

# Mission Matters

## President's Message

*Jeremiah 29:10-14 NRSV*

*For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, says the Lord.*

***For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.***

*Then when you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart. I will let you find me, says the Lord and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places which I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.*

Those who attended our SW District Annual Gathering at Bethany UMC in Madison on September 16, 2023 were treated to wonderful, thought provoking presentations. Mary Baker began our day by leading our morning devotion titled "Bodacious Women." According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary bodacious can be an adjective or an adverb with synonyms of "prominent, striking, remarkable, conspicuous and brilliant" just to name a few. Those gathered as well as our national leaders who planned for our new way of being can certainly be called "bodacious women." Some of us gathered at Bethany knew about the planning, data collecting and organizing that was going on long before United Women in Faith was launched in March 2022. Our national leaders were looking to the future and providing us with new ways to weather the chaos that was coming. Those new ways continue to be refined.

Our keynote speaker Wisconsin SW District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Amanda Stein's presentation was titled "BOLD Women of Faith." She told us our boldness and faith are needed now more than ever to help lead our United Methodist Church into the future. At one time in our history the saying would have been "roll up our sleeves and get to work." In these days we are exhorted to "put on our big girl underpants" and get to work. The structure of our United Women of Faith enables us to focus on finding new connections with all women who believe in and follow our Purpose. We must be BOLD in these

*Continued on pg. 8*

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## Events

Oct. 13-14	WI Conference Annual Gathering
Nov. 11	District Day of Enrichment
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year	
May 31– June 2	North Central Jurisdictional Event

## Help Us Help You

Nov. 1	Unit Officer form and District Member form Due
Dec. 10	Pledge Money Due to the Treasurer for 2022
Jan. 10	Mission Matters Articles Due
Feb. 1	Mission Task Form Due

## Treasurer's Note

I just finished registering for the 2024 North Central Jurisdiction meeting in Indianapolis, IN. I am SO excited! It was such a shame that the last Jurisdiction event was cancelled due to COVID. Next year's event will be doubly great since it has been such a long time coming. I can hardly wait to hear Deaconess Galinda Barton speak. I have heard her lead worship and bible study before at Leadership Development Days and I know she is wonderfully spiritual and inspiring. I am also looking forward to singing with Amanda Powell as our music leader. I used her videos at Mission u and she is a wonderfully gifted musician who leads singing beautifully. The workshops being offered sound great as well. Want to know the impact of mission money? Come and hear one of our regional missionaries speak on her work. What to explore social justice issues such as energy and the school-to-prison pipeline? Those topics are there as well. Plus, so much more. There is even an optional soul care retreat on the Thursday before the event! What an opportunity this is. So, spread the word. Even if you personally can't join us, I would encourage you to scholarship or invite someone to go in your place. We will be doing the serious business of voting on our new National Directors, but this is also time to learn, recharge and become more fully engaged with our organization and our mission work. I hope to see you at the North Central Jurisdiction meeting May 30 – June 2, 2024!

As the year draws to a close, don't forget to try to have your year-end remittances in to me by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. This will give me a few days to turn that money in to our Conference treasurer. After that date, we will all do the best that we can to turn in money so that it will count for this fiscal year, but we may have checks which are sent too late to make the cutoff for the Conference books. We had so many units who were 5-star units last year, I would love to see that continue, but with some of our giving units closing, this may be a challenge. I will be sending out 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summaries in October to local treasurers. Look at your giving and see where you can make the most difference as we close out 2023. Thank you all for your continued support of our Mission Giving.

This is faith, hope and love put into action.

Yours in Christ,  
 Laura Pfeffer

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 UWF</u>	

2024 NORTH CENTRAL  
 JURISDICTION

Get Together!

United Women in Faith

REGISTRATION OPEN

May 31 – June 2, 2024

Soul Care Retreat -- May 30

Indianapolis IN

John 13:34  
*"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (NRSV)*

Go to [uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org)

In the menu select Jurisdictional Events. We are part of North Central.  
 This event is for everyone.

2024 Jurisdiction Events

\* North Central Jurisdiction

May 30-June 2, 2024  
 Indianapolis, IN

## United Women in Faith South West District Annual Gathering 2023

South West District Annual Gathering was held at Madison-Bethany United Methodist Church on September 16th. We started the morning with singing and gathering, led by Ken Sosinski. We were so fortunate he could be with us! Mary Baker led us in Morning Devotions. Her topic was “Bodacious Women.” Our keynote speaker was South West District Superintendent, Rev. Dr Amanda Stein. Her theme was “Bold Women of Faith.” She received rave reviews from all who attended! Thank you, Amanda! Laura Pfeffer presented a beautiful Memorial tribute to members we have lost since last year, and Sue Plasterer recognized the SW District local units who are no longer with us due to disaffiliation.

