

A welcoming spiritual community advancing a positive message that teaches people of all ages and faiths how to thrive in a changing world.



*Revs. Mark & Karen Schindler
Co-Ministers*

Ministers' Message

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Special points of interest:

- **Board Position Open**
- **Zephyr Point Registration Opens**
- **Women's Retreat**

Now that the holiday rush is over, many are inclined to settle in for that long winter's nap that was supposed to happen on Christmas Eve. January demands and offers little. The days are supposed to be getting longer but the difference is imperceptible until at least mid February. And by then the Magnolias and other early flowering trees will be in full bloom.

January is the collective pause and the only month that I consider to actually be winter since moving to California 14 years ago. Winter here is easy to appreciate because it is mercifully short and once it has passed, gardening becomes a serious reality. According to a UC Davis planting guide for the Sacramento area many veggies from beets to turnips are ready to be sown from seed in February.

January is for dreaming and planning whether for a real garden or something metaphorical. We get to focus on whatever we might want to see grow during the next 12 months. It is the perfect month to cultivate a renewed focus on the all important question of what provides us with a sense of meaning and purpose in life.

There are many things we can do to consciously and intentionally develop and refine a coherent worldview that will help us make decisions on how to live. The Unity movement was founded in order to serve as a guide in that process. We take pride in helping people to steer clear of dogma and claims that are not supported by adequate proof.

To extend the gardening metaphor, Unity students must be prepared to do some digging and weeding in order to put together a coherent framework for life. As someone once said, Unity is about questioning our answers.

2017 gave us a goldmine of new ideas in the form of books dealing with subjects once regarded as spiritual but without religious dogma or any supernatural aspects. Starting in January we will start exploring some of these ideas beginning with several from the book "Why Buddhism Is True" by Robert Wright.

We will continue with an exploration of consciousness based on some of the ideas in a book by Daniel Dennett called "From Bacteria to Bach and Back" where he makes the case for a form of intelligent design in the universe that has nothing whatsoever to do with the kind of intelligent design we get from evangelical Christians.

In mid February a new book by Steven Pinker will become available called "Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism and Progress." Publishers Weekly had this to say after reviewing an advance copy: "In an era of increasingly "dystopian rhetoric," Pinker's sober, lucid, and meticulously researched vision of human progress is heartening and important." We will also be revisiting a few chapters from our fall series book "Happiness: A Guide to Developing Life's Most Important Skill" by Matthieu Ricard because seven weeks was simply not enough time to fully explore the wealth of practical information he offers.

The New Year is a new opportunity to discover ways to respond to our human need to find meaning and purpose and discover values which promote human thriving which is part of our mission at Unity of Auburn. We wish you a happy New Year filled with new ideas leading to a world that works for all.

Chaplain's Corner

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

While I offer the following prayer adapted from readings in the Daily Word, this prayer is also from my heart. I hold these words as my truths, experiences, and wishes for all.



Mercedes Breaux
Chaplain

Anticipating the New Year holds the promise of a new vision. Please join me in setting our intention in prayer to access a higher life and a higher vibration of wholeness, peace, and harmony.

We acknowledge the rhythm of life within and around us is always changing. Sometimes we get pelted by a big wave and sometimes we go along bobbing easily, head above water. Seeking harmony, we take time to tap into that pool of resources within, allowing Light to reach the darkest corners of our minds.

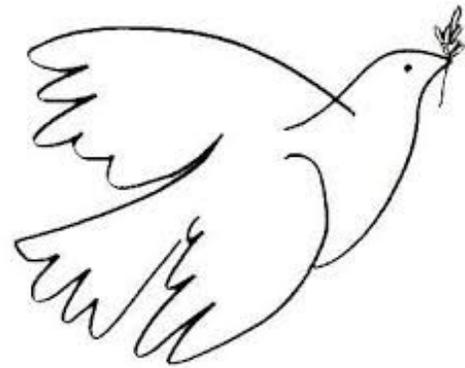
We claim our oneness with Spirit and acknowledge the inherent goodness of all. Choosing to act from love in every circumstance, both good and difficult, we seek harmony.

We activate the power of wisdom, evaluate our life experiences, and make right decisions that

support the way we want to live. Let's join together in gratitude for the all embracing, all sustaining, all providing life force within.

We claim wholeness and harmony for the coming year!
And so it is!

Happy New Year!



Social Action

The Spiritual Social Action Team at Unity of Auburn is an umbrella organization encompassing all of our outreach events and activities that work together to make a positive difference in the world and support our vision which is to co-create a world that works for all. We ask members to support the Interfaith Food Closet. They will take extras from your garden. Drop them off at 12972 Earhart Avenue, Suite 301 (behind Pacific Power) Auburn, CA 95602 or call 530-885-1921.



