

March 2021

How to stay centered no matter what.



Dear Friends,

Spring flowers are making their way above ground and life is making itself known on Mother Earth again. This month we continue to bring our attention to practices and thought patterns that allow us to Stay Centered - No Matter What.

Staying centered in the midst of changing conditions is our goal...centered in the awareness of the Divine Presence living in, through, around and as us. This truth that great wisdom teachers have shared continues to be what we seek. The same wisdom that lived in them lives in you and me. This month I invite you to practice accepting this truth:

I can handle any circumstance by tapping into the wisdom within me and all around me.

In *The Twelve Powers of Man*, Charles Fillmore wrote: “When we awaken to the reality of our being, the light begins to break upon us from within and we know the truth; this is the quickening of our wisdom or judgment faculty. When this quickening occurs, we find ourselves discriminating between good and evil. We no longer accept the teachings of the worldly wise, but we know with an inner intuition, and we judge people and events from a new viewpoint.”

In *Healing Letters*, Myrtle Fillmore wrote: “When wisdom and love and life and power prompt your thoughts, you are living and moving and having your being in the very presence of God, and you know that all is well. Then you will be able to concentrate upon anything that requires your attention, and you will be quiet and poised and comfortable.”

Beloved Friends, You are wise! You are love! You are the life of God expressing as you! And I am blessed to be a part of this community.

Love & Laughter - Reverend Terry

Sunday Celebration Services 10 a.m.

Live Stream and recordings are available on our website under the Media tab

Rev. Terry Murray, Minister

Council Members:

Nancy Camenzind, Chair
Mark Delaplaine, Vice-Chair
Paul Swanda, Treasurer
Betty Bailey, Secretary
Dolly Hansen, Member
Dennis Godwin, Member

Staff Team Members:

Janene Cummings, Music Director
Lisa Petrich, Youth Education
Marlisa Hollinger, Bookkeeper
Jessica Martino, Office Admin.

Unity of Olympia Office hours:

*The office is currently closed
Please email us if you are in need of assistance.*

1335 Fern Street SW
Olympia, WA 98502

office@unityofolympia.org
www.unityofolympia.org

Sundays in the Sanctuary

At this time, our building is closed. We invite you to join us on Sundays at 10:00a for a live stream of our Sunday service, or view the recording at your convenience. Both of these services are available on our website at www.unityofolympia.org under the Media tab. *Please note that it can take several minutes to appear on our website once the stream begins. You will want to wait a few minutes and then refresh the page to try again.*

We also invite you to learn more about the activities and services we that are available to you during this interim time. They can be found on our website at:

<https://www.unityofolympia.org/interim-services-activities-beginning-march-2020>

Music News

Greetings Unity Family--

Is it March already? Is Spring truly on its way?

I don't know about you but I am ready to bathe in the glory of emerging crocus and daffodils. I'm ready to step out of winter's renewing hibernation and dance into Spring!

I love how Charles Dickens expresses--

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold. When it is summer in the light and winter in the shade."

To me, March is a time to honor winter and celebrate the birth of more light. Ahhhhh

This month, on the 14th, we have the privilege of hosting Laurie & Eric, a Unity duo fav! You won't want to miss the heart warming gifts they generously bring.

May each of us feel the color-filled blooming of Spring in our magnificent hearts!

Much love--
Janene Cummings
Music Director



Youth and Family Ministries

March 2021

Hello Friends and Families,

“Joy collected over time, fuels resilience – ensuring we’ll have reservoirs of emotional strength when hard things do happen.” Brene Brown’s quote is a reminder to collect joyful moments and to create them! Moving forward for our youth, my intention is to connect with families more to be of support and to see the children. Starting March 7, I will be at the church handing out packets for our children. These packets will contain materials for our lessons and small gifts from the YFM Department. I’d like to have Unity Kids meet on March 7th and Uniteens and Y.O.U. meet on March 21st. I’ll be reaching out soon to connect with families and schedule a time.



NW Youth Team Conference 2021 Reimagining Through a Spiritual Lens



Youth and Family Ministries *cont.*

Last month, I spoke of the Youth and Family Team Conference. This conference brought about focus on our families and youth for our region. This picture contains the faces who put our Unity Students first! David and I felt that it was an honor to attend and represent Unity of Olympia.



Our virtual classroom continues! I truly enjoy adding new elements and links to our site each week. Please go to the Unity of Olympia website to check out what is new. The lessons are now split into a Unity Kids Page and a Uniteens & Y.O.U. Page. The weekly lessons will continue throughout March in the format of weekly virtual classroom experiences where children can click on what interests them and make the lesson more of a game. Please see the website for more details.

Our YFM March **Finding Your Zen** Lessons:

March 7 – A Mindful Plan (Unity Kids) & Both Sides of the Story (Uniteens & Y.O.U.)

March 14 – A Mindful Plan Part II (Unity Kids) & Beauty in the Pain (Uniteens & Y.O.U.)

March 21 – A Restful Routine (Unity Kids) & Our Dark Side (Uniteens & Y.O.U.)

March 28 – A Restful Routine II (Unity Kids) and Connection (Uniteens & Y.O.U.)



If there is anything I can do to support a spiritual practice at home with you and your family, please let me know. Truly, a good spiritual practice will follow your children and they will remember the foundation because it starts at home. Lighting a candle, saying a prayer, drawing a picture, and listening to a song that provokes a positive vibration or oneness in the world, are examples of ways to start.

Lots of LOVE,

Lisa Petrich

YFM Director

Unity of Olympia



Business News

From the Council:

The **Chill-Out** celebrating the 30-day challenge was very successful - we took in \$10,837 on this fund raiser! We are a generous, prosperous community!

New Staff: Rev Terry has hired a new custodian, named Keone, who is replacing Jesse who is moving on to other things. Welcome Keone! Rev Terry is also in the process of hiring a new office administrator to replace Indira, who is moving to Alabama. Her last day will be March 5. So sorry to see Indira and Jesse go!

Council Members Needed! Three positions are coming open on the Council, to be voted on at the annual meeting, so if you feel the calling to apply, please contact Nancee Gordana, Paul Swanda, or Rev Terry.

Documents: The By-Laws Committee completed their revision, and the updated by-laws were approved by the Council at a special meeting in January. A huge thanks to all who worked on this committee. Now this by-laws revision will go for a vote of the membership at the annual meeting on **May 2 - save the date**. But prior to that, on **March 21** there will be a **Town Hall meeting** to discuss the changes to the by-laws, so please plan on attending this meeting also. The Council also approved the new Policy Manual.

The **Parking Lot Ministry** policy is in place, but seems to be a work in progress. In addition to the handful of people we've given temporary parking permits to, we also have visitors to Evergreen Vista overflowing onto our property due to lack of visitor parking spaces at Evergreen.

Shower Bus: Our Unity volunteers working on the shower bus team on Tuesdays are feeling rewarded by the work. They met with Rev Terry in early January to discuss the pros and cons of hosting the shower bus, and the decision to continue the project was unanimous. Therefore, your Council gave approval for hosting the bus for 90 more days, running until May 1, after which time it will be on a month-by-month basis.

Bishop Wing Rental: We have a single man, Dana, renting space in the Bishop Wing. He drives a large black pick-up, usually parked near the building, so if you see him, be sure to say hello. He's working out well and has even been trained to work on the Shower Bus team.

Community News is a new section we're adding to the monthly newsletter. It will report moves, deaths, births, new members, etc. If you want to make a notation about someone in the newsletter, please contact Dennis Godwin at d.godwin@comcast.net.

Nancy Camenzind
Council Chair

Business News *cont.*

Save the Date

March 21st, 2021 - Bylaws Review Town Hall

May 2nd, 2021 - Annual Membership Meeting

Updated revised bylaws will be presented for approval at this year's Annual Membership Meeting. Please be prepared for this vote by reviewing the changes and bringing your questions or comments to the Bylaws Review Town Hall meeting on March 21st.

Unity Worldwide Ministries provided an updated template for ministry bylaws in 2019 and requested that each ministry review their community's bylaws and make updates to bring them into alignment with the new suggested bylaws. At Unity of Olympia's 2020 Annual Meeting, seven members volunteered to work on this task. The Bylaws Review Team met several times during the fall and winter, comparing our current bylaws with the suggested, discussing the implications of making each change, and coming to consensus with a new document. They forwarded their new document to the Council of Trustees who held a Special Meeting to review the document.

There are many revisions in this new document. Some are cursory, such as the suggestion that the Council of Trustees be renamed as the Board of Trustees. Other changes are more substantial. One such substantial change is found in the ministry's Statement of Purpose: "...to teach universal principles of Truth, as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ..." The suggested language revises the text to read: "...to teach universal principles of Truth, as taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ *and other spiritual teachers...*" This suggested change brings our Purpose Statement in alignment with our real-world practices.

