CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 7
7:30 p.m. - Program Committee Meeting
at Dorothy Lee's.

Friday, April 9
7:30 p.m. - Banned Film Festival, at Prairie. Popcorn furnished.

Sunday, April 11
10:00 a.m. - "Are We Religious?" Barb Park
10:00 a.m. - Religious Education classes
11:30 a.m. - Pot luck lunch after service

Saturday, April 17
7:30 p.m. - Prairie Playreaders, meeting
at Rosemary Dorney's home, 4205 Odana Road.

Sunday, April 18
10:00 a.m. - "Are There Closet Christians in Our Midst?" Barb Park
10:00 a.m. - Religious Education Classes
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - Orientation meeting
for new people at Prairie,
"How Does Prairie Work?", at the Caldens' home, 4606 Waukesha St.

Sunday, April 25
10:00 a.m. - "History of UU Movement in America," Lionel Barker
10:00 a.m. - Religious Education classes
6:00 p.m. - Executive Board meeting, at Prairie
7:30 p.m. - Spring Parish Meeting, at Prairie

R.E. CORNER

Last Sunday Metje Butler interviewed
the children in each class to find out
what they enjoyed doing in the kitchen,
and whether they created their own recipes.
She urged them to contribute their favor­
ite recipes to the Prairie cookbook and
also asked for creative titles! All
suggested Prairie Fire and Smoke.

The preschool group now has a panel
of hand prints decorating their room -
very colorful and with the prints
identified. The K through 2 groups were
busy long after the usual ending time
comparing Mike Fink's deceitfulness
with Sacajawea's compassion and resource­
fulness. They also played "Shoot the
Sheep" for Mike's lamb stew.

Our book Values Clarification by
Simon seems to have disappeared again!
We're glad it's so popular, but we need
to locate it.

Pat Cautley

ESSAY CONTEST

The Humanist (7 Harwood Drive, Amherst,
NY, 14226) has announced the North
American Essay Contest for young people under age 30. "If you have substantial
concern for humans and the future, you
are invited to share your thoughts and
vision." Prizes are $1,000, $500, and $100.
Entries must be postmarked before July 15,
1982. See announcement on bulletin board.

Pat Cautley

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: APRIL 18
SPRING PARISH MEETING: REMINDER

The Spring Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday, April 25th, at 7:30 p.m. at Prairie Meeting House. The agenda is as follows:

1. Minutes of the Fall meeting
2. Financial report
3. Committee reports (3-minute limit)
4. By-law change
5. Election of officers

Popcorn will be served. Bring liquid refreshments.

FROM COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES...

One of the main items on the agenda at the April 25th Parish Meeting (7:30 p.m. at Prairie Meeting House) will be the election of new officers and chairpersons. Following are the nominations from the Committee on Committees. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

PRESIDENT: Marty Drapkin
VICE-PRESIDENT: Joyce Crim
SECRETARY: Shirley Czoschke
TREASURER: Nina Mattarella
FINANCE COMMITTEE: Gail Ostler
HOUSING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Glen Chambliss
LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE: Dorothy Lee
PROGRAM COMMITTEE: As co-chairpersons:
  Dave Zakem
  Carolyn Briggs
  Megan Kroger

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE: As co-chairpersons: Alice Bullen
  Erin Bosch

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE: As co-chairs:
  Les Lyons
  Norma Briggs

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES: As continuing member: Bob Nelson

LAY MINISTER RECOMMENDATIONS:
  First Quarter: Bob West
  Second Quarter: Shirley Grindrod
  Third Quarter: Mary Mullin

ROOTS

On Sunday, March 28th, "Our Religious Roots" was our program topic. Everyone present listed the religion of their childhood. The results were as follows:

- Catholic..................11
- Methodist..................9
- Presbyterian................6
- Episcopalian................4
- Jewish.......................5
- Baptist......................3
- Unitarian...................3-1/2
- Lutheran....................3-1/2
- Universalist................3
- Southern Fundamentalist....2
- Unitarian-Universalist....2
- Evangelical United Brethren..................2
- Quakers.....................1
- Congregational................1
- United Church of Canada.....1
- Agnostic.....................1
- "Protestant Nothing"..........1
- "Texan"........................1
- Christian Science............1

TOTAL.........................61

According to a study done in 1966, 89% of UU's over age 25 were raised in some other denomination. In our survey, 14% were raised either Unitarians, Universalists, or UU's (i.e., after merger in 1961). However, at least three of the folks present were under 25, which biased our count a bit. Omitting them, we had 9% who were raised in our denomination. As in other UU Churches, we are a group of converts, making us "typical" UU's!

