

# COMMUNITY

## Seven Epicenters of the Unity Movement

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7    AUGUST 2017

### FINAL EDITION OF COMMUNITY

It has been a great joy and a privilege to produce this newsletter. I am deeply grateful to the many supporters of this work. First of all I have to thank Rev. Nat Carter who now serves as interim minister to Unity Victoria, BC Canada, for the suggestion and ongoing support. He was serving Unity of Hilton Head when I took his class on Creativity, based on Eric Butterworth's book *The Creative Life*, and **Community** began. One of the requirements for the class was to come up with a project and make it happen. Well we did just that and the first issue of **Community** which was published in July of 2016 was the final paper.

Much of the shape and feel of **Community** came through generous discussions with a few church admins, among them Charlene Yvonne Yates of Unity of Myrtle Beach, Elizabeth Cain (who contributed a fine article to this issue) of Unity of Charleston, Becky Barbee who wears many hats at Unity of Savannah and of course Deborah Vaughn of Unity of Hilton Head. I thank them again for their ongoing support and friendship.

Thanks as well to Rev. James King of Unity of Greenville and Rev. Dale Worley of Unity of Savannah for their contributions and loving support. A deep nod to those who have shared their writing, Rev. Nickie Golden, Kyle Shiver, Carol Hodges, Rev. Lynn Holland, Lesta Sue Hardee, Rev. Ed Kosak and Sally Rountree Klein among others!

One of the greatest pleasures for me was the member profiles we presented. Each and every one of the seven churches in this collective have extraordinary congregants whose stories deserve to be shared more widely.

And finally a thank you to my wife of thirty-seven years, Chris Poschmann for her support in proofing and editing each issue, often at a time she might have otherwise been sleeping!

Love and Light, *Jim*



### HIGHLIGHTS:

- ♥ *Farewell!*
- ♥ *Bob and Dave's Medicine Show*
- ♥ *Let There Be Light!*



#### THE SEVEN

SAVANNAH, GA	∞
HILTON HEAD, SC	∞
MT. PLEASANT, SC	∞
CHARLESTON, SC	∞
MYRTLE BEACH, SC	∞
WILMINGTON, NC	∞
GREENVILLE, SC	∞

### INTERFAITH NEWS

Your editor has taken on new roles and responsibilities in the Interfaith movement. I've always felt that the Unity byline "One God, Many Paths" made us natural

leaders in the Interfaith Movement. For more news about UICC, IPSC and the World Parliament of Religions visit: [www.InterfaithAdvocate.org](http://www.InterfaithAdvocate.org)



## BOB & DAVE'S MEDICINE SHOW

Last June I traveled to Asheville North Carolina to attend Unity of Blue Ridge's *Our Love Is Power*, Spiritual Summit. Rev. James and Leah King graciously put me up for the night in Greenville and I attended both services at their church the next morning. What an absolutely delightful surprise I had that morning, the sermon/message was ***Bob and Dave's Medicine Show!***

Bobby Shropshire and Dave Lacombe of Unity of Myrtle Beach have paired their complementary sensibilities and good humor with tight, consummate musicianship, and are deeply rooted in their spiritual perceptions. Last but not least their down-home Southern cultural roots are worked into what I consider some profound preaching! No kidding, this stuff is done to a turn and dripping with special sauce. A bonified full meal, served in well-timed courses each one leaving you hungry for the next, but finally stuffed as a summer tick on a mule deer's haunch. Nevertheless you do have the opportunity for two dollars, if I remember correctly, to take home a bottle of your own snake oil! You would think that this was just some sort of entertaining rhetorical offer but someone in the audience did fork over the cash, demanded the product and left with the one bottle that Bob and David brought.

Many people come to Unity after years of regularly attending one Christian denomination or another. As much as they identify with the ideas which are so fundamentally different from the ones they were raised on, they still suffer pangs and misunderstandings from numerous bits of embedded theology.

These boys are onto that, and in a light-hearted, never mean manner manage to point out what then seems obvious. One's natural reaction is a relaxed smile, a chuckle and perhaps for a Baptist or two a deep guffaw! Truly I left that morning's Sunday service with the sense that if these fellas could find the audience they could reach people unreachable in most any other venue.

As I understand it you will be able to see them at Unity of Wilmington in North Carolina on September the 8th and even though that's a tank of gas and a fair bit of driving for me I hope to be able to attend. The following are a few paraphrased tidbits from their press release, which is well worth reading but due to space constraints won't fit here.

"Best known for his fifteen seasons in Carolina Opry and Alabama Theater, Bobby Shropshire's home-spun storytelling and solid musicianship have delighted audiences for over 30 years. During his 10 years on the Calvin Gilmore's Carolina Opry stage, Bobby served as a lead guitarist, rhythm guitarist, bass fiddle player, comedy writer and comedian.

Dave Lacombe is Music Director at Unity of Myrtle Beach and has been for the last six years. His love of traditional Blues shines through in his heart-felt vocals. A devout Buddhist for twenty two years, David has worked closely with the Soka Gakkai International organization to promote Buddhism and interfaith understanding. He sums up his particular method of chanting meditations as "Devotion to the mystical law of cause and effect, through sound."



"What an absolutely delightful surprise I had that morning, the sermon/message was ***Bob and Dave's Medicine Show!***



Bobby Shropshire

**"THE CURE  
FOR THE 21ST  
CENTURY"**



Dave Lacombe

**CommUnity**

A title of

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Elizabeth Ann Cain

“So my higher self, my spirit speaks to me about allowing, letting, encouraging, opening, breathing in, discovering, being curious of what the universe may hold without my hands all in it. I love that!”

Here’s a bit about the Elizabeth I know:

LUT candidate and Ministry coordinator at Unity of Charleston.

Masters in Social Work, and certified Grief Counselor

Exhibiting member of the Charleston Artist Guild,

Reiki Master

Mother of 3 children now in their 20’s who are rocking it in this world.

Married for 32 years to husband Mark.

AND

A truly engaging Mind/Heart that is fully present to you when you are with her!

## LET THERE BE LIGHT!

BY ELIZABETH ANN CAIN

Lately when I go into silence there is a message. Do you guys ever get those? The message I am getting is “you don’t always have to be striving”. I have to tell you that is a great relief!

If you know me, then you know I work hard and play hard. I like to make things happen. I like to make lists and have exquisite pleasure when I cross things off the list. I will even write down things I have already done just so I can cross them off. Silly I know but that’s me! What are you gonna do? We are who we are.

So my higher self, my spirit speaks to me about allowing, letting, encouraging, opening, breathing in, discovering, being curious of what the universe may hold without my hands all in it. I love that! It is a great way to enter the second half of the year. I invite you to consider not only what you want to eliminate but also what you will fill the space which you just created by releasing something that no longer serves you.

Many years ago when I was a counselor, my boss introduced the idea that when giving something up you should then add something. Whether it be giving up cigarettes, chocolate, alcohol, whatever. Add in friend time, fun hobbies, splurge on yourself. Then the mind can focus on the positive thing you are adding instead of the negative thing you are releasing. Not bad, huh?

So when you let in the light and release that which you want to eliminate, I want you to focus on the flame that allows you to do that. When we release the shadow, what comes???? The light. When the world was created, the words were...

Let there be light. The most important word in that sentence to me is LET. It doesn’t say try, work, plan, struggle. It says LET. That is the way of creation. Let it be so. Get out of the way and LET THERE BE LIGHT! Not only for yourself but for everyone around

you. In the book of Matthew, it says, “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket but on the lampstand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others so they may also see.”

As you open to allow the light to come in, focus on the light of the flame that allows you to do the work on your path. Let that light grow inside you by simply putting your intention on the light, the positive, the good, while the shadow fades and the second part of year begins. For we know, things held in mind produce after their kind.

I have a story about the idea of the power of intention, focusing on what you want and need, and allowing it to come into being.

Many years ago when my youngest went to school, I needed a cell phone and went to the store to get it. This was long before my Unity days. While the clerk went to retrieve the phone number I would be assigned, I prayed with all my little mother’s heart that I needed a number that my two preschool boys could remember. I was passionate about that need. It filled my heart and I was full of emotion about it. I felt my desire with all my soul. The clerk came back laughing from the back office and told me my number would be 345-6543. I couldn’t have come up with a better number myself if I tried for weeks. The Universe had it all in hand, all I had to do was want it, need it, believe it and it was so. I didn’t have to fashion it myself or even begin to design the how. I just wanted it and left it in God’s hands.

My question for you is....What will you fill the space you opened by allowing the light in? What do you passionately need, want, believe, see for yourself? What are you willing to allow and release to the Universe? Declare it so and go on about your business.

And so it is and so we let it be,  
Amen.

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A SHARED PUBLICATION OF SEVEN  
UNITY CHURCH/CENTERS

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