

# Wings



*FIRST UNITY CHURCH – Serving the spiritual needs of the St. Louis community for over ninety years*

The Newsletter of  
First Unity Church  
Of Saint Louis

June 2017

- ❖ *Inspiration*
- ❖ *Information*
- ❖ *Illumination*

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Truth Thoughts

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## Small Beginnings

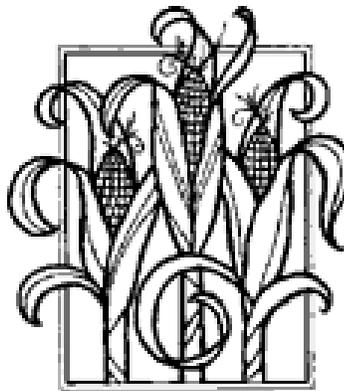
*By J. Douglas Bottorff*

Answers to our problems often come to us in unexpected ways, but they always come. And because we are here to grow, they often come to us in the form of a seemingly insignificant suggestion to change something in our character. As Jesus said, "The earth produces of itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear" (Mk.4:28). While we are looking for the full grain in the ear, it may be that the blade has gone unnoticed.

Within every problem you face, there is the potential for growth, and regardless of what the answer is, you should always be alert to the growth which the problem is inviting you to undergo. If an appearance of some sort has you shivering with fear, the need is to first look beyond the appearance and establish contact with God. I'm not talking about a casual thought about God. I'm talking about a merging of your mind with God as a living, healing, harmonizing presence.

This is always the place to begin, and it may very well prove to be the blade that will evolve into the full grain in the ear you are seeking.

Are you faced with a condition that seems to be beyond your power to control? Are you helplessly swimming in a sea of negation, desperately calling out for a full-blown solution to pluck you from the midst of your problems? It may be that you are holding that answer in your hands at this very moment. Release the grip of fear and remember that God is now



providing you with the perfect solution to meet your need. Shifting your mind from fear to trust in God may very well be the blade that will evolve into the full grain in the ear. A small beginning perhaps, but a beginning that can lead beyond the solution to a temporary problem and into a richer quality of life in every area.



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## Wings

June, 2017

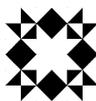
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### First Unity Membership

For Unity membership, there are no requirements other than a desire to know God, to unfold spiritually, and to understand, love, and align with Spirit's Laws of Being. If you are feeling led to become a member of First Unity, just complete the "I Desire to Become a Member" form by the guest book in the lobby.

### Flocknotes Updates

First Unity has implemented our new Flocknote program to keep you posted on upcoming events via text or email. If you would like to receive regular updates, please call the church office or send an email to [firstunity@firstunitychurchstlouis.org](mailto:firstunity@firstunitychurchstlouis.org).



### Third Thursday Quilters

For information contact Jane Vondruska (636 226-4562) or Sandy Etheridge (314 309-8136).

**Ladies' Night Out** will meet June 19, 530pm at Cusanelli's at 705 Lemay Ferry Rd, 63125. For more information call Mary Tumminello. Home: 314-843-1807 Cell: 314-814-4530.



**June 13:** Have A Little Faith: A True Story by Mitch Albom  
**July 11:** All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

**August 8:** Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter by Kate Clifford Larson

**eScrip News** – Remember to use your eScrip card at Schnuck's. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com), or look for the link on the First Unity website to earn money for First Unity as you shop. Thank you!

### Youth Education



Calling all kids to join our incredible Sunday School Classes. Also we welcome extra adult hands. If you could help just one Sunday a month, it would make a huge difference.

Stop by Our **Lending Library** and check out an inspirational title from among a wide selection of books written by some of Unity's greatest authors.



### Route 66 Jazz Orchestra Summer Concert & Dinner Show

June 7, 2017

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$15.00

Call Chuck 314-614-2950 or

First Unity Church 314-845-8540

**Ukulele Lessons** are available on Thursday evenings for adults. Lessons are also available for kids. Call Joan Mueller at 314-849-7205 for details.

### Save the Date

June 7: Jazz Concert and Sloppy Joe Dinner

Sept. 16: Trip to Grant's Farm

Oct. 29: Fall Luncheon after Sunday Service

Oct. 27: Trunk or Treat 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.



