

# DMARC E-Bulletin

For the week of March 27, 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 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: 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 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.*

### 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.

*Please contact Cindy Morton, DMARC Red Barrel Coordinator at 277-6969 or 238-4593 to sign up for a sack Saturday.*

## **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 reuse 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 9*

### ***APRIL***

#### **April 2 - 3**

##### **ADOPTION SEMINAR**

The Rev. Ronald Nydam will give a talk titled "The Heart of Adoptees—The Challenges of Their Development." Rev. Nydam teaches pastoral care classes at Calvin Theological Seminary. He served as pastor at Third Christian Reformed Church of Denver, Colorado for 10 years. He co-produced *More Than Love*, a 55 minute video presentation on healthy adoptive development. This free public event is Thursday, April 2 from 7:00 8:30 p.m. at the Vermeer Global Pavilion in Pella, Iowa, and again on Friday, April 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Rev. Nydam will present a conference titled "Ministry to the Adoptive Triad—a Pastoral/Care Giver Opportunity" at the same venue. The Friday conference requires pre-registration. Before March 27, the cost is \$25.00, after it is \$35.00.

*To register or with questions, contact Andrea Van Kooten at 628-3141 or [avankooten@vermeer.com](mailto:avankooten@vermeer.com).*

#### **Saturday, April 4**

##### **ANNUAL DINGMAN PEACE AWARD DINNER**

This annual dinner is a tribute to the memory of the late bishop Maurice Dingman. The Bishop Dingman Peace Award is awarded each year to an Iowa person or community with exemplary service on behalf of peace and justice. This year's keynote speaker is Kathy Kelly. In January, 2009, Kelley joined other companions in maintaining a presence at the Rafah border crossing between Gaza and Egypt, urging authorities to open the border for humanitarian reasons. The dinner begins at 6:30 with a suggested donation of \$35.00; larger gifts are appreciated. Tables of eight may be reserved. There is no admission fee for the 7:30 pm program without dinner.

*Contact Catholic Peace Ministry, 4211 Grand Ave., D.M. for reservations by March 30.*

## **Palm Sunday, April 5**

### **PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION FOR PEACE**

As we enter the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the war in Iraq, please gather at the west side of the capital at 2:30 p.m. Palms will be provided or bring yours from your morning services. The Peace Procession will follow children and a donkey to St. Paul's Cathedral, 815 High St., for an ecumenical service. Please bring signs and banners proclaiming the Biblical call to be peacemakers and our commitment to seek peace and justice. The prayer service will feature Kathy Kelly from Voices for Creative Non-Violence. This event is sponsored by Des Moines Area Ecumenical Committee for peace.

*For further info call 262-5974*

## **Sunday, April 5**

### **FIRST ANNUAL SALE BARN AND SILENT AUCTION**

St. Mark Lutheran Church is holding this fundraiser. All proceeds will benefit local youth participants and adult advisors attending the national ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, in July 2009. A variety of items will be auctioned including gift certificates, event tickets, hand-crafted items, donated services, collectibles and much more. The sale runs from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday, April 8**

### **SOLO PIANO BENEFIT CONCERT FOR IOWA FLOOD RELIEF**

Pianist George Winston will be at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 815 High St. beginning at 7:00 p.m. George will be performing songs from his latest CD, *Gulf Coast Blues and Impressions – A Hurricane Relief Benefit* as well as selections from his seasonal favorites played in his melodic folk piano style. George Winston is a consummate composer, interpreter and performer. Please support the DMARC Food pantry by bringing a donation of canned food to the concert.

*For more information call Episcopal Diocese of Iowa at 277-6165. For tickets, go to [www.iowatix.com](http://www.iowatix.com).*

## **Friday, April 17 and Saturday April 18**

### **PEACE CONFERENCE at WESLEY WOODS CAMP & RETREAT CENTER**

The theme of this conference is the scripture “They shall hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.” – Micah 4. The purpose is to facilitate discussion about what we as individuals and members of churches can do to promote peace in our world. Sponsors include the Iowa Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action and the Presbytery of Des Moines. The conference coordinator is the Rev. Hugh R. Stone, pastor of the Osceola United Methodist Church. The fee is \$50.00 per person, and includes lodging, Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast and lunch.

*To register, call or email Rev. Stone at 641-414-4876 or [hugh8@juno.com](mailto:hugh8@juno.com).*

## **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.

## ***LOOKING AHEAD***

## **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.

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

### **WORLD RENOWNED MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR**

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir composed of 360 vocalists and accompaniment by the orchestra 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 with prices ranging from \$25-\$75.. Call 866-553-2457 or visit [www.dahlstickets.com](http://www.dahlstickets.com) for more information.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NEEDED – GAMES & PUZZLES**

Children and Family Urban Ministries (CFUM) needs new games and puzzles. Some needed games include: Twister, Hopscotch, Sliders, Million Dollar Password, I Spy, Bingo, Snorta, Sequence States and Capitols, In a Pickle, and Pictureka. Puzzles for ages K-8 give options for Puzzle Day at the Breakfast Club. Decks of cards are always in demand.

