



Inge Gunberg

Thich Nhat Hanh

Desmond Tutu

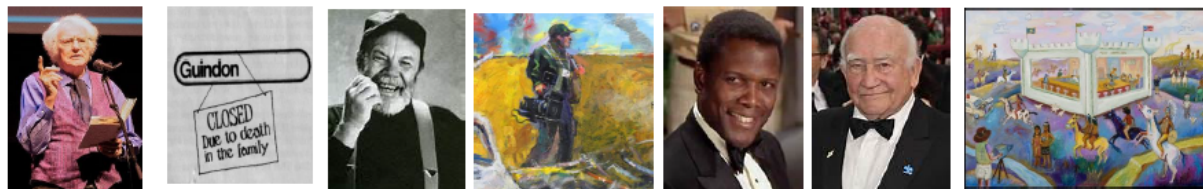
Jehan Sadat

Earl Old Person

Madeline Allright

E O Wilson

Willard Scott



Robert Ely

Richard Guindon

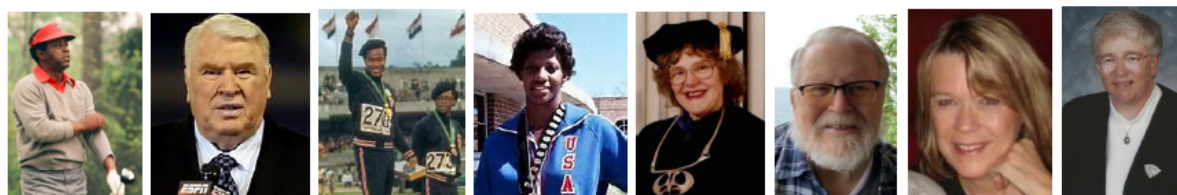
Gary Paulsen

Ezra Rippsud

Sidney Poitier

Ed Asner

Jim Denonnie



Lee Elder

John Madden

Lee Evans

Lusia Harris

Margaret Poeska

Dave Allan

Barbara (McCormille) Doyle

Jean Lovett

In Memory 2022

Annual Service at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato
Sunday, May 29, 2022—Tony Filipovitch officiating

“On this Memorial Day Weekend, we take time to remember, with deep gratitude, the many who have left us in this past year and have lighted or supported the light within us.”

Order of Service for May 29, 2022: In Memory, 2022

Tony Filipovitch, Worship Leader

Liz Kipp, Greeter

Dennis Cramblit, Hearing Assist

Treselia Greiner & Andy Roberts, Tech Squad

Deb Fitzloff, Zoom Host

Note: There is no Children’s Chapel this week.

Opening Music: Samuel Barber, Adagio for Strings <https://youtu.be/Hc8gYoXkLZ4>

See the current Weekly Update for Fellowship News:

We Gather and Invite

Greetings from the Whole Congregation (Everyone on Zoom is invited to unmute)

Bell Chime

Call to Worship: “At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”
Albert Schweitzer

Opening Song: Stephen Sondheim died this year at age 91. Lyricist and composer known for the complexity and the sophistication of both his lyrics and his compositions, he is credited with “reinventing the American musical.” He wrote the music and lyrics for 16 musicals, and the lyrics for another 3, among them *West Side Story* (1957), *Gypsy* (1959), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (1962), *Company* (1970), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *Sweeney Todd* (1979), *Merrily We Roll Along* (1981), *Sunday in the Park with George* (1984), and *Into the Woods* (1987). His honors include eight Tony Awards (including a Lifetime Achievement Tony in 2008), an Academy Award, eight Grammy Awards, a Pulitzer Prize, a Laurence Olivier Award, and a 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom. Let’s listen to “No One Is Alone” from *Into the Woods*. This version, from the stage, cuts off at the very end as the giant approaches for the final battle; the missing words are “Someone is on your side,/ No one is alone.” https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-trp-001&ei=UTF-8&hsimp=yhs-001&hspart=trp&p=into+the+woods+no+one+is+alone+youtube&type=Y143_F163_201897_102620#id=5&vid=0c9b8cb86cb6852d731d36ea305461f9&action=view

Welcome:

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato, where some of our space is virtual, but all of our worship is not. All you here today, you are all welcome in this time we make sacred together. All—all—are loved, worthy, and needed. Our human differences are sacred and make us strong. Here, you can bring your whole self.

Before European colonization, the Dakota peoples were stewards of the land on which our Fellowship building sits. In Dakota language, Ina is the word for both mother and land, a word reminding us that we are all relatives. The land does not belong to us, though it holds the history of our conflicts and our attempts at reconciliation. We are committed to understanding our shared history, accepting responsibility for restoration, and building relationship in the here and now. We seek to be good relatives.

I am the Tony Filipovitch, a member of this congregation and honored and humbled to lead you in today’s worship.

We Center Ourselves to Worship/Shape Worth

Chalice Lighting:

We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth, and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.

Reading: Sidney Poitier died this year at age 94. An Oscar-winning actor, he is probably best known for *To Sir With Love*, *Lilies of the Field*, *In the Heat of the Night*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. He was a genius at portraying Black men who were decent and honest, and who struggled to control their anger at the injustice they faced. He was also a leader in the Civil Rights movement. He made a little-known recording, *Sidney Poitier Meets Plato*, with music by Fred Katz. Let's listen to his reading of Socrates' statement to the court when he was condemned to death for corrupting the morals of the youth.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPYytfMLiTs&list=PLQInONzyc4smlXxSOnTR176m-DV1Vzy-T&index=10>

Meditation

In Memory 2022

We Turn to the Larger World with Renewed Commitment

Sorrows & Joys

Singing Prayer: To the tune of #1002 (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein

Comfort me. Share my joy.

