



Dubuque Area Congregations United Monthly Newsletter

Volume 34, No 6

PO Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004-0811

June 2012

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/

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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 21, 2012	DACU	DACU Annual Family Potluck Picnic, 6 PM, Arboretum
Sundays, June, July, August	Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens	Music in the Gardens, free concert at the Packard Pavilion at 6:30 PM
Wednesdays, June, July, August	Sinsinawa	Summer Organ Recitals in the Queen of the Rosary Chapel every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. No charge; freewill offering accepted.
September 21	Dubuque Committee for the International Day of Peace	International Day of Peace Celebration, 7:00 PM, Alumni Center Ballroom at Loras College. Speaker: Rajmohan Ghandi
October 7, 2012	DACU	CROP Walk, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



DACU Annual Family Potluck Picnic

Date: Tuesday, August 21, 2012

(Note that this is NOT our regular 4th Tuesday!)

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Visitors' Center Porch
Dubuque Arboretum
3800 Arboretum Drive

******Please bring a dish to share that will feed your party plus 8 others. Drinks and paper goods will be provided.**

Directions to Dubuque Arboretum:

Follow the signs from JFK Road & W 32nd St. We will be meeting and eating in the screened porch of the Visitors' Center & Gift Shop.



REMINDER: We accept donations of canned food for the Food Pantry at every DACU Delegates' Meeting. Thank you for your generosity!

DACU Board Report

As of May 31 a total of **16** Congregations and Associates have contributed to the work of DACU during 2012. Thanks to Holy Spirit Catholic Parish and St. Anthony Catholic Church for their May donations!

FY 2012 Monthly Balance Sheet Report 05/31/2012			
	May	2012 YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET 2012
Income	\$ 525.00	\$ 3,700.36	\$6,450.00
Expenses	\$.00	\$ 1,626.66	\$6,450.00
Ending Balance as of 04/30/2012: \$6,476.02			

At the June DACU Board Meeting, Directors voted to give \$1,000 each to the three DACU Projects (P.I.N., Rescue Mission, and Dubuque Food Pantry), and also to give \$1,000 to Opening Doors for the Bed of Hope Project. There will be no Board meeting in July; the next meeting will be August.

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

DACU Projects

People In Need (P.I.N.)

2012 marks P.I.N.'s 30th year of service to people in need in the Dubuque area. So far we have funded 67 assists this year; at the same time last year we had funded just 32. Clearly the need is growing...but so is the generosity of God's people. This year we have given \$17,212 in assists. Last year at this time we had \$10,664. Your gifts truly make a difference. If you would like more information please contact Alan Garfield at agarfield@dbq.edu.

Alan Garfield, P.I.N. President

**Please send donations to: Tom Stovall, PIN Treasurer,
3345 Tibey Court, Dubuque, IA 52002-2849**

Dubuque Rescue Mission

We dedicated our first transitional house, the Father Tom Rhomberg House (2501 Elm St.) on May 15th at 7:00 PM.

Our second house is scheduled to be open by July 1.

We continue to need good used furniture and other usable items for the Thrift Shop.

Volunteer Opportunities at the Mission:

- Serve meals and help clean up
- Community garden
- Maintenance skills needed
- Work in Mission Bike Shop
- Answer Mission phone
- Sort donations in the Thrift Store
- Work the Thrift Store counter

If you are interested in volunteering please call us at (563) 583-1394 or visit our website: www.dbqrescue.org

Rev. Rick Mihm, Director (mihmr@mchsi.com)



Dubuque Food Pantry

Thank you to all who continue to support the Food Pantry with monetary donations and food collections. Just a reminder we also take personal hygiene products and cleaning supplies.

Summer lunch program: We will be handing out bag lunches during the summer on Tuesday and Friday mornings to children ages 1-18. If your church or a group in church is looking for a project we could use the following items for the lunches: *juice boxes/pouches, single serving of fruit, entrees, snacks, peanut butter, cereal, etc...*(a great project for Vacation Bible School).

Now with summer well under way we are looking for garden produce. Please remember the Pantry if you or someone you know has an excess of garden produce, we would be most happy to receive it. *Drop off hours are: Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. and Tues. 9:00-noon.*

God bless you and thank you for your continued support.

