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Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

4th Annual Prairie Lakes

Summer Camp for Kids

**POWER OF
POLLINATORS**

Details on page 4



Calendar At-A-Glance

ENGAGE Sunday, July 7, 10:00 AM: Enjoy the great outdoors by beautifying the grounds at PLUUF. Join Becky Feyen and work outside to pull weeds, clean up leaves, and more. All are welcome to join in or feel free to stop by for coffee and conversation. More details on page 4.

Worship Service, Sunday, July 14, 10:00 AM: We welcome Mary Pharmer who will lead a reflection on immigration and explain the services provided by the Annunciation House for immigrants.

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

ENGAGE Sunday, July 21, 10:00 AM: Please see ENGAGE Sunday, July 7, above, and page 4 for the details. We will continue to work outside and inside at PLUUF.

Worship Service, Sunday, July 28, 10:00 AM: New PLUUF member Audrey George will lead the reflection. The topic is to be announced but she plans on sharing some of her poetry. Don't miss it!

Monday, July 29, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. PLUUF's KIDS CAMP!! See page 4 for more details.

Every Thursday from 7-9 p.m. Families United meets at PLUUF. Families United is a support group open to anyone who has been affected by addiction. Their mission is to provide education, support and hope for the future. These meetings are open to the public.



Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen

I want to bring your attention to a couple articles from UU World, Spring & Summer 2019 – After L, G, and B <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/after-l-g-b> followed up by, We're Right Here <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/trans-right-here>. (Copies will be available at PLUUF if you do not have access to the magazine or website.) These two articles outline the disconnect between mainstream 'do-gooder' assumptions and under/un-represented communities. These 'mis-steps' do not just apply to LGBTQ communities. The MidAmerica Region of the UUA planned their 2019 Regional Assembly featured title "Intersectionalities," which was developed by Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw to spotlight the issues affecting women of color. The MidAmerica program did not reference to the source, or include a presentation from the perspective of women of color. The apology & change in programming can be read on line <https://www.uua.org/midamerica/ra/we-want-apologize>. (Copy will be available at PLUUF).

I will admit that I am ill-equipped to address this situation since I align my perception/awareness/insight with the former UU World article, which resembles something I would write/present. Oh, so many things are bound to go wrong here, but I am going to step into this because we need greater awareness. As we continue to pursue our Welcoming Congregation commitment, we need to be aware that we are not doing right by the communities without their input, perspective or direction. We also need to be respectful in our approach for information; people with lifestyles different from our experience are not necessarily responsible to 'teach' us. It is a delicate balance toward understanding & supporting each other, without making the focus about our needs to create that understanding & support.

We are the religion of questioning; but we also need to focus on listening & following through with actions that come from the information/direction of those we are supporting. (This was addressed in the UUA Common Read "Justice on Earth" – we will revisit this topic.) It is not about us; it is about each other. Hang in there with me; mistakes will happen. We will figure out a positive way forward as we strive for an inclusive, loving community.

Wishing you a wonderful July –

Fellowship Notes



Bonnie is pictured with her caregiver Kiara

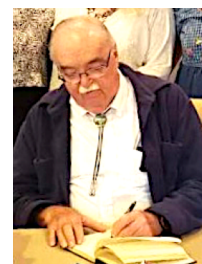
HAPPY 76th BIRTHDAY to **Bonnie Wagner!!**
A half dozen PLUUFer's traveled to Bonnie's home in Neenah to celebrate with lunch & cake.

Thank you to Becky Feyen for coordinating this meaningful event.

At the Flower Communion in May we welcomed new members Robyn Davis Bartow, Randy Roeper, Judy Morgan, Liz Buchanan Beegle and Shane Beegle.
Two weeks later, Tom Zuhlke & Audrey George signed the book to become our newest members. Welcome!



Audrey George



Tom Zuhlke



Thank you to **Beth Howman-Combs** for filling our planter near the PLUUF entryway with such a beautiful array of plants.

And...

Congratulations to Beth's daughter, Emily, who will soon be married! The bridal shower took place at PLUUF.

Elisabeth Beuthin's son, Matthew Moses Beuthin (Moses), married Evelyn Cooper on June 21st!

Congratulations!



July Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma



Thank you, again, to our wonderful June service leaders. We were thrilled to welcome Penny Andrews back on June 9th when she addressed climate change. Bottom line from her message: We can all do something; it may never pay off, but we owe it to ourselves and our future generations to keep trying. It was a great service.

And, then, to honor the solstice, three of our newest members led the June 23rd service. Thank you, Judy Morgan, Audrey George, and Tom Zulke (and Tanya for her piano duet with me). These lay-led services are so inspirational – and you guys were great!

So, we move into July already. How can that be! Here goes:

Sunday, July 14: We welcome for the first time Mary Pharmer. In this era of harsh, nationalistic immigration policy, she champions the work being done at the border by the Annunciation House. When I visited (maybe 2005?), their only House provided shelter to immigrants who were robbed, injured, or raped during their exodus. Once recuperated at the House, they ventured on. I so wanted to volunteer there, but they were looking for six-month commitments at that time. Now they operate four different facilities, mostly transitional, as asylum seekers need to contact their sponsors before moving on. Thus, Annunciation House is providing services to hundreds at a time, sometimes for just a very few days. Come learn from Mary's work there. Perhaps PLUUF members can also decide how to positively influence immigration policy as a result of listening to her experiences.

Don't forget: Second Sunday Potluck, too!

Sunday, July 28: Whoa! Not many PLUUF members write me, asking to lead a service. And Audrey George is a NEW member, to boot. So, we welcome her to lead a Reflection (the exact topic is still under discussion); but the service will include some of her personal poetry. Not only did Audrey volunteer; she also indicated that she's sooooo excited to do this. Come on down, one and all!

Happy July. Hope to see a full house during our Worship Services.

Jill Stiemsma

Another Important Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen



This month we are taking a break from ENGAGE Sunday programming; instead, have planned outdoor projects at PLUUF (see next page). I have to say, however, you all have a way of proving me wrong with attendance and I appreciate it. One of the factors for this decision was based on members' having other obligations on summer weekends. Well, then a bunch of you, including a few new people, showed up on June 16 for the Father's Day ENGAGE Sunday! Thank you, your presence & participation invigorated & lifted my spirits.

We have a lot of yard work & planning for the summer camp. If you are around, we will need some assistance this month. Emails will update you of our planned projects. Since we're working outside, it will be weather dependent. We also need to perform our Adopt-A-Highway obligation. Our stretch includes the bike trail, which may be our focus of cleaning. All this will be figured out & communicated.

JULY ENGAGE SUNDAYS- Outdoor work projects on July 7 & 21



We are basically taking a break in July from scheduled programming but please read on...

Hope you can join us in our gardening adventures & share your plastic free challenges.

There is plenty of outside work that needs to be addressed at PLUUF. Becky will be working outside the morning of July 7 & 21 at PLUUF to pull weeds, clean up leaves, and move hosta plants on the north side of the building – weather permitting. All are welcome to join in the fun, or drop by for coffee & moral support if you just want to hang out. There will be emails providing information. We also have an “Adopt-a-Highway” section that needs attention. Please help if you can.

Reminder that “Plastic-Free July” is still important for moving towards a more sustainable lifestyle. To keep us active in this, another letter-writing campaign will be underway at Prairie Lakes – Organic Valley, to change liquid packaging away from added screw-tops; Prairie Farms Dairy, thank you letter for not using the added screw-tops on their liquid packaging. Several others also.

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/planetorplastic/>

<https://www.1millionwomen.com.au/search/>

PLUUF's 4th Annual Summer Camp for Kids!

Monday, July 29
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The camp is for children entering
2nd through 5th grade

Please distribute the camp brochure
to interested participants.

Request a paper copy or PDF by contacting:
tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

**Interactive drumming performance
with Bill Kehl!**

**Come listen to the original song
created by Linda DeCramer!**

Would you like to volunteer?

- Teach lessons or lead craft activities
- Help in the kitchen
- Assist as needed during activities

Let's make our 4th annual PLUUF Summer Camp
wildly successful!

For more information contact Judy:
jdlake@centurytel.net

With the generous support of the Webster Foundation, PLUUF is planning its 4th annual environmental camp on July 29th. After learning about the importance of trees, the necessity of abundant and clean water, and “Not so Fantastic Plastic,” this year's focus will be on our reliance on pollinators. A new twist to our curriculum is an original song created by Linda DeCramer that will be the thread that connects our look at bees, bugs, and butterflies. With a little bit of luck, we may even watch a butterfly hatch. As usual, crafts to take home, two snacks, and lunch, Bill Kehl performing, a hike, and lessons will keep the kids (and adults!) busy and exhausted when 4:00 rolls around. We encourage parents to join us near the end of the day as the children will be “acting out” the song. Once again we have partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Berlin, which will provide half of our enrollment and a chaperone. While we have volunteer teachers, kitchen staff, craft supervisors, and general supervisors, we can always use your help.

In Case You Missed It In June

ENGAGE Sunday June 2 with Becky Feyen *Pride Month Recognition*



Becky led a program that provided a short review on the history of Pride Month and the LGBTQ communities' struggle against discrimination and how UU organizations are advocating for protections around the world. In 2018 the UUA outlined new

requirements for Welcoming Congregations with "Five Practices of Welcome Renewal." Becky introduced the "Five Practices" as presented by the UUA. The presentation and discussion concluded with a Pride Flag dedication and installation on the southwest side of PLUUF's building.

ENGAGE Sunday June 16 with Becky Feyen *The Importance of Fathers*

Becky Feyen gave a beautiful presentation on the shifting roles of fathers within the family have elevated them to caregivers. She discussed how the changing family structure has resulted in greater focus on how important fathers are to the development of children. Following Becky's presentation was a very thoughtful



and personal discussion on the roles our own fathers have played. The event concluded with Judy Harris reading a poem by Robert Hayden "Those Winter Sundays."



Worship Service June 9 with Penny Andrews *The Answer to How is YES: Reflections on the Parliament of World Religions*



Last November, the Rev Dr. Penny Andrews attended and presented at the Parliament of World Religions held in Toronto. She focused on the Climate Change track, which was presented from multiple perspectives. Since then she has been hosting conversations on this jaw-dropping topic. She seeks to begin the alignment of the heart, mind and hands to begin the Work That Reconnects, as Joanna Macy would call it. Many sources of inspiration and information have

been shared since November; her reflection focused on this existential moment in time we find ourselves in.

Penny's studies have steered her toward the areas of creativity and consciousness—for the last 20 years, in the context of understanding our Place in the Universe as science has been unfolding the story. She has a Doctor of Ministry from the University of Creation Spirituality and is an ordained Interfaith Minister.

Worship Service Sunday June 23 *Summer Solstice with Jill Stiemsma & New Members*

Jill Stiemsma coordinated another amazing service by including the participation of many. The children in attendance led the opening Call and Response while our three newest members - Judy, Tom, & Audrey - led different portions of the service. We celebrated the summer solstice by singing hymns about Earth, Water, Fire, & Air.



Judy Morgan assisted with the opening, Audrey George led a meditation on the Four Directions, Tom Zulke led the reflection titled, "Ancient Traditions to Help you Celebrate", and Jill read the Story for all Ages, *Interbeing* and *The Sun My Heart* by Thich Nhat Hanh.

Did you know PLUUF's air conditioner is 32 years old?!

Sadly, it is leaking Freon and beyond repair. We received a quote from Condon with three options ranging in price from \$5,000 to \$6,900! The Facility Committee will continue to seek other quotes. Please let us know if you have any referrals for us. Contact Tanya: tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

Parking lot renovation is scheduled for July!

Kinas Excavating and Rock's Concrete will be providing the service. With all the rain, they have been running behind schedule.

2019-20 Fiscal Year = New Treasurer

HAPPY NEW YEAR – well, HAPPY NEW CHURCH YEAR! Yes, July begins our new leadership & fiscal year.

At the annual meeting, Jim Goyette was elected to serve as PLUUF's new treasurer. He started his new role on July 1. Welcome Jim! THANK YOU, Judy, for serving as interim treasurer this past year.



Judy Harris
Outgoing Treasurer



Jim Goyette
Incoming Treasurer



Tanya Schwartz-Roeper
Administrative Manager

Board of Directors*

Moderator

Becky Feyen

Secretary

Linda DeCramer

Treasurer

Jim Goyette

At Large Representative

Pat Dobrinska

At Large Representative

Jessica French

Staff Position

Administrator Manager

Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2019

	Current Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$985	\$26,508	\$34,321
Expenses	\$1,859	\$28,597	\$34,321

Detailed monthly financial reports are always available at PLUUF or by request:

tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

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

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.