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Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Recap of the Art &
Service Auction
pages 4 & 6

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 19

Your board
of directors
will be
presenting
many of the
great things
happening at
PLUUF

We need
your input!



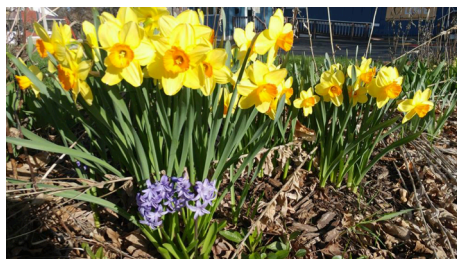
Calendar At-A-Glance

ENGAGE Sunday, May 5, 10:00 AM: May Day Celebration. This is an ancient Northern Hemisphere spring festival that will be led by Judy Harris. Dances, singing, and treats will be part of the festivities.

Worship Service Sunday, May 12, 10:00 AM: (Happy Mother's Day!) Becky Feyen will lead this service. Please stay after the service for our Second Sunday Potluck.

ENGAGE Sunday, May 19, 10:00 AM: ANNUAL MEETING There is much good happening at Prairie Lakes UU Fellowship! The PLUUF Annual meeting is an opportunity for members and friends to discuss how we want to move forward as a fellowship, review our budget, and more. Brunch will be provided. (See Moderator's Message on next page for more information)

Worship Service Sunday, May 26, 10:00 AM: Annual Flower Communion, a time to renew our spiritual connection to each other. Each member is asked to bring a flower to put in the "communal flower vase" that represents our commitment to each other and the UU community. We will also celebrate two new members -- Randy Roeper and Robin Davis-Bartow -- as well as remember those who no longer grace our sanctuary.



Hello Spring!

The first sign of spring at PLUUF appeared in the children's garden. After a long, snowy, icy, cold winter we welcome the bright, beautiful colors of spring!

Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen



Do you remember the Moderator's Message from last month? Well, I hope not – plans changed. The New & Renew to UU is being re-scheduled to fall, possibly to ENGAGE Sundays. There were high hopes of creating a special dinner events. It became obvious that adding one more thing to the schedule just wasn't going to work. I apologize if you were looking forward to evening dinners of sharing experiences & learning about Unitarian Universalism; we will make it happen; as always it takes longer than planned.

COME ONE, COME ALL – 2019 ANNUAL MEETING – MAY 19, 2019 10:00 am

Another May event coming quickly is our ANNUAL MEETING, scheduled for MAY 19, 10:00am – 12:15pm. Typically, the Members Packet is distributed 4(+) weeks prior to the meeting; this year they will be emailed & available at Prairie Lakes by May 5th. I strongly encourage members that cannot attend to designate a proxy. We are a very small group & need your participation to ensure a quorum of 25% is reached. If you are a 'friend' of Prairie Lakes, meaning you have not signed our membership book but participate in our community, you are encouraged to attend the annual meeting. We want you to understand the workings of the organization and, more importantly, we value your input. Voting rights are extended to members who have joined 30 days prior to the meeting (excluding Social Action donation vote – see below).

One important vote open to MEMBERS & FRIENDS will happen during 10:00-10:15 coffee & conversation. Our budget still contains \$1,150 allocated for Social Action. The board of directors decided \$600 should be donated to non-profit organizations doing good works in the greater community. Social Action is open to both members & friends, so all of you are welcome to participate in this decision. My suggestion is to split the money into parcels for local community (\$300), the Unitarian Universalist Association (\$150), & state or national (\$150) organizations. I need to know what organization(s) you would like to be considered.

General Examples: (off the top of my head)

Local – Ripon Food Pantry | Fit Oshkosh & Ebony Vision

UUA – UU Social Justice | Black Lives UU | (Becky will research additional UU-related organizations)

State/National – Clean Wisconsin | Puerto Rico Relief Fund (this one is a general idea – not specific organization)

Please contact Becky (r.feyen@yahoo.com | 920-229-3191) with your organization(s) & include a short description (just an additional suggestion to consider how the organization fits the Vision and Mission of Prairie Lakes). I will likely reach out with an email reminder to have submissions by 5/15/19 (Wednesday before meeting).

Thank you for supporting Prairie Lakes with your time & talents!

PLUUF's Kids Camp July 29!

POWER OF POLLINATORS

More details coming soon!





May Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma

Hi, all. As always, we've enjoyed truly enriching services in April, services led by our Open Circle friend Erika Jensen and the retired (but beloved) minister from the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine, Tony Larsen. Thank you to both for such thoughtful Reflections. And it was wonderful to have Tony, his husband Craig, our own Tom Zuhlke, and three Roosts from the PLUUF Singers. As Tony said, it was the first time he sang with a group consisting of more male than female singers! And then he accompanied all the hymns on guitar. Wow! As Tom said, "It was FUN, FUN, Fun!"

This next month's services will be somewhat "home grown":

Sunday, May 12, 10 a.m.: Becky Feyen will lead a service that will, at least in part, reflect our admiration for all those "mothers" out there (Happy Mother's Day!). And then stay for Second Sunday Potluck, to boot!

Sunday, May 26, 10 a.m.: Welcome to our annual Flower Communion, a time to renew our spiritual connection to each other. Each member is asked to bring a flower to put in the "communal flower vase" that represents our commitment to each other and the UU community. We will also celebrate two new members -- Randy Roeper and Robin Davis-Bartow -- as well as remember those who no longer grace our sanctuary. At the end of the service, we'll each take a different flower home as a symbol of the care -- and love -- others in our fellowship share with us.

Welcome to spring, hopefully to some warmer weather, and in anticipation of brighter days.



ENGAGE Sundays by Judy Harris & Becky Feyen

ENGAGE SUNDAY May 5 10:00 AM: The return of the May Day celebration! Judy Harris and Chris Poortenga coordinated this event in the past. After a brief hiatus the celebration returns. Organized by Judy Harris in memory of Chris Poortenga. Come meet the Green Man and dance around the May Pole. This event has wide appeal for young and old. Please join us!

ENGAGE SUNDAY May 19 10:00 AM – 12:15 PM: ANNUAL MEETING The most fun you can have on a Sunday morning! This is a great opportunity to get an overview of the background our Fellowship and discuss plans for the future.

To begin the morning, we want your input to determine what non-profit organization(s) should be designated as recipients of our \$600 in social action funds. The meeting will also include more details regarding our upcoming renovation project in the parking lot, along with budget information and much more. Both members and friends of Prairie Lakes are encouraged to attend. We need your input!

Children's Religious Education by Tanya Schwartz-Roeper



On April 14 Becky Feyen created a special children's RE lesson about Easter. After the lesson the children used their felt bags, stitched by Becky, for the Easter egg hunt.

On April 28 Jonah led Children's RE beginning with the chalice lighting and opening words. The lesson included reviewing the UU 7 Principles. The children worked with Play Dough for the craft activity. Fun for all ages it was a great toy for creative play and encouraged the children to explore their imagination.



Art & Service Auction fundraising event brings in \$3,682!

It was an unforgettable evening of fundraising, entertainment, great food, and friendship.

Thank you to the live & silent auction donors, bidders, raffle ticket buyers, entertainers, auctioneer, cashiers, and everyone who attended this event and/or sent positive vibes!

Also, thank you to everyone who brought food and drink and helped with cleanup.



Going Once! Sold! Thank you to Brad Roost for taking on the role of auctioneer for the past several years.



The Quad

The comedy troupe of Nicole Roost, Linda DeCramer, Becky Bruce-Allington and Betsy Bruce-DeMuri brought fun, happy, hilarious comedy throughout the evening.



THANK YOU to
EVERYONE for making
this a wildly
successful event!

(More details on page 6)



"Hee Haw" with
Pete Allington
on banjo

In Case You Missed It In April

ENGAGE Sunday April 7 with Jeromy French "Fun with Evolution"



Jeromy & Molly shared the book, "Grandmother Fish: A Child's First Book of Evolution" by Jonathon Tweet.

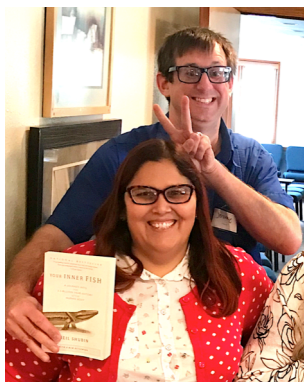
Jeromy French, with the assistance of daughter Molly, gave us a refresher and update on the theories of evolution. They used a video, a beautifully illustrated book and games like "Go Extinct" card game, to increase our understanding of natural selection.

ENGAGE Sunday April 21 with Jeromy French Book Discussion: "Your Inner Fish"



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.

Jeromy French led the book discussion, "Your Inner Fish: A journey into the 3.5 –billion-Year History of the Human Body" by Neil Shubin. "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."



Worship Service April 14 with Erika Jensen "My Favorite Fears"



A cancer diagnosis can shake you to your core and affect every aspect of your life. It can also leave you feeling overwhelmed with emotion and at a loss for words. Erika Jensen has found her voice and shared her cancer journey with members and friends of PLUUF. She has taken on the role of advocate and has touched the lives of many.

Erika Jensen is a member of Open Circle Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Fond du Lac. She is a freelance writer for Wisconsin Gardening magazine and former organic vegetable farmer.

Worship Service April 28 with Rev. Dr. Tony Larsen "O Ye of Little Faith"



Rev. Dr. Tony Larsen not only led the service, he shared his musical talent on guitar. His opening line as he led the service was, "O ye of little faith." How often that epithet has been directed at Unitarians. He concluded his sermon with, "...realize that you are a person of faith. For every doubt you hold there's an article of faith in you, too. For everything you don't believe in, there may be a

wider expanse of things you do believe in, which is made possible by your disbelief in the first thing. You don't need to be tongue-tied about religion. You don't need to be apologetic about your religious perspectives. You've got faith just like anybody else. The fact that yours is different from anybody else's doesn't make it wrong. It just makes you unique. And that's not a bad thing to be... at all!"

The Rev. Dr. Tony Larsen is a retired UU minister, having most recently served the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine (for 42 years!). Tony studied to be a Catholic priest before he switched to the UU ministry and has written a book entitled Trust Yourself: You Have the Power (Impact Publishers, 1979); authored a UUA curriculum called A Catechism for Unitarian Universalists (1988); and contributed chapters to two Skinner House books, Salted With Fire and Everyday Spiritual Practice.

Art & Service Auction PLUUF Style

Thank you to the donors who provided items or services for the Live and Silent Auction AND to everyone who bid on them!!

Donors to the Live & Silent Auction in Alphabetical Order:

Robyn Davis-Bartow	Marcia Jackson
Elisabeth Beuthin	Randy Jawor
Liz Lilly & Mckinley Buchanan	Marjorie Kenyon-Cler
Tobey Chier	Ellen & Bruce Mueller
Laird & Linda DeCramer	Pat Reiman & Don Martin
Vicki & Felix Duhr	Brad, Nicole, Amelia & Brody Roost
Becky Feyen	Randy Roeper & Tanya Schwartz
Jeromy, Jessica & Molly French	Jill Stiemsma with Mason, Miguel, & Emmy
Jim Goyette	
Dave & Judy Harris	
Joe Hatcher	

Thank you to Becky Bruce-Allington, Betsy Bruce-DeMuri, Linda DeCramer, and Nicole Roost for providing the HILLARIOUS entertainment. Thank you to Brad Roost for his role as auctioneer extraordinaire. Special thanks to everyone who bid on auction items (or bid by proxy), raffle ticket buyers, Match-the-Muellers Gift Challenge donors, food/beverage contributors, candy seller, cashiers, clean-up crew, and everyone who participated in one way or another to make it a huge success.

Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2019 by Tanya Schwartz Roeper & Judy Harris



Board of Directors*

Moderator

Becky Feyen

Secretary

Linda DeCramer

Treasurer

Judy Harris

At Large Representative

Pat Dobrinska

At Large Representative

Jessica French

Administrative Manager

Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

2019 Art & Service Auction Results

Live Auction : \$3,080
 Silent Auction: \$335
 50/50 Raffle: \$65
 Card Sales: \$38
 Miscellaneous Donations \$164

GRAND TOTAL:

\$3,682 was deposited into
 our Vision Fund!!

(Mueller \$200 Matching gift challenge raised \$364 in the live auction for a grand total of \$564 for PLUUF bathroom improvement!)

	Current Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$5,223	\$23,100	\$34,321
Expenses	\$1,670	\$24,820	\$34,321

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

BMO Checking	\$26,210 Operating Fund
Golden Rule Savings	\$18,843 Short term Vision Fund
UUCEF*	<u>\$48,661 Long term Vision Fund</u>
	\$93,714

*Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund

*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 Wednesday 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.