

From our President

GREETINGS —

**To my United
Methodist Women
Sisters in Christ,**

One of my favorite women in my local church just asked me for the name of my son, the barber, because she needed a haircut. I said, “are you kidding me? You don’t want to go to a barber.” She said she has always gone to a barber. I convinced her to go to my daughter-in-law instead and get her hair styled! Bless her heart. I have looked up to this woman my whole adult life, but I was still able to give HER some advise.

Who are your role models? Are you also able to be a role model for them? We don’t always know how we affect others. Remember this with all your words and actions.

AND, tell your stories! Tell your stories to your local groups. Send a story to your district newsletter or to our inference newsletter. Celebrate these special people in your life.

Eight of us from W. Michigan Conference attended the annual UMW Leadership Development Days in St. Louis, MO, mid Nov. We enjoyed wonderful worship times and music together with approxi-mately 250 fellow United Methodist Women sisters, mostly from east of the Mississippi.

We attended classes related to our specific office. We attended other classes which were more generic. ALL classes and sessions were great opportunities for us to learn more about who we are and what we are all about.

Another benefit of attending these great training events is that we also get to spend some



quality time with each other and get to know each other better. Most who attend are in a new position and to being on their Conference team. Two in our group are new to our Conference team and another one is new to her district team. I just hope that they were not too over-whelmed with all they experienced! We also had lots of opportunities to spend with our Detroit Conference counterparts. It was great fun getting better acquainted with them.

The Steering Committee, which consists of the executive team members from both conferences, has been meeting, almost monthly, since last March. We have made great progress in many areas. And, by the time you read this, the new districts lines should be announced and we will continue our work with what all that will mean for all of us.

***It is a new chapter
.....a new part of our journey
.....a new opportunity!!***

It was great seeing everyone who attended our last *West Michigan* Conference Celebration on Oct. 21. And, celebrate we DID - with balloons and singing and reminiscing and honoring those who have gone before us. NOW we move forward - *with great excitement and enthusiasm.*

I am excited to see that several Districts are joining together for their Spiritual Growth Retreats in the spring. I sure hope that each of you will attend one of these meaningful spiritual opportunities.

Watch for the details in up-coming District newsletters.

I wish you ALL peace, happiness, love and joy throughout this holiday season

Blessings to ALL,
Linda Darrow, President

2017 Conference Team

President: **Linda Darrow (2017)**
232 N. Cooley St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
989-763-8750 darrowlinda@gmail.com

Vice President: **Shirley Chappell (2016)**
719 S. Griffin, Grand Haven 49417
616-846-4197 shirley2billchapel@att.net

Secretary: **Beth Mitchell (2017)**
3813 Rockwood, Kalamazoo 49004
269-343-6806 barmitch55@gmail.com

Treasurer: **Julia Paradine-Rice (2014)**
4114 Sanctuary Dr., Alma 48801
989-576-0675 juliapr@charter.net

Mission Coordinators:

Spiritual Growth: **Ruth Jones (2018)**
540 Georgetown Dr. #36, Traverse City 49684
231-421-3500 tcgrannynanny@yahoo.com

Education & Interpretation: **Sue Stickle (2016)**
10970 Dutch Settlement Rd, Marcellus 49067
269-646-9425 suzannestickle@gmail.com

Social Action: **Randie Clawson (2015)**
384 Lind Drive, Traverse City 49696
231-929-7808 randieclawson@gmail.com

Membership Nurture/Outreach: **Pat Snyder (2016)**
807 S. Sheldon St., Charlotte 48813
517-231-1301 dpsnyder807@peoplepc.com

Program Resources: **Connie Swinger (2015)**
255 Brown St. SW, Grand Rapids 49507
616-452-3532 connieswinger@att.net

Communications Coordinator:

Amber Hassler (2018)
269 Cayo Drive, Buckley, MI 49620
(231) 642-7224 upnorthtwinmom@gmail.com

Appointed:

Be Just Be Green Coordinator: **Clarice McKenzie**
396 Ford Street, Bitely 49309
231-745-3256 (Apr-Nov)
727-536-1888 (Nov-Mar) cjmckum@gmail.com

Committee on Nominations:

Chairperson:
Sue Emmons (2017) 4-year term
2226 Anderson Dr. SE, Grand Rapids 49506
269-308-3802 susan.emmons414@gmail.com

Committee Members:

Loretta Lee (2017) 2-year term
142 Greenwood Drive, Battle Creek 49037
269-317-7377 weatherby2000@sbcglobal.net

Jenny Kroeze (2017) 3-year term
640 Seminole Dr., Fremont 49412
231-924-4814 jennyK48g@gmail.com

Sue Franklin (2015) 4-year term
2392 Fern Ct., Farwell 48622-9789
989-339-0491 Lsfbflat@gmail.com

Dorie Litchfield (2018) 4-year term
61470 County Road 657, Lawton 49065
269-436-0023 creator.dorie@gmail.com

Program Advisory Group

Suzanne Hewitt (2017)
2250 Knapp St., Grand Rapids 49505
616-361-9565 suzmckhew@att.net

Historian — (appointed) OPEN

District Presidents:

Albion: **Cheryl Proctor**
[517-741-3125](tel:517-741-3125) seldominn_1@juno.com

Grand Rapids: **Sue Rietman**
269-795-7644 Susan.rietman@sbcglobal.net

Grand Traverse: **Susan Wirgau**
[\(231\) 838-5986](tel:231-838-5986) onthebay@charter.net

Heartland: **Waitha Gaye Leavitt**
231-640-0238 wally@journey.com

Kalamazoo: **Cindy Thiele**
269-673-4514 cindahthiele@gmail.com

Lansing: **Donna Kleiver**
517-648-6119 dmkleiver@sbcglobal.net

Just Do It

There is a time for everything, and a season for everything and a season for every activity under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1

As my time is up as spiritual growth coordinator. I would like to share how important it is to do some kind of devotional practice everyday. I try to start my day with scriptures. I have started a scripture journal. When I am reading sometimes scriptures speak to me so I write them down.



Another way I have found beneficial is to sometimes use my favorite hymn for my devotions. Just make sure that you are doing something every day to keep yourself grounded in the Word.

I am in a small group that helps me. We do a Bible study that makes me accountable for my reading. No one wants to go to a Bible study unprepared. There are many ways to stay grounded in the Word of God. Find what works best for you and just do it.

Simmie Proctor
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

From Your Book Lady

Secretary of Program Resources

From Your Book Lady 2018 Books!

Have you seen the new Reading List for 2018? The books are fabulous and in stock at Mission Resources. The list can be found here <https://www.umwmissionresources.org> but you can find most of the books at your local library, bookstore, or Amazon. Hollow Faith by Stephen Ingram looked interesting to me because the Andy Griffith Show was a favorite at our house when I was growing up, and because I spend too much



time on Facebook! It's subtitled "How Andy Griffith, Facebook, and the American Dream Diluted the Gospel". It's a great book for discussions about consumerism, pop culture and much more.

Another one on my list to read is 50 Women Every Christian Should Know-Learning From Heroines of the Faith, by Michelle DeRusha. It would be easy to create a program from this book. Pick a couple of the women highlighted and bring these women to life!

Happy reading and as always, contact me if you have Reading Program questions.

Happy Reading, Connie Swinger
connieswinger@att.net (616)813-4670

Was I Faithful?



Our Chancel Choir has been practicing this anthem for the last month. It was written by Carolyn Hamlin. During this last week I have not been able to get this song out of my head.

Let me tell you some of the words from this song: "Did I hear the hurting cry, did I pass their sorrows by, was I faithful? Did I help the blind and weak, did my love include the meek, was I faithful? When on the road, as I traveled did I bind up the wounds of those who fell astray, did I brush their tears away? Lord, when my shelter covered me, did my eyes the homeless see? Did I share with one their need?" This is a very powerful song. It is not the first time we have sung this song, but in the last six months we have lost two tenors and a soprano who were faithful to our Church and to their God. They were very good mentors. Elaine fought cancer for six years. She never complained about her discomfort or pain. She was a great knitter and just kept knitting. She taught 4th graders how to knit during their lunch hour, she was one of the lead women in our Prayer Shawl group and loved to play

bells and sing in the choir. Elaine was one special woman who gave her all to life and the Church. Elaine was faithful. Tom died of a sudden heart attack while hiking. He was very active in the community and the Church. He was involved with mission trips to Haiti and South America. He also loved singing in the choir. He was faithful. Joy was an excellent knitter, but her true calling was teaching. She loved to share her love of God with everyone. Through serious illnesses, Joy was faithful. We miss these three people very much. My prayer is for all of us to follow their example and be faithful to our Church and our God. The song ends: "Those who sit at Your right hand will hear Your words in deep humility: As you did it unto these, you have done it unto Me-----You have done it unto Me". It is the season to be thankful for what we have and to give to others. We need to give to the food banks, gifts for children and clothes to help keep people warm. But, most of all we need to give of ourselves to our Church, community and the people in it. Let your light shine and know that you are faithful.

Shirley Chappell
Vice President



The UMW Journey

By Julia Deemer

I invite you to imagine a journey with me – a journey from my home in Boyne Falls to our district annual meeting here in Ludington. On this journey discover what it means to be a United Methodist Woman.

Susan, Judy, Luanne, Linda and I travel in Susan's van leaving early this morning. On reaching Mancelona it's time to refill our coffee mugs. Next to the coffee shop people are entering a small church for a morning Bible study. There is a wooden box outside the door and as each person enters the church they raise the lid and put something in the box. We decide to check it out and looking in the box see nothing. We ask the next person approaching, "What do you put in the box?" He replied. "Our hates and prejudices. The United Methodist Woman who was here yesterday said that one could not truly worship, could not hear God speaking to your heart, if you held a grudge against another. So we put them in here, and strangely when we come back to get them, we cannot find them."

Is the United Methodist Woman still here?

No, she is gone. She said was on the way to a meeting to teach a mission study about Climate Change.

What was she like? She was large and she had a kind face. Her voice was gentle and her words helpful.

Our purpose is to know God. To know God through worship and prayer, to understand God's presence in the world, to be sensitive to social issues such as hunger, injustice, child abuse, racism. Things that grieve the heart of God.

Several miles down the road, traveling through farmland and forest, we hear a thump, thump, thump – a flat tire. Being United Methodist Women we know how to fix the problem. Out come the jack and the lug wrench and we get to work.

Several children are playing in the yard of a nearby farmhouse. They come to watch. "Have you seen a United Methodist Woman come by here," Luanne asks. Oh, yes, replies a small girl. "We were quarreling when she came past. I told Johnny I hated him. The United Methodist Woman gave us food from her basket and put ointment on Johnny's arm where he had hurt himself. She said we should never hate. It makes us wither inside like the leaves on that old vine over there.

What did she look like?

She was tall and strong and young and happy. She laughed and waved as she left. She said she was going to a meeting to learn about going to help in a school in Haiti.

Our purpose is to experience freedom as whole persons in Jesus Christ. Jesus calls us to be whole persons and to reach out to the bruised and broken, to be committed to helping women, children and youth around the world.

Driving into Traverse City we decide we needed to stop for some chocolate to renew our energy. We notice people gathered for a picnic in the park next to the gas station. While making our choices, a youth hurries in and grabs some candy bars. While paying for them, he said he forgot to get prizes for the games the children were playing.

Continued on Page 6

The UMW Journey (continued)

By Julia Deemer

Continued from Page 5

L

inda said to him, "It looks like you're having a great time at your picnic." "Yes we are. But early this morning it was different. We have a couple on our street who are opening their home as a place for adults with mental health problems to stay. These people didn't have a place to go and were living on the street. My dad and some other neighbors didn't want "those people" as they called them, in our neighborhood. A real shouting match and fighting broke out as neighbors gathered in the street. This United Methodist Woman, trying to drive down the street got out of her car and asked what the problem was. She talked to us about the need to accept people who are different from us, people who are hurting and have been wrongly judged. She talked about love and acceptance and showing mercy. Then the car came with "those people" and she helped with introducing them to us. My dad found out that one man loved making things out of wood and he's going to help make bird houses to sell at a craft show next week. One man plays the harmonica and he's playing along with the music my friends and I like to listen to. We're having this picnic to welcome our new neighbors.

What did the United Methodist Woman look like?

She was small and middle aged. Her face was very kind. She was on her way to the hospital to deliver baby blankets and heart

shaped pillows that her United Methodist Women's group had made. I hope my grandma gets one of those pillows when she has heart surgery next week.

Our purpose is to develop a creative, supportive fellowship – by loving our neighbors, working together on projects and services, being with one another in times of joy and grief, illness or any other crisis, by realizing each member is a unique and special person with gifts to share.

As we drive toward Manistee the weather changes – wind is blowing and it starts to rain so hard we pull off the road and wait for the storm to pass. The air is filled with lightening and thunder. Continuing on we see trees and powerlines down. Many have been hurt but they have received help. The United Methodist Woman has been here whispers an elderly lady.

