

**Nineteen Years of Third Thursday Global Issues Forum  
Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota (CGS)  
<http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>**

including Annual Meeting Speakers & Special Programs  
Source: compiled from past newsletters of CGS Minn  
(as of October, 2018)

**Briefly:** Third Thursday has had a very rich history in the Twin Cities. Minnesota World Federalist (renamed Citizens for Global Solutions in 2004) has always been, and continues as, the primary sponsor of the program.

"Third Thursday" was announced as a program of World Federalists in the January, 2000, issue of the World Federalist newsletter. (It's first programs may have been earlier). In March, 2001, Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers joined as co-sponsor; in November, 2001, United Nations Association. From January, 2002, till mid-2014 the Social Concerns Committee of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church hosted the meetings. From mid-2014 through 2016 Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis, hosted and in other ways graciously supported the meetings. In 2017, Hennepin Ave United Methodist Church was primary host for the meetings; in 2018, varied venues have hosted.

Since January 2000, through the annual meeting June, 2018, there have been 157 programs, featuring 186 speakers on a diverse assortment of issues. Of these, 134 (165 speakers) were Third Thursday.

**ASTERISK preceding program: talks are available on video at <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/pasttalks/>, (tab: "Past Talks")**

**2000**

Jan 20 - The World Trade Organization: What Now? Mark Ritchie and C. Ford Runge

Feb 17 - How to Put An End to Genocide. (speaker not known)

Mar 23 - A Standing International All Volunteer Peace Force. Mel Duncan and Joe Schwartzberg

Apr 20 - Global Sustainable Development. Philip Porter and James Nelson

**World Law Day May 1 - World Law and Human Rights.**

**Bridget Coggins**

May 18 - Creating a Culture of Peace Verlyn Smith, Don Fraser

Jun 15 - Reforming the United Nations. Joseph Schwartzberg

**2001**

Mar - Can Human Rights be Universal? Mary Lou Nelson

Apr - Safeguarding our Global Environment. Judy Helgen

May - Democratizing the United Nations. Joseph Schwartzberg

**Annual Meeting Jun 7 - Building the Global Non Violent Peace Force.**

**Mel Duncan**

Nov 15 - Trafficking in Human Beings. Elizabeth Duban and Caroline Eckman

**2002**

Jan 17 - Consequences of the Sanctions Regime in Iraq. Marie Braun

Feb 21 - What does it mean to be a Patriot? Arlen Erdahl, Louise Pardee, Kent Shifferd

Mar 21 - Muslims in an Age of Globalization. Ahmed Samatar

Apr 18 - When is Humanitarian Intervention Justified? Kathryn Sikkink

May 16 - Afghans and Their neighbors. Robert Flaten, Joseph Schwartzberg and Leila Poullada

Sep 19 - Iraq: What Now? Caesar Farah and Phil Steger

Oct 17 - Civil Liberties in the Aftermath of 9-11. Peter Brown

Nov 21 - Sustainable Development: Rio, Johannesburg and Beyond. Kristin Dawkins

**2003**

Jan 16 - A Constitution for Economic Democracy. Marjorie Kelly

Feb 20 - Moving Towards Peace in Kashmir. Joseph Schwartzberg

Mar 20 - What Now In the Middle East? Martin Sampson

Apr 15 - How the Media are Used to Influence Public Policy. Mary Shepard  
May 21 - Creating the Ecozoic Era: Our Pathway to the Future. Jack Heckelman

**Annual Meeting Jun 5 - International Relations in a Post 9-11 World.**  
**Arlen Erdahl, Kent Shefferd, Cris Toffolo**

Sep 18 - Reforming Electoral System. Tony Solgard  
Oct 16 - A U.S. Department of Peace. Louise Pardee, Mary Lou Nelson, Dick Bernard  
Nov 20 - Needed: A UN Administrative Academy. Joseph Schwartzberg

**2004**

Jan 15 - The FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas): Boom or Boondoggle? Rafael Ortiz, G. Edward Schuh  
Feb 19 - Whatever Happened to the Military Industrial Complex? Ann Markusen  
Mar 18 - A New Solution to Public Transportation. J Edward Anderson  
Apr 15 - Migration and Citizenship in a Globalizing World. Helga Lettner  
May 20 - What is Happening in Haiti? Paul Miller, Jeanne Morales, Jeff and Rita Nohner, Andy Fisher, Dick Bernard

