

DMARC E-BULLETIN

for the week of February 22

The Pet Pantry

Sometimes the best gift is keeping what you already love. The Pet Pantry provides pet food and supplies to families experiencing financial difficulties—because losing a job shouldn't mean losing a pet. The Pet Pantry is just now organizing, so the DMARC Emergency Food Pantry is partnering with them to collect donations. Help a dog or cat stay in a loving home this winter with your donation of unopened dog or cat food (dry or wet), leashes and collars, food dishes and bowls, cat litter and boxes, flea and tick medication, and toys. Contribute through your congregational collection, through the Red Barrel program in local stores, or directly to the DMARC Food Pantry warehouse at 3816 36th St. in Des Moines and we will make sure that your pet food donations get to the wonderful folks at the Pet Pantry.

Sack Saturday Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community? Each month the Des Moines Area Religious Council seeks volunteers to participate in Sack Saturdays. Participants are asked to commit two hours to greeting shoppers at local grocery stores and encouraging either their purchase of sacks of food items costing \$5.00, individual items of food (such as peanut Butter, cereal, pasta, soups) or cash. The food items collected are used to supply local food pantries in the Des Moines metro area. Money collected is used to purchase additional food items. This is an ideal opportunity for church, business or civic groups to work together to help meet a need in our community.

To sign up for a Sack Saturday, contact Cindy Morton at 277-6969 or 238-4593

DMARC Emergency Food Pantry Needs Paper Grocery Bags

DMARC's nine food pantries are in need of paper grocery bags in good condition. The pantries re-use paper sacks for packing food items to be given out to those in need. Large quantities of these paper sacks are consumed in the process, and the need is ongoing. Purchasing paper grocery sacks is not possible due to cost, and therefore, recycling paper sacks for this purpose is our only option. If you have extra paper sacks, you can drop them off at DMARC or any of our nine pantry locations.



How to Hold a Food Drive

Help the Emergency Food Pantry feed the hungry in the Des Moines Metro area by holding a food drive.

Getting Started

- Call the Emergency Food Pantry at 277-6969 to indicate you are planning a food drive.
- Establish a committee to organize and market the event. Set your kick-off and ending dates. A one to two week food drive works best.
- Hold contests between offices or work units to see who can collect the most food.
- Establish drop off site(s) for donated food. We can make arrangements to provide you with a Red Barrel to hold the food that is collected and envelopes for those who wish to give cash donations.
- Be sure to publicize the success of your food drive when it is completed.

Suggested Donations

- Collect non-perishable food items in unbreakable containers (please, no glass!).
- Most needed items include canned vegetables and fruits, soups, peanut butter, canned meat, tuna, noodles, spaghetti and macaroni, fruit juice and spaghetti sauce.

What about donating cash?

The Emergency Food Pantry can buy food at a much lower cost than individuals because we utilize the Food Bank of Iowa and local wholesalers. Seventy percent of food distributed is purchased using funds from cash donations.

Completing Your Food Drive

When your food drive is complete, count the number of food items you collected and package it in cardboard boxes. It is helpful if dry goods (cereals, rice, etc.) are packaged in separate boxes. Deliver your food to the Emergency Food Pantry Warehouse or contact DMARC at 515-277-6969 for pick up assistance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next deadline March 5

Thursday, February 25

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DINNER/FUNDRAISER

Jeffrey Weiss with Catholic Peace Ministries will speak on "What the media are not telling you about Afghanistan". The talk will focus on basic myths and how our overall perception of Afghanistan has been skewed. The talk will be held at Java Joe's in downtown Des Moines beginning at 5:30 p.m.

February 26-28

WESTMINSTER FINE ARTS SERIES PRESENTS “FRESCO AROUSED”

This multi-media performance with themes from the Book of Ecclesiastes begins at 7:30 p.m. all days. Dancers include Kathleen Hurley and others, Visual art by Kun P. Nong. All performances will be held in the chapel at Westminster Church. Free childcare is available.

