

"Mother Earth operates on reincarnation. Rain is river is ocean is clouds is rain. Dog is dog fur is bird's nest. Matter continues indefinitely, but it cycles from one form to another to another.

Mother Earth is reminding us that we need to invest in things that truly matter. Invest your energy in what will matter 100 years from now, because whatever you do, your actions are a domino effect that will cycle on indefinitely."

-Stephanie Prellwitz  
(Stephanie is director of the Green Lake Association and was the guest speaker at our May 14 worship service).



# Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

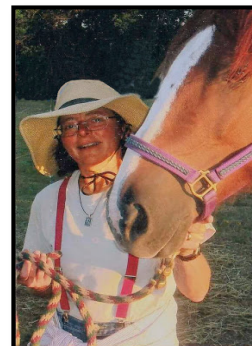
315 Eureka Street Ripon, WI 54971  
(920) 745-2446 [www.pluuf.org](http://www.pluuf.org) info@PLUUF.org

2  
0  
1  
7

In memory of PLUUF members  
Jean Johnson & Linda Holloway



Jean Johnson  
August 6, 1941-  
April 29, 2017



Special  
tribute on  
page 7  
  
Linda Holloway  
June 21, 1955-  
May 12, 2017

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Sunday, June 4: 10:00 AM Alternate Sunday** New book discussion begins! Video to introduce the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande (See page 5 for details)

PLUS

**Sunday, June 4: 10:00 AM** Jill Stiemsma will lead the service at Open Circle in Fond du Lac

**Sunday, June 11: 10:00 AM Worship Service** We will observe our annual Flower Communion, a time when we celebrate our ties with each other here at PLUUF. If you'd like to participate with the PLUUF Singers please arrive at 9:00 for rehearsal (See page 4 for more details.)

**Please stay after the service for our second Sunday Potluck!!**

**Sunday, June 18: 10:00 AM Alternate Sunday** Discussion of the first half of the book *Being Mortal* (See page 5 for details)

**Wednesday, June 21: 5:00 PM A Memorial Service at PLUUF for Linda Holloway**  
(Summer Solstice)

**Sunday, June 25: 10:00 AM Worship Service** with **Myron Eschowsky**. He will discuss his worldwide work as a Shaman. (See page 4 for more information)

A 10-MINUTE MEDITATION SESSION FROM 9:40-9:50 TAKES PLACE ALMOST EVERY SUNDAY.

# Annual Meeting Recap

Prairie Lakes held its annual meeting on May 7. Upon arrival members and friends had an opportunity to visit the committee tables set up in the social room. Information was provided by the chair and/or co chair of each committee showcasing the duties and responsibilities of each committee.

**Becky Feyen** (Moderator) led the annual meeting describing the structure of our board of directors, committees and the success of our new alternate Sunday programming.

**Tanya Schwartz-Roeper** (Treasurer) presented PLUUF's proposed 2017-18 budget and reviewed the current fiscal year financials. She pointed out that PLUUF has exceeded its income budget and (so far) is comfortably below budgeted expenses.

**Laird DeCramer** (At-Large Rep/Facility Chair) presented the proposed ideas for developing PLUUF's green space and possible parking lot expansion.

**THANK YOU** to all the **members and friends** of PLUUF for making our 2016-17 fiscal year a huge success in so many ways.

## Meet PLUUF's Board of Directors



Becky Feyen  
Moderator



Linda DeCramer  
Secretary



Tanya Schwartz-Roeper  
Treasurer



Judy Harris  
At-Large Representative #1

**Laird DeCramer** has served on the PLUUF board in a variety of roles for many, MANY years! We are grateful for all he has done for PLUUF and will miss his quick wit and keen sense of humor at the board meetings. Thank you, Laird, for your dedication and commitment. Laird will continue his role as co chair of the Facilities Committee.



Laird DeCramer  
Outgoing  
At-Large Rep



Jessica French  
Incoming  
At-Large Rep

The newest member to join the PLUUF board is **Jessica French**. Jessica will be taking over Laird's role as At-Large Representative #2 and will begin attending regular board meetings in July.

Jessica recently moved to Markesan after living in Indiana for 25 years. She grew up as a military child, spending time in both New Orleans and Northern Virginia. She received a BA in Psychology from Purdue University and was employed for 12 years as a Community Mental Health Case Manager. Currently Jessica is a stay-at-home mom. She has been married to Jeromy for 9 years and they have a 6- year old daughter, Molly. Jessica's hobbies include collecting mid-century glassware and mushroom identification. She is looking forward to being part of our positive community. Welcome aboard!

