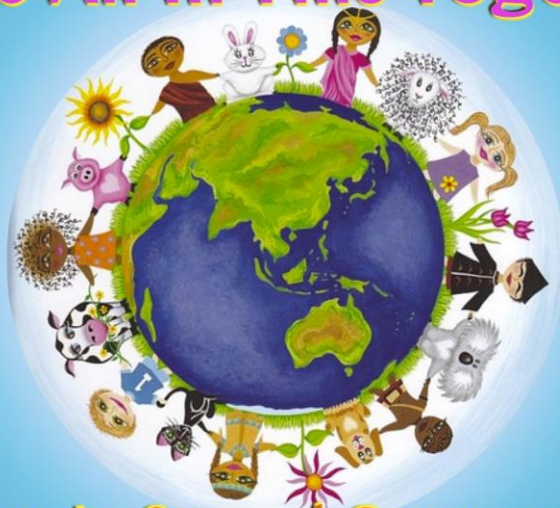




June 2021

We're All In This Together:



**Living In Sacred Community
& Divine Service**

**Sunday Live Stream Service
10:30 a.m.**

Ministerial Team

Rev. Inge Tarantola Rev. Sherry Lady Jon West

Music Director
Laura DuBois

We're All in This Together

A message from our Ministerial Team

Thank you. Thank you for anything you've done since the start of the pandemic to be there for others. Perhaps it was something as simple as making a call to check how another was doing. Or waving to a neighbor across the wall of masks and social distancing. Or making a trip to the store on someone's behalf. Or continuing your participation in a group even after your first few attempts to meet on Zoom were a disaster.



Thank you for any way you kept common ground with your community. It hasn't been easy—in some cases, it's felt nearly impossible. Those of you who were able to maintain at least some of your friendships and associations may feel you were the receiver of the gift. But if you were blessed by another's presence, chances are good you've been a blessing yourself. The willingness to be part of a community, even if it's just to show up and be a listening ear, is a form of service.

And any act of service to others strengthens the community we share with them, whether it's the community of our friends, neighborhood, church, city, or the world itself.

Underlying Unity's basic principles is an ancient but profound concept: that *everything's connected*. Our smallest effort to show kindness and be helpful ripples out in ways we will never see or know. There are countless reports of a well-placed smile or thoughtful word or deed shifting someone away from a path of destruction—a path that, had it been followed, would have unleashed countless negative ripples of its own. Yet because of that single smile, word or deed, it never happened.

This month, we are exploring the necessities of both community and service, and how they combine to shine the light of the Divine into this evolving world. Along the way, we will honor and celebrate the various groups and ministries whose presence nurtures our Unity community. As an old friend of Unity, singer-songwriter Jim Scott sings:

*In a circle of friends, in a circle of sound,
all our voices will blend when we touch common ground.*

SERVICES IN JUNE

Sunday, June 6: "Serving Something Greater Than Ourselves." Jon West will interview **Jan and Marty Johnson** about the adventures and growth they've experienced in founding the non-profit agency, Makindu Vocational Program, which supports the Makindu Advanced Training College and MATC (Kenyan based) Board of Directors. Marty is retired as a former teacher and counselor in the 4J School District. Jan has been the founder and executive director of Community Rehabilitation Services of Oregon (an outpatient brain injury rehabilitation program) for the past 26 years. Our music team will include cellist Kathryn Brunhaver.

Sunday, June 13 "Reaching Out in Times of Separation." When Unity had to shut its doors at the start of the pandemic, Laura DuBois offered to organize a Phone Connection Team. After more than a year of service, members of the team will share some of their joys and lessons learned in helping keep our community connected.

Sunday, June 20 – Father's Day: "The Fathering Heart is a Serving Heart." A panel of Unity volunteers including **Rev. Richard Everts**, chaplain **Andy Peara** and facility team member/former Board Trustee **Chuck Arrera** will reflect on the connection between fatherhood and service.

Sunday, June 27: "Finding Strength in Community." Unity's **Elder Council** has been meeting by Zoom for over a year. A number of their members will speak with us about how the power of community touched their lives even in the year of the Coronavirus.