After the morning business meeting, we attended Leadership Training. At the training for Education & Interpretation, Alice Schellenberger agreed to be nominated as our District E & I Coordinator. She joins other new members of our team, Ann Hill (Communications) and Linda Huttenburg (Social Action Coordinator). We were sad to see Laura Pfeffer retire as our District Treasurer, Kay Putman as our Membership, Nurture, & Outreach Coordinator, and Karen Mayeshiba as our Communications Coordinator.



Officers Retiring



United Women in Faith Team 2024



D.S. Amanda Stein was our Keynote Speaker

We were served a delicious lunch by Bethany UMC. After lunch, we learned about The Playing Field childcare program from director Abbi Kruse. We then attended afternoon Breakout sessions, which included a tour of The Playing Field, “How to be a Welcoming Community” led by SW District Lay Leader Robin Kelby, “Green Team: More Than Just Recycling” led by Josie Gobel, and “Faith and Gun Violence” led by Eileen Bennett.

We ended our day with Communion led by Pastor Julie Wilson of Bethany. We all want to express our appreciation for Bethany UMC and United Women in Faith for hosting.

Eileen Bennett,  
Vice President



Sanctuary at Madison—Bethany UMC

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

## Day of Enrichment 2023

### Celebrating 60 Years of United Methodist Childrens' Services

At Columbus United Methodist Church, Columbus, WI  
Saturday, November 11, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30)  
Lunch will be served at 1:00 at CUMC, featuring a variety of Korean dishes.

- Special music by CUMC Pastor Sang Wook Park
- Keynote by United Methodist Childrens' Services
- Reading Program reports and Unit Sharing
- Communion, led by Pastor Park



If you would like to report on a book from the Reading Program, please contact Eileen Bennett. We will also have an Ingathering for United Methodist Childrens' Services. The list will be included in your confirmation letter.

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

UW Faith Unit or Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any food allergies or sensitivities you may have:

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Are you interested in childcare?      YES      NO

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** NOV 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to **SW District United Women in Faith**.

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

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

## Congradulations to Mission Today Units

### Mission Today Units for 2023

Arlington	Baraboo-First
Madison-Bethany	Madison-Wellspring
Brodhead	Columbus
Wauwaukee – Crossroads	Dodgeville
Lodi	Platteville
Stitzer	Stoughton
Whig	Willow Valley

Mission Today criteria help women in the local units fulfill the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women. Using the task list for goal setting each year helps a unit to grow. We received some great suggestions and comments this year. We will be sharing those during Unit Sharing at Day of Enrichment in November.

Willow Valley is a Mission Today Unit for the first time. Congratulations

Here are some of the great comments and suggestions we received from our units:

**Baraboo-First** – *“We’ve shipped coupons to our adopted Army base in Okinawa, which can be used in the commissary up to six months after they expire. We have regular outreach to our home-bound (we call them at-home members) with cards, treats, gifts, etc. (We also involve them in the coupon clipping.) We have a prayer shawl ministry. We had a cookie baking project to show gratitude to construction workers working on the public library annex next door to the church.*

**Stitzer** – *“We have a prayer shawl ministry. We have prayer squares and gifts to give to new faces that come to worship. We invited Carol Lange to do the message for UMW Sunday. We had a program about UMCOR at two of our meetings. At our last meeting we celebrate with a potluck and make cheer boxes for new people in our community and those with health issues.”*

Eileen Bennett  
Vice President

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

~Thank you to Eileen who took on the job Education and Interpretation as well as being Vice President in our district.~

## Membership Nurture and Outreach

Dear Sisters in Faith,

As my 21<sup>st</sup> year of serving on conference and district mission teams comes to an end, I say thank you. Thank you for letting me serve to learn and learn to serve.

What a blessing each of you have been to me. I hope that each of you will take the same step I took when asked to serve, you will never regret that step. Blessings abound.

There have been stories, friends and new experiences around every corner. I could write a book; and all while working for the Lord. What could be a better way to give back to others.

This is not the end of it all, just a new way of serving to learn and learning to serve. Keep up the good work and blessings to you all. See you soon at UWF district and conference events.

Kay Putman,  
Membership, Nurture and Outreach

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

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH READING PROGRAM 2023

Thank you to all who submitted reports for this year.

The following ladies earned a certificates:

Linda Huttenburg, Bethany - Plan I

Vada Mayfield, Bethany - Plan I

Donna Wold, Bethany - Plan I

Linda Whitelock, Bashford - Plan II

Laura Pfeffer, Lodi UMC - Plan III

Josie Gobel, Madison First - Plan IV.

Books are in five key categories:

Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Leadership Development, Education for Mission, Nurturing for Community and reading *response Magazine*. Read one book or other activity from each category and receive a certificate.

To participate in 2024, books from the 2019-2024 Reading Program list are eligible for reporting credit. The new book list will be printed in the November/December copy of **response** magazine.

Thank you Eileen Bennett for printing out the 2023 certificates.

Mary Ann Morack

254 Strangeway Ave. #5

Lodi, WI 53555

(608) 592-4784  
c. (608) 581-6353

mmorack1@yahoo.com

Go to:

[uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org)

Order the Bundle while they last. These are useful resources for unit meetings.

Also check out the new reading list for 2024

You've asked and we've delivered – The 2024 Bundle is now available for pre-ordering! This year we are offering a **20% discount** on the whole Bundle offer. (Sales tax for NY and TX residents still applicable).

The Bundle includes:

- Daily Prayer Guide **2024** (\$19.99)
- Program Resource **2024** (\$14.99)\*
- Adult Curriculum for Mission u (\$14.99)

Bundle shipments will start mailing in December of 2023.

**This offer is available for the first 1,500 subscribers – act now!\*\***

# Bundle 2024

**20% offer available  
through December**

I thank the team and the members of South West District United Women in Faith for all the interesting programs and material that you have shared with me to help us all through this very hard time. Reaching out and hearing about all the different ways we got through the last few years has been life giving. Thanks for all the opportunities and fellowship.

Blessings for everyone who has been on this journey with me as an officer for United Women in Faith.

Yours in Christ,

Karen Mayeshiba

## NEWS FROM NORTHCOTT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

On Friday, August 11, 2023, Northcott Neighborhood House, Bader Philanthropies, United Methodist Church, WestCare Wisconsin, King Advisory, Inc., and Bronzeville Cultural and Arts Festival came together to pass out 2,000 books. These partners from all over the city collaborated to provide youth with book bags and school supplies; their goal was to give out thousands of book bags at the Harambee Back to School Block Party.

I attended the Block Party with my daughter and friend to volunteer for the back pack giveaway. We asked the families to complete the form with their children's names who were to receive a backpack. They were given out later so their families had a chance to talk with the many vendors who had gifts for them and much information on their services to help the families. Many partners from all over the city provided youth with bags and school supplies. They also had handouts of food too everyone. It was a perfect day for hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and refreshments. The kids had fun projects, face painting and cupcake decorating.

The event was a grand success and they continued to give out book bags through the food pantry throughout the week, assisting families in getting prepared for school.

### NORTHCOTT PUTS SOCIAL ACTION TO WORK

Northcott Neighborhood House has worked with the Milwaukee workforce through the Urban Arborist Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program. With instruction from MATC, trainees are working in a paid educational experience in the form of trade work. Due to the success of this program, there is a waiting list of interested students.

The Northcott students were involved with several companies and developers. For example the construction of 40 rent-to-own single family homes on vacant lots as well as the rehabilitation of existing duplexes to provide 40 affordable rental units to the area.

*When we help ourselves, we find moments of happiness. When we help others, we find lasting fulfillment.*

*IN THIS TOGETHER, Mary Ann Morack, Northcott Representative*

### Director of Northcott Neighborhood House to Speak at Lodi UMC

Lodi United Women in Faith members would like to invite you to our meeting on Wednesday, October 11 at 10:30 a.m. We are honored to have Tony Kearney, Sr. to be our speaker. Bring a school supply item for Northcott. Please let me know if you are able to attend.

Mary Ann Morack	
254 Strangeway Ave. #5 Lodi, WI 53555	
(608) 592-4784 c. (608) 581-6353	mmorack1@yahoo.com

### Donna Fae asked me to pass this message along.....

Donna Fae Kruse thanks everyone from United Women in Faith for all the cards and prayers she received. They made such a great difference to her for her recovery. She is now home, enjoying life and being connected to others. United Women in Faith has been a blessing throughout her life.

