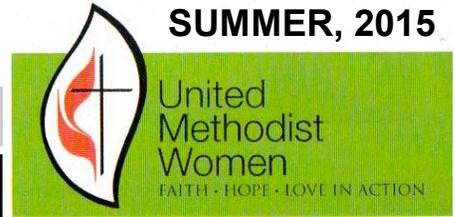


Capital Comments

SUMMER, 2015



Keeping Capital District United Methodist Women Informed

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, friends in Capital District United Methodist Women,

I hope those of you that have attended our May Spiritual Growth Retreat, "How Is It With Your Soul?", led by Michele Hopp, have found it to be a faith-filled growing experience.

Our next event coming up to help us along our faith journeys is Mission u. Mission u is an opportunity to study issues impacting society, based on recent United Methodist Women mission study topics which offer classes on spiritual growth, a geographic study and an issue study. Our studies for 2015 are Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God; Latin America: People and Faith; and The Church and People With Disabilities (second year). Mission u is open to all those who would like to attend (men included).

I encourage you all to make plans to attend either the four-day school, Monday, July 20th – Thursday, July 23rd or Overview Day, Friday, July 24th. Those of you that have attended before probably do not need much encouraging. Since you know what a great experience Mission u is, be sure to encourage others to get in on it.

I also hope your units are offering scholarships. Mission u scholarships are also available through the Conference. You will find the full 2015 Mission u flyer with registration forms, etc. in this issue of Capital Comments on pages 7-10.

As many of you know, the Wisconsin Conference UMC and UMW are going through redistricting. Capital District will basically be divided between the new South East District and the new South West District. Our district officers have been meeting with current district officers of the districts we will be joining, taking on the task of preparing by-laws, budgets, calendars of events, new slates of officers, new newsletter titles, etc. for the new districts. You all will have an opportunity to hear these proposals and vote at our Annual Gathering on September 26th at Madison Bethany United Methodist Church.

Continued on page 2



4-day Mission u
Monday—Thursday
July 20-July 23, 2015
Overview Day, Friday, July 24
(See flyer pages 7-10)
In Wausau, Wisconsin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued*

I hope you will plan to attend, as this is the last Annual Gathering for us as **Capital District UMW**, and you can vote on the plans for 2016. Look for more details in our next Capital Comments.

See you at Mission u! God bless you all as you put "Faith • Hope • Love In Action" through mission.

Dayle McGarvie, President
Capital District United Methodist Women
608-752-1173 or dmc10s@charter.net

New Districts with an Old PURPOSE: 2016 and beyond...

A message from our Wisconsin Conference President

In the interest of better serving the Wisconsin Conference, the church will be changing from eight to five districts, each with its own district superintendent, on July 1 of 2015.

Because United Methodist Women follows a calendar-year cycle, we will also change to these same 5 districts, but not until January 1 of 2016.

The new district lines will require some changes, with Capital District seeming to have the largest change. There is probably no possible way to divide a state the size of Wisconsin fairly. In addition, many different groups within the church, not just United Methodist Women, are organized at the district level which meant that there were many competing needs to be considered in deciding how those lines were to be drawn. So, with many compromises, Capital District will be divided mainly between the new South East and South West districts in 2016.

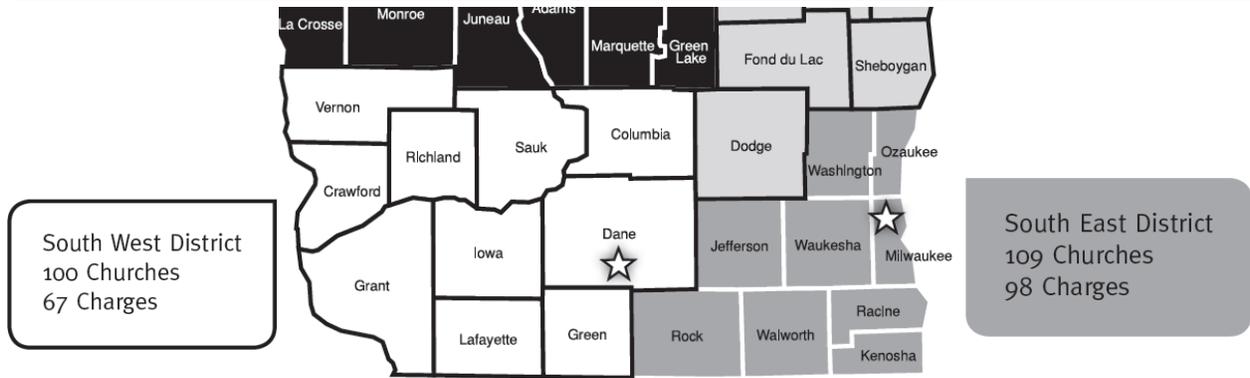
Moving to new districts will mean changes for us all, but change is both pain and opportunity. These new districts will also be a chance to better know our sisters at the corners of our state. This can be a time of reimagining our regional and local mission opportunities. It can also be an opportunity to reintroduce our organization to struggling or inactive units or churches without units.

