

# GoodNewsLetter

Unity Community Church

December 2015 – February 2016 • UnityDunedin.org • UnityDunedin@aol.com

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Dear Beloved Friends,

The story of Christmas is magnificent, one of the greatest ever told. It begins simply with an act of kindness from a stranger; an innkeeper who offers the shelter of his barn to a family far from home. Thus, born in humble surroundings with a feeding trough for a cradle and a royal court of barnyard animals for companions, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, emerged, and lives on in our hearts and minds more than 2,000 years later.

In the midst of holiday preparations and endless activities, let us remember the simple beginning of this annual celebration: a baby's birth that changed the world and an act of kindness that provided the simple place for His birth.

The angels and prophets proclaimed the arrival of Immanuel, a Hebrew word, which means "God is with us." This is the simple truth; the Christ Spirit of God lives within each of us. The birth of the inner Christ is an awakening to an indwelling awareness of our own divine nature.

Jesus gave us one commandment, love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. During this busy season let us remember the inn keeper of the bible story and be kind to one another.

We joyously invite you and your loved ones to join your spiritual family during this

time of Christmas celebration. Our traditional Christmas Eve Candle Lighting service on December 24, at 7:00 p.m., will be filled with Love, Light and Joy of Christmas. On December 27, during our regular 10:00 a.m. service, we'll "Let Go" of the tired, worn out and old beliefs that may have plagued 2015, through our traditional "Burning Bowl Ceremony." Following this release we will affirm our good by writing a personal letter to God. Join us for the perfect ending of the year and a dynamic beginning of a bright New Year, which we will celebrate with the White Stone Ceremony on January 3.

We appreciate your loving prayers, financial support and participation in this ministry throughout the year. We especially thank you in advance for holiday gifts of substance which will be carefully dedicated to our ministry of God's work.

May this season bring you all the joy and fulfillment that you desire and may the New Year bless you beyond your wildest expectations. Let your spirit soar! You are a beautiful expression of God.

Rich and abundant Blessings,  
Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader

## ***A Christmas Blessing for you***

*May your Christmas be filled with beautiful hours*

*And memories lovely to hold,*

*To enhance and embellish the days of your years,*

*Like angel wings sprinkled with gold.*

*May Christ spirit, in all of its joy,*

*Touch the depths of your soul with delight,*

*And may blessings in bushels, abundant and rich,*

*Light every part of your life.*

## **Sunday Service, 10:00 AM Speakers and Events**

Dec. 6 – Rev. David Florence  
Dec. 13 – Linda Carney,  
Licensed Unity Teacher  
Dec. 20 – Rev. Elsie Huebner,  
Spiritual Leader  
Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 7:00 p.m.  
CandleLight Service, Elsie Huebner  
Dec. 27 – Burning Bowl and Letters to  
God Service, Elsie Huebner

Jan. 3 – White Stone Ceremony  
Rev. Lauren McLaughlin  
Jan. 10 – Rev. David Florence  
Jan. 17 – Rev. Elsie Huebner,  
Spiritual Leader  
Jan. 24 – Rev. Phyllis Debella,  
Licensed Unity Teacher  
Jan. 31 – Revs. Frank Drexler and  
David Panunzio

Feb. 7 – Rev. Dave Florence  
Feb. 14 – Rev. Mary Moore  
Feb. 21 – Linda Carney,  
Licensed Unity Teacher  
Feb. 28 – Rev. Elsie Huebner,  
Spiritual Leader

### **Burning Bowl and Letter to God Service, Dec. 27, 10:00 a.m.**

After a quiet time of contemplation, you will be guided how to release the past and lay hold of your good in the future. We will each have an opportunity to write down all the things we want to release. Then the paper we wrote on is set afire in the Burning Bowl, symbolizing the cleansing fire of the Holy Spirit. We will then write a letter to God, expressing the good things we want to manifest during the coming year. The sealed, self-addressed envelopes will be sent to Silent Unity for six months of blessings. In June, they will be mailed back to your home address unopened. It's very exciting to receive your own letter in the

middle of the year to see which of your prayers have been answered. For many of us, this is an important ritual to help us on our spiritual path.

### **White Stone Ceremony January 3, 10:00 a.m.**

In the days of old, when people had overcome difficulties and made their connection with the Divine, they got a new name. No one else intervened; most of the time, no one else was aware of the new name. Abram, as he grew in spiritual awareness became Abraham; Sarai became Sarah.

A change in name signifies a change in consciousness. In biblical times a name was a very sacred thing. Every name in the bible actually means a quality that was in the person who carried the name. Parents chose a name for their child for whatever essence they saw in the child.

In our White Stone Ceremony, each person will be given a white stone from the Holy Land. After a time of contemplation, we will be led in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal our new name, which we will write on the stone.

With our stone and new name we free ourselves to live more fully on a path to greater insights and awareness to who we truly are.

### **NOTICE**

**Annual Membership Meeting** will be held after church service on Sunday, February 21, 2016. Year-end financial reports, proposed budget, spiritual leader's report and election of several directors will take place at the meeting. If you will need an absentee ballot, please let us know before the meeting by calling Elsie (727-791-7732) or emailing [UnityDunedin@aol.com](mailto:UnityDunedin@aol.com) .

If you would like to run for a seat on the Board of Directors, or nominate another member, please let Elsie or Marilyn Renner, Board President, know.

## CHURCH NEWS

**Letter of Congratulations.** Rev. Leddy Hammock sent a letter of congratulations to us along with a generous love offering. In it, she said, *"It is our great joy to include a love offering from Unity Church of Clearwater in celebration of the long-awaited acknowledgement of Unity Community as a church in full standing with the Unity Worldwide Ministries....."* Thank you, Leddy and Unity of Clearwater.

**Toys for Tots.** Again this year, we are joining with Revs. David Panunzio and Frank Drexler, of Messenger Metaphysical Studies, in collecting Toys for Tots. This year marks the 68<sup>th</sup> year that the U.S. Marine Corps has sponsored this Christmas campaign. **Please note: Our Unity Community Toy Drive is only for the month of November. Please bring your new, unwrapped toy to church no later than November 29, when Frank and David will come collect them.**

**New Dunedin Food Pantry Opens.** Barbara Lanier, Board Director, and Elsie, Spiritual Leader attended the meeting to learn about establishing the food pantry. A location has been found and the pantry is expected to open for business November 12, located at Faith Lutheran Church, 1620 Pinehurst Road. Our church will support this new food pantry with our donations of food and money each month. Please continue to bring your unopened canned or packaged food and leave in the baskets in the fellowship room or in the lobby.

**Parking Lot Fund Drive.** Our church parking lot needs to be replaced, estimated cost \$10,000! The Board decided that all "extra" money we receive will go into a fund to pay for the replacement. There is a jar, marked "**Parking Lot Fund**", located on the back table in the sanctuary; we thank you for dropping in a donation whenever you are at church.

**Prosperity Bank Donations** (in October) totaled \$483.00 and will be dedicated for Parking Lot project, as well as proceeds from the November **Jewelry Sale**.

**Congratulations to Christine Oberst** for winning the prize given during Prosperity Bank month. Her name was chosen from all those who returned their banks by the cut-off date.

**Clergy Appreciation Breakfast at Mease Dunedin Hospital.** Board President, Marilyn Renner, and Spiritual Leader, Elsie Huebner, attended the meeting on Oct 22. After a bountiful breakfast, there were presentations about the new Behavioral Health Units at the facility; Faith Community Nursing, and NAMI (National Association of Mental Illness).

**Lynotte Cruickshank**, one of the seven church founders, who now lives in Toronto, Canada, will visit us during Christmas week. Welcome, Lynotte!

**Joel Bancroft** wrote a book, "The Hidden-Self of Sheer Silence." It's a deeply spiritual book created from Joel's practice of bible study, prayer and meditation. You can purchase your copy at Amazon.com.

**Rest in Peace.** Joanne West's husband, Bo, made his transition in October. He and Joanne had just recently moved to their son's home in Williston, FL, due to health challenges. Bo was 88 years old. Our condolences to our beloved, Joanne, and all the family.

**Martha Reavley**, our cherished member, peacefully left the physical on October 6 at her Assisted Living Facility, Edgewater Manor. She had spent several months in hospitals and rehab centers prior to passing away. No matter what she was going through, her faith held strong and her attitude was positive. She loved our church and we loved her. We celebrated her life with great joy with a Remembrance Service on October 25.

