Vol. 29, No. 1, 1–8–91

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, January 20. Submit items for January 24—February 7, 1991.

Sunday, January 20
10:00 AM
Intergenerational Service (To Be Announced)

Wednesday, January 23
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union.
Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.
6:30 PM
FRENCH SPEAKERS’ POTLUCK at the home of Rosemary Dorney.

Thursday, January 24
7:00 PM
Prairie Men’s group meets at the Meetinghouse. All members and friends are welcome.

Sunday, January 27
10:00 AM
To Be Announced
6:00 PM
Channing-Murray student group meets in the Copper Hearth Room at Union South. A spaghetti dinner will be provided but salad, bread, beverages, etc. are needed to go with it.

Monday, January 28
7:30 PM
PRAIRIE BOARD MEETING at the meetinghouse.

Wednesday, January 30
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union.
Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Today’s Quote:
“The good die young—because they see it’s no use living if you’ve got to be good.”
- John Barrymore

Coffee Service Volunteers

The following persons have volunteered to set up the coffee service on Sunday mornings. Additional volunteers are needed to fill in!

Jan. 13 Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
Jan. 20 ??
Jan. 27 Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
Feb. 3 ??

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

Jan. 13 Kate Tucker & ??
Jan. 20 ??
Jan. 27 ??
Feb. 3 ??

The following have signed up to greet visitors on Sunday mornings. More volunteers are needed!

Jan. 13 ??
Jan. 20 ??
Jan. 27 ??
Feb. 3 ??

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

Sidewalk Care Volunteers:
Jan. 13 Mary Mullen
Jan, 20 Randy Hill
Jan. 27 Jack & Betty Jallings

Attention, All Musicians!
Al Nettleton and Rosemarie Lester are organizing a program on Kurt Weill for February 24th. Please volunteer to perform some of Kurt's music and let either Al or Rosemarie know of your selection.

Lets Get Oriented!
The Membership Committee will sponsor a three session orientation for new Prairie members, people who think they might want to become members, and any others interested, beginning in mid- to late February or early March. You are welcome to attend any or all sessions. Meetings will be held either at my house (if less than 10 people) or at Prairie. Dates and times will be announced in upcoming Prairie Fires. This is your chance to learn more about UU in general (a brief overview) and Prairie Society in particular. If you think you'd be interested in attending, please call me at 258-8269.
- Anne Urbanski

Thank You! Thank You!
Our Holiday food and money contributions were very much appreciated by our neighbors. Lots of fresh food was purchased thanks to everyone at Prairie who donated. A special thanks goes to the anonymous Santa Claus whose money first went to Ohio but did finally reach me. It was a wonderful surprise to receive.
- Fredericka Schilling

Prairie Production Goes Public!
Prairie's Middle School group video project “Afterlife: What Do You Believe?” will be aired on WYOU Channel 4 on Saturday, January 12 at 2:30 PM, Sunday January 13 at 1:00 PM, and Sunday January 27 at 3:30 PM. If you wish to find out about becoming a member of Cable Channel 4, call 258-9664 and if you'd like your own copy of the video, call Karen Gross on any Saturday at 241-7635.

Hemlock Society in Madison?
There will be a meeting held on Saturday, January 19 at 9:30 AM, at the First Unitarian Society Meetinghouse to determine interest in organizing a chapter of the National Hemlock Society in Wisconsin. The meeting will feature a showing of the videotape “A Time to Die,” produced by the Hemlock Society, and will include the opportunity to talk with Mr. Don Shaw, founder of Hemlock of Illinois and Vice President of the National Society.

To register for the meeting, or for more information, please call Lori Pederson at 833-3139 or Linné Cain at 233-7949.

Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Wednesday at noon. Informal Thursday evening dinner meetings are held at the International Food Court next to Kinko's on University Avenue at 6:00 PM. There's plenty of room and they have a very relaxing and enjoyable time. They're usually done by 7:00 PM.

Wednesday Lunches are held at the Memorial Union. You can bring a brown bag or buy something from one of the Union Cafeterias. These lunches feature frequent guest speakers and we have a number of good ones lined up for the semester. The lunches are also open to UUs from the community. Check “Today In The Union” for the room location.

Thursday night dinners will resume on January 3, and Wednesday lunches will resume on January 23.

The semester Kick-Off meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27th, at 6:00 PM in the Copper Hearth Room at Union South, where there is a fireplace we can use. There will be a spaghetti dinner provided but salad, bread, beverages, etc. are needed to go with it. Volunteers are needed to go with it. Volunteers are needed to cook the spaghetti and sauce.

There has been a change in the arrangements for the MUUYAN conference. Rather than being sponsored by Channing-Murray, it will be coordinated by former Channing-Murray member Karl Olson, who now lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, and will be held on January 25-27 in New Glarus, WI.

Program News

Nifty Gifty
Last issue, we forgot to thank all who donated materials for the Nifty Gifty projects. A hearty thank you to all—we couldn’t have done it without you!

January Schedule
The Interim Session on January 13 will feature Linda Sheehy teaching origami, Jean Matos and Aileen Nettleton helping the children to make their own story books, and Rachel Siegfried baking powdermilk biscuits. Children can choose the activity they prefer. On January 20, there will be an intergenerational service and then on January 27 RE classes will begin again. Hope to see you all then!

The Social Action Committee has ongoing projects in the following areas (and we need your help in all of them):
- The Drop-In Shelter for home-
less men (we staff it on the 4th Monday of the Month, see coordinator Frank Iltis.)

- The Once a Week blood donors club (Red Cross Blood Bank.)
- Recycling (containers are in 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.

Food Program Expanded!

We will be making weekly donations to the Allied Drive Food Pantry. The Friends Meeting (Quakers) and the city of Madison are involved in an impressive expansion of services to the Allied community which serves African American, Asian and White people in our neighborhood. One of the programs is a food pantry. Why not buy a food item each week when you do your shopping and bring it to Prairie? Food items should be things you would like to eat! Infant formula is always needed. Please try to make a weekly donation— I will see that it gets to the Allied Community.

- Fredericka Schilling

Support Mental Health

Help the Yahara House, a psychosocial rehabilitation club for people with persistent and severe mental illness, and help yourself at the same time!

HOW? buy an Entertainment Coupon Book for 1991 from them and enjoy a year of fine dining, fast food, and other special deals. Most of the coupons provide two meals for the price of one. The cost of the book is $25, of which $5 is a donation to Yahara House (and therefore tax deductible). If you’re interested, call Julie Bonser at 274-3248 or talk to her after any Sunday service.

Guest At Your Table

“Guest At Your Table” boxes were distributed on Sunday, November 25, for contributions to the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The UUSC headquarters suggests that each family or individual using a box write their name and address on the 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

Convocation ’91

Convocation ’91 is the seventh annual assembly on UUs for lesbian/gay concerns. It will be held in San Francisco on Feb. 15, 16, & 17. The keynote speaker will be Kim Crawford Harvie from Boston’s Arlington Street Church. Registration fees are set on a sliding scale from $45 to $75 based on income, include all activities, and include six meals. A $20 late fee will apply to registrations received after January 15, 1991. If you are interested in attending, see either Mary Mullen or Fredricka Schilling for more information.

Peace Rallies Scheduled

Several peace rallies are scheduled for Friday, January 11 in the Capitol Rotunda. One, sponsored by Madison area UU youths, will begin at 5:30 PM, and another, sponsored by Citizens for Integrity and by the Peace, Parity, and Power in People Movement Learning Center in Dodgeville, WI will begin at 6:30 PM. Prairie members and friends are strongly urged to attend and be heard on this vital issue.

Looking Ahead—

Jan. 25–27: Midwest Unitarian Universalist Young Adult Network (MUUYAN) conference in New Glarus, WI.
Contact Karl Olson, 402/474-4106.

Feb. 15–17: Convocation ’91, the seventh annual assembly of Unitarian Universalists for Lesbian/Gay concerns, in San Francisco. Contact Mary Mullen or Fredricka Schilling for more information.