# **June 2018**



A welcoming spiritual community advancing a positive message that teaches people of all ages and faiths how to thrive in a

changing world.

### Ministers' Message

Unity has been in existence for 128 years now and, over the years that I have been affiliated with this movement, I have heard people speculating about what our cofounders Charles and Myrtle Fillmore would make of the world and this movement if they were alive today. The best and most accurate answer to that

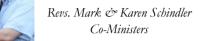
question is that we don't know.

The world has changed rapidly and almost beyond recognition for people like the Fillmores who were born before the Civil War. Charles wrote about and advocated many ideas which have not withstood the test of time. Contrary to what Charles Fillmore once believed, matter is real, the luminiferous ether is non-existent, germs cause illness and death is a natural and inevitable part of life. Nobody is going to live forever in a regenerated spiritual body as Charles also believed.

I have no way of really knowing how he might react to this new information. I would like to think that he would not resort to denialism but, instead, would go back to the drawing board and ask new questions. Charles used the words science and scientific liberally in his writings. However, he had no scientific training and tended to use those words in a narrow and limited way.

As Dr. Steven Novella so eloquently puts it; "Science and critical thinking are a process, not a position. That process values objectivity, humility, a deference to facts, logical validity, scientific rigor, and openness to change." Openness to change means you get to be wrong without getting thrown under the bus. In fact, being wrong is regarded as progress; it means you have eliminated one avenue of inquiry and need to refine your hypothesis in order examine other possibilities.

Unity is flexible but not without guiding principles. Otherwise, a clever sophist



could invoke reason and logic to teach just about anything in the name of Unity; thereby creating the very real danger that Unity might become nothing more than a clearing house for the never-ending stream of new age pop fad pseudoscientific spiritual trends.

In 1918 Charles Fillmore wrote an article called; "The Pure Reason and Honest Logic of Practical Christianity." In describing Unity, he said: "It has no dogmas nor creeds, nor are its students expected to believe anything which they cannot logically demonstrate to be true... It takes as the basis of its doctrine a fundamental truth that is known... and from that truth, by cold, deductive reasoning, arrives at each and every one of the conclusions which are presented. Thus it does not in any manner partake of the popular concept of religion, as a vague something which has to be accepted on faith, and believed regardless of its consistencies. On the contrary, it invites the closest mental scrutiny."

A popular shorthand way of saying this which happens to fit on the front of a shirt that I frequently wear is "Demand evidence and think critically." Whatever claim is being made, we have the right and perhaps even obligation to ask for the facts and evidence to back it up. It's ok to be wrong so long as we at least make the effort.

During the month of June we will consider some of the ways we can embrace the kind of close mental scrutiny that Charles spoke of and perhaps find that it is not such a cold thing after all. In fact, it can be inspiring, comforting and provide another valuable tool for helping us to thrive in our changing world.

Phone: 530-888-6489 Website: www.unityofauburn.com

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# Special points of interest:

- Zephyr Cove Retreat
- Father's Day
- Creative Insight Circle
- Frontiers of Consciousness

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# Chaplain's Corner

Prayers for Political or World Situations

Perhaps you have been experiencing concern about the current political and world situations as, within my human condition, I have been. It is so important for us to continue re-affirming our Twelve Powers to help us move forward in these challenging times. For myself, I claim the powers of Will, Wisdom and Strength.



Lynne Laney Chaplain

Will: I choose to pursue a divine idea and I commit to follow the path that leads me to its realization.

Wisdom: Everything I need to know is within me. I discern through Divine Wisdom my deep sense of direction.

Strength: I am the power of stability, anchored to the shore while the winds of change swirl around me.

I release my fear and confusion over this (world or political) situation. I breathe in peace and I affirm that the (world or political leaders) are being empowered by Divine Wisdom and Divine Order right here and right now. I speak affirmations of peace, connecting my entire being to my Divine Life and connecting to the Divine Life of all leaders. We are all immersed in Divine Love, Light and Wisdom as we move forward toward World Peace and the health of our Mother Earth; for ourselves and for future generations.

Please remember that your chaplain is available to pray with you as you may feel the need.

I am very grateful to Rev. Linda Martella-Whitsett, Chaplain Therese Finn, and to the Daily Word publication for their continuing inspiration. I have paraphrased some of their writings for this article.

Praying with you,

Lynne Laney



Mary Lou Banahan Youth and Family Leader

Unitots
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
UniKids and UniTeens
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
Location: Youth and
Family Ministry Wing

### Youth and Family Ministry

Dear Friends,

It is June and that means summer vacation for students (and teachers!). This also means that families travel to and from the Auburn area. We hope you will bring your visitors to church with you on Sunday and be sure to stop by the Youth and Family room. We love to meet new friends.

We have been enjoying a few new faces in the children's church. It has been good to see the little ones interact and enjoy each other. These young children are embarking on a learning about life and themselves through the Unity beliefs that will provide a foundation of love, acceptance and faith. It is such a pleasure to join them!

Blessings,

Mary Lou Banahan

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### Social Action

The Spiritual Social Action Team at Unity of Auburn is an umbrella organization encompassing all of our outreach events and activities that work together to make a positive difference in the world and support our vision which is to co-create a world that works for all. We ask members to support the Interfaith Food Closet. They will take extras from your garden. Drop them off at 12972 Earhart Avenue, Suite 301 (behind Pacific Power) Auburn, CA 95602 or call 530-885-1921.

# Ongoing Classes and Study Groups

### **Noon Prayer**

Monday through Thursdays, 12:00 Noon—12:30 p.m.

Location: Upstairs in Church Office

During Noon prayer we experience various types of meditation: guided, mindful, or in the silence. We also hold the high watch for those who have placed their names and needs in our prayer chest and anyone you may be praying with. If you can't attend, pray with us wherever you are!

### Yoga With Friends

Mondays, 4:00 p.m.

Bring water and a sticky mat or feel free to use a chair for gentle yoga.

#### A Course in Miracles

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Youth and Family Ministry room

The course does not aim at teaching the meaning of love, for that is beyond what can be taught. It does aim, however, at removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence, which is your natural inheritance. The opposite of love is fear, but what is all-encompassing can have no opposite.

Open to all. A love offering will be accepted. Facilitated by Ruth Ackerman.

### 12 Step Meetings at Unity of Auburn

### **Gold Rush Al-Anon Family Group**

Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Location: Manning Hall

### Women's Courage to Change Al-Anon Family Group

(Women only; childcare available)

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. Location: Manning Hall

#### **Primary Purpose Narcotics Anonymous**

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Location: Manning Hall

#### **Chaplain Prayer Circle**

Sunday, June 17, at 11:30 a.m.

Our prayer circle is now on the third Sunday of the month. The chaplains will guide us in a 5-10 minute prayer practice focusing on using our Divine strengths to transform our desires and intentions into physical manifestation. We will stand witness for one another as we commit to take positive action.

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### Adult Education



Rev. Rick Reich

Spirituing

"Spiritwind" is a study group for Spiritual Adventurers. For the month of June at Spiritwind we will be doing a series titled, "Understanding Scientology." In this series we will be watching both videos that Scientology has put out as well as videos by those who have left Scientology. Spiritwind meets every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Unity of Auburn on 1212 High Street. Love offering accepted

### Women's "Creative Insight" Circle

For this month only meeting on the 4th Saturday
Saturday, June 23rd, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Connect with other women for a day of sharing. Take some time for yourself to creatively play and explore in a safe, loving, fun and reflective environment. Let the creative woman who lives inside bring you insight and greater inner-awareness.

June Theme: Black and White Magic ...
The Contrasts of Life



Eat lunch at a local eatery, bring an addition to our community salad, or bring your lunch. RSVP to: Deborah at 916-652-7709.

Location: imagePathways Gathering Place 461 Main Street, Newcastle, CA 95658



### Frontiers of Consciousness Monday June 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM

Why Buddhism is True Facilitator: Rev. Mark

The field of consciousness studies has expanded rapidly in the last 20 years; however, we seem to be no closer to finding an answer to the question of exactly what consciousness is and how it came to exist. In this class we will study the ideas and theories of leading experts in this fascinating field by watching video presentations followed by discussion.

We will continue to meet every fourth Monday until we have solved the "hard problem of consciousness." Actually, we will probably run out of material to discuss before that happens but who knows where this might lead?

In June we will continue with a series of talks given by Robert Wright, author of the new book *Why Buddhism Is True*. He explores the links between Buddhist philosophy and what we have learned about human consciousness through neuroscience and evolutionary psychology. The Buddha's diagnosis of the human condition and his prescription find strong support from those disciplines.

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# Special Events

### Sisters of the Good

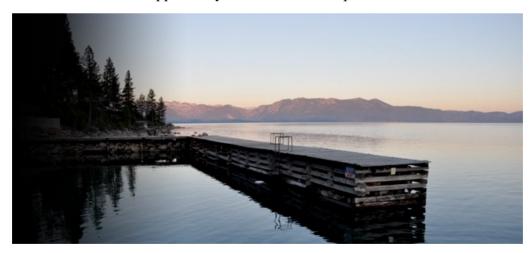
We are taking a hiatus in June *except* for June 13th when we will celebrate June birthdays.

In July, we will begin watching the Grace and Frankie series. We will also celebrate July birthdays on the 11th. Once we finish the series, we will look at TED talks or other interesting Youtube videos for the rest of the summer.

