

Pilgrim's Progress

Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1212 W. Highway 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112

Volume 53 Number 9

May/Summer 2023

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

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

May 7 – Lori Sturdevant

Author and StarTribune columnist Lori Sturdevant will be back to regale us with what is happening in the state and/or nation. The legislature is in session and she will have lots to talk about. She always brings insights that are thought provoking and stimulating.





May 14 - Bill and Kate Isles -

With a wide variety of musical styles, their performances carry audiences through a broad landscape of experiences from metaphorical worlds to small town family stories to zany comedy. Bill and Kate are known for their catchy melodies and memorable songs. They performed for us once during COVID via zoom; they are now in person at Pilgrim House.

May 21 - A Pride Chat with Avenues for Youth

With nearly 500 bills introduced this year across the country targeting the LGBTQ+ community, and particularly trans-youth, it should come as no surprise that LGBTQ+ youth experience a disproportionately high rate of homelessness and self-harm. Avenues for Youth has been partnering with youth experiencing homelessness for 28 years and is



known in particular for its work with LGBTQ+ youth. Join Ryan Berg, the Program Manager of the LGBTQ+ host home program at Avenues, to learn more about the impact of this hateful legislative assault, how Avenues creates safe and affirming spaces, and what the larger faith community can do to support this vulnerable population.

May 28 – no program at Pilgrim House – Memorial Day





June 4 – Annual Meeting

EETING Be sure to attend the Annual meeting. See article below.

Summer Programs - See below.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00pm – MSUS Choir Rehearsal at Pilgrim House. Contact Bruce Van Bronkhorst.

Thursday, May 4, 7:00pm – Great Decisions at Pilgrim House and via Zoom – How will changes in the energy industries impact relations between countries? All are welcome. Contact Al Potter. See article below.

Sunday, May 7:

10:15am – Weekly Sunday program and fellowship. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

11:30am – Soup Sunday after the program at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

11:30am – Book swap at Pilgrim House – bring 2 or 3 books to swap. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc. See article below.

Noon – Board meeting at Pilgrim House to discuss next year's budget. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

12:30pm – MSUS Moms Group and their kids in two downstairs rooms. Contact Laura Smitzik (for Diana McLean).

Monday, May 8, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Wednesday, May 10, 7:00pm – MSUS Choir Rehearsal at Pilgrim House. Contact Bruce Van Bronkhorst.

Saturday, May 13, 1:00pm – MSUS class in the fellowship hall. Contact Rev. Diana K. McLean.

Sunday, May 14, 10:15am – Weekly Sunday program and fellowship. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

Tuesday, May 16, 2:00pm – Website Content Meeting at Pilgrim House. Contact Stephanie Lica. Wednesday, May 17:

11:00am – Karen Conradi-Jones memorial service at Pilgrim House. Contact David Conradi-Jones.

7:00pm – MSUS Choir Rehearsal at Pilgrim House. Contact Bruce Van Bronkhorst.

Thursday, May 18, 11:00am – MSUS hosts Third Thursday 60+ Gathering, discussion and potluck at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Colleen Bemis.

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: Les Rogers

The Land Acknowledgment

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

Saturday, May 20, 5:00pm – MSUS Spring Concert starts. All are welcome. Contact Colleen Bemis.

Sunday, May 21:

10:15am – Weekly Sunday program and fellowship. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers.

12:00pm – Discussion about UUA Article II at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Ellen Shelton.

Tuesday, May 23, 7:00pm – Social Action Meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Judy Bloom Martinez.

Wednesday, May 24:

1:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg.

7:00pm – MSUS Choir Rehearsal at Pilgrim House. Contact Bruce Van Bronkhorst.

Thursday, May 25, 1:30pm – Book Club meets at Pilgrim House. The book is *The Woman All Spies Fear: Code Breaker Elizebeth Smith Friedman and Her Hidden Life* by Amy Greenfield. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Wednesday, May 31, 7:00pm – MSUS Choir Rehearsal at Pilgrim House. Contact Bruce Van Bronkhorst.

