

This Week at Unity Church

August 25-31, 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: Religious Education for Children, Youth, and Adults

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sundays, from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.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 Men's Conversation Group

The Men's Conversation Group meets the second and fourth Monday of each month (August 26, September 10 and 24), from 7:00-9:00 p.m., in the Gannett Room, to discuss a wide range of topics; to offer support for each other with emotional, spiritual, family, and other issues; and to develop a deeper connection with one another. Everyone identifying as male is welcome. Questions? Contact Terry McDanel at tmcdanel@gmail.com.

Merging of Waters • Sunday, September 8

Services at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 4:30 p.m.

Come celebrate the start of a new church year by merging the waters of the world in a time of reunion. There will be a story for all ages, music from Peter Mayer, and a joyful time to come together after far-flung summer adventures. Don't forget to bring the water you have collected this summer for the merging ritual.

Seeking Library Assistance

Perhaps you'd be willing to help out at Obama School but can't commit to every week. Or, perhaps you're an introvert and would like to work in an area quieter than a classroom. The library could use your help! Contact Nancy Heege for details at nancyheege@cs.com.

Sign Up for a Chalice Circle • In the Parish Hall today!

Chalice Circles are small groups of 8-10 participants who come together with a trained leader, once a month from September-June, to nurture spiritual growth in community. At the beginning of each month, participants receive materials based upon the monthly worship theme. From these materials, each participant chooses one spiritual exercise and a deep question to sit with for the course of the month. At the end of the month, participants gather with their group to share their experiences. Details and sign up are available at the Chalice Circle table in the Parish Hall today and online at www.unityunitarian.org/chalice-circles.html.

Dine with Nine

Are you interested in getting to know more people at Unity Church? Do you enjoy good food and lively conversation? Beginning in October, small groups of church members and friends will gather in each other's homes once a month for food and fellowship. The self-directed groups will choose dates, times, and places for their gatherings. Visit the Dine with Nine table in the Parish Hall through September 22, to learn more. Sign up to participate online at www.unityunitarian.org/dine-with-nine.html or by email to Teresa Wernecke at teresa475@gmail.com. Please include your contact information and let us know if you would like to sign up for a family or adult only group.

Food Shelf Collection

Bring non-perishable food and hygiene items to Unity Church and help feed hungry people in our community through Evergreen Quilters' partnership with Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf. Wicker collection trunks are located at the Portland and Holly entrances.

The Unity Bookstall's Second-Ever



Used Children's Picture Book Sale

Sundays

Aug 25 & Sep 1, 2019

Black Lives of UU presents

The Harper-Jordan Memorial Symposium

October 30-November 2 • St. Paul, MN

The Harper-Jordan Memorial Symposium responds to a longing on the part of many Black Unitarian Universalists to more fully understand where we have been, who we are now, and how we hope to live out our Unitarian Universalism as Black people.

This four-day gathering will offer a welcome reception, informative and interactive plenaries, spiritual grounding and worship experiences that speak directly to the onsite learning, and as many meaningful and joy-filled networking and community-building opportunities as you can handle. The symposium will conclude with a worship service, open to all, at Unity Church-Unitarian.

The Symposium is open to everyone, with priority registration for Black people, Indigenous people and People of Color. After you have registered you will be notified if a space in the symposium is available for you. Full details and registration is online at www.blacklivesuu.com.

This Week in Religious Education

Summer in the Garden is offered today at 10:00 a.m. and continues throughout summer. Great for children ages 4-12. Please meet in our outdoor garden, next to the parking lot. No registration is necessary but drop-in capacity will be limited by the number of adult volunteers present. Regular nursery care is also available.

Religious Education Enrollment for 2019-2020

The next R.E. enrollment session for the 2019-20 church year will be held Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 p.m. If you plan to enroll your child in Unity's Sunday programs for children and youth, please attend this session. Questions? Contact Michelle Mecey at michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Sunday, September 8, is Merging of Waters Family Sunday!

On Family Sundays, children experience the entire worship service 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 three years of age.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, August 25

Anderson and Whitman Libraries Open to the Congregation
Finding Yourself at Unity 11:15 a.m., Ames Chapel
Afterthoughts 11:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Above Every Name 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Monday, August 26

Men's Retirement Group 1:00 p.m., Gannett Room
Circle of Peace 5:15 p.m., Center Room
Men's Conversation Group 7:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Tuesday, August 27

Tuesday Night Chopping 4:00 p.m., Kitchen
Zen Meditation Group 5:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Debtors Anonymous 6:30 p.m., Drama Room

Wednesday, August 28

Al Anon Group 5:00 p.m., Science Room
Recovery from White Conditioning 6:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Thursday, August 29

Fresh Air AA 8:00 p.m., Anderson Library

Summer Sunday Service • 10:00 a.m.

September 1: *That's (Not?) Funny!*

Dane Smith, worship leader; Shelley Butler, worship associate

We can be such a dreadfully earnest and serious people. Our faith also equips us with open minds and a keen appreciation for irony, incongruity, absurdity, and the stuff from which humor is made. We know how laughter can be medicine, and how the causes of social justice have often been served by pioneering comedians, from Lenny Bruce through Dick Gregory to Ellen DeGeneres. We also know how sarcasm and ridicule is used too often to belittle and bully the vulnerable and the oppressed. We'll reflect on how to draw boundaries and appreciate humor that is a tonic, and not toxic, in our struggle for justice, and our everyday lives. And we'll parse some of the best and worst Unitarian Universalist jokes!

Musicians: Dan Schwartz, guitar and vocals; Bryan Janssens, bass

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. The August 18 offering totals will be reported in the September 1 edition of *This Week at Unity*. Information about today's offering recipient, East Side Elders, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on August 25 is One Voice Mixed Chorus.

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 would like more information, stop by the Welcome Table or email Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Look Who's Sharing Art

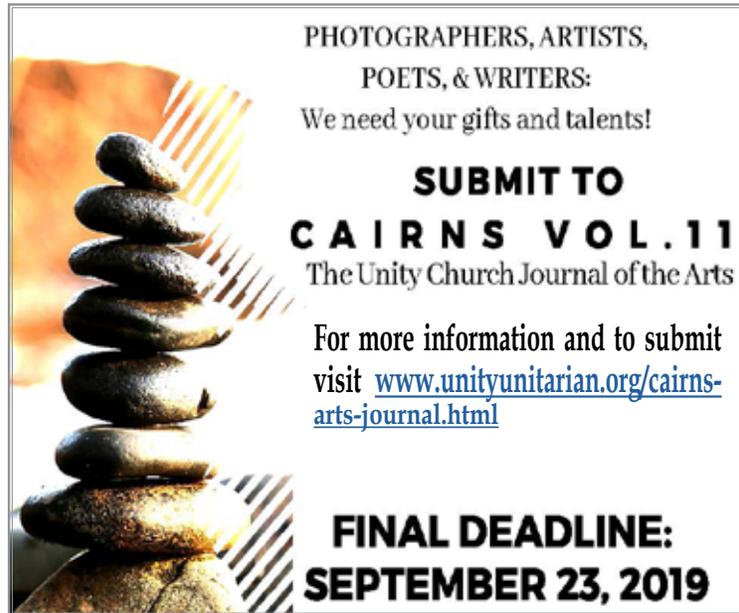
Bill Randall's painting "Big Tree, Little Branch" makes the viewer wonder, "If trees could talk, what would they be saying?"

Opportunity St. Paul

As part of a city wide effort, Unity Church is joining other faith communities to rally an army of volunteers to combat poverty. Unity is becoming an anchor house of worship for Opportunity St. Paul, which matches volunteers with nonprofit organizations that have proven records of effectively addressing barriers to economic mobility. Opportunity St. Paul also offers volunteers learning events that build community and advance understanding of how to make a meaningful dent in poverty. As a key part of the effort, Unity hopes to get at least 10 volunteers to participate. What this means is that you will:

- Commit to volunteering once a week for a year with one partner organization. You will receive all the support and resources you need to be successful in your role.
- Attend bi-monthly learning community events, which include dinner and fellowship, presentations, and interfaith dialogue. These events provide context for volunteers and help build community.
- Join a group of dedicated volunteers who are passionate about working to make a meaningful impact in our city.

To learn more, contact Ann Russell at annjd83@gmail.com or Sherri Knuth at sknuth001@msn.com. They will coordinate Unity's team of volunteers. They are eager to get started!



PHOTOGRAPHERS, ARTISTS,
POETS, & WRITERS:
We need your gifts and talents!

SUBMIT TO
CAIRNS VOL. 11
The Unity Church Journal of the Arts

For more information and to submit
visit www.unityunitarian.org/cairns-arts-journal.html

FINAL DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019



Read Now — Meet the Author This Fall

After the Good News
Progressive Faith Beyond Optimism
by Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd



After the Good News
Progressive Faith Beyond Optimism
by Nancy McDonald Ladd
Skinner House, 2019

Available in
the Unity Bookstall and
the Anderson Library

Two opportunities to meet and hear Rev. Ladd at Unity Church

1. Saturday, October 12, at 9:00 a.m., Samuel Morgan Forum!
2. Sunday, October 13, at the 9:00, 11:00, and 4:30 services!