

The Compass

Newsletter of the Greater Southwest District United Women in Faith

A note from your President

February 2023 Edition

2022 is now over and we are learning to adjust to changes in our lives: new leaders, new churches, new titles, new district lines, and new opportunities. But something never changes and that is God's love for us and his call for us to reach out and love others. We will be welcoming new units into our district at our District Annual Celebration on October 1st. In the mean time, I am encouraging each unit, not only in our district but in the conference, to invite women of all ages and faiths, into our sisterhood of believers. Welcome them to all our events: Spring Fling on March 25th, Mission Evening on June 22nd, Mission u Retreat July 13-15th, District Annual Celebration on September 30th and Conference Annual Celebration on October 28th. Imagine growing your unit from 8 to 16. Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other is gold. God Bless you all! God is good all the time, God is good!

Linda Burton Collier, President

Prayer for United Methodist Community House

Creator God,

We know that you touch people's hearts through the Holy Spirit. We have seen an example of this throughout the last century as United Methodist Community House reached out and changed the lives of the least among us, children, youth, and seniors.

Today we are looking toward the future with a vision of what your world should look like. You have called us once again to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we step out in faith and love to continue to make a difference in the lives of this neighborhood.

We thank you God for leading us in the past and look forward to where you are leading us today and into the future.

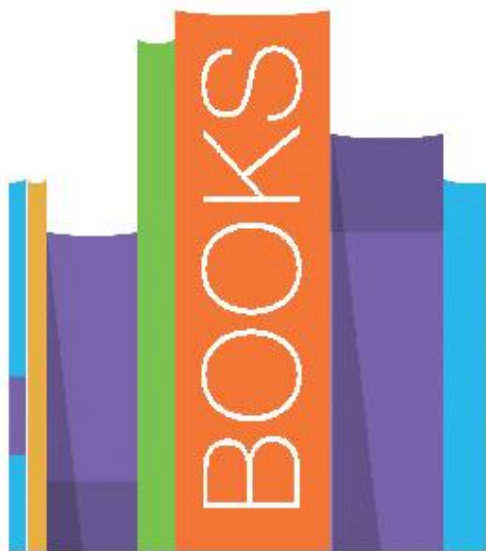
We put ourselves in your hands, God, as we strive to do your will and turn our faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of the children, youth, and seniors in this neighborhood and beyond. Amen.

READING PROGRAM

Reporting Form

Formulario de Información del Programa de Lectura

독서 프로그램독서 프로그램



PLAN I

- 5 books each year.
- 1 book from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN II

- 10 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN III

- 15 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 5 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN IV

- 20 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 10 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

Books can be purchased directly from the retailer of your choice or borrowed from your local public library.

For books on previous reading lists, go to:
uwfaith.org/read

Five Star Person

Have you ever considered giving to The 5 Channels of Giving as an individual UWF member? I've included the form if you are interested and would like to consider giving this year. You can use the attached form as a reference for 2023. Five Star Person recognition will take place at the 2023 District Annual Gathering next fall.



United
Women
in Faith

REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

*(Send completed form to your secretary of program resources or
equivalent according to your conference's schedules)*

NAME:

PLAN CHOSEN: I II III IV

CURRENT YEAR:

Education for Mission

Leadership Development

Nurturing for Community

Social Action

Spiritual Growth

**I have completed the
Required reading for
PLAN _____. The books I
have read are listed on
this form.**

LOCAL UNIT

DISTRICT

CONFERENCE

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

☐ I have also read
response regularly.

UWF Reading Program

Tis' the season to hunker down with a good book! You might be finishing up your reading program for 2022 or you might be interested in starting in with the new list for 2023.

<https://uwfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/ReadingProgramCatalog2023.pdf>

I can't wait to share the children's books with the kids at church! I also have **The Four Winds** by Kristin Hannah. What an amazing story of survival and true grit! I can't imagine living like the people devastated by the Dust Bowl!

I've included the log for keeping track of what you've read. Please send your 2022 logs to me by March 31, 2023. Certificates for the Reading Program will be given at the 2023 District Annual Gathering next fall. Thanks and happy reading!!

Laura Marlowe
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269-929-7393

Education and Interpretation

How is your local unit doing? Are you finally able to meet in person? Take some time to look at the Mission Today Unit Objectives and I bet your Unit was able to accomplish at least a few of the objectives in 2022. You only need 8 objectives to be a FAITH unit. (9 for a FAITH HOPE unit; 17 for a FAITH HOPE and JOY unit; and 25 for a FAITH HOPE JOY and LOVE unit).

