

Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

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C.W.U. Newsletter September 2018 No.2

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October Forum

October 5, 2018

**Restorative Justice
in Wisconsin**

***Peg Wallace
Volunteer,
Prison Ministry***

9:00 am Refreshment & Fellowship
9:30 am Welcome and Announcements
10:00 am Program

**Oakwood University Woods
6225 Mineral Point Road, Madison**

October 5 Forum

Our October forum will be at Oakwood University Woods, in the Oaks Community Room at 6225 Mineral Point Road. The Oaks is the building closest to the wooded area. Take Mineral Point Road to Island Drive. Turn south into The Oakwood campus. Take your first right. The Oaks is the four-story building at the end. Park in any place on the way.

Our program is ***Restorative Justice in Wisconsin***. Our speaker is Peg Wallace. She retired from being an associate director of Wisconsin Humane Council and has been a volunteer at the prison ministry program for 10 years.

This program was started 11 years ago by Rev. Jerry Hancock from First Congregational Church (UCC). Currently it is in 3 prisons. Peg goes to the Fox Lake prison and Wisconsin resource centers in New Lisbon and Madison. She will tell us what restorative justice means, as many people do not know anything about it.

September Forum

Bashford United Methodist welcomed us to our fall opening meeting with fellowship and delicious treats prepared by the United Methodist Women. Rohna Estock welcomed us on behalf of Bashford.

Our business meeting began with the installation of officers and a reminder that we are now on the calendar year instead of the school year as far as official business is concerned. Programs will still follow the school year. We won't be having programs in the summer.

Marlene Lippert, our treasurer, reported that our finances have improved because we are sending this newsletter mostly by email. It is still available for those who need it by regular mail, but this saves a lot of money. We also cancelled our insurance policy for the office at Glenwood Moravian because we didn't need it anymore. We're still at Glenwood, but now we have access to a handicapped entrance and don't have to use the stairs. Glenwood covers our office, but the stairs required us to do a supplemental policy.

Marleen noted that, in addition to donations to national CWU programs and projects, we give to four Wisconsin groups: our state CWU, The Road Home, the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, and Worker Justice Wisconsin, and ARC for their GED programs.

Lynn McDonald, our Ecumenical Action Chair, reported that we are sponsors of End Child Poverty, a new initiative. The quadrennial priorities for National are discussed on page two of our local directory, which is ready and available. Be sure to pick one up at our next meeting.

These goals are 1) Human Rights, Focus: Child Education Awareness;
2) Hunger and Poverty, Focus: Childhood Hunger;
3) Health and Wellness, Focus: Women's Health—Heart Disease;
4) Diversity and Inclusiveness, Focus: Ethnic Equality and Cultural Inclusion. In the fourth goal, we are affiliated with MOSES, and with Wisdom, Milwaukee.

We received invitations to upcoming events. They are listed following discussion of our September program.

Wisconsin League of Conservation

Our speaker was Jennifer Gieglich, in place of Seth Hoffmeister. Jennifer is Government Affairs Director of Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters. They are active in Madison, Eau Claire, Milwaukee, Green Bay. This organization aims to bring 100's of organizations together to make our leaders do good things for the world. They want to pull all groups across the spectrum to work on conservation issues.

There's a lot happening. Volunteer groups around the state are reaching out to decision makers who want to know what to do. What are things we can do? We need to set priorities, and go to sessions on legislation which are at 9 locations and listen. Go to the legislature and make your presence known. Talk about the issues. Being in the capital is important. Review every bill that's proposed. Thousands are proposed, about 100 get acted on. Conservation vote tracker. Check on water bills.

Ask your legislators to act, thank them when they do, or let them know you disagree. The league wants to make people as effective as possible.

Top issues. Drinking water. Lead contamination in Flint, Michigan was big news. We have places in Wisconsin that have more lead than Flint. Seventy-eight communities have lead pipes, such as Lake Mills.

Last session, the League worked on repealing a 1907 bill that blocked use of public money on private land. It stopped communities from helping. The League worked to get people and groups involved. They flushed out lobbyists. Got the bill passed.

Questions? Do signatures on petitions help? Absolutely does! Let know you care. Know organizations that send them.

Important that you call your legislator's office as a follow-up. Go to this site, conservationvoters.org

You can sign up here, get notice of when to contact. They do endorse candidates. They are for Tony Evers. He was a science teacher. They have documented Walker's action and inaction.

