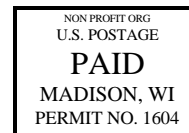


Prairie UU Society ■ 2010 Whenona Drive ■ Madison WI 53711  
(608) 271-8218  
Located off the south frontage rd. of the West Beltline Hwy near the Seminole Hwy exit.



# 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.*  
*e-mail version available: <http://www.execpc.com/~prairieu>*

**October 19, 1999**

President: Nancy E. Schraufnagel (608) 273-3195

Editor: Kate Heiber-Cobb (608) 250-6512; [prairieu@execpc.com](mailto:prairieu@execpc.com)

## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### Saturday, October 23

7:00 pm; "Ghost Stories Into the Night,"  
performed by Reid Miller at Prairie.

7:00 pm; **Trevor Stephenson Concert** at  
Edgewood College Chapel.

### Sunday, October 24

**No Choir Rehearsal in October**

10:00 am; **United Nations Sunday: The  
Honorable Tammy Baldwin, Congressional  
Representative for Wisconsin's Second District.**  
coordinated by Pat Watkins.

11:45 am; **Prairie Women's Group** meets for a  
finger food potluck.

### Thursday, October 28

7:00 pm; "Ghost Stories Into the Night,"  
performed by Reid Miller at Prairie.

### Friday, October 29

1:00 pm and also at 7:00 pm; "Ghost Stories Into  
the Night," performed by Reid Miller at Prairie.

### Saturday, October 30

2-6 pm; **Rental**

6 pm-Sunday am; **Prairie Youth's Fall Frolic**

### Sunday, October 31

10 am; "All Souls' Day Celebration", led by Ruth  
Calden and Lisa Glueck.

### Saturday, November 6

9 am - 5 pm; **Invoking the Fire Dragon**, a day-long  
workshop with Nancy Vedder-Shults at First UU  
Society. See article for details.

### Sunday, November 7

9:00 am; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 am; "Thoughts Before Departing the States  
to Join the Peace Corps," presented by Karen  
Gross.

11:45 pm; **Social Action Committee Meeting.**

### Wednesday, November 10

7:00 pm; **Spanish Speakers' Potluck** at Rosemary  
Dorney's home, 4205 Odana Rd., 238-4382.

### Saturday, November 13

7:00 pm; **Prairie Playreaders** meets at the home of  
Paula Pachciarz and Carl Wacker, 4709 Sherwood  
Rd., 273-4806. *Please note the earlier starting  
time.*

### Sunday, November 14

9:00 am; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 am; **Journey Toward Wholeness Sunday**  
will deal with UUA resolutions on Racism.

### Sunday, November 21

9:00 am; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 am; "Conspicuous Consumption",  
presented by Warren Hagstrom.

11:45 am; **The Prairie Fall Parish Business  
Meeting and potluck.** See article.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Sunday, October 24

10:00 am; **United Nations Sunday.** This is the third program in Pat Watkins' lay ministry entitled *Going About Denominational Business.* We are honored to have as our **speaker**, our **Congressional Representative, Tammy Baldwin.**

### Sunday, October 31

10:00 am; "**All Souls' Day Celebration**" led by Ruth Calden and Lisa Glueck. Last year, Prairie had a service celebrating and remembering people dear to us who have died. That service was inspired by Ruth Calden's trip to Mexico for the Day of the Dead celebration. This year, Ruth and Lisa propose a similar service of remembrance, but it will be in the context of the Buddhist perspective of acceptance and letting go. The Buddhist tale, "The Mustard Seed Medicine" as retold by UU writer Sophia Fahs will be the children's story and Lisa will lead the adults in a guided meditation. However, the heart of the service will be the opportunity to remember and share memories of a loved one and to light a candle in their memory. We encourage participants to bring a photo and/or an object, which they may place on a table for viewing after the service. Anyone who prefers may simply light a candle in silence. This service will include a reading of the names of all Prairie members who have died.

### Sunday, November 7

10:00 am; "**Thoughts Before Departing the States to Join the Peace Corps**"

Learn about where and why I am going, my hopes for the coming year(s). I have lived in Madison for twenty years. I came here from New York State. I've had an eclectic variety of different careers and volunteer service. I worked on and off in a construction trade for fourteen years, over seven years in the non-profit sector and I served in the domestic Peace Corps called VISTA for two years. I have a master's degree from the U W- Madison.

*"Behold the turtle: he makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."*

-James Bryant Conant

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### Hospitality Helpers:

**October 24:**

**Greeting Visitors:**

Pat Cautley

**Coffee Set-Up:**

Phoenix

**Coffee Clean-up:**

Ruth & George Calden

**October 31:**

**Greeting Visitors:**

KK Anderson

**Coffee Set-Up:**

Kathy Helm

**Coffee Clean-up:**

KK Anderson & ???

**November 7:**

**Greeting Visitors:**

Rita Reffner

**Coffee Set-up:**

Barb Park

**Coffee Clean-up:**

Kay Frazier & ???

### Program Taping:

**October 24:**

Pat Cautley

**October 31:**

Marilyn Ruecking

**November 7:**

*Need Someone*

### Raking:

**10/24-10/30:**

Robin Carre

**10/31-11/6:**

*Still Need Someone*

**11/7-11/13:**

Larry Nahlik

## OUR SOCIETY

### Ghost Stories Into the Night

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and on October 29<sup>th</sup> at both 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm Reid Miller will perform "Ghost Stories Into the Night". Partial proceeds will go to Prairie. Snacks will be available. The show features tales, songs, advice on how to keep scary things away, and is recommended for adults and youth. Need more information? Give Reid a call at 437-3388.

### Social Action Committee Happenings

Thank you all for supporting the SAC by participating in the bake sale October 10. Special thanks goes to Henry Fox, our generous "silent partner" who provides the Clasen's bread and coffee cakes. The committee made over \$113.00 and will donate some of that money to the Allied-Dunn's Marsh Eviction Prevention Fund.

Some of you have asked about purchasing Bucky Books this year. Unfortunately, we will no longer be selling them because of a new minimum sales

**Prairie Fire Deadline is Sunday,  
November 7, 1999.**

requirement. Thanks to those of you who have bought Bucky Books in the past.

Soon we will be making available those little boxes to set on your tables over the holidays. To explain the Guest at Your Table project, from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee come the following words: "It is easy for even the most committed of us to find our eyes and minds glazing over when facing systemic injustice throughout the world. We wonder if we can make any difference at all as individuals or even as a congregation. But we Unitarian Universalists have a powerful tool for making a difference in the world. It is our own Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC works in the United States and internationally to protect the human rights of people struggling against oppression and injustice." "UUSC is part of our Unitarian Universalist movement but, as an independent, affiliate member of the UUA, does not receive funds from it. We are all encouraged to join as individuals. UUSC's most visible program for congregational involvement is Guest at Your Table, which supports its U.S. and international projects. Members and friends of our congregation will have the opportunity to participate next month." Watch the Prairie Fire for further information.

### **Choir Rehearsals in November**

Prairie's Choir is not rehearsing in the month of October, but will begin meeting again on November 7<sup>th</sup>, and then also, November 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **UNICEF**

UNICEF in relieving the situation of refugees. And in 1981, two resolutions on the UN were passed: the first urging all congregations to study and understand the UN Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and to wage a campaign for US ratification of it; the second urging congregations and members to devote at least one Sunday per year to the UN and to supporting the work of the UU-UNO. (On Sunday, October 24th, we will be fulfilling that latter request, and the lay ministers fee will be used to secure a congregational membership in the UU-UNO, and individual membership forms will be

available for those who are able and willing to commit to supporting our UU-UN Office). In 1987, the resolution required that the UUA Board of Trustees also grant financial support to the UU -UN

Office. Finally, in 1990, our GA Resolution requested that congregations and members urge the US: to pay its back dues, rejoin UNESCO, resume payment to the Population Fund, ratify the instruments for human rights, including (but not limited to) the Convention against Torture, eliminate sexual and racial discrimination, endorse the Rights of the Child, and again, that congregations and individual members become supporters of the UU-UNO by contributing financial support to that office. >From the above, it can be seen that our interactions and connections to the United Nations have been for many years, and continue to be extremely important parts of denominational business, and of our business as UU's.

### **Prairie Playreaders**

Prairie Playreaders, a Prairie group dedicated to reading plays together, now has a partial schedule of times and hosts:

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>HOST</u></b>
Nov 13	7 pm	Paula Pachciarz
Jan 8	7 pm	Rachel Siegfried
Feb 12	7 pm	Al & Aileen Nettleton
Mar 18	7 pm	Pat Watkins
April	*	Rosemary Dorney & Tim Fast

\*(exact date and time to be announced)

There is no one as of yet scheduled for the May-June Prairie Playreaders annual fish fry/one act playreaders. If you are interested, call Susan Hagstrom, work 267-4797, home 238-4970.

### **"RE" Land News!**

We are off to a running start down here in RE Land! This year's theme is the Seven UU Principles. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> we went on a nature walk led by one of our resident naturalist/poet/ teacher/musicians: Mary Mullen. We celebrated Principle #7, the interdependent web of existence, when we did this.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the high-schoolers and the 6-7-8<sup>th</sup> graders discussed Principle #1, inherent worth of all, quite intensely. On that day the 3-4-5<sup>th</sup> grade class began their exploration of UU Principles by relating them to the ROY G. BIV rainbow color pattern while the K-1-2ers learned about inherent worth by reading the King Midas story and pretending to be princesses.

To round out these two weeks of RE we did a Spirit Circle to commemorate Principle #6, world peace and justice. We did this by reading the book

The Peaceful Warrior and playing a scrambled letter game in which we tried to find words that emphasized peaceful conflict resolution.

### **Invoking the Fire Dragon**

Sponsored by the WSpR (Women and Spirituality) Circle of First Unitarian Society, this day-long workshop with Nancy Vedder-Shults, Ph.D., will be offered Saturday, November 6th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lower Meeting House at FUS. Invoking the fire dragon ushers Eros into our lives, infusing us with the playful energy that is the source for ecstatic movement, sensuality and pleasure. Within a ritual format involving story, dance and song (some from Nancy's recordings Chants for the Queen of Heaven and Singing the Promise), this "playshop" will explore how our culture reins in this assertion of the life force through such myths as the Biblical story of Eden. We will learn to call up this elemental energy to let our spirits shine. For more info call 231-3362. To register, send your name, address, and check for \$65 (made payable to Nancy Vedder-Shults) to 2810 Gregory St., Madison, WI 53711.

### **PRAIRIE FALL PARISH MEETING**

The Prairie Fall Parish Meeting will be held Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> after the morning service and customary potluck.

Topics will include:

- Approval of the Year 2000 Budget
- Committee Reports
- Discussion of Special Gift and proper allocation thereof
- Elections
  - RE Chair
  - Finance Chair
- Discussion of a proposed new position:
  - Fall Retreat Program Coordinator

If there are other topics you wish to see discussed, please alert our Board President, Nancy Schraufnagel within the next two weeks.

### **Spanish Speakers' Potluck**

Join wonderful people for the monthly Spanish Speakers' Potluck on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Rosemary Dorney and Tim Fast's home, 4205 Odana Rd., 238-4382.

### **WE STILL NEED A FINANCE CHAIR**

We need a volunteer to chair the finance committee. Please be that special someone to come forward and take on this responsibility. We have placed the details for this position in numerous past Prairie Fires with no luck. So, if you need the particulars please contact the office and I will send you a description from the bylaws. Who can help us out?

### **Jed Gjeter\* MacDogall**

\* Norwegian for shepherd

b. July 21, 1986

c. October 16, 1999

Osh Andersen's collie dog passed on.

"And when we bury our face in our hands and wish we had never been born, they don't sit up very straight and observe that we have brought it all upon ourselves. They don't even hope it will be a warning to us. But they come up softly and shove their heads against us...he looks up with his big, true eyes, and says with them, "Well, you've always got me, you know. We'll go through the world together, and always stand by each other, won't we?"

-Jerome K. Jerome

Idle Thoughts of an Idle

Fellow

### **Shaarei Shamayim Calendar**

**Oct. 22, 5:30-10pm; Evening Service**

**Oct. 24, 4-5:30pm; Religious Class**

**Nov. 12, 6-10pm; Evening Service**

**Nov. 13, 6-10pm; Evening Service**

**Nov. 20, 9-1:30pm; Morning Service**

### **From the Administrator**

Was something you submitted for Prairie Fire not included? There wasn't room for everything this time because of numerous submissions. I used my best editorial judgement - if you need to talk to me about it, please call.