

Prairie UU Society ꞑ 2010 Whenona Drive ꞑ Madison WI 53711  
(608) 271-8218



NON PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MADISON, WI  
PERMIT NO. 1604

# 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* August 17, 1998

*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>*

President: Nancy E. Schraufnagel (608) 273-3195

Editor : Kate Heiber-Cobb (608) 250-6512; [prairieu@execpc.com](mailto:prairieu@execpc.com)

## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### Sunday, August 23

10:00 AM; Nikki Bromberg will discuss  
"Vippassana Meditation".

### Sunday, August 30

10:00 AM; "If I Were a Rich Man or Woman:  
What and to Which Causes Would I Give?",  
presented by Pat Watkins.

### Saturday, September 5

One day canoe trip down the Sugar River,  
putting in near Attica about 10 a.m. Call Warren  
Hagstrom at 238-4970 if you are interested.

### Sunday, September 6

10:00 AM; "Putting Labor Back in Labor  
Day", led by Betty Jallings and Karen Gross.

### Tuesday, September 8

6:00 PM; **Madison Urban Ministry**: "Work  
Time--Private Time", moderated by Patty Loew  
of WHA-TV. Dane County Expo Center, Room  
1919. More details on this series under  
Denominational Affairs in this issue.

### Wednesday, September 9

8:00 PM; **Spanish Speakers' Potluck**, at the  
home of Betty French, 4111 Twin Valley Rd.,  
Middleton, 831-5224.

### Sunday, September 13

10:00 AM; "Introductions to Prairie People,  
Programs, and Religious Education",  
coordinated by Erin Bosch.

**Potluck lunch to follow the Service.**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM  
BEGINS TODAY!!!!**

**Chalice Lighter** sign-up in Prairie Lobby,  
before and after the service. See Rachel  
Siegfried and/or Pat Watkins.

### Sunday, September 20

10:00 AM; "Report from the UUA General  
Assembly", led by Deborah Phelps and Barb  
Park.

### Monday, September 21

7:00 PM; **Prairie Board Meeting** at Prairie.  
Committee Chairs should bring 1999 Committee  
Budget Proposals.

### Sunday, September 27

10:00 AM; "The UUA and the Struggle to  
Eliminate Land Mines", presented by Bob  
Alpern.

### October 9-11

**Upham Woods Retreat** for Prairie Members  
and Friends.

### October 16-18

**Creating a Jubilee World: A Regional Anti-  
Racism Conference**, hosted by the Racial  
Justice Committee of the James Reeb UU  
Society. Save these dates now and plan to  
attend. There will be a special emphasis on the  
participation of district teens. More details later  
in future Prairie Fires.

### Saturday, November 7

**Chicago Art Institute Bus Trip** to exhibit  
"Mary Cassatt: Modern Woman." We will be  
asking Prairie members and friends to display  
posters for this fund-raiser at their places of  
business or other locations they frequent. Your  
assistance would be greatly appreciated.

## **Sunday, November 15**

11:30 AM; **Potluck Lunch following service.**

12:30 PM; **Fall Parish Meeting.**

## **OUR SOCIETY**

### **Upham Woods Retreat October 9-11**

Thinking about the wonderful days of fall? Thinking about the special times of Upham Woods? Well, it's time to volunteer - adult program leaders, talent show coordinator, children's program leaders, teen program coordinator, dining room supervisor, etc.. Please contact Phoebe Rosebear, Program Coordinator, with ideas and suggestions at 280-8990.

### **Board of Director Highlights**

--On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the new President, Nancy Schraufnagel took up the gavel for Prairie.

--On June 19 a special membership meeting elected Daisy Peterson as the new Treasurer.

--The next Board meeting is September 21. The Board might permanently shift to the third Monday of the month.

--Committees: New committee members were approved for several committees. There is a new Ceremonies Committee, headed by Doleta Chapru. Doleta is preparing a proposal to update the policy on weddings at Prairie for non-members, including possibly imposing a charge.

--If members are interested in being involved in Prairie committees, please contact the chair of that committee. Social Action: Paula Pachciarz/ Shannon Hayes; Finance: Aileen Nettleton; Planning: Ken Skog; Membership: Erin Bosch; Program: Warren Hagstrom; Housing & Property: Karen Gross; Religious Education: Anne Pryor; Denominational Affairs: Pat Watkins.

--Prairie Programs: There are many exciting programs planned for fall. The Program Committee has approved a series of programs by Steve Pierce, Executive Director of Community Action Coalition, on neighborhoods and poverty; Anne Pryor's lay ministry will be on Religious Arts; Cindy Haq and Gary Giorgi will do a series

related to medical issues; and Carol Schroeder on churches in the community.

--Prairie Fire: Al Nettleton, Anne Urbanski and Kate Heiber-Cobb are coming up with suggestions to improve Prairie Fire. Let Al or Anne know your ideas.

--R.E.: The Religious Education for fall will be on world religions. A teacher for the high school group and RE committee members are being sought.

--By-laws: A by-laws review committee consisting of Al Nettleton, Barb Park and Rick Ruecking will be proposing revisions of the by-laws. Meetings will be held in September.

--Wetherby and Sheehy Funds: The Board adopted by-laws for the Dorothy Wetherby Memorial Fund, a fund for members and friends who have emergency basic needs. Current balance of the fund is \$706.38. A Memorial Fund honoring Mike Sheehy has been created.

--Building: There was vandalism to sidewalk lights, theft of motion-sensitive lights by entrance. A new rental policy for the building is being considered.

--Yard Signs to Support Madison Gay Community: There was a special membership meeting on July 26 at which it was decided to put up the yard signs at Prairie. They were subsequently vandalized and replaced. A police report was filed by the President.

--Upham Woods: We will be the only group there again this year for our weekend retreat. There was some discussion about inviting other groups, such as Shaarei Shamayim and James Reeb Society, but the Board decided to invite only Stevens Point and Sauk City societies.

--Four Societies meeting: There will be a meeting on August 23, 3 p.m., at the First Society of the four area UU societies. The Board discussed what Prairie would want to accomplish, such as greater visibility, joint projects, denominational issues, adult education,

representation on Madison Urban Ministries, and social actions issues needing a timely response.

### **Volunteer Schedules**

#### **Grass Mowers:**

**Aug. 23-29:** Rick Ruecking

**Aug. 30- Sept. 5:** Jim Glueck

**Sept. 6-12:** Kesh Jig

#### **Hospitality Helpers:**

##### **Greeting Visitors:**

**Aug. 23:** Lisa Glueck

**Aug. 30:** Paula Pachciarz

**Sept. 6:** *Need Volunteer*

##### **Coffee Set-up:**

**Aug. 23:** Phoenix Wardell

**Aug. 30:** Paula Pachciarz

**Sept. 6:** *Need Volunteer*

##### **Coffee Clean-up**

**Aug. 23:** Kay Frazier & Phoenix W.

**Aug. 30:** *Need Volunteers*

**Sept. 6:** *Need Volunteers*

##### **Program Taping:**

**Aug. 23:** Pat Cautley

**Aug. 30:** Anne Urbanski

**Sept. 6:** *Need Volunteer*

### **From Larry Nahlik**

During my August 9<sup>th</sup> presentation, "A Western Monk in Thailand", I ran out of time, so did not finish reading my journal. The journal is available on Prairie's website, downloadable as a six page MS-word document, and also on paper in the Biography Book in the kitchen.

### **Treasurer's Address**

In case you missed it earlier this summer, our new treasurer, Daisy Peterson's address is 5502 Kroncke Drive, Madison, 53711. You may send your pledges and contributions to her or bring them to Prairie on Sundays. Thanks!  
Finance Committee Chair, Aileen Nettleon.

### **Hearts to Prairie Volunteers**

Someone from outside of Prairie once described our church as the place where "they walk the talk." We can feel proud to be part of a church with that reputation. This week the Social Action Committee wants to recognize some of those people who have been doing the walking. The following individuals have given

their time and skills to the community within the last few months.

#### **Homeless Shelter:**

Metje Butler, Pat Cautley, Betty Jallings, Kay Frazier, Mary Mullen, Barbara Rames, Ken Reinebach, Fran Remeika, Anne Pryor, & Rachel Siegfried.

#### **Allied Drive Clean-up:**

The Owens family, Robin Carre, Arleigh Birchler (Sorry--this list is not complete), and to all those others.

#### **Allied Drive MUM Day Camp:**

Metje Butler, Kevin Hayes

Clearly there are more who have given to the community in other ways. We're sorry we can not mention you all.

-----The Social Action Committee

### **Mohandas Gandhi's Seven Deadly Social Sins**

- policies without principle,
- wealth without work,
- commerce without morality,
- pleasure without conscience,
- education without character,
- science without humanity,
- worship without sacrifice.

## **Denominational Affairs**

### **Madison Urban Ministry**

The topic of the 1998-99 series of inter-faith dialogues is "Searching for Work, Family and Community Connections in Today's World." All sessions will begin at 6 p.m. over a light meal. Two presenters share their own experiences with the evening's issue, then participants will discuss the issue around tables. Finally, in a common assembly, they share what they've learned from each other. Cost is \$6.00 per session and scholarships are available. Advance reservations are required, and can be made by phoning 256-0906 the week before each session. We will be requesting brochures to distribute at Prairie.

### **New from the Central Midwest District**

The month of February, being Black History Month, has had one Sunday designated as "Whitney Young Sunday," at which congregations had a special collection which was used to foster urban ministry. In 1999, this will be combined with the "Journey Toward Wholeness" Sunday, possibly being held on Martin Luther King Sunday in January, for the purpose of raising funds for anti-racism work in the congregations. Two thirds of the funds raised are to be kept by the collecting congregation to fund our own anti-racism work, and one-third to be submitted to the UUA to expand and reframe the Whitney Young Fund. The UUA has educational and worship materials available for congregations wishing to participate.

### **Wisconsin Public Radio**

At the suggestion of a Prairie member, the committee reassessed both the wording of our message and the times and programs used for airing it. Upon approval by the Board, and the collection of the necessary funds, we are moving our announcement to the classical music program on WERN, where we hope to have it aired at 9:59 a.m. and 1:59 p.m., during the first and third week of each month, in alternating time slots. This change will cost \$5.00 more per announcement than the previous one. Also, because our former announcement did not use our entire allotted fifteen seconds, we have lengthened it to read "Contributors to Wisconsin Public Radio include Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society -- a lay-led liberal religious community in southwest Madison at 2010 Whenona Drive. The underlined words are the changes and additions. "Community" was originally "voice".

We wish to clarify what may be a misunderstanding about donating for our announcement. First, we are not asking you to make an additional contribution to WPR over and above what you now make. Second, we are not asking that you no longer donate to WPR in your own name, as we know that many of you want the listener's guide or want WPR to maintain your individual names on record. What we are suggesting is that you consider making the minimum pledge which would keep you on the WPR books and continue your listening guide subscription, and give the difference between

that minimum and the amount you would normally give WPR to Prairie. For instance, if it requires \$25 to continue receiving the listener's guide and you usually donate \$60, you would send WPR the \$25 in your name, and give Prairie the difference of \$35 to be contributed toward the announcement in Prairie's name.

Our announcement expires in September, and we hope you will see Ruth Calden and Pat Watkins in the Prairie lobby on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**Sunday, August 23**

**"Inside Meditation-Vippassana Meditation Practice"**, presented by Nikki Bromberg.

**Sunday, August 30**

**"If I Were a Rich Man...(or Woman)"**, led by Pat Watkins. You've just won the lottery (or otherwise come into a lot of money), and now you've got to decide who to give it away to. We'll take a look at the charities and organizations which get our largess, find out which ones Prairie folks think are most deserving (as well as least deserving), and even get to put in a plug for your favorites to get other folks to consider them. Bring a notepad with you.

**Sunday, September 6**

**"Putting Labor Back in Labor Day"**, led by Betty Jallings, Jack Jallings and Karen Gross.

**Sunday, September 13**

**"Introductions to Prairie People, Programs, and Religious Education"**, coordinated by Erin Bosch. A Potluck lunch will follow the service. ***Religious Education Program Begins!!!!***

### **Shaarei Shamayim Calendar**

**Aug. 28** - Sabbath evening service. 6:30-9:30pm

**Sept. 5** - Class on Contemporary Modalities.

1:30-4:30pm.

**Sept. 12** - Selichot service. 7-10:30pm

**Sept. 13** - Siyyum Torah. 2-6pm

**Sept. 20** - Rosh Hashanah service. 5-10pm

**Sept. 21** - Rosh Hashanah service. 9:30am-2pm

**Sept. 22** - Rosh Hashanah service. 9:30am-2pm

***Next Prairie Fire Deadline is Sept. 6***