

Windrum receives People of Faith Award

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A Gothenburg native has been recognized for her longtime efforts in the area of peace and justice.

Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska, a statewide ecumenical agency that brings Christian denominations together for worship, service, teaching and common witness to the faith, marked its 40th anniversary with a luncheon at Lincoln First United Methodist Church and an unveiling of its new People of Faith Wall of Honor.

The Wall of Honor features the names and stories of people who have been a faith inspiration to an individual, in their church, or in their community. Among the inaugural honorees was a Gothenburg native, the Rev. Carol Windrum.

Windrum grew up in Gothenburg and graduated from Gothenburg High School in 1968. After receiving a bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, she taught art in Ainsworth, Bassett and Brady.

Wanting to explore her own faith journey in a more focused way, she attended Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, MO. During that time, she decided to become an ordained clergy in the United Methodist Church.

In 1979, Windrum and her husband, Tim Fickenscher, returned to Nebraska where she served on the pastoral staff at Faith-Westwood UMC in Omaha. During her service there, she became more involved in Christian peacemaking efforts.

Because of this involvement (and the work of the Holy Spirit, in her words) she left pastoral ministry to begin Peace with Justice Ministries in the Nebraska Conference of the United Methodist Church. This new role was a call to peacemaking and justice seeking.

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During the 26 years of PJM, Windrum and her husband traveled to the, then, U.S.S.R. on two citizen diplomacy trips, learned from third world Christians on a trip to Nicaragua and were commissioned twice to travel across the United States working in many annual conferences helping congregations grow in their discipleship of following the Prince of Peace.

Windrum received the statewide Peacemaker of the Year award from Nebraskans for Peace, the Gandhi Award from the School of Social Work at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and was selected to go with the Bread for the World delegation to be a prayerful presence during the G8 Summit in Scotland in 2005 focusing on global poverty.

One of the greatest joys in Windrum's work now is mentoring young adults in the arena of Christian peace and justice.

For more information about Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska and the People of Faith Wall of Honor, contact IMN, 402-476-3392, im50427@windstream.net.