**Annual Meeting Threats, Challenges and Change: The UN in 21st Century.**  
**Don Kraus**

Nov 18 - The Prospects for Moral Capitalism. Steve Young and Betsy Barnum

**2005**

Jan 20 - UN Reform: What's Right and What's Wrong With the Report on the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change? Joseph Schwartzberg  
Feb 17 - Linking the Local and the Global. Andy Driscoll  
Mar 17 - What to Do About Torture? Doug Johnson  
Apr 21 - Is Planetary Sustainability Possible? Terry Gips  
May 19 - Genocide 2015: What is Happening in Darfur? Hugh Parmer, Colleen Striegel

**Annual Meeting Jun 14 Reinventing the United Nations.**  
**Tad Daley**

Nov 17 - The Politics and Religious Dimensions of U.S. Empire. Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer  
Dec 15 - What Happened to the Road Map to Peace in Israel-Palestine? Sr. Florence Steichen  
**Special Article p. 4 Nov 2005 Newsletter: Sixty Years of the UN. Jay Shahidi**

**2006**

Jan 15 - Should the UN Try to Build States? Michael Barnett  
Feb 16 - International Governance: Realistic Goal or Dangerous Utopia? Learning from the European Experience. Catherine Guisan  
Mar 16 - Reflections on Current U.S. Policy. Thomas Hanson  
Apr 20 - Interactive Discussion: Media Democracy: What Is It? How Do We Secure it? Who in the World Has It? Richard (Lee) Dechert  
May 18 - What to do about Immigration? Katherine Fennelly and Raymond Robinson

**Annual Meeting Jun 15 - If I were President: A New Foreign Policy for the 21st Century.**  
**Charles (Charlie) Brown**

May 17? - Political Situation in the Horn of Africa. Lencho Bati  
Sep 21 - UN International Day of Peace. Bruce Fisher, Mary Jane Lavigne, Bob Milner, Karen Rusthaven, Phil Steger  
Oct 19 - Dealing with Iraq. Jay Shahidi  
Nov 16 - Making Sense of the Last Election. William Flanagan

**2007**

Jan 18 - Recent Global Action on Global Warming. J. Drake Hamilton  
Feb 16 - Dealing with Failed States. Colin Kahl and Joseph Schwartzberg  
Mar 15 - The UN Millennium Development Goals. Bharat Parekh  
Apr 19 - What Now in Iraq? Sami Rasouli

**Annual Meeting Jun 12. World Citizenship**  
**Kathryn Sikkink**

Nov 14 - An Approach to Five Major Global Problems. Harlan Smith

**2008**

Jan 17 - HIV/AIDS, The Global Situation. Keith Henry  
Feb 21 - Peace Island, Hope in a Time of Crisis. Dick Bernard, Marie Braun, Dennis Dillon

Mar 20 - Problems and Perspectives of Developing Countries. Gail Hughes

Apr 17 - Building a World Beyond War. Polly Mann

May 15 - Cuba, Venezuela and the Bolivarian Revolution. August Nimtz and Barbara Kennedy

**Annual Meeting Jun 12 - Human Rights and Globalization: the Way Forward.**

**Barbara Frey**

Sep 18 - A World Parliamentary Assembly. Joseph Schwartzberg

Oct 6 - The Situation in Georgia and its Implications in International Affairs. Sam Schueth and Theofanis Stavros

Nov 20 - Rethinking 9/11. Michael Andregg

**2009**

Jan 15 - Bringing Bush and Co to Justice: How Best to Proceed. Coleen Rowley, Barbara Frey

Feb 19 - Obama's Foreign Policy. What can we Expect? Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer

Mar 19 - Israel and Palestine: Parallel Realities. Eric Black

Apr 16 - Global Food Crisis. Steve Suppan

May 21 - Economic Development: A Major Tool of Diplomacy. Ron Bosrock

**Annual Meeting Jun 18 - The Transformation of U.S. Foreign Policy.**

**Brian Atwood**

Sep 17 - Governing Global Finance. What Next? Eric Sheppard

Oct 15 - Whither Iran in the Obama Era? William Beeman

Nov 19 - A Carbon Free and Nuclear Free Energy System. Lisa Ledwidge

**2010**

Jan 21 - A World Parliamentary Assembly. Joseph Schwartzberg

Feb 18 - Curse of Bilateralism in U.S. Foreign Policy: Afghanistan in Diplomatic Perspective. William Davnie

