

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

**February 3 – Love-Letters to the World: Writing Effective Letters-to-the-Editor – Lisa Wersal** – It's been six years since Lisa's previous PH program on writing letters to the editor, and she's back with updates to encourage our participation in the conversations of the opinion pages. This program will take a fresh look, and emphasize different aspects of letter-writing than last time. Come get recharged and contribute your voice to help shape social discourse!

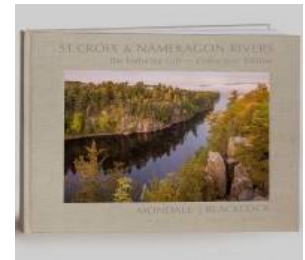


### February 10 – Jeannette Rankin first U. S. Women member of Congress

Presented by J Emily Peabody. Jeannette Pickering Rankin was an American politician and women's rights advocate, and the first woman to hold federal office in the United States. She was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives by the state of Montana in 1916, and again in 1940. She remains the only woman elected to Congress from Montana. She was elected before the women's right to vote amendment.

### February 17 – St. Croix & Namekagon Rivers — The Enduring Gift, by Craig Blacklock

Journey down these incredible rivers through videos with original music by Stillwater singer/songwriter, Peter Mayer. This book, with a foreword by Vice President, Walter F. Mondale, celebrates the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, co-sponsored by then-senator Mondale. Craig Blacklock is one of the country's most distinguished nature photographer, widely published with 18 books, and the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2018 George Morrison Award. Craig has been sharing this program with standing-room-only crowds throughout the watershed. He will have books available for purchase at the program. More information at <https://stcroixphotography.com/>



### February 24 – Ralph Reeder Food Shelf

Lisa Baker is the Program Manager of the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Get an in depth look into the mission of the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf and the programs and services they provide to meet the growing needs of our food insecure neighbors. Discuss the changing face of hunger, the need for greater awareness, and the opportunity that each of us has to make a real difference.

### March 3 – When Republicans Were Progressive by David Durenberger and Lori Sturdevant

Lori is back at Pilgrim House with her new book co-written with former Senator David Durenberger.



## CALENDAR

**Sunday, February 3, 11:30am – Soup Sunday – Join us for soup following the program.** All are welcome. Bring items for the food shelf donation area and/or sign up for soup, both in the entryway. All are welcome. Contact Fred Green for Foodshelf, Bob Treumann for Soup Sunday.

**Thursday, February 7, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House – The Rise of Populism in Europe.** All are welcome. Contact Al Potter. See article below.

**Monday, February 11, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House Board meeting at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Michelle Gardner.

**Tuesday, February 12, 10:00am – Knitting and Craft group is meeting at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Mary Ryan.

**Saturday, February 16, 7:00pm – Game Night at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Curt Corum.

**Sunday, February 17 – Newsletter information due.** Contact Fred Green.

**Sunday, February 17, 12:00pm – Sunday Stories at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Gary Borg.

**Wednesday, February 27, 1:30pm – Novel Exchange book club meets at the Shoreview library.** The book to be discussed is *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. Contact Sharon Borg for more information.

**Thursday, February 28, 4:00pm – Book Club meets at Joyce's.** The book is *Endurance: A Year in Space, A Lifetime of Discovery* by Scott Kelly. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

**Sunday, March 10, noon – Auction at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers. See article below.

## ANNUAL PILGRIM HOUSE AUCTION

The Pilgrim House (PH) auction is scheduled for Sunday, March 10.

The auction, held each year at Pilgrim House, accounts for the largest single influx of dollars after the pledges by individual members.

We need items to be donated to auction – There is a signup sheet at PH. Or you can send your information (include a photo, if appropriate) to Fred Green.

Current items can be viewed on the Auction page of the PH website. A user id is required to view the auction page – any valid PH user id will work – contact Fred Green if you have questions.

The best items generally are services or homemade – babysitting, tours, making furniture, dinners in your home, baked items, performances, and crafts. If you have other things about the house that still have value,

## 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:** Michelle Gardner

### Pilgrim's Progress (Pilgrim House Newsletter)

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

Fred Green

[newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org](mailto:newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org)

they may have value to someone at the auction. There will be a table of "buy it now" items on auction day.

Items may be brought to Pilgrim House on Sundays prior to the auction, or on Saturday, March 9th between 10:00 am and 1 pm.

