



VISIONS

OCT—NOV 2008

UNITY CHURCH OF OVERLAND PARK

WWW.UCOP.ORG

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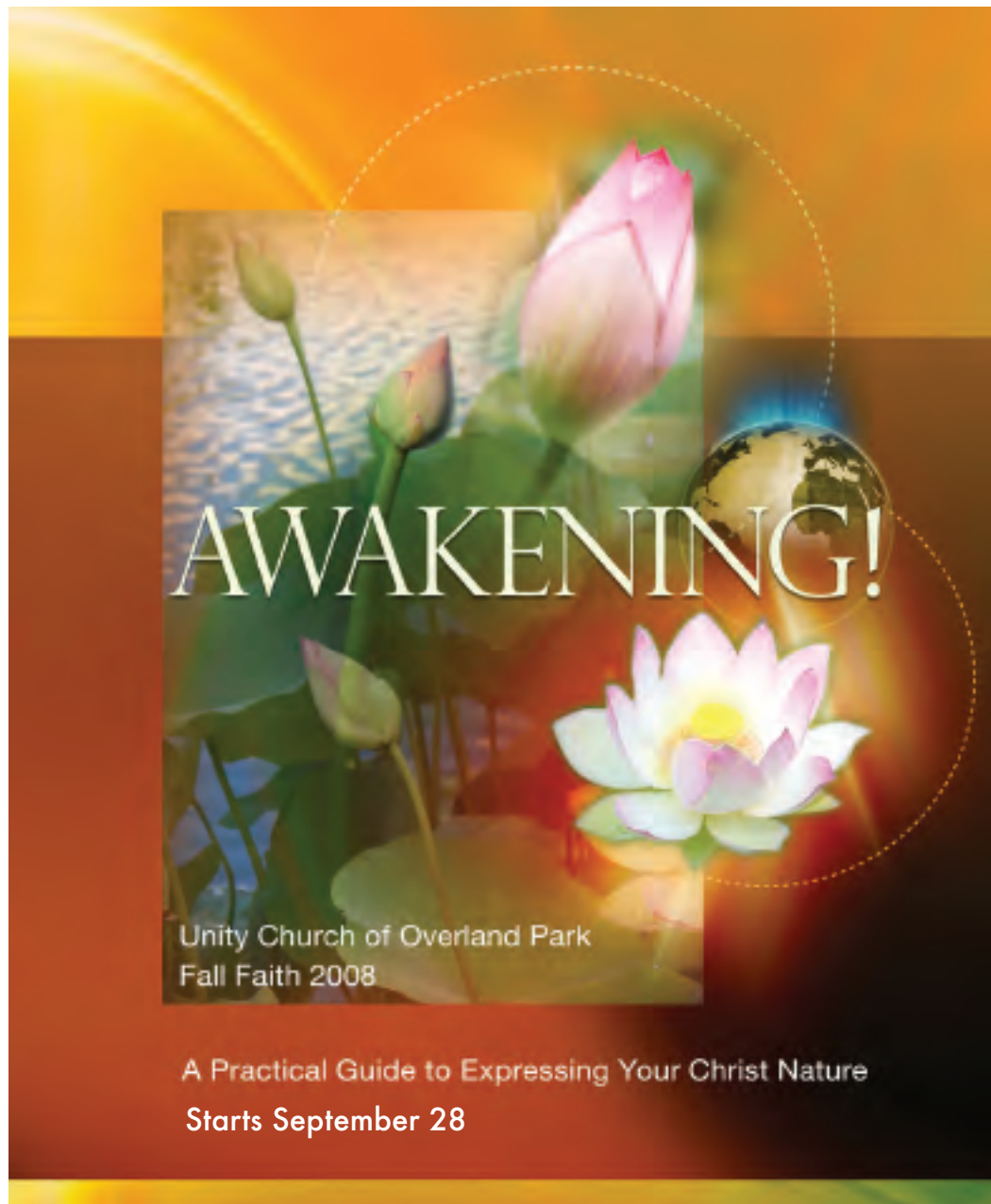
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Awakening ©2008 Jerry Hirt



Don't you hate it when people say, "Just be yourself."? After all, if you knew how to be yourself, you'd be doing it, right? And besides, who are they to say you aren't being yourself in the first place? What do they know?

In his book, *A New Earth*, Eckhart Tolle writes, "You are most powerful, most effective when you are completely yourself. It's called 'natural spontaneous me'. But don't try to be yourself. That's another

role." Well, that is a catch-22 if I ever heard one. How are you ever going to be your true authentic self if you don't try?

I've been on a conscious personal and spiritual journey trying to find myself for most of my life – retreats, counselors, classes, books and more. Each has offered its own gift and brought me closer to the truth. Each has provided new realizations and helped me peel away another layer.

This year, though, I have made perhaps the greatest breakthrough of all as I began working with Tolle's book. Instead of

shedding one or two layers, I have filled up a whole compost heap with old attachments, roles and fears which I had mistaken for my identity. It feels good – real good.

The key is awareness. When you bring your full awareness and presence to any moment, you unleash unlimited power and vision. As you do, you begin to notice your true self which lies beneath the pretensions, illusions and attachments.

