

Unity of Santa Barbara Annual Meeting

All documents for the meeting are included below. Please read before the meeting.

Dear Friend and Unity Church of Santa Barbara Member,

Our Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 7, 2010 immediately following the worship service. We will have only one service that day at 10:00 A.M. A light lunch will be served between the service and the meeting to facilitate moving quickly from one thing to another.

Each year we wonder who will attend the Annual Meeting and hold the high watch for the forward movement of our Church. Each year a group of dedicated individuals put their lives aside for a few hours and join with the Board of Trustees in dedication to spiritual home. We want to thank each of you - your presence does make a difference - your guidance and participation is essential. Our Minister and the Board of Trustees are here to serve your interests, your well-being and to join with you in fulfilling your vision for our ministry.

The business to be conducted:

We will review the 2009 financial state of the ministry and vote to accept the budget for 2010. We are faced with difficult and critical decisions again this year. Your input is essential.

We will elect three members to the Board of Trustees. The Nominating Committee has selected give excellent candidates for your consideration. The nominees bios and photos are enclosed with this packet for your review. We offer our loving gratitude to D'Ann Lawson and Jeanne Schroeder who will be leaving the Board and to Russ Chaffin who has served for three years and is a candidate for re-election. The other candidates are Diane Hester, Len Jarrott, Mary Katherine Littman and Lindsay Skutch.

We will vote on changes to the Church's By-laws. The recommended changes are enclosed for your review.

The reports of our minister, board, and our other ministry-service departments are enclosed for your review. Please read them.

We will also elect two members, and two alternates, from the congregation, for next year's nominating committee.

If you have New Business items you wish to present at the annual meeting please submit them in writing by March 1 to Russ Chaffin, President of the Board or to Jeanne Schroeder, Secretary of the Board. All New Business items must be submitted in advance with your name and the topic and the amount of time you wish to have allotted to the issue so that it might be added to the agenda. Spontaneous items that have not been submitted prior to the meeting will not be included.

You support this ministry in countless ways - ways that are essential to its existence and operation. Many of you have done this year after year. For each of you and for all you do we are grateful. Our membership "is" our Church. You choose through your prayerful and careful consideration the Board of Trustees who will represent you. You determine the operating budget for the year. It is your voice (when you speak up) that is the guiding and directing influence of the Church. When the roof falls in it's your roof, when the walls come down they are your walls, when the Chapel leaks it's your Chapel, when Unity House needs repair it's your house. And, when the buildings and grounds shine, and you feel that sense of pride and love for your spiritual home and all that goes on here it's your home and you've helped make it all that it is and all that it can be.

As with all things when you don't exercise your voice, take an interest, or get involved you leave the door open for someone else to do it for you in support of his or her personal interest. The items we address at our annual business meeting may seem irrelevant or even unimportant, but they are essential to the healthy and long-term operation of our spiritual home. Please add the Annual Meeting to your list of priorities. Your votes matter, your informed presence makes a difference.

We look forward to seeing you for our one service and the Annual Meeting on March 7.

In Our Unity of Purpose,

Russ Chaffin, President of the Board of Trustees

AGENDA

Unity Church of Santa Barbara
Annual Membership Meeting
March 7, 2010

- ❖ Call to order
- ❖ Opening prayer
- ❖ Approval of Agenda
- ❖ Determination of Quorum
- ❖ Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting, March 1, 2009 (*please read before the meeting*)
- ❖ Treasurers Report
 - Review of 2009-2010
 - Budget for 2010-2011
 - Vote to approve budget for 2010-2011
- ❖ Requested changes in Bylaws
- ❖ President's Report
- ❖ Nominating Committee
- ❖ Election of New Board Members
 - Qualifications of a Board Member
 - Nominating Committee recommendations
 - Procedure for nominating from the floor
 - Call for nominations from the floor
 - Voting/ Counting of ballots
- ❖ Minister's report
- ❖ Announcement of New Board Members
- ❖ Election of Congregational Representatives of the 2011 Nominating Committee
- ❖ Ministry and Committee Reports (*Please read. The reports will not be read at the meeting*)
- ❖ New Business
- ❖ Closing Prayer
- ❖ Adjournment

PRESIDENT'S REPORT for ANNUAL MEETING

Unity Church of Santa Barbara
March 7, 2010

This past year has been challenging and growthful on many levels. The successes of this year are a testimony to the dedication and commitment of the members of the Board, all the Board Committees, and all the members of the congregation who stepped forward in so many ways with their contributions of time, talent and finances.

The members of the 2009-2010 Board are Russ Chaffin, Bill Dutton, Amanda Pelch, Jeanne Schroeder, D'Ann Lawson, Jean Clark-Ehlens, Tom Jarnigan and Rev. Linda Spencer. I would like to thank each of them for their support and encouragement as we moved through the various events of the year.

I especially want to thank Joan Kershaw, our Church Administrator. Joan is a shining light in our Church, assisting and supporting Reverend Linda and the Board in countless ways. She attends all our Board meetings, takes minutes, and provides invaluable insights that help keep us on course.

The Board started the year with some housekeeping. In order to be as effective as possible, we developed job descriptions for the Board officers. Moving on from there, we continued with the work we started with Mary Jo McGrath's SUCCEED training earlier in the year and invited Mary Jo to join us for our Board retreat in June. Using the TRUE-FICA model, the Board identified several areas to develop further, such as Board member visibility, community and global outreach, how our actions and results are linked to our Vision and Mission statements, building leaders in the Church, and how to orient around becoming a proactive, purpose-driven congregation. We have tried to address one of these areas each Board meeting. One positive outcome is the presence the Board members at a table after both services the first Sunday of each month.

Another benefit of using the FICA process has been the ability to look at issues in a more organized, a more meaningful and user-friendly way. Our hope is that this process will not be used by just the Board, but also at the Administrative level, and ultimately at the congregational level as the way we interact with and support each other and our Church.

It is not a secret that the 2009-2010 Budget was a challenge. In an uncertain economy, the congregation indicated a willingness to step forward and support some fundraising activities. As the Finance Committee and the Board kept a watchful eye on the budget, we activated our faith and stepped into the flow of Abundance. From there, the Board Fund Development Committee and the VIA provided us with an abundance of fun and opportunities to help with the Sock Hop, the Gratitude Gatherings, the Holiday Bake Sale, the Adopt-a-Bill project, and Bill Werts' very generous photography offering. The Board is so grateful to everyone who supported and participated in these events.

The Board continues its commitment to support our own Christine Michel on her ministerial journey. It is a great privilege and brings forward a sacred responsibility for our congregation to have one of our members preparing for the ministry. Through her work with our youth and the new classes she has offered, Christine brings an excitement and freshness to the teachings of Unity.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this an amazing year for our Church and our Unity family. It has been an honor and a privilege to be your Board President.

Namaste,

Russ Chaffin
2009-10 Unity Board President

Minister's Report Annual Meeting March 7, 2010

We are most fortunate and blessed to embrace, live and share the remarkable teachings of Unity. These teachings transform lives. They transformed my life and I can only hope that they have done the same for you. Teaching in a Unity Church goes on in a thousand different ways. Through social activities, in classes, in worship services, in prayer, through our acts of service, in the office, in the Board room, and in so many others ways, we continue to practice and deepen our personal spiritual growth. As we open our doors, our hands and hearts in loving service, sharing the journey and honoring the God in one another, we make a great difference. This was a challenging year for many, but together we were a lighthouse in the storm and the light never burned more brightly. We held the light high and offered a safe place in the storm for people to rest, heal, thrive and grow. I am so proud of our congregation and of the work we do at Unity Church of Santa Barbara.

