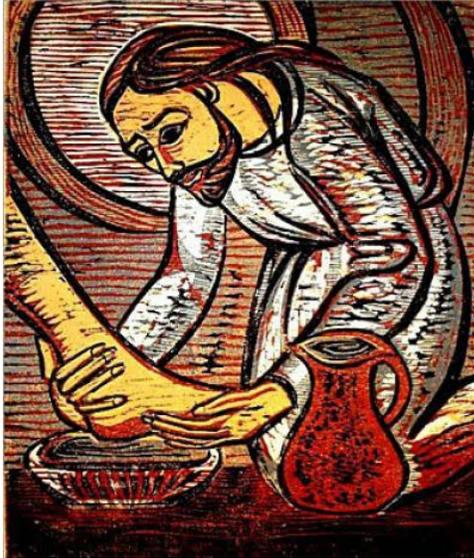


GoodNewsLetter

Unity Community Church

March – May 2018 • UnityDunedin.org • UnityDunedin@aol.com



PLEASE USE THE SERVANT'S ENTRANCE

Dr. M. Scott Peck, the noted author, writes in his book, "The Road Less Traveled," these thoughts about the Last Supper.

"What a strange way for the guest of honor to act during a final meal with his friends. What incomprehensible behavior from a ruler who would momentarily announce, "I confer on you a kingdom." In those days, foot washing was considered so degrading that a master could not require it of a Jewish slave. Peter blanched at the provocation. Here, a man, a rabbi, teacher, master – suddenly got down...and began to wash the feet of his followers. In that one act Jesus symbolically overturned the whole social order. Hardly comprehending what was happening, even his own disciples were horrified by his behavior."

We know from scripture that Jesus was disturbed by religious leaders who paraded

around in fancy garments, displaying their piety. Jesus was concerned about inner piety...not outward displays of grandeur. But Jesus' disciples didn't get it. They said to themselves that night concerning the condition of their feet, "If no one else is going to do it, I won't either." And thus they sat at dinner with filthy feet, a most disgusting idea, considering they had walked all day on streets covered with raw sewage left by beasts of burden.

Max Lucado, in "A Gentle Thunder," describes it vividly. "As they argue, the basin sits in the corner, untouched. The towel lies on the floor unused. The servant's clothing hangs on the wall unworn. Each disciple sees these things. Each disciple knows their purpose. But no one moves except Jesus.

This was the greatest sermon Jesus ever gave. He demonstrated that Divine Love is expressed by serving our fellow man. It is the love of one willing to wash his disciples' feet. It is the love of one willing to use the servant's entrance.

Of all the people who ever lived, Jesus walked the road less traveled and he was asking his disciples to take this road as well – a road they had no desire to take at all. It was the road of humble service.

We read in Matthew 22:36-40 about a question that was asked, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

We are modern day disciples of Jesus. Let's be willing to use the servant's entrance more often!

SUNDAY SERVICES, 10:00 A.M.

March 4 – Diane Starr

March 11 – “Fairie” Elaine Silver -

Note: Change in service time.

Daylight Savings Time begins March 11.

Just for this one Sunday, we'll have fellowship time at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday service at 11:00 a.m.

March 18 – Matt Jones (Read about Matt in the next column.)

March 25 – Palm Sunday
Rev. Frank Drexler and Rev. David Panunzio

March 30 – Good Friday, service at 5:00 p.m.

April 1 – Easter Sunday
Spiritual Leader, Elsie Huebner

April 8, 15, 22, 29 and May 6 - Unity's Five Principles – Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader

May 13 – Mothers' Day – Linda Carney,
Licensed Unity Teacher

May 20 – Cathy Zeph, PhD

May 27 – Rev. Frank Drexler and Rev. David Panunzio

PRAYER, HEALING AND MEDITATION SERVICES

First Wednesdays of the month, 7:00 p.m.
March 7, April 4, May 2.

A Course in Miracles, Every Friday 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Class led by Martha Landry on a love offering basis.



U-C ANGELS ST. PATTY'S DAY LUNCHEON AND SING-ALONG

Saturday, March 10, 11:30-12:30, the FabFour (Lesley Blake, Pauline Hoad, Alan Lee and Dave Hunkins) will lead us in a Sing-Along. Corned Beef & Cabbage luncheon will be from 12:30-1:30. (Love Offering appreciated to pay for food). Invite your lady friends and wear your green!

About Matt Jones

Matt is an inspirational speaker and author of ten books. His story has been featured in international magazines and TV shows.

