



**unity**  
in Edinboro

July—August  
Newsletter

Supporting you in living more fully  
and abundantly through greater  
Spiritual Awareness

Sunday Services – 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Joanne Rowden  
814-450-6090

[joanne@unityinedinboro.com](mailto:joanne@unityinedinboro.com)

Rev. John Brown-Pastor Emeritus

Unity on the web at [www.unityinedinboro.com](http://www.unityinedinboro.com)



# Being in Relationship

## Joanne's Perspective

By REV. JOANNE ROWDEN

This year, I have been getting clarity about the importance of relationships. I have even had the idea that the purpose of our lives is found in the relationships that we share. For me, this has given me a whole new perspective on the way I show up in the relationships within my life.

As I consider each of the relationships within my life, I recognize that I am responsible for how I show up. Am I expressing love, compassion, kindness, understanding? Am I fully present and engaged in each conversation and interaction with others. Am I allowing my light to shine and recognizing that each interaction is yet another opportunity to allow my Divine Nature to unfold as I also

recognize the Divine Nature of the one I am with?

When I consider my life, and the relationships that have come and go, I realize that sometimes I have shown up in just the right light. At others, I was unconscious and unaware of the way in which I was showing up for the moment. Respecting the relationship that I have with myself, and with God, I do not blame, judge, or belittle myself when I realize I have not shown up in a way that honors the Christ Spirit within myself and the other. I return to an awareness of God's Presence, forgive myself, and choose again.

To be honest, I find that choosing again is something that occurs quite often. It is easy to go unconscious. It is easy to

get so caught up in the busyness of the moment that I forget the sacredness of myself and the one that I am with. It is easy to forget that life is about being in relationship and sharing my light with each one that I meet.

I am learning to be more conscious. I am learning to make a different choice. I am learning to stand in the moment and be fully present. I know that as I continue to be conscious in my choice, my relationships will be richer, deeper, and more real and authentic.

This summer, I am planning a series on relationships. Are you ready to take your relationships to a whole new level? Come join us each Sunday as we explore the possibilities together.

### Unity Correspondence Course

An Ongoing Discussion Facilitated By

Rev. Joanne Rowden

July 7 & 21, August 4 & 18

7:00 p.m.

Join us for our conference call!

Call in number: (712) 775-7000

Access Code: 897564#

Each call is recorded. Listen to previous call by visiting us online at:  
[www.unityinedinboro.com](http://www.unityinedinboro.com)

# Sundays in July and August...

## July 3—Paradox

A message with The Rev. John Brown

## July 10—Relationship with God

We begin a new series on Relationships beginning with our Relationship with God. Just what does a relationship look like? Come find out!

## July 17—Living in the Eye of the Storm

A message with Rev. Pat Bessey, Unity Minister and Church consultant for Unity Worldwide Ministries—Eastern Region

## July 24—Relationship with Self

## July 31—Relationship with Family

## August 7—Relationship with Community

## August 14—Relationship with The World

## August 21—Relationship with Mother Earth

## August 28—Chautauqua Sunday

Join us as we all visit Unity of Chautauqua where Rev. Joanne will be delivering the Sunday Message. Call 814-450-6090 for more details

This spiritual community is solely supported by your tithes and love offerings. We appreciate your continued financial support which makes it possible for us to support your spiritual growth in discovering, experiencing, expressing and celebrating God's good.

**Consider making a tax deductible donation today!**

**Send your check to:  
Unity in Edinboro  
130 Meadville St.  
Edinboro, PA 16412**



# Returning to Prayer Every Time

## MasterMind Column

By REV. JERRY BRITTON

This is a small group that can grow, and it can start with you! We pray together, and we share our story with each other.

In some stories, we need help, and we ask for that help in prayer from each one of us. Some we need help with, and we pray on that too. Some we have a good laugh over and that helps us to let go of them.

Then we go into the quiet place of ours...that Highest Place. Some of you have asked us to pray for you, and we do that for you too.

