



NORTHERN LIGHT

GRAND TRAVERSE DISTRICT UMW

March 2018

IMPORTANT DATES OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Retreat
April 13-14
Lake Louise

Social Action Day
May 8
Horton Bay

Mission Day
August 9
Lake City

PURPOSE OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of 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.

UMW 2018 ASSEMBLY MAY 18-20 COLUMBUS OHIO

Spring is around the corner and so is United Methodist Women Assembly in Columbus Ohio, May 18-20. This exciting meeting happens just every four years. There are still spots available for you to register. Please consider attending! There is transportation available in the conference bus or my church van. Rooms are still available also. At the very least, perhaps you unit would like to contribute to the Assembly offering.

Finally! Redistricting is here! We know which churches will be in which districts though the districts do not have a name. We are for the most part District #2.....we lose a few units but have others joining us from Heartland District and Saginaw Bay District. We are sorry to see our friends leave but know you will be joining forces with great sisters! We are also so excited to have new friends joining us! We start operating as the new district on July 1 and we have much work to do before then. Would you be interested in serving on the steering committee to establish our own Standing Rules, budget and slate of officers, etc?

A couple of key district events are upcoming and the flyers/registration forms are included in this newsletter. Both will be very interesting. Retreat is introspective yet great fellowship with new and old friends. Social Action Day is what we as United Methodist Women in the 2000's are about—social justice! Gather young and older women to attend one or both! They are fun times!

By now, you should have received the electronic version of our 2018 handbook and directory. Printed version is available upon request. Please let us know of any corrections that are needed.

Plenty of opportunities abound. Let me know your thoughts or to volunteer!

Susan Wirgau

GTD UMW President

onthebay@chartermi.net

231-838-5986 Voice or Text

Our Social Action Day for 2018 is scheduled to be hosted by the Horton Bay United Methodist Church. It will be held on May 8, 2018

Our topic this year will deal with jail ministry. One of our four main focus areas focuses on incarceration and especially how it affects communi. Registration begins at 9 am with opening beginning at 9:30 am.ties of color.

Our speaker will be SK Osborne. She comes from the Ludington area. The title of her presentation is: "Radical Living. Radical Love. Radical Welcome." Random

February 12, 2018

Ms. Linda Darrow
United Methodist Women
West Michigan Conference
232 N. Cooley St.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Dear Ms. Darrow,

We want to thank you for the graciousness that the United Methodist Women have demonstrated to The United Methodist Community House over so many, many years. The deeding of the property to UMCH is a great blessing to us. As you are aware, I am new to the UMCH and am just beginning to understand our strong and historic relationship with UMW. Yet, we are totally humbled by the professionalism, compassion and commitment that you have exhibited to the cause of serving others.

UMCH is at a critical stage and our team is working diligently to ensure that the organization founded and supported for over a century by UMW will thrive for another 100 years. It is imperative that we re-imagine our vision for the future but I want to reassure you that the mission that first compelled UMW to create our agency is still intact and is just as relevant today as it was in 1902. We are honored to carry on this great work on your behalf.

As we move forward, we are pleased to continue our partnership with UMW as members of our board of directors, committee members and volunteers. Please share our gratitude with the United Methodist Women of Michigan. We will also keep you updated as we re-imagine how we can best serve our community in the Name of our Lord. Thank you for your unending support and we covet your prayers daily.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Williams

Carla Moore

Eric J. Williams
CEO

Carla Moore
COO

We warmly welcome the churches that will be added to what is currently called District#2. As of July 1, 2018 we will be one larger District but we are starting the process now. Our District name will change and possibly this publication as well. We are focusing on change and with God's help we will succeed.

In this newsletter you will also find a brochure and registration form for Mission u July 11-14 in Albion. If you are interested in a scholarship, please go to the website umwmichiganconference.org. The times were inadvertently left out, it begins Wed July 11 @ 6:30pm and ends Sat July 14 around 11:00 am.

Please note

The directories that went out in early March via email have some corrections. If you find any other errors, please contact Cola Hill colahill112@gmail.com or 231-549-5251.

Correct dates:

Mission u is July 11-14, 2018

Mission Day is in Lake City August 9

Mission u of the North is Oct 22-23

Please note also

There will be a book swap of religious books , reading program or other, at the Spring retreat.

Legacy fund Parties

Lake City UMW just finished their special fun Happy 150th Birthday celebration for United Methodist Women. We enjoyed drama, songs and cake. All were busy ringing bells that made a joyous noise for God to hear, when we answered His congratulatory “call”. This is a great way to share in fellowship while raising funds for the UMW Legacy Fund. Please tell us about your UMW 150th birthday celebrations or start planning a party now! Contact me, your District Treasurer, if you need more information about donating to the Legacy Fund.

Questions about this year’s donations

Sending your unit donations to the Treasurer of the Grand Traverse District UMW will remain the same in this year of 2018. No changes are needed because The Grand Traverse District UMW has a fiscal year that runs thru December 31, 2018. This is different than the United Methodist Church’s fiscal year. **All local UMW checks should be made out to the Grand Traverse District UMW for this entire current year. All current units in this District will pay their 2018 pledges to the Grand Traverse District UMW. Units that will be joining us in July will continue to send their checks to their respective District treasurers through the end of 2018.** Next January 1, 2019 will change our area to a new account and new name. Some new units will be added and a few units will shift to another District area.

All donations sent to our GT District UMW for United Methodist Community House need to be put on the designated area of your Treasurer’s Remittance form. **All District donations received will now go toward programming at United Methodist Community House.** We will no longer be using funds for the maintenance of the building because the West Michigan Conference UMW has transferred ownership of the building to United Methodist Community House. Your donations for UM Community House will be submitted to the National UMW Office, who will send them to United Methodist Community House later in the year.

May we all join together to provide for our 2018 Grand Traverse District UMW pledge of \$37,500.00.

Please notify me of other money matter questions so I may serve you better,

Sally Smith, GTDUMW Treasurer

s-sew-s@sbcglobal.net

Again this year all individual UMW members are being asked to register online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org. On the page that comes up, you will click on the small blue box on the upper part of the page that reads “My UMW: Add your info, and get your membership card.” The page that comes up says “Membership Log.” Look for the bar that reads “Search by Church Name, City, or Zip Code.” Type in the ZIP CODE for the city in which your church is located & then click on the blue box that says “SEARCH.” This will bring up a list of all the churches in the Zip Code. Click on the blue SELECT box that is found under the orange “CHOOSE” box for YOUR church. Then you are ready to begin entering the information that is requested. {Some information at the very top will have already been entered.} When you have completed the survey, click on the blue “SUBMIT” box at the bottom of the page.

UMW Presidents are being asked to complete the 2017 membership census on the Internet which can be found at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017. {However, your unit secretary or treasurer may do this for you.} Watch the video which talks you through & shows you how to complete this census. To begin filling out this census, look for the bar that reads “Search by Church Name, City, or Zip Code.” Type in the ZIP CODE for the city in which your church is located & then click on the blue box that says “SEARCH.” This brings up a list of all the churches in your Zip Code. Click on the blue SELECT box that is found under the orange “CHOOSE” box for YOUR church. Then enter the information for this census. When you have completed the census 2017, click on the blue “SUBMIT” box at the bottom of the page.

Thank you to the UMW units who have already sent me the West Michigan Conference 2018 Membership Counting Form for our district. For those units who have not sent me this information PLEASE NOTE that I STILL NEED this form, an e-mail or a telephone call from you with the UMW membership statistics for 2017 for your unit ASAP. You can find a copy of this counting form in the 12/27/17 e-mail {GTDUMW} for the Dec. District Newsletter from Trudi Hook, Communications Coordinator. Click on the attachment called “2018 Counting

Membership” to print it out. Let me know if you are unable to get a copy of this form.

Jane Tinsley, Membership, Nurture & Membership Coordinator 231-839-2885
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