CALENDAR

SUN, SEP. 23  10:00 a.m. --Generating Inequality: The Distribution of Wealth, Income, and Power--Part I. Lay Minister Rod Stevenson.

SUN, SEP. 30  10:00 a.m. --Family Day, A visit to Turville Point.

WED, OCT.  3  7:30 p.m. --Social Action Committee, home of Rachel Siegfried, 5209 Tolman Terrace. Everyone encouraged to come.

SUN, OCT.  7  10:00 a.m. --Generating Inequality--Part II. Rod Stevenson.

MON, OCT.  8  7:30 p.m. --Board meeting, home of Rachel Siegfried, 5209 Tolman Terrace.

SAT, OCT. 13  7:30 p.m. --Playreaders, home of Linda Schaldach.

SUN, OCT. 14  10:00 a.m. --The Control of Knowledge--Part I. In Early America. Leland Bullen.

SUN, OCT. 21  10:00 a.m. --The Control of Knowledge--Part II. Today. Erwin Knoll, editor of Progressive Magazine.

SUN, OCT. 21  7:30 p.m. --Parish meeting, 1124 Colby St. Please submit agenda items to Warren Hagstrom or Aileen Nettleton.

R. E. CORNER with Holly Loring, Director

- I was happy to see how much our young people enjoyed the downstairs action on the first Sunday. Hope you upstairs people had an equally good experience. And the all-together eating and dancing at the end was a perfect way to finish off a new beginning. May the rest of our Prairie year merit such an auspicious start!
- We began last Sunday downstairs with a renewed addition to the R. E. program--something I call "Sharing Circle." The sharing circle is a time and place for the children to get to know who else is in the program besides people in their class groups, and to share in the process of developing community. I'll be using the time to share with them and to let them share with me, songs and poetry and thoughts on the world we live in and how we live in it.
- R. E. Committee coming up on Monday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m. at Holly Loring's, 108 N. Breese Terrace, No. 3.
- If you have any spare small plastic drinking cups at home, Prairie could use them.
- The R. E. conference coming up Saturday, Sept. 22, 9-5 at the Unitarian Church of Bloomington, Ill., will focus on the question "Teacher and Child: Can Religious Growth Be Shared?" I will be going down on Friday evening, Sept. 21. Home hospitality will be provided for Friday night. There are a number of interesting workshops being offered and since I'm only one person, I can't get to all of those I'd find useful for Prairie. If you would like to make the trip with me, please let me know (231-1977. I'll be returning Saturday evening.
Instead of a facilitator, Pre-school will get helping hands from Peg Stevenson and Alexi Lyman this fall. They will be joining with Marian and Helen Briggs and myself to plan learning experiences for the children in a slightly more structured way than has been done in the past couple of years. We feel that this is a good opportunity to involve Marian and Helen more fully in the implementation of the R.E. program and to give them more in-depth experience working with young children. Parents of pre-schoolers will occasionally be asked to remain downstairs when there is an unusually large pre-school attendance.

Oops! The children received plastic name tag holders on Sept. 9 and several wore them home because we forgot to collect them. If you see any around the house, please return them to us. Thanks.


Mel Micke

For those people who have not been to the Prairie retreat at Upham Woods, I would like to give you a short description. Upham Woods is located just north of the Dells on the Wisconsin river and is owned and run by U.W. Extension. We will be renting the camp for the weekend. Meals are available for children and adults. There are three types of lodging: semi-private dormitory, heated cabins and unheated cabins. There are usually walks on the island (in the middle of the river), canoeing, dancing, workshops (for which volunteers are needed), games for the children, time for everyone to get to know each other. All of this is in wonderful surroundings in the woods.

Everyone is invited to attend, either for the whole time or for just a day or an evening. Any questions, please call Mel Micke or Nina Mattarella, 238-6858.

To help you avoid conflicts and plan your fall Prairie activities, the Playreaders would like to announce their fall schedule of readings. Everyone is welcome.

October 13--At Linda Schaldach's
November 17--At Rosemary Dorney's. We will read "Harvey" or "In Celebration."
December 8--At the Nettleton's. We will read "under Milkwood."
January 19--At Rachel Siegfried's. We will read "Finishing Touches" or "Private Lives."

