

“Does Prairie Need a Minister?” by Rev. Matt Aspin

Order of Service

June 12, 2022

Prelude: #170 (SLT) “We Are a Gentle, Angry People” performed by Mary Mullen, Patty Stockdale, Paula Pachciarz, and Carl Wacker. Congregation is welcome to sing along.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Music: #131 (SLT) “Love Will Guide Us”

Chalice Lighting: “The Work of the Congregation,” by Chrystal Hogan.

We light this chalice to honor our work,
to celebrate our community,
and to bring hope and determination
to our mission in the wider world.

Story for All Ages

Children’s Recessional: by Joyce Poley.

As you go on your way, may you be filled with gladness.
Go in joy, go in joy!
May fortune bless your day with peace and loving
kindness.
Go in love, go in love.

Silent Meditation

Reading: “Reflection on the Sixth Principle,” by Rev. Sean Parker Dennison.

The sixth Principle seems extravagant in its hopefulness and improbable in its prospects. Can we continue to say we want ‘world community’? ‘Peace, liberty, and justice for all’? The world is full of genocide, abuse, terror, and war. What have we gotten ourselves into?

As naïve or impossible as the sixth Principle may seem, I’m not willing to give up on it. In the face of our culture’s apathy and fear, I want to imagine and help create a powerful vision of peace by peaceful means, liberty by liberatory means, justice by just means. I want us to believe—and to live as if we believe—that a world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all is possible. There is no guarantee that we will succeed, but I can assure you that we will improve ourselves and improve the world by trying.

Presentation: “Does Prairie Need a Minister?” by Rev. Matt Aspin.

Discussion

Offering and Offertory: Performed by Mary Frantz.

Closing Words: “Loving and Responsible Action,” by Robert F. Kaufmann.

We have come together to share our deepest concerns, speaking and singing words of inspiration and hope. We have committed ourselves to do what we can to ease the burdens of those who suffer, to stand for decency and compassion. We have pledged to work for a more wholesome environment for us and for all the generations that will follow.

But these are just words. The hymns we sing are just songs. All our reflections are just idle thoughts. When we convert them all into loving and responsible action throughout the week, then and only then will this morning become what we want it to be—a time of worship.

Closing Music: #1018 (STJ) “Come and Go with Me”

Joys/Concerns & Welcoming Guests/Visitors

Greet Your Neighbor

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.

Announcements

We are sharing our offering for this quarter with The Catalyst Project, a small community of up to three single moms and their young kids who have experienced homelessness. Catalyst offers collaborative problem-solving, trauma-informed mentoring, and client-specific therapeutic intervention. The Catalyst Project was founded on the belief that the wisdom of those grossly mistreated by our society and its discriminatory systems is essential to creating a society that serves all of its people.

Spiritual Exploration Group will meet on Thursday, June 16 at 1:00 p.m. This week's topic is "Gardening as a Spiritual Practice" led by Rev. Matt. No preparation or reading is required; it will be an opportunity to quiet our minds, share what's going on in our hearts, experience presence together, and deepen our sense of community. Please join us!

Advanced Dungeons and Dragons meets every Friday at 4:30 p.m. on Zoom. This group is open to anyone who has played DND and knows how to create a character. Regular attendance is encouraged to keep up with the current adventure. Contact Peggy Small to be connected with Dungeon Master Harlan.

It's not too late to sign up for UUA General Assembly! This year's GA will held in Portland, OR, and online, beginning on June 22 and ending on June 26. Our participation in GA enriches us personally and builds our congregational knowledge. Prairie has money in our budget to support our members who choose to attend, especially those who are willing to serve as delegates. Please let Dan Klock (admin@uuprairie.org) know if you are attending even if you are not making a request so that we can get attendees in touch with each other.

Prairie Board Officers and Staff

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
2010 Whenona Dr. Madison, WI 53711
608-271-8218 www.uuprairie.org

Rev. Matt Aspin, Minister

Rachel Long, President

Lynn Currie, Vice President

Suzanne Gernandt, Treasurer

Dan Proud, Secretary

Dan Klock, Congregational Administrator

Alice Mandt, Director of Religious Education

John (Raju) Eliganti, Custodian

Calendar

Thursday, June 16, 2022

1:00 Spiritual Exploration Group

Friday, June 17, 2022

4:30 Dungeons and Dragons

Sunday, June 19, 2022

10:00 Service

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

UUA GA begins (Portland, OR, and online)

Friday, June 24, 2022

4:30 Dungeons and Dragons

Saturday, June 25, 2022

10:00 Creativity and Connection

Sunday, June 26, 2022

10:00 a.m. Service

UUA GA ends

Thursday, June 30, 2022

1:00 Spiritual Exploration Group

Friday, July 1, 2022

4:30 Dungeons and Dragons

Saturday, July 2, 2022

10:00 PrairieWOW

Sunday, July 3, 2022

10:00 Service

Friday, July 8, 2022

4:30 Dungeons and Dragons

Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

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

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