

commUNITY

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UNITY CHURCH-UNITARIAN

November 2009

Pilgrims and Pilgrimage

Each month worship, religious education, community outreach ministry, covenant groups and Wellspring Wednesday programs will offer opportunities to contemplate, consider, contend with and discuss an intergenerational curriculum based on monthly themes. Our hope is that this approach will bind us more closely together and inform our lives in effective and positive ways. November's theme is... Pilgrims and Pilgrimage

I have worn glasses almost as long as I can remember. Still, to my dismay, some days my vision grows dull and no simple lens will correct it because it is actually a cataract of the inner eye. It is a clouding of my heart's own vision, a brume obscuring the world's "under glimmer," as the poet Basho once put it, leaving me on a surface colorless, blurred and flat.

A pilgrimage is a call to unveil and reawaken our inner vision. Whether it's a journey to a historical or holy site, like the Hajj that will bring several million Muslims to Mecca at the end of this month, a tracing of an ancient path walked by many before us, or a personal quest on an uncharted course, a pilgrimage invites us to see the world anew. "Peel your eyes," my mother used to say, as if the rind of routine looking could be pulled back from my sight. This is what we do as pilgrims; we let the scales of familiarity fall away to restore a brighter view that stirs our wonder.

A pilgrim leaves behind the repose – and the certainty – of home not only to see new sights, as any tourist might, but also to explore the uncertainty and the foreign terrain within. Traveling an external route by foot, the pilgrim travels an equivalent course in the soul, outer and inner journeys mirroring and illuminating each other and inviting a larger wholeness. "I only went out for a walk," said naturalist John Muir describing the pilgrimage of a single day's wilderness hike, "and . . . going out, I found was really going in."

You don't have to venture far to take a pilgrimage. But it does require more than the average walk around the block. A pilgrim travels light, leaves comfort behind, climbs the steep path, encounters

the stranger, becomes the stranger, greets the unknown, and surrenders itineraries and sometimes even maps. Pilgrims find their way by opening their senses wide and reading the signs all around them; and as they do, their inner eyes regain their vision.

Centuries ago, pilgrims often began their travels with somber farewells, knowing the dangers of their journey might prevent them from ever returning. But the goal and beauty of most pilgrimages is that they *do* circle back to home. As a 14th-century pilgrim wrote in a much-read account of his travels, "If a man set out from home on a journey, and kept right on going, he would come back to his own front door." Returning, the pilgrim sees her own door anew, the eyes of her heart now wide open.

As a child, I remember receiving my first pair of eyeglasses and walking to school the next day agape with wonder. Astonished by the sharp clarity of the street and the signs and the faces of my classmates in the distance, I wandered slowly down the sidewalk taking in the great abundance of detail and dimension. Across the street from the school, I paused at the curb agog, staring in awe at the intricate grid of mortar outlining each brick in a building that had grown familiar to me as only a single blurry block that I approached and entered every morning.

But on *that* morning, with my new eyes, like so many pilgrims long ago and still today, I walked into a world made fresh with crisp and shining patterns emerging everywhere around me. And the world and I, we would never be the same again.

— Karen Hering,
Consulting Literary Minister

Worship Theme Resources

BOOKS

The Autobiography of Malcolm X

After a life lived in the midst of controversy and struggle Malcolm X makes the Hajj to Mecca. The experience breaks his heart open.

***Journey to the East* — Herman Hesse**

A group of seekers travel together learning lessons both about themselves and the nature of leadership.

***Fumbling: a Pilgrimage Tale of Love, Grief and Spiritual Renewal* — Kerry Eagan**

A graduate of Harvard Divinity School walks along the Santiago de Compostella pilgrim path as she grieves the death of her father.

FILMS

***Cold Mountain* (2003)**

The tragic, romantic journey of Inman to return to his love, Ada Monroe. In the context of the American Civil War, Inman abandons his assignment in the Confederacy to return to Cold Mountain to find his love and to live out the truth of his life.

***Get on the Bus* (1996)**

Twelve men, each of them African American, get on the bus for Washington, DC, bound for the Million Man March of October, 1995. See the struggles, the joys, the sorrows and the strength that is required to survive the social challenges of American life after the end of the Cold War era and the beginning of the age of terrorism.

***The Trip to Bountiful* (1985)**

Nearing the end of her life, Carrie Watts feels that she is a prisoner in her own home. Her final wish is to return to the place of her youth in Bountiful, Texas. While family life presents predictable challenges, Carrie Watts creates an unlikely escape.

JUST WORDS / WHEEL OF LIFE

Just Words

One of my favorite mantras is taken from a Tina Turner song: "We don't need another hero." Like any other focus for meditation, the deeper implications of the phrase emerge over time. I've been thinking about leadership these past few weeks. Midway through my final year as President of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association I am beginning to see the fruit of my labors. I'm also learning (again) that whenever I imagine I've accomplished something significant it turns out I was only one of many deserving of credit.

It's told that Lao Tse wrote, "The best of leaders is but a shadowy presence; when the work is done the people will say, we did it ourselves." That's true but not, as I once assumed, because the best of leaders is sneaky and manipulative. It's true because anything really important can only be accomplished when leadership is broadly shared. The notion that "leaders are born not made" fits neatly into the heroic worldview. And it is simply not true. Heroism is largely circumstantial. Heroes happen to be close-by when crisis calls or else they become swept up in the tide of an historic moment.

Leadership is different. Leadership is born of vision. It deepens and grows strong by practice. It perceives the times while maintaining balance and perspective. Leadership is contagious. Leadership is shared. Leadership, when properly cultivated and conceived, may even have been a universal human trait. Just as each person has discernible gifts to be brought to bear, so each person in some very real way can be a leader. Universal leadership is not heroic. It is inherently collaborative. Effective leadership is largely about encouraging and empowering others. The Unity ends statements suggest that we work to create a community "where shared ministry is actively encouraged and the circles of power, opportunity and access are intentionally widened." We're working toward being a church where leadership is genuinely and generously shared and toward a world community where an ethic of empowerment is at the heart of the human agenda.

In this season of gratitude I number first among my many blessings the love and good health of my family. As most of you know, our son Jonah, who has been struggling with fourth stage melanoma this past year seems to have garnered substantial benefit from chemotherapy. There's a good chance his cancer is in remission. His care team at NYU Cancer Center has been superb. Friends and colleagues all across the world have held him and us in their prayers. And you dear friends have been a source of love and strength throughout this long ordeal. We are cancer parents now. We know better than to let down our guard completely. But we have to pause and celebrate. How can we not give thanks.