I hope you will take the time in 2016 to attend a district event, make new friends, gather new ideas and generally live out the supportive fellowship we know and love so well. We may have new titles on our webpage, newsletters and nametags, but our PURPOSE remains the same. The role and meaning of United Methodist Women will not change because we will always be women committed to the teachings of Jesus and new concepts of mission.

New lines on a map do not define us, but they may create new places to go, new people to see and new vision for who we can become. I invite you to take a new look at your new neighbors and see where the Holy Spirit will lead you.

Laura Pfeffer
Wisconsin Conference
UMW President

MAP OF NEW SOUTH EAST AND SOUTH WEST DISTRICTS



LOOK FOR YOUR UNIT, AND FIND YOUR NEW DISTRICT			
New District Assignmts— SE = South East, SW = South West			
Local Unit	Dist.	Local Unit	Dist.
Arlington	SW	Madison: First	SW
Beloit: River of Life	SE	Madison: Sherman Ave.	SW
Briggsville - North Central		Madison: Wellspring	SW
Brodhead	SW	Milton	SE
Cambridge Regional	SE	Monona	SW
Darien	SE	North Windsor	SW
Delavan	SE	Orfordville: New Horizon	SE
Edgerton	SE	Pardeeville	SW
Janesville: Cargill	SE	Portage	SW
Janesville: Mt. Zion	SE	Sharon	SE
Lodi	SW	Stoughton	SW
Madison: Asbury	SW	Waunakee Crossroads	SW
Madison: Bashford	SW	Whitewater/LaGrange	SE
Madison: Bethany	SW		

The first South East District event will be a Spring Enrichment Retreat on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at East Troy UMC. This should be very accessible, since it is right off of Interstate 43.

We hope that this will help people from the former Capital District units feel better about the new district, since they can attend without coming to the Milwaukee area.

Please come, and meet old friends and make new ones. I hope to see you there!

Marie Garnhart
Metro South president and transition coordinator

Attention: Units of the New South East District ! Welcome to the soon to be South East District Save the Date—April 30, 2016

The first event of 2016 will be a Spring Enrichment Retreat on Saturday, April 30, 2016, to be held at East Troy UMC. There will be Worship, Singing, a morning Presenter and an afternoon Presenter, each using a topic from the 2015 summer Mission u. Lunch will be provided. This should be an easy access location, right off of Interstate 43, so we hope for a great turn-out.

SOCIAL ACTION—LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD

For my last summer SA article, I am revisiting 6 excerpts from the most noteworthy issues that have been addressed from 2012-2014. Please refer to the complete issues of the Capital District Newsletter for all Social Action articles in full print.

2015 - Spring

Arguments for the DREAM Act - Supporters of DREAM Act legislation that would give legal status to thousands of children of illegal immigrants make their case on social, moral and economic grounds. Versions of the DREAM Act have been debated in Washington and state capitals for much of the last decade. All of them have at their core a belief that the country can't continue to ignore some 1.7 million young immigrants who came here as children and have no legal national identity.

2014 - Spring

Immigration - The problems in our immigration system must be solved through a step-by-step, common-sense approach that starts with securing our country's borders, enforcing our laws, and implementing robust enforcement measures.

President Obama noted that under his own plan, those in the country illegally would still have to go through "a very long process of earning citizenship" by learning English, paying back taxes and going "to the back of the line."

2014 - Fall

Domestic Abuse Awareness Ministries - United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men have endorsed the message of the National Declaration by Religious and Spiritual Leaders to Address Violence Against Women. The Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church signed this in 2006. Domestic violence is not just a women's issue. It is an issue of faith. UMW and UMM have partnered to launch a domestic violence initiative to raise awareness and provide training in United Methodist congregations.

2013 - Spring

Should Gun Control Proposals be Enacted? - President Obama unveiled the proposals to address gun violence in the United States. The initiatives - which include things that require both executive and congressional action - were hashed out by a special task force led by Vice President Joe Biden.

President Obama encouraged Congress to pass legislation which, among other things, would increase background check protocols; ban assault weapons, high-capacity ammunition, and armor-piercing bullets; and provide more funding for additional police officers on the street, first responder training, mental health programs, and school emergency plans.

