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# PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

2010 Whenona Drive, Madison 53711

<http://uuprairie.org>

Rev. Ralph Tyksinski, Minister

**Sunday, June 20, 2010**

**Prelude** - "Medley of waltzes: Star of the County Down, Sheebeg and Sheemore,  
and Midnight on the Water,"

performed by  
Karleen Tyksinski and Mary Mullen

**Welcome** - Nick Abts

**Opening Words**

It is not flesh and blood but the heart which makes us fathers and sons.

*-Friedrich von Schiller*

**\*Hymn #12 (SLT) "O Life That Maketh All Things New"**

Aileen Nettleton, accompanist

**Chalice Lighting**

A Father's Day Prayer

*by Kirk D. Loadman-Copeland*

**Silent Meditation**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Presentation:** "Society, Unitarian Universalism and Fatherhood" – Nick Abts

**Discussion**

**Offering**

**Offertory** - performed by  
Karleen Tyksinski and Mary Mullen

**Introduction of Guests and Visitors**

### **Prairie Announcements**

Additional announcements are in your order of service

**\*Hymn # 191 (SLT) "Now I Recall My Childhood"**  
Aileen Nettleton, accompanist

### **Closing Words**

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually  
has a son who thinks he's wrong.  
*by Charles Wadsworth*

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

Welcome to our service! We are glad you are here. Thanks to everyone who made this service possible. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

## **Announcements**

**Green Tip of the Week:** If you are thinking about replacing your flooring, visit Eco-friendly Flooring on Madison's east side. They carry flooring made of bamboo, cork, recycled glass tiles, and linoleum. Call for an appointment - 441-3265.

**The End is Nigh!** The end of the fiscal year, that is. Our financial year runs from July 1 to June 30, so we are just about to the end of the fiscal year 2009-2010. If you made any purchases for Prairie in the last year and you would like to be reimbursed, or would like to know if you completed your pledge, please contact our administrator when she returns from her vacation, Monday June 21st.

**Directories Now Available** Please see Kate, Prairie's administrator, for a copy of the new Prairie phone directory.

**Social Action News** The Social Action committee is still collecting socks to donate to the UU Church in Tucson for their No More Deaths ministry. New, clean white socks can be left in the basket in the foyer. Thank you for your support.

**Retirement Party for Rev. Ralph Tyksinski** Today, after the service, we will be having a retirement party for Rev. Ralph. Please stay to help celebrate Rev. Ralph's time with us.

**Take Note!!** On Sunday, June 27th, we will have a live stream of the service from General Assembly in Minneapolis. Since the service at GA starts at 9am, we will meet one hour earlier than usual. Mark your calendars: ***Sunday, June 27th, service is at 9 am.***

## **Prairie Calendar**

### **Sunday, June 20, 2010**

11:45 am - Retirement Party for Rev. Ralph Tyksinski.

### **Monday, June 21, 2010**

6:00 pm - Humanist Union will celebrate World Humanist Day with potluck supper.

6:30 pm - Spanish Speaker's Potluck, at the home of Kate Tucker, 4504 Camden Rd.

### **Tuesday, June 22, 2010**

2:00 pm - Prairie Elders meet at Oakwood.

### **Sunday, June 27, 2010**

9:00 am – service - "General Assembly LIVE," presented by Nick Abts. *Note earlier time!!*

11:45 am - Prairie Book Club meets to discuss The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery.

### **Tuesday, June 29, 2010**

7:00 pm - Program Committee meeting.

### **Looking Ahead:**

Sunday, July 25 - Joint Service with Sauk City UU

Friday, September 10 - 60th Anniversary Party for Rose and Galen Smith.

Friday, Sept. 17 - Sunday, Sept. 19 - Prairie Family Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Westfield, WI.

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**Mystery Man: Who is the Real Rev. Ralph?  
True or False?**

**Make a group of 3 and discuss and mark each item True or False.**

- NASE
1. F Ralph served as interim minister for four congregations in Ohio, Maine, Austin, TX, and Wilmington, Delaware.
  2. T Ralph was a "stay-at-home dad," raising 3 children, while Karleen taught at the University of Chicago Laboratory School.
  3. T Ralph was a family counselor with a group practice in Baltimore, MD, that focused on serving low-income families.
  4. \_\_\_ Ralph served as Chaplain at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Hospital, specializing in palliative care.
  5. \_\_\_ Ralph worked for 2 years as an assistant librarian at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Library with the "Ethics and Medicine" collection.
  6. Y Ralph coordinated education programs for older adults in libraries and seniors centers, bringing scholars and authors to lead discussions in MD, VA, DC, and PA.
  7. Y Ralph developed training programs for FEMA public safety professionals.
  8. J Ralph developed programs on Religion and Medicine for medical faculty in Maryland.
  9. N Ralph served as Director of Religious Education for the Towson UU Church in Towson, Maryland for 1 year.
  10. J Ralph served for 4 years as the Consulting Minister for Prairie UU Society in Madison, WI.

THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS, Ralph!!!

For Ralph and Karleen  
Irish tune for *Wake Now My Senses*

Gently they came to us willing to serve,  
Visiting meetings and groups to observe  
Ways Prairie functioned, our hopes and our dreams,  
Our noteworthy plans and unpractical schemes.

He gave us sermons on famous UU's,  
Guided discussions while we shared our views.  
Members in need of a nurturing place  
Found solace and peace through his comfort and grace.

We got to know her at a Prairie retreat  
Found that she hammered a dulcimer sweet  
Played the piano and strummed a guitar,  
Sang tunes and lyrics that we'd not heard before.

He greeted new families with welcoming prose  
And blessed Prairie's babies with the touch of a rose,  
Respectfully dealt with young neighbors astray,  
Affirmed their repentance in a nurturing way.

Finding her niche Karleen dared to aspire,  
With tight times for practice, to form a kids choir.  
Whether they showed up in droves or in twos,  
We doubled with laughter when they pulled out kazoos.

He flipped us pancakes in apron and toque,  
Lighted our chalice with no sulfur smoke,  
Helped paint the basement without a lament  
And sang karaoke at an auction event.

She made us sweets and potato buffets;  
Tempted our palates in numerous ways.  
Hosted private parties with joy and panache,  
From mystery dinners to meals in the marsh.

Ralph and Karleen part for ventures unknown,  
Trips in the Schooner or treks across town.  
Whatever our fate or their future imparts  
The love they brought Prairie will remain in our hearts.

*Father's Day Sun  
service at Prairie*

A Father's Day Prayer  
by Kirk D. Loadman-Copeland

*June 20  
2010*

(Nick)

Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

(Congregation)

*Let us praise those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support. Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.*

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives.

Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.

*Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their stepchildren's love and respect.*

*Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.*

Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

(over)

*Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.*

*And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.*