Second only to the well-being of our family, Janne and I are grateful to be met in ministry by the leaders of this superb congregation. You know who you are and you know what I mean. To serve at Unity Church where ministry is shared and leadership is born of vision is one of the greatest gifts we could possibly receive. We are and always will be deeply grateful.

Yours,

Rob Eller-Isaacs

The Wheel of Life

In Celebration

Carissa Grace Alexander
born October 14, 2009
granddaughter of
Johanna Stammeier-Toole
and Byron Toole

**Alexander Wilson and
Sarah Brook Eleanor Marsha Butcher**
married
Saturday, August 22, 2009

In Memoriam

Robert D. Hurt
October 14, 2009

A memorial service will be held
Saturday, November 28,
at 11:00 a.m.
at Unity Church—Unitarian

Thanksgiving Potluck Seeking Hosts

from Unity Church member **Anna Newton**



Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and for many of us it will be a time of joyous family gatherings. But there are also many in the church who are unable to be with their families, and it has become a tradition for my family to invite these visitors to join our celebration. However this year we are unable to host. If you would be willing to set a few extra places for Unity Church guests at your Thanksgiving table, please contact Anna Newton at 651-483-2986 or newtona@comcast.net.

NOVEMBER SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION

Sunday services are held at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. except where noted.
Sermon podcasts and archives are available on line at www.unityunitarian.org.

Worship Calendar

November 1

Wanting Memories to Teach Me — Rob Eller-Isaacs

Our series on pilgrimage begins with a service for the Day of the Dead. When we move through the world with pilgrim eyes even our memories take on new life. Mary Oliver writes, "it matters how you carry it, books, bricks, grief." Pilgrims have to learn to travel light. Rob will be joined by Worship Associate, Nick Rath.

November 8

Staying Put: Pilgrimages at Home — Janne Eller-Isaacs

Some pilgrimages involve travel to a foreign or holy destination. Others actually can occur right at home. Janne and Worship Associate Mary Baremore will explore the dimensions of staying home, recognizing the sacred lessons available in our everyday lives and the riches to be explored in the pilgrimage within.

November 15

Fellow Travelers, Common Journey — Lissa Gundlach

The poet Rumi wrote:

"O you who've gone on pilgrimage where are you, where, oh where?

Here, here is the Beloved! Oh come now, come, oh come!

Your friend, he is your neighbor, he is next to your wall."

Jerusalem may be the most Holy city in the world, a site of pilgrimage for Christians, Jews, Muslims, and seekers alike. The Temple Mount is a shared spiritual landmark for Jews and Muslims — the Dome of the Rock marks where Muslims believe the prophet Mohammad ascended to heaven, while the Jewish people believe the site to have supported the original Temple during Biblical times. How might a common pilgrimage journey provide fertile ground for connections amongst as well as conflict between people of faith? The Hallman Ministerial Intern and Worship Associate Sue Babcock lead a service exploring the relational dimensions of pilgrims and pilgrimage.

November 22

Family Thanksgiving Service

Each year at Thanksgiving the whole church family gathers in gratitude to celebrate our relationship with our Partner Church in Homorodszpeter, Transylvania. This year we will welcome five guests from the village in a service featuring a collage of voices. The ministers will conduct the service in concert with the Partner Church Ministry Team. Kerri Meyer will offer the Story for All Ages.

November 29

The Journey and the Return — Lissa Gundlach

The return from pilgrimage can leave us weary, bewildered, and yearning to make meaning of all we have experienced. How do we integrate the learnings from pilgrimage back into our everyday lives? What needs to die and be reborn within us to reflect the transformation of our landscape? How can we resist the urge to flee our lives and instead change them, living more deliberately and embodying what we have learned?

Ordination of Jacqueline Duhart

**Sunday, November 1 • 2:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary of Unity Church**

All are invited to attend the ordination of Unity's 2007-08 Community Ministerial Intern Jacqueline Duhart. The sermon will be offered by Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt of the Universalist Church of New York. Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

Seeking Worship Associates

Do you enjoy thinking about and discussing matters related to the life of this church and the larger community? Does the idea of exploring world literature that resonates for the purpose of connecting with worship themes really grab your attention? Are you interested in collaborating with other members of the worship team in helping to shape our worship services? If you find yourself nodding in assent, you may wish to apply for this wonderful opportunity.

The Worship Associate program at Unity Church has openings for the coming church year. This program offers a singular chance to have a voice, both literally and figuratively, in the most visible, public element of church life — the worship service. We are seeking individuals who take pleasure in sharing their clear speaking voice and strong presence with others. No less important is the willingness to commit to attending two half-day and one full-day planning session per year in addition to intermittent meetings with the ministerial team. This is a two-year commitment.

Look for the Worship Associate Table in the Hall between services on upcoming Sundays for more information and an application form. Deadline for submitting an application is January 30, 2010.

Did You Know . . .

from Ken Green, SUPC Representative

Did you know...

. . . that Unity Church is one of five organizations with a seat on the board of the Summit-University (District 8) Planning Council (SUPCO)? I have represented Unity Church since May. Pauline Eichten was our representative for the previous four years.

. . . that SUPC is one of 17 such district councils throughout St. Paul, representing every part of the city? The SUPC boundaries are University Avenue, Marion Street, Summit Avenue, and Lexington Avenue.

. . . that SUPC and the other district councils practice grassroots democracy? For example, SUPC advises the St. Paul City Council regarding every zoning request in our neighborhood based on the views of neighborhood residents.

. . . that SUPC sponsors several National Night Out events in our neighborhood? Unity Church and House of Hope Presbyterian Church jointly sponsor one such event in the HOH parking lot.

. . . that SUPC is deeply immersed in the discussion about neighborhood concerns related to the Central Corridor LRT project? We are in close regular contact with Ward 1 City Councilperson Melvin Carter, who is leading the fight to fund all three of the "missing stations" at Western, Victoria, and Hamline. In addition, we are looking for ways to support Central Corridor homeowners who fear they will be forced from their homes because of property tax increases from rising property values as a result of the LRT line.

. . . that partnering with SUPC is one way Unity Church outreach ministry teams can interact with our immediate neighborhood? For example, SUPC is sponsoring a food, clothing, and household items drive during November to assist more than 600 clients.

. . . that you can contact me (klgreen@qwest.net) to find out more about SUPC? You can also visit SUPC online and e-subscribe to the newsletter at <http://summit-u.com>.



