

Wings



FIRST UNITY CHURCH – Serving the spiritual needs of the St. Louis community for over eighty-five years.

The Newsletter of
First Unity Church
Of Saint Louis

March 2013

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

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By Ernest C. Wilson

Unity at a Glance

Increasingly, the word "unity" is on the lips and in the minds and hearts of humanity. In every nation, race, religion, and philosophy, men and women who are tall enough spiritually look across barriers that mankind had erected to separate itself into tiny little compartments, and see the underlying unity that transcends all differences of color, creed, and society. Those, who see that creation is a unity, the product of one designer, pulsating with one life, held together by one love, are beginning to feel and understand that humanity is also a unity, rooted in the fatherhood of one creator, linked in a spiritual oneness that is the true brotherhood of man. Unity is the truth of creation, the truth of humanity-- and in the recognition and sharing of this eternal unity is to be found the fullness of man's highest vision and aspiration. As men learn to live together in unity, peace will finally come to earth.

If unity is on your lips and active in your mind and heart, we feel you will be interested in the Unity Movement, centered in Lee's Summit, Missouri, U.S.A. For well over three-quarters of a century, this organization has devoted all of its resources to sharing the message of unity with the world. Through its

periodicals and books, its radio and television programs, its educational facilities, its teachers and leaders, it is sharing the message of unity with people from every walk of life, from every religious background, from every philosophy of living. Through its prayer department, Silent Unity, it is helping to bring faith, hope, healing, prosperity, and harmony to millions around the globe. Through its world outreach activities, it is working with enlightened religious leaders, scientists, government officials, business and professional personnel, employers and employees to help demonstrate the unity of all human endeavor.

Unity believes in the integrity, worth, dignity, and divine potential of each individual. We feel that the future of humanity lies in the awakening of its members to the potential good that is present in every human being. We are constantly seeking new means of communicating the Truth to people all around the world and of developing and sharing techniques to help each individual discover and exercise his full potential as a human and spiritual being.

--Continued on page six





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Back by popular demand,
**The Route 66 Jazz
Orchestra** will perform
here at First Unity on
March 6 at 7:30 p.m. with
soloists Valerie Tichacek,
Ron Wilkenson, and our
very own Dean Christopher. Tickets, at the
door, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.



Following the service on
March 17, plan to stay for a
**St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck
Luncheon.** You may sign up
in the church office if you'd
like to bring corned beef and cabbage, or just
bring a dish of your choice to share

Easter Lilies will once
again be available this year.
The price is \$8.50 and
orders must be in by March
17.



Time to
Spring Ahead

Remember!
Daylight-saving Time
begins on March 10.

Ongoing Class



**Discover the Power within
You** by Eric Butterworth
Sundays, 9:15 – 10:15 in
the adult classroom

Facilitated by Licensed Unity Teachers, Deb
Fry and Jan Mourning

This month the **Ladies' Night Out
Group** will be meeting Monday
evening, March 18, at Crazy
Bowls & Wraps, 12604 Tesson
Ferry, Lamplighter Sq. (behind the
old Ben Franklin store). For more
information call Mary Tumminello: Home:
314-843-1807 Cell: 314-814-4530. All are
welcome!

March 12: A Secret Kept by
Tatiana De Rosnay, **April 9:**
Messengers by David Arnett,
May 14: They Tore My Heart
Out and Stomped That Sucker
Flat by Lewis Grizzard



Place: Bread
Company, across from St. Anthony's
Hospital from 2:00 to 4:00. If you see a book
you would like to discuss, please join us for

that meeting. There are no requirements to
attend all the meetings.
Contact: Carol Bullock @ 314-894-2602 or
(cell) 314-518-9598 for questions.

Feed My People

Every year Feed My
People gives out produce seeds
and encourages their clients to
grow some of their own food.



All types of produce seeds are appropriate,
although tomato seeds are especially popular.
Because everyone can use a little beauty in
their lives, flower seeds are also welcome.
Food is, of course, always useful and this
month protein items will be much
appreciated.

www.feed-my-people.org

Special Dates

- Third Sunday in Lent, *March 3*
- Fourth Sunday in Lent, *March 10*
- Daylight-Saving Time begins, *March 10*
- Girl Scout Sunday, *March 10*
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, *March 17*
- First Day of Spring, *March 20*
- Palm Sunday, *March 24*
- Maundy/Holy Thursday, *March 28*
- Good Friday, *March 29*
- Holy Saturday, *March 30*
- Easter Sunday, *March 31*



March Affirmations

Inner Peace: The peace of
God lives in the quiet of my
heart.

Guidance: Spirit guides me in the fulfillment
of my dreams.

Healing: I am a perfect expression of divine
wholeness.

Prosperity: God is my prosperity.

World Peace: World peace begins with the
awareness of oneness.





Easter Is Timeless

Easter is a moveable feast, falling any time between March 22 and April 25

on the Gregorian calendar. At a meeting of bishops in 325 A.D., Easter Sunday was set as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the northern hemisphere's vernal equinox. (Though the equinox can fall on March 19, 20 or 21, the church fixed March 21 as this date.)

Over the years, branches of the church differed on the precise date for Easter, finally reaching agreement in the late 700s. Since 1582, however, when the Western Church adopted the Gregorian calendar while the Eastern Church retained the Julian one, the timing of Easter has sometimes varied between the two.

Such computations are interesting but pale in light of the ultimate assurance that for Christians, every day is truly Easter. Christ's tomb is empty! Jesus defeated death! Whenever we worship, we celebrate resurrection. Date-bound by earthly calendars, the Feast of the Resurrection, by heaven's rendering, is eternal.

A Modern Day Parable

My friend had a large hydrangea bush in her yard. Each year for a decade, she found only one or two blooms. "Cut it down!" she told her husband in frustration. But he, a very patient man, urged, "Let's give it one more year. I'll water it and fertilize it with coffee grounds. If it still doesn't bloom, I'll chop it down."

The next year, as the couple anticipated carrying out the death sentence, the bush not only bloomed but bloomed in abundance — and in multiple colors that amazed my friend, an avid gardener. "It's the barren fig tree all over again!" she exclaimed.

Indeed, sometimes God



replicates his miracles, perhaps because we need a refresher course in patiently waiting for his glorious blessings.

--Heidi Mann

Keep on Believing

Through major life challenges, Christian singer-songwriter Jeremy Camp has learned to walk by faith and cling to his hope in Christ. While he was growing up, Camp's family (which includes a brother with Down syndrome) struggled with poverty. When Camp was just 23, his wife of several months died of cancer.

The first song Camp wrote after her death was the chart-topper "I Still Believe." In the chorus, he sings:

I still believe in Your faithfulness
I still believe in Your truth
I still believe in Your holy word
even when I don't see, I still believe.

Camp says trusting in God during life's valleys takes lots of courage. "You can say, 'All right, Lord, I don't get it, but I'm going to trust you,' and go to the only One [who] offers life and hope and peace and joy."

Shamrock

St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach

people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, "Is this one leaf, or three?" Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.



Attitude Check

"Attitude is the mind's paintbrush. It can color a situation gloomy and gray, or cheerful and gay. In fact, attitudes are more important than facts."

-Mary C. Crowley

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people, and hallelujah is our song.

-Pope John Paul II

Death is not extinguishing the light; it is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

-Rabindranath Tagore

Rejoice in the things that are present; all else is beyond thee.

-Montaigne

We are already one. But we imagine that we are not. And what we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be is what we are.

-Thomas Merton

The greatest weapon against stress is our ability to choose one thought over another.

-William James

You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself.

-Galileo Galilei

Children have neither past nor future; they enjoy the present, which very few of us do.

-Jean de la Bruyere

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

-Psalm 118:24

I've long since stopped feeling guilty about taking 'being' time; it's something we all need for our spiritual health, and often we don't take enough of it.

-Madeleine L'Engle

Never fear shadows. They simply mean there's a light shining somewhere nearby.

-Ruth Renkel

Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.

-Albert Einstein

"Quotable Quotes"

The Emerging Self

By Ernest C. Wilson

Peace in a Troubled World

"Give us the faith to believe that when God wants us to do or not to do any particular thing, God finds a way of letting us know it"-Peter Marshall.

"When the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?"-Luke 18:8.

"Be glad of life because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions but not content with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness, and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends, and every day of Christ; to spend as much time as you can with body and spirit in God's out-of-doors-these are little guidepaths to peace"-Henry VanDyke.

Millions of people have found deep peace of soul and body through meditation and prayer; by inviting spiritual guidance, and following it faithfully; by forgiving themselves and others their shortcomings; by employing such affirmative prayers as: *"I am now in the presence of pure Being, and immersed in the holy spirit of life, light, and love. I am positive against all that is beneath (unworthy of) me, receptive to all that is above."*

How is this possible in a world that is torn by dissention, aggression, warfare? Can man truly find peace in a troubled world? Are we not all caught up in the mass consciousness of humanity? Although we are all involved in and to some degree responsible for the world's woes, their effects upon us vary according to our individual consciousness. In times of challenge all that we have learned in the past, all the over comings we have made, come to our aid. No good effort

is ever lost. As one teacher has put it, "If I have enough on deposit in God's bank of good, He will honor my check of need. If I am overdrawn, I will start over and square my accounts."

Inner Peace

Men have found personal peace in every condition of life. Perhaps this is the Creative Principle's way of intimating to us the possibility of peace on a greater scale. In this age of worldwide communication we are conscious as it was never before possible to be conscious of the world condition; the hopes and despairs of other peoples in other lands-and of our land-their courage and their needs. The terrible waste and horror of war can no longer be glossed over by the martial music, the citations of valor, the spit and polish of military garb. Either as armchair travelers or actual visitors to faraway places we have looked into the faces of people whose eyes have a different slant, whose skin color is another shade, whose customs and cultures vary from our own-and have sensed our oneness beneath these outward variables. Their intelligence, their pride, their attainments, their shortcomings and weaknesses too, are our own, seen in another flesh disguise.

Modern technology has brought the whole world, in all its grandeur and all its terror, right into our living rooms.

Seen in succession on our television screens men walking on the moon, and men being mutilated and slain "before our very eyes." We have witnessed the heights and the depths of the human predicament; the demand of the Spirit within us that we reconcile the dual aspects of our own nature, and the duality of our relationship to other people, other nations.

Never have the hazards of human relationships seemed so great, never the possibilities of the human

potential so illimitable.

We can send men to the moon and back again, but we have not yet demonstrated the ability to live together in a community, or a community of nations.

Can there be peace in our time? O, yes, there can!

Will there be peace in our time? Probably throughout the so-called civilized world there are very few persons who do not have "the will to peace," albeit on their own terms. Through what person, what group or nation, peace will come, only a very daring prophet would attempt to say.

The worldly wise, the statesmen, the diplomats, the military forces have tried every human method known to man. But there have been few treaties that have not been broken, and no force of arms applied against a resistant populace has ever brought security or lasting peace. Even force applied in defense of a righteous cause falls short of the ideal of enlightened men coming together in reason and tolerance to ameliorate differences, harmonize opposing views.

From the dawn of history men have gone to war, invoking the help of whatever gods they knew, praying that some higher power would be with them, to prosper their undertaking. All have prayed that God be on their side. Have any ever prayed that they be on God's side?

In this sophisticated age it is often remarked that God is always on the side of the forces that have the biggest guns, the mightiest armies. Yet there are instances, difficult to shrug off as chance or coincidence or luck, where apparently some higher Power has intervened in favor of the greater cause. In such instances He may make use of human agencies, without being limited by them, and sometimes He appears to act

independently, in unforeseeable ways.

His appearance has taken many forms in history.

Divine Intervention?

Beleaguered Britain (believed by many to be descended from the Lost Tribes of Israel) was in the spring of the year 1588 assailed by the great host of the Spanish Armada. At a point when the British ships and forces were greatly outnumbered, their men and ammunition both exhausted, and defeat seemed inescapable, there came a sudden shifting of the wind that forestalled the advance of the Spanish fleet and enabled civilians from the English coastal villages to man their little boats and, under cover of darkness, rescue their helpless forces.

Centuries before that the land of Judah was attacked by the Moabites, the Ammonites, and men of Mount Seir-tribes that had been spared by the Israelites at the time they left Egypt and they greatly outnumbered the men of Judah. Jehoshaphat was Judah's king, and he earnestly sought how to meet this invasion. He called the people together, proclaimed a fast, and prayed with them for divine guidance. "And the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel ... a Levite ... and he said, 'Fear not, and be not dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's ... Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.' "

So they arose early and went out toward the wilderness of Tekoa, and Jehoshaphat appointed singers to the Lord, praising Him "for his steadfast love endures for ever," and going before the army. Meanwhile the men of Ammon and Moab began fighting with the men of Mount Seir, so that by the time Judah arrived at the watchtower in the wilderness, the field was strewn with dead bodies, leaving cattle and clothing and other valuables which it took the men of

Judah three days to transport back home with them.

So those who wanted peace and guidance and singing got these. Those who wanted strife and annihilation got death and destruction!

During World War **11**, an officer of the Allied forces was encamped near Michmash, about nine Roman miles north of Jerusalem and east of Bethaven, opposed by enemy forces which were more numerous than his own. In his mental efforts, trying to determine a course of action, he was struck by the familiarity of the name *Michmash*. Was it not Biblical in origin? He got out his Bible and turned to I Samuel, Chapter 13. There, sure enough, was the account of how Saul in a similar situation had employed a clever stratagem to defeat the enemy. The Allied officer applied the same strategy with success, some three thousand years after the time of Saul!

In American history the praying founders experienced many instances of the apparent intervention of God in the country's destiny-of which Washington's leadership of his forces at Valley Forge is a striking example. Coincidence, Chance?

Will the doubters say that God had no part in these things? That it was not God but a chance shifting of the winds, aided by the courage of the Britains who went out in the little boats from Dunkirk, that saved the British forces? That it was the impatience of the attackers in the wilderness that favored the men of Judah? That it was an officer's good memory that won victory at Michmash? And the intemperance of the Redcoats at Valley Forge that gave victory to Washington and the Colonial forces?

Assume, O doubter, that the Creative Principle of being did intervene in these encounters; what form would you expect the

intervention to assume? Would God, like a vaudeville magician, wave a magic wand that would strike the aggressors dead? Or would He make use of the forces of nature and the nature of men to accomplish His will? This brings to mind a passage from Luke: "When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, 'Why do you question in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven you," or to say, "Rise and walk"?' "

In the present time we see troubles on every hand, wars and rumors of wars, nation rising against nation, famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world; but this is not the end of the world. It may well be the darkness that precedes the dawning of a new age.

Beneath all the tumult and confusion there is a strong undercurrent of assurance that God is a very present help. In returning to the conscious realization of His presence and power, and our willingness to be guided by Him, shall peace and freedom be found.

The days of conquest by armed forces are numbered. Brute force is being superseded by the conquest of men's minds. The mightiest physical forces are not the largest but the smallest, the forces of atomic energy. The curious mind of man probes ever deeper into the sources of life, at the center of which he will find the First Cause. The exploration of outer space is being followed by ventures into inner space. This trend is leading men as never before to explore the inward approach to problems and their solutions, beginning with meditation and prayer. Have not the most unselfish and altruistic minds of all ages begun their inventions, discoveries, and innovations in this way? For what is prayer but "the soul's sincere desire," the instinctive yearning and turning of the created to the Creative Principle within him, in quest of answers to human needs, the fulfillment of high

purposes, the possibilities of the vast unknown?

The manna that fell from the heavens and nourished the Israelites in the wilderness was a little thing, "fine as hoarfrost on the ground." The atom is a little thing. Bacteria are little things. Prayer is a little thing.

Yet "more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of," for it invokes spiritual guidance. It notably brings peace to the individual; it can bring peace to the world by serving as the channel through which life's finer forces can become manifest, as at Dunkirk, at Tekoa, at Michmash, at Valley Forge. Prayer opens ways where to human sense there may seem to be none.

As Charles Fillmore and other prophets of the present and the past have assured us, a few persons, devout and righteous, in the faithful practice of prayer for peace may cause many to be saved from disaster. From the folk tales of Abraham we have the story of the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah, of how Abraham remonstrated with God in prayer to save them. Would God spare the cities from destruction if he could find fifty righteous men in them? It finally came down to God's agreeing to accept even ten! No doubt this legend is mostly symbolical, but the message is plain. Even a few men, devout and righteous, may be the occasion for saving many. A few persons, devout and righteous, in the faithful practice of prayer for peace may cause many to be spared the destruction that threatens. It could be likened to a huge tapestry suspended against a wall, with prayer groups like the pins that fasten the corners. Two are not enough, or many across the top perhaps not enough. The fabric could bulge and sag. But many such pins checker boarded across it could hold it firm and strong.

Or to use another figure of speech, the prayers of a single person may be likened to a tiny trickle in the vast realm of Universal Mind out of which all creation takes form. Add another person, and another, hundreds, thousands. Make the prayers earnest, persistent, regular, and undoubting. Soon the tiny trickle becomes a rivulet, the rivulet a stream, the stream a mighty river that can become the agency of Universal Mind in ameliorating dissension and strife, in establishing the thought of peace, the will to peace, ideas that evolve into inspired right action that bring about liberty, justice, understanding, and accord.

From Page One

We believe that true religion is primarily the concern of each person, and we are interested in the practical application of spiritual principle to everyday living.

