

THE VOICE



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Faithfully Serving Since 1952

A quarterly newsletter of the Des Moines Area Religious Council and *MovetheFood*

David Bear Lecture Series



highlights Jewish-Christian relations on May 7th

The Des Moines Area Religious Council is delighted to announce the third lecture in the David Bear Memorial Interfaith Lecture Series. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 7 p.m., at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Blvd., in Des Moines. Father John Ludwig will speak on "Four Houses from the Temple (It Used to Be Five): A Personal Reflection on Jewish-Christian Relations."

Fr. John P. Ludwig (right) is a Des Moines native, a graduate of Loras College in Dubuque, and he holds two degrees from the Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven in Louvain, Belgium. He was ordained at St. Augustin Church in Des Moines in 1974.

Fr. Ludwig taught at Dowling Catholic High School, was Diocesan Director of the Office of Religious

Education for three years, and has served in several Des Moines parishes, including: Holy Trinity, St. Mary of Nazareth, and St. Joseph. He spent 10 years at Drake University's St.



Catherine of Siena Catholic Student Center, and presently serves at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Norwalk. Two parishes became members of DMARC while he was pastor: St. Mary of Nazareth and Drake Newman Community/St. Catherine of Siena.

In 2012, Bishop Richard Pates asked Fr. Ludwig to serve as the diocesan officer for

ecumenical relations.

This series of lectures is made possible by a legacy left by David Bear, a prominent Des Moines engineer and businessman for more than 50 years. Bear was passionate

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Interfaith Youth Justice Camp Excitement

Twenty-two young people gathered all day on March 18, the beginning of spring break, to learn more about the different faith traditions in Des Moines and the social justice issues to which each of these traditions must respond. This year, the group met at the American Friends Meeting House and traveled from there to Epworth United Methodist's food pantry, the Zen Center, and Tifereth Israel. Leaders from DMARC, the Baha' community, and Tifereth Israel led them in prayer, and they heard from a student at Valley High School who is homeless and is being served by Iowa Homeless Youth Centers. Additional Interfaith Justice Camps will be held in the future. The camps are made possible by the Larry and Kay Myers Interfaith and Intercultural Ambassador Initiative. Contributions to this important work of preparing the next generation of adults committed to interfaith relationships are always welcome.

Message from the President

DMARC Mission Statement:

“Religious Communities Working Together to Meet Basic Human Needs.”

Photo: Kim Coulter/DMARC



I have had the privilege of serving on the DMARC Board for a number of years and I am honored to take on the role of President. DMARC continues to be a voice and an advocate for addressing the unmet basic needs of our community.

We have an exciting and challenging year before us. We continue to see increasing utilization of our food pantries, as the number of those who remain food insecure is not decreasing. We continue to work to provide nutritious food in a manner that best suits their needs. Early reports on our choice pantries have been very positive. Our food pantry participants appreciate the opportunity to choose

foods that their families will eat, within DMARC’s nutrition guidelines. We will continue to explore additional locations to better serve the needs of the community. We were also thrilled to go back to providing a four-day supply of food – thanks to our faith communities and our donors for such a strong response to the ongoing needs of our community!

DMARC’s reputation as an organization that understands the power of collaboration continues to provide opportunities. We continue to work with other not for profit organizations to better understand and serve the needs of our communities. While much of this work is associated with our Move the Food initiative, we are also working on other projects to improve the way in which we provide support to families who are in danger of losing their homes, or cannot pay for utilities or rent. Recognizing the power of collaborating with other organizations to ensure that we are meeting basic human needs allows us to fulfill our mission in even more impactful ways.

Perhaps the most exciting challenge facing DMARC this year is addressing our space issues. Our current warehouse space is (and has been for some time) inadequate to meet the needs of our growing pantry network. Our wonderful staff has grown in order to meet the needs of the community, and has also outgrown their current offices. We are actively looking for space that better meets our needs and allows us to serve the community more effectively. A larger warehouse space would (1) allow us to accept large donations that we are currently unable to accept (2) allow us to buy larger quantities of food at lower prices, and (3) would provide a better environment for staff and volunteers. We will keep you posted on our efforts, and if you are aware of a space that might meet DMARC’s needs, please let us know!

DMARC’s mission statement is “Religious communities working together to meet basic human needs”. With your help, we intend to continue working diligently to ensure that we are giving life to this statement every day I look forward to serving as the President of DMARC’s and am honored to serve this organization and the needs of the community.



Leanne M. Valentine
DMARC president 2013-2014

Des Moines Area Religious Council Board of Directors 2013-2014

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A big “Thanks!” to Brendan Comito, Sandra Fleck, Jeff Jungman, Julie Kaufman, and Rev. Lee A. Schott who have completed their term for our Board of Directors. Your support and guidance over the past years have been greatly appreciated. Also, DMARC extends a warm welcome to new board members Rabbi David Kaufman and Doug Ventling!

Lecture Series

Continued from Page 1



about serving the community. A member and leader at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, he was a pioneer in breaking down barriers

among people of all faiths. In addition to his many other professional and community affiliations, David (above) served as President of the Des Moines Area Religious Council in 1992 and was President of the DMARC Foundation in 1989 and 1990. He continued to serve as a board member of the Foundation until his death in the spring of 2010. In his honor, the Bear family has established the David Bear Memorial Interfaith Lecture Series.

Promotional flyers are being sent to all member congregations in order to post in your buildings. If you would like to download a bulletin insert, visit our website at www.dmreligious.org/lectures.

To make your reservation, send us an email at info@dmreligious.org or call the DMARC office at 515-277-6969.

DMARC receives United Way award for Advocacy

On April 2, DMARC received the United Way of Central Iowa's 2013 LIVE UNITED Advocate Award for organizations under 200 employees! The announcement was made at the annual LIVE UNITED banquet. A big thanks to board members Leanne Valentine, Chuck Kuba, Frank Owens, and Doug Ventling for attending the event on DMARC's behalf, a big thanks to the DMARC staff for doing such outstanding work every day, and a big thanks to all of you for all the time and energy you commit to our work and to the people we serve!



Employee Spotlight New Office Administrator Terry Walker



Photo: Kim Coulter/DMARC

Employee Terry Walker has actually worked for DMARC since April 2011 as the coordinator of our Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

Program (SNAP) outreach project. Terry worked with pantry sites and other community locations to set up SNAP application computer stations and to train workers in how to help low income families apply for food assistance. Under Terry's leadership, DMARC partnered with Meals on Wheels to add SNAP information to meals being delivered to low-income seniors. As a result, many older adults felt comfortable calling to apply for food assistance.

Terry is now transitioning to office administrator for DMARC. Her responsibilities include answering phones, IT assistance, ordering supplies, creating spreadsheets for the food ordering in the warehouse. Terry gives new meaning to the phrase "other duties as assigned!"

DMARC/*MovetheFood* office and warehouse hours

Main Office, 3816 36th Street, Suite 202, Des Moines, IA 50310-4710

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Summer hours on Fridays during June-August: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Main Warehouse, 3816 36th Street, Des Moines, IA 50310-4710 (located directly behind the office building)

Warehouse hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Summer hours on Fridays during June-August: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Office and warehouse are closed Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

DMARC *Beyond Beliefs Tour* Begins

DMARC is supported by a diverse variety of faiths. We are committed to increasing awareness and cross-cultural understanding for cohesive communities. Join us for DMARC's *Beyond Beliefs Tour*! Reservations now being taken for the May 7th and May 22nd tours.

The tour showcases different faith practices and traditions, explores symbolism, and reveals the rich history of architectural design. Tours are guided and include transportation and lunch. The cost for the tour is \$30 per person. Early reservations are encouraged, as seating is limited.

The *Beyond Beliefs* spring tour includes the following host sites:

- **Beth El Jacob Synagogue** – the most traditional and only Orthodox Synagogue in the Des Moines Area. Discover the history of tradition and religion, including the importance of kosher practices and meanings behind the Torah Scrolls.
- **All Saints Learning Center** – definitely worth the drive to Stuart. Beginning with a short video of the fire that nearly destroyed this Catholic Church in 1995, see how this church has literally risen from the ashes. Experience interactive video kiosks that will highlight the variety of different religions in central Iowa to promote religious tolerance.
- **Oreon E. Scott Chapel** on the Drake University campus – unique in its circular design and skylight-lit white marble communion table. An intimate and reflective space used for quiet meditation.



All Saints Learning Center in Stuart, Iowa, restored after the fire in 1995.

- **Basilica of St. John** – Stunning Romanesque architecture with 46 stained glass windows and gold coffered ceiling is sure to impress. One of only two Basilicas in the state of Iowa.

Future tour dates and additional host sites will be announced on our website: www.dmreligious.org/faithtours. For reservations or questions, contact Sonya Dettmann at: 515-277-6969, ext. 16, or sdettmann@dmreligious.org.



Special thanks to transportation sponsor, Keck Parking.

“This tour gave me an understanding of faith communities within central Iowa I had not previously experienced. Listening to an individual at each site relate the history and beliefs of that congregation instilled a personal connection

I will not forget.”

*— Pam Larson,
DMARC Development Associate*

DMARC's website is live!

Check us out . . . We have a fresh new look and easy navigation helps you find important features you need.

Easy navigation buttons make our revised website simplified for quick results to the pages you most need.

DMARC's mission tagline is now listed and given top billing on the home webpage.

Post your events quickly and easily with enhanced community calendar submission process.

Hey, peeps, keep up-to-date with our real-time Twitter feed at @dmreligious and remember to retweet!

Top 2 news articles appear first, followed by an easy click to see more news in chronological order from our office.

Join our online social communities by clicking on your favorite network and liking us.

View and participate in special fundraisers, food drives and events, all with the slideshow feature on our home page.



In 2012, DMARC's Food Pantry Network provided food equal to 1.2 million emergency meals for 33,000 individuals.

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Des Moines Area Religious Council

Religious communities working together to meet basic human needs.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- APR 12**
 - Women Helping Women Luncheon (11:30 am-1:00 pm)
 - FOOD MATTERS Film Series (7:00 pm-9:00 pm)
- APR 13**
 - Vacation Bible School FunShop for Church Leaders (9:00 am-12:00 pm)
- APR 17**
 - Buddhism and the Ethics of Memory (7:00 pm)
- APR 18**
 - Art and more for Shelter (5:30 pm-8:30 pm)
 - End of Life Issues (7:00 pm-8:15 pm)
- APR 19**
 - The Changing Role of the Music Leader in Worship (6:00 pm-9:00 pm)
 - Rust College A Capella Choir (7:30 pm-9:00 pm)

> View entire Community Calendar

TWITTER FEED

- DMARC @dmreligious** Apr 9
eVoice - April 9, 2013, DMARC/MoveTheFood - Faith & community news, job opportunities and more!... <http://t.co/FXQzqexo4V>
- DMARC @dmreligious** Apr 9
eVoice - April 9, 2013, DMARC/MoveTheFood - Faith & community news, job opportunities and more! #constantcontact <http://t.co/sCHngtzRwd>
- DMARC @dmreligious** Apr 4
DMARC Presents 3rd Annual David Bear Memorial Interfaith Lecture Series <http://t.co/pYyNj3Lop2> <http://t.co/pksUcn9eD1>

MAPPING & FOOD WEBSITE



2013 Calendar Proceeds to benefit DMARC.

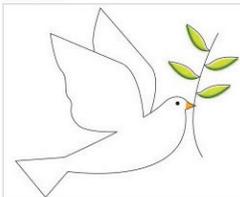
IN THE NEWS

DMARC Launches New Website
Apr. 08, 2013



read more

Mark Your Calendars! The 3rd Annual David Bear Lecture Series is May 7
Apr. 03, 2013



read more

> Go to News Page

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WELCOME TO DMARC

With important programs to feed, assist and nurture the needs of greater Des Moines, DMARC works with about 140 member congregations from 4 different faith traditions committed to responding to the basic human needs of our community.

DMARC is an interfaith organization of religious communities working together to meet basic human needs for the greater Des Moines community.

- Help supply 13 partner food pantry sites through our affiliate program, MoveTheFood.
- Volunteer your time to serve this ministry.
- Need Help? Discover the assistance programs DMARC offers.
- View our DMARC member faith communities.

You too can make a difference and stay connected to DMARC with the volunteer and newsletter signups.



Scan this code and instantly link to our website!

Fun Food Drives & Fundraisers Galore!

Thrilla in the Skillet Latke Contest Magic



On March 2nd, two friends, Doug “Hot Oil” Jotzke (left) and Steve “Fry Daddy” Wilke-Shapiro (right) competed for the first annual Golden Spatula Award for the best latke. Seventy latke enthusiasts gathered to witness and judge the event at the historic Hatton House (731 7th Street, Des Moines) – a three-story Victorian in the River Bend neighborhood! Hundreds of latkes were handmade and fried up for the guests enjoyment. In the end, Steve won the contest, saying that he had thousands of years of latke making tradition on his side. The event proceeds benefited the DMARC Food Pantry Network, raising over \$1,200.



Peanut Butter Lover's Day Food Drive Success

In recognition of National Peanut Butter Lover's Day, March 1, 2013, area Hy-Vee stores accepted peanut butter donations during a special food drive March 4th through March 8th to benefit the Des Moines Area Religious Council's Food Pantry Network.

