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From Our Minister. . . Living a Noble Life in 2006

Dear Friends,

Upon returning from my glorious sabbatical, I find myself filled with fresh and creative ideas.

One of the most significant has been to create a theme for this year. We have not had an annual theme before, and it is a fresh and exciting idea that carries a great deal of energy, along with being ripe with countless opportunities for individual expression.

Our theme is: “Living a Noble Life.”

Each one of us will express our nobility—which is our Divine core—according to what we value most. Throughout this year I will be going deeper and deeper into this theme. I will offer a systematic path of talks, workshops, practices and meditations that will give you the opportunity to truly awaken to your Christ/Noble self this year.

I promise to give you the best I have to give. The rest is up to you. If you pop in and out this year, you won't get it. If you dabble now and then, you won't truly grow and move toward an awakened state. But if you make a commitment to the Lord of your being to be all you have been created to be, then it shall be a year like no other.

It's a mighty task, and I believe you are up to the assignment to invest in your soul's growth and your eternal future. It is exciting to consider what we as a congregation can accomplish for the good of each one of us and what we can become collectively.

The time is now. You are invited to be a part of a noble gathering and to truly let your imprisoned splendor be released. The first in a series of workshops to support you in this noble endeavor is February 11 (see page 3).

Live your noble life now!

Blessings,



Find and Practice Love in Your Life

By David Alexander

February is the month for loving, at least according to Hallmark. But the "Hallmark" kind of love, and the love we tend to focus on, is romantic love. There is nothing wrong with that, but it does not always include *real* love.

Occasionally in *A Course in Miracles* class the question arises: "Just what is love?" Defining "love" is virtually impossible, although in its introduction the *Course* tells us where to find love: "The Course does not aim at teaching the meaning of love, for that is beyond what can be taught. It does aim, however, at removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence, which is your natural inheritance."

As we move through life, it is important to remember that love, our natural inheritance, moves with us. We must make the effort to rise above all those things in life that are unlike love, such as fear, jealousy and anger. If someone is unkind to us, it is essential that we turn the other cheek and see the Christ in him or her.

Seeing the Christ Spirit in others is the way to practice love on a daily basis. The other person may not even be aware we are around, but if we look at each one as our teacher, then we are looking at the Christ within them and sharing our love.

To see others in love is to see ourselves in love, as well. A regular regimen of forgiveness, which can be included in our daily meditation, is necessary to remove all our blocks to love. Then we will move through the wonders of our life's experience in a state of love.

Try it; you'll love it!

Love Letters at the Undergrounds

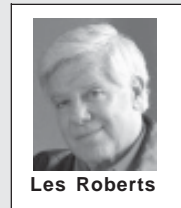
By Greg Benedetto, Music Director

Encore! Encore! Internationally known author **Les Roberts** will be starring in *Love Letters* by A. R. Gurney on Friday, February 10 at the Undergrounds, our community coffeehouse. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. This is an encore performance of the show originally done in February of 2004. Co-starring with Mr. Roberts is local actress **Holly Albin**.



This two-person show is comprised of letters exchanged over a lifetime between two people who grew up

together, went their separate ways but continued to share confidences. As the actors read the letters aloud, what is created is an evocative, touching, frequently funny but always telling pair of character studies in which what is implied is as revealing and meaningful as what is actually written down.



Les Roberts

"Cleveland's Favorite Writer" Les Roberts began his career as a professional actor. He then spent 24 years in Hollywood, writing and/or producing such classic television as the *Lucy Show*, the *Jackie Gleason Show* and the *Andy Griffith Show*, among others. Since publishing his first mystery novel in 1987, Mr. Roberts has written many works. In the past couple of years, Mr. Roberts has published his first "stand-alone" novel, *The Chinese Fire Drill*, and his first collection of short stories, *The Scent of Spiced Oranges*. Mystery writer for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for the past 14 years, a monthly contributor to *Currents Magazine*, director, teacher, businessman, singer and jazz musician – these are all Les Roberts.

A good crowd is expected, so come early for the best seats. For this theatrical event with our very special guest, the advance ticket offering is \$10.00, and \$12.00 at the door, so get your tickets NOW!

“Uninterrupted Good Fortune” February 11

In keeping with her theme for 2006, **Rev. Joan Gattuso** presents a powerful workshop that will give you a giant boost toward bettering your life permanently.

Living the Noble Life daily leads to “Uninterrupted Good Fortune.” On Saturday, February 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., you are invited to attend this workshop facilitated by Rev. Joan and **David Alexander**.

