

The NorthStar, Vol 1 Issue 3
Published quarterly by
United Methodist Women
Metro North District
c/o St. Luke United Methodist
Church
623 Ontario Ave
Sheboygan WI 53081



United Methodist Women Metro North District Wisconsin Conference
Present the

NorthStar

Quarterly Newsletter
November, 2013

Now is the Time To Register for

Assembly 2014

April 25-27, 2014

You can register online by going to

www.assembly2014.org



FROM OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT:

Greetings, sisters in Christ. Wow, what a busy fall we've had – I hope you're all enjoying this beautiful time of year. Also hope you were able to attend our fall events, the joint Metro North/South Annual Meeting and Officer Training in my home church in Hartford and the Conference Annual Celebration in Madison. I want to thank all who made our district meeting a success. We've reviewed your evaluation comments and thank you for your kind words and suggestions for improvement and we look forward to making next year's event even better.

For those of you who were at the Conference Gathering, wasn't our keynote speaker, the Reverend Ouk-Yean Kim Jueng, wonderful? Reverend Jueng spoke about the importance of sisterhood and putting our faith, hope, and love into action. Speaking of sisterhood, I was invited to join the Hmong women for a traditional Hmong meal Friday evening. I am in awe of their number of attendees (23) and their kindness, faith and dedication to each other and to learning more about Christ. It was an honor to be included in the group – and thank you for the great food 😊

My Metro South counterpart, Dodie Smith, recently attended a WISDOM meeting and met one of the organizers of the MICAHA Chapter who asked for information about United Methodist Women and their churches in the Milwaukee area. MICAHA would like to invite you to consider getting acquainted with their organization. For those of you who are not familiar with WISDOM, it is a statewide organization seeking justice and common good in Wisconsin. Among other things, it is organized to address economic, racial, and social disparities, and to engage in regional issues such as education funding equity, transportation funding equity, and urban/suburban funding equity. WISDOM is also the sponsor of the initiative to reduce the prison population to 11,000 by the end of 2015 (11 X 15). There are eleven WISDOM chapters in Wisconsin, MICAHA being the chapter in Milwaukee County. Faith based community organizing can offer information and multiple avenues of involvement. To learn more about WISDOM, go to wisdomwi.org.

Are you considering going to Assembly 2014 in Louisville, Kentucky, April 25-27, 2014? Early online registration ends November 30. After that date the registration rate will increase. Visit Assembly2014.org for group registration incentive rates. There is also a link on the Wisconsin UMW website. And if you don't want to drive, have we got a deal for you. Wisconsin Conference UMW is chartering buses to take our members and guests from the United Methodist Church Conference offices in Sun Prairie to Louisville and back to Wisconsin. They are offering a bus/hotel package that will save on expenses and provide transportation in a private coach bus. The cost includes a three night stay in a room with two queen size beds. The hotel is located two blocks from the Kentucky Convention Center where Assembly takes place. Total pricing for 3 nights for 2 people per room is \$260 per person and for 4 people per room the cost is \$140 per person. For further information, you may contact Laura Pfeffer by email at pfeffer.umw@gmail.com or by phone at 608-592-5228. Thank you for all you do in your local organizations. Please keep this vision in your minds as you plan for the coming year.

Metro North Vision: The Metro North United Methodist Women will emerge as a supportive, cohesive community of women of all ages, including teens who freely share ideas and promote use of resources that will give us a clear understanding of who we are and who we serve. Our purpose will be manifested in our zeal to grow spiritually, to spread the "good news", and to stomp out injustice.

Cheryl Malko 446 Ponderosa Drive, Hartford WI 53027; 262-670-6396; cherylmalko@yahoo.net

Weight of the World

The sins of man disproportionately affect women. Equality is not met when women succeed in systems that hurt others—equality will be met when all systems benefit all people. That is what we must work for.

In our bags we carry grocery lists to check off, prescriptions to be filled, homework to be reviewed, snacks to curb our children's hunger, bills to be paid. Some of us carry water for miles. Some of us run while carrying our children as our home is attacked. Some of us risk being raped every time we step out the door. Some of us take care of everyone around us. Some of us are trapped in abusive relationships.

On our shoulders sits the weight of the world. Let's help one another carry it.

from response October 2013

FROM OUR DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT:

Hello Metro North UMW. I would like to thank everyone who put in so much effort for the Metro North and Metro South Annual Meeting and Celebration on October 5th, 2013. The event was hosted by Metro North at Hartford First United Methodist Church. The church members did a great job with the luncheon and making all of us feel welcome. Special thanks to Guy Tuxhorn who stayed with us for the entire event to make sure the audio visual equipment worked properly. All the district officers showed great commitment to the UMW purpose by putting faith, hope and love in action. The talents and pledges to mission were celebrated and we were all inspired by the keynote speaker, Rev. Steve Polster in "Living the Heart of God".

October was a very busy month. All the preparation for our district annual meeting and celebration left me feeling that it was a success but a little burnt out. I almost decided that between my work schedule and fall harvest canning and freezing projects that I just couldn't take on another weekend activity. Then I decided that, yes, I would go. I am very glad that I did.

The Conference Annual Gathering is a great chance to meet with our district UMW sisters and connect with members from other districts. It was great to have officer training at the conference level to build on the training we had at our district meeting.

Friday evening the keynote speaker was Pastor Ouk-Yean Kim Jueng from the Northern Illinois Conference. She presented the Old Testament stories of Sarai and Hagar, and Naomi and Ruth, and helped us to understand the times they lived in and the challenges they faced as women in societies that did not respect the individualism or rights of women.

