



CATCH the VISION

Nov / Dec 2017

email information to: dgrbmm@gmail.com

President's Message

It hardly seems possible that my four years as your Conference President is coming to a close. It has been a great joy and honor to serve God, this organization and all of you for this time. I have had a great deal of encouragement and expressions of appreciation during those years, but in truth I could not have done it without the talented and faithful women on the Conference team, District leaders and local members who have worked to make our dreams and plans come into being.

In Paul's farewell to the leaders of the Ephesian church, Paul says "I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me" (Acts 20:24). In United Methodist Women we are given tasks but they are rarely completed. Our journey is a relay race rather than a solo journey. Four years ago, I received the baton of leadership from Judy Vasby. I was unsure if I as a relative new-comer to Wisconsin, a younger working woman and someone who was not raised in the church would be the best choice for such a position. Yet I believe that God provides and gifts us all in unique ways and many of the weaknesses I saw in my abilities and knowledge turned out to be areas of transformation for me and my handling of the role of President. I was not the same President Judy was and as I hand off my baton to Shirley Carpenter I know that she will bring to this position gifts, knowledge and graces I did not. We run this race started by our brave and visionary foremothers in new ways, yet we are still focused upon our PURPOSE and it guides forward as we hand off our baton to the next woman who answers God's call to serve.

Of course, once you have started on the race it rarely lets you quit, so I will still be active in leadership of United Methodist Women as I transition to becoming President of the South West District. Even as we retire from one office, we are often recycled into new places of service and mission. I value the experience I have had on the Conference level and look forward to applying what I learned in my District. I pray that we will all continue to find new ways to invite women of all ages, races, abilities and background to join us on this race. I pray you will find encouragement to preserve and grow in your understanding of God, our neighbors and mission in the world. In the 21st century United Methodist Women still has a vital role in the church and the world as we seek to put Faith, Hope and Love into Action for women, children and youth. Thank you for this opportunity to serve you all. It has been a priceless gift to me.

Yours in Christ,

Laura Pfeffer

Wisconsin Conference President UMW

pfeffer.umw@gmail.com



Harbor House Donations



Barbara Dick



Muslim panel

Wisconsin Conference UMW Annual Gathering

Wisconsin United Methodist Women answered A Call to Community by attending a spirit filled Annual Gathering at First UMC Waukesha on Oct. 20-21. 30 women participated in the tour of Northcott Neighborhood House on Friday afternoon before the annual gathering. An overview of Northcott was given by Mac Weddle and Bob. A major concern for Northcott is the leaking roof over the gym. Friday evening there was District officer training and an update on Northcott was given by Adrienne Griffin. 110 United Methodist women and 5 District Superintendents (Scott Carlson, Sue D'Alessio, Forrest Wells, Deborah Thompson, and Kate Croskery Jones) participated on Saturday. Donations were collected for Harbor House and Crisis Shelters. The Limitless young women led us in our Purpose in English, Spanish, and Hmong. Presentations included the Washington Seminar, on Assembly 2018, and Legacy 150. The Seminar was held in Washington, DC and New York in August. Participants studied climate justice and income inequality at the United Methodist Building in DC and at the United Nations in New York. Barbara Dick was the key note speaker on Saturday morning. Her keynote speech, "A Call to Community" is posted on the Wisconsin UMW website at: www.wisconsinumw.org. The Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition was the key note speaker in the afternoon. Members of the panel were able to join us for lunch before their presentation. Continuing with the theme of A Call to Community, Janan Najeeb presented a PowerPoint presentation on building bridges, and dispelling Muslim stereotypes. The audio file of Janan's presentation is available from Ruby Dow at remdow@ymail.com. One individual stated she learned that Muslims believe in the God of Abraham. A special offering was taken for the Legacy fund. \$1717.00 was received. An offering was taken for UMW missions. \$1196.00 was received. The day ended with the installation of 2018 Conference UMW officers and communion officiated by Pastor Greta Hietpas. Next year the UWM annual gathering will be on Oct. 19-20 at First UMC Waukesha.

Ruby Dow
Vice-President

Conference Officers for 2018

Vice President



Secretary

Greetings: My name is Josie Gobel and I am your new Conference Secretary. I'll be the first to admit that I am a bit nervous about all of this, but I will do my best. I am relatively new to the UMW and so I am definitely on a steep learning curve. So please bear with me. I'm anxious to meet many people around the State of Wisconsin and anxious to be part of the team. Never hesitate to contact me with suggestions, ideas, concerns, corrections and/or whatever else is on your mind.

I do have one big ambitious goal! That is -- I would like to get the 2018 Yearbook published by Jan. 31, 2018. Consequently, I will be looking for the input from the District Leaders regarding:

1. Contact list of your District Officers (incl. full address, phone # & email – if they have one)
2. List of District Meeting Dates for 2018 & location of the meetings, if known. (If you do not know the location you can designate: TBD (to be determined).

That includes: Team meetings, Retreats and/or Days of Enrichment, District Annual Gathering, etc.

3. List of Local Unit Presidents (incl. their address, phone # & email (if they have one).

It will be very helpful to me if you can gather the information listed above, and get it to me as soon as you can. But certainly get it to me by Dec. 31st. Again, do not hesitate to contact me with questions of any kind.

Sincerely,

Josie Gobel

920-988-0705

josiegobel@charter.net



Nominations

The nominations committee is pleased to announce the slate of officers that will be brought before the annual business meeting for election on October 21st in Waukesha. We want to thank everyone who has said yes enthusiastically. You may see that there are currently several openings that we are still working to fill and may bring them to be nominated from the floor at the meeting. If you have anyone you would like to suggest or bring before the nominating committee. It is becoming harder and harder to fill positions in a volunteer organization but the work of United Methodist Women is so critical to the lives of women, youth and children around the world and certainly in our own communities. You can contact me or any of the other members of our committee. Our numbers and emails are on the slate of officers as we are all continuing at this time for at least another year.

Conference Nominating Committee

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW SLATE OF OFFICERS 2018

President	TBA		New Term expires 2019
Vice-President	Ruby Dow W3008 49 th St. Mauston, WI 53948	608-847-2398 remdow@ymail.com	Continuing Term expires 2018
Secretary	Josie Gobel 309 W. Johnson St. Apt. 1030 Madison, WI 53703	c- 920-988-0705 h-608-230-6919 josiegobel@charter.net	New Term expires 2019
Treasurer	Linda K. Whitelock 6137 Dell Drive Madison, WI 53718	608-223-9161 whitelocklinda@att.net	Continuing Term expires 2019
Program Resources	Diane Woodbury 413 Madison St. Janesville, WI 53548	608-289-9008 dwoodbury61@gmail.com	New Term expires 2020
Spiritual Growth	Deb Pattee W18821 N River Rd. Whitehall, WI 54773	651-295-6842 patteedk@uwec.edu	Continuing Term expires 2019
Membership Nurture and Outreach	Sue Plasterer 6813 Winstone Drive Madison, WI 53711	h- 608-274-0275 seplasterer@charter.net	New Term expires 2019
Communications	Robin Digman 317 W Merrimac Dodgeville, WI 53533	c-608-341-8315 w-608-258-3315 dgrbmm@mhtc.net dgrbmm@gmail.com	Continuing prior term Term expires 2018
Social Action	Muriel O. Smith-Gross 2856 N. Sherman Blvd. Milwaukee, WI 53210	414-213-6066 IMOSG@att.net	Completing term Term Expires 2018
Education and Interpretation	Cherrie Hartley 1527 Roxbury Way Waukesha, WI 53186	h-262-650-1184 cherriecuffy@hotmail.com	New Term expires 2019
Nominations Chair	Jeanette Retzlaff W9113 Red Feathers Cambridge, WI 53523	608-423-3360 jeteretzlaff@yahoo.com	New Term expires 2019
Committee on Nominations	Julie Mieke 155 Shato Lane Monona, WI 53716	h-608-221-3061 c-608-320-0112 julie.mieke9@gmail.com julie.mieke@ssmhealth.com	Returning Term expires 2018
Committee on Nominations	Shirley Jackson 4257 W Bradley Road #117 Brown Deer, WI 53223	414-354-5258 MrsShirleyjackson79@gmail.com	Continuing Term expires 2018
Committee on Nominations	Rachel Benton 1731 White Swan Dr. Oshkosh, WI 54901	920-231-7724 bentonr1430@yahoo.com	Continuing Term expires 2019
Committee on Nominations	Kay Waugh 3396 Libby Lane Suamico, WI 54313	920-434-7101 c-920-366-6354 kdwau@new.rr.com	Continuing Term expires 2019
Committee on Nominations	Linda J. Whitelock 3242 Hemmingway Drive Janesville, WI 53545	608-754-1021 lthompson207@msn.com	New Term expires 2020
Committee on Nominations	Judy Loveless 815 Maple Rd. Verona, WI 53593	608-848-8243 icenmp@rit.edu	New Term expires 2020
Hmong Language Co-Coordinator	Chandy Xiong 1209 S. 15 th Street Milwaukee, WI 53215	c-414-510-9056 chandyxiong@gmail.com	Continuing Term expires 2018
Hmong Language Co-Coordinator	Chue Vang 2029 S. 15 th Street Milwaukee, WI 53204	h-414-643-5749 c-414-604-7310 vangcx1@milwaukee.k12.wi.us	Continuing Term expires 2018
Native American Language Coordinator	Holly Helton Anishinaabequa 13355 Park Ave. #107 Columbus, WI 53597	262-443-1551 hOlyhelt0n@gmail.com	Continuing Term expires 2019

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW SLATE OF OFFICERS 2018

Hispanic Language Coordinator	TBA		
Korean Language Coordinator	TBA		
Historian	Judy Vasby 218 Neji Court Deerfield, WI 53531	c-608-576-0173 vasbyumw@gmail.com	New Term expires 2019
Nominations Committee North Central Jurisdiction	Kady Herr-Yang 1809 W. Ramsey Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53221	414-817-8120 kadyherryang@gmail.com	New Term expires 2020
Young Women's Coordinator	Fiona Odum 2929 S. Tenth St. Milwaukee, WI 53215	414-469-9277 terrabyrd09@gmail.com	New Term expires 2019
Young Women's Mentor	Gloria Carter 7224 Springfield Circle Waunakee, WI 53597	608-849-7589 Carter53597@tds.net	Continuing Term expires 2019
Mission u Dean	Karen Mayeshiba 1702 Lyndale Road Madison, WI 53711	608-277-1883 kamayeshiba@yahoo.com	New Term expires 2019
Mission u Assistant Dean	Stacy Ganzer 1640 Woodstock St. Oshkosh, WI 54904	920-379-8238 stacyganzer@new.rr.com	New Term expires 2019
Program Advisory Group	Mary Lainberger 304 Mohawk Trail DeForest, WI 53532	h-608-846-4378 c-608-212-0506 mlainberger@charter.net	Continuing Term expires 2020

Charter for Racial Justice Committee

Shirley Carpenter, Jeanette Retzlaff, Deborah Pattee, Kemi Baiyewu, Holly Helton Anishinaabegwa, Chue Vang, Chandy Xiong, Muriel Smith- Gross, (Hispanic language coordinator, Cathryn Luse, Laura Pfeffer

News from Shirley Carpenter:

I'm grateful for the many years I was able to serve on the Conference Team. Thank you all for your support. After being diagnosed with wet macular degeneration, I was diagnosed with dementia. Between the two, going to appointments keeps us busy - 4 hours today.

My hubby, "Shirley's secretary." is taking good care of me, as well as doing the household chores. Without him I couldn't have done all the things I did.

I will be attending District and Conference events, as I am able. I made so many wonderful friends, which I cherish, and hope to be touch with.

Life has it's "twists and turns." Hopefully God will lead me into something where I can serve others. In Christ's Love,

Spiritual Growth

I wonder if you are aware of a major event in the history of the church that was just commemorated: the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, when Martin Luther nailed the famous 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg church on October 31, 1517. Many churches celebrated this on Sunday, October 29, also called Reformation Day. We should all be aware of the significance of this event.