2012 - Summer

Hope for the World of Addiction - We are challenged as the United Methodist Church, as a people of hope, to place ourselves in situations where there is hopelessness and fill these spaces with the hope we know that is in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior. For if our church is to stay alive and vital, it must become a "Saving Station." Only the church has the ability to appropriate the grace of God that can change the human condition.

When the people of the world look at us, do they see hope? Do they see through our actions the love of Christ? Do they see a way out of their brokenness to a place of hope, forgiveness, and reconciliation? Let us be a movement, not a structure. Let us be people of hope.

The United Methodist Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence (SPSARV) coordinates the denomination's global response to alcohol, chemical abuse and dependency and related violence.

Continued on page 5

SOCIAL ACTION—continued

2013 - Fall

Mental Health Under Sequester - When Congress passed the Budget Control Act (BCA) in 2012, it imposed immediate spending cuts to discretionary programs by more than \$1 trillion dollars. In essence, sequestration forces automatic, across-the-board cuts to nearly all federal defense and non-defense discretionary programs. These cuts will be disastrous to communities and individuals living with mental health and substance use conditions.

Cuts enacted by sequestration are estimated to reduce non-defense funding anywhere from 7.5-12 percent across-the-board. Given that one in every four Americans lives with a mental health or substance use condition and do not receive treatment, maintaining federal funding is pivotal.

Elaine Frietsch
Social Action

To see old issues of Capital Comments: Go to the Wisconsin UMW website: wisconsinumw.org. Select Communications. Scroll down and select District Newsletters. Select Capital Comments, and click on the issue you wish to see.

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION—KNOWING GOD BETTER

A childhood friend and I communicate on a regular basis. Our close friendship has now spanned 65 years. Even though we live in different states, our lives seem to flow in very much the same pattern. Right now we are both experiencing major changes in our lives.

The difference, as my friend reminds me, is that she really looks forward to and thrives on change; and me, not so much.

Which personality are you? Whether we relish change and look forward to new challenges or see coming change with more than a little apprehension, change comes just the same.

As our Wisconsin United Methodist district boundaries change, our UMW leadership will be shifting. We won't see some of our old friends quite so much, but we will be meeting new ones. We will all experience new challenges in the coming months as we adjust to new realities. Of course, we are already working on a new set of Mission Today tasks for 2015. I hope that your unit is reviewing them regularly.

One thing that doesn't change is God. He still walks beside us leading us on the new paths just as he did on the familiar old ones. Theologian Rueben P. Job put it this way:

"To walk with God...means that we will be given strength to meet the demands of our daily lives. It means we will be given wisdom to judge wisely and well in the directions we must take. It means we will know the joy and tranquility of living in the presence of God in every circumstance of life."

In God's presence as we come to know God better, we will be fulfilling the first part of our UMW pledge—"a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God." Section one of our new Mission Today tasks for 2015 outlines four FAITH goals that can also help us "know God better."

Blessings on you as you find new paths of service as United Methodist Women with God's reassuring presence beside you.

Marilyn Eyster
Capital District Mission Coordinator
for Education & Interpretation
122 East Cox Road, Edgerton, WI
608-868-3585

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: A SERVANT'S HEART

But be very careful to obey all the commands and the law that Moses gave to you. Love the Lord your God, walk in all His ways, obey His commands, be faithful to Him, and serve Him with all your heart and all your soul. Joshua 22:5

I've been thinking more about serving the church. I've been very busy preparing myself to do more. At the same time, I'm trying to be more like the Apostle Paul who said he was content in all circumstances.

Do you ever worry about having enough time to do everything? I do. I even have to fight guilt at not being more available for my grandson's sport's games. To whom do I say "no"? When do I say "no"?

Jesus puts a very high value on serving because it's "other" centered instead of self-centered. Isn't that the essence of effective Christian living? Serving is therefore the opposite of selfishness.



So, even though I want to go to lacrosse, football, and volleyball, I find myself trying, instead, to keep my promise and follow the Lord. If anyone out there has found how to keep a balance between church and family, I am open to listen.

Have a blessed Spring, and I hope I see you at Mission u in July.

Linda J. Whitelock
Capital District Spiritual
Growth Coordinator

FROM YOUR TREASURER—GIVING MAKES MISSION POSSIBLE

"...their joy was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving..."
2 Corinthians 8:2

Do you know anyone who is graduating? Is someone you know celebrating a special occasion?

Gift to mission cards are a good way to honor a special person or let someone know you are thinking of them. These cards are sold for \$5.00 each, and the proceeds go to support United Methodist Women mission projects. When you purchase these cards, your unit receives credit toward the five-star award given at the end of the year. You can purchase cards at any district event. You can also send your order to me, and I will send the cards to you.

I also have gift in memory cards that I can send to units upon request. There is no charge for those cards.

Linda K Whitelock
Capital District Treasurer
6137 Dell Drive
Madison, WI 53718
(608) 223-9161
whitelocklinda@att.net



The available cards are:
 Congratulations
 Thank You
 Baby
 Peace
 Special Day
 Thinking of You
 Happy Birthday
 Merry Christmas
 In The Service of
 Christ

2015 Wisconsin Mission u



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION



It's almost time for you to plan this year's vacation getaway at Mission u. If you've always wondered what goes on at school, maybe this year is the time for you to try it. We discuss fascinating, up-to-date subjects; worship and sing - a lot; take time to get together for fellowship; support a mission project; and eat good food that we haven't had to cook. If you're looking for training so that you might bring these topics back to your church, this is your chance to learn and participate. Then share all you've learned with your friends in church or with your wider community.

Four-Days:

Monday-Thursday,
July 20th - 23rd

Overview Day:

Friday, July 24th

Our New Mission studies this year (you may choose two):

Spiritual Growth –

Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God

Geographic study –

Latin America: People and Faith

Issue study –

The Church and People with Disabilities

**While you're at Mission u,
send the kids to camp**

Treat your children to a marshmallow roasting, game playing good time at camp while you attend Mission u. YO-MI-CA runs from Sunday, July 19th to Friday, July 24th at Pine Lake Camp in Westfield. The children will live in cabins and learn about different missions while having fun and making lifelong friends. YO-MI-CA stands for Youth Missions Camp and, as you may note, it cleverly coincides with the UMW Mission u. It begins at 3:30 p.m. Sunday and ends Friday at 2:30 p.m. It might be a good idea to get reservations in early. For fee and more info contact: www.wiumcamps.org/

Children's Services chosen to be Mission u's 2015 Mission Project

Located in the Washington Park area of Milwaukee, the United Methodist Children's Services (UMCS) serves women, children and families with affordable housing, childcare, food, household items, and neighborhood organizing.

The affordable housing (both apartments and duplex units), on-site social services, and childcare are facets of a comprehensive program designed to enable low-income, single parent families to become economically self-sufficient.

The Growing Tree Children's Center continues to increase in enrollment, and the emergency food pantry is the largest in Milwaukee County.

Suggested donations (other than cash): \$10 Gift Cards from Walgreens, Target or Pick'n Save; laundry baskets, high efficiency (HE) laundry detergent for front loading washers (for example: HE Tide), kitchen size garbage bags, dishwashing detergent, toilet paper, painting supplies (such as cut-in brushes, roller covers, painting tape).

Four-Day Mission u

Wisconsin Mission u is for almost everyone: women, men, youth, young adults, laity, clergy — YOU!

Mon., July 20th — Thurs., July 23rd

Registration: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday
Opening Plenary: 10:30 a.m. Monday
Sending Forth: 12:30 p.m. Thursday
Meals: Four-Day student meals begin with lunch Monday and end with breakfast (at the hotel) Thursday

Cost: Four-Day student registration
Includes meals, hotel room and materials
\$330.00 Double room \$445.00 Single room

Commuter registration: \$195.00 includes meals
Registration is **required by June 29th** — it is **transferrable, not refundable. No registrations will be accepted after this date.**

CHILD/ADULT CARE: Please contact the Registrar for this information.

Use the Four-Day registration form (page 3) to register for Four-Day Mission u.
Don't forget to order your study books when registering.
Pay when you pick them up at Mission u!

Mission u offers you all this

Come together with people of all ages to develop a greater understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context.

- Worship and singing
- Special interest groups
- Audiovisual presentations
- Fellowship events
- A great vacation bargain

Wisconsin Mission u takes place at the Westwood Conference Center, 1800 Westwood Center Boulevard, Wausau, WI 54401. (Exit 1-39/29/51 at Exit 193 Bridge Street). See the map on page 6. Lodging arrangements for Mission u are at the Fairfield Inn and Suites, just a 10 minute drive from the Westwood Conference Center. Transportation to and from the hotel and conference center is included in your Four-Day registration. Four-Day Mission u runs from Monday through Thursday, July 20th—23rd.



