



Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

315 Eureka Street, Ripon, WI 54971

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Upcoming August Events



ENGAGE Sunday, August 4, 10AM [Justice Equity and Compassion in Human Relations](#) by **Jack Christ**, Jack is emeritus professor and director of Leadership Studies at Ripon College. Justice, equity, and compassion are all wide-ranging abstract concepts that offer something profoundly useful to contemplate about human behavior, human history, and human aspirations. (ENGAGE description continued on the bottom of page 2).



Worship Service Sunday, August 11, 10 AM [Dr Suess, Politics and Humor](#) with **Connie Ghinazzi & it is the 2nd Sunday Potluck** . Connie Ghinazzi will share a service she wrote in 2017 when hate talk was ramplng up and humor was hard to find.. In this 2024 election year, that situation has certainly not changed. She will be referencing one of her favorite Suess stories, *The Sneetches* and will acquaint you with some of his early political cartoons. If you are so inclined, bring one of your favorite Dr Suess stories and a quote with us during Words for All Ages. Please encourage your children to do so as well.



Saturday, August 17, 10 AM [Memorial Service](#) for the brother of **Harold Salzberg**. See bottom of next page for more details.



ENGAGE Sunday, August 18, 10 AM [“On Loss”](#) with **Pat Dobrinska** Have you lost a loved one? We invite you to share your stories and join Pat Dobrinska for a discussion on loss while she provides friendship and understanding to those going through the natural **grieving** process.



Worship Service Sunday, August 25, 10AM: [Bolivian Aymara Ritual](#) with **Jill Stiemsma** We will observe and actively participate in a traditional Bolivian Aymara ritual that honors the Pacha Mama (Mother Earth) and our connection to her. It will be a great celebration for all ages!



Saturday, September 2: [Jean Johnson 3rd Annual Memorial Kayak/Canoe Event](#). This event will take place at the Spring Lake Landing and Spring Valley Park in Green Lake. Details on page 3.



On Friday, July 9, marked the 2nd RE/Youth Group session of the summer and the kids met at PLUUF for a yoga session led by Robyn Davis-Bartow and then Liz Buchanan-Beegle led them to Sweet 'N Saulty's for an ice cream treat!

The final Summer Youth Group Activity is coming up with Liz Buchanan-Beegle:

[Tuesday, August 6, 10am Picnic, hike and scavenger hunt at Riggs Park in Ripon.](#)

Liz makes direct contact via email and/or FB chat with parents/guardians leading up to these events. If you're not on her contact list please let us know pluufripon@gmail.com.

Moderator Message by Connie Ghinazzi



Hello friends,

As the summer days begin to shorten, we will have a busy month at PLUUF. We are a small congregation and it is necessary to help out in a variety of ways to stay a vibrant community. This was a recurring theme of the General Assembly this year that I participated in remotely. In light of not being able to put together a Worship Committee this year, we are instead asking everyone to fill out the Worship Service Support Team document (see page 4) with one or several tasks you would be able to help with occasionally on 2nd and 4th Sundays. By spreading these tasks among a greater number, we will be able to continue with our Worship and ENGAGE Sunday schedules.

Thanks for all you do to make PLUUF a special place for all of us. Little things make a big difference. So my next task is to get those boxes of pens and pencils sorted to donate (see the Wish List on page 4). Enjoy our beautiful Wisconsin summer.

Board Secretary Report by Michaela Meyers



The new PLUUF board met for the first time, joined by Tanya Schwartz-Roeper who serves as PLUUF's Administrative/Financial consultant. She helped explain some of the specifics of the Board roles. The Board discussed everything from building safety concerns to the success of the last month's programs and services, as well as approval and ideas for future programs and services. A big focus of this month's meeting was the new Worship Service Support Team document (See page 4) which allows people to sign up for small tasks to help support Worship Service Sundays as well as discussion around ensuring coverage for future Worship Sundays, especially since PLUUF no longer has a Worship Service Program Consultant. The new Board had lots of ideas and is looking forward to the exciting year ahead!

Memorial Service for Andrew Salzberg: Saturday, August 17, 10 AM

Harold & Cheri Salzberg have been part of Prairie Lakes for a few years now. On July 8, Harold's brother was involved in a car accident in Green Lake.. His 62-year-old brother Andrew Salzberg had recently moved to Ripon and died from injuries suffered in the head on crash. Please join us on Saturday, August 17, at 10 AM to learn about and celebrate the life of Andrew Salzberg..

