Prairie UU Society 2010 Whenona Drive 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.

April 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

<u>President:</u> Nancy E. Schraufnagel (608) 273-3195 prairieu@execpc.com

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Sunday, April 11

10am; **Visitation Sunday**. Members will be encouraged and guided to visit other churches (who will have invited us) in the community. The third of Orange Schroeder's series on "**The Church Across the Street.**" At Prairie there will be a video on Islam.

Monday, April 12

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

Tuesday, April 13

6:00pm; **Madison Urban Ministry:** "Society and Educating Our Children." What alternatives are there to the mainstream messages our children learn by movies, TV, Internet, advertising, peer activities and social expectations? Moderated by Katie Sai of WISC-TV. Fitchburg Community Center.

Thursday, April 15

6:30pm; Interweave Area Congregations Social Event Planning Meeting at Prairie.

April 16-18

Central Midwest District Annual Meeting in Peoria, IL.

Sunday, April 18

10am; The fourth in Orange Schroeder's series on "The Church Across the Street." Panel discussion about our experiences from Visitation Sunday.

11:45am; Prairie Women's Group Meeting Sunday, April 25

<u> 10am: "**Prairia Da**</u>

10am; "Prairie People Serve: How are we living up to our U-U principles?" A discussion led by Doleta

Chapru.

11:30am; Potluck Lunch

12:30pm; Prairie's Annual Spring Business Mtg.

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

Friday, May 7

7:30pm; Interweave Intergenerational Mixer and

Dessert Potluck at Prairie.

Next Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday, April 18th.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, April 11

Visitation Sunday. Members of Prairie will go visit various places of worship, including the Deer Park Buddhist Center, the Quaker (Friends) meeting and the Greek Orthodox Church. We will also be showing a video about Islam at Prairie for those interested in getting together there to learn more about the Muslim faith.

Sunday, April 18

Orange Schroeder's "The Church Across the Street" concludes with a panel discussion talking about our experiences with other religions. The Middle School and High School R.E. classes will participate.

Sunday, April 25

A number of Prairie members work exhausting hours as community volunteers or in people-helping jobs. We assist each other with unsung, individual kindnesses. When we add all that to the work of Prairie's own committees, it's no wonder some of us come to Sunday services simply for renewal and to address our own joys and concerns. Newcomers only get a glimpse of us. We only get a glimpse of each other. Come to our fast-moving program April 25 to discover more about your fellow members and friends and share a bit of yourself. Who raises money for the United Nations? Who volunteers in the public schools? Who has a "Little Brother?" Who works on an AIDS project? Who tutors? Information we glean will, with your permission, be available to visitors and new members.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Hospitality Helpers:

Warm people and drinks and clean-up crew.

April 11:

Greeting Visitors: Phoenix

Coffee Set-Up: Need Volunteer

Coffee Clean-up: Jan Howe & Volunteer?

April 18:

Greeting Visitors: Lisa Glueck
Coffee Set-Up: Anne Urbanski

Coffee Clean-up: Aileen Nettleton & ???

Program Taping:None needed in April.

I think we've finally reached the point where we can change the snow removal volunteer list into a grass cutting volunteer list. Look for the clipboard to sign-up. I'm sure the way the grass is now greening up we'll need a mow in the next couple weeks.

OUR SOCIETY

Agenda for the Annual Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society's Spring Business Meeting

- 1) Minutes of Prairie UU Society's Annual Fall Business Meeting of November 15, 1998.
- 2) Treasurer's Report
- 3) Election of Officers
- 4) Committee Reports
- 5) President's Report

Enjoy a Potluck Lunch and then please stay and participate in your congregations' "business".

-Nancy Schraufnagel, President

Committee on Committee Nominations

The Committee on Committees has assembled a nearly complete slate of officers standing for election or reelection to the Prairie Board at the Annual Spring Meeting scheduled for Sunday, April 25th. They include:

Board Officers:

President Nancy Schraufnagel
Vice-President Dean Schroeder
Secretary K.K. Anderson
Treasurer Daisy Peterson

Standing Committee Chairpersons/Co-Chairpersons:

Denominational Affairs Karen Gross

Finance Nikki Bromberg

Long Range Planning Ken Skog

Membership Rita Reffner and

Kathy Helm, Co-Chairs

Social Action Paula Pachciarz and

Shannon Hayes, Co-

Chairs

Chairpersons Pending:

Program Bob Park will Co-

Chair with

Housing and Property Religious Education

We encourage Prairie members to consider volunteering for one of these open positions. Thanks to all the dedicated people who are on the current board and those who have offered their services for next year.

