



Dubuque Area Congregations United Monthly Newsletter

Volume 30, No. 3

PO Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004-0811

March 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!		
March 5	Church Women United	World Day of Prayer (WDP) 7:00 pm at St. Matthew Lutheran Church (1780 White St.). Ecumenical service written by women of Papua New Guinea. Keynote: Judy E. Bailey "Uniting continents through common prayer for our societies and our world."
March 6	Church Women United	World Day of Prayer(WDP) 9:30 Gathering/Coffee 10:00 am Service St. Matthew Lutheran Church. Ecumenical service written by women of Papua New Guinea. Keynote: Judy E. Bailey. ALL are welcome to this common day of prayer
March 24	DACU	DACU March Delegates Meeting: First Congregational UCC Church (255 West 10 th St.), 7:00 PM. Program: Dubuque Human Rights/Fair Housing
April 3	Temple Beth El	Annual Temple Beth El Visitors' Service (6:30 PM Lecture; 7:30 PM Worship; refreshments following).
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"
May 19 (Third Tuesday)	DACU	DACU May Delegates Meeting: Sisters Of The Presentation (2360 Carter Road), 7:00 PM. Program: Spring Worship Service



"DACU", a Community of Servants

Next DACU Delgates' Meeting

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

First Congregational UCC Church
(255 West 10th St., Dubuque)
7:00 PM

Program: Dubuque Human Rights
Coalition/Fair Housing (Molly Muenster)
Also a video presentation on Operation
Weatherization

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

President's Letter

Thanks to all who attended our February DACU Delegates Meeting. We had a great turnout and learned about the wonderful mission work being done and the lives being touched in the Dubuque Community by the Rescue Mission, the Food Pantry and People In Need (PIN). Thanks to Rick Mihm for being our host and providing us with words of inspiration.

Please be sure to join us for the March 24th DACU Delegates Meeting. We will continue our journey into the needs of our community. This month we will learn about the work of the Dubuque Human Rights Department and housing issues. In addition, we will see a slide show recapping the 2008 Dubuque Weatherization Challenge. Several congregations participated in this event and we will be awarding certificates to them.

Please keep in mind that our monthly meetings are not just limited to delegates. The public is also invited to attend. Please invite others to join us and learn about human needs in our community and the awesome power of Dubuque's faith community. See you then!

Tom Stovall, 2009 DACU President

Reports/Updates/Events

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."

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

(Editor's Note: The DACU Board meets the first Wednesday of each month. Since the newsletter is a few days early this month, we'll have an update from the Board and Treasurer in the April newsletter.)

Dubuque Food Pantry

Thank you to all who took part in the "Souper Bowl" collection in early February. We received 650 containers of soup, along with monetary donations. **What a great way to celebrate Super Bowl Sunday!** If your church/congregation hasn't participated in "Souper Bowl" Sunday consider putting it on your calendar for 2010.

We are now preparing for the city wide **Scout Food Drive** to be held on **Saturday, March 21**. Bags to place your items in will be appearing in the Telegraph Herald that week. We are especially in need of rice, juices, ketchup, pancake mix & syrup, any type of potatoes, canned meats, baby cereal, size 5 diapers and baby lotion.

Thank you for remembering the Dubuque Food Pantry.

Sister Lynn Wagner, Manager

People In Need (P.I.N.)

During the month of February, People In Need (PIN) received \$2,715.05 in donations thanks to the generosity of many caring congregations and individuals. We are particularly thankful for \$423.05 contributed from the offering at an Ash Wednesday Worship Service at the University of Dubuque. The service was sponsored by the UD Theological Seminary, Grace Point Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

During the month PIN paid out \$2,180.77 to fund 8 emergency assists for rent and electricity; 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.

