



# NORTH EAST DISTRICT

## *"The Shofar"*



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**2021 SHOFAR will be delivered electronically or paper version by subscription only!**

### REMINDER:

### TEAM MEETING TELECONFERENCE February 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**PLEASE** let us know if you will attend..... we will send you the Agenda, previous minutes, and dial-in information. (Call or E-mail Jan Stanko)

This issue mailed to Presidents.

#### NORTH EAST DISTRICT 2021 SCHEDULE

**EVENTS: May 22<sup>nd</sup>. (CANCELLED)**

Retreat at Lake Lucerne Camp

September 18<sup>th</sup> Celebration, Suamico

**EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETINGS:**

**ALL PRESIDENTS or REPRES. INVITED**

February 5<sup>th</sup> Conference Call

April 9<sup>th</sup>. Conference Call

June 4<sup>th</sup>. Conference Call

August 6<sup>th</sup> held at Suamico UMC, plans for

Annual Celebration on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup>. Year-end meeting at

Manitowoc-Lakeshore UMC

**SHOFAR Newsletters: 2021-2022**

**APRIL Issue, article deadline March 15**

**JULY Issue, article deadline June 15**

**OCTOBER Issue, article deadline Sept. 15**

**JANUARY Issue, article deadline Dec. 15**

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## *President's Message*

### *Happy New Year and Welcome to 2021!*

What will 2021 bring to United Methodist Women? We all would love to know, and our faith will lead us through. We must pray for all those that have had to deal with COVID and pray lives were not lost..

Where are we? We are all overwhelmed with the inability to be together, in unity to accomplish and promote our purpose. It will be a great day when we can join a meeting in person, sit down, plan events and be with our sisters again. Pray for those days! Until then, maintain contact with your sisters, give them a call, send a card or note by mail (it is uplifting to find one in your mailbox) or for computer gals, send a devotional or funny e-mail.

Even, when we cannot meet in person, Units have some housekeeping duties to perform and I've heard??? "How can we do that ..We have not had a meeting since March, or whenever". Regardless, we must look forward, and plan for events to happen even if we end up having to cancel in 2021.

Here are the items we need to do:

READ: response January/February

- Mission Today Unit (Even if we could not be together)
- 2020 Census (I sent the instructions) deadline March 30, 2021
- Any changes in officers: and/or contact information (especially e-mails) for yearbook

Unfortunately, your District Team made the decision to cancel our annual Retreat on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to be held at Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center. The Camp will refund our deposit which could be held to next year, however, with 2022 change of Officers they will want to decide who, what, when and where.

We want to thank everyone for all their efforts in this difficult time,

*Romans 8:28 "ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD,"*

God Bless, Stay Safe, Be Kind and Loving,

Jan Stanko, President

## *Conference President's Message*

2021 is just beginning, we are Women of Courage, with a mission to accomplish. I share here partial quotes from our leaders at UWM National, printed in the January-February issue of Response.

“In the middle of January, we move into Ordinary Time in the Liturgical Calendar, a time between Christmas and Lent. In this instance, “ordinary” doesn’t refer to routine or not special but to ordinalis meaning numbered or ruled – it is measured time: time to wait, to take care of one another, to trust God. Miriam packed her tambourine for the journey to the Promised Land because she knew there would be a time for celebration and dancing. Hold steady, United Methodist Women, and keep your tambourine handy.”

From Tara Barns, Editor of RESPONSE Magazine

“The work of United Methodist Women requires us to see real people and respond to real needs in the real world. To do that, we need to ground ourselves in faith, develop objectives with our teams that we can work on over a period of time and listen and speak.”

