

This Week at Unity Church

October 10, 2021

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

Today's topic: Unitarian Universalist History

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sundays, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the Gannett Room. Designed for visitors, new members, and inquirers, this eight-week series is offered continuously during the year. Childcare is available in the nursery.

Celebrating Our Creative Community Exhibit

Please take time to visit the Parish Hall and the northwest Elliot Wing hallway to view the art created by more than 50 members of the Unity Church congregation. The art is an impressive display of the talents within our community. The exhibit will run through October 31!

Pastoral Care

If you have a joy or sorrow, life-cycle event, or concern you would like to share with the ministers and Pastoral Care Team, or have shared in the embracing meditation during Sunday service, please complete the online form at www.unityunitarian.org/pastoral-care.html or email Rev. Karen Hering at karen@unityunitarian.org.

MST: Help Shape Our Collective Future

The Ministerial Search Team is holding a series of Listening Sessions to gather responses to important questions regarding the search for our next settled minister. This is a chance to have a conversation with others in our community about our future.

Listening Sessions: Many opportunities to participate both on Zoom and in-person: www.unityunitarian.org/ministerial-transition.html

- October 12, 1:00-2:30 p.m., online
- October 13, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at Unity Church
- October 17, 1:00-2:30 p.m., online
- October 20, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at Unity Church
- October 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m., BIPOC group at Unity Church
- October 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at Unity Church

Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop: October 15 and 16

Online register: <https://bit.ly/ucumstbct>

The Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop, led by a skilled trainer from the Unitarian Universalist Association, is designed to promote inclusive thinking and prevent unfair discrimination during a congregation's search for a settled minister. Unity's participation will send the message to prospective candidates that we are eager to mitigate a narrow mindset that might otherwise affect the search process and limit our options to the detriment of our community. This is the work of building a community free from systemic oppression.



October Is Pledge Drive Month

Pledge online at www.unityunitarian.org

In honor of Celebration Sunday, October 17, the day we celebrate the generous annual pledges of the congregation, food ministry volunteers will host a Stone Soup lunch at 12:30 p.m. in the greenspace.

Please bring an edible item to be incorporated into our soup. Donations will be accepted at the kitchen window on Sunday morning from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Once received, volunteers will wash, chop and add your single item into the community-sourced soup. A few suggested items include a tomato or vegetable from your garden, a large sweet potato from the store, a cup of rice. Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options will be available. Make your annual pledges this month and then join us for Stone Soup on October 17!

This Week in Religious Education

Families needing to enroll children or learn more about religious education should contact Michelle Mecey at michelle@unityunitarian.org.

Spirit Play (ages 3-6): children in Spirit Play today hear the story of the Buddha and the Mustard Seed. How do we live with suffering? Is there medicine for loss and grief? How do we help one another when we are hurting? Please wonder together with your children about their sacred play.

Rotations (grades 1-6): children first begin in worship, upstairs in the Ames Chapel with their friends and teachers. Then in classrooms downstairs, they continue their journey as a community of faith, exploring "God is Great Mystery." Take a moment to say hello and get to know your child's teachers.

Junior High (grades 6-8): youth continue with three classes offered this semester: Introduction to Earth-Centered Religions, Power of Myth, and UU Identity & History. Youth conclude each class with worship in Ames Chapel.

Our Whole Lives is a sexuality and spirituality program typically for 8th graders. Class meets Wednesday, October 13, 7:00-8:15 p.m., with topic "Sexual Language."

Coming of Age youth return today from their overnight weekend retreat at Camp St. Croix. COA is our signature spiritual growth program typically for 9th graders. Questions? Email drew@unityunitarian.org.

Tower Club: senior youth gather at 12:30 p.m. in the Robbins Parlor for viewing of the film *Little Women* as part of the annual Boston Pilgrimage. Tower Club is a gathering place for 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith. Lots of fun and food, too.

This Week at Unity Church

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

Sunday, October 10

Afterthoughts	10:00 a.m., Crothers Room and online
R. E. Families Fellowship	10:00 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Finding Yourself at Unity	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Zoom Coffee Hour	10:15 a.m., online
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Foote Room
Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Choir Room
Youth Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Music Room
Tower Club	12:30 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Threshold Choir Rehearsal	1:00 p.m., Greenspace/Choir Room
Memorial Service for Lynnanne Warren	2:00 p.m., online

Monday, October 11

Men's Retirement Group	1:00 p.m., Greenspace
The Circle of Peace	5:00 p.m., online

Tuesday, October 12

MST Listening Session	1:00 p.m., online
Zen Meditation	4:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Unity Book Club	7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor
Evergreen Quilters	7:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Foote Room

Wednesday, October 13

Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., online
MST Listening Session	7:00 p.m., online
Lectio Divina Spiritual Practice	7:00 p.m., online
What Is Rent Stabilization?	7:00 p.m., online
Our Whole Lives	7:00 p.m., Foote Room
Young Adults Group	7:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Thursday, October 14

Women in Retirement	Noon, online
A New Look at the Bible	7:00 p.m., online
Unity Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Fresh Air AA	8:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Friday, October 15

Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop	7:00 p.m., online
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Saturday, October 16

Board of Trustees	9:00 a.m.
Kung Fu	11:00 a.m., online
Beyond Categorical Thinking	1:00 p.m., online
Memorial Service for Jacob Waege	4:00 p.m., online/Sanctuary

In the Shelter of Each Other, the People Live

Sunday, October 17 • 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream at 9:00 a.m. only: <https://youtu.be/XVYv1MO7Hb0>

This Irish proverb attests to the crucial place our community has in ensuring that we thrive. In order to be that shelter for others, however, a primary concern for individual wants has to be sacrificed, so that "we" becomes more important than "me." Rev. Kathy Hurt and worship associate Rebecca Flood will consider the sacrifice of individuality for the sake of community, and why that is especially challenging for religious liberals.

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. The collection on October 17 will help support the living expenses of Unity's Sanctuary family from Ghana. To nominate an organization to receive the Sunday offering, or see totals from last month's giving, please visit www.unityunitarian.org/sunday-offering.html.

Wellspring Wednesday

Join us for in-person multi-generational Wellspring Wednesday chapel, from 6:00-6:30 p.m., each week in the Ames Chapel.

If you haven't yet participated in an online program using Zoom, church staff can help you get started. Unless otherwise noted, you can use the registration link right up until the program starts to participate.

A Spiritual Practice to Feed Your Soul: Lectio Divina

October 13 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • Online

Register: <https://bit.ly/Lectio21-22>

Following a centuries-old Benedictine spiritual practice of contemplative reading, meet online to share in Lectio Divina. For those who love or are curious about poetry, this practice, led by Shelley Butler, is a rich way to receive its gifts in a small group setting. Drop-in attendance is welcome. Register once to attend one or all future sessions on the second Wednesday of each month.

What Is Rent Stabilization?

October 13 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • Online

Register: <https://bit.ly/525-600-mins>

This initiative will be on the November 2nd ballot in Saint Paul and Minneapolis. In Saint Paul, it will allow landlords to raise rent up to 3% in a 12-month period — and to apply for a waiver for large expenses such as a new roof, property tax increases, etc., to ensure landlords receive "a fair return on investment." Minneapolis voters will decide whether or not to give their City Council the authority to enact a rent stabilization ordinance. Join our panel of lawyers, economists, and landlords for background and a lively discussion between supporters, non-supporters and undecideds. This event is presented by Unity's Affordable Housing Team.

Listening Session with the Ministerial Search Team

October 13 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • In-person at Unity Church

Register: www.unityunitarian.org/listening-sessions.html

Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf Donations

For the month of October the food shelf needs items to prepare for Thanksgiving including bread mix, canned corn, canned green beans, cake mix, frosting, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie filing, and any other fall items. As always they are in need of personal hygiene products and general cleaning supplies. Please bring donations to the collection baskets located at the Holly and Portland Avenue entrances.

Musicians Wanted for Wednesday Chapel Services

We are looking for people in our congregation to contribute two to six minutes of music for our Wellspring Wednesday services. These services, held in the chapel, are short, familial, and are not recorded. Potentially, we would also like to invite you to contribute your musical talents to other events down the road. Interested? Complete the online form: forms.gle/XzbVDqfnMjtgXywF6.

Would you like to be a front desk volunteer at Unity Church?

Front desk volunteers greet visitors, answer phones and provide support to staff members each weekday at the Holly Avenue reception desk. We need a few volunteers to commit to a half day per week, or to serve as substitutes. Contact Barbara Hubbard at barbara@unityunitarian.org if you're interested!