

Dear Friends,

I have been reading and studying Paul Ferrini's new book, Love Is My Gospel. In the book is A Prayer of Gratitude that I would like to share with you. It reads:

*And so we pray:  
Thank you God  
for helping us to remember  
the blessing you gave to us  
in the moment of our Creation.  
We celebrate the fact that this blessing  
is as real now as it was then.  
Nothing has changed.  
We are your children  
and as your children we abide  
in the safe harbor of your love  
now and for all time.  
This is the gift eternal  
from you to us.  
And so it is.  
Amen.*

I share this prayer with you because I have such a deep and heartfelt sense of gratitude to all of our members and friends who answered the board's letter for assistance in helping the church maintain its financial well-being. As you will see from this issue of our newsletter we are now able to show a gain in our bottom line. I prayerfully affirm continued well-being throughout the year for Unity Church of Bakersfield, our members and friends.

Another blessing we received in June came from my eldest son, Raymond Courneyea. He came from Florida to celebrate his sister's graduation from UCSC and spent the first part of the week installing new lighting in the sanctuary, hallway, front of church, and the yard side of the church. Let our light shine! Thank you, Ray!!

I will be using Paul Ferrini's book as a resource for a series of Sunday lessons in the months of August and September. His writings have had a profound impact on me over the last few years. I encourage anyone looking for a deeper understanding of the spiritual principles as taught by Jesus to pick up a copy of Love Is My Gospel in our bookstore.

The month of June brings graduations and celebrations of every kind. What I have found out is that life has a way of filling your life with lots of little blessings. They are there if you look for them. Having my son, mother and step-dad here for Michelle's graduation on Saturday was filled with many blessings. Then on Father's Day Sunday my son broke my truck at 5:30 in the morning on our way to pack up my daughter's dorm and move her back to Bakersfield and her new apartment; finding out that AAA isn't open at that hour on Sunday; discovering that Ford's 24 roadside assistance was better than AAA's with a free tow to the only Ford Dealership in Santa Cruz; having Father's Day breakfast at the local Denny's; packing and pushing everything into Michelle's and KD's car; downing a few beers at Chilies in the Capitola Mall while waiting for my room to be ready; getting a call from my step-brother who later gave my son new information on what to check on the truck and going back to recheck the items and to see if we could fix it; KD reading the directions on the engine that said, "If engine fails to start check the reset button on the fuel cutoff relay." Pressing the reset button and having the truck start; everyone going home together to spend the evening together in Bakersfield.

You just gotta love the way Spirit shows up in your life to see how much fun you can have with all the experiences. May your summer be filled with all the blessings you can handle.

Love and Blessings,



**Unity Center - Bakersfield**  
 1619 E Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301  
*Your Spiritual Home for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

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Mailed with abundant blessings to...

**HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY!!! - NO HEALING PRAYER SERVICE ON JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>**  
**Rev. Chuck's ongoing class on "The Secret" - During Healing Prayer Services, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays**  
**S.O.U.L. Meeting - Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**  
**S.O.U.L. Interfaith Planning Meeting for the Harvest Festival - Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Y.O.U. Chapter Rally at Unity Church - ages 10 through 18 - from Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**through Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**

Dearly Beloved,

We believe in the power of prayer. During the months of July and August we affirm with you that your faith in God's love is your source of health, vitality, peace, abundance, guidance, and well-being. We affirm divine wisdom, harmony, and understanding in all you do and say. Your prayer request will be kept in our prayer box and affirmed each Wednesday at the healing prayer meeting for 30 days. Then we send it to Silent Unity for another 30 days. We welcome your request.

Please pray with me concerning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept this gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to keep this important work going in Bakersfield.

*Abundant Blessings* is a bi-monthly newsletter. It is our hope that the articles, activities, and information shared within



these pages helps you to create and live a more abundant life.

**Unity Church of Bakersfield**  
2001 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield CA  
93301

**Office & Bookstore**

1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301  
Phone: 661-327-8614  
Website: [www.unityofbakersfield.org](http://www.unityofbakersfield.org)  
Prayer: 1-800-669-7729

**Those Who Serve You In Love...**

- Rev. Chuck Courneya, Minister
- Rev. Shirley Bring, Minister Emeritus
- Rev. Dr. Ruinese Sheard, Community Liaison, Prayer Team
- Ray Wallace, President of Board of Trustees, Prayer Team, Music Team
- Eric Foss, Vice-Pres. of Board, Webmaster, Audio-Visual Team
- Owen Kulewicz, Secretary-Treasurer of Board, Office Team
- Mark Harris, Member of Board, Maintenance, Fellowship Team
- Sue Berry, Member of Board, Usher/Greeters Team, SOUL
- KD Vargo-Courneya, Youth Ed Coordinator, YOU Sponsor
- Deborah Goaldman, Coordinator of Bookstore Volunteers
- Beverly Marino, Coordinator of Church Services, Music Director
- Stephanie Apsit, Coordinator of Fellowship Volunteers
- Christina Harris, Coordinator of Social Activities

The gift of life is one of the greatest blessings we can have. With that in mind it is our pleasure to celebrate the following birthdays:



**July**

Ryan Johnson

**August**

Kay

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Jacobson             | Julia Kulewicz   |
| Susan Courneya       | Annette Collins  |
| Diane Pinson         | Felicia Pusateri |
| Aliza McCracken      | Shay Binger      |
| Rita Steckdaub       | Owen Kulewicz    |
| Dennis Bialuk        | Carleen O'Neal   |
| Ron Wayne            | Ricki Wright     |
| Tara Irwin           | Vickie Bohannon  |
| Kendra Heer-Espinoza | Dana Clow        |
| Michael Grundt       | Evonne Brown     |
| Natasha Kulewicz     | Clara Connelly   |
| Angelina Harris      | Mimi Placencia   |
| Leslie Homan         | Andrew Zelen     |
| Lynne Courneya       | Dana Whitney     |
| Garrett Johnson      | Sandy Wagner     |
| Nancy Ramsey         | Zanda Paulk      |
| June Swartz          |                  |
| Frances McWhinney    |                  |
| Mark Harris          |                  |
| Joyce Bayless        |                  |
| Sally Stone          |                  |
| Paul Kemp            |                  |

Our greatest asset is our volunteers. Your greatest gift to

God is to be of service for it enriches the lives of all who are touched by it. When you see the following individuals around the church give them a hug for sharing their "gift of service."

**July**

**Ushers/Greeters:**

- Jake Ingle & Sue Berry
- Julia Davis & Marilyn Yeich
- Wynter Campbell & Lynnette Anderson
- Kathleen Palmer & Marion Owen
- Y.O.U.

**August**

**Ushers/Greeters:**

- Darlene Saunders & Sue Berry
- Felicia & Owen Kulewicz
- Wynter Campbell & Jen Bowling
- Y.O.U.

**Fellowship:**

As Arranged by Stephanie Apsit - contact her at 833-6015

**Fellowship:**

**Bookstore:**

- Joanie Steckel
- Deborah Goaldman
- Char & Ray Wallace

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- Joanie Steckel
- Deborah Goaldman
- Char & Ray Wallace

**Platform Assistant:**

- Mike Oldershaw
- Marion Owen
- Deborah Goaldman
- Ray Wallace

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- Mike Oldershaw
- Marion Owen
- Deborah Goaldman
- Ray Wallace
- Margaret Smith

**Our Abundance Factor:**



Year To Date Income: \$44,126.03  
Year To Date Expenses: \$43,012.93  
Difference: \$ 1,113.10  
**As of May 31, 2007**

**Affirmation for our Green Report:**

Thank You, God, for loving and blessing Unity Church of Bakersfield and its giving congregation. Through You, the One Source, our church is absolutely financially abundant. We continue to prosper through Your Love and we give thanks! And so it is!

**Owen Kulewicz**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

If you'd like to receive e-mail notifications about Unity events, send an e-mail to [subscribe@unityofbakersfield.us](mailto:subscribe@unityofbakersfield.us). Put Sunday lessons, classes, and/or special events in the body of the e-mail and you will be added to the list. Send an e-mail to "subscribe," or leave a message at the church if you have any questions. Thanks! - **Eric Foss, Webmaster**

**Unity Life** By Jaye Naomi  
"It Works If You Work It"

We've been studying The Secret in Wednesday night meetings. I've also been getting up at dawn to exercise, then to detail the car –a mammoth job.

Last week, the two came together when I tripped on the garden hose and landed on my right hand. Pain shot through my wrist as I lay there hurting.

I was thinking I don't want a sprained wrist! I have so much to do! Sprained wrists are so boring! So aggravating! So SORE!

Then it hit me – Chuck saying over and over the night before, "All healing begins in the mind. All healing begins in the mind. All healing begins where?"  
"In the mind!"

It hit me.

Why should I choose to have a sprained wrist?

I looked at the wrist, and it hit me – only a couple of seconds had gone by. It hadn't even begun to swell.

All right, I thought. My wrist is fine. My wrist is fine. My wrist is fine.

I began to move it.

It hurt. Really hurt!

I kept moving it, keeping it relaxed. My wrist is fine. It's fine. It's fine.

The pain slowly decreased to virtually nothing. I packed up my car gear and went in. My hand felt weak as I washed my hair. It will be fine time to dry my hair. It'll be fine time to dry my hair. It'll be fine time to dry my hair.

I simply had to keep the negative thoughts out – that was the easiest positive thought to crowd them out. By the time I got out and picked up the hair dryer, I could hold it with no problem.

The wrist never swelled. I have no delayed effects. And I have a subject for this column.

Am I a "spiritual giant?" No. Just someone who shows up on Wednesday nights, listens, and tries out the ideas. As the Twelve Steppers say, "It works if you work it."

Blessings on you and on your house.

**S.O.U.L. (Spirits of Unity's Love)**  
**Will be meeting on Tuesday,**  
**July 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in fellowship hall.**  
**Please join us as we discuss and plan**  
**the Harvest Festival and other events**  
**for Unity Church of Bakersfield!**  
**See Becky Eidenshink for details.**

***An Open Request From the Board of Trustees***

At our last board meeting the issue of attendance and service was discussed. With a general membership of over 230 people we are looking at how participation can be increased and what it would take to make it happen. Knowing people attend the Sunday and Wednesday services for different reasons we are at loss to explain why attendance consistently stays an average of 68 per week (29% of general membership) for both services.

We know Spirit is in charge and all things have their time and purpose. With that in mind we would like to ask the approximately 162 general members to let us know what is keeping you from attending. If we are to plan for any further growth we need to know what your needs are and if we can meet those needs.

We need to establish a new core group of individuals that will answer the call to serve by sharing their time, talents, and treasures to help Unity Church of Bakersfield grow. Of the original core group of 30 individuals that were here when Rev. Chuck began his ministry fourteen years ago only 7 are still here with us. The others have moved or passed on.

It is time for the next generation of truth students to step up and make things happen. Yes, God is in charge, but we must be the hands and feet that do the work. After all, if we are to call ourselves co-creators and children of God then we need to come together to vision and to manifest what we want to be.

Let us know your thoughts. Call, write, or email us at [unityofbakersfield@yahoo.com](mailto:unityofbakersfield@yahoo.com) and give us your input. We will review all information received at the next board meeting in September and let you know the general consensus.

## *We Love Our Volunteers*

It takes many hands in front and behind the scenes to keep the doors open and services in place here at Unity of Bakersfield. We want to thank everyone who gives of their time, talents, and treasures on a regular basis to help Unity be a blessing in the community in which we live. We believe everyone has a gift to share, the “light” that is theirs to share with others so their little part of the world can be brighter. With that in mind, we joyously celebrate the “light” of *Stephanie Apsit*, who is our Coordinator of Fellowship Volunteers. Please give her a hug the next time you see her. Thank you, Stephanie. We love and appreciate all that you do.

## *PRAYER BLANKETS*

Hey women, men, boys and girls: here is your chance to do something wonderful for somebody at little or no cost. Unity of Bakersfield is starting a group to make prayer quilts, blankets and shawls to be given free of charge to people who are in need of some comforting. If you would like to crochet, knit, sew or use your other talents for this worthwhile project, please call Char Wallace (827-9908) or Margaret Smith (301-3835). Donations are also appreciated.

## *LET THERE BE LIGHT*

Our church has a new and brighter look due to improved lighting. New lights have been added in the sanctuary, the yard area and the hallway to brighten our world and allow more nighttime uses of our facilities. Thanks go to Reverend Chuck, his son Raymond Courneya (a master electrician) , and Mark Harris. This opens a wealth of nighttime opportunities for us as we let our light shine. See Reverend Chuck if you have ideas you would like us to consider.

Ray Wallace  
Board President

## **FUND RAISER**

Have fun and help the church in the fund raiser/Harvest Festival by learning to can jams and more. If you would like to learn how, please call:

Ada Davis at (661) 393-5025 or  
Becky Eidenshink at (661) 589-2071

## *WHERE'S THE ENVELOPE?*

Due to changes in bulk mailings, we will no longer be able to send you an envelope with your newsletter. If you need envelopes addressed to Unity Church of Bakersfield, please call the church office at (661) 327-8614 and we will send them to you.