

# For UNITED METHODIST WOMEN The Detroit Conference News - Winter 2017

## PRESIDENT

### 2016 Family, Church, Friends, and United Methodist Women

2016 has ended and has proven to be either a year of happiness or a year of trials and tribulations. Therefore, we give thanks to God for His blessings by providing us with our basic individual needs for living, our families, our churches, and friends who love us unconditionally. Also, as we have said our goodbyes to 2016, we thank God for reminding us to never forget those people in our communities and throughout the world, who may not have all their basic needs met daily, and that is why we have chosen to be United Methodist Women with a "PURPOSE".

Let's look at what 2016 has taught us to do as we have shared our love, kindness, and mission work with one another. I think we know that we should live each day to the fullest because tomorrow is not promised and we should never take anyone for granted. We are all important in God's eyes! So, what did 2016 look like for us?

Many of us went to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church in Portland, OR in May 2016. May 16<sup>th</sup> was designated as United Methodist Women's Day, where a celebration of UMW mission work took place. Also at the General Conference, the United Methodist Women petitioned to do mission work and focus on the Racial Justice subjects of Climate Justice, Maternal and Child Health, Ending Mass Incarceration and Economic Inequality for this quadrennium (2016-2020). The United Methodist Women are preparing to celebrate a 150 years of mission work in 2019.

June was a busy month for the church and the United Methodist Women. First, we met on the Michigan State University campus in East Lansing, from June 8<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup>, and experienced our historic joint Church Annual Conference with the members and leadership teams from the Detroit and West Michigan Conferences.

June 24<sup>th</sup> through June 26<sup>th</sup>, the United Methodist Women met again in Grand Rapids MI for the North Central Jurisdiction (NCJ) Conference. At the NCJ Conference, we voted on and began the process of selecting the new national United Methodist Women officers for the quadrennium (2016-2020).

In addition to the NCJ Conference, we enjoyed a tour of the United Methodist Community House (UMCH), one of our United Methodist Women's National Mission Institutions.

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The months of July, August and October are always filled with fellowship and learning through our Mission u events, which were held at Erie UMC, Lake Huron Retreat Center, and Gaylord UMC (a joint adventure with UMW West Michigan Conference).

The 2016 Mission u studies were:

**Spiritual Growth:** The Bible and Human Sexuality

**Issue Study:** Climate Justice

**Geographic:** Latin America-People and Faith

**Children's Study:** God's Extravagant Garden: Climate Justice

**Youth Study:** Joining Voices for Climate Justice

As always, we give thanks and appreciation to all who participate, assist, and work with the United Methodist Women Detroit Conference at these events.

October is always a busy month, as we report and begin to conclude our yearly United Methodist Women work for the Detroit Conference. From October 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, we had all six (6) Detroit Conference Districts' Annual Celebrations and Business Meetings. On October 15-16, 2016 representatives attended the West MI Conference Annual Celebration and Business Meeting at Central UMC in Muskegon. We enjoyed listening to our own Linda Schramm who made a presentation on Climate Justice. We ended the month with the United Methodist Women Detroit Conference's Annual Celebration and Business Meeting with our sisters, and brothers in mission, at Hope UMC in Marquette.

In the months of November and December, the United Methodist Women were busy completing and finalizing the 2016 business for the Detroit Conference. In addition to that, we are beginning the business of volunteering and caring for our communities, giving "Thanks", and celebrating the holiday season with our churches, families, and friends.

As we enter 2017, let us remember to keep God first in our hearts, in our households, on our jobs, in our mission work, and where ever we go. We are prepared to begin the work of the Racial Justice initiatives that were outlined at the 2016 General Conference and any challenges or opportunities that await us in this upcoming year.

We thank God for allowing us to see a new year as United Methodist Women and continue to be a community of women with a "PURPOSE".

**2016 was a great year!**  
**We will strive to make 2017 a better year!!!**

**Marchelle " Micki" Phelps**

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**Mission u On the Lake, August 18 - 20 2016**



**Detroit Conference Annual Meeting Installation Service. Marquette: Hope United Methodist Church**

## VICE PRESIDENT

### “The Pause that Refreshes”

That slogan sold a great deal of soft drinks for a popular company years ago. In 2017 can we set a goal to, Pause, Reflect, Focus and be Refreshed to lead the United Methodist Women? There are several suggestions that can lead to this accomplishment.

- Write five things you would like to achieve as a United Methodist Woman, and post them in an area where it can be seen daily. Reflect on our Purpose. Read a prayer from the Response Magazine to get your day started.
- Nurture your emotional well-being and create a positive environment. Chose language that inspires and empowers your vision. Listen to positive music.
- Expand using your Spiritual Gifts with your unit, district, and conference. Contact someone who may not be a member of the team or invite a new member of a unit to attend one of the District or Conference events.
- Keep your United Methodist Women’s “bucket list” updated. Visit a local unit and share information about the Legacy Fund, Mission u, the Reading Program, Mission Giving; and explain why these mission areas are important to United Methodist Women.
- Start a journal highlighting your personal journey with United Methodist Women on each level. What story would you share at the next Assembly?
- Establish plans that promote Mission u, Leadership Training, the Annual Meeting and highlighting the 2018 Assembly.
- Read, share, expand your thinking, greet someone every day with a smile and a kind word.
- Make life happen for you and not to you.

