

Pilgrim's Progress

Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1212 W. Highway 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112

Volume 52 Number 9

May/Summer 2022

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

Pilgrim House is open for both in person and Zoom attendance. Our current COVID attendance policy is below.

May 1 - Regenerative Farming Sharing Our Roots - Climate Land Leaders

Moving from an industrial agriculture system that relies heavily on fossil fuel and nitrogen fertilizers to regenerative agriculture practices dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Regenerative agriculture practices also improve soil health, thereby increasing the soil's potential to be the carbon sink we so need. Regenerative agriculture provides a variety of other ecosystem services as well, such as improvements in biodiversity, water quality, reduced flooding and more.



Sarah Hunt is a member of Climate Land Leaders, a network of farmland owners who are making changes in land stewardship to mitigate and adapt to climate change and contribute to more equitable land access for the next generation of farmers. Sarah has a background in music, organizational development, and new business development, and spent the first two years of the pandemic learning to farm on a small-scale organic vegetable farm. Sarah is passionate about growing participation and community ownership within our food systems; the role of food in community and planetary health; and cooperative models that create more just economies.



May 8 - Cookie Cart - director Heather Lockett

Cookie Cart gives Twin Cities teens the opportunity to develop foundational skills and tools to be successful in education and career by combining hands-on work experience, classroom work readiness curriculum, customer service education, leadership training, and financial literacy classes. It is one of Program supported though our Social Action Committee.

May 15 – Guitarist Pat Donohue

Pat Donohue is Minnesota's famous <u>fingerstyle</u> guitarist. He is a <u>Grammy</u> nominated, <u>National Fingerpicking Guitar Champion</u> songwriter. Donohue has several albums to his credit and his songs have been recorded by <u>Chet Atkins</u>, <u>Suzy Bogguss</u>, and <u>Kenny Rogers</u>. He has performed on <u>A Prairie Home Companion</u> for many years and became a member of the house band on the radio program. He and his colleagues in the Guy's All-Star Shoe Band are on-screen throughout much of the film <u>A Prairie Home Companion</u> based on the radio show. Donohue wrote or co-wrote several of the songs on the soundtrack.





May 22 - Political Scandals - Professor Robert Watson

Professor Robert Watson from Lynn University is back by popular demand. Watson is the author and editor of over 40 books on topics in history and politics, and has published hundreds of scholarly articles, book chapters, and essays. Several of his books have won awards and been featured on C-SPAN's Book TV and at major literary festivals.

May 29 - Memorial Day weekend – no program – Summer Programs are described below.

CALENDAR

Thursday, May 5, 7:00pm - Great Decisions via Zoom - No end in sight – a century of drug wars. All are welcome. Contact Bill Rohde. See article below.

Monday, May 9, 7:00pm - Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys.

Tuesday, May 10, 2:00pm – Zoom Coffee Hour. All are welcome. Contact Nancy Olson.

Saturday, May 14, 2:00pm - Celebration of Life for Greg Gross at Pilgrim House and via **Zoom.** Contact Carol Gross.

Wednesday, May 25, 1:30pm - Novel exchange book club meets. The book is *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie. Contact Sharon Borg.

Thursday, May 26, 3:00pm - Book Club meets. The book is *The Last Nomad* by Shugri Said Salh. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Sunday, June 5, 10:15am – Annual Meeting at Pilgrim House and via Zoom. All are welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys. See article and agenda below.

Wednesday, June 22, 1:30pm - Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg. Wednesday, July 27, 1:30pm - Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg. Thursday, July 28, 3:00pm - Book Club

meets at LeBlanc's. The book is *The Rose*Code by Kate Quinn. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Sunday, July 31, 9:00am - Walk for Our Neighbors to support the Community Support Center. All are welcome. Contact Judy Bloom-Martinez. See article below.

Monday, August 8, 7:00pm - Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Sunday, August 21 - Newsletter information is due. Contact Fred Green.

Sunday, August 21, 1:00pm - Sacred Sites Tour in lieu of a program at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Mel Aanerud. See article below.

Wednesday, August 24, 1:30pm - Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg.

Pilgrim House UU Fellowship

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 (leave a message)
Email: pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org
Internet: http://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org

Board Chair: Marcie Jefferys

The Land Acknowledgement

Pilgrim House acknowledges that we gather on the ancestral land(s) of the Dakota People. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have been stewards throughout the generations, including the Ojibwe.

Pilgrim's Progress (Pilgrim House Newsletter)

If you have any items for the newsletter, please contact Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

Thursday, August 25, 3:00pm - Book Club meets. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

PILGRIM HOUSE UPDATES COVID POLICY

Vaccines: We are still asking attendees to be vaccinated, however there will be an exception for children too young to be vaccinated.

Fellowship Room and Nursery: Masks will be optional and there will be no expectation of social distancing in the Fellowship Room and Nursery. We ask that members continue to wear their masks through the rest of the building. Food as well as beverages will be provided in the Fellowship room.

