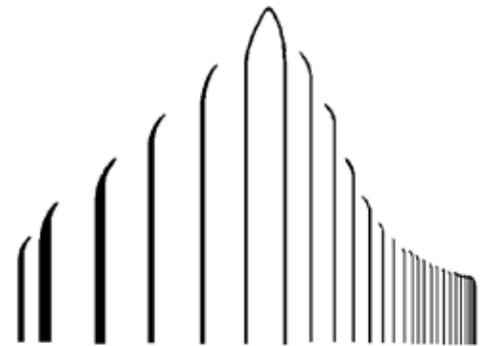


Always Singing

Arthur Foote Music Sunday

*Of all the things that exist,
we breathe and wake and turn it into song.*

— Mark Nepo



Unity Church–Unitarian
Sunday, May 7, 2017

The flowers in the Main Lobby are given with gratitude for the music that so graciously honors Arthur Foote's memory.
From Susan, Ben, Liam, and Mateo Foote

Arthur Foote Music Sunday • May 7, 2017

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

Five Studies in English Folksong — Ralph Vaughan Williams

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rob Eller-Isaacs

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Always Singing — Dale Warland

Unity Singers

There was such a lot of singing, and this was my pleasure, too.

The boys all sang in the fields, and at night we all sang.

The chapels were full of singing.

It was singing, singing all the time.

I have had pleasure.

I have had singing.

(Quoted from Fred Mitchell-retired farm-worker from Akenfield, England, at age 85)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Listening to Rain — Marg Walker

Marg Walker

*OPENING HYMN

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Words: Traditional, verse 3 by Doris Plenn / Music: Robert Lowry

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.

I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.

It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing!

What though the tempest 'round me roars, I know the truth, it liveth.

What though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.

Since love, prevails in heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing!

When tyrants tremble as they hear the bells of freedom ringing,

When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing!

To prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging;

When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing!

*RESPONSIVE READING

I Am Music (Anonymous)

Through me spirits immortal speak the message that makes the world weep,
and laugh, and wonder, and worship.

I tell the story of love, the story of hate, the story that saves, and damns.

I am the incense upon which prayers float.

I am the smoke that palls over the field of battle where men lie dying with me on their lips.

I am close to the marriage altar, and when the graves open I stand nearby.

I call the wanderer home; I rescue the soul from the depths.

I open the lips of lovers and through me the dead whisper to the living.

I speak through the birds of the air, the insects of the field,

the crash of the waters on rock-ribbed shores, the sighing of wind in the trees.

I am even heard by the soul that knows me in the clatter of wheels on city streets.

In unison: *I know no brother or sister, yet all are my brothers and sisters;*

I am of them and they are of me, for I am the instrument of the Sacred.

I am music.

Muusika (Juhan Liiv) — Pärt Uusberg

Combined Choirs

*It must be somewhere, the original harmony,
somewhere in great nature, hidden.
Is it in the furious infinite,
in distant stars' orbits,
is it in the sun's scorn,
in a tiny flower, in tree gossip,
in heart music's mother song,
or in tears?
It must be somewhere, immortality,
somewhere the original harmony must be found:
how else could it infuse
the human soul,
that music?
(translated from the Estonian by H. L. Hix and Juri Talve)*

SILENCE

EMBRACING MEDITATION

Janne Eller-Isaacs

PRAYER

POETIC INTERLUDE

Testimonial — Rita Dove

We Are The Voices — Jim Papoulis

Women's Ensemble

*In every heart there is a place,
a place that shows us who we are;
in every heart there is a place that finally I can see.
If I hear my heart I will know it's true,
if I listen when it calls.
In every heart there is a place that finally I can see.
Look around and you will see it.
The time has come for you to see.
We are the voices and we will be heard
finding a voice that will free us.
We are the voices and we will be heard
as we finally see who we are.
Only what we feel,
there is only one way we can be,
and that is standing up for who we are inside.
We stand up tall so we can feel the unity of who we are inside.
We feel a way to see who we are.
I know who I am.
I am breathing the fire of my soul.
I am breathing who I am inside.
I can feel the fire in my soul.
Look around and you will see it.
The time has come for you to see.
We are voices finding out that we have what we need right in our hearts.
Now is the time to believe. We are heard.*

OFFERING

Arthur Foote was minister at Unity Church from 1945-1970. Upon his death in 1999, the Arthur Foote Music Fund was created as a permanent endowment to provide an annual music Sunday in his memory. Currently the endowment supports a portion of Foote Music Sunday expenses. Your gifts to grow this endowment are gratefully accepted!

