



Unity

North Star

focusing the light on YOU

March/April 2009



UNITY OF LAKE ORION



Reflections for a New Season



Dear Friends,

It has been a special year for The Guice family as we have embraced our new community at Unity of Lake Orion. During that time, we've been blessed to have met so many wonderful and spiritually guided souls of like-mindedness. Thank you for making us so welcome in our new church home.

March and April bring us to the renewal of life in spring and the celebration of Easter. The Easter season is a special time when we can awaken and raise our spiritual consciousness of the I AM within. The Lenten season is a time when we can take our burdens, our weaknesses, our fears and worries and lay them on the cross. In Unity, the cross represents "the state of consciousness termed mortal mind". It is the place where we surrender to spirit for the final over-coming of our physical and material limitations.

Easter is the demonstration of Jesus, a spiritual walk of denial and rebirth. It is a walk to Jerusalem, a path to peace and a moment when we reflect upon the crucifixion which becomes a critical point in the teaching and ministry of Jesus.

In Unity, we embrace this concept of crucifixion as an example of denial, the mental process of erasing from our consciousness the erroneous or false belief of the sense mind. So often we interpret this demonstration from only a literal perspective and teach the agony and pain of Jesus' sacrifice for the world.

The crucifixion of Jesus represents the elimination of personality out of consciousness. According to *The Revealing Word*, the crucifixion is "the crossing out in consciousness of errors that have become fixed states of mind; the surrender of the whole personality in order that the Christ Mind may be expressed in all its fullness". Jesus' journey to Golgotha, this 'place of a skull' or Calvary, gave to us this demonstration of love so that we might learn in our journey of life.

This Easter, we each have the opportunity to release from our consciousness those thoughts of bondage that limit our spiritual growth. As those thoughts are released on the cross of denial and death, our old mental states of consciousness enter into the tomb as a resting place for transformation. There our minds begin the process of resurrection and our thoughts become altered. We become "born again" as our consciousness goes through renewal and restoration and becomes an affirming presence for the Holy Spirit.

The Easter season is time for us all to reflect and to internalize Jesus' message of overcoming and transformation. We welcome a flowering new presence of Christ within us that gives to the world and lives the words "I am the resurrection and the light".

Rev. Gregory Guice



Please join us for Easter Season

April 5 (10AM)

Palm Sunday - "A Sacred Path to Peace"
New Member Class at 12:30 PM

April 9 (7PM)

Mundy Thursday - "Sacred Communion"

April 10 (7PM)

Good Friday Service - "Seven Last Words of Jesus"

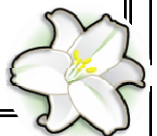
April 12

Easter Sunday Schedule:

8AM - "And He Has Risen"
Morning Service and Meditation

9AM - Breakfast

10AM - "Beyond the Crucifixion"
Spiritual Baptism for Membership



The Board of Director's Visions for 2009

Already, 2009 is shaping up to be a year for the history books. From the United States presidency to the Oscars, change is happening fast and at times furiously as the world seems to draw in closer together and countries become more interdependent upon each other. Wisdom and steady hands in leadership positions are what we all pray for and that is no less true at Unity of Lake Orion.

The Annual Congregational Meeting in February elected two new board members: Brenda Ondejko and Cheryl Herrmann. And the first meeting of that board elected Don Stickler as our new President, Tammi Bemman as the new Vice President and Brenda as Secretary. Congratulations to them and us!

In place of the customary article from the President, the board members were asked to reflect on specific questions, and then respond to one or more of them. The questions were:

- ♦ *What is your vision for the church for 2009?*
- ♦ *What are the key issues facing the church?*
- ♦ *What would you like to say to the congregation—to inform, inspire and to encourage them in their roles in meeting the vision and growing the church?*
- ♦ *What role does the board play and what role does the congregation play in meeting our goals for 2009 and beyond?*

Here are their responses:



Don Stickler, President

As the new and happy President of the Board, I want to thank everyone for your involvement and input at the Annual Membership Meeting. This shows a wonderful commitment to our church and all the good that is coming to us this year.

