



# The Vine

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF LANE COUNTY

Editor: Phyllis Hockley

March 2011

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 2** Brails Restaurant, 1689 Willamette St.  
Wed 7-8:30am World Day of Prayer

**March 4** United Lutheran,  
Fri 2230 Washington St.  
9:15-11:15 World Day of Prayer

**April 1, 9:15** Bethel Temple Faith Ministries  
Fri 2170 W 18th  
9:15-11:15 Bread for the World

**April 6** Brails Restaurant  
Wed 7-8:30am Bread for the World

### MARCH PROGRAM

"Mari mari lamgnem", greetings from the women of Chile, who invite you to the annual celebration of World Day of Prayer.

This year's theme is "How many loaves have you?", Christ's question to his followers when faced with a multitude of hungry people (Mark 6:30-44). The program consists of prayers, songs, reflections, and the chance to hear Chilean women describing their daily lives. Together we will ponder and discuss our responses to the question, "how many loaves do YOU have?"

As is customary, there will be a collection during the World Day of Prayer program, and the money will be donated by the National Committee to organizations supporting women and children around the world. In keeping with our theme, we respond to the desperate hunger of others. Join the women of 170 countries representing many cultures, races, and faiths as we unite for a time of shared interests and prayer.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL

"Bread for the World" is a Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. In April we will have a Bread for the World guest speaker from Portland. He will bring us up to date on these hunger issues and guide us as we write our letters to Congress. As we make our voices heard, we make our nation's laws more fair and compassionate to people in need.



### In Memory

Terry Deer  
Attended CWU events  
Member of Trinity  
United Methodist  
Passed away  
in January

## A WORD FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

### Dorothy Sistrom

Brave Egyptians are risking their lives to stand up for liberty and democracy. Their courageous actions should inspire us to make maximum use of our democratic freedoms.

The voices of fear and division have emerged loud and clear. These voices are not in keeping with the Gospel message of Jesus where repeatedly He says, "fear not" and pray fervently "that all may be one."

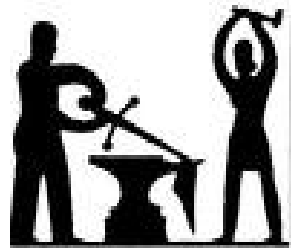
We see the large number of people out of work in our sluggish economy. At the same time, we see those at the top growing richer every day. This wealth disparity is strangling our constitutional commitment to the "general welfare."

Unless we deal responsibly with our growing national debt, future generations will be financially crippled by our irresponsibility.

Together we will be able to recover a functioning government. Only together will we be able to create a faith-based trust that we are better when we are together than when we are divided by fear

In the Vine and in your denominational publications you will find recommendations to contact your elected representatives. Do you act upon these recommendations? Make a New Years resolution to call or write as an act of your faith.

### Phyllis Hockley



**WORDS  
INTO  
PLOWS**

The old testament verse, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares" is being taken to heart. How delighted I was to read that soldiers are being helped to trade their swords for plows, given a new battle, that of organic farming. Sometimes it happens through agriculture colleges, sometimes they get started on their own.

Mr. Archipley, a marine sergeant turned organic farmer said, "Farming offers veterans a chance to decompress, but, more important, provides a sense of purpose. It allows them to be physically active, be part of a unit, It gives them a mission statement — a responsibility to the consumer eating their food."

At one organic farm, they hear the sound of crickets and croaking frogs instead of the drone of choppers, a welcome change. Their stay includes hands-on-planting and irrigating, lectures about "high-value niche markets" and production of a business plan that is assessed by food professionals and business professors.

Mr. Burke, a Purple Heart recipient who suffered a traumatic brain injury in Iraq, recently opened a second farm. "Squeezing a ball in physical therapy gets monotonous," he said. "And you don't get the mist from the sprinklers or a cool breeze in a psychologist's office".

Matthew McCue, 29, formerly Sergeant McCue, runs Shooting Star CSA outside San Francisco and, delivers boxes of organic produce directly to consumers. "You learn how to face death," he said of his service in Iraq. But in farming, he learned, "There was life all around."

Having grown up on a farm myself, and knowing the healing qualities of living close to the earth, I was so pleased that our veterans, in so many different ways are finding the opportunity to connect with the earth, and to find healing for their bodies and their souls.



### GREEN TIPS

- \* Instead of letting the water run in the sink while waiting for it to get hot, capture it in a container and pour it into the toilet tank after flushing.
- \* Advertising works. In 1976, the average American drank 1.6 gallons of bottled water. By 2006, the amount was 28.3 gallons. Oregonians drank 186 million bottles of water in 2005. Only 32% of these bottles were recycled. Promote Mother Earth. Drink water from the tap. Carry your own refillable water bottle. And - share this good idea.



