

This Week at Unity Church

May 12-18, 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: UU History

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.

Footnote Sunday Music and Unity Church CDs

Footnote Sunday music will be available online in June. Past Unity Church music CDs are available today in the Parish Hall — donations gratefully accepted!

2019 Congregational Survey • <http://bit.ly/ucusurvey2019>

How are things at Unity Church? Short and sweet, let us know!

May is the month to complete the short and sweet 2019 Congregational Survey and let the board know how things are going at Unity Church! The congregational survey is one very important tool that the board uses to gauge the progress of the congregation as we live into our Ends. This year's survey is shorter, with options to take a five minute survey, or opt for extended responses. All church members, friends, and high school youth are encouraged to complete the survey!

Apply to Serve on the Unity Church Board of Trustees

At the annual meeting in November, the congregation will vote to elect three nominees to the Unity Church Board of Trustees. Trustees find board service to be an experience that enriches their relationship with the church community and offers opportunities for personal growth. Trustee terms are three years, and meetings are held once a month on Saturday mornings. Information about the work of the board and a trustee position description and application are online at www.unityunitarian.org/board-of-trustees.html.

You must be a voting member of Unity Church to serve as a trustee. Current trustees will be available in the Parish Hall today to answer questions. The deadline to apply is June 15, interviews will take place in July, and the nominees will be chosen in early fall. For more information or to request an application, email Ruth Kirkland at ruth_kirkland@hotmail.com.

Racial Justice Movie Night • *Rondo: Beyond the Pavement* Friday, May 17 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

Rondo: Beyond the Pavement, a documentary filmed by Rondo youth, shares the voices of a thriving Saint Paul neighborhood torn apart by the I-94 corridor. The 30-minute film will be followed by a Q&A session with a panel of the filmmakers and others.

Parish Hall Art Exhibit and Reception

Drawings from the series *Seeing Nature* by Unity member Maura Williams are on display in the Parish Hall during the month of May. All are invited to a reception on Friday, May 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Climate Justice Lecture Series

Saturday, May 18 • First Unitarian Society, Minneapolis

The American Humanist Association Center for Education is holding its fourth annual open lecture series *Climate Justice: A Better Future for Us*. This series will build a narrative on the human right to a safe and habitable environment, and the challenges posed by over consumption and a rapidly industrializing world. Panel members will share stories and creative solutions to address the degradation of our environment and the inequalities in our communities. This event is free! Details are online at <http://bit.ly/mnclimate2019>.

Fourth Friday Sustainable Film Series

***Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home* Friday, May 24 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor**

Learn how using native plants in landscaping can create habitat for wildlife through this documentary featuring renowned entomologist Dr. Doug Tallamy. Popcorn will be served and discussion will follow the film.

Prior Crossing Closet Seeks Donations

Since summer 2016, Unity Church has helped stock Hope's Closet at Prior Crossing where homeless youth moving into a semi-furnished apartment home can "shop" shelves of donated new and gently used household goods. It's time to replenish the closet and stock up a pantry! **Closet and pantry items can be brought to Rev. Lisa Friedman's office during the month of May.** Accepted donations include:

- Full/double size sheet sets, mattress pads, comforters
- Pillows: (must be new)
- Pots and pans: large frying pans with lids, two quart pots
- Silverware and dish sets (microwave safe only)
- Trash can: tall kitchen size, broom, dust pan, Swiffer mop
- Towels: bath, hand, and washcloth and bath mats
- Knives, graters, peelers, can openers, spatulas, etc.
- Toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex
- Healthy non-perishable food options, ramen, breakfast bars, peanut butter, soup, tuna
- Deodorant, shampoo and conditioner (including products for African Americans), soap, body wash, sanitary products, laundry detergent, dryer sheets
- Trash bags, dish soap, sponge, glass cleaner, all surface cleaner, toilet cleaner and brush

This Week in Religious Education

Celebration today to recognize our ministry with children and families! Spirit Play and Rotations children can be gathered outside in the garden space following the service. Next Sunday, May 19, is Flower Communion Family Sunday. We then switch over to our Summer in the Garden program beginning Sunday, May 26, at 10:00 a.m., for children ages 4-12.

Interested in serving as COA mentor? Do you like to listen and reflect with others about the journey of faith? Can you be yourself, open, and honest around teenagers? Consider being a teacher or mentor for COA this fall. Please email Drew Danielson at drew@unityunitarian.org.

R.E. Enrollment for 2019-20 will be offered again for families who missed spring sessions: Sunday, June 2, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Footnote Room. Childcare provided. To schedule alternative time, email Michelle Mecey at michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Tween Late-Night: Friday, May 17, 7:00-11:00 p.m., in the Robbins Parlor. All tweens are invited to join us for an end-of-the-year party! Games, snacks, and lots of fun together. RSVP to ray@unityunitarian.org.

Graduating high school seniors will gather for Bridging Ceremony on Sunday, May 19, during the 11:00 a.m. service. Questions? Contact Drew Danielson at drew@unityunitarian.org.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, May 12

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

Monday, May 13

Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room
Your UU Elevator Speech	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

Tuesday, May 14

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, May 15

Al Anon Group	5:00 p.m., Science Room
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Coming of Age for Adults	7:00 p.m., Foote Room

Thursday, May 16

Pastoral Care Team	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Caregivers Support Group	Noon, Anderson Library
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room
Fresh Air AA	7:30 p.m., Anderson Library

Friday, May 17

Parish Hall Artist Reception	6:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Tween Late Night	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Racial Justice Movie Night	7:00 p.m., Center Room

Saturday, May 18

Board of Trustees	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
Kung Fu	11:00 a.m., Body Room

Obama School: Volunteer next year!

Volunteer and background check forms are available at the Holly Avenue reception desk for those wishing to volunteer at Obama School in the fall. This year's volunteers said, "the time at the school was the center of my week" and "I enjoyed the positive relationships with the children, assistants, and teachers." Join us next year! Return forms in a sealed envelope to Lisa Friedman before May 15.

Look Who's Sharing Art

Rose Mitlyng is sharing photos of her Aunt Lydia Pokrass, who passed away at the age of 104 last summer.

Summer Sundays

From May 26 through September 1 there is just one service each week at 10:00 a.m. Lay-led worship services begin July 23. Summer Sundays in the Garden (a program for children and youth held during worship) also begins on May 26.

Summer Musicians

Summer is a great time to share your musical gifts with Unity Church members and friends. If you are interested in participating as a musician during a summer service, contact Kathleen Bartholomay at kathleenbartholomay297@gmail.com or 651-343-4764.

Flowers for Summer Worship

If you would like to bring flowers from your garden for a summer service, please contact Martha Tilton at 651-228-1456 x105 or martha@unityunitarian.org for available dates (June 16-September 8) and details.

Sunday, May 19 • 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Flower Communion Family Sunday

Join the whole church family and **bring a flower to place on the Flower Communion arch** as we celebrate the resilience and diversity of the Beloved Community. This uniquely Unitarian Universalist ritual recalls the life and ministry of Norbert Čapek who defied the Nazis and died a martyr at Dachau. Hallman Ministerial Intern Kathryn Jay will offer a homily. The 9:00 and 4:30 services will include a ceremony of dedication for older children. The 11:00 service will honor Unity's graduating high school seniors with a bridging ceremony. Musicians: Combined Choirs (9:00/11:00) and The Four: Unity Choir Section Leader Quartet (4:30).

On Family Sundays, children experience the entire worship together with their families in the Sanctuary. A children's message and activity books related to the stories and sermon help children to engage in the experience of worship. Regular religious education programming does not take place on Family Sundays; however, the nursery is open for children under five years of age.

Dedication of Older Children

Sunday, May 19 • 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Families who would like their child to participate in our annual dedication should email Michelle Mecey at michelle@unityunitarian.org. This ritual provides the church an opportunity to commit itself to nurturing children who have come into our community as "big kids" and is appropriate for families who are members or on the pathway to membership at Unity Church.

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 May 5, \$6,402.11 was collected in the Sunday offering. The Arthur Foote Music Sunday Fund will receive the entire amount. Information about today's offering recipient, Faith Builders Habitat for Humanity, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on May 19 is Scholars of Minnesota—COPE Project.

Mentoring at Unity: A Path to Deeper Connection

Unity Church has a mentor program available to all visitors and new members. A mentor serves as a guide and a resource in the congregation. They pledge to meet at least once a month face to face, and be available for ongoing questions and advice for at least six months. If you have questions, or would like to request a mentor, please stop by the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall or email Rev. Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Grand Old Day

On Sunday, June 2, street parking will be limited due to the Grand Old Day festival. Unity's parking lots will be managed by volunteers so that worshippers can park while fair-goers contribute money toward Unity's Habitat for Humanity build. Interested in working a parking shift? Email Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Summer Camp at Unity Church 2019!

Another summer of community, excitement and fun! 

CHALICE CAMP: July 8–12 and July 22–26

CHALICE KIDS: July 15–19 and July 29–August 2

Details and registration at: <http://bit.ly/chalicecamp2019>

• **Wellspring Wednesday** is on summer vacation and will return on Wednesday, September 11!