Instead of trying and efforting to be something in particular, you simply let go of all you are not. Tolle says, "In the seeing of who you are not, the reality of who you are emerges by yourself." Your Christ Nature is revealed.

Every year here at Unity Church of Overland Park we embark on a spiritual journey to deepen our connection to ourselves, to one another and to our world. This year, the journey is about awakening and expressing your Christ Nature as we study Tolle's book, *A New Earth*. Join us for our Sunday Celebration Services at 9 and 11 a.m. and again on Wednesday nights at 6:45 for a mini-concert followed by a large group meditation and

small group discussion. (see page 4 for details.)

The journey begins September 28. Join us and come as you are. Don't try to be yourself. Just come.

Awakening in Love, Patricia



Rev. Patricia Bass
Senior Minister

Staff Members at Unity Church of Overland Park

Karen Adinolfi
Bookstore Manager

Fred Albers
Music Director

Rev. Bob Barth
Associate Minister/Administration

Rev. Patricia Bass
Senior Minister

Megan Clark
Assistant to the Senior Minister

Rev. Jennifer Holder
Associate Minister/Service
Youth and Family Ministry Interim

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

David Lucas
Maintenance Coordinator

Glenna Menard
Wedding Coordinator

Tamie Mills
Director of Communications

Brandon Nagel
Adult Education Coordinator
& Pastoral Care Assistant

Alfred Ring
Facilities Assistant

Jane Sauvé
Business Manager

Mike Schlecta
Facilities Coordinator

Patty Williams
Data Processing Coordinator

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Shawn Wegner, Member



Jason & deMarco

Sunday Celebration Services October 26 • 9 & 11 am

Jason Warner and deMarco DeCiccio have been sharing their uplifting musical message in churches, as well as touring internationally in other venues. They are currently regular members of the Unity Church of Houston music ministry.

The two met in Hollywood in 2001 and started their musical collaboration almost immediately. Their first album, *The Spirit of Christmas* was released in 2002.

They are truly inspiring performers and sing clearly from a place of love, compassion and clear spirituality.

Visit Jason & deMarco at jasonanddemarco.com.



The HA!Man ~ October 12 Sunday Celebration Services 9 & 11 am Workshop at 1:30 pm

The HA!Man (Francois le Roux) is a spontaneous cellist, creating music that fuses his classical background with Africa and the world. An independent artist, he performs globally, records prolifically and gives life-touching workshops to all ages. His genius as an improviser is well respected in South Africa, where he is based with Laura Kirsten. With a huge, growing network of support, he might well be brewing a refreshing HA! revolution. Francois will be offering his music as a part of our Sunday Celebration Services on October 12, collaborating with Teri Wilder.

He will also offer a workshop at 1:30



that afternoon. In his workshop, the HA!Man extends his creative freedom to the participants, facilitating a space where they can themselves explore the healing and surprising effects of spontaneous expression.

www.hamanworld.com

Mission / Vision / Values / Intention Statements

In fall 2006 the Vision Quest process revealed a new Mission and Core Values statements that have guided Unity Church of Overland Park for the last two years. The important work of Visioning Retreats, ongoing Prayer Nights and over 150 Appreciative Interviews have paved the way for further refinement of our Mission and Values. This opened a new possibility for Unity Church of Overland Park to create a Vision for the world and to set strategic intentions and goals as a roadmap toward achieving this Vision.

Our VISION for the World

Centered in God, we celebrate a world of peace, harmony and abundance for all.

MISSION of Unity Church of Overland Park

We are here to awaken and express the Christ Nature in ourselves, our families, our community and the world.

Five VALUES in which to live

Spirit-led Love Inclusiveness Joy Abundance

Four bold INTENTIONS

- **Spiritual Growth:** UCOP is a nationally recognized center for spiritual growth and development
- **Authentic Relationships:** At UCOP, all relationships are grounded in authenticity, trust and unconditional love.
- **Sacred Service:** UCOP congregants are a powerful force of love, giving back to the church, our community and the world.
- **Enlightened Leadership:** UCOP is a flagship ministry demonstrating and inspiring spiritual leadership success, prosperity and stewardship.

For more information about Unity Church of Overland Park's 2006 Vision Quest, and our Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Intentions, as well as our long-range action plan visit www.ucop.org.

SUNDAY at UNITY

Celebration Services

9 am & 11 am

Nursery childcare is available.

Children Pre-K through 8th grade.

Youth (9th—12th grades) 11 am **only**

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Candlelight Service

Wednesday, November 26 • 7 pm

Join us for a special evening in gratitude celebration.

Spiritual Counselors

are available to our spiritual community. Just call the church office at (913) 649-1750 x 3018 and speak with Rev. Nancy Jerome to request a session with one of these professionals.

Blessing of the Animals

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Inter-Faith Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 4. Processions of animals and their guardians of all faiths will be entering spiritual centers around the nation to honor the memory of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment.

We will again hold a special ceremony at UCOP, followed by individual blessings of each pet, deceased pets and even pictures of pets who cannot attend.

We invite all friendly and well-behaved animals of all species. See www.ucop.org or your Sunday bulletin for details.

Jan Stanley blesses Jeannine Fox's precious Baby, as Pat Williams waits in line for her special blessing for Riley.



Cover: *Awakening*
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AFFINITY GROUPS

Couples Connection

4th Friday • 6:30 pm

Usually meets each month at someone's home for potluck. All couples are invited.

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

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.

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 dlmilliken@aol.com.

Men's Group

1st Saturday • 8 am to 10 am

If you watched the opening ceremony of the Olympics, you saw the power of drumming. Come and experience drumming for yourself on Saturday, October 4 at the Men's Group Breakfast beginning at 8 am, followed by Mark Gossman discussing the meditative and spiritual aspects of drumming. If you have a drum, you will want to bring it with you to help enhance this experience.

November's meeting will be held on

Saturday, November 8 with breakfast at 8 a.m. followed by a special program.

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

Peace in Action

2nd Tuesday • 7-9 pm

Our mission is "We are ripples of peace connecting and communicating peace, raising awareness of peace and proving the possibility of peace." The group continues to bring forward peace activities, events, and also sponsors classes and workshops. For more information about the Peace in Action Group and how you can become involved, contact Lori Woodley at lawoodley@aol.com.

Peace in Action is sponsoring two community interfaith November activities at UCOP. Watch for more details in your Sunday bulletins.

11 am to 2 pm Thursday, November 13 KC Interfaith Council's 4th Annual Table of Faiths Celebration Luncheon and will be selling tickets and sponsoring a table at Hyatt Regency Crown Center.

Center for Religious Experience and Study, Inc. (CRES) sponsored 24th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Sunday Family Ritual Meal on the Sunday, November 23 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 40th and Main.

Women's Group

3rd Sunday • 12:30pm

Connect, make new friends, share knowledge, joys and sorrows and support one another and the ministry.

October 19

Iowa nurse practitioner and writer, Nancy Leigh Harless, will read and discuss her book, *Womankind: Connection & Wisdom Around the World*, a collection of stories gleaned from her international nursing experiences and travels.

November 16

Yes, You Can Have a Healthy Holiday Season and Beyond!

Please join us for a fun and informative talk on how you can improve your health and the health of your family even through the holidays!

Rene' Thomas, a cancer survivor and mother of 3 will be sharing her journey to nutritional healing through food!

Please RSVP by Wednesday Nov. 12 due to handouts with healthy recipes provided. linda@bedell.org or 913-631-6750.

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

Singles Group

1st Monday • 7 pm

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

OCTOBER

October 6: Join us for a Fall Harvest Pot

Luck at 7 p.m. followed by our Monthly Planning Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

October 18: Fall Harvest Dance (costume optional) at Church of Resurrection 8 p.m. to Midnight. \$10 We will be reserving tables for our group. The Church of Resurrection is located at 13720 Roe in Leawood.

October 26: Singles Brunch – Godfather's Pizza (10514 W 103rd) 12:15 – 2:30 pm. Come join us.

NOVEMBER

November 3: Monthly Planning Meeting at 7 p.m. at UCOP

There will be no Singles Brunch in November or December.

We will again be selling discounted tickets for all who would like to attend the **19th Annual Tom Jacobs Advent Into Christmas Concert**, December 5th, at Unity on the Plaza. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults.

For more information on any of these events, or the Singles Group, please contact Linda Riggs at 913-634-5359 or Lona Davis at 913-661-4770.

Sacred Service Opportunities with the Singles Group:

Christmas in October, Sat. Oct 11 Contact Eric Schoneman at 816-799-8836 to learn more. Help fix up a home for the needy.

Sanctuary of Hope, Ongoing each mo. Contact Ed Deane at 913-980-8326 to get involved in Saturday work day.

ON-GOING CLASSES

ALL CLASSES ARE SUPPORTED BY LOVE OFFERINGS & CHILDCARE.

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

A Course in Miracles

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

Learn to live from a place of wisdom and love in life rather than guilt and fear. Materials can be purchased at CommUnity Books and Gifts.

Boundary Busters

Sundays • 10 am to 11 am

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

Experiencing the Bible

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

What does the Bible have to do with you? Make the Bible relevant to your conversations, your studies and your prayer time. October's topic is the History of the Bible and November's topic is Discoveries in Bible Archaeology. We also include the 12 Powers in our discussion. Newcomers are always welcome. Join us in Harmony Hall 3.

Joel Goldsmith—Infinite Way Study Group

Wednesdays • 7 pm to 9 pm
with Dwight Briggs

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

Kansas City Cancer Healing Project

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

Kansas City Cancer Healing Project provides hands-on healing for cancer patients in the Kansas City area. Our clients have experienced a reduction of side effects from their treatments and a greater sense of peace during the course of their disease treatment process. Contact John Hofer at 816-718-6358 to schedule an appointment on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Reiki Circle

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

Reiki is the universal life force energy expressed through laying of hands. It heals on physical, mental, emotional and spiritual levels. The class is open to practitioners as well as those who want to experience a 10-minute Reiki treatment.

Speak Peace

The Peace in Action Group is sponsoring this activity. Practice Compassionate Communication in a sacred circle of trust and respect.

