



**February 2022**

**NEWSLETTER**

## **Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

315 Eureka Street, Ripon, WI 54971  
[pluufripon@gmail.com](mailto:pluufripon@gmail.com)



### **CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE** (more details on page 2) **In-Person Services Resume!**

**ENGAGE Sunday, February 6** (Note: This will be offered in-person & via Zoom)  
*Becky Feyen: African American History Month*

**Worship Service Sunday, February 13**  
*Paul Jeffries: Three Kinds of Love*

**ENGAGE Sunday, February 20**  
*Judy Harris: Instilling Civic Values in Young People*

**Worship Service Sunday, February 27**  
*Don Vanscotter & Judy Harris: The Jefferson Bible*

## FEBRUARY ENGAGE & WORSHIP SERVICE EVENTS

(Please note: February services are in-person. Some are offered with a Zoom option)

**ENGAGE Sunday, February 6, 10:00 AM with Becky Feyen:**



***African American History Month Matters*** (In-person & via Zoom)

February is African American History month; January 17<sup>th</sup> was Martin Luther King Day. We will honor the importance of these observances by addressing why they are important & the impact they have or should have on society. The words of MLK are still relevant today for the pursuit of acceptance & equality for people identified as non-white. The leaders & history of black people have been defined & degraded by historical (& current) narratives. We will begin with the words of MLK, experience the importance of understanding the strength of black leaders with a TED Talk by David Ikard (link included), and possibly learn a little more about important contributions of African Americans.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/david\\_ikard\\_the\\_real\\_story\\_of\\_rosa\\_parks\\_and\\_why\\_we\\_need\\_to\\_confront\\_myths\\_about\\_black\\_history](https://www.ted.com/talks/david_ikard_the_real_story_of_rosa_parks_and_why_we_need_to_confront_myths_about_black_history)

**Worship Service Sunday, February 13, 10:00 AM with**

**Paul Jeffries: *Three Kinds of Love***



We welcome back Paul Jeffries! Paul is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Ripon College. His teaching and scholarly activities focus on the area of ethics. In addition to his work in philosophy, Paul also has a degree in Theological Ethics from Yale Divinity School. He will be leading a reflection on "Three kinds of Love," which will focus on eros, philia, and agape.

**ENGAGE Sunday, February 20, 10:00 AM with Judy Harris:**

***Instilling Civic Values in Young People***

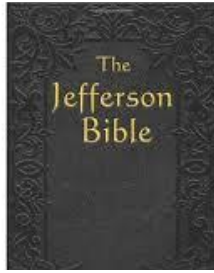


"We all have a responsibility and a role to ensure that young people are prepared to contribute to the civic and political lives of their communities," says Amy Anderson, YMCA Executive Director of the Center for Youth Voice in MN. In early Jan. 2022, Youth Voice in MN spent a weekend with 825 young people, providing rooms in a near-by hotel and a mock legislative session in the MN State Capitol. Students from all "backgrounds and ideologies" can engage in year-round programming that is "radically non-partisan." The League of Women Voters WI first session in WI will be March 3 and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Madison. Join us as we watch the video of Amy's presentation and discuss how programs like this help young adults understand our governmental processes and the importance of voting.

**Worship Service Sunday, February 27, 10:00 AM with Don VanScotter and Judy Harris: *The Jefferson Bible***

Don and Judy have teamed up to lead a presentation and discussion on the Jefferson Bible. The Jefferson Bible, or The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth as it is formally titled, was a book constructed in 1804 by Thomas Jefferson to study the gospels to see if he could distill the essence of Jesus' teachings into a concise book that could be quickly read and easily understood. Join us to find out more!

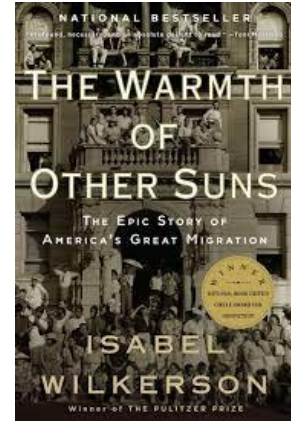




Would you like to read the Jefferson Bible before the February 27 presentation/discussion?

Copies of the book are available at PLUUF or by ordering on Amazon.

Becky Feyen is announcing a book discussion being planned by Pat Dobrinska (date tbd), *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*, by Isabel Wilkerson (2010). This is an extensive read, but well worth the time to gain understanding of American history, through the personal experiences of people moving from the Jim Crow South in hope for a better life in the north. There are numerous interviews with Ms. Wilkerson & summary resources if you don't have time for reading. The discussion date(s) in March/April will be announced soon, but African American History Month is a great time to begin reading this book. I hope you will join us in this experience.



## In Case You Missed it in January



### ENGAGE Sunday, January 2:

#### *Happy Hopeful New Year with Becky Feyen*

Prairie Lakes welcomed 2022 with a presentation on hope & the importance of having hope. We often think of hope as wishful thinking for things to be what we want, but it is so much more than wishing. According to Dr. Judith Rich, "Hope is a match in a dark tunnel, a moment of light, just enough to reveal the path ahead and ultimately the way out." Bryan Stevenson refers to hope as our SUPER POWER! Jane Goodall elevates hope to a "human survival trait". We need hope to survive our present & inspire us to work for a better future.

In the article shared below, Sarah Jacoby states, "Cultivating hope starts with being able to authentically identify how you're feeling in a particular moment, identifying how you would rather be feeling, and building or drawing on the tools in your life to help you feel that way." Please continue building your resilience through practices that encourage hope in your life. A couple resources for reading or listening are:

*Active Hope* by JoAnna Macy and Chris Johnstone.

*The Book of Hope* by Jane Goodall & Douglas Abrams

How to Be Hopeful Even When It's Really, Really Hard by Sarah Jacoby (SELF Magazine, May 22, 2020) <https://www.self.com/story/how-to-be-hopeful>

*In case you missed it in January continued...*

**Worship Service Sunday, January 9:** Due to the spike in Covid cases, Tom Zulke's Worship Service was postponed to April. Instead, the Open Circle Zoom event presented by Katina Daanen – "A Listening Point" – was offered as an alternative.

**ENGAGE Sunday, January 16:** Zoom event with Joe Hatcher and Becky Feyen.



Joe Hatcher teamed up with Becky Feyen to lead a Zoom presentation. Joe led a discussion on Privilege and Becky discussed Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. Joe notes: *I introduced the idea of Privilege as something that is difficult to talk about, then tried to provide ways of talking about it that showed that everyone has certain types of privilege. Categories of privilege included white, male, heterosexual, binary, food-secure, educational, First World, Protestant, First language, First culture, and Able. Good discussion ensued.*

**Worship Service Sunday, January 23:** Due to the spike in Covid cases, Connie Ghinazzi's Worship Service was postponed to March 27. Instead, the Open Circle Zoom event by Rev. Jim Coakley was offered as an alternative. The first link is the Youtube recording of the sermon by Rev. Jim Coakley. Linda DeCramer attended virtually and was moved and inspired by his message of peace and love inspired by justice superheroes like Henry David Thoreau, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., plus a current hero, remarkable rap artist Nimo Patel!!



The Intentions of Our Justice Superheroes with Reverend Coakley:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDpezw4fuyc>

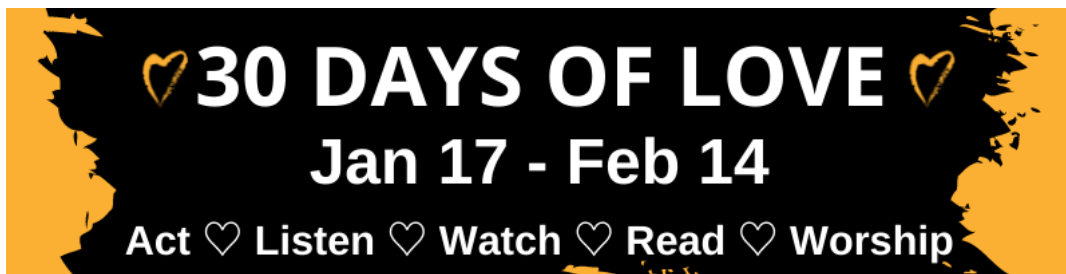
Nimo Patel "We shall overcome" :  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6FN0EmK87c>

Also, the UUA is celebrating 30 days of Love, January 16-February 14!

