

# PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

Sunday, November 12, 2006

Prelude – Mike Briggs  
*And the Band Played "Waltzing Matilda"*

Welcome: Sarah Lord,  
Social Action Committee Co-Chair

Opening Words: The Rev. Ralph Tyksinski

We gather together in this space to honor and understand our lives and the lives of those who have served and are serving in the military. We bring our pasts and would share them, our dreams and would express them. We use words, song, and silence. Words cannot define our lives, but they enable us to reach out to each other, to tell and to listen, that we may be renewed, connected, inspired. Apprehend with wonder the lives of those around you, for "from wonder into wonder existence opens." - Lao Tzu

\*Hymn #301 *Touch the Earth, Reach the Sky*

Chalice Lighting – Rev. Ralph Tyksinski  
Welcoming Covenant (on separate sheet)

Moment of Silent Meditation

Story for All Ages – Rev. Ralph Tyksinski  
*The Bicycle Man*

Song (as children go downstairs)

*Farewell, good friends... Farewell...*  
*Till we meet again... Farewell...*

## Joys and Concerns

Presentation – *A Gratitude by So Many to So Few*  
Rev. Ralph Tyksinski

## Discussion

Offertory - Mike Briggs  
*Tenting Tonight*

## Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Prairie Announcements (*also see insert announcements*)

\*Hymn #322 *Thanks Be for These*

Closing Words - Rev. Ralph

May we be reminded that we are part and participants on this planet, Earth. Let us go forth from the quiet of this hour encouraged to strive toward faithfulness to the best in ourselves, a greater gratitude toward others, and a deeper connection to the great chain of Being we call Life.

Postlude – Mike Briggs  
*Strangest Dream*

\*Stand as you are able.

**Welcome to our service!** We are glad you are here. Our presider today is Sarah Lord, Social Action Committee Co-Chair. Our accompanist is our President, Mike Briggs. Our presenter is our part-time minister, the Rev. Ralph Tyksinski. Sonya Sidky coordinated this service for the Program Committee. We thank all of them for their contributions.

## **Announcements**

**Book Group** meets after service today to discuss "Please Don't Come Back from the Moon".

**Parish Meeting** will take place on December 3, at 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Prairie Fire** schedule will shift in December, with only one issue that month. Upcoming deadlines for articles:

- Sunday, November 19
- Sunday, December 10

Normally deadlines are the first and third Sundays of the month.

**Spanish Speakers** will meet for potluck and discussion on Wednesday, November 15, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Fernanda Leporace, 115 Lakewood Gardens Lane, Condo #115, Madison. For questions or directions, call Rosemary Dorney, 238-4382.

**Playreaders** will meet Saturday evening, November 18, at the home of Paula Pachciarz, at 7:00 p.m. to read "Are You Now or Have You Ever Been?", a play based on the HUAC hearings of the 1950's. All are welcome.

**Fair Trade Holiday Sale** – Sunday, November 19, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive.

The **Humanist Union** will have its monthly meeting at Prairie on November 19 with a potluck lunch at noon and a discussion of "The Thought and Writing of Sam Harris" starting about 12:20 p.m. The discussion will be led by Barbara Park and Randy Converse. The group's Web site has links to examples of Harris' talks, interviews and writing at <http://humanist.madisonwi.us/harris.htm>.

---

## **Calendar**

### **Sunday, November 12**

11:30 a.m. Book Group discussion.

### **Monday, November 13**

7:00 p.m. EnAct Class

### **Wednesday, November 15**

6:30 p.m. Spanish Speakers potluck

6:30 p.m. Midweek Meal

7:30 p.m. Board Meeting

### **Saturday, November 18**

7:00 p.m. Playreaders group meets at the home of Paula Pachciarz and Carl Wacker.

### **Sunday, November 19**

10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Intergenerational Program, led by Sonya Sidky, Susan Herr-Hoyman, and Dorothy Krause

12:00 noon. Humanist Union potluck lunch and discussion of "The Thought and Writing of Sam Harris," led by Barbara Park and Randy Converse.

1:00-5:00 p.m. Fair Trade Holiday Sale hosted by the Human Rights Committee at First Unitarian Society

### **Wednesday, November 22**

6:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal at FUS for Joint Thanksgiving Service

6:30 p.m. Midweek Meal

7:00 p.m. Joint Area Thanksgiving Service at First Unitarian Society

### **Sunday, November 26**

10:00 a.m. "The Road Not Taken" led by Mary Mullen and Barb Park

### **Tuesday, November 28**

2:00 p.m. Prairie Elders meets at Oakwood West

### **Wednesday, November 29**

6:30 p.m. Midweek Meal

7:30 p.m. Covenant Group discusses "The Left Hand of God."

## WELCOMING COVENANT

**Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society President Mike Briggs:** May all who are able, rise and let us join together to welcome Rev. Ralph Tyksinski, whose time begins as our Consulting Minister. In our UU tradition, this Act of Welcoming symbolizes a covenant between the people of a congregation and the minister. The relationship established is based upon mutual confidence and respect, and is undertaken by mutual consent. Having chosen Ralph as our Consulting Minister, and having received his acceptance, let us covenant with him to work together to achieve our goals and fulfill our mission as a dedicated congregation.

**Congregation:** We, the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society, do welcome you, Ralph, as our Consulting Minister, and by this act bestow upon you the responsibilities of leadership, guidance, and inspiration. We offer you a free pulpit, even as we are a free people. We pledge our support to you as together we strive to maintain in this community a society of reason, love, freedom, and mutual respect. We will share our portions of truth with you, and listen deeply and learn, that we may grow in wisdom and understanding. We will dare to disagree agreeably with you, to dream what we may become. We will use our hands and hearts, our vision and voices, to heal and not to harm this beloved community through our time together.

**Rev. Ralph:** People of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society, trusting in the dignity and infinite worth of human life, and according to your invitation, I take up the ministry of this congregation. On my part I pledge to fulfill, to the best of my ability, the obligations and privileges of service to you and to all humanity, and in carrying out my duties and responsibilities to live with reverence and respect for all.

**All together:** Now, therefore, let us reaffirm our commitment to Shared Ministry, and our united efforts to follow the ways of reason, freedom, and human fulfillment amongst ourselves and with all peoples. May we be a beacon of inspiration to each other; and together, be a beacon of hope to the world.