

# THE SUNDIAL

Volume XIX No. 3

November 2008

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## Advent Celebration "Come, Lord, Jesus"

Friday, December 5,  
2008  
9:15 am - 2:00 pm

Ogden Presbyterian Church  
2400 S. Union Street  
Spencerport, NY  
[map & directions - back of flyer]

**\$3.00 registration**

Our Bible Study presider will be Rev. Gail Ricciuti, Associate Professor of Homiletics, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

Remember to bring.....

- \* your Bibles,
- \* your donation for the Bake Sale, marked with a suggested offering price,
- \* items for the Community Food Cupboard and
- \* a bag lunch.

Any questions? Please call Jean Murphy at 377-4595.

### **Dollar\$ for Diaper\$**

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

If you cannot attend the Advent Celebration on Friday, December 5, you may bring your donations of diapers and/or cash to the CWU office, 9-12:30, Monday-Thursday by December 4.

### **From the President**

Church Women United would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to those who participated in donating Health Kits and School Kits for Church World Services' urgent appeal. A very, very, special thanks to the First Unitarian Church on Winton Road, the 12 Corners Presbyterian Church in Brighton and the Irondequoit United Church of Christ. Because of your collective and individual generosity, we delivered 117 kits. Once again, the Rochester community has proven to be outstanding in the time of need.

Our Day of Reflection speaker, Reverend Deborah L. Hughes, afforded us the opportunity to reflect on women who had a positive effect on our personal lives, and women in history who courageously risked their lives for all women's rights in society. Thanks to Sally and her committee for a wonderful celebration.

Our fundraiser with the Community Day Event for November 15<sup>th</sup> is coming along quiet well. We have met some wonderful people, and some are planning to join us in support of Church Women United endeavors. We still need everyone's help, as this is one of our major projects, and a good way to receive great bargains on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. If you need coupon booklets, please contact the CWU office at (585) 342-2790.

Because of the instability and uncertainty in today's economy, more and more people are seeking help from Food Cupboards and Soup Kitchens. With the holidays upon us, we urge you to please support the Community Food Cupboard of Rochester. We need plenty of soups and dried pasta. If you are interested in donating food, please call our Church Women United Office @ (585) 342-2790

*Audrey Davidson, President*

### **From the Executive Director**

Grace and Peace to All!

Thanksgiving is fast approaching and I cannot help but reflect on the many blessings that God has bestowed upon CWU this past year. For example, in spite of the recent economic troubles on Wall Street, many of you still found the resources to comply over 117 kits for Church World Services, a feat, I must add, that was achieved in less than two weeks.

In our "pressed for time" world, many of you found the time and energy to knit over 35 afghans for the Warm-up Rochester Program. Our office has received many thank you cards from those wishing to express their sincere gratitude for these handmade tokens of love. All this made possible by your unwavering devotion to this project.

I am truly amazed by the fact that in a world preoccupied with talk of "doom and gloom," many of you still find the courage to generously support a host of CWU outreach projects (i.e. Task Force on Courts, Dollar\$ for Diaper\$, Women's Health Kit Project, etc.). And in so doing, you provide much needed hope to those who were once without hope.

Today, I stand in awe, as I recall how God continues to bless the work of this humble CWU unit. So, as we embark upon this Thanksgiving, let us all pause and give thanks to God for the ways God has empowered each one of us to be "salt and light" in the world. Let us look toward the New Year, with a renewed commitment to band our individual cords of love together in works of charity, so that the hope that we have in Christ Jesus, may touch the lives and hearts of others.

Happy Thanksgiving! - Blessings, Rev. Patrina D. Freeman, Executive Director

### **Project Update Reminder**

The 2008 updates are due in the office by November 17, 2008 so that they may be printed for use with grants. Also, they will be available at the 2008 Annual Meeting, which is part of CWU's Advent Celebration.

### **Happy Thanksgiving**

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28.

### **Thank You**

Alison Wilder & Marie Barker & Lifetime Assistance: Cori Piels, Tracy Burlewjoy, Mary Ellen Lenderhouse & Carolyn Neaturor for assembling the October Newsletter

**Task Force on Courts**

Ronald Pawelczak, Chief Clerk of Family Court, will be a guest speaker at our November 13, 2008 meeting. We will conduct the business portion of our meeting at noon, then Ron will be speaking at 1:00 p.m.

Guests are welcome if you wish to invite someone. TFOC meets at Third Presbyterian Church, Meigs Street & East Avenue. The general business meeting will be at 12:00 noon. All are welcome and feel free to bring a friend along.

# Kids' Korner News

**JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: Important Information on Toy Safety**

Read the Instructions: Following the instructions that come with the toy can tell you how to put the toy together correctly so that it is less likely to malfunction or break and lead to injury.

Watch for Choking Risks: *Small Magnets:* Small, powerful magnets are often used in toys, and may fall out and be swallowed by a child.

Prevent Strangulation Risks: *Toys with cords longer than 12 inches:* A cord can easily become wrapped around a child's neck, causing strangulation

Avoid Points & Sharp Corners: Toys with sharp corners, rough edges, sharp points, or that are made from fragile materials such as thin plastics, can break leading to cuts, scrapes and potentially severe puncture wounds, including eye injuries.

Provide Protective Gear: Be sure to invest in appropriate safety gear [such as helmets, wrist guards, knee pads] to go with new toys like bicycles, inline skates or scooters.

**Age Appropriate Shopping Tips**

Under 3 Years Old

Avoid buying toys with small parts that could pose a choking danger. This includes any object less than 1.75 inches in diameter.

Ages 3 to 5

Be sure that art materials, including crayons and paint sets are marked with ASTM D-4236. @ This means the product has been reviewed by a toxicologist.

Ages 6 to 12

Check toys periodically for breakage and potential hazards. Damaged or dangerous toys should be repaired or thrown away.

**ALWAYS CHECK FOR RECALLS!**

CWU Office Hours Fall 2008  
M-Th 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

**From Your Finance Committee**

An idea we presented last year, we are suggesting again, that of giving a donation to Church Women United in honor of someone special in your life.

For each \$5.00 donation, a beautiful Christmas card will be sent to the people you would like to honor, telling them of your thoughtfulness. Just include names and addresses with your check made out to Church Women United in Rochester and Vicinity, Inc., and mail to 644 Titus Avenue, Rochester, NY 14617-3939. **The deadline for sending names is December 5, 2008.**

**Wanted: a Volunteer Who Loves Working with Numbers and Calculations**

**Do you, or someone you know, fit this description?**

The Rochester Unit of Church Women United is seeking a person to serve as Treasurer of the organization. This is an opportunity for service in an area that requires a special love of figures and accounts. Computer savvy is desirable.

For more information, please contact Rev. Patrina Freeman, Executive Director or Sally Dodgson at (585) 342-2790.

**Day of Reflection Summary**

The Reverend Deborah Hughes, Executive Director of the Susan B. Anthony House, was the guest leader for the annual Day of Reflection. The pre-election theme was "The Anthony Ticket: From wilderness to the Promised Land."

Women of the host church welcomed arriving women with hot beverages and pastries in the autumn motif, decorated Dean Hall of Greece Baptist Church.

Ms. Hughes, with a creative PowerPoint presentation, wove the theme of the trauma and hope of Susan B. Anthony and our predecessor activists with that of our mothers and ourselves. History and sharing our personal experiences the focus of the presentation.

Prior to a break, worksheets as guides to individual reflection were distributed. We were asked to consider the first trauma and hope of our mothers and then of our own. Several women shared their reflections before Rev. Hughes summarized and concluded the morning program.

Conversation continued around the table as we ate lunch and enjoyed dessert confections prepared by our hosts. After lunch, several of our women traveled to the Susan B. Anthony House Welcome Center and many took the full guided tour.

-Sally Dodgson

**Human Rights Day Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Downtown United Presbyterian Church--121 North Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, 14614

5:30 pm.....Potluck Dinner; 6:15 pm.....Public Reading of Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.....6:45 pm.....Program                      Theme: "School to Prison Pipeline"

2008 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, an event co-sponsored by Church Women United in Rochester and various community-based groups. In honor of this monumental milestone, this year's theme is "Dignity and Justice for All of Us."

**For further information, please call Gary Pudup at (585) 454-4334.**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED DARFUR ACTION ALERT**

*“Political action that flows from one’s spirituality is basic to the life of a person who professes to be a Christian.” CWU Social Policy Book 1941-2004, page 27*

Just L.E.A.D. [Learn, Educate, Act, Daily] - Add Your Voice Today for Peace and Justice in Darfur and All Sudan! Use Your Computer and Go to the Link below to Sign a Postcard to Presidential Candidates. [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dqNnnNgQWgmbaw0dhJSiHw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dqNnnNgQWgmbaw0dhJSiHw_3d_3d)

This action alert comes from our friends at Africa Action. For more information go to [www.africaaction.org](http://www.africaaction.org).

Please take action today in solidarity with the people of Darfur whose lives have been torn apart by genocide for the last five years. To date over 450,000 lives have been lost and over 2.5 million people have been rendered homeless. We cannot be silent witnesses to this atrocious abuse of human rights and outrageous violation of the very sanctity of life!

With a new administration coming into the White House in the next few months, we have a historic opportunity to put pressure on the next U.S. president to lead the international community in bringing peace and justice to Darfur and all Sudan. In June 2008, both Barack Obama and John McCain signed a pledge promising “unstinting resolve” to end genocide in Darfur. Please add your voice in demanding that the next president fulfills this pledge by achieving:

- Protection of civilians from violence, starvation and disease;
- Sustainable peace for all Sudan, including upholding the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;
- Justice for victims and accountability for perpetrators.