October 2 • 7-9 pm
with Lori Woodley

This session will focus on the skill of self empathy. Everyone is welcome.

November 6 • 7-9 pm
with Barbara Hadley

This session will focus on the skills of HeartMath. Everyone is welcome.

"You do not become good by trying to be good, but by finding the goodness that is already within you, and allowing that goodness to emerge."

~Eckhart Tolle

Youth & Family Ministry



International YOU Appreciative Inquiry Summit

By Rachel Simpson

At the International YOU Appreciative Inquiry Summit, held at Unity Village, our long-time YOU sponsor John Choplin was honored with the Distinguished Youth Service Award. This award is given to those who have given many years of dedicated and honorable service to the youth of the Unity movement.

John began as a Uniteen sponsor and is now a veteran YOU

After serving over 300 hungry Y.O.U. supporters at the Youth of Unity Spaghetti Fundraiser dinner on Friday, August 29, it was time for Sam Mahoney and Galen Gossman to serve up some food for themselves. Over \$3,000 was raised to support Y.O.U. regional rallies.



sponsor. He supports the teens in growing and discovering who they are while keeping grounded in Unity teachings.

In the Central YOU region, John has coordinated service rallies, serves as a head sponsor at events and is a consistent demonstration of what living the Unity teachings is about. For International YOU, John has served 3 years as the Peace by Piece "Dad," a program bringing teen delegates from around the world to participate in the international YOU event. John's role as "Dad" is to help the delegates be com-



Lisa Yelenick, Central YOU consultant and John Choplin after receiving their awards

fortable here as well as support their understanding of Unity.

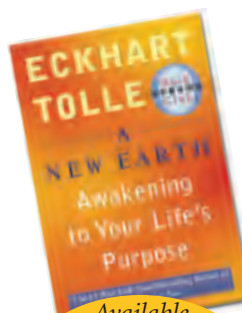
Congratulations John on this honor.

FALL FAITH CELEBRATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

AWAKENING

A Practical Guide to Expressing Your Christ Nature

The annual Fall Faith season is again upon us at Unity Church of Overland Park. This year, we are embarking on a seven-week intensive series based on the book *A New Earth* by Eckhart Tolle



Available at CommUnity Books & Gifts 20% off until Oct. 1

Eckhart Tolle is a spiritual teacher, whose best-selling book *A New Earth* is widely regarded as one of the most influential spiritual books of our time.

The profound yet simple teachings of this book will deepen our consciousness. Our kids will be learning the same teachings in their classrooms.

www.ucop.org to submit your request. Unity Church of Overland Park is a 501(c)(3) organization.

We will acknowledge auction item donors on the night of the fundraiser and in our Sunday bulletin.

Thank you for being a generous community partner. Together, we are making a difference in our community and the world.

We are blessed again this year to have award winning Chef Gary Hild prepare a special menu for us. You won't want to miss this palette-pleasing meal. Tickets will be on sale beginning in October.

Wednesday Celebration Circles
6:45—9:00 pm
Sign up in Harmony Hall,
Sundays in Sept.

Our community is gathering for weekly family circles. Evenings begin with a mini-concert and meditation, followed by small circle discussion of *A New Earth* and concludes with hospitality and fellowship as a large group.

**Fall Faith Live Auction,
Dinner and Concert, Friday, Nov. 14**



To culminate our seven weeks UCOP is holding a Fall Faith Live Auction (in lieu of a silent auction), Dinner and Concert featuring singer / songwriter Daniel Nahmod. This year our proceeds will support our Youth and Family Ministry Programs, where we serve over 150 children and teens each week, as well as our Music Ministry, which has become a hallmark of worship at UCOP.

The auction committee led by Jim and Wendy Szegedi is seeking contributions. If you have an idea of a live auction item for consideration, please visit

Fall Faith 2008 Service Opportunities
Our annual Fall Faith Event is a success because of the many who step forward into service. Please contact Rev. Bob Barth at rbarth@ucop.org or 913-649-1750, ext. 3056, or Brandon Nagel at bnagel@ucop.org or ext. 3017 to express your interest to serve.

**DINNER &
AUCTION SET-UP / TEAR-DOWN**
(Thur, Nov 13, and/or Sat, Nov 15)
Serve the night before and / or day after on Set-up / Tear-Down CORE team.

DINNER & LIVE AUCTION
(Fri, Nov 14)
Serve with Chef Gary Hild CORE team.
Serve on the Decorations CORE team.
Serve on the Evening Event / Dinner CORE team
Serve on the Live Auction CORE team.

FALL FAITH SUNDAY SERIES
Serve as a greeter or usher.
Serve as a parking lot greeter.

For more details visit www.ucop.org. You can sign up for sacred service, see a list of facilitators and live auction items, read the Fall Faith prayer and more!

From the PIT

Hello everyone, and welcome back to our ongoing tour of the Music Team here at UCOP. We turn our attention to soloist James Wright. James is one of Kansas City's busiest actors and singers. He regularly appears on stages throughout the city, including The New Theatre Restaurant, Missouri Repertory Theatre, The Quality Hill Playhouse, Starlight Theatre, The Unicorn Theatre, Musical Theatre Heritage, The Metropolitan Ensemble and The American Heartland Theatre, where he earned a Drama Desk nomination for Best Actor in a Musical for his work in the acclaimed *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*.



