

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.



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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.

May 24, 2001

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>

President: Erin Bosch (608) 238-6285

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

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, May 27

There will be no service at the Prairie Meeting House. Instead, join the picnic!

11:30am-2:30pm

Memorial Day Picnic at the Lawrence/Haq home.
See UPCOMING for details.



Sunday, June 3

10:00am

“Healthy Congregations and Conflict”, a continuation of the lay ministry, led by Larry Nahlik.

Sunday, June 10

10:00am

Outdoor service at Margaret's Council Ring at the UW Arboretum
After Service

Book club discussion of R.L.'s DREAM
by Walter Mosley.

Tuesday, June 12

6:30pm

Spanish Speakers Potluck at the Dorney/Fast Residence, 4205 Odana Rd, 238-4382. (See RSVP for details.)

Saturday, June 16

Lunch at "Pieces of Eight" and a tour of the Georgia O'Keeffe exhibit at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

See flyer on bulletin board or phone Pat Watkins at 233-5795. \$50 due by May 28th.

Sunday, June 17

10:00am

“UU’s Advocating for Sexuality Education” presented by Robin Carre, a continuation of his lay ministry dealing with the OWL program.

11:45am

Prairie Women’s Group meets downstairs. Bring a snack to pass and enjoy the company of other women.

Sunday, June 24

10:00am

Solstice Program, led by Bev Cann and Karen Lucas.

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is
Sunday, June 3, 2001**

Note: During the months of June, July and August, the Prairie Fire will only be published once a month. Please submit your articles for the entire month on June 3, July 1 and August 5.

DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 27: 11:30-2:30

OUR SOCIETY

Memorial Day Picnic at the Lawrence-Haq home

There will be NO PROGRAM at Prairie. Instead, all are invited to Prairie's annual Memorial Day Sunday Picnic Potluck at the Cindy Haq and Bob Lawrence home, just west of Verona from 11:30-2:30. There will be opportunity for picnicking, games, socializing, or enjoying the scenic view. What to bring:

- Drinks to share.
- A dish to pass.
- Your picnic plates & flatware & napkins.
- Something upon which to sit – a lawn chair or blanket (Also, folding tables if you have them).
- Frisbees or other lawn games.

How to get there:

Take Highway 18/151 west towards Mount Horeb. You will bypass Verona. Watch carefully for green highway signs indicating distance to Mt Horeb. When you see a sign indicating “Mt. Horeb, 7 miles”, look at your odometer and when you have traveled 0.85 miles beyond this sign, take the second left turn on **Spring Rose Circle**. Our house is the second on the right (2444). (Note: if you reach Highway J, you’ve passed up the turn.) Park in the circle and walk down to 2444. Call 845-8065 if you have any questions. See you on Sunday.

Sunday, June 3

Healthy Congregations and Conflict

Join Larry Nahlik as he discusses what we know about our congregation and what lies ahead.

Sunday, June 10

Can You Hear Nature’s Call ?

Are you inspired by nature? Would you like to share your inspiration with Prairie at the UW Arboretum? Prairie's outdoor service this summer will be held at Margaret's Council Ring at the arboretum, a lovely prairie setting. If you have ideas for how we can come together in spirit and would like to *lead* this service, please contact Paula Pachciarz of the Program Committee at 273-4806 or pachwack@chorus.net .



RE Musings

Pre-School

Our attendance still can vary from one to six children. We always manage to do fun things, however. We thought about our church community by making two-dimensional chalices. We spoke about interconnectedness by making structures that connected marshmallows and toothpicks!

K-2nd

We talked about how babies are created and how they grow inside a mother’s uterus. We told our own stories about our “babyhoods”. Such as what we remembered and felt.

3rd – 5th

We continued our fascinating exploration of sexual health, OWL style! We acted out a very entertaining “Fact or Fiction” game.

6th – 8th

Using “meeting of the minds” role playing, we had a great time learning about peace and justice issues through the ideas of William Howard Taft, Julia Ward Howe, Mary Livermore, and Allan Ballou, all UU’s. We also played a board game that opened our eyes to institutional racism.

High School

We continued our discussions of relationships and ideas for ways to make them mutually beneficial. How does one become a “negotiating and consenting” adult? How to determine if a relationship has become abusive to one or both parties? Good questions to ponder.

Service Sunday

We had a great time raising money for the Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and the Allied Drive Eviction Protection Fund. For WIILPF, we auctioned off an original audio tape by Kate Skog, two special photos of Brian Kuzdas and 17 original “peace paintings” by younger RE members. We collected \$25. The 6-8th graders sold ALL their baked goods to benefit Allied Drive! No crumbs left by Prairie’s baked goods gourmets.

The Grand Finale

RE ended for this school year with 1) a great picnic of good food and Erin Bosch's good games; and 2) a thoughtful TRANSITIONS service in which 8th graders, graduating seniors, and hard-working RE teachers were recognized! We'll be back in the fall to contemplate "World Religions" !

June 10

Outdoor service at Margaret's Council Ring

We'll meet at the UW Arboretum at 10am and end the service at 11:30. Margaret's Council Ring is just a few easy steps off the main parking lot. You may bring cushions but *no chairs*, please.

What Do I Do With My Prairie Pledge?

You can put it in the collection basket at the Sunday service or mail it to Susan Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd, Madison, 53705 or mail it to the Meeting House, 2010 Whenona Dr, 53711. Your contributions keep Prairie alive. And, bear in mind during the summer months, we also need your pledges to pay the bills so please don't wait till September to give us your pledge.

