

This Week at Unity Church

May 28–June 3, 2017

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.

Habitat for Humanity

The Unity Church Affordable Housing Outreach Ministry Team is co-sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity build as an interfaith partner in Faith Builders. Volunteer opportunities include construction work, crew leader, and lunch helper. The work week is July 24–August 4, from 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. The location will be a two-story new build at 1105 Third Street, Saint Paul Park. Sign up in the Parish Hall after worship today. Questions? Contact Chuck Griggs at griggscb@msn.com or 612-408-0486.

Serve on the Unity Board of Trustees

At the annual meeting in November, the congregation will elect three people to serve as trustees, each for a three-year term. Trustees find service on the board to be an experience that enriches their relationship with the community and offers opportunities for personal growth. Nominees must be voting members of the congregation. Interested? Please talk to a trustee (available after the service in the Parish Hall) or email markhfoster@msn.com. Interviews and final selection of nominees will happen in June.

Open Page Writing Session

Sabbath: A Time for Rest • RSVP to karen@unityunitarian.org
Thursday, June 1 • 7:00-9:00 p.m. • Foote Room

A day of rest can be hard to come by. But an empty day, like an empty page, can open sacred and creative possibilities. "All creation springs from emptiness," says writer Wayne Muller. In our busy 24/7 lives, this writing session reflects on the gift of Sabbath rest and other sacred time and space.

Led by Consulting Literary Minister Karen Hering, Open Page writing session participants use stories, poetry, images and objects as well as wisdom from religious teachings, and science, to reflect on the monthly theme in their own words and on their own pages. No writing experience is necessary.

Farewell Gatherings for Unity's Interns

Join us in the Parish Hall on Sunday, June 11, after the 10:00 a.m. service, for a reception honoring Ministerial Intern Nic Cable.

Join us on Wednesday, June 14, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., for a potluck in the Parish Hall as we honor Hallman Ministerial Intern Jessica Clay. Jessica loves desserts — the more desserts the merrier!

Contemplative Walk

Join Spiritual Director Sarah Cledwyn for a contemplative walk on Saturday, June 17, at 10:00 a.m. We will gather at Hidden Falls Regional Park for an opening circle and walking meditation outdoors. If you are someone who connects most deeply with the Holy in the natural world, this gathering is a wonderful chance to experience that connection in community. Consider contributing a gratitude offering for this one hour walking meditation. Sign up and get more information by contacting Sarah at sarahcledwyn@gmail.com or 651-699-9948.

March at Twin Cities Pride

Join area Unitarian Universalists and Unity Church members and march in this year's Pride Parade! Folks are encouraged to march, sing, and drum. The parade is Sunday, June 25. Unity will organize a light rail tailgate that morning for group travel to downtown. More info to come in early June! Questions? Email Rev. Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org.

Volunteer: 2017 St. Paul Freedom School

Summertime offers the opportunity to volunteer at the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School, a learning and cultural enrichment program for African American and other children in the neighborhood (held in partnership with the St. Paul Public Schools). Many Unity Church members and friends have helped in summers past by sorting books and serving as aides in reading and math. The term is July 17 to August 25, at Capitol Hill Magnet school in the Rondo Education Center. You can choose to help the whole term or part of it. Book sorting will happen during the week of July 10. For more information, stop by the Freedom School table in the Parish Hall today or contact Jane Thomson at thoms028@tc.umn.edu.

Taking Heart: Meet Your Muslim Neighbors

As our Muslim neighbors prepare for the sacred month of Ramadan this June, the Minnesota Council of Churches is excited to announce the *Taking Heart* program, a series of open houses at area mosques organized in partnership with the Muslim American Society. *Taking Heart* is a program designed to bring Muslims together with members of other faith communities for food and conversation during the Iftar meal, the meal that breaks the daily fast during Ramadan. Prior to the meal there will be an opportunity to learn about Islam and witness Muslims during prayer. The program is free and open to the public. To register, visit www.mnchurches.org.



One Voice Mixed Chorus presents
MINNESOTA'S LGBT+ MIXED CHORUS
Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song
PRIDE WEEKEND
June 24: 3:30 PM • June 25: 2:00 & 5:30 PM
Raspberry Island, St. Paul • Free • RSVP at www.onevoicemn.org

This Week in Religious Education

Summer in the Garden begins today at 10:00 a.m. and continues throughout summer. Great for children ages 4-12. Please meet in our lovely outdoor garden, next to the Sanctuary. No registration is necessary but drop-in capacity will be limited by the number of adult volunteers present. If you would like to help, please contact Anna Newton (asnewton3@gmail.com) or KP Hong (kp@unityunitarian.org). Nursery care for younger children continues throughout summer.

