

## Pilgrim's Progress

### Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1212 W. Highway 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112

Volume 48 Number 2 October 2017

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

### October 1 – Pastoral Care from a UU Perspective

Unitarians and Universalists are known for their commitment and participation in historic movements calling for justice, equality, dignity and compassion for persons who are oppressed and marginalized in our society. At the same time we, as UU's, have not always been as committed to giving that same care and compassion to ourselves or others struggling within our faith communities. How did this paradox become part of our culture? How can we practice being pastoral with each other? We'll look at pastoral themes universal to the human condition, using language and practices that are caring and welcoming, thus, breaking out the cultural paradox so as to be the fully inclusive, beloved communities we strive and claim to be.

Stephanie McCullough-Cain is currently a candidate for UU Ministry. She is a recent graduate of United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities (2016) graduating with a Master's of Divinity with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling. Stephanie recently began a year-long Chaplain Residency at Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, MN. She lives with her husband of 22 years, Joe Cain, and they have a daughter, (Ashlyn) attending the University of Minnesota, Duluth.



### October 8 – Early Christianity up to 326 AD

A Meeting of the Minds interview with James the Just, brother of Jesus, Paul of Tarsus, the letter writer, Origen, an early Christian theologian, Arius, the Unitarian scholar and Pope Alexander, who negotiated Christianity as the official religion of the Roman empire.

### October 15 – Unitarian Universalism and White Supremacy

Last spring, the UUA urged all congregations to hold teach-ins on white supremacy. The immediate reason was a controversial hiring decision at the national organization. However, many felt that this event was just the latest in a series of actions in which the UUA, like other mainly white-led institutions, took actions that, however justifiable at the micro scale, add up to the preservation of structures that have discriminatory impacts. This PH program will discuss how this can happen: how with the best of intentions, our actions can have effects that are contrary to our deeply held values, and which contribute to continuing larger-scale patterns that preserve racial disparities.

### October 22 – Minnesota Politics in the Age of Trump – Lori Sturdevant

Lori Sturdevant is a columnist for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. She will leave considerable time for questions.

### October 29 – A Fish in the Tree

Pilgrim House member, John Landretti, will share with us his essay entitled, "A Fish in the Tree". This piece was published in the March, 2017, Orion magazine. In this essay, John explores the relationships one can make with spiritual symbols that show up in the world around us.

### November 5 – Dennis Jones

Dennis Jones taught the Ojibwe language and Ojibwe History and Culture at the University of Minnesota for twenty years until he retired in 2015. He is a fourth degree member in the Midewiwin Lodge which is the highest level of Ojibwe Priesthood. He spoke at Pilgrim House last April.

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### CALENDAR

Thursday, September 28, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at the Borgs'. The book is a UUA Common Read, *The Third Reconstruction* by Dr. William Barber. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc. See article below.

Saturday, September 30 from 8-11am – Alexandra House Walk for Hope. All are welcome. Contact Fred Green. See article below.

Thursday, October 5, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House – Tom Hanson on Conflict in the South China Sea. See article below. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter.

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

Sunday, October 15 – Last day to bring items to Pilgrim House for the Social Concerns Network Winter Clothing Collection. Contact Mary Carlson. See article below.

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

Thursday, October 26, 5:30pm – Book Club meets at the Rohde's. The book is *Song Poet: A Memoir of My Father* by Kao Kalia Yang (the author will be speaking at Pilgrim House in November). Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Saturday, October 28 and November 11 – Night Out Suppers. All are welcome to sign up. See article below.

Saturday, November 4, 6:00pm – Harvest Fest at Pilgrim House -- Potluck supper at 6:00pm; barn dance at 7:00 with live music and a dance caller. Family-friendly event! Contact: Kathy Aanerud. See article below.

# CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

The children's religious education is collecting school supplies for Alexandra House, a shelter for battered women and their children. The youth will sort the supplies on Sunday, September 24. Supplies for all grades, including backpacks, are welcome until that date.

The Sunday Seekers and youth participated in our annual water communion on Sunday, September 10. We resumed classes on September 17. Kristin Luke will lead the Sunday Seekers through the Wonderful Welcome curriculum this term:

http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/welcome.

