



United Methodist Women 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, supportive fellowship, and

to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



A message from our North West District Team's President..... Liz Dempsey

We are truly seeing and feeling unrest throughout our world. It reminds us somewhat of scriptures in Revelation. So let us pray boldly and loudly for peace to reign for this is not what Christ taught us.

As the North West District officers meet on April 30th, I pray that we can plan a Fall Gathering that has both a live meeting at a reasonably central location and a virtual capability as well. If you have suggestions for a location, we would like to hear from you. Given the rising costs of travel, we know that we must try to provide both options. So, feel free to call me at 715-517-1014.

As I look out my windows, I pray for more signs of spring. We seem to be having little "burps" and "bursts" that say "I am still winter". But I know God's robins have arrived once again plump, sassy and just cold enough to keep busy for warmth. Since I've seen them hunting for materials for bedding down, spring must be just around the corner but where.......? Personally, I am determined to get the mole max in my tulip beds before the rabbits and deer eat the blossoms and so, God willing that will happen.

I pray that you all have been staying healthy and active to the degree that weather and COVID have not kept you totally ensconced in your homes. But, if not, I pray that you have found activities that keep relationships, hands, hearts and minds blessed and active. And so, let us move forward.

Yes, our name has changed once again! Of course, for many of us it was unexpected. Reading the various commentaries, this has been in the works for 8 years, not just 4. And many of you have been through our name changes previously. Though we may not all agree with the precise name given, there is reasonableness for doing so. For those who have the most recent "response" magazine or if you in 2019 studied the 150 Years in the Mission book (**Women United for Change**), our name has changed 25

times since 1869. So, as you go through the Weaver, we will mention some of the changes as the Weaver moves one subject to another. These will indicate some of the changes. I look forward to seeing many of you sooner rather than later but whenever we can, let's keep in touch. I would welcome coming to you when you are comfortable with visiting and talking together.

Blessings, Liz Dempsey



Our world is in the throes of chaos with a war on the continent of Europe. The women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland in February wrote an intercessory pray for World Day of Prayer for the people in Ukraine in particular. Please pray with these women the following prayer......

"God of the past, the present and the future, our thoughts and prayers are with our sisters and brothers in Ukraine and the surrounding countries in their fear and distress.

We pray too for all other regions of the world where there is conflict, unrest or oppression.

We pray that reconciliation will overcome hatred,.....peace will conquer war,.....hope will replace despair and that your plans for the region will be fulfilled.

God in your mercy......Hear our prayer......Amen"

Our new logo represents the past, present and future of our organization. The symbol refers to our Christian roots. The multicolored pieces of the cross coming together represents the diversity we aim for and the inward and outward reflection we engage in as women of faith. The typography is solid, modern and bold, showcasing our power to support the causes in which we invest.

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From the desk of our North West District Team's Treasurer's... Annette Pederson

UMW Sisters.

How time flies!! 2022 is already $\frac{1}{3}$ over. Spring is here and I can hardly wait to get my hands in the dirt again. Seeing plants come to life after this long winter is so uplifting. Our virtual Spring Day of Enrichment was also uplifting. We collected \$598.00 for the Afghan Project.

So far this year we have collected 22% of our District Conference Pledge. Thankyou to all the units that have contributed. Remember the 5 areas that go toward the pledge are Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Blessings, Annette



United Methodist Women is now United Women in Faith! The move is part of a refreshing of the organization that includes a new logo and an array of new and improved programs to nurture current members and welcome new women to join to put their love in action on behalf of women, children, and youth.

The organization announced the new operating name in the March-April edition of response, its bimonthly magazine for members, and launched the rebrand with a new website during a <u>Facebook event</u> on March 3, 2022.

The new programs are fruits of research conducted over the past five years with more than 24,000 United Methodists and women of other Christian traditions participating in the surveys, focus groups and interviews. This input informed the prayerful discernment of staff and elected leaders.

The changes are designed to address the different needs and life stages of current members and new women and expand options for membership and engagement. The new name also aims to welcome current members whose local churches may choose to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church as well as women of other faith traditions who want to join.

Visit the new website at https://uwfaith.org/

The organization remains incorporated in New York as United Methodist Women and is doing business as United Women in Faith.

This information was gathered from an online resource of United Women in Faith.