All women are welcome to attend. A love offering will be accepted. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

# **Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe June 15-17. 2018**

Let's join together as a community to explore all the activities at Zephyr Point or take time for yourself in silence and meditation. This is an opportunity to bond with our spiritual brothers and sisters.



If you've been thinking about coming there is still room for one female and one male.

## **Also, DAY PASSES ARE AVAILABLE!**

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### Message from our Board of Directors

#### **Going Back Again**

Perhaps it is my stage in life. I find myself reflecting on years gone by very frequently. Last time I wrote for the N newsletter I spoke of our trip back to Ireland and of meeting with long lost family members — truly an inspirational time of my life. This May, Doug Devine and I had the opportunity to return to our military "roots" at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Both of us served there as young Marines during the 1960s, over 50 years ago. We went to witness the Marine Corps' RECON Challenge. It was Doug's first time and my sixth, making the trip down.

The respect that we received from the young Marines and their families was beyond description and very humbling. We were there to witness and observe a 24 mile marathon over the hills of the base, with over 5000 feet of elevation change throughout the entire run. The challenge included a 1000 meter swim (0.6 Mile) in the open Pacific Ocean and all participants were loaded with 50 - 60 pounds of gear. There were other challenges, too: the  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile fireman's carry, wrestling a tractor tire (6 feet tall) into and out of a swimming pool (to the bottom and then the surface of the 15' deep end), and shooting three different weapons for range and accuracy.



Brennan Toohey

You probably get the idea where the name CHALLENGE comes from. The entire run took the fastest team over 13 hours and, of the 42 teams that started, all finished — some taking over 16 hours. More than a test of physical strength, the challenges test mental strength. These men train for the unexpected and have set no limits as to what they are capable of. Each team of two Marines carried the "dog tags" of one of our fallen brothers. At the end of the Challenge they hung the tags on a rifle handle and took a moment to reflect on their brother whom they had just carried. Very emotional.

Doug and I were re-immersed in the tradition that had shaped us as young men and had helped set a course for the rest of our lives. Witnessing the traditions inherent to being a marine, we were both awash with pride and awe. The old saying "Once a Marine, always a Marine" was strongly internalized. The Marine Corps motto is "Semper Fidelis" ("Semper Fi"), meaning "ALWAYS FAITHFUL" and all of the Marines I know live to this standard.

Both Doug and I had emotions surface that were buried for over 50 years. We both were in our element and very comfortable being with the young Marines of today. Additionally, we were struck with the quality of the young men that make up today's Marine Corps.

# Board of Directors



# Staff

### **Board of Trustees**

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Karen and Mark Schindler	Co-Ministers
Lynn Liddell	Licensed Unity Teacher
Marra P. Swan	Licensed Unity Teacher
Mary Lou Banahan	Youth and Family Leader
Ken Kligerman, AFM	Keyboard/Piand
Mary Lou BanahanYout	h and Family Ministry Leader

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
					1 Office Closed	2
3 10:00 am Celebration Service 10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry	4 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	5 Noon Prayer	6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	7 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	8 Office Closed	9
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17 FATHERS DAY  Zephyr Cove Retreat Ends  10:00 am Celebration Service  10:00 am Youth and Family Ministry  11:30 am Prayer Circle	18 Noon Prayer Yoga 4 pm	19 Noon Prayer	20 Noon Prayer 6:30 pm A Course in Miracles	21 Noon Prayer 6:00 pm Spiritwind	22 Office Closed	23 Women' Insight 0
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Unity of June

### **Unity of Auburn**

Offering practical, spiritual teachings that empower abundant and meaningful living!

1212 High Street Auburn, CA 95603

Phone: 530-888-6489

Email: admin@unityofauburn.com Pray with Silent Unity: 800-669-7729

### Join our Facebook pages:

Unity of Auburn
Unity of Auburn Events
Unity of Auburn-High Street Thrift and Gift

#### Lessons and Soloists

### June 2018 Talk Titles

June 3, 2018

Talk: Enlightened Again Soloist: Elizabeth Gillogly

June 10, 2018

Talk: Reason And New Thought

Soloist: Brenda Boston

June 17, 2018

Talk: Forgiveness: The True Meaning of Love

Soloist: Rev. Rick Reich

June 24, 2018

Talk: The Challenges Ahead For Humankind

Soloist: Dennis Cain

Note: You can watch our talks on Youtube...go to unityofauburn.com, click on "Sunday Lessons on Youtube."



### Here comes the sun ...

- George Harrison



To donate: Bring good quality clean items when the shop is open.

Reduce ... Recycle ... Reuse

Check us out on Facebook: Unity of Auburn - High Street Thrift and Gift

Unity of Auburn

### 1212 High Street Thrift & Gift Shop

Hours Open:

Monday—Thursday 10:00am-4:00pm Sometimes Open Fri, Sat & Sun 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (if we have volunteers)

We are in need of volunteers and donations! Sign up at Unity Central