

LIVING TODAY

| DOING TOGETHER WHAT ONE ALONE CAN NOT DO! |

Thanksgiving Service Nov. 17

Want to set your mind for the holidays and for life with a strong sense of gratitude? Be sure to come to this 11 a.m. service of thanksgiving.

Candle Lighting Service Dec. 22

Come celebrate the birth of Christ in our traditional lighting of Unity Candles with Rev. Paula. This beautiful service at 11 a.m. is designed to allow us to connect to the Spirit of Christ.

Burning Bowl Service Dec. 29

Let's create the energy for the upcoming year. Start the year off right after a deeply moving service offering a time of release and renewal to bring in the New Year.



Rededication Service

**Oct. 21, 2019
11:00 a.m. Service**

Come discover which principle of Truth will be revealed as your blessing from Spirit to you this year. Our unique rededication service is an opportunity for you to experience a sense of renewal in this special service of prayer and meditation. Reflection upon the heart stones and their meanings for you throughout the year are powerful and revitalizing in their ability to remind us of Spirit's presence in our daily lives. There will be one that is meant just for you as your blessing for the coming year.



Rev. Paula Skiles

Here are just some of the great opportunities we will have to experience the power of Grace and Holy Spirit in our church.

- Book Study begins Sept. 19 @ every Wed. evening 6:30 pm Friendship Hall
- Thanksgiving Service Nov. 17 @ 11 am service
- Annual Music Service Dec. 8 @ 11 am service

Need a Prayer? A Prayer Box is located at back of Sanctuary. We pray on your request for 30 days and then forward to Silent Unity, who also pray on the request for 30 days.

Unity Church of San Marcos

**24/7 Silent Unity Prayer
Partner Line 800-669-7729**

THE TRUTH IS...

*“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant * * * there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. * * * For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit * * * faith * * * the gift of healing * * * the working of miracles * * prophecy * * discerning of spirits * * divers kinds of tongues * * apostles * * prophets * * teachers etc.” 1Cor. 12:1-10*

One of my Unity colleagues, Mark Hicks, has written extensively about one of our core teaching resources...Lessons in Truth by H, Emilie Cady, a sage and mentor of New Thought. Take a moment to consider the following insight regarding H. Emilie Cady's essay on spiritual gifts.

“If we look up the word “gift” in an English dictionary, we will see two definitions. A gift may be a “talent” or it may be a “present.” The point is that most people see spiritual gifts as a talent, whereas Emilie Cady and Charles Fillmore, one of our co-founders of Unity, see spiritual gifts much differently than we typically view them... **spiritual gifts as a free gift from God.** “

“Many of us are familiar with the well known passage in Paul's letter to the Corinthians, where he speaks about the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, etc.





These are commonly perceived as talents. But even though they are freely given as a gift and they are given for the benefit of all, we have come to believe that God gives talents to some and not to others.”

“If God gives spiritual gifts to some and not to others, then God is playing favorites. We are back to the notion that some people are favored and others are not. But Charles Fillmore and Emilie Cady put it differently. They say that all of us have been given the same spiritual gifts in accord with our souls needs and that the differences in

talent is a result of differences in expression, not due to God giving gifts to some and not to others. Here is the commentary from the [Fillmore Study Bible for I Corinthians 12](#):

“Those whose “gifts” or inherent talents are diverse and show the same Spirit. All may have the same Spirit, the desire to know the truth and to live accordingly, irrespective of differences in inherent talents or traits. Truth belongs everywhere, and no legitimate activity or bent can be outside its field... there are diversities of workings, but the same God, who worketh all things in all. God has given all His attributes to man. God is no respecter of persons.”

“That idea, that we have all been given the same gifts but express them differently, is helpful and egalitarian, but it can be troublesome for those of us who don’t seem to have a particular gift, such as the gift of healing. Here is how Emilie Cady put it:

“The power to heal the body has heretofore been, as I have already said, set up as a test of one’s spiritual understanding. It has been held up before students of truth as the object to seek; and everywhere superficial minds are criticizing those who fail to heal... This has brought great disappointment not unmixed with considerable humiliation. But, my dear friends, do not let such an experience discourage you... Healing is truly a branch of the Vine but it is not the only branch. There are many branches, all of which are necessary to the Perfect Vine which is seeking through you and me to bear much fruit. What God wants is that we shall grow into such conscious oneness with Himself, such realization that He who is the Substance of All good really abides in us; that “ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.”

So let me conclude on Mark’s thoughts this way...each of us has been given the gifts of Spirit. Our abilities to express each gift is individual, **it is not because God hasn't given us the talent, but that we as individuals will express our talents as we grow in one direction or another.** For some of us, wisdom will be the talent we can express more fully, for others, it may be healing or teaching, but each is a vital part of the whole vine of Christ.

Think on this....blessings in Christ, Rev. Paula





**THANKSGIVING SERVICE
SUN. NOV 17, 2019**

A portion of this service Rev. Paula will include a gratitude service to kick off our season of love in a powerful way. This will be an opportunity to begin our Holy days knowing we are blessed and sharing together as a church and as individuals/families.



**CHRISTMAS
MUSIC
SERVICE
DEC. 8, 2019**

This delightful Sunday service will definitely put you in the Christmas Spirit. COME, be filled with food, fabulous music, and plenty of love to share. Bring your friends and family to enjoy this Christmas extravaganza.



**DECORATE CHURCH
FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Sun., Dec. 1, 2018
Noon - 3 pm**

Want a great way to get into the Spirit of Christmas? Then, stay after service and lend a hand in getting our church ready and making it look beautiful for the Christmas holidays.

CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Sun. Dec. 22, 2019
11 am Service

Plan on bringing friends and family to this special service so everyone can have a wonderful time of sharing with each other the Spirit of Christmas. This beautiful service reflects the spiritual components of Christ in diverse ways. Let yourself experience feeling the joy and wonder of Christ.



Keeping It Real!



BURNING BOWL CEREMONY

Sun. Dec. 29, 2019
11 a.m. Service



Join us as we bring in this new year with a powerful and meaningful experience. Our Burning Bowl Ceremony, is one of the most unique rituals that Unity offers. In this service, we share in the experience of a powerful meditation of releasing what no longer serves us and receiving inspiration from Spirit speaking directly to our hopes and aspirations for the New Year.