



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

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

6:30 p.m.--Playreaders annual fish dinner,
Bud's, 6722 Odana Rd. \$5.95. Call
Pat Watkins, 233-5795 (after dark)

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Visit services of another religious community:

8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.--Lakeview American
Lutheran (corner of Northport Dr.
& Mandrake Rd.)

11:00 a.m.--Society of Friends (1704 Roberts
Court, off Monroe St. behind the
Randall Bank)

10:00 a.m.--First Unitarian (900 University
Bay Dr.)

Childcare available at all churches. Also
see story.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast

10:00 a.m.--"Patriotism and Ambivalence: A
Living Constitution" by Rosemary
Dorney. See story.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

9:00 a.m.-- Potluck breakfast

10:00 a.m.--"Impressions of Nicaragua" by Nan
Cheney and Dan DiPiazza

SUNDAY, JULY 15

12:30 p.m.--Potluck picnic with the Sauk City
Free Congregation (Unitarian).
Directions printed elsewhere in
this newsletter.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast

10:00 a.m.--"How Do You Say It: American Dia-
lects," by Joan Hall

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SUNDAY, JUNE 24th:

A TIME TO BROADEN OUR EXPERIENCES

Prairie's Bond of Union affirms that we as a religious community wish to "expand our intellectual horizons, enrich our sensory experiences, deepen our emotional sensitivities;...sharpen our ethical awareness and broaden our sense of social responsibility." In a nutshell, this means opening ourselves to new experiences and feelings.

This Sunday, June 24th, Prairie members and friends are invited to expand their world by visiting one of three different churches.

Lakeview Lutheran on Northport Drive will offer the most traditional type of service but perhaps this service will seem quite unusual because the minister is a woman, Rev. Jan Sollom.

Later this church year Jan and several other women clergy will be invited to a Prairie service to relate their experiences as a small-minority in a profession that is only now beginning to allow women into its ranks (Lutherans began ordaining women only a dozen years ago). Although a number of other women clergy serve in Madison, our program committee suggest visiting Jan Sollom's service because Jan has been very active in issues relating to Central American refugees. We suspect it may be a broadening experience to know that the woman delivering a sermon on "The Importance of the Law" -- as required on this Sunday in Lutheran, Episcopal and Catholic churches -- is involved in activi-

(Continued on Page 2)

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: JULY 1

ties that may challenge our country's policy regarding "undocumented aliens" from Central America.

The 8 a.m. service at Lakeview is the more heavily attended. The 10:30 service may be held in the smaller chapel if attendance is small enough. Childcare is available only during the 10:30 service. Jan welcomes our attendance at her service.

For a very different experience from Prairie, visit the Society of Friends at 11 a.m. in the Friends Meeting House behind the Randall Bank. This is a silent service though occasionally a person or persons may speak briefly and just once per person. Children attend the first part of the service with their parents. After 15 minutes the leaders of the children's program get up and beckon the children to go with them. About noon the silent service is broken by the Clerk of the Meeting. Handshakes and announcements follow.

Jim Greenley, who is Clerk of the Meeting cordially welcomes Prairie people to attend. He notes that the Madison Quakers feel very close to us because of our common views on many issues and our custom of following thought by action.

Those who prefer to attend a service that will be quite similar to normal Prairie fare (whatever that is) may wish to attend the First Unitarian Society on University Bay Dr. at 10 a.m. George Calden from Prairie will conduct the service, "Beethoven, Unitarian Saint?" This is an opportunity to meet other Madison Unitarian Universalists.

This "visiting day" is the first of several planned for the summer. We will probably also attend a meeting of the Queen of Peace Community (Diane Worzala's group) and the Sauk City U.U. congregation.

PATRIOTISM AND AMBIVALENCE:

A LIVING CONSTITUTION, IS JULY 1 PROGRAM

To Unitarian Universalists, "patriotism" is sometimes one of those touchy words like "religion" or "hymn" that sets off ambivalent feelings. We want to be able to examine how we feel about "national" (as opposed to primarily religious holidays, where we feel connected to our country, where we don't, and why. On Sunday, July 1, we'll give a program broadly related to the 4th of July. It will deal with the Constitution, primarily the Establishment and Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment which grants us our freedom of speech and press, religious freedom, and right to assemble. In a sense this program will relate both to the series Barb

Park and Diane Worzala did on religion and to the issues Lee and Alice Bullen examined in their lay ministry on the Bill of Rights.

