Sun, Oct. 3 10 AM Sunday Service at Portal Foster - "THE LAND & THE PEOPLE" with Mike Briggs.

Sun, Oct. 3 Pledge Cards due (see below)

Tues, Oct. 5 7:30 PM Counseling Committee at Seidl's (see below)

Wed, Oct. 6 7:30 PM Program Committee at John Lewis'

Fri-Sun, Oct. 8,9,10 Prairie Retreat at Camp Upham Woods

Sun, Oct. 10 10 AM Sunday Service at Portal Foster, for those who do not go on the retreat, conducted by Terri Gregory

Sun, Oct. 17 10 AM Sunday Service at Portal Foster to be conducted by John & Laura Smail on Indonesia Gamelan Music

Sat, Oct 23 9-5 Work Day at Portal Foster (see below)

From the Finance Committee: Pledge information cards for 1976-77 have been sent to Prairie members & friends and should be returned by Oct. 3. The committee will follow up with calls to those who haven't been heard from. Additional copies of the pledge information will be available on the back table Sunday mornings. Sorry to follow so soon after receiving your financial statement for 1975-76, but hope it won't discourage you from completing this year's pledge if you have not done so. Please mail checks to treasurer Elizabeth Harald, 2116 Gregory St., 53711.

Laura Smail, Chairperson (233 2633)

Counseling Committee Meeting: Although we never meet, we are going to, to discuss, a) procedures, b) resources, c) referrals, & d) confidentiality. Members of the committee please come to Seidl's, 6600 Tonyawatha Trail, Monona. (Directions: Beltline East to Monona Dr., 1½ miles to Dean Ave., turn left, 10 blocks to Winniequah, turn right. House on corner of Winniequah, Tonyawatha & Clear Springs.

Ann Seidl, Chairperson (221 0859)

WORK DAY Sat. Oct. 23rd. - Please turn out for a few hours (at least), to help with miscellaneous cleaning & repair jobs and to celebrate our community with Portal Foster. Prairie pays only $1,035 annual rent for our meeting house, this includes utilities. Our lease specifies that we will join Portal Foster parents in a Spring & in a Fall work day to help maintain the building.

Rehlfeld Parrish, Chairperson (238 1725)

Every Thursday in the Memorial Union, UUs from 1st Society & Prairie, meet for lunch at 12:00-1:30. Bring bag or get lunch in cafeteria; room posted.

Mike Briggs

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About the retreat from David Carson:
The think foods retreat of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society can be a totally refreshing experience. The site - Blackhawk Island and the Wisconsin river - and the time of year - the Indian Summer weekend of October 8, 9, & 10, 1976 - and the people - Prairie folk and their friends - can produce symbiosis between earth and humankind. We go to Upham Woods Camp for a creative environment that we vibrate in harmony with for the rest of the year.

It is nearby, inexpensive, pleasant. Rigid rules must be followed by all who attend in order that it remain so. We must obey the regulations, properly clean the areas before we leave, respect all property and the facilities of Camp Upham Woods. We help do the work of serving meals, cleaning up after meals. Leave your pets at home as well as guns, alcohol, and other things which might hurt you or others. Fires in the woods are prohibited. Stay on the paths. Do not collect the plants, nice as they are. Obey the curfew hours in respect for those who go on dawn bird hikes.

Two rules of special note: Come to meals on time if you expect to be fed. Secondly, be careful on the waterfront. The canoes can provide our greatest danger as well as our pleasure. Kids can be hurt so easily there on the river, as one nearly was last October. There will be a waterfront director with some assistants. They must be obeyed both when we follow the rules and when we help less responsible campers to do so.

Share transportation if you can. From Madison take interstate 90 - 94 to exit 87 (highway 13) to Wisconsin Dells. Turn left on highway 12 and go to the top of the hill where you go right on county highway A. Go about 2 miles, under the railroad underpass, and find the camp at the bottom of the hill on the right. Phone numbers there are (608) 234-2843 and 234-2946.

For further information contact one of the following:
David Carson 221 1244
Barb Dykert 271 5123
Patricia Cautley 236 5373
Ruth Calden 233 5717

George & Ruth Calden invite Prairie Couples to join them in a Marriage Enrichment afternoon on Saturday of the Upham Woods retreat. This will not be a marriage encounter, nor a public exposure of marital problems; but a positive, celebrative way of enriching a marriage relationship.

Chuck Young would like to help beginners on mandolin, banjo, or guitar at the retreat. Three or four instruction sessions are planned over the weekend. Participants should come to all sessions. Please contact Chuck ahead of time so he will know what materials to bring. (836 3342)

Ruth Calden will be coordinating rides to and from Camp Upham Woods. If you checked a need for a ride, expect to be called; and if you don't get a call, call Ruth at 233 5717.

John Ohliger has information about WORT, Back Porch Radio:
If you are interested in becoming a book reviewer, or in helping with the administrative and secretarial work, contact the Book Review Editor, John Ohliger by writing WORT, P.O. Box 3219, Madison, WI. 53704 or call 249-0111, 251-8894, or 263-4540.
Religious Education:
We are proud of our family services, when Prairie's children join the adults and are given chances to listen and laugh and sing and drink with the larger group, the important aspect being not whether they can laugh with the joke, but that they join the laughter of adults and catch up and be human among adults.
Robert L.H. Miller, ThD gives us these goals for a liberal religious education:
-- to help one feel with a new sensitivity and a new intensity the facts of existence.
-- to help people form value judgements about existence.
-- to elicit a commitment to the enterprise of extending the good or that which is conceived to be valuable.
As such religion is neither true nor false; it is not the business of making statements of knowledge or of fact. It is more akin to poetry, art or music. One doesn't ask if Beethoven's Fifth symphony is true or false; one asks what degree it is satisfying, esthetic emotional experience. One asks to what degree does a piece of poetry or art offer some insight into one's own existence, or into some phase of existence as a whole.
Paula Elkins, RE Chairperson

Newsletter Deadline: Sun. Oct. 10th. Please be sure to get your items in ahead of time if possible. I'll be going to Upham Woods, and I won't be taking along the typewriter, so Vol 13, #5; could be a little late. Send items to Terri Laurence, Rt 7, 2789 Nine Mound Rd., Verona 53593

Your editor just couldn't leave such a big blank space,--so, you get a poem for filler.......

I looked for love like a gardener
watching tomatoes every day
...still green...
prodding a bit, watering
adding compost
pulling out a weed
...still green...
staking, pruning
killing bugs
each morning eye straining
no miracle overnight
...still green...

Tired of hard green fruit
I looked away, got busy.

Red and plump they drop
into my hands, my basket, my jars.
Enough to keep
enough to give
enough
to throw against walls
and into sour faces.

Ester Hauser Laurence

How about the rest of you who are poets, or artists, or cartoonists, or whatever? You send me some filler material to have on hand.
Ms. Rachel Siegfried  
5209 Tolman Terrace  
Madison, WI 53711