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From Our Minister Heaven, Here and Now

Dear Friends,

As we turn the calendar over into a New Year, a new church theme is called for. You can't imagine how much prayer work has gone into picking just the right focus for '07.

What has finally risen to the top is: **Heaven, Here and Now.**

This emerged out of several lessons from *A Course in Miracles*, along with that upbeat song we sing, "I'm Choosing Heaven Today."

What if we all chose heaven every day? Surely we would be creating the Kingdom of Heaven on earth! But, alas, sadly all will not daily be choosing that divine, heavenly state of consciousness.

So let's begin with you. You be the one. You be the hundredth monkey. As the tides of your consciousness begin to turn, you'll have a positive impact on all those around you.

Throughout 2007 we are going to be reminded countless times to consciously make the divine choice at Unity of Greater Cleveland through messages, classes, music, workshops and activities.

Heaven is a state of consciousness. It is not simply a realm of Paradise beyond the veil. It is here, and the time is now. Won't you be the one to join with me and other kindred spirits in our church home and make this choice valuable above all others? I know you can do it.

Let's unite in Divine Mind and create a glorious New Year. Happy New Year!

Love,



Joan



Prayer and Meditation Work for Detlev

By **Gloria Ross,**
Licensed Unity Teacher

A member and greeter at our church, **Detlev von Schwerdtner** retired from a job with General Motors in 1999. He took another job that involved traveling. In April 2001 he was due to travel to Germany and was feeling sluggish. He decided to see his doctor. He remembers that it was Friday the 13th.

From the doctor's office, he had been sent to the hospital. He woke up later, two months later. Detlev was diagnosed with kidney failure and a condition that was attacking his lungs and immune system.

He regained consciousness about June 10 and became determined that he would be out of the hospital by July 4. In the following days he spent time in prayer and meditation. His wife, Ruth, who had visited him regularly, performing reflexology, playing classical music and praying with (and for) him, kept up her regimen. Detlev was transferred to a rehabilitation unit and was released on July 3.

He realized his goal and was home for July 4 celebrations. Detlev now lives with an appreciation for life and especially lives in the moment, taking one day at a time.



Our Chorus “Volunteer of the Month”

By **Greg Benedetto, Music & Arts Director**

In 2006, the “Volunteer of the Month” recognition became a regular opportunity for us at UGC to honor those many, many individuals who have served, in some capacity, as a volunteer. Every one of the past honorees has been well-deserving and is appreciated for all that they do.

This month, I am thrilled to be among those who honor our January “Volunteer of the Month” – the Chorus In Miracles. Some of the faces have changed over the years, people come and people go, but the core remains the same, and the commitment and spirit that these singers put forth is a big part of the Music Program's success in delivering the Unity message in song. Whether it be in the Sunday services, the special music you just heard at our Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service, or community programs like the visits to senior centers, or of course, our celebrated singing of the National Anthem at Jacobs' Field, the Chorus has harmoniously performed and thrilled its audiences.

Their current names include: **Lisa Bell Benedetto, Brenda Bey, Nancy Eiler, Susan Freed, Milan Freeman, Pam Fubler, Tim Haber, Jeanie Hall, Kathryn Heim, Rita O. Jackson, Frank Kenner, Chrystal LaTorre, Ed Lemmers, Felicia Martinez, Norma Powell, Karen Shepherd, Jerry Sleas, Marie Smith, and Janet Wasserman.** In addition, I am very excited to include our youth members: **Carlos Crespo, Alex Kent, Antonio LaTorre, Alex Martinez and Gaby Martinez .**

Please join me in honoring them, as well as all our past members. It is not the individual, but the spirit of the whole that makes them such a valuable part of our ministry here at Unity of Greater Cleveland.

Experiencing God Meditation Services

By Rev. Dana Cummings

I recently heard a spiritual leader remark, “Even more than knowing about God, people want the *experience of God*.” In January and February (beginning January 4 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.) you will have a new opportunity to experience the indwelling Divine during our Thursday night Meditation Services.

These eight services will begin with several easy sacred chants, creating a warm spiritual atmosphere. Following will be extended silent meditation. Apart from the sacred chants, we will conduct ourselves in silence coming into and departing from the service.

Consider this meditation service a Spirit-given mid-week oasis—a time of restoration and rejuvenation, a time of inner peace and transcendent joy.

Please join us. Your soul will be glad you did!

