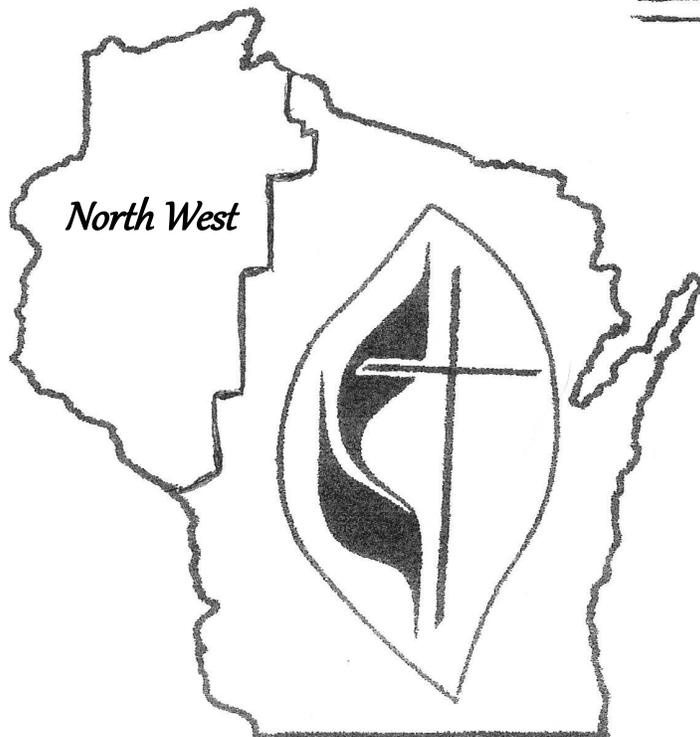


North West District
United Methodist Women

Newsletter

The WEAVER



February 2016



THE PURPOSE

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.

From Our President



Well, here we are again and I am running on the last minute..... Par for the course!

Here we are again at the beginning of another New Year--a good time to make a fresh beginning, especially in striving to be in a closer relationship with God. I challenge you to be come more closely entwined with our Lord. Take Him with you in conversation throughout the day and He will make your path easier.

Here we are, a new District--the great "North West District of United Methodist Women". As we begin on this new path let us increase our fervor for our work for United Methodist Women and the Lord. I know it will be a great year as we let Him who knows all lead in our work. Our theme for this year is "Homelessness". Let us all work together and see where God will lead us.

I look ahead to our Spring Day of Enrichment which will be held at River Falls United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 16th. We, the team, are working diligently to present an enlightening and enjoyable experience for you all. So make plans early to be able to attend our gathering. We look forward to seeing you there.

Your team will be making plans to work closer with you. Your "Big Sister" will be in contact with you and you should feel free to ask her, or any of the team, for help as you need it. We will do our best to be of good service to you so that we will be a strong and active District.

I think also about our BIG celebration coming up--150 Years of United Methodist Women! Be watching for more news....and have you thought about raising a donation to help Conference put on this festivialous event?? That would be a good thing.

Let me leave you now with this New Year's wish..... "May He give you the desire of your heart and make all of your plans succeed. (Psalm 20:4)

Ernie O'Neil

Our Vice President: Terry Giles

Here we are in another new year - 2016! Time flies when you are having fun. In this new year, do you feel re-newed? Re-freshed? Re-born? Or are you stuck in the same old routine. Often times we are so comfortable in that same old routine that it is hard to think about doing anything else. A new year is a time for new beginning, a time to think outside the box and doing things that aren't the same old routine.

For Advent this past year, our church did the study "SENT" by Gorge Acevedo. One part of the study that caught my attention was where a father was taking his daughters to a Waffle House early one morning. Instead of getting ready for school and having breakfast at home, they were going to the Waffle House for breakfast. One of the girls said, "Dad, this doesn't feel normal". The father thought about the statement and replied, "When you do something you don't normally do, you have the chance to see something you don't normally see."

I have thought about that concept frequently over the past few weeks. When you stay in your comfortable same old routine, you are going to miss seeing a whole lot of things. But when you do things you normally wouldn't do ~ you might just be surprised at what you see.

Over the past year, I have done several things that were not my "normal" routine. Each time I felt a "nudge" from God telling me to step out of my normal routine and trust that this was something He had "planned" just for me. Each time He stayed right there with me and each time He equipped me with everything I needed to succeed.

Not everyone pays attention to those little "nudges". Right now I am encouraging each one of you to start paying attention to that little feeling telling you to do something outside your "normal" comfortable situation. If you do something that doesn't feel "normal" to you, you will SEE something you normally wouldn't see. God has plans for each one of us. When we trust Him enough to let go of our "normal", what we see is far greater than what we can imagine.

Terry

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SECRETARY



I enjoy the phone visits I have had with some of you when I was preparing the local officer lists from your units. Thanks for your help! However, I was dismayed when you shared with me that many of you are "too old" to be an active officer.

I was reminded of the story of Ethel Percy Andrus, a woman who was the first high school principal in California, a caregiver for her parents, and a social entrepreneur who started AARP after she retired. She left a lasting legacy of making life better for people as they age. What can we do to make life better for people, especially women and children of the world? UMW membership offers many opportunities to share our abilities and experiences with a variety of mission projects locally and worldwide.

(Secretary- continued from page 3)

When Paul instructed the Romans to present themselves as a living sacrifice, he was telling them to give back to God what God had given them—their own selves. This includes gifts He gave them, abilities, and skills. When we give back to God what He has first given us, we give Him the perfect gift—ourselves!

I pray that in 2016 we shall find ways to share our gifts, talents, and abilities to expand concepts of mission through our participation in UMW at ANY age!

Janet Knutson,
N W District Secretary
715.248.3231

District Treasurer

Sisters, **THANK YOU** for your diligent work last year! The Chippewa District UMW was able to send \$48,968.75 to the WI Conference for our 2015 “Pledge to Mission” of \$50,000. You did a wonderful job of fund raising and serving within your local communities. Thank You! The books for the Chippewa District UMW were closed December 2015.

The North West District’s “Pledge to Mission” for 2016 is \$50,000. We can reach this goal if all Local Units commit to Undesignated Giving. Undesignated Giving is the only money that counts toward our pledge to the conference and the “5 Star Award”. Undesignated Giving includes: Pledge to Mission, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, World Thank Offering, and Special Mission Recognition.

