



Southwest Airwaves

Southwest District United Methodist Women

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – from Sheri Watson

October 2014

“This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it!” Psalms 118:24

On Saturday, September 27th I thought of that verse as I left home to travel from Council Bluffs to Villisca. I was anxious to arrive and get the day going. When I did arrive, the women of Villisca and many of our District Officers were already in their places, waiting to greet their guests with a smile and welcome. It was a beautiful day outside the church and inside! Over 95 women joined us as we celebrated United Methodist Women in the Southwest District. It was a day that the Lord *HAD* made and we *DID* rejoice and were glad in it! Halleluiah!

Thanks to the Villisca ladies for their hard work, and for being so welcoming, and to Rev. Gordon Scott for all his help, and for giving Communion.

We were honored to have our **New District Superintendent, Rev. Terra Amundson** as our guest speaker. This gave us a chance to meet her, get to know her and see what a dynamic woman she is, plus a chance to show her what UMW is all about in southwest Iowa. All of us in the Southwest District are fortunate to have Rev. Amundson as our District Superintendent.

As we reflect on **all the successes in 2013-14** -- third place for an Iowa district in UMW member numbers, outstanding number of units achieving the 5-Star Unit award, so many involved in mission studies and our Reading Program -- what a joy.

However, we cannot sit on our laurels and let life go on as usual. Remember the eight women in Boston—8 women—who felt so strongly about helping the women in India, they joined together in mission work to obtain women doctors. That was the beginning of United Methodist Women—“The League of Extraordinary Women” -- and look where we are today because of their vision!

It is up to us to MAKE IT HAPPEN, keep us going and growing.

Let us continue our great work and concentrate on sharing UMW with new faces.

Mark your calendars for **Mission Study Day, Thursday, October 30th, Guthrie Center UMC.**

The address to order the Feeding of the 5000 **drama**: Tom Long Resources, 909 Center, Mitford, Ohio, 45150. Cost- \$7.00 for 1 copy. And find these **short videos** in “search” on **YouTube**: “The League of Extraordinary Methodist Women” and “The Amazing Adventures of Alma Mathews” (use these names to find them quickly).

Blessings and Love,

Sheri

Sheri Watson, Southwest District President

21832 Covenia Circle, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503-3910; 712-322-7356; sdw0518@aol.com

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.



Southwest District United Methodist Women

Mission Study Day

“Are All Welcome?”

Thursday, October 30, 2014

9:00 AM Coffee and Registration

9:30 AM—2:30 P.M.

Guthrie Center United Methodist Church

405 Prairie Street, Guthrie Center, IA 50115

Singing, Worship, Fellowship, & Mission Studies

Mission Studies--

- The Church and People with Disabilities:

Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy

- Update on the Roma of Europe study

Shesler Hall Board Member Judy Wanned will also speak.

----- **Clip here and send by October 24**-----

Local Unit _____ No. of Reservations _____

Lunch reservations-----\$7.00 per person

Please make checks out to Guthrie Center UMW

Mail to: Nancy Wetzel, 405 Prairie Street, Guthrie Center, IA 50115

641-332-2408

SECRETARIES/COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR – Judy Marnin

As District Secretary, I need to receive your list of new officers by October 30. A form for that purpose was in the President's packet, but you can also email them to me. Be sure to include email addresses if you can, especially for officers who don't normally receive the *Airwaves*, and for those **members who go south for the winter**. We pay \$0.98 for each *Airwaves* that comes back and needs to be re-sent, and many are marked "Temporarily Unavailable," which means we can't get them to you. As I've said before, I would love to have at least **one email address from each local unit** for email reminders or breaking news about UMW. Thanks for helping us keep up-to-date! And here's a note: To find music for the UMW Purpose, go to www.iaumc.org/umw. At the bottom of the page of officers, it says "Click HERE" to get the music! Thanks to JoAnn Orthel for writing our anthem 14 years ago!



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

Program Resources Coordinators– Sandra Welch

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The person who never reads lives only one!"

Our Annual District UMW meeting has come and gone. I hope you had an opportunity to purchase some of our new Reading Books. They look exciting as always. I had a chance to read the youth book **Bully.com** by Joe Lawlor. An innocent boy is accused of cyberbullying another youth. It's kind of a mystery of sorts as he tries to find the real person who did it. Good reading.

Our Reading Program will include books from the years 2011-2015. Be sure to take a look at the books listed under recommended reading found on page 31 in your booklet. An interesting title caught my eye: **Get Off Your Donkey!** It's in the Leadership Development category. I found it **online** as it's not available at Mission Resources site.

Please plan to **gather any books your unit has checked out from the Lending Library**, and

bring them to our Mission Study Day on October 30th at Guthrie Center. It's a good time to exchange them for different books. I will have some new ones available. Let's keep them circulating.

I would like to congratulate the **Villisca unit for having the most readers in our UMW program which includes women, children and youth. They had 27 readers!** The Sunday School teacher read some of our Program books to her children and youth. Let's encourage this in our units at home and in our church.

I will have the **Prayer Calendars** for sale at the Mission Study Day as they were not available at our Annual Meeting. They are very valuable for your daily devotions and to be used at your monthly meetings. Keep our missionaries in prayer always.

KEEP READING!!

Blessings to each one of you valuable women!

Sandy

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

Thanks for all your contributions of paper products, personal grooming products, underwear, and a few toys. Our three Iowa National Mission Institutions appreciate your generosity. These items are invaluable, as their budgets do not include them, and they are in great demand. They have been, or will be, delivered to Bidwell-Riverside, Shesler Hall, and Hawthorn Hill.

Education and Interpretation Coordinators – Carol Rogers

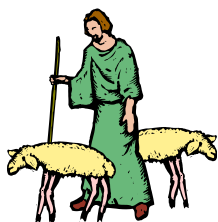
We had a very productive Southwest District Annual Meeting at Villisca. As coordinator of Education and Interpretation, I announced the **Mission Today and Mission Study awards**. This year we had **10 units who will receive their Platinum Certificates** at the Conference Annual Day in Indianola: Anita, Carson, Salem-Council Bluffs, Dow City, Glenwood Grace, Grant, Harlan, Noble, Northboro, and Strahan. **Congratulations to each of these units!** Nineteen units received gold. Four units received silver. Special Recognition went to 2 units. Way to Go ladies on your work in your units! That represented 35 units reporting. We also had 38 units report on doing mission studies. It is so encouraging to see that you are learning so much.

I hope you have registered for the fall **mission u** happening in Marshalltown October 17 – 19 at the Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center. The studies this year are: “The Roma of Europe,” “The Church & People with Disabilities,” and “How Is It with Your Soul?” They are excellent studies and **mission u** is so much fun. If you can’t make it this year, I encourage you to make plans for next year. You won’t regret it.

Our district **Mission Study Day** is **Thursday, October 30, 2014**. A flyer is included in this newsletter. Please try to attend this very informational day. Our focus is on “The Church and People with Disabilities” with an added update on the Roma. If you are concerned about how your church is addressing the needs of people with disabilities, this is the day to attend. Reservations are appreciated by October 24. God’s blessings to each of you!!

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



Our vision sharpens and energizes the Purpose of UMW to remain vital in the years to come. Inspired by 1st Thessalonians 1:4 *"For we know we are loved by God, that he has chosen you,"* the vision describes an UMW organization that is turning *faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world*. That is a connectional United Methodist Women and United Methodist Church.

Benefits of membership in United Methodist Women that I have enjoyed and encourage you to enjoy with me are:

- ❖ Prayer, Bible studies
- ❖ Hands on mission in local communities

Every year, the leadership of the District celebrates the growth of the units in our district. **Malvern UMW was the recipient of the SW District Banner** presented at Annual Day in Villisca. Thank you for your loyalty to the vision and mission of UMW.