“The Twelve Powers” Begins January 9

When Unity’s Co-Founder Charles Fillmore studied the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus, he discovered 12 powers that, when developed, can lead to a life of unspeakable joy and glory. Join Licensed Unity Teacher **Gloria Ross** for 12 Tuesdays for “The Twelve Powers” beginning January 9 at 7:00 p.m. to assist you in your empowerment on your spiritual journey.

Charles wrote the book *The Twelve Powers of Man* to explain metaphysically those human powers or faculties and the process of regeneration as taught by Jesus. This course can be used for your journey of self-discovery and learning. It invites us to explore various aspects of ourselves, our lives, and our Unity teachings.

You can develop the art of intuitive listening and discover the Christ within. You can be empowered to work with your strengths and weaknesses, fears and doubts, needs and desires. As children of God, we are blessed with unlimited potential, and this series is an opportunity to manifest your potential.

The suggested love offering is \$10 per class or \$90 for the series. For further information telephone 216 751-1198.

Rev. Joan Gattuso Presents New Theme for 2007

Rev. Joan Gattuso kicks off a new theme in 2007: “Heaven, Here and Now.” She speaks on the topic three times in January, while **Rev. Dana Cummings** is the fourth Sunday presenter. The lineup:

January 7: “Racing into Eternity” (Rev. Joan Gattuso). This is the first in a year-long theme of living life consciously.

January 14: “The Three P’s, Part I” (Rev. Joan Gattuso). Boost your consciousness through prayer, persistence and patience.

January 21: “The Three P’s, Part II” (Rev. Joan Gattuso). To move even higher try philosophy, psychology and physics.

January 28: “Don’t Worry, Be Happy” (Rev. Dana Cummings). Here’s how to be in the world, but not be a victim of the world, happily.

From Children's Church

2007: A Year of Gifts for the Children

We're ringing in the New Year at Unity of Greater Cleveland with plans for a year full of creating, learning, laughing and love.

Making the most out of 2007 and its abundance, the theme of the Children's Church's this year is "The 12 Gifts from God." Throughout the year, thread throughout the Uniteen and Y.O.U. rooms. It is based on Unity co-founder Charles Fillmore's teachings.

The kids will embrace different lessons, activities individually for each age group. The "12 Gifts from God" theme also is coordinated with our Children's Prayer Project where participating young people will take home monthly calendars containing daily affirmations that pertain to that month's power.

January – Faith

February – Love

March – Strength

April – Wisdom

May – Power

June – Imagination

July - Understanding

August - Will

September - Order

October - Zeal

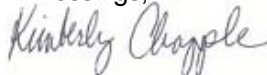
November - Release

December - Life

In addition to the weekly lessons, Children's Church will hold monthly Spiritual Workshops for those interested in extra fun. We plan to introduce once-a-month Sunday workshops for kids encompassing many different areas that can help a child on his or her own spiritual journey. Workshops to be explored include yoga, storytelling, drumming (drum-making and playing in a drum circle), painting, singing, Reiki, walking a garden labyrinth and more!

This New Year is one of creation. And we're glad to be creating with you. See you in 2007!

Blessings,



Kimberly Chapple



year is "The 12 Gifts from a common theme will preschool, elementary, It is based on Unity co-"12 Powers of Man"

one power per month with and discussions created group. The "12 Gifts from coordinated with our

Did You Know?

Many of Unity of Greater Cleveland Children's Church teachers are in the process of obtaining Unity's official Certification of Spiritual Educator (CSE). This Children's and Family Ministry track is open to all.

Beginning Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 p.m., Unity of Greater Cleveland offers "The 12 Powers of Man" class. The 12-week class nicely dovetails with the 12-month "12 Gifts from God" curriculum, which is the 2007 Children's Church theme.

A special gift for parents who want to continue their children's spiritual education at home, this class is being offered for CSE credit.

To learn more call Rudi at 216 751-1198.

Spiritual Cinema Scheduled for January 19

Identity is the Spiritual Cinema movie scheduled for Friday, January 19, at 6:30 p.m. Bring your dinner to enjoy while you watch the movie, and join in the lively discussion following the showing.

Enlightened Leadership Program in 2007

By Rev. Dana Cummings

Say Yes... to increasing your warm heart!

When asked the purpose of life the Dalai Lama replied, "To increase the warm heart." The surest way I know to increase the warmth of my heart is through serving with others for a greater good. You know this from your own life experience. Leadership, volunteerism, spiritual discernment and right action are the keys to building true church community.

This is a call to serve—to serve your own spiritual and leadership growth as you help broaden and deepen the consciousness of our church family. Is your still small voice saying 'Yes?'

January 2007 will mark the beginning of our **Enlightened Leadership Program**. Together we will provide meaningful opportunities to serve, to learn and to grow. Here is a brief summary of our program.

Unity of Greater Cleveland has 12 standing volunteer committees, or **Spirit Teams**, ranging in purpose from Greeting to Hospitality to Building and Grounds Maintenance, to name but a few. We will be expanding the numbers on each team, establishing co-chair positions and adding structure for ease of communication and facilitation of mission.

Goals for our volunteer program include:

1. Creating continuity of membership on each **Spirit Team**.
2. Increasing planning time for each team event.
3. Inviting all teams to express Spirit directed creativity in their mission.
4. Intending continued growth in our experience of shared spiritual community—the blessings of *love* in expression.

Special Leadership Skills Training in late fall/early spring

Our church will provide professionally facilitated leadership training to volunteers who wish to acquire enhanced life skills in team building, applied spiritual discernment, mission planning and accomplishment. This training will support the participants in every aspect of life.

Each of us may choose to live our lives as a form of ministry—multi-faceted ministries. Our **Enlightened Leadership Program** is an opportunity to begin redefining your life in these sacred and joyful terms.

Say Yes!

Team Meeting for Greeters on January 6

There will be a team meeting for all greeters, new and experienced, on Saturday, January 6, at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

If you would like to join our team of greeters feel free to attend this meeting or contact **Rev. Dana Cummings** at the church office (216 751-1198).

Greeters may well be the most important person a first-time visitor to our church will encounter. To them you ARE our church.

It's a wonderful opportunity for *people who love people—the luckiest people in the world!*

The Loving Course Set for February 2-4

Have you ever asked yourself one or more of these questions?

- 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?

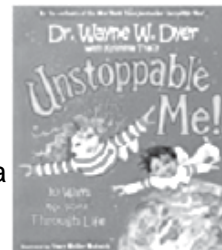
The Loving Course will assist you in discovering your own answers to these questions in an atmosphere of unconditional love. Understanding ourselves brings us a better understanding of others and is the first step to loving and accepting our-selves and others--our ultimate goal.

This powerful weekend workshop uses sound psychological principles along with the spiritual principles from *A Course in Miracles* and Rev. Joan Gattuso's book, *A Course in Love*.

The next weekend is February 2-4, beginning Friday evening the 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the church. 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 one of our facilitators, **Greg** or **Jan Liber**.

From the Bookstore **Unstoppable Me! and Mastermind Journal in Our Bookstore**

Unstoppable Me!
10 Ways to Soar through life
Dr. Wayne W. Dyer



Each of the 10 points is a positive message for children ages 4-10. Alongside each message is an example of the point with creative

illustrations that show how a child can apply these concepts in their everyday life.



Rita O. Jackson
Bookstore Manager

Dr. Dyer believes children were born with no-limit thinking, and he teaches them how to hold on to it. His desire is to help children learn to truly enjoy life and become unstoppable as they strive to reach their dreams.

**2007 Master Mind™ Goal
Achievers Journal
Complete Journal \$32.95
Journal without Cover**

(3 hole punched) \$22.95

The Master Mind Journal, created by Renaissance Unity founder Rev. Jack Boland, will enable you to experience each day efficiently and with clarity.

It provides you with tools for self-discovery, growth and transformation. As a record of your strengths, successes and blessings takes shape in this *Journal*, you will experience feelings of achievement and accomplishment. These feelings will become a powerful motivator to help you strive for continued growth.

By practicing the principles contained within the pages of the *Journal*, you will develop the skills to achieve your goals and transform your life.

“Provocative Prayer. . .” Set for January 21

Why do we spend time talking to God? In the midst of uncertainty and inclement times, faith is the anchor that steadies our gait, and prayer is the key to the kingdom and the pathway to peace. Talking to God helps navigate the waters of life.

An experiential workshop, “Provocative Prayer for Passionate Spirits” facilitated by **Shirley Nelson**, will explore some methods that can easily be incorporated into your daily prayer life that can enliven and deepen your devotion and expand your awareness of what already is. It is scheduled for Sunday, January 21, at 2:00 p.m. Participants are asked to dress comfortably.

Most of us pray without ceasing but do so unknowingly. Let's kick it up a notch. Discover some aspects of prayer that will have you passionate about praying and create a joyous and outrageous prayer life.

Shirley Nelson, workshop facilitator and Unity practitioner, has a passion for spiritual practices. She is a retreat facilitator and an executive administrator. Creating balance through prayer has been a life long interest and a constant pursuit.

Candids from the Volunteer Lunch



Unity of Greater Cleveland Volunteer & Staff Directory

Founding Minister: Joan M. Gattuso
Associate Minister: Dana Cummings
Board of Advisors:
Chair - Minnie Bowers
Vice Chair: Liz Parks
Co-Treasurers: Katie Augustine and Mary Ann Davis
Secretary: Sandy Deck
Prosperity Partner: Ed Erbach
Alternate: Linda Julian
Licensed Teacher - Gloria Ross
Practitioners - Cynthia Bowers, Bob Churilla, Pamela Ellison, Dawn Falkenstein, Jeanne Hood, Georgia Hyde, Bob Javorsky, Vivian Miller, Shirley Nelson, Nona Oriti, MillyOwens, Zita Farrell-Andrews, Karen Shepherd, Sheryl Thomas
Fund Development Committee Chair: Mary Ann Davis
Projects Manager: David Alexander
Executive Director: Felicia Martinez
Secretary: Rudi Barnes
Accountant: Kim Heiman

Minister's Sunday Assistant - Paul Landis, Gloria Ross, Rudi Barnes
Youth Education Director - Kim Chapple
Curriculum Development Coordinator - Evelyn Canton
Nursery (0-3 years old) - Gail Anderson, Michelle Federico, Todd Mueller, Carly Patetta, Debbie Reesing, JoJo Salupo
Preschool/Kindergarten (4-5 years old) - Evelyn Canton, Wendy Johns, Hank Roth
Elementary (6-8 years old) - Stephanie Barry, Kimberly Chapple, Indi Shekerjian
Upper Elementary (9-10 years old) - Lisa Harmon, Felicia Martinez, Dave Mason
Uniteens (11-13 years old) - Susan Cristal, Frank Kenner, Freddie LaTorre
Y.O.U. (14-18 years old) Sponsor - Chrystal LaTorre
Bookstore Manager - Rita O. Jackson
Volunteers - Jacquay Bowers, Lois Hansen, Ranonda Jones, George Miljevich, Vivian Miller, Todd Mueller, Mary Jo Nigro, Michael Powers
Alternates - Katie Augustine, Kathryn Heim, Emily Mueller, Rebecca Searcy, Margo Viragh
Newsletter - David Alexander

Greeter Coordinators - Detlev von Schwerdtner and Liz Parks
Music Director & Soloist - Greg Benedetto
Pianists - Lisa Bell Benedetto, Jan Patetta
Percussion - Roy King, Baba Jubal Harris
Bass - Ed Lemmers
Sound System - Bob Jones, Bob Patetta, Anthony Nickerson-El
Florist - Blooms
Hospitality - Carl Kornicks, Paul Landis, Clare Randolph, Frank Rupsic, Todd Mueller
Meals on Wheels - Andrea Gidycz
Web Site Manager: Scott 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

January 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	NEW YEAR'S DAY (Office closed)	2	3 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	4 7 pm - Meditation Service (Rev. Dana Cummings)	5 7:30 am -Meditation (Gerri Maynor)	6 8 am - Yoga (Gerri Maynor) 11 am - Team Meeting for Greeters
7 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Racing into Eternity" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) <i>Open House</i>	8 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	9 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service 6 pm - Toastmasters 7 pm - "The Twelve Powers" (Gloria Ross)	10 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	11 7 pm - Meditation Service (Rev. Dana Cummings)	12 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor)	13 8 am - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)
14 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "The Three P's, Part I" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (Office closed)	16 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service 6 pm - Toastmasters 7 pm - "The Twelve Powers" (Gloria Ross)	17 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	18 7 pm - Meditation Service (Rev. Dana Cummings)	19 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 6:30 pm - Spiritual Cinema	20 8 am - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)
21 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "The Three P's, Part II" (Rev. Joan Gattuso) 2 pm - "Provocative Prayer" (Shirley Nelson)	22 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	23 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service 6 pm - Toastmasters 7 pm - "The Twelve Powers" (Gloria Ross)	24 7:30 am - Meditation (Gerri Maynor) 6:30 pm - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)	25 7 pm - Meditation Service (Rev. Dana Cummings)	26	27 8 am - Yoga (Gerri Maynor)
28 10 am - ACIM 9 & 11 am Service: "Don's Worry, Be Happy" (Rev. Dana Cummings)	29 7 pm - A Chorus in Miracles rehearsal	30 12:30 Silent Unity Prayer Service 6 pm - Toastmasters 7 pm - "The Twelve Powers" (Gloria Ross)	31			



Of Greater Cleveland
A CHURCH OF PEACE & JOY!

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events: www.unitygreatercleveland.com

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