



THE GROVELAND E-WIRE

Volume 11, Issue 4, April 2018

Sunday Services

Groveland Fellowship meets at 1671 Summit Ave. 10:00 a.m. most Sunday mornings from September through May.

Sunday, April 1

No Service – Potluck

Come join us for a potluck at Ceile Hartleib and Terry Kayser's house.

We will have our annual Easter potluck at noon, instead of our regular Sunday service. Bring a dish to share. RSVP to Ceile at ceilehartleib@gmail.com or call 651-647-6078

Sunday, April 8

Diversity

Presented by Margaree Levy

Margaree Levy is the Director of Multicultural Initiatives at ARTS: The Arts in Religious and Theological Studies (magazine).

Sunday, April 15

Darwin and Religion,

Presented by Dr. Bruce Jarvis

Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution by natural selection have been targets of pious people for over a century. The latest critics are those who believe in intelligent design. Little known is that Darwin was educated to become a prelate.

Dr. Bruce Jarvis teaches general microbiology at Carlton and Normandale Community Colleges.

Sunday, April 22

Hearing People to Speech

Presented by Ted Bowman

There are ways of listening that help others to say more than might have been said. When a line or story conveys permission or compassion, that use invites another account. Stories are contagious!

For over forty years, Ted has worked in human service, educational, spiritual and related settings. He leads retreats, provides workshops, speaks at conferences and community meetings, writes and leads in worship.

Sunday, April 29

InterPlay Twin Cities – Come Play With Us

Presented by Spruce Krause

Do you want to learn how to really play again? Would you like more self-confidence, ease and flow as you move through life? InterPlay is an active, creative way to unlock the wisdom of the body. We use it for fun. We use it for work. We use it to change the world.

Spruce Krause has over 25 years experience supporting individuals and

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groups in body/mind healing and personal transformation with a playful touch. For more information visit Spruce's website: www.happyhealing.com.

**Financial Update From
Leticia Smith, Groveland's
Treasurer:
GROVELAND UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
FY 2017-18 Year-to-date**

**Financial Report (July 1, 2017
to March 30, 2018)**

Total Expense: \$ 5,334.31 Top expenses were 1) building rental, 2) pianist services and 3) honoraria for speakers.

Total Revenues: \$4,834.37 Practically 100% came from member donations.

Revenues minus expenses : - \$499.94

Cash balance: \$8,478.25

Summary: Our expenses for the first three quarters of this fiscal year exceeded our revenues by about 10%. Members donated cash, in-kind donations, time and talent. However, only cash donations are included in the calculation of revenues. We still have a healthy cash balance, but unless we receive another \$1,700 in donations over the next three months, we may have to draw from it to cover the remainder of fiscal year expenses.

Our average monthly donation over the past 9 months was \$537. Looking ahead to the next fiscal year that begins on July 1, we face potential increases in rent, services

and insurance rates, and new costs associated with being a covenanting member of UUA, amounting to about \$300-\$400 in total. This does not include any costs due to any new program, community outreach initiatives, or technology-related updates that GUUF might initiate.

Submitted by:
Leticia M. Smith, Treasurer
April 1, 2018

**A Request From Sara
Leiste, Groveland's
President:**

As our recent survey showed, Groveland is a strong and valued community. We all give in a variety of ways, both at Sunday services and the other six days a week. We bring food. We move tables. We find speakers and even find the inspiration to be the speaker. We make sure that things get put back into the cabinet. We make sure the right info gets into emails, the website, and the e-wire.

Thank you for contributing your time, your abilities, and your financial resources. Let's not forget that simply being here is important. In our small community, each person's presence enriches the experience for everyone.

Groveland is successful because we have found ways to do the work of the fellowship using the time, expertise and money that people are able to give. Unfortunately, as you can see from the treasurer's message, the money aspect is out of balance. I am asking you to consider increasing your

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donation so that we can continue to strengthen and support our community. Our fiscal year ends in June. Let's end this year strong, so that we are in a good position for next year!

The Practicalities

As a very informal fellowship that has intentionally decided not to focus on financial resources, we don't do a fundraising campaign. We don't do a lot of reminders. We definitely do not pass the collection basket. Please help keep it that way! You can bring donations to a Sunday service, or mail your donation to:

Groveland UU Fellowship
PO Box 40011
Saint Paul, MN 55104

For those of you who, like me, rarely have cash and don't carry a checkbook, I use my credit union's bill pay service to send my contribution to the PO box each month. I "set it and forget it." Of course, checks and cash are accepted with gratitude.

From the 25th Anniversary Celebration: The Future of Groveland Fellowship

To prepare to talk about the future of Groveland Fellowship at our 25th Anniversary celebration, President Sara Leiste did some reading about the future of UUism. Two contradictory predictions stood out:

1. Congregations will look less like traditional churches.
2. Congregations will be more religious.

Sara then decided to look at the future of Groveland through these two contradictory predictions.

Considering the first prediction, Sara quoted from Reverend Jane Dwinell, who said "I am a firm believer in the power, intimacy, and strength of the small congregation. A small group can experiment with worship...can care for one another in times of need, can push one another to spiritual growth, and can find a mission that will make a difference in their community. They don't need to move through layers of bureaucracy to implement change." Sara believes that spirit is a strong basis for our congregation.

As we evolve, Sara continues, we will most likely look even less like a traditional church. Our service will evolve. Our thoughts and our theology will evolve. Our expressions of our faith will change. Maybe someone from a different faith tradition or culture will join us and bring new traditions. Maybe one of us will explore a new, or an old line of thought, which will inspire change. For example, one of the things Sara likes about our community is the ritual of Joys and Concerns, which arose from a suggestion Lynne Biddle-Walker (one of our founders) made that she thought might help build community. At some point, someone found wording to do that more formally. Now, we use it on a regular basis.

The second prediction uses the word "religious" in the sense of helping people respond in a deep way to the events of their lives and the questions raised. In an increasingly superficial world, deep places become more important and more valued, at least to the people who seek them out. One

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thing Sara has noticed in herself is that theology and religious ritual are not inherently meaningful to her until she understands why/how they are meaningful to someone else. An example she uses is the Solstice service. It was something Sara was not naturally interested in, but she was curious to see why Abby found it meaningful. Now, in December, it doesn't matter what she has booked during the holidays. She always makes sure she is free to attend the Solstice service.

Sara closed by expressing gratitude for everyone who has made Groveland what it is, and for everyone who will make it something new, different, yet fundamentally a religious home for all of us.

Looking Ahead:

Sunday, May 6

Poetry Café

Presented by Kath Jesme

Poetry Café will focus on using concrete language and images to build a poem. Kath will give some word sets to choose from to use as building blocks for the poem. Participants will choose a set of words around which to write their poems.

Kath Jesme is the author of five volumes of poetry. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in poetry from Warren Wilson College.

Book Group

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

New Time: 6:30-8:30

New Venue: Highland Bakery and Café

Our book is *Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World*, by Linda Hirshman.

Linda Hirshman's dual biography includes revealing stories of how these trailblazers fought for their own recognition in a male-dominated profession—battles that would ultimately benefit every American woman. She also makes clear how these two justices have shaped the legal framework of modern feminism, including employment discrimination, abortion, affirmative action, sexual harassment, and many other issues crucial to women's lives.

We are trying a new venue and a new time this month: we'll be meeting at the Highland Bakery and Café at 2012 Ford Parkway from 6:30-8:30. Come join us! Call Lois at 651-699-2920 for more information

April Birthdays

Happy Birthday this month to Karen Belling, Mike Luke, and Paul Hjelmstad.

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Save the Date! 8/4/18 Covenanting Celebration

Groveland applied for status as a Covenanting Community with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) a couple of months ago. We have been accepted.

We are going to celebrate this milestone with present and past members and friends of Groveland on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 10:00-2:00 at Hidden Falls Park Shelter in St. Paul. Food, beverages and lawn games are planned. **SAVE THE DATE!**

Sunday Treat Changes

We're changing how we provide our after-Sunday service snacks. No more sign-ups! Anyone interested in bringing treats is invited to bring a modest amount to share.

We are still signing up volunteers for other specific jobs on Sunday. We need help in 1) set-up, 2) take-down and 3) kitchen clean-up. Spontaneous help with any of these tasks is also always appreciated!

Leticia will have a sign-up sheet on Sundays. You can also e-mail Leticia at lmsmith@aldea.org to volunteer.

Groveland Outreach: MORE Food Aid



Fridays at 8:00 a.m., several Grovelanders meet at Whole Foods Market at Snelling and Selby 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:

1671 Summit Ave
St Paul, MN 55105

Groveland UU Mailing address:

Groveland UU Fellowship
PO Box 40011, St Paul, MN 55104

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

For information about the **Unitarian Universalist Association**, go to UUA.org.

