

DMARC E-BULLETIN

for the week of January 25

DMARC ANNOUNCEMENTS

4th Annual Soup Supper

St. John's Lutheran Church at 600 6th Ave. is hosting this year's event. It runs from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Volunteers for the event welcome!

The Pet Pantry

Sometimes the best gift is keeping what you already love. The Pet Pantry provides pet food and supplies to families experiencing financial difficulties—because losing a job shouldn't mean losing a pet. The Pet Pantry is just now organizing, so the DMARC Emergency Food Pantry is partnering with them during this holiday season to collect donations. Help a dog or cat stay in a loving home this winter with your donation of unopened dog or cat food (dry or wet), leashes and collars, food dishes and bowls, cat litter and boxes, flea and tick medication, and toys. Contribute through your congregational collection, through the Red Barrel program in local stores, or directly to the DMARC Food Pantry warehouse at 3816 36th St. in Des Moines and we will make sure that your pet food donations get to the wonderful folks at the Pet Pantry.

Sack Saturday Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community? Each month the Des Moines Area Religious Council seeks volunteers to participate in Sack Saturdays. Participants are asked to commit two hours to greeting shoppers at local grocery stores and encouraging either their purchase of sacks of food items costing \$5.00, individual items of food (such as peanut Butter, cereal, pasta, soups) or cash. The food items collected are used to supply local food pantries in the Des Moines metro area. Money collected is used to purchase additional food items. This is an ideal opportunity for church, business or civic groups to work together to help meet a need in our community.

To sign up for a Sack Saturday, contact Cindy Morton at 277-6969 or 238-4593

DMARC Emergency Food Pantry Needs Paper Grocery Bags

DMARC's nine food pantries are in need of paper grocery bags in good condition. The pantries re-use paper sacks for packing food items to be given out to those in need. Large quantities of these paper sacks are consumed in the process, and the need is ongoing. Purchasing paper grocery sacks is not possible due to cost, and therefore, recycling paper sacks for this purpose is our only option. If you have extra paper sacks, you can drop them off at DMARC or any of our nine pantry locations.

How to Hold a Food Drive

Help the Emergency Food Pantry feed the hungry in the Des Moines Metro area by holding a food drive.

Getting Started

- Call the Emergency Food Pantry at 277-6969 to indicate you are planning a food drive.
- Establish a committee to organize and market the event. Set your kick-off and ending dates. A one to two week food drive works best.
- Hold contests between offices or work units to see who can collect the most food.
- Establish drop off site(s) for donated food. We can make arrangements to provide you with a Red Barrel to hold the food that is collected and envelopes for those who wish to give cash donations.
- Be sure to publicize the success of your food drive when it is completed.

Suggested Donations

- Collect non-perishable food items in unbreakable containers (please, no glass!).
- Most needed items include canned vegetables and fruits, soups, peanut butter, canned meat, tuna, noodles, spaghetti and macaroni, fruit juice and spaghetti sauce.

What about donating cash?

The Emergency Food Pantry can buy food at a much lower cost than individuals because we utilize the Food Bank of Iowa and local wholesalers. Seventy percent of food distributed is purchased using funds from cash donations.

Completing Your Food Drive

When your food drive is complete, count the number of food items you collected and package it in cardboard boxes. It is helpful if dry goods (cereals, rice, etc.) are packaged in separate boxes. Deliver your food to the Emergency Food Pantry Warehouse or contact DMARC at 515-277-6969 for pick up assistance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

Monday, January 18

INTRODUCING THE BOOK OF PSALMS

The Center for Renewal and Grand View University will host a School of Ministry from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in room 103 of the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions on the Grand View campus. Dr. Walter (Chip) Bouzard, professor of religion and philosophy at Wartburg College, will explore the types of psalms that appear in the Bible and ways that these psalms might be better employed in Christian worship and discipleship. The cost for the event is \$10.

Reserve your seat by emailing jwhite@grandview.edu.

