

WHAT IS UNITY?

**A Perspective Offered by the Reverend Bea Arline,
Former Minister of Christway Unity Church
in Hot Springs, Arkansas**

UNITY is a century-old, worldwide Christian organization, prayer ministry and spiritual way of life that began as a prayer group founded by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore in Kansas City, Missouri. Today, Unity continues to serve humankind in some 1000 study groups, centers and ministries world-wide. Millions of people have been introduced to Unity through its periodicals **The Daily Word** and **Unity Magazine** and its publishing ministry located at World Headquarters in Unity Village, Missouri. Still others know Unity through its prayer ministry known as **Silent Unity**, which has maintained a round-the-clock prayer vigil for more than 80 years. Because of the similarity in names, Unity is occasionally confused with other organizations; however, we are not affiliated with the Unitarian Church or the Unification Church.

Unity has no prescribed dogma or creed that a person must believe in order to attend or be a part of a Unity Center or Church. We offer instead a foundation of Truth teachings and spiritual principles. These principles were founded upon our understanding of what we believe to be the universal and eternal Truth which Jesus the Christ taught and lived. Unity continues to seek and honor the Truth found in all spiritual paths.

Unity offers a way of life that stresses a positive focus in life, seeking to emphasize the good in people and all of life. Unity stresses that God is not a physical person in the sky but rather Spirit. We believe that God as Spirit is everywhere present, all powerful and all the power there is. We believe that God is in, behind, and through all things visible and invisible. God is seen has having many attributes, the most important of which is Love.

Unity denies the existence of any independent power or presence opposed to God. Unity sees that there are evil appearances and suffering in the world, but ascribes these to ignorance and the erroneous use of spiritual law and energy rather than a power opposed to God.

Unity proclaims the divinity of Jesus the Christ, but goes further and assures that you, too, are a child of God and therefore have a divine essence and spirit that we call the Christ-Spirit or Christ-Principle as your true identity. We believe that Jesus expressed his divine potential and sought to show humankind how to express theirs as well. We seek always to honor the uniqueness and worth of each person. We seek to expand our understanding of this essence we call the Christ-Principle or Christ-Spirit as our true

nature and eternal reality. We believe that God is directly accessible to each of us through the mind as this connecting link. Our primary textbook is the Bible, and Unity seeks to relate its lessons to your life and everyday experiences. Much emphasis is placed on prayer and meditation, the demonstration of these beliefs and principles in our daily lives, and the personal experience of God.

At Unity, each person is recognized as a spiritual being, awakening to the Truth that sets them free. We offer spiritual tools to help each person construct a more joyous, empowered life through a loving, personal relationship with God. We believe in the individual's right to choose freely what they believe, and lovingly welcome and honor those from differing faiths and backgrounds. We open our hearts in dignity and love to persons of all ages, races and colors, and to those from all ethnic, social, and economic backgrounds. We believe in, teach and emphasize the creative power of thought in our life's experiences. We have the conviction that happiness, health, prosperity, peace of mind and an abiding sense of oneness with God are blessings we are each meant to experience in full measure. Opportunities to learn, grow and transform are provided through services, educational classes and special programs for youth and adults.

If you are looking for a meaningful way of life that is dedicated to loving, teaching, inspiring and empowering people, perhaps Unity is what you have been seeking. We welcome you and your questions in a spirit of Love and Truth.

Christway Unity Church

Meeting at #45 Crown, Hot Springs, AR near downtown

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1725, Hot Springs, AR 71902

Email Address: christwayunitychurch@yahoo.com

Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.