

Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

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www.churchwomenunited-madison.net

C. W. U. Newsletter April 2024 No. 9

XX

**Church Women United
May Friendship Luncheon Celebration
Friday, May 10, 2024**

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Program and Valiant Woman Award

NOON Luncheon catered by Steve Nelson

Luncheon Celebration Reservation Form (over)

**Bethany United Methodist Church
3910 Mineral Point Road Madison, WI 53705-5124
9:30 am gathering **10:00 a.m. Meeting In-person**
and virtual **Join Zoom meeting****

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3600894061?pwd=pgs4tDKBG55nlqBSrMt6HXadDPIVvB.1&omn=86121261646>

Meeting ID: 360 089 4061
Passcode: 7KeiSQ

Church Women United in Madison, Wisconsin

Reservation form

for **May Friendship Celebration**
program and luncheon,
May 10, 2024

MENU: Chicken salad sandwich, fresh fruit salad,
beverages and bars for dessert

NAME _____

Address _____, City and zip _____

Telephone/CellNbr _____ Email _____

YES _____ I plan to attend the May Friendship Day Celebration at Bethany UMC May 10

No _____ I am unable to attend but wish to support CWU with my enclosed check

_____ Enclosed please find my check for the luncheon \$8.00/person.

DEADLINE: MAY 7, 2024

Please make check payable to Church Women United and send to

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

The President's Corner



May Friendship Day began in May 1933. The Women's Council for Home Missions in New York City and the National Council of Federated Church Women planned luncheons to focus on "Child Health", "Children of migrant Families", and "Dedication Day-Focusing on Unity". Under a variety of names these events continued until in 1939, the two groups merged under the National Council of Church Women. The NCCW called for an annual celebration "to strengthen a growing sense of unity, the joy of Christian Fellowship, and the power of Christianity in the day of need". In May 1945, a few years after the founding of Church Women United, the Celebration was formalized as "May Fellowship Day". In 1999, Church Women United changed the name of the celebration to "May Friendship Day".

As we focus our attention, today, on some of the World's worst humanitarian crises, we can reflect on the founders of May Friendship Day and their understanding of the "power of Christianity in the day of need"..."concern for community and unity". Here are a few places of concern.

Syria – What began as a peaceful protest in 2011, has now become more than a decade of humanitarian suffering, the violence continues, as millions of Syrians are displaced, due to civil war since the Arab Spring protests in 2011 and more recently the 2023 Earthquake.

Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly known as Zaire) – Continued outbreaks of armed conflict often triggered by disputes over land, natural resources, and ethnic disputes, the scene for one of the worst-ever civil wars in African History, the conflict has moved from the national conflict to a series of smaller, localized conflicts, focused in specific regions, and focused on land, resources, and power. **DNC** is the country with the most displaced people in the world, 5.5 million. **DNC** is one of the world's poorest countries but has one of the largest reserves of potential wealth. Famine, disease, lack of clean water, lack of electricity, roads, lack of investment, and a displaced citizenry are all factors in making **DNC** one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world.

Ukraine- Lives in danger and infrastructure destroyed.

Haiti-Expanding gang violence in an increasingly fragile country.

Myanmar-Escalating conflicts are increasing humanitarian needs, along with extreme weather events, wildfires, and floods.

Palestine- Forced displacement and famine risk.

I look forward to seeing you at the CWU MAY Friendship Day Celebration.

Jenny Armstrong, President CWU-Madison

SUMMARY of CWU World Day of Prayer, March 1, 2024

Madison First Church of Christian Scientist Attendance = 25.

After a bounteous treat of bagels and breakfast drinks, we were welcomed to the First Church of Christian Scientist by Cymbre van Fossen, who quoted Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Christ. Scientist church. This service was prepared by the World Committee of Palestine.

***Intension:** Bear each other in love during troubled times. This theme is from the context of suffering of the Palestinian Christian women.

* **Symbols of Palestine:** Olive branches, olives, olive oil; lemons oranges and other citrus fruit; cactus plants, jasmine, poppies, flowers; baskets to hold fruits, plants, and flowers.

***The greeting, salutation and response:** led by Carolyn Rumph. The prayer for peace was led by Carolyn. Jenny Armstrong led us in singing, "God of Peace" from our songbook handout. Carolyn led us in the Call to Worship and Responsive Reading. Carolyn led us in the Gospel Reading, John 15: 12-13, 17.