Superstar, Hello Dolly, Footloose, Buddy, Guys and Dolls, Dames at Sea, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Grease, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Music Man, The Gifts of the Magi, Shear Madness, Tom Sawyer, Arsenic and Old Lace, South Pacific and too many more to mention here.

James' first CD was *Absolutely Wright: The Songs of Carl Bolte, Jr.* He is currently working on a new CD titled *Center Stage: Songs of Spirit from the Musical Theatre*, which will be released this winter. This CD is being produced by James Albright, with arrangements by myself.

James is currently working on *Rhapsody in Gershwin* at The Quality Hill Playhouse through September and October. After that will be *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* at Musical Theatre Heritage in November.

James also manages a very busy commercial acting career; appearing in television commercials, radio voice-overs, corporate videos, product jingles and print advertisements.

James and his wife, Joellen, have been married for 19 years and live in Lee's Summit with their two children, Andrew, 12, and Aubrey, 8.

When he is not on stage, James enjoys theatre, music, golf, church, crossword puzzles and his kids.

James says, "I get great satisfaction out of singing for Unity Church of Overland Park. The people are genuinely warm and receptive, the services are rich and inspiring, and the UCOP band is the best band to perform with. It makes for a very rewarding Sunday."

It has been my pleasure to make music with James for many years, here at the church, as well as in numerous other places.



Fred Albers
Music Director

Green Team NEWS

Green Star Award

September's recipients of the Green Star Award were Lona Davis, Olivia Harding, age 12, and Elizabeth Mora, who demonstrated environmental stewardship in the areas of transportation, at work and at home. Remember to nominate someone

for the on-going Green Star Award for Environmental Excellence. You can pick up a nomination form from the Environmental Information rack in Harmony Hall.



2008 – 2009 UCOP Board of Directors
 Front: Rev. Patricia Bass, Ellis McGee, Pres., Shawn Wegner Back: Carla Wakefield, Debbie King, Randy Gerard, Treas., Tom Hadley, Sec., Paul Heath, Danielle Keith, V.P.

CommUnity Books and Gifts

Come browse the bookstore's full line of spiritual books, music, gifts and jewelry.

Christmas Sale December 7—December 24
 20% off gift items and jewelry (excluding Windstone)

Stop in and see our unique gift items for your loved ones or yourself and support UCOP.



amethyst bear

Three Cups of Tea

chakra necklace

Staff Member Changes at UCOP

New Bookstore Manager

We are delighted to announce that we have hired Karen Adinolfi as the new Bookstore Manager. Karen began working in the Bookstore as Assistant Manager in July 2007.



Karen's background includes working as regional manager and international sales coordinator for a dietary supplements company. She also has an MS in Psychology with a concentration in Industrial/Organizational psychology, and a minor in mathematics.

Farewell Joan Doane

Joan Doane, the previous manager, has decided leave the Bookstore to spend more time traveling and being with family. Thank you Joan for all that you have done over the past years and know that our prayers and blessings go with you as you take the next steps in your journey.



Farewell Adrienne Owings

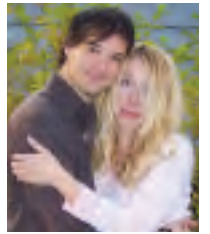
Adrienne Owings served in our nursery for nearly three years. Adrienne stepped down as Nursery Supervisor to spend more time pursuing her studies at the Meta Institute in Minnesota, where she is completing her training to become a Therapeutic Life Coach.



Thank you, Adrienne, for sharing your gifts with us. We wish you well.

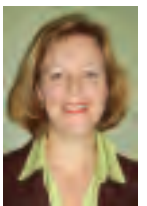
Velezs Step Down

Victor and Rebecka Velez have left the staff of our Youth and Family Ministry Department where Victor served for four years and Rebecka for a year and a half. We extend our deep appreciation to them for the caring and creativity they offered to our children while they were here. We wish them well and bless them and their precious children Gabrielle, Karmen, Rachel, Ian, Sebastian, and Angelica.



Blessings on your journey Rev. Jennifer Holder

Rev. Jennifer Holder has accepted a position as Associate Minister at Unity Church of the Triangle in Raleigh, North Carolina. This newly created position has manifested Jennifer's gifts and talents in support of the church's transition from a small community church to a larger inner city program church.



Jennifer will serve in her dual role at UCOP as interim Youth and Family Minister and Minister of Sacred Service through mid-October.

We are grateful for Jennifer's ministry to us. We bless you Jennifer, your husband Ogun and daughter Joy on your journey.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SACRED SERVICE

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Sunday, October 26 • 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Come Save Lives! The Red Cross supplies blood that can help save the lives of patients in our local hospitals and all over the country. As a nationwide humanitarian organization they provide relief and comfort whenever and wherever disaster strikes. Patients are counting on the American Red Cross to make a difference and, with your help, guarantee a safe and adequate blood supply for our community and the country at large.

Give Cancer Patients Hope
 GIVE BLOOD

A cancer patient can use between 10 & 20 units of blood and 10 to 15 units of platelets for treatment. Help celebrate life and help conquer cancer! There is NO substitute for human blood.

To find out if you are eligible to donate call 1-800-GIVE LIFE!

To sign up for donation time, call Rev. Nancy Jerome, 913-649-1750 ext. 3018 Monday through Thursday.

Christmas Outreach

Another opportunity to share our LOVE!

In November we will again concentrate on making Christmas a time of JOY for those less fortunate. As in the past we will be supporting children, AIDS patients, mentally challenged adults and some of our own with gifts especially designed for them individually by our Christmas Outreach program. Volunteers are invited to participate in the planning in October and everyone is invited to pick up gift cards in November to help spread the JOY of the season. All will be blessed. For more information, contact Nancy Jerome at 913-649-1750 x 3018.



See page 3 under Single's group for more opportunities to serve our community

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 30 • 12:30pm

The Beautification Team will be hosting the Hanging of the Greens. If you would like to help decorate our church home in preparation for the Christmas Season, please feel free to join us. Watch your bulletins for more information as the date approaches and feel free to contact Megan Clark at (913) 649-1750 ext. 3004 with any questions.

The Giving Tree

For the past several years the UCOP Women's Group has sponsored a "Giving Tree." The tree is set up during our traditional "Hanging of the Greens." The tree is then "decorated" with warm hats, gloves, scarves, pj's etc. for the children of Safehome. You are invited to participate and experience the "Joy" of sharing with the children who have little to anticipate for Christmas.

C.O.P.P.

Care of Poor People

November 29 • 10 am – 4 pm

COPP will hold their Survival 8 Event at the Levitt Warehouse, 1808 Oak St, in downtown Kansas City, MO.

This is the 17th year for this annual event that makes such a difference to our poor and homeless brothers and sisters.

This event allows us to show that we WALK God and not just TALK God. You can help with volunteering your time and talents, providing winter clothing and blankets, personal care items and cooked food for the Pot Luck lunch the day of the event. Article donations will be received November 1 through 20 at 204 West 75th, and November 22 through 28 at the warehouse. Both locations are in Kansas City, MO.

Volunteer help to sort those articles will begin two or three days before the event. The most critical date for preparation is Friday, November 28. To give of your time for this important community project, please call (816) 920-6119 or email righardgtripp@yahoo.com. For more information visit www.coppinc.com.

CALENDAR OF CLASSES

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

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

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

Registration
is now available
online!
www.ucop.org



WHAT IS UNITY? | Rev. Jennifer Holder

Sunday, October 5 • 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.



LIVING BEYOND DEPRESSION | Rev. Roxanne Grant-Atkinson

Mondays, October 6 and 13 • 7–9 pm

After coming out of Major Clinical Depression in December of 2000—a depression which persisted for nearly 4 years—Roxanne was told that she had a 90% chance of relapse. That wasn’t a statistic she was willing to accept. Through research and her own trial-and-error, she has developed an intentional lifestyle to keep her depression-free and off medications. Join us as we explore her seven daily steps for wellness.



FORGIVENESS | Craig McAndrew, MA, LPC, CSACI, CADC 1

Tuesdays, October 7–21 • 7–9 pm

Author of the book, *Forgiving Judas: A man’s journey to forgive his brother*, Craig has been in the field of counseling since 1996 and has served on the Spiritual Counseling Team at UCOP since 2001. Join Craig as he explores the topics of forgiving our enemies, our family and ourselves. By releasing judgment, we can move forward and be a beacon of light into the world. Each evening will focus on a different topic.



UNITY’S TEACHINGS ON PROSPERITY: A WAY OF LIVING AND THINKING | Barbara Hadley

Thursdays, October 9—November 13 (skipping Nov. 6) • 7–9 pm

This is a combined study of Charles Fillmore’s book, *Prosperity*, and Eric Butterworth’s *Spiritual Economics*. We will compare and contrast the ideas of these two great teachers as we study substance, the activity of mind, faith, visualization, what it means to develop a giving consciousness, the truth about money, and how to replace a consciousness of lack with a lasting consciousness of abundance. (10 SEE Core Credits available)



SOUL QUEST | Tom Anderson

Friday, October 10—Sunday, October 12

Immerse yourself in the soul mirror of nature, while spending three days camping at Prairie State Park near Lamar, Missouri. This experience is based on the concept of the Vision Quest. We will reconnect with our own souls and receive guidance from the universe. Contact Tom at 816-841-0955 or tom@liveamythiclife.com. Advance registration required. (Fee: \$195 includes camping fees, lunch on Fri, dinner on Sat. and breakfast on Sun.)



“GET OVER IT” & MOVE ON: HOW TO LET GO OF THE PAST | Jeannine Fox

Thursday, October 16 • 7–9 pm

Deep within each person is the power to heal; that place where understanding, acceptance, forgiveness, and peace reside. However, the disappointments and trauma in our lives sometimes seem insurmountable. No matter what your life experiences, this workshop will guide you through the steps to release past hurts and help you discover your own inner strength and power to heal.



IS THERE LIFE AFTER BIRTH?: FIVE STEPS TO BEING YOUR OWN BEST FRIEND | Kevin Audley

Mondays, October 20 and 27 • 7—8:30 pm

Are you waiting for something to happen outside of you in order to “be” happy? This class examines the socialization process that leads us to approach life in this manner. Once aware of the illusions we accept as true, an alternate path will be proposed in order to attract what we want and accept what is. Kevin Audley is the author of the forthcoming book entitled: *Is there life after birth? – Five steps to being your own best friend*.



WHAT IS UNITY? | Rev. Bob Barth

Sunday, November 2 • 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.

Child Care

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



THE SEVEN WINDOWS TO WHOLENESS | *Jim Crabtree, founder of Core Star*

Mondays, November 10—24 • 7—9 pm

Based on his book *The Seven Windows to Wholeness*, Jim Crabtree guides participants through an exploration of energy techniques to connect them with the Wholeness Intention™. Expected results include flowing in a feeling of connectedness, eagerly anticipating the future with curiosity, knowing oneself to be happy and feeling in charge, responsive and in control of your life. Book available at Unity bookstore. (www.corestarenergyhealing.com)



BIBLE OVERVIEW: CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES | *Barbara Hadley*

Wednesdays, November 19—December 17 • 7—9 pm

This core Unity class explores the Gospels, Letters, History and Apocryphal literature that comprise the New Testament. We will develop an understanding of the Christian Scriptures' meaning for the people to whom they were written. Understanding the Christian Scriptures as a Testament **about** Jesus Christ rather than a Testament **of** Jesus Christ frees us to appreciate the powerful faith of these first followers of The Way. 10 SEE Core Credits

Message from the Board

I am profoundly thankful for Unity's Founding Principle that there is One Power and One Presence in the Universe with no separation; we are in God and God is in us.

That we and the entire universe are of 'The One' is so visible in the ways our congregants minister to each other. Our compassion, love, caring, joy, fun and many other adjectives of who we are as a community bring me to the following observation.

One sure way to sense the energy and vitality of any organization is observing activities and personal involvement where people care for others. We see this all over the world—the goodness of people everywhere. Another way to sense that vitality is the volunteerism and

activities members devote to the success and enrichment of those groups and organizations. That spirit of love and caring is so abundantly evident at Unity Church of Overland Park. The number of vehicles in our parking lot on any given day shouts out how much we care about learning and teaching, about self improvement and about others.

I am so proud of all our wonderful congregants, those seen and not seen who not only do the heavy lifting, they also keep our spiritual energy bursting forth, filling our cup to overflowing and lovingly supporting not only our community but people everywhere through acts of service, prayer, meditation and – of course joyful worship.

Now that we have gleaned from our

Mission, Vision and Values a sure course of action, directed towards first things first yet being sensitive to emerging needs or opportunities, we have even greater avenues for involvement and vitality.



Ellis Megee

I encourage everyone to be blessed in unimaginable ways by seeking what it is that you are called to do or be in the unfolding of our Mission, Vision and Values. We are all ministers to one another and I am so wonderfully blessed to have hundreds of you minister to me.

God's abundant Blessings upon each of you,

Ellis Megee

Prosperity Corner

by Randy Gerard

Giving Large



Many of you know that Lucy Rector gifted her home upon her passing to the church to honor the place where she felt she was spiritually fed. We are so appreciative of Lucy and her generous spirit. Many congregants came together to prepare the house for sale by cleaning, painting and landscaping – yet another display of prosperity through individual commitment to sacred service felt by Unity Church of Overland Park.

A bequest in a will naming the church or other charitable organization as the recipient, as Lucy did, is one way to giving to your spiritual community. Others have asked us about the act of a charitable gift while living or as a bequest in the final estate. Some of the goals of gift giving in this way can be accomplished through acknowledgment of the spiritual and charitable desires of the owner, potentially saving the donor's estate sig-

nificant income and/or estate taxes. In some cases, gifting can generate tax-advantaged income for the donor while still living or for the donor's heirs, and provide an essential source of funding for supporting and nurturing the programs, facilities and community outreach of the organization.

The ministry greatly appreciates knowing when an individual is planning to name the church in a charitable gift. You may notify our Business Manager Jane Sauvé in this situation. Your Board and staff at Unity Church of Overland Park will be inviting estate planning professionals in the field of charitable planning to present ongoing classes or seminars to explain the basic concepts and to make themselves available for follow-up discussions if needed. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns, please ask your tax advisor, estate attorney or Board Treasurer Randy Gerard for more information.

Tithing—A Law of Prosperity

At the annual Unity People's Convention in Phoenix, the President of our Association of Unity Churches International, Reverend James Trapp, presented Rev. Patricia Bass with a plaque honoring our ministry as one of the largest tithing churches to the Association.

Each month, Unity Church of Overland Park tithes 10% of our income to those places by which we, as an organization, are spiritually fed. Individuals and organizations alike that lovingly tithe 10% of their income and financial gifts to the person, place or institution they feel spiritually fed actively demonstrates one law of prosperity.



UCOP ministers at the Unity People's Conference LtoR: Rev. Jennifer Holder Rev. Nancy Jerome Rev. Patricia Bass Rev. James Trapp, Pres. of Unity Churches Internat'l Rev. Bob Barth

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

Al-Anon

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

Alcoholics Anonymous

Mon, Wed or Thurs • 7:30–8:30 pm
Tues. • noon
Last Monday of the month is the open meeting.

Codependents Anonymous

Tuesdays • 7–8 pm
A 12-step program that will help you face and work through your codependency issues. Come and join us; then start a wonderful new journey of deeper self-understanding.

Narcotics Anonymous

Mondays • 7–8 pm
This 12-step program is for those for whom drugs had become a major problem. By meeting regularly we help each other stay clean.

Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesdays 6–7 pm
Thursdays 11:30 am–12:30 pm
A 12-step program for support in turning over your food issues to a higher power.

Stand-Up Parenting

Tuesdays • 7 pm
Tough Love is a support organization for parents and family members of persons struggling with unacceptable behaviors. Come join this circle of people who can help you understand and meet the challenges of your current situation.

Wednesday Winners: Debtors Anonymous

Wednesdays • 7–8 pm
A 12-step program for those who overspend and under-earn. The goal is to live financially solvent one day at a time.

Women's Retreat

May 15 & 16, 2009

Plan now for the UCOP Women's Retreat at the Spiritual Life Center at Unity Village. Teri Wilder will lead the retreat with Rev. Patricia Bass. More info in future Visions, Sunday bulletins and online.

Men's Retreat

**SAVE THE DATES
February 20 & 21, 2009**

You don't want to miss this one: The Men's Retreat at Unity Village's Spiritual Life Center. Rev. Paul Hasselbeck will be facilitating this gathering of men in developing friendships, offering support, deepening relationships and moving forward in our spiritual journey. More info to come in Visions, Sunday bulletins and online.



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

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

PRAYER CHAPLAINS



Allen Carl



Bob Noll



Donna Sherman



Betsy Wentzel

NEW PRAYER CHAPLAIN TEAM!

We are pleased to let you know that your new Prayer Chaplain Team is now eager to support you with prayer on Sundays and at our special services. They are eager to help you celebrate your wins and support you over the rough times as well.

They have been trained to hold a sacred, spiritual space for you, to actively listen from the heart, to hold a confidence and to pray out loud with you. We are very blessed to have this level of consciousness and commitment in this very important program.

ARE YOU READY FOR MORE PRAYER SUPPORT? Call the church and talk with Rev. Nancy Jerome to be assigned a Prayer Chaplain who will call each month and hold you in prayer.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fall Faith Celebration: AWAKENING
Sept. 28–Nov. 12 • Rev. Patricia Bass

Blessing of the Animals • Saturday, October 4

Francois Le Roux ~ The HA! Man
Sunday Celebration Services and Workshop
October 12

Jason & de Marco
Sunday, October 26 • 9 & 11 am

Red Cross Blood Drive
Sunday, October 26 • 9 am —1 pm

COPP Survival 8
Levitt Warehouse, KCMO
Saturday, November 29 • 10 am—4 pm

Save the Date for Men's Retreat
with Rev. Paul Hasselbeck Feb. 20 & 21, 2009

Thanksgiving Service
November 28 • 7 pm

The church offices and bookstore will be closed
Oct. 13 – Columbus Day and Nov. 27 & 28—Thanksgiving

PRAYER & Meditation

One of our core values as a spiritual community is "Spirit-led." As a spiritual community we offer many opportunities to be involved in activities that allow us as individuals and groups to be guided and led by Spirit.

- We are supported by a strong silent prayer team that prays daily with each name placed on a prayer request and submitted for support each week.
- "Come apart for awhile" and escape the busyness of our work-day activities for a time of quiet prayer and meditation. This is available Monday through Thursday at noon when the church is open and is led by one of our staff, who holds the space of all possibilities for those who come to share this quiet time.
- Our Sunday Celebration Services are preceded by guided meditations in our Peace Chapel at 8:30 and 10:30 am each week. If you would like to take time to be in the quiet before our services begin, join us for a sacred experience.
- Individual prayer support, one-on-one, is also open to all and available from any one of our trained Prayer Chaplains. You will find them throughout the church on Sunday mornings and can recognize them by their silver name badges. They will hold a sacred space for you, listen and pray with you from the heart, and hold what is shared in absolute confidence right there "on the spot."

You are invited to take advantage of any or all of these opportunities to be "Spirit-led" and supported by this spiritual community.

SPOTLIGHT Gallery



During October and November we will be blessed by an exhibition by several photo-artists from The Johnson County Camera Club. They support their current membership of 45 with workshops, field trips and Show & Tell discussion. Their photography covers a broad range of subjects, both in black and white and color. Our own Harold Hooper is a member and you can get a preview of some of his and other member's photos on the website at <http://www.jccameraclub.com>. Don't be surprised when you find several of your CHRISTMAS presents in this exhibit...so bring your checkbook!

Hours: M-Th 10-8, Sunday 8:30-1

Tennessee Sunset by Harold Hooper

COMMUNITY Books & Gifts

Christmas sale Dec 7— Dec 24
20% off gift items and jewelry
(excluding Windstone)

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



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

For Someone Special:

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