



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

SUNDAY, MAY 27

NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE--See story for information about Canoe Trip.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00 a.m.--A THOUSAND MILES ALONG WISCONSIN'S ICE AGE TRAIL, a glorious slide show tour by Gary Werner, Ice Age Trail Coordinator.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

8:00 p.m.--Program Committee Meeting at Mary Mullen's, 4337 Milford.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00 a.m.--SOMETHING ABOUT BREAD by Mike Briggs

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

10:00 a.m.--(Father's Day) A PRAIRIE FUNDAY Intergenerational softball or (if it's wet) a Prairie singalong (or both). See story.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

6:30 p.m.--Playreaders annual fish dinner, postponed to this date. See story

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Visit to another church. Time and destination to be announced.

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PRAIRIE CANOE TRIP

The canoe trip will begin Friday evening, May 25, at the village campground in Muscoda. On Saturday morning we will move the canoes to the Lone Rock landing and start downriver to Muscoda at 10:00 a.m. People who cannot come earlier should join us at Lone Rock on Saturday morning. We will stay overnight again at Muscoda, and leave from there for Boscobel on Sunday morning. We will again stay overnight at Muscoda. Monday, we will break camp and return to Madison. Additional canoeing can be arranged Monday for those who are interested.

There are good restaurants in Muscoda for those who don't want to cook, and a motel for those who don't want to camp. Groceries will also be available locally.

Meals will be on your own--it takes too much time for group meals. There will be group activities available (volleyball, and singing and story telling) and there's a few good bars for those who want to party on Saturday. Good weather has been ordered. See you there!

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES

Geoff Bonser, John Briggs, and Kim Capozio have finished their high school careers.

Shawn Pollack has received his degree in journalism at the UW.

Norma Briggs and Rosemary Dorney have graduated from Law School.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: JUNE 3

A PRAIRIE FUNDAY: JUNE 17

It's traditional for fathers to teach their sons and daughters how to play softball and to participate in games with their children. To celebrate this tradition on Sunday, June 17, we'll have intergenerational softball at Marlborough Park just half a block from Prairie. Participants and spectators of all ages and both sexes are invited. Bring bats, balls, mitts--or a blanket if you prefer to watch the fun.

If it's a nasty day, we'll have a sing-along at Prairie instead. (Or we could do both if people so desire.) Bring your voice, requests, special Father's Day songs, and musical instruments.

In either case, coffee will be available at Prairie and maybe we can order some pizzas.

SUMMER PROGRAM AT PRAIRIE: WHAT'S IN STORE?

All right all you avid Prairie fans--and those few of you who at one time or another may have been critical of an occasional Prairie program, this is your opportunity to contribute ideas for programs, volunteer to organize a service, or better yet, serve on the program committee itself. The Committee will meet at 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 5 at Mary Mullen's home, 4337 Milford (just down the street from Prairie).

The first item of business will be "What shall we do this summer?" As your new Program Chairperson I have a number of ideas but I'm very open to suggestions and even more open to your offers to organize a service or two.

Just to get you thinking, here are some possibilities. Your feedback is sought. (Talk to me in person, call me at 271-5192, or come to the committee meeting.)

1. Report from Nicaragua by Nan Cheney and other Madisonians who recently visited that country.

2. American Dialects by Joan Hall

3. Anti-Semitism in the Women's Movement and Women's Studies.

4. Black Music Ensemble--gospel music and other student compositions.

5. A Walt Whitman Celebration

6. As a group visit other Madison churches to enjoy their way of conducting services or their ministers. I'd like to visit the Queen of Peace Community (Diane Worzala's group), First Unitarian Society, Covenant Presbyterian (Minister, Ann Philbrick), The Cornerstone Church (the group that wants to rent our building), Unity of Madison, Society of Friends. It is our custom to visit the Sauk City Fellowship also.

7. Invite ministers from other churches to speak to us, particularly women ministers or ministers from churches offering sanctuary to refugees. Ask invited ministers to:

- (a) deliver their best sermon,
- (b) talk about their religious beliefs and experiences, or
- (c) discuss their attitudes toward other denominations and religions.

8. Personal theology--What Do I Really Believe?

9. Take a field trip or two

10. Picnics at homes of members with large yards.

INVESTING IN PEACE

Awareness is growing of another way that individuals and groups are supporting the war machine--with their hardearned savings, retirement funds and other investments. Many are surprised to find their local bank fueling the nuclear arms race by investing substantial sums through its trust department in companies that manufacture nuclear weapons.

