

## Wendy Craig Purcell - 2009

Author. Speaker. Radio Host. Spiritual Leader. World Peace Activist.  
New Thought Teacher. Evolutionary Guide.

These are only some of the designations and accolades attributed to Wendy Craig-Purcell. Craig-Purcell embodies a truly rare blending of absolute integrity, passion, spirituality, joy and kindness. A powerful beacon to her fellow human beings in this new millennium of change and possibility, she is a dynamic renaissance woman.

At the youthful age of 23, Craig-Purcell embraced her passion and purpose in this lifetime to become one of the youngest ordained ministers, graduating from the Unity School of Christianity in 1980. Today after more than 26 years as its guiding light, she is the Spiritual Leader, Founder and CEO of The Unity Center, a 1500-member spiritual community located in San Diego, California, with an outreach of over 4,000.

However, the story of her self-discipline and work ethic begins at the much younger age of 12 when she took up figure skating and eventually ice skated her way into a professional career as an Ice Capades chorus girl before her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. The lessons she learned about training, focus and persistence created the foundation for the woman who today leads thousands of people in creating a new future for our world.

Craig-Purcell is an active participant in the Association for Global New Thought (AGNT). Currently serving as its Vice President, she joined the organization's Leadership Council in 1999. Craig-Purcell participated in all three AGNT-sponsored "Synthesis Dialogues," which brought together a number of the world's principal thought leaders to dialogue with His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet. These dialogues ranged from India in 1999 to Trent, Italy, in 2001 to Rome, Italy, in 2004.

Craig-Purcell has participated in the production of pivotal AGNT events, including six large-scale "Awakened World" conferences and the Gandhi King Peace Train and Living Legends of Nonviolence Conference. In November 2006, Craig-Purcell traveled to Istanbul, Turkey as part of an initial planning group to establish a permanent pilgrimage route in the Middle East retracing the footsteps of the prophet Abraham. This project, referred to as the *Abraham Path Initiative* is in partnership with the Harvard Negotiation Project.

Active in a variety of other Unity and New Thought organizations, Craig-Purcell has been President and Treasurer of the Southwest Unity Region, District President of the International New Thought Alliance, and Chairman of the Association of Unity Churches Church Growth Committee. In addition, Craig-

Purcell serves on the board of the Foundation for Affordable Housing in San Juan Capistrano, California.

Wendy Craig-Purcell's service awards include the Gandhi Non-Violence Award from the Tariq Khamisa Foundation and induction into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers Hall of Fame.

The expanded picture of Wendy Craig-Purcell's personality is her endless energy including gourmet cooking, dedicated backyard gardener, long-time yoga practitioner, home-schooling Mom/teacher of 13 year-old daughter, downhill skier, travel aficionado, and former aikidoist.

Craig-Purcell and her family have traveled the world. They contributed to the building of two schools in the Republic of Malawi in southeast Africa and continue to donate their time and resources to help the needs of others across the globe. Along with her husband, John Purcell, Craig-Purcell calls San Diego, California her home. John serves as Facilities Manager for The Unity Center, and they have two children, Johnathon, age 18, currently a freshman at The University of California at Berkeley, and Jennifer, age 13.