

# This Week at Unity Church

September 18–24, 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!**

**Today's topic: Q&A with the Ministers**

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.

## **Welcome to Unity • Today! • 12:15 p.m. • Center Room**

A class for visitors and newcomers. Come learn about Unitarian Universalism and the congregation of Unity Church!

## **Elders Circle**

**Tuesday, September 20 • 1:00-2:30 p.m. • Center Room**

Come meet Hallman Ministerial Intern Jessica Clay and discuss plans and visions for our year together. All are welcome, snacks and refreshments will be provided. Questions? Contact [jessica@unityunitarian.org](mailto:jessica@unityunitarian.org) or 651-228-1456 x109.

## **Film Screening: Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War**

*A new film directed by Ken Burns & Artemis Joukowsky*

**Tuesday, September 20 • 7:00 p.m. (90 minutes) • Parish Hall**

*Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War* is an account of a daring rescue mission that occurred on the precipice of World War II. It tells the story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, a Unitarian minister and his wife from Wellesley, Massachusetts, who left their children behind in the care of their parish and boldly committed to multiple life-threatening missions in Europe. Over two dangerous years they helped to save hundreds of political dissidents and Jewish refugees. Childcare is available by contacting Michelle Hill at [michelle@unityunitarian.org](mailto:michelle@unityunitarian.org) by Monday, September 19.

## **Group Spiritual Direction**

We see so much in our world that needs transformation. The kind of change we seek requires our action, but equally requires the difficult work of transforming our own hearts and becoming that change that we want projected and reflected in the world. Join Spiritual Director Sarah Cledwyn for small group spiritual direction, a place where we gather to be explorers of our inner lives in order to raise our awareness and direct our choices toward more love and life. Our activism needs both outer and inner support to move us, and by extension all of us, into greater lives of integrity, service, and joy. Dates, cost, and registration can be found online at <http://www.unityunitarian.org/spiritual-direction.html>. Questions? Contact Sarah at [sarahcledwyn@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcledwyn@gmail.com) or 651-699-9948.

## **Beyond Sustainability: A Journey to Learn**

Mano a Mano International Partners (a Unity Church community partner) invites you to join a unique journey to Bolivia to visit the training center where they teach earth-friendly agricultural practices that lead to healthier communities. Be immersed in the daily lives of subsistence farm families and witness their determination to create a better life for their children as they expand on their original Mano a Mano projects — a water reservoir, a medical center, a road — all on their own. To learn more about the trip, attend one of the information sessions held in the DeCramer Room, following each service, on Sunday, September 25. The sessions will be led by Segundo Velasquez, co-founder of Mano a Mano and Unity member. Questions? Contact Segundo at [segundo@manoamano.org](mailto:segundo@manoamano.org).

## Cairns, Vol.

The Unity Church

Journal of:

art, photos, poetry, prose, & so much more!

You submit. We publish.

The congregation is enriched.

More info on the Cairns page on the Unity website.

**Final Deadline: September 26, 2016**

## **This Week in Religious Education**

Welcome back for our first day of classes! Our Sundays will begin to settle into familiar routines, but if you need a refresher, review the information in the September newsletter: [www.unityunitarian.org/current-issue.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/current-issue.html)

**Spirit Play (ages 3-6):** Children in Spirit Play today take time to consider their new classrooms (from redesign work over the summer!) and the routines that are part of their sacred play. Where are the caring cards children make and send to those in need of care? What is the Magic Mountain? What can children play with a labyrinth? Please wonder together with your children about their classroom and their place of sacred play.

**Rotations (grades 1-6):** Children first begin in worship, upstairs in the Ames Chapel (9:00/4:30) or in the Sanctuary (11:00) with their friends and Journey Guides. Then in classrooms downstairs, they begin their journey as a community of faith, exploring "God is one." Take a moment to say hello and get to know your child's Journey Guide for this semester. Classes end at 10:15, 12:15, and 5:45, respectively. Parents quietly waiting in the lobby area really help our teachers and children end their classes well, and it's really appreciated!

**Junior High (grades 6-8):** Youth begin their classes today getting oriented to community and topics: Religions of Star Trek (OWL room), Hebrew Bible (Jr. High classroom), UU History & Identity (Jr. High classroom), and High Feasts & Holy Days (Robbins Parlor).

**Coming of Age** is our signature spiritual growth and enrichment program typically for 9th graders. Class today brings focus to "Me and Us" with youth sharing autobiographies and covenant for this year. COA retreat will be held this coming weekend, September 23-25, at Camp St. Croix.

**Our Whole Lives** is a signature sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9. After their first class orientation this past week, they meet Wednesday, September 21, on the topic "Examining Values."

**Tower Club:** High school youth gathered last Sunday to prepare a welcome for incoming 10th graders this evening. All sophomores are invited! 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.