We Wish Rachel A Speedy Recovery

Rachel Siegfried is now in Middleton Village recuperating from an intestinal bacterial infection. Rachel is in good spirits but is also experiencing some discomfort. Paula, Karl and Judy have paid a visit and wanted to share their concerns with the congregation. To reach Rachel at Middleton Village, call 831-8300 and ask for extension 3064. Her room number is 83. We all hope she gets well soon.

Hospitality

The Society has a few regular activities for which we need help at each Sunday service. Thanks to all who have helped in the past and to those signed up for the following dates:

June 3

Coffee set-up	Judy Skog
Greeting	K.K. Anderson
Program taping	?
Kitchen and cleanup	Aileen Nettleton
	Galen Smith
Mow	Al Nettleton

June 10 - Arboretum

Mow Doug Hendrix

June 17

Coffee set-up	Barb Park
Greeting	Bev Cann
Program taping	Bob Park ?
Kitchen and cleanup	Rosemary Dorney ?

Mow Mike Briggs

June 24

Coffee set-up	Paula Pachciarz
Greeting	Mary Somers
Program taping	Paula Pachciarz
Kitchen and cleanup	Andy Somers
	Mary Somers
Mow	Andy Somers

Many hands make light work. We depend on our volunteers .

Four Ways to Tell If Your e-Mail Is A Hoax

Do you usually accept your e-mail without looking too closely or suspiciously at its contents. Judy Skog's brother has provided a list of criteria for evaluating forwarded mail. He usually gets about one hoax a month from well-meaning individuals.

If an e-mail has the following characteristics, be on your guard:

- * It is forwarded and has an extensive trail of people forwarding it to others.
- * It claims some problem or opportunity, outrageous but almost plausible, often with pseudo-scientific terms, usually with some dire consequence or unbelievable windfall.
- * It cites a well recognized "expert" such as Bill Gates, the Federal Government, various college professors, or a well known company.
- * And, it requests you to forward it to "everyone".

Every e-mail he has received which meets the above criteria have been hoaxes. People don't write that way normally, so if it's similar to the above, *be very suspicious.*



IHN Thanks It's Volunteers

We received a note from Midvale Lutheran Church expressing a warm and heartfelt thanks to all who helped support the families during their stay. They're pleased that they now have a full time caseworker who can advise the families on parenting skills, life skills and communication skills. They also have a volunteer financial advisor.

The people at Prairie who helped make this week a success are Paula Pachciarz, Doug Hendrix, Sherrie Gates-Hendrix, Ann Urbanski, Richard and Erin Bosch, Orange Schroeder, Rick and Marilyn Ruecking, Barbara Rames. Kathy Helm and Gary Georgi.

Our next opportunity to host is October 14-21. Mark your calendars.

THE COMMUNITY

June 2, 9am-5pm: A DayLong Workshop With Nancy Vedder-Shults

On Saturday, June 2nd, at FUS, 900 University Bay Drive, join Nancy as she conducts a daylong workshop entitled "A Council of All Beings". In this communal ritual, our human identity is set aside in order to speak on behalf of other life forms. Using story, song, mask-making and visualization, Nancy will guide you to reestablishing your kinship with other beings and to reconnect with Gaia. Cost is \$30. Send your name and address with check made out to FUS, to Per Kielland-Lund, 1017 Drake St., Madison, 53715. For more information call Nancy at 231-3362. This event is sponsored by the WSpR Circle of FUS.

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 Al Nettleton, 238-6053.

Allied Drive Food Pantry

Reminder: The collection box for the food pantry at Allied Drive is back. Also, we are trying out a second collection box for the Joining Forces for Families organization in the Allied Drive neighborhood. You are encouraged to donate diapers, baby formula and toiletries to this organization. Both boxes are in the foyer.

RSVP/You're Invited – The Social Events Calendar

June 10, After Service

Read the Book. Join the Discussion!

Join the Prairie Book Club for a discussion of "R.L.'s Dream" by Walter Mosley. Bring finger food to pass. All are welcome. For more information, call Mary Mullen 238-7904.

June 12, 6:30: Spanish Speakers Potluck

You're invited to join the Spanish Speakers on Tuesday, June 12 at the home of Rosemary Dorney and Tim Fast, 4205 Odana Rd. Bring a dish to share if you can. All are welcome. If you have any questions or need a ride, call Rosemary at 238-4382.

June 16: Milwaukee Art Museum

On Saturday, June 16th, Prairie will be sponsoring a trip to the newly remodeled Milwaukee Art Museum. Included is a docent led tour of the new Pavilion and a Georgia O'Keeffe exhibit entitled "O'Keeffe's O'Keeffes: the Artist's Collection." The trip features a luncheon at "Pieces of Eight" on the lakefront.

Cost is \$50, which includes entrance, tour and lunch, and is due by May 28th. Checks should be made out to Prairie UU Society, and mailed to Pat Watkins, 230 N. Meadow Lane, Madison 53705. Call Pat at 233-5795 for more information (bus stops, time frame, etc.)

Shaarei Shamayim Calendar

Tuesdays 4pm–6pm Childrens' Classes
2nd, 3rd & 4th Sat 9am–2pm Religious Service
This month's service will be on May 12, 19, 26
May 26 2-4pm Bat Mitzvah
Prairie Liaison: Bill Littman 829-1909