We will announce the rest of the schedule in January.

Dodie Chapru and Warren Hagstrom will coordinate a Sunday program this year devoted to the lives and music of Robert and Clara Schuman. If you can perform some of the music of the Schumans or members of their circle (even Brahms), please contact Dodie (238-5576) or Warren (238-4970) at a Sunday service or at their homes. Feel free to nominate other possible performers.

Next Prairie Fire Deadline: Sept. 30. Please bring typed or written announcements that Sunday. The editor has difficulty with oral information given in a noisy room. If you know of anyone who should be receiving Prairie Fire, please give their name to the editor.
Keeping Prairie Alive

We all know that families, extended families, and fellowships cannot subsist without resources. It takes the efforts of all of us to keep Prairie flourishing and alive. It takes our presence, our goodwill, and our time and money to pay the rent, keep the religious education programs running, and to meet the out-of-pocket expenses of the lay ministers and newsletter editors. Inflation continues, and Prairie needs at least an increase of 10% over last year's pledges just to maintain programs at last year's level. Prairie is your group. Please help it stay alive!

Tear off and mail your 1979-80 operating budget pledge form by Sept 30 to the Prairie Finance Committee c/o Norma Briggs, 2359 West Lawn Ave., Madison 53711, or hand it to her at the Sunday morning program. Thank you.

A Firm Foundation for Prairie!

Many of us were disappointed when the Trading Post purchase wasn't successful. The board has continued to search for a suitable building that might provide a home for Prairie. Over the summer the board has also been in contact with the Veach Foundation, (North Shore, N. Y. Unitarian Church) which offers low interest loans (at 5% interest). The Veach Foundation indicated that to seriously consider our application they would need some measure of our commitment to a Prairie building, or how much of a down payment we could provide. In anticipation of a suitable property coming on the market in the next 12 months, the board is asking each member and friend of Prairie to indicate how much he or she can pledge to contribute toward a down payment. It is estimated that $12,000 in pledges from individual members and friends is necessary. We are asked to be as realistically generous as possible. If making payments over a period of time is necessary, perhaps you could arrange a personal loan so Prairie would have up front money for the down payment. Of course, any purchase would be fully discussed and approved by the membership as a whole before action is taken.

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1979-80 OPERATING BUDGET

I, _______________________________ pledge

$____________________for Prairie's 1979-80 expenses. (Prairie's fiscal year is October 1, 1979-September 30, 1980).

I prefer to make payments /monthly/ /quarterly/ in one lump sum/ (circle one)

Please return pledge slips to the Prairie Finance Committee, 2359 West Lawn Avenue, Madison, Wis. 53711.

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BUILDING FUND PLEDGE

I, _______________________________pledge

$____________________toward the Prairie building fund. I understand I am to provide the cash within four weeks of membership approval of the purchase of a selected building at a parish meeting.

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Central Midwest District Annual Meeting

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau and the Universalist Unitarian Fellowship of Marshfield will be hosts to the 1979 annual meeting of the Central Midwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association November 9, 10, 11 at Wausau.

The theme of the meeting will be "Protecting Our Liberal Environment." Further information can be obtained from Jackie Simonar, 520 West Street, Wausau, Wis. 54401.

North Central Area Council Family Weekend

Camp Waubeek, Wisconsin Dells, will be the scene of a fall family weekend Oct. 5, 6, 7 (after 5:30 Friday through Sunday afternoon). Rev. Alexander Meek, of the UU church of Rochester, Minn., will be the featured guest. Building Family Religion will be his theme. The cost will be about $10 to $12 for food, $7 to $10 for lodging. Maximum of $75 per family. Bedding (foam or mattress) clothing, towels, personal effects, music, readings, etc. should be brought.

Charlie and Hermine Davidson of First Society will lead folk dancing Saturday night.

The camp is one mile north of Wis. Dells on Highway 13. Pioneer Camp is just north of Camp Waubeek. The road is across from Thunder Valley Ranch, and is practically on the Adams-Columbia County line. The road is on the west side of Highway 13, just after the county line, 1/4 mile past bridge. A registration form is furnished below. It should be sent to Norm Schifris, 1618 W. Spencer St., Appleton, Wis. 54911 by Sept 26.