

# Good News



from the **Northwest Region**  
of the Association of Unity Churches

Fall 2009

## Heart Notes

**From your Northwest Regional Chairperson,  
Philip Arthur Zemke**

Greetings and Blessings Beloved Friends of the Northwest Region of Unity Ministries.

Up here in the *Shining Mountains*, we have just had our first serious snowfall of the new season. We had a beautiful and extended *Indian Summer* throughout September and the trees have not turned in color nor dropped their leaves. So this snowfall has required a *beating of the branches* of the fruit trees and the bushy scrubs for several mornings and evenings. As I walk around our property to accomplish this task, my eyes go to the tasks of care and repair of the house and buildings that, well, just didn't all get done. I am reminded of a sage saying that I have heard often over the past four decades..."Just Breathe."

It can be said that all that we possess from life is just on loan from God. The only thing that we possess as our own is the moment of pause between our breathing in and breathing of Spirits. (Breathe and Spirit our both from the Greek word Pneuma) It is in the place between where we have that moment of rest from action, that fleeting moment where we are at the stillness of all the uncreated, that is prepared for becoming manifest as the active demonstration of all potency becoming every possibility. That is a moment when we sit at the still center of the eternal hub of the wheel of life and with our next breath, and our next choice, turn the wheel of manifest transformation of creation.

It is the moment of choice that is our only possession. We can claim it as our own in God and in co-creation. The snows come as the snows come. The accumulate actions and responses of vast numbers of interactions of the diverse manifestations of creation arrive at our centers, churches, and homes like a wandering stranger who would ask to be our guest. It is our choice as to how to be hospitable to the guest. That is the difference that makes the difference in how the world turns for all the world.

In the traditional story of Abraham, the archetype of faith, when the three guests arrive at his tent, he washes the dust of travel off their feet, feeds them, and asks them to tell him their story that he might know who they are. It is only after he has chosen to enact the ceremony of

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If you would like to submit something for the next issue, the due date is January 1, 2010.

Email your article to:  
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*The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of clear communication that helps unify the ministries of the Northwest Region.*

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hospitality with them that he comes to know that they are the angels (ministering messengers) of God come to guide him to a transformed life. The guests of our current time, be they garmented in questions of prosperity or politics or fear are here to be invited in for a chat. We could turn them away, but then we would miss the message of transformation that might well result in the turning of the wheel of God the Good for all the world. Each arriving guest of each moment is our moment of choice for accepting the presence of God the Good regardless of the outer garment. We are asked to "just breathe" when even the rather unkempt messenger of God shows up at our door.

Our Earthly world is actively breathing in as winter approaches. From the physically expansive active life of summer we come to the more inner and contemplative season of harvest and thanksgiving. From growing out, we come to growing in. How beautiful and elegant is this our

world of divine order and majesty, that has for us such balancing harmonic dynamics of creation for our participation. Fully knowing that I am a student of Truth, the truth that I may ask of the understanding of Spirit for assured guidance and wisdom, that set me free to meet the guest of life, to breathe with the fullness of life, and to enjoy the freedom (the ability to move) with life as it dances in its transformation from one face of God to another. I am in thanksgiving that I have the eternal teaching, as Unity offers in our time, to keep me reminded to "just breathe" when the unexpected guest makes an appearance. As Unity teaches us, under every outer garment it is God.

Blessings in thanksgiving and in the joy of the Birth of the eternally new and brilliant in each of your lives, I pray for you. We are in God as one and all is well. Keep breathing.

Love and Peace,  
Philip



## Unity of Salem's Second Interfaith Festival A Huge Success!

On Saturday, August 22 Unity of Salem once again saw its 9 acres transformed and welcomed individuals from various faith traditions to come together for our second annual Interfaith Peace Festival. The weather was cool and the music was hot as folks from all over the Salem area gathered to embrace, learn from and celebrate our diversity. This season saw more booths, more music, more faiths and more young people!

Rev. Georgie Richardson opened the Festival with an inclusive prayer of love and welcome. She spoke about the beauty of our diversity and the "ties that bind us." Everyone was given a strip of paper with a colored tie. The strips were labeled with such things as: love, friendship, support, joy, peace, family, etc; all things that all people everywhere cherish—the "ties that bind us." Then everyone was invited to tie their strip to a ribbon that circled our Labyrinth and walk the Labyrinth together. What an incredible sight to see children walking with elders, teens walking beside the Sikhs, and beautiful banners donated by the Wicca group flapping in the breeze. Oneness at its best.

