

Christmas is magical. People open their hearts to each other. They look beyond their everyday world to one that is filled with generosity, joyful music, and gifts of love. In the midst of winter, the light of love touches us all with hope and joy. What is this light that has brightened so many lives for so long?

It is the hope that was born with the Christ child. The promise the angels sang about, “peace on earth and good will to all.” The birth of the Christ child

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

is the awakening in humankind of the knowledge that through the power of love we do create a brighter day, a generous blessed life and that through our

hearts we uplift the world together. As we visit this sacred story again, share the gifts of love and heart connection, let this Christmas be the birth of a new and greater light within our hearts. A very merry Christmas from my heart to yours.

—Rev. David McArthur



Upcoming Special Services



Christmas Eve Family Service • 5:30 pm

Our Unity children have created a very special service for you this Christmas. Parents and children will greet you as you enter and joyous Christmas carols will begin our time together. The children have a special play to remind us of the deeper meaning of the Christmas story. If you would like your heart to be truly open this Christmas, watch as the young ones light their candles and hold them high acknowledging that the Christ light shines in them. Your heart will know that sacred light shines in you as well.

Christmas Day (Sunday) • 11:30 am only

On this special day, when families gather together to share the joy of Christmas, we will hold one very unique service for our spiritual family. It will be a very different Sunday, a time of Christmas celebration, even Santa (whom Rev. David keeps reminding us is a God symbol) may join us. Our children are invited to join us in the sanctuary, as this really is for our whole spiritual family.

Christmas Eve Service • 8:00 pm

Sacred music both joyous and profound will embrace you as we celebrate this holy night together. The music will call angels to join us and you will feel the touch of their peace on your heart. We will feel the thrill again as we hear the ancient story that is about a birth that is taking place in our hearts this Christmas. Our candle lighting is about one of the most profound and beautiful of all spiritual revelations—the awareness of Divine Love living in your heart.

New Year's Eve Burning Bowl • 7:00 pm

It's time to let go! Let go of all those concerns from your past year. Burn them up. Release them. Attend our New Year's Eve Burning Bowl service and enter the new year without the baggage of the old one. Then create what you want for the New Year. Intend the new, write it down and we will hold it until it is sent to you well into your year to remind you of the new creation you will be bringing forth.

For more complete details concerning the information in this newsletter, please see our website.



Upcoming Events

Popcorn with Purpose (Movie Night!)

Friday, December 2, 7:00 – 11:00 pm

Our film this month is *Wild Horse from Shangri-la*. The theme of this wonderful film is community. When Wild Horse discovers his little sister needs expensive medication to live, he decides to try to win a marathon in a distant city for the cash prize. First, Wild Horse must run for three days through rural Shangri-la to get to the starting line. The film is in Mandarin with English subtitles.

Grief Basics with Beth Bottorff-Seidenspinner

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Love Offering

This class will offer a brief introduction to the grieving process. We'll explore the nature of grief, the pathway through the grieving process and reflect on how we can use grief as a doorway to deepen our relationship with Spirit. It will also be an opportunity to cultivate awareness for the Service of Remembrance on Tuesday, December 13, 7:30 pm, hosted with Reverend David. The service is a special way to honor and include everyone we love in the holiday season.

Warm Clothes Drive

Sundays, December 4-18

We are collecting socks, caps, gloves and coats to keep our homeless neighbors warm this winter. You're also invited to donate McDonald's \$5 gift cards or cash to purchase needed items. Bring your donations to the Sanctuary foyer on the following Sundays: December 4 - 18.

Homeless Lunch

Saturday, December 10, 9:30 am

Come share the spirit of the holidays with our community. We will be preparing and serving a magnificent meal at the Martinez Shelter. We will also sing Christmas Carols during the meal to spread the holiday spirit. If interested please contact, Lani at 925-705-2924.

