



January - February 2018

Volume 109, Issues 01-02

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church, est. 1905

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Youth & Household Pastor

Reverend Emily Heitzman

Music Director

Jerry Jelsema

Office Manager and Center Director

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Custodian

Jeremy Woods

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Vice-President

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Jerry Michalski

Trudy McCarthy

Chuck Redeker

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Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Elizabeth Eaton

Bishop, Metropolitan Chicago Synod

The Reverend Wavne Miller

Spotlight on Benevolence

Unity's Mission Support

We support the Mission & Programs of
Metropolitan Chicago Synod and
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
through the 10% tithe of our Offerings

January Spotlight –

Seeds for the Parish

Seeds for the Parish is a free, quarterly newspaper, mailed to lay and rostered leaders within the ELCA. Each issue contains articles that provide congregational leaders with insights, ideas and tools to assist them in a variety of ministries including worship, Christian education, stewardship, evangelism, youth ministries, social ministries, leadership and more. All rostered and lay leaders are automatically subscribed to receive this publication. If you're not currently getting this resource in your mailbox but would like to, please send us an [email](#). You may also view and download [electronic copies](#) of past issues.

February Spotlight –

Fund for Mission

In 1997, the Metropolitan Chicago Synod created a mission endowment fund for the purpose of assisting congregations to energize and extend the reach of their mission. The primary purpose of these grants is to stimulate creative approaches to evangelical outreach, or invitational evangelism. In May 2017, grants totaling \$31,000 were distributed. **Unity Lutheran received a \$5,000 MCS grant** in November, the second of two disbursements in 2017, for our "Food for the Soul" outreach initiative which will begin in February.



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

Growing Our Faith

Food for the Soul

We are in the final planning stages for Food for the Soul, our Unity outreach and new worship program, and on track for our Wednesday February 21st opening. Food for the Soul is based on the “Dinner Church” model of inviting new people to an evening meal that they make together, and sit down to share which includes an informal communion and sharing the Word together. Some have described it as authentic, relational, or searching. Thanks to the Council for their support and hard work, and to Erin Robertson our lead organizer and the many Unity folks who have helped out so far!

Lent

Ash Wednesday, which begins the 40 days of Lent prior to Easter, is on **February 14** this year, Valentine’s Day. The date of Easter is linked to Passover but is always the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, which is the first full moon on or after March 21. **Easter** thus always falls between March 22 and April 25. This year it falls on **April 1st**, or April Fool’s day!

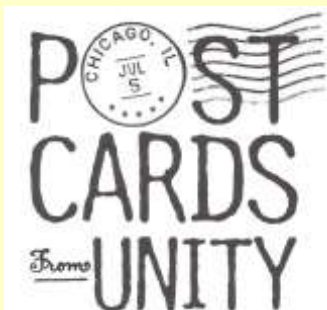
Join us for **Lenten Wednesdays** February 28 through March 28, with Evening Prayer around the cross, Soup Supper, and Table Talk.

Prayer Breakfast

Saturdays January 27 & February 24, 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.

The Gallery at Unity



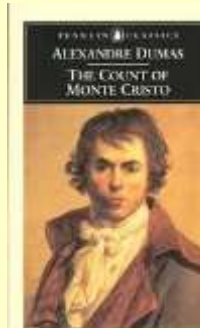
Postcards from Unity features paintings and photos by Unity members and friends. Visit the Gallery at Unity before, during and after worship.



Book Discussion

Sunday February 25, 11:45am

Reading, “The Count of Monte Cristo” a Classic Novel by Alexandre Dumas. Thrown in prison for a crime he has not committed, Edmond Dantès learns of a treasure hidden on the Isle of Monte Cristo and he becomes determined not only to escape, but also to unearth the treasure and use it for retribution against the three men responsible for his incarceration. Inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment. Join the 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.

