



Calendar At-A-Glance

ENGAGE Sunday, March 3, 10:00 AM: Becky Feyen will lead a discussion on “Faith, Morality and The Environment.” Please see page 4 for more details.

Worship Service Sunday, March 10, 10:00 AM: We welcome the return of Rev. Jim Jaeger. He will examine 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!”)

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

ENGAGE Sunday, March 17, 10:00 AM: We welcome Diana Beck, president of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society and the current chair of the Fond du Lac Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby. She will lead a presentation titled, “The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do About It.”

Worship Service Sunday, March 24, 10:00 AM: We welcome Steve Miller from Ripon College PLUS the return of Jill Stiemsma from El Salvador! Steve’s reflection will be on “Meaningful Lives.” The themes that will definitely come up are connection, community, caring, belonging, significance, choice, and hope.”

5th Sunday Clean-Up Day, March 31, Doors open at 9 AM if you want to get an early start ☺. Details on page 4.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, April 13

Art & Service Auction

Details on page 7

Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen



I have to say, this group never ceases to amaze me. I appreciate how someone always seems to step up and take the initiative to lead us to an elevated/improved/healthier experience at Prairie Lakes. I am not always prepared, often at a loss for words when caught off guard, or don't always have the confidence to articulate my point of view. Much of my reserve comes from the knowledge of how intelligent and accomplished each of you is and my belief that this is your Fellowship. It is important to me that I am not imparting my personal expectations if they do not align with what an individual or group wants and needs.

Thanks to you and the other board members, a little content is being added to our Sunday Services & ENGAGE Sundays to define the experience we are striving to achieve during our gatherings. We are making an effort to be welcoming, provide various experiences, and adapt to our changing congregation. I would be delighted to hear from you if you notice the additions, what you think, and if you have other suggestions.

I am aware that it isn't always obvious, but I do try to find a topic or theme that re-occurs throughout the year. The programming is often varied to create an expansive narrative, in hopes of appealing to the diversity of our Fellowship. Often it is not obvious how related, interconnected, or intersectional a diverse range of topics are. Honestly though, last year I struggled to manage an overarching theme with special presentations directed to the larger community.

Back to my amazement: When the conversation began stirring about creating a continued theme several people really stepped up with ideas & presentations to repeat a theme throughout a month. One amazing member suggested the concept of a "deep-dive" topic, which several Sundays would be devoted to. This is where you come in: What "deep-dive" topics are you interested in? Are you willing to present a perspective or segment of the information on that topic? Oh yeah, don't you forget (because I won't) my moto: *"If it is your idea, it is your project."* But we are here to help and share in the research, and the presentations. This group really steps up to create informative & inspiring content for our Sunday Services & ENGAGE Sundays. The chairpersons of the Worship Service Committee & ENGAGE Sunday Committee will work on collaborating content based on your suggestions.

Hope to see you Sunday!

Coming Soon!
Saturday, April 13
Art & Service Auction
Doors open at 6 p.m.

PLUUFs largest and best fundraiser of the year:

If you are looking for something fresh and unique, Prairie Lakes is the place to be on April 13. Bring a friend, a date, or fly solo. No matter what, we promise a memorable evening. All money raised goes to support Prairie Lakes in all that we do, so thank you for giving back! [More details on page 7](#)



March Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma writing from El Salvador

Hello, again. Hopefully, your mysterious WI weather hasn't badly impacted Sunday service attendance. I'm so grateful for all those who step forward to lead our interesting/challenging times together. This month....

Sunday, March 10, at 10 a.m.: Jim Jaeger returns! He describes his service thusly: "In these past few months, the topic of Immigration, in the form of a "wall" (or is it a fence, or a barrier or whatever) 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. On March 10 I will examine this topic 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!") I look forward to catching up with all of you at PLUUF."

And come for Second Sunday Potluck!

Sunday, March 24, at 10 a.m.: We welcome Steve Miller from Ripon College. As you might recall, Steve led Philosophy classes where our Dan Wehrwein participated as an eager student and eventually walked with Dan through his passing. As he leads us in our March 24th service: "My presentation will be on meaningful lives. In particular, I'd like to offer a view from the classroom, talking about the sorts of challenges my students express in thinking of their lives as meaningful. My hope is that this presentation will allow space for us to think together about the meanings of our own lives and how to encourage one another in discovering meanings. The themes that will definitely come up are connection, community, caring, belonging, significance, choice, and hope."

And – Jill and the Luna boys will be back on March 24th! Woo hoo!

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



Although children's RE is only scheduled on Worship Service Sunday's, the children had a special RE craft session on ENGAGE Sunday, February 3, with Jeromy French. While the adults were listening to the Pico Iyer podcast in the sanctuary and using their hands to draw, the children were using their hands to make origami in the RE room. Thank you Jeromy and Molly as we welcomed newcomers, McKinley and Lilly.

2nd Sunday was the Chinese New Year intergenerational service and all the children (and there were many!) participated in the service. We sang hymns, listened to special readings, and

learned about the importance of the Chinese New Year and how it symbolizes family unity and honors the past and present generations. Nicole also talked about the legend of the dragon and at the end of the service the children helped make our dragon come to life!



