



March 2009
From the Desk of
Rev. Chuck

Unity Church of Bakersfield
1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301
www.ucob.org
Church: 661-327-8614 or
Home Office: 661-391-0302

Dear Friends,

It occurred to me the other day as I was putting together my thoughts for this month's newsletter that March is one of seven months in the year that has thirty-one days in it. If you are a numerologist, or just love working with the spiritual aspects of numbers, March is one of those months that can bring excitement into your life.

Early Roman calendars had March as the first month of the year—the month in which all things new begin. In our calendar March is our third month and the 20th of March is the first day of Spring.

Consider this: seven (7) is the creative number of completion and thirty-one when added together (3+1) give us the number four (4) which is the foundation for transformation. The number three is also important for it reflects the ability in us to use our mind, body, and soul to achieve our desires, hopes, dreams as we align ourselves with God.

When we partner with God it does not matter what is going on around us or within us. As Jesus taught: *"Fear not, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"* Luke 12:32. By putting our trust in God as the provider of all our needs we can spring forth with renewed trust, faith and joy.

Each day look around you and see the wonder of the new life springing forth in nature. Looking at how the creative life force takes care of nature, we realize that God is also taking care of us.

Each day we affirm the Christ in us will help us do the work that is ours to do. That Spirit will move before us to prepare the way so that all we are to do, say, and be is done with easy and efficiency. As we open our minds and hearts, our words and actions to divine solutions, we say: I trust You, God.

Affirming for yourself "not my will, but God's will be done in all that I do and say" is paramount to allowing yourself to be in partnership with the creative energy that will help you realize a sense of well-being, peace, order, and harmony. The more you are able to practice this activity the greater your faith will be.

During your times of prayer and meditation take your situations, concerns, challenges, and frustrations and put them on your personal altar. Then ask that you be given the insights, the knowledge, the understanding, to create something new from these experiences. Hold to the promise that with God all things are possible. Hold to the faith that you are not alone and that fear does not control your life and affairs.

Remember that you are made in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, you are a divine creation! Within your mind, body, and spirit lies all that you need to create your sense of well-being.

As you keep your thoughts centered on God, you will find yourself being given all that you need to create a sense of renewal and well-being. As you commit yourself to the guidance of Spirit you will receive the inspiration needed to overcome any and all challenges that you may face.

This month can be the month of great transformation and renewal for you. Whatever the "healing" may be—health, relationships, or finances—God is the answer. The promise of spring is a reminder that the constant renewing power of God is always there with you.

Abundant Blessings?
Rev. Chuck

I wish to thank everyone who contributed their time, talents, and treasures in the month of January to help us exceed our income goal. Your gifts helped us keep the deficit to around \$130. Thank You, God!
Unity Church of Bakersfield is supported solely by the members and friends like you.
Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

Annual Meeting Report

The annual meeting of Unity Center-Bakersfield was held on Sunday, February 8, 2009.

Reports were given by Rev. Chuck, Ray Wallace, Owen Kulewicz, and KD Vargo on the various activities during the past year. Several ideas on how to expand Unity's presence in the community were shared. There will be a retreat held in March for all interested persons willing to share their thoughts and ideas about the future of Unity in Bakersfield.

The only business to come before the voting members was the election of members to the board of trustees. Ray Wallace, Owen Kulewicz, and Margaret Smith were elected to two-year terms. Nominations from the floor were accepted for the one-year term of alternate member of the board. Alan Jordan was nominated and elected to serve in that position.

Update: On the day of the regular monthly board meeting, the board was informed that Alan Jordan had moved back to Arkansas and therefore would not be able to serve as an alternate. Per the bylaws, President Ray Wallace appointed Ray Rothlisberger to fill that vacancy.

Monday Morsels

Beginning April 6th, Rev. Chuck will be hosting a Monday evening discussion group in the Ada Davis Room at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of this gathering is to share, strengthen, and gain a greater awareness and understanding of the spiritual principles and how we apply them in our daily lives. By breaking down the concepts into "bite size morsels" we will be able to apply them to our everyday living. If you plan on being part of this activity please arrive before 6:30 p.m. If no one shows up, Rev. Chuck will assume there is nothing to discuss that evening and will leave for the evening. The group will not meet on holidays. See you there!

Fellowship Fridays

An idea has been suggested that we have a monthly "*Fellowship Friday*." One Friday a month would be chosen to enjoy a movie, or games, or maybe a night out on the town as a means of building fellowship among the members and friends of Unity Church of Bakersfield. Movies would be shown in the sanctuary and games could be played in the fellowship room. Let us know your thoughts on this.

Unity Church of Bakersfield Retreat

Saturday, March 21st 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. In the Sanctuary

Rev. Dr. R. Cassandra Sheard

Please join Rev. Cassandra as she facilitates an open discussion on the future of Unity Church of Bakersfield and where you would like to see it move as a spiritual center for learning, healing, hope, encouragement. Everyone is encouraged to bring their ideas and suggestions. Together we can create a dynamic and powerful force for renewal and transformation in Bakersfield. Rev. Chuck will be out of town attending committee meetings at the Association of Unity Churches International at Unity Village. His thoughts and prayers will be with all who participate in this very important process. We are a trinity of faith: members, trustees, and the minister all working together for the future of Unity Church of Bakersfield.