



OCTOBER 2016

South West District United Methodist Women

Mission Matters

October 2016



President's Message—Comments from Carol

My mother was a wonderful gardener. She had houseplants and gardens that earned compliments from friends and neighbors. Her love of flowers instilled in me the appreciation for the beauty and joy that comes from plants.

Although, my “green thumb” pales in comparison to Mother’s, I do have some beautiful gladiolas in my garden. I enjoy giving them to friends and sharing the beauty of the flowers and of friendship. As the plants in my garden began to bloom, I thought about the similarities between flow-

ers and friendship. When we meet people, it’s similar to planting seeds in soft, moist soil. Like the seeds, we do not know how the plants



will grow. Both plants and friendship must be nurtured and given the proper care. Some have deep roots, some have beautiful blossoms, some are have rich colors, some live for only a short time while others bloom and grow throughout the many seasons of life. And like those in my flower boxes, some wither and die because their season of life has ended. All are to be cherished.

In a few short weeks, I will be

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Spiritual Growth—Michele Hopp

Spiritual Growth Training

Are you the Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth for your UWM unit? If so, I am looking forward to meeting with you at our

District's Day of Enrichment training next month.

Some of you like to lead music. Some of you like

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Membership Nurture and Outreach—Sue Plasterer

Membership update: In 2015 All United Methodist Women Units in the US reported membership online for the very first time. We reported by Jurisdiction, Conference and District. For some in our district it was challenging and for others quite easy. I assisted some of the Capital District units and Carol Lange did the same for Coulee District. Since our Conference goal was 100% unit reporting our Conference Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator had many challenges to figure out our statewide tally. Please thank

Shirley Carpenter for all the hours she (and her husband Bill) worked to get our membership reported then to understand the results. After much sleuthing by Shirley and Bill, Capital and Cooley Districts reported at 100%.

For 2016 our new South West District unit membership will be reported for the first time. At the time I write this-end of September-I have not received information regarding the process for the 2016 report. However, I believe the online process will continue. What may change is who in your unit is notified, when and how. If I am in the

communication loop, I will get the word to your unit as soon as I know it. I hope you saved your unit information from 2015 since it will be helpful for 2016. Remember you will start your 2016 unit count with the ending number from 2015.

Please check your unit packet which was distributed at our September 24 District Annual Gathering, mailed to your unit president/unit contact, to your church or delivered to your unit by your district leadership team sister. That packet contains

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Comments from Carol (cont).

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on a road trip to Louisville, KY where I will have an opportunity to visit friends I've made through the years. I'm looking forward to this with great anticipation. Back at home, I also need to remember and pray for friends whose lives, like my flowers, are fading, and offer memorials and flowers for the altar in our church to cherish the memory of friends whose season of life has passed, but are not forgotten in my heart. God blessed me by placing wonderful friends in my life.

One another note, Karen Mayeshiba graciously made packets for each unit president. The contents include materials and forms that will be needed to maintain the unity and strength of South West District. Some of you picked them up in Baraboo; others will receive them by mail. Be sure to peruse them and complete them as required.

Also, be sure to attend the Day of Enrichment on November 12 at the Crossroads UMC. Gloria Carter created an attractive registration form and description of the program. Many thanks, Gloria Carter and Mary Lainberger for their time spent planning and organizing this event.

Enjoy the wonderful colors and celebrations of the season. Thank you for being among the flowers in my garden of friends.

Peace,

Carol

Carol M. Lange, President of the South West District



Spiritual Growth (cont).

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to present devotions. Some of you are skilled storytellers. Some of you can say awesome prayers.

You are a talented group of women, so let's learn from each other. Please consider preparing a 5-minute presentation of something that worked well for you this year in your role as a Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth.

Maybe you led a really interesting short Bible study. Lead us in that same study. Maybe your unit really liked a special devotion you presented to them. Present that same devotion to us. Maybe you led a meaningful musical worship time. Lead us in some of that music. Maybe you acted out the story of a Bible character. Act out that same story for us. Maybe you wrote an awesome article for your church's newsletter. Read your article to us.

Let's inspire each other and get ideas

from each other. I'll be presenting something that worked well for me, too!

