



Southeast Iowa District, United Methodist Women Newsletter, July, 2014

Greetings To All SE Iowa UMW Members:

I recently had a call from one of our local groups who is struggling with numbers of members and ability to meet their pledge. I know they are not alone in our district or state, and I want to reassure all of you that faithfully doing what you can is needed and appreciated. There is not a "penalty" for being unable to meet your pledge expectations, which are due by December 10th of each calendar year. However, care should be taken when submitting your *next* year's pledge to the District Treasurer each June, that you have in place, plans to meet the pledge you are making. The District bases their budget and pledge to the Iowa Conference on what we are expecting to receive from the locals. If what you have done in the past is no longer feasible, it is OK to adjust the amount.

Now let's consider some options for growing our units and meeting or exceeding pledges and gifts to support the important mission work of United Methodist Women. As all of us age (unavoidable); we must continually bring in new, younger members if we want UMW to continue. We need to take this as an obligation because our United Methodist Discipline states that "each congregation of the United Methodist church ***shall*** have a United Methodist Women group." I remember not getting involved with UMW until my children were out of school, and I had evenings more free. Since retiring, I have even more ability to donate time to activities I previously couldn't participate in. It's important to have flexible scheduling for meetings and events, so that working women can be a part of your group. It's important to share stories of people who are helped by the contributions our large organization is able to make. Alone, our churches cannot begin to have the impact that we have collectively. It's advisable to have informational programs without a business meeting, perhaps providing child care, and letting the new voices be heard above the "we've always done it this way" noise. If you have a group within your church who runs a special event for fundraising, perhaps your small group can offer to be the greeters/ticket takers, or the provider of the pies/cakes, or write the invitations...be a helper and ask for a portion of the proceeds for UMW. Another example of raising funds for your unit pledge would be to have all your membership (say there are 8 in your group) pledge \$125 for the year. That would be \$10.42 each month, which is less than 1 dinner out, 2 lunches out, or about 5 coffees out. Even on a fixed income, I know each of us probably spends more than \$10 in any given month on something we didn't need. \$125 times 8 members is a \$1000 annual pledge, and wouldn't require a bake sale, soup supper or any other activity that might be too difficult for a group of older, or even busy women. We are reminded in Hebrews 13:16 "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Continued on next page...

I know the work of UMW is important and pleasing to God, and I know each of us cares deeply about the loving concern and support we are able to provide for women, children, and youth in our communities, state, country, and world.

Keep up the good work you do!

Blessings to you all

Mary Taeger

Mary Taeger, President
13803 Beaverdale Rd
West Burlington, IA 52655
319-572-0115 (cell)
mktaeger@gotsky.com

~~~~~

My Daily Devotion: Does the way seem a stony one? Not one stone can impede your progress. Courage. Face the future, but FACE it only with a brave and happy heart. Do not seek to SEE it. YOU are robbing faith of her sublime sweetness if you do this. ...”Except ye...become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” This has a lot of meaning for me today.

As many of you know, this will be my last year as District Secretary. I sincerely hope that someone is planning to tell the Nomination Committee, yes, I will be glad to serve as District Secretary for 2015, an answer to our many prayers.

In the meantime, looking forward to October 1, 2014—that is the date for each UMW to have their list of officers for 2014 - 2015 or 2015, however your UMW operates, to me. Please, please be timely with this. If your officers are the same for the next year, simply inform me of that.

I know I am a broken record: Let me know any changes in names, addresses, phone #'s at any time. Remember each UMW's president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer is to receive a newsletter and if

they don't, it is probably because something is incorrect.

Blessings to all,

*Deanna McLearn*

Deanna McLearn  
SE District Secretary  
[deelar@.com](mailto:deelar@.com)  
319-463-9215  
2777 252nd Ave #7  
Montrose, Iowa 52639-9544

~~~~~

Summer has finally arrived! I have been sitting at a variety of events watching grandchildren play softball, baseball, soccer, and perform dance routines. What a blessing to be able to attend and share in these memorable moments.

When you see this, Mission u will have been attended, and I am sure all will have enjoyed an enlightening experience. I have been receiving pledges in the mail daily. At the time of this writing, nearly ¾ of you have sent me your pledge for 2015. All treasurers should have received the mailing, but if you

didn't or you misplaced it, all you need to do is e-mail or mail your anticipated pledge for 2015, the number of current members, the name & location of your unit, and your treasurer's name. You can even call me with the information. All of my information is found below.

My garden is already "outgrowing its seams." Every year I tell my husband we need to "small down." Still hasn't happened. But the early produce has been amazing. We are all in store for the end of a busy summer, but let us not forget to praise God for the beauty and bounty of the season.

May God bless until next time . . .

Cindy Seberg

Cindy Seberg
SE District Treasurer
1510 150th Street
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641-9270
Home (319) 256-8461
Cell (319) 750-2081
cseberg50@gmail.com

~~~~~

Dear Readers,

I hope you are enjoying our books this summer. Invite new people to read and remind your faithful readers to start their 2015 list. As always, be ready to return books at the annual meeting in Davenport. Thanks!

*Hazel Wheeldon*

Hazel Wheeldon  
20701 231<sup>st</sup> Street  
Sigourney IA 52591  
641-622-3077

~~~~~

Good day to all of you...

The new mission studies for this year starting in July's **Mission u** seem to emphasize the personal and local aspects of mission and ministry. We should never be so concerned with mission to the world out there that we neglect the mission to our own souls and the souls of those persons nearest to us in life and in the local ministries of the church. I urge each unit to get a copy of each study book for the two new studies and do a small study/program on each of these studies. Include the entire church in addition to your local unit UMW members in the study. How is the health of your soul, of the soul of the local church, and of your UMW unit? What does the structure of your local church say (without saying) to the disabled in your community? What can you do to help them enter into your church and find that inner "joy of the Lord which is our strength" and the healing of their souls?

UMW's theme says we are women of faith, hope and love in action. Christ's commission was to his followers/believers – to us today – to be in action (to "go and make"). The **Mission u** theme for this year, taken from Assembly 2014 and made active for Iowa Conference following July 16, is to "Make it happen" - to make love, hope and faith be alive in action as we "develop", "create", "support", "expand", (even outside the box of the norm) and "participate in" the ministries of Christ's family – the Church.

I am looking forward to having the possibilities of seeing you at **Mission u** this July (Remember registration for October's **Mission u** is September 19); at our District's annual meeting in Davenport's St. John's UMC in September, and/or at Mission Day in Prairie View UMC, west of Richland and along Hwy 78 in November, realized.

While I write this article in June to beat the Vision & Views deadline that is before the due date of the Mission Reports, I want to sincerely thank all of you for actively engaging in the Mission Today ministries or/and the like and the mission ministries of your local church and in the Mission Studies this past 2013-2014 year. Thank you for sending me those Reports. Eighteen have arrived to date with more expected to arrive by June 30. Great job!

May this summer and fall be filled with times of rejuvenation, growth, service and love for each of you.

Carol Jean Nelson

Carol Jean Nelson
SE IA District Coord. Of Mission Education
& Interpretation
715 Cleveland Ave. #7
Keokuk IA 52632-2642
319-524-3125

~~~~~  
Our summer reading program at the library in our small town has started. We have a basement full of kids aged pre-K through 5th grade. They are excited, enthusiastic, and eager to learn what we have planned each week.

What happened to us that we don't have that same enthusiasm and eagerness to learn in our church activities every week?

There are so many ways to increase our knowledge of our Christian faith. There are very few people who know ALL of the stories of the Bible, the history and the circumstances behind those stories of the Bible.

It would be great if we could learn a new Bible story, or a scripture or some background information about someone in the Bible each week. That doesn't sound like a huge task.

Are there Bible studies at your church? Does your UMW plan a lesson for each meeting? Is there a youth class that needs you to be the teacher? These are all learning situations and are awesome opportunities to educate ourselves.

We are all on a faith journey. Day by day we should strive to be a reflection of God. So keep on praying, working, learning, giving, and loving in God's mission field. Remember, enthusiasm is contagious! One of my favorite quotes states, "Wake up every morning expecting something wonderful to happen".

I hope you make every day this summer a great day!

*Linda Hoy*

Linda Hoy  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
PO Box 276  
Richland IA 52585  
319-456-6581  
[doc\\_hoy@yahoo.com](mailto:doc_hoy@yahoo.com)

~~~~~  
Hello ladies, I hope you all are enjoying the warm weather.