For more information, contact Jan Davison at 274-1534 or jdavison@westpres.org.

Friday, February 26

JOB ASSISTANCE ORIENTATION

Iowans for Social and Economic Development is sponsoring this event to help you get connected with services and/or providers that can help you: create a resume, write cover letters, complete applications, search for jobs, build interview skills, access DMACC job training and Iowa employment service, and computer classes. All Services Are Free.

For information, contact Jule Loy Gray at 282-3561.

Saturday, February 27

FINE ART GALLERY SHOW

This show features black and white photography by Timothy Florer. Tim will also display works from his first two books, *Rural Iowa Ruins* and *Against the Current*. Tim has had solo shows on the west coast and Midwest, and his works are on display at major corporations and museums. He is the co-founder and director of the 4-H Camera Corps. Tim's third book, *Reflections Along the White Pole Road* will be available for sale. The show runs from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 12th & Grand in West Des Moines.

MARCH

March 5-6

COMPASSIONAL COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

This workshop will be lead by Rev. Lori Woodley, M.Div, Unity Minister & Peacemaking Consultant. Lori teaches non-violent communication as an adjunct faculty member at Unity Institute and in churches and organizes workshops. The workshop runs from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Friday and from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday and will be held at Unity Church of Des Moines, 515 31st St., Des Moines 50312. The cost is \$25.00 at the door. Potluck or bring your own lunch.

Sunday, March 7

LEARNING MUSEUM OF RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE

This museum is located in the historic All Saints Building in Stuart, Iowa. A self-guided tour on interactive kiosks explains the world's religions in a non-promotional and unbiased format, all displayed in a site that was once a victim of a hate-crime. Doors open at 1:30 p.m., with a video presentation at 2:00 p.m. and a reception to follow. Admission is free.

For more information, go to www.saintscenter.com.

Monday, March 8 – 6-8 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY DINNER/FUNDRAISER

Beth Younger, author and Associate Professor of English, Drake University will give a talk in celebration of International Women’s Day. A dinner of appetizers will be served. All ticket proceeds will go to one of five charities of your choice.

Suzanne Hull, Event Coordinator, Iowa United Nations Assoc.

www.linkedin.com/groupRegistration?gid-2166755

at First Unitarian Church, 1800 Bell Ave.

Friday, March 12

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN LUNCHEON

The featured speaker is Franci Phelan of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation speaking on “To Boldly Go.” Proceeds help subsidize counseling for uninsured and lower-income women and girls. The luncheon runs from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Sheraton West Des Moines Hotel. *Tickets cost \$45.00. A table of 10 costs \$400.*

To register, call Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center at 274-4006 or email info@dmpcc.org.

March 12-13

WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE

The conference theme is “Over the Top” Speakers and performers are Marilyn Meberg, Patsy Clairmont, Lisa Whelchel, Sandy Patty, Mandisa, Mary Beth and Steven Curtis Chapman and Nicole Johnson.

The conference runs from 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and 7:00-10:30 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Group tickets for 1-10 are \$99.00 or \$89.00 for over 10 (cost includes box lunch). The conference will be held at Vets Auditorium.

Register at <http://www.womenoffaith.com/desmoines>.

Saturday, March 13

CATHOLIC PEACE MINISTRY’S DINNER

You are cordially invited to Catholic Peace Ministry's 15th Annual Bishop Maurice J. Dingman Dinner at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. The speaker will be Jack Jezreel, Founder of “JustFaith” Ministries. There will be a reception starting at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 6:30, and the award celebration at about 7:30. Catholic Peace Ministry will present the Maurice J. Dingman Peace Award to Helen Oster and Chris Gaunt, longtime peace activists from Des Moines. You can purchase tickets (\$35) or reserve a table for 8 (\$280) by contacting Jeffrey J. Weiss, Catholic Peace Ministry Director, at jjwcpm@yahoo.com, or 515-255-8114.

