

# This Week at Unity Church

March 19–25, 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!**

### **Topic: Membership 101 and Congregational Life**

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 at any time and pick up classes you miss in future rounds of the series. Childcare is available in the nursery.

## **LGBTQ+ Community and Support Group • Today!**

A place for you to come and be in community with other LGBTQ people, wherever you are in your journey. This is an intergenerational place where people of all ages and identities are welcome; including but not limited to transgender, gender non-conforming, genderqueer, bisexual, lesbian, gay, and queer people. The group meets today, at 6:30 p.m., in the Robbins Parlor. Questions? Contact Jamie Bosc at [bosc.jamie@gmail.com](mailto:bosc.jamie@gmail.com).

## **Elders Circle**

Please join us for our Elders Circle on Tuesday, March 21, at 1:00 p.m., in the Center Room. The focus of our gathering will be on Unity's permanent art collection. We'll view some of the collection and learn not only intriguing history, but also the politics of hanging art. Discussion leaders Paul Rogne and Marty Rossmann, both Unity Art Team members, will help us to think about the role of art at Unity Church. Questions? Contact Jessica Clay at [jessica@unityunitarian.org](mailto:jessica@unityunitarian.org).

## **A Good Time for the Truth**

### **Reading, Writing and Talking about Race**

**Wednesdays • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • March 22, 29, April 5  
Center Room at Unity Church**

*A Good Time for the Truth* presents sixteen of Minnesota's best writers, exploring and exposing their lived realities as people of color. Their essays will deepen readers' understanding of race and inspire participants' reflection and writing on their own experiences of race and whiteness.

**March 22:** Book discussion facilitated by Unity Church member and poet Kate Kysar

**March 29:** Reading, comments and book discussion by anthology editor and poet Sun Yung Shin

**April 5:** Guided writing session on race and whiteness led by literary minister Karen Hering

Copies of *A Good Time for the Truth* are available at the Bookstall. Email [karen@unityunitarian.org](mailto:karen@unityunitarian.org) if you plan to attend.

## **Unity's Book Sale HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED for APRIL 22-23**

We are looking for your used books, CDs, games, and software for our annual High School Book Sale. Please bring good quality fiction and non-fiction books, CDs, DVDs, and games to the Foote Room now through April 21. Please no VHS tapes, reference books, mildewed books or textbooks. Come, see, and share what community members have been reading and support our high school Tower Club in this effort to raise funds for their Boston pilgrimage.

## **2017 Chalice Camp • Fun! Friends! Church!**

All kids going into first through eighth grades are invited to sign up as campers: [www.unityunitarian.org/chalice-camp.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/chalice-camp.html). Scholarships and staff applications are available by emailing [chalicecamp@unityunitarian.org](mailto:chalicecamp@unityunitarian.org).

## **Unity and Above: Deepening Our Covenant**

Unity Church and Above Every Name Ministries have been in partnership for several years. As part of living into our covenant as progressive religious communities, Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and Pastor Danny Givens, Jr., will be offering programs exploring the themes of sin, sacrament, and community. All are welcome!

### **Practicing Confession: Wednesday, March 22 • 7:15–8:30 p.m.**

An inclusive experience practicing the sometimes difficult task of confession.

### **Beloved Communion: Sunday, March 26 • 1:00–2:30 p.m.**

Above Every Name Ministries warmly welcomes members and friends of Unity Church for an inclusive Communion during their weekly worship service.

## **Young Adult Group**

The Young Adult group is growing! Join us on Tuesday, March 28, for a 6:30 p.m. potluck in the Center Room. All are welcome! Contact Nic Cable at [nic@unityunitarian.org](mailto:nic@unityunitarian.org) to be added to the email list to receive Young Adult news and announcements.

## **Call for Parish Hall Artists**

The Unity Church Art Team has opened applications for artists to exhibit in the Parish Hall gallery. The deadline for application is May 1. More information and the application form can be found at: [www.unityunitarian.org/parish-hall-artists](http://www.unityunitarian.org/parish-hall-artists).

## **This Week in Religious Education**

**Mark your calendars: Religious Education Enrollment for 2017-18** will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 7:00-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, April 22, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. These in-person sessions will orient parents about volunteer roles, provide updates and the opportunity to share in community conversation, and offer instructions for enrolling children in next year's Religious Education. Childcare provided. Watch for further information.

**Spirit Play (ages 3-6):** Children enter into the seasonal promise of life and transformation that comes with spring. How does a caterpillar transform into a butterfly? When does it know to change or come out of the chrysalis? Which changes more, a caterpillar or a child? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

**Rotations (grades 1-6):** In classrooms downstairs, youth continue their journey as a community of faith, exploring the theme "The Beloved Community."