In 2015, a total of \$1,877.19 was given toward the **Legacy Fund** by the Chippewa District’s Local Units. Ladies, you are Awesome! Remember, on the remittance form, to list the monies under **Supplementary Gifts: 9. Other Designated Gifts: Legacy Fund** with the dollar amount. (Any amount will do.)

Please contact me if you need Remittance forms. The forms can also be found on the UMW website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.

When sending in your remittances and registrations:

1. Make all checks payable to: **NORTH WEST DISTRICT UMW** (unless directed to do otherwise).
2. Only 1 check is needed for the total amount on the bottom of the remittance form. (You do not need to write a separate check for each category of giving.)
3. Print or type the name of the Special Mission Recognition recipient.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I will be happy to assist you.

“God’s word encourages us to do good deeds and to show kindness toward others. Christ loved us so much that he gave his life for us. Through our works of love and kindness, we express our love for Christ and show that we belong” *James C. Hendrix*

Thank you for volunteering your time and talents! God Bless You!

Robin Peterson
3487 120th St.
Frederic WI 54837
715-653-2382
rlhula@yahoo.com

Program Resource Secretary



Prov. 2:1-2, 5

*Good friend, take to heart what I'm telling you;
collect my counsels and guard them with your
life.*

*Tune your ears to the world of Wisdom;
set your heart on a life of Understanding.*

*And here's why: God gives out Wisdom free,
is plainspoken in Knowledge and
Understanding.*

Looking back on 2015 we had many readers in our District. We had 101 women in 25 units participate in the reading program. We expanded our concepts of mission and strengthened our spirituality. We were challenged to grow. Do you want to grow? I challenge you to read new books from each category this year. Step out of your comfort zone. Share the book with a friend. Discuss it in your groups of friends. Remember to record what you have read. And also record your reading of *Response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.

Be bold, seek the wisdom of Solomon, Son of David, King of Israel.

Billie LaBumbard
715-635-7045
missionbillie@gmail.com

An e-mail from one of our readers:

Hi Billie,
My granddaughter Rachel is a student at University of Chicago. While she was visiting at Christmas time I told her about a book on the UMW reading list that I had read for 2016-JUST MERCY by Brian Stevenson. Ironically, when she went to her Health and Human Rights class this week, one of her classmates mentioned JUST MERCY. Her professor told the class that he knows Brian Stevenson and has worked with him on human rights issues. No wonder that I don't believe that coincidences are random, but have a reason! I thought you might be interested to know that little story.

Hope you holidays were wonderful.
Shirley

Historian

I had a wonderful Conference Archives Retreat at Pine Lake in September with Bev Maser and Velma Hockenberry. The two day highlight was our German Heritage Music, presented by Rev. Jeremy Deaner. That's what inspired me to want to go since I'm 100% German and I love music! Other history was also presented by other historians. Plus, we could look at and handle old German songbooks, articles, and pictures with gloves. I shared some Christmas music, dated 1904, which I had with Rev. Deaner. It was a wonderful two days—good food and a good bed. I'm signed up for next September with Janet Knutson—the Lord willing. Continue to keep up YOUR history.

Barb Bender

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Dear UMW ladies: I hope all of you had a great Christmas and will have a great 2016. We have experienced many blessings during the past year, with support from all our units through aide and prayers. We need for that to continue into 2016 to bolster our smaller units who are struggling with membership and leadership. Unfortunately we had 5 units go inactive during 2015 and another this month of 2016. Let's continue to encourage our young ladies and give assistance to those in new positions. Again, our program of "Sister Unit Visits" is vitally important in keeping us all connected and supportive.

The packets at our 2015 fall gathering did NOT contain the usual "Local Membership Census Form" for the local units because it will all be done by computer this year. So, I will be contacting each and everyone of the units by e-mail or phone to obtain the needed information from you. So, please be patient with me through this new process and PRAY it all works out in a positive way.

Hopefully I'll see all of you at our Spring Gathering in April.

Love you all,
Rita Stearns MNO chair

Nominating Committee



Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the Ark, professionals built the Titanic

Annette Pederson - Chairperson.

Happy 2016. I am very excited to begin this year as chair of nominations. I have been on the nominations committee for 2 years but accepting the chairmanship is both challenging and frightening. I have just retired from my 40 year nursing career and look forward to having more time to devote to my church involvement both locally and on the district level. I belong to the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church where I am a Lay servant and very involved in my UMW and children ministries.

We have a great North West District team for 2016 but we will have openings for 2017. If you have ever had the desire, or even an inkling, that you may want to join the district team, please call one of us on the nominations committee to discuss it. Or, if you get a call from one of us about joining the team, please consider saying yes. You will not regret it. You will learn a lot and make great friendships. God's blessings to all.

Annette

715-878-4203

annettepederson@centurylink.net

Hi, my name is Doris Ruiter. I live in Bruce with my husband of 46 years and we are members of Bruce Federated Church. I've held the position of President of the UMW at Bruce for the past 3 years. I'm also the church organist.

I grew up on the south side of Chicago and married my high school sweetheart. We were both raised in the Christian Reformed church and attended the Christian school. My husband's job has taken us around the country from Indiana to Georgia to Virginia to Minnesota. I'm a retired registered nurse and mother of 3 grown kids and grandmother to 4. My husband and I have chosen to retire here on a lake in Northern Wisconsin, truly God's country.

I'm an avid outdoors woman. I love deer and bear hunting. I snowmobile and love driving my own 4 wheeler around on our 140 acres. I am a huge fan of the water and spend lots of time in the summer riding on or floating in the lake. I also enjoy some indoor activities such as cooking, sewing, knitting, and crocheting.

