


**CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
CONNECTION
May 2012**



***CACC Spring Assembly
Tuesday, June 12
Macedonia Baptist Church
26 Wilson Ave., Colonie, NY 12205
(formerly Our Lady of Mercy R.C. Church)***

5:30pm registration, dinner served at 6:15pm, followed by Assembly. Reservations for the dinner are required by June 6 by phone (462-5450) or by sending a check (\$10/person) made out to “CACC” along with the name(s) of those attending. Anyone can attend just the Assembly (which begins around 7:30) without cost or reservations. Highlights of the evening will include the presentation of this year’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholarships; Hogancamp Seminary Scholarships; and the James and Pearl Campbell Peace and Justice Award. The evening will conclude with a brief Interfaith Prayer Service. Clergy and delegates from member congregations as well as any other interested persons are welcome to attend.

From the Executive Director 
“Congregational Resourcing”

I am enthused about a new venture that Capital Region Theological Center has embarked on during the past year and I want to tell you about it. In addition to providing educational opportunities for pastoral ministers, CRTC has a new program that provides helpful information to congregations. The program is called “Congregational Resourcing” and it deals with a wide range of common concerns: designing church websites, locating materials for religious education, undertaking major repairs and renovation projects, responding to natural disasters, engaging consultants for capital campaigns, mediating conflicts, planning multi-congregation cooperatives, ... and more.

This resource is helpful in the same way that a resource librarian assists in identifying resources for the researcher. When you are beginning your search, it is very helpful if someone is able to steer you in the right direction. Now CRTC is able to point congregations in a helpful direction when they are facing new challenges and are not sure what resources are available. If you have questions, CRTC may be helpful in finding the answers. If you have information that could be

added to the database, other churches could benefit from that. In either case, check out the website for more information, www.crtc.org

--George Brennan

National Day of Prayer-May 3

This year's event will take place from 10:30am-1pm, in West Capitol Park, Albany. Free parking & transportation from Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Colonie, Grace Fellowship in Watervliet, and Grace & Holy Innocents Church on Clinton Ave. in Albany. "Concert of Prayer" at 7pm that evening at Light of the World Church, 28 Sparrowbush Rd., Latham. Call Pastor Steve @209-2455 or visit www.albanydayofprayer.com.

Church Women United May Friendship Day-May 4

11:30am registration @ Westminster Presbyterian Church, 85 Chestnut St., Albany 12210. Potluck luncheon & Least Coin offering. Celebration theme: "Listening to My Sisters". Bring a dish to pass and your own place setting.

CROP Walk/Church World Service News

It's not too late to support the May 6, CROP Hunger Walk. Visit www.cropwalk.org, and then follow the prompts to find the walk nearest you. May is a perfect time to hold a "Blankets+" campaign at your house of worship as we celebrate Mother's Day. A blanket can be a symbol of the love and warmth provided by mothers and those who wrap us in their love. Support for this program helps mothers around the world care for their children. Make donations online at www.churchworldservice.org/blankets or by mailing a check to CWS, PO Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515.

Transitions

We note with sadness the death of DeWitt Ellinwood, former CACC Board member and member of our Action & Program Commission.

Capital Region Theological Center

An ecumenical project training laity and clergy. Upcoming courses/events:
"Get on Board!" 4:30-9pm, **5/21**. Cruise on the Hudson aboard the "Captain JP" while exploring resources to enrich your congregation. Music, hors d'oeuvres, dinner. Cost: \$100 individual; \$200 for a team of four. Register by 5/7. "A Call to the Simple Way of Radical Christianity" with Shane Claiborne, **6/22 & 23** @ Emmanuel Baptist Church. Fri. only, \$25 by 5/23, then \$35; Sat. only, \$85 by 5/23, then \$95; both days, \$105. Age 25 & under: \$10 for both events! "Learn to Sail with Wind & Water Stories in the Bible", **8/23-26** retreat with the Rev. Dr. John Buskey @ Pathfinder Lodge, Cooperstown. Cost: \$300. Limited space. Register by

8/7. Call 462-2470 or visit www.capitalrtc.org for more information or to register. Scholarships & group discounts available for many events.

Congratulations to....

- former CACC Executive Director Bob Lamar, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday!
- Leslie Phelan and Lois Wilson, recipients of the Robert C. Lamar Humanitarian Award from the Interfaith Alliance of NYS!
- St. Matthew's R.C. Church in Voorheesville on its 50th anniversary!
- the Trinity Alliance on its 100th anniversary!

You Have a Choice!

Readers of this newsletter can receive a hard copy in the mail, read it on our web site (www.CapAreaCC.org), or get it as an e-mail attachment. Send an e-mail to CapAreaCC@aol.com if you prefer the paperless version. Please let us know of address changes, too, since standard mail is not forwarded. If you wish to be taken off our mailing list, let us know that, as well.

