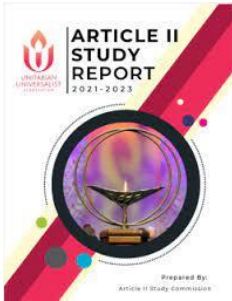




October 2023 Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

315 Eureka Street, Ripon, WI 54971

Visit us on Facebook!



October ENGAGE & WORSHIP SERVICE EVENTS

ENGAGE Sunday, October 1, 10:00 AM: Article II Study Commission Report to UUA Board of Trustees - Video Presentation & Discussion.

To follow up the 8/20 presentation on Article II, we will view a video by the group of people commissioned to review the current UUA bylaws & find a way forward for Unitarian Universalists. After 35(+) years, the guiding foundation of UUA bylaws are being adapted. Come for the presentation and stay for the chili 😊



Worship Service Sunday, October 8, 10:00 AM

Blessing of the Animals (Intergenerational) with Janine Rubeck of the Green Lake Area Animal Shelter and Tanya Schwartz-Roeper

All varieties of critters are welcome to come via leash, aquarium, crate, birdcage, terrarium, or...? Janine will also bless stuffed animals! If you don't want to bring your pet, bring a photo or share a story. We'll have a special table set up to honor pets who have passed so be sure to bring a photo. Come with your pet related questions, too! Janine will be conducting a question and answer segment. Please join us whether you're a pet fancier or not.



ENGAGE Sunday, October 15, 10:00 AM *Cultivating Community* presented by Becky Feyen

We will delve into the topic of what it means to be in community; the various communities each of us is involved with; why it is important to be a part of a community; how we can promote & support your community. This will be an explorative journey into our individual importance in cultivating & sustaining a community. Hope you can join our community for a lovely conversation.



Worship Service Sunday, October 22, 10:00 AM Plus Potluck *Sacred Spaces, Part 2* with Connie Ghinazzi

In June, Connie Ghinazzi had the opportunity to return to one of her sacred spaces after an absence of more than a decade. It is a tiny island in Rainy Lake, MN less than a mile from the Canadian border. This was the home of environmentalist Ernest Oberholtzer, a native of her hometown Davenport, IA. Connie first went there to help care for his vast book collection, but continues to maintain a relationship with Mallard Island because of its magic and spiritual connection to the Ojibway people. This service will look more deeply into what makes a place spiritual, how to recognize or nurture those

sacred spaces in our own lives and finally open ourselves to be rejuvenated in these environments. *(A suggested reading will be shared next week).*

Events continued....



5th Sunday, October 29, 10:00 AM

Day of the Dead with Judy Morgan Back by popular demand, Judy will be leading this event for the 3rd year in a row. *This event* is celebrated throughout Latin America. It's a holiday of joyful celebration rather than mourning. The sharing of photos and stories of loved ones who have passed highlight this special event. It's a holiday of joyful celebration rather than mourning. We hope you can join us!



A Message from the Moderator by Becky Feyen

The concept of community & the importance of Prairie Lakes has been on my mind lately. Honestly, it is more like, I have been struggling with both. As an adult, being with people has always been energizing & fun for me. The step away from social interactions & responsibilities in 2020-2021 created a shift in me. Now I struggle a bit with taking on social commitments & just want to be at home, by myself, in comfy clothes. The thing is, research has shown that being around others is critical to our overall health & wellbeing. More importantly, I can feel that it is better to be out in the world engaging with others, even if the world & others are stressing me out.

Being in a community, especially around people who want to make a difference in this world, is inspiring. I was reminded of this at the September 17th ENGAGE Sunday when Jill & her friend Diana, shared their experience at The Parliament of World Religions. Yes, there was a spotlight on the struggles of this world, none of which novel. Unfortunately, there are additional forms of oppression & separation, with an urgent need for cultural change toward community. This is why Prairie Lakes is important & we need our community to find a way forward with hope. We need to be active in our communities; & to quote the words of our new UUA President, Rev. Sophia Betancourt, "be a countercultural response, to what can seem like the inevitable outcome of society today."