ENGAGE Sunday, August 4th with Jack Christ continued from page 1

Jack's approach to these concepts will call upon the works of five prominent thinkers: Erik Erikson, Abraham Maslow, Laurence Kohlberg, Douglas McGregor, and Roert Greenleaf. These five thinkers all contemplated human history and human destiny during and after the global nightmares of two world wars. Since they were all genetically male and they all did their research after the emergence of women's suffrage in the United States, we will address the roles of gender, education, politics, and religion in the development of capacities and tendencies for justice, equity, and compassion.



The 3rd Annual Jean Johnson Kayak/Canoe Event

Kayak or canoe from the Spring Lake landing at Spring Valley Park in Green Lake and paddle the scenic perimeter of Spring Lake with other PLUUFers. When we are finished paddling, we'll all meet up at the Spring Lake Landing for a potluck picnic lunch. If you don't want to paddle, no worries, just join us for the picnic lunch!

Here's the plan:

- Kayak/Canoers will meet at the Spring Lake landing at Spring Valley Park: W2290 Spring Lake Road, Markesan by 9:45. (You can Google Map it by typing in Spring Valley Park, Markesan, WI). Be sure to bring a life jacket and water bottle.
- If you choose to join us for the picnic only meet us at the Spring Lake landing around 10:45. We'll have a table & chairs set up under the shade of a tree near the parking area.
- If you want to follow Tanya: She lives just 8 minutes from the landing. If you prefer to follow her please arrive at her house by 9:30. Address: W907 Scott Hill Road Ripon (it's a Ripon address, but close to Green Lake). Pull into the driveway immediately west of the highway's A & K intersection and look for the horse sculpture. You will follow her to the Spring Lake landing.

Who Was Jean Johnson?

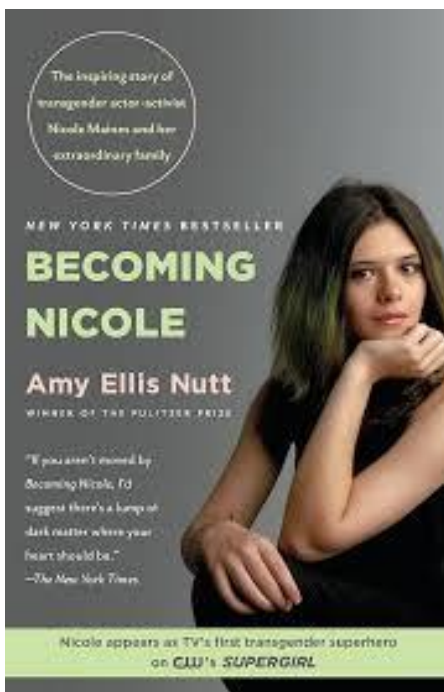
Jean Johnson not only co-founded Prairie Lakes UU Fellowship, she served as PLUUF's program planner, Moderator twice(!), board member, worship service committee, the minister search committee, representative of the Ripon Area Ministerial Association (RAMA), and many other roles. We are grateful for her dedication, knowledge and inspiration to help make Prairie Lakes what it is today.



Upcoming Book Discussion: *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt

Please join us for a book discussion on Sunday, October 6, at 10AM led by Becky Feyen that will bring us a step closer to renewing our Welcoming Congregation Status for our 3rd consecutive year. Copies available to borrow or buy at PLUUF or you can order a copy for \$11.95 off Amazon or you can check out a copy from the local library.

About *Becoming Nicole* | A New York Times Bestseller
The inspiring true story of transgender actor and activist Nicole Maines, whose identical twin brother, Jonas, and ordinary American family join her on an extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all.





**Would you like to help out with
Worship Service Support for the 2024/25 fiscal year?**

Worship Service Support Team can include 1 or several of the duties below. You'll select the 2nd and/or 4th Sundays that work with your schedule. You can volunteer anywhere from one, to a few, to many Sundays a year. Please check all duties below that interest you. Orientation and training provided:

- Arrive at 9am on 2nd and/or 4th Sundays to open the doors and make coffee and perform other pre-service duties
- Stay after service to cleanup/lockup
- Greet visitors as they arrive and hand out the order-of-service
- Provide music: Piano or vocal or guitar, etc.
- Select and/or read the Story For All Ages (You'll receive the WS topic in advance)
- Suggest Worship Service topics to the Worship Service Co Chairs and reach out to potential guest speakers
- Create & lead a Worship Service Reflection and Discussion (30 min)
- Lead non sermon parts of the service like Welcome & Announcements, Joys & Concerns, etc.
- Serve as RE/Youth Group Teacher (training & lesson plans available)

Paper signup sheets are available at Prairie Lakes or email Tanya at: tanyapapermaker@gmail.com to let her know what volunteer duties you are interested in.



1. Stamps (a few, several, or many)
2. AA & AAA batteries
3. HP Ink Cartridges 950 (black) 951 (color)
4. Paper towels
5. Pens (bring us your extras 😊)

Fellowship Notes



It's a bird! Nope, it's a Leonardo da Vinci flying machine!

Prairie Lakes member Brad Roost is a Ripon High School Science teacher and co-taught a camp focusing on flight and aviation with 8 Ripon High School students. Students spent two days at EAA in Oshkosh attending workshops and visiting the museum of flight there. Their Ornithopter was on display at the EAA AirVenture!



Welcome Hansler Augustus Wesner and congratulations to the DeCramer/Wesner families!

Hansler is the son of Jordan and Callista Wesner. Callista grew up participating in Prairie Lakes RE/Youth Group and is the daughter of PLUUF members Laird & Linda DeCramer.

A BIG thank you to the kids of Prairie Lakes for reducing the pile of mulch in the parking lot by spreading it among the perennials!

Back in June a load of mulch was delivered to PLUUF. The volunteer crew did the best they could to try to use it up on the 5th Sunday Fluff 'N Buff on June 30, but there was still a large pile remaining. A month later, on July 28, under the guidance of Migual Luna, the kids in attendance filled up containers with mulch and carried them to the areas of the perennial gardens that needed it most.



End of Fiscal Year Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR - well, HAPPY NEW CHURCH YEAR! July 1st begins our new fiscal year

	2023/24 Fiscal Year Total	Annual Budget
INCOME	\$30,843	\$36,303
EXPENSES	\$32,860	\$36,303

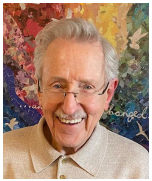
Detailed monthly financial reports are available by contacting tanyapapermaker@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO PRAIRIE LAKES THIS PAST FISCAL YEAR!

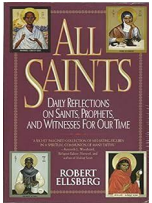
Although our fiscal year income total came in a bit lower than our projected annual income budget, we kept our expenses lower than anticipated. Many, many thanks to ALL who support Prairie Lakes! With gratitude,

Jim Goyette, Treasurer & Tanya Schwartz Roeper, Financial & Administrative Consultant

In Case You Missed it in July



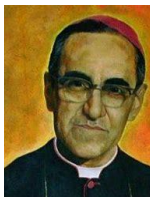
ENGAGE Sunday, July 7, [Can We Share Moral Principles With Other Cultures](#) by Robert "Spud" Hannaford. Some recent writers in Christian theology have argued that no principles could be validly shared across religious or cultural lines. They hold that the ethical principles of one religion such as the Golden Rule are not translatable from one religion to another. Their argument would mean that one could not share ethical views with members of another religion. Robert "Spud" Hannaford led a fascinating presentation and discussion.



Worship Service Sunday, July 14, [All Saints with Jill Stiemsma & it was 2nd Sunday Potluck](#) Robert Ellsberg wrote a book of daily readings that largely focuses on Catholic-designated Saints (All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets and Witnesses for Our Time). Sometimes, he included others he considered saints who weren't so designated by Rome, who perhaps weren't even Catholic. Jill Stiemsma provided her favorite selections from the book and it was followed by a Congregational Response.



ENGAGE Sunday, July 21, [El Salvador: Pathway to Facism](#) with Jill Stiemsma Jill teaches English in El Salvador every January to March. Consequently, she is a first-hand witness to El Salvador's turn to fascism and all that entails. Her slide show presentation gave us a glimpse into the life she leads from January to March ranging from the people she has met, to her favorite foods, to images of the beauty of El Salvador. Although El Salvador has/had the reputation of being the murder capital of the world, Jill said she fears the likelihood of severe earthquakes or volcanic eruptions more. She not only gave us a look at the history of the El Salvadoran gangs, she led us through the military crackdown and the imprisoning of gang members and non gang members. "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely."



Worship Service Sunday, July 28, with Jill Stiemsma: [Monseñor Romero: A play representing the official start of the Salvadoran Civil War](#) In the era of growing support for Liberation Theology, Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero stood as the vanguard between El Salvador's tortured and starved rural poor and its military regime and the United States who weaponized the country in the name of fighting communism. Jill Stiemsma wrote a play based entirely on the book Monseñor Romero by María López Vigil. Attendees experienced the heart, mind and soul of a brilliant leader who struggled to become the voice of the peasants in El Salvador and who was subsequently martyred for his faith. The play allowed the story to unfold through the voices of friends and enemies alike who delivered their side of history in vignettes.