



Founded 1941

"AGREED TO DIFFER, RESOLVED
TO LOVE, UNITED TO SERVE"

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED IN TUCSON

Fall News 2013

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Walking Through the Doors Of Opportunity

You are invited to join us in considering the many missed opportunities we have had to walk thru open doors. There have been various barriers or road blocks that have kept us from moving forward in the movement and in our own individual ministries. What are barriers to peace? What are the barriers in our communities? What will bring unity? How can we honor our diversity and our unity?

Join Us: Saturday November 16, 2013

11am to 1pm

(potluck luncheon following)

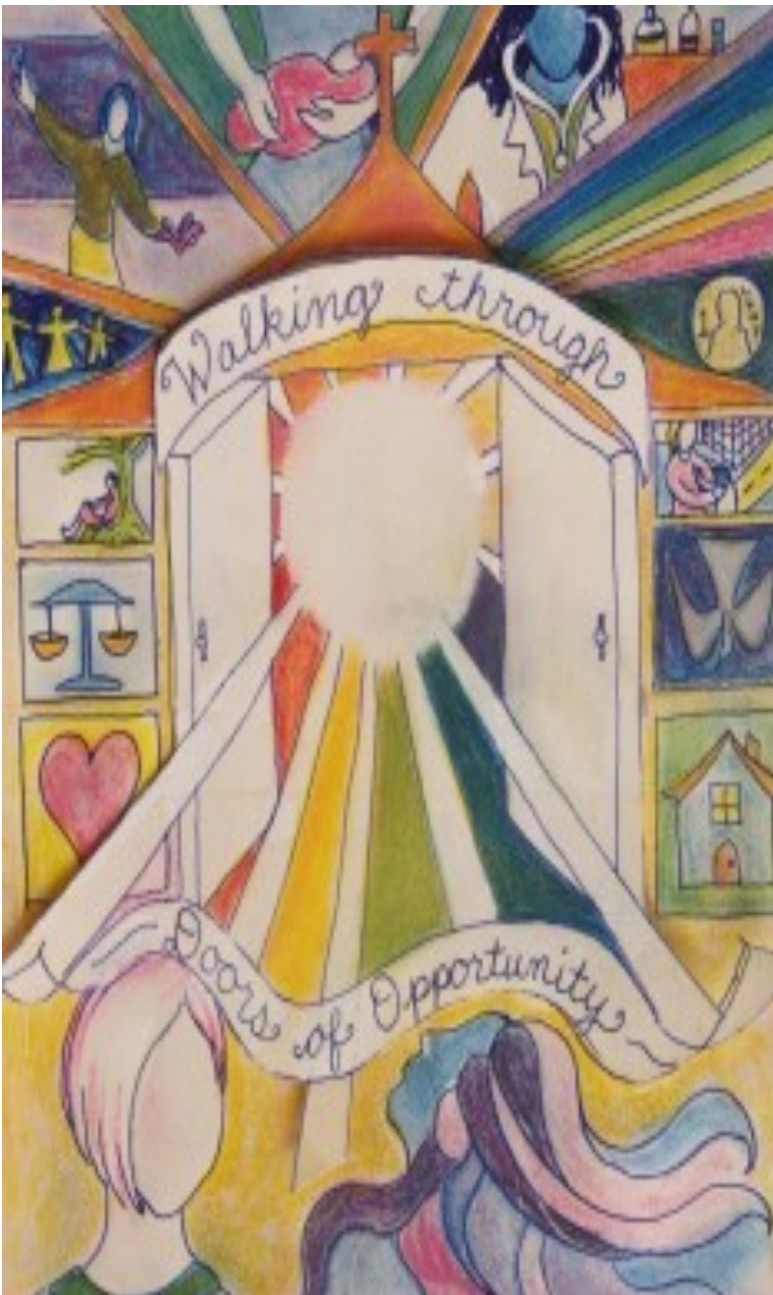
Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church

226 E. Lester St. 85705

520-624-3813

Child Care Available

We will also recognize and celebrate Outstanding Young Church Women who are making valuable contributions in the field of ecumenism in their church and community.



Church Women United is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive ecumenical Christian women's movement celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Theme for the 2013 Celebrations has been “Behold I stand at the door and knock” (Revelation 3:20). The May Friendship Day Celebration began the theme with “Swinging Wide the Doors of Hospitality”. We found ways to minister to one another, looking for opportunities to open wide the door to God’s people, whoever they are and wherever we meet them on our faith journey.

Christmas In September is a Celebration unique to Tucson. The organizations, Clínica Amistad, Casa Paloma of Primavera, Pima County Jail Ministry and Salvation Army, were acknowledged for their service to the community and gave participants an opportunity to support their vital service.

The Human Rights Celebration continued the theme with “Breaking Down the Doors of Injustice” and celebrated Lisa Hopper of World Care with the 2013 Human Rights Award. Together we took time to consider that “all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of brother/sisterhood. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms ...without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other status” (Excerpt taken from The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, written by the United Nations in 1948.)

*Please accept this message as a personal invitation to celebrate **World Community Day** by “Walking Through the Doors of Opportunity” with us on **November 16** at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church (see first page). This program invites members and supporters of our movement to look for the many opportunities we have to take action, no matter how modest.*

*We can ponder the following questions to help us identify areas of need. **What are the barriers to peace? What are the barriers in our communities? What will bring more unity? How can we honor our diversity and our unity?***

*Loving in the Light,
Vera*

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Finance Chair

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Vera Lander
President



CHRISTMAS IN SEPTEMBER

For 58 years, Church Women United has been celebrating in different ways, Christmas In September. This year our Celebration was held at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) on September 21, 2013. We were welcomed by Rev. Ailsa Guardiola Gonzalez and a Reflection was given by Dr. Ann Weaver Nichols. Prayers were led by Rev. Dolores Kropf & Rev. Frankie Oliver Daley. One of the additional highlights of the morning was the living Christmas Card which included 2 live sheep for the children to pet.

Many toys were brought for the children of the Salvation Army and the very generous offering was shared by Clinica Amistad, Casa Paloma Women's Center and the Pima County Jail Ministry.

Many thanks to Ruth & Cleve Holified of Our Father's House Fellowship for assisting with hospitality; shepherd Beryl Baker for the live sheep for the Christmas Card; Jane Rowher and Mary Lou Barker for playing the piano.

We hope you will continue to support these very vital ministries in the community. Go to their websites and see the work they are doing for women, children and prisoners. We look forward to seeing you at next years Celebration!



YOUNG CHURCH WOMEN

in Tucson

In 2013, seven young women nominated by their church will be recognized and honored at the World Community Day Celebration (see page 1).

In 2000, the Board of Church Women United in Tucson committed to extend the invitation to young women to become involved with our Movement. We began acknowledging young women who were recommended by their home church/community. Historically, these young women were acknowledged as Young Church Women at each May Friendship Day Celebration. We have recognized up to thirty young women from churches all over the valley since that time.

CWU in Tucson has a rich and varied history of study, prayer and advocacy from 1941 on, which was a vital part of the growth of rights and privileges we all enjoy today, even take for granted. We believe that the vision and vitality needed for the future of ecumenical engagement is essential for our growth and effectiveness and we want your help exploring how to strengthen the witness of Church Women United to her mission.

The original Young Church Woman Initiative was passed by the National Board of Directors in 2000. The stated purpose was to bring young women's perspective to the national board. The term Young Church Woman United emerged following the state retreat at the 2004 Common Council meeting in Mesa. The young women who participated there were under 40. After the retreat, the age range was set at 21-45 at the Common Council in Mesa.

A National document dated January 2005 invited young women 20 and older to participate in a National YCWU 2005 retreat. Several national retreats have been held since that time. Vera Lander had the privilege of attending one conference when she was serving as National Vice President. The last one was held in Chicago in August 2013.

