

Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

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C.W.U. NEWSLETTER August 2021 No. 4

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www.churchwomenunited-madison.net

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**September 10, 2021
ANNUAL MEETING
& BOOK DISCUSSION**

Via ZOOM

Forgiveness is a Choice

by Dr. Robert Enright

9:30-11:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86990413150?pwd=cldsM0dPZk1mSFdTRDZSZ09hOWphZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 9041 3150

Passcode: 105876

Dial by your location
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September 10 Meeting Welcome back!

Thanks to Zoom, we can have our monthly meetings of Church Women United—Madison. After a summer break, we are resuming our fall activities with our Annual Meeting on September 10. Please join us as we conduct our annual business meeting, including the important business of the election of the 2022 board and approval of the annual financial report.

After we conclude our business, we will have a book discussion of *Forgiveness Is a Choice* by Dr. Robert D. Enright. Lynn McDonald has included a synopsis of the book in this newsletter. Whether you have read the book or not, this is a topic that touches all of us. Please join our discussion.

The national Church Women United has directed that all Church Women United meetings at all levels should be held virtually for the remainder of the year. As much as we long to see each other in person, we also want to keep everyone healthy and safe, and not overburden our healthcare systems and workers. In their heroic efforts in this pandemic we see love for one's neighbors in action. May our own actions also reflect our love for our neighbors. I appreciate the resiliency, openness to new ways of doing things, and patience you all have shown as we have had to adapt to new ways of doing things in 2020 and 2021. Thank you!

— Gloria Carter, President

Forgiveness Is a Choice is a self-help book for people who have been deeply hurt by another and caught in a vortex of anger, depression, and resentment. As a creator of the first scientifically proven forgiveness program in the country, Robert D. Enright shows how forgiveness can reduce anxiety and depression while increasing self-esteem and hopefulness toward one's future.

This groundbreaking work demonstrates how forgiveness, approached in the correct manner, benefits the forgiver far more than the forgiven. Filled with wisdom and warm encouragement, the book leads the reader on a path that will bring clarity and peace.

Enright is careful to distinguish forgiveness from "pseudo-forgiveness" and to reassure readers that forgiveness does not mean accepting continued abuse or even reconciling with the offender. Rather, by giving the gift of forgiveness, readers are encouraged to confront and let go of their pain in order to regain their lives.

Fall Calendar

Friday, September 10—Annual Meeting Election, Financial Report, Annual reports, Program— ***Forgiveness is a Choice***, by Robert D. Enright.

Friday, October 1—Forum: **Family Wellness** Ochenna Jones, a nurse at SSM Health will discuss family health.

Friday, November 6—World Community Day Celebration Carolyn Rumph and Lynn McDonald handling

A MEC (Madison Ecumenical Center) Appeal

For many years Rita Honnold has served as MEC Treasurer. Following her, Betsy Ernst- Mullin served, but she is unable to continue.

So, the MEC Board is asking you all to consider whether you could use your talent and time to serve in this capacity. CWU Treasurer (Marleen Lippert) will be happy to mentor you regarding the responsibilities and tasks. It primarily involves writing periodic checks and doing some “end of the year” government reporting forms and, the years we sell the directories, keeping track of the incoming funds from the sale of the directories. If you are considering volunteering for this, please contact Ruth Hein on her cell at 608-347-4724 or via e-mail at rich4parse@charter.net.

Remembering Susan Becker

Susan Becker, a long-time member of Madison’s CWU, served on the Madison board and on our state CWU board for many years. She was a valued alto of our Madison CWU Choir. Even when confined to home, she continued serving by phone and email.

Susan Becker—Celebration of Life

Please join us for a memorial service celebrating the life of Susan Becker. Bring your memories of this wonderful sister, friend to everyone, devoted Christian, consummate volunteer and believer in our innate goodness. If ever a mountain seems too high, remember the mountains that Susan climbed in her time with us.

The service will be at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 East Gorham Street, Madison, on September 18, 2021, at 2 p.m., Rev. Sharol Hayner presiding. The social distancing and masking recommendations of the church will be followed.

News from Churches

First Baptist Church of Madison installs its new pastor, the Rev. Tim Schaefer, on Sunday, September 19th. Reflecting on his role as pastor, Rev. Schaefer said, “As Christians, I believe strongly that we are called by God to love unconditionally, to bring healing and wholeness to the world, to practice inclusion and celebrate diversity, and to challenge unjust systems through our mission and social justice work. These are among the many values that First Baptist embodies as a congregation.”

Before starting work at First Baptist in November 2020, Rev. Schaefer served as the Minister to Youth at Royal Lane Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, where he was ordained in May 2019. He earned his Master of Divinity degree with a certificate in sexual and gender justice from Brite Divinity School. As a member of the Royal Lane ministry team, he was actively involved in social justice advocacy before the Texas legislature, and planned and led educational opportunities for the church and the local community on racial justice, human sexuality, suicide prevention, and gun violence. Rev. Schaefer is joined in Madison by his husband, John Duncan.

The installation service is at 2 PM in First Baptist’s sanctuary. Social distancing and masking will be observed. The service will also be live streamed on several platforms that can be found at firstbaptistmadison.org.

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

The New Directory is fresh off the press and available to order: 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.

Please Use the Below Order Form to Order a Copy/Copies

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ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS & DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS FORM
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.

FROM: _____

Name of church/organization or individual donor.

ADDRESS: _____

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Please make your check(s) payable to: Church Women United 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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