Unity is a positive, practical, progressive approach to Christianity based on the teachings of Jesus and the power of prayer. Unity honors the universal truths in all religions and respects each individual's right to choose a spiritual path.

- Unity Worldwide Ministries



unity

of Livonia

In observance of New Years Day and MLK Day, the church offices will be CLOSED on Wednesday, January 1 and Monday, January 20, 2025.

White Stone Ceremony



Sunday, January 5th, 10 AM

This year our White Stone Ceremony will take place on the first Sunday of January. Join us as we become fully present in the now and create a vision for the future.

Prepare yourself to commune with the Christ energy and envision what 2025 holds for you and who you are becoming in the new year.

This ceremony reflects the teachings of Jesus and is powerful reminder of the Truth of who we are and all that we are called to be.

CHURCH CLOSURES



On rare occasions Unity of Livonia may need to close due to inclement weather. Please note that if Sunday services should need to be cancelled, Facebook and our Website will be updated by 7:30 AM when possible.

www.unityoflivonia.org

What goes up, Must come down...

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas this year! Now it's time to put away those special decorations for another year.



Please join us on Friday and Saturday, January 10th and 11th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM as we restore our spiritual home back to its natural state. If you are available to assist, text or call Pat Duffield at (734) 718-4715.

Ho, ho, hope to see you there!

Christmas Gratitude

Thank you to everyone who participated to make this year's Adopt-a-Family program so successful! In addition to the multitude of gifts received, we also collected \$1200 in financial donations to make Christmas extra merry for two fabulous families and one special senior. A special thank you to Santa's elves who helped shop, wrap, and deliver this year's gifts: Rev Cindy and Ken Yamamoto, Cheryl and Tracy Graunstadt, Jan Kaplan, Nancy Bank, Judy Cole, Christina and Amber.

Also a big thank you to Kathy McSurely and the Hospitality Team for hosting a lovely Christmas party on December 15th. Special thanks go out to our Santa,

Ken Yamamoto, and Cheryl Graunstadt who coordinated the Cookie Walk which raised \$123 for Unity of Livonia. This event would not have happened if not for all the chefs and bakers out there who donated their time and talents and treats.

"Volunteers, we love you. We bless you. We truly appreciate you. And we behold the Christ in you"

New Class and Book Study

The Five Principles by Ellen Debenport

The five principles constitute the core teachings of Unity; a spiritual movement founded in 1889 by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore. These same principles reflect the laws of the Universe that apply to everyone, all the time. They show up in every major religion, and are all reflected in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Join Rev Cindy and others in a deeper exploration of these foundational Truths. We'll discuss how to work with these principles, test them, and apply them to our lives as we move through a book study of <u>The Five Principles: A Guide to</u> <u>Practical Spirituality: A Guide to Practical Spirituality</u>, by Rev Ellen Debenport.

The study will take place via Zoom on five consecutive Monday evenings, January 27, 2025 – February 24, 2025 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. EST. There is no fee for the class, but you must pre-register to get the Zoom link. You can register on the sign-up sheet at Unity of Livonia by providing your name and email address, or by calling the office at 734-421-1760 and sharing that information with our staff or on our voicemail.

Whether you're new to Unity, or have been around for decades, this study will invite you into an immersive discovery of yourself and your relationship with your higher power, so that you may live more fully into your Wholeness. Books are available for purchase in the Unity of Livonia bookstore or can be ordered online at <u>https://shop.unity.org/product/the-five-principles</u>. If you are able, please read pages 1 - 33 to prepare for our first meeting.

We are looking forward to sharing this journey with you. Feel free to invite a friend.

Strengthen Your Spirituality

Attend Unity of Livonia's

Men's Group Meetings

January 4th, 9:00 am

&

January 18th, 9:00 am

Join us on the first and third Saturdays of the month for breakfast and to "strengthen your spirituality" by reading and discussing related articles together.

9:00 – Breakfast

9:30 - Daily Word

10:00 - Break

10:15 - Question of the Day





In pursuit of living our best lives

Meeting... January 3rd and 10th 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Join us as we explore and learn from one another through interactive activities empowering ourselves to celebrate and honor the truth and wholeness of who we are.

First and second Fridays of each month, from 11-12:30 in Friendship Hall.

Facilitated by Annette Mullett, Patricia Askew, and Judy Cole.

