

## Winn~D

Winnebago District Newsletter 2012

Andrea Willetts- [Kwilletts@new.rr.com](mailto:Kwilletts@new.rr.com) 920-738-9774

### New Beginnings

A couple of weekends ago I attended a Conference United Methodist Women's Team Meeting at Waupaca at a lovely Bed and Breakfast on the Crystal River. Friday evening we were led in a spiritual retreat. We were talking about "beginnings" and the second item was for us to write down four beginnings that I think have been most important to me. Well, I truly think that most of us could write down more than four.

I listed as number one - meeting and marrying the man who would become my husband. I could have listed the births of our four children, which are important to any person. I put down as second "becoming a church secretary." Through this part-time job I became more acquainted with the structure of the church and how things worked and met many of the pastors of the Methodist Church in the surrounding area.

Third, and one of the most important I believe, was becoming a United Methodist Woman. When we joined the Kaukauna church, I was young and busy with children and husband, and felt I was doing my part by taking my 2 dozen homemade rolls down to the ladies who were working at the Salad Bar. But one of the women who taught Sunday School (and I was teaching too) kept asking me to come to a Circle meeting. I finally relented and went. And I must tell you, that evening literally changed my life. I found out that I was not the only one who couldn't (and here you could put in your own scenario), etc. I found a wonderful supportive community of women who I felt I could call on if I needed help.

I became involved in my local unit and developed some leadership skills through various offices, ventured out to district and conference meetings, went to School of Christian Missions every year, got to know so many other United Methodist Women from around the state, learned what was happening in other units, and also learned what United Methodist Women were doing around the world. Eventually I took on the job as district treasurer (I listed this as the fourth new beginning) and then conference treasurer. I learned more about where the money that we raise as UMW goes, and reading Response and New World Outlook magazines I see how and where women, children and youth are living better lives because of the money we give.

If it hadn't been for the persistence of one United Methodist Woman asking me to come to a meeting with her, I don't know if I would be writing this article. Going to that first Circle meeting became a defining moment in my life, a new beginning. I wish now that I had said "yes" a whole lot sooner.

Mary Trettin, Winnebago District President

**IF YOU LOVE HIM, WHY NOT SERVE HIM?**  
**By Rita Wuyts, Spiritual Growth Coordinator**

The other morning I awoke around 5 A.M. from a sound sleep to the tune to “Jacob’s Ladder” along with the words, “If you love Him, why not serve Him?” repeating itself in my head.

Let me back up a couple of days: As many of you know I was diagnosed with colorectal cancer February of 2010 and have undergone 3 surgeries, chemo and radiation therapies. The good news is that my last tests showed that I was cancer free. However, the past several days I was feeling depressed that my body just was not healing the way I wanted it to and was contemplating resigning from my district position as your spiritual growth coordinator, as I felt not worthy to fill that position and was doubtful of my capabilities. So... back to 5 A.M. and that repeating phrase “If you love Him, why not serve Him?” I finally asked “Lord, is that **You** speaking to me?” With those words, I felt the peace and contentment that only our Lord and Savior can impart. I then had only one option and that was to tell Him that, “Yes, I loved Him and would serve Him.” I leave you with that thought: If you love Him, why not serve Him!

**Social Action- Sharon Kardoskee**

Social action, what’s it all about? According to Webster, action is something done or performed, an energetic activity, or a voice or force.

Today’s social issues we face are: homelessness disasters, famine, war, poverty, and the list goes on. What’s a person to do? Seek the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. Pray, read about the issues and become social action persons. Get involved by doing projects, having fund raisers, and have speakers share with you different social issues to become better informed.

Psalm 78:38 “He being full of compassion forgave their iniquities, and destroyed them not, yea, many a time turned his anger away, and did not stir up his full wrath.” God’s heart is full of compassion and he is faithful to us. When we are compassionate to others we are living out the scripture out- “as you did it to the least of them you did it to me.” Pass compassion to people who seem to be different. When we let go our indifference, we are allowing God’s light into another’s soul.

We, as Christians, need to be equipped to carry the Good News to others as we do God’s will. Read Psalm 25:4-5. “Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.”

In closing let God teach and guide us on our spiritual journey. We need to be involved persons of compassion. We are the hands and feet of Jesus.

Sharon Kardoskee- Social Action

**Secretary- Chris Worrall-**

Greetings to ALL Secretaries,

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that your holiday season was truly blessed. Ours was. I am glad, however, to be moving forward into the New Year of 2012.

I had the pleasure of meeting several of you at the Winnebago District Meeting at Ripon Immanuel UMC this last November. It was so nice to put a face to the names of the unit secretaries. I noticed 2 things in particular. First is how **very nice** you all are- just the sweetest people! Second was **how dedicated** to UMW you all are. It was a pleasurable meeting for me- hopefully for you also.

Here are the reminders for the upcoming year.

1. **Please send me ANY changes to your UNIT roster- email changes, address changes, etc.**
2. Immediately after the unit's elections the secretary should forward the names and addresses of the new president and secretary of program resources, together with the names of the officers they are replacing to:

Mission Resource Center  
1221 Profit Drive  
Dallas, TX 75247

This important notification enables the president to receive mailings from the Women's Division. The secretary of program resources also receives some sample resources including the Mission Resource Center Catalog.

3. Class Year: I will need to know the term of each of your officers-ie. What year their term of office is to be completed. This information will be needed next fall.

**Have a GREAT year in UMW. You are so IMPORTANT!**

Sincerely,

Chris Worrall, Winnebago District Secretary  
730 Woodside Av.  
Ripon, WI 54971  
920-748-7858  
[worralltca@charter.net](mailto:worralltca@charter.net)

## **Vice President – Gwen Gibson**

### New Beginnings

As the conference team, Presidents and district Vice Presidents sat and read Scripture in our evening retreat, we reflected on the question, "What beginnings have been most important to you?" I also reflected on the theme that had been used in celebration, at the state capitol, of Dr. Martin Luther King's life. The theme began with the word "Daybreak". The scripture that captured my soul was 2 Samuel 12:20-24. It is the story of David's child becoming ill. David pleaded with God for his son to be ok. David would not eat and spent the night lying on the ground. His son died, David got up, washed, put on lotion himself and went to the house of the Lord to worship. The people questioned, "how could David not weep at his misfortune." David was letting go, his son would not return to him. Day break would come again.

Each of us with God's grace can let go of what could have been or things that should not have been, and embrace the new day. We will have opportunities to support local and global mission, be advocates for justice, become better leaders, be in fellowship with one another and sing songs of joy. Daybreak Comes, let us be prepared and work until night comes.

Gwen Gibson, Vice President

## **TO: MISSION COORDINATORS FOR MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH Rachel Benton**

Hello! My name is Rachel Benton. I am the new Winnebago District Coordinator for Membership, Nurture & Outreach. Junerose Beale is the retiring Coordinator and has worked hard to be in contact with all the UMW Units in the Winnebago District. One of our greatest responsibilities is the preparation of the Annual Report. It saves a phone call or E-mail when your Unit responds to the requests for information.

I am the retiring District Program Resources Secretary. As I look for guidance in the Handbook as District MNO, it seems to me our relationship to the unit and 'reason for being' is important to the fulfillment of our UMW Purpose. We cannot do this alone. We need to engage our members to yoke with others to support and encourage one another as we grow in faith, fellowship and the knowledge of God and our ministry of service. How can we involve potential members to participate in our projects? We can look for ways to involve inactive members and those who are homebound. Please share with me ways in which you or your unit have carried out your ministry in MNO. May we grow together as we assume these important responsibilities.

Rachel Benton: 1731 White Swan Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54901-3126 (920) 231-7724 <bentonr@uwosh.edu>

## **Program Resources- Val Caldwell**

The Reading program is a great way to keep informed of issues, learn about missions, develop personally.... There are so many pluses for participating in the Reading Program! Because of the 5<sup>th</sup> category they implemented last year, the program has changed a little.

Plan 1: 5 books, one from each category plus Response Magazine.

Plan 2: 10 books, two from each category plus Response and New World Outlook Magazine.

Plan 3: 15 books, two from each category plus an additional 5 from any category and Response and New World Outlook Magazine.

Plan 4: 20 books, two from each category plus an additional 10 from any category and Response and New World Outlook Magazine.

You can read from program books from 2008 through this year as long as you have not included them on a previous report.

I am looking forward to getting to know you this year. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Val Caldwell  
318 Rose Avenue  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 933-3756  
[Vcaldwell1571@charter.net](mailto:Vcaldwell1571@charter.net)

## **From the Treasurer- Beverly Kimble**

Most of the unit treasurers have been contacted by phone, but there are a few that I wasn't able to contact or leave a message with so I thought the newsletter might be a useful source of communication. A few units still have not responded with their pledge information. If you could let me know what your plans are regarding pledging, it would be helpful. All reports, monies, etc. have to be sent by me to the Conference by the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month, so I will need to have monies, orders, etc. from unit treasurers by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month if you want to be credited for them in that month. Please try to have Special Mission Recognition money and orders to me 2 months ahead of time as these orders have to go through a couple of hands before being filled. I'm looking forward to a great year with all of you and hope to meet you in person somewhere along the way.

Beverly Kimble  
Winnebago District Treasurer  
105 Queen's Way  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 933-2771

## **Communications- Andrea Willetts**

Greetings to all,

I will be serving you again this year as the Communication Coordinator. The email format served us well last year and we will continue to use that as our primary means of getting information into your hands. If you have someone in your unit who does not receive email please either yourself or have your church print out some copies for those members to read. This helps greatly keep the cost of printing and mailing at a minimum. Also if you know of someone who would like to receive this by email send me a message and I will include them on the email list.

## **Nominations- Alma Grace Chair**

We have a wonderful organization known as United Methodist Women. We will be looking for special women to fill several positions on the Winnebago District Team:

President, Secretary, Communications Coordinator, and members of the Nominations Committee. Please prayerfully consider the possibility of saying, "YES" when you are contacted. The Team is very supportive, encouraging and is there to work with all members. You are never on your own though this process of serving.

Please fill out the Potential Leaders information form in the Winn-D and return it to me.

In Christian friendship,  
Alma Grace, Chair of Nominations  
319 Doty St.  
Fond du Lac WI 54935-2248

Committee Members on Nominations:

Hazel Christopher-  
920-731-7260  
[HazelC228@aol.com](mailto:HazelC228@aol.com)

Betty Merington  
920-426-1605  
[bobr123@centurylink.net](mailto:bobr123@centurylink.net)

## HMONG HOUSE NEEDS MOOLA CAPS AND BAG TOPS!!!

Keep those Moola caps and bag tops coming from Kwik Trip gas stations! (also Glazer Donut ovals) We just sent in our first bundle for which we will receive \$50 for Hmong House of Good News. Finding that we were 4 caps short, Lydia Circle in Wisconsin Rapids made a valiant effort to buy single serving bottles of milk and juice in order to reach the goal of 1000 pieces, the minimum number allowed per reimbursement request.

Thank you to all who have been saving these items for Hmong House.

Remember to bring them to every district or conference event. Your Education and Interpretation Coordinators will collect them.

Judy Vasby

President, Wisconsin Conference UMW

HHGN board member

[vasby.umw@gmail.com](mailto:vasby.umw@gmail.com)

608-576-0173



## Hmong House of Good News - Moob Tsev Moo Zoo

*Hmong House of Good News is a social service organization that serves the needs of Hmong elders in the Milwaukee area. It was begun by Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women in March 2008 and has the approval of the Wisconsin Conference Board of Global Ministries. Its purpose is to bring Hmong seniors, aged 55 and over, out of isolation and to a place where they can socialize, enjoy nutritious Hmong meals, do crafts, join a Bible study, garden, and learn English along with American culture. It is housed in the Central UMC in Milwaukee and is open three days per week.*

While we covet your prayers and appreciate your donations of food, fabric, and craft supplies, **our strongest need is for money** to pay basic operating expenses and door to door transportation for elders, most of whom can not take public transportation due to lack of English speaking and reading skills, or due to handicapping conditions. We need approximately \$60,000 to offer our free services.

Therefore, we invite you to participate in one or more of these ways:

- 1. Designate Hmong House as the recipient of your church's Noisy Collection** (Change for Change/ Coins Count Up/ Empty Your Pockets/etc.). Send the money directly to Hmong House of Good News, c/o Treasurer Patsy Ruppe, 2427 Sunrise Rd., Racine, WI 53402 OR to the Wisconsin Annual Conference UMC Treasurer, 750 Windsor St., Sun Prairie, WI 53590. Indicate Advance #7809.
- 2. Be a "Partner in Mission."** This is a means of sustainable support in which you, your church, or your unit sign up to give Hmong House of Good News a designated amount either monthly or yearly. You may choose to have the money taken automatically from your checking or savings account, or you may pay by check. **Sustainable giving** allows us to know when money will be received so that we can manage our budget more efficiently. The total pledged for 2012 is \$8395.00 and we are so grateful.
- 3. Milk Moola and Donuts to Dough from Kwik Trip Stores.** Collect bottle caps or bag tops from Nature's Touch milk and juice or ice cream cartons and Hmong House will receive 5-cents each. Also collect the price ovals from Glazer donuts boxes worth 10-cents each. We received an update on saving these items for the Hmong House of Good News from Judy Vasby UMW Conference president and on the board of HHGN.

*“Keep those Moola caps and bag tops coming from Kwik Trip gas stations! (...also Glazer Donut ovals) We just sent in our first bundle for which we will receive \$50 for Hmong House of Good News. Finding that we were 4 caps short, Lydia Circle in Wisconsin Rapids made a valiant effort to buy single serving bottles of milk and juice in order to reach the goal of 1000 pieces, the minimum number allowed per reimbursement request. Thank you to all who have been saving these items for Hmong House. Remember to bring them to every district or conference event. Your Education and Interpretation Coordinators will collect them. Take them to district or conference UMW events. Or mail them to: Judy Vasby, 4131 Weslan Dr., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 608-576-0173 [vasby.umw@gmail.com](mailto:vasby.umw@gmail.com).”*

**4. Crafts and egg roll fundraisers.** We have some lovely Hmong embroidery crafts directly from Laos to sell. The aprons, wall hangings, bible covers, back pack will both support the Hmong House of Good News as well as Christian women in Laos. Our next Egg roll Fund raiser will be in Palmyra UMW in May.

**5. Transportation.** With the UMW help we have gotten all elders who are eligible to ride on public transportation and here are some pictures to show our happy Elders in their transportation.



**6. UMW Mission Visits.** In April the UMW ladies from Janesville will visit with us and share a meal. We are always excited to share our testimony and joy to be at Hmong House with our visitors. Why don't you plan to come and join us? Just give Susan Vang our director a call at

**Hmong House of Good News**  
639 N 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414-342-4380 and fax  
[Hmonghgn@gmail.com](mailto:Hmonghgn@gmail.com)



# POTENTIAL LEADERS INFORMATION FORM

( To be completed by potential leader)



## TALENT BANK

Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Age: 20's \_\_\_\_\_ 30's \_\_\_\_\_ 40's \_\_\_\_\_ 50's \_\_\_\_\_ 60's \_\_\_\_\_ 70's \_\_\_\_\_ 80's+ \_\_\_\_\_

Languages Spoken \_\_\_\_\_ Racial/Ethnic Group \_\_\_\_\_

Employed : Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ FULL-TIME \_\_\_\_\_ PART-TIME \_\_\_\_\_

Professional skills, job experience \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Office(s) held in United Methodist Women

Office(s)

Date of Service

Local \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women) or in the community \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Special Interest (I) and/or Concern (C)**

- |   |  |                                      |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> secretarial              | <input type="checkbox"/> recruiting members      | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community                | <input type="checkbox"/> social issues           | <input type="checkbox"/> workshops   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> computer                 | <input type="checkbox"/> creativity              | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> accounting/bookkeeping   | <input type="checkbox"/> recording minutes       | <input type="checkbox"/> retreats    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> organizations of details | <input type="checkbox"/> public policy           | <input type="checkbox"/> music       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> nominations              | <input type="checkbox"/> public relations        | <input type="checkbox"/> youth       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> program planning         | <input type="checkbox"/> community building      | <input type="checkbox"/> children    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> administration           | <input type="checkbox"/> inclusiveness/pluralism | <input type="checkbox"/> other       |

Other talents or skills specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Which office(s) on the District United Methodist Women's Team would you most like to hold given the opportunity to serve?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Nurture & Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Growth              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Resources             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair of Nominations        | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educations & Interpretation |  |

**WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION AND WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE FOR YOUR OFFICE(S) OF CHOICE?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO USE YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS TO UPHOLD AND STRENGTHEN UNITED METHODIST WOMEN THROUGH THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**IS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO BE AWAY FROM YOUR HOME OR EMPLOYMENT FOR:**

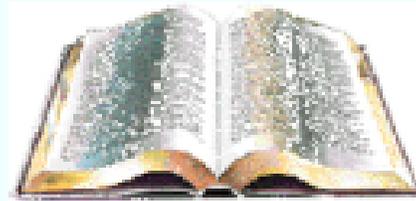
FULL DAY \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKEND \_\_\_\_\_ EXTENDED TIME \_\_\_\_\_  
YES OR NO YES OR NO YES OR NO

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM SORRY BUT I AM UNABLE TO ACCEPT AN OFFICE THIS YEAR. PLEASE KEEP MY NAME ON FILE AND CONTACT ME IN \_\_\_\_\_ (YEAR)

Please give any other information you feel is pertinent: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Inhabiting the Word of God



## Nicolet / Winnebago Districts United Methodist Women Spring Retreat May 4 - 5, 2012

At Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center  
W6460 Cty Rd YY, Neshkoro, WI 54960

Our leader for the weekend will be Reverend Valerie Fons who will explore with us the questions "Where in the Good News do you live and Why?"  
*Bring your Bible and expect to notice God with us.*

Friday check-in time is 4:30pm - 5:30pm.

6:00 pm - potluck finger food dinner.

Saturday Breakfast is included for overnight guests.

Saturday check-in time is 8:30am. Program will begin at 9:00am.

Lunch is provided for overnight and Saturday only registrants.

**Registration Deadline - April 13, 2012**

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

In case of Emergency call \_\_\_\_\_

District/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate for Friday night \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary needs \_\_\_\_\_

Friday night and Saturday with lodging - \$65 (linens are provided) \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday only - \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Late charge after April 13 - Add \$5

Send completed registration and payment to:

Dottie Unbehaun, 256 E. National Avenue, Brillion WI 54110

Make checks payable to **Nicolet District UMW**