



United Methodist Women Metro South District Wisconsin Conference Present the
Uniter
Our quarterly newspaper
February 2011

President: Currently our president position is vacant. Our Metro South team has decided to split up the duties of the president amongst ourselves. We are learning a lot about the relationship between the conference and the district UMW as the president position is largely the liaison.

For the past year all UMW conference board members and the District Presidents have been out talking about the UMW mission to the circuits of the Wisconsin conference. They have discussed our purpose, goals, and unique activities in Wisconsin. We know that many pastors have not received an overview of UMW in their seminary training or may have transferred from another denomination and have little background in the structure and mission emphasis of UMW. There is a packet for every pastor to keep. The visit takes about 45 minutes for presentation and questions. In Metro South most of the visits have been completed. We found the following discussion interesting and clearly relevant to Metro South United Methodist Women.

For the most part clergy all have a pretty good grasp of the work of UMW. Many churches have a UMW, but its membership is comprised primarily of older women. Some of this may relate to the fact that many women are working outside the home and have less time to devote to UMW activity, but on the other hand, it seems though people have time for those activities that they truly value.

Another challenge has to do with how well (or not) generational shifts in leadership are handled in individual churches. How good a job have older UMW officers and leaders in local churches done to both mentor and share leadership with younger women, especially when new ideas are presented? The question then becomes one of how we can help make the necessary generational shifts happen, and how the ministry of the UMW can be made exciting and meaningful enough that younger persons are willing to make it more of a priority in their lives?

How do we overcome this problem? We must make unit visits and have time to bring "news" from our districts and conference, as well as to encourage reaching

out to new women - and giving up personal territorial stances. What about pulling together the current UMW leadership within local churches circuit wide and begin training them to facilitate generational shifts in leadership? There was a strong feeling that the lack of intentional generational leadership shifts are at the root of many systemic problems in local churches and not just those within the UMW. At our information explosions Feb 12 at Wesley UMC Kenosha and March at Calvary UMC in West Allis 10:30 to 12 noon we are going to be working on leadership and generational shifts. Come and join us!

UMW has a lot to offer and does much good work for women, children, and youth. We have to remind women of that and help them to pass on the story.



Treasurer – Joyce Myers: *Congratulations to us!*

By that, I mean all members and units in the Metro South District. We didn't make 100% of our goal for missions, but I think we were very "mission-minded" considering the present economy. Metro South District United Methodist Women met 81.1% of its 2010 pledge of \$56,789.10. We gave:

- **\$50,026.85 for Mission Giving, which includes: Pledges (\$44,348.80); Special Mission Recognitions (\$1,160.00); Gifts to Mission (\$765.35); Gifts in Memory (\$775.00); and World Thank Offerings (\$2,987.70).**
- **\$3,332.62 for Mission Giving Plus, which includes: Call to Prayer offerings (\$1,740.62); General Missions (\$50.00); World Missions (\$200.00); National Missions (\$377.00); UMCOR (\$500.00); School of Christian Mission donations (\$390.00); and other (\$75.00--Mabel Heil Scholarship-\$50.00 and World Communion Scholarship-\$25.00).**
- **\$53,369.47 being given in all.**

I thank all of you for your support and dedication. I pray that we can do as well, if not better, in 2011 which we have pledged \$50,000.



Remember to give thanks!!
Cats are so dramatic!

Who was John Wesley, and why do we call ourselves Methodists?

By Merry Kris Demseke a UMW Member in the Billie circle at Christ Church in Racine
Third article in a series of six.

John Wesley's life was about to change. The influence of the Moravians continued. One man, Peter Bohler, on his way to the New World from Germany, stopped and visited with John. Contrary to the rigid disciplines which he had been brought up with and were so important with the Holy Club, Bohler persuaded him to seek a personal experience. In order to "forgive" himself, Wesley needed a vital new spiritual experience. Wesley sought it day and night until on the evening of May 24th in 1738 he visited a prayer meeting that was held in a little room of a house on Aldersgate Street in London. There John Wesley had that life-changing moment with Christ. In his words, "I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He [God] had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death." Having truly experienced personal redemption, he found it so good that he wanted everyone else to have it too!

Wesley went on to share this new love in his heart with people throughout England. He began preaching wherever he could gather an audience. It did not matter whether it was the traditional hour for worship or where his listeners were gathered.

John Wesley was on an evangelical mission to the people. It was a people in profound need of this word. England, Europe, was in need of a spiritual revival. Times were greatly changing. Lifestyles were changing. New factories drew thousands of poor people from the countryside to the overcrowded cities. They were brutalized by the harsh living and working conditions. Alcohol, gambling and cruel games were common. Society's values were changing. New scientific developments persuaded many educated people that science and reason, rather than religion, held the key to human happiness. To be a "rational" person was the vogue. Having strong religious convictions and expressing them with enthusiasm was considered a vice.

As a result, Christianity was no longer such a strong moral and spiritual force. The established Church had become worldly and failed to provide for the spiritual welfare of many English men and women. As I reflected on this last statement, I considered our current times and how true this statement could be made for today. In the United States where luxuries are expected, worldly is the focus. Perhaps, this nation is in need of another spiritual revival. But, returning to John Wesley, it has been said that the conditions in society which led to the French Revolution at the end of the 18th century, were averted in England because of the social reformations sought by John Wesley and his followers. The hope that he instilled in thousands of people may have been instrumental in stemming the tides of a bloody revolution. To be continued. . . .

Materials for this series of articles must be credited to following sources:

"About John Wesley: A Scriptographic Booklet," by Channing L. Bete Co., Inc. of South Deerfield, Massachusetts; 1986 Edition.

"Strangely Warm: the Story of United Methodism," by Webb B. Garrison and John K. Bergland, Graded Press, South Nashville, Tennessee, 1968.

"J.W. & Company," by Daphna Flegal, Cokesbury, Nashville, Tennessee, 1992.



Vice President – Kathleen Harsh : Metro- North and Metro –South’s annual Day Apart on January 29, 2011 is over for another year. I can’t say enough about the work of obtaining speakers that was done by our past officers of Metro—South and it seems from the feedback that we received from participants all agree with me. The other comments from those that did respond also mentioned the suitability of the facility and the layout that was so ideal for our needs. Thanks go to the hard workers of Christ Church United Methodist church of Racine not only the UMW who had everything under control but the stepping up of the pastors to help at all levels from guitar playing to technological support and supplying the teenage tech guru. Many respondents Mentioned on the welcoming atmosphere and the humor displayed throughout the day. All mention the great learning experience and fellowshiping opportunity.

Of course, there were some things that we could have handled better and we hope to address those in the future. People would have liked more time to circulate in the morning and to visit the displays. Event planning and scheduling is not my strong point, in fact I had agreed to be Vice-President to learn how things work so I guess this was a learn by doing exercise. Another suggestion that we had was to have a list of all attendees in the program book. This is a great idea and would go along with getting to know others from other units better. It is a great suggestion and one that I would like to see implemented but there is one small problem. To do this we would have to have our cutoff date much further out in order for the registering person to be able to get the information to the program person in a timely fashion for the printer. My experience with dog shows that do have this information, it requires a three week time lag and this is with groups that use a firm that does this on a regular basis. We are a volunteer group and would be glad for someone to step up if they have the necessary skills to make this happen. The other suggestion was to have the upcoming dates either projected on a screen or included in the program. Here I simply dropped the ball and I apologize.

Now for upcoming business we need a place for our Annual Gathering. Please consider hosting it this fall. It is a wonderful opportunity to show off your unit and meet others and work with them. It is really great to work with other units and people from other units to see how others do things and solve some of the problems that all of our units have and face. The other thing I would like to remind people about is our upcoming Information Explosions in February and March. These are being held in conjunction with the Metro –South Mission Team Meetings on Feb 12, and March 12. We will be doing a mini officer training and talent and leadership workshop. You don’t know what you can do until you try and you also don’t know where your talent will fit till you look.

Both Metro-North and Metro-South have not been able to fill their respective slates for this year. It is difficult to do the work with people spread so thin. Things that are important don’t get done. We are all busy people but please see if there is not some talent that you have that could be used to help us fulfill our mission as United Methodist Women.



Secretary Marie Garnhart: By way of introduction, I am the new secretary for the Metro South District of United Methodist Women. I am very inexperienced at my new job, but I have joined a team of bright, knowledgeable, more experienced, and above all, very helpful Christian women. So it is a pleasure to be a part of your district leadership team, and I am learning, learning, learning.

