

UNITY OF INNER PEACE NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL, 2014

Dear Unity Circle and Friends,

Those of you who have been involved with Unity of Inner Peace for awhile now, know that when our founding minister, Ruth Singer, retired, we as a group decided we would go it alone, no ordained Unity Minister, no Licensed Unity Teachers. What we did have was a group of people passionate about the New Thought teachings of Unity and a great desire to continue the life of Unity of Inner Peace in Marquette. We had a member who was ordained in another church, and people of deep and varied experience willing to share the wisdom gleaned along their own spiritual paths. We had volunteers galore to both run and attend our services and studies.

But not unlike what happens in many small groups, fatigue set in, as well as the desire to branch out and explore other callings. We shrank in numbers, to put it bluntly.

But cycles do occur, and since last September, both interest and energy have been rising once again. We have not only welcomed new people into our midst, but some who took a sabbatical, so to speak, are returning once again to this place in which they feel seen, heard and nourished.

It is with that in mind that I have asked for and received permission to print a lovely and inspiring letter written by one of our members who not only recently returned from such a sabbatical, but who expressed a desire to serve as a member of The Board. Her reasons for this willingness were presented in the form of a letter - to Unity.

"Dear Unity,

You are like that small candle that sits on the windowsill of home. Your flame glows softly, steadily - visible on those long, cold, dark winter nights. In your subtle way, you offer illumination to those searching for a spiritual path. You offer travelers shelter in your warmth, openness, and friendship. You are a way station for explorers needing to stop and rest before traveling on.

You mean all those things to me and more.

Pardon my absence! I have been away awhile - attending to other paths and needs in my own spiritual journey. That doesn't mean you haven't been in heart and mind. I've thought about you - and often.

At this time - and with the permission of those here - I am called to assist - with others - in tending to your flame.

Ann"

As this is Easter month, I cannot help but see in this letter, this attitude, a resurrection. I feel a resurrection happening for Unity of Inner Peace, and an affirmation of what it stands for.

We do indeed, "welcome you with love and peace."

Lovingly,
Judy McGowan

Sunday Schedule:

April 6

Carolyn Myss Audio Series, "Energy Anatomy," Sixth and Seventh Chakras

*****Board Meeting after service*****

April 13, Palm Sunday

Gail Razavi, conclusion of her play, "The Gospel According to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The Sacred Feminine."

April 20, Easter Sunday

Judy McGowan will facilitate a special Easter service.

*****We invite you to bring a dessert to share.*****

April 27

Angeles Arrien's book, The Second Half of Life. Discussion of "The Bone Gate," (Authenticity, Character and Wisdom)

*****POT LUCK*****

Announcements:

On Sunday, March 23, we held elections for Board members. Your new Board is as follows: Militza English, Bob Lamb, Richard Leinonen, Dave McGowan, Judy McGowan, Ann Russ, Steve Schmunk and Bill Waters. We are thrilled to have these intelligent, interested and energetic people willing to serve our Highest Good.

We are happy to announce that Diana Oman and Colleen O'Hara met their goal! Their book, My Heart Smiles, received sufficient backing, has been printed and is now being distributed. Congratulations to Diana and Colleen. If you still haven't ordered your copy and wish to do so, contact Diana at 249-9959 or Colleen at 250-7038. Your heart will smile.

Those of you receiving this e-mail also receive the Bishop Sponge-newsletter, forwarded weekly by Judy McGowan. Unity of Inner Peace has studied portions of some of Spong's books and has viewed a DVD series of a lecture and Q&A weekend he did for a Unity church in Florida. Bishop Spong is known internationally as an outspoken and progressive Christian scholar and teacher. This is a reminder that Unity of Inner Peace, along with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Diocese of the Upper Peninsula, and NMU's Philosophy and Religious Studies Departments, is sponsoring a day with Bishop Spong here in Marquette on **Saturday, September 13th**. We urge you to highlight the date on your calendar and to tell others you know about this most likely once in a lifetime event. The entrance fee is affordable --donation/love offering.

Books:

On the service table on Sunday mornings you will find a list of all the books, and audio or visual material we have donated to the Peter White Public Library over the years. There has been a request made that you look at the list, and then put your name next to any of the items you have read, listened to or viewed. This would act as a resource for others seeking an informal review of these materials, to help them decide which they might like to select, or even to have the pleasure of discussing the items with you. Taking those few minutes could lead to some good insights.

Book Donations to Peter White Public Library for the 1st Quarter of 2014:

The Creative Habit by Twyla Tharp

The Gift of Years by Joan Chittister

The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity by Cynthia Bourgeault

The War of Art: Break Through Blocks and Win Your Creative Battles by Steven Pressfield

Birthday Blessings:

April 9, Mary Ann Fry

April 21, Brandon Young

April 28, Patty Barton

Tithes:

Unity of Inner Peace tithes on all donations. Recipients for the first quarter of 2014 will be decided at the April 6th Board meeting.

Prayer Support:

If you feel the need for prayer support for any reason, for yourself or another, Silent Unity is there to take your call at any hour of the day or night, seven days a week. Call 1-800-Now-Pray/[1-800-669-7729](tel:1-800-669-7729). All calls are confidential.

Our services are held at the Marquette Federation of Women's Clubs building at 104 W. Ridge St., Marquette, MI. Our services are Sundays at 10:00 AM.

Please check our web site for further information. unityofinnerpeace.org

In closing, let us affirm together, "I see the Christ in You." Happy Easter!