You will learn how to ground yourself in the principles that establish good thoughts, good speech and good action that lead to a life beyond suffering, sacrifice, lack and negative karma.

You will learn how to turn your fortune around and live the life you are intended to live as a noble being.

The offering for the workshop is \$50.00. For further information telephone the church at 216 751-1198.

Share Your Answered Prayers with Others

By Gloria Ross, Licensed Teacher

Many of us have spent time in prayer for one request or another. My affirmations had turned to a financial increase. I was in a parking lot and found a shiny new quarter. What a find! Quite a step up from the occasional penny! I said a little gratitude prayer and asked God to move the decimal point over, preferably to the right. Later that day, I was pleasantly surprised to receive a check, a reimbursement for expenses that I had personally paid.

My earlier request came to mind when I realized that Spirit had indeed moved the decimal point to the right. My check was in the amount of \$250. (My \$2.5 million will demonstrate soon.)

How often have you experienced an answered prayer? How often have you put your request together with the solution that shows up? Those prayers and answers renew our faith and understanding that prayer affirms the Truth that exists for all of us. Prayer raises our consciousness to a higher level.

Please take this opportunity to share your answered prayer for publication in our newsletter. We may edit your story to fit our space, but your tale is just what we need to celebrate and acknowledge the consciousness that we are growing here at Unity of Greater Cleveland.

You may write your stories and submit them to Gloria Ross or drop them in the Sunday offering basket. If you prefer to mail your story, you may direct it to my attention at the UGC address. Your name will be acknowledged in the article with your permission.

Thank you in advance for sharing.

Spiritual Cinema Presents *Resurrection* on February 17

The film *Resurrection* will be shown at the Friday, February 17, Spiritual Cinema. The movie begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring your dinner to eat during viewing, and a discussion of the film will follow.

Spiritual Cinema provides the opportunity to see entertaining, enlightening works with like-minded people. Don't miss it!

“New Thought for a New Millennium” Taught Beginning February 28

Join **Bob Churilla** as he presents a five-week class, “New Thought for a New Millennium,” Tuesdays from February 28 through March 28. Bob is both a practitioner in training and a licensed Unity teacher in training.

In this class you will learn the twelve powers or forces that express as the One Power through us all. During the class participants will learn how to more fully manifest the Christ in their own lives by expressing love, faith, understanding, wisdom, imagination, zeal, strength, will, life, power, renunciation and order.

These powers will be explored through the various writings and teachings of various New Thought spiritual teachers, including **Eric Butterworth**, **Bernie Siegel**, and our own **Rev. Joan Gattuso**. You will learn how to more completely manifest these powers in your life through meditation and exercises during the five weekly sessions.

From Children’s Church **Oneness and Diversity**

During the month of February Children’s Church will focus its lessons around two themes, “Oneness” and “Diversity.” At first glance it appears that the two topics don’t quite fit.



Oneness brings to mind thoughts of sameness or wholeness, while Diversity brings to mind thoughts of variety or differences.

How do we reconcile these topics to make them flow into lessons for the children that fit together? A quick glance at the upcoming lessons made it clear. The lessons on Diversity focus on how we are different and how each of us has our own unique talents and gifts that allow us to contribute to wholeness or Oneness in a way that no one else can.

These lessons can be seen in action in our Youth Education Department where we have been blessed with a group of dedicated individuals who each have brought their unique gifts and talents to the program. This group has come together in oneness, each contributing in their own special way to move our Youth Education Department forward with the common goal of providing an excellent spiritual education for our children.

In continuing to use our diverse talents, we will be making some changes in leadership in our youth education over the next few months. I am excited to say that I will be moving back into my role as Head Sponsor for Y.O.U. where I will be able to devote my time and talents to an area that I am most gifted—working with teens. My replacement as Director of Youth Education will be announced soon. I look forward to being part of the exciting changes taking place and am confident that they will only serve to enhance our program.

Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda".

Linda Julian, Youth Education Director

Open Grief Support Group Begins in February

Beginning on February 5, an Open Grief Support Group will meet for six consecutive Sundays, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., in Room 6 on the lower level. Facilitated by Licensed Unity Teacher **Gloria Ross**, this group will explore and examine grief and the grieving of life's transitions and losses. It will be open to anyone wishing to attend. There will be no fee for this series, but a workbook is available for purchase at the first meeting.

Here is the series agenda:

February 5: Grief—Physical symptoms and emotional reactions.

February 12: Feelings—Identifying and accepting feelings, expressing and releasing in a loving and nonjudgmental way.