Saturday, March 13

JUST FAITH INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

Keynote speaker Jack Jezreel will lead the workshop, a program that empowers people of faith to develop a passion and thirst for God's justice at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines from 8:45 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 and includes continental breakfast items. The workshop will be held at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, 510 E. First St., Ankeny, IA 50021.

For more information, contact Patsy Carlson at 964-3038 x112.

March 15

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

The Center for Renewal and Grand View University will host a School of Ministry on Monday, March 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in room 103 of the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions on the Grand View campus. Dr. Duane Larson, president of Wartburg Theological Seminary, will provide updates about emerging models for church leadership formation in our seminaries and the role of the seminary in our changing world. Cost for the event is \$10.

Reserve your seat by emailing jwhite@grandview.edu.

Saturday, March 20

TOURETTE SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

A new support group for persons with Tourette Syndrome and their families will be starting in the metro area in March. Their vision is to support and inform families and individuals living with this syndrome in their journey and to improve their quality of life. The group will meet in Ankeny in March, July and November at Cornerstone Baptist Church, 701 E. 1st St. at 1:00 p.m.

For info on the national organization, email support@gptourettesupport.org.

LOOKING AHEAD

Vermeer Leadership Alliance Events

April 9, 2010: All day Pastor's conference with Rev. Dr. William Willimon, Bishop of the United Methodist Church.

October 6, 2010: Evening community event with Kara Powell, Exec. Dir. Fuller Youth Institute, Fuller Theological Seminary

October 7, 2010: All day pastor's conference with Kara Powell.

Details follow closer to the dates.

April 16-18

WORKSHOP: ARE YOU PLUGGING IN WITHOUT SHORTING OUT?

Churches using new technology and social networking are getting the upper hand on attracting members. Workshop speakers will help congregations embrace technology without blowing up the church. Keynote Speakers include Michael Bausch, D.Min. who teaches the use of the arts and multimedia in worship based on many years of parish ministry in UCC; Adam Walker, serving Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore, CA.; and Worship Leader, Keith Robinson, founder/director of the Emerge Experience. Keith leads a Wednesday night gathering of hundreds of students at Berean Assembly of God in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. The workshop begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Early bird registration is available until March 1, and costs \$150.00. Registration March 2 or later cost \$175.00. The deadline is March 26.

Watch the Presbytery's website for a registration form: www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunity to Support Local Food and your Local Farmer

The Iowa Food Cooperative (IFC) is a web-based ordering system to buy Iowa products directly from Iowa farmers. You decide what to buy, how much to buy and from which producers. Acting as an agent for consumer members, they provide an online catalog of Iowa-produced foods and goods. To check it out and sign up, visit www.iowafood.org.

Books Available

Tom Conrey is giving away books from his home library including Barclay's Daily Bible Study Series, Oxford Bible Atlas, Craddock's, Preaching the New Lectionary, A, B, and C., other books of interest to pastors and counselors. Contact chaplain132@msn.com or call 465-5734 for a list of books or if interested in one or more books.

Cleaning for a Reason

Know a woman undergoing chemotherapy? There is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning, once per month for up to 4 months while she is in treatment. Women are required to sign up and have a doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. To sign up, go to www.cleaningforareason.org. This organization serves the entire country with 547 partners.

Free Tax Prep

If you earned \$49,000 or less in 2009 you may be eligible to receive Free Tax Preparation. You also may be eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This is your money to keep and save. This service is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at the United Way Conference Center.

Need a Speaker?

Speakers from Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Service; violence prevention are available. Topics include Winter Safety, Clutter, Hoarding, Conflicts, Home invasion, Self Defense, Brain Exercises, Scams, Elder Abuse.

Contact Sherry Knox, Prevention Specialist at 286-2028.

Project Clean Start

The Free Store has launched a new service. People starting anew need more than household items; they need some basic things to keep them and their household's clean. Project Clean Start hopes to give each client a bucket filled with cleaning supplies, a laundry basket filled with laundry supplies, a vacuum cleaner (they can buy refurbished cleaners) and a small, but new set of pots and pans.

