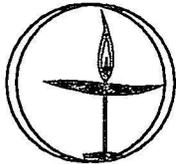


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Prairie Fire



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Vol. 32, No. 2, 1-18-94

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, January 30. Submit items for February 3—February 17, 1994.

CALENDAR

**Thursday, January 20
7:00 PM**

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse. All men are invited to attend.

**Sunday, January 23
9:00 AM**

CHOIR PRACTICE at the meetinghouse before the service.

10:00 AM

"MUSIC, MADNESS, AND THE FAMILY: Clara and Robert Schumann and Brahms," presented by Warren Hagstrom and Prairie musicians.

**Monday, January 24
6:30 PM**

SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK meets at the Meetinghouse. Call Rosemary at 238-4382 if you have questions.

**Tuesday, January 25
7:30 PM**

U-U ORIENTATION for new members and other interested persons.

**Sunday, January 30
10:00 AM**

"WHITE PRIVILEGE" led by Nancy Graham and Rosemary Dorney. First in a series on Racial Justice (See related story).

**Tuesday, February 1
7:30 PM**

U-U ORIENTATION for new members and other interested persons.

**Thursday, February 3
7:00 PM**

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse. All men are invited to attend.

**Sunday, February 6
10:00 AM**

"HEALTH FOR ALL?" led by Cindy Haq and Gary Giorgi (See related story).

**Tuesday, February 8
7:30 PM**

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING at Nettleton's 645 Sheldon St.

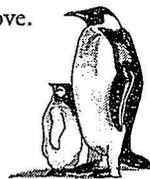
**Sunday, February 13
10:00 AM**

VALENTINE'S DAY INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE led by Prairie High Schoolers.

Today's Quote

Faith is the quality that enables you to eat blackberry jam on a picnic without looking to see whether the seeds move.

-ANONYMOUS



Prairie Patter

Last year during the gift giving season I received a desk calendar for Women Who Do Too Much. This was a not so gentle hint, I expect, to pay attention to home and family. One day a list of 'things I can't control' was the thought for the day. The list includes: What others think of me. What others do. The events of my life. My children's (spouse's, friends' co-workers') lives. My life going the way I think it should.

I could add to this list many sub corollaries relating to work, home, family, Prairie. I struggle with letting go of trying to control those things I can't change or effect. I still like to believe that if I can set up the conditions properly than events will happen the way I want. I want people to find what they need and want from Prairie UU Society. Many of you share that desire with me. We work together to set up the conditions to enable ourselves to obtain what we need and want from the Sunday Morning Program, from the small groups that convene, the physical environment at Prairie. However once we set things in motion, the course of the journey takes on a life of its own with the unexpected shaping events. Much more these days I work on 'controlling' my thoughts and feelings. I tell myself expect surprises. After all, that is one of my favorite things about Prairie.

Blessed be-
-Julie Bonser
President

...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

Choir practice

Be sure to come to choir practice at 9:00 AM on January 23rd because we will be singing for that program. Come even if you haven't been to previous rehearsals. The piece is short and not difficult.

—Barb Park

Schumann/Brahms

Our Sunday service January 23, 1994, will be devoted to the lives and music of Robert and Clara Schumann and their friend Johannes Brahms. Robert Schumann was a manic-depressive, and his story can tell us something about how it is to live with occasional madness in the family. The Schumanns and Brahms wrote a great deal of beautiful music for the piano, strings, chamber groups, songs for solo voice, and choral music.

White Privilege

The initial program of this series on racism, will attempt to examine our awareness of what it means to be non-white in America by exploring what it means to be white. We'll look at important P-words: Preconception, Prejudice, Perspective, and Privilege. Among the materials and approaches we'll use are newsclips from the past year, personal experiences of privilege and non-privilege, and concepts/principles from both the 1993 UU General Assembly on "Racial Justice for Such a Time as This" and a very recent workshop, "Unlearning Oppression," that was sponsored by James Reeb UU Church here in Madison. Rosemary Dorney and Nancy Graham will lead this January 30th service.

Health for All?

On February 5th Gary Georgi and Cindy Haq, both family physicians, will present a service on the problems of access to health care and basic principles important in health care reform. Please bring your ideas about essential elements of a new health care system.

Valentine's Day Service

Our creative and talented high schoolers will be organizing and leading the February 13th Valentine's Day Intergenerational Service. Emily Dikan has agreed to "get the ball rolling" and set up a planning time to get together to plan this service. Please call Emily, 246-4304, or Anne Pryor, 244-7099, if you are a high schooler to find out how you can help. (This can save her making a call to you).

WHALECOAST 94

Three UU churches invite you to explore California's spectacular 'Whalecoast' from the Channel Islands National Park at Ventura to Carmel's Pt. Lobos sealife preserve and everything in between: a whale watch boat trip, shops and galleries in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Cambria, Hearst's San Simeon castle, Rick Masten at home in Big Sur, the aquarium at Monterey.

Travel by train and tour bus, parties and accommodations with local UU's.

March 19-26. Also Whale Watch Weekend, March 19-21

Write "Whalecoast" UU church, 4949 Foothill Rd, Ventura, CA 93003; or call (805) 485-7695 or (805) 644-3898 for a brochure.

Parents' Group

Parents of young children: If you're interested in being part of a new, still evolving parents group, join us Wednesday, February 2nd from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at First Unitarian Society in the infant care room and adjoining classroom. Bring your kids—we'll have an adult program with child care arranged. We'll be getting together again in March: check your newsletter for details.

—Elizabeth Alexander, 255-2226



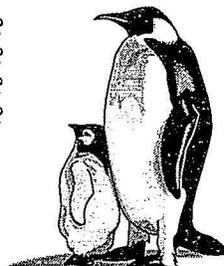
Coffee Service Volunteers

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

Jan. 23	??
Jan. 30	??
Feb. 6	??
Feb. 13	??

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

Jan. 23	??
Jan. 30	??
Feb. 6	??
Feb. 13	??



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

Jan. 23	??
Jan. 30	??
Feb. 6	??
Feb. 13	??

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 Rachel Siegfried at 271-2173 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. See the attached sheet for building rental rates—please note that Prairie members also must pay for private use of Prairie's facilities.

Film Party?

Susan Hagstrom would like to organize a group trip to see Shindler's List when it comes to town. If anyone is interested, please call her at 238-4970 and leave a message about when you're free to go.

Room for Rent

Furnished room to rent to a female non-smoker. Huge walk-in closet, share bath and kitchen with one other woman. This room is in a sunny, quiet new home close to a woods with a walking/ski trail. All utilities, phone and laundry facilities are included. The rent is \$300 per month (negotiable).

Interested? Call Rebecca Jallings at 267-1619 days, 233-7854 after 5 PM.

Telling the Story

Fran Zell will be teaching a writing class called Telling the Story at Prairie this winter. It is a memoir writing class geared for people who wish to reflect on their lives in either fictional or non-fictional forms. The class will meet Thursday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM for six weeks, beginning on February 10. Cost is \$55.00, which includes the fee for photocopied handouts.

Please contact Fran Zell, 233-0213, for more information.