From Harriet Olson, General Secretary

Thoughts from Martha Boyer, Conference President

**Take** a look at Manitowoc-Lakeshore's great works!

Lakeshore's United Methodist Women - Manitowoc have a sewing group which over the year have made washable sanitary napkins for ladies and girls in foreign countries, wheel chair bags and walker/ catheter bags for area nursing homes, pillow cases for Friends of Foster Families. An assortment of table decorations, wall hangings and quilts were made for sale. Pictured is one of the quilts made this year. We sell some of the items we make to help pay for the items to give to those in need and for missions. If you are interested in the quilt or want more information about any of the other items please contact Lakeshore United Methodist Women at 920-717-8245, or 920-682-0235  
**(It is a king, measures 110 x 94)**



## Secretaries Message..... 2021 Yearbook Changes - North East District

District Executive Team - p. 6	President Nominations Chairman Nominations - Ellie Buckley Nominations - Betsy Johnson	Correct email - <a href="mailto:jan@northeastdistrictumw.org">jan@northeastdistrictumw.org</a> Correct address - N5602 East River Rd Remove (Resigned) Correct email - <a href="mailto:betsyjohnson58@gmail.com">betsyjohnson58@gmail.com</a>
Brandon - p. 9		(Church closed)
Brillion Faith - p. 10	Education and Interpretation	Amy Genske Correct address N5602 East River Rd
Eden Tabor - p. 13	President Social Action	Add email <a href="mailto:terrivan2708@gmail.com">terrivan2708@gmail.com</a> Add address <b>112 Church Rd</b> , PO Box 337
Calvary/Zion: Egg Harbor/Fish Creek- p. 14	President Treasurer	Correct email <a href="mailto:karensandstrom@gmail.com">karensandstrom@gmail.com</a> Correct email <a href="mailto:judiegauger@yahoo.com">judiegauger@yahoo.com</a>
Gillett/Oconto Falls - p. 16	Vice President/Secretary	Carol Swim (Remove Lorna Saffran as Secretary)
Kaukauna Peace - p. 20	President Vice President Program Resources Secretary/Contact	Vacant Vacant Vacant Yvonne Rusk
Manitowoc Lakeshore - p. 21	Secretary  MNO Nominations Communications  Program Resources	Cooki Klein 2602 16 <sup>th</sup> St Two Rivers WI 54240 920-553-2593 <a href="mailto:kleindoretta48@gmail.com">kleindoretta48@gmail.com</a> None None Barb Mamerow 11839 Cooperstown Rd, Denmark WI 54240 920-863-2416 <a href="mailto:wmamerow@juno.com">wmamerow@juno.com</a> Jackie Ackerman 4201 Lowell St, Two Rivers WI 54241 920-793-1594 <a href="mailto:ackermanj481@gmail.com">ackermanj481@gmail.com</a>
Neenah First - p. 22	Communications/Add Contact	Melissa Borth
New London - p. 22	President Treasurer  Social Action Spiritual Growth	Change phone 920-878-2570 Remove Shirleyann Schneider Add Wanda Schroenrock 217 W Spring St, New London, WI 54961 920-205-0353 <a href="mailto:putterin@att.net">putterin@att.net</a> Remove Betty Dowd Add Sally Tschurwald 512 Lawrence St, New London, WI 54961 920-982-2817 <a href="mailto:mrs412@yahoo.com">mrs412@yahoo.com</a>
Oneida -p. 3	President	Pam Cottrell address is <u>W484 Hillside Dr</u>
Oshkosh Algoma Blvd - p. 24	President	Rachel Benton - new address 1000 N Westfield St V613, Oshkosh WI 54902
Parfreyville - p. 25	Treasurer	correct email <a href="mailto:dlear9@gmail.com">dlear9@gmail.com</a>
Randolph/Courtland - p. 26	Secretary	correct email <a href="mailto:ockiedoc4246navy@gmail.com">ockiedoc4246navy@gmail.com</a>
Seymour/ Cicero New Life -p. 29	President	No current president
Sheboygan Fountain Park - p. 29	Vice-President Secretary/Treas.	Eileen Bailey correct <a href="mailto:ebailey53083@gmail.com">ebailey53083@gmail.com</a> Jamie Fink correct <a href="mailto:bnfink@gmail.com">bnfink@gmail.com</a>
District Members -p. 33		Remove Charlotte Mattmiller

*Treasurers Message.....* Happy New Year to all!

