



# NORTH EAST DISTRICT

## *"The Shofar"*



Editor: Jan Stanko 920-524-2067 or 920-905-3199  
(E-Mail)

jan@northeastdistrictumw.org

visit our website at: [www.northeastdistrictumw.org](http://www.northeastdistrictumw.org)

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### “WHAT’S GOING ON ???”

**Sorry for the delay with the April Shofar. Your Editor was under the weather....but I’m back!!!**

### **Announcements & Deadlines**

UNIT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Pg. 2

2018 Unit Special Mission Project ... ..Pg. 10

**Mission U Registration forms** located at

Current issue of “Catch the Vision”

[www.wisconsinumw.org/communications.html](http://www.wisconsinumw.org/communications.html)

Registration for 4- Day deadline June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Registration for Overview Day deadline July 1<sup>st</sup>..

### “WHAT’S IN HERE ???”

District news and announcements..... Page1

Units news..... 2

President..... 3

Vice-President’s ..... 3

Treasurer, Secretary & Program Resource..... 5

Spiritual Growth..... 6

Social Action..... 7

Membership, N & O and Census form..... 8

Education & Interpret. & Special Mission Form ... 9

Nominations, Communications.....10

Information Conference Officers.....11

“Catch the Vision” newsletters at:

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

## *Unit News and Announcements:*



### Lakeshore United Methodist Women in

**Manitowoc** will be canning pickles and pickled beets again this summer. With the proceeds from this project we make our donations to missions. We can Sweet Celery Dill, Onion Garlic Dill, Regular Dill and Hot Pepper Dill. Our pickled beets are pickled with Cloves or Horseradish. In other years we have canned over 300 quarts of pickles and 100 pints of beets. If you are interested in learning how we do this or if you would like to order some contact:  
Sandra Klein at [dsklein6303@gmail.com](mailto:dsklein6303@gmail.com)

## “Sock it to me on undie Sunday”

at **St. Luke Church in Sheboygan** was a huge success thanks to the United Methodist Women and the congregation who collected 205 pairs of socks and 324 pairs of undies for female inmates at the Sheboygan County jail.



Thank you Chaplain Gayle Janzen for alerting us of this need



## Baby Hats And Booties



As a pre-Assembly 2018 activity St. Luke, Sheboygan United Methodist Women knitted baby hats and booties for hospitals, day care centers and churches in Columbus, Ohio. The children of St. Luke participated in the dedication service for these items on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13.



## *President's Message*

Spring is here! At least on the calendar it is. The changing seasons are beautiful, and we thank God for where we live and the renewing of life that has been dormant over this winter. In the same way we start a new and exciting year. I am looking forward to the many upcoming events for UMW. By the time you read this Mission Action Day April 7<sup>th</sup> will be soon and too late to register if you haven't, but a quick phone call might get you in. The North East District sponsored retreat is April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, registration was due by April 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have not registered yet there is a \$5.00 late fee but get your registration in soon so we can accommodate your request. No registrations will be accepted after April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Many of you have sent in your special mission projects for 2018. I am looking forward to seeing your reports on your mission project next September.

Mission U is July 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> and overview day is July 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Hotel Mead and Conference Center in Wisconsin Rapids. The topics are Seeking Health and Wholeness (part two of Covenantal Living), What About Our Money? A Faith Response, and Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church. The study books are available through the flier from program resources or on line at [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org).

Remember to make use of your district officers by having them come to one of your meetings or assist you in some way, also a member of your unit is welcome at our district meetings. The times and information are in your 2018 year book with the pink cover. Our next meeting is in Sheboygan at St Luke's UMC.

Yours in Christ

*Sandra Klein, President*

910-553-3460 dsklein6303@gmail.com

## *Vice-President's Message*

**2018 RETREAT APRIL 20 – 21:** We had about 40 sisters in attendance and wanted to share some of the highlights from our 2018 Retreat at Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center. We were blessed with a great weekend led by Rev. Sharon Cook from our Conference Staff working with UMC camps, safe sanctuary policies and other ministries with young peoples

“What’s Your Prayer Type” was her theme filled with great guidance. On Friday evening, after pot luck, she taught us how to make our own prayer beads and the meanings behind them through the years. Friday evening ended with a burning fireplace discussion about what we do and did, which was great learning more about our UMW sisters.

Saturday started with incoming sisters and sitting down for a great breakfast and more sister bonding. We moved to the lower lever for our time with Sharon and her program. At noon, lunch was another great meal, then our final session ending about 3:00.

We tabulated the surveys and reserved Lake Lucerne for May 3 & 4, 2019 for our Retreat. Our guest speaker for the weekend will be Rev. Tina Itson who currently serves as the Director of Development at United Methodist Children’s Services. As an ordained Deacon in the UMC, she has experience is a variety of ministry including local church & conference level youth ministry, non-profit management, event planning, and fundraising.

We hope you will mark your calendar for May 3 & 4<sup>th</sup> in 2019. The wonderful thing about the Retreat at Lake Lucerne we offer the over-night and one-day all at one place and on one weekend. Our speakers provide spiritual guidance and reflection for both sessions.

### **Pencil in these dates:**

**Mission u July 23-26 and Overview Day July 27** at the Hotel Mead and Conference Center in Wisconsin Rapids, WI (go to: [www.wisconsinumw.org/communications.html](http://www.wisconsinumw.org/communications.html))

**Annual Celebration and Workshops at Ripon UMC on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September.** It will be a wonderful day and celebrating all you have done for missions, and our Reading Program during the year. We have something special planned, DON’T MISS THE JULY “Shofar”.

**Annual Gathering, October 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** at Waukesha First UMC in Waukesha, WI. (see July Shofar)

*Jan Stanko, Vice-President*

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



*Treasurer:*

*Val Caldwell*, 920-539-4434 [Valorie.caldwell933@yahoo.com](mailto:Valorie.caldwell933@yahoo.com)



*Secretary:*

*Karen O'Leary*, 920-901-7220 [kjo926@att.net](mailto:kjo926@att.net)

Karen is improving and is in rehab for the next several weeks. Send cards to:  
Karen O'Leary c/o: Rehab at Shady Lane, 1235 E. 24<sup>th</sup> St., Manitowoc, WI  
54220



*Program Resources*

*Sherrie Beyer* [sbekyir@yahoo.com](mailto:sbekyir@yahoo.com) 920-562-9438



## *Spiritual Growth*

The season of spring has come, and we wonder at the regrowth of existing plants, observe, or participate in the planting of new bulbs, seeds, seedlings. This season brings to us the lengthening of the sunshine hours which while warming the earth also warms both our bodies and our hearts.

New birth and rebirth from the warming earth has begun and we marvel at this growing time. Let each of us take time to not only view this springtime feast for the eyes, but also to give praise to Our Lord for the wonders produced by the earth and our own wonderings at the bountiful promise spring brings to the earth. The hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" repeats in its refrain "Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise."

Easter is being celebrated worldwide. The Lord is risen! As we enter the Eastertide season of the church may we continue our missions in our units, our communities, our district and beyond with the promise of the resurrection be expressed in all our actions, prayers, and service.

Blessings through missions for both the receivers and ourselves are multiplied in the joy of giving! Units that mission grow; churches with active units missioning at home and beyond grow.

In the Beatitudes these three verses remind us of work carried out by UMW missions – Blessed are the merciful... Blessed are the pure in heart... Blessed are the peacemakers... Matthew 5: 7-9. Continuing with verses 14 and 16: You are the light of the world. ... let your light so shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Missions throughout the UMW from the local church to the world bring that light through those deeds in mission work.

*Charlotte – Freda Mattmiller, Spiritual Growth Coordinator*

[Cfmm\\_49@yahoo.com](mailto:Cfmm_49@yahoo.com) 920-385-0427



***Social Action:*** This position is open. If you have a calling to fill this, contact Gwen Gibson or a member from the Nomination Committee.



Received this info from Conference:

Dear Friends,

Please join United Methodist Women's climate justice work and sign the letter to tell Chevron's new CEO to reduce methane emissions that harm God's earth and people and waste God's resources. Go to [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/chevron](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/chevron) today!

**Methane is the second leading driver of global warming, yet companies like Chevron are doing little to reduce emissions.**

Join with United Methodist Women by [signing this letter today urging](#) Chevron's new CEO Michael Wirth to #Cut Methane <https://bit.ly/2IxNgim>.

We'll deliver your letters to Chevron headquarters May 29, so we want to have as many letters possible signed before then.

### **Why should you sign?**

Natural gas has been marketed as the clean energy alternative, but it leaks methane and toxic pollutants throughout the supply chain. Methane emissions harm God's creation and our earth hurt the health of people and communities, and waste God's resources.

### **Methane and its Toxic Pollutants:**

- **Sicken God's Earth:** Methane, the primary component of natural gas, is 87 times more potent than carbon dioxide in trapping heat over a 20-year period.
- **Sicken God's People:** Toxins, which leak alongside methane, jeopardize more than 15 million people living near these emissions leaked by oil and gas companies. The toxins—including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), particulate matter and radon—can cause respiratory diseases, asthma attacks, adverse birth outcomes, heart attacks, increased hospitalizations, reproductive problems, blood disorders, neurological problems, cancer, and contribute to climate change, which further impacts health.

# Membership, Nurture & Outreach

REMEMBER YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS ARE NEEDED. If you are wondering WHY National needs our Membership numbers, it is because they send that information to our Conference M, N & O. Conference needs to know how your UMW and all UMW'S are doing in our state. North East District is at 68% of units reporting their numbers for last years, 2017. Maybe next year we can reach 100%. The form below will be included in your President's Packs at our Annual Celebration on September 22, 2018.

God's Blessings,

*Betsy Johnson,*

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

## United Methodist Women WORKSHEET for Census for 2018

File after January 1, 2019 PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO: North East District M, N & O, Betsy Johnson

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

District: North East Conference: Wisconsin

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

Authority: 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_;

New Members: \_\_\_\_\_ Lost Members: \_\_\_\_\_.

Name of person filling out form: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETAIN COPY FOR UNIT FILE**



## Education & Interpretation

Mission work and support has since its beginning been the major work of United Methodist Women. We want to continue sharing mission work information at the annual meeting and printing in the annual district booklet the mission projects that our individual units are involved with at their local sites. Sharing helps others think of and be aware of projects that local units might do/use in future planning. Your unit can promote different mission project by submitting the form below.

District officers will be contacting their sister units to talk about on-going unit mission projects. Thank you in advance for your information that will be shared this fall with district members and units.

Ruth Wiersma [jwiersma@new.rr.com](mailto:jwiersma@new.rr.com) 920-468-5562

### **NORTH EAST DISTRICT SPECIAL LOCAL MISSION PROJECT FOR 2018**

Project runs from March 1<sup>st</sup> thru August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Awards will be presented to participating Units at our 2018 Annual Celebration on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at RIPON UMC.

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

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

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

**Name and description of your local mission project:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Describe activities your unit will be doing to support this project:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Estimate number of members and hours that will be devoted to this project:** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit to: Ruth Wiersma, E & I Co-Coordinator  
2515 Hillside Lane, Green Bay, WI 54302

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



## *Nominations...*

Open position: Social Action and a replacement for position of Treasurer (sorry Valorie Caldwell has requested to resign.)

My job, and our job is to encourage our UMW sisters to be leaders and respond to the call of missions through leadership. Sometimes this can be a daunting task, but we are women of courage and conviction. I am excited to be the Nominations Chair of the committee and look forward to our work together.

*Gwen Gibson*, Chairperson, [gwengbsn@yahoo.com](mailto:gwengbsn@yahoo.com) 920-221-5314



## *Communications: Editor*

UNITS and INDIVIDUALS: if you want a paper copy let me know.

Send your: mailing address, your check to: North East District UMW for \$ 8.00 (4 issues) to: Jan Stanko, 620 Madison St., APT 3, Brillion, WI 54110.

WHAT CAN YOUR DISTRICT DO???? ARE YOU PROVIDING YOUR MEMBERS WITH THE "SHOFAR"??? WE hope all units will forward every newsletter to all those in your unit that has e-mail addresses and provide a paper copy to those that do not. We need to increase communications within the North East District. I'm sure we can count on your assistance.

**NEXT: "SHOFAR" will be JULY, deadline for information will be June 15<sup>th</sup>.**

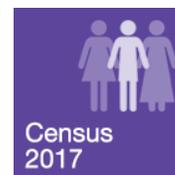
**Last issue for 2018 will be OCTOBER, deadline for information – September 15<sup>th</sup>. (this will be a great time to publish your fall and holiday events.)**

**A QUICK REMINDER:** We enjoy publicizing your events and mission endeavors. The deadline for all the Shofars are on the inside cover of the yearbook. Send your information to me. Thank you.

*Jan Stanko, Editor* 920-524-2067 [jan@northeastdistrictumw.org](mailto:jan@northeastdistrictumw.org)

## GO ONLINE AND BE COUNTED-- IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Has your unit President entered your 2017 unit membership online? Our deadline is fast approaching to complete the 2017 Census. It is **MARCH 30, 2018**. Have your membership numbers been submitted? If your President has this important task yet to do, please direct them to our National UMW website <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>, click on the purple Census 2017 icon and follow the instructions in the helpful video there that explains the process.



At the same website address you can also enter your own membership information. Click on the light blue icon with the text "myUMW: Add your info, & get your membership card." By entering your information online you will be able to print your membership card. You will only need to enter your information one time. Your card will be valid for as long as you are a member of United Methodist Women!

myUMW:  
Add your info,  
& get your  
membership  
card

If your unit does not have access to a computer and you can't find someone to help you, please contact your District President or your District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator to help you. If their contact information isn't readily accessible or they are not available, contact me,

Sue Plasterer, your Conference Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator. My email address is [seplasterer@charter.net](mailto:seplasterer@charter.net) and my phone number is 1-608-274-0275

I look forward to hearing from you. God be with you as we continue putting Faith, Hope and Love into Action for women, children and youth here and around the world.

**CONVERSATIONS ON A WAY FORWARD** - What do you know about the Special General Conference called by our United Methodist Bishops for February, 2019? Did you know that our national United Methodist Women (UMW) leaders want you to have your voices heard by our Conference Delegates to this Special General Conference? Do you know who our General Conference Delegates are? You can find their pictures and names on the Wisconsin Conference UM website at this URL:

<https://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/general-ncj-conferences/wisconsin-conference-delegates>

In November 2017 Mary Lainberger and I attended UMW training on facilitating unit conversations about A Way Forward provided by UMW National staff from New York. It was part of our Leadership Development Day training for new Conference Officers. These conversations are an effort to expand knowledge about A Way Forward and to enable United Methodist Women to have their voices heard by our General Conference Delegates. Our delegates will be acting on the report from The Commission on A Way Forward and the Council of Bishops' recommendations at the Special General Conference in February, 2019. The delegates will be voting on our worldwide church's future at General Conference in 2020. To learn more about and follow the work of the Commission on a Way Forward go to the United Methodist Church website at

<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-on-a-way-forward>

From the website: "The Commission is to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and explore options that help to maintain and strengthen the unity of the church."

Our plan is to engage as many of our General Conference Delegates as possible in our conversations. The goal set by our national leaders of having conversations with women from 50% of our Wisconsin units is ambitious but very important for the future of our church. If you are interested in facilitating unit conversations, training is available so contact us. If your unit would be interested in hosting a conversation, we'd like to hear from you about that too. At this time we have planned conversations with our Conference leadership team, several local units, during Mission u and as part of our Conference Annual Gathering. All conversations to be held before February, 2019! We look forward to conversing with you!

Mary Lainberger, National UMW Program Advisory Group,  
608-212-0506; or email [mlainberger@charter.net](mailto:mlainberger@charter.net)

Sue Plasterer, Conference UMW Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator,  
608-274-0274; or email [seplasterer@charter.net](mailto:seplasterer@charter.net)

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Jan Stanko, Editor

620 Madison St., APT 3, Brillion, WI 54110