

A Year to Restore Heaven in All Hearts: Living a Gifted & Graced Life

"Heaven: a state of consciousness in harmony with the thoughts of God; It is the orderly, lawful adjustment of God's kingdom in mankind's mind and life. Heaven is within every one of us." –
Revealing Word

To My Fellow Adventurers,

I grew up Catholic—St. Juliana grade school in northwest Chicago and St Scholastica High School about a mile west of Lake Michigan and next to Evanston, Illinois. It was an all-girls high school. That tells you a lot about my early understanding of heaven. Over the years my understanding matured some. I came to understand that heaven is not “up there.”

The seminal breakthrough came when I found Unity. I gradually came to understand that heaven is a state of mind. That made sense to me. But what would that look like? How would it feel? More importantly, how do I create it and, even more importantly, how do I sustain it?

This is our exploration and adventure for 2024. Imagine seeing your life as gifted and graced from every angle.

Our Way-shower, Jesus, painted a picture of what heaven was like and how to “get there.” We’ll walk the hallways of works of art he painted with his words and actions, studying the tools he used, the palette of colors, and textures.

He exhorted us that “unless you turn and become as children you shall in no way enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt. 18:3) Will you come curious, excited and daring like children do? Come along as we enter the realm of divine ideas.


I’ve got my zeal on for it.

With Love and Gratitude,

Rev. Sharon



January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	2 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	3 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical 6pm WOW—Sacred Cinema	4 9am Out-reach Knit & Crochet 10:30am AA 6pm OA	5	6 10:30am Women's Group Planning Meeting
7 10:30am <i>3 Ways to Restore Heaven in Your Heart</i> Rev Sharon Connors White Stone Ceremony during service 11:45 Fellowship 12:30 Prayer Chaplain Introduction Meeting	8 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	9 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	10 6pm WOW—Sound Healing Meditation	11 10:30am AA 6pm OA	12	13
14 10:30am <i>3 Ways to Restore Heaven in All Hearts</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship Noon Unity Basics Workshop	15 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	16 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	17 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical 6pm WOW—Kirtan Meditation	18 9am Outreach Knit & Crochet 10am Men's Group Breakfast 10:30am AA 6pm OA	19	20
21 10:30am <i>What Is the Shape of a Gifted & Graced Life</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45 Fellowship Noon Unity Basics Workshop 12:30 Prayer Chaplain Orientation	22 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	23 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	24 6pm WOW—Sacred Cinema	25 9am Outreach Knit & Crochet 10:30am AA 6pm OA	26	27
28 10:30am <i>Let it Be</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45am Fellowship Noon Precious Stone Inspection	29 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	30 10am Circle of Prayer 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA Noon Board Meeting	31 6pm WOW—12-Power & Sound Healing Meditation			

January Birthdays:

05—Howard Fisher
12—Jimmy Lovato
13—Sandra Hurlbut
18—Jim Rasmusson
19—Rosemary Matney

24—Pam Burt
24—JoAnn Cupp
24—Doug Krause
25—Arlene Vavra
26—Rev Sharon Connors

Mission Statement:

To teach and demonstrate principles that inspire people to live their greatest life through discovering Spirit within.

Vision Statement:

Advance spiritual growth in our community and our world by expressing love for all, acceptance of all and service to all.

Prayer Chaplain Introduction January 7th & 21st at 12:30

Curious about Unity's style of prayer in general and our Prayer Chaplain program in particular? Then you won't want to miss these orientation meetings! If you are interested in being a Unity Prayer Chaplain during our 2024 season, these introduction workshops are *mandatory*.

No prior experience in prayer or praying with others is required to serve as a Prayer Chaplain.

You must be an active church member.

There will be a prayer workshop here at the church, which will help prepare you for this next step in your spiritual journey.

Be willing to deepen your spiritual path through prayer and service by making this commitment to our Prayer Chaplain Program.

2-Part Unity Basics Workshop January 14th & 21st at Noon

Want to know more about what Unity is all about? What our basic principles are? Then please plan to join Rev. Sharon two Sunday afternoons in January (January 14th and 21st). We will immerse ourselves in the potent energy of the five spiritual principles that lead to limitless living, referencing Ellen Debenport's "manual," *The Five Principles*, and several of Charles Fillmore's books for our exploration. This is a required class for church membership – and a timely refresher for those who are already members.

Power of the Month: Faith

Simple: Faith is believing BEFORE you see. Hebrews 11:11 says it this way, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen." Dr. Wayne Dyer said it this way: "You'll see it when you believe it." When your heart and mind are aligned in faith, something wonderful can happen. Faith is your "yes" saying power. Yes to God, good and Truth.

February 14 @ 6pm Meditation & Communion Service

ASH
WEDNESDAY

A Course of Love Goes Beyond A Course in Miracles Tuesdays @ 10:30am Meets in the Fillmore Classroom

WOW Wednesdays!

WOW Wednesdays are back this January by popular request! Mark your calendars for some special, inspiring, soul-enriching events, which will all begin at 6pm:

1/3 Sacred Cinema Featuring Guillermo del Toro's masterpiece, *The Shape of Water*.

1/10 Sound Healing Meditation Join Emily Slonina for Sound Healing Meditation. Meditation begins promptly at 6pm in the Activity Center. Come experience immersive sounds of healing. *\$10 Love Offering*.

1/17 Healing Kirtan with Sacred Mantras Kirtan Ceremonialist, Tina Sacchi, will lead us in chanting sacred mantras. We will unlock the potent medicine embedded in these mantras that have existed for millennia. Mantras are medicine tools. Let's bring healing in our being. Heal yourself. Heal your world. The impossible becomes possible. *\$20 Love Offering*.

1/21 Sacred Cinema *Mission: Joy Finding Happiness in Troubled Time*, Experience the incredible friendship between the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu in this laugh-out-loud film.

1/28 Guided 12-Power Sound Healing Meditation A powerful, deep meditation in our sanctuary. Experience the blessings of group meditation.

Volunteer of the Month Cathy Mannino

Almost as soon as she joined Unity Spiritual Center, Cathy has been serving our congregation as a Prayer Chaplain, praying with congregants on Sundays and with members every month. More recently, as Assistant Music Director, she has been blessing our Sunday service with her crystal-clear voice and masterful playing of the baby grand. And, of course, she is always willing to step in and help as needed. Thank you, Cathy!

A Moment of Gratitude

Your church has been immensely blessed by the generosity of so many who have selflessly shared their tithes, talents and treasures throughout this past season.

We thank all of you who worked together to make Adventure in Faith 2023 so successful, beginning with the Prayer Chaplain team, headed by Sandy Walker, who kicked off AIF with a prayer vigil. We so appreciate Chris Romero and her Commitment Card team for collecting and displaying the Commitment Cards that followed along with the weekly themes of AIF.

We so appreciate the facilitators of our Enrichment Circles, Stan and Billie Shawl, Rev. Sharon, Sandy Walker and Rev. Billie and all of you who participated in the circles.

And thank you, too, Rev. Billie, Ralph Martini and the Participation and Fund Drive Teams for promoting AIF and the Year End Fund Drive to such success!

Thank you, thank you, thank you all who donated to the 2023 Year End Fund Drive, enabling us to move forward on getting those new, custom church doors, the parking lot repaved, and replace shrubs that perished during the bitterly hot summer.

And then there is the wonderful Gala! Thank you Gala Chairs, Bill and Linda Cogdill for magnificently organizing all the pieces and sub-teams that made the Gala such a success! Thank you John Murphy and Barbara Layton for the DELICIOUS meal! Thank you Kate Okrongly and Charlie Mannino for the inspirational video. Thank you Susan Fisher and team for the beautiful decorations. THANK YOU, Tito for the entertainment. And thanks to all you volunteers who served us so well on the Gala Team.

And finally, a special thanks to all of you who contributed in so many ways to our Christmas festivities, which made our Christmas Season so magical!

Men's Group Breakfast Thursday, January 18th at 10:00am

All men are invited to the Men's Group on January 18th at Bobby's Café, 15472 N 99th Avenue in Sun City. That's in the strip mall at the northwest corner of 103rd & 99th Avenues. (That's where 103rd Ave turns into Greenway.) Sign up in the sanctuary lobby or bookstore. Contact Ken Weidner with questions: KWeidner2000@yahoo.com.

Precious Stone Inspection and Cleaning Sunday, January 28th After Service

Bring your precious stones to Janice Weidner's clinic on January 28th in the Fillmore Classroom during Fellowship. Janice sold diamonds for 27 years and is offering to put her unique expertise to work teaching our community about the care and maintenance of our gems. She will check your jewelry to make sure the stones are mounted securely and will teach us the proper way to clean and care for our jewelry.


unity[®]
Spiritual Center

We're on the Web at
www.unitysc.org

Ministers

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

Licensed Unity Teacher

Sandy Walker, LUT
Linda Cogdill, LUT Candidate

Center Administrator

Cathy Collins

Director of Music

Mollie Kidari
Cathy Mannino, Assistant Director
Melvin Johnson, Choir Director

Board of Trustees

Mack Essary, President
Howard Fisher, Vice President
Eileen Barber, Secretary
Jo Kennedy, Treasurer
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Barbara Layton
Marlene Messer
Laura Kostyo, Alternate

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Sun City Arizona 85351**

623-974-6443

Office Hours:

**Tuesday through Thursday
8:30am to 5pm**

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