Dubuque Rescue Mission

Here is a list of opportunities for you and your respective parishes to get involved in the work of the Dubuque Rescue Mission:

- Volunteering in the Mission Kitchen serving meals, assisting guests with their trays, and visiting with the men, women and children. Mission meal times are Monday through Saturday lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Supper is Monday, Tuesday, Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday brunch at 1:30 p.m. (Sunday brunch is put on by the area churches). ****There are opportunities outside of the Sunday brunch meal where Church groups can sponsor the meal by preparing the meal at the Mission or bringing it already prepared to serve at any other meals we provide. For example: If a Saturday lunch works for your group, call us and schedule that meal and let us know what your're group is bringing for the meal and how many will be serving.**
- Volunteering in the Mission Thrift Store. Assisting with covering the counter and cash register. Helping sort clothes in the basement sorting room. Mission Thrift Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9:30 - 5:30 p.m.
- Volunteering in the Mission Garden (this is a seasonal volunteer opportunity from May to October).
- Adopt a Mission Needs List. Current list includes: Tide Laundry detergent, Coffee, Ground Beef, Milk, Canned fruit in its own juice, spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, paper towels, men's bar soap, shampoo, men's socks, towels and wash clothes and single bed sheets and pillow case. This is a good opportunity for Youth Groups to get involved and collect such items from the parish.
- Spiritual mentors for the men. This would be an opportunity for male prayer (spiritual support groups) etc. to offer a mentorship for any of the men staying at the Mission to grow in their relationship with Christ.
- Church Bible Studies would be welcomed to host their study here at the Mission thereby allowing us to invite the men to attend.

- Offering a Praise and Worship song service during any meal offered at the Mission.
- Offering rides to your specific church worship services and/or weekly spiritual formation groups.

Thank you for your assistance!

Rick Mihm, Director, Dubuque Rescue Mission



Community Announcements

St. Raphael's Cathedral

St. Raphael's Cathedral is on 231 Bluff Street; the Cathedral Center is in back of the church facing the parking lot. Items may be dropped off on the weekends and placed in the designated container. The Cathedral phone number is: 582-7646.

- **PAJAMAS:** New pajamas are being collected for women to be used in our YWCA Domestic Shelter in Dubuque. You can drop off the pajamas at the "Y" and say who they are for or drop them off at the Cathedral. You may also call Sister Charla Bulko, 588 - 0048 x11, and arrange for pick up.
- **PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS:** The yearly collection of personal care products will be given to those in need in our downtown community.
- **The DUBUQUE RESCUE MISSION** has an ongoing need for the following items: shampoo, shaving gel, razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, combs and brushes. Items may be dropped off at the Cathedral on the weekends and placed in the designated container.
- **BABY SHOWER FOR BIRTHRIGHT:** During March new baby items will be given to Birthright to be distributed to expectant and new mothers. Items may be dropped off on the weekends and placed in the designated container.
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Each Friday of Lent after the 7:30 A.M. Mass.
- **REFLECTION AND PRAYER GROUPS:** You are invited to come to any session as your schedule allows. 6:30 PM Wednesday evenings in the Cathedral rectory; 10:00 AM Thursday mornings at Sister Ruth Jackson's Visitation Convent, 2952 Kaufmann Street; or 6:30 PM Thursday evenings in the Cathedral rectory.



Sinsinawa Mound

Cancer Retreat: A retreat is being offered at Sinsinawa Mound March 6-8 for women who are experiencing or have experienced cancer. "**Choose Life**" is a time of reflection, prayer, and ritual focusing on the gift of healing led by Sister Mary Ellen O'Grady, OP, who has experienced cancer.

You may invite others who are journeying with you, such as a friend, spouse, or caregiver. They will be invited to join you in various parts of the retreat and also have time for their own quiet space to reflect, walk the labyrinth, and visit the Bookshop. You may also add a day of personal reflection before or after the retreat.

The registration deadline is Feb. 27. The fee is \$179 for an overnight guest or \$114 for a commuter. The friend, spouse, or caregiver fee is \$110. Contact Guest Services to register or for more information at (608) 748-4411 or visit our Web site at www.sinsinawa.org.

Retreat explores 'Women Who Knew Paul': In this liturgical year of Paul and during National Women's History Month, come spend a day discovering the "Women Who Knew Paul." The retreat will be held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. March 11 at Sinsinawa Mound.

The initial question posed: "Did Paul use or empower women?" is a fascinating one, one to which the infamous scriptural passage from Ephesians 5:21-32 has so solidly conditioned our response. Sister Mary Ellen O'Dea, OP, will help you gain an understanding of 17 women in the life of Paul. Then you will have the energizing opportunity to answer this question for yourself!

The registration deadline is March 4. The fee is \$40 and includes lunch. Contact Guest Services at (608) 748-4411 to register or for more information or visit our Web site at www.sinsinawa.org

Taj*i to perform at Mound: Internationally-acclaimed singer/songwriter Taj*i (pronounced TY-chee, also known as Tatiana) is returning to Sinsinawa Mound at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 7. She will perform her "I Thirst-The Crucifixion Story" concert.

Since the spring of 2000, Taj*i has shared her emotional programs in over 600 concerts, building a nationwide following for the artist who, as a teenager, was a pop music superstar in Communist Central Europe. Taj*i abandoned her fame at age 21 and fled to the United States, where she eventually began performing in churches across America. A preview of Taj*i's music and more information about her are available at www.idobelieve.com.

Dee Bernhardt, pastoral associate and campus minister at St. Augustine Parish, Platteville, attended the 2007 concert at Sinsinawa Mound. She said, "Taj*i's music is very prayerful and inspiring. Her personal story is told throughout the concert. She is a very reflective, inspiring person because her music comes out of her life experience. This is a chance for people to experience a

little quiet and time for reflection in their busy lives."

Free tickets are required and can be ordered by calling Sinsinawa Mound at (608) 748-4411. Seating is limited and a freewill offering will be taken.



Shalom Retreat Center

Celebrating 20 years of peace, prayer and hospitality! Shalom Retreat Center offers a wide range of spiritual and educational programs/retreats year-round for people of all faith traditions.

Taize Prayer: "God Our Love" Thursday, March 5, 7:30 - 8:30pm, People of all faiths welcome. Registration not required.

The Journeys of Paul: An Evening of Lenten Reflection Tuesday, March 10, 7 - 9:00pm
Presenter: Fr. Bob Beck, Loras College, Religious Studies Department Register by March 9.

Centering Prayer Hour Monday, March 16, 7:00 - 8:00pm Facilitator: Marilyn Dansart Registration not required.

The Power of Guided Imagery Thursday, March 19, 7:00 - 9:00pm Registration & fee by noon, March 17.

Conversion: A Life Long Journey Retreat Sun., Mar 22, 5:30pm - Fri., Mar. 27, 4:00pm Director: Don Bisson, FMS, D. MIN Registration & fee by March 23.

Spiritual Director Workshop: Remaining Vibrant in Their Service to Others Fri., Mar. 27, 7:00pm - Sat., Mar. 28, 4:00pm Director: Don Bisson, FMS, D. MIN.
Workshop for Spiritual Directors of all faith traditions. Commuter & Overnight options available. Register/prepay by March 23.

Shalom Spring Breakfast: "You Can't Stop Spring from Coming" Tuesday, Mar. 31, 7:00 - 8:00am, 8:15 Mass Presenter: Pat R. Farrell OSF Register/prepay by March 27.

Shalom's facilities are available for conferences, workshops, staff/board retreats, spiritual gatherings, funeral dinners and more - for a few hours, a day, an overnight or longer.

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.

The Annual Temple Beth El Visitors' Service will be Friday, April 3. There will be an informational lecture by Rabbi Stephanie Alexander at 6:30 PM followed by Sabbath Worship at 7:30 PM. Refreshments and a social hour will follow. Everyone is warmly invited. If you plan to bring a group please let us know in advance so we bake enough cookies! (Contact Sheila Rudin, 556.4262 or Phyllis Garfield, 589.0028)

Location: 475 West Locust St.
(NOTE: Temple Beth El has no off-street parking. Please consider ride-sharing!)

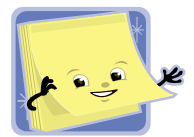


"Hinei ma Tov"... Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. From Psalm 133



...We're looking for "angels" to mail about 30 Newsletters per month to those without email. If you can volunteer for a month please let the Editor know (phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com, 589-0028).
...A Special Thank You to Bob Krayner and Immanuel UCC for mailing the February and March newsletters.

Do you have items for the DACU Newsletter? Just email the Editor (phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com or pgarfiel@dbq.edu). I try to get the newsletter out near the first of each month.



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



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