A message from our North West District Team's new Historian... Claudette Smith

My name is Claudette Smith your new Historian. I have been a member of the Holcombe UMW unit for over 30 years. Over the years, I have held various offices. I am now the president of this great group of ladies for my local unit. I'm not new to the district, at one time I was on the nominations committee. Yours in Christ, Claudette

A Message from our North West District Team's Social Action Coor.....Laura Ida

Greetings United Women in Faith!

In our busy and ever-changing world, there are always opportunities for Social Action! A few recent highlights in Social Action include learning about the Afghan Refugee Response from Rev. Peder Johanson during our Spring Day of Enrichment in March and the recent Day of Action in April connecting with our WI Native American Sisters.

Rev. Johanson who serves as the Volunteer Coordinator of the Afghan Refugee Response of the WI Council of Churches explained the resettlement efforts in WI and the various ways churches are assisting. Our new Afghan neighbors are considered "Humanitarian Parolees" and will need to gain "refugee" status. Our voices may be needed to help expedite legislation to expedite this legal path for our new neighbors. He also spoke of the great numbers (90 million) people who are displaced globally, whether by war, climate change or other trauma and violence.

Mission Action Day included 3 outstanding Oneida Nation women who spoke about historical trauma, health care disparities and violence against Native American/Alaskan Native women and girls in Wisconsin. There were 137 participants statewide with half of the registrants joining by Zoom at home, while half joined one of the virtual watch parties. I am aware of watch parties at Eau Claire Lake Street, and Osceola UMC in our district. The entire program was recorded so everyone will be available to view it soon or use parts of it for a program at their churches. Our Conference Social Action Coordinator, Kathy Hartke will be sending future Action Alerts so that United Women in Faith can take action and have their voices heard!!

An immediate recommended action we can take is to ask our WI legislators to Cosponsor the Into the Light ActS3824 (for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders). We can also continue to honor Native Americans by reading, Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women (from the UMW reading list). We can also view Kind Hearted Woman, a documentary portraying the true story of a contemporary Native American woman living in two worlds (available through the public library system) or Ta Ata a film available on Netflix based on a true story of a woman who traverses cultural barriers to achieve fame as an actress and a Native American storyteller.

I hope you will join me in prayerfully considering how you are called to action! "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40) Yours in social action, Laura

A message from our North West District Team's Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coor......Cheryl Starr



As I write this in the middle of April, it is snowing! Spring and the Easter celebration of Jesus' victory over death is usually our signal to get outside and look for signs of new life. Although the weather hasn't cooperated, the UMW has used this time to signal change and hopeful signs of new life with our new name: *United Women in Faith*

Our organization has always had 3 basic principles to guide us: **our faith in God, our love for each other, and finding ways to put our faith into action**. This hasn't changed with the name change. What has changed is finding new ways for participation, an improved website and programming changes at places like Mission U to address the needs of many of the women in our churches.

We have seen a drop in our memberships in the past several years, and we all know there are women in our church families that are not part of our organization. How can your group introduce these new changes in your church and encourage more participation? Perhaps this section of *The Weaver* can become a forum of sorts where we can share ideas for increased participation? Please share your ideas with me as you introduce our new name in your church

As noted on the United Women in Faith Facebook page: "We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation." Let's begin tackling the hard work right in our own backyards and encourage more to join us in our work.

Blessings to you in this journey!

Chervl

United Women in Faith.....

We're a sísterhood

acting in faith

to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation.

Driven by God's love and wired in sisterhood,

We work to improve the lives of women, Children and youth.

Everyday.....we show up.

We take action.

We get it done.

And we invite you to join us.

Inspiration to READ from our North West District Team's Program Reading Coor......Cherie Bingham

Greetings once again to my United Methodist sisters of the North West District.

Summer is coming, I/We just have to believe!! All this cold, rainy spring weather has been good for catching up on some reading, before getting caught up in all the spring & summer projects that need to be done outdoors. I hope that each of you have been able to read some of the books in the Reading Program, or have been able to watch some of the Podcasts. There are so many great options for participating in the program!

I recently attended the virtual Mission Action Day event. Featured were speakers discussing issues that we all need to be concerned about regarding our Native American sisters in faith. I was pleased to see that one of the books on the suggested reading list for the event was from our Reading Program- Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women. I loved this book & have suggested it to others. Please keep up with your reading & let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by email at: cherijeanb@hotmail.com, or by phone at: 608-712-7820 (please leave a message for me).

