimited. How about nature trail hikes, camp outs, fishing trips, metaphysics and the mall trips, movies and metaphysics, music and metaphysics, TV and Truth, again just to name a few ideas about which an activity or day or weekend could be built. In all of these the teacher will relate the experiences to Unity's teachings.

Consider this. . . what if you changed your Spiritual Education Program around to look like this: Sunday morning time with children focuses on music (lots of it), stories, drama and interpretative movement. All of these related to Unity's teachings but on Sundays no set curriculum is taught. Teachers need little preparation. Specialists in music, storytelling, clowning, etc., would be utilized.

Sunday night once a month would be a "Parents As Spiritual Educators" training night or a Family Night with a spiritual program involving both parents and kids.

Once a month on Saturday would be Super Saturday where there would be five hours available to teach a set curriculum. Students would have pre-registered and parents would have paid for this experience. Staffed by trained and paid teachers with adequate money for supplies, materials, and meals.

Once a quarter how about a special event (movie and metaphysics, metaphysics and the mall, nature hike, or over-night lock-in, etc.)?

Once a year a week-long block of time (i.e., a Vacation Bible School), but it could be a trip, a camping experience, or a series of evening events. Again, the advantage is regular attendance (unlike Sunday mornings), and larger blocks of teaching time. This is the time to teach a set curriculum.

Now, all of the above ideas I presented just to share with you the thought that Sunday morning either is not enough or it just doesn't work. What does work is parents as spiritual educators ('wanna make that happen more and better?).

What does work are creative and unusual places and

See SCHOOL on page 16, col. 2



Trish Robinson
Licensed Teacher Consultant

I hear a lot about caring for and helping others. How do we do this if we aren't caring for ourselves? How do we put ourselves before others without appearing, and feeling, selfish? By putting God first, by giving the majority of our attention to God, letting ourselves get "caught up" in the wisdom and love that God is.

Many of you have heard me say before, and I feel it bears repeating; I am the *only one* that I cannot get away from. I am the *only one* that I can crawl inside my mind and truly know what I am thinking. I am the *only one* that I can really know what I am feeling. It, then, stands to reason if I am the *only one* I can honestly know and understand and I can't make (and keep) me happy, then I cannot even *contribute* to another's happiness. Let's be honest--how much time do we use in getting to know ourselves, the **ONLY** person we can *ever truly know*?

In a recent conversation, I asked a friend why she put up with people who give her verbal and emotional abuse. Her reply was that she sees the potential in them and really cares about them. When I said, "No, you don't really care about them," she began trying to convince me she really does care. I replied, "*Maybe* you care, but you care *more* about their response to you, how their words and expressions are directed at you. You care more about not having your feelings hurt." Guess what? After a few moments of contemplation she agreed.

How much energy do we use in attempting to say what we think will make others happy, or *not* say what might prompt a response that would hurt our feelings? In my opinion we are doing ourselves and others an injustice. And maybe, we are also doing God an injustice. How can

we presume to know what is in another's mind when most of the time we don't know what's in our own? I recently commended another friend because she had gently and lovingly told someone (I'll call Ms. Doe) that she didn't have to put up with her "stuff" and to either back off or buy out. (Those are my words, not hers.) I specially commended her because others were avoiding Ms. Doe as much as possible, yet talking behind her back. And I think that's the bottom line, just exploring ourselves and God more--we love ourselves and God more--doing that, we become more loving to others and more honest. Then we have more energy to use in "joying in the glory of God, in life." Again, how can we presume to know what would please another when a lot of the time we don't have a clue as to what pleases us, or does not--we only think we do. It's still wonder-filled, yet strange to me how the *less I try* to please people, the *more* that people are pleased with me.

If our top priority isn't "being in tune with ourselves and God," and we aren't checking it out throughout each day, can there possibly be true value in anything we do?

The Cross Room

The young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer.

"Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief. "Thank You, Lord," he sighed, and he did as he was told.

Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses. Some were so large the tops were not visible. Then he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall.

"I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."

