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Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

NOVEMBER

by Kathleen Pedersen

Leaves are falling,
winter's calling
We are thankful
for our friends.
NOVE-M-BER
It's November
once again

Sunday, November 1: "Faith & Politics Part II" with Rev. Ben Konecny and Brian Smith. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnXz0QVhHOI>

Sunday, November 8: Stay-at-Home Worship Service "Buddha's Teaching and Our UU Principles" by Jill Stiemsma

Sunday, November 15: 10:00 AM ENGAGE Sunday via Zoom: Judy Harris and Jerry Davidson discuss Mashpee Wampanoag tribe.

Sunday, November 22: Stay-at Home Worship Service with Jill Stiemsma observing our annual Gratitude service. Please see Jill's note on page 2 to find out how you can participate.

PLUUF's First Ever Halloween Campfire

Thank you to Linda DeCramer, Robyn Davis-Bartow and Robyn's family for creating the event and providing the scrumptious, spooktacular spread of food! It was a beautiful, clear night to be outdoors gathered around the fire.



November Worship Services and ENGAGE Sunday by Jill Stiemsma

Hi, all. Well, in the midst of our isolation, we're now marching solidly into winter-like weather and early dark evenings. This fall may be harder than March and April when we knew summer was coming, affording us some relief. Now, we just know that we face a long, probably hard winter. I hope you'll consider doing the stay-at-home services as one way of meeting your spiritual and mental health needs. And, remember:

Open Circle's 10:00AM Sunday Zoom services are available to all of us as well:

<https://zoom.us/j/94785072083?pwd=M0pOVkk3UGlUekNkWHozYWV1eFd2UT09>

Meeting ID: 947 8507 2083, Passcode: 266051, Dial-in Option: 312 626 6799



Thank you to those who have transformed our stay-at-home services into live services offered over FB. We're doing what we can under these circumstances!

Here's what's on the November calendar:

Worship Service Sunday, November 8: This stay-at-home service will compare the Buddha's initial teachings to our UU Principles. There's actually many an interesting overlap.

ENGAGE Sunday via Zoom, November 15, at 10 a.m.: Join Judy Harris and Jerry Davidson to learn the history of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, the tribe that greeted the first Pilgrims arriving in our country. Find out why PLUUF chose to support them financially and with follow up actions. In addition, you will have the opportunity to volunteer to help with our remaining commitment to them.

Worship Service Sunday, November 22: This stay-at-home service will carry on the tradition of our annual Gratitude Service. You can email me now if you want (so you don't forget). But I will be sending out emails soliciting your feedback about how PLUUF has sustained you during this pandemic. Let's show our gratitude for PLUUF's continuing efforts to keep us connected and the church operational.

And, if you're like me, you'll be isolated on Thanksgiving. Think now about how you can make the day feel better even if you're unable to spend it with family or friends. Your spiritual, mental and social health is important! Be well, all.

Would You Like to Chat With Other PLUUFers on Saturday Mornings?

Jill Stiemsma has created a Zoom link to connect PLUUFers on Saturday, November 7, at 10 AM. This chat is just that: a chance to "see" friends and just talk. Bring your own coffee. If there's interest, she may do this on a more regular basis. We hope you'll join in.

Vote to Amend

Two weeks ago, a packet was sent to all members of Prairie Lakes that introduced **Wisconsin United to Amend** (wiuta.org), an organization working to overturn the Supreme Court's 2010 ruling in a case known as *Citizens United vs FEC*, which struck down as unconstitutional a federal law prohibiting corporations and unions from making expenditures in connection with federal elections. (The PAC Citizens United is a conservative 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization in the U.S. founded in 1988.)

In the enclosed letter, Judy Harris reminded us, "Commonly referred to as "*Citizens United*," this ruling runs contrary to our UU principles by paving the way for greed and profit-oriented power to infuse exorbitant levels of money into political campaigns, and in essence, "buy" elected officials to the detriment of workers, the environment, and minority races.

Thank you for casting your vote. Deadline to turn in the ballot is November 2. Results will appear in the December newsletter.

In Case You Missed it in October

ENGAGE Sunday, October 4: Originally Becky Feyen was going to lead an in-person and Facebook Live presentation featuring the video “Healing the Heart of Democracy” by Parker Palmer. But due to the spike in COVID cases, in-person gatherings were suspended for October. Again, here’s the link to this uplifting PBS special: <https://pbswisconsin.org/watch/university-place/university-place-healing-heart-democracy/>

Stay-at-home Worship Service Sunday, October 11: “UU Sources of Wisdom.” From the UUA Worship Website: Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these Principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience. Jill Stiemsma created a stay-at-home service examining the Six Sources of Our Living Tradition that our congregations affirm and promote.

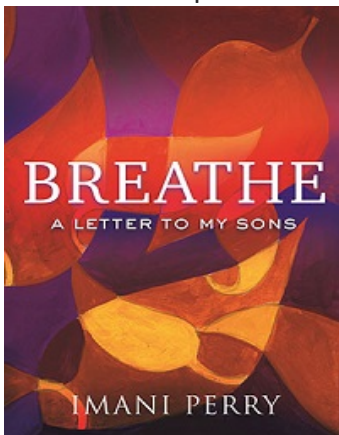
ENGAGE Sunday, October 18: “International Pronoun Day” with guest speaker Ivy Bolthouse via ZOOM. Judy Harris coordinated this presentation with technical assistance from Jim Goyette. Referring to people by the pronouns they determine for themselves is basic to human dignity. The service was published on the Prairie Lakes Facebook page on October 22 and can be viewed in its entirety.

Worship Service Sunday, October 25: “Who Would Kill Jesus Today?” Jill Stiemsma was inspired to create this stay-at-home service based on a five-week class on the philosophy of Marcus Borg, an influential Christian theologian and participant in the Jesus Seminar, a group of 50 biblical scholars and 100 laypeople who delved into the historical Jesus.” Jill introduced the service by noting: “The Jesus Seminar essentially concluded that much of the Four Gospels reflect the evolution of his followers vs. Jesus’ actual words and emphasis. This UCC class has been a tremendously informative journey that led me, eventually, to ask: “Who would kill Jesus today?”

Unitarian Universalist Association announces Common Read 2020-21

A Common Read invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. “Common Read can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations.” In 2018 at Prairie Lakes, we read *Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and Environment* edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom. Becky Feyen led two ENGAGE Sundays at Prairie Lakes to discuss the book. Last year, the UUA Common Read was “An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States for Young People.”

The UUA is pleased to announce that *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons* by Imani Perry (Beacon Press, 2019) is the new Common Read.



Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, Imani Perry issues a challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She admits fear and frustration for her African American sons in a society that is increasingly racist and at times seems irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life—and she exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find steady footing and inspiration in Black tradition.

Congregations, groups, and individuals may purchase this book in hardcover from [inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop](#); group discount available. The e-book and audio book (CD or MP3) are available from [Bookshop.org](#).

(Editors note: If anyone would like to lead a discussion on this book please contact tanyapapermaker@gmail.com.)



Administrative Manager Report by Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

It's been a busy month. My administrative manager duties have ventured into creating the 2019-20 fiscal year Annual Report. Copies were sent to members on October 29. If

Members/Friends of PLUUF would like a paper copy, just let me know. I encourage you to read this (gasp) 13-page document. I enjoyed pouring through old newsletters, photos and

board minutes to gather the information needed to summarize our previous fiscal year. It was a great year till COVID hit! Actually, with our ENGAGE Sunday and Worship Service Committees stepping up to create stay-at-home services and members/friends continuing to support PLUUF financially, the fiscal year ended on a very positive note. When you receive the document via e-mail or paper copy from PLUUF, please kick back with a cup of coffee, wine or whatever and take the time to read it ☺. We are grateful for our members and friends near and far.

Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Annual Report 2019-20

Issued November 1, 2020



Moderator
Becky Feyen



Secretary
Linda DeCramer



Treasurer
Jim Goyette



At Large Rep 1
Jessica French



At Large Rep 2
Pat Dobreska



Administrative Manager
Tanya Schwartz-Roeper



New Member
Jerry Davidson



New Member
Jeff Reese



Bonnie Wagner
June 22, 1943-September 4, 2019

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



It may seem early to be thinking about our annual Festival of Lights event, but this year we are immortalizing our beloved event by filming it in segments. Since we can't have our traditional December evening presentation due to COVID-19, we have hired a professional videographer to begin filming the presenters and musicians throughout the month of November. The festival will be available to view on the PLUUF and RAMA websites and YouTube beginning in December.

Treasurer's Report as of October 30, 2020

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

Administrative Manager

Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

	October 2020	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$825	\$5,293	\$26,610
Expenses	\$1,426	\$6,911	\$31,610

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

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