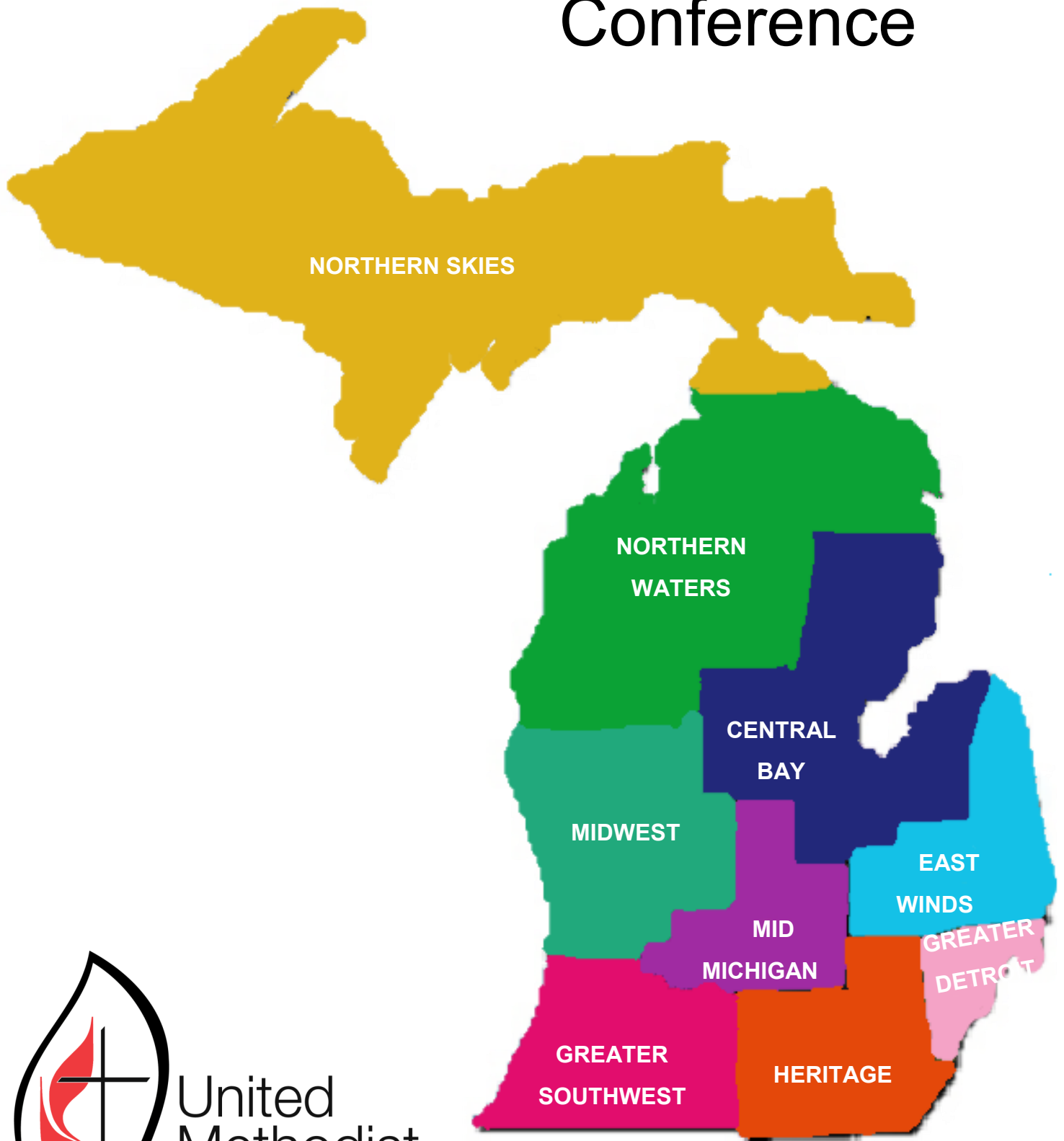


Michigan Conference



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

PURPOSE AND MEMBERSHIP

The organized unit of the 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.

Membership shall be open to any woman who indicates her desire to belong and to participate in the global mission of the Church through United Methodist Women. The pastor(s) shall be an ex officio member of the local unit and of its executive committee. (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2012, Section 256.5, Article 4)

The V.O.I.C.E.

Valuable Organizational Information Connecting Everyone

Your Michigan Conference United Methodist Women newsletter helps link your conference team with each local unit. Published four (4) times year (March, June, September and December). You can be added to the address list, or email list of The VOICE by contacting Amber Hassler at (231) 642-7224 or upnorthtwinmom@gmail.com

Any part of The VOICE newsletter can be duplicated.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

churchwomenunited.net

WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

worldmethodistcouncil.org

WORLD FEDERATION OF METHODIST AND UNITING CHURCH WOMEN

wfmucw.org/

PROGRAM MATERIALS

Order program materials from the United Methodist Women Resource Center
1-800-305-9857, fax: 1-770-280-0031, or www.umwmissionresources.org

MAGAZINES

response

Print Subscription (includes complimentary digital subscription) - \$24 per year / \$45 for 2 years
Digital Only Subscription - \$20 per year / \$38 for 2 years

Mail magazine orders to:
response or New World Outlook
PO Box 395, Congers NY 10920-0395
1-877-881-2385, Fax: 1-845-267-3478

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN, INC.

National Office Interchurch Center
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UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NATIONAL MISSION INSTITUTION

The United Methodist Community House
904 Sheldon Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Eric Williams, CEO
(616) 452-3226 fax: (616) 452-0939
umchousegr.org

Michigan Conference United Methodist Women Representatives

Board of Directors:	Linda Darrow, Conference President Linda Burton-Collier, Greater Southwest District Marchelle Phelps, Greater Detroit District Taylorie Bailey, Director UMW; UMW, Inc, UMCH Liaison
Finance Committee:	Julia Paradine-Rice, Conference Treasure
Governance Committee:	Suzanne Hewitt, PAG



CAMPS & RETREAT CENTERS IN THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

umcamping.org



Judson Collins Camp & Retreat Center	1000 Hane Hwy. Onstead, MI 49265	(517) 467-7711 office@judsoncollinscenter.org
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Lake Huron Retreat Center	8794 Lakeshore Road Burtchville, MI 48059	(810) 327-6272 info@lakehonorretreat.org
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Lake Michigan Camp & Retreat	5807 N Ridge Road Pentwater, MI 49449	(231) 869-5317 lakemichigancampdirector@umcamping.org
---------------------------------------	------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------



Lakeview Family Camp	5300 W Cutler Road Lakeview, MI 48850	(989) 352-6896 lakeviewstaff@umcamping.org
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Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center	1700 Clear Lake Dowling, MI 49050	(269) 721-8291 wesleywoodscampdirector@umcamping.org
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A message from the President of the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women

GREETINGS: to ALL United Methodist women in the new Michigan Conference,

“There are two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is miracle.” (Albert Einstein)

To me, this is another way of thinking about my glass being half empty OR half full!!! It's a good thing I am a glass half full person! I have just re-read my message in last year's directory. I could begin this year's letter just about the same way - *WOW! What a year it has been.* The merging process was well under way when the year began and the work continued throughout the whole year, knowing that we wanted everything to be completed and in order by the time we would officially be the new MICHIGAN Conference, January 1, 2019.



The Steering Committee met monthly through May. At the March meeting, Marisa Villarreal, from the National Office also attended. She shared her thoughts and ideas on the process we were using and the progress we were making and what still needed to be accomplished. Plans for the rest of the year were made, including two joint Conference team meetings, in May and August, nine District Annual celebrations in September and October; AND, the first Michigan Conference Annual Celebration of United Methodist Women, in October, at the Petoskey United Methodist Church.

Winter and spring were consumed with promoting the 2018 National Women's Assembly, ***The Power of Bold.*** Increasing attendance over the last Assembly was encouraged. National set a goal at 30%. The Detroit Conference succeeded! And, West Michigan Conference came close. What was especially exciting, was that as one conference, Michigan had the 2nd largest delegation at Assembly! Over 6,000 women, and a few good men, were encouraged to be BOLD. We sang and danced and prayed. We were energized, inspired, spirit filled, and engaged. We were empowered to BE BOLD!!!

At our Mission u events, held in traditional locations, we studied “What about Our Money?” and “Embracing Wholeness,” and about our Missionary Conferences. Conversations began for a plan to combine all the Mission u events in Michigan under one “umbrella,” - one committee that will do the planning and recruiting of study leaders, and one brochure that will promote ALL the Mission u events.

I was fortunate to be able to attend 7 of the 9 new District Annual celebrations in September and October. I was honored to speak at one and do the installation of the new district leadership teams at three. I love seeing those I already know and I always love meeting new sisters and getting better acquainted. What fun it was to experience how each District does what they do - SO many similarities, but also so many variations. I commend ALL those who worked so diligently in their new districts to do the work required to make the changes that were necessary for the merging process. It took many, many hours of time, much effort, MUCH patience. I applaud you ***all.*** Change is not easy. We heard about change, changes and changing over and over and over. Some of it hurt, but most of it is wonderful! And, we are better for it! And, most importantly, — we are better together! WE are the United Methodist Women in the MICHIGAN conference!

Linda Darrow

Michigan Conference President

MARCH	Su	Mon	Tue	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
	Calendar Key: CB - Central Bay EW - East Winds GD - Greater Detroit GS - Greater Southwest H - Heritage MC - Michigan Conference MM - Mid-Michigan MW - Midwest NS - Northern Skies NW - Northern Waters					1 World Day of Prayer, Church Women United	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 GD Mission Workshop H Leadership Team
	10	11 GD Executive Board	12 GS Leadership Team	13 NW Leadership Team	14	15	16 MW Spring Fling
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 150th Anniversary of the UMW GS Spring Fling
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						H Spiritual Retreat	
APRIL	31	1	2	3	4	5	6 MC Keep Making Peace
						GD Spiritual Life Retreat	
	7	8 GD Executive Board	9	10	11	12	13
						EW Spiritual Life Retreat	
						NW Spring Retreat	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27 EW Prayer Breakfast
						CB Spiritual Life Retreat	
	28	29	30				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	MAY
			1	2	3 Friendship Day, Church Women United NS Leadership Team	4 NW Power of Bold Day	
					MW MM Spring Retreat		
					NS Spiritual Growth Retreat		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13 GD Executive Board Meeting	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22 NW Leadership Team	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
				Annual Conference - 6/2			
2 AC	3	4 GS Leadership Team	5	6	7	8 H Team Meeting	
9	10 GD Executive Board Meeting	11	12	13 GS Evening of Mission	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 EW Team Meeting	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	Calendar Key: CB - Central Bay EW - East Winds GD - Greater Detroit GS - Greater Southwest H - Heritage MC - Michigan Conference MM - Mid-Michigan MW - Midwest NS - Northern Skies NW - Northern Waters						JUNE

JULY	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Mission u of the West			
	14	15	16 EW Mission Team	17	18	19	20 Mission u of the South
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
AUGUST	28	29	30	31	1 GS Mission u Sampler	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
						EW Creation Museum & Ark Trip (through 8-11)	
	11	12	13 NS Leadership Team	14	15 Mission u of the East H.O.M.E.	16	17
						Mission u of the East	
SEPTEMBER	18	19	20	21	22	23	24 EW Mission Team Meeting
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	1	2	3 GS Leadership Team	4	5	6	7 H Leadership Team
	8	9 GD Executive Board	10	11	12	13	14 GS District Annual Celebration
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 MW District Annual Celebration
	22	23	24	25	26	27 NW Leadership Team	28 H District Annual Celebration NW District Annual Celebration
	29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	OCTOBER
		1	2	3	4	5 CB District Annual	
6	7 NS Leadership Team	8 NS District Annual Celebration <div>NW Planning Retreat</div>	9	10	11	12 EW District Annual	
13	14 GD Executive Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21 <div>Mission u of the North</div>	22	23	24	25 MC Leadership Training	26 MC Conference Annual	
27	28	29	30	31	1 World Community Day	2 GS Leadership Team H Leadership Team	NOVEMBER
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 EW Mission	
10	11 GD Executive Board	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 NW Christmas Party, Leadership Team	DECEMBER
8	9 GD Executive Board	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE TEAM

