



## May Calendar At-A-Glance

**ENGAGE Sunday, May 2 10:00 AM:** Interactive Zoom conversation highlighting our 4<sup>th</sup> UU Principle" with Linda DeCramer & Joe Hatcher. Zoom link will be shared via e-mail.

**Sharing Garden Work Date, Saturday, May 8, 9:30 AM:** See Becky's message on page 3.

**Worship Service Sunday, May 9:** The stay-at-home Worship Service "Earth Keepers" coordinated by Jill Stiemsma will be emailed. Plus, you can join Linda DeCramer via Zoom for a Story for all Ages. This will be a celebration of motherhood, plus Nonbinary Parents Day which is celebrated the 3rd Sunday in April.

**ENGAGE Sunday, May 16, 10:00 AM:** Topic TBA.

**Worship Service Sunday, May 23:** Jill Stiemsma's stay-at-home service will be emailed to you titled "The Loved Into Being Stewardship Service" and Linda DeCramer will present a Story for All Ages via Zoom.

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, May 30: Adopt-a-Highway Clean-Up 10 a.m.**

## Looking Ahead to JUNE: In-Person!😊

**ANNUAL MEETING Sunday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m.** In-Person at PLUUF Check\_out page 4 to find out who the Board nominees are.

**ART & SERVICE AUCTION Saturday, June 12, at 6 p.m.** In-Person at PLUUF (See page 6)

**PLUUF Open House Sunday, June 13, 10 a.m.** Snacks & socializing indoors & out plus, be the first to find out the grand total of the Art & Service Auction 😊

# Message from the Moderator by Linda DeCramer



## New Beginnings

Spring is upon us and with it the natural world's dramatic burgeoning of life. It thrills me every year to watch the world turn green, to hear the returning birds, feel the warmth of the sun, taste the dew on a bright green leaf, smell the sweetness of pollen. Against this backdrop of fleeting newness and the perennial drive to live, to thrive, came the 3X guilty verdict against former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd— what an incongruous juxtaposition.

Or is it? Like spring, the verdict, offers a nod to new beginnings, of gaining ground, of being seen, heard, felt, and valued. In the quest for racial equity and social justice this is a taste of victory in unprecedented territory! Like spring, I want to revel in and celebrate this moment. And yet...

Any celebration is tinged with sorrow and a foreboding sense of incompleteness. Has justice been served? Hardly, George Floyd, and countless others, remain dead. Does this verdict signal a major shift in our criminal justice system? Not yet. The gained ground has been hard won, and is constantly threatened by fear mongering, hatred, ignorance, racism, and false power. Does this slight tick toward justice portend a watershed of racial reckoning for our country, or have we simply witnessed an isolated anomaly? Any sense of victory seems as ephemeral as spring...

Per usual, good works are never done. Keepers of love, light, and justice will always be necessary. Here's a quote to keep at the fore when the work ahead seems insurmountable.

"It's the action, not the fruit of the action, that's important. You have to do the right thing. It may not be in your power, may not be in your time, that there'll be any fruit. But that doesn't mean you stop doing the right thing. You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result."  
— Mahatma Gandhi

I'm looking forward to June when our PLUUF community will come together in-person. Like spring it will be a time for renewal of our friendships, connections, and commitments to good works. It's what makes us tick!

In the meantime, I love seeing you all online for ENGAGE Sundays and Stories for all ages!

Best,  
Linda DeCramer – Moderator, PLUUF



On April 17, Green Lake Health & Human Service Department & Green Lake Food Pantry presented the Period Supply Drive in which they collected cash and feminine hygiene products for low-income women. On behalf of PLUUF, Linda DeCramer delivered a check for \$50 to support the cause. Giselle Kauffeld of the Green Lake County Dept. of Health and Human Services is pictured accepting the check.

## May At-Home Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma

E-Mailed to the congregation just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month



Another month flies by. Hopefully, now vaccinated, you're feeling a little bit safer to socialize. And the warmer weather doesn't hurt, does it? I'm not sure how June's face-to-face services will work out, but here's the plan for May:

**May 9:** On April 25<sup>th</sup> I joined the Open Circle service dedicated to Earth Keepers. It was such a GREAT service – easily accessible for most anyone over the age of 12 – and a great review of those who've led the Environmental Movement. Having taken good notes, I immediately started to reproduce the service in stay-at-home version.

