

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

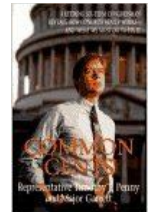
October 2 – Touchstones of Unitarian Universalism – Andrea Johnson

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.

October 9 – *Common Cents: A Retiring Six Term Congressman Reveals How Congress Really Works and What We Need to do to Fix It* with author and Former Congressman Tim Penny

Drawing on twelve years of experience in Congress, Former Congressman Penny tries to explain what is wrong and how to fix it. This former congressman from Minnesota reveals, “the hypocrisy, double-dealing, and power plays that have rendered Congress impotent”.



October 16 – A Brief Historical Introduction to the Catholic Church with an Eye to the Contemporary Scene with Professor Billy Junker of the University of Saint Thomas

This program is as part of our shared program with the youth group's religious education series on neighboring faiths.

October 23 – United Nations Day

A representative of the Minnesota Chapter of the United Nations Association will provide a brief history of the United Nations and discuss its relevance today. This program affirms the Unitarian Universalist's commitment to our sixth principle, we covenant to affirm and promote *the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.*



October 30 – Where are They Now

This program will be presented by Emma Stout, who was an active member of the Pilgrim House youth group during her high school years and is a graduate of Macalester College. She will share her employment experiences at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis as a Youth Program Assistant and Coming of Age Program Assistant. Emma will also share her experiences as one of our delegates to the General Assembly in Columbus Ohio this summer and experiences growing up Unitarian Universalist.

November 6 – The Jewish faith: its History, its Positions of Faith, and How it Still Relates to Today's Society

This program will be presented by Rabbi Shosh Susan Dworsky. This program is as part of our shared program with the youth group's religious education series on neighboring faiths.



CALENDAR

Thursday, October 6, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House – Shifting Alliances in the Middle East with Tom Hanson. All are welcome. See article below. Contact Al Potter.

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

Thursday, October 13, 7:00pm – Board Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Carol Green.

Saturday, October 15, 6:00pm – Pilgrim House Night Out Dinner in members homes. Contact Mary Eskelson.

Sunday, October 16, 11:50 am – Sunday Stories at Pilgrim House – Greg Gross. All are welcome. Contact Gary Borg.

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.

Saturday, October 22, 6:00pm – Pilgrim House Night Out Dinner in members homes. Contact Mary Eskelson.

Sunday, October 23, noon – Connections Committee meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Thursday, October 27, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at Judy Potter's. The book is *Red Notice* by Bill Browder.

Saturday, November 5, 6:00pm – Harvest Fest, Potluck Supper and Country Dance, at Pilgrim House, with live music by Ken Steffenson and Bob and Lynn Dixon. All are welcome. Contact Kathy Aanerud. See article below.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

Our preschool program will focus on the 7 Unitarian Universalist principles. Jakob is planning the curriculum and welcomes inputs and volunteers! Preschool children and interested youth will participate in the annual costume parade / nursing home visit on October 30. We will need additional drivers/chaperons for this event, so please consider volunteering.

The youth will experience services at two outside religious communities in October, pending scheduling. Throughout the year, we will attempt to plan visits that coordinate with the PH Sunday programs that share the Neighboring Faiths theme.

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, October 23 (always the next to the last Sunday). Emails will be sent during the summer about events.

Thanks to all who participated in the annual school supplies drive! The youth prepared about 10 backpacks of supplies for the children of Alexandra House. Additional thanks to Carol Green for facilitating the event and delivering the supplies.

Katrina Edenfeld & Ben Chiri, RE Co-chairs

UUA COMMON READ DISCUSSION OCTOBER 20

Every year the UUA has a common read suggestion for members and this year it is *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. The author is the founder of the Equal Justice Initiative and has dedicated his legal career to defending those who are trapped by an often capricious, political, and willfully unjust criminal justice system – poor people, people of color, children, and others over whom the system has run roughshod. It speaks to justice, mercy, and compassion, themes of concern to us as Unitarian Universalists and as human beings.

We would like to invite you to a discussion of this book on Thursday October 20, 2016 at 7:00 at Pilgrim House. We anticipate discussion taking place for 1 to 1.5 hours and will serve some light refreshments. Depending on the number of participants we will probably break up into groups of 6-8 to talk about the book.

The book is owned by the public libraries in several formats (book, e-book, audio) but may be on a waiting list. It is a \$16.00 trade paperback (\$10.87 on Prime) and is also available as a Kindle book.

We look forward to having others join this discussion. It is an excellent book and very readable.

TED Talk by author bryan_stevenson:

https://www.ted.com/talks/bryan_stevenson_we_need_to_talk_about_an_injustice#t-609156

Charlie Rose interview 8/22/2016:

<https://charlierose.com/videos/28726>

If there are any questions please contact Cynthia LeBlanc or Sharon Borg.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HARVEST FEST AT PILGRIM HOUSE – SATURDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 5

It's a Pilgrim House tradition! We'll start with a Harvest Fest potluck supper at 6:00 pm featuring your favorite fall dishes and beverages. Then the meeting room will become our dance hall for a country dance featuring Ken Steffenson, Bob and Lynn Dixon, and a dance caller.

You can dance, visit, or just enjoy the music. No admission charged, but donations accepted – it's a connecting time for all ages – members, families, friends, and community. Co-chairs are Kathy Aanerud and Kutluhan Erol. Let them know if you'd like to help with the event.

A sign-up sheet will be available in mid-October for your food choice, number attending, and other volunteer spots. Sign-ups will be helpful for planning the event – but not "required"!

ANNUAL WINTER CLOTHING COLLECTION

Bring your items to Pilgrim House until 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.

GREAT DECISIONS

October 6 – Shifting Alliances in the Middle East

We are fortunate to have Tom Hanson as our speaker this time – he is not to be missed! The topic is Shifting Alliances in the Middle East.

From a proxy war in Yemen to an ongoing civil war in Syria, a number of conflicts have shaken the traditional alignments in the Middle East to their core. As alliances between state and non-state actors in the region are constantly shifting, the U.S. has found itself between a rock and a hard place. In a series of disputes that are far from being black-and-white, what can the U.S. do to secure its interests in the region without causing further damage and disruption?

Speaker Tom Hanson is a foreign policy consultant and a former career U.S. Foreign Service Officer. During his career with the U.S. Foreign Service, his postings included East Germany, France, Norway, the Soviet Union, Sweden and the former Soviet Republic of Georgia. He also participated in the opening of new U.S. Embassies in Mongolia and Estonia. He worked on the foreign relations committees of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and served as Director for NATO and European Affairs at the Atlantic Council of the United States in Washington, D.C.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONVOCATION 2016 – BEYOND BOUNDARIES: CONTROVERSIES, FRONTIERS, AND GROWTH IN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

Join us in the Twin Cities for a rich gathering of ministers, scholars, students, and all others who cherish the history, heritage, and future of Unitarian Universalism.

During the 2016 Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Studies, participants will present papers, panels/workshops, performances, exhibits/posters, as well as an award-winning sermon and hymn. October 27 – 30, 2016, Minneapolis / St. Paul At the Airport Hilton, Bloomington, Minnesota

Together we will explore a variety of questions related to the theme: Beyond Boundaries.

For more information and to register by October 15, go to <http://uuconvo.org/>.

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October 30 – Where are They Now with Emma Stout

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Pilgrim House Newsletter

1212 W. Hwy 96

Arden Hills, MN 55112

