

# GoodNewsLetter

Unity Community Church

September 2016-November 2016 • UnityDunedin.org • UnityDunedin@aol.com

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

**Sep 4 – Rev. Elsie Huebner**

**Sep 8 – Unity World Day of Prayer and  
Meditation Service**

**Sep 10 – All day workshop with  
English Healer Emma Stow \*\***

**Sep 11 – Tim Hamm, “Gospel of  
Buddha”**

**Sep 18 – Rev. David Florence**

**Sep 25 – Rev. Eleanor Bentley  
Light Lunch, followed by movie \*\*\***

**Oct 1 – Rev. David Florence**

**Oct 9 – Darlene Gwyn, ministerial  
student**

**Oct 13 – Meditation Service, 7:00 p.m.**

**Oct 16 – Rev. Phyllis DeBella**

**Oct 23 – Rev. Eleanor Bentley**

**Oct 30 – Rev. Elsie Huebner**

**Nov 6 – Rev. David Florence**

**Nov 10 – Meditation Service, 7:00 p.m.**

**Nov 13 – Rev. Eleanor Bentley**

**Nov 20 – Rev. Elsie Huebner \*\*\*\*  
Thanksgiving luncheon after service**

**Nov 27 – Revs. Frank Drexler and  
David Panunzio \*\*\*\*\***

**\*Two Unity World Day of Prayer and  
Meditation Services, Thursday,  
September 8, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. and 7:00  
– 8:00 p.m.** Services will be led by Darlene  
Gwyn, ministerial student at Unity Urban  
Ministerial School, Prayer Chaplain, and  
experienced meditator. *(Note: we may  
continue offering the afternoon service  
each month, if enough people are  
interested in attending.)*

**\*\* Emma Stow “Soul Day”** workshop,  
Sat., September 10, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.  
Emma Stow is an energy healer, speaker  
and author. She has run retreats since  
2009. Many people have experienced deep  
emotional healing and powerful  
reconnections to the divine within, in her  
private sessions and retreats. Register at  
[www.emmastow.com](http://www.emmastow.com) before September 3.  
(Fee - \$75.00). Call Fran Sander if you  
have questions: 727-232-3863.

**\*\*\* Light Lunch and Movie Sunday,**  
after church service, September 25. “God  
is Not Dead II”, Love Offering.

**\*\*\*\* Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon,**  
Sunday, Nov 20, after church service.  
Church will provide turkey, dressing and  
gravy. Pat Frantz is chairing this happy  
event. Please come and invite your family  
and friends. We appreciate you signing up,  
so we know how to plan properly.

**\*\*\*\*\* Toys for Tots Drive, Oct 15 –  
Thanksgiving Day.** Again this year, our  
church is partnering with Revs. Frank  
Drexler and David Panunzio in the Marine  
Corps Toys for Tots Program. Please bring  
your gift (new toy, still in packaging) to  
church before November 27, when Frank  
and David will pick them up.



## CHURCH NEWS

**Welcome New Members:** Patricia Rivera and Jo-Ann Tomback were welcomed to Unity Community as members on July 31.

**Elsie Huebner** went to Ohio in July to welcome her first **great-grandson**, Declan Xol Stewart, born June 28.

**Lynotte Cruickshank**, one of our Canadian members, went to England in August to visit her sister, who is not well.

**Meditation Service with Darlene Gwyn** began in July with excitement and very good attendance. The service will continue on the second Thursday of each month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. September 8 is also Unity World Day of Prayer. An additional day time service will be presented that day from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Please let Darlene or Elsie know if you are interested in having a day time service each month in addition the evening service.

**Mimi Coakley**, who taught "A Course in Miracles" for many years moved back to Massachusetts to be near her family. Here's what Mimi had to say in her goodbye email: *"I have enjoyed the past 11 years of teaching at Unity Community immensely. I have grown, and learned so much more about God and truth and forgiveness. I am ever so grateful. I would like to thank you, Elsie, and the Church for always supporting me and the teachings. I will miss all the friends I have met through the church."* We miss Mimi, too, and bless her on her new adventure. Martha Landry was selected to take Mimi's place in teaching ACIM.

The **Board of Directors** appointed **Pat Frantz** to serve on the board as a replacement for Terry Gardner, who is experiencing a health challenge. Welcome, Pat. Terry still helps us whenever he can by being at church when the condos across the street have their meetings in our facility. Thank you, Terry.

**Church Parking Lot** restoration has been completed! We're thankful we had \$15,240 in savings to pay cash for it.

**Helen Quinn** volunteered to head up our U-C Angels, women's group. Helen will be planning events and outings. Please let Helen know your ideas for this group.

**Dunedin Food Pantry** is located in the back of Faith Lutheran Church, 1620 Pinehurst Road. Our church sends food donations and a tithe to them each month. Thank you for helping with the food drive, especially since Thanksgiving is coming up. We appreciate **Bill Baird** for delivering our donations to the pantry.

Our summer series, "**Another Look at Lessons in Truth**" concluded August 28. Spiritual Leader, Elsie Huebner, presented all the lessons, except one when she was away and Diane Starr filled in. The spiritual concepts, written 100 years ago by Dr. H. Emilie Cady, remain as fresh, applicable, and transformational today as when they were written. The 1896 book is now considered the core text on Unity Church teachings. It is the most widely read book in the movement, and has sold over 1.6 million copies since its first publication.

We owe a big debt of **gratitude to Jane Killian**, who has been keeping Special Day records for the church for about 22 years! Jane purchases all the cards and postage stamps and sends birthday, anniversary, condolence and get-well cards from the church throughout the year. Thank you, Jane!

## FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2016

Total Income	\$3,247,57
Total Expenses	4,012.49
Difference	- \$764.92

There were several extra expenses in June, including a big repair bill for one of the restrooms and two electricity bills paid in the same month. Recently, water, sewage and trash pickup costs have increased greatly. Thank you for your financial gifts all year long, but especially in the summer months, when attendance is lighter.

## I 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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** Meditation

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

**Saturdays, 4:00-6:00 PM** Debtors

Anonymous

**U-C Angels,** (when announced)

**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)

## POWER OF FORGIVENESS

Holding onto regret is like dragging the weight of the past with us everywhere we go. It can get really heavy.

It drains our energy, leaving less energy available for life in the present, because we are constantly feeding the old issue. This attachment can cause illness the same way that watering a dead plant creates decay. We know that something new and beautiful can grow in its place if we only prepare the soil and plant the right seeds.

We also know that we create our lives from our thoughts, so dwelling on the past may actually recreate a situation in our lives where we are forced to make the choice again and again.

Forgiveness is the soothing balm that can heal regret. In meditation, we can imagine discussing the issue with the self of our past and offering our forgiveness for the choice we made at the time. We may also want to ask forgiveness from anyone else who may have been affected by what happened.

By replaying the event in our minds, we can choose a new ending using all that we now know. Imagine that you have actually gone back into the past and made this change, and then say goodbye to it. Release your former self with a hug and bring the forgiveness and love back with you to the present. Since we are usually our harshest critics, it is amazing how powerful the healing can be when we offer love to ourselves.

Keeping our minds and our energy fully in the present allows us to fuel our physical and emotional healing and well-being today. This action frees our energy to create the dreams we dream for the future. By taking responsibility and action in the present, we can release our hold on the past.

***Affirmation: I forgive myself and others and embrace a new life.***

## **It's Time You Meet Laura Ronan!**

Laura was born and raised in Michigan, where she lived until she was 19 years of age. She was the youngest of three children. Her older siblings were Matt and Mary. Laura fondly recalls the many summers her family spent in New Jersey, where her mother's family lived. There were cousins living on Cape Cod and these summer visits were great fun! Laura had her first job there, working as a "chambermaid" in a local hotel from ages 13 - 18.

Having graduated from high school, Laura participated in an Experience International Living program in Ireland! This was a "total immersion" program which included attending an all-girls' school located in Kilkenny, Ireland, just outside of Dublin. While attending this school for six months, Laura lived with an English family. This experience sparked within her a desire to see more of the world. Laura did not want to go back to Michigan. So she and a friend decided to see England! Laura ferried alone from Dublin to Liverpool, where she rejoined her friend. Together they explored England, staying in Bed & Breakfasts and having a wonderful time. Laura recalls that this was really the first time in her life that she had been totally on her own.

