

# This Week at Unity Church

February 23-29, 2020

**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.

## Ministerial Search Team: Your Input Is Needed

The Unity Church Board of Trustees is asking all voting members to suggest names of individuals who might serve on the Ministerial Search Team. To offer your input, please visit the table in the Parish Hall today or complete the online form at [www.unityunitarian.org/ministerial-transition.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/ministerial-transition.html). While the board wants to keep all members of the community informed of the search process, input will only be collected from voting members. If you are unsure about your membership status please email Rev. Lisa Friedman at [lisa@unityunitarian.org](mailto:lisa@unityunitarian.org).

## Finding Yourself at Unity • Topic: Membership 101

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sundays, from 10:20-11:15 a.m., in the Ames Chapel. Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously during the year. Childcare is available in the nursery.

## Unity Congregation Book Read Discussion • Today!

***The Nickel Boys*** by Colson Whitehead

Discussion held Sunday, February 23, at 12:30 p.m., in the Ames Chapel, and Wednesday, February 26, at 7:15 p.m.

## Unity's Young Adult Group

Young Adult Group (ages 18-35) meets today (Sunday, February 23), from 1:00-3:00 p.m., in the Gannett Room. All are welcome! To be added to the Young Adult email list, please email [kp@unityunitarian.org](mailto:kp@unityunitarian.org).

## Pi(e) Day Bake Sale: Time to bake!

Thanks to everyone who purchased a pie! All interested bakers are invited to help bake pies Friday, February, 28, 4:30-9:00 p.m., and Saturday, February 29, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in the kitchen. Email Kevin Ely at [Kevin.M.Ely@gmail.com](mailto:Kevin.M.Ely@gmail.com) to sign up! No prior baking experience needed. Pies will be ready for pick up on March 8!

## Sustainable Living Team Film Series: *To the Ends of the Earth* Friday, February 28 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

Citizens living at the frontiers of oil and gas extraction speak to the consequences of extreme energy and envision a new future.

## Gather for the Earth

**Saturday, February 29 • 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Ames Chapel**

Join Unity's Sustainable Living Team in envisioning climate action and environmental justice. Your ideas will guide the congregation as we work toward the UUA Green Sanctuary Certification. Register online at [www.unityunitarian.org/sustainable-living.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/sustainable-living.html). Related activities for children and childcare will be offered.

## Poetry Book Launch

***Sitting in Lawn Chairs After a Complicated Day*** by Marg Walker  
**Saturday, February 29 • 7:00 p.m. • Parish Hall**

## Unity Church Children's Musical: *Mystery Manor*

**Thursday and Friday, March 5 and 6 • 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 7 • 5:30 p.m.**

Unity's 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, written and directed by Mary Blouin Auffert, with music by Sandy Waterman. Tickets on sale in the Parish Hall today!

## Look Who's Sharing Art

Threshold birthdays are special — we advance from 9 to 10 or 39 to 40. Come to see what Clover Earl shares on her threshold birthday!



**6:00-7:45 p.m.: Silent Auction**

**8:00 p.m.: Concert featuring Ellis with music from her new album, *Ordinary Love***

Unity's annual fundraiser will be on Saturday, March 21! The evening will include a silent auction, delicious food, and a mini concert featuring Ellis! **Tickets, only \$20 each, are now on sale in the Parish Hall!** Donations of activities that build and sustain connection and fellowship are encouraged — time at vacation homes, tours, theme parties, dinners, and tickets to concerts, theater, and sporting events. Our goal is \$30,000 which will support the mission and programs of the church. Donation forms are available in the Parish Hall after the service and online at [www.unityunitarian.org/spring-fundraiser.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/spring-fundraiser.html).

## This Week in Religious Education

**Today is Story Sunday with school-age Rotations children and junior high youth in the Sanctuary for worship.** Rotations children will be blessed out after the Story for All Ages, while junior high youth remain for the full service as part of their growing practice of worship. Spirit Play children should go directly to their classrooms.

**Celebration of New Lives is Sunday, March 8**, for families wishing to recognize and dedicate infants into the church community. This celebration is typically for members of Unity or families who are on the path toward membership. Please contact Michelle Mecey at [michelle@unityunitarian.org](mailto:michelle@unityunitarian.org).

**Spirit Play (ages 3-6):** Children in Spirit Play hear stories about how Families All Matter, a three-Sunday series that explores how families come in diverse forms and expressions. This second class gives attention to adoption. For the third class on divorce, discussion prompts will be sent to parents to encourage further conversations at home. Please send along a family photo for the family tree wall. How are families you know different and same as your family? What is the best thing about your family? How do families show love? How is church like a family?

**Rotations (grades 1-6):** On Story Sundays, children first begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Following the Story for All Ages, children will head down to regular classes.

**Junior High (grades 6-8):** On Story Sundays, youth are in the Sanctuary for full worship as part of their growing practice of worship at the center of congregational life.

**Our Whole Lives** meets Wednesday, February 26, continuing focus on "Redefining Abstinence."

**Coming of Age** does not meet today, given their "sacred spaces" overnight event this past weekend.

**Tower Club:** Youth meet at 2:30 p.m. in Center Room and walk over to SteppingStone Theatre to see *The Real Life Adventures of Jimmy de las Rosas*, a play touching on issues including immigration, criminal justice, climate change, and identity.

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### Sunday, February 23

Anderson and Whitman Libraries Open to the Congregation	
Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Foote Room
Finding Yourself at Unity	10:20 a.m., Ames Chapel
Congregation Book Read Discussion	12:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Above Every Name	1:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Young Adult Gathering	1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall

### Monday, February 24

Men's Retirement Group	1:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room
Affordable Housing Team	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

### Tuesday, February 25

Wellspring Wednesday Cooking Prep	5:00 p.m., Kitchen
Zen Meditation	5:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Debtors Anonymous	7:00 p.m., Drama Room
Recovering Couples Anonymous	7:00 p.m., Science Room

### Wednesday, February 26

Summit Hill AI-Anon	5:00 p.m., Science Room
Wellspring Wednesday	See box at right.
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., Gannett Room

### Thursday, February 27

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years	1:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Fresh Air AA	8:00 p.m., Anderson Library

### Friday, February 28

Sustainable Living Team Film Series	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
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### Saturday, February 29

Gather for the Earth	8:30 a.m., Ames Chapel
Kung Fu	Body Room
Marg Walker Book Launch	7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

View the calendar online at [www.unityunitarian.org/calendar1.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/calendar1.html).

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## End of Life Conversations

All adult members and friends of Unity Church are encouraged to sign up to be a part of facilitated small group discussions focusing on end of life choices, selecting health care agents, and creating a health care directive. Many dates and times are available and groups meet during March. Details and sign up are online at [www.unityunitarian.org/end-of-life.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/end-of-life.html).

## Camp UniStar

Camp UniStar is a place of natural beauty nestled on Star Island, on Cass Lake, in northern Minnesota, where Unitarian Universalists campers enjoy swimming, boating, hiking, games, conversing, and quietly reading on screen porches. Learn more at [www.campunistar.org](http://www.campunistar.org) and meet experienced campers in the Parish Hall today!

## Racial Justice Film Series

**Keynote Speech by Melissa Harris-Lacewell at Facing Race: A National Conference**

**Friday, March 13 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor**

## Unity Men's Retreat

**Saturday, March 28 • Unity Church**

A full day of learning, fellowship, and connection with a keynote by the Rev. Jim Foti. Details and registration are online at [www.unityunitarian.org/men.html](http://www.unityunitarian.org/men.html).

## Sunday Worship, March 1

### **One Step in Front of the Other: the Dance of Resilience**

What is resilience? Why is it a worship theme this month? Who exemplifies a resilient life? Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Richard Lau will offer their reflections on the meaning of resilience.

### 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 16, \$2,595.87 was collected in the Sunday offering. Monarch Joint Venture will receive \$1,817.11. Information about today's offering recipient, Bountiful International, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on March 1 is Women's Advocates.

### Sanctuary Coalition Book Read

#### **Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen**

#### **Discussion: Wednesday, March 18 • 7:15 p.m. • Unity Church**

Unity Church is part of the St. Paul Sanctuary Coalition that includes nine congregations in the Twin Cities area. The members of these congregations are together reading *Dear America, Notes of an Undocumented Citizen* by Jose Antonio Vargas. This is the true life story of the author discovering at age 16 that he was undocumented and the ramifications of that discovery. Copies of the book are available in the Unity libraries and Bookstall.

### Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, March 7 • 8:30-10:00 a.m. • Parish Hall**

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### Wellspring Wednesday, February 26

**5:45 p.m. Dinner:** *Roasted chicken and cabbage or baked tofu with coconut kale, tomato braised white beans, salad, dessert*  
Cost: \$8/adult, \$4/child (5-12), \$2/child (2-4), \$20/family  
**6:45 p.m. Worship service in the Ames Chapel**  
**7:15 p.m. Programs and Childcare**

### The 2020 Unity Church Congregation Read Discussion

#### **The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead**

Colson Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes American history through the story of two boys sentenced to reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.

#### **Onward Educators • Topic: Take Care of Yourself**

Facilitators Jackie Smith and Julianne Malcom will guide the group through a year of resilience-building exercises and reflections, and participants will collaborate to build their capacity for resilience throughout the school year. All educators are welcome.

#### **Artists in Residence: Ina Yukka**

Ina Yukka are a Chilean mother-son duo specializing in traditional South American folk music and canción nueva. These workshops will cover a variety of topics, ranging from Andean dance, building and performing on traditional Andean musical instruments, and learning songs connected to the history and folklore of the Andean region.

#### **Embodied Spiritual Practice: Yoga**

All levels of yoga practitioners are welcome. Dress comfortably, bring a mat and a small blanket if you have one.

#### **Five Animal Kung Fu**

Beginners and experienced martial artist welcome! Be our guest and see if this is the right fit for you.

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

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