

# SOUTH EAST SPECIAL EDITION

Spring 2021

Greetings UMW Sisters,

As we proceed into 2021 and figure out how to deal with our collective “pandemic fatigue,” I’m excited to share some of the good things that are happening at our UMW National Missional Institution, Northcott Neighborhood House.

Northcott continues its three-pronged success of training community members for living wage jobs, improving the community, and raising unrestricted funds through its Milwaukee Builds, YouthBuild, Habitat for Humanity, Transitional Jobs, Arborist, and demolition programs.

With one of its primary missions being youth services, Northcott is striving to find innovative programming for the community's young people that can be conducted safely. During 2021, Northcott will be starting a new and exciting program for youth in Aquaponics. They currently have two donors to help offer the program to Northcott’s youth participants and ultimately the community. You may view the technology at <https://forkfarms.com/> to learn more.

Northcott is continuing to meet the needs of community members, many more of whom are struggling due to the ongoing pandemic. Northcott provided dinners for 1,000 families of four on Thanksgiving day, and as a result of the success of that program, was asked to provide meals on Christmas day. Northcott fed 700 families and provided 2,400 toys and gifts for children and youths age 0-18 on Christmas morning. Donations were provided for the event by a number of foundations and private donors. I had the pleasure of wrapping about 120 of those gifts! Safely-distanced wrapping stations were set up in the gymnasium, and the energy and joy were palpable as many hands made light work.

The food pantry is operating in full swing, including the delivery of 3,000 stock boxes to seniors, which will continue until the pandemic is under control or funding for the stock box service runs out. In addition, partnership with medical clinics has provided space for free COVID-19 testing and chronic disease care for the elderly.

Besides Northcott's community activities, the Board of Directors has been at work (via Zoom) updating the Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation, which hadn't been updated since Northcott was formed in the 1960s. Those changes impact both who are the members of the corporation and who are voting members of the board of directors, which in turn will require some changes to the wording of our South East District UMW standing rules. We'll vote on the applicable changes to the standing rules at our fall gathering/annual meeting. The details will be communicated closer to the meeting date, but I wanted to give you a “heads-up,” and let you know the reason for the necessary changes.

All the joy I feel when I think of the good things Northcott is achieving despite the current challenges helps dispel my own “pandemic fatigue.” I pray that it can do the same for you!

Blessings, Gail Nelson, SE District UMW President

  
Women with a heart for service

“In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity.”  
— **Albert Einstein**

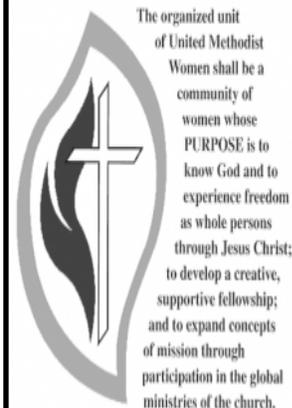
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Save paper, receive  
your newsletter by  
email. Send a request to  
the above email  
address.



## A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Dear UMW sisters,

It is with great disappointment that I report the cancellation of our May 1 Spring Enrichment Event. With the less than speedy roll-out of vaccinations, it does not seem that a gathering at that time would be safe. We do expect to hold an in-person Annual Gathering in Milton on Oct. 2. Surely, we will be in a better situation by then. A revised calendar is included in this newsletter. You will note that conference events are also affected by the virus. Mission u will be on ZOOM, and the dates have not been set yet, but each of the three classes will have separate dates. Look for the specific "Mission u" box in this letter.

Usually the spring event includes Communion, and the fall event does not. Since the Spring Enrichment Event was cancelled, we plan to include Communion at the Annual Gathering. This may mean shortening some of our traditional ceremonies. We have upcoming district team meetings to plan that event, but as of now, we plan to use the same theme and keynote speaker planned for 2020. That was Pastor Rob Odum with the following theme: "Let Your Light Shine: Ignited for Justice". I am so looking forward to that live event. Our ZOOM meetings have spared us a lot of travel time, but it will be great to see real people again.

I miss you all and wish for you good health and many blessings, despite these difficult times.

**Marie Garnhart, South East District Vice President,**  
[smgarnhart@gmail.com](mailto:smgarnhart@gmail.com)

## A CALL TO ACTION

Blessings to all in this new year. I know we all continue to adjust to pandemic life, but I also know that the need for us to act in faith to be the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus have never been more urgent. I encourage all of you to do as Wesley exhorted us to: "all you can ... as long as ever you can." Please keep informed about pending legislation, both at the state and federal level, and please advocate for programs and funding that will help "the least of these" and move toward eradicating systemic racism and climate injustice. Call, organize letter campaigns, e-mail: whatever manner works for you.

The UMW Mission Priorities for 2021-2024 have just been announced, and for this quadrennium, there will be only two: climate justice and criminalization of communities of color and mass incarceration. Please join in these national campaigns in the ways available to you. We will all have the opportunity to learn and get involved **on April 10, at the Conference Mission Action Day**. The theme aligns with the national campaign, as it is "**Racial Inequality and the School-to-Prison Pipeline**." (An earlier announced date was incorrect; April 10 is official.) If we are able to meet in person, the event will be at St Paul's UMC in Green Bay. Right now, we are being advised to keep checking the conference website, <http://www.wisconsinumw.org/> for up-dates as to how the event will proceed and for registration information. I also hope that by the time you are reading this, you've had the chance to be vaccinated – or will have it soon!

**Suzy Clarkson Holstein, Social Action Coordinator,** [clarkson@wi.rr.com](mailto:clarkson@wi.rr.com)

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS** "This year we will be changing the name of the census and testing the name "Unit Survey". Go online, as over the past 5 years, the form has taken shape to be more than a number reporting tool and more of a questionnaire regarding the health and vitality of the unit. The past (3) years we have asked questions about what does it mean to be a thriving unit and what attributes do you relate to thriving. This year, we are asking the unit presidents to self-select in what area(s) their members/units are thriving. This will help influence what it means to "thrive" at the district and unit level as well as inform the national office and conference leadership on strengths and areas for improvement." To complete the survey, go online to [unitedmethodistwomen.org/2020](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/2020)

**BE A LEADER** The nominations committee is looking for you!! There will be many positions vacant coming us next year. Please consider joining the team and sharing your talents on the South East District UMW Team. Contact Nominations: \*Muriel Smith-Gross, 414-871-7699 , [imgrossey@gmail.com](mailto:imgrossey@gmail.com), \*Mary Garvens 414-327-5305 , \*Cassi Carey 414-581-0018, [madresan@aol.com](mailto:madresan@aol.com), \*Diane Woodbury 608-289-9008 [dwoodbury61@gmail.com](mailto:dwoodbury61@gmail.com), or \*Peggy Korth, 920-6488090, [Korthfarms@yahoo.com](mailto:Korthfarms@yahoo.com)

# WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW MISSION TODAY LOCAL UNIT REPORT FORM

Presidents (or designee) of all local units, please complete form even though you may not qualify as a Mission Today unit. Send report by August 15, 2021 to Education for Mission Coordinator Barb Taylor, N7832 Jackson Road, Whitewater, WI 53190, 262-495-8625

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

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Completed (Circle the numbers Completed)

FAITH 1 2 3 4

HOPE 1 2 3 4

LOVE 1 2 3 4

ACTION 1 2 3 4

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God..... to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Please report on any new criteria tried this year:

Comments:

FAITH 1. Plan programs that encourage spiritual growth. (Program book, response magazine, etc.)  
2. Create prayer partners with other church groups.  
3. Pray using the Prayer Calendar at meetings  
4. Organize the spiritual growth study from Mission u, possibly several evenings/weeks

HOPE 1. Take advantage of opportunities thru UMW such as Mission u, Spiritual Growth Retreats, Annual Gatherings and Mission day Action.  
2. Set aside a time to go over the year's plans using Mission Today Mission Tasks.  
3. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice program.  
4. Present a mission study from Mission u, inviting church members

FAITH 1. Honor the organization's leaders and member's contributions with Special Mission Recognition pins. Don't forget community leaders  
2. Encourage everyone to visit or invite visitors to/from other local UMW organizations.  
3. Publicize your events using newsletters, bulletin boards, Sunday bulletins, social media, phone calls, etc.  
4. Plan a year end program to give thanks and celebrate your accomplishments

LOVE 1. Encourage all members to participate in the Pledge for Mission; give. Reports on where the money goes.  
2. Involve all members in fundraising (think creatively).  
3. Contribute to scholarships (UMW related) and Mission u.(\$25 or more).  
4. Partner with a mission institution such as Northcott or Wisconsin Conference supported Imagine No Malaria, Harbor House, United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin Etc.

