

Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711-4843  
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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>*

**September 03, 2000**

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## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### Sunday, September 10

10:00am

"Good Things About Religions We Have Left".

Presented by Doleta Chapru and a panel of Prairie members.

RE (Religious Education) program starts with welcome back party.

12:00pm

Book Club Luncheon (See RSVP for details.)

### Saturday, Sept 16,

10:00am – 1:00pm

All Prairie Work Day (See Our Society for details.)

### Sunday, September 17

10:00am

"The Need For A National Health Care System".

Dr. Bruce Barrett, our guest speaker will talk about the need for universal health care coverage, followed by discussion.

RE instruction begins.

After the Service

Prairie Ball Point Pen Sale (see details in OUR SOCIETY)

12:00pm

Prairie Women's Group meets downstairs.

### Monday, September 18

7:00pm

Prairie Board Meeting

### Saturday, September 23

6:30 pm

Prairie Playreaders (see story under RSVP)

### Sunday, September 24

10:00am

Guest speaker is Dori Davenport from the Central Midwest District (CMD). Her topic will be "Religious Education". There will be a potluck following the service. Get to know your fellow Prairie members.

### Wednesday, September 27

6:30

Spanish Speakers Potluck (see RSVP for details)

### Friday-Sunday, October 13-15

Starting 7 p.m: Check-in/room assignment

"Prairie Fall Retreat" at Bethel Horizons (See Article and Registration Form)

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is  
Sunday, September 17, 2000**

## DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Sunday, September 10**

Join Doleta Chapru and a distinguished panel as they discuss the good things they remember about their past religious beliefs. Can you remember positive things in your spiritual background? Perhaps you'd like to share those memories at this service?

### **Sunday, September 17**

Dr. Bruce Barrett will speak about the need for health care coverage available to all people. He will be showing slides developed by Physicians for a National Health Care System. The central message is that a system founded on universal access would be more cost-effective as well as more equitable. He'll compare our system with the socialized system of Canada.

Dr. Barrett is a family practice physician (MD, PhD) with the University of Wisconsin Medical School (Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine). He is the current president of the Madison chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility. Over half of his time is spent on research, under a grant from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. He has a special interest in medicinal plants and herbal medicines. His background includes a doctorate in Anthropology with work in Nicaragua, Guatemala and Vietnam. He also has strong interests in cross-cultural and international medicine.

## **OUR SOCIETY**

### **Muffins, Breads, Cookies, Etc.**

For the month of September, Prairie members are encouraged to bring snacks to the Sunday service for all to enjoy. It should be fun to share food and conversation with fellow UU members and visitors.

### **All Prairie Work Day**

Please join the Housing and Property Committee at 10:00 on Saturday, September 16th for fall cleaning of the Prairie Meeting House. We need to clean classrooms, the kitchen and rest rooms. Bring cleaning supplies. We will break for a potluck lunch at 12:30.

### **Prairie Ball Point Pen Sale**

With money received in payment for lay minister duties, Pat Watkins purchased 200 ball-point pens with Prairie's name and address imprinted on them. The plan is to sell 100 of these colorful pens to members of the congregation and Sunday School classes for \$.75 each on Sunday September 17th. The remaining 100 pens can be used at the discretion of the board, perhaps to give to visitors or at various meetings.

### **Fall Retreat, October 13-15**

The Prairie Fall Retreat is our way to reconnect with one another as Prairie children, teens and adults. Join us at scenic Bethel Horizons Retreat Center near Dodgeville for an enjoyable weekend of activities for all ages and interests. This is a great way for people who are new to Prairie to get to know others. At the time of publication, we have leaders for a nature walk, "The World's Greatest Scavenger Hunt", a workshop on Racial Justice, volleyball or ultimate frisbee, several craft sessions with our creative artists, and the annual Talent Show. Start practicing your skit, bring an instrument and music, or be ready to cheer on our performers! We need more ideas and facilitators--call Aileen Nettleton, 238-6053 soon! Combining all our creative energies, the retreat becomes a meaningful part of our lives together.

The retreat begins Friday evening from 7-8 p.m. with check-in registration and housing assignments at the main retreat center building followed by the evening campfire. Bring finger-food snacks to share during the campfire. (NOTE: This is a change from the former potluck dinner--eat dinner before you arrive.) The retreat center offers a variety of accommodations, from shared rooms and shared bathrooms to more private motel-type rooms (priority for those with limited mobility.) The Bethel Horizons staff serves excellent meals, with vegetarian options for those who designate such on the registration. Meals are served at specific times beginning with breakfast Saturday through breakfast Sunday. It is necessary to be on time for all meals. We help with table setting and clearing and clean-up at the conclusion of the weekend.

The Registration form is on page 4 of this Prairie Fire. Registration must be RECEIVED BY MAIL AT PRAIRIE or phoned in to Marilyn Ruecking at Prairie by **Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** since we're required to inform Bethel Horizon of the expected attendance. Some scholarship funds are available to assure all may attend. A map will be in the next Prairie Fire along with more information and what to bring.

