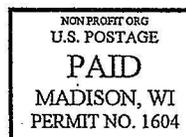


Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711-4843
(608) 271-8218 prairieu@execpc.com
Located off the south Frontage Rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.



PRAIRIE FIRE

... 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.

From our Bond of Union.

The Prairie Fire is the newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society and is published semi-monthly.

An e-mail version is available at <http://www.execpc.com/~prairieu>

June 27, 2000

President: Erin Bosch (608) 238-6285

Editor: Marilyn Ruecking (608) 838-8540; mruecking@hotmail.com

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, July 2

No program at Prairie Meeting House.

Instead, join us for an Independence Day picnic at Shirley Grindrod's home at 2pm. See detailed article in "UPCOMING EVENTS".

Sunday, July 9

10:00am

"Protests Against the World Bank and IMF in Washington DC". Guest speaker is Dan Rodman.

Sunday, July 16

10:00am

"Family Farm Defenders". Guest speaker is Alicia Leinberger.

12:00pm

Prairie Women's Group meets downstairs right after the service. Bring a snack to pass and enjoy the company of other women.

Tuesday, July 18

7:30pm

Board Meeting. All members may attend.

Sunday, July 23

10:00

"The GA Delegation Experience" (tentative)
This program may be subject to change.

Sunday, July 30

Joint program with Sauk City Church and James Reeb at Sauk City.

DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 2

There will be NO PROGRAM at the Prairie meeting house. Instead, all are invited to Prairie's annual "4th of July" Sunday celebration potluck at Shirley Grindrod's house, 5235 Harbor Ct., starting at 2:00 pm. Since Shirley lives by the lake, it's easy to relax, kick off your shoes and socialize.

What to bring:

-A dish to pass

-Food to grill, if you'd like

To get there, proceed west on University Avenue.

Turn right on Spring Harbor Dr. (the second street west of Whitney Way). Turn left on Mendota Drive and an immediate right on Harbor Court.

If you need additional details, Shirley may be reached at 238-4422.

Sunday, July 9

Join Dan Rodman as he talks about the April 16 and 17 protests against the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C. He'll give a brief explanation of the problems with these institutions' actions, and how they relate to international trade and debt relief. The discussion that follows will deal with how we can affect these issues, and what is being done currently.

OUR SOCIETY

Dan Rodman is the President of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Coordinating Council on Nicaragua. He is also active in the Madison chapter of Jubilee 2000 (a movement to cancel the unjust foreign debts of poor countries). From 1995-1997 he spent a total of one-year working in Nicaragua both as a volunteer surveyor and as part of a UW-Madison team dealing with the design of an urban land project. His interest in international justice grew from his experience in Nicaragua and his involvement in progressive student activism at the UW-Madison.

Sunday, July 16

Family farms, food and fair markets: where do you fit in?

The food we now eat has changed considerably in the last century. In 1900 half the population gained their income from the land. We are fast approaching a situation in which less than 1% of the population will earn its primary income from farming. Our food is being stripped of its spirit in the act of removing it from our neighbor's care and putting it in the hands of distant agro-industry interests. In the U.S. the average distance a unit of food travels is around 1,200 miles. How much of what you're buying is really food? Is globalization really good for us?

Alicia Leinberger will tackle this subject based on her graduate work in ecology at the U.W., Madison, and three years of volunteer work in the Peace Corps in El Salvador and working with Fair Trade coffee and family dairy farms in Wisconsin.

Sunday, July 23

The GA delegates will be back from their conference in Tennessee and we're hoping they can give us a taste of what it was like to be there.

Sunday, July 30

Barb Park, Mary Mullen and Erin Bosch have agreed to help with this annual event. We always have a good time sharing thoughts and good food at this historic sight in Sauk City. If you or your family would like to participate in the service, please contact Barb, 273-8775, Mary 238-7904 or Erin, 238-6285. If you plan to attend the service, bring a dish to pass.

Hospitality

The Society has a few activities for which we need help during the Sunday service. Please come prepared to pitch-in and get these jobs done:

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

July 9

Coffee set-up	Pat Cautley
Greeting	Pat Cautley
Program taping	?
Kitchen and cleanup	Robin Carre' Barb Rames
Lawn Mowing	?

July 16

Coffee set-up	?
Greeting	?
Program taping	?
Kitchen and cleanup	Betty Jallings ?
Lawn Mowing	?

Please consider filling in the question marks with your name. Many hands make light work – thanks to all volunteers.

Mary Sanderson at June 18 Program

The Dane County/Apartado Sister City Project

Last Sunday, June 18, Mary Sanderson of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) spoke stirringly about the efforts of a small peace community in the Colombian city-state of Apartado. WILPF, along with the Colombian Support Network (CSN) based in Madison, supports the resolve of a group of farming families to reclaim, without weapons, the coca bean farms they were forced to leave. WILPF and CSN organize regular visits to the Apartado region. These "Travelers", by their very presence, make life safer for the peace community and are invaluable in getting information out to the rest of the world. Mary Sanderson is one of these brave people. Despite ongoing intimidation and terrorization by both paramilitary and guerilla soldiers, despite the murders of many of their members, and despite

great poverty, the Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado is achieving some of its goals.

This week more members of the peace community will attempt to return to their lands. Ms. Sanderson outlined several ways in which Prairie members and friends can support their goals. These include lobbying against the \$1.3 billion in US military aid planned for Colombia; working to shut down the School of the Americas (currently training Colombian soldiers); and becoming a Traveler yourself. For more information, check out the literature on the Prairie Social Action bulletin board or the CSN website: www.igc.org/csn.

Jack Barisonzi at June 25 Program

For more information on the Internet, about the protest in Seattle against the World Trade Organization, access www.globalexchange.org and www.tradewatch.org and www.50years.org

All-Society Work Day Kudos

A large thank you to all the generous people who came to help brighten Prairie. A wonderful sense of community prevailed and all went home tired and wet but happy. A partial list of those who helped includes Kathy Helm, KK Anderson, Barbara Rames, and Jean Matos.

Program Committee News

The announcement box has been "retired". Persons can make announcements verbally by coming forward to the microphone or the microphone can come to you. Please make statements brief and relative to Prairie.

Sunday services will have a "moment" of silence following the chalice lighting. This will be a standard part of the service and will last one full minute. Let the committee know how you would like this meditation to end (e.g., gentle chime).

Laptop Computer FREE to a good home.

A Dell laptop computer (model NL25) with 386 processor is available for free. It is very light and compact. It would be suitable for word processing - it has Word 6.0. It runs Windows 3.1, has a 3.5 inch disk drive and a monochrome screen (no CD-ROM player or modem). If you would like this computer please call Ken Skog at 273-4813.

Fall Retreat October 13 – 15

For those of you who like to plan ahead or who are new to Prairie, don't forget to mark your calendar for our retreat to Bethel Horizon near Dodgeville. Those who attended last year enjoyed the setting and voiced a desire to return. Look for further details as the date approaches.

RE Teachers Needed for Next Year

The RE committee is looking for a teacher for grades 3,4 and 5 and high school. Contact Robin Carre' 238-8725 if either one of these positions interests you.

Phoenix Is On His Way

Phoenix Wordell made it to the West Coast along with all the other participants in the 3,250 mile bicycle ride to aid the American Lung Association. His odyssey began last Monday the 19th, and he's trekking hard (65 miles a day). Keep him in your thoughts.

Information from the June CMWD Board Meeting (from Lynn Lees, NCAC)

They met in Park Forest, Il., a pretty community south east of Chicago. The purposes of this meeting were to meet the new district Congregational Services Director (CSD)--Angela Merkert-- and to begin work on the district goals for the fiscal year 2000-2001. The top three goals are

- 1) Make district gatherings spiritually uplifting and energizing.
- 2) Create a district talent directory and
- 3) Rethink the concept of a district office (physically/spatially).

Helen Bishop was attending her last board meeting as outgoing CSD.

Lost and Found

Many articles of clothing and rain paraphernalia are sitting in the front lobby. Please take the time to discover if anything belongs to you or your family. Unclaimed articles will be donated to charity or given away.

Rebuilding the Food Pantry

Please remember to bring a donation to our Food Pantry. We can reach out to the community and help a family in need.

Another Noble Pint

Recent blood donors include Cindy Haq and Rick Ruecking. We thank you.

First Call For Help

The Caring Committee has been established to help Prairie members in need. The types of support offered are writing notes, rides, telephoning, preparing food, home visits, child care, support for people dealing with life crises (e.g., grieving), tape delivery, and as a community resource list. The primary contact person has a list of volunteers with specific support roles. The current primary contact is **Erin Bosch, 238-6285**.

ADMINISTRATION – Marilyn Ruecking

Articles for Prairie Fire

If you have something you want to communicate to other Prairie members, please send your e-mail to mruecking@hotmail.com (please label it Prairie Fire Article) or put your communication in the green folder located in the first floor office. Next PF deadline is July 23rd.

Information

How may I help you? I can be reached at Prairie every Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 11am (271-8218). Administrative e-mail can be sent to prairieu@execpc.com or mruecking@hotmail.com. This will be checked often. A message left on the answering machine will be addressed Monday and Wednesday.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Million Mom Organization Starting Local Chapter

Stephanie LaBella-Luke is working with the Million Mom Organization to start a local chapter here in Madison. At this time, they're just starting to get a group together.

If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the group, please call Stephanie at 271-3170.

Gay Pride March – Sunday, July 16

Interweave (gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender members of our local UU communities and their allies) will be on the Capital Square Sunday afternoon, July 16th, starting at 1:30, for the annual Madison Pride March to Brittingham Park. Last year, UU's boasted a large contingent of marchers. Support Madison's LGBT community and demonstrate we are a "welcoming" congregation by joining in the march. More information may be obtained by phone, 848-2239; email, info@madisonpride.org; website, www.madisonpride.org; or call Nancy Schraufnagel 273-3195.

James Reeb Spirit Groups Forming

James Reeb Society hopes to form several small "spiritual development groups" on a variety of topics and we are invited to join them. Their purpose is to help UU's and friends forge deeper connections with one another and with their own spirituality. For further information, contact Ruth Flanagan, 242-9261.

When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd

In the dooryard fronting an old farm-house near the
white-wash'd palings,
Stands the lilac bush tall-growing with heart-shaped
leaves of rich green,
With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with
the perfume strong I love,
With every leaf a miracle – and from this bush in
the dooryard,
With delicate color'd blossoms and heart-shaped
leaves of rich green,
A sprig with its flower I break.

~Walt Whitman

<p>Shaarei Shamayim Calendar Sunday, July 23 2pm – 4pm Meeting Prairie Liaison: Bill Littman 829-1909</p>
