

This Week at Unity Church

January 15-21, 2017

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.

Finding Yourself at Unity: An Inquirers Series • Today!

Today's topic: Q & A with a Minister

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

The Gathering: Unity Church Women's Retreat

From Broken to Bold: Finding Our Voice of Resilience and Resistance

Saturday, January 28 • 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. • Unity Church

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

The Gathering is a one-day women's spiritual retreat. Join us for this opportunity to reflect on the wholeness of our lives—through worship, song, writing, conversation, and contemplation. Breakfast and lunch will be provided, as will opportunities for massage and spiritual direction. Register online at www.unityunitarian.org.

Sex, Gender, and Spirit: A Men's Retreat at Unity

Join with members and friends of Unity Church in an all-day Men's Retreat on Saturday, February 4, from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., as we explore the intersection of important issues and discover ways to live with greater integrity and meaning. This retreat is open to all individuals who self-identify as male. Register online at: <http://bit.ly/ucumensretreat>. Contact Nic Cable by email to nic@unityunitarian.org with questions or to volunteer to help.

Elders Circle

Join us for our Elders Circle on Tuesday, January 17, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the Center Room. We will be hearing from our co-ministers, Rob and Janne Eller-Isaacs, about their ministry here at Unity Church and their vision for the future. All are welcome and refreshments are provided. Questions? Contact Jessica Clay at jessica@unityunitarian.org.

Sustainable Living Team

On Tuesday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m., the Sustainable Living Team will hold its first meeting of 2017. We will be discussing a new recycling center for the church, our next community outreach project, and classes that will help interested members of the church live more sustainably at home. The more bodies, the more ideas, the greater the impact. We hope to see you there. Email Jessica Zimmerley at jzimm0813@gmail.com with questions.

Young Adult Group (ages 18-35)

The Young Adult group is growing! Join us on Tuesday, January 24, for a 6:30 p.m. potluck in the Center Room. We will have a ritual to honor the New Year and brainstorm some of the activities we'd like to see in 2017. To be added to the Young Adult email list, please contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

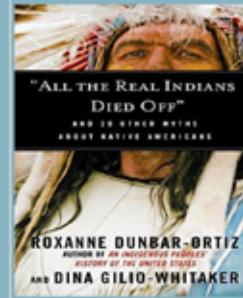
MidAmerica Regional Assembly 2017

Finding Our Partners: Faith In Action

April 28-30, 2017 • Oak Brook, Illinois

The Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Dr. Lee Barker, President and Professor of Ministry at Meadville-Lombard Theological School. If you are interested in attending the conference, please contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org. Conference details are online at www.midamericaauua.org/events/regional-assembly.

UNITY CHURCH 2017 CONGREGATION BOOK READ



"ALL THE REAL INDIANS DIED OFF": AND 20 OTHER MYTHS ABOUT NATIVE AMERICANS
By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and Dina Gilio-Whitaker (2016, Beacon)

Read in January 2017.

Discuss in February 2017:

- Sun. Feb 12, 12:30 p.m.
- Wed. Feb 22, 7:10 p.m.

Available in the Unity Bookstall and the Anderson Library.

This Week in Religious Education

Today is Story Sunday with grade school Rotations children and junior high youth in the main 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.

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): Children in Spirit Play today 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 first begin in worship in the Sanctuary for Story Sunday. Then in classrooms downstairs they continue their journey as a community of faith, exploring the theme "The Sacred Within." Please take a moment to thank your child's first semester Journey Guide!

Junior High (grades 6-8): On Story Sundays, youth are in the sanctuary for full worship in place of regular classes, as part of their growing practice of worship at the center of congregational life. Second semester classes begin January 22. Please check rosters downstairs in the Junior High area.

Tweens (grades 5-7): With many tweens involved in the Children's Musical during January and February, tween meetings will resume in early March. Watch for announcements.

Our Whole Lives is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9. Youth meet January 18 on the topic of "Bullying and Bystander Responsibility."

Coming of Age is our signature program typically for 9th graders, as they prepare to assume greater responsibility for their ongoing adult faith journey. Agers, parents, and mentors will attend a special multi-congregation Dedication service today, at 2:00 p.m., here in the sanctuary. No 4:30 class!