For the youth class, Ben and Katrina will combine material from several UUA curricula and pursue a variety of resources for learning, including the upstairs programs and visits to other congregations. If you have

### **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: <a href="http://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org">http://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org</a>

**Board Chair:** Dick Shelton

### **Pilgrim's Progress**

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

Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

a topic that you would like to share, please let us know – we welcome visitors!

For both classes, we need a list of volunteer substitutes. Please contact Katrina, Ben, or Kristin if you would be willing to be a sub.

### BOOK CLUB: THE UUA "COMMON READ"

The PH book discussion is open to all in September. We will be discussing the current UUA "Common Read," chosen for its timeliness and applicability to UU principles. It is *The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement* by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, the leader of the "Moral Mondays" that have so effectively challenged the regressive actions of the North Carolina legislature in the past several years. Like Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. Barber comes from a deeply Christian background but has used the progressive moral vision of that background to build a far larger coalition of people from many different perspectives to work together towards a more just society.

The book discussion will be Thursday evening, September 28, at the Borgs. Please come for an invigorating conversation.

# GREAT DECISIONS OCTOBER 5 – THE SOUTH CHINA SEA – TOM HANSON

### 7:00pm at Pilgrim House

The South China Sea is a locus of competing territorial claims, and China its most vocal claimant. Beijing's interest has intensified disputes with other countries in the region in recent years, especially since China has increased its naval presence. Despite rising international

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pressure, including an unfavorable ruling by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, China staunchly defends its policies in the region. Preventing tensions from boiling over is a matter of careful diplomacy.

Our speaker will be Tom Hanson, a foreign policy consultant and a former career U.S. Foreign Service Officer. Currently, he serves as program secretary of the St. Paul-Minneapolis Committee on Foreign Relations, advisor to Global Minnesota's Great Decisions program, and Diplomat in Residence at the University of Minnesota –Duluth. Tom is a frequent speaker at Pilgrim House, and you won't want to miss this one.

### ALEXANDRA HOUSE WALK FOR HOPE

Again this year, Pilgrim House is supporting the Alexandra House Walk for Hope on Saturday, September 30 from 8-11am. Alexandra House is a shelter for abused and battered women that Pilgrim House has supported for several years.

Be sure to sign up for team Pilgrim House! Online registration is available at

https://www.alexandrahouse.org/get-involved/events/walk-for-hope/

Event Schedule: 8:00am – Registration, 9:00am – Event

 $Kick\text{-}off,\,9\text{:}30am-Run/Walk\ begins$ 

Bunker Hills Regional Park, Picnic Pavilion #3

Registration: Adults: \$40, Kids (11-18): \$15, Kids 10 &

under are FREE!

Online registration is open until Wednesday, Sept. 27 at midnight. Same day registration will be available.

### WINTER CLOTHING COLLECTION

Pilgrim House is again participating in the Social Concerns Network Winter Clothing Collection continues until October 15, 2017. Bring your donations to Pilgrim House during the collection.

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.

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. Distributing the clothing:

- Last year we collected 775 coats.
- We've given over 10,000 coats in our history.

Distribution is October 21, 2017, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church,

1900 7th St NW, New Brighton.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

### HARVEST FEST

### Saturday evening, November 4 –

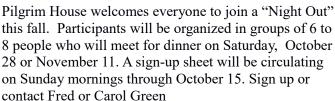
That's the date for a potluck supper and barn dance at Pilgrim House. Fun for all ages. Live music will be provided by Ken Steffenson and his musical friends Bob and Lynn Dixon. A dance caller will provide instructions for all to join in easy-to-learn circle dancing – or simply sit back and enjoy some great music.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us. No admission charge -- but instead let's fill a bountiful basket of items for the Ralph Reeder food shelf.

### PILGRIM HOUSE NIGHT OUT

October 28 and November 11

# Formerly known as "Circle Suppers"



(pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org), indicating your preference for a date (or check both and let Carol and Fred choose for you) and whether you can be a host. If you are able to host, also indicate whether the maximum size for your group (including you) should be 6 or 8 people. Those who host will provide the main course and beverages and will coordinate plans for other items on the menu. If you would like to include children in your dinner, please indicate, and we will try to put you in a group with others who would like to include children. Otherwise, dinners will be adult only. Dinners may be held in your home or at Pilgrim House (host's choice).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

We need a coordinator coordinator for Harvest Fest on November 4 (see the above article). Contact Kathy Aanerud for more information.



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October 29 - A Fish in the Tree

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