

GoodNewsLetter

Unity Community Church

March 2014 - May 2014 • UnityDunedin.org • UnityDunedin@aol.com

Sunday Service, 10:00 AM

Speakers and Events

Mar 2 - Rev. Ortrun Franklin
"Awakening"

Mar 9 – Fairie Elaine Silver
"Prayer Through Song"

Mar 16 – Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader

Mar 23 – Rev. Carl Franklin
"The Soul"

Light Lunch provided after church

Workshop with Rev. Ortrun Franklin
"Meditation – the Key to Life"

12 – 2:00 pm; Love Offering Basis

Mar 30 – Rev. Aldon Samaha

Apr 6 – Revs. Frank Drexler and David Panunzio
"The Power of Imagination"

April 13 – Palm Sunday
Revs. Aaron and Mary Moore

April 17 "Maundy Thursday", 7:00 pm
Special Communion Service with Revs. Bette Petersen and Elsie Huebner (Reservations Required)

April 18 – Good Friday
Church will be open from noon – 2:00 pm
For Silent Reflection on Jesus' last day and his last words spoken.

April 20 – Easter Sunday
Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader
Easter Brunch follows church service

Apr 27 – Rev. Aldon Samaha

May 4 – Rev. Arlene Meyer
"Letting Go as We Swing Through Life"

May 11 – Mothers' Day
Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader

May 18 – Rev. Aldon Samaha

May 26 – Memorial Day Weekend
Diane Starr – Board of Directors President

New Class – Teach Me to Pray

Thurs., Mar 6, 13, 20, 27, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Exploring four ways to pray taught by Jesus, as well as learning to pray out loud with others. Please register at church. Class will be taught by Elsie, our Spiritual Leader. Love Offering.



Easter Celebrations

Please join us for all our Easter Celebrations. Revs. Mary and Aaron Moore will be guest speakers on **Palm Sunday**. We will have a very special and solemn Holy Communion service on **Maundy Thursday**, 7:00 p.m. The service will be held in the sanctuary where tables will be set up in a U-shape, with attendees sitting on the outside. There will be 12 candles representing Jesus' 12 disciples. We will wash each other's hands and bless each other as we receive the bread and wine in remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper. Reservations are required for this service. Sign up sheet at church (or phone Elsie, 727-791-7732). On **Good Friday**, the sanctuary will be open from noon-2:00 pm. Please stop by for silent prayer and reflection on Jesus' Last Words. On **Easter Sunday**, the music, the message and the traditional Unity Circle of Life Flower Ceremony will fill your heart with joy. A bountiful Easter Brunch will follow the service - \$5.00 suggested love offering.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Mondays, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

Spiritual Support. If you would like prayer support or to meet with Elsie, our spiritual leader, feel free to stop by. Please call the church, 734-0635, if you would like to make an appointment at another time.

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM

Donoghue-Dunedin Toastmasters meeting

Fridays, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Course in Miracles.

Saturdays, 4:00 – 6:00 PM Debtors

Anonymous

Program meeting, 1st Thurs., 10:30 a.m.

U-C Angels, usually 2nd Saturday of month

Chaplains meeting, normally last Sunday of month, 11:45 am

Board of Director's meeting, 3rd Sunday, 11:45 a.m.

Healers meeting, (when scheduled)

guided by the Holy Spirit. We encourage and empower each other to grow in consciousness by teaching, learning and practicing the universal truth principles that Jesus Christ demonstrated.

FINANCIAL REPORT ...Helen Quinn, Treasurer
January 2014

Income	\$3,310.00
Expenses	2,607.86

January –December 2013

Income	\$54,554.24
Expenses	49,113.06

We are blessed indeed and very grateful.

Church News

Welcome New Members: Bonnie Hermann-Rose, Joel Brannen and James Ellis. We are blessed to have you as part of our spiritual family.

New Guest Speaker on May 4

Rev. Arlene Meyer is a retired Unity Minister, a Motivational Speaker, Life Consultant, Coach and Author. Her passion is to empower others to live life fully and in harmony with compassion, love and joy.

U-C Angels

Women's Group usually meets 2nd Saturday for fun, food and fellowship.

March 8, 11:30: Lunch at Broadway Deli, 730 Broadway in Dunedin. After lunch, there will be pottery painting at Art from the Heart Café in the same building. \$8 studio fee plus cost of green ware item chosen.

April 5, noon, Book and a Box. Book Discussion on "*Destiny of Souls - New Case Studies of Life between Lives*" by Michael Newtown, PhD. (New and used books are available at Amazon). Box lunches will be purchased from Lonnie's Sandwiches. Pay for lunch in advance by April 2, 2014.

Please make reservations for both events by calling Diane Ramsey, 727-631-3449 or email: Dramsey25@hotmail.com

Unity Community's Mission Statement

Unity Community is a spiritual family of love,

TITHING

Tithing is a very interesting subject whenever it's discussed, because it often brings forth feelings of disagreement and discomfort. People who practice tithing, however, rarely discuss it, but should the subject come up, they don't feel uncomfortable.

Rev. Thomas Shepherd, who writes each month for Unity Magazine, explained it this way a few years ago. "*Tithing is a very specific form of giving that traces its origins to Old Testament times. It is meant for the upkeep and expansion of ministry and should be given to the place(s) from which you receive spiritual guidance. It is not an obligation. It is not charity. It is simply a way of recycling the good that God has bestowed upon us. This process sets into motion spiritual forces that ...bless the giver many times over. Ten percent is the most commonly designated amount for a tithe, but whether you take it from your gross or net is up to you...All forms of giving are beneficial if given in the spirit of selfless love, but not all giving is tithing.*"

In other words, "tithing," is lovingly giving 10% of either your gross or net income to the source of your spiritual nourishment. Whether you practice this principle or not is up to you. You and God are the only ones who know.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Each month there are over 100 prayer request forms in our prayer box. Many of the requests contain more than one name, so you can see that a lot of people are requesting prayer support. This is a Ministry in which we can each participate. Jesus tells us that it only takes a little faith, as small as a mustard seed, to move great mountains of what appear to be problems. So we pray believing that we shall receive. As we pray, we are tapping into a vital spiritual connection that inspires and encourages us and those for whom we pray. When we join together on Sunday morning, blessing the prayer requests, let us see each person as they truly are in Spirit; whole and well; prosperous and guided, and expressing their innate perfection.

Affirmative Prayer: "Looking upon the circumstances that surround me, I bless them even as Jesus blessed the bread and broke it. Even as the loaves and fishes multiplied in the outstretched hand of his love, so I know that everything in my experience that is good is multiplied and increased. Even as I feel the increase pressing into my own experience, I give it out that it may feed and bless and multiply the good of others, who are some part of me because God is in them and in me, and we are in each other." (Rev. Ernest Holmes)

Have You Met Catherine Montez?

.....*Marilyn Renner*

Catherine was born in Utrecht (Holland) in the Netherlands. Her father's family had migrated to the United States before the Civil War, but James was overseas serving in the military when he met her mother, Diane. They married in 1962, and became the parents of three children: Catherine, Anton, and Sarah.

Catherine was nine years of age when the family moved back to the United States. They decided to settle in Clearwater, Florida, largely because two great-aunts were living there and they needed help. Catherine's family took care of them as needed.

This move turned out to be quite an adjustment for Catherine. There were new customs to get

used to, and the new language especially was a challenge in school. But Catherine was a resilient child and after a couple of years, she adjusted beautifully.

Having graduated from high school, Catherine attended St. Petersburg Junior College, and earned an Associate Degree in the Arts. While working in retail at Burdine's Department Store, she noticed that all the managers there had 4 year college degrees. She wanted one. So back to college Catherine went – the University of Florida this time. Before long she was the proud holder of an English Degree. She loves to read and write. (Catherine still dreams of writing that "great American novel!") Back to retail she went, then decided to move to California! During the seven years living there, Catherine married and became the proud mother of one son, Tim Montez.

Before long, she and Tim moved back to Clearwater. Catherine says being in transition led her to Unity in Clearwater. One day while driving along Bayshore Boulevard, she noticed the Unity Community of Dunedin sign (haven't we heard this before?!)!!! This was in 1999. Catherine soon became a member and served as Secretary on the Board of Directors during the early 2000 years.

Catherine really likes the positive message as taught at Unity. She likes that Unity Truth is not based on fear, but rather encourages us to "Be Still and Listen." Catherine says she feels empowered by the affirmations and appreciates the "practical" Christianity taught by Unity. She feels that Unity gives her "something to work with" and fosters the idea of seeing the Christ in everyone. It gets away from the "us versus them" view of the world.

Catherine currently works for the Home Shopping Network in customer service. She enjoys talking with people all over the country and helping them find resolutions for their needs.

What is she most proud of? Her son, Tim, age 16, currently lives with her and is doing well in school. Catherine feels that right now, her greatest commitment is to see him through school.

We are confident, Catherine, that you are being led to greater good, and we are very grateful to have you as part of Unity Community in Dunedin!

Daily Word for Easter, April 20, 2014

On Easter morning, I rejoice in Jesus Christ for demonstrating that no worldly tomb can imprison the living, loving, eternal Spirit of God. No matter what the circumstances, the resurrecting power of the Christ within restores and uplifts me. Whatever challenge I may be facing, I experience new faith and hope in the spirit and message of Easter. I rejoice in knowing I can "die" to my former self and be born anew-transformed and triumphant-through the power of the Risen Christ in me. The Christ within invites me to rise up and walk in newness of life. I am liberated from any thoughts of weakness. I am free, powerful, and victorious. Thank you, Jesus Christ, for showing us the way to resurrection. **"I am the resurrection and the life."** – John 11:25

Wake Up! Spring Forward



Daylight Savings Time Begins Mar 9

Love in the Post Office

(This is a story about Love in the Post Office. It's absolutely the best. Someone in the Postal Service dead letter office needs to be rewarded.)

Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month. The day after she passed away my four-year-old daughter, Meredith, was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her I thought we could, so she dictated these words:

*Dear God,
Will you please take care of my dog? Abbey*

died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much.

I'm happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick. I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls.

I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love, Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith, addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it.

Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven.

That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office. A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it.

Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.'

Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope.

On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey and Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognized her right away.

Abbey isn't sick any more. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart.

Abbey loved being your dog.

Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I'm sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you.

I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much.

By the way, I'm easy to find.

I am wherever there is love.

Love, God

