



News from Unity of Greater Cleveland

Volume 25, Number 10, October, 2009

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Brother Sun, Sister Moon

Brother Sun, Sister Moon is the spiritual cinema for October on Friday the 16th at 6:30 p.m. Bring your dinner to enjoy as you enjoy the movie.

It is the story of St. Francis of Assisi. The son of a rich cloth merchant, in 1202 Francis became dissatisfied with his life and went looking for purpose. He found the ruins of a small church in San Damiano and felt that he had been called to rebuild this church. He renounced his name and wealth to live as a beggar for Christ.

The movie is filled with both angst and joy and is definitely spiritually uplifting. Don't miss it.

Dear Friends,

People are always telling me what a colorful storyteller I am. If that is true, then it's because you are always telling me great stories.

One of the best was told to me last week by our Co-Board Chair Sandy Deck. Anyone that knows Sandy knows she cares for pets—mostly dogs—but last week she had an unusual assignment to tend to two pigeons who lived inside the house in a cage. They were allowed to fly around in "their room" once a day.

The first pigeon was a deformed rescue bird. The pitiful female's head was attached nearly upside down, and if she had not been hand fed she would have quickly died. Later a male pigeon with two broken wings was rescued and became the cage-mate for the deformed female.

His wings healed, and he was set free back into nature. But, alas, he would not go. He was in love with the unsightly female. So the family relented and became caretakers of not one, but two pigeons.

So since both were staying, they needed names. So the family named them Crabtree and Evelyn (like the bath and body products company). "How sweet," I said. "Does Evelyn respond to her name?" A smiling Sandy corrected me. "No, Joan, Evelyn is the male!"

Evelyn is so in love and attached to Crabtree that he has gathered together a small trove of treasures—a piece of yarn, a charm, a string, a tiny twig. He hides them behind the credenza, and each morning when they are let out of their cages Evelyn goes behind the credenza and one by one he picks up one of the treasures with his beak and presents it to Crabtree. In turn, Crabtree regally receives each one every morning.

Animals have levels of consciousness that I believe we are not yet ready to realize.

Love and preciousness come in many forms. We have to be aware and awake enough to recognize it, however. This unbelievably adorable story can have meaning on multiple levels.

Initially we can think, "What a cute story." When we look deeper we can be touched by the

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From the Bookstore

Why Faith Matters by Rabbi David Wolpe is an articulate defense of religion in America. It makes the case for faith and shows its relationship to history and science. Refuting the cold reason of atheists



and the hatred of fanatics with a vision of religion informed by faith, love and understanding.

Rabbi Wolpe follows a literary tradition that stretches from C. S. Lewis to

Thomas Merton—individuals of faith who brought religion and culture together in their own works. He takes readers through the origins and nature of faith, the role of the *Bible* in modern life and the compatibility of God and science concluding with a proverbial argument for the place of God, faith and religion in today's world.

* * *

The UGC Book Club meets Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 a.m. at the church. Join us for a lively discussion of *Truth Heals* by Deborah Kind. The book is available in our bookstore.

Drum Circle on October 9

The drum circle led by **Baba Jubal Harris** is on Friday, October 9, 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.

UGC Needs Teachers

Our Children's Church is looking for dedicated, reliable volunteers to assist our wonderful children on their spiritual paths. Teachers, assistant and nursery attendants are all needed. Call 216 751-1198.

Four New Practitioners to Be Inducted in October

Four new Practitioners at Unity of Greater Cleveland will be inducted during the Sunday service on October 25. They are: **Rudi Barnes, Marcia Bufford, Deb Coleman** and **Janet Wasserman**.

They have been in training for over a year, and they assist the ministry by fulfilling prayer needs of the congregation, serving as high watchers during the Sunday service, making in-home and hospital visits, and holding the consciousness of our church.

Please show your support for them by being at church on the 25th. Congratulations to them all!

Rev. Joan's Sunday Topics

Rev. Joan Gattuso presents four spiritually intriguing topics in October. They are:

October 4: "Getting the Message Out of the Mess." Learn from your mistakes. Celebrate your successes.

October 11: "Rubber vs. Wood." It's amazing what we'll use to separate us from each other.

October 18: "Don't Panic Yet!" A calm mind sees all things clearly. How calm are you?

October 25: "A Lotta Slippery." Pay attention to your radar. It's more proficient than you think.