# Message from our Moderator by Becky Feyen



May was a transformative month with the passing of **Jean Johnson & Linda Holloway**. These women contributed immensely & were integral to the success of Prairie Lakes. Jean was a founding member, dedicated leader, active participant, and an inspirational woman. Linda dedicated so much time & energy, taking on leadership & administrative positions; she motivated us through many changes. These 2 women were also great friends & a dynamic duo, to say the least. Their presence is greatly missed, but their inspiration lives on in the projects & programs we continue to support & develop.

The loss of these amazing women has brought much pain to many within our Fellowship. Some of that pain has been over several years, as these healthy & strong women declined physically. The beauty of being part of a community is the companionship that we bring to each other. We hold **Harry Heileman, Jim Goyette, their families & friends (Judy Harris)** close in our hearts. I encourage everyone to continue reaching out to support each other.

In honoring these women, we push forward; Prairie Lakes UU Fellowship will publish the UUA Declaration of Conscience in our local newspapers. Jean had requested that this be done & we will. Prairie Lakes has a copy of the declaration for everyone to sign, as a show of support – as always it is up to each individual, member or friend. Our discussion for Alternative Sunday on 5/21 proved that we as a group will step up & move forward with actions, demonstrating our support for inclusion of marginalized & discriminated people. We need to be a voice in the greater community & quit “preaching to the choir” – thank you, Jean Bruce!

Together we can make a difference.

With love –

## Fellowship Notes

### Volunteers Needed for Camp PLUUF, July 24 and 27

**Teachers:** We’re looking for two individuals to teach lessons on water. PLUUF will provide the materials and support!

**Kitchen help:** A volunteer is needed to prepare and serve two snacks, lunch and clean up.

**Assistants** needed for the paper making activity and other activities scheduled throughout the day

**Floater:** Run errands, assist with the children, etc.

Please contact Judy Harris at [jdlake@centurytel.net](mailto:jdlake@centurytel.net) if you are able to help. (See page 5 for more camp details.)

### Theatrical performance

PLUUF member, Linda DeCramer, will be performing in the upcoming Ripon Summer Players theater production, The Government Inspector. Performances take place at Ripon College Benstead Theater on June 2 & 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 4 at 2 p.m.

### Congratulations graduates!

- Sullivan (Sully) DeCramer, son of PLUUF members Laird & Linda DeCramer, graduated from Green Lake High School.
- Pete Allington, son of Pete Allington and Becky Bruce Allington, graduated from Berlin High School.
- Bradley Seibel, frequent PLUUF guest speaker, graduated from Marian University with a degree in Theology.

*A celebration with cake took place after the worship service with Bradley Seibel on May 28.*



## 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> June Worship Services by Jill Stiemsma



Along with the rest of PLUUF, we mourn the loss of our long-time Worship Services Team member Jean Johnson. Ironically, just days before she learned that the cancer had migrated to her brain, Jean told me that she was feeling well enough to lead a service on Humanism. In her honor, we will hold that service some time this summer.

But, because life continues, we will share fellowship in these June services:

**June 11:** Today, we observe our annual Flower Communion, a time when we celebrate our ties with each other here at PLUUF. Everyone is asked to bring a flower, hopefully from your own yard but from the local grocer if necessary. We join these flowers together in a symbolic gesture of camaraderie. In this year's Flower Communion, we will honor our new members by asking them to share a few words so we get to know them - and by asking all of you to share a few words about why you attend PLUUF - so we all get to know each other! This will be a very "communal" service, led by lots of folks...a service of "membership" and "remembership".

HEADS-UP: PLUUF Singers will rehearse familiar songs at 9:00, sharp!!!

And, remember, we will continue our fellowship in our Second Sunday Potluck.

**June 25:** Now, if all goes well, we welcome (finally) **Myron Eschowsky**, the Shaman who works worldwide to bring harmony between warring factions. His is an amazing story. To allot him the time to share his journey, "normal" parts of the service will either be eliminated all together or abbreviated. We hope we have a great turnout for this very special event.

To all, enjoy our transition to our long-awaited summer.

Jill Stiemsma

## 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Alternative Sundays

**Sunday, June 4: 10:00 AM** New book discussion begins! Video to introduce the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande

**Sunday, June 18: 10:00AM** Discussion of the first half of the book *Being Mortal*

**Sunday, July 2: 10:00 AM** Complete discussion of *Being Mortal*

**Sunday, July 16:** Work on camp curriculum and activities/work assign. etc.

Please see page 5 for more details about the book discussion under the heading: **Adult Religious Education**

# Committee Reports by Judy Harris



## Community Outreach/Membership

Informational notices continue in area shoppers and newspapers. The current focus is titled "*Principles Not Doctrine*" and lists our third principle: "Acceptance of one another & encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations."

**Be sure to check out our brand new website  
[www.pluuf.org](http://www.pluuf.org) AND Like Us on Facebook!**

## Adult Religious Education

A new book discussion begins on alternate Sundays, June 4 & 18. The book I suggest reading is "Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End" by Atul Gawande. I suggest this book because health care is making news headlines and we have a significant number of members/friends involved with health care and health issues. It's neither difficult to read nor terribly long and should offer good discussion opportunities. Here's a partial summary from the *New York Times* reviewer Sheri Frank:

*"Being Mortal" is a valuable contribution to the growing literature on aging, death and dying. It contains unsparing descriptions of bodily aging and the way it often takes us by surprise. Gawande is a gifted storyteller, and there are some stirring, even tear-inducing passages here. The writing can be evocative. In a home for the aged in a New Delhi slum, mattresses are "pushed up against one another like a large sheet of postage stamps."*

*The stories give a dignified voice to older people in the process of losing their independence. We see the world from their perspective, not just those of their physicians and worried family members.*

The local library system has several copies available for checkout. In addition, we will have 10 copies available by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, possibly earlier. A \$10 donation is optional. Please join us for a conversation about this relevant topic. You are welcome to bring friends.

## Children's Religious Education on June 11th and 25<sup>th</sup>

The focus continues on principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism

## Camp PLUUF July 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

We met briefly on May 21<sup>st</sup> and eight individuals volunteered to help with our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual PLUUF environmental camp! Thank you. Our focus is on clean and abundant water. There will be 20 children each day for a total of 40 different children from those entering 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Registration forms will be available soon. While we hope to offer this opportunity to children who may not be able to have any other camp experience, everyone is welcome.

**Please encourage relatives, neighbors, and friends in this age group to participate.**

# In Case You Missed It

## Alternative Sunday April 30 Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change



Thank you to all the members and friends in attendance at our Annual Meeting on May 7. See page 2 for a recap.

*“Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples”* was a workshop held at PLUUF and facilitated and narrated by **Kat Griffith**. The purpose of the exercise was for us to reflect on our relationships with the Native Peoples of Turtle Island, this land we now call the United States. It was a powerful workshop that compressed 500 years of history into 50 minutes. Thank you to **Linda DeCramer** for bringing this program to Prairie Lakes. Many thanks to the four speakers: **Bonnie Wagner, Judy Harris, Laird DeCramer, Ellen Mueller**, and blanket turner, **Jean Bruce**.

## Alternate Sunday May 21



Becky Feyen led a presentation & discussion concerning issues in the forefront of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Discussion took place on how to be involved with issues of race, equality, & compassion. Prairie Lakes UU Fellowship will publish the UUA Declaration of Conscience in our local newspapers. Prairie Lakes has a copy of the declaration for everyone to sign, to show support – as always it is up to each individual, member or friend. Becky noted that the discussion for Alternative Sunday on 5/21 proved that we as a group will step up & move forward with actions, demonstrating our support for inclusion of marginalized & discriminated people. A copy of the UUA Declaration of Conscience is available by request.

## Worship Service May 14 Guest speaker Stephanie Prellwitz “Lessons from My Mother (Earth)”

Stephanie shared a series of vignettes surrounding



Mother’s Day. Each played with the same concept, “Lessons from My Mother (Earth). Not only did she share the story of her birth, the significance and deep meaning of a chickadee using dog fur to line a nest, an octopus making a great escape, a mother with two

young children encountering a mother bear with cubs, but she eloquently honored both Jean Johnson and Linda Holloway in her beautiful presentation. If you missed this service or would like to relive it, we are fortunate to have a transcript available. Please contact [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com) if you’d like a copy.

## Worship Service May 28 Bradley Seibel

Bradley Seibel is a recent graduate from Marian University majoring in Theology. He



led a service called “Growth Mindset and Being in Tune with Signs of the Times.” He concluded the service with closing words by Tom Schade, “My friends, there is power at work in the universe. It works through human hands. It is a creative,

sustaining, and transforming power and we can trust that power with our lives (and with our ministries). It will sustain us whenever we take a stand on the side of love; whenever we take a stand for peace and justice; whenever we take a risk. Trust in that power. We are, together, held by that power.”

# Remembering Jean Johnson & Linda Holloway With Gratitude

## Jean Johnson

August 6, 1941 – April 29, 2017



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

Jean received her medical degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine at a time when only 6% of the students were women.

