

# Spirit Express



UNITY CENTER OF PEACE CHURCH  
Volume 12, Number 7

July 2006

## From the Heart ♥

Something wonderful is happening at the Unity Center of Peace Church. People are walking through the doors with their spiritual gifts in their hands and offering them to our community. Old timers, regulars, newbies, baby boomers, the greatest generation, generation Xers, right across the board... people stepping forward and saying, "I want to be involved... I want to help... and I want to share my gifts."

And as I watch this happening, I notice that these people seem to be enjoying their lives the most. Their eyes are bright, their demeanors at ease. I want to name this common characteristic that these people are demonstrating... so I name it "Knowing."

They know that their Love is within them. They are compelled to share it. They know that whenever and wherever two or more are gathered, oriented towards spirit, there is Love... so they come and they bring their Love with them and share it freely. They know and they show their understanding of the Law of Giving, the first step to personal fulfillment.

I salute you and I thank you... you are walking the walk... examples for us all.

Michael

## Board Bulletin: On the Road to Recovery

Greetings, One and All!

Although our long-term future is unclear, we are on the road to recovery! We have come through a major "detour" and are back "on track". Our Board Retreat is scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>, at which time we will set our course for the next 6 months and beyond. The Search Team has been activated to chart our next step after August 31<sup>st</sup> regarding recruiting a longer termed Interim Minister.

At our June community meeting, 23 folks offered their thoughts on what membership means. The major themes were "dedication" and "commitment". Now more than ever, especially in this time of great transition, we, the UCPC community, must demonstrate we "have each other's back". We must know we can all count on each of us to do what needs to be done for the good of UCPC. This dedication comes from the heart and soul. This commitment comes from our pockets and our personalities. When we practice true tithing, we give to UCPC 10% of our treasure, our talent, and our time.

The thriving of our community is based on living the Unity Principles, connecting, committing, and dedicating our lives to God, our own soul's growth, and each other. I see UCPC thriving because we are dedicated, committed, and connected people demonstrating these Truth Principles in our actions. Adopt this vision, and it is so.

Namaste,

*Barbs Burman*  
President, UCPC Board of Trustees

**Unity Center of Peace Church**  
**8800 Seawell School Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27516 (919) 968-1854**  
**Email: [unitychapelhill@mindspring.com](mailto:unitychapelhill@mindspring.com), Website: [unitychapelhill.org](http://unitychapelhill.org)**

**Regular Business & Bookstore Hours:**  
**Mon., Wed. Fri. 9am – 2pm, Tues. & Thurs. 11:00 am – 4:00pm**  
**Sunday Bookstore Hours: 10:30 - 11:00am & 12:30 – 1:00pm**

**Administration**

Spiritual Teacher	<b>Mark Malachi</b>	currently on medical leave	
Interim Minister	<b>Michael McCluskey</b>	968-1854 or (919) 593-5939	<a href="mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com">mjmcc1@aol.com</a>
Office Manager	<b>Mariah Wheeler</b>	968-1854 or 942-7477	<a href="mailto:unitychapelhill@mindspring.com">unitychapelhill@mindspring.com</a>
Interim Music Dir.	<b>Helen Spielman</b>	929-4520	<a href="mailto:hbs@email.unc.edu">hbs@email.unc.edu</a>

**Board of Trustees**

President:	<b>Barbs Burman</b>	663-3301	<a href="mailto:barbsieb@yahoo.com">barbsieb@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-President:	<b>Julie Cusatis</b>	402-0878	<a href="mailto:jcusatis@earthlink.net">jcusatis@earthlink.net</a>
Treasurer	<b>Helen Dannatt</b>	824-3861	<a href="mailto:hdannatt@us.ibm.com">hdannatt@us.ibm.com</a>
Secretary:	<b>Claudia Kaplan</b>	932-9635	<a href="mailto:cskaplan@netzero.net">cskaplan@netzero.net</a>
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Trustee:	<b>David Richter</b>	929-5969	<a href="mailto:davidrichter@hotmail.com">davidrichter@hotmail.com</a>
Trustee:	<b>Sofianna Solem</b>	932-5273	<a href="mailto:beauxzoe1@gmail.com">beauxzoe1@gmail.com</a>
Member:	<b>Michael McCluskey</b>	593-5939	<a href="mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com">mjmcc1@aol.com</a>

**Organizational Spheres**

**Worship** - Intention to express our spirituality  
**Education** – Intention to teach & learn  
**Inreach** – Intention to connect with each other  
**Outreach** – Intention to connect with the community  
**Development** – Intention to grow  
**Administration** – Intention to steward what we have