**DID YOU KNOW THIS  
ABOUT  
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED  
Kim Bryson-Chamley**

*(From the National E-mail Newsletter)*

**FAITHS UNITED  
TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE**

Monday, January 31, 2011 there was a meeting of several faith groups who have joined together to prevent gun violence. In light of recent events in Arizona this is very timely. Efforts are being made to reach the key Representatives and Senators to cosponsor the legislation by Rep. McCarthy (HR 308) and Sen. Lautenberg (S 32) to ban high capacity gun magazines. To learn if your Representative or Senator needs to be notified please contact the CWU office after 2pm EST (212) 870-2347. If you want to find out more about Faith United Against Gun Violence here is the link to a show called "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly" that was taped Jan 21. <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/episodes/January-21-2011/gun-control/7950/>

ABERNETHY: There is now a coalition of something like 24 religious groups to support some kind of gun control. HELMKE: Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence was announced on Martin Luther King Day. The next day they were part of the news conference supporting Carolyn McCarthy's bill. And I think this is important. This is part of what's going to change the dynamic. We need leadership from the top, from the president speaking on this. But more importantly we need our people in the communities telling their elected officials do something about gun violence, and the faith community plays such an important role in raising the moral issue, raising that issue with their congregations, and getting people to speak up."

**GROWING CONVERSATIONS TO ABOLISH  
DEATH PENALTY IN CONNECTICUT**

The CNADP (Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty) is looking for names of individuals in faith communities who run letter-writing tables for their congregations. Kristen Bollig is the staff member who is organizing the instruction of the letter writing. Each volunteer should contact her at [Kristen.bollig@cnadp.org](mailto:Kristen.bollig@cnadp.org) or phone 860-796-5106. Also see web [www.cnadp.org](http://www.cnadp.org)

Did you know? CWU has taken a position to oppose the death penalty. We have a resolution and two statements in the **CWU Social Policy Book**, pg. 147: Opposition to the Death Penalty (1979), Abolition of Capital Punishment (1981) and Against the Death Penalty (1985). Copies of the CWU Social Policy Book are available at the national office for \$18.00. Please call (212) 870-2347. CWU of Lane County has a copy you may borrow. Contact Kim Bryson-Chamley (541-517-4280).

**70<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

*(from Church Women News, hopefully answering some of your questions)*

Church Women United's history extends across the US and around the globe. On December 11, 1941, 100 women delegates representing 70 Christian denominations, convened in Atlantic City, NJ to form United Council of Church Women (now Church Women United). Locally, we joined Church Women United in 1967.

On December 1 - 3, 2011, National's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration is being held at Bally's Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ where it all began (CWU Lane County's annual meeting is Dec. 2). There will be visioning, Bible study, new ideas for ministry, plenary sessions, workshops and special events as well as the Common Council meeting. The Common Council meets once every 4 years to elect the Board and determine the priorities for the next 4 years from which we derive our programs.

Why is this important to Church Women United of Lane County? We are a part of this National movement and legally, this nonprofit entity. Conferences energize the attendees, returning with new ideas that may benefit our unit. Our Regional Representative, Helen Quirino, represents us on the National Board. While a conference is not held every 4 years, this would be the maximum number of National conferences held. Regional Conferences (we are part of the Northwest Region) only happen every 4 years as well. State Conferences are held every 2 and one will be held in the Portland area on May 14, 2011.

The cost of the National Conference (1 scholarship in our region is available to a woman who is between the ages of 25 and 55:

- \$195 for registration (before June 30, 2011)
- \$89 for the room (if shared by 4)
- Airfare (\$500) and meals (\$100)
- Estimated total cost per person: \$884

**SURVEY FORM**

If you haven't sent in your survey from last month, still time. Helpful for our future planning.

**UNICEF NEWS**  
Kim Bryson-Chamley



**RECENT FLOODS  
LEAVE CHILDREN AT RISK**

Devastating floods have left hundreds of thousands of children at risk of disease, malnutrition and exploitation in:

- **Sri Lanka** - The entire eastern region submerged in water. More than 1 million people affected. ?
- **Brazil** - Worst floods in decades. More than 800 dead and 15,000 are homeless.
- **Philippines** - 500,000 people homeless after a month of nonstop rains. More rain on the way.
- **Pakistan** - New data shows floods' legacy - record-high child malnutrition.

UNICEF has mobilized in all four countries to immunize children, supply safe drinking water and to distribute bed nets, nutrition and sanitation supplies. UNICEF is also working to safeguard children separated from their families.

**IMMIGRANTS ALL**  
Cindy Kokis  
February Forums

Peg Morton, long time leader in Latin American work, gathered an outstanding committee to put together two top programs.

Courtney Toch, working with Witness for Peace, and Samantha Chirillo, organizer for the Oregon Fair Trade Campaign, spoke at our Wednesday program. They shared insights on how trade policies and US farm subsidies combine to drive immigration.

Friday's program opened with photos taken by Penny Palmer, First United Methodist Church. Taken on her trip to the Mexican border with the "No More Deaths" organization, viewing these caused all present to wait in silence before continuing our forum.

Guadalupe Quinn, coordinator of the Immigrant Rights Advocacy Program of the Amigos Multicultural Center, herself an immigrant from Mexico, urged us to work for federal comprehensive immigration reform. Unsuccessful programs like the 2006 Secure Fence Act (\$2 billion cost) waste tax money and cause tragic deaths. Immigrants pay billions of dollars in taxes and social security, but realize virtually no return.

