

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

May 7 – The Women's March

One day after the inauguration of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States, millions of protesters across the United States and the world marched and rallied. St. Paul Police estimate between 90,000-100,000 protesters attended the march from St. Paul College to the rally at the Minnesota State Capitol on Saturday.

Pilgrim House member Sue Grosse-Macemon went to the Women's March in Washington, D.C. with her daughter after the election threatened the rights of women, immigrants, GLBTQ individuals, minorities and basically anyone that disagreed with the newly elected administration. The March was inspiring and upon her return she joined an Indivisible Group and is heading up the Climate Change committee.

Dawn VanRyn-Olson also participated in the Women's March in Washington, D.C. with her daughter. She is particularly concerned about the attacks on women's reproductive rights and the increasing outward hostility towards immigrant and GLBTQ individuals and communities. She has started an Indivisible group.

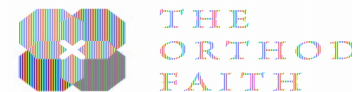


May 14 – Governor Arne Carlson

Our faith asked to hear from a moderate Republican on today's issues. There is no other who would fit that characterization better in Minnesota than Arne Helge Carlson, Sr. who served as the 37th Governor of the state of Minnesota.

May 21 – The Orthodox Faith

Continuing our exploration of neighboring faiths for both adults and youth we present Matt Miller Professor of World Languages and History at University of Northwestern in Saint Paul. The Orthodox Faith is the second largest Christian church in the world mostly in Eastern Europe, Slavic, and some African cultures.



May 28 – No program -Memorial Day weekend



June 4 – Flower Communion and the Pilgrim House Annual Meeting

Flower Communion an annual ritual that celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. Bring a flower from your garden to be joined with the flowers from others showing the beauty of our diversity. Hear about its origin from 1923 by Unitarian minister Norbert Capek of Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Flower Ceremony was introduced to the United States by Rev. Maya Capek, Norbert's widow. Also, there will be a presentation by the youth on their year long sojourn into the study of neighboring faiths. Stay for lunch provided by the board. This is the date of the Annual Meeting. Celebrate this year's volunteers, elect officers and approve a new budget. This is a lay led congregation and this is the time to become informed and participate in decision making. There are separate articles below on the Annual Meeting.

Monthly Summer Programs – See below. This is the last newsletter until September.

CALENDAR

Thursday, May 4, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House – Prospects for Pakistan and Afghanistan. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter.

Thursday, May 11, 7:00pm – Board Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Sat, May 13, 6:00pm – Pilgrim House Night Out Dinners in members' homes. Contact Mary Eskelson.

Sunday, May 14, 12:00pm – Program Committee meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Lollie Jensen.

Saturday, May 20, 6:00pm – Pilgrim House Night Out Dinners in members' homes. Contact Mary Eskelson.

Sunday, May 21, 11:50am – Sunday Stories at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Thursday, April 25, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at the Green's. The book is *Bohemian Flats* by Mary Ellis. All are welcome. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Saturday, May 27, 6:00pm – Dinner for our teen volunteer Ameni at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Katrina Edenfield.

Sunday, June 4, noon – Pilgrim House Annual Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Sunday, June 25, 11:00am – Pride Parade in downtown Minneapolis.

Sunday, July 30, 10:00am-2:00pm – Walk a Mile fundraiser for the Community Support Center. All are welcome. Contact Fred Green. See Social Action.

Sunday, August 20 – Newsletter information due. Contact Fred Green.

PILGRIM HOUSE ANNUAL MEETING:**June 4 – Save the Date!**

June 4th is the our traditional Flower Communion program, followed by lunch and our Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting is an important opportunity for members to elect officers for the coming year and to vote on a budget. This event sets our course for the coming year at Pilgrim House. Please plan to attend.

PH ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

This is the proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting. Note that any proposed changes to either the agenda or the budget (which will be sent by email to members in May) must be submitted to the board by May 21 to be included in the versions to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

June 4, 2017

Opening Words – Carol Green

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: Carol Green

Pilgrim's Progress

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

Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

Approve Agenda for Annual Meeting – Carol Green

Approve Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting – Carol Green

Chair comments/summary of the year – Carol Green

Treasurer's Report – Susan Setter

Review the Balance Sheet, as of May 31, 2017.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds

Membership

Social Action

Children's Religious Education

Finance

Program

Congregational Care

Technology

Outgoing chair, Carol Green, passes the gavel to new chair, Dick Shelton

Board Membership for Coming Year – Dick Shelton

Nominating committee – Present the slate of officers: Chair-elect, Secretary, Treasurer.

Nominations from the floor

Vote

Present candidates for the Standing Committee chairs (for approval at next board meeting).

At Large candidates (for approval at next board meeting)

Call for/Nominations for Delegates to the UU General Assembly New Orleans, LA, Jun 21-25, 2017

Treasurer – 2017/2018 Budget

Review the proposed budget for 2017 – 2018 year.

Motion to approve new budget

Renewal: Welcoming Congregation Designation –

Mary Ryan & Dianne Wolf

Closing Words – Dick Shelton**CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
UPDATE**

The Building/Grounds and R.E. Committees are excited to announce that on May 6 installation of the new playground will begin! We know that this will bring great fun for our youngest members and many smiles for everyone else. Thanks to all who have participated in this project.

The youth are preparing a special presentation of their learning about Neighboring Faiths that they will share with the PH community at one of our final programs. Thanks to Adam Aanerud for suggesting and coordinating this activity. We enjoyed a meditation and Q&A session at Clouds in Water Zen Center earlier this month.

The preschool class continues to explore UU principles through crafts and play.

In May we will be visiting Alexandra House to plant their garden. Tentative date is May 7.

The R.E. committee is planning curricula for the 2017-18 and invites your comments. Thanks for your support!
-- Katrina & Ben

SUMMER PROGRAMS

All begin at 10:15am at Pilgrim House.

June 25 – Urban Roots

Urban Roots is a Saint Paul organization with a mission to build vibrant and healthy communities through food, conservation and youth development. Their programs are grounded in improving urban food systems, supporting and fostering connection to Saint Paul's parks and green spaces, and promoting active living.

July 19 – House of Dance – Hip Hop

House of Dance Twin Cities, an active space dedicated to providing affordable opportunities for positive, creative self-expression, self-empowerment, and community development for people of all ages and experience levels through Hip Hop dance and culture. Jake Riley and two hip hop dancers will present the program.

August 6 – Raptor Center

Established in 1974 as part of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, The Raptor Center rehabilitates around 800 sick and injured raptors each year, while helping to identify emerging environmental issues related to raptor health and populations. The Raptor Center trains veterinary students and veterinarians from around the world to become

future leaders in raptor medicine and conservation and it provides unique public education programs and events. Our presenter will introduce us to a number of raptors.

PILGRIM HOUSE NIGHT OUT

(formerly Circle Suppers)

Scheduled for Saturday, May 13th and 20th

Would you like to meet Pilgrim House friends in a smaller setting than on Sunday morning? Would you like to get to know newer members in casual and relaxed way? Then PH Night Out maybe just right for you. PH Night Out is an opportunity to share a meal and good conversation with fellow pilgrims. You can sign up to be a host (for 6-8) or a guest. When you gather, the host will prepare a main dish and the guests will bring dishes to share. The host and participants will communicate about time and place.

The last day to sign up is Sunday, May 7th when the signup sheet is passed at church.

Matches will be made for the dates listed above by end of day Monday, May 8th. Contact information will be included.

If you have questions, contact Mary Eskelson.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – NEW ORLEANS

June 21-25

Early registration discount ends on Sunday, April 30. Funds are available in the Pilgrim House budget for the registration fee for our two voting delegates. Let Carol Green, Board Chair, know if you're interested (chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org).

General Assembly is the annual gathering of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Meet hundreds of attendees from UU congregations across our nation and several other countries.

Delegates will be electing a new national president of the UUA.

Important registration information:

More info: <https://www.uua.org/ga>

Registration: <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>

Housing: Blocks of hotel rooms have been reserved at **discounted rates – until May 18.** View hotel options and rates at <http://www.uua.org/ga/travel>.

PILGRIM HOUSE BIKE TRIP

The Pilgrim House Bike Trip is June 5-9 at the Cedar Valley Resort in Whalen, MN on the beautiful Root River Trail. Our group still has a room available in our large cabin. If you are interested, contact Darlene Joyce.

GREAT DECISIONS AT PILGRIM HOUSE

May 4 – Prospects for Pakistan and Afghanistan

Major internal conflict has plagued Afghanistan for four decades. The U.S., for its part, has conducted military operations in the country nearly continuously since 9/11. Today, war with the Taliban persists, and tensions between the U.S. and Pakistan have gradually deteriorated. As his time in office drew to a close, President Obama limited further withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan. The incoming administration has a choice: will it maintain the status quo, completely reverse the Obama administration drawdown or withdraw completely? Does the U.S. face a no-win situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan?

Our speaker is M. Jay Shahidi.

**PILGRIM HOUSE DISCUSSION ABOUT
“WHITE SUPREMACY”**

As our Easter speaker Andrea Johnson noted, some recent events have brought home ways in which our national denomination’s actual practices don’t always match its stated principles of racial justice and full inclusion. This has led the UUA to encourage all local congregations to educate themselves on what they are calling white supremacy. This does not mean anybody is being accused of racism. It does mean that we are called to examine ways in which our actions, as individuals and/or organizations, may unintentionally perpetuate

inequitable situations – and what we can do better. A volunteer group of PH members will be working this spring and summer to plan a PH discussion about this topic. To be part of the planning group, or to simply offer a thought or suggestion, please contact one of the following: Ellen Shelton; Michelle Gardner; Sharon Borg.

SOCIAL ACTION EVENTS THIS SUMMER

Pride Parade June 27, 11am in downtown Minneapolis. March with other UUs for LBGT justice.

The Walk A Mile for your Neighbor is Sunday, July 30 from 10am – 2pm at Silverwood Park (Silver Lake Rd and Co Rd. E). This a fundraiser for the Community Support Center (Pilgrim House supports) which provides assistance to people who need help to stay in their homes.

Yard Sale May 20th 8:30am-5pm – All proceeds go to the Community Support Center. Location: Gruver's Home: 5278 Red Oak Drive, Mounds View, MN, 55112 —donations can be dropped off at this address between now and May 19th.

**Pilgrim House Newsletter
1212 W. Hwy 96
Arden Hills, MN 55112**

