

Special Points of Interest

- After a comprehensive search, we've hired Jimmie Scott as our Pastoral Care Minister and moved Chris Kennedy to a new position as Ministerial Associate. Read about their new roles on the bottom of this page, and check out their biographies on Page 2.
- Effective September 7, our Sunday morning worship times will change to 8, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Read why on the bottom of this page.
- Turn to Page 3 to see the special events and worship services we have planned for July and August, including a worship series on Eckert Tolle's book, *A New World*, and a service conducted by Unity fave Daniel Nahmod.
- Regina Best has moved into a new role as Prayer Chaplain Coordinator. Turn to Page 4 to read her column and more information about our Prayer Chaplain Program.
- Beginning September 10, you will have the opportunity to participate in a new class, *Spiritual Practices I*, which is designed to deepen your spiritual awareness. Read all about it on Page 6.

Inside:

Our New Ministers	2
Worship/Special Services	3
Upcoming Activities and Special Events	3
Pastoral Care	4
Prayer Chaplain Training	4
Youth & Family Ministry	5
Spiritual Education	6-7
Calendars of Events	8-9
News from the Board	10
Financial Update	10
Outreach Projects	11
Divine Idea Bookstore	12
Small Groups Ministry	13
Photos of Our Unity Community	14-15
Milestones	15
Unity Wish List	15
Newsletter Advertising	15
10th Anniversary at Our Campus	16

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Walking Through the Fire



By Rev. Richard Maraj
Lead Minister

"When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned."

--Isaiah 43:2

Jesus said, "In this life there are trials and tribulations, but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world." With these words, Jesus was telling us that we all have challenges to face. We all have problems to handle. But he was also telling us to be cheerful and positive, because we can move our trials and come out of them better than before.

In the book of Daniel, we find a thrilling and amazing story of three men who overcame a seemingly impossible situation. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were cast into the flames by King Nebuchadnezzar, no one thought they could survive. Yet, somehow they did not get burned. Instead of turning to fear, worry and despair, these three individuals showed us how to walk through the fires of adversity and not get burned ... but, rather, to come out of the flames with greater peace, joy and blessings.

Have you ever faced a situation that you thought you could not make it through?

What can we learn from Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that can help us walk through our own "fiery furnace" experiences?

1 Know our Oneness with God. As scary and hopeless as their situation appeared, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew that God was with them. They knew they lived and moved and had their being in God. They affirmed their oneness with God at all times and in all situations. They knew God was greater than any situation they could ever face, even the hot flames of a furnace.

We can do the same in our lives. Whatever we are facing, let us know that we are one with God and God is greater than that situation. When fear begins to rise in your mind, pause and take a deep breath and affirm your oneness with God.

Affirm: "I am One with God. God is greater than this situation. I am at peace."

2 Affirm God's Power. From a place of peace, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego affirmed their faith in God's power to help deliver them from their difficulty. "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O King!" Affirming that God *can* and *will* deliver us from the challenges of life gives us the courage and strength we need to move forward and walk through our trials. Whatever you might be facing in your life right now, know that you have the spiritual power and resources to handle it!

Affirm: "I can do all things through God who strengthens me."

3 Allow the Blessings to Come Forth. As Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego moved through the flames -- centered in God and steadfast in their faith -- some-



thing even more amazing happened. The King was inspired and transformed by their great spiritual work and called them out of the furnace, blessed them, and prospered their lives in greater ways than before!

Our ministry is walking through the fiery flames of some financial challenges that have led us to make some significant changes. It has not been an easy process for the Board and leadership, nor has it been easy on the staff, who have been deeply affected. Even through these challenging circumstances, we know that we are one with God. We affirm that we can move and come through this difficult situation stronger, wiser and with greater blessings than before.

No matter what is going on in your life, remember God is in this situation. Through God, we have the strength and courage to move through our challenges, and we will be blessed with greater peace and prosperity. In the same way that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego walked through the fire -- unharmed and blessed and prospered -- so will we come through our "fiery furnaces" to experience greater blessings and good in our lives and in our ministry.

Blessings,

Richard

Welcome to Our New Ministerial Team!

By Rev. Richard Maraj, Lead Minister

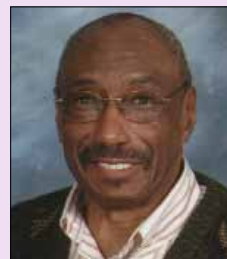
Five months after the departure of Rev. Alice and Shannon, and following a three-month ministerial search to replace them that involved more than 10 candidates, I am thrilled to announce that we have hired two individuals to join our Unity of Phoenix ministerial team. We joyously announce our own Chris Kennedy as our new Ministerial Associate, and welcome Rev. Jimmie Scott as our new Pastoral Care Minister.

Both Chris and Jimmie bring the right consciousness, skills and chemistry to their new positions, and they are certain to create a dynamic, supportive, spiritual-centered ministerial team that will help serve and move our ministry forward.

Chris, who is currently our Chaplain Coordinator and a ministerial student, stepped into her new Associate role on June 16. In her new capacity, Chris will manage Spiritual Education and our Volunteer/Outreach Ministry, oversee our Youth & Family Ministry, and support Lead Minister Rev. Maraj.



Chris Kennedy



Jimmie Scott

Rev. Jimmie will be joining our ministry August 1. He will oversee all of our Pastoral Care activities, including our Prayer Chaplains, Prayer Team, Helping Hands Ministry, meditation services and milestones. He will also oversee our Small Group Ministry.

I feel so blessed that we have attracted these beautiful souls to be a part of our ministry, and I know their presence will be a blessing to our entire community.

I invite you to read more about these two amazing individuals on the next page, and welcome and congratulate them when you see them in person.

Sunday Service Times to Change in September

As our youth ministry grows and grows, we are finding that having only 30 minutes between services simply doesn't allow enough time for families to check their children in and out of Sunday School in a timely manner. We are consistently experiencing a bottleneck for children and families who are leaving the second service or coming in for the third service.

In response to this situation, we will be changing our service times beginning Sunday, September 7.

Thank you for supporting this change and especially in supporting how we serve our youth and families.

Effective September 7,
our new Sunday morning
worship services will be:

- 8 a.m.
- 9:30 a.m. and
- 11:15 a.m.

New to Our Ministerial Team

Rev. Jimmie Scott - Pastoral Care Minister



The Reverend Jimmie L. Scott is a Unity minister who brings a diversity of experience and interests to his new position as Pastoral Care Minister for Unity of Phoenix.

Rev. Jimmie not only has a calm, loving and gentle presence that is exactly right for his role in Pastoral

Care, but he also has a great sense of humor! And he already has an indirect personal tie to Unity of Phoenix: while serving on the Board of the Association of Unity Churches 10 years ago, it was Jimmie who actually ordained our own Rev. Richard Maraj!!!

Jimmie officially began his ministry at First Church Unity in Nashville, Tennessee, in February 1985, an Associate Minister with a base of 14 people and one 9 a.m. Sunday service. He was selected as First Church Unity's Senior Minister in May of 1988. During his time as Senior Minister, Jimmie ministered to a rapidly growing congregation that today numbers over 450 persons.

From June 1997 to June 1998, he was Chairman of the Executive Board of the Association of Unity Churches International. From 2000 through 2003, Jimmie served as the Chaplain at Unity Institute and was on the Board of Directors of Renaissance West, Inc. in Kansas City, Missouri. Renaissance

West is an alcohol and drug treatment center for adults.

Reverend Scott's secular interests have included services as vice-chairman of C.O.P.E., an organization founded to provide training and job placement for the mentally and physically handicapped. He also served as an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau's Automobile Arbitration Program. He is a past advisor for Junior Achievement, counselor for abused and neglected children, and past chairman for the advisory board of Community Enhancement, an alcohol and drug abuse council for teens.

Currently Jimmie is serving as Associate Minister at Unity Renaissance Church in Chesapeake, VA. He supervises the Finance Department, and resides over the Chaplain Ministry Team and the Youth Education Department. He will officially begin his Unity of Phoenix duties on August 1, 2008.

Jimmie and his wife, Mary, have two adult children and two grandchildren.

Chris Kennedy - Ministerial Associate



Chris Kennedy first became a part of our spiritual community eight years ago, when a congregant invited her to worship at Unity of Phoenix. She knew immediately that she'd found her spiritual home. She began studying Unity principles, taking classes and becoming a dedicated volunteer in Pastoral Care, Youth Ministry,

Outreach and Facilitator Group Trainings. In addition, Chris has also taught many of our core classes, including *Unity Basics* and *Prayer Basics*.

Chris also began working at the church as Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator and, more recently, as Prayer Chaplain Coordinator. In the midst of her studies, volunteer and staff work, she discerned her own call to ministry. She is currently continuing on her ministerial path, studying as a part-time Ministerial Student at Unity Institute. Chris says that Unity principles have changed her life and it is her joy to be able to share them with others.

Chris has a passion for people, ministry, life and God. She seeks to realize greater God and greater Good in her life and the lives of those she encounters. Chris is grateful for our spiritual community and is honored to continue serving in her new role as Ministerial Associate while she continues fulfilling requirements to become a licensed and ordained Unity

minister. Chris' dedication to her own spiritual growth and her prayer consciousness is a tremendous asset to her new position.

Chris is a devoted mother of two children whom she loves dearly: Ashley, 8, and Brian, 6. Both attended the Unity of Phoenix preschool program, and also love attending Sunday School and Unity's Easter Egg Hunts, Halloween parties and Peace Camp. Chris is grateful that Ashley and Brian love coming to Unity as much as they do. They often ask if it is Sunday morning or Wednesday evening, which are the times they get to come with her!

Chris holds a Master's degree in Health and Public Policy Analysis from University of Maryland and a Bachelor's degree in Nursing from University of Rochester. Her professional career prior to ministry spanned 20 years in the health care arena. She began as a nurse (serving in the areas of pediatrics, medical, surgery and psychiatry), and also spent several years in health care administration,

filling numerous different roles, including Vice President of Clinical Operations serving Maricopa County's seriously mentally ill population. Upon the birth of her children, she returned home to be a full-time mother for several years. When she returned to work again, she pursued both paid and volunteer work in ministry, along with some work as a hospice nurse.

When Chris isn't working, volunteering at her children's school, playing with Ashley and Brian or tending to household affairs, she loves reading, boating, skiing (snow or water), hiking, biking, visiting with family and friends, crafts, ceramics and crocheting/knitting. She will be the first to admit that -- as a single, working mom -- she doesn't spend as much time on her hobbies and interests as she once did, so she appreciates the time she does even more!

Please join us in welcoming Chris to her new role!



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Upcoming Workshop
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Worship & Special Events

Join us Sunday mornings for worship services that will deepen your spiritual understanding and inspire your awakening!

Independence Day Weekend

July 6
"Freedom"
 with Chris Kennedy
 Musical Artist: Rusty Ferracane

Kick-Off of Two-Week Series:

"How to Transform Your Life"

July 13
"Renew Your Mind"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Renee Morgan Brooks

July 20
"Grow Your Faith"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Rusty Ferracane

Very Special Guest Speaker

July 27
"What's Mine to Do: Living in Faith; Living in the Flow"
 with Special Guest Speaker Daniel Nahmod
 Who will also serve as Musical Artist
 (See ad at right for more information)

Kick-Off of Four-Week Series:

"A NEW EARTH: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose"
 (See ad at right for more information)

August 3
"Illusion and the Ego"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Kathryn Williams-Ivie

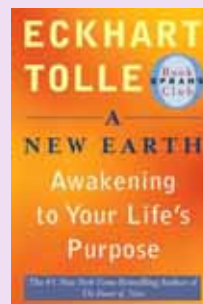
August 10
"Breaking Free"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Renee Morgan Brooks

August 17
"Discovering Inner Space"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Rusty Ferracane

August 24
"Awakening"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: To Be Determined

Labor Day Weekend
August 31
"How Do We Know God Cares?"
 with Rev. Richard Maraj
 Musical Artist: Unity of Phoenix Adult Choir

"A NEW EARTH: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose"



Are you listening to Eckhart Tolle's and Oprah's call for *A New Earth*? Have you heard the call for humanity to create a new, saner, more loving world by leaping to a new consciousness? And would you like to hear a Unity perspective on this fascinating book?

In August, Rev. Richard Maraj will share his thoughts on how we can integrate the inspiring ideas of Eckhart Tolle with Unity's timeless spiritual principles.

Join us and discover how you can change the world!!!

Daniel Nahmod "What's Mine to Do: Living in Faith; Living in the Flow"

Sunday, July 27
 Sunday Morning Worship

Daniel's poetic and evocative message of peace, love and compassion have found acceptance from all nations, cultures and faiths. Join us for this profound experience as Daniel offers both words of wisdom and heart-opening music.



Experience the Deeksha Oneness Blessing

July 15 and August 19
 and Every 'Third Tuesday'
 7 to 9 p.m.

\$20 in advance; \$25 at the door

Purchase tickets at

<http://unityofphoenix.powerofqs.com>

Attention New Members from the
 "Classes" of Fall '07 and Spring '08

New Member 'Class Reunion' Potluck

Tuesday, July 22
 6:30 to 8 p.m. • Gathering Room

Enjoy food, feedback and fun as you reconnect with others who became members of Unity of Phoenix at the same time as you, share your own experiences and learn what they've been doing in our community, and explore the "next steps" in your spiritual journey.

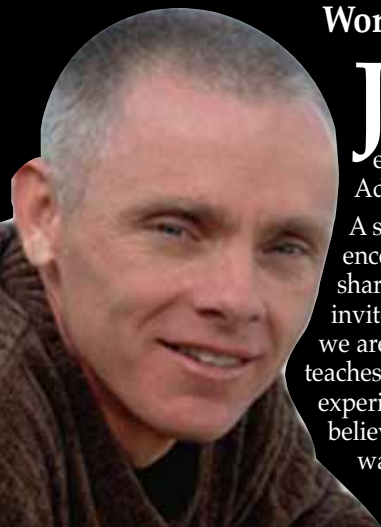
To RSVP, please contact Betty Bennett at 602.978.3200, Ext. 251, or bbennett@unityphx.org

Be sure to read about our upcoming
 October 4 Family Support Conference
 on Page 5!

SAVE THE DATE

Adyashanti

Sunday, October 12
 Message: All Morning Worship Services
 Workshop: 7 to 9 p.m. • Sanctuary



Just as we invited you to Awaken into Oneness with Arjuna Ardagh last March, we encourage you to join us Sunday, October 12, for an evening with the enlightened teacher, Adyashanti.

A student of Zen Buddhism, Adyashanti was encouraged by his teachers in 1996 to go out and share his teachings of non-duality. Adyashanti invites us into the experience of recognizing that we are the Divine, living Itself as each of us. He teaches us that what we are is not our beliefs, not our experience—not even who we think we are! He believes that, "...in the end spirituality is not about watching the breath. It's about waking up from the dream of separateness to the truth of unity."

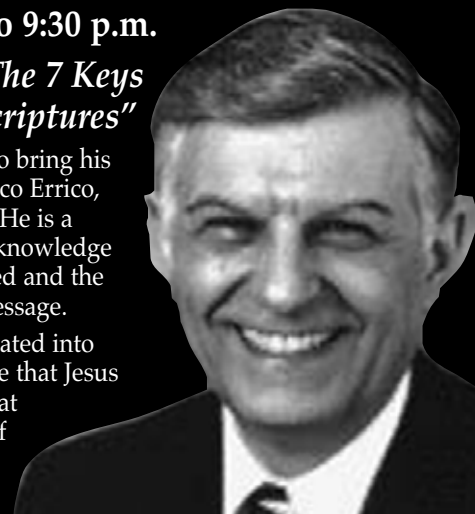
Dr. Rocco Errico Aramaic Scholar

Wednesday, October 22
 7 to 9:30 p.m.

"Let There Be Light: The 7 Keys that Unlock the Scriptures"

Rev. Richard Maraj is excited to bring his friend and colleague, Dr. Rocco Errico, to our spiritual community! He is a dynamic speaker with a wealth of knowledge about the world in which Jesus lived and the culture that shaped him and his message.

Hear the teachings of Jesus translated into English from Aramaic, the language that Jesus spoke. Learn about the customs that shaped the idioms and "sayings" of Jesus and the historical context of the scriptures. Not to be missed!



Pastoral Care

Serving as Prayer Chaplain is Privilege, Opportunity for Growth



By Regina Best
Prayer Chaplain Coordinator

With Chris Kennedy moving into her new role as Ministerial Associate, I was asked to consider serving in the role of Prayer Chaplain Coordinator. I am honored both by the invitation, and by the opportunity to serve our community in this way.

Having served on the staff in other roles, I have had the pleasure of interacting with our Prayer Chaplains. They are kind and dedicated people, and we are all blessed by their prayerful consciousness.

My spiritual journey has included experience that allows me to uniquely appreciate the role of Prayer Chaplain. Prior to my commitment to Unity, I was a member of another New Thought philosophy, the Science of Mind, and the Church of Religious Science. (Many of you are familiar with Religious

Science, I'm sure; as it stems from the same Transcendentalist roots as does Unity).

As a practicing Religious Scientist, I was a licensed Practitioner, which is a combination prayer counselor and teacher. I was honored to have received Practitioner Emeritus status after 20 years of active service as a prayer counselor, teacher and policy maker in the Religious Science movement. Because of my years as a practitioner, I understand firsthand the inner call that our Prayer Chaplains hear to serve others in prayer -- and the spiritual growth that happens to the person who heeds that call!

And so, to our beloved Prayer Chaplains, I say: I already know you, I already love you, I already respect what you do. I am honored to serve you, and to support you in keeping the

precious commitment you've made to pray for and with our community.

For the rest of you, Dear Readers, are you hearing that Call? If you have been feeling that inner pull to serve as a Prayer Chaplain, perhaps this is your time to serve!

The Prayer Chaplain commitment is for one year, and the interview process and training begin in September. Please see the box below this column for the Chaplain Training Schedule. It is a privilege to be with someone in prayer, to see the Spiritual Truth in them, and speak that Truth for them to hear.

Go into your own heart, listen to your God, and discern whether or not serving as a Prayer Chaplain is yours to do. You will be welcomed and appreciated and, as our Prayer Chaplains will tell you, you will grow!



Are You Being Called as a Prayer Chaplain?

A Unity Prayer Chaplain is an individual who has answered God's call to support this ministry through their consciousness of prayer and service as they:

- Create sacred space
- Lovingly listen
- Pray from their heart
- Hold in confidence what is shared

What time commitment is required?

Unity Prayer Chaplains make a one-year commitment in fulfilling their responsibilities, which include:

- Serving at four services each month
- Being available for one-on-one prayer after services
- Completing two hours of wellness phone calls each month (which must be completed on church grounds)
- Attending a two hour Prayer Chaplain meeting each month

What are my next steps?

If you think Spirit is calling you to serve in this way, your next steps are:

- Spend time in prayer and meditation to discern whether this is yours to do
- Assure you have met membership requirements (*Unity Basics*, *Prayer Basics*, membership orientation class). **Please note: There is only one more chance to complete these two courses before Chaplain training begins!** *Unity Basics* will be offered on Saturday, August 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Prayer Basics* will be offered Saturday, August 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Save the dates!!!!
- Attend Prayer Chaplain Orientation on Sunday, September 7, in Rooms 6&7. (Orientation is required to become a Unity Prayer Chaplain.)
- Mark your calendar with all the training dates. *Attendance at all training is required in order to become a Unity Prayer Chaplain.*

What are the Prayer Chaplain training dates?

Prayer Chaplain Orientation: Sunday, September 7, 1 p.m.

Prayer Chaplain 1st Interviews: September (Dates and times to be determined)

Off-site Training: Friday-Sunday, September 19-21
(Session begins at 6 p.m. on the 19th at an offsite location)

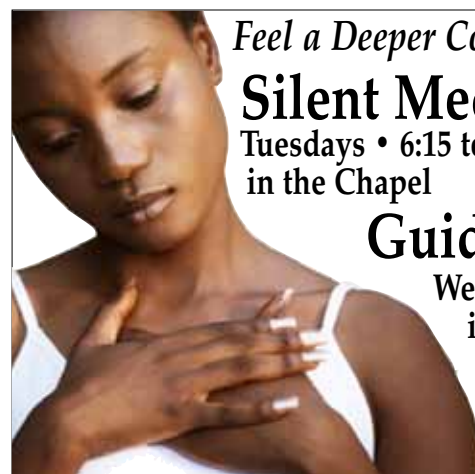
On-site Training: Saturday, September 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Prayer Chaplain 2nd Interview: October (Dates and times to be determined)

Prayer Chaplain Celebration: October (Date and time to be determined)

Prayer Chaplain Dedication: Sunday, October 26
(at all three Sunday morning worship services)

Know that if Spirit is calling, this may be your next spiritual step and it will be a blessing to you and those you serve!



Feel a Deeper Connection to Spirit!

Silent Meditation

Tuesdays • 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.
in the Chapel

Guided Meditation

Wednesdays • 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.
in the Chapel

Doors close exactly at 6:15 p.m. for both services to honor our meditation time. Both services will also conclude in time for 7 p.m. classes.

Communion

12:45 p.m. in the Chapel

July 6 & August 3 (and the 1st Sunday of each Month)

Our monthly Communion includes prayer, silence, responsive readings and partaking of the elements. Our July service will be facilitated by Pat Clegg. August's service will be facilitated by Joan Bacchus.

Please join us for this sacred and holy time!



Save the Date!

Unity
World
Day of
Prayer

Affirm

*We are peacemakers,
one in the love of God.
With hearts united,
we establish harmony and peace
in our lives and in the world.*

Thursday, September 11

Youth & Family Ministry



By Linda Depke
Youth Education Director

Storybook Series Reveals Truths to Youth

Good behavior, wisdom and maturity are not something that we magically see at age 6, 10, 16 or even 20. These attributes develop from experience, not only from the child's but from others who share their stories. Youth Ministry provides a place for children and teens to explore the stories and experiences of others through community and our unique summer program. Each week of the summer we take a break from our school-year curriculum and apply Unity truth principles to various storybook series.

The teens take a look at the insanity we can create in the world as a result of our personal belief system. Uniteens (junior high school students) will explore releasing fear by using the tools

suggested in the book *Love is Letting Go of Fear* by Gerald G. Jampolsky, M.D. Our Y.O.U. (high school) students will continue their summer journey by focusing on four main themes: Sacred Spirituality; Sunday Surprise; Brunch & Basics; or Contemporary Christianity.

The children's storybook summer focuses on the beautifully written folktales of Cinderella.

The "Cinderella Story," told from the tradition of different cultures, gives children the global awareness that even though we look different, everyone's story is the same.

We are all children of God - loved and supported. Each story shares that there is never a time, place or situation in which we are alone. The presence

and power of Spirit is always with us, supporting us, while we discover our inner beauty. These are love stories, but not the kind we usually think of. Instead, the *real* love story is when Cinderella steps out of hiding and realizes that she is always protected and loved by God with unique gifts to share. And as Divine Spirit provides opportunities, through mystical helpers, for her to be seen by others, Cinderella becomes aware of her own value in the world and finds true love - herself!

God Bless our youth ...

Preview of Upcoming Events

CHILDREN'S Activities

Summer Drama Camp



A cadre of volunteers and 4th, 5th and 6th graders are hard at work preparing for their summer production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Auditions were held in June, and all participating kids have made the commitment to rehearse every Sunday from now through August 24, when the final production of this wonderful show will be presented in the Sanctuary.

Rehearsals

Every Sunday through August 24, 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Rooms 6&7

Dress Rehearsals

Two Saturdays, August 16 and 23, 3 to 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Production

Sunday, August 24, 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Children's Choir and POP Registration

Begins August 10 at the Youth and Family Ministry Table
Space is limited; register early!

Children's Choir and POP rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 10, and will continue each Wednesday evening from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. Introduce your children to the joy of music through these wonderful programs!

Children's Choir

In this music program for 1st through 6th graders, members learn musical interpretation and performance techniques. The Children's Choir shares its musical offerings throughout the year at Sunday morning services, performs holiday concerts and presents an annual recital.

POP (Preschool Orff Program)

This fun, interactive music offering is for 4- to 6-year-olds. It includes developmentally appropriate activities like singing, movement and hands-on instrument play with Orff instruments (xylophones, etalophones, glockenspiels and rhythm instruments). Children develop beat and pitch awareness by moving their bodies creatively, exploring highs and lows vocally and experimenting with the timbres of the different instruments.

Save the Date!

Family Support Conference

Saturday, October 4, in the Sanctuary

Family Support
CONFERENCE

The future is made new
and whole for us all...
one child at a time.

Topics of discussion will include:

Spiritual Development • Anger Management • Adolescent Development

Flyers will be available at the Youth & Family Ministry Table beginning August 3

Registration begins on August 17

UNITEEN Activities (Grades 6-8)

Fun Night

Wednesday, July 2 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Includes games, social time with friends, guitar music, songs, etc.

Water Park Day at Big Surf

Sunday, July 13 • 1 to 5:30 p.m. (leaving after the 11:15 a.m. class)

Uniteens Adolescent Body Talk Follow-Up

Wednesday, July 23 • 7 to 9 p.m.

Uniteens have a chance to have further discussion and ask questions as a follow-up to the June 25 Uniteens Adolescent Body Talk session.

Fun Night

Wednesday, August 6 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Includes games, social time with friends, guitar music, songs, etc.

Production of 'Beauty and the Beast'

Sunday, August 24 • 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

6th graders who have been part of the drama experience all summer will participate in the production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Move-Up Day

Sunday, September 7

Graduated 5th graders will move to the Uniteen class on this day. They will begin in their 5th grade classroom, and move to the Uniteen class during class time.

Y.O.U. Activities (Grades 9-12)

Fun Night

Wednesday, July 2 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Includes games, social time with friends, guitar music, songs, etc.

Y.O.U. Summer Connections Summer Camp

Friday-Thursday, July 4-10

Santa Barbara, California

Move-Up Day

Sunday, August 3

Graduated 8th graders will move from the Uniteen to the Y.O.U. class on this day. They will begin in the Uniteen class and move during class time.

Fun Night

Wednesday, August 6 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.

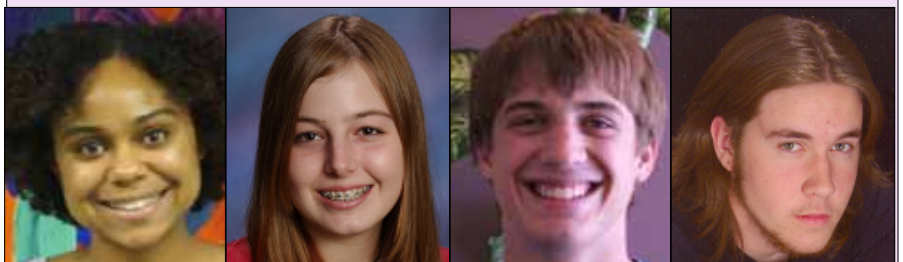
Includes games, social time with friends, guitar music, songs, etc., including new Y.O.U. teens who have just moved up.

Please check in with the Youth & Family Ministry desk for continued updates of our schedule for Uniteen and Y.O.U. activities.

Congratulations, Graduates!

Congratulations and best wishes and prayers to our following Y.O.U. senior graduates, who were recognized at the 11:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 22, and given a Bible inscribed with their name.

Pictured (left to right): Lisa Akorli; Ryanna Hopka; Kelly Knapper; and Jacob Nalley. Not pictured: Tyler Graves.



Spiritual Education

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 12:30 P.M.

Unity of Phoenix lovingly invites you to become a member of our church. The opportunity to become a member is offered only two times each year, so please make a note of these dates!

The next New Member Orientation will be **Sunday, October 12**. Membership Recognition will follow on **Sunday, October 19**, when our new members will be presented and blessed during all Sunday morning worship services.

You must attend New Member Orientation if you wish to become a member. (Attendance of the New Member Recognition service the week following the New Member Orientation is not mandatory, but is encouraged, as all new members will be collectively and individually recognized at worship services.)

The completion of our Unity Basics and Prayer Basics courses is also a pre-requisite for becoming a Unity of Phoenix member, teen sponsor, prayer chaplain or board trustee. You have two years to complete these classes from the date of your first membership class.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please make a note of the next membership class, as well as upcoming opportunities to complete this required coursework!

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Unity Basics

Saturday, August 16
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Rooms 6&7
Facilitator: Rev. Richard Maraj
\$10 suggested love offering



Find out what Unity is all about! Explore the history of Unity, and how the Unity spiritual movement began. You'll also learn the five foundational

beliefs that are unique to Unity, and how using these five spiritual principles can transform your life, and open your heart and soul to a fuller, richer experience of God and life.

Prayer Basics

Saturday, August 23
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Chapel
Facilitator: Rev. Richard Maraj
\$10 suggested love offering



Prayer is a foundational practice that cultivates our relationship with God.

Consistency in our prayer life is the pathway to deepening our experience of God. In this class, you will learn about and practice several different types of prayer so that you can determine which ones are right for you!

Are You Ready for the Next Step in Deepening Your Spiritual Awareness?



Our theme this year as a ministry is deepening our spiritual awareness. What does it mean to deepen our spiritual awareness? It means to become more aware of and express more God, more Good in our lives. It means to learn and apply spiritual practices in our daily lives.

Know that we are committed to supporting you in deepening your spiritual awareness. That is why it is with much joy and excitement that we extend this invitation for you to take your next step. Beginning Wednesday, September 10, you will have the opportunity to participate in a new class, *Spiritual Practices I*. It will take you deeper! Every two weeks you will learn about a new spiritual practice. More importantly, each week you will have the opportunity to apply it in your own life and share your experiences. Learn it, live it, share it! It will be a powerful and life-enhancing process.

If you are ready to take your next step, sign up for our new *Spiritual Practices I* class. Dare to live the principles and practices and watch your good unfold!

Your Next Spiritual Step ...

Spiritual Practices for Deepening Our Spiritual Awareness

Purpose:

To provide an in-depth class series through which people can deepen their spiritual awareness and experience of God and Good in their lives by learning and applying spiritual principles and practices.

Spiritual Practices - Part I:

Two weeks will be spent on each of the following topics:

- Gratitude
- Forgiveness
- Love

Stay Tuned!

Coming in January 2009 -
Spiritual Practices II

Spiritual Education

As you are most likely already aware, we have recently made several adjustments due to the fact that congregant giving has been running significantly behind budget this fiscal year. One such adjustment has been the closing of our church offices on Monday and Thursday evenings. As such, our classes and other activities have all been consolidated into Tuesday and Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings. You will see this consolidation reflected in the class listings below. Thank you very much!

Unless otherwise noted, the fee for classes is a Suggested Love Offering. Classes are open to all in our Unity community; you needn't be a member to attend! You may pay with cash, check, credit or debit card.

You can register for classes a number of ways:

- At the Spiritual Education table in the courtyard on Sundays;
- On our website at www.unityphx.org; or
- Telephone the Unity of Phoenix Reception Desk at 602.978.3200.

SUNDAY CLASSES

No classes or activities.

MONDAY CLASSES

No classes or activities.

TUESDAY CLASSES



Reiki Share
Tuesday, July 1 and
Tuesday, August 5
(and the First Tuesday of each
Month)
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Room 5
Facilitator: Kathy Flanigan
\$10 Suggested Love Offering per
class session

This monthly gathering is an opportunity for Reiki practitioners and Reiki I graduates to practice giving—and receiving—Reiki treatments. Students of this healing art have been asking for an ongoing forum in which to ask questions, practice and gain experience. Guided by Reiki Master and teacher Kathy Flanigan, this regular gathering will answer that need.



Chanting in the Chapel
Two Workshops:
Tuesdays, July 8 and 15 OR
Tuesdays, August 19 and 26
7 to 8:30 p.m.; Chapel
Facilitator: Dr. Lynne Haeseler
\$10 Suggested Love Offering per
class session

People have long used singing for contemplation, worship and celebration. Chanting is a simple form of singing that is easily accessible because it requires no musical experience to participate. When chants or prayers are spoken or sung aloud, the vibration of the chant resonates within us. The repetition of a musical phrase or sacred text keeps the breath constant and pulls the mind and heart towards beauty.

In this workshop, you will join your voice with others, singing short songs that, when repeated with sincerity, concentration and love will create a resonance within you that will ease your heart and quiet your mind.

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

**The Aramaic Way:
The Mystic Wisdom of The Lord's Prayer**



Wednesdays, August 6-20
7 to 9 p.m.; Rooms 6&7
Facilitator: Maryn Boess
\$10 Suggested Love Offering per
class session

Explore the Lord's Prayer in the language Jesus spoke it. Learn the Aramaic words in the historical and cultural context that the Master Teacher taught them, so you can embody the meaning of this great prayer. Hear it with a fresh understanding, and speak its powerful message in your own spiritual practice.

THURSDAY CLASSES

No classes or activities.

FRIDAY CLASSES

No classes or activities.

SATURDAY CLASSES



Spiritual Gifts Workshop
Saturday, August 9
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Rooms 6&7
Facilitator: Dorothy Moore
\$25 Suggested Love Offering

This class will awaken you to your God-given gifts and how to exercise them in your daily life. God programs each of us at birth with certain Spiritual Gifts. Identifying and using our Gifts is what our souls desire, and is necessary to achieve spiritual growth and maturity.

If you have ever wondered why some things are easy for you, while others are more difficult or hold no interest for you, the answers will be found in the discovery of your giftedness! You will also learn how all of our Gifts work together, and how to recognize the giftedness of others. In addition, you will learn to identify the areas of service most suited to your Gifts.

When you register for the class at the Adult Spiritual Education Table, please pick up a Spiritual Gifts Survey to fill out and bring with you to the first class. *Bring a sack lunch!*



What Is a Love Offering?

A love offering is a voluntary gift that reflects the perceived value you have received from something or someone.

Most of our classes and workshops are provided on a "love offering" basis. Usually the church and the teacher split the love offering. In short, our teachers only receive for their services and talents a portion of what is provided through love offerings.

This is critical to understand, because it's important that our teachers be rewarded with an amount reflective of their substantial contributions.

Thank you for taking this into consideration when you attend your next class!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER



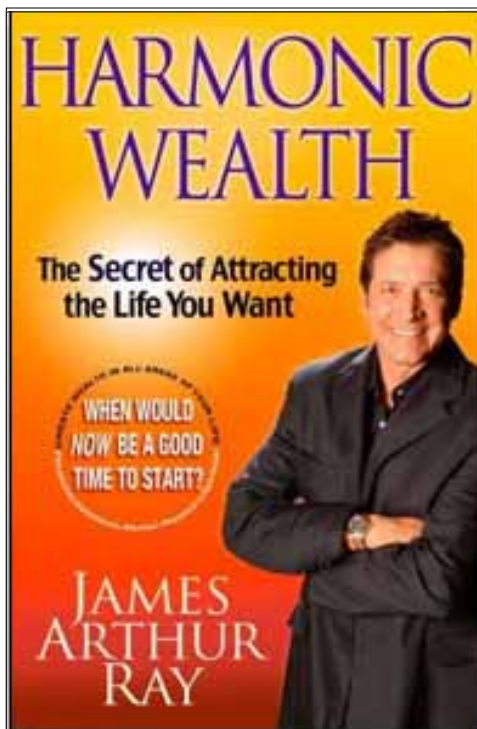
**Healing Grief Workshop:
The Journey of Grief - The
Path of Healing**

Facilitated by Joan Bacchus, (RN,
LUT and Bereavement Specialist)
Saturdays, September 6-October 18
(plus two follow-up classes)
1 to 3 p.m.; Room 8

This workshop combines bereavement education and spiritual support for people experiencing grief from a great loss. If you are experiencing unresolved grief, this is one way to help resolve it. It is important to have a desire for a greater understanding of your grief and a willingness to personally work and move through the grief-process towards peace and healing.

Together we will create a sacred space for healing, while honoring confidentiality in order to provide a safe environment for the sharing of personal feelings and concerns. There will also be a space provided for questions and guidance toward answers.

You must commit to attend all seven sessions of this closed workshop. Pre-registration is required; please sign up early as space is limited to 12 participants. The required text is *Understanding Your Grief Journal* by Alan Wolfelt, PhD, which explores the 10 touchstones of grief. The journal is available in the Divine Idea Bookstore.



HARMONIC WEALTH

The Secret of Attracting the Life You Want
with James Arthur Ray

(who was featured in the blockbuster movie, 'The Secret')

Free Live Event Tickets!

Register online @ www.HarmonyEvents.us

Scottsdale - July 23

Flagstaff - July 24

PRODUCTS AND EVENTS AVAILABLE BY ORDER

ADVERTISEMENT

August 2008

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST' A Production by Our Youth Summer Drama Camp Sunday, August 24 • 1:30 p.m. • Sanctuary</p>						
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes for Children, Var.</p> <p>9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Untieen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 Untieen Class, R10</p> <p>12:45 PM - Communion, C Singles Luncheon, Offsite</p>	<p>6 PM - Unity Business Leaders Mixer, Offsite</p>	<p>6:15 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C 6:30 PM - Reiki Share, R5</p>	<p><i>Childcare is available at 6:15 p.m. in the Gathering Room for our Meditation Service and Wednesday evening classes.</i></p> <p>5:45 PM - Toastmasters, R9&10 6:15 PM - Guided Meditation Service, C 7 PM - The Aramaic Way, R6&7 Y.O.U. Fun Night, R9 Untieen Fun Night, R10 Rock Your World Small Group, R11</p>	<p>10 AM - Bulletin Assembly Team (BAT), R9&10</p>		<p>9 AM - Spiritual Gifts Workshop, R6&7 10 AM - Craft Connection, Offsite</p>
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes for Children, Var.</p> <p>9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Untieen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 Untieen Class, R10</p> <p>12:45 PM - Welcome to Unity, R7 Singles Luncheon, Offsite</p>		<p>6:15 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C 6:30 PM - Unity Singles Planning Meeting, R11 7 PM - Third Tuesdays 'Deeksta Blessing,' S Chanting in the Chapel, C</p>	<p><i>Childcare is available at 6:15 p.m. in the Gathering Room for our Meditation Service and Wednesday evening classes.</i></p> <p>5:45 PM - Toastmasters, R9&10 6:15 PM - Guided Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Adult Choir Practice, S The Aramaic Way, R6&7 Y.O.U. Fun Night, R9 Untieen Fun Night, R10 Law of Attraction Group, R11</p>	<p>10 AM - Bulletin Assembly Team (BAT), R9&10</p>	<p>7:30 PM - Moonlight Hike, Meet in Parking Lot</p>	<p>7 AM - Fitness for Fun Hike, Meet in Church Parking Lot 9 AM - Unity Basics, R6&7</p>
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes for Children, Var.</p> <p>9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Untieen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 Untieen Class, R10</p> <p>12:45 PM - Singles Luncheon, Offsite</p>		<p>6:15 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C Chanting in the Chapel, C</p>	<p><i>Childcare is available at 6:15 p.m. in the Gathering Room for our Meditation Service and Wednesday evening classes.</i></p> <p>5:45 PM - Toastmasters, R9&10 6:15 PM - Guided Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Adult Choir Practice, S The Aramaic Way, R6&7 Y.O.U. Fun Night, R9 Untieen Fun Night, R10 Law of Attraction Group, R11</p>	<p>10 AM - Bulletin Assembly Team (BAT), R9&10</p>		
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes, Var.</p> <p>9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Untieen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 Untieen Class, R10</p> <p>12:45 PM - Singles Luncheon, Offsite Youth Summer Drama Camp Production of Beauty and the Beast, S</p>						
<p>IDENTICAL TO SCHEDULE ABOVE with exception of 'Beauty and the Beast'</p>						

