

This Week at Unity Church

June 26–July 2, 2016

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!

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sunday mornings during the summer, from 11:15-12:15, 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. **Today's topic: Social Justice and Community Outreach**

Take Unity Church Out to the Ball Game Don't miss out! Order your tickets today!

**Saint Paul Saints vs. Sioux City Explorers
Tuesday, July 26 • 7:05 p.m. • CHS Field**

Join other Unity Church members and friends at the beautiful St. Paul Saints CHS Field. We have pre-purchased a block of seats together at \$14 per ticket. You can reserve your tickets at the Summer Opportunities Table in Parish Hall or by contacting Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x107. RSVP by June 26. All are welcome!

Volunteer this Summer: Freedom School 2016

The Children's Defense Fund Freedom School is a learning and cultural enrichment program for children in and around the Promise Neighborhood in St. Paul. Opportunities for involvement include helping to sort books, serving as an aid to teachers, and helping connect the middle school scholars (grades 6-8) with college and career readiness opportunities. To learn more about these opportunities contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

In Equality: Reforming Minnesota's Criminal Justice System

In Equality is a newly formed community organization dedicated to informing and mobilizing people who know the criminal justice system firsthand, to call for and lead police, court, and corrections reform. Ramsey and Hennepin counties recently entered into an agreement to build a joint youth super prison ("youth residential treatment center") that will house 165 youth. Unity's Racial and Restorative Justice Outreach Team believes this project will only continue the school to prison pipeline for children of color, and has joined In Equality in its effort to get the word out about the need to rethink current policy. Visit the Racial and Restorative Justice table in the Parish Hall after worship to learn more about what you can do to get informed, and support this vital work.

Attend a Ramadan Iftar

Mosques and Islamic Community Centers will be welcoming their non-Muslim neighbors for a traditional Ramadan Iftar meal, the meal that breaks the fast. Known as *Taking Heart*, this long-running program is coordinated by the Minnesota Council of Churches and the Muslim American Society of Minnesota; it brings members of other faith communities together with Muslims for food and conversation. All events are free and open to the public. Registration is online at <http://bit.ly/mniftar2016>.

Summer Sundays Pancake Brunch

July 17 and August 21 • After the 10:00 a.m. service!

We'll have fresh pancakes after Sunday worship with made-from-scratch syrups and jams. Want to flip pancakes? Contact Madeline Summers at madeline@unityunitarian.org.

Help raise \$5,000 for YoUuTh SOALS by July 7!

YoUuTh SOALS brings together UU high schoolers to act at the intersections of faith, activism, and justice. The program is organized by the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance (MUUSJA). In 2015-16, several Unity Church youth participated. For the 2016-2017 year, YoUuTh SOALS will have a specific focus on racial justice, and will be accessible to all Minnesota UU Youth through online technology. MUUSJA is in the midst of a Faithify campaign to raise \$5,000 to make the program free and accessible to all Minnesota UU youth. Faithify uses an "all or nothing" approach, so we **MUST** meet our \$5,000 pledge goal in order to fund this program. Every donation helps us reach our goal. To read more about YoUuTh SOALS and make a contribution, visit www.faitlify.org/projects/youuthsoals/.

Returning this Fall: Beloved Conversations at Unity Church!

Beloved Conversations is a teaching and learning curriculum that assumes that every conversation with another human being is a cross-cultural conversation, even if your conversation partner is from the same cultural group. Nested inside communities of faith, Beloved Conversations creates the first step — a learning laboratory — for how to live healthily in a multiracial, multicultural, and often theologically diverse community. Save these dates and email martha@unityunitarian.org if you are interested in participating: Opening retreat: Friday and Saturday, September 23-24. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.: September 27, October 4, 11, 25, November 1, November 15. There is also a Saturday session from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: November 12. We will follow up in August with all who express interest.

This Week in Religious Education

Summer Sundays in the Garden is held during the 10:00 a.m. service and continues each week throughout summer. Great for children ages 4-12. Children meet in the outdoor garden, next to the Sanctuary. No registration is necessary but drop-in capacity will be limited by the number of adult volunteers present. Regular nursery care for younger children continues throughout summer.

R.E. Enrollment for 2016-17: If you missed spring enrollment, please enroll at either of the next two sessions: Sunday, July 17, at 11:30 a.m. or Wednesday, September 7, at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP, please email michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Coming of Age 2017 Mentors and Teachers needed. Do you like to talk, listen, and are capable of "deep thoughts?" Can you be honest and yourself around teenagers? Please consider being a teacher or mentor for COA this fall. Please contact Drew Danielson at drew@unityunitarian.org

Our Whole Lives (OWL) 2017 orientation and registration is scheduled for late summer/early fall. Families with 7-9 graders, and those who have already indicated choice in the online Religious Education enrollment, should have received communication about next steps. If not, please email Drew Danielson at drew@unityunitarian.org.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, June 26

Afterthoughts 11:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Finding Yourself at Unity 11:15 a.m., Ames Chapel

Monday, June 27

Affordable Housing Ministry Team 6:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Tuesday, June 28

Sangha Meditation Group 5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel

Outdoor Family Yoga at Unity Church

Second Sundays: July 10 and August 14

11:30 a.m. • Greenspace, weather permitting

Join us for a half-hour yoga class for people of all ages. Poses will be shown in standing and seated options. No previous yoga experience is necessary — just a desire to feel energized and enjoy the beautiful power of community. Yoga mats are optional. Led by Elen Bahr, who leads Wellspring Wednesday meditative movement classes.

