

# This Week at Unity Church

February 10–16, 2013

**Welcome visitors!** After the service today, please stop by the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall to introduce yourself and learn more about Unity Church.

## Today: Put Yourself on the Map!

Come see how Unity's Rides Ministry will work! After today's services, Ministerial Intern Jim Foti will be demonstrating the new electronic ride-matching map and answering questions. Look for Jim and the flatscreen monitor in the Main Lobby near the Parish Hall doors, and consider putting yourself on the map as an occasional or regular ride provider or recipient. Together, we can help more members of our church community attend our excellent worship!

## Gifts for your Valentine • Shop today!

Looking for something special for your Valentine? Find it at the Evergreen Quilters' tables today in the Parish Hall after the morning services! Items available for purchase include little purses, jewelry, ornaments, notebooks, aprons, and more. All items are made by Unity's Evergreen Quilters and one hundred percent of the cost of your purchase helps local organizations including Sharing Korner Food Shelf, the Family Place, and Jeremiah House.

## Bring your PENNIES! Bring your PENCILS!

Join us in our efforts to supply rural Bolivian schools with supplies and materials! Today, we start our Penny Challenge contest among the three service times. Put pennies in your "own" service's jar (9:00, 11:00 or 4:30) to rack up positive points and put silver coins in the "other" jars as negative points in your opponent's tallies. While there is a prize for the winning service, the competition is all in good fun and all for a great cause. Also, please donate gently used or surplus school supplies (see February's *commUNITY* newsletter for details). We'll collect them in the Lower Level Lobby and send them with our Unity team when they head to Bolivia in June.

## Donuts, Monkeys, Sprinkles, and a Scarf

**The 24th Annual Unity Church Children's Musical**  
**Thursday, February 28, and Friday, March 1, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 2, at 5:00 p.m.**

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children or \$20 for families. Tickets are being sold in the Parish Hall after services and at the door on the night of the performance.

## A Valentine's Day Rally

**Thursday, February 14 • 3:00–4:30 p.m. • Minnesota State Capitol**  
Please sign up at the "Freedom to Marry" table in the Parish Hall today to attend the rally or register at [www.outfront.org](http://www.outfront.org).

## The Winter Warm-Up Drive

The Unity Church Restorative Justice (RJ) Outreach ministry team is conducting a winter warm-up drive for its community partner, Amicus, an organization that assists ex-offenders in need. The items needed are: new gloves, hats, scarves, and socks; hand and foot warmers; hygiene items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, and shaving cream; and bus passes or the cash to buy them. These donations mean a lot to men and women released from prison who face challenges in applying for jobs or an apartment without transportation or personal grooming articles. Donations may be left in Pat Haff's office at the church.

## Now Accepting Book Sale Donations!

Donate used books to Unity's High School Youth Book Sale (April 13-14). Drop books (in boxes/sturdy bags) in the Religious Education office.

## Reclaiming the Spiritual Practices of our Unitarian Ancestors

**Saturday, February 16 • 9:00-1:00 p.m. • Unity Church**

In this workshop, led by the Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies, senior minister of All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C., we will reclaim the rich spiritual legacy of our Unitarian ancestors—people such as Emerson, Thoreau and Channing—learning and practicing a wide array of spiritual disciplines that sustained them and can sustain us, too. This workshop will offer many practices for enhancing your own spiritual life. Contact Christy Randall at 651-228-1456 x127 or [christy@unityunitarian.org](mailto:christy@unityunitarian.org) to request childcare.

## Elders Group Gathering

**Tuesday, February 19 • 1:00-2:30 p.m. • Topic: Keep On Moving**

Everyone is welcome at Unity's monthly Elders gatherings! This month we're going to talk about an issue that affects everyone: transportation. How can we maintain our ability to drive for as long as possible, and safely? When it comes time to stop driving, how can we remain mobile and avoid isolation in our car-centered culture? The gathering will include time for visiting with friends and refreshments will be served. For more information or to offer or inquire about receiving a ride to this event, contact Ministerial Intern Jim Foti at 651-228-1456 x109 or [jim@unityunitarian.org](mailto:jim@unityunitarian.org).

## Black History Month: Congregation Read

Read *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander and then join one of these discussions held at Unity Church: Sunday, February 24, at 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday, February 27, at 7:10 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the Bookstall.

## Unity Book Club

**Tuesday, February 12 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

The Book Club will be discussing *A Different Mirror* by Ronald Takaki. All are welcome — even if you haven't read the book!

## This Week in Religious Education

**TODAY IS A STORY SUNDAY.** Children in grades 1-6 start in the Sanctuary with their families before heading to Sunday School.

**In Spirit Play:** Today's story is the Parable of the Good Samaritan. We ask ourselves, "Who is our neighbor? How do we love our neighbor as ourselves?"

**In Workshop Rotation:** We're launching our 5-Sunday unit on our special friendship with the people of Bolivia's highland villages. Partnering with Mano a Mano, we'll learn about schoolchildren in the Altiplano and we'll be working to collect funds and supplies to send with our team of teachers this June.

## In Junior High R.E.:

- "Jesus and His Kingdom of Equals" – loving our enemies and turning the other cheek
- "Sacred Threads" – the broad scope of yoga practice
- "What Do You Stand For?" – justice

**No COA this afternoon** — thanks everyone for a great retreat!

**In Tower Club:** Join your high school friends for a candlelit labyrinth walk! Tower Club (grades 10-12) meets in the Center Room at 6:00 p.m. and concludes at 8:00 p.m.