Tammi Bemman is our Vice President, Anna Ferman is our Treasurer, Brenda Ondejko is our Secretary, and Neal Porter, Fred Smith and Cheryl Herrmann are our Directors. Together we make a good team.

Unity of Lake Orion is an exciting community to be a part of and with people stepping up to volunteer in helping us all reach our highest good, I see this church growing, not only in size but in Spirit. Our reason for being here is to express God and I think we see that in each other. The more we put into our church, the more we will take out of it.

Rev. Guice is a great teacher of metaphysics from the podium and through his classes, teaching us to be aware of our own Spirituality. We also have good instructors in other classes teaching us a better way to live. Take a class, get involved and watch your life change for the better.

I see this year as a time of change and I know we are open to all the good this will bring.

If you know about anything that will improve our church and help us improve our lives, let the Board know (a fund raiser or just a good thought).

Just remember, "It is the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom" and we have it right here in the midst of each of us.

To all the loving, caring people in this church, keep up the good work. Let us continue to help each other grow and lets look forward to a great year.



Tammi Bemman, Vice President

What is your vision for the church for 2009?

I will echo Reverend Guice's last newsletter piece for 2009 : Prayer, Peace and Prosperity.

What are the key issues facing the church?

I believe the key issue for our growth is getting more members involved. We need someone to help organize committees.

I believe a strong marketing committee is needed. I have zero marketing experience, but am very willing to help on the committee. We are in need of a strong marketing person to take the lead and write the script for marketing an event. We need more people to help share the cost of running our church and I believe events are a tool we can use successfully.

What would you like to say to the congregation—to inform, inspire and to encourage them in their roles to meeting the vision and growing the church?

"Be not afraid for I am with you."

Dan and I went to see Edwene Gaines in 2007. She spoke on *The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity*.

Law 1: Tithing and Giving.

Law 2: Setting Clear Cut Goals.

Law 3: Forgiveness and Worthiness.

Law 4: Find Your Divine Purpose.

Tithing is mentioned many times in the Bible, but in Malachi 3:10-12, God says to put him to the test.

That spoke very deeply to me. Dan and I were ready to take the challenge. We have tithed on our gross income ever since that day. God has showered Dan and me with overflowing blessings as he promised. This has helped Dan and I walk our talk.

What role does the board play and what role does the congregation play in meeting our goals for 2009 and beyond?

The Board's role is to be the living display of the Unity Principles in action. The Congregation's role is to guide the Board in the direction they want the church to move. We do not want to be the drivers of this movement, but I see us as the rudder guiding the ship in the direction our membership wants us to move.

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WOMEN OF SPIRIT

An inspirational talk on Prosperity led the New Year in January and gave our gathering a lot to be grateful for and to think about. Thank you Anna Ferman and Tammi Bemman for a great program.

Our February program was canceled due to inclement weather.

Please mark your calendars for the following *fun* dates:

March

Saturday, March 21 WOS Meeting

Our women of spirit monthly meeting, we will have our Qui Gong experience. Please bring a friend.

Friday, March 27 Friday Night at the Movies

All are invited at 6:00 pm to a Sloppy Joe and chips dinner followed by the new Wayne Dyer movie, *Ambition to Meaning* at 7:00 pm. This is a movie that Wayne actually wrote and directed and has a lot of great reviews.

April

Saturday, April 17 WOS Meeting

Our *Women of Spirit* monthly meeting in April will be on Saturday the 17th for a "Tea Party" hosted by Karen Olson. More details to come.

Friday, April 24, Friday Night at the Movies

All are invited at 6:00 pm to a soup cook-off and home baked bread contest. Bring your crock pots and Mom's best soup and/or special bread for bragging rights! The movie will be Louise Hay's, *You Can Heal Your Life*.



MEN OF UNITY

At our February meeting, we discussed the idea of having a Saturday Morning Men's breakfast, the date of which is yet to be determined. We are hoping that by having a Saturday morning activity, it can be attended by many who are unable to join us on our regular Thursday evening meetings. If you have not been able to attend our meetings and would be interested in joining us on a Saturday morning, please let me know. (You can find me in the bookstore after the Sunday service). We value your presence in our church and would very much welcome you. Watch for further announcements concerning this activity.

In the meantime, if you are able, please join the "Men of Unity" in the sanctuary for our monthly get together on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM for pizza, salad, and a wonderful discussion. We also are continuing our bowling nights on the third Thursday of the month.

Signup sheets will be placed in the church hallway for all of these activities. Please keep in mind that you do not have to be a church member in order to attend these events.

Paul Ferman 248.693.1078
(filling in for Jerry Crossman)



COMING IN JUNE... Science, Health and Spirituality Festival

Exciting new event coming in June: Unity of Lake Orion's first annual Science, Health and Spirituality Festival, Saturday June 13 from 9-5 pm! You will experience a unique variety of vendors and services covering a wide range of holistic, natural and complimentary healing and forward-thinking topics and products. Enjoy wonderful guest speakers, massage therapy, reflexology, Reiki healing, aura photography, healthy food and drink, fascinating cutting-edge information and services, and much more.

Stay tuned for more details!



Happy Anniversary

<i>Karen and Mark Olson</i>	<i>03/02</i>
<i>Ernie Watson & Karen Russell</i>	<i>03/18</i>
<i>Sue & Jack Cahn</i>	<i>04/28</i>

Happy Birthday

<i>Francine Guice</i>	<i>03/01</i>	<i>Paula Bertetto</i>	<i>03/15</i>
<i>Lois Porter</i>	<i>03/04</i>	<i>Johnnie Jones</i>	<i>03/16</i>
<i>Katie Murphy</i>	<i>03/09</i>	<i>Paul Ferman</i>	<i>03/26</i>
<i>Josh Nettleton</i>	<i>03/09</i>	<i>Leslie Crowe</i>	<i>03/27</i>
<i>Helen Dinsmore</i>	<i>03/10</i>	<i>Jan Stickler</i>	<i>03/28</i>
<i>Mary Rielly</i>	<i>03/11</i>	<i>Pat Fuelling</i>	<i>04/23</i>



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Brenda Ondejko, Secretary

Greetings to everyone!

Well, after attending my first board meeting I am a bit overwhelmed, but also impressed by all that goes on behind the scenes to make Unity of Lake Orion run so smoothly. I see the vision of the board as growing the church in every way possible and meeting the financial needs of our church. Even though our congregation is growing, there is plenty of room to expand.

Due to our depressed economy, one of the key issues facing our church is meeting our financial needs. I know it's difficult for everyone to increase tithes at this time. However there are other ways of giving such as the offering of time and talents. There is a great sense of accomplishment when you become a part of a committee or share a special talent. It's a great way to bond with your fellow church members. There is a lot of talent within the congregation at UOLO. Let's all work together and make great things happen!

As I see it, the role of the board members is to make sure the by-laws and principles of Unity are followed and to work as a team to fulfill the spiritual needs of the congregation.



Anna Ferman, Treasurer

What is your vision for the church for 2009 and what are the key issues facing the church?

I see a lot of growth taking place in the church in 2009. We see new faces each Sunday and it is the responsibility of all of us to make them feel welcome. I also see our church becoming more financially independent. There are a lot of financial challenges ahead of us this year, but I envision us meeting them and exceeding them. If we all pull together this can be a banner year for UOLO.

What would you like to say to the congregation-to inform, inspire and to encourage them in their roles to meeting the vision and growing the church?

I would like to encourage everyone to become involved in the church in some role. We have had a strong core group of people working diligently for the past three years. They are getting tired. We need new blood to support and run our ever increasing programs. As mentioned at the annual meeting, we need new ideas for fund raising (what else would you expect the treasurer to say). I encourage you all to put on your thinking caps and come up with some creative, innovative means of raising money for the church. Make our church a place you can be proud of and encourage your friends to attend some of our activities. They may not want to attend church on Sunday, but we do so many other fun things.

What role does the board play and what role does the congregation play in meeting our goals for 2009 and beyond?