INTERFAITH COALITION FOR WORKER JUSTICE

The mission statement and by-laws were officially voted on at our last meeting. The coalition endorsed a report from the programs and issues committee to form a sub-committee to further develop initiatives to oppose sweat shop employment and purchasing issues. I have information about Bangor's Clean Clothes Campaign and the preliminary draft of an anti-sweatshop

procurement ordinance. I also, have an analysis of the strengths and weakness of pursuing either agenda. At this time neither initiative officially is recognized as the focus of our groups effort. Please contact me if you want more information or if you'd like to attend the next meeting of the sweat-shop, sub-committee or the next ICWJ meeting.

ICWJ Prairie Liaison Karen Gross at 259-0556 karengross@gdinet.com

Attention Prairie Musicians!

Franz Liszt is coming May 9. This prolific composer lived a fascinating and romantic life. We may not approve of him (he is a Faust-like figure), but he fascinates. He has many pieces for piano and many songs for solo voices and some songs the Prairie choir can sing, and we can probably find music for guitar, violin, clarinet, etc. Think about Liszt pieces you would like to perform, and if you want suggestions, contact Warren Hagstrom or Doleta Chapru at 238-4970.

"FIRST CALL FOR HELP"

The Caring Committee has been established to help other Prairie members in need. The types of support offered are writing notes, rides, telephoning, preparing food, visits, child care, support for people dealing with life crises (e.g., grieving), tape delivery, and a community resource list. We also have a small library.

If you have, or know of a member or friend who has, a special need that the Caring Committee should know about, feel free to call our primary point of contact for this month: Marilyn Ruecking 838-8540.

The primary person has a master list of volunteers who can be called upon depending on the support needed.

HELP: We Still Need Music Co-coordinator

We need someone to co-coordinate music with Deb Phelps starting with May services. Music coordination consists of lining up people to play for hymns and for special music, as needed by those presenting services. Coordination for May services should begin in April. Contact Kay Frazier at 839-5607 or Deb Phelps.

COMING SOON!

Madison Area Interfaith Network presents "Harmony at the Dawn of a New Millennium" the theme for the 3rd Annual Sacred Sounds Multi-Faith Concert. This year features both traditional and contemporary music. The Third Annual Sacred Sounds Concert will be: Sunday, April 18, 1999 at 7:00pm at the First Unitarian Meeting House, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison. Due to limited seating, tickets are \$7.50 in advance and \$10 at the door (for whatever seats are left).

Advance tickets will be available at:

- "Borders Bookstore East (Zeier Road),
- "Borders Bookstore West (University Ave.),
- "Shakti Bookstore (State Street),
- "Williamson Street Co-Operative
- -and the Madison Area Interfaith Network.

Five different local groups will be sharing their faith through sound.

Directions to Deer Park

- 1. Begin at Prairie on Whenona Dr. and go to the Beltline.
- 2. Turn East on the Beltline for 3.6 miles.
- 3. Bear right and go South on US 14 (Park St.) for 0.2 miles
- 4. Turn left on McCoy Rd. and go Northeast for 0.1 miles.
- 5. Turn right and go East for about 100 feet (you could also go East to Cty MM on Lacy Rd. or Irish Lane
- 6. Turn right On County MM and go South for 3.4 miles.
- 7. Turn left on County B and go East for 1.4 miles.
- 8. Turn right on Sandhill Rd. and go South for 0.5 miles.
- 9. Continue on Sandhill Rd. and go South for about 200 feet.
- 10. Turn rt on Schneider Dr. and go East for 0.4 miles to DEER Park.

R.E. NEWS

K-1-2

On March 28th we made and decorated Easter baskets for our parents, and planted seed sprouts as part of discussing birth and renewal along with the traditional resurrection story.

"Great compassion is the root of all forms of worship." -Dalai Lama

[Page 4, not shown here, explained "Visitation Sunday" April 11, 1999]