I had occasion to visit Prairie View UMW the first Wednesday in June; they have a great group of ladies there. They started by serving supper before their meeting, I thought that was a great idea, I was told it was something they did for most meetings. They invited me to speak about some of the issues that Social Action involved. The ladies were very gracious and listened, asked questions, and generally kept me on my toes for a little more than an hour.

There are so many issues now that need addressed, it truly is hard to speak or write something about all of them. For instance, human trafficking, gun licenses for 12-year-olds instead of making them wait until they are 14, going green, recycling – don't waste & don't use Styrofoam, fair trade and many

more. Okay, don't panic I am not going to go on for hours and hours.

Some of your UMW groups have Social Action officers, and some just elected a Social Action officer this year. To all of you I want to say it is very good to be working and sharing information with all of you. During this summer, I will keep your Social Action officers up to date. On your own, Social Action Officer or not, you can log on to the UMW site and receive a wealth of information. If you have any questions or want to offer any information please contact me by email or phone whichever is easiest for you.

We can make a difference in all of these matters by contacting our representatives, and believe me once you visit a site and/or contact a representative and give your opinion, you will start receiving a wealth of information.

Have a wonderful summer, enjoy your family and the beautiful weather; remember to save some time for yourselves, I think we as women tend to spread ourselves a little thin at times. Those dishes will still be there in the morning, unfortunately, so take time to sit down and read that book you have been planning to read as soon as you have time.

Blessings to all of you,

Susan Tennant

Susan Tennant
Social Action Officer – Southeast District
307 9th Street
West Point IA 52656-9784
319-837-6985
ba10it@iowatelecom.net

~~~~~  
Many times in our busy lives we don't feel like we have time to talk to God. **Think about this**--By the time your life is over, you will have spent six months at stoplights, eight months opening junk mail, a year and a half looking for lost stuff (double that

number in many cases), and a whopping five years standing in various lines.

Why don't you give these moments to God? By giving God your whispering thoughts, the common becomes uncommon. Simple phrases such as "Thank you, Father," "Be sovereign in this hour, O Lord," "You are my resting place, Jesus" can turn a commute into a pilgrimage. You needn't leave your office or kneel in your kitchen. Just pray where you are. Let the kitchen become a cathedral or the classroom a chapel. SO give God your whispering thoughts wherever you might be at any time of the day. He is always there to listen.

I enjoy receiving the shepherdess forms filled out after visiting a unit and the forms from the presidents of those units. It is enjoyable to read what different units are doing throughout the district.

Just a reminder to the shepherdesses: You are always welcome at our District Executive meetings. Our next one will be August 9 at St. John's United Methodist Church in Davenport.

Hope you all have the annual meeting date on your calendar. It is September 13 at the St. John's United Methodist Church in Davenport.

You will note in this newsletter I have included a "Bright Idea" form that can be filled out and sent to me. We will share these at the annual meeting in September. So take a moment to fill one out if you have a "Bright Idea" your unit has done this past year.

We may think our smiles do not represent God to another person, but they just might! Genuine smiles are a sign of affirmation, appreciation, and love. "Your SMILE can bring hope and change the countenance of someone today. Give it a try! (From God's Little Devotional Book for Women).

We have surely been blessed with a bountiful amount of rain. Everything looks so

green. GOD IS GOOD!! Enjoy the remainder of the summer with all its beauty and splendor.

Blessings,

*Joan Salts*

Joan Salts  
Membership, Nurture and Outreach  
2223 185<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fairfield, IA 52556  
641-472-5651  
[jjsalts@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jjsalts@iowatelecom.net)

~~~~~  
Greetings to all you wonderful ladies from all of us on the Nominating Committee:

A big thank you to each one with whom I have spoken in the last few weeks. Every one of you gave me a listening ear and a word of encouragement. Both of the committee members report the same thing. If you had to say "No" this time...well, there is always next year when there will be vacancies to fill!! And, if you said "Yes", another big thanks is in order. Hope to see a carload from each UMW in the Southeast District at the Annual meeting on September 13 at St. John's in Davenport.

God Bless each and every one of you,

Delores Bashore

Delores Bashore,
Nominating Chair & committee members
Pat Burroughs and JoAnn Moore
18236 70th Street
Morning Sun IA 52640-9536
319-868-7822 (Home) - 563-506-3404 (Cell)

Hope all of you can make it to **Mission u**. I am amazed at how UMW stays ahead of society's issues. As VP's **Mission u**'s material and activities will be used when planning next year's programs. VPs and Coordinators of Education and Interpretation are the leaders for program planning.