Spirit in Action Network (SIAN) Meeting Change

If you're in business, mark these dates on your 2011 calendar, December 12 & 26, 5:00 pm. SIAN, "a business network like no other," which meets right here at Unity of Walnut Creek and is based on Universal Law Spiritual Principles, is moving its meeting. We're holding it at the end of the typical business day to make it easier to just incorporate it in before heading to evening activities or home. And it won't compete with your Chamber activities either. Networking has become a crucial part of developing business. Look for great spiritual and business tips & tools; and if you really want to jump start a higher flow of prosperity, come participate in our referral game. When? 2nd & 4th Mondays, 5:00-6:30 pm at Unity of Walnut Creek. Bring business cards & flyers. Cost: \$10/meeting. To sign up for updates: www.meetup.com/spirit-in-action-network <<http://www.meetup.com/spirit-in-action-network>>

Unity Christmas Party

Saturday, December 10, 7:00 – 11:00 pm

Walnut Creek Civic Center

\$20/person if purchased in advance; \$25 at the door

Join in this festive season to celebrate and socialize with your Unity Community as we eat and dance to a wonderful DJ and great music from the last 50 years! Sign up Sundays to help make this even more fun for you. Your Christmas Party ticket team will be on the patio to get your involvement in two ways: 1. You can volunteer to: decorate, greet and take tickets, put out food, bartend, or clean up. The shifts are short and if everyone attending takes one time slot for one job, it will be so cool. 2. We also need to know if you will be bringing either your favorite hors d'oeuvre or favorite dessert to share.

Tickets will be on sale on the patio on Sundays and in the Book Center Monday through Thursday. This will be a sell-out event for all of the adults at Unity. Come in dressy attire.

Joyful Traditions

Family Dickens Fair

Sunday, December 18, 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Here ye! Here ye! The holidays are here and all is well! 'Tis the season for merriment and fun! Come back in time to Christmas Past. Enjoy Christmas cheer, gift making, holiday treats, games and dancing. Join the children as they celebrate the blessings of the holidays. Please bring your favorite holiday treat to share with one and all.

Christmas Caroling at The Kensington

Tuesday, December 20, 6:30-8 pm

Meet at the Unity parking lot

Friends and family are invited to share the spirit of the season through song with our neighbors at The Kensington Senior Living.





December Calendar of Events

Ongoing Events

Mondays

Communication Coaching Group *with Newt Bailey*.. 10:30 am
 Nia *with Kathy Bate*..... 10:30 am
 HeartMath Study Groups (closed groups) 7:00 pm

Tuesdays

Course in Miracles *with Linda Goldey*..... 10:30 am
 HeartMath Study Group (closed group)..... 7:00 pm
 Insight Meditation *with Ernie Isaacs* 7:30 pm

Wednesdays

Nia (3rd Wed. of the month)..... 5:30 pm
 Nic-Anon 6:30 pm
 Women of Wonder (3rd Wed. of the month)..... 6:30 pm
 Creative Spirits **Cancelled**..... 7:00 pm
 Healing Night (1st Wed. of the month)..... 7:00 pm

Thursdays

Sheng Zhen healing qigong *with Alison Tucker*..... 10:30 am
 HeartMath Study Group (closed group)..... 7:00 pm
 Sheng Zhen qigong *with Alison Tucker*..... 5:30 pm
 Choir Rehearsals 7:30 pm

Fridays

Office closed
 A Course in Miracles *with Garrett (no meetings in Dec)* ... 7:00 pm

Saturdays

Prepare homeless bag lunches (see note below).....9:00 am
 Toni Roberts (2nd Saturday of the month).....10:00 am
 Facilitated HeartMath Group *with Ciel Gierke* **Cancelled**....10:00 am

2012 Weekday Workshops
Put the Dates on Your (Vacation) Calendar

Be Peace Workshop • March 12-15 • Peacefully create a world that works for all

SEE Week (Spiritual Education and Enrichment) • July 30- August 3 • Unity Educational Classes