Both documents are available through the links below and directly on our website at <https://unityofolympia.org/bylaws>. If you are a voting member of Unity of Olympia, please take some time to review these documents in advance of our Annual Meeting and plan to attend the Bylaws Review Town Hall on March 21st at 11:30.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2152347256>

Meeting ID: 215 234 7256

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,2152347256# US (Tacoma)

[Bylaws Revisions](#)

[Current Bylaws](#)

Community News

Unity of Olympia is an engaging spiritual community, dedicated to the fullest expression of the Divine in all! As a community, one of our values is personal connection. As such, we have created this section of the newsletter to pay tribute to members of our community through acknowledging changes and providing information on areas that affect our members such as moves, births, deaths, new community members, etc. If you have news to add, please contact Dennis Godwin at d.godwin@comcast.net.

- **Teresa Merrick**, a former member of our Usher Team, moved to the Bend, OR area over the summer.
- **Michael Reveile** passed away in the late Fall. We wish condolences to his wife, Dawn, and his family.
- **Sue Marshall**, a member of the Prayer Team, has moved back home to Tennessee.
- **Carole Jones**, also a member of the Usher Team, has moved to Arizona.
- **Chuck Kenmir**, formerly of the Buildings and Grounds committee, passed away on January 31. We think of his family and send them healing thoughts at this time.
- **Fay Hobbs** passed away on August 15 2020. We send our condolences to her family.

Special Events



Self-Care Class

March 6, 13 & 20, 10:30am-2:30pm | Audrey Pitchford, LUT

Self-Care is about making choices that reflect a consciousness of well-being. As we become aware of the care of our mind, body and spirit, we discover that when we are our best self, we make contributions to our family, our communities and our world with ease and grace. This course will provide guidelines and action plans for instilling practices of self-care in the areas of awareness, mindfulness, setting boundaries, letting go, forgiveness and self-love. The class will be both reflective and interactive building self-awareness and sharing what works in applying self-care practices into daily life as well as identifying how to use this foundation in times of stress and chaos.

This class will be 10 hours long in total and available for SEE credit. (All three classes must be taken in full to receive credit.) The cost is \$75 and may be paid via the donation page on our website. For those seeking SEE credit, an additional \$45 will also need to be paid to UWSI.

Books required for credit are:

- Lokos, 2010. Pocket Peace: Effective Practices for Enlightened Living. New York: Penguin Group.
- Borysenko, 2001. Inner Peace for Busy People: 52 Simple Strategies for Transforming Your Life. Carlsbad, CA: Hay House, Inc.

Register on our website at unityofolympia.org



Sunday, March 7th | 10:00am

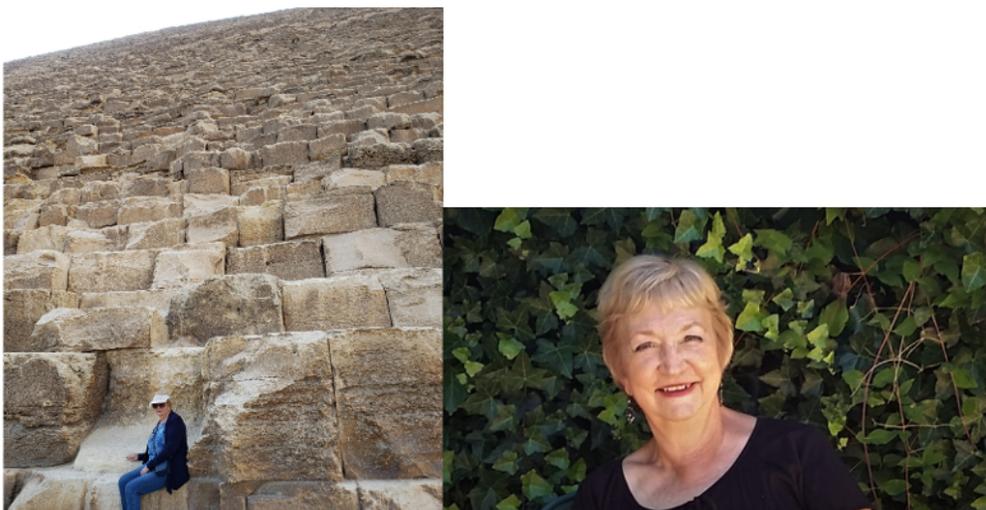
Join us on Sunday, March 7th during our regular Sunday service for guest speaker, Matt Jones.

