



# Light On The Path

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

## Dynamic Laws

Spiritual laws are “dynamic” meaning they contain within them energy and effective action. They are not laws that are imposed, rather they are the essence of every move, the reaction to even the smallest steps in faith. The key to unlocking the power of spiritual law is faith and trust.

First, one must have a belief in something greater that is the pulsation and the vibration that reciprocates through the action taken. As one gives, the law responds with an energy that is like its kind only it is multiplied through the power of faith. This is the essence of the great mystery. In the Letter to the Hebrews one reads, “Faith is the conviction of things hoped for, the assurance of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1).

The universal growth that comes from one small apple seed is a tree that will eventually bear fruit to thousands upon thousands of seeds to be planted in the future; for nature is not stingy. And even though one season may be too harsh in sun or wind or rain, the tiny seed understands its place in the grand scheme is to release and to grow and to multiply. It has an implicit faith in its own nature. It is the assurance in things not seen that season after season the farmer tends the soil in absolute faith of the crop that is to come.

Second, one must have trust that when the seed is planted it oftentimes is harvested in yet another field. For the bird that carries the seed and the wind that blows do not have anything against the seed, they simply take it along following the natural course of things.

Scripture records one of Jesus’ most often used aphorisms (short wisdom story) is that of the seed. Whether a mustard seed, a tiny grain of wheat or weed, the stories always have the same ending, trust and faith break open the full potential of the power of the return, the growth and abundance that live within.

Oddly enough, humans have yet to take these spiritual principles to heart. The great scholar of the middle ages, Thomas Aquinas, said that he saw in the rise of money and trades, the demise of the human spirit. His concern was that when money became disconnected from the land, from the product, to be simply a medium of exchange, the value added quality would be lost.

Many current day financial analysts suggest that people should carry money, rather than credit cards for the same reason. Even in today’s market it takes a long time to earn a dollar, but a credit card isn’t “real” and therefore the ease of use is also the ease in which one disconnects from the power inherent in the giving and receiving.

First Timothy 6:10 is often misquoted as saying, “money is the root of all evil.” But the correct line is “The LOVE of money is the root of all evil.” Love is dynamic, love is energy and action. Therefore, when money is the object of love it robs one of its powers; there is no return on the investment.

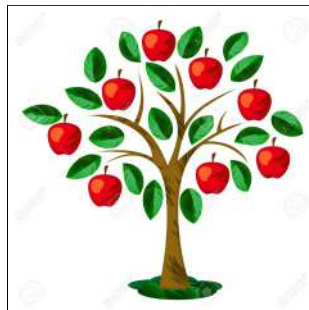
Unlike the seed that has the potential for life, money is inert. It has no living power of its own.

It is a fine line, is it not? Everyone enjoys nice things, good food, and the ability to have things they want, to go places, to gift loved ones but when money becomes the object, the gift is always given with a hook. And once again, the dynamic quality and energy is lost.

This is an important point. That which grows must be connected in some way to the ultimate force of life. For it is life that reproduces after its kind. Therein lies the heart of the message of the dynamic laws, they are life affirming.

That is why giving into the flow is also giving into the place of spiritual growth and renewal. It is the investment in the journey, in the discipline of giving freely and scattering the seeds to do the work. The return is always multiplied and running over with abundant seeds for now and the future.

The lesson of giving and receiving is often the easiest to understand in nature and the hardest to live in a material world. It is a universal hero’s journey. It is the call to live by faith and the inherent trust that life is ever unfolding on the side of good and bounty for all. There is no lack in the universal flow of Life.



### *Inside this issue:*

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Dearly Beloved of God,

For some of you reading this, what I am about to say may be “old news.” For others it may be interesting or even a surprise. On Sunday, June 4, I shared with the congregation that another church has expressed an interest in purchasing our church facility. It is a genuine offer from a qualified buyer. They came and looked the facility over and were quite impressed by our church home and complimented us on the great care and pride we obviously have taken in it over the years.

