

This Week at Unity Church

December 10–16, 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

Topic: Religious Education for Children, Youth, and Adults

Finding Yourself at Unity meets today, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., and 6:00-7:00 p.m., in the Ames Chapel. Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously through the year. Drop in any time and pick up classes you miss in future rounds of the series. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Holiday Boutique

TODAY! 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. • Parish Hall

Mano a Mano will have goods for sale after the 4:30 service.

- Artisan-made sweaters, totes, shawls, scarves, hats, tablecloths, and more from Bolivia
- Hand-sewn and quilted table runners, wall-hangings, zippered bags, ornaments, and other items made by Evergreen Quilters
- 100% of the proceeds from the sale will benefit the communities that these two organizations support

Wreath Sales • Today!

Purchase your holiday wreath from our high school youth in support of their pilgrimage to Boston.

2018 Children's Musical Parent Meeting • Today!

For the past 28 years, talented members of the Unity Church community have come together to write, compose, direct, choreograph, and perform a unique show for Unity Church. If you have a 6th, 7th, or 8th grader, come learn more at the parent information session today, from 10:00-11:00 a.m., in the Choir Room. The musical is scheduled for March 1-3, 2018! Questions? Contact Peggy Lin at peggy.peggylin@gmail.com.

Claim Your Pronouns

Stop by the "Free Pronouns" table in the Parish Hall today to get a pronoun button and find out why pronouns are important. Come ask questions about pronouns and learn how you can help to support Unity's trans and gender-nonconforming members and youth.

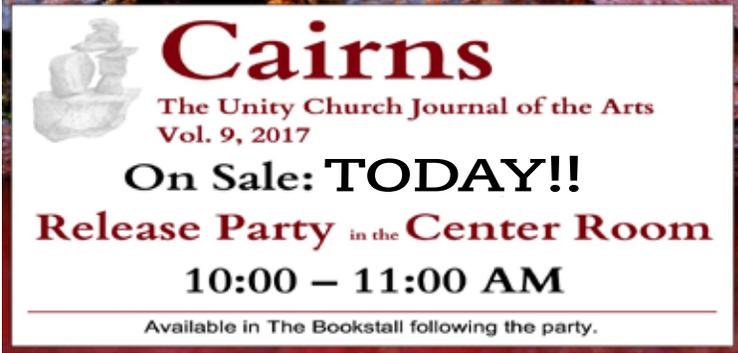
Mila Vocal Ensemble: Seasonal Music from Eastern Europe Friday, December 15 • 7:30 p.m. • Sanctuary at Unity Church

This family friendly concert includes joyful music from Bulgaria, Croatia, Ukraine, the Republic of Georgia, and more. Join the singers in the Parish Hall for holiday treats following the concert! Tickets available in advance at <http://bit.ly/alilo2017> and at the door: \$10/kids, students, seniors and \$12/adults.

Morgan Forum with Michael Cowan

Saturday December 16 • 9:30 a.m.-Noon • Parish Hall

Making white people feel guilty is not a strategy for change. Join philosopher, educator, and activist Michael Cowan for a challenging conversation about getting beyond shame in working for racial justice. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs says, "Michael Cowan's thoughtful analysis of the how lasting, mutually respectful relationship is key to helping us learn to be credible and effective partners for positive change." *Michael Cowan is a professor at Loyola University New Orleans and a fellow in the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict in the University of Oxford and the Irish School of Ecumenics in Trinity College Dublin. A leader in interracial and interfaith community organizing in New Orleans since 1990, he initiated an issue-based interracial effort to rebuild New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina in 2005.*



Cairns
The Unity Church Journal of the Arts
Vol. 9, 2017
On Sale: TODAY!!
Release Party in the **Center Room**
10:00 – 11:00 AM
Available in The Bookstall following the party.

Mitten Tree

Our little tree stands in the Whitman Lobby on the lower level, waiting to be decorated with warm hats, gloves, scarves and—yes—mittens! All donated items should be new or like new. Children's winter items will be distributed to families through Obama Elementary. Adult items will be distributed through Amicus.

This Week in Religious Education

Santa Pause childcare on December 13, from 5:30-8:00 p.m., is a gift of time and care during the holidays, so parents can finish making gifts, plan gatherings, or just take a moment's pause during this full season. Dinner, crafts, games and a movie for children ages 3 to 10. Advance sign up is required today to michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Next week is Family Sunday, with all children and families in the Sanctuary for worship. Winter break begins after the 17th, with classes resuming January 7.

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): Children hear the real story of *The Miraculously Ordinary Story of a Baby*. How is the birth story of the infant Jesus as ordinary as any other birth story? How is it extraordinary or different from other stories? What stories do our children know about their own birth? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

Rotations (grades 1-6): Children continue to explore "Humans are One Family of Diverse Backgrounds." Classes end at 10:15, 12:15 and 5:45, respectively. Parents waiting in the lobby area really help our classes end well!

Junior High (grades 6-8): Youth continue with classes today, learning together in community through four courses offered this semester: Power of Myth (OWL room), UU Identity & History (Jr. High classroom), What Do You Stand For? (Jr. High classroom), and Earth-Centered Religions (Foote Room).