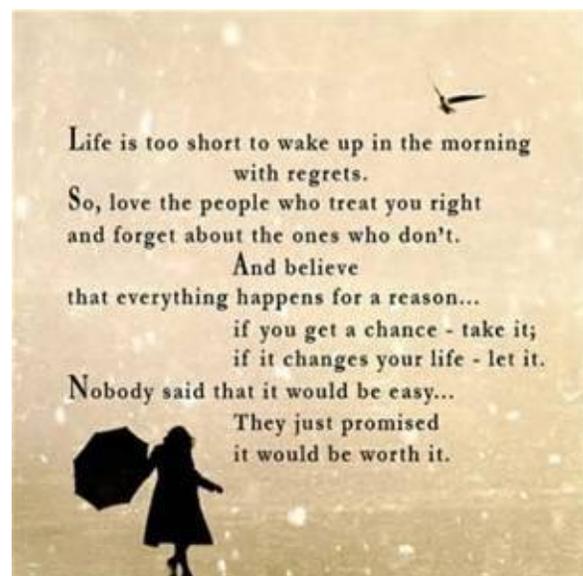
I truly believe that we are empowered to share the talents God has given us. And I've been richly blessed to be able to share the talents I have.

Doris

Karen Stemiling. Living with my husband, Bill, in Holcombe has provided us with a church family who welcome, nurture and serve. Sounds like United Methodist Women, doesn't it? This year, 2016, is my last year on the now North West District Team. The Committee on Nominations fulfills my available tenure. If our Committee calls you to be on this wonderful Team, we expect a prayerful "yes". You will never be sorry.

I take this opportunity to challenge all of our units to continue efforts to support the women, youth and children in our world. This organization has its structure, yes, but it also has given us permission to create units that are vital. Young women and seasoned women are powerful when working together in God's grace.

Blessings, Karen



Education & Interpretation

Hello everyone!! As I write this, we have just celebrated the beginning of a New Year, with all of the new possibilities along with some exciting challenges. As UMW, we have always faced each with faith, hope, love and action. Last year we had a newer list of Mission Tasks to accomplish. We had 29 Units that qualified for the Mission Today Award.

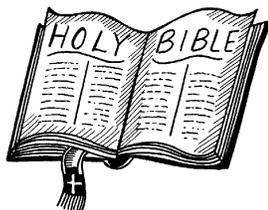
CONGRATULATIONS!! We had 5 that reported that were unable to qualify, and sadly, we had 14 that did not report. I am hoping that that number will decrease and the qualified will increase in 2016.

Each unit also has a 'sister' on the district team to assist you in any way you wish. PLEASE let us get to know you!!!!!! We truly treasure the connections with each of you; helping, sharing information, answering any questions or concerns. However, we also desire to be able to learn from all of you. We function better as a district team with your insights and vast experiences.

You will find the 2015 Mission Today Report, the 2016 Mission Today Tasks, and the Sister Unit assignments on other pages in this issue of your WEAVER Newsletter. If you have questions my information is below.

Suzanne Heabler
715-552-7369
heablers1971@charter.net

Spiritual Growth



An Epiphany

By the time you read this, of course, Epiphany will have passed. But, I want to dwell for a bit on an illuminating discovery – “epiphany”-- I had recently as I read the book by Eugene

Peterson “*Eat This Book*”. Eugene Peterson tells us clearly in *Eat this Book* that our Bible is a story from beginning to end. And because I’ve often broken the books up into a variety of literary types (guess that’s the English teacher in me), I suddenly realized that Eugene Peterson is correct and that one of the problems I have had with reading the Bible is that I have never read it from cover to cover. I have read each book, but separate, and because of that perhaps I haven’t quite got the story put together yet. And that probably has led to my being “stunned” when I read a passage I’ve read before and find that I had a totally different “take” on it from the last time I read it. And so in this 73rd year of my life (soon to be 74), the former English teacher in me has probably totally missed what various passages had to offer in the total story. So,the question now is....., do I take on the task of reading it from cover to cover rather than bouncing around the story?

There are many questions to answer before I take on “eating this book” cover to cover. For instance, what translation do I read cover to cover? Do I go about it using exegesis which involves a lot of research; or do I use a study Bible; or *The Message* (I love it) which has much commentary in the Study version rather than exegesis mixed in with study notes; or do I read it using lectio divina which has often helped me to look at a passage or text in a more innocent fashion – questioning....but using the sight, sound, taste, feel, etc of lectio. In the book “*Eat This Book*” Peterson says this about this way of reading: “It is a way of reading that abandons the attempt to take control of the text as if it were helpless without our help. A way of reading that intends the fusion of the entire biblical story and my story.” I thought that was a perfect way to describe the process of lectio divina. And so, I guess I have answered my own question – read it so I involve my story in the process of reading this Book. So, enjoy your reading whatever way you tackle our Book.....it has so much to offer us and so as you read the book, offer up praise to our Lord who has so richly blessed us with the answers to our life’s needs. Praise be to God.

Liz Dempsey,
Coordinator of Spiritual Growth
North West District

**NORTH WEST DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
SPRING DAY OF ENRICHMENT
Saturday, April 16, 2016**

River Falls United Methodist Church
127 S. 2nd Street
River Falls, WI
715 / 425-6233

Walking By Faith

Guest Speaker

Martha Boyer

Latin America - People and Faith

Afternoon Focus Groups

The Church and People with Disabilities – lead by Liz Dempsey

Review of the 2016 Reading program – lead by Billie LaBumbard

Our Neighbors' Place and the Kinnickinnic Backpack Program– lead by Brenda Yurs

Fair Trade – lead by Andrea Schullo

Mission Outreach

Our Neighbors' Place and Our Neighbors' Place Kinnickinnic Backpack Program

Read about this mission on page 9 of this WEAVER.

Registration . . .8:30am
Program 9:15am

Singing & Gathering . . . 9:00am
Sending Forth 3:00pm



REGISTRATION

Deadline April 8TH

Registration + meal \$15 – **no refunds but is Transferable**

Please attach names of all registrants to this form or copy form for each person. Please print names.

NAME _____ **UNIT** _____

PLEASE CHECK THE FOCUS GROUP YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND IN THE AFTERNOON:

The Church and People with Disabilities ____

Review of 2016 Reading Program ____

Our Neighbors' Place and the Kinnickinnic Backpack Program ____

Fair Trade ____

FIRST TIME AT A DISTRICT UMW GATHERING YES ____ **NO** ____

Dietary Needs: early lunch/ special foods (specify) _____

Childcare: \$3 per child/max \$5 per family. Number of children ____ Ages _____

(Please bring a sack lunch for each child)

Registrations:

Make checks payable to:

North West District UMW (memo: registration)

Mail to:

Marion Strandberg (715-497-5317)
1101 Weather Ridge Rd.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Mission Outreach Offering Our Neighbors Place

Make checks payable to:

North West District UMW (memo: Our Neighbors Place
or Back Pack Program)

Bring to Spring Day of Enrichment or Mail to:

Robin Peterson (715-653-2382)
3487 120th St.
Frederic, WI 54837

Spring Day of Enrichment – April 16, River Falls

Mission Outreach

Our Neighbors Place provides support, housing and shelter services for people in Pierce and St Croix Counties.

Wish List: Personal care items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo.

Our Neighbors' Place Kinnickinnic Backpack Program provides food on weekends during the school year when other resources such as free and reduced-price school lunches are not available. Between March and June 2010, backpacks filled with items from all the food groups were distributed each Friday to 45 children in the River Falls public elementary schools.

Wish List: The Back Pack Program would prefer receiving cash so they can purchase what is needed (Make checks payable to North West District UMW and in the memo line put "Back Pack Program").

You can read more about this mission and their Back Pack Program on their web site

www.ourneighborsplace.org

Our Guest Speaker – Martha Boyer



I was born and raised in a small town south of Monterrey Mexico. I became a Methodist at age 10 when my mother and 3 of my siblings were baptized. I attended Vashti High School in Thomasville Georgia sponsored by WSCS, a predecessor of United Methodist Women as part of their Mission program for women and youth. I have been married to Bill Boyer for 53 years, have two sons and 4 grandchildren. My passion for the mission work of UMW dates back to 1947 when I met Ana Deavors,

WSCS missionary, from Mississippi, to my small town. She made a difference in my life and that of my entire family.

Highlights of her presentation LATIN AMERICA – People and Faith

1. Brief historical process of colonization – life and culture of pre-Columbian civilizations
2. Process of independence during 18th century - 19th century immigration waves
3. Main challenges Latin America is currently facing by looking at international political powers
4. Importance of popular culture – music, art, literature, food, dance
5. Role of the church - explore different religious beliefs and historical perspective of the Methodist Church

Directions to River Falls United Methodist Church

127 South 2nd Street

Head toward River Falls your favorite way. The church is on Walnut & 2nd Streets and is the only one downtown with an old-fashioned, tall pointed steeple!

From the south--Hwy 35/Main St--go north past the Cascade Avenue traffic light for 3 blocks; turn R (east) on Walnut for 1 block. Hwy 65: Turn onto Cascade Ave. going west for 3/4 mile past many UWRF buildings. Turn north at 2nd/Oak Streets for 3 blocks to the church.

From the east- Hwy 29--Stay on #29/Cascade past the Hwy 65 traffic light for 3/4 mile. Turn north at 2nd/Oak Streets for 3 blocks to church.

From the north--Hwy 35, Hudson, or Hwy 65, Roberts: Follow the Main Street signs 1.5 miles through downtown to Walnut Street, turn L (east) 1 block to church. If you get to Cascade Ave (DQ & UWRF buildings), you went too far.

Afternoon Focus Groups for Spring Day of Enrichment

The Church and People with Disabilities – lead by Liz Dempsey. Many of us are experiencing disabilities of our own so is our church staying in tune with that? Has our church responded to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991? This breakout session will provide a handout that your church trustees can use to evaluate all facility and sensitivity issues. We will also discuss how congregations are dealing with our returning warriors. Join us in this breakout for becoming aware of those with disabilities and how our churches can respond!

Review of the 2016 Reading program – lead by Billie LaBumbard. Volunteers will give brief reviews of books on the 2016 reading list. Come and learn!

Our Neighbors' Place and the Kinnickinnic Backpack Program – lead by Brenda Yurs, a volunteer at Our Neighbors' Place. The Census estimates that there are 7,482 people living in poverty in Pierce and St. Croix Counties. Twenty six percent of those living in poverty were 18 years of age or younger. This Outreach Program offers individuals assistance with their basic needs, safety, access to information and knowledgeable people to help in decreasing personal stress when dealing with homelessness. Learn more about this mission and how your donations are used.

Fair Trade – lead by Andrea Schullo. Learn more about how Artisans, farmers and workers around the world are exploited and marginalized on a daily basis. Whether it is because of the amount they are paid, the terrible working conditions they experience or problems of forced labor that commonly occur under the traditional model of trade, often no opportunities exist to earn a living wage to support one's family. Fair trade is an alternative way to do business in the international marketplace and is based on the principles of equity, justice, respect, transparency, authentic partnership and sustainability. Find out about how Fair Trade benefits both producers and consumers.

A Fresh Wind Blowing
NCJ
United Methodist Women
QUADRENNIAL
June 24-26, 2016
Grand Rapids, MI
Come, Sear With Us!

Plan to Come!

Friday, June 24, 2016 (5:00 pm dinner) –
11:30 am Sunday June 26, 2016

For those arriving early: A bus tour leaves hotel at 8 am,
Friday, returns to hotel at noon (See Mission Tours).
Registration begins 12:30 pm Friday.

To Register: After Nov. 1 go to:
<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/about> follow
the registration link for the North Central Jurisdiction or
contact the registrar (see info on registrar below).

Register early for a fee of \$150 until May 13 when the
fee will be \$195. Fee covers costs including program
Friday to Sunday, all meals for the 3 days including
gratuities, and packet.



Mission Action Day

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Columbus United Methodist Church
222 S. Dickason Blvd.
Columbus, WI 53925

Homelessness

- Affordable Housing Panel- Martha Cranley, United Way Dane County; Judy Wilcox, former Dane County Supervisor; Wendy Schneider, Columbia County Renewal Unlimited
- Jerome Dillard, formerly incarcerated citizen- racial justice issues related to homelessness including the criminal justice system

Donations for Northcott Neighborhood House will be collected. Items needed are: Basketballs, footballs, copy paper, pens, staplers and staples, cleaning supplies such as Mr. Clean, toilet bowl cleaner, gloves

Registration: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Sending forth: 2:30 p.m.

Registration is transferrable, not refundable.