From Lissa Gundlach Hallman Ministerial Intern

The final day of the Unity Church-Unitarian Boston Pilgrimage, the youth and adult pilgrims joined to worship together in the historic "Church of the Presidents" in Quincy, then headed off in our six mini-vans to Plimoth Plantation for the afternoon — an encounter with the colonial history of 1627 from Pilgrim and Wampanoag perspectives.

What seemed like manageable rains in the morning turned quickly to what we New Englanders call a "nor'easter" — pummeling rain and high winds. Minnesotans know about harsh weather, so this didn't stop our group. Though there were a steady stream of complaints, from the youth and adults alike, the harshness of the elements in some ways only enhanced the experience of what life might have been like in 17th century New England. The rawness of the weather made the fires in the fur-lined Wampanoag homes all the cozier.

By the end of the day, we were wet and bedraggled. The rain turned to snow and we arrived back in Boston, van by van, to the UUA's Eliot House, named for Unity's beloved minister Rev. Frederick May Eliot. We found joy and comfort in the abundance of food and the company of multiple generations of Unitarian Universalists. Our spirits were strong and soaring. A prayer of gratitude for the simple gifts of life had never seemed more appropriate.

The theologian and author Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman served as Dean of the Boston University Chapel in the 1950s and early 60s. His writings about fall seem to reflect the battering New England weather we experienced that Sunday in October. He writes of fall:

It is the period of the storms, as if the wind itself becomes the Avenging Angel too impatient to wait for the coming of death and the quiet fading of bud and flower and leaf. The rain is not gentle in the fall, it is feverish, truculent, and vicious. All the fury of wind and rain are undertoned by a vast lull in tempo and the running down of all things.

As I return from Boston, I am struck by what perfect timing fall is for pilgrimage. Before the bounty of Thanksgiving and the bustle of the Christmas season, the nearly 40 youth and adults of Unity Church took days out of their lives to draw nearer to our selves, one another, our spiritual ancestors, and the Holy.

The nature of pilgrimage is to pause, take time out of daily routines to consider new ways of being, drawing the pilgrim closer to oneself and the Holy. It is to uproot the pilgrim and replant seeds of change in one's life upon return.

Like fall weather, it can be harsh — wrenching and pummeling us out of our comfort zones. It can be impatient with our reluctance to change and embrace new ways of being. Like fall, the pilgrimage can seem to be about dormancy, that "vast lull in tempo" of which Thurman speaks. However, the promise of pilgrimage is the unfolding of a changed heart. We hope that that the seeds of change — with rest, time, and nurturing — will blossom and transform our lives.

I hope that this month's worship theme, *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage*, allows everyone at Unity Church, not just those who journeyed to Boston, to consider what pilgrimage might mean in your life, especially in the context of the bounty and harshness of fall. Before the busy-ness and abundance of the holiday season, take a pause to reflect and draw nearer to what is most vital and Holy. Plant the seeds of transformation in your life that might be germinated in the winter months and blossom in the spring. To close, a final prayer from Rev. Dr. Thurman: "Fall accentuates the goodness of life and finds its truest meaning in the strength of winter and the breath of spring. Thank God for the fall."

COMMUNITY / FELLOWSHIP / LEARNING

November Wellspring Wednesday

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost for dinner is: \$6/adult, \$4/child ages 5 to 12, \$2/child ages 2 to 4, and \$18/family.
Programs at 7:00 p.m.

November 4

dinner: to be announced

Religious Education Parent Orientation

Mano a Mano • To Bolivia with Love, 2009 — Come share fun and meaningful connection with Mano a Mano International. Learn about the saving work of this local organization and the global impact of its mission.

The Boston Pilgrimage Report-back — In October of 2009 a band of youth and a band of adults from Unity Church took a trip to New England to visit the sites of historical importance to the growth of Unitarian Universalism in the United States. Rob and Janne will share the experiences and insights of their pilgrimage.

The Labyrinth Project — Some pilgrimages are outward pilgrimages and others are inward pilgrimages. The labyrinths project asks us to do both at the same time. Come and learn about the nature of this journey.

November 11

dinner: chickpea stew with chermoula, salad with oranges, olives and red onions, breadsticks, pumpkin bars

Reflections on Peace and War and the Military — So, you are (or a loved one is) considering joining the military. There's a lot you may want to consider before you decide. Unity Church member Michael Orange will offer a presentation and facilitate a discussion of the truths not told by military recruiters and the Pentagon's \$2 billion annual recruiting campaign. Michael will address the other side of the recruiting pitch, military actions you may be asked to support, rite of passage, and alternative service. Michael served in the Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, including a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam. He experienced combat in numerous patrols, search-and-destroy missions, and other major operations.

Open Page Writing Session — "The geographical pilgrimage is the symbolic acting out of an inner journey," said Thomas Merton. Whether you've just returned from the Unity Church pilgrimage to Boston, or you're recalling or planning another pilgrimage of your own, this guided writing session invites you to explore the inner and outer aspects of your journey.

Introduction to the Enneagram — The Enneagram is a psycho-spiritual tool for growth and transformation work that is based on nine personality types. In this brief overview with Unity Church member Katy Taylor, we will show how the nine types emerge as a direct result of the loss of contact with True Nature/the Divine/God, and how knowing and working with our primary type can help us to become fuller human beings.

November 18

dinner: fish sticks, broiled fish, french fries, corn and salad, dessert

All Wellspring Wednesday Pilgrimage Event

with Janne Eller-Isaacs, Kerry Meyer, and Leon Dunkley

A pilgrimage is a journey for moral and ethical safety. Travel inclines us toward a richer religious life. Join Janne Eller-Isaacs, Kerri Meyer, and Leon Dunkley for an intergenerational service of exploration that will help us to bring greater depth and meaning to our spiritual lives.

November 25 • No Wellspring Wednesday - Happy Thanksgiving!

Kundalini
Yoga is offered
every Wednesday.
\$10/class — beginners
are welcome to try a
class at no cost!

Labyrinth Walk

Friday, November 13 • 7:00-9:00 p.m.

For centuries, the labyrinth has been used as a spiritual tool for inner pilgrimage. While walking the twists and turns with intention and openness to transformation, we learn something about the mystery of our inner selves and about the Holy. Join Hallman Ministerial Intern Lissa Gundlach for an evening of inner pilgrimage as we walk the labyrinth together in Parish Hall. Youth welcome.

Elders Group

Conversations

Thursday, November 19 • 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Join Hallman Ministerial Intern Lissa Gundlach for November's Elder's Circle in the Center Room. This month, we will be sharing fellowship, worship, and a discussion of November's worship theme, *Pilgrimage*. Refreshments will be served.