Abbreviations:
 C - Chapel
 S - Sanctuary
 GR - Gathering Room

WORSHIP SERVICES Every Sunday, 8:15 AM, 9:45 AM, 11:15 AM

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY/NURSERY Sunday, 8:15 AM, 9:45 AM, 11:15 AM
 TEEN MINISTRY All Sundays: Untieens (6-8) 9:45 and 11:15 AM, R10; Y.O.U. 11:15 AM, R9

SILENT MEDITATION SERVICE Every Tuesday, 6:15 PM
 GUIDED MEDITATION SERVICE Every Wednesday, 6:15 PM
 COMMUNION 1st Sunday of the Month, 12:45 PM

July 2008

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>DEEKSHA 'ONENESS BLESSING' Every Third Tuesday Tuesday, July 15 • 7 p.m. • Sanctuary</p>						
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes for Children, Var. 9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Unteen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 12:45 PM - Communion, C Singles Luncheon, Offsite</p>	<p>6 PM - Unity Business Leader Mixer, Offsite</p>	<p>6:15 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Chanting in the Chapel, C</p>	<p>6:15 PM - <i>Childcare is available at 6:15 p.m. in the Gathering Room for our Meditation Service and Wednesday evening classes.</i> 6:15 PM - Guided Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Adult Choir Practice, S Y.O.U. Fun Night, R9 Unteen Fun Night, R10 Law of Attraction Group, R11</p>	<p>5:45 PM - Toastmasters, R9&10</p>	<p>Church Offices Closed</p>	<p>7 AM - Fitness for Fun Hike, Meet in Church Parking Lot</p>
<p>8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 AM - Worship Services, S Sunday School Classes for Children, Var. 9:30 AM - Drama Camp Rehearsal 9:45 AM - Unteen Class, R10 11:15 AM - Y.O.U. Class, R9 12:45 PM - Welcome to Unity, R7 Singles Luncheon, Offsite</p>	<p>6 PM - Unity Business Leader Mixer, Offsite</p>	<p>6:15 PM - Silent Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Third Tuesdays Deeksha Blessing S Chanting in the Chapel, C</p>	<p>6:15 PM - <i>Childcare is available at 6:15 p.m. in the Gathering Room for our Meditation Service and Wednesday evening classes.</i> 6:15 PM - Guided Meditation Service, C 7 PM - Adult Choir Practice, S Y.O.U. Fun Night, R9 Unteen Fun Night, R10</p>	<p>10 AM - Bulletin Assembly Team (BAT), R9&10 5:45 PM - Toastmasters, R9&10</p>	<p>7:30 PM - Moonlight Hike, Meet in Parking Lot</p>	<p>7 AM - Fitness for Fun Hike, Meet in Church Parking Lot</p>
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 GUIDED MEDITATION SERVICE Every Wednesday, 6:15 PM
 COMMUNION 1st Sunday of the Month, 12:45 PM

News from the Board President

OWNERSHIP, Not Membership



By Pam Petersen, President
Unity of Phoenix Board of Trustees

What would it feel like if we weren't just members, didn't just attend Unity of Phoenix? What could our church home be if we truly stepped into active ownership of it? Perhaps it's like owning your car or your home instead of just renting it. When you

own something, you take more pride in it, take better care of it, and spend more time with it. You share it with your family, open it to your friends. You maintain it so it will continue to serve your needs, but you also give it your time, your attention and your financial resources because it blesses you.

So I invite you to reflect on your relationship with your church. Do you own it, or are you just using it for a time? Have you been blessed by Unity of Phoenix: by our ministers, our chaplains, our prayer garden, our music, our messages, our children's programs, our classes, our outreach projects? If your answer is yes (and if you're reading this article I'm betting it is!), then OWN IT. Give it your time and attention. Bring your family and friends. Invest in it so we may continue to grow and prosper and share our positive message with the world!

We average 1,150 people in our sanctuary each Sunday. Can you imagine what we could accomplish together if all 1,150 showed up with an ownership mentality?! There is such power in our

numbers. For example, in a recent letter to our congregants, the Board made a simple request: increase your weekly giving by \$5. That's it, \$5 a week or \$20 a month. If everyone did this, our annual revenues would increase nearly \$300,000! This slight individual adjustment will have a huge impact on our budget. Not only will it allow us to complete numerous delayed maintenance projects (like repaving and stripping our parking lot), it will allow us to continue to enjoy the high level of service and excellence that has been the hallmark of Unity of Phoenix. As owners, I ask you to take this action and hold this vision in our collective consciousness.

This year, the Board has had the profound challenge of spiritually discerning how to be effective stewards while considering some challenging financial facts. We are running well behind budget and, if revenues continue at our current pace, we will experience our lowest annual revenue in seven years. We may also finish in the red. Accordingly, as we move into our formalized

budget process this summer, the Board has directed budget cuts of 10%, or approximately \$226,000, for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

This will not be an easy task, since we have already made numerous cuts and reallocations over the past two years during difficult financial times. Most of those adjustments have not been felt by our congregants because our amazing, dedicated staff has stepped up and taken on more. But we simply cannot ask them to do that any longer since the corrections we now need to make include eliminating certain staff positions and reducing several salaries. As is currently done in most Unity churches, we will need to rely more heavily on volunteers, on our owners, going forward.

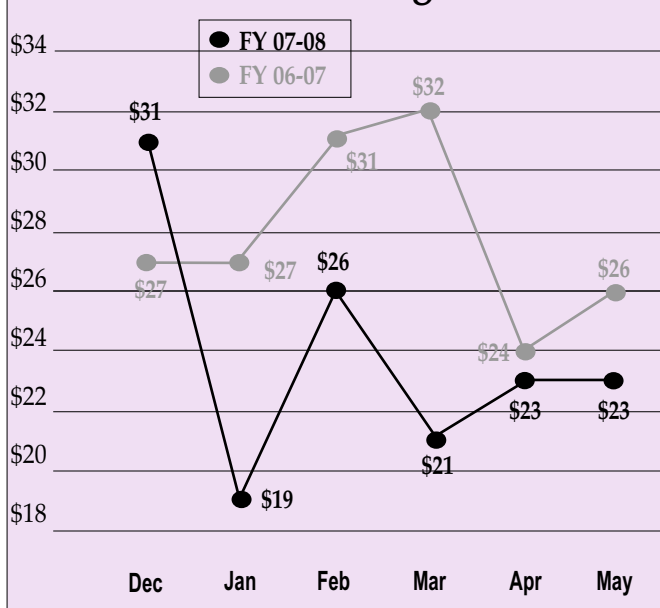
We have an amazing ministry and we will persevere. We will continue to provide a safe space, to transform lives, to heal hearts, minds and bodies. But our entire church community is now being called to join together, step up, and take ownership in Unity of Phoenix.

Unity of Phoenix Statement of Activities Through May 31, 2008

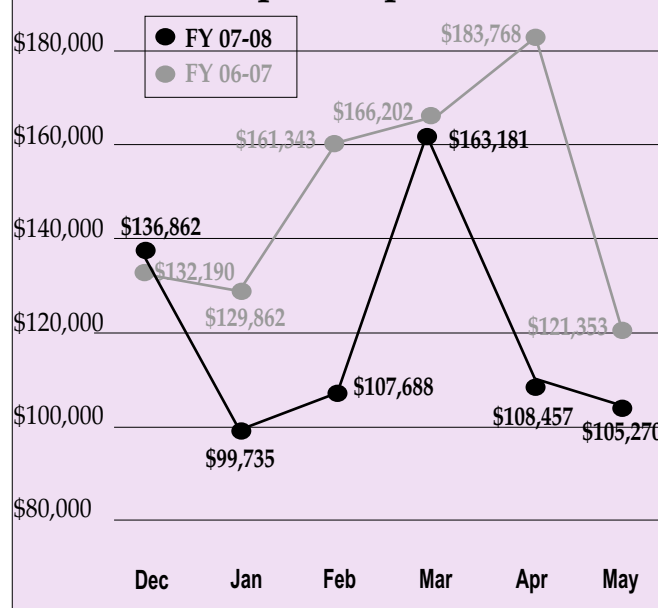
[Fiscal Year for Unity of Phoenix Starts October 1, 2007 and Ends September 30, 2008]

INCOME	Actual for May	Budget for May	Variance for May	Actual Year-to-Date	Budget YTD	Variance Actual to YTD Budget
Worship/Love Offering Receipts	\$134,616	\$164,415	-\$29,799	\$1,258,748	\$1,429,650	-\$170,902
All Other Receipts	\$17,322	\$21,583	-\$4,262	\$147,984	\$256,667	-\$108,683
Total Operating Income	\$151,938	\$185,998	-\$34,061	\$1,406,732	\$1,686,317	-\$279,585
EXPENSES	Actual for May	Budget for May	Variance for May	Actual Year-to-Date	Budget YTD	Variance Actual to YTD Budget
Total Operating Expenses	\$163,390	\$175,832	-\$12,442	\$1,374,318	\$1,492,631	-\$118,313
Net Operating Income Over/Under Exps	-\$11,452	\$10,167	-\$21,619	\$32,414	\$193,686	-\$161,272

