

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

April 1 – Our Traditional Spring Celebration

We are looking for members of the fellowship who would like to be part of the program. If you sing, play an instrument, dance, act, read and/or tell good stories, contact Mel Aanerud to be part of the program. The Pilgrim House Chorale will perform. Following the program will be Soup Sunday with other pot luck accompanying foods for a springtime lunch. All are invited!



April 8 – Secrets of the Congdon Mansion

Jim Kimball was the reporter from the Star Tribune who covered the Congdon murder and has written a book about it. He has inside information that is almost funny, if it wasn't well a murder. History Theatre of Saint Paul's production of "[Glensheen: The Musical](#)," is returning July 5-29 – It is a hoot, and is based on this book. Hear the back story of this major news event.

April 15 – Healing Ourselves in Trying Times

Kristen Wernecke – author of "Choosing Conscious Health for a Vibrant Life" – is an integrative health practitioner, practicing massage therapy and energy healing since 1990. She has also been trained in Chi Gung healing, Emotional Freedom Technique, Psychic Development, Cranial-Sacral therapy and Healing Touch. Kristen teaches classes on Meditation, Chakras, Energy Healing and Mind, Body, Spirit Healing, and is a Wellness Specialist at Hazelden. She will be sharing some techniques for reducing stress and finding personal purpose at this turbulent point in American history.



April 22 – For Earth Day – The DeMasi Brothers Return to Pilgrim House.

Joseph DeMasi and twin brother John are singer/songwriter/humorists and fellow UU's. Their song and humor takes on such topics as equal rights for all and finding spiritual fulfillment. Their songs and humor are touching and humorous but always thought provoking and unique! They have presented to over 100 UU fellowships throughout the country from CA to OK, from MN to NY to positive reviews and great acclaim. This is an inter-generational program.

April 29 – Microaggressions Part 2

This is a followup to the well-received February 18 program. Jean Strait and Hamline students will share about, and answer your questions on, microaggressions. Expect discussion on how we can change our language to eliminate them. Students will share personal stories so Pilgrim House can understand the impact these comments have on everyday life.



May 6 – Doug Wood – New Books and a Few Songs

Doug has entertained us many times at Pilgrim House. The author of *Old Turtle* and other children and adult books is a great story teller and a musical master.

CALENDAR

Saturday, March 31, 10:00am – Chorale practice at the Rohdes'. All are welcome. Contact Bill Rohde.

Thursday, April 5, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House – Turkey: a Partner in Crisis. See article below. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter.

Sunday, April 8, noon – Program Committee Meeting. Contact Lollie Jensen. All are welcome.

Monday, April 9, 7:00pm – PH Board meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Dick Shelton.

Sunday, April 15, noon – Sunday Stories at Pilgrim House – Michelle Gardner. All are welcome. Contact Gary Borg.

Saturday, April 21 – Night Out Supper. Contact Fred or Carol Green.

Saturday, April 21, 7:00pm – Game Night at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Curt Corum.

Sunday, April 22 – Newsletter information due. Contact Fred Green.

Thursday, April 26, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at Dee Buth's. The book is *A Gentleman from Moscow* by Amor Towles. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

RE CORNER

The Children's Religious Education committee is seeking a volunteer R.E. chair for 2018-2019. This is a board position and does not require teaching. We are also seeking committee members who are interested in the direction of the program and/or being substitute teachers. Please contact Katrina or Ben if interested.

2018 TIME, TALENT AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION PLEDGE DRIVE

The board of directors thank you for your continued support of Pilgrim House.

As a lay-led, all volunteer fellowship, we rely on member support in the form of time, talent, and financial contributions. This year's pledge gives you an opportunity not only to pledge dollars, but also to indicate where you are willing to share your time and talent to keep Pilgrim House the vibrant fellowship that we all enjoy.

Each year we ask members and supporters to consider making a contribution pledge for the coming fiscal year (June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019). The board treats these pledges as advisory statements rather than legally binding documents. You will receive pledge materials by mail in early April.

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: Dick Shelton

Pilgrim's Progress (Pilgrim House Newsletter)

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

Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

In May, the board develops a budget for the next fiscal year based on pledges received. Then, at the Pilgrim House Annual Meeting June 3, the membership elects a new board of directors and approves a new budget. The new board uses the approved budget to guide expenditures throughout the year.

