

DMARC E-Bulletin

For the week of April 13, 2009

Here are this week's announcements. Please help publicize these events in your congregation's bulletin, newsletter or bulletin board or pass the information to someone who can benefit from it.

DMARC ANNOUNCEMENTS

DMARC PREFERRED 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 5th St., WDM 50265 222-3660

Contact: Tammy Lage

COMMUNITY SERVICES SITE ON 6TH, 1618 6th Ave., DM 50311 248-6241

Contact: Danita Parker

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

Contact: Sherry Kepner

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

Contact: Nikki Dempsey

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 6th Ave or 1216 E 25th Ct., DM 50314/ 50317- 282-3422/ 266-3156 Contact: Shireen Braman/Joanne Norelius

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

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

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 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next deadline April 24

APRIL

Monday, April 13

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED MEETING

The April meeting of CWU is Bible Study for May Friendship Day featuring "Building On Our Stories" by the Rev. Jill Flyr, Pastor of Grace United Methodist Church. The meeting begins at noon and will be held at Staves UMC, on the corner of E. 28th and Madison in Des Moines. The cost is \$3 per person.

Call Eileen Rowat for reservations at 288-1798.

Friday, April 17

PELLA OPERA HOUSE FEATURES BRUCE COCKBURN

Bruce is a Canadian singer-songwriter/guitar virtuoso with an understated spiritual edge. His songs touch on the frailty and necessity of love, and unquenchable spiritual searching. Tickets cost \$28.

For more information, contact Steve at steve@2refpella.org.

Friday, April 17

TALK: INTERFAITH DIALOG

Michael Dennis Browne, the Morse-alumni distinguished teaching professor of English at the Univ. of Minnesota will speak about his experiences in interfaith dialogue during the six years in which he and Stephen Paulus worked on the oratorio, "To Be Certain of the Dawn". Browne is the renowned poet and librettist of the piece. The talk begins at noon and will be held at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Student Center, 1150 28th St., Des Moines.

Saturday, April 18

COOL CONGREGATIONS WORKSHOP

Learn how to organize a meaningful new dimension to your stewardship program in which interested congregants make a faith-based pledge to reduce their global warming emissions by taking energy efficient actions, often saving money in the process! Participants will calculate their carbon footprint, find ways to reduce it, and learn how to organize a “Cool Congregations” stewardship program in their congregations. The workshop runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Plymouth UCC.

Sunday, April 19

DRAKE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS “TO BE CERTAIN OF THE DAWN”

This Holocaust Memorial Oratorio will be at the Civic Center beginning at 3:00 p.m. The Drake Choir, Drake Chorale, Drake Chamber Choir, Drake Community Chorus, Heartland Youth Chorus and Drake Student/Faculty Orchestra will be there with Aimee Beckman Collier, Conductor. Tickets cost \$7.00 for students and \$15.00 for non-students and are available at the Drake Fine Arts Box Office (271-3841) or Civic Center Box office, or charge by phone at 243-1888.

Sunday, April 19

DE KLOKKENLUIDERS HAND BELL CHOIR

The concert begins at 3:00 p.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church in West Des Moines. Pella’s community hand bell choir was formed in the fall of 1994, bringing together experienced hand bell ringers from several area churches. In the summer of 2004, the group toured Romania, ringing in mountain resorts, universities and a Romanian Orthodox Church.

With questions, contact choirmaster Mark Babcock or the church office at 223-4208.

Sunday, April 19

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES: RETURNING FROM TEHRAN WITH A MESSAGE OF HOPE

The Rev. Louie Vitale, recent peace Award winner of “Pax Christi,” is returning from Tehran on a mission for peace with the Fellowship of Reconciliation and will present “Love Your Enemies”: Returning from Tehran with a Message of Hope.” The author and spiritual leader will offer his insights on ethics and foreign policy. The talk begins at 7:00 p.m. at Waveland Hall in Plymouth Congregational Church.

Sunday, April 26

UNION PARK CHURCHES INVITE YOU TO THEIR SPRING CONCERT

Ensembles, instrumental groups, soloists, and choir from each congregation will perform in concert at Central Community of Christ beginning at 3:00 p.m. If you would like to sing with the mass choir directed by Michael Harnan, rehearsals will be at the church on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 26 at 1:00 p.m. Come and enjoy this array of musical styles and offerings shared to the glory of God.

