

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 319
Lincoln, NE



1941 N. 68th
Lincoln, Nebraska

June 2021

Blessings To:

*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.*

«FirstName» «LastName»
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June 2021

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.

Please join us at [Facebook.com/UnityLincoln](https://www.facebook.com/UnityLincoln)

Or Unity Lincoln [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Visit us at www.unitylincoln.org,

email office@unitylincoln.org,

or phone (402) 476-6887

www.unity.org/prayer/request-prayer

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.

MINISTER'S LETTER

Greetings Friends! Looking at the calendar, please find several activities as we begin to open the doors to vaccinated, healthy people – on your honor, please.

Welcome home to Unity Lincoln! We are still sorting out equipment and flow patterns in the building, so please bear with us. Sundays may be interesting for a while. Our first pot luck in the building will be Father's Day after church. Our first movie, June 24th is a great one – don't miss it! Our Annual Business Meeting was fun and successful last week. Please consider signing up for a team to help with ushering and other service opportunities.

In June we celebrate the life of our friend and member, John Jones. You will find many wonderful memories and thoughts about him below and throughout the newsletter.

Our Friend John Jones

During his lifetime John Jones called Gardner, KS, Elmwood, NE and Lincoln, NE. home. He made his transition December 26, 2020 at the age of 83. Family and all his many friends miss him greatly.

We love and agree with what the family wrote about John: "Dad, Grandpa, mentor, friend, author, world traveler, and lover of God, family, friends and movies....Our hearts grieve with his passing."

After a lifetime of generosity, spiritual exploration and commentary on life, his final year and a half was very difficult. Losing his ability to drive safely, moving several times, each time releasing his life's treasures, memories, and dreams was challenging and confusing. Losing his freedom of movement and the Covid-19 shutdown just added to the hardship.

John was born on July 28, 1937 in Gardner Kansas. He was an only child for 12 years when the family was blessed with his brother, Stan and then, a sister, Patricia. Perhaps John was such a life observer because of the arrival of siblings as he entered his teen years? A tall man with good physical strength, John played and lettered in basketball at Gardner HS and graduated as Senior Class President in 1955.

Many people know John as a grocery man. Beginning his career in the family store in Gardner, John went on to work most of his life in management in the grocery business in and around Lincoln, NE.

John was a family man. Together with his beloved wife, Carroll, they had five children. John missed Carroll incredibly after she passed before him. Today he has 12 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. He easily included his church friends into his heart family.

An avid story teller, observer and commentator, Unity Lincoln transcribed and printed John's stories for many years in the church newsletter. Finally, a few years ago he had them compiled into two books: *This I Believe I & II*. Rev. Toni likened John's stories to the writings of Mark Twain and Garrison Keillor, astute observations of people and life. The books are available through the family.

John was a fellow peacenik. In addition to being a faithful member of Unity Lincoln church, he was a member of Peacekeepers International and Nebraskans for Peace. Enclosed you will find many memories submitted by friends at Unity Lincoln. John, we appreciate you, we love you, we miss you and we behold the Christ in you. God bless you in your ongoing soul's journey. ~ With love, Rev. T

Remembering John Jones:

From Rev. Toni Stephens Coleman – I looked forward to seeing John every Wednesday for over five years when we prayed together for an hour then had lunch. I like to think that our mid-week prayer anchored the church. At lunch, he liked sharing bites of his peanut butter sandwich with our little dog, Miss Mali. John was always ready to help and joined me many times with little things that needed four hands! When we moved to Lincoln, John helped us move twice and then, of course, he helped the church move into its new home. He worked to stay fit. I will always remember the first time I met him, many years ago when Evan and I came up to serve on Sunday and taught a class. John was a lanky, tall man with a silver ponytail and lots of questions and opinions. Bless you, John.

From Rev. Evan Coleman – John was one of the most committed students for my Sunday morning class. The only times I remember him not in attendance was for a few vacation road trips. He always participated in class discussions and blessed us with his wisdom and understanding. Most of the time, John was at church before 9:00am when my class started. He had already swept the front steps (or shoveled them in the winter.) John also volunteered to taxi people who wanted to attend class but didn't have transportation. John liked to present himself as a curmudgeon, but he had a heart of gold behind that sometimes-crusty exterior. We will miss you, John.

From Rev. Sharri Johnson - John almost always sat right behind me and Kirk, so I always heard him singing. I was amazed that such a lovely voice wasn't in the choir, but when I asked, he didn't think he was 'good enough.

From Janet Carlson -John had a joy and an openness about him that made a person just feel good. He was creative, helpful and supportive. He served on the Unity Lincoln Board of Trustees and on the team that discerned our Core Values, and on many other projects. He swept our walks! I always enjoyed reading his articles. They contained a good deal of humor and gentle wisdom.

From Alice Miller -He was always such a spark of positivity and so appreciative of my music. Thinking of you all, my dear friends at Lincoln Unity.....