Caregivers Group

Thursday, November 19

Third Thursday of every month

Are you a part time or full time care taker of loved ones in your life? Do you need support in order to sustain the care you are giving? Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs and Pastoral Care team member Cynthia Orange will be offering an informal support group for caregivers on the third Thursday of every month from 12:00–2:00 p.m. Contact Janne Eller-Isaacs if you would like to participate in this group.

Job Transition

Networking Group

Meets every Monday • 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Sessions typically include time to share job search or career change efforts and possible opportunities or challenges. Guest speakers address issues such as how to assess our strengths and how to market ourselves. Contact Ron Prieve at rprieve@msn.com or Wendy Frieze at wendyfrieze@mac.com for more information.

LITERARY MINISTRY / UNITY LIBRARIES

Open Page: reflecting with pens in hand

These guided writing sessions, led by Consulting Literary Minister Karen Hering, are invitations to the creative spirit, opportunities to correspond with “the still, small voice within.” No writing experience is required — only an empty page and an open heart and mind. Registration is not necessary, but if you plan to attend your e-mail or phone RSVP will assist in determining handout quantities. Contact karen@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x128.

Sunday, November 1 • 12:15–1:45 p.m. • NEW TIME!

Reflection Topic: *Incarnation*

Looking ahead to December’s seasonal focus on incarnation, this guided writing session considers how the old stories and our own contemporary experience together illuminate our understanding of this embodied life – with its beauty and its brokenness and blessings.

Wednesday, November 11 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Reflection Topic: *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage*

“The geographical pilgrimage is the symbolic acting out of an inner journey,” said Thomas Merton. This guided writing session will explore the inner and outer aspects of pilgrimage.

Lectio Divina: a practice of spiritual reading

It is difficult to get the news from poems yet men die miserably every day for lack of what is found there.

— William Carlos Williams

Sunday, November 8 • 10:15 – 10:55 p.m.

Come and listen for “what is found there” in a brief reflective session, using the Benedictine practice of “lectio divina” or holy reading. We’ll meditate on poems and readings related to November’s theme of *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage*.

Meditations and Resources

In addition to the programs listed above, Unity’s literary ministry provides meditations on each month’s worship theme, shared in worship and in this newsletter; these are available on-line at <http://www.unityunitarian.org/MonthlyThemeResources.htm>. If you would like to receive periodic e-mail notifications of upcoming literary programs and invitations for member writings, please contact Karen Hering at the Church Office. These programs are supported by a grant from the Fund for Unitarian Universalism.

Unity Church Book Club

The Unity Church Book Club will meet from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10. The book they will be discussing is *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. At the December 8 meeting the Book Club will be discussing *The Dog Says How* by Kevin Kling. **Everyone is welcome — even if you haven’t read the book!**



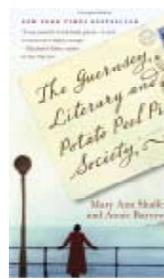
What’s New at Unity Libraries?

Anderson Adult Library ♦ Bookstall
Whitman Children’s Library ♦ Bookmobile
Literary Journal

Someone told me it’s all happening at the Bookstall.

I do believe it’s true. Forget Borders or Amazon; if you want great, new, highly acclaimed fiction, memoir, theology and more, look no further than Unity’s own bookstore. Open Sundays, and other days by appointment.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (paperback, 2009)



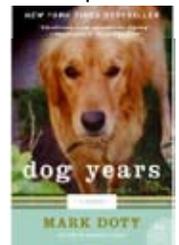
“I can’t remember the last time I discovered a novel as smart and delightful as this one, a world so vivid that I kept forgetting this was a work of fiction populated with characters so utterly wonderful that I kept forgetting they weren’t my actual friends and neighbors. Treat yourself to this book please—I can’t recommend it highly enough.” —Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*

Strength in What Remains by Tracy Kidder (2009)

With an anthropologist’s eye and a novelist’s pen, Pulitzer Prize-winning Kidder (*Mountains Beyond Mountains*) recounts the story of Deo, the Burundian former medical student turned American émigré at the center of this strikingly vivid story. This profoundly gripping, hopeful and crucial testament is a work of the utmost skill, sympathy and moral clarity. © Publishers Weekly

Dog Years: A Memoir by Mark Doty

Award-winning memoirist Doty explores, with compassion and intelligence, the complicated, loving territory inhabited by devoted dogs and their loyal humans. With a marvelous ability to present the pain of mourning with a poet’s delicate hand, and an irrepressible instinct for joy, Doty delivers a soulful love story. Winner of the 2008 Stonewall Award, the ALA GLBT book award.



The Case for God by Karen Armstrong (2009)

Karen Armstrong details the great lengths to which humankind has gone in order to experience a sacred reality that is called by many names, such as God, Brahman, Nirvana, Allah, or Dao, and examines the diminished impulse toward religion in our own time. Library Journal already has declared it “a classic.”

CAIRNS: The Unity Church Journal of the Arts

Coming to the Bookstall mid-November!

Unity Church–Unitarian Goods & Services AUCTION

Saturday December 5, 2009

6:00 – 10:00 p.m.



It's time for the Unity Church fundraising (and fun-raising!) auction to benefit the church and the programs it supports. This is a chance for all of us to live out our values of integrity, service, and joy — especially joy!

Here's how to get involved:

Donate!

Consider your gifts and worldly possessions and then get creative...

Are you an artist? Original works of art are top sellers.

Do you love to bake? Consider a cookie, bread, or cake-of-the month club.

Are you the host with the most? Offer a dinner or card party for a group.

Like to sing? How about a singing telegram?

Have a cabin up north or a condo down south? Everyone wants a weekend away.

Tickets to the Vikings, Guthrie, Saints or Ordway? Sounds like a perfect date night!

Need help? Stop by the Jolly Holly Auction table in the Parish Hall on Sundays in November. Resourceful volunteers will help you find a way to turn something you love (to do or to share) into an auction item that will raise BIG money and benefit Unity Church! Get a donation form at church or fill it out online at www.unityunitarian.org. Act fast! Deadline for taking donations is Sunday, November 29.

Volunteer!

Sign up for one or more of these committees, or tell us what you'd like to do.

Donations • Food and Beverage • Tickets • Event Management

Come to the Party!

Mark your calendars for this **fun holiday event**, including a **Silent Auction** of goods and services with price ranges for all budgets! Plus a **Live Auction**, a **Raffle**, and items to purchase. **Food and drink, live entertainment, and jollies for all!**

Tickets and a schedule of the evening's events are available at the Auction Table in the Parish Hall after Sunday services. Or for more information, follow the link for the Jolly Holly Auction at www.unityunitarian.org.

Childcare will be available during the event. Contact Christy Randall at the Church Office to request childcare.

BLACK FRIDAY / DECEMBER SAVE THE DATES



Black Friday at Church

Feeding the Spirit on the Feast Day of Consumption
Friday, November 27, 2009 • 10:00 a.m. until Noon

Come one, come all! For the second year, “Black Friday at Unity Church” offers an opportunity to launch the Advent and Christmas season with spiritual renewal, fellowship, and good cheer, instead of frantic consumerism. Sometimes called “the holiest of shopping days,” Black Friday is no longer just a feast day of consumption.

Join fellow Unity Church members, families, and neighbors on the Friday morning after Thanksgiving (Black Friday in the consumer world) in a worship service featuring cultural critique, spiritual depth, conversation, children’s participation, wonderful music, and some fun. Afterward, breakout groups will go deeper into the religious and cultural challenges of the holiday season, what Advent might look like from a UU perspective, the opportunities to be found in the Christmas season, and how we might make changes in our own lives. Activities for children and families, and child care will be provided.

At last year’s inaugural Black Friday service, our spirits soared. We hope that this year’s event will deepen our church’s resolve to challenge the culture of overconsumption and find new ways to feed our spirits during the Christmas season, joyful and triumphant.

Advent Event

Wednesday, December 2
7:00-8:30 p.m.

December 2 Wellspring Wednesday offerings will consider the meaning of Advent in our lives. Advent is the perfect time to slow down and nurture our spirits as we await the coming of Christmas and the return of the light.

The evening’s activities will include opportunities for participants to explore ways to reclaim the holiday season as a time of spiritual reflection and renewal instead of frantic overconsumption. There are a variety of offerings to choose from:

- Keeping Your Balance in a Frenzied Consumer Culture with Bill Doherty
- From Story to a Sense of the Sacred with Rebecca Pournoor
- Singing Meditation and Sharing Circle with Katy Taylor and Jill van Koolwijk
- A special conversation with visitors from our partner church about Unitarian Advent and Christmas traditions in Transylvania

Save the date!

Solstice Celebration

Monday, December 21 • 7:00 p.m.

Please join us—and if you’d like to participate as a ritual leader, be in touch with Katy Taylor at katy@katytaylor.com or 651-291-8551.

Christmas Pageant Planning

It’s time to make plans for the Unity Church Christmas Pageant. An informational meeting will take place in November for anyone interested in helping. Volunteer opportunities include: costume crew, coordinator of parent volunteers, light and sound assistants, administrative support, and prompter trainers. Watch *This Week at Unity* for a meeting date or contact Kelley Loughrey at kelleyloughrey@comcast.net for more information.

PARTNER CHURCH NEWS

Unity Welcomes Visitors from our Partner Church November 17 through December 3

Members of Unity Church have woven a tight bond of love, faith and commitment with the people in a tiny Romanian village, Szentpeter, in the beautiful Homorod valley. Hundreds of years ago, the Unitarian faith took root in this region, known for its religious tolerance. Despite generations of political turmoil and the concerted efforts of the Communists and Ceausescu regimes to destroy these small villages of ethnic Hungarians, their religion and way of life have struggled and survived. With Ceausescu's fall in 1989, Unity responded to the UUA's request to extend a hand in friendship to one of the remaining Unitarian villages. The early efforts of Unity members Phyllis Gene Jones, Olga and Tibor Zoltai, Ruth and Ken Gordon, Lisa Torvik, and others were hampered by slow/no mail, no phone service and difficult travel. Yet, they persisted, providing scholarships for the children of the village to attend school.

When Janne and Rob Eller-Isaacs arrived at Unity, they brought their enthusiasm for the partner church connection, and in 2001, the first Unity pilgrims visited Unitarian heritage sites and spent a week living in Szentpeter. It was a shy, uncertain beginning as that first group stepped from the bus into the villagers' homes. Since that first trip, the Partner Church team has supported and fostered travel between St. Paul and Szentpeter, and we have come to know the names, faces, and warm hospitality of the strong, hard-working people of the village, and they have seen the value we place on their way of life. We have shared tears and laughter, hope and heartbreak. The village has changed since 2001. New opportunities (and babies!), cell phones, cars and Internet are springing up in the village. The bonds have strengthened. We share so much: our faith, love of family, pride in our homeland, and a desire to build a better world for our children.

Thanks to Unity's generous offering on Partner Church Sunday '07 and '08, the Partner Church team has invited five visitors from our partner church to join us in St. Paul from November 17 to December 3.

Ida (ee-DAH) and **Balazs** (buh-LAZJ) **Mate** (MAH-tay) live in the village with their two sons. Although for many years Ida and Balazs farmed, now they work with their son Csabi (CHA-bee) at the European Union-supported dairy in the neighboring village. Like many of the villagers, the Mates have several animals and grow crops. These days, son Bali does most of the farming.

Denes (DAY-nesh) and **Gyongyi** (DYUNE-gee) **Gergely** (GEHR-gay-ee) grew up in the village. Like Balazs Mate, Denes drives the dairy's truck long distances to deliver milk throughout the country. Gyongyi would like to open a B & B, and has been taking classes in management and English. Their son, Denes, is a recent high school graduate who works in construction.

The Mates and the Gergelys are active in village and church life and are looking forward to their visit as a "dream come true."

Our fifth guest, **Annamaria** (anna-MAR-ia) **David** (da-VEED), is studying tourism at Universitatea Dimitrie Cantemir and hopes to attain a masters degree in the same field. Although she lives with her family in Marosvasarhely/Targu Mures during the school year, she spends her summers with her grandmother and cousins in Szentpeter and dreams of spending her adult life in the village. Annamaria speaks excellent English and has helped interpret for us during recent visits.

There will be several opportunities to meet with our guests and they will participate in the worship services on November 22, "Partner Church Sunday." Watch the Sunday Worship insert, *This Week at Unity*, for details.

Make a Return Visit!

We encourage you to make a return visit to see these wonderful people and our other dear friends in the village.

A meeting will be held on December 6, 2009, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., in the Gannett Room to talk about two trips planned for 2010. One of the trips will be from approximately May 21 to 30. This trip will celebrate the 20th year of our partnership with Szentpeter. A second trip is planned for August as a pilgrimage to several historic Unitarian sites combined with a stay in the village. If you would like to hear more about these travel opportunities, please join us for this meeting on December 6 or contact Tom Merritt at 651-429-2621 or tom.w.merritt@gmail.com.



Ida
and Balazs
Mate



Denes
and
Gyongyi
Gergely



Annamaria David

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

Away... not this time... not for me....

from Ray Wiedmeyer, member of the Unity Church Restorative Justice Ministry Team

Ever have one of those ah-ha moments listening to a sermon at Unity Church? I did this past summer during Director of Religious Education Kerri Meyer's sermon entitled "Away." Suddenly my work on Restorative Justice and my need for beloved community clicked into sharper focus. I knew what Kerri meant when she spoke of things we would rather keep "away." Kerri spoke of children lost in the foster care system who are sometimes called throw-away children, a subject dear to her heart. I thought of throw-away adults. I thought of my work with Amicus, the Unity Church Restorative Justice Outreach Ministry Team's community partner.

Five years ago I had never been to a prison, never had the need to have contact with the criminal justice system. It was one of those things I chose to keep... "away." It was someone else's job to take care of "them." It certainly was not my responsibility.

Then I began to mentor men in prison. I realized how much power and authority I had given over to the criminal justice system. That which I had always kept away suddenly became part of my life.

Now many of us speak of our longing for the "beloved community." It is a place want to raise our children in. But seldom do we acknowledge that in beloved community people will always make mistakes. So how do we handle mistakes in beloved community?

This is where Restorative Justice fits for me. I like to think of beloved community as a piece of cloth... the social fabric that connects us all. Now when harm is done that piece of cloth is damaged. The social fabric is ripped. The victim is harmed but it is not just the victim that is affected. We are all affected in one way or another, if only because of the fear that harm engenders in us all.

Restorative Justice is a way of thinking about crime in a different way... a way that for me makes the dream of beloved community more real. Restorative Justice seeks to restore the social fabric by making everyone responsible for repair when harm has been done. Responsibility for the repair is not given "Away."

This is why I mentor with Amicus. This is why I give of my time. I can no longer afford the luxury of having this part of the world be given "Away." It is my responsibility in a beloved community to see that harm is acknowledged and all are made as whole as possible... victim, offender, and community.

The Restorative Justice Outreach Ministry Team at Unity Church encourages people to become active in the world beyond Unity Church—Unitarian. Training sessions for mentors through Amicus happen regularly here at Unity Church. Contact Unity members Ray Wiedmeyer, raka1260@aol.com or Steve Nelson, steve@amicususa.org for more information.

Evergreen Foodshelf

The third Sunday of every month is Evergreen Food Drive Sunday. All non-perishable food and household items are welcome and needed! Donations can be brought anytime and should be placed in the barrels located at both the Holly and Portland Avenue entrances. Suggested items for November 18 are canned tuna or meat, rice, dried beans.

Whole Farm Coop

Buy meat, cheese, produce and more from local, sustainable farms and pick it up at Unity Church! For a November pick up, order from wholefarmcoop.com or call 320-732-3023 by Wednesday, November 11. Orders will be delivered to Unity Church on Wednesday, November 18. Pay by sending a check with the invoice enclosed with your order to Whole Farm.

20

Tutors Needed!

With the new school year comes a renewed partnership with the newly named Barack and Michelle Obama Service Learning Elementary School (formerly Webster Elementary located across the street from Unity Church).

This year, the school is seeking 20 volunteer mentors to work with 5th and 6th grade students on reading skills for one-half hour per week, Monday through Friday, starting in mid-November. The volunteer will serve as another caring adult in the student's life and will work with the student's classroom teacher on identifying specific reading skills needed by the student. Half-hour volunteer shifts can be scheduled during the following times: 8:00–8:30 a.m., 9:50–10:50 a.m., and 1:15–2:25 p.m.

Principal Lori Simon and the Minnesota Reading Corps Volunteer Coordinator Kris Jensen will conduct an orientation and training session for all volunteers on November 12, from 6:00–7:00 p.m. at the school.

Educating our ethnic minority students is the biggest challenge facing our St. Paul public schools and Obama Elementary is taking some extraordinary steps in narrowing this achievement gap. This is our opportunity to help students realize their full potential thus contributing to the healthy future of our communities and making all our lives a bit richer in the process.

For more information, contact Pat Haff at the Church Office.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY / R.E. DATES

Learn About Mano a Mano's Trip to Bolivia



On Sunday, November 1, Mano a Mano Outreach Ministry Team members will lead 45 minute information sessions in the Gannett Room after each morning service about a trip to Bolivia from March 17–27, 2010.

Mano a Mano International, a local volunteer-based, non-profit organization, is the community partner of the Unity Church Mano a Mano Outreach Ministry Team and is dedicated to improving health and economic well-being in very low-income rural Bolivian communities, Mano a Mano has built health clinics, schools, roads, and water reservoirs, all in partnership with residents of these areas. If you are interested in learning first-hand about this work or would like to learn more about Mano a Mano International or the outreach team, we invite you to attend one of the November 1 information sessions.

CVT Client Requests — You can help!



The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) is a locally based organization which strives to heal the wounds of government-sponsored torture on individuals, their families, and communities. CVT works to stop the practice of torture locally, nationally and internationally and to build healing communities where torture survivors feel welcomed, protected and healed. Opened in 1985, CVT has provided services for individuals from more than sixty countries.

The CVT Ministry Team, a group of Unity members, works to support the efforts of CVT. The team has received the following requests for CVT clients:

- Winter hats, gloves, mittens and scarves in excellent condition – please, no wool
- Checkbook size 2009-2010 calendars, and 2010 calendars for the upcoming year

Clients benefit from having somewhere to write all of their appointments and be able to keep them in one spot! Calendars are extremely helpful for those clients who have memory issues due to past trauma.

Please drop off items in Pat Haff's office at Unity Church before Sunday, November 15.

If you would like to learn more about CVT, visit cvt.org. To inquire about the Ministry Team, contact Nancy Wagner at nancyjwagner@comcast.net.

— Wanted — Reliable Used Car

I am mentoring a man who was released from Lino Lakes Correctional Facility recently as part of Amicus. My Amicus is looking to purchase a reliable, used vehicle to assist him in finding and keeping a job. Please contact John Blackstone at 651 263 4357 or jblackstone@comcast.net.

Annual Pilgrimage to New Orleans Mark Your Calendar!

The third Unity Church Pilgrimage to New Orleans will take place from Saturday, March 6, through Saturday, March 13, 2010. Contact Pat Haff at the Church Office if you would like to learn more about this annual journey.

