



THIRD SERVICE NEWS:

A Different Kind of Pledge

by Laura Schlatter, Membership Coordinator

When we talk about people making a commitment to this religious community, we talk about how there are different kinds of commitments — all of them important. The phrase “time, talents and treasure” is sometimes used to describe the things we ask of one another as we work together to support the work of this church. It is important that each of us invests in our shared community in many different ways, knowing that there is a common good beyond any one of us. As we do so, we help it thrive.

As we plan for a third service at Unity Church, we are aware that it is easier for many people to just do what they have been doing for years: come to church in the morning! What we are hoping is that a core group of people will make a commitment to explore the new experience of a Sunday afternoon service, helping that service to flourish.

We present an opportunity for you to do a little bit of creative visualization: imagine your Sundays with a 4:30 p.m. worship instead of the accustomed 9:30 or 11:00 (which, remember, will be 9:00 and 11:00 in the fall). If you weren't planning on Sunday morning church, you could a) sleep a little later; b) enjoy a big pancake breakfast; c) read the paper; d) snuggle in bed with your furry friends; e) go for a run or a swim; e) hang out an extra night at the cabin; f) finish that last chunk of work that has been hovering in your mind; g) garden; h) catch the earliest matinee at the movie theater; i) have regularly scheduled family together time... Just use your imagination!

Think of this possibility another way: think of your busy weeks and weekends. Think of Sunday in the late afternoon. This time can become a true time of rest and transition. Sunday late afternoon is about closing down the activity of the weekend and not yet engaging in the activity of the week. It is an oasis of time, a true Sabbath, a chance to stop and breathe. What a perfect time for a worship service!

As you consider how to structure your time once the summer ends, consider committing to attend the 4:30 p.m. service at Unity Church at least 75% of the time that you attend from September 2006 through May 2007. If you are willing and able to make this commitment, fill out the attached response sheet. In the early fall we will have a special gift for all of those who commit to being part of the 4:30 p.m. service which we hope, will help people to smile as they remember what they are gaining as they give to their religious community!

THIRD SERVICE NEWS:



News about Children and Youth at the 11:00 a.m. service
Find out more on page 2!



Please note:
The Church Office will be closed Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

[cut here and submit]

Yes! Count me in at 4:30!

Names of people in my household: _____

- Yes! I will commit to attending the 4:30 p.m. service for the church year from September 10, 2006, through May 20, 2007. By making this commitment, I am stating that I plan to attend church at the 4:30 p.m. service at least 75% of the time.
- Yes! We will serve on a Welcome Team for the 4:30 p.m. service, helping once a month to usher, greet, pour coffee.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

THIRD SERVICE NEWS:

Children and Youth at 11:00 a.m. Service

In conjunction with our addition of a third service, the church will be expanding its worship life to our school-aged children. At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in grades K through 6 will begin every Sunday morning with their families and the congregation in the Sanctuary. (Children's Chapel will remain the worship experience for children at our 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. services.) This option gives families an opportunity to experience worship together for part of their morning. Children will attend the first 15 minutes or so, experiencing the opening hymn, responsive reading, embracing meditation, and special music before heading downstairs to their Religious Education classes.

This whole-congregation worship experience will replace Children's Chapel at the 11:00 a.m. service. Whole congregation worship, especially during the more participatory parts of the liturgy, allows adults to model what worship looks like and helps children learn to "do church" in a meaningful way. Children will be invited to participate in the service as chalice lighters. The liturgy of the 11:00 a.m. service will not be altered to make it more "kid-friendly" — the elements of the first part of worship are already engaging and appropriate for all ages.

We hope that employing this best practice at one of our three services will help children connect to the richness and beauty of worship in our Sanctuary, help deepen their relationship with their families and other Unity adults, and help reduce the attrition of our youth after Coming of Age. Family and Story Sundays will remain unaffected.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:

Religious Education Registration 2006-2007

The Religious Education Registration Deadline has passed. Class and service preferences are honored on a first-come, first-serve basis. Those who have not yet registered may download and print the necessary forms from the church's website or pick them up at the Holly Avenue entrance. Those with late registrations may not receive their first choice.