We are blessed to have a strong, competent and remarkable staff. Each one of them is motivated by their personal commitment to make a difference in the world. Thank you - each of you - for the unconditionally loving service you extend to everyone. You do many things that everyone knows, but you do even more things that people never know about, but I know, and it is an honor to work with you. Thank you Joan, Peggy, Charlotte, Christine, Sandy, Mary, Richard and Joel, Noreen, Peter. And I thank Jack Harris for our ongoing website design and maintenance.

Volunteers excelled in their service this year. You are "awesome and awe-inspiring!" Valentine and Harvest feasts, the Sock Hop, the Christmas Bake Sale, Adopt-a-Bill, Heart 2 Heart, the Saturday Landscaping crew, welcome packets, youth education instructors and the youth education auction, ushering, greeting, raffling, decorating, praying, praying more, singing, celebrating, feasting, feeding, kitchen duty, coffee making, cleaning up, setting up, a picnic, game nights, going the extra mile and more. You did it all and so much more...you were like one huge heart that enfolded and blessed everyone. God bless each one of you.

We gave birth this year - and an exciting birth it is - we gave birth to a Licensed Unity Teacher, Christine Michel. Granted, we can't take much of the credit. Christine did all the work, gave all the time and excelled in her studies. We couldn't be more proud of her accomplishments and we rejoice with her as she continues her studies to become a Unity Minister. We are so blessed! She is also our Youth Education Director (how can I say thanks) and with her loving guidance and Spirit-driven dedication our program is growing - lots and lots of children, which means more families, and it looks like everyone is experiencing pure joy in the process. WOW!

The work of a minister is multi-faceted. I don't think I've ever been busier than I was this past year. I had some small health challenges and some ministerial growth opportunities and I must admit that my get-up-and-go got-up-and-went for a few months. I thank God for our Unity teachings - I applied myself to spiritual practice and did my inner work and as a result I've grown. I don't like the challenges, but I sure love what I learn from them. I agreed to serve on two committees for the Association of Unity Churches this year and engaged in some very significant continuing educational opportunities. Following two training sessions in Portland I was certified as an instructor of the McGrath SUCCEED program - this is great and brilliant work. In addition I led a Board Training for our Southwest Regional Board of Directors, and a spiritual retreat in the Seattle area. These things added time and travel but my schedule, but I gained valuable ministerial and personal skills to add to my spiritual toolbox. I love to learn. In addition there were lots of meetings, lots of hospital visits, lots of weddings and lots of memorial services this year.

Christine, Ron Gibbons and I, through our various classes and workshops, were able to provide educational opportunities for learning and growth throughout the year. With groups and rentals and our Church activities we found ourselves without enough meeting space frequently. Our Faith in Action program was a great success. We also honored World Day of Prayer, and presented a special Sunday morning healing service, along with our regular holiday observances. We added a well-attended second Burning Bowl service this year. We made the decision not to continue the World Religion Series and monthly Movie Night due to decreased attendance.

Music, music, music - we love music and this year we had amazing music. Both of our music teams are gifted and a gift to all of us. Musical preference is a very personal thing and it has never been more important to have a high quality musical program in churches, than it is today. I want to thank our two music directors, Noreen and Peter, and all our musicians and soloists and choir members for lighting up our world with music this year and continually

stepping up to the plate to produce high quality music and for providing a wonderful environment for our guest artists to play in. There were concerts and cantatas and choirs and music filled air all year long.

Our attendance decreased this year. When we began our two service format we ballooned to 225 on a Sunday - this year our average is about 180 on a Sunday. First service attendance was 3,912 with love offerings of \$166,569.27 and the second service attendance was 5,237 with love offerings of \$139,404.76. Our overall income came in about \$20,000 short of our budgeted estimate - which we attribute to the economic challenges this year. However, by the end of the year with the Fund Raising efforts and a very tight management of our expenses, we were able to have a "small" year end surplus which we applied to the Line of Credit. It's difficult to project what 2010 will bring to us or ask of us. As a result I am assembling a Task Team to study how we can make adjustments that could be implemented if needed. More money would be the best option, without that we look at the essentials: music, services, staffing. I pray daily for guidance.

I don't see things slowing down - the needs are many and we have so much to share. It's time for us to deeply consider "who we have come here to be?" and to live with these questions: What is our work - what are we called to - in what ways are we fulfilling our purpose and what more is there for us to do? I offer each of you my deepest and most heartfelt gratitude for your love, support and dedication to our Church. It is my joy and honor to serve as your minister as we grow together in Unity.

Yours in Unity,

Rev. Linda

**Unity Church of Santa Barbara
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 1, 2009**

Russ Chaffin, Board President, called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM

Rev. Linda: Opening Prayer

Approval of Agenda: Larry Fagan moved, seconded by Agris Petersons. Motion carried.

A Quorum was Determined (83 members present)

Reading and Approval of Minutes of Annual meeting of March 2, 2008: Agris Petersons moved for approval without reading, seconded Bill Dutton. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Amanda Pelch

Amanda began by introducing the Finance Committee. She began with a Review of 2008 and pointed out that at the October 12th, 2008 Finance Committee Meeting she showed how through August of 2008 we did well with a \$9k profit. She, then, gave a brief history of Income, Expenses and Line of Credit (LOC) status. Larry Fagan asked if our LOC is secured or unsecured by the property. Amanda responded that it is secured by our property.

Amanda showed the power point overhead of 2008 Income as Actual of \$420,744.18, Budget of \$442,500 and the over budget difference of -\$21,755.82. She said this is reflective of the \$19K less in plate offerings and pledges were approximately \$4K less than expected. She continued with the power point of 2008 Expenses showing Actual of \$454,359, Budget of \$452,517, and over Budget of \$1,842.

She referred to the 2009 Budget and referenced the net profit of \$1,935 with a projected total income of \$465,655 and Expenses of \$463,720, and compared this to the 2008 Budget & 2008 Actual.

She then asked the rhetorical question "What Might Happen" and took the congregation through the various possibilities, including "If income decreases in 2009 there will be cuts to the existing budget." She shared that though we are projecting through 2009 there may be the need to revise it substantially from time to time and this will involve all of the congregation and the Finance Committee, although the final decision is made by the Board. The Finance Committee will continue with due diligence to do a thorough review each month, beginning in April 09 and review every line of income and expense for possible changes. Between April & July 09 if there is more than a 15% reduction in income compared to the projected budget, some cuts will be made, if a 15% reduction in income happens two months in a row, the Tiered Cuts will be implemented. The Board will communicate quarterly with the congregation. The dates for these meetings will be established in March 09 and announced when set.

