

# Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711 \* 608-271-8218 \* www.uuprairie.org

## “The Ethics of Assistance”

by Matt Tedesco

December 6, 2015



### Today's Order of Service

**Prelude:** Performed by Amber Bruns.

**Welcome and Announcements:** Rev. Sandra Ingham

#### **Opening Words:**

“If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns . . . , do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be” Deuteronomy 15:7-8 (NRSV).

**\*Hymn #296 (SLT):** “O Ye Who Taste That Love Is Sweet,” Amber Bruns, accompanist.

#### **Chalice Lighting:**

You are welcome here visitor, friend or long time member.  
You are welcome here.  
With your family or partner  
Or lover or alone  
We joyfully welcome you here.  
You are welcome here as believer  
Or doubter, as joiner or loner.  
You are welcome here feeling a part of us or not,  
Full of energy or plain tired, seeking a vision or a rest.  
You are welcome to join us as you are.  
– Rev. Ray Drennan, Canadian Unitarian Council

#### **\*\*Joys and Concerns**

#### **Silent Meditation**

**Presentation:** “The Ethics of Assistance,” by Matt Tedesco.

#### **Discussion**

#### **Offering and Offertory**

#### **\*\*Introduction of Guests and Visitors**

**\*Hymn #292:** “If I Can Stop One Heart from Breaking”

#### **Closing Words:**

“Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness.”  
— Martin Luther King Jr.

#### **Greet Your Neighbor**

\*please stand as you are able.

\*\*please wait for the microphone before speaking; this allows those using the assistive listening devices to hear.

Today's tech assistant is Andy Garst.

### Announcements

This Sunday, Dec. 6, Susan Hagstrom will report to the **Humanist Union** on the Oct. 9-11 38th Annual National Convention of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, illustrated with photos by Ingrid Laas, the convention photographer. We will also open the floor to comments about the current holiday season. Program title: FFRF Convention Review/Holiday Discussion. We'll start with our usual potluck lunch at 11:45 am, program 12:15 to 1:15 pm. All are invited.

**Prairie Elders meets** in the Annex at 1:30 on December 22. This month we will be discussing the following. How do those with non-Christian, atheist or humanist beliefs feel at this time of year. Are your buttons being pushed? If you are over 65, or thereabouts, please join the Elders three days before Christmas for a stimulating social time and discussion. For more information, contact Al Nettleton or Penny Eiler. The first meeting in the new year will be January 26.

**Prairie Men's Group** meets tonight at 5:30pm to discuss past services. Please bring a dish to pass if convenient.

**The Book Club** will meet December 27 after the service to discuss Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande (non-fiction, 282 pages) (recommended by Pam Gates and Mary Frantz) His book is a personal meditation on how we can better live with age-related frailty, serious illness and approaching death. (New York Times Sunday Book Review)

#### **Prairie UU Society Bond of Union**

*We, the members of Prairie, wish to associate ourselves together in a religious community which affirms that we share a common humanity, that we need one another, and that our futures are inescapably bound together. Together we would expand our intellectual horizons, enrich our sensory experiences, and deepen our emotional sensitivities. We would sharpen our ethical awareness and broaden our sense of social responsibility. We would stand tall in our quest for integrity of life, yet not at others' expense. 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.*

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## Prairie Calendar

### **Saturday, December 12, 2015**

10:00 Build Your Own Theology

### **Sunday, December 13, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service – Never Forget – Newtown  
11:45 Board meets in the Annex

### **Monday, December 14, 2015**

6:00 Finance Committee Meets  
7:00 Program Committee Meets

### **Sunday, December 20, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service – Symbol Tree  
11:30 Cookie Sunday

### **Tuesday, December 22, 2015**

1:30 Prairie Elders meets

### **Sunday, December 27, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service – The Seven Principles as New Year Resolutions

### **Friday, January 1, 2016**

5:00 Board Game Night

### **Saturday, January 2, 2015**

5:00 Men's Shelter Breakfast  
9:00 Prairie WOW

### **Sunday, January 3, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service  
11:45 Humanist Union  
5:30 Men's Group

### **Sunday, January 10, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service  
11:45 Board meets

### **Monday, January 11, 2015**

6:00 Finance Committee meets in the Annex  
7:00 Program Committee meets in the Meeting Hall

### **Sunday, January 17, 2015**

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex  
10:00 Service – Symbol Tree  
11:30 Cookie Sunday

## **Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society**

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**Reverend Sandra Ingham**, Minister – 608-271-8218  
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**Dan Klock**, Congregational Administrator – 608-271-8218  
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**Holly Tellander**, DRE – 608-271-8218  
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**Gary Gates**, president, gig.gts@gmail.com

**Karen Deaton**, vice president, wisconsinkaren@gmail.com

**Bill Parmenter**, treasurer, treasurer@uuprairie.org

**Anne Urbanski**, board secretary, anneu53714@gmail.com

**Patty Stockdale**, finance chair, pstockdale@charter.net

**Phyllis Long**, denominational affairs, plong373@gmail.com

**Heidi Hughes and Erin Bosch**, membership co-chairs,  
hughesha@yahoo.com and hillfarms2002@yahoo.com

**Paula Pachciarz and Kent Wenger**, religious education co-chairs,  
pjpchz@gmail.com and kent\_alps@yahoo.com

**Jim Lyne and Randy Converse**, housing and property co-chairs,  
jwlyne@gmail.com and conversekrtrm@gmail.com

**Penny Eiler**, program chair, pennyeiler@gmail.com

**Aileen Nettleton**, caring committee, aanett@sbcglobal.net

**Molly Plunkett**, social action committee, plunkettma@gmail.com

**John (Veera Raju) Eliganti**, janitor, janitor@uuprairie.org

## **Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

## **Next week's service:**

“Never Forget – Newtown”

