

# Mission Matters

## Welcome to Fall South West District United Women in Faith!

As I write this on a chilly morning I wish to begin by offering a warm Thank You to the wonderful women and men of the Cuba City United Methodist Church and to the local unit of United Women in Faith. You were wonderful “bridge builders” to your sisters of the South West District. What do I mean by “bridge builders”? You built a bridge to us by welcoming us to your space warmly, guiding us through your technology, and providing delicious food for our September 17 Annual Gathering. You shared your Christian spirit with us, many of whom were meeting you for the first time.

In our last Mission Matters I wrote about our being “bridge builders” where different generations of United Methodist Women (UMW) shared with many of us what UMW meant to them so that we could continue our good work and share it with those coming after us. We are now charting a new course for our organization and building bridges to younger generations of women who may be encountering us for the first time at uwfaith.org our redesigned Internet site. Our Annual Meeting began with “Turn It Up” the theme music from our Assembly 2022. It was at Assembly that our national leaders consecrated United Women in Faith and renewed our emphasis areas of Faith, Action and Sisterhood. It was the first time a virtual option was offered so that women could join in the event via the internet. All 3,000 of us in person and online celebrated that we are a “sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation.”

So, dear Sisters, what does that music and theme of Assembly 2022 have to do with us as United Women in Faith? I believe the first words of “Turn It Up” sets us in the direction we need to go! It’s time to “Turn It Up! Turn it Up! Turn up compassion, lean into Care. Amplify God’s compassion ev’vy-where. Turn up our hearing and listening, too: Imagine what God is calling us to do. TURN IT UP”. \*

I am blessed being part of the leadership of our South West District Team and thank them as we work with all of you in the South West District to “Turn It Up.” I’m excited and hope you are too with the possibilities before us.

Sue Plasterer, South West District President

See uwfaith.org for more about Assembly and Turn It UP.

\*“Turn It Up!” by Makeda McCreary and Grace Pugh Hubbard

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## Events

Oct. 14-15	WI Conference Annual Gathering
Nov. 12	District Day of Enrichment

## Help Us Help You

Oct. 3	Unit Officer form and District Member form
Dec. 10	Pledge Money Due to the Treasurer for 2022
Jan. 1	Happy New Year
Jan. 11	Mission Matters Articles Due
Feb. 1	Mission Task Form Due

(608)274-0275      seplasterer@charter.net

6313 Winstone Dr. Madison, WI 53711

## ***Treasurer's Note***

UMW Treasurers,

This week I am beginning participation in a new Bible study series at my church based upon the book "Do I Stay Christian?" by Brian McLaren. I will admit that I was more than a bit turned off by the title of the book. It took some research into the intent of the book to decide that this study might yield something for me since the question in the title is not actually the question to which I need an answer. Yet, as online reviews and my pastor have indicated, this is a question we need to understand since many people are asking it of themselves and finding themselves unable to find their place within Christianity and/or their current denominational affiliation.

I do relate to the ambivalence of some towards Christianity. I had been raised in a secular household growing up and only in college did I hear God call me. At that point, I will admit that I was reluctant to see myself as a part of this faith and the institutional and historical baggage which accompanies it. I was unsure if I could really find a way to be true to myself and my beliefs in the face of so much rhetoric supporting racist, misogynist, imperialist and hate-filled judgements. I will say that United Methodist Women (United Women in Faith) was and is a large part of the reason I continue to find a place for myself within this sometimes overwhelmingly negative and flawed institution. It made a huge difference to me to be part of an organization which continues to work at raising up the voices and needs of those on the margins. One which challenges our assumptions around mission, theology, advocacy and so much more. Even now we are leading by changing our name and our rules to anticipate the changes coming to our denomination and church membership. I am at home in this organization and its PURPOSE in ways I cannot be with some of the persons and institutions which are a part of the face of Christianity or even my own denomination at large. It is because of this that I continue to advocate and support our unique ministry and mission with my time, my talent, my financial resources and my passions.