She then discussed the Tiered Approaches in Potential Reductions (Attached). She explained what is meant by "Angels" by saying that an Angel could step up and offer basic needs and services, for example, pay for Reverend Linda's salary for a month. She discussed Solutions and Possibilities by sharing with the congregation that we welcome their input and a survey will be done in the month of March 09 to receive suggestions and discover what the congregation feels our highest priorities are. She said we would meet in informal groups to discuss the situations and use prayerful contemplation and guidance to meet these challenges. Amanda then spoke about more solutions and possibilities, including practice of our principles, and made reference to Rev. Linda's message in church today that there is always sufficiency.

Larry Fagan asked what if we exceed our budget expectations. Have we thought about what we will bring back or increase like Linda's retirement, salary increases, and other options? Amanda responded that we have not and if we have a 15% increase we will decide what to do with it.

Rev. Linda asked for introduction of Funds Development Committee: Amanda Pelch, Christine Michel, Diane Doiron, Tom Jarnigan, Bill Dutton, Lindsay Skutch, and the Committee Chair, Pat Heller.

Further discussion: Jim Kwako asked for the current LOC figures. Amanda said \$49k to \$50k LOC currently. Larry Fagan asked why pay the LOC if we make a profit in one given month rather than pay for a new item we need. Amanda replied that we pay the LOC because we pay interest only and we think it is a better use of the money rather than paying interest. Phyllis Cohen suggested having snacks to purchase after services at a Kiosk rather than give away the food.

Amanda completed her report by saying to bring any further questions to her.

Russ Chaffin took the floor and Rev Linda explained that the Tiers are to be implemented only if we don't demonstrate the income we require. If we do what we did last year then we don't have to cut back. She further explained that other churches have shown monthly losses of late. She believes the 2009 budget, as recommended is the best course of action and we should focus on working together to produce results.

Motion to approve the 2009 Budget by Len Jarrott, Seconded by Len Hoffman. Discussion: Teya Walkker said she wants to see where we will go if we are prosperous. The Board agreed to do that. The Motion to approve the Budget was carried.

Requested Changes in the Bylaws: Bill Dutton

Bill began by saying that the Bylaws Committee had met over a five month period putting these changes together from the 2007 AUCI recommended Bylaws and congregation suggestions. The work was mainly fine-tuning and being in alignment with AUCI, along with changes to make statements clearer to the reader, updating wording, including use of electronic media for notification, or to correct spelling and other grammatical errors in the current bylaws. The changes were presented one by one.

Kathleen Blake moved that we accept all Bylaws as presented, except Article 3.04 which will be considered separately. The Bylaws Committee will do further research on 3.04. Victoria Stone seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried. (A copy of the changes can be found in the Church Office with the master copy of the minutes.)

President's Report: Russ Chaffin

Russ began by acknowledging Reverend Linda with a standing ovation. He then read Bylaws Section 5.04(a) - Qualifications of a Board Member and clarified the Term of Office and Eligibility and Replacement. The two positions open on the Board are each for full three year terms. Lindsay Skutch, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the candidates: Jean Clarke-Ehlen, Carol George, Len Jarrott, and Tom Jarnigan. The Nominating Committee consists of Len Hoffman, D'Ann Lawson, Diane Doiron, and Lindsay Skutch. Russ asked for nominations from the floor and after hearing none the voting took place. Larry Fagan and committee members tallied the votes while Minister began her report.

Minister's Report: Reverend Linda

Rev. Linda, in the interest of time, referenced the report that members had received in the mail. She said we must never lose site of the vision and the mission of our Church and its purpose for being: to teach and equip people to live their lives according to Unity's Principles. The Fillmore's remained dedicated to these principles and ideas when there was no money, no building, no place. We may need to make changes in the upcoming year, but not from lack, but rather because it's the right thing to do at the right time. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the congregation, the staff and the Board for their dedication, and generous support.

Congregational Discussion:

Maureen Green shared that a new visitor shared with her that she had received a note from Julie Slagle after visiting our church and then received a personal email and this felt really good to her. Teresa Polito said she would like to change the family service to 9:00am. Phyllis Cohen recommended that we have a list of talents and abilities within the congregation . She was told that we will revisit and revamp the one that was started.

Election of New Board Members:

Russ Chaffin reported after the votes were tallied that the Jean Clarke-Ehlen was elected and Tom Jarnigan and Len Jarrott were tied. There was a run-off vote and Tom Jarnigan was elected.

Election of two new Nominating Committee members and two alternates:

Claudia Mitchell nominated Lindsay Skutch; Joan Kershaw nominated Judy Stewart; Tom Jarnigan nominated Mary Jo McGrath; Ellin Ostler nominated Len Hoffman; Maggie Svensson nominated Larry Fagan. Victoria Stone moved nominations closed. Amanda Pelch seconded it. The two highest numbers of votes will be elected to the nominating committee. The remaining next two highest will be alternates.

The election was held and the votes were counted. Lindsay Skutch - Elected to the nominating committee. Larry Fagan - Elected to the nominating committee. Mary Jo McGrath and Judy Stewart Greenberg are the alternates.

Ministry Reports: Russ Chaffin

Russ mentioned that the other ministry reports are in the packet of information.

John Slagle said that he acknowledges Francis for keeping the candles filled and for lighting the candles on Sunday morning.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Christine Michel, Secretary

Unity Church of Santa Barbara
BYLAWS
Candidate Criteria for Board Members

Section 5.02 Term of Office and Eligibility.

- (a) Each elected Board member will hold office for three years. The terms of at least two elected Board members will expire annually and their offices filled at the annual membership meeting in accordance with Section 5.04 [Board of Trustees, Election]. Board members appointed for an incomplete term will serve until the next annual meeting, in accordance with Section 5.06 [Replacement].
- (b) No elected Board member will serve more than two consecutive terms of three years each without an interval of one year between terms. No active Licensed Unity Teacher, individual receiving compensation from the ministry (with the exception of the minister/ministers), or the relative of, or significant other of, an individual receiving compensation from the ministry may serve on the Board of Trustees. Further, no Board member will be the relative of, or significant other of, another Board member.

Section 5.04 Board of Trustees: Election.

- (a) **Qualifications.** Any person nominated for the Board of Trustees will be one who:
 - (1) has been an active member of Unity Church of Santa Barbara for at least one (1) year prior to election;
 - (2) is a sincere and continuing student in Unity, conversant with its teachings;
 - (3) desires to serve on the Board after participation in Leadership Orientation and Training;
 - (4) endeavors to live in accord with the Jesus Christ principles of Love and Truth as taught by Unity;
 - (5) furthers the work of this Ministry through his/her active interest, love and support; has demonstrated leadership capabilities through volunteer service to the church and/or community;
 - (6) and meets eligibility criteria for Board membership under the provisions of Section 5.02 [Term of Office and Eligibility].

**Unity Church of Santa Barbara
Nominating Committee Report
February 2010**

The members of the Nominating Committee for 2010 are: Larry Fagan, D'Ann Lawson, Judy Stewart, Mary Jo McGrath-Jarnagin and Reverend Linda Spencer. Lindsay Skutch chose to submit her name as a candidate for a board seat, and was replaced on the Nominating Committee by Mary Jo McGrath-Jarnagin.

The Nominating Committee met on January 15, 29 and February 5, 2010. The members of the committee contacted approximately 20 potential candidates for the board with invitations to submit their names for consideration. Ultimately five nominees would be put forth to the church membership for the election of three to the board. Further, the congregation was invited to submit names in nomination. No names were received.