Use the objectives to make plans for 2023: Can you add a new member? Can your unit give to all Five Channels? Would you like a District or Conference officer to attend one of your meetings? Will you use a lesson from the Program Book? How many of these objectives would you like your unit to fulfill?

Please send your 2022 form to me by March 31, 2023, and feel free to contact me if you would like support in fulfilling any of the objectives listed. Recognition for Mission Today Unit Objectives will be given at the 2023 District Annual Gathering next fall.

Laura Marlowe
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269-929-7393



2022 Mission Today Unit Objectives

United Women in Faith - Michigan Conference

Please print clearly!

Name of Unit _____	District _____
Name _____	() Telephone _____
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Email _____	

A unit will receive a Certificate of Achievement upon completion of one of the following categories between January 1 through December 31, to be presented at their District Annual Meeting the following October. Check the numbers completed.

*Units completing any 8 or more objectives will be a "FAITH" unit.

Units completing 9 or more objectives, with 8 asterisks () will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" unit.

Units completing 17 or more objectives, with 10 asterisks () will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" "JOY" unit.

Units completing 25 or more objectives, with 12 asterisks () will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" "JOY" "LOVE" unit.

Mission Giving

- _____ 1. *Made and met its Pledge to Mission.
- _____ 2. *Became a 5-Star Unit by contributing to all 5 channels of undesignated giving.
- _____ 3. Donated to local women's shelter or children's/youth program.
- _____ 4. Offered scholarships to *Mission u* and/or other United Women in Faith activities.

Spiritual Growth

- _____ 5. Observed a Call to Prayer and Self Denial.
- _____ 6. Participated locally in a retreat, prayer vigil or Bible study.
- _____ 7. Attended a District Retreat, Spiritual Day Apart, or Prayer Breakfast/Brunch.

Membership

- _____ 8. *Added one new member from women who have joined the church in the current year.
- _____ 9. *Added one new member not included in above.

Attendance

- _____ 10. Invited a District or Conference officer (other than a member of the unit) to one meeting.
- _____ 11. Had a combined meeting with another United Women in Faith unit.
- _____ 12. Attended Church Women United or other ecumenical group activity.
- _____ 13. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attended a conference *Mission u*.
- _____ 14. *At least two members (other than conference or district officer) attended the conference or district annual meeting/celebration.
- _____ 15. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attended the District Elected Leadership Training

Mission Education

- _____ 16. *Unit or circle conducted at least one *Mission Study*.
- _____ 17. *Two members completed a *Reading Program Plan* and reported on one of the books.
- _____ 18. Participated in but did not complete the *Reading Program*.
- _____ 19. *Used two programs from the *Program Book*.
- _____ 20. *Used the *Prayer Calendar* regularly in the unit meetings.
- _____ 21. Communicated with five persons listed in the *Prayer Calendar*, one from Michigan Conference.
- _____ 22. *Unit had two members reading **response** each month.
- _____ 23. *Unit included a *response Moment* during its meeting using an article to tell our mission story.
- _____ 24. Unit had one *Social Action* program.

Mission Action

- _____ 25. *Participated in a District or Conference ingathering project.
- _____ 26. Had a member of United Women in Faith present a mission program for youth or children in the church.
- _____ 27. Had at least one member visit a United Women in Faith Project and report to the unit.
- _____ 28. *Had at least one person receive and respond to legislative information from the United Women in Faith's Action Network.
- _____ 29. Unit or member participated in a workshop, seminar, or book study related to social concerns that stimulated and enriched the total community.
- _____ 30. *Unit participated in the *Campaign for Children* in at least two ways. Possibilities are:
 - Co-sponsored with the local church, a Children's Sabbath.
 - Involved with mentoring, tutoring or "big sisters" programs.
 - Communicated with representatives advocating for children's issues.
 - Attended a school board meeting.
- _____ 31. Made a pledge to care for God's creation and worked to become a "green" United Women in Faith Unit.
- _____ 32. *Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice policies in at least one way during the year.
 - Possibilities include:
 - Read books and articles about another race or culture.
 - Sponsor an inter-ethnic event between two or more units.
 - Recruit women of color to be members or officers of the unit.
 - Correspond with elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, civil rights, and programs for low-income persons, etc.
- _____ 33. Sent this completed form to your **District Mission Coordinator** for Education and Interpretation by ***deadline date:*** March 31, 2023.

This year our Unit qualified as a Mission Today FAITH HOPE JOY LOVE unit.

(Circle all that apply)

Send to your District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation



Spring Fling 2023!

Hopkins Methodist Church and the Hopkins United Women in Faith are hosting SPRING FLING 2023. *As we launch the new national name, United Women in Faith, the theme this year is "Make New Friends".*

Units are encouraged to attend and bring a friend or friends who might be interested in learning about our organization and mission.

Date: March 25, 2023

Time: 9:30 registration
10:00 - 2:00 Program and Lunch

Location: Hopkins United Methodist Church and Hall
322 North Maple St. Hopkins, MI 49328

Childcare will be provided if needed

Units are also encouraged to bring a small display to highlight programs your unit has sponsored or supported through your ministry. We will place these around the hall for all to see.

Love offering will be collected and given as part of the 2023 Pledge to Mission for SW Michigan.

In-Gathering Items can be brought to support Community House. We will be collecting coffee/tea/hot drink supplies. (Coffee, creamer, sugar, cups, stirrers, tea, hot cider, hot chocolate, etc.)

Please detach, fill out and return the registration form that is included in this newsletter along with your registration fee so that we can plan for lunch and childcare if needed.

Hope to see you there!

United Women in Faith Invite you to

Make New Friends

At

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 North Maple Street, Hopkins

Saturday March 25th, 2023

9:30am - 2:00pm

(registration begins at 9:30 and program at 10:00)

Discover

Mission Challenge project
Justice for your Neighbors
Community House
Reading Program

Enjoy

Music/Singing
Devotions
Skits
Lunch

Offering will be given as part of the 2023 Pledge to Mission for SW Michigan
United Women in Faith

***IN GATHERING OFFERING OF ITEMS FOR COMMUNITY HOUSE:
COFFEE SUPPLIES, TEA, OTHER HOT DRINKS***

Please detach and email/send to:

Mary Howard maryhowa@att.net, PO Box 114, 209 Grant St., Hopkins 49328

Names (Offices held) _____

(Make multiple copies or please list additional names on back of this form)

Email or phone number _____

City/ church _____

Childcare needed (names & ages): _____

registration fee \$10.00

walk-ins \$12.00

Five Star Person
Michigan Conference United Women in Faith
[The 5 Channels of Giving are represented by the 5 points of the "5-Star" Pin.]

Give this form and your donations to your UNIT TREASURER. She will send it to the District Treasurer. You will receive a "5 Star" pin and certificate which will be presented to you at your District Annual Meeting (usually September or October).

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Unit: _____

1. Pledge to Mission - An **individual member's** pledge to mission is the amount she/he decides is her/his share of the local unit's budget. (A **unit** Pledge to Mission is the portion of its budget which is set as a goal to send through district and conference treasurers to the National United Women in Faith for support of mission programs beyond its community. The decision about the amount to be pledged is the responsibility of the unit. The remainder of the unit's funds are used for administration and membership development expenses, and for local missions supported by the unit.)

Your Pledge amount _____ (____ enclosed ____ already given to unit)

2. Special Mission Recognition ("SMR" - minimum \$40) - A gift to mission in honor of any person in amounts of \$40, \$60, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1000, and \$2000. For each gift an oval gold pin with a cross and a certificate with the name of the honoree and the giver are provided by the National UWF Mission Resource through the District Treasurer. Your local treasurer will fill out a Special Mission Recognition Form with the following information:

Amount of Gift _____ (\$40 minimum)

Name of Honoree: _____

Send pin to: _____

*(Gifts may also be
made in honor of a
group or without an
honoree's name.)*

3. Gift to Mission (minimum \$5) - A gift of \$5 or more for mission may be made in honor of any individual, and a card will be provided for you to send to the honoree. Cards available are: ***Baby, Special Day, Thank You, Thinking of You, Happy Birthday, Christmas, Congratulations, In the Service of Christ, and Peace.*** You need not provide the name of the individual honored.

Amount of Gift _____ **Type of Card Requested** _____

4. Gift in Memory (minimum \$5) - Gifts may be made in memory of any individual, in the amount of \$5 or more. **Gift in Memory** cards, available free, will be provided to send to the family of the deceased. You need not provide the name of the individual or the family.

Amount of Gift _____

5. World Thank Offering - Spontaneous additional gifts can be given in gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life. This is an opportunity to respond to God's grace one time or collect coins throughout the year.

Amount of Gift _____ (____ enclosed ____ already given to unit)

YOU ARE A FIVE STAR PERSON!

****Please give your completed form and donations to your UNIT TREASURER.**



December 14, 2022

Dear Sisters in Christ at the Greater SW District of Michigan UMW,

Thank you for your generous donation of the school bags to Midwest Mission. Each donation is a blessing God uses to bless you and others. Your donation will leave Midwest Mission and be a practical example of God's love in the world to the "least of these". "The King will reply, '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 (NIV)

It is due to your generosity and partnership with Midwest Mission that we can touch so many lives for Christ around the world and around the corner. Thank you so much for blessing others through the ministry of Midwest Mission!

Yours in Christ,

Chantel Corrie

Thank You!

Chantel Corrie
Executive Director

PS. Please keep Midwest Mission in your prayers as we are praying for you. We pray over each organization and donor before the letter leaves.

No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution. Midwest Mission Distribution Center is an exempt organization as described in Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. EIN 37-1391589

This gift(s) will not be placed in a donor advised fund or supporting organization unless otherwise designated.

SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT
AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

1001 Mission Drive · Pawnee, IL 62558 · 217.483.7911 · midwestmission.org



What is the Diaper Mission Challenge?

The Diaper Mission Challenge 2023 is where UWF/ UMW Units in our district sew as many diapers as they can for the overseas mission. In the past we have done pillow-case dresses, diapers, school bags, knit baby sweaters, and sewn quilts. Competition is high and fun. How many diapers can your Unit make? 100? Here are a few ideas you may want to use:

- *Look for 'new' flannel sheets at Goodwill
- *Find used flannel sheets for the diaper padding.
- *Dig out flannel fabric from boxes or drawers that were never used
- *Share fabric with those that sew
- *Watch for sales at JoAnn Fabrics
- *If your Unit doesn't have patterns go, to Midwest Mission Distribution Center to request patterns.

Have a sewing party at your church
Can you trace, or cut, or pin, or turn, or stitch fabric?
We need you!

A note from Committee on Nominations:

Well, it's almost Spring—my snowdrops are blooming! Robins are everywhere, but I truly believe they didn't fly south this winter as I've seen a large number of them in my yard in December and January. If joining the District Team was a resolution you made on New Year's Eve, fulfilling that resolution will be easy! We have the position of Secretary available. We also are in need of Mission Coordinators for Social Action and Membership, Nurture & Outreach. We could use 3 members on our Committee on Nominations. I'll be at our Spring Fling on March 25 so don't be shy, come and talk to me about becoming a team member!

Cheryl Proctor, Chair
Committee on Nominations

Membership, Nurture, & Outreach

How good is your church website? In today's world people 'shop' for a church just like they do for new shoes. They go to many websites to see what is offered. Again. How informative and inviting is your church website?

- Does it have a church mission statement?
- Does it say if it is handicap accessible?
- Is everyone welcome or is it limited?
- Does it list activities and missions to become part of?
- Is there a calendar of events and meetings?
- Is there a section promoting United Women of Faith?
- Does it include many good pictures?

Who oversees your church website? Can you send pictures, post event fliers, is there a place for contacting a UWF person? Shop church websites to find how you can improve your church and UWF website image.

Cindy Thiele
MN&O Conference
cindahthiele@gmail.com

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Kalamazoo, MI 49004

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The PURPOSE of United Women in Faith:

United Women in Faith 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.

Greater Southwest District United Women in Faith Event Dates for 2023

March 25th Spring Fling “Make New Friends” at Hopkins United Methodist Church, 322 N. Maple, Hopkins, MI. Registration 9:30 am Program starts at 10:00 am with lunch at 12:00 pm. Come join us for fellowship, information, singing, good food, and fun. Child care is provided.

June 22nd Mission Evening at Union City United Methodist Church, 200 Ellen St., Union City, MI. This will include a visit to the thrift store that has been in the community for 60 years.

July 13-15 Mission u Retreat at Mt. Pleasant First United Methodist Church, 400 S. Main St. Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. All women and men are invited to attend, **children and youth will be free**. You can make this a family event!

September 30th District Annual at South Haven First United Methodist Church, 429 Michigan Ave. South Haven, MI.

October 28th Michigan Conference Annual Celebration at Holt United Methodist Church, 2321 Aurelius Rd., Holt, MI.