

Prairie UU Society ½ 2010 Whenona Drive ½ 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.

June 9,

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>

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PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Saturday, June 12

8:30am-12:30pm; **Transitional Board Retreat.**

Rosewood Room in the Memorial Union.

Sunday, June 13

10am; **Annual Outdoor Service at Picnic Point:**
"Making Connection with the Natural World",
led by Susan Hagstrom and Metje Butler. **No
service at Prairie unless it rains.**

Monday, June 14

PRAIRIE BOARD MTG. CANCELLED.

Sunday, June 20

10am; **Service at Prairie.** Speaker and Topic
unknown at time of print.

Monday, June 21

6:30pm; **Spanish Speakers' Potluck** at the home
of Betty French, 4111 Twin Valley Rd., Middleton,
831-5224.

Sunday, June 27

10am; **Jewish Fabric Art** presented by Annabelle

Argand and Anne Pryor.

Sunday, July 4

**No Service at Prairie. Independence Day
Picnic at Shirley Grindrod's home.** Details and
directions in the next Prairie Fire.

**Next Prairie Fire Deadline is
Sunday, June 20th, 1999.**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, June 13

10am; **"Making Connection with the Natural
World"**. This is Prairie's annual outdoor service.
This year the service will be led by Susan Hagstrom
and Metje Butler. We will experience nature,
stimulated by the presence of one another and by
some musings coordinated by Susan and Metje.
DIRECTIONS: If walking is easy for you, please
park in the lot across the street from the Picnic Point

entrance (on the side of the road away from the lake). For those unsure feet, an easier path will be marked. Walk inside the Picnic Point entrance, then walk roughly perpendicular from the main path past the large wooden sign. (Other signs with arrows will be provided.) The site is roughly 125 paces past the wood sign. Go up a slight grade on the leftmost dirt path into the woods. We will meet in a clearing in the woods. Assistance will be available for those needing help or to provide directions. Bring something you don't mind getting dirty to sit on. In case of rain, we'll meet at Prairie.

Sunday, June 20

10am; Service at Prairie. *Topic and Speaker unknown at this date.*

Sunday, June 27

10am; "**Labor of Love**" with guest Annabelle Argand. This is the fifth and final service in Anne Pryor's lay ministry on Art and Religion. Guest Annabelle Argand, a member of Beth Israel Synagogue, will talk about and display a number of her hand-worked creative needlework pieces that incorporate Biblical and Hebrew themes into the imagery. Annabelle's work and her spirit are so inspiring that she was honored with participation in last summer's Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

VOLUNTEERSCHEDULES

Hospitality Helpers:

Warm people and drinks and clean-up crew.

June 13: Service at Picnic Point

June 20:

Greeting Visitors: *Still need volunteer*

Coffee Set-Up: *Still need volunteer*

Coffee Clean-up: Paula P. and ?????

Program Taping:

June 20: Paula P.

Lawn Mowing

June 20 -26: Larry Nahlik

OUR SOCIETY

Pledge Payments

Remember to send your pledges to our treasurer, Daisy Peterson, 5502 Kroncke Drive, Madison, 53711. Save us sending you a reminder and save Prairie postage. Thanks for your continued financial support of Prairie! Aileen Nettleton, Finance Committee Chair

Westside Senior Center Annual Book Sale

The Westside Senior Center is now collecting used books for their Annual Book Sale. The sale will be held from June 12th through June 19th. Books can be dropped off at the Senior Center, 602 Sawyer Terrace. All proceeds from the sale go towards senior programming. If you have any questions about the sale, please call the Senior Center at 238-0196.

Celebrate the Beautiful Diversity of UU

Families

Collect pictures of your congregation's UU families and display them in your church and then bring them to GA in Salt Lake City. Let's have thousands of pictures of all kinds of UU families! The SLC media will be doing stories and commentaries on Family images and Family values from these UU visitors in their Mormon town. Take them to Keith Kron or Pat Hoerdoerfer at GA and we'll create a UU Families wall.

UU Parenting E-mail List

The UUA Religious Education Department is hoping to start another email list very soon, to be about Parenting. Topics on this list will center around many issues that are important to UU Parents and others who are involved in the lives of children. Initial topics will include our values as Unitarian Universalists as they relate to parenting, reacting to violence in schools, and many other things. If you would like to join this list, please email me privately at edavidso@uua.org with your name and email address. This is not limited to REACH-L folks, of course. Please feel free to ask anyone you know who might be interested to email me as well.

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Resource Book Available

We have the United Way 1999 Directory of Community Resources, Support Groups and Human Services. This telephone size book is entitled "United Way of Dane County's First Call for Help" (FCFH). This directory has information on over 2,000 agencies and programs which provide assistance in such areas as: counseling, drug and alcohol abuse, consumer protection, government services, legal assistance and emergency food and shelter.

There is an alphabetical listing of agencies and a description of each agency's program and a final section devoted to an index of support groups and their phone number. This book is available to all. It will be kept on a shelf in the first floor office. Please use it in house only. It will be especially helpful to the Caring Committee.

