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Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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Volume 17, Number 18, October 22, 1980

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

7:30 p.m.--Play reading: "The Lady's not for Burning," by Christopher Frye, at Dorothy Lee's home, 625 W. Lakeside. This is an open invitation, absolutely no acting experience necessary. This is yet another way we have fun together, at no cost whatever.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

10:00 a.m.--"Community Responsibility for Mental Health"
Joyce Feustel, William Lunney.
(Music by recorder group)
Bring bulbs to plant. Potluck will follow service.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

4:45 p.m.--Program committee meeting. Meet at newsstand, Memorial Union.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

9:30 p.m.--Halloween Party at First Society. Details elsewhere.

9:00 p.m.--Prairie UU Halloween Party. Costumes optional. Snacks and wine contributions welcome. Bring musical instruments. Home of Rachel Siegfried.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

10:00 a.m.--"The Crisis Intervention Line"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

10:00 a.m.--"Happy Birthday Ludwig (Beethoven)"
George Calden.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14-16
Central Midwest District Annual Meeting, Gary, Indiana.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15
7:30 p.m.--The Playreaders will meet at the home of Pat Watkins, 2419 Norwood Place. We will read either "The Shadow Box" or "Never Too Late." Do come out and join us.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16
10:00 a.m.--"Heroines and Heroes" George Calden.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
7:30 p.m.--Board meeting, at meeting house.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23
10:00 a.m.--"Afghanistan: Then and Now" William Spangler of Afghanistan Relief Committee.

PROGRAM NOTES:

The November 9 Beethoven program will include instrumental and vocal music performances by Prairie people. Please let George Calden know if you plan to play a Beethoven number.

On election day most Americans will have voted for presidential candidates for whom they have very little enthusiasm. As an antidote, at the service "Heroines & Heroes" on November 16, we will have a chance to talk about the people we have admired or revered.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE--NOVEMBER 2

R.E. CORNER

Patricia Cautley, Director

PART OF OUR TRADITION is the use of UNICEF boxes at Halloween, so that our children experience sharing with others and concern for children in other parts of the world at the same time that they find pleasure in all the treats they gather for themselves. UNICEF cartons will be distributed on Sunday, October 26. They should be returned the next Sunday, November 2.

SPECIAL PLANS are being made for Sunday morning, November 2: a "retreat" for teachers right here at Prairie. The desirability of an occasional meeting of all the teachers and the R.E. committee became clear last June when this group met after the service and found there was much to be shared. There wasn't enough time, though, so the committee decided that when a fifth Sunday occurs in a month, one of those days could be devoted to such a meeting. Plans will be made for the children, although the activities that morning will be a bit different from the regular church school.

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have been learning about various senses and how one "makes meaning" out of cues received. It is not easy to separate taste and smell, but even when they did this, the group surprised their teacher, Bob Nelson, by being able to distinguish between pieces of potato and apple. The middle school group joined the 9th graders to learn something about what being a lawyer is like. (The Briggs family really contributed to the program last Sunday--Mike with this group, Norma with the adults, and Helen and Marian with the preschoolers.)

HALLOWEEN PARTY

All Prairie adults are invited to take part in the fun of creating and/or attending a Halloween party at First Unitarian Society, Friday, Oct. 31. Last year's party was great. Costumes are encouraged but not required. Live band starts at 9:30 p.m. Fee is expected to be about \$2.00 per person.

For information or to help with decorations, posters, refreshments, or entertainment, call Judy Christianson at 251-8901 or 267-7164.

LOST AND FOUND FROM UPHAM WOODS

White turtleneck sweater
Child's jacket, blue with white stripes
Child's blue jeans
Green bath towel
Young child's knit blouse, blue with stripes

FALL BUSINESS MEETING ADOPTS BUDGET

A well attended parish meeting and a long discussion resulted the adoption of the budget for the 1980-81 year as recommended by the board of directors.

The budget amount, \$15,583, was \$3,023 more than has been currently pledged, but the consensus was that it was better to accept the full amount as a prudent and necessary goal for the year and work hard to raise it all than to plan to dip into the society's savings or borrow to make up the deficit.