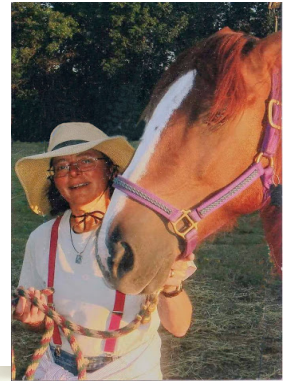
Jean had a passion for skiing, canoeing and nature and passed that on to both her children.

*A quote from Jean: "We come from the energy of the universe. Its mystery and power create us. Eventually our energy flows back into the universe and the stardust we are made from becomes part of something else. Hope to see you around the universe."*

A beautiful memorial service for Jean was held on May 28 at the First Congregational Church in Ripon.

## Linda Holloway

June 21, 1955- May 12, 2017



Linda Holloway became a member of Prairie Lakes in 2013 but had been attending services since at least 2011 with husband Jim. She served as board secretary for two years and this past year as our administrative assistant while co-chairing the finance committee.

She was co-Owner/Manager of Cedar Ridge Ranch in Ripon and more recently co-Owner/Manager of her beloved home she named Well Spring Farm. She is survived by husband Jim and equine family: Chip & Dale the draft horses, Willie the donkey, Azel the mule, Buck the standard bred, Ranger the mustang and Squirt the pony. Her beloved canine Precious, and felines Art, Harper, Tiramisu, and Zeb also survive her.

We will remember Linda for how she lived...with GUSTO. Her competitive spirit and passion for life burned brightly till the end.

A memorial service for Linda will be held at PLUUF on June 21 at 5:00. The spiritual meaning of summer solstice meant a lot to her as it also marks the day of her birth.

*"I want to acknowledge that it is an honor to be invited to speak in the congregation of two matriarchs of this community, Jean Johnson and Linda Holloway. I came to know Jean and Linda through my work at the Green Lake Association, and both were exceptionally active stewards of the environment. Our community is better because of them and it is less because they are gone."*

- quote from Stephanie Prellwitz at PLUUF's worship service on May 14.

## Finance News by Tanya Schwartz Roeper

Thank you members and friends of PLUUF for your financial support! Detailed treasurer reports are available at PLUUF.

### As of May 28, 2017

<b>INCOME</b>	Current Month	Year to date	Annual Budget
Member/Friend contributions/income	\$2,210.82	\$34,057.70	\$25,289.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administration	\$14.40	\$3,138.64	\$5,450
Social Action	\$50	\$700.57	\$700
Worship Service	\$208.25	\$2,082.01	\$2,325
Facility	\$106.46	\$9,018.39	\$7,800
Casual Labor	\$0	\$270.00	\$5,714
Membership/PR	\$363.26	\$1,584.13	\$3,300
RE	\$0	\$60	\$0
	\$742.37	\$16,853.74	\$25,289

### PLUUF Accounts as of May 28, 2017:

BMO Checking	\$23,474.61	Operating Fund
BMO Savings	\$10,904.20	Short term Vision Fund*
UUCEF (As of 5/28)	\$42,856.50	Long term Vision Fund
	\$77,235.31	

### Board of Directors\*

#### Moderator

Becky Feyen

#### Secretary

Linda DeCramer

#### Treasurer

Tanya Schwartz Roeper

#### At Large Representative

Judy Harris

#### At Large Representative

Laird DeCramer

### Standing Committees

Worship committee chair: Jill Stiemsma

Pat Dobrinska, Lee Barczak, Becky Feyen and Bonnie Wagner

Membership Committee Co-Chairs: Eric Bartelme & Ellen Mueller

RE Co-Chair: Judy Harris

Finance Committee: Tanya Schwartz Roeper

Facility Committee: Laird DeCramer & Brad Roost

### Ad Hoc Committees and Task Groups

Alternate Sunday Programs Co Chairs: Judy Harris

Care & Concern Co-Chairs: Bonnie Wagner & Beth Howman-Combs

Social Justice Committee: ALL

Newsletter Editor: Tanya Schwartz Roeper

Community Outreach/Advertising: Eric Bartelme & Ellen Mueller, Tanya S-R

Music Coordinator: Jill Stiemsma

Supplies: Eric Bartelme

OWL Certified: Nicole Roost & Linda DeCramer

\*Past and present board minutes and detailed treasurer reports are available for viewing at the fellowship or obtain a copy by request.

- Board meetings take place on the Monday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 4:30 p.m. If there is anything you'd like to put on the agenda please contact Linda DeCramer [lindadecramer@yahoo.com](mailto:lindadecramer@yahoo.com) or Becky Feyen [r.feyen@yahoo.com](mailto:r.feyen@yahoo.com) at least one week in advance.
- All board and committee members are encouraged to submit information to be included in the newsletter by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to [tanyapapermaker@gmail.com](mailto:tanyapapermaker@gmail.com)