You have, no doubt, your own reasons (or struggles) with our organization. I hope, however, that you continue to believe in our PURPOSE and support the mission to which God has called us for over 150 years. Your support of mission through Mission Giving is what is truly transformative. As a district we are in a strong position going in to this fall/winter season. We are currently at 64% of our district pledge amount. This is a very healthy percentage and I am prayerful that with your hard work doing the fundraisers and traditional activities you have engaged in the past or will envision for the future that we will be able to meet our pledge amount this year. Our mission is one which helps many to be able to answer "Yes" to the question of "Do I Stay Christian?". It is our witness, our gift, our legacy and our future. May you find this season one in which you are inspired, energized and fulfilled as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Yours in Christ,

Laura Pfeffer, District Treasurer

pfeffer.umw@gmail.com	608-592-5228(H)
W10132 Koltas Rd, Lodi, WI 53555	608-698-7508(C)
Checks payable to: <u>South West District UMW</u>	

## UWF South West District 2022 Annual Gathering

*United Women in Faith*



South West District United Women in Faith celebrated our Annual Gathering on September 17<sup>th</sup> at Cuba City United Methodist Church. Approximately 33 people attended, including three WI Conference officers and one SW district member. Cuba City United Women in Faith provided delicious home-made treats with our morning coffee and a wonderful lunch. They were also very helpful with setting up for the event and providing technical support and musical accompaniment. Our song leader for the day was Laura Pfeffer and our pianist was Elaine Sherwin. In addition to the wonderful hymns we sang throughout the day, we also learned a song called, **"Turn it Up!"** from the 2022 United Women in Faith Annual Assembly.

Our theme was *United Women in Faith*. Our keynote speaker was *Mission u* Dean Mary Lainberger, who led us through a very informative and enjoyable PowerPoint presentation and videos about the changes to our organization. Marge Lyford led Morning Devotions and presented a beautiful Memorial service for UWF members we have lost over the past year, including Faith Bauman (a former missionary to India).

Following the Keynote, we attended Leadership Training breakout sessions, where we learned more about how local United Women in Faith units can organize for Mission. SW District President, Sue Plasterer, led the annual business meeting. This included announcing the slate of SW District Team members (pictured above), a budget report, updating our Standing Rules, and presenting awards to 5-Star Units, Mission Today Units, and Reading Program participants. The meeting concluded with a Pledge service and offering.

During lunch we enjoyed several displays in Fellowship Hall and the Narthex area, including information on Children's Defense Fund, *Mission u*, United Women in Faith, Ukraine, and Northcott. SW District Social Action Coordinator, Pat Gallus, presented an update on the war in Ukraine and how we can help refugees. After her update, we had a choice of breakout sessions to attend, including an update from the 2022 Annual Assembly by Pastor Yaba Lucie Anongba and information on Northcott Neighborhood House by Carol Lange.

Our afternoon celebration included the announcement of the Traveling Angel Award, which was earned by Cuba City, followed by the Recognition of Retiring Officers and Installation of Officers for 2023 by WI Conference UWF Nominations Team Member, Linda Whitelock. We concluded our day with a beautiful Communion service led by Pastor Yaba Lucie.

# Day of Enrichment 2022

## Status of our Schools

At Crossroads United Methodist Church, Waunakee, WI  
Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

(Registration begins at 8:30)

Lunch at M-N-M Coffee House in Waunakee at 12:30 p.m.

- ◇ Special music
- ◇ Updates on issues in our schools
- ◇ Reading Program reports and Unit Sharing
- ◇ Communion

If you would like to report on a book from the Reading Program, please contact Eileen Bennett.

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Due to flu and COVID concerns in November, we will not be able to serve lunch at the church. Please join us for lunch at M-N-M Coffee House, 509 W Main St, Waunakee. Lunch will be at your own cost.

Registration Form:

(Please complete one registration form for each person attending this event.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

Street/PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

UMW Unit or Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning on joining us for lunch at M-N-M Coffee House?      YES    NO

Are you interested in childcare? (This may also depend on flu and COVID concerns.)    YES    NO

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOV 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Please make checks payable to:

**SW District United Methodist Women.**

Please send the registration form and the fee of \$10.00 to Eileen Bennett

Eileen Bennet	
332 W. Prairie Street Columbus, WI 53925	
920-623-4659	bennettpesl@charter.net eileenb0714@gmail.com

# Wisconsin Conference United Women in Faith South West District

Mission Today Local Unit Report Form

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**We are:**

## ***A community of women whose purpose is to know God;***

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

## ***To experience freedom as whole women through Jesus Christ;***

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1. Take advantage of opportunities thru United Women in Faith such as Mission u, Spiritual Growth Retreats, Annual Gatherings, Mission Action Day.
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.

## ***To develop a creative, supportive fellowship;***

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1. Honor the organization's leaders and member's contributions with Special Mission Recognition
2. Encourage everyone to visit or invite visitors to/from other local UWF 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.

## ***To expand concepts of Mission through participation in the Global Ministries of the church***

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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 (UWF related) and Mission u. (\$25.00 or more).
4. Partner with a mission institution such as Northcott, or Wisconsin Conference supported Harbor House, United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin, etc. Sponsor a local project in your community.

**To become a Mission Today organization, please complete one task from each category. Please let us know if you have tried any new criteria this year. Any criteria that are not currently listed but would fit in one of the categories can be included in the unit reports.**

Presidents of **All Local Units**, please complete the form below even though you may not qualify as a Mission Today unit. Refer any Questions to your District Team. Return this form by Feb 1<sup>st</sup> to your District Education and Interpretation Coordinator.

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

**Home phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Completed (Circle the numbers completed)

*\*Any criteria that are not currently listed but would fit in one of the categories can be included in the unit reports.*

Faith 1 2 3 4

Hope 1 2 3 4

Love 1 2 3 4

In Action 1 2 3 4

Report any new criteria tried this year:

Comments:

Send to: Eileen Bennett, 332 W. Prairie St., Columbus, WI 53925  
Email: [bennettpesl@charter.net](mailto:bennettpesl@charter.net)

**Since the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine by Russia, UMCOR has provided support to the people affected both inside Ukraine and in surrounding countries, working with United Methodist churches in the region as well as regional partners. Relief efforts will be ongoing.**

### **How is the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) responding?**

UMCOR's work in Ukraine is funded with gifts to Advance #982450, International Disaster Response and Recovery. Grants for immediate relief have been given to United Methodist partners to provide direct aid inside Ukraine as well as to support those who have fled the violence. UMCOR is working through Methodist churches in neighboring nations—Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Estonia, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. In addition, grants are being awarded to trusted partners like ACT Alliance, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and Human Rights League. Grants provide transportation assistance, humanitarian supplies such as food, water, clothing, shelter and medication, as well as legal services and safe spaces for families, women, children and those with disabilities. In addition, UMCOR has funded the transport of more than \$1 million in medical supplies to hospitals in Kyiv, with more supplies scheduled in the coming months. UMCOR is in continuous dialogue with UMC entities and other partners throughout Europe to identify additional ways to assist. The situation in Eastern and Central Europe is constantly evolving and with Ukraine's economic losses already estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars, recovery efforts will take years. Global Ministries and UMCOR will continue to respond in the months and years ahead.

### **How can I support those still in Ukraine and those fleeing the violence?**

At this time, all gifts to UMCOR's International Disaster Response and Recovery Advance will be used to assist those who remain in Ukraine and those who have fled the violence to neighboring nations. Gifts can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and mailed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and given to any United Methodist church

This is the last article I will be writing. Please signup for Social Action Coordinator for the S/W District. You will love it and the S/W District Team will show the way.

You can sign up for "Voices in the Field" And Zoom with these women! October 25, 2022. 11:00 AM. I will see you Zoom. **PAT GALLUS – SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR**



United  
Women  
in Faith

## **United Women in Faith:** ***The BUNDLE you've been asking for!***

United Women in Faith is pleased to introduce a **Bundle** package for 2023 that will include the following resources:

- Daily Prayer Guide 2023, (\$19.99)
- 2023 Adult Mission u curriculum, (\$14.99)
- 2022-2023 **digital** Program Resource and Community Gathering for *Mosaic of Faith: We Are All Part of God's Story*, (\$14.99)

The special pricing for the bundle package is \$35.00 (shipping and handling *included*). A discount of \$14.97 and shipping costs!

Order **product code K3218**.

This bundle offer will be available **through** December 31st, 2022.

Call now, **888-409-8137**, to place your order, and mention

**BUNDLE 2023 / K3218**

or email: **cs@umwmissionresources.org**.

You will get a code **via email** for the digital Program Resource after purchasing the Bundle. Please allow *4-5 business days of receipt of your order* to receive the code and *please check your spam or junk folder for the email*. (Be sure to designate the domain, **uwfaith.org**, as a "safe sender" in your email platform.)

The print versions of Daily Prayer Guide and Adult Curriculum will **ship in November**.

**Order the BUNDLE today!**



United  
Women  
in Faith

## **2022-23 Program Resource**

We are all part of God’s story! The 2022-23 Program Resource shows how we can answer our calling today as women of passion committed to helping women, children, and youth.

The programs are grounded in Mark 8:27–30 as an invitation to reclaim and explore our identity as children of God and as a community of women of faith. The monthly Bible studies, reflections, program activities, and weekly activities to do on your own between each program will help guide us through the year as we look at who we are in Christ and what that means for how we live in community as United Women in Faith members called to action in local and global communities.

The 2022-23 Program Resource is available for \$14.99 in print and digital options. The digital Program Resource is available on Mighty Networks and includes embedded video content, an online community of United Women in Faith members, and exclusive access to monthly Community Gatherings on Zoom with Ilka Vega, author of the 2022-23 Program Resource.

If you *have already* set up your Mighty Networks account, you can find the digital Program Resource in the “Resources” section or purchase your copy here:

**<https://www.umwmissionresources.org/shopping>**

If you purchase a physical copy of the Program Resource you can **add** the digital Program Resource for only \$5! (A special promotional link will follow upon completion of your order of the 2022-2023 Program Resource.)

We hope you will join us as we explore this “Mosaic of Faith” and discover the ways that we are all part of God’s story.

UNITED WOMEN in FAITH resources

### Membership Nurture and Outreach—2021 Survey is Done

Thank you everyone who finished your unit survey. Don't forget to keep your records for 2021. When doing the survey for 2022 it will be much easier with good records.

We will not know the results for awhile.

I hope to see you on the Day of Enrichment at Waunakee—Crossroads UMC this fall. The drive should be enjoyable. If I don't see you, I hope your fall and holidays are a blessing to you and yours.

God Bless. Serving to learn, learning to serve,

Kay Putman

Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Kay Putman
215 Water #205, Lodi, WI 53555
608-592-2294

### ***We Continue to Ask..... Please Be Part of Our Team***

By serving on our team you become a person who helps put together programs for us all to enjoy each other's company and to learn more about the mission of our organization. Charity is good and noble to participate in. Trying to patch up lives that are broken always helps. United Women in Faith is about learning where the traps are that destroy people's lives and creating solutions. We get together and figure out ways to make sure that we are part of Jesus' mission to bring justice, mercy and humbleness to our communities.

By serving on our team you go to events and learn about the how the Bible connects with the world that we live in. Not just looking at the words but bringing those values into the open. This gives you information to write about and share in our newsletter. We meet women through out the state and hear stories from our own area and around the world. Organizing to bring mission education and opportunities in our local units. To expand our concept of who we are as devout women.

This can't happen without women saying yes. Bringing your talents, sharing your energy and find out that you are not the only person who wants to find a better path as part of God's Kin-dom.

KM

Martha Boyer	608-574-5236	marta@mhtc.net
4638 Co. Rd. Z Dodgeville, WI 53533		

### ***Open Spaces on the Team:***

Secretary—This person takes minutes during team meetings and distributes those minutes to the team. They work with the president to get vital information to team members so that we on the team can support each other in providing events and support to units and district members.

Education and Interpretation / Program Resources — This position is responsible for organizing the fall Day of Enrichment event. They also collect the information for Mission Today Tasks for recognition at the Annual Gathering. For program resources they gather information from our conference team and the web site so that we can find resources to help our units fulfill the purpose. They also promote the reading program and collect the reading lists for recognition at the Annual Gathering. Writes articles for the newsletter.

***And More Positions Open.....***

## District Member Registration Form 2023

Help us to keep up with you. We have information for you and events to attend.  
 You can keep up your individual pledge by sending checks to our Treasurer or giving online at <http://uwfaith.org/give/>. You are still part of United Women in Faith/United Methodist Women.  
 Help us work toward a goal that still needs your support.

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Email:	Mission Matters: Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>
Church:	Address:
Are you part of an on-line unit or do on-line events?	
Do you participate in events with other units?	
Return form to: Karen Mayeshiba, 1702 Lynndale Rd., Madison, WI 53711	Email: <a href="mailto:kamayeshiba@yahoo.com">kamayeshiba@yahoo.com</a>

### **Communication Coordinator**

Karen Mayeshiba  
 1702 Lynndale Rd.,  
 Madison, WI 53711  
 (608)228-8351 c.  
 (608)277-1883 h.

Email: [kamayeshiba@yahoo.com](mailto:kamayeshiba@yahoo.com)

Send me items about your unit activities to include in our Newsletters. I'm also looking for reviews on reading program books and on-line UMF activities. Let's share our experiences and our passion for mission.

### **Subscribe to response:**

### **Magazine with a Mission**

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine/>

#### **By Mail**

response  
 Magazine  
 PO Box 395  
 Congers, NY  
 10920-0395

#### **By phone**

1-877-881-2385

#### **By Fax**

1-845-267-3478

Updating the Directory- Now is the time to send in your unit and district member information. My next project is to update the yearbook for 2023. I have made some improvements to the district membership form from the last newsletter. If you have already sent in your form don't worry, the old form has all the essentials.

A typo in the last newsletter put the Unit Officer form due date in the wrong year. I need the form in October 3, 2022 so that we can connect with each other in 2023. Sorry about that. As soon as your officers are set for 2023 please get that information in to me. Thanks,

Karen Mayeshiba

South West District UW Faith  
Karen Mayeshiba  
1702 Lynndale Rd.  
Madison, WI 53711



United  
Women  
in Faith

Love in Action Can Change the World