

August Worship Calendar

FROM MAY 24 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6 THERE IS JUST ONE SERVICE EACH WEEK AT 10:00 A.M. Religious Education Summer Sundays in the Garden is offered during the 10:00 a.m. service. Sermon podcasts and archives are available online at www.unityunitarian.org.

August 2: *Growing Pain* — Jennifer Niemela

Through the lens of recovery from addiction, Jennifer will explore the paradoxes inherent in a spiritual awakening: how suffering can be a doorway to peace, how it takes more strength to surrender than to fight, how our most painful experiences can be our greatest gifts. Musician: Kevin Moonen, harp

August 9: *Why Am I HERE?* — Helen Pohlig

Deepak Chopra says, "Religion is believing somebody's experience, whether it was Jesus's experience or Buddha's experience or whomever else. Spirituality is having your own experience. It's more universal, it's an experience of your universality, your universal nature." Join Worship Leader Helen Pohlig and Worship Associate Avi Viswanathan as they explore the universal nature of each individual's unique answer to the question "Why am I here?"

August 16: *Hope for the Future* — Chico Hathaway

Pope Francis, with his encyclical related to climate change, deserves credit for having elevated awareness of humanity's calamitous effects on the global ecosystem. And he has highlighted the fact that this is a moral and religious issue. For most UUs, it is no surprise to hear that we have a problem. Furthermore, we are already aware that this is a moral and religious matter. Still, the situation is decidedly grim. Wherein lies hope? Musician: Dawn Baker, piano

August 23: *Four days on Maranacook: Searching for Solitude of the Heart* — Richard Foushee

We all at times have sought physical solitude; the quiet, peaceful time, perhaps in the country, without the intrusion of others. A time we hope will give us peace of mind and the healing grace of nature. We seek to forget our woes and slip into a calm frame of mind, which offers serenity at least for a while. Physical solitude will not endure, however. Only the solitude of the heart will sustain us. Join Richard Foushee and worship associate Rene Meyer-Grimberg as they explore what it means to find solitude of the heart.

August 30: *Believe What You Know* — Rev. Lisa Friedman

So often we struggle to articulate what we believe. And yet, we live out our beliefs each day in countless ways. Perhaps we know more than we think. Musician: Katy Taylor, celtic/devotional music

September 6: *How Radical Should We Be for Racial Equity?* — Dane Smith

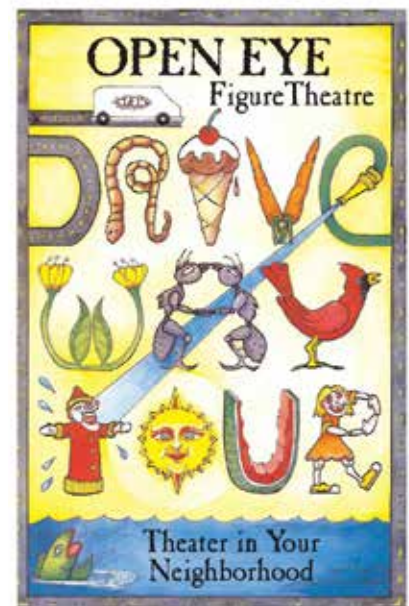
New research about the history of civil rights and racism in Minnesota reveals how truly radical some of our Unitarian Universalist pioneers were, not only for abolition, but for absolute economic and social equality for people of all races. These radicals have been largely vindicated by history and their vision, though still unrealized, has become consensus. As the confederate flags finally come down, as we are informed by Charleston and Ferguson and our own disturbing disparities right here in this neighborhood, let's think about today's cutting edge. What are the radical equalizing actions we can embrace that will vindicate us a century from now, and move our community to that Promised Land where race makes no difference in health, wealth or happiness? Musician: Rochelle Lockridge, guitar and vocals

Open Eye Driveway Tour comes to Unity Church!

Sunday, August 2

11:30 a.m.

Greenspace, weather permitting



The Adventures of Juan Bobo

The world is upside down in *The Adventures of Juan Bobo*—and he is going to do something to turn it right side up! Inspired by Puerto Rican folk stories, the show combines puppetry, music, Spanish and English in a delightful tale of riddles, silly devils, a missing pig, and a village in need of a hero.

All summer long Open Eye Theater performs puppet shows in backyards, front yards, parks throughout the Twin Cities, bringing communities together with original family-friendly theatre. Since 2003, the Driveway Tour has reached over 50,000 people in more than 620 neighborhoods.

This performance is free and open to all to attend. A hat will be passed to support the theater's outreach.

2015 OPERATING BUDGET UPDATE / WHEEL OF LIFE

The Sky is Not Falling

Addressing the 2015 Operating Budget Shortfall

From Barbara Hubbard, Executive Director

Some members of our congregation have requested more detail and context about the 2015 budget shortfall and the appeal for increased mid-year pledges. The Executive Team is happy to provide the following additional information.