It was pointed out that 98% of the past year's pledge amount has been paid and that at present we have 45 pledging units as compared with last year's 42.

UU SINGLES

UU Singles will be meeting for the regular potluck lunch on Sunday, Nov. 2, 12 p.m. at First Society. We will be continuing with the loose-structured program of sharing our individual areas of expertise. Dave Zakem will have a display and talk about Persian and Islamic art. Metje Butler shared with us on October 19. She gave the group an interesting explanation of her work as an artist in stone and metal.

There will be a meeting of the Social Action committee after the service next Sunday, October 26. Anyone who is interested in working with this committee is invited to attend.

A new item on the Pro-Seeds for Prairie chart is Avis Parrish's request for someone to assist her in sorting and preparing business affairs records.

Need a hard worker? I'm unemployed and have numerous talents and abilities to offer. I've organized a large state conference, been a community college counselor, active and knowledgeable in women's causes, taught adult education, GED, and arts and crafts. I enjoy working outdoors or driving light trucks as well. If you know of any possibilities, I'd really appreciate hearing from you.

Judy Spring, 251-5633

Beryl Gordon is looking for living quarters for herself and young son Benji and would appreciate knowing of any low-cost housing that might be available. She does not have a phone at present, but her current address is 1110 E. Mifflin St.

PLAY READING SCHEDULE

To help other Prairie groups with planning, (especially those involved in Circle Dinners) we thought you might find this schedule helpful. All readings are on Saturday nights at 7:30, unless changed on a calendar notice.

Nov. 15--Pat Watkins: The Shadow Box, or Never Too Late.

Dec. 6--Nelly McKay (3212 Bluff St., Apt. 2. Phone 238-8839: Murder on the Nile or Toys in the Attic.

Jan. 17--Jack and Mona Birong: Last of the Red Hot Mammas or the House of Blue Leaves.

Feb. 21--Lois and Warren Hagstrom: Tartruffe or Six Characters in Search of an Author.

March--Susan and Marty Drapkin: Date and play not set.

April--Norma and Mike Briggs: Date and play not set.

Rosemary Dorney: Date not set; play will be one by Noel Coward, T.S. Eliot or Hendrik Ibsen.

COUPON EXCHANGE, ANYONE?

Has inflation turned you into a coupon clipper? Do you get frustrated when you never have enough coupons for discounts on the items you always buy, but see plenty of coupons for the things you never buy? If some of you would want to tap me on the shoulder some Sunday morning, or give me a call and say, "Wow, that's a super idea," I'll get up a shoe box (or something), put in dividers for different categories, and start a coupon exchange. I'd love to give someone all my dog food coupons, in exchange for their cat food ones. How about it? Tap Pat Watkins, or call 233-5795.

INTERIOR DECORATION COMMITTEE SUGGESTS

INEXPENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS

Some improvements to make both the upstairs meeting room and the religious education main room more attractive will be suggested to the board at its November 18 meeting by the interior decoration committee, headed by Lois Hagstrom.

In their plan the front wall, now finished in a patterned wallpaper, would be painted an off-white to better display any artwork in addition to the textile "Prairie Smoke" design now hanging there.

The bulletin board would be hung in the foyer over the water fountain, and the name tag board would be placed near the coat rack, also in the foyer. This would free the back wall for other art work which could be hung from the picture molding already on that wall.

The two pews, donated by Fran Remeika, would be converted to narrow tables by her as she has successfully done with another pew.

The Bond of Union would be hung above the literature rack at eye level.

In the basement, the book shelves now in the center of the wall between the doors leading to the kitchen, would be moved to the right where coffee has frequently been served.

The committee welcomes other suggestions for beautifying and making more convenient the interior of the meeting house.

BACK TO THE TYPEWRITER

This issue of Prairie Fire has had to be produced by typewriter and Multilith printing press after several issues have been printed from type set on an old Linotype machine. The Linotype shivers in an unheated garage, making it and its operator more prone to errors and breakdowns. If winter is come, can spring be far behind?