



THE SUNDIAL



Volume XX No. 3

November 2009

ADVENT CELEBRATION & ANNUAL MEETING



- Date:** Friday, December 4, 2009
- Theme:** "They Will Call Him Immanuel"
- Time:** 9:15 am
- Place:** Baptist Temple
1101 Clover Street, 14610
[map on back of flyer]
- Bible Study Leader:** Brenda D. Lee, God's Agenda for Change Reflection Group Facilitator for the Ecumenical Bible Study for Women
- Registration Fee:** \$3.00 at door
- Lunch:** Brown Bag Lunch

Please bring:

- * Bag lunch
- * Your Bible
- * Donations for the Bake Sale - prices marked
- * Donation for Dollar\$ for Diaper\$

Please Note: Rochester Roots will have their lip balm for sale.

Our Bible Study Leader, Brenda D. Lee, has designed and facilitated seminars for Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, UCC, and other denominations related to conflict cultural values, African-American History, Biblical Themes, and Diversity Education. She was also the 2008 recipient of the American Baptist Churches of the Rochester Genesee Region's Annual Service Award.

Dollar\$ for Diaper\$



Diapers and/or cash donations to purchase diapers will be collected at this year's Advent Celebration to support the work of Sanctuary House, Catholic Family Center's emergency shelter for women and children.



If you can not attend the Advent Celebration on Friday, December 4, 2009, you may bring your donations of diapers and/or cash to the CWU Office, 8:30 am - Noon, Monday through Thursday, by Thursday, December 3, 2009. Thank you.

- Frances Garrett, Advent Celebration Chair

From the President

Our first fall 2009 Celebration was held on Friday, October 2. We commemorated the “Day of Reflection.” What a fantastic memorable occasion. Included in this celebration were family members and friends of two unsuspecting women, Rev. Sue Forsyth and Mrs. Joan Clark. These ladies were the recipients of the 2009 National Valiant Woman Award.

Sue Forsyth has been active in Church Women United for a number of years. She has served as the Spiritual Leader, rendering inspiring and thought provoking devotions; CWU President for four years and is currently holding the position of Spiritual Leader. In the community, Rev. Forsyth is the Pastor of the South Livonia United Church of Christ where she has served for almost ten years. She was the Director of the Salem Nutritional Center from 1998-2008, retiring in May. She is also the Vice Moderator/Moderator of the United Church of Christ Genesee Valley Association. And she is a member of numerous other boards in this community.

Mrs. Joan Clark was the Rochester Unit Church Women United Office Manager for twenty-six years. If you had questions or concerns about CWU, she was the person you needed to consult. No matter what the situation, Joan would politely say, “O, I think I can help you with that.” She was always dedicated, dependable, efficient, and conscientious. Joan is very active in her church, “Covenant Methodist,” the Women’s Circle and other groups.

Sue and Joan, may God’s continuous blessings be with you, and may your light continue to shine upon a hill in service to God and man-kind.

Peace and Blessings, Audrey J. Davidson

Highlights from The Day of Reflection – A Time for Self-Care

What delightful gathering of Church Women United on Friday, October 2, 2009. We met at the First Baptist Church located on Allen’s Creek Road in Pittsford at 9:15 am to begin “A Time for Self-Care.” We began our time with hospitality...coffee, tea, fresh cider, home-made cookies and sweet breads. We were made welcome by host church representative Sally Dodgson, Our CWUR President Audrey Davidson, and Day of Reflection chair Rev. Sue Forsyth. Our Executive Director, Rev. Patrina Freeman, blessed us as we began our self-care program.

Our Bible Study focus was the brief story of Martha and Mary, found in the Gospel of Luke 10:38-42. Rev. Patrina Freeman led an interactive ice breaker which included keeping multiple balloons in the air. This activity helped us understand the many responsibilities we are trying to balance in our busy lives. Our Bible Study workshop was led by Reverends Sue Forsyth and Patrina Freeman. A second workshop, “Self-Care: Balancing Your Inner Martha and Mary,” led by Dr. Stephanie Sauvé, Chair of Women and Gender Studies at Colgate Rochester, Crozer Divinity School, was well received.

The Valiant Woman Award was presented to Rev. Sue Forsyth and Joan Clark by our President, Audrey Davidson. This national award is given for service to CWU and the greater community. A complimentary lunch was served following the presentations. There was a brief feedback time (comments were all positive!!!) and a final blessing was given by our President, Audrey Davidson.

It was a pleasure to serve as Chair of this delightful program and I thank my committee for all of their support. I offer a special thank you to Shirley London and Sue Clarcq for preparing and serving us a delicious lunch, to Gloria Klink who took care of registration, to Sally Dodgson and the First Baptist Church for graciously welcoming us into their church, to Sally Brown and Barb Alexander for their delicious breads, and to Keith Alexander who helped with kitchen duty. Blessing one and all!

