

Enjoy Prairie's 50 Years of History in Book Form! Free to new members, \$25 a set to others.



This two-volume endeavor covers a fifty-year history of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society, a small, largely lay-led congregation in Madison, Wisconsin. However, the two books deal with much more than the history of the group from 1967-2017. Volume 1 traces the life of this vibrant congregation with individual chapters on its particular symbols, traditions, musical groups, its values, its divisive issues and its role in the larger community.

Although written largely by a committee of four over a period of four years, other members have contributed personal bios, articles, and many photos which enliven its pages. Read about our five part-time ministers and our 32-year unique survival as a completely lay-led congregation.

What's inside this volume? Here are a few short answers.

- a "scrapbook" with something for everyone
- fifty years of church history in Chapter 1 (Most historians would have stopped at the end of this chapter. We did not.)
- a little bragging
- pictures galore
- poetry
- stories and memoirs
- scans from historical documents
- a few lists, charts, and tables
- many, many names

Sample what you want. This isn't a novel.
Dig in anywhere. Happy browsing!

[Photo shows sign creator Eric Hagstrom and member Dick Bonser installing our first sign, November 1992. Photo by Al Nettleton. Front cover shows annual Maypole dancing, 2005. Photo by Carl Wacker.]



Prairie UU Society: 50 Years in the Life of a Congregation, 1967-2017, Volume 1, in color

Ruth Calden, Rosemary Dorney, Mary Mullen, Barbara Park

Prairie UU Society 50 Years in the Life of a Congregation 1967-2017 Volume 1, in color



Ruth Calden
Rosemary Dorney
Mary Mullen
Barbara Park



Not only history but the life of the church community from 1967-2017 are featured in this second volume about Prairie UU Society in Madison, Wisconsin. Chapters describe the nuts and bolts of keeping the church organized and some favorite services. Our past and present ministers and members are introduced through first-person stories, interviews, and newsletter articles. A final chapter is devoted to our children and their mentors. Helpful appendices and an index for both volumes round out this second volume.

Like the first volume, *Volume 2* has been created by many Prairie people, though most notably by the four History Committee members who met over a four-year period to make this book.

When you open these pages you'll find:

- a "scrapbook" with something for everyone
- a little bragging
- photographs galore
- poetry
- articles
- stories, interviews, and memories
- scans from primary sources
- a long list of our leaders and the positions they've held
- a 50-year annotated chronology
- many, many names

Sample what you want. This isn't a novel.
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[Back photo by Carl Wacker shows Mary Franz at the piano with children Gilbert Pawelski, Ivy Tellander, and Destiny Richards on December 20, 2014. Front photo by Mary Mullen shows our sign and front yard, October 10, 2013.]



Prairie UU Society: 50 Years in the Life of a Congregation, 1967-2017, Volume 2

Ruth Calden, Rosemary Dorney, Mary Mullen, Barbara Park

Prairie UU Society 50 Years in the Life of a Congregation 1967-2017 Volume 2



Ruth Calden
Rosemary Dorney
Mary Mullen
Barbara Park

The History Committee – Mary Mullen, Ruth Calden, Rosemary Dorney, and Barbara Park – worked for over four years to create *Prairie UU Society: 50 Years in the Life of a Congregation, 1967-2017, Volumes 1 & 2*. Book sets are available free to new members. For others, they are for sale at the Prairie meeting house or may be mailed or obtained directly from Prairie History Committee chair Mary Mullen, mmullen0843@gmail.com or (608) 298-0843. The cost is now a reduced \$25 for the set plus \$5 for mailing. Each premium paperback volume is 6 inches x 9 inches x ~1 inch and printed on ivory paper. Volume 1 is pages 1-492. Volume 2 is pages 493-966. A review of the book set was carried in Madison’s *Isthmus* on June 13, 2019: <https://uuprairie.org/50th/Isthmus190613.htm>

