



Dubuque Area Congregations United Monthly Newsletter

Volume 30, No. 6

PO Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004-0811

June 2009

We, the members of DACU, people of diverse faiths and beliefs, are united by our belief in God, our concerns for justice and our call to serve others. Through prayerful dependence on God and respectful cooperation with each other, we will make a difference in our world by fostering an awareness and understanding of human need. We will be a supportive presence in this community and beyond through the generous sharing of our time, talents, and resources. Mission Statement adopted 10/22/96.

www.DACUonline.org/

EVENTS

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT
These are just a few of the events sponsored by our DACU congregations and associates. Turn the page to learn more!		
August 25	DACU	DACU Delegates' Meeting and Annual Delegates' Potluck Picnic at the Dubuque Arboretum, 3800 Arboretum Drive. 6:00 PM.
September 3	CROP	Crop Walk Rally 6:00 PM Dubuque Rescue Mission
September 18	Dubuque Ministerium	Newly Re-organized Ministerium (Revs. Ken Bickel and Merlin Schlichting presiding) meets at First Congregational UCC Church, noon.
September 22	DACU	DACU Delegates Meeting, St. Mark Community Center, 7:00 PM.
October 4	CROP	CROP Walk 1:00 PM St. Raphael's Cathedral
October 27	DACU	DACU Delegates Meeting, Temple Beth El, 7:00 PM.
November 25	DACU	27 th Annual DACU Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve. Worship Service Church of the Resurrection, 7:00 PM.



"DACU", a Community of Servants

Next DACU Delegates' Meeting

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

Packard Amphitheater
Dubuque Arboretum
3800 Arboretum Drive

(Follow the signs from JFK Road & W 32nd St.)
6:00 PM

DACU Delegates Family Potluck Picnic:

- Please bring a dish to share that would feed your party plus 8 others. Drinks and paper goods will be provided.
- Musical entertainment is planned!

NOTE: We need a few volunteers who can come at 4:30 PM to set up tables...
call Tom Stovall if you can help!

President's Letter

I can't begin to adequately express just what a moving spiritual experience it was for me to participate in the DACU Spring Worship Service on May 19th at the Sisters

of the Presentation Chapel. The DACU Worship Committee did a wonderful job in planning a very meaningful service around the theme of "Welcoming The Stranger." The service featured several voices from our diverse Dubuque community who spoke to the 76 participants. Dubuque truly is a welcoming community!

As we move into the summer months, please remember that our next DACU Delegate Meeting will be a Family Potluck Picnic on August 25th. Be sure to join us for good food, fellowship and entertainment in the beautiful setting of the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. Best wishes to our "Community of Servants" for an enjoyable and relaxed summer. Godspeed!

Tom Stovall, 2009 DACU President

Treasurer's Report

According to the DACU Bylaws, "*Dubuque Area Congregations United will be supported financially by the voluntary contributions of its member congregations and institutions, keeping in mind the purposes and needs of the organization.*"

	MAY	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET 09
Income	\$ 1,009.36	\$ 5,222.29	\$ 4,700.00
Expense	\$ 44.00	\$ 960.71	\$ 4,700.00
Net	\$ 965.36	\$ 4,261.58	-0-

As of May 31, 2009, 20 Member Congregations and two Associate Members have made contributions to DACU for the 2009 Fiscal Year:

Member Congregations:

- Center Grove United Methodist Church (MAY)
- Church of the Nativity (MAY)
- Church of the Resurrection (MAY)
- First Congregational UCC (MAR)
- First Baptist Church (APR)
- Grandview Methodist Church (APR)
- Holy Spirit Pastorate (APR)
- Holy Trinity Lutheran (MAR)
- Immanuel Congregational UCC (FEB)
- Lord of Life Lutheran (MAY)
- Mount St. Francis (APR)
- Sinsinawa Dominican (FEB)
- St. Columbkille (MAR)
- St. Joseph's the Worker (APR)
- St. John's Episcopal (APR)
- St John's Lutheran (APR)
- St. Peter Lutheran (MAR)
- St. Raphael's Church (APR)
- Sisters of the Presentation (APR)
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (APR)

Associate Members:

- Church Women United, Dubuque Area (APR)
- Operation New View (MAY)

Thank You For Your Contributions to DACU!

DACU traditionally makes regular disbursements to DACU projects (PIN, Food Pantry, and the Rescue Mission) based on donations received throughout the year. At the June Board Meeting the DACU Board voted to distribute \$1200 each to these three DACU projects as this is a time of great need for each of them. Please help us to support our DACU projects! Checks should be made payable to "Dubuque Area Congregations United" and sent to: DACU Treasurer,

P.O. Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004

Jenny Manders, DACU Treasurer

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People In Need (P.I.N.)

During the months of January through April, People In Need (PIN) assisted 71 households with emergency needs totalling \$15,386.30. This included payments for rent to avoid eviction and payments for gas, electric and water to avoid shutoff of service. Unfortunately, PIN was not able to respond to any emergency requests for help during the month of May because we are out of funds. At this time, PIN is asking for all congregations and friends for financial support so that we may resume answering pleas for emergency help from our community. Thank you for any support that you can provide.

Congregations are reminded that all contributions to the work of People In Need (PIN) should be directed to Tom Stovall, PIN Treasurer, as follows:

People In Need (PIN)

**c/o Tom Stovall, Treasurer
3345 Tibey Court
Dubuque, IA 52002-2849**

The PIN Board consists of: Alan Garfield, Barb Featherston, Fr. Jack Paisley, Sr. Sara McAlpin, Tom Stovall, Nea Huggins and Michelle Watters.

Dubuque Food Pantry

Thank you to all who have dropped off boxes for us to use. We continue to need boxes about the size that reams of paper come in and apple or orange boxes are great, too. Keep them coming.

Summer is upon us, so once again we will be glad to take any extra produce you might have in your garden. Our clients love the fresh fruits and vegetables. So spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

Sister Lynn Wagner, Manager

Thanks for your continuing support of the **Dubuque Rescue Mission** (Rick Mihm, Director). At the DACU Board Meeting, Rick reported that the Community Garden has doubled in size thanks to a grant from McGraw Hill and the labor of 27 volunteer workers. There is an increased need for household items and furniture, especially beds, for people who are setting up their own apartments.

Community Announcements

Shalom Retreat Center

RETREAT DAY: Peace Through Reconciliation . . .

Our Search for Common Ground Sat., June 20, 10:00am – 3:00pm Director: Joe Nassal CPPS

Reconciliation reveals the desire to live in right relationship with God and with one another. We will examine our call to be ministers of healing and hope in a war-scarred and weary world. *Offering: \$40. Register by Friday, June 12.*

From Here to Hope: Six Degrees of Reconciliation Retreat June 14, 5:30pm - June 20, 9:30am

Director: Joe Nassal CPPS This retreat explores six themes essential to a ministry of reconciliation: Recognition, Recollection, Honesty, Hospitality, Humility and Hope. Daily Eucharist. *Offering: \$340. Register by June 8.*

Tending the Mystery Retreat June 28, 5:30pm - July 4, 9:30am Director: Elizabeth Cummins OSF

This retreat will weave insights of emerging consciousness, earth spirituality, poetry and Franciscan intuitions. Daily Eucharist. *Offering: \$340. Register by June 22.*

The Holy Spirit & the Evolution of Consciousness Retreat July 5, 5:30pm - July 11, 9:30am

Director: Don Goergen OP Explores the relationship between contemplation and mission in the context of the mission of the Holy Spirit. Daily Eucharist. *Offering: \$340. Register by June 30.*

The new Shalom Music CD features sacred and secular favorites. *Prayers for a Wonderful World* sells for \$18 and is now available at the Asbury and Dodge Street Hy-Vee stores in addition to the Shalom Gift Shop, 1001 Davis Street. Gift shop hours are 8:00 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

For more information or to register, call Karen Knepper at 563/582-3592, send e-mail to: kknepper@shalomretreats.org or visit our web site at: www.shalomretreats.org Shalom Retreat Center, 1001 Davis St., Dubuque, IA 52001.

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www.thonline.com/weatherization
DUBUQUE WEATHERIZATION CHALLENGE 2009
"KEEP THE WEATHER OUTSIDE"
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009

On Saturday, October 24th, volunteer weatherization teams will spread out across the Dubuque community in a one-day blitz to perform energy saving measures on the homes of their elderly, disabled and low-income neighbors. The goal of this third annual event is to provide over 100 homes with simple weatherization measures such as caulking, weather-stripping, window plastic, door sweeps, furnace filters and other energy-saving techniques. This will reduce energy consumption and save money on heating bills.

Dubuque Area Congregations United (DACU) is again one of the official sponsors of this event and is encouraging all congregations to join in this important community outreach effort. Several congregations took part in last year's event as 377 volunteers weatherized 106 homes. We hope to have even more congregations participate this year to show the power and caring spirit of our local religious community.

Congregations can participate in this much-needed project in three important ways:
*--Recruit one or more volunteer teams to do the weatherization work on October 24th. Each team consists of 6 volunteers and will be asked to weatherize 2 homes that day. The work does not require a lot of skill and all materials will be provided to complete the job. We hope to have teams signed up by August 30th.
--Assist in identifying and referring households that could really use the weatherization services being*

provided. Again, the target homes are those of elderly, disabled and low-income neighbors. The Planning Committee will follow up with all homeowners referred by congregations.

--Donate funds to assist with purchasing all of the weatherization supplies that will be required to weatherize 100 homes. This includes caulking, weather-stripping, door sweeps, window plastic, furnace filters and other items. It will cost approximately \$50 per home to provide the service.

Complete details on the Dubuque Weatherization Challenge 2009, including Team Signup Forms and Homeowner Referral Forms, can be found on our special event website at:

www.thonline.com/weatherization

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**Important Request from
Bridges Out of Poverty:**

"Breaking Barriers: Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World": Thanks to grants and generous donor support, two groups have started the workshops this summer. Each weekly workshop meeting starts with a meal. We are in need of churches and other groups to provide meals:

1. **Wednesday Evening:** Need a supper meal for about 35 people (adults and kids). Deliver by 4:30 PM. Location: First Baptist Church, 2143 Judson St. If you can help please contact Rev. Tim Bees at 583.6289 or revbees@yahoo.com
2. **Thursday Noon:** Need a light lunch for 20 adults. Deliver by 11:30 AM. Location: Second Floor of US Post Office Building downtown. If you can help please contact Carroll Clark at 589.4230 or cclark@cityofdubuque.org

This need extends all summer and into October. This would be a great opportunity for your organization or even a group of friends to do a "mitzvah" (a good thing) and support the folks who have committed to this program.

The annual update of the DACU Worship Brochure, which we distribute to local hotels and hospitals, is nearly ready. Look for it soon! Please send updates to the DACU Worship Committee, Phyllis Garfield, phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com.

Editor's Note: The minutes of every DACU Delegates' Meeting are emailed to each member congregation. If you would like a copy, please contact your church office or religious leader.

Remember...you can view all DACU Newsletters on our Website at www.DACUonline.org
Do you have items for the DACU Newsletter? Just email Phyllis Garfield at phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com.



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