

This Week at Unity Church

March 10-16, 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.

Finding Yourself at Unity

Topic: Social Justice and Community Outreach

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sunday mornings, 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.

Gun Sense Ministry Team

Stop by the Gun Sense table to get information about the two bills supported by Protect Minnesota. Pick up a postcard, find your Minnesota State representative and Senator, and write them a message stating what you want from them on these issues.

Young Adult Group (ages 18-35)

Thursday, March 14 • 7:00-9:00 p.m. • Gannett Room

Gather at 6:30 p.m. for coffee/dessert “happy hour!”

Check out the YA blog at <https://stayingabeatlonger.com/>. To be added to the YA email list, email kp@unityunitarian.org.

UU Queer Youth Group

Friday, March 15 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Gannett Room

UU Queer Youth Group will meet for community building, snacks, and fun! For junior high and high school-age LGBTQ2+ folks and allies. Parents are encouraged to spend time to get to know other parents. Questions? Contact Ray at ray@unityunitarian.org.

Ordination of Andrea Johnson

Andrea Johnson served as Unity’s ministerial intern during the 2017-18 church year. The congregation of Unity Church is warmly invited to attend Andrea’s ordination into the Unitarian Universalist ministry on Saturday, 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.

Fourth Friday Sustainable Film Series

An Inconvenient Sequel

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

Following the film, stay for a discussion facilitated by Sam Potter, a climate scientist who gives talks, teaches classes, and conducts original research on the impacts that global warming will have on Minnesota. Popcorn included!

Racial Justice Film Series

Hale County This Morning, This Evening

Friday, March 22 • 7:00 p.m. • Parish Hall

Composed of intimate and unencumbered moments of people in a community, *Hale County This Morning, This Evening* allows the viewer an emotive impression of the Historic South — trumpeting the beauty of life and consequences of the social construction of race, while simultaneously a testament to dreaming — despite the odds. Popcorn will be served and a discussion will follow.

Annual Queer Retreat

Saturday, March 23 • 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. • Unity Church

The Queer Retreat is for all people (ages 18+) who identify under the LGBTQIAPP2+ umbrella, especially folks whose bodies and/or genders don’t fit into the gender binary. Join us for restoration, community, and joy through spiritual practice, creative expression, and conversation! Registration and child care requests are online at www.unityunitarian.org/lgbtq.html. Deadline for registration is March 15. Questions? Contact Ray at ray@unityunitarian.org.

A New Better Angels Workshop: Depolarizing America

Starting with Yourself and People on Your Own Side

Saturday, March 30 • 9:00 a.m.-noon • Unity Church

Register online at: <http://bit.ly/ucubetterangels>

Presenter is Bill Doherty, Unity Church member, Co-founder of Better Angels, and University of Minnesota Professor

Much of today’s epidemic of toxic polarization is driven by how we talk with like-minded people about those on the other side. What if we learn the discipline of non-polarizing attitudes and words about the political “Other” with whom we share a national past and future? This workshop will:

- Help you become more aware of polarization
- Teach skills for being critical—even sharply critical—without demonizing, dismissing, and stereotyping
- Help you learn how to intervene in a constructive way in social conversations that veer into contempt and ridicule

Better Angels is a national nonprofit with a mission to depolarize America. Learn more at www.better-angels.org.

Call for Parish Hall Artists

The Unity Church Art Team is now seeking artists to exhibit in the Parish Hall gallery during the 2019-20 church year. The application deadline is May 1. More information and the application form can be found online at www.unityunitarian.org/parish-hall-artists.

This Week in Religious Education

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): Children in Spirit Play today hear stories about how Families All Matter, a three-Sunday series that explores how families come in diverse forms and expressions. This final session gives special attention to divorce. If you have not already done so, please send along a family photo for the family tree wall. How is your family alike/different from other families? How is church like a family? How do families show love? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

Rotations (grades 1-6): Children begin with worship in Ames Chapel (9:00/4:30) or in the Sanctuary (11:00). Then in classrooms downstairs, they continue with a unit on spiritual friendships that connect us to sacred community.

Junior High (grades 6-8): Classes continue with four courses offered this semester: Technology & Religion, UU Identity & History, Sacred Threads, and Building the Beloved Community. Youth conclude each class with worship in Ames Chapel.

Tweens (grades 5-7) meet Wednesday, March 13, at 6:45 p.m., in the Ames Chapel.

Our Whole Lives meets this Wednesday, March 13, with focus on “lovemaking is more than sex.” Please note the spring overnite scheduled for March 15-16. OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program for grades 8-9.

Coming of Age meets today with youth and mentors, bringing focus to “Living Out Your Values.” COA is our signature spiritual growth program typically for 9th graders.

