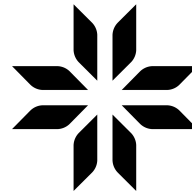


Heritage Vine

The Newsletter of the Heritage District
United Women in Faith
August 2022



United
Women
in Faith

President's Note

Joy Coyle

It is so good to talk to you again. I can't believe summer is already at the end and we are getting ready for our Annual Celebration! It will take place on October 1st at Adrian United Methodist Church. I hope to see everyone there. We have not fully discussed yet if there will be a Zoom option, but we will let you know. There should be information in the newsletter elsewhere about registering and if not, it'll be coming out shortly and will be posted to the website and emailed to Unit Presidents.

There are still 3 positions open on our district team for 2023. Please contact one of us if you are interested in filling one of them. We would love to have some new people join us. Shirley and Sherry have the most updated information. I am especially excited to have my daughter Jodi join us as secretary. We will vote on all nominations at the Celebration.

Have you read a great book lately? These newsletters are great for sharing what has touched you. Just contact Jenn, our editor.

You may know that we can still operate under the name UMW for this year. After that, we will plan on our new name United Women in Faith.

Lastly, I just wanted to share how much I enjoyed going to the National Conference in Orlando this past June. It was amazing – the music, the worship, and just being together. I had never attended a national conference before so it was a great experience and if I can find a few of my pictures I may attach them here.

God's blessings to all of you! Enjoy the beginning of fall & I hope to see you October 1st in Adrian! Don't forget the second Mission U later in October in Gaylord, too!



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News from Mission U

The August 2022 Mission U at Lake Huron Retreat Center was cut short due to a water main issue.

The organizers are working on a way to complete the studies virtually, and they will be open to all. More information will follow.

Vice President/ Program Coordinator

Kathy Snyder

Greetings Women of Faith, I greet you in Love and the Spirit of God. Well, our summer is starting to wind down and our days are getting shorter. I would like to share a favorite Bible scripture with you.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

- There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under the heavens:
- a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
- a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
- a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.



The seasons that we experience in Michigan are beautiful. But our lives have seasons also. We all experience it at different times in our life. One thing is for sure, "This is our time to *BE BOLD* and step out *IN FAITH* as United Women of Faith!" I challenge you to invite a friend to your local unit meeting, or to a church activity of fellowship and community.

That being said I would like to invite you and your friend to the Heritage District Annual Celebration/Meeting. It will be held on October 1st at Adrian First UMC. Our guest speaker is Dawn Hathaway who will be telling "Her Story" how God had a plan for her and for each one of us. And it is in His time that it is fulfilled, if we only believe, have faith and listen to Him.

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Treasurer

Currently, Shirley Carpenter and Sherry Wagenknecht are acting as Heritage District Treasurer. Please send any remittances (pledges, gifts to mission) or requests to Sherry. All remittances for 2022 should be made payable to UMW.

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Nominations

Shirley M. Carpenter

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer. With the weather so hot I enjoyed the Faith Talks and read books for the Reading Program.

I signed up for virtual at National and it was a wonderful three days. The speakers were amazing. The music was uplifting and even some dancing took place. I didn't think I would enjoy virtual but it was like a front row seat at every event. The classes were set up to involve each person in the discussion and two topics of study were chosen. One was the study of The Lord's Prayer and the other all about the United Women in Faith. Both were very interesting. Each time you were with different ladies in the break out groups. Good job, ladies, the event was a success.

The Heritage Leadership Team has been busy getting ready for our fall celebration and filling the slate for the 2023 year.

Please pray about joining our team. If you have any questions call, text, or email me.

Looking forward to an exciting new year with our new United Women in Faith.

Have a Blessed Day.



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Communications Coordinator

Wendy Everett



I'm just back from Mission U at the Lake Huron Retreat Center. The location never fails to amaze with stunning views of the water, the Blue Water Bridge, passing freighters, and sunrises and moonrises. This year we enjoyed a full moon rising from the east over the lake and it was huge and orange on the horizon! The adirondack chairs scattered around the grounds provide the perfect seating to enjoy nature and the vistas in either shade or sun.

This year we began a study of Luke 13 with Rev Tiffany Newsom of Laingsburg UMC, looking at the healing of a bent over woman and the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Bible study with new people and fresh perspectives is always enriching! Unfortunately, the retreat center lost water overnight and we had to leave Saturday morning. The staff did their best to provide us with some breakfast as we departed. The studies are always excellent at mission U, and I received an email today that they are looking for a way to complete our study virtually.

