CALENDAR

Thursday, March 3
7:00 PM
PRAIRIE MEN’S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse. All men are invited to attend.

Sunday March 6
9:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM
“RACISM: How Responsible Are We?” presented by Bonnie-Jeanne Casey, ministerial intern at First Society. (See related story)


Saturday March 12
7:30 PM
PLAY READING at Nettleton’s

Sunday March 13
9:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM
“OUR FOOD CONNECTION” Led by Jim Harvey (See related story)
11:30 AM
SECRET FRIENDS PARTY after the service.

Monday, March 14
7:30 PM
Prairie Board meet at Meeting House. All welcome.

Thursday, March 17
7:00 PM
PRAIRIE MEN’S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse. All men are invited to attend.

Sunday March 20
9:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM
“THE RANKING GAME” led by Pat Watkins. (See related story)

Monday, March 21
6:00 PM
Spanish-speaking Potluckers will meet at Prairie at 6 pm to carpool to Audrey Shomos’ in Evansville. Please call Audrey (882-4070) or Rosemary (238-4382) for a ride or information.

Sunday March 27
9:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM
“ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE” led by Judy Skog and Nancy Graham.
RE Baking service project.

Thursday, March 31
7:00 PM
PRAIRIE MEN’S GROUP meets at the Meetinghouse. All men are invited to attend.

Today’s Quote
“We all learn from experience but some of us have to go to summer school.”
- PETER DE VRIES

Racism:

How Responsible Are We?

In her book, Black Looks, Professor Belle Hooks recognizes that blacks have made progress by demanding change on fronts such as education and employment. She goes on to argue however that these changes are not enough and may even prove inconsequential given the way dominant white culture manufactures the black image. How can we act responsibly in representing race?

Our Food Connection

Prairie member and Finance Committee chair Jim Harvey is an active member of MACSAC, a group of local community supported farmers that are contracted by local individuals and consumers to grow food for their needs. Jim will share the philosophical and economic basis of this nation wide movement in which consumers and producers are working together.

The Ranking Game

This final program in the racial justice series will explore, accept or refute, and rank by degree of perniciousness the privileges of the dominant society which are denied to...
minorities, as given in the 1993 GA monograph on “White Privilege.” This topic was dealt with in part in Nancy Graham’s earlier February program. We will explore the topic in greater depth, using small group discussions, followed by open discussion and sharing of conclusions.

**Prairie Patter**

*What a delight to have a new Chalice.* Bill Grover brought Prairie a new Chalice to the Sunday Service. Many congregations light a flame inside a chalice during the opening of Sunday morning worship services.

Some time ago a Prairie member asked me what is the meaning of the Flaming Chalice. I located a brochure published by the UUA written by Reverend Daniel D. Hotchkiss. He explains the flaming chalice combines two archetypes—a drinking vessel and a flame—as a religious symbol the meaning depends upon the beholder. “Sharing, generosity, sustenance, and love are some of the meanings symbolized by a chalice...A flame can symbolize witness, sacrifice, testing, courage, and illumination.”

The chalice and the flame were brought together as a Unitarian symbol by an Austrian artist, Hans Deutsch, in 1941. He met the Reverend Charles Joy, executive director of the Unitarian Service Committee, in Portugal. The USC was new, founded to assist Eastern Europeans, among them Unitarians as well as Jews, who needed to escape Nazi persecution. Deutsch was impressed with the work of the USC. He wrote to Joy:

> I am not what you may actually call a believer. But if your kind of faith is the profession of your faith—as it is, I feel sure—then religion, ceasing to be magic and mysticism, becomes confession to practical philosophy and—what is more—to active, really useful social work. And this religion—with or without a heading—is one to which even a ‘godless’ fellow as myself can say wholeheartedly, Yes!

Joy asked Deutsch to create a symbol for their papers. With pen and ink he drew a chalice with a flame. In time it became a symbol of Unitarian Universalism all around the world. When the Unitarians and the Universalists merged the double circle was used to symbolize the merger. Today the logo of a flaming chalice with in a double circle serves hundreds of congregations as well as the USUC and the UUA.

Each Sunday we light the Chalice for a symbol of our heritage and faith; the meaning is determined by the lighter and the beholder.

**Full Moon Ritual**

Saturday March 26th, at 7:30 PM, a Women’s Full Moon Ritual Circle will be held at First Unitarian Ritual Circle. Check the front door for listing of location.

**Parents Group**

Parents of young children: If you’re interested in being part of an evolving parents group, join us Wednesday morning, March 2 from 9:30 to 11:30 at First Unitarian Society in the infant care room and adjoining classroom. Bring your kids—we’ll be focusing on kids in a play group format that day, and attempting to complete sentences around the perimeter. Let’s get to know each other! Questions? Call Elizabeth Alexander at 255-2226

**Curriculum Planning Training**

If there are people interested in helping plan future use of curricula in the RE program, they may want to take this training. It will be held on March 17-19th in Crystal Lake, IL. Contact Anne Pryor at 244-7099 if you are interested.

**Prairie Writer and Composers**

To celebrate Earth Day, May 1, we are asking you to use your creativity to help celebrate our goal “to be one with the natural world.” Write a poem, a memory or, a piece of music, to honor “Mother Earth.” We will share original pieces in this service of celebration together. Contact Fran Zell, who will coordinate this service, or Aileen Nettleton about your contribution. Thanks.

**Absent Friends**

I thought I would get back to Madison more than I do. Miss you all a lot. My address has changed to 1137 Elm St. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965. Phone (608) 254-6994.

**Terry Krause**

**General Assembly Resolutions**

*Be An Informed Voter*

Vote Early, Vote Often

There will be 3 meetings at Prairie on GA Resolutions for 1994:

- Wed March 16, 7:30 PM—Stop Arms Sales led by Bob Reuschlein
- Sunday March 27, 10:00 AM Service—Environmental Justice led by Judy Skog and Nancy Graham.

**Environmental Justice**—What the heck is it and what does it have to do with People of Color and UUs? There is a resolution before the UU General Assembly supporting Environmental Justice. Come learn more, so that we can instruct delegates to GA on our views.

**Anniversary Celebration**

The weekend of March 6/7 this year, First Society members will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ordination of their minister emeritus, Max Gaebler. The Rev. Mr. Gaebler, who was one of the denomination’s most influential voices during his tenure in Madison, is presently serving as interim minister of the Vancouver, B.C., church. He will be attending the celebration with Mrs. Gaebler.

The celebration will be enhanced by the involvement of the Rev. John A. Buchrems, President of the UUA, who will be the speaker for a celebratory dinner on Saturday, March 6th. Prairie members and friends are invited to attend.

The celebration will continue with a free symposium at the Meeting House on Sunday afternoon (1:30–5:00 PM). The subject will be “Balancing Diversity and Commonality in America” and Paul Conlin, history professor at Vanderbilt University, will keynote the proceedings.

**Secret Friends**

Sunday, March 6 is the final day for exchanging letters. The following Sunday, March 13, will be our closing party where the friends who were secret finally get to meet each other. Thanks to all who have been so great about bringing letters each week.

**Treasure Hunting (Grades K-1-2)**

Shirley Grindrod has been leading this group in a very special Mothers’ Day Project!
A Stepping Stone Year (Grades 3-4-5)

Jan Howe led a session on Fannie Farmer, famous UU who was the “Mother of Level Measurements.” Good nutrition was the theme of the session. The high point of the morning was making a nutritious snack for themselves.

We Believe (Grades 6-7-8)

Randy Converse led a session on the theme of weaving our lives together and weaving together our own parts of the whole. Each member of the group chose a piece of yarn that symbolized something, such as anger, Valentine’s Day, the sun, and grandfather. They wove those pieces together on a loom that Randy had brought in.

The group also rehearsed the play, “Kumba” that they’re going to perform at the Children’s Spirit Circle downstairs on March 6.

RE Service Project

This year as our service project, the RE kids are baking breads and muffins for the homeless shelter at Grace Episcopal Church. We bake the fourth Sunday of each month, and then send the baked goods with the Prairie adults who work at the shelter every fourth Monday night and Tuesday morning.

We recently received a very nice letter thanking the RE kids for all the baked goods they’ve made so far.

YRUU Conference

“Lepre-Con,” a conference for UU Junior High students, will be held on March 18 and 19 at First Society. There will be lots of fun and interesting activities like beadworking, tie-dying, Wink, and inventing your own religion. If you want to attend, contact Genni at 233-6693 or Andy at 273-1035.

Coffee Service Volunteers

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>Barbara Rames</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
<td>Barbara Park</td>
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<td>Mar. 20</td>
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<td>Mar. 27</td>
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The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>Jack and Betty Jallings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
<td>Marian Thompson &amp; Cinda LaMar</td>
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<td>Mar. 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 27</td>
<td>Marilyn Peters and ??</td>
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A Question of Balance

What is darkness to you? What is light? Come explore both at BALANCING DARK AND LIGHT, a day-long retreat at the First Unitarian Society on April 9th with Nancy Vedder-Shults (a recent UUWF Feminist Theology Award winner). We will look inward for our own fertile darkness and the light which illuminates it, using guided visualizations, ritual, stories and songs (including several from Nancy’s recent recording, Chants for the Queen of Heaven). $55 for the day/$40 for UUWF or Alliance members. Send your name and address with check (payable to Nancy Vedder-Shults) to 2610 Gregory Street, Madison, WI 53711. For more info, call Nancy at 231-3362.

For Sale

1 486SX 25mh IBM Clone PC - 40 MB Hard Drive Mini Tower, 3 1/2 Disk Drive, wo/monitor: $625.95

1 486DX 33mh IBM Clone with Super Work Station 210 MB Hard Drive, SVGA Monitor (Color), 2VBL upgradeable - more! DOS 6.2 Windows 3.1—$1,495

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