



Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter May, 2010 No. 10

May 28, 2010

**Church Women United
Board Meeting**

9:30 a.m.

May Planning Meeting
10:15 a.m.

Bethany United Methodist Church
3910 Mineral Point Road

**Inviting all board members, cord builders,
and members to contribute ideas for
programs, speakers, places to meet.**

**Bring a bag lunch and join in planning for
next year's forums.**

May Friendship Day

In spite of the weather, 55 people came to Bashford UMC for the annual meeting, spring luncheon and May Friendship Celebration. Living the Vision was the theme, and the service was particularly well written. Both men and women, and at least one young person took part in the day's activities. Our thanks to the ladies of Bashford for their hospitality.

Pastor Ed White welcomed us, Ann Sowaske conducted the business meeting. After the election of officers, Pastor White led the installation of officers. Officers for 2010-2011 are: President, Jacqueline Rodman; Vice President, Shirley Robbins; Secretary, Barbara Eggleston; Treasurer, Marleen Lippert; Ecumenical Action, Susan Becker; Ecumenical Celebrations, World Community Day--Shirley Stennis-Williams, Human Rights Day--Linda Caprariello, World Day of Prayer--Audrey Hinger, May Friendship Day--Ann Sowaske; Ecumenical Development, Shirley Stennis-Williams; Enabling Services, Shirley Alexander; Nominating Committee, Shirley Robbins; By-Laws, Donna Turner; Treasurer, Madison Ecumenical Center, Rita Honnold; Finance Committee, Marleen Lippert.

Following an excellent catered lunch during which we heard a presentation on Friendship Force, we returned to the sanctuary for our worship service. The Ecumenical Women's Choir provided special music, and everyone joined in building a wall that expressed our strengths from the past and our goals for the future. We received the celebration offering and the Fellowship of the Least Coin offering. You will find the list of projects funded by the 2009 offering on a separate page.

Great news!

We now have our own web site. Check out www.ChurchWomenUnited-Madison.net to see our new venture into the 21st century.

Cord Builders

Cord Builders had a meeting in the morning that left them enthusiastic about their roles in the work of Church Women United. They plan to meet again in September, and of course there is the Planning Meeting on May 28 at 10:15 a.m. at Bethany UMC, 3910 Mineral Point Road. All interested members are urged to attend. And check with your own churches to see if you can host a forum in the coming year.

Hygiene Kits

At the cord builders meeting before May Friendship Day, there was some discussion about the Hygiene Kits that we are to put together in our churches for Church World Service and bring them to Church Women United.

Here are the directions for the kits:

Each kit needs to contain only the following items:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- Six standard size Band-Aids®
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Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure, remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment.

Hygiene Kit value: \$10 Processing/Shipping Cost: \$2 per Kit Please collect \$2.00 for each kit to cover the shipping. Put all of the money together for all of the kits that you are collecting. **DO NOT PUT THE MONEY IN THE KIT BAGS.** You may put the money in an envelope or write a check to Church Women United and designate for the hygiene kits We will be taking all of the kits from Madison to the State CWU meeting in September. The State CWU hopes to collect 1000 kits. Thank you for mobilizing

this effort in your churches. These kits are so important. When the earthquake occurred in Haiti earlier this year, Church World Service was one of the first agencies to supply Hygiene kits, since they had a supply in their warehouse. The Hygiene kits can sometimes mean the difference between life and death in disasters.

Modern Day Slavery

The La Follete Institute of Public Affairs Spring Symposium on April 30 in Madison on Modern Day Slavery brought together a diverse group of people from campus, local community and out of town to listen to three panels which discussed the law, the research, the scope of the problem and what we can do. The keynote speaker, J. Benjamin Skinner, author of the book, *A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern-Day Slavery*, was awarded the 2009 Dayton Literary Peace Prize. Skinner, who grew up in Madison, is a Quaker. He is Carr Center for Human Rights Policy fellow at Harvard University and Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University senior fellow.

Skinner defines modern-day slaves as "those who are forced to work through fraud or threat of violence for no pay beyond subsistence." In his lecture he gave a moving account of his encounter with a 17-year old female who was dying of AIDS which she had, as a result of her being trafficked into slavery. Hers is only one of many stories of those who are slaves, either in the sex trade as children and adults, child soldier or in the labor trafficking.

