



NORTH EAST DISTRICT

"The Shofar"



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visit our website at: www.northeastdistrictumw.org

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UNIT NEWS & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

"SHOFAR" distribution for 2018: In order, to become more eco-friendly and financially responsible, ALL issues will be delivered via e-mail, unless your unit does not have e-mail, in that case 1 (one) paper copy will be mailed to the President or designated receiver. We produce 4 publications per year. Any member interested in receiving mailers may send in their subscription for \$ 8.00 per year, send check (payable to: NORTH EAST DISTRICT UMW) and mail to: Jan Stanko, Editor: 620 Madison St. Apt 3, Brillion, WI 54110

"WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE DISTRICT ???"

UNIT NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

"SHOFAR" Contents

DATES TO REMEMBER: (PAGE 2: articles for info)

- Oct. 6th Ripon Immanuel: Bazaar and Salad Luncheon
- Oct. 11th New London: Salad Luncheon/Bake sale
- Oct. 14 Green Bay: St Paul's: WI Racial discussion
- Oct.20-21: WI UMW Annual Meeting, Waukesha
VISIT: RED BIRD CRAFT TABLE, bring labels.
- Nov. 4th. Team Meeting at Suamico UMC 9 AM
- Nov. 4th Salem Red River: Bazaar & Bake Sale
- Nov. 18th Sheboygan: St Luke: Cookie Walk/Bazaar
- Dec. 5th Green Bay: First: Women's Advent Program & Tea
- Dec. 9th New London: Christmas Cookie Walk
- Dec. 10th Green bay: First Holiday Cookie Walk
- Dec. 17th FDL Covenant: Sugarplum Cookie Walk
- Date not set: Sturgeon Bay: Christmas Tea

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CONFERENCE REMINDER:

"Catch the Vison" and "The Shofar"

Go to: www.wisconsinume.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

***Ripon Immanuel** located at 401 W. Fond du Lac Street, will host its annual October bazaar and salad luncheon on **October 6th** starting at 10:30 AM. Contact Chris Worrall for more information.

***New London:** located at 709 W. Pine Street, will have a salad luncheon and bake sale of **October 11th** from 11 AM to 1 PM. ALSO on **December 9th** we will have our annual Christmas Cookie Walk from 9 – 11 AM.

* **Green Bay: St Paul's;** 341 Wilson Avenue on Saturday, **October 14th**, 1-3pm will host a discussion about Wisconsin racial disparity, peace, and call of the gospel. Refreshments provided.

* **Salem Red River UMW** will sponsor a Bazaar and Bake Sale on **November 4th**, from 9am until 2pm. Featured items: quilts hand-made by the women, homemade pies and filled cookies. Church members also donate many types of baked goods for the Bake Sale, handmade crafts, and items for a White Elephant sale. **Lunch:** chicken dumpling soup, chili, barbecues, and choice of 27 scrumptious pies, join us at W9204 Cty Tk A, Shawano.

***Sheboygan: St Luke UMW** will host Cookie Walk and Bazaar on **November 18th 8AM to 1:00PM**, shops include, Good as New Christmas Shop. American Girl Shop, Bake Sale and Crafts, Vender booths, Soup, Sandwich, and Dessert **Luncheon opens at 10 AM**. Visit us at: 623 Ontario Ave., Sheboygan, WI.

* **Green Bay: First** will host their Women's Advent Program and Tea on **December 5th, 6:30 – 8:30**, program theme "Colors of Christmas", a combination of scripture, personal stories, and music into a meaningful Advent celebration. A festive Christmas Tea and dessert will follow in fellowship hall. AND **Green Bay: First: Cookie Walk and Craft Fair: **December 10th, 7:30 to 10:45am**. All are welcome at 501 Howe St., Green Bay.

* **Fond du Lac Covenant UMW** and Sending Forth Committee will host their annual Sugarplum Cookie Walk on **December 17th** at 10 a.m. in fellowship hall. This fundraiser and proceeds are used for "Gifts for Families" at Christmas time. We purchase gifts for needy families in our congregation and local school, giving new items requested by the family to each adult and child. Food baskets are also prepared as well as gift cards for grocery purchases. We welcome all to Covenant Church address is 20 N. Marr St., Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

* **Sturgeon Bay UMW** will be having our annual **Christmas Tea in early December** but an exact date not yet. We will have refreshments and pack cookies for about 30 shut ins in our church. Our members will deliver the cookies, personally. It is one of two annual events which we have with all three circles meeting together., will be held at 836 Michigan Ave., Sturgeon Bay.



