

*ONE GOD, MANY PATHS, SPIRITUAL NOT RELIGIOUS*



It is only with the  
**HEART** that one can  
see rightly; what is  
**ESSENTIAL** is  
invisible to the eye.

*-Antoine de Saint-Exupery*



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## **Gifts of the Heart**

*By Elizabeth Searle Lamb*

What have I to give?  
Oh, I am rich with gifts  
Ready for the giving:  
The gift of joy  
That lights a shadowed spot;  
The gift of perceptive praise;  
The gift of thanks, its value  
Doubled when unexpected.  
There is the gift of faith  
Wrapped in action, perhaps,  
Or ribboned with words,  
Or hidden deep within a prayer.  
There is the gift of love,  
A gift which, in the giving,  
Is the gift of myself.  
Oh, I am rich with gifts  
And am constantly made richer  
By the giving.





### Heart Talk

by Bernadette Voorhees



I'd like to share a story with you by Moss Hart called, *Two Lonely People*:

"We hurried to the cluster of lights that was 149th Street and Westchester Avenue and started down the line of pushcarts. I would pause before each one and say, (with as much control as I could muster), 'Look at that chemistry set,' or 'Look at that stamp album,' or 'Look at that printing press.' Each time my father would pause and ask the pushcart man the price. Then, without a word, we would move on to the next. Once or twice he picked up a toy of some kind and looked at me as if to suggest that this might be something I would like. But I was 10 years old and beyond, 'just a toy'. My heart was set on a chemistry set or a printing press. They were on every pushcart but the price was always the same.

As we looked at the last pushcart, I heard my father jingle some coins in his pocket. In a flash I knew it all. He'd gotten together about 75 cents to buy me a Christmas present and he hadn't dared to say so in case there wasn't anything to be had for so small a sum. As I looked up at him and saw the look of despair in his eyes, it brought me closer to him than I think I have ever been in my life. I wanted to throw my arms around him and say, 'It doesn't matter. I understand. This is better than a chemistry set or a printing press. I love you.' But, instead, we just stood shivering beside each other for a minute before turning away from the pushcarts and silently starting back home. I didn't take his hand on the way home, nor did he take mine. We were not on that basis. Nor did I ever tell him how close to him I felt that night. But for a little while, the concrete wall between father and son had crumbled away, and I knew that we were two lonely people struggling to reach each other."

I pray that this Christmas, unlike every other Christmas time you've ever experienced, is a current experience in recognizing and feeling the tremendous activity in the manger of your own heart of the birth of the Christ in you, your hope of glory.

♥ In love and light, Bernadette



# Bookstore Ministry

## Lighted Path Bookstore Ministry

Team Leader: Grace Conners



Entering into the Holiday Season is always a special time of the year for me. I look forward to gatherings with family and friends and the festive decorations!

If the days start seeming extra hectic and stressful, then it is all the more important that we take time for meditation and also to just sit and read books that soothe and inspire.

As the holiday season approaches, keep the bookstore in mind for gift giving ideas. Ideas include inspirational books, CD's, candles, incense, etc. We also have gift certificates available for purchase.

And do not forget CD's with winter/holiday themes. Holiday music playing in the background is so effective for setting the tone and raising the spirits during the holidays.

Please stop by the bookstore on Sundays, look around and visit with the volunteer on duty.



Lighted Path Bookstore Volunteer Schedule				
November	4	Grace Conners	2	December
	11	Sandy Wilson	9	
	18	Shaun McCarton	16	
	25	Grace Conners	23	
		Shaun McCarton	30	
Volunteers: Please contact <b>Grace Conners</b> or another volunteer if you cannot work your scheduled Sunday. Thanks.				

## Bookstore Ministry



The darker and colder the day, the more I want to curl up with a good book. I light a scented candle from our LIGHTED PATH BOOKSTORE, turn on one of Jim Fischer's holiday or inspirational CD's and enjoy the special beauty of a winter's day. To deepen your understanding of the meaning of Christmas I suggest studying *The Trip To Bethlehem* by Hypatia Hasbrouk. It's even better when shared with friends. Love, Bernadette



### ***The Trip To Bethlehem*** by Hypatia Hasbrouk

This powerful book invites you to experience the drama of Christmas in the most profound way inside yourself. You will find that all the characters and all the pieces of the story are parts of who you are. After you read this book, Christmas will never be the same and your whole life will be richer.

### **Christmas With Jim Fischer & Friends**

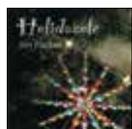
Join Jim Fischer & Friends as he presents his 16th annual benefit concert for Friends of the Carpenter, a ministry for the homeless.

Sunday, December 1, 2018 at 3 pm  
First Presbyterian Church  
4300 Main St., Vancouver, WA 98663

Freewill offering

For more information, call 360-750-4752 or visit [friendsofthecarpenter.org](http://friendsofthecarpenter.org).

### **Jim Fischer CD's:**



Give what you have; to someone it may be better than you dare to think. ~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



## Prayer Ministry

### You're never far from our prayer support:

email: [phaedra@unityofvancouver.com](mailto:phaedra@unityofvancouver.com) or call: 360-696-0996

### Daily Word Team Leaders: Larry & Joanne Turner

Call 360-694-4325 for a 24-hour taped inspirational message.  
Silent Unity Prayer Circle meets every Sunday from, 9:30-9:50am

## Affirmations

**November:** Seasons come and go. Prayer we have practiced bears fruit. We begin a fresh period of prayer in thanksgiving for all that has come and gone, all that remains as blessing.

**December:** As we celebrate the birth of Christ Consciousness this month we focus on peace, light, love and life within and all around us, as we begin this time of prayer.

<i>November Affirmations</i>	<i>December Affirmations</i>
I breathe in an atmosphere of God's perfect peace.	Divine peace is my path and my true nature.
By the light of divine wisdom, I know the way to go.	I follow the star and respond to the light of divine wisdom.
All conditions are harmonized and healed in the presence of God life.	God is the flow of life within my body and being.
In a spirit of thanksgiving I thrive.	I rejoice in abundant possibilities.
I am a visionary of peace within and among all people.	The Christ born in me is a gift to the world.
<i>We invite you to focus on these affirmations. Spoken aloud or silently, these affirmations support you in creating a spiritually centered life.</i>	

Affirmations are positive statements of Truth. By affirming Truth we are lifted out of false thinking into the consciousness of Spirit. Each time we pray positively and faithfully, we are calling forth the divine activity that is always within us.



## **My Healing Prayer**

I go to my place of prayer, settle into the Silence and allow serenity to infill my mind. I feel at peace as I feel the presence of God. All the nerves in my body are calm as I say to my body, "Slow down. Peace, be still." As I say to my mind, "Slow down. Peace, be still." As I say to my spirit, "Slow down. Peace, be still." God is with me now and living, ever-renewing energy from God infills me and restores me to vitality. In my mind's eye, I see a reflecting pool of God energy and a reflection of myself living in God and having wonderful energy surging through my mind and body in every moment. I see myself living in abundant love, light and joy in every moment. I catch the vision of what God created me to be; the vision of my spiritual awakening. God is with me now. I am infilled with new life; lasting life; life that is more than temporal; life that is more than sickness and pain. My life is that of God Eternal. In this awareness, the reflecting pool before my inner eye becomes ablaze with light and I am infused with it into one abundant essence out of which flows only goodness and love. This light surrounds and fills every cell in my body and I am a part of this oneness. I am a part of all harmony and divine order and I know, "God and I are not apart. We are one."

Dear wonderful body of God in which I live, move, have my being, and breathe and act with, I praise you for the health that is manifesting in you, for the miracle that you are and for the life of God that is in every cell and organ. I praise my heart for the efficient way it beats and my body for the way it eliminates all that is not up to the God standard. My body is neither young or old, heavy nor dense. My body is but light, tension free, radiant God light. Every cell is filled with Divine intelligence and every cell is responding to these words of Truth. "I am a child of God. I am a being of light. I am one with health and wholeness. I can have health. I can accept it, hold onto it and manifest it. I am not getting worse. I am getting better." This holiday season is the season of the turnaround in my health and belief. I hold to this Truth and eliminate all other thoughts. In the nature and the belief of Jesus Christ I affirm that this is so. Amen.



## *Youth Ministry*

### **Youth Ministry**

Team Leader:  
Katherine Schuh



**Youth Education:** Katherine Schuh  
**Nursery:** Phaedra Karoy  
**UNITEENS & Y.O.U.:** Shari Frisbie

The months of November and December are packed with opportunities for family joy and love. The darkest months of year bring the brightest memories as families gather together for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. May your family and friends gather for happy and holy events throughout the holiday season. Blessings and Joy to everyone.

During November, the month that celebrates the Spiritual Power of Elimination, and December, with a focus on the Spiritual Power of LIFE, Youth Education classes will continue to use various meditation techniques in order to learn how to open ourselves to these inherent spiritual powers. We will also work to express gratitude and thankfulness to our families, friends and planet. On Sunday, December 2nd we will begin the four-week Advent Journey that leads to Christmas. Please talk to me about ways that you can bring this journey into your own home.

### **Children's Celebration & Christmas Candle Lighting Service Sunday, December 23**

We will join our church family in the Sanctuary for our sacred candle lighting service. This is a very special service shared by the whole family. Please tell Katherine or Phaedra the number of children you are bringing so that we prepare enough treat bags for everyone.

### **Y.O.U and UNITEENS: Sponsor: Shari Frisbie**

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to our monthly fundraisers which made our attendance at the **Northwest Regions' Youth Of Unity Fall Retreat** possible. We had a wonderful time making like-minded new friends, reconnecting with old ones and learning more about being a

**November Affirmation:** I let go and let God.

**December Affirmation:** The radiant life of God expresses through me.

## Youth Ministry & Teams



positive influence in the world. We are richly blessed to be part of such a nourishing church family and we are grateful for your financial support of our activities.

**Please join us for our monthly upcoming Food Raisers.**

### **November 4: Annual Pie Potluck Sunday**

Good company, great pie and fellowship immediately following service. Bring your favorite home baked pie to share or a Love Offering to help our Teen Group attend their camp opportunities next year.

### **December 2: Winter Stew**

This is one of our favorite holiday gatherings. We come to Unity and warm our hearts and minds with our Sunday Celebration. We then gather in Fellowship to warm our tummies with delicious Winter Stew.

We want to thank everyone who has recently commented on the Fellowship area's monthly decorations. This is just one of our ways of giving back to our Church Family the love and kindness we feel that you shower upon us. We are delighted at the joy it brings to everyone who gathers with us to share Fellowship in this area.

**WILL YOU BE OUR NEW CO-SPONSOR?** We are unable to meet every Sunday because our wonderful Sponsor, **Shari** has other obligations to fulfill to our church family. We would deeply benefit from having a Co-Sponsor to be with us when **Shari** is needed upstairs for service. Our group is growing and in Unity there are many possibilities for us but we need at least one additional adult to help provide a safe and loving environment and to help us to grow.

### **Volunteer Teams & Team Leaders**

<b>Bookstore: Grace Conners</b>	<b>Grounds/Building: Harvey Schuh</b>
<b>Caring For Each Other: Bernadette Voorhees</b>	<b>Dial-a-Prayer: Larry &amp; Joanne Turner</b>
<b>Greeting: Sandy &amp; Ken Hattan</b>	<b>Lending Library/CD : Sandy Wilson</b>
<b>Office/Mailing Support: Phaedra Karoy</b>	<b>YM: Katherine Schuh / Y.O.U.: Shari Frisbie</b>



## *Events & Inspiration*

### **Joy's Thanksgiving & Christmas Holiday Feasts**

November 22 and December 25 at 1pm

Don't be alone on the holidays. Enjoy good food, fun and fellowship. Joy provides the main course and tea and you bring the sides. Singles and couples are welcome. Her small home is not suitable for children. To RSVP, please text or call Joy with your name, phone #, number of guests, and the side dish you will bring. No alcohol please. Call Joy if you are lost and need directions at 360-980-1066.

### **Service Of The Nativity Family Candle Lighting Celebration December 23, 10 - 11am**

The Nativity is a visual proclamation of the Christmas story. Each piece of the Nativity unfolds the story of Christ's birth.

It is a story of hope because God built a bridge of Divine Love from Itself to us. It is a story that shines through the birth of every child and resonates in the supportive ties of every family. Join us for an inspiring journey of affirmative prayer and music by Jim Fischer. This is a Family Service and there will be no Youth Program that morning. At the end of the service there will be treats for Unity's children.

### **Burning Bowl Ritual Sunday, December 30, 10-11am**

#### **Blessing Of Gratitude**

**THANK YOU** for your continued financial support! Year End Gifts to Unity of Vancouver must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2018 to ensure **TAX CREDIT** for 2018.

Receipts available on request. All tithes and love offerings to this Ministry are tax deductible and deeply appreciated.



**Remember! Be ready to "Fall Back" on Sunday, November 4,  
by setting your clocks back one hour on Saturday night.**

## Board Update



**AFFIRMATION:** "In our Unity of Purpose, we are guided by Infinite wisdom and prospered by Divine Love."

### SEPTEMBER 2018

**MOTION APPROVED:** The Board Commissioned an Ad Hoc Prosperity Committee to actively support the 'Thriving Series' from September through November 4, 2018.

**MOTION APPROVED:** Paulette Smith was invited to be reinstated as an active member of Unity of Vancouver.

**MOTION APPROVED:** Upstairs music filing cabinets will be exchanged for new, safer ones (donated by Sandy Wilson).

### OCTOBER 2018

The Board received a written proposal about a potential fundraising opportunity connected with shopping at stores such as Fred Meyer & Amazon.

**MOTION APPROVED:** We will pursue the fundraising options with Fred Meyer and Amazon, pending our ability to meet the non-profit requirements of their programs.

**NEXT BOARD MEETINGS: November 4 & December 2**

**PROSPERITY BANK Sundays: November 4 & December 2**

We maintain our church home through monies collected the first Sunday of each month in our Prosperity Banks. If you don't have a Prosperity Bank a Ziploc bag works just as well!

**YOU CAN HELP:** A six-line informational message in *The Columbian* newspaper is \$26 per week. Your extra gift of a \$26.00 or \$112.00 will help us to advertise Unity of Vancouver's services and workshops. Thank You!

# Unity of Vancouver

WHERE LOVE IS FELT AND LIVES ARE CHANGED



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[phaedra@unityofvancouver.com](mailto:phaedra@unityofvancouver.com)

Sunday Celebration Service 10–11am

Bookstore open after Sunday service.

Midweek Service Wednesdays, 7–8pm

Daily Word: 360-694-4325

Silent Unity: 816-969-2000

Español: 816-554-2580

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