Given the active and very busy lives our members lead, it was a worthwhile challenge to arrive at five superior candidates that we are pleased to present to the membership. The candidates are:

- Russ Chaffin
- Diane Hester
- Len Jarrott
- Mary Katherine Littman
- Lindsay Skutch




The candidates will introduce themselves to the congregation over the span of two Sundays, February 21 and 28, 2010. The Annual Meeting will be held on March 7, 2010. On that date there will be a single service at 10:00 AM, then a break for lunch with the Annual Meeting commencing at 12:00.

A leadership training session will be held for any candidates not previously trained in board duties. Also, an update on the SUCCEED Leadership System in use by the board for communication, problem solving and decision-making will be provided for the successful candidates.

Respectfully submitted,
Nominating Committee Chairperson

Mary Jo McGrath-Jarnagin

2010 Board of Trustees Nominees

<p>RUSS CHAFFIN</p> 	<p>I have been a member of Unity of Santa Barbara for more than 10 years and continue on a daily basis to be grateful for the ever-expanding opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship offered by this ministry. As the President of your Board of Trustees for the last two of my three years on the Board, I believe the Vision and Mission statement that the current Board developed: the love, the prayers, and the message of Unity are a beacon of peace, hope and healing in our world.</p> <p>I am an RN and have worked on the Psychiatric and Chemical Dependency Detox Unit at Cottage Hospital for over 30 years. Out of my interest in health and wellness I continue to provide monthly Healing Touch sessions to congregants, and the love offerings are given to the church. I love making a joyful noise with the Unity Choir.</p> <p>My leadership experience in Health Care has supported an awareness of change management to the Board as our Church continues to change and grow. Last year the Board, along with many other leaders in the congregation, participated in Mary Jo McGrath's SUCCEED training. I continue to be committed to help integrate what I have learned to put into practice important processes that improve how we communicate, how we make decisions, and how we create more honest and loving relationships with our spiritual family, and by extension our larger community.</p>
<p>DIANE HESTER</p> 	<p>I was born and raised in New York and have lived in California for 58 years. Ray and I raised our two children in Pasadena and moved to this area 20 years ago.</p> <p>I have volunteered in a variety of ways: in the All Saints Church Vestry, the Junior League Board, the Music Academy Auxiliary, Youth Theater Workshop, and a service called "Fish" which helped people in need with rides to the doctor, or market, or wherever.</p> <p>I found Unity through a friend's suggestion: "Why don't you try my church?" Once in those doors I never left. That was 7 or 8 years ago. I love this church! It is friendly, loving, giving and fun! Rev. Linda's lessons are so meaningful. I take her book classes, usher, read the Daily Word and now help Joan in the office. I have been a member of Unity for 4 years. This is my Church home.</p>
<p>LEN JARROTT</p> 	<p>My intentions are to help enhance and realize the Mission Statement of Unity Church. I wish to continue on my path to complete my own spiritual mission that began when I was 8 years old at my first holy communion in the Catholic Church. On that day, the priest told us that we would each receive a wish from God. My wish was to be in heaven with God and in the most profound way, I have come to know that heaven, as Jesus says, is within. In the realization of this goal I know that I am to serve others.</p> <p>That is why it would be my honor to serve on your board.</p> <p>Initially, I was a member of the Church of Religious Science in the early 70's and came to the Santa Barbara Unity Church, with my wife, seven years ago. I serve the church as a Daily Word reader and Platform Assistant. I am the resident chef cooking the yearly fundraiser for the staff bonus breakfast and the annual BBQ. I also am a member of the finance committee.</p> <p>Being a board member is nothing new to me as I was the founding board member of the Environmental Defense Center and a member of the board of trustees of Santa Barbara City College. I was elected as board president in 1994. Presently I sit as a member of the Foundation Board of Santa Barbara City College. My experience on board of trustees goes back to 1976 when I was a board member of the Santa Barbara Association of Realtors and have sat on nine different boards since then.</p>

2010 Board of Trustees Nominees

**MARY
KATHERINE
LITTMAN**



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."- Mohandas Gandhi

My mother and father taught me by example. She was a school nurse who, besides putting Band-Aids on scraped knees, organized an annual dental clinic to provide care for Latino children. He was a high school teacher who genuinely loved and respected the students in his Spanish and French classes. I believe he "saw the Christ in each student." It's no surprise that I became a teacher. Teaching provides limitless opportunities to make a difference in my students' lives. Even the smallest of gestures has the potential to dramatically change a child's life for the better. The rewards of twenty-eight years of teaching pale next to the rewards I've received from being a parent. My four children are my most valuable and influential teachers, serving them is the most significant thing I've ever done.

Eleven years ago, I went through one of the darkest times of my life; I filed for divorce and bankruptcy. However, it was at that time that I found Unity. "Spirituality out of desperation" I like to say! It wasn't long before I started making the coffee one Sunday a month. Next, I ushered and after that I cleaned up after coffee time. As I volunteered I made friends, and slowly the sadness and loneliness dissipated. Volunteering with like-minded souls for the common good was really fun!

Just after Rev. Linda came to Santa Barbara I felt a calling to be the volunteer coordinator and for the next three years I dedicated myself to Unity's volunteer ministry. I experienced the joys and trials of organizing volunteers and was the recipient of countless blessings. Currently I'm a member of the Prayer Ministry and I'm discovering that praying for others expands my consciousness and creates a connection between me and those for whom I pray. I'm grateful that during my life so many different opportunities to serve have presented themselves and I've been able to grow and evolve as a result. I have, indeed, found myself in the process of serving others. It would be my honor to serve our congregation as a member of the Board of Trustees.

**LINDSAY
SKUTCH**



Twenty years ago I walked onto 227 East Arrellaga Street and came into the sanctuary. I sat down and knew then that I would be staying for a long time. I immediately connected to the people, the message, the music and my surroundings. I had come home.

I couldn't volunteer enough. I knew that if I worked in the bookstore, made coffee, volunteered for committees and helped in any way I could, I would become closer to the very spirit that beat inside my heart. A spirit that was asking to be released and express itself.

I have sat on the Nominating Committee, the By Laws Committee, the Finance Committee and the committee that searched for our current minister. Now if possible, I would like to be on the Board of Trustees.

I promise to dedicate myself to our minister, to all of you and to continue to promote my belief that our Unity Church is capable of rising higher to inform, enlighten and benefit our Santa Barbara community. We are the living Christ, learning powerful, life altering metaphysical messages that, if practiced daily, changes lives forever. I will support and encourage the board, the minister and all of us who attend church to be as much as we can be. We can change the world one step at a time. This is a great opportunity. The time is now. We, as a united body guided by divine principles, are strong and clear and capable of anything we put our minds to.

UNITY CHURCH OF SANTA BARBARA
2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

February 20, 2010

Last year, we presented you with nine (9) proposed changes to specific sections of our current Bylaws. Most of the changes last year were a result of numerous meetings and a thorough review of the *Recommended Bylaws for a Unity Ministry* as recommended by the Association of Unity Churches (AUC) in 2007. Because the AUC's suggested changes were numerous, the Bylaws Committee decided to break down the number of our suggested changes to you over several Annual Membership Meetings, in the order of what we perceived to be their importance.

This year, we are presenting you with proposed changes to three (3) Articles of our current Bylaws to update and bring them into alignment with the UAC's suggested changes and updating wording that includes the use of electronic media for notification of all meetings. These changes include: (a) including the use of electronic media for notification of Board Meetings (following last year's changes that included the use of electronic media for notification of Membership Meetings); (b) allowing all officers (including the office of President) to continue to serve, if re-elected by the Board annually, throughout their three-year term as members of the Board of Trustees; and (c) adding three new subsections to the current Bylaws Section outlining additional rights of active members.

The proposed changes to three (3) Articles of our current Bylaws (i.e., Articles III, V and VI) will be listed in order by their numerical section in the Bylaws and all are submitted in a similar format that consists of the following three key elements:

- (1) At the beginning of each change in **bold** will be a brief *summary* of the recommended change.
- (2) Next, the Bylaws are listed in their *current form*, as last revised on March 1, 2009.
- (3) Lastly, each *proposed change* will be listed in **bold** so that you can compare it to the current Bylaws.

Recent changes to the church's Bylaws were made as follows: (a) major changes were made in 2004; (b) a few modifications were made in 2005, 2006 and 2007; and (c) major changes were again made in 2009 at last year's Membership Meeting. Next year's committee will continue to review possible format and substantive changes to align with AUC recommendations and/or other Unity Church Bylaws.

Cozette Bordelon, Chair
Bylaws Committee

Committee Members: Bill Dutton and Cozette Bordelon

UNITY CHURCH OF SANTA BARBARA
Suggested Bylaws Revisions for
2010 Annual Membership Meeting

1. FIRST PROPOSED CHANGE

Article III (Membership in Unity Church of Santa Barbara)

Section 3.04 (Rights of Active Members)

It is suggested that we follow AUC recommendations adding to the existing rights of Active Members three new rights, as follows:

- (1) may contact the AUC (new subsection (n) then change the current subsections (n) to (o) and current (o) to (p));
- (2) may serve on a ministry committee, if selected (subsection (q)); and
- (3) may participate in all activities of the ministry afforded to Active Members in good standing (subsection (r)), as recommended by AUC.

CURRENT BYLAWS:

ARTICLE III - Membership in Unity Church of Santa Barbara

SECTION 3.04 - Rights of Active Members

- (n) Any ten (10) active members may request Conflict Transformation assistance by notifying the President of the Association of Unity Churches in writing with copies to the Board of Trustees and minister(s). Upon receipt of a request for assistance from ten or more active members to the President or designee of the Association, said President or designee will confer with the minister(s) and/or Regional Representative to evaluate whether further action is required.
- (o) Participate in the election of the new minister by advisory and secret ballot after the presentation of qualified candidates by the Search Committee.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES:

ARTICLE III - Membership in Unity Church of Santa Barbara

SECTION 3.04 - Rights of Active Members

(n) Any member may contact the Association regional representative or the Association directly for guidance, support or information on available resources.

~~(n)~~ (o) Any ten (10) active members may request Conflict Transformation assistance by notifying the President of the Association of Unity Churches in writing with copies to the Board of Trustees and minister(s). Upon receipt of a request for assistance from ten or more active members to the President or designee of the Association, said President or designee will confer with the minister(s) and/or Regional Representative to evaluate whether further action is required.

~~(o)~~ (p) Participate in the election of the new minister by advisory and secret ballot after the presentation of qualified candidates by the Search Committee.

(q) **Serve on ministry teams or committees, if selected.**

(r) **Participate in all activities and programs of the ministry afforded to Active Members in good standing.**

2. SECOND PROPOSED CHANGE

Article V (Board of Trustees)

Section 5.08 (Board Meetings)

Subsection (e) (Membership Notification)

- (A) Change the place for posting the date, time, place and agenda of all regular and special Board Meetings to the Bookstore instead of the Narthex Bulletin Board and allow for additional notification regarding meetings to be sent by electronic media.
- (B) Allow for advance notice by a Member with an intent to speak at a Board Meeting.

CURRENT BYLAWS:

ARTICLE V - Board of Trustees

SECTION 5.08 - Board Meetings

SUBSECTION (e) - Membership Notification

(e) Membership Notification.

- (1) The date, time, place, and agenda of all regular and special Board Meetings, except in the case of an emergency board meeting, will be posted on the Narthex bulletin board and in the Bookstore.
- (2) All such meetings will be open to membership attendance.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES:

ARTICLE V - Board of Trustees

SECTION 5.08 - Board Meetings

SUBSECTION (e) - Membership Notification

(e) Membership Notification.

- (1) The date, time, place, and agenda of all regular and special Board Meetings, except in the case of an emergency board meeting, will be posted ~~on the Narthex bulletin board and~~ in the Bookstore. **Additionally, notification of and updates to Board meetings may be sent to the members of the Board via electronic media.**
- (2) All such meetings will be open to membership attendance. **A request to speak at a Board Meeting must be received by the President of the Board, or designee, a minimum for forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to allow for any adjustments to the Agenda.**

3. **THIRD PROPOSED CHANGE**

Article VI (Board of Trustees)

(A) First Paragraph and

(B) Section 6.01 (President)

It is suggested that we follow the AUC recommendation that does not create a limitation on the amount of time that an officer may serve on the Board of Trustees, if re-elected. Currently, all officers are allowed to hold office for one year or until their successors are duly elected or qualified. Officers may then be re-elected for another one-year term each year while serving their three-year term on the Board of Trustees, except for the office of President, which is currently restricted to serving not more than two consecutive years. The suggested revision eliminates the current two-year limitation that a President can serve and allows the President to be re-elected each year while serving a three-year term on the Board of Trustees, if the Board chooses to do so. Additionally, the numbering of the subsections in Section 6.01 will change as a result of deleting the current subsection (f): by replacing subsection (f) with current subsection (g), then replacing subsection (g) with current subsection (h), then replacing subsection (h) with current subsection (i), (i)(1) and (i)(2).

CURRENT BYLAWS:

ARTICLE VI - Board of Trustees

FIRST PARAGRAPH and

SECTION 6.01 – President

Board of Trustees - Officers

Officers of the Board of Trustees will consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers will be selected in a manner decided by the Board, at the first Board meeting after the annual meeting, or at a special meeting called for the purpose of selecting officers. Officers will hold their respective offices for one year or until their successors are duly elected or qualified.

Section 6.01 President. The President will:

- (a) Preside at all meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- (b) Preside at all membership meetings.
- (c) Appoint committees in accordance with Article VII.
- (d) Be an ex-officio member of all committees by virtue of the office, except the Nominating Committee.
- (e) Sign such papers and documents, upon proper authorization, as may be necessary.
- (f) Serve not more than two consecutive years.
- (g) Be responsible for planning Board orientations, retreats and workshops.
- (h) Prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, appoint four ballot counters, two from the present Board and two from the membership.
- (i) Upon vacancy in the position of minister:
 - (1) At the next regular or special Board meeting, initiate the Search Committee, triggering the appointment of one Board member and one other person to the Search Committee. [Section 5.01 (v) (1) ((b))]
 - (2) Call such Special Membership Meetings as may be required to facilitate the work of the Search Committee and the participation of the membership in the search process.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES:

**ARTICLE VI - Board of Trustees
FIRST PARAGRAPH and
SECTION 6.01 – President**

Board of Trustees - Officers

Officers of the Board of Trustees will consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers will be selected in a manner decided by the Board, at the first Board meeting after the annual meeting, or at a special meeting called for the purpose of selecting officers. Officers will hold their respective offices for one year or until their successors are duly elected or qualified.

