

# Christ Church Unity

# Awakening

February 2009

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

Dear Unity students of Truth,

The new year is already one month old, but we still have time to get clear on our intentions for 2009. I hope you have spent some time **to go within to hear your spirit's messages to you about what is important for you at this time in your unfoldment. We wish you divine success!** Think it, feel it, write it, visualize it.

We also have a new beginning in our country with the inauguration of a new president, and I encourage all of us to pray for him and all those working with him who have to face serious problems which affect not only our country but the world. At this time our prayers are very important, to call forth positive energies for our city, our state, our country and the world. Remember that your consciousness is **creative and affects others, either positively or negatively. "The long arm of God reaches out over us, bringing about Divine Justice . . ."**

On March 1st we will have our own new beginning here at Christ Church Unity with our Annual Meeting, and the election of four new trustees. I am grateful for the members who have stated their willingness to serve in this special capacity of leadership. In this newsletter you will see their biographical statements. Please study these as you consider your votes. Please also invoke Light for all of our nominees. There will be several other important topics on the agenda of that meeting besides the election, and I am hoping for a good turnout of our members at the meeting which follows the Sunday Service.

To prepare for the Annual Meeting, our trustees have decided to have a special informational meeting for the congregation on February 8, after the service, to make known the proposals which will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. This will give you more time to study them and thoughtfully consider your response. I hope to see you there.

We had a fine attendance at our congregational meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>, to hear about the Thriving in Unity program. The response sheets have been tabulated, and your Board will be using this information right away to determine those parts of the program which we should begin with. I am happy to say that many people indicated interest to participate in various of the twelve benchmarks. We will be announcing these activities as soon as a plan and schedule have been determined. Please watch for this in your Sunday bulletin.

Unity Village and the Association of Unity Churches International have begun implementing their plan to consolidate services where appropriate, to eliminate duplication and share resources. One example is their joint website, which was unveiled on January 18<sup>th</sup>. You can access it at [www.unity.org](http://www.unity.org)

Finally, I would like to thank our outgoing board members for their generous service: Paula Bramwell, Mike Gacek, Bob Gajewski, and Leslie Wright. Each of them has given his or her time, treasure and talent to Christ Church Unity not only on the Board but on various committees and outside projects. They have shown dedication and love, which was a great gift. I thank them on behalf of all of us and I invite each of you to give them your thanks as well. Their successors will have big shoes to fill!

I wish each of you many blessings as we continue moving forward into this new year of divine opportunity.

With loving faith,

Rev. Eleanor

# Awakening In Truth

## Prosperity Basics in Times of Change and Challenge

What does it mean to say that God is the source of our Supply? This is a statement we hear often in Unity, and now would be good time to make sure we understand it. The economic changes going on now around us will cause temporary losses to some people. How will you as a Truth student look at this? How will you keep your feelings positive?

It is helpful to think of God as the omnipotent Creative Mind which has brought forth the universe and continues to keep it **alive and functioning**. We see this Mind as orderly, beneficent and eternal. What this translates into is that God's love toward creation is ongoing, and indeed, we are growing in our ability to receive and demonstrate even more of that love in greater ways than before, as our consciousness expands.

Unity teaches that God is present at all times everywhere, that God is Love, and that this Love is available to all people without distinction. The key is our readiness to receive, sometimes expressed as "the quality of our consciousness," "our vibratory frequency," or the "tone" of our energetic signature. These terms all mean the same thing: We must get on God's wavelength, harmonize ourselves with the essence or feeling of God, in order to have the mental, emotional and material consequences of that.

Since God is Spirit, God can only communicate Itself through spiritual means, and this includes Supply. Thus Unity has always taught two things: that universal Substance is spiritual; and that Supply comes through ideas. Unity teaches that Substance is an invisible, spiritual resource from which material things ultimately are derived; and Unity uses the word "Supply" to mean the specific material forms of Substance which we need and want for our needs on this plane. In order for Substance to become Supply, a clear idea must be communicated and impressed upon Substance. The nature and purpose of Substance is to conform to the ideas which are impressed upon it.

When you pray for greater prosperity, it is Truth-full to pray for divine ideas to be given you, then take those ideas, make them your own, and impress them upon Substance. This is done through prayer, visualization, meditation and acting-as-if your desire or goal will be fulfilled. Giving in some form is the foundation of this process. You give your time, thought energy and emotional energy to Substance and Substance responds. You give your action to set your prayer in motion. Concrete action is an act of faith; it shows that you expect positive results from your inner work.

Unity has also found by study and practice that giving what we want to receive puts us in the flow. This conveys to our deeper mind that we now have the thing we are seeking, and that draws more of it to us. This is the reason why people in need of money have always been encouraged to tithe to the channel(s) of their spiritual inspiration. Tithing is an expression of our relationship with God which makes a bridge between Spirit and matter. The metaphysical literature on this topic is consistent: give in order to receive, because that is the system which God has set up. However, financial giving must be done freely in order to bring rich results; and to bring the most prosperity, it is best to know that there will be a return, but not expect any specific return from a specific place. God is to be trusted and the Law is to be relied upon.

To go back to the questions in the first paragraph: see and affirm that all changes taking place are a Divine Adjustment. Know that Divine Adjustment is taking place for the good of the individual and the good of the collective. Good will come out of them. As we affirm the good we draw it to us, if we believe it and feel it. God does not abandon us, and our needs can be supplied if we believe. Of course it is fine to ask for help, but remember the Truth adage: "Go to God direct, and then to others as God directs." This means go to God first with your request for guidance and supply; then talk to people as you are led. Remember that basically a prayer for Supply is a prayer for guidance, because Supply comes through ideas. You put your idea into action, and Supply is the natural result.

**We are affirming that God's eternal love for the earth and humanity is now bringing about Divine Adjustments, leading to increasing wellbeing for all. These changes happen for good, and we call forth the good now. Divine wisdom guides us and every need is met. We thank God for this. ~ Rev. Eleanor**

# *Awakening In Time*



February 1	Upcoming Events
New Horizons presentation	
February 8	March 1
12:45 Annual Meeting Topic Preview	Annual Meeting
February 15	
11:00 Teen Group	
February 25	
Ash Wednesday—Lent begins	



Photo by Mike Gacek



## *Awakening in Prayer*

### February Affirmations

**Inner Peace**  
The indwelling Christ is my sanctuary of peace and serenity.

**Guidance**  
Guided by divine wisdom, I soar to new heights of understanding.

**Healing**  
Divine love heals and restores me. I am alive, alert, and enthusiastic.

**Prosperity**  
I move forward to new blessings, trusting in the prospering power of Spirit.

**World Peace**  
With hearts united in love, we bless our world and envision peace for all people.

This year we are continuing in an interfaith project called **"Rochester Prays,"** in which we pray for a part of the city or a town in Monroe County each week. This is to bring healing to all our local communities. Thank you for joining in.

Communities of Focus—Week of  
 February 1—Neighborhood of the Arts  
 February 8—Town of Chili  
 February 15—Edgerton  
 February 22—Village of Churchville

**Prayer Ministry**  
 For prayer requests or other messages to the prayer team call 585-473-0910 and press 4, or write your request and place it in the box in the lobby. Please let us know if you or a family member are ill or hospitalized so that we can pray with you.  
 Silent Unity: 1-800-669-7729

# Awakening to Prosperity

We express our deep thanks and appreciation to all those who have contributed to our church life in the following ways during the past months:

