



United
Women
in Faith

CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Newsletter December, 2023

We need your Suggestions!

Central Bay District has been restructured, and it no longer is surrounding the Saginaw Bay. We have been asked to come up with a new name for our Newsletter (previously "Around the Bay"). We would like suggestions from you for a new name. Please send them to Caroline Diaz or Doris Simons (see addresses below). We hope to come up with something amazing!

Co-Presidents



Greetings from Caroline Diaz and Doris Simons, Central Bay District United Women in Faith Co-Presidents.

October is always a very busy month with both Central Bay District and Michigan Conference UWFaith Annual Celebration and Local and Officers Training taking place.

We held our Annual Celebration and Training at Mt. Pleasant First UMC. Our Keynote speaker was Rev. Kim Bos, director at Ferris State University Wesley House. She spoke on "Faith, Future and Gen Z". It was good to see everyone and be together again. It was a success with 65 attendees. Mt. Pleasant First UWFaith did a fantastic job as hostesses. The venue and lunch were greatly appreciated.

The Michigan Conference Annual Celebration was held at Holt UMC on October 28, and it was great. It was so good seeing everyone again. The music was uplifting and the program was well planned with Bishop David Bard as the Keynote Speaker.

The Nomination committee was able to fill many of our open positions. Thank you to our whole team for all their help. We still have openings for Vice President, Nominations Chairperson and Nomination's committee members. We are asking that you consider joining the District Team and helping us out. Please pray about this and contact us if you would like to be a member of the team.

Blessings,
Co-President

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Co-President
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989-781-1492 or 248-408-0797 (Cell)

Secretary



The “season” is approaching , and not just Advent and Christmas! I’m talking SNOW season!! Maybe by the time you read this we will have snow. I really hope so. As a gardener I believe snow protects my plants. I also believe in the adage: A green Christmas means a white Easter!! And I really like green Easters!!!

As I get a little older each year I seem to enjoy the more “low-key” holiday activities, especially the ones that represent a sense of calmness. I REALLY want to share those advent ideals: Peace, Hope, Joy, Love, Kindness, and Gratitude.

As secretary of CBD United Women in Faith, I want to send a very hardy Thank You to all the super duper units that sent me their updated officers list and information. This information helps the district team in so many ways. Many of you indicated your frustrations of “no change” and offices “unfilled”. Some of you sadly admitted to small membership numbers of under ten and units that are rather “inactive”. You are not alone. At District Team meetings we discuss and pray about this situation.

Although November 1, 2023 was the “deadline” for submission of your lists, you are still very welcome to send me something. I would enjoy hearing from you. A note about your unit’s situation would be welcomed. Use my address: 173 Dwyer St. Clare, MI 48617 or send to my email: jmskelander@gmail.com.

Blessings to all of you,

Jeanne Shelandor
989-386-2063



Treasurer

Hello beautiful ladies. Can you believe we are almost to 2024. Merry Christmas to all of you and many blessings for the new year. Well I’m coming to the end of my first year as district treasurer. Wow it has been a huge learning experience. I pray next year will be a little easier. I ask if you

haven’t sent me your 2024 proposed pledge, please do so ASAP .

As I close the books for 2023, I notice we haven’t heard from some of you. This would be a good time to drop me a note about how your unit is doing. If any of the local treasurers need help, forms or would like me to visit to your meeting, please let me know. My email address is sandra.horen@gmail.com, phone 989-717-8484 and address is 203 Willow BND Auburn, MI 48611.

Please be aware any donation received after Dec. 1 will be posted for 2024. I must close my books on November 30th each year.

Thank you for all you do to support women, children and youth through mission giving. Be Blessed.

Sandra Horen
203 Willow Bend
Auburn, Michigan 48611
989-717-8484



Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

United Women in Faith offers many ways for you to enrich your life, your faith and put love into action. I invite you to use the website. Go to UWFaith.org/resources. Scroll down and click on Resources Women in Faith. Here you can explore the five resources for enrichment: Podcasts (Faith Talks, response podcast and Voices of the Field), Response Moment, Reading Program, Program Resources, Mission u Curricula, and Prayer Guide. Remember to share what you learn with others.

Next complete the **2023 Mission Today Objectives** and send to me by February 1, 2024. These objectives reflect on what your unit accomplished in 2023, but as importantly help you plan for your 2024 programing. Use it as a guide. I hope to receive objectives from every unit. Yes, I said every unit!

Last, I encourage you to keep reading the **Response Moment**. It is the award-winning, official magazine of

United Women in Faith. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul, and challenge your mind with features such as Bible studies, opportunities for spiritual growth and development, articles on people and projects supported by your Mission Giving, regular features such as “Bright Lights” and “Responsively Yours.”

Sandra DeWaele

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*Mission Coordinator for
Spiritual Growth*

Here we are again, passing through fall and anticipating the winter months that will begin soon as we start the preparations for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. One thing that never fails is the changes that come with the passage of time.

This was my last year to serve on our Central Bay UWF district team. With the changes of the borders for the newly formed district, we have lost a few of our team members to their new districts, and some of them have termed out for serving on the district. I want to bid each of those that I have served with a fond farewell and send them the best wishes for the future years to come. It was truly a joy to meet them and work with them these past six years.

I also want to welcome the two ladies that will be filling my position and wish them well. The feature events for 2024 are ready for them, the Spiritual Enrichment Brunch on February 10 and the Spiritual Growth Retreat on April 26-27. See the enclosed flyers for these events and be sure to register for the fun, faith and fellowship shared at them.

I leave you with this scripture on my parting as it has always been my favorite. Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8. May God bless you all and keep you safe.

Your Sister in Christ

Linda Kube

kubelinda2@gmail.com 989-928-8165



Social Action

I have been a member of United Methodist Women for over 50 years and am looking forward to being a member of United Women in Faith for a number of years to come. I am a member of Midland First United Methodist but started my journey with United Methodist Women at Saginaw Ames United Methodist Church.

I am eager to serve you in the office of Social Action. Please celebrate with me our Statement of Purpose: “United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they may inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.”

“Peace, joy, love, and the greatest of these is love.”

Sharron Such

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**Secretary of Program
Resources**



This is my last newsletter article to the Central Bay District as an officer in your district. I came in as treasurer halfway through my six year term with the Blue Water District. So I served three years as treasurer of the newly formed Central Bay District and now I'm returning to East Winds District after one year as the Program Resources Secretary. It's been a pleasure to serve with the Central Bay team. Our names may have changed over the years but our purpose to serve women, children, and youth has not. I bid you farewell and I hope to see you again at conference events in the future. May God bless you all.

Bonnie Dunstan

Outgoing Program Resources Officer
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Rene Johnson

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Chair of Nominations OPEN

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(Continued on next page)

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Secretary of Program

Resources

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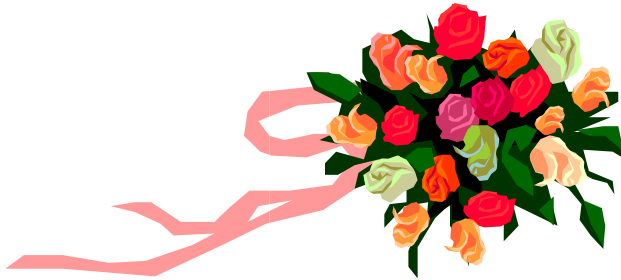
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In Remembrance



Women Who Have Passed Away in Your Unit in 2023

As a district we would like to take this time to remember the women who have passed away from your unit in 2023. They will be listed in our 2024 program booklet of the Central Bay District Celebration and Leadership Training event. *

NOTE! Submit only names of those who passed away in 2023.

Please submit the **names, church and date of death** to:

Judy Gerken

E-mail jrgerk@yahoo.com

Or Mail to: 3300 Sunnyview Drive
Saginaw, MI 48604

***Although the names will not be published until October, 2024, you may want to send me your list early in 2024 while it is available and fresh in your memory.**

Central Bay District United Methodist Women
P O Box 5386
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CBD-UWF Newsletter

December 2023

Dates to Remember for 2024

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 Virtual Mission u (repeat of in person study held July, 2023)

February 10 Spiritual Enrichment Brunch at St. Luke's UMC, Essexville

April 26-27 Spiritual Life Retreat at The Springs in Gladwin, MI

July 18-20 Mission u at Mt. Pleasant First UMC.

October 5 Central Bay District Annual Celebration & ELT at Faith UMC, Coleman

October 25-26 Michigan Conference UWF Annual Training and Celebration,
at St. Luke's UMC, Essexville