



The Good Word

“You visit the earth and water it, ... you provide the people with grain, ... You crown the year with your bounty; ... The pastures of the wilderness overflow; the hills gird themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy. (Psalm 65:9-13)

These words from Psalm 65 paint for us beautiful images of God’s love and care for creation; of the bounty and abundance the earth provides and of the joyfulness of creation as the valleys shout and sing together. Clearly, the author of this Psalm wrote these words from a place of joy and gratitude for the amazing abundance of God’s work in the world.

Take a moment as you read this to consider the abundance of the world around you at this moment. Notice the extravagance of God’s gratuitous love toward all of creation as it flows in and around and through your life.

As I sit at my computer the evidence of God’s creation is all around me – waving gently in the breeze are the colorful flowers and grasses of our beautiful prairie. Outside the door of my office the whir and hum of the copy machine makes me mindful of the abundance of care, talent and dedication that each member of the staff offers to support and encourage the life of our beloved community of faith. The phone rings and I have the privilege of speaking to one of you and being reminded of the abundance of faithfulness, gifts for service, love and compassion that each of you brings to our common life. The abundance of creation, the abundance of God’s love for all that is, and the abundance of our life together in Christ fills my heart with joy and gratitude.

Living in Abundance is the theme for this year’s Stewardship Campaign. The idea for this theme arose as the Stewardship Committee noted the abundance we enjoy as members of the Madison Christian Community and as people of faith. Our sense of abundance is inspired by the ministries of these two congregations as they bear various fruits and by the blessings we receive in our common life together.

Take a moment as you read this to pause and think about the ministries of the MCC that are bearing fruit in your own life. Where does your sense of abundance in our life together find its expression? Do the various opportunities to serve God and neighbor in the wider community fill you with abundance? Are you grateful for the gifts and talents of Rev. Katrin Wuest, our new Director of Ministry to Children and Youth? Does Sunday morning worship fill your heart and inspire you to go deeper in your spiritual life? Do the gifts of fellowship and hospitality provide you with sacred friendships?

This month and every month I encourage you to notice the abundance of your life and the abundance of God’s presence in the world in which we live. I encourage you to consider that abundance as you reflect on the ways in which you intend to give of your time, talent and treasure to

Continued on the top of the next page.

October 2006

Of Special Interest:

- Living in Abundance, Global Connections Event – p. 2
- CROP Bike/Hike, Fair Wisconsin, Many Thanks– p.5
- Java for Justice, NAMI Walk, 2007 Adult Canoe Trip, Found glasses – p. 6
- Sunday Adult Education, MCC Family Fellowship – p. 7
- List of items needed for our soldiers in Iraq, Second Chance Apartment Family – p. 7
- Iraq Needs, Second Chance Apartment, Concert Against the Amendment, News from Jacque Eisenbrandt – p 10
- Quilters Ornament Sale – p. 11

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Calendar | 8-9 |
| Fellowship Activities | 3 |
| Youth News | 4 |
| MCC News | 2, 5-7, 10-11 |
| Advent News | 12-13 |
| Hope News | 14 |
| Our Larger Community | 15 |

MCC News

the Madison Christian Community. May the abundance of God's blessings, the abundance of creation and the abundance of your own life in Christ inspire joy and gratitude in you and may you give of yourself and your resources from that place.

Abundantly yours in Christ, Tisha

Living in Abundance

Dessert and Discussion on Abundance and Stewardship

Do you live in abundance? In this country we live in the midst of material abundance. But the question is meant to be personal. Do you live in abundance? Do regular meals, a secure home, and good healthcare make it easier to live in abundance? Or harder? How do we, as Christians, live abundantly in spirit and in our material wealth simultaneously?

The theme for this year's stewardship season is "Living in Abundance". For 4 weeks in October, we will explore what gifts of abundance God has given us; and how we should celebrate and steward our gifts out of a sense of this abundance.

Please join us for one of 4 fellowship hours during October to discuss what Scripture has to say about living in abundance and our call to be faithful stewards of the abundance we have in Christ. These discussions will be about an hour in length and will convene at the MCC. We will share an indulgent (abundant!)

dessert, and then spend some time in small groups and then a large group, reading and responding to scripture using the African Bible Study method. The middle and high school youth have volunteered to provide childcare during these discussions. A donation for their services will be greatly appreciated.

Dates of the dessert and discussions are as follows:

Sunday, October 8, immediately after worship

Wednesday, October 11, 7 to 8 p.

Saturday, October 14, 6 to 7 p.

Thursday, October 19, 7 to 8 p.

Please check your calendar and sign up for one of these dates. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Shalom Room.

October 14 is Global Connections Cuba, Pearl of the Antilles-*Chuck Pils*

Cuba is a misunderstood country to many Americans. I have been fortunate enough to have traveled there five times as part of the Madison-Camaguey Sister City, International Crane Foundation, and The Wisconsin Medical project. Join me for a discussion of the people, ecological resources, schools, buildings, and medical facilities. I will present power point and slides along with a sample of Cuban food and drink.

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The Good Word

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Fellowship Groups & Activities

PRAIRIE PROJECT – Join the prairie work group at MCC and the Pheasant Branch Conservancy –Dane CO. Park area to help restore/maintain sections of both prairies. If you would like to do service-learning concerning prairies, this is a wonderful opportunity. Each session has a bit of learning with a bit of work. To be on the “call” or “email” list, contact Lois Komai or Susan Gruber.

Work dates and times:

October 8, 11:45 a. at MCC
 October 11, 5:00 p. at MCC
 October 18, 4:30 p. at PBC
 October 22, Noon at PBC

GEMS (Grumpy Elderly Men)

GEMS meet on Tuesdays, at 10:30 a., lower level of MCC. The book is Tomorrow's Faith: A New Framework for Christian Belief. Brad Spencer has books. We have 9 months of fellowship, learning and discussion plus a variety of books. Stan Klyve

MCC Film Group 2006-07 Schedule

Here is the new schedule of films for this fall and winter. As usual it contains a diverse mix of films -- old and new, foreign, drama, comedy, adventure, classic, etc.

Our next gathering will be at 7:00 p. on October 27, 2006, at McNatt's to view *To Kill A Mockingbird*. If you have not attended film group, please join us to watch this classic film. Larry Eriksson

MCC Film Group 2006-7 Schedule

Oct. 27, 2006 *To Kill A Mockingbird*
 McNatt's
 Nov. 17, 2006 *Etre et Avoir (to be & to have) OR Les Choristes* Komai's
 Dec. 15, 2006 *The Shipping News* Eriksson's
 January 26, 2007 *World's Fastest Indian* TBD
 February 23, 2007 *Babe* TBD
 March 23, 2007 *Water* (from trilogy) TBD

Family Fellowship announcement is on page 7.

The Theological Discussion Group chooses The Spiral Staircase: My Climb out of Darkness by Karen Armstrong for the fall book selection.

Armstrong views all of the wrenching reversals of her life—including not only the spiritual trauma of renouncing religious vows but also the psychological distress of dealing with misdiagnosed epilepsy and the academic disappointment of failing to win her doctorate—as parts of a coherent pattern of gradual enlightenment. Though that enlightenment has left Armstrong far from orthodoxy, it has awakened in her a new appreciation for the moral teachings of Jesus and—much to her surprise—even a profound sympathy for St. Paul. This enlightenment has also led Armstrong to explore the spiritual riches of Islam and Buddhism, so deepening her awareness of interfaith parallels. Even among readers who embrace doctrines Armstrong dismisses (such as the reality of a personal God), this candid memoir will clarify thinking about the search for the sacred. (Booklist review by Bryce Christensen, American Library Association)

Discussion of The Spiral Staircase begins Wednesday, October 18, 7 p.m., at MCC. Come and join this group of readers who share spiritual paths.

MCC Community Group Events

Sunday, Oct 8 - Full Moon Hike on the Ice Age Trail near Lodi. 6:30 p.m. from the parking lot of Merrimac Ferry. Carpool from the MCC at 5:30 p.m. sharp!

Friday, Oct 13 - Hike Picnic Point path to Frautschi Woods. 4:00p.m. from the parking lot at Picnic Point. Carpool from the MCC at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 3 - Visit the Milwaukee Art Museum followed by lunch. Carpool from the MCC at 8:30 a.m.

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Youth News & Activities

Senior High Youth:

Oct 22 "Amazing G-RACE"

The G-RACE will be run like the popular CBS TV reality show. Teams will follow clues to make their way around the greater Madison and Dane County area on a race to the finish line at an undisclosed location. The team that crosses the finish line first will win the First Place Trophy, bragging rights and a sum of money will be donated to the charity of their choosing. The Amazing G-RACE is organized by the First Congregational UCC. A team will consist of a group of Sr. High Youth accompanied by two adults, one adult to drive and one adult to capture the event on camera. A church may have more than one team. Youth and adults - Let me know if you'd like to participate!

