

From the Desk of Rev. Chuck

Looking At The World Through Abundant Eyes.

Do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be of anxious mind. For all the nations of the world seek these things; and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things shall be yours as well. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Luke 12:29-32



Life is about making choices.

We look at our lives and we make choices based on what we see happening all around us. What are you seeing? Do you see a bounty of abundance around you or are your eyes only seeing lack? The message that Jesus gave the people of his day is just as important now as it was then.

Our thoughts and emotions color our world by projecting our energy into it. We can tell what colors we are using by the way the world looks to us. Dark and foreboding are the colors of fear and lack; bright and life affirming are the colors of love and abundance. All we have to do is look back into our past experiences and our reactions to them to see how true this is. The emotional charge that remains in our memory can pull us into either depression or rejuvenation. We can change how we look at the world by changing the energy we project into it from negative to positive.

What I have learned over the years is that it is not just the experience that helps me grow but how I react to it. Do I choose to allow negative thoughts and attitudes to control how I will respond, or do I choose positive, peace-filled thoughts to dictate my reactions? The choice is always ours. May your choices be filled with abundant blessings of every good kind by looking at the world through abundant eyes.



Unity Center - Bakersfield
 1619 E Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Your Spiritual Home for the 21st Century

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailed with abundant blessings to...

Rev. Chuck's class during Healing Prayer Services 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Zen Buddhist Meditation w/ Lou Marino - Sundays 1 p.m.(NOT meeting Aug. 31, Sept. 14 & 28)
Y.U.M.M. (YOU's Monthly Meeting) - September 13th at Border's Café at 2 p.m., ages 14-19
Rev. Ruinese Cassandra's class "Metaphysics and Truth" begins Tuesday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m.
Y.U.M.M. (YOU's Monthly Meeting) - October 11th at Border's Café at 2 p.m., ages 14-19

Dearly Beloved,

We believe in the power of prayer. During the months of September and October 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 bimonthly newsletter. It is our hope that the articles, activities, and information shared within these pages help 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

Prayer: 1-800-669-7729

Those Who Serve You In Love...

Rev. Chuck Courneya, Minister

Rev. Shirley Bring, Minister Emeritus

Rev. Dr. R. Cassandra 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, Sec.-Treas. of Board, Office Team, Y.O.U.

Mark Harris, Member of Board, Maintenance, Social Team

Sue Berry, Member of Board, Usher/Greeters Team, SOUL

Margaret Smith, Alternate Member of Board, Office Volunteer

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



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:

September

- Michael Placencia
- Dale Reed
- Annabella Estefano
- Darlene Saunders
- Shilah Rayne Courneya
- Joe Gonzales
- Giancarlo Estefano
- Taylor Saunders
- Stephen Campbell
- Dyan Courneya
- Sara Talesfore
- Kenn Livesey
- Georgeann Kirkpatrick
- Bernadette Salvamoser
- Marie Gulley
- Donald Moore
- Terese Luther
- Harold Shake
- Karen Sickler
- Anita Willits
- Pat Selzam
- Virginia Garone
- Michelle Courneya

October

- Rev. Shirley Bring
- Cathy Perfect
- Yvonne Richard
- Barbara Zoubek
- Donna Calanchini
- Donna Wright
- Robert SunHawk
- Rachel Russell
- Christopher Harvest
- Judy Soucy
- Sunny Johnson
- Rev. Chuck Courneya
- Joan Newland
- Ray Wallace
- John Wright
- Rose Burns
- Renee Eidenshink
- Andrew Boyd



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."

September

Ushers/Greeters:

- Judy & Tom Soucy
- Lynnette & Phillip Anderson
- Sue Berry / Wynter Campbell
- Y.O.U.

Fellowship:

?

Bookstore:

- Joanie Steckel
- Deborah Goaldman
- Char & Ray Wallace

Platform Assistant:

- Mike Oldershaw
- ?
- Deborah Goaldman
- Ray Wallace

October

Ushers/Greeters:

- Felicia & Owen Kulewicz
- Sandy Wagner / Sue Berry
- Wynter Campbell / Marilyn Yeich
- Y.O.U.

Fellowship:

?

Bookstore:

- Joanie Steckel
- Deborah Goaldman
- Char & Ray Wallace

Platform Assistant:

- Mike Oldershaw
- ?
- Deborah Goaldman
- Ray Wallace



Our Abundance Factor:

Year To Date Income: \$58,643.42
 Year To Date Expenses: \$60,549.97
 Difference: <\$ 1,906.55>

As of July 31, 2008

Thank You, God, for blessing Unity of Bakersfield with abundant prosperity. We trust and know, through You, we are financially secure. As our church grows, we continue to prosper, all through You, God, the One Source. Thank You, God!

Blessings,
Owen Kulewicz
Secretary/Treasurer

SHOPPING!

With school in session and Christmas not too far off, remember you can shop on-line through our web site and earn a commission for Unity Church. Just go to www.ucob.org or buy.ucob.org. You'll find Amazon, ABE Books, CD Universe, Barnes and Noble, and more.

Eric Foss, Webmaster

Unity Life August, 2008

The “New” Prayer for Protection

By Jaye

My name is Jaye, and I’m a worry-holic. My life has become unmanageable. I believe, though, that a Power greater than myself can restore me to sanity.

When it comes to worrying, I was taught by the best. I have it down to an art. Unfortunately, I hate doing it. Have you ever had a job you were good at – something where you were the best in the field, yet you hated doing it, knew if you didn’t get out of it, it’d drive you nuts? That’s where I am. Where I’ve been all my life.

Things have been coming to a head for a long time, and they finally boiled over. So I did what I do best. I ran away – to one of my favorite runaway places – Sequoia. It’s a good place to run away, because when I run away to Sequoia, I’m really running to God. It’s the first time I ever felt close to God, back when I was a tiny child. I enjoyed the mountains, trees, wildlife, and exercise all day, soaked it all in, took a couple of guided tours just because I could. Played tourist. Drove back after dark.

On the way home, the answer to the present dilemma came to me.

My worry is always about the future. Will God take care of me if I do X, or Y, or Z? I know he’s taking care of me now, but what if I do X, or Y, or Z?

Suddenly, the Prayer for Protection came to mind. This time, though, the verbs were wrong. You know, those crazy little words that show action. Run. Ran. Will run. Might have run. Has been running. Would have been running if Aunt Martha hadn’t grounded me. You can say so much with a verb, yet we give so little thought to them. In English, we change the tense (time frame) of a verb (e.g. run) by the words around it, but you’re still talking about the main word.

So the Prayer for Protection came to me last night, only it wasn’t the normal way.

The light of God will surround me.

The Love of God will enfold me.

The Power of God will protect me.

The Presence of God will watch over me.

Wherever I’ll be, God will be.

Then I realized it was the same in the past:

Wherever I was (or might have been, or could have been)

The light of God surrounded me.... etc.

And throughout the whole prayer.

There is nothing I can do, nowhere I can go, not a change in my circumstances I can make that can separate me from God’s love. I literally cannot dig a hole too deep, or build a tower too high for God not to be there. If I go to Mars, God is there. Jupiter. Pluto. Another galaxy.

It doesn’t matter, God is there. With his light, love, power and presence.

How about you?

Blessings on you, and on your house.

METAPHYSICS AND TRUTH

The Study . . . The Practice

You are invited to explore and study the science of Metaphysics through a twelve week seminar designed to build, strengthen, and support your Spiritual practice.

Metaphysics is a philosophy that is concerned with the fundamental nature of reality and Being. In its broadest sense, the study of metaphysics explores areas that are considered to be above and beyond physical sciences.

Truth is concerned with the great fundamental questions that have always perplexed and at the same time engaged the profoundest attention of humankind.

The Seminar Addresses These Questions: What is the character of God? How does God create? What is the real character of being human? What relation does humankind bear to their source (Spirit)? What is the ultimate destiny of humankind and the universe?

Book references: “What Are You?” by Shanklin, and “The Key” by Huber.

Registration/fees: Weekly donation

Beginning Date: September 28, 2008

Tuesdays 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

Unity Church Fellowship Hall

Facilitator: Rev. Ruinese Cassandra Sheard

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Celebrating Oneness, Healing the World - Thursday, September 11, 2008 will be the World Day of Prayer hosted by Unity Village. Some of their events will be featured via live stream on the Web. Visit www.worlddayofprayer.org to be a part of services and ceremonies as they happen. Your local and loving Unity Church of Bakersfield will help kick off World Day of Prayer at our regular Healing Prayer Service on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

The Secret – of Raising a Kitten

By Jaye

We think of using the Law of Attraction for the “big” things – our finances, love lives, homes, the kinds of jobs or careers we want.

How many of us think of using it for the little things?

My boyfriend and I got a Very Little Thing in May – a 7-week-old kitten. Like all kittens, she is rambunctious. Like all kittens, she is fully armed – five needle-sharp sets of claws and a jaw-full of teeth.

The last time we got a kitten, we had a young cat to teach her manners. This time, our elderly cat is not interested. Instead, we must.

We began by telling the kitten, “No biting!” For a few days, we thought it was working, but instead, she was not only beginning to bite more often – she was biting harder!

Suddenly it struck me. I was focusing on what I did not want – the biting. What I wanted was a gentle cat. Why not focus on that?

I talked with my boyfriend so we’re both on the same page. Now when the kitten comes to play, we tell her, “Gently. Gently.” Now she mouths our fingers. The mouthing has suddenly turned very gentle, literally overnight!

Call it expectations. Call it an extremely subtle difference in how we handle her. Call it a miracle. Call it a simple law of the Universe. It’s working, and our hands are thanking God!

What little areas could you use a Secret in?

THIS IS YOUR WAKE-UP CALL

by Margaret Smith

Too many people put off something that brings them joy just because they “haven’t thought about it,” “don’t have it scheduled,” “too busy.” We can’t have people over because “the carpet needs replacing,” “my hair’s dirty,” “it looks like rain” and many other reasons that make it too late sometimes.

Life has a way of going faster as we get older. The days get shorter and the list of promises we make to ourselves gets longer. One day we realize our lives are a lot of “I’m going to,” “I plan on it,” “someday,” “when”...

When you ask someone “How are you today?” do you wait to hear an answer? When you lie in bed, are you thinking about the next hundred chores you have to do tomorrow? Did you let a friendship die because you were too busy to call and say “Hi” . . .

When you worry and hurry through your day, it’s like an unopened gift . . . thrown away. Life is not a race. Take it slower. Hear the music before the song is over. Show your friends how much you care. Make that call before it’s too late.

LENOX HOMES

If you are in the market for a new home, consider Lenox Homes. They have decided to donate \$1,000 to your favorite local church or charity when you purchase a new home! Their phone number is 665-1282.



*Choose **Chuck Courneyea***

Trustee Kern High School District

November 4, 2008

*Bringing the **ABC's** back to the classroom with **Adaptable, Balanced, Common sense** policies for effective academic and vocational education.*

When Elected I Will:

- Support** parents, teachers, and students by advocating for academic excellence with common sense solutions.
- Focus** on public education and student needs by balancing the curriculum and promoting vocational training so that we have tradesmen ready to serve our community.
- Address** the issues of gang influence in and around our schools, and how we can curb the dropout rate.
- Assure** the teachers and administrators that they will not be micro-managed. They are, after all, professionals who are already held accountable and deserve respect.

What I Bring Is:

- 1. A strong advocacy** to see that no student falls through the educational cracks and gets lost in the system.
- 2. An ability to weigh** all points of view with an open mind, to think outside the box.
- 3. Business**, organizational, teaching, and counseling skills.
- 4. A commonsense approach** to creating policies based on real life experiences instead of theories.
- 5. Practical experience** with vocational education and a clear understanding of the issues contributing to the dropout rate.
- 6. As a Vietnam veteran** and senior minister, a commitment to uphold my oath of office, the State and U.S. Constitutions, and the separation of church and state.

www.myspace.com/electchuck

www.electchuckkhsd.com

This ad paid for by the Committee to Elect Charles R. Courneyea, Trustee K.H.S.D. Please copy and share.