Relationship to the DNR is important. Ask members to weigh in to testify to concerns on water. The DNR and DOT have a relationship. The DNR changed law that demanded compensation for wetland destruction. Now a southern destruction can put comparable wetland in northern Wisconsin.

How active do we want to be in changing state law? They've worked on diseases from mosquitos. What laws are on that? People are looking at this (spraying, etc.) Lyme disease, West Nile virus, Zika. Glaciers are melting, animals long dead are releasing diseases we've here encountered before. Can local governing bodies do something?

Wisconsin has strong local control. Good for dealing with emerging problems. There is an aggressive effort to prevent local control. Groups are trying to keep local control hogtied.

1. Took away county government control of shorelines.
2. Dane County could not have stronger standards.
3. DNR scientists let go. Climate change a part of that.
4. Also cancelled divisions and departments

We need to reestablish these.

When the legislature is in session, the League works with 60—100 conservation organizations. They do organizing, set up meetings, have luncheons which are open to all and free. They will pick a day early in the legislative session, in February or March. Do you partner with religious group? Yes. Wisconsin Council of Churches. Collaboration with People of Faith United for Justice. They have morning training at Monona Terrace and then go to the capitol to meet with legislators. We concluded with applause for our speaker.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Get Out the Vote!

Voter Education Ambassador Training and Volunteer Fair, Sunday, September 16, 2018, at 12:30 pm, First Unitarian Society of Madison, 900 University Drive, with special guests Maribeth Witzel-Behl, City of Madison Clerk and Dane County Voter ID Coalition. Sponsored by First Unitarian Society of Madison, Ecumenical Peace Working Group, MOSES (Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity), WI Council of Churches, WI Faith Voices for Justice, WI Network for Peace, Justice & Sustainability.

Music On the Lawn

Jazz performance by Chance Allies in support of the Madison Area Jail Ministry, Saturday, September 29, 2018, 4—6 pm, rain or

shine. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4100 Nakoma Road, Madison, WI 53711. \$10 suggested donation. Food Carts and Just Bakery will offer great food options.

Demystifying Muslims and Islam

Union South, 1308 W. Dayton Street, Madison, Varsity Hall (2nd Floor), Sunday, October 7, 2018, 1:30—3:30 pm. Open to Public.

Door Opens 1 pm. Hosted by Muslim Women United for Peace, and We Are Many United Against Hate.

Speaker, Dalia Mogahed, Muslim studies scholar, TED speaker.

Free parking at Lot 17, 1525 Engineering Drive.

Dalia Mogahed, a former resident of Madison, graduate of West High and with an undergraduate degree from UW Madison, will be the keynote speaker at an event in the Varsity Hall at Union South on Sunday, October 7, beginning at 1:30. Doors will open at 1:00.

Dalia is the Director of Research at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, where she leads the organization's pioneering research and thought leadership programs on American Muslims.

President Barack Obama appointed her to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships in 2009. She was invited to testify before the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations about U.S. engagement with Muslim communities.

Her 2016 TED talk was named one of the top TED talks that year.

Agenda Moderator: Sarah Schlosser, Leadership Development Professional and Muslim Community Advocate.

1:30 Welcome, Masood Akhtar, Founder,
We are Many—United Against Hate;

1:40 National News Coverage, Muslim Father Forgives Son's Murders;

1:45 Demystifying Muslims and Islam,
Dalia Magahed, Director of Research,
Institute for Social Policy and Understanding.

Sponsors: UW-Madison Morgridge Center for Public Service,
Office of Dane County District Attorney, Madinah Academy of Madison,
Islamic Center of East Madison, Masjid U-Sunnah,
WISC-TV3, Madison Magazine

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FOR CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF MADISON

Please Note: These contributions will be used for the general operating expenses of CWU of Madison, as well as for the Celebration materials, choir music, annual donations to selected community social services, and annual contribution to Church Women United of Wisconsin. GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES include, in part, the office rent, insurance, and the cost of producing and mailing the CWU newsletter, and miscellaneous supplies need throughout the year.

Please send in contributions by November 30 of each year. Our financial year ends on December 31 of each year.

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Please make your check(s) payable to: Church Women of Madison and send to:

Marleen S. Lippert, Treasurer, CWU of Madison
6329 Scandia Lane
McFarland, WI 53558

Thank you for your financial assistance in carrying out the various projects of CWU. Your contributions are sincerely appreciated.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF MADISON WI INC
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED