



Together

Website: www.cwudaytonoh.org

Church Women United in Greater Dayton — February 2021

IMPORTANT: CWU Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Please join us for our February Board meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Please watch for a notice with the Zoom link information that will go to Key Women in mid-February from President Cecelia M. Long. It is important that you reply to Cecelia with your intention to attend. Remember that ALL board meetings are OPEN to ALL CWU members! We welcome your attendance! Please also save the dates for remaining 2020-2021 CWU Board meetings: April 27 and May 25.



Emma Murray Prayer Breakfast — Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Don't miss this special event on the theme, "Build on a Strong Foundation." This year, Vanuatu is the focus country. Learn more: <https://worlddayofprayer.net/vanuatu-2021.html> and <https://wdp-usa.org/>.



Location: on your device at your place of safety—via Zoom. (Get the link after you RSVP to your Key Woman.)
Feel free to bring your own breakfast to the Zoom meeting!

Donation: We are asking you to please make a donation of \$5.00 or more — 100% of which will go to World Day of Prayer.

- Make checks payable to "CWU in Greater Dayton" with "World Day of Prayer" in the memo line.
- Mail checks to:

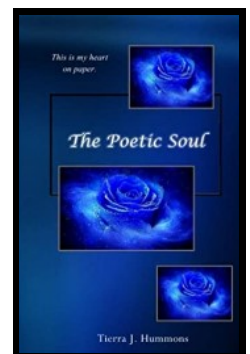
Judith S. Philpot, 617 Osmond Ave., Dayton, OH 45417.

Reservations needed: Contact your Key Woman **by March 6** and provide your email address to reserve your digital seat!

(NOTE to Key Women: Please Contact Cecelia Long on March 6 with that info.)

Some program highlights:

Our program will include readings and prayer, as well as a soloist Ms. Cindy Briscoe. Our featured speaker is Ms. Tierra J. Hummons, poet and author of *The Poetic Soul: This is My Heart on Paper*.



CWU Newsletter is published quarterly. This issue: February 2021.

Address corrections to Member Care Chair, Ina Green, 5285 Torch Ln, Dayton 45417

Questions? Contact Editor Martha Shields: martha.shields@earthlink.net.

CWU in Greater Dayton has a WEBSITE!

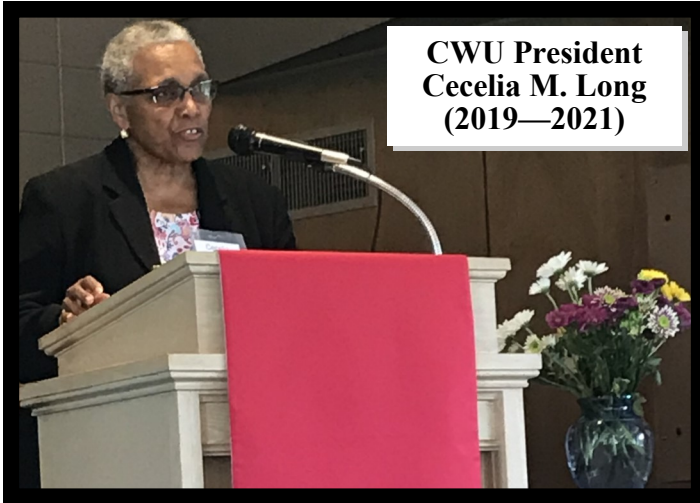
Find MANY resources at www.cwudaytonoh.org: posters / maps to our meetings; photos; programs and meeting information, officers, purpose, logo, bylaws, more!

Questions? Contact Webmaster Martha Shields (martha.shields@earthlink.net)

www.cwudaytonoh.org



President's Message from Cecelia M. Long...



Greetings, Dear Sisters in Christ:

We were set for 2020 to be a very busy year for Church Women United (CWU) in Greater Dayton with the Emma Murray Prayer Breakfast, regular board meetings and Ecumenical Celebrations, in addition to the other events that Church Women United members had planned at their own churches or organizations. Many of these events did not happen as anticipated. COVID-19 put many of us — and our way of being the Church — in very different places.

By the end of 2020, the roll-out of a vaccine was giving all of us hope and energized our plans to *move forward* in 2021. And *Move Forward*, Church Women United in Greater Dayton we will do!!! Through the technology of Zoom, we began to have Board and Executive Committee meetings and our Christmas Celebration. There might have been a few glitches, but we did get through the year being connected with most of the Key Women and recognizing the tremendous leadership of our pastoral leaders. For this we truly give God the glory!! We will begin 2021 with Zoom meetings and celebrations until it is determined to be safe to gather face-to-face. "Flexibility" is our word to begin this year's journey.

Some of us may have already received the first vaccine and may be scheduled for the second one, while others are getting registered to receive the vaccine for the first time. Modern scientists have worked super-long hours to fight this pandemic and help to get the world back in a safe position of existence. We are still in positions of caring for one another and taking extra precautions to care for ourselves as we have been directed by health officials. It is also a commandment of our Christ: "Love one another, even as I have loved you." John 15:17.

2021 is a time for us to continue to put our trust in God of all ages. I suggest these actions:

1. I remind you to stay grounded in your faith. You may be in the habit of praying every day. I invite you to join with CWU National to pray at noon every Monday. Prayers may be lifted for any and all reasons that you pray. I say, "Keep on praying in unity!!"
2. Please pay attention to what God is nudging you to do this year. You may hear a small voice saying to become more involved as a CWU leader. I say, "Respond to the nudges!!"
3. Work to alleviate hunger that plagues our community. When you have a little extra to contribute, give to The Foodbank, Inc., or to a local food pantry to help with food shortages. I say, "Make a difference for those who hunger!!"
4. Help to end racial, gender, and all kinds of injustices. This is a large order, but I believe that when we see or hear untrue statements about anyone's race or gender, I say, "It is time to stand for justice!!"

I see a great year ahead of us. From the Iona Ecumenical Community is this edited prayer:

"And in all this, you keep us, through hard questions with no easy answers, making an impact when we felt we were useless, through Jesus Christ and His Spirit, you keep us. Thank you. . . for the keeping time, and for now, and for ever. Amen."

Cecelia M. Long
President, CWU in Greater Dayton

Questions?
Contact Cecelia Long,
CWU President
cealong48@gmail.com
937-972-7045

Miscellaneous Memos

NOTES from NATIONAL — CWU National Website: <https://www.churchwomenunited.net/>

Themes announced from National for 2021: “Becoming One in 2021”

- Human Rights Celebration – “Experiencing Hope at the Table”
- May Friendship Day – “Making Room at the Table”
- World Community Day – “New Places, New Faces at the Table”

Pray with us:

- **International Fellowship of the Least Coin.** Pray for peace and reconciliation as you set aside the least coin from your country; these coins will be collected at the May Friendship Day celebration. (CWU is the official custodian for FLC in the USA.)
- **Sacred Space at Noon.** Join us every Monday at noon to pray for our movement. This need to pray together started with the Bring Back Our Girls prayer initiative started in June 2014 on behalf of the girls in Nigeria; it continues with general, united prayers.
- **Wellness Springs.** “If I don’t go to the village well, I will not know about the lives of the other women.” Wellsprings Series of booklets leads women to gather in small groups and be refreshed together by the Living Word. *Woman, Water, and Worship*, is a forthcoming CWU publication that explores how women of faith are united through symbolism of water.

National Action: <https://www.churchwomenunited.net/actions>

- March 15—26, 2021 (Virtual event) 65th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women Updates <https://mailchi.mp/ngocsw.org/csw65-updates?e=fef4e35e04>
- #THURSDAYSINBLACK Work towards a world without sexual and gender-based violence.
- United Nations Goal of the Month: Responsible Consumption and Production. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-12-responsible-consumption-and-production.html>

National Projects:

- **United Against Hunger** (One of our Priorities) and Matthew 5:35 “For I was hungry and you gave me food.”
- **Participation with other nonprofits** such as Three Square, Salvation Army, CROP Walk, local food pantries, food drives, disaster recovery funds, church relief funds, *etc.*
- **Win Wednesdays.** Join CWU members at 1:00 p.m. as women of faith gather for a powerful hour to discuss social issues and concerns to help redress the global and national problems that impact marginalized communities: Dial-in: #712-775-7031; Access code: 289-905-609 #



Observations from Ohio CWU meetings:

Our own Ina Green (VP) and Pam Walker (Secretary) are very involved in CWU at the state level!

- Friday, April 23, 2021 is on the calendar for a State Assembly Virtual meeting. Watch for details!
- Be aware that World Day of Prayer is virtual on Friday, March 5, 2021! This year, Vanuatu is the area that is featured. The theme is “Build on a Strong Foundation.” See more at <https://wdp-usa.org/> and <https://worlddayofprayer.net/vanuatu-2021.html>.

Nomination / Election of officers for 2021—2022:

If you have the desire to work as an officer, chairperson, or committee member, please contact Costella Terrell as soon as possible. Are you concerned that you are not qualified? Don’t worry! We can train you and will help you with any of the positions. You just need a willing heart and a helpful hands! Contact Nominations Chairperson, Costella Terrell, at c53terrell@aol.com or call 937-263-2997.



Highlights from World Community Day 2020!



Sadly, due to COVID-19, we had to cancel this event two days prior to the date on which it was originally intended to be held (Saturday, November 14, 2020). Montgomery County had a huge increase in COVID cases and the Governor put into place stricter guidelines. Although Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church was most gracious to host us, on November 14, we felt compelled to cancel the event for the safety and well-being of all the members and potential visitors.