# Northwest Region Representative

## Rev. Barbara Wilson

Hello Friends,

In our last regional newsletter I shared about our Peacemaking program. Since then, I have attended the Peacemaking Skills Institute with Stephanie Seigh at Unity Village.

The training was definitely interactive. Stephanie takes you through an actual board training and a 3-hour *I of the Storm* workshop. We also experienced each of the major activities of a *Making Peace with the Past* weekend.

All of the information, handouts and housekeeping details are included in a 3-ring notebook so that any future changes can be easily made without buying another book. (I really love that!) Overall, the training is quite good. I was really impressed with the board training piece and the workshop which are recent additions to the Peacemaking Skills Institute. I heartily recommend it!

As far as the certification program to become a peacemaker, another requirement has been approved by the Association Board. Future certified peacemakers will need to have the Mastering Life's Energies course through the Academy for Coaching Excellence.

At the Peacemaking Skills Institute that I attended, one individual expressed concern about the increasing cost of becoming certified. And I have been in communication with one individual in our region who is

concerned that the current requirements will prevent individuals with earlier certification and experience from participation.

Personally, I see great value in having our peacemakers highly trained to do such significant work within our ministries. If done poorly, it can actually be a detriment for future healing and reconciliation efforts. At the same time, I would not want to place an arbitrary restriction on the peacemaker resources within our region. I will take up the matter of previously certified peacemakers with Stephanie Seigh and the Standards Team.

If you have an interest in this program, either in bringing peacemaking services to your ministry or in becoming a peacemaker, please let me know. And I do want to hear your questions and concerns.

I have also just learned that the Mastering Life's Energies course is now available to individuals in the peacemaking and transitional consultant program at a 50% discount. It will be offered February 18-21, 2010 at the Spiritual Life Center. You can also attend a course in Denver, December 2-5, 2009, for the same discount.

To contact the Academy for Coaching Excellence, call 916-569-0779 or go to [www.academyforcoachingexcellence.com](http://www.academyforcoachingexcellence.com).

Love and Blessings,  
Barbara

**Save the Date!**  
**April 26-29, 2010**

NW Regional  
Conference  
Menucha Conference Center  
just outside of Portland, Oregon

Watch for more  
information in the next newsletter  
or  
email  
Patty Williams at:  
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Questions? Comments? Ideas? Licensed  
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## From The Desk of the Treasurer — Rev. Inge Tarantola

### Financial letter

We are now at the halfway mark in our fiscal year. As you saw in our financial letter that came out in September, our expenses are ahead of our income. That trend has continued. So, I invite you to generously include your wonderful region in your tithes to keep in the flow of our good.

### Budget Fiscal Year-to-date

Looking at the Budget versus Actual for August we are behind by \$8,914. There is no one budget item that by itself is the cause of the deficit. We are on a cash basis. That means that income and expenses are recorded when they occur, rather than the accrual basis of accounting where they are accrued (spread evenly) throughout the year. Some of the expenses are paid early in the year, like SEE so they already show 100%. Others like our Judicatory Rep will be paid at the end of our fiscal year, so it balances out.

### Comments and questions welcome

We encourage you to review the information and feel free to send your questions and comments to me, Inge Tarantola, see contact information. All input is welcome and will be considered by the board.

*Our lives and those of our dear ones are prosperous, because we go Christ first and our giving is in harmony with the life we want to lead.*

God's richest blessings,  
Inge Tarantola, Treasurer

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### Oeness

We are gearing up for our *Oeness* retreat scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> at Lewis & Clark State Park near Chehalis, WA. During this retreat we will explore the similarities and common truth within the Western spiritual traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. More information is available on the retreat web page: [unitynwregion.org/nguretreat.aspx](http://unitynwregion.org/nguretreat.aspx). Be aware that registration closes on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Oeness* retreat shirts are for sale until November 8<sup>th</sup>. These shirts are available in sizes from YM to 3XL and cost \$18. Proceeds from shirt sales feed the NW NGU retreat scholarship fund, so that NGUers who are having a hard time affording the retreat registration may still attend. You can view the shirt from the main NW NGU page [unitynwregion.org/ngu.aspx](http://unitynwregion.org/ngu.aspx) it is on the left toward the bottom of the page.

