

August 2021

The UNITY Messenger

Unity Church
of Peoria
3127 N Avalon Place
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Peoria, IL 61604

Issue 8

Lines from Linda:

During the last quarter of the 19th century the Unity movement began to form. Myrtle Fillmore and her husband, Charles Fillmore had been studying what at the time was referred to as "New Thought". New thought did not begin with these two pioneers, however through their practical application of New Thought the organization we know today as Unity came through them in a profound way.

One of the practical applications came to Myrtle during a lecture by E. B. Weeks. You may have heard this before, and yet I am repeating it here as we cannot allow it to be old news or only Mama Myrtle's story. It is practical principle that we can apply in our lives today. It took two years for Mama Myrtle.

"I am a child of God and therefore do not inherit sickness."

This simple statement used repeatedly in times of need, and times of health, has a power to change your mind so that the creative process of the spirit of life within you is activated to demonstrate wholeness which is your divine right. I have used this creative idea over the course of my 36 years in Unity studying, applying and demonstrating this principle. "It works."

The old patterns of thought and feeling which support our beliefs in truth vs. worldly reality shift and change. Often it seemed I was being tested by some mysterious expression of life to prove this new (to me) declaration. Applying this statement to specifics individual manifestations as they began to appear most often healed the circumstance. I saw healers, doctors, prayer practitioners, and called forth from within me the healing power to correct these circumstances.

My journey, which bears the title "minister" includes events that effect my actions in ministry. Say What? The big ones usually occur on Saturday and cause me to be absent on Sunday morning. During my 29 years of service here there is always an angel ready to serve you on Sunday Morning. Each time I breathed a sigh of relief and let go of my perceived ministry obligation and took care of my personal business. Thank you to those who have faithfully served this ministry.

December 27, 2020 was a very surprising New Year Celebration as we entered 2021.

Do you want to be healed? Continued on Page 4

UNITY OF PEORIA

PURPOSE STATEMENT

*Honoring Oneness,
celebrating life,
and expressing love*

MISSION STATEMENT

*Being all God
created us to be.*

VISION STATEMENT

*Creating heaven on earth
Unity through the oneness of mind,
body and spirit.*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Teresa Barnard, President
Christy Egart, Vice-president
Diane Jordan, Secretary
Juanita Burton, Treasurer
Linda Foreman, Minister/CEO*

**You are invited to attend
Board Meetings held each third
Sunday of the month at 12:30pm
in the Center!**

In this newsletter...

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UNITY CLASSES

NEW **Tuesdays (Beginning July 6th) 10:30am in Fellowship Hall**

“A New Way of Thinking” by Charles Roth (This title speaks for the content)

Postponed until Autumn **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall**

Matthew * Mark * Luke * John

The four books which chronicle the life of Jesus, in differing ways, are our exploration and discussion. When were these stories written? Who are the authors? Why are they so different? We will also explore the metaphysical interpretations of this record. Bring your Bible or borrow one from our library



Unity's WELL OF ABUNDANCE

“Ask and you shall receive.”

WE ARE ASKING FOR...

Garden attendants to maintain our beautiful landscaping, your time and talent will be greatly appreciated

We are grateful for your financial support during this unusual time, each offering is appreciated.

We are requesting volunteer assistance, as we are no longer employing someone to clean the church.

A new musician to play the piano for Sunday Services.
This is a paid employment situation.

Even though Rev. Linda is on salary now for half-time work she is your best contact person for any of the above.
Rev's cell 309 253 6443 Office 309 682 8554

Hello dear friends,

No question, there was a lot of happenings going on in our world these last several years that were invitations to feeling threatened and anxious. I sometimes found myself thinking and wanting to know “what’s coming down”.

Unity has a theme each year and this year it is “How to Stay Centered, No Matter What”. I was sent this booklet from them. (By the way, anyone can get this booklet and new booklets they regularly publish free of charge through Unity’s website, unity.org, or by calling 816-969-2000.)

That theme is timely and appropriate for me, and I am so appreciative that Unity connects spirituality with our modern-day world and experiences. The booklet reviews the 12 Powers with individuals sharing real life experiences and prayers.

Besides reading and meditation on Unity books and literature, two other practical things that center me are fellowship and service. Even during the Covid restrictions, we were able to operate by choosing to be cooperative with the guidelines for our common welfare. I so appreciate that! That allowed a spiritual message on Sundays, fellowship, and the continuation of Tuesday mornings class. Service work (like mowing and chores around the church) also helped me stay more centered. I also accepted the one-year term to fill a board vacancy. I know many of you have found these experiences beneficial also.

From our current study book on Tuesday mornings, “A New Way of Thinking”, was the story about the little girl who said, “I was thinking about gravity, and I decided that gravity is God right in the center of the world, keeping the people right side up when the world is upside down.”

So maybe it is not about “knowing what’s coming down” as it is consciously choosing our next step with God as that spiritual stabilizer within us that will keep us upright.

Blessings for all,
Christy Egart



Continued from Page 1

A surprising close for the year 2020 for me, soon became a surprise entry into the year 2021 for all of us as a Unity Community.

In preparation for the Burning Bowl service on December 27, I sat in my comfortable chair at home with all of the papers and envelopes on a TV tray in front of me. All was prepared and ready for the service when I decided to test the flash paper. Well suddenly the flash paper flew out of my grasp and landed on the papers in front of me. Yes you guessed it. There I was with a flaming burning bowl ceremony minus the burning bowl. I had just poured and large mug of coffee which I quickly grabbed and poured over the burning papers. In my haste, upon reflection I poured too much too quickly and washed the burning hot mess to the floor. I ran to the kitchen and grabbed the coffee pot with a few cups of coffee and poured it on the fire which had increased in size. I ran back to the kitchen and as quick as I could filled the coffee pot with water, ah success the papers were no longer burning. Oh no. my chair was now beginning to burn, running to the kitchen for more water I was able to extinguish that fire also...Phew that is over. Then I looked down and saw my pajama leg on fire. I quickly ran to the ceramic tiled floor in my kitchen and removed the pajamas, once again filling the coffee pot with water and extinguishing that fire also. Oh what a mess I created.

I began to feel pain in my left leg and realized, though I did not feel it during the incident I had burned by leg. My sense was that it was from my ankle to above my knee on the left side of my left leg though I did not look at it. What did I do then? Dressed for church and conducted the burning bowl ceremony. I told no one of the events of the morning and left immediately after service to drive myself to the emergency room at Proctor. (Time of Covid no ride sharing)

The Docs questioned me about the event and began to treat the burned area. Making statements like "It is good that this on one side of your leg. If it had burned around your leg you would surely have nerve damage. I kind of checked out of their conversation at that point. They were beginning to say things that would interfere with my ability to apply the healing principles.

How did I celebrate the Burning Bow and drive myself to Proctor? Shock, yes, my mind entered into shock and protected me from the pain the was sure to follow. The burn was treated and bandaged and I was recommended to the Burn Clinic in Springfield. Upon the Doctors insistence I accepted the prescription for a very low dose of Oxycotin. The words were "when the shock wears off you will want this for the pain." I did.

December 30th I was at the Burn Clinic. "You need surgery with a skin graft." OK time to move through this by letting go and letting God take care of the details when I showed up with any medical personnel. There is a lot more drama which does not need to be shared. The burn was said to be 10% and I chose to remain ignorant of what that meant. More information or even looking at the burned area would not be beneficial to my healing.

Surgery was scheduled for 1/11 in Springfield. My beloved Unity friends Mike and Juhlie live in Springfield. "You will stay with us for recovery and after care. Juhlie accompanied me the day of the surgery. She knows more about the events of that day than I.

In Pre op Juhlie knew what I was doing "checking out" and answered any questions that arose. The last thing I remember of that pre-op morning was the surgeon introducing himself as "Dr. Bueno" = (Dr. Good = Dr. God) OK now I truly can check out of this mornings activities. "It is a sign!"

I remained with Mike and Juhlie through January and until my check up at the clinic on February 17th. The Drs. at the Clinic were very pleased and surprised at the progress in my healing and released me until my 6 month check up which was July 14. I am now released from any further treatment other than self care THANK YOU GOD!

I appreciate your support during this experience. I know in my mind a heart that withdrawal from the rhythm of my life was necessary to fulfill the healing. Some of you were disappointed that I literally checked out of my life activity and solely worked on healing my body. Your disappointment was not my concern at that time. Healing my body after God had provided Dr. Bueno and staff to aid the process was my only objective. Within the sanctuary of my heart and the sanctuary of Juhlie and Mike's home all was well.

I love you, I bless you, and do appreciate you! I also expect that if you need to be reclusive you will tell me.

Thank you to all, you know who you are, that came forward and kept the day to day activities of our ministry.

There is more I could tell, but is it necessary?

Love, Light and Peace to you.

Linda