A few years ago, I was visiting the Catholic Church that my daughter and her family were attending at the time. Her priest announced that it was Reformation Sunday for Protestants around the world and he felt that the church should sing *A Mighty Fortress is our God*. My husband and I were brought to tears as we belted out that great Martin Luther hymn and as priest and many in the church sang acapella and without a hymnal. I'm sure that many of you know this song but I want you to see the 2nd stanza.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

Here we see the importance of our relationship with Jesus who alone wins the battle. There is nothing we can do to earn God's favor. It is God who wins the battle.

If you were to look up Protestant Reformation on history.com it says,

The Protestant Reformation was the 16th-century religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era. In northern and central Europe, reformers like Martin Luther, John Calvin and Henry VIII challenged papal authority and questioned the Catholic Church's ability to define Christian practice. They argued for a religious and political redistribution of power into the hands of Bible- and pamphlet-reading pastors and princes. The disruption triggered wars, persecutions and the so-called Counter-Reformation, the Catholic Church's delayed but forceful response to the Protestants.

So, what does this all mean?

I would say one of the key texts that makes it all clear to me is those two verses that many of us had to memorize – Ephesians 2: 8,9: - “For by grace are you saved by faith. And that not of yourselves is the gift of God, not of works lest anyone should boast!”

So, our salvation is all about grace (God's Work At Christ's Expense). There is nothing we can do except tell God we need God. Our works do not get us to heaven. It is all about our faith in God. Another key point is that we can have our own Bible in a language that we can read. Luther was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church because his emphasis was on *Sola Scriptura* – Scripture alone as the Christian's ultimate authority, as opposed to Popes or Councils. He read through the entire Bible each year for at least ten years of his life.

I hope you are encouraged like me to realize how this Reformation 500 years ago affects us today. Now that we understand how the importance of Scripture has changed, I might ask “How is your Bible reading going?” I hope we don't all take it for granted and like Luther attempt to read it through in a year!

Submitted by Deb Pattee ~ Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator



Mission Action Day

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Mauston United Methodist Church
420 Suszycki Drive
Mauston, WI 53948

Themes: Health Care policy and Income inequality and racial justice

Program to focus on: How do people of faith deal with health care insurance and related issues of income disparages related to race. How are faith communities involved.

Registration: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.



Sending forth: 2:30 p.m.

Registration is transferrable, not refundable.

2018 MISSION ACTION DAY REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline for Registration: Friday, March 9, 2018- \$12 registration fee

Late registration-\$15- March 10-17, after March 17- fee remains \$15 lunch on your own

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/ZIP Code _____

District _____ Church _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Child Care needed for _____ child(ren), Age(s) _____ (I also understand that I am responsible for providing a sack lunch for each child or paying the registration fee of \$12.00 for each child in order to cover their lunch.)

Dietary or other considerations _____

Send form and **registration fee** to:

