

Unity Lincoln
P.O. Box 30209
Lincoln, NE 68503

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 319
Lincoln, NE

Blessings To:

«AddressBlock»

*The light of God surrounds us
The Love of God enfolds us
The Power of God protects us
The Presence of God watches
over us.
Wherever we are ...God IS
And all is well.*

July 2020

OUR CORE VALUES

LOVE

We are a nurturing community connecting with all from caring hearts and compassion.

SPIRITUALITY

We consciously connect with Spirit and allow it to guide us. We affirm this Divinity within all creation.

JOY

We delight in and encourage our deeply centered happiness.

GRATITUDE

We recognize, rejoice in, and give thanks for all of God's gifts.

INCLUSIVENESS

We embrace each person as a unique expression of God.

OUR VISION FOR UNITY LINCOLN

- **We have a beautiful facility that is receptive and responsive to the needs and desires of our congregation.**
- **We have an abundance of resources to accomplish our mission with ease.**
- **We support a minister who exemplifies the Unity Principles and our Core Values, with the capacity to recognize and maximize the strengths and talents of congregants and stimulate individual spiritual growth.**
- **We have an equally shared, healthy, and productive relationship between the congregation, board, and minister resulting in effective governance of our community.**
- **We provide transforming and positive programs for people of all ages for increased spiritual development.**
- **We practice our spiritual awakening through service and action within the congregation, community, and beyond.**
- **We are well-known in the Lincoln area as a healthy, thriving, spiritual community that welcomes all.**

Daily Inspiration: Dial-A-Prayer
(402) 476-7172

www.unity.org/prayer/request-prayer

Visit us at www.unitylincoln.org,
email office@unitylincoln.org,

or phone (402) 476-6887



1941 N. 68th
Lincoln, Nebraska

July 2020

MINISTER'S LETTER

Greetings!

The theme for July is "Play" and boy oh, boy can we use some play! So far, 2020 has been a year requiring great effort, diligent ritual (masks, hand washing and distancing), and stalwart service (tithing, staying home and waiting). It seems like the world has been coming apart at the seams.

Today I attended a webinar at Unity Center in San Diego, CA titled: "Dismantling Racism: First Steps Toward Action." The goal is to attain racial literacy. White people can't possibly know the experience that people of color in this country have. We can pay attention and listen, invite people to be in conversation and step up to demand fairness, decency and justice where we witness injustice. We can be learners in this experience and ask people of color to tell us and teach us.

All of the people on the speakers panel agreed that gaining racial literacy is spiritual work – and it is humanitarian work that we are all called to do. In many ways, racial literacy and rights is the entry point for all right action in this country. Racial literacy leads to LGBTQ literacy and rights and Woman's literacy and rights... and, for that matter all rights and literacy!

I have included some articles and writings in this newsletter that I hope you will appreciate. These writings have come from many sources. I very much appreciate Unity Headquarters, Unity Worldwide Ministries, Association of Global New Thought and our church secretary, Sharyl, for bringing them to my attention to share with you. Maya Angelo said: "When we know better, we do better."

Unity Lincoln's Mission Statement is: We are a loving spiritual community consciously choosing to recognize and demonstrate we are God in action.

I invite you to examine your thinking and feelings and ask yourself where you stand. Plato, quoting Socrates is said to have written: "An unexamined life isn't worth living." Well, the panel at my webinar advised, we don't need to look back and certainly don't need to beat ourselves up. We need to start NOW, right now examining what we are thinking and feeling and become aware. Strive to think justly, with good intentions and temper our feelings with truth and decency to be fair and humane to all people... all people. And we need to recognize that we don't know, we don't understand, however... we can learn.

It won't be long now before we will be able to re-open church on a limited basis. Because of our space, we will not be the first and we will not open full throttle. I consider that we all have an investment already of three months in the process of keeping well and not spreading this disease. Staying safe as long as it takes is worth further investment. When we do re-open for Sunday service, it will probably be by registered attendance, with masks and social spacing, without hospitality and fellowship. Be assured that I am vigilant. Each one of you is precious and vulnerable.

I hope you are taking advantage of our presentations on Unity Lincoln YouTube and Unity Lincoln Facebook. Once we re-open, our plan is to continue these programs, though the live times may be adjusted, we will let you know.

Please stay connected and stay safe. Love & Blessings, *REV. TONI*

Unity Lincoln YouTube and Unity Lincoln Facebook

I hope you are taking advantage of our online presentations. Rev. Toni and Rev. Evan are as close as your computer or other device! Wednesday at 6:30pm, **Unity Café** offers an informal conversational service. Sunday at 10:30pm we have our regular service with Svetlana at the piano and Evan with the guitar. Paul does the technology, managing the production. Rev. Evan's Metaphysics Class is at its usual time on Sunday morning at 9 am. All are available on Unity Lincoln YouTube and Unity Lincoln Facebook. Once they are presented live they are available thereafter.

Templeton Grant

Documents have been submitted to apply for the John Templeton Grant for technology for Unity churches. Thanks to Rev. Evan, Paul Fox and Josh Winkelman for putting it all together. Thanks to Rev. Evan for writing the proposal. We should hear back from them by early August. Please hold this in prayer for perfect outcome.

Remember Best Choice & Clearly Brand

Save the labels of Best Choice and Clearly Brand products. Be sure to save the UPC portion (proof of purchase). The Save-A-Label program is an extremely successful program, which helps non-profit organizations raise money.

Currently, there are over 8,900 non-profit groups in the AWG trade area that participate in the program. Unity Lincoln is one of them! We earn \$.03 for each Best Choice UPC symbol redeemed, with a minimum of 1,000 labels required for redemption. Help make your purchases work for us.



Meditation for Peace

Perhaps we fail to experience peace because we expect it to appear in a vacuum – no activity, no noise, no distractions. Consider the whales who live peacefully in the ocean – they are always moving; they sing and dance through the waves, and yet they are at peace. Perhaps we could be more like whales, moving with the waves of life, singing our gratitude for nature and for life, joyful in just being. Surely, such a heart would be at peace. Surely, such peace would be infectious. Why not give it a try?

Please take 15-20 minutes to sing the whales' song in your own heart and mind, and then watch the waves of peace ripple out.

Love and blessings,
Rev. Sharri



One Heart Retreat Center
185 White Acres Lane
Marshall, AR 72650

What if?

Words of Wisdom from Leslie Dwight:

- What if 2020 isn't cancelled? What if 2020 is the year we've been waiting for?
- A year so uncomfortable, so painful, so scary, so raw that it finally forces us to grow.
- A year that screams so loud, finally awakening us from our ignorant slumber.
- A year we finally accept the need for change. Declare change. Work for change. Become the change.
- A year we finally band together, instead of pushing each other further apart.
- 2020 isn't cancelled, but rather the most important year of them all.

Magic Pennies Report

Keep it up!
You're doing great!



Magic Pennies Accounting

2016	\$132.22
2017	\$615.80
2018	\$290.31
Jan-June 2019	\$117.30
July 2019	\$12.61
August 2019	\$31.38
September 2019	\$14.00
October 2019	\$9.05
November 2019	\$33.27
December 2019	\$8.45
January 2020	\$7.21
	\$1271.60

Unity Lincoln logo t-shirts

now available-see Rev. T
Teal with embroidered white logo -
\$18 each M, L, XL
(others can be ordered pre-pay)
(note on check: T for Building Fund)



Monthly Attendance

	Ave./Sunday
January	22
February	24
March	23

Finances- 2020

Total Income:	\$ 7397
Total Expense:	\$ 4447
Net	\$ 2956
Tithes Given	\$ 660
Classes:	\$ 50
Building Fund:	\$ 911

BOARD MEMBERS



Adeline Mickens,
President



Liane Schmidt,
Vice-President



Janet Carlson,
Secretary



Connie Rose,
Treasurer



Paul Fox,
Member-at-Large



Kathy Hutchinson,
Member-at-Large

BULLETIN BOARD

New Members

Would you like to be a member of Unity Lincoln? We invite you to join us! Are you returning to Unity Lincoln after a time away? We welcome you back!
Kindly RSVP to Unity Lincoln (402) 476-6887 or minister@unitylincoln.org.

Talk to the Board

If you would like to present an item to the Board of Trustees in person, please let a board member know. The Board will then reserve the first 10 minutes of its next monthly meeting to listen to you.

Email List

If you would like to receive emails of breaking news and last-minute schedule changes, send an email to us at office@unitylincoln.org and ask to be added to our weekly email list.

Online Tithing

You can contribute to Unity Lincoln online via the www.unitylincoln.org PayPal account. Log onto <https://www.paypal.com> and send your contribution directly to the Church's Online PayPal account by whatever method you like — credit card, checking account, or savings. Click on "Friends & Family" to waive the Paypal fee so that your entire gift goes to UL.

