

Lay Coordinator _ May 2008

Nancy L. Potter
nlpotter@charter.net
16 Cornerstone Way #12
Fitchburg WI 53711

Hurray, spring is here! Along with spring we have rummage sales, Earth Day celebrations, spring-cleaning and Pentecost!

- - - - -

Paoli Zwingli will celebrate Rural Life Sunday May 18 with a special outdoor service. Gardeners and farmers can bring their seeds, implements and tools for a special blessing. They are also reminding their members that if their spring-cleaning turns up some old scout uniforms, they can be donated to the Scout Uniform Closet. If you have some old scout uniforms and in the interest of Earth Day (reduce, reuse, recycle) want to find them a good home, contact Becky at 608-712-8461 to arrange for a pick-up or drop-off spot.

Madison Community of Hope is having a Plant Sale and Resale May 9, 8-4 and May 10, 8-noon. They will have a variety of perennials and garden plants available as well as used treasurers!

Many churches are celebrating May as "*Sustainable Travel to Worship Month.*" Time to dust off those bicycles and running shoes or consider car-pooling!

Speaking of dusting off those running shoes, Pastor Bill of **Sauk City First UCC** will be running in the Madison Marathon May 25. He is taking pledges for every mile he runs and proceeds will go to help fund the Young Ambassadors trip to Germany this summer.

Both **Monticello Zwingli** and **Madison Plymouth** have work camps planned at Moon Beach. This is a great chance to experience the north woods, have fun and help out our outdoor ministries all at the same time!

Madison Community of Hope is beginning a new Kids Garden Ministry this month. For 13 weeks the kids will learn about gardening, participate in gardening and learn songs, prayers and parables to help them build connections between nurturing soil and soul. What a neat idea!

Two exciting musicals are coming to our area. *The Rock and the Rabbi* will be presented at the Fireside Theatre in Fort Atkinson this summer and the play *Church Basement Ladies* will be at the Overture Center. Plan your outings now, they both sound great!

There are lots of activities coming up. **McFarland UCC** will host a talent show May 18. **Brodhead Congregational** will host a Mother and Daughter Tea May 4 and **Middleton Community UCC** will host a new member potluck May 18.

Windsor UCC will be celebrating their 150 anniversary Sunday, June 1 with a celebratory worship service followed by a brunch. The cornerstone of their new building will be unveiled. Congratulations Windsor!

Lake Mills First Congregational is offering a 13-week seminar/support group called DivorceCare for individuals separated or divorced.

Monroe St Johns continues to encourage their members to be "On the Move." Their walking group meets every Tuesday and Thursday evening for 45-minute walk followed by a healthy snack and fellowship.

Brodhead UCC has a soup cookbook for sale that contains 72 homemade soup recipes. The book is \$7.00 and all the proceeds go to help send their youth to the National Youth Event this July in Knoxville.

The day Lois Roko was ordained at **First UCC in Reeseville**, her father noticed some very beautiful, old Bibles sitting on a bookshelf in the church basement. He suggested getting a curio cabinet to display the volumes and he made a contribution towards such a purchase. Now thanks to the contributions of a number of Reeseville members, the antique Bibles are in a beautiful, lighted piece of furniture along with other archival articles. Church member, Carrie Schuett, is working on uncovering the history of the Bibles.

May 17 folks at **McFarland UCC** are gathering as a group and going over to Madison Community of Hope to walk the labyrinth there together in prayerful meditation.

- - - - -

You know I wear a couple different hats. In addition to Lay Coordinator, I am also the Coordinator for the Wisconsin Council for Health and Human Service Ministries. I want to thank **Monticello Zwingli UCC** for a special series featuring an in depth look at a different service ministry of our Conference in every one of their monthly newsletters. What an excellent way to spread the good news!

This month I started wearing yet another hat, I am a grandma! My first grandchild, Olive Louise, was born April 5 and she is beautiful! I already nicknamed her Ollie Lou which is suspiciously

close to Alle lu. My church is singing a bunch of songs just for her, I bet yours is too!

Go and Serve. Celebrate spring and new life!