Sister Lynn Wagner, Manager

DACU Community



St. Luke's Methodist Church

Mary Purdy of St. Luke's Methodist Church shares the story of two garden projects supported by St. Luke's as a ministry to address hunger, food insecurity and nutrition in the Dubuque community:

Purdy Produce Plot/St. Luke's Church garden. In 2010, my husband and I decided that we should use some of the nearly 4 acres we own to have a church garden. The main intention was to grow produce to use in the free meal we serve every Saturday night at St. Luke's church called Food for the Soul. We were pretty much novices at gardening in community but we solicited volunteers from the congregation and proceeded to plant a garden. It produced prodigiously and we served 100s of pounds of vegetables, including having a relish tray awaiting the meal guests as one of the snack options when they arrived.

In the fall of 2010, my husband died. The following spring, it was a dilemma whether to try to have a garden again but my son supported me and spent hours tilling and amending the soil and mulching with paper and straw. By then, I was retired and devoted nearly all my time to the garden. I had learned a few things about dividing the tasks as some people will volunteer to transport or prepare the vegetables who are not interested in being in a garden. That is a means of involving more people in the project. The 2011 garden produced slightly over 2,000 pounds of vegetables and fruit (we tried our hand at watermelon and cantaloupe.).

So here we are again in 2012, planting another garden. It is a huge amount of work for me and takes much of my time from April until November but I am dedicated to this as a ministry of St. Luke's for as long as my body holds out. In addition to providing vegetables for the meal, extra produce is offered to the meal guests to take home and produce or food prepared from the garden has been donated to Theresa Shelter, Dubuque Rescue Mission, St. Stephen's Food Bank, Dubuque Food Pantry and First Congregational Church for their free meal. St. Luke's has a grant writing ministry team which serves to apply for grants to further our ministry and outreach. In 2010 and 2011, the garden was funded, in part, by grant funds through the United Methodist Church called Matthew 25 grant.

This year, the garden is funded by a grant from the Dubuque Rotary Club. Our property is north of Galena on a high point and from the garden we can see for miles into the tri state area. It is a lovely spot. The garden has engendered some wonderful opportunities to work together, share stories and to form deeper relationships with persons that may not know each other well, to enlist children and youth in ministry and to use the gifts of God's creation.

We would enthusiastically welcome any volunteers who would like to work in the garden or help to prepare the produce for the meal.

Wading Pool Gardens: As I mentioned, St. Luke's has a grant writing ministry team. About 4-5 years ago, one of the members of the ministry team, Kathy Lamb, came to a meeting excited about an urban gardening technique she had found on the internet. It was the concept of using child size wading pools as a container in which to grow produce. From 2008 or 2009 through 2010, Kathy and her husband, Steve, experimented and succeeded with a wading pool garden and the Matthew 25 grant funds were used to fund about 6-8 other wading pool gardens. Then in 2010, the grant writing ministry team decided to apply for a Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque grant fund called " Neighborhood Impact Grant " to start a wading pool garden initiative in Dubuque, targeting the " heart of the city ". St. Luke's was awarded \$3,200 and was given additional funds by the Denlinger Family fund.

A Wading Pool Garden Planning Task force was created, including representatives from Dubuque Downtown Christian Outreach, The Community Foundation and the City of Dubuque. The concept was to publicize the opportunity to receive a wading pool and the soil materials and seeds and plants, to deliver these items to the selected recipients and to partner these gardeners with a mentor, termed a garden guide. We created brochures written in English and Spanish. There were about 85-100 applicants and we were able to fund 40 new gardens and some of the earlier gardens continued. Needless to say, we were on uncharted territory.

Delivery of the gardens is quite an undertaking. Each garden has 14 bags of compost and manure each weighing 40 lbs plus peat and vermiculite. If you multiply that times 40, you will get the idea of the immensity of the delivery process. We staged the delivery out of the old city garage on Kerper and had volunteers who delivered the pool and soil materials in their trucks or vans and put the garden together for the recipient. Each recipient received a voucher worth \$20 to get seeds and plants of their choice at Central True Value Hardware. From there on, the garden guides were to be the support and conduit for relationships with the gardeners.

It was difficult to measure whether this initiative was having any impact. It was not until a phone survey of the 2011 gardeners was conducted to determine their

interest in continuing in 2012 that we heard the enthusiasm for the project. 34 of the gardens are in production again this year. Again St. Luke's church was awarded grant funds from the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and received funds from Norma Denlinger and St. Luke's Church has contributed \$500 in addition to all the volunteer hours donated. We were able to fund 32 gardens this year so we have a total of 64 in production. They are located at homes, at Hempstead High School, St. Mary's Apartments, daycares and preschools, Mines of Spain, Theresa Shelter and The Dubuque City Bus Garage. One apartment-dwelling gardener has put his on his roof.

So once again, this project has been executed and the gardens are in process and hopefully the garden guides are developing relationships with their gardeners. The grant is called a " Community Impact Grant " and developing relationships is equally important as the food produced. There are already anecdotes of how that is happening. We would welcome DACU members on the Planning Task Force if we continue this initiative into 2013 and to be garden guides. It is our hope that it will continue to grow and prosper. We plan to have a potluck near the end of the season for the gardeners and the garden guides.

*For more information on either of these stewardship initiatives, please contact **Mary Purdy** (mary_purdy@hotmail.com)*

Shalom Retreat Center

OUR MISSION: Founded in the Franciscan tradition, Shalom Retreat Center is a sacred space in a peaceful environment, calling people to God and fullness of life.
Phone: 563/582-3592.
E-mail: info@shalomretreats.org
Web: www.shalomretreats.org

TO REGISTER, call Shalom at 563/582-3592 or send check payable to Shalom Retreat Center with your contact information to: 1001 Davis St., Dubuque, IA 52001.

Summer Breakfast: Conversing with God in Summer Tuesday, June 19, 7:00 – 8:00am, Mass at 8:15am
Presenter: Marci Blum OSF

Summer can teach us so much of how to live life more fully. What are some lessons from the season of summer? "Love for the earth and love for you (God) are having such a long conversation in my heart." – Mary Oliver Offering: \$8. Register by June 15.

Annual Picnic on the Hill: Thursday, June 21.
Serving: 11:30am - 12:30pm

Dine inside or outside on our beautiful patio or deck. Menu: hamburgers, brats, baked beans, potato salad, relishes, cookies, ice cream, lemonade and coffee. Offering: \$8.50/adults, \$4 for children 10 & under

accompanied by an adult. Register/prepay by June 19.

Earthbound & Mystical: Using the Psalms as a School of Prayer Retreat: June 24 - 30
Director: Nancy Schreck OSF, Worldwide Educator and Facilitator

This retreat will explore the deep concerns that form the heartbeat of the book of Psalms, questions of suffering, social justice and worship. Offering: \$400. Register by June 14.

Taize Prayer: Let There Be Peace on Earth Thursday, July 5, 7:30 – 8:30pm
Registration not required.

Engaging Women in the Ordinary Mysteries of Life Retreat: July 8 - 14
Director: Ann Willitts OP, Full-time Itinerant Preacher
This retreat will reflect on the ordinary mysteries -- like displacement, gratitude and friendship -- in the lives of Jesus, Mary and the early disciples, and in our lives. Two daily conferences and daily Eucharist. Offering: \$400. \$25 discount if registered by June 7. Register by June 28.



Sinsinawa Mound

Summer Organ Concert Recitals

Every Wednesday evening throughout the summer (June, July, August), the Sinsinawa Mound Outreach Music Department hosts organ recitals performed by guest musicians in Queen of the Holy Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa Mound. The Summer Organ Concert Recital series is free and open to the public, beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, please call Sister Marie Juan Maney at Sinsinawa Mound, (608) 748-4411, ext. 807.



Clarke University

Clarke University announces "Joy of Caring: Encountering Challenges", a one-day conference for people in caring professions, August 17, 2012, from 8:45 AM to 4:00 PM. CEU credit is available. For more information please call (563) 588-6339 or -6361 or visit www.clarke.edu/joyofcaring

Loras College

The National Association of Catholic Chaplains is offering a one-day workshop for people engaged in pastoral care and related Church work:

“Exploring the Ethical Dimensions of Health Care Services: Some Current Issues”.

September 19, 2012
8:15 AM to 4:00 PM
Loras College
1450 Alta Vista Street
Dubuque, IA

Mary Alexis Room in the Alumni Campus Center

For more information and to register email Jeanine Annunziato, jannunziato@nacc.org, phone (414) 483-4898 OR visit the website:

www.nacc.org/resources/edops.asp#sep2012

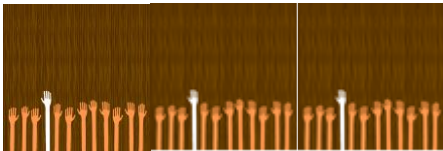
Dubuque Community



Music in the Gardens

Every Sunday evening through June, July, and August there are free concerts at the Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, in the Packard Pavilion. Time is 6:30 PM. For a schedule, visit their website:

www.dubuquearboretum.com/musiclist.html



Dubuque Supports Our Sisters....

In response to recent events affecting the Leadership Conference of Women Religious there have been numerous expressions of support and gratitude for our Sisters from all over the U.S. and abroad. It is now our turn to express our support and gratitude to all women religious, especially those in the Tri-States. A small committee consisting of some friends and associates of the Dubuque communities of sisters is planning to run a full-page ad in the Dubuque Telegraph Herald (on July 1) and in the Dubuque Archdiocesan Witness (on July 15).

The ad will be positive in tone and include a message of support for and gratitude to our Sisters. The bulk of the ad will list the names of many friends, relatives and associates of the religious communities whose motherhouses are located in the Dubuque area.

Also in the planning stage is a Prayer Service of Thanksgiving for Dubuque-area sisters. An invitation to this prayer service (to be held in St. Raphael's Cathedral on July 17) will also be part of the information included in the ad pages.

We invite you to sign the ad. To do this, please send notification of your desire to have your name published in the ads. Since the combined cost of the ads will be \$1800 we are inviting each signee to send in a donation, as you are able. If more money is raised than is needed to fund the ads, the surplus will be donated to "Opening Doors"--an initiative begun by the women religious of Dubuque to provide housing for women and children. The donation will be made in the name of the Sisters who continue to offer support to this initiative in many ways.

Please send, via snail mail, notification of your desire to have your name listed in the ads. You can print off and include the form printed at the end of this letter or just write the information included in the form on a slip of paper and send it with your donation made out to "Dubuque Supports Our Sisters". Include this information:

Please include my name, _____ (please print) in the July, 2012 ad to be published in the Dubuque TH and in the Witness in support of Our Sisters. Enclosed is a donation toward the cost of the ad. _____ (signature)

MAIL notes and checks to:
Gwen Nilles
(Treasurer of Dubuque Supports Our Sisters)
2310 Matthew John Drive
Dubuque, Iowa 52002

Time is of the essence! Names received after June 21 cannot be included in the ad!

Questions? Contact Mike McFarland at 563-495-6781 or memcfarland40@yahoo.com

**Thanks, Mike McFarland, Chair,
Dubuque Supports Our Sisters**



Dubuque's United Nations International Day of Peace Festival 2012

Violence is a powerful force in our world, but it is not inevitable. There are alternatives. In a series of events marking the United Nations International Day of Peace in 2012, we invite the Dubuque-area community to reflect on alternatives to violence, like diplomacy, mediation, negotiation, and reconciliation. This year's Day of Peace Festival celebrates those working to end violence and engages our community in the task of developing creative alternatives to it. The Festival is from September 15 to 30, 2012, while the Day of Peace is recognized around the world every September 21. Since 1981, the Day of Peace has marked humanity's personal and planetary progress toward peace.

Featured event: At 7 pm on Friday, September 21, 2012, come for a short Intercollegiate Choral Concert followed by a landmark presentation by Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of Mohandas K. Gandhi. This free program will be at the Alumni Center Ballroom at Loras College.

Professor Gandhi will also speak at Divine Word College on Saturday, September 22 at 1:30, also a free public event.

More information, additional events at:
www.dbqdayofpeace.org



LAST CALL to send changes for the DACU Worship Brochure which we distribute to local hotels and hospitals. We want to correctly list your congregation, its address, phone contact, email or website, and worship and religious school schedule.

Please send updates Phyllis Garfield, phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com. To check how your congregation is currently listed, go to www.DACUonline.org and click on "Worship Brochure".

Important Note from the Newsletter Editor!!!!
The next newsletter will be a July/August Newsletter (necessitated by the early August wedding of the editor's daughter!!!). Please send me any news for July and August by the first week of July. We will be back on a monthly schedule for September. Thanks very much for understanding!
---Phyllis Garfield, DACU Newsletter Editor
phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com





DACU
PO Box 811
Dubuque IA 52004-0811



Remember...you can view all DACU Newsletters on our Website at www.DACUonline.org

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