

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

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

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Bob Gajewski, Vice President
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Barbara Daly, Secretary
P.J. Trahan, Trustee
Bob Murray, Trustee

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Spiritual Leader/Minister

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Samuel Gaiteri, Custodial Aide
Thomas Warfield, Soloist
Jonathan Wolfinger, Gardener

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

Submission deadline for next issue:
September 15, 2006

Christ Church Unity

Light Notes



September 2006

Dear Children of God,

On **Sept. 10** I will be participating in a **Gathering of Spirit**, representing our church and also giving the welcome at this ceremony to be held at the School of the Arts on Prince Street. It will be a celebration of local and international peace, with representatives from different worship communities and neighborhood groups in the Neighborhood of the Arts, to which we belong. Anyone is invited to attend; the ceremony begins at 2:00 p.m. and will probably last not more than 30 minutes. There will also be a special art exhibit that day at SOTA called **The Forgiveness Project**. (Please see the article on page 8.) When coming to church on Sept. 10th, I suggest you leave yourself extra time to navigate the traffic from the Clothesline Art Show.

I am happy to announce that on **Sept. 14th** we are participating in Unity's **World Day of Prayer**, and that this year we will have an added dimension to our observance: **live webcasts** from the Unity Village services and ceremonies. You can come to our sanctuary and see and listen to the services on our large projection screen. I think this is an outstanding opportunity for our congregation to feel a deeper connection with Silent Unity and with all at Unity Village, and I invite you to attend and enjoy. Being here present with others will, I feel, add to the pleasure of your experience. These webcasts will be integrated with our local annual **Prayer Vigil** and closing **Meditation Service**. Our schedule will be as follows:

Wednesday, Sept. 13th we will have **guided meditation from 7:30 to 7:55 p.m. At 8:00 p.m.** we will see the **Opening Ceremony**, which will include a talk by a representative from the Association for Global New Thought.

On Thursday, Sept. 14th we will see the **Daily Word prayer service at 8:30 a.m.** and the thirty-minute **Healing Service at noon.**

In between these times, and until 7:00 p.m., we have set up a schedule of thirty-minute increments for taking part in the prayer vigil.. **You can sign up to keep the vigil at a specific time, or drop in anytime.**

I am also asking for volunteers to be **Guardian Angels in the lobby**, so that we can keep the front door open.

On Thursday evening I will lead a **guided meditation service at 7:00 p.m.** to bring this special day to a close. All are invited.

If you are unable to come to the church, you can watch the webcast on your computer at www.worlddayofprayer.org.

