

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.



Sanctuary

I had a beautiful home built in California in 2003... and named my home "Sanctuary."

To me, every home should be a sanctuary to all who live there. All homes should be a place where the person(s) living there are nurtured. Nurturing means that we are renewed whenever we are 'home.' Our energy is uplifted... we are encouraged and empowered... we are re-energized (so to speak) at all times when we are in our "home."

The good news is this: even if our home situation is not nurturing us (as it could be doing), all of us have within us our own personal sanctuary.

It is our Divine Sanctuary.

It is always open. It is always ready for us to visit. It always offers us safety, comfort, and **sublime peace!** We enter this Divine Sanctuary whenever we take time to 'be still'... and take time to listen to the 'still, small voice' within us.

As we rest and deeply relax in our Divine Sanctuary of Stillness... we are moving into the highest form of prayer. Thus, in addition to being 'renewed' by resting in the Silence... we are also blessed as this process expands our spiritual awareness over time.

So during this wonderful month of August, in addition to enjoying the summer fun activities, take time to enjoy your Divine Sanctuary. You'll surely enjoy it.

*Love & blessings,
Rev. Ron*

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Unity Christ Church (UCC) continues to experience a year in transition, starting with Rev. Ron's arrival in May. *Judy Lindow*, our current Office Manager and invaluable employee for **15 years** will be retiring in August; *Alan Ernest*, our Music Director, resigned in June (*Deborah Sharn* has volunteered to lead the Music Team); and *Kellie Mayhew* has resigned from the Board.

We need you, the members' help, for the on-going operation and maintenance of the church!

Recognizing that your time is valuable, we shortly will be surveying you for your interests/skills/hobbies. And rather than asking you to spend time on committees, we will be asking you to do one-time tasks. Hopefully you can help, because **UCC's** future depends on you.

We also ask each of you to go beyond "greeting your neighbor" and actively get to know one another, so there's no "strangers" in **Unity Christ Church**.

In case you're interested, we do have the following **UCC** Committees and Teams: Audio/Visual, Building, Finance, Fundraising, Hospitality, Landscape, Lending Library, Nominations, Outreach, Platform Assistant, Public Relations (inc. website), Youth Ed...etc.

Our apologies for the fluctuating temperature in the sanctuary on Sundays; we're working the kinks out of a new thermostat.

We, the Board, **Rudolph Clay**, **Lawrence Johnson**, **Juankee McKinney** and **Carolyn Perry**, invite your questions and suggestions.

We are honored to serve **Unity Christ Church**, as we **"Move Forward in Faith"...**

Blessings to You All
The Board of Trustees

A BIT OF HUMOR

Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Watson were on a camping trip as they pitched their tent under the stars and went to sleep. Sometime in the middle of the night Holmes woke Watson and said: "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

Watson replied: "I see millions and millions of stars."

Holmes said: "And what do you deduce from that?"

Watson replied: "If there are millions of stars, and if even a few of those have planets, it is quite likely there are several planets like Earth out there. And if there are several planets that are like Earth out there, there is probably life on some of these planets."

Holmes said: "Watson, you idiot... it means that somebody stole our tent."

AFFIRMATION FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

I find comfort and peace
in the love of God.

AUGUST WEEKLY AFFIRMATIONS:

August 6:

Divine order is active in my life.

August 13:

Through faith I face change with courage and optimism.

August 20:

Created in God's image,
joy is my natural fate.

August 27:

I am enthusiastic about life.

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 could 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.”

As these words resonate through 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 for 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 what we 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*

(Reprinted from the August 2014 Reflections)



FROM THE PRAYER MINISTRY:

Dear Friends,

Summer is proving to be at its height of heat here in St. Louis. We here at the Prayer Ministry hope you are keeping cool and continuing on your spiritual journey.

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. God's grace guides us in this process. Our scripture for this celebration is:

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9: *My grace is sufficient for you, My power is made perfect in weakness.*

Affirmation: *I will the will of the Father in my life. God's unlimited grace guide me in all that I am, say and do.*

Then prayer for the month: *Sweet Loving Spirit may my will be in line with thy infinite Intelligence. I pray to realize the oneness of uniting my will with your will. Amen.*

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

Minister

Rev. Ron Palumbo

Office Manager

Judy Lindow

Board of Trustees

*Rudolph Clay
Lawrence Johnson
Juankee McKinney
Carolyn Perry*

Licensed Unity Teachers

*Mary Biggs
Mary Holloman*

PROSPERITY BANK PROGRAM

Prosperity Banks, My Personal Investment Program. A gift to God is an investment in the law of good which always returns more than the equivalent of the gift. Jesus told us that if we would claim such returns we must love, ask, have faith and give.

Daily do the following: (1). Love God Love others. Love yourself and relax! (2). Ask. Write your desire. (3). Expect a perfect solution and do not worry! (4). Give thanks for that solution and put your gift in your Prosperity Bank.

Prosperity Banks are located on the shelf in the Lobby and will be collected and blessed on **Sunday, August 6th**. If you have any questions or need additional information on the Prosperity Banks, please contact the church office at (314) 727-6478.

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY POTLUCK

Please join us on **Sunday, August 6th** in the Fellowship Room after the service for our Friendship Sunday Potluck. If your last name begins with **A-H**, please bring a **casserole or meat dish**; if your last name begins with **I-R**, please bring a **salad or vegetable** dish; if your last name begins with **S-Z**, please bring a **dessert or bread**. We always have great food and fellowship so please invite your friends and make plans to join us!!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 8/2 Joyce Woodson
- 8/4 Sallie Ervin
- 8/4 Ana Schnizer
- 8/7 Lawrence Johnson
- 8/11 Kathy Mandel
- 8/28 Don Leemann
- 8/31 Elizabeth Okenfuss

USING THE LAW OF ATTRACTION WISELY

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
1 TO 5 PM**

Additional information is available on the table in the Lobby or by calling the church office.

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

Silent Unity Prayer Service

Thursdays at 11 AM in the Prayer Room led by Mary Biggs

Spiritual Support Group

Wednesdays at 7 PM led by Juankee McKinney. In the Library

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