Pastor Jueng brought these stories into modern times by telling us the story of Korean women in a village where women were not respected or given rights. This Korean village was overrun by a foreign army. A large number of women were raped and left in the street. The Korean rule was that women that had been violated would be separated from their families and expelled from the village as "unclean." Because there were so many violated women, the male elders met to decide how they would handle this dilemma. They decided that they would handle this by giving the "fallen" women the opportunity to cleanse themselves by immersing in the river at an appointed time. The elders would then observe who showed up and were cleansed and expel any women thought to be "unclean" who did not show up at the river. On the night this "cleansing" was to occur the elder men showed up at the river to find all the women from the village lined up with their heads covered in white linens. All the women remained in the village in good standing without further judgment. This story of Korean women in solidarity with each other stayed with me in my thoughts and prayers throughout the conference.

Just as these women supported each other, we too need to support each other in our common love for what Jesus commands us to do and do it without judgment. I was thinking about this on my drive home Saturday afternoon when I looked east at the sky over the Madison beltline and through the drizzle saw a rainbow.

Please keep your calendars open for these dates for continued inspirational opportunities.

Saturday, January 25th 2014 Day Apart – The Call: "Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly" and "The Roma of Europe." Flyer on page ____.
April 25-27 Assembly 2014 in Louisville, Kentucky PLEASE NOTE: Mail-in registrations are not eligible for the early registration discount. **To save \$45, register online by November 30, 2013.**
July 22-July 25th Mission U. Friday, July 26th Overview Day

Blessings,

Wendy Wilson-Uhl 929 N. Genesee Woods Dr., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 262-567-3276
wilsonuhl.929@gmail.com

PURPOSE

United Methodist Women Shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

FROM OUR DISTRICT SECRETARY: SOMETHING GOT A HOLD ON ME!

While in my kitchen preparing things for winter – green beans, greens, apple sauce – and listening to music, I heard an old song that immediately made me think of the women of UMW. The United Methodist Women definitely manifests that something has gotten a hold on them and won't let go. This something is the spirit of and passion for mission. It is exemplified in various ways on a daily basis, locally, in our districts, on the conference level and every four years on the national level.

As we wrap up our calendar year and start to implement plans for 2014, let us try to embrace some of that spirit of love and generosity. Let us seek to embody the spirit of God that is so deeply embedded in us that it won't let us go, but seeds to help us to be better women for Christ.

As District Secretary for 2013, I have attended most of the Mission Team Meetings and District activities. I also attended mission u, the Conference Annual Gathering and a Leadership Development Weekend. I have taken notes and dispersed them to the members of the Mission team, collected reports from various officers and committees and written articles for the **NorthStar**.

For 2014, I plan to be more accurate at note taking and to have articles and forms in on time.

Muriel O. Smith – Gross 2856 N. Sherman Blvd, Milwaukee WI 53210; 414-871-7699; imosg@att.net

May the God of all good and perfect things keep you safe and grant you a happy and holy season.

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS: IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!

It was a very good year. Our year spent yoked with Metro South Mission Team paid off. We thank them for their help and guidance.

The new recruits to the mission team came with vigor and didn't miss a step. We praise God for our fearless and capable leader, Cheryl Malko. She came with wisdom, skills and a "YES I CAN" attitude. What a gem!

The committee on nominations stands firm on building a diverse team when it comes to ethnicity, age, geography, etc. While it is a challenge, we look at it as something we must and will do. In 2014 we welcome Gail Nelson, serving on committee on nominations and Maris Edgar, as treasurer.

Gail is from Central UMC in Milwaukee and Maris is from Summerfield UMC in Milwaukee. They come with skills, talents and determination. We have confidence that they will contribute 100% to increase the team's output. We praise God for them. Read their bio's on the next page.

OUR REGRETS: We are still recruiting a person to serve on the committee on nominations and a person to serve as Mission Coordination of Education and Interpretation. Please be vigilant and send in recommendations.

The committee will be led by **CHERYL MALLOW** in the coming year. She is capable and determined to lead us forward. Keep the recommendations coming. This department never closes.

Cathryn P. Luse, Chairperson 6900 N 98th St., Milwaukee WI 53224-4504; 414-353-8343;
cpluse@prodigy.net

MEET OUR NEW METRO NORTH TEAM MEMBERS:

Gail Nelson is a member of the Nominations Committee for Metro North District:

A life-long Wisconsinite and raised in the United Church of Christ, I've been a United Methodist since 2003. I'm a member of Central UMC, Milwaukee, and am a Certified Lay Servant. On July 28 - August 12, 2013 I was a member of Central's UMVIM trip to Pastocalle, Ecuador, where we taught Vacation Bible School to more than 80 children ages 4-12. At my previous church, I served on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee and the Evangelism Committee, taught Sunday school, facilitated Disciple Bible study, was a Confirmation Mentor, and co-led the Young Adult Ministry group. In fall of 2011, I attended Adult Leaders in Youth Ministry training.

My husband Rex and I have been married for 29 years, and have one son Andrew, age 23, who is a nurse in Chicago. I earned my BA at UW-Madison and work at a bank as an employee trainer.