If you want to get NGU information direct to your email inbox sign up for our list server by sending an email to: [northwest\\_ngu+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:northwest_ngu+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

Blessings,  
Nick Muncie-Jarvis



We can more easily see the symbolic value of our relationships when we release our compulsion to judge what and who has value and instead focus on honoring the person and the task with which we are involved.

Caroline Myss, Ph.D.,  
*Anatomy of Spirit*

***Northwest Region of the Association of Unity Churches***  
***Fiscal Year — 2008 - 2009***

Mar - Aug			
Income	Proposed		
	Budget	Actual	Percent
Offering from Churches & Other	124,600	41,760	0.34
Youth Ministry	15,000		
Sustaining Programs-SEE			
Sustaining Programs - Summer Retreat			
Sustaining Programs - Reg Conf Menucha		-1375	
Sustaining Programs - NGU		929	
Interest Income			
Total	139,600	41,314	0.30
Expenses			
Admin Support	10,000	57	0.0
Cell Phone	1,200	723	0.6
Bank Service Charges	200	118	0.6
Bookkeeping	5,400	2629	0.5
Earth Care	1,500	0	0.0
Equipment Rental	200		0.0
Judicatory Rep	1,200		0.0
Liab Insurance	2,800	1217	0.4
LUT Rep	5,000		0.0
Children's Ministry	4,500	1796	0.4
Office Supplies	100	72	0.7
Postage	300	87	0.3
Reg Rep Exp, Reg Rep Alt	12,800	5138	0.4
Tithe	14,000	3502	0.3
Salaries	41,500	20750	0.5
Regional Team	9,500	1459	0.2
MEP Scholarships	1,000	1000	1.0
Other Exp	1,300	377	0.3
Newsletter	800	449	0.6
Y.O.U. Exp	6,500	2000	0.3
Uniteens	5,000	3275	0.7
NGU Exp	3,600	2112	0.6
Employee Payroll	3,200	2136	0.7
Regional Website	1,000	300	0.3
SEE Scholarships	1,000	1031	1.0
Fall Training	1,000		0.0
Contributions Pionerring Churches	3,000		0.0
CLMRT	2,000		0.0
Peacemaker Training	0		
Field Licensing Program	0		
Total Expenses	139,600	50,228	0.4
Net Income / Loss		-8,914	

## Our Regional Youth Ministry

### Youth Services Team Meet in September

by Jackie Green

The NW Regional Youth Services Team meeting was held September 15-18 at Seabeck 5 pm Tuesday until 10 am Friday. It was filled with creative work, balanced with renewing silence and prayer.

Members Participating: Karin Ward (YED) - Olympia, Chris Castaldi (Uniteen) - Lake Oswego, Sharon Viehdorfer (Youth Team Writer), Nick Muncie-Jarvis (NGU) - Portland, Rev Penny Gruver (NW Children's Ministry Consultant) - Port Angeles, and Rev Jackie Green (NW YOU/Uniteen Consultant) - Spokane,

Members Absent: Rev Phillip Zemke (Regional Youth Team Minister) - Bozeman, Wally Vlasak (YOU)- Tacoma, Marelu Marson/Greco (Youth Ed Director) - Seattle

Topics covered included:

Focus of ministry and sharing of resources

Penny: YE Directors & NW ministries connections, Ordination May 09

Jackie: YOU Retreat "Rehearse Your Reality" - Oct 16-18 2009

Chris: Unitreat "Step Up" Nov 6-8 2009  
Uniteen Staff Plan Mar 19-21 2010

Nick: NGU Retreat "Oneness" Nov 20-22 2009

Sharon: Family Material writer Youth Team Conference

Karin Ward: 2010 YED Gathering co hosting with Heidi Nathe, Edgewood. Karin accepted the invitation to fill the YED team position prior to Youth Team '09.

Kids Camp 2009 and the new application process was reviewed.

Past situations were reflected on to gain insight. Boundaries, rules, requirements and

agreements were clarified. Training, background checks, communication and technology were discussed.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Youth Team Conference, Jan 22-24, 2010 was created "This Is It! Now What?"

This Is It  
and I am It  
and You are It  
and so is That  
and He is It  
and She is It  
and It is It  
and That is That.