Program Room: We would like to maintain the Program Room as a place that is comfortable for as many of our members as possible. Masking will still be required in the Program Room. Social distancing will still be maintained, and we will still not allow beverages in the Program Room.

PILGRIM HOUSE ANNUAL MEETING

The Pilgrim House Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, June 5. It will be hybrid (in-person and zoom). A Zoom link and agenda will be sent via email closer to the meeting. There will be no program beforehand.

At the Annual Meeting, members will elect the board officers for the upcoming year, vote on the Pilgrim House budget, and have an opportunity to briefly review the past year and discuss goals for the next year. Per the bylaws, a proposed slate of officers will be presented; nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

Contact Marcie Jefferys (chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org) for more information. Please plan to attend!

AGENDA FOR PILGRIM HOUSE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Agenda for Pilgrim House 2022 Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 5, 2022 (zoom and in-person)

- Opening Words
- Approve Agenda for 2022 Annual Meeting
- Approve Minutes from 2021 Annual Meeting
- Chair comments / summary of the year
- Treasurer's Report
- Committee Reports
- Outgoing Chair passes gavel to new Chair
- Board Membership for coming year:
 - Present the slate of officers for Chair Elect, Secretary, Treasurer
 - Nominations from the Floor
 - Vote
 - Present candidates for Standing Committee Chairs (to be approved at next board meeting)
 - Present At-Large candidates (to be approved at next board meeting)
- Nominations for Delegates to UU General Assembly (virtual and Portland OR June 22-26)
- Presentation of Proposed Budget 2022-23
- Motion to Approve the Budget
- Other Business and vote, if needed
- Closing Words

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Sunday, June 5 - Annual Meeting See article at left.

Sunday, June 27, 11:30 am CDT - Livestream the Sunday Morning Program from General Assembly

All are invited to attend this nationwide annual gathering of UUs for an abundance of music and inspirational messages. This Sunday morning program is a highlight of the annual gathering of UUs at General Assembly -- this year being presented in hybrid format from Portland. Save the date; the link will be forthcoming in June. Many of us have enjoyed attending this Sunday morning tradition via livestream in past years -- and we hope you'll be able to join us this year.

July 17 - Swedish Institute - Andrea Justus August 22 - Sacred Sites Tour - Jim Bear Jacobs See article below.

SACRED SITES TOUR – AUGUST 21ST

Jim Bear Jacobs presented a program at Pilgrim House about Indian



Stories and suggested to us that we might do two things 1) not only recognize that we are on ancestral ground of the Dakota people, but also contribute to some organization that is dealing with native peoples. 2) take his Sacred Sites Tour, which might also achieve his first suggestion.

We have scheduled one of his Sacred Sites Tours for August 21 from 1:00 to 5:00. They assured us that there is not an extensive amount of walking as we drive from site to site. The walking is mainly confined to walking from the parking lot to the space where Jim Bear is speaking, mostly flat. The paths are paved and the tour is wheelchair accessible. There are not many places to sit and we suggest that individuals bring portable lawn chairs if they cannot stand for longer periods of time.

The board is making a donation which entitles us to 40 people on the walk. We will need to know how many Pilgrim House people will attend. Somewhere in June, we will open it up to others: Our neighboring Unitarian Universalist congregations and to friends and relatives of our own members.

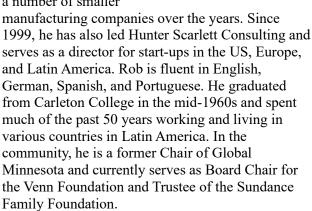
Let Mel Aanerud know your intention.

MAY 5TH GREAT DECISIONS PROGRAM, 7:00PM VIA ZOOM

No End in Sight – A Century of Drug Wars -Have Harsh Drug Control Policies Caused More Harm Than Good? (Topic 6 in your booklets)

The issue of migration to the United States from Latin America has overshadowed the war on drugs, which has been underway for decades with little signs of progress. What are the roots and the bureaucratic logic behind today's dominant drug policies in Latin America? Is it time to reconsider punitive drug policies that disrupt supply chains and punish drug possession?

Our speaker will be one of our favorite presenters, Rob Scarlett, who currently serves as Senior Advisor to Clearwater Biologic, LLC, a bio-remediation business located in Babbitt, Minnesota, and has served as a senior executive in a number of smaller



Current Pilgrim House Great Decisions Participants will receive the program URL via email about two days in advance of the program. Others who would like to participate in or "try out" the program should contact Bill Rohde and you'll be sent the Zoom program URL when it's available.

SOCIAL ACTION

Ralph Reeder Food Shelf/Minnesota Foodshare

We collected 76 pounds of food and \$100 in donations for MN FoodShare month.

Community Support Center Walk for Our Neighbors - Sunday July 31, 2022

9am-1pm at Silverview Park

4 volunteers are needed to help at the Pilgrim House station, cheering the walkers on!

