

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.* July 15, 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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## Sunday, August 8

10am; **“War on Drugs”**, presented by Nancy Graham.

## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### Sunday, July 18

10am; **“Protection and Advocacy For the Most Vulnerable Members of our Community”** with guest speaker Mary Sykes from Citizen Advocacy.  
1:30pm; **Pride March**, at Grace Episcopal Church.  
See article in Our Society for further details.

### Monday, July 19

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

### Sunday, July 25

10am; **Report from the UU General Assembly** by Nancy Graham, Deborah Phelps, Pat Watkins and Nancy Schraufnagel.

### Wednesday, July 28,

SAC meeting at 6:30 (site undetermined).

### Sunday, August 1

**4 Society Meeting** at Sauk City Free Thinkers.

***Prairie Fire Deadline!***

### August 5-8

**“Mary and Jesus with CLOUT: Re-Visiting the Holy Family”** is the theme of the '99 Christian Lesbian OUT (CLOUT) Gathering at St. Benedict Conference Center in Madison. Lesbian feminist theologians Mari Castellanos and Carter Heywood will be featured speakers. Contact Diana Vezmar-Bailey at 246-8862 for more info or check out the info on Prairie's bulletin board.

## Friday, September 3rd - Sunday, September 5th

## **Prairie UU Society Annual Retreat at Bethel Horizons.**

*Please note that this year's Annual Prairie Retreat will NOT be at Upham Woods, but at Bethel Horizons near Dodgeville on Labor Day weekend. You will find a registration form for this outing in this Prairie Fire edition on the last page.*

Prairie's annual retreat has for many years been at Upham Woods in the Fall. Last year, Upham Woods charged us for damages we did not cause, initially overcharged for food and lodging, and expressed concerns about our behavior. Prairie individuals have also been expressing concerns about Upham Woods Staff. The Prairie Board decided to check out other locations for this year's retreat, and if a date was available at Bethel Horizons, to go there this year. Due to the problems and time involved in negotiating a settlement of Upham Wood's bill and perhaps a two to

three week delay by your stressed Prez., the only date left was Labor Day weekend. We are again officially inviting the Stevens Point Fellowship and the Free Congregation of Sauk County. Please join us in this important event!

***Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday, August 1st, 1999.***

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

### **Sunday, July 18**

10am; **“Protection and Advocacy For the Most Vulnerable Members of our Community”** with guest speaker Mary Sykes from Citizen Advocacy.

### **Sunday, July 25**

10am; **Report from the General Assembly** by Pat Watkins and Nancy Schraufnagel.

### **Sunday, August 1**

**Joint Service** with Sauk City, James Reeb and Prairie. Details to be announced or call the Program Chair, Nikki Bromberg, for details.

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

### **Hospitality Helpers:**

#### **July 18:**

**Greeting Visitors:** Paula P.

**Coffee Set-Up:** Paula P.

**Coffee Clean-up:** Paula P.

#### **July 25:**

**Greeting Visitors:** *Need Volunteer*

**Coffee Set-Up:** *Need Volunteer*

**Coffee Clean-up:** *Need Volunteer*

*No Program at Prairie on Aug. 1. Joint Program in Sauk City.*

### **Program Taping:**

**July 18:** Paula P.

**July 25:** *Need Volunteer*

### **Lawn Mowing**

**July 18-24:** *Need Volunteer*

**July 25-31:** Paula P.

**WE NEED LAWN MOWERS!  
Sign-up on clipboard or call Rick Ruecking.  
OUR SOCIETY**

### **Coffee Break**

How do you like the coffee? We hope you like it fine because the Membership Committee has broken with one coffee tradition and begun a new one. It has switched to using Equal Exchange coffee for Sunday morning services. Equal Exchange is a worker-owned co-op dedicated to fair trade with small-scale farmers in the "Third World". It is committed to paying a fair price directly to the farmer, not corporate middlemen, and to supporting ecologically sustainable farming practices. Since the price for Equal Exchange coffee is a bit higher than that of the "other" brands, the Social Action Committee may help out with future coffee purchases if needed. Let members of either committee know what you think of the switch, and of the taste!

### **Pride March Sunday July 18th , 1:30pm at Grace Episcopal Church**

Come Out in support and celebration of Gay lesbian bisexual and transgendered individuals. Prairie as a Welcoming Congregation to GLBT individuals will be participating in this Sunday's Pride March. Meet at 1:30pm Grace Episcopal Church. Look for Prairie's Banner (Thank You Rachel Siegfried and Metje Butler) and the Coming Out Coming Together Banner. We will be marching with other Unitarians and members of the faith community concerned with advocacy & support of our valuable community. Please join us!