***The Story of Eleanor** – read by Margaret, a member of the CS church.

***Epistle Reading** – Carolyn Rumph Ephesians 4: 1-3.

***Sermon and Bible Study** led by Sandy, a CS member.

***Song,** "I Urge You," led by Jenny Armstrong and the CWU choir.

***Lina's Story** – a truth-telling story read by Marge, a CS member.

***Hymn** – "We walk by the Light of the Word"

***Prayers** – After each prayer was read, the people responded, "Hear Our Prayer."

***The Lord's Prayer** – sung in Aramaic, the language of Jesus.

***Sarah's Story** – a story of flourishing, read by an audience member.

***The Offering** – Bible Reading, 2ND Corinthians 8:12-15.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ** and exchanging olive leaves.

***Words of commitment** – May we go and be agents of peace and justice.

***Blessings and Closure** – The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and grant you peace. AMEN.

***Postlude Music.**

For further information , please contact :

World Day of Prayer, International Committee

475 Riverside Dr. Room 729

New York, NY 10115

BREATH

“The last of you, your breath, riding on the air
and someone breathes you in, takes you into

their lives for a moment, just as you have
inhaled someone else’s most last moment.
We are passing each other around, molecule
by molecule. I’ve just taken you inside me now

and sent you off into winter day, for this is a planet
of all used parts, and there is nothing that is not made
of something else, formed and re-formed. Nothing
is lost, it’s circling around us, and even if we vanish

like a wisp of smoke, somewhere we are breathed in again,
just as the world is breathing in and out, one enormous
pulse of water and light and stone, a breath within
another breath and we breathe for each other,

and the plants breathe for us, as if it’s CPR all the time,
sending air around the branches of our lungs, out
to the very end of the alveoli, as if the Tree of Life
is inside us, our own Garden of Eden.

”“Breath” by Stuart Kestenbaum, *Only Now*, Cumberland, ME: Deerbrook Editions, 2014

CWU MADISON CALENDAR 2024

Friday, April 19, 2024 9:30 – 11:30 AM BOARD MEETING, Bethany United Methodist Church, (second floor meeting room), 3910 Mineral Point Rd, Madison, WI 53705

Friday, April 19, 2024 12 noon - 1:30 PM Ecumenical Choir Practice, Bethany United Methodist Church, (third floor choir room), 3910 Mineral Point Rd, Madison, WI 53705

Friday, May 10, 2024 - 9:30 – 11:30 AM. Bethany United Methodist Church, 3910 Mineral Point Rd, Madison, WI 53705 Registration required (See P. 2).

May Friendship Celebration: Barbara Eggleston, Valiant Women award recipient

Special collection for Fellowship of the Least Coin: The Fellowship of the Least Coin dates back to 1956 when Shanti Solomen, from India, traveled throughout Asia with an international mission team, led by Presbyterian women. These seven women found many injustices done to women during World War II. Shanti challenged Christian women to pray for justice, peace and reconciliation with a coin, the least of their currency. We collect pennies all year and bring a check of the total to our May Friendship Celebration on May 10, 2024. These checks are sent to an office in Atlanta, GA and given via grants to needy women and children around the world. The checks must be made out to Church Women United, with FLC in the memo section of the check.

Barbara Eggleston to receive The VALIANT WOMAN AWARD
at the May Friendship Meeting on Friday, May 10, 2024, from 9:30 A.M. to
11:30 A.M., Bethany United Methodist Church

Barbara Eggleston will receive the **Valiant Woman Award**.

Barbara has been a member of CHURCH WOMEN UNITED – MADISON for over 34 years. She became Secretary and Newsletter Editor in 1991 and has served in that capacity until this past month when she felt she needed to resign from these positions for health reasons.

Barbara has also served faithfully for a similar length of time in the CWU Ecumenical choir. Barbara has a beautiful Soprano voice and has sung regularly in her Church Choir at First Baptist Church and also in the Madison Symphony Chorus, where she served as section leader for the First Soprano Section. I look forward to seeing Barbara get this richly deserved award.



Church Women United in Wisconsin

Recognition and Memorial Fund

Request for *Scholarship* CWU National Quadrennial Assembly – June 2024

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Cell phone: _____ Home phone: _____

What is your interest in attending the CWU
Assembly? _____

Are you currently affiliated with a local Church Women United unit?

YES _____ NO _____

If “yes” what is your unit? _____

If “no” how did you learn about the Quadrennial
Assembly? _____

You can request the Assembly Scholarship after you have registered for the
Assembly.

Please send this completed form and a copy of your registration receipt to:

Susan Coghill
1010 N. Westfield St., #515
Oshkosh, WI 54902

OR srlcoghill@gmail.com

FAIR SHARE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS &
DONOR ONTRIBUTIONS 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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CWU 608-233-1491
Email address: cwumadison@gmail.com