

This Week at Unity Church

January 7-13, 2018

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.

Help Map Unity's Future

Mapping Our Future, Unity's Ends renewal process, begins this month! In small groups you will share your stories about Unity Church and your wishes for its future, and imagine the difference Unity Church could make in people's lives if the group's most desired wishes came true. The information gathered during these sessions will clarify the core values, mission, and goals of Unity Church through 2023 and beyond. This sacred work will provide guidance to the ministers, the Board of Trustees, and all those who call Unity Church their spiritual home.



No matter how long you have been part of this community, no matter how you have been involved, we need your voice in this process. Using the online form at www.unityunitarian.org/mission-and-ends.html, please sign up to help map our future. Gatherings have been scheduled during the day, in the evening, and on weekends to help enable everyone to participate. In addition, food, beverages, and child care will be provided for participants.

Seeing All As God's Children

Today! • 1:00-2:00 p.m. • Basilica of St. Mary

Join ISIAAH for an interfaith service embracing immigrants and refugees. Celebrate a year of sanctuary, hear immigrants share their personal experiences, and learn about supportive action you can take in the 2018 Minnesota Legislative Session.

Become an ISIAAH Delegate

Training: Tuesday, January 9 • 6:00-8:30 p.m. • Center Room

Join ISIAAH in creating "Our Minnesota Future" and supporting our immigrant community members by becoming an ISIAAH delegate. A delegate represents ISIAAH's faith-based agenda at the precinct caucus of either party on February 6 (and potentially continues up to the state convention). Questions? Contact Ray Hommeyer at ray@unityunitarian.org.

Join Unity's Sustainable Living Team in 2018

Tuesday, January 9 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • DeCramer Room

A conversation with other UUs to learn what metro churches are doing to promote sustainable living.

Racial Justice Movie Night: *To Sleep With Anger*

Friday, January 12 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

As part of our effort to lean into the challenges and opportunities the Beloved Community invites, we offer a film especially chosen with transforming relationship in mind. Popcorn will be served and a discussion will follow. *In this layered drama, the life of a middle-class black family in Los Angeles is disrupted by the arrival of an old friend. Initially a charming reminder of their southern past, the visitor soon unleash forces of discord that bring family antagonisms to a flash point. This eccentric comedy-drama is a truly folkloric film. Burnett and his cast tap depths of mystery, soulfulness, and glee.*

UU Families Potluck and Game Night

Saturday, January 13 • 5:30-8:30 p.m. • Parish Hall

This is an all ages event. Bring a favorite game and a dish to share. Sign up for a potluck dish online at <http://bit.ly/potluckgames>. *UU Families Initiative provides opportunities to have fun together while building community through a shared desire to raise children with a connection to Unity Church and Unitarian Universalism.*

Become a Friend of Obama School

We are halfway to the goal of having 75 Unity families sign up for Friends of Obama School! 39 more families are needed to launch this new initiative. At Obama School there are at least 75 families where children may miss a meal when school is out for the weekend or on break. Unity's Obama Support Team is working in partnership with the school and has established a goal of finding 75 families who will contribute \$100 now, and pledge to contribute \$100 for each of the next two years, to help Obama families bridge this gap. To participate, you can write a check to Unity Church for \$100 with FOOS (Friend of Obama School) in the memo line. You may also charge your contribution online at our secure payment page: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=1aad6>. Enter your payment in the "Other Payment" field and write FOOS in the "Comment" box. Your contribution is tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

This Week in Religious Education

R.E. Teacher Orientation for those teaching second semester is January 13 and 17. Volunteer teachers, who have not already attended the fall orientation, are asked to attend one of January's sessions. RSVP at www.unityunitarian.org/teacher-trainings.html.

Second semester begins January 21, mostly affecting start of Junior High classes and new Rotation Journey Guides.

Monthly Religious Education Orientation for new families, and anyone interested in learning more about Religious Education, is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Childcare provided.

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): Children in Spirit Play today hear the story of Promises that help children learn about UU Principles and their wisdom for our lives. What are the seven UU Principles? Which ones do you like best? Which ones are most important? How can we live them out in the world? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

Rotations (grades 1-6): Students continue their journey as a community of faith, exploring the new theme "The Sacred Within." Please take a moment to thank your child's first semester Journey Guide as they ready to pass the baton on January 21.

Junior High (grades 6-8): Today is the final class and concluding celebration for first semester classes. Next Sunday (January 14), Junior High youth will be in Sanctuary worship for MLK Story Sunday. Then second semester courses start January 21.

Tweens (grades 5-7): Tween meetings resume January 10.

Our Whole Lives continues Wednesday, January 10, with focus on "relationship skills." OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9.

Coming of Age resumes today with an introduction to the new unit, "Striving for Beloved Community." COA is a signature spiritual growth program typically for 9th graders.