I am very pleased to report that the pledge money and other avenues of giving picked up much at the end of the year. The funds that have been sent off to Conference have exceeded our pledge for the 2020 year. A breakdown of the funds transferred is as follows:

Pledges	\$37,923.00
Special Mission Recognition	520.00
Gift in Mission	175.00
Gift in Memory	795.00
World Thank Offering	1,952.92
Prayer and Self Denial	953.82
Designated giving	13.00
Legacy fund	25.00
Mission U	50.00
UMCOR	650.00
Northcott House	50.00
School of Christian Mission	50.00
Mujila Falls	1,650.00
Dr. Ric	<u>150.00</u>
For a Grand Total for 2020	\$44,957.74

I feel that considering the year we have had without meetings, social connections, and lack of worship services, we did very well. A hearty “thank you” to all that made this possible.

I know that 2021 is again going to start off slow but hopefully we are able to have some of our fund raisers later in the year and be able to do as well as this year. God bless each and every one of you.

If you have any question about your units account, give me a call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rogene Moore, Treasurer NED



## *Membership, Nurture & Outreach Message.....*

2020 has been a year that we have shed tears, struggled with losses, some losing family, some friends. Our mental health has been affected, many feeling alone or uncertain about the moment and the future.

In our sorrow, we continue to hear the words of the song, "God Will Take Care of You" Be not dismayed what e'er be tide, God will take care of you; beneath his wings of love abide, God will take care of you.

We are still waiting final results for our district census results from the national UMW organization. The Northeast District has lost members from unit closures and the death of members. We are thankful for the years of devotion and service of each individual and each local unit. We encourage you to encourage women in your congregation to read and learn about our organization. Invite them to use the Reading Program. Join some of the zoom programs. We will be engaged in the first quarter of 2021 in our annual census, which is now titled "Membership Survey ". You will receive information for your participation after the district receives info. **"Stay Strong. Lean on others. Lean on our Creator."**

Gwen Gibson, Membership Nurture and Outreach

## **Program Resources Message**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope this finds you well. I want to update you on the reading program for the coming year:

Books can be found at book stores, libraries, shared with neighbors attending UMC churches, used book stores, and on line. When ordering books on Amazon don't forget to start at smile.amazon.com to earn a .5% donation to UMW.

Refer to page 7 and 22-23 of the Reading Program catalog to learn about Bonus Books and the Faith Talks Podcast which also count as two books. Children and youth books are okay for any reader. The titles will be found on the list among the other books.

The report form can be filled out as you read and eventually turned into your unit team member on the deadline date.

Sooooo.....many great books to read. Sooooo....many ways to draw closer to God and to change lives. Happy Reading!!

As always enjoy your reading journey and share your findings with us. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sherrie Bekyir, 920-562-9438, [bekyirs@gmail.com](mailto:bekyirs@gmail.com)

## **Nominations: Chairs Message**

A New Year!! 2021, United Methodist Women are called to "Act in Love". The song, "Women Called to Act in Love", whose words were written by Laurie Zelman, goes like this:

- Women called to prayer and study, women called by God to serve.
- Women called to works of justice, called by God to act in love.
- In the company of sisters, seeking strength in prayer and praise.
- Faith and hope and love in action, finding God in many ways.
- Grant us courage, send us vision, may we know God's heart this day.
- Share the tears that God is shedding and refuse to turn away.
- Dwell in us, Holy Spirit! Bring us to the greatest needs! Cast out fear and mend division, show us where the promise leads!

The work of United Methodist women cannot stop because our country is shut down. Now in 2021 we must find ways to keep the Acts of Love going! Hopefully soon we will be able to have unit meetings and get back to the job at hand, getting mission dollars to those who need it most.

AS I look toward 2022, there are a few opening on the Northeast District UMW Team. Please give thought and prayer to coming on the District team in 2022. You would not be alone in your position, there is a whole Team to support you!!

PLEASE CALL, WE WOULD LOVE TO TALK WITH YOU:

Amy Genske, Chairperson: Email [aegenske48@gmail.com](mailto:aegenske48@gmail.com)

Nominations contact persons: Amy Genske 920-418-1329  
Hazel Christopher 920-731-7260  
Betsy Johnson 920-499-6425



## **MISSION U INFORMATION: The Study Leaders for 2021:**

- **Push Out: Teachers:** Rev Jonah Overton and Rev Afi Dobbins-Mays will teach this jointly.
- **Finding Peace in an Anxious World by:** Rev Barb Certa-Werner
- **Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship:** This is a new class that will only be offered this year Robert Odum
- **A Youth Study: Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence** (No leader at this time)

***Tentative dates.** These need to be cleared by the Mu committee, WI Conf. UMW and the leaders. Classes are 2.5 hours long and there will be 4 classes.*

***Push Out - Monday and Wednesday, May 17 and 19 then May 24 and 26. 3pm - 5:30pm***

***Finding Peace - Wednesday and Friday, July 7 and 9 then July 14 and 16***

***Bearing Witness - Tuesday and Thursday July 27 and 29 then August 3 and 5***

***Dates to avoid - Memorial Day May 31, WI Annual Conference Meeting June 18-19, General Conference August 29-Sept 7.***

Continuing Education Credits - Karen will find out if the WI Conference will still let us issue credit for pastors and lay leaders as we move to zoom this year.

Mission u Program book - will create for participants. Registration forms will be ready for the March newsletter.

## *Spiritual Growth's Message....*

***Philippians 4:13 For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need.***

We are strong much like the women we learned about in our history. At the moment we don't think so but when we look back at what we accomplished we realize we are stronger than we thought. The Bible is full of strong women like Sarah, Ruth, Hannah and Deborah. We feel like our hands are held back not being able to gather together and comfort others when we are social distanced, but a phone call means a lot if you are alone. Just knowing someone out there cares enough to call is a mood elevator. So send cards, make phone calls and we will get through this time.

Individually we are all women of strength, strong in our faith and in our passion to fulfill our purpose. Collectively we are women in strength. As United Methodist Women we work together to put our faith, hope and love into action for others and for each other.

SORRY, this event has been cancelled. Hopefully, we will have a vaccine and will feel comfortable meeting for a retreat in May. We are planning a one day retreat to learn how to pray and sing the Psalms. Save May 22<sup>nd</sup> for that special day. It is the weekend before Memorial Day weekend. You will hear more about the retreat about April.

Sandra Klein, Spiritual Growth

## *Education & Interpretation's Message.....*

***Isaiah 55: 8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."***

These scripture verses have appeared at times in the last several months to me. They remind me that life is not necessarily the way I want it to be or that my ways are not God's ways. As we continue to deal with issues surrounding COVID-19, the ways are not what we thought we might prefer neither are our ways necessarily what God would prefer. We have had time to look at how we spend our days -- with God-- without many other people. We have had to make many adjustments. Have you been using the opportunities provided in 2020?

Although we have not gathered together "in person", I believe United Methodist women understand mission and outreach ministries. They continue to think about, pray about, give to, and support United Methodist Women and church activities. We are a mission team that will continue to go forth in 2021 with hope, peace, faith, and love doing and being for Jesus in this new year and into different times with what we have learned and experienced.

We have a worthwhile purpose. We understand who we are and what we are capable of. We can take responsibility for our life work and life path and do and accomplish for God, others, and ourselves.

Carry on in your endeavors as United Methodist Women in 2021 .

Ruth Wiersma, E & I

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**Hazel Christopher  
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**APRIL SHOFAR 2021 article deadline... March 15<sup>th</sup>**