



May-June 2016
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Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church, est. 1905
1212 W. Balmoral, Chicago, IL 60640
773 878-4747 unitylutheran@ameritech.net

Staff

Pastor

Reverend Fred Kinsey

Youth & Family Pastor

Reverend Emily Heitzman

Music Director

Jerry Jelsema

Office Manager and Center Director

Amy Wood

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The Reverend Wayne Miller



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

Unity Spotlight on ELCA Mission Support

*Our Assembly Tithes to the
Metropolitan Chicago Synod and
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

May Spotlight – Full Communion Partners

Full communion is when two denominations develop a relationship based on a common confessing of the Christian faith and a mutual recognition of Baptism and sharing of the Lord's Supper. This does not mean the two denominations merge; rather, in reaching agreements, denominations also respect differences. These denominations worship together, may exchange clergy and also share a commitment to evangelism, witness and service in the world. Each entity agrees that even with differences, there is nothing that is church-dividing. "The true unity of the church is present where the gospel is rightly preached and sacraments rightly administered." (*Augsburg Confession*, Article VII)

April Spotlight – ELCA Mission Builders

Mission Builders, in thankfulness for all God has provided, use their God-given skills to help ELCA congregations, schools, camps and social ministry organizations construct new, or improve existing facilities. While their hands do God's work and provide housing for ministries, their hearts and voices share their faith and build up the body of Christ with local members. A typical project includes a three way partnership of the Mission Builders, members of the congregation, and various other professionals from the community, working side-by-side to improve facilities.

Growing Our Faith

Ascension–Pentecost

Ascension of the Lord

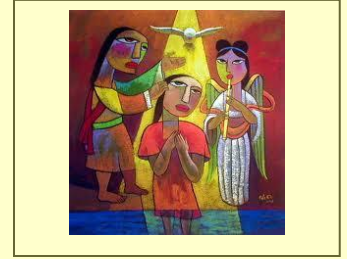
Thursday May 5, 7:30pm at Unity

After 40 days, in which the risen Christ appeared to the apostles and over 500 sisters and brothers (Acts 1, 1 Cor. 15), Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of God. Our ECT Youth and Unity musicians lead a festival service in commemoration of our ascended Lord in the last 10 days of the Easter season.

Day of Pentecost

Sunday May 15

On the 50th day of Easter, and 10 days after the Ascension, as the disciples are waiting for Holy Spirit as Jesus instructed them, a great wind blows through their room and tongues of fire lite on their heads, and



they speak in the foreign languages of every nation visiting Jerusalem for the spring first-fruits festival. God through the Holy Spirit creates the Church, the body of Christ.

Baptism

Sunday May 15

Justin and Jessica Kusserow present 6 month old Genevieve Kusserow for the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Sponsors are Justin's older brother Ben and his husband Brad. We are delighted to welcome Genevieve into the membership of Unity, and welcome her family to Unity on Pentecost Sunday!

Our Faith in Action

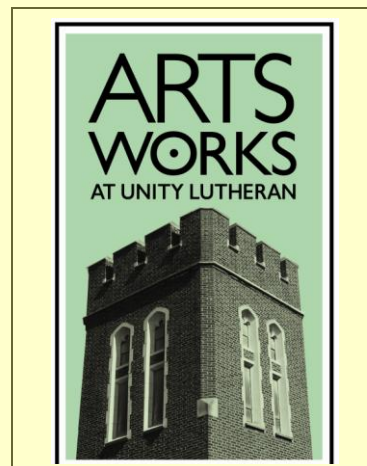
Unity Exhibit in The Gallery at Unity

Opening Sunday May 15 through Sunday June 19

Calling all artists from the Unity Community! "Celebrating the Creative Spirit II" features you, the people of Unity. There are 8 applicants so far and the deadline to submit your works is May 1st. Please submit works electronically to Artist in Residence, John Baker and the ArtsWorks Committee, at unityartsweekend@gmail.com, or call John at 203-536-5642.



We welcome you wherever you are on your spiritual journey: returning, long time member or questioning.



Our Faith in Action



Moral Mondays

Monday May 9, 12:00 noon, Federal Building Chicago

Spring has sprung and so have Moral Mondays! We're building on the movement that has helped change the Illinois budget discussion in Springfield. ONE Northside, IIRON and many other community organizations put together a 1,000 plus coalition that shut down business as usual at the Chicago Board of Trade, and now a

financial transaction tax able to raise billions is on the table. There is also a closing tax loopholes bill now introduced into the Illinois Assembly. Join us in this movement for a moral budget as we increase the pressure on our elected politicians to bring justice to all people from Edgewater to Englewood to Springfield!

ECT Youth Group Mission, Service & Learning Trip Informational Meeting

Sunday, May 15: 12:15-1:30pm, at Ebenezer Lutheran Church

Come and learn about the upcoming ECT Youth Group Mission Trip to Dubuque, IA on Saturday, August 6-Thursday, August 11. A light lunch will be provided. Please contact Pastor Emily Heitzman at pastoremilyh@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Growing Our Faith

Prayer Breakfast

Saturdays May 28 & June 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.



Seeking Grant Writer

Unity's Vision Steering Team is seeking experienced grant writers to help with the search for and application process for grants for Unity and the Center. You would be working with Jerry Michalski and Pastor Kinsey using the Forefront Library resource of Chicago. If you are interested, or know someone who is, please contact [Jerry Michalski](mailto:Jerry) (312) 961-7599, or Pastor Kinsey.

Book Discussion

Sunday June 5, 11:45am

Reading: "Did You Ever Have A Family," Bill Clegg

A powerful story about a circle of people who find solace in the least likely of places as they cope with a horrific tragedy. "Like the question it poses, *Did You Ever Have a Family* is brutally direct yet it's got an enormous symbolic power. You hold in your hands a great book of kindness—every restrained, exquisite sentence comes loaded for bear. It's been a lot of years since a novel has so moved me. Number Bill Clegg among that endangered species: major American writer." (National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author Darin Strauss). 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.

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Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

1212 West Balmoral
Chicago, IL 60640
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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



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