



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* February 2, 1998

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

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 at 645 Sheldon St. All are welcome.

Sunday, February 15

No Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM; "Valentine's Day Intergenerational Program", followed by a Potluck Meal.

Monday, February 16

7:30 PM; Prairie Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 17

GLSEN meets at Madison Public Library Central. Topic will be "Video Resources."

Wednesday, February 18

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

Sunday, February 22

9:00 AM; Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM; "Woman the Hunter", presented by Keri Beheler-Amass.
11:30 AM; Women's Group. Finger-food potluck.

Sunday, March 1

9:00 AM; Choir Rehearsal
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.)

Saturday, March 7

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM; Intergenerational Potluck Party. 6:00 PM is the Potluck. 7:00 - 10:00 PM is the Party. Come join the fun!

Sunday, March 15

After Service; Secret Friends Potluck.

Sunday, March 22

12:00 Noon; **ANNUAL PRAIRIE SERVICE AUCTION. WATCH FOR DETAILS!**

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH.

OUR SOCIETY

Be a Guest at RE 3-4-5

We are looking for 2 or 3 adults to be our guests at an RE session in February or March. You will be interviewed and will share a snack. We need experienced conflict resolvers who have worked with creative conflict resolution skills and/or related processes in their vocation or volunteer work. Perhaps you are a family therapist, mediator, attorney or other type of professional. If interested, please call either Paula Pachciarz at 273-4806 or Susan Vennard at 233-1816.

COMING! ANNUAL PRAIRIE SERVICE AUCTION

March 22, 12 noon. **WATCH FOR DETAILS!**

Volunteer Schedules

Snow Removal:

February 8 -14: Karen Gross

February 15-21: Al Nettleton

February 22-28: Gary Giorgi

Hospitality Helpers:

Greeting Visitors:

Feb. 8: Kay Frazier

Feb. 15: Nancy Schraufnagel

Coffee Set-up:

Feb. 8: Phoenix

Feb. 15: Barbara Rames

Coffee Clean-up:

Feb. 8: Jan Howe & Phoenix

Feb. 15: Kathy Converse & ????

Taping of Service:

Feb. 8: Judy Skog

Feb. 15: Anne Urbanski

Pint-size Fact

In case you missed the announcement, five members of Prairie Society gave blood in the last week of 1997, so that total donations for the year, by the three societies, did total three times One-A-Week. Great! Our donors were Al and Aileen Nettleton, Barb Park, Barbara Rames, and Robert Purvis. Who will be our first donor in 1998?

Lost and Found

On the coatrack in the lobby there are good jackets looking for their owners. Also there is a beautiful lady's black felt hat that was left by someone. Make sure to check them out to see if you or one of your children have left something that you thought was long gone.

Remember the Food Pantry!

Don't forget to add food pantry items to your next market list.

Auction Pound Cakes

If you purchased a pound cake from Glenn Chambliss at the last Prairie auction, please call Glenn at 238-3766. The list of purchases was misplaced.

RE Corner

Secret Friends begins at the February 15th Valentine's Intergenerational Service. Sign-up sheets will go around during the service on February 8th. If you cannot attend the Feb. 8th service, but wish to be a secret friend, please call Robin at 286-9165 or email at bpotter@north1.fanned.wisc.edu. The Potluck party/windup celebration is March 15th after the service. You will need to be free that day in order to be a secret friend.

Thanks to everyone who helped make Wild Wintering a success. Special thanks to Randy Converse, Carl Wacker and Kay Frazier for staying overnight. Thanks to Anne Pryor and Metje Butler for leading activities.

SOLICITING YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR BOD NOMINEES

In May a transition of our Prairie Board Representatives will occur. While some chairs and Executive board members will continue their service, other members have asked to pass the chalice to new members. Committee chairs and E-board members who wish to pass the chalice this year are:
Barb Park: President

Judy Skog: Treasurer

Aileen Nettleton: Finance Chair

Rob Steinhofner: Social Action Chair

We thank ALL for their dedication to Prairie. A couple of the chairs have said they'd continue on if the membership is unable to nominate other suitable candidates. I think it's important to respect our members wishes to step down. We don't want to burn-out our most valuable resources.

This is your opportunity to help us find new talent and members who may be interested in serving Prairie as a board member, chair or executive officer. Some of the things we look for are interest, experience, and a gender balance.

If you have suggestions for nominations to any of these positions or if would like to self-nominate to serve on a committee, please call.