Jonah will continue to teach RE through the end of May. We are adjusting to the physical constraints of our building and continue to develop ways to accommodate more children of varying ages. Please hang in there with us as we continue to evolve to fit the needs of our changing Fellowship.



1st & 3rd ENGAGE Sundays & 5th Sunday by Becky Feyen

Sunday, March 3, 10:00 a.m. – Faith, Morality and The Environment – Becky Feyen *“Recent months have witnessed an evolution in public discourse on global warming. Typically discussed in the news media as a scientific, environmental or political issue, global warming is being reframed as a moral and spiritual issue by religious leaders...”*

(Roser-Renouf, C., Maibach, E., Leiserowitz, A., Feinberg, G., & Rosenthal, S (2016). *Faith, Morality and the Environment: Portraits of Global Warming's Six Americas*. Yale University and George Mason University. New Haven, CT: Yale Program on Climate Change Communication.)

Combining several perspectives & recent topics, Becky will present climate information & ideas from the Parliament of World Religions, Yale University, Unitarian Universalism, etc. Hopefully this will provide a few new viewpoints to

inspire a different conversation around climate change. We will definitely focus on/from the “religious & moral opportunity”.

Sunday, March 17, 10:00 a.m. – The Climate Crisis and What We Can Do About It – Diana Beck This presentation will examine the current scientific facts about climate change as it impacts the entire planet. The focus will also be directed to the effects in Wisconsin, using the Madison area specifically. We will address what each of us can do to help to lessen the impact of climate change.

Diana Beck is a retired teacher with the Fond du Lac School System. She is the current president of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society and the current chair of the Fond du Lac Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby. The Citizens Climate Lobby is a non-partisan group with chapters all over the USA, Canada and in other countries around the world. The mission of CCL will be briefly explained.

Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m. – 5th Sunday Cleaning Day – YES, YES, YES!!! We haven’t had one of these in a while because we skipped the 5th Sunday in December. Please join us to help do a little ‘deep cleaning’ inside & possibly outside if the snow is gone. There are a full range of tasks throughout the building, so you can choose your favorite duty – dusting, sweeping, vacuuming, cleaning appliances, bathrooms, etc. Coffee-clutching supervisors are also welcome; we need your encouragement. The building will be open at 9:00 am if you would rather arrive early.

PLUUF Receives Grant From the Webster Foundation for Summer Kids Camp



We’re planning our 4th annual Summer Camp For Kids. Trees, Water, and Not-So-Fantastic Plastic have been topics we’ve covered at past summer camps. This year our focus will be on bees as pollinators.

Back in November Tanya Schwartz-Roeper and Judy Harris completed a grant application to help fund PLUUF’s summer camp. Jessica French attended the Webster Foundation event at Royal Ridges on February 19 and accepted a check for \$500! She also gave a brief speech. Thank you Jessica for representing Prairie Lakes at this event. (Jessica is pictured front row and center).

In Case You Missed It In February

ENGAGE Sunday February 3 coordinated by Becky Feyen *The Urgency of Slowing Down*



The creativity flows when one listens to a podcast interview with Krista Tippet and Pico Iyer on "The Urgency of Slowing Down." Becky Feyen coordinated this unique event and encouraged participants to knit, draw, color, etc... if it helped with attention. Transcripts were available for the hard-of-hearing.

"Pico Iyer is not a spiritual teacher or even, he says, a spiritual person per se. But he has become one of our most beloved and eloquent translators of the modern rediscovery of inner life. As a journalist, he travels the globe from Ethiopia to North Korea, and he lives in Japan. But he also experiences a remote Benedictine hermitage as his second home." The podcast explored the "art of stillness" he practices to "bring calm into the motion of the world."

ENGAGE Sunday February 17 *Chinese Religions* with Jeromy French



As a continuation of our Chinese New Year service, Jeromy French gave us an overview of Chinese religions. He touched upon Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. He presented a history along with readings of religious text. Wife Jessica notes, "Jeromy managed to fit 6000 years of Chinese Religion in 40 minutes, which was no small feat!"

Worship Service February 10 with Nicole Roost and family *The Chinese New Year*



Nicole Roost brought the sanctuary to life with Chinese lanterns, platters of citrus representing symbols of happiness plus a variety of sweet fruits each having its own meaning. During the reflection, she not only shared the

history and traditions of the Chinese New Year but also tied them to what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. The celebration concluded with a dragon parade. The children brought the dragon to life (see photo) while the adults joined in the merriment by shaking their noisemakers. The service concluded with "poppers" representing the firecrackers used during the traditional Chinese New year celebration.

Worship Service February 24 with Penny Andrews cancelled due to winter storm



Snow, ice & wind prevented Penny Andrews from driving to PLUUF to lead the service, but we look forward to rescheduling soon.

Although the roads were treacherous, we knew at least a few hearty souls might show up.

Becky Feyen quickly jumped into action by arriving early to shovel the two entryways, sprinkle salt, make coffee AND not only create but also lead a discussion on "Sacred Space." Thank you to the handful of individuals who joined us on that snowy, windy day!



**Thank you, Becky, for
ALL you do!**

Fellowship Notes

PLUUF's children's RE room has been reorganized. In the process we weeded out over 60 books and moved the giant horseshoe table to the sanctuary. Some of the excess books were acquired by members/friends and the rest were donated to Barbara Lukas of Open Circle UU Fellowship in Fond du Lac.



It was an intergenerational service to remember! Thank you to Nicole Roost and family (and Molly) for bringing back our Chinese New Year celebration! Along with regular PLUUFers, three new families and a new couple joined us for this event. The children brought the dragon back to life while the adults shared in the merriment with noisemakers. (Page 5 has the rest of the details).

Thank you, Nicole, for creating and reviving such a meaningful tradition!



A message from Jill Stiemsma: Hi, everyone. Tanya asked that I tell you a bit about my experience here in El Salvador. Most of you are included on my group email so I won't repeat. However, if you're not receiving my emails from ES but would like to, let me know: jstiemsma@icloud.com.

First of all, these three months of the year are always some of my happiest. For those of you with a teaching background, you will appreciate this: All my students volunteer to come here; they're all adults. Hence, they want to learn and have no observable behavioral problems! And – aside from quickly reviewing occasional homework with them -- I don't have ANY grading! I do write a mid-term and final exam only to determine who's ready to move to the next level and who should repeat Basic A. To date, I've never had a student disagree with my assessment! They know if they're ready to move on. It's heaven.

And then there's life in general – how I love being in Latin America: the plazas, the horrible sidewalks, the terrible traffic congestion and noise, the cat fights going on through the night, the super-friendly people, the artwork, the history, the earthquake tremors, the days without running water...but, alas, I do not like speaking Spanish. I'll never be any good at it though I keep trying. They “dollarized” ES – don't you think they could “English-size” it as well? All they'd have to do is trade one colonial language for another, for Pete's sake.

Any time you want to join me, please do. My Center is always looking for native English speakers to teach (no experience necessary). In fact, this time my good friend Ellen Swan (remember her?) is here with me – and she's enjoying it so much she's staying to teach the next cycle! Come on down!

See you all at the end of March—Jill



Snowbirds Judy & Dave Harris have been in Alabama since early January. They have been frequent visitors to Fairhope UU Fellowship and consider it their 2nd UU home. We look forward to their return to WI in a few weeks! Here's an excerpt from one of Judy's e-mails: “We are up to our usual winter routine: I swim for 45 minutes almost every morning; we play cards and bocce ball often; eat out a couple of times a week enjoying the delicious seafood dishes; frequently eat at someone else's or have them come over; work on challenging jigsaw puzzles; go for walks, read lots--I'm on my 5th book; attend concerts (which have been great this year); a fun Master Gardening event; and attend Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship where last Sunday's service focused on a Doris Kearn Goodwin book called Leadership in Turbulent Times and highlighted the leadership styles of Lincoln and LBJ--very interesting. So the days fly by.”

*Editors Note: If you have information to be included in the newsletter, please submit it by the 22nd of the month to tanyapapermaker@gmail.com
We love hearing from members and friends near and far!*

The Art & Service Auction is coming soon!

On Saturday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m., we will see the return of Prairie Lakes' largest fundraiser of the year... the Art & Service Auction & PLUUF's Got Talent! The evening will include a Live Auction, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle and direct sales with entertainment throughout the evening. We need everyone's participation to make this event a success.

Here are a few ways you can help:

1. Donate an item for the live auction and/or basket raffle.
2. Provide food and/or beverages for the evening.
3. Participate in the event by bidding and buying.
4. Invite friends, family and coworkers to the event to bid and buy.
5. All of the above 😊

Live Auction ideas:

- Make dinner for another family
- Dessert every month for a year
- Original art or craft item
- Pre-owned art or craft item
- Handyman special-build or repair something
- Child care
- Yard work/house work
- Pies galore
- Camping get-a-way
- Restaurant certificates
- Theater Tickets
- Teach a new skill like knitting/baking/art/photography/computer
- A guided walk in South Woods
- Dog walker/pet sitter
- Bird watching
- Learn to kayak/canoe

Basket Auction theme ideas:

- Crazy for Chocolate
 - Movie or Game Night
 - Caffeine Fix
 - Great Outdoors
 - "Fur Baby" Fun
 - Home & Garden
 - Gourmet Wine & Dine
 - Family Day
 - Creativity Unleashed
 - Or whatever theme you can dream up!
- Pick a theme, any theme. Maybe ask another PLUUFer to team up to create a fantastic basket!!

Please e-mail tanyapapermaker@gmail.com if you would like to donate to the Live Auction or create a basket for the Silent Auction.

Treasurer's Report as of February 27, 2019

Below is a snapshot of our income and expenses so far for the 2018/19 fiscal year beginning 7/1/18 to 2/27/19. Detailed treasurer reports are always available at PLUUF or by request.

	February 2019	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$1,393	\$15,957	\$34,321
Expenses	\$1,965	\$18,009	\$34,321

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

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.