Sunday, June 20



The greatest things in life
are the ordinary,
everyday humanities:
Speaking kindly to people,
Speaking kindly of people,
Doing kindness for people.
~Fred Van Amburgh

A Huge Thank You to All of Our Volunteers & Team Members!



There are an amazing variety of teams, groups, and activity leaders connected to Unity, many of which have continued to function right through the pandemic. We thank each leader and participant for their service and contribution to the depth and vitality of our spiritual community. Although it can be challenging trying to categorize all our groups and activities, in general there are: 1) groups or teams that function as official extensions of the Unity Ministry or Administration, and 2) independent ministries and groups. We deeply appreciate this latter category of groups and activities for the myriad ways they support our community. These include **A Course in Miracles, After-Service Discussion Group, Behind the Lens Tuesday Movie Nights, Coming Alive Theater Group, Community Connect Group, Meditation Circles, Monthly Healing Circle, Sunday Morning Reading Group, Tuesday Spiritual Discussion Group, Unity Elder Council, and Unity Open Men's Circle.**

Ministries, Teams, and Volunteer Roles that officially represent the Unity Ministry and Administration (even if they operate largely autonomously): To date, we have nearly 185 volunteers at Unity, many of them remaining active even during our closure due to the pandemic. Of those 185 volunteers, at least 62 of them are serving in multiple ways. Below is a list of our ongoing ministries with the number of volunteers serving in them noted in parenthesis.



Altar Flowers Angel (varied) – Volunteers provide flowers for the altar on Sundays and on special occasions.

Angel Network (27) – Volunteers serve individuals and families of our congregation in practical, supportive, and uplifting ways.

Board of Trustees (9) – Our Board sets the policies and budget for Unity, hires ministers as needed, and provides oversight of Unity's management to ensure that Unity fulfills its purpose as described in our Bylaws.

Bookstore (4) – Volunteers work at the cash register after the service on Sunday mornings and for special events.

Choir (34) – Create music to perform during a Sunday service, Easter, Christmas, and special events.

Church Facilities (4) – Volunteers help with maintenance and upkeep of the church, inside and out, by doing plumbing, electrical, remodeling, painting, and beautification projects.

Church Gardens (varies depending on gardening season)
Volunteers help with ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the landscaping and grounds, and with one-time projects.

Church Opener/Closer (7) – Volunteers unlock doors, and prepare the sanctuary and other rooms for the Sunday service, count the love offering after the service, and close the church after the service.

Circle Suppers (varied) – Volunteers organize intimate, in-home potluck dinners for 4 to 8 people as a way to enjoy Unity fellowship outside of Sunday services.

Kitchen Angels (9) – Volunteers serve coffee and cookies after the Sunday service once a month.

Kitchen Laundry Team (2) – Volunteers take care of the kitchen laundry 2-3 times a month.

Looking Glass Team (10) – This Unity outreach ministry shares spiritual principles with teens living in Looking Glass Counseling Program's residential center.

Ministerial Team (1 volunteer, 1 who receives a small stipend, and 1 salaried minister) – The Ministerial Team oversees management of Unity of the Valley in consultation with the Board of Trustees and the Shared Leadership Team.

Music Team (While some musicians/singers are paid, 13 people volunteer) – Provide music for our weekly Sunday services, special services, and create monthly Connecting from the Heart music videos.

Office Angels (7) – Volunteers assist staff by answering phones and doing light office tasks once a week for two-hour shifts.

Phone Connection Team (19) – Callers check in with members of the community to see how they are doing and find out if they need anything.

Power of Eight Healing Prayer Team (12) – Volunteers meet weekly via Zoom to offer focused healing prayer.

PowerPoint Ministry (10) – Volunteers operate the PowerPoint computer at the Sunday service and at occasional special events.

(continued next page)

Prayer Chaplain Ministry (7) – Volunteers provide one-on-one prayer after the Sunday service.

Prayer Chain (7) – Volunteers receive a request for immediate prayer and that request is passed around to each prayer chain member until it is complete.

Prayer Shawl Ministry (13) – Volunteers knit or crochet prayer shawls and pocket prayer shawls that are then given to people in need of healing or comfort.

Prayer Team (25) – Weekly prayer requests are forwarded to Prayer Team members to be prayed with daily for two weeks.

Shared Leadership Team (6 volunteers collaborate with 4 paid staff) – The team is made up of the Ministerial Team, representatives from the Board, Staff members, and volunteers who work together on the day-to-day needs of our spiritual center.

Soup Ministry (varied weekly) – Three volunteers sign up each week to make soup or bring bread to serve during the after-service fellowship time.

Usher Ministry (18) – Volunteers serve at one Sunday service per month greeting people, handing out bulletins, receiving the love offering, etc.

Webmaster (1) – Volunteer helps update and design Unity's website.

Youth & Family Ministry (4) – Teachers serve every other week, and aides serve once a month or more. Volunteers sometimes provide treats, read stories, sing to babies, etc.



Thank You Volunteers!



To everyone born in June
Happy Birthday!

Notes from our Music Director



We are so blessed at Unity of the Valley! This month, as we honor our volunteers, my heart is overflowing with gratitude.

As the Music Director, I get the opportunity to share about our awesome music team volunteers. The people who donate their services to Unity's music program are our lifeblood, and I can't imagine our services without them.

The music we present is a group effort - every song that's sung and every note that is played comes from a communal well of love, sweat, and even tears. If you look "behind the scenes," you'll see the hours and hours of preparation, practice, and rehearsal that these generous souls give so freely.

Simply put, our music is what it is today because of a spirit of giving. Volunteers, we love you. We honor you. And from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you!!!

Namaste,
Laura DuBois

A'ho - Honoring Divine Spirit

At Unity of the Valley we incorporate rituals and phrases from all cultures and religions in order to honor the Divine Spirit from all traditions of faith and worship. One of the phrases incorporated into our Shared Leadership Team's weekly sharing is the Native American word, A'ho. This beautiful word has many different meanings; in the Lakota tradition it means hello, in Kiowa it means thank you, and in Cherokee it's often used at the end of a prayer similar to how amen is used. So, if you hear a rousing A'ho coming out of one of our events you will know that we are sending out a blessing in the spirit of our Native brothers and sisters!

FINANCIAL REPORT: COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

MONTH(S)	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET
MARCH	\$17,885	\$14,107	\$3,778
APRIL	\$10,502	\$13,521	(\$3,019)

Thank you. Just thank you. With so many changes and disruptions that have occurred, Unity is incredibly blessed to have so many people supporting this community however they can, in ways small and large. May we all continue to be there for each other as the winds of change carry us back to more normal times.

Your Unity Board of Trustees



Scan to reach
Unity homepage.
Click DONATE
on right side

BOARD Trustees' MEETING

**Tuesday June 15
6:30 p.m.**

All Board meetings are currently
being held via Zoom.

All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to attend and/or
speak at the meeting, please

contact Serenee Smith at
sereneeheart@yahoo.com.



The true wonder
of the world is
available everywhere,
in the minutest parts
of our bodies,
in the vast expanses
of the cosmos,
and in the
interconnectedness
of these and
all things.

~Michael Stark

JUNE PRAYER

from Rev. Sherry

IN SERVICE

To Love, to Serve, and to Remember.
To Love, to Serve, and to Remember.
To Love, to Serve, and to Remember.
Guide me, Spirit of Love, show me the way
to be your eyes, your ears, your voice,
and your Love in the world.

We hear the calling.

We put feet on our prayers.

We do all with open hearts
and unconditional acceptance.

We move into being who we are asked to be
as we commit
to Love, to Serve, and to Remember.

Amen



Healing Prayer Circle

We meet weekly via
ZOOM to offer focused
healing prayer to
individuals who request it.

For more information
and to make an
appointment, contact
**Rev. Inge Tarantola at
541-968-5540.**

Prayer Requests

Email your name and
prayer request to
Rev. Inge Tarantola
at ingetar@pacinfo.com.

June Affirmation

I am blessed to live and serve
in a beautiful community
of divine beings.

UNITY SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

The Unity Board created a Spiritual Community Support Fund. This fund was inspired by a Unity member who offered her government stimulus funds to assist individuals in our spiritual community who need it most.