After this experience it was time to start college. Laura thought she would like to teach, but soon found this wasn't for her. At age 19 she decided to join the U.S. Military, thinking (hoping) she would soon figure out what she really wanted her career to be. Twenty years later she retired from military service. Meanwhile, Laura's parents had moved to Largo, Florida. She decided to locate here as well.

Laura grew up Catholic, and was quite surprised when as a young adult, her father and mother took her to another congregation called "Spiritual Frontier Fellowship." There she had a Billet Reading. Laura then realized that her parents were giving her "permission" to make her own decision about which religion

she wanted to claim her own. She was shocked! But then she realized her parents were looking at alternatives to Catholicism; soon her mother told Laura about Unity Truth. Laura's first exposure to Unity was during a visit with her mother here in Florida. They attended Unity in Clearwater on Nursery Road. She found that she truly loved everything about Unity. She decided to become a member. Laura says it has been a "journey of growth and so much more."

In 2004 Laura was working for the Department of Disabled Veterans here in Florida. But she felt she needed a change, so she requested and received a transfer to Hawaii. Laura enjoyed this assignment, but she did miss Unity. In 2007 she returned to Florida and now works as a benefit counselor with the Veterans Administration. Laura lives in her home in Seminole. She has two adorable cats, Lulu and Penelope. She loves that they bring unconditional love and lots of laughter into her life!

As a member of Unity Community in Dunedin, Laura has served on the Board of Directors many times (probably as many as our By-Laws allow!) Over the course of 18 years she has served as President, Vice-President, and Secretary. She jokes that the only time she hasn't been on the Board was while she was in Hawaii!

In addition to serving on our Board of Directors, Laura works in many other roles at Unity Community. She often acts as Worship Leader, counts money, writes checks, helps with the lighting, prepares and serves food, and helps clean up in the kitchen after Fellowship Time on Sundays.

When asked about accomplishments she is most proud of, her very quick response was - "my daughter, Amanda!" Laura is also very grateful for her career in the Military and her current job working for Veterans. She looks forward to a retirement filled with lots of travel.

Laura, we are truly blessed by your membership and presence in our church family. We are very grateful that you are with us!

**.....Marilyn Renner**

## LITTLE BROWN CHURCH

There's a church near the water in Dunedin  
Alongside the Pinellas Trail,  
Where a light shines so bright  
from the love within,  
It's a little brown church that can't fail.

### CHORUS

Oh, come, come, come, come  
Come to our church in Dunedin.  
Come to the church where we soar.  
There is no spot so dear to my life within  
As the little brown church near the shore.

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning  
To listen to the clear, ringing bell.  
Its tones so sweetly are calling  
Oh, come to the church by the trail.

### Repeat CHORUS

*(Note: When our church first started meeting at 1315 Bayshore Blvd. in Dunedin, we sang this song, but changed the words to "Little Blue Church". The building was blue then. Now we can go back to the original title.)*

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**Thought for Today:** We all have the same purpose: To reflect and to reveal the face of God in a way that has never happened before through our unique gifts, talents, and capacities.

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## Happy Special Days

### Birthdays

Sep 2 – Bill Baird

Sep 17 – Alicia Stevens

Sep 20 – Frank Kuncz, Jr.

Sep. 23 – Candace Spathelf

Sep. 24 – Amy Brannen

Oct. 12 – John Oberst

Oct. 13 – Diane Starr

Oct. 13 – Marilyn Renner

Oct. 16 – Lesley Blake

Oct. 20 – Helen Quinn

Oct. 29 – Bob Wetzel

Nov. 4 – Bernice Whitaker

Nov. 20 – Laura Ronan

Nov. 29 – Jill Storelli

### Anniversaries

Sep 8 – Jim and Carol Minner

Oct. 22 – Frank and Dee Kuncz

*Jane Killian, our beloved long-time 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. If we missed anyone's special day, let Jane or Elsie know.*