

Prairie Fire

July 2015

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Prairie Calendar

(See descriptions of programs below)

- Sat July 4** 5:00 am to 7:00 am—**Men's Shelter Breakfast**
- Sat July 4** 9:00 am—**WOW**—at Prairie
- Sun July 5** 10:00 am service—**July 5th—Only in America**—It's summer and Everyone wants to be outside. July 5th at Prairie will continue the Weekend of Independence with a picnic in our backyard. It will be A celebration of our American Heritage. Keep those folding chairs And old quilts in the car trunk.
- Sun July 12** 10:00 am service—**TBA**—Rev. Sandra Ingham
- Sun July 12** 11:45 am—**Board Meeting**
- Sun July 12** 5:00 pm—**AFIK MEN'S GROUP**—at Prairie
- Sun July 19** 10:00 am service—**Mondragon Spain** ----Beth Gehred attended A Praxis Peace trip to Mondragon and she will report on her Experience at this amazing example of our seven principles in practice.
- Sun July 19** 11:45 am—**Soup Sunday**
- Sun July 19** 11:45 am---- **HUM to hear Andy Somers on Ireland**
- Sun July 19** 11:45 am—**Book Club---The Life & Times of the Thunderbolt Kid.** By Bill Bryson
- Mon July 20** **Spanish Speakers** are steppin' out in July. We'll meet at a local Restaurant (yet to be chosen, but keep posted!) that serves, of Course, Hispanic eats. We'll let you know if reservations are Required. For more information about Spanish Speakers Potluck, call Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382
- Tue July 21** 1:30-3:30 pm—**Prairie Elders**—at the Prairie Annex—Contacts: Rosemary Dorney (238-4382) or Donna Murdoch (238-3802) Call for a ride.
- Sun July 26** Annual Joint Service & Picnic with the Free Congregation of Sauk County in their lovely space in Sauk City.

July 5-- We'll leave the jingoism at the door, but we'll dance on the lawn behind THE ANNEX. We'll hear from famous American Orators and American poets and spread the potato salad on the lawn. Bring snippets of your original writings or poems to share, AND Potato Salad! Attention singers and musicians – We're planning Gospel Folk Blues and Jazz from our Songbooks. Ron Frye is playing music, but there's room for more performers! Games, Races, and the

World's Greatest Daytime Fireworks Display. Ice Cream – Potlucks – Paper Plates – Party Spirit. Followed by a trip to the Vilas Zoo

July 19—The MONDRAGON Corporation is a corporation and federation of worker cooperatives based in the Basque region of Spain. It was founded in the town of Mondragon in 1956 by graduates of a local technical college. It is the tenth-largest Spanish company in terms of asset turnover. At the end of 2013, it employed 74,061 people in 257 companies and organizations in four areas of activity: finance, industry, retail and knowledge.

July 19—Humanist group to hear Andy Somers on Ireland. On May 23rd the citizens of "traditionally conservative" Ireland made their country the first to legalize same-sex marriage by national referendum. On Sunday, July 19, Andy Somers will talk to the Humanist Union about the changes in Irish society. His presentation title is "A terrible beauty is born," and he provides this brief description of what he has in store for us. "Ireland, a land of mystery, myth and rebellion. What happened to the land of St. Patrick? A brief review of a country which grew up." All are encouraged to attend. We'll start with our usual potluck at 11:45 am, program 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

July 19—Book Club--Bill Bryson was born in the middle of the American century-1951-in the middle of the United States-Des Moines, Iowa-in the middle of the largest generation in American history-the baby boomers. As one of the best and funniest writers alive, he is perfectly positioned to mine his memories of a totally all-American childhood for 24-carat memoir gold. Goodreads review. 288 pages

July 21, 1:30 – 3:30—Prairie Elders, at the Prairie Annex, 2006 Whenona Drive (we hope)—the topic will be a discussion of the questions: *How long do you want to stay when you travel somewhere? A week or two? Months? Or to relocate your retirement home?* Al Nettleton will start the discussion with a brief description of some of the sights of Costa Rica.

ABOUT US: Prairie Elders aims to provide good times and mutual support for older Prairie members and friends. We focus on conversation and sharing on the month's topic, , with only one person speaking at a time. Rosemary and Donna have asked to be replaced as coordinators and we are looking for one or more volunteers too take on that role.

CONTACTS: Rosemary Dorney (238-4382) or Donna Murdoch (238-3802). Call for a ride.

WHAT TO BRING: Potluck snacks and personal beverages are optional. We usually have coffee available.

July 26-- Joint Service with Sauk City or If you can't make it to Sauk City, there will be a showing of this year's GA Ware Lecture featuring Cornell West. Enjoy pastries and coffee in the Prairie Annex at the regular 10 am time.

Message from the President—Gary Gates

Prairie's Board has decided to change our monthly meeting time to 11:45 on the second Sunday of each month. This better accommodates the schedules of Board members. It also will make it more convenient for members of the congregation to attend the meetings. I hope some of you will take the opportunity to see your Board in action. Our feelings won't be hurt if you are so bored you walk out after only a few minutes!

The Board also decided to name the big downstairs room in the Annex (the house next door) the Doleta Chapru room. The piano we inherited from Doleta has now been moved into that room. Future choir practices will be held there. Have you noticed the wonderful feeling of increased space in our lobby now that the piano has been moved?

I was personally delighted with Prairie's being a venue for Make Music Madison and want to extend a big thank you to Mary Mullen for her role in organizing this wonderful event. Thank you also to the many members who volunteered to help make this event a success. Music is one of the things that makes Prairie special.

On a more practical note I was dismayed to learn that we no longer have any child care workers with the recent resignation of Amy Cifre. Amy has assured me, however, that she is looking forward to the chance to attend some of our services. We will need to find some more child care workers soon.

As I begin my second year as your President I am hopeful that we will be able to make progress on both our internal organizational needs and on reaching out to others to give true meaning to the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism.

From Lorry Bond

On May 10 I got a 3 month old kitten. She is a gray tabby named Zivah. The name in Hebrew means one who brings light and joy into a room. Ziva was a favorite character of mine on the TV show NCIS.

From Ruth Calden—Historical Tidbit

In December, 1982, Prairie put out a cookbook called ***Prairie Kitchen Companion*** featuring favorite recipes submitted by members. I treasure my much used copy, not only for the recipes, but also for the striking art work. Metje Butler designed the imaginative cover and other members the section dividers. The cookbook also includes intriguing quotes on nearly every page—diverting snippets sent in by members like

“What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered”—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The cookbook was printed and assembled in the basement of Lee and Alice Bullen and distributed like hotcakes. Ask older members to show you their copy if you haven't yet seen one.

Ruth Calden for the Prairie History Committee

Circle of Friends—Holly Tellander, Dir. Of Religious Education
Prairie RE June Happenings

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

UPCOMING O.W.L. FACILITATOR TRAINING SESSIONS – THIS FALL IN VERONA! Prairie will be partnering with area UCC churches to offer this exciting opportunity. Tentatively scheduled for the weekend of August 22-23. We'd love to run OWL sessions next year, which means we need facilitators! Think about signing up for this event! Training will be offered for facilitators of ALL age groups!

2016 RE-Imagined Summit --The summits have been rescheduled for fall. People are having too much fun this summer to attend meetings! Who can blame them? Keep an eye out for the new dates -- expect early-ish in September!

In the meantime, please see my post in Prairie News regarding the **survey** I have created. I will spend the summer gathering and organizing data for our planning purposes this fall and going forward. We are interested in feedback from everyone; parents, students, interested parties, and curious onlookers. This program belongs to ALL of us ☺

Speaking of....

IT'S SUMMER TIME AND WE NEED YOU!

Our traditional classes go on hiatus during the summer, and though kids LOVE free time, we want to make sure we continue to offer thought provoking experiences. Summer is the perfect time to share a passion that you have with our kids! We've already had offers of a solar telescope experience as well as some plant pod stamping art! What can you bring to the party downstairs?

I'd like to start offering a menu of choices to the kids on Sundays. But in order to do that, I need YOU!

BIG THANK YOU to Mary Mullen for coming down and teaching the kids how to find, harvest, cook & EAT lamb's quarters!

Please contact Holly Tellander if you have even a spark of an idea. ☺ ☺ ☺

What's Up Downstairs?

Green thumb? Brown thumb? No problem! There are lots of opportunities to get involved in the backyard renovation. The kids will always have the choice to come out and help - and all yard workers get good music during work and popsicles afterwards!

Our first PAD day was a big success! We had a lot of fun tying fleece blankets and watching Bolt and reflecting on what our 7th principle looks like in action. We started several cat/dog/rodent blankets (thanks to Greine & Luna for the idea and all the cutting!) We'll be working on those for the next few weeks and sometime this fall we will schedule a field trip to donate the blankets to the humane society.

We've received some wonderful donations of dress up clothing to be used as props and costumes in our various 'funnery' downstairs! Erin Bosch scored a clothing rack off the curb to hang them on! We are looking for donations of plastic clothing hangers (adult & child sized) to get these gems organized.

Handy people WANTED!

Are you good with a hammer? How about a saw? There is a collection of great projects that we'd love to see in the outdoor space - talk with Holly Tellander if you've got the gumption to get building!

Did we mention that WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU DOWNSTAIRS OR OUTSIDE THIS SUMMER?? Come on down and show us how cool you are!

We can always use donations of pre-packaged string cheese, single serve applesauce containers & saltine crackers (COSTCO, ANYONE?).



As always, thanks for your support!



Please consider volunteering for and participating in one or more of Prairie's committees or groups—A full list is located on Prairie's website: <http://uuprairie.org/aboutus/#com>, or call Patty Stockdale for contact information: (608) 293-0843. Visit Prairie's website for further information (see below).

**Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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