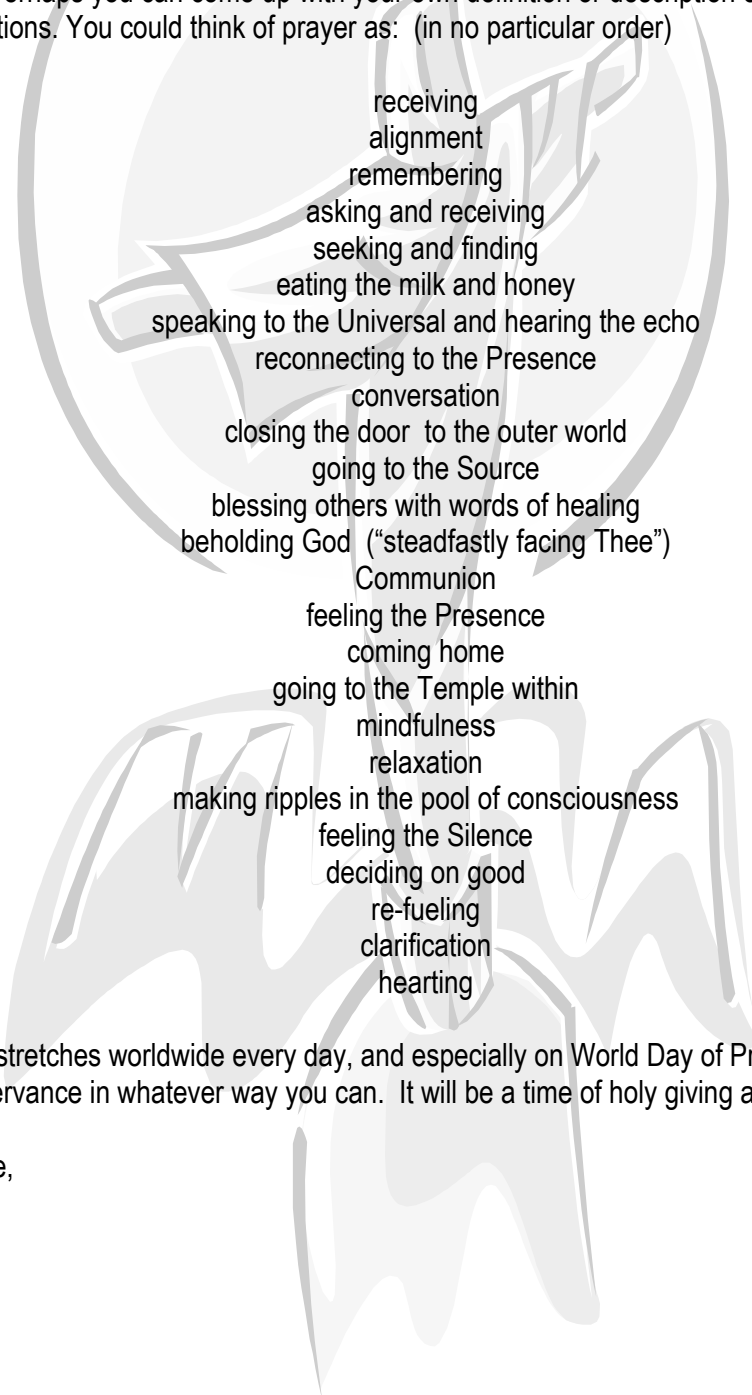
I have made **changes to the teaching schedule** which had been announced in the bulletin. I am arranging **Membership classes** at a different day and time. Please call or email me if you wish to attend and have not already signed up. I am beginning a **new class** on Wed., **Sept. 20**, on **Your Word is Your Wand**, the sequel to the Game of Life. Please take a flyer on the front counter and sign up if you would like to attend. There will be no class on October 4th.

I would like to thank **our social committee** for the wonderful picnic on August 27th, and thanks to all of you who came and made it fun. These times of fellowship bind us together in friendship and serving one another. Thank you for all the efforts which went into this.

(Continued on page 4)

Teachings in Truth

Unity's World Day of Prayer on Sept. 14th reminds me that **what you think prayer is** will determine whether you pray or not and what you expect to receive from it. How would you explain prayer to someone visiting here from another planet? Here are some possibilities to consider; see if any of these resonate with you. Perhaps you can come up with your own definition or description of prayer entirely different from my suggestions. You could think of prayer as: (in no particular order)



receiving
alignment
remembering
asking and receiving
seeking and finding
eating the milk and honey
speaking to the Universal and hearing the echo
reconnecting to the Presence
conversation
closing the door to the outer world
going to the Source
blessing others with words of healing
beholding God ("steadfastly facing Thee")
Communion
feeling the Presence
coming home
going to the Temple within
mindfulness
relaxation
making ripples in the pool of consciousness
feeling the Silence
deciding on good
re-fueling
clarification
hearting

Our Unity heart stretches worldwide every day, and especially on World Day of Prayer. Please join us in this special observance in whatever way you can. It will be a time of holy giving and receiving.

With Divine Love,
Rev. Eleanor

New This Month...



September 13

7:30 PM Meditation
8 PM World Day of Prayer
Opening Ceremony
Live Webcast

September 20 & 27

7 PM New class begins—
Your Word is Your Wand.
Sequel to The Game of Life.

September 14 World Day of Prayer

8:30 AM Service
Noon Healing Service
7 PM Meditation Service
8 AM—7 PM Vigil

Looking Ahead

October

Perception and Labeling: a workshop with Paulie Gajewski.

September 16

1—4 PM A workshop with Eleanor Celentani and Dijana Winter. See article on page 8



Prayer

September Affirmations From Silent Unity

Inner Peace

God is my refuge and my strength. Always in God's care, I am serene.

Guidance

The light of Spirit guides me to my highest good.
My life is blessed.

Healing

Filled with God's healing love, my mind and body are strong and resilient.

Prosperity

Spirit is my wellspring of substance without end.
I am prospered.

World Day of Prayer Affirmation

United heart to heart in prayer, we create a world of radiant life, overflowing abundance, and lasting peace as we awaken to the power of God within.

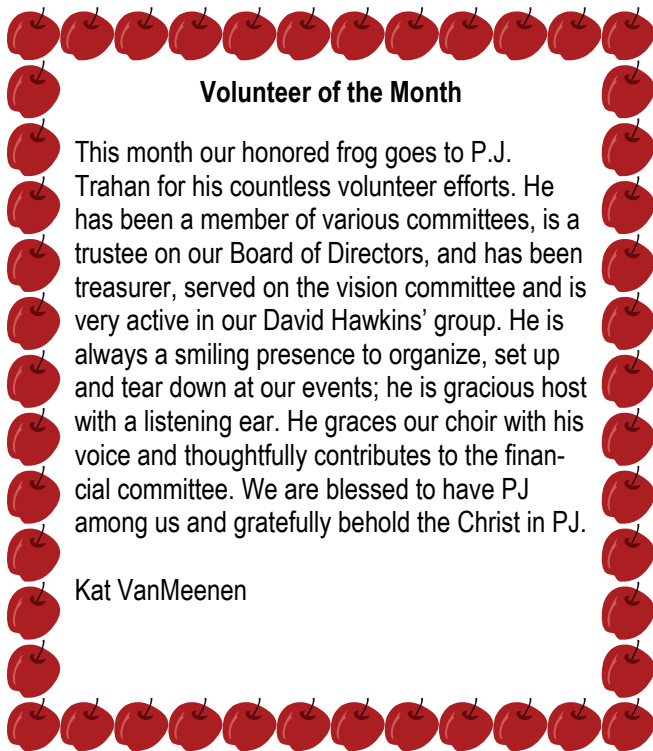
Prayer Ministry

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

God blesses us with ongoing support and supply:

- ◆ Our August Daily Word readers: David Mercer, Bev Liederbach, Joanie Trahan.
- ◆ The beautiful flower arrangements from: Paulie Gajewski, Bev Liederbach, Bill & Eileen Smith
- ◆ The helpful hands with the newsletter: Elizabeth Crawford, Peela Hooke, Sue Giannavola, Chris Spridy, Rev. Eleanor.
- ◆ Anita Gaiteri and Dorothea King for organizing the church picnic and providing good food and entertainment.
- ◆ Everyone who helped make the picnic a loving success by bringing a dish and helping to set up and clean up.
- ◆ A souvenir Redwings baseball courtesy of Sue Giannavola.
- ◆ Our Social Committee volunteers who serve us refreshments each Sunday.
- ◆ Our Prayer Team, who pray each day for our blessings.
- ◆ We are grateful for a donation of craft supplies to our Sunday School from Sue Giannavola.



Volunteer of the Month

This month our honored frog goes to P.J. Trahan for his countless volunteer efforts. He has been a member of various committees, is a trustee on our Board of Directors, and has been treasurer, served on the vision committee and is very active in our David Hawkins' group. He is always a smiling presence to organize, set up and tear down at our events; he is gracious host with a listening ear. He graces our choir with his voice and thoughtfully contributes to the financial committee. We are blessed to have PJ among us and gratefully behold the Christ in PJ.

Kat VanMeenen

Minister's Letter continued from page 1

The Planning and Beautification Committees are proposing that we update and improve the lighting in our Sanctuary. Please come to the **Membership Meeting** where we will discuss this on **Sunday, Sept. 17 at 12:45 p.m.** Anyone interested may attend.

This is the last month for the Unexpected Income Program. As of this writing, we have manifested \$3079.27. **Thank you**, Mother-Father God, for all our blessings.

Namaste, Rev. Eleanor

Divine Love richly provides everything now.



Board News

Our Board of Trustees has requested that I use this newsletter space to communicate information regarding the new budget process currently in use by our church. Our budget process involves the entire CCU membership. The Financial Prosperity Committee in collaboration with the Treasurer and Bookkeeper begins the process in early September. The Trustees approve the final product to be presented to and approved by the CCU membership at the annual membership meeting.

Our Budget Process: Budget Input: At the beginning of the budget process all entities using church funds are asked to submit budget requests for the following year. It is important that this effort be given considerable attention since these budget requests are what the finance committee uses to formulate the next year's budget.

Prioritizing: The finance committee then assembles the budget requests and prioritizes them in order of relative importance. The finance committee gathers information from many sources in determining priorities. The current priorities are labeled "bare-bones", priority A, priority B, etc. The highest priority, "bare-bones", represents items essential to the effective functioning of the church and priority A is the next highest priority, etc.

Projecting Next Year's Income: The finan-

cial committee takes the actual income of the past year or two and generates a forecast based on any discernable trend.

Project highest priority expenses for next year: These are expenses for essential church activities known as "bare-bones" priority items. These expenses are based on the actual recurring and essential expenses incurred in the past year plus known and essential future needs.

Pull it all together: This involves the integration of the prioritized budget requests with projected income and expenses and prioritizing the entire budget.

Present it to the membership: The resulting budget is then communicated to the membership and finally approved at the annual membership meeting. This year the Board of Trustees will attempt to get the proposed budget to the membership at least one month prior to the annual membership meeting. This is somewhat difficult because the information needed to finalize the budget process is not known until year-end and the annual meeting must be held in February or March according to our bylaws.

2006 Semi-annual Status Report: Treasurer Leslie Wright reports that mid-year records show that income has exceeded our budget and expenses came in below budget. This fortunate state of affairs al-

lows us to fund most of the Priority-A items in the budget and some unforeseen expenses. At their August 13 meeting the Trustees accepted the Financial Prosperity Committee's recommendation to approve funds for the following: Christmas Bonus to staff – \$800; Remembrance - \$600; Minister Discretionary Fund – \$1000; Music Dept. – \$750; Web Site – \$400; Janitorial Supplies – \$75; Outdoor Garbage Can – \$250; Piano Maintenance – \$200; Piano Stool – \$500; Board of Trustees – \$1,300; Youth Education Conference – \$500; Kitchen remodeling – \$1,000.

A Final Word:

Currently our Treasurer is performing the equivalent of two jobs, that of Treasurer and that of bookkeeper. Having been involved in this area, it is plain to me that this is a real burden on any one person. I strongly recommend the separation of these two functions in the future. We are extremely fortunate to have Leslie doing both jobs at this time. Her dedication and hard work go far beyond what we should reasonably expect and certainly could never justify. Leslie, for all you do for our church, I salute you!

My best regards to all,
Perlis (PJ) Trahan



Highlights from the Board

Short and sweet greetings from the Board this month!

Sunday Service Recordings: The Board approved retaining digital copies of Sunday services from the date we began digital recordings, January 2005, forward. We will retain tape cassettes of services prior to January 2005 as well.

Christmas in August: Last year CCU provided each Christmas Basket volunteer with \$50 to purchase items for the Christmas Basket they created for a needy family. That money came

from tithing funds. To provide "seed money" this year, the Board approved application of discretionary tithes from August through November 2006, amounting to approximately \$1600, to fund CCU Christmas Baskets.

CCU Sanctuary Lighting Upgrade: The board approved a motion to convene a special membership meeting Sunday, September 17, 2006, to vote on a possible expenditure of approximately \$7000 to upgrade CCU sanctuary lighting. Watch your mailbox for news on this special meeting.

Board Retreat and Strategic Planning: Paula Bramwell, President, and Bob Gajewski, Vice President, are planning a board retreat and strategic planning session for September 30, 2006. The Board scheduled its September meeting for September 9, 2006 at 1pm. Our hope is to create a 5-year spirit-filled Strategic Plan for Christ Church Unity.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Daly



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.

