



# In Unison



The monthly newsletter of Unity in the Olympics

June 2017

## Religious Assumptions

By Rev. Kathleen McKern Verigin

Someone told me that there are fifty churches in our new home town of McMinnville, Oregon. That's a lot of worship centers given our modest population of 33,000. Upon our arrival last September, I thought it would be easy to find an open, inclusive and liberal congregation to join. This because our county skews conservative while the town of McMinnville skews liberal. After some research, the community that stood out was First Baptist Church. Baptist? Eeegads, I thought, I wouldn't be caught dead in a Baptist church. But then I kept noticing in our bi-weekly newspaper events that FBC sponsored. Like the former mayor of Silverton, a trans woman, speaking last September about LGBTQ rights. At a Baptist church?

As I began to meet spiritual women who share my passion for earth-based and feminine respected spirituality, I again heard positive things about First Baptist Church. One woman said, "If you're looking for liberal church, go check it out." I was hesitant and put the idea on hold. Until I met my new chiropractor.

I noticed on his bio that his wife is the pastor at First Baptist Church. A coincidence? As I got to know the doctor, who himself seemed open minded and open hearted, I mustered the courage to inquire. He had all good things to say, reminding me that FBC is American Baptist, not Southern Baptist. I had no idea there was a difference! I thought all Baptists were holy rollers and conservatives, with closed minds and hearts. Wasn't that loving of me?

## Comparison of Southern Baptist & American Baptist Beliefs

By Janet Mulroney Clark

*"Southern Baptists follow a statement of beliefs contained in "The Baptist Faith and Message" as a guide for following Christ's teachings. American Baptists embrace individualized worship not bound by creeds or statements of belief. They encourage diversity of thought in allowing a Christian to interpret scripture and develop a relationship with God."*



The next Sunday found me at the First Baptist Church, sitting in a pew at the 11:00am contemporary service. It felt good to be there. Nothing offended me. Believe me, I tried to find reasons to be offended to confirm my righteous condemnation of all Baptists. It was then that my mind opened and my heart softened. I'd lived my whole life believing Baptists were bad, separate from My Loving God, and not worthy of my presence.

The word Baptist means "...one who baptizes." At that first service I attended, I left feeling baptized, cleansed and forgiven for my error thinking. I was made whole again. My judgment was gone. I've returned a few times and each time my heart softens more. Bottom line, I love and respect all beings who pursue a spiritual path that embraces and practices the religion of kindness, love and inclusivity. I don't care if it's Baptist, Buddhist or Bahá'í.

*Continued on Page 4*



*Thank you to the angel who  
donated \$1000 to the  
Building Fund*

*We know you enjoy the talents you  
share and we are grateful that you  
share them here at UITO.  
Blessings!*

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Justin Ruddick
- 5<sup>th</sup> Brianna Hughes
- 7<sup>th</sup> Patrick Adams
- 15<sup>th</sup> Kane Swanson
- 16<sup>th</sup> Kim Hughes

**Enjoy life. It's a gift.  
Unwrap it with  
Gratitude and Love.**

*Happy Birthday!*



## MISSION STATEMENT

Unity in the Olympics provides an accepting place in which to experience the Peace, Love, and Oneness of the Christ within so that we may more fully express these gifts in the world.

## UNITY IN THE OLYMPICS

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**Office Hours: Mon. & Wed., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

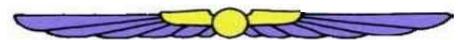


## SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Meditation 10:00 - 10:15 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Fellowship time following service

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Teia Stitzel, President  
Duane Morris, Vice President  
Janice Wyman, Secretary  
Kim Perkins, Treasurer  
Charles Mawson, Trustee  
Flora Todt, Trustee  
Erik Simpson, Trustee