**Board Steward:** Pat Veenema  
**Board Steward:** David Richter  
**Board Steward:** TBA  
**Board Steward:** Sofianna Solem  
**Board Steward:** Julie Cusatis  
**Board Steward:** Barbs Burman

Bookstore	<b>Judy Bosniadis</b>	260-0824	<a href="mailto:bosniadisj@hpw.com">bosniadisj@hpw.com</a>
Bldg. & Grounds	<b>Michael McCluskey</b>	932-3892	<a href="mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com">mjmcc1@aol.com</a>
Floral Coordinator	<b>Helen Spielman</b>	929-4520	<a href="mailto:hbs@email.unc.edu">hbs@email.unc.edu</a>
Finance	<b>Nancy Smith Krauss</b>	932-1227	<a href="mailto:nsmithcns@cs.com">nsmithcns@cs.com</a>
Prayer & Care	<b>Lorraine Lewis</b>	967-2215	<a href="mailto:lorrainelewis@earthlink.net">lorrainelewis@earthlink.net</a>
Social Action	<b>Barbara Janeway</b>	932-4469	
Spirit Express Ed.	<b>Marilyn Grubbs</b>	960-2604	<a href="mailto:mgrubbs@nc.rr.com">mgrubbs@nc.rr.com</a>
	<b>Michael McCluskey</b>	932-3892	<a href="mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com">mjmcc1@aol.com</a>
Usher Coordinator	<b>Simon Kaplan</b>	932-9635	<a href="mailto:cskaplan@netzero.net">cskaplan@netzero.net</a>
Worship	<b>Pat Veenema</b>	308-5653	<a href="mailto:pjov54@hotmail.com">pjov54@hotmail.com</a>
Youth Ed	<b>Machai St. Rain</b>	732-4363	<a href="mailto:machaisaintrain@yahoo.com">machaisaintrain@yahoo.com</a>

**OUR MISSION**

The Mission of Unity Center of Peace Church is to be a safe space and community for all of us to honor our likenesses and differences as expressions of Divine Love. We express this love by creating a balance between inner being and outer actions.

**OUR VISION**

Unity Center of Peace Church is a community that acknowledges the sacredness in all creation manifested through the Christ Consciousness within each of us. We live in honesty and integrity. We are a self-creating community that constantly evolves as the individual members grow and change.

**Peace Now!**

***Dialog for uniting Unity & Unity***

On Tuesday, June 21, UCPC Board of Trustees met with Unity Spiritual Center Board & minister to open discussion about a reconciliation between the two Chapel Hill Unity churches. Talk and fellowship is continuing between the groups with the goal of uniting in ways still being explored. The next meeting will be Thurs., July 20, 7 - 9pm in the Sanctuary.

**Are You Interested???**

**\*\*In a UCPC MEN'S GROUP?**

**\*\*\*In GENERATION X fellowship?**

Contact Michael McCluskey:  
 593-5939 or [mjmcc1@aol.com](mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com).

**NEW!**

**UCPC**

**Business Service Directory**

Advertise your business and/or professional services to your UCPC community in our new directory.

Your community wants to buy from you first before they shop elsewhere.

Tell us what you do: from babysitting to tax preparation, from plumbing to tarot readings. Are you a healer? An electrician? A musician?

See Michael McCluskey.

## 🎵 Musical Musings 🎵

On Sunday mornings, each of us comes to church experiencing our particular human condition: in pain or with loss; in joy and gratitude; with questions and confusion; feeling alone or deeply connected. Sometimes the words of the service swirl around us, but music always finds its way into our hearts and souls. Music needs no thought or translation, and as the universal language, it transcends our outer differences. Music helps us remember and BE the God-self within where there is only the I AM of pure peace.

I'm humbled and honored to steward this precious and holy aspect of our worship services for this interim period. Having already held this position for eleven years, I had no desire for it again. I was so happy with Mark. After his heart attack, I stepped forward with all of you, each of us doing what we did best to keep our beloved church going.

I'm passionately dedicated to continuing a rich, quality, spirit-based music program at our church. Mark and I spent endless hours over lunch talking about our church's music, and I know, and agree with, his vision, down to the details. I'm eager to work with the interim minister, the worship committee, the interim choir director, the musicians, and our office manager to make our Sunday service music uplifting, prayerful, energetic, deep, and heartfelt. My goal is to provide high quality musicianship and songs that reflect our beliefs and Unity principles, and to blend all aspects of the music into the flow of the service. Eventually, I'd like to work toward incorporating more of the spiritual art forms such as fine arts and dance into our services, and explore the possibility of bringing back the occasional all-music services that used to be extremely popular. This fall, pending approval, I'd like to promote an evening of creativity for all our members to share their talents including music, reading and writing, arts and crafts, dance and fine arts.

