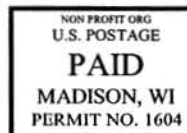


Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711-4843
(608) 271-8218 prairieu@execpc.com
Located off the south Frontage Rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.

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



PRAIRIE FIRE

... 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>

July 12, 2002

President: Ken Skog; (608) 273-4813

Editor: Wendy Williams; webet@chorus.net

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, July 14

10:00 a.m. Summer Reading: Book Reviews --
Moderated by Mary Mullen.

Sunday, July 21

10:00 a.m. Sing and Rejoice: A Prairie Sing-Along
with Doleta Chapru.
11:30 a.m. Prairie Women's Group—WOW—
Open discussion.

Sunday, July 28

10:00 a.m. Sauk City Joint Service at FCSC, Sauk
City, followed by a potluck.

Sunday, August 4

10:00 a.m. "Forgiveness" presented by Amy Owen.

Wednesday, August 7

7:30 WOW "Meditation"

Sunday, August 11 To be announced.

Sunday, August 18

10:00 a.m. Travelogue from Thailand by Larry
Nahlik.
11:30 WOW – Open Discussion.

Saturday, August 24

1:00 p.m. Playreaders Organization Potluck
Luncheon at Pat Watkins' home.

Sunday, August 25

10 a.m. Social Justice presented by Nancy Graham.

Sunday, September 1

Canoe Trip coordinated by Warren Hagstrom.

Sunday, September 8

10:00 a.m. INGATHERING SERVICE

Sunday, September 15

10:00 a.m. John Nichols presents . . . (details to
follow).

Saturday, September 21

Fundraising trip to the Milwaukee Art Museum.

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is
Sunday, August 4, 2002**

DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 14

10:00 a.m. Summer Reading: Book Reviews --
Moderated by Mary Mullen. Please share short
personal reviews on a book you have enjoyed. You
will have a chance to speak about nonfiction or
fiction. After the service, if you like, you can bring

books to lend to each other.

Sunday, July 21

10:00 a.m. Sing and Rejoice: A Prairie Sing-Along. Singers of all ages are welcome to raise the rafters with joyous song. No special talent needed. Listeners and chortling babies also welcome.

We will use the "Rise Up Singing" books purchased with the Odell Talieferro memorial fund. Tally harmonized many a tune with his rich voice. He also entertained us with his quick wit and interacted with friends and neighbors in many thoughtful ways. There is no better way to honor him than having a rousing sing-along.

If you own a copy of the songbook, please bring it. We also welcome folk instrumentalists who play by chords or by ear.

Sunday, July 28

10:00 a.m. Sauk City Joint Service at FCSC, Sauk City, followed by a potluck. The topic this year is "Our Response to skeptical, disillusioned Americans in search for a new religion in a troubled world". This is a combined service including James Reeb and First Society as well.

Sunday, August 4

10:00 a.m. "Forgiveness" presented by Amy Owen who is writing her dissertation on Forgiveness and will share her insights on that topic. Amy is a member of James Reeb and attended the conference on Racism in South Africa this winter.

11:30 a.m. Prairie Book Club discusses Anne Tyler's
BACK WHEN WE WERE GROWN UP.

Sunday, August 11 To be announced.

Sunday, August 18

10:00 a.m. Travelogue from Thailand by Larry Nahlik. Larry will present a slide show and travelogue from his trip to Thailand, where he also made a side trip to deliver supplies to schools in Cambodia, as part of an assistance program by the Khmer Association of Wisconsin.

Sunday, August 25

10 a.m. Social Justice presented by Nancy Graham.

Sunday, September 1

Canoe Trip coordinated by Warren Hagstrom.

Sunday, September 8

10:00 a.m. INGATHERING SERVICE. Think of your friends at Prairie as you travel this summer and bring back a vial of water (film canisters work well) to participate in our water homecoming service. Share your story from your summer travels as we mingle the water into a common urn. Oceans, rivers, streams, lakes and backyard swimming pools--all of these count. This service will be combined with the introduction of our children enrolled in the RE program.

Sunday, September 15

10:00 a.m. John Nichols presents . . . (details to follow).

OUR SOCIETY

Join our Caring Committee

Prairie's Caring Committee is inviting people to join. One of the core values identified by Prairie members was outreach to those who need assistance. After listening to the ideas of several people, it looks like the Caring Committee will be primarily involved in keeping track of members' needs and in serving as a link between those who need assistance and the larger Prairie body. The committee members may provide some assistance (such as notes and cards, hospital or home visits, telephone calls, food, rides, etc.) but will also request involvement from other Prairie members. There will be one meeting to organize, but I anticipate no additional meetings. Ideally, we will have a diverse group (newer members/ longtime members; men/women, etc.) who can respond to our diverse membership. If you would like to join us, please contact Linda Sheehy at 273-3895 or lindasuzannels@aol.com.

Are YOU an R.E. Class Leader?

Wanted for Fall 2002 through Spring 2003 - A few generous adults willing to share themselves and their time with young people, as leaders (teachers)

for Prairie's religious education classes. Prairie's RE program uses a three-year rotation of themes; the coming year's theme is UU Identity. Our RE program has multi-age classes: pre-kindergarten (ages 3-4-5), Kindergarten-1st-2nd grade, 3rd-4th-5th grade, and 6th-7th-8th grade. We have approximately 25-27 "classroom sessions" during the school year. Class leaders work in pairs, alternating weeks in the classroom, using established UU curricula geared to those age groups. At the present time we need leaders for all classes, especially the pre-K and K-1-2 groups. If you enjoy working with children and want to help them learn more about Unitarian Universalism through games, songs, arts and crafts, and other fun activities, why not volunteer to help lead an R.E. class? Please contact Anne Urbanski at 221-4053 or Kristi Sprague-Klepzig (DRE) 278-1975 for more information.