I come to you by way of West Allis Calvary UMC, where I am the unit's UMW president. I have attended district events in the past and have greatly appreciated the work of the team behind these events. As one little cog in the machine, it is joyous and important to see the greater accomplishments of the wider organization. Now I will do my best to contribute to the work of the team on the district level.

My first big challenge was the 2011 yearbook, so now I know the importance of reporting the unit's list of officers as soon as they have been elected. It is also helpful if this report is printed clearly rather than in cursive. So please forgive and report any errors that I have made. *PLEASE NOTE that this year's yearbook (which every president should get a copy of) includes a "PART II" of all the 2011 Reporting forms and submissions dates.*

At the Day Apart on January 29, 2011, our records show the following churches have picked up their copy:

First Church/Kenosha	Waukesha Salem
First Church/ Racine	Our Lord's/ New Berlin
Caldwell	East Troy
Calvary/West Allis	Waukesha First
The Village at Manor Park	Racine Faith
Bristol	Greenfield Christ
First Church/ West Allis	Greenfield Memorial
Wesley/Kenosha	

Remaining churches will receive a copy by mail, so if this list is incorrect regarding your unit, please call me at (414) 427-5770.

I wish you many blessings in your local units as we work together towards our common purpose.

Communications Coordinator Patsy Ruppe

<http://www.wisconsinumw.org/> is our new web site for Wisconsin United Methodist Women. When you go please click on "communications" and get the Uniter on line. Don't you love it when we save a tree!



FROM SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR - Betty Henderson

I hope you feel as good as I do about the work of the lame-duck session of the last congress. Passing the START Treaty to reduce our supply of nuclear weapons does indeed make me think that Peace has a chance. I think you have all heard the old Native American proverb: If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together. Going together is what being a United Methodist Woman is all about We work hard to live up to the heritage of our foremothers, but there is still much to do. UMW's do not rest on their laurels!

Only 5 units have reported to me on the issue priority forms! PLEASE get me your forms. Our own Dodie Smith is now the Conference Mission Coordinator for social Action and I don't want her District to be the one "not reporting". If you have questions or need a form, send me an email: bhenderson15@wi.rr.com or Call: 262-439-9840.

Have you Heard? Rev. Sharon Delgado will be in our area March 16-20. See the flyer in this Uniter for more details.

Advocacy Day for Wisconsin in Madison is March 15, 2011. Bethel Lutheran Church(ELCA): 312 Wisconsin Avenue, Madison. Register at WOOC@wichurches.org



Remember we are in God's Hands

CALLING ALL UNITS!!

CALLING ALL UNITS!!

The Reverend Sharon Delgado, author of the program “Making Peace with Mother Earth” will be in Wisconsin in March.

PUT These Dates on your calendar PLEASE and Plan to Attend:

- **Wed. March 16, Salem Waukesha hosts a Spring Luncheon where Rev. Delgado will speak on the subject of “Making Peace with Mother Earth”.**
- **Thursday, March 17, Oconomowoc will host her from 12:00 to 3:00 pm.**
- **Sunday, March 20th, she will be speaking at three services for Kenosha Wesley.**
- **Sharon is free on Friday and Saturday if there is any chance your unit would like to have her share with you on this topic.**

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM HER WHILE SHE IS WITH US.

Rev. Delgado comes from Nevada City, California. She is a noted author and lecturer on earth-justice issues. She was a founder of earth-justice.org. Her latest book is entitled, “Shaking the Gates of Hell”.

Please be in touch with Betty Henderson:
email – bhenderson15@wi.rr.com
Phone: 262-439-9840 or Cell: 262-391-8868

To make a reservation for the March 16th luncheon or to set up a time when Sharon could be with your Unit.

Shalom Betty Henderson



What do the letters BGM, VIM, NVIM and IVIM stand for? Who is on the Wisconsin Conference Health and Welfare and Community Ministries committees-- and who do they support? What are the East Angola Partnership and the Native American Partnership? What is Disaster Response? Who is our District Mission Secretary? What do these groups and people do?

The Wisconsin Conference Board of Global Ministries (BGM) is sponsoring a **Mission Event** in the **Metros Region** to help answer those questions! Mark your calendars now for a Celebration of Global Ministries both in Wisconsin and throughout the world on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25** at Elm Grove Community UMC. Activities begin at 5:00 pm and will include information gathering, a meal, and a keynote speech by Thomas Kemper, Deputy Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM). He will share information about United Methodist ministries around the world.

