



CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

AROUND THE BAY July 2022

Co-Presidents



Greetings from Central Bay District Leadership Team. As we write this article, we have had a name change, we are now known as United Women in Faith. Our new name is part of a refreshment of our organization that includes a new look, new feel and new improved programs designed to better nurture current members and welcome new women into our sisterhood to put their love in action too.

As United Women in Faith we are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood with a focus on women, children, and youth. We act for justice and transform communities. We invite United Methodist and other like-minded women to join us, because love and action can change the world.

Adopting the name **United Women in Faith** and introducing new and improved programs acknowledges the great changes that have occurred in the lives of U.S. women over the past four decades and in the ways they're engaging their faith. It acknowledges the changes you need to continue to grow in your faith and make the differences you want to make.

The changes are designed to address the different needs and life stages of current members and new women, and expand options for membership and engagement. The new name also aims to welcome members whose local churches may choose to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church as well as women of other faith tradition who want to join.

We will maintain the legal name United Methodist Women while operating as United Women in Faith. You'll continue to see the name United Methodist Women used in some places, but

as we move into the future, together we'll be United Women in Faith.

We remain the official women's organization of The United Methodist Church. We remain the organization training women for leadership, growing spiritually, transforming through education, providing opportunities for service, and transforming through education, and providing opportunities for service and advocacy. We remain women in mission who follow God's call for our time.

Our new name lets women know they can remain a part of our organization, and it lets them know we will not leave them behind. It also lets the church know that we've been on a path of listening and discerning that will help us lead the church into its full potential.

The new mission statement for our organization: United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impart local and global communities.

Our new logo features our new name of United Women in Faith next to a Christian cross in muted yellow, blue, orange, and green to reflect our forward-looking faith and the diversity of the organization and God's world. This information was taken from the March/April 2022 Response Magazine, pages 32-34. I encourage you to read the article (We are United Women in Faith!).

The new website for United Women in Faith is:
[United Women in Faith | Love in Action](https://uwfaith.org)
(uwfaith.org)

As Co-Presidents we decided to attend the United Women in Faith Assembly Virtually.

It was held in Orlando Florida on May 20 -22. The Theme was **TURN It UP**. The speakers were great and there was a lot to learn and many ideas were provided.

Some of the Fundraising thing to do are Auction, Silent Auction, Flea Market, make Fried Pies, Prayer Beads, Items for sale, Popcorn, T-Shirts, Bake Less Bake Sale, Take Out Lunch, Cookie Walk, Rummage Sale, Cheese Balls for Supper Bowl, Dinners, Zoom-a-Rock, Rock-a-Thon, Crazy Hat Tea Party, and Fashion Show.

Raffles are ok if you are giving and may get something in return. Don't use the word Raffle, say we are taking donations for what ever you have and if your name is drawn you could win.

Make it exciting when you're doing a fundraiser such as a Bowl-a-Thon.

Together, we are building our legacy. As a permanently invested endowment the Legacy Fund will be an ongoing source of income, providing the assurance that our important work can always continue. Giving to the Legacy Fund will support United Women in Faith in perpetuity. That's why gifts to the endowment fund are such a vital way to sustain and grow our capacity to serve and advocate, leaving a mark on the world, an everlasting gift.

We have openings on our Leadership Team. We are asking The Central Bay Area to step up and join our Team. We have openings for Vice President, Social Action, and Membership Nurture & Outreach and on the Nomination Committee. If you have been thinking about joining, the time is now. We need you. Come join us and make new friends and have some fun with us. Come to one of our Leadership Team Meetings and see what it is all about. We have One Team Member leaving our team this year. Eleanor (Ele) Hunt, who has served as Registrar for many years and has done a fantastic job. She will be greatly missed. Job well done Ele.

Doris Simons Co-President
dorissimons@att.net
(989) 781-1492

Caroline Diaz Co-President
diazc5282@gmail.com
(989) 450-1735



Vice President

The time is now!

Yes, the past two years have been challenging for all of us. A global pandemic, transitions in work and school life and uncertainty about the future of the church. The list could go on. But people are still hungry, women and children are still abused, refugees still seek shelter and safety. Women, children and youth still need us to be in mission.

The time is now to continue raising funds and paying pledges.

The time is now to still advocate for justice.

The time is now to say, "Here I am, Lord! Send me."

As the past Chair of Nominations and the current, but out-going, Vice President for the District, I understand that saying "Here I am" is a major commitment. But I can also attest that saying, "Here I am" comes with an abundance of blessings from God.

This my eighth and final year on the district team, because tenure won't allow me to continue. But when Ele Hunt indicated that she would be stepping down as Registrar, I volunteered to serve in that capacity. The position of registrar doesn't have a tenure restriction, so I can continue serving the district! I don't have to say "good-bye" to my spiritual sisters on the team!

The time is now to look over the slate of officers for 2023 and decide where God is calling you to serve. The time is now to let the District Team know you are willing to join us. And we'll see you at Midland First United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 1st. It's not only an annual meeting, it's an annual celebration!

Rene Johnson, Vice President
809 Wyllys St., Midland, MI 48642
989-631-2378 renejohnson@charter.net



Secretary

Greetings to United Women in Faith

Are you like me, having to take some time to embrace our new name. Are you finding it a little tricky to NOT say “UM” and having to back up and start over with “UW”? I’m thinking maybe that causes us to focus on the actual name: United Women in Faith! And, maybe, that’s a GOOD thing.

As the secretary of Central Bay District UWF team I send you blessings, encouragement, and praise for all the mission endeavors you attempt. If you are a Unit secretary I add my sincere compliments for the important job you do. You are in charge of “keeping history”. The meetings, the planning, the workers, the dates, the locations, the evaluations, and outcomes, all need to be recorded. YOU are the recorder!

I have read that memories drive the future. What and how and why we have done something in our past leads us to do something (maybe different?) in our future. However, memories sometimes fade a little or get changed a little. That is why it is so very important that the UWF units record their events. That is why the secretary of each unit is so VERY important. It is a very special “honor” to be the “keeper of your HISTORY”!

That is also why it is so very important that you send me the names (emails and addresses) of your unit’s officers. I need this information by November 1, 2022!

Blessings, **Jeanne Shelander**
173 Dwyer St. Clare, MI 48617-1002
jmsshelander@gmail.com
989 386 2063



Treasurer

This is my 6th year as being a district treasurer, three with Blue Water and three with Central Bay. That is the maximum number of years that anyone can be treasurer; so as of November 31st I will no longer be able to receive monies from your local United Women of Faith (UMF).

I would really urge all units to send me their monies as soon as possible as I have a great deal of book work to do in recording the funds that come in and making sure they get to the proper places.

I want to emphasize that all units that give at least \$5 in each of these four areas---pledge, gift to mission, gift in memory and world thank offering plus a \$40 gift to special mission recognition (SMR) will be recognized as a 5 STAR UNIT and receive a certificate to this effect at our District Annual Meeting. The SMR giving may be just a plain donation from the unit OR to recognize the special efforts of someone in your unit or congregation. That’s a total of \$60 from your unit. An individual may do this too—give \$60 and they are considered a five star person. As of right now I have only 4 churches that qualify as 5 star units. They are Bay City Grace, Mount Pleasant, Rose City, and Weidman. I would very much like to add your church’s name to my list. So please urge your treasurer to get your money in to me!

At our district meeting last October, Central Bay District made a pledge to the conference mission team of \$49,500. As of this date (June 12, 2022) I have collected \$11,600 and all of that has come from only 13 churches in our district. So if your church has not sent anything in to me for mission giving, I urge you to do so immediately.

We are starting to get back to normal and so I pray that your United Women of Faith (UWF) local unit is starting to have meetings again too. Many things are coming up in the district and conference as well. During August school of mission will take place at Lake Huron Retreat Center and then again in October at Gaylord First. We hope you will take advantage of these educational opportunities.

On October 1st our district annual meeting is to be held at Midland First. This is where certificates will be given out to all 5 STAR UNITS AND PERSONS. I pray your church is one of them.

On October 22nd the conference UWF will meet in Kalamazoo. Did you know that IF you are a district officer your expenses are paid to all of these events and if you drive there you are paid mileage too. Central Bay District has several openings for officers and we'd love to add you to our team. Please give it some serious consideration.

Yours In Christ,
Bonnie Dunstan
5760 Pine Dr
Caseville MI 48725
989-856-3263
willbdun@comcast.net



Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

WE DID IT! We were finally able to meet in person for our Spiritual Life Retreat at The Springs this past April. What a joy it was seeing familiar faces and getting to catch up on how things are going with all of you. Everyone enjoyed our guest speaker, Sonya Luna, and was amazed with the info she shared on immigration.

We are marching forward doing God's work and facing each new challenge as they happen, knowing He is right there with us. The Covid battle still reigns but it is not as threatening as it has been and through it all we adopted a new name "United Women In Faith" and celebrated at the Turn It Up assembly in Florida this year.

I am busy getting venues and speakers for next year's events and hope to see even more of you in person at the Spiritual Brunch and the Spiritual Life Retreat. Watch for flyers in the winter newsletter.

Until then remember, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." Chronicles 16:34

Peace and Joy to You
Linda Kube
lindaakube@yahoo.com



Secretary of Program Resources

Program Resources-Reading Program

IT'S PAST TIME BUT! NOT TOO LATE TO GET YOUR READING REPORTS IN FOR 2021! Please send them in so they can be included in the Program Book at the 2022 Annual Celebration.

Qualifying for Level 1 is as simple as one book from each of the categories: Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Education for Mission, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. If you don't like to read then watch one of the movies on the list: Pushout, Just Mercy, or The Hate You Give. You can also watch Faith Talks found at: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>. Three Faith Talks count as two Spiritual Growth Books, and audio books are also available.

I have found that our local library has many of the Reading Program books available. You can find Reading Program information at uwfaith.org/resources/2022-readingprogram This site will give you information about previous years also.

Lisa Wightman
Interim Program Resources Coordinator
1902 Pierce Road
Caro MI 48723
klwightman@yahoo.com 989-673-7079



Education and Interpretation

United Methodist Women is now **United Women in Faith**. Yet we remain women of passion and power, united by God's love in our mission to help women, children, and youth.

Mission U reflects our goal of helping women, youth and children in 2022. The mission study theme of acting for justice to transform communities to be driven by the love of Jesus Christ has been adapted for each age group.

Who Can We Be Together: Anchoring Christian Communities in Challenging Times, a Biblical exploration of Luke 13 guides adults deeper into Jesus' teachings, exploring what it means to be in community.

Community in the Midst of Challenging Times takes youth on a journey through stories that have anchored Christian communities for millennia.

The Growing Tree helps children recognize their diversity as well as their responsibilities to care for one another and for all of God's creation. Each of these guides can be purchased on **uwfaith.org**. The guides can also be used for Sunday School or other group study.

Mission U is offering two opportunities for everyone to grow in God's love and transform communities. The first is August 11-13 at Lake Huron Retreat Center. The second is in Gaylord at Mission U of the North on October 16-18.

If you haven't sent in your 2021 Mission Today Unit Objectives, please do so by August 1, 2022 so your Unit can receive your FAITH, HOPE, JOY LOVE certificate at the District Celebration on Saturday, October 1, 2022 at Midland First UMC.

Shalom,
Sandra DeWaele
588 E. Salzburg Rd.,
Bay City, MI 48706
989-414-3398
josandew@charter.net



Communications Coordinator

How wonderful to be able to meet in person again. And in the months ahead, we have many in-person events coming up.

