

Our Vision: Fall 2009, Year 2010

Living a vibrant, meaningful and spiritually transformative life is a substantial challenge . We innately know that we need a real and deeply felt relationship with the Infinite Spirit as well as heartfelt meaningful connections with each other in order for our souls' aspirations to be fulfilled. This is what is always before us as souls having a human experience.

Over the past two years and *through many visioning gatherings* at various levels of leadership at Unity of the Valley, a picture of our future together is coming into form and continues to reveal new aspects. Based on these findings, *there are a combination of needed improvements, practical steps, and bold new ideas that have emerged.*

This comes at a collective time that invites conservative restraint. So far during 2009, we have taken a deep breath as a community, cut back our expenditures by 15% compared to '08 and trimmed services.

With that said, Unity of the Valley conveys the spiritual teaching that if one stands still and feigns a willingness to create and bring forth new expansive initiatives, then more contraction is likely. We don't plan on staying put in a contractive state of consciousness and in your own lives you likely feel the same way. No matter whether times are abundant or seeing downturns and personal challenges, **Divine Abundance is firmly everpresent in our midst.** So, *we hold practical wisdom in one hand, and with the other as Michael Beckwith states, we join in "transcending the tyranny of trends."*

As we open to what is before us to create, the following visions, words, and living ideas are a commentary of what is to come this fall and in the year 2010. **This is a living document** and is subject to change as the spiral of creation turns and we remain open to prayerful consideration of all projects and possibilities. As you read and capture what is envisioned, we would ask that you look for **how you could plug in and support the energy of what we envision** so that spiritual currents of love and conscious intention can form into real results. Ultimately, *all of this is for the expressed purpose of making a real difference in your life and in the life of your family.* Read and enjoy.

The broad overall **Goals for fall 2009 and all of 2010** are:

- **Message:** Establish a broader presence in Eugene that is more identifiable. The Unity message and movement is one of a kind and a powerful and largely unknown alternative to traditional religion. Spread this message with clarity and conviction.
- **Community Building:** Create meaningful ways for individuals to authentically connect, be spiritually fed, play together and lovingly support one another in challenging times.
- **Spiritual Growth, Healing, and Awakening.** Create and enhance programs, classes, events and services that fulfill the intention to inspire and provide proven spiritual tools and insights for living more fully and deepening the daily connection with Spirit.
- **Financial and Facility Well Being.** Establish and sustain financial stability and prosperity for the short term as well as the long term. Address current needs for facility and grounds.

Here are the **new spiritual and practical objectives and intentions** over and above the usual set of weekly, monthly, annual and seasonal services, groups, events, and activities...all of which will support and fulfill the above overall goals.

1. Complete a **fundraiser** to address the current needs of a new sign, new logo and tag line, new sound system, and beautification of sanctuary, foyer, and entrance, as well as help to resupply our operating reserves. A planning team has started to meet and take initial steps of organization. This will take place in two phases;
 - a. **Phase One-** Goal: \$25,000
 - i. **Replace the sign** near Hilyard Street with a beautiful new sign. The current sign is warped, rotted, and 25+ years old.
 - ii. **Create a new logo** that represents Unity of the Valley rather than continue to use our current one which is a copy of the logo used by the Association of Unity Churches. This would go on all our literature, our new sign, the website and be used for all other marketing efforts.
 - iii. **Create a tag line** to go with our Unity of the Valley name that communicates our message on our sign, website, and other marketing efforts.
 - iv. **Purchase and install new sound system components** to replace the old, patchwork system that is continually unreliable. Not all components will be replaced. Considerations will be made to address the issue of the powerpoint-video projector shutting off due to overheating.
 - v. **Paint the sanctuary a new color scheme.** Current color scheme, even though it is only 3-4 years old, does not harmonize with the carpet or chairs.
 - vi. Dollars remaining would flow into our operating reserves.
 - b. **Phase Two- Other Sanctuary, Foyer and Front Entrance Improvements**
 - i. **Other considerations** for sanctuary are a stained glass window, (One congregant has offered to cover a substantial portion of this expense.) a water feature, improved lighting, better air circulation that would address the issue of hot air settling near the ceiling both in the summer and in the winter when the heating system is running, and/or hanging banners or artwork Reupholstering of back wall pews is under consideration as well.
 - j. Reupholster the chairs in the sanctuary to harmonize with the carpet and new wall colors.
 - k. In the foyer, add inspirational artwork and reupholster the pew along the wall. Somehow enhance entrance to bookstore. Another possibility is to replace the window next to the entrance doors with a stained glass window. (Foyer was newly painted in 2008.)
 - l. Improve the appearance of the front entrance: Add an overhang to make entrance more inviting and to shelter people from the rain.
2. **Provide new 10 week Prosperity Plus Program.** We will be one of 25 churches nationwide to offer this new dvd program designed by Mary Manin Morrissey and recorded live to the first ever class in Southern California. In these times of financial worry and fear, this program provides the latest spiritual insights and tools for helping individuals to radically change their consciousness and improve their everyday prosperity.
3. **Create a fenced in play area for younger children** on the Hilyard Street side of the building. This would provide an area for children to run and have fun on Sunday after services and at other times and allow parents to have additional, much needed social connection time with other adults. (There may be some funds available for this project in the Youth and Family Ministry reserve account which is leftover from a previous fundraiser in 2005.)

4. **Form and begin a Retreat Ministry** in which each year Unity of the Valley would have several types of retreats for both specific groups within our spiritual community and larger gatherings for the entire congregation. These ways of being together strengthen our connectedness and deepen our spiritual practice.
5. **Begin the “Mystic Junction” monthly live performance** somewhat modeled after “Prairie Home Companion”. Centered around a spiritual theme, this show would feature live and original music, humorous vignettes, interviews with local and national authors and spiritual teachers, and spiritual words of wisdom. Jon West would be center stage doing much of the writing and hosting. This would be publicized to the general public.
6. **Host a monthly and/or seasonal speaker series** featuring high quality guests both local and national speaking on current topics of spiritual interest.
7. Take the initial steps to **seed and establish a Unity of the Valley legacy fund** which would provide opportunities for individuals or companies to bequeath monies or property to Unity of the Valley to fund special programs or needed capital improvements and help insure long term financial health for many years to come.
8. We will be **switching to a monthly bulletin/program**. This will provide up to date information on events, activities, classes, services, and groups for the month as well as info on upcoming events the following months. This bulletin will replace and is a smaller format of the current weekly bulletin and will also eliminate the quarterly Horizons newsletter. This will save a great deal of paper and expense. People can receive the new format monthly bulletin by mail if requested.

In addition, both for fall 2009 and 2010, Unity of the Valley will **once again have a 7 week spiritual transformation experience** with seven Sundays of attention on the chosen topic with a transformational group meeting each Thursday during the 7 weeks. For the fall 2009 it all begins on Sunday, September 27. The fall 2009 program will be **“Spiritual Liberation”** based on the book of the same name by Michael Beckwith. The 7 weeks will finish with the Celebration Banquet on Sunday evening, November 8.

We also join in spiritually and prayerfully holding **the intention that our ongoing monthly and annual income and giving abundantly support our operating needs**. While the above detailed programs and initiatives are coming into manifestation, we also choose to stay attentive to and continue to provide the ongoing services and programs with love and thoughtfulness always with a heart open to new inspiration and guidance. Great thanks to the Beloved Spirit everywhere present and to all of you who so willingly serve and support this beautiful spiritual community that provides a much needed spiritual message for our time!