

WINGS OF TRUTH



Reflections by Mahala

January/February 2009

Beginnings and Endings



Greetings friends and family of Unity by the Bay:

As the clock winds down on 2008, we are all taking inventory of the past year; its challenges and triumphs, the lessons we have learned and the friendships we have deepened. All that was true, genuine and authentic in our experiences will be moving forward with us as we step into a New Year. Some of us have overcome health challenges, strengthening our faith. Some of us have said good bye to family members who have transitioned to the next plane of existence, deepening our appreciation of Life itself. Some have let go of old habits that no longer serve our highest good, while others have committed to service in new and exciting ways.

The new year heralds the possibility of new opportunities and rekindles a spirit of hope within us. It offers the opportunity to begin again.

January is symbolized by Janus - the two headed God. The one head facing the past and the other head facing the present and the future. It is the time of the year when many of us take stock of our lives, offer gratitude to those who have contributed to our well-being and happiness and make new commitments to the future. The season lends itself to quiet times; inner reflection, slowing down, and re-dreaming.

One Hopi Elder put it this way: "Stop, Consider, Change, Correct."

Each year when I get out new calendars, I always take a moment to reflect on the endless possibilities of the 365 "blank" days ahead. I realize that those days can be filled by anything I choose to fill them with. They are "mine" to shape, create, plan, and dream in. They are gifts-in-waiting from my creator.

Please join me in resolving to make the most of each and every day in the coming year. We can all do this together by taking a few simple actions.

1. Resolve to give Gratitude each day. Being sincerely grateful for the blessings and gifts in our lives keeps us connected to our Higher Power in a meaningful and positive way. It also allows the doors to remain open for greater good to come into our lives.

2. Resolve to exercise our minds every day by spending a time in reflection, prayer and meditation. There are many appointments that we make and keep each week, but there can be no more important one than the Divine Appointment.

3. Resolve to exercise our bodies every day by spending some time each day doing something that stretches our body in some way. Our bodies are our vehicles for the duration of the Life experiment - and how we treat them determines how they will serve us.

4. Resolve to practice anonymous acts of kindness regularly. Each of us can make a difference in this world by expanding compassion and kindness in this world. Not only does it "feel good to do good" but it deepens and strengthens our spiritual muscles to extend ourselves in love for the good of others.

Most of us will not achieve truly "great" things this year, (as the world defines it) but each of us can achieve greatness by doing small things with great love. Each of us can be "the best me we can be" by developing daily practices which strengthen ourselves, body-mind and spirit. Each of us can make the world around us a better, more beautiful place by the quality of our thoughts and actions. Each of us can bring peace in the moment to chaotic world by being peaceful and serene, calm and centered.

I feel that we are all blessed beyond measure to have one another in our Unity community to grow, pray, celebrate and commune with. Together, we make beautiful music.

The poet Robinson Jeffers *Continued on page 3*

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February 3rd, 2008

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Mahala Connally

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Sunday Church Service

10:30am

Office Hours

Sun. Closed

Mon. 9:30am - 3:30pm

Tues. 9:30am - 3:30pm

Wed. 9:30am - 3:30pm

Thurs. 9:30am - 3:30pm

Fri. Closed

Sat. Closed

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wrote: *"Lend me the strength of the past, and I will lend you the wings of the future".*

I bless and love each of you; beholding the Light of God that shines to brightly through you to me.

I know we can make the coming year the best year we have had; individually and collectively as we each do our part in Unity.

Namaste'

Mahala

Spiritual Leader

Unity by the Bay

The Office Line

By Tia Crisp, Administrator

I look forward to working with the Unity by the Bay community in the upcoming New Year. It has been an honor for me to be a part of this community. I have come to know many of you on a personal level, and I treasure the many wonderful relationships I have formed by being a part of Unity by the Bay.

If you are a member, you should have received by now, an "official" invitation to our Annual Business Meeting on January 25th, 2009 at UBB. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend, regardless of your membership status. However, only members have voting privileges, and/or can serve on the Board of Trustees.

If you have been coming to Unity by the Bay for awhile, and feel as if you would like to become a member, we will offer a New Member Induction on Sunday, January 11th, 2009 during the Sunday service, which starts at 10:30am. If you have any questions about placing membership, please see Mahala, myself, or any Board Member. There are no formal "requirements", other than a willing heart. We do encourage new members to take the Unity classes that are offered periodically at the church, to broaden your understanding and knowledge of Unity Principles.

Sometime in January, you will receive via the mail, a statement of your church giving for tax purposes. Your love offering contributions are tax-deductible. Please remember that it is in your best interest to fill out an envelope if you are giving cash. That way, we have your contributions on record.

Please accept my very best wishes for a bright and beautiful New Year. Let's grow in love together in 2009!

Blessings

Tia Crisp

Administrator

**UBB'S ANNUAL
BUSINESS
MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 2009**



You are invited to join us on Sunday, January 25th at Unity by the Bay for our Annual Meeting. The meeting will start at 12:30pm, and we will enjoy a Pot-Luck before the meeting, so please bring a dish to share!

Members will vote on replacements for Board vacancies. Other items on the agenda include:

- A report from our Spiritual Leader, Mahala
- An informational report from the Board of Trustees
- Church finances and our financial reports
 - Committee reports

Please plan to Attend!

Prayer Chaplain Corner

by Reverend Ethel Porter

Have you prayed with a Prayer Chaplain lately? We are here and we start the New Year willing and ready to hold that Spiritual Space for you while we are together.

In our ongoing training as Prayer Chaplains, we always come back to the basic four steps of what we as Prayer Chaplains do.

Centered in God, Prayer Chaplains

- Hold Spiritual Space
- Lovingly listen
- Pray from the Heart
- Hold in confidence what is shared.

Our Prayer Chaplains are all volunteers, from different backgrounds, who all have Loving Spirits, and the personal experience of knowing how prayer has worked in their lives. We are here, as one of your Spiritual resources, each Sunday, to pray with you in times of Joy and Sorrow. Below is the list of our current Prayer Chaplains.

In future newsletter issues, along with keeping you posted on what we are doing, we will also feature a Prayer Chaplain in more detail, so you can get to know us better.

Our Unity by the Bay Prayer Chaplains:

Carol Hawtin, Michael Kennedy, Amy Lichtenberg, Bill Mitchell, Klaus Paasche, Lilia Phelps, Ethel Porter, Jo Purcell, Russ Stewert, & Kevin Whisman, Prayer Chaplains Emeritus: Pat Clarke & Carol Kerr

We invite you to Come Pray with Us.

Blessings,

Reverend Ethel Porter

Meditation Tuesdays

At Unity by the Bay

By Carol Hawtin, Prayer Chaplain

Each and every Tuesday of each and every month, your Prayer Chaplains and friends lead us in meditation and prayer at Unity by the Bay.

On the **first Tuesday of the month, Michael Kennedy and Carol Hawtin** share writings from Unity Village, allowing spaces for meditation and prayer throughout the spoken word. **The second Tuesday is shared by two of our newest Prayer Chaplains, Amy Lichtenberg and Klaus Paasche:** Amy brings to us years of leading meditation and Klaus uses a Shamanic framework. Our Board Director, **Chuck Kiessling, leads us in Shamanic Journeying on the third Tuesday of each month. Russ Stewart and Carol Hawtin offer a healing service on the fourth Tuesday**, including light hands-on healing as well as meditation and prayer.

Unity is based on prayer and its importance. Meditation Tuesdays support that principal and give us the opportunity to meditate and pray for ourselves, our families, friends and our church community, the greater community, our nation, country, the planet and universe. We know how powerful time spent in meditation and prayer is - reason enough for you to join us on Tuesdays. We gather at 7:30 pm for 30 to 60 minutes, depending upon what Spirit requests.

The gathering is open to everyone. We hope you will drop by and experience Tuesday Night Meditation!

Blessings,

Carol Hawtin

UBB Prayer Chaplain

Pssst.....a Last Minute Reminder!

Please remember that Unity by the Bay's Christmas Eve service will take place on **Wednesday, December 24th starting at 7:30pm**. Rev. Ethel Porter will be our speaker, and the service will include communion, as well as a special candle lighting ceremony. **Ralph Ray** will provide our music.

