



The Vine

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF LANE COUNTY
cwulanecounty.org

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May 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

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May 5 Saturday 11:30	First United Methodist 1376 Olive May Friendship Day Luncheon
June 1 Friday 9am	St. Mary's Episcopal 13th and Pearl Environmental Justice: Protecting Children
June 5 Tuesday 7-8:30AM	Breakfast at Brails 1689 Willamette Environmental Justice: Protecting Children

MAY PROGRAM May Friendship Day

May Friendship Day is the time we come together annually to renew old friendships and cultivate new ones, and to pray and celebrate together. This year's theme is "Listening to My Sisters." Sharing stories of our sisters from here and others lands, enriches our understanding of life. From South America to Canada, Charlotte Sutton traveled and heard stories from sisters, both their struggles and their joys. Charlotte, currently the president of the United Methodist Women will be our speaker and will be sharing these stories. Come, participate in the sharing, and invite a friend. Two collections will be taken: Fellowship of the least coin and the May Friendship Day offering which is divided between the State and local CWU.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE The Environment We Live In

How toxic is our local environment and how does that affect our children? Where are poisonous chemicals used and stored in the Eugene-Springfield area? How does air, water, and soil pollution affect growing bodies? What do coal, trains, dust, asthma, and children have to do with each other? Invite a friend to join you for the June 1 and June 5 meetings when we look at our local environment and hear speakers from organizations including Toxics Alliance.

NEED RIDE TO THE FORUM?

Call Diane Beuerman at
541-485-8803

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Phyllis Hockley

This is Earth Week and Sunday is Earth Day. Lots of suggestions are out there for me. But what does Meatless Monday mean to me, a vegetarian. And the light bulbs are changed; we use cloth napkins, got our composting down to a science, and finally remember to take my tote bag to the store. Of course there is lots more, but decided instead to focus on prayer for the week. Found some good prayer requests that I'd like to share.

1.) Please pray for Rev. Owen and the members of his local coalition in PA, who are striving to protect the streams of PA from fracking. They have had many losses and setbacks and have seen water supplies poisoned; contaminated waste pits filled with soil and left to pollute the groundwater; and, roads cut into pristine forests. Please pray for victories for this coalition and that many people of faith will discover what's happening and will join in these efforts to care for God's children and creation.

2.) Anti-wildlife politicians are waging an all-out war against the most vital law we have to protect our vulnerable and threatened species (the Endangered Species Act), and they have started with the American gray wolf. Recently, Congress has removed the Northern Rockies gray wolf from the Endangered Species List, the first species ever delisted in this way. This action paves the way for politicians, instead of scientists, to begin deciding which species should be protected, giving politicians the power to delist endangered animals at will. Please pray our Representatives and Senators will be convicted by the Spirit; enlightened by the Spirit; and, see that God deeply loves His creatures and mandates that we protect them.

4) Please pray that we all, as Christians, can proclaim clearly our Christian theology on creation care, based on Scripture, and share our belief that God mandates that we care for His precious creation. Rainforest habitats are home to thousands of endangered animals and plants. Almost two acres of tropical rainforest disappear every second.

Now let action follow your prayer by adding <http://www.therainforestsites.com> to your Favorites, and click daily to help save rainforests.

A LOOK AT OUR APRIL FORUM



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

Cindy Kokis

The 2012 Offering of Letters, sponsored by Bread for the World (BFW) is happening. Meeting on April 13th, we wrote 55 letters to Congress urging no cuts in programs that help hungry and poor people.

Speaker Robin Stephenson, BFW Western Field organizer stated: "We have our voice and a call from God . . . budgets are a moral document... citizen discipleship (calls us) to urge our elected leaders to work to end hunger and poverty here and abroad."

Art Simon, BFW founder from Eugene, has noted "It is better to build a fence at the top of a cliff than drive an ambulance to the bottom."

Have your faith community do an offering of letters - packet available - call Cindy at 541-342-6450. Phone Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley and Representative DeFazio - 1-800-826- 3688.

Message: no cuts in programs that help hungry people. SNAP (formerly food stamps) WIC (programs for women and young children) and EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit, the program that has pulled 5.4 million people out of poverty in 2010, three million of them children)

"I believe that the mark of a civilized society is how it cares for its needy, its homeless, and its hungry." PBS host Rick Steves.

With the stroke of a pen, policies are made that redirect millions of dollars and affect millions of lives.

By making our voices heard in Congress, we make our nation's laws more fair and compassionate to people in need.



