

	<p>Unity Church of Positive Living</p>	
	<p>UNITY LIGHT NEWS</p>	
	<p>March/April 2010</p>	

Creating a New Trend in 2010

During our annual meeting one of the proposals presented to our congregation was changing our name to Unity Center (rather than Church) of Positive Living. The vote was unanimous among the members in attendance. It may appear to be a small change on the surface, but it would (radically) change our identity and broaden our own perspective of who we are and what our mission and purpose is. Some new thought churches have already moved in this direction.

There has been quite a bit of discussion by our Association of Unity Churches International about changing our image and identity to be more inclusive and open to today's cultural trends. Many people are seeking a spiritual home and path to fulfill their own spiritual needs and to connect with the Divine Spirit. People are very aware and conscious of their own spiritual selves and know there is more to life than just satisfying material wants and needs.

Some people have been disillusioned with their "church" experience of the past. However, they still want to satisfy their spiritual needs and be part of a spiritual community. The word "church," however, still holds some negative connotations for many people. Often their immediate response when invited to a church is: I don't believe in "organized religion." The word church is an unnecessary block for folks who are seeking a spiritual community like ours, but hesitate to come because of preconceived notions of the past.

Our purpose and mission in possibly changing our name to "The Unity Center of Positive Living" is to create a new image and dynamic for spiritual growth and practices that are in keeping with today's cultural initiatives. Our spiritual message meets the needs of today's society and spiritual seekers who are searching for a spiritual community and home like ours.

One delightful surprise we discovered is that "Center" is already part of our official name. The plaque issued to us by our Association lists us as The Unity Center of Positive Living. Our vision is to create a community center that is open to supporting people on their spiritual path; a community committed to spiritual growth and development of its members; a place where we can feel we belong and know we are a part of something bigger; a community that provides us the opportunity to experience God/Spirit in a deep and meaningful way and allows us to truly experience ourselves as one with God and each other. Finally, we want to be a community that gives people the opportunity to stretch their spiritual muscles through service and to know that they can make a difference in the world.

We have already taken steps to do this and are doing it. Unity is the community from which the "Oneness" group came into being. We also provide space for The Course of Miracles groups and we helped support the Peace Garden in its initial stages during the 11 Days of Peace.

Our vision is to provide an environment of love and acceptance so people can thrive in their desire to grow spiritually and feel loved and supported in their desire to love God and one another. Working together we can expand and grow as a community and as individuals and make a difference in the spiritual landscape here in St. George, Utah.

Enclosed is the M. A. P. Plan for the new vision of our ministry. Please fill it out and return it to our "Unity Center for Spiritual Growth." We want your ideas and participation in creating our New Center and a New Trend in 2010.

Peace and Love,
Luigi

Our Unity meeting space: **198 N. 100 East**



Our mailing address is: **P.O. Box 910043, St. George, UT 84791**

To contact Unity Church:

Phone: 435-674-5025 (office) 435-229-7242 (Luigi)

Email: sgunity@ymail.com

Website: unitychurchofpositiveliving.org

NOTES from Rev. Luigi

Here are opportunities to serve, share your wisdom and offer your skills:

Board of Trustees, Wisdom Council, Bookkeeping, Sunday School.

Sunday, March 28, we will have a **HOME meeting** (Help Our Ministry Expand). Please plan to attend and get updates on this year's priorities and help plan upcoming events.

HEARTFELT FAREWELLS

We are sad to say farewell to Janis Wick who is moving North again to be closer to her family in Ogden and Park City. We deeply appreciate Janis' quiet and consistent dedication to typing cheerfully many of Luigi's FLP papers as well as correspondence. She has given invaluable behind the scenes support to the Board and Church in keeping up with the financial books and records during this past year. She will be sorely missed. We wish her well on her move to be close to her granddaughter, Lauren. Besides holding her in our hearts, we'll hold a chair open for her in case she wants to return for occasional reprieves from the cold weather!

With a memorial service on February 20, we bid farewell to Aaron Spikes, who died in mid-February. He was an example to all of us, living full-out to say nothing of SINGING FULL OUT throughout his journey toward death and life on another plane. We will miss his bold determination and beautiful voice.

2010: YEAR OF THE 12 POWERS

In March, develop the power of **WISDOM**: ability to evaluate, discern, apply what you know, and affirm: **"I am guided by divine wisdom in every thought, word and action."**

In April, develop the power of **LOVE**: the ability to attract, unify and desire, and affirm: **"I am a radiating center of love."**

UPDATE ON FINANCES

We begin to transform our finances by first changing our consciousness. Affirm this statement once a day to create a new consciousness about our individual and collective finances.

We, Unity of Positive Living have more than enough income to pay our bills on time and meet our needs and wants this month. Thank you God. Thank you God. Thank you God.

Jan. Income \$3,244 (includes \$1,000 transfer from savings)
Jan. Expenses \$3,981 (-\$737 for the month)

Feb. Income \$3,100 (estimate Includes \$1,000 transfer from savings)
Feb. Expenses \$3,850 (-\$750 for the month)

As you can see, we are running more than \$1000 behind in our monthly expenses. Pray for prosperity consciousness for all of us.

PRAYER MINISTRY NOTES

You may contact Rev. Luigi for personal prayer needs. Silent Unity at 800-669-7729 is also available for 24-hour prayer support. Mid-week prayer and meditation will resume in April and will continue on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM.

Meditation Practices

Exploration of the modes of meditation began with the labyrinth workshop and walk led by Cathy Sylvia and Rev. Luigi in February. After a slideshow presentation on the history, significance, uses and locations of various labyrinths, participants learned to draw their own labyrinth design, and then walked a labyrinth laid down by Cathy and her husband, George on the church foyer floor! Walking the labyrinth can provide healing, stress reduction, focus, creativity, problem-solving, clarity, and meditative prayer. It can be a metaphor for the path we take through life with its unexpected twists and turns. Those who walked the labyrinth at Saturday's workshop said they did notice how it mirrored their lives.

A field trip is planned as an adjunct activity to the workshop: Join us for a **Walk on Saturday, March 6th at 10:00 am at the Desert Rose Labyrinth in Kayenta**. Call Cathy at (435) 773-6156 for directions or further details.

Rev. Maxine Shutt's Wednesday Meditation Class at 10 AM will continue through March 24. Everyone is welcome to join the class on any Wednesday at Unity at 10 AM.

In April there will be a **Byron Katie Workshop** led by Gwen Brewton on **Sunday, April 25th 1-4 PM**. Practice the Work and inquiry process which can help decrease stress and depression, increase mental clarity and energy, and bring about more peace in your life. Sign up for the workshop at church or call Gwen at 862-0112.



UNITY HIKERS NEWS

from Dave Dougherty

Hiking the Temple Quarry trail in January on a cool, beautiful Saturday, we watched a hot air balloon follow us for a while. Two adventurers followed Dave to complete the trail over the black hill and scramble down the other side. Others were content to return via the "easier" and clearer path. With so much rain in February, Dave re-scheduled the Ft. Pierce Petroglyph hike until April, expecting warmer and drier weather then. Instead, 13 of us hiked the Anasazi Ridge trail close to Ivins, and saw large & small Jack rabbits, goats, llamas, and what one hiker identified as large "cat" (cougar?) prints. All are always welcome on the hikes! Remember to bring water and a snack, and **Meet at Unity Church at 9 AM for car pooling**. Sign up at church or call Dave Dougherty at 627-0966 or 435-313-3276.(cell) for more details or to sign up. Upcoming hikes will be:

Saturday, March 20 - St. George Overlook Trail

Moderate 3-mile round trip hike with 200 ft. elevation gain and some uneven footing/steep places on trail along ridge overlooking St. George. Beautiful views.

Saturday, April 10 - Ft. Pierce Petroglyph Site

This hike is 1.5-2 miles round trip, much of it uphill. 4 WD vehicle is needed for last mile, but hikers can be shuttled in.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

The children's curriculum emphasizes The 12 Spiritual Powers in conjunction with Unity's theme this year. In March and April there will be activities around the Powers of Wisdom and Love. Mary Beth would like assistants in the Sunday School. We want to enlarge the responsibility for the Sunday School Program, so it does not fall on one person all the time. Please consider this important ministry opportunity for yourself.

UNITY YOUTH PROGRAM

The opportunity to open a Youth Program is available, and a skilled and experienced leader ready to lead it. Since there are no teens attending Unity in SG right now, there is no news to report. Please call Marianne Ayers if you have teens who might benefit from this or want information at 435-628-7665 or e-mail davenmarianne@q.com



HELPING HANDS PROGRAM

In January and February Helping hands of Joy and Peace Families shared and alternated responsibilities due to varying schedules. Again, thank you, for all your upfront and behind the scenes helping hands! In March the Helping Hands of Love, led by Carmen & Joe Gomez will serve, and in April, Helping Hands of Joy led by Marianne & Dave Ayers.

Watch for news of a congregational activity during the coming months planned by the families. And answer the call to lend your talents before, during or after the service when asked by your family! Many hands make light work and make it fun too! **If you have not been assigned to a family, please speak with Jill or Luigi, or talk with one of the leaders, who will assure that you have opportunities to serve with a Family.**

THANK YOU!

To **Ross Pulvere** for hosting the Unity Super Bowl Sunday party and for cooking delicious brats on his grill for us!

To **Marianne and Dave Ayers and Dave Dougherty & Sylvia DeVoss** and their Helping Hands Families of Joy and Peace for covering January and February --- without missing a beat, despite personal schedule changes.

To **Julie Hawk** for sharing her Middle East photos, experiences, and momentos in a memorable presentation at the Holy Lands Evening in January.

To **Janis Wick** again for her help with typing & computer input and for seeing needs and attending to them in the arena of typing, creating nametags and lists. We will miss you, Janis!

To **Maxine Shutt for offering** her talent in speaking in January and leading the Meditation Class.

To **Cathy Sylvia** for her help in organizing the library and –re-shelving incoming books, and for facilitating the labyrinth workshop/walk and to **George Sylvia** for helping to set up and create the labyrinth indoors in limited space. Indoors.

To **Gaylene Knoke, Tracie McFarlin, Gordon Warren, Lolita Hagio, Marla Drabner, Bob & Kathleen Briggs** for lending their musical talents and providing special music for Sunday services..

To **ALL** helping to move our church forward, giving generously of your time, talent and treasure.

To **ALL** of you who make our Sunday services run smoothly.



We continue with our prayers for Bob Briggs in his recovery after knee and clavicle injuries, and for the family of Aaron Spikes, whose presence and voice we will sorely miss. We will be planning special music for our April Easter service and Luigi's Ordination celebration in May. Please give me your ideas and suggestions, and also favorite hymns or songs that we can incorporate into our regular Sunday services. Unity Ensemble is looking for musical people who would like to sing together once in a while. We can practice in "The Meditation/ Green Room" before or after the service on Sundays and begin to learn new songs. Please contact me by email (gaylenek2@yahoo.com) or at 635-9073. I really enjoy working with all of you. Musically Yours, Gaylene



Cathy Sylvia helped re-arrange books in our Unity Library, located in the newly named "Green Room.." Brand new books are available to check out from authors who have sent preview copies to the church. If you borrow one of these to read, maybe you could write a review for the newsletter! There is also one full shelf of Unity classics! Or perhaps you have read a spiritual book lately that you would recommend to others – You too could write a review! See Cathy or Jill.

UPCOMING UNITY EVENTS

Wed. Mar. 3 – Meditation Class for beginners and refreshers! Facilitated by Maxine Shutt 10-11 AM
Each week's class stands on it own, so anyone is welcome to join in when you can.

Sat. Mar. 6 - Walk the Desert Rose Labyrinth in Kayenta, at 10 AM, led by Cathy Sylvia. Call 773-6156 for directions and details.

Sun. Mar. 7 - Board Meeting

Wed. Mar. 10 – Meditation Class 10 AM, Facilitated by Maxine Shutt

Mar. 11 – 20 – Luigi at FLP training in Unity Village.

Sun. Mar. 14 – Penny Fox, will be our guest speaker and talk on Celestine Insights Revisited.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS – set clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR

Wed. Mar. 17 – Meditation Class. 10 AM Facilitated by Maxine Shutt

Sat. Mar. 20 – Hike St. George Overlook Trail. Meet at Unity at 9 AM to carpool. Sign up at church or call Dave Dougherty at 627-0966 or 435-313-3276 (cell). See hike news for details.

Wed. Mar. 24 – Meditation Class, 10 AM Facilitated by Maxine Shutt

Sun. Mar. 28 – HOME Meeting and potluck brunch following the service. Please bring finger food items to share.

Fri. Apr. 2 – Good Friday – Open for meditation 12-3 PM

Sun. Apr. 4 – EASTER SUNDAY Celebration Service

Apr. 10 – Hike to Fort Pierce Petroglyph site. Meet at Unity Church at **9 AM** to carpool. Call Dave Dougherty at 627-0966 or 435-313-3276 (cell) to sign up. See hike news for details.

Sun. Apr. 11 – David Tate, Guest Speaker on The Religion of Love.

Apr. 19-21 – SW Regional Conference

Sun. April 25 - Gwen Brewton, Guest Speaker on the Work of Byron Katie. **Afternoon Workshop** to learn more and practice **“The Work” of Byron Katie. 1-4 PM. Love offering.**

May 15/16 – Celebration Weekend of Rev. Luigi’s ORDNIATION. Watch for details.

ONGOING EVENTS

Course in Miracles classes:

Mondays at 5:30 PM (facilitated by Chuck Agne)

Thursdays at 6 PM (facilitated by David Tate)

Byron Katie Group – **1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7:15** (facilitated by Gwen Brewton)

Mid-week Meditation & Prayer: **Wednesdays at 11 AM** (to resume again in April)

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 16TH – Luigi’s Ordination as a Unity Minister. Come celebrate his completion of the FLP program and your achievements as Unity community in St. George. Watch for more details.

Unity Church of Positive Living
P.O. Box 910043
St. George, UT 84791-0043

PLEASE check the box
if you no longer wish to
receive this newsletter.
Then mark return to sender.

	March Lessons	Service Assistants	Music
Mar. 7th	User-Friendly Lenten Practices	Howard Williams	Tracie McFarlin
Mar. 14th	Celestine Insights Revisited Penny Fox, Guest Speaker	Gaylene Knoke DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS – TURN CLOCKS AHEAD	Gaylene Knoke
Mar. 21st	Creating a New Vision	Marianne Ayers	Lolita Hagio
Mar. 28th	The Meaning of Palm Sunday	Gordon Warren	Timothy Dietrich

	April Lessons	Service Assistants	Music
Apr. 4th	Easter: Living the Resurrected Life	Howard Williams	Tracie McFarlin
Apr. 11th	The Religion of Love David Tate, Guest Speaker	Gaylene Knoke	Gordon Warren
Apr. 18th	Creating Space for the Divine	Marianne Ayers	Lolita Hagio
Apr. 25th	The Work of Byron Katie Gwen Brewton, Guest Speaker	Luigi Persichetti	Gaylene Knoke

Sunday Services 10 AM at 198 North 100 East, St. George
435-674-5025 (church office) 435-229-7242 (Luigi's cell)