



Connections

October 2018

Join Us in Worship

October 7

A Song of Peace
Rev. Alan Taylor
Offering: Hephzibah

October 14

The Call of Kindness
Rev. Alan Taylor
Offering: PASO

October 21

Entering the Unknown
Zslot Elekes, Intern Minister
Offering: UUA

October 28

Ready for the Journey
Rev. Emily Gage
Offering: Oak Park Regional
Housing Center

Cultivating a People of Sanctuary

During the month of October, we will be reflecting on the theme of SANCTUARY. What does it mean to be a People of Sanctuary? During this era when so many people are in need of literal sanctuary, it is good for us to reflect on this theme—on multiple levels.

A critical measure of a congregation's physical sanctuary is the capacity of its space to hold the range of human experience. That is, to what degree does a building lend itself to holding the depths of human joy, sorrow, hope, and anguish? To what degree does a building lend itself to honoring human creativity, contemplation, and community? We are fortunate here at Unity Temple UU Congregation to worship in a building that is one of the most beloved sanctuaries in the world. Despite being on a relatively small footprint, our sanctuary inspires many to feel a sense of connection with the transcendent.

**October Soul
Connections
Theme:
SANCTUARY**

<http://www.unity-temple.org/sites/default/files/UTSanctuaryOct18.pdf>

(continued on next page)



Rev. Alan C. Taylor,
Senior Minister
ataylor@unitytemple.org

But ultimately a people—a congregation—is not defined by its physical sanctuary but by the kind of sanctuary that is created within and among its members. To what degree are we as a people able to walk with one another through the depths of human joy, sorrow, hope and anguish? To what degree does our congregational life honor human creativity, contemplation, and community? These are questions to reflect on this month.

As the world struggles with ever greater uncertainty and as the democratic foundations of our government appear to be fraying, we need sanctuaries that hold close the values that we hold most dear: respect, dignity, openness, inclusivity, integrity, acceptance, justice, transformation, connection, and understanding. A critical function of our faith community—and our faith tradition—is to provide a sanctuary, both physical and communal, where we can live out the values that we so cherish.

Human beings all over the world struggle with violence, poverty, and a breakdown of social cohesion. These people are in need of literal sanctuary. Congregations in such communities, whether in Third World countries or nearby on the West Side of Chicago, offer sanctuary to such people.

Federal immigration policies have gone from originally supportive of people seeking a better life to indifferent and now to cruel and inhumane. When so many human beings here in the Chicago area are at risk for being deported either to dangerous places or to their countries of origin where they no longer have any meaningful connection, houses of worship can and should offer sanctuary to such people. We recently cared for a young Guatemalan man with cancer, who risked being killed for who he is if he were deported. Because of this congregation's work with PASO, Lalo Valiente now is no longer threatened with being deported.

Big questions now loom: how shall we be a people of sanctuary moving forward? Given that we have a physical sanctuary of great beauty, how do we use our privilege to cultivate sanctuary, both literal and communal? How shall we deepen our walk with one another through the depths of human joy, sorrow, hope, and anguish?

Warmly,

Alan

In October 1977 I found myself with a three-week-old baby, hiking the boundaries of a forested tract of land in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. My spouse and I, along with five other family members had borrowed money and pooled resources in order to purchase 106 acres including a spring-fed eight-acre lake. Within three years and with the help of many friends, we had built a log cabin, the old-fashioned way, felling trees and erecting the structure “Lincoln log” style. We christened our rustic abode with a plaque, “Sanctuary.” The name is appropriate. It is a sacred space where I can find myself again and again (to paraphrase Joseph Campbell).

Almost five years ago I discovered another sacred space, the community at Unity Temple. I never would have guessed then that I would be serving on your Board of Trustees. There are so many aspects to lift up about UT and Unitarian Universalism. I especially love that UUs check in with one another prior to diving into the agenda or curriculum of a meeting. The phrase “Thank you for listening” is common UU practice. We know the wisdom of Rachel Naomi Remen’s words, “Our listening creates a sanctuary for the homeless parts within another person.”

I need Sunday worship. The music, the sermons, the rituals are sustenance for my soul. And this past year, especially, I have found shelter from the storm and chaos of daily news. I can push aside overwhelming feelings of despair, and find renewed hope in the power and strength of our community.

We have so many opportunities to provide and receive sanctuary, at UT and in the wider community. As we kick off the Annual Fund Drive, rest assured that the Board of Trustees consciously honors your many contributions by upholding our shared mission.

October 9 at 6:30 pm

1019 South Blvd.

Board meetings are open.

Please email board@unitytemple.org with questions

2019 Annual Fund Drive Begins

What a great year 2018 has proven to be! As the seasons change, we can take a moment to count our many blessings. For many of us, UTUUC provides truly amazing opportunities for community and friendship. The actions we each take as members of this UU community make it a splendid place for worship, inspiration, solidarity, and hope.

This October’s activities include the **2019 Annual Fund Drive**, which provides over 80% of our operating budget. We need everyone’s

commitment to maintain and build our beloved community. There are 100’s of reasons to keep doing the good things we do at Unity Temple. We believe in the mission of UTUUC, and we know that you believe that in mission too.

The campaign will run through October and wrap up on Sunday, October 28. Check your mailbox this week for your 2019 Annual Fund Drive materials. Please respond as soon as you can, so our folks in leadership can build a budget

in November. **Please return your financial commitment form by October 28.** Mail it, drop it off in the collection basket, visit the Annual Fund Drive table during coffee hour, or go to <http://www.unitytemple.org/support/2019-annual-fund-drive> to pledge online.

