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

Richard Bonser, Editor 274-3248
Mary Mullen, President 271-5192
Alison McKee, R.E. Director 238-3302
Meeting House 271-8218

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 7 APRIL 5, 1988

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 7
12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Guest speaker Sterling Schallert will discuss "Habitat for Humanity." Check Today in the Union for details.

Saturday, April 9
7:30 PM - PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS MEET at the home of Warren Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd.

Sunday, April 10
10:00 AM - "THE VIOLENCE OF OUR KNOWLEDGE"—guest speaker, Parker Palmer.

Sunday, April 17
10:00 AM - "DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST DRINK" Julia Bonser, lay minister.

Monday, April 18
7:30 PM - PRAIRIE BOARD MEETS, at Prairie

Friday, April 22
5:30 PM - ETHNIC DINNER CIRCLE will enjoy an Italian dinner at Antonio's, 1109 S. Park St. Call Pat Watkins at 262-7960 by Wed., the 20th for reservations.

Spring Parish Meeting Set

The Spring Parish Meeting will be held Sunday, April 24, at 1:00 PM following the service and a potluck lunch. This is the meeting where we vote on the slate of new Board Members for 1988-89 and consider proposed bylaw changes. Other agenda items should be given to Mary Mullen in writing as soon as possible.

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Nov. meeting
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Reports of the Standing Committees
4. Reports of the Ad Hoc Committees
   (a) Building Committee
   (b) Fund Raising Committee
   (c) Loan Committee
5. Report of the Committee on Committees
   (a) Election of Officers
   (b) Election of 3 members of the Committee on Committees
   (c) Announcement of candidates for 1988-89 Lay Ministers
6. Presentation and Election of G.A. delegates
7. Presentation of Bylaw changes by the Bylaw Revision Committee
8. Old Business
9. New Business (if requested by 10 members).
Preschool and Nursery
On April 10 Sue will be sharing some stories from Russia with you. There will also be a chance to color a flag together and learn some new games.

On April 17 you will hear some of Aesop's stories. Aesop wrote many short stories about animals. You will have a chance to work on some craft projects too.

Grades K-1-2
On April 10 Jennifer will be back with you for the remainder of the year. On this Sunday she will be sharing some of the Johnny Appleseed story with you. You will be learning of his life as a frontiersman.

On April 17 Jennifer will be telling about Johnny Appleseed's life in the wilderness. Did you know that he wore a pot on his head and traveled barefoot most of the time.

Grades 3-4-5
On April 10 Peg will be helping you celebrate Buddah's birthday. His birthday is celebrated in Japan and other parts of the world.

On April 17 you will go to the Buddhist Center with Rick and Peg. Look for further details about this trip in the mail.

Prairie Retreat Scheduled
Mark your calendar now for Prairie's annual retreat at Camp Upham Woods. The dates are Friday, October 21, through Sunday, October 23.

Newcomers to Prairie should know that this is one of the very best ways to get to know other Prairie members and friends. The setting is informal and activities are planned that appeal to adults and children. In fact, now is a good time to start thinking about what you'd like to have offered this fall. Contact Mary Mullen (271-5192) with ideas.

Schedule for kitchen clean-up:
April 10 - Pat Cautley & Alice Bullen
April 17 - Ken Skog & Lee Bullen
April 24 - Mary Mullen & Fredericka Schilling

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES REPORT
The By-Laws of our Society requires the Committee on Committees to nominate members for each elected office for presentation at the annual meeting. The list of nominations shall be included in the (agenda) notice of the annual meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Proposed nominations:
President - Mary Mullen
Vice-President - Jack Jallings
Treasurer - Barbara Park
Secretary - Lynda Lewis
Finance Chair - Patricia Cautley
Religious Education Chair - Aileen Nettleton
Program Chair - Warren Hagstrom
Social Action Co-chairs - Shirley Grindrod & Judy Skog
Housing & Property Chair - Bill Grover
Long Range Planning Chair - Rick Ruecking
Denominational Affairs Chair - Anne Urbanski
Membership Chair - Sharon Scratish

The members of the Committee on Committees expresses its appreciation to the above members for their willingness to accept nomination.

Committee on Committees: Jack Jallings
Cinda LaMar
Pat Meller
Aileen Nettleton

TELL US AND HELP US!
Interested members are creating the Prairie Banner for display and public events. The 1988 General Assembly in Palm Springs, CA, will be its first showing.

Please make your comments about its design and colors on the clipboard near the display in the Prairie lobby. Or, discuss your ideas with Metje Butler (244-3659), the primary designer of the banner.

Metje will supervise a Banner Bee to stitch together our banner on May 10-12, 7-9 P.M. Please plan to drop in and help create our banner.

RECYCLE MADISON is a coalition of concerned citizens acting to implement a city-wide waste recycling program. Our efforts are just beginning and all people concerned about this issue are welcome to contribute their energy and ideas. Call Lance Green, 249-5979 for more information.
SAVE THE DATES - '88

Mark Your Calendars--

APRIL 15-17 - Spring YAC conference at the Eliot U Chapel, Kirkwood MO. For information call Rev. Sandra Boler, (314) 821-0911.

MAY 7 - The Central Midwest District UUA Convocation will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Oak Park, Illinois. The theme will be "Unitarian Universalist Values and Faith and Belief". Many sessions and workshops on topics related to faith and belief will be offered. For more information, contact the CMD office at (312) 303-4944.

MAY 20-21 - CMD-YAC Advisory Training at the Lakeside Center in Crystal Lake, IL. This will be a 'how to' workshop for adult advisors of UU Youth Groups. For information call Rev. Ann Tyndall, (312) 722-0836.

JUNE 10-12 - Creating Male Spirit: the second annual dance, movement and art retreat for men at LaSalle Manor in Plano, IL. Contact Br. Joseph Kilikevice at (312) 848-9772.

JUNE 16-22 - UUA General Assembly, Palm Springs, CA.

JULY 3-9 - Lake Geneva Summer Assembly I

JULY 9-16 - Lake Geneva Summer Assembly II

JULY 9-16 - Third Annual Midwest Leadership School at Beloit College, Beloit, WI. For more information, contact Elise Cade, 920 Oakwood Terrace, Hinsdale, IL 60521.

TI's = Ideas = Lay Ministry

Prairie has a rotating Lay Ministry, and is accepting ideas for this coming winter season. New blood, new life, new ideas, new candidates, and nudgings are necessary to maintain the dynamic quality of Prairie!

If you can provide the T and/or the idea, please send a short outline to the Committee on Committees, to Jack Jallings, by April 8th.

Say "I will!" Those who can say "I did" also say "I'm glad I did!"

Playreaders Audition for Performance

At the next convocation of the Prairie Playreaders, members will spend about five minutes auditioning for the starring roles in the play of the evening, selected by host Warren Hagstrom. The group will meet at 7:30 PM at the Hagstrom family estate, 916 Shorewood Blvd. (a few blocks North of University Ave.), in Shorewood Hills. The name of the play is a closely guarded secret, but our investigative reporters are on the trail and will report if possible in the next issue. If you enjoy plays and good fellowship, you'll like the playreaders group. New members are welcome, and it's a good way for newcomers to Prairie to get to know other Prairie folk.

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

Food Donations Urgently Needed!

Please help us to help our neighbor. We are collecting food for a family of five - a mother and four children, two of which are teenagers. These people are living near the meetinghouse. They need and appreciate assistance.

Bishop Tutu to Speak in Madison

Renowned anti-apartheid activist Bishop Desmond Tutu will speak on the evening of May 4th at the UW Fieldhouse. Tickets are $2.00 and will go on sale March 21st at the Memorial Union, Bethel Lutheran Church, Grace Episcopal Church, and Lutheran Memorial Church. Tickets will also be available by mail from the Lutheran Campus Ministry. Any unsold tickets will be available the day of the speech at the UW Athletic Office.

Regional Men's Conference

Madison will sponsor the Midwest Regional Men's Conference at St. Benedict's Center in August. The next organizational meeting will be at WilMar Center on Sat. April 9, at 11:00 AM. Prairie men are encouraged to join and release their creative and positive energies.

- Jim Novak
- Bill Fetzer
Parish Poll Results

Thanks to all who took the time to fill out and return Parish Poll ballots. We received 28 responses, apparently a much higher response rate than in previous years. The results are as follows:

Both proposed Business Resolutions and all five By-Law amendment proposals were approved to be voted on at General Assembly. Of the 10 proposed General Resolutions, we were asked to select three to forward to GA. First, second, and third place votes, and (total mentions) for each resolution are as follows:

- AIDS Crisis: 3, 7, 6 (16); Economic Conversion: 4, 6, 1, (11); Ending Covert Action: 1, 2, 3, (6); Ethical Conduct in Organizations: 0, 2, 2 (4); Handgun Control: 3, 2, 3, (8); Immigrant Workers' Rights: 0, 0, 4 (4); Human Rights in Israel: 3, 1, 4 (8); Inter-Species Compassion: 0, 3, 2 (5); Protecting the Ecosystem: 14, 4, 4, (22); and Self-Determination for Puerto Rico: 0, 0, 0, (0).

Based on weighing first, second, and third place votes against total votes cast for a resolution, the following resolutions have been certified to UUA for discussion at General Assembly: (1) Protecting the Ecosystem; (2) the AIDS Crisis; (3) Economic Conversion.

Anne Urbanski, Denominational Affairs Chair

After-Service Announcement Policy

Or brevity is the soul of wit

It's a constant struggle at Prairie to keep a balance between freedom for everyone to make announcements of any length about every subject and the constraints of time and patience.

Here's the current policy I hope each of you will heed and keep me to in order to make the announcement period useful, efficient and interesting:

1. Guests may be introduced first
2. Expected total time for all announcements, excluding guest introductions - 10 minutes.
3. Order of announcements
   a. Prairie events and UUA events
   b. Announcements about Prairie people (sickness, babies, etc.)
   c. Non-Prairie events of interest to Prairie members and friends. Those who have given written notice will be called on first. Those who have not may not be called on if time is short.
4. All announcements should be as brief and interesting as you can make them.
   Prairie Fire should be considered the main vehicle for any announcement so that oral announcements are just a reminder of what people have read or might want to read.
5. No oral announcements after intergenerational services.
6. The person in charge, generally the President or Vice President, has the perogative of summarizing announcements or calling on people in the interest of keeping the announcement period within reasonable time constraints.

Mary Mullen

POSITION OPEN

Assistant Cook - Full time permanent employee is sought as Assistant to Food Service Directors. Prior commercial kitchen experience or training preferred. Knowledge of vegetarian diets and menus a definite plus. Position includes salary, benefits, and room and board.

Contact: Dr. Gary Blaine, Director
The Mountain (704) 526-5838
841 Highway 106
Highlands, N.C. 28741

PUT THE RED CROSS IN YOUR PLANS

Calling all old and new Prairie blood donors! If it's been at least eight weeks since you made a donation, please include the American Red Cross in your plans during the coming week.

If you are new and curious about donating blood, call the Red Cross, 233-9300, with your questions. Even better, set aside 15 minutes for a visit. Find out for yourself what's involved in giving a pint of blood. You will feel wonderful about saving the lives of others so easily.

Our uu brothers and sisters in the Pacific Southwest District are getting ready to welcome us as hosts of the 1988 General Assembly which takes place June 16-21. GA is a wonderful experience. Just ask Cinda LaMar and Lynda Lewis who represented us last year. We'll be choosing this year's delegates and alternates next month.
Lake Geneva Singles Week

Brochures have arrived describing vacation activities and workshops offered at the Lake Geneva Singles Week, June 26 - July 2 at the U-U Summer Assembly. Mornings feature discussion and personal growth groups led by qualified facilitators, including Gestalt encounter groups, massage class, play-reading, bioenergetics, conversation, humor and movement. Afternoons and evenings offer outdoor fun, special interest groups, musical jam sessions, talent night, parties, folk and ballroom dancing. There are similar programs at U-U singles camps at Saugatuck, MI on August 7 - 13 and August 21 - 27.

For information, write or phone the following persons:
- John Halbeck, 4530 Craeow, Lyons IL 60534 (312-447-4534)
- Martha Cook, 3747 Salem Walk North A2, Northbrook, IL 60062 (312-298-3824)
- Bruce Nelson, 2519 Clinton Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612-871-8534)
- Carl Yaffey, 435 Walhalla, Columbus OH 43203 (614-268-6353)

Martha Cook for the Lake Geneva Singles

PARENTING AND EDUCATING FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

"Children and the Future: Parenting and Educating for Peace" is the title of a family conference planned for May 20 and 21 at Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin.

Betty Bumpers, Founder and President of Peace Links and featured in the Academy Award-winning film Women for America for the World, will present the keynote address at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 20, at the Edgewood College gymnasium.

The all-day event on Saturday will include workshops for parents, educators, and children; a presentation by Shelley Berman of the Harvard School of Education and president of Educators for Social Responsibility on "The Development of Social Consciousness"; a theater production of Kid for young and old alike; a group sing along; and book and toy store displays.

The conference is being sponsored by Wisconsin Educators for Social Responsibility, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and Beyond War. Registration fees range from $10 for students and low-income persons to $25 per family ($5 for Bumpers speech only). Child care is available. For more information and registration materials, call 256-8241.

SOME GARAGE SALE GUIDELINES

Prairie's rummage sale will take place on May 7th. Its success will depend on the quantity of goods offered for sale but no less on their quality. Here are some "do" and "don'ts" to bear in mind in deciding on your donations.

DO's (things especially needed):
(1) potted plants, (2) antiques, (3) furniture in usable condition (but avoid over-bulky, heavy items), (4) children's clothing and books, (5) toys, (6) tools and garden equipment, (7) linens and bedding, (8) sports equipment, especially for children, (9) LP records, (10) fiction books ("trashy" fiction especially welcome), (11) other "good things" not mentioned.

DON'Ts (experience teaches that certain items won't sell): (1) magazines and periodicals, (2) older non-fiction books, i.e. more than ten years old, (3) all text books, (4) pure junk; avoid things you would never think of giving to a friend (or your worst enemy!).

Your donations are needed, but please be selective. Henry Pratt

Volunteer Braillists, Inc. will again be offering a six month course in the transcription of print into Braille. We urge you to consider this worth-while community service. If you are interested in this or other services for the visually impaired, please contact Gail Yu at our office, 833-1999 (9am to noon), or Betty Oakley, 233-7780. Thank you,

Betty Oakley, Recruitment Chrm.
406 Ozark Trail, Madison WI 53705
**CLF Student Service**

**KEEP THE CONNECTION** An important connection to maintain is the one with our post-high youth, ages 18-22. One way of doing this is to keep the UU connection through the CLF's new student service which will provide eight issues of the CLF newsletter between September and May to this age group at a special fee of only $20.00. This service will also include adding their names to the UU WORLD mailing list.

From one of our CLF college-age members who spent a year of study in England:

I lacked a Unitarian community of which to feel a part... that's when I thought of CLF. It was not so much personal contact I needed - I had several friends - but spiritual... I needed to know there was a community of people out there who like myself were far from a church, or needed a bit more than their church could give them. CLF filled a hole in my life and gave me the reinforcement I needed to hold my own against the born-again Christians, and also gave me contact with home. It made me realize that there was a caring community I could belong to, on which I could rely if necessary, and from which I could stand apart, as a strong individual.

Marin Ritter, Oberlin, Ohio

In response to Marin's comments, the CLF board has established the new Student Service through its Member Services Committee. If you would like to have this service for yourself, or give it to a young adult you think would benefit from it, please send CLF the name, age and address of the person to receive it during the school term months September-May.

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Please enclose the $20 fee for this service and send to CLF Student Service
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS
OF PRAIRIE UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

April 3, 1988

Proposed by the Ad-Hoc By-Laws Committee (Jack Jallings, Bill Grover, Sharon Scattish, and Anne Urbanski). Underscoring indicates proposed additions; boldface indicates proposed deletions.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

A. Members of the Society are those persons sixteen years or older who have signed the official Membership Book. New members are expected to attend orientation meetings to acquaint themselves with Prairie Society and Unitarian-Universalism. Members may resign from the Society and have their names lined out of the Membership Book by submitting a written resignation. Membership is terminated when repeated attempts to locate a member over a two-year period have been unsuccessful.

ARTICLE VII: STANDING COMMITTEES

A. 3. Program Committee
   a. This committee is responsible for planning Sunday morning services, including liturgy, and other adult programs, in cooperation with the lay minister. It is responsible for seating and room arrangements for all programs.

   b. One member of the committee shall serve as chairperson of a subcommittee on Liturgy. He/she shall be appointed by the Program Committee chairperson, and he/she shall form a committee which acts as a conference group in suggesting elements of effective services.

   c. The program committee also shall make public announcements of time, place, and topic of Sunday services. It shall arrange publicity about events, programs, purposes, personnel, etc., which would encourage those seeking a liberal religious organization to become acquainted with the Society.

A. 8. Membership Committee:

The ad-hoc committee recommends the following changes:

Renumber existing subheads (1), (2), (3), and (4) to become (2), (3), (4), and (5), and make the following additions and deletions:

   a. This committee shall:
      (1) Take special care to greet visitors and new members and introduce them to others. [This section was formerly Article VII, B, 2, a, (2), under Hospitality Committee.]

      (5)(6) Periodically Attempt annually to contact inactive Members to ascertain their interest in maintaining membership in the Society.
(7) Provide coffee at services and arrange for cleanup afterwards.

(8) Care for and maintain the Society's membership book.

(9) Send an annual list of the membership to UUA headquarters.

(10) Maintain a current list of subscribers to the UU World.

(11) Arrange for ceremonies and name tags for new members.

(12) Organize Circle Dinner groups.

(13) Cooperate with the Denomination Affairs committee on orientation programs.

B. Committees with appointed chairs not serving on the board.

1. Publicity Committee
   a. This committee makes public announcements of time, place, and topic of Sunday services. It arranges publicity about events, programs, purposes, personnel, etc., which would encourage those seeking a liberal religious organization to become acquainted with the Society.

2. Hospitality Committee
   a. This committee shall (in coordination and cooperation with the program committee:
      1. Provide the hospitality of the Sunday morning services.
      2. Take special care to greet visitors and new members and introduce them to each other.
      3. Encourage social interaction among members by planning social events.

Because the functions listed in subsections 1 and 2 above are incorporated in several other proposed amendments, the committee recommends deleting subsections 1 and 2 in their entirety. Subsection 3, concerning the Ceremonies Committee, would remain and be renumbered 1.

31. Ceremonies Committee
   a. This committee shall:
      (1) offer resources, advice and assistance for the planning of dedications, weddings, memorial services or funerals, and other rites of passage.
      (2) when requested, conduct or assist in the conducting of such ceremonies.
      (3) maintain a file of notes or transcripts of ceremonies that have been conducted, and other written materials for possible use in future ceremonies.
   b. In appointing the chairperson and members of this committee, every attempt should be made to provide for continuity through commitments to serve for more than one year and overlapping terms.