



# VISIONS

FEB-MAR 2007

UNITY CHURCH OF OVERLAND PARK

WWW.UCOP.ORG

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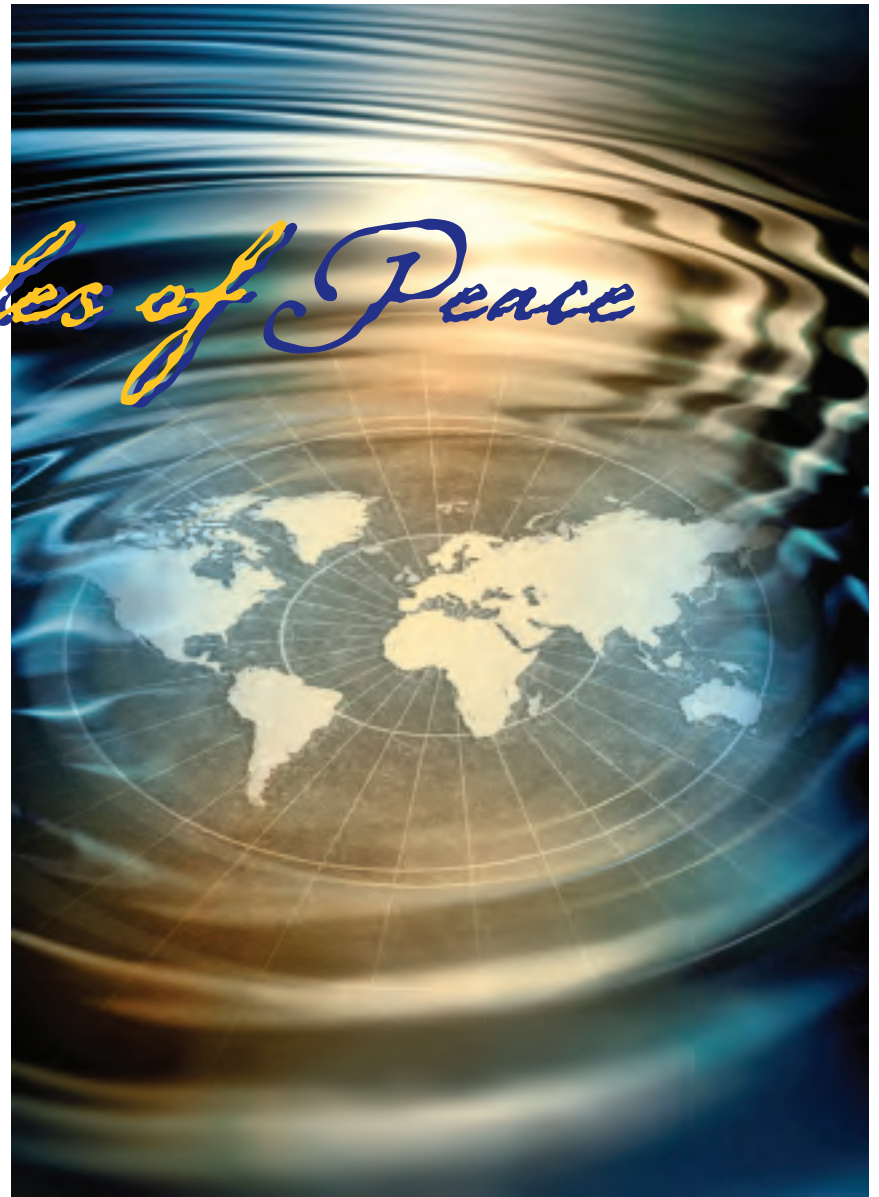
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## Ripples of Peace



Ripples of Peace ©2006 Jerry Hirt

**H**ave you ever entered a room and immediately felt safe and at home? Have you ever entered a room and immediately felt tension? Most of us have had such experiences. They may seem to be a mystery because often there is no visible “cue” to cause us to feel one way or another. But there is energy present nevertheless—invisible to the eye perhaps, but not to our hearts.

Similarly there are people who can enter a room and totally shift the energy. Their mere presence seems to cut through any tension and call forth peace. They carry with them a high-vibration energy that heals and transforms.

Dr. David Hawkins, author of *Power Versus Force* and *The Eye of the I*, has spent decades researching a system of measuring and calibrating levels of energy and consciousness. One of the most fascinating conclusions he has reached is that high-energy people counterbalance the effects of low-energy people. It is not just a one-to-one effect, either. For example, just one person who lives at a level of opti-

mism and non-judgment can counterbalance the effects of 90,000 people operating at a lower weakening level. Avatars such as Jesus and Buddha lived at the highest level of grace and enlightenment—no wonder they transformed world consciousness.

During the Season for NonViolence, we are invited to ponder our own effect upon the world in which we live. The Season for NonViolence is a 64-day period of time between the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Ghandi and Martin Luther King, Jr. During this time, we will join with thousands of others in promoting peace for our planet and our communities. (See our UCOP activities listed on page 2.)

It all starts with knowing that you make a difference. Every peaceful action you take, every peaceful word you speak, indeed every peaceful intention, is like tossing a stone into a pond, making ripples of peace. And when we all join together in intention, we make not just ripples, but waves. That is why we have named our 2007 Season for NonViolence, “Ripples of Peace.”