Our Faith In Action



MLK Day Gathering

MLK Day: Drum Majors for Justice
 Saturday and Sunday, January 13-14, 2018,
 North Shore Baptist Church, 5244 N. Lakewood
 Avenue

On Saturday 1/13, 10am–3pm

- a workshop by ONE Northside, ‘Skin in the Game: Identifying Our Personal Stake in Social Justice’
- a free lunch at 12pm
- a Keynote Address by Rev. Dr. Calvin Morris, civil rights leader, at 1pm, and
- ‘Creating a Civilian Police Accountability Council,’ a workshop by Ted Pearson and Frank Chapman at 2pm

On Sunday, 1/14

1:30-3pm, ‘Human Rights Without Borders: Immigration and the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr,’ a panel discussion with Rev. Walter “Slim” Coleman (Adalberto Methodist Church), Rev. Dr. Janette Wilson (Rainbow/PUSH Coalition), Solomon Opeh Htoo (Karen theologian), and Ryan Yokota (scholar of Japanese-American history).

These local Martin Luther King Day events are open to all with **free registration** at [Eventbrite](#)



E.C.T. Youth Group

Twice a month gatherings
 @Immanuel Lutheran Church
 (1500 W. Elmdale Ave.)
 2nd & 4th Wednesdays,
 7-8:30pm (free time: 8:30-9pm)
 *Dinner is at 6:15pm

Synod Youth Retreat February 2-4, 2018

N7891 US HWY 12 Elkhorn, WI 53121
 Office 262.742.2352 info@lutherdale.org
www.lutherdale.org

Confirmation programming for 6th-8th graders and Bible study activities for 9th-12th graders. Music, games, worship, toboggan slide (weather permitting), friends, fellowship and fun are all part of this weekend!

Only \$115 per person!
 Includes 4 meals, snacks,
 lodging and program.
 \$25 Deposit is due with registration form
 (Scholarships available – contact [Pastor Emily](#))



**January – February 2018
Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

[Visit us on the web: unitylutheranchicago.org](http://unitylutheranchicago.org)
email Pastor Kinsey: pastorfred86@gmail.com

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



Customer Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code



Saturday · March 17
7:30pm

Sounds of the Oboe

Katie Adams and friends perform music featuring the beautiful oboe.

Saturday · April 21
7:30pm

Gillespie Quartet

An evening of original music for flute, clarinet, saxophone, and cello.

Saturday · May 19
7:30pm

Vocal Graces

Karen Nussbaum and friends will perform a special vocal program that tells an entire story.

Saturday · June 16
7:30pm

Chamber Music Party

Come celebrate another year of Concerts at Unity, with assorted chamber music and special refreshments!

Suggested Donation \$10

**Unity Lutheran Church
and Community Center**

1212 W. Balmoral, Chicago 60640
unitylutheranchicago.org
773-878-4747



Find us on Facebook:
Unity Lutheran Church in Chicago,
Concerts at Unity

Our Faith in Action

Unity Players

The Unity Players announces the next Playwrights Showcase will run for two weekends, March 9-11, and March 16-18, all performances at 7:30pm. This is the first performance since Director Hank Keil's leaving, so come out and support the Unity Players in this next chapter of their life.



Auditions will be held Saturday January 13, 10am-12pm and Sunday January 14, 1-3pm.

Black Button Eyes Productions

"Nevermore"

Now closing out the Black Button Eyes' season is what looks like another good fit — Canadian playwright Jonathan Christenson's "Nevermore — The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe."

Black Button Eyes conducted all their rehearsals in November and December of 2017 under contract with Unity's Space Sharing program.

Producing artistic director Ed Rutherford was intrigued by the show, "I think what the author excels at is weaving together Poe's poetry and excerpts from his stories into the text and music while using rhyming verse very similar to Poe's writing." says Rutherford. "It's an exploration of Poe's life but also his vivid imagination. How as a child he might have interpreted some people and events and how these would have haunted him throughout his life."

'Nevermore — The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe'

When: Jan. 5-28

Black Button Eyes Productions at
The Edge Theater,
5451 N. Broadway
Tickets: \$30

Info: nevermorechicago.brownpaper tickets.com