2016 MISSION ACTION DAY REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline for Registration: Friday, March 11, 2016- \$12 registration fee

Late registration-\$15- March 12-18, after March 18- fee remains \$15 lunch on your own

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/ZIP Code _____

District _____ Church _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

Dietary or other considerations _____

Send form and registration fee to:

Shirley Carpenter, 2711 North Biron Drive, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-8804

Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Conference UMW

Driving Directions to Columbus UMC, Columbus

For Mission Action Day, Saturday, April 2, 2016

- FROM STEVENS POINT/WAUSAU AREA (NORTHWEST): Take 39/51 south to Hwy 16 east to Columbus. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM MADISON AREA (SOUTHWEST): Take 151 north to Hwy 16 east. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM MILWAUKEE AREA (SOUTH): Take Hwy 41 north to Hwy. 60 west Hwy 60 to Columbus. Hwy. 60/16 is James St. Turn left on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM GREEN BAY AREA (NORTH): Take Hwy 41 south to Hwy 151. Hwy 151 to Columbus. Take Hwy 16 east. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM LA CROSSE AREA (WEST): Take 90 east to Hwy 60 east. Hwy 60 to Columbus. Hwy 60/16 becomes James St. in Columbus. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.

Hwy 16/60 connects to Dickason Blvd. at corner where Library / City Hall & F & M Bank is located

For precise directions and map, go to <https://maps.google.com> and type in 222 S. Dickason Blvd., Columbus, WI or

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/United+Methodist+Church/@43.3383654,-89.0176549,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x00000000000000000:0xcbd73a5faa8d36a0>

visit <http://www.cbusumc.com>

If there is not a funeral, individuals may park in the funeral home parking lot across the street from Columbus UMC.

MISSION TODAY AWARDS—2015

Chippewa District

Submitted by Suzanne Heabler – Education and Interpretation Coordinator

Qualified (29)

Augusta
Balsam Lake/Centuria
Barron
Birchwood
Bloomer
Bruce
Canton
Chippewa Falls-Trinity
Clear Lake
Downing
Eau Claire-Lake Street
Exeland
Grantsburg
Holcombe
Knapp
Lewis
Menomonie
New Centerville
New Richmond
Osceola
Pleasant Valley
Prairie Farm
Rice Lake
River Falls
Siren
Spooner
Superior
Tainter
Webster

Returned, however not qualifying (5)

Boyceville
Jim Falls
Mondovi
Plum City/Ono
Turtle Lake/Parkview

Reports not returned (14)

Alma
Ashland
Cadott
Chippewa Falls-Zion
Colfax
Cumberland
Elmwood
Glenwood City
Hudson
Mondovi
Pepin
Rock Elm
Shell Lake
Thorp

**Chippewa District UMW
5 Star Award Recipients - 2015**

Augusta	Medford
Barron-First	Mondovi-Our Savior
Birchwood	New Centerville
Bloomer	New Richmond
Canton	Osceola
Chippewa Falls-Trinity	Pleasant Valley
Clear Lake	Prairie Farm-Faith
Colfax	Rice Lake-First
Eau Claire-Lake Street	River Falls
Grantsburg-Central	Shell Lake
Holcombe	Siren
Jim Falls	Superior-Faith
Lewis Memorial	Webster-Grace

Submitted by Robin Peterson – Treasurer

Chippewa District 2015 Reading Report

Member	Plan	Member	Plan	Member	Plan
Augusta		Grantsburg		River Falls	
Anita Peterson	x	Judy Lien	x	Janet Leonard	xxxx
Cheryl Stahl	x	Terry Giles	xxxx	Bernice Wolf	x
Barron				Rock Elm	
Loretta Becker	x	Janet Dahl	x	Marjorie Shirmer	xx
Deanna Keppen	x	Alice Troupe	xx	Barb Wall	xxxx
Nancy Kasper	x	Karen Stimeling	x	Sue Pierson	xxxx
Verna Hanson	x	Elaine Sharp	x	Laura Ida	xxx
Kathee Yamada	x	Ruby Getting	xx	Rock Elm	
Marilyn Gilbertson	xx	Cheryl Bingham	xx	Joyce Kendall	x
Jean Stang	xx	Lewis		Roberta Holcomb	x
Laurie Church	xxxx	Kara Alden	x	Pat Ginsbach	x
Judy Hyde	xx	LaVonne Boyer	x	Shell Lake	
Bloomer		Robin Peterson	x	Shirley Hile	x
Sharon Steinmetz	xx	Sharon White	x	Spooner	
Rita Stearns	xx	Menominee		Jean Kissack	x
Canton		Julie McNaughton	x	Jean Parker	x
Rose Snyder	x	Mondovi		Mavis Cook	x
Michelle Halvorson	x	Iris Budendistel	x	Billie LaBumbard	xxxx
Arlene White	x	Becky Davis	xx	Terri Reiter	xxx
Chippewa Falls Trinity		Irma Fuller	x	Muriel Mitchell	x
Donna Kraemer	xxx	New Centerville		Mabel Mathison	x
Ruth Olson	x	Barb Wiff	xx	Superior Faith	
Shirley Woodruff	x	Ann Rudesill	x	Rev. Barb Certa-Werner	xx
Carole Frederick	x	Matilda Rudesill	x	Rev. Joel Certa-Werner	x
Marion Strandberg	x	Naoma Falde	x	Julianna Certa-Werner	x
Clear Lake		New Richmond		Rev. Joan Goebel	x
Joan Lillie	x	Janet Knutson	xxx	Carol Larson	xxx
Downing		Katherine Peterson	x	Mary Manion-Bick	x
Tammy Nelson	x	Prairie Farm		Barbara Porter	xx
Janice Annis	x	Margie Wiseman	x	Amy Sullivan	xx
Eau Claire Lake Street		Barbara Bender	x	Bonnie Thoorsell	xxxx
Florence Shepherd	x	Pleasant Valley-Eleva		Peggy VanValkenburg	x
Julie Holzinger	x	Annette Peterson	xxxx	Jessie Westman	x
Pat Peterson	xx	Hattie Chapek	x	Linda Westman	x
Beverly Maser	xxxx	Arlene Green	x	Webster	
Lena Thompson	xxxx	Rice Lake		Elaine Wilson	x
Suzanne Heabler	xxxx	Arlene Hougas	x	LaVonne Collins	x
		Adora Forward	x	Sharon Boatman	x
		Nancy Zabel	xx		
		Lisa Mink	xx		
		Lisa Mink	xx		

