

THE “ _____ ” ?”

SOUTH WEST NEWSLETTER

South West District United Methodist Women Newsletter

March 2016



South West District President

WE'RE BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN

When I was a little girl I listened to the Gene Audrey Show on the radio, and I remember that his theme song was “I’m Back in the Saddle Again.” It seems that’s the way it is with most UMW units after the holidays. We are back in the saddle planning for the coming year. But, while we’re back in the saddle meeting with friends in general meetings and in circles, let’s consider all of the opportunities that we have through UMW to grow in faith and in our relationships with one another.

Our Southwest Team met together at Platteville United Methodist Church on January 29, 2016. We came together with expectations of what we can do as a Team and what we can do for our UMW members in our District. I think the bonding began immediately as we shared ideas and listened to each other. I am humbled and privileged to facilitate

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What is the name of our newsletter?

Did you notice that our South West newsletter lacks a name? Your new district team needs your help to come up with a fabulous name for our new newsletter. You know how much information is packed into this wonderful document and your team has been hard at work writing articles and gathering information to share with you, but they have had no time to think of a name for our newsletter. So, since we

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**SOUTH WEST DISTRICT
SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT**

DATE: Saturday, April 16, 2016

PLACE: Midland

**United Methodist Church
10235 County Highway KP
Mazomanie, Wisconsin 53560**

**Registration begins at 8:30 and the
program begins at 9:00 am.**

Cost: \$10.00 Lunch will be served.



GUEST SPEAKER: FLORENCE CHENOWETH

Florence Chenoweth is a United Methodist Woman who has witnessed civil war and the beginning of a new government in Liberia, West Africa. She recently was the Secretary of Agriculture in Liberia. She has many stories to share about her Christian experiences. We are honored to have her join us!

Directions: Take Highway 14. At the Wisconsin Heights School, turn onto County Road KP. Follow the road until you reach Midland United Methodist Church.

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Registration Form

Send form and ten dollars (make checks out to South West District UMW) to:

**Sandy Brewer
4410 Vale Circle
Madison, Wi 53711 Phone: 467-2665**

Deadline: April 11, 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Church/UMW Unit _____

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tate the plans, hopes and dreams of these amazing, thoughtful, energetic and enthusiastic women and to guide the events and activities of South West District UMW.

The diversity of the units in our District is obvious and brings distinct views and rich heritages. These differences are a mark of strength as we challenge each other to consider “new vistas in doing UMW.” Yes, there will be changes ahead for all of us. Share with us the hopes and dreams that you have for South West District UMW.

Each year, I’ve enjoyed the special celebrations and times to be together with other units for fun and relaxation. To name a few, Joy’s Monfort UMW has a wonderful salad luncheon, Cuba City has a pasty dinner, and Livingston and Dodgeville have evenings of music and entertainment. Continue those special events and continue to invite us to them. Also, remember that anytime you want us to join you for a meeting, we will come if we can. I enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation anytime. My car goes up and down the hills and hidden valleys, and in and out of cities. Let’s get to know each other.

Peace and Blessings,

Carol

Carol M. Lange, ED.D.

President of South West District



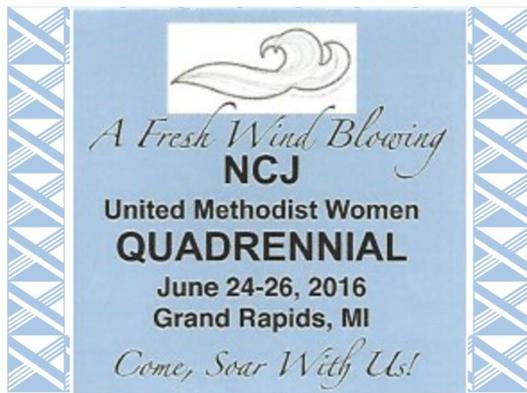
Social Action Update

Hello, I am Charlene Mingst, your new District Social Action Coordinator. I belong to the Dodgeville UMC and am an active member of the church and currently serving as president of our local UMW unit. Being on the District Team is a new experience for me; I am both excited and a bit apprehensive, hoping that I can be of useful service to United Methodist Women.

