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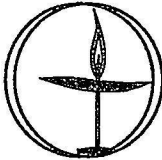
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# Prairie Fire



**Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society**  
2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711

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To Change Address Or Cancel PRAIRIE FIRE, Call Richard Bonser, Editor.....274-3248			

**Vol. 29, No. 4, 2-19-91**  
The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, March 3. Submit items for Mar 7—March 21, 1991.

## CALENDAR

**Thursday, February 21**  
7:00 PM  
PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse.

**Sunday, February 24**  
10:00 AM  
"Adventures in Conscience," presented by Lee Bullen.  
11:30 AM  
1990 GENERAL ASSEMBLY STUDY RESOLUTIONS: A Parish discussion. (see related story)

**Monday, February 25**  
7:30 PM  
PRAIRIE BOARD meets at the Meetinghouse.

**Tuesday, February 26**  
7:30 PM  
NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION session.

**Wednesday, February 27**  
7:00—9:30 PM  
STORYTELLING WORKSHOP part two with Mark Wagler, at the meeting-

house. Call Anne Pryor at 244-7099 for more information.

**Thursday, March 7**  
7:00 PM  
PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse.

**Sunday, March 10**  
10:00 AM  
"The Music of Kurt Weill" led by Rosemarie Lester & Al Nettleton, with musical contributions from several Prairie members and friends.

**Today's Quote:**  
"The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like, and do what you'd rather not."  
- MARK TWAIN

## NEWS & VIEWS

**Join the Prairie Band!**  
Anyone who plays an instrument of any kind is welcome to meet with the **Prairie Band on Wednesdays at 8:00 PM** at Prairie. Right now we have guitar(s), harmonica, trumpet, trombone, accordion(s), and spoons (percussion) as well as the piano. We try to

play any music a member brings and often we play songs from the Prairie Song-Book. We are very informal and have a good time. For more information, contact Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

**Attention, All Musicians!**  
NOTE CHANGE OF DATE! Al Nettleton and Rosemarie Lester are organizing a program on Kurt Weill for March 10th. Please volunteer to perform some of Kurt's music and let either Al or Rosemarie know of your selection.

**Attention, Secret Friends!**  
At the service on February 17, it was announced that (almost) all the adults who had volunteered to be a Secret Friend had been chosen by a Prairie youth as a secret friend. Most of you have been notified already of that fact. Please remember that your young friend will be expecting a letter from you next Sunday, the 24th. Please don't disappoint them!

**We Are Looking For Lay Ministers**  
The Committee on Committees is looking for ideas and proposals for lay ministers for next year. Although the typical lay ministry is for three months duration—approximately 8 or 9 services—shorter durations and shared lay ministries are certainly possible. Please contact us if you might like to do a lay ministry, share a lay ministry, or do a couple of services. In addition, please contact us if you have ideas that you would like to see someone else develop

*...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*

into services—perhaps we can find the right person. Please consider sharing your talents with Prairie in this way. Contact any of the following committee members:

- Tom Robinson 256-9090
- Pat Cautley 238-5373
- Jennifer Parker 246-4304
- Peg Stevenson 233-6449
- Andrea Lawrence 845-5615

## Coffee Service Volunteers

The following persons have volunteered to SET UP THE COFFEE service on Sunday mornings. Additional volunteers are needed to fill in!

- Feb. 24 Heidi Oliveren
- Mar. 3 Dick & Julie Bonser
- Mar. 10 Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
- Mar. 17 ??

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

- Feb. 24 Rachel Siegfried & Metje Butler
- Mar. 3 Mary Mullen & ??
- Mar. 10 Rick Ruecking & Kate Tucker
- Mar. 17 ??

The following have signed up to GREET VISITORS on Sunday mornings. More volunteers are needed!

- Feb. 24 ??
- Mar. 3 Dick & Julie Bonser
- Mar. 10 ??
- Mar. 17 ??

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

## Sidewalk Safety Check Volunteers:

- Feb. 24 Mike Briggs
- Mar. 2 Mary Mullen
- Mar. 10 Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
- Mar. 17 ??
- Mar. 24 Randy Converse

## 1990 General Assembly Study Resolutions

On February 24, following the 10:00 service, members and friends are invited to a discussion of the 1990

General Assembly Study Resolutions. The three topics to be covered include: 1) Gun Control; 2) A balanced approach to the drug abuse problem; and 3) Redirecting economic resources to alleviate poverty. If you cannot be present and wish to have your opinion registered, please call Carol Fishbaugh at 845-5615.

## Memory Aid Available

For those who like to pay their pledge to Prairie on a monthly basis but have trouble remembering if they've paid for a particular month yet, the Finance Committee has developed a set of coupons that you can clip and attach to your payment. If you've still got the coupon, you still need to pay—simple, no? There will be a supply of these forms at the reception table on Sunday mornings. Take one and try it out.

## Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Members and Friends

You are invited to a "Pizza Potluck" on Friday, March 8, at 7:00 PM at the home of Carol Fishbaugh and Andrea Lawrence. We will share information and news gathered at the UULGC Convocation 91, held on Feb. 15, 16 and 17 in San Francisco. We will also discuss possibilities for starting some kind of group "at home." Please call Carol or Andrea at 845-5615 for details.

## Prairie Men's Group

Prairie's Men's Group will meet on Thursday, Feb. 21 and on Thursday, March 7 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We are reading from New Men, Deeper Hungers, by Tom Owen-Towle (a UU minister from San Diego), with time for exploration of personal issues. All men are welcome to join our two hour discussions.

## Hemlock Society of Wisconsin

At a meeting held on January 19, those present decided to organize a chapter of the National Hemlock Society in Wisconsin. There is a steering committee at work to create a proposed slate of officers and interim bylaws, etc. A formal organizing meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday February 23rd, at the First Unitarian Society Meetinghouse to adopt bylaws, elect officers, and provide an opportunity for

those interested to join the chapter.

The Hemlock Society is a nonprofit national organization supporting the option of active voluntary euthanasia for the terminally ill. It does NOT encourage suicide for any reason in the absence of terminal illness and approves of the work of those involved in suicide prevention.

For more information, please call Lori Pederson at 833-3139 or Linné Cain at 233-7949.

## Pass the Word...

If you have UU friends living in the central Wisconsin area (Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Ripon, Berlin, Oshkosh, Princeton, Montello, Waupun, and neighboring communities), please let them know that the UU fellowship in Oshkosh, along with folk in the Ripon area, is reorganizing to serve a broader area with both adult and children's activities (children in the group range from infants to early teen years). Interested people should contact: Marjorie Kenyon-Cler 404 Grace Street Ripon, WI 54971-1845 phone: 414/748-2553

## Thanks for the Moral Support

To all those who sent "good Karma" and job suggestions my way since December 1, thank you. I'm happy to report I am starting a new job on Feb. 18th at the Department of Natural Resources. It's LTE for now but I plan to apply for the permanent position. Please join me in thanking Bob Park, who recommended me for this job. Thanks again to all.

- Anne Urbanski

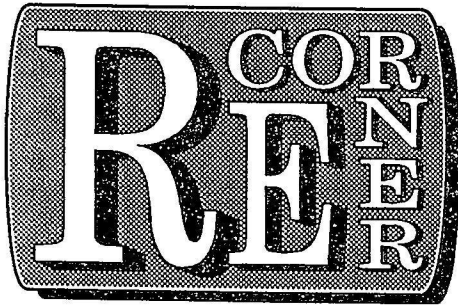


Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Wednesday at noon, every Thursday at 6:00 PM, and once a month on Sunday at 6:00 PM for a dinner and program evening.

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 discussions led by one of the students, with each one who wishes taking a turn. The lunches are also open to UUs from the community. Check "Today In The Union" for the *Unitarian Student Group* room location.

Don't forget the February dinner and program meeting on **Sunday, February 24th, at 6:00 PM** at the **First Unitarian Society Meetinghouse**. The guest for the evening will be Robert, one of Madison's homeless people.



## Program News

### Nursery-Preschool

This busy group has delightful children in it, and is ably led by Anna Nettleton, with the assistance of Emilie Dickson.

### K-1-2

Quite surprisingly, this group had no children attending one week. This is usually our largest group! The following Sunday, 12 children were in attendance. The focus was to introduce the children to some Native American understandings of the natural world. The children also drew names for their secret friends. Dana Dopp and Beth Lovern lead this group.

### 3-4-5

One week was the finishing up of the unit on death. The symbolic nature of the Garden of Eden story was used to illustrate the topic. The following week began a unit on "Making Choices". The story of Jesus and the Golden Rule was the focus of the morning. The children also drew names for their secret friends. The leaders for this group are Mike Sheehy and Dean Schroeder.

### 6-7-8

Both weeks have continued discussions and plans for the March 17 middle school led service upstairs. The topic will be free speech and a video may be presented. Attendance has been low so far this spring, which makes planning difficult. This group also drew names for secret friends. The leaders here are Marty Drapkin, Andrea Lawrence, and Karen Gross.

## Secret Friends

This year, Secret Friends will run from Feb. 24th through March 17th. Letter exchange will begin on Feb. 24th. All adults who signed up have been paired with a child, so please come prepared to drop off a letter for your mystery buddy.

Parents of children who are secret friends are asked to please help their child to remember to write/draw a message to bring to Prairie on Sunday as well.



The Social Action Committee has ongoing projects in the following areas:

- The Drop-In Shelter.
- The Once a Week blood donors club.
- Recycling.
- Food pantry.

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 Pantry Items Needed!

When you do your shopping each week, please buy a food item for the food pantry and bring it to Prairie. Here's a list of what's really needed:  
 Infant formula (SMA brand)  
 String beans      Cream corn  
 Soup (all kinds)      Tuna fish  
 Spam (!!!)      Crackers  
 Baked beans  
 Food items should be things YOU would

like to eat! Infant formula is ALWAYS needed. Bring your donations to Prairie and either put them in the box near the men's room or give them to me. Cash donations are always welcomed—I can buy whatever is most needed that week! Please try to make a weekly donation—I will see that it gets to the Allied Community.

- Fredericka Schilling

## Peace & Freedom Dinner

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will have their annual Peace & Freedom Dinner on **March 16th at 6:30 PM**. There will be a speaker on the people of the Middle East. Call Betty Jallings at 835-3746 for more information on this event.



## Looking Ahead-

**April 5-6:** "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven Workshop", a leader training program. Unitarian Church West, Brookfield, WI. Contact Janet Nortrom, CMD Women and Religion Committee, 414/964-3764.

**May 11:** Central Midwest District **Visions and Values Conference: Sing My Joys, Cry My Woes**, at the Unitarian Society of Geneva, IL.

**June 17-19:** Fort Lauderdale, FL, UU Women's Federation Biennial Convention "The Radical Quest: Honoring Our Diversities, Connecting Our Circles." Contact the UU Women's Federation, 25 Beacon St. Boston, MA 02108. 617/742-2100 ex.692.

**June 20-25:** Hollywood, FL, **Youth Caucus at the General Assembly**, contact General Assembly Office, 25 Beacon St., Boston MA 02108. 617/742-2100.

**July 27-Aug. 2:** Port Townsend, WA, **Leadership School for UU youth (15-18) and young adults (18-30)**. Contact Edmonds UU Church, 8109 224th Street SW, Edmonds, WA 98206. 206/778-0373.