

Unity Church of Greater Rochester

A Positive Path for Spiritual Living



December 2014/January 2015

A member of Unity Worldwide Ministries/Affiliated with Unity, publisher of Daily Word

Our Vision Statement

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

Our Mission Statement:

Unity Church of Greater Rochester 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.



Truth Students:

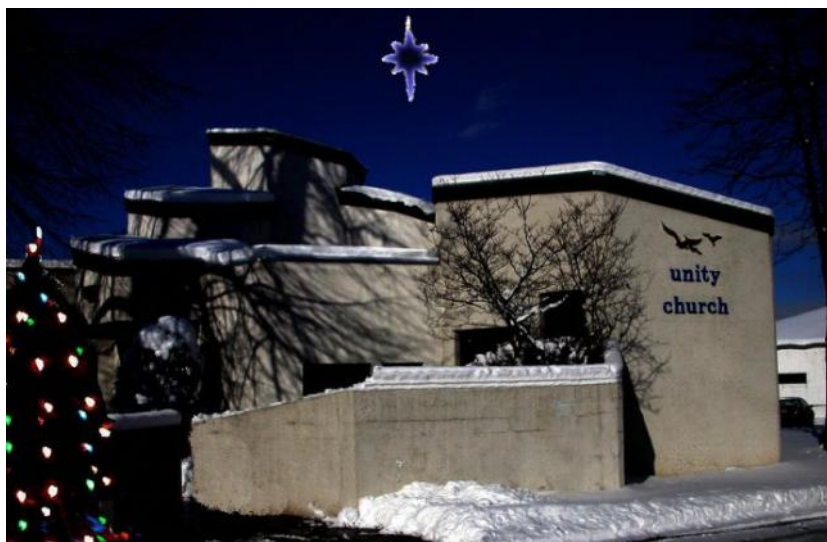
During this holiday season let the Christ be born anew in our hearts, minds and souls. As we greet each day with renewed hope, love and trust. As Truth students we know that the right and perfect minister will manifest on time and in the right time.

The Board of Trustees will continue to make its best effort to stay connected with the congregation. One way we stay connected through this transition period is through communication. I believe that blessings flow freely through an open channel. The Board of Trustees is an open channel. There is a "Tell it to the Board Box" for those who would like to drop us a note. Speaking to any board member is another way the board would like to stay as an open channel to communication.

During the holiday season many people want to stay connected through traditions and communication. This season the church will be celebrating with advent, candle lighting and burn bowl services. Traditionally, these services are very important. Please look for times in our newsletter. Whether the holiday season is gift giving, enjoying Christmas dinner with family and friends, and volunteering to help others in need. I would like to thank all who have continued to support Unity Church of Greater Rochester to run seamlessly. This is the time for celebration. Let us celebrate the divinity in each person we come in contact.

He leads us on the right path for his name's sake." Psalm 23:3

Rich Blessings,
Larlene Fyles
Board President



Coming Home by Sharing

Our Board of Trustees

Larlene Fyles, President
Mary Ann Ruganis, Vice President
Marilyn Hampton, Treasurer
Paula Fletcher, Secretary
Vada Good, Trustee
June Fisher, Trustee

Senior Minister

Our Staff

Emily Carpenter, Webmaster
Jane Faust, Accompanist
Jeanne Gagne, Venise Cottrell, Admin. Asst.
Marna Rossi, Youth Ed. Dir.

Our Leadership Council

Audio –
Beautification/Earthkeepers
Chair: Nancy Hicks
Bookstore – Joan Miller
Bylaws– Mary Ann Ruganis
Chaplaincy—Jane Faust
Circulation Day —Katherine DaCosta
Counters—Marilyn Hampton
Directory—Marie Hedrick
Financial Prosperity - Larlene Fyles
Greeters – Jackie McCullough
Librarian - Carol Baumeister
Newsletter - Bernie Bowie
Nominating Comm. - Stan Marshall
Photographer – Mike Gacek
Platform Assistants – Donna Ries
Prayer – Jean Marie Bianco
Prosperity Projects -
Publicity -
Purchasing Agent—Bernie Bowie
Remembrance - Marilyn Hampton
Search Committee—Kathy Anderson
Spiritual Healing - Donna Ries
& Vicki Williams, Co-Facilitators
Sign Ministry - Mike Gacek
Social –
Social Media—Barbara Boyce
Ushers –Helen Lutz
Welcoming—
Women of Wisdom—Jeanne Gagnè



Skills and Talents Requested

Do you know what makes Unity Church of Greater Rochester such a positive hub of spiritual energy? It is the loving, caring, spiritual contributions of people like you. All of the ministries are made up of ordinary people who together do extraordinary work. The events such as World Day of Prayer and Prosperity Projects are chaired by people who raised their hand and took a step forward knowing they would be supported in their efforts.

