

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, FEBRUARY 2

AFTER SERVICE: CHOIR PRACTICE

10:00 a.m.--A CELEBRATION OF THE SUN: featuring live "sun" music from around the world. Dave Zakem with a sunburst of solar spirits and muses. Bring "sun" slides to share.

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

10:00 a.m.--INTERGENERATIONAL LOVE STORY with Mary Beth O'Halloran and Alice Bullen

END OF SERVICE: SHARE FINGER FOODS

10:00 a.m.--Child & baby care available

AFTER SERVICE: CHOIR PRACTICE

AFTER SERVICE: BY-LAWS COMMITTEE, SEE STORY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

7:30 p.m.--Playreaders meet at Elisabeth Jones, 4715 Sheboygan Ave #112, 233-5373: Wilder's Skin of Our Teeth or Eliot's Cocktail Party.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

10:00 a.m.--WHAT COMES NEXT? How death of a relative or friend influences us? What happens after death? Continuation of Judy Spring's Lay Ministry.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

6-8 p.m.--Program Committee and Potluck at 4337 Milford. Anyone welcome. THIS IS A NEW TIME!

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R.E. CORNER

PRESCHOOL - Come and meet the new nursery assistant, Yasmine Sido. She is a 9th grader with several younger brothers and sisters who have given her plenty of baby sitting experience. Many of you also have met her parents at Prairie or at play reading. Yasmine will work on games, stories, and play to keep the youngest children busy learning baby skills.

K- 1-2 - These children will be learning about life cycles all spring - birth, individual differences, sickness, aging, and death. Parents of these children will receive several letters during the term to alert them to particularly sensitive topics. The parents are also invited to attend class with their children if they wish. Please discuss with your children your own beliefs and values about these important questions.

On February 2 this class will learn about family structures, including nuclear and extended families, single parent and joint custody families, etc. On February 9 they will join the Intergenerational Service for Valentines Day.

3-4-5 - This past Sunday this class studied Native Americans as part of their curriculum on cultural heritage. David McKee read several Indian Tales, and they constructed tipis and sampled seeds. On February 2 they will continue to study Native American culture, and on February 9 they will celebrate Valentines Day in the Intergenerational Service with the rest of Prairie.

6-7-8 - The middle school resumed The

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NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 9

R.E. CORNER, continued

Church Across The Street with an introduction by a UU who was raised Catholic. On February 2 they will attend a Catholic Mass, and on February 9 they will join the Inter-generational Service.

Youth Group - With great sadness Prairie says good-bye to Gayle and Ryan Ostler. There is no way to express to Gayle our thanks for getting the youth group started and guiding it through its first year.

Anyone who is interested in working with the middle school and high school youth, please talk with Erin Bosch, Mary Beth O'Halloran, or members of the R.E. committee about working with the youth group.

Sharing Circle - Your K-5 and older nursery kids may be talking about a Sharing Circle. We will be starting the children's programs 3 Sundays a month with a very short service of songs, candle lighting, children's bond of union, and some topic to discuss. Topics so far were Martin Luther King, Jr. and The Best Day of Your Life. Future topics will include the new UUA principles and purposes, children's concerns and values.

Another Retiring Teacher - By an oversight we forgot to mention Dan Laux's work last fall teaching the Adult AYS class. Thank your, Dan.

The Program Committee needs several people to plan our Spring/Easter Holiday Intergenerational Service. The service will be March 30. Volunteer yourself or your ideas now to Program Chairperson, Mary Mullen at 271-5192. The sky's the limit!

NEW GROUP ANYONE?

Is there an interest in a new Circle Dinner group? Let Ruth Calden, 233-5717, or Dorothy Wetherby, 255-3536, know about your desire. Groups may be organized with 6-8 or more.

I recently learned that some people were offended by part of my December 29th service "Get Rid of That Guilt". Specifically, I understand that some found the recitation of the "Hey, Mary" at the end of the service to be extremely disrespectful of Catholicism.

I certainly apologize for offending anyone. I didn't want to do that. On the other hand, I plead guilty to trying to use satire in what I thought was a fairly benign manner. I hope most of you will agree that satire equals neither intolerance or hatred.

Marty Drapkin

BY-LAW COMMITTEE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 9

Following the morning program, all past presidents of Prairie are asked to attend a short hearing at Prairie before the By-Laws Committee on a possible change in Executive Board structure and election. All interested members are welcome to attend.

CREATIVE COMPUTING ...

A Prairie computer fair for kids of all ages

Some school age and post school age members of Prairie families have been having a lot of fun dreaming up things to make their computers do at home, work, or school. If you have an interesting computer program all or part of which you wrote yourself, bring it to share at the computer fair. Everyone is invited to come and see the programs, ask questions and try out the computers starting around noon on February 23 following the Sunday morning service on creativity.

If you have a program or home computer you can bring, contact Bob Park at 635-7519.

SOCIAL ACTION NOTES

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Prairie's response to the annual "Guest at Your Table" program of the Unitarian Service Committee this year was \$227. The money will be used for the UUSC's humanitarian work around the world.

Closer to home, the box for contributions of canned and dried foods remains in the lobby. By next Sunday there could be a good load to take to the Salvation Army. Will you help?
Leland Bullen

The Dane County Advocates for Battered Women need volunteers for exterior and interior maintenance to their office and shelter buildings. They will be holding two training sessions on the 4th and 6th of Feb. Call 251-1237 if you are willing to help.

LETTER FROM SHIRLEY CZOSCHKE

We received a wonderful letter from Shirley telling about the area and her job. We will post it on the bulletin board for any one to read. She said to say "Hello".