



Southwest Airwaves

Southwest District United Methodist Women

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – from Sheri Watson

April 2014

Finally the calendar is telling us that “Spring” is here. The sun seems so bright with the clear blue sky, even if the temperature dips down lower than we would like. I love this time of the year when everything looks so clean, new life begins to spring forth, and we feel like getting out of the house to be with good friends. This is also the time of the year the district is eagerly preparing for our **United Methodist Women's Spiritual Growth Day Apart**, while our units begin to plan Spring Luncheons and get-togethers.

I know many of you have planned for visits with your Shepherdess; your officers also look forward to those dates. If that date has not yet been planned, please do arrange for that soon. When I shepherd, I always tell the women this **IS** my favorite gift for being a district officer.

On **Thursday April 24th** we will be holding **Day Apart at the Carson United Methodist Church**. It is such a warm, welcoming location; I hope you find your way to be with us for a great day together. Our morning speaker will be **Tami Petersen Trewet** from Atlantic. She will share her amazing faith journey with us. She's a lovely young woman, who has a great message to share in word and song. Our Mission speaker will be **Rev. David Hobbs**, the Iowa Conference Leadership Development Minister for Camping and Christian Formation. Dave is looking forward to joining us; he is thankful for the UMW for their help with the encouragement and support to children and youth in our UMC camping program.

We, as officers, enjoy hosting this day so that you can come to relax, and to be fed spiritually and physically with the speakers and salad luncheon the officers prepare for you. This is our day to entertain you. We will have a free will offering at lunch time that will go towards our SW District pledge to the conference and also in the afternoon a free will offering to help support the conference camping program.

I would like to share with you a closing I use with one program I give when I shepherd:

“Every day that is given to me, I simply divide by three, some time for God, some time for work and some time for me.” For your personal care, please try this simple formula.

Blessings to you all,

Sheri Watson

Sheri

Sheri Watson, Southwest District President

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



Assembly 2014: Louisville

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
DAY APART
For Spiritual Growth**

Thursday, April 24th

**Carson United Methodist Church
310 Washington St, Carson, Iowa**

Coffee & Registration 9:00-9:30am

Program 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Special guest speakers:

Morning: **Tami Petersen Trewet** with an inspiring presentation in word and song:

“Hey, God, You call this a plan?”

and

Afternoon: **David Hobbs**, Field Outreach Minister for Camping and Christian Education

**SALAD LUNCHEON PROVIDED BY
SW DISTRICT OFFICERS**

No R.S.V.P.s necessary

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

SECRETARIES/COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR – Judy Marnin

If someone from your unit is **going to Assembly, please let me know**. So far we know that Gloria Turner and I are going from Anita, Harriett Brust and Vicki Macguire from Logan, Sheri and Beth Watson, and Patti Ford from Council Bluffs! Sheri and her carload will be leaving AFTER our Day Apart, but the rest of us will leave that morning!



This will be our last issue until August, **so be sure to mark your calendar for the T.E.A.M. meetings (Together Everyone Achieves More) on June 16 at Dow City (North), Fontanelle (East), Locust Grove (South), and St Marks Council Bluffs (West)**. We thank these local ladies for hosting us. Please attend whichever fits your schedule best. **T.E.A.M. meetings begin at 8:30 with coffee, and end before lunch.**

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

Program Resources Coordinators– Sandra Welch



It's coming soon! You have about 3 months to start...or complete... your **UMW Reading Program**. The **deadline is June 30th**. You can send the reports to me via email or by postal mail. And I hope to receive some **children & youth**

names who have participated by reading or having had them read to from our many books in our approved Reading Program. **Five books are all they have to read**. And if you have anyone who just participated but didn't finish any of the 4 plans, include them in your list. Just include the reader's first and last name and the plan they have completed. And remember to regularly read the **Response** magazine for Plan 1 and both **Response** and

New World Outlook for Plans II, III, and IV. The Mission Study Books can be included: *The Call: Living Sacramentally*, *Walking Justly* (Spiritual Growth Study) & *The Roma of Europe* (Education For Mission) & *Poverty* (Social Action).

Please bring any books you have checked out and have finished to **Day Apart on April 24th in Carson**. Then you may check out some of the other books from the Lending Library so others in your unit can enjoy them. **To quote Dr. Seuss:** "The more that you read-the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go!!" Blessings to all of you.

Sandy

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

Education and Interpretation Coordinators – Carol Rogers

Now is the time to be looking at your **Mission Today** and **Mission Study** forms that were sent to you with your President's packet. **They are due at the end of June**, but we often tuck them away and when summer comes they are forgotten. Look at them and see what has already been fulfilled and what you can still do to finish them up to be ready to send to me in June. I know how easy it is to forget things like this when summer activities change our schedules.

Mission u is an exciting educational experience that I have participated in the last few years. This year the topics are: How Is It With Your Soul?, The Roma of Europe, and The Church and People with Disabilities. It happens in Marshalltown **July 13-16** at the Iowa Valley Continuing Ed Center. **The registration isn't out yet, but watch for it at iaumc.org/mission_u**. **The Southwest District is usually underrepresented**. We would love to have you join us and be a part of the fun of this event. If July isn't a good time for you to attend, it is also offered on **October 17-19** at the same place. If you have never attended before, there is also a scholarship available. Make it even more fun and invite a friend or two to attend with you. I always look forward to this part of the UMW year.