## 2021 REVISED CALENDAR / SOUTH EAST DISTRICT UMW

- Jan. 16:** South East District team meeting - Zoom
- Jan. 25:** Articles due for "S E Special Edition" spring issue  
Late Feb., early March Spring issue of "South East Special Edition" should arrive.
- March 20** South East District Team Meeting 8:45-noon on Zoom
- April 4: **EASTER**
- April 10: Conf. Mission Action Day (possibly at St. Paul's UMC, Green Bay -online (Racial Inequality and School to Prison Pipeline)
- April 12: **Articles due for "S E Special Edition", summer issue**
- April 23-24: Conference Executive Team meeting at Pine Lake  
**(May 1: CANCELLED SPRING ENRICHMENT EVENT)**
- Mid May Summer issue of "S E Special Edition" should arrive.
- May 15:** S East District Team Meeting 8:45-noon at West Allis Blessed Hope UMC
- Summer: ?? Mission u: 3 different classes on Zoom. dates, TBD
- Aug. 1:** **Articles due for "South East Special Edition", fall issue**  
Aug. 27-29 Pine Lake Conf Executive Team Meeting (dist. pres.)
- Sept. 11:** S East District Team Meeting 8:45-noon at Milton UMC
- Oct. 2:** S East Dist Annual Gathering at Milton UMC 8:30-2:30
- Oct. 15-16: Conf Annual Gathering: 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Baraboo
- Nov. 5-6: Conference Team Meeting
- Nov. 13: S E Dist. Team Meeting 8:45-noon at Milw Central UMC

## MISSION U-

### COMING TO YOU!

Mission u will be available this year on zoom. Explore your inner self and the wide world by participating in this year's Mission u. The classes scheduled for this year are: Finding Peace in an Anxious World, Pushout and Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship. Look for more information coming soon on [http://www.wisconsinumw.org/uploads/5/8/9/0/5890559/nov\\_2020\\_ctv.pdf](http://www.wisconsinumw.org/uploads/5/8/9/0/5890559/nov_2020_ctv.pdf)



### 2020 Treasurer's Report

Thank you for your hard work during trying times. I miss in-person get togethers and all the work we can do together.

Pledges	\$61,263.20	Our 2020 budget commitment was \$65,000 and our units gave \$67,638.24 in our five categories of giving.
Special Mission Recognition	\$740.00	
Gift to Mission	\$305.00	Our 2021 local unit pledge amount is \$29,650.00. Of course, 2021 pledges are lower due to uncertainty of when we can get together at local events to raise money.
Gift in Memory	\$1,245.00	
World Thank Offering	\$2,409.11	
Call to Prayer	\$1,900.93	
Total Received against pledge	\$67,863.24	If you would like a report for your local unit showing 2020

funds sent to the District and then forwarded to the Wisconsin Conference, please let me know by email



MABEL HEIL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION  
WISCONSIN CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Local Church:** Name & City \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of United Methodist Women? \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Activities:** In United Methodist Women \_\_\_\_\_

In your local church \_\_\_\_\_

In the community \_\_\_\_\_

3. Education: (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 question using an additional sheet:

IN WHAT WAY DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A WORTHY STUDENT?

Mail to: Helen Robinson  
Phone: 715-258-0973  
N2101 Cleghorn Road  
Waupaca, WI 54981

Email: pottshe@yahoo.com

## READING PROGRAM

The Reading Program is a cherished United Methodist Women tradition that brings together members in mission as they explore, share and discuss the books.

To participate, select one of our four plans and start reading! From captivating novels and heartfelt biographies to urgent messages about issues such as climate change and mass incarceration, there's something for everyone.



Reading Program books are divided into five categories and are available for people of all ages and reading levels. As you read, track your progress using the [Reporting Form](#). When you submit the Report of Completion Requirements, you will be recognized with a [Certificate of Recognition](#).

Earning your Certificate of Recognition is just one way to show what you've gained from the Reading Program. The Reading Program is not meant to be completed alone or in a vacuum. As you read, consider taking one or more of the following actions:

### TRACK YOUR PROGRESS

- **Share the program** with United Methodist Women members and members of the community.
- **Help people attain books.** Distribute this guide.
- **Connect with local and district groups.** Start a book club, download books onto an e-reader to pass around and share, present book reviews at group meetings.
- **Display a progress chart in your church** for all who wish to participate, and post displays to encourage book sales.
- **Pray.** Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings.
- **Advocate for tangible change.** Many Reading Program books address issues such as climate change, mass incarceration, immigration and racism. Organize a task force to address these issues in your community.

God bless you as you pray, study, act and organize in Christ's name.

### Children and Youth Books

As in the past, this year's Reading Program includes books for readers of all ages. Books that would formerly have been listed under "Children" and "Youth" are now distributed among the remaining categories. Look for the line "Suitable for children" or "Suitable for youth" when selecting books to read.

### Bonus Books

As always, Bonus Books count as two books. This year, Bonus Books are also the current mission studies, providing even more of an incentive to select these books as part of your Reading Program plan. To purchase United Methodist Women mission studies, go to: [umwmissionresources.org](http://umwmissionresources.org)

### WHERE TO FIND BOOKS

This year United Methodist Women members will again, be able to obtain Reading Program books exclusively through third parties—libraries, local bookstores and online. Think of this resource not as a catalog, as in past years, but as a guide.

Although Amazon is always a convenient option, please consider obtaining Reading Program books through:

- School and public libraries
  - Local independent bookstores
  - Franchises of larger bookstore chains
- As always, most Reading Program books can also be found for reading electronically on your Kindle, tablet or other devices. For ebooks free of charge, check your local library, Google eBookstore, Project Gutenberg or Open Library.

If you do order books through Amazon, please remember to visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Amazon's charitable giving page, and select "United Methodist Women" as your charitable organization. For all eligible purchases made on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will donate 0.5% to United Methodist Women.

## REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Send completed form to your secretary of program resources or equivalent according to your conference's schedules.)

I have completed the required reading for PLAN \_\_\_\_\_. The books I have read are listed on the reverse

LOCAL UNIT	PRINT NAME
DISTRICT	ADDRESS
CONFERENCE	CITY, STATE, ZIP

CURRENT YEAR	PLAN CHOSEN:	I	II	III	IV
NAME:					
	EDUCATION FOR MISSION				
	SPIRITUAL GROWTH				
	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT				
	NUTURING FOR COMMUNITY				
	SOCIAL ACTION				
	RESPONSE				

# REPORTING FORM

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## How to Join a Zoom Meeting

- Join using a meeting link—If you were sent an email that has a meeting link included, just click on the link or copy the link and paste into your browser. Or
- Go to the Zoom website: Go to [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join), and enter the 9-digit meeting ID from your invitation email. If the meeting requires a password, that will be in your email, too

The screenshot shows the Zoom 'Join Meeting' interface. It features a text input field for 'Meeting ID or Personal Link Name', a name input field containing 'Stan Rastogi', and two checkboxes: 'Don't connect to audio' and 'Turn off my video'. At the bottom are 'Cancel' and 'Join' buttons. Three arrows point to these elements with the following text: 'Enter meeting ID that should have been sent to you in meeting invitation.' (pointing to the ID field), 'Type in your name' (pointing to the name field), and 'Click Join' (pointing to the Join button).

When you are on the Zoom website, if you are asked if you want to open Zoom, click **“Open zoom.us.”** Zoom opens, showing you a preview of your camera image. Then click either **“Join with Video.”** or **“Join without Video.”** If you use video, other people in the meeting will see you. If not, they will just see your name. Next, Zoom asks about audio. Click **“Join with Computer Audio”** so you can hear and be heard in the meeting. Dial into the meeting on a phone: If you don't have access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, you can use a phone to dial into the meeting. The phone number to use will be in your invitation email. Once you've joined the meeting, you can see and hear other participants. Each participant is represented by a square that displays their face or just their name.

### Once you join the meeting, make sure your microphone is muted



The mute button, which looks like a microphone, is in the bottom left corner of the Zoom screen. If the microphone has a red line through it, you're muted, and no one in the meeting can hear you. If the microphone has a red line through it, you are muted.

Your computer microphone is pretty sensitive, and if you're unmuted, it can pick up a lot of background noise. Click the button again to unmute yourself if you want to talk in the meeting. If the microphone has no red line through it, you can be heard in the meeting. Only one person in the meeting can talk at a time. Zoom indicates who is speaking by highlighting their image with a yellow square.



**LEAVE A ZOOM MEETING** Click **“Leave Meeting”** on the bottom right corner to leave the meeting.