Plenary meeting at 2014 Mission u in Westwood.
-Photo by Velma Hockenberry

Dean Dee Klawitter, left, and Assistant Dean Gail Burgess.
-Photo by Stacy Ganzer



Overview Day

Friday, July 24th

Registration: 8:15 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.
Opening Plenary: 9:00 a.m.

- Overview of all three mission studies
- Study books and reading materials available for purchase
- Mission Giving offering taken

Sending Forth: 3:30 p.m.
Cost: Overview Day student \$46.00

Registration is required by **June 29th**. It is transferrable but not refundable.

Use the Overview Day registration form (page 4). Each person must use a separate form — you may photocopy as needed. Invite a friend!

Mission u Scholarships may be available

- First time attendees
- Teen women
- Clergy - who are newly ordained pastors
- Continuing Education Credits for pastors
- Layspeaking/Layservant credit available for laity

For more information, contact Registrar Arlene Trull, aetrull@gmail.com.

2015 Four-Day Mission u Registration Form

(Use one form per person; duplicate as needed. Please print and fill out entire form.)

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

District _____ Local Church _____ Roommate _____

Registration type (check only one):

Adult (18-over) Teen Woman (13-17) Young Adult (18-25)

Adults may choose one or two studies.

If you're over age 18 and wish to take classes with Teen Women, please check here

- Latin America
- Created for Happiness
- The Church and People With Disabilities
- Young Women

Send payment & registration by June 29th to:

Arlene Trull

305 Becker Street, Rothschild, WI 54474

715-359-7756 aetrull@gmail.com

Make checks payable to **Mission u**

- I am requesting a scholarship Age _____
- I am attending Mission u for the very first time
- I am clergy requesting Continuing Education Credits (CEU)
- I am requesting handicap accessibility I am laity requesting Layspeaking/Layservant credit
- I am a newly ordained pastor requesting a scholarship and have already talked to the Registrar
- I am a commuter (paying the commuter fee noted on page 2 of brochure)
- I have special dietary and/or other needs (please specify) _____

Room Options — Choose only one and be aware that the first three double room options are first come, first serve:

- King Bed (with walk-in shower) King Suite (with pull-out couch and walk-in shower)
- 2 Queen Beds (with tub/shower) Single Room (paying the single room rate per page 2)

Additional Lodging Requests — please contact the Registrar

- I am requesting additional lodging — mark appropriately with an X:
 - Sunday night Thursday night

Each additional night's stay is at the double room rate of **\$94.00** which can be split with a roommate — discuss with Registrar

TOTAL PAYMENT: See Cost under Four-Day Mission u on page 2: \$ _____

PLEASE NOTE — DUE JUNE 29TH

Please order my study books. Indicate number of each book requested

Pay for your books at Mission u

- Latin America
- Created for Happiness
- The Church and People With Disabilities
- Young Women

No refunds given, but substitutions are acceptable. A confirmation of your registration will be mailed or emailed to you.

Send full payment and registration by June 29th to:

Arlene Trull
305 Becker Street, Rothschild, WI 54474
715-359-7756 aetrull@gmail.com
Make checks payable to **Mission u**

2015 Overview Day Registration Form

Friday, July 24th

(Use one form per person; duplicate as needed. **Please print** and fill out entire form.)

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

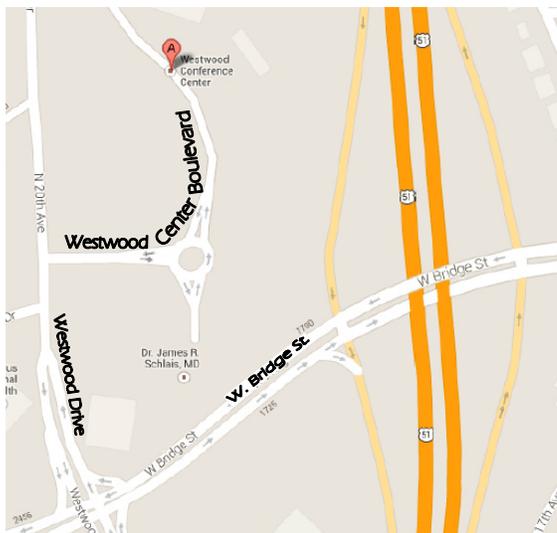
City/State _____ Zip Code _____

District _____ Local Church _____

Overview Day includes worship, an overview of all three mission studies, an offering taken for Mission Giving, lunch and closing Communion. Lunch is provided in the dining room, conveniently located at the Westwood Conference Center. Displays and Program Resources will be available in the morning only.

