

Love in Action
Volunteer Opportunities
for
Sacred Service
To . . .
...Our Church
...Our Community
...Our World

Unity Christ Church of Bon Air

Member Support

New Member Orientation

This is a three hour session held quarterly to inform potential new members about Basic Unity Principles and is required for full membership in Unity. Rev. Joyce Fisher Pierce conducts this session with the assistance of the New Member chairman and others who help interpret the many opportunities for participation and volunteerism. Those attendees who wish to become members of the church may do so at a special Sunday church service after attending this required session.

The Visitor Friendship Committee

Members of the Friendship Committee agree to intentionally make contact with a recent visitor to the church, answer questions, acquaint them with the church proper and invite them to current activities. The purpose of this committee is to insure that *strangers in our midst are no longer strangers*.

Volunteers are welcome to join this "friendly" committee at any time.

Sunday Fellowship Coffee

This LIA team prepares coffee, sets up, cleans up and purchases supplies for the fellowship between services. Members of the church provide refreshments, i.e., cookies, cakes, fruit, cheeses. Mission statement: *Our mission is to provide a welcoming environment for members and guests that encourages fellowship after Sunday morning services. We joyfully provide sacred refreshments for our bodies while we nurture each other through caring and conversation. Thank you God, for this opportunity to serve.*

Volunteers are always welcome to assist this dedicated team.

Unity Homebound Ministry

The vision of the Homebound Ministry is to develop an active volunteer network of support for members in our church community during a time of crisis or difficult situation. *People helping people*. Volunteers make home visits, provide a meal, rides to church/doctor visits/grocery store, along with prayers and comfort. This LIA team requests that they be alerted, along with Rev. Joyce and the lead chaplain, when a crisis situation arises so they can step in and lend a helping hand.

Volunteers are always welcome to join this team.

Sit 'n Knit

Organized by one of our members, this group of ladies (gentlemen are welcome) meets once a month at the church on a Sunday afternoon to knit and crochet prayer shawls to be given to someone in a crisis situation, facing a healing challenge or just as a loving gift. Church members give a love offering for the shawls which are blessed with prayer during their creation and after completion. When a shawl is given to someone outside of our church family it becomes an instrument of outreach. The purpose of the prayer shawl is to bring love and

comfort to the recipient. The love offerings received for the shawls go to the purchase of more yarn to continue this important ministry.

Mission statement: *The prayer shawl ministry is near and dear to my heart having received one during my fight against breast cancer. As you wrap yourself in this tangible reminder of the love and care worked into it by its creator and enhanced by the giver, you know true comfort. When each one is given, I am sure our church community's message of love, forgiveness and caring is being shared further and further in our world. I am so proud and thankful for all the talented hands that have helped me make this ministry so successful.* Susan Wheeler

All ladies or gentlemen who crochet or knit or want to learn are welcome to come sit 'n knit.

Outreach

CrossOver Ministries

CrossOver Ministries operates a network of three free clinics located in areas of need in Richmond providing healthcare services to the uninsured. The clinics are staffed by a volunteer medical and dental staff. There are also volunteer opportunities other than medical and dental available. Our church provides financial support to this ministry.

Mission statement: *to provide healthcare, promote wellness and connect the talents and resources of the community with people in need in the name of Jesus Christ.*

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity, International was founded on the conviction that all of God's children deserve a decent and safe place to live. Habitat is a proven model successfully enabling more than 1,000,000 people worldwide to move from inadequate shelter into simple, decent homes. Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity has been putting faith into action in our community since 1986, partnering with hard-working families to build more than 280 homes in the City of Richmond and the counties of Henrico, Chesterfield, Charles City and New Kent.

When Unity of Bon Air is involved in a build many skilled and non-skilled volunteers will be needed to build this house.

Central Virginia Food Bank

A volunteer group goes to the food bank the 3rd Tues of the month to pack the meals for Meals on Wheels, a component of CVFB.

During the month of January the Men of Unity organized a church-wide collection of canned goods. After the drive the food was delivered to the Central Virginia Food Bank.

Volunteers are welcome to join this team.

Christmas Mother

Each Christmas our church sponsors several families in need from the community through the Christmas Mother program. Every year, an abundance of volunteers come forth to buy food, clothing and toys for each family with money that is generously donated by our church community. After the gifts are lovingly

wrapped, our Unity Bon air "Delivery Santas" bring the gifts to the CM distribution center, making for some excited families on Christmas morning.

Annually, many volunteers joyfully participate in this event.

Teddy Bear Sunday

Once a year in February Church members bring a new teddy bear to Sunday services. The bears are blessed with prayer and then given to a Chesterfield County police officer. Officers carry the bears in their vehicles so that they are readily available to comfort children in stressful situations.

Everyone is asked to bring a new bear to the church services.

The following Outreach divisions represent Love in Action by individuals and are supported by the church through prayer and monetary assistance.

Christian Foundation for Children and Aging

CFCA provides a sponsorship program with children from third-world-countries. Church members Joanne and Frank Einsmann, traveled to Guatemala in 2008 to visit a sponsored child. After reporting on their trip, the board agreed to support four children: Shirisha from India, Orlando from Nicaragua, Stephen from Kenya, and Norie Ann from the Philippines. Our children's Sunday school classes are building a relationship with these children through the exchange of letters, pictures and learning about each others cultures.

Adopt a Pet

The purpose of this group is to raise awareness of the need to provide good homes for stray /abandoned animals. The group works in conjunction with the local animal shelters.

Operation Nehemiah

Our church supports the work of one of our church members, Josef Manso, in his endeavor to create a free medical clinic in his native country of Ghana in Africa.

Mission statement: *Each of us is endowed with a mission by the Universe to create a better tomorrow. 6000 miles away in Ghana, Josef is building walls of hope and inspiration, just as biblical Nehemiah did, hence our name Operation Nehemiah. Our main focus is the Sunrise Clinic, a place to teach people to eat well, exercise and above all go within and cooperate with the Christ in you, the Master Healer.*

Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond

Unity supports the work of this council composed of many churches and faiths throughout greater Richmond. The council will be involved in the House of Faith build for Habitat for Humanity in which Unity will also be participating. ICGR is an advocate for social justice issues common to all faiths.

Heifer International

Heifer's mission is to lift families throughout the world out of poverty through self-reliance, nutrition and a dependable source of income all provided by the gift of livestock and education. Our church members gave generously to this cause at church services in the past.

Fundraising, Fun! & Fellowship

Arts in the Garden

On the first Saturday in June the Meditation Gardens and surrounds are turned into an art show featuring many local artists and craftsmen. This is the church's biggest fund raiser with proceeds going to the expansion fund and the Meditation Gardens. Many volunteers are needed to help make the show the success it has been for the last ten years.

Volunteers receive the pleasure of:

- ♥ meeting new fellow church members/friends
- ♥ experiencing the fulfillment and appreciation of helping others
- ♥ enjoying the overall excitement of the day
- ♥ serving the highest good of all concerned

Vision statement: *to provide the Richmond community with the premier arts and crafts show South of the James River while creating an opportunity to acquaint the public with Unity Christ Church of Bon Air.*

Motto: *Arts in Garden is the Fellowship, Fun and Unity event of the year at Unity Christ Church of Bon Air*

Jazz Under the Starzzzz

An amazing fall night of jazz in the Meditation Garden with Claudia Carawan and friends.

Members bring lawn chairs, dance in the gravel and have FUN! Men of Unity sponsor a fish fry before the concert.

Volunteers are needed to help with set up.

Unity Dinner Dance

UCCBA joins with Unity of Richmond for a grand evening of dining and dancing to the music of Claudia Carawan and "Night Vision". Members bring covered dishes. Don't miss this wonderful evening of fellowship and FUN! Many volunteer opportunities are available to make this evening a success.

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Men of Unity

The Men of Unity meet monthly to discuss ways they can contribute to the support of the church, plan activities and have fellowship. All Men of Unity are invited to attend the meetings and join in the fellowship. Men of Unity sponsor the Spaghetti Dinner in February, the Fish Fry before Jazz, concessions for Arts in the Garden, collection of canned food for CVFB, Pizza & Pics and Bingo!

Many volunteer activities available...for Men Only...and a few select women!

Buildings & Grounds

Meditation Gardens

One of the unique features of our church is our Meditation Gardens spread throughout two acres of heavily wooded property. Our Meditation Gardens are a truly special place...a place to find peace and serenity, a place to meditate, a place to appreciate what God has created, a place for everyone to enjoy.

With its numerous gardens, meandering pathways, large gazebo, tranquil lily pond, and many park benches, the Meditation Gardens are a favorite place for people to gather, especially after a Sunday service. Make it a part of your worship experience.

Vision statement: *To create and maintain a garden environment that enhances mind, body, and soul, consistent with Unity principles. Our team provides an infrastructure allowing accessibility to all people, develops, and maintains planting areas such that they provide a vibrant cohesiveness utilizing organic methods and research-based techniques.*

This LIA team meets as called by the chairman, usually monthly during spring, summer, and fall, more often before Arts in the Garden or a special event. Team members plant, fertilize, weed, and mulch, maintaining the gardens and other church property landscaping. Paths are cleared and swales cleaned. Anyone who loves to dig in the dirt is welcome to join this active team of gardeners.

Electrical Maintenance

Individuals with the requisite skills may be called upon to assist with electrical maintenance.

General Maintenance

Individuals with skills in maintenance, i.e. carpentry, masonry, HVAC, painting, and miscellaneous duties, may be called upon to assist.

Education & Enrichment

Book Store

The Unity Book Store provides material for Unity classes and personal spiritual growth, along with CDs and greeting cards for purchase. The store is open immediately after the Sunday 9 and 11am services.

The store coordinator welcomes suggestions of books to be made available.

The Book Store is manned by a Love in Action volunteer staff.

Lending Library

Across from the Book Store is a small lending library. Members and friends often donate books and CDs to the library. The library's book return policy is on the honor system; take what you want to read and return it when convenient.

Youth Education Department

We understand that our Sunday School and Youth of Unity (YOU) may be one of the few opportunities each week for children and teens to reflect on and nurture the spiritual aspects of their lives. Classes are designed to develop a practice of meditation and prayer, learn about the many paths to Spirit, and create a loving and fun environment for our youth to feel their connectedness to God. Classes meet at 11:00am during morning worship.

YOU is the high school age arm of YED. They have special activities and occasionally sponsor fund raisers.

Volunteers are often needed to assist with the many classes and activities from tots to teens.

Family Circles

Members meet in homes in groups of no more than ten to discuss a common spiritual book over a period of 4-6 weeks. Members volunteer their homes and often agree to act as facilitators for the study.

Volunteers are needed for this enrichment study.

4T Prosperity Program and Keys to the Kingdom

These two dynamic classes are offered several times each year. Participants learn the tremendous power of tithing time, talent and treasure for prosperity and fullness of life.

Unity Study Classes

During the year Rev. Joyce and other qualified leaders teach classes on specific Unity principles. Some of these classes offer Unity credit for those doing further studies.

A Course in Miracles

This is an on-going study of the book A Course in Miracles meeting on Monday nights and facilitated by Dan O'Neal. Anyone interested in the study of this book is welcome to join at any time.

Administrative Assistance

The purpose of this division is to support and assist Rev. Joyce and the administrative staff in ways that lighten their load and help to positively affect the overall function of the church.

Office Volunteers

Office volunteers are occasionally needed and requested at the discretion of the office manager.

Flier Distribution

Periodically it is necessary to distribute informational fliers to institutions in the area announcing upcoming events at UCCBA. The fliers are hand-delivered and displayed in places such as libraries, other Unity and New Thought churches and appropriate businesses.

PR and Marketing

If you would like to contribute your talents and share your creativity to build awareness about our church and the wonderful opportunities for spiritual growth, join this creative team and help get the word out about our church. Ideally, if you have a professional background in writing and editing, publication work, marketing, graphic design, web, photography and videography, this would be most helpful but not mandatory.

Technology

The purpose of this team is to provide technology support and training to the church, the different groups within the church, Sunday services, and special events. The services provided include public address sound and recording, video projection, computer and network support, and other technology needs within the church community. Volunteers with this expertise or those wishing to learn about audio, video, computers and networking are invited to join the group.

Special Events Hospitality

During the course of the year there are several times when a light meal/snack is needed for a workshop, meeting or event. This group comes together to provide and serve the fare.

Assistant to a Guest Speaker

Individuals on this committee aid the guest speaker by assisting with the set-up and sale of books and CDs after a Sunday service and/or workshop and in other circumstances where needed.

Worship

Flowers/Decorating

Use of beautiful materials, the beauty and power of the change in seasons, special holidays and/or on going themes in teachings.

The goals and challenges of this committee are to bring a feeling of welcome and hospitality into a building that is often very crowded and to maintain some spots of beauty and peacefulness in a physical space that can feel extremely busy and tight.

Flower arrangements for Sunday worship are provided by church members in honor or memory of a loved on.

Volunteers are needed to assist with seasonal decorating.

Prayer at Unity

At Unity Christ Church of Bon Air everything we do is founded on prayer. Each meeting and discussion by staff and small groups begins with prayer, and our church leaders use their prayer and meditation times to hold the vision of our ministry. Unity, as a movement, began very simply with small prayer groups in people's homes. The results were so amazing that more people wanted to share the amazing power of prayer with friends and families.

Prayer is the primary means through which we experience and manifest the power and presence of God in our lives. Unity offers several forms of prayer ministry. We invite you to use these prayer resources and experience the wondrous Love and Power of God as it flows to us and through us in prayer.

Prayer Team

The Prayer Team is committed to holding our congregation in prayer daily. During their private prayer times every day, the members of this group hold in prayer for 30 days each and every prayer request. The prayer box and prayer request forms are in the back of the sanctuary nearest the kitchen door, for congregants to leave their prayer requests. These requests are held in confidence. At the end of the month the prayer slips are sent to Silent Unity to be prayed for, for another 30 days. Prayer Team members are any person who wishes to volunteer to pray daily, volunteer to send birthday cards to the congregants (supplies and lists are provided by the church), when needed serve or help with communion, when needed make visitations with a chaplain. All chaplains are also prayer team members.

Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Unity Prayer Chaplains are available to pray with members of the congregation after Sunday services. They are the ones with the purple neck sashes. They also make monthly telephone calls to each member to pray and celebrate life milestones.

Vision statement: *to lovingly listen, hold spiritual space and pray with the individuals making up the congregation of Unity Christ Church of Bon Air so as to provide an extension of the overall spiritual and pastoral care capability of Unity Christ Church of Bon Air.*

Church members who feel called by Spirit to become a chaplain are invited to attend an orientation.

Lay Leaders

Members of this team serve as an assistant to the minister on the platform during Sunday services. The lay leader reads The Daily Word meditation and gives the schedule of up-coming events at the church.

Greeter/Usher

The "Gushers" are the frontline in representing our church community at Sunday services. We are the first "official" contact our congregants have with the service. The qualities UCCBA hold are peace, love, joy, acceptance, oneness to name a few. The Gusher mission is to embody and display those qualities through a hearty, sincere, and accepting welcome. There are additional tasks we are asked to do: answer questions, direct folks to church activities (children's church, bookstore, prayer chaplain, etc.), assistance in seating congregants, but our goal is to show the folks arriving at our Sunday services that they have come to a place of joy, happiness and acceptance.

Vision statement: *To represent the God qualities of love, joy and friendship of our church community through the greeting and guidance of the congregation at Sunday services.*

Volunteers are needed to fill these positions weekly.

Unity Reader's Theatre

Unity Reader's Theatre has been providing laughs, entertainment, and poignant moments in UCCBA services since 2005. URT is directed by professional theatre veteran Cheryl Fare, who also serves as the playwright in residence, providing thought-provoking material to enlighten and expand Sunday morning lessons. URT is open to new participants at any time. The only pre-requisite is enthusiasm for performing arts.

Living Water Healing Service

This special service is held the second Wednesday of every month for the purpose of bringing healing to those who feel the need. The service includes the opportunity to light prayer candles, a short message about healing, a guided meditation, a blessing and an anointing through the Living Water blessing bowl, music, prayers and a hands-on healing. All are invited to take part in this meaningful service.

Music

The music at Unity is an integral part of the worship service. The words and music enhance and support the message of the minister while the spiritual quality inspires each listener to go deeper within and to often fly higher with joy. The talented Music teams add to the overall richness of the experience. A volunteer women's group, The Sistas, and a Unity choir, The Family, are featured at some of the Sunday services.

Those who desire to share their musical gifts at UCCBA are encouraged to speak with the music director.

Love in Action Prayer

Dearest Spirit,

We bring all the people at Unity who give of their time and talent before You and bless each one. We thank You for each one. Their love in action is the life-blood of this church. It is the receiving and giving thing; You give, we receive and give back to You through service and on and on it goes. Thank you, God. We thank You for this opportunity for each of us to serve in this church and ask and receive Your guidance, strength, and blessing of this work. It is Your work, our work together.

Thank You, God and Amen.

*Volunteer Opportunities at Unity Christ Church of Bon Air
Interests, Talents, and Skills*

Name _____	Date _____
Street _____	City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____	Cell _____
Email _____	Member of UCCBA Yes ___ No ___

BASIC TO OUR LOVE IN ACTION TEAMS IS THE FIRM BELIEF THAT SERVICE IS A NOBLE PATH TO GOD AND IT IS INDEED AN HONOR TO SERVE. THE LIFE OF JESUS THE CHRIST, OUR WAYSHOWER, DEMONSTRATED A LIFE OF PRACTICED LOVING, GOING APART IN PRAYER AND COMING BACK INTO THE WORLD AND GIVING SERVICE. LOVE IN ACTION ALLOWS EACH OF US TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND TO EXPERIENCE SUCCESS SERVING IN OUR GIFTED AREAS.

Please check your area(s) of interest.

Member Support

- The Visitor Friendship Com
- Fellowship Coffee

- Homebound Ministry
- Sit 'n Knit

Outreach

- Crossover Ministry
- Habitat for Humanity
- Central Va. Food Bank
- Christmas Mother
- Teddy Bear Sunday

- Christian Foundation for Children and Aging
- Adopt -a-Pet
- Operation Nehemiah
- Interfaith Council of G R
- Heifer International

Fundraising, Fun!, and Fellowship

- Arts in the Garden
- Jazz Under the Starzz

- Unity Dinner Dance
- Men of Unity

Building and Grounds

- Meditation Garden
- Electrical Maintenance

- General Maintenance

Education and Enrichment

- Book Store
- Library
- Youth Edu. Dept.
- Youth of Unity
- Nursery(11:00am)

- Family Circles
- 4T and Keys Classes
- Unity Study Classes
- Summer Series
- Course in Miracles

Administrative Assistance

- Office Volunteer
- Technology
- PR and Marketing

- Flier Distribution
- Events Hospitality
- Asst. to Guest Speaker

Worship

- Flowers/Decorating
- Prayer Chaplain
- Greeter/Usher
- Reader's Theatre

- Prayer Team
- Lay Reader
- Healing Service

Music Ministry

- Soloist
- The Sistas* (women's group)
- Instrumentalist What instrument? _____
- The Family* (mixed chorus)

List any specials skills, talents and interests below.