**Help needed in the nursery:** For anyone drawn to the presence of mystery and life peering out from the face of a toddler, the nursery would love your help during our Wellspring Wednesday evening programs. Please contact [michelle@unityunitarian.org](mailto:michelle@unityunitarian.org)

## This Week at Unity Church

### Sunday, September 18

|                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Afterthoughts                    | 10:15 a.m., Gannett Room   |
| Children's Choir Rehearsal       | 10:00 a.m., Robbins Parlor |
| Women's Ensemble Rehearsal       | 10:15 a.m., Foote Room     |
| Finding Yourself at Unity        | 10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel    |
| Welcome to Unity                 | 12:15 p.m., Center Room    |
| Above Every Name Worship Service | 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary       |
| Soup Supper                      | 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall     |

### Tuesday, September 20

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Elders Circle                             | 1:00 p.m., Center Room  |
| Sangha Meditation Group                   | 5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel  |
| <i>Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War</i> | 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall  |
| Living with Grief Group                   | 7:00 p.m., Gannett Room |
| Unity Singers Rehearsal                   | 7:30 p.m., Foote Room   |

### Wednesday, September 21

Wellspring Wednesday See box below

### Thursday, September 22

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

### Friday, September 23

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| Beloved Conversations Retreat | 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall |
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### Saturday, September 24

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| Beloved Conversations Retreat | 9:00 a.m., Foote Room |
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### Wellspring Wednesday: September 21!

**6:00 p.m. Dinner:** *Roasted chicken with ratatouille, rice, and greens. 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

### Emily Baxter: We Are All Criminals

One in four people in the United States has a criminal record. "We Are All Criminals" looks at the other 75%: those of us who have the luxury of living without an official reminder of a past mistake. We Are All Criminals is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that seeks to ignite social change through personal stories of crime, privilege, justice, and injustice. The participants in Emily Baxter's oral history project are doctors and lawyers, social workers and students, retailers, and retirees who consider how very different their lives could have been... had they been caught. Emily Baxter is the Director of We Are All Criminals; a Bush Leadership Fellow and former director of advocacy and public policy at the Council on Crime and Justice.

### Great College Search: This class will run from 7:15-8:45 p.m.

Learn how to optimize the search process and become a critical consumer of colleges. **The topic this week: Getting ready and conducting a search.** All sessions will consist of presentations followed by time for questions. Craig Allen is a member of Unity Church and a certified college admissions counselor.

### Bible Study: Old Strong Stories • Session 2

Let's take a deep look at how scripture can benefit our lives. Pastor Danny Givens, Jr., and Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs

### Yoga Movement and Mindfulness: Truthfulness

This week's theme, Satya, means "to speak the truth," and yoga teaches us we need to do this without causing harm. As we move through poses that lead us to the truth, we will take time to reflect on the idea of Satya.

### Textile Arts Group

Bring your knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, needlepoint, and cross stitch for an evening of fellowship and service.

### Learn and Play Go: The Chinese Game

### Tween Group (grades 5-7)

## Sunday Worship, September 25: *The Unity of Whiteness*

9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 4:30 p.m.

The author and storyteller Chinamanda Ngozi Adichie has written and spoken extensively about the dangers inherent in the single story of anyone's identity. Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Angela Wilcox will tackle the thorny issue of the single story of white skinned identity and its potential fragility. Musicians at 9:00/11:00: Unity Choir. Musicians at 4:30: Women's Ensemble.

### 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. On September 11, \$3225.85 was collected in the offering. Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light will receive a donation of \$2258.10. Information about today's offering recipient, The Emily Program Foundation, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on September 25 is Frank Theatre.

### Support Unity's Food and Hospitality Ministries

To express your interest, please contact Madeline Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, at [madeline@unityunitarian.org](mailto:madeline@unityunitarian.org).

**Food Ministry: Kitchen** volunteers do not need any special skills, training will be provided. Families can even volunteer together!

- Tuesdays: September 20 and 27, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- Wednesdays: September 21 and 28, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Sunday Welcome Teams:** Additional Welcome Team members are needed at all services (9:00, 11:00, 4:30). Greet members and visitors as they arrive to church, welcome them to Religious Education and to worship, pass out orders of service, ring the church bell, collect and count the offertory, and assist with serving coffee after the service. Commit to one Sunday per month.

### Dine with Nine

Beginning in October, small groups of Unity Church members and friends will gather in each other's homes once a month for food and fellowship. Sign up to participate online at [www.unityunitarian.org/dine-with-nine.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/dine-with-nine.html), or email Teresa Wernecke at [teresa475@gmail.com](mailto:teresa475@gmail.com). Include contact information and let us know if you would like to sign up for a family or adult only group or whether you have particular location or transportation needs.

### Blessing of the Animals

Mark your calendars for the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2, at 1:00 p.m., in the Portland Avenue Greenspace. Bring Fido, Rover, Mittens, and all of their friends for this bounty of blessings. Hope to see you there!

### Recovery Ministry

Seeking those within the Unity community who are interested in participating in a recovery ministry here at the church. If interested, please contact Hallman Ministerial Intern Jessica Clay at [jessica@unityunitarian.org](mailto:jessica@unityunitarian.org) or 651-228-1456 x109.

### Help Provide a Meal for Jeremiah Program Families

Help cook a meal at The Jeremiah Program (932 Concordia Avenue, St. Paul), a residence and education program for single moms and their children. Meals are provided before evening classes and Unity Church volunteers are needed to help with preparation on the following dates: Tuesday, October 4; Thursday, November 3; Thursday, December 15; Tuesday, January 24; Tuesday, February 16; Thursday, March 21; Thursday, April 20. To volunteer contact Karen Buggs at 651-297-0111 or [buggs745@hotmail.com](mailto:buggs745@hotmail.com).