Middle High: Retreat - time

"Knock Knock" is for Middle School students, grades 6-8. Nov 17-19, at Pilgrim Center.

The founding verse of Knock Knock is Revelation 3.20: "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me." Five workshop-doors are dealing in creative ways with themes like family, friendship, hurt, and influence. The fifth workshop is a play-shop.

There is plenty of time between the workshops to get to know the youth from the other churches and have fun together. For more information call or email Katrin.

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Coming Events

- Oct 1 MCC Worship—Stewardship "*Living in Abundance*"
- Oct 8 CROP Bike/Hike/Rock for Hunger and Poverty
"*Living in Abundance*" - stay for dessert after worship
- Oct 8 MCC Community Group full moon hike on the Ice Age Trail, 5:30 p.
- Oct 8 Community of Hope receive *Neighbors in Need* offering.
- Oct 11 "*Living in Abundance*" - 7:00-8:00 p. at MCC
- Oct 13 MCC Community Group hike Picnic Point to Frautschi Woods, 3:30 p.
- Oct 14 "*Living in Abundance*" - 6:00-7:00 p. at MCC
- Oct 14 MCC Volunteers for pick up after Farmers Market
- Oct 14 Cuba, *Pearl of the Antilles*-Chuck Pils, 7:00 p.
- Oct 15 MCC Family Fellowship Potluck after worship
- Oct 18 Garden Party at 4:00 p.
- Oct 19 "*Living in Abundance*" - 7:00-8:00 p. at MCC
- Oct 21 Quilts are loaded in vehicles at MCC and taken to boxcars for shipping, 8:30 a.
- Oct 21 No Times 2—Thoughtful Response as a Lutheran, 8:30 a.—Noon
- Oct 22 Quilters Christmas Ornament Sale begins
- Oct 22 MCC Worship—Stewardship "*Living in Abundance*"
- Nov 3 MCC Community Group visits Milwaukee Art Museum & lunch, 8:30 a.
- Nov 5 Advent New Member Sunday
- Nov 11 MCC Family Fellowship potluck & contra dance at Folklore Village, 6:30 p.

MCC News —

CROP Bike/hike--it isn't just for youth!

Roger and Kristi Williams plan to bike the annual CROP fundraising event on October 8, and they invite other MCC people to join them! You can participate by biking, walking, or pledging your support with checks written to CROP/Church World Service. The event begins 12:30 p.m. at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 E Gorham St. Call them if you are interested in biking together.

Pick up your own pledge form at church or pledge to someone who is riding.

Crop Bike/Hike on Sunday October 8, 12:30 p.

Youth and their families are encouraged to participate. Katrin will be back and leading the pack! Sara Hulsether is collecting your checks and recording them. You can participate by biking, walking, or pledging your support with checks written to CROP/Church World Service. The event begins 12:30 p.m. at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 East Gorman St.. Pledge forms are available in each sanctuary. Donations of cookies, bars and juice are also needed.

You raised \$1235 for CROP in 2005

Fair Wisconsin Canvassing Opportunities

The campaign to oppose the proposed ban on civil unions and marriage, which will be voted on this November, will be decided based on how many people we can talk to about the ban and encourage to vote. The best way to have these conversations is by going door-to-door. Fair Wisconsin will be canvassing 4 days per week all over Dane County throughout the month of October. For more information regarding times and locations of canvasses, go to www.fairwisconsin.org.

Many Thanks!

Thank you to Joanna McDonald and her co-workers Erin and Molly, plus volunteers Molly, Jenny, Sarah and Tiffany from Community Support Network for assembling our 2007 Stewardship Packets. They were very good workers.

Thank you to Brad Spencer and Jim Muehl for taking the extra pictures for the Pictorial Directory.

Thanks to Marily Crews-Nelson and Bonnie Spindler for searching for and requesting pictures for and the hours of work to put it into the design for our Pictorial Directory.

Thank you to Georgia Grahn for her completing some much needed landscape work.. Georgia identified work that needed to be done and asked if she could do it. Of course the answer was "yes, please do."

Thank you Dobbin McNatt for work on the lower entry door. The door was taken off for preparation work and painting. Dobbin has also been working on repainting the trim around our doors.

Thank you to Jim and Marguerite Sykes (Julie E. Walsh's parents and Megan and Sean's grandparents) for two nice leather couches. They are located outside the office area downstairs.

Thanks to Dave Keesey-Berg and Tom Matthews for moving couches and a futon from the Sykes to MCC.

Thanks to Lanny Smith for priming and painting the new siding on the end of the old shed.

Thanks to Peter Williams, Christopher Young, Nathan Powell and Larry Stuessy for mowing our lawn.

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MCC News and Activities

JAVA FOR JUSTICE—

A reminder to place your coffee order by the first Sunday of each month (October 1st). It will be ready for pick-up the following Sunday (October 8th).

FYI – we imported twice as much coffee in 2006 as previously...a total of 18 ton! We are working with a new roaster in Milwaukee who is distributing to specialty grocery stores. (You can now buy Mt. Meru coffee at Brennan's in case you run out during the month. And they are returning \$1/pkg to the project. However, purchase at MCC first! Your purchase not only supports the coffee farmer and his family but church schools and health clinics as well. Make checks out to Mt. Meru Coffee Project **WHEN** you place your order. \$8/bag of regular or decaf bean, drip or perk or \$38/4 pound bag for those of you who are big coffee drinkers. Thanks for your wonderful support!

Linda & Ellen Walk in NAMI Event and welcome your donations.

Join Ellen Lindgren and Linda Pettersen on the annual NAMI Walks for the Mind of America on Oct. 8th at Olin-Turville Park at 1:00 pm. Donations welcome, all proceeds go to support NAMI'S programs. This includes support, education, advocacy and the encouragement of research involving mental illnesses. We will circulate sign-up sheets at Sunday services the two weeks before the walk and invite your support and questions. In case you don't know, the 25th anniversary of NAMI-Dane County was this year, where this organization began before spreading nationwide. Two church ladies at Midvale Lutheran, who had adult sons in the mental health system decided to form a support group and the rest is history! Very grassroots and very worthwhile. Thanks!

ATTENTION: Adults Interested in 2007 Canoe Trips!

The BWCA lakes are not even frozen yet, and we are thinking about next year's adult canoe trips already! We are planning two trips, one for those who prefer to move daily and one for those who prefer to portage less and relax more or whose joints can't take the rocky portages anymore. We have tentatively picked early to mid September for a "keep moving" Quetico trip, and the third week in August for a "more leisurely" trip (destination to be decided).

The adult trips are open to all aged 18-98 in reasonable physical condition. Camping and canoeing experience is helpful but not necessary.

Those who have been there before can tell you what to pack and how to thrive and often can loan you equipment. Young adults who fondly recall MCC youth canoe trips should know that the adult trips are just as much fun, they have better food (no Ramen), the water is warm enough to swim in and there are very few flies and mosquitoes left by late summer.

If you are interested in the Quetico trip, please pencil in the dates September 7-16, 2007 on your calendar. If these dates aren't quite right for you, please call Joan Matthews or Barb Bickford by late October so the dates can be adjusted to include you and the person who has to pick her 2007 vacation dates by Nov. 1st.

Found Glasses

If you have lost a pair of glasses please check the *lost and found box* in the cabinet under the library counter.

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MCC News continued—

Sunday Morning Adult Education

October 1 and 8: Living the Question: A Kingdom Without Walls. Using the DVD and small group formats, we will spend two Sundays considering the Good News of the Gospel that tells of radical hospitality where boundaries, barriers and walls are overcome by a grace that knows no bounds.

October 15: Stewardship at MCC will be presented by the Stewardship Committee looking forward to the following Sunday's target date for commitments of time and talent.

October 22 and 29: Faith and Politics. These will be the first two of four consecutive Sundays on this general topic. Our Committee wants to explore how religion uses politics and politics uses religion. We are still in the process of developing these Sundays, but hope to explore the history of how these sometimes highly passionate and/or extreme subjects interact. Is there something about the theology or outlook of mainstream Protestantism that undercuts the ability of members or institutions to be sufficiently focused and passionate to get government aligned with its agenda?

We are asking that all members of MCC participate in the construction of this four-week series. You might want to suggest things to read, videos available for watching, people (including yourself) who could speak or formats to use. Please offer your suggestions to any member of the Committee: Art Dodd, Al Heggen, Ellen Lindgren, Sara Hulsether, Marily Crews-Nelson, Jeff Wild and Ken Streit. Al Heggen is taking the lead in coordinating this. If you have suggestions or contributions, please get them to one of us at your earliest convenience. Our next meeting is Oct. 3.

Attention Young Singles, Couples and Families — Sunday, October 8

All are encouraged to participate in the CROP Bike/Hike

Contact: Sara Hulsether

Who: adults and kids (It's a pretty flat ride. Tag-alongs and trailers are fine for this.)

When & Where: 12:30 p. at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 East Gorman St.

Sunday, October 15: Potluck and hike of Pheasant Branch Conservancy after church

11:30 a.--potluck in Shalom Room (drinks provided)

12:15ish--caravan to Pheasant Branch for hike (possibly guided)

Rain plan: bring games to play at church after lunch

Contact: Kris Knoepke

Who: adults and kids

Saturday, November 11: potluck and contra dance at Folklore Village

6:30 p. --potluck (bring generous dish to pass). Table service and drinks provided. (\$6--adults, \$4--seniors/teens, \$2--children 5-12, free under 5)

Dance follows immediately after meal.

For directions check website at www.folklorevillage.org or call them at 924-4000. (It's about 30-40 minutes west of Madison just off 18/151 before getting to Dodgeville.)

Contact: Kris Knoepke (845-5491)

Who: All (young and old, no dancing experience necessary)

Friday, January 19-Progressive Dinner

6:00-10:00 p. The location will be announced. If you are interested in hosting for appetizer, salad/entrée, or dessert, contact Kris Knoepke. Three homes are needed. Who: Adults only (get your babysitters now, if needed.)

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MCC News continued

List of Items you can donate for Iraq: Hard candy, coffee, microwave popcorn, DVD movies, razors, toiletries, cup style ramen soups - personal items that provide some comfort or ease.

There is an unbounded need for children's toys and clothing for young children, even if used. Anything a person would be proud to hand to a child here can be sent to Iraq so that a US military person can be proud to hand it to a child there. Fabric that can be made into clothing is welcome.

The CSM at the hospital still accepts National Geographic Magazines and would like red, white, and blue items to use in decorating areas in the hospital.

Comic books are a big hit. (Half-Price Books, Westside or Eastside are good sources.)

Our Second Chance Apartment Family

Please send a heartfelt thank you from our Second Chance Family for the wonderful school clothes for Our School Age Boy and all the cleaning supplies for their home. An additional request has been received for used boy's clothes size 3 Toddler for Our Toddler Boy. Thank you for the generosity and support you offer Our Second Chance Family. Linda Pils or Ann Bolger can be contacted to send clothing to Our Family.

Concert Against The Amendment

First Congregational, UCC is sponsoring a concert of music by Susan Drake and Julie Jennings at First Baptist Church, 518 N. Franklin Ave. on Saturday, October 7 at 7:00 P.M. A freewill offering will be taken to support Fair Wisconsin.

Susan Drake and Julie Jennings are song-writers and singers from Saint Louis, MO. They are both ordained pastors in the UCC and have been making music together since 1999. More information on Susan and Julie is available at their web site, www.originalwomen.com.

News & a Request from Jacque Eisenbrandt (complete letter is on the bulletin board)

*"Dear MCC Friends,
As some of you know, I left Madison nine years seeking a better climate for my arthritis/fibromyalgia and other health problems. I currently live in Goodview, VA. I've been retired on disability for five years now.*

One thing I really miss in the "Bible Belt" is a church that is "open & affirming." No UCC churches are in the area. Appreciate what you have because it is pretty wonderful!

I grew up in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin and my parents have had to sell their home of 50 years and move to Fairhaven. I could not make use of many items because I have a small mobile home and couldn't haul anything the distance. However there is one piece that is very special. It is a bath and changing table made in the 1950s. Right now the cabinet is being stored by a friend in Oregon.

Shipping this piece would be costly and my income does not allow me to do that. My hope is that someone driving down my way would be willing to bring it. My health does not allow me to make a trip to Wisconsin and my 1992 vehicle isn't up to it either.

I miss so many of the people in Madison but living here has made my life easier."

Jacque's full letter is on the bulletin board which includes her cell phone #.

She also included an article about work being done on the Appalachian Trail and a picture of the piece of furniture that means so much to her.

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Beyond

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Friendship

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Serve at MCC &
 Beyond
Cultivate Spiritual
 Friendship

Advent News



Advent Will Welcome New Members on Sunday November 5

We look forward to welcoming new members into our community of faith on All Saints Sunday, November 5. A Sunday morning orientation session, evening dinner gathering with hosts members, and a reception following worship are being planned. The orientation session will be held in the Shalom Room (outside the kitchen area) from 9:05-10:00 a. on Sunday, October 22. The dinner gathering will be determined by the best possible time for most people. If anyone has an interest in becoming a member and has not indicated this to Jeff Wild please call him at the church office.

Upcoming Events in the South Central Synod ELCA

There are two upcoming events in the synod that I hope some of our members will consider attending because I hate going to these things alone!

Monday, October 23, 2006

7:00 p.- 8:30 p.

West Middleton Lutheran Church
Fall Stewardship Consultation

We will be given an update as to how the benevolence of our congregation combined with those of 150 other congregations supports the mission of the ELCA and many other partnership ministries that carry our mission into the world.

Saturday, November 11, 2006

8:00 a.- 3:00 p.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
There Must Be A Better Way.... Reaching Out To A New World

The schedule for the day includes worship, keynote address by Rev. Dave Daubert, the ELCA Director of Renewal of Congregations, and a menu of interesting workshops.

Prairie Mural in Blessing Room

From Sunday, September 10, until Advent the fabric prairie panels hang in the Blessing Room. The fall colors of the prairies remind us of the beauties of creation and the glories of our Creator. The fall liturgical setting says it is time to gather again for a new season of worship. The hills and the valleys of the mural invite us into the Word. We come together after summer to congregate and welcome this beautiful colorful season of God.

Oakwood Lutheran Homes

Oakwood Rehabilitation Wing is Open

This dedicated wing is now available to provide quality physical, occupational, and speech therapy not only for the residents of Hebron Oaks at Oakwood Village West but also for seniors in the larger community recovering from injury, surgery, or illness. Outstanding short-term rehabilitative care is provided while you enjoy the company of other residents in similar health situations.

Oakwood Resale Shop will be open on Saturday, October 28th from 9:00 a.—4:00 p.

The Shop is full of bargains on furniture for nearly every room of the house or apartment. They have lots of kitchen utensils, household items, glassware, books, jewelry, puzzles and more. If you would like to donate items, please drop them off at the Oakwood Resale Shop, 6203 Mineral Point Rd, Madison any Tuesday or Thursday morning. We can arrange to pick up larger items by calling Lori at 230-4264. We do NOT accept clothing, exercise equipment, sofa sleepers, or computer equipment.

Mark your calendars for the Grateful Plateful Craft and Bake Sale, which will be held on Saturday, November 4th at Oakwood Village East. Are you a crafter who would like to see your creations at Oakwood's Craft Fair? Contact Lori at 230-4264 or lori.webeckes@oakwoodvillage.net.

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Beyond

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Advent News Continued

Judith Circle

The Judith Circle will meet on October 10 at 9:00 a. at the home of Jean Loichinger. Fred & Jean have moved to 6642 Maywood Ave in Middleton. Their phone and email remain the same. We will have a social hour followed by a Bible study. You are welcome to join us.

Advent Elizabeth Circle

Would you like to mingle with a great church circle without having to house clean? Elizabeth Circle meets every second Thursday of the month at Tabor Oaks at Oakwood Village West at 7:00 p. We share our prayer needs, discuss a Bible lesson from the now very well-written *Lutheran Woman*, and truly enjoy each other's company. We'd be happy to welcome you, too. Call Margaret Smith if you want more information.

Introducing Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Introducing a new worship resource is an exciting and important event in the life of the church. Teams of pastors, musicians, and lay people from each synod are offering one-day events to explore the riches contained in Evangelical Lutheran Worship. The workshop is designed for all worshipers, lay leaders, musicians, pastors and anyone concerned about the future of renewal in the ELCA. Members of the Advent worship committee are planning to attend the event, musicians, council members, and any other interested people are encouraged to attend. The workshop will be offered in the area at three different times: Sunday, November 5 at St. Luke's in Middleton, Saturday, November 11 at St. Stephen's in Monona, and Saturday, January 13, 2007 at Our Savior Lutheran in Sun Prairie. Please contact Jeff Wild or a member of the Advent worship committee if you have an interest in attending.

OPALS Book Discussion Group

OPALS meets the third Thursdays of the month all year. We meet at 7:00 p. on the lower level of the church. New members are welcome. Please join us at our meeting on October 19 in the youth room-lower level of the church. The book for October is *To Kill a Mocking Bird* by Harper Lee. You are invited to join us.

Treasury of Love Sept. 26, 2006

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Love Offerings | 7,732.45 |
| Rent & Eviction Prevention | 2,592.00 |
| Security Deposit | 850.00 |
| Utility Assistance | 1,299.00 |
| Iraq Postage | 1,050.45 |
| Car payment | 358.00 |
| Court Mandated payment | 100.00 |
| Wexford Women's Program | 45.00 |
| Haiti Partners | 569.00 |
| Advent Member's Rent | 350.00 |
| Storage Rent | 89.00 |
| UW Freshman Student's Books | 265.00 |
| Mental Health Appt. | 100.00 |
| Registration Fee Trust | <u>65.00</u> |
| Expenditure | 7,732.45 |
| Balance as of 9/26/2006 | \$0.00 |

Advent Women:

Come for Thursday Coffee!

A lively group of "church ladies" meets on Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at the Atlanta Bread Co, 3250 Univ. Ave.

The only agenda is sharing friendship, and there is always laughter. We do service projects several times a year, pray for one another's concerns, and celebrate joys. If you can be an early bird at least once a week, please drop by!



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Community of Hope News

Praying for our Community

Please pray for the people and situations listed below as well as our entire community in the coming month. If you have prayer requests you'd like to be included in next month's newsletter please contact Tisha at the church office.

- Those who are unable, for health reasons, to join us in worship but whom we love: Mary Beth and Steve Udvari, Kathy Alexander and Wilma Sanks
- All military personnel and their families. Especially those involved in Iraq, Afghanistan, Israel and Lebanon
- Stew Streiff, Petra's brother and family as he struggles with a major illness
- David Dueholm's brother as he struggles with a major illness
- The Putnam family as they grieve the loss of a beloved grandmother and great-grandmother.
- All who struggle with chronic disease or pain, whether emotional or physical or both.

These people and their families as we pray our way through the church directory:

Sept. 26-Oct. 3 Bill Long; Jan Manser & Dave Manion; Tom & Joan Matthews
 Oct 3-10 Kathryn Mazack and Clare; Martha McCurdy, Sef and Marcella
 Oct. 10-17 The Murphy family; and the Ono family
 Oct. 17-24 Art & Mary Nack; Rebecca Payne

Thank You

From Madison Area Urban Ministry and Vogel Brothers Building Company:
"Thank you for your generous support of this year's School Supplies for Kids project. Your entire gift was used to purchase school supplies for low-income youth. Thanks to you, children in Dane County area will start the 2006-2007 school year equipped for success."

Important Dates to Remember!



Birthdays

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Neil Kanetzke | 10/10 |
| Martha McCurdy | 10/12 |
| Sef Van Kan | 10/22 |
| Jan Manser | 10/24 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Julie Hunter & Keith Johnson | 10/09 |
|------------------------------|-------|

Please let us know if we have missed your special day.

Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need is the United Church of Christ's financial commitment to justice and compassion throughout the US. Neighbors in Need is distributed to a wide array of congregations and nonprofits working for justice and helping their neighbors in their communities and across the country.

Community of Hope will receive an offering for Neighbors in Need on Sunday, October 8 during worship. Look for more information on this important way we connect to the wider church and to our neighbors throughout the U.S. in your bulletins on Sunday mornings. If you are not in worship on October 8, you can send a check to the church office and note NIN in the memo line.

Hope Men's Breakfast

Men of Hope meet for breakfast on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at The Original Pancake House, 5518 University Ave. at 6:30 a. Our next breakfasts will be on Oct. 4th and 18th. In last month's installment we asked what was special about Sept. 6th, 1948. Answer: Hope breakfasteer David Dueholm brought in his copy of that issue of *LIFE* magazine, which featured a cover story and photos about "The Good Life in Madison, Wisconsin." (Sigh!) If only it could be like that again!

Pray Daily
 Worship Regularly
 Study God's Word
 Respond as Stewards
 Serve at MCC & Beyond
 Cultivate Spiritual Friendship

Our Larger Community

Events open to the public at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church.

Monday, Sept 25th 7:00 p. Death Penalty series. Brian Blanchard, Dane County District Attorney and Kelli Thompson, Deputy State Public Defender talk about how the death penalty costs society both financially (higher taxes) and morally (racist, classist.)

Monday, Oct 2 at 7:00 p. Free showing of "An Inconvenient Truth" and Wednesday, Oct 4 at 9:30am: Free showing of "An Inconvenient Truth"

Wednesday, Oct 25 at 7:00 p. Marriage Amendment Series. Eric Peterson, Fair Wisconsin's faith organizer

Monday, Oct 30 at 7:00 p. death penalty series. Episcopal Bishop Steven Miller will talk about why the Episcopal church (and most faith communities) strongly opposes the death penalty.

Monday, Nov 6 at 7:00 p. a prayer/worship service the night before the election (death penalty related)

Tuesday, Nov 7 from 8:00 a. to 7:00 p., while the polls are open, we'll be having a prayer vigil (death penalty related), come as you are and be present

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
6205 University Ave (corner of University and Allen Blvd) Madison, WI 53705
238-2781 www.stdunstans.com

The Wisconsin Conference is excited about bringing *The West End Gospel Singers* to our area.

There is a flyer on the bulletin board that lists churches, times and cities where concerts will be held.

The West End Gospel Singers, a choir of a congregation of our ecumenical partner in Germany, the United Evangelical Church, will tour the Wisconsin Conference UCC from October 5-19. This thirty-voice choir is from Eberswalde, Germany, located 40 miles northeast from Berlin.

Church Women United in Madison October Forum, *The State of Working Wisconsin*, is October 6, 9:00 a. at Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2401 Atwood Av. The speaker will be Laura Dresser. She is an Economist and Associate Director of the UW-Madison Center on Wisconsin Strategies.

Global Affairs Forum, Sunday, October 8 from 4:00-5:30 p. at the Great Hall, Memorial Union. The candidates for Wisconsin's 2nd District, U.S. House of Representatives, Tammy Baldwin and Dave Magnus will participate in a candidates' forum on global affairs. The event is free and open to the public.

Pray Daily

Worship Regularly

Study God's Word

Respond as Stewards

Serve at MCC &

Beyond

Cultivate Spiritual

Friendship

Our Website: www.madisonchristiancommunity.org.

Read Pastor Jeff and Pastor Tisha's Sunday sermons on the web!

Sunday texts are on the monthly calendar.

On the Home Page find **Weekly Announcements** and the Newsletter. If you decide that you no longer need the newsletter delivered in the mail, please call the church office to let us know.



Please let the Website Committee know if you are not finding what you need or have other suggestions. The Website Committee: Tom Matthews, Edd Hellmer, John Brugge, Carrie McGinley, Jeff Greene and Sonja Keesey-Berg. Contact the Website Committee at office@madisonchristiancommunity.org.

A Word About Our Partnership— *Madison Christian Community*

Advent Lutheran (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and Community of Hope (United Church of Christ) are partners in Christ. Together we are the *Madison Christian Community* (MCC). We share education for all ages, youth activities, building space, fellowship groups and efforts to preserve the land. We worship together about 8–12 times a year. Community of Hope is an Open and Affirming congregation and Advent is a Reconciled in Christ congregation. We welcome people of all ages, denominational backgrounds, races, gender and sexual orientation. May our church be a sanctuary for all!

The Good Word

Monthly Newsletter of the
Madison Christian Community
*An Ecumenical Partnership of
Advent Lutheran Church – ELCA
and Community of Hope – UCC*

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Ann Bolger
Barbara Dueholm,
Moderator
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Bruce Jarvis

Advent Council
Doug Johnson
Jack Benjamin
David Canon, President
Sarah Zutz
Jim Muehl
Joanna McDonald
JoAnne Streit

MCC Logo Design by
Lucetta Kanetzke

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

If you call our office and there is no answer, please leave a message. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Are you still interested in receiving our newsletter?

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact the church office and let us know.

MCC Executive Committee:

Petra Streiff, Chair
Doug Johnson
Barbara Dueholm
David Canon
Tisha Brown
Jeff Wild

MCC Mission Statement
We affirm our unity through Christ and commit to share a journey grounded in faith practices and to serve as part of Christ's presence in our world.



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