



NORTH EAST DISTRICT

“The Shofar”



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www.northeastdistrictumw.org

2024 Volume 9 – Number 2 A P R I L



United Women in Faith

Our NEW logo and NEW name



United Women in Faith

We are now United Methodist Women/doing business as United Women In Faith. (UW Faith)

“WHATS IN THIS SHOFAR??”

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TEAM MEETING SCHEDULE: (CONTACT US IF ATTENDING MEETING)

**JUNE 1, 2024 (Saturday),
teleconference**

AUGUST 3RD. at Algoma Blvd.

“WHAT IS NEXT IN DISTRICT?”

Conference Events:

SOCIAL ACTION DAY (Virtual)

**April 13, 2024 9 AM to NOON
Deadline registration APRIL 9,
2024**

MISSION u Information:

**OVERVIEW DAY: July 13, 9:00 – 3:30
Winding Rivers UMC, New Lisbon, WI**

MU ZOOM June 18, 20, 25 & 27, 2024

Registration forms in Shofar (PG. 9-13)

District Event:

**2024 ANNUAL RETREAT
“The PSALM of my Heart”**

**April 27, 2024 at Kaukauna Peace,
2300 East Wisconsin Avenue,
Kaukauna, WI 54130**

Registration form in Shofar

President's message

Here it is April and we celebrated, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter on the Sunday. We spent time in prayer and worship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

I purchased a copy of “DYNAMITE PRAYER” A 28 Day Experiment written by Rosario Picardo and Sue Nilson Kibbey. The book can be purchased from “invite PRESS”, was divided into 4 weekly sessions. I started my reading so the last one would be on Easter day.

Then, “CONTINUING YOUR JOURNEY” ,(from text)) “Twenty-eight days of experiencing how the Holy Spirit can break through to give you a more powerful life! Congratulations!” “But this 28-day experiment with breakthrough prayer is not the end—it has only been the beginning.” “**And now, this Dyanmite Prayer** guidebook with notes from your own day-to-day reflections and breakthrough prayers can become your dunamis lifelong prayer guide.”

Upcoming events: We have a Conference (Virtual) Social Action Day event on the 13th of April and the District Retreat “The Psalm of my Heart” on April 27th, both registration forms are in this SHOFAR.

Vice-President's Message

For many years I have been intrigued during the Lenten season with many of my Catholic friends “giving up” something for Lent. The personal discipline action seemed like a good idea that my family did not practice. Some time ago one of my Catholic friends and I chose to “give away” forty items of clothing – one a day to collection organizations of choice.

This year I decided to “give away” clothing and books to others. Since I was an English major, over my lifetime I have accumulated MANY books. I love books and love to read. It is difficult for me to part with my books. Sharing is easier, but I am at an age where I am starting to work on sorting out items in my house and simplifying possessions. Two of my nieces have assured me that they would help clean out my “stuff” if necessary, but I think they would throw out my “stuff”.