We hope to see you there !

Prayer for Our Neighbors

The light of God surrounds our neighbors in the peace and harmony of oneness,

The love of God enfolds our neighbors with kindness, compassion and love,

The power of God protects our neighbors as they take their next brave steps in life,

The presence of God is within our neighborhood, always & in all ways.

And so it is... Mashallah, Shalom, Amen, Namaste



Conversation, Coffee, and Cookies...

A Drop-in Circle of Sharing

Thursday, January 16th from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm in Friendship Hall

We know that our world has become more disconnected as we interact more often through devices. Our goal is to provide a space and time to meet in person and get to know each other as we discuss topics of interest to everyone.

All are welcome and no commitment is required.



Support Unity of Livonia by joining us for bowl (or two) of hot soup on the last Sunday of the month:

January 26th

February 23rd March 30th

Your \$5 love offering will be used to benefit Unity of Livonia. Soup will be served with bread, rolls, or crackers. If you'd like to volunteer to make a pot of soup for one of these events, or assist with set up or clean up, please see Cheryl Graunstadt.

This event is scheduled to run during regular Sunday Fellowship immediately following Sunday service.



Sunday, January 19th, 1 pm - 3 pm

Unity of Livonia's Friendship Hall

If you have ever wanted to try vegan food, bring a friend and join the vegans in our community for this special potluck.

Please bring a serving for 8 of any vegan dish: No animal products or byproducts No meat, dairy, eggs, whey, lard, casein, gelatin, or meat broth.

Please bring a copy of the recipe you have used.

Need recipe ideas or have any questions? Please Google "How do I know what to bring to a vegan potluck?"

2024 Year End Financial Statements

The business office at Unity of Livonia will be **emailing** your 2024 financial statements to you in January. In anticipation of this event, please ensure the office has your most recent contact information, including address, phone number and **email** before the end of the year.

Contact the office at <u>unityoflivoniaops@gmail.com</u> or (734) 421-1760 to report changes.

You will only receive a statement if your donations have exceeded \$50 in 2024.

Congratulations to our Volunteer of the Month, December 2024

Nancy Bank

This person brings all her knowledge, experience and talent as a former staff member, to her role as a volunteer. Few are aware that she has been

editing and sending the monthly newsletter since May 2023. In our transition period between administration managers, she has gladly helped with general operations and collection counting on Mondays. Most recently, she helped with gift wrapping for our Adopt a Family outreach. She does everything with joy and a passion for her spiritual community. Please join me in recognizing Nancy Bank as our Volunteer of the Month for December 2024.

> "Nancy, we love you. We bless you. We truly appreciate you. We behold the Christ in you."

Remember to Confirm Your VOTING Membership Status

Our bylaws state that all voting members must confirm their voting membership status on an annual basis. The purpose of this exercise is to ensure we have an accurate membership count when determining whether a quorum is present during annual meetings.

Like last year, we will be reconfirming voting membership through a survey which will be emailed to each member of our Unity family provided we have an email address for you on file. **Please watch for your email survey in the coming weeks.** Thank you in advance for responding to the survey as early as possible which will save our staff valuable time.

If you don't have an email address registered with the office please call (734) 421-1760 and convey your interest in retaining your membership. Our office is open Monday - Wednesday 10am - 4pm. If we are not here, please leave a message with the name of everyone in your household that would like to remain a voting member.

The staff at Unity of Livonia thanks you in advance for your cooperation!

Did you know that Kroger will donate a percentage of your purchase to Unity of Livonia? All you need to do is specify Unity of Livonia as your rewards partner



Visit Kroger Community Rewards today

Last quarter, Kroger donated \$63.21 to Unity of Livonia

Spiritual Power of the Month

January - Faith

Disciple: Peter Color: Blue



Faith is the ability to believe, intuit, and perceive. Faith does not come all at once with a mighty thud. It must grow. It must be encouraged. It must be invited and then made welcome.

Faith has been defined in many ways. The writer of Hebrews referred to it as "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Understood in this light, Faith is that quality in us which enables us to look past appearances of lack, limitation, or difficulty, to take hold of the divine idea and believe in it, even though we may not see any evidence of it. Through faith we know with an inner knowing the Truth that has not yet expressed itself in our manifest world.

"Faith blesses my day and paves my way"



Morning Reflections & "Live at Five"

On Hiatus 1/13 - 1/24

Morning Reflections meets on weekday mornings from 10:00 - 10:30 AM. All are welcome to join us via Zoom to connect and reflect. Through January 6th we will be using the Unity Advent booklet "Be Not Afraid: The Comfort of Christmas". Reverend Cindy will be using other materials January 7th -January 10th, Then after the hiatus, we will begin using a new booklet called "Return to Wholeness: Living Healed, Whole, and Healthy". A limited supply of the booklets will be available for purchase at the bookstore. Additionaly booklets can be ordered online by clicking on the link above.

During Morning Reflections we begin by reading a brief passage from our booklet, followed by an open discussion where we share our thoughts, feelings, ideas, and prayers. Join us any day or every day. While a booklet is not required, one can be downloaded using the link provided above.

If you are not available to join us at 10:00 AM, you will have a second chance to join me "Live at Five" on Facebook at approximately 5:00 PM most weekdays. I will share an inspiration from the same booklet and a synopsis of what was discussed at 10:00 AM. It's a great two to three minute recharge!

In Peace, Joy, and Love, Reverend Cindy

Join Zoom Meeting Morning Reflections

Meeting ID: 830 2454 8261 Passcode: reflection

Dial in number: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 830 2454 8261 Passcode: 9728310109 *6 to Mute or Unmute



Unity of Livonia

A Course in Miracles



Study Group

with Rev Jim White

Tuesday Evenings, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (ET)

Join us each week on Zoom for a complete, ongoing study of <u>A Course in Miracles (</u>ACIM).

Join at any time!

For more information, send your email to info@lovecomm.org. Or call 1.734.306.7899.

Meditation at your Fingertips

Did you know there are a wonderful collection of audio meditations from the Unity Prayer Ministry available online to support you?

New two to five minute meditations are released monthly and others are archived. There are many to choose from and they are arranged by topic at this



website: https://www.unity.org/collection/monthly-audio-meditations-unity

Unity also has a YouTube channel that provides online meditations for your spiritual enrichment: <u>https://www.youtube.com/@UnityOnlineOrg</u>

Unity... where your heart is at "ohm"



Online Giving

Did you know you can make a donation to Unity of Livonia online by supplying your credit card or bank account information? Both one-time and recurring donations can be scheduled.

Recent changes to our website allow you to designate a program or group (e.g., Morning Reflections, Outreach) for your donation. For a complete list of the programs or groups available, visit our website at:

www.unityoflivonia.org/donate

SILENT UNITY IS HERE FOR YOU 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Do you have a prayer request? There are several ways to contact Silent Unity, the 24/7-prayer ministry:

Download the **uPray** mobile prayer app on your mobile device

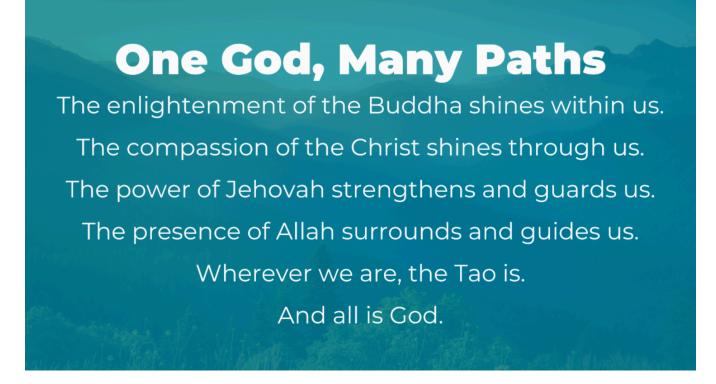
Or use our online prayer request form.

Call: 1-816-969-2000

Write: Silent Unity, 1901 NW Blue Parkway, Unity Village, MO 64065-0001



Compassionate. Convenient. Confidential.



Did you like what you read? If so, please consider making a donation to Unity of Livonia's general fund or the capital fund which is reserved for infrastructure improvements. <u>CLICK HERE</u>

Sunday Worship Service 10 AM - Available live and on YouTube at

youtube.com/user/unityoflivonia

Office Hours, Monday thru Wednesday 10AM - 4PM

Unity of Livonia | 28660 Five Mile Rd. | Livonia, MI 48154 US

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