



Mission Matters

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Carol's Chatter—Living Joyfully and Enthusiastically

I've been blessed to live in a wonderful residential neighborhood that is home to lively, and active children who provide entertainment and food for thought. I am especially impressed with the youngsters who live next door who approach outdoor activities with enthusiasm and playfulness. They love to help in the garden, and in the late afternoon, the four-year old grabs his little sprinkling can and waters the vegetable garden and flowers whether they need it or not. When it's time for raking leaves and shoveling snow, both the son and the daughter are out there with little rakes and shovels playfully working to help Dad and Mom.

The message that I take from this is, what happens to our enthusiasm as we began to perceive life's activities as work and lose the playfulness of our

experiences? How can we retain a sense of pleasure in work we've accomplished and have an appreciation for the fullness of life? How can we keep the feeling of wonder, joy of sharing our talents and rejoicing in the "good news" alive?

Well, I think I might have a clue. The gospel of Matthew records, "Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them, but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of

cont. p. 2

Education and Interpretation-Eileen Bennett Mission Today

Now that we are over half-way through this year, it is time to start thinking about our Mission Today Tasks for 2017. Fifteen units reported their Mission Today Tasks for 2016, out of a total of 58 units in Southwest District. Nine of those units successfully met the criteria for Mission Today, and four others did not qualify but showed

evidence of working toward the remaining criteria. Many units reported that the Tasks were a valuable tool in planning their year.

The units that successfully completed

cont. p. 2

Carol's Chatter cont.



Let the children come to Me.

heaven belongs.' And he laid his hands on them and went on his way."(Matthew 19: 13-15. *The United Methodist Women's Bible*)
Is Jesus telling us to never forget our purpose for living and renewing our commitment to the work given to us? Is he reminding us that we need to "turn, faith, hope, and love into action for women children and youth" with the vigor and enthusiasm of children? Their sense of wonder, enthusiasm and joy might just give us insight into retaining a joy and zest for living to fulfill our commitment to the Kingdom and to each other. That's my thought

for today. Rejoice, believe and retain your enthusiasm.
My best wishes today and always,
Carol M. Lange, President of the South West District of UMW

Education and Interpretation cont.

at least two tasks in each category were: Bethany, Arlington, Baraboo First, Lodi, Platteville, Dodgeville, Monona, LaFarge, and Grace Ridgeway. We will be congratulating these units at our Southwest District Annual Meeting on Sept 23. Please return the 2017 Mission Today form to me by the end of the year at this address:

Eileen Bennett
332 W Prairie St
Columbus, WI 53925

Or you may email it to me at: bennettpesl@charter (more on p. 11)

Memorials for S.W. District Annual Gathering

By September 9th, please send Laura Pfeffer the names (and photos, if available) of your UMW unit members who have passed away since our District Annual Gathering last year. They will be lifted up in the memorial service at the South West District Annual Gathering. You may send the names by E-mail (Pfeffer.umw@gmail.com) or by mail (W10132 Koltes Rd, Lodi, WI 53555). Thank you. Include information as indicated below:

In Memoriam from _____
(unit name)
Name: _____

A red rectangular box with a white border and a jagged, starburst-like edge. Inside the box, the words "Action Alert" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Action Alert

Hello Once Again From Dodgeville !

For this issue of Mission Matters I'm going to get slightly political. I have to confess, that I have been the type of person that sits on the sidelines rather than to get actively involved in the world of politics. The thought of any personal contact with my representatives in Congress just didn't seem like something that I wanted or needed to do. However, in these days of "uncertainty" I'm not feeling very confident that our leaders in Washington are acting in a positive way on the behalf of the people they are elected to represent. With those thoughts in mind I want to bring to your attention the following Action Alerts recently posted at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.