A joyous day would come for me if I needed to step down partially or fully for Mark to become music director once again. In the meantime, I pledge to do what he, and everyone in this church family, always does for me: listen.

If you have a suggestion, idea, question, concern, or complaint about any aspect of the music at UCP, please voice it. I want to know what you think and feel, and will take you seriously. Call me at home anytime at 929-4520 or email me at <hbs@email.unc.edu>.

### Ways for YOU to Get Involved in the Music Program

- Join Joyful Noise Choir, a collaborative group where you can help choose repertoire (see Mark Smith)
- Volunteer to occasionally run our sound system for Sunday services (see Michael McCluskey)
- Volunteer to help with concerts and special events (see Helen Spielman for this and the following) -- volunteer to assist music director with occasional needs, i.e., paperwork, hospitality for musicians at Sunday services
- donate a love offering specifically for the music program, over and above what you'd normally give to the church (not instead of!)
- provide ideas and feedback to the music director

Musical Musings will be my monthly column in Spirit Express about various topics relevant to our music program - hymns, individual musicians, spiritual aspects of music, and more. If you'd like to read about anything in particular, just let me know. Thank you for entrusting me in this position.

"This will be our reply to violence:  
to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before."

-Leonard Bernstein



*Helen Spielman*, Interim Music Director

# One Prayer

I came to Unity because of two things -- Peace Day and Mark. I so loved the atmosphere of gentle spirited encouragement set for the intermingling of such a varied group of religious viewpoints. Not realizing how broad an undertaking Peace Day had been I attributed it to Julie Cusatis and Deborah Dorland, who had given me such clear, loving communications about how I could participate in the event. I trusted that this would be a special day, yet was still surprised at the scope. I saw it as a HUGE moment in time that gave me more hope than I had been having that peace can happen. As leader, myself, of an organization dedicated to intimate connections (focused on interactions between people and the natural world), I wondered how it had been possible for Unity to get these diverse people together for communion and peace. I wanted to learn more about how to do this.

I had heard quite a bit about Mark before I came to interview, from good friends Sue-Anne Solem, Barbara Janeway and Betty Lou Chaika, who encouraged me to interview for the position of Office Manager. I felt the power in Mark's music the minute I heard it, and immediately "fell in love" when I met him. It was obvious that this opportunity to work with a man like Mark and to further the dream of peace was a chance in a lifetime. And more than that, I felt called to the job I also saw that my background and interests could be beneficial to Mark and to Unity. This was a humbling experience to me . . . and for reasons I didn't understand, scary. I could hardly speak at the interview and Mark had to get me a glass of water. I really thought I had blown it, but when Mark called to offer me the job he said, "I got it that I was to hire you before I even met you."

Prior to Unity, my expectation for a job was something that would pay my bills and that I could leave at the end of the day and not have to think about. Having the basic needs for home, gas and electricity met, I could focus on the two things I really wanted to do -- play with the muse and make art, and make a positive impact on how people relate and care for the natural world. And yet I accepted the job at Unity without hesitation, knowing I would be working at least one hour a day more to make the same wage as I had in my previous job, and that I was entering into something that I wouldn't be able to "leave" when I left for the day. The calling was so strong that I knew that somehow there would be a way to juggle three important missions even though it had been a major balancing act to juggle two.

Since beginning at Unity, I have I feel humbled by all there is to do, and I have relied on Mark's gentle and clear steadiness to keep me balanced and attuned to what is essential. I have looked forward EVERY DAY to coming to work and felt that what I do is valued and important. Mark was always saying how well we worked together, and I could see that the positive, joyful energy that he exuded was contagious to everyone else who came into the office. I could hardly believe my good fortune. Although from the time of Mark's absence as Spiritual Teacher, the positive energy has continued, I wondered about the continuance of the joyfulness. I know that there's only one Mark and no one else can take his place -- with the church or with me. I miss him terribly. However, I can also see that all is well . . . and all will be well.

I have been so impressed with the community of Unity. The way we decided what to do with the church during Mark's absence has been inspiring to me. I have seen how others, such as the Lay Ministers and Board of Trustees -- and not just these leaders but others who love this church too -- have come forward with their talents and dedication. Since Michael has come to be Interim Minister, I have seen a calm, prayerful steadiness return. I am grateful for his enthusiasm and humor. The liveliness of this place has been wonderful, with Michael bringing several folks in everyday to talk, to pray and to discuss new ideas with. I like how he has made the first move to learn from the "old" members. He also focuses on welcoming new congregants and developing opportunities for them to use their talents here. It seems that attendance and tithes have maintained fairly well for Sunday services, and classes and meetings have continued to happen. I attribute this to the solid foundation built with Mark AND to the perseverance willingness to come forward, and freshness that Michael and others have brought.

I want to do my part to protect the things that Mark loves because I, too, believe that they are important in this world . . . and so that when he's ready to come back, the church will be just as healthy and flourishing as it was when he left. I no longer worry that I and others are not up to the task. I know better!

In the way of Unity, I pray: "I see this church family continuing to come together with clear vision and dedication to honor Mark and to further the work of peace in our lives and throughout the planet Earth. I see all people who are involved in any way with UCPC, as well as all of the beings of nature, touched with love in their connections with each of us. I see my fears instantly dissolve as they are replaced by the assurance of divine beauty."

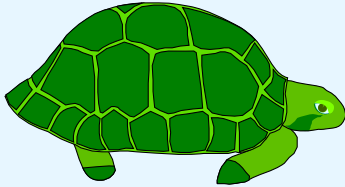
*Peace, Mariah*

## UPCOMING EVENTS NOT TO MISS

Potluck & Community Meeting July 2  
after the service

Healing Circle Mondays 7 - 8pm

- \* Friday Night Live! teen night 7:30 - 10pm July 7
- \* Affirmative Prayer - Tuesdays, 7 - 9pm  
July 4 - 18 led by Michael McCluskey & the Lay  
Ministers
- \* Interfaith Worship Service Thurs. July 13, 7:30pm  
led by Mark Smith
- \* Walk Like a Living Prayer - sacred dance with  
Machai St. Rain, Sat., July 22, 10am - noon
- \* Women's Vision Circle: Sun., July 23, 5:30 potluck,  
6:15-8pm meeting, this time facilitated by  
Jane Maske



# Happy Summer!

Spiritual Teacher: Mark Malachi - currently on medical leave

Interim Minister: Michael McCluskey

Office Hours: Mon. & Fri. On Call,

Tues. & Thurs. 11am - 5pm, Wed. 10am - 2pm

Home Phone: 932-3892 Cell Phone: (919) 593-5939

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Main Office Hours:

Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9am - 2pm, Tues. & Thurs. 11am - 4pm

Mariah Wheeler, Office Manager

968-1854, email: [unitychapelhill@mindspring.com](mailto:unitychapelhill@mindspring.com)

website: [www.unitychapelhill.com](http://www.unitychapelhill.com)

UCPC Prayer & Care:

24-hour Prayer Line 968-1854

Prayer Box (Front Foyer)

Silent Unity (800) 669-7729 [www.silentunity.org](http://www.silentunity.org)

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Email newsletter submissions to editors:

Marilyn Grubbs, [mgrubbs@nc.rr.com](mailto:mgrubbs@nc.rr.com), or Michael McCluskey,

[mjmcc1@aol.com](mailto:mjmcc1@aol.com) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of month.

**UNITY CENTER OF PEACE CHURCH**

8800 Seawell School Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516


To remove your name from our mailing list, call 968-1854  
or email us at [unitychapelhill@mindspring.com](mailto:unitychapelhill@mindspring.com)

[www.unitychapelhill.org](http://www.unitychapelhill.org)

