

Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

2:00 p.m. -- Decoration of the Meeting House.
Please come and help.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

*No morning service or R.E. program
4:30 p.m. -- Special Winter Solstice program
and carol sing. Prairie members are asked
to bring breads and other "finger foods"
to pass.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

10:00 a.m. -- "Books That Changed Our Lives",
Bring your favorite book to talk
about.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

10:00 a.m. -- "Some Medical History" John Grind-
rod, lay minister.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

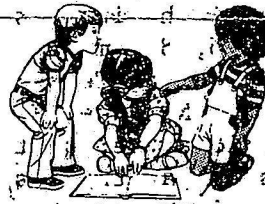
7:30 p.m. -- Discussion group at Pat Cautley's.
"Economic Alternatives."

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

10:00 a.m. -- "Holistic Medicine" Dr. Alan Levine

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

10:00 a.m. -- "medical Ethics" Lowell Mays,



R.E. Corner

This last Sunday of Holly Loring's at Prairie the children were treated with her showing of some of her Mexican slides. And they presented her with a collage of notes attempting to tell her how much she has meant to all of us.

As many of you know, our church school has a "middle winter" interim during the month of January. On these four Sundays, starting on Jan. 4th, there will be no regular church school classes. Instead, the opportunity to be creative and imaginative will be offered to all of the children from kindergarten through middle school. (The pre-schoolers will still be in their group but will also have a special opportunity.) This year we have drawn especially on the artistic talents that seem to abound in Prairie and are delighted that the following opportunities will be available:

Metje Butler will help those interested in making their own loom (out of popsickle sticks) and weaving on it! This will begin on Jan. 4 and take all four Sundays.

Pat Whyte-Lehman, starting on Jan. 11, and assisted by Judy Spring, will work with those interested in designing and creating a banner for Prairie. This will be limited to those at the 3rd grade level or higher.

Theron Caldwell has offered to work with those interested in painting on canvass with acrylic paints for on Sunday, Jan. 18.

Easel painting and working with clay (play doh or other) will also be available on all four Sundays.

On Sunday, Dec. 28, we will have a special group activity for all of the children--a sur-

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ARTS & CRAFTS SALE A SUCCESS

Our second annual arts and crafts sale raised \$320. Thanks go to Carolyn Briggs, Dick Bonser, and Megan Kroeger for their planning, publicity and all-around work and to the bakers, artists, musicians and everyone else who worked to make it a festive and successful event. This is a fine tradition that gives us an alternative to commercial gifts. HAPPY HOLIDAYS !

R.E. CORNER, continued

prise! Preschool and nursery will meet as usual.

We can't sing the praises enough of the individuals who have taught the classes this fall semester. They have been the heart of the R.E. program and we are very indebted to them: Lianna Munson, Megan Kroeger, and Bob Park with the K-2 group; Lola Gregg and Bob Nelson with the 3-5; and Shirley Grindrod and all the adults who shared their experiences and feelings about their various fields of work with the middle school. Most recently, the class has heard from Les Lyons (who got so involved in other talk that he never got around to his scientific career) and Carolyn Briggs who described the stamp dealing business she and Jay Smith have.

WINTER SOLSTICE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The program Sunday afternoon will consist of two parts with an intermission for refreshments.

First will be a celebration of the ancient Solstice traditions, including a festival of lights and the Prairie tradition of the symbol tree. Each person is invited to bring something to hang on the tree--an object representing something of importance to the individual--a memory, a person, an experience, or just beauty (once a vial of essential medicine was used). Children as well as adults are invited to share in this.

Following a sharing of breads and other "finger foods" downstairs, the second part of the program will take place upstairs: a more conventional Christmas program including favorite Christmas music and carols, and shepherds and angels. Children who would like to appear as shepherds will want to bring an old blanket, large safety pins, a stick or cane, and stuffed animals. Costume for angels will be created from a wire coat hanger, saran wrap, large safety pins, and a sheet.

SNOW SHOVELING

We have many dates still open for snow shoveling this winter. December and January are almost filled, so think about February and March. The sign-up sheet is in the back of the meeting room. Please call Bob Nelson (255-8630) if you want to volunteer and cannot get to the sign-up sheet. As a reminder, the dates and volunteers for the next month are:

December 15-21 Carol & Bob Dopp
" 22-28 Gerald Beraldi & Mike Briggs
" 29-Jan. 4 Joan & George Hall

January 5 - 11 Sue & Marty Drapkin

Note--We need sign-ups for building clean-up immediately.

THANKS,, GEORGE!

With the Beethoven program several weeks ago, George Calden concluded his series of programs "Music, Marriage, and Miscellaneous" as our fall lay minister. Our warm thanks to you, George, for sharing some special people, music, humor and yourself for our enrichment. Although this ends your "lay ministry," we can be sure we'll continue to hear from you!

Long live St. Pete (Seeger)

X
X X Good-by, Holly x x x Best wishes X
Love xxx xxx All of us xxxxx

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Kathy Story, Cathy Cole and Geoff Butler into the fellowship of the Prairie Society

Cards and notepaper will be available for purchase at meetings until the holidays, New Year's cards included. Pro-Seeds are 100% for Prairie.

The Prairie Discussion group will meet at Pat Cautley's house on Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. The topic will be alternative economic systems. This is the time to share your thoughts on bartering, communal systems, alternatives to the dollar... All are welcome.

FOLKLORE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Dec 28-Jan 1 at Mineral Point. People can attend full or part time. Sleeping-bag space and other modest accommodations are available. Music, dance, games, crafts and dramatics etc. For more information call Folklore Village Farm 608-924-3725

INVITATION

You are all invited to "drop in" on Christmas eve at Megan Kroeger's home. Come any time after 7:00 P.M. Bring music, instruments, some wine or a snack to share. 1902 Fisher St.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Two items were raffled at the Craft Fair. The Cookie House, made by the Smith family and friends was won by Cora Nelson. The painting by Theron Caldwell Ris was won by Michael Ryan.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE COALITION

A number of organizations opposed to cuts in welfare grants are having various activities on Dec. 20 to protest the cuts. In Madison, families will be meeting at the executive mansion, 99 Cambridge Road, Maple Bluff, at noon for an informational picket. You're invited!