Here in Oregon CWU members are urged to contact their state representatives and ask for two important actions to support our immigrants:

1. Retrieve the driver's license using criteria that refer to driving.
2. Grant students tuition equity so they can attend higher education at state tuition levels - the DREAM Act which CWU supports.

These great speakers are available to your faith communities. We can no longer permit ignorance and fear to write immigration law.

**LEVEL PLAYING FIELD IN AGRICULTURE**

When subsidized U.S. corn, wheat and other foods flooded Mexican markets, not because it was grown more efficiently, but because of tariff manipulation and billions of dollars in US taxpayer subsidies, corn imports in Mexico increased 500%. This has caused the migration of farm workers who can no longer make a living in the countries of their birth. And this migration helped drive down worker wages in the US, resulting in local residents resenting the immigrants, while local economies came to depend on immigrant labor. Part of the solution is to encourage farmers to sell first locally and also let the land, not global markets determine what we grow.

A major solution is the federal Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment Act, or the TRADE Act. Ask Sen Wyden to join Sen Merkley and Reps Defazio and Wu in supporting the TRADE Act.

**BREAKFAST AT BRAILS: A SUCCESS**  
Cindy Kokis

January program chair Charlotte Maloney and February chair Peg Morton provided excellent Wednesday forums. In our free private dining room at Brails, we are served good breakfasts and exciting ideas. Tell a new person from your faith group.

Judy Roman's committee is planning another winner for World Day of Prayer, Wednesday, March 2nd, 7-8:30 am. Come and bring someone new.

**ECUMENICAL ACTION**  
Cindy Kokis

**CWU COUNTY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

CWU members will be observing meetings of the Lane County Commissioners. This continues our affirmation of health care as a human right, and of the need for citizens to participate in local government. To join, call 541-953-0148.

The more observers, the lighter the work load. Charlotte Maloney will train us, and Cindy Kokis will serve us High Tea. Yumm.

**A THREAT TO JOBS, ENVIRONMENT, AND BANK REGULATION**

The Korea Free Trade Agreement threatens our economy. Increased imports and jobs sent offshore have already cost the loss of approximately 10,000 Oregon jobs. This agreement even bans "Buy Local" procurement preferences.

Free trade agreements push immigration and threaten local food production. Call Senator Wyden (202-224-5244 or 541-431-0229). Ask him to stop the KFTA. Ask him to work to reintroduce the Trade Act. For more information: oregonfairtrade.org

**WANTED: RE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING:**  
One committed woman who would track bills related to Human Trafficking as they make their way through the legislature in Salem. Would you like to increase your knowledge in this area and then share the information with Church Women United? For information, contact Anne O'Brien at 554-2646

**THE ZONTA CLUB OF EUGENE**  
has invited Church Women United  
to join them in celebration of  
International Women's Day

Their theme for the day is Human Trafficking:  
What's Happening in our Community  
What Can we do

\*Seattle & Portland are 2 of highest trafficking cities in the U.S.

\*Average age of girls being trafficked into prostitution is between 12-14 years of age.

\*Traffickers don't discriminate based on socio or economic status when targeting girls.

Tuesday, March 8th at 11:30  
Eugene Hilton Conference Center

Buffet Luncheon \$25 per person  
Proceeds benefit women in need

Reservations required by  
Monday, February 28

**With 8 people from CWU we can have a table with a Church Women United sign. If interested contact Phyllis at 484-7331 or Phyllish@efn.org**

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**RESERVATION FOR ZONTA CLUB LUNCHEON**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (For Confirmation)

Number of Seats \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25= \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check Payable to:  
Zonta Foundation of Eugene  
PO Box 11171 Eugene OR 97440  
For more info contact marie.jackson@lookingglass.us

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**  
Jane Heidegger  
2810 Warren St.  
Eugene, OR 97405

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**NEWS FROM FAIR TRADE ON MAIN AT 1072 MAIN ST. SPRINGFIELD**

New hours are Friday and Saturday each week from 11 am to 6 pm. Perhaps you have a luncheon group who would like to come. Arrangements can be made by calling 541-743-0657 for a convenient appointment time for you or your group. New merchandize has arrived. More volunteers are needed and if you can spare 2 to 4 hours a month, call 541-743-0657 and leave a message. Someone will return your call. The Afiyia apartment building construction is progressing on schedule and ShelterCare is now taking applications from those who meet the criteria of HUD for this housing.

**LANE COUNTY CHAPTER OF HEALTH CARE FOR ALL OREGON, March 2, 7-8:30**

EWEB Community Room, 500 East 4th Ave, Eugene. Update on the Oregon Single Payer Bill and planning session for local actions to support the bill. For information, call Marc (541) 342-4795

**MARK MAY 14 on your calendar** and save the date for a state gathering in Portland. Couple great speakers and a workshop or 2. Keep tuned for more details.