OFFERING MUSIC

Children's Choir

Cherry Blossoms / Sakura (Japanese folk song) — Mary Donnelly/arr. George L. Strid

Come and see the cherry blossoms, how their beauty seems to fill the air. Floating here and ev'rywhere. Spring has come and days are fair, come and see the cherry bloom. Sakura...

Tama Tu (Maori proverb) — Sally Albrecht

He who stands lives, he who sits, suffers... Come gather together, kukuti one and all, now is the time, poata rau, come hear the call! Dance! Sing!

POETIC INTERLUDE

Questions — Joseph Mills

Wind on the Hill (A. A. Milne) — Victoria Ebel-Santo

No one can tell me, nobody knows, where the wind comes from, where the wind goes...

REFLECTION INTERLUDE

Live the Questions (Rumi) — Jake Runestad

Unity Singers

Have patience with all that is unresolved in your heart and try to love the questions like locked rooms or books written in a foreign tongue. Do not search for the answers now, for they cannot be given to you; you would not be able to live them. The point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps then, someday in the future, without noticing it, you will live your way into the answer.

(From Rainer Rilke's letter to Franz Kappus on July 16, 1903. Translated from the original German by Jake Runestad.)

REFLECTION INTERLUDE

Making or Breaking (David Roberts) — Kim André Arnesen

Unity Choir

*We inherit the world,
the whole of history,
our place on earth,
our place in time,
our fortune, good or bad,
pure chance.*

*Now,
in one picture,
we see our entire planet:
one world,
one race,
one future,
bound together
for the first time.*

*Ours
for the breaking
or making.*

REFLECTION INTERLUDE

Hymn to the Eternal Flame (Michael Dennis Browne) — Stephen Paulus

Combined Choirs

*Ev'ry face is in you, ev'ry voice, ev'ry sorrow in you,
Ev'ry pity, ev'ry love, ev'ry mem'ry, woven into fire.
Ev'ry breath is in you, ev'ry cry, ev'ry longing in you,
Ev'ry singing, ev'ry hope, ev'ry healing, woven into fire.
Ev'ry heart is in you, ev'ry tongue, ev'ry trembling in you,
Ev'ry blessing, ev'ry soul, ev'ry shining, woven into fire.*

CONCLUDING REFLECTION

The Day is Done (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow) — Stephen Paulus

Unity Choir and Unity Singers

*The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of Night,
As a feather is wafted downward
From an eagle in his flight.
I see the lights of the village
Gleam through the rain and the mist,
And a feeling of sadness comes over me
That my soul cannot resist:
A feeling of sadness and longing,
That is not akin to pain,
And resembles sorrow only
As the mist resembles the rain.
Come, read to me some poem,
Some simple and heartfelt lay,
That shall soothe this restless feeling,
And banish the thoughts of day.
Read from some humble poet,
Whose songs gushed from his heart,
As showers from the clouds of summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start;
Then read from some treasured volume
The poem of thy choice,
And lend to the rhyme of the poet
The beauty of thy voice.
And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares, that infest the day,
Shall be banished like restless feelings
And silently steal away.*

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

The Singer's Dance (from The Wound in the Water)
(Euan Tait) — Kim André Arnesen

Combined Choirs

Life has changes and struggles. After expressing these challenges through various nature images, our poet brings us to the place where...

*...“our hearts erupt
and here, on this wind-driven hill
we are drawn to the centre of the dance,
and we know we are helplessly singing,
seeking whatever in us we cannot stop,
the song ceaseless, leaping, our utter yes.”*

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Always Singing (Commissioned by the Unity Singers for their performance at the 2009 ACDA National Convention)

Note from a concert of the John Alexander Singers: The text of *Always Singing* is a paraphrase of a quote from Ronald Blythe's 1969 bestseller, *Akenfield: Portrait of an English Village*. The book consists of interviews with the townspeople of a village in East Suffolk, 90 miles north of London, including an 85-year-old retired farmer named Fred Mitchell. As a poverty-stricken horseman, his life was very difficult, even to the point of being forced to choose between feeding or clothing his children. He said, "There was nothing in my childhood, only work. I never had pleasure. But I have forgotten one thing... the singing. So I lie; I have had pleasure. I have had singing." The piece is also reflective of the composer's early life, growing up on a farm in Iowa. Warland identifies with singing as part of daily life, in school, church (listen for *O God Our Help In Ages Past*, the chime of the Chapel Bells in *Akenfield*), and as a family.

In this last year, Dale Warland received a series of emails from a young man writing from England. He was the grandson of the farmer whose words inspired this music. He had heard of the quote being set to music, researched it, found Dale and connected. Thus began an amazing completion of an ever widening circle. This composition is a reminder of the importance of building community through singing together. Talk about music making connection!!

Muusika

Excerpt from an article published in partnership with Life In Estonia magazine, by Maris Hellrand: My first introduction to this piece was a recording of its performance at The Estonian Song Celebration (Laulupidu). This is a unique event, which every five years brings together a huge choir of 25,000 people for a weekend in July. More than 100,000 spectators enjoy the concerts and sing along to the most popular songs. The singing festivals have become the main anchor of Estonian identity. Twice the song celebrations have led to Estonia's independence. In the 19th century, the choirs and song celebrations were at the core of the national awakening of Estonian peasants, who discovered the value of their own language and cultural heritage through singing. The national awakening and establishment of identity led to Estonian independence in 1918. After WWII, during the Soviet occupation, the song celebrations helped keep the national identity alive. In 1988, several hundred thousand people gathered at the Song Festival grounds and sang for freedom for many days and nights. The Singing Revolution helped end the Soviet rule and indirectly led to Estonia's independence once again in 1991.

We Are The Voices

Jim Papoulis has a musical style that combines contemporary sounds with musical traditions from around the globe. Traveling worldwide, he works to create a sound for a global community, often reflecting the personal perspectives of those who sing them. The text and music for *We Are the Voices* were created in a song writing workshop at the Queen's City Choral Festival, Robyn Lana, director. The singers were asked what they would like to sing about, and the overwhelming sentiment was to sing about letting their inner voices be heard. The fire, the gentleness, the power, and the emotion inside all of us needs to be heard.

Live the Questions

From the Daily Philosopher: The word philosophy comes from ancient Greek roots meaning the love (*philo*) of knowledge or wisdom (*sophia*). In this letter (from *Letters to a Young Poet*) Rilke suggests that philosophy is also a love of the questions themselves. Rilke was a great believer in patience, in not rushing natural processes, which can only bear their fruit in their own time. Here he sees spiritual searching as a kind of natural process, which begins with certain deeply felt questions that "have a life of their own" and must not be rushed to answers. If a question has come to us from an honest perplexity and desire to understand, then that question itself is already a great achievement, and Rilke suggests we cherish it. If we are "living" the question, not just as an intellectual problem or puzzle that we are curious to solve, but as something that truly matters to us, then we are already on the road to understanding.

Making or Breaking

The poem was in part inspired by the first pictures of Earth taken from space. In the simplest possible terms the poem sets out the choice before each of us. The composer wrote this work as a reaction to pictures on the news from the refugee crisis in Syria and Europe. Human beings, both personally and as a species, inhabit a tiny part of the universe for a small part of time. The human situation is awe inspiring and challenging. What should we do with our lives? The answer chosen by most people is to work for the betterment of ourselves, our families, our communities, our countries, the world. One of the greatest tragedies of life is the fact that a minority of people, lacking vision and compassion, dedicate themselves to a destructive course of action.

Hymn to the Eternal Flame

A note from librettist Michael Dennis Browne: This oratorio was commissioned by Fr. Michael O'Connell, rector of the Basilica of Saint Mary, and intended as a gift from the Christian community to the Jewish community. The first performance was at the Basilica in November 2005, a year which marked the sixtieth anniversary of the liberation of the death camps and the fortieth anniversary of the Vatican document *Nostra Aetate (In Our Time)*, which had much to do with the renewal of dialogue between Jews and Christians.."

In Part Two (Remembrance), the soloists sing dramatizations of four photographs taken from Roman Vishniac's book *Children of a Vanished World* — glimpses of what Geoffrey Hartman calls "a vanished life in its vigor." The chorus continues with more expressions of Christian remorse together with a wish to "grow and be known by our love." We also hear quotation from the Nuremberg laws with their inhuman constrictions upon Jewish life. The section concludes with *Hymn to the Eternal Flame*, which is based on the children's memorial of multiple reflected flames at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

ABOUT THE MUSIC continued

The Day is Done

The Day is Done doesn't tell a story so much as it describes a feeling, a moment, a state of mind. It is a beautiful expression of that feeling at the end of a long day — or a long life — of a weariness that longs for soothing. The poet yearns for a poem to be read to him — but not one of the majestic poems of the masters that remind one of endless work and struggle. No, instead something to be read that is simple, that speaks from the poet's heart, that mixed with the beautiful voice of the reader allows "the cares, that infest the day, (to) be banished like restless feelingsand silently steal away."