President's Message

Now that the annual celebration is over and we have attended our workshops it is time to start getting our end of year information sent in to district. Your list of new officers is the first that will be due. We also have to start planning 2018. Your program book should be helpful. We should start thinking about our special mission project. The program book from our celebration has a list of what other units are doing and could give you some ideas. Plan some fun things for your year, attend the retreat scheduled for April 20 - 21, 2018, at Camp Lucerne. The title is "What's your prayer type?" It is a good time to meet and great friends of like faith. Thank you to all of you that worked hard to complete your mission projects and support mission local and far away. I look forward to seeing you at the retreat and your calls for assistance in the coming year. Be sure to invite your sister from the district or any of us to attend one of your unit meetings. We enjoy talking with you on a one to one basis and helping any way we can.

Sandra Klein, President

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Treasurer's Message

What a great turnout we had for our 2017 Annual Celebration at Kaukauna UMC! Thank you Kaukauna UMW for hosting and providing a great luncheon.

I want to remind all local treasurer's that I need to have your final remittances received to me by **December 8, 2017**. This give me time to get my monies to Conference in time. If I receive it after December 8, 2017 it may not go into this year's accounting, but would be credited to 2018.

I know this is early, but the National Organization needs to close out their books timely as well, so it trickles down.

I have entered into a contract job for the rest of the year with very little time to make return calls during the weekdays. I would ask for patience please, continue to leave messages on my phone, and trust that I will call as soon as I am able.

God Bless all of you for your support of our UMW Mission Projects. I am really Blessed to be part of such a generous and caring organization.

Val Caldwell

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Secretary's & Editors notes:



This is my last note to our loyal units as your Secretary. First and foremost, I want to "Thank" every unit for all the cooperation, making my tasks much easier. It has been a pleasure serving as your North East District Executive Team Secretary for the past 3 years plus one year from the merged Nicolet District. I hope I have served your needs as best I could. My position as your Editor of the Shoar will be ongoing. I will be sending you reminders when articles are due for any upcoming issue. Should you have any questions feel free to contact me at: jan@northeastdistrictumw.org Jan Stanko, Editor (920-524-2067)

Program Resources



What a great time of the year. I love the fall weather and colors. I also love starting a new 2018 Reading Program. There are many great books available to read this year. It's true there has been bumps in the road, but we can access a list of the books. Remember books are available from Amazon as e-readers or in paper form. You can also try the public library for help accessing books. The Reading Program encourages us to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work. So keep reading. It empowers us to make a difference. Picture the mountains empowered passionate UMW women can move. Blessings,

BOOKS on PARADE: Ladine Housholder, finalist in Foreword's "Indiefab Book of the Year" awards for her book, "The Well Women," has done it again. Her sequel, "Bus to Corinth," has hit the road!

Five of the original "Well Women" journey through Greece to honor the memory of a friend and retrace the footsteps of Paul the Apostle during his ministry in Athens and Corinth. The idea was simple enough: see the sights, sample some great food, and kick back together.

Suddenly, the "Bus" takes unexpected turns and negotiates sharp curves. Why is travel professional Ruth so reluctant to lead the group? What still haunts Alicia? Nurse Beth's knees are healed but not her marriage. If modern Samaritan Najila manages her own business, why does she hesitate about a simple proposal. And how can Vicky, a church historian, create stellar guides to Paul's Corinthian letters but not finish her own novel?

As they study I and II Corinthians, the friends discover how the Apostle Paul loved and labored as God's change agent for quarrelsome Judeans in Corinth. They realize they, too, are changed. Like Paul's vision of Jesus, their experience explodes into their lives, empowering and transforming them forever. **2018 Reading Program, Spiritual Growth**

FYI-The Well Women is on the 2015 Reading Program List in the Spiritual Growth category.

Sherrie Bekyir

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Spiritual Growth

I retired in springtime of 2002 and became part of the district team in 2003. Some of my time was on nominations. I will miss meeting with groups of Christian women but...I also look forward to the future. I have met and talked with my replacement and feel she is prepared to continue the work of guiding you in your spiritual growth. Spiritual growth should continue throughout our lives.

I recently attended a worship service where the pastor talked of her teenage daughter's difficulty knowing how to pray. If you had been at my counterpart time on the 16th of September, I would have given you an article on **THE PERFECT PRAYER**.