- The 2015 operating budget was written in 2014 by the Executive Team (ET), reviewed by the Board and approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting on November 15, 2014. The pledge goals in the budget were based on historical data and the most current pledge drive information, including a decrease in a handful of major donor pledges due to retirement.
- The ET recognized in February of 2015 that our pledges were falling short of the budgeted goals and we began a conversation with the Board of Trustees at that time.
- Our March 31, 2015, pledge analysis reported a larger number of non-renewing households than anticipated, a lower average pledge with new pledges than expected, and a smaller number of new pledges in 2015 as compared to last year or to our historical average number of new pledges. After a review of income and expense line items, we projected a year-end shortfall of \$54k or ~ 4% of the budget. The bulk of the projected gap was due to a projected shortfall in pledges.
- The ET looked at ways to correct the course by cutting expense. We gathered competitive quotes on health insurance, but weren't offered anything that would have created material savings. We looked through program, administrative and facilities expense budgets and made adjustments to non-salary items.
- We also looked at cutting positions and programs. Unity Church has long-relied on paid staff, although our number of paid full time equivalents (FTEs) has decreased over the past few years. We have a dedicated and talented staff with an average tenure of 8.4 years. We are hard-pressed to decide which staff positions are expendable, or which programs could be run by volunteers alone. We already depend upon the generosity of hundreds of volunteer church members for a variety of functions, ranging from Welcome Teams to religious education teachers to volunteers at the front desk, memorial service receptions, gardens, archives, libraries, cooking teams, etc., etc.
- The Executive Team and Board decided that the answer was to go back to the congregation to fill the gap. The Board of Trustees and the Pledge Team led the way by increasing their pledges by more than 10% as we began our "Spring Canvass" in April.
- In June, The Executive Team reported to the Board that as a result of the mid-year increases, we were projecting a \$30,000 year-end shortfall, or 2.2% of the revised budget. We recommended continued fundraising and control of expenses and to the extent that these measures do not close the gap, drawing down from reserves if necessary at the end of the year. The Board expressed its support and appreciation for the ET's review and work regarding this issue.
- As of July 31, we have received \$45,000 in additional pledges from 80 households. Our number of new pledges has increased by 23 since March 31, and 18 additional households have renewed their 2014 pledges. We are grateful to all who are generously supporting Unity Church through your pledges, your time and talents, and your presence!

If you have further questions, please contact Barbara Hubbard at barbarah@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x116.

The Wheel of Life

In Memoriam

Linda Eller

April 3, 1923 – July 11, 2015

In Celebration

Julian Richard Narabrook

born one more redeemer

May 28, 2015

to parents

Gloria and Jeff Narabrook
and big brother Jasper

Congratulations to Unity's gardening team! Their beautiful work has been nominated for a Blooming Saint Paul award!



commUNITY is the newsletter of Unity Church–Unitarian. It is published monthly, except the month of July. Deadlines are the 15th of each month. Subscriptions are free to those who make pledges to Unity Church and are available to others for \$30 per year.

Unity Church–Unitarian
733 Portland Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
651-228-1456
www.unityunitarian.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

What do you do during the summer?

From Angela Newhouse, Trustee



What do you do during the summer?

As an elementary teacher, I get this question a lot, though most people who ask take care to phrase it in such a way so as not to imply I might be indulging in a lazy summer of sleeping in and “beach reading.” The truth is, I do take summers off. Teaching summer school holds little appeal and though there

are plenty of interesting workshops and seminars to attend, I haven’t done so for the past several years. Don’t let any teacher fool you into thinking that we work as hard in the summer as we do during the school year. We love our summers — even those of us who do teach summer school, work second jobs, or attend classes. Each year, for me anyway, this is a time to relax, recharge, and figure out who I am — as a friend, spouse, parent, and especially as a teacher. Mindful living is tough when you are faced with 200-300 social interactions per hour.

Many of you might have similar questions about Unity's Board of Trustees. *What do we do during the summer?* Or for that matter, during this whole year when we are not writing ends statements, in the middle of a capital campaign, or otherwise engaged in more visible, public work? Rest assured, we are not taking the summer off. But we are taking advantage of this time of relative quiet to think more about who we are — as a church, as a board, and as part of the larger community.

The results of the congregational survey will be presented to the Board in August, helping us to evaluate the implementation of our Ends Statements over the past year. The results will also guide the Executive Team as they plan programming for the upcoming year. In addition, we have taken the time to review results of the staff/volunteer survey, and have reflected on our own work in adhering to board-related policies. This reflection on who we are as a church becomes vital as we get ready for the inevitable transition of our ministerial and administrative staff sometime in the future.

We are also examining how the Board communicates its work with the congregation, to help you understand how this heady concept of policy governance relates to the everyday life of the church and our spiritual growth.

Members and friends of Unity Church have every reason to feel proud of who we are, and how we continue to grow — within, among, and beyond. I hope you will find some lazy moments this summer to reflect on who you are and what grounds you in our church.

