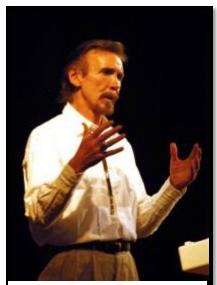
## **Unity Spiritual Center, San Angelo**

(fka Unity of San Angelo)

Unity Spiritual Center, San Angelo, formerly known as "Unity of San Angelo" and originally named "The Unity Church of Practical Christianity of San Angelo" came into being in early 1976 when a group of eight interested people began meeting at a Ramada Inn as a Unity Study Group. They dedicated themselves to founding a Unity Church on Valentine's Day in 1976. The founding members of this group were Danny and Janet Walker, George



Reverend Jack Groverland

and Alicia Lown, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barker, and Carol and Charles Latibeaudiere [from Hawaii]. Aided by Dr. Donald Curtis and the Reverend Margery Kass of the Unity Church of Dallas, they established the church, which was chartered and incorporated by the State of Texas in March, 1977.

The first ordained minister, the Reverend Jack Groverland, began his service to the Church in August of 1977 and the congregation moved to occupy quarters on the second floor of the building located at 333 West Avenue C in San Angelo.

In 1979, the Church purchased a building site consisting of 8.3 acres of land located at the South Bryant Boulevard frontage road and Loop 306, adjacent to the

old Ben Ficklin Cemetery. Reverend Groverland

having answered a call to serve the Unity Church of Boulder, Colorado, the office of minister was filled by the Reverend Rod Tally, who held the position until the Spring of 1980, when he left to take over the ministry for the Unity Church in Lewiston, Idaho. The church was led by lay leadership, headed by Monte Perkins, President of the Board of Directors, until September 1980 when the Board and congregation selected Reverend Marianne Bowers as their minister.



From the building on Avenue C the church was moved



first to the Central Recreation Center for a brief time and then to the Angelo Civic Theatre Building on Sherwood Way. In 1982 it was becoming apparent that the increasing size of the congregation warranted the need for a permanent building and a building committee was formed. In November of 1983, Henry Schmidt presented to the congregation

a model of the new church, complete with blueprints and specifications. At the time, the church offices were occupying space in the Butterfield Building and Sunday Services were conducted in the meeting rooms of the

> Americana Inn.

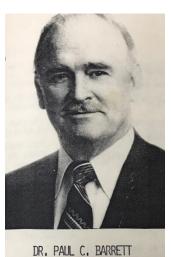


Construction on a new church building, directed by Robert Heinze, builder, was begun in January of 1984. The foundation was laid on January 3, 1984 with an estimated time of completion of 180 days. Financing was secured from the Texas Commerce Bank of San Angelo. During the construction

phase, the weather was perfect. Cost estimates were consistently revised downward although many additions were made to the original plans. In March 1984 the furniture for the sanctuary was ordered

from Imperial Woodworks, Inc. of

Waco. Although delivery was promised on or before June 1<sup>st</sup>, it was actually delivered on May 11<sup>th</sup> at a cost of 10% below the original quotation. The building was completed and occupied in April and the first service in the church was conducted at sunrise on Easter Sunday, 1984. The entire project was delivered ahead



of schedule and under budget. The entire indebtedness on land and buildings was retired in October of 1986, only two and one half years later. The dedication program was on June 3, 1984.Dr. Paul C. Barrett officiated at the ceremony which included Reverend Marianne Bowers.

Reverend Patsy Haven began her ministry in 1984 at the present building in a temporary capacity. She left in the summer of 1987 to go



San Angelo

DEDICATION PROGRAM

June 3, 1984

At the church dedication ceremony

to Unity of Brownsville, Texas.



**Reverend Jill Carey** 

Until a permanent minister could be found, Rev. Jill Carey then filled in. In 1996, Reverend Kathy McClellan Evens was hired and left in 2000. In 2000, Reverend Carole Thompson came to Unity of San Angelo. Reverend Cindy Sickler came to Unity of San Angelo and served until September of 2007 when



Reverend Cathy McClellan-Evans

Reverend Janie Kelley became the new minister, leaving in 2019 to go to Unity of West Texas in Odessa, Texas.



Reverend Carole Thompson



Reverend Cindy Sickler



Reverend Janie Kelley