

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, Wisconsin

Sunday, October 25, 1992

Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of Prairie U-U Society

Prelude	The Prairie Band
Reading of the Prairie Bond of Union	The Congregation
Lighting of the Chalice	Jack Jallings
Song, "This Little Light of Mine," #15	The Congregation, accompanied by the Prairie Band
"Yankee Doodle"	3rd through 5th graders, introduced by Anne Pryor
Children leave for Religious Education Classes	
The Origins of Prairie Society. Introduction of past presidents and of ministers important in the origins of Prairie.	Pat Cautley
Music in the history of Prairie	George Calden
Song, "Precious Memories," #37	The Congregation, accompanied by George Calden and Rosemarie Lester
Images from Prairie's Past	Al Nettleton
Reminiscences of Prairie, its members and its friends Guests, and letters from absent friends Members in attendance	
Prairie looks toward the future	Julie Bonser
Song, "The Spirit of this Church," #107	The Congregation, accompanied by the Prairie Band

Page 14 THROUGH ALL THE TUMULT AND THE STRIFE I HEAR THE
MUSIC RINGING, IT SOUNDS AN ECHO IN MY SOUL - HOW CAN I KEEP
FROM SINGING?
Oct. 26, 1992

MUSIC IN PRAIRIE

(Start with the singing of Precious Memories -37) STARTS ON E

- 1. Music has always been a vital part of P. Society. ~~DDDEE-B~~
E
 - a. But music in P. has always been unique.
 - b. Unique in that we have never relied on professional musicians or singers - but mainly on our own members.
 - c. Also unique in that music has always reflected P's specific needs and character.

Prairie Song Book

- 1. A good example is our P. Song Book. *one of our pride and joy*
 - a. Probably it is one of the most unusual song books in U.U.
 - b. Put together a number of years ago mainly by Doleta C. Mike Briggs, Holly Nearing and I, with the wonderful printing help of Lee Bullen.
 - c. It contains not only a number of our traditional U. hymns but many other songs suggested by P. members, or evolved out of P. experience.
 - d. For example - what other ^{church} songbook contains, "To Life, To Life, L'Chaim" or Woody Guthrie's "I'm gonna Mail Myself to You"
 - e. The song we sang a moment ago, where the words may sound strange, evolved from our Old Timey musical group, "The P. Chicken Pluckers" who were into Bluegrass Gospel music at the time.
 - f. Or such Shaker songs as "Take my Hand in Brotherly Love" and "Who Will Bow and Bend Like a Willow" which evolved from the wonderful Shaker service led by R. Calden and Barbara Carson.
 - g. The songbook also contains original songs by P. members - D. Chapru, Annis Pratt and Metje Butler.
 - h. So the songbook reflects the unique grassroots, non-institutional, participatory aspect of P.

Beginnings

- 1. The very beginning of P. was initiated by music. *no years*
 - a. Trumpet player at Holy Name - Saints. *C. Davidson, Kampman*
- 2. Earliest efforts of organized music ^{John} Grindrod and I put out a few song sheets.

Music groups

- 1. In time all sorts of musical groups were formed at P.
 - a. Choirs (usually short lived) were formed - shape note singers, silo singers, Prairie Bad Singers (Drapkin).
 - b. P. Chicken Pluckers - Willards, Chuck Young, Joe Lawrence, minister Dave Meyer and I. *OLD TIMEY & SQUARE DANCE TYPE MUSIC*
 - c. Prairie Recorder Group - led by Richard Roznoy - over the years composed of many recorder players - Grindrod and R. Calden played throughout.
 - d. Martin Buber Trio - I, Thou and It - Rosemarie - intl music.
 - e. Existing today - Ethnic Connection and P. Band - Mullen.

* Wayfaring Stranger, Life's Like a Mt R.R. I'll Fly Away, Well
The Circle Is Unbroken

2. Innumerable piano accompanists - Aileen Nettleton and M. Briggs.

a. And along with the music there have been a great deal of dancing done at P. *P = Singing & dancing church.*

b. Recall especially dancing at Upham Woods and at P. site. *W. W. and dance services*

Musical services

1. P. unique in that it has had innumerable Sunday Services devoted to music.

a. W. Hagstrom's Composer series - Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Schuman - with P. members performing works of these composers.

b. M. Briggs service on the songbook.

c. My services - Beethoven, What Music Means to Me, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Theodorakis and the memorable service - the Gospel According to the PC Pluckers.

Ending

1. I am sure that as long as Prairie exists - music will be close to its heart and soul. *How can we keep from singing?*

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