I hope that you are sincerely blessed as we experience Easter this year.

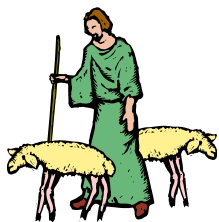
Carol

Carol Rogers,

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

This year: Try **MISSION U!**

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH COORDINATORS– Deb Volz



John 4:28 *"So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 29 'Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?' 30 They went out of the town and were coming to him."* (ESV)

Membership as United Methodist Women is vital. When I went to Israel in early February, I gained a better understanding of what we do as UMW. At the Jerusalem Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children, I saw our UMW and UMCOR mission dollars at work, helping children and their families receive the treatment they needed. I will be sharing my experiences at the Center during my visits to units in the Southwest District.

Often when we share about the Samaritan woman we know simply as "the woman at the well" in John 4, we overlook how **she boldly stepped out** to invite her community to Christ. If she, an outcast both in her community and to the established community of faith, can step out and boldly invite, **why can't we?**

As members of our communities and churches, shouldn't

we follow her lead and boldly step out and invite? UMW is open to any woman who desires to belong to or participate in the global mission of the Church through UMW. **How many are only waiting our invitation?**

If you have not submitted your membership form for 2013, please submit immediately.

Upcoming events:

Day Apart Thursday, April 24, 2014 at Carson UMC

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

T.E.A.M. Meetings June 16 in **Dow City, Fontanelle, Locust Grove, and St. Marks Council Bluffs**, 8:30 – 11:00

Mission u July 13 - 16, 2014 in Marshalltown.

Please attend. Step out and invite someone to attend with you.

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

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OFFERING!!! Just a Reminder this year to each local unit to send the offering for Assembly in Louisville, April 25 – 26, 2014. A check will be taken forward from each Conference during this event. This year the offering will go towards **MATERNAL HEALTH PROJECTS**. We are so thankful as mothers when our daughters have good health care while they are pregnant. **This is not true for many. Let us give GENEROUSLY.**

Offerings should be sent through your district treasurer. Thank you.

Ritzanna Seaton, Iowa Conference United Methodist Women Treasurer

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEES – Margot Young, Chairperson

"God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out his good purposes." Phil.2: 13 WSB

All local nominating committee should be finding nominees for the offices you need to fill for the coming year. Once the slate is complete, all committee members should sign it.

I am still praying and seeking nominees for the following district offices: President, Secretary, and Coordinators for Social Action, Education and Interpretation, and Spiritual Growth. Being a district officer has been very rewarding for me. I have met a lot of new friends and enjoy fellowship with my fellow officers. I am sure you will too. Prayerfully consider becoming a district officer. Call Kathy, Pat or me.

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



At the Executive Board Meeting in February I was asked how much our SW Iowa District pledge to the state was, and how much units had pledged to our district. I've now looked that up and want to share that information:

The Southwest District of the United Methodist Women pledged \$72,000 to the Iowa Conference of United Methodist Women for 2014. Pledges from local units within our district total \$34,422.

Be sure to check your unit's giving on the attached spreadsheet. Let me know if anything isn't right.

Remember, your 2015 pledge is **due to me by June 30.**

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

You have received a green form for this, but if you can't find your form, you may send another paper. Be sure to have your unit's name and the amount of your pledge. I will be going to treasurer's training in April, so hopefully after that I will be able to help you better and answer your questions more succinctly. Thank you for your patience as we learn together. Keep doing good work for children and women locally and around the world through UMW!

Helen

Pledges due June 30!

Social Action Coordinators – Betty Frazee

The Conference UMW Social Action Coordinator, Rita Carter, has challenged each district coordinator to **do/inspire/start five advocacy actions before Mission u in July**. If your unit has suggestions, or something that is already being done in your area, share it with me and I will spread the word.

One of our UMW emphasis areas this year is human trafficking. There is a lot information on the web if you have that available. Some of the sites you can check out: **brakingtraffic.org**; **Polarisproject.org**; **Truckers against Human Trafficking**; **Amber alert**. This is an issue that is found in the cities and the rural areas. It is becoming more and more apparent that human trafficking and the immigration issues are often related.

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline # is 888-373-7888. Spread the word so if something is observed, there is a number to call.

The UMW Advocacy Day was held on January 23 at Wesley UMC in Des Moines. The presentations are available for everyone to hear on YouTube! Go to Iowa Conference UMW, and click on "UMW UMC Advocacy Day 2014." Two videos are available, "Immigration Issues" and "Human Trafficking."

Your contact with legislators does make a difference, so take the time to reach out on issues that affect and interest you. Another round of campaigning is underway and there will be many opportunities to learn more about those who wish to represent you at the state and national level.

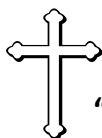
Remember to participate in the UMW reading program and **check out the social action category**. There are always good articles in the **Response** magazine. Keep informed!

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 March is Deuteronomy 32:47, with the instruction to read God's Word:
"This is no trifling matter for you, but rather your very life; through it you may live long in the land that you are crossing over the Jordan to possess." (NRSV)

Southwest District United Methodist Women

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Anita, IA 50020

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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

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—8:30 – 11:00 am
North—Dow City
South—Locust Grove
East—Fontanelle
West—St. Marks, Council Bluffs

June 30--Deadline for pledges and reports
July 13-16—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