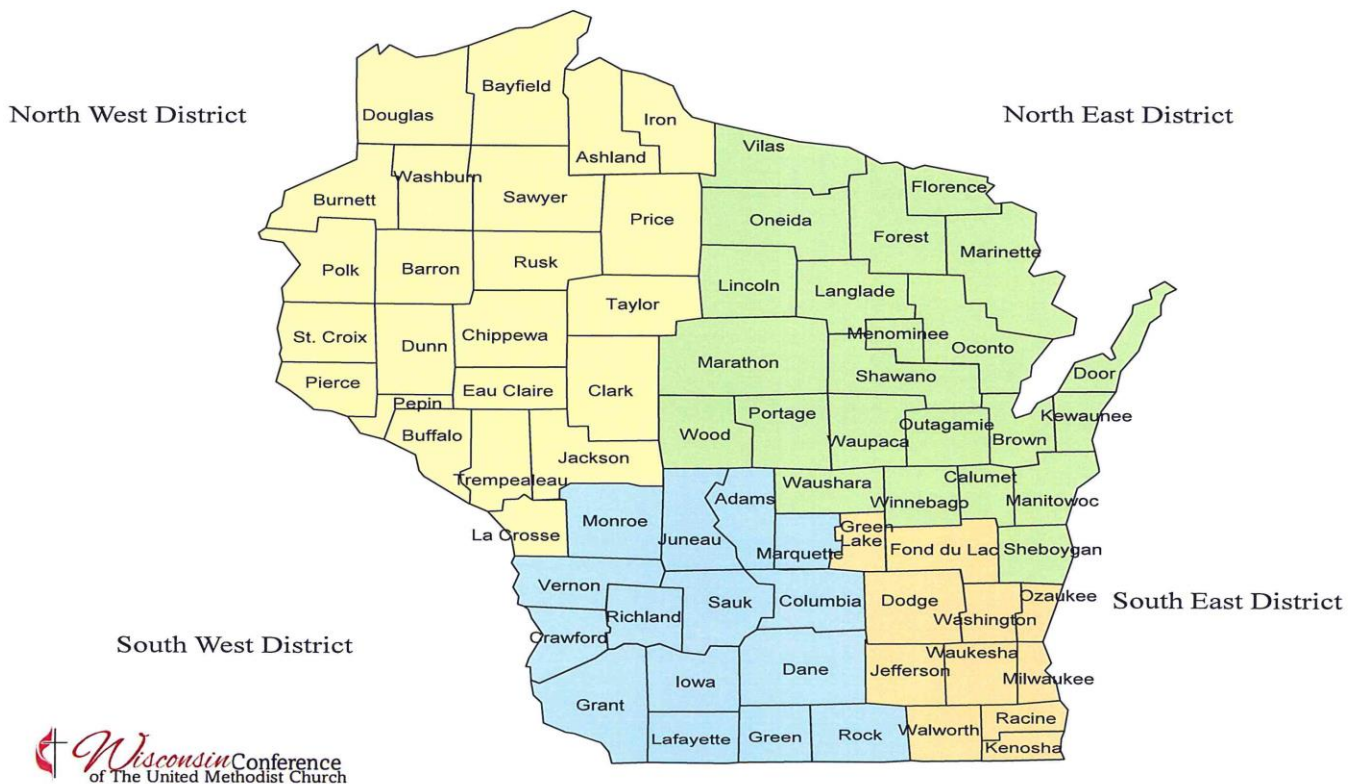
Since one book a day would only be forty books, I decided that three books a day would be a better goal. I am on track with my clothing give away action, but I am finding the three books give-away a day is a bit challenging. I am behind but am making progress.

During this process I recently read in a morning devotional the verse John 21:25 NIV. “Jesus did many things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written”. This verse has continued to be in my thoughts. It is a “mind-blowing” statement reminder that if every single thing Jesus did was recorded, every life touched, every miracle performed, every grace demonstrated, etc. were recorded-not room to hold all of them. Plus this was two millennia ago. Think about some of your stories of what Jesus has done for you. Share them.

SECRETARY'S Message

A couple of quotes on Change might be valuable at this point after viewing the new redistricting map of the Wisconsin Conference. If my first glance at the counties is correct NED will “unite” with 12 new sister units. It will be exciting to welcome each other into a new District. We will all have to “adopt” this quote: “Embrace change as you would a new sunrise; with all its colors and promises.” As we look to the changes outlined in the new map, we must remember that “The fear of change only chains us to the past.” Look forward to new adventures.

Roberta Gale, Secretary



TREASURERS' Report

A short reminder, Rogene is on vacation, hold her mail until the 10th.

Rogene Moore, NED Treasurer

SPIRITUAL GROWTH Message

Unity

In the mid 1980's people became very aware of the hunger problem in Africa. A group of musicians led by Harry Belafonte, Lionel Richie, Stevie Wonder and Quincy Jones formed USA for Africa, to raise money. Eventually 44 other musicians joined in, to record the song "We are the World". Radio stations around the world played the song and it quickly rose to #1 on the charts bringing attention and funding to this dire need.

Wouldn't it be great if Christians were known for that kind of **unity**????

With people from different backgrounds, shapes, sizes and languages joining together as one. **John 17:20-26 "Jesus prays for all believers"**. If we are believers, then that prayer would include us. He prayed that we be brought to **complete unity**, having a relationship with the Father, as well as himself. Emphasizing **unity** in this passage has an evangelistic aim. Our mission is not only connected with Jesus, whom we want to grow to be like, but also to encompass, include, incorporate and embody God's love for all People.

I found 66 Bible passages about the **unity of God's people**.

Romans 15:5 *May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of **unity among yourselves**, as you follow Christ Jesus. So that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

Ephesians 4:2-3 *Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the **unity of the Spirit** through the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:11-13a *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach **unity in the faith**.*

Colossians 3:14 *Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

We must remember that we are the world....one world...one people, God's people...you will never look into the eyes of someone God doesn't love.

Barbara Mamerow, Spiritual Growth



Program Resources

Hope all of you have been reading this winter. I read the book "I Am a Man. It is mostly about the Ponca tribe and how Chief Standing Bear tried through the court system to get rights for his tribe. It was interesting, frustrating, and disappointing that our government was so blind to the needs of the Indian tribes and believe everything some their Indian agents. It helped me to understand and applaud the efforts of the native American today. Keep reading the books, something new to learn in all of them.

Titus 3:14 And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

Sandy Klein Program Resources coordinator

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

Hello, Everyone!

Happy Easter, and Happy Spring! I hope you are enjoying the weather this winter has given to us! Hopefully, it will continue to be as nice as it has been.

I hope that your United Women in Faith unit has been planning for 2024. If your unit is planning for a "Special Local Mission Project" for 2024, I would appreciate you sharing your plans. We would love to hear about your projects and what is planned for the months ahead. Let us know who will be working on this and how many hours you plan to devote to it. Please fill out the form and email or mail it to me as soon as possible. (form pg. 6)

Then, in a few months, I will be asking you to provide the details of the project and how it developed. Who did you help, and how many members were able to help? How many hours did you devote to this? What was the result?

At the annual meeting in September at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, we would love to hear and see any examples of your projects. It is so important for us to share what we can accomplish and see what we have done.

The other form to keep in mind is the Mission Today Unit Form. Keep it as a reference throughout the year and plan accordingly if you want to be a Silver or Gold Mission Today Unit.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 920-426-3114 or email at zonianangel@aol.com.

Thank you,
Sandy Butcher

Education and Interpretation

I am your education and interpretation coordinator. My main task is to educate our members about mission and to help us find ways to participate in mission giving and participation. This form gives you a starting point to setting goals for mission. Fill out your local mission project form and email or mail it to me by March 31st, 2024.

Sandy Butcher, zonianangel@aol.com, (920) 426-3114, Education & Interpretation Coordinator

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NORTH EAST DISTRICT SPECIAL LOCAL MISSION PROJECT FOR 2024

Project runs from March 1st thru August 15th. Awards will be presented to participating Units at our Annual Celebration in September.

UWF UNIT: _____

Submitted by: _____

Unit Officer: _____ **Date:** _____

Name and description of your local mission project;

Describe activities your unit will be doing to support this project:

Estimate number of members and hours that will be devoted to this project: _____

Submit completed form by March 31, 2024 to: (DATE EXTENDED)

Sandy Butcher, 1631 Thornton Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904, (920) 426-3114, zonianangel@aol.com

SOCIAL ACTION Message:

Proverbs 31:8-9 Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all the unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.

Missing and Murdered African American Women

In February 2023, a bill passed the Minnesota House of Representatives to establish the Office of Missing and Murdered African American Women (OMMAAW). In May 2023, OMMAAW was the first in the U.S. The creation of this office grew out of a task force much like the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force that we learned about at Social Action Day in 2022. The new office will open cold cases and investigate suspicious deaths of missing Black women and girls. Wisconsin Watch, a nonpartisan, nonprofit investigative news outlet, reports that according to the National Crime Information Center, in 2022, there were almost 98,000 Black women and girls missing and 153,000 cases of white women and girls missing. That data is significant because, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, white American women represent 60.7% of the population, whereas Black women make up just 12.5%.

According to State Rep. Ruth Richardson, who brought the bill to the Minnesota House of Representatives, African American women and girls comprise 7% of the population but represent 40% of domestic violence victims". She also said, "Black women and girls are three times more likely than their white peers to be murdered in the state."

Last month, in Madison, our state lawmakers held a public hearing on new legislation that would create, with strong bipartisan support, a task force on missing and murdered African American women and girls in Wisconsin. Senator LaTonya Johnson of Milwaukee said, "This task force is not just about unearthing more statistics; it's actually about saving human lives. It's about honoring the memory of those who lost their lives, bringing those home who are missing, and protecting those at risk." State Rep. Sheila Stubbs added, "The bill is necessary to help prevent, investigate, and heal from all forms of gender-based violence in the state."

Unfortunately, and despite bipartisan Assembly support, Sen. Duey Strobel, R-Saukville, chair of the committee overseeing legislation, has refused to schedule a hearing on the bill without which a bill cannot be brought to the floor of the Senate for a vote. When learning about the possible fate of the bill, Wisconsin Watch reports that Rep. Michael Schraa, R-Oshkosh, a sponsor of the bill, expressed his frustration at the unfairness that "one person or senator or lobbyist" could kill a bill that people had worked so hard on. Sadly, that is unlikely to change since the Senate is expected to meet for the final time of this session at the end of March. **That said, your opinion still matters, and this shouldn't stop members of UWF from contacting their representatives and sharing their feelings about creating the task force in the new legislative session.**

Connie Meyer

Historian's message

As we have traveled through Lent on a homeward bound journey toward Easter, our Pastor has used the symbolism of the American hobo in her Sunday and Wednesday messages. Many of us did not know that the term hobo originated back in Civil War times. As Civil War veterans made their way back home, they became migrant workers to sustain themselves as they were homeward bound. Thus, the term hobo became commonly used. The hobos had their own language of symbols to communicate with each other. They drew these symbols on the side of barns or fence posts or on trees where they would be easily visible. These symbols denoted such things as where kindhearted people lived, a good place to camp or where someone would listen to their pitiful story without judging. Symbols also warned where there was an unfriendly dog or an unwelcoming, well guarded house. Some symbols simply provided encouragement to keep going and not give up, no matter what trials and difficulties befell them.

Although these hobo symbols are now generally a part of our long forgotten past, we were shown how they can be very relevant in our lives today. In our personal journeys through Lent, we endeavor to draw nearer to God and become more Christ-like. These symbols remind us to be more kindhearted and generous to those in need, whether physically or emotionally. We can be forgiving and non-judgmental as Jesus exemplified. We can truly listen to the stories of others and honestly share our own stories. Just as the hobos came upon many crossroads in their travels, we also face many crossroads in our daily lives. Which path will we choose? I will close with this prayer from one of our Lenten devotions.

Holy Finger of God, point me this day in the holy way. Whatever path I take, may it strengthen and deepen my love for you.

Amen.

Easter blessing to you all! Yvonne Fuller



United Women in Faith

SOCIAL ACTION DAY (VIRTUAL)

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024 9:00am to NOON

“ ENDING MASS INCARCERATION IN WISCONSIN



Hon/Rev Everett Mitchell (he/him) is a Dane Co Circuit Court Judge and Senior Pastor at Christ The Solid Rock Baptist Church. He is a fierce advocate for education, social justice and equity. Judge Mitchell also oversees Dane County’s Drug Court Program and is committed to dismantling the Child Welfare to Juvenile Delinquency to Adult Prison Pipeline operating not only in Wisconsin, but also around the country. He earned a Master of Divinity and Master of Theology from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a J.D. from UW--Madison Law School in 2010.



