



# Light On The Path

*Unity—An inclusive path for today's spiritual seekers.*

## A Holy Trinity

In traditional Christian theology one reads of the power and presence of the Trinitarian nature of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, a synergistic movement of the three persons in one. It is a rather heady theology that few understand but the importance of it cannot be understated.

Actually, it is not as difficult to understand as one might guess. A more contemporary image that moves the older language away from God as “being” will help explain the concept with a more usable model. In the world of today, the understanding of the threefold nature of all life is critical if the world is ever to find new solutions to unprecedented challenges. For the trinity is the essence of the creative dance that gives birth to innovation and transformation.

The vast majority of people believe there are only two sides; to every story, to every problem, to every life. Because of this dualistic belief, there is a polarization of thought and energy that is not open to the creative flow that is born as a natural consequence of the union of the two. Sadly, the lack of understanding of the trinity principle creates a field of winners and losers, the good and bad, the right and the wrong.

This is not being on the fence, or being wishy washy as unifiers are often called. Rather it is a proactive stance from a greater spiritual understanding that a problem cannot be solved on the level of the problem, as Albert Einstein is often quoted as saying. It is a spiritual principle that the two must become one. It is not a matter of giving up a position, rather it is a giving in to the possibilities of what might happen, what could potentially be if the question was held open long enough for the new life to be born.

There is tension to be sure when two opposites come to the table to resolve differences, but when each comes with an enlightened understanding of the possibilities inherent within the moment, there is an excitement that invites the dancing and ultimate merging of the two. And in that moment, something new, something never heard of before, something vitally alive rises up, inventions happen, and solutions are found. It is true in the world and its affairs as well as in each individual life. There are no losers in spirit.

Dualistic thinking, the either or language, is what gives rise to much unhappiness and frustration. Yet, each is a needed part of a life journey. Putting humanity in a lesser box than divinity negates the channel through which divinity is expressed and, therefore, the creative act of living becomes subdued to an endless rote existence and never challenged to the realization of its full potential. Too many people live lives of quiet desperation and it does not matter how wealthy or how poor, their station in life.

The holy trinity then is how energy works. How it works in nature, in life itself. It is not a mere doctrine of some church, but an expression of the living dynamic of spirit in action. It is the cosmic dance of the divine life, flowing through a human form to bring forth a new world for all. The flow of spirit is never stingy when energies collude, neither loses, rather both are enhanced and empowered.

How much more progressive the world would be if everyone came to the table knowing that something mystical was about to be born. Knowing that it will take tension and trust, it will take time and experimentation to see the fruit, but in the end all parties are winners in the great collaboration.

And in each life, there is no need to settle for less than life's fullest expression, and that is to walk the earth with a vision of connection and flow and intimacy with the One. At any moment what was once a roadblock turns to insight and healing, revitalizing the darkest night, the most troubled soul. This is the ultimate act of transformation.

To know and understand the sacred flow of spirit is to inherently understand the Trinity, whether or not one believes in the theological doctrine. The energy of all possibility and pure potentiality take shape and form in and through the mind and from the heart comes the action of creative living.



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Dearly Beloved of God,

So much is happening in our church since the first of the year; it is truly exciting. Our online presence continues to grow as well as our social media campaign; for me it is a dream come true. Why, because I am passionate about the power of the Unity message. I just know it needs to reach more people than our local community – it demands to be stretched to “infinity and beyond” as Buzz Lightyear says. Every Sunday as we bless our children, I think to myself we are sending forth the future, we are empowering them with a new world vision. They will be the next generation of peace makers, world travelers and a positive, productive force out into a world that longs for, hungers for what we have taught for over 100 years.

We are not without precedent in reaching out through the vibrations of the internet world. It was back in the 1920's and 30's that Charles Fillmore, Unity's co-founder, felt that same passion and began to broadcast nightly on the radio! Yes, it is true that Kansas City may have been slumbering at that hour but that did not mean the rest of the world was asleep to his signal. And did you know there has always been a large Unity community in Nigeria that dates itself back to those early years? I know that Charles would have been the first on the internet too had he lived into our own time, because he “got” that this message changes lives and changed lives ultimately change worlds. To me that is an exciting thought, we are living into his vision in our own day and time.

You might say, yes but the world seems messier, more complicated than when Mr. Fillmore was alive (1854-1948). In many respects that is true, which is why, from my perspective we need the Unity message more than ever to get out from our walls and into the highways and byways of the world. And at the same time, we must not be afraid to open our doors for the world to enter in.

This summer we are sponsoring a booth at the Gay Pride festival weekend, June 3. It will be a simple affair of handing out blessings but it is more about our presence and a reaffirmation of, “Whoever you are and wherever you are on your spiritual path, you are welcome here.”

Then at the end of June we open our doors to Elizabeth Edwards. Elizabeth is an attorney who specializes in immigration law and works with the Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries. This is not a political debate or discussion regarding policies and process. Rather, she will be here to help to clear up many of the common misperceptions and falsehoods that tend to circulate on the internet regarding immigration. It is important for us to have facts rather than the simplistic falsehoods that are being perpetuated through the instantaneous share button. It will be worth your while to be here that day!

And let us not forget that it is time to play and have fun with our annual picnic in the park on Sunday, May 7.

In many ways all of this takes us into some new and uncharted waters. And with that journey comes change, letting go, the rapids, the waterfalls, the calm river. And there will be times we wonder, what have we gotten ourselves into? There will be times when we wonder was it worth it? Spirit did not ask us to count the cost, the problems, the difficulties; Spirit called us to be faithful.

Our summer Bible series is an in-depth look at the complex and multifaceted first book of the bible, Genesis. And what we learn from the very opening lines is that creation comes forth in chaos and in darkness. In other words, when we don't see a clear direction, when we are uncertain of the path; the energies of the threefold nature of life give birth to something entirely new. I also think it is interesting to note that in the Hebrew language the word Genesis means, “when God began to create.” One wonders what God was doing before creating? What prompted creation, the movement from silence to sound, from chaos to construction?

These answers have been the sought in longstanding debates of philosophy, theology and science. We will never know the “big” answer for I believe this is the essence of the Divine Mystery we call Life. However, we see the activity of Spirit repeated endlessly when two opposing energies come together to give birth to something new. We call it the peace that passes all understanding, the resurrection and new life, we call it transformation. But by whatever name we choose, at the core of our belief is the foundational understanding that this Mystery is inherently good and is desirous of the continued expression of that good in and through each life, in and through our world.

There are difficult issues on the table today, made more poignant and present to us through the world of the internet. Sadly, in many respects, social sharing has lost a certain amount of personal touch and given way to a place to promote agendas and political points of view. Worst still, many people believe that internet news is the “gospel” truth.

Thus, it is important that we reach out with our message as the counterbalance, giving hope and inspiration to a weary world. If we truly believe in our teachings, then by its very nature we are going to be called upon to live in the space of creative tension that will allow new innovation and collaboration between all peoples.

In Peace and Love

*Rev. Mary Anne Harris*



## Board Report

## Treasurer Report



*Cheryl Phelps*, Director

John C. Maxwell wrote "CHANGE IS INEVITABLE, GROWTH IS OPTIONAL." Have you also found that to be true, I have! We can grow in fear or faith. How we respond to change differs depending on its severity. Losing your home to a

tornado, or the sudden death of a child is different than a house under attack by termites or a child struggling with juvenile diabetes. I wish that growth would happen by a peaceful, prayerful confident choice. In reality, most motivation for growth comes out of discontent, physical and/or emotional pain or being sick and tired of being sick and tired!

Worry and fear are the mind talk that prevents us from hearing our intuition. They are future focused and come out of the belief that we are powerless! But in Unity we teach that God is our Source, we are never powerless! Regardless of circumstances, we always have power to choose how we will respond.

