

Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

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C.W.U. Newsletter January 2023 No. 1

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www.churchwomenunited-madison.net

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February 3, 2023

Human Rights Celebration

***Human Rights
Awards Program***

9:30 am

**S. S. Morris Community AME Church
3511 Milwaukee Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53714**

Human Rights Awards Program

Let us join together to celebrate the progress of human rights in Madison as we give the national Church Women United Human Rights Award to Lilada Gee, Founder and President of Defending Black Girlhood.

Lilada will be our speaker. So come at 9:30 for refreshments and fellowship followed by an uplifting program.

Lilada Gee is an artist, muralist, healer, preacher, author, international inspirational speaker and podcast host. Drawing upon her experiences as a survivor of both childhood sexual abuse and domestic violence, Lilada founded a non-profit organization—**Defending Black Girlhood**—that specializes in advocating for Black girls being safe in their homes, schools, and communities to live, learn and be loved. Via her **Black Woman Heal Collective**, she has sparked an international healing movement throughout the African Diaspora that empowers Black women to create safe places for themselves and Black girls to heal. For more information, please visit Lilada.org.

Lilada is a life-long Madison, Wisconsin, resident, and mother of two awesome adult children—Alexandra and Christian.

**Meet Lilada Gee,
Recipient
CWU Human Rights Award**

**Friday, Feb. 3rd
9:30am
SS Morris AME Church**

**CWU Human Rights
Award Program – FEB 3rd**



Upcoming Madison CWU meetings, planning in progress (mark your calendars)

**World Day of Prayer, March 3 April Forum, April 14 (April 7 is Good Friday)
May Friendship Day, May 5**

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Agreed to Differ ♥ Resolved to Love ♥ United to Serve



Human Rights Day 2023

Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which
God prepared in advance for us to do"*

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)



Labor with Love
Respect to Heal
Luke 6:31

Sponsored by Church Women United

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www.churchwomenunited.net

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATION
“Living a Legacy of Love Doing God’s Work”
Labor with Love: Respect to Heal
Luke 6:31 NIV

THEME

Church Women United’s national theme for 2023 is **“Living a Legacy of Love Doing God’s Work”** with the supplementing anchor scripture citation of—Ephesians 2:10 NIV ***“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*** As evidenced with the mission outreach within respective local communities of Women of Church Women United, Inc., the directive and spiritual legacy of Christ Jesus’ message of loving others, continues no matter the ethnicity, socioeconomic status, education level, etc. of individuals. Though it is quite easy to give a firm handshake or embrace someone, and then articulate the words, ‘I love you’, yet, God has given His *handiwork* people His Holy Spirit so they can **Labor with Love** with emphasis on **Respect to Heal** for 2023 Human Rights Day Celebration that is— ***“Do to others as you would have them do to you.”*** Luke 6:31 NIV.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Human Rights Day celebrates the day the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)** on December 10, 1948 in reaction to heinous acts perpetrated during World War II. At that historic event, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the first Chair of the United Nation’s Council of Human Rights, discussed the importance of recognizing Universal Human Rights for all people. During her speech, she said: “We must want our fellow human beings to have rights and freedoms which give them dignity and which will give them a sense that they are human beings that can walk the earth with their heads held high and look all men in the face.” Within the UDHR are thirty Articles supporting an individual’s rights from their birth to their death. It is apropos that Human Rights Day is annually celebrated in remembrance that dignity, respect, and utmost value are afforded every human being.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THEME SCRIPTURE:

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Luke 6:31 NIV.

OPENING PRAYER

Dear God: All praise to you, our Heavenly Father, for your divine presence in the lives of Church Women United sisters today and each day. Our sincere thanks always to You who has provided for all our needs. We convene this day to celebrate and manifest evidence of respecting all people, in love, while affording everyone dignity as equal members of your creation. We love and adore you as you work in and through us to fulfill the purpose for which you have called us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

OPENING SONG

LITANY Human Rights Advocacy

Reader 1 Everyone has a right to peaceful coexistence, the basic personal freedoms, the alleviation of suffering, and the opportunity to lead a productive life... -- Jimmy Carter

ALL *Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.* (Luke 6:31 NASB)

Reader 2 The Bible insists that the best test of a nation's righteousness is how it treats the poorest and most vulnerable in its midst. -- Jim Wallis

ALL *And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.* (Luke 6:31 ESV)

Reader 3 Women's empowerment is intertwined with respect for human rights.
-- Mahnaz Afkhami

ALL *As you would like people to do to you, do exactly so to them.* (Luke 6:31 WEB)

Reader 4 A child, like all other human beings, has inalienable rights.
-- Lucretia Mott

ALL *Do for others just what you want them to do for you.* (Luke 6:31 GNT)

Reader 5 Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.
-- Nelson Mandela

ALL *Just as you want others to do for you, do the same for them.* (Luke 6:31 CSB)

Reader 6 Commit yourself to the noble struggle for human rights. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country and a finer world to live in."
-- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ALL *Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.* (Luke 6:31 NASB)

PROGRAM

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Dear God: As you have blessed us and showered upon us tender mercies each day, we gladly give of our monetary gifts and give thanks unto you that as this offering was given by your humble servants that it be used in building your kingdom on earth through Church Women United. We ask you to bless these monetary gifts in Jesus' name, Amen.

QUADRENNIAL PRIORITY #3: Social Justice

In the scripture, John 2:14-17, Jesus Christ is observed turning over tables and routing merchants out of the Temple. Merchant practices in God's House were part of a system that created a direct link between the religious/power system of oppressing the most vulnerable. Church Women United realize that for the Church to exist and represent the House of God – it must not collaborate with oppressive social systems that protect injustice.

Action: Though your group is currently busy with Social Justice outreach, reflect upon the following to support or seek to render service to a new initiative:

- Jesus said that if you do (outreach) for the least of the ones who are His brothers and sisters you have done it to Him. (Matthew 25:40)
- Internet searches in your local community are extremely helpful in locating various organizations to render outreach assistance.
- The needs of Church Women United are fulfilled by a loving God. With a heart of compassion, Church Women United see the needs of unjustly victimized members of society and respectfully render meaningful aid to them.

CLOSING SONG

SENDING FORTH

We, God's workmanship, go forth with an outlook of living a legacy of doing God's work respecting one another in the Body of Christ Jesus and respecting all people. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always. In Jesus' name, Amen.

FAIR SHARE 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 cost of producing and mailing the CWU newsletter, and the P.O. Box rental.

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: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____
For church or organization.

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

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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