

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

Ministers' Message

Phone: 530-888-6489
Website: www.unityofauburn.com

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In 2014, theoretical physicist Alan Lightman wrote a book called "The Accidental Universe: The World You Thought You Knew." This is a great book about science for non-scientists that talks about many issues that Unity folks have found interesting over the years, many of which we regularly discuss during our Frontiers of Consciousness class on fourth Mondays.

Chapter 3 is titled "The Spiritual Universe" where the author talks about the perennial question of the proper relationship between science and religion. At one point he presents a definition of God that he believes would agree with "almost all religions."

In order to come up with such a definition, he starts by identifying God is a being or entity. He goes on to say that this being is not restricted by the laws that govern matter and energy in the physical universe, a being outside matter and energy acting with purpose and will and sometimes violating existing physical laws by performing miracles. This being also has qualities such as intelligence, compassion and omniscience.

Note that he is not saying that he agrees with this definition, only that this is a definition that would be palatable to "almost all religions." This definition is commonly referred to as a theistic concept of god, one that is not supported by some of the most basic ideas in Unity.

Emilie Cady, Charles Fillmore and others consistently refer to god not as a being or an entity that possesses intelligence and omniscience but as the qualities in themselves. They refer to god as principle or intelligence itself, the sum total of the laws and principles that govern matter and energy. Still a bit vague but better than some disembodied entity or being.

This principle or intelligence is knowable in the sense that human beings can discern and understand it up to a point. In addition, this intelligence must necessarily operate the same way and be true at every time and place in the universe. These are also the central doctrines of science according to the Accidental Universe which tells me that Unity has much more in common with science than we do theistic religion.

Nonetheless, you will still hear theistic language in Unity. Male and female pronouns are used in reference to god. The title mother/father is no better. We can't help it, we are still evolving beyond a theistic understanding and the best we can do is to be aware of the limitations of our language and make the changes gently and gradually.

Science will eventually be able to explain how consciousness works based on the laws of physics and chemistry. Science excels at answering questions but there are some questions that science will never be able to answer such as why art in all of its forms can be moving and inspiring, how to find meaning in our lives and the most beneficial way to co-exist with our fellow life forms on planet earth and perhaps beyond. These are the questions that spirituality is best suited to address.

And even if science can establish a physical basis for consciousness, it still won't be able to tell us how to best use this unique quality or process or whatever it is and how to direct its very real power in our lives. Those are questions without a single certain answer that fall within the broad realm of spirituality, philosophy, ethics and aesthetics.

Starting at the end of May and continuing in June, we are going to be engaging questions like these during our Sunday services. Don't come expecting dogmatic answers but get ready to explore the wondrous possibilities!

Special points of interest:

**Margaret Main 100th
Birthday Party**

- **Board Members Wanted**
- **Thrift Store Hours & Donations**

Chaplain's Corner



Donna Vetromile

Hello Unity Congregants!

What a wonderful season is this spring we now experience! I do hope you are enjoying it as much as I am. I love to lift my face to the morning sun. Lilacs, irises, and roses in my yard are such a sensual gift!

Our enjoying and appreciating God's world can be construed, I believe, as a prayer of gratitude. What's not to like? So many flowers blooming, (mostly) perfect weather, and life renewing, reminding us of second chances, and the payoff of patience...It all makes me feel enthusiasm, and living in enthusiasm is basically a prayer of gratitude.

Our Daily Word for March 31st was Enthusiasm. I would like to quote part of it: "My enthusiasm doesn't just brighten my world--it creates a brighter, more vibrant world for everyone around me. I am committed to drawing upon the divine life deep within my soul and using it to inspire me in every moment."

Our Daily Word also gives a relevant quote from Proverbs 4: "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." Clearly, enthusiasm is life-giving, both for ourselves and for those we encounter throughout our day.

So, get outside and enjoy nature! Tilt your head to the morning sun, and feel that smile take over your face--and consider adding the words "Thank you." When we enjoy and appreciate the world given to us, it is contagious...Show your gratitude, and acknowledge this spiritual experience.

Blessings and hugs,
Donna





Margaret Huntley Main

(wife, mother, grand & great, student, teacher, author, actress, oldest living
Tournament of Roses Queen & glad to be breathing at 100 years old!)