Tower Club: Senior high youth meet tonight to practice leaning into relationships, toward becoming more competent and critical practitioners of sacred community. Tower Club is a gathering place for 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith. Lots of fun and food, typically Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:15 p.m.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, January 7

Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Foote Room
Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Finding Yourself At Unity	10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel
LGBTQ+ Group	12:30 p.m., Center Room
Above Every Name Worship Service	1:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Tower Club	6:00 p.m., Center Room
Finding Yourself at Unity	6:00 p.m., Ames Chapel

Monday, January 8

Men's Retirement Group	1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room

Tuesday, January 9

Sangha Meditation Group	5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Faith Delegate Training with ISAIAH	6:00 p.m., Center Room
Sustainable Living Team	7:00 p.m., DeCramer Room
Unity Book Club	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Evergreen Quilters	7:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room

Wednesday, January 10

Wellspring Wednesday	See box below
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Thursday, January 11

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years	1:00 p.m., Center Room
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Friday, January 12

Racial Justice Movie Night	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
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Saturday, January 13

Board of Trustees	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
R.E. Teacher Orientation	10:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Kung Fu	10:00 a.m., Body Room
UU Families Potluck and Game Night	5:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Committing to Unity: Joining Unity Church

Saturday, January 20 • 1:00-3:00 p.m. • Anderson Library

This class explores the deeper meanings and expectations of membership and shared ministry, and concludes with a ceremony as participants sign the membership book and officially join the church!

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Wellspring Wednesday, January 10

6:00 p.m. *Dinner: Tandoori-style chicken, mustard potatoes, green salad, dessert. Vegetarian and gluten free options available.*
Cost: \$7/adult, \$4/child (5-12), \$2/child (2-4), \$20/family

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

7:10 p.m. Programs and Childcare

The World Is My Country

The World is My Country is the true story of song and dance man Garry Davis who went on a courageous mission to save the earth.

Spiritual Practices: Defining Spiritual Practice

Spiritual Practices is a 12-session course that offers participants the opportunity to develop regular practices of the spirit, helping them connect with the sacred.

Religious Education New Family Orientation

Embodied Spiritual Practice: Yoga

Above Every Name Soul Session: A Journey Through Scripture Learn and Play Go

Tween Group: Grades 5-7

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Sunday, January 14 • What Courage Means Today

Thrust by circumstance, history, and proximity onto the world stage, Martin Luther King, Jr., rose to the occasion. His courage is legendary. Come honor his memory by re-consecrating ourselves to the work for which he gave his life. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Bob Peskin will be joined by Rev. K. P. Hong who will offer a Story for All Ages. Musicians: Women's Ensemble (9:00/11:00) and Unity Choir (4:30). *This is a Story Sunday, with children in grades 1-8 beginning in worship in the Sanctuary.*

Our Ministry of Generosity

Each Sunday, thirty percent of the offering goes to support the operating budget at Unity Church and seventy percent is given to a chosen community non-profit recipient. Please make checks payable to Unity Church. On December 31, \$980 was collected during the offering. Discapitados abriendo caminos will receive a donation of \$686. Today's offering recipient, the Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program, is available in your order of service. On January 14 the offering recipient is Protect Minnesota.

Chalice Circles: Small Group Ministry

Chalice Circles are small groups of participants who come together with a trained leader, once a month, to nurture spiritual growth in community. Participants receive a packet of materials based upon the month's worship theme and choose one spiritual exercise and a deep question to sit with for the course of the month. At the end of the month, participants gather with their small group to share experiences. To sign up, email andrea@unityunitarian.org and indicate when you are generally available (e.g., weekday afternoon, mornings, Saturday morning, Sunday afternoon, or a weeknight).

Annual MLK Holiday Breakfast

Monday, January 15 • 7:00-9:30 a.m.

Join Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul in a celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sign up for a breakfast at one of nine neighborhood locations, featuring a live broadcast of the General Mills/UNCF event and local programming. Details at <http://interfaithaction.org/mlk>.

Unity Church Women's Retreat

Living Courageously: Mind, Heart, Body, and Soul

Saturday, January 27 • Unity Church

Stop by the Parish Hall today to get more details or sign up online at www.unityunitarian.org.

Unity Church Men's Retreat

Building Heart Connections

Saturday, February 17 • Unity Church

Registration coming soon!

January Parish Hall Artist: Joe Schur

From the artist: *The images and colors in this series of work are reminiscent of one of my earliest memories. As a child of about two years, I recall lying on my back on my parent's bed, looking at the filtered sun entering the room through a draped window. My image making in this series includes using drawing, pastel, and collage on printed digital photographs. The resulting images reflect experiences with deep roots in my mind and memory.*

Art Team Seeks New Members

The Unity Church Art Team enjoys working to bring the fine art of a variety of local artists to the Parish Hall each month. The team is also responsible for curating the art on display throughout the church building. If you would like to join in that effort, please email Paul Rogne, Art Team Chairperson, at artteam@unityunitarian.org.