

GoodNewsLetter

Unity Community Church

September 2019 – November 2019 • UnityDunedin.org • UnityDunedin@aol.com



SUNDAY SERVICES, 10:00 A.M.

- Sep 1 – Linda Carney, Licensed Unity Teacher** (*Labor Day weekend.*)
- Sep 8 – Revs. Frank Drexler and David Panunzio**
- Sep 15 – Gary Ammerman, Licensed Unity Teacher**
- Sep 22 – Terence Young**
- Sep 29 – Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader**
- Oct 6 – Olivia Crystal, Licensed Unity Teacher**
- Oct 13 – Rev. Mary Moore**
- Oct 20 – Terence Young**
- Oct 27 – Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader**
- Nov 3 – Olivia Crystal, Licensed Unity Teacher** (*Daylight Savings Time ends today.*)
- Nov 10 – Elsie Huebner, Spiritual Leader**
- Nov 17 – Rev. Carole O’Connell**
- Nov 24 – Revs. Frank Drexler and David Panunzio**



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

ENDS NOV. 3. Be sure to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Nov. 2.

SILENT AUCTION FUN(d) RAISER

Sunday, Sep 29, after church. Here’s how it will work. On that Sunday, we’re asking you to bring things from home that are new, like gifts you received and can’t use. They will be put on tables in the fellowship room with a paper bag beside each one. After church service, we will look at what’s available, write our bid (secretly) on a slip of paper and drop it in the bag. After everyone has had time to bid, we will indicate who won each item. The winner will pay the money and take it home with them! Items with no bid will be returned to the donor that same day. Easy, peazy way to help with the purchase of a new air conditioner for our fellowship room.

MEDITATION SERVICES

Wednesdays, Sep 4, Oct 2, Nov 6, 7:00 p.m.

Unity World Day of Prayer, Thursday, September 12, 6:00 p.m. (See page 2)

TOYS FOR TOTS CHRISTMAS COLLECTION, Oct. 1 – November 24

We will again be joining Rev. Frank Drexler and Rev. David Panunzio in their annual toy collection for the Marine Corps. Please choose a new toy to bring to church for the drive. Frank and David will pick our toys up at church on November 24, the day of our Thanksgiving Luncheon. This is our way to help ensure that every child receives a special toy at Christmas time.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday, November 24, after church service. Church will provide the turkey. Please bring a holiday dish to share and be sure to invite your family and friends to celebrate with us.

INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

26th Annual Unity World Day of Prayer Service Thursday, September 12, 6:00 p.m. "Infinite Presence, Unlimited Potential"

Come be with us as we join thousands of others around the world and Silent Unity in prayer, meditation and music. Together we will hold the high watch, affirming that there is no spot where God is not. Wherever we are, God is! Affirmation: "I celebrate the vast possibilities for my life."

MAKING CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR IRA. When you reach the age of 70 & 1/2, you must take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA account each year. This amount is taxable to you. However, if you make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your withdrawal, that amount is not taxable to you. The contribution must go directly from your IRA administrator to the charity, or church, of your choice, and can not pass through your bank account. The check must bear the charity's name. You can make a charitable donation of all, or any portion, of your Required Minimum Distribution. You should check to make sure the organization is qualified to accept QCDs. Your IRA administrator will send you verification of what has been done. This applies to an IRA only, and does not apply to 401(k) or 403(b) plans. Unity Community is, of course, a qualified recipient. *(Thank you, Marge Klingman, for this valuable information.)*

MEDITATION SERVICES (First Wednesday of each month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.)

Includes time of prayer, music, silence, peace and love. Mark your calendars and join us.

ENERGY HEALING TREATMENTS are offered at our church several times a month and by appointment. Trained partners use a unique process that provides a peaceful atmosphere of safety and support, healing touch and prayer. There is no charge, but love offerings to the church are appreciated. Call Diane Starr (727) 542-5455, Katina Demas (727) 237-1452 or Pat Rivera, 305-546-2714, for an appointment.

PRAYER CHAPLAINS. Our Prayer Chaplains pray with you, hold you in sacred space, visit you when you are ill and phone you each month, and help with our sacred services. If

you don't have a Prayer Chaplain and want one, please let Elsie know.

AMAZON SMILE. When you place an order with Amazon, please sign up with SmileAmazon.com and then select the Organization Button. Unity Community Church in Dunedin is one of the charities listed. If you choose our church when making purchases, we will be credited a small percentage of the purchase price.

A Course in Miracles, meets every Friday 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. led by Martha Landry. Love Offering.

Dunedin Toastmasters Club meets at Unity Community Church on Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Dunedin Food Pantry. Please bring donations of unopened packaged and canned food of all kinds. Leave in the baskets in the lobby or fellowship room. We appreciate Bill Baird for delivering our donations to the Pantry. **Be sure to check the expiration dates on the items you bring.** Food with expired dates will not be taken to the pantry. We want to share only our good abundance with those less fortunate. We are sad to report that Ed Hughes, who was the creator/founder, heart and soul of our Dunedin Food Pantry made his transition. Let's bless his legacy with bringing even more good food to donate.

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.

Stamp Project. Bring your used postage stamps to church and leave in the basket on the table in the sanctuary. Income from stamps goes to prepare, publish and distribute Spanish Sunday school programs in Latin America.

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

Spiritual Counseling. Please call Elsie for an appointment if you feel spiritual counseling will help... or just **Stop By and Visit** Elsie on Monday (10:00 – noon). No appointment necessary.

FINANCIAL REPORT for Year-to-Date 2019

	June	July	YTD
Income	\$4,497.00	3,240.00	59,111.00
Expenses	5,827.08	3,918.00	32,766.00
Difference	-\$1,130.08	-678.00	+26,345.00

Extra expenses in June included piano tuning, new concrete benches for our church porch and air conditioning repairs. We've gotten five estimates to replace the air conditioner in the fellowship room that's almost 20 years old. The heat strips are broken, so when cold weather comes, we'll want the heat. We discovered the problem when we got extremely high electric bills in June and July. After calling an A/C technician, we learned that the heat strips were running right along with the air conditioning. We appreciate JM Gibbons for his dedicated efforts in getting us the estimates, which will be discussed at the board meeting.

Our thanks go to each of you who support our beloved church in so many ways, especially with your gifts of substance.

CHURCH NEWS

NEW THINGS. We replaced faded "no parking signs" and the old benches on the front porch of the church. New benches are beautiful concrete ones that match the building. Thank you, Theresa McComber, for these projects.

NAME TAGS. Almost all regular attendees have new magnetic name tags to wear at church. If you don't have one, you can order one for \$2.00. See Theresa, our board president.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR. Pat Crogan and Toni Cina were both away for several weeks in June and July. We were concerned that we would starve while they were away, but Laura Ronan stepped up to the plate, lots of people brought food, and our Sunday Fellowship Hours continued to be happy and satisfying!

PAPERS. Directors Marilyn Renner and Pat Rivera are working on creating a brochure for Unity Community. Marge Klingman and Elsie Huebner revised the church financial policy. With the help of Marge Gibbons, we'll soon be working on our "Welcome Visitors" program.

DR. DON PAPON. Sadly, we learned that Dr. Don, author of books on homeopathy, astrology, dreams and spirituality, lecturer and teacher made his transition in May 2019, after a long illness. Dr. Don was a dedicated supporter of Unity Community Church for several years, where he gave Sunday lessons, led meditations and taught classes. He spent his last year in a nursing facility, near his son, in Akron Ohio. Rest in peace, Dr. Don.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE service was held at church for Frank Kuncz, Jr. He passed away on August 3, at age 93, after a long illness. A highlight of the service was the eulogy, words written by Frank about Frank 20 or more years ago. Frank had been a member and loyal supporter of Unity Community since our beginnings. We had a full house of family and friends to celebrate Frank's ongoing and a fine fellowship time together. We bless you on your journey, Frank.

GIFTS! We were gifted with two beautiful column book shelves for the fellowship room by Marta Ellis. Cheryl Harrison, our webmaster, gave us a big supply of books and CD's for the library and to sell. Thank you, Marta and Cheryl.

BOOK REVIEW. Elsie got 16 free books from the author of "Whatever Happened to Mr. Majik?" We had a fun book review and lunch together on Saturday, August 10. We want to have another event like this.

U-C ANGELS woman's group discontinued for now. We appreciate Celia Blum for leading the group for the past year. Please talk to Elsie if you would like to start up the group again.

FOOT REPAIR. Toni Cina had a painful foot operation in August, but it didn't keep her down for long. Within a few days, she visited the church to make sure everything was in order.

BIGGEST NEWS OF ALL – A WEDDING Theresa McComber, our Board President, and Bill Baird, one of our earliest church members, are having a Wedding Celebration at Unity Community on Saturday, September 7, with reception following. We love them; we bless them, and we wish them a lifetime of happiness and good fortune. Congratulations!

Time to Meet Marge & J. M. Gibbons!

Some Sunday mornings during Sunday Service at Unity Community, you've enjoyed a charming duet by this lovely couple, who not only sing together but have been married to each other since 1982. J.M. says one of his greatest achievements was to convince Marge to marry him! Would you like to hear more of this story? Please read on.....

Since Marge's father was serving in the US Coast Guard, Marge was born in a Naval Hospital on Staten Island. Except for the passing of her baby brother (he'd been born with brain damage,) when Marge was three years old, she and sister Geraldine enjoyed a childhood that was "most wonderful." One of her favorite memories is that of the Pretty Maid stove that Santa left under the Christmas tree for her.

Marge started school in Canarsie (Brooklyn,) but the family moved to Kingston, where she attended middle school, and Marge finished high school in Saugerties, New York. Marge credits her father, who was very goal-oriented, as being the impetus for her success in school. She loved school and did very well. Perhaps the most memorable of her experiences during that period of her life was being chosen by the local Rotary Club to serve as ambassador to Holland as part of an "Experiment in International Living" program. Marge lived with a family of three, and she learned much from the head of the family, who was a retired Colonel in the Dutch military. Marge also fondly recalls being introduced to Dutch treats, such as the "Cookie Sandwich." This delicious cookie consisted of two slices of homemade buttered bread with crispy cookies in the middle! Marge says she gained 15 pounds during that summer, and her mother hardly recognized her when she got home!

