



P1 / MISSION TRIP UPDATE

Still time to sign up for the May mission trip to the Midwest Distribution Center in Illinois.



P2 / MISSION ACTION DAY

Explore the issues of Homelessness at our annual Mission Action Day, April 2, at Columbus UMC.



P3 / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Join us for a day of renewal while we focus on our Prayer Connection at Pine Lake, April 16.



P4 / OFFICER LISTING

Our new district is off to a great start with a full slate of new officers and leaders.

**NORTH
CENTRAL
DISTRICT
UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN**

Jubilate

2016

WINTER EDITION



Encouraging New Growth

DEVOTIONAL

READ LUKE 19:28-39

Jesus comes into Jerusalem, not in military might, but as a peasant riding on a donkey. The Master has need of Him. Jesus represents the kingdom of God. Pilate represented the Empire of Caesar Augustus. Pilate ruled his world with power, glory and violence of the empire. Jesus' procession embodied an alternative vision, the Kingdom of God, an end of chariots, war horses, battle bows.

Will you support President Obama in his fight against guns or will you go along with the crowd and buy one? A just King is coming who shall command peace, justice and prosperity for all His people. His power is one that liberates, not dominates.

Jesus gave His life for us in protest of all the things that come against His Father's world.

Ephesians 4:31-32 NRSV "Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you."

At our meetings let us love and understand each other and be kind to one another as women in Christ Jesus.

Betty Foemmel
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth
715-389-2879

FROM THE PRES

A new year, and a new district. We welcome new units into our sisterhood, and we are sorry to see a few of our sisters move over to North West District.

As we adjust to new districts, we are also encouraging new growth in our units by reaching out to women under 50.

Younger women are inspired by programs that make a difference in the world, and want to be part of organizations that offer real spirituality and the gospel message of Jesus Christ. United Methodist Women is an excellent fit for the aspirations and interests of younger women today.

Talk with younger women in your congregation and explore ways to include them in UMW mission projects. We can grow our sisterhood in 2016!

Anna-Lisa Hunter, Onalaska UMW

“ The new generation of women entering adulthood are looking for real faith and spirituality. College students are asking for worship and bible studies, not pizza parties and movie nights. ”

Mission Today

TIPS FOR BUILDING STRONG UNITS

Mission Today is our annual review of unit activities to celebrate our accomplishments. We have an updated list and form for 2016 that will encourage us to achieve the core principles of our Purpose through our unit activities.

The Mission Today 2016 list and form is attached for your unit to use for planning and reporting. The 2016 reports are due December 1 to Sharon Gisselman at sgisselman@aol.com or 1208 Gilbert St., Wausau, WI 54403.

IDEAS FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

Use it each month to help plan your meetings.

Use it for planning activities.

Use it to inspire new projects to expand support of global and local mission activities.

The criteria is a good checklist of the areas and activities that are core to the purpose of United Methodist Women.

Mission Today is not intended to be a game or some sort of competition among units. All units can submit the forms by December 1 so we can celebrate our accomplishments in 2016.



MIDWEST DISTRIBUTION CENTER MISSION TRIP

MAY 9-12, 2016

The mission trip to the Midwest Distribution Center is happening! The total cost is \$295 including a \$50 deposit made payable to North Central District UMW and sent to Sharon Gisselman, 401 Fifth Street, Ste. 436, Wausau, WI 54403. Any interested woman is invited. The bus will start in Wausau and make pick ups along the way south to the Distribution Center. Units can also participate through donations such as from the In-Gathering list—especially those items created by our

membership. Monetary donations are also helpful because the Center will use donations to purchase supplies for the kits. The “quantity buying power” of the Center means financial contributions can purchase more than individuals buying the same supplies. Offer some financial assistance to a unit member who is interested in participating. We will begin working about 8 a.m. and break mid-afternoon to do some sightseeing and have some fun fellowship.

Mission Action Day 2016 / April 2

HOMELESSNESS

Mission Action Day is April 2 from 9 am – 2:30 pm at Columbus UMC with a theme on Homelessness. Donations at the event will be collected for Northcott Neighborhood House.

Morning Session: Affordable Housing Issues Panel. Members of the panel are: Martha Cranley, United Way Dane County; Wendy Schneider, Columbia County Renewal Unlimited; and Judy Wilcox, former Dane County Supervisor. Please send questions for the panel on affordable housing by 3/1/16 to remdow@ymail.com.

Afternoon Session: Jerome Dillard, former incarcerated citizen. He will be speaking on the criminal justice system and homelessness.

Please note: registrations are due to Shirley Carpenter by Friday, March 11, 2016. The registration fee is \$12.00 until March 11, March 12-18 the fee is \$15.00, after March 18- fee remains \$15.00 but lunch is on your own. The registration form is also available at www.wisconsinumw.org.