Your Annual Fund Drive Team:
Marsha Borders, Adam Gill, Charlie Hoch, Rich Pokorny & Jerry Seeber



Rev. Emily Gage,
Minister of Faith Development
egage@unitytemple.org

What Does It Mean To Be a People of Sanctuary?

When I hear the word sanctuary, I automatically think of the worship space at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Pittsburgh. It has high vaulted ceilings, beautiful woodwork, stained glass windows, an organ loft with lots of pipes, and rows and rows of pews. That's my mind's eye picture because that is where and I how I learned the word sanctuary. And although it is a lovely space, it's not the space alone that gave the word its full meaning. It's what happened to me there,

and with whom, and how, that helped build what that word means. I was dedicated there as a small child into the arms of a loving community; I spent magical and mysterious Christmas Eve services there in candlelit darkness; I interacted with people of all ages who helped me grow up; I sang in the junior choir; I spoke from the pulpit at various ages; I saw around me people who cared for me and loved me in that space; I sang and laughed and cried; I was challenged and empowered and soothed.

Now, when I go back there, it's as though all that is still part of that space. I can still sense it. It still feels like a Sanctuary (capital letter intended). In my line of work, you'd probably expect that I would associate congregational spaces with the word sanctuary, both literally and figuratively. It's true, I do---I was just remembering the day in June 2017

when we had moved all of our stuff out of United Lutheran, and I was alone in the front of that sanctuary, and I looked out and could feel all the special things we had experienced together in that space--births and deaths, and crises and comfort, joy and sorrow, hellos and goodbyes; it had become a Sanctuary for us despite our being in a kind of exile, despite it being a space that was borrowed. We made it so, together. Like we do as we share time together in the sanctuary of Unity Temple, over and over again, until it becomes for us a Sanctuary.

But any place can be a Sanctuary. I have felt that in many other places in my lifetime. I'm sure you have too. It may be in a place that has no particular significance; but it's where you suddenly noticed you felt embraced by those around you, valued and cared for. It may be in a place of natural beauty, maybe even

alone, but connected to something beyond yourself. It may even be an inner state that you help cultivate and create for yourself. It's not the place alone; it's the feelings and experiences that become part of it.

When we consider what it means to be a people of sanctuary, we might consider what helped make some place a Sanctuary for us; who and how those people were around us, and how we might help create that for others.

Although I picture that sanctuary at the church where I grew up as my definition of Sanctuary, I think of all that it held for me. And I think of all that it has empowered me to do in my life. That is the best thing that Sanctuary can provide: the renewal of spirit to move forth boldly into the next adventure of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adult Religious Enrichment

Talking about Media and Race

Join us to watch clips from popular TV/internet programs created by POC (People of Color), such as Queen Sugar and Love Is, and engage in a discussion led by Reesheda Washington of Live Cafe and Communities First Association. Our pilot event this past Spring was well received, and we are excited to offer a new and expanded version. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 16 from 6:30 - 9:30 pm at 1019 South Blvd. You are encouraged to RSVP, or send questions, to race_ed@unitytemple.org

Buddhist Voices in UU Book Discussion

Join us to discuss essays from "Buddhist Voices in Unitarian Universalism" facilitated by Terry Kinsey on Sunday, October 28 and Sunday, Nov. 4th from 1:30-3:30 at the Unity Temple Community Center located at 1019 South Blvd. Books are available at ExLibris Bookstore during Coffee Hour and at uua.org. Child care is available upon request one week in advance. Contact adultre@unitytemple.org

Soul Connections

Are you hoping to connect with other people from our congregation? Are you wanting to deepen your experience of being a Unitarian Universalist? Are you looking for a way to renew your spirit? Soul Connections is a great way to answer all these questions. Contact Rev. Emily Gage at egage@unitytemple.org with questions.

Connection Resource Packets

Soul Connection resource packets can be downloaded through the member portal at <http://www.unitytemple.org/sites/default/files/UTSanctuaryOct18.pdf>

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Registration is Now Happening for Religious Education 2018-19

We return to our full programming year at Unity Temple with two worship services at 9:00 and 10:45. Now is the time to register and to decide on volunteer opportunities! We ask everyone to register each year to stay in the information loop, make sure your contact info is updated, and let us know what your children need to be successful in our program. We will have computers set up on Sunday so you can do so at coffee hour, or you can register online. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Emily Gage at egage@unitytemple.org.

Unity Temple Halloween Party!

Come celebrate Halloween with your Unity Temple friends on Sunday evening October 28th from 5-7pm at Unity Temple! Pizza, games, costumes, and general conviviality! If you love parties and would like to help lead activities or plan for fun, please be in touch with Rev. Emily Gage egage@unitytemple.org.

Dedication of Babies and Young Children

In Unitarian Universalism we celebrate the new lives among us in a dedication ceremony where the gathered community acknowledges their role in helping the new lives unfold. The next dedication will be December 6, 2018. If you are a member and would like to have your child(ren) dedicated, please contact Rev. Emily Gage at egage@unitytemple.org.