February 19: Anger, Regret and Guilt—Acknowledging and normalizing strong emotions.

February 26: Sharing—Telling our stories and sharing our memories through mementos, photos, videos, etc. of the deceased.

March 5: Healing and Growing—Learning healthy coping skills.

March 12: Closure—Celebrating our growth and relationships as a group, saying good-bye.

Pre-registration is required, and a minimum number of participants are needed to facilitate the group. Please sign up at church or telephone the church office at 216 751-1198.

The Loving Course Set for February 24-26

Powerful, nurturing and life-changing, The Loving Course launches its 2006 schedule on the weekend of February 24-26.

Have you asked these questions of yourself: Why don't I get more joy from my life? Why do I keep doing things I don't want to do? Why do I sabotage my success? Why do I keep choosing relationships where I feel neglected, abused or unsatisfied? What keeps me from letting myself be loved? Why can't I express my love to others? Why am I so angry and scared?

The Loving Course will assist you in discovering your own answers to these questions through self-examination in an atmosphere of unconditional love. We truly believe that understanding ourselves brings us a better understanding of others and is the first step to loving and accepting ourselves and others—our ultimate goal.

This impressive weekend, with facilitators **Greg Liber** and **Jan Liber**, uses the psychological principles taught by psychologists Alfred Adler and Rudolph Dreiders, along with the spiritual principles from *A Course in Miracles* and **Rev. Joan Gattuso's** *A Course in Love*. Says Joan, "I highly recommend The Loving Course for those seeking the 'next step' in the clearing of their consciousness. I personally have taken the course and found it to be most empowering."

The cost of the course is \$395 (all major credit cards accepted). Class size is limited, so be sure to register early. Please call the church office at 216 751-1198 for more information or to register. Your call will be returned by either Greg or Jan.

“Living a Noble Life” Series Continues with Rev. Joan

Rev. Joan Gattuso presents powerful talks around the 2006 theme of “Living a Noble Life” in February. Hear them all.

February 5: “Uninterrupted Good Fortune.” Commitment and consistency are the keys to this joyful life.

February 12: “Heart Therapy.” There’s a therapy for this, a therapy for that. This is the greatest of them all.

February 19: “Translation vs. Transformation.” We’ll explore what is true transformation versus religious translation.

February 26: “Does Consciousness Survive After Lunch?” Are you nodding off through your life? Here are ways to wake up and stay awake.

Thank you, Volunteers!

On Saturday, January 21, our volunteers were honored with a luncheon at the Shoreby Club in Bratenahl. Those who volunteered for at least nine months of 2005 were invited to attend.

Volunteers are the backbone of Unity of Greater Cleveland. They are the purring motor that keeps the church running smoothly. There are many volunteer opportunities at our church, and we can *always* use your assistance. If you are so moved, please call 216 751-1198 and let us know.

From the Bookstore *Love Without Conditions* Now in Our Bookstore

Paul Ferrini is my favorite author, and when you read *this* book, *Love Without Conditions*, you’ll understand why. He discusses practical application for everyday living from “The Core Issue” of Chapter 1 to the last chapter entitled “The Gift.”



What’s in between those chapters? He delineates how to follow Jesus’ teaching of non-separation, practicing love and forgiveness, removing suffering, and experiencing the joy of union with God.

Paul Ferrini states that we all commune and communicate with the Christ Mind because we are all joined with the Mind of God. “Mastery of our own thoughts is essential for enlightenment,” he says. It is in our thoughts that we choose to walk with Jesus or walk away from Him.

All experience happens to expand our awareness. Learn to listen within to be with our experiences. Life works with us to help us awaken to the truth of who we are. Life is “resistance” or “surrender.” One leads to suffering, while the other leads to bliss, says Ferrini.

This book extends a simple yet profound practice of self-forgiveness and non-separation that will transform your life. It is a must-read for the *A Course in Miracles* student. Purchase for \$12 at the Unity of Greater Cleveland bookstore.

Love,
Rita

Rita O. Jackson
Bookstore Manager

Become a Member February 26

You may have noticed more and more folks attending our Sunday services. Many of these individuals have taken the opportunity to become a member of Unity of Greater Cleveland. And you can increase your commitment to the church by also becoming a member on Sunday, February 26.

To whom do you increase your commitment? To yourself. You will be announcing to God within you that Unity of Greater Cleveland is your church home and your primary guide on your spiritual path.

Commitment helps focus us in all areas of our lives, and increasing yours by becoming a member is simple. The requirements are to: (1) have been attending our church for at least three months, (2) attend a membership orientation session on Sunday, February 19, and (3) come into membership on Sunday, February 26, during the 11:00 a.m. service.