In 2002, when Matt was a senior in college, he began his fall semester knowing something was not right with him physically. After seeing his doctor, he learned that he had acute myeloid leukemia. Without treatment, it would become fatal within a few months or less.

While waiting for a bone marrow donor, the cancer spread to Matt's cerebral spinal fluid. At this point, doctors gave him a less than 10% chance of living. One of his kidneys began to fail and his temperature rose above 104 degrees. He slipped into an unconscious state on Valentine's Day 2004.

But, on Mother's Day 2004, after a successful bone marrow transplant, Matt walked out of the hospital and has been in remission ever since. One year after finishing up chemotherapy, he completed running in his first Marathon. Since then, he has run in seven marathons on seven continents.

Matt is passionate about sharing his miraculous story and message with the intention to inspire others. His mission is to ignite and flame the fire within individuals and organizations to develop a higher consciousness in order to live their true potential by growing daily in love, abundance and gratitude.

Wayne Dyer called Matt, "his hero" and Unity Minister, Dr. Catherine Ponder, author of "The Dynamic Laws of Prosperity" says, "*Matt Jones at a young age tapped into the universal power that is available to all. His story is proof of what is possible for our lives. He has a transformational message that is life changing.*"

From Matt's miraculously and amazing story of healing, you will be inspired to create Your Brightest Future.

Invite your friends to join us on Sunday, March 18, and hear Matt Jones' life-changing story.

It's Time to Meet Pat Rivera!

Born in Bourbonnais, Illinois, Pat was one of several children. There was Jackie, Barb, Cindy,

Mary, Ruth, Sue, Francie, brother John, and of course, Pat! Their mother worked for the state of Illinois as a lab technologist. She raised the children alone from the time Pat was six years old.

Several years later, Pat's mother remarried Francis, who became a fine stepdad to Pat and her siblings. She describes the greatest gift her parents gave to her was that of critical thinking!

Pat attended Catholic school through 8th grade. When it was time to attend the much larger community high school, she was exposed to children from other backgrounds and was happy to make friends with them. After graduation Pat worked in the office of a local Roper plant for five years and once appeared on a tractor in a Sears catalog ad! During that time she got married.

After Pat left Roper, she got a job working as an administrative office manager with a non-profit organization in Kankakee, Illinois. Eventually she decided to move to St. Louis, where her best friend, Judy, lived. There she worked in the radiology department of the St. Louis University Hospital. She eventually remarried and had a daughter, Beth. Her husband loved fishing and boating and wanted to be near the water. So they moved to Miami, where he practiced medicine in the hospital ER. Pat enjoyed being home with Beth, but also volunteered at the Metro Zoo in Miami. Soon she was hired to serve as Coordinator of Special Events and Volunteers of the Zoological Society there.

Pat's next career move took place when she was recruited by the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. She specialized in the area of Ultrasonography, using biometric ultrasound. This involved the calculation of prescriptions for lens implanted in the eye during cataract surgery. This she did for 25 years!

Pat retired in 2016 and the very next day she moved to Safety Harbor! Soon she met a neighbor, Lesley Blake, who showed her how to open the gate to their swimming pool. This was not the only "gate" Leslie helped Pat open!

Although Pat's spiritual path started with Catholicism, she became frustrated because her questions about God and spirituality were never answered to her satisfaction. When she entered public high school, she found that classmates and friends she met there were fine people, which surprised her because of what she had been taught in grade school catechism. Pat was disillusioned and confused; she stayed away from church and religion for many years.

However, when she married Frank (he had also been raised Catholic) they decided to attend the Catholic Church again. Their marriage was blessed by their church. Later Pat again became dissatisfied with the Catholic Church when she was not allowed to have two of her sisters serve as Godparents of her new children, Molly and Tom. Once again she left Catholicism, this time for good.

Soon Pat was led to a First United Methodist Church while attending a funeral service for a neighbor – she attended there for several years. At last, in Spring of 2016, she found Unity Community through her friendship with Lesley Blake! It seemed like a perfect fit! Pat likes the people in our church family; she especially likes the lack of dogma, the openness and freedom to question, as well as the opportunity for self-discovery. Pat appreciates the simplicity of our church, not being overly adorned.

Pat considers one of greatest sense of achievement is related to raising her children. Despite each one of them having special needs, she was able to secure for them the appropriate help they needed. Pat's children have all grown to be successful adults.

Pat is also proud of her work as a volunteer with Hospice. She considers it to be an honor to be involved in the last phase of a person's life. Pat has a regular Sunday appointment serving in this way, as well as being "on call" for nursing facility situations.

During her leisure, Pat enjoys water aerobics and helping with activities at her community clubhouse. She also loves to write and is the editor of their newsletter.

Goals for her future include finishing and publishing a book she is writing. She is also looking for an illustrator for a children's book she has written. Pat hopes to continue being active in Hospice, and Unity Community Church!

In addition to serving as Prayer Chaplain, Pat was recently appointed by our Board of Directors to fill a position left earlier by the resignation of another director. We are glad you found us, Pat, and so grateful for all the ways you make Unity Community Church a wonderful place to be.

...Marilyn Renner

GOOD TO KNOW

Day Light Savings Time begins March 11. We'll be changing our service time just

for this one Sunday. *We'll have fellowship time at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday service at 11:00 a.m.* with "Fairie" Elaine Silver.

Easter at Unity Community. Revs. Frank Drexler and David Panunzio will be our guest speakers on Palm Sunday. Good Friday service will be March 30 at 5:00 p.m., when we remember and contemplate Jesus' seven last words on the cross. Our Spiritual Leader, Elsie Huebner, will deliver an inspiring Easter message on April 1, which will include the Unity Circle of Life flower ceremony. Be sure to bring your family and friends.

Dunedin Food Pantry. Please bring your donations of unopened packaged and canned food and leave them in the baskets (one in the lobby, one in the fellowship room). We appreciate Bill Baird for delivering our donations to the Pantry.

Prayer Chaplains. Our Prayer Chaplains pray with our members, hold them in sacred space, visit them when they are ill, and make wellness telephone calls each month. If you don't have a Prayer Chaplain and want one, please let Elsie know.

Prayer Box. Every written request you place in the prayer box at church will be given prayer treatment at Unity Community, then sent to Silent Unity for an additional 30 days of prayer. Your prayer requests are held in confidence and are important to us.

Stamp Project. Save your postage stamps and bring to church; put them in the basket on the table in the sanctuary. The income from selling the stamps goes to prepare, publish and distribute Spanish Sunday school programs in Latin America for 40 different denominations in 19 countries. For more information, please speak to **Toni Cina.**

Notary Public. Elsie is a Notary. If you need a document notarized, let Elsie know. No cost to members of our church.

Our church website now has podcasts posted for "**Lessons in Truth**" and "**Prosperity.**" If you want to brush up on basic Unity teachings, go to

www.unitydunedin.org and click "podcasts" on the menu.

New Member. Nadine Giani, a long-time friend of Unity Community made it "official" and became a member of our church in February. Welcome, Nadine.

Dunedin Toastmasters Club meets at Unity Community Church every Tuesday, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning public speaking skills, increasing leadership abilities, and making new friends, please visit the Club any Tuesday and see what they offer.

Spiritual Counseling. Please call Elsie for an appointment if you feel spiritual counseling will help. She will pray with you and help you find the answers from your own inner guidance – your own personal Christ Spirit.

Stop By and Visit. Elsie is at church every Monday (10:00 – noon). Please stop by and visit; no appointment necessary.



HAPPY SPECIAL DAYS



Birthdays

Mar 9 – Catherine McNeal,
Mar 15 – Irene Culliton,
Mar 19 – Josie Davenport Furey,
Mar 20 – Anna Smith (need new address)
Mar 27 – Barbara Burns,
Mar 28 – Diane Ramsey,
Mar 30 – Glo Wentzel,
Mar 30 – Virginia Dimick,
Apr 8 – Carleigh Ravin,
April 15 – Beth Gravely Ellis,
April 20 – Dorothy Balakas,
May 1 – Barbara Lanier,
May 2 – Jerilyn Fraser,

May 5 – Christy Grills,
May 9 – Maizie Dalby,
May 10 – Christine Oberst,
May 11 – Nancy Smith,
May 14 – Bonnie Herman-Rose,
May 16 – Norm Sprague,
May 17 – Stuart Walker,
May 25 – Joel Brannen,

Anniversaries

Mar 8 – Diane and Herb Starr,
Apr 18 – Glo and Bob Wentzel,
May 10 – John and Christine Oberst,

Mary Lou Thomas is in charge of our Card Ministry. She sends our cards for special days, as well as "Thinking of You" and "Condolence" cards. If we missed anyone's special day, please let Mary Lou or Elsie know.