



THE GROVELAND E-WIRE

Volume 12, Issue 4, April, 2019

Sunday Services

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

Sunday, April 7

Ike's Unheeded Warning: The Costs and Consequences of America's Military-Industrial (Political) Complex

Presented by Paul Richgruber

Between 2001 and 2011, the U.S. spent approximately \$6.26 trillion on its military. In comparison, during this same period China spent \$890 billion and Russia spent \$526 billion (Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute). As former Defense Secretary Robert Gates put it back in 2011, "Does the number of warships we have, and are building, really put America at risk, when the U.S. battle fleet is larger than the next 13 navies combined — 11 of which are our partners and allies? Is it a dire threat that by 2020, the United States will have only 20 times more advanced stealth fighters than China?" (NPR, Jan. 17, 2011).

Paul Richgruber is a tenured faculty member in History and Political Science at Lake Superior College in Duluth. His research interests include U.S.-China relations, American foreign policy, and the causes of war among great powers. His deep sense of angst regarding America's over-spending on "defense" has plagued him for more than 30 years.

Sunday, April 14

Mano a Mano

Presented by Segundo Velasquez

Mano a Mano's mission is to create partnerships with impoverished Bolivian communities that improve health and increase economic well-being.

Mano a Mano collaborates with Bolivian communities, municipal governments, and counterpart organizations in Bolivia to build sustainable projects that improve quality of life for the long-term.

Our speaker, Segundo Velasquez is a co-founder of Mano a Mano. He is originally from Bolivia and often travels there for the organization.

Sunday, April 21

Women with Children in the Criminal Justice System in Tulsa, Oklahoma

Presented by Ruth Hamilton

Still She Rises in Tulsa is the first public defender office in the country dedicated exclusively to the representation of mothers in the criminal justice system.

Among other goals, Still She Rises seeks to reduce jail time and increase the number of non-incarceratory sentences that women with children serve in order to minimize the harmful long-term effects of incarceration on women and families. It also seeks to defend mothers involved in the criminal justice system against the painful and unnecessary removal of their children and the potential dissolution of their families.

Our speaker, Ruth Hamilton has worked as a public defender for the Bronx Defenders in New York City and as the Legal Director of Still She Rises.

Sunday, April 28

Theology of Thandeka

Presented by Sara Leiste

The Reverend Dr. Thandeka is cited as one of our most influential contemporary Unitarian Universalist theologians. Thandeka describes her theology as "love beyond belief." She says that Unitarian Universalists allow mental space for different religious beliefs.

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As a result, we "are able to affirm our common emotional ground as one religious people" while affirming the freedom of UUs to hold diverse beliefs about the sources of meaning in our lives. In this service, we will explore this theology and learn more about this influential Unitarian Universalist.

Sara Leiste, a longtime member of Groveland Fellowship, will lead this service.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, May 5 Science, Religion and Magic: Why Can't we All Just Get Along?

Presented by Abby Struck

Abby Struck explores finding common ground and developing mutual acceptance.

Abby is a founding member of Groveland Fellowship. She is known for her interesting and well-researched programs.

A Message from Groveland's Treasurer

Many thanks to those who have donated cash, in-kind and their precious time to our fellowship. While total average monthly cash donations rose slightly during July through March of this fiscal year, due to a 15% increase in total honoraria paid to presenters, we will still have to dip into our savings for a little over \$1,000 to cover the rest of our expenses. May through June are months when donations tend to slow down. For this reason, we are calling on members and friends who have cash to spare to contribute during these coming months so that GUUF can provide fellowship service and programs true to Unitarian Universalist principles within a balanced budget.

-Leticia Smith

Groveland Book Group Wednesday, April 10, 6:30-8:00 Highland Café and Bakery

We will be deciding whether to continue as a book group or meet as a casual conversation group or become a movie group. Who knows?

Attendance has been low at the last few meetings so if you have an idea please come and share it with us. Maybe we just need reminders? Or maybe we need to change the day or the venue? Your input is appreciated.

Member News

Obituary: Don Struck



Donovan John Struck, 72 of St. Paul died peacefully at home on February 16, 2019. He is survived by his sister, Virginia Sheff (Harold), their sons Harry and Morgan; another sister, Abby Struck (Cliff Watson),

their daughters Meg and Fiona and granddaughter Hadley, and special lady friend Jody Kafka.

Service will be held at O'Halloran Murphy on Tues April 30 at 7:00 PM. Memorials to the family or to the Salvation Army.

Don Struck made the wooden chalice symbol (pictured above), which we use every Sunday at our services. He has also presented programs on creativity at Groveland Fellowship.

Photos from March services



March 3, Audrey Kingstrom (left) spoke about The Case for Humanism: Ethics without Religion. She presented an overview of the moral theories and scientific principles which lay the foundation for this naturalist worldview.



March 10, Rachel Cavegn (left) presented a service on Grief/Loss Processes and Traumatic Grief. She spoke about how the brain processes grief and the ways in which the stages of grief serve to help us adjust to and carry on with significant changes in our lives.

March 24, Von Braschler (right) spoke about Theosophy. Theosophy's mission is to encourage open-minded inquiry into world religions, philosophy, science and the arts in order to understand the wisdom of the ages, respect the unity of all life and help people explore spiritual self-transformation.



March 31, Phil Lund (left) spoke about the workshop he led in Wilmar MN, Love Keeps Reaching Out. He gave us some ideas we can do in the area of community outreach.



April Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Karen Belling and Mike Luke!

Groveland Outreach MORE Food Aid



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

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

Editors' Deadline

Your editors respectfully request submissions for the E-Wire to be presented to the editors by the 20th of the month. We will email reminders as needed. Thank you.

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

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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