Art at Prairie

I think the Prairie "wall carpet" is bare again! Who will hang or tack upsome pictures? Children's and young people's art especially welcome. Please call Rosemarie Lester at 255 7039 if you're willing to bring something, so I cancoordinate. There have been many positive comments on the project.

Work with Homeless Families this Month

The next Interfaith Hospitality Network shift is June 16-23. Prairie is a participant in the Madison IHN, which is organized by Madison churches to provide housing and services for homeless families. Prairie is one of the "buddy churches" that helps Midvale Lutheran, the "host church", which houses the families for 8 days. We can do our part by providing food, sharing meals, spending time with the parents and their children, helping with laundry, etc. This is a great opportunity for Prairie families to work together in a service activity. There are many ways individuals can serve, also. If you would like to sign up to help or find out more information, contact Paula Pachciarz at 273-4806 or email her at pachwack@chorus.net

FOR YOUR DIRECTORY

Changes to the Directory:

Jody Bearman's e-mail:

Jodybearman@hotmail.com
Barbara Chatterton's new e-mail:
bchatter10@charter.net
Cindy Haq & Bob Lawrence - change e-mail:
boblawr@hotmail.com
Brian Kuzdas' e-mail:
bkuzdas@hotmail.com
Daisy and John Peterson's snail mail address is
same as Rachel Long/Martin Arnold.
Taku Ronsman's new e-mail:
tronsman@charter.net>

Additions to the Directory:

Dorothy Krause
Dorothy Krause
2105 Apache Drive
Madison, WI 53711
271-7532
DorothyK@charter.net

Sarah Lord & Daniel Stein
1667 Capital Ave., #16
Madison, WI 53705
233-1518
mtslord@yahoo.com

Dan & Robin Proud
114 Glen Highway
Madison, WI 53705
661-0776
prouds@tds.net

Opportunities

Fundraising Trip to the Milwaukee Art Museum

On Saturday, September 21st, we will leave Madison at approximately 8 a.m. to arrive at the museum in time to see the wings open at 10 a.m. (weather permitting), then view the Leonardo Da Vinci painting "Lady with the Ermine," plus 77 other paintings borrowed from museums and private collections in Poland. We will have lunch at the Boulevard Inn before returning to Madison in the early evening. Cost is \$50, including transportation,

museum tickets and lunch. Deadline for paid reservations is August 9th. Call Pat Watkins at 233-5795 and see flyer on Society's bulletin board.

Playreaders Organizational Potluck Luncheon

On Saturday, August 24th at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Pat Watkins, 230 N. Meadow Lane (one block east of Hilldale Mall) there will be a luncheon to organize Playreaders for the coming year. Pat will supply brats, burgers, franks, condiments and coffee. Please RSVP (233-5795) and sign up for one of the following: hamburger buns, frankfurter buns, desert, alternate drinks, snacks, side dish, or salad. Bring your calendars, as we will be choosing our meeting dates for the year, play suggestions and theater parties.

The Playreaders is one of the Prairie groups which meet socially and consists of people who have a mutual interest, but not necessarily talent or experience in theater. There is no "homework," that is, we do not memorize parts, nor are we expected to have read the play in advance (except for each month's host/hostess). We meet once a month in the home of a different member, and that person chooses the play, assigns the parts, and provides refreshments for intermission time. You attend only those meetings you are able to come to and there is no pressure to attend regularly. Several of our meetings, such as this potluck luncheon, our theater parties, and the spring annual fish dinner are open to any Prairie members who wish to attend. Please feel free to join us on the 24th, and find out what we are all about.

RSVP/You're Invited
The Social Events Calendar

INTERWEAVE TO SPONSOR GLBT SPIRITUALITY STUDY GROUP

This past Spring, Interweave (the GLBT affinity group for the three UU congregations in Dane County) co-sponsored with the FUS Adult Religious

Education Committee, a class on gay and lesbian spirituality based on readings from GLBT writers and supporters. Discussions were led by ministers at FUS. This class was enthusiastically received. It gave eight men and eight women a chance to compare their experience of religion and GLBT spirituality with those of the writers and the rest of the discussion group.

Many participants of the original Gay and Lesbian Spirituality class expressed a desire to continue meeting. Interweave is pleased to announce that we are making a commitment to sponsor the continuation of a GLBT Spirituality Study Group along the same format and flavor of the original class. Tentatively, the new group would begin later this summer or early this fall and would be an on-going group rather than a 3-meeting classlike the first one.

A project team currently comprised of four original class members, including Interweave Steering Committee members, has determined that at least half the original class is committed to a continued participation in the study group. Additional group members are welcome.

The Interweave project team invites anyone interested in learning more about or participating in this new GLBT Spirituality Study Group to contact Mary Mullen (298-0843 or mmullen@chorus.net) or Colin Robertson colinr@chorus.net.

Interweave invites new people to join us 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.

Shaarei Shamayim Calendar
2nd, 3rd & 4th Sat 9am-2pm. Upcoming Religious Services will be on August 10, 17 & 24th.
Prairie Liaison: Bill Littman 829-1909