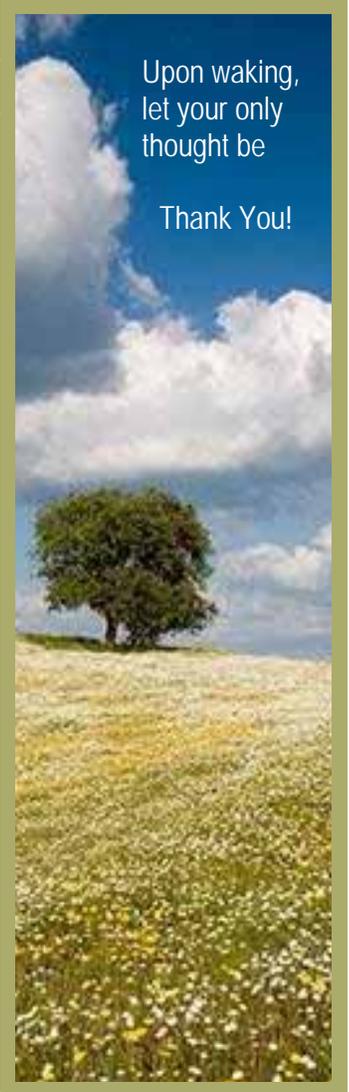


## LICENSED UNITY TEACHER

Margaret Denstad

## Our Church Finances

April Income		April Expenses	
Tithes/Offerings	\$ 3763.00	Advertising & Promotion	\$ 31.43
Rental Income	300.00	Bank Service Charge	4.95
Book/Lit Sales	10.30	Building Repairs	*1491.16
Classes & Workshops	55.00	Computer & Internet	42.95
Special Events	0.00	Copy Machine	235.02
Misc. Income	46.00	Board Training	300.00
		Guest Speakers & Music	850.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 4174.30</b>	Insurance Expense	187.26
		Janitorial & Lawn Care	130.00
<b>Tithes (Mar. paid in April)</b>		Payroll	633.04
Silent Unity	\$ 100.00	Property Tax	3.26
Northwest Region	100.00	Office Supplies	22.83
Unity Worldwide Min.	50.00	Telephone	50.55
MANNA	50.00	Tithe Expense	388.00
Hospice	88.00	Utilities	320.82
		Worship Supplies & Misc.	70.00
<b>TOTAL TITHES</b>	<b>\$ 388.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4761.27</b>



Upon waking,  
let your only  
thought be

Thank You!

\* We experienced a net loss in April due to paying for front entry roof repairs directly from operating funds.



**Sunday,  
June 18<sup>th</sup>  
After  
Church**

Eat,  
Drink,  
and  
Wear Stretchy  
Pants



**POTLUCK**



*Continued from Page 1*

In closing, I apologize to all Baptists, and Christians in general, whom I have judged. I forgive myself for my assumptions. This...week, may we all remember that We Are One, and we're all in this together.

Want to learn more about the difference between American and Southern Baptist?  
Check out this website:

<http://classroom.synonym.com/comparison-southern-baptist-american-baptist-beliefs-5797.html>



*Rev. Kathleen has been a guest speaker at UITO. She is the founder of Anam Cara Connections, (Portland, Oregon) a spiritual community and not a religious body which cultivates connections between soul friends (Irish: anam caras) seeking a deeper experience of the Self, the Other, and Community. Kathleen also arranges and guides tours to spiritual sites in Ireland. - <http://anamcaraconnections.com>*

## Possibilities

(As shared on facebook.com)

For all of you who aren't sure, it is possible to be gay and Christian.

It's also possible to believe in God and science.

It is possible to be pro-choice and anti-abortion.

It is equally possible to be a feminist and love and respect men.

It's possible to have privilege and be discriminated against,

to be poor and have a rich life, to not have a job and still have money.

It is possible to believe in sensible gun control legislation and still

believe in one's right to defend one's self, family, and property.

It's possible to be anti-war and pro-military.

It is possible to love thy neighbor and despise his actions.

It is possible to advocate Black Lives Matter and still be pro police.

It is possible to not have an education and be brilliant.

It is possible to be Muslim and also suffer at the hands of terrorists.

It is possible to be a non-American fighting for the American dream.

It is possible to be different and the same.

**We are all walking contradictions of what "normal" looks like.**

**Let humanity and love win.**

(The author is encouraging copy/paste if you like. If you share, only our mutual friends will see the post.)



## The Interfaith Community of Clallam County Invites You to: Listening Circles



**When:** Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 6pm, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11am, Carver Room, Port Angeles Library

**What:** Listening Circles are a type of dialogue that fosters curiosity, compassionate understanding and deeper respect for the experiences of each person present.

**Who:** Members of churches and faith groups, including those not affiliated with a church; followers of spiritual practices, including those who are “spiritual but not religious.” Invite friends. All are welcome.

**Why:** At their best, religions and spiritual traditions inspire billions of people in wise and wonderful ways. Interfaith dialogue, at its best, is people deeply rooted in their own tradition creating a bridge across differences to respectfully share with one another.

**How:** A multi-faith team will facilitate the evening. Participants share their personal understanding and experience on a group topic.

**Topic:** **Faith often changes as we grow older. Are you still the same spiritual or religious person you were as a child? How have your beliefs changed?**

For more information, contact Marilyn Eash at [marilynnoe@msn.com](mailto:marilynnoe@msn.com) or (360)477-0681.

### THE TWELVE POWERS JUNE

The power for this month is **IMAGINATION**

The ability to image, picture,  
conceptualize, envision, dream.

Disciple—Bartholomew

Area of the body—Between the eyes

Color—Light Blue

Affirmation— *I envision good  
unfolding in every area of my life.*

Through our inherent ability to imagine—to envision something beyond where we are presently—transformation of our consciousness becomes possible. Jesus demonstrated the power of imagination perfectly and ultimately became the Christ (the “anointed one”).

*Through the power of my imagination, I envision something greater for me.*

*Rev. Jackie Hawkins*



Active citizenship begins with an envisioning of the desired outcome and a conscious application of spiritual principles.

*Dennis Kucanich*

# Mother's Day at UITO



## NOTES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

The Board met on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Donna Little, Charles Mawson, Kim Perkins, Erik Simpson, Teia Stitzel, Flora Todt and Jan Wyman were present.