Special dietary and/or other needs (please specify): _____

Payment (see Cost on page 2 of brochure):\$ _____ **Payment and registration due by June 29th**



Conference Center Driving Directions

Coming on US 51/I-39: Take Exit 193 (Bridge Street) Turn west on Bridge Street (0.3 mi.) [if you were on 51-North, turn left; if you were on 51-South, turn right].

*Turn right at Westwood Drive (0.1 mi.)

Turn right at Westwood Center Boulevard, go almost all around the roundabout, then take right to stay on Boulevard (427 ft.). Visitor parking is way past the main entrance, in the back.

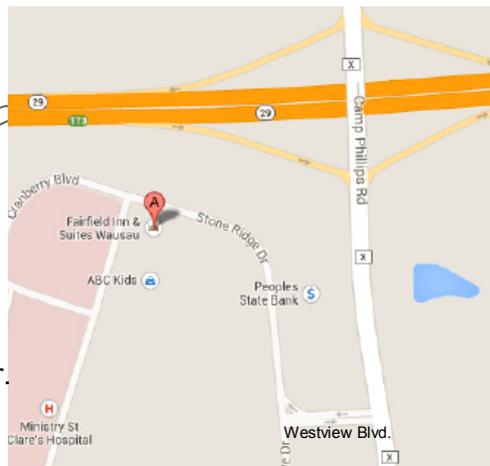
Coming on WI-29: Merge with US 51/I-39 North.

Take Exit 193 (Bridge Street), turn left, follow above directions*.

Fairfield Driving Directions: Coming on US WI-29: Take Exit 173 (County Road X/Camp Phillips Rd.) Turn south. [right from 29-East, left from 29-West] Turn right onto Westview Blvd.

Turn right onto Stone Ridge Dr. Fairfield Inn will be on the left.

Coming on US 51/I-39: Take the WI-29 East interchange (toward Green Bay). Follow the above directions.



**WESTWOOD
CONFERENCE CENTER**
1800 Westwood Center
Boulevard
Wausau, WI 54401
(715) 847-9200

Fairfield Inn & Suites
7100 Stone Ridge Dr.
Weston, WI
(715) 241-8400

NORTHCOTT HOUSE CELEBRATES 54 YEARS!

On Sunday, May 3, Northcott held its 54th Annual Meeting and Dinner at Garage Hall adjacent to the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee. After opening remarks, Executive Director Mac Weddle made several presentations to individuals who have donated many hours of time in order to help maintain the Northcott building, as well as support the programs provided there. One of the awards was to **Waukesha First UMC**. After learning that Northcott needed to replace 2 furnaces last winter, at the cost of \$47,000, this church voted to contribute \$10,000 from their foundation in order to assist with this project. This very generous gift paved the way for Northcott to raise the remaining money, and 2 new furnaces were installed.

This year's theme was **Northcott: Surviving and Thriving as a Non-Profit—Part II**. Keynote speaker, **Janie Hatton**, is a retired educator but is still very involved in advocacy work for social justice. After teaching in several Milwaukee public schools she moved into administration, ending her career as the principal at North Division High School. From her vast experience she was able to speak passionately about the importance of providing community support and avenues of hope for the young people that Northcott serves.

"When you touch someone's life, it's forever," she said.

Labels for Northcott **must** include the **UPC Code to be counted**. Include the LABELS FOR EDUCATION symbol, also. (See sample below.)



Strong leadership is essential for an institution like Northcott, and **Mac Weddle** has provided that leadership at Northcott for 38 years.

Despite the challenge to not only maintain but to expand services, Northcott has been able to remain a stabilizing force for youth and families. **LaMarr Franklin**, Northcott Board Chairperson, states that Northcott is now a major player in community sponsored home building and employment development in the area of construction. They hope to expand this effort in the near future as well as increase the leadership development program offered to community youth.

Of course, Northcott continues to need not only financial gifts but also donations of food, clothing and activity supplies. I was able to deliver several bags of labels donated by all of you, as well as some school supplies and health and beauty items.

Finally, we were all reminded about the upcoming Juneteenth events to be held in Milwaukee. This year will mark 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation was established (1865), and as part of the celebrations, organizers will have at least 100 mentors available to talk to young people and ask them about their needs. This type of outreach is crucial to making a difference in the community that Northcott serves, and as United Methodist Women we should be very proud to support such a caring organization.

Blessings to all,
Barb Taylor, Capital District UMW
Northcott Representative
N7832 Jackson Road
Whitewater, WI 53190
262.495.8625
tayloc@centurytel.net

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH—THANK YOU!

2014 Local Membership Census Form Update

Thank you to all Capital District units for sending your Local Membership Census forms in for 2014. We had 100% return and very few questions about what number to use for your beginning number! My hope is that you all kept a copy of the report you sent to me. If I created it from information in an email or a phone call, please contact me if I failed to send you your copy. Also be sure to keep a list of your member names to support your count.

This census was easier to compile than last year's, and 2015's should be a breeze, except for the confusion that may arise as a result of our Wisconsin Conference redistricting! We will do our best to keep instructions clear and timely.

As of now, my understanding is that your 2015 report will come to me, and it will be the last one while your unit is officially in the Capital District. Beginning in January 2016, all our units will be in the South East or South West districts.

Have you been contacted yet this year by your district sister or have you contacted her to arrange for a visit? We are happy to come visit and answer any UMW questions you have. The list of sisters was published in the first issue of Capital Comments for 2015. If you no longer have your copy, please check the Wisconsin Conference UMW web site at this web address:

<http://www.wisconsinumw.org/district-newsletters.html>

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER? (from our membership brochure)

“A member of United Methodist Women is any woman who commits herself to the PURPOSE and chooses to participate in prayer, giving, study, action and/or service. The organization celebrates a diverse and inclusive membership and welcomes all women

who want to be members. We are a community of women who nurture and encourage one another in our spiritual growth and personal development.

Over 800,000 women count themselves as members of United Methodist Women.”

It is a joy for me to help build up our community and to nurture women who join us in living out our PURPOSE. I look forward to our future.

Sue Plasterer, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator 608-274-0275
seplasterer@charter.net

NOTES FROM NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nominations Committee is working hard to create slates of potential officers for our two new districts—South West, and South East. See which of those your unit is in on page 3. Our report will be in the fall issue of Capital Comments.

CAPITAL DISTRICT NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jane DeSoto (608-364-0218)

Ruth Watt (608-755-0962)

Sandy Brewer (608-320-3111)

Anne Scott (608-271-4813)

Judy Loveless (608-848-8243)

Mary Lainberger,
Chair of Nominations
608-846-4378
mlainberger
@charter.net

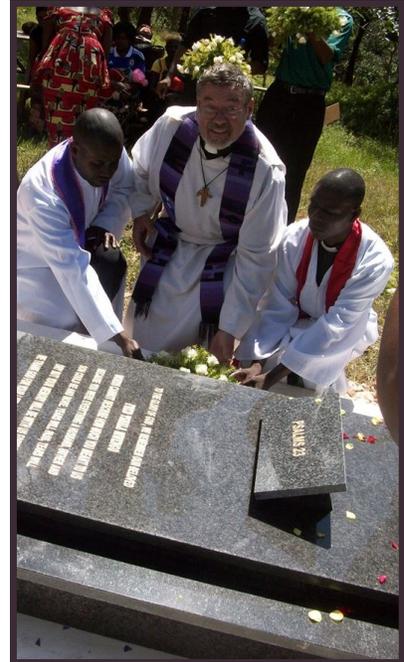
MISSIONARY NEWS

MUJILA FALLS AG. CENTRE

PAUL WEBSTER



April 11, 2015: On Saturday we installed and blessed a new tomb marker for Tshala's grave in a formal Memorial Service. There was a nice crowd with many arriving over night. We had a dinner of chicken, breakfast of plantains and eggs, and lunch of chicken and lamb - very busy and very productive.



The above photo is of Betty and her boys laying a wreath at the tomb of Tshala Mwengo. Tshala died in a bus accident one year ago. He is greatly missed by us all.



March 10, 2015: Peace Corps Volunteers and their Zambian counterparts learn to butcher a pig and make precious lard for cooking. People are learning to milk goats and cows and care for chickens. I also led a banana course this afternoon.

FACEBOOK EXCERPTS

A new offering at our Farmer's Field Day was a high Vitamin A maize that produces three or more ears per stalk. This is being developed by the World Food Organization to try to get more vitamin A into the diets of the poor and prevent eye diseases.



March 19, 2015: Second week of Peace Corps training. A counterpart learns to handle the plow. Another rides the spike tooth harrow. Our oxen show them how fast they can prepare a field for planting.

A Tour of Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre video is on youtube - 38 minutes to see all the amazing things that are happening there. www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BMLr01SnKo

Remember our Advance Special Number: 15016A

See more on our Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre Face Book Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/MujilaFallsAgCentre>

WELCOMED BY GOD, WELCOMING ALL

This has been a busy spring for me. I've been going to many different events, such as Church Women United with speaker Charlie Daniel, from the Alzheimer and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin. She was teaching about the importance of finding people with these conditions and then helping families find and give the best care possible to their loved ones.

