From the President

1 Peter 2:16
Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a
cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves.

Recently, as I sat watching the television set, I caught a
snippet of a documentary on Rosa Parks. The speaker
commented that Rosa was a quiet church person who
stood up for her rights.

As I listened to a bit of this documentary, I was drawn to some of my family memories. My father
journeyed here from England as a young man. He was fortunate that he had family here that
could “sponsor” him, otherwise, he would have had to remain in England where there were few
jobs and many went hungry.

My mom’s story was a bit different. She was the youngest of six other siblings and was the only
one born here in the United States. Her family lived in Pennsylvania, and she often talked about
the terrorism that was inflicted by the Ku Klux Klan. Afraid to go out after dark, they decided the
time had come to leave that area and move to an area of this country that was safer. One of my
mother’s sisters had previously moved with her husband and young children to Rochester, New
York. So, the family packed up all of their belongings and followed her. I have little historical
information about how they lived, other than my mother’s comments that they were ordered by
my grandfather to speak only English outside of the house. For, you see, they were German, and
it wasn’t good to be German during that time period. The result was that my mom only spoke
English and often commented that she could never have a close conversation with her mother
because her mother only spoke German. Such a loss for both of them.

As I sit here, these questions come to mind: Do you have an accent from a different country, and
do people watch you closely when you shop to make sure that you don’t take anything? Are you a
professional person, and will you be ignored when you walk into a store to browse their
merchandise because of the color of your skin? Have you or someone you know recently wanted
to apply for a job in another state and perhaps been advised not to try because you have the
wrong last name? Or are you perhaps like me, and people ask you “How do you feel about your
ancestors supporting Hitler when he nearly destroyed an entire race?”

When Church Women United was formed over 90 years ago, the very first item on their agenda
was “racism.” The problem is still here today. It’s personal. The face has just changed. Like Rosa
Parks did it all those years ago, as quiet dedicated Christian women, we must stand tall to make a
difference. This challenge will be on our agenda as we go forth into our fall programming. Perhaps you’d like to join us and get involved.

~Shirley London, President
Highlights from May Friendship Day

Our theme "Journey of the Caregiver" was thoroughly explored through Rev. Dr. Eileen Borduin Vanderzwan's commentary regarding the biblical story of "The Faith of the Syrophoenician Woman." The story was literally brought to life as Rev. Dr. Eileen Borduin Vanderzwan became the caregiver in the story and bluntly portrayed the life of someone who carries the burden of attending to a loved one day after day, with no end in sight. It was through her words that one can truly start to imagine the planning, the worrying, the depression and sometimes the joy that comes from such a responsibility. And I hope that like me, we all walked away understanding how we can help. May we all be able to lean on Jesus when we feel we cannot go on, when we need our own inspiration to continue in our difficult tasks as a caregiver. May we also be a friend to one who gives their life to be a caregiver, lifting them up and encouraging them with nonstop support.

Special thanks to Audrey Davidson and Amy Vallone for their many hours of work in making this celebration a success, and to everyone who participated in the worship service. Thank you to Tasteful Connections for providing another delicious meal. We hope to see you all at the June Picnic!

~ Lynn Ryder

Special Thanks to:
The gifted women from Wesley United Methodist Church and Aldersgate United Methodist Church for their donations of afghans to the Warm Up Rochester Project. Your kindness will brighten many hearts!

The generous women of Penfield United Methodist Church for preparing 30 health kits!
UPCOMING EVENTS:

Check out our website at www.cwurochester.org. It is the best place to keep up to date on events, celebrations and recent news.

Sunday September 13th, 2015
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Afternoon Social
Light refreshments provided
$25.00

Join Church Women United for an historical neighborhood walk and painted “wall therapy” tour through the beautiful historic Susan B. Anthony neighborhood.

Barbara Hoffman, a resident and promoter of the historic neighborhood, has graciously agreed to be our guide.

CWU Board of Directors
Friday, September 18, 2015 at 9:30 am
Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1000 Winton Road North, 14609

CWU Office Summer Schedule
The CWU Office will close for the summer on Thursday, June 25, 2015 and will re-open on Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

Sundial Announcement
Submissions for the Sundial are welcome over the summer. Please send all submissions to cwuroffice@yahoo.com
Our Health Kits go to both women and men at the Mercy Outreach Center, a not-for-profit ministry of the Sisters of Mercy located at 142 Webster Avenue. The Outreach Center exists with the generosity of medical and administrative volunteers who give their time to help meet the basic health care needs of those in the community who are denied access to medical, dental and advocacy services because of their lack of financial resources. Mercy Outreach Center is a partner organization of Mercy Community Services, Inc., which also includes residential services, supporting young mothers who are without family support.

Each Health Kit Consists of:
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste/Toothbrush
- Razor/Shaving Cream (man)
- Deodorant
- Bar soap
- Washcloth
- Small pack tissues
- Comb

To Assemble a Health Kit:
Please pack in a 1-gallon plastic bag. Please label your kit “MAN” if intended for a male recipient. There is currently a great need for men’s kits. Please bring donations to our monthly Celebrations or to the CWU Office. Thank you in advance for your help with this important ministry!

This month, our most needed items are:
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna
- Soup

Volunteers gather on the 2nd Wednesday and Friday of each month around 9:00am to pack the bags. Won’t you consider joining us this month? Many hands make light work! Please call the CWU office for details or directions at 342-2790.

Annual Appeal Reminder
We prayerfully ask you to join our mission by financially supporting the work of Church Women United. Thank you for your generosity!
ROCHESTER ELEMENTARY CHILDREN NEED YOUR HELP!

Rochester Education Foundation (REF) and Church Women United of Rochester (CWU) would like to invite the Faith Community to join them in a city-wide book drive for the benefit of elementary school children within the Rochester school district.

Our hope is for each and every congregation to collect NEW books appropriate for elementary-aged children.

Books should be brought to church on Sunday, October 18th

Please share this with your church and if someone within the congregation is interested in being a representative, contact Lynn Ryder, Church Women United’s Community Relations Coordinator at 342-2790 or cwulr@yahoo.com. This information will be particularly handy in order for us to coordinate the drop off of books.