Plan I x Plan II xx Plan III xxx Plan IV xxxx
 Submitted by Billie LaBumbard – Program Resource Secretary

2016 NORTH WEST DISTRICT UMW OFFICERS

PRESIDENT (2014 - 2017)

Evie O'Neil 1428 N. Sunset Beach Drive 715-354-3197
evio31@outlook.com Birchwood, WI 54817 Cell 715-718-4271

VICE-PRESIDENT (2015- 2016)

Terry Giles 12590 Cty Rd D 715-463-2400
gilesmt@grantsburgtelcom.net Grantsburg, WI 54840 Cell 715-431-0420 (January - March)

SECRETARY (2014 -2017)

Janet Knutson P.O. 12 715-248-3231
rjknutson@frontiernet.net Star Prairie, WI 54026

TREASURER (2014 -2017)

Robin Peterson 3487 120th Street 715-653-2382
rlhula@yahoo.com Frederic, WI 54837

SPIRITUAL GROWTH (2013-2017)

Liz Dempsey 27596 264th Ave. 715-312-0268
lizzied23@live.com Holcombe, WI 54745

SOCIAL ACTION (2013 - 2017)

Jean Kissack 1116 Elm Street 715-635-7327
jeankissack@yahoo.com Spooner, WI 54801 Cell 715-520-2201

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR (2015 - 2016)

Suzanne Heabler 1512 Glenn Place 715-552-7369
heablers1971@charter.net Eau Claire, WI 54703

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH (2015 - 2017)

Rita Stearns 2301 West 26th Ave. Cell 715-382-3165
ritast@charter.net Bloomer, WI 54724

PROGRAM RESOURCES (2014 - 2017)

Billie LaBumbard W6578 Lone Ranch Road 715-635-7045
missionbillie@gmail.com Spooner, WI 54801 Cell 715-939-0118

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR (2016 - 2017) OPEN

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS CHAIR (2016 - 2017)

Annette Pederson S11950 Hillview Road 715-878-4203
annetpederson@centurylink.net Eleva, WI 54738

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS MEMBERS – POSITIONS OPEN

Class of 2016 Karen Stimeling 28719 303rd Ave. 715-595-6464
Holcombe, WI 54745-5516
stimeark@centurytel.net

Class of 2019 Doris Ruiter N 2952 State Road 40 715-415-6854
Bruce, WI 54819
trimama@hotmail.com

EDITOR

Marion Strandberg 1101 Weather Ridge Rd. 715-497-5317
pstrandberg1367@charter.net Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

HISTORIAN

Barbara Bender (2013-2017) 328 8 3/4 St. 715-455-1471
obbender@chibardun.net Prairie Farm, WI 54762

NORTH WEST DISTRICT CONFERENCE OFFICERS

NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATOR

Billie LaBumbard 78 Lone Ranch Road 715-635-7045
missionbillie@gmail.com Spooner, WI 54801

MISSION u CAMPING COORDINATOR

Chris Draxler 2139 Walnut Ridge Dr. 715-225-2983
fdraxler@charter.net Eau Claire, WI 54701

SPIRTUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR

Deb Pattee W18821 N. River Rd. 715-538-2060
patteedk@uwec.edu Whitehall, WI 54773

PROGRAM RESOURCE SECRETARY

Nancy Zabel 1602 Augusta St. 715-234-2932
nkzabel@hotmail.com Rice Lake, WI 54868

NORTH WEST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Kate Croskery Jones 1233B Menomonie Street 715-835-5181
solson@wisconsinumc.org Eau Claire, WI 54703

2016 North West District Sister Unit Assignments

Evie O'Neil—District Superintendent, Webster

Terry Giles—Spooner, Osceola, Balsam Lake, Turtle Lake

Liz Dempsey—Hudson, Knapp, New Auburn, Barron, Bruce

Jean Kissack—Siren, Shell Lake, Grantsburg, Birchwood

Suzanne Heabler—Holcombe, Pepin (Dist. Mem.), Prairie Farm, Pleasant Valley, Independence/Montana (Dist. Mem.) Whitehall

Rita Stearns—Eau Claire-Lake Street, Menomonie, Tainter, Chippewa Falls-Trinity

Billie LaBumbard—Lewis, Ashland, Superior, Cumberland, (Odanah)

Annette Pederson—Augusta, Mondovi, Jim Falls, Atlas (Dist. Mem.)

Karen Stimeling—Exeland, River Falls, Colfax, Bloomer

Doris Ruiter—Cadott, Thorp, Canton, Chetek (Dist. Mem.), Rice Lake (Weyerhauser)

Marion Strandberg—New Richmond, Rock Elm, Elmwood, Plum City/Ono

Barb Bender—Clear Lake, Downing, New Centerville, Boyceville, Glenwood City, Wheeler (Dist. Mem.)

Each unit is assigned a District Officer as their Liaison to the District. Each District Officer will contact her Sister units through either a letter, e-mail or a phone call to help her units with any questions and to keep them informed on news from the District and Conference.

2016 Wisconsin Conference Mission Team

PRESIDENT/WEBSITE MANAGER: Laura Pfeffer
pfeffer.umw@gmail.com
(mailto:pfeffer.umw@gmail.com)

VICE PRESIDENT: Jean Bonney
r.bonney@mchsi.com (mailto:r.bonney@mchsi.com)

SECRETARY: Cherrie Graham
cherrie@comm-mins.com (mailto:cherrie@comm-mins.com)

TREASURER: Mary Rather
gmrather@aol.com (mailto:gmrather@aol.com)

COMMUNICATIONS/EDITOR: Ellen Eastman
eae@frontier.com (mailto:eae@frontier.com)

PROGRAM RESOURCES: Nancy Zabel
nkzabel@hotmail.com (mailto:nkzabel@hotmail.com)

CHAIR NOMINATIONS: Julie Miehie
julie.miehie9@gmail.com
(mailto:julie.miehie9@gmail.com)

