

Awakening Souls, Transforming Lives!



Spiritual Tools For An Abundant Life- "The 12 Powers of Man"

Using the Powers, One Month at a Time

AUGUST—Will

The ability to choose, decide, command, lead, determine.

I choose my good based on spiritual understanding.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The Board of Trustees has had a very busy last few months. We started out the month of July establishing the teams that were developed as a direct result of our strategic plan of 2012. Of particular interest this month is our UCC 85th Anniversary Celebration Team. They have spent the last few months getting established and planning a very exciting celebration of our Spiritual Community and our Heritage.

The 85th Anniversary Celebration will be held on October 2, 2016. The festivities will start at our Sunday Morning service with a very unique presentation planned especially to highlight and celebrate our many years as a Presence in the St. Louis Community with specific emphasis on the transformational process that we have gone through as a Spiritual Entity. There will also be fabulous music provided by a number of our favorite musicians and we will also be honored by the presence of a number of surprise guests!

The Sunday Service will be followed by a Banquet held at The Highlands Golf and Tennis Clubhouse in Forest Park and it will be quite an "extravaganza". Our keynote speaker will be Reverend Lawrence Palmer, a past Minister of Unity Christ Church, who we know will have many wonderful memories to share. There will also be lots of other wonderful events and more surprises.

The Board of Trustees is getting more and more excited as the plans unfold! We would like to take this time to give special thanks to the 85th Anniversary Celebration Team. They are doing a fabulous job. They are: Mary Biggs, Pat Dillon, Juankee McKinney, Leonard Smith, Carolyn Perry and Karolyn Senter.

On July 16, 2016 the Board of Trustees and a number of our church members attended A Vision-Mission and Core Values Process: Creating Intentional Spiritual Community Training. The results of that training was presented to the congregation on Sunday July 17th, where an opportunity to give input was provided. The Board received a lot of positive feedback and the majority of those who responded loved the Mission and Vision Statements as presented. Because of your overwhelming positive response, the Board made the decision to adopt the Vision and Mission Statements as they were presented to the congregation on July 17, 2016. They are:

Vision: One in Spirit, we envision a loving world that honors the divinity of God in everyone and everything.

Mission: Unity Christ Church inspires and empowers individuals to experience God and transform the world.

(cont on page four)

Thoughts From The Heart

I have been thinking about the Idea that, "God's Will for me is Good and only Good" and I have been focusing on opening my consciousness to experience the total awareness of this Truth, so that It is integrated into the very fiber of my Being. I begin to further contemplate, how I can move from this awareness and understanding to the demonstration in consciousness made by Jesus the Christ who was able to affirmatively state, "Not my will, but Thy will be done."

When I think about my will, I think about all the things I have desired in the past, and how happy I thought I would be if they came into manifestation just for me. I also think about how stubborn and persistent my will could be, when I have adamantly believed within my being that I was right regarding just about everything that concerned me. I also recall how resistant to change I would be if I was not thoroughly convinced of a better way of being. And of course, this way of thinking and being, caused "some not so good" experiences to come to me! Has this ever happened to you?

In retrospect, I have come to realize how easily life flows and how light things become when I am willing to surrender my will to the Will of God. At these times, it appears that God's Will for me is exactly what I wanted for me. And It always turns out to be more wonderful and magnificent than anything that I could have possibly imagined It to be. Have you had this experience as well?

As I further contemplate God's Will for me being "Good", I turn to Charles Fillmore, our co-founder to get a deeper explanation of, "What my will is and how I can more easily align my will with the Will of God"? According to Mr. Fillmore, "the Will is the executive faculty of the mind, the determining factor in man. What a man wills or decrees comes to pass in his experience. 'Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee' (Job 22:28). He further clarifies that the personal will is the adversary in sense-consciousness. He usurps power and considers himself the rightful ruler. This erroneous belief relating to personal will is discerned and adjusted by spiritual thoughts attained through prayer."

This knowledge of sense-consciousness helps explain the stubborn persistence that we all sometimes experience when we want what we want and even think that we always know the best way. Mr. Fillmore's explanation also helps us to understand that by turning Within to Spirit in prayer and meditation helps us align our thoughts, feeling and actions with the Will of God. What an excellent explanation and quite an inspiration! This makes me want to further explore just exactly, "What is God's Will for Me"?

In the *Revealing Word*, Mr. Fillmore states that, "God's will is always perfection and all good for all of his children; perfect health in mind and body; abundance of every good thing including joy, peace, wisdom and eternal life. He does not will suffering or imperfection of any form" Mr. Fillmore further states that, "The belief that God wills both good and evil is false; the truth is that God is all good and only good can come to man from Him. If man experiences error and inharmony, he brings them upon himself by his failure to harmonize his thoughts, words and acts with the Lord or divine law."

AUGUST LESSON TITLES

August 7, 2016

No Dream is Out of Reach
Guest Speaker: Chris Czarnecki
Guest Musician: Doug Erwin

August 14, 2016

Love Revolution
Guest Speaker: Rev. Leslie Venable
Guest Musicians: Deborah Sharn and Steve Schenkel

August 21, 2016

By What Authority?
Guest Speaker: Vernetta Holmes
Guest Musician: TBD

August 28, 2016

Being or Doing?
Guest Speaker: Rev. Le Remington
Guest Musician: Heather Hamilton

AFFIRMATION FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)

AUGUST WEEKLY AFFIRMATIONS:

August 7: So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

August 14: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

August 21: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

August 28: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. (Isaiah 12:2)

(cont from page two)

As these words resonate throughout my Being, they help me to know and truly understand that God's Will for me is Good and only Good. It also helps me to clearly see and take responsibility for and accept that the challenges that I have created in my life and experiences were truly created by me. It further motivates me to harmonize my thoughts words and actions with the Spirit that lives within me, so that I can choose to create in my life that which God intended for me-----The Good, and Only the Good!

So, as we think about our will and God's will, let us become more consciously aware, committed and willing to affirm, "Not my will, but Thy will be done"; For we Know that ultimately what Will manifest, Will be Good and Very, Very Good!

Let Us Daily Affirm: *God's Will for Me Is Good and Only Good.*

*Blessings As You Spiritually Unfold,
 Juankee J. McKinney*



FROM THE PRAYER MINISTRY:

Dear Friends,

As we head into the dog days of summer, we can enjoy the last “warm” days of summer as well. August is the month where we honor the faculty of Will. Will is the executive power to make life happen. This God-given power helps us take action when we have made up our minds to move forward in some direction in our life. The spiritual will doesn’t force or oppress others. It is open and peaceful to ourselves and others. Our scripture for this celebration is:

Scripture: Proverbs 16:3 Commit your works to the LORD, and your plans will be established.

Affirmation: I will the will of the Father in my life. God’s ways are greater than ours, and I willingly surrender to the Christ within with that I think, say and do.

Then prayer for the month: Lord God Sweet Loving Spirit may my will be in line with thy infinite Intelligence. I pray for spiritual discernment and guidance in my life. May I unite my will with your will. Thank you father.

Regardless of where you are in your Spiritual Journey, prayer lifts you higher and empowers you as an instrument of God. Taking the time (and it doesn’t have to be long), to pray keeps you connected. Prayer is abiding in the presence of God-receiving the Christ and sharing your divinity.

Yours in Christ,

Mary E. Biggs, LUT

P.S. Recommended book for the month – *Magnificent Decision* (by Decker)

REFLECTIONS

Reflections is a newsletter published each month by Unity Christ Church. Its purpose is to inform and inspire our spiritual community. Submissions for publication are welcome and should be sent to the church office for review.

UNITY CHRIST CHURCH

33 N. Sinker Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
Phone (314) 727-6478
Fax (314) 727-8895
Email officeucc@att.net
www.unitychriststl.org

Office Manager

Judy Window

Minister of Music

Alan Ernst

Board of Trustees

Rudolph Clay

Lawrence Johnson

Kellie Mayhew

Juankee McKinney

Carolyn Perry

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 8/4 Sallie Ervin
- 8/4 Ana Schnizer
- 8/7 Lawrence Johnson
- 8/11 Kathy Mandel
- 8/28 Don Leemann
- 8/31 Elizabeth Okenfuss
- 8/31 Jerry Webb

(cont from page one)

This process that we started is just a beginning, so please stay tuned for the next steps that we will be taking in this process of transformation at UCC.

We would especially like to take this time to thank all of our members who attended the training and all those who gave their input in this process. We, the Board feel particularly blessed to have all of you wonderful beings of light as members of our Spiritually Community. As always, we affirm: We Love You, We Bless You, We appreciate you and we BEHOLD THE CHRIST IN YOU!

*One In Spirit,
The Board of Trustees*

August 2016 at Unity Christ Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Spiritual Support Group 7 PM | 4 NA GROUP 7 PM | 5 6:30 PM—Centering Prayer & Meditation 7 PM—ACA | 6 9:30 AM & 11 AM 12-Step Centering Prayer & Meditation Group |
| 7 Prayer and Meditation Service—9:45 AM ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK & ICE CREAM SOCIAL—11:30 AM | 8 | 9 | 10 Spiritual Support Group 7 PM | 11 NA GROUP 7 PM | 12 6:30 PM—Centering Prayer & Meditation 7 PM—ACA | 13 9:30 AM & 11 AM 12-Step Centering Prayer & Meditation Group |
| 14 Prayer and Meditation Service—9:45 AM Toastmasters' Club—7 PM | 15 | 16 | 17 Spiritual Support Group 7 PM | 18 NA GROUP 7 PM | 19 6:30 PM—Centering Prayer & Meditation 7 PM—ACA | 20 9:30 AM & 11 AM 12-Step Centering Prayer & Meditation Group |
| 21 Prayer and Meditation Service—9:45 AM Unity Light Seekers 11:45 am | 22 | 23 | 24 Spiritual Support Group 7 PM | 25 NA GROU 7 PM | 26 6:30 PM—Centering Prayer & Meditation 7 PM—ACA | 27 9:30 AM & 11 AM 12-Step Centering Prayer & Meditation Group |
| 28 Prayer and Meditation Service—9:45 AM Toastmasters' Cub—7 PM | 29 | 30 | 31 Spiritual Support Group 7 PM | Sunday Celebration Service and Youth Education 10:30 AM Fellowship after the service in the Lobby. (See reverse side for times and locations of classes and events) | | |

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES, GROUPS AND EVENTS

Sunday Celebration Schedule

Prayer and Meditation Service

9:45 AM in the Prayer Room. Please come and join us for a quiet time of healing and renewal. Bring your prayer requests and get prayed up!

Youth Ministry

10:30 AM in the Art Gallery, all children through age 12

Sunday Celebration

10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Sunday Fellowship (after service)

11:30 AM in the Lobby

CD's of each Sunday's service are available at the book desk following the service.

Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families

Fridays at 7 PM in the Fellowship Room

Saturdays at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Room

NA Meeting

Thursday at 7 PM in the Fellowship Room

Spiritual Support Group

Wednesdays at 7 PM led by Juankee McKinney

Toastmasters-Voices in Unity

Second and Fourth Sundays at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Room

12-Step Centering Prayer and Meditation Groups

Fridays, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Room

Saturdays, 11 AM in the Art Gallery

Unity Light Seekers

Third Sunday, after Fellowship in the Art Gallery.