

Wings



FIRST UNITY CHURCH – Serving the spiritual needs of the St. Louis community for over eighty-five years.

The Newsletter of
First Unity Church
Of Saint Louis

May 2011

- ❖ *Inspiration*
- ❖ *Information*
- ❖ *Illumination*

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Only Believe

By Annie Rix Militz

While it is always Truth that heals, the methods of applying the Truth are greatly varied with a spiritual healer. Jesus was filled with the consciousness of the omnipotence and omnipresence of Health and of Life and of Strength—he was the embodiment of the Truth that heals.

And while radiating this Health, he reached different people by such a variety of ways; that it is very evident that he had a super-knowledge of human nature, and a vision of God's working with each man, woman and child, that was perfect. He said that all

that he did was a following of what he saw God doing. "The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do," "I do nothing of myself but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things," "The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works."

How did Jesus acquire this knowledge of the way to deal with every human being, so as to be such a great success? He tells us, in giving us directions how to do the same works that he was doing. He turns everything upon *believing*. "Only believe!" "All things are possible to him that believeth!" "He that believeth on me the works that I do shall

he do also." "This is the work of God that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

So Jesus' success arose from his believing power. And ours is in the measure of our believing. "According to thy faith be it unto thee." Of course that believing must be in Health, not disease; in Life, not death; in Seeing, not blindness; in walking, not lameness; in Virtue, not vice; in Spirit, not matter; in Good, not evil; in God, not devil; in the Divine Self, not the mortal.

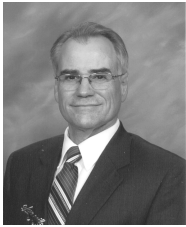
And to advance in healing power we must *train* our believing.

Sometimes Jesus was all night in prayer upon the mountains, to charge himself with this believing, and he who tells us to pray always, himself, walked communing with God, night and day.

Our great goal as healers is the perfection of our Master, the great Jesus Christ, the unfailing Physician, and so surely as we are faithful and will know no case incurable, but "will pray always and never faint," all the wisdom, inspiration, love, faith and power of the greatest Healer that ever walked the earth shall be ours.



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Rev. Randy Schmelig
Senior Minister



Rev. Sharon Allmond
Associate Minister

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Jan Mourning
Jo Warren

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WINGS NEWSLETTER

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www.firstunitychurchstlouis.org/
Email: firstunitystl@att.net
randyschmelig@att.net
Silent Unity: 1-800-669-7729

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Fashion Show and Dinner

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 24th for a great evening! We're having another fashion show this year – this time in the evening. Last year was a lot of fun, and we're expecting even more this year. There will be hors d'oeuvres, silent auction items to check out and bid on, and friends to join. Doors will open at 4:30 and dinner will be served at 5:30, with the fashion show immediately following. You'll recognize the models for clothing provided by Don Rodgers Ltd of Belleville, IL; they're our own church family members. We'll see both men and women's fashions this year too, because Don Rodgers has great men's clothing, as well as women's. Cost for the whole event is \$15. See Pam Seger for tickets. Plan to join us for a fun, filling and fashionable night!



Tai Chi Workshop

On Saturday, June 4th Tai Chi instructor, Sue Steffen will present a half-day workshop from 9:00 to Noon. Tai Chi is a wonderful way to reduce stress, improve balance and over-all flexibility. Sometimes described as "meditation in motion," it promotes serenity through gentle movements that help make a connection between mind and body. Originally developed as a martial art in ancient China, Tai Chi evolved into a graceful form of exercise that is now used for a variety of health conditions throughout the world and is considered by many to be a kind of "fountain of youth" for the challenges of ageing. The cost for the class is \$25.

This month the **Ladies' Night Out Group** will be meeting Monday evening, May 16th at 5:30 at Growler's Pub, 3811 South Lindbergh. For more information call Mary Tumminello - Home: 314-843-1807 Cell: 314-814-4530. All are welcome!



New Board Members

At our annual meeting on April 17th we elected three members to our church board. Tom Bullock, our current board vice president and one of our chaplains, and Carol Ellerman, our



webmaster, were elected for a second term. Roy Vaisvil, our church photographer whose photos of our activities regularly appear here in Wings, was elected to his first term.

Ruth Emmett stepped down after two consecutive terms and six years of wonderful service. We give thanks for Ruth's past service and welcome the contributions our new members will make for our future.

Feed My People is associated with a national group called Ample Harvest which encourages people to donate any



excess produce their garden grows to a local food pantry. They are always thrilled to have fresh fruit and

vegetables to give out to their clients and would be glad to receive any extra produce from your home garden.

www.feed-my-people.org

**Silent Unity
May Affirmations**

Inner Peace: In the sanctuary of my heart, I feel the peace and love of God.

Guidance: With Divine Spirit as my guide, I make wise choices.

Healing: I am vibrantly alive and healthy.

Prosperity: I am immersed in abundant life.

World Peace: I am a peacemaker, contributing to a peaceful world.



Grace
By Donna Miesbach

How could there be anything but Grace on a planet where sunlight glistens in dew and birdsong heralds the dawn?

How could there be anything but Grace in your life when God whispers your name and love comes pouring through your heart?

A Child's Perspective



A group of second-graders was quizzed about what ingredients their mothers are made of. One child said, "God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world, and one dab of mean."

To the question "What does your mom do in her spare time?" one youngster said, "Mothers don't do spare time."

When the children were asked "Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?" one child replied, "God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me."

The "M" Word

During a science lesson, a second-grade teacher demonstrated how a magnet can pick up metal objects such as nails and screws.

Afterward, she said, "My name begins with the letter 'm.' I pick up things with my power. What am I?"

A boy quickly answered, "You're a mother!"

Amaryllis

Early one spring, I planted a couple of dozen amaryllis bulbs. With great anticipation, I watched for blooms. But weeks turned into months before the first sign of life appeared. By the end of summer, the bed of pink flowers I'd envisioned was nothing more than a scattering of green leaves.

So I pulled them all up to make room for other plants. I wasn't about to waste another growing season.

Imagine my surprise the following spring, when a single delicate amaryllis blossom appeared. My delight quickly turned to dismay — for I realized I'd given up too soon. Had I the

least bit of patience or a little faith, I might have had a glorious garden.

Then I wondered: Are there other things or people I give up on too soon? What might a little patience and faith do for a difficult relationship or troublesome circumstances?

-Kari Myers (adapted from Homiletics)

A Poem for Memorial Day

Down, down, down
into the
darkness of the
grave.

Gently they go, the beautiful, the
tender, the kind;
Quietly they go, the intelligent, the
witty, the brave.

I know. But I do not approve. And
I am not resigned.

-Edna St. Vincent
Millay, "Dirge
without Music"



On Giving and Loving

The truth comes so often in simple sentences. For example, isn't it true that a person can give without real love or sympathy (maybe to impress others, for example) but one simply cannot love without giving? In fact, one of the clues to how much a person loves is how much he or she gives in terms of time, talent, friendship, service, encouragement and prayers on behalf of others.

Concerning Trees ... and Us

Have deep roots,
branch out,
be flexible,
keep growing on the inside,
bloom often,
show your colors,
point your trunk upward,
raise your limbs to heaven,
and bring forth good fruit, as long
as you live.

"Quotable Quotes"

If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been.

-Robert Brault

My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it.

-Mark Twain

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

-Marcel Proust

Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get.

-Dale Carnegie

The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness.

-Honoré de Balzac

In every conceivable manner, the family is the link to our past and the bridge to our future.

-Alex Haley

Let us not look back in anger or forward in fear, but around in awareness.

-James Thurber

A mother is not a person to lean on, but a person to make leaning unnecessary.

-Dorothy Canfield Fisher

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world.

-Anne Frank

We are all spiritual beings having a human experience.

-Dr. Vernon Barksdale

Only those who see the invisible can do the impossible.

-Anonymous

The Thirteen Commandments

By J. Sig Paulson

Love Thy Neighbor

In the past, other lords have held dominion in our life. The false gods of resentment, unhappiness, disease, poverty, war, and strife have long held sway in the human consciousness. But now God, whose nature is love and truth, the Lord into whose presence we have come through faith, is taking dominion in our mind and heart. The true God, the one God, is beginning His reign in our consciousness.

We have learned that the first great law of fulfillment, which was reiterated and emphasized by Jesus Christ ("Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength") was the fulfillment of the first four of the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament. The second commandment of fulfillment is the completion of the last six of those Commandments, relating to our duty toward our neighbor.

In the gospel of Matthew we find this report of Jesus Christ's identification of the greatest commandments: "But the Pharisees, when they heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, gathered themselves together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, trying him: Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? And he said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments the whole law hangeth, and the prophets."

The writers of the Old Testament were familiar with these laws. In Leviticus we find these words:

"Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart: thou shalt surely rebuke thy neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. Thou shalt not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people; but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am Jehovah And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not do him wrong. The stranger that sojourneth with you shall be unto you as the home-born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were sojourners in the land of Egypt: I am Jehovah your God."

In Paul's letter to the Romans, he explains how the commandment "Love thy neighbor" fulfills the Old Testament commandments: "For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not covet, and if there be any other commandment, it is summed up in this word, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: love therefore is the fulfilment of the law."

As we begin to practice the great law of love, we find that we have some amazing experiences. In the past we have often tried to love the human self, and we have found that this was a fruitless and a hopeless task. But now we are beginning to love the Truth of our own being. We are beginning to stir up a real affection for this divine reality.

This brings us into a new realization of our own nature. We are discovering that we are far from being the limited, poor, mortal, so-called sinners that we had believed we were. We are discovering that there is something within us so great that we cannot even describe it. There is a power within us so completely beyond anything we have dreamed that there are no words to tell of its nature. This is the presence of God within each and everyone of us, and we must commit ourselves with all the faculties, all the powers that we are, to the love of this inner Spirit.

But we cannot love this Spirit within ourselves very long before we find that it has a purpose: to bring to us a new understanding of our fellow men. Spirit says to us, in effect: "Since I am the Truth of your being, I am also the Truth of your fellow men, and you have an obligation to them: you shall love them as you are learning to love yourself; you shall recognize within them the same Spirit, the same presence of God, the same Christ that is within you."

It is true that your neighbor is your Self; the Spirit which you are is the Spirit which your neighbor is. This is a spiritual fact, and you have no alternative, if you want to continue on the spiritual path, but to love your neighbor as you love yourself. This is what is going to make you grow, make you a real person in the spiritual sense.

We may say, "Yes, I can recognize the truth that there is a Spirit of God in my neighbor, and if he would behave like a god, I would certainly be willing to love him." But as we discover this power of love within ourselves, we realize that it is not dependent upon any action of our neighbor. It is our very spiritual nature asserting itself. We need to learn to love our neighbor, regardless of what he has done or seems to be doing; but we have to love him as we are learning to love ourselves, to love him as the member of a spiritual family, as our brother in God.

These are facts with which we have to cope, and we discover that those who are the hardest to love are the ones who need love the most. They are the ones whom we need to love the most because loving them stirs up within us this inner faculty, this life-transforming power of love. It takes a real person to love his enemy. Anyone can love someone who has been awakened to his own Godhood; anyone can love someone who is kind to him and who agrees with everything he says and does. This does not require much spiritual stature; but the one who is really

growing is the one who is learning to love his seeming enemies. As you come to love the Spirit within yourself and discover your own true nature, you have no alternative; you have to set about loving your neighbor as yourself, because your neighbor is yourself.

There is one God; there is one Presence appearing as many. Once we come into the realization of this truth we at least have a foundation on which to build. If we will remember the experiences through which we go ourselves, we can then begin to relate them to our neighbor. (You know, there are many things about ourselves that we do not love, either!) It is not too difficult to *think* about loving the Spirit of God within us, but to put this into practice is something else again. To have a deep affection for this inner Spirit, to identify ourselves consciously with it and to serve it in all the activities of our everyday experience, is quite a different thing. We can agree intellectually that the Spirit of God is within every man, and that we can love this Spirit but we have to learn to love our neighbors as ourselves on the human scene. Love has to be demonstrated-not in some gold-plated heaven where we are completely surrounded by gods who know their identity and are living accordingly, but on this human scene where we have to play our human roles. This is where we have to learn to demonstrate love for our neighbors. This is where the testing comes, and this is where the growth begins.

But we do have a foundation on which to build and we can take the three steps of affection, identification, and service. We can stir up our affection for our neighbor's God-self in our time of meditation. We can begin then to recognize that the same Spirit, the same divine potential, the same presence of God that we experience (at least occasionally) within ourselves, is the Truth of our neighbor. We can prepare our minds and our hearts by taking a stand in words like these: "I love the Lord my

God, the Truth of my own being, with all my heart, with all my soul, with all my strength, and with all my mind; and I love the Lord, our God, my neighbor's true being also, in exactly the same way. I have a deep and unshakable affection for my neighbor's true Self." This gives us a starting place, and we can then move on to the next step, that of identification.

Here is a spiritual exercise you can use: "I begin to identify my neighbor-not the one who lives at the North Pole, but the one I have to work beside today-as the Spirit of God. I am going to change my attitude toward him completely right now, today. I am going to change my attitude toward the people in my life who have not awakened yet (or, at least, who do not seem to have awakened). I am going to begin right now to change the basis of my thinking about people, and of my feeling toward them."

This is a wonderful beginning, but you need to carry this into your outer life. So take this further stand: "This sense of affection that I feel for God and His Spirit in every person is permanent. I am going to build in this consciousness permanently, beginning right now; and I am going to be able to carry it with me out into my world when I go to work or when I go to live in my usual surroundings. I am going to remind myself throughout the day that I have a deep and unshakable affection for the Spirit of God in each one whom I meet or contact in any way."

We need to set these things straight in our own consciousness. We need to decide that we are going to live in accordance with the revelations that are coming through to us. If we will get this fixed firmly in our minds and hearts to begin with, we will be able to practice this new way of living more effectively and more completely.

Amazingly enough, just such a change in our attitude toward another person often seems to change that person and his reactions to us. But we

must not adopt a new attitude just *because* we are trying to change his reaction, for this will surely backfire. Our changing of our attitude, our agreeing to stop thinking of him as a human being with all his limitations and irritable qualities, seems to change the atmosphere, the climate in which we live. We can identify him with the Truth of his own being, silently and in prayer first, where we are not so likely to be tripped up because we do not have any outer, disturbing influences. Then we carry this into practice, and we find that ways are open.

We do not necessarily have to tell him that he is a son of God and that the Spirit of God lives within him (although we may very well do so). But we can look for and anticipate opportunities to remind him that there is a Spirit within him, a potential within him, that lifts him above past failures, past false beliefs, past limitations of any kind. You see, this is to become a way of life. Love is not an abstraction; love is a reality. Love is a power that has to be demonstrated. We must move into a world consciousness of this truth of our fellow men, of our deep affection for this truth and our willingness to identify our neighbor with the Truth of his own being.

Then, of course, we come into the really difficult area, the area of service, or practice. As we learn to serve the Spirit of God within us, so too we must learn to serve the Spirit of God within other people. Too often we have felt that to be loving and kind and forgiving is to make of oneself a doormat for the rest of the universe. If anyone cheats us, all we can do is withdraw into our shell and say: "Well, that's all right. I must be loving and forget that."

No, there is more to it than that. We have a responsibility to expect our neighbor to live up to the Spirit that is within him. If I present myself as a doormat, I am just as guilty as my neighbor if he comes along and wipes his feet on me. We must come to the point where we live in accordance

with the Spirit of Truth within us, and expect our neighbor to live up to his divine potential also. We are not to condemn him when he does not do so, but neither are we to condone or ignore or encourage his not doing so.

If you are a boss, an employer, you may have to transfer or discharge an employee. The important thing is that you do it in love, that you do it in the consciousness that the individual with whom you are dealing is the Spirit of God. If he is unwilling to adjust himself to the particular job or work that you have for him to do, then it is your duty, as a loving employer, to release him, let him go, knowing that he is going to go on to a better way of life, a new area where he can continue his spiritual unfoldment. To be loving is not to be "wishy-washy" or to back off and hem and haw; it is to stand firm (but lovingly) in the Truth that we know, and to expect our neighbor, encourage our neighbor, to do the same thing.

You may have a business transaction with someone. (You can see how practical this matter of loving our neighbor is; it does not concern something far off in the stratosphere, but our daily life here and now.) If it appears that your neighbor is trying to cheat you, what are you to do? Go home and swallow it? Get a little irritated inside but say nothing? No. You have a duty to expect your neighbor to live up to his part of any transaction. You do not serve your neighbor's spiritual Self by allowing him to cheat or steal from you; in fact, you do him a great disservice. The important thing is the way in which you meet the situation and call it to his attention. You are not doing anyone a favor if you allow him to remain in a negative or cheating state of consciousness. As a matter of fact, you enter into his delinquency if you just tolerate it, or condone it, or let it go.

We do not condemn the world for wrongdoing, or try to force it to fit our pattern. We merely call attention to the principles by which we live and

show that we expect the same adherence to principle from others.

This is a practical way to live. It is a practical way to do business. It is a practical way to treat our neighbors. Love is the only safe emotion there is. It is the only safe way we can live with our fellow men and with ourselves. Love gives all; it demands all. Love is the toughest taskmaster in the universe. Love is the hardest discipline in the universe. It is also the happiest, the most joyous, the most fulfilling. When we set out to follow the Spirit of God within us and let His nature take over and have dominion in our lives, we are headed for an experience that is unlike anything we have ever had.

We are to love our neighbors as ourselves. We are to recognize in them the same eternal, infinite Spirit of good, the same divine potential that we are beginning to love and appreciate, to identify ourselves with and express within our own life. We have the divine responsibility also of helping our neighbors to recognize and fulfill their own identity; and we can do it. We are learning how to do it, and as we do it, we become stronger, we become successful, we become more Godlike.