Maris Edgar is the new Treasurer for Metro North District:

Born and raised ELCA Lutheran in Shorewood just blocks from the city of Milwaukee, I joined the United Methodist Church in 2009, shortly after graduating from UW- Green Bay with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. Professionally, I am a CPA licensed in 2010, I worked briefly as an auditor of nonprofit organizations, and currently I am working as an accountant for a charitable Milwaukee nonprofit. I am active at Summerfield United Methodist Church in downtown Milwaukee, currently serving as treasurer and assisting in several other capacities. I live on Milwaukee's east side, and usually prefer to walk or bike places, rather than drive.

Take some time at our Day Apart meeting to introduce yourself to our new team members.



United Methodist Women

LIVING OUR VISION

United Methodist Women is turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.

We provide opportunities and resources to grow spiritually, become more deeply rooted in Christ and put faith into action.

We are organized for growth, with flexible structures leading to effective witness and action.

We equip women and girls around the world to be leaders in communities, agencies, workplaces, governments and churches.

We work for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems.

We provide educational experiences that lead to personal change in order to transform the world.

FROM THE TREASURER

Hello to all the unit treasurers.

Well, I am finally hanging up the financial hat for Metro North District. Actually I'm not hanging it up, I'm handing it over to Maris Edgar in January. Until then, please continue to send all your pledges and mission giving to me. **Please get everything for 2013 into me by December 10th as the Conference Treasurer closes the books before Christmas** and yes that will be coming faster than you can imagine.

All 2013 finances to: Linda Hurt, 4554 N. 40th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209

After January 1, 2014, the Metro North Treasurer will be:

Maris Edgar, 2426 North Cramer St. #11, Milwaukee, WI 53211-4313, 414 630-3654 renjost@aol.com

Please try to send in your pledge monies periodically next year, as you receive them. It enables our conference and districts to continue to do the work of United Methodist Women.

It's been a pleasure serving you as District Treasurer and I will continue on the Metro North Mission Team as a member of the Nominations Committee so you may be hearing from me soon in another capacity.

Linda Hurt

Note: If you have not sent in your pledge information for 2014, please complete the Local Organization Pledge to Mission ASAP.

LOCAL ORGANIZATION PLEDGE TO MISSION

Please complete this form and mail by **December 1st** to the district treasurer.

The district treasurer is: Maris Edgar
2426 North Cramer St. #11
Milwaukee WI 53211-4313

We (Organization Name & City) _____

Pledge \$ _____ for the year 2014

Current Local Organization Treasurer: _____

Next year's Local Organization Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for your financial support of United Methodist Women!

OUR ANNUAL MEETING AND CELEBRATION ON OCTOBER 5



These pictures are from our Joint Metro North and Metro South Annual Meeting and Celebration on October 5. Our guest speaker, the Reverend Stephen J. Polster, Assistant to Bishop Hee Soo Jung, spoke on "Living in the Heart of God." As Christians we care about what is happening to our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world. Luke writes about Jesus revealing a God who included all people including those who had great needs. At God's heart is compassion revealed in the parables of Jesus about lost persons, lost sheep, and lost coins. God's love goes to great lengths to save us. Rev. Polster also related his personal journey into the ministry from his family's membership in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Door County to his education at Carroll College which was made possible by his support by the women's group (a predecessor to UMW) in his Door County church.

In addition to a wonderful speaker, one of the highlights of the day is always the group singing. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the gathering in song that began the morning and afternoon sessions. The Hartford UMW members were wonderful hostesses and the service in memoriam for the UMW members that passed during the past year was impressive. Of course everyone is always anxious to check out the new program resources that are available and this year was no exception. Training was provided in the afternoon for new officers.

Another highlight was the Social Action update provided by Betty Henderson, Metro South Social Action Coordinator, who was able to pack so much information into just five minutes. Regarding Racial Justice Betty stated "Rosa Parks sat on a bus so Martin Luther King could walk so Barack Obama could run so that we can fly."

One of the best reasons for attending Metro North District UMW meetings is the opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new friends. Be sure to come to our Joint Metro North and Metro South Day Apart on January 25, 2014, at Agape United Methodist Church in Brookfield.

FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH CHAIR:

Oh, What a Year of Adventure and Learning it's Been!!!

In my introductory bio for last November's Uniter, I let you know "*I was ready for something new to do . . . and United Methodist Women is it!*" From October to October this past year, I attended UMW events, trainings, meetings, and celebrations at 10 churches, 1 church camp (Pine Lake) plus 2 Conference Centers – traveling 2133+ miles. Starting with Installation along with the other Metro North District officers (Oct. 2012 Celebration), WI Conference Annual Gathering, S.T.O.M.P, Overview Day at Mission U and everything in between, until we're back to WI Annual Gathering, this time at Asbury UMC, it's been an adventure!! **I've met caring, mission-oriented, wonderful United Methodist Women like You** as I learned more about our Purpose and how we put faith, hope and love into action.

My first assignment for 2013 was to collect Membership Counts from all of our local units as of 12/31/12.

- 708 members in Metro North District
- 7455 members in Wisconsin Conference (100% reporting)
- Be ready for me to ask again for your year-end counts for 2013!!

Enough about me, I'd like to learn more about you. **How has this past year been for you and your local unit?** Please send me a note or an email to answer these questions below.

Tell me about one of the highlights of your local organization _____

Where do you feel there is an opportunity for improvement? _____

What ideas or suggestions do you have for our District Team? _____

Enjoy Your Day,

Linda Smeaton

Membership Nurture Outreach

2116 Stratford Road, West Bend WI 53090 Linda_smeaton@charter.net 262-483-3570 cell phone

UPDATE ON DONATIONS!

Thanks to all who participated in the District Annual Meeting & Celebration. The offering for Hmong House of Good News, Northcott Neighborhood House, and Children's Services of Wisconsin amounted to \$825! Each organization got \$275. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and sacrifice.

In addition, \$44.20 was collected in the UMCOR boxes on the lunch tables. That money was divided between Metro North & Metro South and sent to Conference for UMCOR. When we work together, it is amazing what we can do. Think about what we could do if we each increased our pledges by just 10% or 20%.

PLEASE NOTE: Kwik Trip has extended their Milk Moola and Donuts to Dough collection program until the end of 2014. HHGN receives 5 cents for each cap or bag top from a Natures Best product and 10 cents for each price oval from Glazers dozen and dozen and a half packages. So, please, keep collecting those Kwik Trip Glazer donut ovals and Milk Moola caps! Hmong House of Good News is grateful for all you do!

Thanks so much for your help!

FROM OUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR: SHOCK ABSORBERS

Considering the increasing violence around us, what our society needs is some good, heavy-duty shock absorbers. If only we could wrap everybody in felt pads before they went out for the day! Unfortunately...we are enormously complicated creatures. We feel injuries not only in our bodies but also in our emotions. And sometimes deep wounds in our inner selves fester for years, causing us to reach out and hurt anyone who comes near us. One painful blow to our psyche can create the motive for innumerable blows outward in the years to come.

The Old Testament law was very explicit: an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth (Exodus 21:24) Harsh as it seems to us now, this principle was a vast improvement. Before then, a person's life might have been put out in exchange for the loss of one. Again and again our human nature wants to "teach people a lesson" or make things worse for them than they made it for us. We see revenge as a way of getting back, of making ourselves whole again. But it never works.

The solution Jesus offers is radical. There is no question of revenge or even bare restitution. He suggests simply that we become shock absorbers of this world.

To receive a blow and to refuse to pass it on is an act that requires extraordinary generosity. For most people, it does not come naturally. We are too hard and resistant to be able to absorb the effect of an injury before we pass it on to a neighbor. We must become softer, gentler, more loving people, receiving a blow but unable by the fabric of our lives to transmit the force of it.

Love and forgiveness are the special vocation of the Christian, and when we exercise them we are able to find healing for our own wounds and offer balm for the healing of others.

From Women's Devotional Bible
God Bless You!

Luke 6:27-31

Salud Rodeman N87W7019 Evergreen Ct #101, Cedarburg WI 53012; 414-305-8054
saludgr@gmail.com

Save this Date !!!		
2014 MISSION ACTION DAY		
Saturday, April 5, 2013		
Peace United Methodist Church 2300 E. Wisconsin Ave, Kaukauna WI 54130		
Human Trafficking	Cost is \$12.00	Elder Abuse

FROM THE SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES:

At the Annual Day Apart celebration held in January 2013, the Metro North District displayed the resources, materials and books available to its members. We did this also at the recent Gathering held on October 5. At the last Gathering, the Metro South District also exhibited and sold available materials. Program Resources is an important area for United Methodist Women. It helps to direct us in the fulfillment of the UMW purpose and mission which includes prayer, study, and action. I trust that all of our units now have at least one copy of our Handbook 2013 - 2016, one copy of the Program Book 2013-2014 and a copy of the Prayer Calendar.

Congratulations to all the units who participated in the Reading Program. I know that we all read, but sometimes we do not read enough books or sometimes we read too many books from one or two categories instead of the five categories stated. I urge you all to continue reading and try to select books from each of the five designated categories. Perhaps this year some of you may want to step up from Plan 1 to Plan II and read two books from each category. This year, the selection of books is very varied and interesting and each of us will certainly be able to find enough content to hold our interest. Do remember that selections can be made from the 2010-2014 Reading lists if they have not been included in previous reports, and youth and children's titles can be included in specific plans. Be sure to keep reading 'Response' and 'New World Outlook'. The articles are usually enlightening, informative and uplifting.

It is not always easy to obtain the books on the reading list. As a matter of fact, when we order books to offer at District meetings, we are only allowed two copies of each title. Nevertheless, this should not deter us from reading. Here are a few suggestions to help us to continue to read more:

- 1) Circulate books among your unit members
- 2) Check out Reading Program books at your local library
- 3) Suggest titles to your local and church library if no Reading Program books are available
- 4) Exchange books with other United Methodist Women units or circles and
- 5) Ask your district or conference leaders to buy books for circulation for local units.

Finally, please stay in touch. I will try to keep you as up to date as possible. This will help to ensure that reports are submitted in a timely manner so that all can be recognized. I would also love to hear from you about the books you are reading so that I too can enjoy them. I am including reviews of two books on the 2014 reading list to get you started.

Two books included in the 2014 Reading List for UMW are KING PEGGY by Peggjelene Bartels and Eleanor Herman and PLEASE LOOK AFTER MOM by Kyung-Sook Shin. Although these two books focus on the cultures of two countries their stories are very different. Here are reviews of these books.

KING PEGGY (Leadership Development) by Peggjelene Bartels and Eleanor Herman:

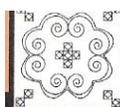
Peggjelene Bartels was born in Ghana, but studied and lived abroad, settling in the US and working at the Ghanaian Embassy. One morning early, she received a 'phone call informing her that she had been named the new King of Otuum, a tiny village on the coast of Ghana. After much thought, she decides to accept this new role. The story revolves around Peggy's struggles to be an effective King, trying to bring about positive change and growth to Otuum while being thwarted at everything she tried to do. Peggy's story is an interesting and fascinating one. Here is a woman who is able to function well in two worlds. As an African, she is aware of the customs and culture and can cope with the responsibility which has been thrust upon her, and as an American woman she is able to adopt a 'Kingly' demeanor, despite her African upbringing, and deal with all the men who thought of her as a pushover. This is a good read. You will get a glimpse into the culture of Otuum, and you will be amazed by Peggy's resiliency.

