

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

All programs are via Zoom. The Zoom link for these programs will be sent to Pilgrim House members. If you do not receive a link, but would like to participate, please contact pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

November 1 – The 50th Anniversary of Pilgrim House!

It has been 50 years since Pilgrim House was formed, and moved into that one room schoolhouse in Arden Hills. The first service held in the schoolhouse was on Sunday, Nov 1, 1970. Today, Pilgrim House remains a vibrant, active religious community, true to the spirit of its formation. Please join us on-line via ZOOM to celebrate this special milestone, where we will feature highlights of our progress through the decades. *See invitation on the next page.*

Note that daylight saving time ends on November 1, so be sure to fall back so you're not an hour early!



November 8 – The Electoral College

Assuming Biden wins Minnesota; Mel will be one of its ten votes. The Electoral College – how it came to be, it's pros and cons and what are the prospects of change. [Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, the author of the Unitarian Universalists Associations Common Read, "Indigenous History of the United States" was originally scheduled for this date – she is unable to present on November 8 and will be rescheduled.]

November 15 – Innocence Project of Minnesota

The Innocence Project of Minnesota will make a presentation on its work to free wrongfully convicted people and to improve the justice system to prevent future wrongful convictions. Exploring the causes of and methods to prevent wrongful convictions, the presentation will include discussion of actual cases of innocent people freed from prison. Sara H. Jones, Executive Director.



November 22 – Thanksgiving Celebration

Rev. Kelli Clement is excited to return to Pilgrim House for the Sunday, Nov. 22 service. In anticipation of Thanksgiving in the time of COVID, let us apply the healing balm of gratitude to parched souls. Kelli invites us to share a poem or reading about gratitude in the service, which you can present or have her read it. Send the reading to Kelli, and she will weave them together as she invites us to share. kelli@firstunitarian.org

November 29 – Sources

The musical duet of Richard Terrill and Larry McDonough have performed at Pilgrim House before. Much as UUs credit a wide range of sources for their spirituality, creative artists "borrow" from those who have come before. In today's service, pianist Larry McDonough (composition, arranging) and saxophonist Richard Terrill (poetry) will describe and illustrate their process of borrowing material from other sources for use in their own creative work, and attempt to link that process with spiritual concerns.



Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Celebration

Come join us
November 1st
10:15 am

It has been 50 years since Pilgrim house was formed and moved into that one room school house in Arden Hills. Today Pilgrim House remains a vibrant, active religious community true to the spirit of its formation. We continue to welcome all regardless of race, gender, sexual or spiritual orientation. We have no creed that we follow, except for openness to ideas where we can explore, develop and apply our own individual beliefs with the acceptance and encouragement of our fellow pilgrims. Please join us on-line via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88407039077?pwd=TXRCaHk3VnRLVXpBazB3VEVGN1hmUT09> to help celebrate this special milestone (we hope to be holding an in-person dinner event at some point in the future when in-person gatherings are again appropriate).

Sincerely,

Carol Gross, Chair, 50th Anniversary Committee

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1, 10:15am – Pilgrim House 50th Anniversary Celebration via Zoom. All are welcome. Contact Carol Gross.

Thursday, November 5, 7:00pm – Great Decisions via Zoom – Climate Change and World Order. Everyone is welcome. Contact Al Potter. See article below.

Monday, November 9, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Adam Aanerud.

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: Adam Aanerud

Pilgrim's Progress (Pilgrim House Newsletter)

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

Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

Monday, November 16, 2:00pm – A covenant group meets via Zoom. Contact Nancy Olson.

Tuesday, November 17, 2:00pm – Congregational Care meets via Zoom. Contact Nancy Olson.

Thursday, November 19, 4:00pm – Book Club meets via Zoom, a week early due to Thanksgiving. The book is *Elephant Company: The Inspiring Story of An Unlikely Hero and the Animals Who Helped Him Save Lives in WWII* by Vicki Croke. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

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

Wednesday, November 25, 1:30pm – Novel Exchange Book Club meets via Zoom. Contact Sharon Borg.

PLEDGE CONTRIBUTION PROCESS

Even though we are not currently meeting at Pilgrim House and therefore unable to drop off pledge checks in the building, we still have expenses to pay and appreciate getting your pledge contributions in a timely manner.

Please mail your financial pledge contributions to the Pilgrim House address below (do not mail them to the treasurer).

Pilgrim House

1212 W. Highway 96

Arden Hills, MN 55112

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Here we are in October and we are warned we are in the midst of a second wave of Covid 19. It is so difficult and heartbreaking when we hear we should not celebrate our holidays with our extended families and friends but the year is 2020. If we do all the right things (you know what those are!) and with improved testing and vaccinations, 2021 will be a different year. I heard some positive information on Governor's Waltz last week news that includes increased testing sites, expansion of saliva testing (free testing for teachers, school staff and child care), a plan for a new lab in Minnesota and a pilot of an order mail program where people could test at home. More accurate testing will open many doors for us to be safe with our friends and family. This is all good news and a reason to be optimistic about the future. We can live with Covid if we are careful.

In our last newsletter I encouraged members to contact us if you are lonely or need assistance during this time. I did not hear from anyone! Is everyone OK?

We care for you and want to be assured no one is having difficulty. We are all experiencing Covid fatigue and having someone to talk to can be comforting or just fun to catch up with each other. We will be texting and calling you to say Hi! and as always, you do not need to respond if you are not interested in hearing from our congregation right now.

Have an exciting, safe Autumn and "Happy Halloween"! 🎃 And Happy Voting"! 🗳️ 👤 ♀ 🗳️

Nancy Olson

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

The Congregational Care Committee is exploring starting a virtual coffee/social hour. This would be a time to socialize with other members other than after a service.

Interested individuals can contact Dianne Wolf. It is okay to leave a message.