**Patricia Bostic**

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## NEWLY ELECTED SECRETARY

Hello Everyone,

I'm Toni Grimmatt, the newly elected United Methodist Women Detroit Conference Secretary. I look forward to meeting and chatting with all of you. My duties consist of taking minutes at meetings, keeping records, getting to know all of you, and keeping the team informed along with the Communication Coordinator.

I pray with the help of God and all of you, I can do my duties well. I will need your help. We can begin with the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the Secretaries in your district. Second if you have any questions please be in touch with me. The information below is my contact.

**Toni Grimmatt**

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## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

We have just celebrated a loving and wonderful time of the year, one of honoring God for sending His Son to dwell among us. Let's all be reminded that 2016 is in our past now. We thank God for guiding us through the turmoil, loss and various trials that we have endured to get us to this very day. May you continually grow from the life you have enjoyed in the past and praise Him as you ask for His love and leadership into the New Year. May you smile as you realize that He loves you and is always with you.

Blessings to all of you as you continue to grow, love and honor Him in the year ahead.

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## TREASURER

When you read this newsletter 2016 would have ended and the New Year will be starting. The treasurers have closed out their books from last year and we know how our mission dollars added up and if we met budget. As always there were ups and downs along with joys and disappointments but with it all God has always been at our side. I find it helps me stay focused as I enjoy reading the daily mission focus in the prayer calendar where I can learn of places that benefit from this wonderful organization of women of which we are a part.

We would like to thank everyone that has so readily responded since late 2015 when we notified you of the part we should play in keeping repairs up on our United Methodist Women mission in Grand Rapids. As of November 30, 2016, in less than two years we have donated a total of \$22,642.24. Rose Simmons, who is from the United Methodist Community House, spoke at the Mission u events and the Blue Water District Annual Meeting about the services and programs provided at the Community House. If you were not at either of the events, please take the time and check out their website. It is always good to know where and how your mission dollars are working.

With your budgets for 2017, and your books ready for audit, you will start the New Year as a new treasurer or as an experienced one. It is our responsibility to keep us focused on our standing rules and help our units, districts, and conference stay focused on wise use of the money we earn and give to missions. May God, bless you as we serve as Treasurers. I enjoy hearing from you and I am willing to help in any way.

Don't forget to read Response and I remind us all from Corinthians 9:7 - God loves a cheerful giver. (NIV)

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## NEWLY ELECTED SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR

### A New Thing

I am Alice Tucker and I just completed my tenure as President of the Detroit Renaissance District. I am happy to welcome Kay Kornas as the new Detroit Renaissance District President. I want to thank everyone for supporting me as District President. In 2017, I will begin my new position as the Detroit Conference Social Action Coordinator. Please note that you have my undivided attention as I represent you, notify you and work on your behalf related to social issues.

I strongly believe that as United Methodist Women, we need to educate ourselves to the happenings in the world and take action when and where we can. By sharing what we know on social issues, we are therefore acting on it. After all, the title speaks for itself, Social Action. There are so many issues that affect the women, children, and youth of this world and I will do my best to keep you informed.

I will be attending Leadership Development Days to learn more about how to serve and inform you. The title and position may be new to me but my involvement in social events is not. I look forward to this challenge.

Speaking of information, save the date of Saturday, April 1, 2017, for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual **Keep Making Peace Day**. It will be held at the University United Methodist Church located at 1120 South Harrison Road, East Lansing, Mi., 48823. There will be workshops on "Confronting Michigan's Climate Change".

Matthew 20:26-27 tells us that the measure of greatness is not position, power or prestige. It is service and so we serve.

**Alice Tucker**

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## SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCE/ COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

Life is about being comfortable in your own skin as well as taking on new challenges. When I say yes to a task, I ask God to direct my path. I am looking forward to working with the communication position another year because it inspires my creative skills.

I have a passion for reading books, magazines and articles. When I first joined the District's team, I found myself shadowing Ruby Anderson with the Reading Program. Each year I found myself drawn to purchasing books for my unit, encouraging others to read, listening to the book reviews and gaining additional knowledge in each of the focus areas. I am reading two books currently in my special reading space. Now I will also be serving as the new Secretary of Program Resource.

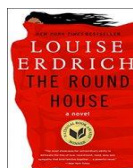
Even though I am wearing two hats as Communication Coordinator and Secretary of Program Resource there are two great persons that will be sharing each role with me, Kathy Freeland and Laragene Triplett.

Kathy Freeland has agreed to be the Co-Communication Coordinator. Kathy has written some great articles for United Methodist Women. Her leadership, communication skills, and personality will be an asset as a team member of The Detroit Conference News and sharing other communication responsibilities.

