

PRAIRIE FIRE

Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

Sunday services in the Portal-Foster Center

1806 West Lawn Ave., Madison, WI

VOLUME 12, No. 16 "Year of the EDITOR: Vivian Meyer
January 8, 1976 ongoing Revolution" 251-7526 or 266-2022

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

- SUN "BERNINI: THE EXALTATION OF VULGARITY," OR " WHY THE
JAN 11 10 AM ITALIANS LOVE THE OPERA." Program led by layminister
Joe Hoffman. 257-9595
- SUN DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING at the Perry's
JAN 11 11:30 AM home, 1915 Keyes (around the corner from Portal-Foster.
All are welcome. 255-6157
- WED PRAIRIE SITE COMMITTEE MEETING in the home of Roland
JAN 14 7:30 PM and Avis Parrish, 302 Glenway. This meeting will be
called for the purpose of discussing the disposition
of the Prairie Site land. Three members each from
Prairie Society and First Society will be present to
confer on this matter. 238-1725
- SUN "CARAVAGGIO: HIS BRUTAL REALISM AND HIS UNPOPULARITY"
JAN 18 10 AM Program led by layminister Joe Hoffman. 257-9595
- SUN NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Date by which I need your material
JAN 18 10 AM in order that it may be included in the January 22nd
issue.
- SAT PLAYREADING GROUP This month's meeting, for anyone
JAN 24 8 PM interested in or curious about reading a play, will be
at Mona and Jack Birong's home. Their address is
599 Glen Drive. Join us for an enjoyable evening.
233-5995
- SUN "REMBRANDT: FROM RAGS TO RICHES TO RAGS" Program led
JAN 25 10 AM by layminister Joe Hoffman. 257-9595
- SUN FAMILY PROGRAM (Details to be announced at a later
FEB 1 10 AM date.)
- SAT FOLK MUSIC WORKSHOP Richard Perry, Denominational
FEB 7 9 AM - 9:30 PM Affairs Chairperson, announces that a folk music work-
shop will be held at St. Paul's University Catholic
Center. Admission is \$5.00; if more than 3 persons
from a church go together the admission is \$2.50 per
person. The focus will be on liturgical music. For
additional information contact Richard Perry. 255-6157
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Sunday School Activities & Events

The remarkable with our church school this semester is that not much is remarkable. Our great group of teachers has chosen to stay another whole semester. This may be without precedent in Unitarian circles!

Nursery will remain with Megan Caldwell, a special project every week and usual stories, music, and loving every time. Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Grades will continue with The Haunting House U. U. curriculum and Pat Cautley, Tim Diehl, Al Nettleton and Linda Fluim. The single teacher change will be with the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grades. Melinda Roznoy will join continuing Marty Urberg. They will begin with a new book, hearth-oriented, written for children which Melinda has discovered.

The Middle School, the enigmatic years, will be again guided by Mike Briggs. Mike wishes to work out a curriculum with them; within the month I'll get back to you with that.

Please commend George Calden who, once a month at least, enriches our assembly (end of school) time with a few rich minutes of music and thoughts. His presence is always good.

More soon on our part of Prairie.

--Theron Caldwell, Director
Religious Education

R. E. Committee Chairperson Shares Thoughts

The following quotations are offered for our consideration by Paula Elkins, R. E. Chairperson. (By the way, Paula, welcome back! Hope you're feeling as good as you look!)

Children who have been taught, or conditioned, to listen passively most of the day to the warm verbal communications coming from the TV screen, to the deep emotional appeal of the so-called TV personality, are often unable to respond to real persons because they arouse so much less feeling than the skilled actor. Worse, they lose the ability to learn from reality because life experiences are more complicated....Conditioned to being given explanations, he has not learned to puzzle for one on his own; he gets discouraged when he cannot grasp the meaning of what happens to him and is thrown back once more to find comfort in predictable stories on the screen.... Thus being seduced into passivity and discouraged about facing life actively, on one's own, is the real danger of TV, much more than the often asinine or gruesome content of the shows.

--Bruno Bettelheim
from The Informed Heart
Glencoe, The Free Press

Maybe you're the Messiah - a little bit. What Micky says is the Messiah is a collective me a little bit. You a little bit.

--Philip Roth
from Goodbye Columbus

Civilization, after all, is an act of will.

--Stewart

Counseling & Ministering Committee: Who Do We Call?

Pat Cautley, Chairperson of the Counseling and Ministering Committee, wishes to provide the following list of persons who are members of her committee. They are available if needed for consultation or comfort.

Theron Caldwell.....255-9974
George Calden.....233-5717

David Carson.....221-1244
Terri Laurence...233-7385

-cont'd-

Sydney Mannering.....238-2829
Al Nettleton.....238-6053

Fred Seidl.....221-0859
Ann Seidl.....221-0859

Prairie People on the Move

Congratulations to Terri Laurence who has just received her Master's Degree!!....It was announced in the Capital Times that George Calden will "lead a series of discussions, starting January 4th, on 'Frustration and Illusion in Marriage and Relationships,' at coffee hours following the 10 a.m. service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1833 Regent St."....We were all pleased to see Cheralyn, Clark, and Allyn Roberts at Prairie last Sunday. Cheralyn is attending Earlham College in Iowa and Clark is attending high school in Iowa as well....Vivian Meyer has been promoted to the position of Administrative Assistant in the Department of Public Instruction's Division for Handicapped Children. She will coordinate the activities of consultants in the Federal Intervention Program to assure equal educational opportunities for handicapped children.

U. U. Minister Talks A Blue Streak(?)

In the January 3rd issue of the Capital Times a story appeared regarding the attempt by Rev. Robert Marshall "to preach nonstop for 61 hours and win a place in the Guinness Book of World Records." Rev. Marshall is the minister of the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Birmingham, Michigan. Marshall was supported in his effort by his parishioners who spent the night listening to him. "Some of them looked in worse shape than me," Marshall said, "But as long as they stay awake, I will."

Ski Club Future in Doubt; So Where's the Snow?!

Besides the fact that there has been little snow, there is also a lack of willingness to cooperate in planning activities. Therefore, I am asking that a person with a deep and abiding interest in skiing step forward to become the coordinator of skiing events. I am willing to assist in any way necessary but cannot take full responsibility due to a lack of time. The Carsons have graciously invited us to their farm for a Saturday or Sunday of cross-country skiing as soon as there is enough snow. With a little coordination we could meet together and enjoy a little wine, cheese, and crackers after skiing. How about it? If you would like to participate contact Vivian Meyer. 251-7526 or 266-2022

--Vivian Meyer

Bicentennial Corner

Much has been said about the heroic men of the Revolutionary period of American history, but little has been mentioned about the contributions made by women of that time. In the next newsletter I would like to devote some time and space to these women. If you have any information that you would like to pass on to me about this subject, for publication in the next newsletter, please hand it to me on Sunday (preferably before January 18th) or send it to me at 142 N. Franklin St., Madison, WI 53703. One of the more ironic aspects of the treatment of women in the history books is that the Revolutionary period was one of eras in which women experienced a great deal of legal and social freedom. This and other perspectives on the Revolutionary women will be examined.

--Vivian Meyer

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