Rev. Rick Reich

Adult Education



“Spiritwind” is a study group for Spiritual Adventurers.

We meet every *Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Love offering accepted.*

For the month of January at Spiritwind we will be doing a series titled, "Why Some Religions Use Fear, and How They Do It." We will look at subjects including the witch burning craze (wherein, between the 15th to 18th centuries, close to a million people were put to death on the charges of witchcraft) to the rise of radical Islam in our own time.



Mary Lou Banahan

Youth and Family Leader

Youth and Family Ministry

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I am always so excited about beginning a New Year and enjoying the peace and calm after the frenzied holidays. I hope this finds you in that peace and calm, ready to begin anew!

We continue to study Four Agreements and Virtues in the YOU group. As we discuss these ideas, the youth are seeing how each of these connects to the angst and joys in their lives. It is refreshing to see this growth and maturity in the next generation that will guide our world.

We occasionally have youth attend. We are grateful for Brenda Ackerman for helping to guide these younger ones. She is always available in the nursery for the 5 and under group as well as leading a lesson in Unity teachings.

Blessings.

Unitots

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

UniKids and UniTeens

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Youth and Family Ministry Wing

Ongoing Classes and Study Groups

Noon Prayer

Monday through Thursdays, 12:00 Noon—12:30 p.m.

Location: Upstairs in Church Office

During Noon prayer we experience various types of meditation: guided, mindful, or in the silence. We also hold the high watch for those who have placed their names and needs in our prayer chest and anyone you may be praying with. If you can't attend, pray with us wherever you are!

Yoga With Friends returns for 2018

Yoga returns on **Monday, January 8th, 4:00 pm** and runs consecutive Mondays thereafter. Bring water and a sticky mat or feel free to use a chair for gentle yoga.

A Course in Miracles returns for 2018

ACIM returns on **Wednesday, January 3rd, 6:30 pm** and runs consecutive Wednesdays thereafter.

Location: Youth and Family Ministry room

The course does not aim at teaching the meaning of love, for that is beyond what can be taught. It does aim, however, at removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence, which is your natural inheritance. The opposite of love is fear, but what is all-encompassing can have no opposite.

Open to all. A love offering will be accepted. Facilitated by Ruth Ackerman.

12 Step Meetings at Unity of Auburn

Gold Rush Al-Anon Family Group

Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Manning Hall

Women's Courage to Change Al-Anon Family Group

(Women only; childcare available)

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Manning Hall

Primary Purpose Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Manning Hall

SLAA Twelve Step Group—meets in Youth room.

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

Chaplain Prayer Circle

4th Sunday of the month at 11:30a.m.

Join us at the front of the sanctuary after service every 4th Sunday for a circle of prayer and commitment. The chaplains will guide us in a 5-10 minute prayer practice focusing on using our Divine strengths to transform our desires and intentions into physical manifestation. We will stand witness for one another as we commit to take positive action.

Ongoing Classes and Events



Christmas Take-Down

Saturday, January 6, 10:00 a.m.

Join us to take down the Christmas decorations and prepare our sanctuary and fellowship hall for the new year.

VICTORIAN VALENTINE CARD MAKING CLASS

Saturday, January 13, 2018 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

In Manning Hall



Bring a snack and bag lunch.

Love offering accepted and \$5.00 material fee payable at class.

Please see flyer in bulletin for tool list.



Women's "Creative Insight" Circle

** 3rd Saturday of the month now **

January 20th, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$25.00



Location: imagePathways Gathering Place
461 Main Street, Newcastle, CA 95658

Connect with other women for a day of sharing. Take some time for your self to creatively play and explore in a safe, loving, fun and reflective environment. Let the creative woman who lives inside bring you insight and greater inner-awareness.

January Theme:

My Radiant Life: Using art to set intentions

Eat lunch at a local eatery, bring an addition to our community salad or bring your lunch. RSVP to:

Deborah at 916-652-7709.

FRONTIERS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Monday, January 22, 2018—6:00 p.m.

The field of consciousness studies has expanded rapidly in the last 20 years but we seem to be no closer to finding an answer to the question of exactly what consciousness is and how it came to exist. In this class we will study the ideas and theories of leading experts in this fascinating field by watching video presentations and then discussing the pros and cons. No text book is required.

This month we continue our exploration of Spiral Dynamics, an evolutionary or developmental model and map of human consciousness.



Ongoing Classes and Events (Cont.)

Women's January Day Retreat

Saturday, January 27th, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar!

Facilitator: Rev. Karen Schindler

\$25.00 per person and bring a dish to share for class potluck.

Sign up at Unity Central.

Watch for more details in the Sunday Bulletin



Wanted!

Join our team of intelligent, creative, fun, and loving people who create and hold a vision of leadership for Unity of Auburn.

If you are interested in serving on our Board of Trustees, please pick up an application in the foyer of the church. Read the guidelines, complete the application and return it to the office by **Monday, January 30, 2018.**

Unity of Auburn 2018 Retreat
ZEPHYR POINT.....Lake Tahoe

SAVE THESE DATES:

June 15th-17th, 2018

Registration Officially Opens in
February, 2018

More information is coming.



Message from our Board of Directors



Shelly Rutheford

I hope each of you had a joyful holiday season and are ready for another interesting new year. Our accountant will be closing out the 2017 finances in mid-January. Your Board of Directors will be meeting in February to develop our 2018 budget. With Obama Care hanging by a thread, 2018 will create issues for our budget as the contract with our ministers includes healthcare coverage.

2017 had its own challenge with a \$4,839 assessment for the parking lot upgrades made as part of a written agreement with the businesses in the business complex. With the special generosity of some congregants we were able to meet this challenge. Our 2017 income and expenses were consistent with our budget. It looks like we will be able to carry to our 2018 budget a special Budget Buffer Fund of approximately \$4,900.

We will begin 2018 with a Building Fund of approximately \$6,000. We have a Building Maintenance Team that, with many volunteer hours, talents and energy, worked diligently to maintain our building needs. They save us thousands of dollars every year. We can't thank them enough.

The Prosperity Team spent many hours in 2017 developing possible new income sources. We sponsored our first bingo night and have on the calendar a bingo night in March and September, 2018. At our January meeting we will develop plans for additional income possibilities. All of the fundraisers you support are 7% of our income.

Our Thrift and Gift Shop Team comprise an outstanding group of people that donate so many hours on our behalf and provide 8% of our income each year. Facility rental provides 17% of our income.

Your Love Offerings are 67% of our budget. Unity of Auburn will continue to thrive with your continued sharing in our prosperity. Looking forward to a wonderful and prosperous 2018.

Directors



Board of Trustees

- Shelley Rutheford.....President
- Justene Da Costa.....Vice President
- Sharon Hardie.....Treasurer
- Brennan Toohy.....Secretary
- Russ Purvis.....Member
- Edna Sparkes.....Member
- Bill Mahl.....Member

Staff

Unity of Auburn Staff

- Karen and Mark Schindler.....Co-Ministers
- Lynn Liddell.....Licensed Unity Teacher
- Marra P. Swan.....Licensed Unity Teacher
- Mary Lou Banahan.....Youth and Family Leader
- Ken Kligerman, AFM.....Keyboard/Piano
- Mary Lou Banahan.....Youth and Family Ministry Leader

Unity of Auburn January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 Noon Prayer	3 Noon Prayer 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	4 Noon Prayer	5 Office Closed	6 10:00 am Christmas Take-Down
7 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	8 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	9 Noon Prayer 6:30 pm Death Cafe	10 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	11 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	12 Office Closed	13 10:00 am Victorian Valentine Card Making Class
14 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	15 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	16 Noon Prayer	17 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	18 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	19 Office Closed	20 9:00 am Creative Insight Circle
21 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	22 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	23 Noon Prayer	24 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	25 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	26 Office Closed	27 Women's Day Retreat 10 am to 4 pm
28 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	29 Noon Prayer	30 Noon Prayer Last Day to Submit Board Applications	31 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles			

Unity of Auburn

Offering practical, spiritual teachings that empower abundant and meaningful living!

1212 High Street
Auburn, CA 95603

Phone: 530-888-6489

Email: admin@unityofauburn.com

Pray with Silent Unity: 800-669-7729

Join our Facebook pages:

Unity of Auburn

Unity of Auburn Events

Unity of Auburn-High Street Thrift and Gift

Lessons and Soloists

January 7, 2018

Talk: Why Buddhism is True

Soloist: Dennis Cain

January 14, 2018

Talk: Learning to See the World Clearly

Soloist: Brenda Boston

January 21, 2018

Talk: Thoughts, Thinkers and Emptiness

Soloist: Billy Bensing

January 28, 2018

Talk: The Lure of Enlightenment

Soloist: Beth Gillogly

Note: You can watch our talks on Youtube...go to unityofauburn.com, click on "Sunday Lessons on Youtube".



In the depth of winter
I finally learned that there was
in me
an invincible summer.

Albert Camus



To donate: Bring good quality clean items
when the shop is open.

Reduce ... Recycle ... Reuse

Check us out on Facebook : Unity of Auburn - High Street Thrift and Gift

Unity of Auburn
**1212 High Street
Thrift & Gift Shop**

Hours Open:

Monday—Thursday 10:00am-4:00pm

Sometimes Open Fri, Sat & Sun

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(if we have volunteers)

We are in need of volunteers and donations!

Sign up at Unity Central