



Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter November, 2011 No 4.

December Forum

Ecumenical Housing Carla Fears, Executive Director December 2, 2011

9:00 am Gathering, 10:00 am Program
Meadow Grove Community
4815 Cottage Grove Road

December Forum

Our December Forum will meet in the morning of December 2, at Meadow Grove Community, 4815 Cottage Grove Road. We will begin with fellowship and announcements at 9 am. Carla Fears, Executive Director of Ecumenical Housing, will present our program on **Ecumenical Housing** beginning at 10 am.

Meadow Grove Community is located between a dental Clinic and Wildwood Medical Clinic, just beyond the Sentry grocery store.

World Community Day

We gathered on Sunday, November 6, at Bethany United Methodist Church to celebrate World Community Day, beginning with a time of fellowship and sharing. Pastor Brad Mather gave us a short history of Bethany, including the history of the church's site. Our Church Women United members from Bethany provided refreshments for our gathering of 35 member and friends.

The theme for this year's celebration was, and is, **Living Our Faith, Unlocking Action**, asking in song *What Does the Lord Require of You?* and answering

with a study of Matthew 23:23-28 and Micah 6:1-8. After a litany of forgiveness, we considered four questions:

- What did Jesus have in mind when he used the terms "gnats" and "camels"?
- Can you identify ways in which hypocrisy exists in our modern world culture?
- Are we like the scribes and Pharisees in our tithing?
- How and what do we tithe?
- In what ways are we concerned with justice, mercy, and faith?
- Do we make them part of conversation?

Our prayer of dedication: "O creator of all that is just in the world, use our gifts to bring enduring peace, economic justice, affordable healthcare and a clean environment. Amen"

The Ecumenical Choir sang *The Gift of Love* and *Blessed Are They*, adding to the other program music, *For the Healing of the Nations* and *We'll Pass Them On*, and the litany response to Psalm 37:1-11 of "Do justly, love mercy, walk humble with your God."

Directory Corrections

There is a new State President. Dorothy Wetterlin's term ended. New:
Barbara Brockman
206 W. Center St. #10
Norwalk, WI 54648
Cell: 608-633-9247

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 times: November 11, November 18.

Ecumenical Action

Ask local businesses to post "No Weapons" signs
Background: In response to the new "Guns in Public" bill, which went into effect this last week, Wisconsin Anti-Violence Efforts has launched a statewide campaign to urge businesses to post "No Weapons Allowed" signs to keep loaded, hidden guns out of our shops, restaurants, and other public places. In states that have passed legislation similar to Wisconsin's, up to [80% of businesses have responded](#) by banning weapons on their premises.

Take Action: At the December CWU Forum pick up *Safe Wisconsin* cards and *No Weapons Allowed* signs to bring to the places you shop, eat and socialize, and ask business owners to adopt a no-guns-allowed policy. In Madison Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice has a supply of "No Weapons Allowed" signs in their office, 122 State St., Office #405, call 608-250-9240 before coming over to pick up a sign.

Contact for more info: Heidi Rose, WAVE Educational Fund, 414-351-9283, wave@waveedfund.org

Women, Labor & Compassion

The Women's Issues Committee of the City of Madison is hosting a traveling art exhibition "Women, Labor and Compassion." The exhibition consists of 18 beautiful and thought-provoking paintings of female workers around the world, by artist Janet Essley:

These women are valued because they adapt easily to industrial discipline, are quiet, patient and dexterous. Each is willing to work 40, 60, 80 hours a week, often as the sole support of her family, at subsistence wages in even the poorest of countries. Each portrait is of an individual person whose hopes and dreams are as worthy as our own. She also dreams of the human right for work with dignity, under safe conditions, with the remuneration of a living wage. As we remember her hands on each piece of clothing that we wear, may we envision a new world that globalizes compassion.

ARC Book Project

We will be taking a monetary collection at the December Forum to provide new books for the mothers and children of ARC Houses as our Christmas gift to them.

United Nations Report

The UN supports international family planning to improve the health and livelihood of women and their families around the globe. The UN Foundation and Planned Parenthood helps to ensure that women across the globe have access to critical health services.

The UN Foundation was created in 1998 with Ted Turner's historic gift of one billion dollars to support UN causes and activities.

A survey conducted by the Public Opinion Strategies & Hart Research Assoc. shows strong support from 8 out of 10 Americans for the UN. The majority of Americans are opposed to proposed legislation in Congress that would cut US funding of the UN by 50%. It is important that we maintain an active role within the UN.