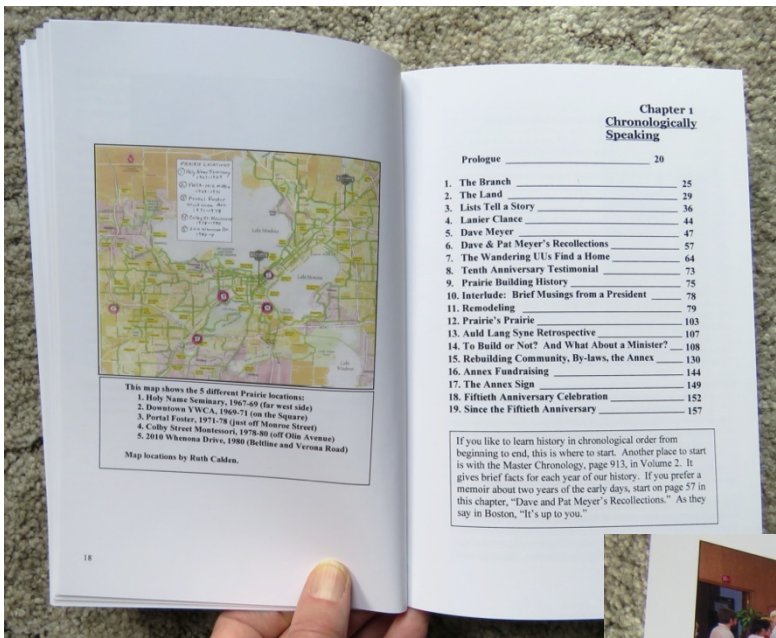
This is much, much more than a chronological history. What’s inside these volumes? Short answers:

- a “scrapbook” with something for everyone
- fifty years of history in Chapter 1 (Most historians would have stopped at the end of this chapter. We did not.)
- a little bragging
- photographs galore
- poetry
- articles
- humor
- stories, interviews, and memories
- scans from primary sources
- a few lists, charts, and tables
- a 50-year annotated chronology
- many, many names
- and an index to both volumes at the end of *Volume 2*

The table of contents, below, displays the organization of the set. Each chapter also has its own table of contents. But please take a peek at the covers and some of the page spreads for a better sense of what the books are like. Most are shown in color, but only the black and white volumes are available at this time.

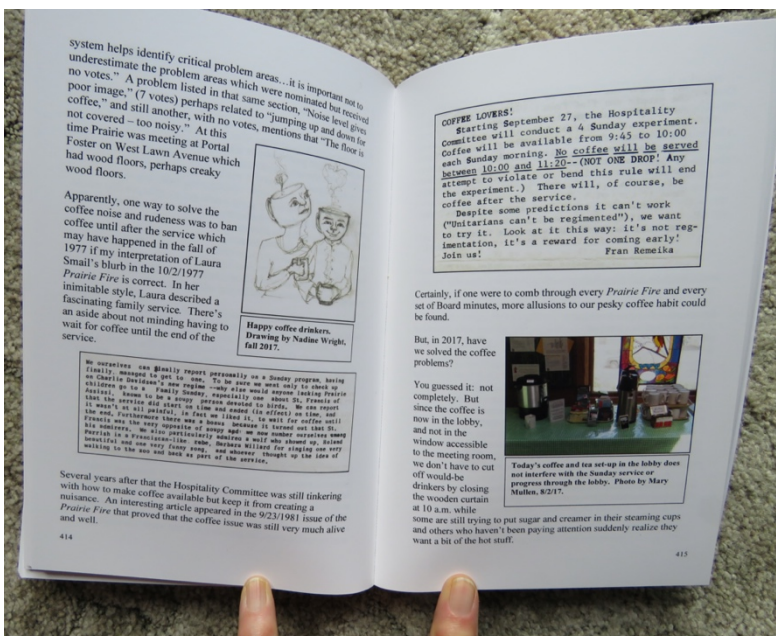
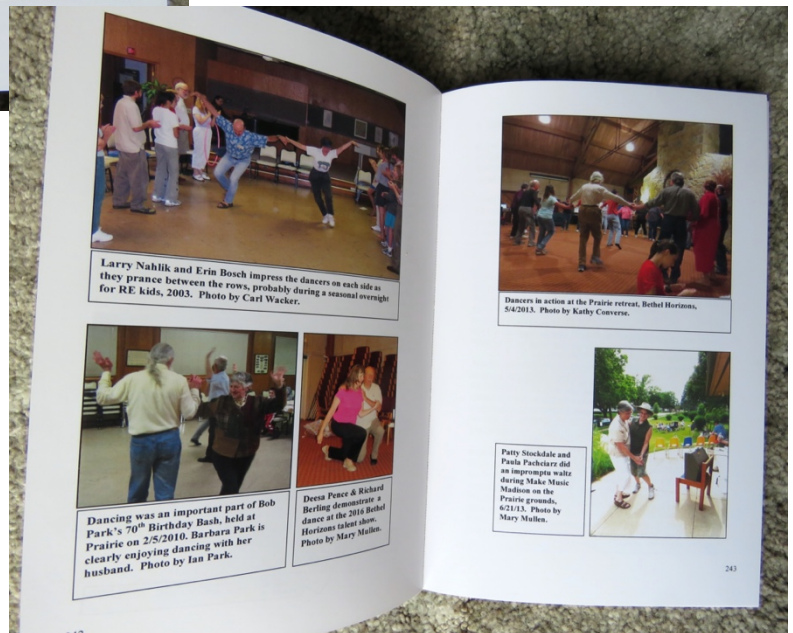
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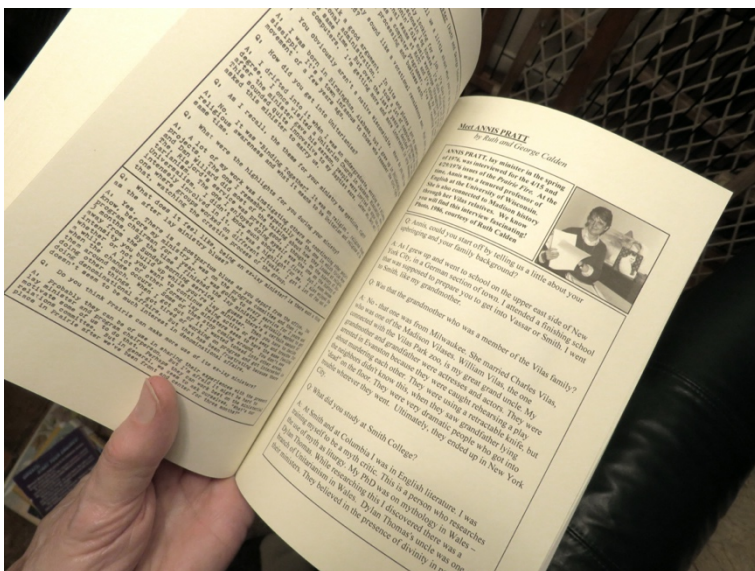
Left, pp. 18-19. Each chapter has its own illustration which sits opposite the table of contents for that chapter. This introductory picture for **Chapter 1 – Chronologically Speaking**, is a map showing the five different places Prairie has met. We've been at our present location since 1980.

Right, pp. 242-243. This page spread in **Chapter 3 – Traditions**, shows a few examples of our members in motion. In the layout of the book, we aimed to show as well as tell about our unique Society. Therefore, most spreads include some kind of illustration: mostly photos, many scans from *Prairie Fire* and other sources, sometimes charts or tables.



Left, pp. 414-415. The History Committee decided that it would not avoid talking about some of the problems that have bothered Prairie over the years, thus **Chapter 6 – "Issues."** While some can be laughed at, such as "Coffee" as shown on this spread, the chapter also covers serious issues which could have resulted in Prairie's demise, but did not!

Right, pp. 434-435. A collage of images introduces **Chapter 7 – In the Community**. Prairie shows its caring outside its walls.



Left, pp. 760-761, from the longest chapter in the book, **Chapter 10 – Who We Were / Are**. This spread shows what the black and white version looks like. (That’s the only version available at this time.)

In this chapter some members tell how they came to Prairie, but interviews, “appreciations,” newsletter and newspaper articles, and even poems introduce other past and present members. The newest folks are presented through five pages of photos.



The Prairie History Committee on 7/25/17: Chair Mary Mullen, members Ruth Calden, Rosemary Dorney, and Barbara Park. Sadly, we must report that Ruth died on 8/15/2019 at age 92. Photo by Marty Drapkin.