In addition, the various ministries and agencies throughout Wisconsin conference will be represented at this event. Representatives from our Health and Welfare (H & W) agencies such as Northcott Neighborhood House and United Methodist Children's Services will be present to share information. Brochures from the other twelve ministries serving people throughout Wisconsin will also be available. (Yes, there are 14 Health and Welfare ministries supported and/or endorsed by the Wisconsin Conference; can you name them? Be at this event and you can learn about them all!)

Participants in the VIM (Volunteers in Mission) trips, both national and International, will be present. You can pick up brochures about future NVIM and IVIM trips; maybe you will even find one that fits your schedule! Disaster Response Task Force members will be available to discuss ways we help during and after emergencies. Judy Bruun, the Metro South District Mission Secretary will be able to answer your questions – and hopefully by October we will have a Metro North District Mission Secretary, too!

Also available will be information about the East Angola Partnership, the Native American Partnership, the Immigration Task Force, Community Ministries such as the Hmong House of Good News and all the other activities that fall under the umbrella of Board of Global Ministries in Wisconsin.

Please, plan to attend this major Mission Event – and plan to bring a few friends, too! Learn what Wisconsin Conference United Methodists are doing in ministry and missions. Learn how you already are a part of what is going on and how you can do even more.

Remember: **Tuesday, October 25, 5:00 p.m. at Elm Gove Community UMC.** Mark the date and watch for more information regarding registration. A Mission Event where we will celebrate and educate! Any questions please call Gail Burgess.



Spiritual Education. Position is currently vacant but Deanna Schimko has agreed to set up the Spiritual Retreat and Patsy Ruppe and Joyce Myers are helping to make our retreat special!



Spring Retreat

Practice the Presence of God

- **FACILITATOR:** **Rev. Colleen Kwong** Ordained minister, artist, teacher and traveler on the spiritual journey
- **WHEN:** April 2, 2011, Saturday 9:00 a.m. 4:-00 p.m.
- **WHERE:** On the shore of Lauderdale Lakes, **Lutherdale Conference and Retreat Center**, N7891 US Hwy 12, 8 miles north of Elkhorn

On retreat from our daily lives, we will explore the presence of the divine peace and power that is available to us through our faith experiences. We will “practice the presence” of God through using clay, words and other materials to let our hands, minds and spirits form our thoughts and lead us into a place of reflection. We will discuss ways to take that peace and presence home with us so that the sense of God’s presence will deepen our experience of the divine in the activities of our daily lives and help us to be the loving presence of Christ in our interactions with others.

Bring a little special something to share!

No artistic ability is required—Just a willingness to be open to whatever God would show you!

Colleen received the Masters of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois and a degree in Art and Education from Cornell College in Iowa. She has also studied at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Maine, Peters Valley Crafts in New Jersey, travelled with Elmseed Puppet Theater (A Puppet and People Vaudeville”, and made pottery to support her family during the family’s early years in southwest Wisconsin. She served as a pastor to congregations in southeast Wisconsin, and as a hospice chaplain for the past 7 years. She is currently teaching courses in Design and Minority Studies at the UW Stevens Point while maintaining her pottery and painting studio at her Bayview home. You can see her pottery at area art shows, galleries or shops in the Milwaukee area. Pictures of her pottery and liturgical jewelry can be seen at colleenkwongarts.com.

**United Methodist Women Program Resources will be available for sale.
Registration and retreat are in the Haines Meeting Room of the Dining Hall.
Fully accessible.**

From Milwaukee: Take Hwy 43 south to the East Troy/Hwy 20 exit. Follow Hwy 20 west to Hwy 67/12 and turn left (south). Drive 1.8 miles. Lutherdale is on the west (right) side of the highway.

From Racine: Take Hwy 20 west to Hwy 67/12. Turn left (south) and drive 1.8 miles. Lutherdale is on the west (right) side of the highway.

From Kenosha: Take Hwy 50 west about 27 miles to Hwy 12. Merge onto US Hwy 12 west toward Madison/Bypass Lake Geneva/Delevan/Freeway and drive 10.4 miles. Take US-12 W/WI-67 N/ US-12 E/WI-67 S exit and drive .3 miles. Turn right onto US-12 N/W Wisconsin Str/WI-67 N and drive 5.6 miles. Lutherdale is on the west (left) side of the highway.