And if you are feeling shy and don't want to share anything this time, that's okay! I hope you attend anyway and meet new friends.

As always, please let me know if there is anything you would like me to teach the group.

I am really looking forward to seeing all of you soon. Thank you for all that you do for United Methodist Women!

Michele Hopp
Mission Coordinator fo Spiritual Growth, South West Wisconsin District of UMW
641 Lake Wisconsin Dr, Merrimac, WI 53561
608-370-4216 (cell),
hopps@merr.com



Worship



Nominations—Mary Lainberger

Update from Nominations:

We are called to love one another, and walk humbly with God. Is God calling you? Have you felt that nudge in your heart. Could it be God calling you to become part of a team, in addition to being part of your local unit, of loving, faithful women who's purpose is to know God and be in mission with women, children and youth. Could it be you need this team, as much as they need you? Could it be you want to expe-

rience freedom as a whole person? If God is calling you, do not be afraid, we are here to pray, work and learn together as a team. Say "Yes" to becoming part of an awesome team, South West District United Methodist Women. What is your preference? The list of opportunities are listed below. Today is your day! Email or make the call.

The remaining open positions are as follows:

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Nominations (cont).

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Treasurer
Communications Coordinator
Membership, Nurture and Outreach
Chair, Nominations
Young Woman's Rep
Northcott Representative

Blessings;
Mary Lainberger,
mlainberger@charter.net
Home: 608-846-4348
Cell: 608-212-0506
304 Mohawk Trail
DeForest, WI 53532



Day of Enrichment

I hope you have November 12, 2016 marked on your calendar to attend the South West District Day of Enrichment! It is going to be a wonderful day spent at my church. The ladies at Crossroads are excited to meet and greet you at this event!

Membership Nurture and Outreach (cont).

(Continued from page 2)

many important documents. One is a work sheet you can use to collect your unit information to assist in your online membership data entry. It can then be saved with your unit records for next year's beginning point. Please contact me if your unit did not receive your packet. I will work with our new Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator to help you if you need it.

November 12, 2016—Mark this date and come to the District Day of Enrichment at Crossroads UMC in Waunakee. Check the article elsewhere in our Mission Matters newsletter for details. I will be facilitating a session on unit sharing. Come share with others about what works, what doesn't, what inspires, and what your dreams are for the future of United Methodist Women.

This is my last article as your district MNO and since I have used up my tenure my term is completed. You have nurtured me in so many, many ways. I will continue to be active and will see you in our usual gathering places. God continues to depend on our willing spirits to be ready to say YES when we are called to roll up our sleeves and get to work. Thank you for putting Faith, Hope and Love into Action for women, children and youth throughout the world and here at home.

Sue Plasterer, SW District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator
608-274-0275; seplasterer@charter.net

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT
DAY OF ENRICHMENT: "A CALL TO COMMUNITY"

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Where: Crossroads UMC

5901 Hogan Road, Waunakee WI

Registration: 9:00 am

Sending forth: 2:45 pm

Come join us in community for...

- ☐ a day of fellowship and spiritual enrichment
- ☐ unit sharing
- ☐ officer training/Reading Program Book Talk for non-officers

Special Guest: Rev. Scott Carlson,
District Superintendent

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch)

SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT:

DAIS (Domestic Abuse Intervention Services)

working to ensure the safety and well-being of domestic violence survivors and their families, and to change societal attitudes that perpetuate violence and the abuse of power

GUEST SPEAKER:



JUDY VASBY,

-Deaconess

**-Case manager with
Cambridge Area
Resource Team**

We encourage you to donate personal care products for DAIS such as:

Body wash, bath towels, wash cloths, Chap Stick, hair straighteners, women's shaving cream, toothbrushes, large sizes of toothpaste, pajamas.

REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 5, 2016

PLEASE PRINT.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code _____

Church: _____

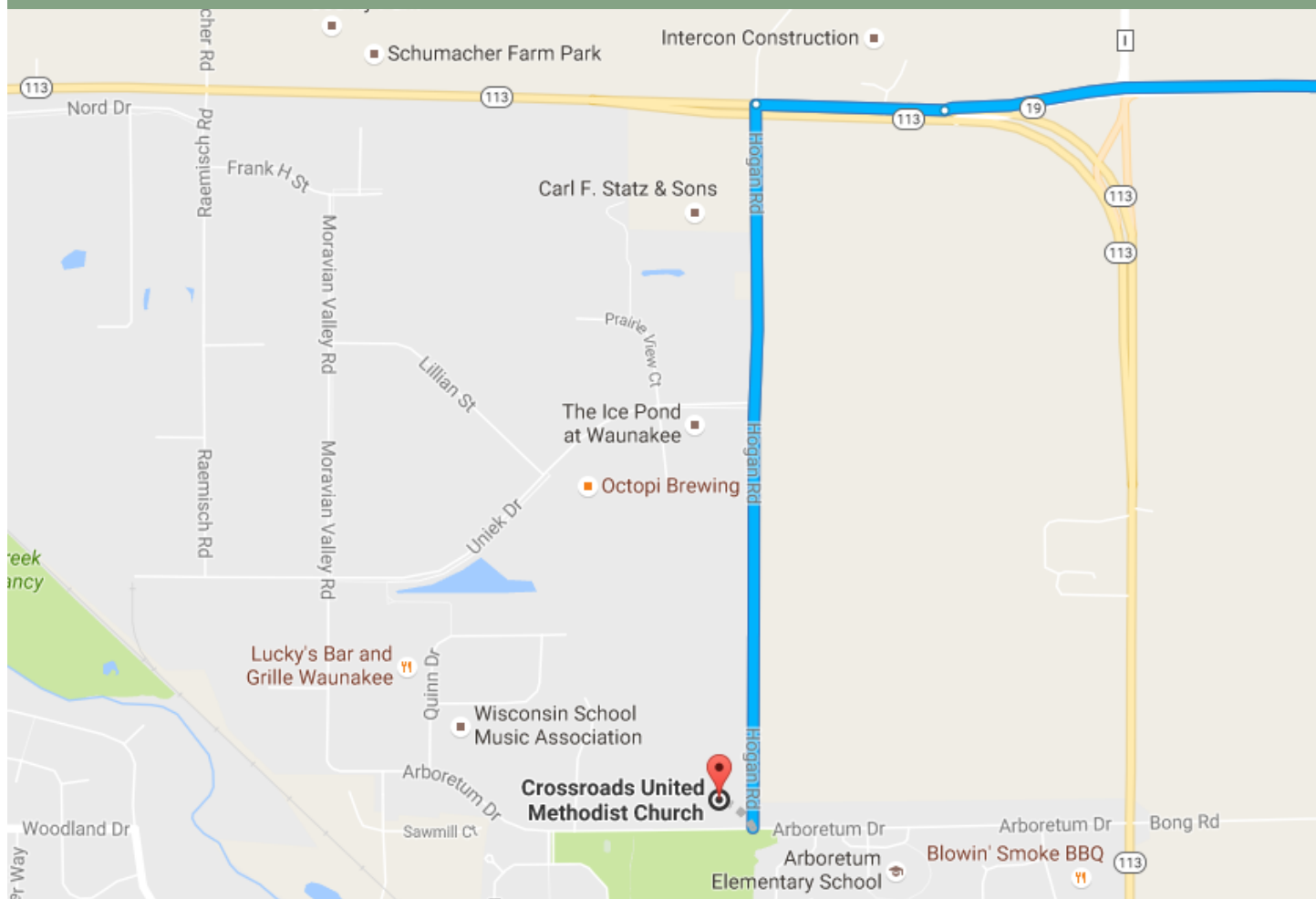
If you have any dietary restrictions, please describe: _____

Cost: \$10. Please make checks payable to **South West District UMW.**

Mail to registrar **Nancy Koch**, 6669 Fairway Circle, Windsor, WI 53598

Phone: 608-846-7949 Email: brucekoch@charter.net

Map to Crossroads UMC in Waunakee



Waunakee is north of Madison off of Hwy 113.

From North on Hwy 113 or from Hwy 19 (joins with Hwy 113) turn south on Hogan Rd.

From South on Hwy 113 turn West on Arboretum Dr. Turn North on Hogan Rd.

Mabel Heil Scholarships

Mabel Heil Scholarships support women and girls with working to improve their education. Priority is given to women responsible for others and women preparing to return to the workforce. Any female member of United Methodist Women in Wisconsin may apply for funds. Applicants must supply a written answer to the question "In what ways do I consider myself a worthy student?" One letter of recommendation must be from the local UMW president or local pastor. A second letter of recommendation must be from a church member who is not a relative or member of your household. The application form can be found at <http://www.wisconsinumw.org/forms.html> The application form and two letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than May 1 or October 1 to be considered for funding for the next semester.

Contact: Helen Robinson N2101 Cleghorn Rd., Waupaca, WI 54981 pottshe@yahoo.com



Social Action—Charlene Mingst

Hello once again from Dodgeville! I truly hope everyone is enjoying some beautiful fall weather.

Thank you to everyone who organized our Annual Gathering—“Growing in Blessedness”. It was truly an event that “blessed” everyone that attended. As I was preparing a display for this event and exploring the UMW website I discovered a project that was new to me, even though it has been in operation for 30 years or so! This organization—one that we support with our mission giving—is called MADRE. I just want to share a little of what we can find on their website—(<https://www.madre.org/>)

“MADRE partners with grassroots women’s groups worldwide, and works with local populations that United Methodist Women on its own could never reach. The organization partners especially with groups that help women and children who are facing war, disaster, and their aftermath.” Through our mission giving in 2016 we have “helped to provide shelters in war-torn Iraq for women who are fleeing sexual violence there, and in Nicaragua we helped to launch a women’s rights radio station to support rural women who are often victims of abuse. In Kenya and Nicaragua, MADRE helped communities who have been hard-hit by drought and flooding due to climate change.”

Through MADRE, UMW is proud to help support a therapy program for women and girl child soldiers in Colombia. United Methodist Women is supporting the program for two years. Through the generous support of UMW we helped to: Protect reproductive rights for Syrian refugee women and girls, deliver clean water to women facing drought in Kenya, helped indigenous Ixil women in Guatemala

sustain their families, and in Nicaragua we helped to launch a lifesaving radio program for abused women.

As is stated on the UMW website— <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/service-advocacy>—“in all advocacy efforts United Methodist Women supports its work with a scriptural basis and adheres to the denominational mandates in the Book of Discipline and Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church. United Methodist Women works in partnership with coalitions on many justice issues to extend its reach.”

Truly, by supporting these programs we are “turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world”.

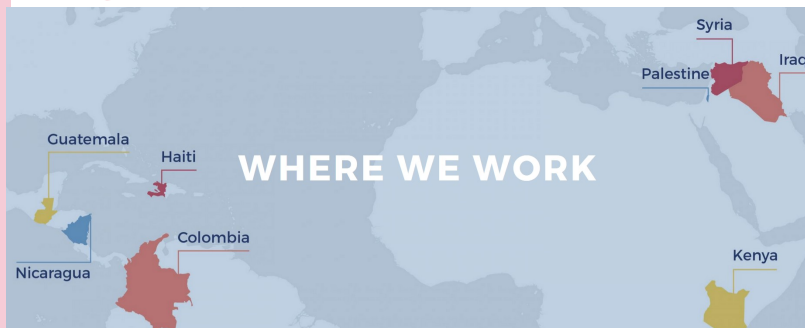
Good-bye for now, I hope to see you in a few weeks at the Conference Annual Gathering in Eau Claire!

Submitted by Charlene Mingst, 622 W. Merrimac St. Dodgeville, WI 53533. email-jcmingst@mhtc.net



MADRE

Demanding Rights. Resources. and Results for Women Worldwide



**South West District
United Methodist Women**

W10132 Koltes Rd
Lodi, WI 53555



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Program Resources—Cynthia Morse

Thank you all for reading this year!

We had 10 churches and 20 readers this year. So those of you who say you don't have time, I hope to have more of you reading this year.

I heard by way of those fuzzy caterpillars running around that we are going to have a bad winter. Call 1-800-305-9857 or visit www.umwmissionresources.org and order a book or two or give a Christmas present to a homebound person or a child in your neighborhood!

Harvest your inner Mission calling and cross the road to help someone have a better day—Read!

Cindy Morse
W7970 Cty K
Arlington, WI 53911

