

This Week at Unity Church

November 28, 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

Topic: Building Tour

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sundays, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the Gannett Room and online at 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.

The Sacred Ground Beneath Our Feet

**A Unity Church Gathering at the Rondo Commemorative Plaza
829 Concordia Street, St. Paul**

Sunday, November 28, 12:30-1:00 p.m.

Embark on a half-hour neighborhood pilgrimage for a gathering at the Rondo Commemorative Plaza. Marvin R. Anderson, lifelong Rondo resident and co-founder of several Rondo reparations efforts, will lead a discussion about the plaza, the proposed Rondo land bridge, and other projects honoring Rondo neighborhood's history, acknowledging harm done by the original I-94 construction and seeking to repair that harm today. RSVP requested but not required: bit.ly/rondopilgrim.

Honoring Water Protectors: Eliot Wing Exhibit

Photographer John Kaul's "Honoring Water Protectors" exhibit is on display in the Eliot Wing hallway. The twenty portraits show water protectors and share their stories. This event concludes with a conversation with Kaul, and water protectors Tania Aubid and Sharon Day, on December 1 at 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary.

Hymn Sings: December

These are Zoom conversations about the hymns in our hymnal *Singing the Living Tradition*. The group will sing a hymn and discuss its history, poetry, music, and theology. These sessions are open to everyone! December 4, 10:00-11:30 a.m., and Thursday, December 30, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Email ahmed@unityunitarian.org to participate.

2022 Thresholds Series

Registration for the 2022 Thresholds Series, meeting four Saturdays, January 8-February 26, is now open. If you're living on the threshold of a change, this facilitated small group can support your passage. The group will use conversation, writing, and creative activities to reflect on the meaning, challenges, and rich possibilities present on the cusp of change. Group size is limited and preregistration is required: unityunitarian.org/thresholds.html. Questions? Email Karen Hering at karen@unityunitarian.org.

Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf Donations

During November and December the food shelf is in need of holiday basics! Please bring donations to the collection baskets located at the Holly and Portland Avenue entrances.

Evergreen Quilters and Mano a Mano Holiday Boutique

Sunday, December 5 and 12 • After Services • Parish Hall
Bolivian-made sweaters, totes, shawls, scarves, hats, tablecloths, and more from Mano a Mano. Hand-sewn and quilted table runners, wall-hangings, bags, purses, ornaments, and other gift items from Evergreen Quilters.

Wreaths and Cookies

Sunday, December 5 • After Services

Unity's high school group will once again sell wreaths and made-from-scratch cookies to raise money to support their activities including the annual Boston pilgrimage.

Climate and Justice, A Shared Path

**Discussion on People vs. Fossil Fuels Action in Washington, DC
Sunday, December 5 • 1:30-3:00 p.m.**

Online via Zoom; register here: bit.ly/afesharedpath

Join Claire Cooke and Jean Hammink, two Unity members who are part of the Act for the Earth Ministry Team, for a discussion on their experience traveling to Washington, DC, in October for five days of action, witness, and civil disobedience at the People vs Fossil Fuels event.

December Qigong and Tai Ji Practice

Tuesday, December 7 and 21 • Noon-1:00 p.m. • Unity Church

Tai Ji teacher Lisa Schlingerman will guide participants through a series of warm ups, Qigong movements, meditations and introduce the five Moving Forces Tai Ji form. The practice is safe and gentle for people of all ages and can be done standing or sitting. Wear comfortable shoes and loose clothing if possible. A free will offering will be taken. RSVP to karen@unityunitarian.org.

Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative Convening Event

Thursday, December 9 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Online/In-person

Registration at: beaconinterfaith.org/event/beacon-convening

You are invited to the first Beacon Congregational Convening since the start of the pandemic. This event will be a great introduction to Beacon for those new to the work and nourishment for the journey for everyone working for the vision that all people have a home.

This Week in Religious Education

No classes today due to Thanksgiving break. While there are no regular programs, families are encouraged to experience worship together or have children (typically grades 1-5) join in community activities downstairs. Nursery care is always available. Classes resume December 5.

Santa Pause

**Wednesday, December 8
6:30-8:30 p.m. • Parish Hall**

Holiday fun for kids at church so you can finish making gifts, plan gatherings, or take a moment's pause during this full season. Crafts, games, and a movie for children ages 3 to 10 (no dinner this year). Older kids can volunteer to join in the holiday spirit. RSVP by Monday, December 6, at unityunitarian.org/childcare-request-form.html. Questions? Email Ray 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, November 28

Sunday Services 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Bookstall Open 10:00-11:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Afterthoughts 10:00 a.m., Crothers Room/online
Finding Yourself at Unity 10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Zoom Coffee Hour 10:15 a.m., online

Monday, November 29

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

Tuesday, November 30

Unity Sangha 4:30 p.m., Ames Chapel
Unity Singers Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Wednesday, December 1

Recovery from White Conditioning 6:00 p.m., online
Wellspring Wednesday Chapel Service 6:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Honoring Water Protectors 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Our Whole Lives 7:00 p.m., Foote Room
Textile Arts Group 7:00 p.m., online
Young Adults Group 7:00 p.m., Gannett Room, online

Thursday, December 2

Unity Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Fresh Air AA 8:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Saturday, December 4

Tower Club Wreaths and Cookies 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Families Living with Mental Health Challenges 9:30 a.m., online
Kung Fu 9:30 a.m., online
Chalice Circle Gleaners 1:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

Sunday Service, December 5: *When God Shows Up*

In-person services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream at 9:00 a.m. only: youtu.be/Jbch9rchYrc

One meaning of this month's theme of incarnation might be captured in the Biblical description of the name of the holy child as being Emmanuel, meaning "God with us." If we consider incarnation less a view about one particular individual but about all life, all of us, all the reality we see around us, perhaps the idea of incarnation reminds us that our habitual binary vision is not quite accurate. Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt and worship associate Katrina Nichols lead this exploration of incarnation. Musicians: Unity Choir

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. The collection today will support the work of Frogtown Radio WFNU. To nominate an organization to receive the offering, or see totals from last month's giving, visit unityunitarian.org/sunday-offering.html.

Mitten Tree

Our Mitten Trees are waiting to be decorated with warm hats, gloves, scarves and mittens! All donated items should be new or like new. Children's items will be distributed to families through Obama Elementary. Adult items will be distributed through Amicus. Trees are standing in the main lobby at the Portland entrance and on the lower level in the Whitman lobby.

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.

Online programming is from 7:00-8:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted and you can use the registration link right up until the program starts to participate.

DECEMBER 1 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Honoring Water Protectors

In-Person in the Sanctuary and via Livestream at youtu.be/QcoulK9IYoQ

Photographer John Kaul along with Water Protectors Sharon Day and Tania Aubid, will discuss the ongoing efforts to protect the waters of North America. Particular attention will be given to the protests against the Dakota Access Line at Standing Rock and Line 3 in Minnesota. Kaul's photo exhibit in the Elliot Wing hallway documents these efforts and will be highlighted during the program.

DECEMBER 8 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

A Spiritual Practice to Feed Your Soul: Lectio Divina

Online • Register: bit.ly/Lectio21-22

In this invitation to receive the wisdom and gifts of poetry, each session engages the group in hearing a particular poem read aloud multiple times, listening for "what is found there." Group members lift up what they heard and how the poem spoke to them. For those who love or are curious about poetry, this practice is a rich way to receive its gifts in a small group setting. Led by Shelley Butler.

Open Page Writing Session: This Embodied Life

Online • Register: bit.ly/DecOpenPage

How do the old stories of incarnation and our own contemporary experience together illuminate our understanding of this embodied life – its beauty and brokenness and blessings all teaching us the oneness in which body and spirit belong? This session, led by Rev. Karen Hering, offers a reflection on the holiness nested within our world.

Unitarians Underneath the Mistletoe

Online • Register: bit.ly/mistletoeunitarians

As the Christmas season returns, what can we learn from the way our Unitarian ancestors understood and framed the season? In this session, we'll listen to our heretical additions to Christmas carols, read excerpts from Unitarian Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, consider Rev. Kathy Hurt's theological background on Unitarian Christianity, and talk over your take on Christmas in small groups. Join us under the mistletoe!

Unity Book Club

Book Club meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00-8:30 p.m. On December 14 they will discuss *The Socrates Express; In Search of Life Lessons from Dead Philosophers* by Eric Weiner. Contact Jack Hawthorne at jack.hawthorne@centurylink.net to participate.

Blue Holidays Service

Wednesday, December 15 • 7:00 p.m.

In-person only, Ames Chapel

For some, the holidays accentuate the sorrow or loneliness or despair we all carry. Join Rev. Karen Hering and Ahmed Anzaldúa for an evening chapel service of poetry, music, meditation, and sharing.