Laragene Triplett has agreed to be the Co-Secretary of the Program Resource. Laragene is a great promoter of the Reading Program. She also brings great organizational skills. There are other team members who have been very supportive and they will continue to be my sounding board or whatever else I need while wearing both hats.

Visit [unitedmethodistwomen.org/reading\\_program](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/reading_program) and get excited about what it is about, what it offers and why we need to share the best kept secret with everyone. Yes, I am excited because I love to read and share what I read and hear from other readers.

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## LEGACY FUND

United Methodist Women is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019 by strengthening and passing on its mission inheritance with the **Legacy Fund**.

The forward-looking permanent endowment will provide a firm foundation for generations of United Methodist Women to come as members engage in mission with women, children and youth.

Consider commemorating the year 1869 when United Methodist Women foremothers first organized for mission with gifts of \$18.69, \$186.96, etc. Or you may want to honor United Methodist Women's 150 years of service with gifts in increments of 150; i.e, \$15, \$150, \$1,500, etc.

You are also invited to name the Legacy Fund in your will or as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or pension.

**March 23, 2017** is designated as "**LEGACY FUND DAY**". You may donate online at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org).

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# NEWLY ELECTED MISSION CORDINATOR OF EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

## United Methodist Women Journey into Supporting Mission



United Methodist Women are women whose feet are firmly rooted in the local unit of her church with her wings spread out in the global arena. She is a witness to the story of stories, that the church has its origin in God's mission in Christ. It is an awe-inspiring story of commitment and conviction. It is also a story of love and involvement—a story of sacrifice and death. It is a story which the women at the empty tomb of Christ carried into the world.

As I begin this new journey as a Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, the breadth of the position moves me, and what it is to be a United Methodist Woman. I had the opportunity to attend the Leadership Development Days this past November and was truly inspired by the work of the United Methodist Women and how I could be a small part of a global community that supports women, youth and children.

I learned I am to encourage ***Mission Giving*** in the areas of ***Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory*** and ***World Thank Offering***. Mission Giving Makes Mission possible across the United States and around the world. Voluntary annual giving helps United Methodist Women members fulfill the PURPOSE of the organization. In doing this I will share information on the Missionaries in Michigan and other projects along with other opportunities for supporting our missionaries work. These are the Mission projects in Michigan and I will begin putting articles about the programs in the coming newsletters.

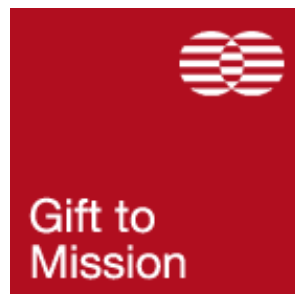
- **Joy-Southfield Clinic in Detroit MI**
- **Looking Glass Ministries in Laingsburg MI**
- **God's Country Cooperative Parish**
- **United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids**

A little about me: I attend the Erie United Methodist Church where I have been an active member of the local unit for 36 years. I have served in many roles including President. I was also on the Ann Arbor District Mission Team, 6 years on Nominations and 4 years as Spiritual Growth. Coordinator. I joined the Detroit Conference team 4 years ago on Nominations and served as Chair of Nominations the past two years. I am a Certified Lay Servant/Speaker and retired from Hospice after 18 wonderful years as a Volunteer Coordinator. I am married to David and have three wonderful children and 5 grandchildren. I live in Ida which is in Southeast Michigan.

Have a wonderful New Year and may God's Blessings flow on you!

**Sherry Wagenknecht**

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## PAST MISSION COORDINATOR OF EDUCATION AND INTREPRETATION

### Type “Amen” and “Share”

Type “AMEN” and “SHARE”: How many of you have read this on Facebook? How many of you receive one or more of these usually sappy ‘Christian’ sayings daily? Usually with an ominous threat of what abominably nasty thing may happen if you don’t pass it along within the next 10 minutes? And the all-knowing “I know who will forward this and who will not.” Do you dread them as much as I do? My pastor says he receives them all the time. People assume he’s religious so they send them to him and hope he will gain some profound nugget of information worthy of a sermon. Pastor Rich calls them “facetious” and can’t wait to hit ‘delete!’ I wonder how genuine a Type “AMEN” and “SHARE” faith is. So, I also just keep on scrolling down, ignoring the urgent message. I hope my faith shows in other ways.

So, then I started thinking about Jesus and how he was a great communicator. Would Jesus have had a Facebook page? Would he Tweet “Love your neighbor?” Would he use GoToMeeting? Something to think about. Anything to get the message out, but does Type “AMEN” and “SHARE” send the message that we want to be heard? Is the depth and gravity of salvation suitable for a Tweet? Can we condense God’s message of love for humankind – that’s us! – to 130 characters? Now there’s an assignment! (But then again, I’ve always thought United Methodists could use fewer words!) I’m not advocating ignoring social media. Let’s use social media to promote our events and missions, but perhaps reconsider Type “AMEN and SHARE.”

