



## Giving Thanks for Everything


by Rev. Paulette Pipe

"Let me turn down the radio so I can hear you better," my mother said as she disappeared off the line.

The next voice I heard on the phone was my dad's and it startled me. I thought he was still in the hospital recovering from the heart attack he'd endured several days earlier. This telephone call to my mother was to get an update on his condition; she used it as an opportunity to pleasantly surprise me.

"Oh, Dad, you're home! I'm so glad to hear your voice. How are you feeling?" I asked. His standard reply seemed understated given the circumstances: "I'm all right for the time being," he responded.

After living in the United Kingdom for almost 25 years, my parents had moved back to their island home in the Caribbean. A few years before, I had introduced them to Daily Word, which they looked forward to receiving. As part of their daily devotion, my mum would read Daily Word out loud to my dad and then they would study the accompanying Scripture in greater depth. Though we were living in different parts of the world, starting our day with the same inspirational message was one of the ways we felt connected.



**Thanksgiving  
and gratitude**  
[are] transformative  
practices that [can]  
heal any situation.

Rev. Paulette Pipe

**Grateful Living**.today

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I had forgotten how, on a previous occasion, Dad and I had discussed one of the Daily Word topics. So when his next words to me were, "I did what you said," I was momentarily confused.

"What did I say?" I asked.

Dad reminded me that we had talked about the power of thanksgiving and gratitude. I had shared, among other things, that thanksgiving and gratitude were transformative practices that could heal any situation and that, no matter what was going on or how challenging the circumstances of our lives, we could always find something to give thanks for. In so doing, we could take the focus off what is "not working."

Those words, innocently shared in a conversation weeks beforehand, would resound in Dad's mind the

day he was being driven to the hospital with a failing heart.

The only hospital in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is located in the capital of Kingstown 12 miles from my parents' home and accessible only by one narrow road that runs the length of the island. To wait for an ambulance to arrive from the capital to transport Dad to the hospital would have meant certain death. The only recourse to try to save his life was for my younger brother, Leroy, to drive him there in the family car.

Filled with potholes and cliff ledges overhanging the sea, the road is a dangerous and uncomfortable drive at the best of times and even more so when being driven at break-neck speed!

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## Unity Update

Unity Update is a monthly newsletter published by Unity of Topeka and distributed by U.S. mail and by email, and posted online at [www.unity-of-topeka.org](http://www.unity-of-topeka.org).

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# Sunday Worthship Speakers

Unity of Topeka is a guest-speaker ministry that features compelling speakers who are either Unity ministers, licensed Unity teachers, or otherwise well-versed in Unity principles. The speaking schedule fills months in advance, so don't miss an opportunity to join us at 11 a.m. for Sunday worthship. You will be glad you did.

## November 4—Matthew Starcher: Faith without work is dead. You must live the Truth you know.

This is the final installment of a six-part series on prosperity on the foundation provided by these two books:

[\*The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity\*](#) by Rev. Edwene Gaines  
[\*Prosperity\*](#) by Charles Fillmore

Fear stops most people from demonstrating abundant prosperity in, through and as their lives. We must be willing to exercise our faculty of faith and overcome any fear of the conscious or subconscious mind. Once we do, we really can "Live the Truth" we know—with integrity—and the world becomes our oyster!

## November 11—Matthew Starcher: Gratitude—The key to expanding our good!

**Matthew Starcher** is a graduate of the Spiritual Education and Enrichment program of Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute and he is a candidate in the Licensed Unity Teacher program. He has studied New Thought philosophy and Unity principle for more than 15 years. Matthew is a pioneer and was the founder and spiritual leader of Unity of Southeastern Ohio. Currently, he serves in the Silent Unity Prayer ministry in Unity Village.

**Ben Katzara** will provide the music program. He is originally from Tampa, FL, and has been studying Unity for over 12 years. He loves to write original New Thought music that is inspired by Spirit! Today, Ben works at Silent Unity as a prayer associate and is blessed always.

## November 18—Sharon Dwyer: Mastery of Self

We can gain mastery of self, or ego, when we acknowledge our Authentic Self, the Christ within or unconditional love, as our true center. All spiritual paths share this goal, and the ancient Toltec tradition is used as a map by author and teacher Don Miguel Ruiz Jr. Through his stories and tools we start with a greater understanding of ourselves, of the concepts of

(continued on page 3)

## Sunday prosperity series (continued from page 2)

attachments, domestication and the difference between conditional and unconditional love. Our goal is to recognize the divinity in ourselves and all others without projection and distortion. In this talk we explore tools that are practical in helping us move towards this goal.

Sharon has been involved in Unity since 1984 and became a Licensed Unity Teacher in 1990. She has spent most of that time at Unity Church of Lawrence, teaching classes, helping on the platform and serving as Chaplain Team Leader.

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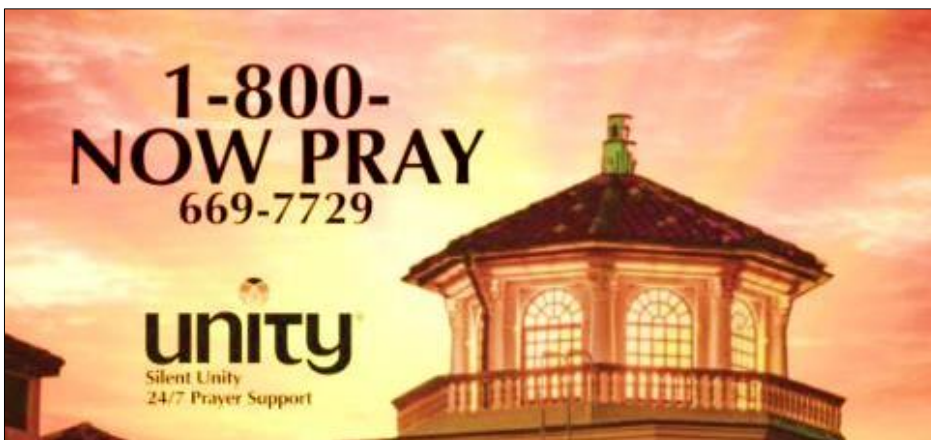
### November 25—Susan McKaig: Go Gently from Black Friday to Cyber Monday thru Advent

With the Advent season upon us, we frequently have the four Sundays before Christmas dedicated to love, peace, joy and hope. There are other fruits of the Spirit that are worthy of our attention. From Galatians 5:22-26

*But the fruit of the Spirit in love joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Jesus Christ have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Christmas often brings about a positive change in humanity throughout the Season. There is no law against the fruits of the Spirit being expressed all year long. I imagine you know of person who expresses gentleness. It is a gentleness with strength. It is a gentleness with focus. It is a gentleness with power. It is a gentleness sourced in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Will you share who you know that is gentle?

Susan McKaig became a licensed unity teacher attending classes part time at Unity Village. She moved to Manhattan after she retired from an auditing career in the federal government and she previously served as a chaplain at Unity Church of Overland Park.



### Tithing demonstrates prosperity

Unity of Topeka is financially supported through love offerings, tithes and gifts. Remember to tithe even when you are unable to attend Sunday service in person.

*Divine love, through me, blesses and multiplies all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive.*

### Need a moment of inspiration?

Call 785-478-1777

*New recordings every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.*

### Mortgage report

The monthly payment on the \$282,000 borrowed in November 2001 for our construction loan, plus \$45,000 we borrowed in December 2012 to refurbish our roof and make ceiling repairs, is consistently made thanks to thoughtful donors like you. The most recent payment of \$1,523 (10-12-18) took \$935.94 off the principal and eliminated \$587.06 of interest, leaving the amount left to pay at \$133,249.37 on our \$400,000 building.

# Doorstep: Results of Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/Run and planning for Christmas household adoptions

Thanks to everyone who helped make our inaugural Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Run a success. We raised \$6,000 to help with agency expenses going into the last quarter of 2018.

