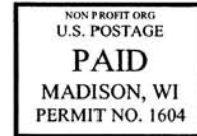


Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive Madison WI 53711- 4843  
(608) 271-8218 prairieu@execpc.com  
Located off the south Frontage Rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.



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>*

**August 9, 2002**

President: Ken Skog; (608) 273-4813

Editor: Wendy Williams; [webet@chorus.net](mailto:webet@chorus.net); (608) 249-7703

## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### Sunday, August 11

10:00 a.m. "Recycling and Perils" by Peter Anderson.

### Sunday, August 18

10:00 a.m. "A Charitable Visit to Angkor" 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. "Getting ALL the News: Alternatives to the Mainstream" presented by Nancy Graham.

### Sunday, September 1

NO SERVICE AT MEETING HOUSE  
10:00 a.m. Canoe Trip at Wingra Park  
12:00 p.m. Picnic at Wingra Park

### Sunday, September 8

10:00 a.m. INGATHERING SERVICE  
11:30 a.m. Book Club "A River out of Eden" by John Hockenberry.  
1:30 p.m. CSS High Holy Day service

### Monday, September 9

7:30 p.m. WOW—Nancy Graham facilitates a discussion of the Bishop Spong reading.

### Sunday, September 15

10:00 a.m. John Nichols presents "Reclaiming Our Civil Liberties."  
11:30 a.m. WOW—Open Discussion.

### Saturday, September 21

Fundraising trip to the Milwaukee Art Museum.

### October 4-6

Prairie Fall Retreat!

**Next Prairie Fire deadline is  
Sunday, September 1, 2002**

## DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, August 11** "Recycling and Perils" by Peter Anderson. Peter has a lot of expertise about recycling. Please join us for this interesting and thought-provoking program.

### Sunday, August 18

10:00 a.m. "A Charitable Visit to Angkor" 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. "Getting ALL the News: Alternatives to the Mainstream" presented by Nancy Graham.

Although continuing to believe that this program is of greater need for UUs in the deep south than in Madison, it's likely to be a fun and informative discussion here as well. A short discussion on the enormous limitations on current media (print and broadcast), and where else we might look to become informed citizens. Bring your own favorites to discuss (and perhaps trade?). We'll touch only lightly on websites, remembering that not everyone has access to them.

### **Sunday, September 1**

There isn't a service at the Prairie Meeting House. Instead we will meet at WINGRA PARK at 10am for a canoe outing on Lake Wingra, followed by a picnic about noon. To get there, take Monroe Street to Knickerbocker, go south toward the lake and the Park. The Park has a boat ramp and rents canoes, which can supplement the canoes our members bring. Bring a picnic lunch for yourself and your household, but we will also share. We will have canoes and people available to give instructions about paddle strokes and other canoe skills (such as what to do when your canoe tips over). If you can help in teaching and/or sharing a canoe, please call Warren Hagstrom at 238-4970. (Warren knows nothing about kayaks, but if you have one and can teach, please do.) Come and join the fun. Everyone is welcome. In case of inclement weather, stay home, but a little drizzle isn't "inclement."

### **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.

11:30 Book Club discusses John Hockenberry's "A River out of Eden."

1:30 CSS Service for High Holy Days

### **Sunday, September 15**

10:00 a.m. John Nichols presents "Reclaiming our Civil Liberties." This summer's UU General Assembly challenged members across the nation to "Stand up and reclaim the civil liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights." The Assembly's concerns included unrestrained executive power, the 2001 Patriot Act and privacy violations. Most of these concerns are executive power grabs that should come as no surprise given the rights infringements of the presidential election. Now we have a proposed Homeland Security legislation, endorsed by the House and under consideration by the Senate, that gives the executive branch unprecedented power over enormous amounts of tax dollars. Debates rage in Congress over the right of the President to declare war without advice and consent of our elected representatives. John Nichols, Associate Editor of The Capital Times and contributor to The Nation, addresses infringements on our civil liberties and suggests positive action we can take to reclaim them. This is the first service in Doleta Chapru's lay ministry on social justice.

### **THINGS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED**

Judy Skog was asked to publish the affirmations used for the August 4 service on yoga and the first chakra. These are from the book The Sevenfold Journey. Each sentence is a separate statement. Ground yourself and say one (or all) out loud. Notice how good your body feels afterward. If it's too weird to say them out loud, think each one in your head a couple times as you breath deeply.