See you in Marshalltown.

Catherine Litwinow

Catherine Litwinow
Vice President
2585 Hunter Rd.
Bettendorf, IA 52722-6238
563-332-8588
litwinow62@msn.com

~~~~~  
For Mission Education, June means reports! I hope that you have been able to have some of the mission studies this year and are looking forward to next year. The study books are available from Mission resources and also at **Mission u** and at the District and annual meetings. This will be the second year for the Roma study. The Social Action study will be The Church and People With Disabilities. This is also a two year study as "disabilities" covers such a wide range. The Spiritual Growth study is How is it With Your Soul?-John Wesley's familiar question.

I am looking forward to seeing the Mission Today totals. This is a helpful guide for next year's program planning. Encourage attendance at fall **Mission u**. This is an inspiring way to spend a weekend.

*Shirley Pheifer*

Shirley Pheifer, Mission Edu. & Interpretation  
2471 Hwy 92  
Washington IA 52353-9337  
319-653-5283  
[sapfeifer@iowatelecom.net](mailto:sapfeifer@iowatelecom.net)

## **Southeast District UMW Calendar of Events**

|                     |                                                                     |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 1              | Deadline for Vision & Views articles, Kathy Hartsell                |
| <b>July 13-16</b>   | <b>Summer Mission u – Iowa Valley Conf. Center, Marshalltown</b>    |
| <b>August 9</b>     | <b>District Executive Board Meeting – St. John's, Davenport</b>     |
| <b>September 13</b> | <b>Southeast District UMW Annual Meeting, St. John's, Davenport</b> |
| October 1           | 2015 Unit Officer List Due to District Secretary, Deana McLearn     |
| October 4           | Iowa Conference UMW Annual Meeting, Indianola                       |
| <b>October 11</b>   | <b>District Executive Board Meeting, Danville</b>                   |
| October 17-19       | Fall <b>Mission u</b> – Iowa Valley Conf. Ctr., Marshalltown        |
| <b>November 1</b>   | <b>Deadline for Vision &amp; Views articles, Kathy Hartsell</b>     |
| November 1          | Thanksgiving Ingathering, Mt. Pleasant                              |
| November 8          | Southeast District Mission Day, Prairie View                        |
| <b>December 10</b>  | <b>Closing Date for District Treasurer Books, Cindy Seberg</b>      |





United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# **Southeast District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting**

**September 13, 2014**

**St. John's United Methodist Church**

**109 East 14th Street Davenport, Iowa 52803**

**Speaker: Cathy O'Keeffe, ex director Braking Traffiking  
Breakout Sessions**



**8:30 - 9 am Coffee and Registration**

**Lunch is \$8 at the door**

**RSVP: St. John's Office, (563) 324-5278**

**Linda Jantz, (563) 391-6897**

**Deadline for meal registration is August 29**

**RSVP**  
P L E A S E

Directions to the church: From the north, Interstate 80, exit 295A.  
Go south, this road turns into Welcome Way, turning into Harrison  
and is a one-way south. It is approximately 4.6 miles to 14th street,  
take a left and go a few blocks. You will see the church.

From the South, Highway 61 North, left on Brady, up the hill to 14th and make a right.

*Parking lots are behind the church, across the street and at McKay Music.*



**2015**  
**SOUTHEAST DISTRICT METHODIST WOMEN**  
**Continuing in Office**

**Vice President**

**Cathy Litwinow** (2012,2013,2014,2015)  
2585 Hunter Road  
Bettendorf, IA 52722-6238  
563-332-8588  
[litwinow62@msn.com](mailto:litwinow62@msn.com)

**Communication Coordinator**

**Kathy Hartsell** (2014,2015)  
14663 Rte V64  
Douds, IA 52551-8181  
641-936-7132  
[ksh@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ksh@iowatelecom.net)

**Treasurer**

**Cindy Seberg** (2014,2015)  
1510 – 150<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641-9270  
319-256-8491  
[cseberg50@gmail.com](mailto:cseberg50@gmail.com)

**Mission Coordinator for  
Spiritual Growth**

**Linda Hoy** (2014,2015)  
PO Box 276  
Richland, IA 52585-0276  
319-456-6581  
[doc\\_hoy@yahoo.com](mailto:doc_hoy@yahoo.com)

**Mission Coordinator for Education  
and Interpretation**

**Susan Tennant** (2014,2015)  
307 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
West Point, IA 52656-9784  
319-837-6985  
[ba10it@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ba10it@iowatelecom.net)

**Mission Coordinator for Membership  
Nuture & Outreach**

**Joan Salts** (2012,2013,2014,2015)  
2223 – 185<sup>th</sup> St.  
Fairfield, IA 52556-8701  
641-472-5651  
[jjsalts@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jjsalts@iowatelecom.net)

**SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
2015 NOMINATIVE BALLOT**

**President**

( ) **Mary Taeger** (2013,2014,2015)  
13803 Beavertdale Road  
West Burlington, IA 52655-8570  
319-3924725  
[mktaeger@gotsky.com](mailto:mktaeger@gotsky.com)

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary**

( ) **Kathy Byers** (2015)  
1232 E. Dover Court  
Davenport, IA 52803-1943  
563-326-3459  
[byerskathy4@aol.com](mailto:byerskathy4@aol.com)

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mission Coordinator for Education  
And Interpretation**

( ) **Sally Barrett** (2015)  
1107 Grand Ave.  
Keokuk, IA 52632-4128  
319-524-2220  
[barretts@interl.net](mailto:barretts@interl.net)

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary of Program Resource**

( ) **Hazel Wheeldon** (2013,2014,2015)  
20701 - 231<sup>st</sup> Street  
Sigourney, IA 52591-8396  
641-622-3077

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee on Nominations**

**Chairperson**

( ) **Carol Jean Nelson** (Class of 2016)  
715 Cleveland Ave. #7  
Keokuk, IA 52632-2642  
641-472-5651

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee on Nominations**

( ) **Pat Burroughs** (Class of 2015)  
2811 Western Ave.  
Davenport, IA 52803-1436  
563-340-8101

( ) \_\_\_\_\_


( ) **JoAnn Moore** (Class of 2015)  
304 E Churchill St.  
Keswick, IA 50136-1018  
319-738-3353  
[jimjo6@netins.net](mailto:jimjo6@netins.net)


( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) **Delores Bashore** (Class of 2016)  
18263 - 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
Morning Sun, IA 52640-9536  
319-868-7822

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by  
Committee on Nominations**

  
Delores Bashore, Chair

  
Patricia Burroughs

  
JoAnn Moore



**Southeast District  
United Methodist Women  
Mission Day**

**Prairie View United Methodist Church  
Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**2014 Mission u Studies:**

**How Is It With Your Soul?**

Presented by Marsha Gerot

**Mission u** Technical Specialist

**The Church and People With Disabilities**

Presented by Deb Streff

A **Mission u** teacher on this Study and E Central District Mission Coord. Social Action

9:00 a.m. Coffee, Registration & Program Resources

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Music & Studies

Break for Lunch and Program Resources



Lunch is \$8.00 at Registration

**Reservations are due by Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> to:**

Church secretary at (641)667-2502 (8 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Mon-Fri)

(pvumc@farmtel.net)

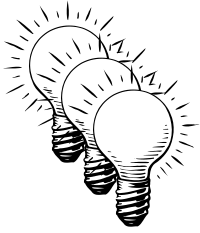
UMW Pres., Karen Whitham at (641) 472-2247

Prairie View United Methodist Church address: 27131 Hwy 78, Ollie, IA

Directions: The church is on the north side of IA Hwy 78, 5.5 miles west of Richland  
or

0.5 miles east of intersection IA 78 and county V67/V5G/V63

The church is one-story with red brick.



# BRIGHT IDEA NETWORK

(SE District United Methodist Women)

Please share some success stories about your unit:

UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_ Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: \_\_\_\_ Membership Idea      \_\_\_\_ Money making Idea      \_\_\_\_ Program Idea  
(Please fill out a separate form for each idea)

• \_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_

Return form at any District event or –

**e-mail to:** [jjsalts@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jjsalts@iowatelecom.net) or

**mail to:** Joan Salts, 2223 185<sup>th</sup> St., Fairfield, IA 52556-8701