



CATCH the VISION

July 2021

email information to: ascott1167@aol.com

President's Message:

1 Samuel 16:7 The LORD said to Samuel, "The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

I had never heard of F.R.O.G. jam when I saw it at the farmers' market. I also had not yet read the Upper Room devotion for July 5, and I was embarrassed to ask what it was. And so, I missed the opportunity to taste the delicious flavor of **F**igs, **R**aspberries, **O**ranges, and **G**inger! No doubt I have also missed an encounter with "angels in disguise" that did not seem, to me, to be worthy of my time and attention. I do not want to miss any more opportunities, however unlikely they may seem to me.

As we get ready to meet in person again and celebrate our District and Conference Annual Gatherings, Spiritual Retreats and UMW Sunday, let us not miss an opportunity to share our story with someone new; to encourage others to say YES when asked to serve in a position in United Methodist Women's Circles, Units, Districts or Conference teams. When someone sees you as the "perfect fit" for a position, be confident. That person sees your heart, she will let you know **she** will always be available to help you; to take the time to explain why you have been noticed and why you have been chosen to become part of the team. We are all "different flavors" but, when we are blended together, we surprise not only ourselves but others.

Samuel was "afraid" to go to Bethlehem when God asked him to go, but he trusted that God was there to guide him in making the right choice. We are not alone. United Methodist Women have always worked together and our Mission continues. Remember we are "knitted (or blended) together for God's Good Work.

Get ready to greet each other in person, leave fears behind, remember what it is like to laugh and share each other's experiences. And remember to say YES, there is so much work to be done!

I close with my favorite verse: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13

Martha Boyer
President



Vice President

After having a Zoom Annual Gathering last year, I am very excited about having an in-person Gathering this year. Our worship leader Sat. morning is Rev. Barbara Certa-Werner on Finding Peace in an Anxious World. Our keynote speaker is Tony Kearney, Sr., Executive Director Northcott Neighborhood House. The afternoon breakout sessions will give you an opportunity to learn about the Good Trouble Team at First UMC- Baraboo, the Neighborly Store and Backpack project, cross cultural appointments, People Helping People, One Sauk, Naturally by Ho-Chunk District Legislator, and to register for Assembly 2022 in Orlando, FL. Hope to see at our Annual Gathering at First UMC- Baraboo. For more information, please see the registration form in this newsletter or on the Wisconsin UMW website: www.wisconsinumw.org.

Ruby Dow

Secretary

Greetings,

After 1 ½ years of limited personal contact with people, it seems odd to 'return to normal.' It has been wonderful to see our family, including our church family, face to face and be able to give and get hugs. As a nation we have been forced to come to grips with the racial and economic inequalities that exist in our country. So, before we mindlessly jump back into habits of old, I do hope we heed some lessons from Covid.

1. All of our actions (be it good or bad) affect others.
2. Maybe we have placed too much time and money on material things.
3. TIME is a special gift – do I take time in prayer to discern God's will for my life? And then am I brave enough to do what God calls me to do?

As an organization, United Methodist Women has a lot of decisions to make as we go forward. If you have concerns about all of this, you may be called to be part of your local, district or conference teams. There is a lot of open positions to be filled. Be brave! Now may be the time that you are being called to step forward and be part of the decision making. Don't think of it as a job to do, but as an opportunity to learn and serve!

Please do me a favor – look at last year's Conference Yearbook. If there are any changes or corrections to entries for your District or Unit, please let me know so that I can hand over 'up to date' information to the new secretary as she works on the 2022 Yearbook.

Thank you,

Josie Gobel josiegobel@charter.net

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NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE WILL BE SEEKING NEW LEADERSHIP IN LOTS OF POSITIONS.

MAY GOD BE CALLING YOU? GIVE JUDY OR CINDY A CALL TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP.

CALL JUDY LOVELESS 608-848-8243 OR CINDY MORSE 608-635-2916.

Unit Survey Report

Hello, Hello United Methodist Women of Wisconsin! My prayer is that you are weathering the COVID 19 pandemic. I pray for your health and wellbeing and for that of your family and friends. Being the nurturing, caring women I know you to be I'm sure you are caring for one another. We are in this together and have each other and our God to rely on for spiritual sustenance. I want to thank all of our presidents, membership nurture and outreach coordinators (MNOs) and any others who've had a part in completing our 2020 Unit Survey (formerly Membership Census). I have not heard from our New York Office (NYO) about the final results of our efforts. After I hear from them it is my plan to do some analysis send each district president and membership nurture and outreach coordinator information about your results. I encourage your district leadership team to share it with units and use the questionnaire data to plan for next year. Yes, we still can plan for next year even though change is coming!

As you know our goal for each year is to have 100% of our units report their membership and answer the online survey. This year our number of units reporting declined as might be expected. We think that is due to the COVID 19 Pandemic and our demographics. As I write this article we do not know what percentage of our units answered the online membership survey. We do know that several units have gone inactive. We want to help those members who wish to fulfill our PURPOSE and continue UMW mission work stay connected. We have a team at the Conference level working on documentation to share ways to do that. Information about district membership, forming district units and joining nearby units is being developed and will be presented to the Conference team for review and approval in August. After it is approved we will make it available to district leadership.

I urge all of you to check our National UMW website at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/> to keep informed about all things UMW. Our Chief Executive Officer Harriet Jane Olson is featured in an online interview published July 9, 2021 about United Methodist Women. Also check the website for our 2021-2024 Handbook at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/members-leaders/2021-2024-handbook>

Our outreach and nurturing are more important now than ever. We are learning ways to be safe and still be physically together. Please follow public health guidelines as you come together again. Units may continue to use Zoom, Skype, YouTube and other technology to stay in touch. Using email, cell, and land line telephones, writing cards and letters continue to keep connected. Even though our church, country and the world are going through very difficult times, what we do as United Methodist Women is still very much needed. It might be easy to give up especially when we're tired but we must continue to "Press On." Find those energetic souls to join you in putting Faith, Hope and Love in Action. God will be with us and give us the strength to keep on going. We are Bold Women who make a big difference wherever we are.

Faithfully Looking Forward,
Sue Plasterer,
Wisconsin Conference UMW, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator
608-274-0275; seplasterer@charter.net

Mission u

We have been spending the year learning zoom. The Mission u team who became technical support because we needed it, Mary Lainberger, Marilyn Eyster, Chris Anding who came to several hours of Zoom playtimes and learned how to use the new technology. Julie Miehe, Josie Gobel, Deb Pattee who came to meeting as they could to learn more about, and were able to understand better how things worked, in zoom. They also are keeping other parts of the program going as Mary and I are engrossed with putting together plenary time and making sure that the meeting runs smoothly for the study leaders in what ever capacity they wish us to help. We also learned how to use Google Drive and their sheets, slides and forms to better organize between ourselves and the study leaders.

The study leaders have been great this year. The presentations have been very thought provoking and helped expand our ideas of being part of the Kin-dom. Jesus Christ in his ministry opened the disciples to radical ideas. He taught us all that we are part of what is a bigger existence than just our slice of experience. Christ changed the world view that his disciples then taught us.

Pushout with Reverend's Jonah Overton and Afi Dobbins-May challenged us to think about how we make laws and rules that hinder children at school.

Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence with Deb Pattee and her friend Lee Anna Razar about recognizing how we use "isms" to divide ourselves in ways that divide us from God's plan for us.

Finding Peace in an Anxious World with Rev Barbara Certa-Werner guides us in coping with things events we have no control over.

And yet to start at the end of July, Bearing Witness In the Kin-dom with Rev Rob Odum as we explore witnessing and supportive advocacy for those who have been voiceless in our society.

We are getting together a nomination team to look for Mission u leaders for 2022. If you are called, please say yes. This program is an important United Methodist Women formation experience.

That we "shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God, and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ".

"to develop a creative and supportive fellowship". Being forced into being virtual this year has opened us to being able to serve in a time of deep spiritual need. I hope that offering more UMW events online including the possibility of having district member unit meetings online can become another way that we can connect with more mission minded individuals.

How we can organize more women in this state "to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church".

Yours in Christ,

Karen Mayehiba Mission u Dean 2021

kamayeshiba@yahoo.com

608-228-8351

All are invited to the 2021 Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women Annual Gathering



Knitted Together for God's Good Work

October 15-16, 2021

615 Broadway St., Baraboo, WI 53913, First United Methodist Church, Baraboo, WI

FRIDAY EVENING: District Leaders Training

Speaker- Deb Bauer, Hope House- services provided and information on Human Trafficking

Registration from 5:30 - 6:30 pm; program begins at 6:30 pm

SATURDAY MORNING: Registration from 8:00 - 8:45 am; program begins at 8:45 am



**Worship leader- Rev. Barbara Certa-Werner-
Finding Peace in an Anxious World**

Key note Speaker: Tony Kearney- Executive Director Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee, WI

SATURDAY AFTERNOON:

Breakout sessions: People Helping People; Good Trouble Team; Neighborly Free Store and Backpack Project; Krisitn K. White Eagle, Ho-Chunk Nation, register for Assembly 2022- Turn It Up

Register for program by Wednesday, September 22

for reduced fee of \$25 (includes Saturday lunch)

Contact Kay Waugh, dalekay@att.net, 920-366-6354 (cell preferred), 920-434-7101 (house) 3396 Libby Ln, Suamico, WI 54313

A block of rooms has been reserved under United Methodist Women Family Group for \$139.00 at Best Western Baraboo Inn, 725 W Pine Street Baraboo, WI 53913. To reserve a room call: (608) 356-1100. Available until **Tuesday, September 14.**



Wisconsin Conference Annual
Gathering of United Methodist
Women: First UMC- Baraboo

October 15-16, 2021

Early Registration Deadline:
September 22 at \$25

Late Registration Deadline:
October 1 at \$35

If you register after October 1, you will need to make your own lunch arrangements for Saturday. Driving directions to the church and parking instructions will be provided in your confirmation letter.

Blessings to you as we learn,
worship and grow together

Saturday afternoon breakout session:

Please circle preference for breakout session. Information on breakout sessions is on the next page.

1. People Helping People- Rev. Bill Harris
2. Neighborly Free Store and Backpack Project- Jim and Becky Hovde
3. Good Trouble Team- David Kell
4. Cross cultural appointments- Rev. Lamarr Gibson
5. Kristin K. White Eagle- Ho-Chunk Nation
6. Assembly 2022 TURN IT UP

Please PRINT: If registering for more than one person, copy and complete a separate form for each person.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Phone no. _____

Church _____ District _____

Please check all that apply: Teen (Teen only Age) _____

____First Time Attending ____UMW member ____Clergy ____Guest (not UMW member)

Please circle lunch preference: box lunches include: Sandwich, chips, coleslaw, fruit, and a cookie . Gluten free bread and cookies available

1. Roasted Turkey with Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato on fresh homemade bun and dill mayo spread
2. Vegetarian: Hummus Avocado Veggie Spinach Wrap
3. Gluten free 4. Sugar free

Bring refillable coffee and water containers

Child care will not be available. Please check here if you need to apply for a stipend for child care to attend. _____

Emergency contact information:

Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Photo release: Photos will be taken at Annual Gathering and could be used in material to promote United Methodist Women. I permit my photo to be used by Wisconsin United Methodist Women to help share United Methodist Women with others.

Name (print) _____

Sign _____ Date _____

Special request: ____I need a scholarship (25 scholarships available, awarded to the first 25 to make a request).

Please make checks payable to WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UMW Mail to Registrar: Kay Waugh, 3396 Libby Ln, Suamico, WI 54313

Email: dalekay@att.net Phone: 920-366-6354 (cell preferred)
920-434-7101 (house)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____



United
Methodist
Women

2021 Annual Gathering Breakout Sessions

People Helping People- Rev. Bill Harris-Founded in 1998, PHP is a faith-based, non-profit charity whose mission is to strengthen our community by giving direct help to low-income families and disadvantaged job seekers. PHP provides families with food, children's clothing and school supplies throughout the year, and provides free career training and personal mentoring to people who have the most difficulty getting jobs and staying employed.

Neighborly Free Store and Backpack Project- Jim and Becky Hovde- The Neighborly Store-Serves anyone who needs clothing that is clean and ready to wear for school, work, or church and will help the wearer to feel confident. Entirely staffed by volunteers, we sort, size, and hang clothing, help shoppers find what they need, and provide new socks and undies every three months. Neighbors helping neighbors. **The Backpack Project-** The Mission: To reach financially challenged and situationally disadvantaged children who attend the Baraboo Public Schools in a personal and caring way, and to equip them with the supplies they need to walk in the school doors "Just Like Everyone Else". Our program is different because the kids get to "shop" for their backpack and supplies, pick up free books, socks and underwear, and packs of hygiene items. They enter the school doors just like everyone else, ready to learn, without the stigma of poverty or other challenges.

Good Trouble Team- David Kell, et.al- The "Good Trouble" group is in the process of becoming. We are not complete. We are working on understanding our own unconscious biases and white privilege. We are learning about different ways to overcome racial divisions. We seek social justice and racial equality for all groups and individuals by educating ourselves and others and actively challenging the structures and attitudes that underpin racism.

Cross cultural appointments- Rev. Lamarr Gibson- Rev. Gibson heads up the Anti-Racism Task Force which along with a Connectional Table task force will be designing a protocol/program for multicultural relations in Wisconsin, including training for churches and clergy.

Ho-Chunk Presence and Impact- Representative Kristin K. White Eagle – Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature- District II- Learn about One Sauk, Naturally and Indigenous People's Day.

Assembly 2022 TURN IT UP- Sign up- Assembly 2022 – May 20-22 Orlando Convention Center, Orlando, FL



Helen Robinson retires as Chair of the Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund

THANK YOU Helen for your many years of outstanding service as Chair of the Mabel Heil Scholarship Fund.

It has been my privilege to get to know Helen in my 4 years as Conference President. The Conference is looking for a dedicated UMW member to fill the position of Chair of this very important committee.

Prayerfully consider responding to this call so we continue to provide financial assistance to those women seeking to further their education in colleges and tech schools.



July 2021

Wisconsin Conference
United Methodist Women
2561 Roanoke Circle
Fitchburg WI 53719



Calendar

2021

July 27,29 & Aug. 3,5	Mission u Study - Bearing Witness in the Kindom
August 20-22	Mission u/Meta Executive Team Meeting PINE LAKE, WESTFIELD
August 25	Catch the Vision due Date
October 15-16	Annual Gathering – BARABOO FIRST, BARABOO WI
November 5-6	Executive Team Meeting/Mission u 5 th AVE UMC, WEST BEND UMC
November 10	Catch the Vision due Date
January 8, 2022	Executive Team Mtg. (zoom)
January 10, 2022	Catch the Vision due Date