



www.unitymilwaukee.org
1025 E. Oklahoma Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53207
(414) 744-6311

Summer 2024 Newsletter

Gift of Life

Through Unity's three retreats this year for strategic visioning, disciples in Unity have engaged in discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading our congregation in Jesus' mission. Participants have crafted a mission statement that will focus our ministries moving forward into the future God has in store:

"We share the heart of Jesus in the community by loving people through life's struggles."

From houselessness to hunger, from illness to stress – and in countless other examples – the struggles we encounter can never separate us from God in Christ Jesus or from one another. We see the people of Unity coming together in prayer and fellowship to support each other through life's struggles. And in the same way, we build community with our neighbors as we share the love of God to help them through the challenges they face.

This hopeful accompaniment is what it looks like when God's people embrace God's gift of life. Yes, we all endure the effects of sin and death upon us, but also, the very life of Christ is at work within us. Join us this summer, as we study scriptures mainly from 2 Corinthians and Ephesians to learn more about how the Holy Spirit equips us as ambassadors for Christ, who share the heart of Jesus by loving people through life's struggles.

Shalom!
Pr. Kevan

Summer CommUNITY Gatherings Return!

Unity's Summer CommUNITY gatherings have returned! **ALL** are welcome to participate in these CommUNITY gatherings. Come yourself, bring your family, and/or invite a friend to these informal gatherings!

Ice Cream Sundae Sundays

Join us for conversation and fellowship immediately following worship while eating an ice cream sundae on June 16, July 21, and August 18. We will be outside at our Oklahoma Avenue entrance weather permitting. Sundae Sundays are sponsored by Unity's Council and the RIC Task Force.



Happy Hour at The Vine Humboldt

Members and friends of all ages are welcome to join us for Happy Hour and fellowship at The Vine Humboldt in Humboldt Park on the following Thursdays: July 11th and August 8th. Drop in any time from 5:00-6:30. Beverages and food are available for purchase. A playground for children.

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CommUNITY Meal Expands Service!

Starting on Wednesday, May 29th Unity's CommUNITY Meal has expanded! We will continue to serve a hot meal the third Wednesday of each month; however, now we will also serve a to-go meal all the other Wednesdays from 5:00 – 6:00 pm, during our Food Pantry. Unity representatives, as well as representatives from several partner churches continue to plan, serve, and participate in this ministry. Our hot meals will be served on the following dates this summer: June 19, July 17, and August 21 from 5:30-6:30 pm, with our doors opening at 5:00 pm. Unity is scheduled to make the to-go meal on the 5th Wednesday of a month; our partner churches will prepare the other weeks. This means we will need additional volunteers on Wednesday, July 31st to prepare the to-go meal. A HUGE Thank You goes to the countless volunteers who make this ministry happen! Additional volunteers are always welcome! We also have a new portable sign. Thank you to those who helped contribute towards this! If you have any questions, please contact Unity's office or Lynn Rinderle.

Two More Weeks for Unity's Plant Sale

We need your help with our second CommUNITY Plant Sale! Due to the heavy rainy day on May 28th, the Plant Sale has been extended. The plant sale dates are: Tuesday, June 4th and Tuesday, June 11th. This event is a hybrid fund raising/neighborhood event; raise funds by selling plants and get to know and visit with our neighbors. The plan is to gather outside at our picnic tables on Tuesday late afternoons from 4:30pm - 6:30pm with the perennials, annuals, house plants and ice tea.

It is not too late to help us create an inventory of plants; perennials, annuals and house plants. Please join us on Tuesday, June 4th and June, 11th to visit with our members and neighbors. Invite your friends, family and neighbors to donate plants and/or shop at our sale. Most importantly, pray. Ask God to bless this year's plant sale and all the neighbors we meet.



We also want to thank all of you who have already made donations of plants and/or helped on May 21!

Active Adult Center News

Unity's Active Adult Center is on their summer break. They plan to resume in mid-September (Tuesdays). Please watch for the specific dates and details in the fall newsletter. A shout-out of appreciation goes to Jody Stack, who led the weekly Bible Study, and all of the faithful participants and leaders of this group! AAC could not exist without YOU! New members are always welcome!

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Projects and Pancakes!