Dogs are being counted this year!

Free hotdogs after the walk.

Al Potter has the record of 8 times around! Can you beat him?

More information to follow

Questions: Contact Judy Bloom Martinez

Cookie Cart

Check out the cookie choices, as well as special packaging for your cookies at https://cookiecart.org/.

Concerned about the War in the Ukraine?

You can see more information and donate to help at https://www.uusc.org/ukraine/.

A big thank you to Nancy Olson for providing the table decorations of sunflowers in the fellowship hall and in the program room on the chalice table to commemorate the people of the Ukraine.

LIBRARY CORNER:

New books in the library:

Fawn Island by Douglas Wood - speaker at PH on April 10, 2022

Books donated by Karen and David Conradi Jones:

Freedom Moves West - Story of the growth of Unitarianism from long established positions to more challenging theological positions, expanding the definition of what it means to be Unitarian

New England Worships - Drawing of Churches and Temples with accompanying text

Poems - Measuring My Days - short poems written by a woman diagnosed with cancer - expressing human emotions - "people who love life the most have the least fear of death"

Facing Cancer - Mind, body and Faith connections **Ambiguous Loss** - Learning to live with Unresolved grief

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Our board was pleased to receive New Member cards at the April board meeting. Joining Pilgrim House as new members are:

Marilyn Jones: Marilyn lives in Roseville. She first began visiting Pilgrim House last fall when our building reopened from the COVID-precautionary closing. We've enjoyed getting to know Marilyn while she continued attending our Sunday programs through in-person and Zoom programs and participating in Great Decisions and recently Zoom Coffee hour. We were delighted when Marilyn signed her Membership Card in April.

Jocelyn Sweet: Jocelyn has been living "just around the corner from Pilgrim House" and had often meant to visit us. During our building closure for COVID precautions, Jocelyn finally decided to check out our Sunday programs -- on Zoom. We've enjoyed staying in touch the past year-and-a-half through several Sunday Zoom programs. When our building reopened in March, Jocelyn came to visit in-person. She signed a Membership Card in April, and we're happy to welcome this neighbor as a Member of Pilgrim House.

We welcome these new members; and we look forward to helping our congregation get to know them better and engage them in our activities. Be sure to introduce yourself!

Mel and Kathy Aanerud Membership Committee

FELLOWSHIP TIME AT SUNDAY PROGRAMS

Thank you, volunteers!

We're enjoying welcoming so many of you back in-person for Sunday programs -- and to enjoy coffee, beverages and some light treats together following the program. Thank you volunteers for filling in the sign-up sheet in our entryway. We welcome your assistance to:

- Arrive early to start the coffee, fill ice water pitchers, and set-up the simple treats we have on hand, <u>OR</u>
- As fellowship time winds down, lead the clean-up to get the coffee urns emptied, dishwashers loaded, and bag up trash and recycles.

If you're new to these activities, we'll always have an experienced volunteer teamed up with you!

Nancy Olson and Kathy Aanerud Sunday Hospitality Committee

P.S. Coffee is usually ready by 10 am -- so c'mon in to Pilgrim House a little early to enjoy a beverage and conversation in the fellowship room before the program.

RAMADAN DINNER

On April 21 Seven people from Pilgrim House attended Ramadan at the Blaine Masjid Temple – They were Mel and Kathy Aanerud, Lollie Jensen, Harlene H



Aanerud, Lollie Jensen, Harlene Hagen, Erin Raymond, Nancy Olson and Dianne Wolf. The Imam and young people from the temple made a presentation; we observed prayer and had a meal with them after sunset and the end of their fast for the day.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR Our Next Virtual Coffee Hour is Tuesday, May 10, 2:00-3:00 on Zoom

Take a break and join us for a one-hour get-together. The conversation flows easily between participants. Signs of spring, your recent accomplishments, memories, movies, opportunities for learning, and more. We enjoy being joined by those who are out-of-state as well as catching up with those in the Pilgrim House neighborhood. Watch for an email with the Zoom link a couple of days in advance of our gathering.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- THE ANNUAL MEETING OF OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION (UUA)

It's multi-platform this year!

Save the date: June 22-26

Where: Portland Oregon -- <u>or</u> virtually from the comfort of your home

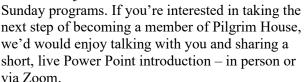
Gather with Unitarian Universalists from across the country. A wide array of workshops, music, keynote speakers, discussions, and business meetings to act on decisions affecting our association.

Open to all! The virtual option makes attending more affordable without travel and lodging expenses. Pilgrim House reimburses the registration fee for our two voting delegates. More event info here: www.uua.org/ga.

Questions related to Pilgrim House? Contact Mel and Kathy Aanerud/Membership Committee membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME HERE!

We enjoy the visitors and friends who join us for



Kathy & Mel Aanerud

Membership Committee

membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org