Blessing and happy reading, Cheri

Sister Units for 2022

Annette Pederson—Holcombe

Barbara Bender—Clear Lake, Cumberland, Downing: (District Members Chetek and Chippewa Falls Zion)
Billie LaBumbard—Grantsburg, Balsam Lake/Centuria, Superior, Ashland: (District Member Webster)
Cheryl Bingham—Bloomer, Cadott, Jim Falls, Eau Claire Lake Street: (District Members Augusta and Thorp)
Cheryl Starr—Turtle Lake, Spooner, River Falls, Pleasant Valley

Chris Draxler—Barron, Rice Lake, Prairie Farm, Canton: (District Members Birchwood and Wheeler)

Claudette Smith—Chippewa Falls Trinity, Mondovi, Exeland

Karen Leichtle-Knapp, Whitehall, Glenwood City, New Centerville: (District Member Pepin)

Laura Ida—New Richmond, Osceola, Ono/Plum City, Rock Elm

2022 UMW Important Dates

July 12th & 14th and July 19th & 21st ZOOM Mission u
July 28th – July 30th – In-Person 3-day mission u
August 6th or 13th – Team Planning Meeting
September 16th- Prep for Fall Gathering
September 17th- Fall Gathering
November 5th – Team Planning Meeting
December 3rd – Team's Christmas Gathering – 7 -

Be informed message from our North West District Team's Education and Interpretation Coor.....Barbara Bender

A New Name—UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH!

For those of you who get the response magazine, the March/April issue has all the information about our new name.

Since the merger in 1972 we have been United Methodist Women (and legally still are), but it was felt with the changes in the last forty years, it was necessary to look at changes in the life of the church, how women live, and choose to engage in the world of faith.

It would include a new look, an improved program to better nurture current members, and to welcome new women into our sisterhood where we put love in action.

We can now have members from other denominations or anyone who is wanting to live out their faith and make a difference. It seems to me to be a great step forward. Try to get a response magazine and read more.

Happy Spring,

Barbara

Soul Care from our North West District Team's Spiritual Formation Coor........ Billie La Bumbard

"If three people look at a diamond from different angles, each one sees something different.

A true picture of the whole emerges only because the viewpoints are different." (Raymond E. Brown in Crucified Christ in Holy Week)

I have reflected on this bit of a recent Bible study of the 4 gospels. It is true for all life "events". We all see a different side or facet, but God sees the whole. Recently a resident of my workplace passed away expectantly. Each staff and each resident viewed the event differently.

Christians view this as a transition on our journey to eternal life. A peaceful passing. We rely on our reading about Jesus' journey and resurrection. Hope is restored. Hope is celebrated. Hope abides and gives us strength to continue on our journey. Non-Christians view this as the end and are sad, fearful and without hope.

May God, give you hope. Amen

-8 -



Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women Mission u 2022

Great news—COMMUNITY is God's desire for us! Join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

This year, as we study Luke 13, we find ourselves in a period of disruption and uncertainty. In the midst of a devastating pandemic, divisive political climate, unaddressed systemic racism, ecological crises and economic turmoil, we turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia.

Our hope is that we will leave Mission u with a bigger and broader vision of the community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tended to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Our newly designed Mission u 2022 is more flexible than ever. You may choose to do an In Person class or a Zoom class. The text for the class, *Who Can We Be Together?*, will be available soon...

In Person Mission u 3-day class Thursday evening to Saturday afternoon July 28—July 30, 2022

Christ United Methodist Church Watertown, WI ZOOM Mission u 4 evening sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays July 12 & 14. 2022 July 19 & 21, 2022

In your home or chosen location



Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women

In Person Mission u 2022 Registration Form for July 28, 29, 30

Christ United Methodist Church, Watertown, Wisconsin					
Name	District (Circle One) N	IW NC NE SW SE			
Address, City, State, Zip					
Email					
Phone					
UMW unit	Position in unit, district, or conf	ference			
Early bird registration is \$70. After June 1 the	cost is \$85. Registration	deadline is June 27.			
Send check made out to <u>Mission u</u> along with this registration form to our registrar:	Marilyn Eyster 122 E. Cox Rd. Edgerton, WI 53534 marilyn.eyster@gmail.com	Home 608-868-3585 Cell 608-480-9424			
You may also register online.					

Click or copy & paste this URL into your browser.

https://forms.gle/H3Ce3TZWmRKCqNv57

Registration is transferable but not refundable

Note: If we need to cancel In Person Mission u due to a worsening pandemic situation, you will have the option of either the refund of your registration fee or of converting your registration to the zoom class with the refund of the difference in cost.

The zoom class will be held on four evenings, July 12, 14, 19, and 21, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The decision whether or not to cancel the In Person Mission u will be made by July 1, 2022.

Lodging: Participants are responsible for their own lodging reservations and evening meals Thursday and Friday nights. We have set aside a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn Suites at 725 Paradise Lane, Johnson Creek, WI 53038.

The rooms will be available at the special rate of \$129 per night single or double occupancy. They will be held for us until June 27 or until they have all been filled. The rooms include a free hot breakfast on Friday and Saturday mornings.

Make hotel reservations by calling 1 (920) 699-2800. WI Conference United Methodist Women

Who Can We Be Together? Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Great News—Community is God's desire for us! Join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

What would be possible if we tended to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13? This year we turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia.

We will be using the book, Who Can We Be Together? for this class. This book is available for purchase at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 800-305-9857. Check those that apply: ____Seeking Lay Speaker credit ____ Seeking CEU credit (for Clergy) Request Scholarship (Check here to find out about Conference scholarships for Mission u.) _ First time at Mission u _New WI Clergy Mission u scholarship Requesting a scholarship stipend to help offset the cost of child care up to \$25/day for the first (5) requests with registration (Please contact registrar for information.) Meal: A Friday box lunch is provided with your registration. Beverages will include water, coffee, and lemonade. Other meals are on your own. Please circle one: ____vegetarian ____gluten free ____ham ___turkey ____roast beef **Photos:** Photos taken at Mission u could be used in material to promote this event. **Please sign below to** indicate that you understand that your photo may be taken and used by Wisconsin Conference UMW to help share United Methodist Women with others. **Emergency Contact:** Please be sure we have this information in case of an emergency. Name: Relationship: Best Phone Number to contact them:_ Is this person at Mission u? 2022 Wisconsin Conference Mission u Location: Christ United Methodist Church Who Can We Be Together? 112 Hall St., Watertown, WI 53094 In-Person Three-Day Class July 28, Hotel Check In: 3:00 pm, Fellowship: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Gathering: 6:30 pm-8:00pm Fri, July 29, 8:30 am—9:00 pm Sat, July 30, 8:00 am—1:00 pm.

Who Can We Be Together? is the text for this class. Order it at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 800-305-9857. No books will be sold at Mission u.



ZOOM Mission u 2022 Registration Form,

Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and JoyWisconsin Conference United Methodist Women

July 12,14,19, and 21 6:30 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

Great News—Community is God's desire for us! Join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be! What would be possible if we tended to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Who Can We Be Together? Is the book for this class. Purchase it at www.umwmissionresources.org or call 800-305-9857. You must purchase your own copy.

A zoom invitation will be sent to you one week prior to the first class session.

Each person should register individually. Your fastest and most accurate way to register is online at:

https://forms.gle/ScKL676aGzY7ok4m9 (Click on URL or Copy and paste it into browser)

You may also register by completing the form below and mailing it to our registrar with your check.

Registration: \$20 Registration deadline June 27 Registration transferable but not refundable.

Make checks payable to Mission u. Mail along with the registration form below to registrar:

REGISTRAR – Marilyn Ester Home 608-868-3585

122 E Cox Rd Cell 608-480-9424

Edgerton, WI 53534

A donation for our conference pledge may be added to your registration fee and noted in the check memo. This will take the place of the offering we usually take during the event....

ram including a donation of	_ to go toward our conference pleage
Name	District (Circle One) NW NC NE SW SE
Address, City, State, Zip	
Email	Phone
UMW unit	Position in unit, district, or conference
When we have breakout groups, as a significant point of the proof of t	will be signing in for our small group.

2022 North West District Team

Team Secretary: Karen Leichtle 715-425-8541

N 8207 970th St., River Falls, WI 54022 kleichtle@comcast.net

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Team Historian: Claudette Smith 715-595-4656

W10364 Town Line Rd., Holcombe, WI 54745 smith 5329@yahoo.com

Team President: Liz Dempsey 715-517-1014

27596 264th Avenue, Holcombe, WI 54745 <u>lizzied23@live.com</u>

North West District Superintendent: Reverend Barbara Certa-Werner

305 Mound Park Road, Elk Mound, WI 54739 bcertawerner@wisconsinumc.org

United Women in Faith.....

We connect spíritual women

To act boldly

For justice and transform communities.

-13 -

Mission u is Coming This Summer

Come join us for a time of sharing and bible study. We are gathering together in person as well as on our computers to learn about and think about the parables that Jesus shared with his followers.

These stories made people reflect on their lives and relationships. As we learn about the cultural context and the expectations in their time, we connect the meaning from then and relate it to our lives now.

Cultural details change, human motivations endure and speak to us today as it spoke in the era of John Wesley at the beginning of the Methodist movement.--- It speaks to us today.

Meet your Study Leaders for Mission u 2022

Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter (she/her)

Anna-Lisa is a tall, energetic pastor who enjoys bringing new people into faith conversations.

She has served as a district president of UMW and recently led a group to Washington DC to explore the intersection of faith and civic life.

While she considers growing churches 'fun', she also takes time for backpacking the Colorado Trail and Zen Doodling.



Pastor Anita Lang

Rev. Anita Lang was born and raised in Chile in the Methodist Church. A mother of three sons (Orlando 29, Pablo 24, and Esteban 14) she finds joy and inspiration in them every day.

She holds the position of Pastor at Elkhorn UMC as well as Adjunct Professor in the Religion Department of Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Through the United Methodist Women in Wisconsin, she served as the Hispanic Language Coordinator for three years (2007-2010). She has served as a pastor for over 12 years. Currently, she serves as Chair of the Board of Global Ministries Wisconsin Conference and as Chair of the Partnership between Wisconsin Conference and the Evangelical Methodist Church of Bolivia.



She is currently enrolled at the University of Costa Rica in an Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Socio-Religious Studies.

Commented [CD1]:

Pastor Carlos Careaga



Rev. Carlos I. Careaga will be ordained Elder in the Wisconsin Annual Conference this year and has served at Mt. Zion UMC in Janesville since 2015.

In Texas Rev. Carlos served in various local churches since 1999. He earned his Masters of Divinity at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX and concluded four CPE units focused on pastoral care and counseling.

Rev. Carlos has taught in the ICD (IDC) Spanish program in the Wisconsin Conference, has collaborated to develop a clergy and laity Methodism curriculum with the Board of Higher Education in

Ministry, and taught clergy online in Peru.

His Passion is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ through teaching with the goal of leadership development to contribute to the church's growth in this multicultural world. "Having the ability to explore faith through bible studies allows me to go beyond the pulpit."

Alice Staley

Alice Staley is currently serving as a member on the National United Women in Faith Program Advisory Group representing the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. She also serves on the Legacy Steering Committee and is a liaison to Communications.



Alice lives in Bloomington, Illinois. She is a member of Calvary United Methodist Church in Normal and sings in the choir and reads scripture as liturgist.

She worked as a paralegal at State Farm Insurance in the Litigation Section until recently. She is currently taking paid time off before retirement. Alice graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She returned to ISU to obtain her Paralegal Certificate.

Alice has been involved with United Methodist Women all of her adult life and served on the local, district, conference and jurisdiction levels before taking time out to be a caregiver for family. School of Christian Mission and Assembly were some of her first experiences with the women beyond her local unit.

Alice is a lay member to Annual Conference. She is a certified Lay Servant. Alice is also active in Church Women United, currently local

treasurer and a member of the National Finance Committee. She is also a member of SCAN (Statewide Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect), a committee of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. In her free time, Alice enjoys knitting, needlework, reading and taking care of flowers in the summer.

The WEAVER

Published 3 times a year by the North West District of The United Methodist Women of Wisconsin. Feel free to reproduce these materials.

All unit Presidents, Vice-presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries will receive the WEAVER at no cost. Any other Unit officers or members who wish to receive the WEAVER may subscribe to it by sending a donation of \$3.00 (3 issues a year) along with your name and address to the address below. Please make checks payable to the North West District UMW.

Chris Draxler, WEAVER Editor 30572 122nd Street New Auburn, WI 54757 715/225-2983

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United Women in Faith's new mission statement......

united Women of Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.