He said, Our God, that where two or more are gathered, I am with you. I can tell you that is true, oh so true! It made me think back to when I was real sick and alone, but not alone at all. As it is said, *“Who serve my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with*

*healing in your wings.”* Malachi 4:2.

He was with me while I was sick, and he still is working on this body and in this body and in each and everyone of us. If you let him. Your God.

A lot of us are standing in fear now because the way that this world is moving and pulling our children in different directions. But if you remember God is our refuge and strength, a very presence that is there to help us in time of trouble. *“Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountain shake in the heart of the sea.”* Psalm 46:1-2. He is still there with you, whatever it is that you are going through. If you listen to Him, he will take you through it all.

You are not alone. That is why we, The Master Mind Prayer Group, are there as well as the

Prayer Chaplains. We are here to pray with you and for you.

You are important to us. You are our family and we want to be there for you. So just ask, or call any one of us, and we will be glad to pray with you. Don't feel like you are alone. You have the MasterMind Prayer Group and the Prayer Chaplains too.

Unity in Edinboro. We are praying for every one of you!

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son for us.* John 3:16

Enjoy your life!

### **The MasterMind Prayer Group**

Meets every Thursday  
At 9:30 am.

Rev. Jerry Britton's  
home

ALL ARE WELCOME  
814-450-6090 for more  
information

Unity in Edinboro Prayer Chaplains are always available every Sunday to pray with you. ..whether the prayer is to support you in meeting a challenge or in giving thanks!



Unity in Edinboro  
Community Yard Sale and  
Pancake Breakfast!  
Saturday, August 27

Join us for a community yard sale and pancake breakfast. Yard sale tables are being offered to you for a 10% donation back to Unity in Edinboro. To reserve your table, call Joanne at 814-450-6090. Volunteers are also needed to assist Bill Empson with the pancake breakfast. Come one and all and join in the fun and circulation!



**Our Purpose:** The purpose of Unity in Edinboro is to promote a peace filled community where spiritual seekers are becoming deeply committed to awakening our oneness in God.

**Our Vision:** Together we create the Sacred Space of Boundless Possibility. We radiate and live the presence. We simply Be.

**Our Be-attitudes:**

Acceptance  
Love  
Learning  
Oneness  
Wisdom  
Inspiration  
Now Here  
Grateful

Together we let our light shine!



## Relationship with Self is Key to Relationship with Others Chaplain's Corner

By GORDON ABERNATHY

To be or not to be. To be in a relationship that is. To open oneself up to friendship and love is to gamble comfort and safety for much, much ore, but at risk of great loss. For as the Buddha said, "An insincere friend is more to be feared than a wild beast. A wild beast may wound your body, but an insincere friend will wound your mind." Is this always the case?

This is only the case if your happiness is dependent upon the outcome of others happiness. Caring about others is a good thing. But self empowerment, being in relationship with your self, means your happiness is not dependent on others' happiness or thoughts about you. You can only make one person happy.

When one comes to this

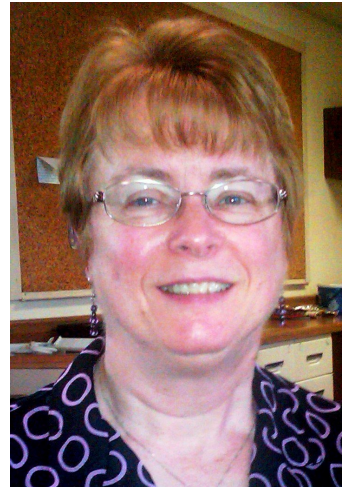
conclusion, their relationships improve, and one finds life's path a bit easier. Relationships grow in what was barren land when, instead of worrying about others, one is empowered to be in an honest relationship with one self.

