

First Unity Church of St. Louis

2025 Volume VII

Issue 2



Minister's Corner

IT'S A SPRING THING

Even though I am not a fan of winter, I do appreciate living where we experience four distinct seasons. Each one has its own beauty and its own

message. After the long, cold winter, the onset of spring brings renewal and new growth. Daffodils and tulips poke through the earth; wildflowers spring up; trees bud and spread their verdant leaves; animals come out of hibernation.

American writer and humorist Lewis Grizzard wrote,

*Spring is the land reawakening
The March winds are the morning yawn.*

In Unity, we realize we are on this earth to grow and evolve --to be all that we were created to be. Yes, this life brings challenges and grief. But it also brings infinite possibilities of love, peace and joy. This is the season when Christians world-wide celebrate Lent as a time of spiritual preparation. The word "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word for spring--"lecten" meaning "to lengthen" --highlighting longer days of sunlight. Jesus told us, "*You are the light of the world. Let your light shine.*" We are on this earth to be light and love. We cannot afford to dwell in darkness or cast shadows.

During this blessed season, we feel the gentle pull of our own reawakening, urging us to shed old layers of negative judgments about ourselves and others. We can use our power of renunciation to *say no* and *let go* of old agreements and false ideas. Each budding flower reminds us that we are resilient, programmed with inner faith, strength, wisdom, and all the powers of the Christ.

So, as we welcome this blessed spring season, we behold and embrace the Christ in ourselves and in all others. As we allow our magnificent lights to shine, we plant the seeds of love and compassion for all humankind, knowing that our connected points of light can illumine & heal our lives and the world.

HAPPY END OF WINTER – HAPPY SPRING

Love and prayers,
Rev. Jan

Minister, Jan Mourning

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First Unity Church of St. Louis Newsletter

March/April 2025

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First Unity Church Presents Its Outstanding Music Calendar for March 2025

First Unity's Music Director, Dr. Steve Schenkel, has arranged for a variety of renowned guest musicians, singers, and groups to be with us for Sunday Services during the months of March and April. All are truly welcome here, and we hope you will join us in the sanctuary or online as we seek together to know God, to unfold spiritually, and to understand, love, and align with Spirit's Laws of Being



March 2, Brian Clarke, vocals and guitar. Brian is perhaps the most beloved New Thought musician in St. Louis. He most recently received the St. Louis Magazine "A-List" Award as Best Vocalist and Best Musician.



March 9, Ashby Laws, vocals. Our musician for Sunday will be Ashby Laws. Her talents are many as a vocalist, guitarist, and accordion player. Ashby is a member of the recording group "Keltic Reign."



March 16, Scott Alberici, clarinet. Scott Alberici is one of America's finest clarinet virtuosos. Known for his superbly rich and warm tone, lyrical phrasing, and command of the American songbook, Mr. Alberici has developed a personal style that is instantly recognizable. His rare ability to capture the moment with the subtlety of expression mixed with brilliant and melodic improvisations will keep the listeners on the edge of their seats from the drop of the downbeat

to the end of the performance.



March 23, Mitzi MacDonald, vocals. Recording artist Mitzi MacDonald performs regularly at churches and concert venues throughout the St. Louis area. Her most recent album, "Higher Ground," is available on all major streaming services.



March 30, Kim Fuller, vocals. Kim has been performing for decades in the St. Louis area. She began singing at age 5 in the Angel Choir at church. Over the years she has sung in a variety of music genres. She has been an opening act for the Jazz Crusaders, Randy Lewis, Pieces of a Dream, The Neville Brothers, and countless others. She is a member of The Jazz Story™, a group that promotes Jazz Education to grades K-12.

Kim is also a member of Oikos, a Jazz group that uses jazz as a catalyst to promote the gospel. She frequently performs around the St. Louis area with many talented musicians.

First Unity Church Presents Its Outstanding Music Calendar for April 2025



April 6, Brian Clarke, vocals and guitar. Brian is perhaps the most beloved New Thought musician in St. Louis. He most recently received the St. Louis Magazine “A-List” Award as Best Vocalist and Best Musician.



April 13, Connie Pierce and Danny Dumaine. Connie Pierce grew up in Washington, MO, singing in church choirs from the age of 10.

She attended the University of Notre Dame, singing in the Voices of Faith Gospel Choir and performing as a National Anthem soloist for various sporting events. Upon her return to the St. Louis area, she has been a member of the Voices of St. Alphonsus, both sharing and growing her faith through gospel music.

Danny Dumaine is the Minister of Music at St. Alphonsus “Rock” Church in St. Louis. He is a choir director, composer, and pianist. Danny Dumaine is also the music director of the St. Louis band “Boom,” which has entertained audiences around the country for over 30 years.



April 20, Kim Fuller, vocals. Kim has been performing for decades in the St. Louis area. She began singing at age 5 in the Angel Choir at church. Over the years she has sung in a variety of music genres. She has been an opening act for the Jazz Crusaders, Randy Lewis, Pieces of a Dream, The Neville Brothers, and countless others. She is a member of The Jazz Story™, a group that promotes Jazz Education to grades K-12.

Kim is also a member of Oikos, a Jazz group that uses jazz as a catalyst to promote the gospel. She frequently performs around the St. Louis area with many talented musicians.



April 27, Mitzi MacDonald, vocals and keyboard.

Mitzi performs at numerous churches, peace events, pubs, coffee houses, outdoor concerts, and special events. She has opened for authors Alan Cohen, and Neal Donald Walsh at Westport Playhouse, and has performed at the Sheldon Concert Hall with CD release concerts.

A Big Shout Out to our Youth Ministry Team



Expressing gratitude and recognition, to First Unity's Youth Educators for all their amazing contributions to our youth. Thank you, Glenda Gebhardt, Claire Gibbs, and Cindy Gibbs.

**We Love you,
We Bless you,
We Behold the Christ as you.**

What's Happening



First Unity Church is offering Easter Lilies this year!



The cost is \$10.00 for each lily and can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one.

The church will start selling Easter Lilies, Sunday, March 16, 2025 and the deadline for ordering is April 6, 2025.

To place an order, fill out a form available in the lobby, call the church at 314.845.8540, mail a check to First Unity Church of St. Louis, or pay by Paypal at unitystl.org

AN EVENING WITH
ERIN BODE

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
STEVE SCHENKEL
KIM FULLER | CAROLBETH TRUE



FRI
MAR 28

7:30 PM
TICKETS \$25

HOSTED BY
FIRST UNITY CHURCH
4753 BUTLER HILL ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MO 63128

CALL FOR TICKETS
314-845-8540
OR SCAN HERE:



Good Friday Service

All Unity Event

GOOD
FRIDAY
SERVICE

April 18, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

2809 Yale Blvd.
St. Charles, MO 63301

Everyone
Welcome



unity
Church of Light

Easter Bake Sale

Sunday, April 20, 2025

You can donate your favorite baked goods and shop for others' goodies to take home!

Items are sold on a Love Offering basis.

No need to sign up. Just bring your baked goods to the church on Saturday, April 19, from 10 - 12, or if you prefer, you may deliver your goodies before the Easter service.



For questions please get in touch with Hope:
hope_dodson@yahoo.co.uk

Save the Date April 23, 2025

First Unity Church of St. Louis will be hosting a dinner and jazz concert featuring the **Route 66 Jazz Orchestra**.



Look for detailed information coming soon!

First Unity Church Annual Meeting and Luncheon

First Unity Church of St. Louis will hold its Annual Meeting on May 4 immediately following the Sunday Service.

After the meeting, a luncheon will be served downstairs in the Community Room.



Up To The Minute News

Ladies and Men's Night Out meets on the third Monday of the month!

Ladies' Night Out

March 17, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

Pad Thai
12676 Lamplighter Square
Shopping Center
St. Louis, MO 63128

April 21, 2025, at 5:30 pm.



LongHorn Steakhouse
3642 South Lindbergh Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63128

Please contact Mary at
jtpres5111@gmail.com for
more information.

Men's Night Out

March 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Chevy's Fresh Mix
12466 Tesson Ferry Road
St. Louis, MO 63123

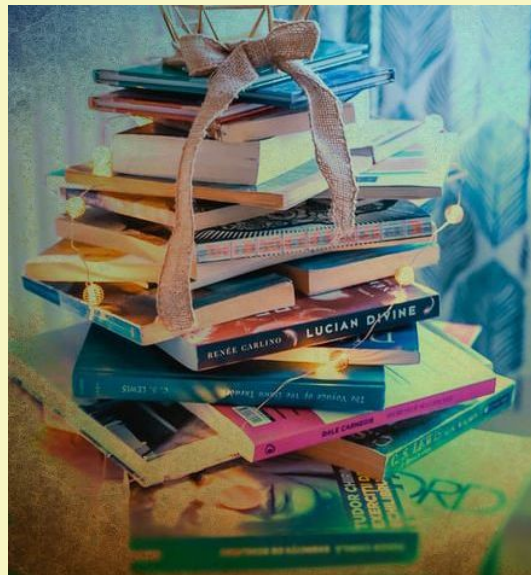
February 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

El Agave Mexican
10893 Sunset Hills Plaza
St. Louis, MO 63127

Please contact Eric at jcvond@aol.com for
more information.



Book Club



For more information on our church activities: Check our website, unitystl.org
or call 314-845-8540.

Join the First Unity Book Club meeting on the second Tuesday of the month from
2 pm - 4 pm. Everyone is welcome. We are looking forward to seeing you!

The book club will be meeting at:

Miss Sheri's Cafeteria
5406 Southfield Center
St. Louis, MO 63123

Future books:

January 14, 2025 - *The Cruellest Month* - Louise Penny

February 11, 2025 - *Stand Your Ground* - Victoria Christopher-Murray

March 11, 2025 - *The Women* - Kristen Hannah

April 8, 2025 - *The Radium Girls* - Kate Moore

May 13, 2025 - *The Guncle* - Steven Rowley

June 10, 2025 - *The Covenant of Water* - Abraham Verghese

July 8, 2025 - *The Only Woman in the Room* - Marie Benedict

For further information, please e-mail Carol at cabullock48@yahoo.com



One of our core values for First Unity Church is: SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Spiritual growth is a life-long practice of bringing one's mind into harmony with the Absolute Goodness of God

COMMUNITY BEHAVIORS

- Embracing the wholeness, abundance, and wisdom that we all have within, we open a space to support everyone on his/her individual path toward ever-expanding spiritual growth
- We teach and practice spiritual principles that inspire us to look beyond human conditions and claim our greater good
- As a spiritual community, we make decisions from our inner Christ, contributing to the well-being of one another and the world

INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIORS

- I engage in metaphysical Bible interpretation, seeing my own soul's evolution in the characters, places, and events in the Bible
- To develop increased spiritual understanding, I read and listen to spiritual material, engage in daily prayer and meditation, and attend classes
- As the realization of my Divine identity evolves, I align my thoughts, words, and



NEW YEAR HUMOR

Q. What's the Easter Bunny's favorite restaurant?

A. IHOP!

Q: What is Easter Bunny's favorite kind of music?

A: Hip-hop, of course!

One Easter, a father was teaching his son to drive when out of nowhere a rabbit jumped on the road. Slamming on the brakes, the son said, "I nearly ruined Easter! I almost ran over the Easter Bunny." His father replied, "It's okay son—you missed it by a hare."

What kind of jewelry does the Easter Bunny wear?

14 Carrot Gold

[Visit our website](#)



Office: 314.845.8540
Email: firstunity@firstunitychurchstlouis.org
Website: unitystl.org
SilentUnity prayer support
1.800.NOW PRAY (669.7729)
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