



# NORTH EAST DISTRICT

## "The Shofar"



Editor: Jan Stanko 920-524-2067 or 920-905-3199

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[www.northeastdistrictumw.org](http://www.northeastdistrictumw.org)

Volume 4 - Number 3 JULY 2019

### Mission u July 22-25, and Over-view Day July 26, 2019.

Time to renew or subscribe to delivery of a paper copy of the "SHOFAR. We "thank you" for helping us stay within our budget. **Send \$8.00 check to NORTH EAST DISTRICT UMW and YOUR mailing address to: Jan Stanko, 620 Madison St. APT 3, Brillion, WI 54110**

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**REMINDER:** Issues of the North East District "SHOFAR" and "Catch a Vision" are available at: [www.wisconsinumw.org](http://www.wisconsinumw.org) (click on Communications)



Our Celebration cake at our March Team Meeting



## *President's Message*

**WELCOME to the July issue of "The Shofar".**

Your District team met on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Red River Salem UMC. What a wonderful country church! You can see how much the congregation loves it, including an elevator!

We had a busy agenda: updating the standing rules, setting the budget for 2020, planning our "Annual Celebration and Leadership Workshops" on September 21<sup>st</sup> at Sheboygan: St. Luke and our "2020 Retreat at Lake Lucerne on May 15 & 16".

A word about RETREATS..... It is my hope that everyone will consider "why" we continue to have our retreats at Lake Lucerne. Not only is it beautiful but also has so many advantages and the staffers are wonderful. We realize the drive may be the problem, however, if we do not support the camps they will not survive. I so miss Byron Center..... and we cannot have that happen to Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne. SO PLEASE, mark your calendar for May 15 - 16 for our retreat. We have something very special planned for Saturday. Friday night will be a fun night for those who enjoy the weekend. (If you need a ride, contact us, we will help you.)

We want to share some "goin-on's" for our Annual Celebration & Workshops. We are going to "Celebrate 150 Years in Mission". Our program will be done in period dress. Years ago, ladies never went to church without their hat and gloves. We would like as many ladies as possible to wear hats on September 21<sup>st</sup>. ADD this date to your calendar, also.

Mission u is a wonderful 4-day and Over-view day events. Opening the doors of great studies, this year we have *Practicing Resurrection, The Gospel of-Mark and Radical Discipleship, Women United for Change, 150 Years in Mission, and Embracing Wholeness, What About Our Money?* One of the great benefits is bonding and getting to know women of like mind and mission. This is a special opportunity open to all women.

Devotional Moment: *Ruth 1:16 But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go, where your lodge, I will lodge, your people shall be my people, and your God my god".*

Blessings and Peace,

Jan Stanko, President

[Jan@northeastdistrictumw.org](mailto:Jan@northeastdistrictumw.org) 920-524-2067

## Response articles of interest!

### January/February issue: **THINK: Messages (Editor, President, Secretary and How to Use this Issue)**

**Learn:** Bible Study cased on the Book of Esther.

**Live:** BRIGHT LIGHTS... Connecting with a National Mission Institution in Georgia  
Quilting for Children in the Pacific Northwest  
Spa Day in Iowa  
SANCUTARY and SEPARATION..  
Story about Debora Barrios-Vasquez, immigrant

**Give:** Caring for Children in Texas  
Passing the Baton  
Ever Ready to Serve (Susan Smalley story)

**Listen:** Deciding a Way Forward

**ACT:** Read: Books from the 2019 Reading Program

### May/June issue: **THINK: Messages: Editor, President, Secretary & How to Use this issue**

**Learn:** Radical Women of the Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark (Mission u study)

**Live:** BRIGHT LIGHTS: Diaper Bank in Missouri  
For the Love of Children in Florida  
Mother's Day Tea in North Carolina  
Snack Shower in Kansas  
Circling Up to Protect Maternal Health (UMW Circle, Circle Up, in Austin, TX.)  
Working to End Maternal Mortality  
(East River District UMW, Virginia Beach, Virginia)

**Give:** Equipping Future Generations of United Methodist Women  
Building a Strong Community  
**Radical Discipleship** (Spiritual Growth Study: Gospel of Mark) Janet Wolf  
**General Conference 2019**

**Listen:** United Methodist Women Vows to Work Across Differences,  
Inclusive Spaces for All  
Standing for Clean Energy: UMW calls on Ford to respect clean car standards

**Paid Leave Helps Families** (UMW Mission u Action 2019)

**ACT: Read:** Books from 2019 Reading Program

## *Vice-President:*

This position has been filled for 2020

## *Secretary* Ellen Eastman



North East District Secretary  
715-526-5030 Eastman54166@charter.net



## *Treasurer:* **Happy Summer everyone!**

This is the season we all look forward to with anticipation of good times, parties and outdoor activities. I hope that some of these activities include UMW activities with your local units.

In the last couple of months, a few things have come up that I need to bring to your attention...**Please make out checks to:**

**North East District United Methodist Women or NED UMW**

Checks made out in my personal name cannot be cashed and put into the checking account. Please pass this information on to your local treasurers.

Also, remittance forms and checks should be sent to:

**North East District treasurer:** Rogene Moore  
1232 Arlington Ave., Manitowoc, WI 54220

Rogene Moore, NED Treasurer  
rogenemoore@gmail.com  
1-920-682-0235



## *Communications: Editor*

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO PROVIDE YOUR MEMBERS WITH COPIES OF "SHOFAR".  
We need to increase communications within the North East District.

**A QUICK REMINDER:** We enjoy publicizing your events and mission endeavors.  
The deadline for the October Shofar is September 15<sup>th</sup>, a great place to promote your fall events.

*Jan Stanko, Editor* 920-524-2067 or Jan@northeastdistrictumw.org



## *Program Resources*

We are approaching the close of the 2018/19 Reading Program. Your unit's reading program report form is due to me by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The form is on **page 11** in this edition of the Shofar. As always if you have questions or need help please contact me. Don't despair, you can keep reading for next year!!

**What book has gained your interest?** Let us know and we'll list your review in our next issue of "Shofar".

### **BOOKS ON PARADE: Threading My Prayer Rug by Sabeeha Rehman**

This book is a must read. One of Booklist's top ten books in 2016 and 2017 in the religion/spirituality and diverse nonfiction categories respectively. It received Honorable Mention in the 2017 San Francisco Book Festival Awards.

An enthralling story of the making of an American. A timely meditation on being Muslim in America today. A story of a journey from Pakistan to the United States. A woman in an arranged marriage that becomes a love match lasting forty years. From a secular Muslim in an Islamic society to a devout Muslim in a society ignorant of Islam. A student bride and immigrant to an American citizen, business executive, mother, grandmother. She also is a tireless advocate for interfaith understanding.

This book led me to examine my devotion to my faith. I am amazed at the author's accomplishments and bravery. A must read!!

**Books On Parade:** I am highlighting two new Mission U study books offered this July..

**Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship** This spiritual growth study presents this well-known Gospel of Mark through voices and experiences that are often relegated to the margins. In five chapters, the study examines different passages in Mark and challenges readers to discover what radical discipleship looks like in their own context.

**Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission.** Mission study author Ellen Blue reflects on writing this book: Long before I began to work on the 2019 United Methodist Women mission study on the organization's 150-year history, I wrote the history of St. Mark's Community Center, established by Methodist women in 1909 and run by Methodist deaconesses for many decades. Finding the voices of our foremothers is, in my view, the most important agenda for Methodist history. Their courage in establishing such ministries was remarkable. I hope their stories will fuel readers' passion for following Jesus.

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



## *Spiritual Growth ...*

Our retreat was May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and our theme was Finding Rest in an Anxious World. We only had 20 attend the retreat but it may have been because Easter was late this year and a lot of you were trying to get your spring events in after Easter. We think a retreat is a two-day event and a day of enrichment is a one-day event. Next year we are going to try mixing the two. We are setting it for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of May and having a game or craft night on Friday and the spiritual offering on Saturday. Our focus will be learning to pray and sing the psalms. We want to provide a spiritually enriching retreat. If there is some other subject you think we should present or do the retreat differently we would like to hear from you. We are here to serve the women of the North East District.

