

This Week at Unity Church



March 17, 2024

Welcome Visitors

After the service please stop by the Welcome Table in Parish Hall to introduce yourself. We would love to get to know you, answer your questions, and help you learn about Unity Church. If you are attending the service online, contact Philippa Anastos at philippa@unityunitarian.org for the link to join online coffee hour.

Finding Yourself at Unity

Topic: Building Tour

Finding Yourself at Unity meets Sundays, 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the Gannett Room and online at bit.ly/fyonline. For visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously during the year. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Summer Pilgrimage to Transylvania: Information Session

Sunday, March 17 | 10:15 a.m. | Center Room and via Zoom

Join Unity Church members on a summer pilgrimage, led by Rev. Lara Cowtan, to the Unitarian homeland of Transylvania, July 31-August 13, 2024. Attend today's information session or visit unityunitarian.org/partner-church.html for more details.

The Unrestricted Gifts of Barbara Hubbard

A Celebration of 25 Years

Sunday, March 17 | 4:00 p.m. | Unity Church

Celebrate Barbara Hubbard's ministry as executive director in the Sanctuary at 4:00 p.m., followed by a reception in Parish Hall.

Active Hope for Climate Resilience

Saturday, March 23 | 9:00 a.m.-noon | Unity Church

Details and registration: bit.ly/ucuactivehope

This workshop is an introduction to the work of Joanna Macy, an eco-philosopher and activist who gives us frameworks and practices of gratitude, grief, interconnection, and ultimately transformation to stay engaged and resilient in our work to save ourselves and our planet.

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 23 | 9:00-11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

Donations will be gratefully accepted. All are welcome!

Miserere: A Female View

Girls' Choir of Sing-Akademie zu Berlin

Tuesday, March 26 | 6:00 p.m. | Unity Church

Music by Kim Arne Arnesen, Sulpitia Cesis, Johann Adolf Hasse, Eva Ugalde and others. Tobias Brommann, organ/piano, and Friederike Stahmer, director. Girls' Choir of Sing-Akademie zu Berlin will also join us as musical guests on Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 28 | 7:00 p.m. | Ames Chapel

The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum* or commandment, which Jesus gave his disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you." This is a contemplative service which remembers Jesus on the last night of his earthly life by rituals of washing of feet and an extinguishing of candles. Please email katrina@unityunitarian.org to reserve childcare.

2024 MidAmerica Regional Assembly

The MidAmerica Region is coming together — both online and at the First Unitarian Society of Madison, WI, April 19-20, for a multiplatform regional assembly! Get the details: bit.ly/midra

The Minns Lectures 2024 Series

Abolition Theologies: Praying for Liberation

Rev. Jason Lydon, Second Unitarian Church of Chicago

With both violent theological underpinnings and inherent racism upholding the prison system, Rev. Lydon will show that prison abolitionism is a theological imperative for Unitarian Universalists. This series is offered via Zoom to participants not in Boston or Chicago. Registration is free: minnslectures.org.

Lecture 1: Thursday, April 18 | 7:00 p.m. EDT

Panel Discussion: Sunday, April 21 | 1:00 p.m. EDT

Lecture 2: Thursday, April 25 | 7:00 p.m. EDT

Lecture 3: Thursday, May 9 | 7:00 p.m. CDT

March Is Minnesota Foodshare Month

Help Unity Church donate 4,000 pounds of food to the food shelf this year by bringing an item every time you come to church. Collection baskets are located at the Portland and Holly Avenue entrances. Needed now: soup, tuna, rice, canned tomatoes and chicken, and paper grocery bags.

Help Prepare a Wellspring Wednesday Meal

Sign up at bit.ly/wwhosp for Monday grocery shopping, Tuesday night prep from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Wednesday support (cook, serve, clean up) from 4:00-5:30 or 5:00-7:30 p.m. We have such a good time in the kitchen together! Questions? Contact Heidi Birkholz at heidi@unityunitarian.org.

This Week in Religious Education

Spirit Play (ages 3-6) children step into this season of life's renewal by considering the life cycle of a frog. How does a tadpole know when it's time to become a frog? How might the tadpole feel about losing its tale? How might the frog think about change? What changes more, a frog or a child? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

Rotations (grades 1-6) children begin with worship in Ames Chapel, then in classrooms explore the theme of "Sacred Community" which celebrates and affirms many different types of families, held together in the embrace of love.

Middle School (grades 6-8) youth continue their second semester class on "Building the Beloved Community." Youth conclude each class with worship in Ames Chapel.

Our Whole Lives meets Wednesday, March 20, with focus on "sexually transmitted infection." OWL is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for grades 8-9.

Coming of Age youth meet today in a writing workshop with mentors. COA is a signature spiritual growth and enrichment program typically for 9th graders.

Tower Club senior high youth meet today for their regular meeting. Tower Club is a gathering place for 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith, typically Sundays from 12:45-2:45 p.m.

2024 Chalice Camp: July 8-12 and July 15-19

Chalice Camp at Unity Church is offered Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., for children and youth ages 5-18 (youth in grades 7-12 serve as junior counselors and counselors). Registration and counselor applications are online at unityunitarian.org/chalice-camp.html.

This Week at Unity Church

Find the church calendar, along with links to participate in online offerings, at unityunitarian.org/calendar.html.

