

## Animal Blessing

### Order of Service October 2, 2022

**Prelude:** “Calico Rag” by Grabbe, performed by Amber

#### **Welcome and Announcements:**

**Chalice Lighting:** All Animals Are Our Relatives by Florence Caplow

We light this chalice in honor of the animal realm,  
Furred and hooped, two-legged, four-legged, many-legged,  
Fanged and clawed, gentle and fierce, wild and tame.  
May we remember that all animals are our relatives,  
Worthy of our care and respect.

**Opening Music:** “Old MacDonald” led by Rachel Long

**Story for All Ages:** The Great Kapok Tree: A tale of the Amazon Rainforest by Lynn Cherry , read by DRE Alice Mandt.

**Presentation:** “The Noah Dilemma”  
*This service relates to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> principles.*

**Pet Blessings:** Alice Mandt and Rev. Matt Aspin

**Silent Meditation:** Candle lighting for our animal companions no longer with us.

**Offering and Offertory:** “The Swan” by Saint-Saëns, performed by Amber

#### **Closing Words**

**Closing Music:** SLT #414 “As We Leave This Friendly Place” (sing twice through), accompanied by Amber

**Joys and Concerns and Welcome Guests and Visitors**  
**Benediction**

### **Prairie UU Society Bond of Union**

*We, the members of Prairie, wish to associate ourselves together in a religious community which affirms that we share a common humanity, that we need one another, and that our futures are inescapably bound together. Together we would expand our intellectual horizons, enrich our sensory experiences, and deepen our emotional sensitivities. We would sharpen our ethical awareness and broaden our sense of social responsibility. We would stand tall in our quest for integrity of life, yet not at others' expense. As the prairie stretches out until it becomes one with the sky, let us reach out to touch and be one with the natural world, and with one another.*

### Announcements

**For the third quarter of 2022, Prairie will share its offertory collection with Wilma's Fund**, which provides assessments and assistance to LGBTQ+ people who are experiencing homelessness, as well as support to prevent homelessness in this population. The fund was established in 2011.

**Mission-Vision Discussions** Would you like to have input into the future direction of Prairie UU Society? Under the Board's direction, Rev. Matt will be holding discussions on Prairie's mission. The goal is for our community to engage in dialogue to re-affirm our shared understandings of Prairie's purposes, challenge our assumptions, and prioritize our collective actions going forward. Once feedback has been gathered from the community, a small Task Force will be convened early next year to help prepare a motion at the Spring parish meeting to either maintain the current Mission and Vision for the time being, or to vote upon suggested updates.

There are meetings on Zoom and in person. Please see Prairie's calendar for meeting dates. RSVP to Rev. Matt if you're interested.

**Bylaws Discussion** The temporary Bylaws Committee has finished their draft proposal for Bylaws changes, and the Board is reviewing their recommendations. The next step will be to bring the draft to the congregation for comment and additional tweaking if needed. Be aware that changes can't be made once the final proposal is published, in order for members to decide how to vote based on the wording they will actually be voting on. Please consider attending one of these two meetings to discuss the proposal and suggest any modifications that you think are needed.

Sunday 10/9/22 after service, IN PERSON, Meeting Hall  
Wednesday 10/12/22 at 7 pm ON ZOOM,

### Prairie Board Officers and Staff

**Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society**  
2010 Whenona Dr. Madison, WI 53711  
608-271-8218 [www.uuprairie.org](http://www.uuprairie.org)

**Rev. Matt Aspin**, Minister

**Kathy Converse**, President

**Lynn Currie**, Vice President

**Suzanne Gernandt**, Treasurer

**Dan Proud**, Secretary

**Dan Klock**, Congregational Administrator

**Alice Mandt**, Director of Religious Exploration

**John (Raju) Eliganti**, Custodian

### Calendar

Find the full Prairie calendar [on our website](#).

#### **Thursday, October 6, 2022**

1:00 Mission/Vision Discussion (Zoom)

#### **Sunday, October 9, 2022**

10:00 Service: "Flashbacks" by Gene Kain

11:30 Mission/Vision Discussion (Annex)

11:30 Bylaws Discussion (Meeting Hall)

#### **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**

1:00 Mission-Vision Discussion (at Prairie)

7:00 Bylaws Discussion (Zoom)

#### **Saturday, October 15, 2022**

10:30 Mission-Vision Discussion (Zoom)

1:00 Mission-Vision Discussion (at Prairie)

#### **Sunday, October 16, 2022**

10:00 Service by Rev. Matt Aspin

#### **Wednesday, October 19, 2022**

7:00 Mission-Vision Discussion (Zoom)

#### **Saturday, October 22, 2022**

10:00 Creativity and Connection

#### **Sunday, October 23, 2022**

10:00 Service: "Unitarian Universalism and Elections" by Mark Richards

#### **Sunday, October 30, 2022**

10:00 Service: "All Souls Day"

#### **Saturday, November 5, 2022**

10:00 PrairieWOW

### **Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.