Mark your calendar: September 21<sup>st</sup> for NED Annual Celebration and Leadership Workshops. We will be celebrating our 150 Years in Mission and have a wonderful day planned for you. **The Reservation form is on page 12 and Memorial Recognition Form on page 10**, deadlines are August 1<sup>st</sup>.

The following is taken from a Woman's Devotional Bible and written by Jeanie Miley

John 1:35-42 What Do You Want? Jesus asks you. It is such a simple question, and yet you know that how you answer that question is going to shape the rest of your days. I saw you following me "Jesus says. You turn to your friend as a slight blush washes across your face. Then you look back to Jesus. His compelling force is so great that you don't concern yourself with being embarrassed. Standing there, poised between your old life and the future, you feel alive as never before. Time seems to stand still. All the colors around you are vivid; the sounds are clear and almost musical. What do you say when Jesus asks what you want? Do you even know what you want? As you stand there; enclosed in a holy space even in the midst of a crowd, you examine your heart. Are you coming to Jesus out of curiosity? Do you have some need you think he might meet or an intellectual question he might answer? Is there something in you that needs to be healed? Is there some brokenness, a piercing or unrelenting pain, a failure from your past that you would like him to carry? Do you need forgiveness? Are you dying for love? Is there something you have tried to fix that escapes your skill? Exactly what is it that you want from Jesus of Nazareth? Tell him, in your prayer of the heart, exactly what you need.

Sandra Klein, Spiritual Growth for NED  
6303 Riverview Dr., Two Rivers, WI 54241  
920-553-3460 [dsklein6303@gmail.com](mailto:dsklein6303@gmail.com)



## *Education & Interpretation*

At the beginning of a new year we often focus on new beginnings/new resolutions/new goals for the new year. We are half-way through 2019. Earlier I asked you to consider personal mission goals you would like to achieve as a UMW member. It is, also, time to be checking on and completing unit mission goals that you will soon be reporting on for the UMW Annual Gathering in September. (form on Page 12). At our recent district UMW meeting, the board considered the goals they set for the 2019-2020 calendar. At our spring district meeting, members brainstormed and submitted goals they would like to see worked on and accomplished. Because of the weather last winter, our first meeting of the year was conducted via a telephone conference call--not conducive to a brainstorming session, so we were running a bit later on the goal setting plan but agreed that it would be used for 2019 and 2020 in our district.

After compiling the data generated, the goals seemed to be distinctly broken into three categories: goals to be achieved by the district board members; goals to be achieved by the board members with district units; and goals to be achieved by individual unit members, including board members in their units.

**DISTRICT GOALS:** Be ENTHUSIASTIC; Change sister units every couple of years so they learn more about us; Contact churches that don't have units and explain how to be district members; Improve communication to units; Get to know sister units; Know each unit's tech ability.

**DISTRICT TO UNITS GOALS:** Be ENTHUSIASTIC; Announce goals at the annual meeting so units can seasonally work on them; Get them interested in district events and in being a district board member; Check on them frequently, help with their concerns, and build relationships; Invite young women personally to Mission u and encourage scholarships; Everyone do one new project; Encourage more participation in local, district, and conference mission projects.

**UNIT GOALS:** Be ENTHUSIASTIC; Work on compatible meeting times for age groups; Attend and support younger members activities, educate them about UMW, and encourage their support for UWM; Do one new project; Work on local, district and conference mission goals.

Please individually consider these goals. Perhaps they are already goals that you have set as a UMW member. Or consider adding them to your goal list. Talk about them as a unit and with your district sister member. There is mission work to be done by all of us. Please pass on other goals that you are working on to district members that we could use in the future. With God's help and the work and time spent by all of us, much can be accomplished.

Ruth Wiersma, Education & Interpretation Coordinator  
[jwiersma@new.rr.com](mailto:jwiersma@new.rr.com) 920-468-5562





What happens if you or a loved one falls ill and you receive no pay while you're out of work? Or when a parent needs time off to spend with a newborn? Families can face loss of income, debt, possible job loss, lower Social Security and savings and physical and emotional stress. Only 17% of the U. S. workforce has access to employer-sponsored paid family leave.

There is now a momentum for paid family and medical leave. Some two dozen states will consider proposals this year. The FAMILY Act (H.R. 1185/S.463, a bipartisan bill, would provide up to 12 weeks for illness, caregiving or a new child. There is broad support for paid leave across the political spectrum. Six states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation to date.