Please note that a complete registration includes a commitment on the Adult Volunteer Opportunities form. Contact Kerri at the Church Office with questions or to request that a registration packet be mailed to your family.

Summer Sundays: Kids Activities

It's summertime! Religious Education classes do not meet again until September. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, nursery care (ages 6 months to 3 years) and children's activities (ages 4 to 12) are offered the 10:00 a.m. service. Parents can bring their children to the Yellow Hallway as early as 9:45 a.m. and should pick them up immediately following worship. Supervising our children's activities is a great way for adults to volunteer in our ministry to kids: contact Kerri if you'd like to spend an occasional summer Sunday playing games and making crafts with children.



FROM THE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE MINISTRY TEAM:

July Whole Farm Orders

Buy meat, cheese, produce and much more from local, sustainable farms and pick it up right at Unity from Whole Farm Cooperative products. For July pickup, place an order with Whole Farm at wholefarmcoop.com at 320/732-3023 by Friday, July 14. Orders will be delivered to Unity Church on Wednesday, July 19. Invoices are enclosed with your order. You pay by sending a check for the invoice amount directly to Whole Farm. To find out more, stop by the table in the Parish Hall or contact Pat Haff at the Church Office.

The Wheel of Life

In Memoriam

Mary Bowlby Baird

September 17, 1923 —
June 18, 2006

In Remembrance

Henry "Harry" Gregg
brother of Virginia Greenman

Clinton L. Lee
former member of
Unity Church

Bruce Burnes
former member of
Unity Church

In Celebration

Anyka Jo Anderson

born May 26, 2006
daughter of
Emy Jo and Travis Anderson
granddaughter of
Karen and Dick Buggs

In Celebration

Laurel Seeley Kreisman
and **Nathan Whiteis**
married May 19, 2006

Elizabeth Alexander
and **Stephen Harper**
married June 2, 2006

ART / FELLOWSHIP / ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE WELCOMING CONGREGATION MINISTRY TEAM:

Welcoming Congregation Movie Nights!

The Welcoming Congregation Ministry Team and boosters will be hosting three evenings of movie-viewing and discussion this summer! Each movie will touch on issues having to do with gay, lesbian, bisexual and/or transgendered people and will provide a jumping-off point for good conversations.

On Wednesday, July 12, they will be showing the film "Saving Face." Their next film night will be Wednesday, August 9. We'll bring the popcorn, you save the date!

FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING MINISTRY TEAM:

Jeremiah Groundbreaking Ceremony

All are invited to attend the Groundbreaking for the new Jeremiah Saint Paul Campus on Tuesday, July 25, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at 932 Concordia Avenue on the corner of Concordia and Milton.

Unity Singles Group

Are you an adult single, age 35 and beyond, interested in dining, socializing, and experiencing cultural activities with others like you? Join our group by contacting Karen Pike at 651/695-9800. **Note for current members:** Be sure to unblock Yahoo from your spam filters so our information to you is not blocked.

Upcoming Unity Singles Group Events:

Saturday, July 15:

Canoe on the St. Croix from Interstate Park to Osceola, Wisconsin. Dinner to follow in Osceola for those interested.

Saturday, August 19:

Afternoon potluck and pontoon rides on the Mississippi at a member's home.

2) Carol Catherine Bender

When I was 15 in the Black Hills of South Dakota, I picked up a brush and dipped it into watercolor to render one of the wood lilies that grow there. It was 20 years before I found my way to classes with Judy Blain in White Bear Lake, where I discovered the possibilities of watercolor. Career and education paths taken left paint tubes dried and brushes falling apart for nearly two more decades. Again, the colors lured me to workshops with Michaelin Otis and Helen Bond.

I discover each time I paint a new way to put line and value and color together. I'm thrilled to feel my own multiple ways of expressing what attracts me. I consider each of my paintings an exercise to study technique and a window to my vision of the subject.

I paint for the rapture that comes in the unity of hand, brush, water, color, and paper — the secret pleasure of watercolor. My prayer: May I organize my life so that I will have this pleasure to my last breath.

FROM THE UNITY GARDEN TEAM

Want to Make a Splash?

If you would like to help keep Unity's gardens green and lush, please help us water! Contact Anna Newton at 651/483-2986 or newtona@comcast.net to volunteer with the Unity Gardeners this summer.

MUSIC NEWS

Volunteers for UUMN Conference

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Unitarian Universalist Musicians' National Conference to be held at Unity Church from August 1-6. To offer time or home hospitality for this wonderful event, contact Ruth Palmer at the Church Office.

Summer Musicians Wanted!

Summer is a great time to share your musical gifts during Sunday services. If you are interested in participating with the music, please contact Kathleen Bartholomay at 651/698-2431 or Ruth Palmer at the Church Office.

A Birthday Piano Recital

Celebrate the birthdays of Kathleen Bartholomay, who turns 50, and Priscilla Morton, who turns 60, with an afternoon recital of their musical talents on Saturday, July 8, at 2:00 p.m. On the program: two-piano music of Schumann, Bach, Bizet, and others. A reception will follow. Your presence is a wonderful birthday gift.

June/July Art (Part 2)



commUNITY

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION

Sunday services during the summer are held at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Worship leaders are assisted on Sundays by Worship Associates and Sunday Welcome Teams.

July 2 (10:00 a.m.)

Karen Hering
"Second Nature"

Our habits have great impact on our habitat. As we face the many ecological challenges of our times, how can we make more sustainable habits become "second nature" to us, affecting the way we live and relate to Earth and one another?

Karen Hering is a writer currently preparing for the ministry at United Theological Seminary. She is a member of White Bear UU Church and will begin her internship at First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis in September. Her essays, meditations and articles have been published in several anthologies and periodicals. She is coordinating a literary tour of Nicaragua that will take place later this summer.

July 9 (10:00 a.m.)

Duncan Baird
"A Nosegay of Random Thoughts"

Duncan Baird has been associated with Unity Church since 1920, at which time his values took their definitive form. He served in the Navy, practiced law for a while, then armed with a PhD from Minnesota, finished his career as a professor of political science at Macalester. He has been a lifelong sailor, and thinks that society suffers from overuse of the internal combustion engine.

July 16 (10:00 a.m.)

"The Religion of Work" — Chico Hathaway

For many of us, the work we do consumes our lives – we devote the majority of our time and energy to our jobs. In many ways, our work becomes our main religion, and other "churchly" religions take a back seat. So what is the religion of work? And is it a religion worthy of our embrace?

July 23 (10:00 a.m.)

"A Clear Faith" — Cary Eustis

Five thousand human lives were saved in a little plateau village in south central France during the Nazi occupation. What did faith have to do with the villager's response to the occupation? What was at the heart of this seemingly effortless, collective resistance?

Cary Eustis is a longtime Unity Church member. She is a UU candidate for the ministry and has recently completed her Master of Divinity degree from United Theological Seminary. Cary will serve as the Lewis Ministerial intern at the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis beginning this coming August. Cary and her husband Frank live in St. Paul.

July 30 (10:00 a.m.)

"Magical Merit" — Craig Allen

How much should talent be worth in our world? Is it always fair when talent brings success and reward? If the talented are favored, what do we risk? On the eve of Harry Potter's birthday (and J.K. Rowling's, too!), share some observations about the nature of justice in our Muggle society by pondering injustice in Harry's magical one.

Craig Allen has worked for several large companies in the Twin Cities as a software developer and is currently at Ambient Consulting. But his educational background is in philosophy, which he finds has provided excellent preparation for raising his two children, Nicholas and Katherine. His wife Ginny, however, manages to refute all of his arguments. They have been members of Unity Church for six years.



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