



Art & Service Auction

An evening of
wild and crazy FUN & FUNdraising!



Calendar At-A-Glance

CHECK OUT OUR
COOL WEBSITE!

www.pluuf.org

LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK

315 Eureka Street
Ripon, WI 54971
920-745-2446

info@PLUUF.org

ENGAGE Sunday, April 7, 10:00 AM: – “Fun with Evolution” led by our amazing Jeromy French! It is time for a refresher and update on the theories of evolution. Please see page 4 for more details.

Art & Service Auction Saturday, April 13, Doors open at 5:30 and auction & entertainment begin at 6:00. Please join us for an evening of Fun and FUNdraising! Please see page 4 for a sample of auction items available this year.

Worship Service Sunday, April 14, 10:00 AM: Erika Jenson, “My Favorite Fears.” Erika from Open Circle Fellowship will discuss how a simple exercise helped her manage her fears surrounding cancer. Please see page 3 for more details.

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

ENGAGE Sunday, April 21, 10:00 AM: Jeromy French will lead a book discussion of *Your Inner Fish: A journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body* by Neil Shubin. Please see page 4 for more details.

Worship Service Sunday, April 28, 10:00 AM: Tony Larsen, former beloved pastor of the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine. Topic to be announced and service not to be missed! Please see page 3 for more details.

ENGAGE Sunday, May 5, 10:00 AM: May Day Celebration and revival of our May Pole Dance.

ENGAGE Sunday, May 19, 10:00 AM: PLUUF's Annual Meeting

Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen



Spring is certainly a welcome sight this year and it is good to see our group coming back together. As always, we have fun events and some great opportunities coming your way. There is so much happening that we are considering a couple evening dinners in May to offer what we are calling “New & Renew to UU.” These evening meetings will be based on the “The New UU” Tapestry of Faith Program for Adults. ALL ARE WELCOME & ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND and you need not be new to UU or Prairie Lakes. Personally, I am excited to attend this program/workshop. Yes, your fearless/fearful leader has not experienced this program and, better yet, I am on the team to develop and lead the program.

Our “New & Renew to UU” program will be adapted from the UUA curriculum: “*..one in the Tapestry of Faith series of curricula for adults, The New UU weaves Unitarian Universalist values, Principles, and Sources with four strands: spiritual development, ethical development, Unitarian Universalist identity development, and faith development...*”

“The New UU program provides important tools to help congregations welcome, orient, and integrate newcomers into their faith communities. The program addresses the needs of newcomers who want to know more about who we are and what we believe. It provides opportunities for members of your congregation to share with newcomers what it means to them to be a Unitarian Universalist. It gives newcomers a chance to examine their own personal stories in the light of our Unitarian Universalist tradition and heritage. It provides a chance for newcomers to the congregation and long-timers to connect. It provides an explicit invitation to become a member”

The focus of this program is on individual experiences, beliefs and needs. The individual perspective is folded into and aligned with UU Principles & Sources. You are the critical component to the success of the “New & Renew to UU” program. Sharing your experience and needs to your comfort level will help us develop a Fellowship that best serves everyone.

I will try to identify the best evenings for this event and provide whatever support is needed to facilitate your attendance whether it is child-care, supplying the meal (potlucks are great, but sometimes you just want to show up), transportation, etc. We are here to help and want to build a community of support for each other. Feel free to contact me with questions and suggestions. Happy Spring & ENJOY!

Thank You!



At the Art & Service Auction last year, Ellen & Bruce Mueller created a live auction item called, “Paint the Sanctuary by Matching the Mueller’s \$150 gift challenge.” Not only did bidders meet the gift challenge, they more than doubled it by bidding \$325!

In July, Linda DeCramer joined and led a crew of volunteers to paint the sanctuary and the entryway at PLUUF. Later came the ceiling, and a few weeks ago the “chair rail” was painted a blue/gray (see photo).

Thank you to Linda and the other volunteers for beautifying the sanctuary and entryway with fresh paint. Thank you to Ellen & Bruce Mueller for creating the gift challenge and thank you to the many individuals who placed bids to raise the money!





April Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma

Well, it appears that the snowbirds have returned – certainly a sure sign that spring is on the way. Let me give a big shout-out to Becky Feyen, Tanya Schwartz-Roeper, and Pat Dobrinska who not only insured that our services continued (well, at least when the weather cooperated) but also “futzed” with our service design. Thank you, all! (And a second shout-out to famous pianist Tanya.) Finally, I want to express my gratitude to Steven Miller, current part-time professor at Ripon College and friend to Dan Wehrwein up to his final day of life, who led a wonderfully engaging service on April 24th.

