



The Good Word

The MCC at 40

From November, 2008 through April, 2009 the Madison Christian Community will be celebrating its 40th anniversary as a unique ecumenical Christian Community on Old Sauk Rd. in Madison, Wisconsin. Our two congregations, Advent Lutheran, ELCA and Community of Hope, UCC have been through incredible, life and faith transforming experiences in our 40 years together. To honor those experiences and all of the people who over the years, dreamed of, birthed, built and continue to sustain this life-giving Christian community, we will be engaging in a variety of activities.

Every newsletter from now through May, 2009 will feature at least one article reflecting some aspect of our 40 years together. We will be combing the archives for interesting tidbits about our commitment to Christian Education for all ages, our worship services, our building projects, our environmental sustainability projects, our commitment to serving God and our neighbor in the wider community, and many others. We will also be interviewing long term and newer members to collect stories of their experiences throughout the last 40 years.

During the Lenten season we will participate together in Lenten Soup Suppers prior to our Wednesday evening worship services. Each soup supper will feature a different theme from our past. These suppers will be an informal time for us to hear stories from long-term and more recent members and to share our own stories with one another.

Throughout the next 6 months, each congregation will also be highlighting worship elements from the past including beloved hymns and other worship traditions over the years.

Our 40th Anniversary Celebration will culminate with developing a timeline of our first 40 years as a community. Each of us will have an opportunity in March and April of next year to add memorable events in our history to this timeline. Finally, on Sunday, April 26, 2009, we will end our Anniversary Celebration with a special combined worship service and luncheon.

I have already begun hearing stories from our first 40 years. They are funny, touching, poignant, faith inspiring, and remarkable. We've come a long way and we have much to celebrate and much for which to give great thanks. I hope you will enjoy hearing the stories in the coming months and that you will add some of your own recollections to the mix. Regardless of how long you've been a member of the MCC, you are a part of our history and have a story to add to who we are and who we're becoming as a community of faith.

The planning group for this extravaganza is Emily Wixson, Mary Nack, Kathy Johnson, Mary Bowman, Howard Kanetzke, and Tisha Brown. We would love to hear from you – your stories, insights, recollections and ideas about the first 40 years of the Madison Christian Community. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time for any reason.

Enjoy the Celebration!
Tisha

November 2008

Of Special Interest:

- Adult Education; Special Services; Welcome Asya Stobbe—p.2
- Holden Village 2009; Drop-In Shelter; CROP Results; Nonviolence Conference - p.4
- Java for Justice; Wexford Food Drive— p.5
- IHN Week; Volunteer for Memorial Mile; Blue Christmas —p. 6
- Laughter Yoga; Christmas for our soldiers; Camels for sale—p.7
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MCC News

Special Services to focus on Spirituality and Prayer

Because a number of people have expressed an interest in deepening their spirituality and prayer life, a committee of people from Advent and Hope was formed which will be presenting a series of special services. Our first offering took place in a joint worship service on Sunday, October 5th. In that service, we explored ways that we can create a peace and stillness in our minds and hearts in order to listen for the voice of God.

Our next worship offering will be presented in each of our two worshipping congregations on different Sundays. The Spiritual Practice we will introduce is called the Prayer of Examen. The Prayer of Examen is attributed to St. Ignatius of Loyola and was a catalyst for the spiritual exercises he developed. St. Ignatius was injured in battle and became a Christian while recovering from his injuries. He read about the life of Christ and the lives of the saints and decided to dedicate his life to God from that point forward. Ignatius later founded the Society of the Jesuits, who follow Ignatius' instructions on living the spiritual life.

The Prayer of Examen is just one portion of the overall program that Ignatius developed. It is now often used as a discipline in its own right. When we pray using the Prayer of Examen we are reflecting on our experiences to discover how God has been present in our day and observing our lives in order to discover areas in need of growth and healing.

Community of Hope will learn about and practice the Prayer of Examen in its worship service on Sunday, November 16.

Advent Lutheran has tentatively decided to learn about and practice the Prayer of Examen on Sunday, November 23. This

is to be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Members of this planning group are: Chuck Pfeifer, Ted Kalkwarf, Freddie Feeny, Carolyn Hahn, Corkey Custer, Dave Keesey-Berg, Tisha Brown, Linda and Arden Mahlberg and Beth Simmons. Please feel free to contact any member of this group with questions or comments.

Sunday Adult Education Hour

The fourth session on faith and the presidential election will be led by Ken Streit on Sunday, November 2. Ken will lead a discussion on the role of faith and politics in this presidential election.

A three-week series on the Abrahamic Religions will begin on Sunday, November 9. The first session will be led by Jeff Wild and the purpose of the session will be to "meet Abraham again for the first time." Ulrich Rosenhagen will lead the sessions on November 16 and 23. Ulrich is the associate director of the Lubar Institute of Abrahamic Religions at the University of Wisconsin.

Welcome to Asya Stobbe

Asya Stobbe was with the German group that was hosted by families from MCC for two weeks during the summer of 2007. Asya graduated from high school last spring and is will be arriving in Madison on October 29 to spend six months with us. She will be staying with the Wild's and will be volunteering her time with the Middleton Preschool, at MCC, and in the community. While Asya is not with us in an official capacity and MCC does not have any financial obligation to her, I hope you will invite Asya into your home, include her in family activities, cultural experiences, sightseeing trips, and volunteer opportunities. She is eager to immerse herself into the life of our community.

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Fellowship Groups & Activities

Theological Discussion Group

On That Day Everybody Ate: One Woman's Story of Hope and Possibility in Haiti by Margaret Trost (Koa Books, 2008)

The Theological Discussion Group will discuss this book on Wednesdays, November 19 and December 17 at 7 P.M. at MCC.

While living in Stoughton with her husband and son, Trost's husband died suddenly from an asthma attack. Struggling to find her way through grief, she accepted an invitation from Bryan Sirchio, a Community of Hope member, to go to Haiti in the spring of 1999. Bryan travels to Haiti several times a year and sometimes takes people with him. He told her "it would be a two-week 'pilgrimage of reverse mission' to Port-au-Prince"; reverse because it is designed to be transformational for the participant. For Margaret, this journey began a partnership with a local community where they develop a program that now serves thousands of meals a week to those in need, the What If? Foundation.

Did you know that the annual per capita income in Haiti is less than \$400 per year; most Haitians live on less than \$2 a day and more than half live on less than \$1 a day? The literacy rate is about 15%. Did you know that when the U.S. has provided "food aid" to Haiti, it has been highly profitable for U.S. agribusinesses and shipping companies since U.S. law requires that "food Aid" be purchased from U.S. farmers, processed and bagged in the U. S. shipped on U.S. vessels? Thus, only 50 % of the dollars spent actually reach hungry people and the other 50% of the monies go to cover the cost of U.S. rice, processing and shipping. A simple change in U.S. law to allow local purchases of commodities would feed more people and support farmers in local or regional markets.

Come for a discussion of Trost's 'pilgrimage of reverse mission'. Her testimony may be transformational for you.

ACTIVITIES FOR MCC COMMUNITY GROUP

Lutefisk Dinner – Saturday, November 1
Lutefisk dinner at Barneveld, cost is \$15; we will carpool from the MCC.
Call Kathy Johnson about a reservation.

Wednesday, Nov. 5 – Free 10 am concert at the Overture Center, "Tribute To Dean Martin". Meet for Coffee and goodies at 9 am by the "altar" on the main floor (west side).

Saturday, Nov. 8 – 11 am free community hymn sing at the Overture Center. Meet at 10:30 am by the "alter". Lunch afterward & possibly the Capitol tour.

Sunday, Dec. 7 – Christmas tour of the Governor's Mansion. Go for lunch after church & then carpool.

Sunday, Dec. 14 – 7 pm, "White Elephant" gift exchange at Fred & Jean Loichinger's. Bring a treat to share.

Wednesday, Dec. 31 – New Years Eve progressive dinner. Sign-up will be on the bulletin board in December.

MCC Film Group

Nov. 21 *La Vie en Rose*
Host: Donna Leet

Dec. 19 *Ladies in Lavender*
Host: Freddie Feeny

Jan. 16 *Bicycle Thieves*
Youth Room at Church

Make note of these on your calendar. Hope you can join us.

Contact Lois Komai if you would like to be on the email reminder list for the Film Group.

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MCC News -

Is Anyone Interested in spending a week at Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains with others from MCC during the summer of 2009?

Holden Village is a center for renewal, welcoming all people into the wilderness to be called, equipped and sent by God.

Please give Sonja a call or send her an email if you are interested. Those interested will put their calendars together and see if we can find some common weeks to choose from. So far there are twelve people interested.

Holden Village does have a group program. To participate in the group program we register on January 1st, 2009, a group of 15 to 55 for a minimal deposit of \$250. Then by March 1st, we would need a firm number of guests and balance of the deposit, the cost of the first night's lodgings. They also require that a group arrive and depart on the same day. Groups may register as individuals or families using the on-line system and noting that they are part of a specific group. The reservations for individuals/families also opens January 1st, 2009.

Typically the theme for the coming summer is determined in the late fall or early winter .

2008 Nonviolence Conference

"Jesus, The Nonviolent Activist of Mark's Gospel"

Ched Myers, Keynote Speaker
November 14-15, 2008
Ramada, Stevens Point

For registration information contact the Wisconsin Council of Churches, (608) 837-3108 or www.wichurches.org

DROP-IN SHELTER—December 4

The date is Thursday, December 4. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Shalom Room. Four people are needed from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. and two people are needed from 5:00 - 8:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please call Ken Johnson.

CROP WALK

Thanks to all who donated and participated in the CROP event. We have collected over \$825. Some donations are still trickling in.

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Published Monthly by the Madison Christian Community

Church Phone: (608) 836-1455
Next Issue: December 2008
Articles Due: November 20 to the church office
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Newsletter Proofing: Lucetta Kanetzke and Karen Schwarz
Newsletter Collators: David Keeseey-Berg and Brad Spencer
Newsletter Mailing Ready: Eileen Bolstad and Jan Robertson

MCC News

JAVA FOR JUSTICE – Do you have any person to thank during November? It is the month of Thanksgiving. Order coffee for yourself and as a gift of thanksgiving for family/friends/Iraq by November 2. It will be ready for pick-up by November 9. Order 12 oz packages for \$9 (bean, drip, perk---regular or decaf) or 4# bags for \$40. Place your check made out to the Mt. Meru Coffee Project BEFORE Nov. 2. The Mt. Meru Coffee Project creates a direct connection between Tanzanian farmers and American consumers. The coffee grown on the Mt. Meru slopes by small farmers is shipped to Milwaukee where it is roasted to order when orders come in each week. Your coffee order supports many people and diocese activities bringing economic and social justice to the area. A farmer is paid \$2.10 per pound of coffee beans. In addition, about \$3.15 supports programs of education and health care in the Meru Diocese. Thanks for your continued support of these friends in Tanzania.

Food Drive for Wexford Ridge Food Pantry—Sunday, Nov 16

Again we are asking that members of Advent and Hope make a special effort to bring food for the pantry on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Suggested items include canned goods (fruit, vegetables, tuna, beef stew, fruit juice, etc.) peanut butter, jelly, cereal. We can especially use any large grocery bags. We do not have facilities to handle fresh produce. For those who prefer to donate money, checks can be made out to the Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center and designated for the pantry. Dobbin McNatt, Coordinator

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Coming Events

- Nov 1 Drumming Workshop at MCC, 9:00 a.-11:30 a.
 - Nov 2 Advent Commitment Sunday
 - Nov 4 MCC Haiti Partners Meeting at 7:00 p.
 - Nov 5 MCC Harvest of Hope Meeting at 7:00 p.
 - Nov 9 1-2:30 p. the indoor Labyrinth is open to the public
 - Nov 11 Hope Steering Committee @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 12 9:00 a.-6:00 p. the indoor Labyrinth is open to the public
 - Nov 13 Bruggeman Book Discussion Group @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 16 Senior High Coffeehouse @ 6:30 p.
 - Nov 18 Advent Council at Julie Walsh's
 - Nov 20 Land Use Umbrella Group @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 21 MCC Film Group at Donna Leets to view "La Vie en Rose" @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 21-23 MH Knock Knock Retreat, 11/21-11/23
 - Nov 22 Advent New Member Brunch @ 9:00 a.
 - Nov 23 WI UCC Gospellers Choir in Concert at MCC, 4:00 p.
 - Nov 25 MCC Leadership Team @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 26 Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ 7:00 p.
 - Nov 30 NO Sunday School Hour
 - Dec 20 Christmas program practice at 10:00 a.
 - Dec 21 Christmas Program
 - Dec 24 5:00 and 9:00 p. Christmas Eve Worship
 - Dec 28 NO Sunday School
- Future IHN Week for 2008: December 21-28, 2008.

MCC News —

Please consider volunteering for the Memorial Mile (a Veterans for Peace project)

Madison Veterans for Peace Clarence Kailin Chapter invites you to join them in erecting the Memorial Mile, dedicated to the U.S. service members killed in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. This will occur Saturday morning, November 8, along Speedway Road in Forest Hill Cemetery. There will be a convocation there at 2 PM and all are invited. (Armistice/Veterans Day is Nov. 11)

Volunteers are needed to help install the 4500 tombstone replicas November 8, and to remove them on November 15.

If you can volunteer 2 hours or more either of those dates, please contact John at 438-7480 or email him at jhfour@gmail.com

Volunteers to stand watch during the week are also needed.

Wayne Nelson is a MCC contact person.

IHN - Interfaith Hospitality Network – December 21st – 28th.

We know that Christmas is a time for families and we hope that you will consider sharing your time with families that have nowhere else to go. During each IHN week, we partner with Orchard Ridge UCC to provide shelter, food and activities for 4 or 5 homeless families. It's easy and fun to volunteer. We are seeking volunteers to help with our upcoming IHN week to serve dinners, play with kids and spend the night. Our nights are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please see Mark Geistlinger or Aaron Anding with questions or to volunteer.



The MCC will host a "Blue Christmas" service at 5 p. Sunday, December 21st.

This service provides an opportunity for those who may be grieving, distressed, lonely, in pain, or simply not connected with the public joy of the Advent and Christmas seasons, to come together in a nurturing service and realize that they are not alone.

The intensity of this season can magnify all our emotions, making painful ones feel all the more extreme. And people who experience them often feel alienated or even guilty for having such feelings, in what is often presented as a time of unbridled joy. Through this service, we are owning that Christ brings His gifts into a real world, full of all manner of feelings and situations, and that nothing can separate us from God's love. People from outside the MCC are also welcome at this service of Scripture, music, prayer, and light.

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Laughter Yoga!

Laughter Yoga is a wellness ministry that combines laughter and yoga breathing exercises. Some benefits of Laughter Yoga reported by medical experts are: It helps to reduce high blood pressure, stress, anxiety, and depression. It also helps to strengthen the immune system, increase blood circulation, and oxygen levels. The amazing benefits are too many to list. Come experience the benefits for yourself and enjoy the fun and fellowship created through the gift of laughter!

We will meet in the Covenant Room right after our morning church services on the first Sunday of the month. We will meet on November 2.

For more information contact Michelle Erschen or Nancy Greenwald.

Quilters Christmas Camels for Sale

Each year Quilter-Artist Beverly Brekke Bailey creates a new handmade ornament — this year it's a CAMEL. The suggested donation is \$8. Proceeds provide our only source of funds to pay shipping costs and to purchase fluffy batting. Thrivent Financial generously supports our project, matching fifty cents on the dollar.

Christmas is coming and I'd like to send appropriate items to Iraq and/or Afghanistan the week of Nov. 17.

From Brad Spencer

There's two types of items I'm soliciting: Christmas cards that the troops can send back home and gift items for them. I've seen requests for DVDs and board games - those would be good things to send. Anything else you can think of would be appropriate. Even a big (1 dozen deck) box of playing cards (from Costco or Sam's club) would be a nice gift.

Also, there's always the opportunity to go to AnySoldier.com to find someone to whom to send thoughtful gifts. The value of the gifts goes beyond the items themselves: they're a symbol that you care. If family or friends happen to say they'd like an opportunity to show support for the troops but don't know how, you could tell them. You don't necessarily have to wait for them to say that.

A Blessing for God's Handy Persons

by Maren Tirabassi from The Stillspeaking Daily Devotional and offered here in gratitude for the women who make quilts at MCC.

God, Take my hands and let them be—consecrated to you, every bit as much as my head and my heart. Amen

Bring Your Recyclable Light Bulbs and Batteries to MCC

The place to deposit your recyclables is to the left of the library counter and Sonja's basket. There is a sign posted letting you know the cost of recycling the items. Please put your donation in the small container labeled *Donations*. There is a list of places in the Madison area that also accepts these items.

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Common Recycling Errors (from <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RecyclingProblems.cfm>)

On average 8.3% of the material that is put in Madison's green recycling carts cannot be recycled. This material is removed at the recycling plant and sent to the landfill. This misplaced trash costs Madison taxpayers \$89,000 to toss out in 2006.

The Streets Division recently sorted through recyclables we collected looking for some of the common mistakes Madison recyclers make. Here are the most common items that residents put in their recycling carts that should have been put in the trash.

Material That Cannot Be Recycled

Glass

Broken glasses, light bulbs, mirrors and windows should go directly into your tan refuse cart.

Metal

Scrap metal, shelving, and automobile

parts should not be placed in your recycling cart. They can be brought to a drop off site for recycling.

Styrofoam

STYROFOAM CANNOT BE RECYCLED. All Styrofoam should be placed in your tan refuse cart.

Plastic Packaging

Plastic blister packaging cannot be recycled. It should go directly into your tan refuse cart.

Rigid Plastics

Hard, rigid plastic should not be put in your green recycling cart. You can recycle it at our drop off sites. Always look for the recycling symbol and know what numbers you can place in your recycling.

Plastic Bags and Film

Plastic bags, sheet plastic and plastic film should be placed in your tan refuse cart.

Cups

All cups, paper or plastic cannot be recycled. They should be put in your tan refuse cart.

Our Website: www.madisonchristiancommunity.org.

- *Read or Listen* to Pastor Jeff and Pastor Tisha's Sunday sermons on the web!
- Sunday texts are on the monthly calendar.
- COH and Advent members find Worship Assistant's Schedule and Task Descriptions.



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.

Contact the Website Committee by calling the church office.

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Nursery update: Toys: In the nursery there are some toys that have been played with and are worn out. The red cardboard bricks, the large Raggedy Ann & Andy dolls and some smaller toys that are missing knobs and buttons we would like to either recycle or throw out. Please feel free to stop by the nursery and ask Amanda or Joanna McDonald about the toys if you have any questions or concerns regarding which toys we will be throwing out.

Some of the toys that the kids really enjoy playing with that we could use more of are the following: puzzles (large piece ones, 20 pieces or less), cars, plastic animals, plastic people, baby strollers or toys for kids to push, doll house, soft balls to roll or throw through the basket ball hoop.

We have lots of books and stuffed animals and do not need any more of those.

Also as you fill out your stewardship material please think about volunteering to work in the nursery. It is a fun way to meet our great kids and their parents. You do not have to have kids in the nursery to volunteer.
Thanks,
Joanna McDonald

Meeting Minutes are available in the book on the library counter in the Shalom Room.

If you are interested in minutes from Community of Hope, Advent and MCC meetings, you can find them in the large black book on the library counter in the Shalom Room.