Moving on to the University of Maryland, Marge earned her degree in speech pathology; then went straight to graduate school with a fellowship at Queens College. Upon completion of her Master's Degree from Queens, her family surprised her with a brand new, shiny white 1964 Mustang! She still remembers how thrilled she was with her new car. Marge took a job in Woodstock in a book/ record shop; she met and married Whiton and they had a son, Mathew. However, she continued to work as a speech pathologist in schools and other facilities, eventually earning a doctoral degree in education from Nova Southeastern. She considers her career the greatest gift of her life – she absolutely loved it!

Marge always loved to sing and participated in choirs in high school, as well as groups such as Mainline Chorus and Sweet Adelines. Locally, she has performed at Ruth Eckerd Hall with Dave Bruebeck and the Canadian Brass.

Marge's parents were "fallen away" Catholics, so her spiritual journey really began after she and Whiton lost their baby son. A friend referred her to a Unitarian minister for counseling. It was through this church in Philadelphia that she met J.M., who was director of the choir there. When they moved to Florida they were led, again through friends, to Unity churches in Port Richey, Palm Harbor, and Unity Community in Dunedin. Here they plan to stay! Why Unity? Marge loves Unity because of its "no frills, i.e., simple but meaningful" principles.

And, now about J.M.

J.M. was born at home in Bridgeborough, New Jersey, on a snowy New Year's Eve Day in 1939. Bridgeborough is a tiny "milltown" and when it was time for J.M. to start school the family moved to Hammonton, N.J. His father had a small acreage of land there and he wanted to work as a truck farmer. There were many moves and J.M. attended several schools, some public – some Catholic, before he graduated from high school. There were two brothers, David and Richard, and Sister Maggie. J.M. feels his greatest gift from his parents was from his mother – a love of reading.

Music was something that J.M. enjoyed even during his childhood, starting with piano lessons before he was 5 years old. There were guitar lessons in 8th grade, and he played the sousaphone in his high school band. Later he performed with the Riverside String Band, which marched in parades as well as gave concerts. J.M. began to play the banjo, and in 1956 paid \$75 for a (very heavy) Gibson Granada Mastertone!

Taking the advice of his high school music director, J.M. auditioned for and was accepted into the Naval School of Music! He spent 1957-1959 engaged in the military doing what he loved. Later he was able to utilize the GI Bill to further his education, attending RCA Technical Institute, working with Sperry Univac, all resulting in a long career in technology.

Shortly after his years in the military, working as a retail manager, J.M. met and married Nancy. They had two children, Susan and David, who reside in Pennsylvania and Maryland, respectively.

Like Marge, J.M. was raised Catholic, but while in the Navy he began to read and compare religions. His

spiritual path continued while married to Nancy, as she exposed him to the Quaker religion. His first experience with Unity also came through her while they lived in Pennsylvania. There he served as choir director for a time. Ultimately J.M. says through Unity he has learned and internalized the message that “every day, all by his own ‘Godship,’ he can make the world and humankind a little better by countless small acts of kindness.” He likes this idea!

Together Marge and J.M. have enjoyed traveling all over the world. These days they spend their time enjoying concerts, opera, and other live performances. J.M. still loves playing his banjo, Marge loves to cook (J.M. says she is a fantastic cook!) and entertaining.

J.M. and Marge love being with us at Unity Community Church in Dunedin. They say they felt an immediate sense of friendliness and plan to stay. J.M. currently serves as an alternate on the Board of Directors, and Marge is working with hospitality.

We are grateful for your presence in our church family, Marge & J.M., and hope to have you with us for many years to come!

~ Marilyn Renner

HAPPY SPECIAL DAYS



Birthdays

Sep 2 – Bill Baird

Sep 7 – Theresa McComber

Sep 24 – Amy Brannen

Sep 25 – Cathy Zeph

Oct 5 – George Beardsley

Oct 8 – Deb Anderson

Oct 12 – John Oberst

Oct 13 – Diane Starr

Oct 13 – Marilyn Renner

Oct 16 – Lesley Blake

Oct 20 – Helen Quinn

Oct 29 – Bob Wentzel

Nov 4 – Bernice Whitaker

Nov 20 – Lauren Ronen

Nov 27 – Kathy Smith

Anniversaries

Sep 8 – Pat and John Crogan

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, CHURCH'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY. WE'RE PLANNING A BIG CELEBRATION. STAY TUNED.

Mary Lou Thomas is in charge of our Card Ministry. She sends cards from our church for birthdays, anniversaries, Thinking of You, condolence, etc. If we missed anyone's special day, or if someone is ill or has had a death in the family, please let Mary Lou or Elsie know. We appreciate Mary Lou for her dedication to this Ministry.