

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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Monday February 12 is the 209th birth date of Charles Darwin. Many have come to regard the date as "Darwin Day," a celebration of how human reason and curiosity plus the scientific method can enhance human flourishing. Enormous advances in biology, medicine and genetics came about due to the work of Darwin and others in developing the theory of evolution.

Unity co-founder Charles Fillmore was born in 1854 and lived through the uproar caused by the publication of Darwin's most famous book *On The Origin of Species* in 1859. In his book *Christian Healing*, Fillmore observed the growing divide between science and religion:

"As a rule, religious people are not scientific. They think that religion and science are separated by a gulf, and that the scientific mind is spiritually dangerous. Science, to them, is associated with Darwin, Huxley, and other students of natural law who have been skeptical about the accuracy of the Bible from the standpoint of natural science, and whom, because of this skepticism, they brand as infidels. Hence it has come to be almost heresy for a good Christian to think about his religion as having a "scientific" side."

Over 175 years later, religious hostility toward the ideas of Charles Darwin continues but appears to be steadily declining. In July 2017 a statue of Clarence Darrow was unveiled on the lawn outside the Rhea County courthouse in Dayton Tennessee which became world famous in 1925 as the site of the Scopes Monkey Trial where a teacher was prosecuted for violating the law by teaching evolution in a public high school.

The teacher was defended by Clarence Darrow and the case was prosecuted by William Jennings Bryan whose statue has stood on the lawn since 2005. Conservative Christian creationists threatened protests and legal action. A creationist counter rally held several days before the unveiling drew a

crowd estimated at around twenty. On the day of the unveiling the best they could do was to erect a banner which said "Read Your Bible."

According to a Gallup Poll conducted in May 2017, Americans who held the creationist belief that God created human beings in our present form around 10,000 years ago had dropped to 38% of the population. Today a 57% majority believe in evolution although half that number now think that evolution itself was created and guided by a supreme being. Progress nonetheless.

The Scopes trial attracted international attention, not all of it positive. In Paris, a daily newspaper made this observation: "On this side of the ocean it is difficult to understand the susceptibility of American citizens on the subject (of evolution) and precisely why they should so stubbornly cling to the biblical version. It is said in Genesis the first man came from mud and mud is not anything very clean. In any case if the Darwinian hypothesis should irritate any one it should only be the monkey."

It is still difficult to understand how 38% of our population continues to stubbornly cling to a literal interpretation of Genesis as the story of human origin. However, I say that without any sense of superiority because I also need to keep examining my own worldview for ideas that are not based on facts and evidence but instead rely on myths and stories that have yet to be questioned.

The late Carl Sagan offered a guide to critical thinking which he called a baloney detection kit. The best way to use it is to start by practicing on oneself. After that we will be in a better position to address the kind of superstition and pseudoscience found in creationism and begin the gentle process of bringing that 38% closer to zero.

Special points of interest:

- **New Members Orientation**
- **Directory Forms Due**
- **Zephyr Point Registration Opens**
- **Annual Membership Meeting**

Chaplain's Corner

As we begin the second month of 2018, a bit of the shiny promise of the New Year may be wearing off for some of us, especially if we made some overly enthusiastic resolutions that we're finding challenging to keep. Stanford psychology professor and writer Kelly McGonigal says that we humans have a tendency to imagine ourselves having more willpower in the future than at the present moment. During the rush of the holidays it might have seemed like, when things got back to "normal," we'd have more time and energy for things like self-care, meditation, exercise, etc. But when January arrived, so did all the new to-do lists, responsibilities and opportunities that make up our lives day to day. I'll be the first to admit I sometimes allow myself to feel discouraged when I haven't achieved all the lofty the goals I set for myself! One of the tools I find useful at those times is a simple affirmation that helps me re-focus my thinking from limitation to possibility. It works for me like a compass that

points true north when I've lost my way. Lately my favorite is a line from one of the songs we sometimes sing at Sunday service: "I do what gives me life!" On mornings when I'm waffling between taking the time for prayer and meditation or plunging into the day's busyness, I ask myself "what gives me life?" and the answer is clear: prayer! Or if I'm trying to decide whether I really need to get on the elliptical machine today, the answer is "Yes, I do!" But there are times when the choice is more complicated, like when I have a stack of paperwork on my desk and a beautiful day is calling me to be outdoors. Being in nature may feed my spirit, but feeling stressed because I haven't met my deadlines isn't good for my wellbeing. Creating a balanced life is a constant dance between these apparently conflicting choices, and allowing ourselves time to pause and check in with our inner Divine wisdom can help guide us. And if there are days when we veer slightly off-course, we can always take a different path and find our way back to center. I'm envisioning a year filled with life-affirming choices for all of us!



Therese Finn
Chaplain
Coordinator



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.*

Every year for the month of February, at Spiritwind, I do something on the topic of love in lieu of Valentine's Day. This year we will be doing a series titled, "Tantra: The Cult of Ecstasy." In this series we will look at the ancient Indian practice involving Mantras, Meditation, Yoga and Sexual Rituals. The Tantras are scriptures held sacred by some sects in Hinduism as well as in Tibetan Buddhism. Come and feel the love!