At the end of our meeting, they left with the haunting question; “Are you willing to sell?” Now, this writing is happening in the midst of the working discussions and there is no resolution at the time of this writing. So whenever you are reading this I invite you to stay connected to us on the many social media channels that we have: Facebook, Youtube and our website – [www.tulsaunity.com](http://www.tulsaunity.com).

It really has shaken us in several different ways. It has called us to look long and hard at the status of our facility, our finances and most importantly, our future. Questions, I might add that have been in the mix for as long as I can remember, perhaps are always in the field of view for any business. And they are neither simple nor easy questions to answer, for with the times comes fluctuations in goals, trends and needs of a community to carry forth our message.

We are finding it hard to focus on any one facet for there are things we don't want to truly look at (what is the condition of the building and its systems), things that we can't know (what does the future look like) and also things that will eventually “encourage” perhaps, force, us to change from our current location and status (our present financial situation).

And the haunting question is one that reaches beyond our willingness to sell; it is deeper and far more encompassing. Are you willing? It is the age old question for the answer to every prayer. Are you willing to be healed, Jesus asked the man at the pool of Bethsatha. And what was his response? He told Jesus every reason why he couldn't, why he wouldn't get up. I can just image Jesus standing there with the question still poised on his arched brow. Having pity and concern for a man who obviously wanted to be healed yet was locked into the comfortable world that he had made for himself. After all scripture tells us he had been there for 38 years! (John 5:1-15) Let's face it; we all love our comfort zones even when they become our jails to a better life.

We have lived in this building for 36 years, that's a lot of time to build our comfort. Think you aren't in a comfort zone, then sit in a different pew this Sunday! Suddenly, you become painfully aware of how unfamiliar the same sanctuary is, a place that you call your spiritual home. We are odd creatures, we human beings!

So where do we start? I ask myself this question too. How do I get a hold of such a large, life changing question? I ask myself, what is the core, what is the reason that we are even here? Is it to take care of a building or is it something greater? Don't get me wrong, I love this building and we have spent a lot of time and money since I have arrived updating and upgrading our facility. It is grand and it is beautiful. But if it went away tomorrow, what can we say is left; just our memories of good times? Hopefully, we can honestly say that because of our Unity message our lives have been changed and that is what we will carry deep within the soul of us, forever. And if we can say that, then I think we have our answer – or at least – I can say, I have my answer.



Our Unity message needs to be in the world. People need to see that life isn't simply “done to them” or there is nothing but making it through till you die. There is more, lots more. I also know the way in which the world engages is different than when I was growing up. Our family always attended church, but that is not true of today's young people and their families. Activities, long work hours, stress of financial burdens keep many from coming to the doors of any church and yet the need for community is still in the heart and soul of all of us. How to connect becomes part of the question and the answer at the same time.

For me, the answer to the question of “Am I willing?” means that I will redouble my efforts to ensure the Unity message goes out as far as it can reach through the channels that are available to us today. After all, I stand on the shoulders of our cofounder Charles Fillmore who, in the early 1930's, broadcast over the new social network, radio, to the world.

Yes, times have changed but our willingness to be a message of inclusive spirituality has not. I can't encourage you enough to stay connected and in the conversation as things are in flux.

We are holding many small informational meetings and discussions to work our way through this process. We center our hearts in the knowing that Divine Wisdom and Love are in charge and that God IS aware of our needs and the needs of the other church as well. Whatever the future holds, this is our wake up call to invest in it, to be present to it and to trim our sails so the we may tack into the winds to change with grace and ease.

In Peace and love,

*Rev. Mary Anne Harris*

## Board Report

## Treasurer Report



*Marleen Reddaway*, Director

### Floating the Day Away

I always look forward to summer, I automatically think POOL TIME! I seek out that cool water. It's the only way to enjoy being outside during Oklahoma summers. As a child, it was no different. As I grew, there became a time when the hose and sprinkler out in the front yard just wasn't good enough. In a pinch, there was an old stock tank filled with water, but with very little room to float and play, those pool times were short lived. Nothing could replace that clear blue pool. As a small child, they seem enormous, clinging to the side or never leaving the steps. Quickly gaining confidence, pool time became a gathering of friends and pretending we were various water creatures or mermaids and several games of Marco Polo. Times we never wanted to end.

Pool time at that age was an activity, something to keep us busy while out of school. As an adult, I still look forward to pool time, but it is appreciated more as therapeutic. I'm still trying to beat the heat, but I come away relaxed and refreshed. Laying back and letting my body float on the surface, feeling my buoyancy rise and fall with each breath.

Now I appreciate getting a break from achy joints, loving the trance-inducing effect of the light dancing through the water. The gathering of family and friends still occurs, and on occasion a water volleyball game could break out, but most times are spent floating and catching up. Times we never want to end. The relaxing, meditative pool providing such clarity, making it seem we could solve all the world problems.

That's my goal for this summer and I hope that you too will find some space for pool time in your routine. Now...if we could just figure out how to keep our skin from pruning!



My parents had a saying that they used quite often. "Nothing ever stays the same." As a child, I did not understand what a huge concept this little phrase represented. For my perception, at that time, things were not changing fast enough. It took forever for summer vacation or Christmas to come. As a young adult, I discovered the frustration of entropy, as I had to re-buy physical things that did not last. It seemed like about the time I got something paid off it was worn out and had to be repaired or replaced. I thought to myself that now I understand what my parents were trying to tell me, but I still did not grasp the magnitude of this little saying.

I am not sure when it finally clicked and I truly understood this simple little saying, but now, not only do I understand it, I use it as a fundamental guiding principal of my life. I have found that it applies to every aspect of my life. If "nothing ever stays the same" then the only constant is change. So, if there is only change, then there are only two possibilities. Something can get better or it can get worse, there is no such thing as staying in the middle. The extension of this thought took me a while to figure out, but it is the really important part. If "nothing ever stays the same" and things can only get better or worse, then if we are not working to make something better, then the most likely outcome is, that it will get worse.

I have found this concept to be true in every aspect of my life. I believe the recent interest in our building was a wakeup call (see page 2), reminding us that stagnation and status quo can be our greatest overcoming. I challenge each and every one in our congregation, to ask yourself, what can YOU do to make our church better. After all, "nothing ever stays the same" and if we are not making it better, then .....

*Jeff Woods*, Treasurer

P& L Actuals	April 2017	May 2017
Income	\$19,475	\$11,888
Expense	\$15,639	\$15,205

### Board of Directors

President: Suzy Jones  
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 Bookkeeper: Mary Portwood  
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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 #7**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 22 1:00P - 3:00P**

## I'm so "Tire"D!



Tire know-how is an essential component of good car maintenance.

Checking your tires regularly for wear, pressure, and tread make your investment in them go further and safer, and makes for smoother driving.

-  How to change your tire
-  Learn what is tire pressure and how to use a pressure gauge
-  What kind of tire is best on your vehicle
-  Tire rotation: how and when
-  Air in the spare

Join **PATRICK HARRIS** for this hands-on two hours workshop. Patrick has been working on cars with his father and brothers his entire life.

**SESSION #8**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 10:00A - NOON**



## Essential Oils

*Steffanie Powers*

From ancient times people have used the power of aromatherapy and oils to bless, to purify, to enhance their spiritual journey as well as their daily life and living environments. This class will cover the history, methods, and benefits of essential oils, and a few other products from Young Living Essential Oils. These products range from the essential oils to 100% plant based cleaning products, supplements, and personal care products.

This class is FREE and open to friends - Invite someone your know!  
 You do NOT need to purchase any products - this is an informational session.

*Steffanie Powers is an Independent Distributor for Young Living Essential Oils, and an intuitive energy healer. She lives here in Tulsa with husband, Larry, and animal family.*

# July Highlights

**Sunday, July 2**

**Special Music: Tavis Minner**

**Hello and Goodbye.**



Our friend Tavis is leaving the Tulsa area for a wonderful new adventure in life in Kansas City, MO, and he is also pursuing his calling to ministerial studies.

Don't miss our last Sunday (at least for awhile) with Tavis!

*And its potluck Sunday.* Bring a dish to share and take the opportunity to buy a CD from Tavis!

**The Grand Opening Ceremony**  
Our Uri-Tea Room is ready



**Sunday, July 23**

*Following our morning service*

What is a Tea Room? It is a cozy gathering spot. A place to relax and have conversation. Various and unique social events are being planned around the Tea Room as a showcase for the many talents we have in our church.

Come and bless the creative offering of many hands and hearts. *Won't you join us for a cup of tea?*



*Let the kid in you out for the summer!*

**Pizza & Putt-Putt**  
**Saturday, July 15**

**Pizza: 5:30p Dinner \$8 pizza & drink**

**Hideaway Pizza at KingsPointe Village**

5966 S Yale Ave, Tulsa, OK 74135

**Putt-Putt Golf: 7:00p \$6/Game**

**All Star Sports Complex**

10309 E 61st St, Tulsa, OK 7413

Fun for the whole family!

We will order pizzas in advance so **PLEASE SIGN UP!**



**Vacation**  
**Art**

**An exploration of Creativity for Kids!**

A new and exciting offering for our children to explore their creative side this summer! **Bethany Stephenson** is hosting art classes that will culminate in an art show on Saturday, August 5 (see page 6 for further details!).

**CLASSES 10:00A—NOON**

**Two classes are geared for children ages 5-14**

July 8 — Self Portrait in Clay

July 15 — Animal art in mixed media

**Class for children ages 11-14**

July 29 — Discovering architecture in downtown Tulsa.

Bethany has an MS in education and is an adjunct professor of English and psychology. But her real passion is arts and crafts - especially watercolor and clay.

Please sign up in advance. Only \$3/class for supplies.

**BLOG ... BLOG ... BLOG!**

Our best communication is our website  
[www.tulsaunity.com](http://www.tulsaunity.com)

**Social Savvy**

**Keeping up with changing times ~ coming in July!**

A new weekly blog by Rev. Mary Anne  
[www.tulsaunity.com](http://www.tulsaunity.com)

**Pathways** will be reformatted for mobile optimization  
**Sign up for Pathways on home page of website.**

YouTube Channel - Tulsa unity-Jamestown  
**Please subscribe.**

**Follow us on Facebook ~ Unity Church of Christianity**

**Sunday, July 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.*

# August Highlights

## Living the Artistic Life

July 6 & August 3

11:00a - 1:00p

The first Thursday of every month - on-going

July theme: The Power of Self

August theme: Enter the Mystery

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?

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.*



*Afternoon Tea & Children's Art Show*  
 Saturday, August 5  
 2:00p - 4:00p

Join us for a refreshing cup of our own special blend of tea and cookies in our new Uni-Tea Room.

On display will be the exciting art works of our children the product of their summer creative classes.

Our children will be present to autograph your purchase and all art work is for sale. Proceeds to artist.

\$5.00 per family, \$2.50 per individual for Tea.

**Please sign up in advance.**

### Popcorn and Movie Night

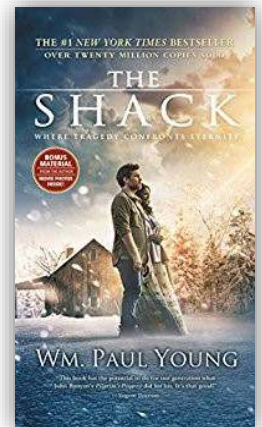
The movie is free, bring a friend!

Saturday, August 26

6:00p

## THE SHACK

*Starring: Sam Worthington, Octavia Spencer, Tim McGraw*



After the abduction and presumed death of Mackenzie (Mack) Allen Phillips' youngest daughter, Missy, Mack receives a letter and suspects it is from God, asking him to return to *The Shack* where Missy may have been murdered.

After contemplating it, he leaves his home to go to *The Shack* for the first time since Missy's abduction and an encounter that will change his life forever.



*Sunday, August 6*

*Special Musical Guest:*

**ANN-JANETTE**

Ann-Janette is the product of a musical family. From the stage

to the pulpit to the bar, music in 100 varieties is the fruit of her family tree. (*Sister Ashlee is our Music Director.*)

An award-winning singer and songwriter, Ann-Janette continues to write songs and her current project is a children's book, "The Bird & the Moon," which includes a accompanying theme song "Over the Moon."



**Sunday, August 27**

**Special Guest: Rev. Debra Garfinkel**

*We welcome back Rev. Debra!*

Rev. Debra is the Spiritual Director and Community Minister affiliated with the Church of the Restoration Unitarian Universalist in North Tulsa.

# Calendar

Unity Church of Christianity

## July 2017

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am PotLuck Lunch	3	4	5 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	6 The Artistic Life 11:00 - 1:00pm	7	8 Creative Kids 10:00 - Noon
9 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	10	11	12 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	13 Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	14	15 Creative Kids 10:00 - Noon Pizza & Putt Putt Golf 5:30-9pm
16 Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	17	18	19 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	20 Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	21	22 Life Skills University 10:00 - 12:00
23 Uni-Tea Room Opening Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	24	25	26 Book Discussion 9:30-11:30am Coloring 6:30-8:00pm	27 Genesis 6:30—8:00PM	28	29 Creative Kids 10:00 - Noon
30 Communion Sunday Celebration 10:30 am	31					

## August 2017

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

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



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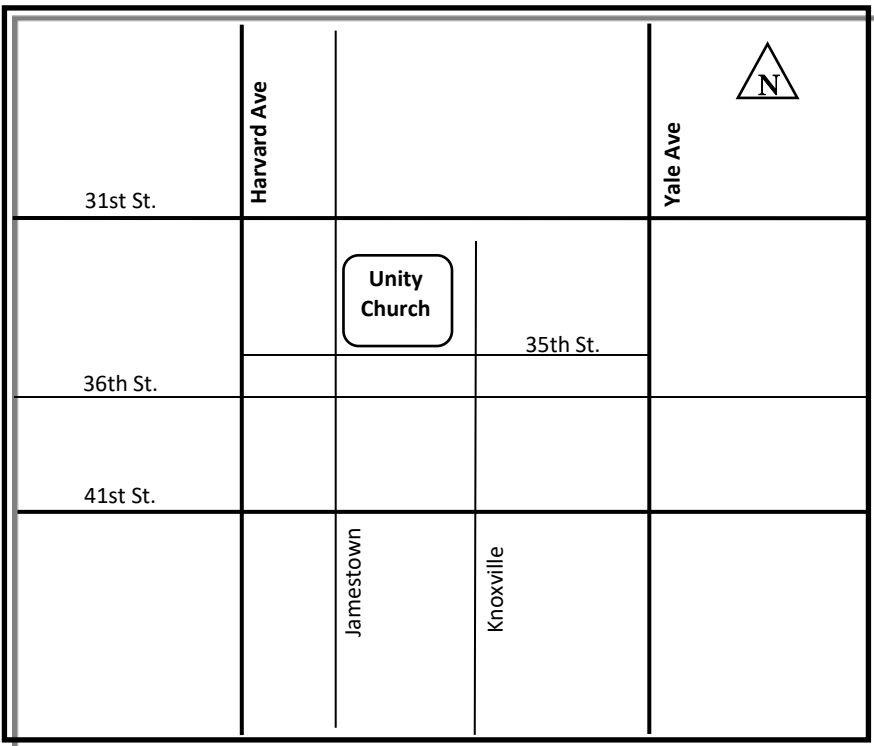
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UNITY CHURCH OF CHRISTIANITY	Church: 3355 S. Jamestown Ave. - Tulsa, OK. 74135      918-749-8833 E-mail: <a href="mailto:tulsaunity@gmail.com">tulsaunity@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.tulsaunity.com">www.tulsaunity.com</a> <b>Sunday Service 10:30AM</b>
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- July Theme: Dynamic Laws**
- July. 2** - It's the Law
  - July. 9** - Love the One You're With
  - July. 16** - Many Seeds
  - July. 23** - The Ripple Effect
  - July. 30** - A Fuller Harvest
- August Theme: Life Lessons**
- Aug. 6** - School Days
  - Aug. 13** - Faith & Trust
  - Aug. 20** - Transformation
  - Aug. 27** - Grace in Action