Young Church Women Recognition Recipients

2012

Crissi Peterson, Northminster Presbyterian
Kathy Moser, Trinity Presbyterian
Stephanie Henry, St. James Presbyterian

2011

Nicole Thompson, Christ Presbyterian
Marcella Marin, Our Lady of Fatima

2010

Jennifer Chamblee, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist
Ashley Dickerson, Trinity Temple CME
Sarah Medvescek, Pima Monthly Meeting (PMM)
Brenna Trice, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist
Karen Walker, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist

2009

Melissa Bales, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (OSLC)
Jennifer Stones, 1st United Methodist Church

2008

Ashley Parker, OSLC
Cindy Curtis Daly, 1st UMC

2007

Chandra Roberts, OSLU
Natalie Brown, 1st UMC

2006

Kristin Broksas, OSLC
Julie Burns Karra, Southside Presbyterian
Jennifer Bauman Ollman, PMM

2005

Amy Burrow, 1st UMC
Amy Peck, Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic (OSLC)

2004

Marjie Hrabe, St. Marks UMC

2001

Lisa Lucius, OMOS

2000

Judy Bodnaruk
St. Andrews Presbyterian

OUT AND ABOUT! Church Women United is well represented.

9/24/13 Carolyn, Teena and Vera joined Joe and Corrine Bartell and Jonathan Taylor of Pima Friends Meeting on a trip to Phoenix to join a Stakeholder meeting of parties proposing to create a comprehensive **dental health care plan** for AZ children. Senator Linda Sen. Lopez called the meeting of interested parties in which at least thirty attenders represented health care programs attended the meeting. A follow-up conference call on October 30.

9/21/13 Phyllis Hallman organized the **Human Trafficking Workshop** held at Saguaro Christian Church which began with a lunch catered by Café 54. The program included presentations by Border Patrol agent-Leslie Lawson and a representative of the International Rescue Committee. The statistics provided for women, children and sometimes men that are caught in trafficking were overwhelming, heartbreaking and enlightening. Massage parlors, nail spas, manicure-pedicure businesses, sweat shops, domestic workers, forced prostitution are all possible forms of trafficking. We are encouraged to be alert for signs of individuals being held against their will.

9/27-29 A More Light conference sponsored by LBGTQ and Wingspan was held at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church. **The Reveille Men's Chorus** closed out the Saturday workshop with a concert that lifted our spirits.

10/6/13. The Sacred Presence was celebrated in the **5th Annual Multi-Faith Pride Service** held in the beautiful Scottish Rite Temple in downtown Tucson. The celebration included a diverse program of music, dance and speakers who made the Divine Presence felt among us.

10/8/13 At Casino del Sol a representative from the **Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System** office presented an **update on the extended AHCCCS legislation**. Of note is the introduction of an on-line application system that will ultimately communicate with the Affordable Care Act system, reducing the duplication of effort by applicants.

10/11/13 **Herbert Residential** is the new name of the Armory Park apartment building. The Grand Opening was attended by the Mayor and Council members. The architect and builders described the intended residents to be graduate students and independent older citizens. Members of the community were fully represented and are thrilled with the new levels of citizen activity downtown. The Tucson High School Steel Drum Band provided lively entertainment.

10/13/13 Jonnie Mathe hosted **Phillip's Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal** church at a Read-in, a program of readings, skits, music, lively worship and a "rocking" children's group,

10/19/13 **The United Nations Association of Southern Arizona** hosted a presentation by Micah Spangler, Deputy Director for Legislative Affairs of the United Nations Foundation, which is the lobbying arm in Washington DC for the UN. CWU was one of the first Non- Government Organizations to be an Official Observer to the United Nations when formed in 1945 [Just Because, Margaret Shanno, 1977.]We are re-kindling our relationship with the local UN Association by being in contact with Joan Safier and office staff. Micah was given contact information for Stephanie Jones at the Legislative Affairs office of CWU.

10/20/13 **The Clinica Amistad** held a Fundraiser Dinner, raffle and silent auction at the beautiful Most Holy Trinity Church in west Tucson. The Davis Elementary School Mariachi Band provided entertainment throughout the evening. Clinica Amistad was one of the Christmas In September recipients this year.



HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATION By Susan Calhoun, Chair

On the evening of October 4, the Human Rights Day celebration was held at First United Methodist Church. The goal of the celebration was to empower participants to act on their own Human Rights Callings. Participants told of a time when they acted spontaneously from deep spiritual conviction to further human rights and were surprised in some way. Around tables, women shared their own stories.

Beth Rambikur, pastor of First United Methodist Church (UMC), gave the welcome to our celebration and it was a delight to get to know her better.

The evening was an opportunity for intimate sharing. The feelings expressed seems to be true and connections were made among us. I appreciated the opportunity to share my story of social witness.

Following small group sharing, we honored Lisa Hopper, Founder and Director of World Care, with the 2013 Human Rights Award along with a national certificate and pin, for her work in responding to worldwide emergencies. What a privilege to meet Lisa Hopper, a woman who is in tune with what she needs to do right now and trusting the world and the Spirit to guide her next steps.

Thanks to the women of United Methodist Women (UMW) for preparation and serving of the food. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare the program and the sacred space.

Committee: Susan Harris, Marylyn Tobey



**Church Women United
Southwest Regional Event
BUILDING BRIDGES**

August 1-3, 2014

Embassy Suites San Francisco - Waterfront

150 Anza Boulevard

Burlingame, California, 94010

Phone: 650-342-4600 or 800-362-2779



Encourage one another and build up each other.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

You may find additional information at the web site for Church Women United in Northern California - Northern Nevada at:

<http://cwuofncannv.com>

BUILDING BRIDGES

Tentative Agenda

Friday: August 1, 2014

Registration: 2:00 to 8:00 PM

6:00 PM: Welcome & Music, Dinner, Speaker, Opening Worship, Presentation of Human Rights Awards (each state unit)

Saturday: August 2, 2014

Hotel Breakfast

8:05 AM: Gathering Music

8:20 AM: Devotions

8:35 AM: Bible Study

9:30 AM: Break

9:50 AM: CWU Priorities Presented

10:30 AM - Noon: Workshops

12:20 PM: Lunch

1:20 PM: Fellowship of the Least Coin

1:50 PM - 3:05 PM Workshops

3:15 Free time

6:00 PM Banquet

Speaker & Devotion

Skits: Bridges of Witness (each state unit)

Sunday: August 3, 2014

Hotel Breakfast

8:15 AM: Gathering Music

8:30 AM: Bible Study

9:30 AM Break

10:00 AM: Worship Service by Utah CWU

11:15 AM: Farewells

Tentative Workshops

Bridges to Each Other

Bridges of Mercy Ministries

Bridges to Wholeness

Bridges to Peace

Bridges to Advocacy and Justice

Bridges to Spiritual Growth

Building Bridges Event Registration

Print NAME as it is to appear on your name tag:

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Ceil: _____ Email: _____

Denomination: _____ Name of CWU Unit: _____

Please list special needs (dietary, physical or medical): _____

A Early Registration (8-1-2013 to 2/1/2014) \$245.00
A Registration (2/2/2014 to 6/1/2014) \$275.00
A Late Registration (6/2/2014 to 7/11/2014) \$325.00
Total Event Registration Enclosed: \$ *
Make check payable to CWU and send to:
Church Women United Southwest Regional Event
2014 Registration, 3220 Cherokee Avenue, Merced CA 95340

Remember, your hotel arrangements must be made with Embassy Suites San Francisco - Waterfront
Call 1-800-362-2779 or online using the hotel's CWU Personalized Group Web Page by July 11, 2014.
*I consent to allow my hotel registration information to be made available to the CWU Conference Committee.
Signature: _____

Registration

CWU Southwest 2014 Regional Event

Early Registration (8-1-2013 to 2/1/2014) **\$245.00**
Registration (2/2/2014 to 6/1/2014) **\$275.00**
Late Registration (6/2/2014 to (7/11/2014) **\$325.00**

Deadline for submitting Event Registration is July 11, 2014.

All cancellations must be received in writing.

Following July 11, 2014 no refunds will be given, but substitutes may attend.

Check-in August 1, 2014: 2:00pm to 6:00pm.

Opening event begins at 6:00pm.

Celebration ends August 3, 2014 at 11:30am.

Your Registration Includes:

Access to all sessions, workshops, worship Bible Study and knowledgeable speakers.

Creative Worship

Opening and Dinner Friday

Lunch and Banquet Dinner on Saturday

Hotel Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday

Resources: Free and For Sale Items

Please make your own childcare arrangements.