Saturday, June 3, 5:30pm – MSUS hosts Potluck and Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 hybrid Coffee House at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Colleen Bemis.

Sunday, June 4:

10:15am – Annual meeting at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Les Rogers. See article below.

12:30pm – MSUS Moms Group and their kids in two downstairs rooms. Contact Colleen Bemis (for Diana McLean).

Monday, June 12, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Adam Aanerud.

Saturday, June 24, 5:30pm – Refreshments and 6:00 Ware Lecture by Imani Perry -- from General Assembly via Zoom – watch at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Mel and Kathy Aanerud.

Sunday, June 25, 9:30am – 9:30 Coffee and 10:00 Sunday Morning Program from General Assembly -- via Zoom – watch at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Mel and Kathy Aanerud. See Summer Programs below.

Wednesday, June 28, 1:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg.

Saturday, July 1, 5:30pm – MSUS hosts Potluck and Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 hybrid Coffee House at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Colleen Bemis.

Sunday, July 2, 12:30pm – MSUS Moms Group and their kids in two downstairs rooms. Contact Colleen Bemis (for Diana McLean).

Saturday, July 15, 10:00am – Gibbs Farm Dakota Trail. This is an offsite program. Contact Mel Aanerud for registration information. See Summer Programs below.

Wednesday, July 26, 1:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg.

Thursday, July 27, 1:30pm – Book Club meets. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

Saturday, August 5, 5:30pm – MSUS hosts Potluck and Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 **hybrid Coffee House at Pilgrim House.** All are welcome. Contact Colleen Bemis.

Sunday, August 6, 12:30pm – MSUS Moms Group and their kids in two downstairs rooms. Contact Laura Smitzik (for Diana McLean).

Sunday, August 13, 10:15 am – The Bakken Sunday Program at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. See Summer Programs below.

Monday, August 14, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting. Everyone is welcome. Contact Adam Aanerud.

Wednesday, August 23, 1:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets. Contact Sharon Borg.

Thursday, August 24, 1:30pm – Book Club meets. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

PILGRIM HOUSE ANNUAL MEETING

The Pilgrim House Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, June 4. 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 Les Rogers

(<u>chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org</u>) for more information. Please plan to attend!

AGENDA FOR PILGRIM HOUSE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Agenda for Pilgrim House 2023 Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 4, 2023 (zoom and in-person)

- Opening Words
- Approve Agenda for 2023 Annual Meeting
- Approve Minutes from 2022 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)

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- Present At-Large candidates (to be approved at next board meeting)
- Nominations for Delegates to UU General Assembly (virtual and Pittsburgh, PA June 21 – 25)
- Presentation of Proposed Budget 2023-24
- Motion to Approve the Budget
- Other Business and vote, if needed
- Closing Words

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Not all programs start at 10:15.



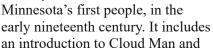
UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PITTSBURGH · JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

June 25 – UUA General Assembly

We will stream the Sunday service on Sunday morning, June 25 at 10:00 am Central Time at Pilgrim House. We will host this again as a summer program at Pilgrim House. There's always great choral music. The presenter is Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti of First Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He's author of the 2018-2019 UUA common read, "Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment."

July 15 – 10:30 to Noon – Gibbs Farm Dakota Trail

Registration is required. *This tour* is off site in Falcon Heights and is family friendly. It will focus on the life ways of the Dakota,





his village, the travois and gardens, maple sugar camp, summer bark lodge, wild rice camp, and tipi. Some Dakota language is incorporated as well. Although we are limited to 25 people for this event, if we get more than 25 we will arrange for a second. If you don't sign up in person let Mel Aanerud know.

August 13, 10:15 am – The Bakken

At Pilgrim, House and family friendly: Laura Whittet – Director of Marketing &



Communications will present. The Bakken is a science museum located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States. This science museum was founded by Earl Bakken, the co-founder of Medtronic in 1975. The exhibits present the history and explanation of electricity and electromagnetism.

MIDSUMMER FUN

A multigenerational summer fun event at Pilgrim House is in the works. Plans are being made to join with MSUS members and families for a midsummer get-together. Watch for an email from Pilgrim House with more details.

SOCIAL ACTION

CSC Luncheon – We had a table of 8. It was a great turnout at the CSC Luncheon where guests learned about the good work of the CSC. We also heard about our Christmas adoptee head of the family. She is doing very well and now working at a restaurant and applying for her catering license. Thank you for your support.

Social Action Meeting Scheduled – Tuesday, May 23rd, 7pm at Pilgrim House.

This meeting will be a brainstorming session about what action we will take in the future and how we will support this action. We will also discuss the 3 groups we are now supporting – CSC, Alexandra House, and Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Everyone is welcome. Contact Judy Bloom Martinez with questions.

Cookie Cart

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

GREAT DECISIONS AT PILGRIM HOUSE

May 4, 7:00pm – How will changes in the energy industries impact relations between countries?

At Pilgrim House and via Zoom

Access to oil and gas has long held an influence over the politics of individual nations and their relations with others. But as more countries move toward sustainable energy, and supply chain shortages affect the availability of oil and gas, how will this change the way in which the United States interacts with the outside world?

Andrew Latham is Professor of International Relations and Political Theory at Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN; Non-Resident Fellow, Defense Priorities, Washington, DC; Senior Fellow, Institute for Peace and Diplomacy, Ottawa, CDA; and Opinion Contributor, The Hill, Washington, DC. Professor Latham's primary scholarly interests are in the areas of international relations and political thought. He regularly teaches courses on international security, Chinese foreign policy, regional conflict in the Middle East, regional conflict in the Asia-Pacific, medieval political thought, US foreign policy, and conservative political theory. His

most recent publication is Theorizing Medieval Geopolitics: War and World Order in the Age of the Crusades. He has also published a novel about the Third Crusade entitled *The Holy Lance*.

BOOK SWAP MAY 7

Looking for some new reading material? We will be having a book swap at our Sunday May 7th meeting. You are welcome to bring 2-3 books to swap and take a few home with you. Adult and children's books welcome. No bags of books please!! We are also clearing out some books from our library in order to make room for new titles - they will be available to bring home too.

Questions? Contact Cynthia LeBlanc or Nancy Olson

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Karen Conradi-Jones Memorial Service

Please join David Conradi-Jones, family and friends to celebrate the life of Karen Conradi-Jones May 17 at 11 AM Pilgrim House. Her obituary is on the StarTribune website:

https://m.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000455050/

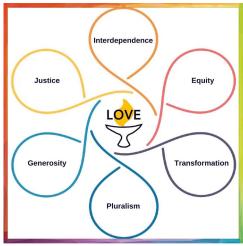
Bill Easter is healing at Langdon Shore Care Center 1900 County Road D W, Roseville (rm 303) with broken ribs and generalized pain from an accident. He is slowly healing and hopes to be discharged soon. He would love to have visitors!! Cards can be sent to his home at 1954 Hythe, Roseville, MN 55113.

THE UUA'S PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ARTICLE II OF ITS CHARTER

The UUA General Assembly is the annual meeting of representatives from all the UU congregations nationwide in June. It has a big item on its agenda this year and we need to instruct our Pilgrim House delegates on how to vote. The issue is whether to consider adopting a new version of the UUA Charter's Article II, currently entitled "Bylaws, Principles, and Purposes" – which deals with what the UUA stands for as a denomination, and how member congregations work with each other. This is where the 7 Principles have been stated, since 1987.

This section of the charter is supposed to be examined for possible updating every 15 years, to help keep UUism relevant through social changes, and prevent it from getting fossilized. The last time revisions were proposed, they were not adopted, so Article II has been mostly unchanged since 1987 – 34 years ago now.

There has been a Study Commission working on updates for the past two years, and in January the UUA Board voted to submit a proposed new Article II to the membership. We've heard about it in a variety of ways here at PH over the last half year,



From the new proposed Article II

and there have been articles and zoom workshops about it. We need to officially vote at our Annual Meeting on June 4 to let our delegates know how to vote at GA. However, the Annual Meeting is not the place for a wide-open discussion about so big a topic, so we will have a separate meeting on Sunday, April 21, after the Sunday program from 12:00 to 1:00. Anybody is welcome to come and express their views at that time. We will send out a summary of the issues about a week in advance.

If you are interested, we strongly recommend you check out the UUA website about the proposed new Article II, how and why it was revised, and the process for proposing amendments and the adoption process at GA. The link to that site is below. If you don't have time to look there yourself, we'll send a summary of the issues to all PH members a week before the May 21 discussion. Information was also in the March PH newsletter.

UUA website:

https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission

LIVE STREAM OF THE WARE LECTURE FROM UUA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Saturday evening, June 24 at Pilgrim House

Join us at Pilgrim House for a live stream of the Ware Lecture from General Assembly that will be presented by Imani Perry. She is an American interdisciplinary scholar of race, law, literature, and African-American culture and the author of seven

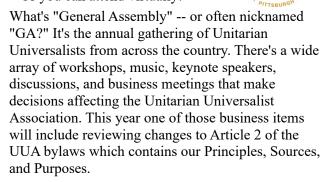
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books. At Pilgrim House, we had a group read of her book, *Breathe: A Letter to my Sons*.

5:30 pm Refreshments / 6:00 Ware Lecture / Questions: Mel and Kathy Aanerud

SAVE THE DATE FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

June 21 - 25, 2023 / Pittsburgh PA Or you can attend virtually!



The event is open to all -- but note that Pilgrim House will reimburse the registration fees for our two voting delegates. Read more about General Assembly here: www.uua.org/ga. For questions related to Pilgrim House attendance, contact Mel or Kathy Aanerud / Membership Committee: membership@pilgrimhouseua.org.

ATTENDING A RAMADAN IFTAR MEAL

In April, eight people from Pilgrim
House attended a community
Ramadan Iftar meal at Rabata
Cultural Center in Arden Hills. The
gathering was part of Taking Heart,
a program coordinated by
Minnesota Council of Churches and
the Muslim American Society of
Minnesota to bring Christians and
members of other faith



communities together with Muslims for food and conversation during Ramadan.

We had an informative presentation on the significance of Ramadan, observed prayers, and conversed with our hosts and other attendees over an Iftar meal that broke the daily fast of Ramadan.

The Rabata Cultural Center is in beautifully remodeled retail space on Lexington Avenue in Arden Hills. Rabata promotes positive cultural change through creative educational experiences, spiritual upbringing and community of local and digital places to connect with like-minded women. We loved their bookstore!

CURRENT PILGRIM HOUSE COVID POLICY

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

Masks: Masks are optional in the entire building.

Program Room: Social Distancing is encouraged.

We will continue to run air purifiers.

Beverages are allowed.

Fellowship Room and nursery: There is no expectation of social distancing.

We will continue to run air purifiers.

Food and beverages will be provided by Hospitality.

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

AMARYLLIS & COMPASS ROSE STRING BAND

Saturday, May 13, 2023 | 7 pm Prospect Park UMC, Mpls, MN

Amaryllis is the duo of Anne Benson and Pilgrim House member Ken Steffenson. They perform traditional tunes from Ireland, Scotland and America on a variety of acoustic instruments. Their shows and recordings include hammered dulcimer, guitar, fiddle, flute, harmonica and mandolin. Ken and Anne are delighted to be joined by two guests for this show: Erin Walsh on cello and bass, and Joel Petersen on guitar and vocals. Together, they form the Compass Rose String Band!

A freewill offering will benefit: PRATT COMMUNITY SCHOOL