Peace and Blessings,

Patricia



Rev. Patricia Bass  
Senior Minister

## Staff Members at Unity Church of Overland Park

Fred Albers  
Music Director

Rev. Bob Barth  
Associate Minister

Rev. Patricia Bass  
Senior Minister

Cynthia Biddle  
Data Processing Coordinator

Ann Bowren  
Accountant

Greg Coles  
Director of Worship

Joan Doane  
Bookstore Manager

Ferne Eisele  
Bookstore Assistant

Rev. Nancy Jerome  
Associate Minister

Roger Jones  
Facilities Coordinator

Jane Krueger  
Assistant Bookstore Manager

David Lucas  
Maintenance Coordinator

Glenna Menard  
Wedding Coordinator

Bruce Milne  
Business Manager

Adrienne Owings  
Nursery Supervisor

Alfred Ring  
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Victor & Danette Velez  
YFM Co-Directors

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## Ripples of Peace A Season for NonViolence

*"We learn to practice nonviolence one step at a time, one choice at a time, one day at a time. This is how each of us, in our own way, move the world in the direction of peace."*

Unity Church of Overland Park welcomes you to the 2007 Season for Non Violence. This is indeed a Season to celebrate, as we practice co-creating our world in love and peace, day by day, for 64 days. As it has for the past ten years, the Season for Non Violence begins January 30, and ends April 4, inspired by the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As our current season progresses, you will certainly be able to find a way to get involved. Some of the planned activities will include:

### One Voice Workshop

January 26, 27, 28, 2007

This year, we open with Fred Bogert's *One Voice* Workshop. Fred will begin with a concert on Friday at 7 p.m. We will continue on Saturday morning at 9 by coming together to awaken our awareness of peace and non violence through music, singing and meditation. By the end of the workshop, we will have composed a song together, which will be recorded to cd. On Sunday, workshop participants will share our song in a live performance, with Fred Bogert, Fred Albers, and the UCOP Music Team during our Celebration Services at 9 & 11 a.m.

### Ripples of Peace Sunday Series

January 28—March 18: Join us at 9:00 and 11:00 am on Sundays as Rev. Patricia shares how each of us can make a difference in our individual lives and the world.

### Adult Education Classes

- World Religions, with Rev. Vern Barnett
  - Non Violent Communication, with Rev. Aliza Bloom
- See our Calendar of Classes for more information

### Interfaith Prayer Circles

Spend three Thursdays evenings, March 1, 8 and 15 experiencing prayer from other faith perspectives. Each evening will focus on a different faith practice.

*For more information on our SNV, and to get involved with our ongoing Task Force, contact Fred Albers at 913-649-1750 ext. 3015, or by emailing [albers@ucop.org](mailto:albers@ucop.org).*

## Rev. Richard Rogers March 25, Sunday Speaker & Workshop



Richard Rogers 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.

Come join as Richard shares his message, *From Revolution to Revelation*, at both Sunday Services on March 25th. Then come back from 1:30 – 3:30 for Richard's workshop: *A New Path to Spirituality: Looking For a New Way*.

Rev. Richard Rogers, former Senior Minister of Unity Phoenix will lead this two hour workshop dealing with our spirituality in a time of accelerated change. How do we assimilate the vast amount of information that is needed and internalize it in meaningful ways? Our spirituality is the connection that allows us to move from a "me" driven life into a life of grace and peace. Change is not a problem but it is the invitation for transformation. During this workshop we will explore the ways to live in peace and grace during time of unprecedented change. Love Offering

### Youth and Family Ministry

Our youth will explore concepts relating to peace and nonviolence as part of their experience on Sunday mornings.

### Conversation Cafe

Join members of our Task Force and church community for informal "conversations" regarding peaceful lifestyles. Date to be announced.

### "Peace Rocks" Ceremony

On Sunday, March 18, we will each receive a small "Peace Rock" during our Sunday Celebration Services. Each participant's Peace Rock will be blessed with their own personal intention during the service, and then everyone will be encouraged to create a Ripple of Peace in a body of water of their choice.

### The Gandhi King Peace Train

The Association of Global New Thought is celebrating 10 years of A Season for Non Violence with a Peace Train. This is a once in a lifetime conference which will move from Los Angeles to San Jose in custom rail cars filled with peacemakers, government leaders, musicians and performers, beginning April 18 and ending April 21. Join Rev. Patricia and other members of UCOP on this historic journey. Visit [www.AGNT.org/peacetrain](http://www.AGNT.org/peacetrain) for more information, or call Heidi Darrow at 913-593-1035.

## SUNDAY at UNITY

Celebration Services  
9:00 am & 11:00 am

Please join us each Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00 am for prayer, inspiration and fellowship. Adult Celebration services are in the main Sanctuary and nursery child-care is available. Children Pre-K through unteens celebrate Spirit and Unity teachings at 9:00 and 11:00. Our Youth of Unity (9th—12th grades) meets at 11:00.

## pastoral care

Are you aware of the ways that your Pastoral Care Ministry is in service to you? There are many, some of which you hear about frequently. Did you know that we make visits when our spiritual family is in the hospital? The key to having this visit timely is our being notified in time so we can get there before the patient is released. Hospital stays are significantly shortened these days and we depend of family and friends to keep us informed when a visit is appropriate. We would rather hear about it more than once than not at all or after the fact. Each one in this spiritual community is a beloved family member and we wish to offer our loving support whenever it is requested. Thank you for letting us know how and when we can be in service to you or yours. You may call the church office 913-649-1750 ext. 3018 or email at [njerome@ucop.org](mailto:njerome@ucop.org). Lovingly, Rev. Nancy Jerome.

## Easter Basket Outreach

Each year we receive dozens of "Thank you" notes from the recipients of your beautiful Easter Basket creations. Many grateful people look forward to your generosity. February 25 is the day we begin our preparation and will be creating the team to organize the program for this year. Gift cards should be available in March and delivery will be April 7. You are invited to share in the joy of helping gladden the hearts of over 200 people with the baskets. Join us and receive the blessing of being in service for this most important outreach project.



Cover Art: *Ripples of Peace*  
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## Finding the Sacred with Rev. Vern Barnet

WORLD RELIGIONS CLASS • FEBRUARY 28—MARCH 28

Rev. Vern Barnet, DMn, will be joining us for 5 Wednesday evening classes. Rev.



Barnet will be looking at various religions, as well as the sacred to be found in nature, personhood, community and mutual encounter. This journey through the different religious

traditions will provide an opportunity to deepen one's encounter with the sacred and answer the question: "What gives meaning to your life?" Love Offering.

Rev. Barnet is known to many in Kansas City through his Wednesday "Faiths and Beliefs" column in The KCStar. He founded the KC Interfaith Council in 1989 and does interfaith work through his organization, CRES (Center

for Religious Experience and Study). He has taught world religions at Ottawa University, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, St. Paul School of Theology, Unity Institute and elsewhere. He is a frequent lecturer in area churches and has received honors from Jewish, Christian, Sikh, Muslim, Buddhist and other organizations.

# Affinity Groups

ALL AFFINITY GROUPS SUPPORTED BY LOVE OFFERINGS & CHILDCARE.

### Couples Connection

4th Friday • 6:30 pm

We welcome all couples to join us for fellowship and fun, to become more acquainted with others in your spiritual family. We will usually meet on the FOURTH FRIDAY of each month at someone's home for potluck, and details are listed in the bulletin. We also send information out electronically by e-vite.

February 23 we will have an evening at Chestnut Fine Arts Theater in Olathe. This was so popular last year we'll try to fill the house again! Perfect for February, we'll enjoy a musical that celebrates marriage, "I Do, I Do." Call the box office to reserve your seats early, at (913) 764-2121.

March 23, UCOP member and executive chef Gary Hild will be offering a special treat for us in Harmony Hall. Details will follow by e-vite and in the bulletin. To join our e-vite list or get more information about our Couples Connection, contact Jackie Megee at (913) 592-2303 or jackieam@kc.rr.com

### The Green Team

3rd Tuesday • 7:00 pm

In keeping with their purpose and commitment to promote stewardship of the environment, the Team shares their commitment and information on how you can help on page 5. Contact Mike McCord at (913) 829-3854.

### Kansas City Cancer Healing Project

with John Hoefer & other CoreStar trained energy healers

1st and 3rd Tuesdays

6:00—9:00 pm

Hands-on healing treatments are offered for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Contact John Hoefer for more information or to schedule an appointment at (816) 718-6358 or see [www.kansascityhealingproject.org](http://www.kansascityhealingproject.org).

### Love Lighters Prayer Group

With John Hoefer

February 11

Come and join this prayer support

group for our own Brenda Brock and Kelly Sturgeon who have been providing services in South Africa for the AIDS orphans through the Lovelight project of The Light Center. Brenda and Kelly have been there for a year and will be heading home soon.

### Men's Group of UCOP

1st Saturday • 8 am

The UCOP Men's Group meets for breakfast, networking and fellowship in Harmony Hall at 8:00 am on the first Saturday of each month. Following breakfast and fellowship we'll share about upcoming activities and listen to a featured speaker.

Sign up now to participate in our Midwest Men's Retreat at Unity Village, to explore masculine spirituality with facilitator Ron Jones, Feb 23-24. For more information about the Men's Group, please contact Joe Pap at 816-517-2440 or [joeinkc2@ieee.org](mailto:joeinkc2@ieee.org).

### Recycled Teenagers

2nd Wednesday • See Sunday Bulletin

Do you feel like a recycled teen? This is a group of men and women of all ages who celebrate life with style! Many are retired but not all! For information about our next breakfast or lunch, please see the Sunday Bulletin, or contact Doris Milliken at [dmilliken@aol.com](mailto:dmilliken@aol.com).

### Reiki Circle

with Karen Harrison

2nd & 4th Mondays • 7:00—9:00 pm

Reiki is universal life force energy expressed through laying on of hands. This circle is open for practitioners as well as those who want to experience Reiki for the first time. Come receive a 10-minute treatment and experience the healing energy. No pre-registration is required; love offering will be accepted. Childcare is available for this circle by calling extension 3059 at least 24 hours in advance, and children are welcome to attend the circle as well.

### FEATURED AFFINITY GROUP

## Recycled Teenagers

If someone told you that growing older had lots of advantages and there were untold privileges in adding years, wouldn't you run, not walk, to find out about these wonderful blessings? UCOP has such an organization just waiting to welcome all seeking laughs, companionship and even a few hugs. We call ourselves the Recycled Teenagers because we appreciate staying young at heart.

Join us once a month, on the second Wednesday, for lunch or breakfast at a designated spot in Overland Park. We've been known to have so much fun, and even to go as far as Branson for a couple of days. Some of us have ventured further, to Bermuda and St Thomas Island. Now that was lots of fun!

The only rule we follow is to never complain about aches and pains or problems and because we are Unity and Recycled we have no problem following this rule, knowing joy, fun and laughter are keys to sharing an abundant life with one another.

We annually sponsor the Century Club to purchase equipment for Children's Mercy Hospital to support very ill children and their families. We do this by hosting a holiday craft sale in the first Sunday of December. Our sale in December 2006 raised more than \$1600, our best year yet! On behalf of the sick children and their families who will be blessed by your generosity, thanks for your support.



Andy & Joanne Wymore (above) are busy Recycled Teens, enjoying Unity Village at our 2006 UCOP Vision Quest Retreat.

### Women's Group of UCOP

3rd Sunday \* 12:30 pm

The UCOP Women's group is for all women. We have a general meeting the THIRD SUNDAY of each month in Harmony Hall 3, and smaller subgroups who meet during the month, such as our book club. We also participate in service projects for UCOP and the community. We're currently collecting pop tabs from metal cans for the Ronald McDonald House, that you can drop off in the bookstore.

You can keep current with all of our activities by joining our email distribution list. For more information or to join our email distribution, please contact Linda Bedell at [linda@bedell.org](mailto:linda@bedell.org) or (913) 631-6750.

*If you don't find  
God  
in the next person you  
meet, it is a waste of time  
looking for him further.  
~Mahatma Gandhi.*

(Below) Join Couples Connection at Chestnut Arts Theater for the marital musical, I Do, I Do. Call the box office to reserve your seats early, at (913) 764-2121.





# Youth & Family Ministry

## Regional Unity Teachers Training at UCOP

**SATURDAY, February 3, 2007 – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

All YFM volunteers and those considering getting involved are invited to join us on this exciting event, with workshops led by our Unity consultants from the Association, and attended by other volunteers and YFM directors from around the state and region. Expect to experience: a wonderful community, a rejuvenation of Spirit, and fun breakout groups. We will be exploring our role as teachers, reconnecting with our inner child/teen, engaging in active learning and empowering one another.

Cost is \$35 for registration, and must be turned in by Sunday, January 7th. See Victor and Danette Velez for Registration Forms and other info. at 649-1750 ext.3009 or [Velez@ucop.org](mailto:Velez@ucop.org). Don't miss

this awesome training opportunity right here at home to meet and interact with other YFM Directors, volunteers and our regional consultants!



Danette & Victor Velez  
YFM Co-Directors

## YFM Support Team

We invite any interested adults to join the newly forming YFM Support Team. Caring adults, teachers, parents and anyone with a calling to support the Youth and Family Department are invited. We will be meeting on Feb. 11th from 12:30 to 2:00 (lunch will be provided) to discuss upcoming plans, brainstorm, and implement the great ideas that we know many of you have. Please RSVP to Victor and Danette if you are interested and be a part of taking a wonderful program to

## Monthly Game Night

Everyone is invited to join us for our monthly game night and POTLUCK meal on the 2nd Friday of each month, February 9 and March 8 at 6:30pm in Harmony Hall. We will be eating together and playing card games or other games for all ages. Childcare for ages 5 and under is provided. Questions? Contact Victor and Danette at 649-1750 x3009



Peace Song and Laughter



you now in the Bookstore, our Spirit Sounds CD/Tape ministry, and for members of our Welcoming Teams: Ushers, Greeters & Ambassadors.

It has been my personal joy to serve as Director of Volunteers & Worship at UCOP these past 2 years, and I am excited about the exponential growth that wants to happen here, through each of you. It is so exciting to know that our service ministry will have a full-time director and infrastructure to support this growth.

While I have transitioned to the role of full-time student at Unity Institute, I will remain on staff part-time, as Director of Worship. I welcome your prayers, feedback and visits. And I encourage you to take your next step in spiritual growth through service. Please reach out and get to know, love and grow with your new Director of Service. You will bless your Self as you bless the others.

Namaste,

Greg Coles  
Director of Worship



Have you discovered the essence of Sacred Service, of being blessed by giving from your Christ self for another? Try it. You will like it. By giving of your self for greater good you will come to know God at a deeper level, and experience your life anew, as a resurrection.

For many of us, there is a belief that life is too busy, or there aren't enough hours in the day, or we've got too many commitments that have over-extended us. When this becomes our reality, then is the time to stop and pray, to listen, to be fed and nurtured by holy Spirit, to be still and know that I am God, and I am God in expression. This is Sacred Service, when we express God to ourselves and others, for greater good. If you would seek to be a part of the greater good God wishes to express in our world, join us. There is a Love in Action team waiting to welcome you and introduce you to the experience of Sacred Service.

The Easter season is a great time for us to spring into spiritual growth thru service. Opportunities are available for

## Greg Coles Attending School at Unity Institute

We are delighted to share that Greg Coles has begun full time studies at Unity Institute in anticipation of entering their ministerial program. This means that Greg's role at the church will change—even Greg cannot maintain a full time job and full time studies! He will be serving us as part time Director of Worship, responsible for the coordination of our Sunday Celebration services. Most of his other responsibilities will be filled by our new Director of Service Ministries. We

look forward to continuing to be blessed by Greg's creativity, professionalism, and spiritual consciousness. Congratulations Greg!

**Spring Opportunities for  
New Ushers & Greeters**

**Holy Thursday – April 5  
Communion & Candlelight Service**

**Easter Sunday – April 8  
Easter Sunrise, 9 or 11 am**



Fred Albers  
Music Director

## Meet the Band

By Fred Albers

EVEN THOUGH I AM still speaking to you "From the Pit", (that's where the band sits on Sunday mornings) I am turning my focus for this column to introducing you to each of the members of the UCOP Band. This edition stars our guitarist, Rick Bacus, who is aside from myself, the longest standing member of the band.

Rick plays both guitar and bass in the band. In 1993, when the band consisted of Richard Held on piano, myself on keyboards, and a once in a while drummer, Rick volunteered to fill out the sound on bass guitar. About this same time, we were wanting to upgrade the sound reinforcement, and Rick was offered the position of sound engineer. After our move to our current location from 97th Street, he spent the first year getting things organized in the sound booth, then turned the sound duties over to Charlie Carter. Rick has spent most Sundays since then back where he started, as a member of the band.



Photo by [www.brianwithaneye.com](http://www.brianwithaneye.com)  
See Rick's website at [www.rickbacus.com](http://www.rickbacus.com)

Rick does a lot of guitar playing around the area. He performs in an acoustic duo with Kelly Schell. He is the guitarist with The Source Band for Unity Village Retreats. He also plays guitar with The Rhythm Rockets, a blues and R&B band. Rick is a freelance musician, session musician, audio engineer, and producer with BAM, Inc. (Bacus Audio & Music). He is also a composer, creating music and audio for corporate events, film, and videos.

His cd projects have included: *Morningstar*, on CBS/Columbia Records in 1977.

## From the PIT

*Morningstar Venus* a follow up album on CBS/Columbia in 1879.

*Bukeka*, Ms. Shoals' first solo cd in 1979.

*Remember*, which is our music team's first cd, in 1995.

*Faithful Friends*, our 2nd, in 2001.

Jerome Johnson's *Answered Prayers* in 2001.

Kelly Schell's *These Fires* in 2004.

Other cd projects for Rev. Alice Anderson as well as Rev. Will Bowen.

Rick says: "The unconditional love from this community is truly amazing! The lessons shared each week have helped me through some very difficult times in the last few years and for that I am truly grateful. Of course I should also mention that in my opinion, Fred Albers, Jerry Durrell, Keith Mallory, James Albright, Ken Lovern and myself make up one of the THE PREMIER BANDS ON THIS PLANET! I am so thankful and proud to be on board for this wonderful weekly trip. Thank You God!"

And thank you Rick!

*This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before.*  
~Leonard Bernstein

## UNITY MEN'S RETREAT MIDWEST FEBRUARY 23-24, 2007

The Men's Groups of UCOP is teaming up with the men of Christ Church Unity, to offer you a Unity Men's Retreat Midwest on the sacred grounds of Unity Village. Our retreat will be held in the newly opened Spiritual Life Center. Besides the retreat, you will be able to make use of the beautiful Village grounds, including the Labyrinth, walks of solitude, or spiritual time with others. Activities will include a traditional Friday evening drumming circle and early Saturday morning meditation.

Ron Jones will be leading our retreat, and our topic is *Masculine Spirituality*. *How is this different or the same as Feminine Spirituality?* What does it mean to be a "spiritual man"? How do I live it

fully? This is a time to commune with like minded men as each of us seeks our own spiritual path.

Ron Jones is a popular workshop facilitator and author and co-founder of Voel Inc., an organization dedicated to transforming world consciousness, one person at a time. We look forward to sharing a weekend of men's Spirituality.

The price is \$130 with overnight room and \$90 for those who choose not to spend the night. Included in both prices are meals on Friday night and Saturday breakfast and lunch. Meals will be served at the Unity cafeteria. Gary Hild is the executive chef there and a member of the UCOP men's group. We are looking forward to some of the best



Unity Spiritual Life Retreat Center

food we have ever had on any of our past retreats.

Pick up a registration brochure at UCOP or CCU, or call the numbers below for more information.

*Tickets for our Men's retreat will be available in Harmony Hall of UCOP on Sundays. For more information, or contact Joe Papp at (816)517-2440 or Peter Jarosewycz at (816)941-3575*

## Message from the Board

It doesn't seem possible that it could be 2007! Have you considered what this year may have in store for you? Have you considered what this year may have in store for us at Unity Church of Overland



Danielle Keith

Park? The possibilities are endless.

Many of you attended the White Stone Ceremony on the first Sunday in January and were asked to listen in meditation for a word that would guide you in the coming year. In writing that word on your stone, you set an intention for 2007. Will it be the only intention that you set for yourself? Stating your intentions, whether written or spoken, opens you up to receive the flow of Spirit... and when you are in that flow there is no limit to what you can do. Who are you meant to be in this coming year?

