



# HEARTLINE

Lansing District United Methodist Women

Volume 17, Issue 1

January, 2018

## WE ARE CHANGING....FOR THE BETTER!

On Tuesday, November 21, Bishop David A. Bard shared full details — boundaries and lists of churches — profiling the nine new districts of The Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The 2017 Annual Conference voted overwhelmingly to approve a plan to make the new Michigan Conference a nine-district structure. Bishop Bard and his task group were guided by missional and geographic affinity, number of churches and charges, and square mileage as they labored to determine boundaries. This map is the product of their careful deliberations.



**District 1:** Tip of Mitten and Upper Peninsula

**District 2:** Northern Lower Peninsula

**District 3:** Northeastern and Central Lower Peninsula

**District 4:** West Lower Peninsula

**District 5:** Central Lower Peninsula

**District 6:** Central Eastern Lower Peninsula

**District 7:** Southwestern Lower Peninsula

**District 8:** South Central Lower Peninsula

**District 9:** Southeastern Lower Peninsula

Completing this important task takes Michigan United Methodists one step closer to the creation of nine new

districts. In his letter to the Area, Bishop Bard explained that superintendents for the nine districts will be selected by the end of 2017. While they will begin their ministry July 1, 2018, they will convene district conferences in the spring to formally organize and name the districts. Locations of district offices will be selected through consultation of superintendents, district leadership and conference trustees.

“The new district boundaries represent our best prayerful thinking,” the bishop concluded. “If in the future, we need to make changes and adjustments to further our mission and vision, we can and will do that. In the meantime may we, by the grace and power of God, continue to move into the future.”

District 5 is happy to welcome these churches to the district: Alma, Ashley, Bannister, Pompeii, Breckenridge, Carland, Carson City, Chesaning Trinity, Corunna, Corunna Northwest Venice, Dowling Country Chapel, Fowlerville First, Fowlerville Plainfield, Fowlerville Trinity, Henderson, Chapin, Owosso: Burton, Ithaca, Beebe, Juddville, Maple River Parish. Maple Rapids, Lowe, Middlebury, Middleville, Morrice, Bancroft, Owosso-First, Owosso-Trinity, Pittsburg, Riverdale: Lincoln Road, St. Johns First, St. Johns Pilgrim, St. Louis First, Shepardsville, Vernon.

We would like to feature a church in each future issue. Please submit an article highlighting some of your UMW activities to help others get to know you and to foster ideas for other churches in our new district. Both “old” Lansing District and “new” District 5 UMW units are welcome to submit articles of 750 words or less to the *Heartline* Editor.

## I LOVE CHANGE

Greetings and a Happy 2018 to you! Now that Christmas and New Year's is behind us I am sure it has been an exciting time with family and friends and you are ready to know what will be happening in our new district for 2018. Let me first introduce myself.

I am Donna Kleiver, your District President, and not a new face since I have been involved on the District Team for about eleven years. My husband, Jim, and I have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Of course the kids all live in Florida and California, so this gives us many opportunities to travel. I am originally from Ohio and came to Michigan by way of Adrian College and meeting Jim through a mutual friend. Retirement has been enjoyable the past 1 ½ years and frees me up to travel, camp, knit, read and enjoy the world God has provided.

The next district event will be our Spiritual Growth Retreat on May 4-5, 2018, at St. Francis Retreat Center in Dewitt, MI. Grand Rapids District will be joining us and our speaker will be Rev. Deb Johnson. I am sure you will not want to miss this opportunity to rejuvenate your spirit.

2018 programs with the Conference will include Keep Making Peace at East Lansing University UMC on April 14, 2018. National Assembly will be in Columbus, Ohio May 17-20, 2018 and I hope many of you have registered to network with other women who share the Power of Bold. Mission u will be held July 11-14 at Albion College.

In addition, the Michigan United Methodist Church is in the midst of merging the Detroit and West Michigan Conferences into the Michigan Area Conference. The new District lines have been drawn and we will be getting a new district name. Our District of United Methodist Women will have the opportunity to develop new relationships and work on programs to continue our Faith, Hope and Love in Action.

Donna Kleiver

From "Who Moved My Cheese", by Spencer Johnson, M.D., page 45: "...things change and they are never the same again. This looks like one of those times. That's life! Life moves on. And so should we". During 2018 the Michigan Conference will be involved in change with the merge of two conferences into one and the redistricting from 12 to 9 districts. This gives us the opportunity to grow as individuals and United Methodist Women by expanding our wings. Remember that God will be with us as we work through these changes.

## 2018 DISTRICT TEAM

President: Donna Kleiver  
517-663-4193  
[dmkleiver@sbcglobal.com](mailto:dmkleiver@sbcglobal.com)

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# *Spiritual Growth Retreat*

“What the Celts Knew About Theology of the Land”

Ecological, Theological, Fun!



Hosted by: Lansing and Grand Rapids District UMW

May 4-5, 2018

St. Francis Retreat Center

703 East Main Street, Dewitt, MI (517) 699-8321

Check-in: 4-5 pm Friday, send-off 3 pm Saturday



Rev. Deb Johnson is a retired elder in the West Michigan Conference and is living in her family home near Cadillac. She served churches in Manton, Marne, Hudsonville, Lansing, and Sturgis during her 35 year career. Before seminary she was a US-2 through the Board of Global Ministries and served in campus ministry at Iowa State University. Currently she is serving as the chair of the Ferris Wesley House board and on the Board of Ordained Ministry as well as gardening and making applesauce for all of her family.

**Ingathering:** Prizes for Seniors' games at Community House: hand soap, dish soap, nail polish, after shave, etc.

**Fund Raiser:** Accessories Auction: scarves, belts, hats, gloves, jewelry (all necklaces must be placed in small, closed plastic bags), etc.

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**Registration Deadline: April 23, 2018.** Use one form for each person registering. Please print.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

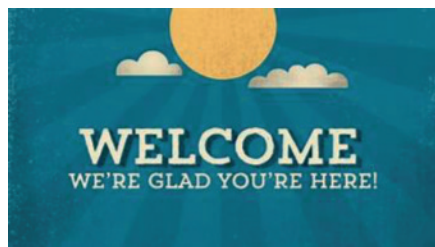
Roommate \_\_\_\_\_ All rooms have twin beds and a bathroom.

Make checks payable to: Lansing District UMW Cost: \$85.00

Send Registrations to: Joyce Plumhoff, 1858 West Columbia Rd., Mason, MI 48854

All facilities are accessible.  
This is a fragrance-free event.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO EXCITING TIMES WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW!



In this beginning of the 2018 year we welcome the new UMW units who will be joining those of the Lansing District (District 5 until new name is designated).

### A Roadmap for Success

Mission Today continues to be our road map for fulfilling the Purpose of United Methodist Women. Please use the 2018 Mission Today Report form included in this issue as you plan for this year. Think of setting goals as you would plot the

route for a trip. Your goals are your roadmap for success. Without goals you are always reacting to circumstances and going wherever they take you. Don't get lost on your trip. Follow the roadmap you and your team design using these Mission Today goals and you are far more likely to end up where you want to be on your journey to fulfill the PURPOSE OF UMW. No unit is too small to participate!!! Give yourself credit for all the wonderful things you are accomplishing.

### Here to Help

I am available for any questions you have on how your unit can meet the criteria to become a Mission Today Unit in 2018. Let me know if you would like me to attend any of your planning sessions or just give me a call. You can be a valuable resource to others by sharing what your unit is doing on your trip. Let me know what has been new and/or successful for you. I'm looking forward to working with our new units as we unite in fulfilling the PURPOSE OF UMW through our **Prayers, Presence, Participation, Gifts and Service**.

Patricia Mentzer, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation. [pat\\_mentzer@yahoo.com](mailto:pat_mentzer@yahoo.com)

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## 2018 READING BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR WINTER

it is wintertime and a good way to pass the time is reading. The 2018 books are now available for local churches to place in the library and make available for all church members to read. Don't forget to list your books that you've read on the READING PROGRAM Reporting Form. The reporting form for books read during 2017 is due to me at 601 Randolph Street, Mason, MI 48854 no later than February 15, 2018.

Karol Fry  
Program Resources

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## BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Welcome to the new year, new district and new beginnings. Remember to send in your registration forms for the events listed on the back page of this *Heartline*. Bring along a friend who has not attended these events before. Maybe she will get interested in becoming a member of UMW. We need all the new members we can get! Have a great spring.

Arlene Stanton  
Membership Nurture & Outreach



# 2018 MISSION TODAY REPORT FORM

Lansing District United Methodist Women of Michigan

**WHY MISSION TODAY?** The purpose of Mission Today is to fulfill the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women by:

- Energizing United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action

- Increasing contacts between local organizations and mission personnel and projects enabling a better understanding of where Mission Giving dollars go;
- Encouraging the use of a variety of mission resources;
- Expanding concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

**WHO?** Every local organization is encouraged to strive for Mission Today status by completing 8 or more suggested criteria as noted below.

## CATEGORIES WITH NUMBER OF ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED

Bronze 8 (including 4 asterisked items)

Gold 16 (including 8 asterisked item)

Silver 12 (including 6 asterisked items)

Participation Certificate Less than 8 items

**WHEN?** Receive recognition for 2018 at the our 2019 District Annual by returning your completed checklist by February 15, 2019, to **Patricia Mentzer, Lansing District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation**  
528 Middlebury Lane, Mason, MI 48854 [pat\\_mentzer@yahoo.com](mailto:pat_mentzer@yahoo.com) 517-676-4232

Local Unit _____	Number of Members _____
Reporting Officer Name and Position _____	
Email contact _____	Phone: _____

United Methodist Women demonstrate their commitment to the PURPOSE through their  
Prayers, Presence, Participation, Gifts and Service.

## HOW?

### PRAYERS

1 \* \_\_\_\_\_ Use the Prayer Calendar at each meeting to pray for mission personnel and projects

2 \_\_\_\_\_ Communicate with at least 5 persons listed in the Prayer Calendar during the year.

Contacted \_\_\_\_\_

3\* \_\_\_\_\_ Participate in a Spiritual Growth Retreat: Names: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRESENCE

4\* \_\_\_\_\_ At least two members were added to the membership roll. Names: \_\_\_\_\_

5\* \_\_\_\_\_ At least one member (not a conference or district officer) attended Conference Mission u or a district Mission u short course. Names \_\_\_\_\_

6\* \_\_\_\_\_ At least two members (not a conference or district officer) attended a District or Conference Annual Meeting. Names: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARTICIPATION

7\* \_\_\_\_\_ At least two members subscribed to and/or read *response* magazine (including online articles).

8\* \_\_\_\_\_ The unit or circle used at least two programs from a UMW Program Book during the year  
Programs used \_\_\_\_\_

9\* \_\_\_\_ The unit, circle, or subgroup conducted at least one **Mission u study** during the year. Study conducted: \_\_\_\_\_

10 \_\_\_\_ At least one member is a member of the UMW's Action Network to receive Action Alerts to share with members.  
Sign up online at [umwactionnetwork.org](http://umwactionnetwork.org)  
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

11 \_\_\_\_ The mission story was told at each meeting through sharing "member support" articles (identified by the Mission Giving logo) *or another article of interest* from *response* magazine.

12 \* \_\_\_\_ A book review/report on a Reading Program book was included during a meeting.

Book(s) reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

13 \_\_\_\_ At least two members completed one of the Reading Program Plans

Members' names \_\_\_\_\_

14 \_\_\_\_ The unit initiated a new or expanded an already existing Local Ministry Program which benefits women, children and/or youth. Describe what you did. \_\_\_\_\_

15 \* \_\_\_\_ Attend a tour of or provide a service at Grand Rapids United Methodist Community House or sponsor a tour for a group from your local church (for example youth group or Mission/Outreach Ministry Team) or community. What you did \_\_\_\_\_



#### GIFTS

16 \* \_\_\_\_ Make and meet a Pledge to Mission. **Required to become a Mission Today unit.**

17 \* \_\_\_\_ Receive Five Star recognition by contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving

18 \* \_\_\_\_ Increase your last year's pledge by any amount.

#### SERVICE

19 \* \_\_\_\_ Implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year

How implemented \_\_\_\_\_

20 \_\_\_\_ Participate in at least two Child Advocacy events/activities during the year.

Describe what you did \_\_\_\_\_

21\* \_\_\_\_ Invite a district or conference officer (not a local member) to one meeting during the year. Officer(s) who attended \_\_\_\_\_

22 \_\_\_\_ Pledge to care for God's creation by becoming a "Green" local organization

How you did this. \_\_\_\_\_

23 \* \_\_\_\_ One or more members participated in hands-on mission such as gleaning, worked in a food pantry or clothes closet, worked at a soup kitchen, promoted a project to aid the elderly in your church or community, provide UMCOR kits, participated in mission trip to Midwest Distribution, Red Bird Mission, or other related activities. Tell what you did: \_\_\_\_\_

**Review with your leadership team immediately. Use this form when planning for the 2018 year. This form is to be submitted by February 15, 2019. Use additional sheets if needed to explain what your unit has done. Please file where you can find it. When reporting at the end of 2018, please do not use forms from previous years.**



## 2017 Membership Report

Please return the following names of new and deceased members  
no later than **February 15, 2018** to:

**Arlene Stanton  
3813 Baldwin Rd.  
Hastings, MI 49058**

**Name of Local Unit:**

**City:**

**Person submitting:**

### **Members Deceased between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

### **New Members Acquired between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**Name**

**(If additional space is needed, use back of form)**

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## MEET THE NEW LANSING DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT

It is said that change is inevitable. During 2017 I discovered how profound that statement can be. First off, let me say that I LOVE change! I find it challenging and even invigorating. Although I have found that not all changes bring on those feelings. For example, after living nearly three years in beautiful, sunny Lakewood Ranch, FL (a place God led us to as we started our residential search, we'd never even heard of Lakewood Ranch), my husband of 42 years passed away in June. In August, I moved "home" to Michigan to soak up much needed love and support of my family (including my church family) and friends. My oldest of two beautiful male (fur babies) Golden Retrievers passed away after only a few weeks back home. Those are changes I will forever grieve, but cherish the loving memories.

Nonetheless, other changes are welcome and fill me with hope and anticipation. God continues to comfort me with his grace and love and has lead me to become again involved in the activities and missions of Holt United Methodist Church and Holt United Methodist Women as well as the Sparrow Hospital Women's Auxiliary. I believe that God also gave me a clear nudge when I volunteered to fill the slot of Vice President for the Lansing District United Methodist Women for 2018. I am grateful for the confidence and support provided by members at the Lansing District Annual and the leadership team. I am excited and invigorated to join the District Leadership Team!

My background includes a great deal of volunteer organization experience from local circle and unit leadership positions in Holt UMW; committee membership and leadership positions for Holt UMC, including service on the two-year Vital Church Initiative team in 2012-14. I also participated in a national tri-level (local, state, national) association during my 30-plus year career in the legal profession. I was appointed and elected to positions on the Lansing, the Michigan, and the National leadership teams. In 1992, after 10 years as a director and officer on the national board of directors, I served as President of the 20,000 member organization. Through that service, I supervised the association's headquarters staff in Tulsa, OK. I traveled nationwide attending and presenting programs related to leadership, professional development, and administrative responsibility. In 2009, I retired from one of Michigan's top law firms located in Lansing where I was Director of Marketing and Recruiting. So, you see, change has been a constant in my life. I am excited, invigorated, feeling challenged and indeed feeling blessed to accept the responsibilities associated with serving as Vice President of Lansing District UMW. Most of all, I look forward to meeting you in the coming months as we work together to turn faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Sharon Smith, Vice President



### PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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.

## FOCUS ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

One of last summer's Mission U programs was Climate Justice. If you did not get a chance to take the class the study book is still available. It ties in with our poverty study of several years ago; If you divide the world's population in four parts - the "top" half has enough - enough money to live, have fresh water, enough food, housing, education, etc. The other half has two states - most will never have enough, enough clean water, food, education, housing, health care. This may be due to war, disease, climate conditions or other factors. There is a certain percentage of people in this category who will not, and cannot, survive - not because of anything they do or who they are but because there is just no way to survive, usually because of war. But if you level the playing field, there is enough for everyone to survive.

So what is the solution? Do what we can - wherever we can and we can pray our way through. Recently, Kiwanis International and UNICEF teamed up to eliminate Maternal/Neonatal Tetanus (look up the Eliminate project) which we know as lockjaw. The cost: about \$1.90 a person or less than a cup of good coffee. So far it's been eliminated from 41 countries. It took volunteers carrying ice buckets of serum up the hills of Nepal and other inaccessible places. But it is working!

Recycling is a part of the solution: work on the local level to see what improvements can be made in your local area. One church saved over \$8,000 a year in utilities just by using automatic shutoff on lights. Church members did the necessary work.

### Useful tidbits:

Space heaters improve comfort and often save energy, but use them with care. Plug electric space heaters directly in to the wall. Read more: <https://energy.gov/energysaver/portable-heaters>. Mason volunteer firemen recently completed a day's training session - while also fighting FOUR fires in 24 hours.

Great Lakes Ace Hardware in Lansing's Frandor Shopping Center is partnering with **ePaintRecycling** and YOU to recycle your old and/or unused latex paint. There is a small charge (about \$4/gal. container). Call **(517) 333-0315**.

Oil-based paints, stains, and other household hazardous waste can be taken to the Ingham County Health Department by appointment. Call **517-887-4312**. Don't live in Ingham County? Please investigate, let me know and we'll cheerfully do our part by printing resources/recycling in the next issue.

Elaine Ferris  
Green Team

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## CLIMATE CHANGE - A MATTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

As the new year dawns, opportunities for social justice flood our consciousness. During the past year our units have supported local, state and global social actions to affect social justice for those in need. With an emphasis on climate justice in the new year we have many opportunities to become involved in the movement for solutions. The Climate Reality Project newsletter outlines these concerns for action: clean power plan (safeguards limiting carbon pollution from power plants), climate changes / extreme weather and the coal versus technology debate. For more

ideas of what you can do next, check out the Climate Reality blog for information and ways to get involved in the movement for solutions. For acting as the hands and feet of Christ in our world, I thank you.

Please keep Randie Clawson, Conference Social Action Coordinator, in your prayers as she leaves for her 3 month mission project in Texas.

Nancy Nay  
Social Action



## 2018 Lansing District Special Friends

Local units have been assigned a team of Special Friends from the District Team. Please contact your Special Friends to set up a time for them to attend a unit or circle meeting during 2018. Special Friends are also available to preside over induction of officers or present programs for your unit. This outreach is designed to strengthen connections between units, district, conference and UMW members as a whole. We can all learn from each other.

### East Central Area

Elaine Ferris	517-676-4175
Pat Mentzer	517-676-4232
Nancy Nay	517-676-3024

#### Units

Lansing Asbury	Lansing First
Lansing Central	Lansing Grace
Lansing Mt. Hope	

### Northeast Area

Donna Kleiver	517-663-4193
Bernice Natoli	517-321-3070

#### Units

East Lansing Peoples	Okemos
East Lansing University	Perry
Holt	

### North Central Area

Judy Marr	517-655-2348
Rita Baird	517-589-9132

#### Units

Bath	Portland
Delta Mills	Sunfield
Grand Ledge	

### Southeast Area

Karol Fry	517-525-6561
Joyce Plumhoff	517-676-2716

#### Units

Crossroads	Eaton Rapids
Millville	Stockbridge
Webberville	Leslie

### South Central Area

Jackie Ricketts	517-782-6126
Sharon Smith	517-648-1133

#### Units

Brookfield Eaton	Mason
Potterville	Gresham
Vermontville	Kalamo

### West Area

Arlene Stanton	269-948-8816
Lynda Crandall	517-663-9114

#### Units

Nashville	Quimby
Welcome Corners	Woodland
Lake Odessa Central	Peace



**Lansing District  
UMW**

Mason First UMC  
201 East Ash  
Mason, MI 48854

**Non-Profit Organization**

**U.S. Postage Paid**

**Permit # 47**

**Mason MI 48854-1775**

**Address Correction Requested**

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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **Deadlines:**

March 14, 2018.....April Heartline Articles Due

April 23, 2018.....Spring Retreat Registration Due

### **Events:**

January 6, 2018.....Epiphany Celebration, Mt. Hope UMC, Lansing

April 14, 2018.....Keep Making Peace, University UMC, East Lansing

May 4-5, 2018.....Spring Renewal, St. Francis Retreat Center, Dewitt

July 1, 2017.....Michigan Area Conference Effective

July 13-15, 2017.....Mission u, Albion College, Albion

September 19, 2017.....Lansing District Annual Celebration, Holt UMC