PLEASE LOOK AFTER MOM (Nurturing for Community) by Kyung-Sook Shin:

Please Look after Mom tells a story about a Korean family whose mother vanishes in the mad rush of a crowded train station while going to visit her children on her birthday. What is more tragic is that she vanishes while in the company

of her husband, and on a day that was special in the Korean culture. This is a story of loss, longing, love, devotion, secrets and hidden lives, sacrifice and dreams, guilt and regret, and anger and blame. In Asian culture, the number four plays a significant role and we see this throughout the novel. The book is separated into four tales that are told from the perspectives of a son, a daughter, the husband and So-nyo, the mom, herself. It is their coming to terms with their own inadequacies, and the children finally beginning to realize who their mother really is and how much they owe her. We, in turn, learn about So-nyo as a complex, multi-dimensional person. This is a thought-provoking and intensely moving novel. It gives us a picture of life in Korea, and although it is written as a story of family love and loss, it can also be seen as a metaphor for loss of anything we hold as precious but have taken for granted. Enjoy your reading. . . .

Cherrie Hartley 1527 Roxbury Way, Waukesha, WI 53186; 262-650-1184; hmarelise@ymail.com



Hmong House of Good News - Moob Tsev Moo Zoo

The HHGN hired a new executive director this year. His name is Nhia Wahn Her. He is fitting in wonderfully. He is also the pastor at Waldo United Methodist Church.

The HHGN has had numerous egg roll sales this year, including one at Good Shepherd UMC in Oconomowoc, an annual one at Palmyra UMC and an annual one at the Central UMC in Milwaukee. Could your church be one of them? The egg rolls are d-e-l-i-s-h.

The HHGN celebrated their fifth anniversary this year with a big celebration with supporters and local Hmong churches and the seniors' families. What a great time.

The HHGN is seeking professional board members and volunteers to help with making and selling egg rolls, life skills education, and more. The board of directors is on the last of its journey learning how to be a values' driven governing body. Boy, what a ride!

The HHGN has a new website. It is www.hmonghouse.org. Check it out. There is more info about us and a power point presentation that is available for loan to groups.

The HHGN is always accepting invitations to come speak at your church, UMW meetings and others, to educate why the HHGN is so important to the seniors, their families and the community in general.

The HHGN is looking for Sustainable Partners in Mission who want to support the HHGN either by check or by Electronic Funds Transfer on a monthly basis. Your UMW group or any individual can fill this role. For more information, contact Treasurer Patsy Ruppe, 227 Sunrise Road, Racine, WI 53402. Her email address is xxphbxx@yahoo.com and her telephone number is 262-939-8075.

Cheryl Mallow 1329 South 10th St., Watertown 53094 920-261-6140; nonicheryl@yahoo.com
Chair of the Nominations Committee (2014) and Hmong House of Good News Board Member

Assembly 2014

- The biblical foundation for the 2014 Assembly is Mark 6:30-44, the feeding of the 5,000—a miracle most fitting for a “Make It Happen!” Assembly. Inspired by Jesus who fed 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish, United Methodist Women members face seemingly unbeatable challenges to answer God’s call to serve and advocate for those deemed “the least”—Christ’s kin. United Methodist Women Make It Happen!
- Many women will come a day early, April 24, for the “Ubuntu Day of Service” to benefit local communities in the Louisville area. Young women committed to mission will also gather April 24 for a “Limitless: Redefine Tomorrow” reunion.
- In the months leading up to Assembly 2014, United Methodist Women members can prepare for the event by sharing the many different ways they Make It Happen in their local communities for the last, the lost and the least. At Assembly, these shared stories and experiences will become a part of a Living Timeline that will be on display in the exhibit area as a testament to how every woman makes a difference in United Methodist Women work. (from the UMW Assembly 2014 website)

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE MISSION TODAY UNIT

To become a *MISSION TODAY* Unit, the unit must meet **eight** of the following criteria, including **four** of those marked with an asterisk(*).

1. Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting to pray for mission workers and Projects.*
2. The unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission.*
3. The unit will add at least one new member to its roll.*
4. The unit will have at least one member subscribe to **response** magazine.*
5. The unit will use two programs from the Program Book for United Methodist Women each year.*
6. The unit or circle will conduct at least one mission study a year.*
7. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year.*
Some suggested plans of action: ^Plan a unit meeting with a different racial/ethnic background, using programs from the Program Book. ^Use Program plan for Charter prepared by Conference.
^Share worship service or meeting with speaker of another culture.
8. At least one member of the unit (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the Conference Mission u.
9. At least two members (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the District Meeting or Conference Annual Gathering.
10. The unit will have a least one person join the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information. Web address: <http://new.gbgm-mc.org/umw/act/network/>
11. Members will write to or Email five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar each year.
12. The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children in at least two ways. Possibilities for action:
^Help sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs. ^Sponsor a Children's Sabbath, promoted by the Children's Defense Fund. ^Get involved with children in mentoring, tutoring and "big sisters" programs. ^Write letters, e-mail, or call congressional representatives and/or others in government regarding children's issues. ^Visit your local schools. ^Attend a school board meeting. ^Learn how our schools are funded.
13. The unit will be a Five Star unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving.
14. Each unit or circle will include a **response magazine moment** where an item from the magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
15. Have at least two people from the unit, circle or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on one of the books read; encourage all members to complete Plan One, have a book review program.
16. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than that of a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year.
17. Make a pledge to care for God's creation and become a "Green" United Methodist Women unit (Get information on How to Become a Green Unit at <http://www.umwonline.org/environment> or contact Women's Division Community Action).
18. Hold a Mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat. See Program Book for ideas.
19. Unit to contribute at least \$25.00 for Mission u.

Want to be a Mission Today Unit next year? Each year as we plan our programs and actions these guidelines should be at the forefront. Need help? Call your district contact person. Conduct a periodic checkup quarterly to check your progress. It will help to keep everyone on board. Good Implementing!!!

**WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
MISSION TODAY
LOCAL ORGANIZATION REPORT FORM YEAR 2013**

Presidents of all local organizations are REQUESTED to fill out and send this form in EACH YEAR, *whether or not your organization qualifies as a Mission Today Organization*. Please refer any questions you may have to your Metro North District Mission Team. Your gift of time and effort to fulfill this request is very much appreciated.

Please complete the form below and CHECK OFF the activities listed on the back of this sheet that your organization has completed this year, beginning January 1, 2013. **RETURN THE FORM BY DECEMBER 1 TO YOUR METRO NORTH DISTRICT TEAM MEMBER:**

Salud Rodeman, N87W7019 Evergreen Ct. Apt 101, Cedarburg, WI 53012
Email: saludqr@gmail.com

NAME OF YOUR CHURCH _____

YOUR NAME & ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CURRENT NUMBER OF MEMBERS _____

NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN 2013 _____

DID YOUR ORGANIZATION QUALIFY AS A *MISSION TODAY UNIT*? _____ YES _____ NO

ACTIVITIES you did during the year that you want to share _____

COMMENTS for the District or Wisconsin Conference UMW Mission Team _____

FROM METRO SOUTH SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR:

I wish more of you would have taken advantage of the Children's Sabbath offered by **Northcott Neighborhood House** October 24th. It was spiritually uplifting and information packed. In addition to hearing from our own UMW sisters, we heard from Alderman Willie Wade, a representative of the Milwaukee Police Department, and the Mayor's office. District Superintendent Deborah Thompson also addressed the group.

As you and your units approach the end of the year and a time to look at your resources, please think about a special gift to Northcott! Their partner did not receive the Head Start Grant they depended upon. This means that 275 children had to find another place for Head Start and 54 teachers and staff were terminated. In addition, the wonderful new homes "Fresh Start" has built are not yet sold and the costs of those home loans are continuing every month. I can't think of a more needed program than Fresh Start. Young persons get GED's, they learn a craft under the guidance of a skilled craftsman, and the homes they build are beautiful. Their neighborhood is upgraded. Treat yourself, take a tour of Northcott and see one of these new homes for yourself – but, in the meantime, *Send Northcott an additional Christmas Gift this month.*

Poverty is like a disease. It infects our brains with malnourishment and they function at a much lower rate. (learning is less, retention is less, comprehension fluctuates). It infects the whole body so it becomes more susceptible to other illnesses, eg. colds become pneumonia. Did you know the zip code 53233 has the highest infant mortality rate in the U.S.? Fortunately the WIC program continues to support pregnant mothers and their children. The Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program is still languishing in a Joint Committee in D.C. because legislators can't decide to cut it 50% or 100%! SNAP is more than elementary school lunches; it is elderly and college student meals.

Poverty and violence feed each other. Numerous children under the age of five have already seen killings, gunshot wounds and beatings. Is it any wonder the violence of our culture is perpetuated? A child is killed every 3-1/2 hours in the U.S. Northcott is a safe haven – for children, youth and families.

Racism exacerbates both Poverty and Violence. Employment opportunities, living conditions, education are all affected by Racism. Milwaukee bears the title of the most segregated city in the U.S. Just look up the statistics under "The City of Milwaukee" and read what is happening to 600,000 people.

We know the drill here. Do not allow you and your unit to become apathetic. *How long has it been since your unit used the Charter for Racial Justice Policy Program prepared by our Wisconsin Team each year for our use?*

One Bright Spot! THE TEEN BIRTHRATE HAS BEEN REDUCED 50%!

A most UNHOLY Trinity exists in our most impoverished areas. Racism is the base. Poverty and Violence are the two our state and federal programs. We need to talk long and hard to our elected officials and become like the nagging woman in Luke 18:1-8. Keep pushing until we get the response our children need! Our Nation has a GDP of more than \$15 trillion. Surely, we can afford to take care of our future – our children!

Contact our U.S. Senators, Ron Johnson: 202-224-5323 and Tammy Baldwin: 202-224-5653; or Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner: 202-225-5101; or the President at the White House Comment Line: 202-456-1111.

Betty Henderson, 300 Jennifer Lane, Brookfield, WI 53045, 262-439-9840 bhenderson15@wi.rr.com

*Editor's Note: Please take a few minutes and complete the 2014 Issue Priority Form for your local organization that is on the www.wisconsinumw.org/social-action website. The form is due December 31.