From Our Minister

[Continued from page 1] *expression of affection which then prompts us to go deeper and wonder just how intelligent these feathered creatures of God are. What lessons can we learn from these two birds?*

Beyond affection we can add love. Then we can add healing, compassion, generosity, caring, devotion, and seeing behind appearances. The list could go on, but surely you can see the value of emulating several of these qualities observed in Crabtree and Evelyn.

Perhaps you think I am anthropomorphizing these birds, but the lessons of their behavior cannot be denied. Take an indepth look and see what you can learn.

God bless.

Love,
Joan

Andrew Harvey Presents “Passion in Action”



A spiritually powerful **Andrew Harvey** returns Sunday, November 1 to Unity of Greater Cleveland to give the Sunday lesson and present a must-attend workshop: “Passion in Action, Sacred Practices for a Dangerous World.”

Says Andrew, “I believe that everyone has a direct connection to the Divine, and finding this direct connection is the clue to the kind of radical self empowerment that can help you become a passionate and peaceful and brave sacred activist.”

He will share his vision of the four kinds of practices that he believes are essential for the transformation our times are calling for. Cool practices can help us connect with Divine Being and its great peace.

Hot practices help us fuse with the heart of the Divine. Prayer practices enable us to keep constantly aligned with the beloved, and sacred body practices open the whole body to the subtle images of divine love.

Andrew’s Sunday lesson title is: “Finding your Mission, Sacred Activism and World Crisis.” Andrew Harvey was born in south India in 1952 where he lived until he was nine years old. It is this early period that he credits with shaping his sense of the inner unity of all religions and providing him with a permanent and inspiring vision of a world infused with the sacred. He left India to attend private school in England and entered Oxford University in 1970 with a scholarship to study history. At the age of 21, he became the youngest person ever to be awarded a fellowship to All Soul’s College, England’s highest academic honor.

By 1977 Andrew Harvey had become disillusioned with life at Oxford and returned to his native India, where a series of mystical experiences initiated his spiritual journey. Over the next thirty years he plunged into different mystical traditions to learn their secrets and practices. In 1978 after he began his long study and practice of Hinduism, he met a succession of Indian saints and sages. Later explorations immersed him in Sufi mysticism and helped him synthesize the whole of his mystical explorations and reconcile eastern with western mysticism.

Unity of Greater Cleveland Volunteer & Staff Directory
 His most recent work is *The Hope, a Guide to Sacred Activism*.

Founding Minister: Joan M. Gattuso

Board of Advisors:

Co-Chairs - Sandy Deck and Elaine Sleas

Secretary: Connie Machan

Treasurer: Calvin Reid

Prosperity Partners: Paul Barr, Freddy

LaTorre, Al Manger, Andy Miller

Licensed Teachers - Gloria Ross,

Karen Shepherd

Practitioners - Cynthia Bowers, Pamela

Ellison, Dawn Falkenstein, Georgia Hyde,

Bob Javorsky, Vivian Miller, Nona Oriti, Sheryl

Thomas

Assistant: Felicia Martinez

Administrative Assistant: Rudi Barnes

Accountant:

Minister’s Sunday Assistants - Paul Landis,

Rudi Barnes

Youth Education Directors - Chrystal LaTorre,

Marcia Bufford

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

Coss

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

Marcia Bufford, Sherry Foulkes, Michelle Hurt,

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 - Felicia Martinez

Florist - Blooms

Hospitality - Carl Kornicks, Paul Landis, Todd

Mueller

Meals on Wheels - Open

Web Site Manager: Tim Machan

Sunday Service Time - 11:00 a.m. Children’s

Church, including the Nursery, 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

October 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 10 am - Volunteer Cleaning Crew
4 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Getting the Message Out of the Mess" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	5	6 6 pm - Toastmasters	7 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service 6:30 pm - Yoga	8	9 7 pm - Drum Circle	10
11 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Rubber vs. Wood" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	12	13 6 pm - Toastmasters	14 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service 6:30 pm - Yoga	15	16 6:30 pm - Spiritual Cinema: <i>Brother Sun, Sister Moon</i>	17 10 am - Volunteer Cleaning Crew 11 am - UGC Book Club
18 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "Don't Panic Yet!" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	19	20 6 pm - Toastmasters	21 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service 6:30 pm - Yoga	22	23	24
25 10 am - ACIM 11 am Service: "A Lotta Slippery" (Rev. Joan Gattuso)	26	27 6 pm - Toastmasters	28 12:30 pm - Unity Prayer Service 6:30 pm - Yoga	29	30	31 10 am - Volunteer Cleaning Crew



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