WAYS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY

- **Mail a check** to Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd., Eugene, OR 97405 with a note designating if it's for OSCSF or general Unity finances.
- **Make a donation through PayPal** using the yellow DONATE button on the home page of our website: unityofthevalley.org. Make sure you designate whether you want your donation to be applied to OSCSF or to general Unity finances.
- **Write a letter** stating you wish to join our ***Simple Giving Fund*** to contribute a set amount (state the amount) on a regular basis (state how often) and include a voided check. Just designate what portion should be used for OSCSF or general Unity finances. Géna, our Office Administrator, opens all our mail in private. So, it is safe to include your account information in a letter, but not in an email.

IF YOU NEED MONETARY ASSISTANCE

To request monetary help, you can write a letter or an email (unityval@riousa.com) directed to the Ministerial Team. Please include the following information:

1. Your name, mailing address, phone number, and email address.
2. Your association with Unity of the Valley.
3. Name of a reference at Unity of the Valley (someone who knows you).
4. Brief description of your financial need.
5. How much you are requesting.
6. Do you think your financial needs will require monthly support?

Requests for monetary help will be reviewed by our Ministerial Team. If a request is approved, the amount granted will be dependent on how many requests we receive and how much money is available in the OSCSF.

UNITY ONLINE

Sunday Services. Although the facility is closed, you can join us and many other friends of Unity of the Valley live at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday at

<https://www.facebook.com/unityofthevalley> (you don't have to be a Facebook member).

Unity's Music Releases can be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/unityofthevalley/videos/368369060857899/>

CONNECTING VIA ZOOM

Community Connect, Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 p.m.

This is a one hour, drop in, chatting session for discussing topics of spiritual interest, personal growth, etc. There is a new topic each Wednesday. Your moderator is Rev. Dick Everts. To take part, send an email request to Rev. Dick at richard.everts@comcast.net.

Breathing, Meditation, Relaxing Gong, and Song class Saturdays, 9:45 a.m. Join Sunny & Vicky Hills on Zoom for a grounding **Kundalini**. To learn more, send email to info@sunnyhillsmeditation.com or check out their website at SunnyHillsMeditation.com.

YOGA CLASSES VIA ZOOM WITH DONNA O'NEIL

Gentle Yoga Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. Register at <https://eugeneyoga.us/downtown-schedule/>.

Level 1 Hatha Yoga, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. This class was previously held at Unity, pre-COVID. Donna holds these via Zoom from her home now. If you are interested in joining the class, or just trying it out, call her at 541-632-0105, or email at yogawithdonna@gmail.com. The online meeting number is ID: 775 275 2582. Donation basis.

Gentle Core Awareness, Thursdays 9:30 a.m. Register at <https://eugeneyoga.us/downtown-schedule/>.

THE MISSION OF UNITY OF THE VALLEY IS

To celebrate and express
the light and love of God
in each other and all things.

UNITY'S FIVE BASIC PRINCIPLES

1. There is one Presence and one Power: God, the Absolute Good.
2. We are spiritual beings, created in God's image. The spirit of God lives within each person; therefore, all people are inherently good.
3. What we think, feel, and believe reflects in our life experience.
4. Affirmative prayer and meditation heighten our connection with God.
5. Knowledge of these spiritual principles is not enough. We must live them.

CONTACT INFO

3912 Dillard Rd. (39th & Hilyard St.), Eugene, OR 97405

Office: (541) 345-9913 • Fax: (541) 345-9182

www.unityofthevalley.org

OFFICE & BOOKSTORE HOURS

Tues–Fri, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

(we are currently closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic)

BUSINESS OFFICE

(541) 345-9913

Géna Duel, Administrator

BOOKSTORE

(541) 345-9913, Ext. 12

MUSIC DIRECTOR

(541) 345-9913, Ext. 8

POSITIVE PRAYER LINE

(541) 345-9913, Ext. 7

SILENT UNITY

(800) 669-7729

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Serenee Smith, President

John Garrett, Vice-President

Vicky Hills, Treasurer

Ted Taylor, Secretary

Heather Breckenridge, Trustee

Michael Ticknor, Trustee

Alice Burch, Trustee

Geneva Miller, Trustee

Alice Sparks, Trustee