As you have probably seen in the news, the most recent American Health Care Act devised by House Republicans could pass the Senate with just 51 votes. Quoting from the Alert—"Proposed cuts to Medicaid and CHIP (the Children's Health Insurance Program), which offers health insurance to low-income Americans, puts at risk coverage for 45 percent of all children under the age of six, and more than 10 million adults who were covered for the first time through the Medicaid expansion. United Methodist Women worked hard, with the Children's Defense Fund and others, to get CHIP passed". We are urged to contact our Senators today, regardless of political party, to strongly oppose this proposal and instead to focus on building a health care system that ensures all mothers, babies and all Americans have the care they need to flourish. Your calls and contacts make a difference!!

The second Action Alert is in regard to a proposal before the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. Quoting again—"On July 10, three United Methodist Women representatives raised their voices on behalf of women, children and the vulnerable in Washington, D. C. as they spoke out against a possible postponement of regulations affecting natural gas and oil production". The EPA is considering a two-year "stay" of a June 2016 rule that requires manufactures of natural gas and oil to follow strict performance standards when it comes to emissions at well sites and compressor stations. The EPA is proposing this postponement even while acknowledging that this "non-action" could disproportionately impact the health of children. "A two-year stay would mean that over 18,000 wells would not have methane regulations needed to protect over 200,000 people living a half mile from these wells, of whom 51,000 are children". The article goes on to say "Being faithful stewards of God's creation means conservation. Oil and gas companies can plug leaks, and low-cost ways to detect and fix leaks already exist. By fixing methane leaks in the U.S., we can save about \$1.5 billion worth of natural gas each year, enough to heat over 5 million American homes". The EPA is accepting public comments until August 9, 2017. Please go to the webpage again to find a template to voice your concern and/or contact your Congress members on this important issue.

Regardless of your political affiliation, I sincerely hope that you agree that these matters are close to the hearts of United Methodist Women everywhere. Furthermore, I hope that these brief summaries of these important issues might "nudge" you to read the entire articles as printed on the UMW webpage and contact your Senators and Representatives.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Mingst, Social Action Coordinator, South West District

2017 SOUTH WEST DISTRICT ANNUAL GATHERING: A CALL TO COMMUNITY

Your district team has helped me to plan a very special day for us. We will journey to Fennimore UMC for this year's Annual Gathering on Saturday, September 23, 2017. Fennimore is on US Highway 18, between Dodgeville & Prairie du Chien. Plan to come with a carpool – it makes the drive through the Driftless Region even more of a pleasure.

The UMW website says “The entire program and organization of United Methodist Women focuses on mission. Our mission initiatives include:

- Providing opportunities to grow spiritually
- Equipping women & girls to be leaders
- Providing transformative educational experiences
- Organizing for growth & flexibility
- Working for justice through service & advocacy”

This year's Annual Gathering will address all of these initiatives. Our keynote speaker, Rev. Wesley White, will provide an opportunity to grow spiritually by reflecting on what it means to live as a covenant community. What does it mean to open our doors and our hearts to anyone whom God sends us, rather than welcome only those who may look, act, or think like us? Rev. White will base his message on *Living As A Covenant Community*, this year's Spiritual Growth study at Mission U. Rev. White is a familiar face to many of us, as he has led Mission U studies in the past.

One way that UMW equips women and girls to be leaders is through officer training. It's very important that unit officers and leadership teams make every effort attend the Annual Gathering, to participate in this training. If you are not an officer in your unit, you are invited to use this time to attend a training session of your choice. If you wonder what a particular leadership role involves, this is a good time to learn about it. If you've been asked to consider a leadership role in your unit, this is a good time to explore it before making a commitment. You may also use this time to network with friends & view the resources on display.

I remember attending my first district Annual Gathering in Delavan in 2014. Not being an officer, I went to the Spiritual Growth Coordinator training session because it sounded interesting. I've used things I learned there ever since as a worship music leader. It was a truly transformative educational experience. I hope that you will be transformed through hearing about the UMW Seminar trip that 4 South West district women took in August, or learning about the health risks faced by LGBTQ youth, or our United Methodist Missionary Conferences in Oklahoma, Alaska, and Kentucky. I hope that you will leave inspired and better equipped to work for justice through service and advocacy.