Section 6.01 President. The President will:

- (a) Preside at all meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- (b) Preside at all membership meetings.
- (c) Appoint committees in accordance with Article VII.
- (d) Be an ex-officio member of all committees by virtue of the office, except the Nominating Committee.
- (e) Sign such papers and documents, upon proper authorization, as may be necessary.
- (f) ~~Serve not more than two consecutive years.~~
- ~~(g)~~ Be responsible for planning Board orientations, retreats and workshops.
- ~~(h)~~ (g) Prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, appoint four ballot counters, two from the present Board and two from the membership.
- ⊕ (h) Upon vacancy in the position of minister:
 - (2) At the next regular or special Board meeting, initiate the Search Committee, triggering the appointment of one Board member and one other person to the Search Committee. [Section 5.01 (v) (1) ((b))]
 - (2) Call such Special Membership Meetings as may be required to facilitate the work of the Search Committee and the participation of the membership in the search process

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Music Ministry Report - 9 A.M. Service

This past year has been an exceptional one for the 9 A.M. music team. We now have 22 members in our choir, the Unity Singers. These singers are highly motivated and are willing to show up every Sunday to sing, even though it means getting out of bed early on a Sunday morning. I am always mindful of the time that they spend and asked them if they wanted to go out and do extra Christmas programs in the community, and that suggestion was met with a resounding "Yes!" We brought the cantata to Wood Glen Hall, Garden Court, and Villa Santa Barbara. Our cantata this year was called "Only Love." It was beautiful, and very well-received.

Our veterans' show, "Celebrate the 4th on the 3rd," was also a big success. We honor our veterans, and we have a very good time doing it. Much of the program is pop music, which gives the choir a chance to sing music that we wouldn't sing on a Sunday morning. We have great food at this event - hot dogs, sweet treats, and McConnell's ice cream (thank you to Jeney and Jim.) We presented this program at several retirement centers and created much goodwill in the community. Special thanks to Adrienne & Rick Morinini for handling the hospitality part of this event.

I give great thanks for the Unity Singers:

Cathy Albanese, Kathleen Blake, Deidre Bluit, Russ Chaffin, Chris Coulter, Katherine Crick, Maggie Dennison, Bonnie Dutton, Martha Harkin, Margie Helgeson, Emmie Hileman, David Inouye, Bonnie Ladd, Lumina, Kathy McGuire, Adrienne Morinini, Agris Petersons, Marilou Rivera, Jeanne Schroeder, Stephen H. Smith, Ingrid Smith-May.

A new group was formed this year - the A-Men Brothers, consisting of Agris Petersons, Russ Chaffin, and Chris Coulter. These guys are great, and the congregation loves it when they sing. You may have heard them doing a Rock 'N Roll medley at our talent show.

The Celebrations continue to make beautiful music together. This group consists of Bonnie Dutton, Emmie Hileman, Bonnie Ladd, Kathy McGuire, Jeanne Schroeder, and Ingrid Smith-May. They meet weekly and enjoy dinner together before rehearsal each week.

Katie Ingersoll is our soloist. She can do anything with that voice, and she is also a gifted lyricist. She is often re-writing songs to make the words more meaningful in relationship to the lesson that Rev. Linda is giving. If you see her scribbling during the lesson, you will know that she is tweaking the lyrics to make them more relevant to the lesson.

Bill Hunter is our drummer. He has been a part of our service for 23 years. Bill reads my mind and my body language and adds the perfect rhythm to our music. He is also a gifted songwriter and singer. Due to budget restrictions, he is now with us 3 Sundays of each month.

I am very grateful to be a part of such a strong musical team. We have a lot of fun together, and we enjoy bringing our programs to the congregation. The next program will be on Good Friday. We will be singing the Faure Requiem, the Brahms' "How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place," and other truly exceptional music. I hope you will join us at 7 P.M. on April 2nd.

As always, it is an honor and a privilege for me to serve. I know that we face more budgetary challenges in this coming year. I am confident that we can meet these challenges as we re-commit ourselves to serving Spirit and one another in our wonderful Unity Church.

Blessings and Love,

Noreen

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC MINISTRY
*** 2009 ANNUAL REPORT ***
(March 1, 2010)

"Music was my refuge. I could crawl into the space between the notes and curl my back to loneliness." ~ Maya Angelou, Gather Together in My Name

Change can happen very quickly, or change can move slowly. Gradual shifts give one time to reflect on what works and what does not, preparing the way for even greater events and goals. 2009 seems to have been a refining and preparation year toward great change.

One example is our guest artists. We've always had quality guest artists with great talent and great spirit! Michael Andrews, Brandon Jarrett, Nadine Risha, Leslie Lembo, Susan Kay Wyatt and all our great guest artists love to sing here and have been very impressed with our band, our willingness to improvise, and the Spirit that we bring to our congregation and to them. Many of them bring their families when they sing with us, and I see that as a testament to our Unity spirit.

This year we had a group song leader, first in Makenna Wagner, and now with Mari Martin. Having an in house guest artist adds something unique to the guest artist mix, and having one of 'our own' feels good and they make a tremendous contribution to our lives and Unity family.

Unity Gospel Choir got off to a great start. Big group, big sound, and the first 4 or 5 months were pretty spectacular. We sang at Jake's Café, and auditioned for Verizon's "How Sweet The Sound" Contest. During the summer we saw a shift, and many could not make the commitment needed to keep it going. With a smaller group, we started doing the group songs, and backing our guest artists... both Unity Gospel and our artists loved it!

Inner Light again brought their Anniversary Concert to our sanctuary, and we had a Gospel good time! Makenna did three shows in the sanctuary that were smashing successes. Burning Bowl brought us the Marimba sounds, which were so unique and sounded so good. Our Healing Service last March was a great success and I think we'll see more of that this year. Mari Martin will do her farewell concert at Unity, and hopefully we can get more artists to take advantage of our intimate and Spirit-filled sanctuary.

The Unity Band had been getting rave reviews from our artists and congregants alike. Woody, Rene and Greg have been staples - Vince had a busy year, but Pablo came in and between them made it all work. Our artist LOVE to make music with our band... and vice-versa. That enjoyment, that sense of play, translates to the congregation through the music, making it even more unique and spectacular. It inspires us, puts our vibrations at a higher level, making us ready to receive the message Rev. Linda has for us.

What's next? Collaboration, sharing, communication; I think when all the diverse parts that make Unity Church work together, we can do great things. I'd like to collaborate more with the youth, with 9am service and with all the events that bring us together in the Spirit to bring us even closer together.

Thanks to the Unity Band, the singers, Rev. Linda, Joan, Unity Gospel, Christine, Mary and all of you for making the 11am service so dynamic and Spirit-filled.

Blessings,
Peter Hernandez,
Director Contemporary Music Ministry

"There is nothing in the world so much like prayer as music is." William P. Merrill

Unity Church of Santa Barbara
Youth & Family Ministry Program
Christine Michel, Youth Director
2009 Annual Report

Thank you for your unwavering support of our Youth & Family Ministry. We are growing steadily by leaps and bounds and have added many new families this year. We know and affirm All-sufficiency is here for all of us as we joyfully receive each new Unity Family!

In 2009, we had an amazing Silent Auction Fundraiser surpassing our goal of \$10,000 and raising over \$12,000. We gratefully opened our arms to receive the abundance bestowed upon us. Our expenses for camps, rallies, conferences, and for youth supplies and curriculum totaled just under \$9,000, with an additional \$1,500 paying for the Youth Director the three months of the summer. The balance in our account as of 12-31-09 is \$10,587.53.

In 2010, we anticipate the need for approximately \$9,000.00 to fund the events and youth ministry needs. We generally pay ½ of the event fee and transportation, and this year some of our families are challenged with meeting that expense. We ask your support to fund this need with your participation in April for our "Sponsor a Child/Teen/Educator to Events" to offset the expenses for our youth ministry and the individual families. Our current, on-going fundraiser is the Axxess Books for sale in our bookstore, and we will be continuing with fundraiser lunches and our above mentioned "April Sponsorship" opportunity.

The camps, rallies, group events and educator's events make an incredible difference in the lives of our youth and in the lives of the sponsors who generously give of their time as they participate and put into action Unity Principles. Our youth and the adults who joyfully take part in our youth program are gaining amazing skills and tools to add to their "living curriculum" called Life!

Once again we ask your support to assist in our classrooms. We have many dedicated teachers and assistants and we welcome with open arms those who are called to serve in this way. Please consider helping out with your time and your presence one Sunday a month or as needed. Our Youth Ministry is growing and we could use more teachers and assistants to call upon. We also welcome Snack Angels, Supply Angels, and Special Activity Angels! Please contact me at 805-331-1122.

Thank you to our wonderful teachers and assistants who we absolutely love and adore! I am the YOU sponsor with Jean Clarke Ehlen filling in when I am out of town; Uniteen teachers Lance Jones, Barbara Greene, and David Litman; Unikids teachers Suzanne Weintraub, Lauren Macioce, and Paul Clay; and our Unitots teacher Christina Litman; and of course, all of our amazing assistants, including Terilynn Langsev, Diane Gonzales, Jennifer Somerville, Teresa Polito, Jeff Polito, and Laura Waters. Thank you also to those of you who have participated with us in Prayer, as Snack Angels, and as Supply Angels. For this and so much more we are so very grateful.

Infinite Blessings of All Good,

Christine Michel

PRAYER MINISTRY REPORT

February 10, 2010

It is our joy to pray with you. The Unity Prayer Ministers are dedicated spiritual practitioners committed to prayer and to serving the prayer needs of all those who request prayer. We receive prayer requests from our prayer boxes, by email and by telephone. We also provide prayer for the Voice of Inspiration; in-person prayer support, when requested; and chaplaincy support for hospital and long-term care patients. In addition prayer ministers serve and offer support for special worship services throughout the year. We meet once each month as a group in the Prayer Room to connect as a group and to further our work.

Special Prayer Ministry Activities in 2009:

Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday Prayer Service

Prayer Minister's Tea at Rev. Linda's

Blessing and Mailing of Burning Bowl Letters

Planning and Presentation of World Day of Prayer Service

Christmas Prayer Tree and Prayer Requests

Christmas Candlelighting Service

Burning Bowl Services

We currently have 15 active Prayer Ministers:

Shirley Campbell
Maggie Dennison
Elaine Fagan
Mary Fenger
Carol George
Maureen Green Richard
Cheryl Keyes
Terranda King
Mary Katherine Littman
Julie Slagle
Rev. Linda Spencer
Judy Stewart
Roger Svensson
Maggie Svensson
Teya Walkker

This is our prayer: "Lord, use me as I may be used. Let what I have to give be given. Let no one say, she has refused; Let no one think, he has not striven. Lord, use me-this is all I pray-for Your own purpose, great or small, that by my being here I may contribute to the good of all." -- By James Dillet Freeman

In Oneness,

Rev. Linda Spencer

Pet Prayer Ministry 2009 Annual Report

Mission Statement: Unity Pet Prayer Ministry blesses each and every creature on this earth. We pray for their highest good and thank them for bringing joy and unconditional love to us. Unity Pet Prayer Ministry has been in prayer for pets and their families about 13 years, to assist you in any prayer request. We have 12 dedicated prayer angels in all.

We started last year accepting email prayer requests and also connecting in prayer requests via email. We have been blessed to pray for many congregants and their families and friends. It has been very rewarding to hear the outcome and miracles that happen through prayer.

This silent prayer ministry survives because of the dedicated people who volunteer to be a part of this great ministry. Anyone interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact: Adrienne Morinini at 967-4620 or amorinini@cox.net

Blessings,
Adrienne Morinini
c/o Pet Prayer Ministry

2009 Membership Report

At the March, 2009 Congregational Meeting there were 83 members who attended and voted.

Total Membership as of December, 2008 was 155 Adult Members, plus 13 Junior Members .

New Members: + 13 in February, 2009
 + 3 in September, 2009
 16 New members in 2009

In January 2010 reconfirmation postcards were sent to 166 of the 171 adult members,
(4 members with no current address, 1 member deceased)

Of those 166:
141 reconfirmed with a "yes"
 2 withdrew their membership
 23 no response, and withdrawn from membership

Total "continuing" members = 141 in February 2010

Claudia Mitchell
Membership Chair

Unity Church of Santa Barbara
2009 Site Committee Report

2010 is a new year.

In 2009 several wonderful things happened. Here are a few:

- A small group of church volunteers calling themselves, “The Gardening Club”; led by Jim Knight and Len Garrett meet one Saturday a month to do special trimming, weed pulling and other garden maintenance that adds to the beauty of our church. Many thanks to this group; you are so appreciated.
- We are so grateful to three members of our church for their special gifts that allowed us to replace the heating system in the sanctuary with a new system, which is performing with great efficiency. Thank you to Joanne Schoenfeld-Orenstein and Larry and Claudia Mitchell.
- Small things came up on a regular basis that need help or repair. Thanks to all of you who share your expertise to see that these things get done at a minimum of expense.

We will continue to bring things forward to the Board as the needs arise to get their guidance to resolve these concerns.

Joan and I love this church, and with her exceptional insight and expertise we will continue to present to our community the beautiful property that continues to grow and prosper.

Larry Fagan
Site Committee Chair

GLOBAL OUTREACH MINISTRY
A Special Committee of the Board of Unity Church of Santa Barbara

Purpose: Develop a Unity Global Outreach model of spiritual sharing by establishing education centers & developing sustainable projects globally, especially among women & children in impoverished areas.

Chair: Carl Hightower

Committee: Bill Dutton (Board Liason), Amanda Pelch, Jim Knight, Barbara Rose,
Agris Petersons, David Salazar

"Special" Advisors: Rev. Linda, John Yannos---and "on-site" project advisors as needed

Committee Meetings: Almost entirely by email

Funding: Not a line item of the Church budget
Infrequent donations from the Pastor's Discretionary Tithes
Designated donations from church members
Fund raisers by the chair &/or committee
Committed donations (especially transportation & lodging)
Accounting of Funds: bookkeeper's record of designated donations & "out-of-plate" donations & withdrawal for project expenses as needed & a record of expenses to Peggy Eadie & the Church Accountant

Research & Development for site projects: conducted by the chair, with input from the board, committee & special advisors with updated information to all concerned

Project Reports to Board, Committee members & congregation (via Contact, Internet, Notebooks in Church Office, Photos on Bulletin Boards, etc.)

Past Projects: Hopi Reservation (AZ), Guatemala student fund, Czech Republic Food Bank, Edinburgh, Scotland nursing scholarship

2008 Projects: Costa Rica (social service), Hopi Reservation (material & clothing), East TN (children's shoes & GED), Czech Republic (Food Bank)

Current & Projected Projects for 2009: Costa Rica (social service, sustainable projects), Guatemala (develop Unity Education Center & student microloans), Hopi Reservation (quilting material & children's clothing), Santa Barbara Unity (develop a Unity Global Outreach Resource Center)

UNITY CHURCH OF SANTA BARBARA BOOKSTORE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

PURPOSE: The intention of the Unity Bookstore is to support the congregation's spiritual growth and life needs. Our effort is to create a profit-making enterprise, so that the Bookstore assists in the overall operations of the ministry.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS: Total sales in 2009 were \$14,430 down \$7,751 from 2008. Net income was \$1,061. There would have been a loss had the bookstore manager's expense not decreased by \$2,729. I decreased my billing to the bookstore by \$3,500. There was an additional expense of \$771 to pay Christine Michel and Erik Salthouse to work in the bookstore in my absence from October to December. I must thank Joan Kershaw for her untiring work in the bookstore during my absence. Reverend Linda contributes to bookstore sales with her book studies and sermon cds. Rev. Linda and Christine Michel also contributed with "Faith In Action" and book studies. Their sales continue to sustain the bookstore through the economic crisis of our country. Linda, Christine and Jacob Glass sales were over 45% of the total bookstore sales.

OUTLOOK FOR 2010: Projected sales for 2010 are \$16,000 or \$1,333 per month. Our target sales per week are \$250 with an additional \$250 per month on the second Saturday of the month after the Jacob Glass lecture.

Submitted By:
Sandy Grant
Bookstore Manager

2009-2010 Annual Report of the Fund Development Committee

The Fund Development Committee was formed in January, 2009, and held its first official meeting February 9 of that year. Members are Cozette Bordelon, Diane Doiron, Bull Dutton, Pat Heller (chair), Tom Jarnagan, and Amanda Pelch. Bonnie Ladd served as our graphic designer.

The committee's charge is to create and facilitate fund raising efforts to augment income as well as oversee all fund raising efforts to ensure they are not competing with one another. Others wishing to hold fund raising events now submit a form to the committee for approval after the idea has been vetted and approved by Rev. Linda.

The fund raising goal for 2009-2010 was \$40,000.

The committee's first project was Adopt-a-Bill (AAB). Church members were given the opportunity to choose specific areas of need to support financially for an entire year or a portion of the year. Areas to support were selected from the budget as well as some items not in the budget but considered important--a new furnace--or attractive--painting 13 doors, both of which were fully funded. The project was promoted over several weeks in late spring/early summer and more than \$20,000 was raised.

During the year, Unity congregant and professional photographer/videographer/director Bill Werts offered to do photographic portraits of members for \$500 each (his regular price is \$1500) and donate all proceeds to Unity less a small amount for supplies. This effort, when completed, will net the church approximately \$9500 after expenses.

The committee worked for months preparing for a Smart Car raffle but ultimately decided there was too much risk involved. On February 7, 2010, they launched the Dream Vacation for \$20! Raffle as another major fundraiser. A \$5000 vacation package of the winner's choice, or \$5000 in cash, will be awarded as well as cash prizes of \$100, \$200, \$300, \$400, \$500. Tickets are \$20 or 3 for \$50. The drawing will be held Sunday, April 18, 2010 at Unity at 1 p.m. Part of the marketing effort includes manning a booth at the Santa Barbara Home and Garden Show February 27-28 where the raffle will be exposed to 1500-2000 visitors plus vendors. Other venues will be included as appropriate and possible. 1500 tickets are available and church members were given the opportunity to sell tickets (and receive a free one for every 15 they sell) or purchase tickets outright. The Home Show will provide an excellent venue for members to sell their tickets and earn free ones. The committee hopes to raise \$15-20,000 for Unity to reach its goal for 2009-2010.

A February meeting will feature discussion on plans for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Heller
Chair

Conflict Resolution Committee Report for the Annual meeting March 7, 2010

The conflict resolution committee is an ongoing standing group established by the Board of Trustees in August of 2005. Its members are Bonnie Dutton, Kathleen Blake, Russ Chaffin, Dr. Jim Kwako and Rev, Linda Spencer.

The purpose of the committee is to be made aware of and to assist in the resolution of any conflict in the church. These conflicts could be between congregants, congregants and staff or minister or between staff and minister.

In 2009 the committee met regarding one issue of conflict between 2 members of the congregation. The committee members who met were Bonnie Dutton, Kathleen Blake, and Russ Chaffin with written input from Rev Linda Spencer.

This issue was resolved, peaceably.

Committee Chair,
Bonnie Dutton

The VIA Annual Report ~ Diane Doiron, Chair

This past year your VIA members (Volunteers Increasing Abundance and Attendance at Unity) not only brought you several joyfilled celebrations during 2009 but we commandeered a deepening level of involvement by all Unity members into the inner workings of our church.

We all enjoyed eating *delicious food* at our Valentine and Harvest Gratitude Gatherings and partied the night away at the Sock Hop in the summer – *even Elvis showed up to sing for us!* Then just before the holidays our Christmas Bake sale was a huge success for the 2nd year – it was mmmmmmm good!

On a practical level, we organized all the various Sign up/clipboards into one place (on the wall outside the office – have you noticed?) and cleaned up and organized both the garage and basement storage areas.

Perhaps the best thing we did was to start the effort to “*organize ourselves*” through our **Heart to Heart Volunteer project**. First we redefined ALL the various tasks that it takes to both gear up and put on a successful Sunday service into well over 100 essentially one hour tasks. Then we asked each of you to step up and **pledge just 1 hour of your time to Unity each month** by taking on one of the tasks. You responded enthusiastically !!! At last count over 120 tasks have been claimed by your loving pledges... Best of all - every single task is now filled by someone in our Church community who cares and No One will ever again feel overwhelmed or overworked by feeling that they have taken on more than their share..... New people to Unity will be able to serve as *back ups on those tasks that interest them* until there is space for them to move forward. **OUR THANKS to EACH AND EVERYONE of you ! - We truly love and appreciate you!**

Want to join VIA ? Our teams are made up of people such as yourself who are interested in promoting abundance and attendance at Unity – we meet to brainstorm and complete projects that will benefit us all in the areas of beautification, social activities, newcomers, communication and organizational development.

Please let me know if you're interested in joining one of our teams by filling out an information form on Sunday and turning it into the office..... Blessings, Diane