Prairie Fire
Newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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.

FROM PRAIRIE'S BOND OF UNION

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Volume 21, Number 15 July 25, 1983

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 31
9:00a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00a.m.--GAMES NEW AND OLD by Dodie Chapru
10:00a.m.--Baby care available

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
9:00a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00a.m.--WISCONSIN STATE POLICY ON FOREST LANDS by George Hall
10:00a.m.--Child care available

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
Retreat for Middle School Teachers, Sun Prairie

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14
NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE
VISIT TO SAUK CITY U.U. SOCIETY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21
9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00a.m.--Play readers with Pat Watkins
10:00a.m.--Child care available

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28
NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE
VISIT TO CHIWAOKEE PRAIRIE with Dayle Haglund

POTLUCKS AT PRAIRIE
Sunday, July 31 9:00 a.m. breakfast
Sunday, August 7 9:00 a.m. breakfast
Sunday, August 21 9:00 a.m. breakfast

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE, AUGUST 7

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
9:00a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00a.m.--Baby care available

SATURDAY EVENING BENEFIT, A GREAT SUCCESS
A good time was had by all at the music and dance program that featured the Ethnic Impurities on July 23rd.

$140 was raised and it will be split in half with one part going to St. Francis House for the Sanctuary Project and the other part to go to the Sanctuary Committee to help refugees along the U.S. border where there is a tremendous need at this time.

PRAIRIE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS RETREAT
Saturday, August 13, Middle School Teachers are to meet to plan the year at Dayle Haglund’s, 129 Oak St, Sun Prairie. If you need directions, call 837-9044.

A MINUTE OF SILENCE
On Saturday, August 6 at 8:15 a.m. Madison church bells will sound, calling for a minute of silence commemorating the moment the first atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima in 1945.

A second tolling of the church bells will recall the dropping of the second bomb, on Nagasaki at 11:02 a.m. on August 9 (Tuesday).

Also, in observance of the beginning of the atomic era, will be a 24 hour candlelight vigil at the Lisa Link Peace Park, in the 400 block of State St. The vigil will start with a walk from the State St. entrance of the capitol to the park at 9 a.m. Friday, August 5. The program, sponsored by Another Woman for Peace, will include poetry, music, and the making of 1000 paper cranes. Prairie people are urged to attend.

On Saturday, August 6, an ecumenical service, sponsored by Clergy and Laity Concerned will be held in the courtyard of Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington Ave.

For further information, call Lance Green, 221-8662
FACING THE MOONSHADOW

A workshop teaching about the threat of nuclear war and the possibilities for a just peace is planned for September 24, 9:30-5:30 at First Unitarian Society in Madison.

Teachers, parents, social concerns committee, adult education committees and other concerned adults are especially invited.

We all know about the threat of a nuclear confrontation. It has become our modern moonshadow. The gloom and doom of the nuclear threat is always with us. We have spent 34 years within its shadow. How are we in the liberal church to respond?

WE STILL HAVE A DREAM

August 27 marks the twentieth anniversary of an historic 1963 march on Washington led by Martin Luther King. In commemoration, hundreds of thousands will converge on Washington to rally and march to continue the struggle for equal rights, jobs, peace and freedom. Madison is sending several busloads of people in support. For more information, or to purchase tickets ($60 round-trip) call the Madison Urban League 251-8550.

SPECIAL NOTE: Several Prairie folks now plan to go on this trip, and many would like to support it. You can help Karen (Hegelmeyer) Aubrey, and others if funds are sufficient, by giving a donation to the Prairie Social Action Committee. Send checks to Lance Green, 1542 Simpson St., #1, Madison 53713.

A benefit concert for this march will be held at Vilas Park from 4-9 P.M., Sunday, July 31, featuring reggae music by Black Star, jazz poetry and folk music. $1 donation, beer and soda available.

NUCLEAR FREE MADISON

- Nuclear Free Madison will hold a benefit to support their efforts on Saturday, July 30 at Morgan's Bar, 1980 Atwood Ave. Music by Dave Fallow and Paul Kaarakka.

What is Religious?

The child asked what is religious about our church and I gave the Universalist answer I grew up with.

A lot of churches think being religious is about being good so you will go to heaven when you die or at least so you won't go to hell.

But our church thinks being religious is about being good (whatever that means) so you will find heaven here, on earth while you live and we try not to make for ourselves and others a hell here on earth.

A lot of churches think heaven is in the sky, a place where you go when you die if you're good enough and with a little luck and they think hell is below the ground where you burn terribly forever after if you've been bad and if you didn't quite make it with the luck thing.

We figure that whatever happens when you die is going to be all right and not terrible at all because it is all right to die and whatever it is it is going to happen the same to EVERYBODY.

We think both heaven and hell are right here right now in our hearts and of course we would rather have heaven than hell in our hearts and we work to make it so but if we don't always bring it off that's all right too. Because after all we're human and not god and human beings sometimes make mistakes. We try to learn from ours and make more heaven here and now and if that is being religious then we are very religious.'

from the Rev. Marjorie Newlin Leaming, Universalist Unitarian Church, Santa Paula, California

Housing wanted: 2-3 bedroom apartment or house needed for German professor and family, September through May. Please contact Mac Robertson at 256-7731 with any suggestions.