

## Congregational Health Ministry Expanding

Health briefs, health ministry models, and class topics now available at [www.HMACofChrist.org](http://www.HMACofChrist.org) can assist congregations to promote health and wholeness within the congregation and in their community. In his sermon to the Church, April 10, 2011, Community of Christ President Steve Veazey encouraged the church to "redirect congregational activities in response to community around us".

HMA offers materials and resources that can be used in health fairs, Vacation Bible School, healthy living bulletin boards and displays, adult and children's classes, caring ministries, and in newsletters or other publications.

To spread the good word about health ministry, HMA is identifying individuals to serve as Congregational Representatives. Gene Groner offered his services to make contacts and now serves as HMA's Volunteer Congregational Coordinator. HMA Representatives will receive updates and new resources to use health promotional materials and to encourage participation in activities of health ministry.



HMA welcomes stories, testimonies, and ideas from Reps. As HMA learns about the ministries of our members, these stories will be shared to inspire new programs and ideas of how health ministry can meet the needs of congregations and communities.

If you would like to become a Health Ministries Association Congregational Representative, please contact [GGroner@HMACofChrist.org](mailto:GGroner@HMACofChrist.org) and let him know where you live and what information you need. Below is a list of duties of a Representative.

### A Congregational Representative

- .....communicates and distributes health resources to congregational members to encourage health promotion, concepts of wholeness, and health education
- .....gathers stories and experiences from congregations and members that expound on the congregation's health promotion and ministry efforts and forwards them to the HMA office for posting and publication
- .....identifies health professionals and people passionate about health and wellness in the congregation with skill sets and giftedness which can enhance HMA and its mission
- .....promotes HMA as an organization to Community of Christ members and encourages membership
- .....encourages everyone to participate in HMA educational and fellowship activities

## "Some Enchanted Evening"

### A Polynesian Feast, Fundraiser

Friday evening, September 16, 2011, get out the Hawaiian shirts, shell necklaces, and island dresses for this year's fundraising event at the Auditorium lower assembly room. Doors open at 5 pm to begin silent auction bidding. Meal served at 6 pm with entertainment to follow.

**HMA needs your help in collecting donated items and coupons for services to be included in the silent auction.**

# A Legacy of Health Ministry Around the Globe

A Health Ministries Commission was established by 1972 by World Church Resolution and placed under the direction of Roy Schaefer, DDS. In the same year Roy began his Master's of Public Health fellowship at Johns Hopkins University.



**ROY SCHAEFER**

Roy implemented advisory councils to the Commission which included church-related professional associations of doctors, dentists, social workers, nurses and home economists. He believed in bringing people together to share ideas, learn from each other, and build a better future.

As an assistant to the Council of Twelve in the 1970's, Roy worked with Apostle Howard Sheehy and Don Potts, MD in the new church area of Haiti. Roy explained, "The purpose, which is critical to understand, was to explore means by which the church could share in an extended scope of ministry through components of health and education." The church flourished in many areas of the world including Africa, Mexico, South Korea, Philippines, and Honduras because of this more inclusive form of sharing the gospel through health.

Roy Schaefer was also a trailblazer for the current Health and Spirituality Workshops. "In 1977 a committee was formed out of the Health Ministries Commission which began to work towards exploring the dimension of "wholeness". Two workshops were later held at the Auditorium titled "Exploration and Wholeness", recalled Roy. One of the speakers was Granger Westberg, founder of the modern Parish Nurse Program.

During his retirement years Roy advocated,

**"The church in congregations is called joyously and intentionally to be part of the larger community in which it exists."**

"It also includes the understanding that the gospel of our friend, Jesus, includes all of human experience. That for me means it includes all aspects of the community: educational, health, economic, social, political, and governmental."

Health Ministries Association is shaped by the foundation and influence of Roy Schaefer as well as others who serve/served internationally, locally, and in congregations promoting health and wholeness. [www.hmacofchrist.org/HistoricalReports/Schaefer/Acrobat.pdf](http://www.hmacofchrist.org/HistoricalReports/Schaefer/Acrobat.pdf) contains Roy's full historical report.

## **Being a Blessing of Community**

Responding to needs within communities can range from education, advocacy, health promotion or meeting physical needs. God touches our hearts to respond in different ways. HMA received this story from an HMA member on how she is involved in her community.

*Hello HMA Colleagues,  
I am in preparedness. My job is with the county Public Health Office as the Public Health Response Coordinator (PHRC). I am responsible for making the plans for responding to any kind of emergency that would pose a risk to the health of individuals in our community.*

*As part of my job, I am in charge of ensuring that those with special needs are taken care of: a program we call People Unable to Self Evacuate (UTSE). We encourage everyone who would need additional assistance in case of an emergency to have a primary caretaker with two backups. People in our small county take care of each other and the values expressed in our community correlate well with three of our Enduring Principles: Grace and Generosity, Worth of All Persons, and Blessings of Community.*

*I am taking the UTSE message to the local churches and talking about the program and how, as Christians, we are to care for each other and how this is an excellent way to express Christ's message of love and caring.*

*Another aspect of my job that relates to ministry is in being prepared as families and individuals by having a store of food and water as well as other necessities on hand. I am pursuing a central place to store these items so that all may be able to receive what they might need during an emergency: yet another example of the Blessings of Community.*

*I would appreciate any ideas or experiences you can share with these kinds of ministries.*

*Thank you,  
Donni Toth, PhD, RN  
Wyoming*



*"Promoting Health  
with a Heart"*

**Web:** [www.hmacofchrist.org](http://www.hmacofchrist.org)  
**Mail:** 1001 West Walnut  
Independence, MO 64050  
**Email:** [hma@cofchrist.org](mailto:hma@cofchrist.org)  
**Phone:** (816) 833-1000 X1262  
**Fax:** (816) 521-3084

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## MEMBER MEMOS

### Membership Renewals and New Members



"Thank you" to all who have renewed your membership dues for 2011; that includes over one hundred members. HMA also welcomes 25 new members who are excited about HMA's mission and want to be part of health promotion. HMA has two new members in Honduras in addition to members in the USA and Canada.

These are great results that confirm the excitement many feel about HMA programs. If you have not renewed your dues for 2011, please go online, call the office, or send the renewal to the office (see address to the left). We encourage those who have been members in the past to become active again in the association.

### Open Membership Meeting Business

At the Open Membership meeting April 16, 2011 several changes were voted on that impacts leadership and membership. Officers are now elected for a one year term but may serve more than one year in any office. President-Elect position has been changed to Vice President. These changes were made to provide for greater participation and a more realistic time commitment.

The following members were elected as 2011-2012 officers:

Kathy Robinson, President  
Chris Stone, Vice President  
John Smith, Treasurer  
Don Potts, Secretary

Board of Directors elected for the 2011-2014 three-year term were:

Paul Bennetts, CRNA  
Jeanne Earnest, MS  
Max Ridings, PT  
Gary Rummel, RDMS, RVT

Board of Directors includes a broad array of health professional backgrounds and needed expertise to lead an association. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please notify the office.

To encourage more international members, dues were changed to represent an equivalent dollar amount based on the standard of living in the particular country.

Formalizing guidelines for international programs to encourage more member participation was also presented at the Open Membership Meeting. The International Committee wants to encourage greater member involvement and new programs.

HMA encourages using your time and talents to promote health and serve congregations, in your community, nationally, internationally, or on a HMA committee.

9<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Health & Spirituality Workshop Brochure Inside

World renowned speakers, Community of Christ President Becky Savage, and exciting Skill-Building Sessions will highlight this year's event August 19-20, 2011 at the Temple in Independence, MO. The theme is:

**“Health, Holiness & Humor”**

Featured Speakers include:

- ❖ Harold Ivan Smith, PhD
- ❖ Becky Savage, MSN, RN
- ❖ Bowen White, MD
- ❖ Mary Pebley, Humorist

Skill-building Sessions include:

- Do You Dare Self-Care?
- Stillness Without Effort
- Telling Your Story- a model for reminiscence and spiritual reflection
- Live. Well. Today!
- Anti-Aging Strategic Plan: A Natural Approach
- Promoting Congregational Health: Ministry to the Whole Person

Health & Spirituality  
Workshop Brochure Inside