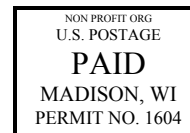


Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711- 4843  
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Located off the south Frontage Rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.



# 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.*

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**November 21, 2001**

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## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### ***Sunday, November 25***

10:00am

"Passage of Wisdom", Thanksgiving  
Intergenerational Service featuring youngsters and  
elders. Presented by Larry Nahlik.

7:00pm

Guided Meditation

### ***Thursday, November 29***

7:30pm

Prairie Orientation, "Unitarian Universalism".

### ***Sunday, December 2***

9:00am

Choir Rehearsal

10:00am

"Our Personal Encounters with Christianity"  
led by Warren Hagstrom

11:30am

Personnel Committee meeting.

7:00pm

Guided Meditation

### ***Sunday, December 9***

9:00am

Choir Rehearsal

### ***Sunday, December 9 (cont.)***

10:00am

"What Would Jesus Do?" Join Sandy Ingham in  
the  
third program of her lay ministry.

11:30am

Social Action Committee Bake Sale followed by  
Soup and Sandwich Documentary Movie.

11:45am

Discussion: "Spirituality" in Our Sunday Service  
11:45am

Open Book Club: Wallace Stegner's "Angle of  
Repose.

### ***Saturday, December 15***

7:30pm

Playreaders at Pat Watkins, 230 N. Meadow Lane.  
Please RSVP at 233-5795 if you plan to attend.

### ***Sunday, December 16***

9:00am

Choir Rehearsal

9:30am

Nifty Gifty

10:00am

"Islam"

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is  
Sunday, December 2, 2001**

## **DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

### ***Sunday, November 25, Passage of Wisdom***

#### ***Conversation with our Elders***

Learn about the lives of some of Prairie's seniors as they field questions from our children. This inter-generational program is designed to encourage dialog between the youngest Prairie members and its most senior. The kids will learn about life in "the olden days", and a panel of our seniors will give their views and remembrances, while the rest of us listen and reflect.

### ***Orientation Evening, November 29***

The Membership Committee is sponsoring another evening of orientation for new members and friends. The second session will be held on Thursday, November 29 at 7:30pm. We will discuss a short history of Unitarian Universalism and UU beliefs. You will learn Prairie history and the Society's place in the denomination. The mysteries of how Prairie works and your influence on the future of Prairie Society will be revealed.

### ***Sunday, December 2, Our Personal Encounters with Christianity***

We live in a mostly Christian society, many of us were brought up as Christians, and some of us are now Christians. But there is a vast variety of beliefs, rituals, and ethics in Christianity. What are your experiences? We'll explore them on December 2<sup>nd</sup> along with Bible readings, old-time hymns, and children's songs.

### ***December 9 Social Action Sunday***

On Sunday, December 9, immediately after the service, the recently reborn Social Action Committee will hold a bake sale to raise funds to keep it going. Lay in your supply of holiday goodies and then buy a cup of soup and/or sandwich to add to the bake sale revenue and watch a free showing of a documentary video on Afghanistan obtained from the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival. We plan on showing the tape downstairs about 11:45am.

The documentary, "Jung (War): In the Land of the Mujaheddin", was filmed in 1999 and 2000. It is in Dari and Italian with English subtitles, and is 114 min. long. It tells the story of an Italian surgeon and a war correspondent who joined forces to set up a hospital in this war torn country. This film showing is an important educational opportunity, not entertainment. Be forewarned: the film contains many harsh and graphic scenes- viewer discretion is advised.

If you would like to bake something to contribute, please contact Paula Pachciarz or Bob or Barb Park.