### Feed my people

Donations are often down for all food pantries during the summer months, and with children home from school, there are more mouths to feed, so your gifts of food are especially appreciated at this time of year. There is a table for donations provided in the bookstore.

[www.feed-my-people.org](http://www.feed-my-people.org)

### June Affirmations



**Inner Peace:** I attune to God at the center of my being, and I am serene.

**Guidance:** The mind of God enlightens me. I am

wise, courageous, and confident.

**Healing:** Every cell of my body is aglow with the light and life of God.

**Prosperity:** I give thanks to God as my source and supply.

**World Peace:** I envision all people building a world of peace on a foundation of love.



## Spiritual submarines

Author Steve Farrar encourages Christian fathers to be spiritual submarines under the surface of their children's lives. "Through your prayers you have the ability to affect situations where you are not physically present," he writes in *Standing Tall*. "You may be undetected, but that does not mean that you are ineffective."

A man who puts on the armor of God and goes to war on his knees for his children is a force to be reckoned with, Farrar adds. "When it comes to battle ... understand that you have been given awesomely powerful weapons."

## You'll never miss it

Frustrated that income never covered expenses, a longtime church treasurer resigned. Another member, who owned the town's grain elevator, volunteered to take over with one stipulation: He wouldn't submit a report for the first year.

The puzzled board members agreed because they knew he was an honest man. After all, they trusted him to process their grain.

By year's end, the new treasurer gave a glowing report. The church's building debt had been erased. Staff salaries had increased 15 percent. And the budget showed a healthy balance.

When the shocked but delighted congregation asked for an explanation, the treasurer said, "Most of you bring your grain to my elevator. When I paid you, I simply withheld 10 percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You never missed it!"

## A hymn's long journey

The beloved hymn "How Great Thou Art" came together across many years and miles. In 1885, when Swedish preacher Carl Boberg wrote a poem titled "O, Great God," he probably never dreamed he'd hear it performed years later to an old Swedish tune. Or that a Russian version would impact Stuart Hine, an

English missionary to Poland, several decades later. Hine penned his own English version, resulting in the now-familiar lyrics.

From "the rolling thunder" echoing off the Carpathian Mountains, to the "woods and forest glades" of Romania, to powerful conversions to Christianity, Hine was inspired to craft each verse. Sometimes the Holy Spirit takes time to complete a work, and that journey is as important as the destination.

## Life is an echo

A man and his young son were walking on a mountain trail when the boy tripped on a rock and twisted his ankle. "Ahhhhh!" he screamed in pain.

"Ahhhhh!" came a distant reply from the mountain.

The startled boy shouted back, "Who are you?"

"Who are you?" replied the voice from the mountain.

This made him angry, so he shouted, "You're a big coward!"

"You're a big coward!" was the reply.

The puzzled boy looked at his father and asked, "Dad, what's going on?"

"Son," the father replied, "listen to this." He then shouted, "I admire you!"

"I admire you!" answered the voice.

"You are wonderful!" shouted the dad.

And the voice replied, "You are wonderful!"

The father turned to his son and explained, "People call that an echo, but it's really life. Life always gives back to you what you give to it. Life is a mirror of all your actions. If you want to be loved, give love. If you want respect, give respect. If you want people to be patient with you, be patient with them. This rule of nature applies to every part of our lives."

## "Quotable Quotes"

Man wishes to be happy even when he lives as to make happiness impossible.

—St. Augustine of Hippo

The miracle is this — the more we share, the more we have.

—Leonard Nimoy

We must all work to make the world worthy of its children.

—Pablo Casals

Lord, make me see thy glory in every place.

—Michelangelo

I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer.

—F. Scott Fitzgerald,  
*The Great Gatsby*

It is a wise father that knows his own child.

—William Shakespeare

We realize the importance of light when we see darkness.

—Malala Yousafzai

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.

—Mahatma Gandhi

Be soft. Do not let the world make you hard. Do not let the pain make you hate. Do not let the bitterness steal your sweetness.

Iain Thomas

We've all got both light and dark inside us. What matters is the part we choose to act on. That's who we really are.

