

Lay Coordinator ❁ April 2008

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Spring is finally here and "Spring Work Days" are being scheduled in all our churches but it isn't all about work, many of our newsletters are reminding us that it is time to think about summer camp. Our outdoor ministry facilities at Pilgrim and Moon Beach are so wonderful and offer programs appealing to all ages, check them out and think "summer"!



Speaking of camp, **Madison First Congregational** is hosting an all-church camping trip May 30-June 1 at Gov Dodge State Park. Sounds like fun! They also have a Hobby Faire scheduled for April 13 after worship where members can sign up for a booth and have a chance to share a hobby or talent they are passionate about with their church family. That sounds like fun too!

Spring isn't the only thing in the air, so is music! **Fort Atkinson Friedens** will be hosting MPK, a Christian Band that plays both Contemporary Christian and Celtic music, on April 12 at 7:00 in the evening. The concert will be followed by a Meet and Greet in their Fellowship Hall. For those of you in the Madison area, a free community hymn sing will be held in Overture Hall April 26 at 11:00 am. Don't forget the Crystal Lake High School Choir and the Bell Choir, which will perform at **Janesville First Congregational** on Friday evening, April 11. On April 20 Cantus, one of the best male singing groups in the United States, will perform at **Madison First Congregational**. This concert will be a fundraising event for Porchlight, a local organization that works to end homelessness.

Advent Lutheran Church, part of the Madison Christian Community along with **Community of Hope**, is offering a workshop on Centering Prayer. They will meet 9-3 on Saturday, May 3 and have six follow-up prayer sessions on Mondays, 6:30-8:00 pm beginning May 5.

Belleville First UCC is holding a Healthy Congregations Workshop for its members on Saturday, April 5 led by Rev. Winton Boyd where they will explore relationships and how they contribute to the life of the church and all organizations, including families.

Monticello Zwingli is giving their members the chance to take the Each One-Reach One pledge. Those who sign on the dotted line pledge to *seek to introduce, invite and help to assimilate a new person or family into the church by the end of the year*. Folks

who sign the Each One-Reach One pledge will become part of Team Andrew and meet periodically to support each other.

Brodhead Congregational will once again host a team for the Second Annual Brodhead Crop Walk on April 27.

Sometimes mission opportunities can pop up where you least expect them! There is a new bike shop in the Allied Drive/Dunn's Marsh neighborhood in Madison. It is called Dreambikes and it is located in the strip mall by Harbor Freight across from Home Depot. This is a neighborhood bike shop where kids can work, earn a wage and gain rewarding experience. You can donate bikes to this business and the kids will clean them up, tune them up and get them ready to resale in the shop. For more information you can email Kevin@dreambikes.org.

Everything is better with a cup of coffee! At **Madison Plymouth** you can grab a cup of coffee and a treat and join a Bible study in the church library every Sunday morning. They discuss the next week's lectionary reading. During Sunday School time at **McFarland UCC**, those adults who do not wish to attend Adult Sunday School can gather in the church kitchen for coffee and conversation.

It's Church dinnertime! The Annual Kalberwurst Dinner is coming up April 19 at **Monticello Zwingli**. **Lake Mills First Congregational** is hosting their Chicken Ala King Dinner Wednesday, April 23 and **Lowell First Evangelical and Reformed UCC** will be having their Annual All-You-Can Eat Chicken Dinner May 4. Despite the winter weather, the Chili Lunch recently held at **Fort Atkinson Friedens** took in \$1,129.70!

On March 14 the Women's Guild of **Verona Salem** sponsored the monthly Birthday party at the New Glarus Home with live entertainment and treats.

One of the neat things I have been seeing in more and more of our church newsletters are family game nights. This was the perfect winter to get game nights started and folks must like them, they keep happening. I know they inspired me to take up dominoes!



Over the Easter holiday I saw a cartoon in the paper that made me laugh and laugh. It was an office setting and a big rabbit was sitting at a desk facing a couple sitting on the other side. The bunny rabbit said to the couple, "As your financial adviser, I have no problem suggesting you put all your eggs in one basket!"

That is what we do as Easter people; we put all our eggs in one basket. We live with the knowledge that even after 100 inches of snow, spring comes.

Go and Serve.