



Contact

Vol. 42, Issue 4

August/September 2008

Feedback

Look For The Good

In reponse to Barbara Quinn's article *Look For The Good* (April/May 2008 issue):

Many people in Unity are misusing and misunderstanding your ad at www.lookforthegood.org.

They are using it to criticize those who provide information on candidate issues. As I read your article I can see where the misunderstanding may be coming from. For example, when you say "focus rather on the positive attributes of the candidates and their messages," I am sure you don't mean ignore important issues, and not be aware of what the candidate stands for. For instance we could focus on only the positive of Hitler (he was a strong leader, charismatic, believed in himself, had a strong sense of purpose, good communicator). If we ignored his opinion concerning Jewish people, we might have voted for him. I know this is not what you are suggesting. Perhaps you can make this more clear in your article.

My reply to Unity members who use this article to criticize those who try to stay up to date on issues are as follows: I receive messages I don't always agree with, a few are just slander, but most are simply information. But I always appreciate that friends feel safe enough to communicate their thoughts and feelings to me.

In a recent sacred circle a nurse talked about not labeling things patients are going through as bad or wrong, frees one to do

what is best. I remembered taking care of my elderly mother, and always trying to heal her, when I now wish I would have just enjoyed her more. Likewise I try not to label information as negative. Like a map we must know where we start from before we know the direction to take, know the facts, stay centered, and focus on the direction we need to go, trusting in God, and trusting others will do their part. "Little choices" make the difference. We are God's hands. Remember, Gandhi, Jesus, and Martin Luther King all took nonviolent, positive action (along with prayer) to make a difference.

I hope you will use this information to clear up the misunderstandings concerning your article.

Roma Cox, member

Perspectives

In response to David Elliott's Perspectives article (June/July 2008 issue):

Namaste! David:

First of all, what a beautiful photo of you in this issue of *Contact* magazine. It's good seeing you again, dear friend.

Where do I begin? I, too, love Unity, ... and I "cringed" when I read what I

Have something to say about what you have read in *Contact*? Send your comments to dom@unity.org.

perceive to be misinterpretation of what you label “Unity jargon.” Jargon, according to Webster being “nonsensical, incoherent, or meaningless talk or a specialized language of similar group.” The two words you characterize as “Unity jargon” and as “detracting from any message” happen to be at the core of our Unity teachings.

Contrary to your statement of “There is no generally accepted definition of this word (Shower), you will find in Webster’s New College Dictionary, the second definition says: “shower (sho or) is one that shows (the Way, in the case of Jesus, our Way-Shower).

Also, contrary to your observation that “the only people who use the word this way are in New Thought circles and nowhere else.” I happen to be writing a book at the moment entitled *Tao (the Way) is True Prosperity*. In it I have gathered a historical use of “the Way” going as far back as the ancient writings of Egyptian philosophy found in the Hermetica, written some 3000 years ago. The author, Hermes, asks the Voice of God (they called God “Atum”) “Who are you?” Atum answers: “I am your Way-Guide.” Centuries later in China, the spiritual teacher Lao Tse speaks endlessly about the importance of “The Way (Tao) and says “I am Tao (the Way). Again, centuries later when Jesus is asked “Who are you?” he answers: “I am the Way.” Then our cofounder, Charles Fillmore in the *Revealing Word* says: “The Way, the I AM, is the open door to the kingdom of God.” And even contemporary physics point to the fullness being in the emptiness as the Way to remembering our Oneness.

Oh ... yes, ... my friend, ... you have touched on another of my favorites from which I have taught Unity and our relationship to Jesus the Christ. Jesus told us “These things have I done and you will do greater than these.” Or, “You too are an expression of the Christ, that individualized expression of God that through you as you!”

And, finally, many thought Jesus and his Way of being “odd” ... and we are not in Unity to please others, or to “help things with Christianity.” As our Founder, Myrtle Fillmore has said: “You and I can develop Truth ideas, and offer them to the public; but only the few who want Truth more

than anything else will stay to be inspired and encouraged by our efforts! So, we’ll be happy with the few; and give thanks that the masses will some time receive that which is more precious than all that they think they want so much!” (*Torch-Bearer to Light the Way* p. 159 by Neal Vahle)

Thank you for stimulating my inquiry into what I love and believe to be true as expressed in our Unity teachings. David, dear friend, I truly behold the Christ in you!

Sandra Hymel, Unity minister