The Perfect Prayer

The perfect prayer isn't the most poetic. Volume, eloquence, and proper grammar play no part in its power. It doesn't require any special words. The perfect prayer may not contain words at all. A sigh, a groan, a tear-they can all be prayers. Any praise or plea, directed at God from a sincere heart, is perfect in His eyes. What happens next is a mystery. God takes the deepest longings of our souls and acts on them. The answers we receive may look completely different from those we had in mind, but we can trust that God's answers, like our heartfelt prayers, are perfect.

Recommended actions for spiritual growth fall under these categories: Abide in Christ, Live in the Word, Pray in Faith, Fellowship with Believers, Witness to the World, and Minister to Others.

Since United Methodist Women are devoted to mission, I will give you suggestions on ministering to others. For example, volunteer for a ministry at your church where you can use your spiritual gifts, interests, and natural abilities. Send encouraging notes to your church staff. Visit one homebound person each week. Volunteer to baby sit for a single parent to give them a night out each month. Volunteer to serve meals at a local shelter. Volunteer to tutor students or help in a classroom.

May the Lord continue to guide you in your spiritual growth

Cecil Schneider, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

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NED- Wisconsin Conference Fall 2017 On Racism; a Summary

We have learned that racism is the poor treatment of or violence against people because of the color of their skin. It is also the belief that some races of people are better than others. We see this throughout our world. We see the “white privilege” that is present in the United States. We recognize that segregation, intolerance, narrow-mindedness, and bigotry have prejudice at their root. The prejudice may be individual or systemic. Biases exist in: job acquisition, salary, healthcare, education, and housing opportunities. Despite “helpful” programs, the problems exist. The GI Bill was instituted to assist servicemen returning to civilian life with monetary aid. It was designed for all who were in the armed forces. Why did people of color have such difficulty accessing and receiving it? Parents have undeniably tried to instill empathy vs. judgment as they raise their children. Sincere people have tried to overcome the issue through local, state, and national programs designed to reduce racial tensions only to find that the problem persists. Lack of education and understanding continue to thrive. It is difficult to place oneself in another’s shoes so to speak and actually cross the cultural gap. Often people choose to ignore the racial problems and biases because they are so difficult to sort out. Segregation and avoidance continue. Cross-racial relationships are essential to racial healing but we must be willing not to ‘fix’ issues or people or come from the standpoint of helping. This in itself sets one above the other. Can we learn to ‘listen’? Can we learn to tolerate a bit of discomfort as a way to grow? Can we be curious about other people’s perspectives? I studied to be a Speech/Language Therapist at the university. One *new* thought at the time (this dates me) was learning about “Black English”. The language/speech of the black culture was finally viewed as a distinct language with its own rules. It was recognized as different from American English and was not to be analyzed and changed to “make it better”. It was a complete language in itself.

People of color are the same. They have opinions, ways of thinking, acting, and speaking that are different from the ‘white’ person’s views. These differences need to be identified, explored, and learned about. Every culture has its strengths. Can we study another’s culture? Can we cross cultural bridges by being a friend for the right reasons? Can we respect another’s ideas/differences and work together to achieve a better relationship? Look at Jesus. He was for ALL people. He sat down with ANYBODY and talked. He loved them. Peter was shown that Jesus’s message of salvation was for ALL- even gentiles. Look at Paul. He was both Roman and Jewish by birth. Why was that important? He understood the cultures and could speak meaningfully to either group in a way they could understand.

Let’s try and learn. Let’s take the first step and sincerely reach out to a person of a different skin tone. Listen and learn and discuss. The process may be a bit bumpy, but if it is sincere progress will be made.

Ideas for a UMW Unit study on Racial Disparities

Use news clippings covering recent racial difficulties in the US.

Read articles from the past 2 years that are published in **Response**.

Read the books on race in the UMW reading program.

Read: **Waking up White** for an overall look at racism in the US.

Use the policy brief - Fall 2014 Children and Families: WisKids Count Policy Brief: "Race for Results".

Look on the UMW site- Racial Justice Charter News

Use UMW Racial Justice Charter and program for a church service.

Use the articles written for the Shofar in 2017 as church newsletter material

Use the movie: **Paperclips** (available from Sun Prairie) or other movies you find online.

Chris Worrall, Social Action Coordinator

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Membership, Nurture & Outreach

It may seem a bit early to be talking about membership reporting by our units, but this is the last newsletter of 2017!! Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day seem to come quicker every year. Perhaps I need to prepare sooner for these events. Perhaps thinking and planning for our membership report will help us be successful. Individual units will continue to report their membership on line to the national office. We have included in this edition a membership census form that you can print and use to help in your reporting.

Fill out the form before beginning your on-line process. Having this form completed and in front of you should make the process easier.

Please contact your District Team Sister (sister unit is listed at top of your Unit page) if you need any help or have questions. Together we can obtain our goal of 100% of the Northeast District units successfully reporting their membership!

God's Blessings,

Betsy Johnson,

[920-499-6425](tel:920-499-6425)

betsyjohnson58@gmail.com

United Methodist Women WORKSHEET for Census for 2017

File after January 1, 2018 at: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org click on “Census” and complete the online form with the information listed below. **If you have any problems, contact “Team Sister” listed on your Unit page in your 2017 yearbook.**

Name of Church_____

District: North East Conference: Wisconsin

Unit Name_____

Jurisdiction: North Central

Church Address_____

City_____State_____ZipCode_____

Check Unit type (any that apply): Local_____; Cluster_____; and or
Circles:(number)_____ Language_____

President_____

Phone _____ e-mail_____

Number of members as of Jan 1st 2017: _____;

New Members: _____; Lost Members:_____.

Name of person filling out form:_____

Position:_____

Phone:_____e-mail:_____

Social media used_____

Do you use social media for events?_____

Do you use a Hashtag#? _____

RETAIN COPY FOR UNIT FILE

Education & Interpretation



At the Day of Celebration, I mentioned that I have one of the best jobs at the District level. I receive the information about the multiple things that the United Methodist Women are doing in their local churches and doing for their communities as well as for needs around the world. Mission work is the heart of our organization and is often where we put our energy, time, and money.

Continue to help your local organization with the Mission Tasks for 2017. Your completion report of 2016-2017 is due in December. Please make efforts to give your unit credit for all their work completed and planned.. Individual work, fellowship group work, work by local units, district, state, national, and global work for God and God's people is what we are about. At our district annual meeting theme reminded us--- **WE ARE HIS SERVANTS.**

Ruth Wiersma Co-Coordinator E & I

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Nominations...



This is my last communication to you as an officer of the North East District United Methodist Women.

When Winnebago and Nicolet Districts were to be joined together in 2016, I wanted to be a part of that team to help make it a smooth transition and so became part of the Nominating Committee.

I have been either a district or conference officer every year since 2001. I have traveled to places I have never been and met so many people that I had never known before and broadened my horizons. And now my term on the nominating committee is over and I am ready for a more relaxing time.

Thank you to all who said "yes" when the Nominating Committee came calling. I encourage every one of you to spread your wings and take up the challenge of being a district officer.

Mary Trettin, Nominations Committee Chairperson

Mabel Heil Scholarship

The Mabel Heil Scholarships are a result of funds from the will of Sarah Mabel Heil, a woman from Cuba City, Wisconsin. The first scholarships were first granted in 1981. Since then more than 240 women have received help with their education.

Requirements and Instructions:

1. Be a female member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women.
2. Submit a written answer to the question; "In what way do I consider myself a worthy student!"
3. Send the completed application form to the contact person by May 1 for the Fall semester or October 1 for the Spring semester.
4. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by the president of the local UMW or the pastor of the church.
5. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by a church member who is not a member of your household and is not a relative.

Rules:

1. Any member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women working to improve her education may apply.
2. Have all letters written (preferably typed) on one side of an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of white paper using black ink.
3. All applications are photo copied for committee members.
4. Scholarships are awarded one semester at a time. To be considered again DURING a one-year period, you must send a letter asking to be considered. AFTER one year, you will need to fill out another form and secure new recommendations.
5. If in any given year there is an increase of applications, these priorities will be followed: Women responsible for others will be favored. Women preparing to return to the employment field will be favored.
6. The schedule is: First Semester: apply by May 1, notify by June 1, check given by August 15. Second Semester: apply by October 1, notify by November 1, check by December 1
7. Application and two letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later May 1 and October 1 to be considered.

Contact person: Helen Robinson

Mabel Heil Scholarship Application

Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women

Please Print: Name & Date _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____ Birth Date _____

1. Local Church:

a. Name & City _____

Pastor: _____ UMW President _____

(signatures) _____

Are you a member of United Methodist Women? _____

2. Activities:

b. In United Methodist Women

In your local church _____

In the community _____

3. Education: (Give year of graduation) High School _____ College _____ Other _____

School You will be attending _____

Have you been accepted as a student? yes no _____ Present (post high school) status:

Freshman __ Sophomore __ Junior __ Senior __ Graduate Other__

Course of Study _____

4. Family Status _____

5. Please answer the following using an additional sheet: **IN WHAT WAY DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A WORTHY STUDENT?**

Contact person: Helen Robinson
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