Growth is the process of being (1) Aware of where we are and where we want to go (2) Thinking of options and knowing that what we think about, we bring about, positive or negative (3) Prayer and Meditation to connect with God, bring out the good and increase our faith (4) Acting on a Plan that has passion and will lead us to our purpose.

Anything we focus on, we energize. So if we resist change, we increase its power to persist. We, as individuals and as a church, have the power to determine our response to changing circumstances. Will we freeze, avoid, run away or embrace our opportunity to change? There is no way to know the outcome of our creative efforts before we experience them. Every day, every moment, every breath is a new beginning. Let us together, affirm our good and risk the new. It is easy to say what we believe. Let us BE what we believe.



Our world is changing at an increasing rate and much of that energy is charged by the advancement of technology. I'm in the tech business and even I get overwhelmed sometimes!

Yet, there are a lot of wonderful things happening, too. Look at interpersonal connections for example. With many people carrying smart phones there are more options for communication than ever before. I only recently started using social media and have been pleasantly surprised how connected it makes a person feel. I am enjoying seeing what my friends and family are doing, including my church family. I see why it has become so popular. After all, we all want to be connected and this technology gives us the opportunity to be as connected as we want. Have you logged on to the church's FaceBook page? Lots of great stuff is found there!

Another area that is changing is shopping, these days the "go to" is Amazon. I believe we are seeing the beginning of this shift and it will continue to evolve as it becomes more widely used. For those of you who do choose to shop online there is a way for you to help the church financially without costing you anything.

Amazon offers an option called "Smile". If you go to their website, "smile.amazon.com" instead of just "amazon.com" you can choose "Unity Church of Christianity" in Tulsa OK as your charity. After that, any time you make a purchase at "smile.amazon.com", Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase amount to our church. There is no cost difference. If you shop online, please use "smile.amazon.com" and ask your friends, family and employers' to also shop there. Every little bit counts.

*Jeff Woods*, Treasurer

P& L Actuals	February 2017	March 2017
Income	\$24,063	\$11,015
Expense	\$19,100	\$14,869

### Board of Directors

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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 #5

**SATURDAY, MAY 20 10:00A - 12:30P**

### Citizen CPR - The Critical Link

Cardiac disease is on the rise and it can happen to anyone at anytime.  
 Are you prepared to save a life?

**There will be no certificate issued but this class IS basic CPR training.**

The two and a half hours of class is a short investment of your time to learn the basic signs of a heart attack and the necessary skills to save a life. It isn't hard, you just need to know what to do, when to do it and how.



## SESSION #6

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17 10:00AM - NOON**

### Back it up!

*Saving your phone photos!*



Now that you know how to take a photo on your phone, you've gone crazy taking lots and lots of pictures when suddenly your phone displays that dreaded message, "Your storage is full!" Now what do you do?

There are many choices but the first is to back them up to your computer. With a few simple steps they can not only be backed up to a computer but also copied to a second storage device as well as into the cloud.

Join our Rev. Mary Anne for this informative class. She will discuss cloud storage as well as creating a systematic plan for regularly backing up your photos and data.

# May Highlights

Break out your Unity T shirt, sunscreen and get ready for fun!

## Casual Sunday & Annual Picnic!

Sunday May 7  
Noon - 2pm

LaFortune Park, Southwest Pavilion

Sign up to bring a dish to share with 6 people  
Church will supply sandwich fixins as well as utensils, paper products and water.  
Bring your lawn chairs.



This is a fun Sunday to invite a friend!



Sunday, May 7  
Special Guest Music  
Delaney Zumwalt

Delaney is a talented singer with an incredibly unique voice. A lifetime nature lover one can almost hear the landscapes in her voice a rich and moving experience not to be missed.

## The Uni-Tea Room Update

The purpose of the Uni-Tea room is to create an exciting new energy to our entryway, that is inviting and welcoming to all.



**Phase One:** Clear the space. Our book sale is over and we collected \$500 toward our renovation project. Thank you to all who purchased books and made donations!

**Phase Two:** **New lighting** to create a welcoming ambience.

**Phase Three:** **New paint** to lighten up the room with several decorative touches to give the space a unique feel.

**Phase Four:** **New flooring.**

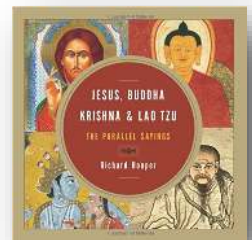
Our plan is to complete the project by early summer.

## Wednesday Morning Book Group

Beginning May 3 9:30 - 11:30am.

*Jesus, Buddha, Krishna & Lao Tzu*  
*Parallel Sayings by Richard Hooper*

Richard Hooper brings together the common spiritual threads of the world's great religious traditions organized around key themes for easy reference. Join a fascinating discussion of the many and yet common facets of all spiritual traditions.



John Bowdle, Facilitator  
Please purchase the book in advance.  
Class on a love offering basis.



## Living the Artistic Life

May 4, June 1  
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.

**May theme: Love is the Cure**  
**June theme: It is Finished!**

Based on the book *the Artist Way*  
Class is on a love offering basis

**amazon**smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

We now have an Amazon Smile Account.

**Step One** - you must sign up using [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)  
(All your prime and other accounts remain)

**Step Two** - Select Unity Church of Christianity (TULSA) as the organization you wish to donate to.

**Step Three - Shop!**

AmazonSmile foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price on eligible purchases.

# June Highlights



*Summer Class Series!*

## The Book of Genesis

*When God began to create*

Thursday Evenings  
6:30p—8:00p

The book of Genesis is one of the most fascinating books of the Bible. The stories, the people, the emergence of language, culture, religion. This is a GREAT book full of funny stories, crazy relatives, and love. What more could you ask?

June 1, 8, 15: The Beginnings

July 13, 20, 27: The Abraham Stories

August 10, 17, 24: Jacob & Joseph

Join Rev. Mary Anne for this adventure in scripture as we explore how it all began, from the beginning! *Class on love offering basis.*

## Welcome back ... Sistas in Rhythm Sunday, August 28

The members of this Tulsa-based percussion and vocal ensemble are deeply dedicated to spreading the power and connection to others through music.



Using a variety of instruments from all over the world [jdunjduns, djembes, ashikos] the “Sistas” perform traditional African rhythms and songs, and much more!

Members: Dianna Burrup, Leslie Brown, Robin Leach, Libby Sublett, Grace Weber, Jessica Sims, Joan Crager

## BEST OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

November 1—November 12

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

**JULY 15TH IS THE DEADLINE!**

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

*This trip is open to anyone ~ invite a friend!*

**Saturday, June 3**

**Noon — 10pm**

**Tulsa Pride  
Celebration**



Downtown Tulsa comes alive with color! This year we will be part of the fun as we will have a booth. Stop by our booth and say hi!

If you are interested in being part of planning, preparation and or working the booth, please contact the church office for details.

The parade starts at 7:00pm



## MISINFORMATION

*The challenge of our times*

**Sunday, June 25  
Noon - 1:30pm**

With the rapidly changing political landscape of our country it is important that we take the responsibility to get the facts and not perpetuate the social sharing of false and untrue information. Immigration is an emotionally charged topic that calls for open and honest dialogue.

**Our presenter is Elizabeth Edwards an attorney for Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry and specializes in immigration law.**

She will be speaking on the history of immigration law, the number of people coming across the southern border, immigrants and taxes/economic contributions, how the immigration works and the processing of refugees.

Come and get the facts regarding immigration.

**This is not a political debate of policy.**

Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry is a multi-faith organization that promotes cooperation understanding and service among the faithful of Tulsa.



**Wednesday Evenings**

**Adult Coloring Book Club**

An informal weekly gathering  
6:30 - 8:00pm

It's fun, it's free, it's relaxing!

# Calendar

Unity Church of Christianity

## May 2017

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	4 The Artistic Life 11:00 - 1:00pm	5	6
7 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am  Annual Picnic Noon - 2pm	8	9	10 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	11	12	13
14  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	15	16	17 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	18	19	20  Life Skills University 10:00 - 12:30
21  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	22	23	24 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	25	26	27
28  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	29	30	31 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm			

## June 2017

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 The Artistic Life 11:00 - 1:00pm  Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	2	3  Pride Booth Noon—9PM
4  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	5	6	7 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	8  Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	9	10
11  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	12	13	14 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	15  Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	16	17  Life Skills University 10:00 - Noon
18  Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	19	20	21 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	22	23	24
25 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am  Immigration Noon—1:30pm	26	27	28 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	29	30	



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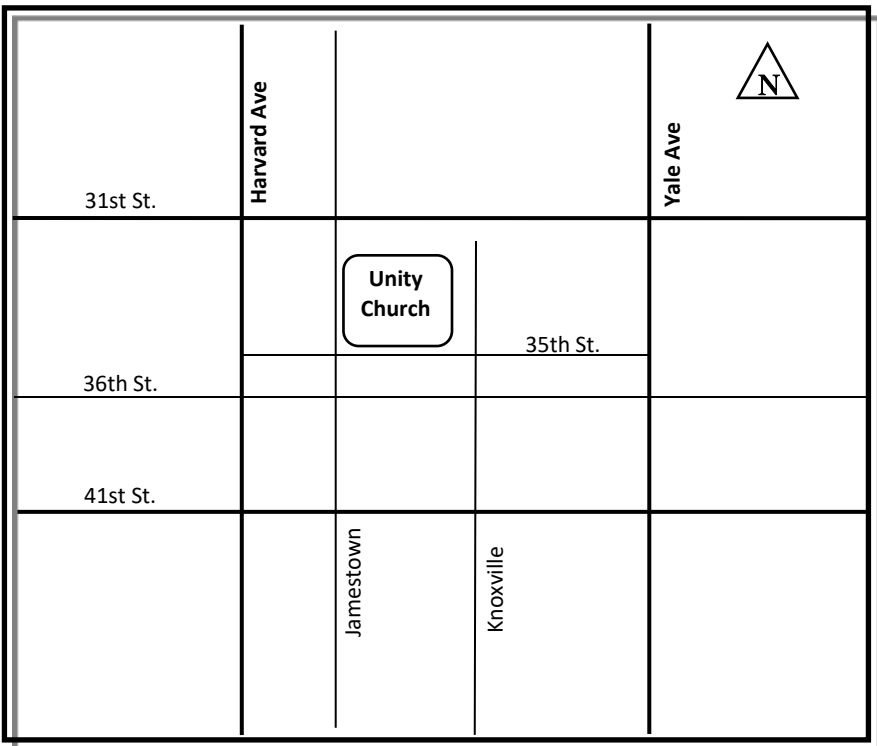


**SUNDAYS**  
**10:30 AM**  
**Worship Service**

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Reach us online at  
[tulsaunitymail.com](mailto:tulsaunitymail.com)  
[www.tulsaunity.com](http://www.tulsaunity.com)

<i>Unity Church of Christianity</i>	Church: 3355 S. Jamestown Ave. - Tulsa, OK. 74135      918-749-8833 E-mail: <a href="mailto:tulsaunity@gmail.com">tulsaunity@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.tulsaunity.com">www.tulsaunity.com</a> Sunday Service 10:30AM
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- May Theme: If Only**
- May. 7** - Willy Withit
  - May. 14** - Mom was Right!
  - May. 21** - The Real Me is Showing
  - May. 28** - A Loving Creator
- June Theme: The Power of Three**
- June. 4** - Yes, and?
  - June. 11** - Dualistic Thinking
  - June. 18** - Holy Trinity
  - June. 25** - The Mystery of One