Peggy West-Schroder (she/her) is the FREE Executive Director and has been justice impacted since birth. Born while her mother was incarcerated she has made it her life’s work to end mass incarcerations, fight for alternatives to incarceration for caretakers and assure that everyone has a beautiful birth story despite incarceration. She served as an elected member of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (2002 - 2018). FREE seeks visionary alternatives to the current systems of injustice and incarceration; <https://freemvmt.org/>

EACH PERSON SHOULD REGISTER INDIVIDUALLY. REGISTER Online at:

<https://wisconsin-reg.brtapp.com/UWinfaihsocialactionday2024>

OR you can register by mail by using the form below.

For questions please contact: Josie Gobel, 920-988-0705 or email josiegobel@charter.net

Please register by **April 9, 2024**. Zoom link and additional info will be sent April 11, 2024.

Name: _____ Your church (if any) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

HOW WILL YOU BE JOINING THIS MEETING? (3 options)

Phone ___ Computer ___ Church Zoom Watch Party at _____

(See zoom watch party listings on Page 2)

Registration (suggested) \$10.00

Donation to Northcott Neighborhood House _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith. Mail form and

payment to: Josie Gobel, 309 W Johnson St. Apt. 930, Madison WI 53703

Join us for the 2024 Annual Retreat

“The Psalm of my Heart”



“Praise the Lord , O my Soul” Psalm 104:a

Guest Presenter: Pastor Jim Droste, “Singing the Psalms”

Saturday, April 27, 2024 (deadline April 13th, 2024)

Kaukauna Peace, 2300 East Wisconsin Avenue, Kaukauna, WI 54130

(Offering will support “Loaves & Fishes Pantry”)

Registration 8:30, Program begins at 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

(make \$25.00 checks to: NE District United Women in Faith)

Mail registration and check by April 13 to Registrar:

Sandra Klein, 6303 Riverview Drive, Two Rivers, WI 54241

Name _____ Unit _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Food allergies: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency contact & Phone: _____



**WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
Mission u Overview**



United
Women
in Faith

Sat July 13, 2024 9:00-3:30

Winding Rivers UMC, New Lisbon WI

**Join us at Mission u to explore the Good News of our Kin-dom and God's Reign.
We gather at Winding Rivers UMC for an overview of Neomi Fletcher's book *Welcome Home*.**

How can we incorporate Jesus' preaching and teaching into our daily lives?
God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are with us always -- are we sharing the Trinity's love?

Ms. Fletcher uses the image of home to explore how living in close proximity to the kin-dom helps us make a home with God.

We are invited to develop practices for building healthy, welcoming communities as a result of being anchored in the abiding love of God.
God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are with us every day. We are teachable.

***Welcome Home* by Neomi Fletcher** Order your copy: uwfaithresources.org

Registration includes a build-your-own-sandwich lunch and individual folders for attendees.
(please provide your lunch if you have specific dietary needs)

The earlier you register, the easier it is for the WI Conference Mission u Team to prepare.
Thank you!

Suggestions for lodging (**you are responsible** for making the reservations and payment):
Nearby hotel: AmericInn in New Lisbon, 1702 East Bridge St, New Lisbon 844-684-9427
RV hookups: Winding Rivers UMC, N6774 Germantown Rd, New Lisbon
(608) 562-3811 <http://windingriversumc.com>

*Registration Scholarships are available.
Please provide your request for financial assistance on the registration form.*

Photos taken at Mission u could be used by the WI Conference UWF in materials to help promote United Women in Faith events and to share the UWF mission with others.

Please sign below to indicate that you understand how your photo may be used.

Name (print) _____ Signature & date _____

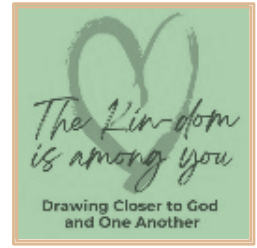


WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Mission u Overview

Sat July 13, 2024 9:00-3:30

Winding Rivers UMC, N6774 Germantown Rd, New Lisbon WI



Register before June 22 \$25
Register before June 27 \$30 (deadline) assures lunch & class packet is provided
Register after June 27 \$35 (late registration) you will need to provide you own lunch
Online registration forms links can be found at https://wisconsinumw.org/mission-u

Personal Information (mark all that apply)

1st time attendee Age under 45 layperson clergy financial assistance
Childcare - please provide age(s), names are helpful

UWF members, please complete:

Unit: District: Conference: All-Access: Y N

All: Submit registration email susanforrester@rocketmail.com Subject line: 07/13/2024 registration

Or by mail Susan Forrester, Registrar
6817 Elmwood Ave. Additional contact information:608-515-3258 (call or text)
Middleton, WI 53562

Make checks out to: Wisconsin Mission u Registrations are transferable but not refundable

Name of attendee: Will provide own lunch (recommended if dietary restriction) Preferred Pronouns
Address, City, State, Zip
Phone: Message preference: v-message text email
Email
Optional Demographic Information I prefer not to answer
If supplying Please circle or mark: Age: under 19 20-45 46-55 over 55 Gender:
Emergency Contact: Name
Contact's Phone/Cell: Relationship:
Where to find Medical information for EMTs (registration form, bracelet, wallet, emergency contact, etc):
(Optional) health information to share with the Mission u Team for more timely health assistance
(diabetes, epilepsy, mental health concerns, asthma, etc.)



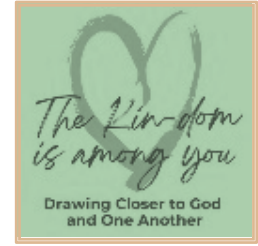
United
Women
in Faith

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Zoom Mission u

Tuesday/Thursday evenings 6:30-9:00PM

June 18, 20 & 25, 27, 2024



Registration cost: \$20 **Deadline to register is June 8.** A donation may be added for the Conference Pledge to Mission in place of an offering (note in memo line).

Online registration forms links can be found at <https://wisconsinumw.org/mission-u>

A Zoom link will be sent to your email address one week before class begins. Each person should register individually.

Personal Information (mark all that apply)

1st time attendee Age under 45 layperson clergy financial assistance

Request for CEU/Advanced Lay Servant credits

CEU Advanced Lay Servant/Lay Speaker/Lay Minister

UWF members, please complete:

Unit: _____ District: _____ Conference: _____ All-Access: Y N

I will sign in to Zoom using my phone smart phone/computer, or

as part of a small group, _____ will be signing in for our small group

When we have breakout groups, as a small group we would prefer to

join a breakout room be our own group

(NOTE: Joining a breakout room is best for groups of no more than three people)

All: Submit registration email susanforrester@rocketmail.com Subject line: 06/18/2024 registration

Or by mail Susan Forrester, Registrar

6817 Elmwood Ave.

Additional contact information:608-515-3258 (call or text)

Middleton, WI 53562

Make checks out to: Wisconsin Mission u **Registrations are transferable but not refundable**

Name of attendee: _____		Preferred Pronouns _____
Address, City, State, Zip		
Phone:		Message preference: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> v-message <input type="checkbox"/> text <input type="checkbox"/> email
Email		
Optional Demographic Information <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer not to answer		
If supplying Please circle or mark: Age: <input type="checkbox"/> under 19 <input type="checkbox"/> 20-45 <input type="checkbox"/> 46-55 <input type="checkbox"/> over 55 Gender: _____		

North East District Shofar
C/O: Jan Stanko
620 Madison St., APT 3
Brillion, WI 54110