A Few Words from Michelle Payette about Angel Tree Prison Ministries...



Michelle Payette
Field Manager for
Angel Tree Ministries

The website for Prison Fellowship is: <https://www.prisonfellowship.org/>
The sub-page regarding Angel Tree is: <https://www.prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/>

Please consider if/how you might support Angel Tree Ministries.

In the November 2020 CWU Newsletter, we promised you more information about Angel Tree Prison Ministries. Michelle Payette spoke to us on our CWU Board meeting via Zoom on October 27, 2020. As a formerly-incarcerated mother, Michelle knows first-hand the value of this organization. She is currently an Angel Tree Field Manager for this Angel Tree Prison Ministries.

Men and women behind bars, victims of crime, families torn apart by incarceration—all are loved by God and worthy of our attention. There is always hope. Together, we strive to make prisons safer and more rehabilitative, advance criminal justice reforms, and help all those affected by crime to heal and flourish. Every person is made in the image of God. No life is beyond His reach. Founded in 1976, Prison Fellowship® exists to serve all those affected by crime and incarceration, and to see lives and communities restored in and out of prison—one transformed life at a time. There are three main areas of focus:

- **Transforming the lives of prisoners**
Prison Fellowship staff and volunteers run events and programs in correctional facilities across the country, sharing the Gospel and spreading hope to incarcerated men and women.
- **Caring for children and families**
With Angel Tree®, volunteers reach out to children with a gift on behalf of their incarcerated parent at Christmas, and minister year-round with mentoring, camps, and sports clinics.
- **Advocating for justice that restores**
Prison Fellowship advocates for a more restorative approach to justice that advances proportional punishment, constructive corrections culture, and second chances.

Angel Tree®, a program of Prison Fellowship™, reaches out to the children of prisoners and their families with the love of Christ. Through Angel Tree, volunteers are mobilized to deliver a gift, the Gospel, and a personal message of love to children on behalf of their mom or dad in prison. Every Angel Tree parent's family is also given access to a free, easy-to-read copy of the Bible (available in English or Spanish). It starts with a gift and leads to restored relationships.

Highlights from our Christmas Celebration!



Church Women United in Greater Dayton celebrated all of its 2020—2021 member churches and their pastoral staff members on a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, December 9 at 1:00 p.m. A slide presentation featured a photo of each member church and its name and address, followed by a slide of the respective pastor(s) of that church. Some of the attendees may be seen in the Zoom photo collage above.

We are hopeful that our pastoral staff members know how very much we value their time, talents, skills, resources, and general pastoral care. We are deeply appreciative.

Also recognized by means of a presentation and certificates shown on-line were the two Valiant Women from 2019—2020 and the recipient of the 2019—2020 Human Rights Award. The Valiant Women (Gloria Scott and Marilyn Moritz) and the Human Rights Recipient (Kenya Baker) are featured on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter. President Cecelia M. Long will present the certificates in-person to each of the recipients. CWU congratulates all three of these very dedicated women!

NOTE: We LOVE and MISS seeing the smiling faces of our members and look forward to the days when we can meet in-real-life! In the meantime, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet *via* Zoom!

Valiant Woman Award (2019–2020)

Marilyn Moritz was born and raised in New Jersey. In 1953, Marilyn and her husband moved to Cincinnati, then Columbus, and ultimately to Dayton. She retired from a career in nursing to become a stay-at-home mother.

Marilyn is the mother of a son and daughter, and grandmother to one grandson and three granddaughters. She helped with school health tests when her children were young. Marilyn has spent hours working on crafts for community groups. She knits scarves and hats to go with the coats given away by one of the TV channels.

Marilyn became a member of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Dayton more than 45 years ago. She was President of the Women's Association, played in the hand bell choir, is an ordained deacon and an ordained elder, serving actively at Memorial before Memorial closed its doors in March of 2020.



Marilyn became involved with Church Women United over 25 years ago. In October of this year, Marilyn celebrated her 91st birthday. She says, "God has kept me this long. He has kept me for a reason. I have lots of faith."

Congratulations to Marilyn on receiving the Valiant Woman Award!

Valiant Woman Award (2019–2020)

Gloria Scott is the wife of Hollis L. Scott, Sr. They have been married for 56 years and are the parents of two successful children and three grandchildren.

Gloria has been a member of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church since 1973. She is a member of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, and First Vice President of the Local Lay Council. She is President of the Deaconess Board, served as a Sunday School teacher, serves on the Stewardess Board and Christian Education Board, and is a Trustees Aide.

Gloria has been a member of Church Women United for more than twenty years and served as Chairperson of Ecumenical Action and the Nominating Committee. She is currently Chairperson of Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Gloria loves the Lord and shows it daily. She is a woman who definitely leads by example. Whether assisting someone in need or offering a kind word to help them on their way, Gloria is that person.



Congratulations to Gloria on receiving the Valiant Woman Award!

Human Rights Award (2019–2020)

Kenya Baker was born in Detroit, Michigan, but at the age of 7 she moved to Dayton with her mother. She is the eldest of ten children and she possesses a strong love for education. She holds a B.S. degree in Organizational Management from Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio and a Master of Science degree in Education from the University of Dayton. Kenya taught school for 17 years. Her years in the classroom fueled her passion to write children's literature. One of her books is *Love My Granny* which inspires intergenerational relationships.

Kenya's greatest work up to this time is her leadership role as Outreach Director in the movement dubbed "Gem City Market". A 4.2 million dollar building is being erected on Salem Avenue in Dayton which will furnish high quality food to West Dayton residents who are considered to live in one of the largest food deserts in the country. The Market will be a full-service grocery store and deli. It is across the bridge from downtown Dayton and will be accessible to all.

Kenya Baker is a champion for human rights. She is the mother of a son and a daughter and the grandmother of four grandchildren. She loves helping older people out of the goodness of her heart. She truly believes that "God gives us hope" and that "The kingdom of heaven is coming to earth."

Congratulations to Kenya Baker for being the recipient of the 2020 Human Rights Award for Church Women United in Greater Dayton.



MEMBERSHIPS (2020 - 2021):



Church/ Organizational Memberships, and Individual memberships for 2020-2021 are still being accepted from Key Women by mail to the treasurer now. The forms may be found on our unit's website: www.cwudaytonoh.org. Click on **Who We Are**. Scroll down to Membership. The red word ("HERE") will lead you to open the individual and /or the organizational forms. OR click "Photos, Resources, Awards" and choose "Resources." You have two choices: print the form and fill it out by hand or type on the form and then print it out. Either way, please give your money and the form to your church's key woman to mail to our treasurer, Judith Philpot, as soon as possible. Key Women: Please check to ensure that your church has remitted the church / organization fee and form. Thank you! **Questions?** Call Ina Green at 937-344-6029; Ina is chairperson of Member Care.

NOTE: Memberships in CWU in Greater Dayton support Mercy Manor, Greater Dayton Christian Connections, Dayton International Peace Museum, Membership in State and National and other mission projects. Special offerings support UNICEF, Fellowship of the Least Coin, and Church World Service.

Key Women: Please mail the membership forms and payment from your church to our treasurer (Judith Philpot, 617 Osmond Ave., Dayton OH 45417). Include the church and individual memberships and the membership list. All forms are located on our website: <https://www.cwudaytonoh.org/resources.html>.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
IN GREATER DAYTON**
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Dayton, OH 45417

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CHURCH WOMEN UNITED IN GREATER DAYTON — 2020 - 2021 EVENTS:

Feb. 23, 2021 (Tues.)	1:00 p.m.	BOARD MEETING on Zoom. Watch for the email from President Cecelia M. Long.
Mar. 16, 2021 (Tues.)	9:30 a.m.	EMMA MURRAY PRAYER BREAKFAST on Zoom: <u>Bring Your Own Breakfast!</u> Reservations required through your Key Women! Donations of \$5 or more requested.
Apr. 23, 2021 (Friday)	Time TBA	STATE ASSEMBLY VIRTUAL MEETING (via Zoom)
Apr. 27, 2021 (Tues.)	1:00 p.m.	BOARD MEETING on Zoom. Watch for the email from President Cecelia M. Long.
May 8, 2021 (Sat.)	1:00 p.m.	MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY. Details to be announced.
May 25, 2021 (Tues.)	1:00 p.m.	BOARD MEETING. Watch for the email from President Cecelia M. Long.
June 7, 2021 (Mon.)	1:00 p.m.	HUMAN RIGHTS CELEBRATION / ANNUAL MEETING. Details TBA
Summer :Date TBA	Time TBA	2021 QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY. Details to be announced.
June 22, 2021 (Tues.)	1:00 p.m.	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. Details to be announced.



Looking ahead to 2021—2022 (subject to change):

What's NEXT?

- Board meetings are typically on the fourth Tuesdays: August 23, September 28, October 26, February 22, April 26, and May 23.
- Executive Committee Meetings are typically held on the fourth Tuesday in August, January, and June.
- Rejoice with us in our Celebrations / Special Events: World Community Day in November; Christmas Tea in December; Emma Murray Breakfast in March; May Fellowship Day in May; and Human Rights Celebration / Annual meeting in June.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE MAILED Wed., April 14, 2021. Submission deadline: March 1, 2021.
Together newsletter is a quarterly publication of Church Women United in Greater Dayton: Martha Shields, Editor