

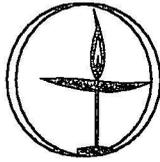
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# Prairie Fire



Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society  
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## Vol. 31, No. 5, 3-2-93

The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, March 14. Submit items for March 18—April 1, 1993.

## CALENDAR

### Thursday, March 4

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets tonight at the Meetinghouse.

### Saturday, March 6

5:00PM

"PURIM SERVICE" by Shaarei Shamayim, our Jewish Reconstructionist renters. This is a child-focused service to which **Prairie folk are invited**. Come in costume and bring rattles and noisemakers! The service will be followed by a **VEGETARIAN potluck dinner**.

### Sunday, March 7

9:00 AM

CHOIR PRACTICE

10:00 AM

"MODERN RITES OF PASSAGE: Change of Life"—the third of Dick Bonser's Lay Ministry series.  
LAST DAY OF SECRET FRIENDS letter exchange.  
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SERVICE downstairs.

11:30 AM

SECRET FRIENDS POTLUCK PARTY after the service for the (no longer) secret friends.

### Tuesday, March 9

7:00 PM

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETS at Mike Briggs' home, 2404 Fox Avenue.

### Sunday, March 14

10:00 AM

"MODERN RITES OF PASSAGE #4"—the last of Dick Bonser's Lay Ministry-series.

### Monday, March 15

7:30 PM

PRAIRIE BOARD MEETS at the meetinghouse.

### Thursday, March 18

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets tonight at the Meetinghouse.

### Saturday, March 20

7:30 PM

PLAYREADERS MEET at the home of Donna Murdoch, 636 Sheldon Street. Donna will introduce a new play written by Alliance for the Mentally Ill member Edith Peterson. of Wausau. The play portrays a family trying to cope with a son with severe schizophrenia. **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!**

### Sunday, March 21

10:00 AM

"AFTER 20 YEARS SMALL IS STILL

BEAUTIFUL" presented by Peg Barratt and Dan Stevenson.

### Today's Quote

"But if you go and ask the sea itself, what does it say? Grumble, grumble, swish, swish. It is too busy being the sea to say anything about itself."

-URSULA K. LEQUIN

## NEWS & VIEWS

### Attention Playreaders!

#### Note Date change

Due to Donna Murdoch's attendance at a conference in LaCrosse for persons with mental illness and their families on March 13, **it will be necessary to change the playreading evening to Saturday, March 20**. Donna will introduce a new play written by an AMI (Alliance for the Mentally Ill) member Edith Peterson. of Wausau. The play revolves around a family trying to cope with a son with severe schizophrenia.

Donna is very excited about the quality of the play and is anxious to share it with us.

### Gentle, Angry People...

The song we sang on February 28, also called "Singing for Our Lives," becomes more significant when you know the whole story of its origin. Holly Near wrote it

*...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

The Oldest and Largest Lay-Led Society in the UUA

following the murder of San Francisco's Mayor, George Moscone, and openly gay City Supervisor, Harvey Milk. The first singers of this song were literally singing for their lives and they were literally a gentle but angry people.

Why did I ask that the congregation add the verse "We are a gay and lesbian people"...? Because I wanted people who do not identify as homosexual to get some idea of how scary it might feel to say openly that they fit into a category often shunned by society. I'm sorry if that reason wasn't clear at the time.

-Mary Mullen

## Service Donations!

Marty Drapkin has donated **one portrait** sitting (photograph); Mike Briggs has donated **one simple will**; Pat Cautley has donated two items—a **spring hike over 5 acres of Trilliums** 67 miles from Madison on May 8 (an all day event-bidding starts at \$10.00) and a **spring hike through the Arboretum** on May 9 (bidding starts at \$5.00); Betty Jallings has donated a **bas-relief in porcelain** done from a photograph; Peg Barratt has donated one of her **delicious Japanese dinners** (she will announce date-bidding starts at \$12.00); and Julie Bonser has donated one of her **delightful Spanish paella dinners** (she will announce date-bidding starts at \$12.00).

**Many more items are needed.** Please consider your skills, talents, and interests. Something that you do well, and enjoy doing, may well be something that someone else hates doing and is willing to pay to have done. So think of some service and call Jim Harvey (839-5115) or Nancy Graham (244-6595) with what you're willing to do to help Prairie.

Material items can also be donated for the auction, but must be limited to things valued at \$7.00 or higher. Right of refusal belongs to our auctioneer extraordinaire, Orange Schroeder. If you call now, we can advertise your service, along with a nice list of others, in the next Prairie Fire.

## Prairie Patter

Each meeting of the Prairie Board we have committee reports. It is impressive to me what active and productive committees we have at Prairie. The R.E. Committee and R.E. Director have devised a first class Religious Education Program for our children and youth. They have given time and thought to making a program not just

for Sunday Morning. When I first started attending Prairie I was appreciative of the effort and money we budgeted for this portion of Prairie. Over the years we have kept our dedication to our children, kept current with the curriculum, expanded the age range of program support to our teens. Many thanks to the R. E. Committee and teachers. The teachers also get positive feedback when children attend regularly as each lesson builds on the last. What with Intergenerational Services and attendance at the first part of the program Sunday morning, if the children attend every Sunday R.E. is offered they would have about 27 hours of R.E. a year.

When the theme of Modern Rites of Passage was announced for a lay ministry I was asked to contribute a Sunday program. I began by asking what Rite of Passage most concerned me at present. I was then struck by a power surge (hot flash), a ritual for becoming a Grandmother. In honor of International Women's Day on March 8 we will honor our Grandmothers and Great Aunts.

Blessed be-  
-Julie Bonser  
President

## Name Changes Announced

Carol and Andrea have legally changed back to family names. Carol Fishbaugh is now *Carol von Ott*, and Andrea Laurence is now *Andrea Pisanello*. Please change the names in your Prairie Directory.

## Secret Friends

The Secret Friends will meet each other at their closing party on Sunday, March 7th. All secret friends should bring one more letter next Sunday. There will be a **potluck lunch** and some fun activities after the service.

## We're Off To The Art Institute!

Save Saturday, May 1, for a Prairie-sponsored trip to the Chicago Art Institute, where you can see both the small exhibit of some Chagall paintings and the large, very special Magritte exhibit. The total cost for the bus and special admission to both exhibits is \$40.00. This is a relatively pain-free way for Prairie to raise money—if enough people go—so tell all of your friends!



## CMD Calendar: 1993

- Apr. 16-17: Adult Religious Educator Facilitator Training, Madison, WI.
- Apr. 23-25: Mad-Con III, a YRUU District Conference, Madison, WI.
- May 1: Vision and Values, Hinsdale, IL.
- May 2-4: 17th Annual UU National Workshop on Social Justice, Washington, DC.
- June 8-10: UUWF Spring Conference, Allerton Park, Monticello, IL.
- June 22-24: UUWF Biennial Convention '93
- June 24-29: UUA General Assembly, Charlotte, NC.

## Was It YOU?

Would the Prairie person who was interested in **helping with a program on tax resistance** please contact Mike Briggs at 238-1227?

## Join the Choir

Come join our 'new' choir! We have had numerous requests from people interested in singing, so this is your chance! Please call Aileen Nettleton at 238-6053 if you have music for us or questions.



## Disability & Film

Channing-Murray member Carrie Sandahl is coordinating a film series which focuses on the portrayal of people with disabilities.

Three films remain to be shown—*'Tommy'*, based on *The Who's* rock opera, will be shown **March 5**, *'Being There'*, where Chance, a simple gardener, becomes a national celebrity, will be shown **April 2**, and *'Rain Man'*, Dustin Hoffman's superb portrayal of an autistic man, will be shown on **May 7**.

The films are shown at **7:00 PM** at the **Waisman Center Auditorium**, 1500 Highland Avenue, on the above dates. **Admission is free.** Complimentary refreshments and discussion will be held immediately following the films.

To get to the center, take Campus Drive

and exit at Highland Avenue. The Waisman Center is an eight story building across from the UW Hospital and Clinics. You can park for free in the lot adjacent to the Waisman Center. Enter the building at the far (west) end of the parking lot.

## Red Cross Volunteers Needed!

Lend the Red Cross just a little of your time and **you can make the difference**. You need no special qualification except a desire to help. The Dane County Chapter will be hosting information sessions at the Donor Center, 4860 Sheboygan Ave., Madison, on the following dates or you can call 233-9300 for more information about volunteering.

Mar. 16 at 7:00 PM

Mar. 31 at 1:00 PM

April 15 at 7:00 PM

## Agenda For a Prophetic Faith

Prophetic Alternatives, an interfaith group of clergy and laity, is sponsoring a series of lectures entitled "Agenda For a Prophetic Faith" on **Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM**. The speakers and topics are as follows:

Mar. 7 Dr. Khalid Diran, Professor of Islamic Studies, Free University, Berlin, will speak on "An Islamic Ethic of Otherness: Regarding Kurds, the Sudan, and Non-Islamics."

Mar. 14 Bibhuti Yadav, Professor of Religion, Temple University,

will speak on "A Hindu Ethic of Otherness: A Theology of Identity and Difference."

Mar. 21 Scott Aaron, Director of Congregational Relations, Religious Action Center of the Union of Hebrew Congregations, will speak on "Sojourners Within the Gate: A Jewish Ethic Concerning Arabs and Others in Israel."

Mar. 28 Laverne Sasaki, Minister, Buddhist Church of San Francisco, will speak on "A Buddhist Ethic of Otherness: Korean-Japanese and Other Resident Strangers."

## Guest at Your Table

Over the holidays, Prairie people generously collected \$149.62 to support the projects of the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee. Our money will provide a place for Eritreans to learn about family planning. For such a small congregation, we can be very proud of our activism!

## Wisconsin Harvest

Wisconsin Harvest is a new project in which leftover food is taken from restaurants, hospitals, etc. to food pantries in Madison. Prairie is doing the food run from Meriter Hospital to the South Park Community Center every Thursday morning. 'Granny' cooks up the unused food from Meriter Hospital and it is served for lunch at the Community Center.

We would welcome anyone who could take a turn at this 'Prairie Run' on Thursday mornings. Food is of course also delivered on other days and times to different locations. If you can't do it on Thursday morning but would like to help out at another time, please call Social Action Chair Sharon Scrattish at 233-1118.



## Coffee Service Volunteers

The following persons have volunteered to set up the coffee service on Sunday mornings.

Mar. 7 Aileen Nettleton

Mar. 14 Rick Ruecking

Mar. 21 Dawn Ace  
& Phoebe Rosebear

Mar. 28 Anne Urbanski

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

Mar. 7 Kerry & Rachel Bauer

Mar. 14 Al Nettleton  
& Richard Alderman

Mar. 21 Bob Steinhofner & ??

Mar. 28 ??

## Ya Wanna Be In Our Book?

It's time for a new directory. If you have had any name, address, phone or new children changes in the last three years or if you are a new friend or member of Prairie, please fill out the slip below. You can either drop it off at at prairie or mail it to the meetinghouse by April 1st. If you have any questions, you can call Heidi Oliverson at 238-2265 (evenings only)

Adult Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names & Birthdates \_\_\_\_\_



The following have signed up to greet visitors on Sunday mornings.

- Mar. 7 Aileen Nettleton
- Mar. 14 Rick Ruecking
- Mar. 21 Dawn Ace  
& Phoebe Rosebear
- Mar. 28 ??

Descriptions for each of these volunteer jobs are on the bulletin board over the microwave oven in the kitchen. Any volunteers who cannot work on the day they've signed up, please let Heidi Oliversen know so she can locate a substitute.

### Photo Exhibit

Marty Drapkin's photo exhibit, "Women Reading Nausea" is on display at Canterbury Booksellers through the end of March.

### Parliament of the World's Religions

The centenary will be celebrated in Chicago August 28 - September 5, 1993. Plenary speakers will include Mother Theresa, the Dalai Lama, and the next elected President of the UUA. Central Midwest District is a co-sponsor of the Parliament. Call the district office if you want tickets. We will hear soon how our congregation can get involved with workshops, presentations and volunteer opportunities.

### Just a Reminder

If you're going to use the building, check with Fredericka Schilling at 277-9218 to be sure the building is available. We need advance notice, preferably two

weeks, to schedule the use of the building. Building use rules are posted in the kitchen.

### Drum Making Workshop

Crowind Drums, a business operated by Prairie's newest member, will be holding a drum making workshop at Atwood Community Center from 9 AM to 1 PM on Sunday, March 14th. The registration fee of \$150 includes all supplies needed to make your own 14" drum plus a drum birthing ritual. Registration is required in advance by February 20th to ensure an adequate supply of materials for the drums. For further information, please call the business manager at 608/523-1921 or Crowind at 833-7786.