Tower Club: High school youth meet this evening to further thematic focus “On What Matters.” Tower Club welcomes 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith. Meets typically Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:15 p.m.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, March 10

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
Finding Yourself at Unity	10:20 a.m., Ames Chapel
Above Every Name	1:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Tower Club	6:00 p.m., Center Room

Monday, March 11

Men's Retirement Group	1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room

Tuesday, March 12

Zen Meditation Group	5:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Evergreen Quilters	7:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Unity Book Club	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 13

Wellspring Wednesday	See box at right
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Thursday, March 14

Women in Retirement: The Choice Years	Noon, Center Room
Young Adults Group	6:30 p.m., Gannett Room
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., Center Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room
Fresh Air AA	7:30 p.m., Anderson Library

Friday, March 15

OWL Overnight	7:00 p.m., Foote Room
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Saturday, March 16

Archives Team	9:00 a.m., Facilities Storage
Kung Fu	11:00 a.m., Body Room
Religious Education Teacher Gathering	1:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Look Who's Sharing Art

Nathan Eckstein's piece is titled "Rebel." He hopes it causes the viewer to awaken their inner rebel and break a boundary they thought previously impassable.

Unity Book Club

The Unity Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month, from 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Robbins Parlor. All are welcome — even if you haven't read the book. Questions? Contact Jack Hawthorne at jack.hawthorne@comcast.net.

March 12: *Hillbilly Elegy* by JD Vance

April 9: *Grace and Grit* by Lilly Ledbetter

Pick Up Your Pi Day Pie! Thank you for your support!

If you ordered a pie during Unity's Rainbow Chalice Alliance (RCA) annual Pi(e) Day Bake Sale, it is now available for pick up. Pies are located in the chest freezer, on the lower level, in storage room 015 (blue door). Pie purchases make it possible for RCA to support Q-Quest, Queer Prom, and Youth Pride. Thank you!

Music Ministry: Save these dates!

Wednesday, April 10 • 7:30 p.m. • Unity Singers Concert

Sunday, May 5 • All three services • Arthur Foote Music Sunday

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



Sunday, March 17 • 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Surrender Dorothy!

Was the witch telling the Munchkins to surrender Dorothy to her, or for Dorothy, our heroine, to give up and surrender to her evilness? Perhaps only the wizard knows for sure, but Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Alex Askew will wrestle with the witch to better understand what she meant as she spewed her message across the sky. Musicians: Ellis, guitar and voice; Kathy Kraulik, piano.

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 March 3, \$2,619.00 was collected in the Sunday offering. Project Namnyaki will receive a donation of \$1,833.30. Information about today's offering recipient, Growth & Justice, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on March 17 is Listening House.

Make the Gift of a Cub Foods Gift Card

Please consider making a financial donation of \$60 or more for the purchase Cub Foods gift cards for families in need at Obama School. This year, Unity's Obama School Outreach Team is providing three rounds of \$60 gift cards, 75 cards each time. School families are encouraged to volunteer in their child's classroom as part of this program. Make the donations online at <http://bit.ly/cubcard> with "Friends of Obama" in the comments. Your gift is appreciated!

Wellspring Wednesday, March 13

6:00 p.m. Dinner: *Roasted sausages (including vegetarian), colcannon, green salad, 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

Fr. Vito Sarducci: The Pleasure, the Pain, and the Shame

Please join Fr. Vito (congregant Tom Esch) and pianist Laura Hlavac for comedic and musical reflections on pleasure, pain, and shame. Following the comedy Tom will discuss his life as a Catholic priest, including why he left and how his spirituality has changed. He will also offer his thoughts on why the clergy sexual abuse scandal has been so systemic within the church.

Open Page Writing Session

Surrender: The Nerve Center of Consent

RSVP to karen@unityunitarian.org

Henri Nouwen called surrender an act of deep listening and receiving. Howard Thurman often referred to it as the "nerve center of consent." Others have defined surrender as an offering of ourselves. To what sacred truth and presence do you offer yourself? What is the meaning of surrender in our spiritual journeys? What does it ask — and not ask — of us today?

Led by Consulting Literary Minister Karen Hering, Open Page writing session participants use stories, poetry, images and objects as well as wisdom from religious teachings, science and history to reflect on the monthly theme.

Yoga: Loving Kindness Meditation with Colleen Dooley

Metta bhavana, or loving-kindness meditation, is a meditation of care, concern, tenderness, loving kindness, friendship — a feeling of warmth for oneself and others.

Tween Group: Meet in Ames Chapel at 6:45 p.m. for worship, then heads to Jr. High classroom 21. Pick up is at 8:30 p.m.