

Dearly Beloved of God,

Over the course of the past few weeks I have had some interesting conversations with some folks regarding faith for future generations and some of the ways they experience life, and more specifically, church. One friend said, "I read that young people aren't coming to church anymore because they see it as a bunch of old people reading an old book and singing old songs." The older I get the more I have trouble with being included in the group of old people, but from the sounds of the calendar I guess I am.

But something about this phrase troubles me on more than just the church level. It says, anything old is not worth my time or attention. So where do the arts live if not in the shadow of an ancient vibration that still haunts and sings as it continues to give birth to something new? If one does not understand the great masters of music, literature, art, and the like where then can innovation spring from? There is both an art and a craft woven together that brings forth creation. One must first know the "how to" in order to bend, shape and break the rules to allow the new life a place. But if there is no appreciation, connection or understanding of the foundation that gave it birth, what then?

A second comment I heard was in regard to the infringement of rights issues, better known as a copyright. Over the past 10 years I see this happening more and more yet the issue is much deeper and broader than just copying one sheet of paper. There is a subtle eroding of our acceptance of what is "ok to take and use" and, therefore, lowers our threshold to seeing that what we are doing is in actuality stealing someone's intellectual property.

Let me give you one of my "ah ha's." I was recently looking on YouTube for a movie trailer that we were going to show here at the church. Not only did I find the trailer published officially by MGM but I also found the movie that someone had uploaded through their channel. And, of course, I wanted to see the movie so I watched. This has happened to me on more than one occasion over the course of time, so quite frankly the only thing I worry about now is whether or not the movie has a virus!

But the other day, I said to myself, "Wait a minute! I am not paying to watch or rent this movie and therefore I am participating in theft of someone's intellectual property!" I think of my photos that I put out on Facebook, Flickr and such. Although they have my logo, it is easy enough to remove. To compound the issue, what agency could possibly police so many streams of usage. YouTube tries but apparently it doesn't take much to get around the censor.

Again I ask myself the question, does that make it right? And have I stopped watching? I have to admit "no" because it just is so easy and the line is so gray.

Another comment I heard, and this one far more troubling in its ramifications, is the growing trend, especially in young people, to live vicariously through electronics. In other words, they seldom speak to friends and neighbors, one on one, person to person; rather it is through text messages, Facebook and gaming.

They can tell you a lot about how a game is played, how many friends they have world wide but they struggle with the day to day relational skills necessary to be effective in the workplace, to have long term healthy relationships with spouse, children family and friends.

This, my friends is very troubling indeed. Our world is becoming more and more insular and remote. Interpersonal skills are on the decline as we are using them less and less. So let's unpack this issue a little more. As people become less attuned to the subtle messages we send and receive through the normal course of conversation, we lose the sensitivity to "pick up" on hints and clues that body language gives us. Clues like, "I'm bored," "It's time to go," "I really like you," "I trust you." Conversation becomes stilted and focused on an object, the game, the work, rather than the connection between the people sitting round the table exploring the world of relationship, coexistence, co-creation.

So, I ask you, as these skills decline how are we going to communicate to a younger generation the life in Spirit? We currently use words like - heart, connection, intuition, inner wisdom but these words have no meaning to people who have not developed the skills of "inner" listening. So just as the Bible has become an old dusty book that is not relevant to the current generation, what we are teaching TODAY – and the language we are using will not reach them in the future. WOW! This troubles me deeply! How will I talk about transformation, or creation or any other number of topics that engage us and challenge us to grow spiritually, if I do not have any connecting language? And not only will I be missing the language, but also the experience base from which one draws the stories, inferences, and connections.

I am not sure, in all honesty, what the answer is for I see myself spending more time on the internet connecting with people through text, email, rather than trying to arrange one to one engagements. I don't feel the answer is as simple as "Put the phone down," or "Time to disconnect." Perhaps, I might see this entirely different that on some level what I am doing is learning the language and life of the future. A time that will not be mine but what I leave behind will be the bridge from the old dusty book to a new revitalization of faith and spiritual communion in world.