In the meantime, here’s some information from [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org) about our 2016 United Methodist Women Mission Giving:

### 2016 Mission Dollars Spent

<b>Year</b>	\$13,922,126.00
<b>Day</b>	\$38,142.81
<b>Hour</b>	\$1,589.28
<b>5 Minutes</b>	\$132.44
<b>1 Minute</b>	\$26.49
<b>1 Second</b>	\$0.44

Forty-four cents a second doesn’t seem like much, until you realize that in over a year it amounts to nearly \$14 million. If I hit my snooze button, that’s \$132.44, gone to help someone. That’s a bundle and that’s what every unit, district, and conference can do together for the benefit of women, children and youth. Your unit and district will contribute to the \$225,000.00 pledge from the Detroit Conference. Plus, all the service to mission provided by the local units. Caring for others and growing together – yup, that’s us!

So, think about effective communication and your unit’s Pledge to Mission for 2017 and it will all work together for the good! And give a big welcome to **Sherry Wagenknecht** the new Detroit Conference Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation. I’ve had a great 4 years and it is time to move on. Now you’ll see me on the Saginaw Bay District page. May God Bless.

**Julia Hulka**  
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## MESSAGE FROM TAYLORIE BAILEY

### National Director, United Methodist Women

This is the season of the year when we should all be thankful. This year, I am thankful to be re-elected as a United Methodist Women National Director for 2016-2020. I was elected to represent our organization at the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women in Houston, Texas in August- September, 2016, I am an ex-officio Board Member for the United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids; also, selected to work on the National Planning Committee for Assembly 2018 in Columbus, Ohio. What an enormous blessing.

When people ask me why I love being a United Methodist Woman, I have an easy answer. I love it because of its **purpose** and its **ministries** in the world. The two greatest commandments are to love God and the next is to love your neighbor. I can demonstrate my love for God through the mission work that we do together. United Methodist Women help us to be actively engaged in learning opportunities to prepare us for leadership and to equip us as we serve. It teaches us to volunteer to help when we are needed; it teaches us to reach out to share our stories, challenges and successes. It teaches us about diversity and inclusion and that every voice matters. It welcomes all, regardless of race or creed. The culture of "inclusiveness" is strong and our collective efforts have given us the position of being one of the largest organization in the world working together with Faith, Hope and Love in Action for Women, Children and Youth around the world.

I am truly grateful for having the opportunity to attend our Conference Annual Meeting in Marquette, October 21-22, 2016 which provided the opportunity to share some of the work that we do at the national level and to invite everyone to Columbus, Ohio for the Assembly in 2018. I am so thankful to have amazing **Sisters of Grace** who openly support the work of ministry in the world.

The United Methodist Women Detroit Conference and the Detroit Renaissance District are blessed to have two National Directors, Sis. Taylorie Bailey from Trinity Faith UMC and Sis. Ruby Anderson from Scott Memorial UMC; a Youth Program Advisory Group Member (PAG) Mr. Ciere Turner from Conant Ave. UMC; and North Central Jurisdiction Nomination Member, Mildred Braddock from Southfield Hope UMC.

Thank you, United Methodist Women for embracing the opportunities to learn, by enhancing your knowledge and by building skills for the betterment of our organization.



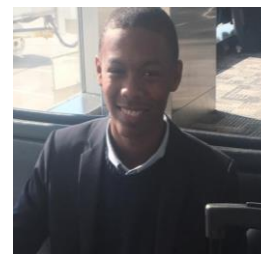
**Taylorie Bailey**

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**Mildred Braddock**

**Ruby Anderson**



**Ciere Fremont Turner**

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## CHAIRPERSON of NOMINATIONS

Happy New Year from Joy Coyle, your new Chairperson of Nominations for the Detroit Conference UMW and Mission u! I am very excited about these positions. I have loved all the areas that I have been a part of over the last few years. In the past, I have served in the areas of Membership Nurture and Outreach and Social Action, each for 4 years. I have also had several positions within Mission u, from Spiritual Growth, Business Manager, Assistant Dean, then Dean for 2 years. I have also been the chairperson of Nominations for Mission u the last couple of years. Previously, I was very active on the Ann Arbor District and my local unit, Plymouth: First UMW. I loved working with my mother, Marion Mathews, back then.

We have been making a conscious effort to merge the positions on the Conference and Mission u. This is the first time in several years that a person (ME!) will chair both areas of Nominations. I am excited about it and think that there will be a better carryover both ways. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Conference or Mission u teams in the future. I would love to have that conversation.

Personally, I have husband Brad, 3 daughters Julie, Jodi married to Scott, and Jami married to Jason. The last two couples have two children each, Maddy and Jacob, then Ella and Ben. Many of you may have met Maddy, Jacob, and Ella at Mission u within the last few years. They loved coming to the events, by the way. I am a French teacher, 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Dearborn Heights Montessori Center. This is my 21<sup>st</sup> year there.

God's blessings to all of you as we begin this new year, 2017. Let us support and help each other!