We invite you to join our JUST L.E.A.D. campaign by signing a postcard to the next president today in support of peace and justice in Darfur and Sudan. This campaign not only calls for leadership from the U.S. government but also challenges all of us to meet our collective responsibility as ordinary individuals to LEARN. EDUCATE and ACT DAILY on the most important moral and solidarity question of our time.

Together with other organizations we are collecting one million postcards urging the next president to make peace and justice in Darfur and all Sudan a Day-One priority. PLEASE SIGN YOUR POSTCARD NOW.

For more ways in which you can take part in this campaign contact [outreach@africaaction.org](mailto:outreach@africaaction.org) or 202 546 7961 [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dqNnnNgQWgmbaw0dhJSiHw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dqNnnNgQWgmbaw0dhJSiHw_3d_3d)

Patricia Burkhardt-Church Women United-Legislative Office-100 Maryland Ave NE RM 100  
Washington DC 20002-202 544 8747, fax 202 544 9133

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Volunteers Needed for Thanksgiving Dinner, Saturday November 20**

*Community Lutheran Ministry* is hosting their annual Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday, November 22, 2008, for residents of the Joseph Avenue area. The traditional Thanksgiving dinner will include: turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, corn, rolls, dessert and beverages.

Dinner will be served at 942 Joseph Avenue from noon until about 4:00 pm [or until the food is gone]. Area churches are being asked to donate food items, volunteers to help the day of the dinner and/or cash donations to pay for the purchase of non-food items. If you would like to help us, please call Kate Stilz, dinner chairperson, at 585-730-4747.

**Rally to Stop State Budget Cuts**

Get on the bus and say, "NO!" to Massive Budget Cuts--Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Wall Street meltdown has meant that banks will be paying significantly less taxes, which means the state will have less revenue. That means a HUGE budget deficit. Ouch! Join us as we travel to Albany to push the legislature to do the right thing. We'll be leaving early on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and returning that same evening. The bus trip is free. Email us at <mailto:metroj@frontiernet.net> to reserve your seat on the bus.

There are other options. Check out our Incredibly Fascinating Powerpoint presentation at <<http://metrojustice.org/pdfs/state%20budget%20powerpoint%2008.pdf>> on alternatives to cutting services. See you on the bus!

Jon Greenbaum, Metro Justice Organizer office 585.325.2560 cell 585.880.8731

**Harvesting Justice Film Festival - The Invisible Workforce Made Visible**

A series of four films and talkbacks that will add perspective to world-wide labor issues sponsored by BOCES Geneseo Migrant Center and Language Intelligence at the Little Theatre, 240 East Ave, Rochester, 585-258-0400. Admission \$10; Seniors/Students/Little Theatre members \$8 each event

Nov 10, 6:30 pm - Stolen Childhoods - Sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic Church, Downtown Rochester and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Henrietta The first feature documentary on global child labor ever produced. The film features stories of child laborers around the world, told in their own words. Children are shown working in dumps, quarries, brick kilns. One boy has been pressed into forced labor on a fishing platform in the Sea of Sumatra, a fifteen-year-old runaway describes being forced into prostitution on the streets of Mexico City, while a nine-year-old girl picks coffee in Kenya to help her family survive. (85 min)

Dec 8, 6:30 pm - The Invisible Mexicans of Deer Canyon - The Invisible Chapel - Sponsored by St. Bernard's School of Theology & Ministry An in-depth look at what life is like for millions of undocumented immigrants living in the shadows of American society. The film portrays intimate details of several individual day laborers who live in sub-human conditions amongst multi-million dollar homes. (73 min)

**Metro Justice's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual ALTERNATIVE FAIR**

Friday, November 30 6 to 9:30 pm and Saturday, December 1 9:30 am to 3 pm  
First Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Rd. S. \$3 suggested donation  
More information? Call Metro Justice at 325-2560.

Church Women United in Rochester and Vicinity, Inc.

# *Advent Celebration*

## *“Come, Lord, Jesus”*

Friday, December 5, 2008 9:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Ogden Presbyterian Church  
2400 South Union Street  
Spencerport, NY

Annual Meeting; Election of Officers; Bible Study; BAG LUNCH  
Installation of Newly-elected Officers;  
Advent Worship (Offering); and Music Program

### Schedule for the Day

9:15 Registration \$3.00  
9:30 Annual Meeting & Election of Officers  
10:30 B R E A K  
10:45-11:45 Bible Study-Presider: **Rev. Gail Ricciuti**  
**Associate Professor of Homiletics**  
**Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School**  
12:00 noon BAG LUNCH  
12:30 INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS  
12:45 ADVENT WORSHIP (Offering)  
And Music Program - CWU Choir

### Please Bring

Your Bibles

Items for: Baked Food Sale  
Food Cupboard  
Dollar\$ For Diaper\$ Donations



Handicap  
Accessible  
Ramp & Elevator

For more information, please call 342-2790