*For more information, please contact Vivian Bryson at [Vivian@cfum.org](mailto:Vivian@cfum.org) or 282-3242.*

## **CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR EMPLOYMENT STATUS?**

Technology and computers are prevalent in just about every occupation today. New Horizons Computer Learning Centers at 6200 Aurora Ave., Ste 207E in Urbandale is offering a 15% discount on their Computer Application SkillBuilder Night Program. The program will focus on Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Access as well as the Internet. In addition, several sessions will focus on career planning, interviewing and creating a resume. The program runs from Monday, March 30 through May 18. Classes are held on Monday and Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

*To register or inquire, contact Teri Vos with New Horizons at 226-3265 or email TeriV@Newhorizonsdm.com.*

## **WE CAN!--A multi church collection of 29,000 food items.**

Last year Polk City United Methodist Church collected 29,000 food items with the help of other churches and residents in and around Polk City, and your help, they hope to do it again this year.

**Why 29,000?** In 2008, WorldVision reported that 29,000 children die every day of hunger and other preventable causes. Even though the WorldVision reports this year are down to 26,000, our goal still remains at 29,000.

**What to collect?** Food items will then be distributed to food pantries and homeless ministries in central Iowa. Wanted are cans and packages that you can build a meal around: rice and black or red beans, stew and pasta, peanut butter and cereal. People can also donate money, but actual items are wanted until the goal of 29,000 is reached.

How will the 29,000 number be achieved? All churches that participate in WE CAN are invited to bring the food collected to a WE CAN rally at Capitol Square in downtown Des Moines on Sunday, April 26 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. During this time the food will be sorted and displayed. There will also be a live concert and speakers. Invitations are extended to the public.

Between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. that evening, food will be loaded on a semi truck and other transports to be delivered to the DMARC Food Pantry, homeless ministries in the Des Moines area including Hope Ministries. If a church has a relationship with a particular ministry, they can deliver a portion themselves.

Become a WE CAN church by encouraging your congregation to collect at least 1,000 cans or other items of food during March and April.

*For more details contact Polk City United Methodist Church, 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 515 984 6274*

## **Women of Achievement Awards**

**WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AND YOUNG WOMEN (age 17-24) OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** The YWCA of Greater Des Moines is hosting the women of achievement and young women of achievement awards. Recipients are to be announced by April 22. The luncheon will be held June 3 at the Polk County Convention Complex.

### **Application Criteria:**

- Nominee's volunteer work emphasizing the YWCA Mission to empower women, children and promote racial justice.
- Impact of the nominee's volunteer work on the community as it relates to YWCA Mission.
- Other indicators of nominee's achievements
- Nominee's innovation with regard to issues of empowerment of women and children and promotion of racial justice.
- Requires three letters of support.

*Return completed applications by 1:00 p.m., April 3 to  
YWCA of Greater Des Moines, Attn. Deb Brewer, Exec. Director  
717 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309*

## **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 515-263-6021 or [ddubois@gvc.edu](mailto:ddubois@gvc.edu).*

## **Visiting Nurse Services (VNS)**

VNS is a non-profit organization dedicated to meeting healthcare needs in Polk County. A leader in providing quality healthcare programs for more than 100 years, VNS has a dedicated staff of professionals who are always on call to help.

With the struggling economy and healthcare crisis, VNS is facing many challenges in keeping its programs strong. Your support is needed to allow VNS to continue offering quality healthcare to all who need it. Especially needed are donated items for several key programs. The wish lists for those programs can be found below.

## ADULT HEALTH PROGRAM

The Adult Health Program works with clients who are uninsured or underinsured and in desperate need of medical attention. VNS, through public health funding, can assist those who have no other ability to get care, yet the numbers of clients needing help has tripled while the public health dollars to provide services has been cut.

To meet the growing need for assistance, supplies are critical. VNS is now appealing to area churches and civic groups to hold a supply drive for our Adult Health Program to collect our wish list items. The following items are high need items:

- Sterile dressings in sizes 4" x 4", 5" x 9", and 2" x 2"
- Band-Aids
- Medication organizers
- Petroleum jelly
- Antibiotic creams such as Bacitracin, Neosporin and triple antibiotic ointment
- Multivitamins
- Hand sanitizers
- Clorox wipes

## STORK'S NEST

The VNS Stork's Nest is an educational incentive program. Pregnant women who reside in Polk County and who meet program income guidelines may enroll. Participants earn points for healthy behaviors such as keeping medical appointments, WIC participation, breastfeeding and school attendance. These points are redeemed for needed baby items such as diapers, clothing, strollers, cribs and car seats. Call 515-558-9950 for more information. There is need for baby items to offer participants; all items must be new.

### *Baby Accessories*

- Baby sling
- Crib sheets
- Developmental toys & activities for infants
- Snuggli/infant carrier

### *Clothing*

- Baby hand mittens
- Baby shoes/socks
- Blankets
- Sleepers (newborn to 12 months)
- Spring/summer clothing (newborn to 12 months)

### *Feeding*

- Bottle brushes
- Bottles
- Bibs
- Breast milk storage bags

- Breast pumps (electric and manual)
- Burp cloths
- Nursing pads

#### *Furniture*

- Bouncer Seats
- Highchairs
- Rockers
- Strollers (including double strollers)
- Swings

#### *Hygiene*

- Baby bath wash
- Baby lotion
- Baby shampoo
- Baby washcloths
- Diapers (newborn to size 5)
- Grooming set (brush, comb, nail clippers etc.)
- Hooded bath towels
- Wipes

#### *Medical*

- Digital thermometer
- Nursery health care kit (nail clippers, thermometer, nose syringe)

#### *Safety*

- Car sun shade
- Security gate

### FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) provides critical assistance to high risk youth with special and exceptional needs. Foster Grandparents are low-income elderly volunteers who receive a stipend and reimbursement for volunteer related expenses such as transportation and meals with students as part of their volunteer work. The Foster Grandparent Program provides volunteer opportunities that benefit both the senior volunteer and the child with whom they are matched in a one-to-one mentoring relationship. The goal of the project is to enhance the performance of high risk youth by providing one-on-one assistance during school such as reading assistance and tutoring. In addition, volunteers work one-on-one with children in child care settings assisting in child development and learning activities. Wish list items include:

- Personal care items such as soap, tissue, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.
- Cleaning products like glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, wash cloths, etc.
- Items the Grandparents could give schools including children's books and school supplies (paper, pencils, crayons, glue, markers)
- Gift cards to caseys (for Gas), grocery stores and discount stores
- Adult large size Depends

Cash donations are always appreciated as well so we can target specific needs. Please make checks payable to:

Visiting Nurse Services  
1111 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 320  
Des Moines, Iowa 50314

For supply drop off or pick up contact Mary Pink at 515-558-9948 or [maryp@vnsdm.org](mailto:maryp@vnsdm.org).

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **DMARC Development Director**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this position is to promote the work of DMARC by planning and implementing a comprehensive development program for both DMARC and the DMARC Foundation that generates high levels of individual, congregational, foundation, and corporate support.

#### **Responsibilities:**

Design and manage all fundraising activities, including:

- annual giving appeals
- endowment and capital campaigns
- special campaigns and events
- foundation and corporate gifts
- planned giving
- annual report

Develop and manage strategies for donor cultivation and solicitation, including:

- strategies to increase the number of "member" congregations
- strategies to enlarge the donor base and size of gifts
- implementation of the use of a "contacts" database
- strategies for the development of a fund for strategic initiatives

Work with the Executive Director, DMARC Administrative Cabinet, DMARC Foundation and consultants to develop and implement a comprehensive Development Plan

Identify and develop ongoing relationships with key foundations and corporations

Initiate and cultivate relationships with new and potential donors

Develop opportunities for fundraising training for both the DMARC Administrative Cabinet and the DMARC Foundation Board.

Serve as spokesperson and advocate for DMARC's mission and programs in the funding community.

Forecast and evaluate the potential of fundraising campaigns and activities

Identify grant opportunities that align with DMARC's core mission, write proposals, and secure funding, including:

- Development and maintenance of a grants "calendar" for tracking RFP deadlines, grant obligations and renewal dates

Oversee donor databases, including:

- donor and gift record-keeping
- timely acknowledgement of gifts

Collaborate with staff and vendors to ensure that publications and website include donor-focused content

### **Skills and Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated ability to cultivate individual donors
- Demonstrated ability to cultivate relationships with the business and foundation community
- Demonstrated knowledge of the principles, ethics, and practices of successful fundraising
- Demonstrated ability in grant-writing.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate the mission of the organization, both orally and in print
- Demonstrated ability with standard word processing, database, and spreadsheet software
- Demonstrated ability to manage long-and short-term projects simultaneously and to meet all deadlines
- Demonstrated ability with web-based fundraising
- Demonstrated excellent communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to operate both independently and as a team member
- 5+ years of fundraising experience

### **Accountability and Evaluation:**

The position is supervised by the Executive Director. A job review is conducted annually.