



Wisconsin Gossellers August 2018 Newsletter

We are all one body of Christ; Also, the words we say really do matter

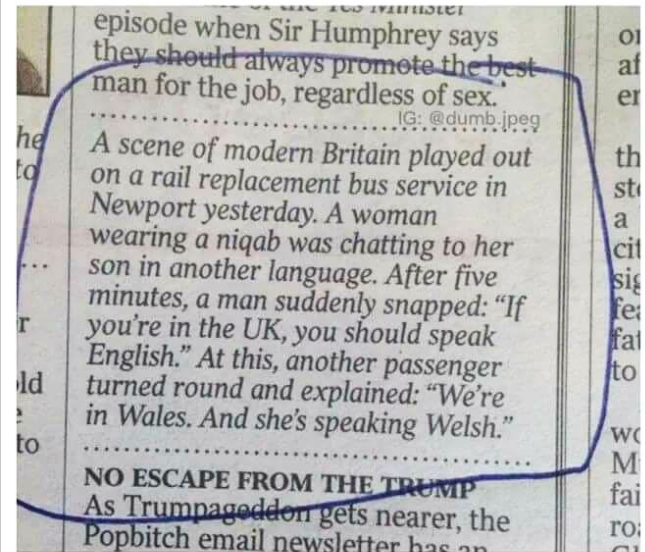
The other day, I found a post on facebook from Chuck Mize, a former member of the Wisconsin Gossellers. A copy of the post is pictured on the right. It made me realize a few things. First of all, we should think before we speak. Second of all, that people in this world need to realize that we are all different. Just because you speak one language doesn't make it the only language or best language out there. Each and everyone in this world is a member of the body of Christ and we all work together in this world.

In the article I am proud of the passenger who spoke up and made a difference. That person could have just sat there and said nothing, but he or she called out hypocrisy. I challenge us this next month to find hypocrites and call them out. Or to at least find injustice and call it out. We need to be like that passenger and stand up and speak God's words.

In conversations with my friends, I sometimes catch them saying prejudice things or mean things about a certain race, religion, or gender. And I've finally started calling them out on it. It's not a funny joke to me anymore. I want people to realize that what they say can be hurtful if said in the wrong context. So now, when a friend says something prejudiced or mean, I say, "You know, that is a pretty prejudice thing to say". And I'm not saying it to be mean or to yell at them. I'm just saying it as a friendly reminder that what they said is prejudiced. The more the friend hears that, the more they will realize that the words they are saying do matter. It is actually a reminder to us all, that words really do matter. And we need to make sure that the words we do speak are coming from God.

-Alicia Gardner

My favorite article from the paper today



Follow us on

www.WisconsinGossellers.org or on Facebook by searching "Wisconsin UCC Gossellers"

Want to sing with us? Contact wisconsingossellers@gmail.com for more information.





Mission Statement: To bridge cultural divides and touch souls through the transformative power of gospel music

Vision Statement: A world where God's love triumphs over that which divides us.

One of Alicia's Favorite Church Songs

"We are the Church" by Richard Avery, is one of my favorite songs. It's a catchy tune, the words are meaningful, and it reminds me that we are ALL part of church. It holds true the UCC phrase, "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

-Alicia Gardner

We are the Church! By Richard Avery

Refrain:

I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

1. The church is not a building;
the church is not a steeple;
the church is not a resting place;
the church is a people. (Refrain)

2. We're many kinds of people,
with many kinds of faces,
all colours and all ages, too
from all times and places. (Refrain)

3. Sometimes the church is marching;
sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding;
always it's learning. (Refrain)

4. And when the people gather,
there's singing and there's praying;
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes,
all of it saying: (Refrain)

5. At Pentecost some people
received the Holy Spirit
and told the Good News through the world
to all who would hear it. (Refrain)

We Are the Drum/City at Peace in the Arts (CAPITA)

THANK YOU to all who've contributed to CAPITA's GoFundMe campaign. KC reports that CAPITA's board members were surprised and *very* grateful.

Also, MPS has recognized CAPITA as an effective model for arts education; based on the surge of donations, the district *tentatively* approved \$12,000, and extended the deadline to match that until 23 August.

<https://www.gofundme.com/capita-productions>

Save these upcoming dates:

Sept. 8 Rehearsal (Olivet UCC, Columbus)
Oct. 13 Rehearsal (location TBD)
Nov. 10 Rehearsal (location TBD)
Dec. 8th Rehearsal (location TBD)
Jan. 12 Rehearsal & Concert (Cedar Ridge in West Bend)
Feb. 9 Rehearsal (location TBD)
Mar. 9 Rehearsal (location TBD)
Apr. 6 Rehearsal & concert (Conf/Assoc Mtg in Wis Dells)

* There is NO June Annual Mtg. @ Green Lake in 2019, because General Synod will be in Milwaukee June 21-25. We're working on other opportunities, including a Summer '19 trip to Hesse/Rhineland (Germany).

No matter where you
are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.



God is still speaking.
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



God invites you to write words from the heart and have them seen by the rest of the Wisconsin Gossellers. If you are called by the spirit to write something for the Wisconsin Gossellers newsletter, send your item to alicia88gardner@gmail.com