Religious Education Dates for your Calendar

Sunday, November 1: Story Sunday — Workshop Rotation kids start in worship with parents, New Workshop Rotation cycle — On Being Human *Daylight Saving Time Begins*

Sunday, November 8: Regular R.E.

Sunday, November 15: Regular R.E.

Saturday, November 21: Annual Congregational Meeting, 10:00 a.m. Childcare provided. (see back cover)

Sunday, November 22: Family Thanksgiving Sunday - No R.E.

Friday, November 27: Black Friday at Church Family Worship

Sunday, November 29: NO R.E. Classes (Thanksgiving Break)

Reminder! Childcare Requests

Childcare is available for all Unity Church sponsored events at no cost. If you would like to request childcare for an event please contact Christy Randall at christy@unityunitarian.org. All requests must be made at least one week prior to the event.



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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! / PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

Janice Gestner

My husband Bob and I have lived in West St. Paul for nearly thirty years. We enjoy the community for many reasons including the Dodge Nature Center, and feel the city was a great place to raise our 28 year-old twin sons, Gregory and Brian. They now live in New York and Georgia respectively, and we can only enjoy their company through travel back and forth. I have worked for the St. Paul Public schools since 1972, and I have been the librarian at Highland Park Junior High for the last 20 years.

My hobbies include a large garden, daily walks, reading and book clubs, biking, and cooking. I am very interested in Unity Church because of the wonderful Sunday services, the huge variety of church activities available on an ongoing basis, and the amazing community outreach ministry teams. I hope to volunteer to be an active participant in both the activities and teams.

Bob Gestner

I am a native of Pittsburgh and moved to St. Paul in 1976 to start a job with 3M Co. as a Product Development Chemist. I met my wife Janice after coming to Minnesota and we have been married for 29 years. My passion is music and I have sung in choirs throughout my life. I am currently the President of a non-profit, community show choir called Harmonic Relief. My other interests include golf, and bicycling with Janice.

Helen Pohlrig

Helen Pohlrig recently moved back to the Twin Cities after a 23 year absence, most of it spent in Arizona – it was time to come "home." She travels a lot, teaching business seminars all over the world. She spends her free time with her little dog, in outdoor activities (hiking, camping), reading, playing racquetball or dancing (which is her passion).

Diana Flynn

I am excited to be a part of this worship community with all your obvious grace, humor, and love. See you in church.



Bob and Janice Gestner



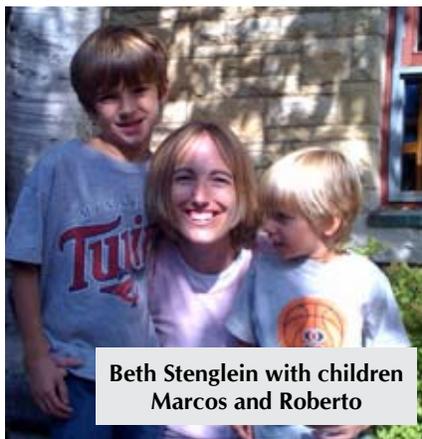
Helen Pohlrig



Diana Flynn



Hannah Kaytonah



Beth Stenglein with children Marcos and Roberto

Pathway to Membership at Unity Church

If you have questions or would like to sign up for a class please contact Betsy Moore at the Church Office. Childcare is available at no cost for all Pathway to Membership classes if requests are made at least one-week in advance.

Welcome to Unity

This class is geared to newcomers, visitors, and those seeking to learn more about Unitarian Universalists and Unity Church. Upcoming *Welcome to Unity* classes:

Sunday, November 8
12:15–2:00 p.m. includes lunch

Wednesday, December 2
7:10–8:30 p.m.

Finding Yourself at Unity

Finding Yourself at Unity includes Unitarian Universalist and Unity Church history (including a tour of the church), opportunities to share parts of your religious journey, and discussion of the expectations and benefits of membership. Upcoming *Finding Yourself at Unity* classes:

Saturday, November 7
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Potluck lunch - bring a dish to share

Saturday, January 9, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Potluck lunch - bring a dish to share

Committing to Unity

Committing to Unity is designed for those who are ready to make the membership commitment. This class explores the deeper meanings and expectations of membership and shared ministry. Upcoming *Committing to Unity* classes:

Tuesday, November 10
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 14, 2010
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

MUSIC MINISTRY / PARISH HALL ART

An Inner Pilgrimage of Discovery

from Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries

"What would it be like if you lived each day, each breath, as a work of art in progress? Imagine that you are a masterpiece unfolding every second of every day, a work of art taking form with every breath."

— Thomas Crum

People often ask me, "How do you get your ideas?" or "How do you decide what interpretation you will follow in a piece of music?" and many more questions similar to these. For anyone in the creative arts, it is a journey — an inner pilgrimage of discovery, patience, intention, gestation and birthing — sometimes clear in its direction but more often than not, frustrating and vague until sudden clarity occurs. As all of life seems to be a creative journey, not just the articulated fine arts professions, I thought you might enjoy some of the following insights from various artists.

*"I rarely arrive at an idea by consciously sitting down at a desk and trying to figure out what I want to do. Once I start thinking about a project, though, it doesn't leave my focus until I have come up with an idea. I cannot force a design; I do not see this process as being under my conscious control. It is a process of percolation, with the form eventually finding its way to the surface." — Maya Lin, designer of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (from *Boundaries*)*

*"The spiritual journey is a creative journey. It's about birth. It calls us past the boundaries of convention. It tests our willingness to see life in a new way and our courage to express it: for new ways of viewing life in the face of what is commonly accepted. We become new, and in this ongoing birthing, we bring new forms to life as well. Life itself has become a creative act, full of vitality and richness and passion." — Clarissa Pinkola Estes (from *Women who Run with the Wolves*)*

"The sound of the sea, the curve of a horizon, wind in leaves, the cry of a bird leave manifold impressions in us. And suddenly, without our wishing it at all, one of these memories spills from us and finds expression in musical language... I want to sing my interior landscape with the simple artlessness of a child." — Claude Debussy, composer

*"Or you could be the one who takes the long way home
Roll down your window, turn off your phone
See your life as a gift from the great unknown
And your task is to receive it
Tell your kid a story, hold your lover tight
Make a joyful noise, swim naked at night
Read a poem a day, call in well sometimes and
Laugh when they believe it"*
— Mary Chapin Carpenter (from her song *The Long Way Home*)

November

Parish Hall Artists

Artability

People Incorporated hosts the Artability at APOLLO art show each October to celebrate artists who use creativity in their journey towards mental health. Free art and writing workshops for adults with mental illness take place at People Incorporated's APOLLO Resource Center from May through September. The art displayed in this exhibit is a sampling of art that can be found at the Artability show.

