



## *May - June 2019 Newsletter*

May is a special month. We honor all mothers on Mother's Day. I have very fond memories of my own mother. She was a gentle spirit who loved nature, worked hard and was always smiling. My memories always seem to be of her in the kitchen or garden preparing all our homegrown food, whether it was canned, frozen or in crocks and baskets lined up in our fruit cellar. She and I share May as our birthday month, although she was a Taurus (9<sup>th</sup>) and I'm a Gemini (26<sup>th</sup>). That means that she loved family, home and the land, while I have an active mind with a gypsy spirit.

This year I'll turn 70 and am also celebrating my 25<sup>th</sup> year as a Unity Minister. I was actually ordained in June, but what's a week in time when we have an excuse to have cake! My mind is filled with so many memories. I always say that my call to ministry was because God knew that the only way I was going to "get it" was if I was forced to "study it and teach it." If I helped a few friends along the way, then that was an added blessing.

Ministry has forced me to grow by insisting that I face my issues and walk through fear to become strong in spirit. I have learned that if we totally trust God (by whatever name we call the Divine Presence), totally let go and go with the flow of where life takes us, our life experiences will free us and lift us up to exactly where we need to be. We just have to trust the flow! Too bad it took me 25 years to learn that!!

Loving Blessings,  
Ann Marie

*Happy-  
Mother's  
Day-*

## *Message from our President:*

Wow!

A fellow asked me at breakfast the other day how many individuals attended last Sunday's services. I shared with him, "101." "Wow!" was heard from several nearby individuals. "What do you attribute this growth to?" they asked me. I looked around the table at 13 men from different backgrounds, ages and origins and said, "You."

This gathering of men, sometimes up to 16 in number, is a microcosm of our church. Imagine getting 16 men to come together, not once but twice a month, and not for a sporting event, entertainment, or something of the like. Yet here we were, the Unity Church Men's Breakfast group at the Arizona Family Restaurant, enjoying one other's company without any set agenda or expectations save for what each brought to the table. This group was easily over 50% of the male population of our church!

As breakfast continued, the men began to share individual experiences in the spiritual context of their reason for supporting our Unity Church. I would like to summarize the sharing as best as my failing memory allows. What was emphasized first and foremost was the feeling one experiences walking through the front door: an immediate "welcome." The characteristics of the congregation that the noted include genuine happiness, laughter, the music, and it being a haven "for who I am, or from who people perceive me to be." Gradually, the old fear of "when will this implode and return to old dogmas?" has been shed. Fear has been replaced by a difficult to describe feeling of goodness, love and caring. You just want to return again and again and aren't reluctant to tell others outside of the church of your experience. Then of course, our Minister, Ann Marie Beale, orchestrates the messages we all need to hear and delivers them in her wonderful fashion.

"What do you attribute our growth to?" Once again, breaking it down to its simplest form, the answer is a love for one another. This is how our Unity Church in the Valley grows. A slow, but continuous message is carried to all who have need of it. I once asked a regular participant at our Sunday services why he didn't attend our breakfast. He said "I would, but I drive all the way from Tucson each Sunday for services. Meeting at 8 am is daunting." Sometimes, I forget the "reach" this church has, to not only out to our local community, but surrounding communities as well. But I invite the remainder of our male constituents to stop by The Arizona Family Restaurant on the first or third Tuesday (8 am) and share breakfast conversation with us. No Agenda. I also don't want to leave the Ladies out. They have always been a social inspiration to their male counterparts. They have their luncheons on the first Wednesdays of each month at locations determined monthly. Thanks everyone for your continued support and thanks to all our numerous volunteers for the gift of their precious time.

Blessings,

Ken Wilson



*Prayer after service in the  
Angel Room  
with*

**1st Sunday: Rev Liz Bowman**  
**2nd Sunday: Rev Jerry Hooley**  
**3rd Sunday: Joan Jennings**  
**4th Sunday: Michael Beale**



**Silent Unity 816-969-2000    [unity.org/prayer](http://unity.org/prayer)**



*Special Events*

**May 26th** Ann Marie's 25<sup>th</sup> celebration  
**June 21st** Summer Solstice Concert 7pm  
**June 30th** 4 of July BBQ



*On-Going Events*

**Mondays - 11 a.m. - *Course of Love* – Discussion Group facilitated by Charlotte Lilledahl**

**1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast**

**1st Wednesday - 11:30 a.m. – Women's Luncheon**

**1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 4 p.m. Michael's Tibetan Singing Bowl Meditation**

**Thursdays - 10-11 a.m. – *On the Brink of Everything* by Parker Palmer Discussion Group facilitated by Mary Clare Lynch**

**Summer Solstice Concert**

**Amber and her band and Saber**

**Celebrate the Divine Feminine**

**Bring in a picture of your Mother or Mother Figure for our display table during the month of May.**

**7 P.M.**



# Unity In the Valley celebrates 30 years



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