

# The Sundial

Volume XVI No. 7

September/October 2005

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT and VICE PRESIDENT...

What a summer! As Audrey Davidson and I sat discussing our roles as president and vice president, respectively, and the future of Church Women United over lunch, we were amazed at the changes that have occurred this summer.

The major change facing CWU was the resignation of our Executive Director, Mary Ellen (M'Ellen) Denio, as of August 3<sup>rd</sup>. M'Ellen is realizing her dream of moving back to family and friends in her hometown of Old Forge. She has accepted a full-time position there and is looking forward to new beginnings. She will be missed.

A search committee is forming to find a new Executive Director. Joan Clark, our secretary, has offered extra help during this time of transition. Office hours, M-Th, 9:00 to 12:30, will remain the same.

The Executive Committee has been meeting over the summer to vision a new course of action for CWU. We could feel the energy and excitement at these meetings. We are reviewing staffing, job descriptions, board meetings, the Sundial, and celebrations. Change is in the air! You will hear words like "hear, see, and act!" Mark your calendars for the September 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at Third Presbyterian Church at 9:30 am. The Executive Committee will be sharing their ideas at this meeting. We need to hear your input as we move forward.

As Audrey and I continued to talk during lunch, we discussed the mission of CWU in terms of education, advocacy, and worship. We agreed that we, as Church Women United, bring light into a world filled with darkness and despair. We mirror the light of Christ in the world. Let us go forth in the love and hope of God.

--Peace, Sue and Audrey

## CWU SHORT SUBJECTS

### **Thank You**

Ginny Newman for assembling the June 2005 Sundial.

### **New Address**

Mary Ellen Denio  
PO Box 24  
Old Forge, NY 13420

**Do You Enjoy Singing? Do you have Monday afternoons free?**

If so, Church Women United wants you. CWU is looking for all voices for our choir. We sing religious and secular music for two special CWU Services: Christmas and Spring then schedule retirement home visits on Monday afternoons.

Practice is Monday afternoon from 1:00-2:45 at Gates Presbyterian Church, 1049 Wegman Road. If you are interested, come give us a try. Call 225-7027 for more details.

**Audrey Southerland Davidson, Vice President**

Audrey Southerland Davidson currently serves as Coordinator of Church and Community Ministries for American Baptist Women of New York State and Vice President of Church Women United for the Rochester area. The daughter of a Baptist minister, Teacher/Principal, Audrey is a native of Swainsboro, Georgia. The mother of one son, Otha (Susan), and the proud grandmother of three granddaughters. Her educational background includes: A Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Payne College, Augusta, Georgia; and a Master of Science in Elementary Education from Nazareth College, Rochester, New York.

For over 30 years, Audrey has been a faithful servant of the Lord at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Rochester, New York. Audrey's spirit of service extends to almost every aspect of the Church's life: Diaconate Board Member, Baptismal Committee, American Baptist Women's Ministries, Choirs, and other organizations and activities.

In June 2002, Audrey retired from the Rochester City School District (School #7-Virgil I Grissom) after 29 years of service to children in the Rochester community and 4 years of teaching in the Richmond County School District, Augusta, Georgia. Audrey's commitment as an educator included: Chairperson—Red Ribbon Week (Anti-Drug) Celebrations, Chairperson—Multicultural Celebration served on the Citywide Primary Textbook Adoption Committee and was one of the authors of the Primary Social Studies Curriculum Guides.

In her spare time, Audrey enjoys reading, traveling and spending as much time as possible with her grandchildren. What Audrey enjoys most is giving service to the Lord through her service to others.



**Fall Programs**

**You Won't**

**Want to Miss!**

November 4, 2005 – 11:30 a.m.

*World Community Day*

Luncheon Meeting

“A Light to the Nation”

W. Henrietta Baptist Church

5660 W. Henrietta Road

December 2, 2005 – 9:30 a.m.

*Advent Celebration*

Bible Study....Worship....Bag Lunch

Church of the Assumption of Our Lady

20 East Avenue, Fairport



### WOMEN'S INTERFAITH COALITION

Wednesday, September 21 10:00 am-coffee 10:30-12:00 noon

Program at the Jewish Community Federation, 441 East Avenue, Rochester

Speaker: Jon Greenbaum of Metro Justice      Topic: Social Justice

Questions? Call Sula Baxter 585-225-5284

#### Summer Fund Raisers

Wow! It seems like only yesterday that we were sharing all that great food and fellowship at our June picnic. It's hard to believe that summer is drawing to a close and fall is just around the corner. We thought perhaps you might be wondering how much we made on our picnic auction and the antique sale.

Both were successful, with a profit of \$330.65 at the auction, and \$777.14 at the antique sale. If you attended either of the events, I'm sure you are aware of the fun and fellowship that was shared. Our thanks to all who participated.

– the Executive Board

#### Mark Your Calendars!

- Oct. 21    CWU Board Meeting
- Nov 4     World Community Day Luncheon Meeting
- Nov 18    CWU Board Meeting
- Dec 2     CWU's Advent Celebration
- Dec 10    Christmas Tea

#### Community Food Cupboard

##### Our Special Food Needs

- Peanut butter
- Unsweetened cereal
- Jam or jelly
- Canned peas or carrots
- Tea bags
- Macaroni & cheese
- Low sodium soup

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Employment Opportunity**

Administrative Assistant for creative, missioning church  
20 hours/week  
Office management; computer, relational skills

### **Resume to:**

Covenant United Methodist Church  
1124 Culver Road  
Rochester, NY 14609  
e-mail: covenantumc@rpa.net

### **Clarence Darrow Is Coming to Rochester**

A touring professional 2-hour drama based on the life and trials of the famous lawyer will be performed at 7 pm, Sunday, Sept. 11 at the First Unitarian Church, 220 South Winton Rd. The issues Darrow confronted nearly 100 years ago are still hot topics today: creationism/evolution, the death penalty, labor rights, rights of minorities. Tickets are \$12 for adults, or \$10 in advance, \$8 for students, \$25 family maximum. Proceeds benefit the church's Social Justice Outreach Grants program. For info or tickets, call Alison Wilder, 342-2459.

### **CASA**

CASA [Court Appointed Special Advocates] has volunteer opportunities available for mature, responsible adults who are interested in making a difference in the life of a child. CASA volunteers advocate for children who have been abused and/or neglected. CASA will hold a 7-night training course at the Hall of Justice in downtown Rochester on October 17, 19, 24 and 26 and November 1 and 3 from 6-9 pm.

The final course session will be on November 15 from 4-8:30 pm. Pre-registration is required. To learn more about CASA and a complete application packet, please call 585-428-5297 or visit our website at [www.casarochester.org](http://www.casarochester.org).

### **Downtown Community Forum**

Wednesday, September 14, 2005 -- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. The Dugan Center, 15 St. Mary's Place, Rochester,  
Topic: Do Women Make a Difference in Government?  
Presenter: Nora Bredes, Director of the Susan B. Anthony Center for Women's Leadership

Today, women make up just 15% of the U.S. Congress, 22% of New York's State Legislature and 16.6% of its county legislatures. The U.S. ranks only 59<sup>th</sup> in the world for women in our national legislature behind South Africa, Germany, Costa Rica and many others. And though we gained women members of Congress through the 1980s and 90s, that increase has slowed to a near standstill since 2001.

Join us as we discuss what is needed to ensure women's values, beliefs and experience help guide and shape our future governments.

Parking is free in front of St. Mary's Church and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Garage. Info: (585)232-7168

*Church Women United*

# Day of Reflection

Date: Friday, September 30, 2005\*

Place: South Livonia United Church of Christ

*Rt. 15 South; 5087 S. Livonia Road*

*South Livonia, NY*

*Rt. 15 South, Exit #9 off I-390*

Time: 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

## “On Being Present Where You Are”

A morning of Bible Study and Reflection at the beginning of our program year and at a period of transition for Church Women United in Rochester and Vicinity, led by Sally Dodgson, Spiritual Resources Chairperson.

- All women are invited.
- Arrangements are being made for car pooling. If you would like a ride, telephone the CWU Office at (585) 342-2790.
- Bring a sack lunch. Beverage will be provided.

Join us for a morning of fellowship, study, and directed reflection.

\*Note change of date. This is our October celebration.

