



Mountain Light Newsletter

The Newsletter of Unity of Flagstaff Church of Practical Christianity

January, February, March 2009

Unity is bringing a special light to New Year's with Shooting Star Promenade! After our Burning Bowl Ceremony we will switch to dance mode from 8:30 to midnight with live music, contra dancing for all ages and abilities, alcohol-free

refreshments, silent auction and FUN! In lieu of childcare the kids will have their own supervised party. We will celebrate New Year's with a Moravian Star shooting across the sanctuary at 10:00pm and 12:00 midnight. Admission: \$20/adults, \$5/kids. This is our grand fund-raiser for the operating fund and our last opportunity to make tax-deductible contributions. Call Bonnie Higgins, 526-6697 for information or if you want to help.



Shooting Star Promenade
\$20/adult
\$5/child
Kid's Party
New Year's
Eve 2008
Dance
8:30 pm to Midnight
celebrations at 10:00 & 12:00

Our New Youth Education Director, Linda Card

You may have already noticed Linda's friendly smile. She and her husband Chris recently became members of Unity of Flagstaff, after many years of active participation at Unity of Phoenix. Now Linda will be taking on the role of our Youth Ed Director so she may minister to families of our church. "Dedication to families is my life," Linda shared with me. Outside of church, she works for the Arizona Children's Association in family counseling and foster licensing.

Linda, the daughter of a minister in upstate New York, graduated from South Eastern Bible College with a dual major in Theology and Education. In 1993 she moved to Phoenix. She met Chris a year later while working evenings at Walmart and substitute teaching in the daytime. Their blended family includes sons Collin, 25, Dylan 18, Seth 11 and daughter Sarah, 3.



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from the desk of ...

Konrad Kaserer, Minister



Dear Unity family and friends,

Happy Holidays and a Prosperous, Joyous, Healthy and Happy Year 2009. May the New Year bring us way closer to all our dreams and hopes, both for our personal lives and for humankind!

My affirmation for all of you comes from a Unity song recorded in our hymnbook:

“Wonderful, wonderful fortunate you, this is the year that your dreams come true.

This is the year that your ship comes in; this is the year you find Christ within.

This is the year you are glad to live; this is the year you have much to give.

Wonderful, wonderful fortunate you, this is the year that your dreams come true.”

Looking back into the weeks and months of this past year, I feel a great sense of wonder and gratitude! We have seen a lot of changes in 2008, as we have been part of a great transformational energy sweeping through our lives, through our nation and through our world. I hope you can feel the excitement of being part of a profound consciousness shift. An old paradigm is being replaced by a new one: Our old consciousness of separation and individuation gives way to a profound understanding and acceptance of oneness and interconnectedness of all beings and things. This causes us to become radically inclusive, tolerant, generous and dynamic, and we experience a new sense of purpose and enthusiasm. In the wise words of Eckart Tolle: “See yourself inspiring countless people with your work and enriching their lives. ...feel yourself being an opening through which energy flows from the unmanifested Source of all life through you for the benefit of all. (A New Earth, pg. 305)

Looking down into the weeks and months ahead in 2009, we can be confident indeed that it too will be a good year for us on all levels. The truth is that, open to the prospering movement of Spirit in our lives, we will draw the highest and best to us. After all, the good that we are seeking, that very same good, is looking for us. Happiness and prosperity is an inside job indeed!

I am aware also of the challenging times that our nation and our world face in our days. We all are impacted in one way or another, and equally, all of us can impact it as well, in one way or another. What positive impact can we all bring to our world individually and collectively, a world that is waiting for a “good news message,” for optimism and confidence, for serenity and for a truth that sets people free in ways they have never experienced before? I believe this is the time for us Unity folks to shine; the world is waiting for us and for our message. Let’s share generously our wisdom and our insights in the ways of Mastery. Our time has come!

I joyfully welcome our newest Unity Family members, Tyler Sedone and Terre Reinhardt into our circle. Thank you for making Unity of Flagstaff your spiritual home, and thank you for being dedicated to spiritual growth with us. Indeed, we honor and appreciate the Divine Light within you as you let it shine among us! We are so blessed through you!

We remember that God is in charge of the totality of our lives, and God is the unlimited source of all our good. In the New Year let us even draw closer to that God Source of unlimited supply. It is in this way that we prosper! Draw closer to the God Source by getting more deeply involved in the activities of our faith community, so that together we can shine even brighter and make a radical difference in a wanting world.

**In Unity of Spirit and in gratitude for all good manifested,
Konrad Kaserer, Minister**

Open Your Mind To Prosperity

by Helen Hudgens Ferrell

Your Board of Trustees has been focused on creating space for prosperity in our lives. Every week for the past eight weeks we have gathered to listen to tapes of Catherine Ponder discussing the Dynamic Laws of Prosperity. Some of her affirmations are:

"I do not depend upon persons or conditions for my prosperity.

I bless persons and conditions as channels of my prosperity, but God is the Source of my supply.

God provides His own amazing channels of supply to me now.

I am a rich child of a loving father so I dare to prosper now."

The world around us with its constant announcements of gloom and doom challenges us to even think of prospering NOW. Catherine Ponder states " You are prosperous to the degree that you are experiencing peace, health, and plenty in your world." It is our conscious intention to practice the Laws of Prosperity concerning our own lives and the life of our church despite what the newscasters announce or the turmoil that surrounds the holidays.

At a community meeting on January 11th, we are going to look at where we are as a church and where we want to go. Utilizing the "Picturing Power of the Mind" to help us create what our new church home represents to us, we will select symbols of the actual and/or ethereal meaning the church holds for us to be placed on a display on the back wall of the sanctuary.

Some envision utilizing our building to be a place to provide services to those in need; others wish us to be a place for great spiritual learning; some want us to be a community center; and so forth. Give thought to your vision of our future and be ready to become one of God's "amazing channels" of prosperity to make it happen.

Staying in Touch Prayer Chaplain Program

The new Unity Prayer Chaplains, Heidi Strickfaden and Veronica Liesenberg are now "official," and the Prayer Chaplains for these last two years, Gunter Benz and Robbie Geouge are serving our Unity of Flagstaff family for another term.

Several months ago, Konrad and the prayer chaplains discussed a program which, when put into action, will give our church family the opportunity to receive monthly "Staying-in-touch" calls by one of the prayer chaplains. These calls will be made to those who request to participate (a clipboard with sign-up sheet is available at church). By placing on this sheet your name, telephone number, and best time to be called, you will receive ongoing monthly calls and will be able to share with the prayer chaplain something you're currently celebrating in your life or, perhaps, ask for prayer around something that is heavy on your heart.

We are excited about this program for our church family which we see enhancing our connectedness to Spirit Moving through one another.

Sending peace and joy to you at this blessed season,

Robbie Geouge, one of your Unity Prayer Chaplains

News from Flagstaff Y.O.U.

by Susan Patrick, YOU Sponsor

Thanks you to everyone who bought enchiladas!!!! We finished selling the last of the 65 dozen we made. Your support is very much appreciated. We hope you enjoyed them!!

A very hearty thanks to Anastasia Bagley for co-sponsoring our YOU group. Her thoughtful dialogue and youthful enthusiasm with the teens is/ has been invaluable. xoxo

After a wonderful fall season of activities including the YOU Picnic and ice skating in Phoenix, the YOU Rally in California and our annual Halloween Party (with the incredible help of the Uniteens, YEA!!!!!!), the YOU are looking forward to several state and local events in 2009 including:

Jan 17 -19 SW YOU Peer Ministry Retreat at Unity of Mesa
Feb 6-8 AZ YOU Service Rally at Unity of Phoenix
March 27 - 29 SW Region YOU Spring Rally in San Diego
July 3- 9 SW YOU Summer Connection, Santa Barbara
July 19- 23 International YOU Event at Unity Village

We want to give an awesome welcome to our new Youth Ed Director, Linda Card. And thanks again to everyone at Unity of Flagstaff for your support of the Youth Ed monthly brunch fundraiser and all of the parents that keep our Youth Ed programs going!!!! We couldn't do it without you. Blessings!

Unity Activities

January

Wed., January 7, 14, 21, 28: *Talking Circle Support Group, noon – 1:30. Call Konrad for info (856-0435). AND . . . Six week Prosperity Class, 6:30 – 8 pm. Call for location (526-8893).*

Sun., January 11: *Community Meeting after church.*

Tues., January 13: *Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet at the Woolard's at 7 pm. (526-8893 for info.)*

Fri., January 23: *Youth Education Meeting at Konrad's (856-0435). All are welcome*

February

Wed., February 4, 11, 18, 25: *Talking Circle Support Group, noon – 1:30.*

Sun., February 8: *Membership Care Team - meet after church.*

Tues., February 10: *Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting at Kathy's home at 7 pm (774-2201).*

March

Wed., March 4, 11, 18, 25: *Talking Circle Support Group, noon – 1:30.*

Tues., March 10: *Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting. At Linda Rae's home at 7 pm (928 821-3597).*



Youth Education Director, continued from page 1

They now make their home in Winslow, where Linda is able to work from the dining room when she is not traveling to visit families in southern Navajo county, on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations and in Flagstaff. Chris is the director for a recovery center in Winslow, Loma P'uh T'a Di, which means beautiful pathway.

When Linda first visited our church she was very struck by the words spoken by Helen Hudgens-Ferrell that we want to treat each person like family. Linda thinks that a strong youth education program will attract more families and help our church grow. She will be coordinating the programs for all the age groups, as well as, volunteer teachers and helpers. She places a high priority on making sure that all the teachers are being fed spiritually and able to join in the celebration in the sanctuary on a regular basis. More volunteers are needed! The extra set of hands really helps. If you would like to volunteer, please let Linda know. Also, keep in mind the next Youth Ed meeting which will take place Friday, January 23 at 6 pm at Konrad and Dee's home. Thanks for stepping up, Linda and being part of our Unity family.

Unity Assists the Assistance League

By Bruce Higgins

For several years, Unity has collected stuffed animals to donate to the Assistance League of Flagstaff. The stuffed animals we donated this year are used in a variety of projects that serve those in need or crisis, going to youngsters involved in traumatic situations. The League's representatives expressed gratitude for our assistance this year.

The League sponsors at least six other philanthropic projects in Coconino County, including Sharon Manor. By selecting an angel to buy Christmas gifts for a family, Unity members assisted in another way.

The League also runs the Cedar Closet Thrift Shop on West Street They are quite happy for any donations of goods, funds or volunteer time beyond the holiday season. Thanks to all who help make our community a little better this way!



Dinner for Eight

by Gary E. Robbins

I love the "Dinner for Eight" program! I have deepened my relationship with several members of Unity of Flagstaff and I have enjoyed sharing my home and each other's favorite foods. (I am famous for my peach pie!) The only problem has been in finding dates when we could all meet. We have an idea to address this situation. "Dinner for Eight" could be scheduled to meet on a specific day of the month each time, such as:

- The second Saturday evening of each month.
- The third Sunday evening of each month.
- The first Friday evening of each month.
- Brunch on the fourth Saturday of each month.

We will also accommodate special requests. Two families with children want a "Dinner for Eight" on Friday evenings to include their children who are 3, 10 and 11 years old. We will set up one or more "Family Dinners for Eight" where children are specifically welcomed.

Three members of the Y.O.U. (Youth of Unity) want to participate, provided that they are not split up to become the only young person in a group with all adults. They also want to meet on a Friday or a Saturday night since Sunday is a "school night."

I will be surveying members of church to see which specific days are the most beneficial to have for the "Dinner for Eight." Also, please feel free to email me at wabbit2@gmail.com.

Fundraising Updates!

- Our Building Fund has raised over \$1,500 through Affirmation Blanket sales!
- Our Paving Tile Fundraiser has brought in \$2,265.
- A new opportunity is the partnering of Unity of Flagstaff and withFreegifts.org for a fun(d)raising enterprise. While you might enjoy shopping at withFREEgifts.org for many of your needs, you can also benefit Unity of Flagstaff's fun(d)raising efforts. With each purchase, 10% of your purchases will be donated to Unity of Flagstaff. The portal that will get you to your online shopping, and thus benefiting Unity of Flagstaff is:

www.withFREEgifts.org/doorway/unityofflagstaff.

Call Richelle with questions at (602) 881-4820.

Thank you for your support, and happy shopping!
Konrad