Can you tell us what she looks like?

She was old and weary. Her hair was gray and she was tired but hands were kind and the things she brought were many. She had a trunk and back seat full of health kits and school bags that she and a friend were taking to a place called Midwest Distribution Center. The workers there will take them and flood buckets on to Texas and Florida.

Our purpose is to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. We are a mission organization. We study about mission, we contribute financially to mission, we serve and reach out to those who live next door, down



The UMW Journey (continued)

By Julia Deemer

the street, across the country and around the world.

Poem: THE BOTTLE IS BROKEN

by Julia Anne Beal

A small glass bottle stood
solemnly on the shelf,
A mind-picture of peace and tranquility
No one thought twice about the bottle...
standing there...
It was part of the room decoration.
CRASH! The bottle fell to the floor,
Shattered into a thousand tiny jewels
Jewels with jagged edges....
Jewels that seemed without form or order.
A crowd of women soon collected,
The cry went up:
"What happened? What happened?
Who broke that bottle?
Why...why....why?"
Said the first:
"Why has this perfectly-good bottle
been destroyed?"
Said another:
"Find out who did it...punish them!"
A third reflected: "We must put it
together again...just as it was!"
But the fourth rejoiced:
"Hurray! That wretched old thing is gone!"
Many people came forth to help
But what should be done?
No one could agree
But many tried in their own way.
The empty shelf....the shattered glass
Is our symbol.
When the old one is gone

What comes forth in its place?

Grand Traverse District United Methodist Women, you are shining lights, human lighthouses shining in your church, your towns and villages, bringing the light of Christ into the lives of others. Our district presidents have come from large churches and small and mid-sized – from Traverse City, Charlevoix, Greensky Hill, Hart, Ludington, Pentwater, Lake City, Lake Ann, Luther, Petoskey, East Jordon, Boyne Falls and Kalkaska. Next year we will be members of a new district. Continue to shine your light, continue to live the United Methodist Women purpose. Go and serve where God calls you with this blessing:

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equity and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with the foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
ASSEMBLY MAY 18-20, 2018
GREATER COLUMBUS
CONVENTION CENTER
COLUMBUS, OHIO

*WHEN WOMEN
UNITE,
BOLD AND
COURAGEOUS
ACTIONS HAPPEN*

United Methodist Women Assembly 2018 is a time for fellowship, it is also an opportunity to empower faithful women to be stronger discipleship leaders in their communities. Through moving worship, inspiring speakers, immersion experience exhibits, riveting workshops and town hall-style meetings, members will leave Assembly with the knowledge, courage and determination to change the world as part of a daring and compassionate 150 year-old movement.

Register Now
www.UMWAssembly.org 2018
United Methodist Women
Assembly 2018
MAY 18, 19, 20, 2018,
Columbus, Ohio
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org



Lansing District Update

Lansing District held their team meeting on December 5, 2017 followed by a wonderful potluck with our outgoing and incoming officers. Plans were worked on for our Epiphany



Celebration held on January 6, 2018 at Mt. Hope UMC with Rev. Jane Ellen Johnson bringing the message, "God Continues to Use Imperfect Tools". We also discussed some plans for our Spring Retreat with Grand Rapids District which will be held on May 4-5, 2018 at St. Francis Retreat Center in Dewitt, Michigan. Rev. Deb Johnson will be our facilitator.

I am the new President for the Lansing District. The past 20 years has seen me become more involved with UMW as my children left home and I retired from McLaren Greater Lansing. I look forward to the exciting direction Michigan UMW will be headed with the Conference merge and redistricting.

Blessings,
Donna Kleiver
Lansing District President

Kalamazoo District Update

All I can say is WOW. What a great experience Leadership Development Days was! Where can you gather with 200 women from around the country for studies on officer training, making our (UMW) presence known, program planning, the Way Forward, and much more? These workshops were led by National staff members. There was so much I learned. I can't wait to use and share with others.



I had lunch with Harriett Jane Olsen. We talked about her background before becoming CEO of UMW. I walked with Shannon Priddy, President of UMW, during the 6:30 exercise options. Now I have UMW sisters in Wisconsin, Kentucky, West Virginia, Louisiana, as well as my conference team gals. United Methodist Women is the largest faith based women's organization in the world, and we are a part of it "putting faith hope and love into action".

...Did you know UMW has a lobbyist? Right now she is lobbying on the national budget for women and children issues.