Hotel Accommodations

- To reserve your room at Embassy Suites San Francisco—Waterfront, call (800) 362-2779 or online using the hotel's CWU personalized Group Web Page beginning August 1, 2013.*
- CWU Group rates: \$139.00 for single or two; \$159 for Triple; \$179.00 for Quad; plus the current hotel occupancy tax rate is 13% per night.
- Children 18 and under may stay free w/parents.
- Deadline for CWU guaranteed rate hotel reservations is July 11, 2014 12:00am.
- Overnight self-parking @ \$10.00/night. No fee for day only parking.
- All meeting rooms are easily accessible.
- Wireless internet access @ \$13.95/24hrs per person.
- You must arrange your own transportation to and from Burlingame, CA. You may call the hotel to use the free shuttle to SFO Airport and Bart Station.
- Free breakfast and free reception in the evening provided by the hotel.
- Early Departure Fee: Any individual cancellations within 72hrs will be billed for one night's suite and tax. Any no-shows will be billed for one night's suite and tax. Guest departing early will be charged \$50 early departure fee.
- There is a \$5.00/piece handling fee charged for all boxes/packages shipped to the hotel and sent within 48 hours of arrival.

How will you respond to God's call?

Posted by [dcadmin Articles](#), [DC Archive](#) Tuesday, October 1st, 2013



Left to right: Stephanie Plotas, Libby Hurley (Mission Intern), Liz Lee (Executive Director for Young Adult Mission Services), and Dave Johnson (US-2) post-commissioning celebration.

By Stephanie Plotas

This question has been on my mind for years, and as I approached my graduation in May 2013, I had to ask myself what this would look like post-college. Graduate school? Campus ministry? An entry-level job? Ameri-Corps?

These options all seemed plausible and worthwhile, but none completely matched the yearning of my heart—to integrate my Christian faith with the pursuit of justice. Since high school, when I started participating in one-week mission trips, I wanted to find a career path that would allow me to seek justice in my everyday work. I wanted to switch from the perpetual “honeymoon phase” that accompanies one-week trips and experience the ups and downs of social justice work on a daily basis.

December 2012, I learned about Young Adult Mission Service (YAMS) and the US-2 program, a domestic faith and justice centered mission service program for adults ages 20-30. My application was accepted and I spent three weeks training in New York. I was commissioned in August and shortly after moved to Tucson, Arizona to begin my service with my placement site, Iskashitaa Refugee Network, as a US-2 missionary of The United Methodist Church. This was the perfect match for me because I identified with Iskashitaa's mission, which is to assist refugees on their journey of adapting to life in the U.S.A. through food-based programming.

Through July 2015, I'll work with Iskashitaa as Food Justice Coordinator. My primary role will be working with the food preservation workshops and to serve as a faith-based group liaison. I'm excited about the opportunity to work with refugees from various countries. I also look forward to helping build and strengthen connections and partnerships between Iskashitaa and area churches, all while increasing my understanding of food justice.

As a Battle Creek, Michigan native, this is my first time in the southwest part of the United States.. The joys and challenges of experiencing new cultures and new people while pursuing justice will be invaluable to my growth as a person and as a Christ-follower. I'm thankful for the warm welcome I have received and I'm excited to begin learning from and working alongside the people of The Desert Southwest Conference.

(CWU in Tucson is privileged to work with Stephanie as Liaison to our Board. The above article was copied from The Desert Connection. Some editing was done due to space constraints. To read the complete article, press the link above.)

DID YOU KNOW?



Mary Lou Barker! Our resident photographer! Mary Lou has been taking pictures since she was 10 years old and used a Brownie camera. Her love of photography has led to a lifelong hobby of picture taking and she has shared her pictures with the people she chose as her subjects. Along the way, she also took a lot of pictures of nature and didn't know what to do with the extra pictures. Light bulb moment! Mary Lou began using the pictures to make note cards and when people showed an interest in purchasing them, she then started using the proceeds to support her favorite charities. For the last 10 years, you could find a table display at most CWU events. For 8 years the proceeds went to support **EMERGE**. For the last 2 years the proceeds have supported **Tucson Metropolitan Ministries**. Look for the Note Card display at the next CWU event you attend and help Mary Lou and CWU continue to support Tucson Metropolitan Ministries.

