July 6, 2011

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The Prairie Fire is published by Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society on the 6th and 21st of every month. View past issues at www.uuprairie.org

Calendar

Saturday, July 9, 2011
7:00am Prairie’s Women’s Group (WOW) meets for breakfast and Art Fair on the Square
7:00pm Drinks on the Lanai

Sunday, July 10, 2011
10:00 Service - Rainbird Foundation presented by Elizabeth Norton.
11:45 Humanist Union meets

Wednesday, July 13, 2011
7:00 Prairie Board meets

Saturday, July 16, 2011
7:45 The Emperor’s Private Paradise: Milwaukee Art Museum trip
9:00 H&P Work Day

Sunday, July 17, 2011
10:00 Service - "Life Cycle of Churches," presented by Gary Peterson
11:15 Soup Sunday: Firecracker Chili
11:45 Special Parish Meeting: Treasurer Election

Monday, July 18, 2011
6:30 Spanish Speaker’s Potluck at the home of Prudence Barber. Call Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382 for more information.

Sunday, July 24, 2011
10:00 Service - Joint Service with Sauk City UU

Tuesday, July 26, 2011
1:30 Prairie Elders meet at Oakwood; topic is, “What do you wish you had been taught in high school?”

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Upcoming Programs

**Sunday, July 10, 2011, 10:00 AM:** “Rainbird Foundation,” presented by Elizabeth Norton.

**Sunday, July 17, 2011, 10:00 AM:** “Church Life Cycles and Promoting Growth,” presented by Gary Peterson. Congregations and churches tend to follow somewhat predictable life cycles from start up to failure. As part of the appraisal process of religious facilities it is important for Gary Peterson’s firm to recognize where a congregation is on this life cycle in an effort to protect his client (which is generally a bank) making a loan on the building. As he did this research he was seeing how these factors that predicted growth or decline applied to Prairie. In this presentation Mr. Peterson will discuss some of these factors and the direction a congregation could take to promote stability and growth. Congregations can and should monitor themselves and make important decisions on direction and goals while they are in a position of strength. Many congregations wait for a crisis such as a large decline in census to promote action or a new vision when it may be too late to respond.

**Sunday, July 24, 2011, 10:00 AM:** Joint service with Sauk City UU. Service and potluck picnic in Sauk City.

News & Announcements

**Announcement:** Amy Armstrong has submitted her resignation as treasurer of Prairie, effective June 10th, and we gratefully thank her for her service to Prairie during the past year. Kate Liu has volunteered to become treasurer after that date as at that point she will no longer be employed by Prairie as our Administrator. The Board has appointed Kate to the position to act until she can be elected by the parish. **There will, therefore, be a special Parish Meeting scheduled for July 17th at 11:45 following our “Firecracker Chilli” Soup Sunday.** This will be a very brief meeting, so I hope you can all enjoy a meal and stay for a quick vote so we can follow the dictates of our By-Laws. Thank you in advance for attending and a great Thank You to both Amy for her past work and Kate for volunteering to step into a new and demanding role.

Barbara Park, President

**Final approval for the Green Sanctuary** will also be during the Parish Meeting on July 17.

**Housing & Property** has scheduled our next Work Day for Sat July 16 9am-1pm. We’ll have some muffins and coffee/ juice to get your work day started! Come for the entire time or do just a few things, it’s up to you how much we get done. Jobs include painting exterior trim and doors, trimming bushes, weeding rock garden, deep cleaning inside, and other tasks. Feel free to suggest more to me or any H&P member (Dirk Herr-Hoyman, Al Nettleton, Ann LeDuc, Doug Renk, Karen Dilday, Bob Park, John Eliganti).

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