100th Birthday Party

At Unity Of Auburn, 1212 High Street, Auburn, CA 95603

Noon on Saturday June 5th, 2021

Tickets are \$15.00 and a reservation is required.

Please bring your great memories to share with all.

A lunch and drinks will be provided.

Contact Rev. Karen for a reservation: iwishupeas@aol.com or 916-580-9592.

Deadline for tickets is May 14th, 2021.

Sunday Service, Classes, Email Prayers

Sunday Service

We are in person at our Sunday Services *and* Via Facebook Live Stream. For our in person service we ask that you wear a mask and sit 6 feet from those not in your family. Thank you for helping us to stay open!

Live stream link on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Unity-of-Auburn-114140051995464/>

If you do not have a Facebook account, you will need one to watch the service. This link will tell you how to create a Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/help/188157731232424?helpref=topq>

Sisters of the Good

We are meeting on Zoom every Wednesday from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. You can join us with video or call in. If you are not on the email list and want to attend, email Rev. Karen at iwishupeas@aol.com and let her know.

We are beginning a new book later this month. We are going to read the “*The Keeper of Lost Things*” by Ruth Hogan. The description: Anthony Peardew is the keeper of lost things. Forty years ago, he carelessly lost a keepsake from his beloved fiancée, Therese. That very same day, she died unexpectedly. Brokenhearted, Anthony sought consolation in rescuing lost objects—the things others have dropped, misplaced, or accidentally left behind—and writing stories about them. Now, in the twilight of his life, Anthony worries that he has not fully discharged his duty to reconcile all the lost things with their owners. As the end nears, he bequeaths his secret life’s mission to his unsuspecting assistant, Laura, leaving her his house and all its lost treasures, including an irritable ghost.

The costs are \$13.93 paper; \$10.99 kindle. Let Rev. Karen know right away if you want a book ordered for you and sent by free mail to your home.

Frontiers of Consciousness

This class is being offered in person and on Zoom *May 24, 2021*. If you would like to attend, please send an email to Rev. Mark at mark@unityofauburn.com.

E-mail Prayer



If you would like an email prayer from one of our Chaplains, please send your prayer request to:

Auburnchaplains@gmail.com

Our Chaplains are available to join you in prayer if you are having a challenge or in gratitude and joy!

Board Members Wanted



Board Members Wanted

Things sure have been different in 2020 and into 2021! However, in the midst of the pandemic, your board of trustees has remained dedicated to serving you and have learned how to have board

meetings via zoom. We lost two board members in 2020, Shelley Rutherford and Pat Lord. Shelley moved to Florida and Pat was ready to release her position for other activities. We love and appreciate both of them and wish them well!

Now, there are two openings for new board members. The board is a healthy group of people who care deeply for Unity of Auburn. They meet every month and at other times to ensure the building is taken care of and the finances remain solvent.

If you've been wondering how you could donate your time for the good of our spiritual community, we ask that you contact Revs. Mark (mark@unityofauburn.com) or Karen (iwishupeas@aol.com). They can provide you with more information on the exact duties of the board.

Board of Directors



Board of Trustees

- Patty Davis.....President
- Dave Langley.....Vice President
- Sharon Hardie.....Treasurer
- Natalie Kimball.....Secretary

Staff

Unity of Auburn Staff

- Karen and Mark Schindler.....Co-Ministers
- Carrie Deterding.....Administrative Assistant
- Mary Lou Banahan.....Youth and Family Leader

Our Financial Picture

UNITY OF AUBURN FINANCES		
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021		
INCOME AND EXPENSES	JAN-FEB 2021	FEBRUARY 2021
Love Offerings	6,345.98	3,546.99
Rent	2,405.80	1,202.90
Adult Ed./Fundraising	546.00	396.00
Youth Education	0	0
Miscellaneous	40.96	40.11
Thrift Store Net Income	1,054.14	679.02
TOTAL INCOME	\$10,392.88	\$5,865.02
Building	2,413.60	1,240.58
Adult Ed./Fundraising	(Netted in Income)	
Ministry/Mission	12,620.00	6,200.00
Mortgage	4,763.28	2,381.64
Office Administration	1,947.11	968.60
Sunday Music	800.00	500.00
Tax/Insurance	3,111.36	551.19
Unity Organization Offering	0	0
Youth Education	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,655.35	\$11,842.01
NET ADJUSTED INCOME	<\$15,262.47>	< \$ 5,976.99>

SBA Loan balances 2020 income deficit....Funds portion of 2021 budget...Funds Roof/HVAC contingency set-aside

We are especially grateful to everyone who responded to our request to make offerings via Paypal, mail in, credit card and bank transfer.

Your generosity is inspiring!

And we again affirm that there are no obstacles, only opportunities as we continue to manifest the abundance that will allow us to continue our mission and make our vision a reality.

Mother's Day Meditation

By Elizabeth Rawson and Rev. Karen

Happy Mother's Day to all biological mothers, adoptive mothers, mother figures and mothers of our 2 and 4 legged animals. Today we celebrate the qualities of Mothers and of women: intuition, compassion, love and nurturing. Charles Fillmore described Divine Motherhood as the *nourishing element of Divine Mind, in which spiritual ideals are brought to fruition by those who have expressed their loving, nurturing side of their soul to those around them!* So he was saying that these qualities are not just in women but in all of us. But today we will focus on the feminine use of these sides.

Relax your body letting go of any tension you are holding. Let your breath flow naturally. Clear away any thoughts of outer challenges, fears, worries or doubts. Just let them go.

Now, remember the first person who breathed life into you was your mom, you were breathing together for 9 months. So, allow yourself to feel that beginning Mother Source, holding you, surrounding you in love and care. Allow yourself to rest in that loving cocoon you were held in. You were being supported until you took that first breath of your own and you began breathing with the universe.

Some of us don't have the loving feelings for our Mothers. If this is a difficult day for you because you carry beliefs, emotions, ideas, history, wounds, or seemingly unforgivable things about your Mother, take a moment now to release any hurt, anger, judgments. Let it go. Perhaps you can say, I know you did your best with what you knew at the time. I forgive you and I let go. If you can't let go completely then let go as much as possible.

Then open yourselves to a new way thinking and feeling that contains acceptance, love, forgiveness and peace. Where divine love exists, there is no room for anything that stands in the way of your good.

Also, some of us may still not be able to see our Mom's because of the corona virus. As Mom's we might not be able to see our children. So, we acknowledge our sadness and make contact the best we can online or by telephone. Remembering that this too shall pass.

If your Mother, or Mother figure has made her transition, I invite you to bring her to mind. See her as free and unlimited, a Spiritual Being. Visualize her at her best, caring for you and others. A smile on her face, her laughter, her thoughtful deeds. Imagine a bubble of love surrounding her and you. Love, kindness, caring, wise guidance, even tough love, her mentoring, coaching, strength and compassion. In this quiet time, bring to mind one of your favorite qualities of her and hold it with happiness in your heart.

We say thank you to our Mothers and Mother figures. We honor those who take care of the children and grandchildren. These phenomenal women share their time and talent to teach children they are the light of the world, that they come into this world pure, whole and complete. They teach them that they have the power inside them to have a healthy, happy and prosperous life. They teach the children to love one another. And, that differences are not bad, just different. So thank you!

Thank you also to the teachers who are caring for school children online and the home schooling Moms. We are grateful for the intuition, compassion and love that is a vital part of a balanced and healthy society and also a balanced and healthy life for each of us.

So as you bring your attention back to the space you are occupying, we say thank you for our spiritual Unity community, our family, our friends and last but not least this earth that we live on!

And so it is, Amen!

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

May 2, 2021
Talk: The Void
Music: Dennis Cain

May 9, 2021
Talk: Beyond Motherhood
Music: Kellie Garmire

My 16, 2021
Talk: The Other Side
Music: Bernie Rivera

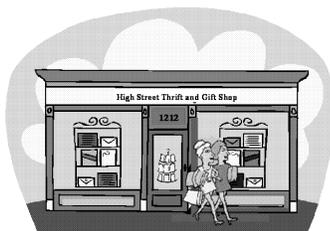
May 23, 2021
Talk: New Beginnings
Music: Kellie Garmire

May 30, 2021
Talk: The World You Thought You Knew
Music: TBA



“The worlds favorite season is spring. All things seem possible in May.”

— Edwin Way Teale



Unity of Auburn

**1212 High Street
Thrift & Gift Shop**

Donations: *Now* taking donations.
*Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday from
10:00a.m.-2:00p.m.*

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