

Prairie Fire

news letter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out, 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

Prairie Smoke (Siviersia flora)

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE WILL
BE SUNDAY, APR. 19TH. SUBMIT NOTICES
FOR THE PERIOD APR. 24TH - MAY 7TH.

CALENDAR

Friday, April 10

- 5:30 PM - The Fish Circle Dinner group meets at Mother's Pub, 1358 Williamson St., Madison.
- 7:30 PM - YOUTH GROUP Overnight at Prairie

Sunday, April 12

- 10:00 AM - "FORUM ON RACE RELATIONS" with Angela Ramirez-Silva, and Alan Caldwell.
- 4:30 PM - Vespers Service, at Prairie. Bring a candle & holder. Child care provided. Finger food meal afterward.

Monday, April 13

- 6:00 PM - Freedom Seder, at Prairie
- 6:30 PM - Choir Practice at Prairie

Thursday, April 16

- 12:00 AM - Channing-Murray brown bag lunch - Memorial Union. Annis Pratt and Laura Leigh Rampey "Non-Violent Pedagogy"

Sunday, April 19

- 9:15 AM - Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM - "INTERGENERATIONAL EASTER SERVICE" including dedication of Prairie Children
- 12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY BRUNCH at Cindy's- 2418 Kendall Ave.
- 4:30 PM - Vespers Service, at Prairie. Bring a candle & holder. Child care provided. Finger food meal afterward.

Monday, April 20

- 6:30 PM - Choir Practice at Prairie

Tuesday, April 21

- 5:00 PM - Program Committee Meeting and potluck dinner at 4337 Milford Rd. Over by 7 PM.

Thursday, April 23

- 12:00 AM - Channing-Murray brown bag lunch - Memorial Union. Student Mary Heims will show movies of her year in Russia.

Sunday, April 26

- 9:15 AM - Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM - "ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOURS" with Prof. Mort Perlmutter UW M School of Social Work
- 11:30 AM - Potluck Dinner at Prairie
- 1:00 PM - ANNUAL MEETING AT PRAIRIE
- 4:30 PM - Vespers Service, at Prairie. Bring a candle & holder. Child care provided. Finger food meal afterward.

** NOTE **

POTLUCK DINNER TODAY!

Fish Dinner Circle

CORRECTION!

The Fish Dinner Circle will meet at Mothers Pub, 1358 Williamson St., at 5:30 PM on Friday, April 10th.

Choir Practice Resumes

Choir practice will resume on Sundays starting April 19th, and on Mondays starting April 13th. Everyone welcome (especially Basses and Sopranos). Call Barbara James (455-2042) if you have questions, otherwise just come.

Youth Group Overnight

The Youth Group will have an overnight on Friday, April 10. Come at 7:30 on Friday and have someone pick you up at 10:30 on Saturday morning. Bring: something to drink for yourself, a munchie or goodie to share, a sleeping bag, a pillow, a favorite game, some music. IT'S FUN! Join us and bring a friend.

Agenda for Annual Meeting

The final agenda for the April 26 Annual Meeting is:

- o Nomination and election of officers, standing committee chairs, delegates to the General Assembly, and special committees.
- o Discussion and vote on proposed bylaw amendment - Article IX.
- o Other new business as raised at the meeting.

May Day Board Bash and Ball

Come honor the outgoing board with a potluck dinner at 6:00 PM and entertainment at 7:00 PM on Friday, May 1 at Prairie. We'll provide turkey, vegetarian entree, and dessert. You provide salad, veggies, bread or drink. Prices are \$4 for the whole evening and \$2.50 for either dinner or entertainment. Children's prices are \$2.00 for both and \$1.50 for either part of the evening.

Since we need to plan ahead, we'd appreciate your purchasing tickets ahead if possible from Faye Glessner, Barb Barley, Brent Haglund, Chuck Vetzner, or Rick Ruecking.

Entertainment will possibly include an Egyptian tour, videos by our kids, music by the Ethnic Connection, and dancing.

Celebrate with Rose Smith

Rose Smith retired from her position as research librarian at the Dept. of Natural Resources on March 12, 1987. Her co-workers are helping her celebrate at Tower Hill State Park on SUNDAY, MAY 3. A potluck meal will begin at 1:00 PM and music and dancing with the Ethnic Connection will start at 3:00 PM. All of Rose's friends are welcome! Please call Anne Forbes (257-3485) for details.

Channing-Murray Brunch

The Channing-Murray group will have an Easter Brunch at Cindy LaMar's home at 2418 Kendall Ave. Main dish and beverage furnished. Call Cindy at 238-9884 for more information.