In Peace and Love

Rev. Mary Anne Harris



Board Report

Treasurer Report



Pat Nicholson, Director

Nearly two years ago, I moved back to my childhood city, Tulsa. A fresh new start in life, full of the excitement of the unknown. Before I moved I began searching on the internet for the “right” church for me. I wanted, I needed, a strong spiritual community of souls. I so desperately needed “like-minded” friends to connect with.

I knew very little about Unity, but after much looking and study, I kept being drawn back to Mary Anne’s messages and meditations. At that time, of course, they were only audio. Those messages and meditations “spoke to me” as no other had before.

I had never been to church, alone, before. So bravely I walked through the entrance near Jamestown. I believe the greeter that day was Lorry Dean and I remember she was cleaning the glass door that she opened for me. That impressed me, and her smile and warm welcome put me at ease. I could mention every person who made me feel welcome that day, but the fact is, everyone made me feel welcome.

Each of us needs to have that special connection with souls we can relate to, with a community that gives warmth and comfort and joy as soon as you connect. I felt as if I was home, at last.

I am very honored to be a part of our loving community. I am looking forward to working with all our lovely people to keep our church moving forward and maintain our welcoming and loving brotherhood of souls. We are enriching the larger community by creating a place for others to feel as if they are home.

When someone feels welcome and comfortable with a community as I did, that speaks volumes. It’s the people who make this a community of love and light. Let’s all keep that connection going and glowing!

Love and Peace to all



Happy Spring! Mother Nature is showing off all her beauty as trees and plants come out of their winters sleep. I thought I would share a favorite poem of mine.

The Daffodils

*I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o’er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle in the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.
The waves beside them danced; but they
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee;
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company;
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:
For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.* William Wordsworth

I love this poem because to me, the daffodils represent my faith and this church. I was rather lost until I found it and now that I have it brings me comfort and happiness at all times in my life. Thank you and may God bless you with comfort and happiness.

Jeff Woods, Treasurer

P& L Actuals	December 2016	January 2017
Income	\$24,063	\$18,676
Expense	\$19,100	\$18,505

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- Weekly Helpers: Betty Sharp

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LIFE SKILLS UNIVERSITY

THE THINGS THEY DIDN'T TEACH YOU IN SCHOOL!

ONCE A MONTH SERIES OFFERING PRACTICAL ADVICE AND HELPFUL TOOLS
GIVING YOU THE SKILLS TO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER AND/OR FUN!

**EACH 2 HOUR SEMINAR IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
THEY ARE FREE OF CHARGE - INVITE A FRIEND!**



Session #3 - BE SMART WITH YOUR PHONE!

CAPTURE THE MOMENT

Saturday, March 18 ~ 10am - Noon



Cell phones aren't just for phone calls anymore. Most phones today are used for taking pictures and capturing the moments of life, family and friends. But most people are disappointed with the results and lament that they do not have a better camera. Truth is the phone camera isn't the problem!

Learn to take still photos and videos, learn how to send them from your phone to family, Facebook and email. Learn about several fun apps that make picture taking fun and fanciful.

MAX BLANSETT was a certified Apple sales rep and will be with us to help you get in focus with your ability to take better pictures with your phone camera.



LIFE SKILLS UNIVERSITY

**Session #4 - KNIT ONE, PURL TWO
A CREATIVE OUTLET, A MEDITATIVE PRACTICE**

Saturday, April 8 ~ 10am - Noon

Grandma knew what she was doing! Knitting and crocheting are not only useful, but also quiets the mind and calms the nerves. Knitting can be traced back to the Egyptians who first knitted to make fishing easier, and slowly its value for making clothing came into use.



This workshop is an introduction for anyone who would like to learn, or perhaps gets support and help with a project, as well as those who just want to get together with other knitters/crocheters!

MARY TAYLOR and PAT NICHOLSON, both who learned at an early age and advanced over the years, will share their knowledge and tips.

Knitting needles and crochet hooks will be supplied.