**Joy Coyle**

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### 2017 KEEP MAKING PEACE

at University UMC  
1120 South Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
April 1, 2017 at 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Topic for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual event is:

### **“Confronting Michigan’s Climate Change”**

Bishop David A. Bard will share a United Methodist perspective. Other speakers will be:

Dr. David Karowe (Professor of Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University)

Dr. Sharlissa Moore (Assistant Professor of International Energy Policy at Michigan State University)

Bill McKibben (United Methodist Sunday School teacher and founder of 350.org., see other accomplishments on the MI Connect website.)

Early Bird registration: January 16, 2017 through March 17, 2017

Early Bird Discount; \$25 per person or \$50 per carload (3 or more persons).

Registration after the March 17 2017 and cost will be \$30 per person and \$60 per carload (3 or more persons)

Registration is online at [msuwesley.org/kmp2017](http://msuwesley.org/kmp2017)

## SAGINAW BAY PAST INTERIM CO-PRESIDENTS

It has been a busy and eventful year. Our activities for the district UMW members were well attended and had positive appeal for both newcomers and for the old guard. Their enthusiasm helped motivate the executive team to strive to top this year's activities and for next year's activities to be even better. Our generous ingathering of socks for Old Town Christian Outreach in Saginaw was over the top and most welcomed.

The transition in leadership early in the year worked well. Attendees at our Annual Meeting unanimously approved the slate of officers in October. We are pleased to introduce the new team Presidents for 2017. These two women will work together on keeping this District active and alive. We present Ruth Sutton from Sanford UMC in Sanford and Julia Hulka of Michelson Memorial UMC in Grayling.

May God bless each of you as you continue to support Women, Children and Youth here and around the world with your prayers and monetary donations. Thank you one and all.

**Pat Engelbrecht and Mary Whitman**

## ANN ARBOR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Happy 2017! Here we are, starting a new year during winter, and still in the holiday mode. There is something about Christmas that wants me to hang on to it for if I can - I wonder what that something or "someone" is? The peace and joy of celebrating our Savior's birth seems to bring out the best in us. I love the beauty of the sparkling lights and the calming effect it has on me. Like many of you, I'm sure, I get caught up in the hustle and bustle of shopping, decorating, planning the big Christmas dinner, wrapping gifts - it goes on and on. But, when I stop and look at the lights in the quiet evening moments, I can reflect and be in awe about the reason we celebrate Christmas. It centers me and the peace of Christ washes over me. That's why I love to let the holidays linger on.

We, in the Ann Arbor District, are getting ready to get back in the swing of things. The Mission Team will be meeting in January to finalize our plans for the upcoming Spiritual Growth Retreat in April. We are excited about our leader that will be guiding us on Friday night and Saturday.

**Vicky Engelbert**

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## MARQUETTE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Thank you for the successful United Methodist Women Detroit Conference Annual Meeting at Marquette: Hope United Methodist Church. Vickie Prewitt presented a very inspiring message focusing on using our God given talent.

Room at the Inn was very appreciative of the donations from the Ingathering. The estimated total was \$2,000. Estimated amount did not include additional donations (cash, checks and gift cards) received after the Annual Meeting.

I will be attending the Leadership Development Days in January. I will be leaving a little earlier, so I can visit with my son and his family. We will be celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Bobbie Clift**

906-361-2234

**On the road to UMW  
Detroit Conference  
Annual Meeting.**

**Mackinaw Bridge**



## **BLUE WATER DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

### **Fulfilling the Purpose with Blessings and Love**

As our year ends, I pause to reflect on what's happened within the life of the Blue Water District over the past year, and am continually amazed at the blessings we have seen! We have been blessed to have a great mission team, who come together to do the business of United Methodist Women, despite having very busy lives and complicated schedules. We have been blessed to have raised funds for our Pledge to Mission and for the United Methodist Community House. We have been blessed to allow God to guide us as we struggle to understand the death of one of our mission team's husbands, and to come to understand that one of the most vital things we can do is pray and aid where possible. We have been blessed by the many ladies, even though they may be getting on in years, that sustain local units and continue to work in mission for several causes. We have been blessed by pastors who continue to provide leadership for our units and for us as a District Mission Team as we continue to do what God, through Jesus Christ, would have us do to fulfill the Purpose of United Methodist Women!

As I looked to find some words of inspiration for myself and for others who may read this column, I found a blurb from the E-Mail Ministry that seemed to fit this joyful Christmas season. Even though you won't read this until after Christmas, may it speak to you as it spoke to me.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2017!

#### **1 CORINTHIANS 13 CHRISTMAS VERSION**

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside decorating to kiss the husband.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

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*Love & Blessings*

## DETROIT RENAISSANCE DISTRICT NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

I am honored to serve as the United Methodist Women Detroit Renaissance District President in 2017. I look forward to leading and being led by members of our DRD Executive Committee. I love and respect all of them. Pray with me that I may serve well.

