Vol. 28, No. 20, 11–20–90
The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, December 2. Submit items for December 6–December 20, 1990.

The following persons have volunteered to set up the coffee service on Sunday, please call the number indicated to volunteer.

Sunday, November 25
10:00 AM
"THANKS-TAKING: A NATIVE AMERICAN VIEW OF THANKSGIVING": An intergenerational service presented by Ms. Pem Yellow Bird, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nations, Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.

Wednesday, November 28
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Saturday, December 1
5:00 PM
POTLUCK DINNER at Prairie, sponsored by Michelle Honoré.

Sunday, December 2
10:00 AM
"AFTERLIFE: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?"—Presented by Prairie's Middle School group. NOT an intergenerational service.

Wednesday, December 5
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Sunday, December 9
10:00 AM
"PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH STORYTELLING"—led by Mark Wagler.

Monday, December 10
6:30 PM
SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at Prairie.

Tuesday, December 11
6:30 PM
FRENCH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at the home of Peg Stevenson, 628 Sheldon Street. Call her at 233-6449 if you're coming.

Wednesday, December 12
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Thursday, December 13
7:30 PM
WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP.
MEN'S GROUP meets at Prairie.

Saturday, December 15
7:30 PM
PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS MEET at Rachel Siegfried's home.

Sunday, December 16
10:00 AM
"BUILDING A COMMUNITY WITH STORIES"—led by Mark Wagler.

Friday, December 21
7:30 PM
CUUPs Winter Solstice Celebration. Location to be announced.

Sunday, December 23
10:00 AM
To Be Announced

Friday, December 28

Sunday, December 30
10:00 AM
To Be Announced

Today's Quote:
"When a man wants to murder a tiger he calls it sport; when a tiger wants to murder him he calls it ferocity."
- GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Coffee Service Volunteers
The following persons have volunteered to set up the coffee service on Sunday, please call the number indicated to volunteer.

...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
mornings. Additional volunteers are needed to fill in!

Nov. 25 ??
Dec. 2 Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
Dec. 9 ??
Dec. 16 ??

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services. Additional volunteers are needed for the open dates!

Nov. 25 Lee & Alice Bullen
Dec. 2 Rick Ruecking & Jennifer Parker
Dec. 9 Rosemary Dorney & ??
Dec. 16 ??

Any volunteers who cannot work on the day they've signed up, please let Anne Urbanski know so she can locate a substitute.

Spanish Speakers' Potluck

The December Spanish Speakers' Potluck will be held on Monday, September 10th, (NOTE: second, not first Monday) at 6:30 PM at the meetinghouse. All skill levels are welcome to participate. Please bring a dish to share. Call Rosemary at 238-4382 if you have questions.

Help Wanted

A. Greeter. Cheerful, friendly reliable person(s) to come to Prairie around 9:40 AM to greet people as they arrive at Prairie on Sunday. Requires no skill except a warm smile, a good handshake, and genuine interest in people. (This can be done in conjunction with coffee making or as a separate activity.)

B. Coffee Maker. Cheerful, reliable person(s) to make coffee for Prairie services on a semi-regular basis (once or twice a month). The job entails arriving by 9:15 AM to make 1 or 2 pots of regular coffee, 1 pot of decaf coffee, and hot water for tea. This can be done by one person alone, but bringing a friend makes it more fun. As an alternative, the coffee can be made on Saturday afternoon and set to start on Sunday with timers. We have two people now but both are cutting back on their involvement and we need more helpers!

Applicants for either position should call Anne Urbanski (258-8269) evenings for an interview. The rewards are substantial, but involve no remuneration of any sort.

Stand Up and Be Counted!

Michelle Honoré and family would like to invite you and your family and friends to join them in a peaceful protest of the war efforts against Iraq. It will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1st from 3:00 to 4:30 PM beginning at University Square near the four theaters. A potluck dinner will follow at Prairie's meetinghouse. So, bring a friend, a sign, and a dish to pass and we can celebrate a peaceful holiday season for everyone! For more information, call Michelle or Bill Robbins at 837-0409.

Bad Luck Strikes Again!

Prairie Member Pat Watkins, whose daughter Leslie was injured in a fall on a city bus recently, was herself injured in a fall at home on Saturday, Nov. 17th. She has a broken ankle and is presently at U. W. Hospital, floor B-6, room 460. She would welcome your cards and visits.

Correction:

Last issue we announced a new member but misspelled the name. The correct spelling is Heidi Oliversen. Please correct your membership directories accordingly.

Another New Member:

David Stevenson, son of Rod and Peg Stevenson, has signed the membership book. Please welcome him as a full member of our society!

Program News

Nifty Gifty

"Nifty Gifty" is Prairie's annual yule time tradition of providing the youth an opportunity to make gift items from recycled materials. This year it will be held on December 16th. We're asking folks to start collecting the following items and to bring them to Prairie on the Sunday before (December 9th).

- old gift wrapping paper and ribbon
- The Sunday color comics
- Stationary paper, preferably plain
remains. Mike Sheehy brought in a Andrea Lawrence.

invisible pond life. They discussed possible reasons for the demise of the fossils. The children made fossil casts of dinosaurs.

The “Stories That Science Tells Us” section of this curriculum includes studying drops of water and fossil remains. Mike Sheehy brought in a powerful microscope which allowed the children to see examples of otherwise invisible pond life. They discussed scientific stories that explain how life on earth began and theorized about possible reasons for the demise of the dinosaurs.

The following week, Dean Schroeder led discussion and activities regarding fossils. The children made fossil casts of seashells and plastic dinosaurs. They also “mummified” themselves with rolls of toilet paper!

K-1-2
As a service project to Prairie, this group is going to plant flower bulbs outside that will bloom in the spring. To raise money to buy the bulbs, they made caramel apples one Sunday and sold them after the service. The children worked together wonderfully and truly enjoyed the project. This was led by Anne Pryor and Barbara Park.

The following week, Dana Dopp began the section on Harriet Tubman. The group heard her story and then played a fun game that dramatized the dangers inherent in escaping from slavery via the Underground Railroad.

Preschool/Nursery
This part of Prairie’s population is beginning to grow! Several delightful children have been visiting for the past few Sundays and so Anna Nettleton is busy once again.

Thanks, for UNICEF
Thanks to all Prairie U.U. Society members, friends and children who helped with the Halloween collection for Unicef. We raised the goodly amount of $65.03 for children and families around the world.

- Alice Bullen

UNICEF Cards Available
UNICEF cards are available at Prairie. There are several assortments of note cards (no message) and stationery as well as the more familiar kinds of holiday greeting cards. We don’t mean to be rushing the season—as we talked about on November 4—but we want to give members the opportunity of helping children if you are going to be purchasing greeting cards anyway, or buying stationery, note cards, or calendars as gifts. If you miss them at Prairie, call Pat Cautley for ordering information at 238-5373.

A Peaceful Demonstration
Michelle Honoré and family would like to invite you and your family and friends to join them in a peaceful protest of the war efforts against Iraq. It will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1st from 3:00 to 4:30 PM beginning at University Square near the four theaters. A potluck dinner will follow at Prairie’s meetinghouse. So, bring a friend, a sign, and a dish to pass and we can celebrate a peaceful holiday season for everyone! For more information, call Michelle or Bill Robbins at 837-0409.

Guest At Your Table
“Guest At Your Table” boxes will be available on Sunday, November 25, as a means of making our contributions to the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee a family project. The small boxes with a slot in the top for coins have four pictures on their sides showing typical children from countries around the world where the UUSC is working to improve the lives of children.

The UUSC headquarters suggests that each family or individual using a box write their name and address on the garbage can area in back.)

- Food pantry (we collect food for 2 families in our neighborhood. The collection box is in the foyer outside the men’s room.)

From time to time, we also do letter writing after the service on topics of concern and sometimes pass the hat.

For more information on any of this stuff, call Judy Skog at 273-4813.

The R.E. Committee is also in the process of recruiting people to help make Nifty Gifty happen this year. We need people to supervise the making of the items and to help with gift wrapping or card printing. If you are able to do any of the above, please let Linda Sheehy (273-3895) or Anne Pryor (244-7099) know soon.

6-7-8
This group continues to progress in its creation of a videotape about life after death and in other preparations for their leading of the December 2nd service on the same topic. Both the technical aspects of taping plus the actual interviewing to find out people’s different beliefs about life after death are going very well. This project is such that responsibility, teamwork, and cooperation are essential, and those qualities are now evident among the middle schoolers. The group is led by Karen Gross, Marty Drapkin and Andrea Lawrence.

3-4-5
The “Stories That Science Tells Us” section of this curriculum includes studying drops of water and fossil remains. Mike Sheehy brought in a powerful microscope which allowed the children to see examples of otherwise invisible pond life. They discussed scientific stories that explain how life on earth began and theorized about possible reasons for the demise of the dinosaurs.

The following week, Dean Schroeder led discussion and activities regarding fossils. The children made fossil casts of
box so the gift can be credited to them by the Service Committee. A gift of $25 will make the donor(s) a member of the UUSC. A donation of $50 will be matched by the North Shore Unitarian Universalist Society of Pandome, New York.

The Service Committee requests that we send our “Guest At Your Table” contributions as soon after January 1st as possible so that they can close their books for the fiscal year.

- Leland Bullen

Peace Vigil Announced

Wayland House, an interfaith, international community, announces a continuing vigil for peace at Elizabeth-Link Peace Park on every Saturday at 5:30 PM. They invite all concerned persons to join them in their vigil and to engage in other forms of witness for peace that are felt to be appropriate.

A Candle Lighting Poem for Prairie

I light this candle to a church that is not a church
To a fellowship with fellows but no leader
Where such sermons as there are consist of poems
Where such poems as there are consist of dances
Where such dances as we dance burst from the building
Because when we dance we are always on our prairie
Woven together in our web of friendship.
I light this candle to our unbroken circle
Where those who have moved away are never absent
Where our children who have grown are always with us
And where our beloved dead dance along beside us
Marvelling at the tiniest flower and the tallest grasses.
I light this candle to those who walk beside us
To Ran, to Rebecca, to Dorothy and Jana, to Lois, to Les, And to young John
Who will dance their part in our Prairie Dance forever.

- Annis Pratt

Looking Ahead—

Jan. 4, 5 & 6: Midwest Unitarian Universalist Young Adult Network (MUUYAN) conference in Madison, hosted by Channing-Murray. Contact Cinda LaMar at 238-9884.
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<td>10:00 Afterlife: What Do You Think? by Prairie's Middle School Class</td>
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<td>6:30 French Speaker's Potluck at Peg Stevenson's home.</td>
<td>12:00 Channing Murray Student Lunch at the Union</td>
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<td>5:00 PM Michelle Honoré potluck at Prairie</td>
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Prairie U-U Society Activity Calendar