Mar 18 - Tsar Putin: The Rise of Russian Autocracy. Nick Hayes

Apr 15 - The Responsibility to Protect (R2P). No More Rwandas? No more Haitis? Michael Barnett

May 20 - Confronting Climate Change - Reports from Copenhagen. Paul Thompson and James Nelson

**Annual Meeting Jun 17 Role of Civil Society in Global Governance.**

**Mark Ritchie**

Sep 16 - Women's Rights (CEDAW) and Related Issues. Cheryl Thomas

Oct 21 - The Unreturned: Iraq's Displaced Middle Class. Nathan Fisher

Nov 18 - Islam, The Middle East and the Media. Ahmed Tharwat

Dec 16 - Rethinking Immigration: Toward a Just, Humane and Viable Policy. Donna Gabaccia and Kathleen Moccio.

**2011**

Jan 20 - What is Happening to American Democracy? Harry Boyte

Feb 17 - Can the Tax Havens be Shut Down? Robert Kudrle

May 19 - Can the Rule of Law be Exported. John Tunheim

**Annual Meeting Jun 16 The Science of Climate Change.**

**John Abraham**

Sep 15 - World Food Availability: The Future of the Green Revolution. Ronald Phillips

Oct 20 - 21st Century Propaganda: An Activist's Guide. Jeff Nygaard

Nov 17 - Libya. Martin Sampson

**2012**

Jan 19 - Occupy Wall Street and the Twilight of American Capitalism. David Schultz

Feb 16 - Weighing Global Economic Integration: Does Increased Economic Instability Erase Efficiency Gains? Ed Lotterman.

Mar 15 - Authentic Hope: Militarism, Spirituality and Building a Culture of Peace. Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer

Apr 19 - The Rise of Corporate Power and What We Can Do About It. Robin Monahan

May 17 - Future Earth. Patrick Hamilton

**Annual Meeting Jun 21 Wealth vs Democracy. The Battle for Americas Political Soul.**

**David Schultz**

Sep 20 - The Situation in Syria. Mazen Halabi

Oct 18 - Understanding the Global Food Crisis. William Moseley

Nov 15 - A New Approach to Peacekeeping. Timmon Wallis

**2013**

Jan 17 - Press Freedom 2.0: Opportunities and Threats Around the World. Jane Kirtley

Mar 21 - How Speculation and Bankruptcy Drive Our Cities Today. From Bangalore to Barcelona to Chicago. Michael Goldman  
April 18 - Global Public Health: International Developments Rising Star. Christy Hanson  
May 16 - Social Justice and the Environment. Key Issues, Frameworks and Possibilities. David Pellow

**Annual Meeting Jun 27 The Challenge of Global Migration: Promoting Our Ideals and Interests**

**Eric Schwartz**

Sep 19 - A Comparative Review of Global Conflicts in late 2013. Michael Andregg  
Oct 17 - New Trade Treaties: Boons or Boondoggles. Ben Lilliston  
Nov 21 Making Sense of Developments in Egypt. A Popularly Backed Coup? Or a Military-Backed Second Wave of Revolution?  
Ragui Assaad

**2014**

Jan 16 - Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World. Joseph Schwartzberg  
Mar 20 - One World or None? World Religions and the Quest for Global Community. James Christie  
Apr 16 – (part of U of MN Conference) Genocide and It's Aftermaths: Lessons from Rwanda. Adama Dieng  
May 15 - Conditions and Causes of Genocide. Hollie Nyseth-Brehm

**\*Annual Meeting Jun 19. Ending Childhood Malnutrition.**

**Bharat Parekh**

Sep 18 - Americas Confusion in the Middle East. William Beeman  
Oct 16 - Human Trafficking. Vanessa Fusco Noguera and Shiran Gooneratne  
Nov 20 - Hitchhikers Guide to the Russian-Ukrainian Conflict: Causes and Consequences. Artyom Tonaya

**2015**

Jan 15 – Global Health: the Greatest Story Rarely Told. Christy Hanson  
Feb 19 – Getting Serious About Environmental Problems. Johnathan Larson  
\*Mar 19 – Overpopulation Can Be Solved. David Paxson  
Apr 16 – The Work of Waste: Urban India's Vital Infrastructure. Vinay Gidwani  
May 21 – The Commons. “How to Save the Economy, the Environment, the Internet, our Communities, Democracy & Everything Else that Belongs to All of Us”. Jay Walljasper

**Annual Meeting Jun 18.**

**\*\*“Rule of Law Fact-finding by NGOs: Monitoring Standards and Maximizing Impact”**

**Rosalyn Park**

\*Aug 24 – Iran Nuclear Deal: Pros and Cons – Panel, sponsored by United Nation Assoc.  
Sep 17 - Main Divisions Between Countries in the Global Debate on Climate Change. Jeffrey Broadbent

**Special Program: Oct. 9-10: Workable World Conference, Minneapolis**

**Transforming the United Nations System**

<http://www.workableworld.org/>

\*Oct 15 – Conveying the Voices of Muslims and Others. Mnar Muhawesh  
Nov 17 – Cuban perspective on Re-establishment of Diplomatic Relations with U.S. August Nimitz

**2016**

Jan. 21 – Minnesota to Paris and Action Steps Going Forward. J. Drake Hamilton, Fresh Energy  
Feb. 18 – What's Happened to the ‘Arab Spring’? Ragui Assaad and Ikram Ben Said  
Mar. 17 – Recent Events in West Africa, and Factors Contributing to the Rise of Boko Haram – Dr. Thomas O’Toole  
Apr. 21 – Drone Warfare & US War Culture: Facing Who, Why and What We’ve Become and Exploring How to Build a Culture of Peace Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer, Fadia Thabet and Ijaz Ahmad  
May 19 – What's Happening in China. Ted Farmer

**Annual Meeting Jun 9**

**Working Minnesota Global**

**How can we best use our heritage of global-mindedness and activism to maximize our impact in our community, state, nation and planet?**

**Mark, Ritchie,**

**President & CEO EXPO 2023 <http://expo2023.info/>**

Sep. 15 - Genocide in Darfur and Institutional Responses: a Case and Comparative Perspectives - Dr. Joachim Savelsberg  
\*Oct. 16 – Green Card Youth Voices, Panel of four students & Tea Rozman-Clark  
\*Oct. 29 – Special Program: Global Policy in an Election Year, Tom Hanson (United Nations Assoc program)  
\*Nov. 17 – Freeing the Dove - Walid Issa, Palestinian Peace Activist.

**2017**

- \*Jan. 19 – U.N. Human Rights Treaties: Why Isn't the U.S. Leading? Kristi Rudelius-Palmer and Amanda Lyons
- \*Feb. 16 – Trans-Pacific Partnership. Kaela Berg
- \*Mar. 16 – A Call to Solve Overpopulation. Dr. Karen I. Shragg
- \*Apr. 20 – Brexit, the EU and Rising European Nationalism – Roger Prestwich
- \*Apr 23 – Special Program: World Premiere of “The World is My Country” sponsored by CGS-MN
- \*May 1 - Special Program: (World Law Day) The War on Science Shawn Otto
- May 18 – Global Refugee Crisis Daniel Wordsworth

**Annual Meeting Jun 15**  
**Russia: The New Cold War**  
**Todd Lefko**

- \*Sep 21 – The International Criminal Court: Advancing Global Rule of Law. Dr. Ellen Kennedy and Sarah L.S. Erickson World Without Genocide, Mitchell Hamline School of Law
- \*Oct 19 – Human Rights Advocacy at the United Nations. Jennifer Prestholdt and Mark Petty Advocates for Human Rights
- \*Nov 16 – The N. Korea Crisis and the UN Treat to Ban Nuclear Weapons. Jay Kvale Minnesota Peace Project

**2018**

- \*Jan. 18 – Next Steps on Deep Climate Action: How Can Minnesota Lead? J Drake Hamilton, Fresh Energy
- \*Feb 15 – Turning Points in Turbulent Times: A Passionate Search for Global Solutions. Loft Peace and Social Justice Writers Group
- \*Mar 15 – Global-Local Disability Rights Movement: Inclusive Education, Self-Advocacy and Non-Discriminations. Haley Kimmet, Roqayah Ajaj, Laurie Kincaid, Rich Cardenas
- \*Apr 19 – “I am Somali” Three Visual Artists. Jan-Lodewifk Grootaers and Ifrah Mansour
- \*May 1 – Special Program: Hope for a Better Tomorrow: Forging the Path towards Forgiveness. Louisa Hext

**Annual Meeting Jun 21**  
**Minnesota UN History Project**  
**Jim Nelson**