



Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter October, 2010 No. 3

World Communion Day 2010

This year's theme is *Building the Beloved Community*. We will meet on Sunday, November 7, from 3-4 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1609 University Avenue (at Breese Terrace and across from Camp Randall Stadium). Refreshments after the program. Parking behind the church. Childcare may be arranged by calling 273-3738. Come and bring a friend to this annual ecumenical event.

October Forum

Immediately after the last newsletter arrived in your mailbox, we discovered that we had to move the meeting from Glenwood Moravian because of street construction. Everyone got busy with e-mails and telephones, but our communications are incomplete with these contact points. We changed to Oakwood West, the scheduled place for February (we'll go to Glenwood in February). We had 35 people find the forum, some directly, others going to Glenwood and then using our own web site to find out where we were. Good thing to know about.

www.churchwomenunited-madison.net

And special thanks to the following Cord Builders rallied to the changed schedule and supplied our refreshments: Crystal Betterley, Elma Metzoff, Marion Peterson, Ann Sowaske, and Shirley Robbins.

JoAnn Gruber, Chair of *SlaveFree Madison*, gave a video presentation on *Human Trafficking*, with good hand-outs to take home with us. Included in this newsletter are the sheet on library resources and the sheet on whom to contact if you suspect human trafficking.

A quick overview of what we learned. human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery that is both a global and a local problem. Human trafficking cases

have been reported in every state in the U.S. Human trafficking is the second criminal activity in the world with \$32 billion dollars in profit every year and is the fastest growing criminal enterprise.

Human trafficking is recruiting, harboring, obtaining or transporting a person by means of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation, commercial sex acts or labor exploitation. Child sex trafficking does not require the use of force, fraud or coercion to induce minor victims into commercial sex acts. Labor trafficking includes such things as involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Human trafficking is a crime under international, U.S., and Wisconsin law. The "Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children" is the main international law. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 is the main U.S. law. It has been reauthorized in 2003, 2005, and 2008. Wisconsin Act 116 is Wisconsin's law on trafficking and took effect in 2008.

The true number of trafficked victims is unknown and most numbers are estimate. 600,000-800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders every year. 14,500-17,500 victims are trafficked into the U.S. every year. 246 million children are forced into child labor worldwide. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. minor citizens are at risk for commercial sexual exploitation). Hundreds of thousands of U.S. minor citizens are at risk for commercial sexual exploitation. Women and girls account for 80% of the sex trafficked victims; 50% of victims are minors. Every 10 minutes a woman or child is trafficked in the U.S. A victim is trafficked in the world every 60 seconds. The present rate of child trafficking is 10 times higher than ALL the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in the 16th-18th century. 200 victims of trafficking have been identified in Wis-

consin, but only one case has been successfully prosecuted under federal law to date--additional cases are pending. Dane County has been identified as the source of both sex and labor trafficking.

It is important to dispel certain myths about trafficking. Trafficking is not smuggling or forced movement. Trafficking does not require transportation or border crossing, and does not only happen to immigrants or foreign nationals. Trafficking does not require physical force, physical abuse or physical restraint. The consent of the victim is considered irrelevant, as is payment.

Resources include

National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1-888-3737-888

Rescue & [Restore--www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking)

Polaris [Project--www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)

Wisconsin Coalition against Sexual [Assault--www.wcadv.org](http://www.wcadv.org)

Wisconsin Coalition against Domestic [Violence--www.wcadv.org](http://www.wcadv.org)

SlaveFree [Madison--www.slavefreemadison.org](http://www.slavefreemadison.org)

Joann included suggestions on how a community can get involved in solving the problem of human trafficking.

Educate yourself on the issue of human trafficking. **Learn** the warning signs or clues to human trafficking. **Donate** to or **volunteer** with local, national or global anti-trafficking organizations. **Become** conscious consumers. **Distribute** anti-human trafficking posters. **Spread the word**--tell your friends and neighbors about modern day slavery. **Keep** your ears and eyes on alert for signs of trafficking and alert police to suspicious circumstances. **Volunteer** with SlaveFree Madison or National HT Groups. **Advocate** for state funding through your elected representatives. **Advocate** for local attention to this issue and support for victims. **Support** community anti-human trafficking activities. **Invite** anti-human trafficking speakers to your neighborhood or community. **Host** a neighborhood or community anti-human trafficking event.

MEC Directory Ready

The 2010-2011 Directory of Madison Area Churches and Human Resources is out at last. This is the chief production of the Madison Ecumenical Center, originated by Church Women United and staffed by

CWU volunteers. Preparing the Directory each year is a huge task, but well worthwhile. Churches and agencies throughout our area find it invaluable.

Advance orders for the Directory have been filled and are being mailed or delivered by hand. If you believe that your church might need one of these Directories, please urge the pastor, secretary, or social ministries person to order one. The cost is \$10, plus \$2.75 for postage if not picked up. All churches should have received an order form some weeks ago -- on shocking-pink paper, easy to find among the papers on a desk. An order could be called in if that paper isn't found: Madison Ecumenical Center, 663-8450. Volunteers are only occasionally there, since the office is in Glenwood Moravian Church, currently hemmed in by street construction, but they will answer calls when they can.

---Questions? Call Shirley Robbins (233-3581) or Ann Sowaske (238-7903).

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 October 22, November 12, November 19, 2010. Please join in this opportunity to make beautiful music together.

DIRECTIONS

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Madison is a large brick building with prominent towers, and is bounded on three sides by N. Breese Terrace (the street that runs beside Camp Randall Stadium), University Avenue, and Lathrop Street. The Church has three small parking lots on Lathrop St., and there is street parking available on Sunday afternoon on both Breese Terrace and Lathrop St.

Since the Church chapel where we are celebrating World Community Day is on the Lathrop St. side of the building, it might be best to approach the Church from University Avenue (this section is usually called "Old University Ave."), and turn onto Lathrop St. If coming from the west, this is a right turn; if coming from the east, a left turn.

If possible, please consult the First Congregational Church Madison website at <http://firstcongmadison.org/mappark.htm>, where good directions and a map of available parking is posted.

Car-pooling, of course, is recommended!