

NICOLET NEWS

#3 Nicolet District United Methodist Women August, 2011

Ellen Eastman, Editor 715-526-5030 eeae@frontier.com

From the President's Desk - Amy Genske

Summer is very quickly slipping away from us!!! I hope all of you have had a happy and enjoyable summer.

The Nicolet District United Methodist Women mission trip was held on June 22nd. Thirty-eight persons (women and men) toured United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and worked to sort clothes for the used clothes closet. Because of the all-day rain, we were unable to paint apartments and do outside work. For lunch, we were bussed to the Hmong house of Good News where we had interaction with the Hmongs. We learned about two of the missions United Methodist Women support, where some of our pledge money goes, and how it works in support of these missions.

The School of Christian Mission has just been completed, and many from Nicolet District attended the Four-day School or the Drive-In Day. The studies are always interesting and should be shared with local units to inform more members of the issues studied.

Look for these things in this Newsletter:

Nicolet District UMW Annual Day of Celebration / Officer Training - Saturday, September 24th at Seymour UMC.

Fund Raisers for Hmong House of Good News - 1 - UMW members can save Kwik Trip bottle caps and bar codes from Kwik Trip's "Nature's Touch" Products and bring them any Nicolet District or Conference Event or send them to Judy Vasby, Wisconsin

Conference UMW President.

2 - "Partners in Mission" advance special #7809, a sustainable membership support initiative in which UMW units or members can make a monthly financial commitment for a year.

We have many things on our agenda in the next few months. I hope all of you will take the time to read *Nicolet News* thoroughly, share the information with all members of your unit and choose the areas in which you want to participate.

Amy Genske,
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Treasurer - Dottie Unbehaun

By this time each unit treasurer whose unit made a pledge for 2011 should have received a Unit Mid-Year Financial Report. Please compare my figures with your records and let me know if there are any discrepancies.

As of mid year, Nicolet District UMW has received a little over \$16,000 on our \$30,000 District Pledge to Mission. This is good, but let's each strive to give a bit more so we can meet our pledge. (Nicolet District has not met its pledge for several years.) So much mission work can be done in the world where we can't go - God has given all of us so many wonderful blessings.

Our next Nicolet District UMW event is the Day of Celebration/ Officer Update on September 24 at Seymour UMC. As always, the

program will include a Pledge Service. Each unit treasurer, or designee, will be called to bring forward the unit's pledge for 2012. A Pledge to Mission Form is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

I hope to see you all at Seymour on September 24!!

Dottie Unbehaun
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"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." *Luke 6:38*

In this Issue

1	President, Treasurer
2	Secretary, Program Resources, Spiritual Growth
3	Day of Celebration
4-5	Education & Interpretation
6	2012 Slate of Officers
7-8	Unit Officer Report
9-10	2011 Mission Today Report
11	2012 Mission Today
12-13	Annual Gathering
14-15	Kwik Trip Labels for Hmong House of Good News
16-18	Sustainable Membership Drive for Hmong House of Good News
19-20	UMW Sunday
21	Memorial, Unit Pledge

From the Secretary's Desk

Sandra Klein

The time is fast approaching for units to elect officers for 2012. It really isn't too early to have your Nominations Committee start looking for people to fill the slate. Hopefully, you will hold elections in September so that your secretary

can get the officers' names to me by October 1st. The Officer Report form is included in this newsletter.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Nicolet District UMW Day of Gathering / Officer Update at Seymour UMC on September 24th.

Sandra Klein

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Program Resources

Elaine Brill

The weather is hot, humid and rainy at times. That's an invitation to stay indoors where the air conditioning can keep you comfortable while you catch up on some reading.

The time frame for this Reading Program year is about to come to an end. The deadline for sending me your reading list is September 1, 2011. You may send them via email or the United States Postal Service. Reading Program awards will be given out at the Day of Celebration on September 24.

REMEMBER - you have to read the entire book *yourself* in order to get credit for it. You cannot take credit if someone else reads it and gives a detailed report on it.

Happy summer and stay cool.

Elaine Brill

510 E. Walnut St.
Seymour WI 54165
920-833-6351
New email - ebrill22@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth

Joan James

As I watched this year's Confirmation Class studying and preparing for their acceptance into church membership, I went back to my own early years in the church. I looked at all those innocent faces and thought "*It's only just beginning, kids.*" The rest of your life will be practicing and growing your faith. The actual enormity of this experience is yet to come.

So, it's good to look back and see how we have grown and our faith along with us. Notice how your experiences have broadened your understanding of the gravity the church has in our daily life.

And then -

Nurture it,

Contribute all you can to it,
and "**Let it Shine!!**"

Joan James

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News From Your Nominations Team - Ceil Schneider, Chair

If you check your slate of nominees for 2012, you will see that some key offices yet need to be filled. We are in need of a **Vice President**.

