

**CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
CONNECTION  
April 2013**

**CROP Hunger Walk-May 5**

We invite you to join us in “Ending Hunger—One Step at a Time” and help our “Communities Respond to Overcome Poverty”. People of all ages will collect pledges and walk in one of the ten CROP Walks taking place in the greater Capital District that day. The **Albany CROP Walk** will be dedicated to the memory of the late Rev. John U. Miller, former Executive Director of the Council of Churches. The Walk begins and ends at First Lutheran Church, 181 Western Ave. Registration begins at 12:30pm. Following a performance by a local musical group and brief opening remarks, walkers step off at 1:30pm, with Honorary Chairperson Elisa Streeter, Channel 10 News Anchor, leading the way. Choose a 4.5 mile loop (with 3 rest stops) or the “Golden Mile”, returning to First Lutheran for refreshments.

Want to get involved? **Walk--**with a group from your house of worship, business, community organization, or your family. **Sponsor a walker--**25% of the money raised comes back to the Capital District to help our neighbors in need and the remainder is used for hunger relief and development projects around the world. **Volunteer--**help is needed on Walk Day, with registration, handing out T-shirts, serving refreshments, etc. Call the CACC office @ 462-5450 to volunteer, get materials, or for more information.

**Congratulations** to the following for their efforts in the 2012 Albany CROP Walk: Delmar United Methodist Church received the Gold Sneaker for raising \$13,579; Westminster Presbyterian Church, the Silver Sneaker for \$9,532; the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany, the Bronze Sneaker for \$5,131; Third Reformed Church, Highest Per Capita Amount (for a small group); the Albany Public School Teachers Association, Most Improved; and Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Best New Effort. Once again, the top walkers were Evelyn Stone and Joe Hodgson.

**Position Available: Part-Time Executive Director for CACC**

The Capital Area Council of Churches is accepting applications for the part-time position of Executive Director (approximately 20 hours/week). The Director works with the Board of Directors to develop and implement policies and programs.

Applicants for this position must be either an ordained member of the clergy from a denomination represented within the CACC, or have a degree in theology or religious studies from a recognized seminary or college and significant experience in ecumenical and interfaith relationships. Other desirable skills include experience in administration of non-profit organizations, fiscal and fundraising experience, and excellent communication skills.

A negotiated salary and benefits package is available to a first-year maximum of \$18,500. A complete job description is on our web site at [www.capareacc.org](http://www.capareacc.org). If you have questions, call (518)462-5450 or email [capareacc@aol.com](mailto:capareacc@aol.com). ***Résumés, with a cover letter and three references, should be sent to CACC, 646 State St., Albany, 12203, postmarked by 5/15.***

## From the Interim Executive Director

The Easter season, the season of Resurrection, is for us a season of new growth, rebirth, renewal and life. I noticed the day before our last snowstorm, which brought us to the beginning of Spring that the tulips were already pushing up through the ground in the beds at the point where Madison and Western come together. By the time you read this I hope we will have many more botanical signs that the winter is now past.

It is always amazing, no matter how many times we experience something like the advent of Spring, how there continues to be signs and signals of hope. Despite all that we have faced as a nation, as a world and in our own personal lives, there is still hope. This hope on which our faith is based infuses us with the Spirit, with power and energy to be about that to which God has called to be about, to rise up and get to it, or as one preacher once proclaimed, “to keep on keeping on”. It is the season of the Resurrection of our Lord, the tomb is empty and with it all those other signs that tell us the Lord lives and because the Lord lives we shall live also.

One sure sign of Spring and resurrection and renewal for the CACC is the CROP Hunger Walk on the first Sunday in May. I laid down the challenge at the Rally the other night thinking of my good friend and colleague, the Rev John U. Miller of blessed memory. I don't see why we cannot get ourselves back to raising \$100,000 and beyond. So use the month of April to get those walkers recruited and start asking for those sponsorship dollars. We will enjoy a great day together on May 5 walking to support those with whom we can share the abundance God has given us. Last year we were able to give \$21,787 of what we raised to local food programs. This year, by meeting the challenge, we can do even more.

Please be aware that our Overflow Shelter will be closing for the Season on April 30<sup>th</sup>. That will be the night of our Shelter Closing Dinner as well. It is certainly time to say thank you to Pam Bullock and her staff for another well run and efficient season. We also thank those who volunteer on site and those who prepare and bring meals and many others who do so much, and all the churches and individuals who are so generous with their resources. It is because of all of the above that we can provide this ministry in our community.

Have a blessed resurrection season and enjoy all the wonderful signs of Spring!

*--Vernon A. Victorson*

## April Events

**April 4: The Martin Luther King and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race & Nonviolent Social Change** presents author Julia Alvarez on “Changing the World One Imagination at a Time: Storytelling and Activism”. 7pm, Alumni Recreation Center, Siena College. Free. Call 782-6654 for information.

### **April 5: Church Women United Spring Forum & Bake Sale**

11:30am registration at the First Church in Albany (Reformed), 110 No. Pearl St., Albany, 12207. Bring bag lunch and money for bake sale.

**April 7: Albany Maritime Ministry** presents an “Afternoon with Len Tantillo”, starting at 1pm, First Lutheran Church, 181 Western Ave., Albany. The renowned artist will describe the history of the Port of Albany through story and art. Suggested donation: \$10

**April 10: Interfaith Alliance Awards Dinner**, 6pm at Albany Country Club. Sr. Mary Ann LoGiudice and Rabbi Matt Cutler will receive the Robert C. Lamar Humanitarian Award and several others will be recognized with the Ed Bloch Voices That Challenge Award. Cost: \$55. Call Deb @505-7498 by April 3 to order tickets.

**April 11: Sidney & Beatrice Albert Interfaith Lectureship** presents “The Modern Muslim Woman: Balancing Western Freedoms and Islamic Culture”. Speaker: Daisy Khan, Executive Director of the American Society for Muslim Advancement. 7:30pm, Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary, 959 Madison Ave., Albany. Free. Call 454-5250 or e-mail [spirituallife@strose.edu](mailto:spirituallife@strose.edu).

**April 13: “Tools for Caregivers”** 8am-Noon, St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, Whitehall Rd., Albany, 12209. Are you caring for a senior or does a senior rely on you for help? This event offers workshops, speakers, resources, and support. Free, but advance registration is required. Call 269-3976 to register or visit [www.capitalregioncaregiver.com](http://www.capitalregioncaregiver.com) for more information.

**April 13: “Help or Hindrance: Faith Community Response to Domestic Violence”** 9:30am registration, program from 10am-1pm. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State St., Albany. (Parking available across the street in Westminster Presbyterian Church lot, which is entered from Chestnut St.) Free, but register by e-mail to [Karen.Ziegler@albanycounty.com](mailto:Karen.Ziegler@albanycounty.com).

**April 18: “A Place at the Table”**, documentary about hunger, followed by panel discussion. 7pm, The Linda, 339 Central Ave., Albany, 12206. Call 465-5233 ext.4 for tickets. Cost: \$8.

**April 30: Shelter Closing Dinner** 6pm in Wittenberg Hall of First Lutheran Church. This dinner is for all Shelter supporters, volunteers, staff, and guests. Many thanks to all who have supported the Shelter this year. Free, but please call 462-5450 by 4/25.

### **Award Nominations Sought**

Do you know someone who is doing something that would qualify him/her as a “friend of peace and justice”? Nominate him/her for the **James & Pearl Campbell Peace and Justice Award**, which is presented at our Spring Assembly. Also, if you know someone who has worked to build bridges between churches and/or faith traditions, nominate him/her for the **Carlyle Adams Ecumenical/Interfaith Award**, which is presented at our Fall Banquet. Nomination letters for both awards should be received at the CACC office by **May 1**.

### **Hogancamp Seminary Scholarships**

Thanks to the generosity of the late Grace Hogancamp, the Council has some modest funds available to be used as scholarships for seminary students. Applicants must be members of a member congregation of CACC and should be enrolled in or accepted at a Protestant theological seminary. Application forms are available from the CACC office (462-5450). Completed applications, which must be accompanied by a recent transcript, an essay describing

the applicant's call to ministry, and a letter of recommendation from the applicant's pastor, are due **May 1**.

### **Transitions**

We welcome Pope Francis as the new leader of the Roman Catholic Church, and Justin Welby as the new Archbishop of Canterbury. Welcome to the Rev. Joy Perrett, the new Executive Director of the Interfaith Alliance of New York State, and best wishes to Ed Bloch who has retired from that position.

### **Capital Region Theological Center**

CRTC provides ecumenical theological education, support for clergy, training for ministry, and resourcing services for congregations. Upcoming: "*Matthew Fox, Occupy Christianity: A New Reformation*", 7-8:30pm on **4/19** @ First Unitarian Society, Schenectady; 9am-3pm on **4/20** @ St. George's Episcopal Church, Schenectady. Cost: \$125. Register by 4/3. "*From Creation to Re-Creation: An Indoor-Outdoor Retreat*", with Rev. Kent Busman & Rev. John Paarlberg, **4-29-5/1** @ Fowler Camp & Retreat Center in Speculator. Cost: \$395, inc. meals & lodging. Register by 4/15. "*All's Well That Ends Well: The Transformative Work of Retirement*", with Alban consultant Larry Peers, **5/8 & 5/9** @ St. Edward the Confessor Church, Clifton Park. Cost: \$165 by 4/10, \$190 thereafter. Register by 4/22. Visit [www.crtc.org](http://www.crtc.org) to register or for more information.

### **Looking ahead to May....**

**May 3:** Church Women United May Friendship Day potluck luncheon @ Third Reformed Church, 16 Ten Eyck Ave., Albany, 12209. Least Coin offering. Celebration theme: "Open Wide the Doors of Hospitality"

**May 19:** Albany History Fair, on the theme "Faith, Spirit, and Community"

**May 20:** CRTC Spring Event aboard the Captain JP Cruise Line, 6-9pm

### **Congratulations to...**

--the Rev. Sandy Damhof and Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry at UAlbany on their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

--the Rev. Damone Paul Johnson, celebrating his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Metropolitan New Testament Mission Baptist Church!

--Pastor Paul Rees-Rohrbacher of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Albany on his 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination!

--Bethany Baptist Church on its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

**Community Caregivers** is expanding their "neighbors helping neighbors" service network into Albany. Volunteers provide transportation, friendly visits, etc. Visit [www.communitycaregivers.org](http://www.communitycaregivers.org) or call 456-2898 to volunteer.

## **This and That**

Check out “Canstruction” at the NYS Museum (4<sup>th</sup> floor) between **3/28-4/10**. Teams of architects use cans of food to build around the theme “Can You Imagine?” Bring a can of food to vote for your favorite. At the end, the cans go to Food Pantries for the Capital District...Children at the Well Interfaith Youth Storytelling Circle meets on **4/16 @** Niskayuna Reformed Church, 3041 Troy-Schenectady Rd., for a 5:30pm vegetarian potluck and stories from their faith traditions at 7pm. They will also perform at 2pm on **4/21 @** the Bulmer Telecommunications Center Auditorium of HVCC, 80 Vandenburg Ave., Troy. Suggested donation: \$5 for students/\$10/adults/or

\$15/family. Call Paula @785-7842 or e-mail her at Paulaweiss@gmail.com...

Earth Day Celebration @ Zion’s UCC Church, 741 Taborton Rd., Sand Lake, 10am-4pm, **4/21**. Free admission, activities & displays for all ages. Call Rev. Robert Loesch @674-8204 ... Congregation Beth Emeth & the Jewish Community Center hold a Health & Human Services Fair for Adults/Senior Adults from 10:30am-2:30pm on **4/21 @** the Sidney Albert Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Rd., Albany, 12208. Free screenings, massages, refreshments, information, etc. Call 438-6651 ext. 112...The Affordable Housing Partnership of the Capital Region has a free Housing Fair from 10am-2pm on **4/27 @** the Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave. Call 434-1730 or visit [www.ahphome.org](http://www.ahphome.org)... National Day of Prayer is on **5/2**. Albany events in West Capitol Park include a “Concert of Prayer” at 10:30am and prayers for government officials at noon. Transportation will be available from several area churches. Visit [www.albanydayofprayer.com](http://www.albanydayofprayer.com).

## **Church World Service Kits Collection-April 15-26**

If you have Hygiene Kits, School Kits, or Baby Kits, you can save on shipping by bringing boxes of completed kits and clean-up buckets to St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, 1229 Baker Ave., Schenectady, 12309 from 8:30-10:30am on April 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26. Call 346-6241. Pack only one type of kits in a box, and write CWS, the number and type of kits enclosed. Visit [www.cwsglobal.org/kits](http://www.cwsglobal.org/kits) for instructions to assemble kits.

### **April, 2013**

- \* 4 King Lecture @ Siena, 7pm
- \* 5 CWU Spring Forum & Bake Sale
- \* 7 Albany Maritime Ministry Event
- 8 Shelter Oversight Com., 4pm
- 10 Albany CROP Com, 4:45pm;
- \*10 Interfaith Alliance Dinner, 6pm
- 11 BOARD of DIRECTORS, Noon
- \*11 Sidney & Beatrice Albert Lecture
- \*13 Tools for Caregivers
- \*13 Domestic Violence Forum
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Action & Program Com., 4pm

### **April (cont.)**

- \*30 Shelter Closing Dinner, 6pm

### **May, 2013**

- \* 1 Hogancamp applications due
- \* 3 CWU May Friendship Day
- \* **5 CROP Hunger Walk;**
- Orthodox Easter
- 9 BOARD of DIRECTORS;
- Ascension Day

**NOTE: If you wish to receive this newsletter via e-mail, let us know by sending a message to [capareacc@aol.com](mailto:capareacc@aol.com).**

[\*denotes more information to be found elsewhere in this issue]