



Mountain Light Newsletter

The Newsletter of Unity of Flagstaff Church of Practical Christianity

April, May, & June 2009

Annual Meeting of the Membership

By Helen Hudgens Ferrell, President

On April 26th Unity of Flagstaff will have its Annual meeting of the membership after the church service. Anyone is welcome to attend, but only members may vote. This year we have two new board members to elect, a budget to adopt, and a question concerning the use of the building for Konrad's counseling practice. The board will update the congregation on the activities of this past year and on the four initiatives proposed at the January community meeting. In addition, there will be discussion concerning an unusual fund-raising proposal.

Ballots will be sent to all active members ten days before the meeting. You may send in your ballot ahead of time or place it in the ballot box at the meeting. All voting members will remain on the active rolls; those who do not vote will need to let the church know that they wish to continue to be listed as an active member.

The board members who have completed their three-year term are Kathy Greenwald and Helen Hudgens Ferrell. Neither chose to run for re-election. The candidates put forth by the nominating committee are Jory Malis and Howard DeVore. (See article Page 3). There is also provision for write-in candidates on the ballot.

Our church's fiscal year is from April 1st through March 31st. Bonnie Higgins, Treasurer, will report on the income and expense of the past year and present the budget for the next year. Expanded usage of our building with concerts, book studies, and retreats will impact our budget in a positive way both directly through rents and indirectly by attracting more people to Unity Way.

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Community Visioning in January

New! Weekly "Inspiration and Information" by Konrad is coming by email.
Want to be connected? Send your email address to office@unityofflagstaff.org.

from the desk of ...
Konrad Kaserer, Minister

Dear Unity Family and Friends!

Wishing you all a joyful Spring Time and a Happy Easter! Is springtime a time for your own inner renewal, rejuvenation and resurrection into your own highest expression of God? Because we are so much part of the natural enfoldments on the visible outside, with springtime returning, I believe the same process of renewal, rejuvenation and resurrection is happening on the invisible inside -- or shall I say, would love to happen on the inside of all of us.

I recently participated in a day long silent retreat at Unity of Flagstaff, and I had a chance to go inside and look around the spiritual landscape within. The desire for renewal, rejuvenation and resurrection of the whole Spirit of Life within is deep and strong in me, and is probably deep and strong within everyone. That Spirit of Life is longing to express itself on the invisible inside, as well as on the visible outside too. I believe It longs to express and experience Itself just the way the flower pulp in spring desires to experience itself as a growing and changing flower, moving on into bearing fruit and making a noticeable difference in the world. Life desires to experience itself as life, ever changing, ever enfolding, ever expanding, ever searching for the yet best expression of itself.

“Is it hard work? Is it painful? Is it costly?” you may ask. Just consider the shrubs, trees and flowers...they just seem to do naturally what seems to be best for them, without much noticeable effort and strife. Yes, a gardener may put them into the right light and sunshine, and add water and nutrients and tender loving care; yet they do their growing and expanding and evolving on their own, out of the natural flow of life’s inner energy. I believe our spiritual life within is not different. It does not need to strive and struggle in order to be at its best; it naturally evolves and finds its rightful expression. The question is: How willing and open and dedicated am I in allowing this inner growth to take place and to express itself as the best it can be. Or am I just a pulp full of incredible possibilities, yet still dormant, in a tomb of indifference, and waiting aimlessly for that flow of juicy God energy to occur somewhere down the road of a later time and in a different place...

Well, the time is now, and the place is here, of course, and your Whole Spirit Life within is waiting for your go-ahead so that it can express itself as a juicy life energy coursing through every aspect of your life, and making a positive and lush difference in every area of your life. This is what Jesus experienced at his resurrection, I believe, when he reconnected his spirit self with the whole Spirit of Life energy within. We can accomplish exactly the same, as that invisible life force within us is so eager to experience and express itself as that. So, choose a quiet time to go within, and simply pray: “Thank you, beloved Spirit, right here with me; expressing yourself as Me, perfectly at work both in the invisible and visible realm; thank you for dispelling all my fears and worries, and thank you for the easy flow of total peace, serenity, health and abundance in my life. I just let it happen for the good of everything and everyone. I am simply grateful for the fun and beauty and joy of its flow. Thank you that it does cause me to bloom and blossom and ultimately nurturing me into my Divine Perfection.”

Unity of Flagstaff is just one of many gardens possible, where that spiritual awakening and fresh blooming can be experienced. My invitation for you is to come and join us in our church family’s gatherings to learn and express that Wholesome Spirit of Life within. Together we are strong, together we have enough, together we are whole. I believe it is our coming together regularly and with focused spiritual intention, that makes our garden especially lush and beautiful; and when you are not there, you are missed and we are not fully all that we can be. We are starting more opportunities, classes, concerts, healing activities, like our first Tuesday-of-the-month Brain Wave Vibration, our Sunday evening prosperity series, our weekly Wednesday night healing prayers and book study. We are even starting a Sunday, 9am-10 am regular class, so that we, as truth students, can learn from and nurture that inner Wholesome Life Spirit to transform our lives. Here at Unity of Flagstaff we spiritually create the lives we desire.

Let springtime and Easter arrive in every cell of your body, in every area and condition of your life. After all, you are worthy of and ready for our lushest and best spiritual springtime ever!

**In gratitude and Unity of Spirit,
Konrad Kaserer, Minister**

Board Candidates for April Vote



Howard DeVore

Why I would like to be on the Board.... I enjoy our community and would like to be a part of its growth and I feel I could help with the financial decisions because I have been a business owner for 12yrs. I have learned from mistakes and have grown my business into a successful business.



Jory Malis

One Sunday in January, Bonnie Higgins asked me if I would consider running for the board again. I hadn't been thinking of it. That very morning, Konrad talked about being of service to share our gifts. I was very moved and I felt I was being called to serve again. I have been attending Unity since 1987. It's been many transformational journeys over the years. This community is the most rewarding. I'm very proud to be part of what we built here, both the physical building and the spiritual community.

UNITY Sign at the Highway Hits Road Blocks

By Bonnie Higgins

Research for the desired highway sign to increase visibility revealed a sizeable undertaking. A sign at the highway must be on our property, continuous with our existing land. We could apply for a lot split and buy a strip of property (say 10' wide) from Second Chance, if they were in agreement. The strip of land would need to be wide enough for construction of the sign with concrete footings, required planter box around the sign, and future maintenance without encroaching on neighbor property.

Footings for the sign must be engineered for high wind. The sign can be 6' high with 15 square feet area and must include a landscape planter around the base. The sign may not be lit. We are only allowed one freestanding sign for our entire property, so the sign at the highway would replace our existing rock sign at the corner of our current property. Expenses for this sign installation include: survey the strip of land, land split permit fee, purchase strip of land from Second Chance, engineer sign footings, building permit for sign, materials to construct the sign, footings, and landscape planter. Although we do not have cost estimates yet, this clearly totals up to a significant expense.

We are pursuing a switch of our Adopt-a-Highway Mile for a mile closer to Unity. Also a large UNITY windsock is under construction. This will help make us more visible.

Chaplain Update

The Prayer Chaplain's "Keeping in Touch" program is now up and running. Robbie wants to let everyone know that if they didn't put their name on the sign-up sheet and would like to be included, they certainly still can. To reach Robbie, call the church, 526-8893, and press 1 for the chaplain line. Robbie checks the messages daily. Or call her cell 928-600-0523.

Unity Activities

April

- Each Wednesday:* 6 pm Healing Prayer Circle followed by the class "Your Life: Why it is the Way It is & What You Can Do About It," (6:30 – 8 pm). Call Robbie at (635-9387).
- Each Sunday:* 9-10 am Class on "The Simple Truth: Making Sense of God, Life & Other Stuff."
- Sat., April 4 & 11:* Interfaith Celebration of Nonviolence at Mountain Waves, 6-8 pm.
- Sun., April 5:* Youth Education Fundraiser Brunch after 10:30 service.
- Tues., April 7:* BrainWave Vibration 6:30 – 8 pm. A healing technique for healthy life rhythms.
- Sat., April 11:* Concert at Unity with MURPHEY'S LAW (Celtic, Bluegrass, etc.) Doors open at 7 pm, music at 7:30. \$12 advance (call 526-8893), \$14 at the door.
- Easter Sunday:* Intergenerational Service at 10:30 am with a play on "New Life."
- Sun., April 19 & 26:* Class with "Financial Freedom" tapes by Suze Orman from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Create many forms of abundance in your life. Facilitated by Kathy Greenwald & Konrad Kaserer.
- Sun., April 26:* Annual Membership Meeting at 11:45 am. All may attend; members may vote.