Metro North District Goals for 2013-2016 “Living The Vision”

- Promote use of Mission Today Criteria in planning local events and objectives in all local organizations.
- Improve communications within the UMW structure - conference, leadership team and local organizations – and encourage fresh, open-minded forward thinking.
- Increase the numbers and diversity of our members, chartering or reactivating at least three (3) new units and focusing on recruitment of younger women.
- Provide opportunities for all of our members to grow personally and spiritually through participation in the UMW reading program and by encouraging attendance at the annual Day Apart, District retreats, Mission u and Annual Gatherings.
- Become more active in speaking out and working for social justice.

From The Communications Coordinator:

DID YOU KNOW

- That the Church Center for the United Nations, dedicated to peace and justice for all of the world's people, is 50 years old this year? It opened in September 1963. Although an ecumenical idea in the beginning, it was actually built by the then Methodist Church and financed by an initial \$500,000 loan in perpetuity from the Woman's Society of Christian Service, predecessor to United Methodist Women, who also arranged for mortgage money to build the center. Since 1984 the Women's Division of the GBGM assumed full ownership of the building and responsibility for its operation. **response** September 2013
- That the Hmong House of Good News was the initiative of Kady Herr-Yang, a medical interpreter for Hmong language speakers in Milwaukee – and an active member of United Methodist Women? “She saw the need in the people she served, both Christians and animists” said the program's treasurer, Patsy Ruppe. “She and other young women were approached by many elders in the Hmong churches asking if there would ever be a Christian-based senior center where they would fit in. May expressed that they didn't have any place to go where they would feel comfortable and not have to be in the house all day.”
- That there were 25 attendees at the Legacy Girls Nite Out, all from the Milwaukee/Racine/Kenosha area.
- That UMW videos can be viewed at www.utube.com/umwomen? You can view a video of Harriet J. Olson, the General Secretary and CEO of United Methodist Women, prepared Oct 24, 2013, regarding the shape of our organization going forward, in addition to other UMW utube videos.
- That UMW has a Facebook page? If you are on Facebook, just search United Methodist Women. Many local organizations have their own Facebook page. Try it out at www.facebook.com/umwomen.
- This newsletter is a means of communicating with your district team members and other local groups by sharing your ideas. Just send me your information and I will see that it is put into our newsletter. We want to know what your group is doing. Share your ideas. Please pass your NorthStar around to other members of your group.
- There are many different ways that we can communicate but the most important is to communicate with God on a daily basis through prayer. Prayer leads us to follow God's direction for our lives and for our work in United Methodist Women.

Although I have been a member of United Methodist Women for a long time, and my mom was a member too, I have learned a lot about UMW since becoming the Communications Coordinator in November, 2012. I have also learned about putting together a newsletter and I still have a lot to learn. I have enjoyed meeting so many wonderful and dedicated women and have been inspired to learn more about the missions and issues that we are committed to. I will endeavor to include more pictures and artwork in the coming issues, to be more timely in getting the newsletter out, and I hope to include more local news as well as the articles from our District team. I also hope to set up a Facebook page for Metro North District. Thanks for your patience!

Jackie Felde 1654 S 23rd St. Sheboygan WI 53081 920-458-5679 jfelde5679@charter.net

2014 METRO NORTH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MISSION TEAM

President (14) Cheryl Malko 446 Ponderosa Drive, Hartford 53027
262-670-6396; cell 262-353-1913 cherylmalko@yahoo.com

Vice President (15) Wendy Wilson Uhl 929 N. Genesee Woods Drive,
Oconomowoc 53066 262-567-3276 wilsonuhl.929@gmail.com

Secretary (14) Muriel O. Smith-Gross 2856 N. Sherman Blvd,
Milwaukee 53210 414-871-7699 imosg@att.net

Treasurer (15) Maris Edgar 2426 North Cramer Street # 11,
Milwaukee 53211-4313 414-630-3654 renjost@aol.com

Communications Coordinator (14) Jackie Felde 1654 South 23rd Street, Sheboygan 53081
920-458-5679 ifelde5679@charter.net

Secretary of Program Resources (14) Marelise (Cherrie) Hartley 1527 Roxbury Way,
Waukesha 53186 262-650-1184 hmarelise@ymail.com

Historian (16) Shirley Jackson 4527 West Bradley Rd, Apt 117
Brown Deer 53223-3767 414-354- 5258 no email

MISSION COORDINATORS

Spiritual Growth (15) Salud Rodeman N87W7019 Evergreen Ct, #101
Cedarburg 53012 414-305-8054 saludgr@gmail.com

Social Action (14) Cynthea Rollo 1613 Dover Drive Waukesha 53186
262-574-7142 thearollo@aol.com

Membership Nurture and Outreach(14) Linda Smeaton 2116 Stratford Rd West Bend 53090
262-483-3570 linda_smeaton@charter.net

Education and Interpretation (15) vacant

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Chair (C15) (M16) Cheryl Mallow 1329 South 10th Street Watertown 53094
920- 261-6140 nonicheryl@yahoo.com

Member (14) Cathryn P. Luse 6900 N. 98th Street Milwaukee 53224-4504
414-353-8343 cpluse@prodigy.net

Member (15) Linda Hurt 4554 N. 40th Street Milwaukee 53209
414-873-2511; Lhurt0111@aol.com

Member (16) vacant

Member (17) Gail Nelson 6891 North 60th Street, #101
Milwaukee 53223 414-365-3802 gail@itlabs.net

NORTHCOTT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES

(Representatives 1, 2, and 3 do not have to be members of the Mission Team)

President or Representative _____ (Member of the Board of Directors)

Social Action or Ed & Interpretation Coordinator (Advocate, Member of the Corporation)

