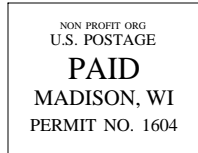


Prairie UU Society ꞵ 2010 Whenona Drive ꞵ Madison WI 53711
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PRAIRIE FIRE

... 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. *From Prairie's Bond Of Union Tuesday, December 30, 1997*

The Prairie Fire is the newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society and is published semi-monthly.
e-mail version available: <http://www.execpc.com/~prairieu>

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Prairie Calendar

Sunday, January 4

No Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM; "Who ARE Those Folks Who Share Our Building?" Rabbi Brian Field of Shaarei Shamayim

Wednesday, January 7

6:30 PM; Spanish Speaker's Potluck at Prairie. Questions? Call 238-4832.

Friday, January 9

7:00 PM; Prairie Potluck Night with Shaarei Shamayim.

Saturday, January 10

7:30 PM; **Playreaders** will meet at Rachel Siegfried's, 5209 Tolman Terrace.

Sunday, January 11

10:00 AM; "Creating a Personal Journal". Darlene Cole, M.S.

Sunday, January 18

11:45 AM; **Study Group: Working for a Just Economic Community** will meet at Einstein Bagels (on the frontage road and Britta Pkwy)

Tuesday, January 20

6:45 PM; GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network) meets at Madison Public Library Central. The topic is "Forming Alliances in the Schools."

Friday, January 23

3:00 - 9:00 PM; Prairie Directory Photographs being taken by Olan Mills at Prairie.

Saturday, January 24

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Prairie Directory Photographs being taken by Olan Mills at Prairie.

*Religious Education's Wild Wintering More details later.

Sunday, February 1

10:00 AM; "The Spirituality of Hunting" led by Dennis Presser.



Please Note: Kate Heiber-Cobb will be out of town from January 11th through January 14th. She and her husband, Tom, were given a free 3 day, all expense paid trip to Disney World by Berbee Information Networks, where Tom works. Please bear this in mind. The order of service that week will need to be done when I return or by someone else. Either way is fine. I'll say hi to Mickey for you and the hotel's jacuzzi.

Next Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday, January 4th. Please help contribute to your newsletter.

Our Society



Congratulations to Rebecca Dumlao, who graduated from the U.W. on 12/21 with her Ph.D..

PRAIRIE POTLUCK NIGHT with SHAAREI SHAMAYIM - As we share the same roof, all Prairie folk are invited to share bread and friendship at the vegetarian potluck with the Shaarei Shamayim congregation Friday evening, January 9th, starting at 7:00 PM. Call Rob Steinhofer at 221-9417 if you need more info.

MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER HELPERS NEEDED - It's easy to donate a little time to comfort the homeless. The Prairie Social Action Committee has a volunteer sign-up sheet on the Social Action Bulletin Board in the lobby or call Rob Steinhofer at 221-9417. We help you help the homeless. Shift times are 7:30 to 10:30 PM the 4th Monday each month and 5:00 to 8:00 AM the 4th Tuesday morning of each month.

FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED - Breakfast food and Super Saver grocery gift certificates donations are needed and can be left in collection boxes for the Homeless Shelter and Allied Drive Food Pantry at the Prairie building entrance.

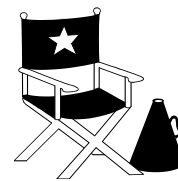
GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) meets at 6:45 PM on January 20th at the Madison Public Library Central. The topic will be "Forming Alliances in the Schools." Did you know that our own **Mary Mullin** is co-chair of this organization and responsible for bringing these programs to the public? Try to support her efforts by attending.

PHOTO DIRECTORY SHOOT ON JAN. 23RD AND JAN. 24TH - Prairie is getting a new, color photo directory made and we hope you are

pictured. Our Society did this ten years ago with good results and the Olan Mills folks are back with an improved, computer-aided, one visit process.

For having your portrait professionally taken, participants will receive a Prairie photo directory, a complimentary 8 X 10" color portrait, and the opportunity to purchase additional photos. Our goal is to have over 90% participation and we are counting on you to make that happen.

On upcoming Sundays, we will be registering photo shoot times and **asking for volunteers onsite and layout help**. You may also call Rick Ruecking at 838-8540 to schedule times or get questions answered. The photo shoot will be Friday, Jan. 23 from 3:00 - 9:30 PM and Saturday, Jan. 24 from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM.



NIFTY GIFTY A SUCCESS! - We had a wonderful intergenerational participation at this year's Nifty Gifty celebration, held on December 14. Thirty children and ten adult volunteers worked on different gift and ornament projects, the identity of which needs to remain classified for at least a couple more days (sorry). Many thanks to Linda Sheehy, Rick Owens, Anne Urbanski, Lisa Glueck, Erin Bosch, Ian Park, Eric Schroeder and Tara Converse who led projects- and also, to Anne Pryor, Barb Golden and Susan Vennard. And especially to Kathy Converse and Carl Wacker for all their organizational and creative help.

If any kids or parents want to share stories in this space or on the RE bulletin board related to the presents they gave or received from Nifty Gifty, please contact Robin.



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Snow Removal Sign-up

Dec. 28 - Jan. 3: Phoenix

Jan. 4 - 10: Skogs

Jan. 11 - 17: Paula P

Jan. 18 - 24: Dean Schroeder

Jan. 25 - 31: NEED VOLUNTEER

Feb. 1 - 7: Rob Steinhof

Hospitality Helpers Sign-up

Jan. 4

Greeting Visitors: NEED VOLUNTEER

Coffee Set-up: NEED VOLUNTEERS

Coffee Clean-up: Marilyn Ruecking & ?

Jan. 11

Greeting Visitors: NEED VOLUNTEER

Coffee Set-up: Kathy Helm & Gary Giorgi

Coffee Clean-up: NEED VOLUNTEERS

Taping Programs:

No Schedule Posted as of yet.

THE ONE-A-WEEK BLOOD DONOR

CLUBS at our three Unitarian Universalist Societies need 25 pints MORE to total 3 times one-per-week, before January 1, 1998. Please, won't you give one of those 25 pints? For a real "giving time" take part and give some if you can.

HOMEcomings IS BRINGING US

TOGETHER. UU Bed & Breakfast Travel Directory is now being put together. It is for all Universalists and all religious liberals.

Since 1981 Homecomings has been helping UUs form an interdependent web of Travelers and Hosts throughout the U.S., Canada, and other parts of the world.

According to letters received over the years, our network has fostered camaraderie and made possible a rewarding exchange of ideas among widely scattered UUs. There are many who say that Homecomings is strengthening our denomination.

Please see the application on the bulletin board if you are interested. For your own application you can request it from *Homecomings International, Inc.*, Box 1133, Fairfax, VA 22030, USA or call at (703)425-8259.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

January 4

"Who ARE Those Folks Who Share Our Building?"

Our UUA Resolution for the 97-98 Church Year is "Building Religious Tolerance through Interfaith Cooperation". In keeping with that Resolution, we have invited Rabbi Brian Field of Shaarei Shamayim to speak to us and answer questions about Judaism and our in-house Reconstructionist Congregation.

January 11

"Reflecting through Your Journal"

In the second program of Karen Gross' lay ministry, Darlene Cole will lead a discussion of various techniques for creating a journal that fits into the different ways we live our lives.

February 1

"The Spirituality of Hunting"

Led by Dennis Presser, we will discuss the sacred relationship that exists between hunter and prey. From this perspective, hunting is a way to re-create our spiritual, physical and emotional health through direct experience and participation with nature.



Prairie Fire Reminder:

This is your newsletter. How 'bout some poetry from some of those young people who read at Upham Woods? I would really like to see more articles, poems or art from our young members be contributed to the newsletter. Need Help? Let Kate know.

Happy New Year!



1998