Mary Lou Banahan
Youth and Family Leader

Youth and Family Ministry

Dear Friends,

February is the month we celebrate love. This month the YOU'ers will look at their love language and at how they express love to those in their lives. This will be a chance for us to identify what is important to us individually and recognize how we can better communicate with others.

The month may bring visiting family members with the holiday weekends. We would love to welcome any teens to our group, if even for just a visit. All of our lessons are designed to complete in one day.

Blessings,
Mary Lou Banahan

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

Mondays, 4:00 p.m.

Bring water and a sticky mat or feel free to use a chair for gentle yoga.

A Course in Miracles

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

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

Sunday, February 18 at 11:30 a.m.

This month the prayer circle is on the third Sunday. 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

New Member Orientation

Sunday, February 11th, 11:30 a.m.

In The Sanctuary



If you have been considering becoming a member of Unity of Auburn, attend this orientation where you will learn about the Unity movement and, specifically, Unity of Auburn. You will also meet some of our board of trustees and our youth and family leader. Yummy snacks will be available, too! Please fill out an information card located in the seat pockets of the sanctuary chairs. Place the card in the love offering basket. New members will be received on Sunday, February 25th.

Women’s “Creative Insight” Circle

**** 3rd Saturday of the month now ****

February 17th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00

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.

***February Theme:
Connecting With My Heart ...
Spreading Love To The World***

Eat lunch at a local eatery, bring an addition to our community salad or bring your lunch. RSVP to: Deborah at 916-652-7709.

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

Registration Opens Sunday, February 25th!

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

**SAVE THESE DATES:
June 15th-17th, 2018**

More information is coming.



Ongoing Classes and Events (Cont.)



Frontiers of Consciousness **Monday, February 26, 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 Integral Theory as it relates to consciousness, moving from states and stages of consciousness to the concept of multiple intelligences and beyond.

Want To Be in Our Directory?

If you would like to be in our directory, please fill out the form in this bulletin. If you are already in the directory, make any changes or write "SAME" on the form. Place the forms in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. Only those who are in the directory, get a directory. Forms are due by **February 18th**. The directory will be printed by the beginning of March.



Annual Membership Meeting

Sunday, February 25, 12:00 Noon

Please join us for our annual business meeting. At this time we elect new board members, hear reports and updates, honor those of our church family who have passed on, renew our commitment to Unity of Auburn and share ideas for what is ahead.



Message from our Board of Directors



Mark Schindler

It is time once again for our annual business meeting as directed in the bylaws of Unity of Auburn. This is one of the formalities required by our status as a not for profit, tax exempt corporation. Probably the most important thing done at the meeting when there are no proposed changes to the bylaws is the election of trustees to our board.

The Board of Trustees is charged with responsibility for setting policy, making decisions regarding all property owned by Unity of Auburn and all financial matters including budgeting, fund raising and spending. Trustees serve for a three year term and may serve two consecutive terms before having to step down and take a break.

This year we have three current board members who have completed their first term and have agreed to serve a second term which means that they will stand for election at the annual meeting;. They are; Brennan Toohey, Justene Da Costa and Edna Sparkes and we thank them for their service. Our current board is doing excellent work. They lead by example and have guided this center to establish a vibrant culture of ownership and teamwork which is a goal that all organizations strive for but don't always achieve.

There is also one vacant position to be filled and Pat Lord has answered the call to serve. Pat served on the board previously in the role of Vice President. She is a semi retired physician who provides medical services with the California Department of Corrections.

Pat has served as the Chaplain Coordinator at Unity of Auburn and has been the treasurer for Sacramento Regional Mensa. She enjoys singing and belongs to the NCVAA, a group of performers who sing together at monthly meetings and also appear at Karaoke sing along events at Unity of Auburn. She is highly recommended and we look forward to welcoming her back to our board!

Directors



Board of Trustees

- Shelley Rutherford.....President
- Justene Da Costa.....Vice President
- Sharon Hardie.....Treasurer
- Brennan Toohey.....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 February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	5 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	6 Noon Prayer	7 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	8 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	9 Office Closed	10 Office Closed
11 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry 11:30 am New Member Orientation	12 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	13 Noon Prayer	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wed Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	15 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	16 Office Closed	17 9:00 am Creative Insight Circle
18 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry 11:30 am Chaplain Prayer Circle FORMS FOR DIRECTORY DUE	19 Office Closed Yoga 4 pm	20 Noon Prayer	21 Noon Prayer 5:00 pm Sisters 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	22 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed
25 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry <i>New Member's Honored</i> Zephyr Point Tickets on Sale Noon: Annual Membership Mtg	26 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm 6:00 pm Frontiers of Consciousness	27 Noon Prayer	28 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

February 4, 2018

Talk: Why Buddhism Is True: Ego, Self and The Void
Soloist: Dennis Cain

February 11, 2018

Talk: What Has Darwin Done For Us Lately?
Soloist: Brenda Boston

February 18, 2018

Talk: Why Buddhism Is True: Emptiness and Essence
Soloist: Billy Bensing

February 25, 2018

Talk: Why Buddhism Is True: Oneness Explained Better
Soloist: Beth Gillogly

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



Love is the cause of unity in all things.

~ Aristotle



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