Deb

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

- ❖ Mission u education experiences
- ❖ Supporting work with women, children and youth.

UMW is an integral part of the Church. It provides us opportunities to receive training so we are equipped to be leaders in our church and communities.

In your President’s packets you will find your **2014 Local Membership Census Form**. Please complete this form by January 31, 2015. In 2013, SW District was number 3 out of 8 districts. We were very close to 2nd place. It is important that every unit completes this form. This is our only way of tracking membership in Iowa.

BIBLE VERSES for 2015

January-- Mark 6:30-44 "Feeding of the 5000" Theme scripture for Sept. '14 – Sept. '15

February-- Matthew 25:40 "And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" NRSV

March-- John 14:21 "Those who obey my commandments are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them, and I will love them. And I will reveal myself to each of them." NLT

April-- Matthew 6:6 "But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." NRSV

May-- 1 John 5:1 "If you believe that Jesus is the Christ--that he is God's Son and your Savior--then you are a child of God."

June-- Isaiah 41:10 "Do not fear, I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God."

July-- Psalm 121:1-2 "I will lift up my eyes to the hills--from whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

August-- Psalm 100:1 "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth."

September-- Mark 6:37 "But he answered them, 'You give them something to eat.'"

October-- Psalm 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

November-- Genesis 12:1 "God told Abram: 'Leave your country, your family, and your father's home for a land that I will show you.'" (The Message)

December-- Luke 1:45 "And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." NRSV

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEES – Margot Young, Chairperson

"For the Human One didn't come to be served but to serve, and to give his life to liberate many people." Mark 10: 45 (The Wesley Study Bible) To find people to be officers, we need to find people who are effective leaders, who will say "Yes" to new roles and give themselves opportunities for new possibilities. Five values that make an effective leader are: Great listener; proactive; positive attitude; honest and truthful; inspiring, encouraging and motivating. We are the leaders turning faith, hope and love into action. Be the leader God wants you to be. And remember, the southwest district is still looking for a President, Vice President and two persons for the nominations committee.

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, patswett7@gmail.com

Officers for 2015 elected at Southwest District Annual Meeting—

President (Not elected, but serving until we can
find another person): Sheri Watson

Vice-President: None at this time

Secretary/Communications Coord: Judy Marnin

Treasurer: Helen Pollock

Mission Coordinators:

Social Action: Cherie Minor

Spiritual Growth: Carol Rogers

Education/Interp: Margot Young

Program Resources: Sandy Welch

Membership Nurture: Deb Volz

Nominations: Pat Curtis, Chairperson

Kathy Twigg

Donna Clark

Thanks to all these ladies for agreeing to serve! If you'd like to serve, contact Nominations Committee.

All **contact information** for officers is elsewhere in this newsletter, except

Cherie Minor, 1129 South Avenue, Elliott, IA 51532-5051, 712-767-2724, minadams@netins.net

Donna Clark, 3094 265th Street, Villisca, IA 50864, 712-826-5132 (h); 712-621-3487 (c); djclark@myfmmc.com

Treasurers – Helen Pollock

Many thanks to those of you who came to Villisca for the Annual Meeting! I especially thank those who gave gift items, soup labels, cash, and checks for the many funds we are supporting. The three national missions in Iowa all appreciate your tremendous outpouring of support through the products that you donate!

We're also extremely pleased with the many resources you purchased including books, fair trade items, and mission cards. I found it amazing that your **offering totals were \$2,088 and the amount of resources sold totaled \$2,094!** Couldn't have gotten those figures any closer if we'd tried!

The most important news I have is a critical deadline. If you want donations to count for the 2014 calendar year, I **MUST** have your check and form by **December 1st**! If you send donations later in December, they will be held until after January 1, 2015, and will count toward your 2015 giving. Our financial year is the calendar year, but I must have time to process, then send to state treasurer with time for her to process and send to national. Therefore, the 12/1/14 deadline will be strictly enforced.



