



United
Women
in Faith

CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Around the Bay December, 2022

Co-Presidents



Greetings from Caroline Diaz and Doris Simons, Central Bay District United Women in Faith Co-Presidents.

October is always a very busy month. Central Bay District UWF had our Annual Celebration and Local Officers Training, Mission u and Michigan Conference UWF Annual Celebration and Training of District Officers.

We held our first in person Annual Celebration since COVID started. It was good to see everyone and be together. It was a great success with 88 registered and 77 who attended. Midland First UWF did a fantastic job, and everything was greatly appreciated.

It has been a challenge this year with openings that we were not able to fill and next year is the same. We are asking that you consider joining the District Team and helping us out. As it was said at Conference, if we can't get help with new officers "We Will Be No More" We have openings for Vice President, Membership Nurture & Outreach, Social Action, and Nominations. Please pray about this and join us.

The Michigan Conference Annual Celebration was held in Kalamazoo on October 22, 2022. It was great and it was so good seeing everyone. The music was uplifting and the program was well planned.

Blessings,

Co-President
Caroline Diaz

5622 W. Spring Knoll Dr.
Bay City MI 48706-5614
diazc.5282@gmail.com
989-450-1735 (Cell)

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



Vice President

My tenure on the District Leadership Team is coming to an end, and frankly, I am worried. As yet, no one has stepped up to take on the duties of this office. I wish it were more of a "ceremonial" office. You know the reputation: a vice president doesn't really serve in a meaningful way, only stepping in when the President isn't available.

Such is NOT the case for the District UWF. The VP puts together the calendar and coordinates the team in planning the program for the District Annual Meeting, including inviting the speakers. It's a REAL position. (Rest assured, I am working on our 2023 meeting!)

It's true that the leadership team works well together, supporting each other in accomplishing all of our events. Everybody pitches in. But I do worry that as long as this position goes unfilled, it places undue strain on the rest of the team.

You might be feeling the same stress I am feeling as fewer women in your local unit are tasked with taking on additional duties. But here is why you should consider saying “yes” to joining the district team: How good did it feel to reconnect with friends at our annual meeting on October 1st?

If it felt as good to you as it did to me, you are already looking forward to next year in Mt. Pleasant. If meeting at events to recharge your spirit, renew friendships, and learn about missions is important to you, please consider joining the team. You can truly make a difference!

Rene Johnson

989-631-2378 or 989-750-4438 (cell)

renejohnson@charter.net

Secretary

Merry times for all of YOU! My mother's name was Mary and for many years I didn't understand the difference in those two spellings. I think my mom enjoyed being thought of as “merry”!! It seems such a happy, pleasant word and so appropriate for the December time of year. I hope you use it with the same sentiments.

So many of you have sent in your United Women in Faith list of officers with addresses and emails. It is enough to make me....well...merry! THANK YOU!! I enjoy receiving them.

Before you say, “I FORGOT!” don't worry! It is not too late to fill out the form and send it on to me:

Jeanne Shelander
173 Dwyer Street
Clare, MI 48617

I think 2022 was another wavy journey for UWF. Although some UWF units are having to disband because of “issues”, we still managed to celebrate our Annual Celebration at Midland UMC, experienced the all new, super upbeat, last Mission u of the North in Gaylord (with snow), and the always adventurous and

informative UWF Conference in Kalamazoo. Each of these venues will RETURN in 2023!!

We celebrate our blessings.

Blessings, Jeanne Shelander
989-386-2063



Treasurer

I have been the treasurer of Blue Water District for 3 years and now Central Bay for 3 years as well. It's time for me to give up that position and assume a different one for next year. I will be moving on to the office of Program Resources for Central Bay District.

As treasurer we have faced many challenges from setting goals, making budgets and paying our pledges. Some of our churches have done exceptionally well and given beyond what they pledged. Others are struggling to pay their pledge. I pray for each of our units to do your best and give what you can when you can.

As of January 1, 2023 the new treasurer for Central Bay District will be:

Sandra Horen
203 Willow Bend
Auburn, Michigan 48611
989-717-8484

Any monies that come to me after Nov 31, 2022, I will pass on to Sandy for her to deposit in January. It's been my pleasure to be your treasurer for the past 3 years.

Bonnie Dunstan

5760 Pine Dr
Caseville Mi. 48725
willbdun@comcast.net
989-856-3263 or cell #989-963-0655



Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

In 2023 there will be only one Mission u. It will be in July at Mt. Pleasant First. More information will be coming on the Study topic and exact dates.

Complete the 2022 Mission Today Unit Objectives and send to me by February 1, 2023. These objectives reflect on what your unit accomplished in 2022 but can also be used to help you plan for your 2023 programming. Use it as a guide. I only received objectives from 14 units this year. Let's make that number higher next year!

United Women in Faith has a wealth of information on its website. Go to **UWfaith.org/resources** to review the five resources for enrichment. Check out Podcasts, the newest one. It includes Faith Talks, response podcast and Voices from the Field. You can catch up on previous episodes plus sign up to be on the list to be informed about upcoming podcasts. Three Faith Talks equal one book in the reading program, too.

Remember we believe love in action can change the world.

Sandra DeWaele

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



Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

As the holidays and the end of another year is quickly approaching, I can't help but reflect on how much is still getting accomplished by our Central Bay Women

of Faith. We had another successful year for our Spiritual Brunch, and for the first time in three years we met in person to learn new things and celebrate our togetherness at the Spiritual Growth Retreat. We continue to move forward as women of faith and look forward to the upcoming year with new projects and continued mission.