Gift

Cont'd from page 13

Newsletter and hopefully it has been of benefit to children elsewhere also.

The second gift I will share with you is one that I am still in the process of translating. It came to me last Memorial Day as I was driving across the Kansas plains on Interstate 70. If you have ever driven across those miles and miles of straight road, you understand why I was looking for something to occupy my mind. I popped an Eric Butterworth tape into the tape deck, hoping to find some mental stimulation. Sure enough, Eric had it. "To practice the presence of God," Eric said, "has little to do with those few moments when you study Truth or when you have a meditation." Good grief, I thought, here I am constantly looking for stimulating curriculum and new ways to present Truth lessons, and Eric Butterworth says the one hour a week that we have the kids at church has very little to do with that important process of practicing the presence. Of course I knew he was right. Eric continued to say that to study Truth and to meditate are, "obviously part of it, but it's so much more than that. To practice the presence means to live constantly as if you really believe that the allness of God is present within you and in every experience of your life and in every cell and function of your body." He was right, every time I stop to remember that the allness of God is present in a situation, peace and harmony permeate my being. The trick though, is to remember to do it, or as Eric said, to live it constantly. When I'm trying to break out of an old routine, I need lots of reminders. So I decided that when I got back home I would make little signs to place all over the house, in my car and at the office. The signs would say simply, "PRACTICE THE PRESENCE." This, I felt, would give me the little reminders I needed to touch base with God on a regular basis.

I started to get excited about these little reminders. I felt I might have another pearl on my hands, so I began thinking of ways this might work for children. I knew the same method would probably work for the Y.O.U. and Uniteens but I also knew the word "practice" does not necessarily have a good connotation with younger children. Children "practice" softball, they "practice" the piano and, heaven forbid, they "practice" their spelling. No, "Practice the Presence" would not be the best choice of words for the younger children. Since children this age like things that have a secret flair to them, I decided an acronym that meant the same thing might work better. "LEMWG" came to mind which stands for, "Live Every Moment With God." The idea of "LEMWG" signs quickly grew into a story about a little boy and the LEMWG Tree, a story that could be acted out by older children to non-readers. Then a simple LEMWG song emerged for the preschool children to sing around a cardboard LEMWG tree with colored pipe cleaner LEMWG leaves.

I liked LEMWG so much that when I got home I did not

make the signs for myself that said, "Practice the Presence," but, if you visit my home, or my office, or ride in my car, you will see strange little stick-on letters in conspicuous places that spell "LEMWG." The beautiful part is that I have indeed been given another pearl; a much greater part of my day is now spent in the awareness of God presence. I hope the LEMWG concept and lesson ideas will likewise bring this gift to a child somewhere.

These are but two examples of how spiritual insights can be used to promote a better world for our children. If you take a few minutes to think about your own spiritual journey, you may find you have some wonderful material to work with for creating children's gifts of your own.

I'm sure this Christmas we will all buy some of those "toys, games, and candy" that clutter the floor on Christmas morning, but we can also keep in mind the wonderful gifts we can give children all year long. Remembering that Christmas symbolizes the birth of the Christ Consciousness within us, let us also remember that the greatest gift we can ever give a child is to share those pearls of great value that bring us all closer to Christ Consciousness.



School

Cont'd from page 14

events which relate to the child's everyday life experiences ('wanna be on the cutting edge?.. go for it!).

What does work are books, games, computers, interactive TV, etc ('wanna create them, test them, share them?').

What does work are stories, music, role-play, and dance used not as a distraction or "busy work" but as the core process of sharing Truth with kids.

I will appreciate your response to these ideas because my objective is to stimulate thought, not agreement. If you find yourself re-thinking your ministry in spiritual education then this article has been worthwhile.

Finally, here are some resources for your further study or use:

New Directions in Spiritual Education, Marilu Marston.

A resource manual written for Unity churches and centers to re-define their vision for children's ministry and how to make it happen. Association of Unity Churches, P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. (Item #6029, \$13.00)

Children's Ministry That Works, the basics and beyond.

