

Christ Church Unity
A member of the Association of
Unity Churches International
Affiliated with Unity Institute, publisher
of the Daily Word

Our Mission Statement:
Christ Church Unity is a warm, loving
and vibrant spiritual center in the heart
of Rochester. Recognizing our divine
nature, we create a nurturing environ-
ment of spiritual freedom where all can
develop their spiritual potential for lives
overflowing with blessings.

Our Board of Trustees
Mike Gacek, President
Cheri Charboneau, Vice President
P.J. Trahan, Treasurer
Marie Hedrick, Secretary
Paula Bramwell, Trustee
Les Collins, Trustee

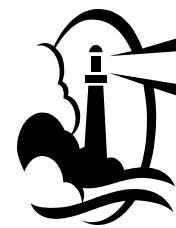
Rev. Eleanor Celentani,
Spiritual Leader/Minister

Our Staff
Bernie Bowie, Newsletter Editor
Jane Faust, Accompanist
Anita Gaiteri, Custodian
Samuel Gaiteri, Custodial Aide
Thomas Warfield, Soloist
Leslie Wright, Bookkeeper

Our Ministry Team Coordinators
Prayer – Jane Faust
Ushers – Marie Hedrick
Greeters – Donna Frary
Platform Assistants –
Bookstore – Paulie Gajewski
Social – Anita Gaiteri
Remembrance – Kat VanMeenen
Circulation Day – Dorothea King
Audio – Chris Spridy & Bob Gajewski
Historian – Mike Gacek
Librarian/Fun Club—Sylvia Barker
Youth Education Director and
Lead Teacher – Marna Rossi

Submission deadline for next issue:
February 17, 2006

Christ Church Unity Light Notes



February 2006

Dear Unity Family,

If you have set any goals for yourself for 2006 you have probably felt by now that if your life is going to change, **you** will have to change, and that's the challenging part. On the other hand, if you have set goals which are true to your heart, then at least part of you is motivated to act in a new way.

It is interesting to me that Jesus said, "Blessed is that servant who can bring forth from his storehouse the new as well as the old." This shows that Jesus thought that both the old and the new will be needed; he was not one-sided.

To make change easier, we might think of opening to receive new good, and allowing our past to transform. I think "allow to transform" is easier than trying to let go or "get rid of" something. Just think of your old energy as being refined and uplifted by Spirit so that you can now accomplish brighter things. You can literally visualize your being as an energy field which has a certain "feel" or "look" or "texture" to it in the present, and then put Light (or Love) into it. This changes the quality of your energy and the results you can create.

Here at Christ Church Unity we have made a modest change in our order of service by putting the Greeting first, and this seems to be working. In January we had hymn practice on two Sundays before the service began, and our congregation responded beautifully to this new music.

A greater change which we anticipate is the election of four Trustees at our Annual Meeting on March 5, 2006. By the time you read this you will no doubt have seen their pictures and bios at the church on the bulletin board. Please see the article by Kathy Vidas elsewhere in this newsletter with more information and our affirmation for elections.

At the end of January we were pleased to announce that our own website is up and running. What a great accomplishment for us! We are delighted to have a presence on the web. Our thanks go to Mike Gacek and Emily Carpenter for creating a beautiful site for us to grow from. Our address is www.unityrochester.org

I appreciate each of you – your presence, thoughts of us, prayers and financial support. I am so happy when you bring new people in to "try Unity." And thank you for all you do to support the work of the Christ in this center by your volunteer service. I am grateful.

For "a life overflowing with blessings," as it says in our mission statement, I invite you to consider the prosperity class going on now on Wednesday evenings. It's not too late to attend. Please see the calendar for more details.

Please go on to page two and see a goal for all Unity churches for 2006. Remember, you are Unity; Unity is you!

With Love,
Rev. Eleanor

Teachings in Truth



The Association of Unity Churches International has enunciated a theme for 2006: "Get on board with Peace, Prayer and Prosperity." These three key words suggest to me this sequence: a mind at peace naturally turns to communion with God (prayer); from this communion comes the fullness of life, on all levels of being (prosperity). This is what our brothers and sisters in Unity around the world are being asked to dwell upon this year.

Let each of us become consciously aware of what disrupts our inner peace and what is effective in restoring our inner **peace**. Breathing, forgiving, walking - whatever it is – let us use the tools we have to keep ourselves in peaceful balance as much as we can. Your peace creates an environment where others may be healed as well.

Since the founding of Unity, **prayer** has been at the center of all we do, since prayer is our communion with the One Presence and Power. In 2005 I shared the teaching that "Prayer is receiving;" i.e. whatever we are praying for is what we are opening our mind and heart to receive. Thus, prayer is both asking and receiving. Unity calls us to grow in our faith in the power of prayer and to grow in our practice of prayer. Faith and practice are mutually reinforcing.

The more deeply we sink into God (pray), the more abundant is our feeling of "no need" – all is well. This is a spiritual awareness, a thought, and a feeling. In this **prosperity** consciousness we know that all our material needs are provided for, because the Source is within us, we are loved by God and we are magnetic to good. This state of mind is what Jesus meant by being in the "Kingdom of Heaven," where all things are given to you.

We can also start with Prayer and go into Peace and then into Prosperity. These spiritual realities are like petals on a flower: they overlap. We may talk about them one at a time but it is actually difficult to experience them separately.

Peace, Prayer and Prosperity: a blessed intention for yourself and for the whole world. Let these three energies assist you in manifesting your personal goals for 2006.

In Unity,
Rev. Eleanor

New This Month...



February 4, 11, & 18

12:30-2 PM Membership Class. See information on back of calendar page.

February 25

5 PM Metaphysical Movie class "Leap of Faith"

April 1

Unity's World Healing Day with laughter and fun. See www.planetaryplay.org

February 12

Board Meeting

March 5

CCU Annual Meeting, following the service. Please plan to attend.

February 19

1 PM Overcoming the Myths of Disease, a workshop presented by Jake Wilcox.

March 18

12:30-2 PM Prayer Enrichment Class

February 23

Assemble and fold newsletter

AND...

Each Sunday the New CCU Cookbook will be for sale after the service.

Look for a Music Sunday in March.

Watch for announcement regarding St. Patrick's Day Dinner.



Prayer

February Affirmations From Silent Unity

Inner Peace

Secure in God's love, I am calm and at peace.

Guidance

Divine love guides me in all my decisions.
I am wise and confident.

Healing

The love of God is flowing through me now.
I am revitalized and renewed.

Prosperity

God's love prospers me.
I am blessed with abundant good

Prayer Ministry

For prayer requests or other messages to the prayer team call 473-0910 and press 4.

Prayer for Our Church

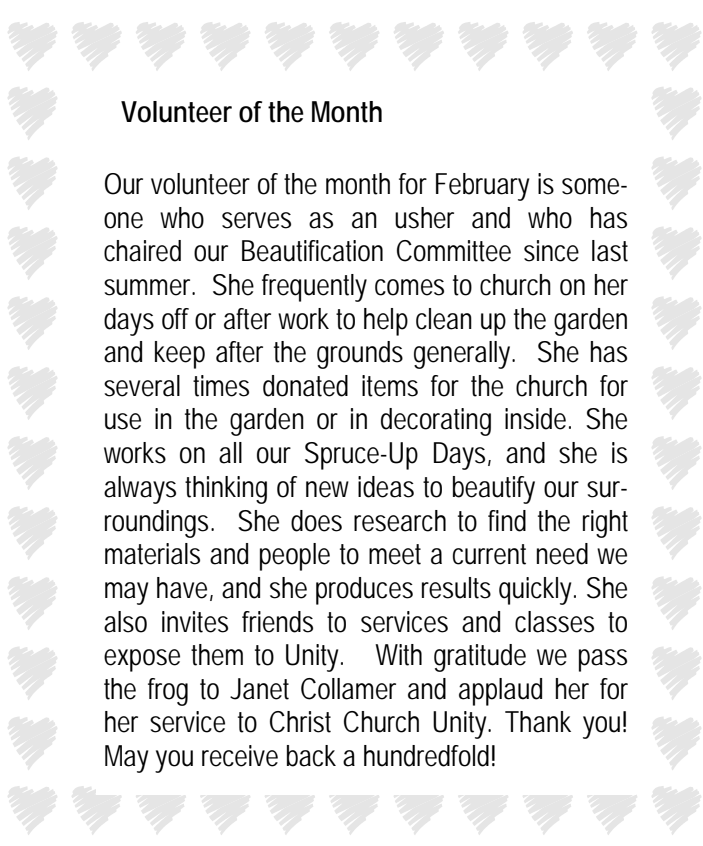
Infinite Spirit

Open the way for abundant blessings for Christ Church Unity. Fill our minds with Your Love and Wisdom; fill our actions with Creative Power. Send forth now from all points in the Universe all the good we deserve as Children of God. We are open and receptive now to Your Divine Ideas of love, prosperity, and service.

Thank You God.

Amen.

Our Prosperity



Volunteer of the Month

Our volunteer of the month for February is someone who serves as an usher and who has chaired our Beautification Committee since last summer. She frequently comes to church on her days off or after work to help clean up the garden and keep after the grounds generally. She has several times donated items for the church for use in the garden or in decorating inside. She works on all our Spruce-Up Days, and she is always thinking of new ideas to beautify our surroundings. She does research to find the right materials and people to meet a current need we may have, and she produces results quickly. She also invites friends to services and classes to expose them to Unity. With gratitude we pass the frog to Janet Collamer and applaud her for her service to Christ Church Unity. Thank you! May you receive back a hundredfold!

Divine Love richly provides everything now.



Board News

What a prosperous year we have had at Christ Church Unity. I think it might be good to look back at the past year and appreciate our blessings. The biggest blessing of all is that Rev. Eleanor Celentani has become our spiritual Leader/Minister. After a long period of guest speakers we now have a spiritually gifted minister we can count on to lead our church. The church is prospering under her leadership. Our attendance is up and the membership is growing as well as our income which only comes from the generous giving of the people attending our services.

I appreciate the group of dedicated people who came together to form the "Vision Ministry." This group worked together over many weeks to discover our vision and our mission statement. I am so proud of the statements that were developed by the group. Our vision statement is "*Humanity awakens*

and transforms into its Divine Identity. Christ Church Unity is a focal point of service to this vision." The thought of humanity awakening will surely raise the consciousness of everybody on the planet. My vision is for everybody in the world living in unity with each other and realizing we are all one.

I appreciate the generosity of an interest free loan of \$30,000 from one of our members, and all of you who responded to our numerous fund raising events with your gifts of money. My thanks to all of you who participated in various fund raising committees. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. The fruits of these works are many.

We have a new roof on our building. Our parking lot has been repaired and has new striping. The church office was updated this year with a new computer, and we fixed some plumbing, electrical and outside lighting problems that were long overdue. We have a new sign on our building and a new

sign out by the street. These signs improve our image and help to make us more visible to the Rochester community. We are blessed with a new web site www.unityrochester.org. Our Web site will make us more visible to the world and provides another forum for us to do our part in awakening humanity.

I think the Unity movement and our Unity Church is one of the best kept secrets in Rochester. The best way of advertising our church is for each of us to reveal the secret by asking a friend to join us at a Sunday service or one of the mid-week classes or study groups.

This will be the last time I am writing to you this Message from the Board. It has been my pleasure to serve you as President of the Board of Trustees. I will end my service on the Board after the Annual Meeting on March 5th. Blessing to you all and may we go forward into an even more prosperous year in 2006. Thank you God!
Mike Gacek

Highlights from the Board Meeting

The nominating committee reported that they have chosen four candidates for possible election to the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting on March 5, 2006.

New membership classes will start on February 4, 2006.

Our new, large-screen projector is now installed in the sanctuary and will be put to the test soon. A series of metaphysical movies will be shown as part of an ongoing class, conducted by Jane Faust, our Unity teacher in training.

Our beautiful new church website, unityrochester.org, is now complete and available on the World Wide Web. Our

warmest thanks go to Mike Gacek, Board president, and Emily Carpenter for their hard work and diligence.

Rev. Eleanor feels that the church needs an emergency preparedness plan in place. Bob Gajewski, and Carmela Laino, a specialist in safety and security, agreed to help on the plan. Mike Gacek offered to be the computer backup person.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Hedrick, Secretary



People In Action

Youth Education

The clothing collected through the Sunday School clothing drive was delivered to Bethany House, a shelter for women and children. Bethany House was quite grateful. Thank you to everyone who participated.



Listen soon for the sounds of joyful music coming from the children. Recently, the

Sunday School purchased rhythm instruments and the children will be learning about them. We look forward to beautiful music.

Nominating Committee Report

On March 5th, Christ Church Unity will hold its Annual Meeting. One of the agenda items of the meeting is to elect new members to fill the seats of the departing Trustees.

This year we have four seats available. Marie Hedrick and Paula Bramwell each have an expiring three-year term. Mike Gacek is resigning, leaving one remaining year on that position's term. Les Collins was appointed to fill a vacancy that has one year remaining on the term and needs to be voted on.

The known Board candidates are Paula Bramwell, Barbara Daly, Bob Gajewski, and Leslie Wright. You can read about them in this newsletter and on the bulletin board at the church. As is noted in our

by-laws, Board of Trustee candidates may also be nominated from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee asks all to read and pray on the following affirmation:

The Christ is the Head of this church. The Christ Mind guides the election process here.

Divine Love irresistibly draws to us those people who are chosen by Divine Wisdom to serve on the Board, who are qualified, willing and available.

We are grateful.

Love and blessings,
Kathy Vidas

I begin this new year open and receptive to the abundance of God.

Ways to Get Involved

Fun Club News

A small group of Fun Club members had a great time after the New Year's Eve service. There was dinner, a sing-a-long at Bullwinkles Café, fireworks at High Falls and coffee and fun conversation at a member's house until very late. The Fun Club is not just for singles—it is for people who want fun and fellowship. For information, complete the interest indicator or see Sylvia Barker.



The **One-Winged Angels** support group led by Jane Faust will meet Friday, March 24, 2006 at 10:30 AM. The subject will be continuing of Balancing the Chakras. The group will adjourn to lunch afterwards. Newcomers are welcome.

Metaphysical Movies Class



The next movie of the Metaphysical Movie class will be "Leap of Faith," a PG 13 comedy starring Steve Martin, **Saturday, February 25, 2006, at 5 p.m.** The movie runs 107 minutes and following the film there will be group discussion led by Jane Faust, who is facilitating this series of classes. The text for the class, Reel Spirit, by Raymond Teague, is available in our bookstore. The cost of the class is a love offering. Future titles include: "The Day the Earth Stood Still," "What the Bleep Do we Know?" and one other to be announced.

The **Beautification Committee** welcomes new people to join the group. If you are interested in helping to beautify the church and grounds, please contact Janet Collamer.

Overcoming the Myths of Disease and Choosing a Powerful Healing Perspective

Back by popular demand! A class entitled, "Overcoming the Myths of Disease and Choosing a Powerful Healing Perspective" will be given by Jake Wilcox on **Sunday, Feb. 19th at 1:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Jake attends our church and is a licensed acupuncturist. This class is a general discussion of how people think about illness and how you can take your power back. Jake will work with questions from the class members as well as his own material. If you attended the first class a few months ago there will be new material in this session. The class will be given on a love offering basis, and will last 60 to 90 minutes. All are welcome. Please sign up at the front counter where flyers will be available.

Living ~ Giving ~ Learning

On-Going Events

Every Saturday the **David Hawkins Book Discussion** group will meet from 10 AM-Noon. The next discussion is February 4, 2006

The **metaphysical discussion group** will be in recess until spring. Questions? Contact the church office.

A Course in Miracles class, Tuesdays, 7-8:30 PM. Led by Dijana Winter. For information call 585-703-1914. Suggested love offering \$10. Class meets in

Office Hours

Our church office is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, but you can leave a message at any time by calling 585-473-0910.

Rev. Eleanor's normal work days are Wednesday through Sunday. She is available for spiritual counseling by appointment. Please call 585-473-0145. You may also call for prayer at any time. Love offerings for counseling are gratefully accepted.

the Sunday School room.

Food and toiletry items for **Dimitri House** can be placed in the box under the reception desk at any time. Items will be delivered the first Sunday of the month.



Thank you for making our Sunday Service fragrance-free.

Rev. Eleanor

Reminder: the **schedule of activities** for CCU is available by calling the church at 473-0910 and pressing 3 on the voice mail options.

Inclement Weather Closing



If Christ Church Unity finds it necessary to cancel **Sunday** activities due to inclement weather, the announcement will be made on WHAM 1180 AM radio and TV channel 13. It will also be posted on the church phone line 473-0910 after 8 a.m. **Weeknight** cancellations will be announced by 5 p.m. on the church voice mail and in the media if possible.

Parking Reminder for Classes

Sometimes church events and Auditorium Theater events take place simultaneously. Nevertheless, students who are coming to CCU for classes never pay a fee for parking. If you see people collecting money when you enter the parking lot for a class, just tell him you are there for a class and you will not be charged. Please follow their instructions about where to park.

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Website: www.unityrochester.org

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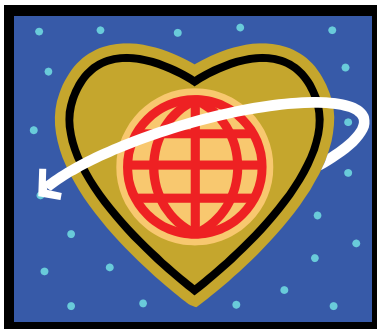
Dial – A – Prayer 865-8683 Ext. PRAY (7729)

If you no longer wish to receive this
newsletter, please check this box and return this
sheet to us.

Sent with love to:

Sunday Service – 11:00 a.m.

Practical Christianity for the 21st Century



God's love unites us—heart and soul.