



# Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter March, 2013 No. 8

## Forum

**Friday, April 5, 2013**

### **Immigration 101**

**Linda Clifford, Attorney  
Community Immigration  
Law Center, Madison**

**9:00 a.m. Gathering and Coffee**

**9:30 a.m. Welcome and Announcements**

**10:00 a.m. Program**

**Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
2019 Fisher Street, Madison 53713**

## April Forum

Our program is Immigration 101, which should be an excellent follow-up to our March World Day of Prayer, I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me. Our presenter is Linda Clifford, Attorney, making the presentation for the Community Immigration Law Center in Madison. The Center provides free basic immigration services to the public in Madison and surrounding areas. The presentation will give a basic overview of immigration law in the US, and discuss some of the most critical questions and issues faced by immigrant families today.

We will meet at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 2019 Fisher Street. Parking is available in the church parking lot on Baird Street, which runs behind the Fisher Street building. From South Park Street, turn on to Buick Street (next to Walgreen's) and follow that past Fisher and turn left on Baird. Entrance to the church is from the Baird Street side.

## World Day of Prayer

Some 40 people gathered at St. Luke's Episcopal Church for a worship service prepared by the women of France: I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me. Our first welcome of the day came from Mother Paula Harris, pastoral leader of St. Luke's. She introduced us to both St. Luke's and the path to ordination of women in the Anglican/Episcopal church, including the intrepid woman who took communion services into communist China from Hong Kong and thus earned her ordination from her bishop in the 1940's.

Paula Salmon led our preparations for the worship service, including two moving videos. One presented the realities of French culture (unwelcoming to strangers) and the ministry of French Christians (welcoming) as these women seek to live out Jesus' message in Matthew 25. The second video profiled the Lost Boys of the Sudan, a heart-breaking reminder of the resilience of people facing hatred, destruction and war. Our focus of worship: "The French World Day of Prayer committee looks for a Christian response to struggles concerning immigration and for ways to welcome 'the stranger.' World Day of Prayer USA also recognizes the need to express love to all God's people and to find creative ways to live at peace in an increasingly diverse society."

The program itself featured diverse French women telling us about themselves and where they came from. They represented the diversity of backgrounds and nationalities that make up the country of France. As enacted by various CWU members, we got a different look at this lovely part of Europe.

To enhance the French experience, Jenny Armstrong imported a singer fluent in French to sing verses and

read in that language. Sandra Stark and accompanist husband Bill provided just the right touch to the music, and the ecumenical choir joined in as well as the congregation. One song was particularly fitting. *Que l'Etranger* (God Makes Us Friends Who Once Were Strangers) consists of 7 verses. Verse 2, for example: God makes us friends who once were strangers, a family of humankind, God meets us everywhere we travel, in every spirit, face and mind.

We began our morning with croissants and preserves served by the deacons of St. Luke's, a wonderful accompaniment to the coffee and tea. We felt quite French. Thanks to St. Luke's for their warm reception of our gathering.

## **Ecumenical Action**

Learn to advocate for social justice--attend the People of Faith United for Justice Advocacy Day on Thursday, March 14. For more information, contact Gloria Carter, [carter53597@tds.net](mailto:carter53597@tds.net) ; 608-849-7589

## **Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups**

The CWAG District 1 Spring Meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2013, from 11:45 a.m. --4:00 p.m., in Milton, Wisconsin, at The Gathering Place, 715 Campus Street. This is also our meeting date, but those interested could get to the informational parts of the meeting. The agenda is included as a separate page of this newsletter. For information and/or to make reservations, contact Diane Wiedenbeck, 509 Southing Grange, Cottage Grove WI 53527 (609) 839-8588 [wdwieden@frontier.com](mailto:wdwieden@frontier.com)

## **Legislative Updates**

On February 28, the House of Representatives passed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which reauthorizes the landmark 1994 Violence Against Women Act. The Senate passed an identical version earlier. The bill is now ready for President Obama to sign into law. This legislation improves VAWA programs and strengthens protections for all victims of violence. It also includes the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. The TVPRA had expired, putting critical anti-trafficking initiatives at risk, such as support to law enforcement and services for survivors. Church Women United supported passage of VAWA in keeping with

our priorities to promote the health and well-being of all people and to end human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of all people

In Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Senate passed the controversial mining bill SB1. It is expected that the Wisconsin Assembly will pass the bill. If it does, the bill will likely end up in the courts. Opponents charge that the bill weakens environmental protections in order to facilitate Gogebic Taconite's proposed 20-mile open pit iron-ore mine in the Penokee Hills of northern Wisconsin. The company played a major role in writing the bill. In addition to environmental concerns, critics say the bill strips power from the DNR and lessens the power of citizen and community input in the permitting process. The Bad River and Red Cliff Bands of the Lake Superior Chippewas oppose the bill on environmental grounds and are fighting to protect Lake Superior, pointing out that everyone, not just native peoples, are affected by any threat to that resource. As Church Women United we care for God's creation. Our priority regarding environmental care states that we are to promote personal, communal, and governmental decisions that express care for all. Gloria Carter, Ecumenical Action ; 849-7589

## **Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal**

All singing women welcome. We practice at Bethany United Methodist Church, 3910 Mineral Point Road, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the third floor choir room. Practice dates are March 8 and 22, and April 12 and 26, 2013.

## **Other Opportunities**

Annual Lyons Lecture to be Held on Saturday, April 20th, at First United Methodist Church - Online Registration Is Now Open Dr. Pamela Eisenbaum, a noted Jewish scholar, will speak about her book, *Paul Was Not A Christian*. In special recognition of the 10th anniversary of this lecture series, Paul Lyons, the son of Rev. David and Judy Lyons, will give a special introduction to the series, prior to Dr. Eisenbaum's presentations.

For more information please visit <http://www.firstunitedmethodistmadison.org/annual-lyons-lecture/> or call the church at (608) 256-9061

## Prayer Convocation

The WMS The Acts of the Gospel Praying Women United of St. Paul's African Methodist Episcopal invites you to attend their 1st prayer convocation on April 6, 2013, at 11 a.m., hosted by the Rev. Dr. Celcia W. Bryant and Minnie Brown, Missionary.

## Mary Jean Bartholomew

The death of Mary Jean Bartholomew has saddened the members of Church Women United, as well as people in other organizations around Madison. We are thankful that Someone Who Pays Attention inspired us to honor her with the Valiant Woman award when we did -- at our Forum at Oakwood West, February 1, just two weeks before she died.

This was a beautiful ceremony, led by Linda Capriello, and was clearly enjoyed by Mary Jean. Many pictures were taken. We hope that all who knew and loved her will be able to see some of them. A few of us attended the visitation later, saw many more pictures -- as a little child, she already looked like the Mary Jean we knew, with her round cheeks and sweet smile.

Some time in April, date to be announced later, Westminster Presbyterian Church will have a service of celebration of Mary Jean's life and resurrection. When we know the date, it will be circulated among Church Women United, so all will have a chance to honor Mary Jean again.

---Shirley Robbins

## Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups

### CWAG District 1 Spring Meeting Agenda

Open to the public - Please bring a Friend

CWAG's mission is to improve the quality of life for people of all ages through: intergenerational understanding and leadership development, public education, legal and legislative advocacy and public policy development.

Date / Time: Friday, April 5, 2013; 11:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Place: The Gathering Place  
715 Campus Street  
Milton, WI 53563

#### Tentative Meeting Agenda:

11:45-12 noon Registration / lunch at noon

12:45-1:00 pm Welcome / Pledge of Allegiance / Introductions

Buzz Davis, CWAG District 1 Chair

Executive Director, The Gathering Place

Diane Wiedenbeck, CWAG District 1 Vice Chair

Pat Kallsen, CWAG District 1 Alternate

Ann Falconer, CWAG District 1 Secretary

Leigh Roberts, CWAG Governing Board Vice-Chair and Assistant Treasurer

Nino Amato, CWAG President/Executive Director

1:00-1:15 pm CWAG District 1 Business & Membership Meeting:

Call to Order – Buzz Davis

Roll Call – Buzz Davis/Ann Falconer

Approve Minutes from Fall District 1 Meeting – Ann Falconer

Report Out of Member Table's Questions

Election of Nominating Committee for District I Officers

2012-2014 Legislative Platform Update – Leigh Roberts

State of the State of CWAG – Nino Amato

1:15-1:45 pm Presentation on new Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)

- Joyce Lubben, Director, Rock County Council on Aging
- Jennifer Thompson, Manager, Long Term Support & ADRC, Rock County Human Services
- Fran Genter, Administrator, Adult Community Services, Dane County Human Services
- Questions & Answers

1:45-3:30 pm Legislative Listening Session with Rock County Area State Representatives:

“Senior Health Care Security Issues;” “Senior Financial Security Issues”; and other senior issues.

The following state representatives have been invited:

Rep. Janis Ringhand, D-Evansville D45, 608-266-1192 Rep.Ringhand@legis.wisconsin.gov

Rep. Debra Kolste, D-Janesville D44, 608-266-7503 Rep.Kolste@legis.wisconsin.gov

Rep. Andy Jorgensen, D-Ft. Atkinson D43, 888-534-0043 Rep.Jorgensen@legis.wisconsin.gov

Rep. SONDY POPE, D-Middleton D80, 608-266-3520 Rep.Pope@legis.wisconsin.gov

3:30-4:00 pm Q & A

4:00 pm Adjournment – Safe Travels