The first item that I want to share with you is information regarding the conference event that is coming up early this spring. The annual Mission Action Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2016 at the Columbus United Methodist Church, 222 S. Dickason Blvd. Columbus, WI. You will find the registration form on another page of this newsletter. The focus of this event is the topic of Homelessness which will be examined in a number of ways by the presenters. Speakers include: Martha Cranley, United Way Dane County; Judy Wilcox, former Dane County Supervisor; and Wendy Schneider, Columbia County Renewal Unlimited. Jerome Dillard, a former incarcerated citizen will speak about racial justice issues related to homelessness including the criminal justice system. The deadline for registration is Friday, March 11, 2016. We have a “hands-on” social action opportunity for this day also as donations for Northcott Neighborhood House will be collected. Items needed are: basketballs, footballs, copy paper, pens, staplers and staples, and cleaning supplies such as Mr. Clean, toilet bowl cleaner, gloves, etc. Please make plans to attend this important event!!

If you are looking for any information regarding Social Action Issues you can find a wealth of material by going to the internet, and merely typing in “United Methodist Women”. Did you know that beginning in 2016, the work of United Methodist Women will focus on the following four priority areas: Climate Justice, Maternal and Child Health, Racial and Gender Justice, and Economic Inequality? Let us all strive to do all we can to live out our Vision Statement: “United Methodist Women is turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world”.

Submitted by Charlene Mingst, 622 W. Merrimac St.
Dodgeville, WI 53533—email _jcmingst@mhtc.net



Plan to Come!

Friday, June 24, 2016 (5:00 pm dinner) –
11:30 am Sunday June 26, 2016

For those arriving early: *A bus tour leaves hotel at 8 am, Friday, returns to hotel at noon (See Mission Tours). Registration begins 12:30 pm Friday.*

Registration is closed June 4. Costs may be paid on-line at registration time or later by check. Checks must be received before June 4 or your registration will be cancelled.

Workshops: Choose three *at on-line registration time.* You will be assigned to two of those you select.

Mission Tours: For those who arrive early we have a tour of the United Methodist Community House and the Van Andel Museum on Friday, June 24, (*tour bus leaves hotel at 8:00 am and returns 12:00 pm*). The \$30 fee covers transportation costs, museum entrance fee and a box lunch that will be waiting for you back at the hotel when you return. *Sign up at on-line registration time.*

Young Women: Mark your registration form that you are a young woman interested in gathering with other young women during off hours at the event and you will be contacted with information.

Child Care: With 8 spots available for 1-7 year olds inclusively, childcare is offered at a cost of \$75 per child. Snacks not provided. Parents are responsible for seeing children receive meals. *Sign up at on-line registration time*

Offerings: There will be an offering for Mission Giving taken at the event on Friday evening; but if you prefer, you can make that offering when you register.

Scholarships: One scholarship per conference will be offered for \$450 per recipient. Your conference president will have the information and will submit the names to the Jurisdiction President, Ruth Whaley.

What to bring: (1) Water Bottle (water available in hall outside meeting room) (2) Tote Bag (bring your favorite to use!)

Double Tree Hilton Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI (4747 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512): Reservations are made directly with hotel. ((616) 957-0100) Mention "United Methodist Women" for the special price of \$92/night plus taxes in a double-queen room. The block of rooms will be released May 22 after which the special rate will no longer apply. (Rate guaranteed 3 days before and after meeting.)

Note: The event is all on one floor and is handicap accessible.

To Register: After Nov. 1 go to: <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/about> follow the registration link for the North Central Jurisdiction or contact the registrar (see info on registrar below).

Register early for a fee of \$150 until May 13 when the fee will be \$195. Fee covers costs including program Friday to Sunday, all meals for the 3 days including gratuities, and packet.

Air/Train Travelers: Look for UMW members carrying flags to answer your questions. Note: It is helpful to us if you enter your flight/train information at on-line registration time.

Parking Facilities/Availability: There is plenty of parking at the hotel, even for buses.

Cancellation Policy:

- Refund: If received by June 17 via email, refunds minus a \$75 cancellation fee will be made.
- Transfer: May be transferred, without penalty, to another attendee not already registered, provided an email or a hand-carried letter request for transfer is received by the registrar prior to event.
- Donation: If you find you have no one to whom you can transfer your registration, you may email to request your seat be transferred in total to a local woman with our thanks.

For Questions (or cancellations) Contact registrar at dawnfriends@yahoo.com .



MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

Happy New Year to all my South West District United Methodist Women (UMW) sisters! Transition time is with us as we all begin to feel our way into our new District and this New Year of 2016. What an exciting time! On a cold, blustery Saturday morning your new District Mission Team convened for its first meeting on January 30 at the Platteville United Methodist Church. For several of us it was our first visit to the church and for others it was a celebration of deep roots in the area put down by our grandmothers. Our new President Carol Lange led our meeting steering us gently but firmly and with humor in the direction we needed to go. As the Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator it was important to me and to others to get to know one another and learn what brought us to this point in time and place in our journey as United Methodist Women. I've been active in UMW since the mid 1970's having joined as a young mom. However, this is the first time I have been a district officer during a transition to a new district. Fortunately others present have been through it before--some multiple times!

The former Capital District was accustomed to my reporting membership data. So here is the information I want to report to you now. Last year at the Capital District Annual Gathering I received a list of 58 active units coming together to form our new South West District. These units had a reported membership of 1622. That's a tremendous and exciting increase of units and members available to do the mission work of UMW and the church!

By the time you receive this newsletter our first ever online unit census reporting to National will be finished. Our deadline for submittal was February 28, 2016. My hope is that you were able to submit your information successfully. I also hope you submitted your 2015 information for the district that you were in last year. Becoming South West District did not officially begin for United Methodist Women of the Wisconsin Conference until January 1, 2016.

I hope and pray you will work with me to nurture each other, to reach out to our new sisters and help each other to open wide the circle of United Methodist Women who come together to breathe life into the Great South West District! Are you ready?

Sue Plasterer, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

6813 Winstone Drive, Madison, 53711 (608)-274-0275

Wellspring UMC-Madison, Unit Co-President

South West District Team United Methodist Women 2016

President	Vice President	Secretary
Carol Lange	Sandy Brewer	Stephanie Weber
625 N. 4th St, Platteville, WI 53818	4410 Vale Cr., Madison, WI 53711	E 3937 Lake Rd, Hillpoint, WI 53937
608-348-4588	608-320-3111	608-415-8835
langec@uwplatt.edu	sowens7978@yahoo.com	everglowingembers@gmail.com

Treasurer	Communications Coordinator TBD	Social Action
Linda K. Whitelock		Charlene Mingst
6137 Dell Dr, Madison, WI 53718		622 W Merrimac Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-223-9161		608-935-5758
whitelocklinda@att.net		jcmingst@mhtc.net

Membership Nurture & Outreach	Education & Intpretation	Spiritual Growth
Sue Plasterer	TBD	Michele Hopp
6813 Winstone Drive, Madison, WI 53711		641 Lake Wisconsin Dr. Merrimac, WI 53561
608-274-0275		608-493-2189
seplasterer@charter.net		hopp@merr.com

Program Resources	Chair, Nominations	Young Women's Coordinator
Cindy Morse	Mary Lainberger	TBD
W770 Hwy K, Arlington, WI 53911	304 Mohawk Trail, DeForest, WI 53532	
608-635-2916	608-846-4378	
ccynmorse@aol.com	mlainberger@charter.net	

Nominations	Nominations	Nominations
Judy Loveless	Jane Prouty	Kay Putman
815 Maple Rd, Verona, WI 53593	P.O. Box 45, Lime Ridge, WI 53942	215 Water Street, Apt. 205, Lodi, WI 53555-1266
608-848-8243	608-986-2721	608-592-2294
icenmp@rit.edu	No Email	No Email

Nominations	Nominations	Nominations
TBD	TBD	TBD

Northcott Representative	Historian	Conference President Laura Pfeffer (2017) W10132 Koltes Rd. Lodi, WI 53555 608-592-5228 pfeffer.umw@gmail.com
TBD	Marjorie Lyford	
	@mhtc.net	
	608-233-5930 mclyford@att.net	

Conference Hispanic Language Coordinator Martha Boyer (2016) 4639 Cty Hwy Z, Dodgeville, WI 53533 608-935-5790 marta@mhtc.net	Conference Young Women's Coordinator Gloria Carter (2017) 7224 Springfield Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597 608-849-7589 carter53597@tds.net	Conference Mission U Assistant Dean Karen Mayeshiba (2017) 1702 Lyndale Road, Madison, WI 53711 608-277-1883 kamayeshiba@yahoo.com
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Conference Nominations Chair Julie Mieke (2017) 155 Shato Lane, Monona, WI 53716 608-221-3061 julie.mieke9@gmail.com	District Superintendent Rev. Scott Carlson	District Office Manager Sherry Malone
	750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590	750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
	608-837-0056	608-837-0056 X2252
	scottCarlson@WisconsinUMC.org	smalone@wisconsinumc.org



NOMINATIONS

Greeting;

I am Mary Lainberger, Chair of the great Nominations Committee! I bring you greeting from entire Nominations Team!