Unity Book Club

The Unity Church Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 p.m. All are welcome—even if you haven't read the book. For more information, please contact Jack Hawthorne at jack.hawthorne@comcast.net. On July 12 the Book Club will be discussing *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown.

June/July Parish Hall Art Exhibit

Rebecca McPeck, the June/July Parish Hall artist says her exhibit reflects how she saw colors and placed them on the canvas as an expression of her ideas at one moment in time.

Flowers for Summer Worship

If you would like to bring flowers from your garden for a summer service, please contact Martha Tilton at 651-228-1456 x105 or martha@unityunitarian.org for available dates and details. Flowers should be in a vase and in the Sanctuary by 9:30 a.m. on the Sunday you have selected.

Thursday Morning Gardening Group

If you would like to help with the care and the maintenance of Unity's decorative gardens (not the Children's Garden), please join us this summer! The group will gather at church at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings to plant, weed, and water Unity's garden beds. Bring light gardening tools if you have them, gloves, and a water bottle. Questions? Please contact Ethel Griggs at 651-429-0064 or c.griggs@comcast.net.

CHALICE CAMP AT UNITY CHURCH

Friends Fun Crafts AS? Singing GAMES

CHALICE CAMP WEEK 1: JULY 11-15

CHALICE CAMP WEEK 2: JULY 18-22

CHALICE CAMP WEEK 3: JULY 25-29

Registration: www.unityunitarian.org/chalice-camp.html

What To Do @Your Unity Libraries

1. Check out library books.
2. Read books.
3. RETURN LIBRARY BOOKS, please.
4. Repeat.



Summer Worship: Sunday, July 3 • 10:00 a.m.

The Flitcraft Parable

In Dashiell Hammett's 1929 novel, *The Maltese Falcon*, there's a story-within-a-story called "The Flitcraft Parable" about a conventionally successful man in Tacoma, Washington, who made his own private declaration of independence. Rev. Rick Koyle and worship associate Angela Wilcox try to unravel the mystery. Musician: Joseph Caswell, piano.

July 10: *Saving Universalism*

Over a century ago, Universalism was one of the fastest growing and most fervently protested religions in America. Even today, the controversy is not dead. It remains a radical statement of faith to say that all people are saved. Why does it still matter? What saving message might we still proclaim? Join Rev. Lisa Friedman and worship associate Jen Niemela in an exploration of Universalism.

July 17: *Finding the Capacity to be Vulnerable*

What does it mean to be vulnerable? What does it take to allow oneself to be vulnerable? Join worship leader Helen Pohlig and worship associate Terry Linksey as they explore the meaning of vulnerability and the role that faith and spiritual beliefs play in making room for vulnerability in one's life.

July 24: *Life Cycle*

Birth and death are not opposites but are instead part of the natural cycle of life. And this is no more real to us than when we experience them in our lives. Worship leader Jen Niemela and worship associate Nicole Lynskey explore the lessons inherent in these most human moments in all of our lives.

July 31: *The Familiar Unfamiliar*

Join Rev. Danny Givens, Jr., and worship associate Rochelle Lockridge in exploring the narrative of social justice, intersectionality, and beloved community from an urban perspective.

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 a chosen community non-profit recipient. **Please make checks payable to Unity Church.** The June 12 and 19 offering totals will be reported in the July 3 edition of *This Week at Unity*. Information about today's offering recipient, the Obama Elementary Sunshine Fund, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on July 3 is Theresa Living Center.

Arthur Foote Music Sunday: Now online!

The music and readings from Arthur Foote Music Sunday 2016 are now available online at www.unityunitarian.org/arthur-foote-music-sunday-2016.html.

Little Mekong Night Market: July 23-24

July 23: 5:00-10:00 p.m., July 24: 5:00 p.m.- midnight

Western and University Avenues

The Little Mekong Night Market is inspired by the famous night markets held throughout Asia—with a Minnesota local twist. Plan a visit to the night market for an unforgettable experience of new sights, sounds, and flavors. There will be food vendors, farmers, handicrafts, music, exhibits, cultural performances, and kids activities. Their mission is to support local businesses and provide a venue for family fun and excitement. More information online at www.littlemekong.com.