J.K. Rowling

How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives

Annie Dillard

## Our Love Affair with God

By Eric Butterworth

Some of the clearest insights into the mysterious cosmic energy of love have been revealed by Teilhard de Chardin, the Catholic priest-paleontologist. In his concept of the whole universe and the whole human, he found love to be an attraction exercised upon each conscious element by the Center of the universe, "the call toward the great union, whose attainment is the only real business in nature."

There is a center within every person and a great center within the universe. Teilhard refers to this center as Omega-the cosmic point of total synthesis. And he sees love as the energy that seeks first to lift each person into wholeness, the totalization of one's true self; and second, it seeks to bring each person into harmony with all other people with whom one may be involved-and all this out of a communion or oneness with "the conscious Center of total convergence."

### A Center of Love Within

Now the obvious and very exciting implication of all this is that love is not something that comes and goes by our changing moods, something we can fall into or out of or feel strain or drain through expression, or something that can ever be depleted. Love is an energy force that emanates as naturally from the center of us as radiation from uranium. We are always "lovelful."

Living at the surface of experience, the energy of love may be felt simply as an emotion or as sensuality, or even as a drive for materiality. We may experience it chiefly as a restless hunger, a passionate desire for fulfillment. We may thus be impelled to a continuous search in the world "out there" for conquests and achievements and possessions, while what our heart really longs for is to be united in a conscious sense of oneness with the heart of the universe.

It is often said that the greatest need of every person is to be loved, which is true. But it is a mistake to think that this need for love can be

filled by others. Our yearning for love can be satisfied only by touching the Love Center within us. It is a "remembering" that "In the beginning ... love" is the root of our being. The key to developing a consciousness of this love so that the energy of love may flow easily in and through us is in meditation, "Man's love affair with God."

Charles Fillmore once said, "One should make it a practice to meditate regularly on the love idea in universal Mind, with the prayer, *Divine Love, manifest thyself in me....* This produces a positive love current, which, when sent forth with power, will break up opposing thoughts of hate, and render them null and void.... The love current is not a projection of the will; it is a setting free of a natural, equalizing, harmonizing force that in most persons has been dammed up by human limitations."

### *Meditation: Accepting What Is Already There*

Meditation is a subject that is both popular and greatly confused in modern times. To the Eastern mind, it comes naturally because the religious conditioning of people of the East is more inner-centered. Western religion has been centered in ritual and ceremony and wordy prayers. The followers of Judaism and Christianity, for instance, have had little experience in the withinness of spiritual seeking. Their God has always been "out there" or "up there," and their prayers have been a reaching out and up, an attempt to relate to or communicate with a deity who is much like an absentee landlord of the world.

Thus the tendency in attempts at meditation is to try to experience inner communion with the same kind of tense reaching. As Teilhard puts it, "The presence is so universal and we are so surrounded and transfixed by it-there is no room to fall down and adore it, even within ourselves." The goal is not to reach something, even to reach for something. It is letting go of the very desire to reach. There is really nowhere to go, nothing to do. We simply get ourselves out of the way and let the transcendence of us become the living reality of us.

Plotinus had an amazingly simple and yet extremely dynamic insight.

He was probably one of the very first people to conceive of humanity as being at the center of a totally supportive universe. He suggests that we let the soul banish all that disturbs it and the body let go of its tensions and then think of Spirit as streaming, pouring, rushing, and shining into us from all sides while we stand quietly. In other words, God is seeking us!

Meditation is an experience in loving and being loved at the Center of us. This Center is not a place to go but a level of consciousness to feel. In this consciousness, we love God and God loves us. There is no question of the latter, for-"I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jer. 31:3). Our need is to accept it, to experience it, to bubble over with it. It is a consciousness that we are in love with God, and God is in love with us. And this sense of oneness in love "is the only real business of nature."

There are many techniques for meditation, which we will not attempt to describe or outline in this study-partly because of lack of space. But chiefly because we want to emphasize that meditation is not a mental practice, but an awareness that takes place in the heart. It is essentially an experience in and of love. It is an awakening and unfolding of our true nature-by love. Just as a flower unfolds in the rays of the sun, so the heart center opens through daily meditation and the practice of the presence of divine Love.

### *The Power of the Smile*

When we feel the emotion of love, it is customary for the face to light up. The constant experience of transcendental love imparts to the face and to the whole being a spiritual radiance. The smile becomes alight with spiritual beauty. The smiling face is not only beautiful and joyful-it is "lovelful."

