



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* *Monday, January 19, 1998*

The Prairie Fire is the newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society and is published semi-monthly.
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PRAIRIE CALENDAR

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.

Sunday, January 25

9:00 AM; Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM; "About 'Living with Heart'",
presented by Anne Pryor.
Before & After Service: Chalice Lighter Sign-
up.

Sunday, February 1

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

Sunday, February 8

10:00 AM; "Suffer the Little Children", a
program on the UUA Resolution against the land
mines. Led by Pat Watkins.

Tuesday, February 10

Madison Urban Ministry Series: Beyond
Violence--Judgement, Guilt and Forgiveness.
Prof. Linda Green of the UW Law School leads
the group in exploring these concepts in the
context of legal rationale for state violence
against citizens. "How Does the "Law of the
Land" Justify It's Own Violence." Christ

Presbyterian Church, 944 E. Gorham Street.
Please phone 256-0906 in advance to sign up.
Cost is \$5.00 which includes a light meal.

Saturday, February 14

7:30 PM; The Prairie Playreaders will gather at
the home of Al & Aileen Nettleton. The play
has not yet been selected, but it will be relevant
to St. Valentine's Day. All are welcome.

Sunday, February 15

10:00 AM; "Valentine's Day Intergenerational
Program", followed by a Potluck meal.

Monday, February 16

7:30 PM; Prairie Board Meeting.

Wednesday, February 18

6:30 PM; Spanish Speakers' Potluck at Kate
Tucker's, 4504 Camden Rd., 221-2168.

Sunday, February 22

10:00 AM; "Woman the Hunter", presented by
Keri Beheler-Amass.

Sunday, March 1

10:00 AM; "Welsh Voices in Unitarianism",
presented by Barbara Rames. (March 1 is St.
David's Day, the day of the patron saint of
Wales.)

**NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE IS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST.**

OUR SOCIETY

Congratulations to Rebecca Dumlao

who received her Ph.D from the UW on December 21st. Maybe we will see more of her and her children now that she will be less busy.

Our Sincerest Sympathy is extended to the

family of **Ralph Hatfield**, who passed away on Saturday, January 3rd, after a long battle against leukemia. Ralph and his wife Ione attended Prairie many years ago, and are fondly remembered by many.

ATTENTION PRAIRIE MUSICIANS!!!!

Sunday, April 25th, we will have a music program featuring the music and lives of Richard Rogers and his major collaborators, Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein II. Musicians are invited to volunteer and to suggest numbers they would like to perform. (Today much of the music of Rogers and Hart is less well known than that of Rogers and Hammerstein, so we are especially interested in volunteers for the former.) Warren Hagstrom or Doleta Chapru (238-4970), or e-mail to hagstrom@ssc.wisc.edu to volunteer.

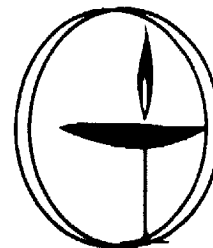
1998 General Assembly Photo Contest

As you may remember, General Assembly is scheduled for June 25-30, 1998, in Rochester, N.Y.. For the first time ever, there is a new way to participate. There will be a Photo contest and Show at GA. The theme, in keeping with the GA theme of "Fulfilling the Promise", will be "Individuals: Unique and in Community". First prize is \$300. Entries must be original work of the entrant that have not been previously published. There is a \$15 entry fee and up to three photos can be submitted. See the entry form posted on the bulletin board or write to:
UUA Photo Contest
First Unitarian Church
220 South Winton Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14610

Rise Up and Call Her Name

Nancy Vedder-Shults, the musical consultant for the continental UUWF curriculum Rise Up and Call Her Name, is excited to offer this 8-week class on goddesses of Africa, Asia and Native

America Thursday nights (7 PM - 9:30 PM) from January 29th through March 19th. Worldwide goddesses represent women's sacred power. In this course we will get in touch with this power through viewing videos that present goddesses from around the world, learning their stories, songs and dances, experiencing guided visualizations and meditations about these divine female figures and occasionally creating art that depicts them. Nancy also expects a lively discussion about questions key to feminist spirituality based on short readings each week. The course is open to both men and women. Class enrollment will be limited to 15 people, so send in your registration soon with your name, address and phone number to the First Unitarian Society, attn: Adult Education, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison, WI 53705 (\$15 for pledging UUs/affiliated, \$25 non-pledging members and friends). For more information, call Nancy at 231-3362.



Volunteer Schedules

Snow Removal:

Jan. 25-31: Larry Nahlik

Feb. 1-7: Rob Steinhofner

Feb. 8-14: Karen Gross

Hospitality Helpers:

Greeting Visitors:

Jan. 25: Aileen Nettleton

Feb. 1: Rachel Siegfried

Coffee Set-up:

Jan. 25: Kay Frazier

Feb. 1: Kathy Helm & Gary Giorgi

Coffee Clean-up:

Jan. 25: Betty & Jack Jallings

Feb. 1: Lisa Glueck & need volunteer

Taping Programs:

Jan. 25: Al Nettleton

Feb. 1: Linda Sheehy

Poem Submitted by Rachel Siegfried

In the midst of winter
I found within myself
 an invincible summer.
I discovered within me
 a wellspring of friendship,
 beauty and hope
to sustain me through
 the coldness of my winters.

-Albert Camus-

RE Corner

The RE program will continue to collect donations of money and toiletries until the service on Sunday, March 22. Items especially in demand include diapers, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene products. Soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste are also appreciated.

Secret Friends is just around the corner. Keep your eyes on the Prairie Fire and the RE bulletin board for more information.

Thanks to Kerry Beheler-Amass for her donation of a doll and doll accessories for the Preschool.

Robin's new 1998 office hours are Wednesdays from 9:00 AM until noon.

Denominational Affairs

The Wisconsin Council on Nicaragua (WCCN) is planning a tour of Nicaragua, to study economic conditions and the workings of the Nicaraguan Community Development Loan Fund (a joint project of WCCN and the Nicaraguan Council of Protestant Churches), and other examples of grassroots economic developments. Participants will learn from a grassroots perspective about the economic challenges and opportunities facing Nicaragua today. Cost is \$800 (plus R.T. transportation) and includes all meals, translation, in-country transportation and lodging from February 14-20, 1998. For information, contact: WCCN, P.O. Box 1534, Madison, WI 53703 or phone (608)257-7230; ask for a newsletter on the NCDLF.

The Wisconsin Council of Churches is sponsoring "Caretakers of Our Common House: Women's Development in Communities of Faith" at the St. Benedict Center on April 17-18. The Ecumenical Decade of 1988-98, initiated by the World Council of Churches, was a response to the unfinished agenda of the UN's Decade for Women. Three events on this topic have already taken place. This is the last in the series and will bring the decade to a close. If interested, you can find flyers and program posted on the Society's bulletin board.

Prairie contributed \$216.81 to the UUSC for the "Guest At Your Table" program. Thanks so much!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, January 25

"About 'Living with Heart'" led by Anne Pyror.

"Living with Heart" was the theme at last summer's UU Summer Assembly. It was an exploration of spiritual practices followed by UUs today. We explored this topic at Upham Woods and came up with some ideas for supporting each other's spiritual paths here at Prairie. This program will extend the discussion and make a proposal for strengthening Prairie's spiritual support network.

Sunday, February 1

"The Spirituality of Hunting" presented by Dennis Presser.

Sunday, February 8

"Suffer the Little Children", a program on the UUA Resolution against the Land Mines, led by Pat Watkins.

Sunday, February 15

"Valentine's Day Intergenerational Program", followed by a Potluck meal.

Sunday, February 22

"Woman the Hunter" presented by Keri Beheler-Amass.

Shaarei Shamayim Calendar

Sunday, Feb. 1, 2-5 PM; Annual Meeting.

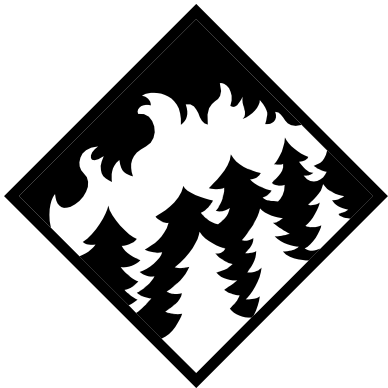
Saturday, Feb. 14, 5:30 -10:00 PM; Holiday Event.

Saturday, Feb. 21, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM; Sabbath morning service.

Friday, Feb. 27, 7:15 - 10:30 PM; Evening Sabbath service.

Wednesday, Mar. 11, evening; Purim Party.

Saturday, Mar. 21, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM; Sabbath morning service.



QUOTE

"Each day that any of us can move our limbs to do the world's work, we are blessed. And if limbs wither and speech fails, we are still blessed. So long as this heart beats, I am blessed, for it is our human work, it is our human duty, finally, to rise each day in the face of loss, to rise in the face of grief, of debility, of pain, to move as the turtle moves, her empty nest behind her, her labor come to nothing, up out of the pit and toward the next season's doing."

-excerpt from Phillip Simmon's article, On Getting Up in the Morning, in the Nov/Dec. issue of UUA World.

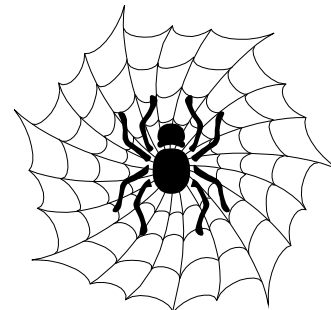
From Kate's Desk

Hi. I'm back from my very brief, but delightful trip to Disney World. Temperatures were 75 and 80 degrees the two days I was there. Then immediately back on Wednesday, traveling through a snow storm from Chicago to Madison. Reality of winter, but what a wonderful respite from the cold.

I am still putting out the plea for more articles, poems, etc. for the Prairie Fire. This issue went a lot more smoothly, but I know there must be items that people would love to share with the society.

Three priorities for me in 1998 are the updated and streamlined databases with the help of Al Nettleton, learning how to put the Prairie Fire onto our Web site, and organizing and cleaning up the office once and for all. That will definitely take some input from members. Robin and I will sort and label and members will need to make the decision about what gets tossed and what gets saved. Wouldn't it be nice to have the floor space in the office open and useable?

I want to remind people of Prairie's e-mail address: prairieu@mail.execpc.com and our web site address: www.execpc.com/~prairieu. Make sure to make use of this great technology that Prairie now has at it's disposal. We'll all keep learning this technology as we go along.



We all weave the web of Prairie together.