Last of all; bring a friend, or two or three! I was introduced to UMW district events by Donna Turner, and will always consider her my UMW “mother”. Without Donna's gentle nudging and persistence, I never would have come. Once I came, I wanted to learn more. Now I'm hooked! Don't be discouraged if someone says “No” for whatever reason. You may have to ask two or three times, or more. Don't give up. It will be so worthwhile. Somewhere out there is someone just like me who doesn't know what they're missing. They are waiting for you to invite them to put Faith, Hope, and Love into Action.

Kathlyn Maldegen Vice President, South West District UMW

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT ANNUAL GATHERING
Theme: A CALL TO COMMUNITY
Saturday, September 23, 2017

Where: Fennimore UMC
1450 2nd Street, Fennimore, WI 53809
Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
Singing & gathering: 8:45 a.m.
Opening Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Wesley White – “LIVING AS A COVENANT COMMUNITY”
(Mission U Spiritual Growth Study)

Business Meeting
Pledge Service
LUNCH

Officer Training for Local Unit Officers & Leadership Teams
Choice Sessions: United Methodist Missionary Conferences - Mission U Geographic Study
Report on August UMW Seminar – Climate Justice, Economic Inequality
Making Faith Communities Safe for LGBTQ Youth - Maternal & Child Health
Recognition of Retiring Officers - Election & Installation of New Officers
Holy Communion
Sending Forth: 3:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please send in your registration form by September 10, 2017 so that we have an accurate count for lunch and printed materials. You are invited to **bring items or cash donations for the food pantry in Fennimore**, which Fennimore UMW has designated as the **Special Mission Project** for this event.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHURCH _____

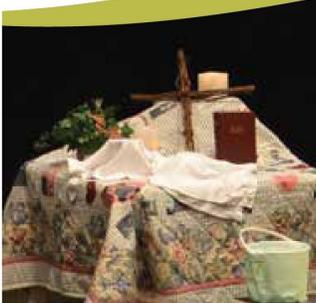
I would like to bring a display. I need (circle one) 2 4 6 feet of table space (4 X 8 tables).

My display topic is _____

Special Requests: ___ Child Care (list ages of children) _____

Dietary: ___ Gluten-free ___ Vegetarian ___ Sign language interpreter

COST: \$15.00 Please make checks payable to: **South West District UMW**
Mail to registrar: Kim Cathman, Fennimore UMC, 1450 2nd Street, Fennimore, WI 53809
Phone: (608) 822-3196 Email: k.cathman@tds.net



All are Invited to United Methodist Women Annual Gathering: A Call to Community

October 20 and 21, 2017

**First United Methodist Church, Waukesha, WI
121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha, WI**

FRIDAY 2-4 PM: Preconference tour at Northcott Neighborhood House

FRIDAY EVENING: District Leaders Training
Other Activities for Those not Attending Training
Register at 5:30-6:30 p.m; program begins at 6:30 p.m.



SATURDAY SPEAKERS: Barbara Dick and Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition
Register at 8-8:45 a.m.; program begins at 8:45 a.m. with sending forth around 3:30 p.m.



**REGISTER FOR PROGRAM BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
for Reduced Fee of \$27.00, includes Saturday lunch.
Contact Arlene Trull, 305 Becker St., Rothschild, WI 54474, aetrull@gmail.com**

A block of rooms has been reserved under Wisconsin United Methodist Women
until Wednesday, September 20 at Baymont Inn & Suites, 2111 East Moreland Blvd.,
Waukesha, WI 53186. Phone 262-547-7770 to make reservations.



Wisconsin Conference Annual Gathering Of United Methodist Women October 20-21, 2017

Early registration deadline:
September 27 at \$27

Late registration deadline:*
October 4 at \$37

*If you register after October 4,
you will need to make your own
lunch arrangements for Saturday.

Driving directions to the church will be
provided in your confirmation letter.

Blessings to you as we learn, worship
and grow together.



wisconsin conference
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

750 Windsor Street
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
888-240-7328
www.WisconsinUMC.org

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Please PRINT: *If registering for more than one person, copy and complete a separate form for each person.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Church _____ District _____

Please check all that apply:

Female Male Teen (Teen only Age) _____

If you are attending the Limitless gathering- only fill out the Limitless form

First Time Attending UMW member Clergy Guest (not UMW member)

Office, if any, you hold on District level _____

Preconference Northcott Neighborhood House tour 2-4 pm:

I will attend the tour I will NOT attend the tour

I will meet at 1st UMC to car pool to Northcott (meet at 1 pm)

I will drive No. of passengers I can take in my vehicle _____

Circle box lunch selection: *Box lunches 1-5 will include sandwich, bag of chips, dill potato salad, fresh fruit salad, and a fresh bakery cookie*

1. Smoked almond chicken/whole wheat wrap
2. Vegetarian wrap
3. Ham & cheddar cheese/roll
4. Roast beef and cheddar cheese/roll
5. Turkey and cheddar cheese/roll

Choices 6 & 7 includes a bag of chips, fresh bakery roll, fresh fruit salad, and a fresh bakery cookie

6. Chicken caesar salad
7. Sendik's house garden salad

Choice 8 (gluten free) – includes gluten free chips, confetti coleslaw, fresh fruit cup, and gluten free dessert

8. Sendik's House Garden Salad with vinaigrette dressing

Child care:

Child care needed Friday evening for _____ children, ages _____

Child care needed Saturday for _____ children, ages _____

Please pick up your children and take them to lunch. Also, please provide a sack lunch or \$9 for each child in the registration total and specify lunch choice.

Emergency contact information:

Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Special request:

I need a scholarship (*25 scholarships available, awarded to the first 25 to make a request*)

Please make checks payable to WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW

Mail to Registrar: Arlene Trull, 305 Becker St., Rothschild, WI 54474

Email: aetrull@gmail.com

Phone: 715-359-7756

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Mary Lainberger

I have a lot to be thankful for and much to advocate for.

~ I am thankful for the beautiful warm weather to enjoy the outdoors, the flowers, the sun, the birds, the beach for swimming.

Tell EPA to Enforce Methane Regulations

Tuesday, July 11, 2017



As United Methodist

our faith, hope and love into action means taking seriously God's call in Genesis to be stewards of God's creation.

We need to speak out against a possible postponement of regulations affecting natural gas and oil production, just as 3 United Methodist Women did in Washington D.C. According to an article in *Scientific American*, "The regulations require companies to find and contain leaks with the goal of reducing methane pollution by the equivalent of 11 million metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2025, or roughly the same as the emissions from 2.34 million passenger cars."

During the drilling and production process of natural gas and oil, methane and other gases often leak out. These gases, which are known contributors to global warming, also put people's health at risk.

See the full article on the National website of United Methodist Women;

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.

Make your voice heard!

Join United Methodist Women in opposing any type of delay to the June 2016 methane regulation and urge the EPA to focus on doing what it was established to do: protect human health and the environment. Any stay on methane regulation sickens God's creation.

The EPA is accepting public comments until August 9, 2017. See www.unitedmethodistwomen.org to

Write your public comment, and United Methodist Women will:

- Submit the comments to the EPA to show our collective concern and voice.
- Send a copy to your Congress members so your elected officials know your concerns.

Keep you posted on methane and climate justice work.

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.

Excerpts from this article can be found on the United Methodist Women website. Join me in making your voice heard.



