



UNITY BIRMINGHAM APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Hello everyone,

Welcome to our latest Newsletter, I don't know where I put my notes for the March meeting; but it was so good that I don't need to look at notes.

Our March 16th speaker was Beth O'Connell, she is a Reporter by trade; and this came across. She was very good at communicating a message to us, by using a culturally clever way of integrating the Patrick Day Celebrations into her talk on understanding our spiritual heritage. Before we get into Beth's presentation let me tell you a little of what happened to me.

The start of my journey to Birmingham, started off quite bizarrely; in Sheffield the weather had been quite windy, this seemed to have rattled my car about quite a lot, and when I went to my car that morning, all the indicators were on, and wouldn't turn off, for a while it looked like I was going to have to stay in Sheffield. I messaged the AA using their App. They were 30 minutes away. I tried to call Carran, but my phone wasn't connecting properly, so I went back inside the house to make the call. She didn't say anything earth shattering, but in her quiet manner affirmed, if it was part of divine order I would be in Birmingham. I got back into my car and yes you guessed it, the indicators went off and the car started beautifully.



looked like I was
have to stay in
I messaged the AA
App. They were 30



You really can't make this stuff up. Divine order is always at work; and I got to Unity Birmingham just in time.

The theme of Beth's talk was "Appreciating our Divine Heritage." We started by individually writing

what our own heritage was and what it taught us about ourselves, then we shared our thoughts. Although we have in the past shared experiences I really felt that this was the first time that we shared what made us who we were. There was so much that I didn't realize about others that was a real eye opener and enabled me to understand people better. This first experience enabled us to prepare spiritually for understanding what our divine heritage was and what it was made up of. I am sure that Beth would be happy to send the 2 sheets she used to us if people ask, and I will email them out.

Her focus was on Unity's 12 Powers. When I first came into Unity and Carran told me about the twelve powers, I listened with interest but didn't feel at all connected to the concept of them. But you know that saying "When the student is ready the teacher will appear." Recently via the Daily Word, they have become something very significant to me, the first time they impacted me was when a lesson about Enthusiasm (Zeal) came up. Eureka I got it, then this month Beth talked about the power of Imagination. It was a really wonderful session, I only hope now that Beth could repeat what she did with us elsewhere.

I was very aware of how in sync we were as a group. We were all definitely at one with each other and the love in the room was quite tangible.

Thank you Beth O'Connell, and Nancy Sandoval for journeying with Beth to Birmingham, we were all very grateful for your presence and input.

I will now pass on to Carran for her monthly message:

Hello Everyone,

First it is thanks to Bev for her interesting and inspiring lead into this newsletter, which I thoroughly enjoyed reading. I get what she said about not fully connecting at the beginning with the concept of the 12 powers, because our understanding on our individual spiritual journey's will always unfold bit by bit as we go along, and the wondrous thing for me is that it is a continuous journey.....so, I look forward with enthusiasm!!

The Lent Booklet from Unity this year has the theme of 'Fasting and Feasting' which briefly takes us on a daily practice of 'fasting' from negative thoughts and 'feasting' on positive thoughts, or put another way, "Christ in you, your hope of glory." In other words, when we acknowledge how important our thoughts are in affecting our lives physically, mentally and spiritually, and recognize our negative tendencies, we can with conscious effort lift ourselves on to the higher plane, aligning with our true divine nature of love and light, affirming positive thoughts and actions.

The Easter story can be likened to our own (in a less dramatic way!) - Jesus firstly being crucified - we also can feel crucified, when we have loss, illness, betrayal, and other challenging experiences in our lives - then Jesus was entombed - which we also can feel 'entombed' if our lives seem to have changed for the worst, it can seem very lonely – but then the resurrection, Jesus triumphed, and rose up – and we too can triumph in our own way from our periods of darkness and see the sunshine....."Christ in us our hope of Glory."

Please come along if you can to our April Flower Service, when Kimerie will lead us through aspects of Jesus' journey, leading to a beautiful Spiritual Communion in the afternoon.

Every Blessing,



Carran

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

13th April – Rev Kimerie Mapletoft. She is the Director of Silent Unity, our prayer ministry, as well as wearing many other 'hats' within Unity UK. Please come along if you are able. Her visits are always a joy, and her presentations invite lots of interaction from the group.

18th May – David Jones.

15th June– Paul Mapletoft.

You will be advised of David and Paul's topics in our forthcoming newsletters.

UNITY RETREATS 2019

Silent Retreat 26th - 29th July; "Be Still and Know that I am God." Holland House, Pershore, Worcestershire.

Autumn Retreat 26th – 28th September "Living on Purpose: Creating a Life You Love." Whalley Abbey Retreat Centre, Whalley, Lancashire.

A Unity retreat is always a 'real treat' for body, soul and spirit. For more information please contact the Unity Office at Taplow (01628 628915)

If you have access to Unity's Web Site there is a lot of information on Unity in the UK or you can always request information by letter or telephone.

I will end this Newsletter with:



Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Beverley

Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of each month, at Oaklands New Church Centre, Winleigh Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B20 2HN

We meet from 11.00am to 3.00pm

Contact Tel. Numbers:

Carran Stephens – Group Leader – 0121 559 1820 or email: car.step2@gmail.com

Beverley Thomas – Editor – 07808 535026

Please bring lunch (to share if you like)

