

Christ Church Unity

60th Anniversary Year



August 2007

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

Dear Circle of Light,

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
Sue Giannavola, Trustee

Rev. Eleanor Celentani,
Spiritual Leader/Minister

Our Staff

Jane Faust, Accompanist
Anita Gaiteri, Custodian
Samuel Gaiteri, Custodial Aide
Eric Strader, Gardener
Stacey Thomas, Administrative Assistant
Thomas Warfield, Soloist

Our Ministry Team Coordinators

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

Submission deadline for next issue:
August 17, 2007

Assembling date:
August 23, 2007

In June I attended the **Unity National Convention**. There is much news from Unity headquarters and several handouts are available on the front counter at the church, including an outline of my convention report. One exciting project is **Unity FM**, an **online radio** broadcast of the Unity message planned to be offered 24 hours a day. I am grateful for the vision of our Unity leaders who are calling this new dimension of our global ministry into manifestation. Also, **recordings** of workshop sessions from the Convention will soon be available on CD at the church. A list of topics and an order form will be on the front counter, or you may call and we will send the forms to you.

Here at Christ Church Unity we had the first presentation from the **New Horizons** group on July 22. Approximately 35 to 40 people attended and there was a good feeling in the room as we learned about the demographics of our church and of the Rochester region and saw a pictorial overview of our church life. We are blessed to have many avenues of expression here, and I have no doubt that they will increase in number and variety. We are grateful to all the volunteers who put in many hours to prepare this; they did a wonderful job!

Another July blessing was the hiring of our new **administrative assistant** in the office, Stacey Thomas. Stacey is working Monday through Friday, 10:00 a. m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Eastern Region of the Association of Unity Churches Intl. is holding an **appreciative inquiry summit** in Hampton Beach, NH Sept.30 through Oct.5. Interested lay people are invited to this gathering which will be on the theme of "Outrageously Alive in an Abundant World." A brochure is available here for your review and consideration. To obtain one please call us soon; the reservations deadline for the hotel is Aug. 31.

September 2nd we will begin scheduling appointments to have your photo taken for **our first time ever pictorial directory**. I feel this is a wonderful way to mark our 60th anniversary year. Please see the flyer enclosed. I look forward to your participation.

Several opportunities for **workshops** are coming soon. Please see more detailed articles elsewhere in this newsletter on: a **Rebirthing** workshop, a **Course in Miracles** workshop; and a concert and workshop with **Fred Johnson**, musician, and healer.

A series of three classes on **Introduction to Unity** (required for those who would like to become Members of the church) will be offered in August. Please sign up at the front counter or call the church if you would like to participate. People new to Unity are encouraged to come to learn more about the Unity way of life and our history and teachings. You do not have to seek membership to attend.

We have established the **YinYang Fund** to receive donations for improvements to our heating system (to make it more efficient) and to air condition the sanctuary. Bob Gajewski has provided an article with more details on pg. 5. Also, I am offering the **Unexpected Income/Unexpected Blessings** Program again this year, from **Aug. 1 to Sept. 30**. A brochure is enclosed with a form to return if you would like to enroll. Last year people told me this program gave them a spiritual "boost." May it happen again!

Wishing you a blessed August of relaxation and full enjoyment of summer,
Rev. Eleanor

Teachings in Truth

“And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.”

Anais Nin, American writer, 1903-1977

This famous quote expresses poetically the tension we feel as our inborn impulse to grow pulls against our learned resistance and fear. Both opening and not opening include risk. At some point, not opening is more painful.

What is this “risk” that causes pain? A potential loss of something valued. Opening will allow the flower’s full beauty and fragrance to be expressed to the outside world, at the risk of encountering the elements. Staying closed in the bud includes the risk of losing the greater potential. We might take this image as applying to our individual selves as we unfold in consciousness on this plane. To open means you will let go some of your beliefs, assumptions and expectations, and even your self-concept, and from that, your greater Self will emerge. The only thing lost is the smaller, closed experience of self.

Have you ever seen a bouquet of flowers where some did not open, because they couldn’t take in the water? Their heads droop and we never see what they might have looked like. The drooping head gives the appearance of sadness. This is an image of regret for “what might have been,” but never came to be.