- Rev. Sue Forsyth, Chair Day of Reflection



In Memory of Dee Jones



It is with sad hearts that CWU in Rochester mourns the loss of one of its most dedicated and beloved supporters, Doris Jones. Known affectionately to her friends as Dee, Doris went to meet the Lord on Wednesday, September 23, 2009. She was predeceased in death by her husband, Doug; granddaughter Kristin Harris, and brother, Charles Greeno. Dee is survived by her children, Meg Harris (Randy Reynolds), Ken & Donna Jones, Chris & Lisa Jones, 5 grandchildren; and sister, Barbara Leighten.

Mrs. Jones graduated from the University of Rochester in 1943. Two years later, she married her beloved Doug and they spent 64 loving years together. Doris was a loving soul and she showed her unconditional love to everyone she met. She was also a woman of great faith, who constantly celebrated her faith without fear.

Dee was a devoted member of the Fairport United Methodist Church. She also helped Literacy Volunteers of America grow up from a small, local movement in Syracuse and served for a number of years as President of the local Rochester chapter.

Her service to others was reflected in her hours she spent supporting local volunteer organizations, including Church Women United. During her time at CWU in Rochester, Dee served as Vice President, Secretary and Finance Committee Chairs as well as sharing her time and talent in a variety of other CWUR positions. In 2008, Doris received the CWU Valiant Woman Award, a national award, recognizing her many years of outstanding service and dedication.

We will all remember her thoughtfulness, gentle nature and caring heart. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.



CWU State Unit News

New State Assembly Officers for 2009-2011 Term:

State President
 Vice President for Ecumenical Development
 Vice President for Meeting
 Vice President for Action
 Vice President for Communications
 State Treasurer
 Assistant Treasurer
 Secretary

Rev. Patrina D. Freeman
 Cherry Simmons
 Barbara Williams
 Rita Ogburn-McCall
 Vivian Love Jones
 Mary Jo Selmer
 Mary M. Smith
 Nancy Hooper

2010 CWU Northeast Regional Conference

Friday, June 4 – Sunday, June 6, 2010
 Stony Point Center, 17 Crickettown Road
 Stony Point, New York 10908

Please contact the CWU Rochester Office for more details at (585) 342-2790

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED ACTION ALERT

“Work to assure comprehensive health coverage for all children” - CWU Quadrennial Priority 2008-2012

Take Action for Real Health Coverage Reform for All Children.

CONGRESS IS WORKING NOW ON CRAFTING HEALTHCARE COVERAGE REFORM--- CHILDREN MUST BE INCLUDED AND THEIR SPECIAL NEEDS ADDRESSED!

Call your members of Congress (three calls - one for your Representative and then both Senators) – talk to the staff person who takes care of healthcare reform: (202) 224-3121.

Marian Wright Edelman (Founder, Children’s Defense Fund) made an impassioned plea for grassroots action on behalf of children during this time of legislative action for healthcare reform. She explained on a conference call (attended by CWU DC office staff) that there are THREE main points to make in your message to your members of Congress on behalf of Children and Healthcare Reform:

1-- **It must be affordable.** CHIP is a proven successful health insurance plan for children. It was reauthorized by Congress and signed by the President. However there is a lot of room for improvement and extension. **BUILD ON THE SUCCESS.** Health care reform is our opportunity not just to maintain the status quo, but to improve access to care for children. CHIP must be made mandatory and funded so that all eligible children will be covered. States must receive new federal funds to create a national eligibility floor in CHIP of 300 percent of poverty and then guarantee coverage for all eligible children.

2-- **Benefits must be comprehensive.** Real child health reform must guarantee all children access to the health and mental health services they need to maximize their health and development.

3-- **The health system must be simple and seamless.** A streamlined application and enrollment process is critical to make it easy for children to get and stay enrolled. State bureaucratic barriers now keep about two-thirds of the more than eight million uninsured children who are eligible for CHIP or Medicaid from getting health coverage.

YOU MAY ALSO CONSIDER FAXING A LETTER WITH THOSE THREE POINTS. More elaborate information can be found on the Children’s Defense Fund website: www.childrensdefense.org.

AND FROM Claudia Ellquist, our National Action/Global Concerns Chair:

"Ms Edelman did not mention it, but, as regular CWU letter writers, you all know that our policies, as adopted by our boards and Common Councils since 1946, call for universal single payer healthcare for folks of all ages. This policy makes particular sense for children, because children's healthcare costs are incredibly inexpensive, compared to seniors, and because children should never be denied healthcare, regardless of what their parents do."