**ROBIN FILLMORE,
CWU ADVOCACY
COORDINATOR
IN WASHINGTON D.C.**

GUNS AND CHILDREN

Did you know that in the years 2008 and 2009, one child or teen was killed by a gun every three hours, eight every day, 55 every week. If those children were alive today, they would fill 229 public school classrooms.

Did you know more children and teenagers were killed by guns in America in the years 2008 and 2009 than the total number of U.S. military personnel killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan?

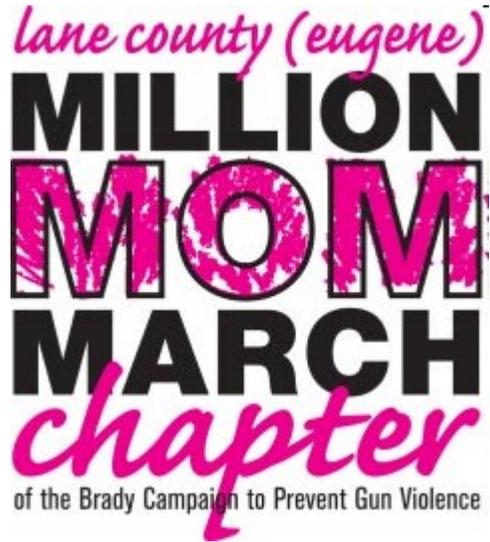
Did you know the number of preschoolers killed by guns in 2008 (88) and 2009 (85) was almost double the number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2008 (41) and 2009 (48)?

Just a few days ago, I received these chilling facts from our great partner, the Children's Defense Fund and its president, Marian Wright Edelman. In light of the tragic shooting of Trayvon Martin, it is a good time to remember our movement's commitment to gun control.

In 1981, Church Women United passed the Resolution on Gun Control, calling for legislation that curbs the flow of guns into our communities. And recently, the executive committee of our board agreed to sign on to become a partner with the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence.

As the whole nation awaits for the judicial process to determine the next steps for George Zimmerman, there is little that we can do. The action that I would offer to our movement in this difficult time - following Holy Week - is to do what people of faith do when faced with feelings of anger, outrage, sadness or doubt - which is pray.

- *We should pray for comfort for the family of Trayvon Martin.
- *We should pray for understanding for the family of George Zimmerman.
- *We should pray for all those who have been affected by gun violence. As hundreds of thousands of people protest the tragic death of Trayvon Martin online and in the streets and churches around the country, I would also encourage you to read and share Marian Wright Edelman's deeply moving column, Walking While Black.



**MOTHERS DAY MAY 13TH
Betsy Steffensen, MMM Chair**

Come join us on Mothers day at 2pm at EWEB plaza for short speeches about keeping guns out of our schools and helping to teach children of all ages to solve problems without violence. We will walk along the bike path, one mile to Owens Rose Garden for cookies and talking together.

If you want to help, like bringing some cookies, call 541-344-9343.
Many thanks!!

QUOTAS
Many many thanks to the following churches that have already paid their quotas:

Trinity United Methodist Women
United Methodist Women of the Valley UMC
Asbury United Methodist Church Women
United Methodist Women: First UMC
First Christian Church of Eugene
St. Thomas More Newman Center
St. Jude Catholic Church

**And just a reminder~~~~~
We'd like the quotas by end of month or as soon as possible.**

GOOD NEWS
Cindy Kokis



YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT
Judy Romans

LOCAL:

Our February guest speaker Laurie Trieger, Director, The Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth (LCHAY) reports that respondents to their survey in a Springfield neighborhood said the biggest obstacle families there face to buying healthy food is cost. Others didn't have a vehicle and can't make it to the supermarket often enough.

Many people assume that parents are simply making poor choices "not cooking and frequently eating fast food. LCHAY's survey results also show that our lowest-income neighbors are cooking at home more than the rest of us, at least five nights a week.

Funds are being raised to once again provide a farm stand in the parking lot of the DariMart store in Springfield's centennial area. Donations can be made on line at www.lchay.org or mailed to LCHAY, PO Box 264, Eugene, OR. 97440.

STATE:

(1) Juveniles cited for prostitution will have their criminal records expunged. This recognizes these youth as victims of exploitation, not criminals.

(2) Governor Kitzhaber creates a Commission on Public Safety to review sentencing policy. Eugene, OR. 97440.

(3) The rates for violent and property crime are the lowest they have been since the 1960's.