EXTENDED (Family) NETWORKS NEEDED FOR THE PEACE CORPS TO HAPPEN

I've been nominated to serve in non-profit development and advisement in the Caribbean. I am due to leave in February of 2000. While I will take this grand, life transforming opportunity one small step at a time.... I'll sell my home and car, I will need some additional caring resources to help with the transition both out of and back into my country and Madison. If you have an extra room going unused please call and make it available to me during my transition. I'm hoping, if enough spaces are available, I will have enough resources to make both transitions comfortably and without overdue burden to any one extended family resource. Thank you!

Karen A Gross
843 Williamson St Apt # 7

Advertisement

I've acquired an Olympus camera and its' instruction book, but would pay Prairie's Service Auction fee for personal guidance in its use after some Sunday service. Contact Barbara Rames if interested at 231-1871.

"Religious Groups Launch 10-year, \$16 Million Green Campaign." Washington Times, 28 May 99, A7.

The National Religious Partnership for the Environment, a coalition of churches and synagogues, began its 10-year campaign to educate Americans about ecology and the environment yesterday with a meeting of 35 business, labor, and wildlife advocates. The \$16 million budget has been pledged by the four members of the partnerships: the U.S.

National Catholic Conference, the National Council of Churches, the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the Evangelical Environmental Network. Yesterday's meeting was attended by representatives from such diverse organizations as the AFL-CIO, Monsanto Corp., Chevron, and the Sierra Club. The coalition's executive director Paul Gorman said that, "This is an example of the kind of thing the partnership will be doing in the next 10 years."

"I wonder if the UUA is in on this? It should be!" Sent by e-mail via Anne Urbanski

2-4-10 Mowers Needed

The prairie cares for itself, but Prairie's lawn requires a weekly mowing for the next four months. Many volunteers will keep the burden from being shouldered by a few. This is a gender-neutral opportunity with minor age but, substantial physical requirements. A "safe" mower, with gasoline, is provided. The pay is fantastic - a real fantasy. Contact Rick Ruecking 838-8540 to schedule your week. Thanks.

Prairie Member Biography: Mark Wehrly

Beginning life in Omaha, Nebraska, Mark moved to Portland, Oregon while very young. He went to grade school there and then to a liberal Jesuit all-male high school. That idealistic, serious institution had a strong influence in his life. A major change was his college career in New York City, at Columbia University, with a major in religion, then studies on a Fulbright Scholarship in Germany. There he came to know the works of Hans Kung, a heretical Catholic clergyman. Back at Columbia, he began his law school education, then completed it back in Oregon. He worked as a local government attorney for eight years before returning to academia for a master's degree in public administration.

He met Gail Coover, his wife, while they were both graduate students working toward Ph.D's at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. They moved to Madison together when Gail accepted her job in Communication Arts at the university here. Mark now works for a software firm in marketing.

When asked about hobbies, Mark named biking, but added that he's "Gail's slave labor in the garden"; both pursuits have many comrades within Prairie Society!

Mark and Gail were married at First Unitarian Society here in Madison, but were looking for a smaller group and Mark "as a radical, I like the fact there's no minister here" found us congenial, too. He signed our membership book in April 1998.

Spanish Speakers' Potluck

Spanish Speakers will have their next meeting at Betty French's home at 4111 Twin Valley Rd., Middleton, 831-5224. Bring a dish to share for potluck, if you can.

Weaving the Woman's Web

The 6th Annual WomanSpirit gathering "Weaving the Woman's Web" is being planned for the weekend of August 6,7 and 8 at Camp Ronora in Watervilet, Michigan. Be sure to keep this date open if you are interested. More details and brochures will follow. The contact person for

this year is Karin Janowski at 708-246-4347 or email at <weavesweb@aol.com>

Don't forget to submit your articles and calendar dates by June 20th.

From the Administrator's Desk

How about the early hot weather? It makes all of us want to be outdoors and in the water, but don't forget to submit your Prairie Fire articles! People who are presenting programs for Sundays' services please remember to submit a brief description for the Prairie Fire a month in advance if possible. This allows me to list it in approximately 2 issues. Lately, I have been receiving very few descriptions and want to remedy this. It is a good vehicle for drawing people to the programs! If you give me the pertinent details, I'll even write it for you!

Please remember that there is only one Prairie Fire issue in July and that the deadline is Sunday, July 11th. Bear in my mind those big time gaps before, and after, that issue regarding programs, events and other timely, important information you need to have in the newsletter.

This next topic is an indelicate one, but one I think I need to cover here. Numerous times in the past months both poopy diapers, and filled dog-poop bags have been found by me on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday because of their incredibly foul smell. Because the church is closed up and rather damp, these odors take over. Prairie's cleaning person does not come in until Thursdays or Fridays. My suggestion is that dirty diapers and dog poop bags be carried out with you when you leave Prairie. If anyone feels uncomfortable with this please give me a call and we'll see if we can work out something else.

One last thing, I would love to do a photo collage of Prairie families for the General Assembly if that is something people would enjoy. I have done many collages for parties, funerals, memorial services, weddings, etc.. I even can take some photos of you

if you don't have any recent ones you want to use.
What do you think? Let me know by email at
<seventhheaven@mailbag.com>. -Kate

*“Conventionality is not morality. Self-
righteousness is not religion. To attack the first
is not to assail the last.”* -Charlotte Bronte