Representative 1 Carol Bensick (Advocate, Member of the Corporation)
7188 N. Navajo Ave Glendale 53217 414-352-5177 no email

Representative 2 Minnie Harmon (Advocate, Member of the Corporation)
4319 West Custer Ave Milwaukee 53219 414-759-1809 tushay21@sbcglobal.net

Representative 3 Christine Whiteside (Advocate, Member of the Corporation)
8680 North Servite Drive Unit 10B, Milwaukee 53223 414-446-8387 cw74596@gmail.com

LEGACY REPRESENTATIVE Fiona Odum 2929 South 10th Street Milwaukee 53215 414-744-2065
terrabyrd09@gmail.com

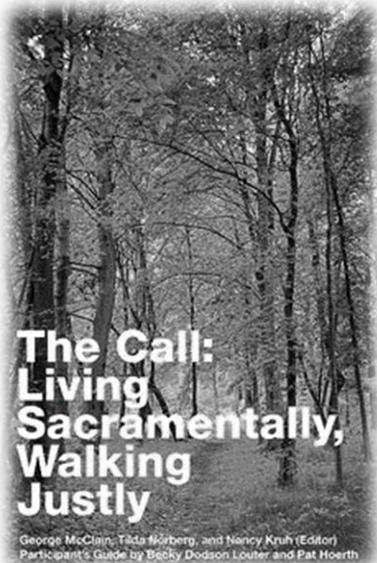


2014 Day Apart

Set some time apart to enjoy fellowship, renew friendships, and learn with the members of

Metro North District and Metro South District United Methodist Women

The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly



This study is a **spiritual growth** in nature and offers tools to deepen spiritual identity, engagement in community and involvement in mission, looking at the sacramental understandings of baptism and communion and lifting up models of response to God's call. Stories of call and response are shared from a wide array of persons from different walks of life.

Presented by Pastor Scott Walters

The Roma of Europe



This Study is a **geographic** in nature with an emphasis on Eastern Europe. You will discover their history up to and including the twentieth century. You can look into the ways they are treated in contemporary European culture. You will also be able to learn about their lifestyle and spirituality, and investigate ways the church and other organizations are working alongside the Roma.

Presented by Jennifer Burns

**COME AND JOIN US ON OUR SPECIAL DAY
APART**

2014 Day Apart
Saturday, January 25, 2014

Agape United Methodist Church
2400 N Brookfield Rd
Brookfield WI 53045
8:30am to 3:00pm

- ✓ **Serving continental breakfast and lunch,**
- ✓ **Program Resources - buy your books,**
- ✓ **Mission Displays**
- ✓ **Information**
- ✓ **Officer Training - First timers OR refresh**

Send check for \$20.00 made payable to Metro North UMW, and registration form below, to:
Treasurer Maris Edgar, 2426 North Cramer Street, # 11, Milwaukee, WI 53211-4313 no later
than Friday, January 17, 2014

Name: _____

District: _____ Unit _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Dependent Care Needs: _____ Ages of Dependents: _____

COME AND JOIN US ON OUR SPECIAL DAY APART
MAKE THIS A SPECIAL DAY TO SPEND WITH YOUR UMW
SISTERS.

IF YOU ARE A REGULAR ATTENDER AT DISTRICT
FUNCTIONS, BRING SOMEONE WHO HAS NOT COME
BEFORE AND INTRODUCE HER TO YOUR DISTRICT
FAMILY

Metro North Mission Team Meetings and Special Events

2013

December 7	Mission Team Meeting at Brookfield Agape UMC
December 14	Annual Christmas Bazaar & Luncheon at Milwaukee St. James UMC Call Muriel Smith Gross 414-871-7644 for more information

2014

January 4	Joint Metro North/Metro South Mission Team Meeting at Brookfield Agape UMC
January 10	Conference Mission Team Retreat & Meeting
January 15	NorthStar Articles Due to Jackie
January 25	Metro North/Metro South Day Apart – Brookfield Agape UMC
February 15	Metro North Mission Team Meeting
April 5	Mission Action Day - Kaukauna Peace UMC
April 15	NorthStar Articles Due to Jackie
April 24-27	UMW Assembly - Louisville KY
May 9-10	Conference Mission Team Meeting - Mauston
May 17	Metro North Mission Team Meeting
July 15	NorthStar Articles Due to Jackie
July 26-31	Mission u – Wausau - 4 Day
August 1	Mission u – Wausau - Drive in Day
August 22-24	Conference Mission Team Meeting - Pine Lake
September 27	Joint Metro North/Metro South Annual Celebration
October 15	NorthStar Articles Due to Jackie
October 17-18	Conference Annual Gathering - Madison Asbury UMC
November 7-8	Conference Mission Team Meeting - Shawano
December 13	Metro North Mission Team Meeting and Christmas Social

Share your mission works and fund raising events with other UMWs. . . .Be connected with each other. If you wish to add something to this calendar to appear in our February issue, please contact Jackie Felde 920-458-5679 or jfelde5679@charter.net

"Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point."

Metro North District UMW
c/o St. Luke United Methodist Church
623 Ontario Ave
Sheboygan WI 53081

Volume 1
Issue 3
Published
Quarterly

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1261
Racine WI

Return Service Requested

NorthStar

Published by
Metro North District
United Methodist Women
Jackie Felde
1654 S. 23rd St
Sheboygan WI 53081
Sent to Metro North District
churches and UMW officers
four times per year

Materials may be reproduced
within the UMC
Phone: 920-458-5679
Email: jfelde5679@charter.net



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION