

# NICOLET NEWS

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Nicolet District United Methodist Women

April 2010

Ellen Eastman, Editor 715-526-5030 [gae@frontier.com](mailto:gae@frontier.com)

## From the President's Pen...

I'd like to share some thoughts concerning John 20. When Jesus first appeared to his followers, he said, "Peace be with you." He showed them his hands and his side. The followers were thrilled when they say the Lord. Then Jesus said again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, I now send you."

*Peace, Shalom.* More than just the absence of those things that are harmful but also the presence of everything that is helpful. He gives his words of peace not just once but twice. We must maintain contact with God and other believers to be cared for and we must also be eager to provide this kind of peace for others.

Through United Methodist Women, we not only share the contact with other believers but we strive to provide "Shalom" to those throughout the world.

July is our month for the School of Christian Mission. The information needed to register for this event is included in this newsletter.

In October, we will have our Nicolet District Day of Celebration and Officer Update. We will also have our Wisconsin Conference Annual Gathering. More information will be sent to you concerning these events. I received the information on *United Methodist Women Sunday* and I will send this to the local presidents soon.

How are our local units doing? When our District Team meets we share many things that we are doing in our local units. The same is also true when we have our officer updates. You are encouraged to let us know special projects or events that are working successfully in your local units.

Have you invited your sister-unit representative to your unit yet? Just as Jesus said "SHALOM" to his followers twice, sometimes we need to be reminded more than once to invite District officers to our local meetings. If there are any questions, please feel free to email or call one of us.

PEACE BE WITH YOU,

*Cecil Schneider*, 920-863-2646  
[kennethschneider2646@msn.com](mailto:kennethschneider2646@msn.com)

## Treasurer's Tidbits....

Our United Methodist Women pledge reminds us "to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church." The help given to these many mission areas depends upon our giving. If we don't maintain our giving, the mission projects won't be able to feed, clothe, shelter, educate, and provide health care for the women, children, and youth in need.

Our Nicolet District UMW has pledged \$35,000 to the Wisconsin Conference UMW in Mission Giving for 2010. If we all - *every* unit - work together toward this goal, we can make it.

My suggestion to Unit Treasurers is to get in the habit of sending your monies to me on a regular basis, whether monthly or quarterly. Don't wait until the end of the year in December. This past year one Unit waited too long to send in their funds and did not get credit for it in 2009.

When you send in orders for Special Mission Recognition pins, I will try to send in the order within the week of receiving it. Please name the recipient.

Also, on the top of the Remittance Form, be sure to fill in your Unit's name. Near the bottom of the form, fill in your check number, your mailing address, phone number, and email address, if you have one. Occasionally I may need to contact you about something on your remittance.

Near the end of June, I will send out a mid-year report to Unit treasurers about your Unit's giving thus far.

As in the past, if you have any questions about remittances, my records for your Unit, or anything else financial, please call or email me. If I don't know the answer, I will try to find it out for you.

*Mary Barrows*, Nicolet District UMW Treasurer  
1132 Kellogg St., Green Bay 54393  
920-499-5053 [mary.barrows@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mary.barrows@sbcglobal.net)

"Those who say it can't be done  
are usually interrupted by others doing it."

## From the Secretary's Desk...

I am the new secretary for the Nicolet District United Methodist Women, and I would like to tell you a little about myself.

I am a lifelong member of Emanuel UMC in Two Rivers. I am president of our UMW unit, a wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. I am a retired registered nurse, and now volunteer for Aurora Hospice.

I am looking forward to knowing all of you, and an exciting term as District Secretary.

Please feel free to contact me at 920-553-3460 or [dsklein@lakefield.net](mailto:dsklein@lakefield.net).

*Sandra Klein*, District Secretary

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## Social Action

I suppose our greatest concern right now is our valuable freedom. I can't say enough about making a friend out of your (1) alderman (2) district supervisor (3) Congressman (4) Senators. Yes, let them know who you are by watching what they're doing. Let them hear from you every time a critical issue arises.

We voters are not their puppets. We are intelligent people who have thoughts about everything and opinions regarding how this American society should behave and which laws are to be protected and which are no longer needed.

We have to stay on top of things to protect our way of life. Recently, there was an article in my paper concerning plastic bags. They're a menace, people! Let me mention a couple of interesting facts: China has put a ban on using plastic bags and will save 37 million barrels of oil each year due to the ban. A ban on free plastic bags in Green Bay could implement a tax of perhaps 5 cents to begin with.

There's a goal here—no more plastic bags in our city. Let's explore what's happening in other places in the world: Ireland has reduced their plastic bag consumption by 90%; San Francisco was the first city in the U.S. to ban plastic bags.

In thinking about this we all know what to do—get those shopping bags out and use them! The Lord gave us this perfect world and only asks that we be good stewards. So—tuck those cloth bags under your arms and open them wide when the clerk asks you, “paper or plastic?”

*Joani James*, Social Action

“When you can't solve a problem, manage it.”

## Program Resources

It's March and winter should soon be over. I hope you will be looking forward to going outdoors and watching everything come back to life after a rather mild winter.

I have not enjoyed the winter as much as I anticipated. Here in Orange Beach, Alabama, it has been cold and wet most of the time. It has been the worst winter in many, many years. It has been good for one thing though - I have had the opportunity to do a lot of reading. I hope you have been reading as well.

If anyone would like to do a short report on one of the books you have read, I would be happy to include it in our next newsletter. It's a good way for other people to develop an interest in a specific book.

Don't forget about the Spring Retreat coming up April 23 and 24. I will have some of the reading books available at that time. Please let me know if there are any special books you would like to have me order for you. I will be ordering some of the programs books for School of Christian Mission also. If you have not already given me your name and which books you would like, please contact me ASAP. My email address is: [ebrill@msn.com](mailto:ebrill@msn.com). I will be home after March 9 if you wish to contact me by phone.

*Elaine Brill*, Secretary for Program Resources

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## Editor's Comments

As long as Elaine invited book reviews, I would like take this opportunity to share a book I am currently reading for the Reading Program. *When the Rivers Run Dry: Water—the Defining Crisis of the Twenty-First Century* by Fred Pearce is a 2008 selection in the Social Action category. I often find Social Action books hard to read and I had to get this one through Interlibrary Loan (it came from Sister Bay) but it is fascinating reading!

We usually think of dams, reclaiming deserts, advances in agriculture, etc as good things. But too often they result in irreparable damage to the earth by using more water than can be restored. God made a perfect world and too often man's “improvements” cause real harm to the earth.

Pearce has researched water issues throughout the world and explains them well. I do wish that there were more maps in the book, but the book is easy to read. I suggest that you give it a try.

*Ellen Eastman*, Editor, Nicolet News

## Education and Interpretation...

The title of Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation is lengthy. However, it pales as to what our position is actually designed to do for our unit. Let me share an excerpt from the UMW Handbook 2000-2012. It reads:

“The coordinator for education and interpretation helps women understand the mission and outreach ministries of the church. She emphasizes the need for continual financial support for the program and mission of United Methodist Women.

A major task of the coordinator for E & I is to find ways to educate and interpret the mission of UMW and educate others about it.”

That is a short version. Let's explore some of the things that will help you. We are to serve on the following committees, if they exist in our unit:

- Executive Committee
- Committee on Program
- Committee on Finance
- Committee on Membership Nurture and Outreach

We need to work with our unit president to assure the unit qualifies as a Mission Today Unit. To ensure all the members understand the criteria, share a copy with each of them and discuss the 19 points, especially the top 7, because we must fulfill four of them to qualify. That is not as difficult as one might believe.

1. Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting.

Our unit started that this year and we pass it around to different members for the next meeting.

2. Pledge to Mission

3. Add two members (You might not make this one but I believe if your unit is doing interesting and worthy projects your membership will grow.)

4. *Response Magazine*. (I am going to get a clarification on this; some units cannot afford two subscriptions, so possibly sharing will work.)

5. Use at least two programs from the Program Book; World Thank Offering Service and A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial takes care of that.

6. Conduct one mission study a year.

7. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year.

Here is a good read in the March/April issue of *New World Outlook*: “How to Raise Funds for Mission Ministry.” If you do not subscribe to this...add it to your list.

Here is a good book from Service Center: “*Mutuality in Mission*” by Glory E. Dharmaraj and Jacob S. Dharmaraj. It's on sale for \$5.00.

## Education and Interpretation...(Continued)

Dates to remember:

- April 23-24 - Nicolet/Winnebago Districts UMW Retreat at Camp Lucerne
- July 11-15 - School of Christian Mission, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point. (This is something we need to support, even if you can only go on Drive-In Day.)

In closing, I am working on something special for June of 2011...watch for more information to come.

*Jan Stanko*, E & I Coordinator  
[jans4nicolet@gmail.com](mailto:jans4nicolet@gmail.com)

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## Nominations

The following positions are vacant and still need to be filled by the annual meeting in October:

- President,
- Treasurer (does not have to be computer literate as it can be done in pen and paper)
- Social Action
- One person for Nominations.

If you or anyone you know are interested in any of these district offices, please let me know.

*Dottie Unbehaun*, Chairman of Nominations  
920-756-2237 [gaydot@verizon.net](mailto:gaydot@verizon.net)

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## Corrections or Additions to District Yearbook

Page 1 - District Nominations Committee

Dottie Unbehaun email - [gaydot@verizon.net](mailto:gaydot@verizon.net)

Sharon Cerrato email - [scerrato@new.rr.com](mailto:scerrato@new.rr.com)

Page 2 - Nicolet District Team

Joan James email - [jjames11@new.rr.com](mailto:jjames11@new.rr.com)

Ellen Eastman email - [gae@frontier.com](mailto:gae@frontier.com)

Page 9 - Brillion United Methodist Women

Jo Harms email - [cljharms@verizon.net](mailto:cljharms@verizon.net)

Membership Nurture & Outreach - Karen Neal

Page 13 - Forest Junction United Methodist Women

Janet Keller address -

PO Box 155, Forest Junction WI 54123

Page 27 - Seymour United Methodist Women

Vice-President - Nancy Court,

535 W. Factory St., Seymour WI 54154

Page 31 - Suamico United Methodist Women

Church address - 3266 Lakeview Dr, Suamico 54173

## **WISCONSIN CONFERENCE MISSION TODAY UNIT**

To become a *MISSION TODAY UNIT*, a unit must meet eight of the following criteria, including four of those marked with an asterisk (\*).

1. Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting to pray for mission workers and Projects.\*
2. The unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission.\*
3. The unit will add at least two members to its roll.\*
4. The unit will have at least two members subscribe to *Response* magazine.\*
5. The unit will use two programs from the Program Book for United Methodist Women each year.\*
6. The unit or circle will conduct at least one mission study a year.\*
7. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year.\*  
Some suggested plans of action: ^Plan a joint unit meeting with a unit of a different racial/ethnic background, using programs from the Program Book. ^Develop bi-racial/cultural or multi/racial/cultural Koinonia groups. ^Hold a joint Vacation Bible School. ^Hold pulpit exchanges. ^Share joint worship services on special occasions. ^Encourage the church to sponsor a refugee family.
8. At least one member of the unit (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the Conference School of Christian Mission.
9. At least two members (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the District or Conference annual meeting.
10. The unit will have at least one person join the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.
11. Members will write to five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar each year.
12. The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children in at least two ways. Possibilities for action:  
^Help sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs. ^Sponsor a Children's Sabbath, promoted by the Children's Defense Fund. ^Get involved with children in mentoring, tutoring and "big sisters" programs. ^Write letters, e-mail, or call congressional representatives and/or others in Government regarding children's issues. ^Visit your local school. ^Attend a school board meeting. ^Learn how our schools are funded.
13. The unit will be a Five Star unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving.
14. Each unit or circle will include a *Response* moment where an item from the magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
15. Have at least two people from the unit, circle or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on one of the books read; encourage all members to complete Plan One; have a book review program.
16. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than that of a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year.
17. Make a pledge to care for God's creation and become a "Green" United Methodist Women Unit. (Get information on How to Become a Green Unit at <http://www.umwonline.org/environment> or contact Women's Division Community Action.
18. Hold a Mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat; watch the video "Resurrection Road" and get the accompanying study guide "Resurrection Women."
19. Unit to contribute at least \$25 for School of Christian Mission.

## Mabel Heil

For the past 27 years, the Mabel Heil foundation has presented scholarships to more than 230 women who were working to improve their education. Any female member of United Methodist Women is encouraged to apply.

To request a scholarship form, write to:

Yvonne Fiary

203 E. Greenwood

Rothschild, WI 54474

715-355-6133

yvfirary@aol.com

### Instructions:

1. Be a female member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women.
2. Submit a written answer to the question, "In what ways do I consider myself a worthy student?"
3. Send a completed application for to the contact person by May 1 or October 1
4. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by either the president of the local UMW or by a pastor of the church.
5. Request that a letter of recommendation be sent to the contact person by a church member who is not a member of your household and is not a relative.

### Rules:

- A. Any member of Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Women working to improve her education may apply.
- B. Please have all letters written (preferably typed) on one side of an 8½ X 11 sheet of white paper, using black ink.
- C. All applications are photocopied for the committee members
- D. Scholarships are awarded one semester at a time. To be considered again DURING a one year period, you must send a letter asking to be considered. AFTER one year, you will need to fill out another form and secure new recommendations.
- E. If, in any given year, there is an increase of applications, these priorities will be followed: Women responsible for others will be favored. Women preparing to return to the employment field will be favored.
- F. The schedule is:  
**First semester** Apply by- May 1 Notified by- June 1 Check given by August 15  
**Second Semester** Apply by- October 1 Notified by- November 1  
Check given by December 1
- G. Application and two (2) letters of recommendation MUST be postmarked no later than May 1 and October 1 to be considered.



The organized unit of  
United Methodist Women  
shall be a community of women  
whose purpose is to know God  
and to establish freedom  
as whole persons through Jesus Christ,  
to establish a creative,  
supportive fellowship  
and to expand concepts of mission  
through participation in the global  
ministries of the church.

**Dates to remember in 2010.....**

**April 23-24 - Nicolet/Winnebago Retreat,  
Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center**

**April 30 - May 2 - UMW Assembly, St. Louis**

**July 12-16 - School of Christian Mission,  
Ramada Inn, Stevens Point**

**October 9 - Note change in date  
Nicolet District Day of Celebration and  
Officer Training, Brillion Faith UMC**

**October 22-23 - Wisconsin Conference  
UMW Annual Gathering,  
Black River Falls UMC**