

Catch A Wave

January-February 2021

Volume 3 Number 1

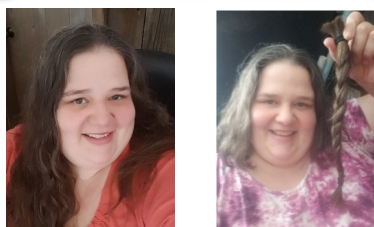
Local Unit Officer Training via Zoom



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Communications Coordinator



Cola Hill

With all the changes that
2020 brought, our Local

Unit Officer Training got pushed into January of 2021 and was accomplished with the help of Zoom! Presidents, Vice-presidents, Secretaries, and Mission Coordinators totaling twenty-four local and district officers meet together on Saturday, January 23rd at 2:00 p.m. for a brief time of fellowship and training. This photo was created by taking

a picture of the computer screen during the meeting. Multiple shots were taken throughout but this was the closest to getting everyone on the screen at the same time!

Although we enjoyed our time together, I think it is safe to say that everyone would prefer meeting face-to-face! Thanks to all who could attend!

Now for a little about me...I am the program director for two childcare centers and after earning my AA degree in Early Childhood Education last June, I've been extra busy substitute teaching before working my afterschool job.

Only a few weeks ago, I was able to donate my hair (13 inches) again to Children With Hair Loss.

I'm looking forward to whatever God has planned for 2021!

~Cola

President's Message



Julia Hulka

A New Year & all of its promise! We are blessed! And here I am, in my little cabin in the North Woods, watching the snow swirl around my porch. It has big windows on 3 sides - just like I'm in a snow globe, or I guess it's a snow 'cube!' We're all like little snowflakes - each one different - all going our own way but under God's all-knowing guidance, swirling &

whirling in a beautiful pattern! And I guess the little flakes, in their own way, are all 'socially distancing!' (I sure hope I don't hear that word many more times!).

I am your new NWD president. I was born near Seelyville, IN, a little town in a mining/farming area reputed to have more bars than churches. However, Sacred Heart & Seelyville Methodist tried to keep folks on the straight & narrow & offer courage & comfort along the way! My grandmother & mother were Ladies' Aid & WSCS members. (Oh, could I tell stories!) I joined United Methodist Women when I married & we joined Christ UMC in Bay City, MI, now Grace UMC, probably about 1972 or so. I got frustrated once & left the Methodist church, but that didn't last long. I still get frustrated, but I'm not going anywhere until I join my Savior in eternal life! And my UMW sisters will be there & I expect a little trouble once that happens! 'Necessary trouble!'

I hope your units are doing well & ready for what 2021 brings. That has new meaning now more than ever before! Please let me know if I can be of any assistance. When we start meeting in person again I would be happy to be invited to visit you! And put these dates on your calendar, more details later:

April 10 - Spiritual Growth Retreat (virtual or Lake Louise)

May 22 - The Power of Bold Day (virtual or Empire UMC)

Sept. 25 - Annual Celebration, Good Shepherd of the North

UMW, Roscommon

Best of luck, along with a little hard work, for the New Year!

Your NWD UMW team is off to a good start & we hope you are, too!

Joy, Julia

jahulka49@gmail.com

989-348-1992

Treasurer



Ruth Corwin

Here's to bidding a (fond?) farewell to 2020 and ringing in a wonderful new 2021!

Even with all the cancelled fundraisers and limited face-to-face meetings, our District reached 77% of our goal! Thanks to all the hard work and generosity behind these contributions--our tradition of serving women, youth and children goes on despite some very trying circumstances.

Thank you for your unit pledges for 2021. Our Northern Waters District UMW 2021 Pledge to Mission is a very hopeful \$39,500.00. I'm certain we all look forward to less socially distant times, where we can once again have in-person fellowship with one another.

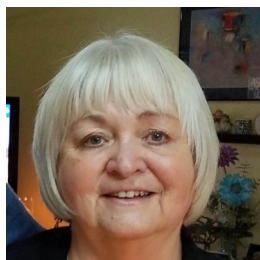
I wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Ruth

racorwin1@gmail.com

(C) 989-366-7038

Spiritual Growth



Cheryl Allumi

Hello! I would like to tell you a little about myself. I am married to my best friend, Mike, for 43 years this year. We have 3 sons, Christopher, Matthew and Nathan. Our three grandchildren are Landon 9 years old, Chase 5 years old and Charlotte (Charly) 2 years old. Mike and I ride a Honda Goldwing motorcycle and like to travel and see God's beautiful creation all over the United States. We love being grandparents; however, our grandchildren live in the Chicago area so we do a lot of driving (just not this year)! Facetime here we come!

We have been members of Houghton Lake UMC since 2012. I am currently the Mission Board Chair and serve on SPRC. I am Vice President of our local unit of UMW and was previously Co-Secretary. I served as a youth minister for 20 years in another denomination and have a special place in my heart for youth.

I also love to sew and quilt and have recently been involved in sewing masks for our community.

I am looking forward to planning our Spiritual Growth retreat in April in whatever form it takes. I know God has a plan for us to move forward in the coming year and he will use the UMW in a

mighty way. "For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of our right hand and says to you, do not fear; I will help you." Isaiah 41:13 Let us breathe in this new year and express the love of Christ to all we meet; help us be the light in this dark land!

Peace,

Cheryl Allumi
cheryl.allumi@gmail.com
(H) 989-390-4650

Secretary



Sandy Mallory

Welcome to 2021! As I sat at my desk to write something for this newsletter, a *Prayers to Share* devotion drew my attention. "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." COLOSSIANS 3:15 NIV. Faye Horton wrote: *Seek God's guidance. Leave the outcomes to him. Enjoy the peace of understanding that "God's got this."*

We must continue to seek God's guidance this year as we still face challenges from Covid-19 and all that comes with it. I am praying that the anthem of "God's got this" repeats throughout your mind and your heart this year.

If you need program ideas for a United Methodist Women

meeting, please contact me.

Sandra Wegner Mallory
sandy.mallory2@gmail.com
231-882-0440

Committee on Nominations



Myra Gentry, Chair

2020 was the year that no one will ever forget; however, God is Good, all the time. All the time, God is Good.

Kaye Porter, Pam Moyer and myself would like to thank each of you for your prayers. We were able to fill all the positions for our 2021 Team; however, we could use one more team member on our Committee on Nominations. In order, to make this a more balanced committee, I would like to add one more member from the West side of our Northern Waters District. If God is giving you a nudge, please give me a call.

May we all be looking forward to 2021, and what God has in store for the United Methodist Women of the Northern Waters District and the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Women.

May each of us have a blessed 2021 doing God's work.

Myra Gentry
myraann44@yahoo.com
734-812-0124

Program Resources



Linda Pitts

Blessings to all as we start yet another year together –we have high hopes for 2021 knowing that God is with us always!

Some of you have already been so diligent and have submitted your Reading Program reports! So far, we have reports from: East Jordan and Petoskey. Great job everyone! There's still plenty of time but please have them to me by August 1 so they can be submitted in time for printing in the program for our Annual Celebration Saturday, September 25, at Good Shepherd of the North UMC, Roscommon. That also gives me time to produce your Reading Program Certificates. Reports can be sent to me via email or they can be mailed to PO Box 394, Onaway, MI 49765. Telephoning is difficult for my bad ears to understand.

Books I've read so far from the 2021-2022 list include:

- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas, Nurturing for Community –(This book was actually a Jeopardy question recently!) It is about a 16-year-old who witnesses her best friend being killed. It will keep you on the edge of your seat!
- *Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People* by Maya Angelou, Leadership Development – Maya is a poet, a performer, a writ-

er, an activist, and a humanitarian. She is an inspiration to millions.

- *Cinderella Liberator* by Rebecca Solnit, Leadership Development -- a modern twist on the classic tale, this Cinderella plays an active role in writing her own destiny and helps to free those around her, in town and throughout the land.
- *The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan* by Joan DiCicco, Education for Mission – Garrett is an inventor, an entrepreneur, and a hero and he was unstoppable! He dedicated his life to improving the lives of others.
- *They Call Me Güero A Border Kid's Poems*, by David Bowles, Spiritual Growth, also Youth – Story about a 12-year-old border kid whose life is tough but he has figured out how to cope.

Hope to see you this year even if it happens to be virtual. Meanwhile, God bless!

Linda Pitts
pitspalace62@frontier.com

Committee on Nominations



Pam Moyer, Member

This is Pam's second year serving on the Nominations Committee. Previously, she served the District as E&I. This is her second year as President of Petoskey UMW.

Committee on Nominations



June Owen, Member

I was born in southern Virginia, married my high school sweetheart and we had two daughters before we moved to northern Michigan in 1970 because of a job transfer and I am still here. I belong to Gaylord First United Methodist UMW and enjoy working on our many projects to support missions, most of them being local mission projects. My job is usually cashier because of my background in banking. My main hobbies are basket weaving and crafting. I love spending time with my friends and family. I especially enjoy the time I get to spend with my daughter, granddaughter and their husbands and our 2-year-old great grandson, none of them live close by so an in-person visit requires at least a four-hour trip. Praise God for social media. I lost my husband unexpectedly to a heart attack in September and I'm still trying to find my way in this new life without him. Thank you to the NWD UMW Leadership Team or all the messages of sympathy and support even though I was new and had not even been voted in yet. I am proud to be working with such loving caring people.



Social Action



Jean Petersen

Hello. My name is Jean Petersen and I attend the Empire UMC and am president of the Empire United Methodist Women. I am also the new Northern Waters District Social Action Mission Coordinator. We have three children: one in MN, two in SD and five grandchildren. We ended up in MI because I inherited my parent's cabin and, since UM pastors usually don't own a home, we decided in 2015 to move in and call it home.

I was first introduced to UMW in Virginia Beach, VA with a personal invitation and a ride to a circle meeting. When my husband retired from the Navy in 1992, we moved to Yankton, SD and I became a UMW member there. Ten years later, he became a UM pastor, and I was part of UMW in four more towns. All these UMW units were full of amazing women who accomplished many things, and the groups in MI are no different.

I can't say just what pulled me into social justice; was it the virulent language I heard in my 7th grade Sunday School class when a few Black families were temporarily in the small MO town I grew up in, or when, with an armload of baby, I bumped into someone going into a store in MS and turned to see a little white haired Black lady who looked terrified, or

moving to SD and thinking I had left all that behind me only to read in the paper that a Native American family went into a restaurant in Chamberlain and the owner wouldn't serve them, or maybe all the books from the reading list that opened my eyes. Whatever it was, I have been hooked. We all want the peace of Christ and just plain peace, but without justice for all people we will never accomplish that. So, I continue to, and urge you to continue to read, learn, listen, and watch and then step up when needed. Why do we have such a high maternal mortality rate? Just what is the School to Prison Pipeline? And how can we continue to work toward a more environmentally balanced world?

Peace be with you,

Jean Petersen

tomjean45@yahoo.com

(H) 231-334-4091

(C) 605-760-4277

Past President



Susan Wirgau

Last year, our standing rules were modified to add an officer position to the district UMW leadership team and that is Immediate Past President. I was cautiously honored to be installed in such a position. Would I be able to be gra-

cious and kind and not bossy and mostly quiet? We are in great hands with Julia Hulka taking over as president and this will help me in this new position for our district and for me. I have learned so much from her in the few years I have known her. She has a heart for UMW and a close relationship with our Lord. In this role, I consider my job description to include mostly being an advisor and offer my input when it is requested and otherwise to be prayerfully quiet. WOW! What a challenge! Part of our job description as officers on the district team is also to be available for the local unit. One on one. One officer to your local unit. Presenting a program/devotion or prayer calendar etc. to your group; just attending a meeting as an observer and cheer leader; UMW 101 training; talking to a group of women not in UMW in your church; helping a women's group become UMW; the list is endless. I am in Petoskey and I am willing to travel anywhere in the District to help your local unit or you as an individual officer. Take advantage of the many educational opportunities COVID has given us online—both specifically UMW and the church in general. We have been doing this for 150+ years, through other pandemics and unrest and solving social injustice issues. We can survive our current pandemic and unrest.

Let me know how I can help you!

Susan Wirgau

onthebay@chartermi.net

(H) 231-347-5463

(C) 231-838-5986

Committee on Nominations



Barbara West, Member

Greetings, Barbara is a member of Gaylord First UMW.

Education & Interpretation



Karen Genson

Hi! I am your brand new, green NWD UMW Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation. My job is to empower women to understand, interpret and participate in the mission giving and outreach of the church but more on that in a minute.

I was baptized in the Methodist Church at the age of about five and have been a part of it ever since—Sunday school, church camps, youth group (local, district, and conference levels), choirs, various committees and boards, mission trips, etc. My earliest exposure to UMW (actually Women's Society of Christian Service first) was watching my Mom's devoted participation and good example. Then as an adult, I have been part of circles and UMW in Niles, MI and Ludington, MI, and have been President of our local UMW at UMC of Ludington for many years. This is my first time holding a district office in UMW.

One aspect of my job is to help members of UMW in our district learn about where the dollars go that are donated to UMW. I am to "Teach & Tell" about how Money Moves Mission. Money comes in via Five Channels of Giving (Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering).

Approximately 40% of this total goes to our Conference and District UMW for Administrative & Membership Development, and the remaining 60% goes to National UMW.

Listed below are the major categories of how UMW giving is at work around the world:

- National Mission Institutions (NMIs)—United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids, Michigan is one.
- Regional Missionaries—Eight of them around the world, working through training programs, workshops, strategic planning, and networking on issues negatively impacting women.
- Grants & Scholarships—Note: in 2020, \$262,000 in grants were awarded for Covid relief and prevention. Some dollars are being granted for Climate Justice projects, and our conference Mission u received a grant for 2021 due to a focus on a social justice issue.
- Service and Advocacy

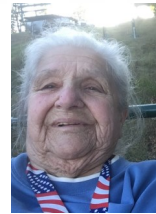
I will be learning more and sharing more with you as I do. Please feel free to contact me to arrange to meet with your unit, in person or by Zoom, to share more

on Where the Money Goes. You can also learn more yourselves at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

I look forward to growing and serving right along with all of you.

Karen Genson
dcgenson@gmail.com
(H) 231-843-2482
(C) 269-861-2812

Membership, Nurture & Outreach



Kaye Porter

Kaye has served in this role since 2019 and is a member of On-away UMW.

Vice-President



Nancy Goodyear

Nancy is the new director of the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center in Grayling as well as our new Vice-president! She moved to Grayling with her husband and two young children 20 years ago and is a member of Michelson Memorial UMC, a Lay Leader, and sings in the praise band. She is the chairperson of Eve Circle. She even taught them how to Geocache with their cell phones so they could find a treasure last summer!

thegoodyears@charter.net
(H) 989-344-0388
(C) 989-370-4036

2021 Mission Today Unit Objectives

United Methodist Women - 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 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 Methodist Women 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 Methodist Women’s 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 Methodist Women present a mission program for youth or children in the church.
- ___27. Had at least one member visit a United Methodist Mission Project and report to the unit.
- ___28. *Had at least one person receive and respond to legislative information from the United Methodist Women'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 issues.
 - Attended a school board meeting.
- ___31. Made a pledge to care for God's creation and worked to become a "green" United Methodist 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 ***dead-line date:*** February 1, 2022.

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:



Karen Genson
3690 N. Lincoln Road, Ludington, MI 49431
dcgenson@gmail.com

2021 LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS IN NORTHERN WATERS DISTRICT

Unit (church) _____ City _____

Meetings Held: day _____ week of month _____ Time _____

Number of members as of August. 31st 2020: _____ **Please complete & return by Feb. 20th**

	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	E-MAIL
President				
Vice-President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Spiritual Growth				
Education & Interpretation				
Social Action				
Membership, Nurture & Outreach				
Program Resources				
Communications Coordinator				
Nominations Chair				
Other (Can add more to the back)				

- ☐ We would like to learn more about hosting a district UMW event at our church.
- ☐ We would like to have a district representative visit our church to discuss UMW.
- ☐ We would like to start a UMW unit. Please contact: _____
- ☐ We do not have a UMW unit at our church. Contact person & #: _____

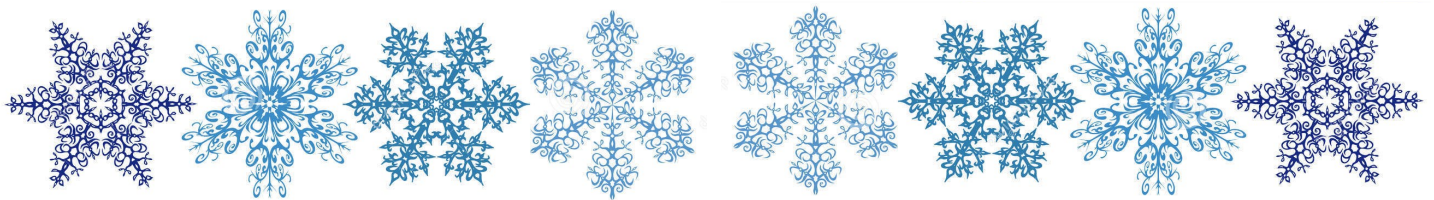
Comments or suggestions for upcoming district events: _____

**Send to: Cola Hill P.O. Box 217 Boyne Falls, MI 49713
or e-mail northernwatersdistrictumw@gmail.com**

Northern Waters District UMW
Cola Hill, Communications Coordinator
P.O. Box 217
Boyne Falls, MI 49713

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JAN-FEB 2021



LOOKING AHEAD!

Spiritual Growth Spring Retreat (Lake Louise)—April 10, 2021

Power of Bold Day (Empire UMC)—May 22, 2021

District Annual Celebration (Roscommon-Good Shepherd of the North UMC)—Sept. 25, 2021

Michigan Conference UMW Annual Celebration (Kalamazoo)—October 23, 2021



NOTE: If you would like to be added directly to our mailing list, or you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please notify the Communications Coordinator at northernwatersdistrictumw@gmail.com.

The Purpose: 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.