Unity's yard and building could use some work! On Saturday, June 29th, come for Pancakes and Projects! Outside, we will be weeding, tree trimming, mulching, transplanting, painting, and possibly more! Bring any garden tools, gloves, knee pads, and buckets you like! We are also looking for individuals to offer use of: a string trimmer, multiple wheelbarrows, and a branch saw/pruner. Inside, we will focus on painting and a few other projects. Please dress accordingly. Pancakes and coffee will be offered from 8:30 to 9:00; work will be from 9:00 to 12:30. You are welcome to come and go as you are able. If you have any questions, please email the office at unity@unitymilwaukee.org or talk to Jake Schroeder.

Join Unity's Summer Book Club

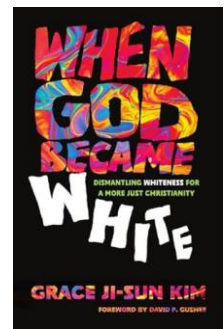
Join us for Unity's Book Club and bring a friend! We will be reading When God Became White: Dismantling Whiteness for a More Just Christianity by Grace Ji-Sun Kim. We will meet on Tuesdays, August 6, August 20 and September 10th at 6:00 pm at the Bay View Colectivo Café (2301 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.).

Here is the reading schedule for each session:

August 6: Chapters 1-3

August 20: Chapters 4-7

September 10J: Chapters 8-10



You can obtain a copy of the book by purchasing it yourself, downloading it through Libby (print or audio), checking it out at the Milwaukee Public Library (one copy available), or contacting the church office by Tuesday, July 9th for the office to order you a copy. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel Hahn or any other member of the RIC Task Force.

Welcome Neighbors on August's Election Day

The next scheduled time that Unity will serve as a polling location is on **Tuesday, August 13**. We'd like to host another bake sale in our lobby that day, giving us another opportunity to meet our neighbors. If you are interested in helping to help with this effort in August and then again in November for the Presidential election, please contact Pastor Kevan or the office. We have found our previous efforts to meet our neighbors who live in our voting precinct a tremendous success! On our April election day event we connected with our neighbors, and we raised more than \$800! A huge thank you to all of you who welcomed our neighbors, baked, made donations, and prayed for this event!



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Interested in Joining Unity?

If you are interested in becoming a member of Unity Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Kevan. The tentative date to welcome new members is Sunday, July 21st.

Strategic Visioning Work Continues

We are progressing as scheduled with our work with Leighton Ford Ministries, the outside consultant we have hired to help us go through a Strategic Visioning Process. This is a vital process as we (Unity Lutheran Church) look and plan for the future!

Our third visioning retreat was held April 6-7. During this retreat, we continued our work with our mission statement, vision statement, and core values. We also looked at ways to explore different building options for the future. Copies of this report will be available in June. We will also hold a Question/Answer Session following worship on Sunday, June 30th in the front of the sanctuary.



Through this work we have increased our learning and have expanded our thinking about doing Jesus' mission.

Additional Worship Volunteers Wanted

We greatly appreciate the work of our faithful volunteers; however, we continue to look for additional volunteers for Sunday mornings. A few of the high-need areas are listed below. If you would like to learn more about any of these roles, or other worship roles, and/or receive training on any position, please send an email to unity@unitymilwaukee.org or leave a voicemail message at Unity.

- Altar Guild – Prepares for Holy Communion before worship (wine and grape juice) and changes the altar when the liturgical season changes.
- Producer/Director – Runs the livestream via a simple computer application, operates cameras, microphones, and updates the titles that appear in the livestream.
- Lectors/Readers – Read the scriptures in worship for the congregation.
- Ushers – Welcomes people before worship, collects offering, assists with Holy Communion.



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Unity Stewardship Campaign 2024



The theme is:
God's Handiwork

Our center Bible verse is:

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

THANK YOU for remembering Unity Lutheran Church with your pledges and monetary donations and for keeping up with your pledges for 2024. Our ministries depend on you!

Book Sale Returns!

Unity's Book Sale and neighborhood gathering is returning! However, at this time the date or dates have not been set. As of now, it looks like it will be scheduled towards the end of August or in September. The hope is that you will join us to get to know our neighbors and browse through our great selection of books during this event.

Again, we will be looking for donations for this event. We will be collecting books, magazines, DVD's and/or CD's. Once the date or dates have been scheduled, look for announcements as to when items can be dropped off to church. It would be appreciated if you hold on to any items until we have an organized system in place. All proceeds will go towards costs associated with our outreach ministries. Thank you! This cannot happen without your support and generosity!



Save the Date! Ecumenical Worship at Humboldt Park on Sunday September 8th

Worship on Sunday, September 8th will be held at the Humboldt Park Pavilion with our area Bay View churches. The plan is to worship together at 10:00 am. A time of food, fellowship and fun will follow! Please watch and listen for more details as it gets closer.

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CommUNITY Notes from Council...

Here are just a few highlights of what your council has been doing and what issues we are facing. Please note that these are highlights and will not include everything.

- Council decided that Unity would join our area churches in worship for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We are excited for this opportunity to worship and commune with several of our neighborhood churches! The plan is to join our area churches in an ecumenical service and picnic on Sunday, September 8th.
- The emergency sewer/plumbing situation is resolved! Our insurance did cover all expenses after our \$1000.00 deductible was paid. Since this is resolved, we are back in communication with Great Lakes Roofing about our roof and the necessary repairs.
- A Fundraiser Night was held on Monday, May 6th at the Panara on 27th Street. We earned \$174.89 (25% of all purchases when a flyer or code was presented.)
- Unity's office will be closed on Thursday, July 4th. Current office hours are Tuesday – Thursday.
- We have two groups from Youth Works scheduled to be in our building this summer.
- We are excited to welcome Maureen Woyci, our new bookkeeper! She will start on Tuesday, June 4th. She will work approximately 10 hours per week. Please note that the office will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday.
- Council determined the need to form leadership teams to guide our ministries and operations. Work has already started with the Equipping Ministries Team. We are excited that Jake Schroder has agreed to chair Property and we have already identified several other members who will help him!
- As Josefa Puerta-Villacrez continues her seminary program and candidacy for ordination, council approved establishing a regularly scheduled Spanish Language worship service which would be led by Josefa. This would be in addition to our 10:00 am worship service.
- A huge thank you to the Martin Luther High School and Unity members who worked on several projects on April 3 and 11! They helped with yard work, cleaning the CommUNITY Kitchen store room, our clothing closet and the basement work area.

**Unity's Food Pantry is open every
Wednesday from 5:00 - 6:00 pm.
New: To-go meals are also available!**





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Do You Have a Key for Unity?

If you have a building key for Unity, please email the office at unity@unitymilwaukee.org indicating you have a key or talk to Laura McVann by Tuesday, June 18th. With the transition in the office, we want to ensure that our records are accurate. Thank you!

Stewarding our resources for Jesus' mission

Remember there are SIX Electronic Ways to Give Generously and Securely to Unity:

1. Donate button of Facebook:

Under the cover photo of our sign for Soup Kitchen, click the blue 'Donate' button. You will go to our secure VANCO page.

2. On our website!

Go to Unity's secure website at <http://www.unitymilwaukee.org/donate> and click on 'DONATE' to give electronically.

3. Vanco Mobile App

Download the VANCO Give Plus Mobile app! Register; look for 'Unity Evan Lutheran Church' or enter our zip code 53207.

4. Thrivent Choice

If you are a Thrivent benefit member you can recommend how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds through Choice Dollars. For more information about Choice Dollars: Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial Representative

5. Text to give:

Give plus Text: enter 833-894-6696. Enter the amount you wish to give, Click on the registration link, enter your contact and payment information, and tap process. You will get a verification text as well as an email receipt. For future giving, just send a text with the amount you wish to donate and it will process automatically.

6. Use your QR code reader or your phone to give securely through the VANCO giving app.



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Sunday Worship Schedule:

Ushers, Online Host, Producer, Altar Guild

	6/2/2024	6/9/2024	6/16/2024	6/23/2024	6/30/2024
Ushers	Erin Whitehead, Nicholas Whitehead, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Zeke Penvose, Lynn Rinderle, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Erin Whitehead, Nicholas Whitehead, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis
Online Host	Chad Lyden	Laura McVann	Chad Lyden	Chad Lyden	Chad Lyden
Director/Producer	Laura McVann	Kyle Davis	Laura McVann	Kyle Davis	John Lyden
Altar Guild	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Stacy Davis	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Wayne Pratis	Stacy Davis
Lector		Zeke Penvose	Nick Latona	Erin Whitehead	Wayne Pratis
	7/7/2024	7/14/2024	7/21/2024	7/28/2024	
Ushers	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Zeke Penvose, Lynn Rinderle, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Erin Whitehead, Nicholas Whitehead, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	
Online Host	Chad Lyden	Patsy Lenz	Laura McVann	Chad Lyden	
Director/Producer	Chad Lyden	Laura McVann	Kyle Davis	John Lyden	
Altar Guild	Wayne Pratis	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Stacy Davis	
Lector	Zeke Penvose	Nick Latona	Wayne Pratis	Zeke Penvose	
	8/4/2024	8/11/2024	8/18/2024	8/25/2024	9/1/2024
Ushers	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Erin Whitehead, Nicholas Whitehead, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis	Erin Whitehead, Nicholas Whitehead, Jacki Davis, Chris Davis	Kitty Dinauer, Josefa Puerta-Villacrez, Jorge Tores Munoz, Wayne Pratis
Online Host	Chad Lyden	Laura McVann	Laura McVann	Patsy Lenz	Chad Lyden
Director/Producer	Kyle Davis	Chad Lyden	Kyle Davis	Chad Lyden	John Lyden
Altar Guild	Wayne Pratis	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Stacy Davis	Josefa Puerta-Villacrez	Stacy Davis
Lector	Lynn Rinderle	Nick Latona	Wayne Pratis	Lynn Rinderle	Laura McVann

If you would like to serve in any of these ministries please email our office at unity@unitymilwaukee.org to learn more.

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Summer 2024 Newsletter

We remember the following people as we pray...

Ebony Brown and family (friends of Unity); **Gail Senelon** (AAC member); **Mary Cicerelli** (member); **Dareyl Wahl** (member); **Jeff Tessmer** (son of Marge); **Keith Mueller** (brother of Kim Thomas); **Jean Weibner** (mother of Tricia Skinner); **Don Plant** (friend of Jeff Kornreich); **Blake Oleson** (friends of Unity); **Dorothy C.** (outreach member; Pastor **Kevan Penvose**; **Patsy Lenz** (member); **Patricia Orłowski** (friend of Unity); **Sandy LeBombard** (friend of Unity); **Jerry & Nellie Javorski**; **Cindy Larson** (friend of Frank Jendisa); **Bonnie Ziowkoski**, **Lori Jameson** (member); **Kathy** (friend of Unity); **Joan** (friend of Unity); **Jack Badalik** (friend of Unity); **Andy Wegner** (member); **Mary Noe**, **Sandi Buchman**; **Robin Servantez** (friend of Lori Jameson); **Kim Deschler**; **Justin, Nathan, and Frank**, (friends of Unity); **William Darden** (friend of Unity); **Jamie Kornreich** (member); **Elaine Kornreich** (member); **Joe, Shelly, and Joey Tuzzo** (friends of Unity); **Gloria Brandenburg**; **Jeannine Lau** (member); **Trudy Rossman**; **Neil Larsen**; **Thom R. Bagley, Marty; Cindy Bereiter**; **Susan & Betty Johnson** (Ross); **Paul, Donna, Paula, Cathy, Izzy & Lee; Hernandez** family; the **Toni Fare family** (member); **Nicholas Whitehead** (member); **Rita Smith & Jr.** (members); **Thurston, Isaac, Eric, the Zolinsky family; Tricia Skinner** (member); **Scott Neumann** (friend of Cindy Flechner); **Dennis Block** (member), and **Irvin Smith** (AAC – Charolette Smith's husband); and **Matthew Robert Van Etta** (dad of Ophelia); **Pam Padgett** (member); **Wayne Pratis** (member); **Dave Emmons** (Friend of Unity); and **Jason** (Friend of Unity).

**Please notify the office to add or remove someone from Unity's prayer list.*

Deadline for the Fall 2024 Newsletter is Thursday, August 22nd.

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Summer 2024 Newsletter

"Gift of Life" Scripture Messages & Daily Readings

"Seeing Jesus"

June 2nd

Sunday 2 Corinthians 4:5-12
Monday Acts 15:1-5, 22-35
Tuesday Romans 9:19-29
Weds. Psalm 78:1-4, 52-72
Thurs. 1 Peter 4:7-19
Friday Genesis 2:4b-14
Sat. Psalm 130

"Motivated by Love"

June 16th

Sunday 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17
Monday Galatians 6:11-18
Tuesday Revelation 21:22-22:5
Weds. Psalm 52
Thurs. Acts 20:1-16
Friday Acts 21:1-16
Saturday Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

"Exponential Grace"

June 9th

Sunday 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Monday Revelation 20:1-6
Tuesday Revelation 20:7-15
Weds. Psalm 74
Thurs. Hebrews 2:5-9
Friday Hebrews 11:4-7
Saturday Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

"Hearts Wide Open"

June 23rd

Sunday 2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Monday Acts 27:39-44
Tuesday Mark 6:45-52
Weds. Psalm 65
Thurs. 2 Corinthians 7:2-16
Friday 2 Corinthians 8:1-7
Saturday Psalm 30

"Giving Freely"

June 30th

Sunday 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Monday 2 Corinthians 8:16-24

Tuesday 2 Corinthians 9:1-5
Weds. Psalm 88
Thurs. 2 Corinthians 10:7-11
Friday 1 Corinthians 4:8-13
Saturday Psalm 123

"Power of Paradise"

July 7th

Sunday 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Monday Colossians 4:2-18
Tuesday Amos 2:6-16
Weds. Psalm 119:81-88
Thurs. Amos 3:1-12
Friday Amos 4:6-13
Saturday Psalm 85:8-13

"Bestowed in the Beloved"

July 14th

Sunday Ephesians 1:3-14
Monday Amos 5:1-9
Tuesday Amos 9:1-4
Weds. Psalm 142
Thurs. Amos 9:11-15
Friday Colossians 1:15-23
Sat. Psalm 23

"New Humanity"

July 21st

Sunday Ephesians 2:11-22
Monday Hebrews 13:17-25
Tuesday Acts 20:17-38
Weds. Psalm 100
Thursday Colossians 1:9-14
Friday Colossians 3:12-17
Sat. Psalm 145:10-18

"Inner Strength"

July 28th

Sunday Ephesians 3:7-21
Monday Philippians 4:10-20
Tuesday Romans 15:22-33
Weds. Psalm 111
Thursday 1 Corinthians 11:17-22
Friday 1 Corinthians 11:27-34
Sat. Psalm 78:23-29

"Truth in Love"

August 4th

Sunday Ephesians 4:1-16
Monday Ephesians 4:17-24
Tuesday 1 Corinthians 12:27-31
Weds. Psalm 107:1-3, 33-43
Thurs. Romans 15:1-6
Friday Galatians 6:1-10
Sat. Psalm 34:1-8

"For Building Up One Another"

August 11th

Sunday Rom. 10:5-15
Monday Ephesians 5:1-14
Tuesday 2 Peter 3:14-18
Weds. Psalm 81
Thurs. Jeremiah 31:1-6
Friday Romans 16:17-20
Sat. Psalm 34:9-14

"A Visible Thank You"

August 18th

Sunday Ephesians 5:10-20
Monday Acts 6:1-7
Tuesday Acts 7:9-16
Weds. Psalm 36
Thurs. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Friday Romans 13:11-14
Sat. Psalm 34:15-22

"We Live for Love"

August 25th

Sunday Ephesians 6:10-20
Monday Ephesians 5:21-6:9
Tuesday Ephesians 6:21-24
Weds. Psalm 119:97-104
Thurs. James 1:1-8
Friday James 1:9-16
Sat. Psalm 15

"Every Perfect Gift"

September 1st

Sunday James 1:17-27



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Spring 2024 Newsletter

Mission: Transformed by Jesus, our Lord,
we go into the community to serve and welcome all people.

Vision: To lead the people of Unity in living worship,
empowered to make disciples of Jesus.

Values: Faith is a way of life.
Outreach is relationship building.
Diversity is sought and celebrated.
Worship is life-shaping.

Please join us for worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. We are worshipping in-person and by live stream at facebook.com/unitymilwaukee. Our theme for this summer is:

“Gift of Life”



STAFF

Kevan Penvose, Pastor

kevan.penvose@unitymilwaukee.org 414-744-6311 x201

Michael Lindemeyer, Musician

Paul Lindstrom, Housekeeper

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

It is best to call first to ensure the office is open. Friday is Pastor's day off.

COUNCIL (council@unitymilwaukee.org)

Laura McVann – President

Wayne Pratis

Stacy Davis – Vice President

Lynn Rinderle

Pat Gain – Treasurer

Jim Liedtke

Erin Whitehead -Secretary

Massamba Smith Jr.

ENDOWMENT (endowment@unitymilwaukee.org)

Jody Stack – Chair

Rachel Hahn

Jill Wisniewski – Treasurer

Jack Kosmoski

Phil Vogel - Secretary

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