

Fun Fact:

The Water Communion, also called Water Sharing, was first used at a UU worship service in the 1980's.

The Water Ceremony/Communion Service is an excellent opportunity for UU congregations to express their commitment to our 6th Principle: *We covenant to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.*



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Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Water Sharing + Harvest Festival + Potluck

Hope you can join us
on September 10!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, September 3: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday Daniel Wehrwein will share his ideas on "The Three Stages of Christianity."

Sunday, September 10: 10:00 AM Worship Service Annual Water Sharing/In-Gathering AND Harvest Fest. (See page 3 for more details).

Please stay after the service for our second Sunday Potluck!!

Sunday, September 17: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday YouTube video of Rev. Dr. William Barber declaring at the UUA General Assembly that Hate, Discrimination, and Violence cannot have the 1st, Last, and Loudest Word. (See page 4 for more details).

Sunday, September 24: 10:00 AM Worship Service "The Theist in Me" written by Bruce Clear and presented by Pat Dobrinska. (See page 3 for more details).

A 10-MINUTE MEDITATION SESSION FROM 9:40-9:50 TAKES PLACE
ALMOST EVERY SUNDAY.

**Please see back page for a schedule of events at
Ripon College recommended by Dr. Brian Smith.**

Message from our Moderator by Becky Feyen



Engage Sunday – that is our new name for Alternative Sunday. The amazing Linda DeCramer developed the acronym, which encompasses our aspirations for these Sundays: E – Explore | N – No Boundaries | G – Gather | A – Activism | G – Go! Be the Change | E – Educate.

Thank you for participating by leading & attending 1st & 3rd Sundays. The various presentations, & more importantly the support from those that attend have invigorated our Fellowship. ENGAGE Sundays will continue to be very important to our personal growth & group cohesion. We need each other more than ever! My hope is that we will help each other develop skills & take actions to support our vision for not just our Fellowship but also the greater community. *(Editor's note: Please see Judy's*

ENGAGE page on page 4 for the September schedule).

I must mention the protest in Charlottesville, with the focus on our responsibility to take a stand & work to end white supremacy in all forms. It is not enough to scrutinize how others need to change; we must step up & display our principles. It is essential that we visibly make the effort to support inclusion & call out discrimination. I am looking to you to help me determine what Prairie Lakes can & will continue to implement as we strive to create a just society. We will walk our talk!

Just a reminder of the UUA White Supremacy Teach In – documents are available at Prairie Lakes.

<https://midamericauua.org/about-us/staff/documents/general/522-white-supremacy-teach-in-ra2017/file>

We will be the change –
Becky

News from the Outside

PLUUF's beautiful 7 principles sign is in need of a makeover. Marjorie Kenyon-Cler conceived the idea for the sign back in 2010 when she picked up a 7 principles bookmark at a UUA event. Ann Pahlas of Metal Works in Ripon helped make the idea a reality. The sign was created with laminated cedar and the background was

sand blasted away leaving the letters standing. The wood was divided in such a way in order to paint each strip individually. After 7 years, it is time for some repair work and a paint job.



2nd & 4th September Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma



Once again, we've had one heck of a month with thoughtful, engaged services: the first with Brother Steve Herro on the Pope's Encyclical on Climate Change (*Laudato Si*) and the second with our beloved Brian Smith on the misuse/limited interpretation of the Bible to "bash" those with an LGBTQ orientation. Obviously, great conversations followed. (Please see page 5 for a recap).

As we move into fall, we begin with our traditional Water Sharing/In-Gathering service. It's a time of year when school resumes and schedules "stabilize" (does that ever really happen?) so hopefully more of us can attend PLUUF more regularly.

September 10: Traditionally, we begin the fall season with our Water Sharing/In-Gathering. Bring water from a source you visited this past summer; tell us about your experience as you pour your water into the communal bowl. If you didn't save water, we will have "symbolic" water available. The point is, we will "rejoin" each other and re-commit to our fellowship via this ritual. We really want to see all of you on this Sunday!