In contrast, trusting in the Love which created you “good” provides the courage to open to newness of Life, to take in what Life has to offer. When we have spiritual faith we trust that our full beauty and power lie ahead of us (in the human sense of time). We know that there are good days ahead, days of richness and happiness and fulfillment.

These lessons apply to our church as well. First we must realize that growth looks different on different planes of experience. Given our conditioning on this plane, we tend to take the word “growth” as meaning a material or physical expansion, but that is just one dimension. Christ Church Unity exists to facilitate spiritual growth, or “transforming into our Divine Identity” as the Vision Statement expresses it. Letting our feelings and beliefs “open” to the Love of God is what will allow us to become all that we can be, individually and together. Our Mission Statement speaks of a “nurturing environment” – like the vase of water the bouquet is placed in. We can put water in the vase, but every flower will decide whether it will take in the water or not. To receive water efficiently, the stems must get a clean cut now and then. A clean cut is letting go of past memories and grievances. And for flowers to last, the water must be kept clean. This involves periodically throwing out the old water and replacing it with clean water. We do this when we forgive each other and when we let go of inessentials which cloud the liquid.

The diversity of our congregation is like having many different kinds of flowers to put in our bouquet: each flower is important and lovingly placed here by the Grand Design of God. Our diversity may not be so much external as vibrational. Stilling the thinking mind and feeling the Loving Presence ushers us into the realm where differences are no longer oppositional but they create the setting where divine beauty is revealed.

“Love is patient, love is kind.” Let us be patient with each other as we feel the fears of opening. Let us be patient when we feel the fears of *not* opening. Let us be kind as we stand beside each other, allowing the Grand Design to unfold.

With Love and Peace, Rev. Eleanor



New This Month...



August 11

Renaissance Fair

August 18

9 AM—1 PM Spruce Up Day

August 24

7:30—9 PM Fred Johnson
Concert

August 25

10 AM Musical Workshop
featuring Fred Johnson

Upcoming Events

September 2

Sign-up begins for Church
Pictorial Directory Photos

September 7-8

Rebirthing Workshop

September 13

Unity World Day of Prayer

September 23

Annual Picnic at Brighton
Park

September 29

Course in Miracles
Workshop with Jon Mundy



Our stained glass cross
Photo taken by Mike Gacek



Prayer

August Affirmations From Silent Unity

Inner Peace

The peace of God is at the core of my being.
I am serene

Guidance

God, my constant companion, leads me on sure and
steady paths.

Healing

My body is a temple of divine life and energy. I am
healthy and whole.

Prosperity

The abundance of God enriches my life.
I am blessed beyond measure.

World Peace

Each prayerful thought and act of kindness blesses
the world with peace.

Prayer Ministry

August is the month to exercise your power of will. This is represented by both Joshua and the disciple Matthew. The color of the month is silver and the gemstone is beryl. Charles Fillmore calls will "the executive faculty of the mind, the determining factor in man....The will is the center of the mind and body around which resolve all the activities that constitute consciousness. It is the avenue through which the I AM expresses its potentiality....The use of will is very important in making demonstrations."

So this month let God's will be done through your life remembering that God's will is goodwill. Jesus said, "For whoever does the will of my Father in Heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matthew 12:50

Affirm: I am willing!

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

Our thanks to the following people for their loving service and gifts in July:

- ◆ Those who signed up to pray each day with Rochester at Peace and who meditated for world healing on July 17th;
- ◆ Those who helped with mailing the July newsletter: Katherine DaCosta, Anita Gaiteri, Peela Hooke, Laurie Houseman, James Iacutone, Jean Mantel, Anne Stewart, and Else Vella;
- ◆ Our Spruce Up Day volunteers on July 21: Bob Gajewski, Maryanna Mueller, and Peela Hooke; who moved file boxes and did weeding;
- ◆ Those who gave the New Horizons presentation on July 22: Donna Ries, Joanie and PJ Trahan, assisted by Sue Giannavola and Mike Gacek; with music offered by Karen Sparka, Rein Brucker, and Jane Faust;
- ◆ Our New Horizons team who did research and helped plan the presentation: Eileen and Bill Smith, Anita Gaiteri, Arnie Pegish, Sylvia Barker, Josephine Hendricks, Leslie Wright, Marillyn Wise, Dorothea King, Paula Bramwell, Marna Rossi, Maryanna Mueller, and John and Else Vella;
- ◆ Anita Gaiteri who prepared lunch for July 22, assisted by servers Bernie Bowie and Dorothea King;
- ◆ Rev. Steve D'Annunzio for his thoughtful lesson and meditation;
- ◆ Bev Liederbach for her lovely bouquets;
- ◆ Daily Word readers this month: David Mercer, Peela Hooke, Katherine DaCosta,
- ◆ Our Sunday Social Hour refreshment team Sammy Gaiteri and Danielle Houppert;
- ◆ Counters who served in July: Leslie Wright, Sue Giannavola, Chris Spridy, and Donna Ries;
- ◆ Mike Gacek for special help with organizing the baseball outing and also providing new topsoil for the sign garden;
- ◆ Thomas Warfield for representing our church in performing the national anthem at the Redwings game;
- ◆ Paula Bramwell and Kat VanMeenen for service at the ticket table on Sunday mornings;
- ◆ Marna Rossi and Ruth Fogarty for working with our children on Sundays;
- ◆ Sue Giannavola, Bernie Bowie and Leslie Wright who assisted with orientation of our new administrative assistant;
- ◆ Sylvia Barker for assistance to Rev. Eleanor;
- ◆ The Prosperity Study Group who created a bulletin board display;
- ◆ All of our congregation for your love, attendance, service and financial gifts.

We acknowledge how much we are blessed and say, thank you, God! And thank you to our loving congregation.


Volunteer of the Month


 After such generous recognition for me from
 Joan & Mike last month, I'm pleased to have the
 opportunity to recognize the volunteer of the
 month for August.

 Our Church has been blessed to benefit from the
 efforts of Donna Ries for the past few years.
 She makes on-going contributions by counting
 the offering on Sundays, pitching in during social
 functions, coordinating the Platform Assistants,
 and attending the Saturday discussion group.
 This year in particular, Donna's hard work was
 pivotal in the success of the workshop presented
 by Dale Goldstein in June, and she is one of the
 driving forces keeping New Horizons on the path
 of progress. Donna is a team player whose style
 is efficient and professional. And she is always
 gracious and smiling.

 Thanks for all you do, Donna – you're an
 inspiration.
 -Leslie Wright




Divine Love richly provides everything now.



Excerpt from
MINISTER'S FIRESIDE CHAT
 JULY 15, 2007

News from the June 2007 Unity People's Convention

1. Convention was held in Overland Park, a suburb of Kansas City MO. Between 600 and 700 people attended. The 2008 Gathering will be in Phoenix, AZ, June 9-14. The theme of that conference will be "Getting to Know You."

2. "Oneness Deeksha" was presented by the Unity minister from Seattle, Richard Levy. Deeksha is a transmission of a spiritual energy by laying on of hands for about 1 minute; this practice emanates from India. Rev. Levy and his wife received this in India when they went there for a retreat and training. I experienced the energy as comforting.

3. "Yes, You Can Grow your Church" was the title of a workshop given by Aman Motwane, who is a consultant for businesses. He has also given workshops to 200 churches in the last few

years. He surprised me by saying that when he consults with businesses, they give *the same* reasons for lack of growth as churches do.

His main advice for growing a church or a business is, find out what people's unmet, unspoken needs are, and fill those needs. He feels people now need a place to belong, to feel they are part of a community. He said people want to be "seen." He gave the example of Starbuck's, where the manager learns your name and what kind of coffee you like.

One of his key ideas is that if you transform how you see people and things, you will transform who you are.

He also showed us his 7 minute video which is on his website. Web addresses: www.spreadchange.com (see the video here); and www.yesyoucanchangetheworld.com

4. I met the Unity minister (Rita Marie Johnson) who has developed an

organization called "The Peace Army of Costa Rica." This is a program of education in public grammar schools, teaching children HeartMath and Non-Violent Communication. Her goal is to have this going on in all schools throughout the country in the next 3 years. She is trying to show a model of how this can be done on a national scale. Her immediate goal is to train 800 teachers in 3 years. She has already been invited to bring this program to other South American countries.

5. Rev. James Trapp has articulated the goal of making Unity *a worldwide presence*, which helps to create a *world that works for everyone*.

