

DISCOVERIES

2900 S BERNARD
SPOKANE, WA
99203



WINTER 2020-21

Ministers' Message

Goodbyes are never easy.

On December 13, we will say goodbye to Unity Spiritual Center as we step into our new adventure called retirement. In the 5-3/4 years that we have been serving as your co-ministers, we have been blessed in countless ways. We have made many friends and we will dearly miss this congregation, the wonderful, supportive board members that have accompanied us on this journey, the incredible people who are on staff here and all of our volunteers. Our lives have been deeply touched and enriched by all of you!



Although we are retiring from pulpit ministry after 41 and 21 years respectively, we plan to continue with online teaching, training, coaching shadow integration, writing books as well as curriculum and when it is safe to do so, traveling and speaking. We are not leaving the New Thought world, but our method of serving the movement is shifting and changing.

The Minister's Code of Ethics requires that when a minister leaves a congregation, he or she is duty bound to disengage from and not participate in any way with the community. As we honor the requirement to step away from Unity Spiritual Center, we do so with reluctant sadness and will miss all of you. However, we understand the need to release undue attachment and have seen firsthand the unfortunate result when ministers violate that tenet. It sets the next minister up for failure as congregants stay connected to the former minister.

The coronavirus, political and social unrest have certainly made their mark in our final year at Unity Spiritual Center. The year 2020 did not look quite the way we had envisioned. It has been a challenging year to say the least and yet our Unity message continues to sustain and guide us. Being in the midst of uncertainty and the unknown can be very disconcerting but can lead to a deeper knowing of who we are and the Power that lies within us.

(Continued on pg. 6)

- Board Report 2
- Generosity Report 3
- Board Report continued 3
- Chaplain Report 4
- Youth and Family 5
- Tithes 6
- Ministers' Message continued 6
- Save the Date 7
- Unity Chaplains 7

Sunday Services 10 am

Office & Bookstore by appointment
 Office(509) 838-6518
 Fax.....(509) 838-5537
 Website.....www.unityspokane.org
 Facebook...www.facebook.com/UnitySpiritualCenterSpokane

STAFF

Co-Ministers.....Jane & Gary Simmons
 Youth & Family MinisterJackie Green
 Choir Director.....Shawn Wright
 Accountant/Bookstore.....Linda Tweedy
 Communication.....Liza Mattana
 AV / MediaCaleb Strine
 Custodian.....Bee Reynolds

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Revs. David & Donna McClure, Mary Teresa True, Karen Dunmore

Board Report

As I sit looking out at the ever-earlier-darkening skies, I find myself reflecting on the importance of light in our lives, and especially that Inner Light available to each of us as we navigate the challenges of this time and this world. I find myself feeling immense gratitude to each of you for your willingness to share your Light with the rest of us.

This is a time of change at Unity Spiritual Center – a change in our ministers, our services, our organizational structure, our Board, even decisions regarding opening for in-person gatherings. I am reminded of the chant I learned years ago: “Doors closing, doors opening, doors closing, doors I’m opening, I am safe, it’s only change, I am safe, it’s only change...”. We are safe; we make each other safe, and most importantly, as Beings of Love, we are innately equipped to find opportunities for transformation in every circumstance. Speaking of circumstances, as you know, December 13 will be our final Sunday service with Jane and Gary; on that day we will celebrate together the gifts they have brought us and their formal step into “redirecting” their lives into their next great adventure. Please be sure to join us for the service and the zoom call later that afternoon as we share our love and vast gratitude for Jane and Gary.

Our Board, staff and many volunteers are hard at work preparing for the upcoming transition. In addition to our Transition Team coordinating Center activities and programs, many smaller teams are working on creating transformative Sunday services and classes, outreach, youth gatherings, maintaining our building and grounds, planning next year’s budget, and beginning the ministerial search process, to name just some of them.

(Continued on pg. 3)

Generosity Report

We are deeply grateful to our Unity community for your continuing support through these unusual times, demonstrating your sense of ownership in Unity and your commitment to our mission. 2020 has been a challenging year for us and love offerings have not kept up with expenses, but we have been able to benefit from special gifts and the PPP program. 2021 will bring with it new financial opportunities and challenges, and we thank you in advance for your ongoing financial support.

Lisa Zuber,
Treasurer,
Board of Trustees



(cont. from pg. 2) Our chaplains continue to provide prayer support, and spiritual counseling opportunities are available by contacting Rev. Jackie Green, whose overall duties are expanding to include various responsibilities in addition to Youth and Family Ministries.

Our wonderfully competent staff is working to support communication, maximize our financial resources and complete many other tasks related to being prepared and well organized for that time when we welcome a new minister. The Board of Trustees will be hiring a part time Interim Administrator to serve during the transition; this person will be the lead “point person” for the congregation and the staff, ensuring a smooth transition. He/She will be available to field ideas and concerns in coordination with the Board and the Transition Team. Regarding re-opening the Center to in-person services, the decision has been made to do so for Sunday Services on a limited basis beginning December 20 (Christmas Sunday) during the 10:00 live-streamed service. The staff has been working hard to prepare for a safe re-opening with COVID-19 precautions in place, which will include masks, social distancing and hand sanitizer. Advance registration through the website or by phone will be required, and as a first step, the number of people allowed in the sanctuary will be limited to 25, including children. Watch for more information about how to register to attend.

