



THE GROVELAND E-WIRE

Volume 12, Issue 5, May, 2019

Sunday Services

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

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.

Sunday, May 12

Telling Stories, Creating Community

**Presented by Sara Leiste and Lois
Hamilton**

Telling each other stories about our lives brings us closer together and helps form a lasting community. This Sunday everyone will have a chance to listen and tell a story from the past or present with another person. Our discussion will focus on what it means to us to share our stories.

Sara and Lois are the Program Committee Co-Chairs and long time members of Groveland.

Sunday, May 19

Flower Communion

Presented by Leticia Smith

Join us for the Flower Communion service, our annual spring ritual that celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. In this ceremony, fellowship members and guests each bring a flower. Each

one places a flower in a shared vase. During the service, the moderator guides the fellowship so that the flowers are redistributed. Each person brings home a different flower than the one they brought. By exchanging flowers, we show our willingness to walk together in our search for truth, disregarding all that might divide us. Each person takes home a flower brought by someone else – thus symbolizing our shared celebration in community. This communion of sharing is essential to a free people of a free religion.

Leticia Smith is the Treasurer of Groveland UU Fellowship.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, May 19 will be our last Sunday program for our Fellowship year. We will begin our services again on September 8, 2019, the Sunday after Labor Day with the Mingling of the Waters service. Remember to bring home a sample of water from your travels this summer to share with us during this annual ceremony of community reunited.

Groveland Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 16, Noon

Our annual meeting will be held at Lois and Alan's house on Sunday, June 16. We will start at noon with a business meeting followed by a potluck. Agenda items will include Treasurer's report, approval of next year's budget (see two new budget items being considered - explained below), discussion of program, election of officers, and new business. We look forward to seeing you at our house on June 16.

-Alan Lando
(Call 651-699-2920 for any questions.)

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Explanation of Two New Budget Items

1) Recommendation to support Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul:

The Executive Committee of Groveland UU Fellowship recommends that we support Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul by paying a basic annual membership fee of \$100 starting July 1, 2019. This move is meant to signify solidarity with the nonprofit organization that has provided us a relatively low-cost place to hold our Sunday service for 25 plus years now, and whose mission and programs are compatible with our fellowship's covenant. Interfaith Action's mission is "...to unite the people, resources and voice of the faith community to build a more just, safe, equitable and livable Greater Saint Paul for all". Its programs "...provide critically needed shelter for families, free legal assistance, and emergency services related to food, clothing and transportation." At the same time, it seeks "... systemic solutions to reduce poverty through programs focused on high-impact volunteering, advanced understanding of the causes of poverty, and cultural and religious awareness and tolerance." For more information, visit Interfaith Action Website: interfaithaction.org.
-Leticia M. Smith, Treasurer, Groveland UU Fellowship

2) Recommendation to support the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance

For the first time in MUUSJA's history it is asking each of the UU congregations across Minnesota to provide annual support. MUUSJA is requesting Groveland UU Fellowship to contribute \$5.00 per member before the end of 2019 and annually after that. This would mean a \$125 addition to our budget.

For information about MUUSJA, see their website: muusja.org.
-Lois Hamilton, Program Co-Chair, Groveland UU Fellowship

Program Planning Meeting Sunday, June 30th, 1:00 p.m.

Our Annual Program Planning Meeting will be held Sunday, June 30th at 1:00 p.m. in Ceile Hartleib's back yard gazebo. This is when we put our ideas for the year's programs together and map out what themes we will explore, who will be the presenters and what the scheduling will be. All are invited and encouraged to participate.
(Call Lois at 651-699-2920 with questions.)

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

April's book group was cancelled due to a snowstorm, so our agenda for our May group remains the same:

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.

May Birthdays

No May birthdays to celebrate.

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.

Pictures from April Services:

On April 7th Paul Richgruber (below) spoke about the costs and consequences of



America's military-industrial complex. Karen Belling (below) moderated.



Art Crawl visitors

Several Grovelanders stopped by to see Terry and Ceile in their studio: Jerry, Huron, Leticia and Judy (not pictured).

Ruth Hamilton (below) talked about women with children in Oklahoma who are caught in the criminal justice system.



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.



Sara Leiste (right) spoke to us on April 28th about the Theology of Thandeka. Thankdeka is one of our most influential contemporary Unitarian Universalist theologians.

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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