



Dubuque Area Congregations United Monthly Newsletter

Volume 30, No. 5

PO Box 811, Dubuque IA 52004-0811

May 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!		
May 12	BVM	Commemoration of Postville, IA Immigration Raid May 12, 2008: Prayer Vigil and Walk at St. Bridget's Church in Postville 3:30 PM.
May 19 (Third Tuesday)	DACU	DACU May Delegates Meeting: Sisters Of The Presentation (2360 Carter Road), 7:00 PM. Program: Spring Worship Service
August 25	DACU	DACU Delegates' Meeting and Annual Delegates' Picnic (location TBA but Pres. Tom Stovall promises lots of fun so be sure to put the date on your calendar!)
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 Delegates' Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Sisters of the Presentation
2360 Carter Road
7:00 PM

DACU Spring Worship Service:
"Welcoming the Stranger"

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

President's Letter

I truly appreciate the growing interest, participation and support of the DACU delegates who represent our member congregations. We had 50 people in attendance at our April DACU Delegates Meeting at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Thanks to Sara McCaw and all of the good people of Holy Trinity who hosted us. The topic was "the immigrant community" and we all learned about the issues and programs in place to serve our immigrant neighbors and make Dubuque a welcoming community. Thanks to our presenters; Joe

Featherston from Catholic Charities, Sister Corine Murray of the Lantern Center, and Penny Ehlinger and

Maddy Cairney of the Multicultural Family Center, for sharing with us.

Please be sure to join us this month as we gather for our DACU Spring Worship Service on Tuesday, May 19th, at Sisters of the Presentation. Our DACU Worship Committee, under the leadership of Rev. Tom Young, has planned a meaningful and thoughtful service for our reflection. Please invite others to join us in common worship as members of Dubuque's faith community. Hope to see you on May 19th!

Tom Stovall, 2009 DACU President

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.

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."

	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET 09
Income	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 4,212.93	\$ 4,700.00
Expense	\$ 00.00	\$ 916.71	\$ 4,700.00
Net	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 3,296.22	-0-

As of April 30, 2009, 16 Member Congregations and one Associate Member have made contributions to DACU for the 2009 Fiscal Year:

Member Congregations:

- First Congregational UCC (MAR)
- First Baptist Church (APR)
- Grandview Methodist Church (APR)
- Holy Spirit Pastorate (APR)
- Holy Trinity Lutheran (MAR)
- Immanuel Congregational UCC (FEB)
- 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 Member:

- Church Women United, Dubuque Area (APR)

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. 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.)

The emergency need in our community continues to grow and outpace our financial ability to assist in meeting those needs. During the month of April, People In Need (PIN) received \$816.00 in donations from 10 caring individuals, congregations and organizations.

However, also during April, PIN paid out \$5,588.44 to fund 31 emergency assists for rent, electric, natural gas and water; all to avoid shutoff of service or to prevent eviction. PIN is very low on available funds and in real need of donations to continue to serve households with emergency needs. As a result, the PIN Board has had to limit the maximum amount per assist to \$150. Normally this amount is \$400 and our average assist is \$217. This is compounded by the fact that we are entering the time of year when donations are few. PIN is asking all congregations and friends for financial support during this time of need in our community.

Thanks to all who have contributed so generously to PIN! 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 the congregations/churches that have donated to the Food Pantry in the last couple of months. The donations have kept our shelves full. If you church or an organization in your church is looking for a summer project we are always in need of cleaning supplies and soaps to hand out. Any type of cleaning supply is great and the soap could be dish, laundry or face soap. People cannot purchase these items with food stamps, so non-food items are always in demand.

We are again looking for boxes to place our clients orders in. The ideal box would be about the size of those that reams of paper come in or oranges and apples. Anything larger than that gets to heavy for people to carry.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sister Lynn Wagner, Manager

Thanks for your continuing support of the **Dubuque Rescue Mission** (Rick Mihm, Director). We hope to have a report from the Rescue Mission in the next DACU Newsletter!

Community Announcements

Sinsinawa Mound

Sinsinawa Mound will host a blood drive sponsored by the Red Cross Wednesday, May 27, 1:30-5:00 p.m. All are welcome. Call Guest Services at (608) 748-4411 for information. **Sheila Heim** (SHEIM@sinsinawa.org)

Shalom Retreat Center

**DISCOVER THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS Retreat
Day Saturday, May 16, 8:15am - 4:00pm**

Presenter: Sandy Hoening Even though people have hurt you and you cannot forget it, you can be free from resentment, self-defeating habits, and negative feelings. Forgiveness is a profound emotional strength. Together we'll identify and process the stages of forgiveness/healing and strategies for your personal and work life. \$35. Includes continental breakfast & lunch. Register/prepay by May 13.

CENTERING PRAYER Hour Monday, May 18, 7:00 - 8:00pm Facilitator: *Marilyn Dansart* Registration not required.

SPRING EVENING FOR MARRIED COUPLES: Celebrating the Joys, Memories, Hopes Saturday, May 23, 5:30 – 8:30pm Musicians: *Jim Brimeyer & Marie Therese Kalb OSF* Presenters: *Tom & Anne Benda* Whether your anniversary is at this or another time of year, come and celebrate it at Shalom. Includes: **Eucharistic Liturgy** at which you will have an opportunity to **renew your marriage vows**; special **dinner**; **music** - including some often used for weddings; & an **inspirational reflection**. \$40/couple. Register/prepay by May 19.

MEMORIAL MASS & SOCIAL Thursday, May 28, 7:00pm Each year around Memorial Day, deceased loved ones of Shalom friends and benefactors are remembered at a special Eucharistic liturgy. A social follows the Mass. *No fee. Call 563/582-3592 to register by May 26.*

SUMMER BREAKFAST: Delighting in Summer! Tuesday, June 2, 7:00-8:00am, Mass at 8:15 Presenter: *Dolores Ullrich OSF* Join Dolores as she reflects on the warmth, liveliness and color of the season, and anticipates the wonder of the weeks and months yet to come. *\$8. Register/prepay by May 29.*

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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Notes from Sr. Patricia Conlon, RSM, DACU Delegate from St. Raphael's Cathedral:

Manasseh House offers permanent supportive housing. It is an ADA approved facility offering affordable community - style independent living with education and supportive services. The next facility, Salvia Apartments also a green sustainable building will be on 2160 Elm Street. Donations may be sent to Manasseh House, 2080 Elm Street, Dubuque, Iowa 52001, Attention of Kim Terry. Michelle Mihalakis is the visionary behind these ventures. Thank you.

WMW Sisters JoAnn Persch and Pat Murphy met recently with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials in Chicago urging them to allow pastoral workers to minister to immigrants held in detention. For more than two years now, JoAnn, 74, and Pat, 80, have been participating in a weekly vigil at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center in Broadview, Illinois. They have worked with other immigrant advocates to support legislation that would allow pastoral workers to enter the prisons and detention centers to minister to the detained immigrants. Even though the Illinois legislature passed this bill, ICE personnel and local prison officials have severely limited access to immigrants held in detention. Last week ICE finally allowed Sr. JoAnn and other faith leaders to visit detained immigrants. The conditions they found were not humane and the detainees and those advocating for them continue to need your prayers. For more information contact the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights website at: <http://icirr.org/>

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

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

 Thanks to DACU Administrator Bob Krayner for his generosity in mailing the Newsletter to those delegates without email. Would you like to join the Angel Club and help Bob with this important service? Just email the Newsletter Editor phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com OR bdkramer@aol.com.

Spring has arrived! And with it, our annual update of the DACU Worship Brochure which we distribute to local hotels and hospitals. We want to list your congregation, its address, phone contact, email or website, and worship and religious school schedule. Please send updates to the DACU Worship Committee, Phyllis Garfield, phyllisgarfield@hotmail.com.





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