



October 2022 Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Photo upper right: 1st Annual Jean Johnson Memorial Kayak adventure (more photos page 4)

October ENGAGE & WORSHIP SERVICE EVENTS



ENGAGE Sunday, October 2, 10:00 AM:

Walk the Walk When Supporting People of Color with Jill Stiemsma

Jill truly lives her activism, from participating in local marches to volunteering in El Salvador, she looks out for others. Our theology calls us to “move into action right now” (2017 General Assembly) in support of people of color.



Worship Service Sunday, October 9, 10:00 AM Plus Potluck

The Last Leaf with Connie Ghinazzi Even though the autumnal equinox was a couple weeks ago, we will take this opportunity to explore nature's transitions and our own. In addition to Connie's service there will be a special Religious Education session for the kids and potluck.



ENGAGE Sunday, October 16, 10:00 AM

A Prophetic Religion with Becky Feyen - what is it & what does it mean for us?” Becky Feyen will continue to build on the topics presented by Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray in the UUA President's Report. Last month, we experienced the need for joy & with that joy we move into the future creating a cultural change, “with the deepest expression of our values.”



Worship Service Sunday, October 23 ,10:00 AM

Blessing of the Animals (Intergenerational) with Janine Rubeck of the Green Lake Area Animal Shelter

All varieties of critters are welcome to come via leash, aquarium, crate, birdcage, terrarium, or...? Come with your pet related questions, too! Janine will be conducting a question and answer segment. This is an intergenerational service that takes place only once every two years. This service is always such a treat. Come whether or not you're a pet fancier.



5th Sunday, October 30, 10:00 AM

Day of the Dead with Judy Morgan

Celebrated mostly in Mexico or by people with Mexican heritage elsewhere, it's a holiday of joyful celebration rather than mourning. We hope you can join us!

A Message from the Moderator by Robyn Davis-Bartow



Happy October everyone! I absolutely adore this time of year in Wisconsin. The cool crisp air. The shift from green to orange, red, and gold. The smell of apples, cinnamon, and woodfire. Pumpkin everything everywhere. My daughter endlessly exclaiming, "It's the start of sweater weather!" What's not to love? I also find this season to be quite meditative. The expansive nature of summer gives way to the contractive nature of fall. Shortening days lend themselves to a gathering inward both physically and spiritually. Like the countless generations of people before us, we who grow our own food know what a celebration of abundance this time of year is. The circular nature

of the harvest combined with the monotonous effort of preserving food provides much opportunity for reflection.

This past month I have had frequent opportunities to be reminded of how rich our lives are by learning of the hardships of others. True knowledge of our abundance must be tempered by remembering not to take it for granted. This is part of why I love that Prairie Lakes celebrates an annual harvest service. I know I belong to a community of people aware of their abundance because they choose to celebrate by giving it away. When physical effort combined with the luxuries of time and soil produce sustenance for the future, it becomes more than just growing food. It is a practice in gratitude. The experience of gratitude, by definition, leads to kindness, warmth, and generosity.

Let us celebrate this time of slowing down and turning inward as a community together. May we utilize the varieties of our abundance to enrich and sustain our little group so we may go out into the world in kindness and generosity.

Next Board Meeting: October 12,
5:30 p.m. If you'd like anything put on the
agenda, please contact Robyn at
robinaudrey19@gmail.com



Message from the Newsletter Editor

Suggested topics and content for the newsletter are always appreciated. If there's anything you would like to add, contact Tanya at tanyapapermaker@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.

PLUUF October Birthdays



This month we celebrate the birth of Linda DeCramer on the 26th!
Happy Birthday Linda!

Care and Concern Committee Birthday Request

In an attempt to try something a little new, the Care and Concern committee needs your help! We are hoping to put together a list of birthdays (month and day only) for all PLUUF members and friends. Please pass this information on to Robyn at robinaudrey19@gmail.com or 920-896-2770 Also, if you do not want your birthday noted in the monthly newsletter, please let us know.

Thank you,
PLUUF Care and Concern Committee



**Celebrating the bounty at
Celebrate the Harvest
on September 25**
**Thank you to everyone who
brought the produce that
was donated to the Ripon
Community Food Pantry**

(Photos by Liz Buchanan-Beegle)





1st Annual Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Adventure

by Tanya Schwartz Roeper

The 1st Annual Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Adventure took place on Saturday, September 3. We launched our canoes and kayaks from the Spring Lake landing and paddled to the Tichora Conservancy property. A short hike brought the paddlers to the picnic area where we connected with other PLUUFers who traveled by car. We joined together for a picnic brunch and shared stories about Jean Johnson and her husband Harry Heileman. The event will take place each year on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Mark your calendar!



Ripon Area Racial Justice Alliance: Book Club



**“The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone
and
How We Can Prosper Together”
by Heather McGhee**

**Ripon Public Library | Thursday, October 13,
2022 | 6:30 pm**

**“One of today’s most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color.” –
New York Times**



A New and Improved Kid Friendly Corner of the Sanctuary

Do you have friends with children who’d like to check out Prairie Lakes? If yes, please invite them to a 2nd or 4th Sunday Worship Service. We have a kid friendly area in the sanctuary where they can draw, read, and/or take part in the first half of our worship services before we sing them out to their Religious Exploration class.

In Case You Missed it in September



Saturday, September 3: Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Event launched from Spring Lake in Green Lake and paddled to the Tichora Conservancy property to connect with other PLUUFers and have brunch. Photos on page 4..



ENGAGE Sunday Sunday, September 4, 10:00 AM

The World Needs Our Joy - How to Find It with Becky Feyen

In August we watched the UUA President, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray's report at the 2022 General Assembly. In September, Becky revisited a small part of her inspiring speech: "For in this world of tumult and pain. The world needs our joy. Joy is life saving and alongside our faith, our courage, our truth telling, our moral witness and our good old UU earnestness."



Worship Service Sunday, September 11, 10:00 AM Plus Potluck

Annual Water Sharing/In Gathering (Intergenerational) with Tanya Schwartz Roeper

We began another season of Ingathering at Prairie Lakes. It's when Unitarian Universalists come together to renew our commitments to each other and to our communities. The service provided an opportunity to share our summer expeditions and water from those places we visited. We commingled the waters as a symbol of our solidarity and saved a bit of water for next year to represent the continuity of our Prairie Lakes community.



ENGAGE Sunday, September 18, 10:00 AM with Shane Beegle. It was a fascinating presentation and discussion led by Shane Beegle (A.K.A. Merlin 😊). He presented "The Way of the Wizard: Twenty Spiritual Lessons for Creating the Life You Want" by Deepak Chopra. When Shane picked up this book back in 1995 he said it put him on a path of self-discovery. After the service Judy Morgan said, "Shane's presentation was absolutely wonderful! Really made me think and I wish more people had attended."



Worship Service Sunday, September 25 ,10:00 AM

Celebrate the Harvest! (Intergenerational) led by Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

Such a special service! Thank you to everyone who brought produce to donate to the Ripon Community Food Pantry. Oliver Roeper made his debut performance on guitar by singing "The Inch by Inch the Garden Song" with Brad Roost. Brad led a panel discussion with three members of Prairie Lakes who grow their own food and Lilly Buchanan-Beegle read to the kids in RE while mom (Liz Buchanan-Beegle) made

soon-to-be-famous Pumpkin Juice! Special thanks to Judy Morgan, Pat Dobrinska and Randy Roeper for serving on the food growers panel.