

## The Great Adventure: Blessed & Empowered Through Prayer

"Prayer helps us contact sources of inspiration and wisdom that transcend the rational, analytical side of the mind." Dr. Larry Dossey

"Prayer makes one master in the realm of creative ideas." Charles Fillmore

To My Partners on the Adventure,

My dad, a tough Chicago policeman, who eventually rose through the ranks to become Deputy Superintendent of the Chicago Police Force, was, surprisingly playful and deeply loving. Like this—many evenings he would initiate a game of "Boogie Man." He would chase us four kids around the house, him "booing" and all four of us screaming. If he caught one of us, he would tickle us until we gave the password to stop — "UNCLE."

In counterpoint, his integrity and serious-minded excellence earned him being selected by two mayors to be their bodyguard and Deputy Superintendent. In 30 plus years on the Force, he witnessed horrible, heart-wrenching stuff. Then, more than once he barely escaped death as a result of being shot at.

How did he do it?

I'm pretty sure those experiences lead him to be a devoted father and husband AND live by faith and an active prayer life. More than once, as I passed by the open door of my mom and dad's bedroom when he got home from working the night shift, I would catch him on his knees in prayer. Such faith and humility.

He and my mom showed us what an active prayer life looks like. There were holy cards and novenas on our kitchen windowsill, a painting of St. Francis hanging on the stairway to the upstairs bedrooms, a statue of St. Anthony on the dresser in their bedroom and a Statue of the Infant of Prague in the living room. (I still have the statue of the Infant that they gave me!) We always said grace before our dinner meal and night prayers at bedtime.

Hopefully, you are thinking about your own prayer life as we enter an "adventure" in prayer this month. A spiritual life begins and ends with prayer — and

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# July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat
<b>July Birthdays</b>						
1 — Cathy Filippone 1 — Billie Shawl		2 — Kathleen Renner 16 — Stan Shawl		24 — Marilyn Moore 28 — Bette Ryan		<b>1</b> 10:30am Women's Group Rising
<b>2</b> 10:30am <i>Adventure in Affirmative Prayer: Faith Praying</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45 Fellowship 12:30 Prayer Chaplain Meeting	<b>3</b> 3pm Grief Group 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	<b>4</b> Office closed 	<b>5</b> 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical 10am <i>Unity Basics</i> led by Linda Cogdill	<b>6</b> 9am Outreach Knit & Crochet 10:30am AA 6pm OA	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 10:30am <i>Adventures in Quantum Prayer: Enlightening Praying</i> Rev Sharon Connors 11:45am Fellowship	<b>10</b> 3pm Grief Group 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	<b>11</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA 5pm Healing Hands	<b>12</b> 10am <i>Unity Basics</i> led by Linda Cogdill	<b>13</b> 10:30am AA 6pm OA	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 10:30am <i>Make Me an Instrument of Peace, Part 1</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45am Fellowship	<b>17</b> 3pm Grief Group 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	<b>18</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	<b>19</b> 10:00am SW Vly Enlightenment Ctr Metaphysical 10am <i>Unity Basics</i> led by Linda Cogdill	<b>20</b> 9am Outreach Knit & Crochet 10am Men's Group 10:30am AA 6pm OA	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 10:30am <i>One Seed</i> Rev Lei Lanni Burt 11:45am Fellowship	<b>24</b> 3pm Grief Group 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	<b>25</b> 10am Circle of Prayer 10am ARE 10:30am A Course of Love 10:30am AA	<b>26</b> 10am <i>Unity Basics</i> led by Linda Cogdill 6:00pm Group Meditation	<b>27</b> 10:30am AA 6pm OA	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 10:30am <i>Make Me an Instrument of Peace, Part 2</i> Rev Billie Martini 11:45am Fellowship Noon USC Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>31</b> 3pm Grief Group 4:30pm TOPS 5pm ACA	<i>Save the Date</i>		<b>August 20:</b> Summer Talent Show & Ice Cream Social during Sunday Fellowship		

## 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.

## Unity Basics July 5 - August 2, 10 to Noon

Please plan to join us Wednesday mornings in July (July 5, 12, 19 & 26) and on August 2nd from 10 to noon in the Fillmore classroom for LUT Candidate Linda Cogdill's July class, Unity Basics. We will immerse ourselves in the potent energy of the five spiritual principles that lead to limitless living, referencing several of Charles Fillmore's books for our exploration. Required class for church membership – and a timely refresher for those who are already members.