Reading Program LEADS TO ACTION

The 2016 reading program is released and I'm sure many of you have already selected the program you plan to follow for this year. As always there is a great selection of books which cover the categories of Education for Mission, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, Spiritual Growth and Leadership Development.

For 140 years, United Methodist Women have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. The purpose of the program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

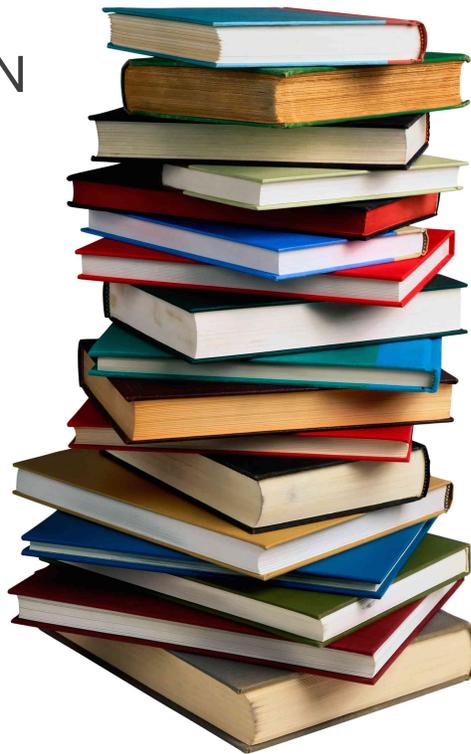
- **Expand understanding of and participation in God's mission.**
- **Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.**
- **Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.**
- **Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.**
- **Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge.**
- **Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.**

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to look through the 2016 catalog and choose some books for your local unit. The books can be ordered through the Mission Resource Center www.umwmissionresources.org, (800)305-9857, a local bookstore, or online. Another option would be your local library.

TREASURER INFO

Hopefully we are on the downside of winters' cold. Snow I love, cold not so much. And the days are getting longer, too and that's a good thing.

As a Wausau native I am new to the District Position of Treasurer, but not to United Methodist Women. In the early 60's I was invited by an older woman of the congregation to a potluck circle meeting taking place at a younger member's home. I guess I got hooked because that was the beginning of my UMW journey. Over the years I've held many positions in my local unit. As our unit has diminished numbers, I have held position of treasurer for about six years. And at this point in time, I thought it was about time I step up to the plate to serve on the North Central District Team as treasurer. Prior to my retirement as an office manager for two Montessori



Readers can submit the included reading report form in August to receive their completion certificates.

Mission U books will be available for purchase at the Spiritual Growth Retreat, but not any Reading Program books due to lack of sales.

If you would like to learn more about the history of the reading program and how books are selected, you can go to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org homepage and under news look at the UMW newsletter Volume 8 No.3 2015.

Enjoy your reading!
Mary Ann Dykes, Program Resources

100% 100%

Please help Wisconsin Conference achieve 100 percent reporting on the 2015 Member Census. The 2015 Member Census is an online survey that takes only 5 minutes to complete. The survey can be found on the Wisconsin Conference UMW webpage under the Forms menu. The survey must be completed by February 28.

All presidents were notified by letter in January. If you misplaced the letter or if you have questions, please call Carol Anderson at 715-284-2456 or email at cmaeander@yahoo.com.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

Thank you to all of the local units who completed their officer information and sent that information to me so that I could complete the 2016 North Central District Yearbook. I really appreciate all that you do to support the District Team, as well as all that you do for your local units.

During the coming year, we no doubt will need to assist each other as we continue to fulfill the United Methodist Women's pledge in doing God's work throughout the world. This first year of the North Central District UMW will be a year of excitement and opportunity—let us join hands in meeting this challenge!

Again, thanks for all that you do.

Carol Hornby

Schools along with a nine year stint on staff at my church, I raised strawberries for two pick-your-own operations in two counties for 34 years. I like numbers and am comfortable working with money. I know that isn't always the case for everyone.

I thank Sue Claflin who was treasurer in 2015 as we changed from the Heartland to North Central District. She sent you remittance forms that can be copied for your convenience in submitting your monies from your individual units. If you have not yet turned in your pledges for 2016, please do so as soon as possible. I look forward to working with each of you and pray we can reach our mission goals.

In Christ's Service,
Joan Burk-Miller

SISTER UNITS

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH

Hi, I am your new person on the North Central District Team and my area is Membership Nurture and Outreach. My name is Ruthann Christensen I live in Leopolis and my church is Mattoon. Never heard of these places? Well they are on the far eastern part of the district. The last 3 years I was on the Nicolet District team as Membership Nurture and Outreach. So yes, I really feel that we need to be concerned about membership and how to reach those who don't belong to a UMW and to reach out to all the women of the church and community. No, I don't have all the answers but am willing to work with you and your churches to see if and how we can encourage more women to be involved. We need to be a vital part of every church in the North Central District.

To start with, the district team has asked me to arrange for sister churches. This means that I will be with your help, assigning District team members to your churches. They will be there to help you in whatever way you need them. Please, when they contact you welcome them. I am willing to help any United Methodist Women Unit in any way I can. So please let me know how I can be of help to you and your unit.

Ruthann Christensen

Spiritual Growth Retreat / April 16

PRAYER CONNECTION

Pine Lake Camp
W8301 County Road M
Westfield, Wisconsin



THEME: PRAYER CONNECTION

The many ways we pray: Exploring how we connect to our God

Leader: Laura Ida

9:00 – 9:30	Registration in Amphlett Hall (Dining Hall)
9:30 -10:00	Welcome and Worship
10:00 – 2:00	Program, Lunch & Activities
2:00-2:30	Closing worship

Registration fee is \$15.00 and due by April 2, 2016.

Make check payable to North Central District UMW.

Send registration fee and form to Margaret Getzin, 412 Kolter St. Wausau, WI 54403

NOMINATIONS



Let us introduce ourselves to you. Two of us are serving on Nominations for 2016. Donna Cochran comes to the North Central District from Medford UMW. Donna served as Nominations Chair in the Chippewa District last year.

Carol Anderson from Black River Falls UMW comes to Nominations from the Heartland District leadership team.

Our goal is to have a full slate of officers for approval at the Annual Gathering on Sept. 17 in Mosinee. We need your help to achieve this goal. We will need local leaders to help us generate a list of possible candidates, but most of all we will need local leaders to take the opportunity to be part of the North Central leadership team.

We look forward to working together with you.

Donna Cochran 715-560-2508

Carol Anderson 715-284-2456

APRIL 16 SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT REGISTRATION – Submit by April 2

Name: _____ phone _____

Address: _____ email _____

Special needs: _____

Fee \$15.00 payable to North Central District UMW (includes lunch, snack and materials)

Mail to: Margaret Getzin, 412 Kolter St. Wausau, WI 54403

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INDIA TRIP

Report from Sharon Gisselman, Coordinator for Education & Interpretation. Contact information: sgisselman@aol.com, 715-845-6775 or 715-848-1021

I made another trip to South India in November. I was part of a VIM going to the Phillip and Timothy Stains Memorial Home and St. John's School. Our goal was to purchase and install playground equipment at the School and to dedicate the new school construction. We achieved this and had extra money for some bunk beds. A pre-K, kindergarten and first standard classes are now held at the Stains Memorial Home with 50+ students in the classes. The mission team spent time in the classes and focused on English-based activities. Working with the children "one-on-one" is the best way for the children to learn what our phonics sound like. Students can learn English words but if they do not hear them spoken by English-speaking people, they don't learn to communicate effectively in English. A number of Wisconsin Conference United Methodists

have worked diligently to make the children's home a reality. St. John's School is the next phase of this dream, but UM women don't just dream, they make things happen. This is a mission project that deserves our support.

We were able to share the Christmas celebration with the children from three homes. This is the time when the children get new clothes. What fun we had shopping with the children. A tailoring program was implemented to teach sewing skills to women in a very rural/tribal area. The on-going need is more sewing machines. The feeding centers are also important in the tribal areas. Children come to the centers after school for tutoring help and something to eat. This is an opportunity for missionaries to learn where help is needed. It is also an opportunity for us to respond. The PTSMCH is an Advance Project in the Wisconsin Conference #7940. Please remember these missionaries and the children in



Every Issue

As a Racial Justice Issue

The past year was marked by scores of racial justice stories in the news. We often hear that this is a crucial time for racial justice. And this is true.

What is also clear is that all issues, like the ones that United Methodist Women will focus on the coming four years: mass incarceration, economic inequality, climate justice, and maternal and child health can and must be seen through the lens of racial justice.

Think about the key issue that impacts your

community. Is it affordable housing or access to quality health care or addiction or homelessness or hunger? All of these and many other issues have race (as well as class and gender) components. These components are key ways that United Methodist Women analyze injustice and plans to resist it in our homes, churches and communities.

In 2016, as our foremothers did, we must again recommit ourselves to seeing all issues through a racial justice lens. This is our call!

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 2 • SOCIAL ACTION DAY

Columbus UMC, 9 am – 2:30 pm

Theme: Homelessness

APRIL 15 • SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

Pine Lake Retreat Center, 9 am – 3 pm

Theme: Prayer Connection

JULY 25-29 • MISSION U

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Topics: Latin American, Climate Change, Bible & Human Sexuality

SEP 17 • DISTRICT ANNUAL GATHERING

Mosinee UMC

Theme: Climate Change

OCT 21-22 • CONF ANNUAL GATHERING

Eau Claire, WI

North Central District

**United Methodist
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