If you missed R.E. enrollment for 2017-18, please contact Michelle Hill at michelle@unityunitarian.org for summer orientation sessions.

Chalice Camp at Unity Church

July 10-14 / July 17-21 / July 24-28

All children and youth entering grades 1-8 are invited to participate as campers. Details and registration are online at www.unityunitarian.org.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, May 28

Afterthoughts 11:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Above Every Name Worship Service 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day Holiday Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 30

Sangha Meditation Group 5:30 p.m., Ames Chapel

Thursday, June 1

Open Page Writing Session 7:00 p.m., Foote Room
Textile Arts Group 7:00 p.m., DeCramer Room

Friday, June 2

Unity Bridge Group 7:00 p.m., Robbins Parlor

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.

Textile Arts Group Moves to Thursdays

During the summer, Unity's Textile Arts Group will be meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. (June 1 & 15, July 6 & 20, August 3 & 17). Bring your knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, needlepoint, and cross stitch for an evening of fellowship and service. All ages and levels of experience are welcome!

Summer Worship

From May 28 through September 3 there is just one service each week at 10:00 a.m. Lay-led worship services begin June 25. Summer Sundays in the Garden (a program for children and youth held during worship) also begins on May 28.

Flowers for Summer Worship

If you would like to bring flowers from your garden for a summer service, please contact Martha Tilton at martha@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x105 or for available dates (June 18-September 3) and details.

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.

Summer Sundays Pancake Brunch

July 23 and August 20 • Following the 10:00 a.m. service!

Join us for a pancake brunch after Sunday worship. Love to flip pancakes? Volunteers should contact Madeline Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, at madeline@unityunitarian.org.

UU History Book Club

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalist history with other UUs? Unity's UU History Book Club invites you to join them on the third Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., for reflection and great conversation. Questions? Please email Krista Hanson at klfhanson@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 p.m., Groundswell Café

(1340 Thomas Ave W, St Paul, MN 55104)

Universalism in America: A Documentary History of a Liberal Faith edited by Ernest Cassara

Sunday, June 4 • 10:00 a.m.

When Hope and History Rhyme

For more than two years David James Brown's *The Boys in the Boat* topped *The New York Times* Best Sellers list. It is a fabulous story. In the depth of the Depression nine young men, most of them working class kids dependent on tough summer jobs to get them through school, survived the wind and weather and the cutthroat competition to win a chance to race against not only the arch rivals California Bears, but the upper class crews of the Eastern elite. The story goes on from there providing an apt analogy for the life of the church. Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs and worship associate Helen Pohlig will build on the story in light of present challenges. Musician: Tai Chi Chen, violin

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 21, \$1,724.12 was collected in the Sunday offering. Unity's Hallman Ministerial Intern Fund will receive the entire amount. Information about today's offering recipient, Veterans for Peace Minnesota, is available in your order of worship. On June 4 the offering recipient is Freedom School.

Compassion & Choices

Compassion & Choices is forming an action team in St. Paul to advance the Minnesota End-of-Life Options Act. The group will meet on Tuesday, June 6, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Unity Church. This meeting will cover topics including medical aid in dying, the political landscape for change, and how you can take effective action. All are welcome.

Wanted: Unity Church Application Developer

Unity Church staff and volunteers have begun the process of developing a Unity Church app for iOS and Android. The project team is seeking an individual who would be interested in serving as the developer for the Android version of the app. Students, interns, professionals, and retirees with experience in Android app development (IDEs, SDK, and good object-oriented practices) are encouraged to contact us. Experience with agile techniques/tools, REST, and Git/GitHub is a plus. The hope is that this would be a volunteer position but a small stipend might be available. Interested? Please contact Martha Tilton at martha@unityunitarian.org.

Mentoring at Unity: A Path to Deeper Connection

Unity's new mentor program is now available to visitors and new members! What can a mentor offer? A mentor is available 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. Each mentor/mentee team can decide what is most helpful — to have a buddy with whom to attend services and events, a partner with whom to discuss Unitarian Universalism and each other's spiritual journeys, and more. Each pair makes a commitment to work together 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.

Take Unity Church Out to the Ball Game

Saint Paul Saints vs. Fargo-Moorhead Redhawks

Thursday, August 3 • 7:05 p.m. • CHS Field

We have pre-purchased a block of seats together. Reserve your tickets (by June 30) at the Summer Opportunities Table in Parish Hall or by contacting Rev. Lisa Friedman at lisa@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x107.