



Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter November, 2010 No. 4

**December Forum
Saturday, December 4, 2010**

**Songs by The Youth
Chorale of the Wisconsin
Children's Choir**

**History of the Choir
Susan Sarcker
Choir Board member**

9:00 a.m.

**Welcome, Refreshments
in Fellowship Hall**

10:00 a.m.

Program in the Chapel

Christ Presbyterian

944 E. Gorham Street, Madison 53703

World Communion Day 2010

This year's theme, *Building the Beloved Community*, provided a rich and meaningful service when we met at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1609 University Avenue. Starting with Leviticus 26: 1-6, 12, the ancient call for Israel to be holy, as God is holy, we responded with resolve to Be the Beloved Community. Our responses, read in unison, reflect the deep need and commitment required for our world. "It is You whom we worship, Lord, and You alone. In Your Beloved Community, we worship you." "We

will keep your festivals with gladness, Lord, and honor the places where the Beloved Community worships." "We will live by Your laws, Lord, giving love and justice, to all Your children, by being the Beloved Community, Your Beloved Community." "We will share Your bounty, Lord, with all your children--not spooned out as personal charity, but rich and unmeasured, as is Your generosity. We will BE the Beloved Community, Your Beloved Community." "We will live in the ways of peace, Lord, not as a quiet time between wars, but as a challenge to prevent wars, and violence, and retribution, by being the Beloved Community, Your Beloved Community."

Other readings from Jams 3: 13-18 led to examination of how we can respond to the needs of our community and world. We looked at concerns of education of our children, responses to homeless people, and to international injustices such as those inflicted on Somalia. Our plea: "Grant us courage to bring justice." Further along, our response: "We can speak our truth, hear with an open heart, share in most fears. We can pray, celebrate, write a letter, testify, encourage others, find allies, connect. We can build the beloved community together." Our closing blessing: "May we walk in the way of peace and justice, filling our life and our community with joy and celebration as we vision and live together in God's Beloved Community. Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God."

Our ecumenical choir provided inspiration in music, singing *A Song of Peace and Harmony*, *Blessed Are They*, and *A Friendly World*. The last piece is a composition of Margaret Steadman, a member of First Congregational and friend of the choir whose influence continues to outlive her earthly life. Thank you, Jenny Armstrong, for leading this continuing ministry.

Our thanks to Betsey Daniels, who led First Congregational in hosting our gathering. Some 25 people attended, including 2 men. And special thanks also to Susan Becker's crew of cord builders who provided refreshments after the program. The spread table looked like a banquet and led to a meaningful time of fellowship to complete our celebration of the Beloved Community.

December Forum

The December Forum will meet on Saturday, December 4, at 9 a.m. at Christ Presbyterian, 944 East Gorham Street, 53703. After welcome and refreshments in Fellowship Hall, we will move to the Chapel for a presentation of Songs by The Youth Chorale of the Wisconsin Children's Choir. Sue Sarcker, a Choir Board member, will speak to us on the choir's history. A good start to the holiday season.

ARC Book Project

This year Audrey Hinger is leading a different version of our Christmas gift project to the ARC houses. The aim is to give a meaningful book to each woman in these half-way houses that will help them as they get their lives back together. In addition, to give a cloth book to each of the children who live in the house that allows them to be with their mothers, and to give a record book for each mother of a child. You may send donations to Marleen Lippert, 6329 Scandia Lane, McFarland, WI 53558, or bring them to the December Forum.

Fair Share Contributions

Marleen Lippert reminds us that our fiscal year is now the calendar year and requests that fair share contributors get their contributions to her by the middle of December so that she can close the books by the end of December before our new fiscal year begins January 1. Our program year, basically September through May, somewhat obscures that. Be sure that your women's organization, outreach committee, or church treasurer gets a copy of the Fair Share and Donor Contribution Form for Church Women United of Madison that is in this newsletter. And thank everyone for their faithful support of Church Women United's programs and mission.

Ecumenical Choir

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. Upcoming practice dates are November 12 &

November 19, 2010. Please join in this opportunity to make beautiful music together.

Thanksgiving Hospitality Opportunity

As you know, Madison Friends of International Students, Inc. is a non-profit organization that offers friendship and assistance to international students, scholars, and their families. One of the ways we do this is through our Thanksgiving Hospitality program, which gives international students the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving Day with a local family. To make this possible, we rely on local families of all descriptions to host the students.

If you have room for an extra person or two around your Thanksgiving table, please consider hosting an international student. It's a wonderful way to share our Thanksgiving traditions and food with people from around the world. It also creates a memorable experience for them as well as for your own family.

To host a student or for more information, call the MFIS office at 263-4010 or send an email to: thanksgiving@mfismadison.org. Please respond by November 19, 2010.

Thank you!
MFIS

Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

Sunday, November 21--at Lakeview Lutheran,
4001 Mandrake Road (at the corner of Northport and Mandrake)

2:30 p.m. Gathering Music

3 p.m. Program followed by social sharing** of food

Keynote speaker - **Rohany Nayan**, UW-Madison, doctoral candidate in Literacy Studies, presenting *Come Ye Thankful*

Listen, learn, enjoy and share music, meditation, prayers, readings, and other sacred expressions of Thanksgiving from a variety of spiritual traditions and communities in the greater Madison area.

Sponsored by: Greater Madison Interreligious Association (GMIA)--visit www.madison.com/communities/GMIA

Bring canned goods or cash donation for Dane County food pantries; please** bring appetizer, des-

sert, finger foods to share. Free Child Care, birth through age 10.

Corrections and Changes to the CWU Directory:

Page 3: Marleen Lippert's e-mail address -- charter.net instead of verizon.net

Shirley Stennis-Williams' e-mail address -- .com instead of .net

Page 4: Strike most of the first line after Donna Turner's name, and substitute-- "as a member of the local U.N. Association, is our link to the U.N."

Page 5: Instead of No Board Meeting, the Board will meet on December 17, 2010.

Board meeting Jan. 21, not 28.

Page 6: February Forum at Glenwood Moravian (not Oakwood).

Board meeting Feb. 18, not 25.

Forum dates: March 6, May 6.

Page 13: St. Paul's United -- Cord Builder is Bennie White, not Earlie Donham; address and phone are Bennie's.

Christ Presbyterian -- Susan Becker's e-mail needs a 4: <sbecker4@tds.net>

Westminster Presbyterian -- Cord Builder: Mary Jean Bartholomew, (Oakwood Tower), 230-3002.

First Congregational Cord Builder -- Betsey Daniels, 301 S. Yellowstone #112 (05), 238-3932.

Bashford UMC -- Betterley (not Batterley).

Request: If you notice mistakes or know of changes made since the Directory came out, please notify Shirley Robbins and/or Barb Eggleston.