Then you will be able to vote in all the variety of affairs that are guiding our church into a glorious future, and you'll be announcing that this is now *your church*.

Church Sponsors “Coats of Care” for Homeless Men

By Greg Benedetto

Although this winter season has been milder than many and unpredictable at best, its presence continues. Along with that is the awareness that there are those who need help to stay warm. 2100 Lakeside, a downtown Cleveland shelter for homeless men, serves hundreds on a regular basis who are in need of winter coats. That is where you come in.

We at Unity of Greater Cleveland are launching a Coats Of Care campaign for the current winter season. You can help by donating your gently used winter coats and dropping them off here at the church in the designated box in the main lobby. Thanks to Angelo Anderson for assisting with this venture, and thank you in advance for supporting this very worthwhile cause.

Unity of Greater Cleveland Volunteer & Staff Directory

Founding Minister: Joan M. Gattuso
Board of Advisors:
Chair: Hank Roth
Vice Chair: Liz Parks
Treasurer: Mary Ann Davis
Secretary: Sandy Deck
Prosperity Partners: Minnie Bowers and Ed Erbach
Practitioners - Cynthia Bowers, Pamela Ellison, Jeanne Hood, Georgia Hyde, Bob Javorsky, Nona Oriti, Milly Owens, Zita Farrell-Andrews, Karen Shepherd
Fund Development Committee Chair: Mary Ann Davis
Projects Manager: David Alexander
Executive Director: Felicia Martinez
Secretary: Rita O. Jackson
Accountant: Kim Heiman
Minister's Sunday Assistant - Paul Landis, Gloria Ross
Youth Education Director - Linda Julian
Youth Education Assistant: Kathy Morgan
0-3 years old - (Head Teacher)

4-5 years old - Evelyn Canton (Head Teacher)
6-10 years old (Head Teachers)
Uniteens (11-13 years old) - Frank Kenner (Head Teacher)
Y.O.U. (14-18 years old) Co-Sponsors - Linda Julian, Andy Miller
Bookstore Manager - Rita O. Jackson
Volunteers - Mary Jo Nigro, Margaret Miller, Shirley Nelson, Ranonda Jones, Vivian Miller, Kathy Sullivan, Margo Viragh, Katie Augustine, George Miljevic, Mindy Bartholomae, Michael Powers, Loretta Williams
Newsletter - David Alexander
Greeter Coordinators - Dianne Harris and Elizabeth Parks
Music Director & Soloist - Greg Benedetto
Pianists - Lisa Bell Benedetto, Jan Patetta, Katie Cross
Percussion - Roy King, Baba Jubal Harris
Bass - Ed Lemmers
Soloists - Lisa Bell Benedetto, Brenda Bey, Leroy Crayton, Zita Farrell Andrews, Roberta

McLaughlin, The Oh! Sullivans, Bob Patetta, Norma Powell, Afi Scruggs, Sheryl L. Thomas, Gerri Maynor
Sound System - Bob Jones, Bob Patetta, Jo Jo Salupo
Florist - Blooms
Hospitality - Barbara Dunbar, Carl Kornicks, Paul Landis, Claire Randolph, Frank Rupsic, Dennis Walker
Meals on Wheels - Andrea Gidycz
Web Site Manager: BlueSky Graphics (Scott H. Dockus)
Sunday Service Times - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (nursery at both services) 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

February 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	2 7 pm - "4T Program" (Hank Roth)	3	4
5 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Uninterrupted Good Fortune" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	6 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	7 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service	8 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	9 7 pm - "4T Program" (Hank Roth)	10 7 pm - Undergrounds Coffeehouse (Love Letters with Les Roberts)	11 10 am - "Uninterrupted Good Fortune" (Rev. Joan Gattuso & David Alexander)
12 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Heart Therapy" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) [Christening Sunday]	13 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	14 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service	15 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	16 7 pm - "4T Program" (Hank Roth)	17 6:30 pm - Spiritual Cinema: <i>Resurrection</i>	18
19 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Translation vs. Transformation" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) [New Member Orientation]	20 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	21 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service	22 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	23 7 pm - "4T Program" (Hank Roth)	24 7 pm - The Loving Course	25 9 am - The Loving Course
26 9 am - TLC 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Does Consciousness Survive After Lunch" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) [New Member Sunday]	27 7 pm - The Loving Course Graduation 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	28 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service 7 pm - "New Thought for a New Millennium" (Bob Churilla)				



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

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