Auction volunteers are also needed – contact Les Rogers or sign up at PH if you are interested.

This year the auction is not on Soup Sunday – but a lunch menu will be planned.

If you have any questions about the auction, please contact Les Rogers.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

## NEW MEMBERS AT PILGRIM HOUSE

We're pleased to share with you that we have three new members this month:

**Welcome to Judy Bloom-Martinez** -- Judy has been an active Friend of Pilgrim House since first visiting a couple of years ago with husband Carlos Martinez. We're happy to welcome Judy to the membership roster, and to continue our association with Carlos. Judy and Carlos live in Shoreview.

**Welcome to Barb and Steve Camp** -- Barb and Steve are parents of Pilgrim House member Shannon Zobitz. We've enjoyed their visits to Pilgrim House with Shannon and John, and we're delighted to have them as members. Barb and Steve live in Anoka, but are currently enjoying a winter break from Minnesota weather.

We'll look forward to sharing more about these new members with you during a New Member Welcome program in late winter/early spring where we will also include new members from June, Glennie Gillean of Ham Lake and Ruth and Ray Kreps of Arden Hills (see September newsletter).

### **Interested in Pilgrim House Membership?**

Membership in Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is open to all who want to support and share in the life and programs of Pilgrim House. If you haven't yet been offered a Membership Card, or have one and want some additional information let us know. We'd be happy to schedule an Orientation/Introduction to Pilgrim House with you. This information session runs about an hour and includes lots of time for your questions and clarifications.

Kathy and Mel Aanerud  
Membership Committee  
[membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org](mailto:membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org)

### **PILGRIM HOUSE LIBRARY**

The board has approved a library for Pilgrim House. The library will be located in the office next to the nursery.

At this time we are not accepting any books. An email will be sent out at a later date with information as what type of books and how many we will need. We are excited to start this new lending library which will serve all of us at PH.

Please contact Mary Ryan or Judy Bloom-Martinez with any questions

### **SOCIAL ACTION**

#### **Food Shelf**

Twenty-four lbs of food from Soup Sunday were donated to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf in January! Pilgrim House is having a Sunday program on the food shelf on February 24. See the front page for details.

### **SING FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS**

Sing for Your Neighbors is an event to support the Community Support Center (CSC – Pilgrim House is represented on their board):

January 27, 2019, 2pm

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

8211 Red Oak Drive in Mounds View

Free Admission

Come hear choirs and musicians from community churches (*including Pilgrim House!*). With a donation to the CSC you can take home some homemade soup or get a chance to win a door prize from the world of arts. The grand prize will be two tickets to a MN Orchestra Hall concert.

Come and enjoy the gathering to benefit the CSC.

### **SUNDAY STORIES**

#### **Looking for Story Tellers!**

Sunday Stories have become a popular way for our congregation to get to know each other. Ruth Kreps told her story January 20. We enjoy hearing the stories of people new to PH as well as those who have been here for years.

Available dates are 2/17, 3/17, 4/21 and 5/19.

Contact Les Rogers if you are just inquiring about telling your story or if you are ready to signup. We can assist you in coming up with ideas. We take care of all chair setup and will introduce you.

### **GREAT DECISIONS**

#### **February 7 – The Rise of Populism in Europe**

Mass migration, and the problems associated with it, have directly abetted the rise of populist parties in Europe. Opposition to immigration was the prime driver of support for Brexit, it brought a far-right party to the German Bundestag for the first time since the 1950s, and propelled Marine Le Pen to win a third of the vote in the French presidential election. In addition to calling for stronger borders, however, these parties are invariably illiberal, anti-American, anti-NATO and pro-Kremlin, making their rise a matter of serious concern for the national security interests of the United States.

Our speaker is Christa Tiefenbacher-Hudson A native of Germany, Christa is a founding member of the German American Chamber of Commerce Midwest, Minnesota Chapter, and served as the Chamber's president from 2000 to 2004, as vice president from 2010 to 2016, and is now an honorary director. From March 2010 until May 2016, Christa held the post of honorary consul of the Federal Republic of Germany in Minneapolis, with a consular district that encompassed Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Western Wisconsin. In September 2018, Christa was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for her contributions to enhancing Germany's standing abroad and its relations with the United States in economic, cultural, political and social matters.

### **JRLC DAY ON THE HILL**

Guided by a vision of the common good as reflected in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions, JRLC (Joint Religious Legislative Coalition) mobilizes religious communities to influence public policy for social justice in Minnesota. Day on the Hill — February 7, 2019 see <https://jrlc.org/2019-legislative-session>.

Issues are many the same as a year ago, so they are not obviously supported even by a majority:

1. Increase MFIP for low income families that has not be increased since 1986
2. Increase funding for Family with Children Assistance Program
3. Allow courts discretion in imposing fines on the poor
4. Education assistance to poor families
5. Improve tax credits for low income working families

If you are interested in attending contact Mel Aanerud.

## DELPHI CONCERT

Saturday, March 16, 2019 – 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Annual Dephi Quartet Concert

Event Contact: Bruce Van Bronkhorst

Place: Sanctuary at Michael Servetus

No Childcare Provided

## SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

**Thank you to our small but industrious committee** who have your coffee and other beverages ready on Sunday mornings, oversee serving and cleanup, and in many cases bring personal treats to supplement the on-hand cookies – Susan Setter, Judy Rohde, Bobbi Freeman, Mary Eskelson, and Allan & Gloria Carstens, plus assistance from James Cadwell. All happening without the passing of a clipboard!



**And we thank those others who bring treats to share** - which we try to note on the serving table easel, but sometimes the treat arrivals just sneak right onto the table.

**If you'd like to join us in the coffee-making rotation**, let Nancy know some preferred dates and she will be get you on the schedule. Also, if an individual or group would like to schedule an alternative treat to the on-hand cookies, let Nancy know. Honor a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion -- or just share a favorite food for about 40 friends.

**Help with clean-up is always appreciated** -- round up coffee cups, load the dishwashers, tote the coffee urns into the kitchen to empty, wipe the tables -- or grab the recycling or garbage bags to take home (we don't have recycling or garbage pick-up at Pilgrim House).

*Cheers from your Sunday Hospitality Co-Chairs--  
Nancy Olson and Kathy Aanerud*

## ALEXANDRA HOUSE RECOGNIZES CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOLIDAY SHOP

*The Alexandra House Newsletter included the following article. Pilgrim House contributed \$525 in gift cards and many other gifts to the Holiday Shop.*

Alexandra House held its 2018 Holiday Shop in December. Over the course of a few days, nearly 60 families, all former and current clients, were able to “shop” for holiday gifts. Parents who participated in the program selected two to three specific gifts or toys for their children, along with family games, stocking stuffers, and winter gear. Nearly 150 children received a wide variety of fantastic gifts donated by our amazing supporters.

Alexandra House staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to make sure this year's shop was a success, and all were more than happy to contribute their time and talents. Executive Director Connie Moore put it best: “The holidays are a particularly difficult time for folks who are trying to put their lives back together, so our being able to help bring some hope and dignity back into their lives at this time is a privilege and an honor.”

Our Thanks to You!

Thank you to all of our supporters who donated items to our Holiday Shop and to those who volunteered their time to work it! Contributions to the Holiday Shop came in the form of monetary donations, as well as the donation of toys or other physical items that were given away.

## HELLO FROM YOUR MIDAMERICA YOUNG ADULT STEERING COMMITTEE!

We have been working hard and are proud to announce SpringCon 2019: TransCONTinental will be held March 29-31 at the Unitarian Church of Evanston in Evanston Illinois! As well as being a hub for worshipful connection and rejuvenation, the weekend will be themed around celebrating International Transgender Day of Visibility and focusing on how we can promote Trans rights and transformative justice.

Folks interested in learning more can visit the Facebook event page or our Registration page, or contact Elliot Sepos at [Elliot.Sepos@gmail.com](mailto:Elliot.Sepos@gmail.com) or Miki Harris at [mikijane11@gmail.com](mailto:mikijane11@gmail.com).

Facebook Event Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1362761620531878/>

Registration Page:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4qTzbYZkRzG1vEIQlImq6MmGMnxg8whdtLjQB7QLSVrosMg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4qTzbYZkRzG1vEIQlImq6MmGMnxg8whdtLjQB7QLSVrosMg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

*It is no secret we are living in ‘interesting times’ and many of us are seeking to make sense of a much faster and more complex world. And we are shaken by relentless change and a future which looks more uncertain than ever. I am also reminded that for many on this planet life continues to be one of illness, poverty, inequality, injustice and loneliness. Lorenna McKennitt*