



Issue 26

October 2010

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. Send comments to Bernadette Swanson at cwriter@unity.org.

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HOME OFFICE INFO

New Name! The Association of Unity Churches International is now doing business as (dba) Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM).

Staff Work Schedules

[STAFF CONTACT INFO](#)

Email contact works best.

[Kathryn Kellogg](#), Children's & Family Ministry Coordinator; Mon 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and Tues-Thurs, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

[Jane Simmons](#), International Teen Ministry Coordinator; Mon-Wed 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Thurs 8 a.m.-noon.

[Bernadette Swanson](#), Education Editor; Mon-Thurs, 8 a.m. -5 p.m.

Rachel Simpson, Next Generation Unity Consultant; Mon, Wed, Thurs afternoons;

Rachel@unity.org 816.434.6870

Unity Identity Initiative/Branding

In June 2011, our UWM conference body accepted the recommendations of Unity leadership to follow a more unified identity/brand within the movement. Our new logo is appearing on our current web pages. In mid-2011 a completely new website will be revealed.

The banner at the top of this newsletter will be redone for our next issue in December. We are using current stationery up in order to be good financial and ecological stewards.

Regional Education Consultant Changes

Thank You, Carolyn!

A big heartfelt thank you to **Carolyn Krum Renfro** for serving as the Southeast Youth of Unity Regional Education Consultant for 18 plus years (some of which she also served the Uniteens).

Carolyn served as a YOU sponsor in Lakeland, Florida, before coming to Unity Worldwide Ministries as the YOU assistant and then returning to the Southeast Region. One of the writers for *Teens on the Quest* and part of the creative team for the Certified Spiritual Educator program, Carolyn is a licensed Unity teacher and a recipient of the Distinguished Youth Service Award. Carolyn has blessed us with her presence and gifts of Spirit. We wish her well!

Thank You, Lisa!

We want to send a big, heartfelt thank you to **Lisa Yelenick** for serving as the Central Youth of Unity Regional Education Consultant for the past 8 years. Last year she also served the South YOU bringing her love and smile to both. Lisa left the position at the end of August after serving the region with distinction, compassion, and joyful guidance. She served as a children's ministry teacher, Uniteen and YOU sponsor as well as director of Youth Ministry at Unity of Denver before becoming the Central YOU consultant in 2002. Lisa received the Distinguished Youth Service Award in 2008. We wish you well!

Welcome, Judy!

A big welcome to **Judy Hildebrand**, the new South Central Regional YOU consultant. Judy is a Ministry and Religious Studies student at Unity Institute on a concurrent path toward her MDiv as well as licensing and ordination. She holds a masters in education and has served as the youth education director at Unity of Divine Love in Chandler, Arizona, and worked with the teen programs in the Southwest Region.

You can contact Judy at:

Judy Hildebrand M&RS
1901 NW Blue Parkway
Unity Village, MO 64065
480.279.4224

centralyou.con@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact Judy with any of your ministry's YOU needs. She is looking forward to being in service to you.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Advent Booklet

Share a fun and meaningful Advent season with your children, grandchildren or other special youngsters in your life. [Get Ready for Christmas 2010](#) is filled with positive affirmations, stories, riddles, recipes and fun activities.

365 Perfect Things to Say to Your Kids by Maureen Healy
Growing Happy Kids LLC 2009

www.growinghappykids.com

Looking for a way to “empower, educate and inspire your child”? This book provides 365 sayings to do that in positive, constructive and creative ways. The author provides parents with ideas on how to use the sayings; the importance of cultivating compassion, joy, and interconnectedness in your child; and the freedom to make changes in a saying until it clicks for you. This book can either be a parenting resource or a classroom resource for a daily thought in sacred circle or a part of the “I see you” ritual.

Examples:

Kids are everywhere! Get connected to a kid somewhere else so you *grow* and *show* each other what being a kid is like here and there. Enjoy this dare.

Be positive and strong with your Self. Say “All is well,” as you go about your day focusing on school and play. It’s really swell to be HAPPY and RESPONSIBLE in all you do for me, and you.

Bullying

Listen to Mary Robinson Reynolds at www.MakeADifference.com/VictimNoMore as she answers the following questions:

1. What does bullying do to a child? What negative results can happen to school-aged kids when they are bullied?
2. Why do kids bully one another? What causes a child to feel the need to harass other kids?
3. Has the face of bullying changed? Is bullying today (with technology's help) vastly different from bullying of years past?

Check out the Children's Kindness Network at <http://www.ckn-usa.org> for resources about "building a culture of kindness" and reducing bullying.

