

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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



The Symbol Tree

December 20, 2015

Today's Order of Service

Santa Lucia Procession: Amber Gordon as Santa Lucia

Play: "Year of the Cow," by Robin Proud's class

Guest at Your Table by Twrch House

Welcome and Announcements: Christina Klock

Opening Words: "The Shortest Day," by Susan Cooper

***Hymn (Insert):** "Winter Solstice" Aileen Nettleton, accompanist.

Chalice Lighting:

In the bleak and cold winter,
We gather ourselves in
To light the fire to warm our spirits,
To kindle the flame of love and hope.
– Cynthia Landrum

Silent Meditation

Symbol Tree Ceremony

Offering and Offertory: "Light One Little Candle," arranged by Len Thomas. Words and music by George Mysels and J. Maloy Roach. Performed by the Prairie Choir.

****Introduction of Guests and Visitors**

***Hymn (Insert):** "O Christmas Tree"

Closing Words:

Farewell, Darkness, you've served us well
You've brought peace and calmness with your sell
You've helped us regroup and regenerate, too
And for those reasons we honor you
The time has come, though, to say goodby
Farewell, Darkness! Go now! Fly!

Greet Your Neighbor over libations and holiday treats with a background of seasonal flute accompaniment by Heidi Hughes and Nancy Wunderlin.

*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 Al Nettleton.

Announcements

Prairie's Spring Service Auction will be Sunday morning March 6, 2016. Yes, Sunday morning! There will be a short service that morning and then we will move into the service auction. Please mark your calendars NOW with the date for this family-friendly and fun event!

Prairie Elders meet 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.

The Book Club will meet December 27 after the service to discuss Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande (nonfiction, 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)

Thank you to Randy Converse for selecting this year's symbol tree, Penny Eiler and Bill Parmenter for donating the use of their truck, and John Eliganti for setting up and decorating the tree.

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

Tuesday, December 22, 2015

1:30 Prairie Elders meets

Sunday, December 27, 2015

10:00 Service – The Seven Principles as New Year Resolutions

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 – All Sing Sunday

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

Saturday, January 16, 2015

10:00 Building Your Own Theology meets in Annex

Sunday, January 17, 2015

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex

10:00 Service

11:30 Soup Sunday

Sunday, January 24, 2015

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex

10:00 Service

Tuesday, January 26, 2015

1:30 Prairie Elders meets

Sunday, January 31, 2015

8:45 Choir rehearsal in the Annex

10:00 Service

Friday, February 5, 2015

6:00 Board Game Night

Saturday, February 6, 2015

9:00 PrairieWOW meets

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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 conversekrm@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:

“The Seven Principles as New Year Resolutions”

