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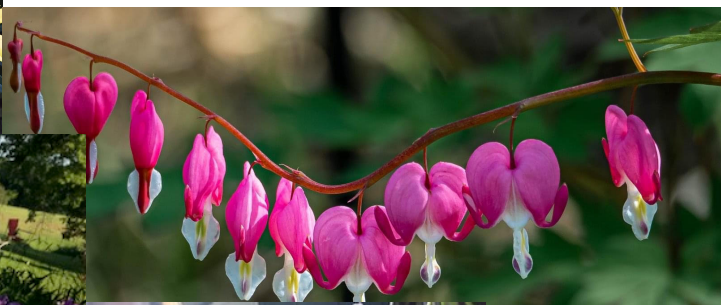
Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Images From PLUUF's Virtual Flower Communion

To view the slideshow created by Jim Goyette please use this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MwctC4WfV-y2kgbVAW4vw5ojRe8mPU5J/view>



Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma



Hi, everyone. Hope this finds you able to get out a bit more...safely. I'm getting my hair cut on Tuesday, for the first time since I left El Salvador in mid-March. I'm a mess. How about you?

Though I receive little feedback, I continue to send out 2nd and 4th Sunday Worship Services that you can conduct at home. The services follow the same outline that we use when meeting face to face: That is, music/hymns, opening and closing words, a Story for All Ages, Lighting and Extinguishing the Chalice, and a Reflection. Please do join us from afar. Like every other aspect of your life (e.g., your physical and mental well-being), it's equally important to care for your spiritual well-being.

Interestingly, Open Circle will use most of the service I sent you entitled *A Day of Lament*, a memorial in recognition of the US' 100,000th death from Covid-19. I will participate with others from Open Circle during that July 5th service. Remember: All of us are welcome to join in at 10:00 every week:

To Join Open Circle Sunday Services

Audio Only: Call 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 404 410 3110 Password: 795520

Video and Audio: Click on link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4044103110?pwd=Ui93OVZQb0xtVzBCeTRreWZCYitRdz09>

Further, for those of you whose kids participate in RE, you're welcome to join Fox Valley's Sunday RE Programs at 9 AM:

Fox Valley Fellowship: Virtual Children's Chapel

Ages **Pre-K** through **6th grade**/age 12. We have joined a collaboration with the Fox Valley Fellowship to provide an RE program for children during the quarantine.

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/2076645367?pwd=UU9kOHpSejhTMWErVi9lY1BKRjQ3UT09> Password: UU

(For updates contact Kim Hartman, Director of Religious Education, Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

PH: (920) 731-0849,x2 or Email: kim@fvuuf.org)

Here at PLUUF, I especially want to thank Jim Goyette for his persistence in creating the video for our stay-at-home Flower Communion (no small endeavor) and give a big shout-out to all of you who submitted photos. Hopefully, next year's Flower Communion will go live!!!

Thank you, too, to Tom Zuhlke who created part of the July 28th service focused on persistence and the Black Lives Matter movement. Robyn Davis Bartow has graciously agreed to create our August 9th stay-at-home service. Otherwise, the invitation stands to the rest of you: Wanna "lead" a PLUUF stay-at-home service? Contact me any time: jstiemsma@icloud.com or 920-923-2387.

I don't have a concrete plan for either July service. Stealing from Open Circle services, I'm fumbling around with "what is faith" for July 12th. But you just never know. Your suggestions/help/contributions are welcome!

Stay well, my friends. We SHALL meet again!
Jill Stiemsma

Editors note: Thank you Jill for your time and commitment to creating beautiful worship services.

ENGAGE Sundays with Judy Harris



On Sunday, June 21, Judy Harris led an ENGAGE Sunday via Zoom. After she wished all the dads a Happy Father's Day, she acknowledged a couple recent Supreme Court decisions:

1. The ruling that federal law protects gay and transgender workers from job discrimination.
2. The Supreme Court blocked the Trump administration's attempt to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, an Obama-era program that protects hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought to the US as children from deportation.

The rest of the ENGAGE discussion focused on PLUUF's commitment to renew our status as a "Welcoming Congregation." The UUA has been working hard the past 25 years to make sure lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people are full members of our faith communities. Many years ago Prairie Lakes went through a process to be recognized by the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation. This year we must renew our status as a Welcoming Congregation, so Judy Harris and the steering committee have been leading the way. The participants in the ENGAGE Sunday meeting discussed what they know, don't know, and need to learn about the LGBTQ+/TGQNB communities. Joe Hatcher of the Welcoming Congregation Renewal Committee will help PLUUF connect with LGBTQ+ college students. Other members on the committee include Lee Barczak, Judy Morgan, Alex Thompson, and Judy Harris as chair.

The committee feels strongly that youth representation is needed. Do you know of a high school student or young adult interested in working with our Welcoming Congregation Committee at Prairie Lakes? Please contact Judy Harris for more details jdlake@centurytel.net.

Attached is a link to a TED talk by Paula Stone and Jonathan Williams, "The Story of a Parent's Transition and Son's Redemption": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NZCWeBNPeE>

PLUUF member Eric Bartelme, an elementary school teacher, shared this link about pronouns: We Are Teachers: https://www.weareteachers.com/gender-inclusive-science/?utm_source=WAT_MDR&utm_medium=Enews&utm_campaign=WAT_Enews061820.

Much more information is available by contacting ericbartelme@hotmail.com.

Ripon Area Ministerial Association (RAMA)

Almost since its inception, Prairie Lakes has been a member of the Ripon Area Ministerial Association. This organization is made up of ministers of all faiths. Meetings take place each month at a different church. During the pandemic, however, meetings are held virtually. The purpose of the ministerial association is two-fold: First, to provide an opportunity for ministers to enjoy a time of fellowship, and Second, to be involved in the activities and events of our community.

Since PLUUF is a lay-led organization, PLUUF's moderator usually serves as representative and attends the monthly meetings. PLUUF Moderator Becky Feyen dedicated the first four years of her tenure to attending these meetings. The past two years, however, PLUUF had taken a break from actively participating in the RAMA meetings. Participation resumed on June 18 when Linda DeCramer attended a meeting via ZOOM. Both Linda DeCramer and Jill Stiemsma will be participating in RAMA meetings.

In Case You Missed it in June

In addition to PLUUF's Annual meeting on June 7, Jill's stay-at-home Flower Communion service on June 14, Judy's ENGAGE Sunday Zoom presentation on June 21, and Jill Stiemsma's and Tom Zuhlke's Worship Service, "Perseverance" on June 28, PLUUFers attended two events held in downtown Ripon.

Vigil to Honor the Victims of Racial Violence June 14



Organized by local resident Kat Griffith, a vigil was held Sunday, June 14, in Rotary Square in downtown Ripon. The event was organized to honor the victims of racial violence and to end white silence on the issue. Names of victims were read and posters honoring the victims were displayed. Local faith leaders offered prayers.

PLUUFers pictured: Jerry Davidson, Jim Goyette, Linda DeCramer, Becky Feyen, Joe Hatcher, Ray Gurney

We Stand Together



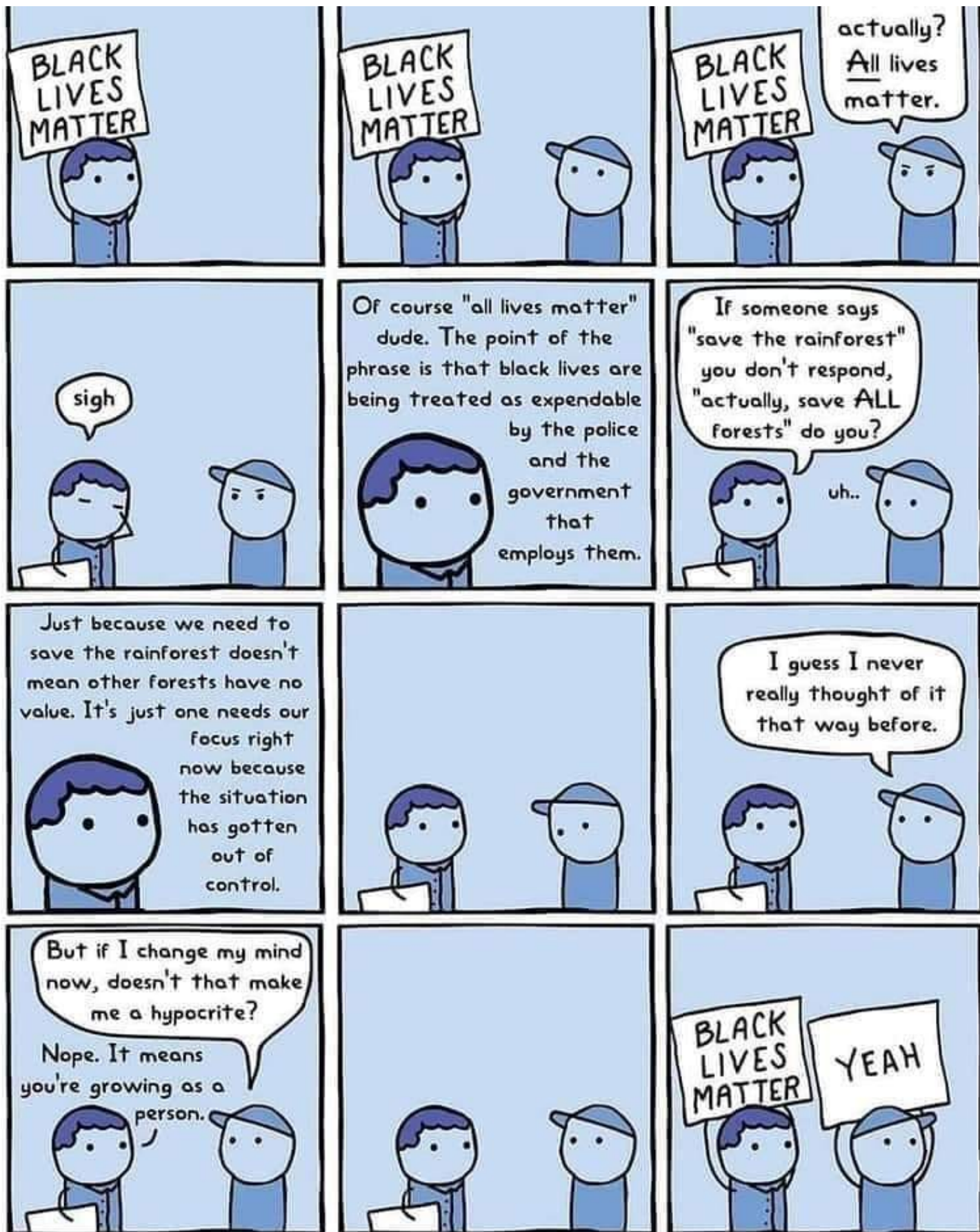
PLUUFers pictured above: Judy Harris, Jerry Davidson, Jim Goyette. Not pictured: Joe Hatcher & Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Thank you to Judy Harris for waterproofing the signs!

Local Ripon resident Mandy Kimes coordinated the "We Stand Together" event on the Village Green in downtown Ripon on Saturday, June 20. According to Kimes, "The event was an opportunity for all to stand against racism and stand for equality, diversity and inclusion for all in our community. Mayor Ted Grant and Ripon Police Chief Bill Wallner addressed the crowd along with other local residents.

There were four components to the event:

1. Listen to our community leaders
2. Learn from our community members
3. Reflect on what's been happening in our world
4. Provide real, practical ways to respond



[@scarecrowbar](#)

PLUUF Gets a Makeover!



Before: Fading & peeling paint



After: Primed & painted



John Roesch

Bye-Bye Fading and Peeling Paint

Thank you to John Roesch for giving PLUUF a much-needed makeover!

We splashed a multitude of paint samples onto the building before deciding on a color.



Once we discovered Cabot's Newport Berry Blue, the choice was easy! Thank you Linda DeCramer for the suggestion.

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

Board of Directors*

Moderator

Linda DeCramer

Secretary

Robyn Davis Bartow

Treasurer

Jim Goyette

At Large Representative

Joe Hatcher

At Large Representative

Jessica French

Staff Position

Administrator Manager

Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2020

	June	2019/20 Fiscal Year Total	Annual Budget
Income	\$2,485	\$ 24,385	\$26,004
Expenses	\$3,774	\$ 44,523	\$41,375

Note: The unexpected replacement of the PLUUF air conditioner put us over our annual budgeted projection in the expense category. Thanks to the generosity of PLUUF members and friends there was enough money in the operating account to cover the cost. We did not have to dip into PLUUF's savings. ☺

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our "NO SERVICE/NO TALENT Do-It-Yourself AUCTION." \$2,600 was raised!! ☺

BMO Checking	\$15,001.88	Operating Fund
Golden Rule Savings	\$18,865.72	Short term Vision Fund
UUCEF*	\$39,521.92	Long term Vision Fund
	\$73,389.52	

*Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund

Detailed monthly financial reports for the year are available by contacting: tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

Board meetings usually take place on the first Monday of the month. If there is anything you'd like to put on the agenda, please contact Robyn Davis-Bartow at robinaudrey19@gmail.com or Linda DeCramer lindadecramer@yahoo.com at least one week in advance.