- ◆ Those who helped with folding and mailing the November newsletter: Anita Gaiteri, Jeanne Gagne, Peggy Harvey, Al and Peela Hooke, Chris Spridy;
- ◆ Ruth Fogarty, Jean Marie Bianco, & Mary Jo TenEyck for assistance in our Sunday School and nursery;
- ◆ Jackie McCullough for leading our new Teen Group
- ◆ Those who helped with removing the Christmas decorations: Joan Yeager, John Vella, P.J. Trahan, & Marie Hedrick;
- ◆ Our new platform assistants that have come forward: Scott Musica, Kathi Moon, & Terry Moon Sr.;
- ◆ Bev Markam who gives weekly help in the office;
- ◆ Mary Jo TenEyck for great effort in planning and executing the Thriving in Unity meeting on January 11;
- ◆ Greg Howard, Sandra Weatherup, Leah Ruekberg, David & Alicia Mercer, Maryanna Mueller, John Vella, Terry & Kathi Moon, Donna Ries, Coby Nichols, Johnnie Dawson, Bev Bryant, Jeanne Gagne, Donna Gainsborough, Sharon Peters, Helen Lutz, Bob Murray, Sue Giannavola, Bob Nobles, Dick TenEyck and others who chipped in to set up, serve and clean up for the Thriving in Unity Luncheon. Many thanks to Leslie for manning the technology and Rev. Eleanor, Marie Hedrick, Paula Bramwell & Leslie for presenting and other support.


All who support us with their presence, tithes and positive energy – thank you all!

With an attitude of gratitude, I say, "Thank You, God!"

Volunteer of the Month

The Volunteer of the Month for February is someone who put a great deal of time and energy into helping at Circulation Day last year, as she does each year. She also worked steadily and unobtrusively in the kitchen after our last Thanksgiving Dinner, helping to clean up. In the past she has helped with putting up and taking down Christmas decorations. She lovingly shows support to individuals who are going through difficulties, both by prayer and by her presence. I am pleased to present the Volunteer of the Month award to Josephine Hendricks!

~ Carol Cafalone



*Divine Love richly provides everything now.*

# Awakening through Leadership



Highlights from the Board

Our designated champion and Board trustee, Mary Jo organized a Thriving in Unity Kick-Off Luncheon on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. The objectives for the luncheon were: to express gratitude to current leadership; introduce the AUCI strategic plan, and **“Thriving in Unity” material**, gather enthusiasm and feedback for the 12 benchmarks, and identify specific people and members who are interested in leading or participating in specific benchmark activities.

The Board has scheduled an extra meeting to begin preparing for the Annual Meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our Nominating Committee is doing a great job in finding interested and qualified members to run for the Board at the next Annual Meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>. There are four vacancies this year.

New membership classes will be offered on three Saturdays, 1/24, 1/31 and 2/7.

The New Horizon ministry has been meeting monthly and plans to submit to the Board a preliminary draft of a Church Ministry Action Plan, possibly in February.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Hedrick

Message From the Board

At this conclusion of my second term as Trustee, it is impossible not to reflect on the journey that Christ Church Unity has experienced since I was originally elected to the Board in 2002. How long ago that seems!

While at times I have felt that my role as a Trustee focused on the temporal rather than the spiritual, I am able to appreciate how so many of those experiences provided me opportunities to better understand and practice key spiritual concepts. In working with the rest of the Board seeing to the **day-to-day details of our Church's functions**, I have had the chance (or have been forced) to apply such principles as:

- **“God is the one power and our one source of all good”**
- **“Let go and let God”**
- **“We are all God's instruments”**
- **“Not my will, not our will, but Thy will be done for the Greatest Good of Christ Church Unity”**

I count this spiritual growth among the blessings I have received through this service opportunity. Other blessings **include the relationships I've had the privilege of sharing and the sense of**

hope for our Church's future.

Our Church has journeyed through many different successes and challenges, and the path before us holds exciting new possibilities, as we develop our Ministerial Action Plan and adopt initiatives for Thriving in Unity. I am delighted to see the candidates who have stepped forward, willing to serve on the next Board, as these promising plans unfold! The best is yet to come. Thank you, God!

Leslie Wright



I have the time, wisdom and energy to do both the ordinary and extraordinary today.

# Awakening through Action

## New Horizons



Focused attention is taking place over the next couple of months on possible goals for the CCU Strategic Ministry Action Plan. We will be exploring the following:

- Leadership Recruitment and Development
- Prayer & Healing
- Green Church
- Community Building
- ◆ Teaching

The group will make a presentation to the congregation on Sunday, February 1st.

The committee members welcome your thoughts and invite one-on-one conversation with any of us, Sylvia Barker, Leslie Wright, Donna Ries, Rev. Eleanor.

Submitted by Donna Ries

## Youth Education

In order to meet the needs of all of our church family, Marna Rossi would appreciate some volunteer help in planning and coordinating options for our pre-school, preteens and teens.



Pre-school: looking for a volunteer coordinator to solicit volunteers and manage a rotating calendar of people willing to be on call every fourth Sunday.

Preteens and Teens: looking for more volunteers to assist Marna in brainstorming and planning some occasional programming for our older youth. Teen Friendship group began in January, led by Jackie McCullough. This group is still open to new members and the next meeting is February 15th at 11:00 a.m.

If interested in helping please see Marna Rossi after Sunday service or e-mail Marna at MarLeeRossi@aol.com.

## Thriving in Unity

Imagine our church ministry with more than enough energy, creativity, money, and volunteers. Add an amazing partnership among all leaders modeling self-responsibility, personal integrity, commitment to spiritual practice and prayer, and using non-violent communication. Consider the ministry is so clear about who and what it has come here to be that all members are learning, growing and transforming. Finally, a welcoming spirit extends beyond attraction and brings first-timers **“face to face with the mirror of their own divinity.”**

So begins the Association of Unity Churches International's explanation of a thriving church. Having recently developed a new vision, mission, and strategic plan, the Association has offered 3 possible programs to member churches to support them in becoming thriving spiritual communities. The Board of Trustees of Christ Church Unity is excited to have chosen Option 2: called Thriving in Unity. This option has 12 benchmarks that reflect the areas of leadership and vision, outreach initiatives, congregant service opportunities, congregant spiritual development, ministry prosperity, and best practices. We are grateful for the vision, the leadership, and the concrete materials and strategies that have been created for our use. It is an exciting way to see our tithe to the Association coming back to us with more Good. Importantly, we see a strong connection between the vision, mission, and values of Christ Church Unity, and those of the Association, as reflected in this new program.

In order to tailor-make our participation to the needs and hopes of our congregation, we began with a kick-off luncheon and presentation on January 11. Fifty-five congregants were able to attend and graciously responded with specific information about their priorities, their interest in participation and leadership, and other helpful feedback. These initial responses point to leadership, a welcoming practice, new book studies, and peacemaking as top

## priorities.

We will continue to make the information available to anyone who was not able to attend the luncheon. Please contact a Board member if you have not been able to preview and respond to the Thriving in Unity materials and we will set up a time to share with you. Your feedback is valuable. Also, the entire program as well as general information about the Association's new strategic plan can be found at [www.thrivinginunity.org](http://www.thrivinginunity.org).

Our next steps will be to put into motion the benchmark activities that our congregation has given high priority. We will develop a timeline for all the benchmarks, and hope to complete them by the spring of 2010. The depth of our involvement and commitment will directly lead to the depth of our experience and transformation both individually and as a spiritual community. Stay tuned to bulletin, newsletter, and pulpit announcements of upcoming programs. And keep us aware of your dreams and hopes for Christ Church Unity.

Mary Jo TenEyck:  
Thriving in Unity Champion

# Awakening through Living—Giving—Learning

## February Birthdays

Rev. Vernice Warfield	February 3
Catherine Smith	February 3
C. Walter Ries	February 10
Helen Lutz	February 16
Carrol Frangipane	February 19
Barbara Boyce	February 25

*We love you.  
We bless you.  
We behold the Christ in you.  
Happy Birthday!*



## On-Going Events

The Drumming Circle meets the last Saturday of the month, 1-3 PM. Love offering.

Rev. Eleanor recommends the following two classes for students who already have a background in Unity or metaphysics.

The David Hawkins discussion group meets every Saturday from 10 AM—Noon. The next discussion is February 7, 2009.

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

## Christ Church Unity Celebrates 2008 Volunteer of the Month Honorees

January	Bernie Bowie
February	Jean Mantel
March	Coby Nichols
April	Ann Robertson
May	Bob Gajewski
June	Stan Marshall
July	Sylvia Barker
August	Danielle Houppert
September	Robert Nobles
October	Maryanna Mueller
November	John & Elsé Vella
December/Jan	Carol Cafalone

Congratulations everyone!



## 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, TV channel 13 and RNews cable channel 9. 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.

## Coming Soon

Please watch for the beginning of a new class in 2009 on Edwene Gaines' book, **The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity, A Simple Guide to Unlimited Abundance**. Offering this class is one of the benchmarks of Thriving in Unity. Our Board is also required to make a retreat focusing on this book.

To receive the newsletter or event flyer or both by email, go to our website, [www.unityrochester.org](http://www.unityrochester.org), click on *Get Unity Updates*.



You may listen to recordings of our Sunday lessons and meditations on our website, [www.unityrochester.org](http://www.unityrochester.org). Click on **Minister's message**.

Thank you for keeping our Sunday services fragrance free.





# *Awakening through Communication*

## *The Inside Scoop*

### *Sharing Our Committee and Ministry News*

The Universe loves this church, serves this church, nourishes this church, and wants this church to succeed!

#### Financial Prosperity Ministry

Chairperson - Leslie Wright

Culminating in a table display in the lobby during December, this committee has been focused on how to make their work known to the congregation. They creatively solicited ideas from church members for addressing some of the many issues on their agenda. Financial Prosperity would still like to hear from you. Look for their meeting dates in the bulletin, or speak to a member. Presently they are developing the 2009 budget using committee requests and projected income.

#### New Horizons

Meeting at least monthly while crafting a strategic plan, this group is presently focused on particular goals that coincide with the Thriving Churches program. These include leadership, prayer, and small group studies. New participants are welcome to join the New Horizons team, in particular individuals with experience in developing a strategic action plan.

#### Platform Assistants

Chairperson - Donna Ries

November 16 meeting attended by Paulie Gajewski, Stan Marshall, Rev. Eleanor, Donna Ries, and Else Vella.

Plans were made for the January 18<sup>th</sup> lobby display about platform assistants. Paulie plans to be available to answer questions and index cards will

be available to receive written comments from congregants. Else Vella will provide a poster. The group reviewed the responsibilities for platform assistants, both when Rev. Eleanor is preaching, and when we have a guest speaker. Rev. Eleanor handed out several suggestions for strengthening the effectiveness of this important service to our congregation.

Since that time, Kathi and Terry Moon have joined the team. Scott Mucica is **"testing the waters."** We will miss Sandy Hamilton who has recently moved out of the area. If you are interested in trying out this position, please see Donna.

#### Remembrance

In December, the Remembrance committee delivered 6 poinsettias to shut-ins, **and spent time visiting.** "It was a wonderful experience to see the smiles on their faces." The committee hopes to repeat this at Easter.

#### Nominating Committee

Chairperson—P.J. Trahan

December 6 meeting attended by Leslie Wright, Elsé Vella, Rev. Eleanor, Loretta Callahan and P.J. Trahan.

The committee has been reviewing possible candidates for the Board of Trustees, contacting those candidates and sharing results. At present, there are four nominees for the four trustee vacancies. They are Paula Fletcher, Paulie Gajewski, David Mercer, and Sharon Peters. Elsé agreed to be responsible for coordinating candidate biographies and getting them into the February newsletter, as well as creating a poster for display in the lobby.

