

First Unity Church of St. Louis

2026 Volume VIII

Issue 3

Minister's Corner



SPRING FORTH

Even though I am not a fan of winter, I love watching the seasons change. There are seasons of stillness and seasons of activity, each bringing its own beauty and message for us. As we move into the fullness of May and June, what appeared lifeless beneath the winter soil reawakens, showcasing flowers with vibrant blooms of color and lush greenery.

This is more than a seasonal shift. It is a living metaphor of our own spiritual growth. Watching the earth come back to life reminds us that there is a divine potential seeking expression within each one of us. Like the seeds that have been dormant all winter, we have everything we need to live lives of purpose, peace, and joy.

What would you like to see more of in your life? Set an intention and then plant positive seed thoughts of wholeness, possibility, and faith that will nurture your intention. Be prepared to pull any inner weeds of doubt. In the book *Power of Intention*, Wayne Dwyer writes, “By banishing doubt and trusting your intuitive feelings, you clear a space for the power of intention to flow through.” Dwyer shares the following practices to support your intentions:

- Be Creative** Creativity allows you to see connections and opportunities and to let your natural expression flow forth
- Be Kind** When you are kind and compassionate, you emit radiant, positive energy that clears the way for more positive life experiences
- Be Love** By learning to love unconditionally, you create more space for love in your life to blossom
- Be Beauty** Learning to appreciate beauty everywhere is an essential aspect of awakening to your divine nature
- Be Ever-Expansive** Balance an appreciation of the joy and abundance that is already before you with a desire to continue to grow and expand
- Be Abundant** We live in an abundant, thriving universe. At the core of your being, you are, in essence, part of an infinite field of energy. You can tap into this energy to create anything you choose for yourself.

As we move into the beautiful spring and early summer seasons, let's all set the intention to make it a time for new beginnings in our consciousness. As we plant seeds of love and compassion for all humankind, they will spring forth to enrich our lives, our spiritual community, and the world.

HAPPY SPRING
Love and prayers,
Rev. Jan

Rev. Jan Mourning

Licensed Unity Teacher

Hope Dodson

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**First Unity Church of
St. Louis Newsletter**

May/June 2026

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You are invited to First Unity Church of St. Louis Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of First Unity Church of St. Louis is scheduled for May 17, immediately following the Sunday Service. We invite every member to contribute their thoughts and ideas, as your voice is vital to our journey forward

Following the meeting, we extend an invitation to a delightful luncheon in the Community Room



Spring Concert

The poster for 'Jazz Duo Live' features a vibrant background with abstract light trails in yellow, orange, and red. Two inset photographs show the performers: Kim Fuller, a woman with dark curly hair singing into a microphone, and Carolbeth True, a man with long white hair playing a piano. The title 'Jazz Duo Live' is written in a large, elegant white script font in the upper right.

Jazz Duo Live

**Join us for an evening of sensational jazz,
featuring this dynamic duo.**

**Kim Fuller on vocals and
Carolbeth True on keys.**

**Friday, May 22, 2026
7:30 PM
Ticket Price: \$20.00**

**First Unity Church of St. Louis
4753 Butler Hill Road
St. Louis, MO 63128**

**For Advanced Tickets :
Call First Unity Church at 314.845.8540**



Use QR Code for online tickets

First Unity Church Presents Its Outstanding Music Calendar for May 2026

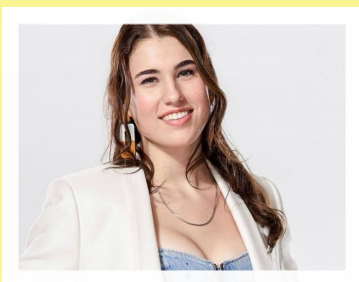
First Unity's Music Director, Dr. Steve Schenkel, has arranged for various renowned guest musicians, singers, and groups to be with us for Sunday Services during May and June. All are truly welcome here, and we hope you will join us in the sanctuary or online as we seek together to know God, to unfold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

May 3, Brian Clarke, vocals and guitar. Brian is perhaps the most beloved New Thought musician in St. Louis. He is most recently the recipient of the St. Louis Magazine "A-List" Award as Best Vocalist and Best Musician.



May 10, 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.



May 17, Joanna Serenko, vocals. St. Louisan since 2010, Joanna has been exploring her outlets for pursuing her passion from a young age. She has been involved in Jazz U, Sofar Sounds performances, won first place in St. Louis Teen Talent Competition, and in February 2020, she wowed all four judges during the season premiere of NBC's "The Voice." About her experience singing on national television, Joanna says, "This show has given me a whole new confidence. It's taught me that I could make it in the music industry." Her most recent release, "Best of Me," is available on all major streaming services



May 24, Mitzi MacDonald, vocals and piano. Mitzi MacDonald 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.



May 31, Ashby Laws, vocals. Ashby Laws is a born-and-raised St. Louis musician. Since she was five years old, she has studied and performed traditional Irish and classical music. Her primary instruments include piano, accordion, voice, guitar, tin whistle, and bodhrán. She has been to the world competition of traditional Irish music (Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann) three times, coming home with a bronze medal in 2016. She has grown up performing with her mother, Mitzi MacDonald, and her siblings in their band, Keltic Reign. She received a B.S. in music therapy from Maryville University, where she studied piano privately with St. Louis Symphony Orchestra pianist, Dr. Peter Henderson.

First Unity Church Presents Its Outstanding Music Calendar for June 2026



June 7, Brian Clarke, vocals and guitar. Brian is perhaps the most beloved New Thought musician in St. Louis. He is most recently the recipient of the St. Louis Magazine "A-List" Award as Best Vocalist and Best Musician.



June 14, Kati Michalas, vocals. Kati is one of First Unity's song leaders, and she and her husband Nick and two sons Niko and Braden, are regular attendees, with Nico and Braden attending Youth Education classes. Kati grew up in Unity, attending the Collinsville, Illinois church. Kati's family was a musical one; both her grandfather and father played the guitar. She gained a passion for bluegrass and classic country music at a young age and says there was never a family gathering without music or a guitar. Her postcollege performances include a short stint with the Autumn Fling band, United Voices of United Way Choir, Metro Trans Umbrella Group Song Squad, performing the national anthem at various sporting events, and singing at multiple weddings and funerals.



June 21, 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.



June 28, Mitzi MacDonald, vocals and piano. Mitzi MacDonald 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.

Maggie O'Brien's



What a delightful gathering we had as First Unity Church assembled at Maggie O'Brien's! The air was filled with warmth and laughter as our wonderful Unity Congregants came together, engaging in meaningful conversations while savoring the delicious food. The spirit of connection reminds us all of the incredible community we have. A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who participated in and contributed to the success of this joyous event; your presence truly made it special! As we look forward to more of our festivities, let's keep this momentum going—stay connected and join us on our exciting journey of personal empowerment and spiritual growth. After all, who knows what delightful surprises await us in our next gathering? Let's keep the gratitude rolling!



Up to the Minute News

Bookstore

Happy Mother's Day



As Mother's Day approaches, we invite you to immerse yourself in the atmosphere of First Unity Church by visiting our bookstore at your convenience—whether before or after our Sunday Service. Here, you will discover thoughtful gifts that express your love and appreciation for the remarkable women in your life. Let's celebrate the unique bonds we share with our mothers and mother figures, embracing this Mother's Day with gifts that resonate love.



*Thanks to everyone who donated Easter Lilies
In honor and/or memory of loved ones.*

Charlene Dickens
~In Memory of: Harry & Grace Sparks

Hope Dodson

Nancy Davis
~In Memory of: Our Loved Ones

Loyce Turan
~In Memory of: Loved Ones

Rev. Jan Mourning
~In Memory of: Bob Leonard

Betty Jean Kofron
~In Memory of: Marie Locktrop

Marjorie LaRico
~In Honor of: Betty Jean Kofron

Linda Harr & Family
~In Memory of: Our Family Members Who Have Passed

Allyson Codak

Cheryl Fellner
~In Memory of: Bob Fellner (husband) & Mark Godfrey (son)

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

Ladies' Night Out



May 18, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
Sí Señor Mexican Bar & Grill
227 Arnold Crossroads Center
Arnold, MO 63010

June 15, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

Viviano's Festa Italiano
55 Fenton Plaza
Fenton, MO 63026

Please contact Mary at

jtpres5111@gmail.com for more information.

Men's Night Out

May 18, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

Syberg's Arnold
249 Arnold Crossroads Center
Arnold, MO 63010

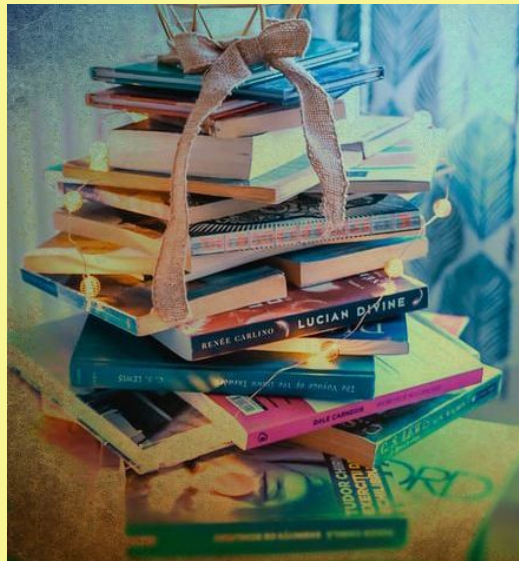
June 15, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

Buffalo Wild Wings
150 Gravois Bluff Circle Drive
Fenton, MO 63026

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



Book Club



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

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

Future books:

May 12, 2026 - *A Cold Day For Murder* - Dana Stabenow

June 9, 2026 - *Broken Country* - Clare Leslie Hall

July 14, 2026 - *The Queens of Crime* - Marie Benedict

August 11, 2026 - *The Ghost Army of World War II* - Rick Beye/Elizabeth Sayles

September 8, 2026 - *Plain Truth* - Jodi Picoult

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

In oneness
of Spirit,
we celebrate
a world
awakened
to infinite
possibilities



We are a vibrant,
inclusive Spiritual
community
enriching lives
through
positive prayer,
education, and service

One of our core values for First Unity Church is: **SPIRIT-LED**

We transcend our human identity and claim our spiritual identity by aligning with and living in awareness of Infinite Spirit.

COMMUNITY BEHAVIORS

- We begin all our gatherings with prayer
- Cultivating communion with the Divine, we teach spiritual principles and practice sacred service
- We consistently provide opportunities to deepen and expand understanding of Unity principles and how to align with them
- Guided by Spirit, we act from our Divine Identity

INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIORS

- I take life's celebrations and challenges into prayer
- I engage in daily spiritual practices that keep me conscious of Spirit
- I choose activities that deepen my relations with the Divine



HUMOR

After listening to a rather long and tedious sermon, a five-year-old boy asked his father what the preacher did the rest of the week. His father said, "He's very busy taking care of church business, visiting the sick, and doing other similar work. He also needs to rest up because giving a sermon isn't easy." The little boy responded, "Well, listening to a sermon isn't easy either."

A little boy asked his dad, "Did you go to Sunday school every week when you were a kid?" His father replied, "I sure did, son." The little boy responded, "I'll bet it won't do me any good either."

A man brought his son to a grocery store...

A man brought his son to a grocery store, but as soon as they walked in, the young child began throwing a temper tantrum. While they went down each aisle, the child yelled, threw items in and out of the cart, and was disruptive.

Despite the scene his son was causing, the father was cool and collected, slowly and calmly saying, "Don't worry, Donald. It'll be alright, Donald, we'll be home soon."

A nearby mother was very impressed with the father's self-control and wanted to express her gratitude for such calm parenting. "Sir, I'm amazed that you are able to be so calm! It's not every day I see such patient and gracious parenting. Now, little guy, what seems to be the problem, Donald?"

"Oh no, ma'am, you're mistaken!" The father interjected, "This is my son, Henry. I'm Donald!"



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Website: unitystl.org
SilentUnity prayer support
1.800.NOW PRAY (669.7729)
uPray is a [free mobile download](#)

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