A more complete report is available at the church.

- Rev. Eleanor

Highlights from the Board

On July 11, 2007, Stacey Thomas, our new part-time Administrative Assistant, will start working in the church office, Monday through Friday from 10-2. She will be a welcome addition.

Rev. Eleanor just returned from the AUC Convention in June near Unity Village. She held a very informative fireside chat on Sunday, July 15th about her experiences at the convention.

The Board discussed communications received from the neighborhood association about litter and noise coming from late-night events at the Auditorium Theater. The Board decided to make our parking lot unavailable for these events.

The Treasurer's report was a midyear review of income and expenditures to date, compared to budget for 2007. She pointed out that our expenditures are 11% lower than budgeted for, while income is 14% lower.

The cooling system estimate for the Sanctuary was discussed in great detail. Since it was not budgeted for this year, the Board feels that we should not dip into our reserves at this point, but rather have a fundraiser for it first.

New Horizons will present their strategic planning information on Sunday, July 22nd after the service. They have been gathering information for a long time.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marie Hedrick



Yin Yang Fund



There is now a special heating and cooling fund in place at Christ Church Unity. The purpose of this special fund is to raise enough money to install air conditioning in the Sanctuary and to set up the existing forced air furnace that is used to heat the Sunday School area into zones. By doing this we will eliminate the need to run the resistance heating systems that are now in place in that area as well as the prayer room, minister's office and inner office, making those areas more energy efficient. The estimated cost to air condition the Sanctuary is \$4500.00 and \$5500.00 is the estimated cost to zone the furnace for the Sunday School area for a total cost of \$10,000.00. If contributing to this goal attracts you, we ask that that you indicate on the check or envelope that it is a contribution to the heating and cooling fund. Envelopes marked as such are provided in the back of the Sanctuary as well as in the reception area. Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by Bob Gajewski - Vice-President

People In Action

Youth Education



Sunday School Wish List

Our Sunday School children are enjoying singing and playing hand instruments. We would like to expand our musical collection so that our budding musicians can learn more about the joy of God through music. We would like to purchase the following through West Music:

Chromatic Glockenspiel
Remo medium festival Djembe Drum
Remo Tubano Drum
Remo Bongo Drum

These instruments will form the foundation for our singing and dancing. Other rhythm or easy to play instruments are also welcome. We are looking for donations to purchase our musical foundation.

We welcome all in our congregation to visit and play music with us. After we have learned about our instruments we will perform for the congregation. If you would like additional information or would like to help, please see or contact Marna Rossi.

Prosperity Projects 2007

Prosperity Projects 2007 is dedicated to providing information to aid in the raising of the Prosperity Consciousness of all. In living in a state of prosperity for ourselves, we are then able to share with others.

The Prosperity x 12 bulletins are available on the front counter; please pick up a copy.

What is Enlightenment?

Jon Mundy, Ph.D., will offer an informative and fun workshop based on A Course in Miracles here at Unity on **September 29th** from 1:00 - 4:30 pm, entitled **What is Enlightenment? & Why aren't we there yet?**

Dr. Mundy is a friend and student of Helen Schucman who was the scribe of the Course.

Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, with checks payable to CCU. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Please mail your check or money order to Dijana Winter, P.O. Box 421, Fairport NY 14450. (www.dijanawinter.com)

The River of Life never stops flowing ~ it flows through me into lavish expression.

Ways to Get Involved



Friday's Angels will meet August 24 at 10:30 AM. The group will see the DVD, "What the *bleep* do we know?"

Fun Club

We are going to the Renaissance Fair in Sterling, NY on Saturday, August 11th. The Renaissance Fair is a day in a medieval town like in the days of King Arthur. There are plays, skits, jousting, food, games, and vendors. All these things are done the way they were done then.

Tickets are \$22 at the gate (\$19 if purchased on the internet, www.sterlingfestival.com). We will meet at the Church at 8 am; we can car pool if possible. We should be there by 10 am when the Queen arrives to meet the Mayor and open the gate to the town. Please contact Sylvia Barker or the church 473-0910 to sign-up.

Prayer Team Training



Prayer team training sessions will begin August 11th at 1 pm. These will be for anyone interested in joining the prayer team. See Jane Faust if you are interested.

Spruce Up Day



We really appreciate the help we receive from volunteers once a month. In July, weeding was done in the garden as well as other tasks.

Our next Spruce-Up day will be August 18. Come anytime between 9 AM and 1 PM to lend a hand. Please sign up so we know who is coming. Thank you.

Pictorial Directory



Hooray! CCU will develop a pictorial directory to help our congregation become more familiar with each other. It really helps to remember people's names and feel more at home at CCU.

We will be working with Olan Mills to produce this directory. On September 26 & 27, they will be here to take photos. You will be able to sign up for an appointment starting September 2. There is no cost to have your photo taken and you will receive a free 8x10 glossy and a copy of the directory. You will also have the option of including family members who do not attend CCU and ordering extra photo packages for yourself or to use as gifts.

Please see more information on the back of the calendar.

Living~Giving~Learning

~ Unity August Birthdays ~

Stanley E. Marshall, Jr.	Aug 2	Amy Spence	Aug 20
Donna Ries	Aug 6	Charles Fillmore	Aug 22
Myrtle Fillmore	Aug 6	Richard B. Lieb	Aug 23
Loretta Callahan	Aug 10	Marian Johnston	Aug 28
Josephine Hendricks	Aug 11	Bob Nobles	Aug 28
Marna Lee Rossi	Aug 11	Sandy Melloch	Aug 30
Deborah Houppert-Nobles	Aug 12		
Rick French	Aug 13		
Elizabeth Crawford	Aug 14		
Steve Baker	Aug 16		
Larry Fogarty	Aug 19		

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 August 4, 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. **Dimitri House needs volunteers to work in their shelter.** Please call them if you are interested in helping (585) 325-1796.

~ Other News ~

"Triangle of Healing" workshop with Fred Johnson.

Saturday August 25th, 10:00am - 1:00pm

In this workshop Fred will help participants understand and utilize the empowering triangle of **thought , breath and sound** as a way to access their reservoir of health & healing. Through the creation of "Sound Sculpture" workshop participants are reminded of the powerful healing frequency of their own words, sounds and ideas. The cost for this 3 hour workshop is \$30.00 per person, payable at the door. See fliers on the reception counter for additional information.

Thank you for making our Sunday Service fragrance-free.

Office Hours



Our office is being staffed by our new administrative assistant, Stacey Thomas. Her regular work hours are Monday thru Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. If you call at another time, please leave a message and your call will be returned. Please join us in welcoming her.

"Sound Sculpture" Concert with Fred Johnson

Friday August 24th , 7:30 - 9:00pm

Fred Johnson will perform his "Sound Sculpture," a shared creative experience, where the audience is an integral part of the performance. Fred will sculpt a program of musical compositions from words or phrases from members of the audience. Experiencing a performance of Fred Johnson's "Sound Sculpture" is a true musical awakening. This Friday evening performance is a prelude to his "Triangle of Healing" workshop on Saturday. Love offerings will be graciously accepted for the Friday evening performance. You can find out more about Fred Johnson at:

www.fredjohnsonvoice.com

Rebirthing Breathwork - Practical secrets to peace and joy with Irene Bojczuk, Rebirther from Philadelphia

Breathing is the most powerful, natural, cleansing and life enhancing tool we have.

Evening Lecture:

Find out how this method works, learn simple exercises and hear about the positive, practical benefits of greater peace and joy in everyday life.

Date: Friday, September 7
Time: 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm
Investment: \$20

1 day Workshop:

An experiential day of breathwork and other practices that can transform your life.

Date: Saturday, September 8
Time: 10 am to 7 pm
Investment: \$100 (pre-registration required) \$85 if paid by August 20th. Fee can be applied toward a follow-up 2 hour private session.

Location: Christ Church Unity
Call Linda Gill (585) 527-8502 for more information and to register.

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Website: www.unityrochester.org

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

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

Sent with love to:

Sunday Celebration – 11:00 AM

Practical Christianity for the 21st Century

*The light of God flows into me, and shines forth
from me, as a brilliant spiritual light of Love. This
spiritual light of Love grows and grows in intensity,
covering the whole world, and filling the hearts of
all people in the Rochester region with thoughts only
of love, peace, order and the truth of oneness in God.*

(adapted from a prayer by Dr. Masaharu Taniguchi)