If you can help with this worthwhile project by making up several buckets of cleaning supplies \$13.00 or baskets of laundry supplies \$12. or you might fund refurbished vacuum cleaners \$25.00 or pan sets \$30., call 282-3733 or www.thefreestore.org.

Office Furniture

The Iowa Office of Church World Service/CROP, located in the same building as DMARC, will begin downsizing its office equipment in anticipation of an eventual move to a smaller office. Items for sale will include 5 full-sized desks, 5 four-drawer metal filing cabinets, 2 three-door metal filing cabinets, several book cases, a table top, two stand alone table-like pieces, and 9 office chairs. All items are negotiable and will be the responsibility of the buyer to move, using one's own or borrowed truck.

Church World Service is also looking for an appropriate Christian/Jewish/Muslim or ecumenical group to assume their lease. This is in the same building as DMARC, 3816-36th St. CWS occupies 3 offices, a main office and a store room, all located in the same area. The new tenant would have access to a Conference Room, Kitchen, shared bathroom and part of a walk-in level additional store room. Ample free parking. Current lease expires in April 2013.

For further information, please contact the Rev. Russell Melby at 274-2224 or rmelby@churchworldservice.org.

Daffodil Days

Give daffodils, give hope. Help the American Cancer Society paint our community yellow. Proceeds from the sale will benefit ACS's research, education, advocacy, and patient services. Order daffodils in bunches of 10 for \$10.00 and a bear and a bunch for \$25.00. Order daffodils no later than February 19. Daffodils will arrive on March 17.

For more information contact Krista Walsh at 727-0060 or Krista.walsh@cancer.org.

50 Free Choir Robes

These robes are 30 years old but still in excellent condition. They are maroon and have maroon and silver stoles. Call Marita Wolgast at First Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids at 319-365-1494 or email maritaw@firstlutherancr.org to inquire.

Iowa Juneteenth Observance

From June 11 to June 20, join this celebration of freedom, families, and citizenship through improved community relations. Registration details to follow. Please monitor website at www.iowajuneteenth.org.

Seniors Helping Seniors

Seniors Helping Seniors is a national caregiver and companionship organization that is about helping seniors who want to remain in their own homes and stay as self-sufficient as possible. The first in Iowa, Seniors Helping Seniors is serving Greater Des Moines communities, including Polk and Dallas Counties by providing loving, caring, compassionate non-medical in-home services to less able seniors and employment opportunities for active seniors who want to help. In-home services include companionship, transportation, light housekeeping, meal preparation, shopping assistance, yard work, pet care and more.

If you know of a caring and compassionate older adult would like to provide the services or you know of someone that would benefit from the services please tell them about Seniors Helping Seniors.

Seniors Helping Seniors of Central Iowa is also available for group presentations on elderly issues and topics facing the senior population. For more information or to book a time please contact Heather Deering at 515-661-2169 or shsdsm@hotmail.com.

Habitat for Humanity

Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity is recruiting churches and faith groups to help low-income families achieve home ownership in 2010. There are many opportunities to get involved including a 2010 Multi-Faith Build that is open to individuals and groups from diverse faith communities through contributions of funds and labor.

For more information, please contact Brendalyn Shird at 515-471-8686 x112 or bshird@gdmhabitat.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Temporary Supply Pastor/Head of Staff

Ankeny Presbyterian Church is seeking to fill this position full time for a minimum of one year, may be extended. The job description is available from the Presbytery Office or Ankeny Church. Full benefits package included.

To apply, contact Sandy Wagener swagener@dwx.com or Bonnie McCaughey, bim42552@aol.com.

If mailing hard copies, label "Temporary Supply Pastor Search—Personal and send to Ankeny Presbyterian, 317 S.E. Trilein Dr., Ankeny IA 50021.

Office Manager/Secretary

Ankeny Presbyterian Church is hiring. Two years experience are required. Applicants must be proficient with MS Word, Publisher and other. Ability to do multiple tasks, 20-30 hours per week minimum. Friendly personality a plus. To apply, contact Ankeny Presbyterian, 317 SE Trilein Dr., Ankeny, 50021 or office@ankenypresbyterian.org.

Custodial/Light Maintenance

This is a permanent part time position, 15 hrs per week, varied daytime hours. Pay dependent upon experience. Call Maxine at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 1115 Grand Ave in West Des Moines at 223-4208.

Organist Wanted

Grant Park Christian Church at E. 25th & Capitol, Des Moines is seeking an organist for Sunday morning worship. If interested, call 262-8724 or 266-4717.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Broadlawns Hospital

Broadlawns needs volunteers to welcome and direct patients and families as they enter the hospital. If interested contact Jill MacNaughton, Director, Patient & Volunteer Relations, at 282-2323 or jmacnaughton@broadlawns.org.

Can You Help?

Reliable van (or pick up truck) to replace the two over the hill vans that Catholic Worker House currently maintains. Both vans have over 200,000 miles on them. Each needs repair work costing over \$1000 – beyond the total value of each van. They need a van that will survive the winter to pick up donations to the Catholic Worker House and food for their Saturday Free Food Store ministry

If you can help, contact Frank Cordaro or Tracy Robson at 243-0765.

DMARC-RELATED PERSONAL PRODUCTS DONATION SITES:

Needed items include: *diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, bars of soap, razors and feminine hygiene products.*

BIDWELL RIVERSIDE CENTER, 1203 Hartford Ave., DM 50315 244-6251

Contact: Josh/Cassie

CITY OF WEST D.M. HUMAN SERVICES, 318 5th St., WDM 50265 222-3660

Contact: Tammy Lage

COMMUNITY SERVICES SITE ON 6TH, 1618 6th Ave., DM 50311 248-6241

Contact: Danita Parker

DOWNTOWN FOOD PANTRY SITE, 701 Grand Ave., DM 50309 243-1381

Contact: Phil Werner

IOWA HOMELESS YOUTH CENTERS, 1219 Buchanan St., DM 503126 265-1222

Contact: Toni Nicol

RED ROCK COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, Neveln Resource Center, # 305, 406 SW School St., Ankeny, 50023 965-0433 Contact: Sharon Brooks

ST. MARY FAMILY CENTER, 1815 Hubbell Ave., D.M. 50316 262-7290

Contact: Susie Paloma

SALVATION ARMY SOCIAL SERVICES, 1300 6th Ave or 1216 E 25th Ct., DM 50314/ 50317- 282-3422/ 266-3156 Contact: Shireen Braman/Joanne Norelius

All preferred sites report collections to DMARC which allows us to track distribution and to better serve those in need.

Other donation sites:

BEACON OF LIFE (WOMEN), 1717 Woodland Ave, DM 50309, 244-4713 Contact: Ruth Hardin

BETHEL MISSION, 1310 6th Ave., D.M. 50314 265-7272 Contact Lisa (Office)

CENTRAL IOWA SHELTER SERVICES, 205 15th St., D.M. 50309 284-5719 Contact: Tony Timm

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF IOWA, 1111 University Ave., D.M. 50314 288 1982 x 321 Contact: Cindy Hickman

CROSS MINISTRIES, 1050 24th St., D.M. 50311 279-8877 Contact: Ann McGowan

EVELYN DAVIS EARLY LEARNING, 1409 Clark St., D.M. 50314 243-4212

HOUSE OF MERCY, 1409 Clark St., D.M. 50314 643-6500 Contact: Front Desk

LUTHERAN SERVICES OF IOWA, 3125 Cottage Grove (deliveries) D.M. 50311 271 7411 Contact: Karen Sullivan

YOUNG WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER, 705 E. 2nd St., Des Moines, IA 244-4901 Contact: Heather Soener.

YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES AND SHELTER, 918 11TH St. SE, D.M. 50309 282-9377 Contact: Jana Daisy