Barb Park

PRAIRIE SINGERS

All interested in helping form a choir to sing old Unitarian hymns and shaped-note hymns, come practice! We have some interesting pieces to coincide with Barb's Lay Ministry on UU. Friday, April 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Nettletons, 645 Sheldon St. / Schedule for performing on Sunday mornings: April 25, May 9, May 16.

Aileen Nettleton
PARISH POLL RESULTS ON THE UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Thirty Prairie members stayed after the Sunday service on March 28th for the Parish Poll. Like other UU societies, Prairie had one vote per resolution. That vote was determined by the majority of votes cast. A solid majority of votes (from 22-28 of 30 votes) was cast by Prairie members on each resolution, reflecting a strong consensus among us.

Here are the results of our Parish Poll, sent off last week to the UU General Assembly Office. The "Yes" or "No" indicates whether or not we voted to place a particular resolution on the 1982 General Assembly Agenda.

**Business Resolution**

- B-1 Child Care

**General Resolutions**

- G-1 Gay-Lesbian Partnership Services
  - Yes
- G-2 Ending Inflation & Poverty
  - No
- G-3A Nuclear Disarmament
  - Yes
- G-4 Personal Religious Freedom
  - Yes
- G-5 Church-State Separation
  - Yes
- G-6 Toward World Commitment
  - Yes
- G-7 Israel-Palestine-Arab Conflict
  - Yes
- G-8 The New Abolition
  - Yes

Ruth Calden

**FOR NEW PEOPLE AT PRAIRIE, ON APRIL 18th**

Since Barb Park's ministry will cover some of the historical background, concepts and issues of the Unitarian-Universalist movement, the orientation meetings for new people this spring will center on Prairie Society. At the first meeting, the focus was on getting to know one another and the history of Prairie.

The second and last meeting will cover the organizational structure and activities of our society. Questions you may have will be welcomed by Pat Cautley on our religious education program. Les Lyons will speak on social action and Dorothy Lee on the bow, why and wherefore of our Sunday morning services.

While this meeting is designed for newcomers, everyone is most welcome to come and exchange ideas. If you are interested, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the table beneath the bulletin board. The meeting will take place at the Caldens, 4606 Waukesha St. (off Segoe Road) on Sunday evening, April 18, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Ruth Calden

**FORUM AT MATC**

MATC is sponsoring a Forum for Ground Zero Week. There will be lectures, workshops, and films on April 20-22 in the MATC Auditorium. Some of the speakers include Dr. Jeffrey Patterson, Samuel Day, Jim Rowen, Midge Miller, and Trudy Carlson. Some of the planned films include Fail-Safe, Missles of October, On the Beach, and Day After Trinity, which is about Robert Oppenheimer and the development of the atomic bomb.

The general public is welcome. There is no admission.

Allen Barkoff

**PHOTOS WANTED**

Positive Images of Growing Old, a UUSC special program on aging, seeks 35 mm. color slides or photographs showing people over 60 "acting, interacting, relating to other people and to their surroundings." (Doing the Virginia Reel in the Wisconsin River???) Send to Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, U.S. Programs Dept., 78 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108.

Dodie Chapru
The UUA Task Force on Economic Justice was created in 1979 by President Paul Carnes to relate liberal religious values to problems of economic justice and to produce a "thoughtful statement for denominational consideration."

The Task Force has produced a study kit for use by UU societies to "stimulate increased reflection and bold strategies on the constellation of problems revolving around economic justice." We have a copy.

