

# This Week at Unity Church

January 14-20, 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, is underway! In small groups participants will share stories about Unity Church and their 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. **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.** To sign up, please stop by the Parish Hall today or use the online form at [www.unityunitarian.org/mission-and-ends.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/mission-and-ends.html).



## Finding Yourself at Unity • Pastoral Care

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sunday mornings, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the Ames Chapel. Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously through the year. Drop in any time and pick up classes you miss in future rounds of the series. Childcare is available in the nursery.

## Friends of Obama School • Only 22 families still needed!

**Only 22 more families are needed to launch this 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, or charge your contribution online at: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=1aadb6>. Enter your payment in the "Other Payment" field and write FOOS in the "Comment" box. Your contribution is tax deductible.

## One Voice Mixed Chorus presents Sanctuary

**Friday, January 19 • 7:30 p.m. • Ordway Concert Hall**

**Sunday, January 21 • 3:30 p.m. • Ordway Concert Hall**

**Tickets:** <http://bit.ly/sanctuary2018> • Save \$5 online or by phone for both performances with the code: SANCTUARY

*Sanctuary* explores the music of immigrant cultures to Minnesota from early Scandinavian immigrants, to African Americans arriving through the Underground Railroad, and more recent music of Hmong, Mexican, and Somali communities.

## 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!

## Sustainable Living Team

**Sunday, January 21 • 10:15 a.m. • Crothers Room**

Join the team as they plan for spring programming. Questions? Contact Anna Newton at [asnewton3@gmail.com](mailto:asnewton3@gmail.com).

## Chalice Circles: Small Group Ministry

Chalice Circle participants receive a packet of materials based on the monthly 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. For more information or to sign up, email [andrea@unityunitarian.org](mailto:andrea@unityunitarian.org).

## Unity Church Women's Retreat

**Living Courageously: Mind, Heart, Body, and Soul**

**Saturday, January 27 • Unity Church**

Recognizing that gender is not binary, this retreat is open to all individuals who self-identify as female. Visit the Parish Hall today to get more details or sign up online at [www.unityunitarian.org](http://www.unityunitarian.org).

## Unity Church Men's Retreat

**Building Heart Connections • Saturday, February 17 • Unity Church**

This retreat is open to all individuals who identify as male. Visit the Parish Hall today to get more details or sign up online at [www.unityunitarian.org](http://www.unityunitarian.org).

## Mentoring at Unity: A Path to Deeper Connection

Unity Church has a mentor program, which is available to all visitors and new members. If you are interested in learning more or would like to request a mentor, please stop by the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall or email Rev. Lisa Friedman at [lisa@unityunitarian.org](mailto:lisa@unityunitarian.org).

## This Week in Religious Education

Today is Story Sunday with grade school Rotations children and junior high youth in the Sanctuary for worship. Rotations children will be blessed out after the Story for All Ages, while junior high youth remain for the full service as part of their growing practice of worship. Spirit Play children should go directly to their classrooms.

**R.E. Teacher Orientation** for those teaching second semester is January 17. Volunteer teachers, who have not already attended the fall orientation, are asked to attend orientation. RSVP at [www.unityunitarian.org/teacher-trainings.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/teacher-trainings.html).

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

**Spirit Play (ages 3-6):** Children in Spirit Play hear the story of Theodore Parker, a remarkable and influential Unitarian minister who followed his voice of conscience amid many competing voices. What is a conscience? How can we tell if it's the voice of conscience speaking? What does it say?

**Rotations (grades 1-6):** Children begin in worship for Story Sunday; then in classrooms downstairs they continue their faith journey exploring the theme "The Sacred Within."

**Junior High (grades 6-8):** On Story Sundays youth are in the Sanctuary for worship in place of regular classes as part of their growing practice of worship at the center of congregational life.

**Tweens (grades 5-7):** Tweens meet January 17, building relationships and community.

**Our Whole Lives** meets Wednesday, January 17, with movie night for youth, and a parents' meeting. OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9.

**Coming of Age** meets today from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis for the annual COA dedication service with partner congregations. COA is a signature spiritual growth program typically for 9th graders.

**Tower Club:** Senior high youth meet tonight with ongoing focus on becoming more competent and critical practitioners of sacred community; and joined by visiting college students who will help reflect on community.