### ***Spirituality, Anyone?***

I'm interested in exploring what Prairie people mean when we say we want more spirituality in our Sunday services. Please meet with me for a short time after the service on December 9 to share what spirituality means to you. I might be interested in doing a service to explain to the congregation what we mean by spirituality, using some of the ideas we generate. I will also compile our ideas for the Program Committee's use. If you can't come to the meeting, email or phone me, please, so your voice will be heard. Judy Skog, 273-4813 or [jaskog@tds.net](mailto:jaskog@tds.net)

### ***Open Book Club Meets Downstairs***

Sun., Dec. 9 - ANGLE OF REPOSE, a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Wallace Stegner, is the magnificent story of four generations in the life of an American family. A wheelchair-bound retired historian embarks on a monumental quest: to come to know his grandparents, now long dead. The unfolding drama of the story of the American West sets the tone for Stegner's masterpiece. 569 pages. We'll meet after the Sunday service.

## **OUR SOCIETY**

### ***Happy Birthday, Marian***

Marian Thompson is celebrating her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday November 23 with her family. Congratulations and best wishes!

### ***News from Osh Andersen***

Osh has a new phone number: 238-3372. She also has moved to Eagle Heights and is enjoying her new digs.

### **The RE Journey continues...**

#### ***The High School Class***

We had a guest. She is a practicing Hindu, a colleague of Rachel Long's. We really enjoyed what she had to say. Thanks, Rachel and Rick for arranging her visit.

#### ***6-8th Grade Class***

A couple of weeks ago we had a presentation on Islam by a guest. Last week we reviewed the lively presentation. We even made prayer rugs to bring "home" the ideas of Islam.

#### ***3-5th Grade Class***

We started learning about the world during Moses' time by reading "Moses in the Bullrushes" and "The Burning Bush." We made a time line of the Old Testament stories we have read so far. Very interesting!

#### ***K-2 Class***

We learned more about how we are all very connected to the animals of the earth by talking about the Christian feast of St. Francis of Assisi. He was a true animal lover. To experience this interconnectedness we each pretended we were an animal and entangled ourselves in a web of yarn! To give thanks for this connection we made bird feeders from pinecones, birdseed, and peanut butter.

#### ***Pre-School Class***

Water, water every where. Our connection to water as part of the natural world (part of Principle no. 7) was our theme. We read a water story and did some water color painting. A neat way to experience water's goodness firsthand!

#### ***Art to Lift the Spirits***

We invite Prairie artists of all ages to make the front of our meeting room more colorful! If you would like to hang any of your pictures and/or photographs for a week or two, please call

Rosemarie Lester at 255-7039 or e-mail [rklester@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:rklester@facstaff.wisc.edu) She'll assemble a roster/timetable.

### **THE COMMUNITY**

#### ***Another Opportunity to Donate Blankets for Afghani Refugees on Saturday, December 1st***

On Dec 1st, DOERS is collecting new or used (freshly washed and stain free) blankets at Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ, 1501 Gilbert Rd, Madison from 1-4PM. Twin size is best (60x80), but double are acceptable (82x90). Please select heavy, warm blankets and comforters.

They will be assembling and sewing kit bags, so if you want to help, bring material, thread and drawstrings. There will also be an art sale. If you prefer to give money, checks for food relief for Afghani refugees are also welcome and should be made out to: Mennonite Central Committee.

If you want to donate a blanket and can't get to the collection on Dec 1st, bring it to Prairie on Sunday, Nov 25<sup>th</sup>. Please leave it in your car and contact Barb or Bob Park and they will transfer it directly to their car. More information can be found on the Social Action Bulletin Board or on line at [mcc.org/respond/kits](http://mcc.org/respond/kits). Questions:- call Barb or Bob Park at 273-8775.

If people are interested in finding out more about *how to help the women of Afghanistan* look at the web page of the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan, [www.rawa.org](http://www.rawa.org)

#### ***Allied Drive-Dunn's Marsh Wish List***

One of Prairie's annual traditions is to help children from the Allied-Dunn's Marsh neighborhood fulfill their Christmas wishes. The Social Action Committee supplies a list of children's names along with their "wishes" and Prairie folk help make sure that each child sees at least one wish come true. You may want to personally pick out and wrap a gift for a particular child or you may choose to make a donation to the Social Action Committee for this project. The list will be available at upcoming Sunday services. You may also call Paula Pachciarz (273-4806) to get a name from the list.

***Fran Zell's First Book of Fiction and the IHN***  
Fran, a friend of Prairie's, will read from her published book, "The Marcy Stories" at Canterbury Booksellers on Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

In addition she'll read December 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm at the Café Zoma, 2326 Atwood Ave. Admission is by donation. *All proceeds will go to the IHN!*

***A Note from Barbara Rames***

***A Way to Give Thanks to People Who Volunteer***

"The Red Cross blood donor One-A-Week program has as its UU representative Gordon Cunningham from First Society (271-1246). He arranged for me to receive weekly reports of all UU donors, so I could thank our Prairie members. I've cancelled my name and address from the Red Cross recruiter list, but it would be best to have a new Prairie person carry on as representative. Ideally, that person would send reminders to donors' eight weeks after their donation, so they know they are eligible to give again. I didn't do that, but I did send thank-you notes to donors, and put notices in the Prairie Fire."

This is a volunteer opportunity for someone at Prairie. If you have access to e-mail, this volunteer job could be accomplished quickly. You would just obtain the e-mail addresses of the frequent donors. If you are willing to do this, please call the Red Cross and Gordon directly (and let Erin Bosch know that you are taking on this task). Thanks.

***Interweave Holiday Get-together, December 15,***

Interweave invites you to join members for a holiday night out on Saturday, December 15. We will be attending the singing ensemble Perfect Harmony's annual holiday concert at Grace Episcopal Church at 7:30 p.m. We will also be meeting for dinner before the show at the Wilson Street Grill at 6:15. All are welcome to attend; Perfect Harmony are wonderful, so if you haven't heard them sing, this is a great opportunity to celebrate the season, eat good food, and hear festive music. There is no charge for the concert, but donations will be accepted at the door. Interweave is a group of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Unitarian Universalists & their friends from all three of the Dane County UU congregations. Please call (831-9731) or email lizdann76@hotmail.com) Liz no later than

December 2 if you are interested in joining Interweave for dinner or if you have questions about the concert.

***Fair Trade Holiday Festival , Dec1, 10:00am***

Madison's fifth annual Fair Trade Holiday Festival will be held Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 10am to 4pm at the Pres House, 731 State St. (on Library Mall U.W. Campus). The event features over fifteen vendors whose products include crafts and textiles from all over the world, fair trade coffee and cheese, Nicaraguan pottery, Kenyan sculptures, musical instruments and more. Bake sale confections will be sold to support the festival sponsor, "Community Action on Latin America".

Educational displays will showcase information about fair trade, fair labor practices, and the work of social justice organizations. Santa's Sweatshop will explain the reality of what it means to buy holiday gifts in a conventional store made by people in foreign countries.

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

***Monday, December 3, 7:00pm to 9:30pm at Prairie Meeting House.***

***Living Spirit (Gabrielle's workshop):***

Attend an evening devoted to bringing your Spirit to Life--no matter what the circumstances. We will use music, movement, color, and meditation to release worry and negativity, to renew our vital spirits. Suggested cost is \$15 (and it's well worth it, says Judy). Questions? call Judy Skog 273-4813

***Play Readers***

December's meeting will be on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at Pat Watkins home, 230 N. Meadow Lane, Please RSVP at 233-5795 if you plan to attend. Newcomers are always welcome. If you would like a ride, call Susan Hagstrom at 238-4790.

<p><b><u>Shaarei Shamayim Calendar</u></b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Sat 9am–2pm Religious Sv</b> <b>December's services will be on Dec 8, 15, 22</b> <b>Saturday Dec 15, 3:00-8:30pm Hanukah Party</b></p>
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