

October Worship Calendar

October 7
 Rev. Lisa Friedman
 Unity Church-Unitarian, St. Paul, MN

October 21
 UN Sunday, John Washburn with the
 UN & Global Affairs Action Committee

October 14
 Rev. Carlos R. Martinez

October 28
 Beyond Categorical Thinking
 with Barb Greve and Jacqui William

Rev. Carlos R. Martinez, Interim Minister
 Esther Rosado, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
 Gerald A. Brown, Director of Music
 Valerie Lynch, Membership Coordinator
 Jeff Loveland, Church Administrator
 Rev. Bruce Southworth, Minister Emeritus

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the community
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Minister's Corner

October 7 and 14, 2018 Issue



One event that set me off on the road to ministry was a call I received in April 2008. I got word the Seattle based tech company I had joined in January that it had been sold to a larger company in Toronto. The process of paring down the company and whittling away people like they were the bark on a

tree had begun. Yes, I got the call. It was not the call I had expected. "Sorry to do this. You know how it is." "You get one month of severance and one month of healthcare benefits. We are being generous; after all you just joined the company." I was mad. I just joined the company? I was recruited away from my former job to come to your company to work I told them. You must do better.

I had worked for technology companies since finishing business school in 1994. Once a colleague and I joked how as high-tech industry employees we took on the attributes of the products we sold. My colleague said, "Yeah, one year I was 'fast,' another year I was 'flexible' and then in another I was 'extensible.'" Extensible: That is Silicon Valley talk which means the product can grow to suit the customers' ever changing needs. You know, extend.

In my former corporate life there were multiple reorg's to prove we could meet the demands of

the market. In one company we physically refit our cubicles and ourselves into new configurations and ever smaller workspaces: seven different times in one year to conform to an organizational chart that demonstrated to the shareholders we were striving to meet the marketplace. I learned there is a scientifically proven limit to the cubicle space a human being needs to work. We exceeded that limit in the 5th reorganization. My working life told me that like the organizations I worked for that we too need to be open to change, to grow and to be adaptable just to keep one step ahead of the changing times.

One thing I have consistently heard from you is a desire to use the Assembly Hall more often for worship services. Our music director, Mr. Jerry Brown concurs. He says, "Being in the Assembly Hall is better for congregational acoustics. It has more intimacy, there is better connection to the officiant and everyone feels more like being part of the community."

This church year we are going to try a bit of church "re'orging" not by seeing how many congregants can fit into a 5 x 10 cubicle but rather what effect does being in a more intimate, acoustically responsive space have on our life as a gathered community. This might be a little disorienting at first, but based on what you have told me it will be a welcomed disorientation into becoming a closer knit community.

Rev. Carlos

The dates for the Assembly Hall services are: 10/21; 11/18; 11/25; 12/23; 12/30; 1/13; 2/10; 3/10; and 4/14.

Church Events

- Worship Meeting
Tue., Oct. 9, 10:00 am
- Yoga with Nafisa
Tue., Oct. 9, 6:00 pm
- Yoga with Nafisa
Sat., Oct. 13, 10:30 pm
- Breathing Exercises with Nafisa
Mon., Oct. 15, 2:00 pm
- Worship Meeting
Tue., Oct. 16, 10:00 am
- Yoga with Nafisa
Tue., Oct. 16, 6:00 pm
- Community Church Dance
Fri., Oct. 19, 6:00 pm
- Esperanto Society
Fri., Oct. 19, 7:00 pm
- Yoga with Nafisa
Sat., Oct. 20, 10:30 pm
- Breathing Exercises with Nafisa
Mon., Oct. 22, 2:00 pm
- Worship Meeting
Tue., Oct. 23, 10:00 am

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



As a faith community built and strengthened by relationships, one of the greatest gifts we can give our children is the opportunity to build more relationships—and it's been lovely to see that happening between children and adults of various ages in the RE Classroom. On Saturday mornings, Nafisa Degani offers yoga. She will lead a few 20 minute-mini yoga sessions for the children on Sundays during RE. With all of the social stressors placed upon children today, it's comforting to know that they can come to a place of acceptance and find balance in their lives. We look forward to offering a separate yoga class on Saturdays for children and parents/guardians in late October.

How do you balance stress with moments to pause and appreciate the present moment in your life? What spiritual practice might you consider so as to restore balance in your life?
Paz, Esther

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- SUNDAY—October 7**
- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
 - 11:00 am Worship Service
 - 11:00 am Religious Education
 - 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour
 - 12:45 pm Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
 - 12:45 pm Cottage Meeting Search Committee
- MONDAY—October 8**
Columbus Holiday
Church Building Closed
- THURSDAY—October 11**
- 5:45 pm Gallery35 Open
- SUNDAY—October 14**
- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
 - 9:30 am Shelter Committee
 - 11:00 am Worship Service
 - 11:00 am Religious Education
 - 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour
 - 12:45 pm Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
 - 12:45 pm Cottage Meeting Search Committee
 - 1:00 pm UN & Global Affairs Meeting

Sunday School ~ Join us in the RE Room downstairs at 11 am.
Fellowship Hour ~ **Assembly Hall, 12:15 p.m.** Please join us after worship.

SUNDAY—October 21

UN Sunday
John Washburn with the
UN & Global Affairs Action
Committee

SUNDAY—October 28

Beyond Categorical Thinking with
Barb Greve and Jacqui William

THOSE WHO ALSO MINISTER—OCTOBER 7

Pulpit Art—Chalice Art by Onna Johnson,
West Valley UU in Arizona
Usher/Greeter—Joe Wagner, Martha Wagner
Welcome Table—Ellen Mandelbaum
Nancy Jennings
Hospitality—Helene Summa
Bookstall—Ken Wachtell

THOSE WHO ALSO MINISTER—OCTOBER 14

Pulpit Art—Chalice Art by Onna Johnson,
West Valley UU in Arizona
Usher/Greeter—Elektra Birchall, Leslie
McKenzie
Welcome Table—Carla Corcoran
Nafisa Degani
Hospitality—Board of Trustees
Bookstall—Ken Wachtell
October Coordinator Helene & BJ's Homeless Shelter—Christie Jeffers—646-271-9345
Shelter volunteers always welcome.

FROM OUR COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER



Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.
— Leo F. Buscaglia

I participated in one of our recent Cottage Conversations and was delighted to hear someone recite our mission statement: to grow as a caring.... My plan is to offer a word, a sentiment on each value that is named. Today, I will focus on caring.

My heart and mind are experiencing tumult as I try to make sense of Cosby's dramatic downfall, Ford's brave truth-telling, and of Kavanaugh's angry "forgetfulness."

In our current social location and political climate we are given far many opportunities to experience caring and uncaring actions on the local, national, and international level.

What does it mean to be a caring person?

I don't want to assume that we have a common understanding of caring and what it entails. Goodcharacter.com offers the following:

- Treat people with kindness and generosity.
- Help people in need.
- Be sensitive to people's feelings.
- Never be mean or hurtful.
- Think about how your actions will affect others.
- Always remember – we become caring people by doing caring things!

This list makes sense and reminds me of my hopes for us here at Community. I cannot do it alone! Although I'm creating a Pastoral Care Team, it is important for each of us to know that caring is our collective responsibility. I do my part to create authentic caring for each and all of us – *for all that is our lives.*

Masakhane, Janice

"Masakhane" is a rich and resonant word from the Nguni family of languages of South Africa, of which Zulu and Xhosa are two. Loosely translated into English it means, "Let us build together."



The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist

Web: Visit our website at www.ccn.org – Visit in person at 40 East 35th Street

Our Mission: TO GROW AS A CARING, JUSTICE-MAKING, ANTI-RACIST, DIVERSE, SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY