

Pilgrim's Progress

Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1212 W. Highway 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112

Volume 52 Number 5 January 2022

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

Pilgrim House is open for in-person programs. To participate at Pilgrim House, you must be vaccinated and wear a mask. There will be no food; drinks are permitted only in the fellowship hall; singing is permitted while masked. Facilitators, musicians, and presenters may opt not to wear a mask. Programs will continue to be offered via Zoom. The Zoom link for these programs will be sent to Pilgrim House members, friends, and others who have requested the link.

January 2 – Your Favorite Photo – Awe and Wonder

This years' Favorite Photo program has a theme – Awe and Wonder! Our members will tell us about their experience with feelings of awe and wonder, with the help of photographs.





January 9 - Jim Bear Jacobs

Jim Bear Jacobs is a member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation, an American Indian tribe located in central Wisconsin. He has degrees in Pastoral Studies and Christian Theology and has served various churches as youth minister, adult Christian educator, and director of Men's Ministries. Presently, he is Program Director for Racial Justice for the Minnesota Council of Churches. He is a cultural facilitator in the Twin Cities and works to raise the public's

awareness of American Indian causes and injustices. He is founder of "Healing Minnesota Stories," an initiative dedicated to creating events of dialogue, education, and healing, particularly within faith communities.

January 16 - Peter Mayer Concert

Peter Mayer is a guitarist, vocalist, songwriter, touring musician and recording artist. With his unique writing style, distinctive voice and virtuoso musicianship, Mayer creates compelling and soulful music. Mayer has released 25 albums to date and tours year-round with the Peter Mayer Group and has shared the stage with Jimmy Buffett: James Taylor, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Don Henley, Dave Matthews, Joe Walsh, and many others. His "Blue Boat Home" has become a part of the Pilgrim House and UUA music itinerary.





January 23 - Islam

Presented by John Emery who is the executive director of the Islamic Resource Group John served 9 years in the US army as a translator for the Arabic Language where he worked in North Africa, the Persian Gulf and other areas. John converted to Islam in 2004. He will speak on the basics of Islam and the difficulties Muslims face here in the US and other areas in the world. He will be open for questions and discussion.

January 30 - Cookie Cart

Cookie Cart provides teenagers "with lasting and meaningful work, life and leadership skills through employment and training in urban nonprofit bakeries." See <u>cookiecart.org</u>. Pilgrim House has supported Cookie Cart with donations and purchases of cookies. The speaker will discuss what this organization does.



CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 4, 2:00pm – Zoom Coffee Hour. All are welcome. Contact Nancy Olson.

Monday, January 10, 7:00pm - Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys.

Tuesday, January 18, 2:00pm – Zoom Coffee Hour. All are welcome. Contact Nancy Olson.

Sunday, January 23 – Newsletter items are due. Contact Fred Green.

Wednesday, January 26, 1:30pm - Novel exchange book club meets via Zoom. The book is *Bridge of Clay* by Markus Zusak. Contact Sharon Borg.

Thursday, January 27, 3:00pm - Book Club meets via Zoom. The book is *Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Happy New Year! Hoping everyone is keeping safe and warm. Be sure to join our Zoom Coffee Hour on January 4th and 18th at 2pm. It is a great time to catch up with PH friends safely without venturing out in the cold. Feel free to join or leave at any time during the hour.

GREGORY GROSS

Our Pilgrim House family is so saddened with the passing of Greg Gross on November 27, 2021 at age 75. He was respected and loved by all.

Gregory Scott Gross passed away on November 27, 2021, at age 75. Greg was born in St. Paul, MN, and grew up in Roseville. He was married to Carol Lien on January 17, 1970 by Rev. Richard Otten at St. Michaels Lutheran Church in Roseville, and became a founding member of Pilgrim House later that year. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry, and a Master's in Environmental Engineering from the University of Minnesota, and spent his career working for the EPA, in private consulting and for the MN Pollution Control Agency. Greg was an avid reader with a vast knowledge of many subjects and enjoyed a good discussion about almost any topic. He also enjoyed his family, family history and genealogy, music, dancing, skiing and camping. He kept extensive journals and wrote a biography about his father, George Gross. He

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

Board Chair: Marcie Jefferys

Pilgrim's Progress (Pilgrim House Newsletter) If you have any items for the newsletter, please contact Fred Green

newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org

volunteered for the MPCA Citizen Water Monitoring of Turtle Lake and Rice Creek for 27 years, coached soccer for the North Suburban Soccer Association while his son Kris was involved in the organization and wrote numerous editorials for local newspapers. He was also a devoted grandfather to his grandson Jakob Stuhl, and enjoyed reading his favorite children's stories to Jakob. A Celebration of Life will be held in the Spring of 2022.

PROGRAM IDEAS

Do you have an idea for a program? Have you seen a great presenter that might appeal to your fellow pilgrims? Do you, or someone you know, have a passion that you would be willing to share with us as a Sunday morning program? Please contact Lollie Jensen to see your ideas and suggestions come to life.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Now that children ages five and older can be vaccinated, volunteers are needed to lead children ages five to twelve through lessons on Sunday mornings. Lesson plans are available for two groups, ages five to eight and nine to twelve. The number of children on any given Sunday will determine if we have no, one or two classes. Please email

<u>religiouseducation@pilgrimhouseuua.org</u> if you are interested in this opportunity.

PILGRIM HOUSE ON FACEBOOK

Pilgrim House is encouraging more use of our Facebook accounts to inform our communities about the meaningful programs and activities offered by Pilgrim House and to communicate with each other.

We acknowledge that there were and still are issues with Facebook in general, but with some guidance from regional UUA staff, we're following their suggestions to utilize the opportunities that still exist with this social media tool. So, here's what we've got:

Our public Facebook page: Anyone can search "Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship" to find this page or use the link

http://www.facebook.com/pilgrimhouseuua. We currently post our Sunday programs here with an invitation to visitors to request the Zoom link or join us in person. We're also looking to add postings with information or activities that support the purpose of our congregation and our principles.

- Click "Share" on this page to let others know about a Sunday program or other activity at Pilgrim House that may interest them.
- "Like" the page so it will appear in your Facebook feed and will also show interest in our page to the public.
- Have a suggested activity or information to share on behalf of Pilgrim House? Send an email to Fred at pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org. He's the current administrator of this public page and as such is currently the only person with posting privileges.

Our private Facebook group: This is simply named "PH." Here group members can exchange information. This private group is not searchable by the public.

• To join this group, send an email to Fred Green at pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

The Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Young Adult group which is currently inactive.

We thank Fred and Carlos for their assistance as we add/expand this communication tool. Questions about this information -- or have skills and expertise to share? Send an email to pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Thank you for your donations of gift cards to Alexandra House (\$175 in gift cards were delivered) and food and cash donations to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf for the Holiday Season.

Food Shelf Needs

Brown paper bags with handles Reusable bags

Please leave in the entryway at PH

COOKIE CART 🟵

Cookie Cart provides teenagers "with lasting and meaningful work, life and leadership skills through employment and training in urban nonprofit bakeries."

Cookie Cart is presenting our January 31st program.

If you are interested in supporting this organization, you can order cookies on-line to pick up or be delivered. If you don't want cookies, consider ordering a dozen for your friends or family, or make a donation to Cookie Cart (there's a Donate button on the website).

Check out https://cookiecart.org/.

If you have questions, contact Nancy Olson.

BEST READ

Books presented at the Best Read program in November:

- Ellen Shelton Owls of the Eastern Ice, Jonathan Slaght
- Fred Green V2 A novel of World War II, Robert Harris
- Glennie Gilleen Field Guide to Eastern Birds, Roger Peterson
- Lollie Jensen Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder, Richard Louv
- Al Potter Empty Planet, The Shock of Global Population Decline, Darrell Bricker and John Ibbitson

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME HERE!

We enjoy the visitors and friends who join us for



Sunday programs. If you're interested in taking the next step of becoming a member of Pilgrim House, we'd would enjoy talking with you and sharing a short, live Power Point introduction – in person or via Zoom.

Kathy & Mel Aanerud

Membership Committee

membership@pilgrimhouseuua.org

"Whatever each person worships, it is reasonable to think of them all as one. We see the same stars, the sky is shared by all, the same world surrounds us. What does it matter what wisdom a person uses to seek the truth?"

-- Symmachus (Roman philosopher during the Christian persecutions)