MAY

Saturday, May 2

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S SPRING BAZAAR

New life Lutheran Church in Norwalk is looking for crafters and vendors. Table rental is \$25.00 + \$5.00 for electricity; the rental fee goes for national youth gathering in New Orleans this summer. The bazaar is the same weekend as the city-wide garage sale, so there will be plenty of traffic. The bazaar runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

May 4-5

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP SERIES

Rev. Dr. George Hunsberger, coordinator of the Gospel and Our Culture Network in North America, will speak at the Congregational Leadership Series. The focus of the session Monday evening from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. will be “The Problematic Vendor Shape of the Church.” a program designed for ordained and commissioned leaders, program staff, and church councils/boards. The focus of the Tuesday morning session from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. is “Biblical Engagement in Sent Communities,” and is designed for ordained and commissioned leaders and program staff. The program will be held at the Krum Business Center at Grandview University. The cost is \$15.00 per person or \$100 per congregation(6 persons attending).

Contact Jane White at jwhite@grandview.edu or 263-6008 or visit www.renewingchurch.org (workshops & events tab) to register.

Sunday, May 10

INTERNATIONAL CONCERT ORGANIST

Dr. Herndon Spillman will provide a major organ event for St. Luke's Episcopal parish and for the Des Moines community. Dr. Spillman coordinates the organ studies program at Louisiana State U. in Baton Rouge, LA. He studied abroad with French organist Marie-Claire Alain. The concert will begin at 4:00 p.m. and the public is invited.

May 20, 2009

HIGHWAY TO HEALTH—HEALTH FAIR FOR SENIORS

Polk County Senior Services will host a health fair and Senior Expo at the Varied Industries Bldg. at the State Fairgrounds. Approximately 1800 people sign up for the event, with about 400 going through the Health Fair. Participants are given a “punch card” that encourages people to visit the health fair booths. Each vendor will be given a paper punch and can punch a participant's card after they have visited the booth. Cards are entered into a drawing for \$100 gift card from Hy-Vee and other possible prizes.

The Health Fair will be held in the south meeting rooms of the Varied Industries Building. This is for privacy and acoustic reasons. If you are participating in the health fair there will be no charge for your space. We ask that you do not charge for your services. Senior Services may be able to reimburse your agency for services that otherwise could not be provided. For more information on reimbursement, call 286-2062 after March 20. This year vendors are allowed to sell products.

Thursday, May 21

DMARC SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

This year's Service Awards Luncheon will be Thursday, May 21 at the Airport Holiday Inn. The cost will be \$35, \$10 of which is tax-deductible. Watch our E-Bulletin and website, www.dmreligious.org, for information on how you can register.

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday, June 6

GREEK FOOD FAIR

Greek Orthodox Church of St. George is hosting a Greek food fair from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be fun, fellowship, and a great time for all. More information will follow.

Wednesday, June 10

4th ANNUAL CFUM SCORE FOR KIDS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Copper Creek Golf Course in Pleasant Hill is hosting.. All proceeds going to The Haven After School Program. Registration is \$85 per golfer.

With questions, contact Vivian Bryson at Vivian@cfum.org.

June 22, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

WORLD RENOWNED MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir composed of 360 vocalists, accompany by the Orchestra at Temple Square, will perform at Wells Fargo Arena. The Choir will perform American folk songs, spirituals, hymns and choral masterworks Tickets are currently on sale at Iowa Events Center Box Office. Call 866-553-2457 or visit www.dahlstickets.com for more information.

Ticket prices \$75/ \$55 /\$40/ \$25.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Debtors Anonymous Meeting

This is self-help consumer provided program for people with debt or financial problems. The moderator is an individual with experience in the area of Debtors Anonymous meeting facilitation. Meetings are sponsored by Central Iowa Center for Independent Living and are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. at 655 Walnut St., Ste. 141 in Des Moines.

Making Home Affordable Program

Designed to assist American families to refinance or modify their loans to a monthly mortgage payment that is more affordable, this program is free through HUD. Don't be taken in on a scam. You do not have to pay to be assisted through HUD. If you're trying to modify or refinance your loans to a monthly mortgage payment that is more affordable, visit the Making Home Affordable website at makinghomeaffordable.gov. You can also call the Homeowner's HOPE hotline at 1-888-995-HOPE for free foreclosure counseling assistance.

Spring 2009 Parent Enrichment Classes

The Child Abuse Prevention Council is sponsoring various classes including; Parenting Children 0-5 yrs, Parenting School Age Children, Parenting Children with Difficult Behavior; Strengthening Families, Real Life Parenting Skills – Hazelden, and Helping Children Succeed in School in Spanish. Classes are free, and some provide child care and a meal.

For more information or to register call 725-2682.

Share Iowa April Food Packages

- 1. Best Value Package \$22.00:** 1 lb. 93% Lean Ground Beef, 1 lb. Sheboygan Brats, 3.66 lbs. Chicken Leg Quarters, .75 lbs Jennie-O Sausage Links, 9 oz. Rotisserie Chicken Breast Shaved Deli Meat, 12 oz. Bonser Noodles, 2/10 oz. Tubs of Sliced Strawberries with Sugar and Assorted Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
- 2. Fruit and Veggie Package \$12.00:** Assorted Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, 12 oz. Bonser Noodles, 2/10 oz. Tubs of Sliced Strawberries with Sugar and Assorted Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
- 3. Meat Only Package \$12.00:** 1 lb. 93% Lean Ground Beef, 1 lb. Sheboygan Brats, 3.66 lbs. Chicken Leg Quarters., .75 lbs. Jennie-O Sausage Links, 9 oz. Rotisserie Chicken Breast Shaved Deli Meat
- 4. Sirloin Steak Package \$15.00** “Back by popular demand.” 2 boxes each containing four – 6 oz. steaks.
- 5. Grill Package \$17.50:** Two 6 oz. Sirloin Steak Fillets, 1 lb IQF Chicken Breasts, 2 lbs. St. Louis Ribs, Four/ 4 oz. Boneless Pork Chops, 1 lb. Ground Beef.
- 6. Choice Item \$6.50:** Golden Buttermilk Precooked Pancakes, 6.8 lbs, 48/ 5.5 inch diameter

Must purchase package A, B, C, D, or E to qualify for Choice Item.

Web site www.shareiowa.org

Or email shareiowa@mahaska.org or call 1/800-344-1107

Employment Assistance Office

Westminster Presbyterian is offering an unused office with computer, printer, internet connection, telephone and books on searching for jobs and updating your resume. If you are between jobs and would like to use this facility, please call Joan at 274-1534 to reserve the room.

Iowa Religious Media Services

Recently multiple resources for adults and children have been added. Established in 1986, IRMS is a source for more than 7,900 video, audio and book titles, plus other resources, for enhancing Christian education and worship and for assisting with the ministry and management of churches.

The resource center is supported by many member churches and their members may borrow materials from its library. IRMS has added video and a five-week study guide on John Calvin's life and legacy and the latest book by Presbyterian minister Diane Karay Tripp. IRMS is located at 3116 – 104th St. in Urbandale.

Find additional info at www.irms.org.

Scholarships for SUMMIT Summer Internship Program

SUMMIT (Summer Mission Team) is for college age young adults who want to work in the community and the church to make a difference in the world. SUMMIT provides participants with the opportunity to give of themselves, share their experiences with fellow team members and gain valuable internship experience. The program begins in late May or early June. Team members work 20-25 hours per week for 10 weeks in the community in a mission setting. Each team member receives a \$2,000 scholarship for participating. Applications are available at Westminster Presbyterian Church or by visiting www.westpres.org.

Email Lynda Albaugh at lalbaugh@westpres.org for more information.

Sacred Practice Leadership Series

Sponsored by The Center for Renewal, Grand View University and the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, this is a two year series for church leaders—laity or clergy--to cultivate prayer, discernment and service. The series features six renewal events over the course of two years with online resources available between events and will feature twelve prominent authors and theologians. Participants can expect to learn to use sacred practices as a means of shaping their own congregation's life and ministry. Sessions include those on visioning, discernment, healthy relationship, prayer, proclaiming, interpreting scripture and service. The series is held at Sinsinawa Mound Center, WI and Shalom Retreat Center, Dubuque, IA. The cost is \$1900 per person and covers registration, housing, meals, and web-based seminars.

For further information, contact Dwight DuBois at 263-6021 or ddubois@gvc.edu.

Coping During Anxious Times

This Catholic Charities counseling program is based on Bowen Family Systems Theory. The counseling staff includes a bilingual therapist, and works with clients of all faiths regarding a number of issues including managing stress and anxiety. Fees are based on income and family size and range from \$8-\$75.00 per session. There are offices in downtown Des Moines, Altoona, Ankeny, Waukee, and Perry. Evening appointments are available.

To schedule an appointment, contact the Des Moines office at 244-3761

Iowa VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) Summer Programs

Programs run 8 to 10 weeks, and various start dates are available throughout the summer. Iowa VISTA will have three Summer Associate programs in 2009 serving with Vista Flood Recovery in Cedar Rapids, Iowa Human and Civil Rights program across the state, and the Oakridge Neighborhood Services in Des Moines. The Oakridge position is an enrichment program for school youth ages 5-17 that incorporates positive social behavior and lifestyle choices. Summer Associate Vista members receive a modest living allowance of around \$1500. For an 8 week program and an end of service benefit of either a \$1,000 Education Award or \$200 monetary award for successful completion of program.

Please visit www.americorps.gov/vista or call 800-942-2677.

Iowa Healthy Links Leader Training

Polk County Health Dept., in partnership with Aging Resources of Central Iowa, Visiting Nurse Services and Polk County Senior Services is offering the Stanford University evidence-based Chronic Disease Self Management Program.

Leaders must complete a 4-day training workshop running Monday, June 1 through June 4, 2009 prior to teaching. This is a self-management workshop and is given for 2 ½ hours once a week for 6 weeks. It is offered to adults who have various chronic health conditions, such as Arthritis, Heart Disease, Diabetes and Osteoporosis. The workshop is scripted and is given as outlined and designed to be facilitated by lay people.

After completing the 4 day training, leaders would co-facilitate a group with an experienced Master Trainer. They would co-facilitate, present short information sessions that are scripted and facilitate discussions. They are not responsible for setting up the logistics of the workshop or completing documentation.

Leaders will provide at least two six-week workshops within the following 12 months. They may receive an honorarium upon completion of the six week workshop.

For more information on training and leader training application, visit:

www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Clinic For Refugees

Catholic Charities Refugee Services in collaboration with Lutheran Services in Iowa, the Bureau of Refugee Services, Bankers Trust, Grubb YMCA and United Way will host an Adjustment of Status Clinic for refugees on April 18. This event will serve three times the number of people usually helped at a clinic.

Sol Varisco with Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services says that “lawyers donating their professional services and volunteers have devised a system that will help families complete paperwork to become permanent citizens.

Volunteers are needed to assist in filling out applications at the clinic. Training provided.

To volunteer or for more information call Sol at 515-237-5068.

Host Families

IRIS (Iowa Resource For International Service) needs host families for foreign student exchange. Iris brings Nigerian and Tanzanian high school students to Iowa for a school year. This program is funded through the US Department of State, and the grant is given to organizations which can bring students from underprivileged countries with culturally and religiously diverse backgrounds. Youth Exchange and Study was created after 9/11 to help break down barriers between Christians and Muslims in their home countries and in the United States. IRIS brings a 50/50 mix of Christian and Muslim students.

For additional information contact Kimberly Hope Athay at kim@iris-center.org or visit <http://www.iris-center.org/>.

Invocation at Des Moines City Council Meeting

The Des Moines City Council has a long-standing tradition of having a brief invocation prior to the opening of their regular Council Meetings, and more clergy members are being sought who would be willing.. The invocation is intended to instill a sense of purpose and solemnity over its proceedings. Residents of Des Moines represent many nationalities and religions. We ask that the invocations be of a nondenominational nature, thereby avoiding any appearance of endorsing a particular set of religious beliefs.

Meetings are twice each month, on selected Mondays at 4:30 p.m. Contact Karen at the City Clerk’s office, 237-1389, if you would be interested.