Dear Unity Friends,

Recently I had a "church" conversation with a young man who at one time entertained the thought of going to a fundamental Christian College and somehow making religion the basis of his career. At the insistence of his father, that he get a broader education, he did end up going to a church-sponsored school, but one which was far more universal and progressive. He even went on for a Master's Degree at a large public institution. The career which followed was definitely one of service, but did not involve preaching or mission work.

As he aged, perhaps out of a mixture of desire and habit, he and his wife were active in local churches as they moved about the country. However, as things evolved, there came a time when they stopped going to church at all. They had gotten involved in local sporting activities which most assuredly conflicted with church attendance. Then the realization came to the young man that he was sick of going to church, sick of having someone talk at him week after week, that he had "heard it all." So, the athletic community became his/their source of companionship/friendship/family. It was current and it was fun.

So, the question was asked of me, "So is that why you go to Unity in Marquette? Is that your source of friendship and "family?" I said, "Yes," but to me there is a huge difference. We do not have a preacher standing in front of us Sunday after Sunday, nor is our conversation deflected to mundane activities in order to create a sense of community. Our focus is on the individual soul in each of us, and how Spirit is working wonders in and through each and all. Our Sundays are never rote. We talk about and listen to things which one does not focus on in ordinary conversation. It is a place for depth, nourishment and expansion. And thus the time we spend there, and the people with whom we spend it, are precious.

What a gift Unity is for me and for all those participating. But also, what a gift that we have a choice. We are all participating in Spiritual Evolution, and wherever we are is the right place for us right now. Thank you, Spirit for this and another year of life.

Happy New Year, one and all.

Lovingly,

Judy

SUNDAY SCHEDULE as created by Board Member Lee Ossenheimer. Also submitted to *Marquette Monthly.* Thank you, Lee.

January 5, 2020 - Unity Minister Phil Pierson, Podcast #10, "Consciousness Is Everywhere Present." Discussion to follow.

January 12, 2020 - Speaker, Kate Alice. Subject, "Breathwork." Discussion to follow.

→ Board Meeting immediately following service.

January 19, 2020 - Speaker, Bree Carlson, MS Health and Nutrition Institute Educator, MSU Extension. Subject - "Stressless Living." Discussion to follow.

January 26, 2020 - Eric Butterworth's <u>Discover the Power Within</u>. Start the fifth of twelve CD lectures highlighting Eric's thesis on the basic components within the the teachings of Jesus. Titled: "Your Thought Is Your Life." Discussion to follow. [Note- this was scheduled for Dec. 29th but very poor weather led us to save it for a future Sunday]

→ Potluck immediately following service. All who have the desire to participate are welcome. (The service and potluck are separate events. One can choose to participate in one or the other or both.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Our friend Dr. Bob Lamb has moved back to Marquette full time. In his time of absence from our circle, he has studied a lot of Unity's basic teachings and found them profoundly helpful to his life. We look forward to seeing him back among us come spring.

PRAYER SUPPORT:

We are happy to share the good news that Militza Georgevich English has made a full recovery. She is back at home and plans to join us again at Sunday services. Militza states that she is certain that your prayers of love and concern played a significant role in her comeback.

Currently we invite you to affirm the healing and well-being of Mona Varney as she recovers from an ice related ankle injury.

Judy McGowan would also appreciate your positive and healing thoughts & prayers as she undergoes ankle replacement surgery on Jan. 7th.

And we continue to send prayers and blessings to Carol Birnbaum as her health causes her to be confined to her home. We are grateful for her son's loving care.

If you have a prayer request, contact Steve Schmunk, our Board President, or Judy McGowan, e-mail address at head of this newsletter. Or telephone Silent Unity at 1-816-969-2000. They are there 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 52 weeks per year just to share your concerns.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Our meetings/services are held at the clubhouse of the Marquette Federated Women's Clubs at 104 W Ridge St., Marquette, MI 49855. We begin at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time. All are invited to attend. Please check our website in any on of three ways - at <u>unityofinnerpeace.org</u>, or <u>unityspiritualcommunityofmarquette.org</u>, or <u>unityofmarquette.org</u>. Or visit our Facebook page at <u>HTTPS://www.facebook.com/Unity-of-Inner-Peace-918296191554881</u> for further information.

Our Board members are as follows: Steve Schmunk, President & Web Master; Dan Michelsen, Vice President; Dave McGowan, Treasurer; Lee Ossenheimer, Scheduling; Militza English, Member at Large. Additional support: Ann Russ, Facebook & CELEBRANT; Judy McGowan, Newsletter & "Keeper of the Flame."

"We welcome you with love and peace. Our vision is a healed world."