Janet Brockman, W6943 North Road, Mauston, WI 53948

Make checks payable to: **Wisconsin Conference UMW**

Driving Directions to Mauston UMC, Mauston

For Mission Action Day, Saturday, April 7, 2018

- FROM STEVENS POINT/WAUSAU AREA (NORTHWEST): Take 39/51 south to Hwy 82 west to Mauston. Turn Left on N. Union Street (Hwy 82 and County G), Turn right onto east State Street (Hwy, 12). Turn left onto Division. Turn right onto Milwaukee Street. Turn right onto Suszycki Dr. Parking lot is on left side of street.
- FROM MADISON AREA (SOUTHWEST): Take 94/90/39 North. Stay on 90/94 to exit 69 (Mauston). Turn left onto Hwy. 82. Turn Left on N. Union Street (Hwy 82 and County G), Turn right onto east State Street (Hwy, 12). Turn left onto Division. Turn right onto Milwaukee Street. Turn right onto Suszycki Dr. Parking lot is on left side of street.
- FROM MILWAUKEE AREA (SOUTH): Take Hwy 94 towards Madison. Take 90/94/39 north. Stay on 90/94 to exit 69 (Mauston). Turn left onto Hwy. 82. Turn Left on N. Union Street (Hwy 82 and County G), Turn right onto east State Street (Hwy, 12). Turn left onto Division. Turn right onto Milwaukee Street. Turn right onto Suszycki Dr. Parking lot is on left side of street.
- FROM GREEN BAY AREA (NORTH): Take Hwy 41 south to Hwy 44 towards Ripon. Turn right onto Hwy. 23. Go straight on Hwy 82 towards Oxford and continue to Mauston. Turn Left on N. Union Street (Hwy 82 and County G), Turn right onto east State Street (Hwy, 12). Turn left onto Division. Turn right onto Milwaukee Street. Turn right onto Suszycki Dr. Parking lot is on left side of street.
- FROM LA CROSSE AREA (WEST): Take 90 east to 90/94 east towards Madison. Stay on 90/94 to exit 69 (Mauston). Turn right onto Hwy. 82. Turn Left on N. Union Street (Hwy 82 and County G), Turn right onto east State Street (Hwy, 12). Turn left onto Division. Turn right onto Milwaukee Street. Turn right onto Suszycki Dr. Parking lot is on left side of street.

Madison to Mauston: 1 hour 20 min

Green Bay to Mauston: 2 hours 45 min

Milwaukee to Mauston: 2 hours 8 min (I-94) / 2 hours 50 min (I-41)

La Crosse to Mauston: 1 hour 20 min

Wisconsin Rapids to Mauston: 1 hour 10 min

Tomahawk to Mauston: 2 hours 30 min

Eau Claire to Mauston: 1 hour 50 min

Program Advisory Team

Please be in prayer as United Methodist Women joins three United Methodist general agencies in a call for "bold action to protect God's people and God's planet, as world leaders gather for 'COP 23' November 6_17 United Nations Framework Concentration on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany.

Mary Lainberger
Program Advisory Board
mlainberger@charter.net
608-846-4348 or 608-212-0506.

Nurture & Outreach

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, it's that time of year to be gathering your unit information for the 2017 Census. District Presidents will soon be sending or have sent information to Unit Presidents and Membership Nurture and Outreach (MNO) officers. Once again it is to be entered online by the Unit President using the link on the homepage of the National UMW website.

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/> If you have not received your information please contact your District President or MNO. No computer access? No worries. We can help with that too. Just ask your District President, MNO or me. Deadline for unit census this year is March 30, 2018. Our goal is to achieve 100% unit participation. Your UMW Sister and Conference MNO coordinator, Sue Plasterer, 608-274-0275; seplasterer@charter.net

Calendar 2018

- January 13—Phone Conference
- March 3—Mission u Phone Conference
- March 16—Catch the Vision article due date
- April 7—Mission Action Day, Mauston, WI
- April 20-21—Conference Meeting, Oshkosh
- May 17-20—Assembly, Columbus, OH
- July 21 — Catch the Vision article due date
- July 23-26 – Mission U 4-day school, Hotel Mead, WI Rapids
- July 27 – Mission U Overview day, Hotel Mead, WI Rapids
- August 24—Catch the Vision article due date
- August 24-26 – Mission u and Executive Team meeting – Pine Lake Camp
- Oct 23 — Catch the Vision article due date
- Oct. 19-20 – Annual Gathering – Waukesha: First UMC
- Nov. 3-4 – Conference Team and Mission u Meeting,



MABEL HEIL SCHOLARSHIP

The Mabel Heil Scholarships are a result of funds from the will of Sarah Mabel Heil, a woman from Cuba City, Wisconsin. The first scholarships were granted in 1981. Since then more than 240 women have received help with their education.

Requirements and Instructions

Instructions:

1. Be a female member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women.
2. Submit a written answer to the question, "In what way do I consider myself a worthy student?"
3. Send the completed application form to the contact person by May 1 for the Fall semester or October 1 for the Spring semester.
4. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by the president of the local United Methodist Women or the pastor of the church.
5. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by a church member who is not a member of your household and is not a relative.

Rules:

Any member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women working to improve her education may apply.

Please have all letters written (preferably typed) on one side of 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of white paper using black ink.

All applications are photocopied for the committee members.

Scholarships are awarded one semester at a time. To be considered again DURING a one-year period, you must send a letter asking to be considered. AFTER one year, you will need to fill out another form and secure new recommendations.

If in any given year there is an increase of applications, these priorities will be followed: Women responsible for others will be favored. Women preparing to return to the employment field will be favored.

Application and two (2) letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than May 1 and October 1 to be considered.

Schedule:

1st Semester: Apply by May 1; notified by June 1; check sent by August 15.

2nd Semester: Apply by October 1; notified by November 1; check sent by December 1.

Contact Person:

Helen Robinson
N2101 Cleghorn Road
Waupaca, WI 54981 715-
258-0973 email:
pottshe@yahoo.com

Assembly Bus/Hotel Packages

**Registered for Assembly?
Great, now get on the bus and/
or stay with friends!**

**Leave: May 18, 2018
Return: May 20, 2018**

**Deadline: Hotel block rates only
available until November 30, 2017**

Prices: Bus travel is \$40 round trip or \$20 one way. (This price includes the tip for the drivers.)
Hotel cost covers 3 nights (Thurs, Fri, Sat) with tax.

4/room	\$138	2/room	\$276
3/room	\$177	room alone	\$444

Reservations are transferrable, but not refundable.
Hotel rates not guaranteed after Nov. 30

A confirmation letter (or email) with roommate list will be sent after Assembly registration closes. The bus will leave Madison early Thursday morning and return late on Sunday night. If you plan to participate in the Ubuntu Day, this bus will not work for you and you will need to arrange Wednesday night lodging on your own.



- Private Charter Buses
- Pickup at Dutch Mills Park & Ride in Madison



- Two Queen beds or 1 King (limited avail) at Hilton Columbus—Downtown
- Breakfast NOT included
- Walkway to convention center

Note: This form does **NOT** register you for Assembly. You must register for the event separately online.

**Contact person: Laura Pfeffer
(email: pfeffer.umw@gmail.com)
(cell: 608-698-7508, home: 608-592-5228)**

Bus: Round-Trip	\$40	_____	Name	_____
To Columbus-only	\$20	_____	Address	_____
From Columbus-only	\$20	_____		
Preferred room type (Circle one)				
2 Queen beds	1 King (limited avail)			
Hotel: (3 nights + tax)				
4/room	\$138	_____	Phone (cell preferred)	_____
3/room	\$177	_____		
2/room	\$276	_____	E-mail	_____
Room alone	\$444	_____		
Total:		_____		

If you wish to request particular roommate(s), please list their names. This does NOT register them for a room. They must fill out a separate form with their contact information.

Roommate #1 _____

Roommate #2 _____

Roommate #3 _____

If you want roommate(s) assigned: M F

Signature _____

Signature of parent or guardian if under 18 years of age. _____

Make checks payable to
Wisconsin Conference UMW.
Send by April 9, 2018 to:
Laura Pfeffer
W10132 Koltes Rd, Lodi, WI
53555

If you will be under 18:
Age: _____

Will you be rooming with a parent or guardian? Yes No

Wisconsin Conference
United Methodist Women
317 W Merrimac Street
Dodgeville WI 53533

Registration opened September 1, 2017 for Assembly, now is the time to register!

Visit www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and click on the link for Assembly, to complete the registration form.

Dates: May 18-20th, 2018 in Columbus, OH

May 17th will be the Ubuntu Service Day

The registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$330, this fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

Assembly is a great value at the \$330 registration fee. Few other faith-based conferences offer Worship/ Plenaries infused with music and performing arts, quality workshops and town hall meetings with renowned leaders, action opportunities and Experience Hall with immersive educational encounters for such a low fee.

Registration closes April 9, 2018.

Transportation information is included in this Catch the Vision.

See you there!!!