Blessings,
Cindy Thiele
Kalamazoo District President

Celebrate



We Sang

We Listened & We Learned



2017 West Michigan Conference Annual



**Farewell
West Michigan
Conference UMW
Looking toward
our New Michigan
Conference UMW**



Environmental Racism



For the West Michagan Conference Annual Meeting Training time in September I was assigned to speak for ten minutes on Environmental Racism. I had a lot of research to do.

Before we look at what environmental racism is and the possible actions to take, let's think about the what and why of our call to social action.

Because of their redemption out of Egypt, God had Moses tell the newly freed people how they were expected to live. From Christ's incarnational example and the Holy Spirit's teaching we learn God's expectation for how humanity is to live "because of" the cross.

We exhibit downward mobility. Christ showed us by example, what giving up everything looks like (Jesus gave up heaven and came down.) Having Jesus' attitude we will show **compassion for all, pity for all** (that they have not understood God's unconditional love) and **forgiveness for all** humanity.

From Wesley's perspective, personal holiness cannot be separated from our social holiness. Personal and social holiness is about people "going on to perfection" in community. The early Methodist band meetings were used as places where personal and social holiness was learned. Now Christ is using our UMW's creative fellowships to teach us to pursue justice as part of our social holiness.

Reading Nicholas Wolterstorff's, *Hearing the Call*, added concepts to my understanding. When the Scripture says that God loves justice there is something in mind other than retributive justice. God, speaking through Amos said, "Let justice roll down like a mighty river," IT DID NOT mean "Let prison and police forces expand."

When justice is spoken of in the Bible, the repeated reference is to helping widows, orphans aliens and the poor. The biblical contour of justice is a society in which all the weak and voiceless ones have been brought into the community to enjoy its goods.

Romans 12: 1-2 is the coach telling us, the team, how to get off the sidelines, into God's mission.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God- this is true worship. Do not conform to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Research shows that **Environmentalism** is the theory that environment, as opposed to heredity, has the primary influence on the development of a person or group. **Environmental classism** refers to the disproportionate effect a policy or practice may have on various socioeconomic groups and their Local environmental

quality .**Environmental racism** refers to the disproportionate effect a policy or practice may have on various minority groups and their local environmental quality.

Environmental Racism needs to be redeemed! Environmental Racism places low-income or minority communities in the proximity of environmentally hazardous or degraded environments, such as toxic waste, pollution and urban decay. These socially marginalized racial minority communities are subjected to disproportionate exposure of pollutants, the denial of access to sources of ecological benefits (such as clean air, water, and natural resources), or both.

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Environmental equity will be achieved with the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental policies and laws to ensure that no group or community is made to bear a disproportionate share of the harmful effects of pollution or environmental hazards because it lacks economic or political influence.

The Holy Spirit is daily showing us where we are missing the mark. We are shown where our life style and our systems do not reflect our Holy Scripture

The United Methodist Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church 2016 names possible actions for us to take to redeem the

systems, bringing environmental justice and Equality.

As a church, we are resolved to take action, blow are parts of some of our resolutions.

Everyone in the United Methodist faith communities is to “**address environmental racism as a key dimension** when addressing either racism or environmental concerns.”

“The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits **increase their shareholder activism** to hold companies accountable for environmental abuse and unsustainable production practices particularly in those instances where people of color are disproportionately impacted.

The UMC to create sustainable practices throughout all boards, agency offices, and events in order to minimize waste and energy use as a response to injustice in neighborhoods which are in close proximity to incineration plants, garbage dumps, toxic chemical plants, industrial manufacturing and power plants.

We all are urged to:

- ♦Advocate comprehensive legislation that remedies these injustices and adequately protects all citizens and the environment.
- ♦Stand in solidarity with environmental justice movements led by people of color and native peoples who have been adversely impacted by environmental toxins in their neighborhoods.

Continued on Page 14



Environmental Racism

Continued from Page 13

- Develop a program of sustainability such as United Methodist Women's "13 Steps to Sustainability" which measures our adherences to both social justice and environmental justice principles.
- Urge the US government to further develop and close loopholes on mandatory industry-wide standards for environmental accounting and auditing procedures that are publically shared. Urge governments to hold industry officials responsible-legally, criminally, and financially- for toxic disasters when

they erupt from negligence.