Tweens (grades 5-7): Are on winter break. Programming resumes January 10.

Our Whole Lives is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9. Class continues Wednesday, December 13, with focus on healthy relationships.

Coming of Age youth meet at 3:30 with mentors, to conclude the unit on living with death and loss, and attend worship together.

Tower Club: Senior high youth meet tonight to share in the meaning and promise of winter's holy season. 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, Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:15 p.m.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, December 10

Holiday Boutique	Parish Hall
Children's Musical Parent Meeting	10:00 a.m., Choir Room
Cairns Release Party	10:00 a.m., Center Room
Finding Yourself at Unity	10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel
Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Foote Room
Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Above Every Name Worship Service	1:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Finding Yourself at Unity	6:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Tower Club	6:00 p.m., Center Room

Monday, December 11

Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room
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Tuesday, December 12

Sangha Meditation Group	5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Unity Book Club	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

Wednesday, December 13

Santa Pause	5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Board of Trustees	6:00 p.m., Out of Building

Thursday, December 14

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years	1:00 p.m., Center Room
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., Center Room

Friday, December 15

Mila Concert	7:30 p.m., Sanctuary
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Saturday, December 16

Michael Cowan Forum	9:30 a.m., Parish Hall
Kung Fu	10:00 a.m., Body Room

Holiday Meal Baskets

Evergreen Quilters is donating \$200 to Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf to buy turkeys for holiday meal baskets made available to families using the food shelf. The following items are also needed to complete the 15 baskets: boxed potatoes; gravy mixes; canned green beans, corn, and carrots; corn bread mixes; and canned cranberry sauce (other non-perishables are also always appreciated). Food shelf collection trunks are located at the Holly and Portland entrances.

Blue Holidays Service

Wednesday, December 20 • 6:30-7:30 p.m. • Ames Chapel

Join us for this contemplative service for all who are lonely, grieving, and hurting during the holidays. Come and be with others in the community as we take gentle care of our tender hearts together. Childcare will be provided.

Solstice Yoga Practice

Wednesday, December 20 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • Foote Room

Join Elen Bahr for a yoga practice of stillness and quiet in which we recognize our souls as the light of the world within the darkest time of year. If you'd like, bring an item to place on the altar to help manifest the collective soul energy of the group.

Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, December 21 • 7:00 p.m. • Parish Hall

Come join us for a contemplative, family-friendly, Celtic-inspired ritual to mark the turning of the year as the darkness gives way to the growing light. This participatory ritual will include chanting, meditation, candle-lighting, singing, and cauldron jumping. Kids—bring animal masks and hand percussion (rattles, shakers, bells)!

Family Sunday, December 17 • One More Redeemer

The whole church family will gather for our fabled carol sing (or, for the brave among you, carol shout at 11:00). We will celebrate the season and the completely unreasonable and unfathomably true story about the little child that comes to save us all. Janne Eller-Isaacs, KP Hong, and worship associate Kevin Ward will lead the worship team. Musicians: Children's Choir and Unity Choir (9:00), Children's Choir and Women's Ensemble (11:00), Harmonia women's quartet (4:30).

On Family Sundays, children experience the entire worship together with their families in the Sanctuary. A Story for All Ages helps children to engage in the experience of worship. Regular religious education programming does not take place, however the nursery is open for children under five years of age.

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. On December 3, \$3,036.80 was collected in the Sunday offering. We Are All Criminals will receive a donation of \$2,125.76. Information about today's offering recipient, Prepare and Prosper, is available in your order of worship. On December 17 the offering recipient is Growth & Justice.

No More Moments of Silence: Workshop and Service

Thursday, December 14 • 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer: 285 Dale Street N, St. Paul Advocacy Workshop

5:00-7:00 p.m., \$20—includes dinner

Get ready for the 2018 legislative session! This event will include information about current gun bills, power mapping, messaging, and coalition building. Register online at <http://bit.ly/protectmn1214>

Interfaith Service of Dedication to All Victims of Gun Violence

7:00-8:00 p.m.: Free, no registration necessary.

December Parish Hall Artist

This month's Parish Hall exhibit of photographs is from a variety of recent rallies and actions that serve to illustrate how divided we as a society are becoming. If they serve in any way to stimulate thinking and discussion among the viewers then photographer Richard Birger will consider the exhibit a success.

Look Who's Sharing at Art Share

Kathy Wallace and Sarah Pradt are exhibiting a favorite landscape painting by Joonja Lee Mornes.

Sing with a Choir on Christmas Eve

Adult Pageant Choir Rehearsal: Sunday, December 17

10:15-11:00 a.m. • Choir Room

Sing during the 4:00 and 5:30 pageant services on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Choir Rehearsal: Tuesday, December 19

7:30 p.m. • Choir Room

Sing at the 10:00 p.m. candlelight service on Christmas Eve. If you would like to participate in the Candlelight Choir, please contact Ruth Palmer at ruth@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x118.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Find A Stillness • 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Pageant • 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Christmas by Candlelight: Family Lessons and Carols • 7:00 p.m.

Christmas by Candlelight: Lessons and Carols • 10:00 p.m.

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• **Wellspring Wednesday is on winter break and will resume on January 10, 2018.**
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