



**July 2023**

**Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Newsletter**

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

July 1st marks the start of a new Fiscal Year and she's Baaaaack!!! She put her "name in the hat" and after a unanimous vote Becky Feyen is back in the Moderator role. Becky was PLUUF's Moderator for an unprecedented 6 years from 2014-2020! She is fulfilling the 2nd year of Robyn Davis-Bartow's Moderator term. As Robyn noted in a previous newsletter, the trying circumstances with her daughter's health issues have reinforced the need to focus on what is most essential. She explained she's grateful Becky will fill the Moderator role, but wants to remain on the Board. Robyn will remain on the Board as PLUUF's Secretary.

**Prairie Lakes UU Fellowship's 2023/24 Board of Directors**



Becky Feyen  
Moderator



Robyn Davis-Bartow  
Secretary



Jim Goyette  
Treasurer



Nicole Roost  
At -Large Rep



Cheri Salzberg  
At-Large Rep



**Financial & Administrative Consultant**

I will be entering my 6th fiscal year as Financial & Administrative Consultant. Prior to that, I had served 2-years on the Executive Committee on PLUUF's Board as Treasurer. The variety of duties make my role challenging and interesting: Managing the finances, creating the newsletter and order-of-service, creating Facebook posts, email communication with members, email announcements, and more. I love serving as PLUUF's Financial & Administrative Consultant and very grateful for the opportunity!

-Tanya Schwartz-Roeper



**Program Consultant**

Liz Buchanan-Beegle will be entering her 2nd fiscal year as PLUUF's Program Consultant and hit the ground running (sprinting) as she coordinated 2nd & 4th Sunday Worship Services and the RE program for the 2022/23 fiscal year. She has developed and is leading a brand new off-site summer programming schedule for the kids (see page 3) and is in the process of coordinating the Worship Service Schedule for the year.

## July ENGAGE & WORSHIP SERVICE EVENTS

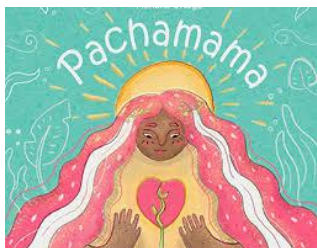


### ENGAGE Sunday, July 2, 10:00 AM with Becky Feyen: *Outdoors at Prairie Lakes!*

Please join us for a diverse outdoor day, weather permitting. In honor of the 4th of July holiday, Prairie Lakes will hold a small ceremony to install the American flag & send blessings to our country. We will congregate outside for gardening & conversation. Information will be provided regarding "Plastic Free July", in hopes of inspiring us towards eliminating single-use plastics.

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/> |

<https://www.earthday.org/plastic-free-july-toolkit/>



**Worship Service Sunday, July 9, 10:00 AM: *Bolivian Aymara Ritual* with Jill Stiemsma & 2nd Sunday Potluck.** We'll observe a traditional Bolivian Aymara ritual that honors the Pacha Mama (Mother Earth) and our connection to her. We've done this ritual previously, so some of you may remember it. It's a great celebration for all ages!



**ENGAGE Sunday, July 16, 10:00 AM *Monthly Meditation* with Becky Feyen** Meditation Sunday will include multiple opportunities to take a little time to rejuvenate & appreciate our lives. Building on the Summer Solstice presentation, there will be opportunities to set intentions, reflect on what we are grateful for, & slow down a bit to enjoy just being. There will be opportunities to explore a breathing practice & a bit of movement. Poetry will be in the mix & available for you to enjoy.



**Worship Service Sunday, July 23, 10:00 AM with Emily Rock: *Living Cultures of the People of the Waters*** We welcome guest speaker Emily Rock, Curator of Exhibitions at the Oshkosh Public Museum. She'll present an overview of The *Voices of Native American Art – Telling Our Story* exhibition is currently on display at the Museum through October 8. The perfect complement to mark the grand opening of *People of the Waters*, this exhibition features a broad variety of original, fine and contemporary Native American Art from living Native artists who are members and descendants of different Native American Nations.



**Sunday, July 30, 10:00 AM *Fluff & Buff Indoor Cleanup Day*** Let's spruce up PLUUF's indoor space together! We'll provide the cleaning supplies and the snacks.



## 'All of us came today to fight for continued LGBTQ rights': 2nd annual Pride Rally draws crowd to Ripon's Rotary Square



Riponites of many backgrounds packed into Rotary Square on June 3rd to show their support for LGBTQ rights.

The Ripon Area LGBTQ Coalition organized the event to help families in Ripon celebrate diversity and various expressions of gender identity and orientation.

Ripon Public Library Children's Librarian and Prairie Lakes Member, Linda DeCramer, was one of the keynote speakers at the event. Several Prairie Lakes members were present at the event along with area clergy, non-profits, students from Ripon Area School District and Ripon College, plus many members from the community.

The rally was held to celebrate the eighth anniversary of same-sex marriage being legalized in the United States. Prairie Lakes is proud to be a Welcoming Congregation and each year we participate in the Five Practices of Welcome Renewal.

## New! Summer Youth Group For the Kids of Prairie Lakes off to a great start!

PLUUF's Program Coordinator, Liz Buchanan-Beegle, has created a new and innovative summer program itinerary for the kids of Prairie Lakes. The first event took place from 5:15-6:15 on June 26 and was called *Ice Cream Meditation*. This is what Liz said about their first outing: *Summer Youth Group is off to a great start 🍦 Our Youth Group kids had a great time learning meditation techniques with Robyn in the sanctuary before heading over to Sweet n' Saulty and putting some of those techniques to the test! They had to try and eat their ice cream slowly to really taste it. It was worth a shot 😊*



### Tuesday, July 11, 12:30-2:30PM: SILVER CREEK PICNIC

Meet at PLUUF and walk down to the library with a picnic lunch. Brad Roost will talk about the creek and why it's special. Afterwards, kids will hang out and play by the creek while they eat their picnic lunch.

### Tuesday, August 8, 2:30-4:30PM MOVIE DAY

Meet at PLUUF for a movie and snacks. Bring your comfiest pillows, blankets and stuffies. Everyone will get their own snack tray.





MACALESTER



SOFIA KAINZ

Major: English/Spanish

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Scott

Favorite Memory: Dancing and singing (badly) as much as I could at dances & in the halls

*Oshkosh West Class of 2023*

## You Are Invited...

Julia Salomon was a member of Prairie Lakes and attended with husband Mark Kainz and daughter Sofia. After they moved to Oshkosh many years ago, they could no longer attend services, but continue to stay connected to Prairie Lakes.

Congratulations to Sofia on her High School graduation! Julia has graciously invited everyone from Prairie Lakes to attend Sofia's graduation party in Oshkosh on Saturday, July 22, from noon to 8pm. You can stop in for a minute, an hour or stay the whole time! It's super informal.

Address: 1320 Snowdon Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904

**Prairie Lakes attendees experienced a brief Kirtan meditation on 6/18 in the sanctuary. Several attendees expressed interest in finding out more about Kirtan and having a live musical experience. Here is just one of many Kirtan events offered in Wisconsin this summer:**

**July 14-16, 2023 at the Blue Lotus Center in West Bend. A weekend retreat of mantra music, yoga, nature, great food and community.**

[Kirtanfestmilwaukee.com](http://Kirtanfestmilwaukee.com)

This year's featured artists will include David Newman aka Durga Das, Brenda McMorrow, Ragani, Sacred Waters, Kaita, Freddy Bliffert, Ryan Hader, Master Yoga Instructors, and a Gong sound bath meditation with Harmony Pavett. Festival will take place at the beautiful Blue Lotus Center in West Bend, Wisconsin.



# KIRTAN FEST

Milwaukee

## Schedule

July 14-16, 2023

### Friday

4-6pm  
Check In  
5-6  
Dinner  
6-6:30 Yajna/Sacred Fire Ceremony  
6:30-7:30  
Kirtan with Freddy Bliffert  
8-9:30  
Kirtan with Ragani

### Saturday

8:30-9  
Pranayama with Dr Haridass  
9-10  
Yoga with Ryan Hader  
10:30-11:30  
Kirtan with Kaita  
12-1:30  
Lunch  
1:30-3  
Kirtan with Sacred Waters  
3:30-4:30  
Gong sound bath Meditation with Harmony Pavett  
5-6  
Dinner  
6-7:30  
Kirtan with Brenda McMorrow  
8-10  
Kirtan with David Newman aka Durga Das

### Sunday

8-8:30  
Pranayama with Dr Haridass  
8:30-9:30  
Yoga with Nikeya  
10-11:30  
Bhakti Yoga Workshop with David Newman  
11:30-12:30  
Lunch  
12:30-2  
Kirtan with Ryan Hader  
2-2:30  
Gratitude and Closing



## In Case You Missed it in June

### ENGAGE Sunday, June 4, *Planting Garden Party!*



It was an outside Sunday of planting the Sharing Garden & celebrating the growing season. There was something for everyone including areas to sit and relax with refreshments. There were a variety of projects to get your hands dirty & enjoy the gardens. The morning concluded with a dance around the MayPole to Polka music!

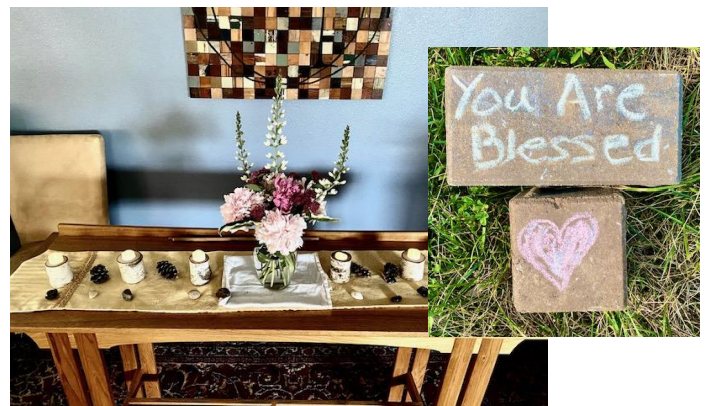


### Worship Service Sunday, June 11, with Jill Stiemsma: *Flower Communion*.

This was a time to celebrate our ties with each other. The beauty and diversity of flowers is seen as symbolic of the beauty and diversity of life. We united to create a unique bouquet. Everyone in the congregation brought a flower and each person placed a flower in a shared vase on the altar. We blessed the flowers, and they were redistributed. Each person brought home a different flower than the one they brought.

### ENGAGE Sunday, June 18, *Kirtan Meditation and Spiral Walk*

This was our first self-guided Sunday and it was coordinated by Becky Feyen. Meditation materials were provided for inspiration. The morning began with a Kirtan meditation in the sanctuary and concluded with an outdoor spiral walk.



### Worship Service Sunday, June 25: *Summer Solstice with Becky Feyen*

It was a beautiful way to celebrate the longest day of the year (just a few days late 😊) with communal readings, music by Jill Stiemsma and a moving reflection by Becky Feyen.



## Unitarian Universalists Elect Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt to Serve as President of the Unitarian Universalist Association at General Assembly

Multiplatform annual business meeting brought more than 4,000 Unitarian Universalists together online and in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Delegates also voted to advance changes to association bylaws on core religious values.

Boston, Mass. (June 26, 2023) – Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt was elected to serve as President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) with the support of more than 2300 Unitarian Universalist (UU) delegates at the denomination’s annual General Assembly (GA) from June 21st to June 25th. Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt was appointed interim co-president of the UUA in 2017, and was the UUA’s first woman president. Now she will be both the first out queer individual and the first woman of color elected to the role. She succeeds the Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray and will begin her tenure on July 10th.

*Printed in part from the UUA website. For more information go to the UUA website: [UUA.org](http://UUA.org)*

### End of Fiscal Year Treasurer’s Report as of June 28, 2023 HAPPY NEW YEAR - well, HAPPY NEW CHURCH YEAR! Yes, July 1st begins our new fiscal year.

	2022/23 Fiscal Year Total	Annual Budget
<b>INCOME</b>	\$33,545	\$36,200
<b>EXPENSES</b>	\$34,291	\$36,200

Detailed monthly financial reports are available by contacting [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com)

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO PRAIRIE LAKES THIS PAST FISCAL YEAR!** Although our Fiscal Year Total came in a bit lower than our projected annual income budget, we kept our expenses lower to create an almost balanced budget 😊. Many, many thanks to ALL who support Prairie Lakes!

With gratitude,

*Jim Goyette*, Treasurer

*Tanya Schwartz Roeper*, Financial & Administrative Consultant