

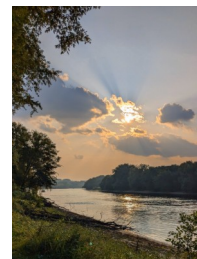
Upcoming Sunday Programs (10:15 to 11:30 am)

Pilgrim House is open for both in person and Zoom attendance. Our COVID attendance policy is on our website..

September 1 – no program (Labor Day weekend)

September 8 – Water Communion

This is a semi-traditional water communion. You can bring some water from a place that you visited during the summer and/or talk about that place. Talk about how water is important to you. Paul Gardner will be here doing part of the program.



September 15 – The November Election and UU the Vote

Karen Wills from the Minnesota UU Social Justice Alliance (MUUSJA) will talk to us about the election and the local campaign to get out the vote.

September 22 – Ramsey County

Victoria Reinhardt, the longest serving member of the Ramsey County Board, is retiring. She lives in White Bear Lake Township and represents many of the members of Pilgrim House. She was specifically requested by a member to be a speaker.

September 29 – Doug Wood and Steve Borgstrom

A little concert and a little reading with Doug Wood and Steve Borgstrom. Because of some health reasons in the Wood family this program may have to be postponed, but we will let you know well in advance.



October 6 – Stars of the Night – the Nicholas Winton Story

Caren Stelson, author of *Stars Of The Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindertransport*, will present a book concert with professional violinist Judith Eisner. Judith wrote the original Klezmer music to go along with Caren's reading. The emotions of the music add to the emotions of the story itself. The Nicholas Winton story may be one of the few hopeful stories emerging from the Holocaust, but it does speak to that dark period. Children nine, ten or older as well as adults will know and understand the importance of this story. For younger children, parents will want to use their discretion. She will autograph *and sell books. Proceeds will go to "Save the Children"* We will have a special container for additional contributions to "Save the Children"

CALENDAR

MWUCC events are not listed unless Pilgrim House is invited. Look at the website calendar pilgrimhouseuua.org/Calendar before scheduling an event at Pilgrim House.

Saturday, September 7, 5:30pm – MWUUC Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 Coffee House at Pilgrim House (no Zoom). All are welcome. To be on the list for Coffee House, contact Chad Synder.

Sunday, September 8, 10:15am – Water Communion – weekly Sunday programs resume at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys.

Monday, September 9, 7:00pm – Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Marcie Jefferys.

Thursday, September 19, 1:00pm – Congregational Care meets at Pilgrim House. Contact Nancy Olson.

Sunday, September 22 – Newsletter information is due. Contact Fred Green newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

Wednesday, September 25, 12:30pm – Novel exchange book club meets at a local library. Contact Mary Carlson.

Thursday, September 26, 1:30pm – Book Club meets at Pilgrim House. The book is *Becoming Madam Secretary* by Stephanie Dray. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

SOCIAL ACTION

Walk A Mile was July 28 at Silver View Park. Nineteen people from PH came to walk on a very hot day. There were 243 total participants who raised \$10,000 to support Community Support Center activities.

Winter Coat Drive on Saturday October 19:

PH is collecting WINTER WEIGHT coats/jackets for all ages, especially for school-age children (size 5-14).

Also accepted are: Boots, Snow pants, gloves and mittens (especially heavy duty adult sizes), and NEW hats/caps.

Please Bring Your Items To PH September 15 to October 13.

Ralph Reeder Food Shelf

We will continue collecting cash and checks on Soup Sunday PLEASE NO canned or dry foods, because the Food Shelf can purchase food at a lower price and choose the most needed foods for their clients.

HOPEFEST – SUPPORTING ALEXANDRA HOUSE

Saturday, September 28, 2024 | 9 am – 1 pm

HopeFest is the annual fundraiser to support Alexandra House battered women's shelter. "The mission of Alexandra House is to empower victims of domestic and sexual violence, and inspire social change through education, support, and advocacy." Pilgrim House has been a sponsor of HopeFest for many years.

From Alexandra House:

Alexandra House hosts its annual HopeFest event in the fall, as our lead into October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The core principles of the event are to raise awareness about domestic and sexual violence, remember those we have lost, and honor the many survivors.

Early Bird Rates End After Saturday, August 31!

You can purchase tickets at the event; however, those who purchase their tickets by Saturday, August 31, enjoy a faster check-in process and are guaranteed a HopeFest t-shirt.

Paid admission (by 8/31/24) includes a HopeFest wristband for Bones Brothers BBQ (all you can eat), games, and activities, an option to participate in the 1+ mile Walk and/or Kidz Dash (Ages 3-10), and a HopeFest t-shirt.

Students/Adults (14+) – \$30

Youth (Ages 3-13) – \$10

Children (Ages 0-2) – Free

Virtual Attendee:

Can't make it on event day but want to contribute to the cause? You can be a *Virtual Attendee*!

Virtual Attendee admission is \$30 which includes an event shirt and shipping! Available if purchased by August 31st!

Shirts will be mailed after the event, to the address given when purchasing your ticket(s).

As a sponsor of HopeFest, Pilgrim House receives two free tickets. If you would like these tickets, contact Fred Green, newslettereditor@pilgrimhouseuua.org.

Fundraising & Walk Teams

Would you consider fundraising in support of HopeFest and Alexandra House? It's easy to do...just click on this link <https://www.givemn.org/team/Hopfest2024>. and select 'Join This Team' at the bottom of the page.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Celebrating Pilgrim House families and friends in joys and providing support for friends and families with concerns.

Meeting on September 19 at 1:00 pm at Pilgrim House. Join us!

Co-Chairs

Nancy Olson and Judy Rohde

“When you see a person without a smile, give them yours.” Zig Ziglar

A SHARING CIRCLE TO EXPLORE SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Are you interested in exploring your personal spirituality in a supportive group of other Pilgrim House adults? The Connections Committee is looking at a subscription to **Soul Matters** for Pilgrim House. This UUA program provides monthly packets for a Sharing Circle of 8 to 10 participants to support one another's spiritual growth and offer a sense of belonging.

Participants receive a monthly packet of spiritual readings, video and music links, and soul searching questions to explore on their own. Then in a monthly gathering, participants share how the insights and wonderings from the packet have illuminated their own lives. You can review monthly themes for the packets at: www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/themes.html.

Upon knowing there's sufficient interest in such a program, we will need to determine who/how the sessions will be facilitated and a workable meeting time for all. Watch for a **sign-up sheet at Pilgrim House** to indicate your interest and your preference for the monthly meeting time. There will also be reminder Announcements and a contact person for your questions as we explore Pilgrim House participation.

Kathy Aanerud -- for the Connections Committee

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

I was one of two delegates to the 2024 all-virtual General Assembly (along with Les Rogers) in June. This year, a major agenda item was revision of Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Bylaws. Last modified in the 1980's, a study commission began working on the article's revisions in 2020. Fellowships, including Pilgrim House, reviewed and provided feedback on earlier drafts before the final vote this June.

The proposal was not without controversy. A somewhat organized effort to have delegates turn it down was mounted but, in the end, updating the language prevailed. Eighty percent of the delegates voted to approve.

In my opinion, the biggest changes are an emphasis on action and the inclusion of love as a central value. The six values which revolve around “Love” in the graphic that represent the new article are familiar--Justice, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Interdependence and Generosity.

It is important to note that UU fellowships are not required to adopt the new language in their own bylaws or statements.

Here is a link to the new language as a PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/bde5w6zf>.

Also approved were social justice resolutions supporting humanitarian efforts to address climate change, solidarity with Palestinians, and “centering love” amid the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Delegates also adopted a Responsive Resolution that calls for the immediate release of all Hamas-held hostages and a resolution stating, “Embracing Transgender, Nonbinary and Intersex People is a Fundamental Expression of UU Religious Values.” There were several pre-recorded workshops and live zoom events to attend as well.

More than 3400 people from all 50 states attended the conference via zoom. Next year's GA will be held virtually and in-person in Baltimore, Maryland, June 18-22.

--Marcie Jefferys

UPDATED COVID-SAFETY CRITERIA WE FOLLOW AS OF 9/11/2023:

- Masks are optional – Masks and hand sanitizer are available.
- Attendees are vaccinated, with exception for children too young to be vaccinated.
- Air purifiers will continue to be run in Program and Fellowship Rooms.
- Food and beverages are provided by our Hospitality Committee.

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