Religious Emblem Programs www.unity.org/emblem

Share the free downloads of the [Religious Emblem Program](http://www.unity.org/emblem) with your families who have boys and girls in the scouting programs.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH OF UNITY WWW.UNITY.ORG/IYOU FB: [YOUTHOFUNITY](https://www.facebook.com/YOUTHOFUNITY)

IYOU Annual Event “Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Now”

Stay tuned for information about how you can be a part of next year’s IYOU event being held from August 1-6, 2011, at Three Trails Camp and Retreat Center, Independence, Missouri. During the event, on August 5, we will head to Unity Village to join in the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of IYOU. Join LeRoy White and our 2011 Indie team for a week of honoring what has come before while experiencing the NOW and creating a new, exciting future! For information, contact Jane Simmons at you@unity.org.

Spiritual Social Action

Check out the photos of the International Youth of Unity [volunteering at The Gardens at Unity Village](#), August 4, 2010.

UNITEENS

For an [inspirational spiritual social action story](#) to share with your Uniteens, read about Katie Stagliano, an 11-year-old girl who grows food for the homeless.

NEXT GENERATION UNITY (NGU, AGES 18–35) WWW.UNITY.ORG/NGU

We have a new blog about NGU and creating a community including young adults. Come join the conversation at <https://ngunity.wordpress.com/>

Do you have an NGU (young adult) group meeting at your church? Let us know! This information will help us direct inquiries to you. Download the [group registration pdf](#). Questions? Email Rachel Simpson at ngu@unity.org.

CURRICULUM & RESOURCES

Uniteen Holiday Lessons To find Thanksgiving and Christmas lessons for Uniteens, check out [The Holiday Spirit: Uniteens](#) (BA6823).

YOU Holiday Lessons To find Thanksgiving and Christmas lessons for YOU, check out [The Holiday Spirit: Y.O.U.](#) (BA6824).

Scale of the Universe

Want to look at the infinite and immensity of all there is? Check out [Scale of the Universe](#) and move your mouse along the light-blue box under the graphics. This would be great to use in lessons about creation, personal/impersonal Spirit, order, wisdom, etc.

Lost Generation Video

Check out this video of the [Lost Generation](#) to stimulate conversation and inspire conversations about young people. It consists of phrases that can be read forward and backward. See what you think.

The [Small Group Ministry Guide](#) (BA1109) is a must-have, how-to resource for organizing, marketing, training and writing curriculum for small group ministry.

Have you considered using the Unity Youth Ministry [Fast-Start Training Program](#) (MA6000, \$34.95) with your children? Although this interactive training CD was designed to help train your teachers, the section on Unity principles is a great resource to use with your children and teens.

The helpful [Quick Connect Guide](#) highlights the services the Association provides to the field. It also lists contact information for staff. (Some staff have changed since this was printed.)

From Diane Venzera www.dianevenzera.com

New Curriculum: **Fishy Tales** based on the movie: *Finding Nemo*
5 Lessons for elementary ages, \$20

Updated Curriculum: **Lumindorf—DVD Version** (uses the DVD instead of the books, slightly different topics and updated activities), 10 Lessons for elementary/Tweens, \$25

From Steven Butler cc@seunityyouth.org



The Unity Principles Song

A fun, easy and catchy tune for kids of all ages! Sung by the Unity on the Bay (Miami, Florida) Voices of Angels Children's Choir. This CD single (with lyrics) can be used to teach the 5 Basic Unity Principles during children's gatherings: assemblies, Sunday school classes, mid-week programs and many more. For extra added fun, try singing it in rounds. It's the ideal thank-you gift for volunteers.

Price \$5.00. Contact Steven for more details for check or PayPal™ options.

EXCELLENT WEBSITES

Unity Website

Association information is under the **Ministries & Leaders** tab at www.unity.org. **Our Shop has been updated!** You no longer need to login to see wholesale pricing. Resources belonging to Unity Worldwide Ministries are under **Ministry Supplies** and are all sold at wholesale. Find curriculum under Ministry Supplies, then scroll to the bottom of the web page and enter a keyword such as "teen" to see teen curriculum and resources *within Ministry Supplies*. (The Search/Go at the *top* of the screen will search *the whole website*.) We are still tweaking and adding keywords. We will be updating item descriptions as we can get to them. Email Bernadette at Bernadette@unity.org with your suggestions and comments.

Find Distinguished Youth Service Award info at www.unity.org/DYSABrochure.

Find curriculum recommendations at www.unity.org/curriculum.

See Religious Emblem resources at www.unity.org/emblem.