By the Way (BTW) Mary Lou has been a member of CWU in Tucson since she retired from teaching in 1988 and also is an accomplished organist. Over the years she has been a substitute in many of the Tucson churches. Mary Lou has served and is currently serving as the Music Chairperson, and over the years has been responsible for planning 3 Christmas in September Celebrations, 2 May Friendship Day Celebrations and also arranged for several speakers for Educational Forums. We are truly blessed to have the commitment and talent that Mary Lou shares with us all!

Teena Cross,
President Elect



Gifts from the CWU Arizona Retreat

Six of us carved out time to be at the state retreat in Tempe on October 26. We were richly rewarded. The day was a gentle, thoughtful time of exploring and experiencing our relationship to God and each other through different prayer pathways. Highlights from the "six" capture the retreat:

Judy Bodnaruk--Our speaker (Beverly Phillips).....using her own experience with prayer, especially journaling, to lead us to new insights and different ways of praying. *Jane Rohwer*--The surprise of learning that prayer beads are [ecumenical]. I liked it. *Alice Brown*--Getting the prayer beads and learning how to use them to focus my prayers....for me in praying for my family. *Teena Cross*--Better understanding of prayer beads and how they enhance prayer life. I can't let go of them. *Vera Lander*--The prayer beads captured my heart....I hold and use them when I walk now; also the opening up of overlooked aspects of scripture [about the nature of God]. *Carolyn Redmore*--the reframing of creation and God as creator.....that creation is ongoing as is God's immersion in it; also the experience of doing my mandala.....feeling sustained by the group's silent communion.

Interested in an original prayer retreat or forum? We recommend Bev Phillips (bjphillips16@cox.net).

Two of her books: *From Heaven to My Heart: God's Journey with Me;*
Learning a New Language: Speech About Women and God.

Church Women United in Tucson

Christian women celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice.

.....www.cwutucson.org.....

DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov 9 Board Meeting

Saturday 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Pima Meetinghouse

Nov 16 World Community Day Celebration

Saturday 11 am - 2 pm,

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist, 210 East Lester

Dec 9 Donate Cookies for Prisoners

*Monday All day in Fellowship Hall or bake cookies
w/women in church kitchen*

First Christian Church, Euclid and Speedway.

Dec 10 Bagging Cookies

Tuesday Time TBA

Employee Facility next to Pima County Jail

Dec 11 Distribute cookies while caroling

*Wednesday 6:30 in the evening. Pima County Jail
Require sign up for caroling.*

Contact Susan Harris-520-390-5648



Jan 11, 2014 Annual Meeting
Saturday 9 am – 12:00
Location TBA

Jan 31 Leaders' Council
First Presbyterian Church, Mesa

Feb 1 CWU Arizona Assembly
First Presbyterian Church, Mesa

Feb 15 Board Meeting & Leadership Training
Saturday 9 am – 3 pm
Pima Meeting House

Aug 1-3, 2014 Southwest Regional Gathering:
"Building Bridges" **San Francisco**

Early Registration by 2/1/2014



***If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, email:
cwuintucson@gmail.com or call 520-390-4575.***

KEY WOMAN: FALL FOCUS

It is November. What's a Key Woman to be doing?

First, publicize World Community Day on November 16 and set up a car pool. Nominate a young church woman to be recognized at WCD. Make plans to bake cookies for the Pima County Jail Chaplain's cookie collection on Monday, December 9 and bring them to First Christian Church.

Second, Check on whether your woman's group or local church sent in Shares of Responsibility for 2013? If yes, "thank you very much; you have kept our movement moving." If not, does your treasurer know how much to send and where to send it? Where: the CWU

Treasurer, Martha DeWarf, 2107 N. Catalina, Tucson, 85712. "How much" is the local group's call. Remember, Shares of Responsibility are the backbone of the work of the local CWU. You know-- the essentials that keep the "office" functioning and allows us to support leaders going to two annual state meetings, quadrennial regional and national meetings.

Third, Now is 2014 budget setting time for many church groups. Plan now for the 2014 commitment to Church Women United. Many of us had to cut back a few years ago. The local women's group I belong had to do so, but for the coming year increased its Share of Responsibility. Consider a 10% increase, or more if the Spirit so leads you.

Questions or comments? Do contact me (cdredmore@aol.com or 520-319-1319).

Carolyn Redmore

Church Women United in Tucson
Teena Cross
1623 N. Santa Rosa Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85712