

**Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin**

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**C.W.U. Newsletter    February 2021    No. 2**

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[www.churchwomenunited-madison.net](http://www.churchwomenunited-madison.net)

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**March 5, 2021**

**10:00 am**

**World Day of Prayer**

**Build on a Strong  
Foundation**

**via Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7709641470>

**Meeting ID: 770 964 1470**



**World Day of Prayer 2021** is Friday, March 5th. The theme is ***Build on a Strong Foundation***.

World Day of Prayer takes place internationally on the first Friday of March every year. Through the worship service this year, we hear the voices of the Vanuatu women, who invite us to focus on the Bible story in Matthew 7:24-27. Jesus tells a story about the kingdom of heaven using the image of a house and the land on which the house is built. Choosing the land on which to build the house is an important decision for people in Vanuatu. The combination of considering the terrain and the climate is crucial in a tropical archipelago located in the South Pacific Ocean prone to earthquakes, cyclones, volcanic eruptions and rising sea levels.

Join us virtually at 10:00 a.m. on the Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7709641470>

**Meeting ID: 770 964 1470**

## **Kindness during COVID**

CWU-Madison met via Zoom on Friday, February 5, to discuss our experiences with kindness during this time of separation, isolation, and illness.

Gloria Carter opened with prayer for our discussion of kindness using the Women's Common English Bible. God's kindness. Kindness is a choice which gives God's grace through us. Prayer, Jesus's image, a sacred community for the world.

Lynn McDonald invited us to share stories from our Covid months of kindnesses, big or little. We compiled quite a list.

- Receiving gifts for a couple of acts of kindness. For women and men who can't drive, bringing groceries. Making soup and sharing it. Kindness in the building in retirement centers. After a snowstorm, men from the city snowplowing driveway of 92-year-old.
- New people in the neighborhood, took a cake over. They are Moslem from Morocco. Christmas eve, the neighbor lady came over to tell them that she was bringing them a Christmas dinner the next day, because she knew how much they would miss their usual family meal.
- Groups that we belong to really help. Neighbors, church, embroidery guild. First snowfall, three young girls shoveling for her.
- Gifts received—flowers, cinnamon buns. This spreads to others.
- Family events. A youngest granddaughter who started a book club online. Read a chapter a day. Watch a movie and share.
- Stores that let you order by phone, pick up at the curb. Squirrels in the attic, at least three, had a reunion. Middle school students who bring the mail, the paper, to the door and take out the trash.
- Phone calls from all over—church friends, son, brother, checking to make sure she has what she needs. Indeed, just hearing voices is a blessing. People remember, call.
- Sharing with friends the snowplowing and shoveling and getting together every week.
- Bananas reduce stress. Avocados are also good for this.

- Having pictures of loved ones around reduces stress. They've tested this with sheep, who responded with less stress. Voices on the phone bring us memories of good times. And don't just talk on the phone. Sing on the phone, to them, with them. Play word games on the phone. Playing music is also stress-relieving.
- Loving connections are food, music, being together, encouraging grandchildren.
- Kindness from our children is a big factor. A son moved into his mother's condominium building and has been very helpful to her, and even drove her friend to urgent care.
- Mt. Zion reports that the choir is using Zoom to connect for choir rehearsal. They go around, sing the line, and play games at the end.
- Grandchildren are such a blessing. One member sent 5 calendars to each one, put in names and birthday information. Talked about events, asked questions about holidays via phone.
- Giving something. If you give something, they give back. A chain of kindness. Think about how people made you feel. Love makes us feel special. People who got kindness passed it on, transcending racism, Covid, isolation.
- Helpful Information. If you have a note from your doctor, Madison garbage department will come up to the garage and handle the trash cans for you. There's a form to take to the doctor's office to back up your request for this service.

Gloria provided a closing thought. Find something that brings you joy. Mariam Moore's sister picked a tambourine. Now we have tambourines ready. With the pile up of stresses from Covid, climate change, other worries, health problems, we need social support, hope, reaching out, giving back.

### **Meeting Injustice Through Relationship** - Sunday, March 21 at 2 pm

Over the past year, the events of the world have clarified - yet again - the violence of our society's racist systems. The effects of this oppression cannot be ignored when considering the systemic injustices of homelessness, and the trauma that tends to precede and follow it. Susan and Anna Donahoe started the Catalyst Project to invite a community of mutual support for single mother families and their young children who are experiencing homelessness. This community, based on the inherent dignity of all members, seeks to meet mothers in a way that reflects and upholds the mother's wisdom and choice. Catalyst Project is founded upon the belief that creating a society that equitably serves all of its people requires the wisdom of those grossly mistreated by our society. Anna states that "Catalyst Project is about more than addressing homelessness and early brain development. We have come to find that at its core, Catalyst Project is about the process of mutual healing through relationship."

Join us to hear Susan and Anna tell the Catalyst Project story and respond to your questions.

The program announcement can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/FBC3212021>. This program will be accessible via Zoom and the FBC Facebook page. **Please register to receive the Zoom connection information.**

This program is co-hosted by First Baptist Church-Madison and Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice.

**Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women invites all women to join us for our Mission Action Day by Zoom on April 10, 2021, 9:00 to noon.**

The theme is Maternal Health and Racial Equity. Dr. Kathy D. Hartke, Co-Chair Wisconsin Maternal Mortality Review Team, will speak on Racial Equity in the Wisconsin Health Care System. Marti Gobel, mother, teaching artist, director and actor, will speak on Being Black in Wisconsin. For more information and registration form, please visit the Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women website: <http://www.wisconsinumw.org/>

**Job Announcement for  
Outreach Development Coordinator**

The Board of the Triangle Community Ministry is seeking a self-motivated, creative and organized individual to fill a part-time (approximately 25-28 hours per week) Outreach Development Coordinator position. The annual salary for this position is \$30,000.

This position requires a person with a desire to serve people who is self-motivated and has a strong work ethic. Strong written and oral communications skills are needed. An awareness of faith-based practice is beneficial.

For more information about the position and how to apply, please send an email to: [triangleministry2020@gmail.com](mailto:triangleministry2020@gmail.com)

**Announcing the 2020-2022 Madison Area Religious and Human Resources Directory.**

The Directory has a new look. It is now 8 1/2 by 11 size sheets, so the print is a little larger, and for future editions we will be able to send inserts for the updated copy. There are about 300 faith communities listed and 300 human resource agencies, as well as special listings for Emergency Community Resources for Food, Shelter and Clothing; an Emergency/Hotline/Crisis-Stress/Information Chart; and a page on End of Life Services. Any Questions, phone Ruth Hein-Church Women United and Madison Ecumenical Center Outreach at 608-347-4724.

**2020/2022 RELIGIOUS & HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORY ORDER FORM**

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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, and the cost of producing and mailing the CWU newsletter, and miscellaneous supplies needed 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.

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