



Together

Church Women United in Greater Dayton — February, 2018

Valentine's Day Message

When my parents were starting out in life, with five kids, and not a lot of money, they made a commitment to pay tuition to put us through parochial (religious) school. Somehow, they managed twelve years of this for us. For that investment, they probably could have had their house paid off, twice over! Besides the excellent training in radical forgiveness and unconditional love my parents gave us, in the home, modeled by the way they treated each other, I received some of my finest lessons in love from the committed religious and lay people who were my school teachers.



Love is a Bonfire!

I remember the day in "morality" class, in the 11th grade, when Fr. Denny drew a pie diagram on the board, and said, "Love is not a Pie." He explained that love was not something that when you gave all the pieces away, there was nothing left. He then drew a pile of logs with tongues of fire above them. Love is a Bonfire, he said. Each time you give the fire another log or stick, or even a twig, it fuels the fire. The more you give, the more you have.

This is the message Jesus tried to bring to a world which previously understood only transactional relationships (an eye-for-an-eye and a tooth-for-a-tooth). Believing in the generative, transformative power of love has enabled me to recommit to relationships which seem to be taking more than they are giving to me, and to turn them around. Whether in a volunteer situation, family interaction, or my marriage, time and again, if I feel like I am the only one trying, — when I am angry, weary, want to quit — I try to remember that love is not something we "get," but something we give. Then I realize that my low energy is because I have actually stopped putting logs on the fire. I may be giving, but I have stopped loving. Then, I can choose to recommit. Invariably, in my life, when I have deepened my commitment in a seemingly draining situation, it turns itself around. Sometimes, because I am a little thick-headed, my deeper thinking into a situation reveals I need to work smarter, not harder. It is not my need, but those logs of love, that fuel the fire.

Written by Linda Zamonska Rumpf

President's Message

*Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD,
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.*

Jeremiah 17:7-8

It is not always easy to trust the Lord. We can become fearful and full of doubt. But in times of drought and uncertainty God sends others to help us so we are not alone. It is through God's love that support comes from others – for we are a part of His family/the Body of Christ. His family is found in our churches and in our sisterhood of Church Women United. For example, so many of you have supported me during illness and trials – sending cards, prayers, calls, emails, texts and I am so grateful.

A picture of Christian life through faith is depicted in the Jeremiah passage above. The roots of the tree go deep – we need to deepen our roots through scripture, study, prayer, Christian friends, and worship. We cannot wait until difficulty arises for Christian maturity to happen. Through a life of Christian discipleship habits, we become strong so we can face struggles as they arise. As we face difficulties, we are like a tree facing heat and drought, but we are not to fear or be anxious.

We are to never cease bearing spiritual fruits (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control – Galatians 5:22-23). In Psalms 92:14 we read “Even as we age we can be fresh, youthful, vibrant and productive.” I believe this happens if we have planted ourselves in Christ. Just as a tree will grow if planted near a stream/ by water, we need the living water of Christ (John 4:14), for Christ sustains us, refreshes us, and gives each of us new life.

Let us **trust** in the LORD and be strong. Let us grow in God's love so we can share that love in service to others.

Your sister in Christ, Jerralyn Wood

Peace and joy,

Jerri Wood

What does it mean to belong to Church Women United...

Church Women United is a national movement that began more than 75 years ago. The movement was called into life by church women who wanted to reach beyond their own church boundaries and join with all Christian women to become a voice for peace and justice. The women began by praying for peace during World War II, but they also realized that action was needed to make change. They looked for ways to improve their communities and began many good works that are continuing to this day: clothing and food pantries, school snack programs, helping hands for young single mothers, and in Dayton the founding of Mercy Manor for women who need help to re-start their lives after addiction or incarceration.

Every member of Church Women United in Dayton should be proud of the work that we are doing to help women through Mercy Manor. We should be proud that we can work with women from many churches and make friends across cultural and denominational boundaries. Anyone who wants to see how our local unit plans and works on programs and activities for the benefit of the community is welcome to attend our meetings. The schedule for meetings and other CWU events is listed on the back cover of this newsletter.

Many units across the country are dying because they have not figured out how to recruit younger women to become passionate about our goals and projects. We are a movement of servants, anxious to help those less fortunate than we are, to lobby for excellent education for our children, to cheer for and support other groups in our community who also serve. If you know any younger women who have a heart for service, please invite them to our events.

**If you wish to know more about Church Women United
check out the national website: www.churchwomen.org
and
our local unit website: www.cwudaytonoh.org**

+++++

KEY WOMEN — SIGN UP NOW TO HOST EVENTS IN 2018-2019

We are planning for another year of programs for Church Women United. Please contact Cecelia Long, 937 972 7045 to offer your church as host in 2018-2019 or to find out what is required to host an event. Every church can get involved in some way. Call now to find out how your women's group can be involved. Thank you, in advance!!

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3 RD OR 10 TH 2018	MEAL OR REFRESHMENTS
CHRISTMAS TEA	FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER, 2018	1 P.M. REFRESHMENTS
EMMA MURRAY PRAYER BREAKFAST	THIRD WEEK OF MARCH, 2019	9:30 A.M. BREAKFAST
MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY	FRIDAY, MAY 3, or SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019	MEAL OR REFRESHMENTS
HUMAN RIGHTS CELEBRATION/ANNUAL MEETING	SECOND WEEK OF JUNE, 2019	MEAL OR REFRESHMENTS

Opportunities for Friendship in Church Women United

Tuesday, February 27 at 1 :00 p.m. --- Church Women United Board Meeting at Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1541 S. Smithville Rd. Dayton. All Keywomen and guests hear current news and learn of activities and opportunities for action. A regular business session is held as part of the meeting agenda. There will be a speaker from St. Vincent's on Apple Street.

Saturday, March 17th at noon ---Mercy Manor will celebrate its 26th Annual Founder's Day Luncheon and Fundraiser at Presidential Banquet Center. CWU in Greater Dayton is being honored with Sister Jean Foppe Visionary Award. Tickets are \$60.00. Plan to come. (More details will follow be announced at February 23rd CWU Board Meeting)

Tuesday, March 20th at 9:30 a.m. ---The Emma Murray Prayer Breakfast at Christ United Methodist Church, 3440 Shroyer Road Kettering . Theme: "All God's Creation is Very Good". Please park in the parking lot and enter the building through the center doors of the church under the covered portico. This entrance will place you closer to the elevator and the staircase. The Breakfast will be on the 3rd Floor in Foster Hall. Members of Christ will greet you when you enter the building. The cost is \$8.00. Please make your reservation before March 12th with your Key Woman and pay your key woman who will turn in the money for all who make reservations with her. The Key Woman will turn in the monies collected to her Reservations Contact Person. Mary Beth Melville is the hostess.

Friday-Saturday, April 20-21, 2018 ---CWU State Meeting at Second Baptist Church 245 S Grant Street , Wooster, OH. Reservations may be made at Best Western Hotel 243 Liberty Street Wooster, 44591 330 264 7750 at \$95.99 + local taxes per night. Deadline for hotel reservations is March 23rd. Be sure to mention the Church Women United State meeting when you make reservations. Registration materials for the State Meeting will be sent out soon. Contact Clarissa Weatherspoon if you have questions, 330-680-4824.

Saturday, April 28, 2018 CWU sponsors "**Get PUMPED UP... About Heart Health!**" at New Hope United Methodist Church 536 Xenia Ave Dayton. Registration begins at 9:45 AM Registration fee is \$10.00 with scholarships available if needed. This will be a time to focus on YOU! Come and bring young women, too. Contact Deborah Vance for registration information 937-469-3298. Parking available across the street from the church.

Saturday, May 5, 2018 1 p.m.--- May Friendship Day with theme: "Reaching for Wholeness in Gratitude for God's Presence" at Fairview United Methodist Church 828 W. Fairview Avenue. Cecelia Long is the hostess. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Monday, June 11, 2018 1 p.m.---Human Rights Celebration "Reaching for Wholeness in Solidarity with God's Creation" at Summit Christian Church 4021 Denlinger Rd Trotwood. Ina Green is hostess. Refreshments will be served.

2018 Season for Non-Violence ... and Beyond **January 30 to April 4**

Honoring the Legacies of Dr. King and Gandhi
Embracing Our Neighbors in the Miami Valley
Creating “The Beloved Community” in the Miami Valley:
becoming increasingly compassionate ...and welcoming of all!

The Season for Nonviolence is to be a new model for spiritually-motivated action by an integrated community of shared purpose. Personal centeredness gives us the inner peace and calm to respond to situations with non-violent means. Building that inner center is the first act of peace making. Successful Self-Direction© gives us tools to respond rather than react. ***Nonviolence begins with learning to be less violent and more compassionate towards ourselves - and others. We learn by developing the courage to speak and act with respect, honor, and reverence for humanity.***

Help spread the word!

Feb 20 (5:30pm) – Town Hall Mtg (Main/Downtown Dayton Metro Library) – Am I My Brother’s Keeper? – Being More Welcoming & Compassionate in Addressing Racism and Islamophobia.

Mar 18 (3:00pm) – Interfaith Forum of Greater Dayton, Dayton Int’l Peace Museum (annex bldg), Monument Ave. – Exploring Different Faith Expressions of the Golden Rule.

Mar 24 (9:30am – 2:30pm) — International Women’s Day Celebration (*location t.b.a.*)
[also] New Year’s Celebration (*tent. 3 - 6pm*) hosted by the Bahá’ís of Montgomery County.
Delco Park Meeting Place, Kettering.

Apr 4 (5:30pm) – Closing Session (NW Library) – Thinking Globally, but Acting Locally.

Apr 28/29 Generation U, youth, *13 – 25 years of age*, of different faith & cultural backgrounds use a variety of artistic formats in their exploration of Dr King’s legacy. Participants will develop skits, ads, musical presentations, dance, spoken word, and/or visual arts in the Saturday workshop.

All are invited to learn about and experience a taste of a community dialogue process at these events. Trained facilitators will work with small groups to foster the deep listening and heart-centered speaking that can allow participants to communicate more deeply and respectfully. Contact Colette Harrison (949-7949) for further information & Generation U pre-registration by April 15. For general information on additional inter-faith collaborative events and on-going activities,

STATE ASSEMBLY AND PEACE MARCH

“Reaching for Wholeness”

April 20—April 21

Second Baptist Church

245 S. Grant Street

Wooster, OH

You can make your hotel arrangements now!

Best Western

243 Liberty Street

Wooster, OH 44591

330-264-7750

CWU-Ohio has blocked off some rooms at a special rate of \$95.99 + local tax per night. Deadline for hotel reservations is March 23, 2018. Be sure to mention CWU when you make your reservations. More details on workshops, banquet and activities will be coming. Registration forms for this event will be available soon. Please contact Clarissa Weatherspoon if you have questions. (330-680-4824)

When you love someone, the best thing you can offer is your presence.

How can you love if you are not there?

Thich Nhat Hanh

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2018

**Mercy Manor's 26th
Annual Founders Day**

Saturday, March 17, 2018
at Noon at the Presidential
Banquet Center, Kettering

Donation = \$60

Table of 8 = \$480

Call Barbara Hayden for
reservations: 854-4141

**May Friendship Day
May 5 at 1 pm**

at Fairview UM Church,
828 W. Fairview Ave.

Program theme:
Reaching for Wholeness
in Gratitude
for God's Presence.

**Church Women United
Regional Meeting
October 18-21, 2018**

CWU members will gather
from East Central Region includ-
ing five states: Ohio, Kentucky,
Illinois, Indiana & Michigan
Meeting site to be announced at a
later date.

Get PUMPED UP... about heart health!



Sponsored by...
Church women United in Greater Dayton

God's Word: A sound heart is life
to the body. (Proverbs 14:30)

New Hope Church, 512 Xenia Ave., Dayton
Saturday, April 28, 2018 10:00 a.m.— NOON
Please arrive at 9:45 a.m. to sign in.

Cost is \$10 (cash or check)

Scholarships Available: Please contact your church's Key Woman.

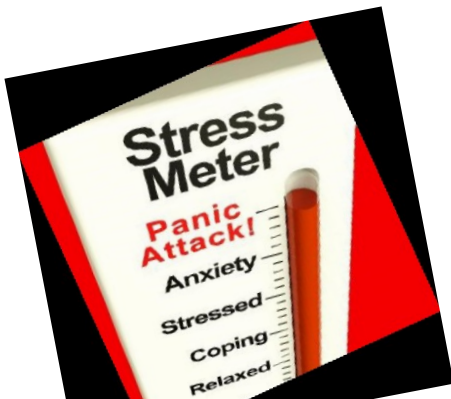
Discover:

Stress Relievers presented by

Tina Bolanger, LMT (Licensed Massage Therapist)
and

Healthy Lifestyle presented by

Heart & Stroke Foundation Representative



**Get TIPS for things that YOU can
easily incorporate into your daily life
— for a HEALTHY heart!**

Reserve your space by contacting: Deborah Vance at 937-469-3298.
Questions? Contact your church's CWU Key Woman

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
OF GREATER DAYTON
334 WONDERLY AVE
DAYTON, OH 45419

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dayton, OH
Permit No. 769

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

COMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Feb 19 | WORKSHOP "Immigration & Sanctuary"
Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 8690 Yankee Street in Washington Township. | 6:30-8:00 PM |
| Feb 27
(Tuesday) | BOARD MEETING (for all Key Women/denominational secretaries)
Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1541 S. Smithville Rd, 1 block south of Rt 35
Please bring new socks, underwear, bras, towels and washcloths | 1:00 PM |
| March 12
(Monday) | DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS for Emma Murray Prayer Breakfast
Key Women will be called by a member of the reservations committee to get a total attendance for the event. If you don't have a Key Woman, call Martha Shields, 426-8617 | |
| March 20
(Tuesday) | EMMA MURRAY PRAYER BREAKFAST
(Reservation needed) Cost \$8
Christ United Methodist Church, 3440 Shroyer Rd Kettering
Hostess: Mary Beth Melville 296-0071 | 9:30 AM |
| *****
NO BOARD MEETING IN MARCH
***** | | |
| April 20-21
(Friday/Saturday) | CWU STATE MEETING in Wooster, OH (See inside newsletter for details.)
Second Baptist Church, Wooster OH | |
| April 24
(Tuesday) | BOARD MEETING (for all Key Women/denominational secretaries)
Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1541 S. Smithville Rd, 1 block south of Route 35 | 1:00 PM |
| April 28
Saturday | PUMPED UP ABOUT HEART HEALTH
New Hope Church, 512 Xenia Ave (See inside newsletter for details.) | 10 AM—NOON |

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE PREPARED FOR MAILING

AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (DOWNTOWN) ON WEDNESDAY, April 11, 2018 at 9 AM

Together newsletter is a publication of Church Women United of Greater Dayton: Kathy Zamonski, Editor