

Treasurer – August 2019

My contact information has changed! My new mailing address is: 4671 Midway Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Please mail all remittance forms and checks to me at this exciting new address!



TRAINING for LOCAL UNIT TREASURERS will take place at Milan Marble Memorial UMC on **Saturday, November 2**. I encourage all local treasurers from the Heritage District to attend this training. In the past, training has been combined with the District Annual Meeting & Celebration at the end of September. After some discussion, we decided that we need more time for the training rather than trying to squeeze it in to a larger program. Let me know if this training time doesn't work for you and we can arrange how you can get a summary of the training as well as the materials!

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

All recognitions for 5-star women and 5-star units for 2019 will be announced at our Annual Meeting & Celebration in September of 2020 (next year). This gives everyone the entire year of 2019 to achieve the goal of becoming a 5-star woman or 5-star unit.

ALWAYS send a completed REMITTANCE FORM when you send me a check that is part of your Pledge to Mission. If this is new to you, please call me! 734-649-4849.

*****All UMW local unit bank accounts should change their EIN number to the new EIN number for the Michigan Conference UMW. Many of you are using your church's EIN number. Some of you probably have no idea what I am talking about. This gives you just another opportunity to contact me so I can explain AND share the new EIN number and the paperwork you may need to make this change.*****

IMPORTANT DATEES:

September 28: Heritage District UMW Celebration & Business Meeting at Howell First UMC.

November 1: Completed Pledge to Mission forms for 2020. Note: This form is also included in this newsletter. You may turn in the form to me at the Annual Meeting on September 28 or mail it to me by November 1.

November 30: Final day for mission donations to count for 2019. **REMINDER:** All of our accounting will be based on the calendar year (January 1 – November 30). You will be considered a 5-star unit if you get your donations in all 5 categories submitted to me by November 15. Your local unit will be recognized for this at our Annual Meeting & Celebration in September of 2020. Any donations received after November 30th will be deposited in January 2020 and will count in that calendar year.

December 31: Submit your list of 5-star women (and men). These are individuals who contributed to your local unit in all five of the Mission Giving categories (Pledge, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, & World Thank Offering). I have included another copy of the 5-star person form in this newsletter. The form goes to the local unit treasurer and the money should be sent to me with a check from your local unit account along with a remittance form.

All financial information submitted to the Conference UMW is based on the mission giving received from 12/1/18 through 11/30/19.

Let me know if you have any questions or corrections. Please contact me by email or phone. I enjoy hearing from you!

Thank you SO MUCH for all you do!

Mary Danforth, Heritage District UMW Treasurer
4671 Midway Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Phone: 734-649-4849
email: m19danforth44@gmail.com

Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach

Happy Summer Days! We made it through the rainy spring weather only to be blasted with 90 degree heat. As I sit and write this article for the newsletter, it is a peaceful evening. Thank you Lord for the beautiful sunshine and the cooler weather. Spring has flown by and here we are at the end of July already. They say "Time flies when you are having fun"... It's true!

Just a quick update, there are a number of us on the Leadership Team who have been working on revising the Standing Rules for our district. Thank you to Vicky for allowing the committee to meet at the Milan Marble Memorial Church and also for the yummy snacks. Along with the Standing Rules we are also updating the job descriptions for our officers of Heritage District. I ask for prayers to help me complete the task before me.

Linda Darrow, President of Michigan Conference shared information on the analysis of the 2018 Census with the Leadership Team. Upon reading the report, I find that our district is lacking in registering our local units. This is something that we will need to pursue this fall. I ask for prayers for help on continuing to work on this project. The 2019 census link will be available between the dates of October 1-15, 2019. Please mark your calendars, let's get registered as soon as possible.

Anyone can visit the national website at <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org> to learn more about the National office. There is a lot of interesting articles and information regarding United Methodist Women and what we are doing on a national basis.

I just got back from a mission trip with 19 other people from Erie UMC and LaSalle Zion UMC. We traveled to Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Pawnee, IL. *Their Mission is to transform the resources of God's people into humanitarian relief.* They started in 2000 and have been showing God's love by helping when needed with "flood buckets" and PDKs (personal dignity kits). I am sure at some point in time, as a UM woman, we have *all* sent both of these items to the distribution center. Some of the jobs we helped with were building desks to be sent overseas and inventorying new kits that were sent to the center to be sure the sizes and items were correct in the kits. If something is oversize it is redirected so that someone else could benefit from the item. Nothing is thrown out. I was so impressed with MidWest Mission Distribution Center (MWMDC) – they refuse to send anything out the doors that's not right. If your church is looking for a place to go on a mission trip, check this out. Their website is <www.midwestmission.org>. I would be glad to share my experience with anyone. Just contact me.

We love because he first loved us. I John 4:19

Share your smile today with someone new.



Kathy Snyder
(419) 343-9261
nanasnyder0124@gmail.com

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

A Child Enslaved Is A Child Cheated Out Of A Childhood.

Little boys, not much older than five or six years old, doing the labor of adult men.

They are cheap labor because they are on no one's payroll. They are slaves, child slaves. Perhaps they were sold to their traffickers by their parents. Perhaps they were stolen by someone and sold to the labor traffickers. Perhaps they were kidnapped by the traffickers themselves.

People tend to think of slavery as something that happened in earlier times, not in today's world, Not true! There are more slaves today than in the past and about 25% of them are children. It happens more frequently in Asia, Africa, and South America. Parents may sell a child when their poverty level is so desperate that they do this to ensure the family's survival. The price for one child is around \$50.00, age five to fourteen years, sometimes even younger. They have no idea what their child will face throughout their life as a slave.

They seldom receive any formal education, which almost always means they will never escape slavery or poverty. There is usually no health care, no decent living conditions. Some children sleep on beds made from wooden pallets or bricks, whatever the slave master chooses to provide. They probably will have no sanitary facilities or an adequate diet.

They can expect to be beaten if they try to escape

When we look to the part of the world which has the greatest percentage of child slaves we find we are looking at countries in Asia, including China, India, Thailand, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Bangladesh, Brunei, Vietnam, Singapore, and Malaysia as well as Cambodia, which is the only country found to not torture or beat child slaves.

Industries most frequently utilizing child slaves include:

Carpet making: 70% are girls, their small fingers are more dexterous; boys have more endurance and tend to be very obedient. Usually in India and Pakistan. Child slaves, often as young as age 4, are reported to be chained to looms 14 hours per day, 6 days a week.

Chicken farming and the fishing industry in Thailand. Children as young as 14 are tricked into believing that these jobs offer good pay. Once on board the fishing boat they find they are enslaved and may not get off the boat for as long as five years.

Sweatshops, especially in China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India but in other countries also. Some products using child slaves include shoes, rugs, toys, beadwork on fabric, carpets, leather work, matches, and glass production, including the very dangerous glass blowing.

Salt Mining: including hauling heavy loads out of the mines.

Mica Factories: utilizing children as young as 6 or 7.

Street Children may be beggars one day, sell jewelry and other small items the next.

Brick production: filling molds, firing them in the kilns, and then hauling them for storage until sold.

Did not Christ tell us that whatever you do unto the least of us you do unto me?

Patricia Jennings
Social Action Coordinator
kslej@aol.com

Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation



Summer is a-sizzling so it hardly seems possible that I need to begin to focus on the next large event for the United Methodist Women in the Heritage District. I have been in touch with the UMW Unit in Howell and they suggested that the ingathering be in support of LACASA, a center for victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault. This center's mission is very much in line with the mission ideals of United Methodist Women. I subsequently talked to Beth at LACASA and confirmed their need of the following items:

- paper napkins
- paper plates
- toilet paper
- diapers (all infant and toddler sizes).

Please start gathering these items for delivery to Howell on September 28 during our District Celebration and Business Meeting.

Also please remember to save soup/pop tabs, clean aluminum foil, and aluminum pans of all sizes and shapes. These items are recycled by the pound and provide funds to support United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids.

One more thing, just in case your units take a brief break during the summer, do not forget to complete your 2019 Mission Today Objectives and submit them to me by December 31. I will accept them from now until December 31, so complete the form and submit it, thus removing one more thing from your "to do" list. I have already received two completed forms – good job ladies!

Wishing you God's Sunshine for the completion of Summer!

Sheryl Zorn
8302 Eastwood St.
Ida, MI 48140
Home 734-269-2736
szorn2736@charter.net

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"



In my third year serving as Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth on the district mission team, I have just returned from a mission trip to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. This endeavor took us to God's Country Cooperative Parish located in the eastern part of the U.P. It covers a 2500 mile area from Engadine near Lake Michigan, up to Paradise at Whitefish bay, to Grand Marais on Lake Superior's south shore and encompasses McMillan, Germfask, Newberry, and Hulbert. Although it is located in some of the most beautiful country you could ever hope to view, the isolation, extremely harsh long winters, and scarcity of jobs bring challenges to these churches and the communities they serve. The churches can be up to 100 miles from their sister churches in the Cooperative. Yet these seven communities of faith combine their resources, share their faith, and through their active presence, work to bring self esteem, hope, and faith to all God's children throughout their vast parish.

God's Country Cooperative Parish is happy to host mission teams from all over Michigan and beyond to assist in sharing God's love while using one's hands and feet in a variety of outreach ministries in the seven communities all summer long. Our team was able to help in some minor home repairs, major cleaning of two churches, helping to continue the restoration of a school, known as Dunlap Ministry Center, along with the sorting & organization of donations for distribution to those in need. This was first hand experience of being God's hands and feet in the world.

A large poster located in one of the main hallways of the center reads "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. Being a part of this mission team was both enlightening and humbling. Seeing Christ's face in the people you encounter brings a true sense of joy to one's life.

Diane Tandy
(734) 660-8875
tandyd56@gmail.com

Stay Connected



People are making connections in the digital world each and every day. Facebook was a wonderful tool to stay connected with my cousin and his family when they lived in Seoul, South Korea. My family is currently using Facebook to organize a 60th Anniversary Party for my parents!

Your Heritage District UMW is also using Facebook as a tool to share information from our Conference (both the general church and UMW), invite each other to local unit activities, social action initiatives, and more! Join the conversation by searching for Michigan Conference Heritage District UMW with the search tool in Facebook (click on the magnifying glass icon). See you there!

If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Everett, Communications Coordinator, at wendy@fumc-a2.org or 734-255-9146.

Where's My Newsletter?

At the recommendation of the National UMW, and with the realization that postage was the primary cost of newsletter distribution, we have made some changes.

Our primary form of newsletter distribution is now sending it as a PDF email attachment. You should also be able to find it on our UMW Heritage District website within a few days of us sending the files out. We also post it on our Facebook page.

The newsletter is available to any district member who wishes to view it.

We are happy to print and mail the newsletter to any local officers who do not use email, but it has become too expensive to mail a physical copy of the newsletter to every member.

If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Everett, Communications Coordinator, at wendy@fumc-a2.org or 734-255-9146.

Secretary

This has been a challenging year and that is putting it mildly. The troubles began when my husband suddenly, or so it seemed, became an old man, then moved on to a flooded basement, a nicked pipe, no hot water for a month, 9 days and 3000 plus miles of travel for the "grands" graduations, and a collapsed closet rod. {What do you mean I have too many clothes?} . I thought I was handling the situation well until the 9 year old grand, while engaged in a clapping activity, asked me to hold her mood ring. Easiest way to do that is to wear it, right? Its color immediately changed to a bright orange, glaringly indicating I was stressed!



Yet, through it all there has been the constant awareness of how blessed I have been. Jim's father died at age 45; Jim is now 83. While heating water to wash dishes, I think of those who walk miles for water – every day after day. I have a house, a car, adequate food, too many clothes ... the blessings are numerous. Can you relate?

I fear, though, that with the blessings come complacency. It is so easy to take it all for granted and to accept it as an entitlement. Gratitude may be present but is that enough? I think not. In amidst the chaos I've been trying to achieve plan 1 of the UMW Reading Program. I read *Eleanor, a spiritual bio of Eleanor Roosevelt*. Oh my, what an amazing woman! No complacency there. On the back cover of the book are these words, "Her personal faith was focused on Jesus and fueled her commitment to civil rights, women's rights, and the rights of all "little people" marginalized in American society." What Would Jesus Do was a driving force for her and so it should be for us. As we enjoy our blessings we must be God's hands and feet – working to ensure blessings for others.

Malinda Waltz