Wisconsin UCC 'Gospellers' Choir Concert at MCC, 4:00 p. on Sunday, November 23 By Bonnie Spindler

The congregations in Eberswalde and the Church of Berlin-Brandenburg extended an invitation to the Wisconsin Conference for a gospel choir to travel and perform in Germany, June 17th – July 1st, 2008. This invitation was in reciprocity of the West End Gospel Singers, located in former East Germany, for the tour experiences they had previously. *(There are currently over 2000 gospel choirs in Germany alone.)* The reasons for the spread of this movement is to provide an acceptable way to bring rhythmic music into the churches, draw young people, and give Germans permission to sing emotive music. Bonnie Spindler, Hope UCC, traveled with the 35-member Gospeller singers, doing many performances in churches and touring in the East Germany area.

With many requests to do some follow-up concerts, there are scheduled six different locations in Wisconsin to sing the many songs we sang in Germany and show some of the pictures that were taken. We have the honor of having Madison Christian Community selected as one of the six churches for a performance at: 4 P. on Sunday, November 23rd. The pictures will also be shown and there will be 'light refreshments' after the concert. It would be great if you and your family can come and hear some wonderful spiritual and gospel music. Hope to see you there.

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Extravagant Opportunity: Holy Land Adventure

By Heather Putnam, Children's Ministry

Extravagant opportunity will be the theme for the Sunday School lesson on November 16. The interpretation of this phrase that is particularly relevant for me right now is "a chance to do something amazing that I wouldn't normally do."

My daughter Heidi and I have an extravagant opportunity to travel to Israel in November. We get to see the land where Jesus was born and died, where Peter walked on water, where Moses parted the sea, and where Ruth and Naomi gleaned the wheat fields.

On the day that you will be at MCC learning about extravagant opportunity, Heidi and I might be standing on the Mount of Olives, visiting the Upper Room where the Last Supper took place, or floating in the Dead Sea.

We have an extravagant opportunity to bring the Bible to life. Our understanding of biblical stories will stretch beyond our imaginations to include firsthand sights, sounds, and smells.

We have an extravagant opportunity to experience the living history of the Holy Land. We will get to observe the human tendency to build a church/synagogue/mosque on any site where a significant historical event took place. And we will witness the human tendency, as power shifts, to destroy structures built by the defeated group – for example the Muslim Dome of the Rock built on the remains of the Jewish Second Temple. Finally, we will experience the tension between the Jews, Christians, and Muslims that the Israeli people live with every day.

We hope this extravagant opportunity will deepen and expand our faith. We hope this extravagant opportunity will broaden our understanding of culture, faith and the role history plays in perpetuating conflict. We hope this extravagant opportunity will help us to be better instruments of peace.

We wish that you could all come with us. We promise to share our pictures and our stories when we get back.

In the meantime, we invite you to learn more about Israel and the Holy Land. The public library has many books and DVDs, and of course, there are literally millions of websites. Here are a few suggestions to get you started.

Picture Books

Jerusalem Sky by Mark Podwal

The Golden City: Jerusalem's 3000 Years by Neil Walkman

Chapter Books

[Alexandra's Scroll](#) by Miriam Chaikin and Stephen Fieser

[The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls](#) by Hagit Allon, Lena Zehavi and Yossi Abolafia

Kid-Friendly Websites

www.israelemb.org/kids

www.israelforkids.com

www.akhlah.com/israel

www.travelforkids.com/funtodo/israel

DVDs

Shalom Sesame (Sesame Street Hebrew style)

Promises

Wall

I'm Not Alone

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MCC YOUTH ADVENTURES

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm - Guitar Club
 Every Wednesday at 7pm – Advent Confirmation

Saturday, 11/1 – 9:00 – 11:00am – Ages 6 – 106 – Drumming Workshop

Sunday, 11/2 – MH/SH leaf raking – Bury your friends in leaves and dive in leaf piles while helping congregation and community members rake their fall leaves. Meet at MCC at noon and bring a snack & a drink.

Friday, 11/7 – MH/SH Corn Maze – The tradition continues. Get lost in the dark (unless you're Andrew Zutz) while winding your way through a labyrinth of corn stalks. Entry is \$8 and bring a few extra dollars for a stop at Culver's on the way home. Meet at MCC at 6:30p and return by 10:00p.

Sunday, 11/9 – SH Veteran's Day Service Project 9am – 11:30am

Sunday, 11/16 – SH Coffeehouse – 6:30pm – Let your talent shine while others drink coffee and eat desserts! This is a great night of fine entertainment. We need performers, servers, and dishwashers. That means YOUR help is needed!

11/21 – 11/23 – MH Knock Knock retreat – Join us for an exciting weekend at the Pilgrim Retreat Center near Ripon. Meet kids from around the state, play games, hang-out and take advantage of an opportunity to dig below the surface on some important questions. Meet at MCC at 5:00 on Friday, 11/21 and return by early afternoon on Sunday, 11/23. Cost is \$125 – see Jen or Dan for scholarships.

Sunday, 11/23 – Hope Confirmation

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Advent News

New Member Sunday

Advent will welcome new members on Sunday, November 23. People interested in becoming members are invited to attend two gatherings. The first gathering will be an informational session during the education hour on Sunday November 16. The second gathering will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 23 and will include brunch. Please plan to attend the new member reception immediately following worship.

Treasury of Love 2008

Beg. Bal & Love Offerings	9,366.93
Rent & Eviction Prevention	3,541.00
Utility Payment	1,644.92
Security Deposit	1,923.00
Prescription	267.58
Iraq Postage	125.20
Iraq Food Purchased	11.88
Scholarship	85.00
Auto Repair	455.00
Haiti Partners	20.00
Crossways—Aids Benefit	552.00
Bus Pass	47.00
Overdraft charge	14.75
Repay Advent	114.75
Auto Registration	30.00
Storage Fee	50.00
Wexford Food Pantry	25.00
Moving Expenses	175.00
Wexford Backpacks	55.00
IDs x two	48.00
St John Emergency Fund	55.00
Groceries & Gas	<u>100.00</u>
Expenditure	\$9,340.08
Balance as of 10/25/2008	\$26.85
Iraq postage—\$26.85	

Advent Giving Goal

While the stock market plunged to record lows the financial support for MCC's mission remained constant. The giving goal for September was \$26,560 and members of Advent generously gave \$25,133. Thank you for investing your dollars in the mission of the church.

Renewal of Membership and Consecration Sunday—November 2

Each of us is on a walk with Jesus. Every day we have the opportunity to learn from Jesus on that walk, just as his first disciples did. As we disciples walk with him, he wants us drawn closer to him. Jesus wants our walk always to be drawing us deeper into our relationship with him.

We will take a symbolic walk up the aisle during the communion distribution on Sunday, November 2. As we step up to receive the communion elements we will place our renewal of membership, financial pledge and commitment of time and talents for 2009 in an offering basket. We will commit ourselves to walking with Jesus in the year ahead. Please remember to walk this walk on Sunday, November 2.

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Advent News continued

Advent Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on November 13 at 7:00 p. in the Tower Apartments-Party/Meeting Room on the third floor at Oakwood west campus.

We are a group of women who meet two hours each month at Oakwood to read and discuss a Bible study, as well as exchange friendship and support one another. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p. You are very welcome to visit us. Call Phyllis Ermer with questions.

Judith Circle

Judith Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 11, 9:30 a. at Hildy McGown's. All are welcome for fellowship and study. Our study leader will be Joanne Heggen.

If you need a ride or have any questions please call Jean Loichinger.

OPALS Book Discussion Group

OPALS book discussion group is going to continue to meet at members' homes. Our meetings will now be held in the afternoon. Tuesday, November 18 our meeting will be at 1:30 p. at the home of Beverly Brekke-Bailey. The book is *The Yearling* by Marjorie Rawlings, an old classic. Call Mary Maxwell if you have questions or need a ride. New members always welcome.

GEMS – The Grumpy Elderly Men !

The group is reading Christianity for the Rest of Us by Diana Butler Bass. They gather at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the lower level of MCC. Join a great group of men (retired and alive) for coffee, sweets and discussion with intensity, humor and camaraderie. Contact Stan Klyve for more information.

Advent Women Thursday Breakfast Gathering in November

Advent women are invited for coffee each Thursday at 7 AM at PASQUAL'S in Hilldale Shopping Center, directly across from Metcalfe's Sentry. 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 when your schedule allows!

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



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 the next newsletter please contact Tisha at the church office.

- Those who are unable, for health reasons, to join us in worship on a regular basis but whom we love: Mary Beth and Steve Udvari, Kathy Alexander, Ardie Manser and Wilma Sanks
- All military personnel and their families all over the world, but especially those in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Our college students – Jamie Custer, Ian Jarvis, Hannah Hunter-Johnson, Rose Gear, Josh Ryan; Tristan Breedlove (graduate studies); Sarah Hunter-Johnson (graduate studies)
- Kathy and Robin Alexander as they grieve the loss of Kathy's cousin Joyce Olson who died from a massive heart attack. Prayers also for Joyce's husband Ben and daughter Laura
These people and their families as we pray our way through the church directory:

Oct. 28-Nov. 4 Bill Putnam; Bill Rettig, Jean Gilbertson
Nov. 4-11 Heather Putnam; Jeremy Ryan; Josh Ryan
Nov. 11-18 Wilma Sanks; Mary Schmelzer/Bill Grout; Bob/Chris Sessions
Nov. 18-25 Beth Simmons; Bryan Sirchio; Bonnie/Gene Spindler
Nov. 25-Dec. 2 Petra Streiff/Larry Stuessy; Jan Summers; Bonnie Trudell

Important Dates to Remember!



Birthdays

Allison Jarvis	11/01
Julia Weaver	11/09
Quinn Clark	11/10
Mark Geistlinger	11/11
Letitia Moore	11/14
Tony Powell	11/17
Laren Stuessy	11/17
Steve Udvari	11/18
Nick Grout	11/20
Mary Nack	11/20
Margie Zamora	11/20
Mary Beth Udvari	11/25

Anniversaries

Kevin Clark & Joanne Kirkland	11/15
Joan & Tom Matthews	11/19

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

Community of Hope Anchors

The Anchors are a small group of Community of Hope members who are specifically entrusted with a ministry of Christian friendship and support for members and friends of Community of Hope. Anchors are available to listen, pray and provide support as needed and desired. Feel free to contact any of the Anchors listed here or Pastor Tisha at any time.

Avis Elson
Margaret Helming
Roger Buffett
Larry Stuessy
Bonnie Spindler
Roger Williams

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Community of Hope News

Cindy and Tisha's Annual Open House

Saturday, November 15, 2008, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

All members and friends of Community of Hope are invited to join us for a fun and relaxed time of fellowship accompanied by home-baked cookies and warm apple cider. Children of all ages are welcome. No need to RSVP. If you need directions please give us a call. We hope to see you at our house!

Hope Men: Pancakes, Puns, Proverbs and Politics - those are just a few of the things you will miss if you don't get to the Hope men's breakfast at the Original Pancake House on University Avenue, at 6:30 a. on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month. You have promised yourself for a long time now. Mark your calendar, set your alarm, and make it! This is a practice. It is easier to start in the summer, when it is already light by 6:30 a. By next winter, you will say, "I don't care how deep the snow will be, I'm going!"

The group is called "Hope Men," but we welcome visitors. Just ask Tisha.

Calling all Musicians and Singers

Musicians and Singers are invited to join in the fun as we prepare the music for our next Sunday morning Taize worship service. If you are available for worship on November 23 and would like to be a part of the Taize band, please contact Tisha by Sunday November 9. Rehearsal dates will be determined in early November. Tisha will make music available for anyone who wants to play and/or sing. All instruments and vocal parts can be accommodated.

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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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Community of Hope
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Corkey Custer,
Moderator

Kristi Williams
Bruce Jarvis
Bill Long
Donna Leet

Advent Council

Bob Schneider
Julie M. Walsh
Jim Muehl
Joanna McDonald,
President

JoAnne Streit
Brian Kuhn
Edd Hellmer

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:

Brian Kuhn
Bill Long, Chair
Joanna McDonald
Corkey Custer
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.

Madison Christian Community
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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November 2—Daylight Savings Time Ends—Set
your clocks back one hour—don't be late!