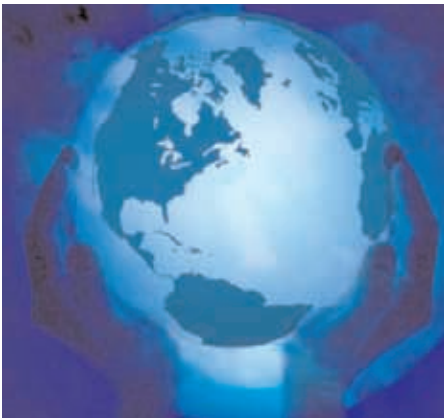


## OUR CHURCH VISION AND MISSION

### How Our Fundraising Campaign Helps Us Claim Them



#### Our Vision ...

*We are a spiritual light for peace, love and healing, and a magnifying power for the miraculous transformation of the world.*

#### Our Mission ...

*As expressions of God, we create a consciousness of love and celebrate the divinity within all people.*



*"Let no debt remain outstanding except the continuing debt to love another, for he who loves his fellow-man has fulfilled the law."*

*-Romans 8:13*

### A Snapshot of Our Church's History

**U**nity of Phoenix is an amazing ministry with an incredible history. Our church began as an idea in the mind of God. In 1953, through the inspiration and faith of 64 members, that simple idea gave birth to Unity of Phoenix. Since then we have grown in amazing ways and now serve over 1,100 members. For the last 54 years, our ministry has touched and transformed the lives of thousands through the teaching of our powerful spiritual principles. Further, we are currently one of the leading churches in the Unity Movement worldwide.

For nearly 20 years our dedicated community held its worship services in rented space. In 1972 the church purchased its first church home on Northern Avenue in Phoenix. Prompted by growth and a new vision, the church initiated a "Building the Dream" campaign in 1997 and purchased 15.5 acres of land on which we built our current church home. In 2003 we purchased an adjacent 3.5-acre strip of land to the west to give our ministry extra space for growth. **In total, the church invested roughly \$7.2 million to buy, build and equip our current campus.**

**In the process of our growth, we knowingly assumed a large debt to acquire our property and construct our wonderful facility.** This investment has facilitated many blessings: a strong Youth and Family Ministry, an expanded Prayer Chaplain Program, inspirational visits from top name speakers, and a phenomenal bookstore! The money we have borrowed has given us the opportunity to do mighty work for God in healing, blessing and transforming lives.

Today, this debt strains our cash flow. **We owe \$4.2 million from the land purchases and building construction. We pay a yearly mortgage of \$450,000.** Our cash reserves have declined by \$300,000, we have eliminated staff positions, cut programs, and delayed much needed maintenance and improvements of our campus. **This debt, however, also represents an amazing opportunity for us to turn to God.** Through our faith and the practice of our spiritual principles, we can transform this situation into something that will bless us all.

It is truly inspiring how far we have come! All of the things we have achieved have been made possible through our faith in God. While we have experienced change and some challenges in the past few years, we are steadfast in knowing that God is our source. Our ministry is truly a spiritual light of peace, love and healing, and we know that God has even greater things for us to do.

Further, our church is blessed with a new vision and mission, a new Lead Minister and ministerial team, a new leadership model, a renewed Board of Trustees and a future of infinite possibilities.

### Why are We Conducting a Fundraising Campaign?

**T**he most important and long-range goal of the Fundraising Campaign is to give greater life to our church's vision and mission. The more immediate goal of our Fundraising Campaign is to retire our mortgage and create financial freedom for our ministry. Money generated from the fundraising campaign will go into a separate account and be used exclusively to eliminate our debt.

As our spiritual practice, the church will be tithing on all the money received in the campaign. However, the tithe amounts will be paid from our general operating funds. That means 100% of the campaign contributions will go toward the elimination of our church debt.

As we breathe life into our church's vision and mission, and create financial freedom for our church, we desire to experience a campaign that is prayerful, community-centered, and rooted in spiritual prosperity principles. **As such, our campaign will continually invite us into prayer, create opportunities to build community and teach the principles of abundance.**

Our Mission As expressions of God, we create a consciousness of love and celebrate the Divinity within all people. Our Values Love, Diversity, Service, Community.



## Our Promise ...

The leadership of our church has made two clear promises about future growth and expansion.

First, if there is any additional building/construction, we will make that decision together as a community.

Second, we will **not** borrow money or go into debt for future additions. We are committed to being fiscally responsible and spiritually centered as we grow in the future and continue to build Unity together!

Our Goals Raise Consciousness, Build Community, Nurture Youth and Family.



"Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will be your future."

-Job 8:7

## How is a Fundraising Campaign Connected to Our Vision and Mission?

Our fundraising campaign will facilitate financial freedom and enhance our church's capacity to pursue key goals and strategies connected to our vision and mission. As we achieve freedom from debt it will provide our ministry the resources to:

### Raise Consciousness.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." Unity of Phoenix is here to support individuals on their spiritual path in deepening their relationship with God and fully expressing their Christ potential by:

- Providing sacred, inspiring worship services that teach powerful spiritual principles.
- Supporting individuals to develop and maintain a personal prayer life.
- Encouraging congregants to understand and demonstrate spiritual principles through our Spiritual Enrichment Education (SEE) classes.
- Increasing the number of classes we teach on our core spiritual beliefs.

### Build Community.

"You have to do it for yourself but you don't have to do it alone!" We believe the power of love is best developed through creating connections and building community by:

- Offering participation in Circle Groups for Sunday worship series in the spring and fall.
- Developing and strengthening our small group ministry activities and programs.
- Expanding our Volunteer Ministry to give more opportunities for serving and connecting.

### Nurture Youth and Family.

"Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them." Unity of Phoenix believes in the importance of caring for our children and supporting the spiritual growth of our families through:

- Continuing to support the spiritual needs of our children and families.
- Creating more opportunities to involve our teens and youth in all areas of our ministry.

### Provide Outreach to our Community.

"You will know my disciples by how they love one another." Unity of Phoenix is here to bring light to the world by helping and serving those in our community and in the world by:

- Establishing a clear outreach vision and mission for our ministry.
- Expanding our outreach with two church-wide service projects per year that will bless the community.

### Claim God's Abundance.

"I came that you might have life and have it more abundantly." Unity of Phoenix believes that God is our source and we support all people in living prosperously by:

- Teaching and practicing prosperity principles in our lives and in our ministry.
- Practicing good stewardship of our financial resources.

## What Will Paying off Our Mortgage Accomplish?

Our successful campaign will ultimately eliminate annual mortgage payments of \$450,000. As the debt is eliminated, the church, in turn, will use this money to:

- Establish financial stability by replenishing our reserve fund.
- Improve and develop ministries, programs, and services to better serve our community.
- Strengthen and grow our community outreach.
- Upgrade outdated computers and office equipment.
- Maintain and improve our campus grounds and facilities.

## What Could Our Church Become Once We are Debt Free?

The collective consciousness of our church has called us to address our financial health and, in turn, enrich how we bring life to our church's vision and mission. Some, however, have asked, "Once we are debt free, then what?" This question surfaces exciting ideas and prompts enthralling discussions. The Lead Minister and Board of Trustees are committed to restoring financial vitality to our ministry. When we have reached our goal of financial freedom and raised money beyond what it takes to retire our debt, we will consider the following projects to improve our ministry and how we serve our community.

We will explore the most important needs of our community and develop plans to improve how we serve and support our congregation. One area we can explore together will be our need for more classroom space and a place for community connection and fellowship. The possibilities might include a Community Center for fellowship and social activities, expanded youth facilities and classrooms for our ever-growing Youth and Family Ministry and a larger Chapel to accommodate weddings, concerts, plays and workshops.