

Upcoming Sunday Programs (10:15 to 11:30 am)

November 6 – The Jewish faith: its History, its Positions of Faith, and How it Still Relates to Today's Society

This program will be presented by Rabbi Shosh Susan Dworsky. This program is part of our shared program with the youth group's religious education series on neighboring faiths.



November 13 – The Election – Lori Sturdevant

Lori Sturdevant writes editorials and a weekly column about topics she has covered for more than 35 years: state government and politics. When she was invited back to talk with us, she specifically wanted to talk about the election which will just be over when she comes to talk. What happened, why and what are the ramifications to the county and our state. She has been the editor or co-author of eight books, including *A Man's Reach: The Autobiography of Elmer L.*

Andersen. Her Honor: Rosalie Wahl and the Minnesota Women's Movement. She is also the author of *The Pillsburys of Minnesota.*

November 20 – Our Traditional Pilgrim House Thanksgiving Celebration

Our PH Thanksgiving program is a not-to-be-missed time of celebration and community, bringing together Pilgrim House members and friends with special music, a performance by the Pilgrim House Chorale, seasonal readings and poetry ... and more. If you or younger members of your family have a musical selection you'd like to share, please contact Bill Rohde by Sunday 11/13. Similarly, if you have a reading you'd like to share, please contact Mel Aanerud. And don't forget to bring a dish to pass for our traditional pot luck feast immediately after the program. See you there!



November 27 – My Jesus In Pieces: Believing Again After Things Fall Apart

Sometimes we expect that things will work out for us. We expect our partnership or marriage will last, we expect our health to be good (after all, we eat well and try to exercise, don't we?) and to do work that we love. Then at some point, for many of us, our primary relationship suffers or ends, or our health fails and/or work that offers meaning for our souls is hard or impossible to find.

To add to our struggle, the religion we were given—or at least some of the beliefs we held—gradually or maybe suddenly falls apart. Things just do not make sense to us now the way they used to. As Yeats said, "Things fall apart; the center cannot hold." We are left with the pieces.

How do we find gratitude, how do we express thanksgiving amongst the broken pieces of our lives? What do we do with the pieces? How can we believe again after things fall apart?

Come and explore the answers with us.

Our speaker, Tom Esch, is a member of Unity Church Unitarian in St. Paul.

December 4 – Islam: A Brief Historical Introduction with an Eye to the Contemporary Scene

As part of our cooperative program on neighboring religions with the Youth Religious Education program – Islam: a brief historical introduction with an eye to the contemporary scene with Abdisalam Adam: EL Teacher Central High School St. Paul Public Schools.



CALENDAR

Thursday, November 3, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House: The Rise of ISIS with Gary Prevost.

All are welcome. See article below. Contact Al Potter.

Saturday, November 5, 6:00pm – Harvest Fest, Potluck Supper and Country Dance, at Pilgrim House, with live music by Ken Steffenson and Bob and Lynn Dixon. All are welcome. Contact Kathy Aanerud. See article below.

Thursday, November 10, 7:00pm – Board Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Saturday, November 12, 10:00 am – First Thanksgiving PH Chorale Practice at Bill and Judy Rohde's. All singers, high school through adult, are welcome to join in the singing fun. No tryouts, no pressure, just a good time gathering and singing together as we begin preparations for the 11/20 Pilgrim House Thanksgiving Program.

Saturday, November 12, 7-9pm – Game Night. Game Night will be held at Pilgrim House on Saturday. All are welcome! Contact Katrina Edenfeld.

Sunday, November 13, 12:00pm – Program Committee meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Lollie Jensen.

Saturday, November 19, 10:00 am – Final Thanksgiving PH Chorale Practice at Bill and Judy Rohde's. Singers, both high school and adult, join together in song for this final PH Chorale practice prior to our special 11/22 PH Thanksgiving program.

Thursday, November 24 – Thanksgiving Day at PH! We will plan a Thanksgiving Day dinner at Pilgrim House for PH members and friends. Watch for email announcement and clipboard!

Sunday, November 27, noon – Connections Committee meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Wednesday, November 30, 5:30pm – Book Club Holiday Party at the LeBlanc's. All are welcome. Book is your choice. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Thursday, December 1, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House: Cuba and the US with Rob Scarlett. All are welcome. See article below. Contact Al Potter.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

The youth will introduce Guest at Your Table at Soup Sunday, November 6. This is a UUSC program to raise awareness for international human rights. Boxes will be

Pilgrim House

We seek to carry out the principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of churches and fellowships, with which we are affiliated. These principles affirm the worth of everyone, freedom and the right of conscience in search of truth, encouragement of one another's spiritual growth, and the wonder and mystery of the web of all life. Membership in Pilgrim House is open to everyone who is in sympathy with our purposes and principles and wants to join.

Phone: 651-631-2582

Internet: <http://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org>

Board Chair: Kutluhan Erol

Pilgrim's Progress

If you have any items for the newsletter, please contact:

Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

This is the last newsletter until September. Material for the December newsletter is due Sunday, November 20 (always the next to the last Sunday). Emails will be sent during the summer about events.

placed on the fellowship hall tables; members are welcome to take them home until the collection date.

For Neighboring Faiths, we will be visiting a Jewish synagogue on November 13. Parents, please watch your email for details.

All children will be upstairs for the Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday, November 20. We hope to see some of them sharing their talents in the program!

Each year, the Pilgrim House community "adopts" the Alexandria House shelter at Christmas. We will accept donations during the month of November for an all-RE shopping trip on Sunday, November 27. The PH RE students select gifts within their assigned budget and age group for children and mothers at the shelter. We will need additional chaperones and drivers for this trip.

Katrina Edenfeld & Ben Chiri, RE Co-chairs

MUSINGS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I have been thinking about the climate in our country, the divisiveness that has appeared and asking myself what effect can we as individuals have? When we interact among ourselves or with our guests, both speakers and visitors, we can keep in mind the words that are printed in the weekly bulletin. "We ask all alike to think, not all to think alike." and The inherent worth and dignity of every person. Carrying this a step further when someone is talking about another organization or group, think

twice about your reaction – that entity is made up of individuals – how would you feel about a remark, some laughter or cheering, or whatever, if it were your organization that was the being discussed.

HARVEST FEST-- POTLUCK SUPPER, MUSIC, DANCE AT PILGRIM HOUSE

Saturday, November 5

This family-friendly event is a Pilgrim House tradition! Make plans to attend. Bring your friends and neighbors

6:00 pm -- Potluck Supper, featuring your favorite fall dishes

7:00 pm -- Live music and barn dance, with Ken Steffenson and friends

Dancing for children and adults of all ages! No experience or partner needed.

Your sign-ups will be helpful for our event planning, but not "required". See the clipboard at Pilgrim House, or use the online sign-up at the following link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48a5af22a1f85-harvest>

Questions -- or to volunteer to help with set-up, contact Event Coordinators:

- Kathy Aanerud
- Kutluhan Erol

GREAT DECISIONS

November 3 – The Rise of ISIS

Born out of an umbrella organization of al-Qaeda in Iraq, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) burst onto the international stage after it conquered Fallujah in December 2013. Since then, the group has seized control of a number of critical strongholds in both countries and declared itself a caliphate. Still, the question remains: what is ISIS, and what danger does it pose to U.S. interests?

Our speaker will be Gary Prevost, professor of political science and international relations at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University. Professor Prevost has been a frequent speaker at Pilgrim House Great Decisions programs.

December 1 – Cuba and the US

The U.S. announced in December 17, 2014, that, after decades of isolation, it would begin taking major steps to normalize relations with Cuba, its neighbor to the south. The announcement marked a dramatic shift away from a policy that has its roots in one of the darkest moments of the Cold War—the Cuban missile crisis. Although the U.S. trade embargo is unlikely to end any time soon, American and Cuban leaders today are trying to bring a

relationship once defined by antithetical ideologies into the 21st century.

Our speaker will be Rob Scarlett, our own in-house Foreign Affairs commentator, who has had business dealings throughout the world and was in Cuba in the 1990s.

PILGRIM HOUSE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Some years ago, Connie Sandberg donated money in memory of her mother, Faith Sandberg, to establish a college scholarship fund for graduating PH high school seniors. Although the fund was set up originally for young women, it was broadened by subsequent donations to include young men as well. Scholarships cover a one-time payment of up to \$500, depending on availability of funds.

The scholarship fund is now largely depleted. The PH budget this year reserves some money to cover possible payments to recent graduates, but at its meeting on October 13, 2016, the Board decided not to designate pledge money for future scholarships. PH members are welcome to make designated donations to the scholarship fund, but if the fund is drained, the scholarship program will likely be discontinued.

COAT DRIVE RESULTS

Thanks to all who donated coats to the Social Concerns Network/Community Service Center Coat Drive. I received the following statistics from the coordinator of the event, Priscilla Berg:

COAT DRIVE 2016 results:

Number of coats distributed on 10/15/2016:
230 kids' coats, 195 adults' coats, 425 TOTAL

Number of coats collected: 299 kids' coats, 326 adults' coats, 625 TOTAL

Remaining 200 coats to: CEAP (Community Emergency Assistance Program) St. Vincent de Paul Hmong Center

Participation by 10 churches and the Mounds View School District

Mary Carlson

WALK FOR HOPE RESULTS

The Walk for Hope event in September (with Pilgrim House sponsorship and 10 Pilgrim House participants) drew a crowd of over 500 and helped to raise more than \$50,000 supporting Alexandra House's comprehensive services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. *From the Alexandra House newsletter*



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1212 W. Hwy 96
Arden Hills, MN 55112**

