



# The Compass

Newsletter of the Greater Southwest District United Methodist Women

## ***A note from your President***

Dear Sisters in Christ,

### **GOD HAS GIVEN US A NEW THING**

As we continue our new “normal” I pray that all of you are well both physically and emotionally. I am so sorry that we had to cancel all of our events that were planned for 2020. We will do better in 2021. We are able to do virtual events if unable to meet in person. We have decided, though, to cancel the Spring Fling event and are working on a Spiritual Growth Day, Mission Day, and the District Annual. This is going to require more planning so at our January team meeting we will confirm our dates and locations so we can get those out to you as soon as possible.

I know how hard all of you work to raise money to meet your pledge to mission and this year has been a challenge. I have heard from many of you who are being very creative: holding bazaar and bake sales after church or in the park, outdoor parking lot rummage sales, take out dinners and many more. I am also so very proud of all the individuals who made masks and knit or crocheted sweaters and blankets for those in need. Covid-19 couldn't keep us down, we know that mission giving and reaching out to those in need is what God has called us to do. Keep up the good work for God has indeed given us a new thing!

Linda Burton Collier

Greater Southwest District UMW President

**November  
2020**

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YOU are receiving this newsletter because you:

- Are a part of the United Methodist Women at a local level
- Are a United Methodist Church
- You requested it.

***A note from our Vice President***—This Article was written by Melanie Manis

## **Just Energy for All**

### **What is That? Where do We Begin?**

**Just Energy for All** is a UMW initiative based on the principle that everyone should share the costs and benefits of the transition to alternative energy equally.

Fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas) have been used to produce the energy that powers our lives for over 150 years. Energy production emits waste gasses that absorb heat from the sun and are contributors to global warming and climate change. In order to slow global warming, alternative, renewable energy sources, which do not emit the waste gasses, are being harnessed. Some examples are hydroelectric, geothermal wind, solar, and ocean current and tidal energy. The energy industry is switching from fossil fuels to alternative energies, but it takes time, requires technological innovation, may need changes in policy, legislation, and it costs money.

Lower income populations are more affected by the waste products of the fossil fuel energy industry because the refineries and production facilities are disproportionately located in lower income areas. Health effects such as asthma, cardiovascular disease, and cancer have been associated with refineries. Residents are more susceptible to serious complications of infections such as Covid 19. Because of the age and repair status of the housing, lower income populations often spend a greater proportion of their income on energy. This population should not continue to suffer the monetary and health effects disproportionately as we transition to alternative energies.

The Climax UMW began by educating ourselves about energy sources and waste gases with the goal of reforming our energy habits. We learned about the sources and limitations of fossil fuels, the production and problems with carbon dioxide, the global warming potential of methane, and the effects of global warming on habitats, wildlife and insects, seasons, weather, and sea levels. Decreasing energy use will decrease global warming. We identified sources of energy use in our lives and applied the principles of rethink/replace, reduce, reuse, and recycle.

We look forward to doing Energy Justice projects on a local scale. Nationally, the UMW is committed to active involvement in the transition to alternative energies. God charged us with ruling and caring for his creation. We need to do a better job of taking care of Earth, and not using it up. Every change we as individuals make to reduce our energy consumption will help.

## Slow Down Global Warming by Reducing Energy Use, Reducing use of Fossil Fuels

	Rethink/Replace	Reduce	Reuse	Recycle
Plastics	Shopping bags	X	X	
	Milk jugs			X
	Water bottles		X	X
	Purchase products made with recycled plastics	X		X
Clothes	Don't buy new		X	
	Wear things longer	X	X	X
	Reuse old clothes (mittens, hot pads, shopping bags, quilts)		X	
Lighting	Turn lights off	X		
	Replace bulbs with LEDs	X		
Heating/Cooling	Lower wash temperature	X		
	Set thermostat at 68 in winter/75 in summer	X		
	Dry clothes on a rack or line	X		
	Take shorter/cooler showers	X		
Transportation	Share rides	X		
	Combine trips	X		
	Use public transportation	X		
	Drive more slowly	X		
Food	Replace beef with poultry, eggs, beans, nuts	X		
	Buy only what you need	X		
	Have meatless days	X		
	Eat local foods, in season	X		
	Compost			X (rot)
Paper Products	Use cloth napkins	X		
	Buy products made from recycled paper		X	
	Recycle paper			X

### ***A note from the Secretary of Program Resources***

The following units have submitted their reports for the 2019 Reading Program.

#### **Bangor Simpson**

Allison Hein—L2  
Carole Pumfrey—L3  
Jane Rainey—L3  
Marva Wisser—L3  
Marsha Maurer—L3  
Alice Reissmann—L3  
Marty Maurer—L4  
Shirley Certa—L4

#### **Climax**

Lori Roof—L2

#### **New Journey**

Nancy Calay—L1

#### **Gobles**

Karen Grimes—L2  
Cheryl Rumery—L1  
Mary Ann Menck—L1  
Diane Corradini—L1  
Lois Wesler—L1  
Jan Westcott—L1  
Barbara Browne—L1

#### **Vicksburg**

Laverne Swinehart—L1  
Jean Philport—L1  
Diana Pomeroy—L1

#### **Portage Chapel Hill**

Adele Paxson—L4  
Shirley Cornelius—L4  
Berrienne Provost—L4  
Joyce Crow—L4

#### **Schoolcraft**

Julia Paradine-Rice—L5

#### **South Haven**

Simmie Proctor—L5

### ***A note from our Treasurer***

The following is a list of the 2019 5 Channel Units

Allegan	Coldwater	Otsego	Union City
Bangor Simpson	Dowagiac 1st	Portage Chapel Hill	Vicksburg
Battle Creek Washington Hghts	Gobles	Scotts	
Buchanan Faith	Kalamazoo Westwood	South Haven	
Climax	Niles Wesley	Stevensville	

There were no 5 Star persons for 2019.

### ***A note from Membership, Nurture & Outreach***

The following names were submitted for memorials for 2019.

Marion Flemming	Kaye Cousins	Mollie Clements
Jeanette Jupp	Jackie Nuyen	Maggie Predum
Helen Dohm	Eunice Hurlbutt	Janet Livers
Velma Schnooberger	Merilyn Wenzel	Onnalee Hover
Dorothy Mae Swartout		

## 2020 Local Membership Census Form Greater Southwest District

Local Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit President: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Information reported by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members as of January 1, 2020:	
Number of new members added in 2020:	
Number of members lost by death or other reasons:	
Total members as of December 31, 2020:	

**Unit type:** Please circle the type of unit you are: (circle one)

Local      Cluster/charge      District      Online

**Instructions:** Please fill in the membership numbers for your local unit in the chart above. Also circle the type of unit that best describes your gatherings.

When your form is complete, please send it to the address listed below by February 15, 2021.

**Please mail the completed form by February 15, 2021 to:**

Joyce Babbitt  
47040 24th Street  
Mattawan, Michigan 49071

**Or e-mail:** [joycetaskerbabbitt21@gmail.com](mailto:joycetaskerbabbitt21@gmail.com)

**Thank you**

# ***Pokagon UMW Wins the Mission Challenge For 2019***



We collected Sweaters and Quilts from all over West Michigan on September 12, 2020. God richly blessed us with an amazing number of sweaters and quilts. One woman made more than 100 sweaters!! Pokagon was the winner this year with 184 sweaters and 4 quilts. Bless everyone that made things for the mission challenge. The Distribution Center was happy with what was sent. Our totals by church are listed below:

Church	Sweaters	Quilts	Total
Climax	66	13	79
Scotts		6	6
Pokagon	184	4	188
Gobles	19	17	36
Schoolcraft	4		4
West Wood	106		106
Athens	27		27
Debbie Bachman**	10		10
Hartford		1	1
Total	416	41	457

Wow!! A total of 457 items for the Distribution Center. God has blessed us with an amazing group of women!! Thanks to everyone who contributed this year.

Lori Roof, Mission Coordinator of Education and Interpretation



## ***More pictures from our Mission Challenge***



Ladies from the Climax UMW.



Donna Smith and Bonnie Valkner



Cindy Thiele and Cheryl Proctor



Becky Hays and Cindy Thiele



Jane Knapp



The ladies of Pokagon UMW.