A summit for faith leaders, activists and water protectors

November 16-18, 2017

Embassy Suites by Hilton Minneapolis Airport
7901 34th Ave S., Minneapolis, Minnesota

Register at goo.gl/YIYpq2

Speakers:

Bishop Sally Dyck, Northern Illinois Conference
Bishop Bruce Ough, Dakotas Conference
Chief Arvol Looking Horse, *Lakota nation*
Dr. Randy Woodley, Professor of Faith & Culture, George Fox Univ., *Keetoowah Cherokee nation*
Lionel Pinn Little Eagle, *Mi'kmaq*
John Hill, Assistant General Secretary, General Board of Church & Society
Rev. Giovanni Arroyo, General Commission on Religion & Race
Rev. Paul Perez, Detroit Annual Conference
Laura Pfeffer, United Methodist Women, Wisconsin Annual Conference



Chief Arvol Looking Horse Lionel Pinn Little Eagle Bishop Sally Dyck Dr. Randy Woodley Bishop Bruce Ough

Learn more at www.facebook.com/WhyWaterMatters

Questions? Contact Rev. Carol Lakota Eastin: lakotaeastin@gmail.com

Sponsored by NCJ Committee on Native American Ministries

2018 Local Unit Elected Leadership

Local Church: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Pastor(s): _____
Zip Code: _____ Church Phone: _____

Instructions: Please print or type the information requested in the blanks provided. Include telephone number(s) with area codes and email addresses if available. Add additional pages as needed (if you have co-leaders for a position). Please provide all requested information even if your officer list has not changed.

Complete and return form by October 1st, 2017 to:

Carol Lange, President South West District
625 N. 4th St.
Platteville, WI 53818
langecc@uwplatt.edu

President:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Vice President:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Secretary:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Treasurer:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Continued on p. 11

To become a Mission Task Unit complete at least 2 criteria from each category. Try a new criteria next year and report back at the fall of 2017 to see how you did.

Use these CRITERIA to help you complete the REPORT FORM.

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

1. Plan programs that encourage spiritual growth. (Use Program Book, *response* magazine, ...)
2. Create prayer partners with other church group(s)
3. Pray, using the Prayer Calendar at meetings.
4. Organize the Spiritual Growth Study from Mission u
Expand it for several sessions.

To experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ

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 Tasks.
3. Implement the Charter For Racial Justice Program.
4. Present a Mission Study from Mission u, inviting members of the congregation and other guests.

To develop a creative, supportive fellowship;

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 and/or invite visitors 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

1. Encourage all members to participate in the Pledge to Mission; report on where the money goes.
2. Involve all members in fund raising. (think out of the box)
3. Contribute to scholarships related to UMW programs such as Mission U and Seminar Experience.
4. Partner with a mission institution such as Northcott or United Methodist Children's Services.

Leadership form continued from p. 10

Mission Coordinator for Social Action:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Secretary for Program Resources:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Committee on Nominations, Chair:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____ City/State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

South West District UMW Newsletter

10787 County Rd. K
Lancaster, WI 53813
Phone 608-723-7451



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Calendar

- August 19 - Team meeting in Fennimore UMC
- September 1 - Reading lists due to District Secretary of Program Resources
- September 23—District Celebration/Annual Gathering at Fennimore UMC
- October 1-Officer lists due to District
- October 20-21 Conference Annual Gathering at Waukesha: First UMC
- November 11— Day of Enrichment at Portage UMC
- December 1— Mission Tasks report due to District Education and Interpretation Coordinator
- December 10 - Pledge money due to District Treasurer

**Note from Lisa King, Treasurer

Lisa King, District treasurer, requests the name, email address, phone number and home address of each of Unit treasurer in the SW District. Lisa's contact numbers (email lisa.king6179@gmail.com) or W615 River-view Court, Fall River, WI 53932.

**Note from Cindy Morse, Program Resources

Please send reading lists to Cindy Morse at W770 Hwy K Arlington, WI 53911 by Sept. 1.