We are unconcerned about dogma or doctrine, and we are convinced that every great religion includes principles of truth that can and should be applied to living in the "here and now." While our major effort has been directed into the area of applied Christianity, we know that similar principles are to be found in other great religions of the world and that they can be applied successfully by members of all religious groups.



We believe that true religion and true science are partners in the great assignment of freeing humanity from the ignorance and bondage of the past. True science is the research department of true religion, and its discoveries of truth will inevitably confirm the great principles brought to light through the faith and revelation of inspired spiritual leaders.

We believe that the pressures of this new age make it imperative that men of vision and good will join ranks,

regardless of seeming racial, religious, and national differences, to demonstrate the power of unity in the affairs of mankind. We invite the cooperation, ideas, and support of everyone who is willing to become an active partner in spiritual unity.



What is Unity?

It is the word of Christ made new again,
The Spirit of Christ reborn again;
The will of Christ revealed again,
The mind of Christ restored again;
It is the faith of Christ renewed again,
The law of Christ affirmed again,
The love of Christ employed again
To help man know himself again –
The Self that is one with God.

-Marcus Bach

There is a gulf between the high spiritual understanding and the material manifestation. It is only by bridging this gulf that science and religion can be reconciled. The bridge needed is the structure that thought builds. When man understands the science of thinking, the power of thought to manifest itself, and how the manifestation of thought is accomplished, they will no longer fear material science; when material scientists have fathomed the real nature of the living force that they even now discern as ever active in all nature's structures, they will have more respect for religion.

-Charles Fillmore.

The natural man may not know the truth of his being; it may be hidden under the debris of sense thought and belief. Truth is written in the inner sanctuary of every heart.

-Charles Fillmore.

Co-founder of Unity

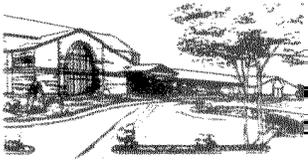
March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM
<i>3</i> Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM Discover Class 9:15-10:15	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> AA Men's Group 10:00 AM CA – 7:00 PM Jazz Concert 7:30 PM	<i>7</i> Ukulele Practice 7:00-9:00 PM	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM
<i>10</i> Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM Discover Class 9:15-10:15	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> The Book Club 2:00-4:00 PM A Secret Kept By Tatiana De Rosnay	<i>13</i> AA Men's Group 10:00 AM CA – 7:00 PM	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM
<i>17</i> Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM St. Patrick Luncheon	<i>18</i> Ladies Night Out Crazy Bowls & Wraps 12604 Tesson Ferry Lamplighter Sq. (The Old Ben Franklin Store)	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> AA Men's Group 10:00 AM CA – 7:00 PM Spring	<i>21</i> Ukulele Practice 7:00-9:00 PM	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM
<i>24</i> Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM Discover Class 9:15-10:15	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> AA Men's Group 10:00 AM CA – 7:00 PM	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM
<i>31</i> Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM Easter Sunday						

First Unity Church
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St. Louis, MO 63128

Wings

THE MARCH 2013 NEWSLETTER OF
FIRST UNITY CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS



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The light side -- A little holy humor

A father and son were driving past a cemetery, when the boy noticed a large pile of dirt beside a newly excavated grave.

He pointed and exclaimed, "Look, Dad! One got out!"

A boss asked one of his employees, "Do you believe in life after death?"

"Yes, sir," replied the new employee.

"I thought you would," said the boss. "Yesterday after you left to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"

A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest were good friends. At a picnic one day, the priest was eating a ham sandwich. "You know," he said to his friend, "this ham sandwich is

delicious. I know you're not supposed to eat ham, but I don't understand why such a good thing would be forbidden. When will you break down and try it?"

To which the rabbi replied, "At your wedding."

"Oh, boy! I'm glad you're here," the little boy said to his grandmother on his mother's side.

"Why?" she asked.

"Because now Daddy will do the trick he's been promising us."

"What trick?"

"Well, he told Mommy that if you came to visit, he would climb the walls."

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw that her father was putting on his

tuxedo, she said, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit."

"Why not?" he asked.

"Because it always gives you a headache the next morning."

One of the mysteries of life is that a two pound box of chocolates can make you gain five pounds.

A new teacher thought she would use what she learned in her psychology courses. She said to her class, "Everyone who thinks they are stupid, please stand up."

After a few seconds, one boy stood. "Do you think you're stupid?" she asked.

"No, ma'am, but I just didn't want you to have to stand there all by yourself."