

Volume 16, Issue 7, July/August 2023, page 1

Sunday Services

No Sunday Services during summer

Our next service will be Sunday, September 10, Mingling of the Waters. Remember to save some water to bring to the service from wherever you are wandering during the summer.

Summer Picnic, July 9



On Sunday, July 9th, we held our first summer picnic at Highland Park in St. Paul, with 12 members and friends in attendance. We are planning our August picnic in the same park on August 20th, 11:00 a.m. We hope you can join us.

Annual Meeting:

Our Annual Meeting was held on June 11th at Ceile Hartleib's. Elected officers are:

President: Ceile Hartleib

Treasurer: Sara Leiste

Secretary: Huron Smith

Program Chair: Leticia Smith

Thanks to our leaders for their continued leadership! We also passed our budget of \$6,898 in expenses.

Reminder: In Minnesota's theater of seasons, community is one thing we can count on. To keep our community strong, consider donating. We always need help for rent and presentations. To donate, please send a check to Treasurer, Groveland UU Fellowship P. O. Box 4001, St. Paul, MN 55104.

Program Planning Meeting:



We met on June 18th at Mano a Mano to plan next year's programs. Below is the program list for September:

September 10: 10:00 a.m.

Mingling of Waters

Hybrid Service (In-person and via Zoom)

Moderator: Ceile Hartleib

We begin our church year with our annual Mingling of Waters Ceremony. Please remember to bring water from your summer travels, from the Mississippi or from your home tap, to this service of reunion and communion. We will each pour our water into a communal bowl to represent our gathering together again to begin our new church year and share stories of our summer travels and adventures. We will also reaffirm our UU Principles at this service. Ceile is a long time Groveland Fellowship member and is currently serving as president.

September 17: 10:00 a.m.

How to Get Your Brain in Focus

(TED Talk - Zoom only)

Speaker: Chris Bailey

Moderator: Larry Herbison

The latest research is clear: the state of our attention determines the state of our lives. So how do we harness our attention to focus deeper, get distracted less, and even become more creative? Chris Bailey, author of the recent book *Hyperfocus*, talks about how our ability to focus is the key to

productivity, creativity, and living a meaningful life. He is the international bestselling author of *Hyperfocus* and *The Productivity Project*, which have been published in sixteen languages. Chris works with organizations around the globe on how they can become more productive without hating the process.

September 24: 10:00 a.m.

People I Want to Meet and Why

Hybrid service (In-person and via Zoom)

Moderator: Lois Hamilton

The program for this session is a group discussion on the topic "People I Want to Meet and Why." Attendees are encouraged to think about the topic before the service, and share thoughts and feelings about it during the discussion period.

Poetry by Nia ToGoThere

Nigerian author and philosopher, Bayo Akomolafe wrote about the need for creative "disruption." After listening to his inspiring talk, Nia wrote the poem below. "I hope it chuckles and smiles your day."



THE (disruptive) WARBLE OF THE WREN

*The little wren sang true
to itself. In response the
volcanoes disciplined their
eruptions. The nearby
mountains chuckled. The
seas calmed. The winds
shifted. The sun*

*surpassed its own trajectories and the
human who listened would write about the
conjoined galaxies that lessened all distances
because the stars wished to hear more.*

*The impeded streams forgot they couldn't
sing, and the lions didn't go grocery
shopping. Instead, settled for leftovers. The
deer didn't intimidate the fences but asked
permission to pass. The cars stopped no
longer wanting to disadvantage the air from
its own breath. The dogs stopped barking
and firmly rejected continued domestication.
The cats meowed with their approval.*

*The ants began to see, forgetting their
pheromone ancestry no longer wanting to be
colonized with the queen ant having all the
privileges. The flies concurred. The worms
revealed their secrets of regeneration. The
bees said they were seriously considering
collapsing their hierarchical colonial systems,
and the tomatoes said they would be
receptive to being both a vegetable and a
fruit.*

*Thunder agreed to whisper when babies
were sleeping. Grasshoppers taught their
locust relatives to integrate their
intergenerational trauma. The crickets and
frogs harmonized. The ducks and geese
settled their squabbles. The muskrat went on
social media to remind all the other
creatures to watch for Sky Woman in case
she fell through the hole in the sky.*

*The Sneeches, with Dr. Seuss' permission,
were going to become nudists. As part of
their ecological commitment the mice
switched to plant-based cheeses. The flowers
dismantled all caste systems toward the
untouchable weeds. Finally, the corn plant
proudly revealed that in generations past it
had been a weed.Nia ToGoThere, 2023*

Groveland Book Group

Wednesday, August 16

6:30-8:00 pm – On Zoom



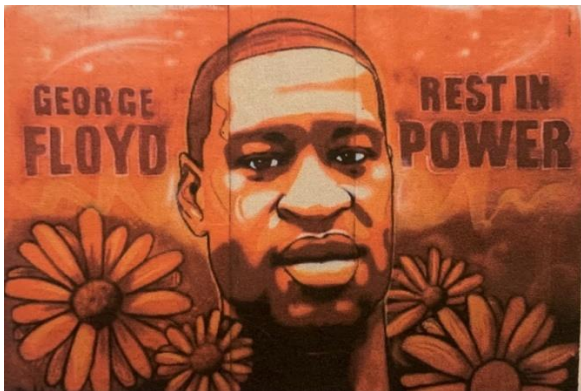
On August 16 we will meet at 6:30 pm on Zoom. Our format is a discussion of books we are

presently reading or have read recently. See our website for the Zoom link information. Please email Sara at leiste@yahoo.com for Zoom help.

Books talked about at the July meeting:
Demon Copperhead - Barbara Kingsolver
Hang the Moon - Jeanette Walls
Virgil Wander - Leif Enger
The Midnight Library - Matt Haig
Another Country - James Baldwin

Tears in the Darkness: The Story of the Bataan Death March and its Aftermath - Elizabeth Norman and Michael Norman
Hidden Figures - Margot Lee Shetterly
The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet - Jeff Goodell
Unchecked: The Untold Story Behind Congress's Botched Impeachment of DJT - Karoun Demirjian and Rachael Bade
To Die For - Lisa Gray
Copper River - William Kent Krueger
How Beautiful We Were - Imbolo Mbue
Web of Meaning: Integrating Science and Traditional Wisdom to Find Our Place in the Universe - Jeremy Lent
The Covenant of Water - Abraham Verghese
Goodbye Earl: A Revenge Novel - Leesa Cross-Smith
The Bad Popes - E. R. Chamberlain
How Jews Became Germans: The History of Conversions and Assimilation in Berlin - Deborah Hertz

Remember and Reflect: Street Art from the George Floyd Uprising



Save the Boards Minneapolis

Outdoor exhibit of street art boards
Saturday, August 5, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at
Becketwood, 4300 West River Parkway,
Minneapolis, 55406

Music by Brass Solidarity

12:30: Remarks by Kenda Zellner-Smith, Founder of Save the Boards Minneapolis (Sponsored by Save the Boards Minneapolis and by Becketwood Cooperative.)



August Birthdays

Happy Birthday, Lois!

More Pictures from the July Picnic:



Larry, Alan, Danielle, Cliff, Abby



Huron, Rose, Leticia, Larry, Alan, Danielle

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

Groveland meeting address:

Mano a Mano

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Donations: Please address donations to
Groveland UU Fellowship, and send them to:
PO Box 40011, St Paul, MN 55104

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