Have you ever been to Mission U? I'm glad I started attending 5 or so years ago. It's very special to connect with women of faith who live and serve in rural, suburban, and city settings. Maybe next year you'll join me! It's usually the 2nd or 3rd weekend of August.

We promote this event and others with emails and through our Facebook group. Let me know if you need help with either one!

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Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

Donna Williams

GUMPTION



I love words. I enjoy hearing their sounds, knowing their origins, understanding their meaning, using them to communicate, and reading them for understanding. I recently observed a precious four-year-old girl listening to four story/picture books that were new to her. When she had heard all four, she requested having them read again and again, all in the same sitting! The observing adults later speculated that she was memorizing them so she could pretend to read by herself. My educated guess is that already she too loves words.

The word that has been stuck in my head for two weeks is "gumption". I recall hearing my grandparents using the word in its original use meaning common sense. "That boy complains that the sneaky fox keeps stealing his chickens, but he doesn't have the gumption to shut the chicken house door." Some time ago, my husband and I enjoyed the Saturday evening radio show *Prairie Home Companion*. We loved the news from the fictional town of Lake Wobegon, "where all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, and all the children are above average". One of the commercials on the show was for "Powder Milk Biscuits, made from whole wheat, which gives you the strength to get up and do what needs to be done." To me, that's "gumption". One can have talent and imagination to tackle a challenging task, but it takes gumption to get it done.

So what does gumption have to do with United Women of Faith? One way to look at is that United Women are bold. On the back of recent *response* magazines is the new logo, a photo, and the banner: "We believe love in action can change the world." I still have a collection of buttons from UMW. One of my favorites is **Bold**. No matter what your age, talent, position, health, or education, there is some way YOU can express being bold. Read, call, speak-up, email, cook, sing, visit, plan, organize, advocate, write, listen, give, and/or pray! It takes gumption to act. Prepare with scripture and prayer. Use the Prayer Guide, *response* magazine headings (think, learn, live, give, listen act, pray) in each issue, the United Women of Faith Facebook page, or the United Women of Faith.org.

"Your WORD is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path." Psalms 119:105

See you at our Heritage District UWF Annual Celebration!

Gathering up my gumption,

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The District Newsletter, Forms, and contact information for the Leadership Team can be found on the Conference Website

www.umwmichiganconference.org/hrd.html

Join us on Facebook!

Search for UMW Heritage District Michigan Conference
or click on the link on the webpage
(the group 'name' is a bunch of numbers....)

Mission Coordinator for Program Resources

Diane Tandy



As we enjoy the beautiful and oftentimes hot summer weather, let us remember Jesus' words, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches" (Matthew 13: 31&32 NIV).

When we plant our gardens we have faith that it will grow with proper care. Nothing is impossible for us if we have faith that God will always be with us, will provide us with the care we need to grow spiritually as to be a blessing to others.

The Reading Program continues to provide the opportunity for us to be life long learners as we explore enlightening subjects in diverse genres, that are found in the following categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth.

The book that I would like to spotlight in this article is entitled *ANXIOUS TO TALK ABOUT IT: HELPING WHITE PEOPLE TALK FAITHFULLY ABOUT RACISM*. Talking about race can make us anxious. Professor and Pastor Carolyn Helsel draws on her experiences with white congregations to offer tools and practices to explore the anxious feelings that can come up when talking about racism. Learn how to join in the hard conversations and move forward with less fear, more compassion and more knowledge of self, others and the important issues at stake. Questions for discussion & reflection are found at the end of each chapter. This book is listed in the category of Leadership Development in the United Women in Faith reading program.

On Saturday, October 1, 2022 the Heritage District United Women in Faith will hold our fall celebration and meeting at Adrian First UMC. Hope you will be able to join us for a wonderful day of worship, prayer, and fellowship. If you have any questions in regard to Program Resources, please contact me at (734) 660-8875 (cell) or by email at tandyd56@gmail.com. May God continue to bless you, your family, and your units.

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Heritage District 2022 Calendar

Mission u Dates	October 16-18	North	Gaylord
September 8	Leadership Team Meeting, Adrian First UMC		
September 30	Set up for Annual Celebration, Adrian First UMC		
October 1	8:00 - 3:30 District Annual Celebration/Meeting, Adrian First UMC		
October 21	(evening) Michigan Conference Leadership Training for District Officers Westwood UMC Kalamazoo, MI		
October 22	Michigan Conference Annual Celebration Meeting Westwood UMC Kalamazoo, MI		
December 1	Leadership Team meeting (Zoom (probably))		

Michigan UWF members at National Conference 2022 in Orlando