I think we are all in this together. The Board oversees and does future planning, but it is up to all of us to put our efforts into making this church a success. We need to become known in the community as a fun place to be. If we look like we are having fun, others will want to be here. I also think it is imperative that we all make an effort to learn the prosperity principles as taught by Unity. Gregory is a wonderful teacher and I encourage all of you to join his classes. He doesn't like asking us to

financially support the church any more than you like hearing it. But if we all practice the principles, there will be abundance in our future both personally and for our church.



Fred Smith, Director

Here are a few thoughts in this, my final term with the board. I have been on numerous Boards over the last four decades and this has been similar to most. Non-profit or for-profit, the issue is the same from a business point of view—financial challenges. When I was on the board at Church of Today, back in the 90's, it was still finances even, with Jack Boland out front on Sunday.

As we face this very difficult period of growth in our church, we must still remember one of the most important directions in our lives. Hope. This is what keeps me going. I can look forward to things becoming better in the future. This is true in my life and it will continue to be so.

If we have a little extra, put it in the plate on Sunday.



Rev. Gregory Guice Pastor & Board Member

I would like to answer the question that appealed to my heart: *What would you like to say to the congregation-to inform, inspire and to encourage them in their roles to meeting the vision and growing the church?*

Let me first begin by expressing my gratitude to each of you for your willingness to fellowship with our church community. As you know, a church and its board is a reflection of its community and those they serve. We reflect the membership itself; our diversity, our beauty, our willingness to work together.

As we go forward this year together, let me take a moment to speak these encouraging words. So many within our community and families are facing challenges unimagined before. We're experiencing issues that are testing our spiritual faith. In Unity we are taught that there is a presence within us that will never desert us or fail us. It is a presence that lives and abides within us as a living light of the Christ. It states in scripture that we can do all things in Christ. Let us not fear the appearance or the challenge in this moment and the days ahead. God will give us the inspiration and the divine ideas that provide for us the prosperity and wellness to the proportion of our belief.

Be encouraged and know that as a church, our prosperity lives within each of us and together our prayers of oneness with the creator paint the picture of our collective growth. I see a church community that is growing and attracting to us the right people at the right time to serve together in co-creating a wonderful spiritual home. Let us affirm together:

"We live in an abundant universe. Expressing the wisdom of Spirit, we move into a new era of growth and prosperity. Infinite possibilities of good are open to us now."

As you can see, the Board members have offered insight, inspiration and some challenging facts for us to think about and then move to take action. Each of us is vital to the life, spirit and community of our church.

(Editors' Note: Both Neal Porter and Cheryl Herrmann were unavailable for comment by the newsletter deadline. We apologize to them for the late notice.)

New Events Bulletin

Book Sale

Friday, March 6
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Saturday, March 7
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Please bring your friends!

Donations of books, CD's
and tapes can be dropped
off at the Church.

CoffeeHouse

Friday, March 13th
7:30 PM

Featuring Michael
Sneed

Along with
The Lost Cuzzins

Drawing Classes with Sharyn Davis

Beginning Thursday, March 19
1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

2 Hour Sessions for \$10

Please see signup sheets for detailed
information or contact the Church
office at 248.391.9211



SUNDAY LESSONS

March 1

Rev. Gregory Guice

***Are You Ready For The Big C
(Change, Challenge and Courage)***

March 8

Rev. Gregory Guice

***Seeing in 3D
(Design It, Desire It, Demonstrate It)***

March 15

Rev. Carole Mullins

March 22

Rev. Gregory Guice

Sermon on the Mount (Part 1)

March 29

Rev. Gregory Guice

***Sermon on the Mount (Part 2)
Friendship Sunday
(Please bring a friend!)***

April 5

Rev. Gregory Guice

***Palm Sunday (A Sacred Path to Peace)
New Member Class at 12:30 PM***

April 9 (7PM)

Rev. Gregory Guice

Maundy Thursday (Sacred Communion)

April 10 (7PM) Good Friday Service

Rev. Gregory Guice

Seven Last Words of Jesus

April 12 Easter Schedule

Rev. Gregory Guice

***8AM And He Has Risen
(Morning Service and Meditation)***

9AM Breakfast

10AM Beyond the Crucifixion

Spiritual Baptism for Membership During Service

April 19

Rev. Gregory Guice

The Second Coming of Christ

April 26

Rev. Gregory Guice

Seven Spiritual Steps for Development

*See God in every person, place and thing and all will
be well in your world.*

~Louise Hay



Look for the Good is Looking for Artists Recreate Art on Earth Day Wednesday, April 22

The *Look for the Good* campaign's next event, open to the public, is an art show in April. We are planning a show called "Recreate" to open on Earth Day, April 22nd—It will be a fun and funky show where all art is to be "re-created" from recycled materials. There will be three age groups: youth, teen and adults, and two categories to enter. Household refuse: paper, plastic and glass and Industrial/Commercial: rubber, metal and glass. For a fee, each artist can enter two pieces.

We invite anyone who wishes to sponsor a cash award to be named after the sponsor or their business to

contact, Sharyn Davis or Reggie Harrison, Director of Lake Orion Art Center. There will be three awards in every age group and/or best of show. We plan to award \$1,000 worth of prizes to create a powerful Look for the Good Show that will attract many fine artists.

The show will be exhibited at the Orion Art Center and Library, April through June. Entry forms will be available within a week.

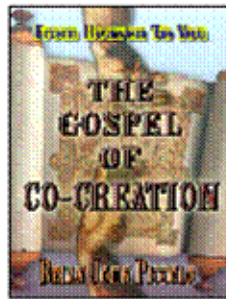
Start creating! Lets have fun and "Look for the Good in 2009.

Sharyn Davis

Unity Church of Lake Orion proudly presents **Brian John Piccolo** and **The Gospel of Co-Creation**

Based on his book of the same name, *The Gospel of Co-Creation* presents, from a biblical standpoint, how humanity has always been a Co-Creator of the universe with God.

This Lecture/PowerPoint Presentation shows how this doctrine of Co-Creation has always existed, from the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelations. It is not a lecture on dogma, but a lecture on freedom – the freedom to Co-Create our lives consciously, rather than by unconscious default.



Brian John Piccolo is a teacher, lecturer, spiritual astrologer, theologian, author, philosopher, and a nationally board-certified bodyworker and healer.

Brian has authored several books, audio CD's, and DVD videos on metaphysics, spirituality and healing, and he is a featured columnist for *Body Mindy Spirit Guide* publications.

www.BrianJohnPiccolo.com
bjpiccolo@comcast.net

**Join us on Sundays after Service
for a 4-Part Series! March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2009**

~ Provided on a Love Offering basis ~

Unity Church of Lake Orion
3070 Baldwin Road
Orion Twp., MI 48359 ~ (248) 391-9211



Cleaning Angels



CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED...

Thanks to all the people who have volunteered to clean the church. We so appreciate your efforts, you've done a great job!

The church needs cleaning every other week. Our goal is to have enough volunteers to share the workload throughout the year.

Please sign up and be part of the team effort. The sign up sheet with open dates is located outside the church office. Please see Dan Bemman if you have questions.

WE NEED YOU!



ACHIEVING CAREER TRANSITION SUCCESS WORKSHOP WITH CAROLE MULLINS

Saturday, March 14 from 10am to 3pm

Welcome back Carole Mullins! On Saturday, March 14th, Carole is coming to Unity of Lake Orion to offer her professional expertise on achieving career transition success, a perfect and timely workshop for these challenging times.

Carole is a popular speaker in New Thought churches and corporate organizations throughout the U.S. and Canada. She brings over 20 years of experience, providing career transition training and help to organizations and businesses throughout the nation including Fortune 500 companies.

Carole will teach us how to sharpen our job search skills by using Spiritual principles to assist us in achieving the goal of getting that perfect job!

Ms. Mullins workshop will cover:

- ◆ How to effectively access your skills and experience to showcase your talents
- ◆ Learn to effectively network your way to the desired position
- ◆ Write a solid resume that gets attention and interviews
- ◆ Learn how to present and pace the interview
- ◆ Effectively negotiate and receive the salary you desire

This is a special opportunity for our church members who may need this type of training and information. We urge each of you to come and also bring your friends and family members – anyone who might benefit from this experience. A sign up sheet is available in the hallway.



UNITY OF LAKE ORION BOOKSTORE

BOOKS, CLASSES AND YOUR SPIRITUAL PATH

There are many in our church who have never visited the bookstore and have never attended a Unity Class. If this applies to you, please read on.

Like other Christian religions, Unity is Bible based. However, I believe that there is one tradition (among others) that separates Unity from many “typical” churches. That is the fact that Unity stresses the utilization of books and classes as a complement to the Bible in order to help guide Unity members along their spiritual path. Keep in mind that Charles and Myrtle Fillmore, co-founders of Unity, at first did not establish Unity “churches”. Instead, they created the concept of “centers of learning”. Unity students met in people’s homes with the Fillmores and others to read about and discuss ideas about spirituality.

The Fillmores’ tradition of using books and discussions as a means of furthering spiritual development is being carried forward right here at Unity of Lake Orion! Unfortunately, there are too many of us who are not taking advantage of this opportunity to learn more of what Unity is all about.

It is wonderful that there are so many attending Sunday services. Reverend Guice’s lessons are very powerful, educational and entertaining. However, if

you have a desire for an even deeper understanding of Unity, about how you can be more spiritually aware, or if you are curious about how other people approach these subjects, then there are two things that you could do.

First, I would encourage you to attend at least one of Reverend Guice’s classes. Don’t let the word “class” scare you off. There is no homework and no tests. Books are read during class, and ideas are discussed. Even if you join sometime after the first class, it will not matter. You will not be lost. I guarantee that you will come away with a deeper respect for Reverend Guice, as well as the other attendees, and a desire to learn even more.

Second, I suggest that you visit our bookstore and at least get an idea of the variety of books that could further your understanding of Unity and yourself. Our experienced staff (me!) will help you choose a book to get you started. Most books are fifteen dollars or less.

Books and classes – your key to understanding Unity and yourself.

Paul Ferman
Book Store Coordinator





Vision Statement

*Unity of Lake Orion is
a loving and peaceful community,
inspiring spiritual growth
and transformation for all.*

Sent with Love & Blessings to:

Unity of Lake Orion

MISSION STATEMENT

To Inspire a Loving Way of Living.

STATEMENT OF BEING

*There is only one presence
and one power active in
my life and in the universe,
God the Good, Omnipotent.*

Office Hours:

Mon-Thur 9AM-3PM

Bookstore Hours:

Mon-Thur 9AM-3PM
and Sunday after service

Website Address:

Unitylakeorion.org

Email:

unitylakeorion@aol.com

Sunday Service 10AM

Youth Programs 10AM

To arrange for a private ministerial consultation, christening, wedding, memorial service, funeral, hospital/shut-in visitation, or other service, contact the church office.

UNITY OF LAKE ORION VALUED VOLUNTEER

Congratulations and many thanks to Paul Ferman for his tireless dedication and commitment to Unity of Lake Orion. Paul has greatly improved the quality of book selections and variety of books in the bookstore and is a friendly and knowledgeable presence there each Sunday who answers questions and helps those new to Unity. He also puts in long hours as Co-Editor of the Newsletter. Paul is a shining example of the volunteer spirit here at UOLO and we celebrate him.



Thank you Paul!

Minister

Rev. Gregory Guice

Board of Directors

Don Stickler, President

Tammi Bemman, Vice President

Anna Ferman, Treasurer

Brenda Ondejko, Secretary

Cheryl Herrmann, Director

Neal Porter, Director

Fred Smith, Director

Children's Program Director

Dorri McKibbon

Bookstore Coordinator

Paul Ferman

Hospitality Coordinator

Sarah Sue Salter

Media Coordinator

Dan Bemman

Greeter/Usher Coordinator

Pat Fuelling

Newsletter Editors

Deb Derderian

Paul Ferman