

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wow! Circle is off to a fantastic start this year. Kudos to the Piecemakers quilting group for their beautiful creations. The quilt show, held on October 15 in Margaret Schatz's backyard, highlighted the creativity and industriousness of our very special quilters. They really pushed themselves to finish the binding and tying of over 30 quilts for our enjoyment at the show. These quilts will soon become the treasured possession of children at the Rice Center. It was a chance for members, new and old, to greet each other and marvel at the beautiful designs against the blue sky!



We will sponsor five families again this holiday season. The new administration at Settlement is very organized and receptive to our offers of help. Thank you all for your amazing generosity. Every contribution will go directly to help a family with food and holiday gifts. We will continue our tradition of giving each child a special book of their own. Any extra money is given to Settlement to distribute as needed for their emergency fund.

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, December 7, when we will start the season by gathering together at Curt's Cafe to wish each other a happy holiday, share our gifts for the Settlement families, and enjoy some special holiday treats.

Our focus this fall is historical houses. Diane Unger and Sally Sprowl worked tirelessly, making numerous calls to secure special tours for our group. First, the Frances Willard House tour in October was a timely precursor to the new book, *Do Everything: The Biography of Frances Willard*, about one of Evanston's most famous female ancestors.

Watch for updates on opportunities to be together next year. We are indebted to Jane Dowding who continues to send out notices of upcoming events. We anticipate a tour of the Mitchell Indian Museum and lunch at Curt's Cafe. We also hope to attend a Northwestern musical or theatrical performance together. If you have any program ideas, please share them.

In November we had a unique perspective on the lives of those who lived in the Charles Gates Dawes House, with a focus on the dynamics of the juxtaposition of the everyday life of the staff and the homeowners. What a fresh perspective for many of our members who may have visited this treasured Evanston destination with out-of-town guests in years past.

Welcome back to all members, new and old. Let's reach out to our friends and bring them into our caring community. *All my best wishes to our Circle friends.*

Our traditional holiday generosity continues through our partnership with the Northwestern Settlement community.

– Pat Ulmer  
pat.ulmer@gmail.com  
847-682-5741



You're invited to  
**CIRCLE'S HOLIDAY PARTY**  
**Wednesday, December 7th!**  
See page 3 for all the details...



## MISSION

The mission of University Circle is to provide opportunities for Northwestern University women to participate in service, scholarship, and social activities that enhance the University community.

## MEMBERSHIP

If you know of a woman who is interested in becoming part of University Circle, please bring her along to a special interest group or general membership program. You may also contact Margaret Schatz at 847-475-2365 and she will happily send membership information out by mail. You can find membership information on the University Circle web site:

[www.northwestern.edu/university-circle](http://www.northwestern.edu/university-circle)

## BOARD MEETINGS

University Circle Board meetings are held at noon on the third Thursday of most months, on the Evanston Campus. All members are welcome. Meetings typically last one hour and are always lively and fun. Please contact the president if you plan to attend and/or if you have an item for the agenda.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President	1
Circle Executive Board	2
Adopt-a-Family Project	3
Circle Holiday Party	3
Spring Luncheon Turned Tea	4
An Idyllic Summer Party	4
Historic House Tour: Frances Willard	5
Historic House Tour: Charles Dawes	5
Remembering Our Circle Friends	6
News and Notes	6
Welcome to Circle	6
Piecemakers	7
Circle Executive Board	8

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**SCHOLARSHIP** Debbie Crimmins

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Linda LaBuda  
Margaret Schatz  
Pat Ulmer

**SOCIAL SERVICE** Glenda Mockros

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN** Joan Fragen

For information about other interest groups, please contact the president.

# HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON TO CIRCLE MEMBERS NEAR AND FAR

This year, Circle's holiday planning combines our traditional support for NU Settlement's Adopt-a-Family Project with a new location and format for our holiday gathering.

We are again supporting five families, selected by the NU Settlement program organizers. Each family member will receive a \$50 gift credit card and \$250 or \$350 will go to each family for food, depending on the family size. These credit cards, not from a specific store, will allow the family complete flexibility in where they wish to shop.

Additionally, each child in our families will be given a book, chosen by the staff at Page One Bookstore on Central Street in Evanston, and every family will receive a cuddly throw. The Circle budget will cover this cost.

Members, if they wish, may also bring new, unwrapped toys or children's books to the holiday party at Curt's Cafe on December 7. These donations will be delivered to Settlement for the Christmas Toy Room, where parents served by the Settlement House may select gifts for their children.

**TO DONATE**, please make your check payable to University Circle and send to Jeanne Fitzpatrick, 6401 Lincoln Ave Unit 205, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Note on the check that it is for Holiday Fund. Jeanne will also be accepting checks at the holiday party. All donations will go to the families in need, and any extra funds will be given to Settlement in January for their emergency fund. If you have questions, please contact Pat Ulmer at pat.ulmer@gmail.com or 847-682-5741.

## MEET OUR FAMILIES

**Family 1:** 36-year-old mother and 38-year-old father; sons aged 14, 13 and 6; and daughters aged 12 and 11

"With me getting hurt and Worker's Comp dragging

the little bit of money I have is going towards gas to take kids back and forth. Driving 6 times a day, not being able to qualify for link. Everything being so expensive we hardly have any money to save up period let alone save for Christmas. This would help me thank them and show them how much I appreciate them for helping me during this injury that has taken a toll on all of us."

**Family 2:** 46-year-old mother and 45-year-old father; 16-year-old daughter

"A little help would be great. Went down to partime at work because of the pandemic. Everything has been really hard and don't qualify for assistance with a lot of the programs (link, rental, utilities, etc.). This support will help more than you would know."

**Family 3:** 38-year-old mother; 13-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter

Single mom works as a housekeeper, originally from Ukraine. Mom also takes care of her elderly mother. Family loves to spend time together and enjoys walks in their neighborhood and baking when they can.

**Family 4:** 30-year-old father; 4-year-old daughter

Single father trying to provide nice Christmas for his daughter.

**Family 5:** 46-year-old mother and 50-year-old father; daughter aged 23; sons aged 18, 15, 11 and 4

"We are a large family and both work but it is hard to keep up with the bills. We also have two in college."

– Settlement Committee

Jane Dowding, Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Linda LaBuda, Margaret Schatz and Pat Ulmer

## LET'S SHARE SOME HOLIDAY CHEER!

### CIRCLE HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, December 7, 5:30-7:30 pm

Curt's Café, 2922 Central Street in Evanston



Circle members are invited to the annual holiday party on Wednesday, December 7, at Curt's Cafe in Evanston. You're welcome to bring unwrapped new toys and books for the children of the Settlement families. We will also be collecting checks to purchase gift cards for the families.

Refreshments will be served, and everyone is invited to bring cookies to share (a half dozen). There will also be a cookie exchange for those who wish to participate. Please let Pat know that you are interested when you RSVP.

Parking is available on Central Street (metered) and on Lincolnwood Avenue (free). There is also free parking in the Byline Bank lot across the street from Curt's.

Circle is pleased to support Curt's Café, which assists at-risk youth by teaching marketable skills and assisting in securing employment. In addition to culinary techniques, Curt's provides instruction needed to fill in educational gaps, gain confidence, and become job-ready.

*Hope to see you there!*

**RSVP to Pat Ulmer, pat.ulmer@gmail.com, if possible, by December 3.**



## SPRING LUNCHEON TURNED TEA

– by Diane Unger

Circle has had a long tradition of having a luncheon in the spring for two reasons: to serve as the annual meeting and to honor the Circle Scholarship recipients. This year, members mixed things up by having a tea instead.

At 4:00 pm on May 25 in a room at Norris Center, President Pat Ulmer called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests, thanked Sally Sprowl for her work in planning and executing the event, and invited all to enjoy the beautiful display of sweet and savory small bites and a selection of teas.

First order of business was election of officers to two-year terms each. Margaret Schatz presented the slate: Linda LaBuda and Margaret Schatz, vice-presidents membership; Jeanne Fitzpatrick, treasurer; and Lindy Lynk, recording secretary. All were elected by voice acclamation.

Next, Pat introduced the Northwestern employees chosen to receive a Circle Scholarship for their studies in NU's School of Professional Studies (SPS). Members



L-R: Evan Goldstein, Dean Soo La Kim, Ana Sferruzza and Valerie Schoonover at the scholarship tea.

and guests were fortunate to be able to meet two of the recipients, Evan Goldstein and Valerie Schoonover, along with Ana Sferruzza, one of last year's recipients. The third recipient, Mona Ascha, was not able to attend.

The recipients told us about their career and educational paths and why the Circle Scholarship is important to their continued success in SPS. Hearing from Circle Scholarship recipients is always a highlight of this annual event.

Joining them was Soo La Kim, assistant dean for graduate programs at SPS, who said that flexible policies and pathways help contribute to the success of the school's programs. For her, the best part is getting to meet students "face to face."

Pat thanked the Scholarship Committee—chair Debbie Crimmins and members Sally Dobroski and Jean Wilson—for choosing these worthy recipients. Special thanks to the many donors who make these scholarships possible.



Sally Sprowl (L) and Pat Ulmer (R) welcome Circle members and guests to the tea.

The meeting was adjourned, and all agreed that a new tradition had been established.

## AN IDYLIC SUMMER PARTY



Jerilyn Miripol (L) and Anita Yamada (R) at the summer potluck.



L-R: Linda LaBuda, Carol Nielsen, Bert Mount and Jeanne Fitzpatrick enjoy the summer evening.

– by Pat Ulmer

Jane Dowding hosted Circle friends on the picture-perfect summer evening of July 13 for a potluck dinner in the spacious backyard of her Winnetka home.

The weather was so beautiful that it was delightful to be outside. Jane decorated the tables with Northwestern purple and lovely purple and white summer flowers. Members brought favorite summer appetizers, salads and desserts to share. Conversation and congeniality lingered into the early darkness.



## HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR: FRANCES WILLARD



L-R: Kay Hamel, Debbie Crimmins, Lindy Lynk, Sally Sprowl and Jeanne Fitzpatrick at the Willard House.

– by Diane Unger

Circle members enjoyed a guided tour of the Evanston home and workplace of Frances Willard on October 20. Willard was one of the most prominent suffragists of the 19th Century and one of Evanston’s most famous citizens. Lori Osborne, director of the Frances Willard House Museum and executive director of the Center for Women’s History and Leadership, led the group throughout the house and talked of the life and work of Frances Willard.

Margaret Schatz said, “We were so lucky to have Lori as our guide. She really knows her subject and speaks with enthusiasm. She highlighted new insights into Frances’ life work, and of course she’s an expert on the restoration of the house. It was so informative.”

The tour coincided with the release of a new biography of Willard entitled, *Do Everything: The Biography of Frances Willard*. The author, Dr. Christopher Evans, spoke the same evening at Bookends and Beginnings with Willard archivist Janet Olson.

Read more about Willard, her house, the museum and archives and the work that continues there at [franceswillardhouse.org](http://franceswillardhouse.org).

## HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR: CHARLES DAWES



Above: Tour guide Kris Hartzell and Circle members converse at the Dawes House.

Right: The Dawes House welcomes visitors on a sunny November day.

– by Sally Sprowl

Following the recent tour of the Frances Willard House, Circle members gathered again on November 9 to visit another historic house museum in Evanston: the Charles Gates Dawes House. Dawes, who was former Vice President of the United States and a Nobel Prize winner, lived in the house with his family. The tour was led by Kris Hartzell, Director of Facilities, Visitor Services, and Collections for the Evanston History Center, whose headquarters are located in the house.

Kris led the group through the rooms on the first floor of the mansion, which are as they were when the Dawes family lived there. We toured the light-filled “morning room” with its French furniture, the extensive library with carved dark wood book cases, the dining room with a round table set as the Dawes family would have had it when entertaining and a kitchen of the era, circa 1909, when the Dawes family moved there.

To learn more about this Evanston landmark and the Evanston History Center, see the History Center’s website: [evanstonhistorycenter.org](http://evanstonhistorycenter.org).



# NEWS AND NOTES

## OUR FRIENDS AT UNIVERSITY GUILD

Thank you to Kay Hamel, president of University Guild and member of Circle, for inviting Circle members to Guild's first event of the year, a virtual program on "Major Supreme Court Decisions of the 2021-2022 Term." Dr. Julie Strauss, an independent lecturer in American Politics and graduate of Northwestern, gave the presentation on October 3.

## PHOTO CREDITS

Thanks to all who contributed photos for this issue of the *Courier*: Jane Dowding, Linda LaBuda, Carol Nielsen, Margaret Schatz, Pat Ulmer, and Rachel Ulmer.



## WELCOME TO CIRCLE

The Membership Committee is pleased to welcome four new members to Circle:

**Joy Lawicki Joyce** is a Kellogg alum and parent of NU alums Joel and Patrick.

**Jerilyn Elise Miripol** writes poetry and is a writing therapist. Her late husband, Richard Van Duynes, was a professor of chemistry at Northwestern.

When **Janna Nugent** isn't working in Research Computing at NU Information Technology, she chooses to spend her time weaving.

**Julie Winsberg** is the design professional responsible for making the *Courier* a joy to read. Thank you, Julie!

Please say hello to our newest members at the next Circle event.

– Linda LaBuda and Margaret Schatz,  
Membership Committee



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Did you remember to renew your Circle membership for 2022-2023? If you haven't already done so, please make your \$25 check payable to University Circle and mail to Linda LaBuda, 9225 Harding Avenue, Evanston, IL 60203. Don't remember if you renewed? Contact Linda at labudalinda@gmail.com.

## ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

The Alumnae of Northwestern University are offering four continuing ed courses for winter quarter: The Age of Revolution: The Birth of Modern Politics, 1789-1848; Profiles in Music; The Creation of Native American Literature in Cities; and Philosophy of Humor. For more information and to register, go to [tinyurl.com/2bZRpee2](https://tinyurl.com/2bZRpee2).

One Book One Northwestern offers programming around this year's selection: *How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning With the History of Slavery Across America* by Clint Smith, a poet, journalist and staff writer for *The Atlantic*. More information at [tinyurl.com/2nryuxby](https://tinyurl.com/2nryuxby).



## Remembering Our Circle Friends

*We were very sad to learn that two Circle members died recently. Our condolences to their families and friends*

**Gay Menges** passed away on August 10, 2022. Gay was a long-time Circle member and served on the board as chair of the scholarship committee. She was a teacher of English literature and worked in the publishing industry. Gay's husband, the late Robert Menges, was a professor at Northwestern and together they lived in Evanston for 50 years. Gay's obituary can be found at [tinyurl.com/yu8st89t](https://tinyurl.com/yu8st89t).

Another long-time member of Circle, **Fern Andersen**, passed away on October 3, 2022. Fern was an avid knitter, and faithfully knit dozens of scarves and mitten pairs which were distributed by NU Circle to the Northwestern Settlement House and other Chicagoland groups. Fern's late husband, Edward, was director of student accounts and budget director at Northwestern. A celebration of life will be held on November 26 at 1:00 pm at Covenant Living, 2625 Techny Road, Northbrook. For more details, see Fern's obituary at [tinyurl.com/yzfa26f7](https://tinyurl.com/yzfa26f7).



# “THE CLOTHESLINES ARE UP!”

– by Diane Unger

With those words, Margaret Schatz signaled the beginning of Piecemakers’ third annual Backyard Quilt Show on Saturday, October 15. “From hanging the quilts in the morning to taking them down at 4:00 pm, with treats and talk between, it was definitely a team effort,” said Margaret.

It was also the culmination of a year-long effort by the members of Piecemakers, Circle’s quilting group, led by Margaret Schatz and Lonnie Dunlap. Using donated materials, they cut fabric, pieced it back together into pleasing quilt tops, layered the tops with batting and backing and tied them all together into 30 lap-size quilts. “We’ve really pushed these past few weeks to complete as many quilts as possible,” said Margaret. “Thanks to everyone.”

In the days afterwards, Carol Nielsen delivered the quilts to Evanston’s Rice Center, where they will be distributed to the children who live and receive treatment there.

In other Piecemakers news, Lonnie Dunlap received word that her son Christopher’s art has been chosen by the Brooklinen company to be used as the design for a new bedsheet pattern. “Inspired by his mother’s quilting, Dunlap’s paintings are the ultimate exploration of color and patterns,” says the company’s website. We always knew Lonnie’s quilt designs were special. So happy that now, thanks to her son, everyone else knows too!



L-R: Diane Unger, Maria Poepelmeier, Margaret Schatz and Debbie Crimmins at the quilt show.



Jane Dampfs (L) and Jean Wilson (R) take time to visit.







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**CIRCLE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2022-2023**

Circle board members meet in September. Standing L-R: Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Jane Dowding, Lindy Lynk, Margaret Schatz, Linda LaBuda.  
Seated L-R: Elisabeth Malthouse, Jane Dampfs, Pat Ulmer. Not present: Jean Corvine, Debbie Crimmins, Sally Sprowl, Sylvia Taflove.