If you would be interested in reading this book in a small group, please contact me. If you would like to borrow the DVD, "Fields of Hunan", a story of little girls in a brothel, you may also contact me. Let us keep these victims in prayer and then see if there is something that we can do here in our own backyard. Susan Becker, 231-1817, sbecker4@tds.net

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb to Be Here in June

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb is a Palestinian Arab and Christian pastor who ministers to his people in Bethlehem, where his family has lived for hundreds of years. He is also the author of *Bethlehem Besieged* (Fortress Press, 2004), and *I Am a Palestinian Christian* (Fortress Press, 1995). He is Pastor of the

Night of Flute & Voice Soliloquies

Friday April 30, 2010—7PM

First Baptist Church

518 N. Franklin Ave

4TH ANNUAL FLUTE CONCERT
FOR THE BENEFIT OF
CHINESE AIDS ORPHANS



An evening of flute music—solos, small ensembles and the
Madison Flute Choir. **Free Admission.** Free-Will Offering

University of Wisconsin-Madison
La Follette School of Public Affairs
Spring Symposium (Free & Open to the Public!)

Modern Day Slavery

A conference and keynote lecture on modern day slavery.
There are more slaves today than at any point in history.

Friday, April 30

Symposium: 8:45 A.M. – 4 P.M.
Social Science Building Room 8417
1180 Observatory Drive, Madison 53706

Symposium will include panels with topics such as:

- Overview of the broader issues of modern day slavery
- Scope of the problem of modern day slavery in Wisconsin
- Work being done in the field to combat modern day slavery

Keynote: E. Benjamin Skinner 4:30 P.M. – 6 P.M.
Microbial Sciences Room 1220 (Ebling Auditorium)
1550 Linden Drive, Madison, 53706



E. Benjamin Skinner, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy Fellow at Harvard, and Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University Senior Fellow. His book, *A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern Day Slavery*, was awarded the 2009 Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

Ben defines modern day slaves as "those who are forced to work through fraud or threat of violence for no pay beyond subsistence."

For a complete schedule, see our Web site at: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/publicservice/slavery>

Sponsored by the following units on campus: African Studies, Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies/Brazil Initiative, Global Studies, International Institute, La Follette School of Public Affairs, and the Wisconsin Center for World Affairs and the Global Economy

Also assisting are: Center for Southeast Asia, Center for International Business Education and Research, Department of History, Havens Center, Law School, Madison Committee of Foreign Relations, Political Science, School of Medicine & Population Health Sciences, Slave Free Madison, and Sociology

La Follette School of Public Affairs

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Christmas Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, director of the Diyar Consortium and president of Dar Al-Kalima College. The Southwest Association of the United Church of Christ maintains a partnership with The Christmas Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. This partnership supports the ministry of this church through prayer, awareness education, travel opportunities, and donations to the Bright Stars of Bethlehem. Bright Stars of Bethlehem is the United States organization that specifically supports the ministry of the Diyar Consortium. There are several opportunities to hear Mitri during the weekend of June 10-13, 2010.

Thursday, June 10
Green Lake Conference Center
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Pastor Mitri will be leading a workshop at the Wisconsin Conference UCC, "God's Promise in Today's World: A Palestinian Perspective." The cost of the workshop is \$50 and is open to everyone. For registration information call the Wisconsin conference UCC: 608-846-7880 or e-mail: thauge@wcuss.org.

Friday, June 11
Madison Club, Madison
5:00-6:30 p.m.

There will be a Bright Stars Benefit, hosted by Bright Stars of Bethlehem Representatives, Rev. Bonnie VanOverbeke and Nancy Baumgardner. Suggested donation for this event is \$50 per person. Contact Nancy Baumgardner 274-6211, nancybaumgardner@gmail.com RSVP by June 1.

Sunday, June 13
Christ Presbyterian Church
944 E. Gorham
3:00 p.m.

Christ Presbyterian Church will host a conversation with Mitri. Music will be provided by Bryan Sirchio and Joe Stenke. Watch for further information or contact Lindy Andersen. lindyanderson@tds.net.

For more information about any of these events, contact Nancy Baumgardner. For more information about Pastor Mitri's church and the ministries of the Christmas Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, visit <http://www.brightstarsbethlehem.org>

Luncheon to Benefit Domestic

Abuse Intervention Services

The third Annual Celebrate Independence! Luncheon to benefit Domestic Abuse Intervention Services on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, at the Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club. Tickets: \$45 per person. Make reservations by June 14, 2010. The keynote speaker is Olga Trujillo, an attorney who worked for the U.S. Department of Justice for 13 years. A survivor herself, she then started her own consulting business, child abuse, sexual assault, immigration and human trafficking issues. She is featured in the video A Survivor's Story. For more information call 608-251-1237. Or visit www.abuseintervention.org Susan Becker suggests that people interested in Human Trafficking may be meeting with the speaker after the luncheon.

The Women We Honor: June Forsyth