



a ministry team of
Unity Worldwide Ministries

EarthCare Connections

www.unity.org/earthcare

earthcare@unity.org

Spring 2012

South Central Region Proclaims its Support for EarthCare

At their April meeting, the Board of the South Central Region proclaimed its support for the goals of Unity's EarthCare Team, *to foster conscious spiritual awareness of our oneness and loving co-existence with our earth home for the greatest good of all creation.*

New Earth Care Congregations

Unity of Appleton, Wisconsin is the latest congregation to be certified as an EarthCare Congregation. On November 20, 2011, the congregation and Board adopted an Earth Care Covenant, thus meeting the requirements of Track A of the EarthCare program. Congratulations, Unity of Appleton!

Northwest Region Spiritual Social Action Team Supports EarthCare

At their April conference, the Northwest Regional Board formally approved creation of a Spiritual Social Action Team. One of SSA's goals is the continued support of EarthCare. Congratulations, Northwest Region!

Unity Earth Care (UET) adds four Core Team members

Unity EarthCare is pleased to announce the addition of Beth Remmes, Rev. Paul John Roach, Rev. Phil Smedstad and Rev. Elizabeth Thompson to the UET Core Team.

Beth is a member of Atlanta Unity Church, where she formed an EarthCare Team in 2010. She founded Zola Goods LLC, and speaks to people about easy and affordable changes we can make to help the environment. She has two children, ages 9 and 6, and two grown step-daughters.

Rev. Paul is Senior Minister of Unity Church of Fort Worth, TX, and currently serves as president of the Unity South Central Region. He also hosts "World Spirituality" on the Unity online radio network. A writer and poet, Rev. Paul enjoys walking, bicycling and the natural world.

Rev. Phil is Senior Minister of Unity of the Keys Spiritual Center in Key West, FL. He was ordained in 1976 and has served Unity ministries in Hawaii, New Mexico, Texas, and Connecticut. Rev. Phil is the author of REAL WEALTH and the MY NEXT STEP cards, a self-guided course in transformation. He is committed to living and teaching a sustainable lifestyle.

Rev. Elizabeth is Senior Minister of Unity Church of Sarasota, FL. Her vision and mission is to put our beloved Unity Movement on the map as the cutting edge of Spiritual Growth for the planet. "If there was ever a time in the history of Humanity for each of us to embrace and embody Unity Truth teachings, it is here and now." We are in the midst of a huge evolution, transitioning from Homo Sapiens to Homo Noeticus, the next step in human evolution. It is a glorious time to be alive!"

They join existing Core Team members Kym Farmer, Co-Chair, Ron Habin, Co-Chair, Christ

Church Unity, Orlando, FL, David Cordova, Unity of San Antonio, TX, Rev. Kathy Harwood Long, Peace Unity Church, Clarkston, MI, Sheryl Polikoff, Unity of Windsor, CA and Mike McCord, Unity Church of Overland Park, KS.

The mission of UET is to foster awareness of our spiritual oneness with our Earth home and promote active care of creation through the EarthCare Program.

New Great Lakes Regional EarthCare Coordinator

Reverend Raymond Nelson is the new regional EarthCare Coordinator for the Great Lakes Region. Rev. Ray graduated from Unity Institute and was ordained in June of 2011. He is Associate Minister for Christ Unity of Golden, MN and has a passion for developing leaders both within and outside the church. Ray envisions a consciousness of sustainability as a primary activity of spiritual social action, leading the way to a greater awareness of the Unity and our spiritual centers.

EarthCare Congregation News

Unity Spiritual Center of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, proclaimed, on April 22, 2012, that they join all Unity congregations in fostering a conscious spiritual awareness of oneness and loving co-existence with our earth home for the greatest good of all creation. Following the blessing of shared waters that had been brought from favorite lakes, streams, rivers, etc, the congregation sang the EarthCare Covenant, which had been put to music by Melissa Vargi.

Unity in Marin (UIM), CA, raised \$1,405 to install water efficiency measures, implemented an environmentally sustainable purchasing policy and many environmentally friendly practices. In 2010, UIM became Marin's first faith based Certified Green business. Finally, in April UIM conducted an Earth Day workshop and "Cosmic Consciousness Mediation."

Unity of Beaverton, Oregon, offered the class, "Hunger for Change: Food, Ethics and

Sustainability," in the fall of 2011. They are preparing for another "Love Your Park" days event for their adopted park.

Unity Church of Overland Park, Kansas, proclaimed April "Honor the Earth" month. There were informational tables each Sunday accompanied by continuous showings of "Preach for the Planet" and "The Awakening Universe." The green team participated in Stream Clean Day for the seventh consecutive year and also hosted the movies "Dirt," and "Thrive." Earth Day Sunday services were dedicated to the environment and every child in Youth & Family ministries was given a Lilac bush to plant.

Unity of Atlanta, Georgia, recently completed a 3-part workshop on Ecophysiology, which was based on Joanna Macy's book, "Coming Back to Live: Practices to reconnect our lives, our world."

Christ Church Unity, Orlando, Florida, joined and signed the covenant of the new Sunshine State Interfaith Power and Light Coalition. To celebrate Earth Day, the green team hosted a tent at a downtown celebration where they interacted with hundreds of people who had never before heard of their 71 year old church. Nutritious, healthy food was brought from home to share with congregants and a demonstration of do it yourself aquaponics as well as how to grow your own fruits and vegetables. Finally, attendance was great for the movie; "Forks Over Knives."

Unity of Louisville, Kentucky, partnered with Brightside for spring and fall clean-ups. The Men's Group, teens and even babies joined with the EarthCare ministry to clean up trash in their part of the world.

Unity of Tampa, Florida, raised money for green building improvements by selling handicraft items in the church bookstore. The Green Team has "adopted" streets around the church to maintain and beautify the area.

EarthCare Mentoring

David Cordova, Unity of San Antonio, is the new EarthCare Mentoring Coordinator. Please contact David at davidcordova@msn.com to learn more about creative programs, ideas and activities to help your congregation integrate an earth-oriented spirituality into your ministry.