

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

Monthly Message

In Defense of Judas
Rev. Cherie Larkin



Rev. Cherie Larkin

A twenty-six page manuscript dated to the 3rd or 4th century and written in the Sahidic dialect of Coptic was found in the Egyptian desert in the 1970's. Then it vanished into the world of antiquities traders. In 1983 a graduate student working in Rome, got a call from a fellow scholar to travel to Switzerland to check out some Coptic documents being offered from a mysterious source. In Geneva the two men were directed to a hotel room where they were given thirty minutes to look into what were effectively three shoe boxes. Inside were papers. They were not allowed to take photographs or make any notes. The papers were already beginning to crumble – so they lifted the pages with tweezers and spotted the name The Gospel of Judas.

They tried to negotiate a deal for \$50-100,000 but the seller wanted 3\$ million. No Way. The story goes on. According to the present owners of the gospel, the antiquities dealer bought the manuscript from a village trader who made his living scouting out such materials. Exactly where or how the trader came across the collection is not clear. He's dead now.

The men went to lunch together and one of the scholars went into the bathroom and frantically tried to write as much as he could remember from the text. That was the last that anyone saw of it for 17 years.

Determined to get top dollar for it. The scholars confirmed for the Egyptian by their excitement that it was really

valuable – so he headed for New York to try to find a buyer. It led to nothing, so he lost heart and went back to Cairo and left the documents in a bank vault in Hicksville, NY for 16 years where they continued to disintegrate.

In April 2000, he sold it to a woman who paid a rumored \$300,000. She thought the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale might be a buyer where she learned from their researchers that she had unbelievable materials... The Gospel of Judas of Iscariot.

But Yale didn't buy it, so she took it to an ancient manuscripts dealer who offered to give her 2.5 million for it. But he kept the documents and refused to pay her. After quite a battle she got it back and eventually sold it to National Geographic in 2001. An international team of scientists and scholars worked for four years to authenticate, conserve, and translate the manuscript. It has been carbon dated five times and translated and... what has emerged is: The Gospel of Judas.

Everyone remembers the story of Judas as told in the New Testament – Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver – identifying him with a kiss. Later, crazed with guilt, Judas returns the bribe and commits suicide.

However, the twenty-six page manuscript, The Gospel of Judas, gives a very different account. More than 1,700 years later now a long-buried side of early Christianity is re-emerging.

Join Rev. Cherie Sunday, April 27 at Unity of Auburn for a riveting message: In Defense of Judas.

Phone: 530-888-6489

Website: www.unityofauburn.com

Inside this issue:

Monthly Message	1
Sunday Service	2
Classes, Misc	2
Misc & Board	3
Calendar	4
1212 High Street Thrift & Gift Shop	5

Special points of interest:

- **New Member Orientation May 3rd**
- **Town Hall May 4th**

Sunday Service, Classes & Misc.

Sunday Service

Sunday Service In Person is at 10:00 AM and Via YouTube Live Stream at 10:15 AM. Live stream link on our YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/@UnityChurchofAuburnCalif-so7gm>

Sisters

Wednesdays, 3-5 pm, Manning Hall

Currently reading the book: *THE WOMEN* by Kristin Hannah

Everyone is welcome!



With Rev. Rick Reich

Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm at Unity

April ~ A History of War

May ~ The Magical World of Jesus

Frontiers of Consciousness

4th Saturday Of Each Month, Next Meeting April 26, 2025



May 3rd 11-1 pm



May 4th at 11:30 am

Misc.



We extend our deepest gratitude to you for your incredible dedication, passion, and service in making the special events in our ministry so successful and fun! Your commitment to serving others, attention to detail, and willingness to go above and beyond truly make a difference. Our events would not have been possible (or as successful) without the generosity of your time and spirit. Thank you for bringing your enthusiasm, kindness and skills to our ministry. We are so grateful for all that you do!

With appreciation,

Rev. Cherie and the Board of Trustees

Board of Directors



Board of Trustees

- Kathleen DeMontigny.....President
- Donal Smith.....Vice President
- Jim Drews.....Treasurer
- Dave Werkley.....Secretary
- Sally Smock.....Member
- Denise Anya.....Member
- Delores Bothello.....Member

Staff

Unity of Auburn Staff

- Rev Cherie Larkin.....Minister
- Carrie Deterding.....Office Manager

Unity of Auburn April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 am Celebration Service	7 Office Open	8 Office Open	9 Office Open 3:00 pm Sisters 5:30 pm Spiritwind	10	11	12
13 10:00 am Celebration Service	14 Office Open	15 Office Open	16 Office Open 3:00 pm Sisters 5:30 pm Spiritwind	17	18	19
20 10:00 am Easter Celebration Service	21 Office Open	22 Office Open	23 Office Open 3:00 pm Sisters 5:30 pm Spiritwind	24	25	26 3:00-5:00 pm Frontiers
27 10:00 am Celebration Service	28 Office Open	29 Office Open	30 Office Open 3:00 pm Sisters 5:30 pm Spiritwind			

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: 816-969-2000

Service Live on YouTube:

- <https://www.youtube.com/@UnityChurchofAuburnCalif-so7gm/streams>

Lessons and Soloists

April 2025 Talk Titles

April 6, 2025

Talk: Doorways to God Consciousness 5 ~ The Week That Changed the World

Music: Worship Team Singers

April 13, 2025

Talk: Doorways to God Consciousness 6 ~ Assimilation

Music: Worship Team Singers

April 20, 2025 *Easter Sunday Resurrection*

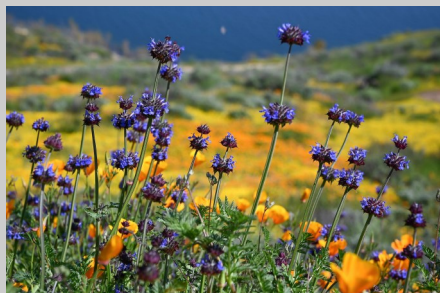
Talk: Doorways to God Consciousness ~ 7 ~ Overcoming

Music: Worship Team Singers

April 27, 2025

Talk: In Defense of Judas

Music: Worship Team Singers



*April showers cleanse the spirit
as well as the soil.....*



Unity of Auburn

**1212 High Street
Thrift & Gift Shop**

Donations: Now taking donations.

*Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday
from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. & Sunday from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.*

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