Sundays

Sunday Services 8:00 (Meditative), 9:30 and 11:30 am
 Laughter Yoga (2nd Sunday of the month)..... 10:45 am
 Poetry Group (1st Sunday of the month)..... 1:00 pm
 Awakening the Dreamer (2nd Sunday of the month) 2:00 pm
 Drumming Circle (3rd Sunday of the month) 5:00 pm
 Urantia Study Group (2nd, 4th Sunday of the month).....6:30 pm

December

Friday 2nd

Popcorn with Purpose (Movie Night!)..... 7:00 pm

Sunday 4th

Grief Basics with Beth Seidenspinner-Bottorff 2:00 pm
 De-Stress Workshop with Ciel Gierke 7:00 pm

Saturday 10th

Homeless Lunch Preparation 9:30 am
 Christmas Party at Walnut Creek Civic Center 7:00 pm

Tuesday 13th

Remembrance Service 7:30 pm

Sunday 18th

Christmas Choir Special Service.....9:30 & 11:30 am
 Family Dickens Fair 1:00 pm

Tuesday 20th

Christmas Caroling at The Kensington..... 6:30 pm

Saturday 24th

Christmas Eve Family Service..... 5:30 pm
 Christmas Eve Service 8:00 pm

Sunday 25th

One service only 11:30 am

Saturday 31st

Burning Bowl Service..... 7:00 pm

The Homeless Lunch Program is making meals and serving 2-4 times a month, but not on regular intervals. Please call James Choate at 925.735.1421 or email him at jameschoate@sbcglobal.net for further information.

New Groups Forming

Men's Group

Sunday, December 18, 1:00 pm

We are a connected, inclusive group of men manifesting male spiritual development, and exploring our balance and power. Through our service to Unity and other activities, we create a space for bonding and fellowship. Starting in January, we'll be meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Single's Group

Friday, January 13

We are forming a new singles group focused on Unity principles. We envision it as a place to form warm, caring, heart-based friendships, community, and new connections. Look for more information in the January Centerpoint and mark Friday, January 13 on your calendar for the first meeting.



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December 2011 Centerpoint

More Upcoming Special Services

Remembrance Service

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 7:30 pm • Love Offering

As joy-filled as the Christmas season is for us in many ways, it is often a time when we feel most strongly the loss of those dear to our hearts who were special to our lives and to Christmases in the past. Our Remembrance Service is a time to honor those who are no longer able to share in our Christmas on this earthly plane. You are invited to bring your memories of someone dear to you—bring a picture, a favorite story—light a candle and honor the place that wonderful person holds in your heart. Rev. David and Beth Bottorff-Seidenspinner will lead us in a simple service of sharing. Both tears and laughter are welcome.

Christmas Choir Special Service

Sunday, December 18, 9:30 & 11:30 am

Our musical Christmas unfolds with our wonderful Joyful Noise Choir bringing the Christmas message alive for us through music. Experience the beauty of Christmas in celebrating this experience of Divine Light entering the consciousness of humankind. Capturing this universal truth through music, we touch the Christ Light being born in us and around the world. Don't miss this very special experience.



Please like us on Facebook • www.facebook.com/unityofwalnutcreek

Rev. David McArthur, Senior Minister • Susan Galvan, Assistant Minister

How to Reach Us:

Office (925) 937-2191 and office@unitycenter.net

Prayer Requests (925) 937-2191

Silent Unity / Unity Village, MO (800) 669-7729

(24 Hour Prayer) (816) 969-2000

Business Hours: Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; closed Friday

Daily Meditation: Monday - Thursday 12:00 pm - 12:15 pm

Retail Book Sales: Sunday 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Sunday Morning Service: 8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Sunday Morning Youth Education: Infants–13yrs: 9:30 and 11:30
Uniteens (Middle School)& Y.O.U. (High School): 11:30 only