Artability is vital to the work of People Incorporated in helping individuals living with mental illness strive to achieve their goals for living independent and enriched lives. Artability is a source of inspiration and pride for the area's mental health community, as it encourages artists to explore their interests, share their love of art, and gain confidence in their skills.

People Incorporated, a nonprofit organization founded in 1969, promotes and secures independence for people with mental illnesses and other brain disorders. People Incorporated serves over 5,800 people each year. We work in a variety of ways, including providing short-term help to those in crisis, longer-term help for those living with serious and persistent mental illness, and a variety of services related to independent living skills. The underlying goal is to ensure that those with mental illness and related disabilities receive the care they need and deserve.

Save the date!

Saturday, December 12 • 5:00–8:30 p.m.

Musical Holiday Potluck, Carol Sing and Choir Concert

Potluck at 5:15, Carol Sing at 6:15, Choir Concert at 7:00, Holiday Buffet at 7:45!

www.unityunitarian.org
unity@unityunitarian.org

OFFERING RECIPIENTS / GROUP MEETINGS

November Offering Recipients

November 1: Scholars of Minnesota—COPE Project

Scholars of Minnesota—COPE (Creating Opportunities for Post-Secondary Enrollment) is a St. Paul community outreach working to promote student success. In 2008, Scholars of Minnesota awarded 50 scholarships totaling nearly \$30,000 to low income high school students in recognition of superior GPA, volunteer commitment and perfect attendance at ACT/SAT mentoring classes. Scholarships were also awarded for college tours and books and supplies for post-secondary education. This year 134 students and their families are participating in college preparatory activities. One hundred percent of all money collected goes to student awards. Volunteers handle all administrative work. Unity member Dick Buggs nominates this non-profit in memory of Unity Church member Juanita Squire, a former teacher at St. Paul Central High School.

November 8: Minnesota Assistance Council for Vets (MACV)

MACV is a non-profit dedicated to helping Minnesota veterans by providing assistance to positively motivated veterans and their families who are homeless or experiencing another life crisis. These programs support all veterans towards self-sufficiency in key areas of housing, employment and civil legal services. MACV addresses the gaps in services that the Veterans Association and other government agencies are unable to cover. Veteran John Blackstone is a supporter of MACV.

November 15: Artability

Artability is an annual community arts project of the APOLLO Resource Center, a People Incorporated Community Support Program for people recovering from mental illness. Artability provides an opportunity for artists with mental illness to learn about, create, exhibit and sell their art in a comfortable, safe, and accepting environment. During a seven-month period, over 50 artists receive free workshop instruction from experienced artists and then exhibit their work for the public in a juried art show and sale. People Inc. was founded in 1969 to provide help and support for an underserved population of men and women living in halfway house and shelters in the Twin Cities. It is recognized throughout the state by the mental health community for its "first" in the delivery of state-of-the-art, one-of-a-kind, mental health services. Unity Church member Elias LaVelle nominated Artability.

November 22: Partner Church Ministry Team

The intent of the Partner Church Ministry Team is to develop a mutually rewarding relationship between the Unity Church community and that of our sister church in Homorodszentpeter, Transylvania, in Romania. The offering will support village projects which in the past have included: heating the elementary school; cleaning, painting, and furnishing the health clinic; building parts of the parsonage; and roofing the church.

November 29: Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf and Clothing Closet

The goal of this program is to assist families in achieving self-sufficiency and self-empowerment and thereby reducing their dependency on the food shelf and other services for their health and well-being. The Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf and Clothing Closet operates out of the branch service centers of Hallie Q. Brown Community Center at Skyline Towers and 100 N. Oxford St. where a broad range of emergency, referral and other support services are offered. The Food Shelf operates from a Client Choice model and the Clothing Closet provides free clothing and small household items for families. The Hallie Q. Brown Community Center has served the Summit University area of St. Paul since 1929.

November Group Meetings

All are invited to attend the following groups. For more information, contact the Church Office or the persons listed with each group.

Men's Retirement Group

Monday, November 9 and 23
1:00-3:00 p.m.

Contact: Phil Morton, 952-934-3578

Unity Divorce/Transitions Group

Meets Saturdays • 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Contact: Leon Dunkley at the Church Office

Unity Singles Group

Watch *This Week at Unity* for events.

Contact: Bonnie Reiland at bonniereiland@aol.com or Rick Ahern at hern44@hotmail.com

A New Look at the Bible

First Thursday of the month • 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Paul Gade, 651-771-7528

Afterthoughts

Every Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. service

Contact: Paul Gade, 651-771-7528

Unitots!

A group for families with kids through preschool age

Every Friday • 9:30 a.m.

Contact: Michelle Hill

Grandparent Unitots!

A group for grandparents and their grandkids

Every Monday • 9:30 a.m.

Contact: Sue Conner, 651-646-6667

Unity Bridge Club

First Friday of the month • 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Mary Barrett, 651-225-9708

Evergreen Quilt Group

Contact: Michelle Hill at 651-264-0884

Unity Book Club

Tuesday, November 10 • 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Leon Dunkley at the Church Office

Networking Group

Every Monday • 9:30 a.m.

Contact: Wendy Frieze at wendyfrieze@mac.com



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Unity Church Men's Retreat November 7-8, 2009 • Camp St. Croix

Saddle up, brothers! It is time, once again for the Unity Men's Retreat—November 7-8. Register today! The registration link at www.unityunitarian.org is up and running!

There will be a full slate of excellent workshops featuring Bill Doherty, LeBrent Speed, Leon Dunkley, John Hubbling and more. The retreat at Camp St. Croix is only 25 minutes away! Join us for an powerful experience! Get your flyer from a Men's Group representative in the Parish Hall on Sundays or contact Leon Dunkley at the Church Office.

Unity Church Annual Meeting

Unity Church will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary following a pancake breakfast (beginning at 8:30 a.m.) hosted by the Board of Trustees. At this meeting, the Board will report to the congregation, present the budget for 2010, and elect three new trustees.

Please join us — first for pancakes and then for some time to reflect on the work of the church! **All are welcome.**



Inside this issue of *commUNITY*:

Worship Calendar	page 3
Wellspring Wednesday	page 6
Jolly Holly Auction.....	page 8
Black Friday at Church.....	page 9
Partner Church News	page 10
Welcome New Members...	page 13
Offering Recipients.....	page 15