May

- Sun., May 3:* Youth Ed Fundraising Brunch and Plant Sale after church.
- Sun., May 3, 10, 17:* 9-10 am Class on "The Simple Truth."
"Financial Freedom" class, 6:30 – 8:30 pm.
- Tues., May 5:* BrainWave Vibration 6:30-8 pm. (See www.brainwavevibration.com.)
- Wed., May 6, 13, 20:* 6 pm Healing Prayer Circle & 6:30 Class "Your Life."
- Fri., May 8:* Concert with HEADLINE BLUEGRASS. Doors open at 7 pm.
- Sun., May 17:* Guest Speaker Maryn Boess speaks on "One Breath, One Prayer."
Workshop 12:30 – 3 pm on "Aramaic Way: Language & Prayer in Jesus' World."
- Fri., May 29:* Concert with LAURIE LEWIS & TOM ROZUM. Doors open at 7 pm.

June

- Tues., June 2:* Brainwave Vibration for healthy life rhythms from 6:30-8 pm.
- Sun., June 7:* Youth Education Brunch Fundraiser after service.

Uniteen News

FUNDRAISING:

We have 10 Uniteens and Unikids who have expressed interest in going to Unity summer camp the week of June 21. The cost per child is approximately \$500. We would like to fundraise at least half of that cost (\$2500).

Fundraising plans:

- 1) Meal sale: Teens will prepare meals to freeze both vegetarian and non-vegetarian. We will be selling these for \$10 a piece (two servings) on March 29. We would love to have orders in advance.
- 2) Book/garage/CD and DVD sale on March 29. Please gather stuff for the sale.
- 3) Plant sale on April 26 and May 3. See article below.
- 4) "RENT-A-KID" yard work, clean ups, anything you want. Parents will participate.

We will continue our first Sunday brunches as well to fundraise for camp and retreats.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Dee and Marcia (Dee's cell is 606-3037 or email deekaserer@msn.com)

Mother's Day Plant Sale to Benefit Youth Education

Mother's Day is May 10th. We'll be selling small potted houseplants in charming pots on April 26th and May 3rd to benefit Unity Youth Education. If you would like to contribute plants, start cuttings now and let Marcia Wiesner or Linda Card know.

(Does anyone have a small ceramic drill bit that we can use to cut drainage holes in pots? See Marcia or Linda.)

Meet Domingo

By Linda Card

I have a little friend named, Domingo. Let me introduce him to you. He is 6 years old and is in Kindergarten. You probably know his amazing mom, Johanna and his sister with the beautiful eyes, Maggie. Domingo has spent many Sunday mornings with Susan Hunter and me in the nursery room. He has entertained us with his jokes and antics as well as blessed us with his insights.

One Sunday morning recently we were talking about choosing to be peaceful. Domingo mentioned that he is able to go from being frustrated to being peaceful by going outside and looking up at the mountains and the clouds in the sky. Even at such a young age he understands the importance of finding peace in one's spirit.

Besides being our resident Sage in the Nursery Dept he has many other interests. He loves playing with his dogs. He enjoys going to school and claims that playing outside and lunch-time are his favorite parts of school. (As a former teacher, I've heard this many times.) He loves to eat. Some of his favorite foods are bell peppers, wasabi, other hot foods and as he says, "pretty much everything". Domingo wishes that winter lasted longer so that he could ski more often but looks forward to riding bicycle too.

One of my favorite things to do on Sunday mornings is to sit with our young ones and listen to their stories. They have so much wisdom and light to offer. I always end up blessed and enriched. I encourage you to sit with our Little Sages and listen to the wisdom of the ages.



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One proposed usage of the building is to rent space to Konrad for his individual and family counseling practice including sex offenders. However, this usage would require us to get permission from the County through a re-zoning process. There is some cost involved in going through this public hearing process and no guarantee that the surrounding community will support our request. Before we move forward with a re-zoning we are asking the Unity membership to vote on whether this is something they would support.

We will also update you on where we are with reducing costs and raising funds for the parking lot. Fred Gerhard has made a proposal in which Unity would share in the profits of his business. S and F Cards is a fund-raising business using thematic playing cards. Fred and his fiancée, Sherry Thompson, have developed beautiful decks of cards that are inspirational or educational which he believes are ideal for schools, churches, and service clubs to use in their fund-raising efforts. If there is interest in pursuing this proposal, a development corporation would be formed to partner with S and F Cards. Unity would be the beneficiary of the development corporation's proceeds.

We need the insight and inspiration of all our members at this meeting. Please plan on coming.