A recent Progressive Foundation study showed that nearly \$800 million of Wisconsin's investment fund is in major nuclear weapons contractors, and an additional \$4.6 million has been loaned to the government of El Salvador. The social responsibility of our state's investment policies will be the topic of a conference entitled "Invest in Peace: The New Wisconsin Idea" on June 9 from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave. Rep. David Clarenbach, who will introduce legislation next session for ethical investments by the Wisconsin Investment Board, will give the keynote address at 1:30 P.M. Other participants include Marty Beil, President of Wisconsin State Employees Union; Dennis Boyer, Legislative Representative of the Wisconsin AFSCME Councils; Sam Day, contributing editor of the Progressive Magazine; Paul Olson, a Madison investment broker, and representatives of the Freeze Campaign and Community Action on Latin America. The conference is free and open to the public. Bring a lunch.

I am now investigating the status of Prairie's investments, and will report soon, with information on socially responsible investment options for the Society and our members. Perhaps by withdrawing our support (literally), we can help stop the arms race here at home.

Lance Green
Social Action Chair

G.G.G. SALE (GREAT GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE)

The Prairie G.G.G. Sale will be on August 25th. . . Reserve the day. . . We need a coordinator for the linen boutique. Remember that we are looking for discarded: mattresses, bed pads, sheets, bedspreads, pillows, towells, curtains, and drapes. I need to know which Prairie people have pickup trucks which could be used to move large items.

Pat Watkins

PLAY READERS ANNUAL FISH DINNER, JUNE 22

Join the Play Readers for their annual fish dinner on Friday, June 22, 6:30 p.m. at Bud's House of Sandwiches, 6722 Odana Rd. Their seafood buffet is \$5.95 for all you can eat of fried or broiled perch, cod and shrimp (plus the trimmings).

A one-act play reading will follow (with dessert & coffee) at Pat Watkins. Join us for either or both parts of the evening. Dinner reservations are a must; call Pat at 262-7960 or 233-5795 no later than Monday, June 18.

PEACE ACTION SUGGESTIONS:

Enter the dialogue that democracy makes possible.

1. Write as an individual on your personal stationary to the national office of the candidate. Keep your letter short, direct, affirmative, and polite. Reinforce whatever the candidate has said with which you agree. Then ask questions about two or three specifics, such as: What will you do to reduce and halt the arms race? What will you do to improve Soviet/U.S. communications. (Adapted from GROUND ZERO material)

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES:

Gary Hart for President
507 8th St., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 675-9000

Jesse Jackson for President
2100 M. St., N.W. Suite 316
Washington, D.C. 20037
(202) 293-1289

Mondale for President
2201 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. #100
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 625-1600

Reagan/Bush Campaign
440 1st St., N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 383-1984

FROM THE CLIPBOARDS

May 27--No meeting at Prairie
KITCHEN CLEANUP

June 3 ??

June 10 George & Ruth Calden
NO OTHER CLIPBOARD ENTRIES

DENISE TRACY NEW CENTRAL MIDWEST EXECUTIVE

The CMD board has announced that the Rev. Ms. Denise Tracy has been selected as District Executive. She will assume her duties in July. Ms. Tracy is currently minister of the UU Church of Greater Lansing, Mich.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: APPLY NOW!

The R.E. Committee has regretfully accepted Dayle Haglund's resignation as R.E. Director. We are beginning our search for a new director. The position will begin July 1. Please call Erin Bosch, 238-6285, or Aileen Nettleton, 238-6053 for information, recommendations, or to express your own interest.

The R.E. Director is a very important role in our Prairie community. Give this serious consideration.

LET YOUR SPIRITS SOAR

All women of Prairie are urged to mark their calendars and plan to attend the 3rd Annual Fall Retreat of the Central Midwest District/Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation. Our theme will be Let Your Spirits Soar! Total cost will be \$45.00 for two nights lodging, five complete meals, snacks, program costs, etc. Time and place are listed below:

Time: 6:00p.m., Friday, October 26, 1984 to
8:00a.m., Sunday, October 28, 1984

Place: George Williams College, Lake Geneva
Campus, Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

Fliers will be mailed in August, and more information with registration forms will be included in the Summer Edition of the Voice of Women.

YWCA WOMEN OF DISTINCTION LUNCHEON

At their 10th annual Women of Distinction Luncheon Friday, June 15, the Madison YMCA will honor Roberta Gassman, Beverly McCord, Verona Morgan, and Carol Touissant. The luncheon will be held at noon at the Concourse hotel. Lucille Kimball will also be the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement award. Reservations should be made by June 13.