



Mission Matters

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President's Message—Comments from Carol

In an earlier newsletter, I mentioned that my car goes up and down hills and hidden valleys and in and out of cities! That's what "Old Bess" and I have been doing since the last newsletter. As I traveled throughout our District, I've enjoyed many conversations over coffee as I made many new UMW friends and renewed relationships with others. There is a very special bond that "connects" United Methodist Women throughout our SW District and our WI Conference. Moreover, we are connected to

women around the globe who belong to this amazing organization. We do have a wonderful sisterhood!

Barbara Gordinier is an example of that UMW sisterhood and special bond. When her unit in Gays Mills dissolved, she became a district member. Because many of our events were in other areas of district, she wasn't able to attend them. When she learned that the Spiritual Retreat would be at Midland, she made plans to be there



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because she missed UMW and friends she made through the years. So, Barb drove from her home near the Mississippi River to her son's home in Cross Plains to spend the night there so she would be able to attend the Retreat and be

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Program Resources—Cindy Morse

Hi, my name is Cindy Morse and I am the new Program Resource person for South West District. We had a good turnout of people at the Spiritual Growth retreat. I hope all of us can grow and learn by reading a few books this year.

I read I Am Malala. It is very interesting and I couldn't put it down. It helps you understand that part of the world. It is on Kindle in large print as well as

buying it as a conventional book.

I am so excited about the books for Mission u. They are so pertinent to today and our society. Hope a lot of you can either get the books or get to Mission u. It will be interesting to see what we bring back.

Keep reading and God bless.

Cindy Morse

Comments from Carol (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

with us next day. Barb faithfully served in her local unit and on the Coulee District Team. Thanks for your leadership and support of UMW, Barb.

We had a successful Spiritual Retreat at the Midland UMC a few weeks ago. Our hosts, members of the Midland UMW, welcomed us and made us feel at home in their beautiful church, nestled in a cozy countryside. Forty-three members had a chance to chat with friends and meet sisters in our newly

merged district. Many thanks to Sandy Brewer and her committee for planning a fantastic event!

Many of you commented about the outstanding newsletter that Laura Pfeffer produced and sent. It now has a name! *Mission Matters*, suggested by Laura Pfeffer, was selected. To me, this is an appropriate name because it focuses on matters of mission, but, in a larger sense, mission does matter to all UMW members. By the way, if you aren't receiving the newsletter, let a member of the

Team know so your name will be added to the list.

Thanks for all you do for UMW, and I'll keep you in my thoughts and prayers. If you have suggestions, hopes or dreams for SW District, please call, email, or write to me because I'm ready and willing to listen and chat with you. Also remember that "Old Bess" and I go up and down hills and hidden valleys and in and out of cities!

Peace and Blessings,

Carol

Carol M. Lange, ED.D.

President of the South West District UMW

thank
you!

If you know someone who wants to receive the newsletter, contact Conference President Laura Pfeffer or another member of the district team!

Membership Nurture and Outreach—Sue Plasterer

We did it once again! Did what? Made it through another Wisconsin winter albeit a mild one. This month we've had beautiful glimpses of summer and spring. Both of which have nurtured our spirits and touched our souls. Hopefully when you read this spring will have settled in and we'll have no more winter like weather episodes. When I think of the nurturing aspect of my position I think of how God through nature nurtures us and how we share that beauty with one another. How do we do that? We share our smiles, laughter and love with one another! When we take time to build community in our circles, units, at our district and conference team meetings we do that. It can be

as simple as asking members to share specific things with one another. Say for example who was that important woman that introduced you to United Methodist Women? Did she ask you to do something special or even ordinary and offer to accompany you on your journey? When we take time to get to know one another, working together on mission activities is so much more enjoyable. Are you that special woman for someone new or a long time UMW member? I suspect you are.

While the nurture aspect of my position engages my heart, the membership (especially the counting and reporting of it) engages my brain. At the end of February we completed our initial reporting of

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Nominations— Mary Lainberger

Hello!

I bring you greeting from entire Nominations Team!

This weekend I had an opportunity to attend a Women's Retreat at Pine Lake. The program was "Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life In God." Many of you may remember this study at Mission U last year. As I began reviewing my study book, my first thought was, what an awesome study with Rev. Mary Katherine Pierce! How thankful I am to have been able to attend Mission u, and spend time in class learning, as well as learning with the youth, thank you Lord! How thankful I am to be able to share this study, receiving and giving the Joy, God has filled me with.

Part of our devotion this morning, at the beautiful vesper area at Pine Lake was about Phoebe, and her leadership role in the church. Romans 16: 1-2 "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cencreae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require of you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well." Phoebe was a leader in the church!

As women, we can all be, or are leaders in the church. Now is the time to share your joy with others. Now is the time for you to say Yes to a leadership position on the South West District Team.

We currently have open the following positions on our District Team, we need your help. Please call, email, text or Facebook me! I will be so excited to talk to you about how you can share your Joy in Christ! We work as a team, we help and pray for each other.

**Communications Coordinator
Education and Interpretation
Young Woman's Coordinator
Nominations
Northcott Representative**

We welcome Rosemary (Rosie) Koch to the Nominations Team, thank you Rosie for saying YES!!

It was great meeting you all at the Sprint Retreat! Contact me or any team member if you are interested in growing and sharing your Joy!

Blessings

Mary Lainberger, Chair Nominations
mlainberger@charter.net,
608-846-4348 or 608-212-0506.



URL: 7308.com/965822

The3dStudio.com

Welcome to our new team member Rosie Koch!

Calendar Highlights

July 24-28 Four Day Mission u

July 29 Mission u Overview Day

September 24 District Celebration/Annual Meeting at Richland Center UMC

October 21-22 Conference Annual Gathering at Eau Claire: Lake Street UMC

November 12 District Day of Enrichment at Waunakee—Crossroads UMC



South West District Team United Methodist Women 2016 (Revised)

President	Vice President	Secretary
Carol Lange (2016)	Sandy Brewer (2017)	Stephanie Weber (2017)
625 N. 4th St, Platteville, WI 53818	4410 Vale Cr., Madison, WI 53711	E 3937 Lake Rd, Hillpoint, WI 53937
608-348-4588	608-320-3111	608-415-8835
langec@uwplatt.edu	sowens7978@yahoo.com	everglowingembers@gmail.com
Treasurer (2017)	Communications Coordinator	Social Action
Linda K. Whitelock	TBD	Charlene Mingst (2017)
6137 Dell Dr, Madison, WI 53718		622 W Merrimac Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-223-9161		608-935-5758
whitelocklinda@att.net		jcmingst@mhtc.net
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Education & Interpretation	Spiritual Growth
Sue Plasterer (2016)	TBD	Michele Hopp (2017)
6813 Winstone Drive, Madison, WI 53711		641 Lake Wisconsin Dr. Merrimac, WI 53561
608-274-0275		608-493-2189
seplasterer@charter.net		hopp@merr.com
Program Resources	Chair, Nominations	Young Women's Coordinator
Cindy Morse (2017)	Mary Lainberger (2016)	TBD
W770 Hwy K, Arlington, WI 53911	304 Mohawk Trail, DeForest, WI 53532	
608-635-2916	608-846-4378	
ccynmorse@aol.com	mlainberger@charter.net	
Nominations	Nominations	Nominations
Judy Loveless (2016)	Jane Prouty (2019)	Kay Putman (2019)
815 Maple Rd, Verona, WI 53593	P.O. Box 45, Lime Ridge, WI 53942	215 Water Street, Apt. 205, Lodi, WI 53555-1266
608-848-8243	608-986-2721	608-592-2294
jcenmp@rit.edu.com	No Email	No Email
Nominations	Nominations	Nominations
Rosemary (Rosy) Koch (2019)	TBD	TBD
423 Main St, Viola, WI 54664		
608-627-1814		
rkoch@sscycycle.com		

South West District Team United Methodist Women 2016 (Revised)

Northcott Representative	Historian	Conference President
TBD	Marjorie Lyford (2017)	Laura Pfeffer (2017)
	@mhct.net	W10132 Koltas Rd. Lodi, WI 53555
	608-233-5930	608-592-5228
	mclyford@att.net	pfeffer.umw@gmail.com

Conference Hispanic Language Coordinator	Conference Young Women's Mentor	Conference Mission U Assistant Dean
Martha Boyer (2016)	Gloria Carter (2017)	Karen Mayeshiba (2017)
4639 Cty Hwy Z, Dodgeville, WI 53533	7224 Springfield Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597	1702 Lyndale Road, Madison, WI 53711
608-935-5790	608-849-7589	608-277-1883
marta@mhct.net	carter53597@tds.net	kamayeshiba@yahoo.com

Conference Nominations Chair	District Superintendent	District Office Manager
Julie Mieke (2017)	Rev. Scott Carlson	Sherry Malone
155 Shato Lane, Monona, WI 53716	750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590	750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
608-221-3061	608-837-0056	608-837-0056 X2252
julie.mieke9@gmail.com	ScottCarlson@WisconsinUMC.org	smalone@wisconsinumc.org

Social Action—Charlene Mingst

Greetings!!

I want to thank the Conference for the Social Action Day event held on April 2. We were told that it was one of the best attended in some time, even though the weather was anything but pleasant. The speakers were exceptional!! Also, it was a pleasure to see so many of you at the District Spiritual Retreat held at the Midland Church. It was a well-planned, wonderful time of inspiration and fellowship. The South West District is off to a wonderful beginning!

United Methodist Women's national office has made Climate Justice one of its four social justice priorities. The April Response magazine is a treasure trove of ideas to inform you and your unit of this issue that has and will continue to affect the world's population for many generations to come.

The 2016 mission study "Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action" is one of the choices for study at this summer's Mission u. To quote Mary Beth Coudal, interim managing editor of **response** "this resource is not just for teachers and students at our beloved summer mission schools: every member should read and talk about the timely mission studies". I would suggest that our congregations could benefit from this study as well. In the words of Deaconess Norma Dollaga (from "Climate Injustice: Human Consequences") "We need to take care of the Creator's resources so that people can live fully as human beings. As a community of people, we must have full participation in laying out plans, decisions and actions as to how those resources will be properly used and appropriated."

(Continued on page 11)

Hotel Mead and Conference Center

451 East Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54494



*“Everything under
one roof this year!”*

Directions

If coming from the north:

- Follow I-39 to Exit #153.
- Exit on Cty. B, turn right toward Plover.
- Go straight on Hwy 54 to Wisconsin Rapids.
- Turn right on Baker Street.
- Turn left on 8th Street
- Turn right on East Grand St. (There is a Shell station on the corner.)
- Soon, you will see Hotel Mead on the right.

If coming from the south:

- Follow I-39 north to Exit 136.
- Turn left of Highway 73 and follow 16 miles to Highway 13.
- Turn right and follow 13/73 approximately 6 miles into Wisconsin Rapids; continue on 8th Street.
- Turn left onto East Grand Street. (There is a Shell station at the corner.)
- Hotel Mead is on the right side of the street in less than half a mile.

Four-Day Mission u

Wisconsin Mission u is for everyone: women, men, youth, young adults, laity, clergy — YOU!

Monday, July 25th—Thursday, July 28th Day

Registration: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Monday
Opening Plenary: 10:00 a.m. Monday
Sending Forth: Noon Thursday
Meals: Four-Day student meals begin with lunch Monday and end with breakfast Thursday

Cost: \$330.00 Double Room
 \$445.00 Single Room

Four-Day registration includes meals, hotel room and materials other than study books.

Commuter registration: \$195.00 includes meals

Registration is required by June 29th. No registrations will be accepted after this date. Registration is transferrable, not refundable.

Use the registration form (page 3) to register for Four-Day Mission u.

Don't forget your study books! You can order from umwmissionresources.org or reserve your books on this form for pickup and payment at Mission u.

Child and Adult Care: The cost is \$25 per day for up to the first five people who apply. Please contact registrar for information.

Mission u Scholarships and Credits are Available

- First time attendees
- Teen women
- Clergy who are newly ordained pastors
- Continuing Education Credits for pastors
- Lay Speaking/Lay Servant Credit

Mission u is an Inspirational Experience!

Come together with people of all ages to develop a greater understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context.

- Worship and singing
- Special interest groups
- Audiovisual presentations
- Fellowship events

Overview Day

Friday, July 29th

Registration: 8:15 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

Opening Plenary: 9:00 a.m.

- Overview of all three mission studies
- Study books and reading materials available for purchase
- Mission giving offering taken.

Sending Forth: 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$46.00 If you wish to attend Friday's Overview Day and arrive on Thursday Night, the cost will be \$110 for lodging per room to accommodate 1 or 2 people. You may pay an additional \$20 for breakfast with the Mission u team, or make other arrangements.

Registration is required by June 29th; it is transferrable but not refundable.

Use the Overview Day registration form (page 4). Each person must use a separate form — you may photocopy as needed. Invite a friend!



2016 Four-Day Mission u Registration Form

(Use one form per person; duplicate as needed. Please print and fill out entire form.)

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

District (Circle one.) North West North Central North East South West South East

Registration Type

_____ Adult (You may choose one or two studies.) _____ Teen or Young Woman (Age: _____)
(Teen and young women have separate programming in the morning. Please select one study from below for the afternoon.)

Choose one or two:

- _____ The Bible and Human Sexuality
- _____ Latin America
- _____ Climate Change

Select Options

- _____ I am a commuter paying only the commuter fee of \$195.
- _____ I am requesting a scholarship.
- _____ I am clergy requesting Continuing Education Units (CEU).
- _____ I am a newly ordained pastor requesting a scholarship.
- _____ I am laity requesting Lay Servant/Lay Speaker credit.
- _____ I am attending Mission u for the very first time.
- _____ I have special dietary and/or other needs. (please specify) _____

Room Requests

NOTE: All rooms have refrigerators and microwaves. There is complimentary WIFI throughout the building.

_____ Single Room (\$445)
 _____ Double Room (\$330 per person)
 Roommate: _____ \$ _____

Additional lodging requests:

_____ I am requesting additional single lodging on **Sunday night**. (\$110) \$ _____

_____ I am requesting additional lodging on **Sunday night**. (\$65) \$ _____

Roommate: _____

_____ I am requesting additional single lodging on **Thursday night**. (\$110) \$ _____

_____ I am requesting additional lodging on **Thursday night**. (\$65) \$ _____

Roommate: _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please order the following study books. I will pay for them at Mission u.

_____ The Bible and Human Sexuality _____ Latin America _____ Climate Change

Send payment and registration by June 29th to the Registrar:
Arlene Trull • 305 Becker Street, Rothschild, WI 54474 • (715-359-7756)

Make checks payable
to Mission u.

Spiritual Growth—Michele Hopp

United Methodist Women shall develop a creative, supportive fellowship.

What does it mean to develop a creative, supportive fellowship?

When I joined the conference team three years ago, one of my team members assured me that UMW is a safe place to practice your leadership skills. She said that you can make mistakes, and the women will still accept you and nurture you.

This really comforted me, especially since I was feeling a little insecure about my new position.

It also made me reflect on a Biblical character known for his spiritual gift of encouragement.

His name was Barnabas, and his name actually meant, “one who encourages.”

Barnabas always looked for the good in people.

When Paul became a Christian, Barnabas was his biggest cheerleader. And Paul really needed it because he had a horrible reputation as a Christian hater. The early Christians were terrified of Paul because before he became a believer, he had persecuted Christians and had even arranged to have some of them stoned to death because of their faith in Jesus.

Acts 9:26-28 (TLB)

Upon arrival in Jerusalem Paul tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They thought he was faking! ²⁷ Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Paul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus, what the Lord had said to him, and all about his powerful preaching in the name of Jesus. ²⁸ Then they accepted him.

How would you have felt if you were a disciple at this time? Would you have supported Paul as a changed man who followed Jesus, or would you have condemned him as a murderer of Christians?

Let's take this thinking a little bit further. Let's



look at ourselves today.

Do you see the best in people? Do you see their positive traits, their gifts and abilities, their potential?

Or do you see their faults? Do you find yourself always criticizing people when they make mistakes? Do you hold their past against them?

Now think about your own role in UMW. When was the last time you encouraged a Christian sister?

UMW needs more encouragers! The church needs more encouragers!

The WORLD needs more encouragers!

Every one of us can agree that a word of encouragement improves our spirits. It gives us a boost, a lift, an energy to keep going.

During your next UMW meeting, look for ways to encourage and support other women. Even if disagree with them, be kind and really listen, and try to find creative solutions. United Methodist Women shall develop a creative, supportive fellowship.

Michele Hopp
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth



Membership Nurture and Outreach—(cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

2015's membership and are now "cleaning up" and "filling in" some of the missing data. I was very pleased that so many of our Capital and Coulee district units got their online reporting done successfully. Thank you so much for that. For any of you who have ever implemented a computer system you know there are glitches that occur. This was no exception. Carol Lange and I contacted units by telephone, letter and email that needed just a little more work. If you still need to add your data, the database is available online until May 16 and we can help you complete your entry. Please contact us by email or telephone so we can reach our 100% Wisconsin Conference Reporting goal.

Carol's telephone number and email address are: 608-348-4588 langec@uwplatt.edu.

Mine is 608-274-0275 and seplasterer@charter.net. A big thank you to Shirley Carpenter who had the very difficult task of making sense of the report for the whole state of Wisconsin.

As for outreach I created a South West District map using the State of Wisconsin Official Highway map and enlarging the counties in our new district. I had it laminated so we can put colored dots on it to locate our units. I will bring it along with the State Highway map and put them on display at our district team meetings and events. In time we will no longer be strangers and will be completely transformed into the great South West District.

If you have questions about membership, nurture and outreach please contact me and we can work together to live our PURPOSE putting faith, hope and love into action.

Sue Plasterer

Social Action—(cont.)

(Continued from page 5)

An interesting fact from the Sustainability Webinar available at

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org:

"If just 10% of United Methodist Women members (800,000) used a reusable water bottle for 365 days rather than buying water in a bottle, we would save at least enough energy to power an average household for 552 years!"

To welcome and support environmental justice advocates the United Methodist Women's national office has provided practical, theologically sound tools to guide and inspire our work. There are 4 "Toolkits" available on the Climate Justice website with the titles: Be Just Be Green, 13 Steps to Sustainability, Become a "Be Just Be Green" Advocate, and the Carbon Footprint Calculator. If you are like me, and find the computer

and electronic tablets challenging at times, look for someone in your church that can help you—you just might gain a new member!

As you well know, in a matter of just 7 months we will be electing a new President of the United States. The United Methodist Women Action Network has created a "2016 Election Checklist: A Questionnaire for Voters" which is also available on the website. It could be a helpful resource for you as you make your decision. A "Voters Rights Toolkit" is also available.

God's blessings to you as you strive to "turn faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world".

Charlene Mingst
Social Action Coordinator

Treasurer—Linda K. Whitelock



Giving Makes Mission Possible
“...their joy was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving...”

2 Corinthians 8:2

Do you know anyone who is graduating?
Is someone you know celebrating a special occasion?

Gift to mission cards are a good way to honor a special person or let someone know you are thinking of them. These cards are sold for \$5.00 each, and the proceeds go to support United Methodist Women mission projects. When you purchase these cards, your unit receives credit toward the five-star award given at the end of the year. You can purchase cards at any district event. You can also send your order to me, and I will send the cards to you.

The available cards are:

- Congratulations
- Baby
- Peace
- Special Day
- Thank You
- Thinking of You
- Happy Birthday
- Merry Christmas

I also have gift in memory cards that I can send to units upon request. There is no charge for those cards. Make all remittance checks payable to the “South West District UMW.”

Linda K Whitelock

South West District Treasurer
6137 Dell Drive
Madison, WI 53718
(608) 223-9161
whitelocklinda@att.net



South West District
United Methodist Women

W10132 Koltes Rd.
Lodi, WI 53555



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION