



New Year Goals

President Julie Mieke

As the New Year is off to its start, have you made any new year's resolutions? The conference executive team has set goals for the new quadrennium and is hoping to accomplish and keep these resolutions. You need to be a part of our success. Our goals are 1.) Increase communications by having a webmaster, placing Catch the Vision on line, creating a Wisconsin list serve with monthly updates, 2.) To have a Young Women/Teen representative on the conference executive team, 3.) Offer effective training of District Officers and stress responsibilities, expectations,

and necessary communications, 4.) Make/exceed our pledge to mission.

In the world we are seeing significant changes, but we can know that God is constant. The steady faithfulness and love are with us even when we refuse to open our eyes and heart to this precious gift. How can we strengthen that trust? I offer that it can be enhanced by daily use of the Bible, reading some of the wonderful and challenging books in the Reading Program, reading Response and New World Outlook, nurturing fellow members through presence and prayers, giving

until it hurts to reap the rewards of blessing and by participating in the events hosted by the Conference United Methodist Women. Sometimes it helps to find the friend who will hold you accountable. I remember the last time I was able to read the Bible in a year was because a fellow member of the church regularly asked how I was doing with my reading as I was also able to encourage them. Life is not easy but all things are possible through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Peace and love. Julie Mieke
Conference President

Inside this issue:

President's message	1
Justice Education	1-2
New officer reports	2, 5
For Christ's Sake registration	3
Social Action Directions	4
Mission Sampler	5
Don't miss dates	6

Justice Education

Mary Lainberger, Social Action Coordinator

On March 21st, 2009 we have a very special opportunity for Justice Education. This special day will be the start of Justice Education to Turn the World Upside Down for Christ's Sake. The Justice Education will specifically focus on Immigration issues. I want you to consider the Charter for Racial Justice and review items 6-8 in the "Because we believe" statement.

6. In our common humanity in creation, all women and men are made in God's image and all persons are equally

valuable in the sight of God.

7. Our strength lies in our racial and cultural diversity, and we must work toward a world in which each person's value is respected and nurtured;

8. That our struggle for justice must be based on new attitudes, new understanding and new relationships and must be reflected in the law, policies, structures and practices of both church and state.

(See Education, Continued on page 2)

New Officers:

I am the new treasurer for Wisconsin Conference after January 1st, 2009. Please send your monies and forms to me after that date. I just returned from St. Louis where I was at training for this position. Let me know how I can help you in your position as District Treasurers.

Corrine E. Robson

215 W Mullett Street Apt 111

Portage, WI 53901 crobson@network2010.net

The words from the song "A Time for New Beginnings" are going through my head as I prepare to take on the responsibilities of Wisconsin Conference UMW Vice President. It will be a challenging and exciting new beginning for me as we work together to bring programming ideas to the conference and to share among the districts. My hope is that each of the vice presidents will also feel the call to look for new and creative ways to make the purpose of UMW feel exciting and vibrant in the lives of our district and local units. I look forward to working with all of you!

Lucy Silvester

373 15th Ave.

Nekoosa, WI 54457

715-325-2841 lucysilv@wctc.net

Free Offer:
Email updates and *Catch the Vision* online. Email jrprouty@agristar.net
Put "Catch the Vision" in the subject line. Be a good steward of the Earth, save paper.

Catch the Vision

Published four times a year by the Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women. You are welcome to reproduce these materials.

Julie Prouty, Editor
S. 7304 Sandusky Road
Hillpoint, WI 53937
Phone: 608-986-2507



To subscribe to *Catch the Vision*, send a donation of \$4.00 for each subscription (four issues a year) to the above name and address. **Please make check or money order payable to Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women.**

Your name (please print) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Education from page 1)

When we study what we, as United Methodist Women believe in, the struggles of the immigrant have to be considered, Leviticus 19: 33-34 says it all: When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. With the new administration in Washington now is the time take action and let the administration know we were all created in God's image, and suggest solution to this ever growing problem. On March 21st we will develop new tools to strengthen our witness and action strategies to equip us for ministries of justice and advocacy, as well as the most recent updates. Mark the date on your calendar and complete the registration form. This is a day with new understandings and new beginnings. You won't want to miss it.

Your Sister,

Mary Lainberger
Social Action Coordinator
304 Mohawk Trail
DeForest, WI 53532
608-846-4378 mlainberger@charter.net

For Christ's Sake, Turn the World Upside Down!

The focus: Immigration Justice Issues March 21, 2009

Come and worship, celebrate diversity as Christians, hear witness of first-hand experience with immigration issues, and take action by writing letters or reaching out into the community near our state capitol.

Reverend Jorge Luis Mayorga Solis
District Superintendent
will be our guest speaker

First United Methodist Church
203 Wisconsin Avenue
Madison, WI

Registration Starts 8:15 – 8:45
Sending Forth 3:30

Lunch and Parking are included in registration. Registration is transferable but not refundable.

This is the logo created for the 2007 National Seminar. Permission is granted for use in presentations, etc., related to National Seminar. You may not alter or modify this image in any way.



Name _____ Email Address _____
Address _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____
City _____ Zip _____
Check all that apply: Female Male Clergy UMW Member
 UMW District officer UMW Conference Officer Missionary Other _____
District _____ Local Church _____

Mail to Mary Friederich:
601 10th St
Brookfield, WI 53520
The deadline for registration is March 1, 2009

Registration \$10.00 Make Checks Payable to:
Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women
*Registration includes lunch and parking
See other side for driving instructions

Directions coming from Eau Claire:

Merge onto I 94 E toward MADISON/CHICAGO-163 miles
Merge onto US 51 S via Exit 132-4.6 miles
Turn right onto E. WASHINGTON AVE/U.S.-151 S, continue to follow E Washington Avenue-4.1 miles
Turn right onto N. Webster Street 0.1 mile
Turn left on E Dayton Street 0.1 mile
Turn left (first left turn) on PICKNEY ST. Ramp is on the immediate right. Take the parking stub and leave in your car.
When you leave the church you will be given a ticket to get you out for free. Church is across the street on the right on WISCONSIN AVE. (ONE WAY) and E DAYTON (ONE WAY)

Directions from Beloit:

Merge onto I-39 N/I-90 W via EXIT 1 B toward Madison-43.4 miles
Merge onto US-12 W/US-18 W/W BELTLINE WHY via EXIT 142A on the LEFT toward Madison-4.8 miles
Merge onto JOHN NOLEN DR via EXIT 263-2.1 miles
Turn left onto S. BROOM St.-0.5 miles
Turn right onto W JOHNSON ST.-0.3 miles (ONE WAY)
Church is on the right on WISCONSIN AVE.
Continue past the church and turn right on PICKNEY ST. Go two blocks. Ramp is on the immediate right. Take the parking stub and leave in your car. When you leave the church you will be given a ticket to get you out for free. Church is across the street on the right on WISCONSIN AVE and E DAYTON. (ONE WAY)

Direction from Milwaukee:

Merge onto I-794 W via the ramp on the left toward I-43/I-94
Keep LEFT to take I-794 W toward Madison
Stay STRAIGHT to go onto I-94 W/US-41 N. Continue to follow I-94 W-69.9 miles
Keep LEFT to take WI-30 W toward Madison-3.2 miles
MERGE onto E WASHINGTON AVE toward STATE CAPITOL-3.3 miles
Turn right onto N. Webster Street 0.1 mile
Turn left on E Dayton Street 0.1 mile
Turn left (first left turn) on PICKNEY ST Ramp is on the immediate right. Take the parking stub and leave in your car.
When you leave the church you will be given a ticket to get you out for free. Church is across the street on the right on WISCONSIN AVE. and E DAYTON. (ONE WAY)

Directions from Green Bay:

Merge onto US-41 S-49.7 miles
Merge onto WI-26 S via EXIT 113 toward MADISON/WAUPUN/ROSENDALE-21.9 miles
Merge onto US-151 toward WAUPUN/MADISON-56.9 miles
US-151 S becomes E WASHINGTON AVE.-0.2 miles
Turn right onto N. Webster Street 0.1 mile
Turn left on E Dayton Street 0.1 mile
Turn left (first left turn) on PICKNEY ST Ramp is on the immediate right. Take the parking stub and leave in your car.
When you leave the church you will be given a ticket to get you out for free. Church is across the street on the right on WISCONSIN AVE. and E DAYTON. (ONE WAY)



Our day will begin with:
Registration, Gathering and Singing
Then we will have our Speaker– Rev Mayorga
Following we will have lunch
Then we have witnesses to how the U.S. Immigration Policy affects real people in real life in our area.
There will be an open discussion
and following, we will learn how to actually Take Action

If you have any more questions about the "For Christ's Sake, Turn the World Upside Down" day, please call or email Mary Lainberger:
mlainberger@charter.net or 608-846-4378.

Just so you know:

Bishop Linda Lee was unable to come to the Annual Gathering in Oshkosh, but this is a piece of her letter sent to our conference president;

"I give thanks to God because United Methodist Women are people of prayer in action investing their time, talents and treasures where it is most needed in ways that make a great difference in to our world. I celebrate with you, as you gather to recount all the good flowing into the lives of

people around the world from your generosity and love. .. And I ask God's blessing on those among us who have answered the call to help lead us into our shared future at all levels of leaderships. God has not called you to sit idly by but instead to boldly pursue opportunities to make the love, grace, peace, and commitment of Jesus Christ known."

Bishop Lee has accepted a teaching position at the School of Christian Mission this year, and we look forward to spending time with her there.

The Mission Sampler has been changed: it is now called the UMW Sampler. In it you will receive:

Spring: Spiritual growth study test, pamphlet (charter, UMW Mission)

Summer: Reading program list, Program book and date book

October: Prayer Calendar

The new handbooks for 2009-2012 are no longer separate, but have been combined into one book. You may order these

Wanted: Logo Entries for School of Christian Mission

The 3 studies must be represented: Food and Faith, Giving Our Hearts Away, Native American Survival, Sudan. The entry must be black and white or color reproducible, 8 1/2" by 11", no copyrighted clip art. Submit an explanation of the logo. You can submit as many as you would like. The winner of the design the gets to make the banner!

Send designs to Flora Childers

4503 Brandon Circle Sellersburg, IN 47172-1764.

Read! Read! Read!

What a wonderful New Year's resolution!

That is going to be one of my resolutions for 2009. I'd better be a good example for all you UMW'ers by doing a great job of reading. I took up the challenge of becoming your new Program Resource Secretary. Several years ago I was the Heartland District's Secretary of Program Resources and I know things have changed. Therefore, I recently went for training, relearning and having several questions

answered for me.

Remember to order your Prayer & Self-Denial materials. We all have so many blessings. Some of those blessings include good books to read as well as wonderful magazines (*Response & New World Outlook*) Buy a copy for yourself, and then share those good books & magazines with other UMW'ers. What a great way to introduce a new lady to our how UMW works.

Wisconsin Conference Secretary of Program Resources, Arlene Trull (715-359-7756)

aetrull@gmail.com

New Nominating Committee Chair

As I look forward to 2009 and a new responsibility as Conference Chair of the Nominating Committee, I AM EXCITED! What does God have in mind for us as UMW members? Probably what he has had in mind for us for centuries - "...to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God". (Micah 6:8)

As you contemplate this once again, please think about your gifts and pray about how they might be used in leadership on the local, district, or conference level. Then, let us hear from you. Let us know if you feel called to serve on the Conference Mission Team. The Nominating Committee will be about building a team that is knowledgeable, enthusiastic, committed, faithful and diverse. Please contact me at 262-551-8669 or dodierwsmith@aol.com if you have questions or just want to talk about the possibility of stepping out. We would hate to miss you just because we didn't think of you or know you. Dodie Smith

Thank you for your patience in waiting for the new counting forms from Women's Division. Also, thank you for your prompt attention in distributing them. Thank goodness United Methodist Women are flexible.

Those of you in local, cluster, district and online units who are filing out these forms, please do your best. We know some of the questions are very different and the forms are more involved. Women's Division assures me that they will be making good use of the information that you provide.

Are you ready for that New Year? Are you ready to put those three words to work in your church and community? Membership- Nurture- Outreach- remember them? Maybe those counting forms with all the answers will give us some ideas to work on. Don't forget: Membership=belonging to; Nurture=caring for; Outreach= to obtain by stretching out for a purpose. There is that word- purpose. We have wonderful Purpose in United Methodist women. I encourage each of you to read our Purpose again with an open mind and an open heart. What a challenge it presents to each of us. Let us try to meet this challenge in 2009. Wishing you a blessed new year,

Kay Putman, Mission Coordinator
Membership Nurture and Outreach

Purpose

The Organized Unit of **United Methodist Women** shall be a community of Women whose **PURPOSE** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



Don't Miss:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Friday, January 16-Saturday, January 17, 2009 | Executive, Nominations and Program Meeting @ Pine Lake |
| March 14, 2009 | School of Christian Mission Meeting at Steven's Point UMC |
| March 21, 2009 | Social Action Event, @ First Church, Madison |
| Friday, April 3- Saturday, April 4, 2009 | Membership, Finance, with district E & I's, MN& O, treasurers, Nomination, Executive Meeting @ Pine Lake |
| Monday, July 20, 2009 | School of Christian Mission Drive In Day
Ramada Steven's Point, WI |
| Tuesday- Friday
July 21-24, 2009 | School of Christian Mission.
Ramada Steven's Point, WI |

**Assembly
St Louis, Missouri
April 29-May 2, 2010
Watch for more details**

S 7304 Sandusky Road, Hillpoint, WI 53937

**WISCONSIN CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit number
Reedsburg, WI 53959