

February 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Who's Responsible?" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) 12:30 pm - "The Lotus Still Blooms" class	2	3	4 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service	5 7:00 pm - 4T Program	6	7 12 noon - QiGong (Marilyn Payne)
8 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "You Have to Activate It" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) 12:30 pm - "The Lotus Still Blooms" class	9	10 6:00 pm - Toastmasters	11 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service	12 7:00 pm - 4T Program	13 7:00 pm - Drum Circle (Baba Jubal)	14 10 am - Volunteer Cleaning Crew 12 noon - QiGong (Marilyn Payne)
15 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Discerning True Teachers" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) 12:30 pm - "The Lotus Still Blooms" class	16	17 6:00 pm - Toastmasters	18 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service	19 7:00 pm - 4T Program	20	21 12 noon - QiGong (Marilyn Payne)
22 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Mini Bardos" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) 12:15 pm - "Working with Your Chakras" lecture 1:30 pm - Workshop (Dr. Vincent Gentiluomo)	23	24 6:00 pm - Toastmasters	25 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service	26 7:00 pm - 4T Program	27	28 10 am - Volunteer Cleaning Crew



3350 Warrensville Center Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
For information on upcoming events: www.unitygreatercleveland.com

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News from Unity of Greater Cleveland

Volume 25, Number 2, February, 2009

From Our Minister

Beauty Is Everywhere to be Found

Dear Friends,

As I sit at my desk to write this letter, perhaps the heaviest snow fall of the season is blanketing the earth and trees. Calling out to David who is at his computer in the next room, I say, "This is just gorgeous! Come and look! It's a magical winter wonderland!"

My glee is greeted by his droll response, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." You can take the man out of the tropics, but you can never take the tropics out of the man.

The blizzard is beautiful to me. One of my first ministers, Dr. Victor Zarley, who has now been gone for 32 years, taught his students to see beauty everywhere, to never complain about the weather—whether it be roasting or freezing, snowing or haling—and to know that the Sun-light was always shining within.



For the month of February, which many in northeast Ohio may not consider all that beautiful, let us commit together as a spiritual community to seek out the beautiful in all things. Let us not limit ourselves to seeing beauty outdoors in the elements, but let us see it when we look at a child, or into the eyes of our partner or friend, or when we connect with a stranger. Let us know those encounters are not by chance.

Most Fridays I have a series of appointments on the West side of Cleveland. Between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. appointments I stopped for a quick cup of coffee. The very pleasant young man helping me said my decaf cappuccino was \$3.10. I only located three ones in my purse, and as I began to dig for a dime and some tip money the young man immediately said, "That's OK, the rest is on the house." After thanking him I remembered I had not looked at their daily trivia question, the correct response being worth a ten-cent discount. The question: "How did Mama Cass die?" I answered that she choked to death [Continued on page 5]

On The Inside:

Page 3

Working with Your Chakras

Page 4

One Sunday Service Starting in February

Page 4

"The Lotus Still Blooms" Ongoing

From the Bookstore

Changing a Month at a Time

The Art of Extreme Self-Care: Transform Your Life One Month at a Time is a life-changing handbook by best-selling author Cheryl Richardson.



She presents strategies to transform your life one month at a time. Designed as a practical action-

oriented program, each chapter challenges you to alter one behavior that keeps getting you in trouble.

* * *

Mastermind inserts for 2009 are available in our Bookstore. Also, the latest edition of *A Course in Miracles* is on our shelves waiting for your purchase.

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Volunteers are always welcome at our bookstore. Please see Vivian Miller on Sundays or call the church office (216 751-1198) to help out.

You Can Help Keep Our Church Spotless

Thank you to all who come on Saturdays to help keep our building clean. The team will meet on Saturdays, February 14 and 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Sign up on Sunday or call the office at 216-751-1198 to assist. We appreciate your help. With four people volunteering, for example, we can complete the task in a little over an hour.

Rev. Joan Offers Buoyant Look at Spiritual Topics in February

A variety of uplifting spiritual topics are on the agenda for February. **Rev. Joan Gattuso** presents them all in her positive, loving and humorous style. The lineup:

February 1: "Who's Responsible?" Since I'm not causing it, I cannot take responsibility for it. . .can I?

February 8: "You Have to Activate It." Your faith is entirely up to you and the consciousness within you.

February 15: "Discerning True Teachers." False teachers are everywhere. Learn to know the difference with certainty.

February 22: "Mini Bardos." Using this Buddhist concept you can learn how to navigate the multiple mini-deaths we all encounter.

Next Drum Circle Scheduled for February 13

The Drum Circle led by **Baba Jubal Harris** returns for all to enjoy on Friday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. This Drum Circle offers you the opportunity to learn to drum in the spirit of peace, love and unity.

Bring a drum with you. If you do not have one, there will be instruments available.

Giving Can Be a Simple Proposition This Year

Unity of Greater Cleveland is blessed by generous givers. If we have enough folks signing up, we will make it even easier for you to give on a regular basis in 2009. To tithe or give a set amount each week or each month, you will be able to designate that amount and have it deducted automatically from your checking account.

The program will be administered by our bank, Huntington, and it is completely secure. Once you sign up you have total control over your deduction. You can increase it, decrease it, or eliminate it altogether at any time. Please let us know your interest by signing up on the sheet in the lobby.

Ted Henry Visits Sai Baba, Addresses 80,000 at Ashram in India

Local newscaster Ted Henry, frequent *A Course in Miracles* discussion group attendee, was honored when he and his wife Jody visited Sai Baba's ashram in India.

He was asked by the guru to speak before the 80,000 in attendance. Ted said he was "surprised" by the request, but he happily obliged. He and a German psychologist/author both spoke on Christmas Day, preceding Sai Baba's address.



From Our Minister [Continued from page 1]

while eating a sandwich—the correct answer.

The young man and I continued to chat, while I tell him that a young man who was very precious to me died last summer by choking and falling off a balcony. He lighted up and exclaimed: "I know who you are talking about!" He was my best friend's fraternity brother at Miami University. My friend still wears the white rubber bracelet in memory of him. The two of us paused and just looked at each other for a moment, somewhat in awe of what we had just shared.

We never know when we are about to have a holy instant, a beautiful moment with a friend or a stranger. One thing is certain: these happenings will only materialize when we are open and receptive to the spontaneous beauty in our lives.

May miracles shower round you this month.

Love,

Unity of Greater Cleveland Volunteer & Staff Directory

Founding Minister: Joan M. Gattuso

Board of Advisors:

Chair - Minnie Bowers

Vice Chair - Sherry Foulkes

Secretary: Sandy Deck

Treasurer: Paul Barr

Prosperity Partners: Connie Machan and Elaine Sleas

Alternate Member: Andy Miller

Licensed Teachers - Gloria Ross, Karen Shepherd

Practitioners - Cynthia Bowers, Pamela Ellison, Dawn Falkenstein, Georgia Hyde, Bob Javorsky, Vivian Miller, Nona Oriti, Milly Owens, Sheryl Thomas

Assistant: Felicia Martinez

Administrative Assistant: Rudi Barnes

Accountant: Rev. Diana Repko

Minister's Sunday Assistants - Paul

Landis, Rudi Barnes

Youth Education Directors - Roberta Kalich-

Paley, Marcia Bufford

Nursery (0-3 years old) - Michelle Federico,

Betsy Coss

Lower/Upper Elementary (4-10 years old) -

Marcia Bufford, Sherry Foulkes, Michelle Hurt,

Roberta Kalich-Paley, Felicia Martinez,

Betty Phillips, Janet Wasserman

Uniteens (11-13 years old) - Freddie LaTorre

Y.O.U. (14-18 years old) Sponsor - Chrystal

LaTorre, Andy Miller

Bookstore Manager - Vivian Miller

Volunteers - Ranonda Jones, Karen Owens,

Michael Powers, Joyce Shaw

Greeter Coordinators - Detlev von Schwerdtner

and Liz Parks

Sound System - Volunteer

Florist - Blooms

Hospitality - Carl Kornicks, Paul Landis, Todd Mueller

Meals on Wheels - Open

Web Site Manager: Tim Machan

Sunday Service Times - 11:00 a.m.

Nursery, Children's Church, Lightstreamers,

Uniteens, and Y.O.U. - 11:00 a.m.

Church Location and Telephone:

3350 Warrensville Center Road

Shaker Heights, OH 44122

216 751-1198 or 800 468-8012

Dial-a-Prayer - 216 751-1199

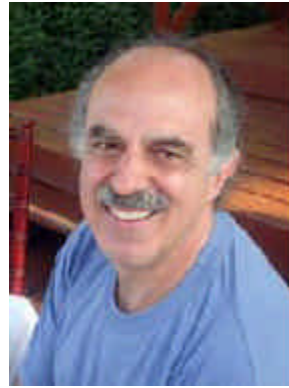
FAX - 216 751-1460

E-mail: unity@unitygreatercleveland.com

Web site: www.unitygreatercleveland.com

Working with Your Chakras on February 22

Are you aware of how your Chakras (energy centers) affect your health and well-being? Join **Dr. Vincent Gentiluomo** for a free lecture and a following unique workshop experience to find out on Sunday February 22 right after the 11:00 a.m. service.



Physical and mental health is often limited by the amount of stress that accumulates in the physical body. By directly self-activating and cleansing the chakras, meridians and aura of the mind-body organism it is possible to heal persistent mental, emotional and physical body ailments. Dr. Gentiluomo's work has been found to be effective in revitalizing emotional and mental health, vitality and sensuality.

Dr. Gentiluomo originally developed workshops for his office staff in 1993. Since then he has been assisting people to firmly establish peace within themselves. His elegantly simple processes entail a blend of eastern and western practical, effective methodologies designed to stop the chatter in the mind and enhance spiritual growth.

In addition to being a doctor, he is an accomplished T'ai Chi and Qi Gong teacher and Spiritual Entrainer.

The free lecture will be followed by a lunch break and then an afternoon workshop which delves into the process of chakra activation through various spiritual disciplines. Please bring

A Brief Look at Love. . .

By David Alexander

According to Paramahansa Yogananda, "The world has forgotten the real meaning of the word *love*. Love has been so abused and crucified by man that very few people know what true love is. Just as oil is present in every part of the olive, so love permeates every part of creation. But to define love is very difficult, for the same reason that words cannot fully describe the flavor of an orange. You have to taste the fruit to know its flavor. So with love."

From the mouth of former Monty Python member Terry Jones: "Jesus said, 'Love thy neighbor,' and for the next 2000 years people are killing each other over what he meant by it."

Love is that connectedness you feel with your spouse, your family, all people you meet, all things alive on our planet. Unity teaches oneness, *A Course in Miracles* teaches oneness, Tibetan Buddhism teaches oneness. Can you recall when you were a child and melted into your mother's or your father's arms? You felt like an extension of them. You felt loved. You felt love. And when you felt it, you gave love back to your parents or whomever it was nurturing you at the time.

When you see another person as yourself, then you are loving. This is what is meant by "unconditional love." Unconditional love is not dependant upon what other people say or do or how they live their lives. It is loving them simply because they are alive.

Artist Pablo Picasso said, "When I work I leave my body outside the door." I believe we should be able to say, "When I love, I leave my body outside the door." When you do, then you are beginning to understand the true nature of love. So love, unconditionally, all the time.

One Service at 11:00 a.m. Starting February 1

For a number of years Unity of Greater Cleveland has had both a 9:00 a.m. and an 11:00 a.m. Sunday service. Since attendance at the 9:00 a.m. service has not increased, we are going to have only an 11:00 a.m. service beginning February 1. The more folks we have at one service the higher the spiritual energy is for us all.

This change will stay in effect until, as we continue to grow, we will once again have a need for two services. All those attending at 9:00 a.m. have been polled and have agreed that this change is needed. A Course in Miracles class will continue to be held at 10:00 a.m.

So on Sundays this February introduce yourself to anyone you don't recognize. Could be both of you have been attending our church for years.

The Lotus Still Blooms Through February

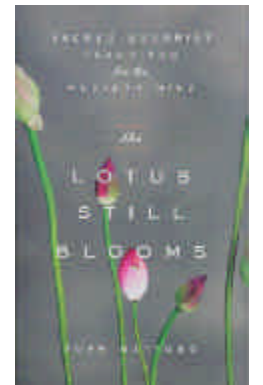
Rev. Joan Gattuso continues to instruct and guide from her ground-breaking work, *The Lotus Still Blooms* through February on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. You may still attend the six-week class which began Sunday January 25. It concludes Sunday, March 8 (after skipping February 22 for Dr. Vicine Gentiluomo's workshop).

Eastern wisdom traditions are often baffling for Western minds—where to begin uncovering the often complicated steps, precepts, concepts, and ideas? Aimed at people who are curious about Buddhism and want basic instruction in understanding and applying Buddhist principles in their life, this class goes through major Buddhist beliefs step by step and shows how to apply them practically to busy, hectic lives.

Filled with Rev. Joan's refreshingly delightful stories and her warmth, the class presents exercises to assist in using these principles immediately in your life. The class is not only filled with the wisdom of Tibetan Buddhism, but it offers you the same insights and wisdom.

If these ancient teachings do not touch your core and inspire your life, then they will be just so much intellectual knowledge and will be fairly meaningless. On the other hand, if you apply them your life and your understanding will be liberated.

The series is given on a love offering basis, according to the value you receive from Rev. Joan.



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus Visit

It wasn't only youngsters who enjoyed Mr. and Mrs. Claus in December. Ernest and Janet Jenkins looked for and found the joy of the season as well.