

Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

315 Eureka Street, Ripon, WI 54971

pluufripon@gmail.com

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Upcoming June Events

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH



ENGAGE Sunday, June 4, 10AM: *Planting Garden Party!*

An outside Sunday of planting the Sharing Garden & celebrating the growing season. There will be something for everyone including areas to sit and relax with refreshments, if that is your preference. Games & sidewalk chalk for all ages & flowers for kids to take home.

There are varied projects to get your hands dirty & enjoy our gardens. In addition, Tanya may even surprise us with a May Pole activity!



Worship Service Sunday, June 11, 10:00 AM with Jill Stiemsma: Flower Communion.

This is 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 unite to create a unique bouquet. In this ceremony, everyone in the congregation brings a flower. Each person places a flower on the altar or in a shared vase. The congregation blesses the flowers, and they're redistributed. Each person brings home a different flower than the one they brought.

ENGAGE Sunday, June 18, 10:00 AM

Meditation Materials & Poetry.

We are planning a self-guided Sunday with meditation materials & poetry to inspire you. The building will be open for quiet time, conversation, hanging outside, watering plants & comradery. Please enjoy your time at Prairie Lakes.



Worship Service Sunday, May 25, 10:00 AM: TBA



The Annual Meeting was held on May 21st.

Here are a few highlights:

1. The congregation voted unanimously to renew our Welcoming Congregation Status.
2. The congregation voted unanimously to accept the \$3,000 increase in the 2023/24 proposed budget income & expenses. (See page 5)
3. Although Becky Feyen had served as PLUUF's Moderator from 2013-2019, she graciously volunteered to be nominated/appointed to fill the 2nd year of Moderator Robyn Davis-Bartow's 1st term. The congregation voted unanimously in favor.*
4. Robyn Davis-Bartow explained that 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. The congregation voted unanimously in favor of Robyn taking on the role of At-Large Rep 1 to fulfill the final year of Joe Hatcher's 2nd term.**
5. The congregation voted unanimously in favor of Jim Goyette serving a 3rd term on the Board as Treasurer.
6. The congregation voted unanimously in favor of Cheri Salzberg to serve a first full term as At-Large Rep 2.
7. Tanya Schwartz-Roeper has worked for PLUUF as an independent contractor in the role of Financial/Administrative Consultant for 6 years. She will continue in her role.
8. By the end of the fiscal year (June 30) Liz Buchanan-Beegle will have completed her 1st year in her role as Program Consultant. She will also continue in her role.
9. Emphasis on redefining and expanding the Outdoor Facility Committee was discussed as well as expanding the Sharing Garden.

A total of 18 members out of 32 voted at the Annual Meeting: 10 members voted in-person and 8 members by proxy.

**See Robyn's Moderator Message on the next page.*

Elections for At-Large Reps 1 & 2 usually alternate. Due to retirement, Joe Hatcher determined he could not fulfill the 2nd year of his 2nd term. Robyn Davis-Bartow will be fulfilling the role. **Happy Retirement, Joe!

More details regarding the 2023 Annual Meeting can be found in the Annual Meeting Minutes available by request. Contact tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

A Final Message from the Moderator by Robyn Davis-Bartow



For the past year, I have been writing a *Letter From the Moderator Message* for PLUUF's newsletter. Each month, there has been some concept or theme that comes to me that I attempt to convey to you. Now that it is time to write my very last message during my stint in this role, I am drawing a complete blank. Therefore, I'm falling back on one of my earliest learned life lessons that never fails, be grateful. I am eternally grateful for Becky stepping-up to the moderator plate, yet again, so I can step down. I am grateful for Tanya and Liz for picking up the slack when I needed to set everything down. I am grateful for this group's grace for allowing me the space to focus on my family. I am

grateful for the growing friendships found within this caring community. I am grateful for the opportunity and trust invested in me to lead the board of this small yet mighty organization for a while. I am grateful to be able to stay on the board and help guide the fellowship into the future. I am grateful for an open minded collective where people are free to be and discover themselves that is close to home. I am grateful for Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. What more is there to say?



PLUUF June Birthdays

Byran Bartow 6/21
McKinley Buchanan 6/27
Jim Goyette 6/19
Lilly Buchanan 6/30

Also a happy belated birthday to Ellen Mueller on 5/21! (Sorry Ellen!)

Don't see yourself listed? Please let us know! Email Robyn at robinaudrey19@gmail.com. 920-896-2770. Also, if you do not want your birthday noted in the monthly newsletter, please let us know.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT IN MAY



ENGAGE Sunday, May 7, with Becky Feyen: New UU – Session 5 – Prairie Lakes Community

The closing session for this series focused on what it means to be a part of Prairie Lakes & Unitarian Universalism. The conversation was about connection, what we want from our Fellowship & how we are a part of its success. A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE for your participation & contribution to this program – it has been fun for me, because of you!



Worship Service Sunday, May 14, with Connie Ghinazzi: Connie led a beautiful Mother's Day Service entitled, "To Mother" and Jill Stiemsma provided the deeply moving music. The Chalice Lighting words Connie selected gives you insight into the meaning of her service: *We light this chalice for mothers and mothering; to celebrate those who have taken on the task of nurturing a young one-baby, child, or youth-into adulthood; to celebrate those who have nourished the light of truth and compassion in growing minds and hearts; to celebrate those who have committed time, money, energy to the growth of others in this world. We light this chalice to celebrate and hold dear this flame of love.*



Sunday, May 21: PRAIRIE LAKES ANNUAL MEETING **It was a big, important day**

The annual meeting served multiple purposes, including the board of director elections, evaluating and assessing progress towards achieving our mission, reviewing financials, setting the budget, and setting goals for the upcoming year. See highlights on page 2 and Treasurer report on page 6.

Oliver Roeper's Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony was held in Great Hall at Ripon College in the afternoon of May 21. The Invocation & Benediction was given by PLUUF Member **Becky Feyen**. Thank you to all the PLUUFers who attended!
(Oliver is the son of PLUUF members Tanya Schwartz Roeper & Randy Roeper. Oliver has been attending Prairie Lakes off and on since infancy in 2004)



In Case You Missed It continued...



Worship Service Sunday, May 28: Kicking off Pride month with Travis Nygard of Ripon College: *“The History of Same-Sex Unions Before Same-Sex Marriage.*

Same-sex marriage was legalized by the US Supreme Court in 2015, but what was the history of same-sex unions before that? Travis Nygard created and shared a slideshow presentation on “The History of Same-Sex Unions Before Same-Sex Marriage to help address and answer that question.

Travis is an Associate Professor at Ripon College, where he teaches art history and museum studies. He has also taught multidisciplinary courses on topics such as the history of love, sexuality in art, and stereotypes in American culture. He is a local history enthusiast, volunteering at the Ripon Historical Society, where he serves as a board member. In the past he also helped to organize educational programming for Pridefest, the annual LGBTQ festival held in Milwaukee.



Elliott Luedke attended Sunday’s service and is past president of the Ripon High School Gender and Sexuality Alliance. He’s also co-organizer for the Ripon Pride Rally scheduled on June 3rd at the Village Green. Congratulations to Elliott on his graduation from Ripon High School on 5/27!

Treasurer Report as of April 2023

(Note: Reports will always be 1-month behind due to the newsletter deadline date and an incomplete picture of the current month. Treasurer reports and Board minutes are always available for viewing at PLUUF or emailed by request)

Balances:

10100 AST-BMO checking	\$16,355
10111 Golden Rule Savings Vision	\$30,588
10202 AST-UUA CEF Vision	\$40,924

Total Assets \$87,867

INCOME AS OF APRIL 30, 2023

Income: \$30,189

Current 2022/23 Annual Budget: \$36,200

Proposed Income Budget for the 2023/24 Fiscal Year: \$39,303

EXPENSES AS OF APRIL 30, 2023

Expenses: \$28,910

Current 2022/23 Annual Budget: \$36,200

Proposed Expense Budget for the 2023/24 Fiscal Year: \$39,303

With 2-months of the fiscal year left, we estimate income will fall \$3,000 below budgeted amount, but expenses will also be lower than budgeted, creating an almost balanced budget for the 2022/23 Fiscal Year 😊