

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

April 2 – American Indian Religions Traditions

Professor Dennis Jones is a band member of Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation. He taught the Ojibwe language and Ojibwe History and Culture at the University of Minnesota for twenty years until he retired in 2015. Among his many publications are “DagaAnishinaabemodaa-Let’s Speak Ojibwe” - An Ojibwe Word and Phrase Book. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Native Studies from Trent University and A Master of Arts in Education from UMD, and a Master of Arts in Indigenous Philosophy as well as a Doctorate Degree of Indigenous Education from the Seven Generation Education Institute. Pebaamibinesis also a fourth degree member in the Midewiwin Lodge which is the highest level of Ojibwe Priesthood.



April 9 – The Seven UU Principles

A response in jazz and poetry with Richard Terrell and Larry McDonough. Pianist Larry McDonough and saxophonist and poet Richard Terrill will draw from familiar texts and original works to shed new light on the basis for UU spirituality.

April 16 – Spring Celebration

Andrea Johnson is pursuing her masters in divinity and is a member at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis.

There will be a special activity for the youth during the program.

All are invited to a potluck brunch following the program.



April 23 – Pollinator Friendly Gardening

Gardening for bees, butterflies and other pollinators with Ronda Fleming Hayes. Rhonda is a native Californian with Southern roots living in Minnesota. She is a writer and Master Gardener who’s learned to bloom where she’s planted. Author of Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies and Other Pollinators.

April 30 – DeMasi Brothers – Living in a World of Kindness

Joseph DeMasi and twin brother John are singer/songwriter/humorists and fellow UU’s. Focusing on the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism using, music, song and humor takes on such topics as equal rights for all and finding spiritual fulfillment are touching and humorous but always thought provoking and unique! presented to over 100 UU fellowships throughout the country from CA to OK, from MN to NY to positive review and great acclaim.



May 7 – Women’s March

Sue Gross Macemon and her sister Dawn talk about the Women’s March.

CALENDAR

Saturday, April 1, 1:00pm – School for Shan Refugees Annual Fundraiser at First Universalist Church. All are welcome. Contact Sue Grosse-Macemon.

Thursday, April 6, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House: Trade and Politics. See article below. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter.

Sunday, April 9, 8:00am – Youth/Connections Breakfast at Pilgrim House. See article below.

Sunday, April 9, 12:00pm – Program Committee meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Lollie Jensen.

Thursday, April 13 – Board Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Saturday, April 22, 7:00pm – Amaryllis Concert at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Ken Steffenson.

Sunday, April 23 – Newsletter information due. Contact Fred Green.

Thursday, April 27, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at Dee Buth's. The book is *Five Presidents* by Clint Hill. All are welcome. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Friday, April 28 – Sunday, April 30 – Mid-American Regional Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), Chicago Oak Brook Marriott, more info at <https://www.midamericauua.org/>. Contact Carol Green or Mel Aanerud. See article below.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS AUCTION DONATIONS

Thank you members and friends of Pilgrim House for your generous donations of auction items and services, as well as your generous bids. Gross figures for this year's auction are \$4,905 live auction and to date for the fixed price table and the Youth Breakfast \$131 and \$130 respectively.

I would also like to thank the many people who volunteered time and/or food to make auction day a success. A very heartfelt thank you to Kathy Aanerud who spent much time and effort to make sure that everything that needs to be done to make the auction happen got done and done in a timely manner.

Carol Green, Board Chair

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

The RE committee is working with the building & grounds committee to explore playground options and related budgetary needs. We welcome all inputs.

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

The youth class continues its study of world religions. On Sunday, April 2, the youth will visit the Clouds in Water Zen Center. Parents and PH members/friends are welcome to join us. Please contact Katrina or Ben by Sunday, March 26, if you will need a carpool from PH. The preschool class is enjoying learning UU principles through activities, play, and song.

On Sunday, April 9, the youth, in conjunction with the Connections Committee, will host a breakfast at PH. Tickets are available for \$10 (no fee for children) from Katrina, Ben, or Carol. Please join us at 9 am for a buffet breakfast served by the youth.

PLEDGE DRIVE

It's time for the annual Pilgrim House pledge drive. For those of you who are new to PH, each year we ask members and supporters to consider making a pledge contribution for the coming fiscal year (June 1 – May 31). Your pledge materials will arrive by e-mail sometime in early April. The various emails will include a pledge letter and, if applicable, information on how much you pledged in 2015 including how much of that has been paid and instructions on how to submit your 2016 pledge. In addition to the ongoing operating expenses, the cost of maintaining our old building is rising and we need adequate funds to achieve our long range planning goals. PH needs to build a contingency fund for future replacements of furnaces, kitchen appliances, roofing, etc. We are also considering improvement such as the playground mentioned above. The PH board needs to know the pledge total in May to finalize a proposed budget for our next fiscal year. This new budget will be presented at our Annual Meeting

June 4. Please take the time to submit your pledge no later than Sunday, April 23rd. If you are unable or decline to pledge please submit a pledge of \$0.

WELCOMING CONGREGATION STATUS

In 2008 Pilgrim House became a Welcoming Congregation. This is an official title from the UUA referring specifically to welcoming gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. The UUA has set about to embrace this group as it feels the need to empower and raise up GLBT people within our community.

At this time the Congregational Care Committee would like to renew our Welcoming Congregation Status. This requires a vote by the membership at the Annual Meeting and this item will be on the agenda. Our commitment means that we will continue to have programs relevant to understanding the GLBT community, continue to use inclusive language during our programs and continue to perform weddings for GLBT people at Pilgrim House. We will also continue our connection to Outfront Minnesota, an organization that supports GLBT people.

If anyone has any questions about this please contact me.
Sincerely, Mary Ryan

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY – SPRING POTLUCK BRUNCH!

Our April 16 Sunday program will be followed by a springtime potluck brunch in the Pilgrim House fellowship hall. We're looking for a couple of volunteers to coordinate the event with a sign-up sheet (we can provide a template), some decorations for the tables (available at Pilgrim House), perhaps a festive beverage, coffee-making of course, and recruiting a set-up and clean-up crew. Put your special touch on this event!

Contact Kathy Aanerud, Hospitality Committee,
membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org

REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook -- weekend of April 28-30
Get a great \$89 rate at the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook -- and enjoy a weekend gathering April 28-30 with Unitarian Universalists from the 13 states that make up our Mid-America Region. The Mid-America Regional Assembly of Unitarian Universalists (UU) includes workshops, keynote speakers, music, and socializing. There will also be a business meeting on Saturday for which Pilgrim House is allocated two voting delegates -- but all are encouraged to attend!

On Friday evening, the three candidates for the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) presidency position will speak. The election of the new president will occur at

the General Assembly in New Orleans (see separate article).

The theme of the gathering is "Finding Our Partners -- Faith in Action". Components of the theme include

- Find ways for your congregation to put its faith in action.
- Ways to join with other faith communities or community groups to improve something in your locality.
- Share what you have learned about working with partners.

Important registration information:

- Early registration rate ends April 5
- Final registration and discount hotel rate ends April 12

More info:

<https://www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly/2604-regional-assembly-2017>

Registration: <https://www.midamericauua.org/register?eventId=67&controller=event&task=individualRegister>

Interested in attending? Limited registration funds are available for the voting delegates. See or contact Carol Green, Board Chair (chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org) or Mel Aanerud, Membership Co-Chair (membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- IN NEW ORLEANS! June 21-25

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. It's a fulfilling event with workshops, making connections, witnessing, enjoying music, keynote speakers and making policy for the UUA through the democratic process. You can also pre-register for hands-on service projects.

Pilgrim House is allocated two voting delegates, but all are encouraged to attend! Delegates will be electing a new national president of the UUA.

While you're in the city, check out the new World War II National Museum, the French Quarter, parks, historic homes and buildings, river cruises, Garden District walking tours and more! Top 10 ideas at: http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60864-Activities-New_Orleans_Louisiana.html

Important registration information:

- Early registration rate for ends April 30
- Blocks of hotel rooms have been reserved at discounted rates -- until May 18. Hotel options and rates can be viewed at <http://www.uua.org/ga/travel>. Check back often; some hotels fill, some rooms open as plans change; but note the May 18 deadline.

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

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

Interested in attending? Limited registration funds are available for the voting delegates. See or contact Carol Green, Board Chair (chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org) or Mel Aanerud, Membership Co-Chair (membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org).

GREAT DECISIONS AT PILGRIM HOUSE

April 6 – Trade and Politics

The U.S. political mood toward trade has gone sour. One need look no further than the 2016 presidential contest for the popular narrative: trade means that China wins, at America's expense. But do the numbers support that conclusion? The metrics used to gauge economic strength—Gross Domestic Product and balance of trade—have not kept up with the realities of modern manufacturing. Obtaining an accurate picture of U.S. economic stature requires a critique of those numbers. Only then can the U.S. develop appropriate policy solutions for the challenges at hand.

Our speaker Ambassador Ross Wilson is a distinguished fellow at the Atlantic Council and a visiting lecturer in international affairs at the George Washington University.

AMARYLLIS IN CONCERT

To Welcome In The Spring.

Amaryllis combines the talents and abundant good humor of:

Anne Benson (flute, hammered dulcimer, accordion)

Ken Steffenson (guitar, fiddle, mandolin, harmonica, vocals)

And Erin Walsh (cello, bass, percussion)

Join them for an evening of acoustic roots music from Celtic and North American traditions, folk classics, and original tunes.

April 22 at Pilgrim House Unitarian Fellowship

Concert begins at 7:00. Open admission.

A \$10 donation is requested.

Pilgrim House Newsletter

1212 W. Hwy 96

Arden Hills, MN 55112