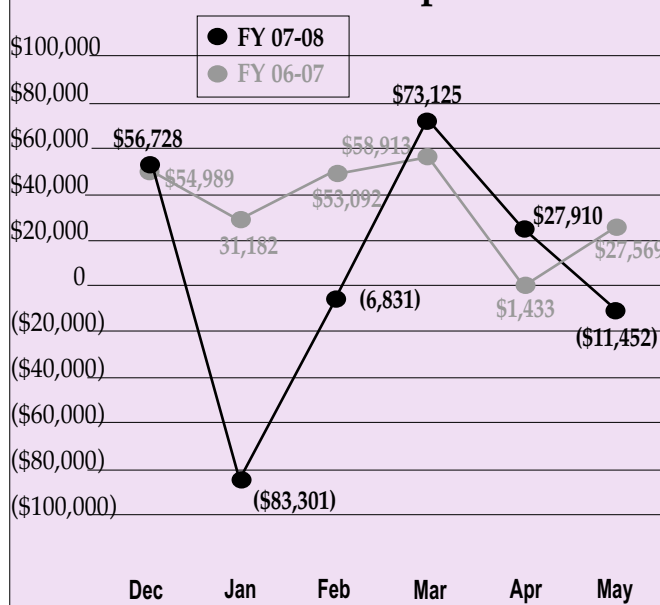
Per Person Giving Trends



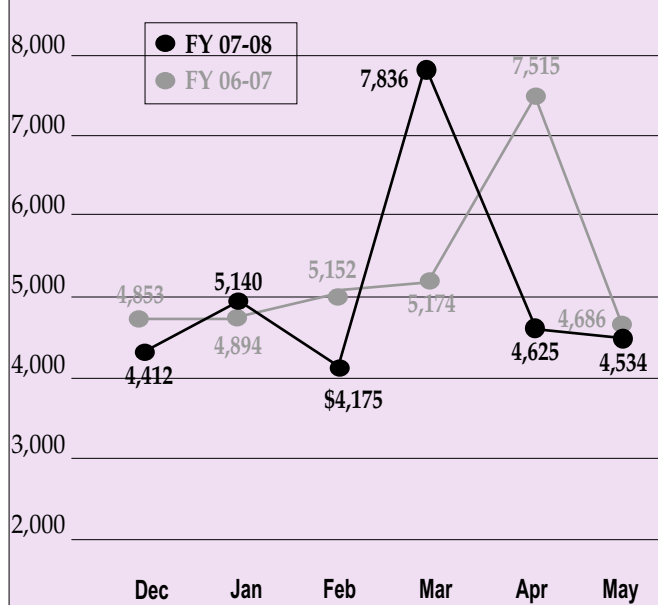
Worship Receipt Trends



Net Income Comparison



Attendance Trends



Unity of Phoenix is a tithing ministry. One-tenth of all we receive is given back to where we are spiritually fed. Fifty percent of our regular monthly tithe goes to support the greater Unity movement, including \$1,500 for ministerial scholarships. The remaining portion of the Unity tithe is divided equally between the Association of Unity Churches International, Silent Unity, the Southwest Unity Region, and Unity Institute.

The other half of our monthly tithe is dedicated to community and global outreach. These tithes change each month based on where the ministry has been spiritually fed, as detailed below:

March 2008 Tithe

Greater Unity Movement (50% of Tithe)	\$12,726
Discretionary Tithe (50% of Tithe)	
• St. Vincent de Paul	\$5,000
• Phoenix Rescue Mission	\$4,000
• Rev. Richard Rogers	\$1,800
• Rev. Lei Lanni Burt	\$926
• Warren Avery (pilot for Easter flying video)	\$500
• Andy McCradic (videographer for Easter DVD)	\$500
Total March Tithes	\$25,452

April 2008 Tithe

Greater Unity Movement (50% of Tithe)	\$11,253
Discretionary Tithe (50% of Tithe)	
• Southwest Unity Region (Uniteen)	\$4,000
• Southwest Unity Region (Y.O.U.)	\$4,000
• Arizona Interfaith	\$2,000
• Joan Bacchus	\$500
• Lana Sassi	\$500
• Kermit Long	\$253
Total April Tithes	\$22,506

Church Cash Reserves

Board policy requires that we maintain cash reserves equivalent to three months of church expenses, which currently stands at \$500,000. To be in compliance with this fiscally sound policy, we must increase our present reserves by \$148,000.

Thank you for your support!

Volunteer/Outreach Ministry

Outreach Projects

The following seven Outreach Projects were the ones we completed over the past year. Due to the success of each of them, and the huge degree of fulfillment that our congregants and volunteers reported to receive from them, we are considering repeating these same seven projects over the upcoming year. This has not yet been confirmed, but look for more information in upcoming bulletins and newsletters. Thank you!

Feeding the 500



Campus to feed 500-600 homeless individuals.

Our hope is not just to feed these folks physically, but to also "FEED" them spiritually by being fully present to them and of service to them.

In addition to providing a tasty meal, we may also be handing out mail, providing space for arts and crafts, and will have music for entertainment.

Because of court-ordered restrictions for some of the individuals that we will be serving, minors are not able to serve in this event. However, we invite minors to participate in our other outreach options.

Palomino/Echo Mountain Christmas Project



This past year we welcomed the opportunity to also include Echo Mountain Elementary as part of this outreach project.

The food certificates that we provide supply food boxes for the holiday drives that these two sister schools hold for their families in need. Our Unity volunteers also help to pack and distribute hundreds of food boxes during the holiday season. These food boxes, combined with additional grocery store gift certificates, ensure the families a holiday meal and enough food to see them through the two-week winter holiday break from school. (Most of the students receive both breakfasts and lunches through the school ... so, without these food supplements, it would be very difficult for families to feed the children while they are off school during the winter break.)

The books serve as gifts for children who might otherwise not receive much during the holidays.

This heartwarming project truly makes a difference in the lives of these children and their families.

Blood Drives



Volunteers to inform and encourage sign ups before the event are always needed, as well as volunteers to help coordinate, support and sign in donors on the day of the event. Our participation in this project helps to guarantee the ongoing availability of blood for the many patients who need it.

Saturday OutReach



years. Small but mighty groups of Unity volunteers gather on campus Saturday mornings to connect and carpool to a wide variety of non-profit organizations to lend a helping hand. From chopping onions to stocking diapers, these faithful servants provide the volunteer force that helps to keep these Valley organizations effective.

Habitat for Humanity



success by building another home over the upcoming year.

Habitat for Humanity is an international, non-profit agency that strives to eliminate poverty housing, and has built over 200,000 homes in 100 countries. Homes are built based on a partnership between a family and the community. A qualifying family pays for their home through sweat equity hours and special financing arrangements. Unity of Phoenix volunteers will work alongside the family to provide labor during most phases of the home's construction.

Interfaith Cooperative Ministries



Unity has been involved with ICM for a number of years, facilitating drives to collect everything from clothing and household items to a successful tuna, peanut butter, diaper and toiletries drive this past July. ICM provides an immediate response to basic human needs, and our donations help to make that possible. But those 600 cans of tuna we collected can't swim on their own! In addition to facilitating donations, our volunteers have gotten the word out about drives in the courtyard, and also coordinated collection points and sorting.

Spring OutReach-Palomino Literacy Festival



secondary goal of the event is to also give adults who struggle with reading a chance to connect with the resources to improve their lives through the power of literacy. This event can be truly transformational for its participants.

Volunteer opportunities range from giving out ride and game tickets, to reading to children, to answering questions and serving food.



Our Outreach Mission:

"We bring light to the world by spiritually and physically supporting and empowering those in need."

Divine Idea Bookstore

Studying Other Religions is Just One of Many Paths to Peace



By Julia Kellogg
Divine Idea Bookstore Manager

Hello, Friends!

For a planet that is so small (and getting smaller everyday), there seems to be an extreme amount of disharmony amongst neighbors. As increased technology brings the world closer, it seems as if our differences have become magnified and push us further apart. One of the things I love about aging (or should I say "maturing?!") is the knowing that harmony comes with understanding others, and understanding is the result of education.

Last winter we had a six-week class on Exploring World Religions. Each week's class covered a different religion, its basic tenets and practices, and was taught by a leader or expert in that religion. We had so many requests for the recordings of these classes that we

have now packaged them and have them available for sale.

Along with the audio package, we have the book *Voices of Faith*, published by the Arizona Interfaith Movement. This book ... "offers readers the chance to understand the different religions motivating the people that make up their community. In simple language, written by the followers of these religious traditions themselves, this collection of essays explains the beliefs and practices of the friends, neighbors and co-workers all around us. At a time of increasing religious diversity in our country, and when religious perspectives are increasingly becoming part of public discourse, this initiative serves as a valuable resource." (Dr. Antonios Kireopoulos, Senior Program Director for Faith & Order and Interfaith

Relations—National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA)

This book also includes a CD of the music of the religions featured.

It is said that to experience peace, one must *be* peace. Being peace requires an understanding, at a core level, of the people with whom we share our experiences and spaces, which we call our lives and our planet. We garner an understanding by listening and learning about the similarities and differences between our neighbors and ourselves.

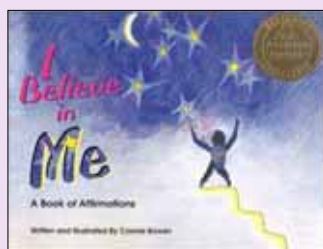
This summer, I invite you to celebrate those similarities and differences.

Be at peace,

Julia

NEW IN THE DIVINE IDEA BOOKSTORE

Kids' Korner

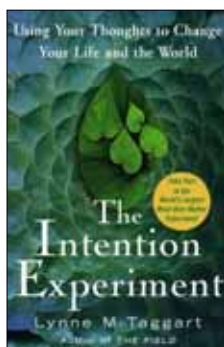


I Believe in Me: A Book of Affirmations
By Connie Bowen

This is a wonderful children's book that allows kids to

experience oneness with God. I Believe In Me – What an empowering statement of Truth! This uplifting and life-affirming book will help you, your child, and the child within all of us say, "Yes! I am safe. I am wonderfully creative. I am whole and perfect," and much more! Let this little being of light represent the true self and affirm your child's inner greatness in many ways. Each page also includes the author's unique and delightful illustrations. (\$18.95)

same. It gives women the tools to balance it all and find peace within themselves. (\$17.95)



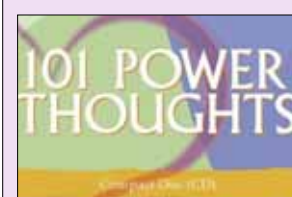
The Intention Experiment: Using Your Thoughts to Change Your Life and the World
By Lynne McTaggart

By Lynne McTaggart

Call it revolutionary, a groundbreaking exploration of the science of intention! Drawing on findings of leading scientists from around the world, this book demonstrates that thought is a

thing that affects other things. This internationally best-selling author takes you on a gripping, mind-blowing journey to the furthest reaches of consciousness. She offers a practical program to get in touch with your own thoughts, to increase the activity and strength of your attentions, and to begin achieving real change in your life. It also forces you to rethink what it is to be human. It proves that we're connected to everyone and everything – and that discovery demands that we pay better attention to our thoughts and intentions. (\$15.00)

Power in Audio

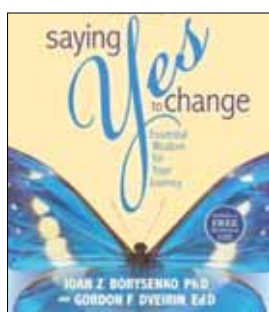


What better way to enliven and strengthen your day than listening to powerful affirmations on CDs, in your car on the way to work,

or at home as you begin your daily routine? And who better to think of when choosing powerful affirmations than the amazing, best-selling Louise Hay?