SOCIAL ACTION: Ruby Dow
remdow@ymail.com (mailto:remdow@ymail.com)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: Deb Pattee
patteedk@uwec.edu (mailto:patteedk@uwec.edu)

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION: Betty Henderson
bettydhenderson@gmail.com
(mailto:bettydhenderson@gmail.com)

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH: Shirley Carpenter
shorenuf35@gmail.com
(mailto:shorenuf35@gmail.com)

HISPANIC LANGUAGE COORDINATOR: Martha Boyer
marta@mhtc.net (mailto:marta@mhtc.net)

HMONG LANGUAGE COORDINATOR: Kady Herr Yang
embracelanguageservices@gmail.com
(mailto:embracelanguageservices@gmail.com)

NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE Co-COORDINATOR: Holly Helton-Anishinaabeqwa
h0llyhelt0n35@gmail.com
(mailto:h0llyhelt0n35@gmail.com)

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:

(Chair) Julie Miehie
julie.miehie9@gmail.com (mailto:julie.miehie9@gmail.com)

Rachel Benton
Benton1430@yahoo.com
(mailto:Benton1430@yahoo.com)

Kay Waugh
kdwau@new.rr.com (mailto:kdwau@new.rr.com)

Jeanette Retzlaff
jeteretzlaff@yahoo.com (mailto:jeteretzlaff@yahoo.com)

Shirley Jackson
mrsshirleyjackson79@gmail.com
(mailto:mrsshirleyjackson79@gmail.com)

2016 MISSION u TEAM

DEAN: Gail Burgess
hb53104@aol.com (mailto:hb53104@aol.com)

ASSISTANT DEAN: Karen Mayeshiba
kamayeshiba@yahoo.com
(mailto:kamayeshiba@yahoo.com)

REGISTRAR: Arlene Trull
aetrull@gmail.com (mailto:aetrull@gmail.com)

BUSINESS MANAGER: Bernice Kohlman
No email

COMMUNICATIONS: (OPEN)

CAMPING COORDINATOR: Chris Draxler
fdraxler@charter.net (mailto:fdraxler@charter.net)

MEMBER AT-LARGE:
Lucy Silvester
loosesilv45@gmail.com (mailto:loosesilv45@gmail.com)

Tabatha Yang
goldengate2paradise@gmail.com
(mailto:goldengate2paradise@gmail.com)

Mary Baker
marycyc@cbusumc.net (mailto:marycyc@cbusumc.net)

Kristina Hermanson
hbos_@yahoo.com (mailto:hbos_@yahoo.com)

OTHER POSITIONS ON CONFERENCE UMW

CONFERENCE UMW HISTORIAN: (Open)

NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE Co-COORDINATOR: Billie LaBumbard
missionbillie@gmail.com
(mailto:missionbillie@gmail.com)

YOUNG WOMEN'S COORDINATOR:
Chelsey Ganzer
ganzerschelsey@yahoo.com
(mailto:ganzerschelsey@yahoo.com)

YOUNG WOMEN'S MENTOR: Gloria Carter
carter53597@tds.net (mailto:carter53597@tds.net)

VICE PRESIDENT NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION: Carol Holt Lahey
carollahey421@gmail.com
(mailto:carollahey421@gmail.com)

REPRESENTATIVE ON NATIONAL UMW PLANNING BOARD: Chue Vang
vangcx1@milwaukee.k12.wi.us
(mailto:vangcx1@milwaukee.k12.wi.us)

**Women Remembered at the September 19th, 2015 UMW Annual Gathering
Memorial Service**

Augusta

Gen Moore
Elora Scott
Clara Ann Roeber

Barron

Sarah Jane Sinclair
Nancy Maurina
Lois Hanson

Balsam Lake/Centuria

Kay Mabry

Cumberland

Peg Hines
Pat Burling

Glenwood City

Florence Sahl
Doris Jancoski

Eau Claire Lake Street

Ann Berger
Marilyn Rushton
Janice Owen
Laura Sault
Margaret Gratz
Ruth Bjerke
Marlene Reppert
Kay Syth
Betty Cathers

Menomonie

Delores Wolfe
Marilynn Rushton
Ruby Halfin
Racile Larson
Sonja Johnson
Lila Dean
Mary Lou Whinnery

New Richmond

Mae Vehrs
Virginia Hoogheem
Vicky Fredrickson

Pepin

Loma Hetrick
Irene Bergmark

Pleasant Valley

Marion Davis

Prairie Farm

Kathleen Warner

Rice Lake

Marge Bradley Scholl
Marian Smith
Mavis Rimling
Ruth Landis

River Falls

Virginia Rodli
Patricia Anderson

Shell Lake

Avis Nordin

Spooner

Marie Hovey
Ruby Spellbring

Superior Faith

Beverly Gee
Phyllis Mihalik

Tainter

Nekla Maves

Turtle Lake

Lois Coleman
Rosella Johnson
LaVonne Monio

Webster

Darlene Nelson
Esther Conroy
Carol Peterson

Thank you for loving and
sharing,
For giving and for caring.
God bless you and keep you,
Until we meet again.

MABEL HEIL SCHOLARSHIP

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

Requirements and Instructions

Instructions:

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

Rules:

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

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

All applications are photocopied for the committee members.

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

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

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

Schedule:

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

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

Contact Person:

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

**MABEL HEIL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Please Print

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____ Birth Date _____

1. Local Church:

Name & City _____

Pastor _____

Are you a member of United Methodist Women? _____

2. Activities:

In United Methodist Women _____

In your local church _____

In the community _____

3. Education: (Give year of graduation) High School _____ College _____ Other _____

School you will be attending _____

Have you been accepted as a student? yes _____ no _____

Present (post high school) status:

Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ Graduate _____ Other _____

Course of study _____

4. Family Status _____

5. Please answer the following question using an additional sheet:

IN WHAT WAY DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A WORTHY STUDENT?

Mail to: Helen Robinson
N2101 Cleghorn Road
Waupaca, WI 54981

Phone: 715-258-0973
Email: pottshe@yahoo.com

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW

MISSION TODAY

Mission Tasks for 2016

To become a Mission Today organization, please complete two (2) criteria from each category. Please try at least one (1) new criteria and report in fall of 2016.

