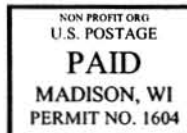


Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711-4843
(608) 271-8218 prairieu@execpc.com
Located off the south Frontage Rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.



Barbara & Bob Park
5610 HAMMERSLEY RD
MADISON WI 53711-3408



PRAIRIE FIRE

Arrived May 31

... 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.

The two most recent issues may be seen on Prairie's Web site at <http://www.execpc.com/~prairieu>

May 24, 2002

President: Ken Skog; (608) 273-4813

Editor: Wendy Williams; webet@chorus.net

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, May 26, 2002

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Memorial Day Picnic

Wednesday, May 29

7:30 p.m. Finding Your Passion in Life.

Sunday, June 2

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. "Dowsing: A History and Practical Application" by Peter Michie.
1:00 p.m. Socially Responsible Investing Class

Sunday, June 9

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. "Teaching Literacy in Prison" by Dave Johnson.
11:30 a.m. Book Club

Saturday, June 15

Prairie Fundraiser: Road trip to Milwaukee
3:00 p.m. Socially Responsible Investing Class

Sunday, June 16

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. Summer Outdoor Service at Picnic Point

Wednesday, June 19

6:30 p.m. Spanish Speakers Potluck

Sunday, June 23

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. "Sights and Insights of Laos" by Dave Zakem.

Sunday, June 30

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. "Personal reflections from G.A." by Wendy Williams.

Sunday, July 7

9:00 a.m. Choir
10:00 a.m. Independence Day Picnic. Details to be announced.

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is
Sunday, June 9, 2002**

DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 26

2:00 p.m.
Memorial Day Picnic at Rick Owens house at 2456 Spring Rose Circle in Verona. Ice Tea and Lemonade will be provided. Please bring your own food to grill and a dish to pass, your own place settings and lawn chairs or blankets, too! If you wish, you may also bring games or sports gear.

Wednesday, May 29

7:30 Finding Your Passion in Life

Join a WOW (Prairie Women's Group) meeting to explore ways to reclaim the passion in your life. Marilyn Ruecking will give a presentation based on a recent seminar she attended. We'll be participating in an exercise that helps us discover where our passion lies. Passion drives us to pursue that which matters most. Come and discover what inspires you. There's more to life than managing tasks and chores. We'll be sharing our thoughts with each other and recharging the passions in our life. All women are invited to attend.

Sunday, June 2

Peter Michie on "Dowsing: A History and Practical Application." Instruction will be given and those interested and able will be able to practice dowsing inside or out depending on the weather.

Sunday, June 9

Dave Johnson on "Teaching Literacy in Prison" Dave taught literacy and a GED diploma course at the Federal Prison in Oxford, Wisconsin for 5 years. He will share his insights and experiences.

Sunday, June 9, 11:30 a.m.

Book Club discusses FALL ON YOUR KNEES by Ann-Marie MacDonald. Be ready for many surprises in this book about a family on Cape Breton Island. Themes include music, Catholicism, class differences, racial relations, responses to a dysfunctional family. This is a 508-page book. (20% discount from Borders Book Store on University Ave.)

Saturday, June 15

Prairie Fundraiser: \$ 53 (due by May 24th) includes entrance to Boerner Rose Gardens, Milwaukee Public Museum, I-Maxx Theater and lunch. See Pat Watkins or Prairie bulletin board.

Sunday, June 16

Prairie Summer Outdoor Service at Picnic Point Details to be announced but please bring folding chairs or blankets.

Sunday, June 23

Dave Zakem on "Sights and Insights of Laos" A former Prairie member, Dave's presentation, accompanied by slides and music, will cover a range of things including Buddhism, animism, socialism, tribalism, capitalism and their influence in Laotian society and culture.

Sunday, June 30

Wendy Williams on "Personal Reflections from G.A." Our very own Prairie Administrator, who is a theology student at Meadville-Lombard in Chicago, will present a service regarding her thoughts and experiences from General Assembly in Quebec City.

Sunday, July 7

Prairie Independence Day Picnic. Details to be announced.

Sunday, July 7, 11:30 a.m.

TIM by Colleen McCullough will be discussed by the Book Club. Erin Bosch says this is a rather uplifting story, which is set in Australia and involves a middle-aged woman and a younger man. (20% discount from Borders Book Store on University Ave.)

OUR SOCIETY

Photos from the Maypole

Dorothy Krause took photographs of the festivities on May 19, 2002 around the Maypole. She has thoughtfully posted them on the web at <http://www.tutones.com/prairie/maypole/>.

R.E. Corner

High School: We have completed our formal study of Asian religions. We are now engaging in a more personal journey. Each week, one of us would lead an experience based on our acquired knowledge of one of the religions we studied this year. THANKS Rick, Dean, Judy, Kate, and Eleanor for your faithful attendance this year.

6-8: Learning the ways of Orthodox Christianity is our pursuit these days...

3-5: More on the teachings of Jesus and how Jesus' wisdom can help us choose what's important. We made pinwheels with one of his teachings written on each petal of the wheel. We proceeded to send these messages "to the wind," a la Buddhist prayer flags.

K-2: We took on two very important ideas: the birth of the Jewish homeland and Shavot, a time to do right. (What's the right thing to do now, people of Israel?) We talked about how import home is to all of us, just as it is to the Jewish people. We then asked ourselves: If having a home is important then shouldn't the Palestinians have one too? To make these ideas more real we: Had a short geography and history lesson on the Middle East, danced the hora, and acted out the life of Aaron David Gordon, one of the grand men of Israel. We delved into the idea of Shavot: When are laws needed and when aren't they needed (when we're following UU principles!)? We had great fun learning about Moses and the Ten Commandments (laws?!) as we colored pictures of venerable Moses and his Tablets!

Pre-school: Wow, did we ever get connected in the web with our animal friends! We read about Andy the Shy Elephant and, of course, our old buddy The Lorax!

Summer is coming

Despite the slightly cooler temperature, heat, humidity, and mosquitoes will soon be upon us. As most of you know, that means the Prairie Fire will come out only once per month. Please try to forecast ahead as far as possible for what you might need to put in the newsletter. The deadline will be the first Sunday of each month.

Apologies to those of you whose newsletters get to them later than they would like. The Prairie Fire is mailed on Thursday. While it consistently gets to your editor's home on Friday, it seems many of you west side and out-lying area folk, to not get it until early the next week.

Next fall, the deadline will be adjusted to promote delivery before the weekend. Additionally, the for those of you with computers, please check our website to view the most current edition. Al Nettleton now posts it, though soon I will take that over and it will be posted as it is being printed.

Opportunities

Call for Submissions

There is an anthology for Living Spiritually in a Consumer Society to be published by Pudding House Publications in Ohio. Editor: Nita Penfold. We are a people who consume, i.e. "use up, waste, destroy, squander." And we have come to a time where our consumption is destroying the very home we take for granted, Earth. We're looking for poems, short stories or personal essay (1-3 pages), depicting people acting on tough decisions in this consumer got-to-have-what-I-want-when-I-want-it culture. Possible topics: Media monopoly, pollution and contamination, recycling, cost-effective habits good for environment, health, 7th generation perspective, sustaining the spirit in urban settings, children and consumerism, how we can make a difference and stay spiritually grounded, and other ideas. See www.puddinghouse.com for general writer's guidelines. Payment: one copy of the book for each published poem, essay, or story. Deadline: July 1, 2002.

E-mail penfold5@hotmail.com with submission in body of message (include address and phone number) or snail mail to Nita Penfold, 135 Highland Ave. Winthrop MA 02152 with two #10 SASEs.

Summer child-care opportunities at Prairie

Asmita and Ritika, who have provided friendly and reliable child care in Prairie's nursery the past few months, will not be in Madison during June. This means that we need volunteers to sign up to care for any younger children who might attend or visit during the five Sundays in June -- June 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. Prairie youth (grades 7 and up) will be paid \$10; adults get to donate their time. We will also need one person (adult or teen) per week during the summer to supervise children in grades K-5 who come to Prairie with their parents and

choose not to attend the service. I will start a sign-up sheet at Prairie on June 2nd. Please contact Anne Urbanski, email urbana@charter.net, or phone 221-4053, to volunteer. Thank you!

RSVP/You're Invited
The Social Events Calendar

Prairie Memorial Day Picnic
Sunday, May 26 10 a.m. till 2 p.m.
At Rick Owen's and Amy Wilcox house, 2546 Spring Rose Circle, Verona (next door to Bob Lawrence and Cindy Haq's house).

DIRECTIONS:
Take Verona Road/151 and drive 2 miles past the Cty G exit (do not get off at exit) turn left onto Spring Rose Circle. (Be careful not to take Spring Rose Rd!) This turn is directly off Verona Road-not at an exit.

- WHAT TO BRING:**
- 1) Please bring a dish to pass for the potluck
 - 2) There will be a grill so you may also bring your own food to grill if you like.
 - 3) Please bring folding chairs or blankets.
 - 4) Please bring your own table settings.
 - 5) You may bring balls or lawn games

ALREADY PROVIDED:
Rick and Amy will have iced tea and lemonade for all to enjoy!

See you there!

**UU GLBTs and Their Friends and Allies/
Summer Concert Series**

Interweave, the GLBT organization for the three UU congregations in Dane County, invites new members to share their ideas and bring their unique contributions to the group.

Interweave's philosophy is that when people meet and get to know each other as fellow human beings, fellowship, friendship, and trust result. Interweave organizes social events, plans educational opportunities and participates in community activities.

Join us for a potluck before the first summer concert of American Music featuring Womonsong and Perfect Harmony, gay and lesbian-inspired choral groups will present this benefit for the Homeless on Friday night, June 7th, at 8:00 p.m.

E-mail Liz at lizdann76@hotmail.com or call Diana Vezmar-Bailey at 233-9774 if you are interested in either of these events or want more information about Interweave.

Spanish Speakers Potluck

Join us for the Spanish Speakers potluck at the home of Amy Schulz, 2304 S. Syene Road, on Wednesday, June 19th at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass or come anyway. If you need a ride or have questions please call Amy at 273-2639 or Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382.

Shaarei Shamayim Calendar
2nd, 3rd & 4th Sat 9am-2pm. Upcoming Religious Services will be on June 8, 15, and 22.
Prairie Liaison: Bill Littman 829-1909