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.

The Prairie Fire is the newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society and is published semi-monthly.
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PRAIRIE CALENDAR

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.

Sunday, August 8
9am; Religious Education Committee Meeting at Prairie.
10am; “War on Drugs”, presented by Nancy Graham.

Monday, August 9
6:30pm; Movies about Racism. (See short article under Our Society section.)

Wednesday, August 11
6:30pm; Spanish Speakers’ Potluck at the home of Amy Schulz, 2304 So. Syene Rd., 273-2639.

Thursday, August 12
7:30pm; Prairie Board Meeting

Sunday, August 15
10am; “Shel Silverstein’s ‘Missing Piece’”, led by Kay Frazier and Ben Rodriguez.

Sunday, August 22
10am; “Photographic Images of Our Families,” coordinated by Nikki Bromberg.

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.

Friday, Sept. 3-Sunday, Sept. 5
7pm each evening; “Wade in the Water”, Madison’s annual gospel music festival will be held on the UW Library Mall. Free Concerts.

Sunday, September 12
2:00-3:30pm; Town meeting on “Lessons from Littleton” at Prairie.

No morning service at Prairie and no religious
education classes in the morning.

**Sunday, September 19**
10am; “Introduction to Prairie People and Programs,” led by Erin Bosch.

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**Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday, August 15th, 1999.**

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**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**Sunday, August 8**
10am; “The War on Drugs,” presented by Nancy Graham.

**Sunday, August 15**
10am; “Shel Silverstein’s ‘Missing Piece’,” led by Kay Frazier and Ben Rodriguez

**Sunday, August 22**
10am; “Photographic Images of Our Families,” coordinated by Nikki Bromberg. Think about bringing photos of your families to show---baby pictures, extended families, nuclear families of origin or of procreation, or whatever…since what counts as a family can vary, and we would like to show the variation.

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**Sunday, August 29th**
10am; “Beyond Religious Tolerance: The Challenges of Interfaith Cooperation Begin With Us.” This is the title given to the Statement of Conscience voted for at the General Assembly which was held in Salt Lake City in June. The statement asks us, among other things, to educate ourselves to understand and appreciate other faith traditions, to converse with other faith communities and explore through dialogue the values and goals we share with them, to participate in interfaith projects, and to work with other faith communities for social justice. The Madison Urban Ministry has been doing all of these for a number of years, and Prairie Society has endeavored to implement this mandate since it was voted on as our study/action issue in 1997, by a rather limited involvement with the Madison Urban Ministry. Mary Kaye Baum, the director of MUM, will speak to us about their implementation of our UUA mandate, and of their various programs, and the opportunities MUM gives to all faith communities for interaction and cooperation with one another to enhance the community in which we live.

“True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice.”

- Martin Luther King

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**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

**Hospitality Helpers:**
**August 8:**
Greeting Visitors: Kathy Helm
Coffee Set-Up: Kathy Helm
Coffee Clean-up: Jean Matos

**August 15:**
Greeting Visitors: Anne Urbanski
Coffee Set-Up: Need Volunteer
Coffee Clean-up: Need Volunteer

**Program Taping:**
**August 8:**
Gary Giorgi

**Lawn Mowing**
**Aug. 8-14:**
Robin Carre
**Aug. 15-21:**
Need Volunteer

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**OUR SOCIETY**

**RE Curriculum will begin on Sept. 19th**
Due to Shaarei Shamayim’s rental of the building for Rosh Hashana the whole weekend of Sept. 10th -12th. The RE Curriculum will begin on Sunday, September 19th.

**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.
**Movies on Racism at Prairie August 9th**
On Monday, August 9th at 6:30pm two videos on racism will be shown. The first is “American History X”. The second is “SLAM.” These movies have deeply affected my inner feelings about Race and Racism. I would love for others to join me. Perhaps we can discuss them.

--Arleigh Birchler, R.E. Committee Chair

**Prairie Needs New Finance Committee Chair**
Due to Barb Park’s necessary resignation as Finance Chair we are in need of a new one. The Finance Chair, (with the help of the Finance Committee)
1) Prepares proposed annual budget with cooperation of Treasurer, Committee Chairs, Board and presents to membership for approval
2) Conducts annual pledge drive of members and friends.
3) Keeps on-going records on pledges received via Treasurer.
4) Sends quarterly pledge updates and end-of-year tax statements to pledgers.
5) Plans and carries out fund-raising events to support the annual budget.
6) Monitors the overall financial state of the organization (monthly Treasurer reports to the Board).

If you are interested please contact KK Anderson, Chair of Committee on Committees, at 255-3596.

**Prairie Playreader’s September Meeting**
Prairie Playreader's is a group who meets each month to read plays. Along with the playreading, there are treats for the readers. The next meeting of the group is being held September 25, 7pm, at the Hagstrom’s, 916 Shorewood Blvd., Madison, WI 53705. Any questions call Warren at 238-4970 or his work phone at 267-4797. We will organize the playreading schedule at that time so please come and bring your calendars. For September, I have chosen three alternatives. The first is an eccentric drama by the name "A Company of Wayward Saints", full of Harlequins and Columbines. The other two are classics: “The Ideal Husband”, by Oscar Wilde, and "Caesar and Cleopatra”, by G.B. Shaw. My penchant is for the first, but we'll see.

**Internet Family Photo Project**
If you would like to share family photos with relatives and friends through an Internet website, here is your chance to do that and raise money for Prairie at the same time. From now until Aug. 22nd (the date of the Photographic Images of the Family program at Prairie), Bob and Ian Park are offering to scan and post (to the Internet) your prints for $1 each, and donate the proceeds from the first 10 prints for each participating family to Prairie.

To see what the project is about, use Netscape or Internet Explorer on your Internet connected computer to visit their website at http://www.homestead.com/slide_show/and click on the Families and Friends link. If your family participates, a new gallery will be added to their "Family Slide Shows" page for you which will remain on the Internet as long as you like (or until Homestead.com discontinues its free website service). For more information, call Bob or Ian at 273-8775.

**What Happened at GA?**
A copy of the GA program is available on the table in the meeting room. The programs attended by Prairie people are highlighted. For further information contact attendees or check out the tape of the program which is available in the upstairs office.

**Interfaith Hospitality Network**
It is time for our society to join in with Midvale Community Lutheran and Glenwood Moravian to host the families of the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Our week begins Aug 15th. There is a large sign-up sheet on the table of the lobby of Prairie along with descriptions of the shifts. If you are interested in volunteering at the day center downtown either during the week, or on the weekends, please sign the smaller white sheet that says you are willing to do something. We had a great showing last time so hope to see even more of you this time. You may also call me at home @274-0553. Shannon Hayes
From the Administrator's Desk

Are you the coordinator for a Sunday program? Remember to get me the pertinent info by Wednesday evening the week before if you want me to do the order of service.

DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT YOUR REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE **PRAIRIE RETREAT** AT BETHEL HORIZONS ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND!!!! THE FORM'S ON THE BACK OF THIS PRAIRIE FIRE.

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**Prairie Retreat at Bethel Center, Sept 3-5:**

| 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 = $____. __ (children)
Saturday lunch:    #__  x $2.25 = $____. __ (children)
Saturday dinner:   #__  x $2.75 = $____. __ (children)
Sunday breakfast:  #__  x $1.75 = $____. __ (children)

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 ZZ one mile to small red sign on right.

Registration Deadline is Sunday, August 22nd.