We're looking for some anecdotes and also suggestions for "ritual" (another one of those words!) that would be appropriate. Examples might be situations where you felt a very strong impact on you as to the meaning of any one of the above mentioned rights. It could be your own experience, a family tradition, or something a friend related to you. In the interest of brevity and of good program integration, we're asking for your help and suggestions in advance. It's always fascinating when we share with one another, but when it runs overtime, it's hard on those downstairs.

If you have ideas, either for relevant personal contributions or for appropriate music or readings, please call me at 238-4382 (evenings are best), before June 29.

Rosemary Dorney

SUNDAY, JULY 15, POTLUCK AT SAUK CITY

To find the Sauk City Unitarian Fellowship take Highway 12 to Sauk City. Turn rt. on Water Street at the traffic light just after the bridge. Go several blocks to Polk Street. (We think it is about ½ mile -- the sign may be difficult to find.) Turn left on Polk St. The church is on Polk between John Adams and Jefferson Streets.

Please bring a dish to pass and your own dishes and silver.

GOODBYE AND BEST WISHES TO DOTTIE & CHARLES

Dottie and Charles Polk are leaving Madison at the end of June. They will be in Estes Park Colorado for a month before they travel east making several stops along the way to be back in Rhode Island by the 15th of August.

Dottie says they have both enjoyed the group at Prairie.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOIS AND METJE

Lois Mendum Hagstrom and Metje Butler were among the winning artists in the recent 70th anniversary competition/show of the Madison Art Guild at Edgewood College. Lois showed "Edge of the Woods" in the oils and acrylics division and Metje has a sculpture called "The Fish's View of the One That Got Away".

The exhibition will be on display through June 28 in DeRicci Hall at Edgewood College.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THERON AND BRET

Theron Caldwell Ris graduated from the University this spring receiving her MSA degree. Her son Bret Caldwell was an honor graduated from East High this June.

THE G. G. G. SALE

The call went out several months ago for volunteers willing to work on the Great Gigantic Garage Sale at Prairie on Saturday, August 25th. Primarily, I am seeking coordinators of the following concessions (boutiques? sections? areas?): Plants; Clothing; Linens; Furniture; Children & Infants articles; Kitchen & Dining implements; Miscellaneous odds and ends; Bake Sale; Music and Entertainment. I also need volunteers with pick-up trucks who could transport large boxes or furniture which will not fit in autos. To date only one person has volunteered: to coordinate refreshment sales. Another person has been contacted who has agreed to handle the used book sale. Because of job and other time commitments, and also because of personal style, I have tried to get the garage sale organized well in advance; I am not good at last minute planning I really want this to be a super affair for Prairie. Therefore, if I do not get any volunteers by the first of July, I will resign as garage sale coordinator and assume that Prairie people are not interested in this fund raising event. Call Pat Watkins, 233-5795 (late evenings).

BENEFIT FOR REFUGEE ADVOCATE AT FARM MARKET

Stacy Merkt, a Catholic layworker at Casa Oscar Romero refugee shelter in Texas, was arrested in February by the U.S. Border Patrol as she was driving Salvadoran refugees Brenda and Mauricio and their daughter Bessy to the INS office in San Antonio so that they could apply for political asylum. Stacy was tried and convicted of conspiracy to transport illegal aliens.

Stacy's sentencing is set for June 27. She faces a maximum of 15 years in prison or a \$15,000 fine.

The border support group of the Madison Sanctuary Committee wishes to raise funds to help defray the costs of an appeal, and to demonstrate solidarity with Stacy. To this end the group is sponsoring a vegetable-baked goods stand at the Farmers Market on Saturday, June 23. Donations of homegrown vegetables and home-baked breads and sweets are needed. Bring donations to the Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court (behind the Randall bank) on Friday, June 22, at 7 p.m. For more information, call Dorothy Whiting, 241-0213, before 5 p.m., or Mary Collet, 238-0921, after 5 p.m. Tentative location of the booth will be the Wisconsin street side of the square.

"A child's religion develops slowly but surely, all day every day. By religion we mean feelings and thoughts about ourselves, our families, our friend's and whatever else in the world of nature and society have impact on us. These thoughts and feelings grow out of total experience. A child's spiritual development is not the development of one part of him or her separate from every other part; it is the development of the whole person. Natural religious development is found in the kinds of experiences that actually awaken wonder, that represent the thrill of a first discovery, that cause questioning and the beginning of philosophizing."

Josephine Gould