Ministerial Services Available

Personal and family services including the rituals: marriage, christening, baptism, blessings of various kinds as your heart directs. Memorial services. Counselling by appointment. Call: 402-432-8108. Email: minister@unitylincoln.org. Some services by fee and some on a love offering basis.

When you write to us

Though we are located at 1941 N. 68th St., mail you send us must include our P.O. Box.
Send mail to: Unity Lincoln P.O. Box 30209 Lincoln, NE 68503

To unsubscribe from this Newsletter

Write to us at the above address, or email office@unitylincoln.org. Please refer to the printed Newsletter in your note, with your name and address for confirmation.

Ministry Team Leaders:

- Hospitality—Dee Tonniges, Liane Schmidt
- Leadership/Coaching—Kris Thaller
- Licensed Unity Teacher—Rev. Evan Coleman
- Music—Rev. Evan Coleman
- Prayer—Connie Rose
- Recording Team—Paul Fox, Bob Kaenel, Connie Rose, Janet Carlson, Adeline Mickens
- SCRIP—Paul Fox
- Website—Paul Fox, Rev. Evan Coleman
- Worship Team—Carol Cunningham
- Worship Leaders—Fred Berry, Merry Ford, Kris Thaller, Rene Eveland

Staff:

- Minister—Rev. Toni Stephens Coleman
- Associate Minister—Rev. Evan Coleman
- Speaker—Rev. Fred Berry
- Music Director—Rev. Evan Coleman
- Pianist—Svetlana Yashirin
- Office—Sharyl Klawitter

UWM's Diversity Statement

We recognize and honor the Divine within as the one common denominator that we share on our human journey.

The living heart of Unity understands and manifests its support of this Divinity by recognizing there is inherent good in all people. Unity Worldwide Ministries, its members and affiliates, welcome with love all people in every form of God’s creation, regardless of how that creation presents itself.

It is the intent that Unity organizations are inclusive and non-discriminatory. We honor all components that contribute to the diversity of community. We affirm and support Unity principles and programs that manifest diversity in our teachings, policies, buildings and within our communities. We are resolute in walking the course of human rights and social justice for all. —August 2016

Unity's Statement of Social Action Position

Webster defines the word “unity” as “the state of forming a complete and pleasing whole....” At this time in the evolution of the planet and the lives of human beings upon it, the task of “forming a complete and pleasing whole” is the imperative for positive evolution and harmonious existence for all.

This perspective has seemingly been lost—our wholeness, our oneness, our same-ness as a human race. We must now remember more than ever, that we have much more in common than that which divides us.

The Unity movement stands for and will tirelessly work for harmony so all people may know the freedom of peaceful expression; so they may know their own inner worth and essential contribution to the whole of life.

Where there are divisions of opinions, beliefs and perspectives, Unity embraces curiosity, exploration and expanded awareness of the gifts of diversity.

Where there is fear of “the other,” Unity stands for inclusivity and peaceful acceptance of another’s right to create the life of his or her choosing.

Where there is oppression and hatred, we stand for justice and understanding, and for extending compassion, kindness and forgiveness to restore balance.

Where there is discrimination, we stand for inclusivity and equality. We pledge to be an advocate for the wellbeing, respect and civil freedom of every human being.

Any proposal or action that seeks to discriminate against individuals or classes of individuals based on prejudiced, stereotypic profiles of national origin, class, creed, race, ethnicity, physical ability, sexual orientation or gender identity is in opposition to the core beliefs and values established by our founders.

We choose Unity. In harmony with the divine Spirit we stand, so we may live in a spiritually awakened world that is continually evolving.

This is our prayer and our decree. Through our actions, we let it be. #ChooseUnity

A Prayer for the Wounded Heart of Humanity

We call upon God’s Love in this important moment,
knowing that Divine Love is the greatest power in the Universe.

We pray for the wounded heart of humanity
as we grieve, rage, cry, and despair over injustice and inequity.

May Divine Love enfold and comfort everyone who is hurting.

May Divine Wisdom guide each person and institution in taking inspired action
to ensure that all are celebrated for their inherent goodness as a part of God’s creation.

May we remain resolute in walking the course of human rights and social justice for all.

HISTORY OF BLACK LIVES MATTER

1. BLACK LIVES MATTER (BLM) IS ABOUT LOVE

Black Lives Matter started with a love letter written after the following event: In 2012, 17-year-old, unarmed Trayvon Martin was killed by George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch person who felt Trayvon, walking home after buying a pack of Skittles at a nearby service station, was ‘out of place’ in the middle-class area. Zimmerman was acquitted for all charges.

2. BLM WAS A THING BEFORE IT WENT VIRAL

In 2013, steadily and strategically, the co-founders started to build the scaffolding of a nationwide on-the-ground political network due in part to other sad events.

On August 9th, 2014, just a few weeks after Eric Garner died in a NYPD officer’s chokehold in New York City, Mike Brown, an unarmed black teenager, was killed by twelve police bullets in Ferguson, St Louis. Police left his body in the street for four and a half hours, steps away from his mother’s house.

And so many others have been lost. Most recently: George Floyd, Breona Taylor, David McAtee, James Scurlock, Chris Beaty, Dorian Murrell, Ahmaud Arbery, and the list goes on.

3. BLM IS ABOUT MORE THAN ‘JUST’ POLICE BRUTALITY

Black Lives Matter is an intervention.

It is an affirmation of the value of Black life, and a condemnation of the racism that devalues it. Black Lives Matter demands that American society reconsider how it values black lives by identifying where and how black life is cut short, whether in viral videos of police brutality, the self-fulfilling prophecy of the criminal justice system, or in areas where black communities disproportionately face homelessness, poverty, lack of medical care and economic disparity.

4. BLM IS ABOUT A THING CALLED ORGANIZING

Protests are just one tool in a big toolbox of tactics for change.

BLM’s disruptive actions and protest strategies are modern and bold, and regularly make media headlines. But while protests may get lots of media attention, *organizing* is what builds sustainable, resourced movements. Organizing includes creating space to re-imagine what a fair and just society looks like, and to develop political thinking and ideas.

5. BLM IS NOT JUST A #HASHTAG, IT’S A GLOBAL NETWORK

For Alicia, Patrisse and Opal, #BlackLivesMatter was never meant to be ‘just’ a hashtag or social media meme. Long before the protests that grabbed the world’s attention, the Co-Founders started to organize people across the country and the globe.

6. BLM IS LEADERFUL

Many people have called Black Lives Matter the civil rights movement of a new generation. There is a great deal of nostalgia in comparisons with the civil rights movement of the 1960s, but if it’s up to the Network, this movement will look very different: a decentralized movement from the bottom-up; a movement that encourages different voices to emerge and shape their leadership based on experiences and needs rooted in the community they organize.

Black Lives Matter History Cont.

7. ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER

The Black Lives Matter Global Network was founded on the values of inclusivity and love. The Founders want the faces of this movement to reflect the change they strive towards in their own communities, which is that all black lives matter, regardless of their gender, class, sexual orientation, or age.

8. BLM DOES NOT SAY THAT ONLY BLACK LIVES MATTER

When people counter Black Lives Matter’s call for justice with the phrase “all lives matter,” there is undoubtedly a fallacy in this response. While all lives should matter, this is a utopian view since we do not currently live in a world where all lives are equal. The statement “Black lives matter” is not an anti-white proposition. It is a statement of inclusion rather than exclusion. Only when Black lives matter will all lives matter.


9. BLACK LIVES MATTER FIGHTS INJUSTICE EVERY DAY

Organizers are taking the fight to their own backyards, organizing people in local communities, having courageous conversations with people who would not otherwise have courageous conversations with us, or encouraging our allies to have those conversations in our stead.

10. Black Lives Matter

We are seeing changes in our community but it has come at a cost: lives, property, pain, sorrow. This is about love not politics, acceptance not division. We need to embrace the change and help it grow as the love of God grows in our hearts, to reach out to each other in this and all times.



<h1>July 2020</h1>						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Garden Group 11 - 4 6:30 pm Unity Café	2	3	4 
5 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Heroes 11:45 am	6	7 Friends Book Club 6pm Starts up	8 Garden Group 11 - 4 6:30 pm Unity Café	9	10	11
12 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Of Love and Light 11:45 am Prayer Service	13	14 Friends Book Club 6pm	15 Garden Group 11 - 4 6:30 pm Unity Café	16	17	18 Garden Group Work day 9:00-Noon Summer Solstice
19 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service The Garden of the Mind 11:45 am	20	21 Friends Book Club 6pm	22 Garden Group 11 - 4 6:30 pm Unity Café	23	24	25
26 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Embrace Humanity 11:45 Prayer Service	27	28 Friends Book Club 6pm	29 Garden Group 11 - 4 6:30 pm Unity Café	30	31	