### **“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.

### **Interfaith Hospitality Network**

The Interfaith Hospitality Network is now in full swing. Prairie joined in with Midvale Community Lutheran and Glenwood Moravian Church for our first rotation in May. Everything went quite well and we had a wonderful turnout of volunteers from Prairie. We had good responses from our guests as well. They really enjoyed the more relaxed atmosphere that we offered. Our next turn is scheduled for the week of Aug. 15-21. We will have sign ups at the church and will also try to call those who volunteered last time. You may also call me at home 274-0553. We will be making one change in the way the time slots will be set up. Some of the people who worked the over night shifts were disappointed in that they were not able to spend much time with the families so we will change the overnight shift to 7:00pm to 6:30am. I would like to acknowledge the following volunteers: Arleigh Birchler, Erin Bosch, Kathy Helm, Pat Cautley, Nikki Bromberg, Rick and Marilyn Ruecking, Barabra Rames, Metje Butler, Orange Schroeder. I am sorry if I have missed any one. I know that I also missed several of you that had wanted to volunteer. (That's what happens when I scribble notes on scrap paper - a habit that I am trying to change.) Hopefully, everyone who is interested will get the opportunity to help out. Thanks again for everyone's help and support. Shannon Hayes

### **RE Curriculum will begin on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>**

Due to Shaarei Shamayim's rental of the building for Rosh Hashana the whole weekend of Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, our Sunday program will be held elsewhere, (details to be announced August) and the RE Curriculum will begin on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Pat Watkins Lay Ministry**

One of our Lay Ministers for the 1999/2000 church year will be Pat Watkins, who will be presenting eight Sunday programs entitled "Going About the UUA's

Business." The lay ministry will consist of programs which deal with the subjects of our UUA Resolutions, Statements of Conscience, or Policies, and will begin with the July 25<sup>th</sup> "Report from the General Assembly." Pat will not be accepting payment for several programs, such as the one on 7/25, which ordinarily would be covered outside of a lay ministry. Fees for the remaining programs will be used to pay a speaker's honorarium or to cover the cost of a contribution, which the Prairie budget is unable to afford. Pat is also hoping to facilitate an adult education opportunity on the new study/action issue in which members of all the UU area congregations can participate (however, this latter may be wishful thinking).

### **Co-Coordinator for Music Needed**

Due to the resignation of Deb Phelps as the Co-Coordinator for Music, we are in need of a new volunteer for this position. Music coordination consists of lining up people to play for hymns and for special music, as needed by those presenting services. If you can help out please contact Rosemarie Lester at 255-7039 or Nikki Bromberg at 251-0976.

### **A Gift from The Crims**

*The following letter was sent to Prairie from Joyce and Fleming Crim.*

"Dear Prairie Friends,

While Fleming and I have been members of First Unitarian Society for about 15 years now, we have fond memories of previous years at Prairie Society. Recently, while cleaning out a drawer, I found an old pledge statement from Prairie dated the year we transferred our membership and financial support to First Society. We would like to honor our past pledge to you now with the enclosed contribution of \$400.

Best wishes,  
Joyce Crim"

### **Thank you Joyce and Fleming!**

### **From the Administrator**

Please remember to submit an explanation of upcoming programs that you are in charge of. It always takes awhile after the Board changes to get these details smoothed out, but this really does help draw people in for the programs. Because I am not aware of the

details of these I cannot write them up myself, or I would. Thanks for all of your contributions to our Prairie Fire. I enjoy being such an integral part of Prairie's communications.

**WE NEED LAWN MOWERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**  
**Please sign-up.**

<sup>1</sup>Prairie Retreat at Bethel Horizons, Sept 3-4:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can drive \_\_\_\_ others      Need a ride \_\_\_\_      Need scholarship: \_\_\_\_

**(Make checks payable to Prairie Unitarian)**

Accommodations: (All require bedding and towels, all have heat, elect, showers, except cabins & campground; Children = under 12 years of age)

Prairie Center: (4-5/room, private handicapped-accessible bathrooms)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_ x \$30 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$19 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
Children: 2 nights # \_\_ x \$15 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$9.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Barn Retreat Center: (26 single beds, shared bathrooms)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_ x \$25 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$16 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
Children: 2 nights # \_\_ x \$12.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$8.00 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Farmhouse/Bunkhouse Center: (17+16 single beds, shared bathrooms)

Adults: 2 nights: # \_\_ x \$23 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$14 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
Children: 2 nights # \_\_ x \$11.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_  
          1 night: # \_\_ x \$7.00 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Staff Cabins (8 x 4) 5.75 per person per night: \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Camping (\$2.50/person or \$8/family per night):\$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Total accommodations: \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Meals: Saturday breakfast: #\_\_ x \$3.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Saturday lunch: #\_\_ x \$4.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Saturday dinner: #\_\_ x \$5.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Sunday breakfast: #\_\_ x \$3.50 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)

Saturday breakfast: #\_\_ x \$1.75 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Saturday lunch: #\_\_ x \$2.25 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Saturday dinner: #\_\_ x \$2.75 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)  
Sunday breakfast: #\_\_ x \$1.75 = \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_ (adults)

Total meals: \$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donations for scholarship:

\$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

Total sent:

\$\_\_\_\_. \_\_

**Directions: 18-151 West to Verona, Hwy 18 to Dodgeville. North (right) on Hwy 23. After Governor Dodge State Park go 2 miles to County ZZ on right. Follow 1 mile to small red sign on right.**

<sup>1</sup> Mail to : Kay Frazier, PO Box 253, Cottage Grove, WI, 53527