From Margaret Kendall - I read John Jones's column before I met him. I saved my favorites until he came out with his two books and my favorites were in there. I was especially struck with the one about the little boy whose parents lied to him about Santa Claus and the Easter bunny... and hell. I was so glad that one more soul agreed with me on that.

I knew that he held video viewings for friends at his residence. So when my VCR died I gave him my winder and videotapes. He appreciated them and especially liked the George Burns-Gracie Allen one, remarking that he preferred their humor to that of later comics.

He invited me to join the Wednesday noon meditation group and he gave me rides for several years until we disbanded due to the quarantine. I'm so glad he was a part of my life!

From Richard Duncan -John was a kind and gentle soul. Easy to talk to and always ready to listen. He invited Me and Marge every Friday evening to a Movie and conversation at his place. Ed Love and Annie were also invited. The Movies were always PG or G and also from the past. They were the kind we grew up with and enjoyed seeing them again. We will miss not only the movies but also being with John and friends.

From Liane Schmidt – I have the fondest memories of John. He loved hot chocolate and often made and brought fudge to share – the best! Everyone knows he loved movies – his favorite was *Mamma Mia!* And his favorite music was everything by ABBA.



Magic Pennies Report

Keep it up!
You're doing great!



Magic Pennies Accounting

2016	\$132.22
2017	\$615.80
2018	\$290.31
2019	\$226.06
2020	\$7.21
	\$1261.60

Remember the competition is on. Who will have the most pennies when we get back into the building? Prize will awarded!!!

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

Celebrate!!!
Our online count has gone
Over 1000

Finances- 2021

Total Income: \$ 5559
Total Expense: \$ 5972
Net \$(413)

Tithes Given \$ 541
Classes: \$ 75
Building Fund: \$ 150

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.

BOARD MEMBERS



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Kathy Hutchinson,
Member-at-Large

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

Movie: *My Octopus Teacher* – June 24th at 6pm

Bring your family and friends and don't miss this award winning film! Beautiful, meditative, educational... a love story, an adventure, a documentary... and totally unique! Appropriate for everyone – just not too young, please. You don't want children to disturb other people. They have to be able to sit quietly and watch.

Improve Your Sleep - Talk – July 10th at 11am

Learn about healthy restful sleep from Aging Partners. Educate yourself and bring younger folks to get a baseline understanding about this universal topic. We all complain about it, but what do we really know?

World Peace Meditation

Today's meditation is inspired by the Gandhi blessing and the traditional Metta blessing:

May I have air to breath – clean, clear and abundant.

May I have food to eat – pure, wholesome and healthy.

May I have family to love – joyful, gracious and extended.

May I have work to do – worthwhile, satisfying and appreciated.

May I know beauty, music, laughter and reverence in every experience.

May you have air to breath – clean, clear and abundant.

May you have food to eat – pure, wholesome and healthy.

May you have family to love – joyful, gracious and extended.

May you have work to do – worthwhile, satisfying and appreciated.

May you know beauty, music, laughter and reverence in every experience.

May all have air to breath – clean, clear and abundant.

May all have food to eat – pure, wholesome and healthy.

May all have family to love – joyful, gracious and extended.

May all have work to do – worthwhile, satisfying and appreciated.

May all know beauty, music, laughter and reverence in every experience.

If this resonates with you, please take 15-20 minutes to sit in the silence with these words and feel the peace that is the result of the words filling your body and moving into the world.

Love and blessings,

Rev. Sharri



One Heart Retreat Center
185 White Acres Lane
Marshall, AR 72650
(501) 825-0108

Remembering John Jones Continued:

From Mickey Seefeld - I was late coming to Unity Lincoln, but John greeted me as if I was an old friend. _My best memory of John is the road trip we took one summer (maybe 2016?). John was heading West to visit family in northern Kansas. He had heard I had a friend in McCook Nebraska. Since my vision is not perfect, and I don't drive on the interstate, I was unable to get out to McCook as often as I would have liked. John invited me along with the plan to drop me in McCook.

John had one of those Nebraska Passports and one of the places included was Mac's Creek Winery near Lexington. We stopped, toured the winery, enjoyed a glass of wine and made a purchase or two. Then we were off to McCook.

We talked and laughed along the way. I learned about John's pride in his career in the grocery business. In McCook, John stopped long enough for a cup of coffee then he was off to Kansas. Thanks John.

From Dee Tonneges – I knew John way back when we had the old church. He would come down to the kitchen in the basement and fix himself hot chocolate. I would be making coffee and putting out the treats. We had the best conversations! John loved to drive and would take trips all over the country. He always had the sidewalks in front of the church swept and in the winter time scooped. He drove across town to pick up people who didn't have a way to church. I had a friend who needed a ride to Omaha to the eye doctor. I asked John if he could take her. Of course, he said yes. He took her several times and she so appreciated that!

John collected old movies and records of old time songs. On Friday nights he had movie night and anyone could come. Every December, John had a whole bunch of new calendars to share. We took what we wanted. Oh, what fun! John was such a good soul – always ready to help. Thank you, John.

From Renee Eveland – John Jones was there, faithfully in his seat, when I walked anxiously in to a church for the first time after twenty-five rebellious years of agnosticism. I sat behind him. His demeanor reminded me of my beloved grandfather. Soon, I was sitting next to him each week, enjoying his company, singing with him and holding his hand in prayer. John held a light on my path and without discussion, assured me, "This is safe. This is good. Let God." I am so grateful to him. He is missed.

From Connie Rose & Carol Cunningham – John Jones was a sweet and kind man. He was always willing to give hugs. He was generous in giving rides to and from church for members who needed a ride. He always had a smile on his face to greet you Sunday mornings and then a hug. When he was no longer able to drive we would give him rides to church. If you needed anything he was always willing to help. He was gracious in giving and receiving. He is sorely missed and will be forever in our hearts.



From Kathy Hutchinson – Several years ago John took us to Unity Village. We were the *Three Musketeers*, John, driving, Connie Wells, and me, off to Adventure Land! John was a fantastic story teller with a humorous side to all his views. I have wonderful memories of fun laughter. It was my first trip to Unity Village and I was amazed at how beautiful it was. We visited all the buildings. We ran into Toni Stephens Coleman, our current minister, who was just finishing a class. We had lunch with Carole Lunde, our previous minister at the Unity Café. John was generous by treating everyone to lunch. On the way home, Connie made John accept gas money from us. Going home, we made a detour to Gardner, KS, where John grew up. That was a treat along with the stories he told. I truly miss John, his stories and movies. He was remarkable and gifted in many ways and I admired that he was so at peace with himself. He knew what his purpose in life was and shared his wisdom. You are truly missed, John. (I miss Connie Wells, too, who made her transition a few years ago.)

From Merry Ford – John was an ardent supporter of Unity and Unity Lincoln. He participated in many classes and activities over the years. He was quick to smile, joke and ask how people were doing. He visited people in the hospital. Before the new parking lot was built, John helped shuttle people from the Bethany Library on Cotner. He was an example of doing good wherever he was and he made the best fudge I've

Remembering John Jones Continued:

From Paul Fox –I remember John’s devotion to prayer & meditation. He was a part of the Wednesday “brown bag” prayer group, helping to support the world through prayer. He told me how much peace he received by being in that space. He loved being of service in that way... One summer at the 31st Street location we put together a rotation for lawn mowing. John & Dick Patterson served together cleaning our yard. I showed up one hot day as they finished.

Both were exhausted. Dick commented how glad he was for John’s help, making the work lighter. John grinned his wry smile and said, “if that work was light, he’d hate to see what heavy was!” John stepped forward in 2009 to serve as a Board Member. Then he stepped down saying he could do many things, but he wasn’t ready for all the details and skills that job required. He said his best mode of service was to pray for the Board, not be a part of it. Everyone knows how he loved his books & movies! Sometimes he pushed a wrong button. I would get a call to help him fix it. He told me “no rush,” he had a couple books around he hadn’t read, yet! I arrived finding him smiling, happy to see me. I turned my attention to his electronics, and he told me about the book he was reading, and a concept that intrigued him. I imagine that knowledge transferred into my being through listening to his explanation while I worked out the error. So long for now, John – Be At Peace!



<i>June 2021</i>						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
We are back to Live activities Pot Luck June 20th Movie Night June 24		1 Friends Book Club <i>A New Earth</i> Eckhart Tolle Zoom 6:30 pm	2 Landscaping Team 11-4 6:30 pm Unity Café	3	4	5
6 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Ockham’s Razor Silent Prayer 12:00	7	8 Friends Book Club <i>A New Earth</i> Eckhart Tolle Zoom 6:30 pm	9 Landscaping Team 11-4 6:30 pm Unity Café	10	11	12
13 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Building a Legacy Silent Service 12:00 John Jones Celebration Day	14 Flag Day  (Virtual --	15 Friends Book Club <i>A New Earth</i> Eckhart Tolle 6:30 pm Unity ---	16 Landscaping Team 11-4 6:30 pm Unity Café Convention---	17 14 to 17th-----)	18	19 Garden Group 9am to Noon
20 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Our Father Silent Service 12:00 Father’s Day Pot Luck	21	22 Friends Book Club <i>A New Earth</i> Eckhart Tolle 6:30 pm	23 Landscaping Team 11-4 6:30 pm Unity Café	24 Movie: My Octopus Teacher 6pm	25	26
27 Friendship Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics 10:30 am – Service Mind and Heart Silent Service 12:00	28	29 Friends Book Club <i>A New Earth</i> Eckhart Tolle 6:30 pm	30 Landscaping Team 11-4 6:30 pm Unity Café	July 1	2	3