In 2006, we as a church family set forth many intentions for the coming years through our Visioning that lead to clarifying our Mission, Vision and Values for UCOP. My faith in the power of intention was strengthened over and over again as I watched the growth and changes taking place in our community last year; growth that was in line with our Vision even before the final copy was drafted. For instance, look at the overwhelming success of our fall faith program, *Growing in Spirit*. We supported community with the large number of us attending the Wednesday night programs as well as the Dinner and Auction. Then prosperity was abundant in the unprecedented amount of money that was raised to help with further updates for our church home. Imagine what 2007 will bring UCOP!

Don't forget that your Board of Directors will continue with monthly Community Circles in which we pray together with you, give you opportunity to ask questions, make comments and ultimately hold the space for the "best year yet" at UCOP.

Namaste' Danielle Keith

## COMMUNITY CIRCLES

### Everyone is invited!

Our board of directors invites you to join them in a sacred circle to share your blessings, questions, thoughts, or concerns for our ministry. We begin with 15 minutes of silence, and then pass a "talking piece" so that everyone has the opportunity to share. You may attend one or all of the gatherings.

**Thursday, January 25:  
6:30 - 7:15 p.m.**

**Sunday, February 25:  
12:30 - 1:15 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 18:  
12:30 - 1:15 p.m.**

## Unity Prayer Labyrinth

Yes, the UCOP Prayer Labyrinth in our north yard was not stolen, but peeks out from the snow, just north of the Peace Chapel. You used to see the labyrinth rocks peeking up marking the meditation path, but a few years ago the rocks were replaced with inlaid bricks to reduce the mowing work.

In Greek mythology, a labyrinth was an elaborate maze constructed for King Minos of Crete to hold the Minotaur, a mythological beast. It is also an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness and represents a journey to our own center and back again into the world. It is in this sense that it is used as a meditative tool. You walk along the path in a meditative state—there's no way to get lost.

The most famous meditation labyrinth is the Chartres Cathedral labyrinth in France. There is a prayer labyrinth at Unity Village (drawn on the parking lot north of the new Spiritual



*You might have thought the labyrinth on our north yard was gone, but you can see it peeking out of the snow. Rocks that once formed the labyrinth were replaced with inlaid brick a few years ago to reduce the lawn mowing and maintenance.*

Life Center) and it is in the Chartres pattern. The UCOP labyrinth is in a spiral pattern, you wind your way along the path to the center, turn around and then wind your way back out again.

Take ten minutes of peace for yourself; visit the labyrinth on Sundays or during the week.

## Green Team NEWS

### Green Team and Earth Care Ministry

In 2007, the Green Team will focus on activities that support our mission to promote the care of the environment and our oneness with the earth. Last year we made a commitment to: Respect for the Interdependence of the Universe.

As part of our effort to achieve this goal, the Green Team is a participant in the Earth Care Ministry, a group of min-

isters, licensed Unity teachers and lay members, that originated in the Northwest Region of the Association of Unity Churches. Earth Care is exploring our spiritual relationship with the earth as expressed in Unity teachings, and supporting earth care consciousness in Unity ministries.

Earth Care envisions all Unity ministries, collectively and individually, responsibly caring for God's Creation through cooperative prayer, thought, and action.

Myrtle Fillmore, co-founder of Unity, asked the question, "Who will take care of the children?" For Unity in the 21st

century, we ask, "Who will take care of the earth?"

The goal of the Earth Care Ministry is for Unity churches to become an answer to this question. To achieve this goal, Earth Care recommends a "path" for optimal success. The path includes:

- Pray • Vision • Inspire
- Learn • Share • Act • Renew

This Path workshop proposal was accepted for the 2007 Unity People's Convention in Kansas City, and the Green Team is looking forward to being a participant. To join the Green Team, contact Mike McCord 913-829-8193.

## VOW RENEWAL CEREMONY & RECEPTION 1:00 p.m. Sunday, February 11, 2007



This year, we are celebrating Valentine's Day in style. All couples are invited to join Reverend Patricia Bass for a sacred ceremony to bless your commitment to one another and to your marriage or holy union. Following the ceremony, we will have cake together in Harmony Hall. There is nothing for you to do and no vows for you to memorize. We'll take care of all the details. Just show up with your beloved. Please register by February 6 using the flyer in the Sunday bulletin or by calling Reverend Nancy Jerome at (913) 649-1750, ext. 3018.



# 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. Bob Barth  
(913) 649-1750 ext. 3056 to  
register—state your name,  
phone no., address and  
indicate the class(es) you  
desire to attend. Enjoy!

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



## **INTERPRETATION OF THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE** | *Rev. Paul Hasselbeck*

**Wednesdays, January 24—February 7 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

Who was the only female judge of Israel? Who outran a team of horses? What does the burning bush really mean? Written by hundreds of writers, the Bible spans several thousand years and is filled with mystery, metaphysics and intrigue – just like life today. Dean of the Spiritual Enrichment Education (S.E.E.) program at Unity Institute, Rev. Hasselbeck is a passionate teacher and recently published author. 10 S.E.E. Core Credits. Love Offering



## **VISIONQUEST** | *Richard Sanderson*

**Saturday, February 3 • 9:00 am—1:00 pm**

This workshop will lead you through many of the preparatory steps for on going on Vision Quest: What is Vision Quest? What is the process? What are cultural variations? Richard learned about Vision Quest from his Chippewa family, Sun Bear, and Walking Turtle and has been on five traditional vision quests starting at sixteen using four different traditions. Registration requested; a love offering will be accepted.



## **KEYS TO THE KINGDOM** | *Rev. Patricia Bass*

**Tuesdays, February 6—March 27 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

Join Reverend Patricia Bass for an advanced course in prosperity consciousness building. Keys to the Kingdom is a eight-week class, created by David Owen Ritz to increase the flow of good in your life. Join Patricia to discover your keys to the kingdom, Tuesday nights beginning February 6.



## **NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION** | *Rev. Aliza Bloom*

**Thursdays, February 8—22 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) has been described as a language of compassion, a tool for positive social change and a spiritual practice. The process of nonviolent communication helps us create a connection with what is alive in ourselves and others moment-to-moment, facilitating discussion of tough issues and peaceful conflict resolution. Love Offering



## **WHAT'S YOUR LOVE LANGUAGE** | *Pamela Welch*

**Monday, February 12 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

He sends you flowers when what you really desire is time to talk. She gives you a hug, but you'd prefer a home cooked meal. We all need love, which can be expressed in many forms. However, for each of us there is one “primary love language.” In this class you will not only learn the love language vital to you, but also how to communicate with another in their specific language of love. Love Offering



## **FINDING YOUR AUTHENTIC SELF** | *Teri Wilder*

**Monday, February 26 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

We come into this world so pure, being exactly who we are meant to be. Every one of us takes a journey through the human experience, often allowing the ideas and judgments of others to seep into, and guide, our choices and decisions. The goal of this gathering is to help rekindle that Light we each carry that reminds us of who we truly are and how we really want to live. Come play! Love Offering.



## **WORLD RELIGIONS** | *Rev. Vern Barnet, DMn*

**Wednesdays, February 28—March 29 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

“He who knows one religion knows none,” it has been said. So to better understand our own faith journey, we examine the world's religions as they ask and answer the key question, “What gives meaning to your life?” By comparing and contrasting the various traditions, our own paths may be deepened and enriched. Love Offering.



## **WHAT IS UNITY?** | *Rev. Patricia Bass*

**Sunday, March 4 • 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.



## **UNITY & THE GODDESS: DIFFERENT WORDS, SAME MESSAGE** | *Cathy Combs*

**Mondays, March 5 & 12 • 7:00—9:00 pm**

These two holistic spiritual traditions are the heart and soul of life. They share a belief in the: immanence of Deity, sacredness of all life, ongoing cycle of life, transformative power of thought. Dion Fortune talks about “the art of changing consciousness at will.” Unity defines this process as prayer. Join us for an uplifting, transformative experience as we honor the new life of Spring. Love Offering.



**WHO MOVED MY CHI** | Pamela Welch

**Mondays, March 19 & 26 • 7:00-9:00 pm**

Have you had trouble lately recognizing yourself in the mirror? If so, you may be in the throws of that mysterious passage called Mid-Life - a time of dramatic inner~chi (energy) shifts in body, mind, emotions, and spirit. This class will alter your perceptions about the causes of your changes. Pamela will reveal invaluable techniques for balance and renewal with your own personal Inner~Chi Rx Love offering



**MEDICINE WHEEL** | Richard Sanderson

**Saturday, March 24 • 9:00 am—1:00 pm**

We can learn much from Native American Spirituality. The Medicine Wheel teaches us about the directions (there are seven!), mother earth and how to walk with balance and harmony. We invite you to discover what a medicine wheel is and what you can learn with it. This workshop is an introduction and will be half story/discourse and half experiential, including a medicine wheel ceremony outside. Love offering

**On-Going Classes**

*Classes are supported by love offerings.*

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

UCOP's Adult Bible Study is Alive & Growing!

Discussion leaders and ministerial students, James Yeaw and Sharon Bush, are having great fun with the Adult Bible Study class. For example, recent studies have included Real Love in the Bible taken from Dr. Greg Baer's talk; How Words Create Our World (Proverbs) taken from Rev. Patricia Bass's talk, or Finding Our Stories in the Bible (Parables of Jesus) taken from Christina Baldwin's talk. By exploring the Sunday morning worship message from the week before, students are more able to apply historical Bible teachings to present day situations and messages. This ongoing

class is open to everyone and is conveniently held from 10:10 to 10:50am in Harmony Hall 3. Bring your coffee and donut to check out this fun Adult Bible class. You'll get hooked as to just how easy the Bible can be!

**BOUNDARY BUSTERS**

You are welcome each Sunday from 10 - 11:00 am in the Library, for an open book discussion. This adult class examines books of the highest universal principles of love, peace and oneness. Please come and join us at any time!

**WEDNESDAY DREAMS**

Facilitated by David Hupe meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. This class/group

will help you to interpret your dreams to understand your life.

**JOEL S. GOLDSMITH— INFINITE WAY STUDY GROUP**

Facilitated by Dwight Briggs on Wednesdays from 7—9 pm. Explore how the belief in two powers inhibits our demonstration of God Realization.

**THURSDAY A COURSE IN MIRACLES STUDY GROUP**

Facilitated by Bill Frock, Thursdays, 6:30— 8:30 pm. A Course in Miracles is life-changing as participants learn to use wisdom and love, rather than guilt and fear. Materials available at CommUnity Books and Gifts.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

**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  
This is 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. Meeting regularly we help each other stay clean.

**Overeaters Anonymous**

Twelve-Step Program  
Wednesdays and Thursdays 6 - 7 pm  
Thursdays 11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
We provide support in turning over your food issues to a higher power.

**Stand-Up Parenting**

Tuesdays • 7 pm  
Support for parents & family members struggling with unacceptable behaviors.

**Wednesday Winners: Debtors Anonymous**

Wednesdays • 7-8 pm  
If you over-spend or under-earn, please join us! Our goal is living financially solvent one day at a time using the 12 steps.

**Spiritual Counselors STRESS**

How are you feeling? How are you dealing with everyday stressors? Are you taking healthy care of yourself? What would you like your daily activities to look and feel like? How can they be done calmly and efficiently? At the end of the day can you look back and be proud of how you dealt with uncomfortable situations? Our spiritual counselors can help you recognize life stressors and deal with them more effectively, help you learn how to say "no," set limits, and add time during your day for yourself to recharge your battery. Learn to relax and listen to yourself. Grow quiet on the inside and the outside. See what you can learn about the INSIDE of you. If you are interested, contact Rev. Nancy Jerome at the church.

**Welcome Home, Brenda & Kelly!**

Soon we will be welcoming home our beloved angels, Brenda Brock and Kelly Sturgeon, who have spent the past full year in South Africa answering the call of Spirit to give splendid service to the Love Light Project, sponsored by The Light Center a Unity Ministry. Brenda and Kelly have faithfully kept us informed of their many activities of love and support for the children orphaned by AIDS from helping find homes, building gardens, and offering their love in myriad ways. Many in our spiritual community have supported them with prayers, resources and lots and lots of love.



*Brenda Brock & Kelly Sturgeon*

Thank you for that! Now we can open our hearts and welcome them home and say, "Well done good and faithful servant."

**Letting the Lotus Bloom**  
*Sunday, February 4, 2007*

Local author, Kevin Joel Kelly has been a professional floral designer for more than thirty years. His arrangements have been displayed on our church alter many times. Come get to know him and take a look at his new book, *Letting the Lotus Bloom*. Kevin has taught floral design to aspiring professionals, one-on-one in flower shops, and in workshops. He lives in Kansas City, MO, and works as a freelance floral designer offering classes and workshops in flower arranging.

The bookstore will be featuring Kevin and other local authors during the month of February.

**COPP: Care of Poor People—Spring Break for the Poor and Homeless**

**Saturday, April 7, 2007 • Noon to 4:00 PM**  
**2107 Central • Levitt Warehouse**  
**Kansas City, Missouri**

You are again invited to participate in this special event for our poor and homeless sisters and brothers by providing a good meal, summer clothing and personal care items for men, women and children. Your response to the request for volunteers at their fall event made the preparation so much easier. You are encouraged to again step up and offer your services early to help get ready for the actual event by sorting clothing, setting up tables, etc. Please contact Rev. Nancy Jerome for more information about offering to be in service. For more details about the success of past events, check their web site [www.coppinc.com](http://www.coppinc.com).



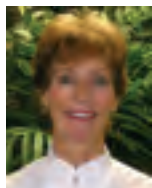


Unity Church of Overland Park

Office: 913-649-1750  
 Fax: 913-649-0429  
 Bookstore: 913-649-3875  
 Heartline: 913-649-3214  
 Infoline: 913-649-6332  
 website: www.ucop.org

Celebration Services:  
 Sundays 9:00 and 11:00 am

Chaplain Ministry



Judy Durrell



Sue Goldman



Joyce Harrah



Paul Heath

You are invited to get to know the Chaplains who serve our congregation.

Very soon we will begin our process of assembling a new Chaplain Team. Have you considered becoming a UCOP Chaplain? If you are interested, you must attend one of our informational Orientation Meetings that will be held on May 13, 15, 20 and 23. At that time, you will learn about the commitment involved with this spiritual responsibility. Details will be outlined about the required training and the serious service commitment of a Chaplain. This could be the next step in your spiritual journey. Is God calling you up higher? If you have questions, please contact Rev. Nancy Jerome at the church, 913-649-1750 ext. 3018.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ONE VOICE WORKSHOP WITH FRED BOGERT  
 January 26—28; Friday Concert 7:00 pm

A Season for NonViolence  
 January 30—April 4

YFM Regional Teacher's Training  
 Saturday, February 3 • 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

UCOP Men's Retreat • Unity Village  
 February 23-24

FINDING THE SACRED with Rev. Vern Barnet  
 World Religions Class Wed. Eve. beginning Feb.28

Rev. Richard Rogers, guest speaker  
 SUNDAY, MARCH 25 • 9:00 & 11:00 AM

WORKSHOP: A Path to New Spirituality  
 Sunday, March 25 • 1:30 –3:30pm

Ripples of Peace Ceremony  
 March 18 & 31, 2007

Care of Poor People: Spring Break  
 Saturday, April 8 • Noon to 4:00 pm • Levitt Warehouse

AGNT Peace Train Conference in Los Angeles  
 April 18-21

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. Sandra Hopper 913-649-1750 ext. 3017 or email her at pastoral@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."



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



Expressions in Watercolor

February 4—  
 March 25, 2007  
 Hours: M-Th 10-8

Satin Sturdevant



Back Entrance



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

For Someone Special:

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