Hay's ability to guide and inspire us with life-changing affirmations is unbeatable. Check out her affirmations on CDs, such as her *101 Power Thoughts, Feeling Fine Affirmations and Self-Esteem Affirmations*, now available in the Divine Idea Bookstore. Each CD is \$10.95.

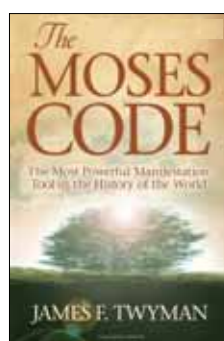
This book offers us the miracles that open the door to a powerful new way of seeing the world and the science that tells us why the miracles are possible. (\$24.95)



Saying Yes to Change: Essential Wisdom for Your Journey
By Joan Z. Borysenko, Ph.D., and Gordon F. Dveirin, Ed.D.

Change is both a scary business and an inescapable fact of life -- after all, everything is impermanent and eventual-

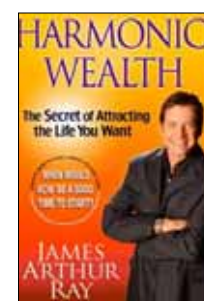
ly passes away. The pain and loss associated with change results in the temporary loss of our habitual identity, or false self, which is an idealized image of who we are, adopted in childhood. When this ego is shattered, it becomes easier to be vulnerable and real, which can lead to a taste of true nature. Change is also an opportunity to shed the limitations of the lower self and be reborn to the higher self. This book is an inspiring and practical guide to that process and includes a companion CD, a body-based mindfulness meditation that guides you in developing moment-by-moment awareness. (\$17.95)



The Moses Code: The Most Powerful Manifestation Tool in the History of the World
By James F. Twyman

Is it possible that 3,500 years ago, Moses was given the secret for attracting everything you've ever desired?

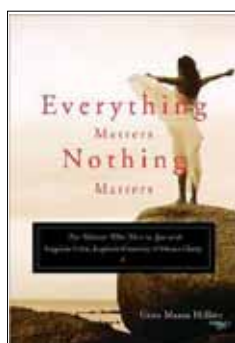
When the Moses Code was first revealed to the Israelites, some of the greatest miracles in history were performed. Shortly afterward, the influential leaders decreed that the inherent energy was simply too vast and potentially dangerous to be used by anyone other than the highest initiates. It's time now for all of us to master the Code as well – not just to add riches to our lives, but to create a world based upon the laws of compassion and peace. We're being offered the most powerful tool in history for creating our reality. You have an essential and individual role to play, and that's why this book has found you. For now, relax and enjoy ... you're about to go on a journey that will change your life. (\$17.95)



Harmonic Wealth: The Secret of Attracting the Life You Want
By James Arthur Ray

Are you ready to transform your current thoughts, beliefs, and assumptions? Are you ready to shatter the illusion that it's not "spiritual" to want a fit body or financial

wealth? Are you ready to create outrageous results in every single area of your life? You're in the right place! This book will propel you to where you want to go. It is a practical, results-based book that will help you to push beyond your self-imposed limitations and show you how to get past all the reasons you think you can't have what you want. Struggling to know what you want? That doesn't mean you're not perfect. It just means you are ready for a shift. And that's exactly why you'll pick up this book. The result of more than twenty years of study and practical application by the author, it is based on extensive study of ancient wisdom traditions, cutting-edge findings in quantum physics and other scientific fields. Let it show you the secrets of attracting more than you've ever thought possible. (\$24.95)



Everything Matters, Nothing Matters: For Women Who Dare to Live with Exquisite Calm, Euphoric Creativity & Divine Clarity
By Gina Mazza Hillier

This is a woman's guide to finding balance and recreating her creative spirit – by reassessing what's essential and what's not. It is

for the woman who finds herself overworked, under-inspired, and lost amid the demands of spouse, kids and kin, and/or long hours at an unfulfilling job – with zero time for herself. Written by a woman who has been there and found the courage to change the soul-numbing scenario, this book offers a practical, inspirational seven-step plan for others to do the

The Spontaneous Healing of Belief: Shattering the Paradigm of False Limits
By Gregg Braden

FACT: The universe is made of a shared matrix of energy that underlies our physical world. FACT: Belief is a language that "speaks" to this matrix. Scientific evidence reveals that heart-based belief affects everything from the healing of our bodies to the atoms of our world. Is it possible that we're born with the power to reverse disease, create peace and abundance, and even change reality itself? As we face the greatest challenges of human history, these new discoveries suggest that we're about to find out.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Divine Idea Bookstore is closed Saturdays for the summer.

Please join us during our other store hours:

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

And you can ALWAYS shop online!!!!

www.shopdivineonline.com

Small Groups Ministry

Unity of Phoenix offers a wide variety of small groups through which it is easy to make friends, deeper connections and loving relationships in our spiritual community. Our new Pastoral Care Minister, Rev. Jimmie Scott, will now begin overseeing these Small Group activities.

Connecting and getting to know others at Unity of Phoenix is easy! Following are some of the small group activities that are available.

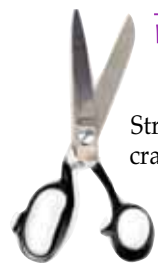
For more information about these long-term small groups, or to express an interest in forming your own, contact Beth Marks at 602.978.3200, Ext. 333, or bmmarks@unityphx.org.

Bulletin Assembly Team (BAT):

This industrious group of individuals gathers on campus every Thursday morning at 10 a.m. to assemble the bulletins for our Sunday worship services. Come join us! For information, contact the church at 602.978.3200.

The Craft Connection:

This fun-loving group meets offsite on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 7th Street north of Thunderbird. Are you crafty? Then this is the group for you! Bring your crafts and join us; everyone is welcome! We have people who scrapbook, make greeting cards, bead, knit, paint and needlepoint. We love to share ideas and encourage others to try something they haven't done before. For more information, please contact Beth Marks at bmmarks@unityphx.org.



Starting September 16!
Eckhart Tolle New Earth Discussion Group:
Join with others to discuss this inspirational book and how we can each awaken to our own life's purpose! Beginning September 16, this group will meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Gathering Room. For more information, contact Jane Norde at elnorday@cox.net.

Golf Group:

Unity Golfers meet each Monday. Please contact Bill Smith at 623.915.3272 or ellairsmith@cox.net for the location and time of the next Monday morning golf meeting.

Hiking Group:

MOONLIGHT HIKES

Friday, July 18, 7:30 p.m. - Shaw Butte

Friday, August 15, 7:30 p.m. - North Mountain

For each of the above hikes, please meet at the designated time in the Church parking lot. NO

Sign-up Required.

FITNESS FOR FUN HIKES

Saturday, July 19 - Little Elden Trail north of Flagstaff

Saturday, August 16 - Sun Set Trail northwest of Flagstaff

Please meet in the Church parking lot at 7 a.m. to carpool. NO Sign-Up Required

In July and August we will be car/van pooling with the Christ Church of the Valley Hiking Group, venturing north of Flagstaff to take in the Little Elden Trail (rated easy) and Sun Set Trail (rated easy-moderate), respectfully. All of the "Fitness for Fun Hikes" are designed to accommodate a wide range of hiking abilities and participants are encouraged to hike at their own pace. See our *Unity Trail Mix* newsletter for full details! Come join us for the day!

We recommend sturdy hiking or walking shoes, sun screen and sunglasses or a hat, and snacks and water for both during and after the hike (1-2 quarts of water per person). Just come to the church on hiking day at the designated time to carpool to the trailhead.

If you have further questions regarding hiking group activities, or wish to receive the monthly *Trail Mix* newsletter, please contact Don Clausing at 602.866.0285 or dclausing@unityphx.org.

The Law of Attraction Connection Group:

This group gets together on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 11 at Unity of Phoenix. This is an ongoing group that comes together to learn, study, practice and apply the principles of the Law of Attraction, and celebrate together the transformations in our lives. For more information, please call the church at 602.978.3200.

Rock Your World - Where Gems and Metaphysics Meet:



This group meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Unity of Phoenix administration building in Room 11.

Come join us for metaphysical explorations into the Mineral Kingdom! Share resources, information, experiences and general love of rocks and gems. Contact Wendy Whatley at kukn4u@cox.net for more information.

Unity Business Leaders:



Unity Business Leaders is a group of spiritual-minded business professionals who come together to network and support each other. Unlike other net-

work groups, who push products and business cards at one another, we work to get to know each other on a more personal level by building relationships and community. We have about 60 people attend each event.

If you would like to grow your business relationships with a group of high energy people, you've found the right group!

Our July mixer will be Monday, July 14, from 6 to 8 p.m., and our August mixer will be Monday, August 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. Both will be held at Anna Banana Realty, located at 2301 W. Dunlap, Suite 105. A \$25 entrance fee covers food, beverages and all the fun of building relationships and community with a group of like-minded people.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Anna Banana at 602.595.8900 or anna.banana@cox.net or annabananarealty.com.

