



THE GROVELAND E-WIRE

Volume 10, Issue 11, December 2017

Sunday Services

Groveland Fellowship services start at 10:00 a.m. at 1671 Summit Ave in Saint Paul.

Note: No Service Sunday, Nov. 26. See Page 2 for details.

Sunday, December 3

Personal Reflections on Making a Difference and When to Retire

Presented by Alan Lando, PhD

Alan Lando will discuss some of the issues and challenges he faces as he passes the traditional age of retirement. On one hand, he has unique opportunities for continuing to

make an impact after 40 years in his field. On the other hand, his current passions do not necessarily reflect traditional academic priorities.



Alan Lando is a Distinguished International

Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. His primary research has focused on methods of treating highly dependent smokers. For the past decade and a half he has engaged in global advocacy for tobacco reduction, most visibly in his role as lead organizer and convener of the triennial World Conferences on Tobacco OR Health.

Sunday, December 10

TED Talk: How to Have Better Political Conversations, by Robb Willer

Presented by TBA

We will watch the TED talk by Robb Willer, then discuss ways in which we can use this information to help us when talking about political topics with people with opposing views.

Sunday, December 17

Holiday Music/Carols

Presented by Paul Hjelmstad

Come and listen to a variety of holiday music: old, new, classic, forgotten and favorite carols—just what we need at this time of year to get us in the mood for the Holidays.

Paul Hjelmstad has been playing piano around town for many years in different kinds of groups, such as Dixieland Jazz, big band, classical and variety groups. He grew up in the Twin Cities and studied primarily with James Johnson of Augsburg College. He attended Saint Olaf College in Northfield. He has been Groveland Fellowship's pianist for 4 years.

Thursday, December 21

Solstice Service and Potluck

5:30 pm at Ceile Hartleib's home

Kari Tauring has been writing and performing music and ritual in the Twin Cities for nearly two decades. She is most known for her love of the Winter and all



things Nordic. She will lead us in song, dance, and deep reflection to bring light into the darkest time of the year.

The author of a rune book and several musical recordings, Kari's work is available on her website at KariTauring.com and all

over the internet!

Please bring a dish to share for the potluck. For information and/or directions, email ceceilehartleib@gmail.com or call 651-592-1877.

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**Sunday December 24 and
Sunday December 31**
There will be no services on these
Sundays.

**Groveland Fellowship website
is now up and running!**

Check it out at grovelanduu.org

Looking Ahead...

Sunday, January 7

Meditation

Presented by Eric Larson

Eric will share with us a bit about the role of mindfulness and meditation in his journey from a tightly wound and anxious twenty-something into a slightly less tightly wound and anxious—but much more fulfilled—thirty-something. He will also lead us in a short, simple mindfulness practice.

Eric Larson is a professional life and leadership coach who supports fellow travelers on the path through voluntary and involuntary life transitions. He has been practicing mindfulness meditation for the past 12 years, as a way of developing greater self-awareness and a sense of peace, and deepening his understanding of how to be an effective human being in these complex times.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 26

No Service—Potluck 11:30 am

Karen Belling will host a potluck at her home this Sunday, November 26. She will provide a hearty soup and salad. Please bring a dish to share. As a special treat, Paul Hjelmstad will provide music for the gathering. Bring suggestions for your favorite song for a group sing, and copies, if you have them. For more information or directions, email Karen at karenbelling@gmail.com.

**Groveland Book Group for
December**
Wednesday, December 13



The December book group will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at Maryah's house. We will be looking at children's Christmas books. Bring your favorite! Contact Maryah at mrwolszon@aol.com for more information.

December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Martha Anderson and Bobbi Baker!

25th Anniversary 1992-2017

Groveland UU Fellowship Beginnings

Three women, Abby Struck, Lynne Biddle-Walker and Martha Anderson, met with purpose one afternoon: to gather together like-minded people to form a small, urban congregation. Its focus, according to the April, 1992 press release, "...will be to celebrate and explore our spirituality in an inclusive, family-oriented, setting. Active congregational participation will be stressed."

Approximately 35 people attended the exploratory meeting, and the idea took hold. After several more meetings and behind the scenes decisions, our first service was held on Sunday, August 23, 1992.

In our 25 years of existence, we have had several bumps along the road, two of which probably had the most impact on what we are today. The first was the loss of the children's program. Several families moved away, and others moved their children to larger, more settled congregations. We decided to concentrate on being an adult (approximately ages 16-100) group, with the idea of adding children's programming at some future time.

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The second impact is still being felt, although not as directly as in the past. We never got our own space, or building, although we did try. During renovations of the then St. Paul Council of Churches building, we met in three different spaces. This was a difficult time to build cohesion and community, and our numbers dropped.

Since then, however, we have made peace with the now renovated space we meet in, and it has worked well for our group.

Being lay-led was important to us. We did have two part-time ministers over the course of the years, but always hesitated to sign over to a full-time minister. We have found that there are many talented and engaging speakers in the Twin Cities area, including our own congregation!

We have also been fortunate to have music close at hand, sometimes from the congregation, or Macalester students, or someone from the community, like Paul.

While we didn't want a top-down organization, we did find that some kind of organization was necessary for smooth functioning. We tried running the fellowship by consensus, but that was simply too difficult and created too much arguing. It was much easier to vote in a President (or Chair), a President-to-be, and a Treasurer. This arrangement has served us very well.

Looking back, our naïveté probably led us in the right direction, allowing us to set in motion the idea, and then the reality, of a small, urban Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

--Abby Struck and Martha Anderson

Pictures from the 25th Anniversary service



Alan Lando & Martha Anderson



Many former members returned for the special service, including Darr Schreurs, foreground.



Huron Smith talking with John Martin



John Christensen & Treasurer Danielle Gordanier

Groveland Outreach: MORE Food Aid



Fridays at 8:00 a.m., several Grovelanders meet at Whole Foods Market at Snelling and Selby Aves. to transport groceries to the Multicultural School for Empowerment (MORE).

Please call Trescia Dunn at 651-698-1858 for more information, or to volunteer.

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Services are at 10:00 am Sundays, September through May

Groveland meeting address:

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Groveland UU Mailing address:

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You may make donations to Groveland UU by addressing them to 'Treasurer' at the above address.

For more information about **Groveland UU Fellowship**, go to grovelanduu.org

For Information about **MidAmerica Region USA** please go to midamericauua.org