**Prayer Chaplains Meeting on Sunday, August 10 after service!**

## Our New Prayer Chaplain Coordinator Cindy Walk

Help us to welcome Cindy Walk as our new Prayer Chaplain Coordinator. Cindy has been involved with the Prayer Chaplain program at Unity in Edinboro since its inception! Cindy has demonstrated her commitment to prayer and her own personal spiritual growth. As Prayer Chaplain Coordinator, Cindy will be responsible for:

- Holding regular prayer chaplain meetings
- Coordinating the prayer chaplain's schedule
- Communication with the prayer chaplains
- Empowering the prayer chaplains to raise the prayer consciousness of Unity in Edinboro in unique and uplifting ways.
- Oversee recruitment of new prayer chaplains





## Church Building and Grounds Maintenance Fund

Intention-\$3000  
To Date-\$2501

Front Sidewalk Project is  
Now Complete!

Thank you to each one who have  
shared their time, talent and/or  
treasure to allow us to reach our  
intention!

First of all, I would like to thank each one who personally responded in financial support of our request in the letter you received in April and in the May/June newsletter. To date, we have raised \$2501 of our original intention to raise \$3000. What a blessing each one who responded are in helping us do what is necessary to maintain our church building.

As part of our request, we also asked anyone who would like to volunteer their time and talent to do so with these building projects. Dennis and

Caroll Boyer, Gary Rowden, Bill Empson, Connie Walker, Mike and Viola Nuber, Gordon Abernathy, Becca Lesik and Rick Cauffman all helped to complete the front sidewalk project. The new sidewalk looks fabulous! We are so grateful to each one in sharing your time to complete this project.

We still need to complete the driveway skirt and steeple. Bill Empson, thinking outside of the box, has been able to secure a lift so that we can take care of the steeple repairs. What a blessing! Thank you

Bill. If you would like to help with this project, let us know by calling 814-450-6090.

Finally, we are asking again for you to consider financially supporting our intention of raising \$3000 if you have not already done so. A contribution of any amount will be gratefully and graciously received. You can mail a check to Unity in Edinboro, 130 Meadville St., Edinboro, PA 16412. Please note building fund in the memo so that it get allocated to the proper fund.

# July 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Unity Cor. Course	8	9
10	11	12	13 Con- versation Café	14	15 Board Training	16
17 Creat- ing Peace Workshop	18	19	20Conver sation Café	21 Unity Cor. Course	22	23 Movie Night
24 Board Meeting	25	26	27Conver sation	28	29	30
31						

## In 2011 we shift our attitude...

### July 3—Paradox

Speaker: Rev. John Brown

Worship Asst.: Priscilla

Hardman

Chaplain: Cindy Walk

Daily Word: Becca Lesik

Special Music: John Brown

### July 7-Unity Correspondence Course Conference Call (See page 2)

### July 10—Relationship with God

Speaker: Rev. Joanne Rowden

Worship Asst.: Joseph Briggs

Chaplain: Gordon Abernathy

Daily Word: Leona Bickel

Special Music: Jeff Ropp

### July 13-Conversation Café Returns

### July 17—Living in the I of the Storm

Speaker: Rev. Pat Bessey

Worship Asst.: Connie

Walker

Chaplain: Jerry Britton

Daily Word: Caroll Boyer

Special Music: Mike Nuber

### Embracing Conflict, Creating Peace Worksho: 1-3

### July 21-Unity Correspondence Course Conference Call (See page 2)

### July 24—Relationship with Self

Speaker: Rev. Joanne Rowden

Worship Asst.: Rick Cauffman

Chaplain: Priscilla Hardman

Daily Word: Barry Hardman

Special Music: Shelly and Becca

### Board Meeting at 12:30

### July 31—Relationship with Family

Speaker: Rev. Joanne Rowden

Worship Asst.: Joseph Briggs

Chaplain: Barry Hardman

Daily Word: Jerry Britton

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Conversation Café	4 Unity Cor. Course	5	6
7	8	9	10 Conversation Café	11	12	13
14 Prayer Chaplain Meeting	15	16	17 Conversation Café	18 Unity Cor. Course	19	20 Movie Night
21	22	23	24 Conversation Café	25	26	27 Yard Sale/ Breakfast
28 Chautauqua Suncay	29	30	31 Conversation Café			