The Singer's Dance (from *The Wound in the Water*)

From the poet, Euan Tait: *The Wound in the Water* explores the theme of Mammon by singing of our exile and the wounding of our world, of the beauty of the earth, and of the struggle of profoundly divided humanity towards a shared song. Mammon, the traditional symbol of the love of greed and money, is a force that divides us, both internally — we become divided from ourselves, from our capacity for love — and communally — human beings become creatures of competition and conflict. Our relationship with ourselves, others, and the vividly living planet that is our home, slowly erodes and then collapses — and we come to live as homeless exiles in this threefold sense. This work recognizes the long journey towards healing, *The Singer's Dance* specifically offering healing and affirmation through "the song ceaseless, leaping, our utter yes!"

ABOUT THE MUSICIANS

Special Guest Conductor, Dale Warland

The distinguished career of choral composer and conductor Dale Warland spans more than six decades and has made a profound contribution to the music of our time. In his quarter-century with the Dale Warland Singers (DWS disbanded in 2004), he shaped an a cappella ensemble lauded for its exquisite sound, technical finesse, and stylistic range. From that platform, he not only offered stunning performances of traditional repertory but also commissioned and premiered some 270 works from composers around the globe. Warland's many honors include awards from ASCAP, the McKnight Foundation, and Chorus America; a Grammy nomination; and, in 2012, induction into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame. Locally he is most recently recognized for his work as music director of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale and the Minnesota Beethoven Festival Chorale. He is active as a guest conductor, composer, and teacher. He also curates choral series for five publishers and his own compositions and arrangement are widely performed. The DWS archives, housed at the University of Cincinnati, constitute a unique resource for the profession. The DWS Fund for New Choral Music was established in 2004 at the American Composers Forum.

Warland's appearances as a guest conductor have taken him to the podiums of the Swedish Radio Choir, Danish Radio Choir, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Opus 7 Vocal Ensemble, the John Alexander Singers, the Berkshire Choral Festival, the American Masterpieces Choral Festival, the Utah Chamber Artists, Vocal Arts Ensemble (Cincinnati), Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia, Rochester Choral Arts and Israel's Cameran Singers, to name a few. Warland has also rehearsed and prepared choirs for performances of major works in collaboration with notable conductors and composers including Robert Shaw, Edo de Waart, Leonard Slatkin, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Sir Neville Marriner, Krzysztof Penderecki, Douglas Boyd, Nicholas McGegan, Hans Graf, Thomas Zehetmair, Hugh Wolff, and Bobby McFerrin.

It is our great joy to welcome Dale Warland today!

Children's Choir: Kathleen Radspinner, director; Priscilla Morton, piano

Unity's Children's Choir is a vibrant group of first through fifth graders which reflects the many talents of our children and the support of our parent community.

Dylan Bickelhall, Lily Borgerding, Ari Carls-Rehovsky, Bella Carls-Rehovsky, Lila Charlesworth, Annika Collins, Emily Easter, Maddy Grove, Ramona Hegeman, Wesley Hendel, Maggie Hong, Rachel Howey, Naomi Kempke, Hanna Koch, Josie Lin, Laura Lundquist, Kate Peterson, Anya Robertson, Gabriel Robuck, Sophie Satoskar, Helena Thomas, Sophia Thomas, Margo Trout, Alice Vergrugge, Alice Wagner-Hemstad, Noah Weiser, Hazel Wright, Violet Wright

Unity Choir: Ruth Palmer, director; Kathy Kraulik, piano

Unity Choir is the foundation on which our music program is built and is a vital and energetic presence in our community. Its members share various levels of musical experience and a wide variety of activities and interests, all of which are brought together by their love of singing.

Soprano: Jule Adelsheim, Natalie Berry, Karen Buggs, Elaine Campbell, Joan Carrier, Carolyn Caswell, Susan Conner, Cay Emkovic, Nancy Evert, Helen Franczyk, Patt Kelly Hall, Ingrid Haugen, Laura Hicks, Kirstin Jarvis, Rochelle Lockridge, Anna Newton, Bonnie Power, Nancy Rector, Emily Richardson, Julie Robbins, Teresa Tierney (section leader)

Alto: Heidi Birkholz, Michelle Blaeser, Katherine Clayton, Pauline Eichten, Sylvia Elrod, Sally Foster, Jessica Goff, Wendy Harris, Roxy Johnson, Ruth Kirkland, Jill van Koolwijk, Ann Mabbott, Robin Moede, Katrina Nichlols, Mary Nienaber, Angela Norberg, Jane Potish, Kathleen Radspinner, Nancy Veverka, Bailey Webster, KrisAnne Weiss (section leader), Karen Welle

Tenor: Tony Borgerding, Warren Davidson, Mark Foster, Hal Freshley, Peter Heege, Eric Hendrickson, Russ Heuckendorf, Gary Mabbott, Tom Merritt, Shahzore Shah (section leader), Tim Power, Harry Wernecke

Bass: Mike Bruns, Nic Cable, Glenn Davis, Chuck Griggs, Bryan Janssens (section leader), Mike LaFleur, Don Lee, Bob Ruud, Ben Schneider, Gary Zimmerman

ABOUT THE MUSICIANS continued

Unity Singers: Ruth Palmer, director; Kathy Kraulik, piano

Unity Singers is Unity Church's auditioned, a cappella chamber choir. Each singer's involvement is built on a passion for singing and willingness to work towards an ensemble of excellence capable of sharing varied musical genres. All singers volunteer their talents to offer the musical gift of this ensemble and are deeply involved in the life of this church community.

Soprano: Mary Baremore, Julia Browne, Cathy Crosby-Schmidt, Beth McGarr, Angela Newhouse, Karyn Wrenshall

Alto: Mary Blouin Auffert, Estelle Brouwer, Ellen Merlin, Marg Walker, Lorelee Wederstrom

Tenor: Charlie Caswell, Chris Crosby-Schmidt, Russ Heuckendorf, Greg Johnson, Jeff Ochs, Bryan Smith

Bass: Steve Harper, Brian Newhouse, Bob Peskin, Scott Rehovsky, Ty Wilson

Women's Ensemble: Ruth Palmer, director; Kathy Kraulik, piano

Unity's Women's Ensemble is a continually growing and evolving group. Its membership draws from women at various places along life's journey: from student life to active retired life. These wonderful singers meet for only one-half hour each Sunday between morning services. Into this short rehearsal time they bring tremendous creative energy, commitment, and joy!

Erin Adams, Madison Adams, Elizabeth Alexander, Ginny Allen, Marcie Allen, Meg Arnosti, Lynn Baker, Katherine Barton, Ann Borer, Joan Carver, Jessica Clay, Pat Conboy, Megan Casselmann-Condon, Teresa Connor, Debbie Cushman, Rebecca Flood, Betsy Furman, Jill Gebhardt, Ellen Green, Megan Hall, Ingrid Haugen, Alana Howey, Ariana Howey, Roberta Hunt, Mary Kerres, Peggy Lin, Louise Livesay-Al, Rochelle Lockridge, Kerry McNeill, Dana Mardock, Anna Meek, Sarah Meek, Carol Miller, Angie Norburg, Janet Oliver, Suzanne Quin-McDonald, Jeannine Robinett, Teresa Schicker, Arlene Seashore, Linny Siems, Jackie Smith, Heidi Springborg, Becky Steeber, Jennifer Taylor, Laura Temali, Muffet Trout, Kate Tucker, Jen Vanek, Janet Wacker, Kathy Wallace, Mary Wilson, Ellen Wold, Beth Yokom, Jessica Zimmerley

Instrumentalists

Dan Friberg, clarinet

Steve Lewis, djembe

Barbara Zanter, flute and percussion

ABOUT THE ARTHUR FOOTE MUSIC SUNDAY TEAM

Many of you have asked how this Sunday “happens.” Well, it starts with Ruth researching and choosing music for all choirs that fit into the vision of a guiding thematic idea — finding a flow of how things work together in the larger picture. Once the selections are made, choir members contribute endless hours in preparation for their particular “piece” of the puzzle, timing for each element is worked out, and then all the practical logistics are figured out. But wait! About two-thirds of the way through this process, when all is set in motion, Marg Walker and Ruth meet together to create the “magic thread.” They discuss the underlying ideas that helped guide the musical decisions — theme, common threads, flow, pacing — and how to tie it all together. From there, Marg heads off for her own creative writing and research. More meeting and talking, sometimes playing the music and reading the written selections together to see how it feels. It is in the moment when words and music meet, when each enhances the other, when all the singers and all of you are together, that Foote Music Sunday truly “happens.”

Marg Walker

Marg was drawn to Unity Church by its music program in 1999, and has been singing here ever since. A founding member of Unity Singers, Marg has also served as a Worship Associate, Coming of Age mentor, Trustee, and Board Chair. Marg is a writer of poetry and creative nonfiction, with an abiding interest in the human voice.

Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries

Ruth Palmer has a distinguished career as an ensemble pianist, vocal coach, and choral conductor, all in pursuit of following her passion and belief in the art of singing and its importance in our human connection. Her concertizing career brought her to stages such as Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall, The National Gallery of Art, The Beaux Arts Society of Brussels, and locally to the Ordway McKnight Theatre and Orchestra Hall. Her work as vocal coach and ensemble pianist has been in opera, Art Song and the choral field, working with Philadelphia and Minnesota Opera companies; playing for masterclasses of Art Song greats such as Elly Ameling and Gerard Souzay; pianist for premieres of Gian Carol Menotti, Libby Larsen, Richard Hundley, Abbie Betinis, Edie Hill; as coach and pianist for national winners in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Award, National Metropolitan Opera auditions and Rosa Ponselle International Vocal Competition; as Associate Conductor/Pianist of the Dale Warland Singers (2003-2004), continuing to work with Dale Warland as pianist for the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale and Minnesota Beethoven Festival; and with the Singers-Minnesota Choral Artists and Macalester Concert Choir. For eighteen years her great joy has been sharing in the energies and love of music at Unity Church as Director of Music Ministries, and working with the committed and inspired musicians of this community.

Special thanks to Kathy Kraulik for her work as musical assistant and pianist for our three adult choirs, to Jeannine Robinett for her coaching assistance with Women's Ensemble, and to our entire outstanding music staff. Thanks and appreciation to Kim Klose (production manager), Welcome Team members and ushers, facilities staff, and all volunteers contributing to this day.

Today's music made possible by funds from the Arthur Foote Music Fund and the congregation of Unity Church—Unitarian. *Our thanks to all involved in this community for such strong and continued support of our music program and musicians.*

— Ruth Palmer

This Week at Unity Church

May 7–13, 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.

Footnote Sunday and Music Ministry Recordings

Footnote Sunday music will be available for (free) listening in two weeks time, online at www.unityunitarian.org. The Unity Singers new CD, *In the Grace of the World*, documenting ten years of their music ministry, is being released today and is available for purchase at the Bookstall in the Parish Hall, \$15.00 per CD.

Evergreen Quilters: Spring Sale today after morning services!

Are you looking for the best Mother's Day gift for your mother, your favorite woman, or yourself? Come see the hand-crafted and quilted table runners, table mats, hot pads, small bags, pillow cases, journals, and other items suitable for Mother's Day gifts.

Evergreen Quilters offer items they've created themselves as part of the group's social justice mission. One hundred percent of the money raised from the sale is donated organizations that help homeless and hungry people in St. Paul: The Family Place, a day shelter for homeless families; Jeremiah House, a transitional housing program for young mothers with their children, and the Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf (at the MLK Center).

Evergreen Quilters invites everyone interested in quilting to join this "no guilt" quilt group: participate how you can, whenever you can. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday (7:00-9:00 p.m.) and the fourth Saturday (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) of each month. More information? Contact Peggy Wright at 651-698-2760.

Finding Yourself at Unity: An Inquirers Series

Finding Yourself at Unity will *not* meet at 10:15 a.m. due to Footnote Sunday. The class *will* meet this evening, from 5:45-6:45 p.m., in the DeCramer Room. **The topic today is Social Justice & Community Outreach.** Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously through the year. Drop in at any time and pick up classes you miss in future rounds of the series. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Sustainable Living Team Water Bottle Campaign

Buy a water bottle from Unity's Sustainable Living Team and stay hydrated in style! Water bottles will be for sale today in the Parish Hall. Proceeds support the purchase of a water bottle filler attachment for Unity's water fountain as well as projects to protect the environment and promote water justice.