**Junior High (grades 6-8):** Youth continue with classes today, learning together in community.

**Tweens (grades 5-7)** meet this Wednesday, March 22, at 7:15 p.m., in the Body Room.

**Our Whole Lives** meets March 22 with focus on "Sexual Decision Making." OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program for grades 8-9.

**Coming of Age** meets today at 3:30 p.m. with both youth and mentors, with youth reflecting on "Living Out Your Values."

**Tower Club:** High school youth meet tonight for "drama games" and furthering focus on living out passion. Lots of fun and food, too! Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:15 p.m.

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## This Week at Unity Church

### Sunday, March 19

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

### Tuesday, March 21

Elders Circle	1:00 p.m., Center Room
Sangha Meditation Group	5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Living with Grief Group	7:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

### Wednesday, March 22

Wellspring Wednesday	6:00 p.m., See box below
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### Thursday, March 23

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years	1:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

### Saturday, March 25

Evergreen Quilters	10:00 a.m., Lower level
Virginia Greenman Memorial Service	2:00 p.m., Sanctuary

*Still Point, a weekly opportunity for quiet reflection, was put in place in the wake of the election. We are discontinuing it at this time and encourage you to take advantage of the many other opportunities for worship, reflection, and meditation here at Unity Church.*

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### Wellspring Wednesday, March 22

**6:00 p.m.** Dinner: (Mexico) Tamales, rice and beans, guacamole. 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

**Book discussion on *A Good Time for the Truth* facilitated by Unity Church member and poet Kate Kysar (Part 1 of 3)**

Focusing on the book, *A Good Time for the Truth*, this three-part series will offer insights from the book's editor, Sun Yung Shin, facilitated discussion of the book's essays, and guided writing on our experiences of race and whiteness. *A Good Time for the Truth* presents sixteen of Minnesota's best writers, exploring and exposing their lived realities as people of color. Their essays will deepen readers' understanding of race and inspire participants' reflection and writing on their own experiences of race and whiteness.

**Practicing Confession**

During this month where we are exploring the theme of Sin, we must also practice ways of naming when we miss the mark as human beings or when we break our covenants with others. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and Pastor Danny Givens, Jr., will lead an inclusive experience where we can practice the sometimes difficult task of confession.

**Yoga Movement and Mindfulness: Svadhyaya**

Practicing Svadhyaya, self study, helps us learn to recognize our most true self. This week's practice will encourage us to separate deep truth from superficial fiction.

**Unity Ukesters:** Come jam on your ukulele. All are welcome!

**Learn and Play Go: A Chinese Board Game**

**Tween Group**

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## Sunday, March 26: *The Larger Hope*

9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 4:30 p.m.

"In order for a law to work," writes Zen beat poet Gary Snyder, "it must have a hook into the human psyche — and the most effective way to achieve this is to make people doubt their natural worth and instincts, especially sexual. To make 'human nature' suspect is also to make nature — the wilderness — the adversary. Hence the ecological crisis of today." The Universalist strand of our tradition affirms the universal salvation of all souls. We let go of the threat of sin and damnation centuries ago. Worship associate Angela Wilcox and Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs will help us understand what that radical love might mean for us today. Musicians: Women's Ensemble (9:00/11:00); Unity Choir (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 March 12, \$2,673.00 was collected in the Sunday offering. First Step Initiative will receive a donation of \$1,871.10. Information about today's offering recipient, SELF International, is available in your order of worship. On March 26 the offering recipient is the Minnesota Prison Writing Project.

## Evergreen Quilters

The quilt, "Crazy Cats," hanging in the sanctuary was made and donated by Ellen Wold. It is displayed here to honor the babies being welcomed in today's Celebration of New Lives. Evergreen Quilters make several small quilts each year as part of the group's social justice mission. After today, "Crazy Cats" will be given to a family receiving the services of The Family Place, a day shelter in St. Paul. Church families participating in today's Celebration of New Lives receive a card with a picture of the quilt.

Evergreen Quilters also sell their handmade quilted and sewn items to earn money for programs at The Family Place, the Jeremiah Program, and others that provide food and meals to homeless and hungry people in St. Paul. One hundred percent of the money raised by our group's sales, biennial silent auction, and quilt raffle is donated to these organizations.

If you'd like to participate in these activities, please consider joining Evergreen Quilters. People of all skill levels are welcome. Instruction is gladly offered. Evergreen Quilters meets at the church on the second Tuesday (7:00-9:00) and the fourth Saturday (10:00-1:00) of each month. If you would like to get on the group's e-mail list, please contact Peggy Wright at 651-698-2760.

**Open Call  
to Read, Sing, and/or Play at**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Cafe Unity**

**Poetry and Music Salon**

**April 7, 2017 ★ 7:00 pm**

**Contact us:**

**library@unityunitarian.org**

**Space is limited. Contact us ASAP.**