**Finances:** The March tithe was \$419.50 (see distribution in next months "Church Finances"). Due to the cut-off date for financial reports for the annual meeting, some April bills were paid in May. Kim will create a log sheet for petty cash users. For monthly financial reports, Kim will be producing a simple profit and loss statement, plus year-to-date with comparison to last year. Budget figures will be added and reviewed quarterly. The Board voted to suspend the mandatory (as previously voted) \$100 per month to each designated fund (Sewer/Building, Minister's Search, Contingency) and continue to make those allocations as funds are available. "Penny Jar" money will be directed to the Scholarship Fund. A tentative fund goal of \$7-10K was set for hiring a minister.

**Administration:** Charles has offered an external drive for backing up files on the computer. Kim volunteered her son to set it up. Kim also has offered to download data files to a thumb drive monthly and take them off campus (so that if anything happened to the building, we would retain computer files). Kim will review and give suggestions for changes to the "Agreement for Use of Church Facilities."

**Outreach:** Airing Sunday sermons on Peninsula Area Public Access TV was discussed. PAPA has video equipment available for rental. Radio spots featuring the Daily Word were also discussed.

**Maintenance:** Earth Tech has been hired to inspect and clean the roof and downspouts quarterly for an annual fee of \$433.60 (including tax).

**Next Board Meeting:** June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30.



## Finding God: A Story for the Young and the Young at Heart

By Alice Alexander

One warm May morning a little boy named Jonathan woke up with a grand idea. He was going to find God. He dressed, brushed his teeth and went downstairs where his mother had breakfast on the table. He ate his breakfast, put his dishes in the sink and informed his mom that he was going out for awhile. He would be home later on but he was going out to find God. His mom smiled, gave him a kiss and waved to him as he started down the steps.



He hadn't been walking very long when he heard a meow and looking to see where it was coming from, he discovered a kitten had gotten stuck in a culvert pipe. He got down on his knees and carefully removed the kitten out from the end of the pipe. He dried the wet kitten off with his coat and put it back on the grass. The kitten meowed and scampered off toward his brothers and sisters.

Well Jonathan kept walking and he spotted an elderly lady who had her arms filled with packages and appeared to be struggling to get down the walk toward her home. Jonathan went up to her and offered to help care her packages and gave her his arm, so he could help her down the street. He took her packages up to her front door and then helped her inside, where he then laid the packages on her counter. The lady thanked Jonathan and gave him a cookie.

Jonathan kept walking and when he looked up at the sky the sun was climbing up toward the top of the sky. Then he noticed a little girl sitting on the sidewalk crying. When he went up to her to see what was wrong, she told him she had lost her favorite doll. Well Jonathan started looking through the grass and along the edge of the sidewalk and lo and behold-there was the doll. The little girl thanked him and went on her way with her doll clutched tightly in her arms.



Well by now, the sun was even higher and Jonathan was sad. He knew he should go back home but he still hadn't found God. So he turned around and trudged sadly down the sidewalk toward his home. When he went up the steps and into the house, his mom noticed he was not smiling. She asked him what was the matter, and he told her he had not been able to find God.



She answered him, "Jonathan, God is within you and he was with you all the times you were helping the kitten, the lady and the little girl. God is always within you and all you have to do to talk to God is go silently within and know that he is there listening to you and encouraging you all your days.

Jonathan thought about that for a moment, and he felt happy, knowing he had really found God and he would always have God without looking.

It is like that with us too. Some days it feels like we need to go somewhere to find God as there are challenges that seem more than we can deal with. If we just allow ourselves to be still and listen to God within us, he will help us solve our problems. He already has the answers; we just need to listen to him.



**AFFIRMATIONS USED BY  
SOCIETY OF SILENT UNITY**

May 20 to June 19, 1937

**Illumination**

*Wise ways are ways of peace:  
The joys of wisdom never cease.*

**Healing**

*God lives in me; no more I pine,  
For love, and health, and joy are mine.*

**Prosperity**

*Perfect love hath quickened me,  
And fears of lack in terror flee.*



For Father's Day...

*TWO PRAYERS*

Last night my little boy confessed to me  
Some childish wrong;  
And kneeling at my knee,  
He prayed with tears—  
"Dear God, make me a man  
Like Daddy—wise and strong;  
I know you can."

Then while he slept  
I knelt beside his bed,  
Confessed my sins,  
And prayed with low-bowed head.  
"O God, make me a child  
Like my child here—  
Pure, guileless,  
Trusting Thee with faith sincere."

ANDREW GILLIES

**CRYSTAL BOWL WORKSHOP**

Fridays 11 am—12 noon

SHIPLEY CENTER

9210 Hammond St.

Sequim, WA

Presenters: Charles Mawson

& Pat Coughlin Mawson



Sponsored by: Creative Changes

**Meditations Guided  
by Jeshua's Words  
as channeled by Judith Coates  
Eva McGinnis, facilitator  
The 2nd & 4th Fridays  
from 7:30—8:30 p.m.**

The focus of the ongoing meditation experience will be to deepen (or start) your meditation practice as you breathe and relax into Jeshua's beautiful healing words. "In this sacred space of Oneness you can reconnect with Spirit energy and experience Jeshua's blessing. As we join together we will create an even more powerful energy of Peace and Love." Judith Coates. (Love offering accepted)



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