Mark your calendar Saturday, October 5, 2019, for 2nd installment of this annual event.

## Doorstep to Adopt 250 Households for Christmas

This year, Doorstep will adopt 250 households from the Christmas Bureau. There are more than 775 individuals within these households, and we provide a Christmas for all.

The Christmas Bureau will take applications for seven days between October 22 and November 2. Sign-up is for our neighbors in need who cannot afford to provide a Christmas for their families. These families and individuals meet federal poverty guidelines. They are working, but not making a living wage; they are disabled, they are struggling to provide the most basic of needs for their families, and they need a little extra help at Christmas.

## Volunteers Needed to Work Christmas Store

Our Christmas Store is different from anything else we do at Doorstep. We need your help with gifts, monetary donations to purchase food, and volunteers to help during the five-day process.

The store is such an uplifting experience, and you feel good about spending time volunteering there.

Mark your calendar for December 9 through 13 and watch for our flyers seeking volunteers for specific times on specific days. Doorstep's Christmas Store is possible each year because of the

generosity of our member congregations and their members. Neighbors helping neighbors is what Doorstep was founded on, and it's what we continue to do today.

If you would like to donate items for Christmas families, we provide a lot of options on our wish list.

**2018 Doorstep Christmas Wish List**

**Doorstep is adopting 250 Households for Christmas and we need your help with donations!**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Toys</u></b></p> <p>Puzzles 100-500 pcs Back Packs Color Books/Crayons School Supplies Toys for Ages 2-12 No Stuffed Animals Please</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Toys</u></b></p> <p>Girls Jewelry Games - All Ages Baby Dolls Balls - Football, Soccer, Basketball Teenage Girls Gifts</p>																			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Men's</u></b></p> <p>Boxer Briefs S - XL Flashlights Tool Sets Small Radios Aftershave &amp; Socks Watches Playing Cards Jeans &amp; Sweat sets</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Women &amp; Teens</u></b></p> <p>Larger Sized Bras Underwear S-XL Cosmetics Jewelry &amp; Socks Sweat sets &amp; PJ's Teen Sized Clothing</p>																			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Health Kit Items</u></b></p> <p>Towels, Washcloths, Combs, Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste/brushes, Shampoo/Conditioner</p>			<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Children's</u></b> (Boys &amp; Girls)</p> <p>Jeans Sizes 6-16 Clothing Sizes 2T-16 Pajamas 2T-14 Socks &amp; Underwear</p>																		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Household Gifts</u></b></p> <p>Quilts, Blankets &amp; Sheet Sets (Full/Queen/King), Dish Sets, Toasters, Hand Mixers, Glass Sets, Pots/Pans, Etc.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Bring Donations to Doorstep at 10th &amp; Buchanan Mon - Fri from 8am - 3pm Or To Your Congregation for Delivery to Doorstep.</p>																			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Christmas Store Schedule - We Need Volunteers!</u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup></td> <td style="width: 33%;">Move Items to 1<sup>st</sup> Naz.</td> <td style="width: 33%;">2pm - 5pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Sort Donated Items</td> <td>9am - 4pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Sort Donated Items</td> <td>9am - 2pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Escort Clients at Store</td> <td>8am - 8pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Escort Clients at Store</td> <td>8am - 12pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Move Items to Doorstep</td> <td>12pm - 3pm</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If you can volunteer, call the Doorstep office, 357-5341.</b></p>				Sunday, December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Move Items to 1 <sup>st</sup> Naz.	2pm - 5pm	Monday, December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sort Donated Items	9am - 4pm	Tuesday, December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sort Donated Items	9am - 2pm	Wednesday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Escort Clients at Store	8am - 8pm	Thursday, December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Escort Clients at Store	8am - 12pm	Thursday, December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Move Items to Doorstep	12pm - 3pm
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## Giving Thanks *(continued from page 1)*

As Leroy drove over potholes and maneuvered hairpin turns, agonizing bolts of pain seared my dad's chest. Damp and clammy with sweat, barely able to breathe, he clutched at his chest and, with every jolt, gasped over and over again, "Thank you, Jesus!"

