



United  
Methodist  
Women

# OUTREACH

*Summer 2019 • Southern Prairie District United Methodist Women*



**FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION**

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Sharing a cup of coffee with my husband in the early morning is one of the delights of summer. We have a deck off the back of the house that beckons us out to enjoy the day. Simple pleasures make each day special. Cleaning my house is not one of them! Gardening is another simple pleasure. Seeds that turn into beautiful plants and plants that produce wonderful food for us to eat. As I garden, I thank God for all the beauty that surrounds me. Worrying about the future is far from my mind. We are assured in Matthew 6:25-27 that God will take care of us. (Following are two translations of that scripture.)

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?" (New Revised Standard Version)

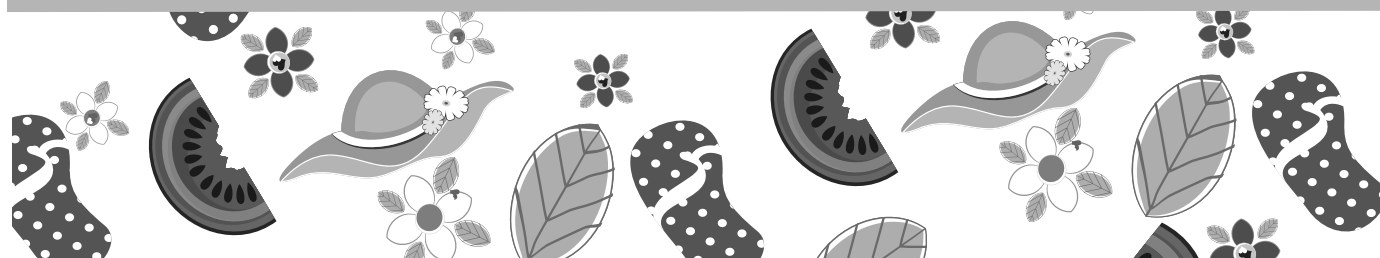
"If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don't fuss about what's on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, careless in the care of God. And you count far more to him than birds. Has anyone by fussing in front of the mirror ever gotten taller by as much as an inch? All this time and money wasted on fashion – do you think it makes that much difference?" (The Message translation)

The question is, "Are you content with what you already have?" "Are you grateful? When you reach the place of contentment and gratitude, it is easier to be generous. Generosity takes many forms: friendships with someone who needs a friend, sharing your abundance with others. This year we had a bumper crop of peonies, ten huge bouquets! What a joy to share. Giving money is another way to share God's abundance. When giving to United Methodist Women, we know our money is well spent. Women, children, and youth around the world and here at home are receiving much needed support.

Be content and grateful and generous. Jesus shows us the way. Wishing all of you a wonderful summer. Peace be with you.

*Sherry Scholljegerdes*

Southern Prairie UMW District President  
(507) 835-4304 sgscholl2@yahoo.com



## *Southern Prairie District UMW Fall Gathering*

**September 14, 2019**

Don't miss the District UMW Fall Gathering! We'll meet Saturday, September 14 at Fairmont UMC, 119 E 2nd Street in downtown Fairmont. Registration and Emma Norton Coffee/Tea begins at 8:30 a.m. Our Gathering Time will be 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. There will be a short business meeting with election of officers and budget approval. Our special Speaker will be Cindy Saufferer speaking on *United for Change: Not "Just" A Legacy!*

See registration form at the back of this newsletter. Email information by September 7 to Connie Lowry at [umcfmtconnie@gmail.com](mailto:umcfmtconnie@gmail.com). Pay registration/lunch cost of \$12 at the door (correct change or a check would be appreciated). **NOTE:** Our giving opportunity for Emma Norton is **feminine hygiene supplies or gift cards**. They no longer want donations of paper products.



## **Minnesota UMW Annual Gathering**

Minnesota Conference United Methodist Women Annual Gathering is scheduled to be held Saturday, **October 12** from 8:45 a.m. with Emma's Coffee until the end of our day at 3:45 p.m. We'll meet at Centennial UMC, 1524 County Rd C2 W, Roseville, MN. The Theme is Dare to Act/Live Boldly. Cost for registration and lunch is \$15, with checks payable to MN Conference UMW. Send your registration information to Peggy Rhodes, 2849 Farrington St, Roseville, MN 55113 by October 1. She can also be reached by telephone at home 651-283-3827 or by cell 612-963-7659.

The Annual Meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. with registration and SERRV sale. A non-profit fair-trade organization since 1949, SEERV empowers small-scale artisans and farmers to earn a fair living from their work, breaking the cycle of poverty and building stronger communities worldwide.



## Future Dates for Southern Prairie District UMW plus other events from 2019 - 2022

Sept 14, 2019 - District Fall Gathering,  
8:30 - 3:00 at Fairmont UMC

October 12, 2019 - Annual Gathering,  
8:45 - 3:45 at Centennial UMC, St Paul

October 25-27, 2019 Leadership Retreat,  
Kelly Inn, St Cloud  
District Exec Board meeting at Leadership Retreat

May 5 - 15, 2020 -- UM General Conference  
in Minneapolis

June 26-28, 2020 - UMW North Central Jurisdiction  
in Sioux Falls, SD

July 17-19, 2020 -- Mission u,  
Kelly Inn, St Cloud

July 25, 2020 - Mission u Too,  
Waseca Faith

August 1, 2020 - Mission u Too,  
La Puerta Abierta, St Paul

May 20-22, 2022 - Assembly in Orlando, FL





## A "JOY"ful day -Day Apart, June 11, 2019

The weather seems to play a part in activities for women in Southern Prairie. Our Spring Gathering (April 13) was postponed to a later date. April 27 also proved to be interesting, greeting us with snow! And Day Apart was RAINY. No problem—it didn't dampen our spirits. (Enough talking about the topic of 2019—"weather!")

Day Apart was all of what it was meant to be: fellowship, studying and learning, singing, contemplation, food and doing something for others. Hopefully those attending have continued to unpack the "I AM" statements from the Gospel of John. There might be study questions left over. Char Daniels set the tone beautifully for our contemplation time with Lorrie Line's "The Lord's Prayer."

The Fairfax ladies provided an excellent lunch. Our Ubuntu activities were fun and productive. Marjorie Evans-de-Carpio, director of Solar Oven Partners, had ladies pack oven accessories into cloth pouches which eliminates plastic. However, making plastic serve a purpose was led by Pat Hansen, Southern Prairie Resource Manager interim. Ladies worked with plastic bags which will be crocheted into mats for the homeless. Another group of ladies enjoyed a Sing Along—secular and spiritual songs—with residents in the manor and assisted living. Thank you Southern Prairie United Methodist Women for making this Day Apart a GREAT DAY!

Coleen Ford,

*Southern Prairie Spiritual Growth Coordinator*

## WANTED: *Independent, Creative Women!*

During our District Day Apart at Fairfax some women folded, cut, and looped plastic bags before rolling them into what's called plarn balls. Now we have oodles of plarn balls to be crocheted. Would you volunteer to crochet some of them into a mat for a homeless person? We need a few independent, creative women who like to work at their own pace with no time limit! Contact Pat Hansen, 507-381-1783 or eteptap@gmail.com for instructions.



## All About Resources

*by Pat Hansen*

2019-2020 Program books will be at Fall Gathering.

**Please let Pat know if you will need a book. Order goes in August 20th and I only order for those who request one.**

**Resource Manager**—position open. Position includes:

- \*Order resources for Southern Prairie District UMW
- \*Keep track of reading participants and complete a certificate for them

\*Inform members of new (2020) reading books.

**Reading Program Members Plan** - Due January 10, 2020. Please send your name, phone #, and Plan completed to Pat Hansen 507-381-1783 or phanse@hickorytech.net or eteptap@gmail.com

**Reading Books** can be found at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Cokesbury, libraries, or other churches. If the 2020 list is ready by Fall Gathering, I will have a copy and brief description for you. 2015-2020 books will be accepted for the 2020 Reading Program.

## Let Scripture Be Your Guide

We are over half-way through 2019. People often start the year with goals—physical, spiritual, economic, etc. I have a Bible verse that has been my "go to verse." I don't know if it is because of its length to memorize, but it has been "the" one since 2017. Philippians 4:4-7. It starts with, "Rejoice in the Lord always—"

ACTS is an acronym to guide us in our prayer life. Bible verses can guide each part. The following are examples: Adoration—Psalm 150; Confession—Psalm 139: 23, 24; Thanksgiving—Psalm 27; Supplication—I Timothy 2:1, Ephesians 6:18.

Beautiful Blessings as you continue in your spiritual journey—Coleen Ford, *Spiritual Growth Coordinator*

**If you no longer have a UMW unit at your congregation, and are cleaning out UMW files, please contact the Archivist for the Minnesota UM Conference. Your history is important! Kathy Spence Johnson can be reached at 612-230-6149 or at Kathy.johnson@minnesotaumc.org**



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SHARE THEIR TALENTS



Your Help Is Needed! Without volunteers our District will not be able to accomplish its mission! We have a critical need for more help on the Southern Prairie District leadership team. We need to fill openings for the Secretary, as well as Program Coordinator, Committee on Nominations, and Mission Coordinators of Social Action, Education and Interpretation, and Membership Nurture and Outreach.

Serving in one of these positions means attendance at 3-4 Executive Committee meetings as well as the District events each year. We have a good time together as we plan and lead the events of Southern Prairie District UMW. Please consider how YOU can help or let me know of someone you think may be a good member of our leadership team. For more information, or to volunteer please contact Deb Anderson, Chair of Nominations at 507-380-2785 or gdtbjand@hickorytech.net.

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**Regarding Emma Norton:** We collected approximately \$475 worth of paper products for Emma Norton from our District Day Apart. That included about 12 packages of bath tissue and 13 packages of paper towels. Since they have purchased paper dispensers of a different size, they no longer can use our paper products. However, they will still accept **feminine products, and cash or gift cards** are always usable and encouraged!

Another need they mentioned was personal fans since their air conditioning was out until the end of July when the part to fix it was expected. I took up six fans that Cindy and I purchased from Walmart and Target for about \$14 each. With between 40-50 women at Emma Norton, they needed quite a few fans. Since they may have enough fans by now, bring/send gift cards so they can purchase what they need!

Please visit the Emma Norton website at [www.emmanorton.org](http://www.emmanorton.org) to find out about the great work they are doing to help end homelessness and help women and families thrive!

Shirley Hansen, District Emma Norton Representative

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## From the District Treasurer:

Our district Mission Pledge is \$70,000. As of July 17, 2019 we had received \$22,411. Our district Emma Norton Pledge is \$10,000. As of July 17, 2019 we had received \$4,182. Additional pledge monies for this year should be sent in by **December 10, 2019**.

Send to Berneda Hawton, 29439 U.S. Hwy 71, Redwood Falls, MN 56283. If you need a Special Recognition pin, order them from Berneda at least two months in advance.

Questions about finances? Contact her at 507-644-3490 or leb62@redred.com



## New Resource from Mission u

We are pleased to share with you a new resource which was talked about at Mission u 2019.

“United Methodist Women Economic Justice Mission Legacy” is a timeline history of UMW and predecessor organizations’ engagement in economic justice, service and advocacy. It served as additional background information for both studies offered at Mission u. You’ll find it at <https://www.unitedmethodist-women.org/economic-inequality/economicjusticemissionlegacy>.





# Legacy Update - July 2019

As we move into fall, we celebrate the progress to raise \$60 million for the Legacy Fund by 2020, as well as the challenges to accomplish that goal. Nationally, this year's Day of Giving (March 23) raised \$496,950, doubling what was raised in 2018. Through the faithful giving of Minnesota United Methodist Women, our conference has contributed more than \$9,000 from January – April 2019. The national total for the Legacy Fund as of June 30, 2019 stands at \$27,988,234 or 47% of the campaign goal. That means we need to raise another \$32 million by December 2020.

The challenge comes in increasing our giving – our Minnesota goal is an additional \$23,000 by December 31. We continue to ask each member to make an annual contribution of at least \$18.69. We thank the more than 60 individuals from Minnesota who made gifts in 2018, but we know there are many more members. Many units shared "birthday" pictures and sent in gifts; don't

stop! Later this fall, a new program called Legacy Builders will be unveiled; it will be a recurring monthly contribution by individuals.

We also encourage each member to consider naming the Legacy Fund as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or will. We know there are women with assets who can also make a major gift to this campaign; encourage them. Development officers from the National office can assist them in structuring that gift.

You can learn more about the Legacy Fund at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/home](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/home). I am also happy to answer your questions. You know about the impact UMW has had on your life; insure its future with an additional gift this fall!

-- Becky Coleman, Legacy Liaison,  
BeckyC57@gmail.com



## 2018 MISSION TODAY UNITS & GOLD STAR\*\* AND FIVE STAR\* UNITS

*Reported by Berneda Hawton and Wendy Nickel*

### Mission Today & Gold Star Units:

Middle Creek\*\*  
Windom\*\*

### Mission Today & Five Star Units:

Amboy\*  
Austin\*  
Balaton\*  
Belgrade, North Mankato\*  
Bird Island\*  
Blue Earth Hope\*  
Buffalo Lake\*  
Danube Zion  
Elmore\*

Fairfax\*  
Fairmont\*  
Glenville\*  
Hector\*  
Lake Crystal\*  
Lamberton  
Madelia\*  
Mankato Centenary\*  
Marshall Cornerstone\*  
Montevideo\*  
New Ulm First\*  
New Ulm Oakwood\*  
Olivia Faith\*  
Open Doors, Kiester\*

Open Doors, Wells\*  
Pipestone Peace\*  
Redwood Falls\*  
Renville\*  
Slayton\*  
Springfield\*  
Trimont\*  
Waseca Faith\*  
Waterville\*  
Worthington Emmanuel\*  
Worthington First\*

**Note: Deadline this year is December 10, 2019.** (Wendy said she was still receiving reports in March for last year.) It would also help if the person filling out the form had legible writing and listed their name, president's name, and an email address so a response may be made.

Be sure you have Wendy's correct address: [wlnickel@gmail.com](mailto:wlnickel@gmail.com) (all small letters; second letter is L not I as in the UMW Conference directory.)



# "I Want My Mommy!"

## MMMRCP Postcard Campaign!

### What is it?



MMMRCP is the Minnesota Mortality Review Committee Program. This committee is made up of approximately 15 individuals: OB/GYN MDs, nurses, social workers, anesthesiologists, and lay persons. From their individual viewpoint, they are to review and discern the cause of death of each mother in Minnesota. From their evaluations, they are commissioned to find if each death could have been prevented and how. This information is then documented and put forth to the appropriate group to make needed changes.

What are the postcards about? The postcard campaign "I Want My Mommy" is UMW's way of encouraging our Minnesota Representatives and Senators to provide funding for this important work. There has been a 24.6% increase in maternal deaths since 2000! We need to find out why. We are also asking for inclusion in the same law: maternal morbidity (near death) to be reviewed.

How do we organize this? At all UMW meetings (conference and district) across the state, there will be postcards available. You are invited to take enough cards back to your local unit to distribute. Ask each UMW member to fill in their personal comments and contact information, and then address the cards to their Representatives and Senators. Collect the signed cards and mail them by **February 11, 2020** to Sherry Scholljegerdes, 1120 E. Elm Ave, Waseca, MN 56093.

Local UMW units can do the postcards together at a meeting and send them off in a packet in February 2020. If no one from your UMW unit is able to attend a district or conference meeting to pick up postcards, contact me and I'll get some postcards out to your unit. Questions? Contact Sherry Scholljegerdes sgscholl2@yahoo.com or call 507-835-4304.

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## Southern Prairie United Methodist Women Officers for 2020

### To be elected on September 14, 2019 at Fairmont UMC

#### To be elected:

**President:** 1st year, 2nd term  
Sherry Scholljegerdes 507-835-4304  
1120 E Elm Ave, Waseca 56093  
sgscholl2@yahoo.com

**Communications Coordinator:** 1st year, 2nd term  
Judith Clark 218-251-1939 9184  
377th Ave, Blue Earth 56013  
classicalgal@hotmail.com

#### Continuing in Office:

**Treasurer:** 2nd year, 2nd term  
Berneda Hawton 507-644-3490  
29439 U.S. Highway 71, Redwood Falls 56283  
leb62@redred.com

**Committee on Nominations Class of 2021:**  
Deb Anderson 507-387-7826  
2038 Roe Crest Dr, North Mankato 56003  
gdtbjand@hickorytech.net

**Spiritual Growth:** 2nd year, 2nd term  
Coleen Ford 507-828-0287  
761 11th Ave, Granite Falls 56241  
cford@yahoo.com

#### The following officers are appointed:

**Historian:**  
Phyllis Kuehl 507-830-0041  
©; 445-3310 (h) 37342  
390th Ave, Heron Lake 56137

**Emma Norton Representative:**  
Shirley Hansen 507-645-5844  
716 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 56093  
lnorth23@gmail.com

**Mission Today Unit Coordinator:**  
Wendy Nickel 507-294-3740  
P.O. 447, Keister 56051  
wnickel@gmail.com

**Resource Manager interim:**  
Pat Hansen  
57567 178th Lane, Good Thunder 56037  
phanse@hickorytech.net

There are a number of Positions Open for this year and the following year. Contact Deb Anderson, Nominations, at 507-387-7826 if you are interested in serving on the district leadership team.





# *Southern Prairie District UMW Fall Gathering*

**Saturday, September 14, 2019**

**Fairmont UMC: 119 E. 2nd Street, Fairmont**

**8:30 a.m. Registration and Coffee/Tea with Emma**

**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Gathering Time**

**Speaker: Cindy Saufferer -- *United for Change: Not "Just" a Legacy!***

Giving Opportunities: Hygiene supplies or gift cards for Emma Norton  
(no paper products)

Offering for Emma Norton to purchase paper products  
- collected at the 8:30 Coffee / Tea

Offering for Southern Prairie District collected during Gathering Time  
\$12 Registration includes lunch; Registration money will be collected at the event  
(correct change or checks appreciated!)

Please register by **September 7, 2019.**

Email registrations are preferred to Connie Lowry at [umcfmtconnie@gmail.com](mailto:umcfmtconnie@gmail.com)

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## *Registration for Fall Gathering*

UMW Unit \_\_\_\_\_

UMW City \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person submitting form: \_\_\_\_\_

Email & phone number of person submitting form: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those registering: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Registrations \_\_\_\_\_ X \$12 = \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Money collected at door)

Any special needs (including dietary needs)? \_\_\_\_\_

Request for child care? If yes, names / ages of children \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent care voucher requested? (available up to \$35)? \_\_\_\_\_

To register for our District UMW Fall Gathering  
please email [umcfmtconnie@gmail.com](mailto:umcfmtconnie@gmail.com) with the above information.

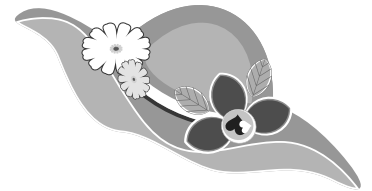




Southern Prairie District  
United Methodist Women  
9184 377th Ave  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
Attn: Judith Clark

Nonprofit Organization  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
Permit No. 50

*Return Service Requested*



*See you at the District UMW Fall Gathering  
on September 14 at Fairmont UMC!*

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting for Church Women United of Minnesota is September 14, 2019 at Discovery UMC, 275 Lake Dr. E., Chanhassen., MN. Keynote Speakers are Faye Christensen and Debra Jene Collum from the Commission on Status and Role of Women (COSROW). Their topic is "When Words Get in the Way of our Faith Journey." Cost for the day and lunch is \$15. Send Registration with payment by September 6th to Margit Hauge, 5100 West 102nd Street, #206, Bloomington, MN 55437. Make checks payable to CWU of MN. Contact person is Sandy Meyer, 952-270-1157 or sandrameyer51@hotmail.com

## Mission u Report

A great Mission u is completed for 2019! Thanks to Rennae Petersen, Cindy Saufferer, Judith Clark, and Rebecca Coleman for leading the courses. Next year the event will be held at Kelly Inn in St Cloud on **July 17-19, 2020**. Mission studies will be Finding Peace in the Midst of Anxiety and Mass Incarceration: School-to-Prison Pipeline. The 2020 Mission u Too days will be **July 25** at Faith UMC, Waseca, and **August 1** at La Puerta Abierta UMC, St Paul. The study book for Mass Incarceration is Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique Morris. This book is also on our Reading Program list.



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## OUTREACH

*Distributed free of charge.*

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