



Southwest Airwaves

Southwest District United Methodist Women

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – from Sheri Watson

February 2014

I was recently at the Iowa Religious Media Services Annual Meeting and their theme was *“From the past, let us take over the fire, not the ashes!”* (Jean Jeares)

As I was writing this *Airwaves* article I could not forget those words, and what we in UMW can learn from them. I thought about how sometimes we dwell on the things that go wrong, instead of remembering the good that comes from those experiences and how we use that knowledge to improve as we move forward.

I admire the drive and energy of the United Methodist Women in the Southwest District as we work diligently to support the United Methodist Women's organization and all it stands for. One of my greatest memories is walking into the Modale UMC for my first shepherding event. I had driven by the Modale I-29 exit many times, but never thought I would have a reason to actually drive into the town. It only took a few minutes for me to know I was a welcomed guest. In my 8th year of being a Shepherdess, I still look forward to the visits and worry that if I will have information that is useful to the wonderful women.

I can't believe this is 2014 and my last year as SW District UMW President. I am excited for our upcoming district officers' meeting as we welcome our new officers and work together planning a good year for the SW District.



Assembly 2014: Louisville

Some units are experiencing concerns in filling their unit's officer positions. Please know that we as a district are facing those same concerns, not filling all our officer positions. All offices are vital offices, and we need to figure out how to cover every position. Therefore, we have decided we would work as a team to fill the responsibilities of the Vice-President. If you have any questions that may fall in the District Vice-President's area, you may contact me, and I will help you. For the 2nd year, we also have a vacancy in the Coordinator of Spiritual Growth; this is an important area, as Spiritual Growth for United Methodist Women is a vital part of our organization and our meetings. Please contact any of the Area Coordinators, or me, if you have questions in this area. However, if you are interested or know someone that may be interested, or a recommendation for someone to fill one of these positions, please contact our chair of Nominations, Margot Young.

Blessings to all of you as 2014 begins to unfold.

Sheri

Sheri Watson, Southwest District President

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PURPOSE -- 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.

SECRETARIES/COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR – Judy Marnin



You might notice my dual title. It's not that I particularly wanted to be both offices! But our nominating committee, despite their hard work, could not find a secretary, so I agreed to take minutes at our Executive meetings if Nancy Raney, our past secretary, would help me with the mailing list. Bless her heart, she agreed! That's why we are still having you send your list of new officers to her. We have almost all of them now, but is yours still missing? Please send it. It's challenging and often difficult to keep our names and addresses up to date, so we need all the help we can get! Every time I send the *Airwaves*, we get 8-12 back, some of which can't be forwarded. We want everyone to be connected, so please help us out if you change an address or an officer.

If someone from your unit is **going to Assembly, please let me know**. Gloria Turner and I are going!

And please give us your email address if you have one. We'll be using email more and more, especially for quick updates, reminders, or changes. It's instantaneous, easy, and inexpensive! Thanks for your support!

Judy Marnin, 52635 770th Street, Anita 50020; (H) 712-762-4415; (C) 712-249-3557; jjmarnin@midlands.net

SAVE THE DATE! DAY APART for SPIRITUAL GROWTH Thursday, April 24th

Coffee & Registration 9:00-9:30am; **Program 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

LUNCH PROVIDED BY SW DISTRICT OFFICERS

Carson United Methodist Church

310 Washington St, Carson, Iowa

Spend a day in fellowship and spiritual growth, growing in a relationship with God!

Program Resources Coordinators– Sandra Welch



Happy New Year...2014!! Did you make your New Year's resolution to read more or to complete a new Plan in our UMW Reading Program? I hope so. We have 4 different plans, from just reading 5 books in each category for Plan 1...to reading 20 or

more books for Plan 5.

And keep on reading our *response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.

Just think of all the places you can go to just by sitting in your rocking chair and reading UMW-recommended books. **KING PEGGY** takes you to Ghana, Africa, or journey to Manhattan in **AN INVISIBLE THREAD**, travel to

Kabul and experience trying to stay safe in a country at war (**DRESSMAKER OF KHAIR KHANA**) or climb the mountains of New Hampshire in **UP**. You can experience the Happiness in the small area of Bhutan in the Himalayans (**RADIO SHANGRI-LA**)....All these and many, many more are on our UMW 2014 Reading List. Many are available in our Lending Library or perhaps in your public library or can be ordered at Mission Resources Center.

READ, READ, READ!

May God Bless you in this New Year as you pray, study, and act in Christ's name.