## This Week at Unity Church

### Sunday, January 14

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
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

### Monday, January 15

Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room
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### Tuesday, January 16

Elders Circle	1:00 p.m., Center Room
Living with Grief Group	7:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room

### Wednesday, January 17

Wellspring Wednesday	See box below
Ends Renewal Session	6:30 p.m., Center Room
R.E. Teacher Orientation	7:15 p.m., Lower Level

### Thursday, January 18

Pastoral Care Team	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Caregivers Support Group	Noon, Anderson Library
Ends Renewal Session	5:00 p.m., Center Room
Racial and Restorative Justice Team	6:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Textile Arts Group	7:00 p.m., Crothers Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

### Saturday, January 20

Ends Renewal Session	9:00 a.m., Center Room
Parish Hall Artist Reception	9:30 a.m., Parish Hall
Kung Fu	10:00 a.m., Body Room
Committing to Unity	1:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Ends Renewal Session	1:00 p.m., Center Room

### Wellspring Wednesday, January 17

6:00 p.m. Dinner: Grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato soup, 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**

**Open Page Writing Session with Karen Hering**

This guided writing session explores the nature and sources of courage and its movement large and small within our lives. Sign up by email to [karen@unityunitarian.org](mailto:karen@unityunitarian.org).

**Mapping Our Future • This session runs from 6:30-9:00 p.m.**

In small groups, participants will share stories about Unity Church and imagine what's possible for its future. The information gathered during these sessions will clarify the core values, mission, and goals of Unity Church through 2023 and beyond. This sacred work provides guidance to the ministers, Board of Trustees, and all who call Unity Church their spiritual home.

**Spiritual Practices: Finding Your 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.

**Embodied Spiritual Practice: Yoga**

**Above Every Name Soul Session: A Journey Through Scripture**

**Learn and Play Go**

**Tween Group: Grades 5-7**

## Sunday, January 21 • Always Leaving Home

This year we celebrate the 450th anniversary of the beginning of European Unitarianism. Come hear the story of a prince who married well, a princess whose courage cut through centuries of religious conflict, and the earliest days of a movement we now hold in trust. We welcome the Rev. Lidia-Emese Bodor, a Transylvanian Unitarian minister, religious educator, and philosopher who is the 2017-18 Balazs Scholar at Starr King School for the Ministry. Musicians: Unity Choir (9:00/11:00) and Women's Ensemble (4:30).

## 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 January 7, \$2,384.69 was collected during the offering. The Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program will receive a donation of \$1,669.28. Today's offering recipient, Protect Minnesota, is available in your order of service. On January 21 the offering recipient is the Balazs Scholar Program at Starr King School for the Ministry.

## Winter Warm-up Drive

Unity's Racial and Restorative Justice Team is asking you to help provide the following items for clients of its community partner, Amicus. These necessities will be shared with people upon their release from correctional facilities: new and unopened hygiene items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste/brushes, lotion, deodorant, and shaving cream; new gloves, hats, scarves, and socks suitable for the job site; hand and foot warmers; bus passes or the cash to buy bus passes. Bring donations to the Racial and Restorative Justice table in the Parish Hall on Sundays.

## January Parish Hall Artist: Joe Schur

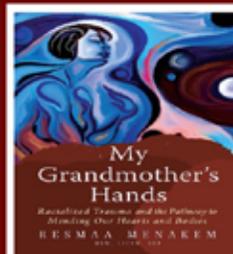
From the artist: *I work in layers using color and mark making as primary tools. A foundation or background layer is created using camera movement to capture images of objects in motion. Layered on top of this foundation are other images, often related to my personal history. The image of a "house," or more simply a triangle on top of a square, is a frequently used visual element in my work. This house symbol refers to a place of shelter, protection, and ritual.*

## 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](mailto:artteam@unityunitarian.org).

## Share your Camp Unistar story in February!

We are looking for volunteers — young, old, and everything in between — to help promote Camp Unistar to our congregation on Sundays after services during February. Tell your Unistar stories and answer questions. Interested? Contact Beth Peterson at [bethpeterson33@gmail.com](mailto:bethpeterson33@gmail.com) or 612 386-1909.



## The 2018 Unity Congregation Book Read

**My Grandmother's Hands**  
Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies

- Read: January and February
- Discuss: Feb. 28 or March 4
- Meet the Author: Spring 2018

Available in the Bookstall and Anderson Library