

Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

December 17, 1978

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Leland Bullen, Editor-Mailer: 838-8055

CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:00 a. m. --Family Christmas program. To include our traditional symbol tree for which each individual is urged to bring an object to represent something of significance to his or her life over the past year. We tell the group what these things mean and then use them to decorate our bare Christmas tree. We should also each bring bread, fruit, or some other eat-with-the-fingers food to share, for an after service potluck.

Sunday, Dec. 24, 4:30 p. m. --Christmas Vespers Candlelight service at First Society. Max Gaebler will preside and George Calden will provide recorded Christmas music.

Tuesday, Dec. 26, 8:00 p. m. --Party at Hagstroms. See details elsewhere in newsletter.

Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:00 a. m. --General family get-together with games, to be conducted by Dorothy Lee.

Sunday, Dec. 31, --New Year's Eve party at Rachel Siegfried's, 5209 Tolman Terr. All are welcome. Rachel is providing only her home and empty glasses. You bring food and drink.

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p. m. --Solo Performances group at Laura Smail's house, 5059 Marathon Dr. All levels of performance appreciated. Please call Laura to tell her what you will play or sing. Listeners welcome.

R. E. CORNER with Holly Loring

A teachers' breakfast was held this past Sunday by way of thanking our first semester teachers for their generous efforts on behalf of R. E. Settling in at Colby Street has not been as smooth as I might have hoped so I am impressed with their flexibility and perseverance. Happily, Karen Childs, Aileen Nettleton, Peg Stevenson, Mel Micke, and Helen and Marian Briggs will be continuing next semester. Due to other commitments, Rebecca French, Betty Hill, and Julie and Dick Bonser are wrapping up their teaching stints. Thank you all!

Yes! Interim plans have been finalized and all children are encouraged to attend. The month of January features this change of program for our young people and provides a break for our teachers. Our line-up: Jan. 7--"Folk Songs for Fun" (Mike Briggs), "Drawing Monsters and Other Things" (Betty Jallings) and a chance for older children to help shellac the storage shelves; Jan. 14--"New Games" (Marshall Flax) and "Fancy Folding"--the art of origami (Bob Park); Jan. 21--"Backstrap Weaving" (Veda Nomura) "Storytelling" (Gretchen Herman), and "Disco" with George and Ruth Calden. We hope the adults will join in some of our sessions for the last part of the service. Sign-up on on or before Sunday, Dec. 24. (Extras can, of course, be accommodated in January), so

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join us.

Does anyone have a spare, stable, mobile toy--truck, car, space vehicle--for children to ride on? The nursery would be happy to take it off your hands.

At the Christmas family service, keep your eyes out for a display of what R. E. groups have been up to this fall. K-2 has been working with "God's Folk" curriculum, which introduces characters from biblical and North American folklore traditions through storytelling. It's chock full with plenty of fun activities for the children. So far we've met Belzalel, the ark builder, King David, Elijah, Harriet Tubman, and Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. Three to five have been learning about the wonders of the story of evolution through the human heritage group. Activities have included a visit to the zoo and mural making. Middle schoolers have been working on group skills such as decision making and communication. Preschoolers have been receiving loving care from Helen and Marian Briggs and Dianne Sobek. Their latest project was angel hats from paper plates.

Have a wonderful Christmas! I'll be away from Dec. 22 to Jan. 4, but Shirley Lake will be "on duty" in the meanwhile. Nursery care will be available both Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, but there won't be any regular classes.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER with David Lisman

The Board has called a parish meeting for Sunday evening, Jan. 28, at 7:30. The agenda will be short and long range planning. Emil Gudmundson, the Mid-western District Director of the UUA, will meet with us to discuss these issues. This meeting with him has been arranged as a result of the meeting Mr. Gudmundson had with the board last month. Warren Hagstrom, head of the Long-Range Planning Committee, is doing a survey (self-study) of our fellowship to provide further material for discussion.

* * *

Clark Wright-Edwards has submitted his resignation as the Chair of the Building and Property Committee. Some time ago Clark had expressed his intention to resign but stayed on to help us get relocated at Colby. We wish to express our appreciation to Clark for the outstanding job he did in this capacity. We will certainly miss him.

The Board obviously now needs to fill the position vacated by Clark. If anyone is interested in this position, please let us know.

* * *

The next board meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan., 10, at the Nettletons.

* * *

I wish personally to thank everybody who has been so helpful this year. You have certainly mad my job quite pleasant.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Long-Range Planning Committee will meet at the home of Warren and Lois Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd., at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27. The purpose of the meeting is to design a questionnaire to be mailed to the membership by mid-January. Everyone is invited.

A reminder that the mailing list will be revised early in January. If you are not a pledging member or friend of Prairie and wish to continue receiving Prairie Fire, it will be necessary to contribute \$5.00 per year to help with the publication costs of the newsletter.

VESPER PROGRAM AT FIRST SOCIETY SUNDAY

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Christmas Vespers Candlelight Service at First Unitarian Society. The time is ~~Saturday~~, Dec. 24, at 4:30 p.m. Max Gaebler will preside and George Calden will provide recorded Christmas music.

Colby Memory

A heart ever faithful,
strangely framed by ladders
and good friends

Bach and sawdust
A caring daughter
Children running

Enscaffolded piano sounds
gently molded to an ageless voice
of grey and gold

Thank you Louise and Joe

Doleta Chapru

A series of programs called "Footsteps" starts on WHA-TV January 4, at 10:00 a.m. and repeats January 6 at 6:30 p.m. It is an expertly prepared series on child-rearing. The first half hour is on helping a child establish a feeling of identity and is really excellent. The title of the first program is "Queen for a Day."

There will be a party at the home of Warren and Lois Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd., at 8:00 p.m. Dec. 26, to which all are invited. Each guest is asked to bring a record, of which no more than one LP side will be played.

The Bullens will be in Omaha, Nebraska over the New Year weekend where Lee will be helping a friend set up and adjust a vintage 1840 printing press. A volunteer to collect items for Prairie Fire will be appreciated. We will be back in time to print and mail as usual.

Lilo Koehl, in requesting continuation of her subscription to Prairie Fire, adds:
"And a happy holiday to all. Come and see me where it's warm and sunny now."
Her address: 223 1/2 W. Turney, Phoenix, Arizona 85013.

Rosemarie Lester will be in Madison for the holidays. We're all delighted to have a chance to see her. She can be reached at Pat Cautley's (238-5373) part of the time.

We, the members of Prairie, wish to associate ourselves together in a religious community which affirms that we share a common humanity, that we need one another, and that our futures are inescapably bound together. Together we would expand our intellectual horizons; enrich our sensory experiences, and deepen our emotional sensitivities. We would sharpen our ethical awareness and broaden our sense of social responsibility. We would stand tall in our quest for integrity of life, yet not at others' expense.

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.

--Prairie Fellowship Bond of Union

Prairie Fire

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