O It is Thus  
and It is Them  
and It is Us  
and It is Now  
and here It is  
and here We are  
so This is It.

- by James Broughton

Curricula of Youth Team Conference is to be translatable to children, heart centered and intellectually stimulating. Items covered in planning: time line, schedule, presenters, individual commitments of YST and other volunteers. Components of the weekend are Integrity, ethics, vision, expectations, intentions, leadership, training, serving, renewal, boundaries and purpose. Trained Chaplains will be asked to be available for support with issues that come up during the weekend. The Youth Services Team is excited to be part of the NW Youth Ministry.



## Letter To Regional Board Chairs, LUT Representatives and Educational Consultants

Dear Friend:

As you are aware, the Leadership Recruitment and Development Team (LRDT), is concerned with presenting a slate of candidates at the annual conference of our Association of Unity Churches International (AUCI). We are beginning that search for the 2010 year, and request your support in nominating candidates who will stand for election to the Board of Trustees, and to the LRDT. We recognize the need for all stakeholders to identify potential candidates and would appreciate your bringing this to the attention of your conference body.

Our Association has adopted a "best qualified" model of leadership that encourages diversity, through a selection grid of characteristics and abilities. For our purposes, the grid includes spiritual consciousness, leadership experience, fundraising abilities, strong interpersonal skills, and commitment to Unity. The "best qualified" model moves us from a representative Board and broadens the candidate pool to include ministers, licensed Unity teachers, and laypersons nationally and internationally. The growth of the Unity Movement will require trustees to perform in new ways that generate high levels of interest, demand broad participation and widespread support.

Some of the qualities and characteristics that make up the design of the grid used in determining best qualified for the AUCI Board of Trustees and the LRDT are:

- Minimum of 5 years in a leadership capacity in a Unity church, or an active layperson demonstrating Unity principles.
- Technological competence

Giving birth and nourishing,  
having without possessing,  
acting with no expectation,  
leading and not trying to control:  
this is the supreme virtue.

Tao Te Ching,  
Translated by Stephen Mitchell

- A visionary, passionate
- Specialization in a particular area (i.e. fundraising, technology, finance, etc.)
- Broad world view
- Empowers all stakeholders
- Clear understanding of financial structure in relationship to Unity principles
- Understanding what our product is (what services we provide)
- Powerful listening skills
- Accountability
- Competency tied to goal areas
- Ability to commit to an ongoing engagement of Board responsibilities
- Ability to capture the vision
- Ability to explain, expand and teach principle of tithing
- Ability to drive programs that meet the stakeholders needs
- Commitment to confidentiality on any sensitive topic (e.g. personnel, minister/ministry situation).

Please send the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of nominees to the LRDT chair, Mavis Stephenson, at [missprosperity@optonline.net](mailto:missprosperity@optonline.net), or c/o [exast@unity.org](mailto:exast@unity.org), or by mail to Bets Kirby, Association of Unity Churches, PO Box 610, Lee's Summit, Mo. 64063. **Please submit by November 1, 2009.**

Thank you for your continued support of the vision of Unity.

*Mavis Stephenson*

Rev. Mavis Stephenson, Chair  
Leadership Development and Recruitment Team

Pages 10 and 11 came from a monthly e-newsletter from The Association of Unity churches. The Association has an "Opt-In" email policy. If you would like to receive this e-newsletter on Prosperity or any others that they produce directly, you can sign up by going to [www.unity.org/enews](http://www.unity.org/enews). You must sign up for each e-newsletter individually.



## Unity Earth Care Northwest

*We declare our covenant with God to walk upon Earth for the greatest good of all creation.*

### Hindu Prayer

Oh Lord God almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions. May there be peace on Earth. May the waters be appeasing. May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to us...May all things be a source of peace to us. And may thy peace itself bestow peace on all, and may that peace come to me also.

from *Peace Seeds*, [www.peaceabbey.org](http://www.peaceabbey.org)



An ivy-festooned cloth labyrinth (pictured above), created by church member Mary Ladwig, graces the youth ministry space at Unity Church of Spokane. On Sundays the children are invited to walk the labyrinth during free time (and when they need to expend extra energy!). They also decorate it with art and nature objects. Mary observes the labyrinth is a “walking prayer” that is quieting for the youth and plants seeds of inner peace for the future.

### Connecting Earth Care and Social Action

The Northwest Earth Care team is engaged in revisioning our purpose. We would like to know if there is sufficient interest to form a Spiritual Social Action task team in our region. If you have an interest in spiritual social action and would like to be part of the conversation, please contact Kathy O'Connor at [unityearthcare@yahoo.com](mailto:unityearthcare@yahoo.com).

### Fruits of the Work – Walking for Peace

This quarter, we feature activities that use “sacred space” to foster inner peace and a peaceful planet.

#### Labyrinth Walks

Labyrinths are ancient—and modern—symbols of transformation. In medieval times they were walked in lieu of making pilgrimages to holy sites. Unlike mazes with false turns, a labyrinth has only one meandering path. Tradition suggests that as we walk to the center and back again, we reflect on the path of our life and pray for guidance from Spirit. It may also be a “walking meditation.”

This September, members and friends walked the outdoor labyrinth at Unity Church of North Idaho, to celebrate peace within and peace for all humanity. By lamplight they “journeyed inward” on the labyrinth, to the music of harp and native flute performed by a local artist. At dusk the group moved indoors for a ceremony of prayers and songs to honor world peace, based on a service held annually at the Fuji Peace Sanctuary in Japan. (To learn more, go to [www.byakkoblog.typepad.com](http://www.byakkoblog.typepad.com).)

### Peace Poles Pilgrimage

Peace poles, intended to foster worldwide peace consciousness, began in Japan as a response to the destruction of WWII. For this fall’s “11 Days of Global Unity,” members of Spokane’s many faith communities gathered at seven (of 17) peace poles dotted around the city. (*Unitarian-Universalist pole is pictured at left.*) After sharing prayers from each of the major faith traditions, a progressive dinner was held at the last three sites, at Unity Church of Spokane, Center for Spiritual Living, and Clare Retreat Center. Fellowship and good food were abundant! Go to



[www.onepeacemanypaths.org](http://www.onepeacemanypaths.org)

for more about Spokane’s “11 Days” celebration.

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See more photos at [www.unitynwregion.org](http://www.unitynwregion.org), select /Programs/EarthCare

# Licensed Unity Teacher News - October 2009

by Janet Rhodes, Licensed Unity Teacher Representative  
and Diana Moskal, Licensed Unity Teacher Rep Alternate

Unity School has put a "student resource room" and an "instructor resource room" online for SEE credit classes! These virtual rooms provide access to the class syllabi and support materials for credit classes, along with other information that students and instructors will find useful if not vital.

<http://www.unity.org/education/see>

The above link is your friend...whether you are instructor or student.

First step,

Are you an instructor? Click on "instructors click here."

Are you a student? Click on "students click here."

Clear so far. But it's a little hazy in the middle here. At the next page, you are asked to click on a link to <http://unity.coursewebs>. [You will have to look for this on the student's page.] Then at the following page you click on a "log in" link.

**Then**, you will go to a real log in page.

If you are an instructor, your ID is seeinstructor; if you are a student, it is seestudent. See a pattern?

The password is: esee

Most of these instructions are on the website ... The rest I added.

Finally, you get to a list of classes that you can click on to find a syllabus and often additional handouts. If a class is an elective, the syllabus may be short.

## SEE Dean Wants Feedback on Syllabi

Rev. Paul Hasselbeck, Dean of SEE, has asked us to let him know if there are any challenges with the syllabi. He has responded to feedback in the past and improved syllabi. I know this personally ... as I gave feedback about an earlier syllabus that was far too long and detailed and the new syllabus for the class is far more appropriate. You can contact him via any of the methods below (I couldn't put my hands on his exact email at the moment).

E-mail: [see@unityonline.org](mailto:see@unityonline.org)

Phone: 816-251-3535

Fax: 816-251-3555

## Other Information

1. The Instructor resource page has an example test. It's made up of questions that are completely unrelated to Bible or metaphysics or Unity but demonstrates the types of questions the test has and how it reports back to the student on how she has done.
2. Remember: When you finish teaching a class, send the names and emails of credit students to [ese@unityonline.org](mailto:ese@unityonline.org), Lisa Hurst. This way students will be able to take their tests sooner.
3. Powerpoints are available for classes: email Lisa Earl at [xsee@unityonlyine.org](mailto:xsee@unityonlyine.org) to get powerpoints for classes!!! [Note: there are two Lisa's at SEE. This one is Lisa EARL.]

## LT Candidate? Planning to Attend Spring SDS?

Spring SDS is April 12 thru 15, which means it starts a full week after Easter, rather than following immediately after Leadership week (i.e., Session "C"). **Double-check your dates** when registering and scheduling your travel. I understand this was done to avoid making people travel on Easter.

For you to attend the spring SDS, Licensed teacher coordinator Shirley Kennedy must receive all your documentation by January 12, 2010.

**Please note that this is a FIRM DATE...**all documentation must be received and approved by the Licensed Teacher Coordinator by January 12 in order for you to be invited to our Spring 2010 SDS

Janet

## Keep up with Things

There is a lot going on in the world of Unity.

Remember to check the [Unity.org](http://Unity.org) site often. Unity School and the Association are changing and adding to the site often. The instructor and student resource "rooms" are an example.

## September 2009

### Chapter 9-The Money Enigma

"It is simply that when we place the emphasis on outer things, we miss the whole meaning of life. Life is for expressing, for growth and expansion," says Eric Butterworth.

The Webster's Dictionary tells us that an enigma is something that is hard to understand or explain. This is very true when it comes to truly understanding or explaining our relationship with money.

The University of Michigan conducted a study about how money affected people's lives. Three findings below stood out above all the rest:

1. What do people worry about most?  
Money
2. What makes people most happy?  
Money
3. What makes people the unhappiest?  
Money

You may think these results don't include you, for your mind is stayed on God as your source, but you still have bills to pay and that takes money.

Our thinking, feeling, and actions around money have a direct effect on our prosperity. Money represents different things to different people and is clouded with "not enough" thinking. Money is nothing more than a piece of paper that allows us to trade it for the things in life that we think we want or need. As a monetary exchange, it is indispensable, but when we allow it to become our obsession, it drains us mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. As long as you have impressed on your money the thought of insufficiency, it will continue to misrepresent you in your time of need. But if you contently infuse your money with the idea of abundance,

it will begin to work for you in positive ways.

Charles Fillmore tells us, "Watch your thoughts when you are handling your money, because your money is attached through your mind to the one source of all substance and all money. When you think of money, which is visible, as something attached to an invisible source that is giving or withholding to your thought, you have the key to all riches and all lack."

Money is a symbol of the currency or flow of universal substance. How we think, feel and interact around money can become the object of life's search for meaning. Determine for yourself that money will always be a symbol of abundance, not limitation, not the goal of your life. Doing this will firmly establish balance in your spiritual well-being and will allow you to experience life more abundantly.

#### **The Bible says:**

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains."

1 Tim 6:10

"Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income."

Ecc 5:10

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Mt 6:24

#### **Unity says:**

"Money is a means to an end, not the end itself. You cannot eat

money, and it cannot keep you warm or cuddle you at night. Simply having money is not the goal. The goal is to use it to do whatever your heart leads you to do and to do that which fulfills your divine purpose."

*The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity,*  
Edwene Gaines

"Money is good to the man of sense perception: but when he allows himself to become enamored of it and hoards it, he makes it his god."

*Christian Healing,* Charles Fillmore  
"Money is divine, because money is God's good in expression."

*The Dynamic Laws of Prosperity,*  
Catherine Ponder

"When money is relegated to its rightful place in life it becomes an outer symbol of God's abundance... it is God's defense against lack and limitation. Like all good it must be kept in circulation."

*Prosperity's Ten Commandments,*  
Georgiana Tree West

#### **Practices**

- Take time with your journal and write about your story of "If Money Were No Object to Me Having My Dreams." Make a list of what you would do. Then choose one and do it as if money were no object.
- In your meditation time, consider, "Is money a tool I use for my highest and best, or is it my hard task master?" Ask God to show you how to use it or how to eliminate this task master.
- With your prayer triad talk about how money has shown up in your lives. Together bless your money. Send it forth with joyful positive energy. Take time to support each other when times of lack show up.

## October 2009

### Chapter 10-Discover the Wonder of Giving

"When you discover the wonder of giving, you will wonder how you lived so long in any other way."

Eric Butterworth

Jesus clearly articulated the divine law: "Give, and it will be given to you." (Lu 6:38) The divine flow requires but one thing from you: your consent to be a receiving channel. Jesus stressed the need to get into a giving consciousness in order to sustain the flow into your life. He did not mean simply giving money. There are many ways and places to give. The important thing is to stay in a state of conscious giving.

There have been many conversations and arguments about the difference in giving and tithing. Jesus truly taught the Law of Giving and Receiving and tithing can be a way of getting into a giving consciousness, but is not a substitute for a giving attitude. A giving attitude not only includes the monetary gift but the joy of giving of oneself to a greater level of being. This leads to a stronger connection to God and to the world.

Notice, too, that we talk about the Law of Giving and Receiving, not the Law of Receiving and Giving. When we talk about giving to where we are spiritually fed, it implies that we are waiting until we get something before we give. This is not true giving as Eric understood it, but an exchange. Eric talks about giving without expectation of return, since we can't regulate the channel through which God gives. Giving without limiting who/where/how our good comes to us, is a sign of our spiritual maturity.

Kahlil Gibran, in his classic work, *The Prophet*, says: "You give little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give." This is truly stepping into the flow of giving and receiving.

Eric tells us, "Let's hear less of tithing and more of giving. Let us not be deluded by the claims of the 'magic law of tithing.' Tithing is not a law but a technique for fulfilling the law of giving... There is no need for magic when one works diligently to keep in the flow of life."

#### **The Bible says:**

"For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get."

Mt 7:2

"And he said to them, "Take heed what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you."

Mr 4:24

"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed

down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Lu 6:38

#### **Unity says:**

"The constant theme is get, get, get, get. Just hold the right thought, and you can get anything you want. And the grossest level of materialism is reached when Truth groups are led in singing prosperity songs in which the refrain affirms, 'money, money, money!' A sad derogation of a beautiful, spiritual process."

*Spiritual Economics,*

Eric Butterworth

"The economics of God is very simple. We receive justly for all that we give and we must give freely to receive freely. We must keep our good in circulation not only in thought and word but in the realm of action."

*Prosperities Ten Commandments,*

Georgiana Tree West

"Tithing is based upon a law that cannot fail, and it is the surest way ever found to demonstrate plenty, for it is God's own law of giving."

Charles Fillmore

"Faith expands when you give. The more you give the more faith you are going to have."

*The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity,*

Edwene Gaines

"When you think you cannot afford to give is the very time when you cannot afford not to give!"

*Secret of Unlimited Prosperity,*

Catherine Ponder

#### **Practices**

- In your meditation time, use the mantra, "I live to give." Spend time in the silence to see what the message of a freely giving life can be. Be open to walking out of the meditation with a more giving consciousness. And then be active—give.
- Take time with your journal and write about what came up for you in this meditation. Be aware of your body and the signals it sends when you think about giving. Where do you feel it and how does it feel? Seek out the fear in giving and give anyway. Notice how it feels when you move through the fear and afterwards.
- With your prayer triad, talk about how giving has affected your life. Together talk about right where you are. "What do I have to give?" Together, figure out ways to move forward in this giving.



Northwest Region  
of the Association of Unity Churches

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***Statement of Values***

As members of the Northwest Region we commit to:

- Creating spiritual community through education and practice of the Unity teachings and principles
- Experiencing unity in diversity as God in expression
- Practicing innovation and creativity in all that we do
- Healing and transforming through the power of love, prayer and Spirit
- Supporting our children and youth on their spiritual journey.

***Mission Statement***

We love, respect and support each other as we grow and empower our ministries.

***Vision Statement***

We are a community of powerful, prosperous and successful people committed to Unity ministry.

As a region we pray together, reach out, and care for each other.

Through the sharing of resources and information, and the education and training of our leadership, we encourage ministries to thrive.

We utilize systems, processes, and technology to enhance our capacity to minister with ease and flexibility.

In God, we enthusiastically do together more than we can do alone.

**We Offer You:**

- Professional peacemaking training
- Our Spring Regional Conference
- Paid Youth Education Consultant who presents workshops/ conferences and trainings within our region
- Paid Youth of Unity (YOU) Consultant who presents rallies, workshops/ conferences and trainings within our region
- Summer Camp for youth and teens
- A Regional Representative
- A Licensed Teacher Representative
- Two SEE scholarships towards becoming a Licensed Unity Teacher
- One regional MEP scholarship awarded to second-year Student
- Regional Trainings for church boards
- Yearly Family Summer Retreat at Crystal Mountain in August