All Church Talent Show

Wednesday, May 10 • 7:15 p.m. • Sanctuary

Do you have a talent or hobby you'd like to share with the congregation? Can you tell a few jokes, play a musical instrument, recite a poem, lead a song from the hymnal? Then we want to see it! Join us for our annual (indoor) picnic dinner and stay to share in the fun of this talent tradition. Performers of every age are welcome! Sign up online today: www.unityunitarian.org/talent-show.html.

Open Page Writing Session

To Bless and Be Blessed

Monday, May 15, 7:00-9:00 p.m. • Foote Room

RSVP to karen@unityunitarian.org

Join in a session of writing and reflection exploring the healing and wholeness of blessing. Led by Consulting Literary Minister Karen Hering, Open Page writing session participants stories, poetry, images and objects as well as wisdom from religious teachings, and science, to reflect on the monthly theme in their own words and on their own pages. No writing experience is necessary.

Sustainable Living Team: Plant Exchange & Sale

Save the date: Sunday, May 21 • Children's Garden Exchange: 10:00-11:00 a.m. • Sale: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

People are encouraged to split plants from their yards and exchange them for new varieties to add to their landscape. Don't have plants to split? Just starting to add plants to your yard? No problem! Once the "exchange" is over we welcome folks to purchase plants that catch their eye! Plants for sale are reasonably priced and all proceeds go to supporting the work of Unity's Sustainable Living Team! Contact jzimm0813@gmail.com if you would like to help.

Families for Hope Picnic

Sunday, May 21 • 12:30 p.m. • Unity Church

Looking for a way to connect with other UU families and gain inspiration for how you want to change the world during this (let's face it) dark time? Come to a Families for Hope picnic sponsored by the UU Families Initiative. We'll break bread, socialize, and (if you like) create letters, cards, or placards to express what we value for our troubled world. We will meet the park across Grotto Street from the church, weather permitting (otherwise indoors). No sign up required, just show up with your food and ideas.

Dedication of Older Children: May 21

Families who would like their children, ages 4-12, to participate in our annual dedication should contact Michelle Hill at michelle@unityunitarian.org. This dedication is appropriate for elementary school aged kids in families who have recently joined Unity Church or who are on the pathway to membership.

This Week in Religious Education

Today is Footnote Sunday and Rotations children (grades 1-6) normally in the sanctuary at 11:00 are invited to Ames Chapel for a children's worship service, before heading to regular classes.

If you missed Religious Enrollment for 2017-18, contact Michelle Hill for summer sessions: michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Tweens (grades 5-7) Potluck and Friday Night Party is May 12, from 6:30-11:00 p.m. Tweens gather for an evening of food, games, and community. Parents can break off for semi-adult fun and conversation together, or have a few hours out on a Friday night. Please RSVP to kp@unityunitarian.org.

Teacher Recognition is May 14, an opportunity to appreciate our many volunteers who sustain this beautiful ministry with children. Sunday, May 21, is Flower Communion Family Sunday, then children switch over to our Summer in the Garden program beginning May 28, at 10:00 a.m., for children ages 4-12.

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): Children learn about Flower Communion in preparation for the upcoming service. What does it feel like to give flowers away? What does it feel like to receive and take a flower home? How do friends in our church practice peace?

Rotations (grades 1-6): Children continue their journey exploring the year's final theme, "Endings."

Junior High (grades 6-8): Youth continue with regular classes today. Please follow signs for room changes.

Tower Club: High school youth meet for final regular gathering this year, to share in circle and then head over to the Grand Ole Creamery. Tower Club will welcome in Coming of Agers at a party/scavenger hunt on Saturday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 14: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

I Was All Hers

Theologian Matthew Fox wrote a book entitled *Original Blessing*, flipping the notion of original sin on its head. Essentially the book makes a case for unconditional love. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Rene Meyer-Grimberg will bring us a service for Mother’s Day. Musicians: Wendy Tangen-Foster, violin (9:00/11:00); Dawn Baker, piano (4:30).

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. Please make checks payable to Unity Church. On April 30, \$3,104.50 was collected in the Sunday offering. Mano a Mano will receive a donation of \$2,173.15. Information about today’s offering recipient, the Arthur Foote Music Sunday Fund, is available in your order of worship. On May 14 the offering recipient is the Minnesota Prison Doula Project.

Resistance & Resilience

Friday, May 19 • 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 20 • 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

First Universalist Church Minneapolis

Join MUUSJA (Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance, in partnership with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, for *Resistance & Resilience: Sustaining Faithful Action for Justice & Solidarity in a Hurting World*. The program will include moving interfaith worship, plenary discussions with religious leaders and political visionaries about the spiritual-political times we are in, collaborative strategizing for action and impact, a wide variety of workshops led by experienced justice leaders, and opportunities to build relationships. This event is open to all people of faith who are interested in building skills, relationships, theological grounding, and power to transform the world for justice. To register, visit <http://muusja.org/event-2516736>.

Wanted: Unity Church Application Developer

Unity Church staff and volunteers have begun the process of developing a Unity Church app for iOS and Android. The project team is seeking an individual who would be interested in serving as the developer for the Android version of the app. Students, interns, professionals, and retirees with experience in Android app development (IDEs, SDK, and good object-oriented practices) are encouraged to contact us. Experience with agile techniques/tools, REST, and Git/GitHub is a plus. The hope is that this would be a volunteer position but a small stipend might be available. Interested? Know somebody who might be interested? Please contact Martha Tilton at martha@unityunitarian.org.

Living Organ Donation and Education

If you are interested in joining the Unity Church group working on living organ and tissue donation and education, the next meeting is Tuesday, May 30, from 6:30-8:00 p.m., in the Gannett Room. Questions? Contact Patricia Ohmans at patricia.ohmans@gmail.com.

Serve on the Unity Board of Trustees!

At the annual meeting in November, the congregation will elect three people to serve as trustees, each for a three-year term. Trustees find service on the board to be an experience that enriches their relationship with the community and offers opportunities for personal growth. Nominees must be voting members of the congregation. Interested? Please talk to a trustee (available after the service in the Parish Hall) or email markhfoster@msn.com. Interviews and final selection of nominees will happen in June.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, May 7

Afterthoughts 10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Above Every Name Worship Service 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Finding Yourself at Unity 5:45 p.m., DeCramer Room
Soup Supper 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall

Monday, May 8

Men’s Retirement Group 1:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Tuesday, May 9

Chip Welling Memorial Service 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary
Sangha Meditation Group 5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Unity Book Club 7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Evergreen Quilters 7:00 p.m., Anderson Library

Wednesday, May 10

Wellspring Wednesday 6:00 p.m., See box below

Thursday, May 11

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years 1:00 p.m., Center Room
A New Look at the Bible 7:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Saturday, May 13

Board of Trustees 9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Kung Fu 10:00 a.m., Body Room

Food Shelf Collection

Bring non-perishable food and hygiene items to Unity Church and help feed hungry people in our community through Evergreen Quilters’ partnership with Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf. Wicker collection trunks are located at the Portland and Holly entrances.

Wellspring Wednesday, May 10

May 10 marks the last Wellspring Wednesday of the church year. Wellspring Wednesdays will return on September 13!

6:00 p.m. *Dinner: BBQ chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, dessert. 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

All Church Talent Show

Do you have a talent or hobby you’d like to share with the congregation? Can you...

- ... tell a few jokes?
- ... play a musical instrument?
- ... recite a poem?
- ... lead a song from the hymnal?
- ... make a bunny disappear?
- ... juggle?
- ... do an interpretive dance?
- ... jump rope?
- ... paint a picture like Bob Ross?
- ... make an origami chalice?
- ... eat a donut in one bite?

Then we want to see it! Join us for our annual (indoor) picnic dinner and stay to share in the fun of this talent tradition. Performers of every age are welcome! Sign up online today: www.unityunitarian.org/talent-show.html.

Learn and Play Go: The Chinese Board Game

UNITY CHURCH—UNITARIAN

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UNITY CHURCH MUSIC STAFF

RUTH PALMER, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: ORGAN/PIANO; DIRECTOR, UNITY CHOIR, UNITY SINGERS, WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE
KATHY KRAULIK: PIANIST, UNITY CHOIR, UNITY SINGERS, WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE; ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
KATHLEEN BARTHOLOMAY, SUMMER MUSIC COORDINATOR
KATHLEEN RADSPINNER, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S CHOIR
PRISCILLA MORTON: PIANIST, CHILDREN'S CHOIR
UNITY CHOIR SECTION LEADERS: TERESA TIERNEY (SOPRANO), KRISANNE WEISS (ALTO), SHAHZORE SHAH (TENOR), BRYAN JANSSENS (BASS)

*Interested in learning more about Unity's music program?
Please contact Ruth Palmer at ruth@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x118.*

UNITY CHURCH—UNITARIAN

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