"Most of a "Medicare for Kids" program would pay for itself, in the elimination of bureaucratic costs associated with today's income-based programs. Costs for the government, such as qualifying interviews and repeated documentation and checks on parent's income, and costs borne by doctors' and hospital staffs, checking on whether a given child is enrolled, and in which program, with which benefits. All of that replaced by a "Medicare for Kids" card, issued at birth, to expire upon adulthood. Then every child is covered, and no child slips through the cracks."

Patricia Burkhardt, Church Women United Legislative Office

110 Maryland Ave NE RM 108, Washington DC 20002, Phone: (202) 481-6933, Fax: (202) 543-1927

Church Women United National News

Why Women Count!

Ecumenical Register - 2009-2011

Church Women United is doing it again –
Stand up and be counted!

Join Women across the country in signing the Ecumenical Register today! Our names represent the countless women working for a better world – sign today and show your support for the past, present and future work of women!

Encourage every woman you know to sign her name, too!

Every signer is encouraged to donate \$1 so that we can continue to provide and support projects and programs for the betterment of women and children!

Don't know what the Ecumenical Register is? Contact the local CWU Rochester Office at 342-2790 or check out the CWU website for more information: www.churchwomen.org



CWU, National Office
475 Riverside Dr Ste 1626A
New York, NY 10115
1-800-CWU-5551
cwu@churchwomen.org

CWU Short Subjects

Upcoming Meetings

CWU Board of Directors

Friday, November 20, 2009 at 9:30 am
Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St.

Task Force on Courts

Thursday, November 12, 2009 at noon
Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St.

Sundial Announcement

All submissions for the December Sundial must be received by **Thursday, November 19, 2009**. Please send to: cwursundial@frontier.com

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

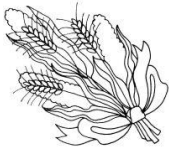
Friday, December 10, 2009 at 5:30 pm

Theme: *“The First Anniversary of the Achievement of World Peace”*

Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh Street, 14614

For more details please call Downtown United Presbyterian Church at 325-4000

Thank You



The CWU Office would like to thank the following Lifetime Assistance Volunteers:

Lynn Grace Karen Delars McDaniel David Wagner
Andrea Jenkins Daniel Medina

for assembling the October 2009 Sundial.



The CWU Office will close on
Thursday, November 26 and
Friday, November 27, 2009
for Thanksgiving.

Happy
Thanksgiving



Community News

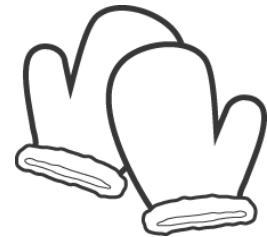
INTERESTED IN HELP BATTLING WINTER HEATING BILLS?

Rochester Gas & Electric has a program that may help:

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

HEAP is now accepting applications. You do NOT need a shut-off notice to apply. Call 241-3068 for a list of required documentation and to schedule your appointment.

If you are over the age of 60 and have received a shut-off notice, please call 753-6477.



WOMEN'S INTER-FAITH COALITION

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2009 **Time:** 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Location: Jewish Community Federation, 441 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14607

Our speaker will be Mrs. Lauren Hodgson, Pastor at the Salvation Army. Please join us.

BETHANY HOUSE HAS MOVED

Our new location is located at 1111 Joseph Avenue. Our new home has enabled us to grow from sheltering and caring for 6 women and children to 10 women and their children. Please keep us and our ministry in your prayers and visit us when you are able.

METRO JUSTICE'S 28TH ANNUAL ALTERNATIVE FAIR

Date / Time: Friday, December 4, 6:00 – 9:30 pm AND Saturday, December 5, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Location: First Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Road South **Donation:** \$3 suggested (under 12 free)

Please help us support SOCIAL JUSTICE when buying HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Church Women United in Rochester and Vicinity invites you to its

ADVENT CELEBRATION & ANNUAL MEETING



Friday, December 4, 2009

9:15 am to 1:30 pm

**“they will call him
immanuel”**

Baptist Temple
1101 Clover Street, 14610
[map on back of flyer]



**\$3.00 Registration at the door
Handicapped Accessible**

Day's Agenda:

- 9:15 am: Registration
- 9:30 am: Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
- 10:30 am: Break
- 10:45 am: Bible Study Led by Brenda D. Lee,
God's Agenda for Change Reflection Group Facilitator
for the Ecumenical Bible Study for Women
- Noon: Brown Bag Lunch
- 12:30 pm: Installation of Newly Elected Officers
Advent Carols Service and Music Program by the CWU Choir

Please Bring:

- Your Bible and your brown bag lunch
- Your donations for:
 - The CWU Bake Sale (prices marked)
 - Diapers or cash donation for Dollar\$ for Diaper\$ to support the work of Sanctuary House (Catholic Family Center's Emergency Shelter for women and children)



Church Women United

644 Titus Ave.

Rochester, NY 14617

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Email: cwur@frontiernet.net