The Committee on Committees is:

Paula Pachciarz: 273-4806

Karen Gross: 259-0556

You may also call Pat Cautley, Marilyn Peters or Phoenix Wardell.

Descriptions of these different positions are as follows:

PRESIDENT: The president is chairperson of the Executive Board and presides at all business meetings of the Society and the Board. She/ he is an *ex officio* member of all committees except the Committee on Committees, and is the official representative of the Society. In addition, duties also include: 1) Welcome at the Sunday morning meetings. 2) Supervise Office Administrator. 3) In general, be aware of the total day-to-day workings of the Society and be prepared to see that essential gaps are filled.

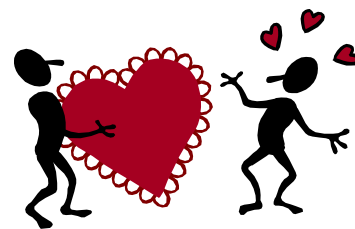
TREASURER: The Treasurer receives and disburses money under the direction of the Executive Board and parish - including being responsible for the payroll. The Treasurer keeps the financial records and gives regular statements to the Board and parish. They also stay in touch with the Finance Committee on financial matters. Knowledge of computers or a good

resource for trouble-shooting are helpful, but not pre-requisites.

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Duties are as follows, with the help of the Finance Committee. 1) Prepare proposed annual budget with cooperation of Treasurer, committee chairs, Board and present to membership for approval. 2) Conduct annual pledge drive of members and friends. 3) Keep ongoing records on pledges received via Treasurer. 4) Send quarterly pledge updates and en-of-year tax statements to pledgers. 5) Plan and carry out fund-raising events to support the annual budget. 6) Monitor the overall financial state of the organization (monthly Treasurer reports to the Board).

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE CHAIR: Duties are as follows, with the help of the Social Action Committee. 1) This committee shall keep the Society informed of local, state, national, or international issues on which the committee wishes to facilitate the formulation of Society policy and to enable the Society and it's members to exert influence in behalf of worthwhile civic causes. The committee may a) make public statements or take public action only in it's own name and by a vote of two-thirds of it's members, b) take charge of the Society's local service activities, and coordinate the Society's service work with that of national and international service committees, including local fund raising for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, 3) raise and disburse funds independent of the Society's control and regulation.

Central Midwest District Annual Assembly (formerly called the CMD Annual Meeting) will take place in Madison at First Society on April 24-26. Put the dates on your calendar and consider attending since it is being so close to home, and is far more affordable than the national assembly. Michael May, a member of the CMD Board of Trustees and a member of First Society, who is visiting a number of societies in the district, will be visiting Prairie on Sunday, February 8th where he will provide some additional information about this mini-



assembly. Plan to come out and meet him and learn more about CMD and the district assembly.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, February 8

"Suffer the Little Children", a program and short film on 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.

Sunday, March 1

"Welsh Voices in Unitarianism", presented by Barbara Rames. (March 1 is St. David's Day, the day of the patron Saint of Wales.)

Shaarei Shamayim Calendar

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

Saturday, Feb. 21, 9:30AM - 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.



NOTE FROM ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

If you submitted something for this Prairie Fire and it wasn't included, it was because there was not space for it and it will be included next issue. I try to make those decisions based on dates and urgency. I very much appreciate all the submissions made this issue. Keep it up!



A Litany Of Self Challenge

- ◆ Am I loving enough to want to grow?
- ◆ Am I wise enough to know when I'm foolish?
- ◆ Am I caring enough to see my injustices?
- ◆ Am I light enough to have a sense of humor?
- ◆ Am I courageous enough to resolve my fears?
- ◆ Am I joyouse enough to challenge my inertia?
- ◆ Am I humble enough to apologize for my mistakes?
- ◆ Am I compassionate enough to see my selfishness?
- ◆ Am I loyal enough to acknowledge my betrayals?
- ◆ Am I resourceful enough to release my denials?
- ◆ Am I mature enough to confront my pain?
- ◆ Am I open enough to hear what others are saying?
- ◆ Am I viligant enough to monitor my thoughts?
- ◆ Am I devoted enough to purify my motivation?
- ◆ Am I patient enough to evolve my path?
- ◆ Am I centered enough to know when I'm off balance?
- ◆ Am I intuitive enough to transcend my 3d senses?
- ◆ Am I flexible enough to receive many truths?

- ◆ Am I secure enough to live with unanswered questions?
- ◆ Am I committed enough to take my next step?