

UNITY OF INNER PEACE NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST, 2016

Dear Unity Friends,

With the November election fast approaching, we are being bombarded with both facts and propaganda aimed at getting our vote. The biggest "eye in the sky" however, had to be the recently televised political conventions. In order to be better informed, I was determined to watch as much of both as possible, to listen and weigh the issues and candidates for myself. (Thank heavens for DVR which allowed me to take it in smaller doses and to watch at a time more personally convenient.) Each person got up and expressed their ideal, their reason for being a supporter.

For some reason, this made me think of the ideals of Unity in general, and Unity of Inner Peace in particular. A few years back when this newsletter was actually printed on paper and sent out in the mail, it always had front and center, our Mission Statement. This statement was created by Unity of Inner Peace members participating in a retreat at the Jackson camp on Fish Lake. All contributed, and this was the result:

Unity of Inner Peace is a loving, inclusive community which:

Nurtures the recognition of God within;

Explores and affirms spiritual truths and principles;

Raises awareness of the oneness of all creation and;

Celebrates the joy of God in our everyday lives.

Our vision is a healed world.

Democrat, Republican, or Independent, this is the platform that WE offer and represent, and I for one, am grateful to be a part of this movement.

The Highest Good for All,
Judy

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Aug. 7:

CD and discussion. **Adyashanti, in his own voice.** Continuing the audio series, "Resurrecting Jesus: Embodying the Spirit of a Revolutionary Mystic."

Aug. 14:

CD and discussion. **John O'Donohue, in his own voice.** Continuing the audio series, "The Divine Imagination - Wisdom from the Celtic World."

Aug. 21:

Discussion led by **Sue Schenk-Drobny**. Sue will be selecting an article featured in "Science of Mind " magazine, and leading a discussion on same.

Aug. 28:

Speaker, **Craig Teed**. Subject, "Islam."

*******POTLUCK SUNDAY*******

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) Please, please **mark your calendars!** As we did two years ago, we, along with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Northern Michigan University are sponsoring a day of experiencing the Progressive Mind of retired Episcopal Bishop John Shelby **Spong**. Spong has for years been the catalyst for change in the Episcopal Church and well beyond. His purpose is to save Christianity by ridding it of myths and assumptions, looking at it from a 21st century scientific point of view. This will be the last time Spong will be coming to Marquette, so do consider making this extraordinary opportunity a priority.

Saturday, Sept 10th, 2016 - Can Religion Survive in the 21st Century?

Northern Michigan University, Reynolds Recital Hall

"Biblical Literalism: a Heresy"

1:00-3:00 PM

1 hour of lecture followed by Q & A. Books available for purchase and signing.

Free and open to the public.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

"A New Christianity in a Non-Religious World"

7:00-9:00 PM

1 hour of lecture followed by Q & A. Reception to follow. Books available for purchase and signing.

Open to the public, donations accepted.

As we did last time, Unity will be helping to provide refreshments for the reception. Please sign up with Judy McGowan by e-mail or in person. Thank you for doing your part to make this a success.

2) Unity of Inner Peace has taken a giant step forward in sponsoring **Ann Russ** as a **Celebrant**. What does this mean? Well, members have been making their voices heard about wanting someone available to perform ceremonies in what we would call a Unity style, nothing rote from a book of rituals so to speak, but warm, personal and in modern progressive language. Thus Ann felt the call, stepped up and did 6 months of study with the "Celebrant Foundation and Institute" in order to be certified. She is now prepared to officiate at funerals and memorials. She has already done a few weddings. We all know Ann to be a person of refinement and intelligence, poetic and spiritual in her expression, also displaying a wonderful sense of humor when appropriate. For your records, Ann can be reached at annruss23@gmail.com or [\(906\) 228-1309](tel:(906)228-1309).

PRAYER SUPPORT:

Jim Clumpner, Bob Lamb, Carol Birnbaum Dorit Stilling we see you, we love you and affirm that The Christ is working in and through you for your Highest Good.

If you would like prayer support from our Unity friends and members, please contact Judy McGowan at the e-mail address at the top of this newsletter. For added prayer support, we give our highest recommendation to Silent Unity. 1-800-NOW-PRAY or [1-800-669-7729](tel:1-800-669-7729). They are there specifically to answer your prayer requests day and night, seven days a week.

BIRTHDAYS: A cascade of blessings on each one of you.

Suzie Saari, Aug 2
Brittany Lopez, Aug.15
Lydia Hoff, Aug. 22
Ann Russ, Aug. 26

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 AM Eastern Time. Please check our website at unityofinnerpeace.org or visit our Facebook page at [HTTPS://www.facebook.com/Unity-of-Inner-Peace-918296191554881/](https://www.facebook.com/Unity-of-Inner-Peace-918296191554881/) for further information.

Our Board members are as follows: Judy McGowan, President; Steve Schmunk, Vice President & web master; David McGowan, Treasurer; Ann Russ, Secretary & Facebook page creator. Members at large are Militza Georgevich English, Bob Lamb, Gail Razavi and Bill Waters.

Until next month, blessings.

"Our vision is a healed world."