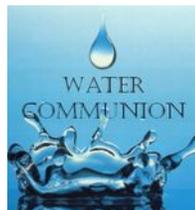


Upcoming Sunday Programs (10:15 to 11:30 am)

September 4 – Labor Day Weekend – no program

September 11 – Anniversary of 9/11

On this the fifteen anniversary of this attack on the United States, we pause for remembrance and understanding with **Professor David Schultz**, professor at Hamline and University of Minnesota Schools of Law. He is the author of 30 books and 100+ articles on various aspects of American politics, election law, and the media and politics, and is regularly interviewed and quoted in the local, national, and international media on these subjects. He is a recurring speaker at Pilgrim House and will speak about where we are politically, what does the presidential race mean, and how it all relates to that critical event in American history. The youth will serve root beer floats following the program.



September 18 – Water Communion

This annual welcome back celebration is held near the beginning of our new program year. Join us in song, readings and sharing to revitalize our connections and community. Bring a small amount of water from a place that is special to you. One by one we will pour our water together into a large bowl and tell why this water is special to you. The combined water is symbolic of our shared faith coming from many different sources.

September 25 – Building our Religious Literacy

This will begin a year long exploration of faiths of the world. Our day to day lives increasingly bring people of diverse religious traditions in close contact with one another. Jeanne H. Kilde, Ph.D., Director, Religious Studies Program, University of Minnesota will talk about religious diversity in the U.S. "an overview of world religions" in relation to the contemporary American religious landscape, the many religions practiced in the Twin Cities region. These programs will be interspersed with other Sunday programs topics and will coordinate with Youth's Religious Education program on "Neighboring Faiths".



October 2 – Touchstones of Unitarian Universalism – Andrea Johnson

Buddhism has its three Gems: The Buddha, the Dharma (teaching) and the Sangha (the community). Islam has its five pillars (Shahada – profession of faith), Salat (daily prayers), Zakat (charity), Sawm (fasting) and Hajj – pilgrimage). But what is the essence of Unitarian Universalism? What lies at the heart of our faith – a tradition that so often focuses on individualism and diversity. This program will explore the touchstones of Unitarian Universalism, a covenantal faith based more on how we promise to be together rather than assent to doctrines and creeds.

Andrea Johnson is pursuing her Master of Divinity degree at United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, MN. She is a member of First Universalist Church in Minneapolis where she is active on the Pastoral Care Team, facilitating small groups and becoming a Racial Justice trainer. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband and three children.

CALENDAR

Thursday, September 8, 7:00pm – Board meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Sunday, September 18, 11:50am – Sunday Stories – 11:50 am at Pilgrim House. Robin Bliss shares her story. All are welcome. Contact Gary Borg.

Thursday, September 22, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at Susan Setter's. The book is *Maud's Line* by Margaret Verble. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Saturday, September 24, 8:00am – Walk for Hope for Alexandra House at Bunker Hills Regional Park, Pavilion #3. All are welcome. See article below. Contact Fred Green.

Sunday, September 25, 12:00pm – Connection Committee meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

October 6, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House. All are welcome.

Thursday, October 20, 7:00pm – Discussion of the UUA common read book, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, by Bryan Stevenson at Pilgrim House.

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome back after our summer break. Thank you to the Program Committee for three great summer programs. The Water Communion will be the second program this year, see program descriptions for details.

Pilgrim House has purchased three sturdy, lightweight folding high chairs for the comfort of young attendees at our fellowship time. Descriptions may be found at (<http://www.target.com/p/ciao-baby-portable-high-chair/-/A-21407759>). They're currently stored in the nursery. Just help yourself.

Remember we are a volunteer organization and any way that you can volunteer will be helpful and appreciated. Whether it be as a committee member, providing soup, bread or treats, being a Children's Religious Education teacher or something we haven't imagined – all contribute to the place and feeling that “we call PH.” Please feel free to talk to Carol Green or Kathy Aanerud about volunteering.

Carol Green, Board Chair

RE CORNER

On our first Sunday of the new PH year, the youth will serve root beer floats and clean the kitchen following snack. Please watch for a sign-up list.

The youth and adult volunteers have been creating space for active game time in the basement, along with

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 September newsletter is due Sunday, September 18 (always the next to the last Sunday). Emails will be sent during the summer about events.

reorganized classrooms and supplies. Currently, a ping pong table is available and a pool table is being set up. With the back to schools sales now in progress, the R.E. committee will again be collecting school supplies for Alexandra House, and students will sort and package donated supplies on Sunday, September 18.

Typical supplies on elementary and middle school lists include:

Backpack, Backpack with ID tag, 24-pack crayons, Blunt Scissors, Supply box, Pocket folders, Spiral notebooks, Ruler with metric and standard, Washable markers, Colored pencils, #2 pencils (pre-sharpened), Gluesticks, Kleenex (largebox), Highlighters, Dry-erase markers.

You can bring supplies to Pilgrim House when regular programs resume on September 11.

Thanks to all for your time and support!

Katrina Edenfeld & Ben Chiri, RE Co-chairs

SUNDAY STORIES

Want to share your special story with fellow PHers? Sunday Stories will start its second year this fall. Each session, after the Sunday program, is facilitated by a PH member who will assist you prior to the event and during based on your need. The session lasts approximately 30-40 minutes. These events are designed for us to get to

know each other through sharing the experiences that are uniquely ours. The dates that have been set starting this fall are: September 18, October 16, January 15, February 19, March 19, May 21.

If you are interested in telling others about your personal journey or want more information, please contact Gary Borg.

SMALL COVENANT GROUPS

Pilgrim House now has two small covenant groups that have formed. Covenant groups are groups of 6-8 people who commit to meeting on a regular basis for reflection and sharing. Each covenant group meeting has a facilitator and the content for each meeting is based on a theme such as gratitude, forgiveness, friendship or loss just to name a few. Members of the group make a commitment to share deeply, build connections, practice deliberate listening and to respect each other's sharing and thoughts. The group is not meant to be a support group focused on a particular issue but is still supportive of each other in the process of sharing our thoughts on these larger themes.

The covenant group committee (Gary Borg, Les Rogers, Mary Carlson and Cynthia LeBlanc) is happy to help other groups form if desired. We will be circulating a sign-up sheet in the fall and can recommend some material as a starting point for discussions. One of us would also be glad to meet with a new group for the first meeting or two to help them get started. If you have any questions please contact one of the committee members.

GREETINGS FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY— COLUMBUS, OHIO

The annual gathering of the Unitarian Universalist

Association (UUA) was held in June in Columbus, Ohio. Pilgrim House members in attendance were Emma Stout, Mel Aanerud and Kathy Aanerud. They joined with 3,800 other UUs (including 204 youth) for outstanding speakers, music, public witness events, and business actions.

Delegates discussed and selected Actions of Immediate Witness for (1) Expressing solidarity with Muslims, (2) Advocating gun reform, and (3) Affirming support for transgender people. Delegates also picked the next four-year Congregational Study/Action Issue: Corruption of our Democracy. There was also reaffirmation for last year's vote to support the Black Lives Matter movement. Keynote speakers included Krista Tippett on "listening as a civic tool", Reverend William Barber on "choosing love in the midst of hate", and former UUA President Reverend Bill Sinkford on "confronting hard truths we



would rather avoid". Videos of speakers and excellent summaries of all General Assembly activities are online at: <https://www.uuworld.org/ga>.

Mel and Kathy's workshop selections included topics related to supporting small congregations. Emma was an active participant in the business resolution that proposed UUA divestment related to human rights violations and joined in activities of Young Adults at GA.

Emma will be presenting a Sunday program at Pilgrim House on October 30, reflecting on her experiences as a Youth Member of Pilgrim House, her college years and after, and her delegate experiences at General Assembly. Save the date – Next year's General Assembly will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, June 21-25.

WALK A MILE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS to prevent homelessness in our community

On Sunday, July 31, Pilgrim House and others participated in the annual Walk a Mile for Our Neighbors at Silverwood Park. A total of 518 walkers walked 932 miles getting \$12,919 for the Community Support Center. Sixteen Pilgrim House walkers covered 40.5 miles. Lisa Schlotterhausen, Les Rogers, and Al Potter did seven miles each. PH had two door prize winners: Kathy Aanerud (Acapulco Restaurant) and Bill Rohde (DQ).

NEW PILGRIM HOUSE BOARD CHOSEN

At the Annual Meeting on June 5, members chose a new board for Pilgrim House. The board members are:

Chair: Carol Green

Past-Chair: Kutluhan Erol

Chair-Elect: Dick Shelton

Treasurer: Susan Setter

Secretary: Mary Carlson

Program Chair: Lollie Jensen

RE Chair: Ben Chiri & Katrina Edenfeld

Building Chair: Al Potter

Membership Chair: Mel and Kathy (off-board) Aanerud

Finance Chair: Open

Social Action Chair: Fred Green

At-large: Mary Ryan, Bob Treumann

UU PROGRAM AIRS ON PBS, CHANNEL 2

"Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War", a documentary by Ken Burns on Martha and Waitstill Sharp, two UU's who organized rescue missions during WW II. The documentary airs on PBS stations on September 20 at 8:00pm. For more information see <http://www.uua.org/action/defying-nazis-sharp-story>.

ANNUAL WINTER CLOTHING COLLECTION

Bring your items to Pilgrim House between September 11 and October 9, 2016.

The Social Concerns Network is collecting the following items to give away free of charge to those in our community who need them:

Winter Coats (gently used or new)

Snow Suits or Pants (gently used or new)

Gloves, Mittens, Scarves (gently used or new – we love handmade items!!)

Hats (NEW ONLY PLEASE) – we love handmade items.

PLEASE, NO INDOOR-WEIGHT CLOTHING OR LIGHT-WEIGHT COATS.

Other details:

We accept all sizes (newborn to plus-size adult)

Clothing with logos or names on them are accepted

Please wash or dry-clean all items before donating, most recipients cannot afford to do it themselves.

We especially need infant/kids and plus-size adult items.

WALK FOR HOPE FOR ALEXANDRA HOUSE

Again this year, Pilgrim House is participating in the Walk for Hope for Alexandra House. Help to put an end to domestic and sexual violence.

Register for the Walk and find the Pilgrim House Team at

<https://alexandrahouse.myetap.org/fundraiser/walkforhope2016/>

If you sign up before September 1, there is a discounted rate. Same-day registration is available at the Walk; however, pre-registered participants enjoy a faster check-in process and are guaranteed a t-shirt at registration.

Saturday, September 24, 2016

Bunker Hills Regional Park, Pavilion #3

8:00-9:00am – Registration

9:30am – 5K Fun Run/2M Walk begins

Unable to join us? There are ways you can help.

Donate to a participant, a team, or to Alexandra House and ensure we have another successful Walk for Hope.

Contact Fred Green for more information.

Pilgrim House Newsletter

1212 W. Hwy 96

Arden Hills, MN 55112