Matt Jones is known as the “Eight Continent Marathon Man.” He went from being a three-time cancer conqueror to relearning how to walk, to going through a bone marrow transplant, to completing eight marathons on eight continents. This includes Antarctica and the and yes that includes Antarctica and the newly discovered continent of Zealandia. Matt was diagnosed with cancer on September 11, 2002. After spreading to the fluid in his brain doctors did not think he would live. After victoriously conquering cancer, he was told by his doctor, no one has gone through what he did and be alive one year later. Baseball Hall of Famer George Brett said, “Matt is a true champion and his story inspires others to be a true champion.” Olympic Gold Medalist Scott Hamilton said, “Matt Jones has done what anyone would consider impossible. Conqueror. Overcomer. Champion. Superhuman. None of those words do him justice.” Matt is the author of numerous books and travels around the world sharing his inspiring story and message. For more information about Matt please visit his website at www.MatthewDJones.com

Special Events *cont.*

Sandy Crowell is a longtime Unity member who joined us several years ago from Unity of Lewis County, where she served on the board of trustees and as president. She is a retired adult educator and writer whose career included community college instruction, nonprofit management, and corporate training. She retired the second time as a contracted writer for the Chehalis Tribe. Sandy's recent accomplishment is that as editor and one of the authors of the Thurston County history book, *Water, Woods & Prairies*, her third local history book. She and Ann Chenhall co-chair Unity's representation to Interfaith Works.

Sandy considers her travels as a huge blessing she would like to share with others. She and her travel partner journeyed to the Middle East shortly before the pandemic hit. In preparation for the trip they read relevant biblical passages and prepared a travel guide for Israel, Jordan and Egypt. Join Sandy for her power point presentation on March 28 as she explores our connection to the stories of Israel and on April 25 for a peek at the grandeur of Egypt.



Traveler and Olympia writer Sandy Crowell poses on the Gaza Pyramid in Egypt.

EASTER SOCK HOP COMING SUNDAY APRIL 4th



As we look forward to spring flowers, warmer days, vaccines and all good things coming to us after a winter of seclusion, Unity is hosting another drive-by adventure.

In August we hosted "Summer Sizzle" (or "Have your Cake and Eat it, Too), in November we had fun with "Pie on the Fly", and January we enjoyed the 'Chill Out" as we completed our 30-day Challenge. These events were fun and resulted in a huge number of donations to the Thurston County Food Bank and Unity of Olympia.

Please join us after Sunday service on Easter **Sunday, April 4**, for a BABH Shower Bus benefit. We'll provide the cupcakes and you can help by providing new, warm over-the-ankle socks for adult men and women. Even though we won't be back in the building for Easter, we can use the parking lot for visiting. Remember to wear a mask and keep your distance. Questions? Contact Cathy Evans, Community Engager.

Within Our Ministry

Community Outreach

Find Joy in Serving

Our collective spiritual practice of serving lunches at the Shelter for the homeless is a cause that resonates with many. In the last several months, folks from surrounding areas have joined our Service Teams in the preparation of their weekly lunch. When WE share our Joy of loving care, others embrace an opportunity to serve.

This is a heartwarming story that is worth sharing.

Giogi and I decided we would try to support a local business when purchasing food for our shelter Wednesday. We reached out to Ila's Food, which is a business owned by one of our neighbors here at Lake Cushman.

We explained to Debbie, the owner, all about Unity Church and participating in this wonderful mission to feed the homeless. We gave her our budget and the number of people that we are currently feeding. Her response was gracious beyond belief.

Debbie stated that she has wanted to get more involved in helping the homeless and would love to donate her time in preparing our Wednesday food. She was thrilled to get this opportunity and said, "I'm thrilled. I think this is part of God's plan."

Love and Blessings,
Amy & Giogi

Amy and Giogi Chiappowest are Unity members who provide the meal on the third Wednesday of the month. Debbie Kilcup-Ila's Foods-Tumwater www.ilasfoods.com.

Community Engager, Cathy Evans

Be grateful for the ways in which you are able to serve, knowing your gifts and talents help make the world a better, kinder place.

A Parking Lot Ministry

As you may have noticed, we have extra cars in our church parking lot on a regular basis. Our guests are residents at the Evergreen Vista Apartments who are facing financial challenges that have made it difficult to keep their vehicles licensed. We have agreed to provide a temporary location for parking while they do work to renew their automobile registrations as required.

We believe this is a Spirit led decision and are honored to be able to serve. Additionally, we have created a fund to assist those who are unable to secure renewed registrations on their own. Applicants for financial assistance will participate with Unity of Olympia for an agreed upon period of time so we might share our message of abundance and the power of prayer, provide two hours of service (to any non-profit) and meet with Reverend Terry.

For all the details on the new Parking Lot Ministry [click here](#). To volunteer to serve in this ministry, send an email to Nancy Camenzind, Council of Trustees Chair at ccnac@msn.com. You can contribute to the Parking Lot Ministry fund through our website or by mailing a check to 1335 Fern St SW, Olympia, 98502. If mailing a check, please write a note for us. A donor has already agreed to provide \$1200 toward this fund.

We are open to the sacred richness of our infinite Source, joyfully co-creating unlimited prosperity right now.



Within Our Ministry *cont.*

Prayer Team

Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 17 and ends the night before Easter, which is Sunday April 4th. Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is observed in many and varied ways by different religions.



In the Unity New Testament Interpretation workbook, it says, "The crucifixion itself symbolizes a process of crossing out, or eliminating that which is no longer needful for our continued unfoldment. What has fulfilled its purpose in us must be either lifted to a higher level of expression in consciousness, or let go of completely. Jesus' crucifixion illustrates both these meanings."

Lent is an opportunity to call forth greater aspects of ourselves. To release what no longer serves our higher good and to embrace our best selves. As we release old thought patterns, we can move forward in life. We can embrace new ways of doing and being. We are God-powered beings having a human experience. We are One with and part of that Infinite expression we call God. And God is all there is.

As we rise to a higher expression of ourselves we are blessed, and we bless others. We are enough. We are the expression of God in the world. And, our words and actions make a difference.

If you wish to request prayer, please do so at prayer@unityofolympia.org or by calling Silent Unity at 816-969-2000 24/7.

Namaste.

Penny Parsons

NW Regional News



March 27 | 7:00-9:00pm

visit www.unitynwregion.org for more information.

Interfaith Works



*Social justice and peace
through interfaith understanding
and cooperation.*

Interfaith WORKS

March, 2021

Highlights from the IW Program Council:

- **Over \$1 million has been granted to IW housing from the cities and Thurston County.** The building project at 2828 Martin Way is underway, and the “Sprung” structure at **3434 Martin Way will open this month**, in March, to shelter those currently housed at the Methodist Church. When the 5-story structure is complete at the 2828 site in 16-17 months, IW will negotiate with Providence to provide day shelter and respite care of 3-4 beds for those released from the hospital with no place to go.
- **Contributing to the Unity lunches?** The shelter number is increasing, now to 40. IW expressed gratitude for those who provide badly needed meals: “Volunteers for supplying meals to our shelter guests are always appreciated and especially during this time of Covid.” Cathy Evans, Unity Volunteer Coordinator, can be reached at communitycoordinator@unityofolympia.org to volunteer for Wednesday lunches.
- The guest speaker for the Program Council was **Rev. Terry Kylo, the founder of Paths to Understanding**, www.pathstounderstanding.org. The mission at Paths to Understanding is to Bridge Bias and Build Unity through Multi-faith Peacemaking. Their work is through • Telling Inspiring Stories • Nurturing Relationships • Acting Together. “We can’t be human without each other,” Rev. Kylo said. His presentation provided information and resources for countering anti-Muslim bigotry: www.factsoverfear.org YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG3bB74Czg5xjSUU8WFciKw>
- Following the week of Our Shared Journey of recognition and healing, you can tell your own COVID story or read those of others. You can choose to share for possible inclusion in a **column** in The Olympian newspaper. “Our Shared Journey” <https://www.interfaithworks.org/events.html#days>
- **Lean In:** Join Lean In second and fourth Tuesday at noon on the Interfaith Works Facebook page as it live streams a program inviting community members to share their knowledge and perspective at the crossroads of humanity, justice, and belief. **After the shows broadcast, they can be accessed on IW Facebook and YouTube.**

Submitted by Sandy Crowell and Ann Chenhall