



Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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The annual water sharing ceremony combined with the Harvest Festival. (See page 5 for a recap of September)



Bonnie Wagner
June 22, 1943-
September 4, 2019
Page 4

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, October 6: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday Part I of a preview of Hindu basics. Jill Stiemsma will lead this 2-part series.

Sunday, October 13: 10:00 AM Worship Service We welcome Michael Baltutis, "What UU's Could Take from Hindu Philosophy."

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

Sunday, October 20: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday Part II of Hindu basics led by Jill Stiemsma.

Sunday, October 27: 10:00 AM Worship Service "How Hindu ties to India's nationalist movement may mirror evangelical ties to nationalist movement in the US."

Please see page 2 for more details on our ENGAGE & Worship Service Sundays

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. These meetings are open to the public. Thank you to Families United for donating a new coffee pot to PLUUF!

WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER Jerry Davidson!



October Worship Services and ENGAGE Sundays by Jill Stiemsma

Wow - October already! How does that happen???? First, let me thank Becky Feyen for leading our Water Sharing/In-Gathering as we began a new year of RE and can hopefully celebrate somewhat better attendance throughout the fall and winter. And, thank you, all, for sharing your produce during the Harvest Festival and for bringing more toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste for Annunciation House. You are great! Finally, thank you to Paula Hirschboeck for her wonderful service highlighting a cycle of transformation that we all go through, a cycle she used to illustrate her transition from Dominican Sister to Buddhist Priest. These September services were heart-warming indeed.

While much of September focused on Buddhist themes, we're going to really dig into Hinduism for all of October. My interest in Hinduism was spurred by attending two educational sessions at the local Pilgrim UCC Church followed by a tour of Pewaukee's Hindu Temple. But, upon completion, all I could say was, "Man, I don't understand Hinduism at all." So, I started reading and studying and finally decided that I might as well share all this with somebody - so it's you! So here's what's going to happen in October:

Sunday, October 6 and 20: During these two ENGAGE Sundays, we will preview Hindu Basics: The early (Vedic) period and the more recent philosophical underpinnings. Hopefully, you won't be as confused by my presentations as I was by Pilgrim's! No promises!

Sunday, October 13: We invite Oshkosh Theology Professor Michael Baltutis to reflect on how Hinduism might speak to Unitarian Universalists...what can we take from their philosophy? Did you know that Buddhism is an offshoot of Hinduism? (I didn't). Hence, meditation and the concept of enlightenment ("moksha" in Hinduism) actually pre-dated Buddha.

Then stay for our Second Sunday Potluck!

Sunday, October 27: Like the US, India faces a very radical shift to nationalism tied to its ancestral religious roots (that is, Hinduism). So, I will spend 10 minutes outlining the consequences of this movement in India while Ray Gurney will spend 8 minutes (he says he needs 8 minutes—not more, not less!) highlighting the impact of Christian fundamentalism on the US political system. We should wind up with some pretty lively Congregational Feedback!

Whoa! Have a great fall!

Jill Stiemsma Hosts German Exchange Student



For a week and a half, beginning September 12, I hosted German exchange student Maren Kraemer. We had a wonderful time together so departure was, I assure you, tearful. Here were some of her impressions:

I was impressed by my nice and comfortable bed...they're not like this in Germany! I liked our camping by the Mississippi, but there were so many dead raccoons on the road...oh. Visiting Lambeau field wasn't so interesting to me. Sports are very different in Germany. You have teams already in your schools; we don't have that in Germany. There, parents have to arrange for their kids to participate in sports separate from the schools. I thought the schools here would be more exacting (she was very unimpressed with the quality of instruction at MPTC, unfortunately). I was surprised that the average age in the college was

about 30, which seems old. I like German food better. US citizens go out to eat (to socialize) often while we do not; I think that's a nice thing. The people I met were very nice...I didn't have any bad experiences with the people. When I attend church in Germany, there's isn't much interaction like at PLUUF.. that PLUUF members share their experiences is very nice.

Meet a few Art & Service Auction Recipients

The Art & Service Auction is PLUUF's biggest, best and only fundraiser! Although it is still many months away, it's important to point out that it is so much more than an annual spring fundraiser. It is the camaraderie that "buyers" and "sellers" realize after the event. Whether it's tasting Judy's scrumptious pies or kringlers, watching the Roost family arrive with truck and trailer for a day of decluttering or going for a horse drawn carriage ride with Jim... it is a powerful experience to make these connections. This is just a tiny sampling of what our members/friends donate and bid on in this event to make it a special, long-lasting experience.

Below are a couple auction items that were fulfilled by the winning bidders in August and September.



Jolene & Henrik Schatzinger bid on and won "Dream Day." Tanya led the couple on a kayak adventure on Spring Lake to the Green Lake Conservancy's newest property, Tichora. At Tichora they were treated to an authentic German meal made by Linda DeCramer. Randy Roeper and Laird DeCramer assisted with the event. Pictured: Jolene & Henrik holding up a sign next to Linda, Randy, Tanya and Laird that says, "We are grateful to Prairie Lakes (PLUUF)"

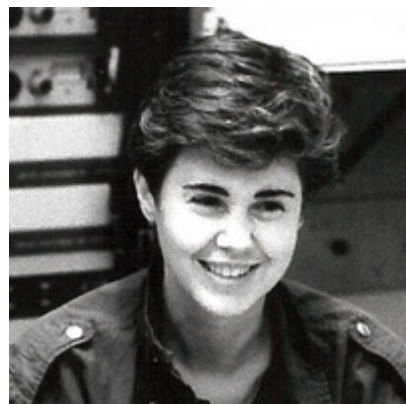


Betsy Bruce-DeMuri and Brian DeMuri experienced the history and excitement at Lambeau Field with the Pre-Season Packer Tickets they won at the Art & Service Auction!

We celebrated the Life of Bonnie Wagner at Prairie Lakes September 29, 2019



Bonnie Krull Wagner, age 76, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 in Neenah, Wisconsin with PLUUF member Ellen Mueller by her side. She was born on June 22, 1943 in Appleton, daughter of the late Clarence and Dorothy (Rogers) Krull. She was proud to have resided on Doty Island, in the home her grandfather renovated for his family.



Bonnie is the 12th generation of the descendants of Thomas Rogers who sailed to America on the Mayflower. She earned a BS degree in History from UW-Oshkosh.

Bonnie enjoyed Community Theater and music. In her youth and early adulthood she was a member of several local community theater groups; her most memorable role was portraying Anne Frank at Riverside Park in Neenah. She also

served as a disc jockey for a local radio station. She retired from JJ Keller after nearly 30 years.

Bonnie was a very active and beloved church member at Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and made the 40-minute drive from Neenah almost every Sunday morning. She continued her love of music & performance as a member of the Prairie Lakes (PLUUF) Singers. In October 2018, shortly after her cancer diagnosis, she led a service at Prairie Lakes titled "The Life and Hard Times of Bonnie Wagner."

Bonnie's kind & generous spirit, coupled with a positive outlook, attracted many friends. She was an advocate for those who had less than her, supporting organizations that cared for animals, the environment & equality. She was a devoted daughter and often took day trips around the area with her mother, ate at local restaurants and enjoyed shopping for clothes, often finding gifts for others. Bonnie's grace, intelligence & generosity will be missed by many.

Survivors include 10 cousins and many dear friends.



*Looking Back...
(See photo on left)
October 7, 2018,
Bonnie led an
ENGAGE Sunday
titled "The Life and
Hard Times of Bonnie
Wagner." Bonnie is
pictured in the center
surrounded by her
friends at Prairie
Lakes.*

October 2019

In Case You Missed It In September

ENGAGE Sunday, September 1, with Becky Feyen **"Being Peace in a World of Trauma"**

Becky Feyen aired the interview with Thich Nhat Hanh, Cheri Maples and Larry Ward "Being Peace in a World of Trauma".



Worship Service September 9 **Water Sharing & Harvest Sharing**

Once again we combined two very significant services into one. We shared our summer journeys and thoughts during the water sharing ceremony and contributed a bounty of fresh vegetables to celebrate the bounty of the Harvest. We are grateful to everyone who participated in this annual intergenerational tradition. Thank you to Becky for coordinating the service and thank you to the Roost family for delivering the bounty to the Berlin Food Pantry.

ENGAGE Sunday September 15 Book Discussion **The Art of Communication by Thich Nhat Hanh**

The engagement of "The Art of Communication" by Thich Nhat Hanh was opened from point of interest. With the benefit of the experience of Byran and Ray, discussion began with the 6 Mantras and applications. Throughout the discussion, participants brought out experiences and concerns that were addressed by the topics of Mindfulness, using the Four Elements of Right Speech, and applying the Four Criteria to be used in proper teaching. The "hungry ghost" was one of several illustrations presented, as well as commentary on Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Provocative Therapy, "Living Buddha – Living Christ" written by Hanh, the poem "The Guest House" by Rumi, and the Seneca Tribe tradition of the Clan Mothers telling stories at the time of the full moon. The Engagement was interesting, intriguing, and interactive! In the moment, it was here and now! *(Book discussion summary submitted by Tom Zuhlke)*



Worship Service Sunday September 22 **Evolving from Catholic Sister to Zen Priest with Paula Hirschboeck**



We welcomed Zen Priest Paul Hirschboeck to Prairie Lakes as she shared her journey evolving from Catholic Sister to Zen Priest. Paula Hirschboeck was born in Milwaukee. She entered the Sinsinawa Dominican congregation in 1962 and taught in Chicago, Minneapolis, Cheyenne, WY, and River Forest, IL. While experiencing powerful social radicalizations at each mission, she also was drawn ever deeper into the search for spiritual integrity. She found support in the teachings of Zen path. Her internal and external conflicts with the Roman Catholic patriarchy led her to leave the Dominicans in 1989. Returning to Wisconsin with a Ph.D., she taught Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies at Edgewood College in Madison and deepened her Zen study and practice. Paula was ordained a Soto Zen priest in 2010 and began "Sophia Zen," a women's sangha in Madison and in SE Wisconsin. She is committed to dialogue between Zen and Christian mystical teachings for the awakening of love and wisdom in the suffering world.

Facility Update



The outdoor space at Prairie Lakes continues to improve! Asphalt Specialists, LLC from Fond du Lac repaired, sealed and striped our parking lot. It really makes the beautiful new walkway stand out.

Plans are underway to have the building painted before the snow flies. Stay tuned.... ☺



Jim Goyette

Treasurer of Prairie Lakes

2019/20-2020/21 Fiscal Years

Treasurer's Report as of September 29, 2019

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

	September 2019	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$1,451.	\$3,745	\$26,004*
Expenses	\$1,790.	\$18,286	\$41,375**

*Annual Budget Income does not reflect Restricted Funds

**Annual Budget Expenses will use Restricted Funds and Funds from the Common Endowment Fund to cover outdoor renovation projects.

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

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