The picnic scheduled for next Sunday (May 27) at the Davidson's has been postponed until early July. Further notices will be forthcoming.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday
May 24, 7:30
Social Action: The new committee will meet at Nancy McElreath's, 309 Eugenia. 238-1692

Saturday, Sunday, Monday
May 26, 27, 28
Prairie Garden: Everyone bring their tools to the Carson farm for the big dig. To find the farm follow Cottage Grove Road east to Vilas Road. Turn right and stop at the white farm house on the right as you round the first curve. Please don't block the drive when you park.

Tuesday
May 29, 7:30
Religious Education: The new committee will meet at Aileen Nettleton's, 645 Sheldon. 238-6053

Sunday
June 3, 12:00+
Picnic: Theron Caldwell invites all to bring their boats and swimming equipment and food for an afternoon on the lake. 1228 Sherman Ave. 255-0608

New officers were elected for Prairie Society at the May 13th annual meeting:

President: Roland Parrish
Vice President: Barbara Willard
Secretary: Bunny Wilkening
Treasurer: Mike Lyman
Social Action: Nancy McElreath
Religious Education: Aileen Nettleton
Ministerial Relations: Paula Elkins
Program: Terri Laurence
Housing & Property: Fran Remeika
Long Range Planning: Steve Friedman

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In 1967 First Unitarian Society purchased about 16 acres of land southwest of the Intersection of Gammon and Raymond Roads as a possible site for a second Madison liberal church, because of overcrowding at that time at First Unitarian. Through the generosity of the former owner, the price was well below its true value. Six acres of northern slope were, by pre-arrangement, immediately resold to the Arboretum for preservation as a virgin prairie. However, by the end of 1969, First Unitarian found itself in financial difficulties, and a group of fifteen First Unitarian and Prairie Society members purchased the remaining ten acres at original cost plus interest to hold it for possible use as a liberal church site. These "Prairie Site owners" cannot, under the purchase agreement, realize more than their investment plus 5% annual interest. However, if in 1976 or later they despair of the ten acres ever being used as a liberal church site, they may sell the land commercially and return any profits to First Unitarian. As of July 1, 1973, the investment of the fifteen owners, plus interest, amounts to $16,850; the market value of the ten acres is probably $50,000 or more.

One of the fifteen owners, Paul Ayres, died May 1. His executors would undoubtedly like to clear up his $240 equity in the Prairie Site if any Prairie member or friend has $240 to invest at 5% interest. There may also be some of the nine First Unitarian owners who would be happy to be bought out if additional Prairie investment money is available. See Charlie Davidson or Roland Parrish for further details.

News letters will be published at least once a month during the summer. The deadline for the next one shall be June 22. Give your material to Cheralyn Roberts (238-6030) or Al Nottleton (238-6053).

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