



Flaming Fortress

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2014

MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD PRESIDENT -

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8: 28

This verse is our family verse and has been since 1995 when our youngest son was in a very bad car accident and sustained a brain injury. It sustained us during our son, Jay's illness and death. I am leaning on this verse as I watch the news on TV. Seems the whole world is going wrong right now. The situation is bad in the Middle East, Afghanistan and on our southern border. Do I have answers? NO! But I know my God does have answers. I belong to a weekly prayer group and we have been praying about all these situations for a long time. I pray you are keeping our country and these situations in your prayers also.

Seeing ads on TV and in the newspaper about Back to School makes me realize how quickly summer has flown by. I don't have children to buy school clothes and supplies for anymore but I remember those days. Now I think about buying supplies to fill school bags for Ingathering. Hope all of you are thinking that also. We are all so blessed and it feels really good to help those who need a little lift to improve their lives. Children need an education if our world is to improve and filling school bags might just be the lift the children who receive the school kits need.

For me, this year's Mission u was the best I have ever attended. I especially loved the spiritual growth study called "How Is It With Your Soul?" We had a really wonderful teacher from Illinois and she will be back to do it again for the fall Mission u in Marshalltown. Please consider attending again if you have been before and if you have never attended, you are in for a treat. I won't mention how good the good is that is included with your registration fee!

Finally, September 20th will be our annual North Central District UMW meeting in Rockwell City. I believe our slate of officers is near complete if not complete and our new Vice Presidents have lined up some interesting speakers. I know for you ladies in the northern part of our district, it seems like a long way to go but remember we were in Mason City for our meeting three or four years ago. Unfortunately, we do not have enough churches in the central part of our district that meet the requirements to host a district meeting so finding the right place isn't easy. Please consider setting the time aside to attend. Coffee is at 9:00 and the meeting starts at 9:30. More information is in this newsletter. See you all on September 20th!

God bless each of you,
Myra Gochenouer

North Central District President



MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD CO-VICE PRESIDENTS -

We just returned from Mission u and were inspired and challenged by the speakers.

Plans are coming together for our Annual NC District meeting to be held on September 20, 2014 in Rockwell City, Iowa. We think you will enjoy the speakers. Please notice that there is also a flyer in this Fortress. Also note the registration and day care deadlines are September 6, 2014.

We hope you find ideas to “ **MAKE IT HAPPEN**” !

Myra Bowman jlbowman51@aol.com 641-843-4086

Barb Trulson russbarb1946@msn.com 641-843-3387

North Central District Co-Vice Presidents



MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD SECRETARY -

Has your summer gone as quickly as mine? Fall is my favorite time of year, but I do not know that I am ready for it quite yet. I love the fall with the red, orange and yellow leaves on trees and crisp air. Fall is also a time of the year that is busy for United Methodist Women. September is the time that your local officers should be elected for 2015 and if you have any new local officers they should be encouraged to attend the district meeting and training. Please, please, please complete the form for local officers which is included with this newsletter (even if there is no change) and return it to me right away. You do not need to wait until your officers are installed, in fact you can go ahead and send the form prior to the election if you have the information. I have been at this long enough to know that the odds of someone nominated by the Nominating Committee being replaced by a nomination from the floor is slim to none. You can always send a change in to me later. In the same light, if after the election there is still a vacancy or two, please don't wait for it to be filled to send in the form, send that information later. Please note that email addresses are very important; please ask your officers to give them to you. I would like to have the forms by October 1.

On September 20 we will have our District Annual meeting at the Rockwell City UMC, and at that time there will be training for local/unit officers in addition to worship, fellowship and the business of the district. I hope that you will be able to attend even if you have been at this for a while – we can always learn something new and share our experiences with others. I look forward to meeting all of you.

More fall activities include the Conference UMW Annual Meeting in Indianola on Saturday, October 4. These are always very informative and a great opportunity to meet long time friends from other districts. Another opportunity is "Mission u" (formerly School of Christian Mission) on October 17-19. I attended the summer session and it was a wonderful experience with great leaders and informative study materials. Plan to attend, you won't regret it.

Sharon Boen

North Central District Secretary

boen.sharon@gmail.com

515-450-5576

503 Carr Dr.

Ames 50010-5514



“MAKE IT HAPPEN!”

**North Central District
United Methodist Women
Annual District Meeting**

September 20, 2014

Rockwell City United Methodist Church

Registration and Coffee 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Meeting 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS: Gladys Alvarez Conference Vice President

Becky Heeron Dean of Mission u

Bring gift cards from Wal-Mart or Target for Bidwell Riverside.

Bring monetary gifts for Bidwell Riverside and make checks out to North Central District Treasurer, Kathy Sautter, memo line Bidwell Riverside. Love gifts will also be received; checks should again be made out as above memo line UMW Love Gift. Bring loose change for Penny A Day Collection.

Luncheon is \$8.00 + \$1.00 Coffee/Roll Expense = \$9.00

Sack lunches \$1.00 Coffee/Roll Expense = \$1.00

MEAL RESERVSTION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

**RSVP TO: Sandy Maulsby
328 East Lake Street
Rockwell City, IA 50579
Phone # 712-830-3155**

**CHURCH ADDRESS: 333 BROWER STREET
ROCKWELL CITY, IA**

Directions: Come in on old Highway 20, turn south on Brower Street, and go 3 blocks.

MEAL REGISTRATION:

_____ Attending x \$9.00 = Total \$ _____

_____ Sack Lunches x \$1.00 = Total \$ _____

DAY CARE NEEDED:

_____ Child/Children _____ Ages _____

Send with meal registration. Bring a sack lunch for each child, along with \$1.00.

MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD TREASURER -

I do hope that you are enjoying your summer. One of the highlights for many of us was attending the summer session of Mission u in Marshalltown last month. The Spiritual Growth Study, "How Is It with Your Soul?" was very thought provoking. Our presenter made the text come alive as we learned about how prayer, learning, mentoring, and transforming are vital for each one of us. Would you say you are involved in United Methodist Women because someone invited or "mentored" you? We need to be diligent in all these aspects to answer the call to serve. It is a big task, but we have a BIG GOD! It is not too late to sign up for fall Mission u, being held October 17-19. Registration deadline is September 17. If you need an application contact a district officer or find it on the following website: www.iaumc.org/Missionu

There is still one scholarship available from the district for a first time attendee. We are so happy to help someone experience this learning opportunity for the first time! You will be hooked! Contact me or President Myra Gochenouer for more details.

Many of our units are well on their way, or have already achieved 5 Star status for 2014! That is great. If you have not, don't worry, there is plenty of time. Remember, 5 Star giving includes giving to Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and World Thank Offering.

Coming up soon is our District Annual meeting. You can read details of it in this newsletter. Your local unit's treasurer for 2015 should plan to attend the Local Officer Training Event. Send me questions now, so I can be prepared with the correct information for you. I will have news to share and updated forms and information for you. Also, please send me your Love Gift (also called Mission Possible) offering before September 20 or just bring your offering with you. It helps the District reach its pledge to the conference, which means more mission. I will also have with me the "green pig" for your change and Gift in Mission and Gift in Memory cards for your purchase. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Thinking ahead to the end of the year, look through your records to see if you can qualify for a 5 Star recognition. Have you sent in the 75 cents to Bidwell, Shesler, Hawthorn Hill & Mission u? Have you sent in \$1 for the magazine fund? I will be sending your unit's end-of-year giving statement in November. Be looking for it and let me know of any mistakes. I **MUST HAVE** all of your giving to me by **December 10**, when I close my books for the year and prepare for audit.

Thank you for serving your unit as treasurer. Each one of you is truly a "treasure". When we all work together, we "Make It Happen".

Make checks out to **North Central District UMW** and send to me:

Kathy Sautter
1041 S. Illinois Ave.
Mason City, IA 50401

Kathy Sautter
North Central District Treasurer
Telephone: 641-423-2742
E-mail: ksautter64@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE, and OUTREACH COORDINATOR -

What a privilege it was to take a break from a busy summer to attend Mission u in July. Our spiritual growth study helped us to answer the question, "How is it with your soul?" We also learned more about the Roma of Europe and how we can be more inclusive in our churches of those with disabilities. Those few days were full of learning, spiritual growth, fellowship, and fun. If you weren't able to attend it is not too late to attend or encourage others to attend the fall Mission u in October.