Sandy

Sandy Welch, 518 N. 17th St., Denison 51442-1513; Ph. 712-263-3212; vrfarm@msn.com

Education and Interpretation Coordinators – Carol Rogers

Blessings to you for 2014! We have a year full of activities for you to join. The three activities I invite you to be part of are: **Mission U** on July 13-16 or Oct. 17-19 at Marshalltown, **Mission Study Day on Oct. 30 at Guthrie Center**, and **June 30, the deadline for Mission Study and Mission Today Reports** to be sent to me.

Please take a look at your report forms for 2014 and see what is expected this year. The Program Book for this year is great. My unit used one of the programs at our January meeting and it was well received. Use this resource when looking for a program for your meetings. Look to see how you can incorporate the other Mission Today report items into your meetings. The Mission Study Report can be completed by attending Mission Study Day or asking your shepherdess or a member to do one of the studies at a meeting. You could also set up a time to study one of the books during these cold winter days. They have a wealth of information.

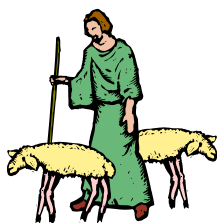
Mission u is such a fun time to get together with other UMW members from across the state. Fellowship, mental growth, great food, lots of singing, and a summer get-away with other Christian women are just a few of the benefits of attending Mission u. Find a young lady in your church who could use some of these benefits and encourage her to join you in attending. We have scholarships for first time attenders. Watch for the registration forms coming soon. Our studies will be The Roma of Europe, How Is It With Your Soul?, and The Church and People with Disabilities.

Guthrie Center is the location for our **Mission Study Day** this year. Put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. The studies will be the same as Mission u only in much abbreviated form. Even if you attend Mission u and then come to Mission Study Day, the content can be different. At Mission u, there are at least 3 different teachers. Each teacher brings their own information to the class and discussion from all of you brings even more variations to how the classes are presented. JOIN US!

Carol Rogers,

SW District Education and Interpretation Coordinator, 604 W. Temple St., Lenox 50851-1502; 641-333-4391;
carogers12@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH COORDINATORS– Deb Volz



Hebrews 6:10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

I have been eagerly gathering Membership Census forms. The information that I have received has been wonderful. **If you have not submitted your form for 2013**, please submit it as soon as possible by mail or e-mail (my information is at the end of this article).

I am looking forward to help launch a pilot **Site for Membership Development**. This initiative seeks to equip local women to engage more women in the life

and work of United Methodist Women.

Several upcoming events that you may be interested in are:

World Day of Prayer March 7, 2014. For current information go to www.wdp-usa.org.

Day Apart April 24, 2014. This event will be held at the Carson UMC, 310 Washington St, Carson, Iowa. See the notice that accompanies this newsletter.

UMW General Assembly Louisville, KY April 25-27, 2014

Mission U July 13-16, 2013--Look for information coming. Would attending a district or conference UMW event help all of us better understand what UMW really stands for? I believe it would. See you there!

Deb Volz, SW District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

228 Hwy Street, Carson, IA 51525-2001; (H) 712-484-3487; (C) 402-669-3683; debvolz@frontier.com

Need a program?

Cherie Miner would love to come to your unit to talk about **MUMMs, the Mobile United Methodist Missionaries**. This ministry exists to spread the Gospel and to facilitate the growth of United Methodist churches in the Southeast, Southwest, and South Central Districts. They can lead vacation Bible schools in rural communities/churches, launch after-school programs, get local volunteers on board to help, send at-risk kids to JOY Camp, help families in need, and provide labor for church work projects. Contact her at (712) 370-5067, or cminer5068@gmail.com.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEES – Margot Young, Chairperson

"Carry out your duties with confidence, and may the Lord be with those who do good." 2 Chronicles 19:11 (WSB)

I'd like to share a handout from the Conference Nominations Committee, entitled "Nominations, a Year-round Process." It gives us these guidelines: In January and February, begin work on next year's slate of officers by determining the positions to be filled. Review all job descriptions; update as necessary and receive input from current officers. Ask for recommendations of potential leaders. Later in the year, have the nominations committee meet to prepare a slate of nominees, and assign members to make personal contacts. Contact only one person per office at a time. Follow-up with a letter and a job description of the office a woman is being asked to assume. Then, hope everyone says yes!" Looking for leadership truly is a year-round task. Good luck to all our southwest district nominations committees!

Margot

Margot Young, 536 Vine St., Carson, Iowa 51525-4369, 712-484-3677, margotyoung@gmx.com

Kathy Twigg, 107 North Ninth St, Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115, 641-332-2460, kdtwigg@netins.net

Pat Curtis, 1 Oak Knoll Road, Red Oak, Iowa 51566, 712-623-6307, patwett7@gmail.com

Treasurers – Helen Pollock



Hello! I'm excited to be your new **district treasurer**, and will take a moment to introduce myself. My husband Tom and I farm in southeastern Mills County, having a

row crop operation on land we rent from 4 other landlords and a little that we own. Our address is Malvern; we're actually closest to the little town of Randolph, our three boys graduated from Nishna Valley, and our home church is Strahan. I retired from teaching at Sidney Community Schools in May of 2012.

