



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### October 11 - 13 Upham Woods! No Service at Prairie

**Saturday, October 12  
(at Camp Upham Wood)**

"Introduction and Expectations"

Mary Mullen

How have you felt excluded in your life? How did you learn about sexual orientation? What do you fear about participating in this series of services? What do you think you or our congregation can gain through this lay ministry? (Reading material for the next week is "Twenty Questions About Homosexuality," available at the end of this service.)

**October 20**

"What We Know and How We Learned It"

Mary Mullen

Participate in a word association brainstorm and share your feelings about the process and your reactions to the word lists with a partner. Then discuss "Twenty Questions About Homosexuality" with a small group. Don't worry if you haven't read "Twenty Questions." You may skim a few of the questions and answers right during the service. (Next reading assignment, "Homophobia: A Weapon of Sexism," may be picked up at the end of the service.)

**October 27  
(Young people especially invited!)**

"Gender Socialization and Homophobia"

Mary Mullen

After a guided memory of your own same-sex friendships, small same-sex groups will recall the "rules" for fitting in with their own gender group and discuss what individuals had to do in junior high and high school to avoid being called "queer." Have any of these behaviors been carried over into adult life? HMMMMMMMM

**November 3**

"Prairie Stir-Fry"

George Calden

We Prairie Unitarians are proud of the fact that we are not part of the "Silent Majority", but belong to the "Critical Minority". In this service George will present a stir-fry of provocative ideas, issues, images and anecdotes for discussion. With the help of music we will celebrate our ability to express ourselves freely on many subjects.

**November 10**

"Promise Keepers"

Doleta Chapru

The men's organization "Promise Keepers" merits close security by those of us who believe people can be good without "God," women and men are entitled to equal rights, lesbians and gays are not sinners who need to repent, and

unquestioning obedience to Biblical authority is an insult to human reason.

Thousands of men, genuinely seeking to better themselves, are attracted to Promise Keepers' euphoric atmosphere of male-to-male nurturing. I believe that members who obediently follow Promise Keepers' dictates are ripe for manipulation by leaders deeply connected to the political religious right.

My service November 10 will outline the strengths of Promise Keepers and explore aspects I find most disturbing.

**November 17**

"Annual Meeting"

All Members

Each fall we meet to plan the new year, and to conduct the business of the Prairie U.U. Society. Typically we have reports from the Board and from each committee. Any proposals for changes in our bylaws are acted on. The budget for the coming year is presented and voted on.

This is a good opportunity to consider the future of our group. Do we want to grow? Do we want to stay the same? Do we want to develop closer ties to other UU societies in our area? To other liberal religious groups? To Shaarei Shamayim?

### *Relationship Enhancement for Lesbian Couples*

A six-week course led by Jonalu Johnstone of James Reeb and Judith Lyons of the Samaritan Counseling Center. Sessions begin at 8 PM on Monday, October 14 and course cost is \$30. Call 250-0050 to register or obtain additional information.

—*Denominational Affairs*

### *Corporate Power and Citizen Power*

The Madison Institute and the Madison Campus Ministry invite you to their seminar series on Corporate Power and Citizen Power: Striking a Balance. Nine AM to noon the second Saturday of each month at the State Historical Society auditorium. First Speaker October 12 will be David Korten MBA, PhD, Stanford University speaking on "When Corporations Rule the World." Dedicated to the memory of Ed Miller, Physics Professor, UW.

—*Midge Miller, 238-7177*

## Religious Education

One month later, the RE gears and cogs seem to be working well together. Preschool now has two committed leaders: Melissa Pokorney and Heidi Bosch. The teachers/leaders have been working well with each other, with an extra-special presentation on T'ai Chi by father-daughter combo, Randy and Tara, for a combined 678 and High School Class. Everyone continues to compliment the room arrangements and improvements.

Oh, by the way, there was one very important name left out of the gratitude list last Prairie fire - Al Nettleton. Also a shout out thanks to several donations to the RE Program, the latest from Alice and Lee Bullen.

Forty-two children are currently registered for RE Classes this year, averaging 24 for the first four

Sundays - that's 57% attendance! In a book called, "What Kids Need to Succeed," one of the thirty determining 'developmental assets' is Involvement with a Faith Community. It is suggested that kids attend religious programs or services at least once a month. If interested in learning more about "What Kids Need to Succeed," we are tentatively looking to schedule a parent opportunity to learn more. Please call.

The first RE "Service Sunday" will be October 20 (the week after Upham Woods) and the focus will be the UN's theme of eradication of poverty combined with our RE theme of acts of kindness. We will be creating a "hope chest" for children in poverty in Madison area. We will also be preparing to participate in the Children's Sabbath (nationally coordinated by

the Children's Defense Fund and supported by the UUSC). I'm coordinating an interfaith service, hosted by Prairie. If interested in participating, please let me know. Parents will be getting more information in the mail.

The following week is the annual Fall Frolic overnight ... more will be revealed in the fullness of time.

There is a sign on the 9-12 classroom door (courtesy of student Erik Schroeder):

**"WARNING!  
OCCUPANTS ARE BEING  
SPIRITUAL.  
DO NOT DISTURB!  
(or at least knock)"**

Kinda' says it all, doesn't it?

—John Brian Paprock

## Denominational Affairs

Are you a chalice lighter? Would you consider being one?

### What is the chalice lighter program?

Every UU congregation in the Central Midwest District (CMD) is eligible to apply for a Chalice Lighter Award, which must be used only for: 1) initiating a new congregation, 2) acquiring meeting space for a congregation, 3) securing a minister, religious educator, or other professional staff, or 4) providing an outreach or public relations program. The congregation obtains an application/proposal form from the CMD office, completes and returns it. The CMD's Growth and Support Committee and the District Administrator review the proposals and no more than three times during the year will designate a Chalice Lighter Awardee.

### Who is a Chalice Lighter?

Any friend or member of Prairie who contracts for one year to donate ten dollars (\$10) to each of the three awards, when the award is announced. You will be contacted by (or encouraged to contact) Prairie's Chalice Lighter liaison, Nancy Graham, who will supply you with the registration form. Once you have registered, you will receive a Chalice Lighter insignia to wear on your name tag, and you will be contacted by the District Office and notified when an award has been made, and to whom and for what purpose.

### Won't you consider being a Chalice Lighter?

### Small Society Workshop

Registration cost of \$9.00. A great opportunity to join in discussion with folks from other congregations! Registration forms on the bulletin board. We need volunteers for home hospitality.

—Barb Park, 273-8775

### Roommate Wanted

Available October 15. Please give me a call for further information.

—Jennifer Parker, 246-4304

### Help Wanted

Channing-Murray is in need of a group coordinator. This is a paid ¼ time position with a commitment of at least one year.

—Ned Frey, 274-1855

Prairie is in need of a ¼ time administrator. This position will involve working at the meeting house ten hours a week.

—Rick Ruecking, 271-8218

### Leland & Alice Bullen

Tel Hai Retirement Community  
Box 190, Hillcrest Apt.  
508, Beaver Dam Rd.,  
Honey Brook, PA 19344.

### Choir Rehearsal

Rehearsals are usually at 9 AM, before the Sunday program. Please contact me for specific dates. Everyone is welcome to sing in the choir

—Barb Park, 273-8775

# Calendar

## Saturday, October 12

9 AM – 4 PM

Corporate Power and  
Citizen Power  
State Historical Society  
Midge Miller, 238-7177

## Friday, October 11 --

## Sunday, October 13

Upham Woods!

## \*\*Saturday, October 12

Welcoming Congregation  
Introductions and Expectations  
Mary Mullen  
Prairie Playreaders  
Aristophanes -- The Frogs  
Arleigh Birchler

## Sunday, October 13

NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE

## Sunday, October 13

1 -- 5 PM

Madison Area Interfaith Network  
Strategic Vision

5 -- 8 PM

Madison Children's Choir

## Monday, October 14

7:30 PM

Board Meeting

8 PM

Relationship Enhancement for  
Lesbian Couples  
Jonalu Johnstone & Judith Lyons

## Wednesday, October 16

7 PM

Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood  
Association

## Friday, October 18

6:30 PM

Spanish Speaker's Potluck  
Bill Shaffer  
3718 Gregory St  
233-8266

## Saturday, October 19

9 AM – 4 PM

NCAC/CMD  
Small Societies Workshop  
At Prairie

## \*\*Sunday, October 20

10 AM

Welcoming Congregation  
What We Know and  
How We Learned It  
Mary Mullen

after program

Women's Discussion Group

R.E.

Children's Sabbath

## Monday, October 21

7:30 PM

WSPR  
First Society  
Lower Meeting House

## Wednesday, October 23

7 PM

Madison Area Interfaith Network

## Saturday, October 26

7 AM -- 7 PM

The Chicago Art Institute  
DEGAS: Beyond Impressionism  
Pat Watkins & Pat Cautley

## Saturday, October 26 --

## Sunday, October 27

FALL FROLIC!

Overnight

## Saturday, October 26 --

## Sunday, October 27

Premier Performance:  
The Simple Gravity of Stars  
Elizabeth Alexander  
Stephen's Point

## \*\*Sunday, October 27

10 AM

Gender Socialization and  
Homophobia  
Mary Mullen

## Monday, October 28

7:45 -- 11:30 PM

Men's Homeless Shelter  
Grace Episcopal Church

## Tuesday, October 29

5 -- 8 AM

Men's Homeless Shelter  
Grace Episcopal Church

7 PM

Social Action Committee

## Friday, November 1

5:30 PM

Fish Dinner Circle  
Avenue Bar  
1128 E. Washington Ave.  
Pat Watkins, 233-5795

## Saturday, November 2

7:30 PM

Prairie Playreaders  
Susan Hagstrom  
238-4970

## \*\*Sunday, November 3

10 AM

Prairie Stir-Fry  
George Calden

## Saturday, November 9

Rape Crisis Center  
Chimera Program

## \*\*Sunday, November 10

10 AM

Promise Keepers  
Doleta Chapru

## Saturday, November 16

Rape Crisis Center  
Chimera Program

## \*\*Sunday, November 17

10 AM

Annual Meeting

after program

Women's Discussion Group

## Thursday, December 5

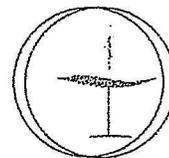
(not yet confirmed)

Chanukah  
Shaarei Shamayim

## Wednesday, December 6

(not yet confirmed)

Chanukah  
Shaarei Shamayim



# Directions to Upham Woods

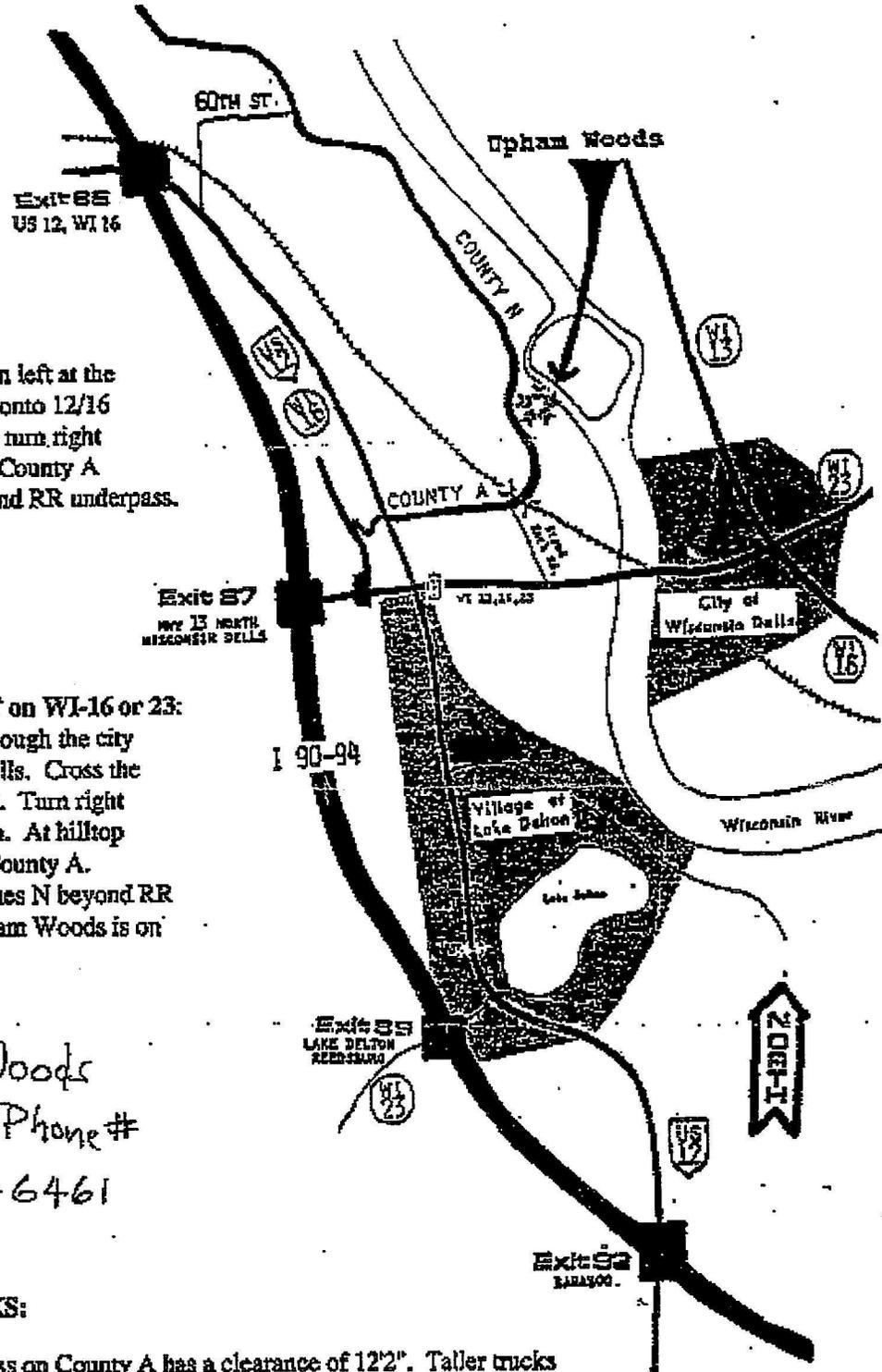
**From I-90/94:**  
Use exit 87. Turn left at the second stoplight onto 12/16 north. At hilltop turn right onto County A. County A becomes N beyond RR underpass.

**From the EAST on WI-16 or 23:**  
Follow 16/23 through the city of Wisconsin Dells. Cross the Wisconsin River. Turn right onto 12/16 North. At hilltop turn right onto County A. County A becomes N beyond RR underpass. Upham Woods is on the right .6 mile

Upham Woods  
Emergency Phone #  
(608) 254-6461

## Note to TRUCKS:

The RR underpass on County A has a clearance of 12'2". Taller trucks should continue north on 12/16 and turn right (east) onto 60th street. Turn right onto County N. Upham Woods is on the left .8 mile.



PLEASE COPY THIS MAP OF DIRECTIONS FOR YOUR GROUP'S DRIVERS.

## UPHAM WOODS PROGRAM

### October 11-13

**Each fall** since 1970, Prairie members and friends have scheduled an annual retreat in October. This year's retreat will take place October 11 - 13 at Camp Upham Woods near Wisconsin Dells. The retreat provides an opportunity for members and friends to join together in canoeing, nature walks, crafts, discussion groups, games, dancing, singing, meditation—you name it! The highlights of the weekend are the Talent Show on Saturday night and the Sunday morning service featuring a "key log ceremony."



**This year** Mary Mullen will lead a workshop on the Welcoming Congregation.

There will be a discussion of effecting Affinity Groups. What do we want and how shall we proceed?

The Upham Woods naturalists will lead at least one guided nature walk on Blackhawk Island and will direct an outback adventure up Peanut Butter Mountain. PB Mountain will be off-limits at all other times.

Warren Hagstrom is leading a canoe expedition around Blackhawk Island.

On Friday evening the Funniest Family Videos and selected short videos will return for another year.

Saturday night is the Annual All-Prairie Variety Show followed by a dance. Plan on bringing your talents and skits to the other members of the Society and CD's and tapes of your favorite music to the dance.

There will be another chance to join a Circle Dinner, or some other type of Affinity circle. And perhaps a chance to explore Outreach circles?

**Last year's** retreat was held November 10-12. Some of the activities available included a hike on Blackhawk Island, an expedition through the "Peanut Butter Mountain" obstacle course, apple carving, a visit to the Nature Center, poetry reading, a country line-dancing lesson, a long-range planning focus group, and slides of Japan. Our all-ages talent show on Saturday night was followed by an informal dance. Sunday's service was held indoors due to cold, snowy weather.

## Activities

- \* Blackhawk Island Nature Walk
- \* Guided photographic walk
- \* Peanut-Butter Mountain Obstacle Course
- \* Affinity Groups workshops
- \* Dave Johnson workshop on the war on drugs in the USA.
- \* Funniest Family videos
- \* Family variety show Saturday night
- \* The Welcoming Congregation – Introduction and Expectations
- \* Prairie Playreaders – Aristophanes, *THE FROGS*
- \* AND the activities you want to lead.
- \* We need several people to lead craft workshops for kids.

## Workshop On The War On Drugs

1. Is there any point to a "War on Drugs" headed by a retired General?
2. Is a "Drug Free America" a realistic goal?
3. Are all drugs equally dangerous and should possessors and sellers of all drugs be considered to be equally punishable under the law?
4. Are your children less able than you were to handle drug hazards in their lives?
5. Do you believe that most kids will reach adulthood having never tried drugs?
6. Do you believe that drugs are addictive? All drugs? Some more than others?
7. Do you believe that taking drugs is usually caused by low self esteem, broken homes etc?
8. Do you think it is possible to take drugs just for the fun of it and not become addicted?
9. What is wrong, if anything, with our present drug policies?
10. Finally, do you level with your kids about your actual experiences and feelings about drugs?