NATIONAL:

The Offering of Letters will put a safety net around programs for hungry and poor people. Be sure to call/write to prevent budget cuts. See BFW article.

UPDATE

ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING WORK

CWU is a co-sponsor of the Olympic Trials project. Big events draw traffickers. The trials are here in June/July. Information is going out to local hotels and motels so they are aware of the problem. Taxis will also be alerted to be on the lookout for minors in questionable circumstances and have numbers to call.

Most of us have heard the term "carbon footprint", but our use, directly or indirectly, of earth's water resources gives each of us a water footprint as well. The amount of fresh, drinkable water is limited, and more than 2.7 billion people suffer a water shortage of at least one month duration each year.

We are aware of how much water we use at home, but we also use products that take water to grow or manufacture. For example, a cotton shirt requires about 700 gallons of water, a slice of bread 10 gallons, a cup of coffee 35 gallons, an egg 400 gallons, while meat products generally need vastly more, with estimates to produce a pound of beef up to 5,000 or more gallons.

Each of us can be a little more conscious and careful about the water we use at home and in the garden. A few tips from EWEB to help save water (and, therefore, money) are:

- in the garden use a soaker hose or drip irrigation rather than an overhead sprinkler;
- run the dishwasher or washing machine only when full;
- switch to a water-saving shower head;
- turn off the tap when brushing your teeth;
- fix leaky faucets.

EWEB estimates that in the average home, 11% of the monthly water use total is due to leaks, meaning you are paying \$20-30 a month for wasted water.

Get other water saving tips, including a listing of "Water Efficient Plants for the Willamette Valley" at EWEB.org.

E-MAIL CHANGE

Correct e-mail for Lesle Hall is:
Lesliedhall72@gmail.com

Please make change in your yearbook



**ALICE,
WE SO
MISS YOU!**

Alice Dugan, 87, died on Thursday, March 15, 2012, of age-related causes. Her memorial service was on March 21 at First United Methodist Church.

Alice was born to Lloyd and Alice Peck on March 2, 1925 in Tekamah, NE. From a young age she excelled in music, loved to travel, and was active in her church. In 1946, following graduation from the University of Nebraska at age 19, she traveled to Oregon with her brother and a cousin and took a job as a junior high teacher in Springfield. She met her future husband, William Dugan, in the college class of First Baptist Church in Eugene. Bill and Alice were married in 1950, and moved to Oakridge where they were school teachers. They moved back to Eugene in 1956.

While a homemaker in Eugene, Alice continued to substitute teach, and became the choir director at University Street Christian Church, a position she held for over twenty years. She directed the "PTA Mothersingers", and has been a long time, loyal supporter of the Eugene Symphony and Oregon Bach Festival. She was a past board member of Northwest Christian College and the Eugene Youth (Junior) Symphony, and served on several state-wide mental health and senior citizen agencies. Alice was active with Church Women United and The Lane County Audubon Society until the time of her death. She was an avid birdwatcher and hosted the Audubon Society "bird phone" in their home. She and Bill traveled extensively, and following Bill's retirement they lived part-time in Sisters, OR. Alice remained active in church throughout her life, and in recent years attended both First United Methodist Church and First Christian Church in Eugene.

Alice was preceded in death by her husband Bill. She will be greatly missed by her sons, Greg, Stuart, and Bryce, their spouses, and grandsons. Tim and Matt Dugan and their spouses.

CHALLENGE COMING OUT OF EARTH WEEK



CHALLENGE: Go meatless for one day.

The meat industry contributes nearly one-fifth of the man-made greenhouse gas emissions accelerating climate change, according to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization.

A report published by the *Environmental Working Group* last year found that if every American eliminated both meat and cheese from their diet for one day a week, it would be equivalent to removing 7.6 million cars from the road.

The Meatless Monday website reports that up to 2,500 gallons of water may be needed to produce one pound of beef, and "40 calories of fossil fuel energy go into every calorie of feed lot beef in the U.S. Compare this to the 2.2 calories of fossil fuel energy needed to produce one calorie of plant-based protein." More statistics can be found on *the Meatless Monday website*, part of a non-profit initiative of The Monday Campaigns in association with the Johns Hopkins' Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Beyond the meat industry's problematic carbon footprint, issues of animal welfare are persistent in factory farming practices, and undercover video footage continues to reveal mistreatment and abuse in some factories.

Want some great recipes for Meatless Monday? Check out *Ellen Kanner's HuffPost weekly blog* for motivation.

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