Why not put on a smile as a preparation for meditation? By the law of reversibility, could the smile not provide a vessel to be filled? Close your eyes for a moment. Smile. You do not really have to have something to smile about. Just let your face relax, and let the corners of your mouth turn up. Think of the smile as a vessel with its own form

and shape and character. Now recall that the Spirit is "streaming, pouring, rushing, and shining into (you) from all sides while (you) stand quietly." Don't try to feel anything or do anything or reach for anything. Just be still with that smile held out as a cup to be filled. You will suddenly sense the "joy of the Lord" welling up within you and pouring into you, filling and justifying the smile. This kind of joy is the emanation of the cosmic energy of love. Let the warmth of that love sweep over you. Feel it, glory in it, give thanks for it!

### ***God Is a Presence That Is Present***

Perhaps the great prerequisite to meditation, or to engaging in the "love affair with God," is the conviction that there is a Center within you and within the universe, and at that Center of convergence with the Infinite within you, your self is the emanation or image-likeness of God, and thus totally good. Charles Fillmore puts it thusly: "There is a divine goodness at the root of all existence .... No man is so lowly but that at the touch of its secret spring this divine goodness may be brought to light in him. ... This goodness sleeps in the recesses of every mind and comes forth when least expected."

There is little point in going to a bank for a withdrawal unless you know that you have an account there with adequate deposits. There is no purpose in engaging in meditation unless you believe that God is a Presence that is present, unless you believe that there is a "point of total convergence" at the root of you where you are ... created in the image-likeness of God, the Christ, the Son of the living God. Meditation is not the means of painting your inner self with a gilding of divinity. It is, rather, the gentle call to "awake thou that sleepest," to realize and release the Allness of love, and to "open out a way whence the imprisoned splendor may escape."

At the very root and center of you, there is only God, which means there is a point in you where you are only God. "Be still," says the Psalmist, "and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10). Meditation is the "be still, and know." And since we are told that "God is love," this knowing can be,

should be, an affirmation of love-leading to its feeling and acceptance. At the Center where there is only God, who is love, I am God and I am Love. It is this knowing that God is and I AM which brings us into a consciousness of "total synthesis." This is the great love affair with God. This is pure meditation. It has no object, seeks no experience, desires no thing, works for no demonstration. It does not even try to create oneness; it is Oneness, a great fusing of light at the Center, "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world" (Jn. 1:9 KJV).

Now, as in all love experiences, there is an elevation of consciousness. Thus because of your inward perception and feeling, everything in your world as revealed by your senses appears different. Jesus acknowledges this when He says "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Mt. 5:8). In elevation of consciousness, one sees from a transcendent level, one sees from the consciousness of God, by which one sees the point of light at the center of all things and all people.

### ***An Experience in Seeing Transcendentally***

Take a few moments for another exercise, an experience in seeing transcendentally. Look around you wherever you are. (It might be more effective if you are seated outdoors in a garden or park.) Fix your attention on a tree, a flower, a cloud, a bird, or a lonely person seated on a park bench. Get the feeling of that "inmost center" within you where you experience oneness with God's love. Feel the warmth of love flowing *through* you and from you. In this loving consciousness, you are letting yourself be loved from within and letting yourself *be* love. And then-look lovingly upon the tree or flower or person. If you sit still enough and concentrate on *not* doing anything or even *trying* to see anything, you will suddenly sense and see in a way beyond sight a radiance of light in that object or person. You will feel a closeness with it that is not emotional or sensual. It will give rise to understanding, to friendliness, and to a total freedom from fear. This is the height of the Oriental "Namaskar"

(the divinity in me salutes the divinity in you). In this consciousness, there could be no conflict, no hurt or harm, no fear or bitterness. There could be only a kind of joining of what is deepest within that object or person. George Washington Carver meditated on the lowly peanut in this way and unlocked its secrets, bringing prosperity to the entire South. Dostoevsky says this practice of relating to all of nature with love will lead you to "perceive the divine mystery of things ... and you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love."

Keep in mind that this love is not something that comes from you, something that is generated in you and by you. It is an energy force flowing through you from that cosmic Center within you and touching and igniting that same energy force within the object or person. Now we can see how the kind of thoughts that reveals an absence of love-fear, hatred, hostility, resentment, anger-frustrates this inner realization and flow of transcendental love, and causes us to relate to the object or person on a purely surface level that is exterior to this inner point of oneness of love.

This is why it is truly said that "perfect love casts out fear" (1Jn. 4:18) and love "overcomes the world" (1Jn. 5:4). Of course, this does not mean that simply voicing the words, "I love you," will establish this oneness. As someone once said, "I loved him all the way to the divorce court." This shows how the word "love" has so often been a cover-up for hypocrisy. It is not just affirming, "I know love can solve this inharmony between us, and I will love him even if it kills me." As we have been saying, love is not the plaything of the emotions or senses, but the activity of divine law.

The need is to turn from the conflict and "let the soul banish all that disturbs ...." And then "think of Spirit as shining in from all sides" while you relax and be still. Let the emanations of the cosmic point of divine Love flow in and through you, lifting you to the feeling of *being* love, enabling you to think loving thoughts of the other person, and thus relate to that depth of love which is surely within that person-no matter

how he or she may have been frustrating it.

### ***Blazing Your Own Trail***

You may wonder, how can you know if your meditation has found true depth? We should come forth thinking kindlier thoughts, speaking gentler and more loving words, and we should find ourselves doing things that are loving and harmonious with no actual effort to do them. And there should be a sharpening of the sensitivities. Things everywhere should take on the kind of appearance that things have to the person who is in love. As Shakespeare puts it, you will find "tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything." And it is this kind of seeing, this level of perception, that projects a healing energy to everything that your life touches.

We are not saying here that love is the only element of the inner life of a person, or that meditation is purely a means of realizing and releasing love. We are saying that love is an excellent basis for meditation, and meditation is a most effective key to knowing and experiencing "inner-centered" love. And, as we are trying to impress upon you, meditation is not a fixed thing, with a fixed set of definitions, techniques, and roads to follow. It is an individual experience. No one can tell you how to find the Center in you, and no one can hold your hand and go with you. You are an individual in God, and thus you can only find inward communion by going alone. Of course, as we have said, you are never less alone than when you experience this kind of aloneness, for it is really *all oneness*.

Meditation is the path you cut for yourself while seeking to get beyond the limitations of human consciousness into the transcendence of spiritual unity. It is and must be a continuing adventure-and proficiency and progress in depth can only come through practice. You will blaze your own trail, create your own gospel, be your own teacher, and follow your own master, which is the God self of you at the heart of you which is created in the image-likeness of God who is love.

### ***Prayer Is Not an Empty-Bucket Brigade***

How does this meditation process relate to what we have traditionally called prayer? It must be said that meditation is irrelevant to the old concept of duality, where prayer is reaching out and up to God, asking for things or for mercy. In the concept of unity in which the meditation process functions, prayer is a projection of a consciousness which must first be experienced. Meditation is the inward experience, the in-building, the recharging, the mobilizing of the energy. Prayer is the conditioning of outer things, experiences, relationships, by speaking the word of truth. Thus prayer should not be asking or begging, but affirmation and accepting-a kind of letting.

You may have a great desire to see a cessation of war and of "man's inhumanity to man" in the world. And you may have prayed long and hard for peace through years of religious practice. Perhaps now you can see in a totally new sense that love is the answer. How do you pray for great waves of love to sweep over the earth, healing and harmonizing and protecting all people? There is a popular song that says, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me." Many have sung this without realizing what is implied. To truly pray for peace in the world, we must find the Center of peace and love in ourselves. For what is peace except the all-pervading activity and energy of love that unite people in a way that completes and fulfills them, and joins them by what is deepest in themselves. There is a consciousness of inner peace arising out of the fullness of transcendental love. Prayer is the projection of this realization out into the world of men and experience.

However, we can project only what we have or what we are. To pray for world peace in the concern over war or in the feeling of fear and insecurity or with a sense of revulsion at widespread injustice and crime is to pray with empty vessels. In the old days a volunteer fire department was composed of individuals who responded to the fire bell by joining a bucket brigade that conveyed buckets of water to the fire from the nearest water source. How

futile would have been this process if each volunteer fireman had picked up a bucket and raced to the fire to throw his bucket of nothing on the fire. In this instance the bucket was useless without the water with which to extinguish the fire. And the prayer of words, no matter how fond the hopes or sincere the wishes of the one who prays, is but a conveyance of empty buckets. Or in the case of the person praying in a great consciousness of fear or worry, the buckets could even contain inflammable material that would heighten the fire.

Meditation is the key to the storehouse of power which prayer can effectively project. As the fireman went first to the source of water, in prayer, we must go first to the depth of our inmost self, not to get the power, but to realize that I AM the power. Thus meditation cannot be a tense reaching for anything. It must be the immersion of ourselves in the Allness of life in which we have true being. Meditation is not trying to create oneness with God, or even to seek it as a "gift of God." To *try* to effect oneness is to acknowledge "twoness." It is simply going deep within ourselves, away from the point where there appears to be duality, to the point where oneness is all there is. Then, resting in that oneness, feeling the fullness of love, which at this point is the only reality of us, we are ready to speak the word of love.

Dwell often upon this feeling of oneness with the Father and also in this consciousness of oneness in love with all humanity. Then it will be true in a way that is dynamic and powerful, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me." It *will* begin with you, and go forth from you in waves of love energy, reaching out into all the world with the transcendent influence that will lead to a "union whose attainment is the only business of nature." And it will come about because of your own love affair with God, which is your only business in life.

# June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> <i>Ukulele Practice, 7PM</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> <i>Sunday Services, 10:30AM</i> <i>Youth Ed, 10:30AM</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> <i>A.A. Men's Group, 10AM</i>  <i>Jazz Concert &amp; Dinner, 530pm</i>  <i>CA 7PM</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i> <i>Sunday Services, 10:30AM</i> <i>Youth Ed, 10:30AM</i>	<i>12</i> <i>Prayer Chaplain Meeting</i>	<i>13</i> <i>Book Club, <b>Have a Little Faith: A True Story</b> by Mitch Albom at Bread Co. at 2PM</i>	<i>14</i> <i>A.A. Men's Group, 10AM</i>  <i>CA 7PM</i>	<i>15</i> <i>Third Thursday Quilters, 10AM</i>  <i>Ukulele Practice, 7PM</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i> <i>Father's Day</i>  <i>Sunday Services, 10:30AM</i> <i>Youth Ed, 10:30AM</i>	<i>19</i> <i>Ladies' Night Out, Cusanelli's, 705 Lemay Ferry Rd, 63125 at 530PM</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> <i>A.A. Men's Group, 10AM</i>  <i>CA 7PM</i>  <i>Planning Mtg, 6PM</i> <i>Board Mtg, 7PM</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> <i>Sunday Services, 10:30AM</i> <i>Youth Ed, 10:30AM</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> <i>A.A. Men's Group, 10AM</i>  <i>CA 7PM</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Ukulele Practice, 7PM</i>	<i>30</i>	

## *Wings*

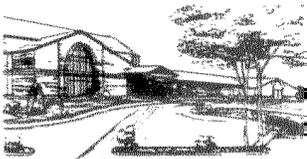
THE JUNE, 2017 NEWSLETTER OF  
FIRST UNITY CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS

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## The light side -- A little holy humor

What's the difference between a hippo and a Zippo?  
One is really heavy, and the other is a little lighter.

I told my girlfriend she drew her eyebrows too high. She seemed surprised.

My wife told me I had to stop acting like a flamingo. So I had to put my foot down.

What's the difference between in-laws and outlaws?  
Outlaws are wanted.

I bought my friend an elephant for his room.  
He said "Thanks."  
I said "Don't mention it."

I have an EpiPen. My friend gave it to me when he was dying, it seemed very important to him that I have it.

And God said to John, come forth and you shall be granted eternal life. But John came fifth and won a toaster.

So what if I don't know what Armageddon means? It's not the end of the world.

Why did the old man fall in the well?  
Because he couldn't see that well.

This is my step ladder. I never knew my real ladder.

My friend asked me to help him round up his 37 sheep. I said "40"

I've found a job helping a one armed typist do capital letters.  
It's shift work.

Wife says to her programmer husband, "Go to the store and buy a loaf of bread. If they have eggs, buy a dozen."  
Husband returns with 12 loaves of bread.

What did the pirate say when he turned 80 years old?  
Aye matey.

Have you heard about those new corduroy pillows?  
They're making headlines.