Teachers Needed

The RE Committee is recruiting teachers for the 87-88 school year. The K-1-2 group (7-9 children) will be using "The Adventures of God's Folk", a curriculum based on Biblical and North American folk traditions that have affected UU-ism. The 3-4-5 group (14 children) will be using "Holidays and Holy Days", a curriculum based on learning about the origins and meanings of different holidays and holy days. The 6-7-8 group (6-9 children) will be working with "World Religions", a new UU curriculum. Please contact Alison McKee (238-3302) or Barb Golden (231-1490) or Aileen Nettleton (238-6053) if you are interested in teaching.

Freedom Seder at Prairie

Everyone is invited to participate in a Freedom Seder, or Passover meal, at Prairie. At a traditional Seder, the Biblical story of the release of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt is retold. A Freedom Seder is based on the traditional Seder, but is updated and universalized with contemporary readings.

This special Seder will be held downstairs at Prairie on Monday, April 13, at 6:00 PM. Since it will be a potluck meal, everyone coming will have a hand in preparing and bringing the traditional Jewish foods.

If you can come, call Shirley Grindrod at 238-4422. Shirley will help assign you to a particular dish and even supply you with a recipe! Children with a parent or parents are welcome.

- Ruth Calden

Vespers Notes

The narrow view of natural farming says that it is good for the farmer to apply organic material to the soil and good to raise animals, and that this is the best and most efficient way to put nature to use. To speak in terms of personal practice, this is fine, but with this way alone, the spirit of true natural farming is analogous to the school of swordsmanship known as the one-stroke

school, which seeks victory through the skillful, yet self-conscious application of technique. Modern industrial farming follows the two-stroke school, which believes that victory can be won by delivering the greatest barrage of sword strokes.

Pure natural farming, by contrast, is the no-stroke school. It goes nowhere and seeks no victory. Putting "doing nothing" into practice is the one thing the farmer should strive to accomplish... When it is understood that one loses joy and happiness in the attempt to possess them, the essence of natural farming will be realized. The ultimate goal of farming is not the growing of crops, but the cultivation and perfection of human beings.

-Masanobu Fukuoka

R. E. Corner

Nursery and Preschool

On April 12, you will continue learning about Spring and what the season should have in store for you. Look about and see if you can see a robin or two. There are lots of buds popping up now. Where is the warm weather?

On April 19th, there will be an intergenerational service upstairs that you are welcome to participate in.

Grades K-1-2

On April 12th, you will be learning about the contributions the Chinese and Japanese brought with them from their mother countries to their new homes in America. Did you know that kites and firecrackers came to us from these countries?

On April 19th, you will be joining your parents and the other adults and children of Prairie for an intergenerational service.

Grades 3-4-5

On April 12th, you will continue your discussion about death with Marty and Linda leading the class. There may be a special film available for you that day.

April 19th is an intergenerational Sunday. Enjoy the day with your parents and friends upstairs.

Grades 6-7-8

Ken Haynes, a member of the Madison Police Department, will come and talk with you on April 12th. He has worked in many social service agencies and will have a lot to share with you.

An intergenerational service is scheduled for April 19th. Come and enjoy the morning with your friends and family.

Senior Advocacy Volunteer Program

This program is part of a state-wide project funded by the federal government to help older people who are at risk due to serious physical or psychological problems and have no-one to take proper care of them. The program will provide individual senior citizen volunteer partners to visit these older people and help them in a variety of ways. The volunteers may act as advocates for their "partner's" point of view when dealing with doctors and lawyers, or help them apply for needed assistance.

Volunteers must share a compassionate, non-judgemental approach toward and a sincere concern for the elderly. They receive training in topics related to aging, community resources, and communication skills. If you know an older person who needs such help, or if you are interested in finding out more about this program, call Carrie Rothburd, Program Coordinator, at 256-5596.

Midwest Leadership School

This is a week-long program of lay leadership training including lectures and small group work in organizational development, theology, and personal spiritual journeys. The curriculum was developed over the past decade in eight UU Leadership Schools. It will be held this year from July 11 through July 18 at Beloit College in Beloit, WI. Staff for the school will be Denise Tracy, Susan Holton, and Elise Cade. There is a society fee of \$75 which will entitle a society to send up to four representatives to the school. Individual fees for delegates are \$300. Some scholarship funds may be available from the North Central Area Council. The school is highly recommended by last year's graduates. For information, write or call:

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Dean, MWLC
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Hinsdale, IL 60521