JULY 2006

UCPC is a Member of the Association of Unity Churches

# JULY 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>UNITY CARES</b> We pray with these people during the month of July <b>Courney &amp; Aubrey Dagenhart, M.K. Williams &amp; Marc Dreyfors,</b> <b>Judy Gardner, John Glasson, Karen Monaco, Vanessa &amp; Salam Murtada,</b> <b>Chuck Talbott, Anne Viscarra, &amp; Lee Wald</b>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Potluck &amp; Community Meeting after church</b> <b>Guided Meditation</b> 10 – 10:30 am <b>Adult Forum:</b> 9:45 - 10:45 am  <b>Service</b> 11am – 12:30 pm Speaker: Michael McCluskey It's a Miracle! - Or is it? Music: Joyful Noise Choir  <b>A Course In Miracles</b> 7:30 pm	<b>Healing Circle</b> 7 – 8 pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 8 – 11 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Prayer Team</b> 1 pm  <b>Independence Day</b> ☀️	<b>Prayer Team</b> noon  <b>A Course in Miracles</b> 7 - 8:30 pm Chapel  <b>Wild Bunch</b> 6:30–9:30 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Outdoor Sanctuary Team</b> 7:30 -9:15 pm Outside & Chapel  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 9 pm – 12 am Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!</b> <b>(Teen Night)</b> <b>7 - 10:30pm Sanctuary &amp; Kitchen</b>	<b>IFC Kitchen</b> call Simon Kaplan 932-8858 to register
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Board Retreat</b> <b>Guided Meditation</b> 10 – 10:30 am <b>Adult Forum</b> 9:45 - 10:45 am  <b>Service</b> 11 am – 12:30 pm Speaker: John Thomas "Last Judgement" Music: Janie Imperial  <b>Quarterly Youth Ed. Meeting</b> 1 - 3:30 pm <b>A Course In Miracles</b> 7:30 pm	<b>Healing Circle</b> 7 – 8 pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 8 – 11 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Prayer Team</b> 1 pm  <b>Affirmative Prayer</b> 7 – 9 pm Chapel	<b>Prayer Team</b> noon  <b>A Course in Miracles</b> 7 - 8:30 pm Chapel  <b>Wild Bunch</b> 6:30–9:30 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Interfaith Worship</b> 7:30 pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 9pm – 12 am Sanctuary + Kitchen		<b>Dances of Universal Peace</b> 7:30 - 9:30pm Sanctuary
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<b>Guided Meditation</b> 10 – 10:30 am <b>Adult Forum</b> 9:45 - 10:45am  <b>Service</b> 11 am – 12:30 pm Speaker: Michael McCluskey What Did You Expect? Music: The Transzenders  <b>Board Meeting TBA</b> <b>A Course In Miracles</b> 7:30pm	<b>Healing Circle</b> 7 – 8 pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 8 – 11 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Prayer Team</b> 1pm  <b>Affirmative Prayer</b> 7 - 9pm Chapel	<b>Prayer Team</b> noon  <b>A Course in Miracles</b> 7 - 8:30 pm Chapel  <b>Wild Bunch</b> 6:30–9:30 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Meeting with Unity Spiritual Center Board</b> 7 - 9pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 9pm - 12am Sanctuary + Kitchen		<b>Walk Like a Living Prayer</b> 10am - noon Sanctuary
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<b>Guided Meditation</b> 10 – 10:30 am <b>Adult Forum</b> 9:45 - 10:45am  <b>Service</b> 11 am – 12:30 pm Speaker: TBA  Music: Janet Bratter  <b>Keys of Enoch</b> 2 – 5 pm in Chapel <b>Worship Committee</b> 1:30 pm at EarthFare  <b>Women's Vision Circle</b> - Potluck 5:30 pm meeting 6:15 – 8 pm upstairs <b>A Course In Miracles</b> 7:30pm	<b>Healing Circle</b> 7 – 8 pm Sanctuary  <b>Social Action Team</b> 7 pm Chapel  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 8 – 11 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Prayer Team</b> 1pm  <b>Affirmative Prayer</b> 7 - 9pm Chapel	<b>Prayer Team</b> noon  <b>A Course in Miracles</b> 7 - 8:30 pm Chapel  <b>Wild Bunch</b> 6:30–9:30 pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 9pm - 12am Sanctuary + Kitchen  <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:30 pm		
30	31	Sunday Potluck & Community Meeting		 <b>BIRTHDAY CORNER</b>  <b>Happy Birthday to our July Babies:</b>  <b>Jay Meadors, Aaron Mayer, Karli Rabe, Natasha Neece, Glenn Boyd, Jonah Kaplan, Julie Harris</b>		
<b>Guided Meditation</b> 10 – 10:30 am <b>Adult Forum</b> 9:45 - 10:45am  <b>Service</b> 11 am – 12:30 pm Speaker: Michael McCluskey I Got My Mind Right, Boss! Music: Helen Spielman  <b>A Course In Miracles</b> 7:30pm	<b>Healing Circle</b> 7 - 8pm Sanctuary  <b>RIF A'I MARUFI (SUFU)</b> 8 - 11pm Sanctuary + Kitchen	<b>Sunday Potluck &amp; Community Meeting</b>  Remember, the first Sunday of each month after service is Potluck Sunday. Bring a covered dish and join the fun of getting to know your Unity f.				