Religious Education Calendar

Oct 7	Regular Classes
Oct 14	Regular Classes
Oct 21	No Classes Faith in Action All Ages
Oct 28	Regular Classes

Mindful Reflection Community

Mindful Reflection Community

Please join the Mindful Reflection Community for meditation, dharma talks, discussion, and friendship. Come for all or part of the meeting. The Community meets every Tuesday evening in Unity House from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Meditation starts at 7:20 p.m. All are welcome, whether you can come sporadically or regularly. For more information check out this link: <http://unitytemple.org/calendar/mindful-reflection-communitycontact>

"Dedicated Practitioner's Group" :: October 11 -

November 8 :: taught by Peter Williams from Boulder, CO. Peter is a Buddhist Meditation and Dharma Leader as well as a Transpersonal Psychotherapist. This will be a

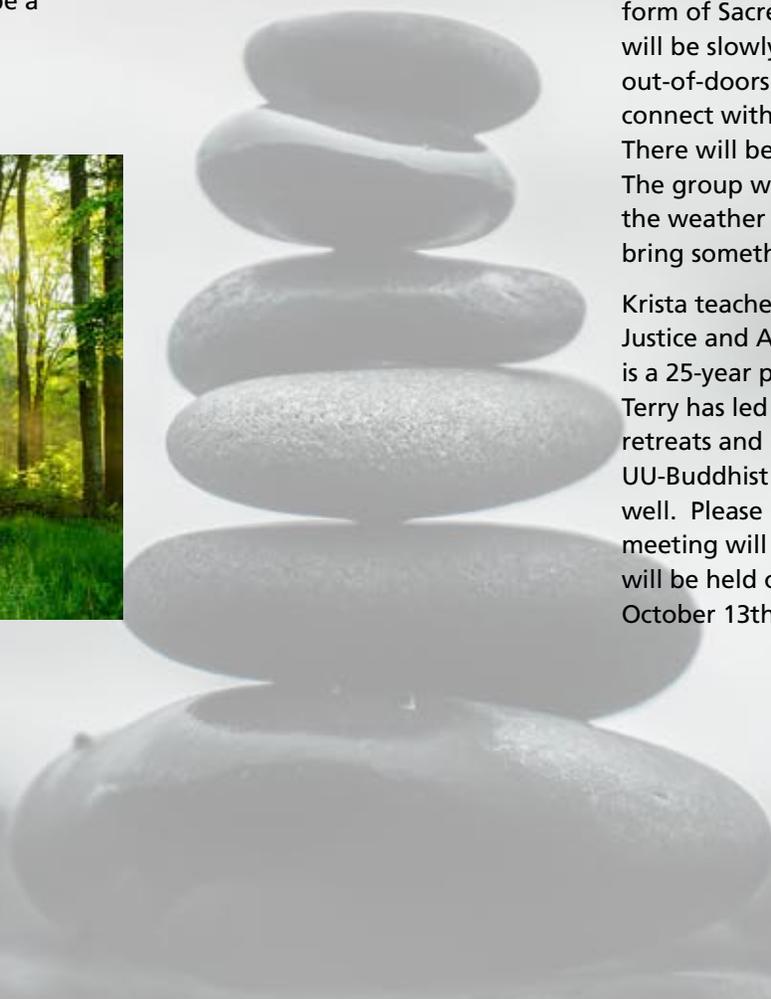
"closed" group once the meetings have begun. Participants will commit to all 5 meetings held on Thursday evenings starting Oct. 11th through Nov. 8th, 2018 at 1019 Bldg. We will meet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Peter will join us for the entire evening via Skype. Suggested donation is \$100 per person. Scholarships will be available.

The tentative topic for the 5 weeks is "Wisdom of the Body". Awareness of the body helps us work with pain, skillfully navigate difficult emotions, and have the spiritual insight that leads to deep happiness.

We must have a minimum of 12 people sign-up for this group to occur.

Sacred Wanderings (a subgroup of the Mindful Reflection Community) :: Join us on Oct 13 for the next Sacred Wanderings event held in Thatcher Woods (North Parking Lot, next to the Pavilion) at 8030 Chicago Ave, in River Forest IL from 8:30-10:30 a.m. RAIN OR SHINE! Simplicity and Reverence will be our guides. Join Krista Mikos and Terry Kinsey as we explore a new way of experiencing nature - the Sacred Wandering Way. If you yearn to be rooted down with earth's healing power, join us. Throughout the millennia, people have gone to the forests and mountains to connect with themselves and the sacred in themselves. Ascetics, monks, indigenous people, Thoreau, Buddha and even Christ went out into the wilderness to practice a form of Sacred Wandering. We will be slowly moving through the out-of-doors with an intention to connect with nature's healing power. There will be silence and discussion. The group will meet no matter what the weather so come prepared and bring something to sit upon.

Krista teaches about Environmental Justice and Advocacy at DePaul and is a 25-year practitioner of Qi Gong. Terry has led numerous outdoor retreats and has been a practicing UU-Buddhist for two decades as well. Please NOTE that our October meeting will be an exception and will be held on the second Saturday, October 13th. Join us!!





Intern Minister Reflection

I was born in Transylvania, which is one of the three main regions of modern Romania. I identify myself as a Magyar - an ethnic Hungarian -, and was born in a Saxon (German speaking) city called Kronstadt, so this may give you a little perspective how colorful Transylvania as a region is. I have two brothers, aged 23 and 5.

I converted to Unitarianism in 2013 at the age of 20 after a 5-year long struggle with my own religion and spirituality. I started my seminary studies the same year in Transylvania. Throughout these years my life changed, or how I prefer to call it, I became spiritually mature. I gained some experience leading communities

by being the leader of the seminary students advisory council and the National Youth Organization of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church, called ODFIE, whom I additionally served as a student minister last year. I got my basic degree in 2017 from the Protestant Theological Institute's Unitarian Faculty in Kolozsvár, Transylvania. I then started the Masters Degree studies at the same Theological Institute, as well as the Master of Arts in Leadership Studies program at Meadville Lombard Theological School, Chicago, IL. My main development or research areas as a minister in formation are: youth and young adult ministry, health care,

Zsolt Elekes
Intern Minister
zelekes@
unitytemple.org

community organizing, interfaith activities, charity, leadership methods inside ministry, and Friedman's Family Systems Theory.

I am looking forward to be as much help as I can during my internship in your wonderful church, as well as for opportunities to learn about each others culture, common values and goals.

Blessings,
Zsolt

Member Auction 2019: Unity By Design, Community by Choice

It's time for our next auction! One of the reasons our UTUUC Member Auction is so successful is our fabulous team. Currently our team does not have a chair or co-chairs. Our team needs your energy and talent for the 2019 auction. Joining the team is a great way to meet other UTUUC members, raise much needed funds

for our annual budget, strengthen our congregation's community, and have fun!

If you would like to know more about the volunteer opportunities available, please send an email to **auction@unitytemple.org**. Thanks in advance for making this another great auction season.

Coming Soon:

- Vegetarian Italian Dinner
- The Natural Treasures of Mt. Forest Island and Vicinity
- Farnsworth House Moonlight Tour
- Mini Concert by Christine Steyer

Keep those photos and stories coming to **auction@unitytemple.org!**



Alec Brownlow, Stephanie Kiesling, David Layden, and Ed Malone share a laugh at Taste of Wisconsin.



Jane and Josh Ditelberg, Ken Hooker, and Gil Herman enjoy their Lucky Irish dinner.



Gary and Judy Woll, Linda Wyco, and John Tandarich having a good time visiting at the Lucky Irish dinner



Tina Lewis,
Membership Director
tlewis@unitytemple.org

Thank you!

Thirty-three groups participated in the Fall Engagement Fair on September 23. Many thanks to all the volunteers and attendees for your participation!



Sunday Morning News!

Ex Libris Bookstore

Ex Libris continues to be open after each service on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Come browse for titles about Unitarian Universalism, social activism, meditation, children’s topics and others.

Name Tag Requests

Newcomers, friends and members alike are invited to wear a name tag. If the name tag fairy has made off with your name tag and you need a new one, please add your name to the list at one of the welcome tables located in the foyer or contact Tina Lewis at tlewis@unitytemple.org.

Entering and Exiting Unity Temple

The back door by the kitchen will remain locked at all times to ensure safety and security. If you need assistance unloading items, please ring the doorbell. Our front doors will generally be open from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. depending on activities planned for the afternoon. Please exit through the back door if the front doors are locked. If you are unable to exit through the back door, please ask for assistance in order for the front doors to be locked behind you. Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation.

Kitchen Korner

With the joys of our new kitchen in Unity Temple also comes changes in the way we are using this space. Please help us maintain this space with a few simple steps!

- If you are hosting a meeting or event at Unity Temple, please remove ALL food/drinks when your event is over. Please do not leave any items in the refrigerator thinking that someone else may use them. This also applies to all items remaining from coffee hour.
- Also, if you use a tablecloth and it is still clean, please hang it back up. If it is

dirty, please take it home and launder and bring it back and hang it up in closet. There is a sign out/in form in the kitchen to fill out if you are taking tablecloth(s) home. Please indicate on the form when you return the tablecloth(s). If you currently happen to have any Unity Temple tablecloths at home, please return as soon as possible as we are attempting to inventory!! Thanks for your assistance, and for all that you do!

Coffee Hour Signup

Please sign up to bring cookies. We now have online sign up at <https://goo.gl/forms/Kb2RZLIShrAeHqbC2> Our goal is to have 2-3 households sign up for each Coffee Hour. No nuts please. Gluten free options appreciated. For more information, contact coffeehour@unitytemple.org.

Congregational Life Tables

If you would like to reserve a table to promote a UTUUC activity, event, volunteer need, or fundraiser during Coffee Hour, please contact tlewis@unitytemple.org or 848-6225 x102.



Beyond Sunday Morning

Connecting Conversations

Members, friends and newcomers are invited to participate in Connecting Conversations. This new collaboration between Faith in Action and Membership is designed to help build relationships by connecting newcomers and long-time members alike with meaningful ways to engage in the life of our congregation and community. If you are interested in learning more, a member of the Connecting Conversations team will contact you to set up a one-hour meeting to get acquainted, share about your life journeys, and explore meaningful ways you might like to engage in upcoming actions, and/or receive support. We look forward to fostering deeper connections throughout the congregation, and inspiring one another to live our covenant by welcoming all, inspiring compassion and serving community. Contact connecting@unitytemple.org for more information.

Women's Connection Game Night and Catered Dinner :: Oct 12

7pm at 1019 South Blvd. Join us for a social night of board games and conversation with dinner provided. Just show up, everything will be provided. Open to all women of UTUUC. We can register people to vote at this event. Expect lively conversation and a welcoming environment. Get connected to the wonderful women of UTUUC. Contact womensconnection@unitytemple.org with questions or to request childcare. Please give us 1 week advance notice for childcare needs.

Creative Writer's Group :: Oct 14

Is there a story lurking between your ears-haunting you, demanding your write it down and share it with trustworthy people who also are equally possessed? Our new writers group will meet on the second Sunday of the month beginning October 14 at the Unity Temple Community Center located at 1019 South Blvd. Please join us! For more information contact John Taylor at writersgroup@unitytemple.org.



Unity Temple Halloween Party! ::

Oct 28 Come celebrate Halloween with your Unity Temple friends on Sunday evening from 5-7pm at Unity Temple! Pizza, games, costumes, and general conviviality! If you love parties and would like to help lead activities or plan for fun, please be in touch with Rev. Emily Gage egage@unitytemple.org.

"That's My Story" Men's Retreat :: Jan 25-27th, 2019

will be held Jan. 25-27th, 2019 at the Cabrini Center, Des Plaines. This event will focus on our personal narrative through introspection, interaction and fellowship.

Activities will include yoga, drumming and a nature hike. All Men Welcome. To register contact mensretreat@unitytemple.org

Fall CoEd Softball Sign up

Fall is upon us and our softball teams need players, especially women. No experience, not very athletic? No problem. For a good time, or more information about our teams, contact us for details: sports@unitytemple.org.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer teams are now forming to support the program year. If you are looking for ways to meet new people, develop a deep sense of belonging, contribute and have fun, please join in. We need YOU!

Unity Temple Community Center Sunday Morning Greeters

Volunteers will commit to staffing the reception desk and buzz people in the door during one service/one Sunday per month September-May. Contact recommittee@unitytemple.org for more information.

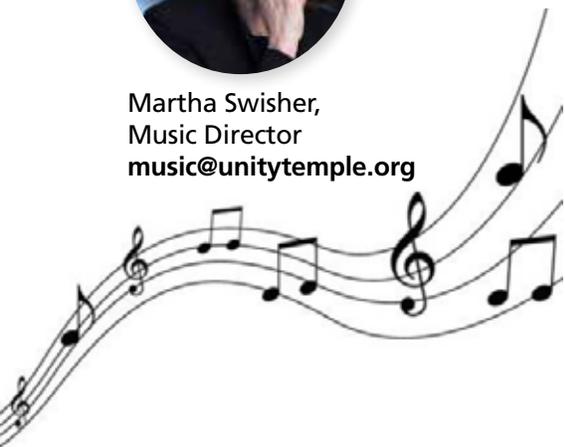
Congregational Life Team

This team will explore new ways to create community through fun activities and events, as well as support existing offerings such as Secret Pals, Circle Suppers, Lunar New Year Celebration and Summer Potlucks. Contact tlewis@unitytemple.org for more information.

Music Ministry



Martha Swisher,
Music Director
music@unitytemple.org



October music begins with the Unity Temple Choir singing two significant arrangements of two traditional African American spirituals: “Hush, Somebody’s Callin’ My Name,” arranged by Brazele Dennard, and “Way Over in Beulah Lan” by Stacey Gibbs. Both are powerful renditions bringing forward the choir’s support of this month’s theme, Sanctuary. On October 14th, the choir will perform one of our favorite ballads of the year entitled “O Love,” composed by Elaine Hagenberg, with text by 19th-century poet George Matheson. On October 21, the Unity Temple Singers will perform “Love is the Spirit of This Church” by UU Music Minister Jason Shelton. Our a cappella ensemble performs regularly for services and develops challenging selections that cover all genres.

The month finishes with music presented by the Unity Temple Players, five selections that include “Lady of the Sun” by Brother Harbor, “Love of the Common People” by Paul Young, and “Roots and Wings” by Anne Murray. Our “house band” of talented singers/instrumentalists inspires our worship services three times a year.

A Night of Jazz at Unity Temple will take place on November 2. It’s a casual night and snacks and beverages will be available as we listen to the sounds of an outstanding jazz ensemble, The Carl Kennedy Trio. A ticket donation of 20.00 at the door is suggested, but all are welcome at whatever one is able to give. Please mark your calendars now for this night of outstanding music.

We are grateful for the many volunteers that signed up during the Unity Temple Engagement Fair. Committee members are still needed to support the Vocal Music Scholarship Competition Team. Please contact Music Director Marty Swisher if you are interested in helping with this important musical outreach program.

The 2018 Fall Chalice Singers will begin rehearsals on October 21 and run each Sunday through November 18. Thanks to the Engagement Fair, we have a great start on a group of strong singers! Look for the sign-up table at coffee hours starting Sunday, October 7. Singers are invited to join at any time, but in order to perform with the choir, members must be at five of the six rehearsals. The repertoire includes “This is Me” from The Greatest Showman. Ms. Marty will be the director, and each rehearsal will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. in Unity House. Alumni are invited to join in for support!

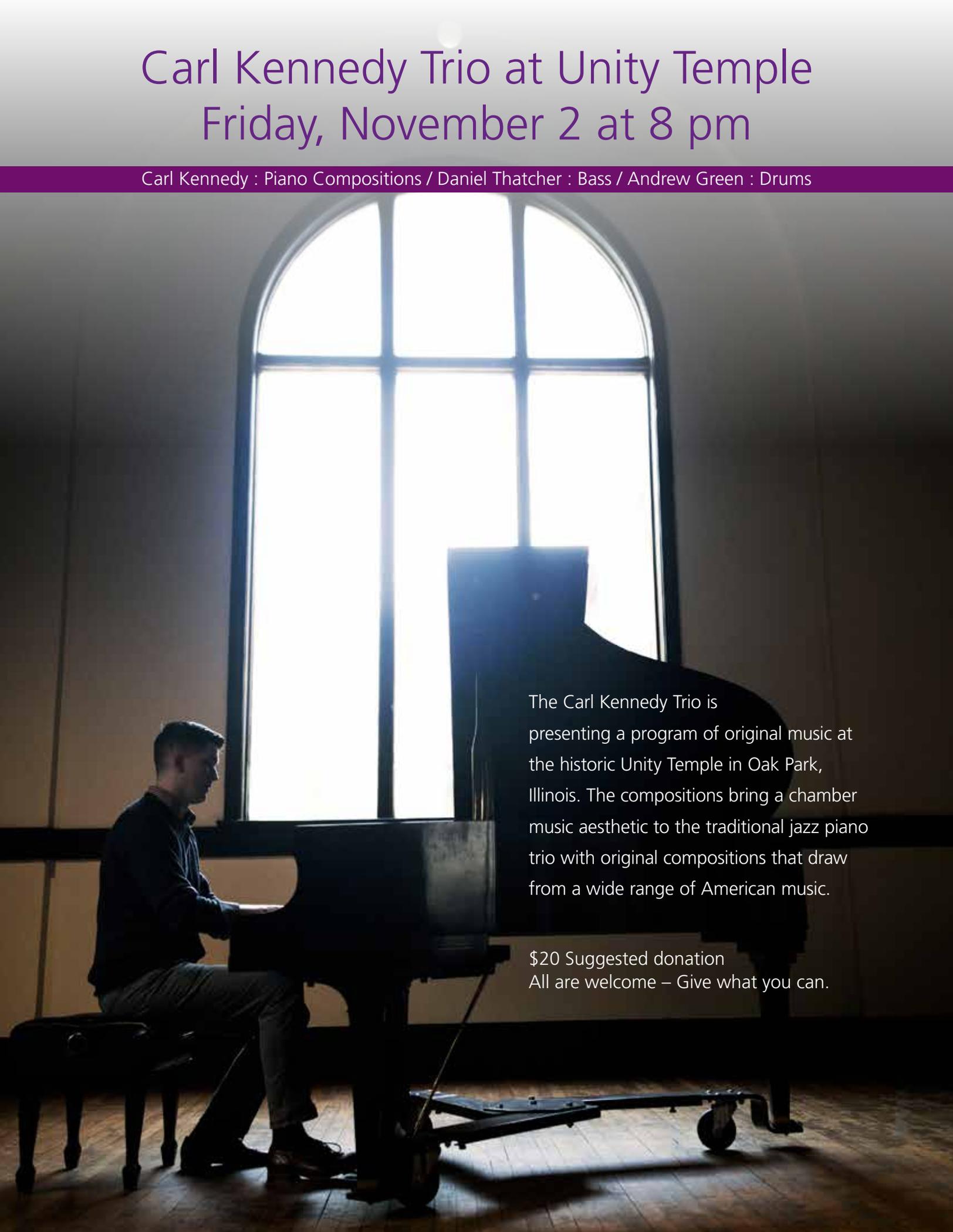
Sincerely,
Martha Swisher



Member John Tandarich sorting music into packets for choir members at the start of the worship year. John is the assistant music librarian.

Carl Kennedy Trio at Unity Temple Friday, November 2 at 8 pm

Carl Kennedy : Piano Compositions / Daniel Thatcher : Bass / Andrew Green : Drums

A silhouette of a pianist playing a grand piano in a room with a large arched window. The pianist is seated on a bench, facing left, with his hands on the keys. The piano is a dark, upright model. The window behind them is large and arched, with multiple panes, and is brightly lit, creating a strong backlight effect. The room has wood-paneled walls and a wooden floor.

The Carl Kennedy Trio is presenting a program of original music at the historic Unity Temple in Oak Park, Illinois. The compositions bring a chamber music aesthetic to the traditional jazz piano trio with original compositions that draw from a wide range of American music.

\$20 Suggested donation
All are welcome – Give what you can.

Building Safety and Security

Over the past year, the UTUUC Safety and Security Team consulted with the Oak Park police and fire departments to develop and evacuation and severe weather plan at Unity Temple. In September, the emergency response team and staff participated in the first of a series of trainings. We will continue to update the congregation on our progress.

Emergency Response Protocols For Unity Temple

Evacuation Protocol

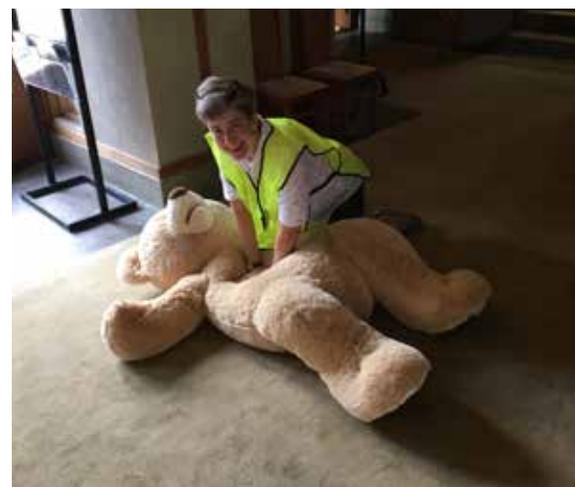
The Evacuation Protocol is utilized when conditions are deemed to be safer outside of the building than inside of the building. In the event that smoke, fire or the smell of natural gas is present within Unity Temple, the following will take place:

- Ministers, staff and trained Emergency Response Team volunteers assume assigned roles and communicate to those in attendance the evacuation routes.
- This team then helps to facilitate the efficient movement of people out of the building.
- Following evacuation from Unity Temple, attendees proceed to one of two designated meeting points.
- In good weather, those in attendance will proceed across Lake Street, as facilitated by the Congregation's security officer, and meet in front of the Oak Park Public Library.
- In the event of poor weather conditions, those in attendance will proceed across Lake Street, as facilitated by the Congregation's security officer, and enter First United Church of Oak Park.

Severe Weather Protocol

The Severe Weather Protocol is utilized when conditions require those within Unity Temple to shelter in place.

- Ministers, staff, and trained Emergency Response Team volunteers assume assigned roles and communicate to those in attendance the need to move to the lowest levels of Unity Temple on the sanctuary side of the building.
- This team then helps to facilitate the efficient movement of people to the lowest areas of the building on the sanctuary side. This includes the nursery, the corridors outside of the nursery and lower level bathrooms and the cloisters.





Rev. Colleen Vahey
 Faith in Action Coordinator
cvahey@unitytemple.org

ECO-JUSTICE :: Keeping the Grounds Sacred :: Saturday, October 13, 10:30am-Noon

Thatcher Woods Pavilion, 8030 Chicago Ave., River Forest. Join Unity Temple's Eco Justice team as we clean up Thatcher Woods. Hang out with the trees, meadows, bugs and birds as we clear the Sacred Wanderings area of trash and recycling. Please bring your own gloves if you have them. Biodegradable gloves, bags, and snacks will be provided. You are welcome to join the Sacred Wanderings group first, at 8:30am, for silent meditation in the woods with Krista Mikos and Terry Kinsey. Contact Unity Temple's Eco-Justice team: ecojustice@unitytemple.org

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Each Sunday we give our collection to an organization that aligns with our principles and values. Here are the collection recipients for October 2018:

October 7
Hephzibah

October 14
West Suburban Action Project (PASO) - immigration rights

October 21
Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

October 28
Oak Park Regional Housing Center

Thank you for your generous support!



Twenty members from UTUUC and Third Unitarian Church participated in the recent rally to end money bail in Chicago. Learn more and sign the petition at: <http://bit.ly/BondReform>

Rev. Scott Aaseng

Executive Director of UUANI and Community Minister at UTUUC

UUANI (the Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of Illinois) is our statewide UU organizing and action network for social justice, beloved community, and a healthy planet. We strengthen community among UU congregations, build connections with each other and with partners around the state, and mobilize for spiritually grounded and strategically effective action.

Most weeks we send out an online **Action of the Week** with opportunities to advocate for our values directly with elected officials. So far this year 533 UUs from 28 congregations have sent more than 3400 messages on issues of common concern. UUANI has also mobilized UUs in 19 congregations for face-to-face meetings with their legislators. Together with our partner organizations, we helped win victories on two criminal justice reform bills, a bill prohibiting registries targeting Muslims or immigrants, a Fair Tax resolution, and Illinois ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Four other bills we advocated for were vetoed by the governor, and eight were stalled in the legislature, so we are now turning our attention to the upcoming elections. Our Voting Our Values campaign encourages UUs to publicly pledge to vote our values in November, and to engage others to register and vote as well.

UUANI convenes justice gatherings with UUs around the state and coordinates the Chicago cluster of **Beloved Conversations**. We are exploring developing a statewide UU Green network.

We provide workshops in congregations and consultations with social justice leaders, and we are working on an intensive leadership development program for congregational social justice organizers.

Last but certainly not least is **YaYA** (Youth and Young Adult) Justice, our network for young UUs who are interested in social justice work. YaYA Justice connects young people in the Chicago area with intergenerational justice work in their congregations and elsewhere. We also aim to create new programming to engage young people in the social justice issues that affect their lives. Currently, we are rolling out JUUCE IDEA (Joining UUs In Communication, Exchanging Intergenerational Dialog, and Encouraging Action), which matches people of different generations within a congregation to build relationships and to share about the impact of social justice on their lives. We hope to roll out the JUUCE IDEA area-wide in the new year. Contact us at uuani@uuani.org and yayajustice@uuani.org.

Calendar of Events

October 2 :: Mindful Reflection Community

Meets at Unity Temple from 7:15-9:00 pm

October 4 :: Grief Support Group

Meets at Gale House from 7:30-9:00 pm

October 6 :: Vegetarian Potluck

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 5:30-7:00 pm

October 7 :: Introduction to Unitarian Universalism

Meets in the Unity Temple Library from 12:45-12:00 pm

October 9 :: Mindful Reflection Community

Meets at Unity Temple from 7:15-9:00 pm

October 12 :: Woman's Connection Event

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 7:00-10:00 pm

October 14 :: Creative Writer's Group

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 6:00-9:00 pm

October 16 :: Mindful Reflection Community

Meets at Unity Temple from 7:15-9:00 pm

October 16 :: Talking About Media

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 6:30-9:30 pm

October 22 :: MyHat Support Group

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 7:00-9:00 pm

October 23 :: Mindful Reflection Community

Meets at Unity Temple from 7:15-9:00 pm

October 28 :: Buddhist Voices in Unitarian Universalism

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 1:30-3:30 pm

October 28 :: Halloween Party

Meets at Unity Temple Community Center from 5:00-7:00 pm

Care Network

Please remember that from time to time we all have needs that are exceptional, and may require the support and acceptance of our beloved community. For those whose struggles are made evident in our worship or congregational activity, may we respond with love and compassion.

Pastoral Care

UTUUC's Pastoral Associates augment the pastoral work of our ministers, providing a ministry of presence and promoting the spirit of community among members of the congregation. Their role is to provide support, companionship, and attentive listening during times of stress, illness, or major life transition such as disability, job loss, divorce, or death of a loved one. They also call and visit hospitalized and homebound members. If you or someone you know could benefit from the services of a Pastoral Associate, please send information to pastoralassociates@unitytemple.org or call Kathy Clark at 708-218-4463. Pastoral Associates are Alice Ocrey Brent, Kathy Clark, Diana Coates, Jay Cohen, Carol DiMatteo, Judy Gaietto-Grace, and Jay Petersen.

Care Coordinators

UTUUC is a place where you will be cared for and called upon to care for others. Care Coordinators organize caring needs that include meals, rides, and dog walking. If you or someone you know is in need of care, please contact caring@unitytemple.org or 848-6225 x102. Care Coordinators are Vanessa Crowder, Aisha Ellis, Shirley Lundin, Tory Ondrla, and Marianne Protes.

MyHAT Support Group

The MyHAT Support Group is for individuals living with mental illness and those who care about them. Our group meets for deep sharing and deep listening on the fourth Monday of each month. We meet at 1019 South Blvd. from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Our group is always open to new participants and participation is confidential. Childcare is available with advance notice (email myhat@unitytemple.org by the Wednesday prior to the meeting).

Grief Support Group

If you have experienced the death of a loved one or friend and would like to share and process that grief in a safe, confidential and supportive setting, you are welcome to join us. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Gale House. This is a drop-in group and you are welcome to attend for as long as the group is helpful.

Unity Temple Gives

The generosity of our congregation is making a difference in people's lives. Every Sunday our collection plate offerings are donated to a worthy charitable organization in support of our mission and values. Your weekly collection donations contributed the following amounts to these organizations:

August 5 Hospital Albert Schweitzer
Haiti: \$769.00

August 12 UU Prison Ministry:
\$1,303.32

August 19 UUA: \$768.00

August 26 Planned Parenthood:
\$2,016.96

Board of Trustees

board@unitytemple.org

Alec Brownlow - President

Karen Haskins-Brewer - Vice President

Anne Devaud

Bill Crozier

Clara Lewis

Teresa Powell

Willa Shultz

David Willard - Secretary

Erik Wise

Our Staff

For calls, dial 708-848-6225 and the extension:

Rev. Alan Taylor

Senior Minister

ext. 101 / **ataylor@unitytemple.org**

Rev. Emily Gage

Minister of Faith Development

ext. 103 / **egage@unitytemple.org**

Elizabeth Plummer

Director of Operations

ext. 100 / **eplummer@unitytemple.org**

Tina Lewis

Membership Director

ext. 102 / **tlewis@unitytemple.org**

Martha Swisher

Music Director

ext. 109 / **music@unitytemple.org**

Rev. Colleen Vahey

Faith-in-Action Coordinator

cvahey@unitytemple.org

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Office Manager

ext.104 / **bookkeeper@unitytemple.org**

Ron Elling

Finance and Database Assistant

ext. 106 / **relling@unitytemple.org**

Zsolt Elekes

Intern Minister

zelekes@unitytemple.org

Jeanne Calabrese

Publications Coordinator

ext.105 / **publications@unitytemple.org**

Heather Godbout

Youth Coordinator

ext. 107 / **youth@unitytemple.org**

Kathy Galassini

Preschool Coordinator

Peter Engel Storms

Accompanist

Connections Submissions

Submissions for Connections are due by the 20th of each month.

If you are promoting an event or group, please use the publications submission link on the lower left-hand side of the UT leader resources page, www.unitytemple.org/news-resources/leader-resources. Events planned to be held at Unity Temple must be confirmed for the online calendar before they can be promoted. Email publications@unitytemple.org

Through Our Differences, We Are One.

The beloved community includes people of all political parties. Here at Unity Temple we call people to live out our faith but this does not mean we share the same political or partisan perspective. May we remind one another to honor our own life experience in the development of our unique perspective while honoring that of others. The core of being a religious liberal is remaining open to and respectful of a pluralism of theological positions and political stances.

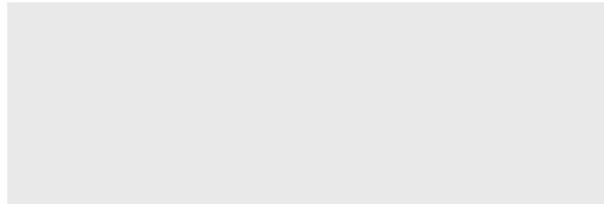
Unity Temple
875 Lake Street
Oak Park, IL 60301

Gale House
124 N. Kenilworth
Oak Park, IL 60301

U.T. Community Center
1019 South Blvd
Oak Park, IL 60301



Unity Temple
Unitarian Universalist Congregation
875 Lake Street
Oak Park, IL 60301
708-848-6225



www.unitytemple.org

Join Us For Worship

October 7

A Song of Peace
Rev. Alan Taylor
Offering: Hephzibah

October 14

The Call of Kindness
Rev. Alan Taylor
Offering: PASO

October Theme: SANCTUARY

October 21

Entering the Unknown
Zslot Elekes, Intern Minister
Offering: UUA

October 28

Rev. Emily Gage
Ready for the Journey
Offering: Oak Park Regional Housing Center