The Nominating Committee has been

developing exit questions for interviewing outgoing trustees. They have also been considering a variety of options for leadership and which of these options would require a change in the current by-laws.




*The Christ Spirit in me mightily brings forth that which is mine to do.*

# February 2009



Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

<p>1 11 AM Sunday Service  12:45 PM New Horizons Presentation</p>	<p>2 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>3 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous  7:30 PM ACIM</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>7 10-Noon Hawkins Group  12:45 PM Membership Class</p>
<p>8 11 AM Sunday Service  12:45 PM Annual Meeting Topic Preview</p>	<p>9 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>10 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous  7:30 PM ACIM</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>14  10-Noon Hawkins Group</p>
<p>15 11 AM Sunday Service  11:00 AM Teen Group  12:45 PM Board Meeting</p>	<p>16 <b>Presidents' Day</b> 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>17 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous  7:30 PM ACIM</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>20 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>21 10-Noon Hawkins Group</p>
<p>22 11 AM Sunday Service Rev. Almata Whitis</p>	<p>23 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>24 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous  7:30 PM ACIM</p>	<p>25 Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>26 1:00 PM Assemble Newsletter</p>	<p>27 7:30 AM Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>28 10-Noon Hawkins Group  1 PM Drum Joy</p>

# Planning & Beautification Projects

To date the following planning & beautification projects have been completed:

1. External signage on building.
2. Free standing parking lot signage and surrounding garden.
3. Security cameras.
4. Sanctuary Air Conditioning.
5. Sanctuary lighting.
6. Sanctuary Ceiling.
7. Sanctuary Ceiling Fans
8. Heat zoning for multipurpose room.
9. Cabinets for multipurpose room.
10. Inner office renovations.
11. Parking lot security lights.
12. Garden landscaping.
13. Plant lilac bush and two pear trees.
14. Removal of tree.
15. Water sprinkling system.
16. Door bell strobe light.
17. Roof.
18. Organized bulletin board space.
19. Spiritual Cinema and Louise Hay film presentations.
20. Painted multipurpose room.
21. Secured new kitchen stove.
22. Planned events including: Doug Halper concert, summer baseball gathering, fall picnic.
23. Secured Hi Definition TV.
24. Secured new digital projector system.
25. Resealed parking lot.



CCU Sign with landscaping



## Seeds From the Earthkeepers

Surprisingly, February offers lovely opportunities to contemplate Nature and our relationship and response to Creation. One of my favorite early memories is of walking in the snow to my great-grandmother's house and the hush that took hold of me in the silent beauty of winter dusk while endless, white crystals fell from the sky to touch my face and coat. I'm sure some in our congregation enjoy winter's bounty through skating, snow-shoeing, and skiing. But just as powerful these chilly nights is the chance to curl up inside with a favorite book, seed catalog, journal or collection of poetry. This is our hibernation time. Let your head and heart take this time to contemplate the Earth imagery you love. "To everything there is a season." Here are a few poems to get you started.

Submitted by Mary Jo TenEyck

<p style="text-align: center;">When all the World is Full of Snow</p> <p>I never know just where to go, when all the world is full of snow.</p> <p>I do not want to make a track, not even to the shed and back.</p> <p>I only want to watch and wait, while snow moths settle on the gate,</p> <p>and swarming frost flakes fill the trees with billions of albino bees.</p> <p>I only want myself to be as silent as a winter tree,</p> <p>to hear the swirling stillness grow, when all the world is full of snow.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">N. M. Bodecker</p>	<p>The beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, the fragrance of the grass, speaks to me.</p> <p>The summit of the mountain, the thunder of the sky, speaks to me.</p> <p>The faintness of the stars, the trail of the sun, the strength of fire, and life that never goes away, they speak to me, and my heart soars.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Chief Dan George</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Snowflake</p> <p>Before I melt, Come, look at me! This lovely icy filigree! Of a great forest In one night I make a wilderness Of white: By skyey cold Of crystals made, All softly, on Your finger laid, I pause, that you My beauty see: Breathe, and I vanish Instantly.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Walter de la Mare</p>
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Our Vision Statement  
Humanity awakens and transforms into its Divine Identity. Christ Church Unity is a focal point of service to this vision.