Secondly, we will celebrate our Harvest Festival on September 10 as well. So - be sure to bring fruits/vegetables from your own garden or the local Farmer's Market to share with local food banks.

And, of course, bring a dish to share with PLUUF'ers cuz it's Second Sunday Potluck!

September 24: If you'll recall, awhile back Jean Bruce led a Reflection entitled "The Humanist in Me," written by Bruce Clear, that wowed everyone. Hence, we decided to use his two remaining Reflections in our services as well. On this Sunday, then, Pat Dobrinska will lead his Reflection on "The Theist in Me".

Hopefully, you're all energized by our varied services and the camaraderie we share. Sadly, we leave summer. Gladly, we rejoice in the beauty of the new season. See you at PLUUF!

Please see back page for a schedule of events at Ripon College recommended by Dr. Brian Smith.

ENGAGE Sundays by Judy Harris



We have a new name for “Alternate” Sundays: “ENGAGE” Sundays

Thanks to the creative mind of Linda DeCramer!

Explore

No Boundries

Gather

Activism

Go! Be the change

Educate

What can you expect on ENGAGE Sundays?

- Book discussions
- Video Documentaries
- Special guest speakers
- Off-site events
- Community activities
- Social Action

And much more!

1st & 3rd ENGAGE Sundays

Sunday, September 3: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday Daniel Wehrwein will share his ideas on “The Three Stages of Christianity.”

Sunday, September 17: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday YouTube video of Rev. Dr. William Barber declaring at the UUA General Assembly that Hate, Discrimination, and Violence cannot have the 1st, Last, and Loudest Word.

UUA World says of Rev. Dr. William Barber's speech at the 2016 UUA General Assembly:

In a rousing and inspiring rally Thursday night for broad-based justice that brought the standing-room-only crowd to its feet many times, the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, UUA President Peter Morales, and others exhorted the crowd of Unitarian Universalists to say “enough!” to white supremacy, classism, homophobia, and “other kinds of violence perpetrated by fear,” as Morales said.

Several PLUUF Members and Friends attended the 18th Annual Interfaith Gathering on August 6. Theme: Faith & Poverty

A note from Joel Schlachtenhaufen, WIHW to World Interfaith Harmony Supporters:

The tent alongside the Mosque in Neenah has become for many a very special “Holy Place” because people of faith in the Fox Valley and beyond have gathered there for many years to learn and feast together. Rev. Nolan Gnewuch, a retired Lutheran pastor living in Appleton, shares here his reflections on this year's event which brought over 200 people together. Photo by David Roisum

Editors Note: A copy of Nolan Gnewuch's reflection is available at PLUUF



September 2017

In Case You Missed It In August

ENGAGE Sunday August 6
TED: Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks:



Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks: "The only people who will save us from ourselves is we, the people – all of us together." On August 6 PLUUFer's gathered to watch Sacks speak at the TED2017 conference projected on the big screen at Prairie Lakes. Sacks is a British rabbi, philosopher, theologian and politician. He states, "It's a fateful moment in history.

We've seen divisive elections, divided societies and a growth in extremism – all of it fueled by anxiety, uncertainty and fear. The world is changing faster than we can bear, and it's looking like it's going to continue changing faster still." Sacks asks: "Is there something we can do to face the future without fear?" Sacks leaves us with a simple suggestion: "Do a search-and-replace operation on the text of your mind. Wherever you encounter the word 'self,' substitute the word 'other.' Instead of self-help, other-help. Instead of self-esteem, other -esteem. We can face any future without fear so long as we know that we won't face it alone."

ENGAGE Sunday August 20
with Jerry Davidson



Jerry Davidson, friend of PLUUF, has been attending conferences all over the country. He shared his thoughts from some of the panels he attended.

"The conferences were basically about the problems affecting the world: climate change, environmental destruction,

GMO's, fracking, racism, mass incarceration, anti-immigration, suppression of dissent, unending wars (by the US), LGBTQI discrimination, Islamophobia, US regime change, the nuclear threat, the demonization of Russia, China, Iran, Syria, North Korea, and even Venezuela, patriarchy, the unaccountable "Deep State" and more. In a nutshell, the problem is Capitalism and the financial system; the solution is Socialism and the issue is How do we get there?

New York City: Leftforum conference "The Resistance". The UNAC (United National Antiwar Coalition) conference in Richmond, Virginia: "Stop the Wars at Home and Abroad".

Chicago: The Socialism2017 conference

Minneapolis: The Democracy Convention "Universalizing Resistance, Democratizing Power".

Chicago: The Veterans for Peace conference "Education, not Militarization".

Worship Service August 13
Norbertine Brother Steve Herro
Caring for Our Common Home



Through the use of multimedia, Steve Herro described the major points of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si (On Care for Our Common Home)* and explained why the encyclical is a universal document that prioritizes care for our common planet and the protection of those living in

poverty.

Steve Herro is a Norbertine brother from De Pere. Raised in Fond du Lac and a one-week resident of Ripon as Badger State delegate in 1980 (!), he has spent his adult years in De Pere; Jackson, Mississippi; Chicago; Mankato, Minnesota; Washington, D.C.; Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Madison, Wisconsin, working primarily as a librarian, archivist, advancement professional, and social justice minister.

Worship Service August 27
With Brian Smith
Misusing the Bible to Bash LGBTQ



Brian Smith -- a Professor of Religion at Ripon College, a former Jesuit Priest, and recipient of numerous awards and honors -- is a long-time favorite service leader at PLUUF. In this service, he emphasized that too many Christians fail to

appreciate the cultural context of biblical passages; consequently, they make unwarranted judgments and assertions about the meanings of those passages. For example, the account of Sodom and Gomorrah leads many to erroneously condemn homosexuality while a careful reading and understanding of the culture at that time would lead one to conclude that the "sin" was not homosexuality but incivility and inhospitality.

Art & Service Auction... revisited

The Art & Service Auction is so much more than an annual spring fundraiser. It is the camaraderie that "buyers" and "sellers" realize after the event. Whether its tasting Judy's scrumptious pies or kringlers , experiencing Ellen's amazing fudge and cheesecake, watching the Roost family arrive with truck and trailer for a day of decluttering, the experience of taking a painting class from Pat, or wearing one of Linda's hand knit shawls or scarves... it's a powerful experience to make these connections. This is just a small sampling of what our members/friends donate and bid on in this event to make it a special, long-lasting experience. Below are a few auction items that were fulfilled by the winning bidders in August.

Auction Item: An Outing in a Park with Becky and Picnic Lunch Made to Order

On Saturday, the 19th, Becky Feyen transported three Luna boys and Great Grandma Jill Stiemsma to Kohler-Andrae State Park where they bounced around in rafts on Lake Michigan waves and picnicked on the foods designated by the kids (like, peanut butter sandwiches and candy). The incredible Nature Center allowed the boys to watch as the snakes, turtles and fish were fed.



Auction Item: Green Lake Dinner Party and Evening of Sign Language

On Wednesday, August 16th, Tanya Schwartz-Roeper hosted and Linda DeCramer cohosted a dinner party at Tanya's home in Green Lake with the Bruce/Allington/Demuri families + one. After dinner the group learned the signs to the song "What a Wonderful World." While Linda DeCramer sang the song a cappella, the Bruce/Allington/Demuri families signed along. It was absolutely beautiful!



Auction Item: Aerial Adventure with Pilot Joe Hatcher

On Sunday, August 20th, Brody Roost had an opportunity to fly at an altitude of 2000 feet in an antique (but well-maintained) 1946 Ercoupe 415-C with pilot/certified flight instructor Joe Hatcher. They took off from Bennett Field and had a memorable flight!!