## Book of the Month *The Five Principles*, Ellen Debenport

A spiritual principle is unchangeable, like the laws of mathematics.  $2 + 2$  always = 4 everywhere, all the time. Unity's 5 spiritual foundational principles are like that. This book unpacks those 5 Foundational Spiritual Principles—a design for living powerfully, clearly, creatively, and purposefully. They provide a guide for living your best life.

## THE BEST OF SUMMER: Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm Summer Talent Show & Ice Cream Social

Tune up your guitar. Practice singing in the shower. Spruce up your ventriloquist dummy! Hip hooray! It's a Talent Show! And an Ice Cream Social during fellowship after our Sunday Celebration Service on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Look for signup sheets beginning in August.

## Bereavement Group Mondays at 3pm

Are you dealing with grief over the loss of your loved one? Sometimes that grief will hit you like a brick at the beginning of your bereavement; sometimes it slowly creeps up on you; often you'll move through different layers of grief over the years. Join the Bereavement Group Mondays in the Serendipity Room. All are welcome.

## A Course of Love Tuesdays @ 10:30am Facilitated by Renee Falkowski Meet in the Church Library

## Monthly Power Meditation Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

A powerful, deep meditation in our Sanctuary. 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. *Love offering.*

## Outreach Concert at Royal Oaks July 13<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

During our Spring Fling in March, Billie Shawl won a performance from Music Director, Mollie Kidari. Billie then donated her prize to Royal Oaks Assisted Living. Billie's generosity together with Mollie's musical genius will be a blessing to the senior citizens in this assisted living community. Performance will be held in the Eleganta Pointe Apartment Building, Royal Oaks Assisted Living, 9965 W Royal Oaks Rd., Sun City 85351.

## 12-Step Meeting for Adult Children of Alcoholics/Dysfunctional Families (ACA) Mondays at 5pm

This group meets weekly in the Ken Haines Memorial Library. The meetings are a safe, loving place to explore ways to live in the "solution" — a way of life healed of the issues of living in an addictive environment. ACA focuses on 'The Solution,' which is to 'Become your own loving parent.' Attendance at Unity not required. *Love offering.*



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everything in between seems to work much better when it does.

Adventuring with You,  
Rev. Sharon

### **Women's Group Rising Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am**

Soul Journeys is the topic for this month's Women's Group Meeting. Two of our members will share their unique story to inspire us. We are all on a soul journey, our life experiences from a spiritual perspective. We are all learning and growing, which we have been doing since we were born as spiritual beings having a human experience.

Sign up to bring a salad or dessert so we can enjoy a potluck lunch together following the presentation.

### **Men's Group Thursday, July 20 at 10:00am**

All men are invited to the Men's Group on July 20 at Coco's Bakery Restaurant, 9801 W. Bell Rd in Sun City. The men have been having a great time learning about one another and supporting each other. Come see for yourself. You don't have to be a member to join in the fun. In fact, bring a friend! He'll thank you for it! Contact Ken Weidner with questions: [KWeidner2000@yahoo.com](mailto:KWeidner2000@yahoo.com).

### **Power of the Month: Divine Understanding**

"Happy is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from it is better than gain from silver and its profit better than gold." *Proverbs 3:13-14*

"Divine understanding is the perceiving power of the mind...spiritual understanding gives clear insight into everything. It remolds the mentality, and inspires the will to direct, to act, and to control." *Christ Enthroned in Man*, Cora Fillmore

Divine understanding can generate the ability to see through circumstances to the Truth at the core. Divine understanding focuses you on the solution and off the problem.

Divine understanding vibrates golden and is centered in the frontal lobe of the brain, the center of dopamine-sensitive neurons. It gives us the ability to project the future consequences of what we are about to say or do. *Adventures in Resilience*



**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

#### **Licensed Unity Teacher**

Sandy Walker, LUT  
Linda Cogdill, LUT Candidate

#### **Center Administrator**

Cathy Collins

#### **Director of Music**

Mollie Kidari  
Melvin Johnson, Choir Director

#### **Board of Trustees**

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Laura Kostyo, Alternate

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**623-974-6443**

**Office Hours:**

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



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