Comfort me, oh my soul. (2x)

Giving: Bill Staines died this year at age 74. Folk singer/songwriter, he is probably best known for "All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir." This Fellowship depends on the generosity of members to keep our chalice burning. And the Second Collection this month is for the Living Earth Center at Good Counsel. As we pass the basket and share, each what we can, let's all sing Staines' song together. <https://youtu.be/sTKJUxl8TL4>

Story for All Ages: And, while we're in the mood, let's listen to a children's story that's written for all ages. As the physicist reminds us, we are all made of star stuff. *The Stuff of Stars*, written by Marion Dane Bauer, illustrated by Ekua Holmes is read on video by Children's Faith Development Director Macey Forsyth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhhuMNFNy6U&t=2s>

Closing Reading: Joan Didion died this year at age 87. Essayist and stylist, she is best known for *Slouching Toward Bethlehem* and *The White Album* (known particularly for its opening line "We tell ourselves stories in order to live"). Brutally honest, she also wrote that "writers are always selling somebody out." In *The Year of Magical Thinking*, a memoir of grief following the death of her husband, she wrote: "We are not idealized wild things. We are imperfect mortal beings, aware of that mortality even as we push it away, failed by our very complication, so wired that when we

mourn our losses we also mourn, for better or for worse, ourselves. As we were. As we are no longer. As we will one day not be at all.”

I had initially planned to end with this reading. But yesterday the *NY Times* published Amanda Gorman’s poem, “Hymn for Hurting.” I’d like to share it with you, also:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/27/opinion/amanda-gorman-uvalde-poem.html>

Chalice Extinguishing: *We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.*

Closing Song: Mikis Theodorakis died this year at age 96. Beloved Greek composer, his work spanned classical symphonies to song cycles of the poetry of Lorca and of Odysseas Elytis, to film scores (including *Zorba the Greek* and *Serpico*), to the anthem of the PLO. During World War II and the Greek Civil War that followed, he was imprisoned and tortured, and spent much of his life supporting revolutionary political causes at home and abroad. For our closing song, let’s listen to “Zorba’s Dance” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_BHJNAJk8Q. It comes as the end of the movie, when everything has fallen apart for Zorba and Basil, and Basil asks Zorba to teach him to dance. The music begins slowly and melancholically, but by the end it is wildly ecstatic.

Benediction (from *Oedipus at Colonus*, Sophocles):

“Now let weeping cease. Let no one mourn again. For all these things are in the hands of god.”
Go in peace.

Meditation:

The Four Horseman of the Apocalypse—Pestilence (in COVID), Famine (in the mess we left behind in Afghanistan), War (in the Ukraine), and Death (mass shootings in schools and stores)—have been featured on the news of late. They drive home the ways that our lives are inherently contingent, rather than a reward or punishment for our moral choices. As we mourn our losses, we also mourn ourselves, as Joan Didion wrote. We realize the truth that nothing is given us except this day—the past is gone, the future is uncertain.

And yet, we have cause to remember, with deep gratitude, the many who have lighted or supported the light within us—even though sometimes we can only see it clearly some time after it was done. As Sondheim’s song has it, “(It’s) hard to see the light now,/ just don’t let it go./ Things will come out right now,/We can make it so./ You are not alone.”

Socrates, facing his own death, tells us that death is not the end—at most it is the sleep of a single night, and perhaps it is an infinite delight of being with others who have gone before. At Jean Lovett’s memorial, John Knox in the person of “the physicist” reminded us of the First Law of Thermodynamics: though no energy is created or destroyed in the universe, it may change form. All of a person’s energy, every BTU of heat, every vibration, every wave of every particle remains in this world. Not a bit of you is gone, you will just be less orderly (which for some of us may be a good thing). We are the stuff of stars, and amid the energies of the cosmos we give as good as we got.

Today is a time to hold in memory, if only briefly, a few (only a few) of the people who, for better or ill, have brought us to where we are today as we, all, build on the memories that will carry forward those who are coming behind us. Across the wild diversity of our differences, we all have “a place in the choir.” Let us take a moment to each recall some of those who have done this for us.

In Memory, 2022

We have a tradition at UUFM that goes back to 1999 when our part-time minister then, Rev. Sarah Oehlberg, celebrated Memorial Day by remembering those who had died in the last year. While she would deliver her sermon at Nora Church in Hanska, I would read it to us on Pohl Road. After she retired, I continued the practice on my own, clipping and compiling obituaries starting the day after this service. It is too long to deliver the whole memorial—it will be available on our website, if you are interested. Instead, I will pick and choose a few to highlight from each Generation.

Lest we forget, this was, yet again, a year marked by violence—

- We don’t have a decent count of the number of innocent bystanders killed in the war in Ukraine, nor of the number of combatants killed on both sides. At least 7 journalists have been killed covering the war in Ukraine— Yevhenii Sakun, Brent Renaud, Pierre Zakrzewski, Oleksandra Kuvshynova, Oksana Baulina, Maks Levin, Mantas Kvedaravičius —and Shireen Abu Akleh, shot while covering an Israeli raid in Palestine.
- 703 people killed in mass shootings in the last year in the US, over 221 so far this year. They seem to be happening every other day, and this number is probably outdated even

as I speak it. We particularly remember the 10 people killed in the Buffalo shooting and the 21 children and teachers killed in Uvalde this month.

- 1,144 people in the US were killed by the police last year, 10 of them in Minnesota.

Also, 97 people died when their condo collapsed in Surfside, FL, and 170 died in flash flooding in Germany and Belgium.

And, so far, Covid 19 has claimed over 6.25 million people worldwide, over 1 million in the US, and 13,000 in Minnesota.

International Affairs

Ingeborg (Inge) Ginsberg, 99. Daughter of a wealthy German-Jewish businessman who bribed his way out of Dachau, she fled to Switzerland where she helped American spies. Later she wrote songs and poetry and memoirs, worked as a journalist, and financier. At age 92 she fronted a death metal band called Inge and the Tritone Kings. “In America and even in European culture, the old people are excluded from life. You have to have the chance to be heard.” You can listen to one of her hits, [“I’m Still Here.”](#)

Kenneth Kaunda, 97. Zambia’s first president, he served for 27 years and then stepped down in a peaceful transition of power after losing the election.