Serve on Unity's Board of Trustees

Would you like to engage more fully in the life and mission of Unity Church-Unitarian? Consider serving on the Board of Trustees. Nominations are now open for three trustees, each serving a three year term which will begin following Unity's annual meeting in November 2015.

Board service is an excellent way to learn about church operations, build relationships with church leaders and other church members, learn policy governance, and gain appreciation for Unity's role in the wider community. No experience is necessary, but a willingness to learn and participate actively is essential.

Serving on the Board will also give you an opportunity to grow your experience and skills in the following areas:

- Leadership and Strategic Planning
- Relationship Building and Organizational Development
- Governance
- Financial Management and Oversight

To qualify for Board service, you must be a voting member of the congregation. Nominations will be considered by a nominating committee consisting of Ginny Allen, Mark Foster, and Steve Harper.

The nominating period is open through September 15. Candidates will be interviewed in September with selections made and presented to the Board in October. Three candidates will then be presented for a congregational vote at the Annual Meeting in November.

Serving on Unity’s Board is an effective way to live out your values while ensuring a strong foundation that can sustain and grow this vibrant community. Please contact Ginny, Mark, or Steve to express your interest or to nominate someone else as a candidate. You can also review a full job description posted online at <http://bit.ly/BOT2014>.

Unity Church 2015 Board of Trustees

- Rich Hamer • rhamer@deftresearch.com
Steve Harper • SteveHarper.home@gmail.com
Deborah Carter McCoy • mcdeborah1991@gmail.com
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Hal Freshley • halfresh@q.com
Ginny Allen, Chair • library42@msn.com
Stuart Alger • stuart.alger@stinsonleonard.com
Angela Newhouse • anewhouse@visi.com
Mark Foster • markhfoster@msn.com

ANTI-RACISM LEADERSHIP TEAM / SUMMER CAMP

Remembrance, Reconciliation, Restoration

Rondo Healing Ceremony: July 17, 2015

From Peter Heege on behalf of Unity's Anti-Racism Leadership Team

The wound in the Rondo community has been deep and painful, and has not healed well for five and a half decades. In the early 1960s, city, state and federal officials chose to value automobiles over people, and tore the heart out of a vital and prosperous community, comprised mostly of black residents. Hundreds of families were displaced and undercompensated for houses that represented hope and stability. Businesses that had served the community for decades were uprooted, and most did not survive that transition. A city planning map from 1935 showed Rondo as a "slum" whose residents were "Negroes." Other "slum" designated areas were occupied by "Jews," "Italians," and "Mexicans." Origin or ethnicity was not mentioned in the other neighborhoods. In a routing decision pattern repeated across the country in the 1960s, interstate highways were built through the poorest, least influential neighborhoods, most frequently communities of color, because that was the course of least resistance.



The Rondo Healing Ceremony held on July 17, 2015, was planned and executed by Rondo community members, many of whom were also Selma pilgrims in March of 2015. The ceremony was held at the future site of the Rondo Commemorative Plaza at the corner of Concordia (Old Rondo Avenue) and Fisk. The dedicating statement reads "We, the descendants of Rondo, remember our past and let go of the pain and heartache inflicted by the construction of I-94; restore our spirit by honoring the rich heritage of our beloved community; and celebrate our legacy as we dedicate the future home of Rondo Plaza."



In addition to the reading of the dedicating statement, community members gave remembrances of growing up and living in Rondo, three elders (ages totaling 301) were recognized, and current and former public officials spoke. Mayor Chris Coleman was eloquent in his apology for his office and for the City, which recognized the structural and institutional racism inherent in the process that split this vibrant community. Representative Betty McCollum honored the fact that the community chose to stay when it would have been easy to give up.

Nick Khaliq, who was largely responsible in his role as City Councilman for convincing the City Council to acquire the property for the Plaza, recognized the work is not yet done and that continuing advocacy will be required to complete this project.

I said a Boom-Chicka-Boom! Summer Camp 2015

Unity Church offered four fun-filled weeks of summer camp this year to over 80 campers! Children and youth explored art, food, music, Unitarian Universalist history, and social justice. There was daily worship, water play, and plenty of singing and games. Thanks to all of the staff, volunteers, and families for creating these wonderful opportunities for children to build community over the summer!



Learning from the Evergreen Quilters!



Bike rack yarn bomb!



Bow to a friend during worship!



Creating UU superheroes!

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Obama Elementary Tutors

Volunteers are needed to tutor students at Obama Elementary (located across Holly Avenue from Unity Church) who are struggling with reading and/or math skills. Volunteers will be assigned one or two classroom teachers based on availability and are asked to spend at least one hour per week for three months in this significant service to children in our community.

Emergency Response Team

Join a task force that will help design and update the Unity Church emergency response procedures. We'd love people with backgrounds in emergency response, large group training, copy writing, or editing to apply.

Church Photo Directory Team Now Forming

Help coordinate this fall's publication of a church photo directory.