## This Week at Unity Church

### Sunday, February 10

Children's Choir	10:00 a.m., Foote Room
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Choir Room
Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Board Subteam	1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Children's Musical Rehearsal	1:30 p.m., Foote Room
SUPC Board Retreat	2:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Open Page Writing Session	2:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Tower Club	6:00 p.m., Foote Room

### Monday, February 11

Lucille Carlson Memorial Service	11:00 a.m., Ames Chapel
Memorial Reception	Noon, Parish Hall
Wellspring Group	12:30 p.m., Center Room
Men's Retirement Group	1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Affordable Housing Ministry Team	5:30 p.m., Gannett Room

### Tuesday, February 12

Sangha Meditation Group	5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Finding Yourself at Unity Class	6:30 p.m., Center Room
Unity Book Club	6:30 p.m., Gannett Room
Spirit in Practice Class	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Children's Musical Rehearsal	7:00 p.m., Parish Hall
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room

### Wednesday, February 13

Wellspring Wednesday	6:00 p.m., see box below
Our Whole Lives	7:00 p.m., OWL/COA Room
Welcome to Unity Class	7:15 p.m., Center Room

### Thursday, February 14

Spirit in Practice Class	1:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Children's Musical Rehearsal	7:00 p.m., Foote Room
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

### Saturday, February 16

Spiritual Practices with Rev. Hardies	9:00 a.m., Parish Hall
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### Wellspring Wednesday, February 13

6:00 p.m. Dinner: Taco night!

\$7/adult, \$4/child ages 5 to 12, \$2/child ages 2 to 4, and \$20/family, and can be paid by cash or check.

**6:45 p.m. Worship service** in the Ames Chapel.

**7:10 p.m. Programs and Childcare**

**Walking Together in Love:** Our congregational life is shaped by the Cambridge Platform of 1648. Rob Eller-Isaacs will offer a brief lecture on the Platform and its lesson for today. A panel of ministers will respond and there will be ample time for conversation.

**Open Writing Page Session on the Theme of Prayer:** "There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground," the poet Rumi eloquently reminded us long ago. This session explores the many prayerful possibilities in our own daily lives, including the prayer of deep listening. Free; Registration is requested to karen@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x128.

**Welcome to Unity:** If you have been visiting Unity Church and would like to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, we invite you to join us.

**P90X Workout:** A 60 minute P90X workout. Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, towel and some energy!

## Upcoming Worship Service: February 17

9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 4:30 p.m.

### Praying with Waldo — Rev. Dr. Rob Hardies

We often think of Ralph Waldo Emerson as a philosopher or essayist, but he was also a spiritual teacher, who advised us to "pray without ceasing." What can Emerson and his contemporaries teach us about our own spiritual lives? Next week's music: songs from journals of life and self evaluation. Soloists: Teresa Tierney and KrisAnne Weiss.

The Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies is senior minister of All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, D.C., where he recently helped lead the struggle for marriage equality in our nation's capital. In 2010, Rev. Hardies completed his doctoral work on the spiritual disciplines of 19th century Unitarians and Transcendentalists.

### Our Ministry of Generosity

Each Sunday, thirty percent of the offering goes to support the Community Outreach Ministry at Unity Church and seventy percent is given to the chosen community non-profit recipient. **Please make checks payable to Unity Church.**

On January 20 Unity Church collected \$2,202.80 in the Sunday offering. Will's Educational Opportunity Fund will receive \$1,541.96. On February 3 Unity Church collected \$2,749.75 in the Sunday offering. The Saint Paul Area Council of Churches Department of Indian Work will receive a donation of \$1,924.83. Information about today's offering recipient, One Voice Mixed Chorus, can be found in the Order of Service. The offering recipient on February 17 is the Bridging Inc. "Dresser Challenge."

### Rainbow Chalice Alliance (RCA) Pi Day Pie Fundraiser!

The RCA, Unity's community outreach team dedicated to actively supporting LGBTQ youth, is raising funds by selling homemade pies! Can you imagine a happier way to support our community's commitment to affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all people and to practicing radical hospitality than purchasing (and eating) a lovingly homemade berry, apple, or chocolate pie? Order one **today** (only 50 pies are available!) and pick up your pie on Wednesday, March 13, for eating on Thursday, March 14 (3/14, otherwise known as Pi Day). Pies are \$25 each and we will take orders through February 24 (or until 50 have been ordered) at the RCA table in the Parish Hall after morning services!

### Adult Religious Development: *Spirit in Practice*

Hallman Ministerial Intern Mae Gibson Wall will lead a five-week class for adults on developing spiritual practices. Together, we will explore mind, body, soul, life, and justice practices, as well as spiritual partnerships. The class will be offered Thursday mornings (February 21, 28, and March 7, 14, 21) from 10:00 a.m.-noon. If you would like to register or reserve childcare for the class contact Mae at [mae@unityunitarian.org](mailto:mae@unityunitarian.org) or 651-228-1456 x129.

### Adult Spiritual Development: *World Religions in Practice*

Join Unity's ministerial interns, Mae Gibson Wall and Jim Foti, for a practice-based class in world religions. Together, we will explore Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, all through the lens of religious ritual and discipline. The class will be offered on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. from March 12 through April 23. To register (and to request childcare), email Jim at [jim@unityunitarian.org](mailto:jim@unityunitarian.org) or call 651-228-1456 x129.

### Libraries and Bookstall are open!

The libraries and bookstall are open with a wide selection of books for adults and children.