



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. *Prairie's Bond of Union*

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CALENDAR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:30a.m.--R.E. Conference at First Society:
"Facing the Moonshadow"

7:30p.m.--Playreaders will meet at Rosemary
Dorney's 4205 Odana Rd., THE RUNNER
STUMBLES.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

10:00a.m.--CRIMINALS & SINNERS AMONG US?
Confession Sunday at Prairie led
by Marty Drapkin and Bob West

11:20a.m.--Parents' Meeting for all parents
of children in the R.E. program.
Child care provided.

★ 10:00a.m.--Religious Education classes
Infant and child care available.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

7:30p.m.--Choir Get-together at Nettleton's,
645 Sheldon (see story)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:00a.m.--JUST DESSERTS: THE CRIMINAL SEN-
TENCING PROCESS by Judge Mark
Frankel.

10:00a.m.--Religious Education classes
Infant and child care available.

11:30a.m.--Potluck lunch

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7,8,9
UPHAM WOODS RETREAT
NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE

"Convictions are potent only when they
are shared. Until then, they are merely a
form of daydreaming." Norman Cousins

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE, OCTOBER 2

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R.E. Corner

Our Sunday School is off to a fine start due the efforts of our Religious Education committee members and many eager and willing teachers. Our middle school class had had a weekend adventure at Pat Cautley's cabin in Juneau County. We are hoping to plan more social events for these kids in additon to their regular Sunday morning classes. To avoid overloading their teachers we will need parents and others to help with the outings. Some ideas may be going out for pizza, roller skating, or swimming. Check with your favorite middle schooler or one of their teachers about scheduling an event!

Bouquets of Prairie wildflowers to the following people for their contributions to Religious Education:

1. Al Nettleton, Dick Bonser, and Geoff Bonser who put in over 27 person-hours of work to cut the new doorway and install the door which has greatly increased the usable space downstairs.
2. Bob Park for thoughtfully tape recording the Prairie services for the teachers. See Bob for the reel-to-reel tapes.

(Continued on next page)

RE CORNER (continued)

3. Pat Cautley who has so graciously allowed the middle school group to use her cabin for their retreat.
4. Metje Butler who has renovated the puppet stage which was given to us by Hugh Iltis. She has adapted it for many creative uses for all ages.

Dayle K. Haglund

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

Our new system for Sunday School snacks was planned at the September R.E. Committee Meeting. Each week a Prairie family will be responsible for juice and a snack for the children. Pat Cautley will make arrangements.

When its your turn you should bring about 1 gallon of juice or milk and a snack for about 40 children. An adult from your family should count the number of children in each class and prepare the trays. The trays should be delivered about 11:00 to each class.

PARENTS MEETING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

The R.E. Committee has planned a parents meeting for after the service next Sunday. Please attend this short meeting if you have children in the Sunday School. Child care will be provided.

PAID INFANT CARE WORKER URGED

I urge Prairie to include in its new budget money to pay someone to work in the infant nursery. Since our days on Colby St. we have paid someone to work in the nursery and they have run excellent programs for our pre-schoolers. An occasional infant has been cared for in with the pre-schoolers. Because of Prairie's growth and the growth of our families, we now have several infants and toddlers in need of nursery care. These cannot be accommodated in the pre-school nursery so a special infant nursery has been set up in one class room.

Infants and toddlers cannot be expected to adapt to the new face of a new volunteer each Sunday. Consistency of care is crucially important at this age. With a consistant staff person, infants would be greeted by a familiar face each week and that person would begin to know each child's needs and preferences. Infants would feel some of the comfort and security Prairie offers us all.

Peg Stevenson

LAO TSU: SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION SERIES

Translated into English more times than any other work except the Bible. A fount of Zen Buddhism. Affected the spiritual life of the likes of Hegel, Schopenhauer, Heidegger, Maritain, Weber, and Thomas Merton. A chief subject of the new best-selling paperback, THE TAO OF POOH. Contains only 5,000 words of poetry/statements in 81 very brief sections. It's THE WAY OF LIFE ACCORDING TO LAO TZU composed in Ancient Chinese about 2,500 years ago.

Come to the Calden's (4606 Waukesha, 233-5717) Friday evening, September 30 at 7:30pm to read aloud some of Lao Tzu and then discuss, explore, ruminate, meditate on it with John Ohliger from Basic Choices, Inc., (256-1946). It's helpful, but not necessary, to read some of the selections in advance. Contact Dorothy Wetherby (255-3536 for copies of some that might be looked at. Here's a sample:

Sound old rulers, it is said,
Left people to themselves, instead
Of wanting to teach everything
And start the people arguing.
With mere instruction in command,
So that people understand
Less than they know, woe is the land;
But happy the land that is ordered so
That they understand more than they know.
For everyone's good this double key
Locks and unlocks equally.
If modern folks would use it, they
Could find old wisdom in their hearts
And clear their vision enough to see
From start to finish and finish to start
The circle rounding perfectly.

UNITARIAN FOLK DANCES

Beginners! Singles! Couples! Experienced! Novices! Young! Old! We want you...We need you...The Unitarian Folk Dancers begin their 10th year of dancing with a special program for beginning dancers. Throughout the fall, instruction with Rose Mary Pruett, in beginning level dancing will be given the first part of the evening. Request dancing during the latter part of the evening will round out a night of exercise, fun and fellowship.

Won't you join us? Dances are held at the Unitarian Meeting House, 900 University Bay Drive (across from the V A Hospital). The first dance this season will be on Saturday, October 1 at 8 p.m

CIRCLE DINNERS

Circle dinner groups are now being organized. Groups containing 6-8 persons meet once a month at the home of one of the circle for a pot-luck dinner and fellowship. Please sign the clipboard at Prairie or contact Nina Mattarella, 238-6858 -- 636 Sheldon St., Madison 53711.

SEPTEMBER 11 PROGRAM AVAILABLE ON TAPE

For anyone who missed the September 11 program at Prairie with two Madison police officers, tape recordings of the program are available from Dayle Haglund on cassette and from Bob Park on reel-to-reel.

MARK YOUR CALEDARS!

The Central Midwest District Annual Meeting will be held in Peoria, Illinois November 11, 12, & 13. The CMD is the region of the UUA to which we belong. It includes churches in Wisconsin, Illinois, the upper peninsula of Michigan and a bit of Missouri. The Annual Meeting includes workshops, a business meeting, banquet and dance, and worship.

Special highlights this year include music by Carolyn McDade, who just completed a year long Ministry in Music with Women and a keynote speech by Sandra Caron: WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD? Registration forms are on the table at Prairie.

Barb Park

UPHAM WOODS REGISTRATION

A registration form for our annual Upham Woods weekend (October 7-9) is attached to this Prairie Fire.

Please note that an additional fee of \$1 per person was added to cover incidental expenses not directly addressed in the fee list. These forms should be returned to Bob Dopp, 510 Presidential Lane, Madison, 53711 by September 28.

To get to Upham Woods, take I90-94 to exit 87 (Hwy 13) to Wisconsin Dells. Turn left on Hwy 12 (at light) and go to the top of the hill and turn right on Hwy A. Go about two miles, under the railroad underpass, and find the camp at the bottom of the hill on the right. Phone numbers: (608) 254-8845 & 254-2649.

Bob Dopp

CHOIR GET-TOGETHER

We would like to form a choir to perform occasionally for Prairie Sunday programs. To get started, join us on Friday evening, Sept. 30, at Nettletons, 645 Sheldon. We will usually practice on Sunday mornings. So, if you'd like to sing, come along.

Al & Aileen Nettleton

AFTER 35--MAINTAINING HEALTH & VITALITY

The First Society Womens Alliance is again sponsoring a series featuring medical experts on health issues for women in middle years. Beginning on October 5, the sessions will be held on Wednesday noons. Inexpensive lunch is available. The series fee is \$20. Contact Dorothy Wetherby, 255-3536.