In this newsletter we have included the proposed slate of officers for 2023. We will be voting on it at our Celebration meeting in October. Also included is the 2023 Secretaries Report Form, the 2023 Pledge Form, the 2023 Proposed Budget, CBD Celebration Flyer and registration form and the Remembrance Page. We are also including the Conference Celebration flyer & registration form, and the Mission u Flyer & registration form. Those who have computers can go to the Conference website below and register online for these if they wish:

<https://www.umwmichiganconference.org>

We are sending the newsletter by email to those who have given us their addresses. For those without email, we will continue to send you the newsletter by regular U.S. Mail. If you prefer to get it by email and have not given us your address, please send it to me at the email address below.

For those who get this by email, you will notice that many forms are listed separately for you to download and print out. Be sure to select those you need.

Officers please look at the forms that need to be filled out and try to get them in by the deadline, so that your group is recognized for **their great achievements at our next Celebration!**

Blessings,
Judy Gerken 989-755-4848
3300 Sunnyview Dr., Saginaw, MI 48604
jrgerk@yahoo.com



Let me first tell you of my JOY's of serving on the District Team. I began as Saginaw Bay District UMW, then we restructured to Central Bay UMW, and are now Central Bay District United Women in Faith. I attended the District Celebration in the fall of 2013, excited to be there as a fellow friend from Caro UMC was going to be installed as Treasurer for the Saginaw Bay UMW.

During the leadership training for local units, I heard of a need for a Social Action position on the District Team and felt a nudge to hear more about the responsibilities. Well by lunch time it was announced that the position had been filled, and not by me. I later learned more about the position and realized my Spiritual gifts were not Social Action. During lunch I sat by a different District Officer and heard about a position open on the District Team, and that afternoon I was installed as a District Officer for Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator.

My experience on the Team has been extremely rewarding. Friendships have been made that will last our lifetimes. It has been a true time of everyone on the Team working together to enhance our purpose. When there is a need a hand goes out to support you, a true example of Gods Love. Did I mention that there are financial perks involved also, mileage reimbursement to attend meetings, registration costs covered for District and Conference events.

As I write this, we do have a few openings on the District Team we are working at filling, Vice President, Social Action, Membership Nurture and Outreach, and Nominations is always a place to start. If you happen to feel that nudge like I did, give me a call or anyone on the District Team. Remember we are a Team and we Work Together.

Lisa Wightman, Chairperson Nominations
1902 Pierce Road
Caro MI 48723
klwightman@yahoo.com
989-673-7079



We need you! Please contact Lisa or any other board member if you would like to join our team.

In Remembrance



Women Who Have Passed Away in Your Unit

As a district we would like to take this time to remember the women who have passed away from your unit in 2021. They will be listed in our 2022 program bulletin of the Central Bay District Celebration and Leadership Training event.

NOTE! Submit only names of those who passed away in 2021. Please submit the names, church and date of death to:

Judy Gerken by

September 5, 2022

E-mail jrgerk@yahoo.com

Or Mail to: 3300 Sunnyview Drive
Saginaw, MI 48604

PLEASE NOTE:

I have already received names from these churches:

Bay City Grace	Cass City
Churchill	Coleman Faith
Fairgrove	Midland First
Owendale	Pinconning
St. Charles	

If your church is not on this list, I will be expecting to hear from you.

2023 PLEDGE FORM

January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Unit Name_____

Church_____

Pledge Amount_____

Unit Treasurer_____

Address_____

Phone_____

E-Mail_____

Please fill out this form and have it mailed to the District Treasurer, by
November 20, 2022

Bonnie Dunstan, 5760 Pine Drive, Caseville, MI 48725

PROPOSED Financial Budget Central Bay District UMW 2023

Pledge to Mission 35,000

	Budgeted	2022	2023
OFFICER EXPENSES:			
100 Postage	500	500	<u>300</u>
101 Office Supplies	350	350	300
103 Travel	2500	2500	2500
104 Meals	300	300	300
105 Printing	200	200	200
107 Audit	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
TOTAL OFFICER EXPENSES	4000	4000	3750
CONFERENCE EVENT EXPENSES			
200 Conference Annual Mtg	500	500	500
201 Conference Social Action	100	100	100
202 Mission U	<u>1500</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>1500</u>
TOTAL CONFERENCE EVENTS	2100	2100	2100
DISTRICT EVENT EXPENSES:			
300 District Annual Mtg	750	750	750
301 Leadership Training	150	150	150
302 Spiritual Life Retreat	1200	1200	1200
303 Shepherds/Visits/DZone	100	100	100
304 Prayer Brunch	500	500	500
305 Other	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
TOTAL DISTRICT EXPENSES	2750	2750	2750
OTHER EXPENSES:			
400 Newsletter/publicity (including printing,postage	1200	1200	800
401 Resources: Response & Sampler	2000	2000	2000
402 SMR,GTM,GIM	400	400	400
403 Church Women United	100	100	100
404 Misc	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	<u>3750</u>	3750	3350
TOTAL A&MD EXPENSES	12600	12600	11950
Contingency	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	13100	13100	12450

Proposed Slate for 2023

Central Bay District Leadership Team

Co-President

Doris Simons
dorissimons@att.net
989-781-1492 or 248-408-0797 (cell)
567 N. River Rd.
Saginaw MI 48609-6823

Co-President

Caroline Diaz
diazc5282@gmail.com
989-450-1735 (cell)
5622 W. Spring Knoll Dr.
Bay City MI 48706-5614

Vice President

OPEN

Secretary

Jeanne Shelander
jmsshelander@gmail.com
989-386-2063
173 Dwyer Street
Clare MI 48617-1002

Treasurer

Sheila Miller
305 Willow Bend
Auburn MI 48611

Program Resources

Bonnie Dunstan
willbdun@comcast.com
989-856-3263
5760 Pine Drive
Caseville, MI 48725

Membership Nurture & Outreach

OPEN

Social Action Coordinator

OPEN

Spiritual Growth Co-Coordinator

Linda Kube
kubelinda2@gmail.com
989-928-8165
212 Lake St.
St. Charles MI 48655-1649

Education & Interpretation Coordinator

Sandy DeWaele (Class of 2024)
josandew@charter.net
989-414-3398
588 E Salzburg Rd
Bay City MI 48706-9713

Nominations Chair:

Lisa Wightman (Class of 2026)
klwightman@yahoo.com
989-673-7079
1902 Pierce Road
Caro MI 48723

Nominations Committee:

Sandra Horen
Sandra.Horen@gmail.com
203 Willow Bend
Auburn, MI 4861
989-717-8484

Joy Clark

Jec3015@yahoo.com
989-714-9208
3015 South Glenway Dr.
Bay City, MI 48706-2357

Appointed Officers:

Communication

Judy Gerken
jrgerk@yahoo.com
989-755-4848 or 989-293-8146 (cell)
3300 Sunnyview Dr.
Saginaw MI 48604-1738

Registrar

Rene Johnson
renejohnson@charter.net
989-631-2378 or 989-750-4438 (cell)
809 Wyllys Street
Midland, MI 48642-4634

United Women in Faith

Central Bay District

P O Box 5386

Saginaw, MI. 48603



AROUND THE BAY

July 2022

Dates to Remember!

Thurs. August 11

Mission u of the East H.O.M.E.
Lake Huron Retreat Center

Thurs - Sat. August 11-13

Mission u of the East
Lake Huron Retreat Center

Sat. October 1

Central Bay District UWF Annual Celebration
Midland First UMC

Mon. & Tues. October 17-18

Mission u of the North
Gaylord First UMC

Sat. October 22

Conference UWF Annual Celebration
Westwood UMC, Kalamazoo