What did the ladies say about last year's retreat?

- ✧ Gave me new tools to try out in my faith journey
- ✧ All was inspiring
- ✧ Wonderful!
- ✧ Loved being by a lake.
- ✧ The fireplace gave a sense of peace and warmth.
- ✧ About Colleen... "Terrific," "gentle, funny, intuitive, very artistic," "excellent leader," "very professional," "super," "wonderful."

REGISTRATION LIMITED TO 40. REGISTRATION DEADLINE **3-18-11.
REGISTER TODAY!**

REGISTRATION FORM

UMW Metro South District 2011 Spring Retreat: *Practice the Presence of God*

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Emergency Contact (Name and Phone#)

April 2 - \$35.00. Includes buffet lunch. "Please let us know if you have special dietary needs.

Make check payable to *Metro South District UMW.*

Mail registration form and check to: Joyce Myers, 7301—156th Ave., Bristol, WI 53104

Education and Interpretation. This position is currently Vacant but Arlene Wilson has agreed to help out and can be reached at 414-482-1341.

Congratulations to the 2010 Mission Today Units...

Bristol
Burlington
Caldwell
Christ Church Racine
Eagle
Franksville
Johnson Creek
Kenosha 1st
Kenosha Wesley
Oak Creek

Our Lords New Berlin
Palmyra
Pleasant Prairie
Racine Faith
Skywalk – West Allis,
Waukesha Salem
Wesley Chapel (they are also a
UMW green Unit...Bravo)
West Allis Calvary

Now.....check this list carefully because if you are not on it and should be let me know! Nobody in the world is less likely to misplace, lose, or miss-file paperwork than me! So call and let me know if I have “done you wrong”! Oh and if you still have your list just because of one thing or another – whether it’s complete or not send it and I’ll work with you to be sure you get the award for 2011.

P.S. We need to know what makes your unit special! I got almost no response to what you do to make you...YOU! Send it now and keep good records for this year. We need to share the Good News and exchange ideas and possibilities.

Yours in Christ with blessings and apologies – always!!!!!!



Nominations Chair: THIS POSITION IS CURRENTLY VACANT BUT THE NOMINATIONS TEAM HAS AGREED TO FILL IN.

WE ARE SOUNDING THE TRUMPETS TO GET YOUR ATTENTION TO STAND AND BE COUNTED AS A MEMBER OF THE METRO SOUTH MISSION TEAM.

“We Want You” AND YOU CAN BE TRAINED FOR WORK WITH THE TEAM.

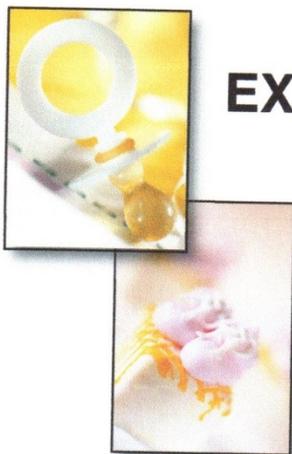
YOU WILL NOT AS IS SO EASILY DONE IN THE CHURCH (AND EVERYWHERE) BE DUMPED WITH A JOB! AS AN EXAMPLE OF WORKING AS A TEAM, METRO SOUTH AND NORTH PUT ON THE DAY APART AT CHRIST CHURCH RACINE AS A TEAM AND A GREAT DAY WAS HAD BY EVERYONE. (HOPE YOU WERE THERE).

SO VOLUNTEER YOURSELF OR SUGGEST A FRIEND OR BETTER YET VOLUNTEER YOURSELF AND A FRIEND AS A TEAM TO JOIN OUR TEAM AND TELL US ABOUT YOU! LET MYSELF, JEANNE ROONEY OR MARILYN KRUCHELL KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED... WE ARE IN THE ORANGE YEAR BOOK!