United Methodist Women's Living Wage for All Campaign seeks to engage members as allies in passing state and local legislation that lays the base for a living wage for everyone. The living wage is what it takes for a family to meet basic needs of housing, food, transportation, utilities, etc., in their local. United Methodist Women joins faith and labor coalitions working to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour. But that's still below the living wage, and that alone will not guarantee a living wage for all families. Wage theft and lack of sufficient work hours alone will not guarantee a living wage for all families. Wage theft and lack of sufficient work hours pose additional obstacles, for example. Domestic workers, tipped workers, farm workers-then majority African American and now mostly immigrant workers-were excluded from New Deal labor legislation and continue to be excluded from some labor rights today.

The United Methodist Women Living Wage for All Campaign is partnering with Family Values at Work to mobilize for paid family and medical leave at the state and federal levels over the next two years. You can take action now by contacting your Senators and Representative, inviting them to sign on to the bipartisan FAMILY Act.

Lack of paid leave has a disproportionate impact on low-wage workers, many of them women and people of color, hurting the women, youth and children who United Methodist Women serves and United Methodist Church affirms the living wage for all.

The FAMILY Act will pool small contributions from employers and employees to create a fund that allows people to draw a portion of their wages when they need to take a leave. Self-employed people can pay into the fund as well. The FAMILY Act incorporates the social insurance fund model that has already proved successful for employees and business owners alike in four states-California, New Jersey, Rhode Island and New York.

The living wage is a biblical issue. The prophets condemned depriving workers of fair pay for their labor. James 5:4 says, *"Listen! The Wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts!"*





## *Membership: Nurture & Outreach*

Summer is finally here! Most Wisconsin people are excited to see summer arrive after the cold, snowy winter along with a very rainy Spring.

One of the highlights of my summer will be attending Wisconsin Conference Mission U in Wisconsin Rapids. Here I expect to greet old friends, make new friends, and learn, learn, learn!

I will study the Gospel of Mark in detail and in the midst might find myself becoming a "radical disciple". I plan to learn more about the 150 year history. Hopefully become more aware of our money....where it goes and what difference it makes in how we spend it.

Mission U is a venue that energizes, excites, and fills attendees with enthusiasm. Would you prayerful consider having at least one person from your unit attend Mission U?

I believe that an increase in membership in your unit would occur as this person will bring her enthusiasm to your programming!

Happy Summer!

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting!

Questions or comments??

Betsy Johnson

[betsyjohnson58@gmail.com](mailto:betsyjohnson58@gmail.com)

(H) 920-4996425 © 920-265-0216



## *Nominations*

This year we celebrate 150 years in Mission. What an accomplishment. We all know that sacrifices were made by many of the women who served as founders, educators, medical and health care providers, interpreters, translators, advocates, justice workers. We know that financial sacrifices were made by many women, so that women could be hands and feet for mission. We are thankful for their tenaciousness.

As I complete the term for Nomination chair, we thank those who have completed terms on the team. We thank those who will continue to serve and those who will serve. We are thankful for your commitment and sacrifices.

Gwen Gibson

920-221-5314 or 920-903-8780 [gwengbsn@yahoo.com](mailto:gwengbsn@yahoo.com)

My report is taken from a bit of historic information found in the Mission U Study Book by Ellen Blue “Women United for Change”.

In the 1800’s it was perceived that women were acceptable to God (and society) *only* if they showed qualities of piety, purity, submissiveness and domesticity.

This message was powerfully delivered to women in the United States through media and preaching. In other words, they were saying that “the woman’s place was in the home”. Those women stepped out of their place and used it to strengthen their belief that God desired women’s talents to be employed in “kingdom work”---making the world more like it would be if God’s reign were manifested on earth.

Those women began what we now know as United Methodist Women formed by predecessor societies from 7 Denominations that through the years (1869-1973) were merged into one.

150 years, the leaders whose names we know and the “unknown good” people have done the kind of work that brought “life abundant” to women and children around the world. May their lives enrich our spirits for the work that we are called to do today.

