

This Week at Unity Church

November 24-30, 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.

Everybody In! 2020 Pledge Drive

Thank you to all who have made 2020 pledges! 631 households have pledged \$1,267,826 to our approved 2020 operating budget goal of \$1,350,000, which puts us \$82,000 from our goal! If we don't come within \$25,000 of our goal by February 1, 2020, we will need to adjust the budget. If you are one of the 80 households that has not yet renewed your pledge for 2020, or if you are active in the church and are not pledging, please make your pledge today! It's not too late! Simply stop at the table in the main lobby or pledge online at www.unityunitarian.org/annual-pledge.html. A pledge of any amount is gratefully accepted!

Finding Yourself at Unity

Topic: Social Justice and Community Outreach

Finding Yourself at Unity meets on Sundays, from 10:20-11:15 a.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.

A Journey to Learn with Mano a Mano • Today!

Mano a Mano invites you to take part in a unique journey to Bolivia to see projects that have improved the health and economic well-being in rural Andean communities. Visit clinics, schools, and the training center where Mano a Mano teaches earth-friendly agricultural practices. Be immersed in the daily lives of subsistence farm families and witness their determination. A trip information session will be held Sunday, November 24, after each service, in the DeCramer Room. Questions? Contact segundo@manoamano.org.

Young Adult (ages 18-35) Friendsgiving • Today!

On Sunday, November 24, at 6:30 p.m., Unity's young adults will gather in the Center Room to meet one another and feast. Come willing to practice holding gratitude alongside grief as we strive to recognize the complicated history of Thanksgiving. Friendsgiving will be potluck style. As you are able, please bring a dish (with the ingredient list). Turkey will be provided! All young adults are welcome. RSVP to Ray Hommeyer at ray@unityunitarian.org.

Men's Conversation Group

This group meets the second and fourth Monday of each month (November 25), from 7:00-9:00 p.m., in the Gannett Room, to discuss a wide range of topics. Questions? Contact Terry McDanel at tmcdanel@gmail.com.

Black Friday at Church: Food for the Spirit

Friday, November 29 • 10:00 a.m. • Sanctuary

Gather on the day after Thanksgiving to make music, share stories, and hear a brief sermon by Pastor Danny Givens, Jr. The celebration will include a community sing led by Ahmed Anzaldúa, and a story for all ages offered by Drew Danielson. Rob and Janne Eller-Isaacs will be with us as well. Leave behind the frenzy and commercialism, and come welcome the mid-winter holidays as a time for stillness and for remembering what matters most in our lives.

Pollinator Friendly Lawns

Wednesday, December 4 • 7:15 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

Join the Sustainable Living Team to learn about Minnesota's Lawns to Legumes program for residential lawns, our new state bumble bee, and upgrades to Unity's greenspace. Take home a pollinator friendly plant growing kit to get started on BEE-ing the change!

2019 Christmas Pageant Registration

Pageant registration is open and online at www.unityunitarian.org/christmas-pageant.html, now through December 6. Casting will be posted the week of December 9. All youth from kindergarten through 12th grade are welcome to participate — the more the merrier! This year you will be part of our once in a lifetime centennial pageant, first seen in Unity's sanctuary in 1919. Attention pageant alumni: we are still looking for your photos and memories! Please share via email to Kelley at kelleyloughrey@comcast.net.



Unity Church
HOLIDAY CONCERT

Saturday, December 7, 2019
SANCTUARY

6:30 PM • CAROL SING

7:00 PM • CONCERT
Children's Choir, Unity Choir,
Unity Singers, Women's Ensemble

8:00 PM • DESSERT BUFFET
We invite you to bring a holiday dessert to share!

This Week in Religious Education

Today is Thanksgiving Family Sunday and all children and youth are in the Sanctuary for the full worship service. Activity packets for younger children are available for use during worship, as well as nursery care on the lower level.

Reminder of no R.E. classes next Sunday, December 1, given Thanksgiving break. Regular classes resume Sunday, December 8. As we step into the winter holiday season, please check the R.E. schedule at www.unityunitarian.org/calendar.html.

Our Mitten Tree is standing in the lower level Whitman Lobby, 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 area families through Obama Elementary. Adult items will be distributed through Amicus.

Coming of Age class meets today at 3:15 p.m. for topic of "living with death and loss" and attend Family Sunday worship together. COA is a signature program typically for 9th graders, as they prepare to assume greater religious responsibility for their ongoing adult faith journey.

Tower Club: High school youth meet today to attend 11:00 a.m. service, and gather for lunch and fellowship after. Tower Club is a gathering place for 10th-12th graders to enjoy community and share life at the intersection between the world and faith.

This Week at Unity Church

Sunday, November 24

Anderson and Whitman Libraries Open to the Congregation
Mano a Mano Trip Information Session

After each service, DeCramer Room

Centennial Pageant Information	10:15 a.m., Center Room
Afterthoughts	10:15 a.m., Gannett Room
Children's Choir Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Robbins Parlor
Women's Ensemble Rehearsal	10:15 a.m., Choir Room
Finding Yourself at Unity	10:20 a.m., Ames Chapel
Above Every Name	1:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Tower Club	12:15 p.m., Center Room
Soup Supper	5:45 p.m., Parish Hall
Young Adult Friendsgiving	6:30 p.m., Center Room

Monday, November 25

Circle of Peace	5:15 p.m., Center Room
Affordable Housing Team	7:00 p.m., Anderson Library
Men's Conversation Group	7:00 p.m., Gannett Room

Tuesday, November 26

Zen Meditation Group	5:00 p.m., Ames Chapel
Debtors Anonymous	6:30 p.m., Drama Room
Unity Singers Rehearsal	7:30 p.m., Ames Chapel

Wednesday, November 27

Al Anon Group	5:00 p.m., Science Room
Recovery from White Conditioning	6:00 p.m., Gannett Room
NO Wellspring Wednesday	Happy Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 28

Church Office Closed	Happy Thanksgiving
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Friday, November 29

Black Friday at Church	10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
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Saturday, November 23

Kung Fu	11:00 a.m., Body Room
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Look Who's Sharing Art

Come to see the Art Share space in the Parish Hall where Tom Zell is sharing a drawing a friend gave to him. Also, consider signing up on the bulletin board by the kitchen window to share *your* favorite art.

Tai Ji

The Tai Ji practice circle continues, meeting on Thursday, December 5 and 19, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Offering balance, flexibility and peace of mind, the circle is open to those new to Tai Ji as well as experienced participants. Please email lisaschlingerman@gmail.com if you plan to participate. A free will offering will be taken.

Men's Breakfast

On Saturday, December 7, the men of Unity Church will gather for good food, friendship, and conversation. The breakfast will run from 8:00 until 10:00 a.m. All men are welcome!

Racial Justice Film Series: *Love Them First*

Friday, December 13 • 7:00 p.m. • Robbins Parlor

This KARE11 documentary follows a North Minneapolis principal Mauri Melander Friestleben at Lucy Lane Elementary for an entire year. It is a story of inspiration, heartbreak, perseverance and the power of love. Popcorn and discussion included!

Launch Party • *Cairns: The Unity Church Journal of the Arts*

Sunday, December 15 • 10:00-11:30 a.m. • Center Room

Meet many contributors and get your issue hot off the press!

Sunday, December 1 • 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

The Narrow and Crooked Path to Reverence

Thoreau once advised: "Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence." Often that path is hard to find amid the pressures of daily living and a starkly troubled world. But, perhaps, this is exactly when we need to cultivate reverence the most? Join Rev. Lisa Friedman and worship associate Kara Younkin Viswanathan as they explore what a practice of reverence might offer us this holiday season and beyond. Musicians: Unity Singers (9:00/11:00). No soup supper.

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 November 17, \$2,701.97 was collected in the Sunday offering. Unity's Peace and Justice Scholarship Fund will receive a donation of \$1,891.38. Information about today's offering recipient, Unity's Partner Church Ministry Team, is available in your order of service. The offering recipient on December 1 is Days for Girls.

Holiday Boutique • Evergreen Quilters and Mano a Mano

Sunday, December 1 and 8 • After services • Parish Hall

- Hand made table runners, wall-hangings, zippered bags, ornaments, and other items made by Evergreen Quilters
- Unity's Mano a Mano team will be selling sweaters, totes, scarves, hats, tablecloths, and more made by Bolivian artists
- 100% of the proceeds from the sale will benefit the communities that these two organizations support

Open Page Writing Session • Topic: Reverence

Sunday December 8 • 2:00-4:00 p.m. • Anderson Library

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, science and history, and provided prompts, to reflect on the monthly theme. No writing experience necessary. Bring something to write with and on. RSVP requested to karen@unityunitarian.org.

Tower Club Wreath and Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 8 • After services • Parish Hall

Support the ministry of our high school youth! Please stop by and take home a plate of cookies or holiday wreath designed by our Tower Club youth!

2020 Children's Musical Parent Information Meeting

Every year the Unity Church community comes together to write, compose, direct, choreograph, and perform a unique show for Unity Church. If you have a 6th, 7th, or 8th grader, consider whether this fun, team building experience might be right for them. To learn more, come to the parent information session on Sunday, December 8, from 10:15-11:00 a.m., in the Junior High NE Room. Questions? Contact Dave Smith at david.smith52@yahoo.com.

Caroling Opportunity for Singers of All Ages

Every year a group of singers from Unity Church visit some of our members who can no longer get to church. The group sings Christmas carols for the members, but also for the community of people living together at the facility homes. It is a wonderful opportunity to sing and bring joy into the lives of the most appreciative folks on the planet. Carolers leave from the Holly Avenue reception desk after the 11:00 service, on December 8 and 15. If you have questions, please contact Janne Eller-Isaacs at janne@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x106.