IT'S PLEDGE TIME --TIMES TWO!

The fiscal year has been changed from October 1 - September 30 to January 1 - December 31, 1983. The budget amount for this time period will be based on 1982-83 budget figures. Certain bills require full payment during this quarter; they cannot be prorated from last year's budget. This makes your pledge and prompt payment during the next three months crucial.

Though the Prairie Board has not yet voted on the proposed 1984 budget, the amounts submitted by committees show a considerable increase over last year's budget. Some of these increases may be pared, but a larger budget seems inevitable. Last year's budget (1982-83) required an average pledge of \$322 per pledging unit (about \$6 a week). This year an even larger amount should be considered.

As members and friends we have come to value the Prairie Society. It isn't possible to place a monetary value on the most important contributions to Prairie or the meaning of Prairie activities to participants. But as an organization, we do have financial needs, and it is necessary that we commit ourselves financially, according to our means, for Prairie to continue.

OUTSTANDING PLEDGES DUE

Please send your outstanding pledge amounts for 1982-83 to Mel Micke, 636 Sheldon St., Madison, WI 53711. If you have any questions regarding the balance due, call Carol Dopp, 238-7419. The Prairie fiscal year ends September 30 so pledges are due.

Please make checks out to Prairie U.U. Society. Fees and Registration Form must be received no later than September 28. Send to Bob Dopp, 510 Presidential Lane, 53711. We want as many members as possible to attend, regardless of their financial circumstances; therefore some scholarships have been budgeted. If you will need a full or partial scholarship, or have any questions regarding registration, contact Bob at 238-7419.

For questions regarding the program, call Aileen Nettleton, 238-6053.

YOUR NAME _____ TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Camp Upham Woods will not provide a meal or coffee Friday night. WE WILL HAVE OUR USUAL POTLUCK MEAL ON FRIDAY.

For computation of fees, youths are persons under age 18.

FEES FOR THE ENTIRE WEEKEND

Two nights and five meals)

Cabin Lodging (only cots provided)

No. _____

Adults @ 22.75 _____

Youths @ 14.60 _____

Dormitory Lodging (linens&towels)

Adults @ 30.75 _____

Youths @ 16.05 _____

SUB- TOTAL _____

FEES FOR PART OF THE WEEKEND

(Please double-check calculations)

Cabin Lodging(only cots provided)

No. _____

Fri. _____ Adults @ 4.00 _____

_____ Youths @ 2.80 _____

Sat. _____ Adults @ 4.00 _____

_____ Youths @ 2.80 _____

Dormitory Lodging (linens & towels)

Fri. _____ Adults @ 8.00 _____

_____ Youths @ 4.10 _____

Sat. _____ Adults @ 8.00 _____

_____ Youths @ 4.10 _____

(if first night) _____

@ 2.95 (if add'l night) _____

Names and Ages of Children:

Meals

Sat. _____ Adults @ 2.00 _____

Break _____ Youths @ 1.80 _____

Sat. _____ Adults @ 3.25 _____

Lunch _____ Youths @ 1.80 _____

Sat. _____ Adults @ 4.25 _____

Dinner _____ Youths @ 1.80 _____

Sun. _____ Adults @ 2.00 _____

Break _____ Youths @ 1.80 _____

Sun. _____ Adults @ 3.25 _____

Lunch _____ Youths @ 1.80 _____

SUB- TOTAL _____

NOTE: Please add \$1.00 per person for additional expenses.

*** TOTAL _____

CAMP UPHAM WOODS is operated by UW Extension for the state 4H system and is also available to groups like Prairie. It is on the WI river near WI Dells and includes a nature preserve, opportunities for canoeing and outdoor & indoor games. There are strict rules against alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, firearms, etc. on camp premises. We are responsible for the conduct of our members. We are also responsible for cleaning up when we leave and for setting tables & serving meals—but not for washing dishes!

Arrival time 5-6 pm Friday. Departure time by 3 pm Sunday.