

North West District's Newsletter

THE WEAVER

May 2023



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith's new mission statement.....

We seek to connect and nurture women through

Christian spiritual formation,

leadership development,

creative fellowship

and

education

so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

2023 North West District Team

President: Billie La Bumbard 715-939-0118
W6578 Lone Ranch Road, Spooner, WI 54801 missionbillie@gmail.com

Secretary: Karen Leichtle 715-425-8541
N 8207 970th St., River Falls, WI 54022 kleichtle@comcast.net

Treasurer: Annette Pederson 715-770-9322
S11950 Hillview Road, Eleva, WI 54738 annettepederson53@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth: Jean Parker 715 520-3964
1207 Erie Street, Spooner, WI 54801 parkerjj@charter.net

Social Action: Laura Ida 612-801-6284
853 McDiarmid Dr., Hudson, WI 54016 faithwalkerlee@yahoo.com

Education & Interpretation: Barbara Bender 715-455-1471
328 8 3/4 St., Prairie Farm, WI 54762 obbender@chibardun.net

Membership, Nurture & Outreach: Cheryl Starr 715-559-8533
411 River Street, Osceola, WI 54020 starr.quilter@gmail.com

Program Resource: Cheryl Bingham 608-712-7820
19474 234th St. Cornell, WI 54732 cheriJeanb@hotmail.com

Weaver Editor: Chris Draxler 715-225-2983
30572 122nd Street, New Auburn, WI 54757 24x7gig@gmail.com

Historian: Claudette Smith 715-595-4656
W10364 Town Line Rd., Holcombe, WI 54745 smith_5329@yahoo.com

North West District Superintendent: Rev. Peace Kim

@@

A message from our President.....Billie La Bumbard



Psalm 1:1 *'The truly happy person.....'*

Psalm 1:3 *'they are like a tree planted by streams of which bears fruit at just the right time and whose leaves don't fade.'*

As I am writing this my basement is flooding AGAIN. Rivers in the Midwest are overflowing. All of a sudden, the snow is melted and we have mud season. Tiny daffodils are popping up. Spring must be here! Happiness as the Psalms instruct comes with our learning about God, practicing love, mercy and peace.....all in God's grace. The earth and the water are our inheritance; let's do our best to take care. We learn in United Women in Faith through books, fellowship, reading Response, Mission u and our Fall Gathering. Hope to see you all participating.

Now back to my shop vac in the basement.

Billie

@@



From the desk of our Treasurer...Annette Pederson

Friends,

What a great beginning for 2023. We had a wonderful Spring Day of Enrichment March 25th at New Richmond. Many thanks to the New Richmond United Women in Faith, Ruth Egerer, their president and our speakers Sean Kinsella and Duana Bremer.

We collected \$640 and numerous items for Faith House. WOW!

I am always so impressed and encouraged by the informative programs presented and the generosity of our United Women in Faith. Through March, our units have contributed 32% toward our conference pledge.

This is a great start! Let's keep the giving and this spirit of enthusiasm going through the year for our units and our District.

Annette Pederson

@@

Please take a moment to read about our newest North West District team members.....Jean Parker. Jean will be serving as the Spiritual Growth Coordinator for our district.

Jean writes....."I was born here in the northland and am so very glad to have lived here most of my life. My husband of 56 years is John and we have 2 great kids and 3 wonderful grandchildren. I worked in Special Education at the elementary level for 24 years and loved it, but also love retirement. Buying and selling antiques, sewing, reading, gardening, and time with family and friends are my passions. Traveling throughout the world has been a great blessing. But the greatest part of my life is knowing our Lord Jesus and serving Him."

A Devotion from our Spiritual Growth Coordinator.....

Jean Parker



Spring has finally sprung and we are all thinking about getting into our gardens, cleaning and planting those beautiful pots to sit outside on our decks and porches. It's so disappointing going into the garden sheds and find that your favorite pot has developed a huge crack and can't be used anymore! It is so hard to toss it out!

We are kind of like those imperfect pots and think we cannot be of use to our Lord Jesus anymore. This couldn't be further from the

truth!!! We are to let His light shine through our lives and His perfection can shine through our imperfections.

It's so comforting to know we don't have to be perfect in order to serve Him! He uses us in spite of ourselves, in spite of our cracks and imperfection! What a wonderful Lord we have!!!

Jean Parker

@@

**Be informed, a message from our Education and Interpretation
Coor.....Barbara Bender**



EDUCATION!

How are you educating yourself?

Do you want to learn more about what is going on in our communities?

Our Spring Day of Enrichment speakers were excellent, the entertainment was great, and the New Richmond ladies were gracious hosts. Speaker, Dean Kinsella, Executive Director CASA of St Croix County, (Court Appointed Special Advocate), explained how he helps youth/children/families in court situations and the events in their lives that got them to this place. And the Mission Outreach speaker Duana Bremer, the director of the Salvation Army for 15 years and also works with transitional housing for families and individuals presented an informative presentation with time for our ladies to ask many questions. It was an uplifting day!!!!

I encourage you to plan to attend the Fall Gathering at River Falls UMC on September 23rd, 2023.

COME! LEARN! BE INFORMED! And continue to work on your Mission Today projects.

The 2022 certificates will be in your packets at the Fall Gathering.

May God strengthen your efforts.

Barb Bender

@@



A message from Membership, Nurture & Outreach.....Cheryl Starr

Dear Friends,

As I write this article, patience is needed regarding our northern weather! However, no matter the cold and windy weather, the earth is waking up! *“Dear Mother Earth, who day by day unfoldest blessings on our way”* is a song we will be singing at our church service on Earth Day. I

hope that by the time you receive your Weaver, spring will be in full glory!

My biggest news is that the results of the 2021 UWF Unit Survey that we were sent in the summer of 2022 are in! Our North West District had 21 units (plus one district member) respond to the UWF Unit Survey. I thought I would share some of the basic information about our NW District based on the responses.

1. We have 437 active members in our district.
2. Unfortunately, 9 units in Wisconsin are considering going inactive, 3 of those being in our Northwest District. The reasons for going inactive were (1) because of covid, (2) loss of members or the age of members, and (3) already small size of the unit. (However at least one unit that may become inactive has a number of individual members that wish to continue as UWF district members.)
3. Our district lost 41 members because of death or other reasons (moving, for example) and 22 new members were added.
4. Fourteen of our north west district units cited the average age of their members as 70+. Seven units stated the average age of their unit as 56-69.

Regarding the many changes that have occurred with our organization in the past couple of years, 9 of the units responded to the question “Are you excited about the new name United Women in Faith” with “Yes” and 11 were undecided and it appears that by the end of 2022, all of our units had transitioned to the new name.

4 of our units are working on the climate and racial justice campaigns; 2 are focused on climate, 1 focused on racial justice, and 13 not working on either campaign.

The Program Book is being used in print by 3 units; 6 units use both the print & digital, and 1 uses just the digital copy. 4 units don't use the Program Book at all.

3 units had representatives attending Assembly 2022, 1 in person and 2 virtually.

So, what should we do with this information?

1. Share it with your unit and talk about what the future might hold for your group.
2. Pray about our organization and consider how each unit can encourage more participation locally.
3. Pray about ways to get involved by attending district and statewide events. (As a side note, evaluations from our Spring Day of Enrichment expressed concern because of the smaller numbers of attendees, but also how nice to just be together with other Methodist Women and how informational the speakers were.)
4. Go online (uwfaith.org) to check out the online resources that UWF is making available. Spring is a time of hope and renewal. Maybe the results of this survey can inspire us to discover how we might experience that.

Cheryl Starr

@@

ZOOM Mission u 2023 Registration Form

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
June 20, 22, 27& 29, 2023 6:30-9:00PM

Mission u 2023



LIVING THE GOOD NEWS
Reflecting God's Love



**United
Women
in Faith**

Join us at Mission u as we explore the good news and what it means for our lives!
Jesus' teachings in the Gospels proclaim the good news of the kin-dom or reign(basileia) of God

***Living the Kin-Dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabela* is the book for this class. Purchase it at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 888-409-8137. You must purchase your own copy.**

A zoom invitation will be sent to you one week prior to the first class session.

Each person should register individually. Your fastest and most accurate way to register is online at:
➔ <https://forms.gle/ScKL676aGzY7ok4m9> (Click on URL or Copy and paste it into browser) You may also register by completing the form below and mailing it to our registrar with your check.

Retain for your information

Registration: \$20.00 Registration deadline June 10.

Registration transferable but not refundable.

Make checks payable to Mission u. Mail along with the registration form below to our registrar:

Josie Gobel
309 W. Johnson St. Apt. 930
Madison, WI53703
josiegobel@charter.net cell:920-988-0705

A donation for our Conference pledge may be added to your registration fee and noted in the check memo.

