



# The Vine

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF LANE COUNTY**  
*cwulanecounty.org*

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November 2011

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>October 5</b><br>Wed 7-8:30am  | <b>Breakfast at Brails</b><br>1689 Willamette St.<br>Environmental Care                              |
| <b>October 7</b><br>Fri 9:15      | <b>First United Methodist</b><br>1376 Olive St.<br>Environmental Care                                |
| <b>November 2</b><br>Wed 7-8:30am | <b>Breakfast at Brail-1689 Willamette</b><br>World Community Day-Living Our Faith                    |
| <b>November 4</b><br>Fri 9:15     | <b>Northwood Christian</b><br>2425 Harvest Lane, Springfield<br>World Community Day-Living Our Faith |

### NOVEMBER PROGRAM

#### World Community Day - November 2 and 4

"Living Our Faith, Unlocking Action". We do such a good job looking after others in our unit it's time to look after ourselves a little. This World Community Day will take a fun filled tack at building our unit from the inside, getting to know each other, and what commitments we can make that will help our unit grow. How can we live our CWU faith and unlock action that will ensure our presence for those in need in our community for another 100 years? Martha Neuman from Northwood Christian Church, Springfield is our host. This is her first opportunity to plan and lead a CWU activity.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER

#### Annual Meeting - December 7 and 9

Please join us at Breakfast at Brails and First Christian Church for our Annual Meeting. Highlights include the election and installation of officers, a presentation from those who have attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a scavenger hunt with prizes, some Christmas fun, and other surprises. You won't be disappointed! A little work and a little play to end the year. See you there!

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**A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT**  
Phyllis Hockley

**Sharing=Justice  
Justice=Peace**

**Seen on a church billboard?  
No, seen on a big banner,**

over the "Occupy Eugene" site where over a hundred people, many young, are camping out, perhaps for weeks. I went to the 2 hour rally Saturday afternoon of speeches, poetry and music, which was followed by a 3 mile march of about 2000 people. The police were there, giving great support.



The spirit was high. It was most inspiring to be at the beginning of a non-violent movement that is standing up to corporate greed and injustice.

Why do they say they are there?

"We need to remove money from our campaign system, change the law that gives corporations the same rights as people, end the wars. Our passion is for economic justice, ecology, freedom, rights, and for the workers."

Their concern is that we have the most unequal distribution of wealth and income of any major, advanced country on earth. The top one percent earn more income than the bottom 50 percent and the richest 400 Americans own more wealth than the bottom 150 million Americans. As the gap grows, our country grows closer to collapse.

Want to be a part of Sharing=Justice=Peace? Stop by the Saturday Market site and wish them well, take them some food, see if you can fill a need. They are working on CWU goals. They are doing this for all of us. Let's give them our support!



**REVIEW OF OCTOBER PROGRAM**  
Anne O'Brien

Our environmental theme for October started on its path at Brail's on Wednesday, October 5. Sonny Bettelyoun of Environmental Due Diligence told us about his business which has to do with doing an in-depth inspection of lands for the Banks, etc. who are investing to assure the lands are not contaminated. Brandi Ferguson and Nicole Pincus of McKenzie River Trust increased our knowledge of the work of this non-profit that was described as being akin to a local Nature Conservancy.

Then on Friday at First United Methodist came another presentation by the McKenzie Trust women and also by Herb Wisner of the Audubon Society. McKenzie Trust was once again of interest to all and Herb did an excellent job of sharing information about our environment and its relationship to birds. A lovely spread by the FUM women as always. They really know how to do this. Rev. John Pitney, associate pastor at FUM treated us to a song he had composed which tied in beautifully with our environmental theme. We sounded pretty good singing along.



**DISH LENDING KIT  
UPDATE**

**Received at the October Meeting:**  
21 cups  
24 dinner plates  
16 small plates  
24 saucers  
25 cloth napkins  
16 glasses  
8 each knives, forks, spoons  
**MANY MANY THANKS**

**Still needed:**  
9 glasses  
4 cups  
25 bowls  
17 each knives, forks, spoons.  
**LET'S COMPLETE THE KIT THIS MONTH**



**LOIS STUMPP  
LONG TIME  
CWU MEMBER  
AND REGISTRAR**

A Celebration of Life was held at 2pm Oct. 7th at First United Methodist Church of Eugene for Lois Dexter Stumpp. She died August 19th at 91 years of age.

Lois was born April 25, 1920 in Los Angeles, CA to Rev. Earle and Esther Dexter, one of five children. After attending high school in Albuquerque, NM, Lois attended the Fine Arts College at the University of New Mexico.

She married Robert W. Stumpp on Nov. 20, 1941. They settled in Riverside, CA to raise their three children.

A life-long member of the Methodist Church, her last employment was for the Pacific and Southwest Conference office. She retired in June 1980 after 13-1/2 years. Following the death of her husband, the love of her life, in 1985, Lois began a new life in Eugene.