At the treasurer's workshop, I handed out some suggestions, new forms you might find helpful, and the amount of giving from each unit this year. **Wonderful helpful ladies took treasurer's packets for neighboring units to help get them distributed to those of you unable to come.** IF you don't get your packet, please email me and I'll send what I can that way. Due to the high rate of postage, you'll need to send a SASE if you want papers via the mail. The giving amount for your unit was also in the president's packet. It is probably the most important piece right now --- please let me know if my figures do not match yours. Congratulations to the units who have already met all 5 criteria for being named a 5-Star Unit for 2014! **We had a total of 60 units who received 5-Star Certificates for 2013.** Congratulations and THANK YOU for giving to the Lord in this way!

I don't know how to put into words what this first year as your treasurer has meant to me. It has been a huge learning curve and has required many hours, but the payback in new friends and opportunities has made it wonderful. We need more district officers --- please consider this method of service. When I start grumbling about the time and effort that goes into this job, I just remind myself: *Jesus gave his entire life for me; surely I can give Him a few more hours of mine!* **Helen**

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

Social Action Coordinators – Betty Frazee

At the top of our list of interests this fall is our election coming up in November. Examine what you hear and read. Learn about your candidates and what they stand for. A 2014 Election check list is available at the Action Alert site on www.umwmission.org-- <http://prod.umwomen.org:88/news/midterm-election-guide>. Pray for God's guidance when you make your choices, and pray for those in office who make decisions affecting the lives of those who elected them.

Enclosed in the President's packet for 2015 is a sheet listing our local legislators (some to soon change), and another which lists some web sites that might be of interest. Action Alerts at www.umwmission.org has been previously mentioned among many others. The topics that are brought to our attention at Action Alert are based on the United Methodist Church's understanding of the revealed truth in the Bible, the Social Principles and the Resolutions passed at the General Conference.

Each year the UMW, at the conference level, sponsors an Advocacy Day in Des Moines. This is always a learning experience, and an opportunity to advocate for those issues that are important to United Methodist Women, and perhaps a chance to meet your legislator face to face.

Human Trafficking, immigration, the environment, and people with disabilities have been and will continue to be some of our major concerns and emphasis. These affect the women and children of our world. A new DVD on domestic violence will soon be available from the Iowa Religious Media Services- www.irms.org. This is a wonderful resource available to our local churches. Take advantage of its materials.

As I complete my 4-year term as SW District Social Action Coordinator, I have visited many of your units, and met you at our district meetings; it has been a joy to learn of the many ways you serve your communities, as well as the support you give to our Missions world-wide. You are all very dedicated women.

Join all United Methodist Women in turning "faith, hope and love into action" on behalf of women, children, and youth in our communities and around the world.

Betty

Betty Frazee, P.O.Box 482, Stuart, IA 50250; Ph. 515-523-4132; Ldeaf@mchsi.com

2015 Program Planning Calendar for UMW

March 6	World Day of Prayer
April 25	Southwest District Day Apart, Carson UMC
June 5-8	Iowa Annual Conference of United Methodist Church
July 19 – 22	Summer Mission u, Iowa Valley Conference Center, Marshalltown
September 17	Southwest District Annual Meeting, Salem UMC-Council Bluffs
October 10	Iowa Conference Annual Meeting
October 16-18	Fall Mission u, Iowa Valley Conference Center, Marshalltown
October 31	Southwest District Mission Study Day

(Some dates may change—stay tuned!)

Southwest District United Methodist Women
P.O. Box 185
Anita, IA 50020

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

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

Upcoming SW District Events and Deadlines

October 17 – 19 Fall Mission u, Marshalltown
Register now at www.iaumc.org/pages/detail/1717

October 30 Mission Study Day, Guthrie Center
List of new officers due to Judy Marnin

December 1 2014 monies turned in to Treasurer Helen Pollock

January 31 Membership Census Form for 2014 to Deb Volz