This will take the place of the offering we usually take during the event.

Name	District (Circle One) NW NC NE SW SE
Address, City, State, Zip	
Email	Phone
UWF unit, District Member or All Access Member	
I will sign in to zoom using my ___phone, ___smart phone/computer, or ___as part of small group. _____will be signing in for our small group.	
When we have breakout groups, as a small group we would prefer to: ____join a breakout group or ____be our own group	
Note: Joining a breakout group works best for groups of no more than three persons.	
Check those that apply: ___ Seeking Lay Speaker credit ___ Seeking CEU credit ___ New WI Clergy Mission u scholarship ___ Requesting Scholarship ___ First time at Mission u	



A Message from our Social Action Coor.....Laura Ida

Spring Greetings from your Social Action Coordinator!

This year I have especially waited for these words from Song of Solomon to arrive, *“For lo, the winter is past. The rain (snow) is over and gone: The flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of the birds is come...”* I hope that when you receive this newsletter the blessings of spring will be surrounding you!

Spring activities as United Women in Faith include our Spring Day of Enrichment and Social Action Day. It was good to see some of you in New Richmond and those online for Social Action Day! It is wonderful to stay connected and support each other in our important work. If you were not able to attend this year, I encourage you to join us soon! Your presence is important and enriches us all!

Our Social Action Day reminded us how much our Care of Creation impacts us all! Elena Carter, Deputy Director of Faith in Place, shared the main impacts of climate change on maternal health. Extreme weather with heat and flooding, water and foodborne illnesses, increased weather-related mental health difficulties, and respiratory illness affect us all, and especially our vulnerable population and expectant mothers and young children.

Climate change and poverty unfortunately are intricately connected. We continue to hear how Milwaukee has a high black infant mortality rate when compared nationally. As a native of Milwaukee, this is distressing. I am so grateful for the work of UMC Children Services and Northcott! Let’s do all we can to continue to support this important ministry in that impoverished area.

As we become aware of ways to support positive change, we can examine our own strengths and decide what we are called to do! We may want to become active in the larger picture of learning about better policies and connecting with organizations working for change. For example, in WI supporting a bipartisan proposal in the Governor’s Budget for expanding Medicaid to 12 months Postpartum for infants and mothers. We might look more locally and see what young family or children we can offer support and encouragement to. We may find ourselves doing both! If you check out the website of umcjustice.org or our United Women in Faith website, and click on Action, you can find information, ideas for action and easy ways to contact legislators.

Soon a recording of Social Action Day will be available. This will be great information to share with your local unit! I also hope to see many of you at Mission u! Be sure to check out the information in this newsletter. Mission u is a rich experience of friends, worship, learning, inspiration, and fellowship. It has become a priority on my summer calendar. Please consider joining us!

As the book of Micah reminds us, *“What does the Lord require of us? But to do Justice, and to love kindness, so that we may walk humbly with our God!”*

Peace to you!

Yours in Social Action, Laura Ida

@@

In Person Mission u 2023 Registration Form

Mission u 2023



LIVING THE GOOD NEWS
Reflecting God's Love



United
Women
in Faith

Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith In Person Mission u 2023 Registration Form July 13,14,15

First United Methodist Church Baraboo
615 Broadway St., Baraboo, WI 53913

Name

District (Circle One) NW NC NE SW SE

Address, City, State, Zip

Email

Phone

Please indicate: UWF unit, District Member or All Access Member

Early bird registration is \$70. After June 1 the cost is \$85. Registration deadline is June 10.
Send check made out to Mission u along with this registration form to our registrar:
You may also register online.

cost is \$85. Registration deadline is June 10.
Josie Gobel
309 W Johnson St. Apt. 930
Madison, WI 53703
josiegobel@charter.net cell 920-988-0705

Click or copy & paste this URL into your browser.

<https://forms.gle/H3Ce3TZWmRKCqNv57>

Registration is transferable but not refundable

Book: **Living the Kin-Dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation** by Riva Tabelisma. The book is available at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 888-409-8137.

Lodging-Participants are responsible for their own lodging reservations and their evening meal on Thursday night & Sat. lunch. We have set aside a block of rooms at Best Western Baraboo Inn, 725 W. Pine St, Baraboo, WI 53913. When booking, indicate United Women in Faith- mission u. The rooms will be available at the special rate of \$120.00 for Thursday night and \$220.00 for Friday night single or double occupancy. Rooms will be held for us until June 10 or until they have all been filled. The rooms include a free breakfast on Friday and Saturday mornings. Make hotel reservations by calling 608-356-1100.

Join us at Mission u as we explore the good news and what it means for our lives! Pg. 2

Jesus' teachings in the Gospels proclaim the good news of the kin-dom or reign (*basileia*) of God. Jesus Mentions the kin-dom 90 times in the Synoptic Gospels! For Jesus, the kin-dom was not simply something to talk about but something we could live and experience. From the Lord's Prayer to the beatitudes to the parables, this good news is at the heart of Jesus 'preaching & teaching.

Scholarships available to cover registration costs for one Mission u event:

- The Gilpin Memorial Scholarship is available to everyone.
- The Nancy Rivers Scholarship is available for women under 45 attending for the first time
- Scholarships for Clergy given to newly ordained Elders, Elders transferred into the Conference & newly consecrated local Pastors.

Check those that apply: _____ Seeking lay speaker credit _____ Seeking CEU credit (for clergy)

_____ Request Scholarship (See above)

_____ First time at Mission u _____ New WI Clergy Mission u scholarship

_____ Requesting a scholarship stipend to help offset the cost of child care up to \$25.00/day for the first (5) requests with registration (Please contact registrar for information.)

Meals Provided: Friday Lunch (indicate your preference)

Please check one: ___vegetarian ___gluten free___chicken salad ___ham ___turkey

Friday Supper: Spaghetti and tossed salad ___regular ___vegetarian ___gluten free

Photos taken at Mission u could be used in material to promote this event. **Please sign below to indicate that you understand that your photo may be taken and used by Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith to help share United Women in Faith with others.**

Name:(print)_____ Sign_____ Date_____

Emergency Contact: Please be sure we have this information in case of an emergency.

Name_____ Relationship_____

Phone_____

2023 Wisconsin Conference Mission u--First UMC Baraboo, 615 Broadway Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

Book: Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma. The book is available at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 888-409-8137.

In-Person Three-Day Class

Thurs., July 13, Hotel Check in: 3:00pm Registration: 3:00-6:15pm Gathering:6:15-8:45pm

Friday July 14 8:30am-8:30pm

Saturday July 15 8:30am-12:30pm

IT WAS A GREAT DAY.....



the Spring Day of Enrichment 2023

@@

NORTH WEST DISTRICT MEETINGS and EVENTS for 2023

- June 20,22,27&29** Mission u (Live by Zoom)
- July 13-15** Mission u at Mauston UMC
- August 19** District Team meeting,10am-2pm at River Falls UMC
- September 22** District Team meeting, 2-4pm at River Falls UMC
- September 23** NW District Fall Gathering 9am-1pm at River Falls UMC
- October 13-14** Conference Annual Gathering at Eau Claire UMC
- November 4** District Team meeting, 10am-2pm at Elk Mound UMC (tentative)
- December 2** District Team Christmas Gathering

@@

The WEAVER

Published 3 times a year by the North West District of The United Methodist Women of Wisconsin. Feel free to reproduce these materials to share with the women in your local unit.

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.

Thank you

Please make checks payable to the North West District UMW and mail to.....

Chris Draxler, WEAVER Editor
30572 122nd Street
New Auburn, WI 54757
715/225-2983

Please print and include \$3 donation:

NAME _____
UMW UNIT _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE WEAVER ON-LINE, at no cost, please e-mail to the address below and indicate that you wish to start receiving the WEAVER by e-mail. 24x7gig@gmail.com



Included in this newsletter.....

- page 2....2023 North West District Officers
- page 3....President’s Message, Treasurer’s Report & Intro Jean Parker
- page 4....Spiritual Growth & Education and Interpretation
- page 5.....Program Resources and Save the Date/Fall Gathering
- page 6.....M,N & O
- page 7.....Mission u registration forms for ZOOM
- page 8.....Social Action
- page 9-10.....Mission u registration forms for in-person
- page 11.....pictures of SDOE and Important Dates
- page 12.....WEAVER info & Table of Contents



IMPORTANT!!!!!!



IMPORTANT!!!!!!



IMPORTANT!!!!!!

Please note the location change for the IN-PERSON MISSION U.....is now in Baraboo, WI.

