

[PRAYER SUPPORT](#)[LISTEN](#)[DONATE](#)[EVENTS](#)[SHOP](#)[CONTACT](#)

SUMMER GREETINGS COU COMMUNITY,

Over the past several months, we have been engaging in Conscious Conversations with everyone actively involved in our ministry who was willing to participate. I'm delighted to share that we completed 70 one-on-one conversations—representing nearly 80% of our regular attendees!

A heartfelt thank you goes to Susan Spradlin, who graciously stepped into the role of Evolutionary Council Team Leader and did an outstanding job guiding this extensive process. We are also deeply grateful to the other eleven members of the Evolutionary Council who generously gave their time to conduct the interviews, as well as to every person who shared their thoughts, hopes, and dreams for our community.

These conversations had two important purposes. First, they allowed us to deeply listen to what is alive within our spiritual community—what people value, where they feel called to grow, and what possibilities are emerging. Second, they provided meaningful data that will help us identify common

themes, patterns, ideas, and concerns. Together, these insights will become the foundation of a strategic plan that helps us invest our time, energy, and resources where they will have the greatest impact—creating an even more fulfilling spiritual home while expanding our ability to live our mission of *transforming lives and inspiring people to make a positive difference in the world*. A summary report will be prepared over the coming months and shared with the congregation.

My heart is truly inspired by the level of participation and commitment I have witnessed throughout this process. It is a beautiful reminder that Center of Unity is not built by one person—it is created by a community of people who are committed to welcoming all with love, extending grace without judgment, and taking ownership of our shared future. Together, we are not simply preserving what has been; we are consciously shaping what is becoming. I cannot wait to see where Spirit leads us next.

With love and appreciation,

Rev Linda

WHO WE ARE AT COU

OUR MISSION

Transforming lives and inspiring people to make a positive difference in the world.

OUR VISION

Centered in God, we envision a world free of judgment and filled with love.

OUR CORE VALUES

Spirit-led, Service, Inclusive, Joy, and Prosperous

*Sunday
series*
10:30 am

GNOSTICISM

Exploring Ancient Wisdom and Modern Spirituality

2
“Who
were the
Gnostics”

9
“Apocryphon of
John”

16
“Gospel of Mary”

23
“Dialogue with the
Savior”

This August, we invite you to take a deep dive into Gnosticism, a diverse spiritual movement that emerged during the early Roman Empire, where Jewish mysticism, Greek philosophy, Christianity, and Eastern wisdom traditions intersected. For centuries, our understanding of the Gnostics came almost entirely from their critics, who labeled their teachings as heresy.

Everything changed in 1945 with the discovery of the Nag Hammadi Library in Egypt—a remarkable collection of more than fifty ancient texts that offered scholars a firsthand look at Gnostic spirituality. Join us as we explore these fascinating writings, uncover their timeless wisdom, and discover the surprising ways many of their themes continue to resonate within New Thought today.

MULTI-
GENERATIONAL
SERVICE 8/30

A special multigenerational service where our children and youth worship with the congregation and share reflections from their recent exploration of early Christian writings.

Wing and a Prayer



CHORALE

**LIFT YOUR VOICE
SUNDAYS 11:45 AM**

Have you ever felt the joy of song? Do you find yourself humming along during Sunday services or tapping your foot to the rhythm? If so, the church choir may be calling your name!

- ♥ Build lasting friendships and find encouragement.
- ♥ Strengthen your musical skills.
- ♥ Experience a spiritual and emotional uplift in harmonizing.

No auditions are required, just a willing heart. Rehearsals are held every Sunday from 11:45 am in the choir room. All voice parts and experience levels are welcome!

Come be a part of something meaningful. Come sing with us.
We'd love to welcome you to the choir family!

Are You Called to Care?

A kind word. A listening ear.
A heartfelt prayer.

Sometimes the greatest ministry
is simply letting someone know
they are not alone.



Join the Care Team!



If you have a heart for supporting others,
we invite you to **learn more** about the Care Team.



Join Norma Crawford and Madeline Losito
for an informational meeting
Sunday, August 30 at 11:45 a.m.
in the **Meditation Room**
immediately following Sunday service.

You'll discover what the Care Team does,
what serving on the team involves, and how
you can make a meaningful difference. We'd love to meet you!



Holding you
in prayer



Celebrating
with you



Walking alongside
you in difficult times



Being a spiritual
support



Would you like to stay connected, too?

Church members may sign up to receive a monthly
wellness check-in from a Care Team member by
email, text, or phone. If you'd like to be added to
the contact list, simply let us know.

*We're
here for
you.*



**LAST
SUNDAYS**

Benefiting the GRACE

FOOD PANTRY

**WHAT
WE NEED?**

**CANNED FOOD &
OTHER NON-
PERISHABLES**



Bring non-perishable food donations to Fellowship Hall on the
last Sunday of each month for distribution to clients of the
GRACE Food Pantry. Donations are welcome all month long, so
feel free to place shelf-stable items in the marked receptacle in
Fellowship Hall anytime.

Items such as canned proteins, low-sodium foods, low-sugar
options, and high-fiber staples are especially appreciated. (And
yes—Spam is still welcome, too!)

Please check expiration dates before donating. We want to en-
sure the food shared with GRACE families is fresh, safe, and
ready to enjoy.

**ARTIST
WANTED!**



The Art Project at COU

Interested? Contact: June Brookshire
(817) 868-1400

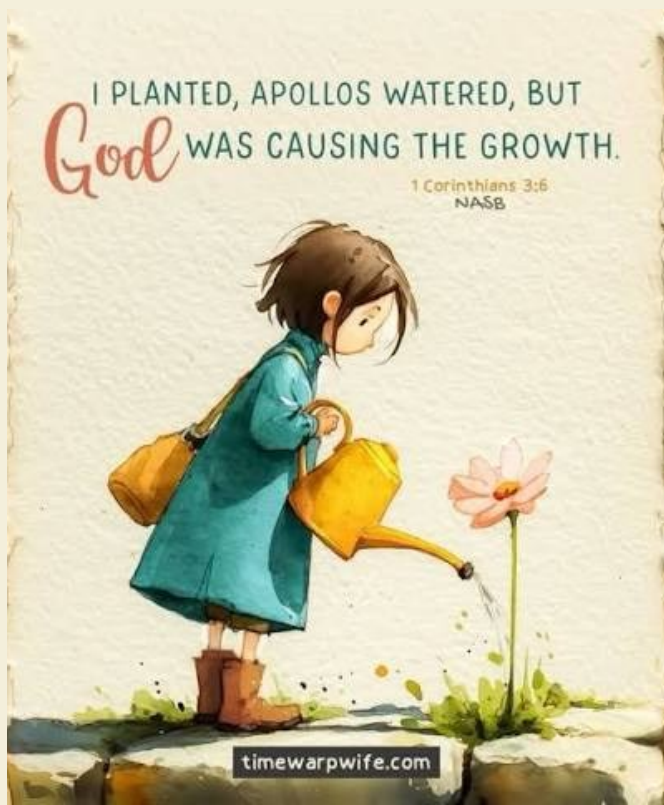
Limit: 3 pieces per artist

Showcase your talent, be seen, and in-
spire others through your creative voice.

The hallway outside the sanctuary is meant to be an **ever-changing art
gallery** and we want *your* work to bring it to life! Don't you love seeing
the walls filled with art that uplifts the spirit, sparks conversation, and
celebrates the beauty of our congregation?

Artist Details

- Artwork will be displayed for 90 days
- Pieces may be offered for sale
- A portion of all sales will support COU, helping our church continue to
grow and thrive



One Season Nourishing the Next

As August settles in, the late-summer garden reminds us that every season has its purpose. Some plants are flourishing, others are preparing for a new season, and all are part of the same beautiful cycle of growth. Our spiritual community is much the same. We give thanks for all that has been nurtured while opening our hearts to what Spirit is unfolding next.

Charles Fillmore reminded us that "Growth is the law of life." As we continue our spiritual journey together, we trust that Divine Wisdom is always present, gently leading us forward one step at a time.

The Fruits of Faithful Ministry

As we move through this season of change, our hearts are filled with deep gratitude for Reverend Linda and the ministry she has shared with our community. Her years of loving service have encouraged us to deepen our faith, listen for Divine guidance, and discover the Christ Presence within ourselves and one another.

Perhaps one of the greatest gifts of her ministry is a congregation that is growing in faith, compassion, and a willingness to walk together with open hearts. That is a legacy that will continue to bear fruit for years to come.

Looking Ahead

As we enter this new season, we do so with hope rather than uncertainty. We trust that the same Spirit that has faithfully guided this community through the years continues to guide us today. Together we will continue nurturing a welcoming, loving, and spiritually vibrant community where every person has an opportunity to grow, serve, and belong.

Closing Reflection

"To everything there is a season." — Ecclesiastes 3:1

A gardener does not measure success by how long someone tends the garden, but by what continues to grow. We celebrate the deep roots that have been planted, the abundant harvest we are enjoying today, and the new growth that is already beginning to emerge. With grateful hearts, we look forward to the next season, trusting that Spirit is always at work among us.

Lori Elhardt, Board Secretary

LANDSCAPE TEAM

Help Us Keep Our Church Grounds Beautiful!

EMAIL US

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped keep our church grounds looking beautiful! Your time and care make a wonderful first impression and help create a welcoming space for all who visit.

While our front garden is professionally maintained and the lawn care is covered, we're still looking for a few more volun-

teers to help care for the shrubs, flower beds, and landscaping along the sides of the building and the street.

With several people sharing the work, it's just a small commitment that has a big impact. Whether you're an experienced gardener or simply enjoy working outdoors, we'd love to have you.

If you're interested, please contact Diane Divin at diane@divinconsulting.com or speak with Diane or Kenny Green after Sunday service. If you have gardening tools you can bring, please let us know.

Thank you for helping us care for our church home!



Joyful MOMENTS

SHARE. CELEBRATE. CONNECT



Scan me!



The Joyful Moments Board is a place to share milestones, achievements, family moments, and other meaningful experiences. Through photos and stories, we can celebrate together, learn more about one another, and stay connected beyond Sunday mornings.

WHAT BELONGS ON THE BOARD?

Life's milestones, achievements, family moments, and uplifting experiences.

EXAMPLES INCLUDE:



Births/ Adoptions



New Business Launches



Weddings/ Engagements



Awards/Recognitions



Graduations



Service Milestones



Retirements



Sweet Family Moments



Anniversaries



Other meaningful moments you'd like to share

HOW TO SUBMIT

1



SCAN

Scan the QR Code above with your phone camera

2



UPLOAD

Upload a photo from your device

3



SHARE

Tell us about your moment

4



CELEBRATE

We will add it to the board for you

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

Submissions should be community-focused, family-friendly, and aligned with the spirit of the board.

The board is intended for celebrations and meaningful life moments

All submissions are reviewed before being posted

No sales, promotions, political content, medical updates, or similar announcements

Center of Unity reserves the right to decline submissions that do not align with the purpose and spirit of the board.

Photo submission via the Google Form requires a Google Account. If you do not have one, you may fill out the form and leave the photo upload blank. Then e-mail your photo to CoUnity.Office@gmail.com. Physical submissions are also accepted. Please see Katee or Cynthia Harnest for details.

Exploring the Gnostic Writings

On **Sunday, August 30**, we invite you to join us for a **Special Multigenerational Service**! All children and youth, kindergarten through high school, will worship alongside the congregation in the sanctuary. Childcare will be available for our youngest children.

During the service, our youth will share what they've discovered while exploring the Gnostic writings—early Christian texts that encourage seekers to look within and awaken to the Divine Presence already at work in their lives. While these writings are not part of the traditional biblical canon, they invite thoughtful reflection on spiritual growth, inner wisdom, and our relationship with God, themes that resonate beautifully with Unity's teachings.

After the service, we invite you to support our youth by participating in their fundraiser. Proceeds will help fund youth retreats, service opportunities, and other activities that nurture spiritual growth, build lasting friendships, and deepen their connection to our Unity community.

Come celebrate the wisdom and gifts of every generation as we learn, grow, and worship together. We look forward to sharing this meaningful morning of community, connection, and faith with you!



The Youth Ed Dollar store is in need of supplies, especially for our pre-teens and teens. You can find things in the clearance sections, leftover party favors, etc.

Please leave donations in the blue hamper in the Y.E. hallway.

We're currently looking for two volunteers to assist with our 4-year-old through Kindergarten class on the third and fourth Sundays of each month.

All you need to bring is your caring heart, a welcoming smile, and a desire to encourage our youngest learners as they discover God's love and the light within themselves.

Whether you've taught children before or simply enjoy spending time with them, we'd love to welcome you to our ministry team.

If you feel called to serve or would like more information, please contact Debie.

We're Growing Our

YOUTH MINISTRY

We have exciting news—our Youth Ministry continues to grow! What a wonderful blessing to see more children and teens becoming part of our church family.

Beginning August 2, we're excited to launch a new Y.O.U. (High School Youth) class. This new group reflects the incredible growth of our ministry and provides another opportunity for our teens to build meaningful friendships, strengthen their faith, and grow together in a supportive community.

As our ministry grows, so does our need for caring volunteers.

The good news is that **NO lesson planning is required!** We provide all the curriculum, activities, and supplies.

Together, we're nurturing the next generation and building a vibrant, loving spiritual community—one child, one teen, and one Sunday at a time.

ONLINE FORM





JOIN OUR NEW WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

COUKIDS FAMILIES | STAY CONNECTED

COUKids Families!

We've grown SO much (yay!!) that Debie has officially hit the limit on how many phone numbers she can include in a single message. What a great problem to have!

To help simplify communication, she's created a **COUKids WhatsApp Community** where we can share reminders, announcements, and all the fun happenings in one convenient place.

Join us here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LVhIMCN90qK197SC9zMg2c>:

We're so grateful for this amazing, growing village! ❤️ Let's keep the connection going.



RECYCLE WITH US!

We need old keys (all sizes) and empty Pringles cans with lids for future crafts. Leave donations in the blue hamper in the YE hallway.



Breath

by J. Daniel Beaudry

Tree, gather up my thoughts like the clouds in your branches.
Draw up my soul like the waters in your root.
In the arteries of your trunk bring me together.
Through your leaves breathe out the sky.

Our Tree of Life has gathered up many thoughts, drawn up many souls and has brought people together. Consider adding your own voice to our tree this late summer and fall.



LABYRINTH

Enter the labyrinth slowly, calming and clearing your mind. Open your senses and focus on the process of taking slow and deliberate steps. Bring to mind a prayer or spiritual question to contemplate during the walk. Reaching the center, pause to reflect, pray, and listen for a deeper revelation. Then begin the return journey. Pray or reflect further. Upon exiting, absorb the experience with continued reflection, prayer, or journaling.

Located at the back of the property, to the west of the playground on the concrete slab.

CENTER OF UNITY
ANYWHERE. ANYTIME. ANY DEVICE.

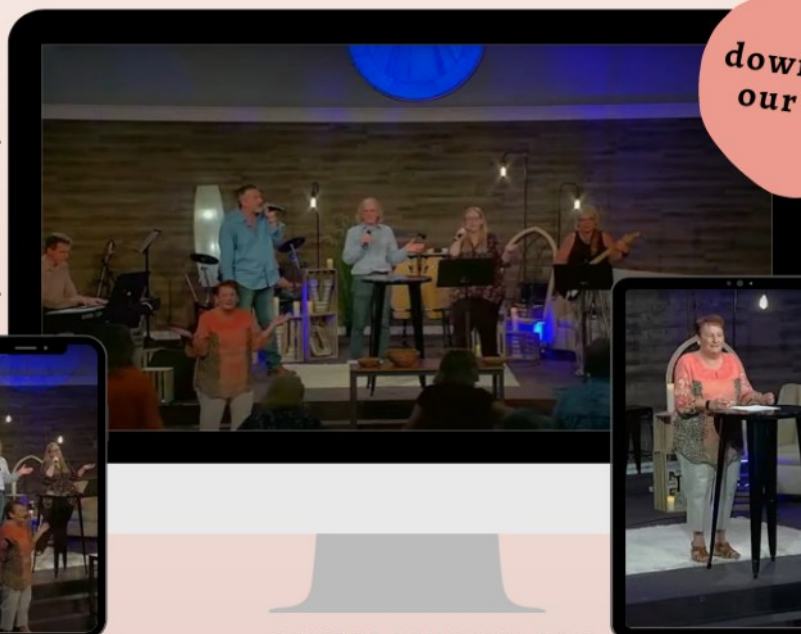
WEBSITE

APP

YOUTUBE

FACEBOOK

download
our app



CENTEROFUNITY.ORG

food, fellowship & fun

1ST SUNDAY LUNCH 11:45 AM

Italian Cuisine

LOVE OFFERING

Sunday, August 2 | 11:45 am

Join us after service for our First Sunday Lunch—a fun-filled afternoon of great food, fellowship, and summertime connection for all ages! This month's theme is **Italian**.

This is a wonderful opportunity to relax, connect with old and new friends, and enjoy time together as a church family. Kids, grandparents, friends, and visitors are all welcome!

Love offerings are appreciated.

CENTERING PRAYER



There will be NO MEETING in August.

Join Mark and Dawn Morris next month on September 6th in the Prayer Room for Centering Prayer, a type of Christian meditation. We will do two 20 minute sits, then spend a few minutes in Lectio Divina, a meditative scripture reading.

Visit contemplativeoutreach.org for more info.

CORKED

Join our Social Group for fun outings each month.

Contact

Barbara Luders | 682-208-9334 or
b.luders@yahoo.com



BEACH BALL BINGO & SUMMER POTLUCK!

In Fellowship Hall
Sunday, August 16
12:00 pm

Keep the fun going after church! Once the Fellowship Hall clears out, we'll kick off an afternoon of Beach Ball Bingo, laughter, and great food.

Bring a **beach- or ocean-themed prize** for the bingo table and a **light summer dish or appetizer to share** for our potluck. We'll provide the beverages—just bring your favorite sunny-side dish and your game face!

RSVP by August 12 so we can plan for everyone. Grab your flip-flops, tropical spirit, and join us for a shore-ly good time!

INNER JOURNEY BOOKSTORE

Nourish Your Spirit. Support Our Community.

Discover Something New This August

August is a wonderful time to explore new ideas, deepen your spiritual understanding, and expand your perspective. As our community begins its journey into Gnosticism and the wisdom of the Nag Hammadi texts, we invite you to continue the exploration with a visit to Inner Journey Bookstore.

You'll find resources to enrich your journey, as well as journals, cards, and thoughtful gifts that encourage reflection, growth, and meaningful connection.

Every purchase at Inner Journey Bookstore does more than inspire your personal path—it also supports our church community. As a 100% nonprofit bookstore, all proceeds help sustain the programs and ministries that make Inner Journey such a vibrant spiritual home.

Thank you for supporting Inner Journey Bookstore, where every purchase nurtures both your spiritual journey and our shared community.

Bible Study ONLINE

TUESDAYS | 11:30 AM

Discover deeper spiritual meaning in scripture and reconnect with the good that God is unfolding in your life right now. Each class stands on its own—join any time and drop in as you're able. All are welcome!

ZOOM ID 702 400 166

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS | 9:30AM

Looking to explore last Sunday's message more deeply? Join us for thoughtful conversation and spiritual connection—whether you're joining in person or online. Each session is self-contained, so you can drop in anytime!

ZOOM ID 858 102 650 49

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Juneria Berges	02
Tom Jones	19
Lynn Will	20
Shari Pratt	24
Lin Weinberg	29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Russ & PJ Pugh	03
Jimmy & Johnie Sneed	17
Stephen & Paula Thornton	20
Joe & Judy Hester	23
Nick Bell & Grace Price	28

AFTER SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

Every Sunday

Each week, we ask those whose last name matches the schedule to bring a healthy snack to share with the community.

5th Sundays we invite ALL to share a snack.

**05
A-G**

**12
H-M**

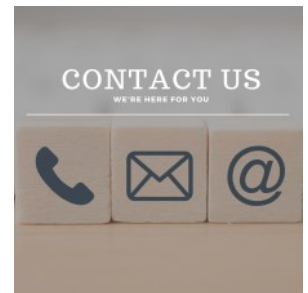
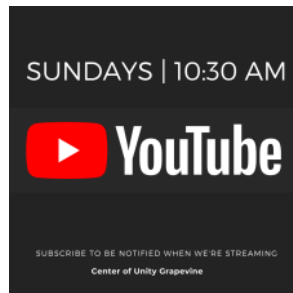
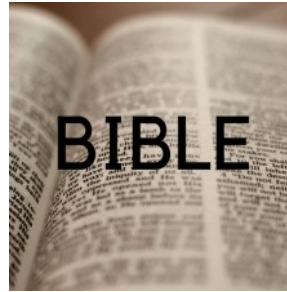
**30
ALL**

**19
N-S**

**26
T-Z**

RESOURCES

simply click the pic to be re-directed to the information you want



1650 Hughes Road, P.O. Box 667
Grapevine, TX 76051
817-488-1008
www.centerofunity.org

Our Mission:

Transforming lives and inspiring people to make a positive difference in the world.

Our Vision:

Centered in God, we envision a world free of judgment and filled with love.

FINANCIAL NEWS

God is the Source of Center of Unity. We are lavishly prospered in all ways. Thank you, God!

June General Fund

Income	\$20,786
Expense	(\$42,372)
Net Income	(\$21,586)

YTD General Fund

Income	\$152,964
Expense	(\$178,453)
Net Income	(\$25,489)

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Fellowship Snacks: A –G 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School 10:30 am: “Who were the Gnostics” 11:45 am: 1st Sunday Lunch 11:45 am: Choir Practice NO Centering Prayer	3	4 11:30 am Metaphysical Bible Study	5	6	7 Office Closed	8
9 Fellowship Snacks: H - M 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School 10:30 am: “Apocryphon of John” 11:45 am: Choir Practice	10	11 11:30 am Metaphysical Bible Study	12	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 Fellowship Snacks: N - S 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School 10:30 am: “Gospel of Mary” 11:45 am: Choir Practice 12:00 pm: Corked Beachball Bingo & Potluck	17	18 11:30 am Metaphysical Bible Study	19	20	21 Office Closed	22
23 Fellowship Snacks: T - Z 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School 10:30 am: “Dialogue with the Savior” 11:45 am: Choir Practice	24	25 11:30 am Metaphysical Bible Study	26	27	28 Office Closed	29
30 Fellowship Snacks: Anyone 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School 10:30 am: Multi-Generational Service 11:45 am: Choir Practice 11:45 am: Care Team Meeting	31					