Wishing you a warm and loving Christmas season,

Joan Brocekling, Board President



Visit our [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#) pages @UnitySpokane.
Find us on [Facebook](#) at “Unity Spiritual Center Spokane.”
Watch a Sunday service on [YouTube](#) for “Unity Spiritual Center Spokane.”

Chaplain Report

It has been an innovative time for all of us due to the pandemic, and no less for our Chaplain team. We held our first ever on-line training for a dozen new and returning Chaplains on two Saturdays a week apart (October 3 and 10). We then recorded our first on-line dedication whose broadcast was on Sunday, November 15. One thing that has not changed is our mission, to pray for our congregation and community. So, please feel free to go on-line and request prayer. We still pray for each request here for a week, and then send the list to Unity Village where it is prayed over for an additional 30 days. We still hold space for each service. At this moment, due to the pandemic, we are not able to make hospital or nursing care visits, but we will restart them as soon as practical.

Until then, contact the church with any prayer or visitation needs, 838-6518, or [send a request](#) through our website.

Al Konigsfeld



Transitions & Celebrations

Our thoughts and prayers are with

- Jeremiah Supon and family on the passing of his father.
- Bee Reynolds and family on the passing of her father.

Youth and Family Ministry

PAGE 5

Previously in this publication I asked you about your own self talk. Now I want to inquire about talking with others. How have you been nurturing your spiritual connection with others these days? Really I am asking myself these questions. My sister Molly is amazing in her ability to engage others in meaningful conversations about themselves. I found out lots of things about my own daughters by overhearing conversations they had with their Aunt Molly. Of course some of her other amazing attributes are her deep listening and clear reflection of what is shared. I wonder how she invited conversations in the first place. What words engage others?



Here I am in the middle of the night again wishing you were here to share with me how you have heart opening conversations, what may even be referred to as small talk. Then I notice some questions on this page that I shared earlier. What are you discovering about yourself? What are you looking forward to in life? What are your affirmations? What lifts and strengthens you?

Remembering a file on my computer I found more questions. I would love to hear your insights and experience. Of course I won't ask you all of these questions at once. Just maybe one or two over a lifetime. Some I will save to ask other friends in a moment of connection. What are two things you do for fun? What is your favorite place to be? Describe the qualities of your best friend. Perhaps the moment will present itself while driving in a car. What are two goals you have in life? Who is one of your heroes? Maybe we will put our phones on silent while we share a meal. What's one thing you're looking forward to? When do you feel close to God? What is something you dream of doing someday? What project are you working on right now? Maybe you will ask while washing dishes like I did with my grandmother. Favorite books? What's one of your favorite movies? What are two things that give your life meaning or a sense of purpose? Your conversation could happen with a family member while in a waiting room. What's happened in your life that you didn't expect? What's something in your life you're grateful for? Watching the stars on a clear night may bring up questions. What are three important values for you? One important belief? What's a question you'd like to ask someone?

How blessed we are to have our Unity spiritual family answer our questions and enrich our awareness?

Contact Rev. Jackie at jackienwyou@comcast.net to learn more about Youth Ministry.

PAGE 6

(Continued from pg. 1)

Our prayer is that this time between ministers will serve as the catalyst for you to find within yourself that deeper Power.

We know that the minister who comes forth will bless this congregation on the next phase of the journey. So, this is not goodbye but fare well. We can't wait to see the amazing blessings that are in store for this wonderful community and will continue to support Unity Spiritual Center in our thoughts and prayers.

Blessings,

Jane and Gary



Unity believes in the practice of tithing.

As we share our income with others...

Unity Worldwide, Northwest Region YOU, Carl Maxey Center, Family Promise, Heifer International, NAACP, World Relief Spokane, Meals on Wheels, NW Harvest

...we also generously receive.

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Save the Date!

December 19—Youth Ministry Christmas Gathering via Zoom at 11 am.

December 20—In-person Sunday Service at 10 am. Must register beginning 12/15 and follow COVID guidelines to attend, space limited to 25, unityspokane.org/tickets

December 24—Christmas Eve Service via Zoom at 7 pm.

Dec 27—In-person Sunday Service at 10 am. Must register beginning 12/22 and follow COVID guidelines to attend, space limited to 25, unityspokane.org/tickets



Not pictured: Kathy Fisher

To submit a Prayer Request online, visit the Contact Us page on our website, and complete the online [Prayer Request](#).

Unity Spiritual Center
2900 S Bernard
Spokane, WA 99203

509-838-6518
unityspokane.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Text the word GIVE to 253-528-7416 to conveniently tithe to our center.



Find it in the app store!