At our district officer training session we learned that we have 17,516 UMW members in the Iowa Conference. The North Central District has 3254 members. We are always looking for ideas on how to share our mission with other women and attract new members. Arlene Fleming, Conference Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator is collecting ideas on how you have attracted new members or maybe you can share an idea that you tried that wasn't successful for you, but might be for someone else. She will compile these ideas and share them

with us. If you have an idea you would like to share you can send them to Arlene or send them to me and I will forward them to her. Hopefully we will have some new ideas to share at our Local Officer Training on September 20 in Rockwell City. I hope to see many of you there.

Sometimes we get bogged down with worrying about decreasing membership. In the July/August Response magazine, Yvette Kim Richards, President of UMW said this: *"We lament that it is hard to get people to come to a meeting or a district event. I say, stop worrying and be encouraged. Let's move forward with the 800,000 (3254 North Central District) Bold, Edgy, Loving, Giving, Compassionate and Unreasonable United Methodist Women members we have, continue to do the work we've been called to do and plant seeds of mission at every opportunity. God will give the increase."* Amen to that.

Jan Carpenter

**NC District Membership,
Nurture and Outreach Coordinator**

1831 8th Ave N

Fort Dodge, IA 50501

mcarpenterj@frontiernet.net

MESSAGE FROM OUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR—

Have you finished most of those "summer projects" that were on your calendar? I don't think I have, but most of them can be "fall projects". One thing I HAVE completed was **Mission u** at Marshalltown this past week. As always, it was uplifting, informational and fun. The Spiritual Growth study for the group was based on the book "How Is It With Your Soul?". Good question, huh? I hope your local unit has it on hand as part of our reading program. Read it, if you have it. As we all know, we should always be in prayer about our needs, whether on a personal level or the world's. This book emphasized prayer, but also we must LEARN and not forget to MENTOR. So many of us attend UMW because someone else asked us to come. We need to continue doing this: ask, bring, remind, provide transportation, etc. After faithfully praying, learning about others and their needs, finding those we need to mentor, then we are ALL charged with the mission to TRANSFORM this world. The speaker reminded us WE ARE the image of God, so WE are the change agents for this world, our "global ministry".

Linda Stauffer

Spiritual Growth Coordinator 515-332-5411 lstauffer@jumpgate.net

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
TO BE ELECTED
BALLOT 2015—2016**

PRESIDENT

Myra Gochenour
408 7th St. N.E.
Belmond, Iowa 50421
641-444-7372
gochen2@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

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503 Carr Dr.
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Algona, Iowa 50511
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imchick@netamumail.com

CORRESPONDENCE COORDINATOR

Sally Cuthbertson
207 East Iowa Avenue
Gilmore City, Iowa 50541
515-373-6346
sacuthbe@msn.com

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CURRENT OFFICERS CONTINUING IN OFFICE

VICE-PRESIDENT CO-CHAIRS

Barbara Trulson	Myra Bowman
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COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Marlene Pieper, **Chair**
6255 Twin Lakes Road
Manson, Iowa 50563
712-297-7471
no email

TREASURER

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515-573-7549
mcarpenterj@frontiernet.net

Sandy Graffunder
128 N Grant St.
Rockwell City, Iowa 50579
712-297-5298
sandygraffunder.sg@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Fall is approaching and it is time to name the new officers for our district and say THANK YOU so very much for accepting the invitation to be on the District Team!

Secretary of Program Resources:

Iola Chickering, Algona, Iowa

We did have someone who consented to serve on the Nominating Committee but she found out that she cannot serve on two committee's at one time. She is now serving on the Program Advisory Group at the national level.

So, the committee is now trying to find two persons to serve on the Committee on Nominations. Please contact me if you or someone you know, would like to be a part of this committee. It is a great opportunity to work with such dedicated and devoted women—we need to keep United Methodist Women strong!

The election of officers will be held at the District Meeting in Rockwell City on September 19th. Please plan to attend.

Marlene Pieper, **Chair**
Committee on Nominations

North Central District
6255 Twin Lakes Road
Manson, Iowa 50563
Telephone 1-712-297-7471

MESSAGE FROM YOUR CORRESPONDENCE COORDINATOR

Just letting you all know I'm still not back in my home after the April 29 fire. BUT it is looking promising, finally. Painting is being done. Any new construction is about done. New stuff in bathroom and kitchen start tomorrow. Then carpet and flooring in, then I can move ME and all my stuff back in. It will seem so spacious after living in a motel room for 4 months (different ones at that—I told the girls at Super 8 that I felt like I was on a tour of their motel trying out many of the rooms!) GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME—ALL THE TIME GOD IS GOOD! I've managed to stay cheerful through it all by just looking towards the future instead of behind. Worked for me anyway! Besides, getting grumpy or anxious would only make me and the people around me miserable—so smile it is!! Thanks for all those that have been praying for me. It was your prayers that probably kept me smiling!!!

Keep the address changes coming when you know of any! THANKS!!

Sally Cuthbertson
Correspondence Coordinator
Gilmore City, Iowa 50541

Phone: 515-373-6346
Cell: 515-368-3650
Email: sacuthbe@msn.com

LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS – 2015

Complete this form even if there are no changes and return to the District Secretary by **October 1, 2014**. Send to:

Sharon Boen
503 Carr Dr.
Ames, IA 50010-5514

or e-mail information to: **boen.sharon@gmail.com**

Instructions:

- **Print**
- Use correct mailing addresses including post office box
- Include the **ZIP CODE + 4**
- **If you have snowbirds, please indicate the dates they will be gone**
- If your unit does not fill a specific office, write “None”
- **If an office is filled later or other changes occur, please send updated information**
- Include the area code for telephone numbers (we have three area codes in our district)
- **Include an e-mail address if they have one – a huge help to the district officers!! Please get this information from your officers.**

Address information is critical.
 Newsletters that are returned and then
 resent with the correct address cost the
 district almost \$1 each!

Name of Unit _____ Town _____

Number of members that attend unit meetings regularly _____ When do you meet? _____

President	Vice-President
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
Secretary	Treasurer
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____

Chairperson, Committee on Nominations	Mission Coordinator – Spiritual Growth
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
Mission Coordinator – Education & Interpretation	Mission Coordinator – Social Action
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
Mission Coordinator – Membership Nurture & Outreach	Secretary of Program Resources
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____

NOTE: Please include the name, etc., of one person to receive communications from other units.

This information will be in the January newsletter.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

MESSAGE FROM OUR EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR -

“And we know in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

I hope everyone had a pleasant and exciting summer. Thank you to all of you who have sent your Mission today reports. I will still accept reports until the 6th of September if you have not gotten yours to me. If you need a copy of the 2013-2014 report form please let me know ASAP. I have also received some completed forms by email and that is ok also. If you or someone you know has a scanner I will be happy to receive your form that way. My email address is pjwarren@q.com.

I hope everyone enjoyed Mission u last month. I am looking forward to the fall Mission u October 17-19. I have heard some great and interesting things about the studies. The district study dates and locations will be announced at our UMW District annual meeting September 20th at Rockwell City UMC. Please keep Rockwell City in your thoughts and prayers, the church building was damaged by very large hail earlier this summer and they are still in the process of cleaning and painting. They are having a workday August 23 to help get ready for our September meeting. I'm sure they could use workers. Watch for more information about this day from the North Central district disaster coordinators and office.

Blessings,
Phyllis Warren
Education and Interpretation Coordinator
1160 180th St.
Bradgate, Iowa 50520
Phone: 515-375-6738

MESSAGE FROM OUR NCD SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES -

Congratulations! 120 readers from thirty-three units turned in reports for the Reading Program 2014. The most read book in each category:

Leadership Development—*“King Peggy”*
Spiritual Growth—*“You’re Already Amazing”*
Social Action—*“An Invisible Thread”*
Education in Mission—*“The Dressmaker of Khair Khana”*
Nurturing Community—*“Please Look After Mom”*

As of this writing, the 2015 reading list is not out. The Sampler form for 2015 is available. I highly recommend each unit purchasing this. Go on line to order or to copy the order form.

Lavonne Shearer
NCD Secretary of Program Resources
515-432-5172
Imshearerboone@hotmail.com

Non-profit organization
Faith United Methodist Church
107 4th St. N.
P. O. Box 647
Humboldt, IA 50548

Non-Profit Organization

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Humboldt, IA.
50548



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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