

# Prairie Fire

March 2018

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## Prairie Calendar

(See descriptions of programs below)

**Fri Mar 2** 6:00 pm—**Board Game Night**

**Sat Mar 3** 5:00 am—**Men's Shelter Breakfast**

9:00 am—**Prairie WOW**—meets in the Annex

**Sun Mar 4** 10:00 am—**Service Auction**—Come join in the fun with Prairie's service auction! We'll start with a short service led by Rev. Sandy, followed by a continental breakfast. We'll then move right into the auction. There are a lot of great items again this year: singing in rounds, karaoke, learning the didgeridoo and ukulele, bike rides, canoeing, evenings at a bed and breakfast, a day of crafts, learning to make cheese, handmade items...the list goes on!

**Mon Mar 5** 6:30 pm—**Program Committee**—meets in the Annex

**Tues Mar 6** 2:00 pm—**History Committee**—meets in the Annex

**Sun Mar 11** 8:45 am—**Choir rehearsal**—meets in the Annex

10:00 am—**About Theories on the Origin of Life**—given by Prof. David Baum from the UW Botany Department

11:45 am—**Board Meeting**—meets in the Annex

11:45 am—**Humanist Meeting**—The March meeting will be on March 11 (a week later than usual due to the Prairie Service Auction.) Our speaker will be **Prof. David Baum** of the UW Botany Dept. He will follow up on his morning presentation at Prairie that day with Q&A *About Theories on the Origin of Life*. Potluck lunch at 11:45, followed by our program 12:30 to 1:30 pm, which will be in the Meeting House

**Sun Mar 18** 8:45 am—**Choir rehearsal**—meets in the Annex

10:00 am—**This News Is Brought to You by ?**—One of the principles that Unitarian Universalists affirm and promote and feel strongly about is our 5th one: "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process..." The democratic process in the United States is under attack. Two essential elements of a democratic society are: (1) a robust public education system and (2) a free, dynamic, independent press. In her

reflections this morning, Rev. Sandy will consider these questions. How free is the press, and an era with few surviving newspapers? How do you know the news you consume isn't fake? Has the demise of printed newspapers and the rise of social media undermine the role of journalists in our democracy? Of course, there are many more questions. This topic may be revisited in coming weeks—by any of you who would like to weigh in on this crucial subject. Rev. Sandy

11:30 am—**Soup Sunday**

12:00 noon—**Book Club**—meets in the Annex following Soup Sunday. The selection for March is *LaRose* by Louise Erdrich. A gun accident sets off a masterly tale of grief and love. One day while hunting, a man accidentally kills his neighbor's 5-year-old son. The Book Club is open to everyone. You do not need to have read the book to attend

**Mon Mar 19** 6:30 pm—**Spanish Speakers Potluck**—in the Annex. All levels of Spanish welcome. Please bring a dish to pass if convenient—if not, come anyway! Contact Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382 for more information or to arrange a ride

**Tues Mar 20** 2:00 pm—**History Committee**

**Sun Mar 25** 8:45 am—**Choir rehearsal**—meets in the Annex

10:00 am—**Service**

**Sun Apr 1** 10:00 am—**No Fooling!**—I am a committed Humanist. I am a committed Humanist with a strong Christian background. Easter often baffles me. I want to celebrate this most important of Christian events, but not totally the way that I celebrated it as a child. I sometimes do this by celebrating the beginning of spring. There is a mystery and wonder, awe and sacredness, laughter and tears, sorrow and joy in both events. And, I wonder—am I leaning towards the religious Humanist end of the spectrum, rather than the secular Humanist end, where I have been hanging out for years? No Fooling! Rev. Sandy

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## **Circle of Friends—Holly Tellander, Director RE**

Currently looking for volunteers for our March programming! **The theme for March is BALANCE.**

Prairie RE is first and foremost about **building community**. It's about meeting the needs of our students and families and providing programming that provides support and enrichment.

There are four main pillars of our program, three as consistently requested by parents and families in surveys collected at the end of each RE year, and the fourth a new addition this year to address the needs of our community of learners. These pillars are:

- 1) Unitarian Universalist Identity
- 2) Social Justice Work
- 3) World Faith Literacy
- 4) Social Emotional Learning

Every single one of our workshops ties in to one or more of these program pillars. We've had so many folks come down and share their gifts with our students and families. It's been a real treat to see the new connections made.

Workshops can be single events or a series! The scheduling is completely flexible and up to the presenter. **I am here as a resource** to help gather materials and supplies, streamline the presentation process, and tie your great ideas into one of the four pillars above.

### **Read on to get inspired!**

We have a lot of kids interested in our **“6 Sources in the Kitchen” series!** Many different people have brought their love of cooking and creating in the kitchen and paired that passion with the traditions, cultures and stories from one or more of our six sources. We’ve explored **Christian stories, Jewish traditions, mystery and wonder and science** in the kitchen this year! If you’d like to take a turn teaching in the kitchen, please reach out!

**Peggy Small** has created an amazing series for students in grades 3 and up to explore the field of ethics. Keep an eye on the website calendar to be sure you don’t miss a single one of these amazing workshops! **Intro to Theories of Ethics** will cover: Virtue (Aristotelian) ethics, Deontological (Kant, duty or rule based) ethics, Utilitarianism (greatest good for greatest number), Communism, Libertarianism, Rawlsian justice (“justice as fairness”), and Structural justice. THANKS PEGGY FOR THIS AMAZING IDEA!

**Al Nettleton and Carl Wacker** have been so amazing in facilitating our **Take Apart Workshops**—these workshops allow kids to problem solve, receive mentoring from community members, and discover how things work. It is one of our most popular workshops!

Always looking for workshops in art, crafting, singing, writing, poetry, debate, literature—you name it!

A big **SHOUT OUT** to the following folks for getting involved with our new **Kidmittees!**

**Johanna Hatch** is chairing our **Housing & Property Kidmittee** as they explore the necessary steps to get our backyard established as a Nature Sanctuary—what a great way to explore our 7th principle!

**Randy Converse** is chairing our **Social Justice Kidmittee**—this group will be meeting to write letters to state representatives asking for reform at the government level.

**Are you interested in chairing a kidmittee?** Bring your ideas and let’s get some dates on the calendar.

**Kidmittees usually meet on the third Sunday of the month**—if you usually stay for Soup Sunday why not consider eating with the kids sometime? Listen to their ideas and help them put inspiration into action!

### **Introducing StoryCorps Sundays!**

The last Sunday of each month will be an opportunity to preserve your memories for posterity! Kids will be available to interview congregants on the last Sunday of each month. Each interview consists of 5 questions which are provided to the interviewee ahead of time. The interview is recorded and afterwards uploaded to the Library of Congress’ online archive—this is your chance to connect with StoryCorps’ mission. To preserve and share humanity’s stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world.

This Sunday Bob Park will be our first StoryCorps Interview! Check with Bob later to see how it went!

**This is how we change the world, folks!**

**The next generation needs you to show up and**  
**Share your wisdom!**

**And with our new format—it is easier than ever**

“Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you. Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but the privilege of doing it. Remember, you don’t live in the world all of your own.”

—Albert Schweitzer



***Please consider volunteering for and participating in one or more of Prairie’s committees or groups. A full list is located on Prairie’s website:***

***<http://uuprairie.org/aboutus/#com>***

***Or contact Gary Gates for more information at:***

***[Gig.gts@gmail.com](mailto:Gig.gts@gmail.com)***