President:	Linda Darrow (2017) 232 N. Cooley Street Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858	(989) 763-8750 darrowlinda@gmail.com
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Treasurer:	Julia Paradine-Rice (2014) 4114 Sanctuary Drive Alma, MI 48801	(989) 576-0675 juliapr@charter.net
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Social Media:	Amber Hassler (2019) 269 Cayo Drive Buckley, MI 49620	(231) 642-7224 upnorthtwinmom@gmail.com

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE TEAM

Committee on Nominations:

Chair:	Linda Schramm (2019) 244 South Elk Street Sandusky, MI 48471	(810) 648-4696 lars@greatlakes.net
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DISTRICT PRESIDENTS:

Central Bay	Ruth Sutton
East Winds	Lynn Geer, Alberta Dunsell
Greater Detroit	Kathryn (Kay) Korn
Greater Southwest	Linda Burton-Collier
Heritage	Sherry Wagenknecht
Mid-Michigan	Donna Kleiver
Midwest	Sue Reitman
Northern Skies	Patti Steinberg
Northern Waters	Susan Wirgau

MEMBERS EX-OFFICIO

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United Methodist Women, Inc. General Secretary	Harriett Olson	holson@unitedmethodistwomen.org
United Methodist Women, Inc. Directors	Ruby Anderson Taylorie Bailey	(586) 940-0221 rbydandrs@aol.com (313) 531-0751 etbailey77@sbcglobal.net
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NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rita L. Smith, President - Northern Illinois
Theresa Riecke, Vice-President - Minnesota
Linda B. Garvin, Secretary - Iowa
Peggy Cope, Treasurer - Illinois Great River
Bobbi Larson, Chair of Nominations - Dakotas
Rosa Bernard, Nominations - Indiana
Mildred Braddock, Nominations - Michigan
Kady Herr-Yang, Nominations - Wisconsin
Cynthia A. Rose, Nominations - East Ohio

COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Linda Darrow, Chair	Loretta Lee	Joyce Simmons
Dorrie Litchfield	Alice Tucker	Ex-Officio Micki Phelps
Kathy Freeland	Waltha Gaye Leavitt	
Judy Chasney		

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Linda Schramm (Chair)	Evelyn Delaney	Waltha Gaye Leavitt
Patti Steinberg	Shirley Chappell	Julia Deemer
Joy Coyle	Dorie Litchfield	

REPRESENTATIVES TO CONFERENCE BOARDS AND AGENCIES:

Board of Laity:	Linda Darrow
Board of Global Ministries:	Michele Weston
Board of Justice: Division of Church and Society	Alice Tucker

MISSION U

Co Deans:	Simmie Proctor (2019-2020) Jackie Euper (2019-2020)	MaryWhitman
Assistant Dean:	Micki Phelps	
Treasurer:	Julia Paradine-Rice	Mary McCully
Past Deans:	Linda Schramm	Linda Burton-Collier
Registrars:		
Mission u or the West:	Beth Mitchell 3813 Rockwood Drive Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(269) 343-6806 barmitch55@gmail.com
Mission u of the South:	Mary McCully	(734) 414-7884
Mission u of the East:	7664 N Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48187	marymcully.missionu@gmail.com
Mission u of the North:	Tiffany Crawford 1490 Crest Road Gladwin, MI 48624	(989) 429-9418 missionuofthenorth@yahoo.com

Elected officers who serve on the committee by virtue of their offices:

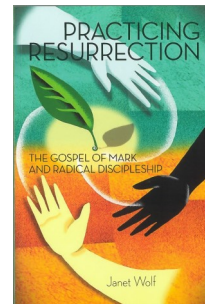
Linda Darrow	Michele Weston	Kathy Freeland
Patricia Bostic	Patricia Snyder	Sally Messner
Alice Tucker	Ruth Jones	Brenda Street

Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship

by Janet Wolf

(Spiritual Growth Study)

Janet Wolf presents this well-known Gospel through voices and experiences that are often relegated to the margins. Where we stand, what we see, who we listen to, whose stories and voices we value and dismiss will all shape the way we understand the world and the Bible. This study incorporates the stories of those on the margins to uncover how the gospel is alive and well today -- how God is, and always has been, calling us to live out the Word in a radical way.



What About Our Money? A Faith Response

by Susan K. Taylor

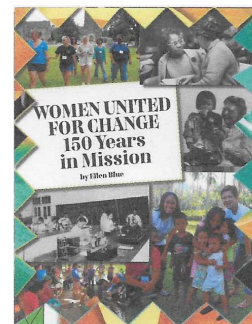
(Social Action Study)

This study explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. The focus of this study is both personal and communal. Readers will explore their own relationship with money, the money choices available to us, and how we individually and collectively respond in light of our faith.

Women United For Change: 150 Years in Mission

by Ellen Blue

This study is the first in a two-year study commemorating United Methodist Women's 150th anniversary in 2019. It will provide a historical survey of United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations and amplify the voices that shaped the work through an overarching story of United Methodist Women changing the face of mission. This study is about women who established vibrant societies to support mission.



STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee:	Linda Darrow, (Chair) Patricia Bostic Beth Mitchell Julia Paradine-Rice Brenda Street Kathy Freeland Sally Messner Alice Tucker Michele Weston Patricia Snyder Ruth Jones	Linda Schramm Taylorie Bailey Ruby Anderson Mildred Braddock Micki Phelps Diana Spitnale Miller Jackie Euper Simmie Proctor Rube Anderson Suzanne Hewitt Bishop David Bard	District Presidents: Patti Steinberg Susan Wirgau Ruth Sutton Susan Rietman Donna Kleiver Lynn Geer Alberta Gunsell Linda Burton-Collier Sherri Wagenknecht Kay Korns
Administrative Committee	Linda Darrow, (Chair) Patricia Bostic	Beth Mitchell Julia Paradine-Rice	(One other to be appointed)
Program Committee:	Patricia Bostic, Chair Linda Darrow Beth Mitchell Julia Paradine-Rice Brenda Street	Kathy Freeland Sally Messner Alice Tucker Michelle Weston Patricia Snyder	Ruth Jones Linda Schramm Sherri Wagenknecht (Annual Celebration Registrar)
Finance Committee:	Julia Paradine-Rice, Chair Linda Darrow Patricia Bostic Beth Mitchell Brenda Street	Kathy Freeland Sally Messner Alice Tucker Michelle Weston	Patricia Snyder Ruth Jones Linda Schramm Sherri Wagenknecht District Treasurers
District Treasurers:	Bonnie Dunstan Doris Huntoon Viola Jones	Cheryl Rumery Jackie Ricketts Mary Danforth	Betty VanderWal Barb Akins Sally Smith
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Committee:	Patricia Snyder, Chair Linda Darrow Beth Mitchell	Kathy Freeland Sally Messner Michelle Weston	Linda Schramm District Members of Membership, Nurture and Outreach
Standing Rules:	Diana Spitnale Miller (Chair) Linda Darrow	Pat Bostic Beth Mitchell	Julia Paradine-Rice
Goals Committee:	Patricia Bostic (Chair) Alice Tucker	Michele Weston Patricia Snyder	Ruth Jones Linda Darrow
Committee on Communications:	Kathy Freeland (Co-Chair) Sally Messner (Co-Chair) Diana Spitnale Miller	Amber Hassler Linda Darrow Pat Bostic	Beth Mitchell Julia Paradine-Rice
The VOICE Conference Newsletter:	Kathy Freeland (Chair) Sally Messner	Patricia Bostic Julia Paradine-Rice	Brenda Street Linda Darrow
	District Program Resources and Communication Coordinators		
Committee on Directory :	Sally Messner, Chair Kathy Freeland	Linda Darrow Julia Paradine-Rice	Brenda Street

The conference president is an ex officio member of all committees with the exception of the committee on nominations.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GOALS 2019

Spiritual Growth: Enhance our participation in the **Spiritual Growth** of our units/Districts through active participation at district and conference events such as: Prayer Breakfast, Spiritual Growth Retreat, Epiphany Breakfast, Mission U, spiritual growth books from the Reading programs, Lay Servant Ministry, etc.

MET: Participate in 4 different Spiritual Growth Activities

Relationship: Rejuvenate our commitment to reorganize and restructure our programs by building our **Relationships** in the following ways: With our Native American sisters by working more closely with them and by attending their events; with the local units by encouraging engagement in district shepherding, creating a cohesive atmosphere with the district/local units, and designing and supporting different “unit” structures; with Church Women United by attending and supporting their programs; and with Wesley Foundations by providing support.

MET: Participate and support 6 different building relationship events/programs

Promote and discuss our **United Methodist Women Initiatives**: Racial Justice/Climate Justice, Maternal and Child Health, Economic Justice and Mass Incarceration by educating, organizing and attending events, and keeping the lines of communication open within our conference. The focus shall be to spotlight these initiatives at all district and conference events. Examples are: Keep Making Peace, Justice for Our Neighbors, Program Resources, Social Justice events, The VOICE Newsletter, etc.

MET: Attend and participate in 5 different events/programs

Education: Increase our skills and knowledge by being involved in the following **Education** opportunities: Reading Program, Lay Servant Ministry, Mission U, Immigration-JFON, United Methodist Women websites, The VOICE, being a mentor, etc.

MET: Attend and participate in 3 different programs and write an article relating to of the UMW Initiatives

Technology: Increase our **Technology** skills and knowledge by becoming more “Social Media Savvy”. This can be accomplished by utilizing Facebook, planning “Zoom” and conference call meetings, completing our census by March 31, 2019, etc.

MET: Scheduled more than 3 “Zoom or Conference Call Meetings and complete our census by Mar 31, 2019

Mission Giving: Increase our **Mission Giving** by using technology to meet and exceed this goal. This can be accomplished by utilizing “pay online” options such as PayPal and Zelle, promoting Legacy Day of Giving: March 23, 2019 (150 Years Legacy), etc.

MET: meet our annual budgeted goal @100%

CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Ruth Sutton (2017) 2335 N. Meridian Road Sanford, MI 48657-9554	(989) 687-5646 suttonr1@charter.net
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Registrar:	Eleanor (Ele) Hunt (2016) 5640 W. Weir Road Oscoda, MI 48750-9484	(989) 739-8179 ele.chuck59@gmail.com
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	Mary Whitman 9155 Greenway Ct. N222 Saginaw, MI 48609	(989) 781-9223 librawhitman@yahoo.com

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Chair:

OPEN

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1869-2019

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	Linda Moore 327 Allendale Place Flint, MI 4503	(810) 233-5070 linhen69@gmail.com
Secretary:	Kathie Abke (2017) 251 Weitzel Drive Bad Axe, MI 48413	(989) 269-8388 kabke@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Doris Huntoon (2019) 5670 Lynd Road Marlette, MI 48453	(989) 860-2045 huntoon_doris@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Linda Nixon (2019) 135 S. Slater Street Lake Orion, MI 48362	(248) 693-1618 ondago68@gmail.com
Co-Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Marie Weaver (2017) 1124 Ida Avenue Flint, MI 48503-3524	(810) 516-8842 mswbohn@comcast.net
	Cynthia Rossman (2018) 4273 Grant Street Brown City, MI 48416	(587) 757-5146 cynrosjam@gmail.com
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Judy Chasney (2017) 129 Bartlett Street Harbor Beach, MI 48441	(989) 553-0076 jmchasney@gmail.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Judy Stambaugh (2019) 5351 S. Bad Axe Road Ubly, MI 48475	(989) 658-8817 goja@speednetllc.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Myrt Kohn (2019) 4231 2nd St., PO Box 142 Brown City, MI 48416	
Communications Coordinator:	Lori Juengel	

EAST WINDS DISTRICT OFFICERS

Committee on Nominations:

Chair:

Sandy Weaver (2019)
2125 W. Buell Road
Oakland, MI 48363-2103

(248) 321-5218
clwsrweav@aol.com

Mary Ann Grace (2019)
4344 Cayuga Trail
Flint, MI 48532-3582

C (810) 394-2755
(810) 733-6221
marydg@comcast.net

Mary Allen (2019)
4287 Cayuga Trail
Flint, MI 48532-3581

C (810) 516-0402
(810) 732-1021
marylynn081376@aol.com

Suzanne Tinka (2019)
PO Box 186
Clarkston, MI 48437

C (248) 882-1488
(248) 625-3405

Sandy Kress (2019)
920 Division Street
Port Huron, MI 48060-6209

(810) 824-9321
sandrakress44@gmail.com

United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

Members raise up to \$20 million each year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world.