Saturday, January 23

FREE COATS AND OTHER WINTER WEAR

Hope Ministries' Bethel Mission at 1310 6th Ave. will be distributing winter wear from 12:30-3:00 p.m. while supplies last.

Saturday, January 30

HOPE FOR THE HUNGRY: FEEDING GREATER DES MOINES

This one-day, action-oriented symposium will be held at Walnut Hills United Methodist Church in Urbandale (12321 Hickman Rd.) from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. with registration beginning at 8:00. The purpose of the day is to discover ways to alleviate childhood hunger in the greater Des Moines area by 2015 through inspiration, information, and connecting with folks from neighborhoods, school systems, congregations, food pantries, and service organizations. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and costs \$15 until January 25 and \$20 after the 25th and at the door. Registrations can be made through IowaTix or by contacting Diana Sickles at dsickles@mindspring.com.

Expenses are being covered by Sponsors and by "Friends".

To become a Friend add an extra \$15 to your registration fee and mark the box "Friend" on the form

Sunday, January 31

MUSICA ANTIQUA

This show will be presented at St. Mark Lutheran Church, West Des Moines beginning at 3:00 p.m. This entertaining, humorous, educational demonstration of Renaissance music and musical instruments will thrill all ages. St. Mark is located at the corner of 12th and Grand in West Des Moines.

With questions, contact Mark Babcock at mark@stmarkwdm.org.

FEBRUARY

Tuesday, February 2

FAITH IN ACTION FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

Bring humanity and compassion back into the public dialogue on immigration. Join us as we gather in prayer and move to action with members of the faith community in Des Moines. This program begins at 6:00 p.m. at Las Americas/Trinity United Methodist Church, 1438 8th St.

For more information contact, Rev. Barbara Dinnen at 490-1234.

Saturday, February 6

DEALING WITH THE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Presentations on “Recognizing and Managing Symptoms of Emotional Distress, How Unemployment Affects the Ways We Think About Ourselves, and Helping Children Cope With the Stresses of Unemployment” will be offered at the Student Education Center Auditorium, Des Moines University, 3200 Grand Ave. from 8:30 a.m. to noon. All presentations are free.

For further information, call the Iowa Psychiatric Society at 633-0341.

February 15

BOOK OF FAITH INITIATIVE

The Center for Renewal and Grand View University will host a School of Ministry on Monday, February 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in room 103 of the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions on the Grand View campus. Beth Lewis, president and ECO for Augsburg Fortress, will share the latest information about the rapidly evolving, exciting, Book of Faith Initiative. Participants will receive ideas for helping people of all ages truly engage in the first language of our faith, scripture. Cost for the event is \$10.

Reserve your seat by emailing jwhite@grandview.edu.

Saturday, February 20

DISCOVER THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS RETREAT

Heartland Presbyterian Church at 142nd St. & Hickman Rd. in Clive is hosting this retreat is for everyone who wants to learn strategies for personal and professional life to avoid or resolve situations. Facilitator Sandy Hoenig offers special insight from personal experiences as well as her extensive background in elementary teaching and school counseling. Sandy is a nationally certified conflict resolution facilitator and has led workshops and retreats for more than 10 years. The retreat runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the cost \$20 per person in advance or \$25 after Feb. 14.

To register, contact Parish Assoc Martie Larsen, CLP at 987-4246 or martie@hearlandpresbyterian.org.

MARCH

March 12-13

WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE

The conference theme is “Over the Top” Speakers and performers are Marilyn Meberg, Patsy Clairmont, Lisa Whelchel, Sandy Patty, Mandisa, Mary Beth and Steven Curtis Chapman and Nicole Johnson.

The conference runs from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and 7:00-10:30 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

*Group tickets for 1-10 are \$99.00 or \$89.00 for over 10 (cost includes box lunch)
At Vets Auditorium. Register at <http://www.womenoffaith.com/desmoines>*

March 13

CATHOLIC PEACE MINISTRY’S DINNER

You are cordially invited to Catholic Peace Ministry's 15th Annual Bishop Maurice J. Dingman Dinner at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. There will be a reception starting at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 6:30, and award celebration at about 7:30. Catholic Peace Ministry will present the Maurice J. Dingman Peace Award to Helen Oster and Chris Gaunt, longtime peace activists from Des Moines. You can purchase tickets (\$35) or reserve a table for 8 (\$280) by contacting Jeffrey J. Weiss, Catholic Peace Ministry Director, at jjwcpm@yahoo.com, or 515-255-8114.