While lying on a hospital gurney, with my anxious mother at his side, and not sure whether he would survive, my dad sent goodbye messages of love to his children and, between each wave of wracking pain that continued to rip through his body, he just kept repeating, "Thank you, Jesus! Thank you, Jesus!"

When Dad was finished recounting how he had literally taken me at my word, I was stunned. Tears stung my eyes. "That's not exactly what I had in mind when I told you to give thanks for everything," I said. However, I'm convinced this improbable demonstration of thanksgiving actually saved Dad's life.

My dad lived for six more years, and I am extremely grateful for the lasting impression he left with me. Even when his life hung in the balance—he gave thanks anyway.

Rev. Paulette Pipe speaks on giving thanks, Daily Word, and Let Go, Let God Born and raised in the United Kingdom, Rev. Paulette Pipe is the founder of the prayer and meditation ministry, [Touching the Stillness Ministries](#). She is a writer, program host on Unity Online Radio and sought-after speaker, who facilitates prayer-inspired retreats and workshops in the United States and abroad.

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**Christ in me quickens my faculty of renunciation.  
The activity of Spirit cleanses my mind of limited and false beliefs,  
making room for greater understanding and newness of life.**



**Elimination: The ability to release, remove, denounce, deny, let go.**

**Affirmation:** I release anything and everything that no longer serves my unfolding good.

Charles Fillmore, Unity's co-founder, called our spiritual abilities the "Twelve Powers." We invite you to discover how to put these Powers to work and create the life of your dreams.

### November Unity Statement

Unity is a link in the great educational movement inaugurated by Jesus Christ. Our objective is to discern the Truth in Christianity and demonstrate it. The Truth we teach is not new, neither do we claim special revelations or discovery of new religious principles. Our purpose is to help and teach humankind to use and prove the eternal Truth taught by the Master.

**In a spirit of  
thanksgiving,  
I thrive.**

### Mission

Unity Church of Christianity, Topeka, provides a nurturing atmosphere of acceptance and caring for anyone seeking spiritual growth. Our purpose is to encourage self-esteem, unconditional love, peace of mind, and prosperous, healthy living. We accomplish this mission by teaching practical applications of the Jesus Christ ministry and by beholding the Christ within all people.

### Vision Statement

Unity Church of Christianity enhances the Topeka community by serving as a holistic center for personal spiritual development. We remain open and receptive to the guidance of Spirit as we share principles that generate peace and promote soul-satisfaction.

# Bringing home the gold(en duck)!

*Maggie Kelley, left, presents Apollonia Jamison, right, a \$730 check, representing Unity of Topeka's share of duck sales for the Great Topeka Duck Race. Also pictured is the duck traveling trophy Unity won for having the most duck sales.*



Unity of Topeka brought home the gold(en duck) from the Great Topeka Duck Race by outselling all other organizations that participated in the September 15 event.

The annual Sertoma Great Topeka Duck Race benefits a host of community programs, plus half of the purchase price paid for ducks is shared with the organization that sells the ducks. Unity of Topeka had 69 purchasers buying individual ducks, families, flocks, and oodles, and its share of sales was a whopping \$730. Isn't that ducky?

Unity of Topeka duck sales surpassed other organizations, including the Washburn Rural High School Orchestra, Washburn Rural Chorus, and the Carbondale Library. Way to go, Unity!

This year, the Sertoma Duck Race committee decided it would be fun for competitors to have a traveling trophy, so Unity of Topeka is the first organization to win it.

Odds are favorable that Unity of Topeka will participate in duck sales again next year. We want to keep that golden trophy!

## Recognized for commUNITY service



Maggie Kelley was recognized October 9 for her years of community service with the Keep America Beautiful Topeka-Shawnee County affiliate.



Melia Rivera was recognized September 12 by USD 437 for her community service helping paint the Brown v Board of Education mural and boxing food at Harvesters.