A complete, practical handbook for working with children from womb to grade six. Full of innovative ideas and down-to-earth advice. Group Publishing, 2890 N. Monroe, Box 366, Loveland, CO 80539.

New Book Coming Soon!

Transformative Rituals - Celebrations for Personal Growth

by David & Gay Williamson

***a popular approach to ritual, ceremony,
and rite-of-passage written in an easy
to apply, "how to" format***

We are delighted to share with you some wonderful news for us and for Unity. Our new book, *Transformative Rituals - Celebrations for Personal Growth*, outlining many of the creative ceremonies we have developed, gathered, and used in Unity, will soon be published by Health Communications, Inc., of Deerfield Beach, Florida. Our book will appear in bookstores across the country in February, 1994. We are thrilled with this new door opening in our lives and bringing Unity to a larger audience.

This is the first ritual book that gives practical experiences, written in a positive manner, for a mainstream audience. Our book is a popular approach to ritual, ceremony, and rite-of-passage written in an easy to apply, "how to" format. We list specific applications for spiritual leaders, psychologists, recovery groups, educators, families, and individuals.

Some of the transformative rituals relating to ministry include:

✓ **First Sunday of the New Year: "White Stone Ritual"**

A ceremony that opens one to re-naming of one's own life experience. Affirming a clean slate, new beginning, and a rite-of-passage into that new life.

✓ **Lent: "Phoenix Rising Ritual"**

A meditation process leads into the ritual and rising like the Phoenix into a new experience of renewal. Participants receive a special medallion which they personally inscribe.

✓ **Prosperity Sunday or Event: "Check Blessing"**

A rainbow shower of good thoughts to accompany every check written and received.

✓ **Good Friday: "Crossing Over Ritual"**

To commemorate the crossing over experience of Jesus by releasing the past and coming into a new consciousness

of life, authentic power, self-appreciation and affirmation.

✓ **Mother's Day/Father's Day: "Blessing by the Elders"**

A special service where the elders affirm and bestow a blessing upon younger persons.

✓ **Peace Service: "World Celebration Ceremony"**

Affirming the Unity of all people and all the major religions of the world.



David & Gay Williamson

Also included are many fresh ideas and uses for Burning Bowl, Candlelighting, Remarriage, Rite-of-Passage for all ages. We have found these experiences have added to our Sunday services, special occasions, classes, Sunday school, workshops, youth activities, prayer ministry, retreats, funerals, and spiritual counselling. Anyone working in these areas in your church would also benefit from this feast of practical and creative experiences.

Health Communications is enthusiastic about our new book and will feature it in their full-color winter catalog to booksellers nationwide. They publish John Bradshaw, Charles Whitfield, John Lee, Janet Woititz (ACOA) and many other helpful authors in spiritual development,

See GROWTH on page 19, col. 2

Unity Friends in Germany

A gift of the equivalent of two hundred thousand dollars was donated to the Unity movement in Germany as an expression of gratitude for a message that transformed a woman's life. The gift was a turning point in Unity of Germany's development. However, up to that point in time it was a slow and difficult process.

Dr. Helmut Steiner founded Unity School of Practical Christianity in Germany in 1962. Earlier he had come to the United States to be a resident student in the ministerial education program. During the time of his studies he lived in a room in one of the cottages at Unity Village, along with other resident students. When he left the United States the love and prayers of his classmates and faculty went with him. Helmut's faith in the activity of Spirit was his major resource.

The early stages of growth were not easy for Helmut Steiner. However, the number of Unity students gradually grew and a few dedicated volunteers made the special effort to help him along the way. One of these was Peter Wenzel, an insurance executive whose job was to train salesmen.

Peter Wenzel found the Truth in Unity and was inspired to help in every way possible. When his own schedule would permit he attended the lectures of Dr. Steiner. He wanted to understand more thoroughly the spiritual principles that Unity taught. Peter taped Dr. Steiner's messages and duplicated them to be passed along to other small study groups. He helped organize lecture tours and took care of the business arrangements with the hotels and other meeting places. He handled the finances, what there was, for Dr. Steiner.