Sunday Soup Suppers

We are currently looking for Soup Supper cooks to fill spaces every Sunday. Work with a group of 5-6 people to prepare a sustaining meal for over 100 people. You could take one of your family recipes or one that we have tested. Additional support and training provided as needed.

Wellspring Wednesday Cooking Teams

Cooking teammates are needed each Wednesday, starting September 9, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. (or a few hours during that time) No specific cooking skills are needed as we can teach you everything you need to know.

Grocery Shoppers

We are currently looking for individuals or groups willing to help grocery shop for our Sunday and Wednesday night dinners. Volunteers will most likely have to lift packages that are 10 pounds, or sometimes heavier. This is a very flexible as you can go shopping when it works for your schedule during the week before a dinner.

Baking Brigade

Baking Brigade events will happen sporadically throughout the church year. Sign up to come help bake cookies, pastries, pies, and more!

Sunday Welcome Teams

Coffee Service Training: Sunday, August 9 • 11:15 a.m.

Come learn what it takes to make Coffee Hour magnificent! All are welcome to this short, 35 minute training.

**A Bell's Not a Bell Till You Ring It: A Bell Ringer's Guild Training
Sunday, August 30 • 11:45 a.m.**

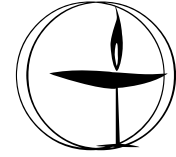
Participants will have an opportunity to try ringing the bell firsthand. This class will also offer background on the Unity Church bell including a tour of the bell tower.

Religious Education: Wednesday, September 9 • 7:15 p.m.

This short 45 minute session will be held during Wellspring Wednesday programming (come at 6:00 for dinner!) and will help to get our ushers and greeters more acquainted with Unity's religious education programs for children and youth. The training will include orientation to religious education programming, how we welcome new families, and what resources we have at Unity Church for visiting families.

Stone Soup Planning Committee

Help plan the first ever Unity Church Stone Soup and Fall Festival.



Shared Ministry Serving and Learning

Shared ministry means living out our gifts and values in everything we do, with everyone we meet. At Unity Church it means working together, sharing our talents and resources in a spirit of abundance and respect. This makes our service more cohesive and powerful.

Involvement nurtures community. We are always searching to bring people together in ways that feel right to each individual. Offering your talents and interests in service to the larger community provides the opportunity to deepen your connection to Unity Church and nurture your spiritual gifts.

*Get involved!
Share your gifts!
Meet new friends!*

If you are interested in any of the Unity Church volunteer opportunities listed at left, please contact **Madeline Summers, Volunteer Coordinator** by email at madeline@unityunitarian.org or by phone at 651-228-1456 x126



PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP / WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Words



In the summertime, it is easy to connect with the transcendentalist roots of Unitarianism. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once observed, "Nature always wears the colors of the spirit." Whether we are walking through the woods, enjoying a picnic, or tending a garden in the coolest hours of the morning, the Holy seems especially near. For the transcendentalists, it is this firsthand brush with the sacred that both nourishes the soul and challenges us to open our hearts. But they did not understand it only to be a solitary experience. Seeing the colors of the spirit that surround us can inspire us to expand our embrace of one another and the world, too. May we heed their example and let this season invite us into the direct experience of wonder together. See you in church!

Rev. Lisa Friedman
Minister of Congregational and Community Engagement

Pathway to Membership Classes

Sign up at the Welcome Table on Sundays or contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x107. Lisa is happy to meet with you personally to answer questions and welcome you into the congregation. Childcare is available by contacting Michelle Hill at 651-228-1456 x127 or michelle@unityunitarian.org at least one week in advance.

Welcome to Unity: Our Class for Newcomers

Sunday, August 30: 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

If you have been visiting Unity Church and would like to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, we invite you to join us for a Welcome to Unity class. We will explore the mission and vision of this church, as well as historical and contemporary Unitarian Universalism. There will be time to reflect on our own faith journeys and religious questions.

Finding Yourself at Unity: A Deeper Exploration

Saturday, October 10: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Potluck Lunch

In this class, we will have an opportunity to share part of our religious journey, to take a more in depth look at the history of Unity Church, to discuss the expectations and benefits of membership, and get to know the programs and ministries of the congregation.

Committing to Unity: Joining Unity Church

Saturday, October 3: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

This class explores the deeper meanings and expectations of membership and shared ministry. It offers time to reflect on the meaning of generosity and how you can discover the places in your life where the world's needs meets the gifts and joy you have to offer. The class concludes with a ceremony as participants sign the membership book.

Welcome New Members!



New members (l-r): Amalia Centurión, Kathleen Cooper, Rico Durán, Nancy Paulson, and Anna Meek (Rev. Lisa Friedman is also pictured).

Amalia Centurión

Amalia grew up in Portland, Oregon, attending First Unitarian Church with her mother. After moving to St. Paul five years ago, she found a spiritual home at Unity Church. After graduating from Macalester a year ago, she is beginning to establish stronger roots in this beautiful faith community. She is looking forward to meeting new people and becoming more active outside of weekly Sunday services.

Kathleen Cooper

Kathleen Cooper is a retired German/English public high school teacher and twice was an exchange teacher in Germany. She attended First Universalist Church in Minneapolis as a child and First Unitarian Society as an adult. She now lives in Eagan and has decided to join Unity Church.

Rico Durán

Rico has a passion for working on leadership development and the arts. Rico feels strongly connected when gardening, cooking, and sharing meals with his family and friends. He looks forward to finding his place at Unity Church and growing in his spiritual life.

Nancy Paulson

Nancy currently lives in Eagan. She worked for Ramsey County Human Services for 22 years, retiring in 2008. She has three wonderful daughters, three amazing sons-in-law, and two beautiful and brilliant granddaughters. She belongs to two book clubs and also loves attending musicals and plays. Unity Church has the sense of peace, fellowship, and outreach that she has been looking for.



ONGOING GROUPS / PARISH HALL ARTISTS

Ongoing Groups at Unity Church

These groups are open to all members and friends of Unity Church. If you are looking to connect with a group, please contact the person listed below, visit the church website at www.unityunitarian.org for meeting information, or call the church office at 651-228-1456.

A New Look at the Bible: Second Thursday of the month (August 13) at 7:00 p.m. Contact: Paul Gade at 651-771-7528

Afterthoughts: This group meets after the 10:00 a.m. service. Contact: Paul Gade at 651-771-7528.

Caregivers Group: An informal support group for caregivers. Third Thursday of the month (August 20) from Noon–2:00 p.m. Contact: Janne Eller-Isaacs at janne@unityunitarian.org

Evergreen Quilters: Second Tuesday of the month (August 11) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and fourth Saturday of the month (August 22) from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Contact: Peggy Wright at 651-698-2760.

Living With Grief Group: A group for people living with grief and loss. Third Tuesday of the month (August 18) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Contact: Janne Eller-Isaacs at janne@unityunitarian.org

Men's Retirement Group: Monday, August 10 and 24, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Contact: Phil Morton at 952-934-3578

Unitots!: A drop-in playgroup for families (parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles) with kids through preschool age. Every Monday and Thursday, from 9:30 a.m.-noon, in the nursery. Contact Michelle Hill at michelle@unityunitarian.org

Unity Book Club: Second Tuesday of the month from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Contact Jack Hawthorne at jack.hawthorne@comcast.net. **August 11** discussion: *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd

Unity Bridge Club: Friday, August 7, at 7:00 p.m. Contact: Priscilla Swartz at 651-454-3209.

Connections for Women in Retirement: This group meets the second and fourth Thursday (August 13 and 27) of each month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org for more information.

Young Adult Group: Potluck supper on Tuesday, August 25, at 6:30 p.m., in the Center Room. Bring your favorite dish to a relaxed evening of good company and conversation. Contact: Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org

Sangha Zen Meditation: Find renewal and grounding. Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m., in the Ames Chapel. Instruction is offered on the first Tuesday (August 4) beginning at 5:00 p.m. Contact Ken Ford at kford5@comcast.net

August/September Parish Hall Artist

Robyn Beth Priestley

A is for Afton, Z is for Zippel Bay is a project that highlights the wealth of natural areas we have in this state and that have inspired me.

I selected a number of parks from throughout the state, including the oldest park (Itasca, founded in 1891) and the newest park (Lake Vermilion, established in 2013), picking a variety of locations and ecosystems. I searched for the essence of each park—how it makes me feel and what strikes me—as well as what is iconic and inspiring about each one.

Creating artwork that expresses our connections to nature through art is my heart's work. I am committed to understanding conservation issues and environmental stewardship, and conveying that understanding through my artwork to enliven our sense of responsibility for the natural world.

I want to remind people of what state parks have to offer, and I hope the viewer will come away with a sense of each park. I would love it if people are inspired to visit and experience the glory of all of these parks.



Unity's Art Team

Unity Church is a beautiful place and the Art Team's challenge is to enhance that beauty. The team is primarily responsible for the changing art exhibits in the Parish Hall but also advises the Executive Team about all art owned and by, and on display at, Unity Church.

The monthly art shows are recruited from the large art community in the Twin Cities. Selections for exhibits from September 2015 through August 2016 have been made. Members of the Art Team support each of the monthly artists by helping to install and remove art, promote exhibits, and arrange receptions. Cynthia Starkweather-Nelson has led the Art Team for several years and Mary Barrett was the leader prior to Cynthia.

You do not need to be an artist to join the Art Team! For information and to volunteer, please contact new co-chairs: Marty Rossmann at rossm001@umn.edu or Joe Schur at joeschur@inbox.com.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

10th Annual Unity Church Pilgrimage to New Orleans

Information Session: Sunday, August 9 • 11:30 a.m. • Center Room

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the 10th pilgrimage of Unity members and friends who have gone to respond. Join the 2015 pilgrimage this fall, from October 24-31, and help Unity Church continue to make a difference. This is an opportunity to participate in a service and educational pilgrimage to the city of New Orleans where many of its citizens are still rebuilding their homes and communities a decade later. The week-long trip includes hands-on service projects for participants, meetings with community leaders who are working to rebuild the city, connections with new and old friends, and opportunities to explore the rich and unique culture of the Crescent City. Each pilgrimage also offers time for reflecting on major themes of racial and economic justice in New Orleans related to our communities back in St. Paul. For more information, come to the August 9 information session or contact Rev. Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Contemplative Nature Walk

Saturday, August 15 • 9:00 a.m. • Hidden Falls Regional Park

Are you one of those people who most deeply connects with Self and the Beyond out in nature? Come outside and join Spiritual Director, Sarah Cledwyn, for a contemplative walk! There will be a short introduction followed by a quiet contemplative walk through the Hidden Falls Regional Park in St. Paul. We will practice being attentive to our setting and what stirs within us as we walk with one another, ending with a short group process. This event is free and open to all. Please RSVP to Sarah Cledwyn at sarahcledwyn@gmail.com for directions and more information.

Young Adult Summer Potluck

Tuesday, August 25 • 6:30 p.m. • Center Room

Are you looking to meet other young adults (ages 18-35) at Unity Church? Bring your favorite dish to a relaxed evening of good company and conversation. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Dine with Nine Potluck

Saturday, September 12 • 6:00–8:00 p.m. • Parish Hall

Are you interested in getting to know more people at Unity Church? Do you enjoy great food and lively conversation? Would you like to extend the hospitality of our community to both new and long term members alike? Beginning in October, small groups of Unity Church members and friends will gather in each other homes once a month for food and fellowship. Join us for an all-ages potluck dinner in the Parish Hall to kick-off our new Dine with Nine season and to learn more about the program.

Sign Up for Dine with Nine Suppers for the 2015-16 Year

You can sign up to participate in this year's Dine with Nine suppers in several ways: at the September 12 potluck, online at www.unityunitarian.org/dine-with-nine.html, or by email to Teresa Wernecke at teresa475@gmail.com. Please include your 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. We look forward to another great year!

UU Families

Summer Potluck

**Sunday, August 9 • After the service
Meet at the park on the NW corner
of Portland and Grotto**

A casual potluck with family-friendly games and an opportunity to connect around a shared desire to raise our children in this faith community. Please bring an item for the potluck and plates, utensils, and a blanket for your own family.

Wellspring Wednesday Returns September 9!

Staff and volunteers are gearing up for another exciting year of Wednesday night programming that will offer opportunities to share delicious meals, attend multi-generational worship services, and participate in classes and discussions on a wide variety of topics.

If you would like to serve on a Wellspring Wednesday cooking team (new role this year: grocery shopper!), please contact Madeline Summers at madeline@unityunitarian.org.

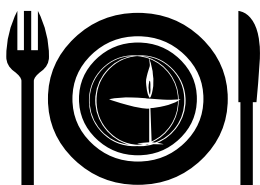
If you have an idea for a program you would like to offer, please fill out the online form at www.unityunitarian.org/wellspring-wednesday.html or contact Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Heart to Heart

A Couples' Enrichment Weekend
November 6–8, 2015

Koinonia Retreat Center

Heart to Heart is a program led by three experienced couples and is designed to enrich communication and intimacy in your relationship. All committed couples are welcome — same-sex and opposite-sex, married and unmarried. More information is available online at <http://heart.mn.cx> or by calling 651-300-4119.



**DINE WITH NINE
RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER!**

OFFERING RECIPIENTS / COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

Offering Recipients

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.**

August 2: Freedom School

Freedom School is a summer enrichment program for St. Paul elementary students located in the Rondo Education Complex. After rousing morning rallies kids attend small classes and read stories about outstanding people of color in U.S. and local history, as well as fictional people who have prevailed over great adversity. Students retell the stories in art and writing. The day is capped off with afternoon math classes. Over 20 Unity Church members have volunteered each summer for the past two years.

August 9: Camp Tamarack

Camp Tamarack is a non-profit, non-denominational, overnight summer camp for children in the Twin Cities. The camp was founded in 1970 with the purpose of giving urban children the opportunity to experience a rural environment and to learn positive life lessons. Camp Tamarack prides itself on being an affordable, exciting, and memorable experience for our young campers. Unity Church member Dick Buggs supports Camp Tamarack.

August 16: Faith Builders Habitat for Humanity

The Unity Church Affordable Housing Outreach Ministry Team is co-sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity build as an interfaith partner in Faith Builders. This offering will go towards Unity Church's share of the cost of building this home.

August 23: Cycles for Change

St. Paul's Cycles for Change empowers local youth through paid apprenticeships teaching bike mechanics and public service leadership skills. Its free University Avenue Frogtown shop pulsates with hospitality inviting anyone to drop by and fix a bike with assistance from trained mechanics. Unity Church member John Faley can't stop talking about Cycles for Change.

August 30: Chalice Camp

Chalice Camp is designed to provide a unique opportunity for children in grades one through six to deepen their connections to Unity Church, Unitarian Universalism, and the wider community. Both weeks of camp this summer included worship, small and large group activities, and time for fun. This offering supports scholarship opportunities for church families. Unity Church member Hannah Eller-Isaacs is Chalice Camp Director.

September 6: Pillsbury United Communities Full Cycle

Full Cycle is a nonprofit bike shop in south Minneapolis offering a six-month, paid internship program for homeless youth ages 16-23. Participants learn bike repair, customer service, and sales along with hands-on business skills including job keeping behaviors, resume writing, and interviewing protocol. Full Cycle's integrated neighborhood strategies include street-based outreach and a youth-run food shelf. Funds collected will directly support the summer internship program. Unity Church member Jim Davnie is a big supporter of Full Cycle.

Nominate your favorite non-profit!

Nominations for 2015-16 church-year offering recipients are being accepted online at <http://www.unityunitarian.org/nominate-the-offering.html>.

From Unity's Racial and Restorative Justice Outreach Team

Selby Avenue JazzFest Save the date!

Saturday, September 12

Selby Avenue Jazz Fest is a full day of free jazz near the Golden Tyme coffee shop located at the corner of Selby Avenue and Milton Street. Concessions with delicious food extend a block north and arts, crafts, and informational tables will run east on Selby. The event is sponsored by Golden Tyme.

Elections

Summit-University Planning Council Board of Directors

If you live in the neighborhood, support Unity Church's continued presence on the Summit-University Planning Council by voting on Saturday, September 12, in the Summit University Planning Council (SUPC) Board of Directors election. Cast your vote at the SUPC table at the Selby Avenue Jazz Fest (Selby and Milton, 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.). You must live within the SUPC boundaries (Summit to University, Lexington to Marion). Your vote counts!

Evergreen Foodshelf

The third Sunday of every month is Evergreen Food Drive Sunday. Donations can be brought anytime and should be placed in the barrels located at both the Holly and Portland Avenue entrances.



LIBRARY AND BOOKSTALL TEAM

Unity Church-Unitarian and Common Good Books
are Honored to Present



Senator Amy Klobuchar

Discussing Her New Book **The Senator Next Door** A Memoir from the Heartland

One of the U.S. Senate's most candid--and funniest--women tells the story of her life and her unshakeable faith in our democracy. Amy Klobuchar, the daughter of a newspaperman and a schoolteacher, was first elected to the Senate in 2006 and later reelected in a landslide. A national leader, she has a well-earned reputation for working across the aisle to pass legislation that supports families, workers and businesses.

"I wrote *The Senator Next Door* because I want more people to have faith that our democracy can get things done for the people of this country." --Senator Amy Klobuchar



Friday, August 28, 2015
7:30 p.m.
Unity Church-Unitarian

The Senator Next Door: A Memoir from the Heartland by Amy Klobuchar
Henry Holt & Co., August 25, 2015, ISBN: 9781627794176, \$30.00



What's New in the Library and Bookstall!

Ever wonder how books get into the libraries at Unity Church? The Anderson Adult Library and Whitman Children's Library are no different from any other library when it comes to getting books into the collection. We have designated selectors for each collection, Shelley Butler for the children's library and Louise Merriam for the adult library. We chose books from sources such as the UUA and try to order titles mentioned in sermons and in the resources section of *commUNITY*. We scan reviews for titles that seem particularly appropriate for Unity, as opposed to your neighborhood public library or your local college library. In short, we do what librarians everywhere do when it comes to choosing titles for the collection.

We also take requests from members, staff, teams, and friends of Unity. There's a form in each library for this purpose; you can also leave a note in the library team mailbox or talk to one of us during coffee hour. You can even email us: Louise at machias1@gmail.com and Shelley at sjbutler@comcast.net or use our official library email at library@unityunitarian.org. Requests from teams are especially appreciated, as these groups may be working in areas that we are unaware of.

We also look at what is selling well in the Bookstall. If people want to purchase a book from the Bookstall, the chances are good that it will be suitable for the libraries, too.

Finally, we take donations. Even if we can't use a donated title because we already own it or it is out of scope, gifts are always used to benefit Unity Church. Those titles not added to the collection go to the annual youth book sale, helping to fund trips and activities for Unity's young people.

CAIRNS



2015

Writers & Artists!

Submit your work to:

Cairns

*The Unity Church
Journal of the Arts*
Vol. 7

Early consideration deadline: June 15

**Final Deadline:
October 1, 2015**

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH / MUSIC MINISTRY

Ministry with Children and Youth

Updates and Reminders

UU Families Summer Potluck

Sunday, August 9 • After the service

Meet at the park on the NW corner of Portland and Grotto

A casual potluck with family-friendly games and an opportunity to connect around a shared desire to raise our children in this faith community. Please bring an item for the potluck and plates, utensils, and a blanket for your own family.

Did you miss Religious Education Registration?

Save the date: September 2

For families who missed the earlier registration sessions for Religious Education 2015-16, please plan on attending the September session on Wednesday, September 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Childcare is provided. Religious education classes begin Sunday, September 20.

Mark your calendar for Teacher Orientation

All volunteer teachers/guides for this coming 2015-16 year, both new and experienced, should plan on attending teacher orientation. Please choose to attend ONE from either orientation sessions:

- Wednesday, September 9, 6:45-8:30 p.m. (following Wellspring Wednesday dinner at 6:00)
- Saturday, September 12, 10:00 a.m. – noon

Watch for invitation to register online; questions can be directed to kp@unityunitarian.org.

Registration for Our Whole Lives 2015-16

Registration will happen August 25 and September 9, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Center Room. OWL is a year-long, signature sexuality and spirituality program open and appropriate for grades 7-9, though most often taken in the 8th grade. Please contact Drew Danielson for further information: drew@unityunitarian.org.

Coming of Age (COA): 9th Grade

Please contact Drew Danielson to see if space is still available: drew@unityunitarian.org.

Help Bring Inspiration to Children's Spaces at Unity Church

Volunteers are needed during August to help update the religious education spaces on the lower level. Specifically, help is needed with:

- Carpentry/Fabrication/Installation
- Painting
- General labor

People of all skill level are encouraged to come lend a hand. You don't need to be an expert! Please contact KP Hong at kp@unityunitarian.org if you are able to offer a few hours of your time!

Sing in a Unity Church Choir

From Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministry



Here at Unity Church we have a vital choral program and invite you to consider joining us this year. If you've been wanting to do this, how about this fall?

For the adults, it is helpful to have some musical experience such as music lessons at some time in your life, or having sung with a choir. Of course, if that is not in your background but you have a passionate interest and the courage to jump into the flow of things in order to learn a new skill, we invite you to come and sing with us. We have a great time together!

Please contact Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries, with questions at ruth@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x118.

First rehearsals for this church year are as follows:

- **Children's Choir** (grades 1 - 5): Sunday, September 13, from 10:15–11:00 a.m. Kathleen Radspinner, director (kathleenr395@gmail.com); Foote Room
- **Unity Choir** (adult, high school and beyond): Thursday, September 10, from 7:30– 9:15 p.m. Ruth Palmer, director; Parish Hall
- **Unity Singers** (auditioned membership): Tuesday, September 8, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Ruth Palmer, director; Parish Hall/Sanctuary
- **Women's Ensemble**: Sunday, September 15, from 10:15-10:45 a.m. Ruth Palmer, director; Choir Room

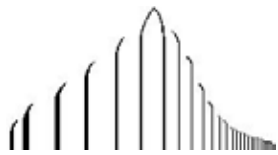
Arthur Foote Music Sunday

All of the music from Arthur Foote Music Sunday 2015 is available online for your listening pleasure: www.unityunitarian.org/arthur-foote-music-sunday.html



Peter Mayer at Merging of Waters

Unity Church is thrilled to welcome Peter Mayer to the Merging of Waters service on Sunday, September 13, at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 4:30 p.m. We hope to see you there, too!



UNITY CHURCH-UNITARIAN

Sanctuary Entrance: 733 Portland Avenue • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
Business Entrance: 732 Holly Avenue • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
651-228-1456 • fax: 651-228-0927 • www.unityunitarian.org • unity@unityunitarian.org

GINNY ALLEN, CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REV. JANNE ELLER-ISAACS, CO-MINISTER
REV. ROB ELLER-ISAACS, CO-MINISTER
BARBARA HUBBARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
REV. LISA FRIEDMAN, MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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**TIME SENSITIVE
MATERIAL**

Did you miss Religious Education Registration? Save the date: September 2

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PD&Q Railroad Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Visitors welcome August 23!

The PD&Q is a garden railroad built to half-inch scale, representing railroading of the 1940s and 50s. Battery-powered freight and passenger trains run around the yard among farms, ranches, mines, industries, bridges, and tunnels, all mostly built from scratch. Unity Church member Dutton Foster began this backyard project when he and his wife Caroline moved back to St. Paul in 1985, so the PD&Q



is celebrating its 30th anniversary this summer. This is a one-of-a-kind model railroad experience and is great fun for people of all ages!

Caroline and Dutton will welcome Unity visitors to the railroad from 12:00-2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 23, weather permitting. The Fosters will have beverages on hand and people are invited to bring a picnic lunch, or to simply stop over for a visit. PD&Q railroad is located at 1882 Goodrich Avenue, St. Paul. Questions? Please contact the church office at 651-228-1456.

Merging of Waters

Be sure to collect water from your journeys (or backyard!) this summer. The Merging of Waters reunion service will be held on Sunday, September 13.

