



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 12

10:00 a.m.--MADISON ADULTS LEARN TO READ by
Judy Spring (Omega High School)
and Lois Schwab (Madison Literacy
Center)

10:00 a.m.--R.E. classes, baby & child care

11:15 a.m.--Wedding Ceremony for Katherine
Hammon and Mark Horn

FRIDAY, MAY 17

6:00 p.m.--Picnic for families of 3-4-5 R.E.
class at Wingra Park (see story)

SUNDAY, MAY 19

10:00 a.m.--Spring Celebration at Prairie
Socialize - Recognize - Picnic -
Potluck

6-8:00 p.m.--Informational meeting on "About
Your Sexuality" curriculum for
parents of middle schoolers at
Prairie.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

7:30 p.m.--Executive Board meeting at
Prairie: Joint meeting of the
new and old boards

SUNDAY, MAY 26

NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE --CANOE TRIP

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

An invitation has been received from the
Sauk City Unitarian Congregation to join
them on June 9 for a picnic potluck and pro-
gram. More details and directions will be
available in a future Prairie Fire.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: MAY 19

R.E. CORNER

Nursery - On May 12 this class will hold
a closing celebration, and on May 19 they
will join in the Recognition Sunday.

K-1-2 - On May 11-12 the youngsters will
hold their overnight -- see separate story.

3-4-5 - This group will celebrate Japan-
ese Children's Day by making kites on May
12. A picnic for the families of children
in this class will be held Friday, May 17
at Wingra Park (not Vilas Park) at 6 p.m.
Bring meat to cook, a dish to pass, drinks
and table service and the whole family.

6-7-8 - This class will culminate the
study of Prairie peoples beliefs and values
on May 12.

SUMMER PROGRAM - May 12 will be the last
R.E. class of the year. All kids (except
babies, if needed) will join in Recognition
Sunday on May 19. There will be no program
for children on Memorial Day Sunday.

During the summer we will continue to
have a paid nursery assistant each Sunday
for the littlest youngsters. For older chil-
dren we will ask for 2 volunteers each Sun-
day (sign-up on clipboard, please) to con-
duct activities with any children who attend.
We will have craft, nature, games, and other
ideas available, or plan your own favorite
fun with these mixed-age groups.

OVERNIGHT FOR K-1-2 - Children from the
K-1-2 class will meet at Prairie on Saturday
May 11, by 1:00 to travel to the Parks' res-
idence near Poynette for the overnight. Kids
will be brought back to Prairie by 11:30 on
Sunday, May 12 to be rejoined with their
families. If you have a child who should be

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Katherine Hammon

and

Mark Horn

Invite you to share with them

the joy of their wedding

on

Sunday, May 12, 1985

The ceremony will take place

at

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

2010 Whenona Drive

Madison, Wisconsin

The ceremony will be held after the regular

weekly service which begins at 10:00 a.m.

TO OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

We have been blessed with love for one another and success in our lives. We will be living in a lovely home near the ocean and enjoy the many splendors of New England. There are, however, many people in the world that are not as fortunate. On the happiest day of our lives, we would ask you to share with those less fortunate starving in Africa. A movement has formed to bring desperately needed food and shelter to these people most in need of our love and concern.

Therefore, we are asking that you join with us in helping our fellow human beings by using the money that you may have planned to spend on a wedding present, if you planned to send a present, to save the lives of the starving peoples of Africa. We will forward your check or you may mail it directly if you wish. Please make your check out to:

USA for Africa
6420 Wilshire Blvd. #1900
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Thank you for helping us share our love and happiness with those who need it so much.

Kathy and Mark

PRAIRIE ELECTS OFFICERS & COMMITTEE HEADS

At the April 28 Parish Meeting the following officers and committee heads were elected:

President: Rick Rueking
 Vice president: Barbara Park
 Secretary: Pat Watkins
 Treasurer: Megan Christensen
 Denominational affairs: Casey Steinau
 and Barbara James
 Finance: Brent Haglund
 Housing and property: Rachel Siegfried
 and Dan Laux
 Long range planning: Jack Jallings
 Membership: Ann Reardon and Judy Spring
 Program: Mary Mullen
 Religious Education: Sharon Scrattish
 and Robynne Martin
 Social action: Leland Bullen
 Committee on Committees:

Nominated from the floor and elected at the meeting were: David McKee, Metje Butler, and Mike Briggs. Anne Reardon had been chosen by the committee to be the continuing member. A final member will be picked by the incoming board at their first meeting.

Prospective lay ministers announced at the meeting were: 1) Elisabeth Jones; Spirituality and Intellect; 2) Judy Spring: Unanswered Questions; 3) Marty Drapkin and Pat Watkins: Working.

Delegates to the General Assembly, June 17-22 in Atlanta, Georgia were elected at the April 28 Parish Meeting. Cindy LaMar and Casey Steinau will represent Prairie.

R.E. CORNER (continued)

in this class but haven't received a detailed letter, leave a message on the Prairie phone (271-8218) and I'll call you Friday evening with more information.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS - The "About Your Sexuality" curriculum will be explained and discussed at a parents ONLY meeting at Prairie on Sunday, May 19, from 6 -8 p.m. We will have the material there for you to study. All parents who want their middle schoolers to participate in the "About Your Sexuality" course next fall at Prairie MUST attend an informational meeting and give specific permission for their children to take the UUA curriculum. If you will have a child in middle school next year but have not received a letter with details, just come to the informational meeting or contact Mary Beth. (Leave a message at Prairie, 271-8218)

PROGRAM FOR 1985-86: The R.E. Committee has been working hard to design an excellent program for next year. Because of the growth of

Prairie and its R.E., it is necessary to expand the class schedule to four groups. Of course, four classes need more teachers as well. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Aileen Nettleton (238-6053) or Mary Beth O'Halloran (leave message at Prairie 271-8218). The classes for next year follow:

Nursery - "Growing Times" from UUA will continue to be the basis for structured developmental activities such as group growth, motion, crafts and hand skills, language, etc

K-1-2 - "A Place of One's Own", Prairie's name for UUA's "Haunting House", will again occupy this class with defining personal space, investigating homes in nature, and building personal and class special places.

3 - "Celebrating Our Roots and Branches", from the Joseph Priestley District of UU, will keep this large single grade class busy exploring the ethnic diversity of the United States. All the main ethnic groups in the US will be studied through songs, games, crafts, food and celebrations.

4-5 - "Why Do Bad Things Happen" and "The Meaning Maker" - In the fall this group will consider the problem of evil from the perspective of each of the world's major religious philosophies. Approaches include: original sin, reincarnation, wrong thinking, evil spirits, disharmony of the universe, personal sin, evil force, and fate. In the spring they will study The Beacon Press curriculum, "The Meaning Maker", to learn to expect and accept differences in the way people perceive and give meaning to their perceptions.

6-7-8 - "The Church Across the Street" will occupy Sunday mornings for the middle schoolers during the fall. This curriculum in which youth visit and discuss other churches, is a natural sequel to their study of Unitarian Universalism this spring. A curriculum for spring '86 will be selected later.

6-7-8-9 - "About Your Sexuality" will be offered for the first time in many years on Sunday evenings for the middle school and 9th graders. Separate letters of explanation will be going to middle school parents soon to explain this special curriculum.

9 - The mentoring program, which matches an adult mentor with the youth of this class for the next two years, will begin this fall. The adult/youth grouping will concentrate on study, service, socializing, and activities together for the time between the end of the R.E. program and the age at which adult membership in Prairie is available.

Youth Group - The youth group for middle school and high school youth will continue to meet for social and other activities.



MEMORIAL DAY CANOE TRIP

We will canoe the Kickapoo River and camping will be at Brush Creek Campgrounds. A minimum 3-day fee is required whether you stay all 3 nights or not. (Fri., Sat., and Sun. nights). This is their policy on holiday weekends. The charge is \$2.25 per night per adult and \$1.25 per night per child.

The campground is about 5 miles from Wild Cat Mt. State Park, just outside Ontario, Wisconsin. I have a map of the campground area posted on the Social Action Bulletin Board. We are in Hidden Valley, a tents only area with a pit toilet. We will need to carry water in from the office area. Pay showers are available near the office store. They open a recreation hall to teens in the evening, there is a swimming/fishing hole, playground area and hiking trails available. I'm writing about canoe rentals now to be sure they are also available there. I will reserve a few canoes so let me know by May 15 if you need one.

Karen Jackson 241-0274

SUMMER SERVICE IDEAS AND LEADERS WANTED

Summer is the time Prairie loosens up and invites anyone with a program idea to submit the idea to the program committee. Call in your idea to Prairie Program Chairperson, Mary Mullen, 271-5192, or come to the next Prairie Program Committee meeting on Monday, May 20, 5-7 p.m. at 4337 Milford Rd., 1/2 block from Prairie. If you would like to organize and lead a program, even better! Come to present your ideas. We will find a date.

The \$20 that Prairie donated to mail clothes to refugees on the Texas/Mexico border covered about 1/3 of the cost to send seven boxes of clothes.

CLIPBOARDS

- Kitchen Cleanup
- 5-12 Dayle Haglund & ?
- 5-19 ? & ?
- 5-26 Memorial Day Canoe Trip
- No service at Prairie

- Nursery helper
- 5-12 Diane Derouen
- 5-19 ?
- 5-26 as above

- R.E. Snacks
- 5-12 Jallings

MADISON ADULTS LEARN TO READ

The May 12 Sunday service will include Judy Spring (Omega High School) and Lois Schwab (Madison Literacy Center) who will discuss the extent of adult illiteracy in Dane County and share their experiences teaching adults to read. This is the final service in Dody Chapru's lay ministry titled "Many Faces of Madison."

* * * *

Prairie friend Lee Burkholder, who also works with the Literacy Center, has been helping Idabelle Barber, who has cerebral palsy, write her memoirs. The book, soon to be published, is being printed by Lee Bullen.

THE PRAIRIE SERVICE AUCTION made over \$1200 for Prairie! The bar alone netted \$49.00. Details to follow.

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* REMEMBER PICNIC-POTLUCK ON MAY 19 *

* AFTER THE SPRING CELEBRATION! *

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