## by focusing on our be-attitudes!

### August 7-Relationship with Community

Speaker: Rev. Joanne Rowden  
Worship Asst.: Priscilla Hardman

Chaplain: Joseph Briggs  
Daily Word: Shelly Ropp

### August 4-Unity Correspondence Course Conference Call (See page 2)

### August 14- Relationship with The World

Speaker: Joanne Rowden  
Worship Asst.: Connie Walker  
Chaplain: Becca Lesik  
Daily Word: Alecia Wenslow

### Chaplain's Meeting at 12:30

### August 21-Relationship with Mother Earth

Speaker: Rev. Joanne Rowden  
Worship Asst.: Connie Walker  
Chaplain: Priscilla Hardman  
Daily Word: Rick Cauffman

### August 18-Unity Correspondence Course Conference Call (See page 2)

**August 28-Join us in Chautauqua for Chautauqua Sunday. There will NO Sunday service at Unity in Edinboro this week.**

## Holding the Sacred Space of Possibility for our Children!

Join us as together we are holding the sacred space of possibility for our Youth Program, an abundance of children, and the transformative power of Unity to make a difference with the youth in our community!

Wake Up...It's Wednesday at Unity

Conversation Cafe  
You're invited to Pull Up A Chair...  
Meeting in Fellowship Hall  
at 12 p.m.  
each Wednesday  
Returns on July 13!

Join Joanne each week as we discuss basic Unity Principles relating to our Sunday morning message. Bring a brown bag lunch and come join us.

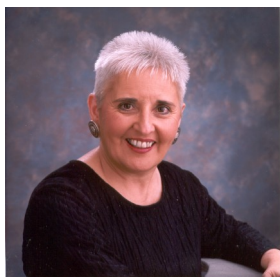


Unity AV "Bug" Club Ministry  
Presents...Movie Night  
7:00 p.m.

July 23 —Flywheel  
August 20— Movie to be announced

*A freewill offering will be received*

Join Shelly Ropp and Unity's AV Bug Club Ministry for our monthly movie night at Unity in Edinboro. In July, the club will present *Flywheel!*. Dishonest used-car salesman Jay Austin reaches an important turning point in his life when he finally realizes the errors of his ways and sets out to win back the love and trust of his wife, his son and the community. Once he decides to live an honest life of love and Christian faith, Jay never looks back at his past mistakes and becomes steadfastly committed to his new life.



**Embracing Conflict, Creating Peace**  
Presented by Rev. Pat Bessey,  
Church Consultant for  
Unity Worldwide Ministries Eastern Region

**Sunday, July 17, 2011**

**1:00 – 3:00**

**At Unity in Edinboro**

What if everything in your life — every judgment, every failure, every obstacle, every conflict, illness, and loss was really about exposing your capacity to make the difference — grist for the millstone of your own becoming?

And, what if you really knew the difference between you and your experiences, that you are not your experiences? You *have* experiences, but experiences don't have to have you. What difference would you make when your way of relating was inspired by who you are, who you have come here to be, instead of what's happening to you?

This workshop presents a heart intelligent approach to transforming any situation into opportunities for personal healing, awakening, and empowerment. Participants will learn how to:

- Recover from judgment and criticism
- How to dismantle the belief that someone or something is against you
- Gain relevant skills for dealing with stressful situations

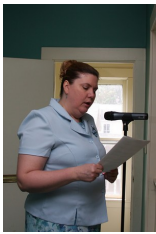
*Pat is an ordained Unity Minister, Certified Business and Personal Life Coach, Church Consultant, Certified Peace Worker with the Unity Worldwide Ministries*

***Offered on a Love Offering Basis***

# Where Did Our Core Values (Be-Attitudes) Come From?

In 2009, our entire congregation was invited to join a visioning process in which we opened to God's vision for our spiritual community. We collected each one's Divine Ideas. From those ideas, the Core Vision Council discerned our core values. Below is the list we used as well as the values that were discerned:

- Focus on prayer that is inspired and answered by God (Wisdom, Inspiration)
- Food distribution to the needy (Grateful)
- Song through a choir, band, praise and worship (Grateful)
- Freedom (Acceptance)
- Co-operative/ Simultaneous Leadership (Acceptance, Oneness, Love, Wisdom)
- Love and acceptance (Acceptance, Love)
- Non-traditional service (Acceptance, Learning)
- Participatory opening intention with an invitation to the congregation (Acceptance, Learning, Inspiration)
- Bright-stay in the light (Love, Oneness)
- Encourage Principle (Acceptance, Learning, Wisdom)
- Ask/allow what Spirit wants (Oneness, Inspiration)
- Exchange fear for trust and imagine how powerful we could be (Acceptance, Wisdom, Inspiration)
- Breathe and Trust the Process as we move from fear to creative thoughts (Acceptance, Inspiration)
- How can we provide a sense of protection in vulnerability (Acceptance, Love)
- Create an Inspirational DVD capturing our love in action as the Congregation shares their gifts (Acceptance, Love, Grateful)
- Be open to allowing God to shine through (Parable of the Church Windows) (Acceptance, Love)
- Becoming as One/ Whole (Oneness)
- Know "it's" working (Learning)
- Create a leadership Council to hold the vision for each ministry and support one another in allowing God's vision to unfold (Inspiration)
- Wish list of items needed for our ministry (Grateful)
- Become Innocent and childlike (Love)
- Classes in Reiki, healing, Oneness, prophecy, meditation (Learning)
- Willingness to hear and then apply Truth principles (Learning, Wisdom)
- Be open to asking how we can empower others (Acceptance)
- Testimonials and sharing (Learning, Acceptance)
- Reduce isolation and encourage active participation (Acceptance)
- Joyful, light-filled and enthusiastic (Grateful)
- Collaboration (Acceptance)
- Eyes of love sunglasses (Love)
- Priorities and Sequencing (Now Here)
- Open non-church (Acceptance)
- Try new things (Acceptance, Love)
- Just let it be in the moment like a dog (Now Here, Grateful)



# Overcoming That Feeling of Not Enough

## View From the Board

By MICHELLE ROPP

All of us have had some feelings of 'not enough' sometimes in life. We are designed to react for survival. We are only limited to what we limit ourselves to in our mind. Don't forget our boundless possibilities.

Recently, I learned of these helpful tips:

- Stay in a state of gratitude and fullness (in great Oneness)
- Pay attention to what you value and make a difference with it
- Honor the flow of money and invest it in a way you feel right about
- Revel in the abundant bounty and realize there is already enough

- Always wanting more will bring a feeling of lack
- Declutter your life and consider only buying new when you have released the old
- Practice appreciation and share with someone what you appreciate it will come back
- Believing in what you value most such as relations, tangible needs provided, and your unique gifts from God are all you really need. He provides everything.

In board news:

Unity board extends its greatest gratitude to all who support our ongoing projects. The church was cleaned in May and we are reaching the goal for current building

repairs including the front sidewalk, church steeple and house next door fix ups. The apartment downstairs is vacant with tenants occupying again in August. If you can help with any repairs, please sign up on the call list.

We are looking forward to a fulfilling Sunday service at Chatauqua Lake, NY August 28<sup>th</sup>. Hope you can attend.

The Unity audio visual 'bug' club ministry has formed to support audio and visual inspiration for church members and the community. Watch for the buggers to be presenting monthly feature films, learning sound equipment, and displaying short videos including slide shows created by bug club member

**President:**  
Joseph Briggs  
814-838-9911  
rooka8@yahoo.com

**Vice President:**  
Barry Hardman  
814-734-5162

**Secretary:** Shelly Ropp  
814-734-1170  
micheleropp@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:**  
Cheryl Wenslow  
814-756-3942  
cwenslow@alltel.net

**Director:** William Empson  
**Director:** Open

Do you feel called to serve on the leadership team of our spiritual community? Let Joseph or Joanne know today!



## Heartfelt Thanks To Jeff Ropp

“Heartfelt” is a sincere, honest and deep | feeling. That is what we at Unity in Edinboro believe about those we honor each month with our “HeartFelt Thanks Award.”

This month’s HeartFelt Thanks honoree is Jeff Ropp.

### **How long have you been a member of Unity in Edinboro?**

It’s been about 8 years. It was 2003 because I know we were in church at that time because I remembering attending when Shelly had her accident. I knew this was the first question you were going to ask me, and its hard to believe it’s been that long.

### **Please share some of the activities and efforts you have been involved with during that time?**

A lot of the music. A bit

of clean up. Any chance that I get to wear boots... Shelly never lets me wear boots to church, but on spring clean up day she told me, “Today you get to wear boots to church.”

### **What attracted you to Unity in Edinboro?**

My parents talked me into it. Then I met a lot of car guys...Glenn MacDonald, Denny Cook, Gary Rowden....I fit in so the next week we started coming.

### **What keeps you coming back to Unity in Edinboro?**

For a while I wasn’t going as often. After I had a little spell in the hospital, that woke me up. Shelly encouraged me to start playing music again, which I have. I played more in church. I joined the choir. It’s relaxing because I have such a hectic schedule. I can at least spend an hour or an hour and a half relaxing...and it lets me connect with others there.

### **What would like to say about our church to fellow members and friends of Unity?**

It’s a small quaint church but it’s full of really good people. I get really good vibes when I attend every week. I hope to see it grow. Tell all your friends.

### **Tell us about yourself: your family, hobbies and interests, community activities, etc.?**

I’m usually either raising dogs...doing auto body...restoring cars... selling cars. I’m trying to learn more musical instruments...a banjo and a mandolin...both at the same time!

If you know a person you would like to see honored as a HeartFelt Thanks recipient, please call Rev. Joanne at 814-450-6090.

# Helping Others Through Prayer

By Charles Roth

**Continued from May/  
June newsletter**

## *Know the Truth*

Then speak words of Truth. If the one you wish to bless is going through a physical challenge, speaks words such as: *The healing, renewing, purifying, adjusting life of God is moving in and through you this moment. The cleansing action of Spirit is carrying away all impurities. The replenishing life of God is restoring you to health and wholeness. We are grateful.*

Truth is unchanging. Facts change, conditions change, circumstances change. But the spiritual fact—the fact that God’s universal life energy is always moving in and through you and that it cleanses, renews, and heals you—does not change. It is true now, in this moment; it was true any time in the past; it will be true at any moment in the future.

You are actually stating the Truth, the unchang-

ing Truth, about the person you wish to help. You are not ignoring the facts; you are merely focusing your attention on something that exists behind or beyond the facts.

Of course, the problems that our friends and loved ones are called upon to meet aren’t always healing

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***Instead of praying for the way you think things should turn out, it is much wiser to leave everything to God.***

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challenges. There might be friction in a marriage or a child might be having a difficult time in school, or a friend might be going through a worrisome change at work.

Instead of praying for the way you think things should turn out, it is much wiser to leave

everything to God.

In other words, declare something like this in prayer: You are one with God. God’s spirit harmonizes your life and establishes peace, order and divine timing. We are grateful.

I like to use the words divine timing in my personal prayer times. I am sure you have noticed in your life, as I have in mine, how important divine timing is.

When something is resolved successfully, you look back in retrospect and see how everything seemed to fit together perfectly. Of the timing had been off in meeting a certain person or getting specific information or being in a particular place, the whole thing wouldn’t have worked out as successfully. Sometimes we call it “luck” and lucky indeed is the person who has faith in the transcendent power and presence of God and is in harmony with divine timing.

***To be continued in our next newsletter.***

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Edinboro, PA 16412

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Sent With Love To

Embracing Conflict,  
Creating Peace  
Workshop Peace  
(see page 11)

Unity in Edinboro visits  
Unity in Chautauqua on  
August 28!