

Prairie UU Society ½ 2010 Whenona Drive ½ Madison WI 53711

(608) 271-8218

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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.

January 6, 1999

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
prairieu@execpc.com

Editor: Kate Heiber-Cobb (608) 250-6512;

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, January 10

No Choir Rehearsal

10am; "Fulfilling the Promise" survey. Ken Skog coordinating. Religious Education Classes resume.

Monday, January 11

7:30pm; **Prairie Board Meeting** at Prairie.

Thursday, January 14

6:30pm; **Spanish Speakers' Potluck** at La Hacienda restaurant. Questions? Call Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382.

Sunday, January 17

9am; Choir Rehearsal resumes.

10am; "Getting to Know You". Allied Drive-Dunn's Marsh residents and service providers discuss strengths, needs and volunteer opportunities.

11:45am; **Women's Group Meeting** potluck downstairs at Prairie.

Wednesday, January 20

5-9pm; **Hmong Celebration**, Girls' Power Group, Allied Drive-Dunn's Marsh.

7pm; **Social Action Committee Meeting** at Prairie?

Sunday, January 24

9am; Choir Rehearsal

10am; second service in Anne Pryor's lay ministry on **Art and Religion.**

Saturday, January 30

8:30am-3pm; "Death, Grief & Family Dynamics" workshop led by Hospice Care at First UU Society for lay ministers, caring committee members and others with approval.

Saturday, Jan. 30 - Sunday, Jan. 31

Wild Wintering at Prairie.

Sunday, January 31

10am; "The Spirituality of Small Book Publishing", led by Fran Zell.

Sunday, February 7

10am; second service in Steve Pierce's lay ministry on **Poverty in Dane County.**

Saturday, February 13

Prairie "Habitat for Humanity Workday", at Harmony Park.

Sunday, February 14

VALENTINE'S DAY INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM.

Sunday, February 21

10am; fourth service in Cindy Haq's and Gary Giorgi's lay ministry on **Health and Social Justice.**

11:45am; **Prairie Women's Group Meeting** potluck downstairs.

Next Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday, January 17th.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, January 10

“Fulfilling the Promise Survey”, led by Ken Skog.

Sunday, January 17

On **Martin Luther King Day**, the Sunday Program will be a panel discussion with residents and service providers from the Allied Drive-Dunn’s Marsh neighborhood. The purposes of this service are to acquaint members of our Society with people who live and work in the neighborhood, and to inform us of opportunities to volunteer and become more involved in the Allied Drive-Dunn’s Marsh neighborhood, of which we’re a part.

Sunday, January 24

The second in a lay ministry series by Anne Pryor about **Art and Religion**.

Sunday, January 31

“The Spirituality of Small Book Publishing”, led by Fran Zell.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Hospitality Helpers:

Warm people and drinks and clean-up crew.

January 10:

Greeting Visitors: Karen Gross

Coffee Set-up: Karen Gross

Coffee Clean-up: *Need Volunteers!*

January 17:

Greeting Visitors: *Need Volunteer!*

Coffee Set-up: Kay Frazier

Coffee Clean-up: *Need Volunteers!*

Program Taping:

Instructions for taping are in the cabinet.

January 10: Bob Park

January 17: Al Nettleton

January 24: Lisa Glueck

February 7: Karen Gross

Snow Removal:

We have two new shovels for your shoveling pleasure!

January 10-16: Larry Nahlik

January 17-23: Paula Pachciarz

January 24-30: Jim Glueck

OUR SOCIETY.

Hospice Training

The four area Unitarian Universalist congregations of South Central Wisconsin have arranged for training by Hospice on death, grief and family dynamics. This is intended for lay ministers, caring committee members and other members with approval of their minister, President, Caring Committee Chair or other designated Board Member. Any Prairie members who are interested may contact Nancy Schraufnagel, 273-3195, or Marilyn Ruecking, 838-8540. **Registration is due January 19th** and a fee of \$10 or less will include lunch.

*You ask how this all will end
And I want to say that endings
Are not what we are living for.
All things do end, I know,
In the glimmer of an eye:
The sudden fall of a curled leaf
The last ember cooling to ash
The stalling of a beating heart
A breath exhaled and not renewed.*

*It is not this inevitable end
That we are living for.
It is the moments of life
That we must savor slowly
One by one, as they come.
The sun slipping up over the
horizon
The crocus opening it's hopeful bud
A hand's touch, finger by finger
The sound of a voice we love.*

*Let us not think about the loss,
The things we will not have.
Life should not be spent*

*Remembering the hurts of the past,
Or thinking of the pain ahead.
For we know that all things do end
But that is not what we are living
for.
Celebrate the dawn, not dreading
the
dark,
And savor each breath as it comes.*

-Carrie Ann Greene

Reeb Rave '99

The James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation invites members and friends of all area UUA's to join us in an evening of food, fun, and fundraising on Saturday, March 6, at 5:30pm. The way it works is that goods and services are donated for an auction that evening. We begin with a wonderful potluck dinner. Bidding on items and services will begin as a silent auction, then be completed with oral bidding. Children's "Mystery Items" will be available for the young folks, as well as, the ever popular White Elephant items. If you would like to donate goods or services, or have questions, feel free to contact Bob Komes, at 608-873-8302.

Upcoming R.E.Events

January 10: Spirit Circle featuring Who Speaks for Wolf, a play given to us by Betty Jallings.

6-8th grade class visits the Second Baptist Church.

January 24: 6-8th grads visit St. Andrews Catholic church.

January 30-31: Wild Wintering (Adults please consider attending to help out. Let Randy know if interested.)

February 14: Secret Friends begin.

From the Administrator's Desk

First, I want to thank Prairie and all the individuals who send cards and plants to show their sympathy on the recent death of my mother. It was very sudden and unexpected, so difficult to assimilate and adjust to. I had a wonderfully close relationship with my mother

and I will miss her dearly. As I grieve and adjust to this in my life please try to be extra patient and considerate; everything else seems extraneous right now; my very large family and my dad are my priority for awhile. Thanks again.

Also, thanks to Nancy Schraufnagel for putting out the last Prairie Fire in the week of the Christmas/Solstice Holidays. She did a great job and everyone should thank her for the extra time and commitment she showed to the Society.

I spoke with Randy Converse yesterday and extended my wishes again for the children of Prairie to be involved with submissions to Prairie Fire. He was enthusiastic, so all teachers, parents and kids who read this please submit your articles, poems, etc. for publication.

[Drawing of Dr. King]

In Memory of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Great Spirit of light and of darkness;

*We gather once again to remember a fallen friend,
and nourish ourselves from the fountain of
reflections.*

Open your hearts to the anguish of our pain, to the tired taste of swallowed tears, and to our unrealized vision.

*In this place we bring our scattered lives together,
groping for meaning and looking for truth.*

Be with us as we continue our search for understanding of the mystery of the temporal.

*Stay with us as we wander through our memories,
seeking pathways to the future.*

Move with us as we unravel the implied imperatives of hopes unfulfilled.

Let us find the way and the courage to realize the dream which still lives within us.

Justice makes tireless demands, and we grow weary.

-Toni Vincent

As we touch one another in common cause, and with the great Spirit in our midst,

[As printed, this issue of the Prairie Fire had the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Events from The King Coalition reproduced on p. 4]