Earlier today I was feeling the winter blahs, then I began reading and working on UMW, and my heart started warming up, and by mid date was on fire with excitement as I read about what the new South West District Team has planned for our district this year. It is going to be a great year!

I read an awesome devotion this week entitled “Unexpected Places”. The devotion was about Joesph, Mary and Jesus and their escape to Egypt because of Herod, and then God's call them back into the world. God calls us to unexpected places, just like Joseph, Mary and Jesus! Are we ready for the new journey, the unexpected call of God? Let's make the journey together, where we will be surprised and challenged, but always surrounded by God's love.

We are looking for some awesome women, **age** is no barrier. If you, or someone you know is interested in any of the following positions, please let me or anyone on the Nominations Committee know. We will be happy to explain the position!

***Education & Intrepretation *** Communications Coordinator *** Youth Representative, ***Nominations-3, and ***Northcott Representative.

Talk to you soon and see you all at the Spring Retreat! Blessings until we meet.

Mary Lainberger, mlainberger@charter.net, 608-846-4348 or 608-212-0506.



Mission Action Day

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Columbus United Methodist Church
222 S. Dickason Blvd.
Columbus, WI 53925

Homelessness

- Affordable Housing Panel- Martha Cranley, United Way Dane County; Judy Wilcox, former Dane County Supervisor; Wendy Schneider, Columbia County Renewal Unlimited
- Jerome Dillard, formerly incarcerated citizen- racial justice issues related to homelessness including the criminal justice system

Donations for Northcott Neighborhood House will be collected. Items needed are: Basketballs, footballs, copy paper, pens, staplers and staples, cleaning supplies such as Mr. Clean, toilet bowl cleaner, gloves

Registration: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

• Sending forth: 2:30 p.m.

Registration is transferrable, not refundable.

2016 MISSION ACTION DAY REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline for Registration: Friday, March 11, 2016- \$12 registration fee

Late registration-\$15- March 12-18, after March 18- fee remains \$15 lunch on your own

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/ZIP Code _____

District _____ Church _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Child Care needed for _____ child(ren), Age(s) _____ (I also understand that I am responsible for providing a sack lunch for each child or paying the registration fee of \$12.00 for each child in order to cover their lunch.)

Dietary or other considerations _____

Send form and **registration fee** to:

Shirley Carpenter, 2711 North Biron Drive, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-8804

Make checks payable to: **Wisconsin Conference UMW**

Driving Directions to Columbus UMC, Columbus

For Mission Action Day, Saturday, April 2, 2016

- FROM STEVENS POINT/WAUSAU AREA (NORTHWEST): Take 39/51 south to Hwy 16 east to Columbus. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM MADISON AREA (SOUTHWEST): Take 151 north to Hwy 16 east. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM MILWAUKEE AREA (SOUTH): Take Hwy 41 north to Hwy. 60 west Hwy 60 to Columbus. Hwy. 60/16 is James St. Turn left on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM GREEN BAY AREA (NORTH): Take Hwy 41 south to Hwy 151. Hwy 151 to Columbus. Take Hwy 16 east. Hwy 16/60 is James St. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.
- FROM LA CROSSE AREA (WEST): Take 90 east to Hwy 60 east. Hwy 60 to Columbus. Hwy 60/16 becomes James St. in Columbus. Turn right on Dickason Blvd. Columbus UMC is on the corner of Harrison and Dickason Blvd.

Hwy 16/60 connects to Dickason Blvd. at corner where Library /City Hall & F & M Bank is located

For precise directions and map, go to <https://maps.google.com> and type in 222 S. Dickason Blvd., Columbus, WI or

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/United+Methodist+Church/@43.3383654,-89.0176549,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0000000000000000:0xcbd73a5faa8d36a0>

visit <http://www.cbusumc.com>

If there is not a funeral, individuals may park in the funeral home parking lot across the street from Columbus UMC.

Giving Makes Mission Possible

"...their joy was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving..."

2 Corinthians 8:2

I am your new district treasurer. Please send your pledges, remittances, Special Mission Recognition pin requests to me at the address below. I look forward to working with the units in this new role.

The South West District pledge to mission for 2014 is \$60,000. I know this seems like a lot, but with all of you I believe we can reach this goal. Remember to use all five channels of giving: Pledge to Mission, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, Special Mission Recognition and World Thank Offering.

Linda Whitelock

South West Treasurer
6137 Dell Drive
Madison, WI 53718
(608) 223-9161
Whitelocklinda@att.net



Let's Include Everyone

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:40

Our church bell rang one warm and humid summer afternoon. It was time for the children attending Vacation Bible School to move to their next class. The sound of laughter and excitement filled the church as the kids rushed to their next fun activity.

Our church is an older, two story building, without an elevator, and VBS classes are held on both levels. This arrangement works well for most of the kids who can go up and down stairs. However, the one boy who uses a wheelchair for mobility had to go outside and use the sidewalk that connected the first floor of the church to the basement.

On this particular warm summer day, it started to storm. The boy needed to go outside in a downpour in order to get to his next class. His grandmother covered him up with a jacket, plastic sheets and an umbrella the best that she could, but he still got soaking wet.

I remember looking at this drenched boy and his drenched grandmother, and thinking that we had failed them both. As a church, we hadn't take care of the "least of these" when planning our VBS activities.

This was such a good reminder that we need to include everyone in our church activities, including those people with disabilities. That way, everyone has the opportunity to know God's love.

Dear God, please help us to find ways to include all people in our church activities.

Remind us to take care of "the least of these brothers and sisters." Amen.

Michele Hopp

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth, Wisconsin Conference

(Continued from page 1)

know that our district is full of creative, passionate and thoughtful women, we are turning to you. What do you think our newsletter should be called? We take all suggestions (no idea is too crazy for us – really), so send us all you have. The team will take a look at your ideas and vote on which one we feel best expresses our new district identity. The person (or persons) who submit the winning title will receive a free subscription to **response** magazine for herself or to give as a gift to someone else.

Send all suggestions (and your contact information in case you win!) to our district president Carol Lange (625 N. 4th St, Platteville, WI 53818 lange@uwplatte.edu) by April 16th. Who knows, perhaps the next newsletter will start with the name you were inspired to suggest. We are a creative, supportive fellowship – go for it!

Contact Temporary Newsletter Editor: Have a question, concern or need a copy of this newsletter? Laura Pfeffer, our Conference President, is our temporary newsletter editor. She can be reached at 608-592-5228 or

pfeffer.umw@gmail.com



South West District 2016 Calendar

January	February	March
9 - Conference Phone Meeting	Jan 30 - District Team Meeting 9am – 3pm (Platteville UMC)	5 - Conference Phone Meeting ~~~~~ 12 - District Team Meeting 9am – 3pm (Midland UMC)
30 - Membership Census Form for 2015 Due	9 - Newsletter Articles Due	
April	May	June
2 – Conference Mission Action Day (Columbus UMC) 22 – 23 Conference Team Meeting ~~~~~ 16 - District Spiritual Growth Retreat 9 am - 3 pm (Midland UMC)		18 - District Team Meeting 9am – 3pm ~~~~~ 24-26 North Central Jurisdiction Event Grand Rapids, MI
30 th – Newsletter Articles Due		
July	August	September
25-28 Mission u Four Day 29 Mission u Overview Day (Hotel Mead and Convention Center Wisconsin Rapids)	26-27 Conference Team Meeting 20 District Planning Meeting 9am – 3 pm Baraboo UMC	24 – District Celebration/ Annual Gathering 9 am – 3 pm (Baraboo UMC)
23 - Newsletter Articles Due		1 - Reading List - Due
October	November	December
21-22 Conference Annual Gathering (Eau Claire Lake St. UMC)	4-5 Conference Team Meeting ~~~~~ 12 - District - Day of Enrichment (Waunakee UMC)	11 District Team Christmas Party 1-3pm
1 st - Officer List Form Due		1 –Mission Tasks Reports Due 10 th - Pledge Money for 2016 Due



**2016 WORLD FEDERATION WORLD ASSEMBLY
AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2016, HOUSTON, TEXAS - HILTON AMERICAS**

The World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women will gather in Houston, Texas, August 29 - September 3, 2016.

Women from over 70 countries, representing about 3 million members, will come together for Bible study, cultural outings, worship, workshops, etc. The Federation is a fellowship of Methodist, United and Uniting Church women, whose goal is:

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known."

The gathering will convene concurrently with The World Methodist Council, an association of Methodist and Churches Uniting in the Wesleyan tradition to promote and encourage unity in mission and witness, while fostering inter-religious and ecumenical activities. It is worldwide, representing about 80.5 million people.

The theme for The World Federation Assembly is
"Chosen People: Called to Proclaim" *1 Peter 2: 9,10*

As members of UMW you are members of the World Federation. To learn more and to register, visit www.wfmucw.org



South West District United Methodist Women

W10132 Koltes Rd, Lodi WI 53555



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION