



VISIONS

DECEMBER 2007

UNITY CHURCH OF OVERLAND PARK

WWW.UCOP.ORG

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Wonder ©2006 Rachel Drake

When I first learned that our Association of Unity Churches International had selected "Getting to Know You" as its theme for the year, I said, "That's it!" That will be our 2008 theme for Unity Church of Overland Park as well.

"Getting to You"—it's all about relationships. Your relationship with yourself, your relationship with others, your relationship with Unity, and of course, your relationship with God. In fact, relationships are so important that our ministry's vision devotes an entire pillar to relationships.

As a guiding theme, "Getting to Know You" inspires us to be curious in the same way that a child is curious. Have you ever watched a small child exploring a new toy or observing an insect or greeting a new puppy? Children are just naturally curious, always wanting to know everything there is to know about whatever or whomever is before them.

"Getting to Know You" places questions of curiosity in our hearts as we enter new experiences. Questions like:

- How can I get to know the person sitting next to me in the pew or living next door in my neighborhood? I wonder what they have to teach me.
- How can I learn more about Unity as a partner on my spiritual path?
- Where can I find God in the midst of my life dreams and challenges?
- What can I learn about myself as I give my gift to the world and stretch in service to humanity?

As we enter the Christmas season, our question becomes, "How can I know the Christ more intimately?" The apostle Paul said that the Christ in us is our hope of glory. Christmas inspires us to rediscover the truth that the Christ dwells in our hearts all the time—not just at Christmas. When we demonstrate the season's qualities of generosity, compassion, peace and love, we come to know

the Christ in us and therefore we can experience Christmas all year round.

Ultimately, "Getting to Know You" is about our relationship with life. How can we be deeply present to all that life holds for us in every moment?

As you prepare to end one year and dive into the next, my prayer for you is that you enter 2008 with a curious mind and heart – wide open to the miracles ahead. Know that you are deeply precious to me and to your spiritual family. Getting to know YOU is the greatest gift we can imagine.

In Christ's Love,
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

Rev. Patricia Bass
Senior Minister

Megan Clark
Assistant to the Senior Minister

Greg Coles
Director of Worship

Joan Doane
Bookstore Manager

Ferne Eisele
Bookstore Assistant

Rev. Jennifer Holder
Director of Service Ministries

Rebecka Huber
YFM Assistant

Rev. Nancy Jerome
Associate Minister

David Lucas
Maintenance Coordinator

Glenna Menard
Wedding Coordinator

Bruce Milne
Business Manager

Brandon Nagel
Prayer & Pastoral Care Asst.

Dawn O'Malley
Director of Communications

Adrienne Owings
Nursery Supervisor

Alfred Ring
Facilities Assistant

Jane Sauve
Business Manager

Mike Schlecta
Facilities Coordinator

Eileen Stulak
Adult Education Assistant

Victor Velez
YFM Director

Patty Williams
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Living a Complaint-Free Life

Special Speaker~ Rev. Will Bowen

Wednesday, December 12, 2007
7:00 — 9:00 pm

On July 23, 2006, Rev. Will Bowen gave his congregation purple bracelets to monitor their progress toward going 21 days without complaining and thereby becoming positive, happy people. Now, more than six million people in over 80 countries have requested the purple Complaint Free Bracelets.

Rev. Will has appeared in *People* magazine, on NBC's *Today Show*, the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, *Fox News*, the *BBC* and in newspaper and magazine articles around the world. He has been dubbed by Church Solutions as one of the most innovative Christian leaders in the world today.

His book, *A Complaint Free World*, available in CommUnity Books & Gifts, seeks to answer common questions such as:

1. What exactly is a complaint?
2. Why is complaining destructive?
3. How can I get others around me to stop complaining?
4. How can we affect social change if we don't complain?

Rev. Will's book is also being published in at least ten other countries including: Brazil, Portugal, Sweden, The United Kingdom, Italy, Japan, and Korea.



**JOIN US FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!**

Children's Christmas Program
December 16 • 6:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS EVE
Candlelight Services**
5:00, 7:00, 11:00 pm
Childcare available at 5:00 & 7:00

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
World Peace Meditation**
December 31 • 6:00 am with Rev. Nancy Jerome

Burning Bowl Ceremony
December 31 • 7:00 pm with Rev. Patricia Bass
Release the old and prepare your hearts for the new.

2008 White Stone Ceremony
Sunday, January 6 • 9:00 & 11:00 am
with Rev. Patricia Bass



Guest Speakers

Rev. Paul Hasselbeck

Sunday, December 16, 2007
9:00 & 11:00 am

Rev. Bob Barth

"Got Junk?"

Sunday, December 30, 2007
9:00 & 11:00 am



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.

Season for Peace & NonViolence

What began as a national 64-day educational, media and grassroots effort to raise awareness for peace and non violence has evolved into a year-long program. Unity Church of Overland Park has supported Season for Peace & Non Violence since its inception more than 10 years ago.

This year, the Season for Peace & Non Violence kicks-off Jan. 30. The campaign is dedicated to demonstrating that non-violence is a powerful way to heal, transform and empower ourselves and our community. The season was inspired by the 50th and 30th memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The international event was created by the Association for Global New Thought.



At UCOP, Fred Albers leads a group dedicated to promoting peace and nonviolence. If you want more information about serving on the committee, please e-mail albers@ucop.org, or call (913) 649-1750, ext. 3015.



Cover: *Wonder*
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Rachel is an artist and designer
living in the Boston area.

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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

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

This life-changing class teaches how to apply wisdom and love in life rather than guilt and fear. Materials can be purchased at CommUnity Books and Gifts.

Boundary Busters

10 am to 11 am, Sundays

This adult class examines and discusses books of the highest universal principals of love, peace and oneness. The class is held in the church library.

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

Dreams

7 pm to 9 pm, Wednesdays
with David Huppe

Learn how to interpret your dreams for more awareness and meaning.

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

7 pm to 9 pm, Wednesdays
with Dwight Briggs

Explore how the belief in two powers can

inhibit our demonstration of God Realization.

Kansas City Cancer Healing Project

6 pm to 9 pm, 1st and 3rd Tuesday
with John Hoefer

Receive hands-on energy healing. To schedule an appointment call 816-718-6358.

Men's Group of UCOP

8 am to 10 am, 1st Saturday
7pm-9pm, Thursdays

Each Thursday evening at UCOP, all men are welcome to share in discussion about a new chapter of David Deida's "The Way of the Superior Man."

First Saturday of each month all are invited to join us for 8am breakfast and networking in Harmony Hall. Following breakfast is a brief 45-60 presentation by a guest speaker. Saturday, December 1, Karen Harrison will speak about spirituality in relationships. Saturday, January 5th, Reverend Sally Taylor will present "Hidden Powers in Men Today." All men are welcome.

See page 5 for Men's Retreat info.

For more details 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 dllmilliken@aol.com.

Reiki Circle

7 pm to 9 pm, 2nd and 4th Monday
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 practitioners as well as those who want to experience a 10-minute Reiki treatment.

UCOP Singles

7 pm, 1st Monday

Holiday planning and celebrations will be the topic of our December 3 meeting at UCOP.

Friday night, December 7, join us for a wonderful Holiday Concert, "Tom Jacob's Advent into Christmas" at Unity Temple on the Plaza at 7:30pm. Group tickets are just \$11 if we have 10 or more. Individual tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Nursery care is provided for \$3 per child. For more information contact Linda Riggs at (913) 637-5359.

January and February plans will include bowling night, and an evening of theater. For more information or to receive event calendar by email, contact Lona Davis at (913) 661-4770.

Women's Group of UCOP

12:30pm, 3rd Sunday

The general meeting is held on the third Sunday, but various groups and activities happen throughout the month. We also participate in service projects for Unity Church of Overland Park and the greater metropolitan area. Join the e-mail distribution list by contacting Linda Bedell at linda@bedell.org, or call 913-631-6750.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

Alanon

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.

Create the JOY!

Got joy? Got love? There is still time to pick up a gift card/s and feel both!

You can make a positive difference in the life of a child or a disadvantaged adult this Holiday Season as Unity Church of Overland Park sponsors our annual outreach event. This year, we are supporting children, AIDS patients, adults with mental disabilities and individuals from our spiritual community.

If you don't have time to shop, then consider making a cash donation. We love to shop and will do it for you!

Your generous financial support and participation in this important event is appreciated and acknowledged.

Be an angel and help
"CREATE THE JOY!"

CELEBRATING THE VISION

Mission:

We are here to awaken and express the Christ Presence in individuals, families, our community and the world through prayer and meditation, joyful worship, spiritual education and loving service.

Here at Unity Church of Overland Park there has been much activity to support our Mission/Values/Vision.

Loving Service

We recently celebrated the completion of our 10th Habitat for Humanity House. We want to give a special thank you to the many congregants who gave of their time and skills to make this a successful build.

Care of Poor People (COPP), a non-profit organization that was founded by UCOP congregant Richard Tripp, held its 16th Annual Survival 7, and we were there in loving service. Our congregants gave the time, cooked and served

food. Winter clothing, blankets and personal care items were donated, too.

This Holiday Season, our ministry is part of "Create the Joy." This annual event has touched thousands of children, men and women, who otherwise may not have a Christmas.

Relationships

Our pets are family members too. On a beautiful day in October, a Pet Blessing Service was held. There were seventy-two in attendance, including: 39 people; 30 dogs, 1 bunny, 1 bird and 1 cat. It was a special time to bless those in attendance as well as those pets, who, for one reason or another, were not able to be there in person.

The Singles Group is off to a successful start. Many activities have been planned from a family hayride, to a holiday concert to bowling and movies.

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COPP Survival 7 a Success

Unity Church of Overland Park provided an abundance of support, making the Care of Poor People's (COPP) Survival 7 event a success.

The 16th annual activity, which was held Nov. 24 at the Levitt Warehouse in Kansas City, Mo., made a positive difference to many men, women and children. This year, Unity Church congregants volunteered their time, cooked and served food, as well as donated winter clothing, blankets and personal care items.

COPP is a non-profit organization that was founded by Richard Tripp, a congregant. Tripp recently released his new book, *Please Underestimate Me*, which has been lauded by Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen, best-selling co-authors. It is available now. For more information about the book or COPP, visit www.coppinc.com.

Youth & Family Ministry

Children's Christmas Musical

Youth and Family Ministries is putting on a Christmas Musical Experience



to usher us into the Christmas Spirit at 6 p.m., Dec. 16 in the Sanctuary.

There will be fun, exciting music provided by our Children's Choir. Children and teen actors and actresses will be sharing their notable talents. Ballet dancers will grace us with their elegance.

The Spirit of Love and Christ will be reborn afresh in every heart as we experience the Magic of Christmas with one another. Don't miss it!

Y.O.U. Rally
(Youth of Unity)

Unity of Overland Park sent 12 senior high teens and their wonderful sponsors,

Jim & Tiffany Crabtree and John Chaplin, to the Central Y.O.U. Youth Rally. The rally was held November 9 to 11.

They experienced life changing talks from peers, deep discussion time, acquire new spiritual competencies, safe, old-fashioned fellowship and fun and the Love of Christ in authentic community. Continue to keep them in your prayers as our YOU group continues to grow and flourish.



Victor Velez
YFM Director

EILEEN STULAK is the new Adult Education Assistant. As a ministerial student at Unity Institute, Eileen recently completed a 10-week internship at our church. She brings a strong



background in corporate training to our adult education program. Eileen will be arranging classes, working with teachers, and handling all of the details that go into making a successful adult education program.

BRANDON NAGEL is the new Assistant to the Director of Prayer and Pastoral Care. Brandon has been an active member of Unity Church of Overland Park since January of 1990 and a Truth student from childhood having been brought up in Unity by his grandmother.



Brandon has served for two years as a Uniteen Sponsor for our Youth & Family Ministry and is in his fourth year as one of our Prayer Chaplains. He brings a strong prayer consciousness, a compassionate heart and computer proficiency in Microsoft Office applications to this position.

Brandon is currently an educator at Science City at Union Station and will be sharing his skills and talents with us as a part-time staff member.

New Director of Service Ministries

After a Spirit-led search for our new Director of Service Ministries, we are pleased to announce that Rev. Jennifer Holder has joined Unity Church of Overland Park.

A 2006 graduate from Unity Institute, Rev. Jennifer's vision is "To serve; to spiritually empower individuals and communities; to facilitate the transformation of individual and global consciousness; and to live in an awareness of co-creating a world that works for all!"

Prior to joining the UCOP staff, Rev. Jennifer was the minister of Unity Church of Manhattan, Kan. She is on the editorial board of Unity Magazine and is a member of the Gen X team at Unity Institute.

She resides in Lee's Summit, Mo., with her husband, Ogun, and their daughter, Joy.

Rev. Jennifer will be creating many wonderful sacred service opportunities within the church ministry and out into our community. If you feel led by Spirit to step into sacred service, please contact Rev. Jennifer at (913) 649-1750, ext. 3025, or jholder@ucop.org.



From the PIT

Meet the Band

By Megan Clark

Fred Albers is a musical genius. He is amazing to hear and to watch – the music just flows from him, so freely and so naturally. It is truly a remarkable gift to have Fred play for us each week. We can sometimes catch him playing in the sanctuary, when the church is quiet and he thinks no one is listening. That is when it is clear how very talented he is.

What you may not know well is the fantastic personality that is Fred. There is so much more to him that makes him an even greater gift. His genius extends well beyond the keys of the piano...

Fred is known around UCOP for his "Fredisms" – little tidbits of wisdom that can make you smile, laugh and think all at the same time. You can always depend on Fred for a good chuckle and some wise words to brighten your day. He doesn't see himself as prophetic, although we are certain his insight comes from ancient roots of mysticism.

There are many great loves in Fred's life – his wife and family, his music, his coffee and chocolate. He entertains us with endless stories of his family antics and is always willing to

share some of his favorite coffee. Recently, Fred gained a new love...his

sweet dog, Molly. They are quite a pair and honor us with visits while out on their daily walks. Fred says he decides when to bring her by to visit, but those of us that know Molly are confident she makes her own decisions.

It must also be said that Fred is the type of friend you are grateful to have and the kind you hope to be to others. You can always depend on him to listen when you need someone and to share a hug when you need the support. His smile brightens rooms and his laughter is infectious. He is full of fun, joy, wisdom, music and love. It would be difficult not to see and feel all of those qualities in his presence.

A favorite Fredism is "God loves us, which is why he created chocolate!" And yes, Fred, we love you.

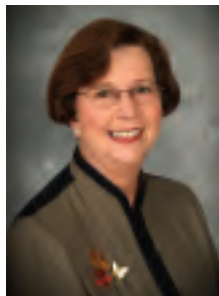


Fred Albers
Music Director

*"To attain knowledge,
add things every day.
To attain wisdom,
remove things every day."*

Tao Te Ching

Meet New UCOP Staff



JANE SAUVE is UCOP's new full-time Business Manager. Jane has a strong background in both Unity and business, and is guided by the four principles of the "FISH Philosophy" (Choose Your Attitude, Play, Make Their Day and Be Present).

Jane holds a bachelor of art in business administration. She has been a self-employed Broker and Realtor Associate with several area real estate companies. Jane has an extensive history in the hospitality industry where she has served in such diverse positions as Director of Rooms Division Operations at the Adam's Mark Hotel, to being the Assistant Director of Front Office Operations at the Chicago Hilton.

Many of us know Jane through her involvement at Unity Church of Overland Park. She has served on the UCOP Board of Directors for over three years. She was a member of the "Operations Team" during the search for a new Senior Minister. This team interfaced with the staff to maintain the smooth operation of the church. She has also served as a volunteer in several areas of the ministry, including ushering and worship coordination.

PATTY WILLIAMS joined the staff as the Data Processing Coordinator. Originally, from this metropolitan area, Patty recently returned to attend Unity Institute where she is a first year student. Patty had been attending Unity of Beaverton, Ore., where Rev. Debbie Taylor was her minister. Patty brings a wealth of data entry expertise to the position.

WINTER WORKSHOPS: *Dreams, Forgiveness, Tapping...*

HOW TO MANIFEST YOUR DREAMS BY COMBINING QUANTUM FIELD TECHNOLOGY WITH TAPPING ON ACUPUNCTURE POINTS

Garland Landrith

Saturday, December 1, 2007 • 10 am—4 pm

Dr. Garland Landrith, cutting-edge Quantum Field Psychologist/healer cited in the blockbuster movie *What the Bleep Do We Know?* brings the powerful EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique) to Overland Park Unity! In this manifestation class you will learn how you can rewire your brain for happiness and prosperity and remove blocks to your growth by Tapping on Acupuncture Points with your fingers! In this training you will learn how to create miracles with your mind by contacting the energy of the Quantum Field.

Dr. Landrith has seen lifelong fears and traumas that have resisted years of therapy completely healed within weeks of learning this technique. By tapping on points you clear out all blocks so your energy flows, and you feel on top of the world or in a zone. You can use this technique for not only removing blocks but also for positive purposes, like before an interview or a presentation, just to feel good or to manifest the life of your dreams! It will also include some of Dr. Landrith's cutting-edge information on nutrition, including how to grow new brain cells and increase the feel-good neurotransmitters in our brain. This unique seminar will emphasize how to increase your ability to manifest miracles

by combing Quantum Field Technology with Tapping.

You can either bring a bagged lunch, or restaurants are nearby.

This is an introductory course and is for those who have not attended a class before or for those who only attended a short class or for those who want to brush up on their skills. The seminar includes a training DVD, EFT manuals and nutrition paper, as well as manifestation training. There will be a \$5 materials fee and a love offering.

RADICAL FORGIVENESS, CORE ISSUES AND TAPPING TO CREATE THE LIFE OF YOUR DREAMS

Garland Landrith

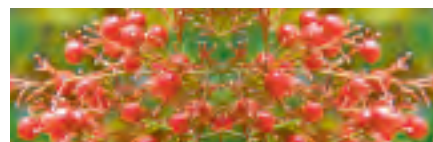
4 Wed. • Jan. 16 – Feb. 6

One of the challenges everyone has with making tapping successful is to find out what the core issues are that are holding one back from living the life of your dreams. These old core issues are usually located in our unconscious and are not easily accessible to our conscious thinking mind.

Radical forgiveness takes all the expe-

riences from our childhood and organizes them in a way that allows us to really release all these unconscious blocks that are the primary causes why we are not able to create the life of our dreams. Dr. Landrith has had numerous clients tell him that radical forgiveness, when coupled with Tapping, will radically transform one's life. Of course, we will be tapping into our consciousness not only for forgiveness but gratitude for these amazing gifts that have come our way. Love offering.

There will be Tapping demonstrations.



Unhanging of the Greens

On Sunday, Jan. 6, we will mark the end of another Holiday Season as we take down the beautiful decorations that set the festive and welcoming atmosphere in our sanctuary and throughout the church. The "Unhanging of the Greens" will begin at 12:30 p.m.

You won't want to miss out on participating in these festive activities. Please contact Rev. Jennifer Holder, Director of Service Ministries, and let her know of your availability. Rev. Jennifer can be reached at jholder@ucop.org, or at (913) 649-1750, ext. 3025. A light lunch will be served. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.



How Can I Serve Today?

"How can I serve today, Sweet Spirit? How can I serve today, Oh Lord? Speak in ways that I will understand." These song lyrics have been a constant companion for me over the last several months. I hear them in my mind as I drive around each day. They come to me during my prayer and meditation practice. Sometimes I wake up just before the alarm clock and hear the "melodies of my mind" playing this tune. —three lines, a new thought chant by Ricki Byars-Beckwith, words to meditate on, a melody to feed the soul. A mantra like this can be so simple and simultaneously life changing.

Fifteen years ago another set of words caught my attention and shocked the door of my heart wide open. I knew I'd never be the same from that point on. From the pulpit a minister shared these words of Nobel Laureate Albert Schweitzer:

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

These inspiring words have followed me as I've found myself in a volunteer committee chair position (where I met my husband 10 years ago), working for a boss that kept this quote as her guiding compass in all that she did, and again this week in preparing for this article. Everything I've ever done has led me to this experience of being your Director of Service Ministries. I am excited to journey down this path of sacred service. Here at UCOP there's a long tradition of helping out and giving back to the spiritual community where one is fed. People participate in service in all areas of this ministry. Looking even deeper, there is a reverence for the life-sustaining experience of sharing one's time, money and energy in the beloved community. Do you enjoy sharing a welcoming handshake and smile with people as they enter the sanctuary? There are many opportunities to participate in sacred service, from once a month greeting to special projects like decorating for the holidays or ushering for one of our three Christmas Eve services. I look forward to sharing this holy season with you in joy filled sacred service.



Rev. Jennifer Holder

UCOP Men's Group

January 5 • 8 am

Rev. Sally Taylor

Rev. Sallye Taylor, founder and minister of Soul Food Unity Ministry, will be discussing the "Hidden Powers



in Men Today," following our Saturday breakfast. Rev. Sallye is a recognized presence at Unity Church of Overland Park, having been a guest speaker and teacher on numer-

ous occasions.

You may visit her website at www.soulfoodunityministries.com.

"Awakened World Conference" Returns in 2008!

Mark your calendars now as you set your 2008 calendar! The Association of Global New Thought will hold its "Awakened World Conference: The Evolution of Revolution" from Oct. 1 to Oct. 5 at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa in Palm Desert, Calif.

For more information throughout the year, go to www.agnt.org.

2008 Men's Retreat with Rev. Richard Rogers February 22 & 23, 2008

This year, Rev. Richard Rogers will facilitate the annual Men's Retreat at the Spiritual Life Center of Unity Village. Rev. Richard is a gifted and inspiring speaker, teacher, author and counselor. In powerfully dynamic and at times humorous ways Richard speaks directly to the soul in a way that leaves his students and audiences deeply touched and spiritually awakened in the most profound ways.

For more information, visit our retreat table in harmony hall, or contact Peter Jarosewycz at 816-941-3575 or Curt Straub at 913-362-3393.



Green Team NEWS

Remember the three Rs

When we shop, let's remember: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Instead of getting a new paper or plastic bag every time we shop, we each could carry a sturdy reusable bag of some kind. We could reduce the toxins and environmental damage caused by the constant new production of paper or plastic bags plus the huge amount of trash going to landfills.

When we do acquire something new, let's ask: Is this item reusable? Instead of getting a new plastic bottle of water, we

each could carry a sturdy reusable drinking container. Let's choose an item that lasts and lasts and doesn't need to be frequently replaced.

Consider whether an item we are acquiring be recycled when we can no longer use it. Paper is recyclable in the Atibiti bin in UCOP's parking lot. Not all types of plastic are recyclable.

How about a New Year's resolution to use the three Rs—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle—as our guide, when we make purchasing decisions!

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 Rev. Eileen Stulak
913- 649-1750 ext. 3045
to register—state your name,
phone no., address and
indicate the class(es) you
desire to attend.

Or e-mail this information to
rbarth@ucop.org.
Enjoy!

Child Care

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



MANDALA | Jennifer Wewers McKnight, M. Div.

Monday, December 3 • 7—9 pm

During Advent we are invited to prepare for the birth of the Christ both within our hearts and our world. Learn how making a mandala can nurture our deepest selves, provide healing in times of darkness and reveal our own Advent messages of rebirth. Mandalas lead the way to meditative practice, healing experiences and insight about oneself. No art experience necessary. Pre-registration is requested as class size is limited to 12.



12 OILS OF THE BIBLE | Ann French

Wednesday, December 5 • 7—9 pm

Experience the scientific as well as spiritual use of essential oils. During this fascinating workshop you will experience the ancient rituals of anointing feet, balancing emotions and expanding your intuitions. We will meditate using the Ancient Holy Anointing Oil formula. The workshop is based on this Bible verse, “Thou shall call upon the elders of the church to pray with thee and anoint thee with oil in the name of the Lord.” (James 5:14)



COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION | Lori Woodley

Thursday, December 6 • 7—9 pm and Saturday, December 8 • 10 am – 4 pm

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) offers a radically different approach for connection, cooperation and peace to our culture. Participants will learn new skills that will enable them to enrich their relationships, especially those involving stress and conflict. The Thursday session is prerequisite to the Saturday training. It is recommended that participants read *Nonviolent Communication* by Marshall Rosenberg, prior to class.



CHI FOR THE HOLIDAYS | Pamela Welch

Monday, December 10 • 7—9 pm

December is a month when our chi (energy) sources are taxed to the max! This is your opportunity to change that—to maximize/maintain your energy throughout the holiday season. Join Pamela for a delightful evening as she shares her *Rich Recipe for Holiday Chi*—a unique blend of exhilarating energy modalities combined with a special holiday treat—to help us celebrate the season, and our lives, with serenity, vitality and joy!



WRITER'S CLASS | Kenneth Kieser & Doug McLaughlin

December 13 • 7—9 pm

The UCOP Writer's Club is open to all. Our purpose is to share ideas, help others get published and perhaps have mini seminars about the writing business. We may have a short writing lesson with tips for better copy at each session. This is a writing club and what will happen at meetings will be determined by attendees. This will benefit UCOP through fellowship and by offering a valuable service to members. Love offering.



WHAT IS UNITY? | Rev. Patricia Bass

Sunday, January 6 • 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. Pre-registration is requested.



WHOLE(Y) RELATIONSHIP: A NEW PARADIGM IN RELATIONSHIPS | Greg Klein & Connie Walton

3 Tuesdays, January 8—22 • 7—9 pm

Explore how a different perspective can create a warm, honoring and truly Loving relationship of support, cooperation and open communication. Experience how two people with fears can come together and within the safety of a circle each become Whole and Complete within themselves. This workshop helps bring into consciousness the often unseen/unconsciously expressed self-defeating co-dependency of most relationships.



CIRCLES OF SONG | Linda Chubbuck

Wednesday, January 9 • 7—8:30 pm

Come enjoy a rich evening of drumming and singing and devotion. An accomplished vocalist, songwriter, harmony singer and educator, Linda combines these skills with her ability to channel Divine Energy into a sweet experience of sound, song, and the powerful vibration of the drums. She has several large drums and many smaller percussive instruments to share. Participants may also bring their own drums.



THE DARK SIDE OF THE LIGHT CHASERS | Dion Koch

8 Mondays, January 14—March 3 • 7—9 pm

This is an experiential book study of *The Dark Side of the Light Chasers* by Debbie Ford. The experience will include reading from the book, open discussion and exercises and meditations. People can attend every week or join in whenever they are available.)

**SPIRAL SPIRITUALITY:** Evolution of Consciousness in Modern and Postmodern Eras | *Harv Morrow***10 Mondays, January 14—March 31 • 7—9 pm**

OR "How Religion is changing under the influence of New Thought and the evolutionary psychology of Spiral Dynamics Integral." This class is a continuation of previous classes which makes it somewhat advanced. However, at the same time it is a new subject and a good place to start. Spiral Dynamics Integral will be adequately reviewed for new people. Please come and learn about Spiral Spirituality in Unity..

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** | *Rev. Patricia Bass***4 Tuesdays, January 15—February 5 • 7—9 pm**

If you would like to make a deeper commitment to your church family, plan to attend our New Member Class. We will explore the teachings and history of the Unity movement and of UCOP; learn about the ways you can serve and meet new friends. To become a member, attendance is required at the first class, as well as at least two other classes and at Membership Sunday on Feb.10. Pre-registration is strongly requested.

**GET FURTHER INTUIT:** DEEPENING YOUR INTUITIVE ABILITIES | *Steffany Barton, RN***2 Thursdays, January 17—24 • 7—9 pm**

During this two-week course, participants will work to further strengthen their intuitive channels by learning to see the aura, feel and see energy blocks in the chakras and give intuitive guidance to a partner. This class is appropriate for anyone interested in using their intuition in a practical, life-enhancing way.

**BIG MIND, BIG HEART** | *Lisa Whitlow***Thursdays, January 31—February 7 • 7—9 pm Class size limit: 20 • 1st class prerequisite to the 2nd**

Ken Wilbur has said: "The Big Mind process founded by Zen Master Dennis Genpo Merzel is arguably the most important and original discovery in the last two centuries of Buddhism. It is an astonishing and original, profound and effective path for waking up, or seeing one's True Nature." If you wish to read Merzel's book before class, the title is *Big Mind—Big Heart: Finding Your Way*. Love Offering.

**MEETING MYSELF IN THE BIBLE** | *Barbara Hadley***5 Tuesdays, February 5 — March 5 • 7—9 pm**

Exploring the Old and New Testaments, we will discover personal relevance in Bible stories, characters and events. We will ask the question, "What can the Bible teach us about our own lives and our relationships with each other?" This exploration class focuses on demonstrating the Unity way of understanding the Bible as a practical tool for living a more joyful and abundant life. Love offering.

Message from the Board

Your Board of Directors has embraced the theme: Getting to Know You. I have been blessed to be part of a church ministry and this leadership team that has consciously created an awareness to be more accessible to our congregants.

This year, the Board of Directors clearly heard that we needed to Get to Know our church family – we needed to become more visible and accessible. Throughout the fall months, we have been holding regular Community Circles after our Celebration Service. This has been a sacred time to gather in the Peace Chapel and listen to our congregants and pray for our right direction.

Additionally, we encouraged individuals to come forward to learn how they can serve on the Board. For this initiative, we held an open forum to give congregants an opportunity to ask board member questions. These questions varied from time commitment to our vision and how to make this first step into sacred service.

Then, recently, the Board made ourselves available after both Celebration Services. We chatted with new members and long time congregants. It was truly a wonderful awakening experience to see our ministry Getting to Know One Another and stepping forward in the

faith and love for our church.

Yes, we are visible and we want to Get to Know You. I invite you to take into your meditation the question: How can I get to know my church ministry and fellow congregants, and how can I step into sacred service?

Abundant blessings this holiday season,

Danielle Keith



Danielle Keith

Fall Faith 2007

After weeks of behind the scenes planning by a countless number of individuals, Sunday Celebration Services, Wednesday Night Family Circles, Fall Faith 2007: My Gift to the World drew to a close.

On Nov. 16, Unity Church of Overland Park celebrated the end of our seven week all-church event with Treasures of the Soul, featuring a live and silent auction, dinner and concert. We enjoyed a meal prepared by a well-known area chef with the assistance from congregants. Then, the bidding began! We had a prosperous auction.

To cap the evening, the UCOP band, featuring Jerome Johnson with Bukeka Shoals and Kelly Schell, performed. It was



a great way to unwind from the evening.

All the activities and prayer consciousness was possible through the loving contributions of many. We gratefully acknowledge and thank everyone who served on a committee.

Spiritual Counseling

As the holidays approach, many of us forget the importance of taking extra good care of ourselves. During this time there are many added commitments and obligations, which may stretch us too thin. If your "tool box" of necessary skills to accomplish this "gift to yourself" is running low, our Spiritual Counselors are available to assist and guide you to finding the peace within. To schedule an appointment, please call (913) 649-1750, ext. 3018, or e-mail njerome@ucop.org. Give yourself a gift this season – the gift of Spiritual Counseling.



CELEBRATING THE VISION

cont. from page 3

Our seven week Fall Faith event recently ended. There were an unprecedented 28 circles and 275 participants! The activity culminated with the long anticipated Treasures of the Soul: Dinner, Auction and Concert.

UCOP has the best music team. They have enriched our Celebration Services in many ways, including new music, some of which has been written just for us. To better acknowledge the talented composers of our music, we are including the song writer's name in the Sunday bulletin.

Education

We are creating an all-star line up of upcoming speakers. Rev. Will Bowen, founder of Complaint Free Living, will be here Dec. 12. Rev. Will has been on Oprah and the Today Show. Then, mark your calendars for Barbara Marx Hubbard, who will be here on Feb. 17 for both Sunday services and a workshop. Barbara, a long-time friend of UCOP, is a visionary leader. After facilitating the Men's Retreat, Rev. Richard Rogers will join us on Feb. 24 for both services and a workshop.

Prosperity

The Board of Directors has approved repairing the concrete pad and drainage of the outside stairs leading to Harmony Hall.

Thanks to a generous contribution from a congregant, we have an Automated External Defibrillator. Our staff has gone through a training program and are ready should an emergency arise.

Leadership

Since October, our staff has continued to grow to support the ministry and our congregants. Additions to the staff include: Jane Sauve, Business Manager; Rev. Jennifer Holder, Director of Service Ministries; Patty Williams, Data Processing Coordinator, Eileen Stulak, Adult Education Assistant and Brandon Nagel, Prayer and Pastoral Care Assistant.

The Board of Directors continues to take a visible role in the church community. They have held Community Circles and meet and greet activities all in an effort to get to know you, and to answer any questions you might have.

For more information about our strategic vision, visit our website at www.ucop.org, or contact Rev. Bob Barth 913-649-1750, ext. 3056.

Nothing in my
world ever goes
wrong.



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
Infoline: 913-649-6332
Website: www.ucop.org
Celebration Services:
Sunday at 9 am and 11 am
Nursery Care and
Sunday School is offered.

Prayer Chaplain Ministry



Heidi Darrow



Michael Fischer



Jen McKnight



Blake Williamson

Prayer Chaplains serving our congregation. If you are receiving monthly Wellness Calls from your Prayer Chaplain, you know firsthand how supportive and loving they are. You are invited to connect a face with that prayerful voice that calls you each month. If you do not currently have a Prayer Chaplain assigned to you and would like a monthly call to help you celebrate your joys or receive a prayer for guidance, health, prosperity, comfort, divine order or any other type of support, please contact Rev. Nancy Jerome at (913) 649-1750, ext. 3018, or njerome@ucop.org. Give yourself this precious gift!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Living a Complaint-Free Life
Will Bowen, Guest Speaker
Wednesday, December 12 • 7 pm

Rev. Paul Hasselbeck
SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICES: DECEMBER 16
9:00 AND 11:00 AM

Children's Program • DEC. 16 • 6 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
December 24 • 5, 7 and 11 pm

Got Junk? • Rev. Bob Barth
SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICES: DECEMBER 30
9:00 AND 11:00 AM

World Peace Meditation • DEC. 31 • 6 AM

Burning Bowl Ceremony • DEC. 31 • 7 PM

White Stone Ceremony • JAN. 6 • 9 & 11 AM

Unhanging of the Greens • JAN. 6

Season for Peace & NonViolence • JAN. 30

The church offices and bookstore will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

PRAYER & Meditation

Our spiritual community is totally 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."



Bookstore hours:	913-649-3875 (closed during services)
M-W	11-5:30
Th	11-7
Sun	8:30-1

Shop the Bookstore this Holiday Season

Come in and take care of all your shopping needs.

Enjoy 20% Off Sale!

December 13 to December 23 most items 20 percent off!

There is something for everyone on your list from Buddhas, oil burners, peace flags to African jewelry, candles, angels and much, much more.

Thursdays during the sale the store will be open until 8 p.m.



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

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