Unity Singles:



Our Unity Singles events provide a safe, supportive and loving environment for fun, fellowship and spiritual enrichment. If you're single and over the age of 18, please

make plans to join us every Sunday at 12:45 p.m. for lunch, as well as every Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. for socializing and dancing.

In addition to these weekly events, our Singles Group sponsors a wide variety of activities, including movies, plays, comedy clubs, museums, house parties, bowling, bicycle riding, hiking, dance lessons, discussion groups, and game nights.

Our group also supports and gives back to Unity of Phoenix by volunteering for Unity sponsored events and projects on a regular basis.

For a detailed listing of events, times and locations, please go to the Unity website at www.unityphx.org/connecting/singles.html. If you have questions, please contact Phoebe Hendrix at 602.841.0235 or email her at liaisonuop@azboss.net.

Unity of Phoenix Choir:



Come make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Music is an important part of our ministry, and we'd love to have your voice heard!

For more information, contact Music Director Jerry Wayne Harkey at jharkey@unityphx.org.



Criteria for Forming a Small Group Ministry

Our Small Groups are created by congregants of Unity of Phoenix, just like yourself! These groups invite like-minded people to meet and establish a greater connection and to support our ministry. If you're interested in starting your own group, please follow this process!

- 1 Put together a group of people from the ministry who are interested in your connection group. Prepare your roster of participants, including names, email addresses and phone numbers.
- 2 As a group, adopt the Spiritual Intention of the group (which must align with the Vision and Mission statement for Unity of Phoenix). Have all group members sign this document and return it to the Ministry.
- 3 Decide upon a name for your group and the day(s) and time(s) you will meet. You are encouraged to meet offsite, due to limited classroom space at the church.
- 4 Create a description of your group that can be used in printed publications distributed by Unity of Phoenix to attract new members.
- 5 As a group, decide upon two or three Outreach Projects in which you would like to participate each year. There are many projects available through the Unity of Phoenix's Outreach Ministry; you are welcome to find community projects outside of the ministry.
- 6 Consider hosting the Hospitality Tables in the Courtyard to support the ministry and promote your group.

After you have completed this checklist, the leader/main contact for the group should send the information to Beth Marks at Unity of Phoenix (bmmarks@unityphx.org). Your information will then be reviewed by the Pastoral Care Minister and you will be contacted.



VIP-OWLS:

Currently on Summer Hiatus ... But please mark your calendar and plan to join us after Labor Day!

Second Wednesday of each Month
Noon to 1:30 p.m. • Rooms 6&7

Our VIP OWLS Luncheon is for our Very Important People-Older Wiser Loving Seniors. If you are 55 or older we invite you to attend this monthly luncheon, which meets from September through May of each year. Mark the second Wednesday of each month on your calendar and plan to join us! We come together to share with like-minded individuals. It is a time for fun and fellowship; we always have a special guest speaker or activity planned for each luncheon. It is a great way to stay connected, share your spirit with others and enjoy wonderful food, company and speakers.

The church provides the main dish, and participants are invited to bring their favorite side dishes to share. (You may also make a love offering if you don't wish to bring a dish.)

If you have any questions or would like to know more about this group, contact Chris Kennedy at ckennedy@unityphx.org or 602.978.3200, Ext. 255.

Our Unity Community



God, Guts and Glory Youth Talent Acts

Our Unity youth brought the greatest show on earth to the Sanctuary on April 13 when they shared a wide variety of their special talents with our congregation. Hollywood, here they come!



'Project Everlasting'

During their "Project Everlasting" workshop, Mathew Boggs and Jason Miller (left) revealed what their extensive research has shown are the secrets to a successful marriage. Their insight and inspiration --and healthy dose of humor -- offered hope, confidence and encouragement to everyone who attended.



Habitat for Humanity Dedication

Over 240 congregants lent a hand to our "Habitat for Humanity" outreach project, through which Unity of Phoenix partnered with Qwest to build a home for a Glendale family in need. In April, the house was dedicated to the very grateful -- and emotional -- family.



Lynne Haeseler in Concert

Lynne's inspirational "Concert of Prayers" included spoken prayer, chants and music woven together to draw participants deeper into prayer and reflection. Guest artists, including Renee Morgan Brooks and Sanctorum, added to the calming combination of music and chanting.



Our Unity Community



Palomino Literacy Fair

Dozens of Unity volunteers stepped up and transformed this annual event into a flurry of fun, games and entertainment, all aimed at increasing literacy in the Palomino community and instilling every child with a revitalized interest in reading ... and wonder in the fact that learning really can be fun!

Labyrinth Groundbreaking

On May 4, Rev. Maraj, Committee Chair Cathee Tankersley and Board President Pam Petersen broke ground for the Gratitude Labyrinth just south of the Petersen Prayer Garden. The Labyrinth serves as a special and highly visible "Thank You" to everyone who has contributed to the Church Fundraising Campaign.



Thank You So Much, Charlie Mannino



For the past several years, Charlie Mannino has volunteered his time and professional photography skills to take boatloads of photographs of our church grounds, many activities and congregants. His contributions have ranged from the new member photos that hang in the lobby, to the huge Father's Day "marlin" that hung in the Courtyard, to many sensational photographs that have run in the Church bulletins, *Upward Venture* newsletter and Unity website.

A picture paints a thousand words, but not enough for us to thank Charlie for his contributions. Charlie recently moved to Sun City, and as a result, will no longer be taking photographs for us. Thank you SO MUCH, Charlie, for all you have done! We will miss you!

MILESTONES

Christenings

Jayson Alexander Mullen Burnor was christened on May 4, 2008.

Jasmine, Lanee' and Marcus Domokos were christened on May 10, 2008.

Memorials

Edward Robert Bogedain made his transition on May 1, 2008. A memorial was held in his honor on May 8, 2008.

Weddings

Tania Rudenko and Doug Mark were married on April 12, 2008.

Renee VanHee and John Cirillo were married on April 18, 2008.

Monique Aaronson and Joe McNally were married on April 26, 2008.

Jody Noble and Chip Alexander were married on May 31, 2008.

Help Us Secure Our 'Wish List'!

We are often asked by congregants if there are items that we have a need for, or how they can contribute to Unity of Phoenix in a meaningful way above and beyond their tithing. Our "Unity Wish List" identifies those services and items highest on our list of priorities. A list of current "Wish" items is included below. Thank you in advance for holding this list in prayerful consideration!

- Partial salary of new minister. (\$16,000)
- Asphalt paving. (\$5,500)
- Kurzweil electric keyboard. (\$3,000)
- Air conditioning repair (compressor) in Youth Ministry building. (\$2,100)
- Firewall upgrade. (\$2,000)
- Two-way radio communication system. (\$1,480)
- Laptop and Blackberry for Ministerial Associate. (\$1,200)
- Air conditioning repair (condensers) in Sanctuary. (\$1,100)
- Gels for Sanctuary lights. (\$600)
- Food coupons for families in need. (\$500/month)
- Saving Jesus DVD-based program for Spiritual Education class. (\$300)
- Prayer Chaplain camp scholarships. (\$160/person)
- Seven programmable thermostats. (\$150/each)
- Hospitality cookies. (\$100/week)
- Pest control service. (\$60/month)
- First aid kit supplies. (\$25)
- Bottled water. (\$5/case)
- Candle lighters. (\$5/each)

For a complete list of items on our Wish List, please contact Executive Director Bruce Mosby at 602.978.3200, Ext. 254, or bmosby@unityphx.org.



Advertise to the Unity Community!

Advertising in this newsletter is a wonderful way to reach an important market niche: Unity of Phoenix congregants!!! This newsletter reaches thousands each month, most of whom read it from cover to cover. It is also posted on our Web site, which receives many, many visitors. Our rates are:

Half Page (9.75" x 7.75"): \$450
 Quarter Page (4.65" x 7.75"): \$275
 Eighth Page (4.65" x 3.625"): \$165

Pricing is for camera ready advertisements only. An additional fee is charged for creating advertisements for clients. For questions and deadline information, please contact *Upward Venture* Editor Sue Thompson at 602.494.9708 or sue_thompson@qwest.net.

Thank you!!!!

10th Anniversary Celebration

Our Mission:

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

Our Vision:

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

Unity Services:

Silent Meditation Service:
Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.

Meditation Service:
Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services:
8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 a.m.

Communion:
1st Sunday/Month
12:45 p.m.

Sunday Children's Ministry
(Age 0-3 years):
8:15 a.m.

(Age 3-Grade 5)
9:45 and 11:15 a.m.

Sunday Teen Ministry
Uniteens (Grades 6-8), R10
9:45-10:45 a.m.
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Y.O.U. (Grades 9-12), R9
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Church Office:

Telephone:
602.978.3200

Fax:
602.978.3248

Website:
www.unityphx.org

Event Hotline:
602.978.3200, Ext. 300

Staff Email:
First initial, Last name
(i.e., rmaraj@unityphx.org)

Office Hours:
Mon.-Thurs: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri.: Closed
Sat.: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bookstore:

Telephone:
602.978.3337
or 800.853.1372

Email:
bookstore@unityphx.org

Hours:
Sun.: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Mon.: Closed

Tues.-Wed.: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Thurs.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fri.: Closed
Sat.: Closed (during summer)

Ministry:

Lead Minister:
Rev. Richard Maraj, X-237

Pastoral Care Minister:
Rev. Jimmie Scott, X-234
(beginning August 1)

Ministerial Associate:
Chris Kennedy, X-255

Chaplain Line: X-256
Dial-A-Prayer: X-260

Staff:

Executive Director:
Bruce Mosby, X-254

Youth Education Director:
Linda Depke, X-334

Counseling/Grief Counseling:
Joan Bacchus, LUT, RN

To contact a member of our
Board of Trustees, please
email board@unityphx.org.



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upcoming bulletins and newsletters.

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Amadeo has a master's degree from the Sloan School of Business at M.I.T.
and writes about the U.S. economy for About.com,
a division of the New York Times.

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so we can update our mailing list!