Get Regional Education Consultant information at www.unity.org/REC.

REGIONAL TRAININGS

Note: Check out [our calendar](#) for a list of trainings! Go to <http://directory.unityonline.org/>. Click on the second bullet, "Search for event by category," then use the drop down to select "Youth Educator Training."

If you have training events that you would like added to our calendar, contact Susan Velasquez at info@unity.org. If you have access to your ministry's login account, you can add your information directly.

Great Lakes Region

Building Bridges—Regional Workshop, Wednesday, October 20, 3:15-5 pm, at the Great Lakes Regional Conference, Potawatami Inn, Angola, IN, for Ministers, Youth Directors & Board Members. Contact: Pat Anderson-Williams yes_godis@hotmail.com

Great Lakes Fall Unitreat, Nov 5-7, Ingleside, IL, for Uniteens, Leaders and Chaperones. Contact: Eileen Patra epatra@gmail.com 248.318.7028 or visit www.glruniteens.org

Spring Unitreat, April 29—May 1, 2011, Jackson, MI, for Uniteens, Leaders and Chaperones. Contact: Eileen Patra epatra@gmail.com 248.318.7028 or visit www.glruniteens.org

Northwest Region

NW Fall Unitreat, Nov 12-14, Cispus Learning Center outside Randall, WA. Uniteen Event Information: Chris Castaldi chriscastaldi@bctonline.com 503.632.7792 Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

Youth Team Conference, Jan 21-23, 2011, Huston Center, Gold Bar, WA (For tenured YOU sponsors and Uniteen leaders, YEDs, ministers and long term teachers) Co-facilitated by Jackie Green and Penny Gruver. Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

Kids Camp Counselor Training, March 18-20, 2011, Spokane, WA. Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

Unitreat Staff Plan & Training, March 18-20, 2011, Cispus Center, outside Randle, WA. Chris Castaldi 503.632.7792 chriscastaldi@bctonline.com

YOU Rally, April 15-17, 2011, Cispus Center, outside Randle, WA. Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

Unitreat (Uniteens), June 26-July 1, 2011, Cispus Center, outside Randle WA. Uniteen Event Information: Chris Castaldi 503.632.7792, chriscastaldi@bctonline.com Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

NW YOU Service Project Kids Camp, June 25-28, 2011, [June 24 Counselors arrive] Camp Waskowitz, North Bend, WA. Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

YOU Rendezvous, July 22-25, 2011, Chewelah Peak, north of Spokane, WA. Registrar: Jackie Green jackienwyou@comcast.net 509.928.0896

SCUCA (South Central) Region

Info, registration forms: www.scucaregion.com/Youth&Family-Trainings.html

CHILDREN'S TRAINING

Contact: Marygrace Sidovar Sorensen kids@scucaregion.com 832.528.9464

Children's Training, October 23, Missouri and Kansas, and Kansas City Cluster. Unity Church of Overland Park, 10300 Antioch Road, Overland Park, KS 66212. For directions, contact Brandon Nagel at 913.649.1750.

Children's Training, November 13, New Mexico and Texas Pan Handle. Unity Spiritual Center, 9800 Candelaria Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112. For directions, contact Giselle Vivian at 505.292.1998.

Children's Training, March 5, 2011, South Louisiana and Southeast Texas, including Houston cluster. Unity Church of Christianity, 2929 Unity Drive, Houston, TX 77057. For directions contact Mary Lindsay at 713.782.4050.

UNITEEN/TEEN MINISTRY TRAINING (combined training)

Contact: Joanne Burns scuniteen@gmail.com 512.635.0115

Teen Training, October 23, Missouri and Kansas, and Kansas City Cluster. Unity Church of Overland Park, 10300 Antioch Road, Overland Park, KS 66212. For directions, contact Brandon Nagel at 913.649.1750.

Southeast Region

Info, registration: www.seunityyouth.org FB: SE Unity Children's Ministry

Contact: Steven Butler 352.376.8561 cc@seunityyouth.org

Take 5: The Basic Unity Principles

Ponder the beauty of the Five Basic Unity Principles and discover how they show up in the world around us. During this insightful time, participants will explore and share how these Principles can be used in lessons, song and games.

Middle Southeast Teacher Training, November 6, 2010, Unity Eastside Tallahassee, Tallahassee, FL, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Registration \$30

South Southeast Teacher Training, January 29, 2011, First Unity of St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, FL, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Registration \$30

EDUCATION LINKS ONLINE

Education Links is available online at www.unity.org/el.

A SERVICE OF YOUR ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL

Feel free to forward this email to a friend!