Verna Lambrecht, NED Historian  
715-745-6651 or [vernal@frontiernet.net](mailto:vernal@frontiernet.net)

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### **A Beautiful Soul is never forgotten**

North East District Annual Day of Celebration will have a “Rose” Memorial Celebration for all our UMW Women that have been called to heaven this past year, from October 2018 to September 2019. (deadline August 15) after this date we will still honor them but will not be able to get their name in the program book.

In Memoriam from \_\_\_\_\_ (Unit name)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Special note \_\_\_\_\_

Send form to : Sandra Klein, 6303 Riverview Dr., Two Rivers, WI 54241 or e-mail to [dsklein6303@gmail.com](mailto:dsklein6303@gmail.com)

**2018/2019 Reading Program Report**

**DUE AUGUST 1, 2019**

SUBMIT TO: Sherrie Bekyir, 1404 Western Ave #17,  
Green Bay, WI 54303.

FOR QUESTIONS: 920-562-9438, bekyirs@gmail.com

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Address (full city/town) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

UNIT MEMBERSHIP COUNT \_\_\_\_\_ (needed for District Donation)

SUBMITTED BY (INCLUDE CONTACT INFO) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT YOUR READER'S NAMES AND PLAN THEY READ:**

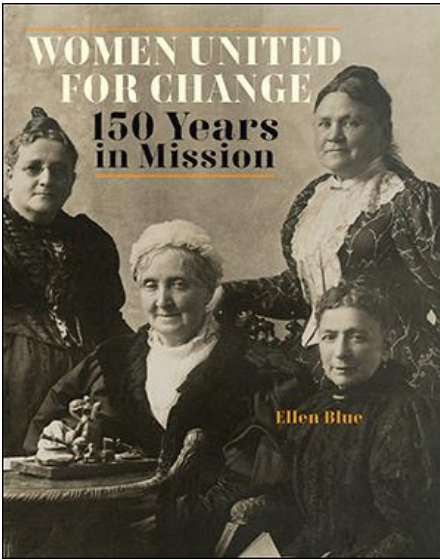
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Use back or separate sheet if needed. Thank You.

# North East District United Methodist Women

**SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 (Wear a hat)**

**(LADIES ALWAYS WORE A HAT)**



## Annual Day of Celebration and Leadership Workshops

Registration 8:30-9:00 A.M. Meeting Begins at 9:00 A.M

Host Church: **Sheboygan: St. Luke,  
623 Ontario Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081**

Registration \$ 25.00 – Deadline August 31, 2019

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please PRINT)**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_**

**Position/s you hold in your unit? (if any) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Join District Team: position of interest 2020-2021? \_\_\_\_\_**

List any Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Will Day Care Services be needed? \_\_\_\_\_ (Safe Sanctuary Rules Followed)

**Workshop Session to attend: (Please check 1) (officer or representative)**

President/Vice President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Nominations \_\_\_\_\_

Social Action \_\_\_\_\_ Program Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Membership N & O \_\_\_\_\_

Education & Interp. \_\_\_\_\_ Spiritual Growth \_\_\_\_\_ Historian \_\_\_\_\_

**At Large Session \_\_\_\_\_ Assemble "100 Layette Kits" for UM Children's Services in Milwaukee, Harbor House in Superior, Crossings in Manitowoc, Christine Ann Center (supplies furnished PLUS donated handmade sweaters and sets).**

**ALSO: Food Pantry: Boxes will be provided where you register. Thank you!**

Mail form and check for \$ 25.00, payable to: **NORTH EAST DISTRICT UMW TO:**

**Registrar: Sandra Klein, 6303 Riverview Dr., Two Rivers, WI 5424**

**NORTH EAST DISTRICT SPECIAL LOCAL MISSION PROJECT 2018-19**

Project Completion Form – file deadline August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**UMW UNIT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and description of your local mission project/s:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Describe activities your unit contributed to support this project/s:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**List the number of members and hours that were devoted to this project/s:** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit DEADLINE: Completed form by August 1, 2019

Send to: Ruth Wiersma

2515 Hillside Lane

Green Bay, WI 54302

Or: E-mail to: [jwiersma@new.rr.com](mailto:jwiersma@new.rr.com)



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**Jan Stanko, Editor**

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