**Diane Ramsey**, made a commitment a few months ago that she would purchase and donate a recording system for our church services. This required lots of research, expense, exchanging equipment, and lots of patience. Then, YEA, our first ever Laughter Sunday service was successfully recorded on Oct 25. She also purchased a duplicator, so we can provide a CD for anyone who wants one. Our website has been modified, so that the audio recordings will be posted week to week. This has not been an easy task. Thank you, Diane, our dedicated board director.

Thank you, **Jane Killian**, for gifting our church with money to purchase beautiful Thanksgiving flowers. We appreciate you.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### August 2015

Total Income	\$3,727.00
Total Expenses	4,819.33
Monthly Difference	- \$1,092.33

### September 2015

Total Income	\$3,970.00
Total Expenses	2,087.91
Monthly Difference	+\$1,882.09

We sincerely appreciate those who sent checks to help with expenses of the summer months, when income normally drops off and expenses go up. Thank you for your gifts, Judy Tilt, Betty Brown, Nadine Giani, Gail Walsh and Lynotte Cruickshank. We also are grateful to our members who continually support the church every week with tithes and love offerings.

I suggest everyone continue using the Prosperity Bank Program as a fun, easy way to increase prosperity consciousness. You can use the little banks over and over again. The most important thing, about using the program, is to repeat the prosperity affirmations on the side of the box every day when you drop your coins in.

We owe a BIG debt of appreciation to George Hawkins for his extraordinary help with our church finances. Not only is George overseeing our system and preparing the financial reports, he obtained a new computer for us and installed a workable accounting program. Thank you, George.

We affirm that God is the source of our every good. When we pray and meditate on the good in our lives, we become conscious of all the ways in which we are blessed. Spirit is the fulfillment of every need. We have only to center ourselves in Spirit, and begin noticing the goodness showering down around us.

*"See if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." – Malachi 3:10.*

.....Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader

## 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

**U-C Angels,** usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month

**Prayer 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)

**Hospitality meeting,** (when scheduled)



**Weight Loss Prescription.** The doctor explained to an overweight patient, "These pills I'm prescribing for you are not to be swallowed. You just spill them on the floor twice a day and pick them up one at a time. You will lose weight."

**Same Problem.** It was the start of a holiday weekend and the airport was crowded. Finally, an attendant noticed his local minister, who had been waiting in line a long time to pay for his ticket. "I'm sorry about the delay, pastor," the attendant apologized. "Seems like everybody waits until the last minute to get ready for a trip which they know they're going on. The pastor smiled, "I kow what you mean," he said, "I have the same problem in my business.

**Still Earlier.** A rabbi was seated beside a pompous woman at a banquet. "One of my ancestors," boasted the lady, "signed the Declaration of Independence." "Is that so?" said the rabbi. "One of mine wrote the Ten Commandments.



## Anniversaries

**Jan 1 – Pat and Bill Frantz**

**Jan 27 – Jan and Norm Sprague**

**Feb 22 – Mary and Robert Sutherland**

**February 14.** "Heaven is full of people and angels that love you! Those who have passed over watch you with an even greater love than they were able to show while on earth. Your angels want nothing more than for you to have a rich and happy life. You are so loved!" *(Radleigh Valentine, author)*

*Jane Killian, our long-time cherished member, who lives in Sun City Center, keeps track of our special days and sends all the greeting cards from the church, as a gift to our church. Thank you, Jane, for keeping this loving ministry going for so many years. If we missed anyone's special day, let Jane or Elsie know.*

## Happy Special Days

*(Note: Please pick up a copy of the newsletter at church for addresses. We don't include personal addresses online.)*

## Birthdays

**Dec 10 – Darcy Ann Potts**

**Dec 18 – Pat Gannon**

**Jan 3 – Jan Sprague**

**Jan 7 – Betty Wood**

**Jan 13 – Steve Brewer**

**Jan 15 – Celia Blum**

**Jan 18 – Nancy Baird**

**Jan 29 – Jane Killian**

**Feb 1 – Joanne West**

**Feb 3 – Pat Frantz**

**Feb 11 – William Robinson**

**Feb 15 – William Frantz**

**Feb 20 – Dee Kuncz**