"Through a series of readings, music and videos our UU values come into focus in ways that will collectively nurture our spirits, deepen our understanding, and take action on our values for collective liberation."

This week's focus is voting rights:

<https://sidewithlove.org/week-two-january-24-30-democracy-voting-rights>



There is so much weighing on our hearts. Our nation is again in the grips of an enormous surge in COVID cases, overwhelming our hospitals and destabilizing schools, businesses, and more. Voting rights legislation is being held hostage yet again by elected leaders who refuse to protect us from election sabotage and voter suppression. Cultural battles are making their way into courtrooms, legislative sessions, and school board meetings, with opponents to abortion care, transgender rights, and honest conversation about race and white supremacy dominating the news and social media.

If ever there were a time our spirits needed nourishment, it is now.

So in the midst of all that is hard, Side With Love is honored to invite you to join us in this year's [30 Days of Love](#) – our annual season of spiritual nourishment, political deepening, and collective action to embody our values and work for collective liberation.

Each week of 30 Days of Love will focus on one of Side With Love's intersectional justice priorities. Although each week will have a primary focus, you will notice a lot of overlap – demonstrating just how intersecting these issues are. Every week will include a variety of resources, activities, and opportunities for engagement for people of all ages. Check out our offerings [here](#).

This week, [Week One](#), focuses on Reproductive, Gender, and LGBTQ+ Justice. We have two live events we hope you'll join us for!

In addition to the Multigenerational/Family Playlist that has been so popular in previous years, Side With Love is pleased to introduce a few new features this year, including a robust [spiritual nourishment program](#) led by our 30 Days of Love [Minister-in-Residence, Rev. Ali KC Bell](#). We will also feature weekly opportunities to take concrete action for justice, both individually and collectively, through Side With Love's [Action Center](#). And finally, each week we will offer a live, interactive opportunity to sharpen our analysis through a [Political Education event](#) focused on one facet of the week's theme. Finally, we will cap off the month with our Side With Love Sunday Worship Service (materials will be available on January 30).

More than anything, 30 Days of Love is an opportunity for us all to recharge our spirits and reconnect with hope through shared grounding, growth, and action. These offerings are our love letter to you, the faithful people who embody our shared values each and every day. We hope you will find them profoundly nourishing and that you will engage with them along with your family, your congregation, and our wider community. We are so excited to travel these 30 Days alongside all of you.

With our overflowing love for you,  
Rev. Michael Crumpler and the rest of the Side With Love Team

## The Welcoming Congregation Program (From the UUA website)

In the 1980s and 90s, when the word “welcoming” became a code word for lesbian, gay, and bisexual people, the Unitarian Universalist Association [launched](#) a Welcoming Congregation Program to help us learn how to undo homophobia—and later, transphobia (prejudice against transgender people)—in our hearts and minds, our congregations, and our communities.

Today, most Unitarian Universalist congregations are recognized as Welcoming Congregations. The spiritual practice of welcome is a very important one to our faith community.

## Welcoming Congregation Volunteers Needed

### Welcoming Congregation Volunteer Duties:

(Judy Harris and Tanya Schwartz-Roeper will assist as needed)

- Coordinate 3 Welcoming Worship Services/ENGAGE Sundays between now and 11/1
- Coordinate a book discussion or Webinar or some other form of Welcoming RE
- Research local or national organizations that uplift the dignity of LGBTQ+/TGQNB in which to donate money.

Contact [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) or [Judyyagerharris@gmail.com](mailto:Judyyagerharris@gmail.com) if interested or sign up at PLUUF

## Prairie Lakes Board of Directors

Moderator: Linda DeCramer

Treasurer: Jim Goyette

Secretary: Robin Davis-Bartow

At-Large Rep 1: Joe Hatcher

At-Large Rep 2: Liz Buchanan-Beegle

Contract Financial Consultant: Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Board meetings take place the 2nd week of every month at 5 p.m. If you would like something added to the agenda please contact [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) or [lindadecramer@yahoo.com](mailto:lindadecramer@yahoo.com)

Treasurer reports and Board minutes are on file at PLUUF or available by request by contacting [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) or [robinaudrey19@gmail.com](mailto:robinaudrey19@gmail.com)