



Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

C.W.U. Newsletter September, 2014 No. 2

October Forum Friday, October 3, 2014 Diabetes and Pharmacy

Dr. Eva M. Vivian
Associate Professor of Pharmacy,
University of Wisconsin

9:00 am Gathering and Coffee
9:30 am Welcome and announcements
10:00 am Program

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
2019 Fisher Street, Madison

October Forum

We will gather at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 2019 Fisher Street, for our October forum on ***Diabetes and Pharmacy***. Our speaker is Dr. Eva M. Vivian, Associate Professor of Pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin--Madison. Diabetes is a daunting disease that is a key concern in Madison right now. It affects all ages and ethnic groups, and understanding it should help us pursue healthier choices for adults and children. Healthy eating and simple exercise make a world of difference. Pharmacy is another whole world of questions, changes, new discoveries, and complications as we deal with illness and our changing bodies. Bring your questions and come for an informative morning discussion.

September Forum

The group gathered at St. Joseph Catholic Church, though small in number, gained greater insight into troubled lives and the impact we can have on them. We welcomed Felicia Jones, whose message of *Extending Grace* gave inspiration to us all. Felicia will celebrate 7 years of being sober on September 12. Coming from a solid background, loving family, steady life, she never

expected that drugs and alcohol would take away everything she valued. She suffered, she struggled, but it took the ministering of the people of ARC houses, church people, including church ladies, to give her the chance and the possibility to succeed.

And succeed she did. She took part in the Odyssey Project, where she found her poetic voice, and she turned to Madison College for the knowledge to prepare her to help women with addiction. She served on an advisory board and attained Phi Beta Kappa. She now spends much time mentoring at ARC, supporting Odyssey projects, and serving her church and community.

The books she found at ARC house, especially the books given to her, played a major roll in her recovery. She was reading them, three at a time, with an insatiable appetite to learn, to grow, to become the woman she was meant to be. She wrote love poems to God, and at Odyssey her graduation speech was a poem. Poems to her church, to celebrate Christmas, Easter, the early morning.

And from the gift books, she recorded the Bible verses that inspired their authors, keeping a record of all of them. Some of her favorites--
Rev. 21:4; Rom. 4:18; Heb 11:1; Jer. 29:11; Ps 5:1-2, 10-12, 34:4; Pro. 3:1-6.

The words that sustain her. *Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

Which brings us to our book project.

Books and the ARC Project

ARC is not an acronym. It is a symbol like the ARC of a rainbow or a protective shelter for a woman moving from an old life to a new life.

After the stimulating talk from a past ARC program participant and current advocate for women needing a protected "treatment" program, we are all fired up to begin our book search for 2014. The earlier we collect our *money for books* for the ARC women and their children (not all have children), the better selections we find. Some women may have thought that the key

woman is asked to donate personally all of the funds needed for books . The answer is NO! She may contribute, of course, but should ask others from her church to help with the project. (One project worker receives a gift for the fund from a friend.)

We don't give used books on the advice of a professional librarian (librarian teacher). She believes it will mean more if the book is new and intended for the recipient. After a number of years of experience, we believe she was right. We ask the women for suggestions as to what they would like to read and what books their children might like.

Thus we humbly ask that those who can give anything --change of any amount, dollar bills, whatever you can. Some have given \$5 or \$10, a few \$20 or \$25. We are grateful for each gift which goes into the Church Women United Book Fund. If you would prefer to give by check, make the check out to Church Women United, (check notation should say ARC Book Project). You may mail it to our CWU treasurer, Marleen Lippert, 6329 Scandia Lane, McFarland, WI 53558. There is also the option of putting money or checks in a designated container at the October forum on October 3 at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

With thanks for all you can do, Audrey Hinger.

Ecumenical Action

Ecumenical action takes a very active turn this fall. Note that September is Hunger Action Month and turning orange is recommended. And the Wisconsin Council of Churches is making combating poverty an issue. The poster for the Poverty Summit is included in this issue.

5K run/walk to end Human Trafficking:

Madison, October 18, starting at Vilas Park Zoo, sponsored by the Aruna Project. The Aruna Project fights for women enslaved in human trafficking in India by hosting 5k races and other events.

Aruna is a Hindi word meaning 'bright morning sun.' The Aruna Project is working to end commercial sexual exploitation by bringing freedom and restoration to the many women and children sold into the trade. Help bring hope by participating in the Aruna 5k race in Madison. Run for their freedom! The Madison walk will also connect participants with local groups that are working to end sex trafficking locally. For details: Alex Pence, 608-354-7175 More info: www.ArunaProject.com Direct link to register: <http://bit.ly/MadisonAruna5K> Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MadisonAruna5k>

Please spread the word!

CROP Hunger Walk

The annual CROP HUNGER WALK, sponsored by Church World Service, will take place on Sunday, October 19, with registration at 12:45 p.m. and the walk beginning at 1:30 p.m., starting at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1609 University Avenue. Money raised will go to help hungry people in the U.S. and around the world. Church World Service works with churches wherever there is a need.

Many local church groups get together teams of people to walk in the CROP WALK. It is a great community building effort. People can raise money from their friends, families, businesses, employers and co-workers either in person or online at crop-walk.org. If your church does not have a recruiter to spearhead the effort in your congregation, talk to your pastor. Contact for local information is Jeff Rabe at [Jeff Rabe](mailto:jrabe@firstcongmadison.org) jrabe@firstcongmadison.org 608-233-9751

Introducing the New CWS Field Director

I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Cheryl Schindler and I'm the new CWS Assistant Field Director for the Winn-Kota Region. I will be working with CROP Hunger Walk (CHW) Partners in your area. This covers the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and South Dakota. I look forward to speaking with all of you by phone and then I'd like to meet you in person in the near future. I'm truly looking forward to working with all of you in the fight against hunger and poverty.

Recently I served at Solid Ground in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. Solid Ground is a transitional and supportive housing program for homeless and low-income families. Everyone deserves a hand up and no one should have to live in poverty as there is enough for all we just need to learn to work together. My position at Solid Ground was volunteer program manager and child care supervisor. There I was fortunate to grow our volunteer team from 320 people to over 1,000 with God's help. I wanted to work for Church World Service (CWS) because in this organization I'm able to give God all the glory for the amazing partners he puts in our paths to help make a better world for all people everywhere! Hopefully I can help Solid Ground on a larger scale now with the partner allocation program and at the same time work for those hurting around our world. Together we can all "end hunger one step at a time!"

I look forward to hearing your ideas on what works and what doesn't in regard to CHW. I will do my best to help you make your CHW succeed. What I do know is, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Phil. 4:13)" What I don't know I'll find the answers to and get back to you. I would be amiss if I didn't thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the challenging and life changing work you're all doing on behalf of CWS! Thanks for sharing your servant hearts and touching so many lives on your journey! I look forward to walking alongside you.

If you have any questions, concerns, or urgent needs in regard to your CHW please contact me. I'll get back to you in a timely manner. You can contact me on my cell phone at 651-245-8876 or by e-mail at cschindler@cwsglobal.org. Please feel free to e-mail and tell me about your CHW and what stage you're currently in. If you could let me know when your next meeting is I'll try hard to attend if my current calendar does not pose a conflict. I look forward to meeting you and serving with you as a sister in faith.
Cheryl Schindler

Assistant Field Director of the Winn-Kota Region,
CW

Fall Lectionary Reflections from WCC Peace and Justice Commission

Once again the Wisconsin Council of Churches Peace and Justice Commission is issuing its set of lectionary reflections for this fall. The brief reflections offer commentary on one or more of the lectionary readings for each Sunday, and include a contemporary illustration. These reflections serve as a springboard for sermon preparation and/or a lectionary-based Bible study. The reflections begin with Labor Day weekend and continue through Christ the King Sunday.

Download the Fall, 2014 Lectionary Reflections or contact the Wisconsin Council of Churches, 750 Windsor St. #301

Voices for Peace and Justice in the Holy Land

On November 7-8, the local Sabeel group (an ecumenical peace and justice organization based in Jerusalem) will have a regional conference entitled

Voices for Peace and Justice in the Holy Land at the Pyle Center, 702 Langdon Street, Madison. The purpose of the Conference is to hear the stories and perspectives of Christian, Muslim, Jewish, and secular writers and activists concerned with peace and justice in Palestine/Israel and to encourage participants to learn ways they can work for justice and peace here in the United States. This event begins with registration at noon on Friday and goes through 5:00 Saturday afternoon. There will be plenaries and workshops throughout the day. On Friday evening there will be a Palestinian dinner and cultural program of poetry and Debke folk dancing. The cost of this event is \$85 (full) or \$50 (for one day). Bright Stars of Bethlehem, our Southwest UCC Partnership organization, as well as several local UCC churches are sponsoring organizations. For more information, contact Bonnie Van Overbeke (bonnievano@aol.com) or go to the conference website at <https://fosnamadisonconference2014.wordpress.com>

Message from Gloria Carter

Hello faithful women!

For those who like having the electronic links. Please pass along this information about the issue of poverty. It describes three ways you and your church can be involved in this issue:

1. Sign on to the "Faithful Citizenship" statement.
2. Participate in the Poverty Summit Tuesday, Sept. 30, 1-4 pm, at First United Methodist Church, 203 Wisconsin Ave.
3. Download the Congregational Toolkit to equip your congregation to host a candidates forum and register voters in a non-partisan way.

Blessings,
Gloria Carter

Ecumenical Choir

It is time to start our Ecumenical Choir Practices again for this season. We will start in October and practice on: October 10; October 24; November 21 from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 P.M. at Bethany United Methodist Church, 3900 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53705. We will practice in the 3rd Floor Choir Room. We will plan to sing for the Programs on November 7th and December 5th. I hope you are all in "good voice" and ready to have some fun and fellowship singing.

I look forward to seeing you in October.
Jenny Armstrong

MEC Directory

The new Madison Area Religious and Human Resources Directory 2014 is back from the printer and is available at the MEC office. Its cost is \$10. The MEC office is located at 725 Gilmore Street, Madison 53711-1818. Phone, 608-663-8450. It will be available at all forums and celebrations.

Mt. Zion Women's Day

The Mt. Zion Women's Ministry cordially invites you to their Annual Women's Day on September 21, 2014, at 8 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. worship services at Mount Zion Baptist Church, 2019 Fisher St. in Madison. The speaker will be Rev. Judith Lester of New Covenant Baptist Church in Milwaukee.

100 Year Celebration!

St. Paul's African American Episcopal Church, 4525 Diamond Drive, is celebrating its 100th anniversary September 18, 19, and 20.