Also, the **Burning Bowl Ceremony** will take place on **New Year's Eve, December 31st** starting at **7:30pm**. Rev. Ethel Porter will officiate the ceremony, and **Beau Simmons** will provide our music.

Family and Friends are invited!

"The I of the Storm"

Now that the hectic Holiday Season is behind us... Would you like to step out of the "storms" that we often perceive in daily life into the calm of a higher consciousness? There is still time to join the last two sessions of the "I of the Storm" Workshop. Wednesday evenings, January 7th and 14th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM. This workshop is taught by John Halstead, Unity Peacemaking and Transition Consulting Intern and Pat Clarke, Licensed Unity Teacher. For further information, contact John at jhalstead@mindspring.com or Pat at patclarke@mindspring.com.

Did you Know....?

In addition to meeting the expenses necessary to run Unity by the Bay, save for the future, and for our new church home, UBB and it's members support those in need in our community and the world. Listed below are just some of the worthy organizations that we support with our love offerings and gifts:

- Women for Women, an organization that helps women in Africa move towards independence.
 - Silent Unity - Unity Head-quarter's 24 hour Prayer Ministry
 - Annapolis Area Ministries
- Donations of Food to S.P.A.N. (the Severna Park Assistance Network, provider of food and other assistance to residents of South County)
 - Unity of Alexandria and Unity Center of Light in Bowie
 - Hospice of the Chesapeake
- Flowers, cards, and sympathy gifts to grieving or sick church members

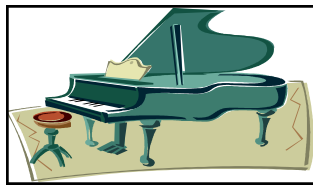
ADVERTISEMENTS



**Music Lessons
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is now accepting students interested in Jazz and Classical piano. All ages, all levels are welcome. Mr. Scaggiari has a Bachelors from the Eastman School of Music, and a Masters from the Peabody Conservatory. He is a former member of the U.S. Marine Band and his music plays on National Public Radio.

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ADVERTISING RATES FOR 'WINGS OF TRUTH'

Please see Sally Crisp, Administrator (410-544-7990) for more information or to place an ad.

Business cards and classified ads up to 4 lines:

\$20 per edition/ \$100 for a full year (six editions)

1/4 Page:

\$30 per edition/\$150 for a full year (six editions)

1/2 Page:

\$50 per edition/\$250 for a full year (six editions)

Full Page:

\$80 per edition/\$400 for a full year (six editions)

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU GET FREE

ADVERTISING IN ONE EDITION WHEN

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All ads must be paid for in advance, ready to be printed, and received by our deadline listed on page 2 of each edition.

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* UBB Sponsored event

SPECIAL EVENTS AT UNITY BY THE BAY

**Individually Sponsored event

Wednesday, December 31st - New Year's Eve Burning Bowl Ceremony at UBB with Rev. Ethel Porter. 7:30pm

Sunday, January 4th: Book signing with Amit Doron, Israeli speaker and author of "Oneness" following the service. Mr. Doran will also be our guest speaker on that day.

Wednesdays, January 7th & 14th: "I of the Storm" at UBB continues. Pat Clarke, LUT and John Halstead facilitate. 7pm-9pm

Sunday, January 11th, 2009: New member Induction during the 10:30am service.

Sunday, January 25th: Annual Business Meeting at UBB 12:30. There will be a Pot-Luck before the meeting.

Sunday, February 8th: Healing Arts Afternoon at UBB. Please contact Rev. Ethel Porter at 410-626-1796 or reikiconnection@hotmail.com, or add your name to our sign up sheet located in the church hallway. Healers, artists, crafters, and helpers needed.

Sunday, February 15th: Book signing and talk with Tom Stoner, founder of the TKF Foundation, and author of "Open Spaces, Sacred Spaces" following the Sunday service.

Sunday, March 8th: Mark your Calendars! The Fabulous St. Patrick Day's Do at Podickory Point Yacht Club beginning at 1:00pm. Flyer and directions available at church.

ON- GOING EVENTS AT UNITY BY THE BAY

Mon. - Thurs. at 12 pm: ***Silent Unity Prayer Time** (Tia Crisp)

1st Monday of the month: ****Reiki Share** beginning at 7:00pm (Pat Clarke)

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Tues. Nights - ***Prayer and Meditation** from 7:30 pm -8:30 pm (Prayer Chaplains) Shamanic Healing (Klauss Paasche) **second Tuesday** , Shamanic Journeying Meditation **third** Tuesdays (Chuck Kiessling)

2nd Sunday : ***New Comer's Corner** after the service (Merrilea Lamborne)

4th Tuesday of the month: ***Healing Prayer Service** 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm (hosted by the Prayer Chaplains)

Last Saturday of the month: ****Rockin'Games** 7:30. (Kevin Whisman)

Speaker

Musicians

January 4	Guest Speaker, Amit Doran	Greg Martins
January 11	Mahala	Ronn Nuger & Beau Simmons
January 18	Mahala	Maji
January 25	Mahala	Ralph Ray
February 1	Pat Clarke	Sue Wilson & Sherri Kiessling (Soul Lotta Love)
February 8	Mahala	Ronn Nuger & Beau Simmons
February 15	Mahala	Maji
February 22	Mahala	Ralph Ray



Increasing Prosperity for Church Building Fund

By Carol Kerr



You may have noticed our Building Fund Chart in the back of the sanctuary inching upward toward our first level goal of \$150,000—the amount we need before we can seek financing for our new church home. When we started this journey on April first we had just **\$59,000** in the fund. Now we have over **\$73,000** in the bank and another **\$24,000** in pledges!

We added over **\$800** from sales in the **Giftique** in November and are looking forward to even more profits in weeks to come. You can continue to order the made in America **Rada and Longaberger** items online even after our Holiday sale ends: Send this information to your friends and ask them to order these high quality items online. We get about **40% on Rada and 25% on Longaberger!** IF you want an electronic copy of the catalogue, e-mail me at carolkerr@verizon.net.

ONLINE ORDERING ITEMS:

RADA BRAND cutlery, candles, earthen bake ware, gourmet mixes, cookbooks, etc. online at www.helpourfundraiser.com :

enter 501662 in the Internet Order number field

Enter peace (lowercase) in the password field

Have the item shipped to any address

COLLECTABLE LONGABERGER baskets—including the 2009 Inaugural basket—and beautiful pottery items are available at www.Longaberger.com/BethRobinson

Thank you for your support!

Many of you have supported the Giftique by donating or consigning items to sell and by purchasing gifts and goodies during the last few weeks. Others continue to purchase the delicious gourmet coffee donated by **Tony Scalone**, which we are selling in the bookstore. **Cindy Baracca, Sherri Kiesling, Jan Dineen, Betty Obrien, Tony Scalone, Janet Bradley and Sharon Rieger** have been helping set up and run the store. Thanks to all for your support!

Current Lease up for Renewal

Should we or shouldn't we? The fact is, as hopeful as we are that a miracle of generosity will unfold into a new home of our own, we may have to strike a new lease this spring. If you have any ideas for accelerating our fundraising efforts or getting a great deal on an appropriate property, please call me to discuss it. And EVERYONE: Keep visioning for the right and perfect property at the right time!

Cruise Anyone? Get Your Raffle Tickets Now!!

We have the perfect cruise raffle—total flexibility for two in terms of destination or dates! Take your cruise in 2009 and apply the \$1800 value to any sailing from any port, or take the designated Baltimore to Bermuda or the Bahamas trip. You can help build our new church home by selling tickets to friends and relatives! Buy or check out tickets at the Bookstore!



The I of the Storm



Unity Class

Taught by Pat Clarke, LUT and

John Halstead, Unity Peace-making and Transition Consulting Intern

Continues Wednesday evenings

January 7, & 14, 2009 (you may join the class at any time)

Love Offering

“The I of the Storm” is based on Rev. Gary Simmons’ book of that title that teaches us to embrace conflict and to create peace in all aspects of our lives. It is based on the fundamental truth that no one (or no thing) is against us. While that is a simple concept on the surface, when we try to practice it, our minds create many “exceptions” to that truth. Through a structured 8-week process of learning, practicing, journaling, discerning, and discussion participants are able learn new ways of perceiving and resolving conflict in their lives.

Participants will:

- Learn to recognize and understand the conditions that support conflict
- Explore the principles of wholeness and discover how issues can be dismantled
 - Understand how our perceptions control our thoughts and beliefs
 - Learn how to dismantle those things that look and feel against us
 - Practice Skills to dealing with criticism and judgment
 - Discover who we have come here to be
 - Become more empathic listeners

This workshop will be a great way to begin to learn some new skills prior to the Holidays, that are often stressful, as well as to begin the New Year with some new habits guaranteed to make 2009 more peaceful for each of us.

Course books for “The I of the Storm” are available in the UBB bookstore

"I of the Storm for Teens" also available in the bookstore.



HEALING ARTS AFTERNOON
AT UNITY BY THE BAY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2009
12:30PM - 4:00PM



After the Holidays -

After the Super Bowl -

It is time for a Healing Arts Afternoon!

Once again, we will have our much requested **Healing Arts Afternoon** at Unity by the Bay. Mark this event down on your calendars now because you won't want to miss it. It is a wonderful way to support Unity by the Bay AND receive a healing session, or purchase a work of art, or have a prayer session with one of our Prayer Chaplains. **All proceeds go to support UBB.**

There is a special feeling when you receive a healing session in the sacred space of our sanctuary that just can't be adequately described or contained by words. You can purchase a one on one healing session with our talented healers, or buy some art from one of our talented artists, and/or simply have a complimentary prayer session with one of our wonderful Chaplains. (Since Unity is founded on Prayer, we want to have this available.) It is a wonderful opportunity to experience prayer with one of our caring Chaplains. Be sure to tell all your friends as this afternoon is also open to the general public. The healing sessions will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

We are looking for Healing Arts Practitioners who wish to participate and donate their time. We are also seeking artists of any medium who will participate. In addition, we also need volunteer to help us set up and take down, plus others willing to help in the running of the event. We are presently gathering any and all interested Chaplains.

Our own **Reverend Ethel Porter** is coordinating the event. If YOU want to help with the Healing Arts Afternoon, please contact Ethel at reikiconnection@hotmail.com, or call her at **410-626-1796**. There is also a sign up sheet at church, or you can call the **church office at 410-544-7990** to volunteer.

We totally embrace the concept of "many hands make Light work." We so appreciate your hands and hearts in helping to make this a wonderful event.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**'Tis Time for the 14th Annual
St. Patrick's Day Celebration!**

Sunday, March 8th, 2009 from 1pm until 8pm

Podickory Point Yacht & Beach Club on the Chesapeake Bay

Shorn we'd be grateful if ye bring a song in yur heart and ye fiddles and drums and musical instruments. Bring your wonderful wee self and have a lark, do a jig, and visit yur wee friends! There will be music and silliness, merriment and drummin' in the Celtic tradition! (And any other tradition we can think of at the time, you see.)

We're settin' the table with "Loaves & Fishes", or...Leprechaun Potluck! There will be Irish and other ethnic dishes to enjoy - And if'n it's not too much trouble...won't you bring an ethnic dish to share and your favorite libation (a drink, don't you know) we will have cups and ice a wait'in!!

If you have any questions, please call 410-544-7990

Monetary contributions to help defray costs may be sent to:

Unity by the Bay

836 Ritchie Highway, Suite 18

Severna Park, MD 21146

or you may drop a donation in our love offering basket at the party.

UNITY BY THE BAY

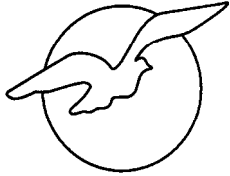
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UNITY BY THE BAY'S MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

Vision: *Unity By the Bay is a radiating community of Christ Light seeing God in all humanity and sending love, acceptance, compassion and abundance to the earth and all its inhabitants.*

Our Mission: *Unity by the Bay is a loving, diverse, spiritual community joyfully growing in Christ consciousness through prayer, meditation and truth teachings.*