

Education

E-Link

to Youth and Family Ministry



Issue 19

August 2009

Welcome to **E-Link**, your bi-monthly online news about Youth and Family Ministry from the Association of Unity Churches International. Each issue provides bits of current information and connects all of us who serve in Unity Youth and Family Ministry.

In this issue:

- ♥ International Youth of Unity (IYOU)
- ♥ Child/Teen Ministry Week 2009
- ♥ Children for a Peaceful World
- ♥ Next Generation of Unity (NGU)
- ♥ Regional Trainings
- ♥ Stimulus Sale
- ♥ Excellent Websites
- ♥ Education Links Online

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH OF UNITY

IYOU Peace Ambassador Training

From July 19-24, we were blessed to have 112 teens and adults come together at Unity Village for the **2009 IYOU Peace Ambassador Training**. The attendees were from the United States, including Puerto Rico, as well as Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Spain. We were joined by eight visiting Iraqi teens and their chaperone for an afternoon of the training. Practicing heart coherence and compassionate communication, we explored what it means to be an ambassador for peace. This training, along with a follow-up practicum, makes up Phase One of the **Peace Ambassador Program**, and leads to national and international service. To learn more about the Peace Ambassador Program, visit www.unity.org/iyou. Stay tuned for a detailed report on the training as well as an update on next year's event!

Vintage YOU Pins: Formerly \$6.00 each. Now only \$1.00. See Stimulus Sale below.

Youth Participation in 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions

The 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions, hosted in Melbourne, Australia, will be an international interfaith gathering December 2-9, 2009. All ten major New Thought organizations are collaborating as a unified voice, with both adults and youth contributing. The Youth Program will consist of interfaith youth-led workshops, keynotes, service projects, and coffee house discussion. If your community has a teen or young adult who may be interested in attending, please contact Jane Simmons at jane@unity.org for more information.



CHILD/TEEN MINISTRY WEEK 2009

We had ten wonderful souls join us for training during Child/Teen Ministry Week, August 2–7. It is always gratifying to see the commitment, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn and share that the participants bring to this week. It is a time to learn about youth and family education: child development, sacred safety, lesson creation, music, activities and much more. This program is valuable for directors, teachers, sponsors, and ministers. Facilitators were Kathy Kellogg, Diane Venzera, Jane Simmons and Bernadette

Swanson. (Front: Carolynn Conley, Amy Groblewski, Anita Stehmeier, Jane, Diane. Middle: Vicki Richardson, Laura Barrie, Bernadette, Giselle Vivian, Winnie Lynch, Heidi Nathe. Back: Kathy, Brandon Nagel. Missing: Dakota Guynn)

CHILDREN FOR A PEACEFUL WORLD

Be part of the movement to [invite 100,000 children to sing for peace](#) on September 21!

NEXT GENERATION UNITY (NGU, AGES 18–35)

Do you have an NGU (young adult) group meeting at your church? If so, we would love to know! This information will help us direct inquiries to you. Download the registration form at www.unity.org/ngu. Questions? Email Rachel Simpson at ngu@unity.org.

SCUCA NGU Fall Retreat/Conference—Register Now!

For more information and to register, visit www.southcentralngu.com.

Join us on the first weekend in October: Friday, Oct 2 thru Sunday, Oct 4. Our NGU Fall Retreat/Conference is for young adults of Unity who live in the South Central Region! Come connect and play with other like-minded young adults.

In addition, on Thursday, Oct 1, we will be offering a one-day Leadership Training Seminar. If you are interested in starting an NGU group in your spiritual community and being a Team Leader in the SCUCA region, this day is for you. It will be a time to discuss the future of NGU, ask questions, gather ideas and have fun meeting other leaders in our region.

REGIONAL TRAININGS

SCUCA Children's Ministry Training

Training information: <http://www.scucaregion.com/Youth&Family-Trainings.html>
September 12 Colorado-Nebraska, including Denver cluster. Unity Church of Denver, 3021 S. University Blvd., Denver, CO 78209 Contact: Jackie or Lisa at 303.756.6127.

SCUCA Children's & Teen Ministry Training

October 10 For Mid-south Texas, including Austin cluster. Unity Church of San Antonio, 8103 Broadway, Suite 201, San Antonio, TX 78209. Contact: Teresa Marie at 210.367.3538.

October 24, 2009 For North Texas, including Dallas cluster, North Louisiana and South Arkansas. Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane, Dallas, TX 75230. Contact: Majona Mason at 972.233.7106.

Great Lakes Region

The Teen Connection, September 12, 2009, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Des Plaines, IL
Contact: Eileen Patra, CSE, LUT 248.318.7028 gluniteens@gmail.com

Eastern Sub-Region Sponsor/Leader Forum Kickoff, September 12, 2009, 3 p.m., (immediately following Teen Connection Training), Des Plaines, IL
This first meeting will focus on mission of the group and scheduling of next forum.
Contact: Anita Stehmeier Stehmeier@comcast.net

Great Lakes Fall Unitreat, November 6-8, 2009, Ingleside, IL
For Uniteens and their Leaders/Chaperones
Contact: Eileen Patra, CSE, LUT 248.318.7028 gluniteens@gmail.com

STIMULUS SALE

We still have some children's books, curriculum and miscellaneous items in our Stimulus Sale. These are items in our Association warehouse that we are clearing out. Check out our flyer at <http://www.unitychurches.org/clientuploads/ELink/stimulusPrices809.pdf> and be sure to call 816.434.6813 to order.

EXCELLENT WEBSITES

Unity Website

New Directory with ZIP code search is now available! From www.unity.org, click on the Find a Church Near You button to locate the closest Unity ministry to you. Enter your ZIP code and select "ZIP code (ministries only)" in the advanced search drop-down menu. You can choose how far away you want to search.

Association information is under the **Ministries & Leaders** tab at the top of the www.unity.org home page.

Unity Family Matters

[Unity Family Matters](http://www.unityfamilymatters.org), Unity's website for parents and children, is looking for people to share input and ideas for stories, content, and resources for: spiritual education and parenting, blogs, "blorums," etc. Interested? Contact editor@unityfamilymatters.org.

EDUCATION LINKS ONLINE

Education Links is available online at www.unity.org/el. The summer issue highlights the new format for the fall, including ways to contribute. Want to be notified by email

when the next issue is ready? Sign up at www.unity.org/enews so you won't miss out on any issues.

A SERVICE OF YOUR ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL

Feel free to forward this email to a friend!