March Highlights



Saturday, March 25
10:30 – 11:30am
Tunnel Travel

Under the city of Tulsa is a vast network of tunnels that interconnect and lead us to some of the most beautiful art deco buildings in the downtown area.

Our guide will gather us together and begin a gentle paced hour long walk that will include a visit to some of the great art deco building lobbies that were built during the oil boom days of the early 20th century.

Price is \$7/person . . . *Limited to 15 people - sign up today!*

This tour is a one-hour walking tour. Our guide will meet us at 7th & Boston (free parking) to begin our tour.

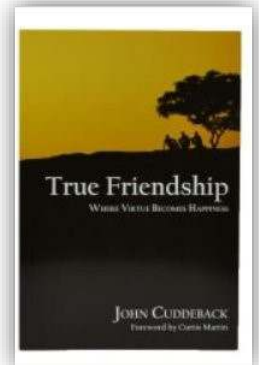
Following our tour, stay in town and have lunch on your own or choose to gather together at a quaint local eatery downtown.

WEDNESDAY MORNING
BOOK GROUP

Beginning March 1 9:30 - 11:30am.

True Friendship by John Cuddeback

How many of us know what friendship is? John Cuddeback deftly weaves the timeless wisdom of the Greeks and Sacred Scripture into a practical wisdom that will show you the path to the most rewarding of human achievements - being a friend.



John Bowdle, Facilitator

Please purchase the book in advance of the class
 Class on a love offering basis.



Living the Artistic Life

March 2, April 6
11:00a - 1:00p

The first Thursday of every month - on-going

This class is NOT about "art" rather it IS about creating your life story.

March theme: Do I Have Talent?

April theme: One Step Forward, Two Back

Class is on a love offering basis

Bring a lunch or snack if you would like.



MARCH BOOK SALE

During the month of March we will be selling our inventory of used books, tapes, CDs as we clear the space for our new Uni-tea Room.

The sale will also extend to our general weekly office hours Monday-Friday 10a-2pm. Stop by during the week and check out the goodies that are needing a new home!

All proceeds from the sale of the books will be used for the refurbishing of the space to bring light and color and new energy to this entryway to our church home.

Sale prices are \$1 per book, 11 for \$5, and CDs and DVDs are \$2 each.



Sunday, March 12

Musical Guest
Sharla Ember

Sharla brings her many musical gifts as singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. She blesses and heals through her music and her passion for living an abundant and holistic lifestyle through her work at Healthy Gut and Ember's Paleo Gourmet.

Learn more about Sharla her work and her music:
www.sharlaember.com

April Highlights



Grab Your Camera!

Tulsa Botanic Gardens

Saturday, April 1

The tulips are in bloom!

3900 Tulsa Botanic Dr, Tulsa

Garden Bulb Facts

Current Number of Bulbs: 129,135

Bulb Types: hyacinths, crocuses, dwarf irises and 40 kinds of tulips!

Carpool from the church at 9:30am; return around 1pm

Admission is \$8.00, Garden members free.

Passover Seder

Friday Evening

April 14

6:30p - 9:00p



Passover, or Pesach, as the festival is called in Hebrew, commemorates the deliverance of the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. The Seder is a ritual performed by a community or by multiple generations of a family, for a retelling of the story of the liberation. Seder customs include telling and discussing the story, drinking four cups of wine, eating matzah, partaking of symbolic foods placed on the Passover Seder Plate.

This dinner is actually in two parts: 1) the ritual of the passing over which contains prayers and readings from the Bible to recall the story; 2) the celebration of dinner.

\$10 per person — please make reservations in advance.

Because this is a sacred ceremony, we ask that you be prompt so that we can begin at 6:30pm.



Wednesday Evenings Adult Coloring Book Club

An informal weekly gathering
6:30p — 8:00p
It's fun, it's free, it's relaxing!



Karen Naifeh Harmon, Violinist Sunday, April 9

Karen, a composer, entertainer and artist, is known worldwide for her talents with the violin and viola.