Please take a moment to look over the ministries and consider getting involved. No contribution is too small or too insignificant; all of the ministries would welcome additional people to contribute to the spiritual growth of UCGR.

To learn more about each ministry you can visit our website at <http://www.unityrochester.org>



Potluck Social

Beginning October 5, we will be having a potluck luncheon the first Sunday of every month. No sign—ups...just bring something to share and look for old friends and new to sit and talk with. Enjoy socializing with your spiritual family!

Please make sure you know which dish is yours to take home and clean up.



Newsletter Under Construction

UCGR is taking a look at the newsletter and would like to know your opinion. What information would you like to see more of? What would you like to see less of? Is there something missing all together? If you have an idea or suggestion, please drop it in the 'Tell it to the Board' box located in the lobby on the table with the sign-up sheets.

Coming Home ~ Every Day



December 7

Speaker Rev. Ann
Frances
Potluck
Membership Meeting

December 28

Speaker Rev. Sharon
Peters
Burning Bowl

Save The Date

February 27 & 28

Mission & Vision Workshop

December 14

Speaker Thomas
Warfield

January 4

Potluck

January 18

Sacred Healing



December 21

Speaker Nancy Hicks
Sacred Healing

December 24

Candlelight Service



Coming Home in Prayer

December Affirmations

Inner Peace

The peaceful presence of God is within me.

Guidance

Spirit is my compass on each step of my journey.

Healing

Wholeness is my divine birthright.

Prosperity

I give from my heart, and I am richly blessed.

World Peace

I honor all expressions of God.

The Power of Prayer

Prayer Team members will be standing up in the Sunday services to lead the Prayer Intentions part of the service.

The Unity theme for December is Come Home to Unity; for January it is Come Home to A Fresh Start.

Catherine Ponder Prosperity Dial-A-Thought 760-346-3964

Silent Unity's number is 1-800-669-7729 or go to

www.silentunity.org

We are invited to take part in a **county-wide prayer project** involving many denominations of churches. Please join us in **holding in Light the following places** during these weeks. Rochester City neighborhoods alternate with other towns.

December 7	Cascade District
December 14	Town Sweden
December 21	Town of Webster
December 28	Town of Wheatland

Coming Home In Gratitude



Sacred Healing Ministry

Laura Harvey, editor of The Daily Word, encourages readers to live life with purpose. "Conscious awareness is key. When we are conscious of the presence of Spirit in and through all of life, we are able to see the presence of good everywhere."

Each month, typically the third Sunday, a space of "Sacred Silence" is offered following the Sunday service. There is meditation music, quiet, and a Reiki Circle. When receiving in the Reiki Circle, the recipient is invited to sit in a quiet space releasing the thoughts that arise, and welcome the healing

energy that is being received. This time is a gift to one's self, an opportunity to come into conscious awareness, to experience the peace and serenity of sacred silence. At times, a gift of pain relief, whether physical, mental or spiritual, is also received. This time and space is offered to anyone wanting to come into presence, to heal, to have a time-out from the busy pace of life.

Love donations are appreciated, as an acknowledgement of service and a demonstration of gratitude. The church receives all donations with the grace of deep thanksgiving for the generosity of all participants.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the lobby for the prior 2 weeks of the upcoming

monthly event for individuals to make known their intent to receive Reiki. Individuals are also welcome to walk in for a Reiki treatment during the Sacred Healing service. We request a reverent quiet for all present, and we welcome you to receive Reiki or to choose to sit in silent prayer or contemplation. This space is for anyone and all are welcome.

If you have questions, or if you are a healing practitioner and wish to become part of our circle, please contact Vicki Williams (Vicki@bluefrog.com) or Donna Ries (donnaries@hotmail.com), co-coordinators of the Sacred Healing Ministry.



We Need More Ushers

The Usher Committee is looking for a few more folks to help out during Sunday services. Most of our ushers have been serving our church community in this way for a number of years. Our numbers have fallen through attrition and the fact that some folks simply want to move on and explore other ways of serving our church community.

Ushering is a simple task, and it is a good way to "give back" to the church without a huge time commitment. It's a nice entry level way of serving. Typically, you would only need to usher once a month, unless we are short of available members — in which case you might be asked to do it twice in a month.

Training is available with the current committee chairperson, Helen Lutz. Call or e-mail her if you are interested and/or have any questions.