Years ago, I read or was advised, "A good leader is a good follower." Alice Tucker and her predecessor Toni Grimmett are good examples to follow. We had a good time at our District Christmas Party. It was special to me when Alice formally presented the gavel and communion cup.

Serving two years on the Detroit Conference Executive Committee as secretary gave me more opportunity to be in the company of and witness to excellent leadership. I could name many names; I feel compelled to mention two. For many years, I've appreciated the leadership ability and knowledge of Diana Miller. Thank you, Diana for being so devoted to United Methodist Women and being a respected leader. Detroit Conference President, Micki Phelps, is another with a gift for leadership. She is a confident, yet humble leader who seeks guidance in prayer.

As Christians, it is most important that God be our leader. Scripture tells us, Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take, Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

From Psalm 119:105 (ESV) Through prayer, we can be lead. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**Kay Korns**

734-671-0005

[k.korns@gmail.com](mailto:k.korns@gmail.com)

## CROSSROAD DISTRICT PRESIDENT

The first snow fall of winter has finally arrived. Yesterday the ground was brown and dry, the trees that not too long ago had beautiful red, orange and yellow leaves were bare reaching into the heavens for beauty again. God does not disappoint; with the first snowfall, he has now covered those branches with soft fluffy snow. With everything blanketed in snow outside my window looks like a Currier and Ives Christmas card all pristine and pure. There is nothing prettier than freshly fallen snow.

Yesterday, like the seasons, has ended; tomorrow, like the new fallen snow, is exciting and ready to jump into. New beginnings, as we move into the new year each of us will be implementing our wishes for the new year as we try to fulfill our calendar of events and new goals.

The Crossroads District has set some new goals for the coming year and by achieving those goals we hope to improve our team and better serve the women in the District. We continue to look for a few more officers to fill the positions, Secretary of Program and Resources and a Chair for Nominations. Any takers? We are now in the process of updating our Standing Rules, a long process, but we hope to have it completed in January.

We look forward to our next meeting in January and to our first event of the year, our Prayer Breakfast to be held March 11, 2017 in Millington.

Until we meet again God Bless one and all and Happy New Year.

**Susie Hagenstein**

810-695-4616

Susie's "Hattitude" at  
the United Methodist  
Women Detroit  
Conference Annual  
Meeting 2016



[lhagenstein@yahoo.com](mailto:lhagenstein@yahoo.com)



## **SAGINAW BAY DISTRICT NEWLY ELECTED CO-PRESIDENT**

Welcome to a new year of United Methodist Women! I hope your units have their plans in place and are moving right along! Let me introduce myself. I am the new Saginaw Bay District (SBD) Co-President, along with Ruth Sutton from Sanford.

My name is Julia Hulka. I was a member of Christ (now Grace) UMC in Bay City for many years. I served as their President and Vice-President through the years. Wise women, they never let me be their Treasurer! We each have our own gifts and talents, and finances are not for me! Now I am a member of Michelson Memorial UMC in Grayling. They will also never let me be their treasurer! I am their Mission Coordinator for Social Action and Mary Ruth Circle Chairperson. They have taught me how to make pasties – yum! I first served on the District in 1982, after I quit teaching to raise our family. I used to pin my daughter's name on her back and take her along to meetings with her little sack lunch, now 34, she still likes to tag along!) I was on the Nominating Committee, Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth, and Vice-President. Just when I thought I was all done and had a few years of supporting by attendance, I was asked to finish a term for Spiritual Growth. Then somehow in 2013, I ended up as Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation for Detroit Conference. Not sure how that happened, but after 4 years I can honestly say it was a wonderful experience. I learned so much and met many wonderful people. So now I am back as a Saginaw Bay District Co-President with Ruth. As a friend said, now I have a new gig! And a buddy to share the responsibility! And a good team of leaders to work with!

I have high hopes – like the inch worm – for a wonderful experience. I intend to be persistent and work hard, study hard, meet lots of you in person (I've got a head start there!) and be organized. I hope to work with Ruth and our other officers in providing the best leadership and programming possible. I will use The Prayer Calendar at every meeting. I have already read 12 books since September for the Reading Program. I hope to encourage the SBD team and each unit to learn all they can about United Methodist Women and how they serve women, children and youth. I will attend at least one Mission event and I will read the study books. I will offer encouragement and I hope I will receive encouragement. I will accept and share responsibility. How do you plan to contribute to your UMW unit in 2017? Also, I will faithfully attend my church and fulfill my duties there as I seek to deepen my faith. I can't say I have a favorite scripture but I love the verses - and there are several – that say "I will be your God and you will be my people." That is a great truth and a comfort to me.

I hope you will join the SBD members, officers, and guests for our **Spiritual Enrichment Brunch** at Good Shepherd of the North UMC in Roscommon on **February 11, 2017**. I will pray for good weather and safe roads! Our speaker will be **Mary Gladstone-Highland** and her **Topic will be "Bridges Out of Poverty."** It will be based on a program she leads as a Church and Community Worker at Clarkston UMC. Please invite a friend, pay for her to come, and give her a ride. Get to know her better during the drive there. Introduce her to other people. I bet you'll get a new UMW member!