United Methodist Women and The United Methodist Church's principles and values include:

- Promoting the empowerment of women, children and youth.
- Promoting anti-racism and multiculturalism.
- Promoting inclusion and equity.
- Promoting fair labor practices.

Promoting economic and environmental stewardship and sustainability policies and systems.

We provide educational experiences that lead to personal change in order to transform the world.

GREATER DETROIT DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Kathryn (Kay) Korns 2780 Syckelmoore Trenton, MI 48183	C (734) 775-2385 (734) 671-0005 k.korns@gmail.com
Vice President:	Ernestine (Tina) Campbell 20300 Westmoreland St. Detroit, MI 48219	(313) 529-5686 ecampbe16@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Cynthia Bradford 515 Parkview Drive Detroit, MI 48214	(313) 204-8368 cynlynbrad@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Viola Jones 3975 Cornerstone Drive Canton, MI 48188	(734) 221-5478 jonesaja342@yahoo.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Mary Beltzman 37149 S Woodbridge Dr. #102 Westland, MI 48185	(734) 502-8487 maryhutzbelzman@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Lorraine Murdoch 5722 Certralia Dearborn Hts., MI 48127	C (313) 407-5277 (313)277-5582 lmurdoch5722@gmail.com
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Susan Howze 26910 W. 12 Mile Road Southfield, MI 48034	(313) 608-4571 jazzyone1960@yahoo.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Ethel Grill 21900 Farmington Rd, #323 Farmington, MI 48336	(313) 530-5393 butterfly1425@yahoo.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Jocelyn Davis 17391 Louise Street Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 722-6838 missydavis32@gmail.com
Communications Co-Coordinator:	Anne Cramton 15151 FordRoad, Apt 316 Dearborn, MI 48126	(313) 406-6932 annecramton34@gmails.com
	Kristine Miranne 16650 Chandler Drive Detroit, MI 48224	(313) 303-9536 kristine.miranne@att.net
Immediate Past President:	Alice Tucker 22289 Woodwill Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 357-5816 erich@comcast.net
Registrar	Linda Pittman 18121 Midway Avenue Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 469-3661 deepittman@gmail.com

GREATER DETROIT DISTRICT OFFICERS

Committee on Nominations:

Chair:	Jeanette Harris 25535 Continental Street Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 752-7147 jharris48@yahoo.com
	Nellie Brown 29126 Tessmer Court Madison Heights, MI 49071	(248) 542-5557
	Joan Allison 560 Catalpa Birmingham, MI 48009	(248) 646-4305
	Sheila Glasgow 16746 Stout Detroit, MI 48219	(313) 534-8663 c (313) 655-6983 gowsheila@sbcglobal.net
	Betty Thomas 3339 More Street Inkster, MI 48141	(313) 561-4792 c (313) 929-7920 bthomas610@sbcglobal.net
	Alberta Garrett 5444 Provincial Drive Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302	(248) 737-7185 C (248) 766-3604 fictionag@aol.com

OUR LOGO



The cross and flame are ancient symbols of the church and appear on The United Methodist Church emblem. The cross reminds us to follow in the steps of Jesus in our lives. The flame originates from Pentecost and resonates- even today - in Paul's words to Timothy:

"I remind you to stir into flame the gift

of God which is within you." - 2 Timothy 1:6

As United Methodist Women, we give our gift of God with others through mission.

Our emblems reminds us of our purpose of growing in our understanding of and willingness to participate in the global ministries of the church. The overall fluid and free flowing shape of the emblem suggests change and mobility. Our foremothers were advocates for change; change and growth continue to be at the heart of United Methodist Women's sisterhood and mission.

GREATER SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Linda Burton-Collier (2019) 2574 127th Avenue Allegan, MI 49010	(269) 793-7340 lindaburtoncollier@gmail.com
Vice President:	Donna Smith (2019) 304 Beckett Park Battle Creek, MI 49015	(269) 565-0958 smithd42f@gmail.com
Secretary:	Karen Grimes (2018) 28194 31st Street Gobles, MI 49055	(269) 628-2068 ksgrimes3418@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Cheryl Rumery (2016) 35686 Mill Lake Road Gobles, MI 49055	(269) 628-4894 milllake@frontier.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Becky Hays (2018) 444 N. Center Hartford, MI 49057	(269) 208-6947 beckyhays34@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	OPEN	
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Joyce Babbitt (2017) 47040 24th Street Mattawan, MI 49071	(269) 668-3680 c (269) 598-1021 joycetaskerbabbitt21@gmail.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Lori Roof (2019) 14810 Roof Drive Climax, MI 49034	(269) 720-9903 llroof1@gmail.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Laura Knepple (2018) 56905 Gards Prairie Rd Cassopolis, MI 49031	(269) 414-1780 lksras1124@gmail.com
Communications Coordinator:	Cindy Thiele (2019) 319 River Street Allegan, MI 49010	(269) 673-4514 cindahthiele@gmail.com

Reading Program



GREATER SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICERS

Committee on Nominations:

Chair:	Simmie Proctor (2018) 73486 8th Avenue South Haven, MI 49090	(269) 637-6053 simmiepr@hotmail.com
	Joy Sanderfur (2018) 2723 Parchment Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(616) 560-1919 joywaterfield@gmail.com
	Clare Olney (2018) 13021 64th Street South Haven, MI 49090	(269) 906-1230 clareolney55@gmail.com
	Era Grasty (2019) 100 E. Northside Drive Kalamazoo, MI 49037	(269) 963-5234
	Jane Knapp (2019) 7792 Kilowatt Drive Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 775-1387
Past President:	Cheryl Proctor 104 Tuttle Park Drive Sherwood, MI 49089	(517) 741-3125 seldominn_1@juno.com

The Vision of United Methodist Women

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Living the Vision

We provide opportunities and resources to grow spiritually, become more deeply rooted in Christ and put faith into action.

We are organized for growth, with flexible structures leading to effective witness and action.

We equip women and girls around the world to be leaders in communities, agencies, workplaces, governments and churches.

We work for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems.

We provide educational experiences that lead to personal change in order to transform the world.

HERITAGE DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Sherry Wagenknecht(2018) 4033 Douglas Road Ida, MI 48140	(734) 269-2578 (734) 347-5856 wagen88@hotmail.com
Vice President:	Carol Gorham (2016) 13539 S. Rainbow Drive Gregory, MI 48137	(734) 904-5312 carolgorham1492@gmail.com
Secretary:	Malinda Waltz (2019) 8015 Bunton Road Willis, MI 48191	(737) 461-2367 jamal_waltz@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer:	Mary Danforth (2015) 4273 Eastgate Ann Arbor, MI 48103	(734) 649-4849 m19dansforth44@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Joyce Mitchell (2019) 258 Green Street Springport, MI 49284	(517) 857-3922 c (269) 759-4616 joycemitchell56@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Diane Tandy (2017) 13185 North Lake Road Gregory, MI 48137	(734) 475-8880 tandy56@gmail.com
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Kathy Snyder 2018) 1433 Indian Creek Temperance, MI 48182	(419) 343-9261 nanasnyder0124@gmail.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Sheryl Zorn (2016) 8302 Eastwood Ida, MI 48140	(734) 269-2736 szorn2736@charter.net
Social Action Coordinator:	Pat Jennings (2011) 3921 Allston Jackson, MI 49201	(517) 750-1763 KSLCj@aol.com
Communications Coordinator:	Wendy Everett (2019) 2322 Pittsfield Blvd Ann Arbor, MI 48104	(734) 255-9146 wendy@fumc-a2.org
Newsletter Editor:	Jenn Ridley 14383 Fairway Drive Chelsea, MI 48118	(734) 475-8648 jenn@hauntedfrog.com
Historian:	Misty Mentzer (2019) 1262 Westwood Drive Adrian, MI 49221	(517) 263-7496 mmentzer@mentz.com
Registrars:	Kay Lambright (2019) 9600 Churchill Road Jackson, MI 49201	(517) 569-3881 wayneuofm@juno.com
	Sue Jacoby (2019) 1184 Wolf Road Reading, MI 49274	(517) 639-4090 suejacoby63@yahoo.com

HERITAGE DISTRICT OFFICERS

Committee on Nominations:

Chair:

Jan Olari (2018)
2532 Burwood Court
Highland, MI 48357

(248) 887-2004
robertolari001@comcast.net

Carolyn Combs (2018)
436 Water Tower Circle
Brighton, MI 48166

(810) 348-9286
ccmomcombs@aol.com

Sarah McCorkle (2019)
10855 Keeler Road
Concord, MI 49237

(517) 524-8229
smccorkle@frontiernet.net

Fran Mowrer (2019)
5680 Brown Road
Parma, MI 49265

(517) 531-4528
mowreragency@hotmail.com

Sue Shove (2018)
3274 Mapleridge
Milford, MI 48380

(248) 568-8652
sueshove.ss@gmail.com

Past President:

Vicky Engelbert
9064 Pitman Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

(734) 483-4660
greemabert@comcast.net

United Methodist Women: Organized for Growth

United Methodist Women, like The United Methodist Church, is a connectional system. The major links of United Methodist Women are:

- The local group
- The district organization
- The conference organization
- The jurisdiction organization
- The national office

All of these groups relate to one another in a variety of ways; each group is empowered to structure itself in ways that fulfill the PURPOSE, best use the gifts of its members and meet the needs of its community in the world. Every level of the organization is connected in mission with Global Ministries.

Local groups report to district organizations, which report to conference organizations. A Board of Directors and a Program Advisory Group oversee the national office and conference organizations.

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Donna Kleiver (2018) 8905 Petrieville Hwy Eaton Rapids, MI 48827	(517) 663-4193 dmkleiver@sbcglobal.com
Vice President:	Sharon Smith (2018) 460 S. Edgar Road Mason, MI 48854	(517) 648-1333 sharonanddicksmith@gmail.com
Secretary:	Rita Baird (2017) 2031 W. Olds Road Leslie, MI 49051	(517) 589-9132 camp2rit@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Jackie Ricketts (2016) 4827 Marian Hills Pleasant Lake, MI 49272	(517) 812--5107 jricketts657@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Karol Fry (2017) 601 E Randolph Mason, MI 48854	(517) 525-6561 fry@msu.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Judy Marr (2017) 1290 Barry Road Williamston, MI 48895	(517) 655-2348 marrvalley@gmail.com
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	OPEN	
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Pat Mentzer (2016) 528 Middlebury Mason, MI 48854	(517)676-4232 pat_mentzer@yahoo.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Nancy Nay (2017) 868 Shawano Mason, MI 48854	(517) 676-3024 chicago868@gmail.com
Committee on Nominations:		
Chair:	Bernice Natoli (2017 4 yr term) 5105 Deanna Drive Lansing, MI 48917	(517) 321-3070 bnatoli@provide.net
	Linda Huyck (2019 2 yr term) 2614 Ranger Road Perrington, MI 48871	(989) 838-2523 huyck@msu.edu
Communications Coordinator:	Evelyn Bochenek	(517) 290-6695 ebochenek@aol.com
Green Team:	Elaine Ferris (2017) 417 W. Sycamore Street Mason, MI 48854	(517) 676-4175 ejferris@toast.net
Registrar:	Joyce Plumhoff (2018) 1858 W. Columbia Road Mason, MI 48854	(517) 676-2716 tplumhoff1858@gmail.com

MIDWEST DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Sue Reitman 15 Market Street Middleville, MI 49333	(269) 795-7644 susan.rietmen45@gmail.com
Vice President:	Jean Sherman 7447 W 44th Street Fremont, MI 49412	(231) 519-2542 sherdairy@att.net
Secretary:	Nancy Duiven 9100 84th Street Alto, MI 49302	(616) 891-1404 grannyd2@charter.net
Treasurer:	Betty VanderWal 11644 Townsquare Blvd Rockford, MI 49341	(616) 246-5684 bettyvwal@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:dc	Connie Swinger 255 Brown Street SW Grand Rapids, MI 49507	(616) 813-4670 connieswinger@att.net
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Ann Scott 4014 Russell Road Cedar Springs, MI 49319	(616) 696-1567 Momice4014 @gmail.com
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	OPEN	
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Judy Huynh 2101 Clarksville Road Portland, MI 48875	(269) 838-1804 judylhuynh@gmail.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Jody Pratt 2984 Fifth Street Shelbyville, MI 49344	(616) 292-4908 prattgji09@gmail.com
Committee on Nominations:		
Chair	Julie Reimersma	(616) 656-0155 julu4208@yahoo.com
	Jodi Pratt	(see Social Action Coordinator)
Communications Coordinator:	Sara Wolfson 7476 Orchard Circle Fremont, MI 49412	(231) 830-4092 saraw1104@gmail.com
Registrar:	Sue Van Portfliet 1333 Ravanna Drive SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508	(616) 246-7183 suezeeeque@gmail.com

NORTHERN SKIES DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Patti Steinberg (2019) 142 Indian Lake Drive Crystal Falls, MI 49920	(906) 367-2128 pattisteinberg@gmail.com
Co Vice Presidents:	Judy Misner (2019) W2573 Association Road St. Ignace, MI 49781 Linda Maiullo (2019) W2419 Hwy US 2 St. Ignace, MI 48781	(906) 643-7191 c (906) 630-0303 auxchenes2@gmail.com (906) 643-6667 maiullol@aol.com
Secretary:	Bibbo Sundquist (2019) N2708 State Highway M-35 Menominee, MI 49858	(906) 864-9337 c (906) 290-0114 bobbieannolsen@aol.com
Treasurer:	Barb Akins (2015) 717 14th Avenue Meniminee, MI 49858	(906) 863-7387 vlnpno@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Mary Balfour (2019) N7014 Kay Drive K1 Stevenson, MI 49887	(906) 298-0487 mjbalf@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	Jane Yaeger (2011) 1610 36th Ave #6 Menominee MI, 49858	c (906) 290-1884 (906) 864-4433 plainjane210@sbcglobal.net
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Joyce Erickson (2018) W8021 Oakridge Iron Mountain MI, 49801	(906) 774-9279 erickson64@hotmail.com
Co-Education & Interpretation Coordinators and Co-Social Action Coordinators:	Beth Clark (2019) 446 Lake Anna Rd Florence WI Moiria Cowling (2019) W8321 Spring Lake Lane Iron Mountain MI, 49801	(715) 696-3773 bro616@gmail.com (906) 774-5130 moria5130@hotmail.com
Committee on Nominations:		
Chair:	Sharon Rice (2018) 615 Brule Marquette MI, 49855 Deb Cavalier (Class of 2021) 311 Fourth Street Iron Mountain MI, 49801 Bonnie Picotte (Class of 2020) 36870 Stroud Rd Ontonagon MI, 49953 Wendy Mulka (Class of 2022) 580 N Riverhills Rd Kingsford, MI 49802	(906) 226-3643 (906) 250-4853 sharonflachrice@gmail.com (906) 282-8037, madrecav@gmail.com 906-884-4523 yogibo@charter.net (906) 774-8387 c (906) 396-0405 picup8@gmail.com
Communications Coordinator:	Judy Rost (2018) W4768 14.5 Lane Wallace, MI 49893	(906) 788-4771 jrost@alphacomm.net

NORTHERN WATERS DISTRICT OFFICERS

President:	Susan Wirgau (2017) 917 W Sheridan Petoskey, MI 49770	(231) 347-5463 c (231) 838-5986 northernwatersdistrictumwvpresident@gmail.com
Vice President:	Julia Hulka (2019) 1323 Driftwood Trail Grayling, MI 49738	(989) 348-1992 c(231) 989-860-8191 northernwatersdistrictumwvp@gmail.com
Secretary:	Linda Gocha (2016) 4349 Cosier Road East Jordan, MI 49727	(231) 536-0837 c (231) 350-0204 northernwatersdistrictumwsec@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Sally Smith (2014) 318 Stimson Street Cadillac, MI 49601	(231) 775-3216 c (231) 878-5915 northernwatersdistrictumwtreas@gmail.com
Secretary of Program Resources:	Linda Pitts (2019) PO Box 394 Onaway, MI 49765	(989) 733-8617 northernwatersdistrictumwpr@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator:	OPEN	
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator:	Kaye Porter (2019) 4104 Clara Road Onaway, MI 49765	(989) 733-8195 northernwatersdistrictumwmno@gmail.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator:	Pam Moyer (2015) 376 Hill Crest Drive Petoskey, MI 49770	(231) 347-7416 c (231) 330-0315 northernwatersdistrictumweandi@gmail.com
Social Action Coordinator:	Jeanette Hayes (2018) PO Box 817 Mancelona, MI 49659	(231) 585-6922 northernwatersdistrictumwsa@gmail.com
Committee on Nominations:		
Chair:	Judy Gasco (2017) 06700 Reynolds Road Elmira, MI 49730	(231)549-2084 c (231) 675-4031 northernwatersdistrictumwnomch@gmail.com
	Kaye Porter	(see M, N & O above)
	Myra Gentry (2019) PO Box 863 Prudenville, MI 48651	(989) 366-5076 C (734) 812-0124 myraann44@yahoo.com
Communications Coordinator:	Cola Hill (2019) PO Box 217 Boyne Falls, MI 49713	(231) 549-5251 c (231) 330-8710 northernwatersdistrictumw@gmail.com

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

www.umcmission.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Profiles/

Sonya Luna	#3019618	k99sco1@hotmail.com
Missionary with National Plan for Hispanic and Latino Ministries		
Randy Hildebrandt	#982961	rhildebrandt@umcmission.org
Church & Community Worker ~ God's Country Cooperative Parish, Newberry MI		
Lynda Sylvain	#3022358	LSylvain@umcmission.org
Global Mission Fellowship/US-2 ~ Motowm Mission		
Grace E, Okerson	#3022329	GOkerson@umcmission.org
Global Mission Fellowship/US-2 ~ NOAH Project		
Delbert & Sandy Groves	#12150Z	sgroves@umcmission.org
Zambia, Africa	#12151Z	
David Payne Guinkpa	#15089Z	Jaime_miro@yahoo.com
Nairobi, Kenya		
Princess Jusu	#13037Z	pjusu@umcmission.org
Monrovia, Liberia		
Pierre Diamba Many	#15165Z	pmany@umcmission.org
Central Congo		
Emmanuel & Florence Mefor	#13990Z	emmanuelflorence@uuplus.com
Mutambara, Zimbabwe	#13991Z	
Mbwizu & Nkemba Ndjungu	#12909Z	MNdjungu@umcmission.org
Cameroon	#12910Z	
Helen Roberts-Evans	#3021129	micradon@hotmail.cam
Monrovia, Liberia		
Paul Lee Webster	#11865Z	micradon@hotmail.com
Kanyama, Zambia		
Mary Randall Mantor (Zigbou)	#10721Z	maryrandallzigbuo@gmail.com
Liberia		
Chin H. Cho	#3022047	ccho@umcmission.org
Mongolia		
Deborah & Lester Dornon	#10920Z	lesdebbiedornon@gmail.com
Nepal	#10919Z	
Hyo-Won Park	#3021822	HWPark@umcmission.org
St. Petersburg, Russia		
Jose Roberto Pena-Nazario	#14026Z	joropena@yahoo.com
Honduras		
Kristen Brown	#3021280	revkristenbrown@gmail.com
Jerusalem		

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE UMW 2019 A&MD BUDGET

District A&MD	\$91,375.00
North Central Jurisdiction A&MD	4,000.00
<u>Membership Development:</u>	
Assembly/NCJ/Seminars	4,500.00
Church Annual Conference Attendance	1,000.00
Church Women United - State Assembly	400.00
Conference Annual Celebration	4,000.00
Conference Directory	1,000.00
District Officer Leadership Training	2,000.00
Keep Making Peace	350.00
Newsletter	5,000.00
Officer Resources/Literature	1,000.00
<u>Mission u:</u>	
Mission u - Conference Scholarships	2,500.00
Mission u - Subsidy Albion/Conf Officer Registration	9,000.00
Mission u - Subsidy East/Conf Officer Registration	9,000.00
Mission u of the North - Subsidy	1,500.00
<u>Financial Support/Subsidy:</u>	
Church Women United	400.00
Justice For Our Neighbors	500.00
Keep Making Peace	2,000.00
UMCH Program Support	8,000.00
<u>Administration:</u>	
Audit	1,250.00
Conf SMRs/Gift to Mission/Gift in Memory	1,500.00
Conference Leadership Retreat	3,950.00
Dependent Care	80.00
Lodging	600.00
Meals	500.00
MI Non-Profit Corp Annual Fee	20.00
Mileage	4,000.00
Miscellaneous/Contingency	575.00
Postage	350.00
Printing, Supplies & Checks	500.00
Technology	250.00
TOTAL A&MD	\$161,100.00
District Pledges for 2019:	
Central Bay	\$55,000.00
East Winds	\$45,000.00
Greater Detroit	\$85,000.00
Greater Southwest	\$35,000.00
Heritage	\$70,000.00
Mid-Michigan	\$40,000.00
Midwest	\$43,000.00
Northern Skies	\$35,000.00
Northern Waters	\$42,400.00
Total District Pledges	\$450,400.00
Michigan Conference UMW Pledge to Mission 2019:	\$289,300.00

**Report of the Joint Detroit and West Michigan Annual Meeting and
Michigan Conference Organizational Meeting
October 27, 2018
Petoskey United Methodist Church, Petoskey, Michigan**

Registration began at 8:30 a.m. There were 243 people registered.

Our guests for the morning included Bishop David Bard, Rev. Anita Hahn - Northern Waters District Superintendent, Rita Smith – North Central Jurisdiction President, Taylorie Bailey – National Director, Suzanne Hewitt - Program Advisory Group, Murial Nelson - Conference President from Liberia, Stephen and Gail Quigg - Mission Advocates and Randy Hildebrant - Missionary with God's Country Cooperative Parish based in Newberry, Michigan.

Past UMW Conference Presidents in attendance included Patsy Coffman, Nichea VerVeer Guy, Julia Deemer, Jenny Kroeze, Ruth Whaley, Diana Spitnale Miller, Linda Schramm and Kay Mowery. Also in attendance was Genie Bank, Past Women's Division Director.

Members of the West Michigan Conference Team present included Linda Darrow, President; Shirley Chappell, Vice President; Beth Mitchell, Secretary; Julia Paradine-Rice, Treasurer; Connie Swinger, Secretary of Program Resources; Sue Stickle, Coordinator for Education and Interpretation; Ruth Jones, Coordinator for Spiritual Growth; Randie Clawson, Coordinator for Social Action; Patricia Snyder, Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach; Susan Emmons, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations and Committee members Dorie Litchfield, Sue Franklin, Jenny Kroeze and Loretta Lee.

Members of the Detroit Conference Team present included Marchelle "Micki" Phelps President; Patricia Bostic - Vice President; Toni Grimmert - Secretary; Janet Muntz - Treasurer; Brenda Street - Secretary of Program Resources; Communication Coordinator - Kathy Freeland; Michele Weston - Coordinator for Spiritual Growth; Alice Tucker - Coordinator for Social Action; Nancy Cline Coordinator for Education and Interpretation; Mitsy Mentzer - Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach; Joy Coyle - Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations and Committee Members Linda Brown, Patricia Engelbrecht, Loretta DeLoach and Patti Steinberg.

At 9:30 a.m., Marna Jeffery began the program with a prelude followed by group singing led by Beth Mitchell. The gathering music was concluded with the singing of the "Purpose of United Methodist Women". Vice President, Patricia Bostic welcomed everyone.

Opening worship was led by Ruth Jones and Michele Weston, Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinators. Three scriptures were shared followed by the singing of the hymn "Sweet Sweet Spirit". Everyone joined in the Litany about Change followed by the hymn "We Gather Together".

Janet Muntz and Julia Paradine-Rice, Conference Treasurers, led us in our offering, with proceeds to go to our pledge to mission. \$2,886.73 was collected today.

Greetings and instructions for the day were given by Meredith Richter, President of the local Petoskey UMW unit.

Micki Phelps and Linda Darrow, Conference Presidents, introduced the special guests in attendance. Those names are listed above. A moment of silence was given for all the United Methodist Women who have died this past year.

Patricia Bostic introduced Bishop David Bard who said a few words and brought greetings from his wife who could not be with us today.

Brenda Street and Connie Swinger, Conference Secretaries of Program Resources, encouraged us all to keep reading.

The Business Meeting was called to order by President Micki Phelps.

Susan Emmons and Joy Coyle, Conference Chairpersons of Committee on Nominations, presented the slate of Conference officers for 2019. (See page 18 in the Program Book.) Nominations from the floor were opened. There being no nominations from the floor, the nominations were declared closed and the membership present voted to elect the 2019 slate of officers as presented, with no abstentions.

Julia Paradine-Rice and Janet Muntz, Conference Treasurers, presented the financial report for each of their respective Conferences. 2017 Total Mission Giving Report for the Detroit Conference was on page 14 and the West Michigan Conference UMW 2017 A&MD Budget Comparison was on page 15. Julia presented the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women Proposed Budget for 2019 (found on page 16). The budget was approved.

Diana Spitnale Miller presented the new Standing Rules. She noted that the new Standing Rules no longer include information regarding the Conference Newsletter, Directory or Mission u. Those items will have their own set of Standing Rules. The rules regarding money had the most changes made. The section about the United Methodist Community House has also been changed to reflect the current status. The new Standing Rules have been on the website (www.umwmichiganconference.org) since June. They may need to be adjusted as the new year progresses. Linda Darrow ask for approval of the new Standing Rules with the clarification that any changes or corrections to the Standing Rules need to be given to the Executive

Committee by March for review and inclusion for the next year. The Standing Rules were approved.

Linda Darrow concluded the business meeting.

UPDATES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE:

Taylorie Bailey brought greetings from the New York office.

Suzanne Hewitt brought greetings from the Program Advisory Group and gave thanks to all who attended Assembly this past May. With regard to The Way Forward, each attendee was asked to pray every day between 2:23 p.m. and 2:28 p.m. for the delegates who will be voting on this important issue.

Call to Mission u was given by Simmie Proctor (Dean of Mission u of the West) and Mary Whitman (Dean of Mission u of the North). The studies for this year are the Gospel of Mark (Radical Discipleship), What About Our Money and United Methodist Women History. Everyone is invited, especially children. Mission u of the North will be celebrating their 40th year. Mission u of the North is held on the 3rd Monday and Tuesday in October at the Gaylord United Methodist Church. Mission u is a "life-changing experience".

Linda Schramm presented the 150th Legacy Presentation. Each unit is encouraged to give \$150.00 to the Legacy Fund. Each member is encouraged to give \$20.00. The Michigan Conference is 7th overall for the amount of money raised for the fund. Linda presented some ideas of how to keep the legacy going: learn the UMW history; understand how to continue legacy; by pledging to give at least \$18.69 each year; honor someone by buying them a Legacy pendant or Special Mission Recognition pin; and share your own legacy story by telling others what UMW means to you.

Linda Darrow extended an invitation to all to the 2019 Conference Annual Celebration that will be held on October 25-26, 2019 at the Howell United Methodist Church in Howell, Michigan.

Diana Spitnale-Miller introduced Murial Nelson, Conference President from Monrovia, Liberia. She brought greetings to all from Liberia.

Dr. James Mitchem, Pastor of the Petoskey United Methodist Church, welcomed everyone and gave a little history of the Petoskey church. He also offered grace for our lunch.

We gathered back in the sanctuary at 1:00 for a few gathering songs followed by special music by Drum Voices of Greensky Hill UMC.

Nichea VerVeer Guy presented A Way Forward Conversation. The special conference will be held in February of 2019. She will be one of delegates from Michigan who will be voting on the 3 proposals. There are 2 listening sessions left. Everyone is encouraged to attend one if possible or you can go to MichiganUMC.org and read the 90+ page document there. The Bishop has filmed his presentation so everyone can see it on the web. Everyone is encouraged to pray without ceasing. The three proposals are: 1) the traditional plan; 2) the one-church plan; and 3) the connectional church plan. Everyone wants to try to keep unity within the church. Will the church split over this issue? More prayer and discernment are needed. Nichea closed her remarks with prayer.

Missionaries and Mission Projects: Stephen and Gail Quigg spoke about their 39 years in the aviation ministry in Africa. They reminded us about the Day of Giving which will be on November 27. Proceeds will go to UMCOR.

Randy Hildebrant spoke about his work with God's Country Cooperative Parish based in Newberry, MI.

Eric Williams, CEO, and Carla Moore, COO, shared with the group what has been happening at United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids. Mr. Williams recognized all the current and former Board members and thanked the United Methodist Women for their support. Carla told a story about a young woman with an infant who UMCH helped with childcare. The Michigan Conference of United Methodist Women made a \$1 million dollar donation to UMCH through the deeding of the properties to UMCH. The goal now is to have 100% of UMW donations go directly to programming within the next 36 months. They are looking for space for 200 infants and toddlers during the next 36 months as well as looking to build a new senior center.

Rev. Anita Hahn, District Superintendent of the Northern Waters District, conducted the installation of 2019 officers.

Joy Coyle and Susan Emmons presented certificates and pins (as listed on page 7) to all out-going officers from the two conferences. A special gift was given to Micki Phelps from Linda Darrow for all of Micki's hard work in the merger of the two conferences.

Patricia Bostic introduced our speaker, Rita Smith, President of the North Central Jurisdiction. Rita's message was "Be Bold Because the Change is Here and the Change is Now". She invited us to the 2020 North Central Jurisdiction meeting which will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on June 26-28, 2020.

The Service of Holy Communion was led by Rev. Anita Hahn and Rev. Glenn Litchfield.

The meeting concluded with the benediction led by Vice President Shirley Chappell and the hymn "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

Signed:

Beth Mitchell

Secretary

West Michigan Conference UMW

STANDING RULES OF THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

PREFACE

The United Methodist Women of the Michigan Conference shall function in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws for Local, District, Conference and Jurisdiction Organizations of United Methodist Women, national organization. These Standing Rules are supplementary thereto.

CATEGORIES

- I. Nominations, Elections, and Appointive Procedures
- II. Committees
- III. Elected/Appointed Leaders
- IV. Meetings
- V. Funds
- VI. Minutes and Records
- VII. Courtesies
- VIII. Resources
- IX. Equipment and Property Owned
- X. Distinctive Legal Requirements
- XI. Provision for Changes in Standing Rules

I. NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND APPOINTIVE PROCEDURES

- A. The boundaries of the organization of the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women shall coincide with the Michigan Annual Conference boundaries.
- B. The voting body of the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women annual meeting shall be composed of all members of United Methodist Women at any organizational level residing within the conference and in attendance at the meeting.
- C. The Committee on Nominations shall obtain the consent of current officers eligible to continue to serve by personal private contact within 30 days of its first meeting.
- D. A printed report from the Committee on Nominations listing nominations for the next year shall be presented no later than the spring Executive Committee meeting with copies for each member.
- E. At the business meeting of the Annual Celebration a ballot shall be presented for election. Nominations from the floor will be requested. The election shall be by voice vote.
- F. A woman may be nominated from the floor at the annual meeting if:
 1. the President is notified at least 24 hours ahead of the annual meeting.
 2. the nominee meets the requirements as listed in the current *Handbook of United Methodist Women*, has given consent for the nomination and, if possible, is present at the meeting.
- G. Conference officers elected at the annual meeting shall take office January 1.
- H. The regular term of office of all officers shall be one year. Six months or more of a year shall constitute a regular term.
- I. Only laywomen may serve as elected or appointed leaders at any level of the organization.
- J. Vacancies occurring in the elected leadership of the Conference organization shall be filled by a vote of the Conference Executive Committee upon nomination from the Committee of Nominations.
- K. By January 1, any elected leader who is retiring from office shall deliver to her successor materials related to that office including the current *Handbook of United Methodist Women*, and all directive Information received from Women's Division and/or United Methodist Women national organization during the previous four years unless otherwise negotiated. Books for the Michigan Conference Mission shall be retained by the person using them. Any materials necessary for the fulfillment of the office

and not delivered by her predecessor shall be purchased by the person assuming the office and paid for by the conference organization.

- L. A committee appointed by the President shall present the names of three VOTING delegates to the North Central Jurisdiction quadrennial meeting. The delegates need to be serving as executive committee members in the year of the jurisdiction meeting. The delegates shall receive full funding FROM THE CONFERENCE. These names shall be presented for information at the May Executive Committee meeting and for election at the conference annual meeting held in the year prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization.
- M. At this same annual meeting (see L), the Conference Committee on Nominations shall present the names of two women nominees to serve on the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Women national organization. (See current *Handbook of United Methodist Women*). Upon acceptance by the conference organization, these names shall be sent to the jurisdiction organization according to directives from United Methodist Women national organization. The Committee shall also present the name of a woman to be nominated to serve as an alternate. This information shall be reported no later than the May Executive Committee meeting.

II. COMMITTEES

A. General

- 1. The Conference organization shall provide such committees as the needs may require. Committees shall meet at least once annually, and on call of the chairperson, after the President or the Executive Committee has given approval.
- 2. Each chairperson shall be responsible for arranging the time and place for her committee meetings, in consultation with the President and the Program Committee, and for notifying members.
- 3. The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern all deliberations of the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are consistent with these standing rules.

B. Executive Committee

- 1. There shall be an Executive Committee which shall be composed of the elected leadership and the district presidents, president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, Secretary for Program Resources, Mission Coordinators for Spiritual Growth, Membership Nurture and Outreach, Social Action, Education and Interpretation, Communications Coordinator, Chairperson of Committee on Nominations. The resident Bishop shall be an ex-officio member.
- 2. In addition, the immediate Past President, the Chairperson of the Committee on Standing Rules, Historian/Custodian, Editor/s and Business Manager of The Conference United Methodist Women Newsletter, appointed by the President, and the Dean(s) of the Conference Mission u, shall be members of the Executive Committee with voice and vote. It shall also include such other persons as the conference organization of UMW may determine.
- 3. Members of the Conference Committee on Nominations, the members of the Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies, Past Conference Presidents, members of the United Methodist Women national organization and North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team, residing within the Conference, and other related positions shall be welcome to attend Conference Executive Committee meetings with voice but without vote.
- 4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year. A quorum shall be a majority of the members present. When the number needed for a quorum is no longer present, the formal business of the group must stop.
- 5. All members of the Conference Executive Committee shall be ex-officio members of their District Executive Committees. Districts should make the

persons listed in #1 and #2, residing within their districts, members of their District Executive committee with voice and vote. In addition, persons listed in #3 may attend with voice, but no vote (Reference is United Methodist Women Handbook 2017-2020, p. 121, District Constitution, Committees, Art. IV, Section 1, a.)

6. Districts shall assume these members' expenses for District meetings and the conference shall assume their expenses for Conference meetings.
7. Upon the request of a member of the Executive Committee, an item of business may be conducted by mail or electronic transmission. Such action of the Executive committee shall be valid, preserved and recorded in the official minutes.
8. The minutes of the Executive Committee and the annual celebration shall be approved by the Executive Committee AT ITS NEXT REGULAR MEETING.

C. Administrative Committee

1. There shall be an Administrative Committee, composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one other Conference Executive Committee member appointed by the President, which shall meet at the call of the President to conduct emergency business.
2. The Conference President may organize a conference call to conduct business of the Administrative Committee.

D. Committee on Program

1. There shall be a Committee on Program composed of the Vice President as Chairperson, President, Secretary, Treasurer, the four Mission Coordinators (Spiritual Growth, Education and Interpretation, Social Action, Membership Nurture and Outreach), Secretary of Program Resources, Communications Coordinator, Chairperson Committee on Nominations, President of the District hosting the Conference Annual Meeting and others as the Executive Committee may determine.
2. The Committee will provide structure to programming of scheduled Conference Events.
3. The committee will meet at least semiannually and on call of the chairperson.
4. The Committee shall set the dates of the various conference meetings, subject to the approval of the Conference Executive Committee.
5. By January 15, the Conference Vice President shall provide the Conference President with a list of dates and places of all conference meetings for the following year.
6. By January 15, the District Vice Presidents shall send the same information for all district meetings to the Conference Vice President.
7. By May 15, the District Vice Presidents shall send annual meeting program plans to the Conference Vice President.

E. Committee on Finance

1. There shall be a Committee on Finance composed of the Treasurer as Chairperson, President, Vice President, Secretary, the four Mission Coordinators (Spiritual Growth, Education and Interpretation, Social Action, Membership Nurture and Outreach), Secretary of Program Resources, Communications Coordinator, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, and the District Treasurers.
2. The Committee shall meet twice each year.
3. Budget preparation and pledge recommendations shall be done by mid-August of each year.
4. The District Mission Coordinators of Education and Interpretation shall be invited to the winter meeting. The District Presidents shall be invited to the summer budget meeting and shall be alternates for the treasurer and coordinator of education and interpretation as necessary.

5. Following the summer meeting of the Committee on Finance, the Conference budget for Administration and Membership Development for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the treasurer to the next meeting of the Executive Committee and to the Annual Meeting for adoption.
- F. Committee on Membership Nurture and Outreach
1. There shall be a Committee on Membership Nurture and Outreach composed of the Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach as Chairperson, President, Secretary, Communications Coordinator, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, and the District Mission Coordinators for Membership Nurture and Outreach.
 2. The Committee shall meet at least semi-annually to set and evaluate goals.
- G. Committee on Nominations
1. There shall be a Committee on Nominations. It shall be composed of seven to nine women, preferably no more than one from each district. The members shall be divided into rotating classes.
 2. The committee shall meet at least twice each year.
 3. The Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall be elected by the conference organization for a tenure of two years during her four-year term. It is recommended that each member serve her full elected term.
 4. Members of the Conference Committee on Nominations may attend the Conference Executive Committee meetings with voice but no vote.
 5. The Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall be a member of the Committees on Program, Finance, Membership Nurture and Outreach and Mission u. If she is unable to attend, she shall send a Committee on Nominations representative in her place.
 6. It is recommended that Districts make members of the Conference Committee on Nominations, residing within their District, members of their District Executive Committee with voice but no vote. Districts shall assume their expenses for District meetings and the Conference shall assume their expenses for Conference meetings.
 7. The Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall keep current talent bank information, which may be secured at Conference and District meetings and events or obtained from local units.
 8. Members of the Committee on Nominations will contact potential nominees to determine Interest in nomination and secure commitment for the nomination.
 9. The Committee shall keep current guidelines of officer responsibilities on file.
 10. The Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall keep accurate and updated records of term and tenure of elected and appointed leaders and report this record annually at Spring Executive Committee.
 11. Nomination procedures shall follow Section 1 of Standing Rules.
- H. Committee on Conference Goals
1. There shall be a Committee on Conference Goals composed of the Vice President as Chairperson, President, and the four Mission Coordinators.
 2. The Committee shall meet annually to set and evaluate goals for the conference.
 3. The Conference Goals shall be approved by the Executive Team.
 4. Adopted goals shall be published in the Conference newsletter, on the website, and in the Directory.
- I. Committee on Standing Rules
1. There shall be a Committee on Standing Rules composed of five members: a Past President as Chairperson, the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
 2. The committee shall meet annually to review the Standing Rules and offer changes when necessary. See Section XI for the procedure.
 3. The Chairperson shall send a copy of the Standing Rules to United Methodist Women national organization when they are revised.

- J. Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies
1. There shall be a Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies composed of seven members, one third of whom shall be women of color, insofar as possible. The seven members shall be the President, who shall serve as chairperson, the Mission Coordinator for Social Action, the Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, one District President, whose tenure shall be two years (rotated alphabetically by district), one additional member of the Conference Executive Committee, and two additional members selected to ensure inclusiveness and/or special expertise in the skills necessary to accomplish the task.
 2. Additional members shall serve no more than three years.
 3. The committee will meet at least semiannually and on call of chairperson.
- K. Committee on Communications
1. There shall be a Committee on Communications composed of the Communications Coordinator as Chairperson, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor/s of the Michigan Conference newsletter, and Webmaster.
 2. The Committee shall be responsible for the publication of the Michigan Conference newsletter, The VOICE and the maintenance of the website.
 3. The Committee shall be responsible for distribution of the Michigan Conference newsletter via the conference website, mass emails, or hard copies by request.
 4. The Committee shall meet at least annually and shall communicate as often as necessary.
 5. The Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the following:
 - a. The Conference organization shall promote (by mail or other methods of communication) only such activities as are directly associated with the work of United Methodist Women as outlined by United Methodist Women national organization.
 - b. Names and addresses, including email, of elected leaders of Local Units, the Districts, and the Conference shall be used only for communication about the program of United Methodist Women.
- L. Committee on the Directory and Annual Reports
1. There shall be a Committee on the Directory and Annual Reports composed of the Secretary as chairperson or an individual designated by the President to serve as Chairperson, the President, the Secretary (if not the chair), the Treasurer, and the Communications Coordinator.
 2. All required reports are due to the Directory Chairperson by January 31st, preferably sent electronically.
 3. The committee shall annually edit, publish, and mail or electronically distribute the Directory and Annual Reports by March 1.
 4. Directives about the contents and distribution of the Directory and Annual Reports are listed in the Procedures section of the Directory.
- M. Committee on the Newsletter
1. There shall be a Committee on the Newsletter composed of the Editor/s and Business Manager appointed by the President when necessary; the Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary of Program Resources, and Communications Coordinator of the Conference organization; and District Secretaries of Program Resources and Communications Coordinators. The President may appoint other members to the Committee when necessary. The Editor/s serve/s as the Chairperson/s of the Committee.
 - a. One meeting shall be held at the Annual Leadership Training Event.
 - b. All expenses of the Committee shall be paid by the Conference organization.
 - c. District Presidents may be invited to all committee meetings. The Conference organization shall pay their expenses only if they attend in

- place of their District Secretary of Program Resources.
 2. The Michigan Conference newsletter Committee shall make recommendations on matters of policy. The final authority for policies shall rest with the Executive Committee.
 3. The Michigan Conference newsletter shall be published by the Conference organization for the purpose of providing information to the Local, District, and Conference organizations, for uniting all the work of the Conference organization, and minimizing correspondence.
 4. All material shall reflect the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women. It shall be subject to the approval of the Editor/s and the Conference President.
 5. Directives about the contents and distribution of the Newsletter are listed in the Procedures section of the Directory.
- N. Committees on Mission u
1. Mission u East
 - a. Members of the Conference Executive Committee serving on the Committee on Mission u shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Mission Coordinators (Spiritual Growth, Education and Interpretation, Social Action, Membership Nurture and Outreach), Secretary of Program Resources, Communications Coordinator, and Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations. Others may be members at large, named by the Committee on Mission u.
 - b. Executive Committee members who are not members of the Committee on Mission u including District Presidents, members of the Committee on Nominations, members of the Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies, and appointed leaders are expected to attend at least one of the Conference Mission u events at Conference expense.
 - c. The committee will have its own standing rules and procedures.
 - d. The committee will have its own budget and bank account.
 2. Mission u South
 - a. Members at Large may serve to provide equalization with Conference Board of Global Ministries or for a special duty on the committee.
 - b. All Conference officers, District Presidents, members of the Committee on Nominations, members of the Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies, and Historian are expected to attend the Mission u at Conference expense. Officers and Committee members will be asked to help with various duties during the school.
 - c. There shall be three persons on the Mission U Nominating Committee, two members from the UMW Executive Committee and one from the Board of Global Ministries. They shall each serve a two-year term. The next two years there shall be one from the UMW Executive Committee and two from the Board of Global Ministries. The President of the Conference UMW appoints the UMW members, and the Chair of the BGM appoints the members from the Board of Global Ministries.
 - d. The Conference UMW has the responsibility to supply a form for a scholarship application to the school.
 - e. The Dean/s of the Mission u events shall receive a \$60 Special Mission recognition upon completion of a two-year term.
 3. Mission u North
 - a. Mission u of the North is normally held in the fall. This event is meant to challenge, involve and commit attendees in the area of global responsibility.
 - b. Members from the Northern Districts send representatives to be part of the Mission u Team.
 - c. The officers are elected from the membership of the Mission u Team.

- d. The Team has its own policies.
- e. The Team has its own bank account and requests budgeted monies from the Conference UMW.
- f. The Team is accountable to the Michigan Conference East and South Mission u Teams and shall designate the Mission Project to be supported by the offering.

III. ELECTED/APPOINTED LEADERS

- A. Duties of elected leaders and the Executive Committee
 - 1. Members of the Executive Committee are expected to attend all Executive Committee meetings.
 - 2. Unexcused absences and/or non-performance of duties shall be handled at the discretion of the President who, after consultation with the Administrative Committee, shall have authority to ask the person to resign.
 - 3. Two weeks before each Executive Committee meeting, members of the Committee shall send their report to the designated distributor who shall distribute these reports to all members of the Committee. If this deadline is not met, the member shall bring 30 copies to the meeting.
 - 4. Within two weeks after the meeting, the Secretary shall send a copy of the minutes of each meeting to the President before distribution. Minutes of all meetings shall be sent to all members of the Committee within three weeks of the meeting. This procedure is recommended to the Districts.
 - 5. Following the meeting, the Secretary shall notify all persons of specific duties delegated to them.
 - 6. The Conference elected leaders are to attend at least one Conference Mission u event. The Conference and District Presidents are to attend the annual session of the Michigan Annual Conference. When invited, officers shall attend the national organization of United Methodist Women Leadership Development Days (LDD).
 - 7. Elected leaders are encouraged to attend special training and other enriching experiences beyond the Conference. Requests for conference funds for such experiences should be made to the President and approved by the Executive Committee. Consideration shall be given to the type of experience, the application in the Conference, the number of requests from the individual, and the availability of funds.
- B. Responsibilities of elected leaders and the Executive Committee
 - 1. All members of the Conference Executive Committee, including District Presidents, shall make reservations for meals and/or lodging through the designated person, unless otherwise provided.
 - 2. Reservations for lodging and meals for which the Conference pays will not be made for any person who does not return the reservation form by the designated deadline.
 - 3. Except for sudden illness or death in the immediate family, persons who cancel after final reservations are made, or do not honor those they have made, shall be responsible for the expense.
- C. Representation to Groups and Annual Conference Agencies
 - 1. The Conference Vice President shall be the representative at Church Women United and World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.
 - 2. The President and the Vice President or their designees shall be the representatives to the Annual Assembly of Church Women United in Michigan. It is recommended that Districts follow this pattern.
 - 3. Representative to Conference Boards and Agencies:
 - Board of Laity - President
 - Board of Justice: Division of Church and Society - Mission Coordinator for Social Action

Board of Global Ministries - Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

IV. MEETINGS

- A. Annual Celebration and Business Meeting
 - 1. The Annual Meeting of the Michigan Conference United Methodist Women shall be held in October. The place of the meeting will rotate among the districts.
 - 2. Publicity and Registration
 - a. The Communications Coordinator shall have the Annual Celebration flyer and registration form for distribution at the annual session of the Michigan Annual Conference, which is approved by the Committee Program before March 31.
 - b. An appointed Registrar shall receive all requests for meal tickets, both paid AND complimentary, shall provide and distribute name tags for all attendees under procedures developed by the Program Committee, and shall report as requested by the Conference Executive Committee following the event.
 - 1.) All registrations from the Mission Team shall be reported to the Registrar for the Annual Meeting.
 - 2.) The new nominees for election at the Annual Meeting shall be contacted by, and shall register with the Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, who shall report registrations to the Registrar.
 - 3.) The Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation shall invite Deaconesses and Home Missioners, retired missionaries and Deaconesses, who reside within the conference, and any Missionaries on leave, who are in the conference.
 - 4.) The Vice President shall invite resource persons.
 - 5.) The President shall invite special guests.
 - c. Complimentary Luncheon Tickets
 - 1.) The Vice President shall provide complimentary luncheon tickets to and make necessary reservations for:
 - The resident Bishop and spouse;
 - Assistant to the Bishop and spouse;
 - District Superintendents and their spouses;
 - Conference Director of Connectional Ministries & Assoc. Council Directors;
 - Conference Treasurer;
 - Conference Lay Leader;
 - President of Conference United Methodist Men;
 - Michigan Area Director of Communications or representative;
 - Retired Bishops and/or spouses residing in the conference;
 - President of the United Methodist Women Unit of the host church
 - Pastor in charge and spouse and any other host Pastor who participate in the meeting and spouse;
 - Past Presidents of the Conference organization
 - The following persons residing within the Conference:
 - Members of United Methodist Women national organization and North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team;
 - Deaconesses and Home Missioners, active and retired;
 - Newly returned Missionaries for a three-year period following their term of service
 - Church and Community Workers residing in the Conference
 - President of Church Women United in Michigan.

- 2.) The Vice President shall distribute complimentary luncheon tickets to the members of the Executive Committee.
 - 3.) The President shall send complimentary luncheon tickets along with her letter of welcome and general information to new nominees, and make their necessary reservations. This procedure is recommended to the Districts.
 - 4.) Documentation of reservations made for the individuals in b. and c. above shall be maintained by the Vice President and shared with the President, the Registrar and the local unit individual responsible for coordinating the meal.
3. Program
- a. The event program shall be prepared by the Vice President, with additional input from the Treasurer, the President, the Committee on Nominations and the Committee on Standing Rules
 - 1.) By July 15, the Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall send a perfected proposed ballot to the President, Vice President, and Communications Coordinator for inclusion in *The Conference Newsletter* and the event program.
 - 2.) The Treasurer shall provide the Conference Budget for the coming year and a report of Mission Giving for the prior year.
 - 3.) The President shall provide the names of those to be honored with World Thank Offering gifts (see V. I. (1.)).
 - 4.) The Vice President shall provide the names of those to be honored with Gifts to Mission (see V.I. (2)).
 - 5.) The chairperson of the Standing Rules committee shall provide the changes being made for the coming year.
 - 6.) The final program to be distributed at the Annual Celebration shall be approved by the President before transmittal to the printer.
 - b. The event program may include Recognition for Reading Program. Persons completing the Reading Program will be recognized at their District Annual meetings.
4. Expenses for the support persons are the following, unless there is an established rate for the venue
- a. Accompanist \$50
 - b. Special Music \$75
 - c. Child Care at a rate of no lower than \$10/hour
 - d. Janitor \$100
 - e. Sound Technician \$75
 - f. Security TBD
5. The minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Conference Organization shall be approved by the Executive Committee at the Executive Committee, or by a committee appointed for that purpose, at its first meeting following the Annual Meeting.
- B. Officer Training and Leadership Development (OTLD)
1. Conference Officers shall provide an annual enrichment experience for District Officers. This experience will provide information to help District Officers carry out their responsibilities and will include a counterpart update time.
 2. This event will provide information and training to help current District officers carry out their responsibilities and will also offer leadership and skills development opportunities for others recommended by their District Presidents.
 3. The President and the Vice President will prepare the schedule for Officer Training and Leadership Development with input from the Program Committee.
 4. The Vice President will be responsible for OTLD registration and nametags.
 5. District Presidents shall be responsible for encouraging attendance at this event by all District officers, both incumbent and newly elected. They shall also

- provide name and office information about all those attending to the Conference Vice President in a timely manner.
6. When Officer Training and Leadership Development is held the night before the Conference Annual Celebration, a meeting of the Committee on the Michigan Conference Newsletter shall be held.
 - a. They shall review goals and address concerns related to the content and distribution policies.
 - b. In addition to the committee members, the District Presidents, Secretaries of Program Resources, and Communication Coordinators shall be invited.
 7. When Officer Training and Leadership Development is held the night before the Conference Annual Celebration, lodging for all District and Conference Mission Team members attending both events shall be funded by the Conference. If lodging arranged by the Conference is requested and subsequently not used, an individual may be charged for the cost of the room.
- C. Social Action Event
1. There may be a (Conference) Social Action event held every year in March or April.
 2. The Conference Mission Coordinator for Social Action shall be the chairperson for a Social Action event committee, if scheduled, and approved by the Executive Committee. The president will appoint other persons to serve on the committee.
 3. A Social Action Event may be planned in collaboration with other group(s) or events, dealing with social issues, at the discretion of the Conference Mission Coordinator for Social Action and with the approval of the Executive Committee.
 4. Executive Committee members attending shall have their expenses paid.
- D. Conference Workshops
1. Workshops may be planned by the Program Committee and approved by the Executive Committee.
 2. The Conference may sponsor workshops at least every other year. In years following the National Seminar, the persons attending the seminar shall plan the work shops.

V. FUNDS

A. Financial Procedures

1. The Conference Executive Committee shall establish an Administration and Membership Development Fund (A & M D Fund) for the organization from percentage of the Conference Pledge to Mission approved at the Annual Meeting. The percentage is to be determined yearly and shall include monies for Jurisdiction and District A & M D Funds.
2. The Treasurer shall be appointed resident agent of the Conference organization annually in November and shall make all required reports to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.
3. All monies handled by the Conference Organization shall go through the Treasurer's books, except for the monies related to Mission u.
4. The commercial checking account shall be in the name of United Methodist Women, Michigan Conference.
 - a. Checks may be signed by the Conference Treasurer or Conference President.
 - b. All checks written by the Treasurer shall be vouchered.
 - 1.) All authorized expenses incurred on Conference business shall be vouchered on a timely basis.
 - 2.) Vouchers are obtained from and returned to the Conference Treasurer.
 - 3.) All vouchers shall be signed by the President and the Secretary.

- c. In order to be reimbursed for expenses, all bills incurred during a fiscal year shall be vouchered by December 1st.
 5. An audit of the previous year's financial records shall be performed annually by a CPA or a person who has a minimum of a four-year accounting degree, in accordance with the "Agreed Upon Procedures for Conference Audits" provided by the national organization of United Methodist Women.
 - a. After the procedures have been completed, the person performing the review completes the Schedule of Cash Activities statement and submits it to the Conference Treasurer. Copies are then provided to the Conference Executive Committee and to the national organization of United Methodist Women
 - b. This procedure is recommended to the Districts, with copies sent to the Conference Treasurer and the District Executive Committee.
 6. The Conference checkbook shall be turned over to the newly elected Treasurer by January 1, if possible, or as soon as the required banking transfer documents can be executed. The previous year's records shall be turned over as soon as the financial audit has been completed. Historical financial records shall be turned over immediately.
- B. Meeting Expenses within the Conference Organization
1. The following expenses for the members of the Executive Committee, incurred while carrying out responsibilities for the Conference organization, shall be paid, if not otherwise provided. This procedure is recommended to the Districts.
 - a. Lodging — based on two persons per room. Additional costs for other arrangements selected shall be at one's own expense.
 - b. Travel — at a flat rate of 32 cents per mile. Members shall carpool whenever possible.
 - c. Meals — daily allowance of \$25.
 - d. Dependent Care -- the actual cost up to \$38 for one-day events. Special circumstances should be requested in writing to the President and Treasurer. Local units and families are urged to volunteer their help with this care.
 2. Conference officers shall be reimbursed for expenses to attend all Conference meetings.
 3. Expenses of members (other than elected leaders) appointed to Conference Committees or invited by the conference shall be paid by the Conference Organization, if not otherwise provided.
 4. Expenses shall be paid by the Conference to District elected leaders, District and Conference members of the Committee on Nominations, North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team members, and United Methodist Women national organization members when called by the Conference organization to a meeting, if not otherwise provided.
 5. When District elected leaders are called to meetings held back-to-back with Conference events, the Conference shall pay for the travel and lodging.
 6. The Conference organization shall provide travel expenses (mileage, meals and lodging, if needed) for the Conference President, Vice President, plus two additional Conference elected leaders, from a different district, to each District Annual Meeting per year. Each District shall provide travel expenses for any Conference elected leaders who live in their district to attend the District Annual Meeting.
 7. Room, board, and travel expenses for Executive Committee members included in the attendance pattern of the Michigan Annual Conference shall be assumed by the Conference organization unless otherwise covered.
 8. The Conference shall assume expenses for United Methodist Women members of the Executive Committee who are not on the Mission u committee, including members of the Committee on Nominations and all appointed members, to

attend one Mission u event annually. The District Presidents shall be covered by their Districts unless they have been a member of the Mission u Committee. Then the Mission u committee will pay for them.

9. The Conference shall assume expenses for the Bishop's spouse, if there is one, to attend one Mission u event annually. It is suggested that Districts follow this pattern to include the District Superintendent spouses, if there is one. The spouses need to be invited and made aware of their expenses being covered.

C. Expenses for Jurisdiction and National Events

1. Support for Assembly, National Seminar, and North Central Jurisdiction attendance shall be determined by the Conference Executive Committee, as soon as possible, after directives for the event are received from United Methodist Women national organization or the Jurisdiction Leadership Team.
 - a. Registration to National Assembly shall be paid for the Conference Executive Committee, including District Presidents and appointed positions. Remaining funds shall be divided among District Officers not to exceed cost of registration.
 - b. Full registration and travel shall be paid for the elected delegates, alternates, and Board of Directors of United Methodist Women nominees to the Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting. Remaining funds shall be divided equally among elected leaders.
 - c. The Conference Executive Committee may offer scholarships to District and local United Methodist Women to attend Jurisdiction and National events.
 - d. Expenses for the attendance of the Bishop's spouse, when there is one, shall be paid.
2. All expenses shall be vouchered by individual attendees to the Conference Treasurer even those funds allocated to the Districts. This does not preclude Districts from determining how they will allocate an amount allotted to them.
3. In the event an officer is expected to attend a national event, advance funds can be requested for travel, upon approval by the Executive Committee.

D. Resources

1. The Treasurer shall reimburse the following for vouchered subscriptions to The UMW *Sampler* from the UMW Mission Resources: the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, four Mission Coordinators, Communications Coordinator, Secretary of Program Resources, members of the Committee on Nominations, Editor of *The Conference Newsletter* (if not the Communications Coordinator), and members of the national organization residing in the conference.
2. Members of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Nominations may voucher expenses for subscriptions to *response* if they do not receive it from another source.
3. The Conference organization shall provide a subscription to the *response* magazine for the Bishop's Office. It is recommended that the District organizations provide a subscription to the *response* magazine for their respective District Superintendent's offices.

E. Honoraria and Love Gifts

1. Speakers secured through United Methodist Women national organization shall be paid as stated by United Methodist Women national organization.
2. Speakers at the Conference Annual Meeting shall be paid the following: honorarium - \$100, mileage at the current rate, and lodging, as needed.
3. Speakers secured by the Conference for District Annual Meetings shall be paid by the Conference. The Conference shall provide speaker(s) for District Annual meetings every four years.
 - a. The Conference shall give a Love Gift to the District Annual meeting speaker(s), unless there is a set fee, plus travel expenses.

- b. The Conference Program Committee shall recommend the amount of the gift to the Conference Executive Committee, for approval.
 4. Speakers secured for retreats shall receive up to \$150, in addition to travel expenses. A *retreat is assumed to include three or more leader presentations. "Retreat is a deliberate and intentional participation in a set period of time to experience a new awareness of the presence of God." (**Retreats: An Introductory Manual* by Mary Lou Van Buren)
 5. Honoraria are not required for District or Conference elected leaders.
 6. It is recommended that districts and local Units pay an honorarium and travel expenses to active or retired Missionaries, Deaconesses and Home Missioners whom they invite to speak. This shall not apply to Missionaries, Deaconesses or Home Missioners itinerating through the districts.
- F. Gifts to Mission
 1. Annually, by a gift to the World Thank Offering in the amount of \$5 each, the Conference organization shall express appreciation for those persons, other than elected leaders, who have served on committees, task forces, and in special appointments.
 2. Individuals and groups participating in the Conference Annual Celebration shall be honored by a Gift to Mission in the amount of \$10.00 each. These might include the guest speaker(s), host committee, host pastor(s), person installing officers, communion assistants
 3. To honor service in Mission the Conference organization shall:
 - a. present a gift of \$100 to each newly commissioned Missionary going from the Michigan Conference under the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. U.S. 2s shall receive \$50. This gift shall be sent through regular channels when the person reaches his/her assigned field of service. A letter of explanation shall be sent to the recipient at the same time by the Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.
 - b. honor conference Missionaries, Deaconesses and Home Missioners upon their retirement through a Special Mission Recognition in the amount of \$100.
- G. Recognitions and Memorials
 1. In consultation with the Chairperson for the Committee of Nominations, the Treasurer shall order recognitions.
 2. To honor members of the Mission Team the conference organization shall express its appreciation through a Special Mission Recognition as follows:
 - a. the elected leaders who have served on the Executive Committee:
 - 1.) president and treasurer upon completing a full term - \$200
 - 2.) the treasurer upon completing an additional two years - \$200
 - 3.) all other elected leaders upon completing a full term - \$100
 - 4.) those retiring who have served more than one year but less than four years in the same office - \$60
 - 5.) those retiring who have served one year - \$40
 - 6.) anyone duly elected who leaves office before the end of one year shall be recognized with a Gift to Mission in the amount of \$10.
 - 7.) an elected leader previously honored in this way shall be given the choice of additional recognition in the ways indicated or a Gift to Mission of a comparable sum.
 - b. Retiring members of the Committee on Nominations:
 - 1.) who have served four years, including election as Chairperson - \$100
 - 2.) who have served four years but have not served as Chairperson - \$60
 - 3.) who have served at least one year, but less than four years - \$40;
 - 4.) who have served less than one year - a Gift to Mission - \$5.

- c. Additional members of the Charter for Racial Justice Committee - card \$5
 - d. Out-Going District Presidents - a Gift to Mission card. \$5
 - e. Re-located Bishop and spouse - Special Mission Recognition of \$100 to each
- H. District Budgets and Funds
- 1. All monies handled by District Organization shall go through the District Treasurer's books.
 - 2. Each District organization shall submit for approval a budget for Administration and Membership Development for the ensuing year to the Chairperson of the Conference Committee on Finance by July 31.
 - 3. 25 per cent of each District's annual A & MD funds shall be remitted to the District Treasurers by the Conference Treasurer by the 15th of the first month of each quarter.
 - 4. Mission funds received from the local units to the Districts each month shall be forwarded to the Conference Treasurer by the 15th of the following month, with the exception of funds received with orders for Special Mission Recognition pins, which shall be forwarded as soon as possible after they are received.
 - 5. The District Treasurers shall submit a copy of their bank statement plus cash journal to their District President and the Conference Treasurer on a monthly basis where it shall be reviewed in a timely manner.
 - 6. When there is more than \$500 in a District treasury at the end of the year, the overage shall be sent to the Conference Treasurer; if a District treasury has less than \$500 at the end of the year, the Conference Treasurer shall issue a check to that District to bring its balance to \$500.
 - 7. All interest monies earned by the District shall be sent to the Conference Treasurer at the end of the year as Mission Giving.
 - 8. When the Conference Organization requests that the District Team attend a meeting, expenses will be paid by the Conference.
- I. Scholarships to Mission u — To encourage involvement in United Methodist Women, the Conference Organization shall offer scholarships, including child care and/or registration fees for Kids' School to:
- 1. two first time attending women over 18 and/or pastors, ordained or local.
 - 2. two young women.
 - 3. two or more women of diversity
- J. Retention Funds
- 1. The Conference Executive Committee shall budget each year an amount in anticipation of elected and appointed Conference and/or District leadership expenses for National and Jurisdiction meetings. At the end of each year monies not used from this budget item would be placed in an investment account (which should not exceed \$10,000) to be used for expenses of the next National or Jurisdiction event.
 - 2. An investment account may be established in the name of United Methodist Women Michigan Conference for the purpose of funding expenses for such meetings as the Assembly, the National Seminar and the North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting. Withdrawals shall be signed by the Treasurer or President.
- K. Other Relevant information
- 1. The Conference organization annually receives through The United Methodist Foundation a bequest of money from the Kathleen Bright Memorial Fund to be used for Mission Education. It may be used for scholarships for Mission u or other mission related events.
 - 2. The Conference organization may withdraw funds from the Willworth Trust or any other accounts in the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan up to the limit of the earnings.
 - 3. The Conference organization is committed to maintaining a significant

- relationship with the United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids, a National Mission Institution of United Methodist Women, by:
- a. encouraging United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Church to provide ongoing financial support specifically to support the programming;
 - b. having a presence on the Board of Directors that would include a Conference UMW National Director as liaison. The Conference President and the District 4 President, or designee(s), would hold seats on the board.
4. The Conference organization, in keeping with the recommendation of United Methodist Women national organization, may support Church Women United, as recommended by the Committee on Finance, by
 - a. giving, upon a vouchered request, up to \$200 financial support in a given year to a Michigan Conference member of United Methodist Women who is State President of Church Women United. The Conference Treasurer shall send a letter of explanation and a few vouchers.
 - b. promoting participation in programs throughout the Conference sponsored by Church Women United.
 - c. considering as a budget item a contribution to the state organization in accordance with other denominational patterns of support within the state.
 - d. recommending that districts encourage local units in their districts to consider supporting local units of Church Women United and their programs.
 5. The Conference organization may support the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, as recommended by the Committee on Finance, by
 - a. giving financial support to women in the Conference who are placed in positions of leadership with the state organization of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.
 - b. promoting participation in programs throughout the Conference sponsored by the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.
 6. When a Conference Officer is expected to represent the United Methodist Women at a national meeting, her expenses shall be paid from conference funds, unless they are allowed by the agency that is meeting.
 7. The conference budget shall include a line item amount for unanticipated conference expenses.
 8. Un-budgeted program opportunities —
 - a. The President shall appoint a Subcommittee of five women from the Committee on Finance, chaired by the Treasurer, to receive all requests for un-budgeted program opportunities.
 - b. The requests must be presented to the Subcommittee at least two weeks before the Executive Committee meeting at which the request is to be heard.
 - c. Failure to do this shall result in postponement of the hearing of the request.
 9. The list of officers of United Methodist Women and/or participants at United Methodist Women events shall not be used by, given to, or sold to outside groups, unless approved by the Conference Executive Committee.

VI. MINUTES AND RECORDS

- A. Secretary's Records
 1. The conference Secretary shall keep minutes for four years in her possession. Older minutes shall be stored permanently at the Archives of the Conference.
 2. The secretary shall send a copy of the minutes of the Executive Committee

- meeting to members of the committee, the Bishop, the Cabinet representative, staff representative, and North Central Jurisdiction President.
3. The Michigan Conference Directory Committee shall annually edit, publish and mail or electronically distribute the Directory by March 1.
- B. Treasurer's Records
1. All vouchers, bank statements, treasurer's and auditor's report for the current year and seven (7) previous years shall be kept by the treasurer. All others shall be destroyed
 2. The ledgers must be kept permanently.
 3. The year-end treasurer's report presented at the first meeting of the year should be kept permanently with the minutes.
- C. District Correspondence
1. Conference elected leaders shall submit to the Conference President a draft of any written or electronic communication of general information for approval before sending it to respective District elected leaders or to Local elected leaders.
 2. When Conference leaders send correspondence to District counterpart(s), a copy shall be sent to the District President(s).
 3. All information sent by Conference elected leaders to District elected leaders for channeling to Local Units is important. It is expected that it shall be sent to Local Units at District expense.
 4. Names of Local elected leaders shall be sent to the District Secretaries within one week after election, recommending that elections be held by October 31 of each year.
 5. Within one week following the District Annual Meeting, the District President shall send a copy of the District elected ballot to the
 - a. Conference President, Secretary, Chairperson of Committee on Nominations, and Communications Coordinator.
 - b. Editor/Business Manager of *The Conference Newsletter*
 - c. Webmaster
 - d. other District presidents
 6. By November 15, the Chairperson of the Conference Committee on Nominations shall send to each incoming Conference elected leader the names, postal addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of her respective District leaders.
 7. By December 15, the District Presidents shall send the names, postal addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of appointees to District Executive Committees, to the Conference President, Secretary, Communications Coordinator, Editor/Business Manager of *The Conference Newsletter*, Webmaster and other District Presidents for District newsletters.
- D. OTHER
1. Records, reports, and directive information pertaining to each office shall be kept by the respective elected leaders for the preceding four years after which they may be destroyed.
 2. Permanent Files and Historical Records
 - a. The permanent records and files shall be kept at the Archives. The Historical Records of the Conference shall consist of:
 - 1.) The minutes of all meetings recorded by the Conference Secretary
 - 2.) The Conference Treasurer's Annual Audit Report
 - 3.) A copy of the Conference Directory
 - 4.) A copy of each issue of the *Conference Newsletter* and printed copies of the Annual Meeting Program
 - b. The Secretary shall be responsible for seeing that records are stored at the Archives.

VII. COURTESIES (needs evaluation for amounts)

- A. When there is a wife of a Bishop, she shall be invited to serve as Honorary President of the Conference organization of United Methodist Women with committee privileges. The invitation shall be extended annually by the President. It is recommended that Districts follow this pattern when there is a wife of the District Superintendent.
- B. Upon organization of a new local unit of United Methodist Women of the Michigan Conference, a handbook, and the New Welcoming Kit will be provided at Conference expense. The president of a new or reactivated unit shall be a guest at the NEXT Conference Annual Meeting with meal and registration paid.
- C. The Treasurer shall:
 - 1. purchase appropriate Gift to Mission cards or Gift in Memory cards in the amount of \$10 each to be sent when such remembrances, i.e. death of a past conference officer, are authorized by the Administrative Committee.
 - 2. send a Gift in Memory of \$60 to United Methodist Women, national organization upon the death of any member of the current Conference Executive Committee or Past President. If a member of the immediate family (spouse/children) of a conference officer dies, a \$10 Gift in Memory shall be given.
 - 3. send a Gift In Memory of \$100 to United Methodist Women, national organization upon the death of Conference Commissioned Missionaries, Deaconesses (active or retired), Home Missioners and Church and Community Workers. Current short-term missionaries shall be similarly remembered.

VIII. RESOURCES

- A. Literature sold at all conference meetings shall be obtained from or promoted by UMW Mission Resources. Exceptions must be approved by the Executive Committee or the Administrative Committee. No publications except United Methodist Women publications shall be offered for sale at conference events.
- B. OTHER Materials distributed at conference events shall be approved by the committee planning the event. (Example: Social Action Day).

IX. EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY OWNED

- A. Archival Documents and Literature
 - 1. At least once during the tenure of office of each Conference President, a committee appointed by the President, (in consultation with the Historian/Custodian), shall evaluate the Conference properties held by the Historian/Custodian and make recommendations concerning them.
 - 2. The Historian/Custodian's annual report shall be the inventory of the Conference organization property including that held by all Conference elected leaders.
- B. Hard Equipment – There is a file cabinet permanently located at the former Salem United Methodist Church.
 - 1. The secretary will keep a list of equipment and property owned by the Conference. This list will be updated annually.

X. DISTINCTIVE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. The Executive Committee shall have full power and authority:
 - 1. to conduct the affairs of the Conference organization in the ordinary course of business, including the employment, management of properties under the jurisdiction of the Conference organization, planning of the denominational and interdenominational work which is supported financially by the Conference organization;
 - 2. to authorize the investment of funds in other than real property;
 - 3. to transact all business required by the organization, except as specifically delegated to the Board of Trustees, and further to execute any documents necessary to carry out these powers.

- B. Board of Trustees
1. There shall be a Board of Trustees in order to comply with State of Michigan laws for incorporated bodies. The membership of the Board of Trustees shall be the same as the executive committee.
 2. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least once a year.
 3. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the President upon request of the Executive Committee.
 4. All meetings shall be held within the boundaries of the Conference.

XI. PROVISIONS FOR CHANGES IN STANDING RULES

- A. The Standing Rules are procedural statements and are supplementary to the current Constitution and Bylaws of United Methodist Women as found in the *Handbook 2017-2020 of United Methodist Women*. The Standing Rules are designed to insure continuity of procedures.
- B. Conference Standing Rules shall be reviewed and perfected annually by the Standing Rules committee, by the Executive Committee at their spring meeting, adopted at the Conference Annual Business Meeting, and published each year in the *Directory*.
- C. Any proposed amendments shall be presented in writing to the President of the conference organization by March 15, for review by the Standing Rules Committee. Notice of the proposed amendments shall be forwarded in writing to the members of the Executive Committee at least two weeks before the spring Executive Committee meeting.
- D. As long as they are in harmony with United Methodist Women, national organization material, the recommended changes shall be mentioned in *The Conference Newsletter*. All changes and the edited document will be available for review on the website and presented for approval at the Annual Business Meeting.
- E. The Standing Rules may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the voting members at the Conference Annual Business Meeting.

Organized for Flexibility

Financial Flexibility:

United Methodist Women-supported programs and projects are possible because of individual women's gifts to mission through "Mission Giving." Mission Giving allows United Methodist Women to respond where the need is the greatest and to work in partnership with organizations doing similar work.

Close to \$20 million comes from United Methodist Women members annually to support mission programs and projects throughout the U.S. and around the world. These gifts do not include another \$5 million collected and used by local member units.

United Methodist Women's volunteer board of directors disburse the funds received through Mission Giving by responding to emerging needs and explore historical, new and experimental mission programs with women and children.

Membership Flexibility:

United Methodist Women is committed to finding new ways to invite and involve women in our 140-year-old organization with over 800,000 members. At all levels of the organization, United Methodist Women works to:

- Ensure inclusiveness and racial/ethnic diversity
- Resource Hispanic and Korean-American members and other emerging language groups
- Nurture teen and college/university women