What does it cost to keep Pilgrim House running?

- Our 2017-2018 budget was approximately \$42,210 of which we planned \$23,600 for building and grounds, including repairs, utilities, plowing/mowing, cleaning, etc. The remainder is divided among adult programs, children's programs, UUA dues, conferences, and publicity.

- A major expenditure for 2018 will be replacement of the parking lot steps.

Additionally, we are funding a savings account for future replacements of furnaces, kitchen appliances, siding & roofing, parking lot maintenance, etc.

Please submit your pledge no later than Sunday, April 22.

Thank you, the Finance Committee.

PILGRIM HOUSE NIGHT OUT DINNERS

(formerly Circle Suppers)

Scheduled for Saturday, April 21 and May 5

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 may be 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, April 8 when the signup sheet is passed at Pilgrim House.

Matches will be made for the dates listed above. Contact information will be included.

If you have questions, contact Fred or Carol Green.

GREAT DECISIONS AT PILGRIM HOUSE

April 5: Turkey: a Partner in Crisis

http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=topic_detail&topic_id=70

Of all NATO allies, Turkey represents the most daunting challenge for the Trump administration. In the wake of a failed military coup in July 2016, the autocratic trend in Ankara took a turn for the worse. One year on, an overwhelming majority of the population considers the United States to be their country's greatest security threat. In this age of a worsening "clash of civilizations" between Islam and the West, even more important than its place on the map is what Turkey symbolically represents as the most institutionally Westernized Muslim country in the world.

Our speaker will be Ambassador Ross Wilson, who has talked with us previously on Foreign Trade and the history of the Kurds. Over the course of a thirty year career in the US Foreign Service, he served as American ambassador to Turkey in 2005-08 and to Azerbaijan in 2000-03. Elsewhere overseas, he held assignments at the US embassies in Moscow and Prague and at the US consulate general in Melbourne, Australia. In Washington, Ambassador Wilson was principal deputy to the ambassador-at-large and special advisor to the Secretary of State for the new independent states of the former Soviet Union in 1997-2000. He presently serves as chairman of the board of the Institute of Turkish Studies and is a member of the Eurasia Foundation Advisory Council and of the boards of directors of Global Minnesota and the American Friends of Turkey.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN -- GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN KANSAS CITY!

June 20-24 – Make your summer plans and meet hundreds of your fellow Unitarian Universalists at General Assembly in Kansas City. This year's location is within a day's drive of the Twin Cities -- a great opportunity to take part in this fulfilling event of

workshops, making connections, witnessing, memorable music, keynote speakers and participating in policy-making for the Unitarian Universalist Association.

There are funds in the Pilgrim House budget to reimburse registration fees for the elected delegates. Pilgrim House is allocated two voting delegates, but all are encouraged to attend.

There's also an opportunity to receive registration fees in exchange for volunteer work at General Assembly. Note that applications will be accepted by General Assembly from March 1 through March 31. More info is here:

<https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/volunteer>.

More General Assembly info is at:

<https://www.uua.org/ga>, which includes schedule of events, special programs, sights and sounds of Kansas City, and more. Note, especially:

- Housing registration opened March 1.
- General Assembly registration opened March 1. **(Rates increase on May 1.)**

DONATIONS NEEDED

From the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf: The Career and Life Transitions Thrift Store needs donations.

Please feel free to bring clothing, outerwear, footwear, linens and small household items to us or directly to the thrift store. There is a barrel outside of our office where you can place your donations and grab a receipt.

The CLT Store is located in the Shoreview Mall and assists special education students as they progress from high school to adulthood by providing job training and independent life skills.

We give our food shelf clients vouchers to use to purchase items at the store and our families tell us about all of the great items they have found there. We appreciate our partnership with them!

Anyone can shop there and anyone can donate, so feel free to spread the word to friends and family.

1037 West Hwy 96 (Intersection of Hwy 96 and Lexington Ave).

Donation Hours: 8 am – 4 pm – Monday – Friday at the front or back of the store when school is in session.

So often we dwell on the things that seem impossible rather than on the things that are possible. So often we are depressed by what remains to be done and forget to be thankful for all that has been done.

--Marian Wright Edelman