



# Dubuque Area Congregations United Monthly Newsletter

Volume 30, No. 4

PO Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004-0811

April 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/](http://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! |                     |  |
| April 14  | Ministerium         | Ministerium Lunch at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church. Open to all area clergy.   |
| April 23  | Area Colleges       | Sustainability Conference, 12 Noon to 8:00 PM, Loras College (Marie Graber Ballroom) <a href="http://www.loras.edu/sustainability">www.loras.edu/sustainability</a> . Free.  |
| April 28  | DACU                | DACU April Delegates Meeting: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (1755 Delhi Street), 7:00 PM. Program: The Immigrant Community  |
| May 1   | Church Women United | May Friendship Day hosted at Sisters of Mount St. Francis, 3390 Windsor Ave. 9:30 AM Brunch, Celebration Service: "Building on Our Stories" (RSVP by April 29th at 581-7006) |
| May 12  | Ministerium         | Ministerium Lunch at University of Dubuque, P.I.N. Presenting. Open to all area clergy.  |
| May 19 (Third Tuesday)  | DACU                | DACU May Delegates Meeting: Sisters Of The Presentation (2360 Carter Road), 7:00 PM. Program: Spring Worship Service   |
| September 3   | CROP                | Crop Walk Rally 6:00 PM Dubuque Rescue Mission   |
| October 4   | CROP                | CROP Walk 1:00 PM St. Raphael's Cathedral  |



"DACU", a Community of Servants

## Next DACU Delgates' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 28, 2009**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
(1755 Delhi St., Dubuque)  
7:00 PM

Program: The Immigrant Community

**REMINDER:** Don't forget to bring a donation of canned food for the Food Pantry!

## President's Letter

Once again we had a great turnout for the March DACU Delegates Meeting at First Congregational UCC Church. Thanks to Revs. Ken and Nancy Bickel for being our hosts. Laura Roussell, Co-Chair of the 2008

Dubuque Weatherization Challenge, presented recognition certificates to the congregations that participated and showed photos from the event. She also reminded us that this year's event will take place on October 24. Molly Menster told us about the work of the Dubuque Human Rights Department and issues around fair housing. It was a very informative evening.

Please be sure to join us for the April 28th DACU Delegates Meeting at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. This month we will learn about the needs and issues of Dubuque's Immigrant Community and some of the programs in place to serve our immigrant neighbors and make Dubuque a welcoming community. It will be another informative evening.

**Remember that our meetings are not just limited to delegates.** Please invite others to join us as members of Dubuque's faith community to learn more about human needs in our city. Keep in mind that we are "DACU, A Community of Servants." See you on April 28th!  
*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." Donations to DACU in March totaled \$755.43. Ending Balance is \$2464.41

Checks should be made payable to "Dubuque Area Congregations United" and sent to:  
DACU Treasurer,  
P.O. Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004  
\* \* \* \* \*

**People In Need (P.I.N.)**

During the month of March, People In Need (PIN) received \$4,008.00 in donations thanks to the generosity of 19 caring individuals, congregations and organizations. We are particularly thankful for \$175.00 contributed from the offering at an Ash Wednesday Worship Service jointly held by Sherrill United Methodist Church and Sherrill United Church of Christ. Thank you!

During the month PIN paid out \$3,663.97 to fund 15 emergency assists for rent, electric, natural gas and water; all to avoid shutoff of service or to prevent eviction.

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.

Thanks for your continuing support of the **Dubuque Food Pantry** (Sr. Lynn Wagner, Manager) and the **Dubuque Rescue Mission** (Rick Mihm, Director)

**Community Announcements**

**Church Women United**

*Founded in 1941, CWU is an ecumenical movement involving Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian women in the United States and Puerto Rico, organized into 1,200 Local and State Units working for peace and justice from a Christian basis. CWU is recognized by the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organization.*

**MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY "Building On Our Stories"**

The Church Women United Celebration, May Friendship Day, is an ecumenical event held nationwide. In Dubuque it is scheduled on Friday, May 1 beginning with a 9:30 AM brunch followed by the celebration "Building On Our Stories." All women and men are cordially invited to the event hosted at Mount St. Francis at 3390 Windsor Avenue.

Faith-filled women including Sister Lynn Wagner PBVM, Director of the Dubuque Food Pantry and Valiant Woman Award recipients' personal stories of God's calling past and present in their lives, will be shared.

May their stories empower others for the challenges of tomorrow.

Fellowship of the Least Coin (a penny in the U.S.) will be collected from women who have prayed regularly for peace and reconciliation. Collected funds provide grants to alleviate women's hardships globally.

Brunch reservations (\$5.00) are accepted by Ruth Von Fumetti at 581-7006 by April 29<sup>th</sup>. Non- perishable items will be collected for the Dubuque Food Pantry. The May Friendship Day offering will remain locally to support the Dubuque Food Pantry with an amount to state Church Women United. Mount St. Francis is handicap accessible with parking behind the Convent.

*Submitted by **Sue Hattel**, Church Women United Leadership Team (563-556-1394)*

**Sinsinawa Mound**

April brings opportunities to focus on the sacred in each of us and our world through events and activities at Sinsinawa Mound. From April 1 through May 31, the Sinsinawa Mound Art Gallery will feature Faces of West Africa, photography by Abbie Reese, Mount Carroll, IL. Reese took the photos while she volunteered aboard the world's largest nongovernmental hospital ship for one year. She observed not only the people of Sierra Leone, but the results of an 11-year civil war. Reese wrote, "The reality persists: In Sierra Leone, beauty is married to suffering." Visitors may view the show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For more information, contact Michelle Till at (608) 748-4411, ext. 849.

What do we know about solar economics, landfill gas energy, "seventh generation," and neutralizing our carbon footprint? Come to Sinsinawa Mound 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, to learn more on these topics. Cool Globes, an interactive experience, has been created to inspire and empower us to take action against global warming. Through an art gallery approach, participants will take part in a process of learning and sharing through suggestions for immediate action against global warming. We will accomplish this via 120 Cool Globe posters teaching us the many fascinating aspects of global warming and suggesting practical, everyday actions to help alleviate this earth-wide challenge. After the program, a viewing of Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth will be made available. Sister Mary Ellen O'Dea, OP, will facilitate the evening. The registration deadline is April 14. A freewill offering will be taken. To register or for more information, contact Guest Services at (608) 748-4411.

The Sinsinawa Mound Civic Chorus will give their 19th annual spring concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 26. The concert, conducted by Sister Marie Juan Maney, OP, will highlight Easter music throughout the centuries. The German Trio, Sister Virgil Kummer, OP; Sister Anita Smisek, OP; and Sister Marie Virginia Walters, OP, will

assist the chorus. A freewill offering will be taken. For more information, contact Sr. Marie Juan at (608)748-4411,ext.807.

The 18th annual Youth Choir Music Festival will be held Monday, April 27. Area youth choirs from Drexler Middle School, Farley, IA, and Sinsinawa Mound will participate in an afternoon clinic with guest clinician Margaret Jenks director of the Madison Youth Choir, Madison, WI. They will perform a concert at 7 p.m. in Queen of the Rosary Chapel, to which the public is invited. The Lancaster High School Concert Choir directed by David Murphy from Lancaster, WI, will be the guest choir. Tickets are \$3 for adults. Children are free. Contact Sr. Marie Juan Maney, OP, at (608) 748-4411, ext. 807, for more information.

The Sinsinawa Mound Bookshop will host the 2nd annual World Fair Trade Festival May 3-9. This is your chance to purchase gifts with a conscience. The festival will feature Fair Trade products from Ghana, Ecuador, Peru, India, Kenya, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Argentina, and more. Visitors can sample Fair Trade coffees and Divine chocolates. Join us for a fashion show featuring Fair Trade clothing and jewelry. There will be special sales and door prizes. The Bookshop is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Sundays. For more information, contact Michelle Till at (608) 748-4411, ext. 849.

For more information on these and other activities at the Mound, contact Guest Services at (608) 748-4411 or visit our Web site at [www.sinsinawa.org/moundcenter](http://www.sinsinawa.org/moundcenter). Sinsinawa Mound, the Motherhouse for the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, is located in southwest Wisconsin on County Road Z, off Highway 11, about five miles northeast of Dubuque.

Sheila Heim ([SHEIM@sinsinawa.org](mailto:SHEIM@sinsinawa.org))

### **Shalom Retreat Center**

**Shalom Retreat Center . . . Celebrating 20 years of peace, prayer & hospitality! 1989 – 2009**

**EVENING FOR GRANDPARENTS & GRANDCHILDREN: Celebrate the "Grand-ness" in One Another Monday, April 20, 5:30 - 8:00pm**  
**Presenter: Deacon Steve MacDonald** Includes spaghetti supper, stories and age appropriate activities both generations can share. Open to grandparents & grandchildren, ages 3-12. Adults: \$10; Children: \$7. Register by April 15.

**Centering Prayer Hour Monday, April 20, 7:00 - 8:00pm** Facilitator: Marilyn Dansart. Registration not required.

**Administrative Professionals Luncheon: Life Is Too Short! Wed., April 22, 11:30am - 1:00pm**  
**Presenter: Lori Thielen** Treat your staff to a delicious & fun event. \$10. Register by April 15.

**Nurturing the Feminine Spirit: The Lessons We Learn as Women Thurs., April 23, 6:30 - 9:00pm**  
**Presenter: Gerarda Lahey-Keppler** \$15. Include wine/cheese social. Register/prepay by April 20.

**German Festival: Tap Your Toes & Taste the Goodness! Tuesday, April 28, 6:30 - 8:30pm**  
**Music: Dave Overby & Friends** Enjoy German foods and music. \$20. Register/prepay by April 22.

**Tea for Two: A Step Back in Time Saturday, May 2, 2:30 - 4:00pm** **Hostess: Eileen Miller OSF** Mothers, grandmothers, aunts, etc. are invited to bring a young girl (age 7-12) to an old-fashioned afternoon tea. \$6. Register by April 29.

**Annual Mother/Daughter Evening: "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall..." Tuesday, May 5, 6:30 - 8:30pm**  
**Presenter: Karla Berns** Enjoy a pre-Mother's Day dinner and listen as Karla shares stories and memories of her relationship with her mother. \$20/adults, \$10/girls (age 12 & under) Register by April 29.

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

At this season of Passover and Easter, **Temple Beth El** invites other DACU congregations to join in calling attention to the suffering in Darfur. Please go to [www.savedarfur.org](http://www.savedarfur.org) to learn how to become designated as "congregations of conscience".

**Remember...you can view all DACU Newsletters on our Website at [www.DACUonline.org](http://www.DACUonline.org)**

**Do you have items for the DACU Newsletter? Just email the Editor ([phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com](mailto:phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com) or [pgarfiel@dbq.edu](mailto:pgarfiel@dbq.edu)).**

*Conserve \* Preserve \* Protect*  
**Sustainability Conference:**  
**Building Tomorrow's Neighborhoods**  
**Thursday, April 23, 12 Noon to 8:00 PM.**  
**Loras College (Marie Graber Ballroom)**  
*Admission is FREE and open to all!*  
Co-sponsored by Area colleges and city organizations.



For more information, visit: [www.loras.edu/sustainability](http://www.loras.edu/sustainability)



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## DACU Board and Project Contacts

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

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