Our 7 grandchildren are the light of my life! Bill (our oldest son) and Cathy live in Pella where he is an engineer for Pella Windows and she is a dietician at the hospital. Their three children are Katie 9, JT 6, and Gabi 2. Our 2nd son Dan and his wife Stephanie

moved to Red Oak in 2013. He teaches middle school math and coaches basketball. Steph works for Winfield Solutions, a division of Land O' Lakes. Their son Will is 3. Jeff (#3) and Melissa live in Treynor. He is a CPA in Omaha and she is currently a stay-at-home mom with Tyler 11, Jacob 5, and Hayden 3. We feel extremely fortunate to have our family close by.

I'm sure that as the year progresses I'll learn a lot more about UMW. I've been active locally since we moved here in 1977, and am so pleased with how women have made a positive impact on our world. We can look around and see many problems in our society, but we'll also find dedicated members of UMW doing what they can to decrease the problems and increase the hope. I'm excited to be going on this journey with you.

Helen Pollock, 34167 Rains Ave, Malvern 51551-4105; (Home) 712-624-9161; (Cell) 712-370-5999; helenp2@wildblue.net.

Social Action Coordinators – Betty Frazee

Welcome to all those new to Social Action and also to those who continue to hold this position. The areas that will be emphasized throughout this year will be: **Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, Immigration, and Climate Change.** Human Trafficking is getting a lot of attention through partnerships with other interested groups.

I will be attending the Advocacy Day in Des Moines on January 23, before you receive this newsletter, but these other informational meetings will be held: **Tuesday, Feb.4, 6:30**, First-Hand Accounts from Human Trafficking Survivors, and **Monday, Feb.24, 6:30**, Global Human Trafficking, at Plymouth United Church of Christ in Des Moines. The movie, **Nefarious, Merchant of Souls**, as well as other resources are available at the **Iowa Religious Media Services**. Check to see if your church belongs to this great resource. www.polarisproject.org, and www.brakingtraffik.org are web sites available for your information on human trafficking.

I will do my best to pass on information as I receive it.

FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE IN ACTION!

Betty

Betty Frazee, P.O. Box 482, Stuart, IA 50250

Ph. 515-523-4132; Ldeaf@mchsi.com

Action Alerts keep you up-to-date on
United Methodist Women's concerns!

www.umwmission.org



The Bible verse for February is James 1: 2 - 4. **“My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance, and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.” (NRSV)**

Minute for Mission!

Below is the value of United Methodist Women's mission work with women, children and youth in the United States and in countries around the world in 2013:

Year: \$14,900,000

Day: \$40,821

Hour: \$1,700

Five minutes: \$141

One minute: \$28

One second: 47 cents !

Think about your giving in relation to the following:

\$1 might provide a box of hypodermic needles for a clinic, vaccine to immunize six children for DPT, two bottles of chloroquine syrup to treat children with malaria.

\$20-\$50 might provide a day's food supplies for 10 patients in a substance-abuse residence in Russia, educational materials that one midwife needs in many countries, a year's subscription to a children's reader for one child in the United States, a day of childcare for 25 children in many countries.

\$100-\$300 might provide training for one midwife in many countries, a week of after-school programs and enrichment activities for one child in the United States.

\$80, \$120 and \$280 might provide micro-credit loans for a woman to begin a business: 250 chickens to provide a better life for her children, supplies to start a candle-making business, set up a seamstress or tailoring business.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO MISSION!

(Borrowed from the Central District Communique—thanks!)

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**PLEASE SHARE
 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
 WITH ALL OFFICERS!**

Websites to remember: United Methodist Women: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org
 Mission Resources: www.umwmissionresources.org or 800-305-9857
 Iowa Conference site: iaumc.org/umw
 UMW email messages—Register at umwonline.net to receive news from our national directors.

2014 Conference and SW District Events

March 7 World Day of Prayer
April 24 Day Apart, Carson UMC
April 25-27 Assembly, Louisville, KY
June 7 – 9 Iowa UMC Annual Conference, DSM

June 16 T.E.A.M. Meetings (Locations TBA)
July 13 – 16 Summer Mission u, Marshalltown
September 27 District Annual Meeting, Villisca
October 4 Iowa Conference Annual Meeting
October 17 – 19 Fall Mission u, Marshalltown
October 30 Mission Study Day, Guthrie Center