



## CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### **Around the Bay December, 2021**

#### ***Co-Presidents***

Greetings from Co-President's  
Caroline Diaz and Doris Simons.



As we are writing this the Holidays are fast approaching. Winter is a beautiful time of the year with the snow on the ground and trees, with the holiday decorations so bright and beautiful and celebrating the Glorious Season of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and a wonderful time with your family and friends.

The Annual Celebration was held via Zoom on October 2, 2021. Approximately 70 attended. Our two speakers were great (Rev. Anita Hahn from Midland First UMC and Saralyn Temple from Bay City Grace UMC.) The Local Officers Training was held on October 25, 2021, via Zoom with approximately 20 attendees. We hope next year we will be able to meet in person.

We will be mailing out the Local Officers Responsibilities and the Certificates to each Local Unit. The United Methodist Women Michigan Conference and Central Bay District Leadership Team are willing to speak at or attend your local events if you wish.

#### **WE NEED YOU!**

In order to be a viable District in the Michigan Conference, we must have a leadership team that has a minimum of President, Secretary, Treasurer and Nominations Chair. We still have positions open on the Leadership Team. Openings are Social Action Coordinator, Secretary of Program Resources Coordinator, and several openings for Nominations. To keep our district as an active, we need you to step up and help lead us forward. In this critical time of our church, our society, and our world, we need United Methodist Women to do

what they have always done, serve others in need. Saying "yes" to United Methodist Women is rewarding in many ways. One is getting to know and having fellowship with a great group of ladies who make up our District and Conference Leadership Team. PLEASE SAY YES and join the Leadership Team of Central Bay District United Methodist Women.

Blessings,

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(989)781-1492

**Caroline Diaz**, Co-President  
[diazc5282@gmail.com](mailto:diazc5282@gmail.com)  
(989)450-1735



#### ***Vice President***

I always thought the role of the VP was a slide thru position. Boy was I wrong! The Vice President should be the right hand woman to the President, work together, be a team, support each other, and lighten the load when it gets heavy. A quote from my ninety year old mother, "Two brains are better than one." Use the God given gifts you both have been given, to love and support each other.

At the District level the VP is the Chair of the Program Committee, and serves on the Finance Committee. The Annual Celebration is one event the VP is always looking for churches to hold the event, and speakers for it. Suggestions are always welcome. Other events like the Spiritual Brunch and the Spiritual Retreat are planned by the Spiritual Growth coordinator.

We are always looking for ladies to join the District Team. I can tell you it has been a blessing to be part of the team. Many lifelong friendships have developed, and there are other financial perks to aid in attending events. Ask any team member. Next year your Vice President will be Rene Johnson, who is not a new face to the team. My tenure is running out so I will be moving to Nominations where Rene is currently serving. With that said I will again invite you to consider joining the District Team, and would welcome any questions you might have.

Call, text or email,

**Lisa Wightman** (989) 6737079

1902 Pierce Road

Caro MI 48723 [klwightman@yahoo.com](mailto:klwightman@yahoo.com)

## Secretary

It must be “that” time of year!! I have so many thoughts buzzing in my brain, many thoughts of gratitude and blessings as we passed Thanksgiving and look forward to the Christmas season occasions. Also on my mind is the coming New Year of 2022 and all the possible, intriguing, and busy events. I am considering reviving the old New Year Resolutions, only with an updated twist. I’m calling it my list of “good intentions and amazing aspirations”!

As secretary of CBDUMW, I want to send a very hardy THANK YOU to all twenty-two units that contacted me with their updated officers’ list and information. This was my first year to receive this information, and I was rather astonished reading about your units. Many of you indicated your frustrations of “no change” and offices “unfilled”. Some of you, sadly, admitted to small membership numbers of under ten and units that are rather “inactive”. You are not alone. At District Team meetings we discuss and pray about this situation.

Although November 1, 2021 was the “deadline” for submission of your lists, you are still very welcome to send me something. I would enjoy hearing from

you, a note about your unit’s situation would be well received. Use my address: 173 Dwyer St., Clare, MI 48617 or send to my email:

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

Now I’m closing with prayer scriptures: 1 Peter 5:7; John 14:27; Matt. 11:28-30; Colossians 3:5. There are many more. I’m incorporating these scriptures with the above “good intentions” list.

Blessings, **Jeanne Shelandier**

989-386-2063



## Treasurer

As I sit at my dining room table writing this newsletter article, I’m watching snowflakes drifting down to the ground. It’s starting to accumulate on my grass, not much, but enough to let me know that the seasons are changing and time marches on, whether we want it to or not. The month of November is a time for giving thanks; thanks for each individual person who gives to their UMW unit, enabling them to reach their goal or pledge for 2021, and thanks to each unit that gives what they can to pay their pledge, and especially to our God who gives us all the ability, strength and health to do what we can for women and children throughout our world.

I want to thank the Millington UMW for being a Five Star unit for 2020. I apologize for leaving them off the list in our program book at the Celebration meeting. Congratulations to them and to all who were Five Star units in 2020. If you haven’t already received a certificate for that accomplishment, it should be coming in the mail soon. It’s very simple to become a Five Star unit. A minimum donation of \$5 in each of these areas: pledge, gift to mission, gift in memory, world thank offering and a donation of \$40 for special mission recognition (SMR) is all that’s required. If you still don’t understand the process, please give me a call and I would be happy to explain it to you. Individuals may do this also and then they will become Five Star persons and receive a certificate as well.

At our October Celebration, which was held virtually on zoom, there was an offering taken. I am happy to report that you were very generous again and your offering donation was split between United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids and our district pledge. Each of these entities received \$330. We also collected \$205 for the ingathering, which went for the Baby Pantry, and was sent to Compassion Network in Mt. Pleasant. So thank you ladies so much for your generous donations.

All units and individuals have until the end of November to get your monies to me. If your donations come in December, I will hold on to them for deposit in January, and you will receive credit for that remittance in 2022. I need to have a cutoff date for receiving funds and November 30<sup>th</sup> is that date.

I pray that all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are now looking forward to a blessed and merry Christmas with family and friends.

Yours in Christ,

**Bonnie Dunstan**

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willbdun@comcast.net



### ***Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation***

I have some big shoes to fill in 2022. I don't mean my predecessor had big feet but it's my goal to do this position as well as she did.

Included in this newsletter is the "2021 Mission Today Unit Objectives". Plan to fill out this form at your first unit meeting and mail it to me by February 2, 2022. (If you do, you'll get an extra objective point.) This is an early target date so you can evaluate how you did last year and hopefully make plans to keep up the good work or improve

this year. I will accept them after this date if you don't have a January meeting.

If you're not already including the Response Moment in your unit meeting, it is an easy way to gain a couple of points on the "Mission Today Objectives" plus learn about current events and missions. Response is one of the oldest Christian magazines in our country. Before the internet it was the main method of communication for our women.

Wishing you a safe and happy Holiday!

**Sandra DeWaele**

588 E. Salzburg Rd.

Bay City, MI 48706

989-414-3398

josandew@charter.net



### ***Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth***

Dear Sisters In Christ,

Here we are again winding down yet another year. I keep thinking that time is speeding up and I can't keep up with all I need and want to do. During these times I find myself talking to God more frequently and questioning Him about so much. He's probably ready to put me on hold so someone else can get a word or two in with Him.

Keeping up with our spiritual habits are so important in these times, so I encourage you to take time for your conversations with God. Take time to read and study the Bible and share your faith with everyone you meet. I am looking forward to the new year where I pray we will be able to meet in person at our Spiritual Brunch and Spiritual Life Retreat, I have great speakers lined up and can't wait to see everyone again. Until then be strong in the Lord. Psalms 31:23

**Linda Kube**

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

989-928-8165

## ***Secretary of Program Resources***



How are your reading reports coming for 2021? You may start sending me those reports any time. They are actually due in January of 2022, and awarded in October of 2022. The most important item is that you send them to me!

There are a few changes happening with the reading program books starting in 2021. The new list will now be the same for two years (2021-2022) and they will still be good for six years. Another change is you can participate in Faith Talks which are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women, and that will count as one book in Spiritual Growth.

Check out interviews with UMW mission studies' authors and more at:  
[unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks) Three Faith Talks is equal to a Bonus Book. Bonus books count as two books in two categories. Mission u study books count as Bonus books. Watch these movies, Just Mercy, Pushout, and The Hate u Give. Movies each count for a book in the reading program.

The Sampler is no longer available. It was a package of books that were grouped together to be ordered from the Resource Center. The Prayer Calendar is also no longer being published. It will now be called Daily Prayer Guide. I have also recently seen on Facebook a daily prayer guide. You can find the 2021-2022 book list online. Just google UMW reading program or the website is [unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram). More books have been added since the last Around the Bay newsletter. Remember the previous six years are eligible for your reports.

You can also find the reading report forms on the website. However it is not necessary to use one.

Just keep a record on paper and send it to me or even an email. One book from the five categories = Plan 1, total of five books read Two books from each of the five categories=Plan 2 and so on.

Anyone needing help or having questions on the reading program, please don't hesitate to ask!

Happy Reading,  
Lisa Wightman 989-673-7079  
[klwightman@yahoo.com](mailto:klwightman@yahoo.com)  
1902 Pierce Road Caro MI 48723 (NEW)



## ***Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach***

Greetings,

This has truly been quite a different experience for us this year. I hope everyone is doing well and is virus free.

We the United Methodist Women are doing our usual work and still keep connected during this difficult time, pandemic and all. What a blessing to have this wonderful organization and are able to keep in touch with one another.

I enjoyed our last Zoom event. Everyone did a wonderful job. This pandemic has taught us how we can do things differently.

In his name stay safe. Blessings,

**Edith Cooper**  
[ecsaginaw@aol.com](mailto:ecsaginaw@aol.com)  
989-752-0340



## Communication Coordinator

### *Committee on Nominations Chair*

As the outgoing Chair of Nominations, I know how difficult it has been to recruit when so few units have been able to meet in person and others are getting weary of Zoom. So take a deep breath, and ask yourself:

How can our unit continue to serve women, children and youth in these times? Can you still ask for donations of food and clothing for your community pantries? Let people know that others are still in need of their help!

Who shares our purpose? If don't have a program to which to invite them, you can still recruit like-minded women (of all ages!) to support your unit's efforts. Find new ways to get the word out that you are still in mission!

Never underestimate what a small group of women can do. What you need more than anything is a vibrant faith. If you project a defeated attitude, you won't attract new members. If you project a joyful servant heart, others will want to join you. Stay positive!

Beginning in January, I will serve as the district Vice President. I will continue to assist with Nominations until such time as we are able to expand our leadership. We are still in need of a chair of nominations, coordinator for social action, and secretary of program resources. And we need fresh faces on the nominations committee, too.

My first year on the district felt daunting, but I listened and learned. I'm still here after a decade! That's because the work is meaningful and the fellowship keeps me coming back. Try it!

Rene Johnson  
[renejohnson@charter.net](mailto:renejohnson@charter.net)  
809 Wyllys Street, Midland, MI 48642  
989-631-2378

We hope you are enjoying the bi-yearly newsletter, "Around the Bay". Since we are now sending out the newsletter by email, it is very important that you submit email addresses on the Officer's list to our current secretary, Jeanne Shelander. If you have new email addresses not submitted already, please send them to her or to me.

We will, of course, send out the newsletter by regular mail to those who have no email.

Please look at the flyers within this newsletter for the Spiritual Brunch, Spiritual Retreat, and Mission Today Unit Objectives. Registration forms are there for you to fill out and turn in. You can make copies of these forms to share with your church members or friends, as everyone is invited.

May we together pray for a healthier year in 2022.

Judy Gerken [jrgerk@yahoo.com](mailto:jrgerk@yahoo.com)  
989-755-4848

\* \* \* \* \*

### ***OUR APOLOGIES!***

These names from Mt. Pleasant First UMC were sadly missed when our "In Memoriam" page was printed for the Annual Celebration booklet. Our sincere apologies!

Florence Adams  
Wilma Blackman  
Karen Buck  
Betty Clark  
Dixie Neier  
Delores Pohl  
Loiws Sandbrook  
Helen Thomas  
Betty Wolters

**Slate of Officers for 2022**  
**Central Bay District Leadership Team**

**Co-President**

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**Co-President**

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**Vice President**

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**Secretary**

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**Treasurer**

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**Program Resources**  
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**Membership Nurture & Outreach-**

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**Spiritual Growth Co-Coordinator**

Linda Kube  
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212 Lake St.  
St. Charles MI 48655-1649

**Social Action Coordinator**  
**TBD**

**Education & Interpretation Coordinator**

Sandy DeWaele (Class of 2024)  
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989-414-3398  
588 E Salzburg Rd  
Bay City MI **48706-9713**

**Chair of Nominations**  
(TBD)

**Nominations Committee**  
Lisa Wightman (Class of 2026)  
[klwightman@yahoo.com](mailto:klwightman@yahoo.com)  
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**Appointed Officers:**  
**Communication**

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**Registrar**

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**Conference Officers**

**Webmaster**

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48623-9730 989-426-2644

**Secretary of Program**

**Resources**

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2335 N Meridian Rd.  
Sanford, MI 48657-9554

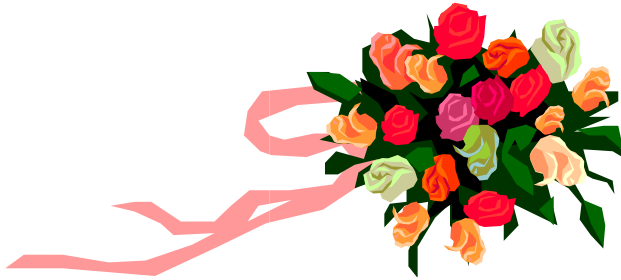
**Nominations**

Evelyn Delaney  
989-685-2591  
1050 Grand Jean Rd.  
Rose City, MI 48654

**Standing Rules (Appointed)**

Linda Darrow  
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232 N Cooley St.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858-1311

# ***In Remembrance***



## ***Women Who Have Passed Away in Your Unit in 2021***

As a district we would like to take this time to remember the women who have passed away from your unit in 2021. They will be listed in our 2022 program booklet of the Central Bay District Celebration and Leadership Training event.

**NOTE! Submit only names of those who passed away in 2021.**

Please submit the **names, church and date of death** to:

**Judy Gerken**

***E-mail [jrgerk@yahoo.com](mailto:jrgerk@yahoo.com)***

Or Mail to: 3300 Sunnyview Drive  
Saginaw, MI 48604

Although the names will not be published until October, 2022, you may want send me your list early in 2022 while it is available and fresh in your memory.

Central Bay District United Methodist Women  
P O Box 5386  
Saginaw, MI. 48603



## “Around the Bay” December 2021

### **Dates to Remember for 2021**

February 12 Spiritual Enrichment Brunch at Gordonville UMC

\*April 29-30 Spiritual Life Retreat at The Springs in Gladwin, MI

\*Note change in date.

August 11-13 Mission u of the East, Lake Huron Retreat Center

October 1 Central Bay District Annual Celebration & ELT at Midland First UMC

October TBD Mission u of the North, Gaylord First UMC

October 21-22 Michigan Conference UMW Annual Training and Celebration,  
Kalamazoo Westwood UMC