Afterward, I wrote the person who led the development of the service as well as the minister to ask for permission to replicate it (good timing, Jill). Of course, they were thrilled that their hard work could be used elsewhere. So, I hope ALL of you take the time to do this interesting – and kinda fun – service. As you'll see, it's a great reminder of the variety of ways we could be involved. Pick one!

**May 23:** Once again, you'll have the opportunity to participate in an entire service created by the UUA: The Loved Into Being Stewardship Service. The music alone makes this an incredible service. If you “participated” in the “Side of Love” service offered April 25<sup>th</sup>, then you have an idea of how exceptional these offerings are. I so hope you'll join in.

Have a great month, everyone~

## Sharing Garden Report by Becky Feyen



Hello intrepid gardeners & supporters! May is upon us already and our work will be ramping up quickly. We are starting out small with just 5 small, raised beds – THANK YOU JUDY MORGAN! Judy also has extensive knowledge of companion & organic gardening, so we will be following her lead with or preparations & plantings.

I would like to plan for a get-together on **Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am** to set up the beds. This involves filling the raised beds with soil mixture & possibly setting up the main connecting structure for the soaking hoses – the actual soaking hose will be placed during or after planting. There are also weeding opportunities in established hedge row & flower gardens. I would also like to plan the planting space – what we

want, where & how much. Linda DeCramer spoke with a volunteer at the Ripon food pantry (Traded Treasures) who suggested crops such as squash, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, peas, green beans, zucchini, basil, cilantro, onions. Of course, we can grow what will work best for our situation.

Planting of cold-tolerant seeds can happen in early May with delicate plants either the end of May or beginning of June. Please join when you can, even if it is just for moral support & camaraderie.

“Coffee. Garden. Coffee. Does a good morning need anything else?” - Betsy Cañas Garmon

I will make coffee!

Hope to see you Saturday 5/8/21 at 9:30am.

Take good care –

Becky Feyen

Mark Your Calendar for PLUUF's Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 6.  
This will mark the beginning of in-person gatherings!! ☺



### Meet the Candidates on the PLUUF Ballot

**Liz Buchanan-Beegle** will be on the ballot for her 1<sup>st</sup> term as At-Large Representative. Outgoing member, Jessica French, has fulfilled her 2-term limit (4-years) in that role but will continue to be a very active member of PLUUF. We thank Jessica for her time and dedication to the role!

Liz's first time at Prairie Lakes was the summer of 2018. She became more of a regular that winter and signed the membership book the next year. Her husband, Shane, and 2 kiddos, Lilly and McKinley live in Ripon and are a proud military family with Shane currently serving full time in the Wisconsin Army National Guard. Liz has had the honor of being a stay-at-home mom for the last 4 years. This has given her the ability to spend more time volunteering with some of her favorite places like The Green Lake Area Animal Shelter, The Friends of the Ripon Public Library, The Ripon School District, and their Art Presenter program. She enjoys reading, writing, cooking, and sleeping☺ Liz grew up Catholic, dabbled in Buddhism, and strolled through Wicca before giving up on religion for awhile. She happily stumbled into Unitarian Universalism where she instantly found what she had been looking for.



**Jim Goyette** just completed his 1<sup>st</sup> term (2-years) as Treasurer and enjoyed it so much he's on the ballot for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term ☺

Jim joined Prairie Lakes as a member in 2013 after participating for about a year in the fellowship. Having a career in information technology has allowed him to live his high school dream of being the Audio-Visual guy at Prairie Lakes ☺. When not at work or the fellowship, he spends time with his horses on his hobby farm or in the community offering carriage and wagon rides for various events. Striving to grow in the practice of acceptance and gratitude

is the main source of Jim's inner peace. He also believes we can build a better world through science and increased empathy for the interconnected web of all existence.

Why should you attend the Annual Meeting on June 6, at 10 a.m.?

1. Participate in the democratic process to help shape PLUUF's future
2. Watch the 10-minute slideshow of PLUUF's history
3. Check out the makeover that was given to PLUUF's entryway and sanctuary
4. Come see the welcoming and exciting changes we're making to PLUUF's outdoor space.
5. Reconnect with PLUUFers after so much time away. (Masks are required and a Zoom option will be available.



## In Case You Missed It in April

### **ENGAGE Sunday, April 4, via Zoom with Joe Hatcher & Linda DeCramer**

Joe Hatcher and Linda DeCramer led the third in a series of conversations prompted by our seven UU Principles beginning with exploring the third principle: “Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement to Spiritual Growth in our Congregations.” After a brief presentation, discussion was open to all attendees. Thank you to everyone who participated in this Zoom event.

### **Stay-at-Home Worship Service April 11 by Jill Stiemsma & Story for all Ages by Linda DeCramer**

Jill Stiemsma created a Stay-at-home-do-it-yourself Worship Service, “Resurrection.” Linda DeCramer led Story for all Ages via Zoom in celebration of April’s status as National Poetry Month with two books: “Daniel Finds a Poem” by Micha Archer & The Arrow Finds its Mark: A Book of Found Poems.

### **ENGAGE Sunday, April 18 via Zoom with Judy Harris Earth Day!**

Judy Harris, along with PLUUF members and friends, shared the beauty of our earth by telling personal stories and sharing pictures, poetry, art, and music to commemorate Earth Day.

Participants shared their concerns and what can be done to stop climate change. Judy shared a bit of history as to how Wisconsin Governor Gaylord Nelson founded Earth Day in 1970.

### **Stay-at-Home Worship Service April 25 by Jill Stiemsma and Story for all Ages by Linda DeCramer**

Jill shared the very inspirational service link Side With Love created by the UUA. Many UU leaders presented music and messages in this service that encouraged us to examine our faith: a faith committed to justice and, hence, action. Click on this link – <https://vimeo.com/510373153/fafa712c5e> – enlarge your screen and prepare for a very special service if you missed it.

For Story for all Ages, Linda DeCramer selected two titles inspired by the 3X guilty verdict against former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd. She posed the question, “What can one person do?” To facilitate the discussion, she selected two books, “Skin Again” by Bell Hooks and “Someone New” by Anne Sibley O’Brien.

## JOYS & CONCERNS

### CONCERN

Our deepest condolences to Bruce (Ellen) Mueller on the passing of his brother, Jerome Marvin “Jerry” Mueller. PLUUF member Ellen Mueller described her brother-in-law as sharing a passion for gardening with Bruce.

Our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to the Mueller family.



Kip fixing the extension cord. Thanks, Kip!

### JOY

When the snowplow severed the extension cord that was used to illuminate PLUUF’s outdoor holiday decorations, we thought it was ruined. Becky Feyen mentioned that her significant other, Kip, could fix it and he did! Thank you, Kip (and dog Seeger), for keeping PLUUF’s extension cord out of the land fill and saving us the expense of buying a new one.

# The Art & Service Auction JUNE 12 at 6:00 p.m.

At 6 p.m. on Saturday, **June 12**, we will see the return of Prairie Lakes' largest (and only!) fundraiser of the year... the Art & Service Auction. The evening will include a Live Auction, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle. 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. Contact [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) (Deadline 5/15)
2. Participate in the event by bidding and buying.
3. Invite friends, family and coworkers to the event to bid and buy. Proxy bidding will be encouraged for those still distancing due to the pandemic.
4. All of the above 😊

Check out the awesome auction/raffle items donated so far!

1. 60 Minutes of Airplane rides with pilot Joe Hatcher to be split up however the winner would like to do it.
2. Horse drawn carriage or wagon rides for 2-10 people. Jim Goyette will be your coachman.
3. Photographer Scott Jackson and artist Marcia Jackson have donated 2 beautiful pendants, 2 stunning framed photographs and 2 colorful Pour Paintings.
4. A 1-hour piano concert for 2-20 people by Jill Stiemsma on PLUUF's new digital piano. Snacks will be served.
5. "Dream Day" hosted by Linda DeCramer (chef extraordinaire) and Tanya Schwartz-Roeper (jack-of-all-trades). The day can consist of a kayak adventure, or hike, or pancake breakfast in the woods, or an evening of live music, a fondue party, a papermaking party, or almost anything you can dream up.
6. A basket filled with Fair Trade goodies by Robyn Davis-Bartow.
7. Vegetable seed packets donated by Bruce & Ellen Mueller.
8. Pre-season Packer tickets donated by Randy Roeper

Please e-mail [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) if you would like to donate art, a service, or a basket to the Live Auction and/or Raffle

**Moderator**

Linda DeCramer

**Secretary**

Robyn Davis-Bartow

**Treasurer**

Jim Goyette

**At Large Representative**

Joe Hatcher

**At Large Representative**

Jessica French

**Independent Contractor/**

**Business Manager**

Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

## Treasurer's Report as of April 29, 2021

	April 2021	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$1,175.	\$19,116	\$26,610
Expenses	\$1,893	\$ 25,314	\$31,610

27,116 if CEF increase  
is added in ☺

Detailed monthly financial reports are always available at PLUUF or by request: [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com)