

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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

**“Karen Armstrong's TED wish for the world,”
presented by Penny Eiler.**

December 11, 2011



Today's Order of Service

Prelude – “Solstice Carol,” by Jim Scott. Performed by the Prairie Choir, accompanied by Doleta Chapru.

Welcome and Announcements – Penny Eiler

Opening Words

***Hymn #318 (SLT):** “We Would Be One,” Aileen Nettleton, accompanist.

Chalice Lighting

Compassion will cure more sins than condemnation.
--Henry Ward Beecher

Silent Meditation

Story for All Ages

Singing the Children Out

****Joys and Concerns**

****Introduction of Guests and Visitors**

Presentation: “Karen Armstrong's TED wish for the world,” presented by Penny Eiler.

Discussion

Offering & Offertory – “Where There Is Light In the Soul,” by Elizabeth Alexander. Performed by the Prairie Choir, accompanied by Doleta Chapru.

***Hymn #402 (SLT):** “Let Freedom Span Both East and West,” Aileen Nettleton, accompanist.

Closing Words

The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.

--Thomas Merton

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.

Announcements

Green Note Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Replacing 10 frequently used bulbs can produce energy savings up to 750%, and can reduce CO₂ emissions by 4,000 pounds per year. Remember to recycle CFLs. Visit www.enactwi.org for a recycling location near you.

Fall Parish Meeting TODAY Agenda items include the Treasurer's report, questions on Committee and officer's reports, a Parish pole for the 2012-2016 Congregational Study/Action Issues, electing a new Ministerial Search Committee, and an update on the governance initiative.

Sign On as Chalice Lighters The Denominational Affairs Committee will be in the lobby seeking people to sign on as Chalice Lighters. Listen for an announcement during the service for an explanation of what being a Chalice Lighter entails.

The next Spanish Speakers Potluck will be held on Monday, December 12 at 6:30pm at the home of Marcia Johnson, 305 S. Segoe Rd. Please bring food if you can, but all are welcome! Call Marcia at 441-0271 for directions, or Rosemary Dorney at 238-4382 with any questions or to arrange a ride.

An all Prairie open mic cabaret will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 13th, at the Prairie Meeting House, to celebrate Doleta Chapru's and Phyllis Long's 75th birthdays. Mic time will be determined by the number of performers. Beverages and cake will be furnished, finger foods welcome, if convenient. Absolutely no gifts! (Cards, witticisms, poems, and recipes (sugar/flour free) okay.)

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

Sunday, December 11, 2011

8:45 Choir rehearsal
10:00 Service – "The Arab Spring—What It Means for Women," presented by Saideh Jamshidi.
11:15 Parish Meeting

Monday, December 12

6:30 Spanish Speakers Potluck at the home of Marcia Johnson
7:00 Prairie's Board meets.

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

7:00 Open Mic Cabaret for Doleta Chapru's 75th Birthday

Sunday, December 18, 2011

8:45 Choir rehearsal
10:00 Service – Intergenerational Service – Symbol Tree

Saturday, December 24, 2011

4:30 Christmas Eve service

Sunday, December 25, 2011

Christmas Day – No Service

Saturday, December 31, 2011

7:00 New Years Eve party

Sunday, January 1, 2011

10:00 Service – Jazz Funeral for the Old Year

Tuesday, January 3, 2011

1:30 Prairie Elders meets. Topic: Wisconsin water access, quality and ownership.

Sunday, January 8, 2011

10:00 Service
11:15 Congregational Meeting to review changes to Prairie's by-laws

Sunday, January 15, 2011

10:00 Service
11:45 Humanist Union meets

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Kate Liu, treasurer, kgliu311@gmail.com

Kathy Converse, finance chair, conversekr@m.com

Heidi Hughes and Erin Bosch, membership co-chairs,

hughesha@yahoo.com & hillfarms2002@yahoo.com

Robin Proud, religious education chair, derrproud@att.net

Dirk Herr-Hoyman, housing and property chair,

hoymand@gmail.com

Nick Abts, program chair, nicholas.abts@gmail.com

Aileen Nettleton, caring committee, aanett@sbcglobal.net

Al Nettleton, communications chair, aanett@sbcglobal.net

Pat Watkins and Nancy Schraufnagel, denominational affairs co-chairs, p.watkins@wisc.edu

Rachel Long, Long Range Planning, raarlong@gmail.com

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

Charter for Compassion

The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the centre of our world and put another there, and to honour the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others—even our enemies—is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have failed to live compassionately and that some have even increased the sum of human misery in the name of religion.

We therefore call upon all men and women ~ to restore compassion to the centre of morality and religion ~ to return to the ancient principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate ~ to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions, religions and cultures ~ to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity ~ to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings—even those regarded as enemies.

We urgently need to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principled determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down political, dogmatic, ideological and religious boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.

Next week's service:

Intergenerational program focusing on poverty and homelessness, with our annual symbol tree.