A copy of the rules of Bethel Horizon will be provided to those who register. We expect all persons who attend to follow these rules. Bethel Horizons is gracious in making their facilities available to us and in turn, we need to respect their staff, facility and procedures.

**The Universal Connection – Summer At Camp**  
Were you bored this past summer? Longing for some Unitarian connection with other youth/adults? Well, I found fulfillment in a fun filled week located in a beautiful region of upstate New York. This summer, I went to a camp called Camp Unirondack in Lowville, New York. Coming from Prairie where the youth group has about five members at a good meeting, it was at first overwhelming being surrounded by over 50 teens, not restricted to, but mostly Unitarians.

When I got there on a Saturday, looking lost and not knowing where to go, during free time, an incredibly friendly group of kids took me into their group, no questions asked. I was only at the camp for a total of three days. (I was backpacking for 5 days in the Adirondacks with five kids and three leaders from the camp for the rest of the time), but those three days were enough for me to want to go back every summer. It was such a warm atmosphere of friendly, unique teens and extremely understanding adults.

Some highlights were two workshops a day, with free time in between to sail, play ultimate frisbee, do arts, crafts, etc. The week I was there they scheduled people from Amnesty International leading morning workshops. Other perks include wish night, (at which every camper gets a wish granted by another camper, no matter how odd; imagination is a key factor), a talent show, a dance, and a lodge sleep over, where the whole camp on the last night can stay up all night.

Over the course of the summer, the camp offers sessions for all different ages, including a family camp at the end of the summer. I will definitely be returning next summer, and I have only the best to say about the strong friendships and great times that I had while I was there.

-Katrina Schroeder

### **Kudos**

The Fans Went Wild

Thanks to the efforts of Al Nettleton, Rick Ruecking and Rick Owen, Prairie is equipped with ceiling fans to cool us in the summer and circulate warm air in the winter. We are most appreciative.

## **RSVP/You're Invited – The Social Events Calendar**

### **For Those Who Like to Read**

Plan on lunch with folks interested in starting a book club on September 10 after the program. If you can't attend the luncheon, call Barb Park (273-8775) or Mary Mullen (238-7904) to express your interest.

### **September 23: Playreaders Get-Together**

The Prairie Playreaders will meet for a spaghetti/lasagna dinner at the home of Pat Watkins, 230 N. Meadow Lane, at 6:30 pm on Saturday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. Discussion will include plans, plays, hosts and dates for the coming church year. After dinner, there will be a reading of a short play. Pat will supply the main course, and others are asked to R.S.V.P. and sign up to bring an adjunct dish. Food to complement the main meal are beverages, snacks, dessert, garlic bread, and salad. Please respond by Sept. 17th by leaving a message at 233-5795 or e-mail [pwatkins@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:pwatkins@facstaff.wisc.edu).

### **September 27: Spanish Speakers Potluck**

The Spanish Speakers plan to meet at Audrey Shomos home, 134 Grove St., Evansville, WI, (608) 882- 4070 on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. All are welcome. If possible, bring a dish to share. For any additional information, call Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382.

Prairie UU Society Fall Retreat at Bethel Horizons Center, October 13-15:

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can drive \_\_\_ others

Need a ride \_\_\_

Need scholarship: \_\_\_

Accommodations: (All require bedding and towels, and soap. All have heat, electricity and showers, except cabins & campground. Children =12 years of age and under)

**Prairie Center:** (4-5/room, private disability-accessible bathrooms) (36 beds total)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_\_ x \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$21 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

Children: 2 nights # \_\_\_ x \$20 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$10.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

**Barn Retreat Center:** (26 single beds, shared bathrooms)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_\_ x \$34 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$18 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

Children: 2 nights # \_\_\_ x \$17 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$9 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

**Farmhouse/Bunkhouse Center:** (18 single beds, shared bathrooms)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_\_ x \$32 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$17 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

Children: 2 nights # \_\_\_ x \$16 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

1 night: # \_\_\_ x \$8.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

Staff Cabins (8 x 4) 8.00 per person per night: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Camping (\$3.50/person or \$10/family per night): \$ \_\_\_\_.

Total accommodations: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Meals: Saturday breakfast: # \_\_\_ x \$3.75 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (adults)

Saturday lunch: # \_\_\_ x \$4.75 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (adults)

Saturday dinner: # \_\_\_ x \$5.75 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (adults)

Sunday breakfast: # \_\_\_ x \$3.75 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (adults)

**Adults All Meals # \_\_\_ x \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_.**

Saturday breakfast: # \_\_\_ x \$1.90 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (children)

Saturday lunch: # \_\_\_ x \$2.40 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (children)

Saturday dinner: # \_\_\_ x \$2.90 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (children)

Sunday breakfast: # \_\_\_ x \$1.90 = \$ \_\_\_\_ (children)

**Children All Meals # \_\_\_ x \$9.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_.**

Total meals: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Vegetarian Option \_\_\_ (✓ if desired)

Donations for scholarship: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Total sent: \$ \_\_\_\_.

(Make checks payable to Prairie UU Society)

**Deadline: Registrations must be received by mail at Prairie or phoned to Marilyn Ruecking at Prairie by Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Assignment of rooms/beds will be done on a first-come, first-served basis.**