



January - February 2017

Volume 108, Issues 1-2

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church, est. 1905

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Staff

Pastor

Reverend Fred Kinsey

Youth & Family Pastor

Reverend Emily Heitzman

Music Director

Jerry Jelsema

Office Manager and Center Director

Amy Wood

Elected Leaders

President

Trudy McCarthy

Vice-President

Pastor Kinsey

Treasurer

Phil Robare

Secretary

JaLinda Wilson

Financial Secretary

Jerry Michalski

Council

Fred Kinsey

Jerry Michalski

JaLinda Wilson

Trudy McCarthy

Chuck Redeker

Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Elizabeth Eaton

Bishop, Metropolitan Chicago Synod

The Reverend Wayne Miller



Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Spotlight on Benevolence

Unity's Mission Support

Unity Assembly 10% Tithe to the
Metropolitan Chicago Synod and
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

January Spotlight – Peace Not Walls

The ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod are working for justice and peace in Palestine and Israel through our campaign, [Peace Not Walls](#). Through accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising, Peace Not Walls connects ELCA members to our companions and promotes dignity, full respect for human rights, healing and reconciliation. With our Palestinian Lutheran companions, we also accompany Palestinians and Israelis, Jews, Christians and Muslims working together for peace with justice.

February Spotlight – Congregational Communication Tools

Eight [value statements](#) translate our beliefs and strengths into language that's accessible for all audiences, offering different "portals" into our identity forming a distinctive and meaningful way to share God's love with the world. Here are a few:

- "We are a church that belongs to Christ. There is a place for you here"
- "We are a church whose unity is in Jesus Christ, who gathers us around word and water, wine and bread"
- "We are a church that is deeply rooted — and always being made new"

Growing Our Faith



The Season of Epiphany Jan 6 – Feb 28, 2017

This is bread and butter Christianity. Here we find the foundational stuff of Christian life. Between the high dramas of Christmas and Lent, the time after Epiphany returns to the basics.

Basic does not mean unimportant, though. On the contrary, many foundational and well-known texts are packed into these eight weeks: “To do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God”; the Beatitudes; “Love your enemies”; “Here is the Lamb of God”; “Jews demand signs and Greeks

desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified”; and many more phrases that you may find yourself reciting as much as reading.

Through all eight weeks the texts point again and again to the centrality of Christ, his life and teaching. He is the servant, the lamb, the light, the foundation, and the beloved Son.

For us, his disciples, the attention turns to our baptismal identity and activity. We find passages that fill out the image of discipleship in commandments, justice, testimony, and praise, all rooted in the joy and confidence of our baptism into Christ. (from *Sundays & Seasons*)

Our Faith in Action

The Gallery at Unity

Jean Yves Exhibit Closes Sunday January 1st

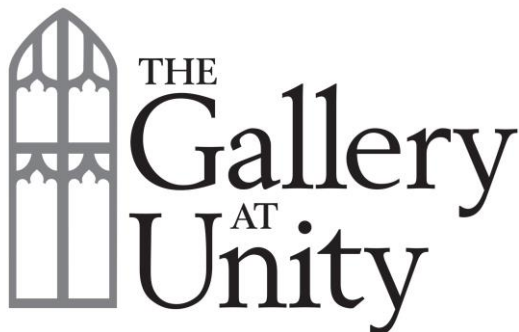
Lorie Robare, In Memoriam Exhibit

Opening Saturday January 14, 2017

Unity Centennial Exhibit

Opens in February 2017

The Gallery at Unity brought to you by ArtsWorks



Unity Centennial 2017

*The “New” Unity Lutheran Building
was dedicated in June of 1917!*

Mark your Calendars

*Saturday June 3 Rededication and Banquet
July 9, 2017 Worship Celebration with
Bishop Miller of Metro Chicago Synod!*

God Talk On Tap

Sunday Jan 8 & Feb 12, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Lady Gregory’s on Clark at Berwyn

Join Lutherans, Presbyterians, and friends for casual faith conversations over drinks and appetizers. (Drinks and apps are on your own.)



Our Faith in Action



Strategic Planning

Sunday, January 15, from 2 pm -8 pm, and Monday, January 16 (MLK day) from 10 am - 3 pm.

As 2016 comes to an end, so do the organizational goals that were created with the merger's memorandum of understanding 3½ years ago. The ONE Northside Board has determined that it's time to create a new strategic plan for the next 3-5 years.

We want this to be a broad and inclusive process,

Growing Our Faith

Prayer Breakfast

Saturdays Jan 28 and Feb 25, 10:00am

A monthly ministry of Unity that begins with brunch and conversation, and offers prayers for the church, the world, and people in need. All welcome to join in this ministry and gathering of the church.

Unity Annual Meeting

Sunday February 5, 2017

Please join us for Pot Luck and Annual Meeting!

This is a great opportunity to be together and find out more about how your church operates and how we can all pull together in the coming year.

2017 is the 100th anniversary of the Unity Ivar Viehe-Naess building dedication.

Special anniversary celebrations in February, June and July!

with many voices and membership institution representatives at the table as we launch this process. We are hoping to have about 80 key ONE Northside leaders at the launch, which will also serve as a time to build relationships, talk about our vision for ONE Northside and begin discussing the elements we expect to include in our strategic plan.

[Contact Pastor Fred](#) if you're interested in representing Unity.

Concerts at Unity

7:30pm Saturday, February 25

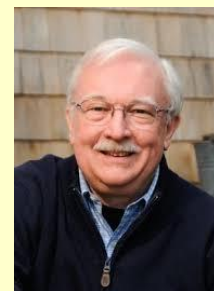
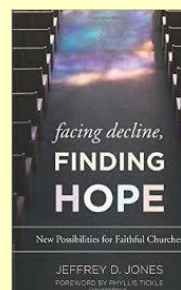
Concerts at Unity resume in 2017 with a refugee themed concert! Mark your calendar today!

Suggested Donation, \$10, will support the Unity Sanctuary Fund for upkeep and renewal. Thank You!

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion will announce a new book soon. Please look for it in your Friday Constant Contact e-News or Sunday worship folder.

A number of people are interested in continuing the discussion of the last book, "Facing Decline, Finding Hope" by Jeffrey Jones. Please let Pastor Fred or Chuck Redeker know if you're interesting in joining this discussion.



Unity is a [Reconciling In Christ](#) congregation. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities are welcome within the gathering and membership of this congregation and encouraged to share in its sacramental and community life.

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Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

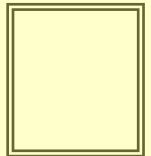
[Visit us on the web: unitylutheranchicago.org](http://unitylutheranchicago.org)

**1212 West Balmoral
Chicago, IL 60640
773.878.4747**

**Unity's vision
is to be an urban green space
welcoming everyone into a holy encounter
where we are changed
that all may be fed as Jesus feeds us**

Core Values:

- +Welcoming Everyone
- +Caring Community
- +Gospel of Jesus
- +Engaging Our Neighbor
- +Weekly Worship
- +Children & Youth
- +Experiencing God
- +Putting our Faith into Action Courageously



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City, ST ZIP Code

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