

This Week at Unity Church

August 7, 2022

Welcome Visitors

After the service please stop by the Welcome Table in the 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, join other Unity Church congregants for informal conversation at an online coffee hour. Contact Laura Park (laura@unityunitarian.org) for the link to join each Sunday when the live-streamed service ends.

Finding Yourself at Unity

Topic: Membership 101 and Congregational Life

Finding Yourself at Unity meets Sundays, from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., in the Gannett Room and online at <https://bit.ly/fyuonline>. Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously during the year. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Visit the Children's and Pollinator Gardens

Stop by the canopy in the green space after services to see what the kids have been up to in the garden, and pick up some produce to take home (freewill offering appreciated). The Act for the Earth Pollinator Team will also be there with free native plant seedlings and information on upgrading yards for pollinators as well as a fall group plant purchase opportunity.

August Parish Hall Artist: Mary Longley

Mary Longley's art is inspired by the immediate beauty of nature and the implications of a multi-dimensional universe hypothesized by String Theory Physics. Mary will be in the Parish Hall after the service, please stop by to say hello!

A Concert to Support Indigenous Rights

Thursday, August 11 • 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and via livestream

Join us for an evening of music, conversation, and action featuring Annie Humphrey, musician, activist, and member of the Leech Lake Nation. On the heels of the Line 3 fight comes another threat to tribal rights, forests, and waters in north central Minnesota in the form of a massive lumber mill and forest clearing. Unity's Act for the Earth and Indigenous Justice Community Outreach Ministry Teams are supporting the fight to stop the mill until tribal communities are fully consulted and an environmental impact statement is completed. This concert and information session will be held in Unity's Sanctuary with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. Please let us know if you plan to attend the concert in-person: <https://bit.ly/concert811>. Registration is not required if you will attend the concert via livestream: <https://youtu.be/9WVvYaoNAKG0>.

Unity's Nursery Seeks Youth Caregivers

Build job skills, acquire early childhood education experience, join a team with friends, and help provide loving care and connection for the youngest in our congregation. Interested? Contact Ray at ray@unityunitarian.org by August 15.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, August 21 • 11:00 a.m. • Parish Hall

Enjoy pancakes and fellowship after the service. It is an all you can eat affair and donations will be gratefully accepted to cover the cost of supplies.

Sacred Sites Tour • Openings are filling fast!

Saturday, August 27 • 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Register: <https://bit.ly/sacredsitesaugust>

Unity's Act For the Earth and Indigenous Justice Community Outreach Ministry Teams are offering this deeply moving tour again. It will be led by Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs (Mohican) and Kelly Sherman Conroy (Oglala Lakota). Join us for this opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective through storytelling and experiencing the sites in silence, meditation, and reflection. The cost for the tour is \$50 per participant and scholarships are available.

UU Wellspring Sources Program

Retreat: Saturday, August 27 • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Meets most second and fourth Tuesdays, September 2022 through June 2023

Register by August 20: <https://bit.ly/uuwellspring22>

UU Wellspring is a year-long program of spiritual deepening connected to the Six Sources of our living Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. Through reading and reflection, daily spiritual practice, spiritual companionship, and small group process that holds space to hear our deepest thoughts, the UU Wellspring Sources program is a deeply meaningful way to explore what Unitarian Universalism means to you and how you want your faith to guide your life and your work for justice. To find out more, contact Laura Park at laura@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x110.

Boys Totem Town Community Event

Unity's Racial and Restorative Justice Team is collaborating with several partners to host a community event about the future of Boys Totem Town, a 72-acre St. Paul site that closed in 2019, after 113 years of use as a juvenile detention.

A community dialogue and deliberation event is planned for Saturday, August 27, from 1:00-4:00 p.m., at Conway Recreation Center: 2090 Conway Street, St. Paul.

Plan on listening, learning, and eating together and interacting with fun activities for the entire family. Registration is requested for this event. If you do not register, you will still be allowed to attend, but attendance will be limited to 100. For registration and more information, visit btccc.org. Questions? Please email Maura Williams at mauramwill@gmail.com.

This Week in Religious Education

Summer in the Garden continues throughout the summer at 10:00 a.m. Great for children ages 4-12. Please meet in our outdoor garden, next to the parking lot (or lower level if inclement weather). No registration is necessary but drop-in capacity is limited by the number of adult volunteers present. Want to help? Email Ray at ray@unityunitarian.org.

Religious Education Enrollment for 2022-23 will be offered Sunday, August 21, 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the Foote Room. Please contact Ray with questions or comments at ray@unityunitarian.org.

This Week at Unity Church

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

Sunday, August 7

Sunday Services	10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Summer in the Garden	10:00 a.m., Children's Garden
Meet the Parish Hall Artist Mary Longley	11:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Children's & Pollinator Gardens Event	11:00 a.m., Green Space
Afterthoughts	11:00 a.m., Crothers Room
Zoom Coffee Hour	11:15 a.m., online
Finding Yourself at Unity	11:15 a.m., Gannett Room

Monday, August 8

Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Parish Hall
Men's Conversation Group	7:00 p.m., online

Tuesday, August 9

Primary Election	Get to the polls!
Affordable Housing Team	4:30 p.m., online
Unity Sangha	4:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Evergreen Quilters	7:00 p.m., Anderson Library

Wednesday, August 10

Men's Coffee Group	9:00 a.m., Green Space Tent
Summit Hill AI-Anon	5:00 p.m., Science Room
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., online

Thursday, August 11

Connie Waterous Memorial Service	1:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
A Concert to Support Indigenous Rights	7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., online
Fresh Air AA	8:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Saturday, August 13

Board of Trustees	9:00 a.m., Anderson Library
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Parable of the Sower

Sunday Service August 14 • 10:00 a.m.

In-person and via livestream: <https://youtu.be/Q02YokikuCg>
Commemorating the seventh anniversary of the mass shooting at the historic Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC, faith leaders across denominations have called for a national yearlong campaign to examine the soul of our nation and wrestle with the moral spiritual dilemma at this critical time. The sacred text that nine church members were studying that fateful night was Mark 4:1-20, the Parable of the Sower. What kind of soil are we? What kind are we to become as race, history, and politics shape the ground of our life together? Rev. KP Hong and worship associate Merrill Aldrich ask us to hear the parable for ourselves, tilling the messy complexity everywhere surrounding us, in search of good soil where seeds of grace and promise may take root and grow.

Sunday Offering

Each Sunday, seventy percent of the offering is shared with a community non-profit and thirty percent supports the Community Outreach Ministry at Unity Church. Today's collection supports Como/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program. To find donation amounts from previous offerings, or to nominate an organization to receive the offering, please visit <https://unityunitarian.org/sunday-offering.html>.

Merging of Waters Worship Service

Remember to collect water this summer for our annual Merging of Waters ritual service held on Sunday, September 11.

Wellspring Wednesday

Wellspring Wednesday dinner, chapel service, and programming will be offered once a month during the summer. The final summer Wellspring Wednesday will be held August 17.

Wednesday, August 17

5:45 p.m., Dinner: Bolivian favorites (vegetarian)

6:45 p.m., Chapel service

7:10 p.m., Charango! With the Mano a Mano Team

Charango! A Bolivian tale of love and music. Learn how the humble armadillo added his song to the forest choir. Vegetarian dinner of Bolivian favorites, followed by chapel service, then program, music, crafts, and activities suitable for all ages in the Unity Church green space.

Unity Church Mural Project: Artistic Help Needed!

Unity's Art Team is creating a mural in the Foote Room with artist Mica Lee Anders. Mica's vision is to design — with input from the participants — a work of art to visually represent the many cultures of people living in our region. The Art Team seeks 15–25 participants (youth in grades 6–12 and adults) to help decide on the visual representations, paint the panels, and help with the installation. The project will take place in September and October, with approximately 20-25 hours of work, and volunteers will help decide on the best dates and times. Additional details are available online at <https://www.unityunitarian.org/art-lives-at-unity-church.html>. Interested? Contact Paul Rogne at 763-355-8176 or artteam@unityunitarian.org.

Bring Food for the Food Shelf

During the month of August the food shelf is in need of granola bars, fruit bars, boxed cereal, bottled water, soup, ramen noodles, gravy and mashed potatoes. Please bring an item — or two — every time you come to church. Thank you!

Volunteer at Unity's Front Desk

Unity's front desk volunteers staff the desk at the Holly Avenue entrance, answering occasional phone calls, greeting visitors, chatting with staff, doing odd projects and yes — playing Sudoku or reading a good book! We're in need of a few more regulars, as well as a few substitutes. Shifts are weekdays, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Interested? Contact Peter Heege at peter.heege@theuptake.org.

Change, Conflict, and Complexity

Antidotes and Spiritual Practices

Training Event with Team Dynamics

Save the date: Saturday, September 24 • 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Save the date as we further our collaboration with Team Dynamics in deepening intercultural capacity across our ministry areas. We will build on practices and touch the complexities at the heart of our antiracist multicultural work. Please watch for further information.

Dine with Nine Returns

Beginning in October, small groups of Unity Church members and friends will gather once a month for food and fellowship. Each group is self-directed and will choose the dates, times, and locations for their gatherings. Details and sign-up are available at <https://www.unityunitarian.org/dine-with-nine.html>. Questions? Contact Laura Park at laura@unityunitarian.org.