Let us remember that God is love. There is only one way, one condition under which God will live in our consciousness and that is as love--not as a weak, cowering, unhappy doormat, but as a living, pulsing, expanding, vibrant, vital activity that transforms the world. God in you is the Spirit of love; your capacity to love is your capacity to be Godlike. Your capacity to be Godlike is your capacity to be loving.

Let us stop parceling out little bits of affection here and there in accordance with whether we think we will gain something, or to reward somebody for something that he has done for us. We must let the whole current of love flow through us. Let us love the Spirit of God within. Let us identify ourselves with it, serve it. Let us love the Spirit of God in our neighbor. Let us identify him with it,

and let us serve this divine Spirit within our neighbor.

ACTION AFFIRMATION

I love my neighbor as myself. I recognize the same eternal Spirit of God within him that is within me. I love the Lord his God with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength.

From Page One ...



Our great goal as healers is the perfection of our Master, the great Jesus Christ, the unfailing

Physician, and so surely as we are faithful and will know no case incurable, but "will pray always and never faint," all the wisdom, inspiration, love, faith and power of the greatest Healer that ever walked the earth shall be ours.

Let us give ourselves to this impersonal healing day after day. You who have no patients, get ready for the multitude that will yet flock to your doors by reasoning daily about some race belief in cancer, consumption, insanity, vice or some other false condition, meditating upon the Truth, thus to change your own mind with the very opposite thoughts of the one Presence and Power. You need deal only with your own unbelief and fill yourself with believing, believing, believing in the omnipresent Good, the one pure, perfect Substance, the one Divine Self, all in all, all that ever was, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

(Annie Rix Militz was a key figure in the early Unity movement and editor and publisher of "Master Mind," an outstanding New Thought magazine.)

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Tai Chi 10:00 AM</p> <p>Zumba in recess</p>	<p>4</p> <p>AA Men's Group 10:00 AM</p> <p>CA 7:00 PM</p> <p>Unity Movement Class 7:00 PM</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Tai Chi 10:00 AM</p> <p>Zumba in recess</p>	<p>11</p> <p>AA Men's Group 10:00 AM</p> <p>CA 7:00 PM</p> <p>Unity Movement Class 7:00 PM</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Ladies Night Out Growlers Pub 3811 So. Lindbergh 5:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Tai Chi 10:00 AM</p> <p>Zumba in recess</p>	<p>18</p> <p>AA Men's Group 10:00 AM</p> <p>CA 7:00 PM</p> <p>Unity Movement Class 7:00 PM</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Choir & Bell Choir Rehearsal's In recess</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Tai Chi 10:00 AM</p> <p>Zumba in recess</p> <p>Fashion Show Doors open 4:30PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>AA Men's Group 10:00 AM</p> <p>CA 7:00 PM</p> <p>Unity Movement Class 7:00 PM</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Choir & Bell Choir Rehearsal's In recess</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 AM Youth Ed 10:30 AM</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Tai Chi 10:00 AM</p> <p>Zumba in recess</p>			<p>June 4th</p> <p>Tai Chi Workshop 9:00 to Noon</p>	

Wings

THE MAY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITY CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS

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- If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, check this box and mark return to sender, or call the church office.

The light side – actual church signs

Notice in a church parking lot.
Trespassers will be baptized.

If you can't sleep, don't count sheep.
Talk to the Shepherd.

Do not wait for the hearse to take you
to church.

How will you spend eternity?
Smoking or Non-smoking?

Fight truth decay -- study the Bible
daily.

No God - No Peace. Know God -
Know Peace.

Free Trip to heaven. Details Inside!

In the dark? Follow the Son.

When the restaurant next to a chapel
put out a big sign with red letters that
said, "Open Sundays," the chapel
reciprocated with its own message:
"We are open on Sundays, too."

Come work for the Lord. The work is
hard, the hours are long and the pay is
low. But the retirement benefits are
out of this world.

Come in and pray today. Beat the
Christmas rush!

Sign broken. Message inside this
Sunday.

Don't let worries kill you. Let the
church help.

God is like Coke. He's the real thing.

God is the potter – not Harry.

Salvation guaranteed or your sins
cheerfully refunded.

There are some questions that can't be
answered by Google.

As you pass this little church,
Be sure to plan a visit,
So when at last you're carried in,
God won't ask, "Who is it?"

Let us help you study for your final
exams.

Speak well of your enemies. After all,
you made them.

--from the internet