The **vice president** organizes the Committee on Programming. On the Nicolet District Team, the vice president is expected to organize the **Annual Day of Celebration/Officer Updates** and is in charge of the booklets that are handed out at the Annual Day of Celebration. Remember you would have a committee that will help plan this annual day. The vice president is responsible to attend District Team meetings and also report to the Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women in planning the Annual Gathering.

The second open position is **Communication Coordinator**. The **Communications Coordinator** has put together the newsletter that you are reading. The Communications Coordinator should be familiar with typing and computer skills. She needs to keep up with the mailing lists and now many newsletters are sent as emails. The coordinator may print the newsletter or have it printed professionally.

We have found new members to become familiar with the team and join the Nominations Team which is **GREAT**. We have called several United Methodist Women in our district but we have these two positions yet to fill. If you or someone you know would be a good candidate, please let me or someone on the District Team know **SOON**.

Please pray for our district.

Ceil Schneider,

PO Box 102, Denmark WI 54208
920-863-2646 kennethschneider2646@msn.com

**NICOLET DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
ANNUAL CELEBRATION / OFFICER / MEMBER UPDATE**

Saturday, September 24, 2011

**Seymour United Methodist Church
721 Pleasant Way, Seymour, WI**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Registration - 8:45 AM

Welcome - President Amy Genske - 9:15 AM

Keynote Speakers - KenyaHELP Members

Sending Forth - 3:00 PM

Please bring non-perishable items for the Seymour United Methodist Food Pantry.
Your donations will be received at the registration table.

In addition, a free-will offering will be taken during the meeting
for KenyaHELP.



Registration Form

2011 Nicolet District UMW Annual Celebration / Officer / Member Update

Please return completed form by September 10, 2011
with the \$12 registration fee (includes lunch.)

Name _____

Address _____

Local Church _____ 2011 Unit Office _____

City where you were born (or state if not in Wisconsin) _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Send the completed registration form with check made payable to **Nicolet District UMW** to
Dottie Unbehaun, 256 E. National Avenue, Brillion WI 54110.

Education and Interpretation - Jan Stanko

Included in this article:

- 1 - Notes from VIM trip to Milwaukee
- 2 - *NEW* Nicolet District UMW website
- 3 - Paul Webster's visit to Brillion UMC

VIM Trp to Milwaukee

The Nicolet District United Methodist Women Team would like to thank the following units and churches for making this trip: Algoma, Brillion Faith, Denmark Zion, Gillett-Oconto Falls, Green Bay Bethany, Green Bay First, Green Bay St Paul's, Manitowoc Lakeshore, Marinette First, Suamico, and Two Rivers Emanuel.

Very early on June 22nd, thirty-two ladies and four gentlemen started boarding our charter bus from Lamers Bus Lines with our very cordial and competent driver, Tom, at the wheel. A couple of hours later, after stopping to pick up passengers at three locations, we were Milwaukee bound.

We arrived at United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin about 9:00 and unloaded the donations we brought.

Reverend Cindy Thompson, Fund Development Director for UM Children's Services presented an overview of the operations of the center and the housing facilities. What a great place!

We re-boarded our bus about 11:00 and headed over to the Hmong House of Good News for lunch and spent some time with the Hmongs. There were several speakers and interpreters who told us about their activities and how happy they are to have this facility available to them.



About 12:30 we were on our way back to Children's Services. Unfortunately, the weather was not cooperative, so our "task" was in the lower level to help sort through the multitude of boxes and bags of clothing, shoes, books, and you name it, it was there.

During this time Reverend Cindy took several groups for a tour of the new facility and the Transitional Living facility for the first time visitors.

At 4:00, our work day was over, even though we probably got only about half of the sorting completed and nothing laundered. We loaded onto the bus and headed home, pleasantly a bit tired but with the rewarding feeling that we were able to help.

After viewing the pictures I took I realized there are not as many as I wanted. If you have any you would share, please email them to me in a document so I can arrange and print them. If you have a picture of your "group," that would be great – that's what I forgot to take!



Nicolet District UMW Website

On June 7th, the Nicolet District UMW Team voted to establish a website through the Conference UMW website set up by Stacy Ganzer, Conference Communications Coordinator, for Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women. This is in process and I will have it up and running as soon as possible. Any unit who wishes to have an article published on our site www.NicoletUMW.info should forward the information to me. I will be taking care of the site through 2012.

Education and Interpretation - Jan Stanko (Continued)

Brillion Faith UMC was fortunate to have Reverend Paul Webster speak to us on Friday June 15. We started with lunch at 12:00 and Paul's presentation followed at 1:00pm. Approximately 30 people attended from several churches in the District.

It was amazing to see the great strides that have been accomplished since 2008 when Paul last visited us. Here is some background information about Reverend Paul and his agricultural ministry in Africa:

Reverend Paul Webster is a native of new Richmond, Wisconsin. He was commissioned in 1992 as a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church serving at the Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre in Kanyama, Zambia.

Paul's ministry as a rural economic development specialist serves the needs of poor, rural peoples. Each project promotes major programs in education, health, sustainable and appropriate agriculture, community development, evangelism, and church construction. The projects strive to address community social, economic, and health problems holistically, thus empowering participants.

Paul keeps us posted through the Mujila Falls website. Here are some of his recent notes:

I have been back in Zambia since November of 2008 and am working to things back on track. The world-wide financial crisis dealt a strong blow to our project in the way of very high prices and very poor exchange rates. These seem to have moderated in the past few months, but we were forced to sell most of our chickens and pigs in order to reduce our operating costs. Maize was in very short supply and prices went through the roof.

While I was gone, Tshala was able to build a house for our project extensionist and liaison with local chiefs and churches. His name is Lenox and he has been very helpful in getting out to the local villages and helping start our first women's club. Betty has started a feeding program for local children in need.

In January we hosted the Conference Executive Committee. In February we hosted a six member VIM team from Wisconsin. They were very helpful in the areas of veterinary medicine, horticulture, construction, and outreach with our Mama Roxanne Day Care centre. We successfully planted about 35 hectares of crops this year including maize, soybeans, solwezi beans, black beans, and peanuts. We expanded our forage crops which consist of Guatemala Grass and Napier Cost Rica. We also expanded our improved pastures tripling our area dedicated to star grass. May was dedicated to harvesting our many crops. We had a poor corn crop due to late planting and poor seed. Our peanut and bean harvests were good. We were able to chop all of our forage crop and to build a very large trench silo. The extra feed is keeping our cattle fat and milking. Work continues on my missionary house. We will be putting on the roof in a week or two. Work also continues on our water system for the project site. We are currently using diesel pumps to move water. We want to go to a more efficient RAM pump. In the December issue of Small Farmer's Journal they featured a full page article with pictures about Mujila Falls animal traction project.

WE ARE TRYING TO TRACK DOWN OUR **RED BIRD DVD'S**.....

If your Unit has one of the two copies please let me know as soon as possible. Suamico Unit has one copy and the *other one is missing in action!!!*

Jan Stanko;

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I am so thankful for the UMW Reading Program as it pushes me to read books in areas I do not usually choose. One such book is "The Gift of Change" by Marianne Williamson from the Spiritual Growth category. After reading it, I look at the way I live and interact with others in a different way. I judge others less and accept them as they are more.

If you are up for a change, I suggest you read "The Gift of Change."

Ellen Eastman

PROPOSED 2012 NICOLET DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN TEAM

Those names with * are the slate of nominees to be elected at the Annual Day of Celebration

Office	Name	Address	Phone Email	Term ends
President	Amy Genske	N5602 E. River Rd. Brillion WI 54110	920-853-3759 aegenske48@bugnet.net	2012
Vice-President				2013
Secretary	* Sandra Klein (Incumbent)	6303 Riverview Dr. Two Rivers WI 54241	920-553-3460 dklein@lakefield.net	2013
Treasurer	Dottie Unbehaun	256 E. National Ave. Brillion WI 54110	920-756-2237 gaydot@frontier.com	2012
Communications Coordinator				2013
Program Resources	Elaine Brill	510 E. Walnut St. Seymour WI 54165	920-833-6351 ebrill22@gmail.com	2012
MISSION COORDINATORS				
Spiritual Growth	Joan James	825 East River Dr. #2 DePere WI 54115	920-632-4566 jjames11@new.rr.com	2012
Social Action	Jackie Ackerman	4102 Lowell St. Two Rivers WI 54241	920-793-1594 jackerman@lakefield.net	2012
Membership Nurture and Outreach	* Ellen Eastman	215 N. Lafayette St. Shawano WI 54166	715-526-5030 eae@frontier.com	2013
Education and Interpretation	* Jan Stanko (Incumbent)	620 Madison St., #3 Brillion WI 54110	920-756-3445 jan2tigs@charter.net	2013
COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS				
Chairman	Ceil Schneider	PO Box 102 Denmark WI 54208	920-863-2646 kennethschneider2646@msn.com	2014
	Lois-Jean Updike	916 Royalton St. Waupaca WI 54981	715-256-1722	2012
	Mildred Wiedemeier	2836 Northwood Rd. Green Bay WI 54313	920-434-2856	2012
	Shirley Schwartz	2411 Popp Lane Brillion WI 54110	920-756-2624 longlakeshirley@yahoo.com	2013
	* Zona Graetz	1032 Cameron St. Green Bay WI 54304	920-494-5027 kzgraetz@att.net	2014
	* Carole Biddick	N1356 Lakeshore Rd Kewaunee WI 54126	920-360-6555 cdbiddick@gmail.com	2015

The positions of Vice-President and Communications Coordinator have not yet been filled.