As United Methodist Women, we know that Scripture is filled with examples of God's people speaking and acting to defend the rights of vulnerable and oppressed people. Action is our biblical responsibility. Let us resolve to follow these resolutions. As we do so, we will live into our call to be anti-racist leaders in our churches and communities. Together in our UMW units, churches and communities, we redeem the systems "because of" our actions for justice gospel itself."

Shalom!

Randie Clawson

Social Action Coordinator

National UMW Membership Log

Members of United Methodist Women are invited to complete the new membership log on our website:

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.

By logging in member information, emails will be sent about Assembly, Calls to Action, events and opportunities.

When finished you will be able to print a personalized membership card.

United Methodist Women is a membership organization dedicated to mission with women, children and youth.

All mission-minded women within and beyond The United Methodist Church are welcome. We are an open, Christian organization with ecumenical ties and connections around the world.

United Methodist Women will never share your contact information without your permission.

Look for this tab on the United Methodist Women's website.





Membership Nurture & Outreach

Greetings!

This is your Conference Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator to encourage you to keep on recording your membership.

CENSUS LINK

The census link can be found on the United Methodist Women's website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017. To assist local leaders with completing the census, we have included an instructional video and attached printable instructions on how to complete the 2017 census.

NOW is the time to do this- before the end of the year if possible. Make it fun. Schedule a time in your meeting or at a coffee hour at church — Bazaar or Christmas Tea — Be creative. Print out membership cards and laminate them.

Technology today puts so much at our fingertips, facts when we need them and opportunities of giving. Make a note to remember our online giving date to the Legacy Fund. We are determined to reach our goal. Let's be inspired to share our rich legacy of mission and all that United Methodist Women has to offer, so that we can celebrate another 150 years of turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Enjoy the holidays, encourage each other especially your family but also remember your sisters and brothers in the faith. Reach out to the less fortunate. In our

community of churches we pack shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse. Our Thanksgiving service last night was a great reminder to remember to give thanks to our Creator God for all His blessings.

We are celebrating the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays with family in Michigan this year before going south - and returning to our NOMADS' projects. David, my newly bionic man—had a hip replacement. He is doing great but needs more time to heal and to adjust to his new parts. Thanks for your continued prayers.

Patricia Snyder
Membership Nurture &
Outreach Coordinator



West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church

www.michiganumc.org (Ministries-UMW)

United Methodist Women

61470 County Road 657, Lawton, MI 49065



NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT # 933

Inside This Issue

From Your Book Lady
Conference Annual
Conference Annual Registration
Assembly Scholarship form
and more

HIGHLIGHTS-- the official Newsletter for West Michigan Conference United Methodist Women; Is published quarterly: Dec., Mar., June, Sept.

Submissions requested by the 5th of each previous month to:
Editor: Dorie Litchfield, creator.dorie@gmail.com
OR 61470 County Road 657, Lawton, MI 49065

2018 Calendar of Events

January 6	Ephiphany Event	Middleville UMC
January 13	Ephiphany Event	Marshall UMC
March 17	Spring Fling	Cedar Springs UMC
March 23	UMW Day of Giving—150 Legacy	
April 14	Keep Making Peace	University UMC, East Lansing
April 21—22	Spiritual Growth Retreat	Lake Louise Retreat Center
May 4—5	Spiritual Growth Retreat	Wesley Woods Retreat Center
May 4—5	Spiritual Growth Retreat	St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt
May 12	Michigan Conference UMW Mission Team Meeting	TBA
May 18—20	UMW Assembly 2018	Columbus, Ohio
May 31—June 3	Michigan Annual Conference	Grand Traverse Resort
June 1	United Methodist Women Luncheon	Grand Traverse Resort
July 11—14	Mission u of the South	Albion College
July 22	Mission u— One Day	Erie UMC
August 9	Mission Day	Horton Bsy UMC
August 17	Mission u - Hands on experience	Port Huron Area
August 17	Mission u - One Day Sampler	Lake Huron Retreat Center
August 17—19	Mission u of the East	Lake Huron Retreat Center
August 22	Michigan Conference UMW Mission Team Meeting	Midland 1st UMC
	Steering Committee, Mission u Team, Joint Mission Teams	
September 15	District Annual	Episilon UMC
September 20	District Annual	Georgetown UMC
October 16—17	Mission u School of the North	Gaylord UMC
October 26	District Officer Training/Conference Team Meeting	Midland 1st UMC
October 27	First Michigan UMW Conference Annual Celebration	Midland 1st UMC