Sunday, March 17

Sunday Services 9:00 (livestream) and 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary
Religious Education Classes 9:00 and 11:15 a.m., lower level
Afterthoughts 10:15 a.m., Lower level - Room 024/online
Finding Yourself at Unity 10:15 a.m., Gannett Room/online
Transylvania Pilgrimage Information 10:15 a.m., Center Room
Youth Choir Rehearsal 10:15 a.m., Ames Chapel
Children's Choir Rehearsal 10:20 a.m., Choir Room
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal 10:30 a.m., Foote Room
Pick-up Choir Rehearsal 12:30 p.m., Choir Room
Tower Club 12:30 p.m., Center Room
Barbara Hubbard Retirement Celebration 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Monday, March 18

Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Circle of Peace 5:15 p.m., Center Room
Men's Conversation Group 7:00 p.m., online

Tuesday, March 19

Wellspring Wednesday Food Prep 4:00 p.m., Kitchen
Unity Sangha 4:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Living with Grief Group 6:30 p.m., online
Unity Singers Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 20

Men's Coffee Group 10:00 a.m., DeCramer Room
Summit Hill Alanon 5:00 p.m., Science Room
Wellspring Wednesday Dinner 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Recovery from White Conditioning 6:00 p.m., online
Wellspring Wednesday Chapel Service 6:40 p.m., Ames Chapel
Book Reading with Susan Huehn 7:10 p.m., Robbins Parlor
A Taste of Coming of Age 7:10 p.m., Gannett Room
Young Adults Group 7:10 p.m., Center Room
Beginner Violin 7:10 p.m., Choir Room
Textile Arts 7:10 p.m., DeCramer Room

Thursday, March 21

Caregivers Support Group noon, online
Gun Violence Prevention Team 3:30 p.m., Gannett Room
Fresh Air AA 7:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Unity Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Saturday, March 23

Kung Fu 9:00 a.m., Body Room
Debtors Anonymous 9:00 a.m., Science Room
Active Hope for Climate Resilience 9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Pancake Breakfast 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Evergreen Quilters 10:00 a.m., Foote Room

All Virtual UUA General Assembly

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. Join GA online, June 20–June 23, 2024, for this immersive experience where we participate in inspirational worship services and informative workshops, reconvene with friends and colleagues, and explore our virtual exhibit hall. You'll leave with renewed energy and innovative ideas to share with your congregation and community-at-large! If you are interested in attending, please visit uua.org/ga. If you would like to serve as a delegate from Unity Church, please email to unity@unityunitarian.org.

Wellspring Wednesday

Wellspring Wednesday gathers a multigenerational church community to nourish right and holy relationship among us and deepen our life of faith grounded in spiritual practice and antiracist multicultural work. Details at unityunitarian.org/wellspring-wednesday.html

MARCH 20

Dinner: 5:45 p.m.: Sausage and peppers on polenta, green salad, brown butter bars. \$10/adults, \$5/child (ages 5-12), \$3/child (ages 2-4), and \$25/family
Chapel service: 6:45 p.m.
Programs with child care provided: 7:10 p.m.

Book Reading and Signing: *A Widow's Guide to Becoming a Handyman* by Susan Huehn | Robbins Parlor

Come hear Unity's own Susan Huehn read from her book that is part memoir, part immigrant story, and part how-to-guide. Called "big hearted and artfully crafted," Susan's story of the sudden death of her husband, and the grief and healing that followed is set against the backdrop of her quirky and needy old farmhouse. Books will be available to purchase.

A Taste of Coming of Age: What does it mean to be human and alive? | Gannett Room

This is the first of the five questions that young people in Unity's Coming of Age program address through their credo statements each spring. In this session, facilitated by Coming of Age mentor and teacher of teachers Nate Schultz, we will turn the floor over to you, inviting your responses, and listening in as others grapple with their thoughts. Next month, Nate will invite you to share your credo.

Board Game Night | Anderson Library

Open to everyone; kids are welcome with their adult(s)! We'll have a variety of board games available that are easy to learn, or bring a favorite board game.

Textile Arts | DeCramer Room

Bring your knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, and needlepoint for a gathering of fellowship and service.

Beginner Violin with Mayra Mendoza | Choir Room

Beginning violin lessons appropriate for all ages. Learn basic violin posture, note reading, and more! Email Mayra at mayraquitzia@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

MARCH 27

Dinner: Baked potato bar with pot roast topper, zippy salad, thumbprint cookies

Mitakuye Oyasin: Poems and Words from a Dakota Poet's Journey | Parish Hall and online via Zoom: bit.ly/dktaepoet

Unity's Indigenous Justice Team welcomes Tatanka Ohitika Dakota Akitica (Strong Buffalo, Dakota Warrior), an enrolled member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota, and a decorated Vietnam veteran, for an evening of poetry and conversation. He has been writing poetry and performing spoken word before there was anything called American Indian poetry. He is the founder of Oyate Hotanin, (Dakota for "Voice of the People") an organization working to lead a movement for the next 500 years that supports a new era of art, healing, and change. His words have been translated into more than 17 languages, in a variety of media, to contribute to a world where we use creativity and options other than war, racism, classism, and exploitation to solve our problems.