So, assuming the weather will permit such, here are our April services:

Sunday, April 14, 10 a.m.: Open-Circle member Erika Jensen returns to grace PLUUF (years back, she attended our Fellowship rather regularly; some of you may recall). Erika has been living with Stage 4 cancer well past expectation and has quite the interesting story about her journey with the disease. In this service, she will teach us an exercise called the “Cherokee Fear Bowl” which she learned through her shamanic work (with Myron Eshowsky – small world). Erika adds: “My fears, of course, are all about cancer, and so that’s what I worked on. But the same exercise could be used by anyone. I really learned a lot during the exercise, and I think others could benefit from the exercise too. Especially with the present political climate, there’s really a lot of fear out there.”

Come join the conversation and Second Sunday Potluck!!!

Sunday, April 28, 10 a.m.: We are so honored to host Rev. Tony Larsen, former beloved pastor of the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine (Barbara Lucas’ former UU home church). Recently retired, he was absolutely loved by his congregation (for years and years). Infrequently, I’d had the opportunity to attend his services because my son’s family attended Olympia Brown as well. While the topic is as yet undetermined, you’ll not want to miss this service!

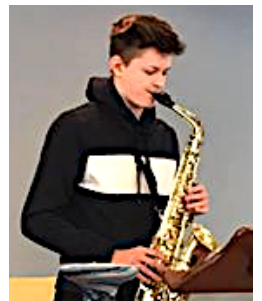
Also – we’re looking for members of the Worship Services Team. Really, the meetings are few and far between and the work minimal but essential to PLUUF’s vitality. Let me know! 920-923-2387

Children’s 2nd & 4th Sunday Religious Education (RE)



March 10 was Girl Scout Sunday. Jessica French introduced Molly, Lilly and McKinley to the congregation. Jessica, with the assistance of Liz Buchanan, led a special scout RE session for the three girls.

Instead of leading RE, Jonah provided the prelude music on his Saxophone. Pat Dobrinska read the Story for all Ages (photo bottom left).



Linda DeCramer led the Story for All Ages on March 24 and read “Alan’s Big Scary Teeth” by Jarvis (photo on right).

We welcomed back Emmy, Miguel and Mason Luna to Children’s RE. Jonah and Oliver led the RE session with the Luna boys and Molly. Jonah read Dr. Seuss stories while the children created drawings.





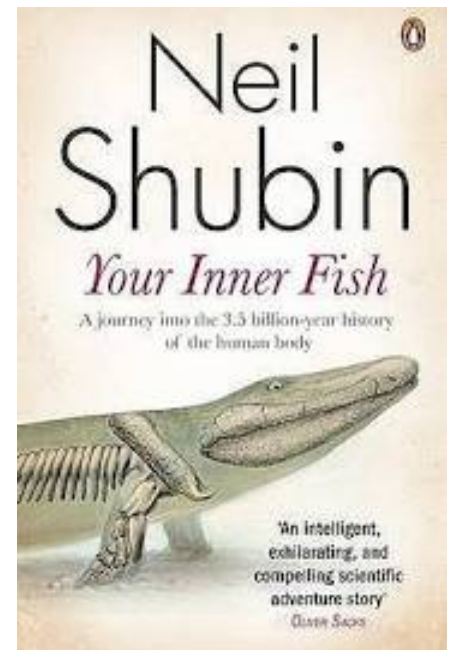
1st & 3rd ENGAGE Sundays by Becky Feyen

Sunday, April 7, at 10 a.m. – “Fun with Evolution” will be led by our amazing Jeromy French! It is time for a refresher and update on the theories of evolution. As UU’s our 4th Principle directs us to promote “a free and responsible search for truth and meaning,” so we need to continue learning and questioning. Don’t worry; this will not be your boring biology class of old. Jeromy is developing a combination of activities including games to keep us ENGAGE(D)! Please join us for what is guaranteed to be a fun & informative Sunday, possibly “mind blowing” – things may have changed a bit since most of us learned these theories.

Sunday, April 21, at 10 a.m. – Jeromy French will lead a book discussion of *Your Inner Fish: A journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body* by Neil Shubin. If you have not attended a book discussion led by Jeromy, you will be impressed. As always, reading the book is optional because you will learn so much from Jeromy’s guidance & the conversation. Of course, your input/perspective is appreciated and an important component of our discussions, so hopefully you will dive into the content of this book.

“In *Your Inner Fish*, Neil Shubin tells the story of evolution by tracing the organs of the human body back millions of years, long before the first creatures walked the earth. By examining fossils and DNA, Shubin shows us that our hands actually resemble fish fins, our head is organized like that of a long-extinct jawless fish, and major parts of our genome look and function like those of worms and bacteria.”

Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m. - Revival of our May Day Celebration including outside dancing around the May Pole, weather permitting.



Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m. Annual Meeting: More information coming soon.

The Art & Service Auction Saturday, April 13

Doors open at 5:30 Event begins at 6:00 p.m. Food & Refreshments FUN, FUN, FUN

Here are just a few examples of the auction items available this year:

- Judy’s scrumptious pies and kringlers
- 8 hours of DeCramer landscaping services
- Horse drawn carriage or wagon ride
- Afternoon at the lake plus dinner
- Framed Degas print
- Hand knit items
- Writing tutorial & critique
- Themed baskets
- “Create Your Dream Day”
- Pre-season Packer tickets
- An hour of flying in an Ercoupe 415-C
- Dungeons and Dragons and dinner
- Acrylic Pour Painting art class
- And much more!

Please e-mail tanyapapermaker@gmail.com if you have questions.

In Case You Missed It In March

ENGAGE Sunday March 3 coordinated and presented
by Becky Feyen Faith, Morality and the Environment



Becky presented climate information and ideas from the Parliament of World Religions while combining several perspectives, recent topics and statistics. There have been several meetings referred to as a **Parliament of the World's Religions**, the first being the **World's Parliament of Religions** of 1893, which was an attempt to create a global dialogue of faiths. The event was celebrated by another conference on its centenary in 1993. This led to a new series of conferences under the official title Parliament of the World's Religions.

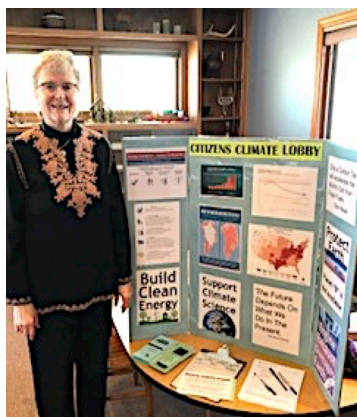
Worship Service March 10 with Rev. Jim
Jaeger *The Conundrum of Immigration*



Rev. Jim Jaeger of Madison examined the topic of immigration from the perspective of the concept of E Pluribus Unum (out of many one) and the stirring words of Emma Lazarus on the Statue of Liberty ("Give me your tired, your poor!")

The debate on building a wall along our southern border with Mexico has dominated what passes for political discourse in this country and dominated our thoughts and shut down our government for 35 days.

ENGAGE Sunday March 17
The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do About It



Diana Beck is president of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society and the current chair of the FDL Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL). CCL is a nonpartisan group that gives citizens a voice in climate change solutions. CCL has hundreds of chapters in the U.S. who are building

the political will for a livable world by:

- Meeting with members of Congress
- Building Alliances
- Writing op-eds and letters to the editor
- Initiating letter-writing campaigns
- Offering public outreach events on climate change

To learn more about other Wisconsin chapters go to

www.wisconsincl.com

Worship Service March 24
Meaningful Lives with Steven Miller



Steven Miller is a visiting professor at Ripon College, where he teaches courses in philosophy and political theory. His PhD is from Southern Illinois University, where he studied American pragmatism, focusing on how communities work and how individuals develop in and through their communities.

As you might recall, Steve led classes where PLUUF's Dan Wehrwein participated as an eager student and eventually walked with Dan through his passing. Steve has written an essay about the experience, "A Lesson Before Dying" published in the Chronicle of Higher Education. A copy is available at PLUUF.

Steven's presentation on "Meaningful Lives" offered a view from the classroom. He talked about the sorts of challenges his students express in thinking of their lives as meaningful. Themes that came up during congregational sharing encompassed caring and belonging.



Facility News by Judy Harris

PLUUF had its own version of a “flood” this past month. Tanya discovered our 25-year-old hot water heater was leaking in the furnace room. She was able to get things under control by contacting Pinnacle Plumbing from Green Lake while Brad Roost of the Facility Committee provided moral support via text 😊. After she shut off the water and gas, Todd of Pinnacle Plumbing arrived and determined the hot water heater was beyond repair. A new hot water heater was installed within 24 hours. Had Tanya not come in (and she does so often during the week—almost daily), we would have had a larger mess. Thank you, Tanya and Pinnacle Plumbing!



PLUUF's 25-year old hot water heater leaking at base



Pinnacle Plumbing to the rescue!



PLUUF's shiny, new hot water heater has built in insulation.

Treasurer's Report as of March 29, 2019

Below is a snapshot of our income and expenses so far for the 2018/19 fiscal year beginning 7/1/18 to 3/29/19.

	March 2019	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$1,920	\$17,877	\$34,321
Expenses	\$5,141*	\$23,150	\$34,321

*March was the most expensive month so far this fiscal year. Notable expenses included the purchase of the new hot water heater, annual insurance premium payment and the UUA Program Fund payment.

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:** Judy Harris
At Large Representative: Pat Dobrinska **At Large Representative:** Jessica French

Staff Position

Administrative Manager and Newsletter Editor: Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Board meetings usually take place on the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of the month. 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.