March 15

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

The Center for Renewal and Grand View University will host a School of Ministry on Monday, March 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in room 103 of the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions on the Grand View campus. Dr. Duane Larson, president of Wartburg Theological Seminary, will provide updates about emerging models for church leadership formation in our seminaries and the role of the seminary in our changing world. Cost for the event is \$10.

Reserve your seat by emailing jwhite@grandview.edu.

LOOKING AHEAD

VERMEER LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE EVENTS

April 9, 2010: All day Pastor’s conference with Rev. Dr. William Willimon, Bishop of the United Methodist Church.

October 6, 2010: Evening community event with Kara Powell, Exec. Dir. Fuller Youth Institute, Fuller Theological Seminary

October 7, 2010: All day pastor’s conference with Kara Powell.

Details follow closer to the dates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

50 Choir Robes for Sale

The robes are \$5.00 each. They are 30 years old but still in excellent condition. They are maroon and have maroon and silver stoles. To inquire, call Marita Wolgast with First Lutheran Church at 319-365-1494 or email maritaw@firstlutherancr.org.

2010 Iowa Juneteenth Observance

This event runs from June 11 to June 20. Please mark your calendars for this celebration of freedom, families, and citizenship through improved community relations.

Registration details to follow. Please monitor the website at www.iowajuneteenth.org.

YWCA to Close the Aliber Child Development Center

On Tuesday, January 5, 2010 the YWCA of Greater Des Moines announced that the Center will be closed due to economic circumstances. Although an orderly transition had been planned, due to the extreme cold, equipment malfunctions have made it impossible to comply with child care licensure standards.

To assist the parents of the 61 current children to find suitable daycare alternatives, they will be working closely with United Way of Central Iowa and Iowa Child Care Resources and referrals. The building at 717 Grand Ave has been placed up for sale. For further information contact Deb Brewer, Executive Director at 244-8961.

Seniors Helping Seniors

Seniors Helping Seniors is a national caregiver and companionship organization that is about helping seniors who want to remain in their own homes and stay as self-sufficient as possible. The first in Iowa, Seniors Helping Seniors is serving Greater Des Moines communities, including Polk and Dallas Counties by providing loving, caring, compassionate non-medical in-home services to less able seniors and employment opportunities for active seniors who want to help. In-home services include companionship, transportation, light housekeeping, meal preparation, shopping assistance, yard work, pet care and more.

If you know of a caring and compassionate older adult would like to provide the services or you know of someone that would benefit from the services please tell them about Seniors Helping Seniors.

Seniors Helping Seniors of Central Iowa is also available for group presentations on elderly issues and topics facing the senior population. For more information or to book a time please contact Heather Deering at 515-661-2169 or shsdsm@hotmail.com.

Office Furniture

The Iowa Office of Church World Service/CROP, located in the same building as DMARC, will begin downsizing its office equipment in anticipation of an eventual move to a smaller office. Items for sale will include 5 full-sized desks, 5 four-drawer metal filing cabinets, 2 three-door metal filing cabinets, several book cases, a table top, two stand alone table-like pieces, and 9 office chairs. All items are negotiable and will be the responsibility of the buyer to move, using one's own or borrowed truck.

For further information, please contact the Reverend Russell Melby at 515-274-2224 or rmelby@churchworldservice.org.

Habitat for Humanity

Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity is recruiting churches and faith groups to help low-income families achieve home ownership in 2010. There are many opportunities to get involved including a 2010 Multi-Faith Build that is open to individuals and groups from diverse faith communities through contributions of funds and labor.

For more information, please contact Brendalyn Shird at 515-471-8686 x112 or bshird@gdmhabitat.org.

“Exit Saigon, Enter Little Saigon” Exhibit

Running from December 19 to February 28 at the Iowa State Historical Museum, this exhibit commemorates the 35th anniversary of Southeast Asian refugee resettlement in Iowa. The “Exit Saigon, Enter Little Saigon” exhibit, www.vietnam.org, was created by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program to commemorate this occasion as it tells the story of the Vietnamese American experience from 1975 to the present.

For more information visits www.iowacapi.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Broadlawns Hospital

Broadlawns needs volunteers to welcome and direct patients and families as they enter the hospital. If interested contact Jill MacNaughton, Director, Patient & Volunteer Relations, at 282-2323 or jmacnaughton@broadlawns.org.

Can You Help?

Reliable van (or pick up truck) to replace the two over the hill vans that Catholic Worker House currently maintains. Both vans have over 200,000 miles on them. Each needs repair work costing over \$1000 – beyond the total value of each van. They need a van that will survive the winter to pick up donations to the Catholic Worker House and food for their Saturday Free Food Store ministry

If you can help, contact Frank Cordaro or Tracy Robson at 243-0765.

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**DMARC-RELATED PERSONAL PRODUCTS DONATION SITES:**

Needed items include: *diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, bars of soap, razors and feminine hygiene products.*

**BIDWELL RIVERSIDE CENTER**, 1203 Hartford Ave., DM 50315 244-6251

Contact: Josh/Cassie

**CITY OF WEST D.M. HUMAN SERVICES**, 318 5<sup>th</sup> St., WDM 50265 222-3660

Contact: Tammy Lage

**COMMUNITY SERVICES SITE ON 6TH**, 1618 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., DM 50311 248-6241

Contact: Danita Parker

**DOWNTOWN FOOD PANTRY SITE**, 701 Grand Ave., DM 50309 243-1381

Contact: Phil Werner

**IOWA HOMELESS YOUTH CENTERS**, 1219 Buchanan St., DM 503126 265-1222

Contact: Toni Nicol

**RED ROCK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM**, Neveln Resource Center, # 305, 406 SW School St., Ankeny, 50023 965-0433 Contact: Sharon Brooks

**ST. MARY FAMILY CENTER**, 1815 Hubbell Ave., D.M. 50316 262-7290

Contact: Susie Paloma

**SALVATION ARMY SOCIAL SERVICES**, 1300 6<sup>th</sup> Ave or 1216 E 25<sup>th</sup> Ct., DM 50314/ 50317- 282-3422/ 266-3156 Contact: Shireen Braman/Joanne Norelius

*All preferred sites report collections to DMARC which allows us to track distribution and to better serve those in need.*

**Other donation sites:**

**BEACON OF LIFE (WOMEN)**, 1717 Woodland Ave, DM 50309, 244-4713 Contact: Ruth Hardin

**BETHEL MISSION**, 1310 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., D.M. 50314 265-7272 Contact Lisa (Office)

**CENTRAL IOWA SHELTER SERVICES**, 205 15<sup>th</sup> St., D.M. 50309 284-5719 Contact: Tony Timm

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF IOWA**, 1111 University Ave., D.M. 50314 288 1982 x 321 Contact: Cindy Hickman

**CROSS MINISTRIES**, 1050 24<sup>th</sup> St., D.M. 50311 279-8877 Contact: Ann McGowan

**EVELYN DAVIS EARLY LEARNING**, 1409 Clark St., D.M. 50314 243-4212

**HOUSE OF MERCY**, 1409 Clark St., D.M. 50314 643-6500 Contact: Front Desk

**LUTHERAN SERVICES OF IOWA**, 3125 Cottage Grove (deliveries) D.M. 50311 271 7411 Contact: Karen Sullivan

**YOUNG WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER**, 705 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Des Moines, IA 244-4901 Contact: Heather Soener.

**YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES AND SHELTER**, 918 11<sup>TH</sup> St. SE, D.M. 50309 282-9377 Contact: Jana Daisy