

# This Week at Unity Church

September 25–October 1, 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: Worship and the Liturgical Year**

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.

## **Beyond Sustainability: A Journey with Mano a Mano**

**Information sessions today! After each service • DeCramer Room**

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. 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).

## **September Harvest • Today!**

Join us in the Children's Garden between morning services today to harvest for the foodshelf. At 12:15 p.m., you can help put the gardens to bed by helping with weeding, spreading compost and pulling spent plants. Bring gloves and shovels if you have them.

## **Understanding Movements to End Policing**

**TODAY! Sunday, September 25 • 3:00-5:30 p.m.**

**Shir Tikvah, 1360 West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis**

This panel and interactive discussion will explore the history of policing, how racism and policing are knit together, and how we might imagine a different future for how we build and protect communities together. Panelists include CeCe McDonald, celebrated organizer who was unjustly imprisoned after defending herself from a vicious and transphobic attack in Minneapolis; Arif Mamdani, Associate Director of the Kaleo Center for Faith, Justice, and Social Transformation; Dr. Rose Brewer, Professor of African American and African Studies at the University of Minnesota; Liz Loeb, community organizer and former national ACLU criminal justice attorney. Tickets are available online at <http://bit.ly/2d3vaBr>.

## **Group Spiritual Direction • Groups start September 27!!**

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. 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.

## **MUUSJA Annual Celebration**

All are invited to the Annual Celebration and Fundraiser for the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance on Thursday, September 29, at 5:30 p.m., at First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis. Details at [www.muusja.org](http://www.muusja.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, families! Our Sundays will begin to settle into familiar routines, but if you need a refresher: [www.unityunitarian.org/current-issue.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/current-issue.html)

The first Teachers' Night Out is Friday, October 7, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. As a way of thanking teachers, R.E. volunteer teachers are welcome to bring kids in for care while you go out to dinner, take a nap, or walk around the neighborhood admiring the turning leaves! Please RSVP to Michelle Hill by Monday, October 3: [michelle@unityunitarian.org](mailto:michelle@unityunitarian.org)

**Spirit Play (ages 3-6):** Children in Spirit Play are invited to wonder about Celebration of New Lives, our ritual of dedicating infants into the life of this beloved community. How did they get their names? How will this church care for and help children grow? 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.

**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).

**Tweens (grades 5-7):** meet this coming Wednesday 7:15-8:30 p.m. after Wellspring Wednesday worship, to gather and grow in community. Meets in lower level Rotation classrooms.

**Our Whole Lives** is a signature sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9. Topic for Wednesday, September 28: Sexual Language

**Coming of Age** is our signature spiritual growth and enrichment program typically for 9th graders. There is NO class today as youth are returning from their weekend Retreat at Camp St. Croix. Class resumes Sunday, October 2.

**Tower Club:** High school youth meet tonight to plan for the overnight retreat September 30–October 1. 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:** The nursery would love some extra help during our Wellspring Wednesday evening programs. Please contact [michelle@unityunitarian.org](mailto:michelle@unityunitarian.org)

## This Week at Unity Church

### Sunday, September 25

Mano a Mano Trip Information After each service, DeCramer Room  
Afterthoughts 10:15 a.m., Gannett Room  
Children's Choir Rehearsal 10:15 a.m., Choir Room  
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal 10:15 a.m., Foote Room  
Finding Yourself at Unity 10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel  
Above Every Name Worship Service 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Soup Supper 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall  
Tower Club 6:00 p.m., Center Room

### Monday, September 26

Men's Retirement Group 1:00 p.m., Moscow on the Hill  
Affordable Housing Team 6:00 p.m., Gannett Room

### Tuesday, September 27

Sangha Meditation Group 5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel  
Young Adult Potluck 6:30 p.m., Center Room  
Unity Singers Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Foote Room

### Wednesday, September 28

Wellspring Wednesday See box below

### Thursday, September 29

Unity Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

### Friday, September 30

Tower Club Overnight 7:00 p.m., Center Room

### Wellspring Wednesday: September 28!

**6:00 p.m. Dinner:** *Wild rice stuffed acorn squash and white bean 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**

### Open Page Writing Session

**A Hidden Wholeness: Finding Unity in Diversity**

**RSVP to [karen@unityunitarian.org](mailto:karen@unityunitarian.org)**

Led by Rev. Karen Hering, Open Page participants use stories, poetry, images and objects to reflect on the month's theme in their own words. No writing experience necessary. This writing session explores the theme of "Unity" within and among us. How do we honor the necessity of differences while heeding the soul's call to heal the wounds that divide us?

### Committing to Unity

This class explores the deeper meanings and expectations of membership and shared ministry and concludes with a celebration ceremony as participants sign the membership book and officially join the church!

### 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: Creating a list of schools and applying.** 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 3

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: Non-stealing

This week's theme, Asteya, addresses the idea of not taking anything that has not been freely given. This includes fostering a consciousness of how we ask for others' time, demand another's attention, or using something for a different purpose to that intended.

### Learn and Play Go: The Chinese Game

**Tween Group (grades 5-7)**

## Sunday Worship, October 2: Starting Over

**9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 4:30 p.m.**

Our series on forgiveness begins with a service that asks what we need in order to begin again. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Terry Linskey will offer a service in the tradition of Rosh Hashanah. Musicians at 9:00/11:00: Women's Ensemble. Musicians at 4:30: Unity Singers

### 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 September 18 offering totals will be reported next week. Information about today's offering recipient, Frank Theatre, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on October 2 is Urban Oasis.

### 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!

### Join Unity's Sustainable Living Team!

There are many opportunities to get involved with Unity's Sustainable Living Team — from greening the church to organizing learning opportunities on Wellspring Wednesdays to planning volunteer outings that create environmental healing with positive community impacts! There's something for everyone! Come see how you can put your talent and resources to work moving our collective vision for healthy communities and a healthy planet forward. The first meeting of the season will be held on Tuesday, October 11, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the church. All are welcome!

### The Revival: Time for a Moral Revolution of Values

**Monday, October 10 • 7:00 p.m.**

**Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis**

**Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II**

*Architect of the Forward Together Moral Movement*

**Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.**

*Senior Minister Emeritus, The Riverside Church*

The Revival is a national multi-state tour to redefine morality in American politics. The tour challenges leaders of faith and moral courage to be more vocally opposed to harmful policies that disproportionately impact the poor, people who are ill, children, immigrants, communities of color, and religious minorities. Come stand up for economic, racial and social justice; for equal education for all; for access to healthcare; for reform of the criminal justice system! Everyone is welcome to the family-friendly event.

### 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; Thursday, February 16; Tuesday, March 21; Thursday, April 20. To volunteer contact Karen Buggs at 651-297-0111 or [buggs745@hotmail.com](mailto:buggs745@hotmail.com).