Thich Nhat Hanh, 95. Zen Master, prolific author, and peace activist.

Maria del Rosario Ibarra de la Garza, 95. She was one of the founders of the campaign to find the *desaparecidos* from the dirty war in Mexico. When President Lopez Portillo finally signed the amnesty that released about 150 of the missing, her son was not among them. She became the first woman to run for president of Mexico, and served two terms in the Chamber of Deputies and two terms in the Senate.

Desmond Tutu, 90. Archbishop of Cape Town, chair of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, advocate for racial justice and LGBT rights, and Nobel Laureate. His moral courage made him a towering figure on the world stage, and a beloved character in his own country.

Jehan Sadat, 87. Human rights activist and wife of assassinated Egyptian president Anwar Sadat. She helped reform her country’s civil rights legislation, affectionately called “Jehan’s Laws,” that gave women the right to child support and custody in the event of divorce. Her parents were not that sure about her marriage to a jobless revolutionary who had just finished a 2-year prison sentence for his political activities (he was 30 and she was 15).

F.W. deKlerk, 85. The last president of apartheid South Africa. He then lost the election to Nelson Mandela and joined his administration as second deputy president. They shared the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts.

Paul Farmer, 62. Physician and humanitarian, he co-founded Partners for Health and worked among the poor primarily in Haiti and Rwanda.

Jovenel Moise, 53. President of Haiti, he was assassinated by foreign mercenaries (including two Americans).

National Affairs

Lawrence Brooks, 112. Oldest American veteran of WWII, and believed to be the oldest man in the US.

Bob Dole, 98. He represented Kansas in the House and the Senate from 1961-96, served as Senate Majority Leader 3 times, was his party's nominee for vice president and for president. Severely wounded in the last days of WWII, in his retirement he devoted much of his attention to veterans' affairs. He was known for his sarcastic wit, which he turned on himself as much as on his opponents. After the crushing defeat in New Hampshire of his run for the presidential nomination in 1980, he told the press the next day that he "slept like a baby. Every two hours I woke up and cried."

Midge Decter, 94. Writing in *Commentary* among other journals, she was a leader of the neoconservative movement, denouncing Soviet communism and American liberalism, feminism, and the progressive movement in general. Formidable in her own right, she was married to Norman Podhoretz (longtime editor of *Commentary*), mother of John Podhoretz (speech writer for Ronald Reagan) and mother-in-law to Elliot Abrams (foreign policy advisor to Reagan and George W. Bush).

Yale Kamisar, 93. University of Michigan legal scholar (who began his career at the other UofM), his work on civil liberties heavily influenced the Supreme Court in decisions such as *Gideon vs. Wainwright* and *Miranda vs. Arizona*.

Edwin Edwards, 93. Flamboyant Louisiana governor and US Congressman, and felon convicted of racketeering and extortion. In his 1991 gubernatorial campaign against Ku Klux Klan grand wizard David Duke, his bumper stickers read "Vote for the crook. It's important."

Earl Old Person, 92. Chief of the Blackfeet Nation, and longest-serving elected tribal leader (62 years when he retired in 2016). He told the nation, "We don't need your help, we want your business."

Autherine Lucy Foster, 92. First Black student at the University of Alabama in 1956. After three days of rioting, she was suspended "for her own safety" and then expelled for defaming the University. She married and moved to Texas where she had a career as a teacher. In 1988 Alabama reinstated her and she earned a Master's in education in 1992. In 2019 she was awarded an honorary doctorate and three weeks before she died the College of Education building at Alabama was named in her honor.

Norman Mineta, 90. Interned at the Heart Mountain Camp in Wyoming as a child, the Japanese-American citizen went on to become a Congressman from California and the first Japanese-American Cabinet Secretary. He served as Secretary of Commerce under Bill Clinton and Transportation Secretary under George W. Bush (back in the days when public service came before politics, and one could serve in both a Democratic and a Republican administration).

Orrin Hatch, 88. He served as US Senator from Utah from 1977-2019—the longest-serving Republican Senator in history.

Carl Levin, 87. Six-term Senator from Michigan, he chaired the Armed Services Committee. In that post, he worked to undo the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy of the Clinton Administration. While he supported the war against terror in Afghanistan, he criticized the way it was prosecuted and opposed the invasion of Iraq as a distraction.

F. Lee Bailey, 87. Celebrity defense attorney, he represented Sam Sheppard, Albert DeSalvo, Patty Hearst, Capt. Ernest Medina, and OJ Simpson. He was disbarred as a result of mishandling the stock portfolio of one of his clients, Claude DeBoc.

Robert “Bob” Moses, 86. Civil rights leader and educator, he began as a math teacher. He went South to work on voter registration and training activists in nonviolence. Later he established “Freedom Schools” that focused on math education as a way to move up the ladder.

Clyde Bellecourt, 85. Co-founder of the American Indian Movement, and activist in Native American Affairs, especially in the upper Midwest.

Madeleine Albright, 84. First woman to be appointed Secretary of State.

John Canley, 84. First living Black Marine to receive the Medal of Honor for leading his company and carrying his men to safety at the battle of Hue when his commanding officer was severely wounded.

Robert McFarlane, 84. National Security adviser to President Reagan, and the only one to voluntarily accept legal blame for the Iran-Contra scandal.

Harry Reid, 82. For 30 years, Senator from Nevada; for 8 years he was Senate Majority Leader. He helped pass the Affordable Care Act, the Dodd–Frank Act, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Max Cleland, 79. He lost an arm and both legs in VietNam, and went on to lead the Veteran’s Administration under President Carter.

Sarah Weddington, 76. At age 26, she successfully argued the case of *Roe v. Wade* before the Supreme Court. That same year she was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, where she served for three terms, before going on to General Counsel for the USDA and, later, advisor on women’s issues to President Jimmy Carter.

Andre Leon Talley, 73. American fashion journalist, stylist, creative director, and editor-at-large of *Vogue* since the 1970s.

Richard Trumka, 72. A third-generation miner, he became the president of the United Mine Workers, and then of the AFL-CIO.

Raymond Odierno, 67. 39-year veteran and commanding general of the American Coalition Forces in Iraq, and then Army Chief of Staff. In his first command in Iraq, he went in with hard force, knocking down doors and scooping young men off the streets to send them to the infamous prison at Abu Ghraib. When he returned later, he had transformed his philosophy (perhaps because his son lost an arm when an RPG blew up his HUM-V in Iraq) to soft force, focused on winning the hearts and minds of the local population.

Jim Hagedorn, 59. Two-term Congressman from the First District in Minnesota.

William Jewett, 58. Vermont legislator who, in 2013, helped pass a law which permitted medically-assisted suicide. After retiring from the Legislature, he developed a terminal cancer and used the law the end his life.

Science & Business

Edward O. Wilson, 92. Evolutionary biologist, called “Darwin’s natural heir.” He won two Pulitzers for his writing, the first for *On Human Nature*, laying out the principles of sociobiology which links behavior to genetics. His second Pulitzer was for *The Ants*, his specialty in field biology. In 2006 he published *The Creation* in which he argued that science and religion should work together to protect nature and the diversity of life on earth. He went on to found the EO Wilson Biodiversity Foundation.

Yuan Longping, 90. The “father of hybrid rice,” he developed the world’s first hybrid varieties in the 1970s in response to the famines from Mao’s Great Leap Forward. Now 30% of the rice grown in the world is hybrid.

Luc Montagnier, 89. French virologist whose work identifying the AIDS retrovirus earned the Nobel Prize.

Hazel Henderson, 89. Futurist, economist, author of *Beyond Globalization* and *Ethical Markets*, advisor to the National Science Foundation and the US Office of Technology Assessment, proponent of the green economy and ethical investing. She argued that GDP was not the best measure of a nation’s progress, that it should be measured by things like health and decreasing poverty and environmental sustainability. For which, the Public Relations Society of America declared her “the most dangerous woman in America.” A homemaker and self-described “self-employed futurist,” she never graduated from college but was awarded 4 Honorary Doctorates and was a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Willard Scott, 87. He worked at NBC for 65 years, more than 30 years as the weather forecaster on the “Today” show. He was known for his crazy costumes—including dressing up as Carmen Miranda on air to win a dare for a \$1,000 donation to the USO. He also played Bozo the Clown, Ronald McDonald and Santa Claus for the National Tree Lighting Ceremony. Barbara Bush gave him a kiss on live television during the 1989 inaugural parade; when the president remarked that he didn’t know she knew Willard Scott, the first lady replied, “I don’t. I just love that face.”

Ron Popeil, 86. Inventor and marketer, he founded Ronco, a marketing company, and appeared on many late-night TV infomercials selling his inventions, including the Chop-O-Matic, the Veg-O-Matic, and the Ronco Pocket Fisherman. He popularized the catch phrase, “But wait, there’s more!” He was awarded the IgNobel Prize for Consumer Engineering in 1993.

John McAfee, 75. Antivirus software pioneer, he stepped away from the company he founded and pursued other software designs. He was two-time presidential candidate for the Libertarian Party, and died in a Spanish prison while awaiting extradition to the US on tax evasion charges.

Neal Conan, 71. NPR producer and on-air personality, he anchored “Talk of the Nation” for 12 years. His 5-decade career started when he was 17, and included a stint covering the Persian Gulf War where he was captured and held hostage for nearly a week by the Republican Guard.

Maki Kaji, 69. Creator of Sudoku, he dropped out of college to start Japan’s first puzzle magazine, and a few years later came up with sudoku (its name comes from the Japanese words for “number” and “single”). It was not initially a success in Japan, but when it caught on in New Zealand and then in Britain, it was reimported to Japan (for a while, its Japanese name was “gyakuyunyu” which means “reimport”).

Virgil Abloh, 41. Designer for Louis Vuitton who combined streetwear with high fashion. He learned to sew from his mother, but was educated as a civil engineer (at Madison) and then as an architect (at IIT). He also moonlighted as a DJ and was nominated for a Grammy for his art direction on the West-Jay-Z album, “Watch the Throne.” His work has been exhibited at the Louvre, the Gagosian and the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.

Writers

Robert Bly, 94. Considered one of the leading poets of his age, the Minnesota poet is probably best known not for his poetry but for his mythologizing in *Iron John: A Book About Men*. He also translated other poets, among them Rumi and Pablo Neruda.

Joan Didion, 87. Essayist and stylist, she is best known for *Slouching Toward Bethlehem* (a cold-eyed examination of the 50s and 60s), *The White Album* (the 60s and 70s—known particularly for its opening line “We tell ourselves stories in order to live”), and *The Year of Magical Thinking* (a memoir of her grieving following the death of her husband). She also wrote that “writers are always selling somebody out.”

Richard Guindon, 86. St. Paul kid whose career as a political cartoonist began at the *Minnesota Daily*. He published in the *Tribune* from the 60s to the 80s, when he went to the *Detroit Free Press* (I never understood that—he was so good at capturing the peculiarities of Minnesotans). He also co-founded the *Brave New Workshop* with Dudley Riggs and owned the Jazz Lab coffeehouse on Payne Avenue, which he described as a “sort of surreptitious [place]...which was raided by suspicious St. Paul police one night during a Great Books discussion.”

Gary Paulsen, 82. Author of more than 200 children’s and young adult books, mostly based on wilderness adventures. His work includes *Hatchet* and *The River*. Born in Minneapolis, he eventually settled in New Mexico although he also lived on a houseboat in the Pacific and had a place in Alaska where he trained sled dogs—which he raced in the Iditarod.

Anne Rice, 80. Master of gothic fiction, she is best known for her vampire books beginning with *Interview with a Vampire*. Born Howard Allen Frances O’Brien in New Orleans (where much of her fiction is placed), she was raised Catholic but struggled most of her life with the Church’s stand on homosexuality, feminism, and artificial birth control. She said that the theme of her work was “how one suffers as an outcast, how one is shut out of various levels of meaning and, ultimately, out of human life itself.”

PJ O'Rourke, 74. Conservative (sort of) political satirist whose curmudgeonly persona belied his warm heart. His is best known for his books, including NY Times Bestsellers *A Parliament of Whores* and *Give War a Chance*. He once wrote, "The Democrats are the party that says government will make you smarter, taller, richer and remove the crab grass on your lawn. The Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work and then get elected and prove it."

Jill Murphy, 72. Best known for the much-loved picture book *Peace at Last* and the *Worst Witch* series of novels.

Gloria Jean Watkins, 69. You know her as "bell hooks," her pen name taken from her maternal grandmother. Author, professor, feminist, and social activist, she wrote about the oppression and classism that arises from the intersection of race, gender, and capitalism.

Brent Renaud, 50. Documentary filmmaker and journalist, he was shot to death outside Kyiv while covering the war in Ukraine.

Actors & Film

Betty White, 99. Over a career that spanned 7 decades, you know her for her roles as the sickening sweet Sue Ann Nivens on the Mary Tyler Moore Show, the terminally naïve Rose Nylund on *The Golden Girls*, and the caretaker Elka Ostrovsky on *Hot in Cleveland*. But she was also the first woman to produce a TV sitcom (in the 1950s), honorary mayor of Hollywood in 1955, and winner of 8 Emmy Awards in various categories, 3 American Comedy Awards, 3 Screen Actors Guild Awards, and a Grammy Award.

Sidney Poitier, 94. An Oscar-winning actor, he is probably best known for *To Sir With Love*, *Lilies of the Field*, *In the Heat of the Night*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. He was a genius at portraying Black men who were decent and honest, and who struggled to control their anger at the injustice they faced. He was also a leader in the Civil Rights movement.

Mort Sahl, 94. A stand-up comedian who specialized in biting social commentary, he changed the character of both stand-up and social commentary and paved the way for Lenny Bruce, Dick Gregory, Woody Allen, George Carlin and Richard Pryor. He was described as "a very likeable guy who makes ex-friends easily." He was particularly hard on the sanctimonious, describing liberals as "people who do the right things for the wrong reasons so they can feel good for 10 minutes." He started performing in the '50s, and was still performing in his 90's when COVID hit.

Michael Constantine, 94. He won an Emmy for his portrayal of the father in *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. He also played the principal on TV's "Room 222," and appeared in such shows as "My Favorite Martian," "The Twilight Zone," "Bonanza," and "Hogan's Heroes."

Yacov Moshe Hakohen Maza ("Jackie Mason"), 93. Comedian and actor, his one-man show "The World According to Me" won a Tony and an Emmy and was nominated for a Grammy. Grandson, son, and brother of rabbis, he was also an ordained rabbi and served several congregations. He didn't go into borscht-belt comedy until after his father died.

Jane Powell, 92. Star of Hollywood's Golden-Age musicals, she sang with Howard Keel in "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" and danced with Fred Astaire in "Royal Wedding." She was born

Suzanne Lorraine Burce in Portland, OR, and was singing on local radio by age 5, singing opera with a 2 ½-octave range. When her family planned a trip to Los Angeles, the station asked her to appear on a network show there. MGM signed her for a musical film, “Song of the Open Road,” with WC Fields. Her character was called Jane Powell, and the name stuck.

Ed Asner, 91. Actor and president of the Screen Actors Guild. He won 7 Prime Time Emmy Awards—5 for his portrayal of Lou Grant (both as a comedy in *Mary Tyler Moore Show* and as a drama in *Lou Grant*). He also portrayed Santa in *Elf* and was the voice of Carl in *Up*.

Melvin Van Peebles, 89. The godfather of Black cinema, he directed *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*, which he produced for \$500,000 (it grossed \$14,000,000) and advertised as “rated X by an all-white jury,” and started the genre of Blaxploitation films. He wrote novels and scripts and produced films in French as well as in English (in his early days, success for Black artists came more readily in France than in the US).

Jean-Paul Belmondo, 88. French leading man, he first came to fame playing an amoral gangster in the New Wave film *Breathless*. His career spanned 60 years and 90 films, including *That Man From Rio*. He specialized in portraying charming rogues and rebels without a cause. A high school dropout and amateur boxer, he did his own stunts and was often compared to James Dean.

Dwayne Hickman, 87. His acting career began at age 5 (he was an extra in *Grapes of Wrath*), and by age 8 he was an established child actor. For four years he portrayed Chuck in the *Bob Cummings Show*, and then for another four years he starred as Dobie Gillis. Later in life he was a TV producer and director.

Sally Kellerman, 84. Singer and actress on TV and film for more than 60 years, she was a favorite of director Robert Altman. She is probably best known for her role as “Hot Lips” Houlihan in the movie version of *MASH*.

Emilio Delgado, 81. Beloved actor who portrayed Luis on Sesame Street for 45 years.

Howard Hesseman, 81. A character actor who played counter-culture roles such as the radio DJ Dr. Johnny Fever on the sitcom *WKRP in Cincinnati* and history teacher Charlie Moore on *Head of the Class*.

Peter Bogdanovich, 82. Director of *The Last Picture Show*, *What's Up Doc?*, and *Paper Moon*.

Tommy Kirk, 79. A Disney child star, he starred in *Old Yeller*, *The Shaggy Dog*, *Swiss Family Robinson*, *The Misadventures of Merlin Jones*. After starring in 11 movies in 8 years, Disney fired him when they found out he was gay. As his movie career tanked, he found work as a waiter, chauffeur, and head of his own carpet-cleaning company. But he was not bitter; “No bitterness, no regrets” he told the Kentucky Herald-Leader in 1990.

Lewis Whitlock III, 72. Born in S. Minneapolis (his childhood home is now under I-35W), he began dancing at age 4 and was performing professionally by high school. He acted in the founding company of the Chanhassen Dinner Theater, brought *Black Nativity* to the Penumbra Theater, performed in the first national tour of *The Wiz*, and was a State Department Cultural Envoy to Central Asia and the Baltics. He also earned his MFA in Theater from MSU Mankato.

William Hurt, 71. He was awarded an Oscar for his role in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. He also starred in *Broadcast Blues*, *Body Heat*, *The Big Chill*, and *Children of a Lesser God*.

Louis Anderson, 68. Stand-up comic from Minnesota, he was also an actor and won an Emmy for his character Christine Basket, which he based on his mother.

Gilbert Gottfried, 67. Actor and stand-up comic, he was probably best known for the voice of the parrot, Iago, in Disney's *Aladdin* and the duck in the Aflac commercials.

Ray Liotta, 67. Actor best known for his roles as Shoeless Joe Jackson in *Field of Dreams* and Henry Hill in *Goodfellas*.

Bob Saget, 65. He played a single dad to the Olsen twins in *Full House*, and hosted *America's Funniest Home Videos* for years.

Michael K. Williams, 54. Actor who portrayed Omar Little, the gay stick-up man in the TV series "The Wire," for which he received 5 Emmy nominations. He grew up in East Flatbush, and began his performing career as a backup dancer in music videos for George Michaels and Madonna. Slashed across the face in a bar fight when he was 25, directors started slotting him into thug roles and he played Tupac Shakur's brother in "Bullet."

Music & Art

Ashley Bryan, 98. Writer and illustrator of children's books, mostly drawn from the African-American experience. His picture book *Freedom Over Me* received a Newbery Honor and he received the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award for his contribution to American children's literature in 2009.

Mikis Theodorakis, 96. Beloved Greek composer, his work spanned classical symphonies to song cycles of the poetry of Lorca and of Odysseas Elytis, to film scores (including *Zorba the Greek* and *Serpico*), to the anthem of the PLO. During World War II and the Greek Civil War that followed, he was imprisoned and tortured, and spent much of his life supporting revolutionary political causes at home and abroad.

George Crumb, 92. American avant-garde composer, he was known for exploring unusual sounds and ways to make them. Examples include seagull effect for the cello (e.g. *Vox Balaenae*), metallic vibrato for the piano (e.g. *Five Pieces for Piano*), and using a mallet to play the strings of a double bass (e.g. *Madrigals, Book I*) His best-known works include *Ancient Voices of Children* (1970), *Black Angels* (1971), and *Makrokosmos III* (1974).

Stephen Sondheim, 91. Lyricist and composer known for the complexity and the sophistication of both his lyrics and his compositions, he is credited with "reinventing the American musical." He wrote the music and lyrics for 16 musicals, and the lyrics for another 3, among them *West Side Story* (1957), *Gypsy* (1959), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (1962), *Company* (1970), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *Sweeney Todd* (1979), *Merrily We Roll Along* (1981), *Sunday in the Park with George* (1984), and *Into the Woods* (1987). His honors include eight Tony Awards (including a Lifetime Achievement Tony in 2008), an Academy Award, eight Grammy Awards, a Pulitzer Prize, a Laurence Olivier Award, and a 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Leslie Bricusse, 90. Oscar-winning British songwriter for more than 5 decades. He wrote both music and lyrics, both alone and with collaborators. He wrote the lyrics for “Goldfinger” and “You Only Live Twice,” the score for “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory” and the theme song, “Pure Imagination.” He also wrote “The Candy Man,” one of Sammy Davis Jr.’s theme songs.

Dave Frishberg, 88. Jazz songwriter and pianist, and St. Paul native, he was known for his witty lyrics and melodic cleverness. He wrote many of the songs for “Schoolhouse Rock,” and is probably best known for the sardonic “I’m Hip.”

David William Kearney, 87. We knew him as “Guitar Shorty.” The bluesman, known for his gymnastic antics on stage (he would play guitar from a headstand, and do backflips on his solos). He was a major influence on Jimmy Hendrix and Buddy Guy, and fronted for the likes of T-Bone Walker, Little Richard, Big Joe Turner and Sam Cooke.

Tom T. Hall, 85. Country music’s story-teller, he wrote 12 No. 1 Hit songs, including “Harper Valley PTA” and “Hello Viet Nam.”

Don Everly, 84. The elder of the Everly Brothers, elder of the rock-n-roll duo known for steel-string guitar and close harmony style. Their hits included “Bye Bye Love,” “Wake Up Little Suzie,” “All I Have to Do Is Dream,” and “Cathy’s Clown.” Their musical style influenced, among others, the Beatles, the Beach Boys, the Bee Gees, and Simon & Garfunkel.

Paddy Maloney, 83. Founder of The Chieftains, a master of the tin whistle and the Irish pipes, he arranged all of their music. They recorded more than 3 dozen albums and won 6 Grammys, and helped to revive traditional Irish music.

Stephen Lawrence, 82. He composed more than 300 songs for *Sesame Street*, and wrote several of the songs for *Free to Be You and Me*. He received Emmys for both works.

Jerry Pinkney, 81. Children’s book illustrator who brought Black history and culture to life. He won the Caldecott Medal for *The Lion and the Mouse*, his adaptation of Aesop’s fable.

Chuck Close, 81. Artist known for his monumental-scale, photorealist pointillist portraits. He was paralyzed late in the ‘80s, and continued his career from a wheelchair using a hand brace to hold his brush.

Charlie Watts, 80. For 58 years, the drummer for *Rolling Stones*. Strongly influenced by jazz, he also performed with his own Charlie Watts Quintet.

Robert Louis Ridarelli, 79. The Philadelphia drummer we knew as Bobby Rydell. In the time between Elvis and the Beatles, he was the most popular teen singer in the country. He starred as Conrad Birdie in the movie version of *Bye, Bye, Birdie* and Rydell High in the musical *Grease* was named for him. His song “Swingin School” was a model for the Beatles “She Loves You.”

Veronica Yvette Greenfield (Ronnie Spector), 78. Lead singer of The Ronettes and “the original bad girl of Rock ‘n Roll.” Her best known songs were “Be My Baby” (1963), “Baby, I Love You” (1963), “(The Best Part of) Breakin’ Up” (1964) and “Walking in the Rain” (1964).

Michael Nesmith, 78. The “Quiet One,” he was a struggling singer-songwriter when he joined with three others for the made-for-TV rockband, The Monkees. When the group broke up four years later, he continued his career as a musician, but also as a writer, film producer and director, book author, media arts executive, and creator of a music video format that led to the creation of MTV.

Naomi Judd, 76. Part of the duo The Judds with her daughter Wynona, she died a few days before she was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Sarah Dash, 76. Part of the trio, LaBelle, best known for their hit “Lady Marmalade.” She had a long career in music with various groups, including singing sideman for the Rolling Stones.

Gary Brooker, 76. Frontman for Procul Harum, best known for “A Whiter Shade of Pale.”

Bill Staines, 74. Folk singer/songwriter, he is probably best known for “All God’s Critters Got a Place in the Choir.”

Joe Michael “Dusty” Hill, 72. Bassist for ZZ Top, known for his sunglasses and long beard. He was still touring with the band a week before he died.

Dennis “Dee Tee” Thomas, 70. Founding member of the soul-funk band, Kool and the Gang, famous for their songs “Celebration” and “Get Down on It.”

Jim Denomie, 66. Ojibwe artist who was known for his use of color, his acerbic sense of humor, and his spirituality and mysticism. He is scheduled to have a major exhibition at the MIA in 2023.

Joanne Shenandoah, 63. Native American singer-songwriter, she won 14 Native American Music Awards and contributed to the Grammy-winning album “Sacred Ground.” She was a member of the Wolf clan of the Oneida Nation.

Terence “Astro” Wilson, 64. Founding member of British reggae band, UB40, whose hits included “Red Red Wine” and “(I Can’t Help) Falling in Love.”

Marvin Lee Adsay (Meat Loaf), 74. Singer, guitarist and actor best known for his album, *Bat Out of Hell*. His musical style was described as “Rococo Rock.”

Marcel Theo Hall “Biz Markie,” 57. Rapper, human beatbox, producer, actor. He was best known for his hit, “Just a Friend.”

Sports

Gene Shue, 90. Two-time NBA Coach of the Year, he specialized in turning around losing teams—the Baltimore Bullets, the Philadelphia 76ers, and the San Diego Clippers. He said the whole idea of coaching is to be able to take any group and show off their strengths.

Lee Elder, 87. First Black golfer to play the Master’s, he did it in spite of racist taunts all along the way.

John Madden, 85. Head coach for the Oakland Raiders, he led them to the championship in Superbowl XI. He never had a losing season as a coach. He retired from coaching because he hated

flying, and became a color commentator for NFL broadcasts and won 16 Sports Emmys for his work. He also fronted for the *Madden NFL* videogame series.

James “Mudcat” Grant, Jr., 85. Pitched in the majors for 14 years—including leading the Twins to their 1965 World Series victory. He also hosted a variety show on Twin Cities TV, the *Jim Grant Show*, on which he sang and danced.

Mick Tingelhoff, 81. Center for the Vikings, he walked on undrafted in 1962 and played for 17 years. With 240 games in a row, he holds the third longest starting streak (after Bret Favre and Jim Marshall). He anchored the offensive line for 10 division titles in 11 years. Five times All-Pro, he played in 4 Super Bowls.

Lee Evans, 74. He won the 400 meter at the Mexico Olympics in 1968 and also anchored the gold-medal relay team. Both times set world records for the next 20 years. But he is best known for raising his fist on the medal stand to protest racism in the US.

Kent Waldrep, 68. Running back for TCU, he broke his cervical spine in a game when he was 20 and was paralyzed from the neck down. He became an advocate for spinal cord research and helped pass the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Lusia Harris, 66. Basketball star for Delta State, she was on the first women’s Olympic team, scored the first basket, and was the high scorer and the high rebounder for the team. She was drafted by the New Orleans Jazz—the first and so far only woman to be officially drafted in the NBA—but she declined to report for practice, reportedly because she considered it a publicity stunt.

Regional

Helen Stelter, 97. She and her husband founded Stelter Sewing in Mankato in the 1960s. He repaired the machines, she taught us how to use them.

Julia “Judy” Dayton, 94. Patron of the arts and a philanthropist, she was a patron of the Walker Art Center, Minnesota Opera, Minnesota Orchestra, and other Minnesota cultural institutions.

Wayne “Bud” Lynn, 94. He rose from the ranks to become Police Chief in St. Peter.

Howard Hermel, 93. Founder of AH Hermel (originally a candy company, then a vending company).

Irma Cragun, 87. Co-founder with her husband on Cragun’s Resort on Gull Lake. A registered nurse, she also worked at St Joseph’s Hospital in Brainerd and she founded the Heartland Symphony Orchestra Ladies Auxiliary.

Ken Albrecht, 87. Nicollet County Commissioner for 13 years, founding Board Member of Southeastern Minnesota Initiative Fund, civil engineer—and vegetable farmer out by Judson.

Linley Barnes, 87. Blue Earth County Commissioner for 12 years.

D J Leary, 84. Along with Wy Spano and Sarah Janacek, he published *Politics in Minnesota*, an influential insider view of Minnesota politics and policy, long before there were blogs or the internet.

Dawn Carder, 84. Retired pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Mankato.

John Caddy, 83. Minnesota poet, known for his poetry of the tiny and the overlooked in nature.

Arnie Lillo, 83. Metal fabricator who started out fabricating antique tractor parts and shipping them around the world. In his retirement, he fabricated table lamps and metal yard sculptures, turning his Good Thunder hobby farm into a local attraction, and selling his creations around the region.

Rev. Albert Girtz, 81. Pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran and chaplain at Mayo Clinic Mankato.

Ken Weilage, 81. Founder of Weilage Insurance in Mankato.

Tom Peterson, 76. “Father” of the Superior Hiking Trail. Using USGS maps and a compass (no GPS 35 years ago), he explored and mapped the first 200 miles of what is now a 310 mile trail. He said he had his dream job—“I got paid to walk around in the woods.”

Harry Musser, 76. Owner of “Harry’s Hofbrauhaus” in the old Burton Hotel, director of the Mankato YMCA, and owner of the Ironwood Golf Course and Restaurant (later the Applewood).

Alan Jespersen, 74. The “godfather of Twin Cities Bluegrass,” he organized the annual Laughing Waters Bluegrass Festival at Minnehaha Park for 22 years and led the Middle Spunk Creek Boys band for 53 years. He also collected, refurbished, and sold vintage radios and parts all over the world (even selling parts to Zenith itself).

Bob Meeks, 73. For 38 years he served first as a lobbyist and then as Executive Director of the Minnesota School Board Association.

Hope Cook, 72. Art Professor at MSU (Printmaking), she founded and directed the Carnegie Art Center for much of its life.

Bruce Davis, 71. Guitarist Folky Dolky band, he was a radio announcer on KRBI in St. Peter and hosted a weekly folk music program on KMSU. He wrote the Rock Bend Song, which became the anthem for the St. Peter Folk Festival.

Mark Halverson, 70. Mankato attorney, he was very active in the community, among other things hosting a Blues radio show on KMSU, serving many roles in the local DFL party, and organizing the Save the Kasota Prairie committee.

Chris Painter, 68. “Voice of the Mavs,” worked for 40 years in sales and management for radio. He did color commentary for MSU sports for several decades.

Deb Fleming, 67. Former editor at Mankato *Free Press* and mentor to many in the area.

Kim Spears, 67. North Mankato city councilman and business leader.

Mel Reeves, 64. Community editor for the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder and Twin Cities civil rights activist.

Denny Kemp, 63. Nicollet County Commissioner, North Mankato Fun Days organizer, North Mankato Police Officer, and SCC EMS Instructor.

Paris Roiger, 21. They grew up in Mankato, but moved to Portland, OR after graduation. They established themselves in Portland as “The Prince of Cyber Rage” music, DJing under the name of “Golden Boy.”

Local

Schools—Bethany

Sigurd Lee, 95. For 40 years he led the drama program at Bethany, as well as teaching English and Humanities.

Schools—MSU

Joe Hogan, 99. Professor and Chair of Counseling and Student Personnel, and President of the IFO.

Clayton Tiede, 97. Professor of Music and Director of Bands. He formed the “Maverick Marching Machine” and the Concert Wind Ensemble at MSU, as well as the Lancers Marching Band and the Lake Washington Band Camp, and he performed with the Mankato Symphony.

Melvin Standford, 89. Past Dean, College of Business.

Narciso “Norge” Tenorio, 89. Past Chair of Business Law Department.

Joan Hurry, 89. Librarian.

Bea Moosally, 88. Among many other things, Professor of Educational Psychology.

Carole Petersen, 86. For many years, assistant director of International Students’ Affairs.

Joe Walsh, 84. Past Chair of Human Performance.

Malda Farnham, 82. Business professor and assistant to the Dean of Business

George O’Clock, 81. Professor of Electrical Engineering.

W. Roy DeMaree, 79. Professor of Sociology for 37 years.

Lynne Weber, 78. Librarian, and cellist in the Mankato Symphony.

Gerry Schneck, 73. Professor of Rehab and Vocational Counseling for more than 30 years.

Charles Waters, 69. Professor of Mathematics and department chair, he taught for 34 years.

Bradley Barnard, 39. Communications officer for MSU Security.

Schools—SCC

Bernie Snaza, 82. Ag Education instructor at SCC for almost 20 years.

Schools—K-12

Patricia Mulford, 94. Speech therapist and counselor at Mankato High and Mankato East.

Kathryn Hanson, 94. Teacher at Franklin and East High.

Burton Anderson, 93. Civics teacher and coach at West High for 33 years.

Lynn Pierce, 92. History teacher at Lincoln Junior and West Senior High Schools for 35 years.

Don Larson, 89. Coach and teacher at Mankato West HS (he also coached for awhile at MSU).

John Just, 88. Taught and coached for 30 years in the Mankato Schools.

Eunice Simonson, 87. ESL teacher in Mankato schools for 17 years, and active in international exchanges.

Roger Hermanson, 87. Custodian at Jefferson School for more than 40 years.

Kenneth Haugen, 85. Facilities maintenance worker at ISD77 for 35 years.

Lorraine Hansen, 76. Elementary teacher in Mankato system.

Barry Long, 76. Custodian at Mankato East for 27 years.

Jill Gause, 51. Special needs teacher at Rosa Parks Elementary.

UUFM Members, Relatives & Friends

Carolyn Evans Moeser, 93. Laurie Evans mother.

Robert Wallace, 91. Father of Linda Ganske, and former chair of Philosophy at MSU.

Doris Ethel Nelson, 90. Kelly Brankamp's grandmother.

Margaret Preska, 83. Longtime member, president of MSU and of Zayed University in Abu Dhabi—among many other things.

David Allan, 83. Dear friend, longtime member of our congregation, and President of the Board from 1992-93. He also was a faculty librarian at MSU.

Ardis Ganske, 82. Lee Ganske's aunt, sister of Eugene Ganske.

Kent Durenberger, 73. Danielle Stedman's father.

Larry Davis, 72. Sarah Davis' uncle.

Barbara Jean Doyle, 71. We knew her as Barbara McConville when she was a member here, before moving up to the Cities.

Jean Lovett, 67. Athletic director at College of St. Teresa in Winona; quarter horse trainer and veterinary assistant; office manager and secretary for many organizations; organizer for mobile home court residents; and vegetable farmer—among other things.

Mary Matteson, 66. Sister-in-law of Karen Knox.

Jim Colstrup, 65. Close friend of Marlene Stein-Greiner.

Dean Rogers, 63. Rev. Rita's brother-in-law.

There are many others whose names I have not read—some known to most of us, some special to one of us. Open your mics speak aloud the name of those have died this year who hold a special place in your memory.