Karen says, "my joy as an artist is to take my compositions to the next level of telling stories and expressing emotions beautifully."

Sunday, April 30

Communion Sunday

Faith is the way of the heart and communion is an external ritual that recalls the internal step to deeper commitment and connection to the Path of God.



All are welcome at the table.



BEST OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

November 1—November 12

Cost from New York (JFK) \$3089.00* (Includes taxes)

Join Rev. Mary Anne and fellow Unity Travelers for another exciting adventure of a lifetime.

Brochures are now available on the information table and on our website.

This trip is open to anyone ~ invite a friend!

Calendar

Unity Church of Christianity

March 2017

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	2 The Artistic Life 11:00 - 1:00pm	3	4
5 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	6	7	8 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	9	10	11
12 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	13	14	15 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	16	17	18 Life Skills University 10:00 - Noon
19 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	20	21	22 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	23	24	25
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April 2017

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23 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	24	25	26 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	27	28	29
30 Sunday Celebration and Communion Sunday 10:30 am						



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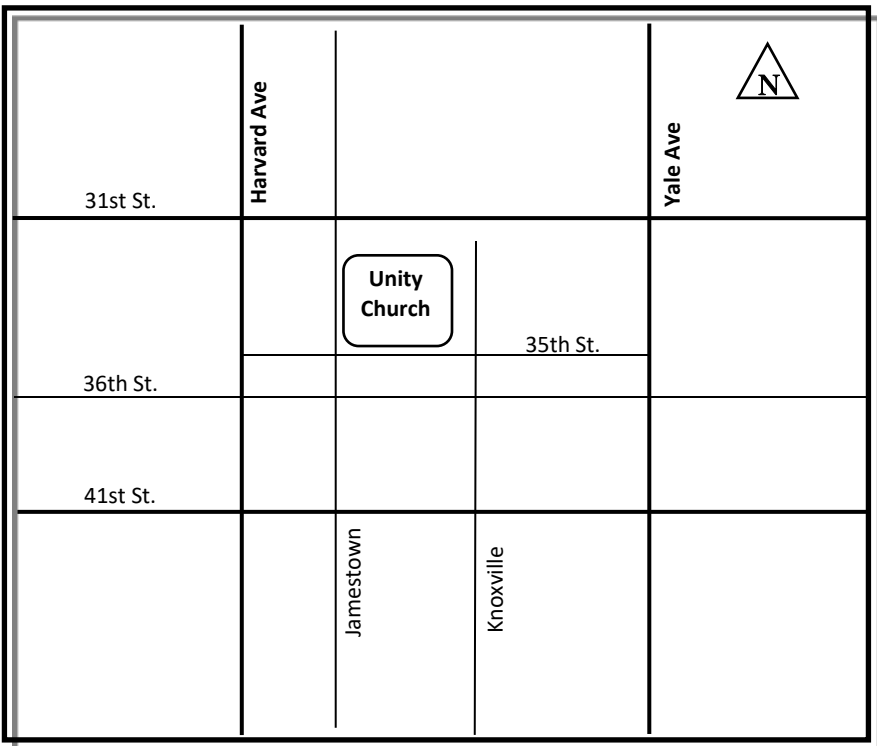
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SUNDAYS
10:30 AM
Worship Service

Reach us online at
tulsaunitymail.com
www.tulsaunity.com

<i>Unity Church of Christianity</i>	Church: 3355 S. Jamestown Ave. - Tulsa, OK. 74135 918-749-8833 E-mail: tulsaunity@gmail.com Website: www.tulsaunity.com Sunday Service 10:30AM
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March Theme: The Exodus Story

- Mar. 5** - Joseph's Legacy
- Mar. 12** - The Price of Freedom
- Mar. 19** - The Heart of the Story
- Mar. 26** - Parting Ways

April Theme: A People, A Nation

- Apr. 2** - What Is It?
- Apr. 9** - 10 Rules for Life
- Apr. 16** - The Promised Land
- Apr. 23** - Courageous Vision
- Apr. 30** - As Far As I Go