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 environment of spiritual freedom where all can develop their  
spiritual potential for lives  
overflowing with blessings.

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In Memoriam



We remember with love and gratitude one of our beloved members, Kat Van Meenen, who made her transition on December 14, 2008. Kat had been very active in our church in a number of capacities, and so she was known to many people. She served on the Planning and Beautification Committee, the Anniversary Committee, and she was also chairperson of the Greeters. Kat regularly attended the David Hawkins group and she also sang in the choir. She loved going to the yearly **Red Wings baseball game outing, and always brought her catcher's mitt. She was a frequent volunteer, wherever help was needed.** She came to Sunday worship regularly and also participated in numerous classes. She served in both a volunteer and staff capacity in tending our grounds. She volunteered in the Bookstore.



Kat was devoted to loving her family: her partner, Paula; her mother, brother and sister and their families including several nieces and nephews.

Kat moved here in June of 1999, having been part of a Unity church in Portland OR where she lived before. Kat was a thoughtful Unity student, who always tried to remember and practice the teachings in her everyday life at home and at work as well as at church. Her friendliness, compassion and sense of humor endeared her to many. She exhibited strength and determination during her long health challenge. A large crowd overflowed the sanctuary for her memorial service on December 21. We miss her greatly and trust that she is now enjoying the infinite life and love of God where her unfoldment continues.

A Prayer Treatment from Emmet Fox

**"The Holy Spirit is continually inspiring me. My thoughts are fresh, and new, and clear, and powerful with the might of Omnipotence. My prayers are the handiwork of the Holy Ghost - powerful as the eagle and gentle as the dove. They go forth in the name of God Himself, and they cannot return unto me void. They shall accomplish that which I please, and prosper in the thing whereto I send them. I thank God for this."** -

**Emmet Fox, Emmet Fox's Keys to Life and Health, p. 158**  
(published by thegoldenkeys)

Our Board of Trustees  
Paula Bramwell, President  
Leslie Wright, Vice President  
Bob Gajewski, Treasurer  
Marie Hedrick, Secretary  
Mary Jo TenEyck, Trustee  
Mike Gacek, Trustee

Rev. Eleanor Celentani, Minister  
Office 585-473-0145

Our Staff  
Jane Faust, Accompanist  
Jeanne Gagne, Admin. Asst.  
Anita Gaiteri, Hostess  
Pamela Torrey, Song Leader  
Thomas Warfield, Soloist

Our Ministry Team Coordinators  
Audio – Chris Spridy & Bob Gajewski  
Bookstore – Paulie Gajewski  
Circulation Day – Paulie Gajewski  
Financial Prosperity - Leslie Wright  
Fundraising -  
Greeters – Jackie McCullough  
Librarian/Fun Club - Sylvia Barker  
New Horizons -  
Newsletter - Bernie Bowie  
Nominating Comm. - PJ Trahan  
Photographer – Mike Gacek  
Planning/Beautification -  
Platform Assistants – Donna Ries  
Prayer – Jane Faust  
Prosperity Projects -  
Remembrance - Coby Nichols  
Sign Ministry - Mike Gacek  
Social – Anita Gaiteri  
Ushers – Marie Hedrick  
Youth Ed. Dir. – Marna Rossi



Submission Deadline  
February 19, 2009

Assembly Date  
February 26, 2009



Christ Church Unity  
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Rochester, NY 14607-1025

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



*We Bless the New Year with Love, Harmony and Prosperity*

# 2009 Board of Trustees Candidates

At the Annual Meeting on March 1, elections will be held for four trustee positions. The Nominating Committee presents four candidates: Paula Fletcher, Paulie Gajewski, David Mercer, and Sharon Peters.

Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting. Candidates must have been a member for at least one year, have shown active interest and support of Christ Church Unity, and endeavor to live in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ, as taught by Unity School. (Bylaws section 4.04a)

**The Nominating Committee thanks all those who considered fulfilling this role of service. This year's Nominating Committee** is: Chair; P.J. Trahan; Elsa` Vella, Loretta Callahan, Leslie Wright, Rev. Eleanor.

Paula Fletcher



I come from a **“traditionally religious” background.** Even as a small child I remember wishing for **“something more” when I was in church, and “knowing” there was somehow. I was** involved in the youth ministry and taught Sunday school. But I abandoned that church and God as a young adult when some major life challenges happened (I thought God had abandoned me).

**Moving forward into my early 30's I began** seeking a God of my understanding. And for many years explored different religions, schools of thought, etc. I **landed on Christ Church Unity's doorstep** around mid-2005...but my first visit **wasn't a closed sale. I happened to be** there when there was a lot being said in **the lesson about Jesus... I was turned** off (I thought someone was going to try to **“save” me**). But I **came back** (the people were warm and friendly and seemed genuinely happy).

I know now that I have found my spiritual home and became a member in

March 2007.

Now as to why I have agreed to seek nomination as a member of the board. I want to give back and honestly have a selfish motive...I have had a roller coaster life of ups and downs, good and bad, dark and light. My selfish motive is to raise myself up to one of the light spots again, one of the ups, one of the good. What better way than to serve others.

What can I contribute? On the personal side, warmth, understanding, knowing healing energy. On the practical side, I have a business background and good old fashioned elbow grease.

Thank you for this opportunity to seek nomination.

Paulie Gajewski



My purpose for running for the board is that I have a passion for Christ Church Unity where Truth as taught by Unity allows the Power of Christ within you to heal, grow and become more like the image of God and help others do the same

I hold a Master of Science in Community Health Education with a Minor in Verbal and Written Communications. I am a trained accomplished Facilitator. My responsibilities were to assess, diagnose, and develop solutions for groups having problems. This was accomplished by focusing on group dynamics, developing experiential exercises and providing communication skills for each type of group.

Sharon Peters



I have had prior experience working as a Trustee on the Board for one year. I resigned to serve as Office Manager for our church. I have both taught and served as the **director of the children's program for two** years. I have been an active member of our music program and have led several of our choirs. Currently I am on the prayer team and studying to be a Prayer Chaplain for our **church. I am presently getting my Master's** degree in pastoral counseling and am seeking my ordination within a year.

It would be my pleasure to serve Christ Church Unity as a Board member. I would enjoy dealing with the behind the scene facets of running a successful church ministry and I am committed to offer leadership that **supports Unity's vision statement. I feel that** my current scholastic background, energy and creativity would be an asset to the Board and this church. Serving on the Board allows me the opportunity to be a trustee of the principles of truth as taught in Unity.

David Mercer



I have been part of Unity since my mid-twenties. I was married in this Church in 1992 and a member from 1991 to 2001. Then again from 2006 to present. During this time I have helped as a greeter, reading of The Daily Word and volunteered to help with the Christmas Prosperity Project.

My strong beliefs in The Unity Organization and this Church and the love and lessons received have been a valuable gift. I feel honored to have been asked to join the Board of Trustees.

I would like to help strengthen this Church and build on the strength of our United membership. My prior experiences as a member of the Board of Greece Residents Assisting Stray Pets (G.R.A.S. P., Inc.) helping them establish a strong fundraising effort I feel can be duplicated as a member of The Board at Christ Church Unity.

In closing, thank you all for this opportunity.

David V. Mercer