The struggles experienced by our world, & our Fellowship are nothing new, unfortunately they are still here & many have intensified. This is why we need to be in community, to share in the responsibility of making a difference. When we are in community, we share in creating & maintaining a vision of what we want & need. In community we understand the importance of co-operation & participation. In community we can support & challenge each other to become what this world & our Fellowship needs us to be.

We need you in our Prairie Lakes community to make us & the world better.

Hope to see you Sunday –

Becky Feyen

Next Board Meeting: October 11, 5:30 p.m. If you'd like anything put on the agenda, please contact Board secretary Robyn at robinaudrey19@gmail.com

PLUUF October Birthdays



This month we celebrate the birth of Linda DeCramer and Nick & Marie Muschel!

Care and Concern Committee Birthday Request 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, just let us know.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Did you know that Jim Goyette stopped by PLUUF over his lunch hour 2 times a week throughout the summer to water the large beautiful flower pots that PLUUF member Beth Howman-Combs planted last spring? Thanks Jim! We are grateful to ALL the volunteers who helped with watering over the summer to keep our flowers, vegetables and bushes alive during the drought .



Celebrating the bounty at *Celebrate the Harvest*

on September 24

Thank you to everyone who brought the produce that was donated to the Ripon Community Food

Pantry And...

Thank you to Mandy Kimes for leading the service!

The bounty of produce was graciously accepted by the volunteers at the Ripon Community Food Pantry (photo right)

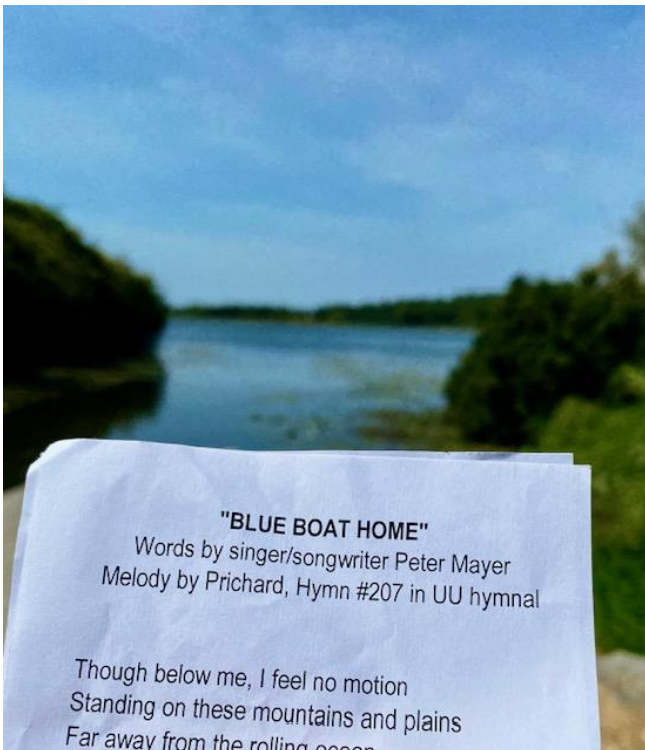


2nd Annual Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Adventure Recap

Photos and commentary by Tanya Schwartz Roeper



The 2nd Annual Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Adventure took place on Saturday, September 2. We launched our kayaks from the Spring Lake landing and paddled and paddled the perimeter of the lake on that beautiful day. We joined together for a picnic brunch near the Spring Lake landing and shared stories about Jean Johnson. We even sang/read her favorite hymn, "Blue Boat Home." The event will take place each year on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Mark your calendar, we would love to have you join us!!



NEEDED: Baked goods for Ripon College Students

Prairie Lakes has been given a wonderful opportunity to participate in providing desserts to Ripon College students next week, **Wednesday October 4**. We will have an opportunity to give away desserts (cookies, brownies, bars) at the **Ripon College Commons**. This will be a great way to talk with students and hand out information about **Prairie Lakes!**

Can you provide a dessert? If yes:

1. Grab and go like cookies, brownies and bars will be ideal in quantities of 1-2 dozen
2. Drop-off at Prairie Lakes on Wednesday, October 4, before 4pm.
3. If drop-off isn't possible, we'll be happy to pick-up

If you are able to provide a treat or have any questions, please let us know by replying to this email or contact Tanya directly at tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

THE RIPON AREA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
- RAMA -
PRESENTS

Church & Dessert

Drop in @ dinner time **OCT 4th** for **FREE DESSERTS** & grab info on local churches & faith communities in Ripon

Desserts lovingly provided by members of our local churches to say Welcome to Ripon College!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

5:00 TO 7:30 PM
PICKARD COMMONS HERITAGE ROOM



Recipe by Request:

Lilly & Caebrie's Chocolate Chip Cookie Recipe

Although it wasn't a second Sunday potluck at the Celebrate the Harvest event, Lilly Buchanan-Beegle and her friend Caebrie baked and served mind blowing chocolate chip cookies. The recipe is shared below:

2 ¼ cups flour
½ tsp baking soda
½ tsp baking powder
1 tsp salt
1 cup vegetable shortening
(or 2 sticks melted butter)
1 cup + 3 tbsp brown sugar
¼ cup + 2 tbsp granulated sugar
1 tsp vanilla
1 tbsp honey
4 yolks
Bag of chocolate chips

Combine flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt and set aside. In a separate bowl, mix together vegetable shortening (or melted butter) with brown sugar, granulated sugar, vanilla, honey then add yolks. Mix in the dry ingredients slowly. Stir in chocolate chips. Place in the fridge for a couple hours. Drop onto ungreased baking sheet by rounded tablespoon and bake at 325 degrees for about 9 minutes.

In Case You Missed it in September



Saturday, September 2: Jean Johnson Paddle & Picnic Event We paddled Spring Lake and had a wonderful picnic lunch while sharing stories of Jean Johnson. Photos on page 4. We hope you'll join us next year. It's accessible to all ages and abilities!!



Worship Service Sunday, September 10

Annual Water Sharing/In Gathering (Intergenerational)

We began another season of Ingathering. We came together to renew our commitments to each other and to our communities. The service provided an opportunity for participants to share their summer expeditions and water from those places they visited. They co-mingled the waters as a symbol of our solidarity. This year's Water Sharing service was led by Liz Buchanan-Beegle.



ENGAGE Sunday, September 17, with Jill Stiemsma & Diana

Beck. Parliament of World Religions 2023 – A Call to

Conscience: Defending Human Rights Jill Stiemsma of PLUUF and Diana Beck of Open Circle UU Fellowship attended this year's Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago. Attendees of this ENGAGE Sunday were fortunate to have a first-hand account of the experience. Jill spotlighted the threats to human rights in China, Myanmar, and India specifically and Diana spotlighted the effects of Climate Change.



Worship Service Sunday, September 24, Celebrate the Harvest with Mandy Kimes (Intergenerational)

Many members and friends of Prairie Lakes brought fresh produce from their gardens or Farmer's Markets showing their gratitude for the fall harvest and our ability to share with others. The kids carried the baskets and bags of the bounty to the front of the sanctuary while Jill played *The Harvest* by Lorie Line. Tanya delivered all the produce to the Ripon Community Food Pantry the day after the service. It was a wonderful service and more photos are on page 3. *(Editor's note: Mandy Kimes has been the Executive Director of the Ripon Area Chamber of Commerce since June 2022. We discovered at this service that she has a Unitarian Universalist background! We hope she returns to PLUUF as a speaker for more Worship Services!)*