Praying for joy and happiness in the new year and hope to see you all at the Spiritual Brunch and Spiritual Growth Retreat next year. Our guest speakers have new and exciting things to tell you. Exodus 12:2

Linda Kube

kubelinda2@gmail.com
989-928-8165

Secretary of Program Resources



This is quite a different position for me but I will do my best. It used to be just reading books and reporting on them in each of five different categories. Now there's the internet with Faith Talk groups, Daily Prayer Guide and so much more. There are movies you may watch for credit in the reading program. Don't forget the Response magazine as a source of information for you and your units.

If you have questions about your position as program resource secretary, give me a call and if I don't know the answer, I'll find someone who can give us an answer

Bonnie Dunstan

5760 Pine Dr
Caseville Mi. 48725
willbdun@comcast.net
989-856-3263 or cell #989-963-0655



Committee on Nominations Chair

In October eleven members from the district team traveled to Kalamazoo to the Conference Annual meeting. It was great to deepen relationships with each other, have some fun and receive some training on our current positions.

We welcome several new members to the District Team starting in January of 2023. We still have a few openings: Membership Nurture and Outreach, Social Action, Vice President, and there is always more room on nominations. Give one of the District Officers a call or email. We would love to share with you the joys of serving on the team.

Lisa Wightman
Chair of Nominations
989-673-7079

New Nominations Member

Hello to UWF members!

Have you ever been at a place in your life when you are doing something that gives you energy, fulfillment, and purpose? That God has guided you to this place? I am new to the Central Bay District Nominations

Committee, and am seeking to help others develop and use their gifts with renewed purpose, especially to strengthen our goals within UWF. I'm excited to join this team!

Joy Clark, member of Grace UMC in Bay City



Communication Coordinator

We hope you are enjoying the bi-yearly newsletter, "Around the Bay". Since we are now sending out the newsletter by email, it is very important that you submit email addresses on the Officer's list to our current secretary, Jeanne Shelander. If you have new email addresses not submitted already, please send them to her or to me.

We will, of course, send out the newsletter by regular mail to those who have no email.

Please look at the flyers within this newsletter for the Spiritual Brunch, Spiritual Retreat, and Mission Today Unit Objectives. Registration forms are there for you to fill out and turn in. You can make copies of these forms to share with your church members or friends, as everyone is invited.

May we together pray for a healthy and happy year in 2023.

Judy Gerken jrgerk@yahoo.com
989-755-4848

Central Bay District Leadership Team 2023

Co-President

Doris Simons
dorissimons@att.net
989-781-1492
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
jmshelander@gmail.com
989-386-2063
173 Dwyer Street
Clare MI 48617-1002

Treasurer

Sandra Horen
sandrahoren@gmail.com
989-717-8484
203 Willow Bend
Auburn MI 48611
BC Grace

Program Resources

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

Membership Nurture & Outreach

OPEN

Social Action

OPEN

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

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

Education & Interpretation Coordinator

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

Chair of Nominations

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

Nominations Committee

Joy Clark
Jec3015@yahoo.com
989-714-9208
3015 South Glenway Drive
Bay City MI 48706-2357

Susan Kowaleski
989-826-1694
5169 Kneeland
Lewiston MI 49756-7520

Appointed Officers: Communication

Judy Gerken
jrgerk@yahoo.com
989-755-4848
3300 Sunnyview Dr.
Saginaw MI 48604-1738

Registrar

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

Conference Officers

Webmaster

Diana Spitnale Miller
diana@ddmiller.net
3352 W River Dr.,
Gladwin, MI 48623-9730
989-426-2644

Secretary of Program Resources

Ruth Sutton
suttonr1@charter.net
989-687-5646
cell 989-708-9968
2335 N Meridian Rd.
Sanford, MI 48657-9554

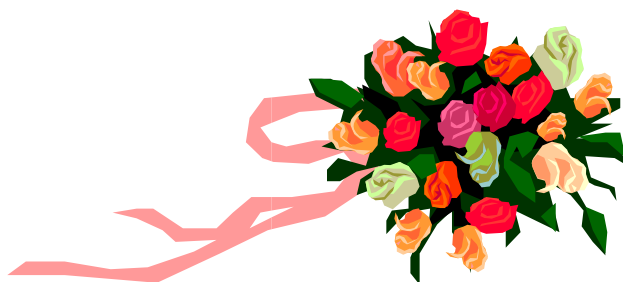
Nominating Committee

Kathy Freeland
ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net
989-843-5247
cell 989-660-0526
PO Box 195,
Mayville, MI 48744

Standing Rules (Appointed)

Linda Darrow
darrowlinda@gmail.com
989-763-8750
232 N Cooley St.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858-1311

In Remembrance



Women Who Have Passed Away in Your Unit in 2022

As a district we would like to take this time to remember the women who have passed away from your unit in 2022. They will be listed in our 2023 program booklet of the Central Bay District Celebration and Leadership Training event.

NOTE! Submit only names of those who passed away in 2022.

Please submit the **names, church and date of death** to:

Judy Gerken

E-mail jrgerk@yahoo.com

Or Mail to: 3300 Sunnyview Drive
Saginaw, MI 48604

Although the names will not be published until October, 2023, you may want send me your list early in 2023 while it is available and fresh in your memory.

Central Bay District United Methodist Women
P O Box 5386
Saginaw, MI. 48603



“Around the Bay” December 2022

Dates to Remember for 2023

February 11 Spiritual Enrichment Brunch at Cass City UMC

April 28-29 Spiritual Life Retreat at The Springs in Gladwin, MI

July 13-15 Mission u at Mt. Pleasant First UMC.

October 7 Central Bay District Annual Celebration & ELT at Mt. Pleasant First

October 27-28 Michigan Conference UWF Annual Training and Celebration,
at Holt UMC