



VISIONS

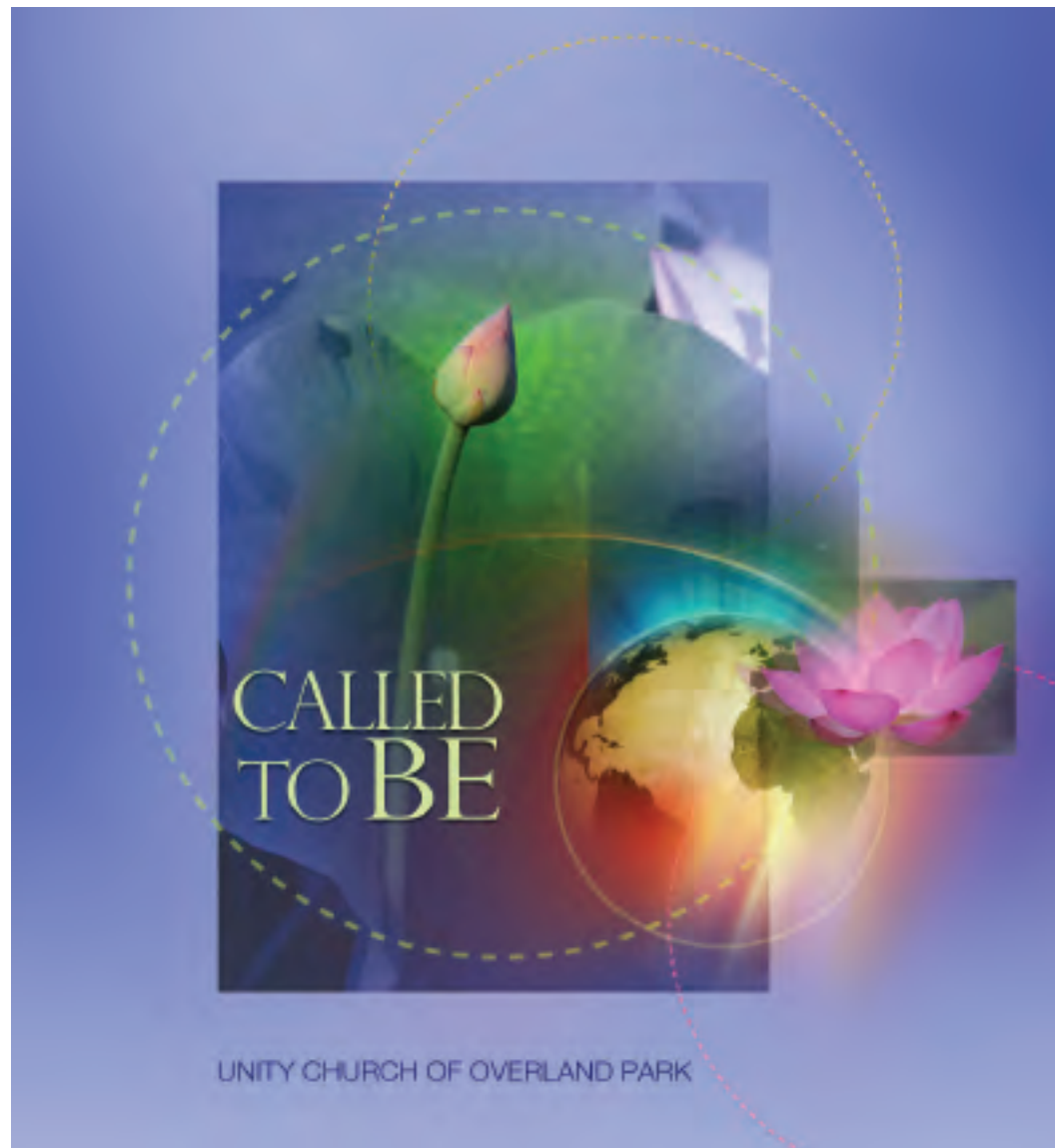
AUG–SEPT 2008

UNITY CHURCH OF OVERLAND PARK

WWW.UCOP.ORG

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Called to Be ©2008 Jerry Hirt

A friend of mine, who is going through a major life transition, said, “I have come to the place in my life where I am no longer willing to engage in anything that is not congruent with who I am.”

Powerful words. Wouldn't we all like to say that about our lives? Of course, to manifest such words, you must first know who you are. What is your mission? Who are you called to be? What are your values?

Values provide the foundation for all that you are and all that you do. They are the essential code by which you live and make decisions. They are more than just words—they are the principles for which you stand and for which you will walk through fire.

The values which are most precious to you are called “core” values because they are central to who you are and they give you strength, much as your physical core gives strength and stamina to your body. In your body, your core is your trunk, your internal muscles and your spine – it is the center of you which must be strong so that the rest of your body can function with vitality, grace and ease.

When you are clear about your core values and when you live from them day to day, you live the coherent life. You are congruent and your actions and words are consistent with your true essence. You “walk your talk.”

Within a ministry, the core values provide a conscious way for us to be together in community and walk our talk. Vibrant

and vital organizations operate with clear core values and are driven by their mission. Two and a half years ago, our ministry went on a Vision Quest where we discerned our core values, as well as our mission, and a set of pillars that described what we wanted Unity Church of Overland Park to look like.

Recently, an inspired group of Board, Staff and Vision Quest Design Team members gathered to review our work, celebrating our progress so far and refining it further to move us along. As a result, we drafted a Vision statement for our world, and we honed our mission statement and core values. We also created a clear strategic plan with intentions, objectives and goals that will move us forward in a coherent manner. Having this coherence makes it possible for us to translate our values into action.

For a moment, imagine a community that lives from the values of Love, Inclusiveness, Spirit-Led, Joy and Abundance. Imagine a community whose mission is to awaken and express the Christ Nature. And imagine a

world of peace, harmony and abundance for all.

This is who we are called to be. Together we can manifest this powerful potential. Come be a part of a transformational experience as we explore together what it means to live a coherent, congruent life. The Sunday series is entitled *Called to Be* and it starts July 27.

Abundant Blessings,
Patricia



Rev. Patricia Bass
Senior Minister

Staff Members at Unity Church of Overland Park

Karen Adinolfi
Bookstore Assistant

Fred Albers
Music Director

Rev. Bob Barth
Associate Minister/Administration

Rev. Patricia Bass
Senior Minister

Megan Clark
Assistant to the Senior Minister

Joan Doane
Bookstore Manager

Rev. Jennifer Holder
Associate Minister/Service

Rev. Nancy Jerome
Assoc. Minister/Prayer & Pastoral Care

David Lucas
Maintenance Coordinator

Glenna Menard
Wedding Coordinator

Tamie Mills
Director of Communications

Brandon Nagel
Adult Education Coordinator
& Pastoral Care Assistant

Adrienne Owings
Nursery Supervisor

Alfred Ring
Facilities Assistant

Jane Sauvé
Business Manager

Mike Schlecta
Facilities Coordinator

Rebecka & Victor Velez
YFM Co-Directors

Patty Williams
Data Processing Coordinator

Board of Directors

Rev. Patricia Bass
Member/Senior Minister

Ellis Megee, President

Randy Gerard, Member

Tom Hadley, Member

Danielle Keith, Member

Debra King, Member

Shawn Wegner, Member

Paul Heath, Alternate

Carla Wakefield, Alternate



11days OF GLOBAL UNITY

A Season of Interfaith Celebration

For the first time Unity World Day of Prayer on September 11 is being extended to United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21 as a celebration of oneness with *11 Days of Global Unity: A Season of Interfaith Celebration*. The celebration incorporates many activities to raise awareness of world peace and invites individuals, families, communities and the world into a deeper level of peace in expression and participation.

Unity Church of Overland Park is uniting with Unity School, the Association of Unity Churches International, the Association for Global New Thought and organizations from around the world to co-create this event of Oneness Healing the World.

Activities at Unity Village

The celebration commences with an opening ceremony on Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in the Silent Unity Chapel at Unity Village. Keynote speaker, **Gregg Braden**, a pioneer in bridging science and spirituality, kicks off the 11 days with his keynote presentation on Thursday, September 11, followed by workshops on Friday and Saturday.

Workshops, inspirational talks, interfaith prayer ceremonies, concerts, special events, dances and discussions held throughout the 11 days include **Arun Gandhi**, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi speaking on "Lessons my Grandfather Taught Me," Awakening the Dreamer Symposium, Transformational Film Festival, Earthdance: Global Dance Festival for Peace, the Annual New Thought Music Awards, and much more.

15th Annual Unity World Day of Prayer Thursday, September 11, 2008

Together we affirm:

Rejoicing in our oneness with God and one another, we celebrate healing in every aspect of our lives and in the world.

Prayer is the foundation of Unity. Prayer can heal the world. Join us on September 11 for the Unity World Day of Prayer at Unity Village at 11 a.m. Our prayers that day will encompass the world with healing energy that renews mind, body, and spirit, restores relationships, and opens the way for acceptance and peace among all people.

Prayer Lists

We will again have Prayer Lists in our Sunday Celebration bulletins for you to list the names of those you would like remembered in prayer on that day and continuing throughout the 11 Days of Global Unity. Your names will be prayerfully acknowledged during the 24-hour vigil in the Silent Unity Chapel on September 11 and held in prayer, day and night, for thirty days. Your prayers, united with others, will touch millions of lives.

The following activities are sponsored by the Peace in Action UCOP affinity group, bringing the 11 Days of Global Unity to our church. Make plans to join Peace in Action beginning on Sunday,

August 31 to prepare for the 11 Days of Global Unity and be part of the celebration of Oneness Healing the World. Look for information and updates on our website at www.ucop.org.

Daily Interfaith Peace Prayer Vigils

12:00 – 12:30 pm, UCOP Peace Chapel
M-F Noon Prayer

As part of the 11 Days of Global Unity we will be participating in 11 Days of Peace Prayers – holding a prayer each day from a different spiritual tradition. As we celebrate our oneness with people from across the globe by using each others prayers, we become an active participant in healing the world. Join us in person, or join us in spirit. You can find each day's prayer on our website www.ucop.org or in our 11 Days of Peace Prayers Brochure. (No prayer services on Sat. or Sun)

Peace Prayer Flags

In the ancient tradition of Tibetan Prayer Flags, we encourage you to write your prayers on a flag and hang at the church. Historically, Prayer Flags were tied outside to allow the wind to carry the prayers, blessings and good intentions around the world. After services on September 14 the flags will be taken to Unity Village to join flags from other Unity churches from across the country and around the world. Prayer flags will be available on Sundays leading up to September 14.

UCOP Interfaith Speaker: Dr. Jill Carroll

Sept. 14, Sunday Celebration Services
As part of the 11 Days of Global Unity celebration, Dr. Jill Carroll is coming to Unity Church of Overland Park to share her Sunday message "Creating a Kingdom of God" and will present a workshop titled *The Worlds of Religion*. Dr. Carroll is an expert on world religions and speaks internationally on issues of religion and world politics, and the importance of religious diversity training in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world.

For more information about our church participation in the 11 Days of Global Unity visit our website at www.ucop.org. There you will find a link to a calendar.

SUNDAY at UNITY

Celebration Services
9 am & 11 am

Please join us each Sunday for prayer, inspiration and fellowship. Adult Celebration services are in the main Sanctuary and nursery childcare is available. Children Pre-K through unteens celebrate Spirit and Unity teachings at 9 and 11. Our Youth of Unity (9th—12th grades) meets at 11 am.

New Interns

Unity Church of Overland Park continues in its partnership with Unity Institute by again having two ministerial students serve as interns in the church. Carrie Kenyon and Linda Vincent began their 10 week internship on July 14.

Carolyn (Carrie) Kenyon



Carrie is a long time member of Unity and a Licensed Unity Teacher. Prior to moving to Unity Village with her husband Bruce, she lived in Lewiston, Idaho. A member of Unity Church of Clearwater

Valley since 1976, Carrie served as a volunteer Spiritual Leader for 7 years as well as the Prayer Team, the Board of Trustees (President), Youth Education, as an alternate LUT Rep for the NW Region Board, and on the Unity Earth Care Ministry Team NW. Carrie has BS degrees in Psychology, Secondary Education, and Early Childhood Education.

Linda Vincent

Linda Vincent comes from Unity Community Church in Laguna Hills, California. Linda's involvement at her home church included serving as Chaplain Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Healing Service Leader, 4-T Facilitator, Adventure in Faith Leader and Board liaison.



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World Renowned Speaker on Religious Diversity Dr. Jill Carroll

September 14 • 1:30–3:30

Dr. Carroll speaks internationally on issues of world religion, religion and world politics, and the importance of religious diversity training in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world.

Dr. Carroll is the Executive Director of the Boniuk Center for the Study and Advancement of Religious Tolerance at Rice University. Through her own company and the Boniuk Center, she has

done religious diversity training for corporations, schools and other groups.

Dr. Carroll co-produces and co-hosts "Peaceful Coexistence," a radio show which airs on Houston's Pacifica station KPFT 90.1 FM and on podcast at www.boniukcenter.org.

Her most recent book is *A Dialogue of Civilizations: Gulen's Islamic Ideals and Humanistic Discourse*.

ON-GOING CLASSES & GROUPS

ALL GROUPS & CLASSES ARE SUPPORTED BY LOVE OFFERINGS & CHILDCARE.

Make plans to join one of Unity Church of Overland Park's on-going classes that are offered to provide you support and stepping stones on your spiritual journey. For the most up-to-date class information, please go to www.ucop.org.

A Course in Miracles

Thursdays • 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
with Bill Frock

Learn to live from a place of wisdom and love in life rather than guilt and fear.

Materials can be purchased at CommUnity Books and Gifts.

Boundary Busters

Sundays • 10 am to 11 am

This adult class examines and discusses books of the highest universal principals of love, peace and oneness.

Couples Connection

4th Friday • 6:30 pm

Usually meets each month at someone's home for potluck.

To join the e-vite list or get more information about Couples Connection, contact Jackie Megee at 913- 592-2303, or jackieam@kc.rr.com

Experiencing the Bible

Sundays • 10:10 am to 10:55 am
with Barbara Hadley and Eric Page

What does the Bible have to do with you? Make the Bible relevant to your conversations, your studies and your prayer time. August's topic is Major Characters of Christianity and September's topic is Spiritual Prescriptions & Practices: Unity's 5th Principle. We also include the 12 Powers in our discussion. Newcomers are always welcome. Join us in Harmony Hall 3.

Green Team

2nd Tuesday • 7:00 pm

We are committed to promoting stewardship of the environment. For information on how you can help, contact Mike McCord at 913- 829-3854.

Joel Goldsmith—Infinite Way Study Group

Wednesdays • 7 pm to 9 pm
with Dwight Briggs

Explore how the belief in two powers can inhibit our demonstration of God Realization.

Kansas City Cancer Healing Project

1st and 3rd Tuesday • 6 pm to 9 pm
with John Hoefler

Kansas City Cancer Healing Project provides hands-on healing for cancer patients in the Kansas City area. Our clients have experienced a reduction of side effects from their treatments and a greater sense of peace during the course of their disease treatment process.

Contact John Hoefler at 816-718-6358 to schedule an appointment on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Men's Group of UCOP

1st Saturday • 8 am to 10 am

Plan to be in Harmony Hall by 8:00 to enjoy one of their infamous breakfasts, or better yet, come at 7:00 and join the "chefs" in the preparation of the morning feast. The breakfast is followed by an inspirational speaker.

The August 2nd speaker will be Tom Anderson who will be discussing "The Vision Quest: A Mythical Journey to the Soul." Come and join with Tom as he discusses the true Hero's Journey, and how you can begin to implement its teachings in your life.

For more details (including the Sept. program) see the church bulletin or contact Peter Jarosewycz at (816) 941-3575 or Curt Straub at (913) 362-3393.

Recycled Teens

2nd Wednesday

This is a group of men and women of all ages who feel like recycled teens and wish to celebrate life with style. Many are retired but not all. They meet for breakfast or lunch. For more information, contact Doris Milliken at dmilliken@aol.com.

Reiki Circle

2nd and 4th Monday • 7 pm to 9 pm
with Karen Harrison

Reiki is the universal life force energy expressed through laying of hands. It heals on physical, mental, emotional and spiritual levels. The class is open to prac-

tioners as well as those who want to experience a 10-minute Reiki treatment.

Speak Peace

August 21 • 7–8:30 pm

The Peace in Action Group sponsors this Compassionate Communication Practice Group (NVC - Nonviolent Communication) Love Offering.

UCOP Singles

1st Monday • 7 pm

You're invited to join in monthly planning meetings here at the church on the first Monday of each month. We start at 7 pm with prayer, sharing and planning for fellowship and fun.

Saturday, August 2, 3- 9 pm, join us for the 2008 City Wide Christian Singles Picnic at Quivira Park off 119th and Quivira. Contact Linda Riggs at 913-634-5359 for details.

Join us after 11 am service on August 17 for brunch at Sweet Tomatoes at 8505 College Blvd.

You're invited to an Ice Cream Social on September 14, 12:15 pm in Harmony Hall. Mark your calendars for a fun event to meet other singles at UCOP.

For more information about our UCOP Singles Group contact Lona Davis at 913-220-8035 or Linda Riggs at 913-634-5359

Women's Group of UCOP

3rd Sunday • 12:30pm

The Women's Group of Unity Church of Overland Park was formed for women to connect, make new friends, share knowledge, joys and sorrows and to support one another and the ministry.

To join or for more information about the group, contact Linda Bedell at (913) 631-6750, or Linda@bedell.org

The Association of Global New Thought presents Awakened World 2008 Conference Oct 1-5.

For more information and to register visit www.agnt.org

SUPPORT GROUPS

For the most up-to-date support group information, please go to www.ucop.org.

Al-Anon

Tuesdays and Thursdays • 7–8 pm
For families & friends of alcoholics

Alcoholics Anonymous

Mon, Wed or Thurs • 7:30–8:30 pm
Tues. • noon

Last Monday of the month is the open meeting.

Codependents Anonymous

Tuesdays • 7–8 pm

A 12-step program that will help you face and work through your codependency issues. Come and join us; then start a wonderful new journey of deeper self-understanding.

Narcotics Anonymous

Mondays • 7–8 pm

This 12-step program is for those for whom drugs had become a major problem. By meeting regularly we help each other stay clean.

Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesdays 6–7 pm

Thursdays 11:30 am–12:30 pm

A 12-step program for support in turning over your food issues to a higher power.

Stand-Up Parenting

Tuesdays • 7 pm

Tough Love is a support organization for parents and family members of persons struggling with unacceptable behaviors. Come join this circle of people who can help you understand and meet the challenges of your current situation.

Wednesday Winners: Debtors Anonymous

Wednesdays • 7–8 pm

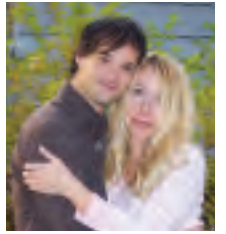
A 12-step program for those who overspend and under-earn. The goal is to live financially solvent one day at a time.

Youth & Family Ministry



YOU Fundraiser Dinner!

6:00 pm Friday, August 29



Victor & Rebecka Velez
Youth & Family Ministers

Put Friday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m. on your calendar. Our Senior High Y.O.U. group (Youth of Unity) is cooking up a delicious dinner as a fundraiser to support their regional rallies and service opportunities. Following dinner is the All Church Talent Show at 7:00 p.m. (See page 7 for more information.)

Ivah McNeill, Bookstore Volunteer in Sacred Service



by Karen Adinolfi
She is unassuming, kind and gentle, and eager to help. You may have seen her in the bookstore. Her name is Ivah McNeill. And, she has been volunteering in CommUnity Books and Gifts since July of 1991. She volunteers every Thursday afternoon, Sunday mornings, and fills in when needed.

Ivah began attending Unity Church in Florida when Greg Barrette was the minister there. Then she moved back to

Kansas City in the summer of 1991 to be closer to her family. She attended noon prayer one day at UCOP and loved it. She started attending UCOP regularly and soon became a member. Shortly thereafter, she began volunteering in the bookstore. She said, "I love to read and the bookstore is a pleasant place to be. I just like being there." It was a natural fit for her.

We are thankful she has blessed us with her presence.

From the PIT

If you have been watching the Music Team here at Unity Church of Overland Park, you may have noticed some new band members in the pit during the past year. One of our new band members is Terry Swope, who has been playing guitar here for several months, replacing Rick Bacus in that chair. Terry is self-taught and has been playing in bands since the age of 13. He is a master of a wide array of musical styles, from hard rock to jazz, and I am frequently impressed by his ability to add just the right sound to our Sunday morning music.

Terry currently appears every Wednesday evening at the Longbranch Steakhouse, every Sunday evening at the 75th Street Brewery, and every 3rd Friday at the Intercontinental Hotel on the Plaza. He lives in Lenexa with his wife, Karen, and two sons, Casey and Charlie. His hobbies include gardening, birding and wine.

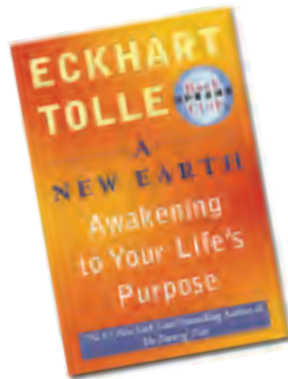
Terry says "It's a real pleasure to be part of the UCOP experience. Creating music should be meaningful and fun. At UCOP you can have it both ways."

Well, Terry, with an attitude like that, you fit right in!



Fred Albers
Music Director

FALL FAITH CELEBRATION



Awakening

Based on Eckhart Tolle's book
A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose

Come and experience the celebration and renewal of Fall Faith 2008 at Unity Church of Overland Park. For seven weeks we will come together in joy as a spiritual family to awaken our real nature, deepen our level of consciousness and celebrate our true magnificence!

Fall is just around the corner and planning has already begun by this year's co-facilitators Darrin and Tiffany McCarty and a host of other volunteers. This year we are intentionally creating a space for our church family to step into joy-filled service and experience what our Fall Faith can offer—renewal, growth and service. Service opportunities include greeter, celebration dinner hosts and planners, circle facilitators and oth-

ers. Look for information about sacred service opportunities in Sunday bulletins and at www.ucop.org.

Sunday Celebration Series
Rev. Patricia Bass leads a powerful 7-week series of Awakening, starting Sunday, Sept. 28 and continuing through Nov. 9.

Celebration Circles
A highlight of our fall activities! We gather weekly in groups of 8-10 people with a trained facilitator to explore our true magnificence through meditation, music, study and fellowship Oct 1–Nov. 12.

Celebration Event
Dinner, live auction and concert at Unity Church of Overland Park on Friday, Nov. 14

A New Earth will be available at CommUnity Books Aug. 17 – Oct. 12 at a 20% discount.

PRAYER CHAPLAIN MINISTRY



Sue Goldman



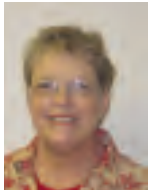
Joyce Harrah



Sandy Madsen



Ruth Ann Tannery



Suzie Wright

During the month of August, our new Prayer Chaplain team will be receiving extensive training to prepare for the new term which begins in September. They will experience more than 35 hours in concentrated, experiential learning and instruction to prepare them to be in service to our spiritual family. They learn to create and hold a sacred space, to actively listen and hear from their heart, to hold what they hear in the strictest confidence and to pray out loud with whomever, wherever it is requested. Prayer Chaplains also give monthly wellness calls to help celebrate your life events or sustain you in challenging times.

The new group of Prayer Chaplains will be introduced to our spiritual family during both Celebration Services on September 14. Their commitment is very strong and they bless all they serve.

Now is an excellent time to consider allowing a Prayer Chaplain to serve you by receiving a monthly wellness call. To sign up, call the Rev. Nancy Jerome at 913-649-1750, ext. 3018. It is our JOY to pray with you!

Green Team NEWS

Green Star Award Nominations

The Green Star Award is a new award created by the UCOP Green Team to recognize an individual or family of our church community for making a specific and positive environmental impact. The Green Team invites the UCOP community to make nominations for the Green Star Award and thus help to share ideas of how we might all take better care of planet earth.

This monthly award honors those who are making a significant effort to care for our environment. The completed nomination will explain a specific activity accomplished by a UCOP individual or family and be used when announcing the winner.

Anyone may submit nominations to the Green Team. Pick up a Nomination Form from the Green Team's information rack in Harmony Hall and return the completed form to the box located next to the information rack.



Staff Member Changes at UCOP

Tamie Mills
Director of Communications

Tamie Mills has joined the staff full-time as our new Director of Communications. Tamie has a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing Management, and her background includes event promotion and coordination, newsletter writing, and development and content writer for an integrated website. Her diverse background also includes experience in customer service and the field of wellness.

Besides serving as a Prayer Chaplain, Tamie has been a part-time staff member of Unity Church of Overland Park focusing on Adult Education, Worship Coordination and filling in as the temporary Director of Communications before being hired as the new Director of Communications.

Tamie's vision is to be "...an authentic, empowering, compassionate spiritual being serving myself and others with grace, playfulness and love through individual and group ministry..." Tamie is passionate about living on purpose and in wellness, and strives to set a positive example for others.

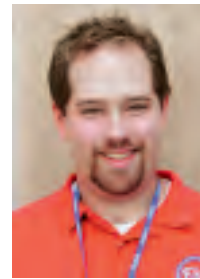


Brandon Nagel
Adult Education Coordinator and Pastoral Care Assistant

Brandon Nagel has been hired as UCOP's Adult Education Coordinator in addition to already being a Pastoral Care Assistant. This part-time position coordinates the adult education classes and workshops. Last year, Brandon began working closely with Rev. Nancy Jerome, supporting the prayer ministry with administrative tasks and holding a consciousness of prayer as a Pastoral Care Assistant. Brandon was raised in Unity with an affirmative background and has been a Prayer Chaplain for 4 years.

Brandon has a Bachelors degree in General Studies in Literature, Language, and Writing. He brings with him extensive experience creating and implementing programs geared to promote science education to communities, schools, groups, and families. He is also skilled in professional writing, program development and public speaking.

Since he was very young, Brandon has been involved in theatre performances and loves the connection with the audience that live theatre brings.



Women's Retreat

Attention all Women
Mark your 2009 calendars for
May 15 & 16

For our next Unity Church of Overland Park Women's Retreat. We will again be blessed by sharing precious time together at the Unity Village in their splendid Spiritual Life Center where we enjoyed each other last fall. There will be more details later, but save those dates so we may again share our joys and growth together in the way only women love to do!

Jason & deMarco



Mark your calendars:
Jason & deMarco will be our guest musical artists on **Sunday, October 26**. This dynamic vocal duo has been touring the U.S. and Canada, and their story "We're All Angels" has been recently featured on Showtime.

Story of Sacred Service Zimbabwe, Africa

by Traci Christian

Two years ago, out of the clear blue sky, Spirit called me to go to the country of Zimbabwe. Surely God didn't mean me. I was too busy with my career and raising young children. I knew about the children suffering there, orphaned from the AIDS pandemic, but what could I possibly do? I'm just one person. Then I watched in amazement as Spirit removed every obstacle I had put up and I found myself on a plane to Africa.

I stepped off the plane and into the arms of the most incredible people I've ever known, starting with a husband and wife, both orphans themselves who now oversee the care of hundreds of children. Seeing their work, I knew I had to do something and I began to ask God, "What is mine to do?"

Since that time, I have been moved by Spirit in ways I could not have imagined. I have stepped into tasks I did not know I was capable of. And I have seen the lives



of the children I met and their communities lifted up.

Last year, Spirit guided me through prayer with Nancy Jerome to connect with Robin Goff at The Light Center, an invaluable connection in so many ways. I was also guided to become a member of UCOP after having first attended 14 years ago. I began to meet several people who also had a passion for outreach and those connections have proven invaluable as well, including Tom Helinsky.

Tom has connections to an organization that ships containers to third-world projects around the globe and offered to ship a 40 foot container to my friends in Zimbabwe. Slowly we began to raise the funds to pay for the shipping.

Meanwhile, Robin Goff asked me to speak with her at the Unity People's Conference in Phoenix this June. We were so excited to get a big group all fired up that Wednesday with inspiring talk, photos and myriad opportunity for one and all.

At the last minute, our talk was moved to Friday afternoon. After a week-long conference, as I feared, the chairs were all but empty. Many people wished

us well as they headed out to the pool or off to catch an early flight home. Rev. Patricia Bass dropped by and assured us "the right people" would be there and not to worry. I was not at all convinced!

A small group of people joined our session. Floyd Hammer of Union, Iowa was one of the few participants. An exhibitor to the Conference, he was able to join us because it was Friday afternoon



and the exhibition part of the conference had ended. He began to talk about how he and his wife run "Project Africa" and among many other things; they package dehydrated food to be shipped.

After the session ended I sat down with Floyd and his wife Kathy. Once again, I was overwhelmed by Spirit as they pledged to fill the entire 40 foot container with food. That's 300,000 meals that can be shipped and stored without refrigeration.

Time and again, Spirit has led me, sometimes gently, sometimes not so gently! But the results have been amazing and now we are about to send the first of what I hope will be many shipments of food

and supplies to the children and communities of Zimbabwe.

And so now I ask for your prayers. The political situation in Zimbabwe is so desperate as the country stands on the brink of civil war. The people I met there are in grave danger. At least 12 of their fellow caregivers have been brutally murdered for the "crime" of voting for democracy and peace.

Please pray for Peace for Zimbabwe. Please see our container and many more like it reaching that destination, the children and communities receiving the food they so desperately need. Please pray for our world leaders to be guided by Spirit to help the country of Zimbabwe to know Peace and Prosperity once again.

If you would like to know more about supporting this project, please contact Traci Christian at (913) 441-5414 or traci2@kc.rr.com.



CALENDAR OF CLASSES

“Establish meaningful connections, while deepening your understanding of life.”

*Important Note:
All classes are taught on a
Love Offering basis. Your
offerings support both
UCOP and our teachers for
their time and dedication.
Pre-registration is also
greatly appreciated!
Thank you.*

Call the Church
913- 649-1750
to register—state your name,
phone no., address and
indicate the class(es) you
desire to attend.
Enjoy!

Registration
is now available
online!

Child Care
For all classes, childcare is available
Monday – Thursday evenings. A \$5
love offering per child is appreciated.



UNITY: A QUEST FOR TRUTH | *Greg Coles*

5 Mondays, July 21-Aug 25 (skip July 28) • 7—9 pm

This is a mastermind study group facilitated by Greg Coles and great for Unity beginners and seekers who are curious to learn about Unity's practical principles of Christianity and prayer. We will be following Eric Butterworth's book, *Unity: A Quest for Truth*. Come grow your spirit through mastermind prayer and study. Pre-registration is requested. Love Offering



WHAT IS UNITY? | *Rev. Patricia Bass*

Sunday, August 3 • 12:30 – 1:15 pm

If you would like to know more about Unity and your ministry, you are invited to attend “What Is Unity?” This is great for newcomers because you may ask your questions about Unity in general and our church in particular. All are welcome.



EFT AND FINANCIAL PROSPERITY | *Judy Whitcraft, EFT-ADV*

3 Tuesdays, August 5-August 19 • 7–9 pm

Emotional Freedom Technique is easy-to-learn acupressure tapping with your fingers to release negativity in the body. This workshop focuses on releasing negative beliefs about financial prosperity, and installing positive affirmations. You will learn to use EFT for yourself, and will also be tapping away your issues during class. This is a “HANDS-on” workshop. Love Offering



COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP | *Lori Woodley*

4 Wednesdays, August 6- August 27 • 7–9 pm

This new language of compassion connects people in a way that facilitates discussion of tough issues and teaches skills that allow people to talk honestly without anger or bitterness. Participants will learn skills to enrich their relationships, especially those involving stress and conflict. It is recommended that you read Marshall Rosenberg's book, *Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life* before the workshop begins. Love Offering



NEW MEMBER CLASS | *Rev. Patricia Bass*

4 Wednesdays, August 13 – Sept 3 • 7—9 pm

If you would like to make a deeper commitment to your church family, you are invited to attend our New Member Class. We will explore the teachings and history of the Unity movement and of UCOP. You will learn how you can serve and be served by the ministry. To become a member, attendance is required at the first class, as well as at least two other classes, and Membership Sunday, Sept. 7. Pre-registration is strongly requested.



HARNESSING YOUR HEART'S INTELLIGENCE: THE HEARTMATH SOLUTION | *B. Hadley*

4 Tuesdays, August 19 – Sept 9 • 7—9 pm

Embrace the wisdom and power of your heart-centered intelligence. Science proves that there are neurons in your heart that send calming messages to your brain, with the ability to override thought-generated stress reactions. Our textbook is *The HeartMath Solution*, which outlines 10 steps for harnessing the power of your heart's intelligence, including ways to manage your emotions and keep energy levels high. Love Offering



THE KEY TO WISDOM: MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE | *Barbara Hadley & Eric Page*

Thursday, September 4 • 7—9 pm

Confused by the way the Bible is used by those around you? Weaving history and metaphysics, this introductory class will provide the insight and understanding you need to feel comfortable with the Bible as a textbook for spiritual growth. This is an evening offering of Barbara and Eric's popular Sunday morning “Experiencing the Bible” class. They will take a look at the metaphysical side of Bible stories. Love Offering



LIVE A MYTHIC LIFE | *Tom Anderson*

3 Tuesdays, September 9 – 23 • 7—9 pm

In ancient times, our forefathers and foremothers would gather and share stories to remind them who they truly were. While the stories—or myths—were sometimes rooted in historical accuracy, their deeper and more urgent purpose was not to pass along “facts” so much as to impart metaphysical meaning. Living a mythic life is about living a life of purpose where every day is a new and wonderful adventure. Love Offering



THE EXPRESSION OF SOUL THROUGH FLOWERS | *Kevin Kelly*

Saturday, September 13 • 9 am—12 pm

Flower arranging is an elegant art deeply rooted in soul. This class is a meditation on the relationship of soul and creativity; craft and art. Each person will complete a flower arrangement and no previous experience is necessary. Kevin will provide all necessary materials; you just need to bring your own pair of scissors. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Registration and materials fee of \$25.00 is due no later than Sunday September 7.



HIDDEN IRAN | Nancy Cramer
Monday, September 15 • 7—9 pm

Explore Iran's social and spiritual practices and beliefs with Nancy Cramer, based on her recent travel to Iran, or ancient Persia. What do Americans know about the importance of Shism in Persian Society beliefs parallel with Christianity? Can knowing this help dispel misunderstandings about Iranian people? Love Offering.



"GET OVER IT" & MOVE ON: HOW TO LET GO OF THE PAST | Jeannine Fox
Thursday, September 18 • 7—9 pm

Learn four simple, yet profound, steps to awaken your own inner power to heal. No matter what hurt or disappointment you have experienced, this workshop will empower you to remember, rediscover, and reclaim your worth and well-being. Love Offering.



YOGANETICS | Wyatt Townley, E-RYT 500
12 weeks / 24 Mon & Thurs ; , Sept 15 - Dec 11 • Mornings: 9:30-10:30 am / Evenings: 6:30-7:30 pm

Yoganetics (from yoga and kinetic) is a slow-motion, breath-based system of yoga done on the floor with the eyes closed. Beginners are welcome, and people of all ages, sizes and levels fill the classes. Due to limited space, pre-registration is recommended for this fee-based class. For more information, see Wyatt Townley after the service in Harmony Hall, call (913) 381-1984, or visit the website at www.yoganetics.com.

Board Welcome

On June 29, 2008, members of Unity Church of Overland Park voted and welcomed their new Board of Directors. Individuals were elected to 2 three year member terms; 1 one-year member term and 2 one-year alternate terms.

"I am excited about working with this new Board toward the greater good of our Church community," said Patricia Bass, Senior Minister. "I commend the nominating committee for their diligent work to bring forward these highly qualified, prayer-conscious and service-focused individuals."

The Board attended a retreat July 18-19 to establish the direction for the church and their roles. (See complete board listing on page 2.)

Farewell

Unity Church of Overland Park extends its heartfelt appreciation to retiring Board members Tom Anderson and John Hoefler, both who stepped into loving service for our ministry.



Tom completed five years on the board

where he served numerous roles, including President. John completed a one year term where he served as an Alternate. We are grateful and blessed by their vision and prayer consciousness.



John Hoefler

All Church Talent Show

7:00 pm Friday, August 29

The All Church Talent Show about you, for you! Come and hear music, see the comedy and skits, and have fun as the collective talents of our congregation, youth and adults alike, share their gifts and humor with us. The show is sure to bring thrills and laughter to our community so be sure to invite your friends. Be there or be square!

TRYOUTS

There's still time to try out and be part of the show.
 The final audition date is Sunday, August 3, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the church.
 Auditions last approximately 5 minutes. All ages and talents welcome.
 Contact Fred Albers with questions or to sign up at (913) 649-1750 x 3015 or email albers@ucop.org



Changing of the Guard at UCOP

It has been such a gift for me to be the Board President this year. I have not only had the opportunity to watch our church home grow and blossom over the past year but have experienced incredible growth and blossoming in myself. Being in service to this community is very powerful.

Unity Church of Overland Park has a unique spirit. Each of you contributes to that spirit, and without your presence we would not be who we are. When guest speakers tell you that we have something palpable and special in the Unity Movement, they mean it. I have visited a number of other Unity Churches in the United States and although their message is the same it never feels quite like "home."

There are so many exciting things that are in the works at UCOP, many goals and projects for you to become involved in over the next several months. A Strategic Planning team of congregants, staff, Board members, Rev. Patricia Bass and Susan Beck, the COO of the Association of Unity Churches, have been

meeting to develop a plan to move our Mission and Vision forward. Listen to your heart and find a place to serve. Each of you has gifts to share that will strengthen our church and will ultimately strengthen you as well.

My term as president is complete, but I will continue to serve on the Board for another year. Your new Board President, Ellis Megee, is grounded deeply in his faith and commitment to UCOP. He will hold the highest vision for our community. He is a leader that we can all be proud to have in our church. Support him and encourage him! What a great year this will be!

Many Blessings to each of you,
 Danielle Keith



As the new Board president I pledge to give my best, to be prayerful, to love you all and to love this church and her greatness. This sacred office of honor has a rich history of leaders whom I highly respect. Following in their foot steps is a noble calling of service to our community.

I ask for your prayers daily that the work of our community moves forward in powerful ways.

Returning Board members: Danielle Keith, Debra King and myself; re-elected members: Randy Gerard, Shawn Wegner, Tom Hadley, and alternates, Carla Wakefield and Paul Heath. I welcome you all to this term with great anticipation for the joys ahead.

The Board welcomes congregant's questions, suggestions and any input that can help us serve. We cherish your loving input.

May we consciously live each day through our One Power. United in one cause and one effort, we are creating a difference in the lives of others and more

profoundly, experiencing spiritual growth in our own individual lives. As ministers to one another I ask each congregant to think about and be open to what calls you to service. It matters not what is ours to do; it matters greatly that in this life we know the joy of service to others.

UCOP is on the cusp of wonderful things to come. Be prepared for profound and exciting things ahead such as: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Extravagant Generosity and Risk-taking Mission and Service.

Peace and Blessings to you all,
 Ellis Megee





Unity Church of Overland Park
10300 Antioch Rd.
Overland Park, KS 66212

Office: 913-649-1750
Fax: 913-649-0429
Church office hours:
9 am to 5 pm Monday-Thursday
Bookstore: 913-649-3875
Heartline: 913-649-3214
Website: www.ucop.org
Celebration Services:
Sunday at 9 am and 11 am
Nursery Care and
Sunday School is available.

COMMUNITY
Books & Gifts

Special Sale
A New Earth:
Awakening to Your Life's Purpose
by Eckhart Tolle

Fall Faith book—20% off
mid-August—October 1

Bookstore hours: 913-649-3875
(closed during services)

M-Th 11-5:30
Sun 8:30-1

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Sunday Series: Called to Be...
July 27-Aug 31 • Rev. Patricia Bass

All Church Talent Show
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Unity World Day of Prayer
11 Days of Global Unity
September 11-21

Dr. Jill Carroll, guest speaker
Sunday, Sept 14 • 9 & 11 am/Workshop 1:30-3:30

Guest Vocalists Jan Garrett and JD Martin
September 14 • Celebration Services

Fall Faith Celebration
SEPT. 28-NOV. 9
Save the Date: Celebration Event • Nov. 14

Save the Date
Women's Retreat: May 15 & 16, 2009

The church offices and bookstore will be closed
Monday, September 1 - Labor Day

PRAYER & Meditation

Our spiritual community is supported by prayer, which is one of our core values. At UCOP we have a Silent Prayer Team that prays daily over the prayer requests that are submitted each week. The people on this team do all of their work anonymously but are a vital part of this important work of our spiritual community. If you would be interested in joining this team, please call Rev. Nancy Jerome 913-649-1750 ext. 3018 or e-mail njerome@ucop.org.

Daily Noon Prayer
in our Peace Chapel allows an opportunity to "come apart for awhile" from the busyness of the everyday activities.
Mondays through Thursdays
Noon — 12:30 pm
with Rev. Nancy Jerome

Sunday Meditation
Our Peace Chapel is the sacred space in which you will find **silent meditation** each Sunday morning at 8:30 and 10:30. Also **individual prayer support** from our Chaplains is available throughout the building following each celebration service. They are trained to hold a spiritual space, keep a confidence and pray with you "on the spot."

SPOTLIGHT
Gallery

Acrylics Artist
Mary Ellen Sligh
July 7 - Sept 21
Hours: M-Th 10-8, Sunday 8:30-1

Purple & Red

Tennessee Sunset

Guest Artists Jan Garrett and JD Martin: September 14

These talented musicians will be sharing their music at our Celebration Services. Jan and JD are independent award-winning singer/songwriters from the Roaring Fork Valley of Colorado. When they met in 1995 they had each been writing, recording, and performing their own music for many years as accomplished solo artists.

JD is an award-winning songwriter whose songs have been recorded by such luminaries as Reba McEntire, Terri Clark, B.J. Thomas, Peter Cetera and the Oak Ridge Boys. Jan is a jazz singer, songwriter, vocal coach, wild-heart visionary, poet, earth advocate, meditation student, certified laughing instructor who has toured with John Denver, Steve Martin and the Dirt Band, and has appeared on the Tonight Show.

Both Garrett & Martin won New Thought Songwriter Tribute Awards in 2006 and 2007, Jan for "I Dreamed of Rain" and JD for "One Heart." Visit them at www.Garrett-Martin.com.



Unity Church of Overland Park
10300 Antioch Road
Overland Park, Kansas 66212

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