

Vol.16, Issue 9, October 2023, page 1

Sunday Services

Services start at 10:00 a.m. We meet at Mano a Mano, 925 Pierce Butler Route, at Milton St., St Paul, 55104. On the third Sunday of each month, services will only be on Zoom. All other services will be in person and simultaneously on Zoom (hybrid).

October 1, 10 a.m. Status of Legal Protection of Religious Freedom



**Hybrid (In-person at
Mano a Mano and on
Zoom)**

**Speaker: Deepinder
Singh Mayell**

**Moderator: Leticia
Smith**

Deepinder Singh Mayell will talk about the current landscape of the free exercise of religion in Minnesota and around the country. He will also talk about ACLU's work to counter efforts to blur the constitutional separation of church and state.

Deepinder, Executive Director of ACLU-MN, brings two decades of legal and advocacy experience supporting innovative strategies to protect the rights and dignity of marginalized communities. He previously served as executive director of the James H. Binger Center for New Americans at the University of Minnesota Law School.

A graduate of Brooklyn Law School, Deepinder has spent his career working for vulnerable populations. His past research work has included the constitutionality of

prolonged detention of prisoners at Guantanamo, and research on labor conditions in apparel factories in Jakarta, Indonesia.

October 8, 10 a.m. Atheism: A View of the World from the Ground Up

**Hybrid (In-person at Mano a Mano
and on Zoom)**

Moderator: Huron Smith

Speaker: August Berkshire



August Berkshire will present and discuss with us the differences between the world views of atheism and religion. Berkshire has been an atheist activist since

1984. He is a co-founder and past President of Minnesota Atheists. He is currently their Associate Chair and serves on their Public Policy Committee. He is also vice president of Atheist Alliance International.

He is the author of numerous pamphlets, and presentations such as "Atheism: A View of the World from the Ground Up" and "27 Reasons God-Belief is Dying". He has been speaking about atheism to public and Christian high schools and universities for over 30 years.

For the past 20 years he has been the owner of the ATHEIST car license plate in Minnesota. His story about becoming an atheist is featured in the anthology *Atheist Voices of Minnesota*. He is proud to be listed in the reference book *Who's Who in Hell*.

Continued on page 2

October 15, 10 a.m.

TEDx Talk: How to Find a Spiritual Connection

(Online Zoom from home only)

Speaker: Radhanath Swami

Moderator: Larry Herbison

In a world shrunken by digital connections are we still nourishing the right connections in our lives and in society? How can we get better connected spiritually, with ourselves



and with each other? Spiritual leader Radhanath Swami addresses these questions in this insightful talk.

Radhanath Swami is a world-renowned author, philanthropist and community builder. He has been a Bhakti Yoga practitioner and spiritual teacher for more than 40 years. He is the inspiration behind a free mid-day meal for 1.2 million school kids across India and he has been instrumental in founding the Bhaktivedanta Hospital in Mumbai. His work has led to meetings with U.S. President Barack Obama and India Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This talk was given at a TEDx event using the TED conference format but independently organized by a local community.

October 22, 10 a.m.

Group Discussion Topic: Memorable Events, Encounters or Books that Influenced My Life/Relationships

Hybrid service (In-person at Mano a Mano or on Zoom)

Moderator: Ceile Hartleib

Each month we are having a program with a group discussion on some chosen topic. This month, the moderator will lead a discussion about memorable events, encounters or books which influenced us in some way.

Everyone is encouraged to recollect and think about ideas and issues on the topic prior to the service.

October 29, 10:00 a.m.

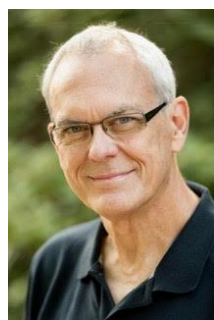
Expanding End-of-Life Options in Minnesota

Hybrid service (In-person at Mano a Mano or on Zoom)

Speakers: Rev. Harlan Limpert and Tara Guy

Moderator: Alan Lando

Ten states and the District of Columbia currently authorize medical aid in dying as



an option for terminally ill adults. Medical aid in dying is a specific clinical practice in which a terminally ill adult of sound mind may request a prescription medication from their physician which they may self-ingest to control the time and manner of an

inevitable death. Oregon was the first state to authorize its Death with Dignity Act in 1997 and Unitarian Universalists led the way. In fact, the UUA is the only denomination that actively supports medical aid in dying as an end-of-life option.

This presentation provides an overview of medical aid in dying and the proposed Minnesota End-of-Life Option Act, including clinical criteria and findings from 24 years of experience in Oregon. We'll discuss medical aid in dying in the context of the UUA spiritual tradition and as our legacy.

Rev. Harlan Limpert retired after serving 30 years as COO of the Unitarian Universalist Association. He is co-founder of the Interfaith Clergy for End-of-Life Options, an initiative of Compassion & Choices comprised of spiritual leaders united in support of a full range of end-of-life options, including medical aid in dying. Its mission is to promote understanding and acceptance of diverse spiritual beliefs related to end-of-life decisions.

Tara Guy volunteers for Compassion &



Choices, sharing stories about her friend Doris and the terminally ill advocates she has come to know and lost during her many

years of advocacy. She is shown in the photo with Doris who died from a painful disease without the benefit of choice. Compassion & Choices is the nation's leading nonprofit organization committed to improving care and expanding choices at the end of life. They work to empower individuals to make end-of-life decisions that are best for them and their families, and consistent with their personal values and priorities.

Looking Ahead...

November 5, 10:00 a.m.

Hinduism: Its Significance, Prospects and Challenges in the Modern Age

Hybrid (In-person at Mano a Mano and on Zoom)

Speaker: Godan Nambudiripad

Moderator: John Christensen

Godan Nambudiripad will briefly introduce the history of Hinduism and explain its basic beliefs and practices. He will explore with us the challenges this religion faces with increased immigration, technology and politics.

Born in the State of Kerala on the southwest corner of India into a traditional family, Godan Nambudiripad became an engineer in Kerala and received a graduate degree from the University of Toronto. He has had a variety of work experiences from a Russian engineering project in India and in the food industry in Minnesota, retiring from General Mills in 2007.

In addition to his engineering skills, Godan also has artistic and community leadership interests.

Godan is currently taking classes in Indian philosophy from the Hindu University of America, leads tours at the Hindu Mandir in Maple Grove and is a regular speaker at schools and other venues on Indian culture and Hinduism. He and his family live in the Twin Cities.

Groveland Book Group

Wednesday, October 18

6:30-8:00 pm – On Zoom

On October 18 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 spoken about at the September meeting:

Blood to Rubies: A Novel - Deborah Hufford

Wifedom: Mrs. Orwell's Invisible Life

Hamnet - Maggie O'Farrell

First Gen: A memoir - Alejandra Campoverdi

Silo book series - Hugh Howey

Nice Racism - Robin DiAngelo

When Breath Becomes Air - Paul Kalanithi

Cutting For Stone - Abraham Verghese

Lessons from the Edge - Marie Yovanovitch



September Birthdays

There are no October birthdays, so bake yourself a cake and enjoy!

Message from Our Treasurer

Please consider donating to Groveland Fellowship. We always need help with rent and presentations. Please send your check to Groveland UU Fellowship, P.O. Box 40011, Saint Paul, MN. Thank you.

Photos from previous services

Sept. 10, Mingling of Waters our first service of the church year:



Lois attended from home.

Ceile was moderator.

Rose told her story and poured water into the bowl.

Huron adds his story too.



Leticia tells us about her summer activities.

Paul joins in.

Bobbi and Larry share their stories.



On Sept 17, Lois let a group discussion, People I Want to Meet and Why.

We were encouraged to think about the person or persons we would most like to meet and share our thoughts and feelings about it during the discussion. Some spoke about world leaders, activists who they would like to meet and others shared about ancestors and questions they would like to ask them.

Email: mhaa427@aol.com

Lois Hamilton

Email: hamiltonlando@gmail.com

Ceile Hartleib

Email: ceilehartleib@gmail.com

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

Groveland meeting address:

Mano a Mano
925 W Pierce Butler Route, at Milton St., St Paul,
55104

Groveland UU Mailing address:

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.