Told to Karen Mayeshiba

times in which we live. We must hold one another up when the going is rough and work together to bring faith, hope and love to women, children and youth here and around the world. "Bodacious, Bold Women" can do that with God's help and the support of one another.

My heartfelt thanks to all the "Bodacious" and "Bold" Women of Faith who make this mission journey possible. Have Bodacious, Bold ideas? Share them with your 2024 SW District leadership team. They may be just what we need during these times. Remember "We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation".

Sue Plasterer, President,  
Wisconsin South West District,  
United Women in Faith,

(608)274-0275	seplasterer@charter.net
6313 Winstone Dr. Madison, WI 53711	

### News and Notes from Nominations...

I write this with great celebration for the women who will continue their leadership for our Southwest District Team! I am filled with joy and gratitude to the marvelous newly elected women who have come forth with faith and promise to fill some of the open slots. Ann Hill will serve as Communications Coordinator, Linda Huttenberg will serve as Social Action Coordinator, and Alice Schellenberger will serve as our Education and Interpretation Coordinator. This is a awesome! There's much anticipation for what possibilities and potential our future holds.

I was blessed to share devotions at our Annual Gathering. My topic was BODACIOUS WOMEN!! Now I realize the word bodacious has a variety of definitions, but I want you to focus on these definitions. **Admirable, bold, remarkable, good, impressive, unmistakable, and noteworthy**—great words that fit this team.

As this goes to press, we continue to reach out and ask women to serve in the positions not filled. It is essential for District Finance operations to have a Treasurer. Please pray as we reach out to fill this office. We also have open slots for Membership, Nurture & Outreach, Young Women's Representative, Historian, and one person for Nominations (1). If you are interested, or can suggest someone who may be interested, please contact me and the Nominations team will work together to assist you. The inspiration and blessings of serving with South West District team are immeasurable!!

As United Women in Faith we believe love in action can change the world! Let's work together to make that happen.

Blessings to you!

Mary Baker and Team—Carol Lange, Judy Loveless and Charlene Mingst

Mary Baker	
175 Hilltop Dr. Fall River, WI 53932	
(608) 210-4048	bakermar1803@gmail.com

## Local Leadership Form United Women in Faith 2024

Local Church:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Pastor(s):

Church Phone:

Church website or email:

### Instructions:

Please print or type complete information requested in the blanks provided. Add additional pages for officers as needed. Each officer (even co-officers) needs to fill in their own information section.

Please provide all requested information even if your officer list has not changed.

**Forms are due on Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023**

**Send or email to:**

Karen Mayeshiba, 1702 Lynndale Rd. Madison, WI 53711 or kamayeshiba@yahoo.com

### Officer List page 1

#### President Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Land Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Mission Matters:

Email

Print

#### Secretary Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Land Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Mission Matters:

Email

Print

#### Treasurer Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Land Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Mission Matters:

Email

Print

#### Chair of Nominations Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Land Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Mission Matters:

Email

Print

Page 2 of Officer List

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Office:</b>		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Land Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		Mission Matters:	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/>

Attach more officer's names and information as needed

## District Member Registration Form 2024

Help us to keep up with you. We have information for you and events to attend.  
Help us work toward the goal of supporting each other in mission and faith.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Mission Matters: Email  Print

Church:

Address:

Are you part of an on-line unit or do on-line events?

Are there UWF topics that you would like us to cover as a district member?

Return form to:

Karen Mayeshiba, 1702 Lynndale Rd., Madison, WI 53711

Email: kamayeshiba@yahoo.com

Due November 1, 2023

### Updating the Directory for 2024

Now is the time to send in your unit and district member information. This is my last project as I hand over the Communication Coordinator position to Ann. I need the form around November 1, 2023 so that we can connect with each other in 2024. Our conference wants to have information for their year book on January 15th and of course Ann needs updated information to send out the January issue of Mission Matters with information about the upcoming Spring Spiritual Growth Retreat. As soon as your officers/district member are set for 2024 please get that information in to me.

Bonus—If there is a unit member who wishes to get Mission Matters (especially emailed) add them to your list as a subscriber. Thanks, Karen Mayeshiba

#### Communication Coordinator

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

Email: 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.

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#### By Fax

1-845-267-3478

South West District UW Faith  
Karen Mayeshiba  
1702 Lynndale Rd.  
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United  
Women  
in Faith

Love in Action Can Change the World