Welcome to the world, I've been waiting for you.  
I'm so glad you're here.  
It is very safe here.  
I've prepared a special place for you.  
All your needs will be provided.  
You have a wonderful body.  
You are absolutely unique and necessary.

## OUR SOCIETY

### What is WOW?

This is a group for the purpose of FUN and FRIENDSHIP. Every input and opinion is welcome! Women of any age are welcome! We intend to live and grow over a long happy time! We plan to meet on a Monday each month, this fall, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a wide range of issues and have fun at the same time. Watch the Prairie calendar for topics and meeting times. We also will continue to meet the third Sunday of the month after Prairie Sunday service.

All meetings are at Prairie. Bring a friend.

### Book Club Schedule

Sunday, September 8, John Hockenberry's A RIVER OUT OF EDEN.

Saturday, October 5 (at Bethel Horizon's retreat), Adam Hochchild's KING LEOPOLD'S GHOST.

Sunday, November 10, THE GIRL WITH THE PEARL EARRING.

Sunday, December 8, RISE TO REBELLION.

### Social Action Notes

Paula Pachciarz and Dan Proud served the July breakfast at the men's shelter at Grace Episcopal. This was Dan's first shelter breakfast. Thanks for pitching in, Dan.

There is a lot of room still for pantry donations in our box located in the front foyer. The food goes to the Allied-Dunn's Marsh Food Pantry.

JFF stands for Joining Forces for Families, a Dane County organization which provides services from different agencies to help strengthen families. The Prairie Social Action Committee takes donations to the Allied Drive JFF. You may leave donations in the JFF box in the front foyer. At this time, JFF is especially in need of Similac formula, diapers in sizes 4 & 5, women's hygiene items, and toiletries.

### 2002-2003 Committee Chairs

**Denominational Affairs Committee-** Rick

Ruecking -838-8540

**Finance Committee** -Kathy Converse - 238-1856

**Housing & Property Committee** -Larry Nahlik - 274-6870

**Long Range Planning Committee** - Barb Park - 273-8775

**Membership Committee** - Jody Bearman - 273-6035

**Program Committee** -Barbara Chatterton - 238-7482

**Religious Education Committee** -Anne Urbanski - 221-4053

**Social Action Committee** - Bob Park - 273-8775

**Ceremonies** - Rick Ruecking - 838-8540 & Sharon Scrattish - 280-8050

**Caring** - Linda Sheehy - 273-3895

**Administrator** - Wendy Williams - 271-8218 (Prairie), 249-7703 (home)

### Peg Barratt Relocates To Washington, DC

Greetings Prairie friends. As of July 1, I have taken a job at National Science Foundation. Please check in with us when you are in DC. Nick is going to a bilingual school (Spanish and English). Will has a clinical social work job near Baltimore. You can be in touch with me at [mbarratt@nsf.gov](mailto:mbarratt@nsf.gov) or snail mail 3001 N. Pollard Street, Arlington, VA 22207.

## Opportunities

### Fundraising Trip to the Milwaukee Art Museum

On Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 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**

**Prairie Fall Retreat**

The Prairie Fall Retreat will be the weekend of October 4-6. It will be at Bethel Horizons located west of Dodgeville. It is not yet determined how much the weekend rate will cost. Members may register with Mary Somers using a registration form to be provided. There will also be registration for one day programs without lodging, as well as the weekend rate that includes lodging.

**Shaarei Shamayim Calendar**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat 9am-2pm. Upcoming Religious Services will be on September 8, 14 & 21st.**  
**Prairie Liaison: Bill Littman 829-1909**

**RE NEWS**

The Religious Education committee has been meeting over the summer months and has been reviewing curriculum for the 2002-2003 year. The following decisions have been reached. The Preschool class will be using a curriculum that was put together by Randy Converse. K-2 will be sinking their teeth into "Treasure Hunting" while 3-5 will be using "Beginning UU-ism". Finally, the 6-8 class will be exploring the curriculum called "We Believe". Each of the curricula focus on the 7 Basic UU principles, the theme for the first half of the year. All are multicultural and appropriate for all learning styles. If you are interested in seeing any of the curricula, please let an RE Committee member know! We look forward to an exciting year.

**PRAIRIE UU RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ENROLLMENT FOR 2002-2003 YEAR**

Name(s) and Age(s) of child/children  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in School  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

How often you anticipate attending classes  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you would like us to know (interests, concerns, questions) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Adult contact information  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_