

United Women in Faith

CATCH the VISION

March, 2024 Wisconsin Conference

President's Message

Sometimes, as I think about writing the President's message for *Catch The Vision*, I just draw a blank. At those times, I think God sends Marilyn Eyster to talk to me and remind me how amazing we women of United Women in Faith are. The first topic in our discussion was shouldn't we be sending the *Catch The Vision* to district members who are not connected to a unit and wouldn't have access to it? Great idea! One of the important points about United Women in Faith is that we are a sisterhood. Our connections are important.



Gloria Carter

Second idea: How about an article on a project that was brought to our attention at an earlier conference team meeting — a way to recycle socks (see page 6). Taking care of God's world is important to United Women in Faith. That also reminded me that the women of the West Bend Fifth Avenue Church have a project to turn t-shirts into shopping bags. Share what you are doing with other United Women in Faith.

Third idea: Let's highlight Kady Herr-Yang who has been an important part of the conference team (and beyond). She has been serving as a deaconess and was recognized at the UMC Annual Conference last year. It would be interesting to hear about her work and the Deaconess/Home Missioner Program. Heidi Careaga, who is on the National Board of United Women in Faith, and Marie Severing, a deaconess candidate from Cargill UMC, have completed the Deaconess Program and are scheduled to be consecrated as deaconesses in April of this year during the General Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. Many of you remember Judy Vasby who is a retired deaconess. It was through Judy that I first heard of the Deaconess/Home Missioners Program. Invite these women to your meetings and gatherings to learn more about this important program of United Women in Faith.

Amazing women of United Women in Faith, share your stories with us. How are you living out our calling to Inform, Influence, and Impact our own communities, and beyond? Share your stories!

God's Peace,

Gloria Carter, United Women in Faith Wisconsin Conference President

A Time of Celebration by Sally Vonner

March is Women's History Month, an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women. United Women in Faith is blessed to celebrate the legacy of bold, faithful, spiritual women who have given their lives past and present to uplifting women, children, and youth locally and globally...Join me in celebrating not only our NMI's (National Mission Institutes) but our deaconesses this month. If you have deaconesses active or retired in your annual conference, choose at least two to send a note of appreciation.

Taken from the March/April 2024 Response Magazine



Sally Vonner
General Secretary and CEO
United Women in Faith

Spiritual Growth

Isaiah 45:9 - Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, "What are you making?" Does your work say, "He has no hands?"

Isaiah 64:8 - Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Romans 9:21 - Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?



Linda Capraiello

As I was growing up in this season of Lent, I remember being told, that I must take time every day to look in the mirror and ask myself: "Who is that person I see?" In other words, I was to take stock of myself...not my physical appearance, but my inner-being. What did that look like? Was I feeling okay about how I was responding to others? How satisfied was I in my daily interactions? For this reason, every year, the Lenten season has become an important time of self-discovery for me! In fact, very often, I have sensed God nudging me, as well as His Spirit speaking to my heart when I am in front of the mirror — even just brushing my teeth! Embracing this time of self-reflection every year has helped me prepare my heart to be ready for Easter. As intense as the molding, spinning, reshaping, and heating that it takes to turn a lump of clay into a beautiful, shining teacup... so it takes for me - for us, to surrender and transform more closely, to the Lord God's plan — one that He has had all along, to mold and shape us into the women He has intended for us to be!

For me...this surrendering has taken a long time to fully understand, especially since it has usually involved something that had broken, or that had caused me pain -" OUCH!" That is the meaning of these verses that I share: In Isaiah, describing the "potsherds on the ground." I read how "God calls his complaining people 'potsherds,' broken pieces of clay, which are the least valuable and abandoned..." Yet, our creator picks up and uses once again! How often have I looked to see a broken "complainer" in the mirror? Who are we then, to quarrel with God? When reading these verses again, I remember my younger self saying, "Yes! I need you to BE my Potter!" How I needed God's refining and reshaping when I messed up, or when my circumstances caused me to be that someone, whose reflection I did not like seeing in the mirror!

From the Old to the New Testament, we can see how our Sovereign God continues to shape and reshape us... wanting only to fulfill the plan that He has prepared for you and me – *specifically* for *each* of us! From a seemingly useless lump of clay, can we see that God is indeed in charge! Our living God can fashion something beautiful and useful – only when we allow ourselves to surrender & trust in the process!

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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://freemvmnt.org/

EACH PERSON SHOULD REGISTER INDIVIDUALLY. Register online at: https://wisconsin-reg.brtapp.com/UWinfaithsocialactionday2024
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 4)

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

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SOCIAL ACTION DAY VIRTUAL WATCH PARTIES SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024 9:00 - 12:00

NORTH CENTRAL

Wausau First United Methodist Church, 903 3rd St, Wausau Wi 54403

Contact Person: Julie Miehe 715-348-5778 julie.miehe9@gmail.com

NORTH EAST

Green Bay Bethany United Methodist Church, 1110 Echo Ln, Green Bay WI 54304

Contact: Lana Balliett 920-639-7795 lmballiett@yahoo.com

Oshkosh Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, 1174 Algoma Blvd, WI 54901

Contact Person: Sandy Butcher 920-267-9027 zonianangel@aol.com

NORTH WEST

Eau Clare Lake Street United Methodist Church, 337 Lake St, Eau Claire WI 54703

Contact Person: Rita Houser 715-834-0434 rhouser1010@gmail.com

Osceola United Methodist Church, 306 River St, Osceola WI 54020

Contact Person: Norma Kretzschmar, 715-294-3447 normusic.nk@gmail.com

SOUTH EAST

Community United Methodist Church, 14700 Watertown Plank Rd, Elm Grove WI 53122

Contact Person: Kathy Hartke 262-366-6770 kdhartke@gmail.com

Janesville Cargill UMC, 2000 Wesley Ave, Janesville WI 53545

Contact Person: Diane Quade 608-752-9397 dianequade07@gmail.com

Kenosha First United Methodist Church, 919 60th St. Kenosha WI 53149

Contact Person: Ruth Walls 262-694-8627 ruthwalls72@gmail.com

Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church, 1600 Underwood Ave, Wauwatosa WI 53213

Contact Person: Carolyn Dressler 414-453-0666 hocad@att.net

West Allis Blessed Hope United Methodist Church, 3177 S 107th St, West Allis WI 53227

Contact Person: Marie Garnhart 414-427-5770 smgarnhart@gmail.com

SOUTH WEST

Lodi United Methodist Church, 130 Locust St, Lodi WI 53555

Contact Person: Mary Ann Morack 608-592-4784 mmorack1@yahoo.com

First United Methodist Church, 203 Wisconsin Ave, Madison WI 53703

Contact Person: Josie Gobel 920-988-0705 josiegobel@charter.net



SOCIAL ACTION DAY (VIRTUAL) SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024 9:00 AM to NOON

AGENDA

- 8:30 Sign on to Zoom. Tech check & Chat Rooms
- 9:00 Welcome Dr. Kathy Hartke-Moderator
- 9:05 Welcome Gloria Carter-WI UWF President
- 9:07 Devotion Linda Capraniello-Spiritual Growth Leader
- 9:15 Keynote Speaker Hon/Rev Elliot Mitchell

 Dane County Circuit Family Court Judge and Senior

 Pastor at Christ The Solid Rock Baptist Church
- 10:15 **Break**
- 10:35 "Personhood"
- 10:40 Speaker Peggy West-Schroder

 "FREE" Executive Director www.freemvmnt.org
- 11:35 **CALL TO ACTION** Kathy Hartke WI United Women in Faith Social Action Chair
- 11:55 Evaluations and Send-off Kathy Hartke
- 11:58 Closing Prayer Linda Capraniello

Recycle Socks and Raise Funds for Northcott Neighborhood House

Recycling clean, used socks seemed like an easy thing for our Milton United Women in Faith unit to do, and most people have a lot of them. We read about it in *The Green Team Times*, a newspaper on living sustainably, sent out by Josie Gobel from First UMC in Madison. A company called Gildan, makers of GOLDTOE® socks, had begun this initia-



tive with TerraCycle. Anyone can collect clean, used socks of any brand to send to TerraCycle to recycle. Every shipment of socks sent in earns reward points based on weight. You earn 100 TerraCycle reward points per pound of socks. These reward points can then be donated to a non-profit of your choice. TerraCycle has a list of non-profits online from which to select. Although Northcott was not on their list of non-profits, we were able to fill out an application and have it added.

The company offers free shipping labels to mail them in through UPS, so there is minimal cost. We registered online at <u>TerraCycle.com</u> to be able to request the shipping labels and began spreading the word in our congregation. Our first shipment of socks was sent in in September of last year. Since that time, we've averaged about one shipment a month. Our boxes weigh about ten pounds, so they earn about 1,000 reward points. Two thousand five hundred points (2,500) earns \$25.

We realized that what our individual unit might raise in a year would be a small amount for Northcott's needs. But then we thought of all the United Women in Faith units dotted all over the state that might be willing to join us in collecting. We knew that if we could all work at recycling socks and donating the reward points to Northcott, the total could be significant.

How to get started. Go to <u>TerraCycle.com</u>. On the top toolbar you will see the silhouette of a person. Click on that and then click on "sign up". Fill in the information requested. When you have a boxful of socks ready to send, sign in to <u>TerraCycle.com</u> To print a label type "Goldtoe ® Socks Free Recycling Program" in the search box or scroll down through the various recycling programs until you come to that one. Click on it and the "Get Shipping Label" button will appear. Click on that and the shipping label will be sent to your email so you can print it. Each shipping label may only be used once and must be used within two weeks following requesting it. The box you use for mailing should be approximately 18 x 18 x 18. Attach the label and mail it from your UPS store. You will receive a notice from TerraCycle when your shipment is received and the points earned. Reward points may be transferred to your non-profit when you have accumulated 2,500 points.

There are two payment periods per year, in January and in June. Any points redeemed by the end of October will be paid out in January, and any points redeemed by the end of April will be paid out in June.

If your unit does not want to be involved with the shipping part, just start collecting and bring your bags of clean used socks to one of our events or find a neighboring unit willing to mail the socks in for you.

There are two positive outcomes with doing this project. You are earning funds for Northcott Neighborhood House, and it will keep hundreds of pounds of old used socks out of our landfills!

For more information contact Marilyn Eyster marilyn.eyster@gmail.com or 608-868-3585



WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH Mission u Overview 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.			
Signature & date			



Register **before June 22**Register **before June 27**

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Mission u Overview



\$30 (deadline) assures lunch & class packet is provided

\$25



Winding Rivers UMC, N6774 Germantown Rd, New Lisbon WI

-	•	stration) you will need to provide you https://wisconsinumw.org/mission-u	own lunch
Personal Informa	tion (mark all that apply)		
1 st time atten	dee Age under 45 _	laypersonclergy f	inancial assistance
Childcare – p	olease provide age(s), names	s are helpful	
UWF members, pl	lease complete:		
Unit:	District:	Conference:	All-Access: Y N
All: Submit regist	ration email <u>susanforre</u>	ester@rocketmail.com Subject line: 0	ว7/13/2024 registration
Or by mail	Susan Forrester, Registra	ır	
	6817 Elmwood Ave.	Additional contact information:608	-515-3258 (call or text)
	Middleton, WI 53562		
Make chec	cks out to: Wisconsin Missic	on u Registrations are transfera	ble but not refundable
Name of attendees	:Will provide own lunch (r	recommended if dietary restriction) Pro	eferred Pronouns
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If supplying, please	circle or mark: Age:unde	er 1920-4546-55over	55 Gender:
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Contact's Phone /0	Cell:	Relationship:	
Where to find Med	dical information for EMTs (reg	gistration form, bracelet, wallet, emerge	ncy contact, etc):
	th information to share w psy, mental health concer	rith the Mission u Team for more ns, asthma, etc.)	timely health assistance



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	on (mark all that apply)			
1 st time attendee	e Age under 45 laypersonclergy financial assistance			
Request for CEU/A	Advanced Lay Servant credits			
CEU Adva	anced Lay Servant/Lay Speaker/Lay Minister			
UWF members, plea	ease complete:			
Unit:	District: Conference: All-Access: Y N			
I will sign in to Zoo	om using my phone smart phone/computer, or			
as part of a small group, will be signing in for our small				
When we have brea	akout groups, as a small group we would prefer to			
join a breakout	t room be our own group			
(NOTE: Joining a bre	reakout 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			
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Address. City, State, Zip	i p			
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Update from Nominations

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



We need several members for the nominations committee. We would like people from all districts to help ensure that the conference leadership represents all parts of the conference. There are currently openings for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 classes.

We also need a Program Coordinator to plan the Annual Gathering this Fall. If you are someone who enjoys program and event planning, this is the position for you.

Linda Whitelock Contact the nominations committee if you or someone you know would share your talents and become part of the team. Please prayerfully consider saying "Yes." You may be stepping out of your comfort zone, but the experience will be worth it.

Linda Whitelock, Nominations Committee Chair whitelocklinda@att.net 608-575-1517

Josie Gobel, Nominations Committee josiegobel@charter.net 920-988-0705

Conference Yearbook Update



We are working hard to get the Conference Yearbook into print. Our National Secretary, Susan Moberg, asked us during Conference Secretary Training Feb. 3 to include the lists of National leaders and Liaisons in the Yearbook. Amy Pigott at Bob's Copy Shop is working on that and making a pdf for a proof at the present time as she is recovering from a short-term illness. We expect the Yearbook to be out to



Josie Gobel Conference, District and Unit Officers by March 15,'24 and will update Chris Anding you if its sooner. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any questions, please contact myself at christinemarie1950@gmail.com or Josie Gobel at josiegobel@charter.net.

Archive alert: If any of you are wondering where Conference United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith past minutes or records are stored, they are stored at the Wisconsin UMC Office, 750 Windsor St., Sun Prairie, WI. I just took the last 8 years of records there after I saw the video of the tornado at Evansville going over my house and the rest of the city to drop down about one mile east of the city to flatten two farms, two houses and cause major damage to 7 houses. We were blessed there no injuries but I heard of some animals affected. We were advised at Secretary Training to keep up to the last 4 years of our archives in our homes to pass on to our successor but my thought was to keep them safe at Sun Prairie after two tornadoes visited Evansville recently.

Thank you and have a blessed day,

Chris Anding, Secretary

Conference Execute team meeting/retreat August 16-18 (Friday evening, Saturday all day, Sunday leave by noon). Please try to be there. We will be paying for 15 staying Friday through Saturday morning, even if we have less. Our Pine Lake gathering of the executive team is a great time to build our connections with each other, and also enjoy some time in God's beautiful natural world.

Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund Wisconsin Conference

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

Available Funds:

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

Eligibility Requirements:

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

Application Procedures:

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

Application forms may be requested from this email loosesilv45@gmail.com or the address below.

Or call: 715 325 2841

Obtain an application form and send to:

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

If you are not now receiving *Catch the Vision*, but would like to, send your request with your email address to marilyn.eyster@gmail.com Send address corrections to the same address. Thank You.

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

Calendar 2024

March 23 Day of Giving, Faithfully Forward

April 13 Social Action Day (9:00 a.m.—noon)

April 20 Executive Team—zoom meeting (9 a.m.—noon)

May 1 Catch the Vision newsletter deadline

May 31—June 2 North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event—Indianapolis

June 18, 20, 25, 27 Mission u by zoom

July 13 Overview Day Mission u — New Lisbon: Winding Rivers UMC (9 a.m. — 3:30)

Aug. 16,17,18 Executive Team/Mission u Meeting at Pine Lake (Note change of dates)

Sept. 1 Catch the Vision newsletter deadline

Oct. 11-12 Conference Annual Gathering — Eau Claire, Lake St. UMC

Oct. TBD WI Conference Leadership Development — zoom meeting

Nov. 2 Mission u/Executive Team—zoom meeting (9 a.m.—noon)

Dec. 1 Catch the Vision newsletter deadline

United Women in Faith Wisconsin Conference