May God Bless.

**Julia Hulka**

989-348-1992

[jahulka49@gmail.com](mailto:jahulka49@gmail.com)



**Dancers at the  
North Central  
Jurisdiction Conference**

## United Methodist Community House Update

United Methodist Women (UMW) throughout Michigan Area Conference have been putting Faith, Hope, and Love into action with urban women, children, youth, and seniors at United Methodist Community House (UMCH) in Grand Rapids, MI since 1902. Michigan Area UMW owns the property and actively raises funds through membership giving and local church projects to be good stewards of this National Mission Institution (NMI); the only NMI in Michigan.

The ongoing campaign to repair the "house" is called "Special Maintenance Fund Program". It is with grateful hearts that generous giving to this program will result in many completed projects by year end totaling **\$66,106.70!**

Projects are added to the list for safety, program accreditation, and/or critical repair. This list included two large projects. One, the upgraded heating and cooling system, will be finished soon. One huge and several small projects remain. The job of repairing the rotted structure under the front canopy of the UMCH will be extensive. The approximate total of the remaining projects is **\$93,975.**

For further information, please contact either Suzanne Hewitt at (616)361-9565, [suzmckhew@att.net](mailto:suzmckhew@att.net) or Jenny Kroeze at (231)924-4814, [jennyK48g@gmail.com](mailto:jennyK48g@gmail.com).

Thank you to Suzanne Hewitt for sharing this update.

Janet Muntz, Treasurer has shared this news about Detroit Conference donations.

Total Donations in 2015 to UMCH	\$10,789.62
Donations to UMCH 1-1-16 thru 11-30-16	\$11,852.62

Thank you, Detroit Conference United Methodist Women, for your giving hearts and for caring about the upkeep of the United Methodist Community House.

### **Diana Spitnale Miller**

**Webmaster and Standing Rules Committee Chair**

989-426-2644

[diana@ddmiller.net](mailto:diana@ddmiller.net)



## Flint Water Recovery Moves Ahead

Michigan Area is still in the forefront with the Flint Water Crisis. There is a new Flint Water Recovery Coordinator for the MI Area United Methodist Church. His information is as follows:

Gregory Timmons 810-922-2257

e-mail address is: [flintwater@miareaumc.org](mailto:flintwater@miareaumc.org)

Gregory Timmons is a Flint resident who has been active in grassroots response to the water crisis. Michigan Area UMC is committed to long-term response in the Flint Water Recovery.

Please continue to support.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN DETROIT CONFERENCE 2017 TEAM

### **PRESIDENT**

#### **Marchelle "Micki" Phelps (2015)**

19622 Syracuse Detroit MI 48234  
313-618-5361 [marchellephelps@att.net](mailto:marchellephelps@att.net)

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

#### **Patricia Bostic (2015)**

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### **MISSION COORDINATORS:**

#### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

#### **Michele Weston (2015)**

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### **SOCIAL ACTION**

#### **Alice Tucker (2017)**

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### **EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION**

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### **MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH**

#### **Mitsy Mentzer (2015)**

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### **SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES**

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### **Laragene Triplett Co – SPR (2017)**

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### **COMMUNICATION COORDINATORS**

#### **Brenda Street (2017) Co - Communication**

See (Program Resource)

#### **Kathy Freeland (2017) Co - Communication**

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[ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net)

### **COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:**

#### **CHAIRPERSON**

#### **Joy Coyle ( 2019)**

6720 Spring Creek Plymouth, MI 49170  
248-486-6686 [brcoyle@aol.com](mailto:brcoyle@aol.com)

### **COMMITTEE OF NOMINATIONS MEMBERS**

#### **Janice Foster (2017)**

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#### **Linda Brown (2018)**

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#### **Beth Gruber (2019)**

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906-228-6764 [bag12@albion.edu](mailto:bag12@albion.edu)

#### **Loretta DeLoach (2019)**

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#### **Pat Engelbrecht (2018)**

245 S. Arcade St. Gladwin MI 48624  
989-426-4189 [patengelbrecht@att.net](mailto:patengelbrecht@att.net)

## United Methodist Women Detroit Conference National and North Central Jurisdictional Officers

*Member of the Leadership Team Appointed or by Office*

### Past President

**Kay Mowery** 810-686-6325 [mkmowery@comcast.com](mailto:mkmowery@comcast.com)

### Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice

**Joy Coyle** (See Nominations Committee 2017)  
**Jan Murley** 515-263-7117 [janicemurley@gmail.com](mailto:janicemurley@gmail.com)  
**Kathy Freeland** (See Blue Water District President)  
**Joyce Simons** 898-865-6679 [maggie.rejoyce@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.rejoyce@gmail.com)  
**Brenda Street** (See Secretary of Program Resource)  
**Alice Tucker** (See Social Action)

### Mission u Interim Dean and Legacy Fund Chair

**Linda Schramm** 810-648-4696 [lars@greatlakes.net](mailto:lars@greatlakes.net)

### Webmaster and Standing Rules Committee Chair

**Diana Miller** 989-426-2644 [diana@ddmiller.net](mailto:diana@ddmiller.net)

### National Officers Board Of Director

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**Taylorie Bailey** 313-531-0751 [etbailey77@sbcglobal.net](mailto:etbailey77@sbcglobal.net)

### Program Advisory Group (Youth Member)

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### North Central Jurisdiction Nomination Team

**Mildred Braddock** 248-910-1731 [mildred.braddock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mildred.braddock@sbcglobal.net)

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# **Celebrate United Methodist Women's 150th Anniversary Assembly 2018**

**THEME:**

**THE POWER OF  
BOLD**  
FAITH. HOPE. LOVE IN ACTION. ASSEMBLY 2018

**Columbus, Ohio**

**May 18 – 20, 2018**

Greater Columbus Convention Center



When women unite, bold and courageous action happens. In 1869, eight women came together to send a woman doctor and woman teacher to India and formed the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.



## Are You Attending Mission u?

*Formerly known as Schools of Christian Mission*

*This is a lively and fun annual summer and fall opportunity for lifelong learners. You will:*

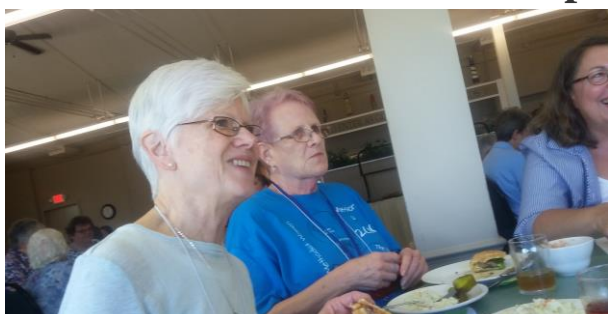
**Grow spiritually and be inspired by interactive experiences**



## Learn about Racial and Social Justice issues



## Share meals and fellowship



**MISSION u OF THE NORTH**



## 2017 Mission u Topics

**Spiritual Growth:** A Covenantal Community (Part I)

**Geographic:** The Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church

**Social Issue:** Climate Justice

**Youth:** The Missionary Conferences

**Children:** The Missionary Conferences



**Relax  
by  
the  
Lake**

## United Methodist Women Detroit Conference 2017 Dates to Remember

### **January 27 (Friday) through January 29 (Sunday)**

Leadership Development Day –  
Charlotte, NC

### **March 1 (Wednesday)**

The Detroit Conference News deadline

### **March 1 (Wednesday)**

Ash Wednesday

### **March 3 (Friday)**

World Day of Prayer

### **March 23 (Tuesday)**

Legacy Fund Day

### **April 1 (Saturday)**

Keep Making Peace Social Action Event,  
University UMC, East Lansing

**"Confronting Michigan's Climate  
Change"**

### **April 9 (Sunday)**

Palm Sunday

### **April 14 (Friday)**

Good Friday

### **April 16 (Sunday)**

Easter Sunday

### **April 27 – 30 (Thursday – Sunday)**

Mission u Training for Deans and Study  
Leaders Pittsburg, PA

### **May 3 – 6 (Wednesday – Saturday)**

Mission u Training for Deans and Study  
Leaders Jacksonville, FL

### **June 1 - 4 (Thursday - Sunday)**

Detroit Annual Conference -  
Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City

### **June 8 – 11(Thursday – Sunday)**

Mission u Training for Deans and Study-  
Leaders - Houston, TX

### **July 1 (Saturday)**

The Detroit Conference News deadline

### **July 13 - 15 (Thursday – Saturday)**

West Michigan Mission u at Albion College

### **July 22 (Saturday)**

Mission u of the South – Erie UMC

### **August 16 (Wednesday)**

Lake Huron Retreat Center

Racial Justice Committee 10 - 11:45 am

Lunch at Noon

Committee on Finance Meeting - 1 - 3 pm

### **August 17 (Thursday)**

8:30 am, Hands on Mission Experience

Port Huron Area

8:45 am - 3 pm, One Day Sampler Mission u

Lake Huron Retreat Center

### **August 18 - 19 (Friday - Saturday)**

9 am Fri - 4:30 pm Sat, Two Day Mission u -

Lake Huron Retreat Center

### **Oct 1 - 14 - DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS**

### **October 16 -17 (Monday and Tuesday)**

Mission u of the North - Gaylord UMC

### **October 20 (Friday) /October 21 (Saturday)**

West MI Conference Office Training &  
Annual Meeting - Mt. Pleasant, MI

### **October 27 (Friday)**

Conference Officer Training & Leadership

Development - Brighton: First UMC

Detroit Conference News Meeting, 5 pm

### **October 28 (Saturday)**

Conference Annual Meeting, 9 am -

Brighton: First UMC

Registration, 9 am to 3 pm

### **December 1 (Friday)**

The Detroit Conference News deadline

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