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God...

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H
1. Plan programs that encourage spiritual growth. (Program book, response magazine, etc.)
 2. Create prayer partners with other church groups.
 3. Pray using the Prayer Calendar at meetings.
 4. Organize the spiritual growth study from Mission u, possibly several evenings/ weeks.

to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ;

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P
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1. Take advantage of opportunities thru UMW such as Mission u, Spiritual Growth Retreats, Annual Gatherings, Mission Action Day.
 2. Set aside a time to go over the year's plans using Mission Today Mission Tasks.
 3. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice program.
 4. Present a mission study from Mission u, inviting church members.

to develop a creative, supportive fellowship;

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1. Honor the organization's leaders and member's contributions with Special Mission Recognition pins. Don't forget community leaders.
 2. Encourage everyone to visit or invite visitors to/from other local UMW organizations.
 3. Publicize your events using newsletters, bulletin boards, Sunday bulletins, social media, phone calls, etc.
 4. Plan a year end program to give thanks and celebrate your accomplishments.

and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

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1. Encourage all members to participate in the Pledge for Mission; give reports on where the money goes.
 2. Involve all members in fundraising (think creatively).
 3. Contribute to scholarships(UMW related) and Mission u. (\$25.00 or more).
 4. Partner with a mission institution such as Northcott, or Wisconsin Conference supported Imagine No Malaria, Harbor House, United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin, etc.

UMBRELLA DEFENSE TO INTERCEPT TRAFFICKERS

Social Action- Jean Kissack, Coordinator

National UMW sent out an Action Alert asking all districts and units to participate in a photo campaign. The focus is on human trafficking. Plans are to form a virtual "Umbrella Line of Defense" around Levi Stadium on Super bowl Sunday, February 5th, 2016. The idea came from the UMW reading list book "*The White Umbrella: Walking with Survivors of Sex Trafficking*" by Mary Francis Bowley. The white umbrella symbolizes protection and security for survivors of human trafficking as they get help to restore their lives. Super bowl is a time when human trafficking is at it's highest. We need to increase awareness of people being trafficked during Super bowl. These people are forced to prepare food, clean motel rooms, polish nails, perform massages, wash windows, do grounds-keeping or become a sex worker against their own free will.

North West District officers took group picture on January 9th with open umbrellas and a sign that says "We are United Methodist Women opening umbrellas to intercept human trafficking." We put the photo in this newsletter and also sent it to national UMW via social media (Facebook) and Flickr.

North West District Team Jan 9th meeting in New Richmond protesting against human trafficking.



1st row: Robin and Jean,
2nd row: Terry , Marion, Liz , Billie, Karen L., Janet
3rd row: Evie, Doris, Rita, Karen S., Suzanne.

Your **WEAVER** Editor



This past year has been a rather challenging and emotional year. My husband and I moved into our new place on December 3, 2014, on December 23, 2014 I was told I had breast cancer and in January, 2015. I had surgery. I consider myself very fortunate because it was caught early, stage one. However it was a very aggressive cancer, so started a year of chemo, Dr. appointments and radiation treatments. What a year it was! But with the prayers and encouragement from my family, friends and my faith in God, I made it through the year and am now starting to get back to my normal activities. I consider myself lucky because of the encouragement I received from everyone – I do believe God put me here on the District Team, with loving and caring friends to see me through the worst part of it.

So, now that I am recovering from the worst of it, that means back to work on the WEAVER, making sure that everyone in our district is kept up-to-date on all the gatherings and news from our district and from the Conference. Just a reminder that all unit officers (Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers) should be receiving the WEAVER, at no cost. It is important that we have your correct address, so you don't miss any issues, so be sure to let me know if you change your address during the year. Anyone else in your unit who wishes to receive the WEAVER can get it at a suggested donation of \$3 a year, just give me a call or send me an e-mail.

The WEAVER is also on the WI Conference UMW website, so you can always look at it there, along with past issues.

Thank you to all who have kept me in their prayers, sent me cards and encouraged me this past year. I hope to see you all at our next gathering in River Falls, April 16th.

Marion Strandberg
pstrandberg1367@charter.net
715-497-5317

When we **PRAY**,
God hears more
than we say,
answers more
than we ask,
gives more
than we imagine...
in His own time & His own way.

2016 Calender



- March 5** – North West District Team Meeting at River Falls UMC, River Falls
- April 2** – Mission Action Day, Columbus UMC, Columbus, WI
- April 10** – WEAVER articles due
- April 15** – North West District Team set-up at River Falls UMC, River Falls
- April 16** – North West District Spring Day of Enrichment at River Falls UMC, River Falls
- June 4** – North West District Team Meeting, Bev Masers's cabin, Barronette
- June 24 - 26** – North Central Quadrennial Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI
- July 10** – WEAVER articles due
- July 25 – 28** – Wisconsin Conference Mission u Four Day School, Mead Hotel, Wisconsin Rapids
- July 29** – Wisconsin Conference Mission u Overview Day, Mead Hotel, Wisconsin Rapids
- August 6**– North West District Team Meeting, Turtle Lake Parkview UMC, Turtle Lake
- September 16** – Northwest District Team set-up at Turtle Lake Parkview UMC, Turtle Lake
- September 17** – North West District Annual Gathering, Turtle Lake Parkview UMC, Turtle Lake
- October 21–22** – Wisconsin Conference Annual Gathering, Eau Claire Lake Street UMC, Eau Claire
- December 3** – North West District Christmas Team luncheon at TBA

2016 MISSION u STUDIES

Spiritual Growth -The Bible and Human Sexuality
Geographic - Latin America
Issue Study - Climate Justice
Youth & Children - Climate Justice

Trinity United Methodist Church
201 W. Central St.
Chippewa Fall, WI 54729

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All unit Presidents, Vice-presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries will receive the WEAVER at no cost. Any other Unit officers or members who wish to receive the WEAVER may subscribe to it by sending a donation of \$3.00 (3 issues a year) along with your name and address to the address below. **Please make checks payable to the North West District UMW.**

Marion Strandberg, WEAVER editor
1101 Weather Ridge Rd.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715/497-5317

Please print and include with donation:

NAME _____ UMW UNIT _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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pstrandberg1367@charter.net