

This Week at Unity Church

February 17–23, 2019

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.

Buy a Pie! Support Unity's Rainbow Chalice Alliance

Unity's Rainbow Chalice Alliance (RCA) annual Pi(e) Day (3.14.19) Bake Sale is here! Order a delicious blueberry, apple, or French silk pie (or one of each!) in the Parish Hall today. Pies will be ready for pick up on March 3. RCA will make a limited number of pies, so order early! Your pie purchases make it possible for RCA to support Q-Quest (a yearly festival for LGBTQA youth), Queer Prom, and Youth Pride. Want to help bake? Email Elizabeth Giffin at egiffin19@yahoo.com. Volunteers are *essential* to the success of the fundraiser; no baking experience required!

What is Camp UniStar?

Think rustic beauty and simplicity. It's a camp for Unitarian Universalist individuals and families and other like-minded people, nestled in the Chippewa National Forest of Star Island, surrounded by the clear waters of Cass Lake in Northern Minnesota. The lake encourages water activities, the forest trails attract hikers, sunrises and sunsets invite meditation. Activities for children and youth, as well as a daily program for adults on topics such as spirituality, science, sailing, social justice, self-reflection, yoga, dance, music or crafts. Learn more about camp from campers at the Camp UniStar table in the Parish Hall each Sunday in February. Camp details and registration is online at www.CampUniStar.org.

End of Life Options Act: Learn More

This legislation being considered through Minnesota's End of Life Options Act this year would allow a mentally competent adult with a terminal illness the right to request from their doctor medication they would self-administer to end their life so they can die peacefully in their sleep. There is a very real possibility this legislation could pass this year! Presentation led by Rev. Harlan Limpert, member of First Universalist Church and former COO of the Unitarian Universalist Association, on Thursday, February 21, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at First Universalist Church of Minneapolis (3400 Dupont Avenue South).

UU Queer Youth Group

Unity's UU Queer Youth Group will meet Friday, February 22, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meet in the OWL/COA room for community building, snacks, and fun! For junior high and high school-age LGBTQ2+ folks and allies. Parents are encouraged to spend time getting to know other parents. Questions? Contact Ray at ray@unityunitarian.org.

Fourth Friday Sustainable Film Series: *Saving Snow*

Friday, February 22 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

Saving Snow is about how industries and towns that depend on snow are affected by global climate change and what they are doing to move to a clean energy future. Moderator is Steve Jorissen, a PhD physical scientist who has been following climate change and its impacts since 1983. Steve is a member of Citizens Climate Lobby and he will talk about the changes happening in Minnesota as well as actions we can all start taking now.

Boston Pilgrimage: October 16-21, 2019

Explore the historical roots of our faith and our democracy and walk the paths that our religious ancestors walked. Interested? Send a refundable \$200 deposit to Song Thao, Financial Assistant, to hold your place. Balance is due June 15. Scholarships are available. The trip will cost between \$1400-\$1800, exclusive of airfare.

Help Honor Ruth Palmer

Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries, will be retiring this spring and the celebration planning team needs your help honoring her! Please send photos of Ruth and the choirs for a photo book, as well as written testimonials that will become part of a collage of voices read at Ruth's retirement celebration on Saturday, May 11. Photos and testimonials should be sent to Martha at martha@unityunitarian.org by March 1.

Living In the Between: A One-Day Retreat

Saturday, March 2 • 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. • Unity Church

Tap into the creative possibilities present when change rocks the boat in our personal lives and communities. As Unity Church begins a series of staff transitions, come explore the nature of change and some of the ways — practical, creative and soulful — to engage it with an open heart. Led by Consulting Literary Minister Karen Hering, Hallman Ministerial Intern Kathryn Jay, and others, the day will include workshops, music, conversation, creative activities, and good food and fellowship. Registration is \$25, including lunch; childcare and scholarships available. Register online at <http://bit.ly/livinginthebetween>.

A Little Anxious • Tickets go on sale February 24!

30th Annual Unity Church Children's Musical

Thursday, March 7 • 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 8 • 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 9 • 5:30 p.m.

Ordination of Andrea Johnson

Andrea Johnson served as Unity's ministerial intern during the 2017-18 church year. The congregation is warmly invited to attend Andrea's ordination into the Unitarian Universalist ministry on Sunday, March 16, at 2:00 p.m., at the Minnesota Valley UU Fellowship (10715 Zenith Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431). A reception will follow the ordination and all are welcome.

Blood Drive! Save the Date: Monday, March 25
11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. • Parish Hall at Unity Church



This Week in Religious Education

No Religious Education classes today (Presidents' Day weekend). Families are encouraged to worship together in the Sanctuary or children (typically grades 1-5) may join in community activities downstairs. Nursery care is always available. Classes resume Sunday, February 24.

Our Whole Lives continues February 20 with class topic "love making is more than sex." OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9.

Coming of Age meets February 22-23 for Sacred Spaces overnight. COA is our signature spiritual growth program typically for 9th graders.

Tower Club: High school youth do not meet tonight, as they conclude their Youth Con retreat at First Universalist Church today. Meetings resumes next Sunday. Tower Club welcomes 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, February 17

Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:00 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Foote Room
Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Sustainable Living Team	10:15 a.m., Crothers Room
Children's Musical Rehearsal	Noon, Foote Room
Above Every Name	1:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Young Adult NAMI Meeting	6:30 p.m., OWL/COA Room

Monday, February 18 **Presidents Day: Church Office Closed**

Tuesday, February 19

Zen Meditation Group	5:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Children's Musical Rehearsal	7:00 p.m., Foote Room
Living with Grief Group	7:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Wednesday, February 20

Wellspring Wednesday	See box at right
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Mano a Mano Team	7:15 p.m., Art Room

Thursday, February 21

Pastoral Care Team	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Caregivers Support Group	Noon, Anderson Library
Take Me Out to the Ball Game	1:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Children's Musical Rehearsal	7:00 p.m., Foote Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Fresh Air AA	7:30 p.m., Anderson Library

Friday, February 22

COA Sacred Spaces Retreat	6:00 p.m., Parish Hall
Queer Youth Meeting	6:30 p.m., COA/OWL Room
Sustainable Living Film: <i>Saving Snow</i>	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

Saturday, February 23

Unity Singers Rehearsal	9:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Kung Fu	11:00 a.m., Body Room
Teacher's Night Out	6:00 p.m., Lower Level

Living With Grief Group

Tuesday, February 19 • 7:00-9:00 p.m. • Gannett Room

This is a group for people living with grief and loss. All are welcome to come to discuss issues related to the grieving process.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

Thursdays through March 7 • 1:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

Unity Church members are invited to attend "Films about Baseball," a University of Minnesota Life Long Learning (OLLI) course.

Caregivers Support Group

Thursday, February 21 • Noon-2:00 p.m. • Anderson Library

Are you a part-time or full-time caretaker of loved ones in your life? Do you need support in order to sustain the care you are giving? Join Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs for this support group for caregivers.

Parish Hall Artist

Please visit the Parish Hall to view the eye-catching work by Ugandan artist, Steveboyi Makaubuya. His life story and his continued work in Uganda brings the essence of life in his country into his vivid paintings.

Look Who's Sharing Art

Jane Thomson is sharing a picture of her son, a musician, making a mirror ball. Jane loves the way the artist, Shelley Rohlf, shows his concentration by means of body language, without showing his face.

Story Sunday, February 24 • 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m. *Paradise on Earth*

As Unitarian Universalists, many of us believe that paradise is found here on earth, not in a hard-earned heavenly afterlife. Yet as Joni Mitchell once sang, "we paved paradise and put up a parking lot." Earth itself is our Garden of Eden, but we are destroying it. Join Hallman Ministerial Intern Kathryn Jay as we explore ways we might reclaim the earth as holy ground and recover paradise, bit by tiny bit. Musicians: Unity Singers (9:00/11:00) and Ruth Palmer, piano (4:30).

On Story Sundays, children in grades 1-8 beginning in worship in the Sanctuary. After the Story for All Ages, Workshop Rotation children proceed with their Journey Guides to classes while junior high youth remain in the Sanctuary for the entire worship service.

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 February 10, \$3,597.14 was collected in the Sunday offering. The Circle of Peace Movement will receive a donation of \$2,518.00. Information about today's offering recipient, the Summit-University Planning Council, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on February 24 is East Side Freedom Library.

Wellspring Wednesday, February 20

6:00 p.m. Dinner: *Hawaiian Huli Huli* pork or tofu, pineapple rice, dessert. Cost: \$7/adult, \$4/child (5-12), \$2/child (2-4), \$20/family

6:50 p.m. Worship service in the Ames Chapel

7:15 p.m. Programs and Childcare

What's So Funny about Friendship?: Amicus and the Art of Relationship Building in the Justice System

Friendship and the justice system aren't normally concepts that are thought of together, but those involved in Amicus have learned that there's power in a trusting relationship. Join Volunteers of America Community Justice Director Chris Doege and others as they talk about the Amicus One to One volunteer program and how friendship can lead to safer, more hopeful communities.

Being Civil in an Uncivil Society

Rev. Ed Brock, recent interim minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham, Alabama, will explore the roots of his interest in civility and peacemaking and discuss his recently published book *Optimal Relationships*. Rev. Chris Jimmerson, Minister for Program Development, UU Church of Austin says "Ed Brock has written an extraordinarily powerful and useful book to help us all forge optimal relationships in a variety of settings, despite the polarization we seem to so often find ourselves facing. Filled with stories of real life people, he provides us with a road map of practical principles we can follow, rooted in family systems theory."

Yoga: Vinyasa Flow

This class is for individuals seeking more rigorous movement. Flowing from pose to pose is coordinated with regulated inhales and exhales to strengthen muscles and build balance.

Textile Arts

Bring your knitting, embroidery, needlepoint, etc.

Tween Group

Meet in Ames Chapel at 6:45 p.m. for worship.