Thank you for giving the Usher Committee your consideration.
Helen Lutz
hlutz@rochester.rr.com

Coming Home through Leadership



Highlights From the Board

Thank you to the Leadership of our Ministries for your efforts and patience in this transition time, we couldn't do this without you!

I was going to tell you how many times the board has met the past two months, but realized I lost count. We are dedicated to keep things running smoothly (with the awesome help of our staff and other volunteers!)

Our first Branding Event will be taking place soon! A ribbon cutting ceremony for our new Church Sign will be taking place in the near future ... watch for the date!

The Red Cross parking contract is now executed and in place. We have signed a contract with our snowplow contractor. Our insurance is up-to-date with Church Mutual. The heaters in the classroom, church office and lobby have been repaired. The day to day list goes on! Thank you to the tireless few who take on so many duties!

As you will probably know by the time this newsletter is published, we will be having a special membership meeting on December 7th to vote on expenditure for boiler updates (and a couple other topics!)

We had a Board (working) Retreat at the Mercy Prayer Center on November 14-15, Friday the 14th was our regular board meeting and we had some of our transition team come to a pot luck dinner to participate in the meeting ... it was great fun, great food and productive!

We have been very busy getting wonderful guest speakers and are excited at the possibilities in the coming months ... watch for more great speakers!

We decided we would hold the Christmas Eve candlelighting service, but not the New Year's Eve service. The Burning

Bowl will take place during the regular service on Sunday, December 28th. The guest minister that day will be Rev. Sharon Peters.

Please continue to hold us in prayer and provide your support when possible; we are grateful for this opportunity to unite in this effort.

In Love and Service,
Paula Fletcher
Interim Board Secretary

Message From The Board

Mission Vision & Values Save the Date February 27, 28, 2015

In every newsletter we publish, we list our church vision and mission statements. What is the purpose of these? Do they still speak to you? Do they reflect our current community wants, needs and desires? What about our values – one could say that they are implied in our current mission and vision statements but if someone were to ask you, could you explain what it is that our community really values?

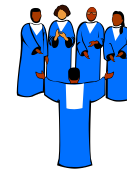
Why are Mission, Vision and Values important? A mission statement tells the world what an organization does, a vision statement explains why the organization is doing that work and where it is aiming. Core Values explain how an organization will do that work. They are some of the simplest and most effective governance tools an organization can find. With clear vision, mission and values, leadership has three solid tools to use to set objectives and goals and create action plans for our church. Those goals, objectives and action plans will in turn help us create the desired future of our community.

Given the recent leadership changes within our community, your Board of Trustees has identified a need to create

new goals, objectives and action plans. To do this properly, it is important to have clear vision, mission and value statements to guide them. As a result, the Board has arranged to bring in our Regional Unity Worldwide Ministries Consultant, Rev. Pat Bessey, on February 27th and 28th next year to review and work with the congregation to update (if necessary) the mission and vision for our church and to help us identify our core values.

Please mark your calendars and join us for this very important work!

Mary Ann Ruganis
Board Vice President



Christmas Choir

The Choir, led by Thomas Warfield, will sing at the Christmas Service December 21. Rehearsals will take place December 14 at 11:30 AM after the Sunday Service and December 21 at 9 AM before the service.



Information on Service Cancellations

If Christ Church Unity finds it necessary to cancel Sunday activities due to **inclement weather**, the announcement will be made on 13 WHAM-TV, 13 WHAM.com, CW-WHAM (digital 13.2, cable channel 16), Newsradio 1180 WHAM, 100.5 The Drive, 106.7 KISS-FM, 102.3 Sunny-FM, Sports Radio 1280 WHTK, 95.1 The Fox, 107.3 WHTK-FM and YNN Rochester Cable TV, Channel 9. It will also be posted on the church phone line 473-0910 after 8:00 AM. Weeknight cancellations will be announced by 5:00 PM on the church voice mail and in the media if possible.

DECEMBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>We are one.</i>	1 7:30 AM OA 3 PM ACIM Usha Shah	2 7:30 AM OA	3 3 PM QiGong Usha Shah	4 7:30 AM OA	5 7:30 AM OA	6 10 AM There is Only God (TIOG)
7 2nd Sunday of Advent 10 AM Sunday Service	8 7:30 AM OA 3 PM ACIM Usha Shah	9 7:30 AM OA	10 3 PM QiGong Usha Shah	11 7:30 AM OA	12 7:30 AM OA	13 10 AM TIOG
14 3rd Sunday of Advent 10 AM Sunday Service 11:30 Choir Practice	15 7:30 AM OA 3 PM ACIM Usha Shah	16 7:30 AM OA	17 3 PM QiGong Usha Shah	18 7:30 AM OA	19 7:30 AM OA	20 10 AM TIOG
21 4th Sunday of Advent 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Sunday Service Sacred Healing	22 7:30 AM OA 3 PM ACIM Usha Shah	23 7:30 AM OA	24 Christmas Eve 6:30 PM Candlelight Service 	25 Christmas 7:30 AM OA	26 7:30 AM OA	27 10 AM TIOG
28 10 AM Sunday Service Burning Bowl Qi Gong	29 7:30 AM OA	30 7:30 AM OA	31 New Year's Eve			

JANUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>I claim the life I want to live.</i>				1 New Year's Day 7:30 AM OA	2 7:30 AM OA	3 10 AM TIOG
4 10 AM Sunday Service Potluck	5 7:30 AM OA	6 7:30 AM OA	7	8 7:30 AM OA	9 7:30 AM OA	10 10 AM TIOG
11 10 AM Sunday Service	12 7:30 AM OA	13 7:30 AM OA	14	15 7:30 AM OA	16 7:30 AM OA	17 10 AM TIOG
18 10 AM Sunday Service Sacred Healing	19 MLK Day 7:30 AM OA Newsletter Deadline	20 7:30 AM OA	21	22 7:30 AM OA	23 7:30 AM OA	24 10 AM TIOG
25 10 AM Sunday Service	26 7:30 AM OA	27 7:30 AM OA	28 Newsletter Assembly	29 7:30 AM OA	30 7:30 AM OA	31 10 AM TIOG

Coming Home to Relationships

December ~ January Birthdays

Robyn Olson-Washington	December 4	Louis Wong	January 2
Les Collins	December 5	Kristina Turachak	January 4
Alicia Mercer	December 6	Katy Howard-Lim	January 5
Rosemarie Jaouen	December 9	Anne Marie Miraglia	January 7
Jerry Peters	December 12	Dijana Winter	January 9
Jean Marie Bianco	December 13	Sara Gale Young	January 10
Dory Braun	December 18	Kathleen Worgo	January 12
Vicki Williams	December 21	Bruce Benton	January 14
Nancy Hicks	December 21	Katherine Vidas	January 16
E.A. Sears	December 21	Lisa White	January 20
Joni Viggiani	December 25	Beverly Liederbach	January 26
Ruth Fogarty	December 30	Faythe Swanson	January 26
		Carol Baumeister	January 26
		Deborah Koziarski	January 30
		Margaret (Peggy) Harvey	January 31

*Happy Birthday to you...
There is joy in the Universe
Because you exist!*



Birthday Cards

Barb Boyce coordinates the mailing of birthday cards for CCU. This is a pleasurable service and open for anyone to share in. We book volunteer service in 1 month

blocks. Cards, stamps and a list of names/addresses are provided so all you do is set up your schedule of mailing at home and send out our cards. If you would like to sign up for a month, please



UCGR Hours

UCGR will continue with the 10 AM Sunday Service and Sunday School time through January 25, 2015



Online Donations

We are grateful that our church can receive donations online. Go to any page on our website www.unityrochester.org and click on the purple button. Thank you.

On-Going Events

The "There is Only God" study group meets every Saturday from 10 AM—Noon. Next meeting December 6, 2014. <http://thereisonlygod.com>.

To receive the newsletter or event flyer or both by email, go to our website, www.unityrochester.org, and click on *Get Unity Updates*.



Women of Wisdom

The women of Unity Church of Greater Rochester meet every month sharing and laughing, usually at members' homes. The meetings are an opportunity to get to know each other at a more personal level. Those interested in hosting a meeting, please contact Jeanne Gagne' at 585-473-0910.

Recording of Our Services

Our website has a button on each page to access recordings of our Sunday lessons and meditations. We thank Kathy Dennis-Anderson for help in updating this page.

This is a free service which we give to the world.



Thank you for keeping our Sunday services fragrance free.



Don't forget you can support UCGR every time you search the internet or shop online with www.GoodSearch.com or www.GoodShop.com

Type Christ Church Unity-Rochester into the "I support box" and click on verify. Money from advertisers will go to UCGR.

Submission Deadline

For February/March
Newsletter

January 19, 2015

Assembly Date

January 28, 2015



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Website: www.unityrochester.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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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:



*Make us rich in ways that result in generosity on our part so
You will be praised.*

2 Corinthians 9:11

www.unityrochester.org



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