

## MARCH 2010 MFSA Iowa Chapter MEMO

### Spring Regional Gatherings on Palestine/Israel:

MFSA's Spring Gatherings will focus on Palestine/Israel, using new materials from the Presbyterian Church called, "Steadfast Hope, the Palestinian Quest for Just Peace." **Kathleen McQuillen**, Iowa Program Coordinator for the American Friends Service Committee, will be the resource person. The schedule of time and places follows. Find the one nearest you and plan to attend. (Flier attached)

Sunday, <b>February 28</b>	2:00 PM	Collegiate UMC in <b>Ames</b>
Sunday, <b>March 7</b>	2:30 PM	<b>Storm Lake</b> UMC
Saturday, <b>March 13</b>	10:00 AM	<b>Atlantic</b> UMC
Saturday, <b>May 1</b>	10:00 AM	Fellowship UMC in <b>Muscatine</b>
Sunday, <b>May 2</b>	3:00 PM	St. Luke's UMC in <b>Dubuque</b>

(Note change of date for Dubuque from what was in the SQB.)

### Promoting Women's Human Rights...

Cheryl Thomas will speak on "Promoting Women's Human Rights: At Home and Abroad," on Monday, **March 1, 7:00 PM** in Lekberg Hall on the **Simpson Campus**, in Indianola. For more information, please contact Marilyn Mueller at: [Marilyn.mueller@simpson.edu](mailto:Marilyn.mueller@simpson.edu).

### March for America!

The local chapter of Reform Immigration for America is taking a bus to **Washington, D.C.** to join thousands of others as they march for comprehensive **immigration reform**, with good jobs and full citizenship for ALL of America's families. In addition to the march on March 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be visits to Congressional offices on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The bus will leave **Des Moines** at 2:00 PM on Saturday, **March 20<sup>th</sup>** with pick ups in **Iowa City** and the **Quad Cities**. It will return on Tuesday morning, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cost of the trip is **\$103.00, plus food** and incidentals, and is due by **March 12<sup>th</sup>**. For more information, or to register, contact Erica Palmer at: 773-875-1493, or at: [epalmer@reformimmigrationforamerica.org](mailto:epalmer@reformimmigrationforamerica.org). (MFSA has endorsed RIFA.)

### Seeing with New Eyes:

Dr. Erik Camayd-Freixas will present the **Postville Story**, based on his experience as a federal interpreter following the May 12<sup>th</sup> 2008 Postville raid. He will share his reflections on the implications the Postville raid has and will have on immigrant rights and American values.

Times and places are:

Monday, <b>March 8</b>	7:00 PM	The Canticle in <b>Clinton</b>
Tuesday, <b>March 9</b>	7:00 PM	St. Stephen the Witness Catholic Student Center in <b>Cedar Falls</b>
Wednesday, <b>March 10</b>	7:00 PM	Mount Mercy College in <b>Cedar Rapids</b>
Thursday, <b>March 11</b>	7:00 PM	Clarke College in <b>Dubuque</b>

**Reconciling Rally:** St. Timothy's UMC in **Cedar Falls** will hold a "Reconciling Rally" on Sunday, **March 21<sup>st</sup>, 3:00 – 5:00 PM**. **Audrey Krumbach** from Reconciling Ministries Network will be the special guest for this "Celebration of Inclusivity in Iowa." She will also be at St. Tim's that Sunday for the 10:15 AM worship, celebrating two years of Reconciling Ministries there. Please spread the word and join the celebration!

### **Emilie Townes and Tex Sample:**

Horizons of Faith will feature Emilie Townes and Tex Sample on "Justice for the Common Good," **March 12 – 14** at **First UMC**, 7020 Cass Street, in **Omaha**. For more information go to: [HorizonsOfFaith.com](http://HorizonsOfFaith.com).

**Bishop Dingman Dinner:** Catholic Peace Ministry is announcing the annual Bishop Maurice J. Dingman Dinner on **Saturday, March 13**, at **6:00 PM** at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2926 Beaver Ave. in **Des Moines**. The featured speaker is the founder of "Just Faith Ministries," **Jack Jezreel**. This year's peace award winners are Helen Oster (posthumously) and Chris Gaunt. Tickets are \$35.00. For more information, please contact Jeffrey J. Weiss at: [jjwcpm@yahoo.com](mailto:jjwcpm@yahoo.com), or at 515-255-8114.

**Ecumenical Advocacy Days:** The Conference Board of Church and Society is announcing Ecumenical Advocacy Days, to be held **March 19 - 22, 2010**, in **Washington, D.C.** The theme is, "A Place to Call Home: Immigrants, Refugees, and Displaced Peoples." A featured speaker will be **Bishop Minerva Carcaño**. Learn more about the conference at: <http://advocacydays.org>. Three scholarships for \$500 are available from the Conference Board. For an application form, please contact Judy Kading at: [judykading@yahoo.com](mailto:judykading@yahoo.com), or call 641-740-7066.

**Welcoming the Stranger:** Plan to attend a cultural awareness and action seminar sponsored by Charter for Racial Justice Committee of the **UMW**. Date is Saturday, **March 27<sup>th</sup>**, **8:30 AM – 2:45 PM** at **Staves UMC**, 2747 E. Madison Ave. in **Des Moines**. Registration of \$6.00 includes lunch and morning coffee, and is **due** no later than **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. For a flyer and registration form, please contact Judy Kading at 641-740-7066, or at: [judykading@yahoo.com](mailto:judykading@yahoo.com).

**Silent Screams:** Karla Hansen will present the 35-minute documentary, "Silent Screams," which highlights the destructive costs of U.S. wars, the plight of defenseless civilian victims abroad and the hardship of millions of Americans whose needs go unmet due to excessive military spending. Dates and places are: Monday, **March 1**, 6:30 PM at Our Lady's Immacualte Heart Church in **Ankeny**; Wednesday, **March 3** at the **Ames** Public Library; and Tuesday, **March 23** at Olmsted Center on the **Drake** Campus. For more information, please contact: [karlahansen@hotmail.com](mailto:karlahansen@hotmail.com).

**SAVE THE DATE!** Mark your calendar for **Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**, for **MFSA's Spring Statewide Gathering** at **Epworth UMC** in **Des Moines**, beginning at **10:00 AM**. Ruth Anne Petrak will lead the devotions. The program topic will be **Afghanistan**. Keynote speaker will be **Jeffrey Weiss**, Director of Catholic Peace Ministry. For ten years prior to taking that position, Jeffrey was Peace Education Director in the Iowa Office of the American Friends Service Committee. For the past ten years he has also been a part-time Professor at Des Moines Area Community College, teaching Political Science and Sociology. The past few years he has conducted workshops on many topics, including terrorism, Iraq, Israel/Palestine and the state of mass media in the United States today. Watch for more details in the next Memo and plan to attend! (Flier attached)

**2010 Beje Clark Justice Award:** Nominations are now being received for the 2010 Beje Clark Justice Award, honoring an Iowa individual, group or congregation whose efforts have had an impact in Iowa to restore all to wholeness and community, change attitudes, educate and encourage others to work for justice. Priority will be given to work in restorative justice. The Nomination form can be found on the Conference web site at: <http://www.iaumc.org/pages/detail/972>. For more information, please contact Jim Pemble at: 515-250-5063, or at: [mjp150@msn.com](mailto:mjp150@msn.com).

**Collegiate Seeks Campus Ministry Associate:**

Collegiate UMC/Wesley Foundation in Ames is seeking a Campus Ministry Associate. This two-year, full-time, mentored internship is designed for a young adult exploring a call to Christian vocation. Application deadline is **April 5**. For more information contact Rev. Jim Shirbroun at 515-292-6936, or [jim@cwames.org](mailto:jim@cwames.org).

**Mission Camp for Youth:** Matthew 25 is offering two weeks of a summer Missions Camp for youth. Time is spent working on houses, in social service agencies, summer youth activities and more. This year's dates are: **July 11 – 16** and **July 18 – 23**. Cost is \$200. For more information or to get a registration form, contact [info@hub25.org](mailto:info@hub25.org).

**Good Reading:**

Dale Vander Schaaf is recommending an article from the January/February issue of Tikkun, "Why Are Americans Passive as Millions Lose Their Homes, Jobs, Families and the American Dream?" by Harriet Fraad. It can be found at: <http://www.tikkun.org/>. Dale found it to be insightful and thought provoking.

**Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki:**

A traveling exhibit from the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in Japan can be seen **February 8 – March 31** in the Collier Heritage Room, Cowles Library, **Drake University** in Des Moines.

**Check It Out!** MFSA's web site, [www.mfsaiowa.org](http://www.mfsaiowa.org), contains articles, links, actions to take and places to go. New additions include three lectures from the January 28<sup>th</sup> Tri-State Forum, "**Preaching on Lent and Easter**," by **Dr. David Lull**, Professor of New Testament at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque. Check it out!

**Please Send Information:** We want to publicize **events around the state** that might be of interest to MFSA folk. Please send information about events in your area by the last week of each month for the next month's E-Mail Memo. You can contact me at: [ecranke@mchsi.com](mailto:ecranke@mchsi.com)

**Questions about Membership?** Contact Mike Biklen at 515 East Eleventh St., Muscatine, IA 52761, or by phone at: 563-263-1439, or by e-mail at: [wmbiklen@juno.com](mailto:wmbiklen@juno.com)

**Where to Send Your Membership?** Memberships and other contributions should be sent to Brian Carter, 7218 El Rancho Ave., Windsor Heights, IA 50324.