

CATCH the VISION

May 2023 Wisconsin Conference

President's Message: Hello, all!

I'd like to use this President's message to share some updates from the National United Women in Faith that came recently to conference presidents. It concerns the Member Dashboard (portal) on the United Women in Faith website that we hoped would launch in early May. The launch has now been delayed to later in May for technical reasons discovered in the final round of testing.

The Member Dashboard will be the "go-to" source of information for members. It will feature news, a weekly inspiring word, weekly member and national highlights and stories, updates, and events accessible to members only. It will host the most current information for all members regarding the Inspire, Influence and Impact tracks and calls to actions.

The website has been a tool for individuals to connect with United Women in Faith through the All Access Membership option. Now, United Women in Faith is also releasing a new All Access Group Application that offers a new way for members and units to organize. Members and units of churches that are disaffiliating or going inactive can remain connected to the mission and work of United Women in Faith.

Finally, here are some resources for conference, district and local leaders:

The Leadership Development (LDD) Toolkit was created to give all leaders access to some of the LDD offerings, since not everyone was invited to participate. (This one needs a password.)

LDD Toolkit - https://unitedmethodistwomen.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/4a89f4e8/enroll

It is vital for members to understand what's changing in our organization and why. Please let women in your area know about these important resources:

New Wineskins workshops, now available in PPT and webinar formats as free downloads on the e-store: https://ukfaithresources.org/searchresults.cfm? searchText=new+wineskins

This is a list of downloads (PDFs, PPTs, videos, etc.) from 2022 now located on uwfaithresources.org. If you are looking for a file from the old e-store, this is a quick chart of where they can be found now. https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?
productID=10610&catid=2196

May you be blessed in your journey as United Women in Faith,

Gloria Carter, Conference President

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Mission u 2023



Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith-Mission u 2023

Join us at Mission u as we explore the good news and what it means for our lives! Jesus' teachings in the Gospels proclaim the good news of the kin-dom or reign (basileia) of God. In fact, Jesus mentions the kin-dom 90 times in the Synoptic Gospels! What does the Bible tell us about God's basileia and why do we call it the kin-dom? For Jesus, the kin-dom was not simply something to talk about but something we could live and experience. From the Lord's Prayer to the beatitudes to the parables, this good news is at the heart of Jesus' preaching, teaching and ministry. Come! Let's explore together the heart of Jesus' good news and what fresh vision it offers us as we seek to be in mission today.

Our 2023 Mission u will offer the following curriculum available at https://uwfaithresources.org
by January 2023: Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma (Adult)

Join us June 20, 22, 27 & 29 for <u>Live Zoom Mission u</u> and <u>July 13-15 In Person Mission u will be held at First United Methodist Church Baraboo/hotel-Best Western Inn-Baraboo.</u> The registration forms are attached. The in person tentative daily schedule is listed below.

In Person Mission u -Thursday July 13, 2023		
Registration	3:00PM	6:15PM
Singing	6:15PM	6:30PM
Plenary/Worship	6:30PM	7:45PM
Study #1	7:45PM	8:45PM
In Person Mission u - Friday July 14, 2023		
Early Morning Devotion	8:00AM	8:15AM
Singing	8:30AM	8:45AM
Plenary/Worship	8:45AM	9:45AM
Break	9:45AM	10:00AM
Study 2 & 3	10:00AM	12:00PM
Lunch Break	12:00PM	1:30PM
Study 4 & 5	1:30PM	3:30PM

Study 6	4:00PM	5:00PM
Dinner Break	6:00PM	6:15PM
Climate Justice	6:30PM	8:30PM
In Person Mission u Saturday morning-July 15,'23		
Early Morning Devotion	8:00AM	8:15AM
Study 7 & 8	8:30AM	10:30AM
Break	10:30AM	10:45AM
Closing Worship	10:45AM	12:00PM

Live Zoom Mission u-June 20,22,27&29, 2023				
Zoom	Tuesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday
June	20	22	27	29
Time	6:30-9:00PM	6:30-9:00PM	6:30-9:00PM	6:30-9:00PM

There is a change in the <u>location/hotel of Mission u</u>. The In Person Mission u July 13-15 will be held at <u>First United Methodist Church Baraboo</u>, and the hotel is <u>Best Western Inn, Baraboo</u>. The new registration form may be found on pages 3 & 4. If you registered with the old form, you need not reregister. Just note the change in location. Make hotel registrations by calling 608-356-1100.

Contact Dean Mary Lainberger at mlainberger@charter.net or Assistant Dean Laura Pfeffer at pfeffer.umw@gmail.com with any questions.

Mission u 2023





Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith In Person Mission u 2023 Registration Form July 13,14,15

First United Methodist Church Baraboo 615 Broadway St., Baraboo, WI 53913

Name	District (Circle One) NW NC NE SW SE
Address, City, State, Zip	
Email	
Phone	
Please indicate: UWF unit, District Member or All Access Member	
Early bird registration is \$70. After June 1 the	cost is \$85. Registration deadline is June 10.
Send check made out to <u>Mission u</u> along with this registration form to our registrar: You may also register online.	Josie Gobel 309 W. Johnson St. Apt. 930
Click or copy & paste this URL into your browser.	Madison, WI 53705

https://forms.gle/H3Ce3TZWmRKCqNv57

Registration is transferable but not refundable

Book: Living the Kin-Dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma. The book is available at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 888-409-8137.

Lodging-Participants are responsible for their own lodging reservations and their evening meal on Thursday night & Sat. lunch. We have set aside a block of rooms at Best Western Baraboo Inn, 725 W. Pine St, Baraboo, WI 53913. When booking, indicate United Women in Faith- mission u. The rooms will be available at the special rate of \$120.00 for Thursday night and \$220.00 for Friday night single or double occupancy. Rooms will be held for us until June 10 or until they have all been filled. The rooms include a free breakfast on Friday and Saturday mornings. Make hotel reservations by calling 608-356-1100.

Join us at Mission u as we explore the good news and what it means for our lives! Pg. 2 Jesus' teachings in the Gospels proclaim the good news of the kin-dom or reign (basileia) of God. Jesus Mentions the kin-dom 90 times in the Synoptic Gospels! For Jesus, the kin-dom was not simply something to talk about but something we could live and experience. From the Lord's Prayer to the beatitudes to the parables, this good news is at the heart of Jesus 'preaching & teaching.

Scholarships available to cover registration costs for one Mission u event:

- The Gilpin Memorial Scholarship is available to everyone.
- The Nancy Rivers Scholarship is available for women under 45 attending for the first time
- Scholarships for Clergy given to newly ordained Elders, Elders transferred into the Conference & newly consecrated local Pastors.

Check those that apply:Seeking lay speaker creditSeeking CEU credit (for clergy)	
Request Scholarship (See above)	
First time at Mission uNew WI Clergy Mission u scholarship	
Requesting a scholarship stipend to help offset the cost of child care up to \$25.00/day for	
the first (5) requests with registration (Please contact registrar for information.)	
Meals Provided: Friday Lunch (indicate your preference)	
Please check one:vegetariangluten freechicken saladhamturkey	
Friday Supper: Spaghetti and tossed saladregularvegetariangluten free	
Photos taken at Mission u could be used in material to promote this event. Please sign below to ndicate that you understand that your photo may be taken and used by Wisconsin Conferen	ce
United Women in Faith to help share United Women in Faith with others. Name:(print)Date	
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Sign	-
Name:(print)	-
Sign	-

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH June 20, 22, 27& 29, 2023 6:30-9:00PM

Mission u 2023



LIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Reflecting God's Love



Join us at Mission u as we explore the good news and what it means for our lives! Jesus' teachings in the Gospels proclaim the good news of the kin-dom or reign(basileia) of God

Living the Kin-Dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma is the book for this class. Purchase it at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 888-409-8137. You must purchase your own copy.

A zoom invitation will be sent to you one week prior to the first class session.

A zoom invitation will be sent to you one verification.

Each person should register individually. Your fastest and https://forms.gle/ScKL676aGzY7ok4m9 (Click browser) You may also register by completing the for with your check.

Registration: \$20.00 Registration deadline June 10.

Make checks payable to Mission u. Mail along with the registration form below to our registrar: Each person should register individually. Your fastest and most accurate way to register is online at:: (Click on URL or Copy and paste it into browser) You may also register by completing the form below and mailing it to our registrar

A donation for our Conference pledge may be added to your registration fee and noted in the check memo.

Registration transferable but not refundable.

Josie Gobel 309 W. Johnson St. Apt. 930 Madison, WI53703 josiegobel@charter.net cell:920-988-0705

This will take the place of the offering we usually take during the event.

Name	District (Circle One) NW NC NE SW SE
Address, City, State, Zip	•
Email	Phone
UWF unit, District Member or All Access Member	
I will sign in to zoom using myphone, as part of small group.	_smart phone/computer, orwill be signing in for our small group.
When we have breakout groups, as a small group orjoin a breakout group or	
Note: Joining a breakout group works best for g	proups of no more than three persons.
Check those that apply:Seeking Lay Spe	eaker creditSeeking CEU credit _Requesting ScholarshipFirst time at Mission u



Spiritual Growth Message from Linda Caprariello "Boldness in Prayer!"

Matthew 6:5-14 gives us a short tutorial from Jesus, on *"Prayer,"* concluding with the words of The Lord's Prayer. Verses 6-8 gives us some instructions:

"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Luke 11:1 reminds us that when Jesus was praying in a certain place, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." It becomes very clear, that Jesus' chosen disciples needed to learn how to pray, and as Jesus' followers and United Women in Faith, so do we! Sometimes, we just need that basic tutorial, or perhaps, in all our years of loving and following God, we just need to learn how to be **BOLDER** in our prayers!

How exciting then, to look forward – To come to Mission u and dig into and explore the *Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation*! This prayer was how Jesus taught his disciples, and how he seeks to teach us, as his followers!

But for now, let us reflect on how we might learn to pray with more **boldness!** The dictionary says that "boldness implies that one will not hesitate or be fearful in the face of actual or possible danger or rebuff; courageous and daring."

I found myself being more **bold** this week...I let go of my fear to ask for prayers for my sister who has been in the hospital for two weeks now. She has been suffering from numerous complications, after collapsing and being rushed to the ER for an emergency surgery of an unsuspected perforated ulcer! She has lived with chronic pain for the past 20 years from Arachnoiditis, an inflammation of her spinal cord – such serious, daily back pain! I was so relieved that she was in the hands of great doctors and nurses, but then, there was not improvement – only more problems cropping up!

My brother and sisters were devasted—our baby sister was in serious condition! I had been praying, but, on that early morning, when I woke up and realized that fear & dread was taking over my spirit, I knew that I needed help! I needed God's Power, and a LOT of it! But where to go? I decided to go to Face Book! Yes...It may have the reputation for "fun & games...travel and photos," but this time, I prayed to share a **bold** message of need – for my sister and my family to get through this! I knew she would NEVER write or ask for this, but the Holy Spirit took over, and with no hesitation or fear, I reached out to share my need to friends and families from all over the U.S.

And the end of this story? God is still working in my sister's healing and rehabilitation, and I will continue to trust in his faithfulness! But something else transpired: I myself was "rehabilitated!" I was "brought back to life" as I read and cried through SO MANY messages of love, care, support, encouragement, scripture verses, and yes...their repeated prayers! Such a time of blessed gratefulness!! Friends, may we be so **bold** to pray without fear or rebuff, but only rejoice, that our God will delight in our **boldness!**

From Conference Vice President, Deb Patee:

Save the Dates: Fri. & Sat., October 13-14, 2023 / Thursday, October 26, 2023

2023 Conference United Women in Faith Annual Gathering All are invited

Mosaic of Faith: We are All Part of God's Story
October 13—14, 2023

Lake Street United Methodist Church, 337 Lake Street, Eau Claire, WI

(Note — Friday during the day will have optional activities again!

Leadership Development

All officers in the conference invited—
district and state

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Zoom meeting from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Registration and zoom link will be available soon!

Officer training will not be offered at our Annual Gathering. It will be at this separate zoom event.

From the Nominating Committee

Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" and I said, "Here I am. Send me!" - Isaiah 6:8

The nominations committee is working to fill several positions for 2024. We are looking for a Vice President and several members to fill out the nominations committee. If you are someone who enjoys program and event planning, contact someone on the nominations committee about the position. The nominations committee needs people from all districts to help ensure that the conference leader-

The nominations committee needs people from all districts to help ensure that the conference leadership represents all parts of the conference. There are currently openings for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 classes.

If you are called about an open position, please prayerfully consider joining the team. You may be stepping out of your comfort zone, but the experience will be worth it.

Cindy Morse, Chairperson 608-225-7735, Linda K Whitelock 608-575-1517, Josie Gobel 920-988-0705

Women Enjoy Soul Care Retreat at Camp Lucerne

Our Conference Nominations Chair led a stamping up workshop at the Women's Retreat sponsored by Oak Creek UMC & led by Bonnie Clement at Camp Lucerne, our church camp near Neshkoro, WI, April 28-30. We also enjoyed workshops on signing the Lord's Prayer, essential oils, tie dying, baking with herbs, gardening, a Bible study with Pastor Cathy Christman from Baraboo First UMC and a nature walk in the woods besides daily devotions and worship on Sunday.

Several workshops took place in the new Milton Giese Center. Twenty-two of us were treated to either a chair or table massage given by local massage therapists upon request.

We enjoyed fellowship with each other and also games and puzzles in the Ridgewood Center. We shared 3 beautiful heated cabins nearby. Memories were made and shared for a beautiful time at camp.

Thris Anding, Conference Secretary



Left to rightt. Chris Anding, Cindy Morse, Karen Weinert, and Chris Davis at stamping up activity.

CALL TO ACTION!







https://www.umcjustice.org/

Tell U.S. Senators to fund the U.S. fair share for Climate, Health, and Stability

"All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings." United Methodist Social Principles, ¶160

Wisconsin SB 110/AB 114 Expand Medicaid to 12 months Postpartum https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/related/proposals/sb110.pdf

Right now this bill is both in the Governor's budget proposal, and being heard as a standalone bill.

During the three hour Senate Committee hearing, over 25 legislators, healthcare professionals, mothers, advocacy groups, and anti-abortion activists spoke and <u>submitted testimony</u> in favor of passing this bill. Over <u>40 groups</u> have registered in favor of this bill, and not one has registered in opposition. This type of unanimous, bipartisan support does occur in the legislature, and when it does, we should jump at the opportunity to act on behalf of the Wisconsin people. This is our moment to help postpartum moms and parents! Let's pass this bill!

Supporting Wisconsin families during the postpartum period is a priority—we are working to save the lives of mothers. Two-thirds of maternal deaths occur 6 to 12 months after the baby is born, and the United States is the only developed country where the maternal mortality rate has increased, doubling over the past two decades, and increasing 40% in 2021. Postpartum women deserve access to healthcare.

CALL YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS TO SUPPORT!!!!

https://legis.wisconsin.gov/ Click "Who are my legislators". Enter address. Click "Find"

Bold action, like faith, takes courage. Our bravery is inspired by God's love and our powerful commitment to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. United Women in Faith works for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems that harm women, children, and youth—from racial and gender injustice to economic inequality, climate issues and more.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE

Our 2023 Social Action Day on "Faithful Climate Action" was a huge success! There were 153 participants this year, an increase from last year! We are glad you were a part of it. Because of your generosity we were able to cover our expenses, send \$1,878.00 to United Methodist Children's Services and add over \$1,000.00 to our Conference pledge. Thank you to the 13 church watch party hosts!

Below are two Social Action Day Links for you to review and/or share.

The first link is a recording of the entire morning's program and the 2nd link is the song that closed the program – but now we have the sound with the recording.

Link to the edited SAD video. It is on YouTube but private to only those who have the link. To Open, hover over link and Hit "control" plus "click" at the same time. You MAY get a "security warning" that requires you to click "allow".

2023 Social Action Day https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f zqCv0VSO8

Link to "What does the Lord Require" 1.29.23 snippet: https://vimeo.com/817042447/9c798a845e

Here is the contact emails for the speakers. Feel free to follow up with them if you have any comments or questions.

Elena Canler elena@faithinplace.org

Rebecca Gregory rebecca.gregory@umcs-wi.org

Alexander Malchow alexander@faithinplace.org

Several of our UWinF members participated in the April 27 WISDOM Madison Action Day 2023. We met with legislators on our UMC supported budget priorities

NEW Call To Action: Support ban on assault rifles

In the wake of horrific shootings, we are pressing on Senators every week to pass gun safety laws. Of top priority is a ban on assault weapons, the bill has many Senate cosponsors. We want a senate vote. Call your US Senators and Sen Majority Leader Schumer to support Senate Bill 25 - the ban on assault weapons.

Thank Sen Tammy Baldwin for being a co-sponsor

(608) 264-5338

Ask Sen Ron Johnson to become a co-sponsor

(202) 224-5323

Ask Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to bring the Bill to a vote

(202) 224-6542

Thank you to those of you who have completed the post conference survey. There is still time! We have received many constructive suggestions and will make changes to have an even better **Social Action Day on April 13, 2024. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

Serving for Peace, Justice and Love!

Kathy Hartke
WI Conference UWF Social Action Coordinator
CUMC Elm Grove Lay Leader to WI UMC Annual Conference

South East District Reading Program Book Discussion

Seven women participated in a discussion of the Education for Mission book THE BOOKWOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK by Kim Michele Richardson during a 4:30 PM Zoom on Thursday, April 27. It is hoped that this will be the first of many zoom gatherings to discuss our UWF Reading Program books.

South East District Secretary of Program Resources, Gail Burgess, hosted the hourlong event which featured a variety of book club discussion questions as well as short videos on the "Pack Horse Librarians" and "Facts about the Blue People of Kentucky". Most participants had already read the book — and the person who admitted to not having read it said she would read it after learning about its contents through the discussion! :-)

The purpose of this gathering is to provide a forum for discussing the books we read for the Reading Program. A book from each of the categories has been selected in hopes that those who participate will also be able to qualify for the First Level in the program! Future books include FIREKEEPER'S DAUGHTER, ON THE COME UP, THE FOUR WINDS, and WHAT IS GOD LIKE? In future years the program could be expanded to ten books (Plan 2). Who knows, maybe we can even get to watch one of the Reading Program movies?!

If you are interested in joining this book discussion group, email Gail at hb53104@aol.com and she will send you a link to the next session!

Does your district have an activity that women in other districts might like to be part of? Write a short description and give information as to how others might join and send it to me to include in our CTV newsletter as we have room.

Do you know others who are not currently receiving CTV but would like to. Any woman with an email address may receive a free copy by sending your email address to marilyn.eyster@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report of Final 2022 Financial Results

For 2022, the Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith pledged \$185,000 toward the five channels of giving to the United Women in Faith National Office. Unfortunately, we were not able to continue our multiple-year record of exceeding our pledge, but came in only slightly under our pledge for 2022. For the year, we contributed \$181,581 for the five channels of giving plus an additional \$49,022 in designated giving.

We were helped tremendously by a very generous bequest from the Estate of Helen Bennett, which provided \$60,000 of support, split equally between the Pledge to Mission and the Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund.

In addition to the pass-through donations discussed above, we received \$28,500 of Pledge to Mission funds that were kept to fund the conference and district budgets. That, along with \$2,656 of registration fees, were used to provide \$15,500 of budget support to the districts and cover \$17,840 of conference expenses. In addition to these annual expenses, the Conference provided \$5,539 in scholar-ships to Assembly 2022 in later 2021 through 2022.

All of this support and programming was only possible because of the generous giving from United Women in Faith across Wisconsin, so *thank you* for all your donations!

Lisa King, Conference Treasurer.

Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund Wisconsin Conference

The Mabel Heil Scholarships are made possible by earnings from a trust established in the will of Sarah Mabel Heil, a resident of Cuba City, Wisconsin. Funds are awarded by the Heil Scholarship Committee of the Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith and are invested in the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation. Any Wisconsin United Methodist woman working to improve her education may apply.

Available Funds:

- a. Funds will be invested in the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, in a fund split 60 percent equity and 40 percent fixed.
- **b.** Funds available to provide scholarships for each semester will be calculated as 2.5 percent of the fair market value of the Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund as of the end of the month prior to the approval of Scholarships.

Eligibility Requirements:

- **a.** Must be a female member of the United Women in Faith and/or United Methodist Church, Wisconsin.
- **b.** Submit a written answer to the question, "In what ways do I consider myself a worthy student?"
- **c.** Letter of recommendation from either the president of the local UWFaith unit or from your pastor.
- **d.** Letter of recommendation from a church member who is not a member of your household and is not a relative. (Person writing letter on behalf of applicant is to send the letter directly to the contact person)
- **e.** All letters must be written (Preferably typed) on one side of an 8.5x11" sheet of white paper using black ink.

Application Procedures:

- a. Awarded for one semester at a time. To be considered again for any subsequent semester, send letter asking to be considered.
- b. Graduate students may apply for each semester as long as they meet the other requirements
- c. Application and two (2) letters of recommendation OR RECONSIDERATION LETTER must be received by May 1 for the fall semester or October 1 for the spring semester. Checks will be disbursed by August 15 and January 15.

Application forms may be requested from the address below.

Obtain an application form and send to:

Mabel Heil Scholarship Lucy Silvester 373 15th Ave. Nekoosa, WI 54457

For more information, call 715-325-2841 or email at loosesilv45@gmail.com.

Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith c/o Marilyn Eyster 122 East Cox Road Edgerton, WI 53534



Calendar 2023

June 20,22,27&29	Mission u — zoom (6:30 p.m9 p.m.)
July 13-15	Mission u 3-day class in person at Baraboo First UMC

Aug. 18-20 Executive Team/Mission u Meeting at Pine Lake

Sept. 1 Catch the Vision due date

Annual Gathering — Eau Claire, Lake St. UMC Oct. 13-14

Oct. 26 Leadership Development — zoom (7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.)

Mission u/Executive Team Meeting — zoom (9 a.m.— 3 p.m.) Nov. 4

Dec. 1 Catch the Vision due date