They have also issued a declaration entitled "A Call to Do Justice", and have invited us to endorse it. The declaration states: "The Unitarian Universalist movement is nurtured by a proud heritage of concern for justice. We embrace and reaffirm a prophetic interpretation of history which asserts that persons working together in community have the power and the obligation to share in shaping our common destiny. In our age, in response to enormous economic injustice, we have a special responsibility to examine economic activities, processes and institutions from an ethical perspective. To state principles of justice and advocate alternative structures and processes is a deeply religious task. Establishing justice for the commonweal is a responsibility for us all. We commit ourselves to the task."

The declaration will be available at Prairie for signatures for the next several Sundays. We have been asked to return it by May 1st so that it can be displayed at the General Assembly in June "as a symbol of our movement's commitment to economic justice."

The March issue of "Window on the World," the newsletter of the UU United Nations Office, contains extensive coverage of the problems posed by transnational corporations. It is available for borrowing.

**Coming Events**

April 18-25: Ground Zero Week. A full week of lectures, films and other educational events on the realities of nuclear war. If you can volunteer help, call 257-7562 or 256-4146.

April 25: "Freeze the Arms Race" rally and peace walk at the State Capitol, featuring children's theatre, music and many speakers, including Betty Boardman.

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**June 7 - July 9: SSD-II - The United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament, humanity's best hope for a liveable world. You can help make it a success by asking President Reagan to attend and participate, instead of going to the NATO meeting.**

**June 12:** Rally and demonstration at U.N. Headquarters in New York in support of SSD II. Massive numbers of people from around the world will be there to demand an end to the arms race and the transfer of money from military budgets to programs meeting human needs. You can be there, too. Les Lyons

**Somali Refugee Benefit, April 18th**

Mayor Skornicka has proclaimed the week of April 11-18 as "Somali Refugee Awareness Week" and RE-ACTION, an organization of Wisconsin Returned Peace Corps Volunteers is sponsoring a Somali Refugee Benefit. The benefit will be held at Edgewood High School on April 25th from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. A donation will be requested: $5 for adults and $2 for people under 18.

Congressmen Bob Kastenmeir and Thomas Petri, a former Somalia volunteer, will be co-hosts for the benefit, which will include films and slides on Somalia, exhibits of African arts and crafts, African dancing with the Zito African Dance Troup, an assortment of African foods, and other entertainment.

A severe refugee problem exists in Somalia as an outgrowth of the conflict between the Somalis and Ethiopians, which, combined with the Sahel drought and overall poverty in Somalia, has caused there to be an estimated population of 700,000 people in refugee camps. Over one-quarter of the population in Somalia is in refugee camps!

Proceeds from the refugee benefit will go to the U.S. Committee for Somali Refugee Relief, Inc. to provide medicine and medical supplies to the refugee camps and hospitals. The U.S. Committee is operated entirely on a volunteer basis by former Somalia Peace Corps Volunteers. In the past two years, the committee has raised over $200,000 for Somali refugee relief. See me for more information or if you'd like to purchase tickets or make a donation.

Dave Zakem
AILING IVORIES

The piano in the basement can be fixed for around $200. To begin raising money, we will have a formal recital on the upstairs piano after service one Sunday. ALL PIANISTS OR EX-PIANISTS OF ALL AGES, PLEASE PARTICIPATE. Call Mike Briggs.

PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS

Playreading this month will be on Saturday, April 17th, at Rosemary Dorney's, 4205 Odana Road, at 7:30 p.m. We'll read either Rattigan's Separate Tables or Story's In Celebration. Everyone is welcome — no prior experience necessary. Please call 238-4382 if any questions.

Rosemary Dorney

FLASH NEWS FROM THE NCAC SPRING CONFERENCE!

A growing involvement of Prairie members in denominational affairs is seen in the election of two of our members to North Central Area Council positions. In the coming year, Barb Park will serve as vice-president and Peg Stevenson as secretary of the Council Board. In addition, Peg will be on the NCAC Board for a 3-year term as one of six directors.

Congratulations, Barb and Peg!