



HORIZONS

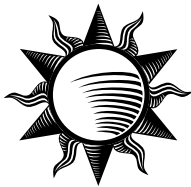
THE NEWSLETTER OF UNITY OF THE VALLEY ————— JUNE 2004

Summertime Religions

by The Rev. Edgar Peara

Summer, glorious summer! How rewarding is this blossoming season in our luscious Emerald Valley. We feel the delightful currents of nature in all their wonder, fragrance, and beauty flow through our lives and community. We take the marvels of this blooming season into ourselves as we perceive and receive them.

They become even more impressive as we realize they reflect the magnificence of the divine grace of the Creator of us all. Jesus said that even the greatest king in all his wealth was not as beautifully clothed as a wild flower, for God gives beauty to everything that grows in the fields [Matt. 6:28-30].



One 10:00 AM Summer Service Beginning June 20

To keep our worship energy concentrated through the summer, we will have only one 10:00 AM service, from June 20 through September 12. This summer schedule was introduced last year with a very favorable response from the congregation.

The spontaneous expressions of nature symbolize spiritual facts. In them we see the universal designs of survival, fulfillment, and growth. They remind us that the holy power of Divinity is similarly at work in us. When we are open and receptive, spiritual purpose and intelligence guide us to love, health, prosperity, and useful service.

In summer, nature is constantly broadcasting evidence of the creativity and abundant glory of our Creator. As we commune with the wonders of nature, we attain the exalted consciousness that heals and blesses both us and our world. True wisdom is our seeing the awesome in the ordinary, the divinity in “the flower in the crannied wall.” That sensitive perception enlightens and awakens in us a greater intelligence than the human mind. Sensing nature’s secrets awakens our spirituality and guides us home to Divine Love.

Still, we’re aware that among all the wonders of creation our humanity is the pinnacle of nature. The highest expression of our human nature is the expression of our divinity.

Our Unity church gives us the spiritual sustenance that is as

Sunday Worship Service

The following are provided during the 10:00 AM service:

- Nursery and Childcare
- Youth education (3 – 10 years)
- Uniteens (11 – 13 years)
- Youth of Unity (14 – 18 years)

Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bookstore Hours

Tuesday – Friday
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Church Contact Information

Unity of the Valley
345-9913

Unity Bookstore
343-5689

Unity Fax
345-9182

Dial-a-Positive-Prayer
345-5215

Chaplaincy Message Line
341-1841

E-mail
unityval@rio.com

Web Site
www.unityofthevalley.org

Summertime Religions (cont.)

Our Mission

We are a thriving spiritual community radiating God's love. We come together to grow in our experience and expression of God.

We value

- Love
- Integrity
- Beauty
- Inclusion
- Community
- Fun
- Peace
- Worship
- Learning
- Prayer
- Commitment
- Prosperity
- Healing
- Gratitude
- Service
- Joy

necessary to us as rain and sunshine are essential to nature. Summertime should not be a vacation from the services, worship, friendships, and love that await us every Sunday at Unity. We tend and feed our gardens all summer long to keep them beautiful and bountiful. Growth and renewal are rudimentary to us and to all life.

Our religion can be viewed as a spiritual flowering. Without growth we're like plants that never bloom. Continually learning from the

inspiring services and activities, associating with loving church friends, contributing to the church so it can continue to share the teachings of Unity—all of these help us to experience a richer, happier life.

Perpetual inspiration is as necessary to the life of goodness and happiness as perpetual respiration is to animal life.

—William Law, English mystic

Keep blooming! We'll see you in church.

Upcoming Events at Unity

CHANT: Deepening Our Experience of God

3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00–8:00 PM
Unity of the Valley

This monthly chant experience will explore sacred sound from a variety of world traditions. The majority of the evening will be spent in the experience of chant. Led by Netti Garner and Bev Forster.



Join us for the Ice Cream Social on July 11 after the Sunday worship service.

Youth "Moving Up" Ceremony

A ceremony for youth who are moving into the next phase of Unity youth education will take place during both the 9:00 and 11:00 AM services on Sunday, June 13.

Ice Cream Social

Each year, Unity of the Valley celebrates summer with an ice cream social held after the worship service. Join us on Sunday, July 11, for summer sun, fellowship with Unity friends, and all the ice cream you can eat!



Music and Technology: Unity Volunteer Mark Hazzard Shares His Gifts

by Suzann Stahl

Mark Hazzard's first love in life was music, and his first area of service to Unity of the Valley was leadership in the church's Music Ministry. Over the past several years, Mark has taken on several technology-based areas of service to the church, from the PowerPoint presentations during Sunday services to the creation of our church Web site.



Mark's mother recognized his talent at an early age and enrolled him in music school. When Mark was fifteen, he played with the legendary John Lee Hooker. At seventeen, he was playing piano professionally at the River Inn in Big Sur, California. As their house pianist, he accompanied many notable jazz greats, such as Pete Fountain and Jackie Coon. At that time he was also employed by Al Jardine of the Beach Boys to teach Al's son piano.

Mark currently plays with a popular variety band *Vanness Express*, with

his own standard jazz band *Class Act*, and plays frequent solo engagements in Eugene.

Mark sees Unity as a great place to meet like-minded people and develop lasting friendships. He loves the evolving nature of the Unity philosophy, which supports his own spiritual growth. "I especially appreciate the non-dogmatic spiritual environment of Unity and the concept that what we think determines what happens in our lives," he says.

For five years, Mark has been involved with the Unity Music Ministry. Three years ago, Mark began heading the PowerPoint team. He works closely with Margo Moore and other members of the team to assure things go smoothly every Sunday morning.

Mark particularly loves his job of maintaining the Unity of the Valley Web site www.unityofthevalley.com and the internationally-recognized Ghandi Series hosted on the site. New information for the website can be emailed to him at markhazzard@comcast.net. Mark also has his own website, www.giftedchildmusic.com.

We appreciate Mark's presence in the Unity spiritual community and look forward to his being with us for many years to come.

A Focus on Our Values: Community

"The human community is like the community of birds singing to each other. Love is one of the reasons we are singing to one another: love of language itself, love of sound, love of singing itself, and love of the other birds."

—Poet Sharon Olds

"What life have you if you have not life together? There is no life that is not in community."

—Poet T. S. Eliot

"We have to be in community with God so as to participate immediately in divine ideas."

—Philosopher Immanuel Kant

Unity of the Valley Men's Ministry: Finding Spiritual Nourishment

by Milt Cunningham

Idle gossip? The Unity Men's Group? Never! There's nothing idle about our gossip. Fact is, though I've heard roars of laughter, scattered chuckles, and a roomful of conversations, I have yet to hear a single muttering of gossip.

Unity Men gather once a month for fellowship, food, camaraderie, to exchange ideas, and plan projects. But perhaps the main impetus is a sort of mutual spiritual nourishing.



John Freshwater, one of the inspired members of the newly energized Men's Ministry.

The idea incubated in the fertile mind of John Freshwater and

hatched almost full-bloom at our first meeting last February. At that meeting or the next, Baine suggested we do the entire Mother's Day service. We tore into that like happy dogs with a dirty rag. The upshot was one of the most original and refreshing observances of that special day most of us have ever seen. It must have been good, for the ladies have poured their appreciation like blessings over the men who participated.

Our first two meetings drew forty men, and we've never had fewer than 30 steady stalwarts ranging in age from just old enough to be out of Y.O.U. to men in their eighties. The assorted skills vary from computer experts to carpenters, musicians to master cooks.

And volunteers! Need somebody to handle the Web? A hand goes up. Need a pointman for the music? Two

Men's Ministry Meetings

Join the Men's Ministry on the second Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM for an evening of potluck and fellowship. The next Men's Ministry meeting will be Monday, June 14.

The Men of Unity meet on the fourth Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 PM for prayer and meditation. The next prayer evening will be Monday, June 28.

Happy Father's Day!



We celebrate the loving energy Unity fathers give to their kids.

hands shoot up. I've never associated with a bunch so ready to volunteer before, and it's a little scary. There was a WW II expression for it – "eager beavers."

These gentlemen were so determined to do a good job on the Mother's Day service, they sandwiched in two extra meetings between the regular



Men's Ministry members hold potlucks at their second Monday gatherings.

monthlies. And the various sub-groups met at other times as well.

We're blue-skying (testing every idea) to see just which direction we want to go. But, not surprisingly, the consensus is to keep the emphasis on the spiritual side. Every meeting

Marketing Ministry Spreads the Word

Led by Joe McCully, the Unity Marketing Ministry is spreading the word to the local community about Unity of the Valley.

Volunteers have recently staffed tables at Lane Community College on a weekly basis. The Marketing Ministry also is bringing a Unity presence to special events throughout the community such as the Health and Wellbeing Fair and the Eugene Celebration.

begins with prayer. A led meditation by candle light follows. Then we slide into the rest of the evening.

I see attempts on the part of John and others to involve every man in some way: having a different man lead each meeting, the leader of the moment to appoint the leader for the next meeting.

I've heard talk of golfings and hikes, outings and overnights. As a ranch hand, I drove lazy, lethargic horses. I also drove hard-mouthed teams, the kind that pull on the reins all day long. They left my muscles aching, but they were easier to drive. That's how these men are, always pulling on the reins.

But while having fun and undertaking projects for the general church body, our hearts are still in the Spirit; for ultimately, that's what we're all about, and that's the direction our energy lies.



Joe McCully leads the Unity Marketing Ministry.

If you have marketing ideas for Unity or would be willing to staff a booth at an event, please contact Joe McCully at 463-3516.

Taize' Summer Schedule

Taize' Sunday services are suspended for most of the summer. There will be services on June 6 and September 12, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Regular monthly services will resume October 3.

Monday Night Taize' Healing Prayer

The Monday Night Taize' Healing Prayer service will resume on September 20. If you want individual healing prayers during the summer months, call Linda Hunt at 345-9913 to schedule an appointment.

“Sharing Our Joy” with Unity Youth

We are seeking “Unitics” willing to share their joy with the children of Unity this summer.

If you have a personal passion that you'd like to share during a Sunday morning one-hour youth education session, please consider taking part. This opportunity allows our children to learn about your interests: art, sports, singing, storytelling, theater, gardening, biking, carpentry, nature, crafts, music, and more.

Through the “Sharing Your Joy” program, Unity children learn about new subjects and meet members of our community. They may discover a joy that becomes a life-long interest. The program also allows our

dedicated youth leaders to take a break and gear up for fall. Support, supplies, adult assistants, and leadership are provided to you. All you need to do is volunteer to share your passion, express God through your joy, and lead the children for an hour on one Sunday this summer.

To volunteer, or for inspiration and information, please contact:

- Sally Crum at 998-2805 or
- Lynn Chowdhury at 683-7067

Youth Advisory Team Mission

To guide their work with Unity youth, the Youth Advisory Team has created a mission statement. At a recent service, children and team members marched into the Sanctuary carrying banners proclaiming their mission:

To help children and youth awaken
To the Christ light within
Through play, prayer,
and the joyful giving
From our loving church community.



Members of the Youth Advisory Team and Unity youth share the team's new mission statement with the congregation.



The Unity Youth Advisory Team includes Sally Crum, June Hopkins, Mary Griggs, Baine Palmer, and Ann Barker.



Uniteens sell Mother's Day and birthday cards after church to support their Heifer International water buffalo project.

“Oh, The Places You Will Go!” 25th Annual Kids Camp 2004

From June 20 to 23, Unity kids ages 7–11 can experience a three-night communion with Spirit through the 25th Annual Unity Kids’ Camp.

Held at Camp Waskowitz near North Bend, Washington, Kids’ Camp is led by Youth Of Unity (Y.O.U.ers) ages 14–18 from regional Unity churches.

Kids’ Camp activities include large group funshops, singing, meditation, swimming, walking, games, small group discussions, prayer, and vespers.

“Pathways to Peace” Uniteen Camp

Our Uniteens can build friendships with Uniteens from across the northwest region through Uniteen Camp, June 27 – July 2.

Uniteen camp is designed for youth ages 12–14. Campers should have finished the 6th grade and be no older than 14 years old. The camp theme will be “Pathways to Peace,” and activities will include camp fires, creative crafts, rope and challenge courses, and adventure!

Sally Crum, Unity Youth Education Director, will provide transportation to Uniteen Camp and stay all week with our kids.

Uniteen Camp will be held at Chrispus Environmental Learning Center, Randall Washington, a three-hour drive from Eugene.

Unity of the Valley member and Y.O.U. leader Jim Drews will be attending Kids’ Camp with his daughter, Donna. Jim will stay with and supervise our kids. He has room in his car for three other campers.

Cost for Kids’ Camp is \$150 if postmarked by June 1 or \$165 after that date. A generous donor has offered scholarships to send two kids to camp!

For registration forms, or to arrange carpooling, please call Sally Crum at 998-2805.



Lynn Chowdhury and the Uniteens sell Easter treats, raising funds to donate a water buffalo to Heifer International.

Cost for Uniteen Camp is \$180 for six days and five nights. Partial scholarships are available.

Join other Uniteens for a week of fun, spiritual growth, challenge, trust, cooperation, and adventure!

Unity Youth Gain a Global Perspective

Unity Youth have recently begun supporting several international service projects. The Uniteens are fundraising to purchase a milk-giving water buffalo through the Heifer International group. The Galileans are providing money to Edu-Care Africa for school supplies and food and giving funds to an indigenous group in the Latin American rainforest for sustainability efforts.

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To someone special:

Unity's youngest volunteer, Wills Driscoll, helps his mother Kristina at the Unity reception desk each Tuesday.

UNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Service 10:00 AM Youth Education (3–10 years) 10:00 AM Uniteens (11–13 years) 10:00 AM Y.O.U. (14–18 years) 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry Meeting (1st Sunday) 11:15 AM Taizé Service June 6, 7:00 PM (Next service will be held on September 12) “What is Unity?” (2nd Sunday) 11:30 AM Women’s A.A. 12–Step Study Group 5:00 PM	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM Meditation Circle 5:30–6:30 PM (contact Laurie, 345-7563) A Course In Miracles 6:30–8:30 PM (contact patricia@efn.org) Men’s Ministry Meditation (4th Monday) 6:30 – 8:00 PM Men of Unity Potluck Meeting (2nd Monday) 6:30 – 8:30 PM	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM Noon Prayer 12:00 PM Toastmasters International 7:00–8:30 PM (contact Kathy or Geof Wilson, 434-6503)	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM A Course In Miracles 10:00–11:45 AM (contact Valerie, 485-2419) New Testament Bible Study 10:30–11:30 AM (contact Sherry Lady, 485-6874) Noon Prayer 12:00 PM Young Adults 7:00–8:00 PM	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM Noon Prayer 12:00 PM Blue Mountain Meditation Circle 5:30–6:40 PM (contact Laurie, 345-7563)	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM Noon Prayer 12:00 PM Shamanic Evening (1st Friday) 7:00 PM (contact Sunny or Gary, 461-5663)	Sober Awakenings 7:00 AM Women’s Drumming Circle (2nd & 4th Saturdays) 10:00 AM – NOON (contact Diane, 687-6629)
	Nursery Care Provided during the worship services		Unity Spiritual Enrichment Center (Roseburg) Contact: Inge Tarantola, 343-4181			
	Prayer Ministry For immediate prayer, you may phone any Prayer Chain member from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM. MaryEllen Avis 736-8871 Karuna Gatton 485-3881		Mary Griggs 342-6490 Linda Hunt 344-0990 Star Lee 935-5559 Inge Tarantola 343-4181 Gayle Townsend 935-4956 Carol Yarger 607-6096	NOTE: The calendar is subject to change. Please refer to your Sunday bulletin or call 345-9913 to confirm dates, times, and offerings.		

One Sunday Service
 From June 20 – September 12, we will hold one Sunday worship service at 10:00 AM. The 9:00 and 11:00 AM services will resume on Sunday, September 19.

Annual Picnic
 Join us for the annual Unity of the Valley Picnic on Sunday, September 12. The picnic will be held in Tugman Park. Watch for details.