Tower Club: High School youth meet tonight to continue conversations on discerning and living our passions, and prep for upcoming YouthCon. 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, too, Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, January 15

Children's Choir Rehearsal
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal
Afterthoughts
Finding Yourself at Unity
Above Every Name Worship Service
Coming of Age Dedication Service
Soup Supper

10:15 a.m., Robbins Parlor
10:15 a.m., Foote Room
10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel
1:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
2:00 p.m., Sanctuary
5:45 p.m., Parish Hall

Monday, January 16

MLK Holiday, Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 17

Elders Circle
Sangha Meditation Group
Living with Grief Group
Unity Singers Rehearsal

1:00 p.m., Center Room
5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
7:00 p.m., Gannett Room
7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Wednesday, January 18

Wellspring Wednesday

See box below

Thursday, January 19

Pastoral Care Team
Caregivers Support Group
Racial and Restorative Justice Team
Unity Choir Rehearsal

9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Noon, Anderson Library
6:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Saturday, January 21

Kung Fu
Evergreen Quilters
Teachers Night Out

10:00 a.m., Body Room
10:00 a.m., Anderson Library
6:00 p.m., Children's Library

Wellspring Wednesday, January 18

6:00 p.m. Dinner: Grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato soup, and shredded brussels salad. Vegan, vegetarian, GF options available.
Cost: \$7/adult, \$4/child (age 5-12), \$2/child (age 2-4), \$20/family

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

7:10 p.m. Programs and Childcare

Standing Rock Reflection

Join ministerial intern Nic Cable for a conversation around the ongoing struggle in North Dakota regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline. Conversation will include some reflections on experiences and about ways to strengthen one's own commitment to being in solidarity with this movement.

UU History Book Club

The UU History Book Club will meet once a month (January-May) on Wellspring Wednesdays. To get us started with some common context, our first book selection will be *The Unitarian Universalist Pocket Guide* which you can buy at Unity's Bookstall. We will choose the next months' books together.

LGBTQ+ Community and Support Group

A place to come and be in community with other LGBTQ people, wherever you are in your journey. This is a place for good times and difficult times, all ages, and all identities including, but not limited to, transgender, gender non-conforming, genderqueer, bisexual, lesbian, gay, queer people. At our first meeting we will discuss what we would like this group to be, and when the best meeting time would be.

Bible Study: Old Strong Stories

Textile Arts Group

Embody Spiritual Practice: Yoga with Elen Bahr

Learn and Play Go: A Chinese Board Game

Sunday, January 22: *The Only Dance There Is*

9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 4:30 p.m.

Sometimes we resist by pushing away. Sometime we resist by gathering together in solidarity. All this pushing and pulling has a certain rhythm, a heartbeat that signals and measures a dance. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Rene Meyer-Grimberg will give us a glimpse into the world of contact improv as we embody what it might mean to move from conflict into creativity. Musicians: Laura Sewell, cello; Ruth Palmer, piano; Nathan Gebhard and Jon Dahl, dancers.

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 1, \$1,048.00 was collected in the offering. Minneapolis Crisis Nursery will receive a donation of \$733.60. On January 8, \$3353.41 was collected in the offering. Domestic Abuse Legal Advocacy Center will receive a donation of \$2347.39. Information about today's offering recipient, MAD DADS, is available in your order of worship. On January 22 the offering recipient is River's Edge Academy.

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, a time where support and care is critical to a positive community re-entry experience:

- 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

Please bring donations to the Racial and Restorative Justice table in the Parish Hall on Sundays.

Group Spiritual Direction • Groups begin in February!

Join Spiritual Director Sarah Cledwyn for small group spiritual direction, a place where we gather to be explorers of our inner lives in community; to raise our awareness, deepen connection, and direct our choices toward more love and life. Our skillful action in the world needs both outer and inner support to move us, and by extension all of us, into greater lives of integrity, service, and joy. Groups begin the third week in February and meet every other week through May. Cost and registration can be found online at <http://bit.ly/ucugroupsd>. Contact Sarah with any questions at sarahcledwyn@gmail.com or 651-699-9948.

Spiritual Practices Retreat

Saturday, February 11 • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. • Unity Church

Come explore various spiritual practices in a contemplative atmosphere with Spiritual Director Sarah Cledwyn. We will gather together to learn about and experience the practices of labyrinth walking, journaling, creative arts (including collage), and more. We will reconvene at the end of our time to witness and share our experiences. This cost of the retreat is \$25 and scholarships are available. RSVP to Sarah at sarahcledwyn@gmail.com or at 651-699-9948. To request free child care, please contact Michelle Hill at michelle@unityunitarian.org, one week in advance.

Flowers for Worship

If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday worship, contact Martha Tilton at 651-228-1456 x105 or martha@unityunitarian.org.