Peanut butter is one of the most needed items DMARC distributes to participating families. Usually it's about 4,500 jars each month. Despite allergies, peanut butter is a great protein source for most families.

In all, 19 area Hy-Vee sites participated in the collection from March 4-8. Listeners of WHO Radio-1040 AM were given updates during the *Van and Bonnie in the Morning* show. The peanut butter drive brought in 1,956 jars. Thanks to all the peanut butter supporters!



WHO Radio-1040 AM morning show hosts Bonnie Lucas and Van Harden pose with DMARC Food Pantry Network Director Rebecca Whitlow at the WHO studios.

DMARC at the I-Cubs



The Iowa Cubs is supporting the DMARC Food Pantry Network by inviting fans to bring three food items in exchange for one general admission ticket. (General admission tickets may be upgraded to reserved grandstand for \$3. Cash donations may be accepted but not for tickets.) All dates are Sunday afternoon games. Gates open at 11:35 a.m., volunteers are asked to arrive before that time and help collect the donations. Volunteers are given a free ticket to that day's game. DMARC warehouse staff will have the donation area set up and will deliver food to the warehouse at the close. If you and your friends, family, or group would like to sign up to help accept donations for one of these dates, simply send us an email at volunteer@dmreligious.org, or call our office at 515-277-6969 with the date you'd like to volunteer.

The Sunday afternoon home games include:

- May 5th 1:05 PM
- May 19th 1:05 PM
- May 26th 1:05 PM
- June 2nd 1:05 PM
- June 9th 1:05 PM
- June 16th 1:05 PM
- July 14th 1:05 PM
- August 11th 1:05 PM
- August 25th 1:05 PM

Campaign Aimed at Individuals and Small Groups

Four volunteers plus four hours of service equals a GREAT way to spend a Saturday morning! This is the simplest way volunteers can help the Red Barrel program, and in turn, DMARC's Food Pantry Network.

Over the coming months, we'll be using this concept as a recruitment tool for small groups and individuals in schools and small businesses. Through social media and other forms of outreach, you can help by spreading the word. If you're on Facebook, find this graphic in our photo album on the *MovetheFoodDSM* page. Feel free to 'share' it with your friends and family. As individual and small groups add up, so too, do their contributions toward ending hunger in our area.

Want to sponsor a Sack Saturday event at a Red Barrel location near you? Gather three friends to volunteer with you and give us four hours of your time by helping collect donations and food. You provide the bodies—we provide the handouts, signage, stickers, and collection materials. It's that simple!

For more information, contact Red Barrel Coordinator John Robinson at: jrobinson@dmreligious.org or 515-309-025.



Meals from the Market at the Downtown Des Moines Farmers Market

We need volunteers Saturday mornings throughout the duration of the Downtown Des Moines Farmers Market to work the *MovetheFood* booth in partnership with *Meals from the Market*. Volunteers will help educate potential donors and take donations of fresh produce to our warehouse truck for future delivery to our food pantry partners. In 2012, the *Meals from the Market* program contributed to our distribution of over 300,000 pounds of fresh produce to our 13 pantry sites, a key aspect to our focus on health. To learn more about the *Meals from the Market* program, visit: <http://desmoinesfarmersmarket.com/programs/meals-from-the-market>.

It's going to be a great summer! To sign up and volunteer, please go to the *Meals from the Market* volunteer website at: <http://vols.pt/wxULFw>. Here are the Saturday dates volunteers are needed at the Downtown Farmers Market:

- May 11 & 25
- June 8 & 22
- July 6 & 20
- August 3, 17 & 31
- September 14 & 28
- October 12 & 26



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Donate or Pledge Now to Help DMARC Qualify for Bonus Bucks!



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Help Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) by making a pledge to The Principal Charity Classic® Birdies for Charity fundraising program, 100% of donations and pledges made on behalf of DMARC will benefit DMARC. If DMARC reaches the pledge goal of \$1,500 in money raised, we'll be eligible to receive additional Bonus Bucks! By pledging, you'll also be entered into monthly drawings for prizes from John Deere and a random drawing to win 2 tickets to the event! To make your pledge go to:

<https://events.r2it.com/birdies/r.aspx?site=principalcharityclassic&charity=DesMoinesAreaReligiousCouncil>

Or donate by mailing a check payable to "Birdies for Charity," in the memo line and send it to: 3816 36th St., Ste. 202, Des Moines, IA 50310, or to request a pledge form, call: 515-277-6969.

Thank you for your support!