She taught us that life does not end when our memory becomes impaired. There are many things that can be done to improve a loved one's living standard by taking care of diet, exercise, and community engagement.

Inviting a speaker through UMW to bring such information to members of your congregation is a blessing that your unit has to offer.

I spent the day recently with the United Council of Churches legislative action day "People of Faith United for Justice" at Bethel Lutheran Church just a block from the capital. We had stirring speakers prepare us for a day of learning and advocating as we prepared to meet our own state legislators.

In preparing for this year's Annual Gathering at Madison – Bethany on September 26th, I have gone to many events looking for topics and speakers that can inform us so that we can be better prepared to respond to God's call to us.

Our Keynote will be on the topic of White Privilege - not that we seek special treatment based on our skin color, but that others assume they know who we are without knowing us. This is an attempt for us to understand how others see us and how we have been taught to see others within the context of our great American culture.

I think about the quote from Amos 5:23-24 when I go to these events:

*Take away from me
the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to
the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down
like waters,
and righteousness like
an ever-flowing stream.*

In addition, we are now working on redistricting. Our Capital District units will be split between the new South East and South West districts. Members of the team are working for a smooth transition next year for the units.

Please keep us in your prayers as we work through this transition.

Karen Mayeshiba
Capital District
Vice President

Our Conference Young Women's coordinator, Julia Mayeshiba, is planning a sleep over event on Friday night, Sept. 25, for district youth at Bethany, as part of our annual gathering. More details and a registration form will be in the next newsletter.

Email Version of Capital Comments. If you would like to receive your Capital Comments newsletter by email, please send an email request to gerlaj@gmail.com. The newsletter comes in PDF form which can usually be opened by anyone. If you should have difficulty opening the newsletter, simply go to www.adobe.com and download the free Adobe Reader.

SUMMER IS COMING! TIME TO READ, READ, READ....

As you read, be sure to keep track of the titles, their categories (5 different ones) and the year the book appeared on a UMW Reading List (2010-2015). Adult Mission u books count as one book in any category. All secretaries of program resources in the units of the Capital District will need to get their member participants' lists to me by September 5. Please send

them to me at 95 South Ringold St., Janesville, WI 53545 or by email to nanoram49@gmail.com. My phone is 608-757-0394, should you have any questions. Have a wonderful summer!



Nancy Ramirez
Secretary of
Program Resources

What is LEGACY Women?

Limitless Energy for God Advocating Christ in Young Women is the young women's organization **within** Wisconsin Conference UMW.

As a part of this Christian fellowship, we strive to provide opportunities for young women from ages 12-46 to engage in mission, grow spiritually, and develop as leaders.



Contact us for more information:

LEGACYWomenofWisconsin@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/LEGACYofWisconsin

[@LEGACYWomenofWI](https://twitter.com/LEGACYWomenofWI)

LEGACY Women leads young women in mission with United Methodist Women

DEAR MOM AND DAD— SEND FOOD!

29 April 2015: "Enough food for two weeks at Excel International Academy in Yei is needed." That was the message Anita Henderlight of AFRICA ELI received from Wani Kenneth Evans of Excel Academy in South Sudan.

"Listening to Kenneth talk about sky-rocketing market prices and the kilograms of food needed daily to serve 3 meals to 300 boarding students, teachers, and campus personnel", says Anita, "I realized that our food budget was blown away. Our projections for the first term has covered only two-thirds of the actual expenditures."

Because of the renewed warfare in South Sudan, there are higher prices, reduced stock, and greater demand by families fleeing conflict from other parts of the country. Since the garden was just recently planted, due to the relocation of Excel Academy to two miles away from town, garden produce is not yet available. The harvest is at least 4-6 weeks away.

Making an affordable contribution today toward a goal of \$7,000 will help us fill the gap in securing food to finish this school term. Without it, the school term will end early and classroom time will be lost. That's a problem. Please help us solve it.

Send a donation to: Africa ELI, 1550 Centervue Crossing - #107, Knoxville, TN 37932.
Or donate online through the AFRICA ELI website: africaeli.org

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CAPITAL DISTRICT 2015 UMW EVENTS CALENDAR

Mission u (School of Christian Mission)

July 20-23, Monday-Thursday,

Four-Day School

July 24, Friday, Overview Day

at the Westwood Convention Center,

Wausau, WI

Capital District Annual Gathering

September 26, Saturday,

at Bethany UMC, Madison, WI

Wisconsin Conference Annual Gathering

October 23 & 24, Friday-Saturday

at Lake Street UMC, Eau Claire, WI