

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

# Christ Church Unity 60th Anniversary Year



February 2007

## ***Our Vision Statement***

*Humanity awakens and transforms into its Divine Identity. Christ Church Unity is a focal point of service to this vision.*

## Our Board of Trustees

Paula Bramwell, President  
Bob Gajewski, Vice President  
Leslie Wright, Treasurer  
Marie Hedrick, Secretary  
P.J. Trahan, Trustee  
Trustee

Rev. Eleanor Celentani,  
Spiritual Leader/Minister

## Our Staff

Bernie Bowie, Newsletter Editor  
Jane Faust, Accompanist  
Anita Gaiteri, Custodian  
Samuel Gaiteri, Custodial Aide  
Eric Strader, Gardener  
Thomas Warfield, Soloist

## Our Ministry Team Coordinators

Audio – Chris Spridy & Bob Gajewski  
Bookstore – Paulie Gajewski  
Circulation Day – Dorothea King  
Greeters – Kat VanMeenen  
Librarian/Fun Club—Sylvia Barker  
New Horizons—Eileen Smith  
Nominating Cmte—Kathy Vidas  
Photographer – Mike Gacek  
Platform Assistants – Donna Ries  
Prayer – Jane Faust  
Prosperity Projects—Bill & Eileen Smith  
Remembrance –  
Social – Anita Gaiteri  
Ushers – Marie Hedrick  
Youth Education Director and  
Lead Teacher – Marna Rossi

Submission deadline for next issue:  
February 16, 2007

Assembling date:  
February 22, 2007

Dear Family of Unity,

If you attended our Burning Bowl Service on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, I hope you remember what the goals and prayers were that you wrote to God, and that you are staying on your path. I will offer another **Burning Bowl on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>**, at the evening meditation service, 7:00 p.m.

Our **Strategic Planning** process continued with an important meeting on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> where the team elected Eileen Smith as Chair of the group and elected Sue Giannavola and Donna Ries as Recorders. Now we look forward to an informative session with Barbara O'Hearne, consultant in church development with the AUCI, on Sun., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. I ask that everyone hold this group and this meeting in Light. The group has chosen to re-name itself "**New Horizons**," appropriate to its purpose.

I am grateful for the beautiful **new lighting fixtures** in our sanctuary. The dimmers are also now installed and will provide flexibility of use. Thank you to all of you who made this possible. It is amazing what a difference the new lights have made in how everything looks.

On **Palm Sunday**, April 1<sup>st</sup>, we will have a **spiritual play** enacted for our Sunday Service. This is being organized by Jane Faust, Anita Gaiteri, and Marna Rossi. Everyone who is interested in participating in some way is welcome to come to a cast meeting on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Roles for our children will also be included.

Our **bookstore** has recently obtained many new books; I invite you to come and be inspired by these new offerings. **Membership classes** will be given in March.

As your spiritual leader, I am interested in your health and welfare. I would like to have an **emergency contact** name for everyone who attends our church on a regular basis, in case we need to inquire if we have not seen you and we have not been able to reach you personally. Also, if someone should ever become ill or injured while at church, we need to know whom to contact. This information will be kept in a private place in my office and in the main church office. Soon we will announce at church a mechanism for collecting this information. Your participation is voluntary, of course.

In this newsletter you will find biographical information about our **nominees for the office of Trustee**. These elections will take place at the **Annual Meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>**. I hope all Members will be there. Non-members are also welcome to attend and observe, but do not vote. I am grateful to the nominees, and to the Nominating Committee for their diligent work under the leadership of Kathy Vidas. Blessings to all on this path of service!

**Thomas Warfield** has been selected for a new appointment at RIT: Chairperson of the Commission for Promoting Pluralism, a group based in the President's Office. This is both an honor and a responsibility, and we know that Thomas is there by Divine Appointment. Congratulations, Thomas!

I behold for you the blessings of Divine Love this month.

Rev. Eleanor

# Teachings in Truth

In this month we remember Divine Love as the wellspring of all the other kinds of love we experience on this plane. Unity teaches that God is Love, and if we go deeply into that statement we realize its profound implications.

If God is Love, then whatever you can say about God you can say about Love. Love is the ground of our being, Love is the unified field which holds all in existence, Love is the Infinite Wisdom which brought forth the Divine Design, Love is our reason to live. Love is where we came from and the reality to which we will return. Love is All Knowing, Love is All Powerful, Love is Everywhere Present. This is so much more than an emotional feeling, or a physical attraction. Love is Consciousness expressing in a multitude of dimensions.

The most basic truth about us is that Love is what we **are**, because as spiritual beings, **we share the Nature of our Creator**. This is why it is painful when we feel unloved: our very essence is not being recognized and fulfilled. We don't usually think of it in philosophical terms, however; we just feel the anger, loneliness, and sadness.

Spiritual teaching holds that the only way to heal the absence of Love is to Be Love –to put Love into the situation where it seems to be lacking, trusting that Love will win in the end. St. Paul started his treatise on love by saying, "Love is patient," leading to the conclusion, "Love never fails." Are you patient in your application of Love? To be patient leads to victory.

Charles Fillmore taught that Love is one of the Twelve Powers – divine powers which are implanted in us in our spiritual core. I would like to emphasize here the word "power." Love is a power: a power to heal, a power to liberate, a power to restore and prosper. A Unity student knows that to love is not to be weak, but to have the greatest power there is. When you love you are powerful because you are aligned with the nature of Reality; you are emanating the radiation of God Itself. As we progress on the spiritual path, we come to understand more of this mystery of Love, gradually letting go of our lesser concepts and going into a deeper realization. As St. Paul also said, "Now, we see as in a mirror, dimly, but then, we shall see face to face."

Jesus taught that there are two great commandments: to love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, your whole soul, your whole mind, and your whole strength; and to love your neighbor as yourself. And at the Last Supper He said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

This is the Way to which you have been called as a follower of Jesus Christ. During this Lenten season, walk with your Master Teacher and learn from Him.

Rev. Eleanor

# New This Month...



**February 2**  
6 PM Palm Sunday Drama Meeting

**February 11**  
Barbara O'Hearne meets with New Horizons

**May 6**  
Anniversary Banquet

**February 3**  
1 PM Financial Prosperity Committee

**February 15**  
5:30 Planning & Beautification Committee

**July 24**  
Red Wings Baseball Game

**February 7**  
5:30 PM Promotion Club

**February 17**  
9 AM—1 PM Spruce Up Day

**February 8**  
Deadline to submit names for invitations to Anniversary Banquet

## Upcoming Events

**March 11**  
Annual Meeting



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
Photo by Mike Gacek



# Prayer

## February Affirmations From Silent Unity

### Inner Peace

Centered in the love of God in this prayerful moment,  
I am at peace

### Guidance

I am wise and free as I let divine light  
radiate in and through me.

### Healing

Created in the image of God, I express  
pure life and energy.

### Prosperity

Through the all-providing love of God, I am  
abundantly blessed.

## Prayer Ministry

February is the month we focus on the power of love. Colossians 3:14 reminds us to

“Above all clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

Through prayer we connect with the source of all love. Allowing the radiance of God's love to shine through us, we become a harmonizing healing force to the world.

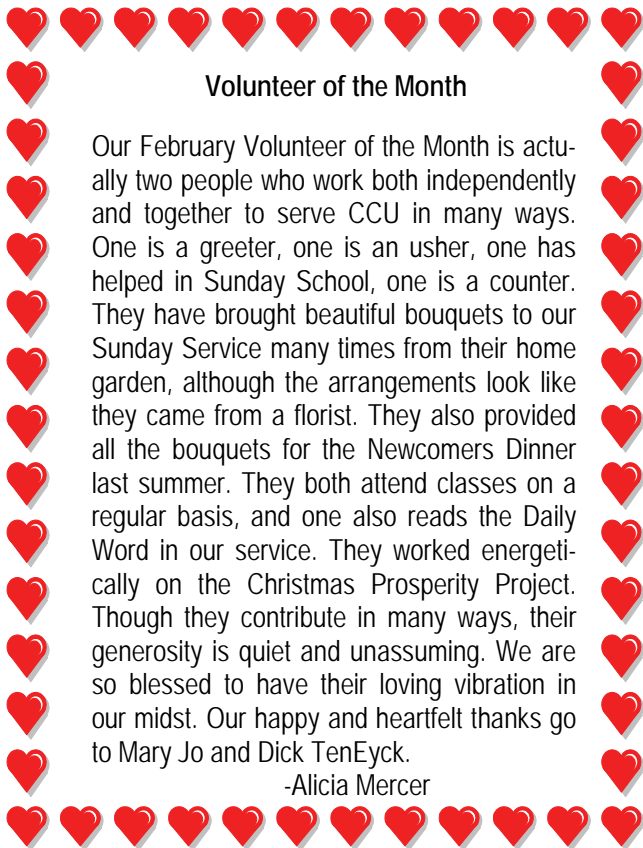
Thank you, God, for the positive vibrations of a loving heart. And so it is!

**For prayer requests or other messages to the prayer team call 473-0910 and press 4. Please let us know if you or a family member are ill or hospitalized so that we can pray with you.**

# Our Prosperity

This month we are grateful for:

- ◆ Bob Gajewski's leadership and supervision of the new lighting installation in the sanctuary.
  - ◆ All who helped with preparing the sanctuary for renovation by taking down Christmas decorations and stacking chairs.
  - ◆ Leslie Wright, Stan Marshall and Bob Gajewski for putting all the chairs back in the sanctuary and distributing the hymnals.
  - ◆ Mike Gacek, Bob Nobles, Louis Wong, Stan Marshall and Eric Strader who moved the Christmas Tree to the lobby and redecorated it.
  - ◆ Thomas Warfield and Steve D'Annunzio for their inspiring services.
  - ◆ Bernie Bowie, Paulie Gajewski and Sue Giannovola for their valuable help in the office.
  - ◆ Anita Gaiteri for recruiting several new people to join the Anniversary Committee.
  - ◆ Elisë Vella and Paulie Gajewski for offering new learning opportunities at our church.
  - ◆ Wendy Smith for sharing her Qi Gong skills with our children.
  - ◆ Elisë Vella, Sue Giannovola, Bill & Eileen Smith, John Russell, Anita Gaiteri, Peggy Harvey, Peela Hooke, Sara Gale, Bernie Bowie, Eleanor Celentani, Katherine DaCosta and Chris Spridy for helping to get the newsletter out.
  - ◆ New Horizons!
  - ◆ All our congregation members who contribute to our church through your presence, participation and offerings.
- We are grateful to God for all the ways we have been enriched. As we give, we receive.



**Volunteer of the Month**

Our February Volunteer of the Month is actually two people who work both independently and together to serve CCU in many ways. One is a greeter, one is an usher, one has helped in Sunday School, one is a counter. They have brought beautiful bouquets to our Sunday Service many times from their home garden, although the arrangements look like they came from a florist. They also provided all the bouquets for the Newcomers Dinner last summer. They both attend classes on a regular basis, and one also reads the Daily Word in our service. They worked energetically on the Christmas Prosperity Project. Though they contribute in many ways, their generosity is quiet and unassuming. We are so blessed to have their loving vibration in our midst. Our happy and heartfelt thanks go to Mary Jo and Dick TenEyck.

-Alicia Mercer

Divine Love richly provides everything



# New Horizons

New Horizons is the beautiful new name of the group of our congregants who are beginning their work together to bring forth a plan for our church growth and development. The word "horizon" suggests looking up and outward. When you look up, what do you see? The following scripture from Matthew's Gospel was recently brought to my attention at a meeting of pastors from many churches, in reference to what our churches are called to be:

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."  
Matthew 5: 14-16

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. It is clear that Jesus wanted people to give out the spiri-

tual light that they have, in such a way that the praise goes to God. How can we do this even more here at Unity?

The horizon is the place where the eye sees the touching point of sky and earth. In metaphysical terms, sky would be mind, and earth would be matter. New horizons could mean new concepts in mind touching their manifestation in matter, or new structures on earth which reach up into mind. I invite you to think for yourself what the idea of "new horizons" would mean to you. Sharing our thoughts on this would be illuminating and stimulating.

The quote above from Jesus emphasizes Light. How would you complete the following statement? "For me, the Light of Unity is \_\_\_\_\_." Complete this about ten times, using the first thought that comes to your mind each time. Writing down your answers would be wonderful.

What is your own personal Light that you could share? "The Light I came to give is \_\_\_\_\_." Complete this statement ten times also, with the first thought that comes to your mind. Your answers will show you what your Soul knows about your Path of Most Light.

May Christ Church Unity be a city on a hill, which is radiant with Light and which magnifies God's praise in all who see it.

--Rev. Eleanor



## Highlights from the Board

The Christmas prosperity project team under the leadership of Bill and Eileen Smith is continuing with a Valentine project for our troops, especially those in hospitals.

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, the Strategic Planning team will meet and chose a team leader, secretary and other team positions. The team is composed of those who attended the Strategic Planning Informational Meeting last month, and have shown an interest in being part of the Strategic Planning Process.

Barbara O'Hearne, Church Management Consultant at AUCI, will be conducting a workshop in February. The Strategic Planning Team and the congregants will greatly benefit from her

visit.

The Board has completed Rev. Eleanor's year-end performance review and her contract for this year.

We are still in the process of hiring a part-time secretary for our church office. In the interim, several of our members have volunteered to help out.

Sue Giannovola has volunteered to organize a Talent Bank for Christ Church Unity. Anyone with skills could submit their name to her. This would be an addendum to the regular church directory. It would give people a chance for networking. Some details are yet to be worked out.

The new sanctuary lights, ceiling tiles and ceiling fans were installed. It transformed the room into a warm-looking worship center. The dimmers had to be special ordered and will be installed soon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Hedrick



# People In Action

## Youth Education



We are always looking for helpers who would like to share their talents with the children; if you are interested, please contact Marna.

Giannavola, Marie Hedrick and Paula Bramwell. Due to by-law interpretation and Paula's generous time commitments in the past as a Board member, she is only able to serve 2 years. Therefore, if she is elected to a 3 year term, someone from the congregation would be appointed to fill her third year.

*people who are chosen by Divine Wisdom to serve as Trustees, who are qualified, willing and available. We are grateful.*

Love and blessings,  
Kathy Vidas, Chair

## Nominating Committee

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 three seats available. Two of the seats are 3 year terms and one is a one year term.

The known Board candidates are Sue

You can read about these candidates 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*

## Spruce Up Day



We will gather on February 17 to share in working together on putting our basement and broom closet in Divine Order. Come when you can between 9 AM and 1 PM. This is a good opportunity to help one time if you usually don't volunteer. Please sign up at the front counter. Thank you!

## The song of my heart prepares me to give and receive the

## Ways to Get Involved

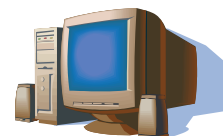


Friday's Angels will meet Friday, February 9 at 10:30 AM.  
"Love is my God. Life is my religion. Humanity is my church. Loving my neighbor as myself is my daily worship." This quote is from "The Bible Comes Alive," a dialogue between Unity Minister Sig Paulson and Rocco Errico (disciple of Aramaic Scholar George Lamsa) on metaphysical interpretation of the Bible. We will be listening to the next tape at this meeting. All are welcome. Afterwards those who wish will adjourn to lunch.

### Palm Sunday Pageant



A pageant is being planned for Palm Sunday, April 1. Anyone interested in being in the cast is invited to a meeting on Friday, February 2 at 6 PM. At the first meeting we will assign parts and schedule rehearsal times. All are welcome; a sign up sheet is on the front counter. Any interested children may sign up in the Sunday School. For more information see Marna, Jane or Anita.



Support Christ Church Unity every time you search the Internet... Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

Type Christ Church Unity into the "I support" box and click on "verify." One cent from advertisers will go to CCU for each search. Like Charles Fillmore, we bless each penny.

In December, we received a check for \$8.69 from goodsearch.

## Promotion Club

The spiritual support group for people seeking new employment will meet February 7 at 5:30 PM. Please call Rev. Eleanor for more information. New people are welcome.

## Fun Club

The Club requests that new interest survey forms be filled out for 2007. Please see the box on the front counter in the lobby.

## Directory Update



The newly updated directory is available. It is located on the table near the nametags. Thank you, Marie.

# Living~Giving~Learning

## Unity February Birthdays

Rev. Vernice Warfield	Feb. 2
Jacob Wilcox	Feb. 6
C. Walter Ries	Feb. 10
Helen Lutz	Feb. 16
Carrol Frangipane	Feb. 19
Jessica Wilcox	Feb. 24

We love you.  
We bless you.  
We behold the Christ in you.  
Make a wish!



## On-Going Events

Every Saturday the **David Hawkins Book Discussion** group will meet from 10 AM-Noon. The next discussion is February 3, 2007.

**A Course in Miracles (ACIM) class**, led by Dijana Winter, meets on Tuesdays, 7-8:30 PM. For information call 585-703-1914. \$13/session –Couples \$22/session.

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

## In Memoriam



Elinore Crandall, who was a long and loving member of CCU, made her transition on January 8, 2007, one day before her 92nd birthday. Elinore was involved in Unity for over thirty years, attending here and at Unity in Chautauqua, New Orleans and Mississippi. In recent years she enjoyed listening to the recordings of our Sunday Services. Elinore was a beautiful example of love, joy and gentleness. We miss her already. God-speed you on your way, Elinore! Thank you for all you gave to us.

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**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. **Week-night** cancellations will be announced by 5 PM on the church voice mail and in the media if possible.

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Thank you for making our Sunday Service fragrance-free.

## Office Hours



Our office is being staffed by volunteers Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30—3:30 PM and Wednesday and Friday, 1—3 PM. If you call at another time, please leave a message and your call will be returned.

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

Christ Church Unity  
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Fax: 585-271-1297  
Email: [unityroc@frontiernet.net](mailto:unityroc@frontiernet.net)  
Website: [www.unityrochester.org](http://www.unityrochester.org)

Dial – A – Prayer 865-8683 Ext. PRAY (7729)  
Two—minute recorded prayer message

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newsletter, please check this box and return this  
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Sent with love to:

Sunday Celebration – 11:00 a.m.

Practical Christianity for the 21st Century

*In Harmony and Joy  
we are led to discover  
the Path of Most Light  
for Christ Church Unity.  
Thank you, God.*