Survivors are sons: Randy Stumpp of Riverside, CA, Tim Stumpp of Scottsdale, AZ; daughter, Laurie Mowry of Eugene; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Lois was known and beloved for her artwork, her music and caring for others.

In lieu of flowers, contributions were made in her memory to the United Methodist Women.

Please sign the guest book at:  
[www.registerguard.com/legacy](http://www.registerguard.com/legacy)

## **BREAKFAST AT BRAIL'S Cindy Kokis**

Our new addition, mentioned in your March Vine, is going well. We have had seven meetings at Brail's, in our private dining room where we are offered good food, fellowship, and exciting programs. The time is more limited - 7:00 - 8:30 am - than at our Friday meetings, so programs are modified. Some leave early. We need your help to increase attendance. Have you personally spoken to women in your church who are unable to attend the Friday meeting due to work or home responsibilities? This really makes a difference. Three new Episcopalians have shown up, because they were asked.

Be sure to invite new folks to the Wednesday, November 2nd breakfast. Hand them a flyer at your Sunday coffee time.

## **PARTNERING WITH THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

The state legislature is in session this coming spring. A national election will be held. In October 2012, CWU will host speakers from our local League of Women Voters. We join the League in celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in Oregon.

Do "new voter identification laws fight an imaginary crime wave? Voter fraud, virtually nonexistent in America, serves to justify a wave of onerous new voter registration laws."  
(In These Times, September, 2011).

Thirty states have enacted voter identification requirements. In Florida, new rules about third party voter registration were so strict that the League of Women Voters no longer holds voter registration drives. (American Civil Liberties)  
Lots to consider in an election year.

## **MORE ABOUT 2012**

Exciting additions have been made to the forums listed in your September Vine.

January's focus will be on the struggle of homeless youths in our middle and high schools.

Continuing our commitment to environmental issues, the June program will look at air toxins that affect children's health, especially in the community near the railroad tracks. CWU is working with Centro Latino and the Oregon Toxics Alliance for this program.

If you are interested in working on either subject, call 541-342-6450 or e-mail [gkokis@uoregon.edu](mailto:gkokis@uoregon.edu).



## OUR SACRED EARTH LET'S LEARN MORE AND CARE MORE

### LAND ISSUES AND OUR ENVIRONMENT Rose Marie Barber

Galen Martin, a professor at the UO (and incidentally a member of my congregation), taught a course last spring titled *Global Land Issues and the Environment*, which I sat in on with his permission. Here are just a few of the things I came away with:

Grasslands have just as much biodiversity as rainforests. It is just harder to get people excited about saving insects and rodents than larger animals like elephants and monkeys.

When making decisions about purchases, follow the item through its entire life cycle to think about how much energy is embedded in the object. For example, think about the difference between a hybrid car and a bicycle as far as the amount of energy each takes to produce, transport, maintain and dispose, as well as the length of their life. Another question to add is: What is the alternative to this product?

Things are muddier than they seem and there are multiple facets to every issue. For example, The Nature Conservancy helped put in place a carbon trading program in a Brazil forest, where massive tracts of forest land are now owned by oil and automobile companies in exchange for less stringent pollution controls in their factories. The land is patrolled by The Nature Conservancy, and indigenous people are being fined for using the forest for subsistence living as they had before. (I got my Nature Conservancy renewal form in the mail right after I learned this, which gave me ample fuel for thought at least!) This is just a small sampling from a class packed with thought-provoking facts, issues, and discussion.

### EASY ENERGY (AND MONEY) SAVING Judy Romans

New York City schools reduced their energy bills by 11% with a quick and simple action - turning off the lights in classrooms and other areas when not in use. One Long Island school district reduced its electric bill by \$350,000 in one year with this technique. While your energy, and therefore, monetary savings may not be quite as spectacular, turning off the lights is quick, easy, involves no expensive equipment, and may be done by anyone in the family.

Another energy saver is to avoid energy "vampires", a term used for appliances that continue to use power even when turned off, but still plugged in. Experts suggest that kitchen appliances, TV or stereo equipment, be unplugged or plugged into a power strip that can be turned off. That "sleep" mode may look off, but the machine is still using power while your doing something else or away for the day. Saving even a little energy each day adds up during the week, month, year.

### TRICK-OR TREAT! Kim Bryson-Chamley



It just wouldn't be Halloween without Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!!! <http://youth.unicefusa.org/trickortreat/>. UNICEF is committed to reducing the number of children who die of preventable causes to zero. Five years ago, 25,5000 children died every day. Toady that number is 21,000.

One of the ways I remember Lois Stumpp was her commitment to fill her Trick-or-Treat box. She raised about \$100 every year. We won't have Lois and her bright smile to set the pace this year. She is missed for many reasons!!

If you choose, donations can be made to Trick or Treat for UNICEF, 125 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 10038. Please note this is not an official CWU request. 4

## SEE YOU SOON Kim Bryson-Chamley

Recently I heard someone say one should never say "good-bye", just "see you soon". "Good-bye" is so final and one never knows what the future will bring.

It is time for me to leave Eugene. The end of October my three 4-legged children and me leave for Blaine, Washington. Blaine is the last stop on the I-5 before the Canadian border.

Well, it is practically on the border. You can't get closer. Okay, some of the houses are the border. My new address will be in the 2012 Yearbook. Phone number and email address will stay the same.

Jane Heidegger will be your new Secretary. I will be helping Jane as much as she needs. Thank you, Jane! We have yet to find a Finance Chair.

Let me speak to the Finance Chair role and it's importance in the organization. In the recent past this position has been considered fairly unnecessary. This couldn't be farther from the truth. This Chair and her committee actually provide protection for the Treasurer - a checks and balances (excuse the pun) should there be any questions of accuracy. Further the Committee builds the budget to reflect the interests of the group (hence all of those pesky questionnaires) and constructs a five-year plan so the Board knows where it's headed and how much money it needs to meet the goals.

Contrary to popular belief, the ability to read a spreadsheet is not a requirement to be on this committee. Common sense and having worked with a family budget will cover it. Committee members are needed. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Two members plus the Chair are plenty. Please call Dorothy Webber (541-484-7121), Nominations Committee Chair, should you have any questions.

A phone call or email will get a quick response should anyone needs me. Taking in a Friday Forum now and then will always be in the plans. Freshly returned from Atlantic City, I will be part of our Annual Meeting on December 9, which will include a portion of the presentation Erie, PA, Houston, TX and us will make, all having turned 100. I hope to see you at First Christian Church that day!

CWU has provided me with a family. You have allowed me to shine, built my confidence and took me in. Gratitude isn't a big enough word. I love you all. The unit will grow with your sage guidance and strong commitment.

See You Soon!!!

## ANNUAL GIFT AND MEMBERSHIP FEE The Finance Committee

At the September Friday Forum the Finance Committee conducted a survey to determine the priorities of the participants regarding the balancing of our budget. The discrepancy between income and outflow has been about \$1000. Our savings account made up the shortfall.

The survey results were interesting. People wanted to keep the Church quota system and introduce a membership fee. The survey determined the fee should be between \$20 and \$30 with ideas of sliding scales, etc.

The Board reviewed all the suggestions and decided to implement an Annual Gift instead of a Membership Fee. The Annual Gift allows people to give what they can without imposing the formal record keeping required of a Membership Fee. Recognizing Annual Gifts and Membership Fees are not the same, the goals are the same ... to balance the budget, give you an opportunity to participate in a more comprehensive way and allow us to plan based on a more reliable income figure.

There will no longer be collection baskets at Forums. We understand some feel money requests are being made at every turn. We honour that sentiment. The Board has chosen to have 3 "official" financial contribution requests of individuals per year:

- 1) A Vine contribution of a minimum of \$10,
- 2) An Annual Gift,
- 3) Summer Fun Fund.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is not included as it is a prayerful contribution of your "least coin".

While other requests for donations for projects or causes such as Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF may be made, these will not be official asks and there is no expectation to support them.

Membership here is key. As ours decreases, so does our potential earning capacity, reducing what we can offer members and the community. Part of the same survey outlined above was to highlight the need to increase membership in a comprehensive and conscious way. More members broaden our capacity as an organization both internally and in the community.

You have recently received a white card to contribute to the Vine. In the December newsletter you will receive a yellow card for your Annual Gift. If you receive the Vine by email you will receive a card as an additional attachment. When writing your check please put "Annual Gift" in the memo line.

The Finance Committee thanks you for your consideration as we develop systems to benefit our members and the organization as a whole. Feedback is always welcome.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**The Annual International Gift Event** will be held at FAIR TRADE on MAIN at 1072 Main St., Springfield. The dates and time are Nov.10, 3-7 pm, Nov 11 & Nov 12, 11-6pm. Several other non-profits will be on site with their offering of handcrafts. These organizations are Friendship with Cambodia, Thembanathi and Bolsa de Katy. They will be selling handcrafts from Africa, Cambodia and El Salvador. This is a wonderful way to purchase handcrafted gifts as Christmas gifts for friends and family in keeping with the theme of Peace and Justice with every purchase. Parking is readily available. Main St. is a one way street going west toward Glenwood and Eugene. Fair Trade on Main is on the right side.

**Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger**, Sunday, November 13, 2-5pm.

Emmaus Lutheran Church, southeast corner of W 18th and Polk.

A 3-hour workshop to provide information about poverty and the challenge of people living in poverty. Objectives of the workshop are to understand definitions of poverty, who is living in poverty, what living in poverty means, and the barriers of poverty. The presenter is Mary Walston, resource development manager at United Way of Lane County.