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Prairie Fire



Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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Vol. 31, No. 9, 4-27-93

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, May 9. Submit items for May 13-27, 1993.

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 29

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets tonight at the Meetinghouse.

Saturday, May 1

7:00 PM

BELTANE CELEBRATION at the Meetinghouse. Bring a noisemaker (drum, rattle, chime, or musical instrument of your choice) and snacks and beverages to share. Sponsored by CUUPS, the Covenant of UU Pagans.



Sunday, May 2

9:00 AM

Choir Practice

10:00 AM

"ADVICE TO THE NEEDLORN: words to live by." Presented by Terry Krause.

Sunday May 9

10:00 AM

"Mordechai Vanunu, Israel's Nuclear Weapons Whistleblower, and the Problem of Nuclear Weapons in the Middle East" presented by Sam Day, Jr.

Monday, May 10

7:00 PM

SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at the Meetinghouse. Please Call Orton Gray at 273-4041 or Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382 for more information.

Thursday, May 13

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets tonight at the Meetinghouse.

Friday May 14

5:30 PM

PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS ANNUAL FISH FRY. Please call Al or Aileen Nettleton at 238-6053 by Wednesday evening, May 12, to make a reservation or for more information.

Sunday May 16

10:00 AM

"NEWSPAPERS AND MUSIC: A Prairie Experience" presented by Donna Murdoch, Bob Purvis, and Rick Ruecking. (See related story)

11:30 AM

R.E. PICNIC at the Park near Prairie. All Prairie folk are invited! (See related story)

Sunday May 23

10:00 AM

TRANSITION SUNDAY, including a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser.

Thursday, May 27

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets tonight at the Meetinghouse.

Today's Quote

"Joyous distrust is a sign of health. Everything absolute belongs to pathology."

-FRIEDRICH WILHELM NIETZSCHE



Advice to the Need-lorn...

As we make decisions solving life's problems, we develop a set of generalizations about how it all works—what we should and what we shouldn't do or expect. When we feel particularly adept and powerful in some area, we may feel that we are ready to give advice to others. This advice will be useful to us for the service that I'll be leading on May 2nd. I'm calling it "Advice to the Need-lorn: Words to live by." For this service, please come prepared with erudition, insight, shrewd advice, and admonitions—all that knowledge you have been gleaming as you have made life's important decisions and enjoyed or suffered the consequences. Jot down your bon mots—briefly, please—and be ready to share them with us as part of the service. If you have more than one piece of advice, please write each on a separate piece of paper. It'll be a time to "should" on everyone.

Prairie Patter

Sunday we had a strong turnout for our spring Parish meeting. We accomplished our business and adjourned by 2:10 PM We elected Officer and Committee Chairs for the next



...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

year. They will serve until May of 1994. The following are the new Prairie Executive board.

President: Julia Bonser
Vice President: Dave Johnson
Treasurer: Susan Hagstrom
Secretary: Jennifer Parker
Finance: Jim Harvey
Religious Education: Dean Schroeder
Membership: Heidi Oliverson
Housing and Property: Karen Gross
Long Range Planning: Peg Barratt
Denominational Affairs: Rachel Siegfried
Social Action: Mike Briggs
Program: Aileen Nettleton

We had an effective and dedicated Executive Board this past year. We have seven people continuing in the same office and Mike Briggs is moving from Program to Social Action. Thanks to Al Nettleton, Mary Mullen, Sharon Scratish and Donna Murdoch who are going off the Board.

We elected Shirley Grindrod, Sharon Scratish, Doleta Chapru and Pat Watkins to serve on the Committee on Committees. We also selected Cinda LaMar and Julie Bonser as Delegates to General Assembly and Jack Jallings as an Alternate.

R.E. reported that 35 children were enrolled in our program with an average attendance of 19. Some goals mentioned for the coming year are community building, to have the Intergenerational services child inclusive, to have more music and expand Secret Friends.

Housing and property have kept up with the maintenance of the building. We have many projects to work on however. We will be getting gutters and downspouts soon. We also are looking at what options there are for windows.

The position description for a Church Administrator was introduced. This was requested at the Fall meeting to be ready for the Annual Meeting. The need for the position was affirmed by several members. The description will be posted on the bulletin board for comment. It will be introduced for discussion in the proposed budget for 1994.

Members of Prairie were asked to bring up questions and concerns at this meeting. They suggested we analyze our need to have more members. The Board was also requested to develop a way for Prairie to help our members that everyone would know how we help each other.

Since May of 1992 we have welcomed 17 new Members to Prairie UU Society. We are pleased to have them sign the membership book and join our community. These are our new members: Nancy Graham, Marion & Carl Thompson, Debbie Bors, Phoebe Rosebear, Dawn Ace, Kerry Bauer, Larry & Bonnie Miller-Murdock, Kay Frazier & Jose Rodriguez, Richard Austin, Judy Carter,

Crowind, Fran Zell, Richard Alderman, and Jan Howe.

Blessed be-
-Julie Bonser
President

Newspapers and Music

On May 16, Donna Murdoch, Bob Purvis, and Rick Ruecking will host an experimental Sunday service. If you have been missing Prairie because of your love affair with morning newspapers, this service is especially for you. If possible, please bring a copy of Sunday's paper or a current magazine to the program.

Coordinator Sought

Channing-Murray is presently accepting inquiries and applications for the position of C-M Coordinator. The basic tasks include conducting membership activities, including preparing a monthly newsletter; planning and facilitating activities and meetings; and budget and administration.

A candidate should have prior involvement with Unitarian-Universalism and leadership experience with young adult and/or college-age groups. The position is 1/4 time and will begin on or about July 1 (flexible). It provides a stipend of \$280-350 per month (depending on experience) for twelve months.

To apply, submit a letter of interest, resumé, and three references (with their phone numbers) to Carrie Sandahl, 1202 Jennifer Street, Madison, WI 53703, no later than June 1st. Additional information and a more detailed job description can be obtained from Carrie by calling 255-1967.

R. E. Picnic set for May 16!

All children, parents, families, R. E. teachers and friends are invited to a picnic! On Sunday, May 16, after the Prairie service, we will gather at the park across the street. Bring a dish to pass and something to grill if desired; beverages, cups plates, napkins and forks will be provided.

Join us for some fun and fellowship and a chance to tell us what you'd like Prairie R. E. to be!

CMD Calendar: 1993

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.

GA is Coming!

There's a lot going on at the General Assembly in Charlotte, NC, from June 24 to 29. UUs can choose from more than 300 events open to everyone who attends. This includes 4 Plenary Sessions during which the business of the UUA is conducted, workshops offering practical advice and information that you can bring home with you, worship services, lectures and presentations on a wide variety of topics, annual meetings of UU-related organizations, and performances offering entertainment and stimulation. In addition, there are opportunities for informal interaction and socializing at times such as the evening dances.

Fill-in Chair Found!

Member Larry Miller-Murdock has volunteered to fill in for Building and Property Chair Karen Gross while she is away this summer working as Assistant Director for Camp Unistar. Thanks for volunteering to help out, Larry!

Third Society News...

The new East-side congregation is well on the way to becoming reality. The first service has been set for June 6th. Watch for news of the time, location, and speaker in the next few weeks.

They are in the process of seeking an extension minister from the UUA. If all goes well at the first service, they hope to be holding regular services beginning this fall. There will be informal picnic programs throughout the summer.

For more information, call Art Hackett at 244-0627 or sign up on one of the sheets attached to the poster with the hot air balloon on the church bulletin board.

Super Summer Weekend

The First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau is sponsoring a UU Bed and Breakfast in conjunction with a super summer weekend in Wausau from June 25th to 27th. Events range from world class kayak racing to an air show, a Log Jam, a major dog show, and a Big Bull Run. Wausau UU hosts will be opening their homes to UUs who plan to attend. Advance registration is required, by June 15, 1993. Brochures describing the events and the B & B arrangements are available at Prairie.

RECORDER

The Church Across the Street (6-7-8)

This group spent a recent Sunday morning discussing their visit to the Greek Orthodox Church and preparing for their visit to Circle Sanctuary, a Wiccan center outside Mt. Horeb. They went there the following Wednesday and took part in an Earth Day ritual. This group is led by Warren Hagstrom and Erin Bosch.

Holidays and Holy Days (3-4-5)

Bob Lawrence led this group in an exploration of planting rituals. They talked about Hopi and Pawnee planting ceremonies, and about European protective spirits for gardens (scarecrows). They then created a Guardian of the Garden in the back yard and planted cannalilies. Go out back and visit their garden!

A Place of One's Own (K-1-2)

Focusing on families and how they change, Carol Wilson led this group in a discussion of "What is a family?" They talked about how families change due to divorce, remarriage, death or having a new baby. They also drew pictures of their families and the changes they've gone through.

The discussion was difficult for some of the children whose families have changed in ways they didn't like. But the entire group was supportive of each other and the discussion was positive overall.

Spring Fling!

Nine children joined three adults for a very fun and pleasant evening of food, conversation (we found out the group's favorite movie is *Aladdin*); games (acting out Mad Libs scenes was very funny); and a twilight flashlight hike in the Arboretum.

SOCIAL ACTION

Walk This Way...

The annual March of Dimes "Walk America for Healthier Babies" will take place Saturday,

May 1st, in Madison. Last year, Kate Tucker and I walked 15 kilometers (out of a possible 20) and had a great time. This year I plan to walk again and would love to have company, either as an ad-hoc (non-fundraising) basis or as part of a walking team. [Walk America takes pledges to raise money for research on birth defects.] If you would like to walk with me as part of a fundraising team (representing Prairie?) please call me at 258-8269 before March 30. I'll also be happy to accept pledges.

-Anne Urbanski

Make a Date With Yourself

You probably have good intentions about giving a pint of your blood to help a stranger in need. Now, look at your calendar and set a date and time! The Red Cross donor center on Sheboygan Avenue is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 AM to 1 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 Noon to 6 PM, and Saturdays from 9 AM to 12 Noon. Be sure to sign the book as a Unitarian-Universalist! Linda Sheehy has given her second 1993 donation. This month, lets follow her lead!

Want To Be An Organ Donor?

The back of your driver's license has a place to sign your intention, so that if your death occurs suddenly your wishes are known. As an alternative, there are booklets on the literature table which include cards that can be signed by people who are non-drivers. It is important, however, to talk with your near relatives about your wish to give your organs in the event of your death, so that they will be sure of your intentions.

Art Therapy

...for people living with HIV and AIDS. You don't need to have art experience or even know how to draw! Group meetings are open, free and meet each Monday at 6:00 PM. Meetings are facilitated by Laurie Ellen Neustadt, a registered art therapist. The summer session begins on June 7th. Call Madison AIDS Support Network at 238-6276 or 1-800-486-6276 for more information.

MISCELLANY

Coffee Service Volunteers

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

May 2 Anne Urbanski
May 9 Bonnie & Larry Miller-Murdock
May 16 Barbara Rames
May 23 Pancake Breakfast
May 30 No Service—Canoe Trip

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

May 2 Susan Hagstrom & Diane DeRouen
May 9 Al Nettleton & Cinda LaMar
May 16 ??
May 23 John & Shirley Grindrod
May 30 No Service—Canoe Trip

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

May 2 Kathy & Randy Converse
May 9 Ruth Calden
May 16 ??
May 23 Rachel Siegfried
May 30 No Service—Canoe Trip

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 Oliverson know so she can locate a substitute.

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.

Apartment to Sublet

A lovely East side CoOp Apartment on the second floor with two sunny bedrooms is available for sublease from Karen Gross from June 8 to August 31. It is furnished, with amenities including off-street parking. The apartment is only 4 blocks from a Grocery CoOp and 6 blocks from the Capitol. For more information call 259-0556.

Apartment/Room Wanted

Floyd Buckley is seeking a room to rent or a semi-furnished apartment for a five month period. He is a UU single man from Minnesota and a non-smoker. He would prefer a moderately priced accommodation. His address and phone # are:

218 N. Blackhawk
Madison, WI 53705
phone: 238-3954

House for Sale

Own for less than rent. A snug and comfortable one bedroom home with nearly finished study in a quiet North side neighborhood. A new furnace, large garage and a fenceable back yard are additional advantages of this starter home. Available after the middle of June from the owner, Terry Krause. phone: 249-5144 (until June 6), 244-8707 (after June 6).

Computer Parts for Sale

386SX motherboard (no memory)
IDE hard disk controller
MFM hard disk controller
2 port game card
1 Serial and Monitor card (monochrome)
1 Parallel card
All for \$100. Call José at 414/648-2330.

Forest Management in Wisconsin

A given area of land can grow a given amount of pine trees. This amount can be divided in various ways. You can for instance, grow a lot of small, spindly trees or you can grow a few large trees. If you plant only a few trees, hoping they will be tall and straight, you will be disappointed. The result will be short limby trees of no commercial and little aesthetic value.

In Wisconsin, red and white pines are planted about 1,000 trees per acre. This stocking forces the trees to grow upward rather than outward, producing tall straight trees with few limbs. After about 23 years, the stand becomes crowded and growth is retarded. At this point, half the trees are cut and the resulting logs sold for

pulpwood. This produces income for the land owner and frees the remaining trees for renewed growth. After another 7 years, the stand is thinned again, this time removing a third of the trees. This thinning produces more pulpwood and some logs large enough for log cabin construction. The process is repeated until about 250 trees remain. At this point, either the stand is clearcut and replanted or a few of the best trees are left to re-seed naturally.

Re-seeding naturally does not occur during the cycle because the seedlings require full sunlight and will not grow in the shade of the large trees. For this reason also, replanting cannot be undertaken until the stand is clearcut. This is the management plan advocated and, in our case, required by the D.N.R. It is also promoted by University Extension, the U. S. Soil Conservation Agency and, as far as I know, by all forestry professionals. It is not, as far as I know, controversial in any degree.

If no trees were to be cut, no private individuals would plant trees. If trees were planted and not thinned, they would be weak and subject to disease and insect attack.

These plantations are not a natural forest. The pines were planted on depleted, sand blown fields which would no longer support agriculture. Whether these soils will support even pine trees for the 80 or so years needed for them to reach maturity is not known. Possibly they will decline after 50 or so years. In the meantime, however, the trees are doing well. They have halted soil erosion, provided habitat for wildlife, beautified the landscape, and provided renewable feedstock for Wisconsin's paper industry, the largest in the nation.

We make no apology for cutting these trees. All of the foregoing depends on it.

-Dave & Marcia Johnson, Treefarmers