Social Action. : Dodie Smith (WI Conference). It's hard to believe that infant mortality is something to be concerned about in Wisconsin. **BUT IT IS!** Recently, Dr. Katcher, MD, PHD related that Black babies are dying at a rate three to four times that of white babies in areas of Wisconsin. Beloit, Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha are areas of great concern. The Wisconsin Partnership Program and University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health are working together in these areas to make a difference. Come and hear how they have organized and are planning programs to change this statistic. We will also have resources available that you can take back to your area and share in your unit. Let's work toward the goal of all babies being healthy babies in our state! Look how close to us this year's social action event is We can all do Franksville WI!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women
presents



LOVE IN ACTION

EXPLORING INFANT MORTALITY

Guest Speaker: Angela Rohan
Wisconsin Division of Public Health

March 26, 2011

Franksville United Methodist Church
10402 Northwestern Avenue
Franksville, WI 53126

Registration begins 8:30 am
Program begins 8:50 am
Sending Forth 2:30 pm

- Explore the current trends for infant mortality in the State of Wisconsin.
- Information includes the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families.
- Learn new ideas to get your local unit involved in promoting healthy babies and decreasing infant mortality.

Deadline for registration is March 16, 2011

REGISTRATION FORM FOR LOVE IN ACTION EVENT: March 26, 2011

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

DISTRICT: _____ LOCAL CHURCH: _____

- Check all that apply: Female Male Clergy Visitor
 UMW Member UMW District Officer UMW Conference Officer Missionary
 Child care needed for _____ children, ages _____
(Please bring a lunch with you for each child)
 Special needs _____



Registration \$10.00 per person, includes lunch.
Please make checks payable to: **WI Conference UMW.**
Mail to: **Dodie Smith, 1927 17th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140.**

Program Resources. This position is currently vacant but Jeanne Roney has agreed to fill in.

Day Apart was just held and one that I thoroughly enjoyed. And it was good to see so many friendly faces in attendance. Now, as I write, a winter storm is fast approaching. Time will only tell if it is one for the record books.

Speaking of records, have you all been writing down the names of the books you have been reading from the Reading Program? Those forms will be due later this year. I hope there will be many new readers.

I am temporarily holding the position of Program Resources for Metro South. I am hoping there is just one person out there who will take a deep breath and step forward to be the new Program Resource secretary for Metro South. The job is not all that difficult, it may require a few hours of your time, but is easily broken down into manageable steps. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about the position, and can walk you through what the job is all about. I can be there as a resource person once you take over the job. I have met many wonderful people by being a member of the district team. I also learned a lot about what United Methodist Women are about. Please think about becoming the Program Resource person and joining the district team.

If you have any questions either about being the Program Resource secretary or questions about the Reading Program or obtaining resources please do not hesitate to contact me. The easiest way is email: thejeannieologist@gmail.com

The next event where I will have resources is the District Retreat which is being held on the 02 April.

**Jeanne Roney
temporary Program Resources secretary
thejeannieologist@gmail.com
262-544-6873**

Book'em



2008 presented a big mission challenge at Christ Church in Racine.

During the summer of 2008, Mary Beth Danielson addressed a forum at Christ Church during which she described her work at the Racine County Jail assisting inmates to get jobs in preparation for their release. She also told us of the need for many volunteers at the jail to teach and work in many capacities. A particular area of need intrigued several members of the group who thought this would be a good project for Christ Church. They invited Marybeth to come to their UMW circle meeting to see if more of their friends would be interested in this “Ministry”. There was a tiny library at the Racine County Jail, but only two volunteers to see that the books got to the prisoners. That meant that they could get books only about every eleven weeks. Marybeth told us that most of the inmates were jailed on charges of minimal violence...alcoholism, narcotics addiction, and nonpayment of child support...they weren't hard core criminals! She said they looked at her as a mother or aunt and treated her with great respect! We were Marybeth's age! With that information, all of us – readers, mothers, and aunts – were kicked into high gear! Most of us could read a book a week and the idea of waiting eleven weeks for one was terrible. And we all knew how to be mothers to those in need of a little tender loving care. We believed this would be a positive use of our time, and we thought it would be positive for the prisoners of the Racine County Jail as well.

We all had to get background checks and on “Jail Time” it took 3 months...such a long time! Each week on Monday morning and evening and Wednesday morning volunteers from Christ Church offer library books to Racine County Inmates. Wonderful Christian and other books are offered to bring a positive use of time while incarcerated. It also provides a time of fellowship with the inmates during which we sometimes pray with them and always express positive wishes for their futures. We laugh together and sometimes sing. Currently we have 13 volunteers who help in this ministry--handing out books, sorting and put them back in the library. But, we do more than just handling and delivering books. We pray for them and with them for their families as well as offering them Christ. Based on their past life experiences, the prisoners find it hard to believe that people volunteer to help others without pay. They ask what church we are from and if anyone can come to our church.

Our whole church is involved with the prisoners as we need their donated books and the response to our requests has been wonderful. Sometimes they donate books from a loved one that is downsizing and sometimes they give the targeted books that the prisoners ask for...mostly mysteries. We have also become creative with the donated books. The ones

we can't use we sell at the half price book store and with the money we buy the books that they ask for like Spanish to English dictionaries, English dictionaries, encyclopedias, poetry, drawing books and African American Authors. The AA volunteers give us their old self help books circa 1978, and but unfortunately we don't have enough NA books. It is strange but AA and NA expect their participants to purchase their books to prove commitment...our inmates have no money but really need the instruction!

Some of our inmates cannot read and ask for easy reading books, comics (we have Christian comics) or phonics lessons. If we were queen for the day...we would have volunteers to teach reading to the illiterate ...what a positive lesson to be able to read! May be they could keep a job, maybe they could read to their kids, maybe they could enjoy some positive quiet time instead of frenetic time of stupid activity. Perhaps that will be a ministry for the future, in the mean time we ask for God's mercy and to shower positive experiences on these inmates!

Now it is 2011, and our Jail Library ministry is solid! We get new books to the inmates every two weeks. Oh, we have illnesses and surgery among us that might prevent us helping and the guards interfere with our scheduling BUT we always get back to our inmates and their library books. A good book is a very positive thing indeed! It is something that joins people for all walks of life and makes us equal.

If you have books to donate just call Patsy Ruppe 262 939 8075!



- ❖ **When you carry the Bible, Satan gets a headache!**
- ❖ **When you open it, he collapses!**
- ❖ **When he sees you reading it, he faints!**
- ❖ **When he sees that you are living what you read, he flees!**
- ❖ **When you try to tell someone about this message.... he will try and discourage you!**

We just defeated him!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASH WEDNESDAY MISSION
LUNCHEON
MARCH 9TH

First United Methodist Church of West Allis
7520 W. Lapham Street
Rev. Paul Armstrong
Senegal Mission Experiences
Join us in worship at 10:30 am.
Luncheon and speaker at Noon to 1:30 pm
Free will offering for missions, taken at
HOT luncheon.
Please phone church office to reserve a
place.
414 774 5500

WALK THE WAY OF THE CROSS
During Holy Week

First United Methodist Church Of West
Allis

7520 West Lapham Street
Use our ELEVATOR DOOR on Lapham
Street , to begin a moving
Self-paced procession of dioramas, and
meditations.

End your visit with a contemplative walk in
our candle lit labyrinth.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL SEEKERS
Handicapped Accessible

Wednesday, April 20th - 6 to 10 PM

Thursday, April 21st - 10 AM to 10 PM

Friday, April 22nd - 10 AM to 6 PM

Confirmation classes and UMW Circles are
invited

to add depth to their Easter!

Private times can be arranged by calling
the church 414 774 5500

Woman's Retreat

At First Church, 7520 West Lapham Street, West Allis , WI 53214

Saturday APRIL 30, 2011

Rev, Holly W. Whitcomb Spiritual Director and Author

Retreat theme: "Everyday Faithfulness Finding God Right Where You Are!"

Kim and Linda from Dance Eternal Will MOVE us!

Time 9am registration 9:30 am to 3:00pm.

Lunch and materials included in \$25.00 fee. Handicapped Accessible elevator

Please mail payment with registration below

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE ZIP- _____

NAMES IF MULTIPLE REGISTRATIONS _____

AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ _____

**make checks payable to First United Methodist Church
of West Allis. MAIL TO: Loretta Mansfield 8811 W.
Oklahoma Ave. Apt 307, Milwaukee, WI 53227**



Hmong House of Good News - Moob Tsev Moo Zoo

Hmong House of Good News has been experiencing financial distress for the past couple of months, as most of you have heard, by now. There have been times we have closed for lack of funds. Messages were sent by email to the units, and thank you so much for your responses. They have been a great help. We also sent letters to the mission coordinators of local churches and asked if they could arrange for an offering to be sent during a month of their choice in 2011. This would help us guarantee a more steady income, which is necessary to cover basic operating expenses. We are excited to report that we received a \$2500 grant from our Wisconsin UM Foundation to be used for transportation in 2011. As you may have heard, most of our clients do not have a way to get to Hmong House, so we have to provide rides. It costs \$3.25 one way on a Transit Plus van, for seniors who qualify.



We held our Annual Meeting on Tuesday evening, November 16th. Tabatha Yang, Program Director, gave a report on the variety of activities happening at Hmong House weekly. She used the new laptop and projector we received from last year's Call To Prayer and Self-Denial grant. With Tabatha translating, two participants gave testimonies about what Hmong House has meant in their lives. A group of teen girls wearing traditional Hmong "costumes" presented Hmong Dances. Trudy Yang is their teacher/director.

At Thanksgiving all of the Hmong Pastors who help teach our elders the Good News of Christianity came for lunch. Everyone brought a dish...we had everything from squirrel, to turkey, rice, dressing, hot sauce and watermelon to tame the hot sauce! What a fine meal and fellowship!



If you would like to visit Hmong House or hold an egg roll fundraiser, please contact:
Tabatha Yang, Director (414)342-4380
Office (262) 412-3744 Cell
639 N 25th St Milwaukee, WI 53233
hhgn@att.net
Our next egg roll sale is at Palmyra UMC on May 7 2011. Contact Patsy Ruppe to order 262 939 8075.



Metro South UMW Calendar as of February 2011

Saturday, Feb. 12	Kenosha Wesley UMC Metro South board meeting 8:30-10:30 Information Explosion 10:30 to 12:00. Leadership quiz and Talent survey & DVDs
Saturday, Mar. 12	Calvary West Allis UMC Metro South board meeting 8:30-10:30 Information Explosion 10:30 to 12:00. Leadership quiz and Talent survey & DVDs
Saturday, March 26,	Conference Social Action Event—Infant Mortality at Franksville
Saturday, April 2	Spiritual Retreat at Lutherdale, Elkhorn
Fri.-Sat., April 15-16	Conference Team Meeting—Black River Falls (includes District Treasurer, E & I, and MNO) (Betty Henderson, Kathleen Harsh, and Joyce Myers will attend)
Sunday, May 1	UNITER deadline Northcott Annual Meeting (50 year Celebration) Hyatt in Milwaukee \$50per person
Saturday, May 14	Metro South board meeting (set 2012 budget) at Racine 1 st
Monday, August 1 August 2-5	UNITER deadline School of Christian Missions at Stevens Point (Patsy and Arlene plan to attend)
Saturday, August 6,	SOCM Drive-In Day: Stevens Point (Marie might attend)
Fri.-Sat., Aug. 26-27	Conference Mega Team Meeting at Pine Lake (Includes Vice-President & Treasurer) (Kathleen, Jeanne and Joyce plan to attend)
Saturday, Sept. 20	Metro South Board meeting, location TBD
Saturday, October 1	Annual Celebration, location TBD
Friday-Sat., Oct. 21-22	Conference Annual Gathering and Officer Training at Black River Falls (Kathleen, Jeanne, Patsy, Arlene, Joyce)
Tues., November 1	UNITER deadline
Fri.-Sat., Nov. 11-12	Conference Executive Committee at Wausau or Stevens Point
Sat., Dec. 3	Christmas Team Gathering and Metro South Board Meeting Lunch, 12:30 at Marie Garnhart's in Franklin

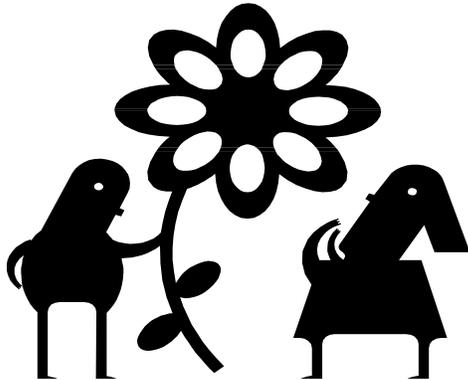
**Metro South District of Wisconsin
Conference
United Methodist Women**

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Happy Valentine's Day



PURPOSE

**The organized unit of United Methodist Women
Shall be a community of women
whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience
freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ;
to develop a Creative, supportive fellowship,
and to expand concepts of mission through
participation in the global ministries of the church.**