World Day of Prayer

You are invited to join us in Unity's thirteenth annual **World Day of Prayer** on **Sept. 14th**. With our Unity family worldwide we will be holding our whole planet in prayer. At CCU we will have a **silent prayer vigil beginning at 8:00 a.m.** and lasting throughout the day, concluding with a prayer service of **guided meditation at 7:00 p.m.** You may come any time during the day or evening, or sign up

to fill a specific time slot (s) in which you will pray in the sanctuary (one-half hour increments). We also would like to have "**guardian angels**" who will watch over the lobby during the prayer vigil, so that the front door may be left open. We invite you to sign up at church. During this day we will be keeping **an atmosphere of quiet** recollection throughout the church to support those who are praying, and to be in readiness to hear the still, small voice. If you are unable to be here physically, unite with us spiritually from wherever you are. There is no separation in Divine Mind; all are One. You can find the Silent Unity **Affirmation for World Day of Prayer** on page 3 of this newsletter, in the Prayer Dept. section. More information is available at www.worlddayofprayer.org

The Forgiveness Project

A special exhibit is coming to Rochester on September 8, sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The Forgiveness Project is a visual reminder that the power of forgiveness is a healing of the spirit. The exhibition tells the stories "of people whose lives have been shattered by violence, tragedy, and injustice and who are learning to forgive and move on."

Traveling Exhibit Locations

School of the Arts	Sept. 8-10
Bausch & Lomb	Sept. 12-15
Sacred Heart	Sept. 16
Nazareth College	Sept. 18-21

For more information
<http://www.theforgivenessproject.com>

I always have something of value to give.

Ways to Get Involved

Promotion Club

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

The One-Winged Angels support group



led by Jane Faust will meet Friday, September 22 at 10:30 AM. The group will meet at the church and go to breakfast at the Penquin; afterwards we will take a tour of the Susan B. Anthony House. The fee for the tour is \$6.50 (\$5 seniors) and lasts about 1 hour. A sign up sheet is on the front counter. If 12 or more sign up, we will get a group rate.

LIFE CAN GET EASIER

Life Can Get Easier...A Workshop with our Minister Eleanor Celentani and Dijana Winter, *A Course in Miracles* facilitator since 1992 and therapist.

Recent Sunday lessons have focused upon the Christ within. On Saturday, September 16, 2006, you can learn how to begin to live as your Divine Self and find Freedom * Fun * Purpose * Release from Burdens * A new sense of Happiness & Self-Worth * Ease of Being * Fulfillment and Contentment in your life. Join us from 1 PM – 4 PM at Christ Church Unity, 55 Prince St., Rochester.

Registration in person: in the lobby after Sunday Services on Sept. 3 and 10 - \$45.00.

Registration by mail: PAID registration by September 10 - \$45. After that - \$60. Send check or money order to Christ Church Unity, C/O Dijana Winter, PO Box 421, Fairport, NY, 14450.

Questions? Call Dijana @ 585-703-1914



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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.

Living~Giving~Learning

Unity September Birthdays

Dorothea King	September 1
Mike Sciortino	September 1
Rev. Steve D'Annunzio	September 2
John Westaway	September 3
Sheila Fleck	September 4
Vance O'Donnell	September 6
Victoria Pratt	September 7
Reinhardt Brucker	September 10
Daryl Brown	September 17
Martha Roberts	September 21
Susan Higgins	September 24

Leah Ruekberg	September 25
Danielle Houppert	September 26
Todd Smith	September 29
Peela Hooke	September 30

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 September 2, 2006.

A Course in Miracles (ACIM) class, led by Dijana Winter, meets on Tuesdays, 7-8:30 PM. For information call 585-703-1914. Love offering.

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.



Feng Shui

Friday Nite Feng Shui classes will resume in **October**. Please contact Lyn Volare at 585-244-1332 or Lynvolare@yahoo.com with questions.

Remember...

Sunday lessons and meditations can be heard on our website www.unityrochester.org



Look...New Office Hours

Our church office is open Monday—Friday 9:30 AM—1:30 PM starting September 5. You can also leave a message at any time by calling 585-473-0910.

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

Thank you for making our Sunday Service fragrance-free.

Christ Church Unity
55 Prince Street
Rochester, NY 14607-1025

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Fax: 585-271-1297
Email: unityroc@frontiernet.net
Website: www.unityrochester.org

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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:

Sunday Celebration – 11:00 a.m.

Practical Christianity for the 21st Century

CHRIST CHURCH UNITY

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2006
12:45 P.M.

TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR NEW SANCTUARY LIGHTING

Both Members and Others who attend are Welcome

Members, watch your mailbox for formal meeting letter.

Please plan to attend!