

## **The Hope: Living With Grace & Goodness**

Dear Fellow Seekers & Treasured Spiritual Family,

I love making music with my friends. So, I went with great excitement to meet Jeff Buda, the band director for the Pebble Creek band — Pebble Creek being the community I live in. I found him in our newsletter. He is looking for new members for the 19-piece jazz/swing band that he leads.

I got on it right away and arranged to meet him at a recent rehearsal. He welcomed me warmly but then came some bad news — at least for me. He shared that what the band needs is clarinet players who can play sax as well. That's not me — not yet anyway. Besides that, the members are at the advanced level. My heart sank. Waves of disappointment rose as he explained all this to me. I thanked him and walked away quickly. Before I got to my car I was actually crying. What was all that about? I prayed. It seems other losses needed to be acknowledged — loss of nearness to family when I moved here, loss of my band back in San Diego, loss of friends and the life I knew.

Reflecting on the many times I've started over and left one kind of life for another, I've said more than once to God (fruitlessly BTW) "Don't make me start over again." Nevertheless, I had to say to myself — "I either trust God or I don't. There are no half measures with God."

After walking trustfully into the unknown, I've invariably discovered that my way was full of grace and goodness. God IS Good! New beginnings brought new adventures, new opportunities, and new friends — and a deepened faith. The grace of years has taught me that God is faithful and Good. Reflect for a moment on all the changes you have walked through — maybe just in this last year. What do you see that informs your today and tomorrows?

Those tears I cried after leaving Jeff? They wanted to be acknowledged apparently. Actually, tears are good. They release energy and are not only cleansing to the soul, they are revelational if we allow them and listen to their message and find hope in the message. Most of you have had the experience of giving up one kind of life for another. Perhaps, you have chosen to start over or maybe had to because of circumstances. Life on life's terms! I've often heard it said in referring to change or loss that pain is inevitable, but suffering is optional. It's part of the package of being a human being in the process of being divinized. With change comes a doorway to reimagine and recreate our life — one step at a time — always in the direction of goodness.

In June we celebrate the divine power of imagination. It's often called the architect of our dreams, the artist of our soul. If we engage our DIVINE imagination, we catch

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# June 2021 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course in Love via Zoom 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	<b>2</b> 10:30am The Gift of Years Rev Sharon Connors (in Classroom & via Zoom) 6pm AA	<b>3</b> 10:30am AA 7pm OA	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10:30am <i>Imagine a Tomorrow That You Love</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship 12:30pm Prayer Chaplain Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course in Love via Zoom 10:30am AA	<b>9</b> 10:30am The Gift of Years Rev Sharon Connors (in Classroom & via Zoom) 6pm AA	<b>10</b> 10:30am AA 1:30pm Outreach Knit & Crochet 7pm OA	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Outreach Sunday</b> 10:30am <i>Reconnect With the Goodness of a Spiritual Community</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course in Love via Zoom 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	<b>16</b> 10:30am The Gift of Years Rev Sharon Connors (in Classroom & via Zoom) 6pm AA	<b>17</b> 10:30am AA 7pm OA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Father's Day</b> 10:30am <i>Our Father</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45am Fellowship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course in Love via Zoom 10:30am AA	<b>23</b> 10:30am The Gift of Years Rev Sharon Connors (in Classroom & via Zoom) 6pm AA	<b>24</b> 10:30am AA 1:30pm Outreach Knit & Crochet 7pm OA	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10:30am <i>Graced: Be Anxious for Nothing &amp; Hopeful About Everything That Matters</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship 12pm USC Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course in Love via Zoom 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	<b>30</b> 10:30am The Gift of Years Rev Sharon Connors (in Classroom & via Zoom) 6pm Group Meditation in Sanctuary 6pm AA			

## June Birthdays

11—Renee Falkowski  
15—Laurie Allen

20—Sary Tavrytzky  
25—BJ Marshman  
26—Barbara Waller

## Mission Statement:

A spiritual campus dedicated to teaching and demonstrating principles that inspire people to live their greatest life through discovering Spirit within.

**The Gift of Years Discussion Group**  
**Wednesdays in June at 10:30**  
**Facilitated by Rev. Sharon Connors**  
**Zoom Meeting ID 577 896 8885**

Author, Joan Chittister's book, *The Gift of Years*, will be the foundation of our sharing ideas on such topics as meaning, ageism, newness, possibility, mystery, letting go...

Join us for a rich exploration of such topics in the context of where you are today in your life, where you have been and where you want to go.

**Unity SC Healing Hands Team**  
**What's the Difference Between Energy Healing vs. Healing Prayer?**

It has been close to a year since our Healing Hands Program began its mission. Along the way, we discovered there is a common misunderstanding that healing prayer is the same as energy healing. They, in fact, are quite different.

In Unity, healing prayer is affirmative prayer. When you ask for healing, the prayer chaplain will pray with you and help you envision your body whole, perfect, and complete and know that this is so, giving thanks to God in advance.

On the other hand, energy healers have taken multiple classes to learn how to read and work with the body's energy systems to promote health. Some modalities focus on balancing the chakra system whereas others may work with etheric or spiritual energies. Healers use intuitive guidance to direct energy flows to and from various locations within the body to promote healing.

Some forms of energy healing use colors or sounds to amplify and project healing frequencies. Others, such as Reiki, require an attunement by a Reiki Master healer to work with the symbols and frequencies of this form of healing.

While some healers may also envision a positive physical outcome similar to healing prayer, this usually comes after they work on the person's issues and may be simply part of wrapping up the healing session.

Our Energy Healers meet every other Tuesday. Call the office if you want a healer assigned to you.

**Zoom-Only Class:**

**A Course of Love**  
**Tuesdays @ 10:30am**  
**Facilitated by Renee Falkowski**  
**Zoom Meeting ID 577 896 8885.**

**Monthly Meditation and Conversation:**

**Wednesday, June 30 at 6:00pm**

We are expanding our practice of Meditation each month... at 6:00pm on the final Wednesday evening of the month. Whether you are a newcomer to meditation or experienced, this will be an opportunity to practice various meditation traditions and the blessings of group meditation and sharing. Please pre-register.

**Unity SC Outreach Ministry Team**

**Buck a Bag!** *By Team Lead, Sandie Fish*

BUCK A BAG! In June, Unity Outreach is highlighting BUCK A BAG as a fundraiser for our Lunch Bag program. We donate 100 lunch bags each month to Justa Center for Homeless Senior Citizens. Each lunch bag contains a PBJ sandwich, granola bar, Slim Jim or fruit snack and a cookie and costs around \$1. By donating just \$1 we all can support this program. Donation boxes are located in the Activity Room and the narthex of the church.

Thank you to all who have been helping on Outreach Sundays to assemble the lunch bags and to those who have been delivering the lunch bags. The assembly has been easy, quick and fun because of all of your help.

If anyone would like to help with this program over the summer while our snowbirds are gone, please contact Sandie Fish at 507-327-8732 or email [joyinunityoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:joyinunityoutreach@gmail.com).

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exciting visions for next steps as well as for a future that we love. The divine plan for our lives is a really good one because God is the creative principle of absolute good. The plan is enfolded in the circumstances — however difficult to discern in the moment. It is revealed to us in our highest hopes and fondest dreams as well. Our imagination catches glimpses of it and together with God, we get to co-create a life that is graced with goodness.

Gather up your paints and brushes and come to the canvas of June filled with hope. God-inspired hope empowers graced action.

With Love and Gratitude,  
Rev. Sharon

### Power of the Month — Imagination

Imagination is the master artist of our being. With our divine imagination we get a glimpse in technicolor of God's desire in us seeking expression. Through our imagination the formless takes form. It is the architect of our dreams. Imagination vibrates light blue and is located mid-head between our eyes. For this reason, it is often called our third eye.

### Unity Library Team, By Team Lead, Sharon Rodriguez

Our librarians are looking for library books that have not been returned. If you have a Unity library book and wish to extend the return date or need assistance returning a book you had borrowed, please contact the church office or leave a message for the Library.

A special thank you to Carol Bryan for her volunteer hours, which include creating a customized computer program for inventory control. And thanks to Linda and Paul Martodam for helping to organize our books. And a very special welcome and thank you to our newest library volunteer, Barbara Layton.

### Fillmore Festival 2021: Living the Teachings \* August 19–22, 2021

The deep spiritual teachings of Charles and Myrtle Fillmore come to life during this powerful weekend. You will explore the teachings, share stories, and celebrate our Oneness on the sacred grounds of Unity Village. *The Essential Charles Fillmore: A Guide to Practical Mysticism and Metaphysics*, by Rev. James Gaither, and *Adventures in Resilience: Ignite the 12 Powers in You to Create a Radiant Life*, by Rev. Sharon Connors, will be the foundation of this year's festival.



We're on the Web at  
[www.unitysc.org](http://www.unitysc.org)

#### Ministers

Rev. Sharon Connors, Sr. Minister  
Rev. Lei Lanni Burt, Assoc Minister  
Rev. Billie Martini, Assoc. Minister

#### Center Administrator

Cathy Collins

#### Director of Music

Mollie Kidari  
Melvin Johnson, Choir Director

#### Board of Trustees

Mack Essary, President  
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Karen Haag  
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Bill Gasta, Alternate

10101 West Coggins Drive  
Sun City Arizona 85351  
623-974-6443

Office Hours:  
Tuesday through Thursday  
8:30am to 5pm  
Sunday 9am to 1pm

\* More info at:  
<https://www.unityvillage.org/events/calendar#2021-FillmoreFest>