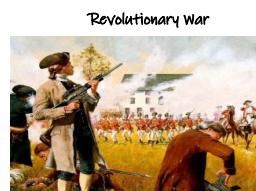


Upcoming Sunday Programs
(10:15 to 11:30 am)

October 4 – The Revolutionary War with Doug Ohman

Doug is a popular presenter at Pilgrim House. Bill Rohde noted Doug's recently developed program on the Revolutionary War and suggested that, in this the 250th year of our independence, Doug's program would be both educational and entertaining.



October 11 – Indigenous Peoples Day

October 12 is Indigenous Peoples Day. Our presenter is Anthony "Tony" McGerr (Manitoba Métis Federation) is the Program Manager, Department of Indian Work with Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul's. Much of his work centers on American Indian Youth Enrichment program; family Economic Mobility, Indigenous leadership, education, cultural connection, and the experiences of Native people and families living in an urban setting.

October 18 – Friends of the Boundary Waters

Since 1976, Friends of the Boundary Waters has been the leading voice for the Boundary Waters. Having worked to safeguard 1.1 million acres of lakes and forests, their mission is to connect people of all backgrounds to the wilderness, so that this and future generations benefit from the magic of this special place. Marta Ditzler, Community Organizer.



October 25 – UU the Vote with MUUSJA

Rev. Terri Burnor, of the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance, will inform us of their efforts in this year's elections, what we should be aware of and what can be done in the future.

November 1 – Connecting to Your Ancestors

Reverend Leslie Mills is back talking about Connecting to your ancestors.



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 Mission, Vision, and Value statements <https://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org/our-mission>.

Phone: 651-631-2582 (leave a message)

Email: pilgrimhouse@pilgrimhouseuua.org

Internet: <http://www.pilgrimhouseuua.org>

Board Chair: Paul Kirst chair@pilgrimhouseuua.org

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. Newsletter information is always due the next to the last Sunday of the month.

CALENDAR

Note: the Calendar is in the Calendar formatting that appears on our website. The Calendar does not show the Sunday programs on the preceding page. Also, every Sunday evening is reserved for Carol Gross from 6-7:30pm.

2 Oct, Fri, 4pm – Reserved for member event. Contact Lollie Jensen.

3 Oct, Sat, 5:30pm – MWUUC Coffee House, 5:30 potluck, 6:30 hybrid Coffee House at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. To be on the list for Coffee House, contact Chad Synder.

5 Oct, Mon, 10am – Reserved for cleaning. Contact Al Potter.

12 Oct, Mon, 7pm – Pilgrim House board meeting via Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Contact Paul Kirst.

13 Oct, Tue, 7pm – Great Decisions via Zoom – U.S. Engagement of Africa. All are welcome. Contact Al Potter.

15 Oct, Thu, 1pm – Congregational Care/Welcoming Committee meets via Zoom. Contact Deb Magnuson.

17 Oct, Sat, 10am – Soul Matters meets at Pilgrim House. Contact Cynthia Leblanc.

19 Oct, Mon – 10am Reserved for cleaning. Contact Al, Potter.

22 Oct, Thu 1:30pm, Book Club meets at Pilgrim House. The book is *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. Contact Cynthia LeBlanc.

24 Oct, Sat, 2pm – Reverend Leslie Mills 10th Anniversary Ordination Celebration. A short program will begin at 2:30 pm and will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Contact Dick Shelton.

31 Oct, Sat, 1pm – Writing group meets at Pilgrim House. All are welcome. Contact Bruce France.

SOME WAYS WE SHOW UP FOR ONE ANOTHER AT PILGRIM HOUSE.....NOTES FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

by Deb Magnuson

Life brings beautiful seasons, but it also brings times of illness, grief, transition, and loneliness. In those moments, no one in our Pilgrim House Community family need walk alone. The Congregational Care Committee exists to support our community. Whether you are recovering from surgery, celebrating a new baby or navigating a difficult loss, we want to support you.

How Congregational Care can support you:

- Meals: meals delivered to your door during times of illness or transition.
- Visits: Friendly check-ins and companionship for our homebound members or those in the hospital.
- Need a ride to a medical appointment?
- Cards & Prayer: Regular notes of encouragement.

You can request support for yourself or others by using the Care Committee email: congregationalcare@pilgrimhouseuua.org

or by talking with Care Committee Co-Chairs Deb Magnuson and Judy Rohde.

WELCOMING CONGREGATION - ELLEN SHELTON

We know that religious spaces haven't always been welcoming places for all people, especially when it

comes to gender and sexuality. We are out to change that.

For 25 years we have worked hard to make sure lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people are full members of our faith communities. Being Welcoming means striving for radical inclusion, and creating spaces that honor every part of our identities, backgrounds, and experiences. At Pilgrim House we foster an inclusive and accepting culture by supporting a variety of activities such as hosting speakers relevant to LGBTQ+ needs and issues, attending and supporting LGBTQ+ events in the community, Informing Pilgrim House of legislative issues affecting GLBTQ+ rights and quality of life, suggesting book for group read or discussion. And we continue always to make Pilgrim House a place where all visitors and members feel welcome.

NEXT MEETING

The Congregational Care and Welcoming Committees will meet via Zoom on Thursday October 15th at 1:00.

SOCIAL ACTION

The HopeFest Walk was September 26th

Pilgrim House members at HopeFest in Anoka:



Walk a Mile for Our Neighbors September 27

Walk a Mile for our Neighbors was a fundraiser that benefits the Community Support Center. Pilgrim House again contributed to this event.

Please continue to support Ralph Reeder Food Shelf with your outreach. Thanks for your generosity on Soup Sunday.

No Kings: Vote Early

October 17 is No Kings: Vote Early day. See <https://www.nokings.org/> for more information.

POSSIBLE PILGRIM HOUSE PROGRAMS

Songs of War (November 8)

I have a program called the Songs of War which was first done at Pilgrim House in 2005. It was done at 5 different UU churches, the last in 2011. I have updated it with new stories. The problem is that Kathy and I intend to be out of the county until the Friday before, so I have to get cooperation from Bill and Fred and six members of the congregation to take parts. I will have a sign up sheet ready by early October and I need it filled in by October 25. Check for the sign up October 4

Mel Aanerud

What are You Thankful For? (November 22)

What I told you about the Songs of War program also works for the Thanksgiving program.

There will be a signup sheet for readers: one for Garrison Keillor and one for Bill Holm. And we want to know what you want to present, reading, song, dance, or just what you are thankful for.

Mel Aanerud



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND LESLIE MILLS' ORDINATION

We will host an open house on October 24, 2026 at 2:00 – 4:00 pm at Pilgrim House Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (located at 1212 Highway 96 West, Arden Hills, MN 55112). A short program will start at 2:30 pm, with refreshments to follow.

During the program, we want to share how Leslie's ministry has impacted us. Please take some time to reflect on what has opened up for you during her time with us. Send your thoughts to Dick Shelton. These will be collected for Leslie to take home after the celebration. If you'd like to contribute to the refreshments, feel free to bring a finger food, appetizer, or dessert to pass.

GREAT DECISIONS VIA ZOOM

October 13, 7pm – U.S. Engagement of Africa

Africa's geopolitical importance is growing rapidly. What can the United States learn from China's expanding presence on the continent? How might the U.S. strengthen its relationships with African nations, particularly an important country such as Nigeria? And

what tools of statecraft can the United States bring to its engagement with Africa?

Our speaker is Henry Berman, who has spoken with us before about Israeli politics and regional relationships. Henry has personal ties to the Middle East and has spent considerable time there over the past decade. He has a strong interest in the changing dynamics of this turbulent region, as well as the emerging geopolitical importance of Africa and Southeast Asia.

Henry is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is active in a local Great Decisions group. He holds a BA from Hamilton College and an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

OCTOBER PILGRIM HOUSE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Key Decisions & Approvals

- **Agenda & Minutes:** September 14, 2026 minutes and meeting agenda were approved.

Old Business & Updates

- **Facilities & Roads:** Driveway repaving went well, though the contractor still needs to fix a remaining soft spot. Full lot repaving would cost ~\$100K. The team is gathering estimates for air conditioning; a high checking balance is currently being maintained to fund this project.
- **ChurchTrac:** Account creation is stalled due to lack of support response. Les will raise the issue in a ChurchTrac webinar tomorrow; the Wednesday group meeting is canceled.
- **Monroe Husband Fund:** Paul will contact Midwest UUA representative QuianaDenae Perkins regarding using the fund for audio/visual needs.
- **Annual Calendar & Parking:** Dick, Paul, and Kathy are collaborating on the Board calendar. A carpool signup is being arranged to handle expected high attendance for the upcoming Doug Woods program.

New Business & Committee Reports

- **Website & Volunteering:** Dick is leading efforts to consolidate volunteer role descriptions, signup sheets, and roster lists. Public info on the new website will be ready by the next board meeting.

- **Attendance & Programs:** Kathy reported 53 attendees at the first service (up from 43 last year). Mel confirmed all program slots for the next three months are filled. The children's program has also restarted.

- **Board Interviews & Community:** Paul and Elissa completed interviews with board members and committee chairs. Elissa highlighted concerns about an aging volunteer base and attracting new members. Lollie noted mixed feedback on the new Water Communion format, which remains a work in progress.

Action Items & Next Steps

- **Opening/Closing Words:** Dick will provide opening/closing words for the next meeting.
- **Upcoming Events:** Kathy reminded the group of HopeFest and the Community Support Center walk at the end of the month.

All Pilgrim House members are welcome to attend board meetings, which are held at 7pm the second Monday of the month via Zoom. Contact Fred Green, board secretary, for the Zoom link.

COVID SAFETY CRITERIA WE FOLLOW

- 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