Peter Wenzel

As Peter Wenzel's understanding of Unity principles grew, Dr. Steiner asked him to lead the meditations preceding the lectures. In 1967 Peter made the first of six annual trips to Unity School for Religious Studies to attend continuing education classes. Eventually, he was asked to give lectures in Germany when it was not possible for Dr. Steiner to be present. While he con-

tinued his work for the insurance company during the day, he would give his evenings to organizing and lecturing to study groups in whatever city he happened to be working. When he was in a city in which there were no known Unity students, Peter would call his personal friends and busi-

ness associates and invite them to attend his meetings. In this way, small study groups were organized where none had existed before. It was truly an activity of Spirit.

Unfortunately, Helmut Steiner had a heart attack and passed on in 1971. Peter, who had become his most important volunteer, was elected Director of Unity School of Practical Christianity in Germany. He continued his work with the insurance company and at the same time led the Unity ministry as Dr. Steiner had planned. As the ministry grew, Peter made the decision to release his insurance work. In 1974 he flew to Unity Village to meet with the Ordination Committee; he was granted Ordination by Exception.

Retreat programs appealed to Peter and he decided they would be his major service. He learned that rented facilities in hotels and other meeting places was not the best environment because the retreatants were frequently disturbed by the smoke, noise, and activities. But, Peter had a vision--to serve Unity friends in a beautiful, quiet, mountain atmosphere.

That vision inspired him through many difficulties and challenges. Like birth, the retreat center did not come into the world without some pain. Peter found an old farm house on a mountainside, near the small village of Todtmoos. Although it needed a lot of work to make it into a retreat house, it was purchased and the work began.

Furniture had to be ordered and a commercial kitchen had to be installed. However, other unexpected and unknown factors arose because the building codes of this quiet little village were astonishing.

To turn the old farm house into a retreat center meant that a parking lot had to be built, the doors had to be widened, the electrical system had to be brought up to date, and a special sewer system had to be built because it was located in a nature protected area. This would take a lot of money.

The unexpected costs were estimated to be near half a million dollars. When it was learned that the banks would not loan any money, the workmen refused to work without guarantee of payment. The challenge to Peter seemed overwhelming. He felt like giving up and walking away from it all. But then he received a letter from a Catholic nun who had often quietly sat in the front row when attending his classes in Zurich.

She wrote to him of her own dream. She dreamed that a voice said to her, "Tell Peter that he should not fear the financial situation." When Peter read this note he did not know whether to laugh or cry. However, three days after her letter, another one came in the mail with a check for the equivalent of two hundred thousand dollars.

Continued. . .

This check was sent from a woman who expressed gratitude for a tape recording of one of Peter's messages. The message had changed her life. It had been a turning point for her; now, her gift was a turning point for Unity-Lightsource. Soon after, money began to come in from every direction. The work on the old farm house was able to continue and the first retreat center in Germany opened in 1981 called Unity-Lightsource.

Unity-Lightsource is nestled in a secluded mountainside, looking south toward Switzerland. The Zurich airport is only one hour and twenty minutes driving time. Beautiful churches, ancient castles and historical sites are within an hour's drive in every direction. Southeast France with its quaint, old wine villages is an easy trip for lunch. The eternal snow mountains of Switzerland beckon visitors to take a closer look. But the real reason so many people come to Unity-Lightsource is to be in a unique place of healing and silence. Even time seems to stand still.

After lectures, periods of meditation, and quiet walks in the forest, Unity friends enjoy folk music and laughter, good food, and new friends. They come from Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South America, North America, and all of Europe. Unity-Lightsource is an international gathering place.

Programs are presented by Unity ministers, medical doctors, psychiatrists, teachers of yoga and breathwork, authors of spiritual education books, and also a Benedictine monk. These presenters attract their own followers who have become interested in basic Unity principles. They have all helped to create a positive image of Unity-Lightsource and brought new people into the Unity movement.

Programs of one and two weeks are offered. Those coming from greater distances, such as the United States, enjoy a two-week experience that includes a spiritual program of about twenty hours of prayer and lecture as well as eight sight-seeing tours. The reasonable package price covers all meals for the two weeks, ground transportation, guided tours of certain cities by professional guides, a little foreign currency for small souvenirs, entrance fees wherever required, and tips to driver and staff.

After visiting Lightsource, praying together, sharing spiritual insights, feasting on the tasteful vegetarian food of the chef, Marco, enjoying the old world charm of the area, no one can say which single activity is the greatest. But, one thought is unanimous! "Peter, why don't you stop time for us?" It's a question often asked.

This question brings to mind a comment of Faust in the drama by Goethe. Faust says to Mephistopheles, "Lead me into a moment where I will say, time should stand still, then you can have my soul." Unity-Lightsource is a place where it can seem that time stands still, even if only for two weeks.

If you are interested in bringing a group of your folks to a unique experience at Lightsource in the Black Forest of Germany, information is available through Les Saunders, 5400 Park St. N, #609, St. Petersburg, FL 33709 (813) 546-4937.

Growth

Continued from page 17

health, prosperity, and human relations. They also publish **Changes**, a magazine for personal growth that beautifully compliments what we teach in Unity. Along with this they have two additional magazines, **Adolescents** for parents and teachers (a good resource for our youth leaders!) and **Professional Counselor**. For a catalog and sample copy of magazines for your personal use or bookstore write or call:

Health Communications, Inc.

3201 SW 15th Street

Deerfield Beach, FL 33442-8190

Toll Free: (800) 441-5569

We will be working on an extensive book tour, making fifty plus engagements nationally and internationally for 1994. These engagements will be promoted with TV and radio interviews, newspaper advertising, and local promotions. Gay, being a psychologist, gives a creative blend of spirituality and psychology to our presentations.

David will be writing regularly for **Unity** magazine, starting in December, 1993, with a transformative Christmas ceremony called, "The Power of Creative Inn Keeping"--a holiday activity to make room in the "Inn Within." Excerpts from **Transformative Rituals - Celebrations for Personal Growth** will be seen in **Unity** magazine, **Changes** magazine, **Adolescent** magazine and many other popular publications.

When we met with the executives of Health Communications we told them that our Unity colleagues and churches in Unity would help promote the distribution of this book that has come out of Unity's experience and practices. We ask for you to help us by inviting us into your ministry and community and carrying the book in your bookstore. We can enhance your Sunday and holiday services, regional conferences, and design particular workshops and retreat experiences around your specific themes. We are doing this now for some of the major growth centers around the country. We are excited about our new Unity ministry and the book. Call or write to us soon so we can place you in our touring schedule for 1994 and beyond.

God's Richest Blessing!

David & Gay
David & Gay

Important Dates For 1994

Mid-Year Meetings	Jan. 16-21
Field Licensing Training--Year I	Feb. 21-24
Field Licensing Training--Year II	Feb. 28 - Mar. 3
Executive Committee Meetings	April 11-13
Skills Demonstration Seminar	May 14-20
Board Member Seminar & Retreat	May 21-27
Licensed Teacher Postgraduate	June 11-16
Pre-Convention (Alexandria, VA)	June 17-19
Spiritual Renewal Retreat (Alexandria, VA)	June 20-21
Convention (Alexandria, VA)	June 21-25
Adults of Unity Conference	July 16-22
Y.O.U. Conference	July 30 - Aug. 5
Skills Demonstration Seminar	Aug. 20-26
Executive Committee Meetings	Sept. 12-14
Board Member Seminar & Retreat	Sept. 19-23
Skills Demonstration Seminar	Oct. 29 - Nov. 4

1994 Regional Conferences

Great Lakes	Sept. 18-22	Pokagon State Park, Angola, Indiana
West Central	Sept. 28-30	Asilomar - Monterey, California
Eastern	Oct. 2-6	Lancaster, Pennsylvania

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES®
P.O. Box 610 Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524.7414



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 754

FORWARDING & RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED,
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FERN HUNT
120 SW LAKEVIEW BLVD
LEE'S SUMMIT MO 64063