## We give thanks . . .

It takes a lot of volunteer hours to maintain Unity of Topeka's presence in our community. Volunteers take care of tasks large and small, day in and day out, all year long. During this month of Thanksgiving, remember to give thanks for and bless the many volunteers who perform these tasks, as well as many others not listed here:

- take out the trash and
- clean the church
- maintain church grounds
- weed the rock garden
- represent the church in community groups
- support community charities
- prepare, print, fold, and mail newsletters
- manage fundraising events
- write and mail responses to church correspondence
- take board meeting minutes and publish them for trustees
- follow up on voicemails and emails
- fulfill roles during church services
- maintain church website and Facebook page

**FOLLOW US ON**  
**facebook**

[facebook.com/TopekaUnity](https://facebook.com/TopekaUnity)

Then, share our posts to help us spread the word of all Unity of Topeka has to offer our community.

**Unity of Topeka**  
Religious Organization



# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Every Sunday</b></p> <p><b>9:35 a.m.</b> Bible Study</p> <p><b>11 a.m.</b> Worship; Youth Education; Nursery</p> <p><b>12:45 p.m.</b> Music team rehearsal</p>	<p align="center"><b>Blessing Days</b></p> <p>Unity Church of Christianity is blessing these dear ones this month. Each day, send blessings to the person listed, and maybe give them a call to let them know you are thinking of them on their special day. This uplifting activity blesses you and others. Consider it your special ministry of love. All telephone numbers are in the 785 area code, unless otherwise shown. ♥♥♥♥</p> <p align="center">BR = birthday BL = blessing day</p>			<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Marcy Glassman BL / 273-4197</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Anne McCourtie BR</p> <p>Ruthe Steele BR</p> <p>Nancy, Roger Houck BL / 716-213-3189</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Alta Hoffman BL / 478-0737</p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>11 a.m. worship with Matthew Starcher</p> <p>Erika Chikly BR</p> <p>Polly Phinney-Holthaus, Genevieve BL / 231-9225</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Donita Hotchkiss BL / 246-1994</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Lorri Huesers BL / 343-1227</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Carolyn Decker BR</p> <p>Julia Jama BL / 608-4452</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Michael, Apollonia Jamison BL</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Nancy Johnson BL / 234-8449</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Nancy Keith BL / 913-833-5075</p>
<p><b>11</b> <span style="background-color: #004a99; color: white; padding: 2px;">Potluck Lunch</span></p> <p>11 a.m. worship with Matthew Starcher</p> <p>Maggie Kelley BL / 608-9564</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Lisa Taylor BR</p> <p>Rana Kelty BL / 217-7785</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Ronda, Jim Kelty BL / 226-2333</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Diane Lawson, John Scheirman BL / 232-2836</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Glinda Leach BL / 440-0442</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Dorothy Leggett BL / 256-4721</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Rox Ann Luce, Krystal Luce BL / 633-0726</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>11 a.m. worship with Sharon Dwyer</p> <p>Rebekah Clark BR</p> <p>Dolores, Cliff Manning BL / 271-5033</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Laurie Pigg BR</p> <p>Anne McCourtie BL / 966-0216</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Gary McDonald BL / 217-553</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Newsletter Folding</p> <p>Edward McGlone BL / 620-256-6721</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p align="center"></p> <p>Brandie, Antuane McPherson BL / 232-6365</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Melton BL / 608-7853</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Sonja Winslow BR</p> <p>Frederick Menninger BL / 233-7927</p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>11 a.m. worship with Susan McCaig</p> <p>Denise Mosher BL / 354-9336</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Colleen Myers BL / 379-5643</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Alex Olson BL / 221-4279</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Dennis Olson, Candace Gritten, Aleki, Piper BL / 783-7053</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Kim Olson BL / 806-5937</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Jennifer, Kode Pacha, Oliver, Charlie BL / 341-9229</p>	

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*Unity Update*, a monthly newsletter



# Coming to Unity of Topeka in November

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