Shelter News & Thanks

Sponsored by CACC and hosted by First Lutheran Church, the Emergency Overflow Homeless Shelter has closed for the season. At the closing dinner on April 26, staff, volunteers, and supporters were recognized. The Shelter was open for 178 nights, averaging 13 guests per night for the entire season. Special thanks to First Lutheran Church for hosting the Shelter, Program Manager Pamela Bullock, and meal coordinator Martha Iannacone. Many thanks to all who have supported this ministry with donations of food, volunteer time, clothing, supplies, prayers, and money.

Capital District Senior Issues Forum

Nomination forms are available for the Oct. 10 Lifetime Achievement Awards Ceremony. Nominees must be 85 by the time of the ceremony and able to attend that event. Completed forms must be received by **5/31**. Call the CACC office (462-5450) for a form or more information. Note: Please save the morning of **July 11** for a special program on end of life issues.

This and That

Daughters of Sarah Senior Community is looking for a volunteer to lead a Protestant worship service on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10:30am. Call Rabbi Bev Magidson (724-3310) or Meryl Schreiner (724-3290)....The R.C.

Diocese of Albany holds its Spring Enrichment Adult Faith Formation 5/14-17 at the College of St. Rose. Persons of all faith traditions may take courses on subjects such as pastoral care, liturgy, the Bible, and youth ministry. Visit www.rcda.org.

A Memorial Day Reminder

Have you remembered the Council of Churches in your will? Bequests (cash or stocks) and memorial gifts help strengthen our financial base so we can continue our ministries in the Capital District. Please consider making a special Memorial Day gift to CACC in memory of a friend or relative.

Nominations Sought for Carlyle Adams Ecumenical/Interfaith Award

This award will be presented at our Fall Banquet, which is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Albany Country Club. It is named for the late Rev. Dr. Carlyle Adams, who was in many ways the “father of ecumenism” in this region. In 2009, the Council’s Board of Directors voted to expand the name and scope of the award to include interfaith as well as ecumenical activities. Nominees should meet the following criteria: 1) exemplify the cooperative, ecumenical/interfaith spirit of the area covered by the Council; 2) is active in some ecumenical or interfaith program (paid staff of ecumenical/interfaith agencies are not eligible); and 3) has worked to bring the ecumenical/interfaith message to one’s local congregation. Nomination letters, which should include contact information for the nominee, must be received at the CACC office by **June 1**.

Volunteers Needed – “My Promise, My Faith” Girl Scout Committee

The Girl Scouts of NENY are forming a new interfaith committee to help with faith-based programs, provide input on how to help scouts explore the roles their religions play in their scouting experiences, and to assist in planning opportunities for scouts to learn about the customs and beliefs of other faiths. Representatives from various faiths, scouts interested in taking part, and other community members are welcome to contact Nicole Weinstein at nickiweinstein@yahoo.com or at (518)482-2594.

Holy Land Tour in February 2013

Rev. Jeff Matthews of Trinity United Methodist Church is the host for this 10 day tour departing Feb. 12, 2013, from New York City. All inclusive price starts at \$2,798 for basic tour & guided sightseeing; round trip international airfare from NYC; fuel surcharges & taxes (subject to change); admin. fees, entrance fees, gratuities & program fees; buffet breakfast & dinner daily; deluxe motor coaches; first class hotels. Discounts for early registration. Call Rev. Matthews at 463-1293 or e-mail officetrinumc@aol.com.

May, 2012

- 1 Interfaith Alliance Awards Dinner
- * 3 National Day of Prayer; IPH Taste of Albany
- * 4 CWU May Friendship Day
- * **6 CROP Hunger Walk**
- 8 Shelter Oversight Committee, 4pm;
MLK Committee, 4:30pm;
- 9 Dedication of Sr. Maureen Joyce Center
- 10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETREAT
@ Carondolet Center, 9am-3pm
- 13 Mother's Day
- 16 Cap. District Labor-Religion Coalition
Awards Dinner
- 17 Ascension Day

May (cont.)

- 22 Community Loan Fund
Spring Tour; "Fork it Over"
HANNYS Benefit
- 27 Pentecost, Shavuot
- 28 Memorial Day (office closed)

June, 2012

- *1 Nominations due for Adams
Ecumenical/Interfaith Award
- 10 Festival Celebration Choir
Spring Concert, 3pm @ St. Pius X
- ***12 CACC Spring Assembly**
- 13 Albany CROP Com., 4:45pm

Note: Please turn CROP Walk money in by 6/4!

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