Dianne Wolf

SOCIAL ACTION

A Social Action Committee Meeting was held on October 15, 2020. The meeting was called to discuss Black Lives Matter following the Sunday program on Black Lives UU.

After much discussion, we decided on the following two actions:

Cookie Cart

We discussed the Cookie Cart (<https://cookiecart.org/>) at length. This organization provides job experience and leadership training to disadvantaged teens. The

committee decided to support the organization with a \$100 donation from our discretionary funds. The hospitality committee is also contributing \$100 of coffee money to add to this amount. [Hospitality is transferring a total of \$500 to Social Action since PH is not meeting in person this fiscal year.] We will offer cookie buying to members (see article below).

Signs

We discussed a Black Lives Matter sign at PH. We found a sign at Signs of Justice that includes Black Lives Matter and several other things that Pilgrim House members seem to believe:

<https://www.signsofjustice.com/products/we-believe-yard-sign> (see graphic above). Everyone at the meeting liked this design. Ten signs have been purchased. We will put one at PH, pending board approval, and offer the others to members for a donation to PH (signs cost \$11.50 each). Nancy Olson is willing to deliver signs to members. Contact pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org if you are interested.

Someone mentioned that there is a good article on race in the Sunday StarTribune Op Ed section. [see <https://m.startribune.com/imagine-you-are-a-black-male-teen-in-north-minneapolis/572719461/>]

We discussed the Racism and the Economy series from the Federal Reserve. See <https://growthandjustice.org/news/2020-10/enews-racism-and-the-economy> and <https://www.minneapolisfed.org/events/2020/racism-and-the-economy-series-kickoff-event>.

Ralph Reeder Food Shelf

From a recent email from the food shelf we support:

... From new volunteers and partners, to creative virtual food drives, to generous financial donations with notes of appreciation and kindness, your support has made it possible for our small but mighty team to respond to the increased need for food. These gifts of time and money have been instrumental in allowing us to add people to our team, create a new home delivery program, increase our storage capacity for dry goods and perishable items, and purchase extra food, baby items and cleaning supplies.

So, how are we doing? The answer is – we are doing well! ...

Who likes a good challenge and a match on their donations? Bell Lumber and Pole in New Brighton has challenged all of you to a \$30,000 matching campaign (largest ever) NOW through Dec. 14, 2020. Not just any matching campaign, but one that puts more turkeys on tables AND helps non-profits like ours grow our capacity for years to come. Here's how you can qualify:



New Donors – Are you a first time giver? Your donations are matched.

Increased Giver – Are you giving more than you have in the previous year? Your donations are matched.

Lapsed Donor – Were you unable to make a donation last year but will do so this year? Your donations are matched.

Donations can be made on our website or by mailing to 2544 Mounds View Blvd. Mounds View, MN 55112.

The food shelf is accepting food donations in the donation barrels behind the food shelf M-F 9am to noon.

COOKIE CART

The Social Action committee is encouraging donations to and purchases from Cookie Cart, which provides training and job experience for disadvantaged youth. You can see the cookie selections and make purchases and donations at <https://cookiecart.org/>. If you don't want to pick up the cookies yourself or pay for delivery, Nancy Olson is willing to place orders and pick up the cookies. You can contact Nancy with your order on a Sunday or Monday and give her a check when she brings you your cookies.

PILGRIM HOUSE GREAT DECISIONS

November 5, 7:00pm via Zoom – Climate Change and World Order

Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time. As much of the world bands together to produce a plan, the U.S. remains the notable holdout. What is the rest of the world doing to combat climate change? What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics?

Our speaker will be Professor Richard Leitch, who gave us a great in-person presentation on the Philippines in February.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

We know it might seem early, but we are looking for members, friends, and their children who would like to be part of the Holiday program to contact us. With us doing programs via Zoom it is much different, but we believe we can still put together a Holiday program that can be fellowship driven, family entertaining and still spiritually uplifting, if enough of us join in. Please let Mel Aanerud or Bill Rohde know if you would be willing to help with this program.



MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

We have members with new postal addresses. Updates have been made to the Pilgrim House Directory which can be accessed on our website. Need assistance with locating the directory? Contact Fred Green for assistance.

Kathy Sallee and Charlie Rusnacko now make their home in Richfield. They're staying in touch with Pilgrim House via our newsletter -- and we hope they'll join us on our Sunday morning Zoom programs.

Ken and Kay Steffenson are now homeowners in Newport, living near their grandchildren. We enjoyed greeting them on last Sunday's Zoom program. We're looking forward to a song from Ken at the Pilgrim House 50th Anniversary program, via Zoom, on November 1st.

TO THE EDITOR

We are told that the environment is too big and man can not have enough influence on it to cause the problems and government could not solve those problems anyway.

Actually we have many good examples of the opposite:

Acid rain was caused by emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, which react with the water molecules in the atmosphere to produce acids that damage forests and waters. Lake Erie was all but dead in the 1970's, until people believed what science was telling them and congress passed laws restricting the amount of those chemicals that could be released by power plants and the environment responded. Lake Erie, among other bodies of water have renewed themselves.

Our national symbol the Eagle and other birds were disappearing. Science found it was caused by DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) a chemical very effective at killing off insects and man used it to produce more food. Once the public came to believe science, the government restricted DDT's use and the Eagle has come off the endangered species list.

The ozone layer is a region of Earth's atmosphere that absorbs most of the Sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation. It was depleting and science found it was because of man's use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) widely used in aerosol sprays. Governments restricted it use and the Ozone layer has stabilized and there is some science that says it is fixing itself.

Man can have a negative effect on the environment and government action can help solve the problems. We just need enough people to believe the science and pressure their governments. And we all have to hope we do it in time.

Mel Aanerud