Treasurer's Report by Tanya Schwartz Roeper

PLUUF Accounts as of August 29, 2017:

BMO Checking	\$26,178.94 Operating Fund
BMO Savings	\$10,905.57 Short term Vision Fund
UUCEF* (As of 8/29)	<u>\$44,631.01 Long term Vision Fund</u>
	\$81,715.52

*Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund

Financial Report as of August 29, 2017

	Current Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$1,541.85	\$2,891.85	\$27,340.
Expenses	\$2,055.07	\$2,519.27	\$27,340.

Detailed monthly financial reports are always available at PLUUF or by request: tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

Board of Directors*

Moderator

Becky Feyen

Secretary

Linda DeCramer

Treasurer

Tanya Schwartz Roeper

At Large Representative

Judy Harris

At Large Representative

Jessica French

Standing Committees

Worship Committee Chair: Jill Stiemsma

Pat Dobrinska, Lee Barczak, Becky Feyen, Bonnie Wagner, & Ray Gurney

Membership Committee Co-Chairs: Eric Bartelme & Ellen Mueller

RE Co-Chair: Judy Harris

Finance Committee: Tanya Schwartz Roeper

Facility Committee: Laird DeCramer & Brad Roost

Ad Hoc Committees and Task Groups

Alternate Sunday Programs Co Chairs: Judy Harris

Care & Concern Co-Chairs: Bonnie Wagner & Beth Howman-Combs

Social Justice Committee: ALL

Newsletter Editor: Tanya Schwartz Roeper

Community Outreach/Advertising: Eric Bartelme & Ellen Mueller, Tanya S-R

Music Coordinator: Jill Stiemsma

Supplies: Eric Bartelme

OWL Certified: Nicole Roost & Linda DeCramer

*Past and present board minutes and detailed treasurer reports are available for viewing at the fellowship or obtain a copy by request.

- Board meetings take place on the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of the month at 4:30 p.m. If there is anything you'd like to put on the agenda, please contact Linda DeCramer lindadecramer@yahoo.com or Becky Feyen r.feyen@yahoo.com at least one week in advance.
- All board and committee members are encouraged to submit information to be included in the newsletter by the 20th of each month to tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

Events of the Center for Politics and the People at Ripon College

Dr. Brian Smith of Ripon College has invited PLUUF members and friends to attend the events listed below.

Sept. 5 4:30 – 5:45 Pm Kresge Little Theater

“US Foreign Policy: Past and Future Trends”

Former Foreign Service officer and diplomat, Thomas R. Hanson, explores and explains foreign policy developments, trends, and challenges facing the U.S. and the Trump administration. Mr. Hanson is currently serving his eighth semester as Diplomat in Residence with the Royal D. Alworth Institute for International Studies at the University of Minnesota Duluth

Reception in Wensink Lounge following the presentation.

Sept. 6 4:30 – 5:45 Pm Kresge Little Theater

“US – Russian Relations”

Dr. Vladimir von Tsurikov, recently returned from Moscow, is Director of the Minneapolis Museum of Russian Art. He will present an overview of past and present relations between the United States and Russia. With a new administration, what is the direction of US-Russian relations? How to understand the negative news? Is this the hour of opportunity?

Sept. 22 4:00– 5:15 Pm Kresge Little Theater

“Art as Action: Politics and the Creative Impulse”

A panel discussion with artists and curators who create artwork that engages with political action and protest. Participants include:

Brandon Bauer, Associate Professor of Art, St. Norbert’s College

Jenie Gao, independent curator, artist and educator

Tylonn Sawyer, Oakland Community College and the College for Creative Studies, Detroit

Rafael Salas, Associate Professor of Art, will moderate the panel.

Oct. 2 4:30 – 5:45 Pm Kresge Little Theater

“Asymmetric Politics: Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats”