



THE ANCHOR

News from the Midwest District
United Methodist Women

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As we end our year, I am reminded that I have just one more year to lead my incredible district team in planning events for 2020. I can't tell you how proud I am of their dedication and hard work to make our events meaningful, informative and fun for all of our district members. Read ahead for terrific program offerings in 2020.

2020 will begin with our **Spring Fling** at the beautiful Church of the Dunes in Grand Haven on March 21st. Our topic will be Maternal Care. We will learn about the prenatal care mothers get in other nations and choices we have right here at home. A registration form can be found on page 7.

Spring Retreat is May 1-2. Mid-Michigan District will be planning this event. Ruth Jones will be our keynote speaker and it will be well worth attending. The fellowship is always wonderful and we don't have to cook. Yeah!

Please try to attend **Michigan Annual Conference** in Traverse City as either a church delegate or a UMW representative and learn how our church governs itself. If we want to make a difference we need to be heard. It is scheduled for May 28-31. Details later, but think about what you can do to help lead our church to a greater understanding of who we are. Equalization members are needed. See details on page 9.

Don't miss **Mission u of the West** on July 8-11 at Albion College. These 2020 studies sound incredible and include: "Finding Peace in the Midst of Anxiety", "The Criminalization of Black Girls in School" and "Women United for Change: 150 years in Mission (our past and future)". I hope to see you all there.

Our second half of the year is highlighted by our **District Annual Meeting** on September 19th and our second UMW **Conference Annual Meeting** in October at Kalamazoo 1st UMC on October 25th.

Finally, district team member Judy Huynh was elected as a representative to the North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team for 2021-2024. She is the perfect candidate for this important work. It is my privilege to have her on my team as Education and Interpretation Coordinator. I received a letter from her home church affirming their support of her. Thanks LaValley UMW for sharing her talents with me and now the whole North Central Jurisdiction Team. We are always open to new ideas for events and topics. Contact me with your request for anything you would like to know more about.

In His name, Sue Rietman, Midwest District President, susan.rietman45@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT



Greetings from Fremont! As I write update in November, we have completed all the activities for 2019. As Vice President I am working on 2020 events and maybe even into 2021. Spring Fling is beginning to take shape and will take place on Saturday, March 21 at Church of the Dunes, Grand Haven. We will be talking about midwifery and maternal care. I am always looking for workshop ideas, activities and hands-on mission projects. Contact if you have an idea to share. See you at future district events. Also, remember that your district officers are available to attend your UMW meetings.

Jean Sherman, District Vice Chairman, sherdairy@att.net

MISSION TODAY UNIT REPORTS DUE FEBRUARY 1ST



Since this is the last issue of the newsletter for this year, I just want to remind everyone that ***the date for turning in your Mission Today Unit report is February 1, 2020.*** Please send them to me, your Midwest District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, at my email below or my home mailing address (2101 Clarksville Road, Portland, MI 48875).

I hope that many of your local units have been using these objectives to help guide your programming. (They were printed in the May issue of *the Anchor* and the form can be found on the next page. In my local unit, we look at and discuss these objectives frequently and find them very helpful for planning our year. I hope all your units are finding these objectives valuable as well.

I recently attended the district officer training in Howell organized by the Michigan Conference UMW officers. During our time together, the mission coordinators for education and interpretation from the various districts shared ways they have been working to complete the objectives in their own local units. Some of the objectives need to be met by the unit as a whole, but there are many of them, particularly in the “Mission Action” section, such as visiting a United Methodist Mission Project, attending a school board meeting, or communicating with representatives and advocating for children’s issues, that only need one unit member to complete them.

This is an opportunity for individual members to be involved with something that they are passionate about, and then sharing with their local units. One of the mission coordinators said that at the beginning of the year in their unit, members choose those areas they are most interested in and commit to meeting that objective for the unit. Everyone works together to not only complete the objectives, but also to improve the lives of women, children, and youth in their local church, their district, their conference, and around the world.

I look forward to receiving your *Mission Today* reports and hope that there will be many units that qualify as FAITH, HOPE, JOY, and LOVE units.

Judy Huynh, District Education and Intrepretation Coordinator, judyhuynh@gmail.com

2019 Mission Today Unit Objectives

United Methodist Women - Michigan Conference

Please print clearly!

Name of Unit _____ District _____
 _____ (_____) _____
 Name Telephone

 City State Zip
 Email _____

A unit will receive a Certificate of Achievement upon completion of one of the following categories between January 1 through December 31, to be presented at their Annual Meeting the following October. Check the numbers completed.

- Units completing any **8** or more objectives will be a “FAITH” unit.
- Units completing **9** or more objectives, with 8 asterisks (*) will be a “FAITH” “HOPE” unit.
- Units completing **17** or more objectives, with 10 asterisks (*) will be a “FAITH” “HOPE” “JOY” unit.
- Units completing **25** or more objectives, with 12 asterisks (*) will be a “FAITH” “HOPE” “JOY” “LOVE” unit.

Mission Giving

- ____ 1. *Made and met its Pledge to Mission.
- ____ 2. *Became a 5-Star Unit by contributing to all 5 channels of undesignated giving.
- ____ 3. Donated to local women’s shelter or children’s/youth program.
- ____ 4. Offered scholarships to *Mission u* and/or other United Methodist Women activities.

Spiritual Growth

- ____ 5. Observed a Call to Prayer and Self Denial.
- ____ 6. Participated locally in a retreat, prayer vigil or Bible study.
- ____ 7. Attended a District Retreat, Spiritual Day Apart, or Prayer Breakfast/Brunch.

Membership

- ____ 8. *Added one new member from women who have joined the church in the current year.
- ____ 9. *Added one new member not included in above.

Attendance

- ____ 10. Invited a District or Conference officer (other than a member of the unit) to one meeting.
- ____ 11. Had a combined meeting with another United Methodist Women’s unit.
- ____ 12. Attended Church Women United or another ecumenical group activity.
- ____ 13. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attends a conference *Mission u*.
- ____ 14. *At least two members (other than conference or district officer) attended the conference or district annual meeting/celebration.
- ____ 15. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attended the District Elected Leadership Training.

Mission Education

- ____ 15. *Unit or circle conducted at least one Mission Study.
- ____ 16. *Two members completed a Reading Program Plan and reported on one of the books.
- ____ 17. Participated in but did not complete the Reading Program.
- ____ 18. *Used two programs from the Program Book.
- ____ 19. *Used the Prayer Calendar regularly in the unit meetings.
- ____ 20. Communicated with five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar, one from Michigan Conference.
- ____ 21. *Unit had two members reading response each month.
- ____ 22. *Unit included a response Moment during its meeting using an article to tell our mission story.
- ____ 23. Unit had one Social Action program.

Mission Action

- ____ 24. *Participated in a District or Conference ingathering project.
- ____ 25. Had a member of United Methodist Women present a mission program for youth or children in the church.
- ____ 26. Had at least one member visit a United Methodist Mission Project and report to the unit.
- ____ 27. *Had at least one person receive and respond to legislative information from the United Methodist Women's Action Network.
- ____ 28. Unit or member participated in a workshop, seminar, or book study related to social concerns that stimulated and enriched the total community.
- ____ 29. *Unit participated in the Campaign for Children in at least two ways. Possibilities are:
- Co-sponsored with the local church, a Children's Sabbath.
 - Involved with mentoring, tutoring or "big sisters" programs.
 - Communicated with representatives advocating for children issues.
 - Attended a school board meeting.
- ____ 30. Made a pledge to care for God's creation and worked to become a "green" United Methodist Unit.
- ____ 31. *Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice policies in at least one way during the year.
- Possibilities include:
- Read books and articles about another race or culture.
 - Sponsor an inter-ethnic event between two or more units.
 - Recruit women of color to be members or officers of the unit.
 - Correspond with elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, civil rights, and programs for low-income persons, etc.
- ____ 32. Sent this completed form to your District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation by deadline date: February 1, 2020.

This year our Unit qualified as a Mission Today FAITH HOPE JOY LOVE unit.
(Circle all that apply)

Send to your Midwest District Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator:

Deadline: February 1, 2020

Judy Huynh

2101 Clarksville Road

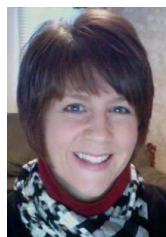
Portland, MI 48875

Phone: (269) 838-1804

E-mail: judyhuynh@gmail.com



HELLO FROM YOUR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR



I'm so excited to begin my third year as your district Communications Coordinator! I continue to be amazed and delighted by the offerings of United Methodist Women. Some of my favorite aspects of UMW is Mission u, the excellent Reading Program, Spring Fling and the Spring Retreat. Now that I think about it, I don't think there is an aspect of UMW I don't like! 😊. Each gathering is a powerful fellowship of women, and I'm proud to be a United Methodist Woman!

I'm responsible for publishing this newsletter four times per year. Our district also has a presence on Facebook that I facilitate. Send me your local church news and events and I will promote them through our platforms. Currently, we reach over 500 women (and men!) in West Michigan.

We are looking for a lovely spirit to serve with us on the district team as Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator in 2020. If you feel called to serve with us, please contact me. The ladies in district and conference leadership are top-notch. We have a great time together, and we get things done!

If you haven't been with us for awhile (or ever), please do make plans to join us in 2020. I'm anxious to meet you.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays. See you soon!

Sara Wolfsen, District Communications Coordinator, saraw1104@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: [Midwest District United Methodist Women \(Michigan\)](#)

READING PROGRAM 2020 IS AWESOME!



If you haven't yet gone to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and checked out the new 2020 Reading Program list of books, you should do it right now! The list is exceptional!

The Fig Tree Revolution by Bill Mefford in the Social Action category is geared to help local churches engage in the transformative and missional work of justice. It's a great book for Sunday school classes, local units and mission teams.

Glory Happening by Kaitlin B Curtice is a beautiful book in the Nurturing for Community category with short readings about finding the divine in everyday places. This book would be great used as a devotional or a centering piece in local meetings.

Those are just two of the books on the 2020 list but there are many more to choose from. The new online catalog also gives a great overview of the Reading Program, how it works, where to get the books, etc. As always, if I can answer any questions about the Reading Program or speak about it to your UMW group, feel free to contact me.

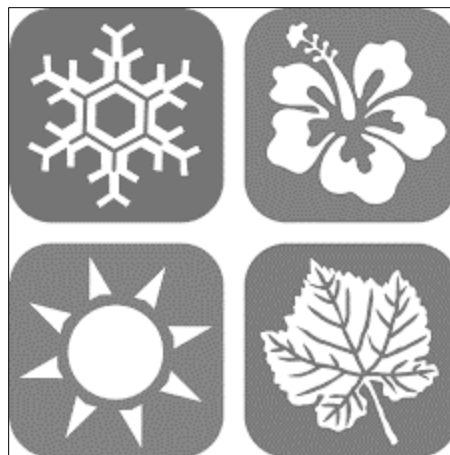
Connie Swinger, Program Resources Secretary, connieswinger@att.net, (616) 813-4670

2020 Reading Program: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram>

A REFLECTION ON THE SEASONS

Lately I've been doing a lot of reading about the season of winter and how that corresponds with times of our lives. I've concluded that there are gifts given in/by Winter that are not related to endings, particularly of life. Winter brings opportunities to slow down, to experience stillness and to seek out warmth.

"Slow down?" you say. "Here comes Christmas. Do you know how much I have to do to be ready?" Wait! Think about Mary and Joseph preparing for the first Christmas. Can you imagine traveling those miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem by donkey? Any donkey I've ever known has had only one gear--slow.



So perhaps on a snowy morning, before the roads or your drive have been cleared, consider this time a gift. Allow yourself to have an extra cup of your favorite hot beverage, take more time than usual with your devotional reading, or simply gaze out the window and marvel at the transformation in the familiar landscape there.

Time taken to quiet the mind and spirit can result in increased creativity and energy. You are likely to find that you can tackle that to-do list more effectively. The best gift we can give our loved ones is calmness and patience so that they may also experience the wonder of this season.

After the holiday activity is past, look for opportunities to "be still and know God". Gaze out at a moonlit night. When you go outside, look for tracks in the snow to see what kinds of animals have come. Now could be the time to settle in with a good book(s) and just enjoy.

Maybe you have a craft or hobby that you haven't spent time with in a long time. Would now be a good time to have an extended phone conversation with a friend you haven't seen in a while? Just as pauses in musical scores serve a purpose, so a pause in our pace of life can enrich the whole of our lives.

In Ecclesiastes 3, time is the topic. We are reminded that there "a season for every activity under heaven." Think about what you might do at this time that will renew you just as winter serves as a way to renew the earth. Without winter, spring would not be able to come. The cold and dormancy are needed before buds and blooms will flourish. May this season and its gifts enable you to be joyfully ready for what comes next.

I pray that you will be touched with the wonder of Christmas anew and that the same peace that snow brings to the land will, in some way, find its way to your heart and mind.

Ann Scott, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, (616) 696-1567, momice4014@gmail.com



Midwest District United Methodist Women Presents...

Spring Fling 2020

Women and Maternal Health: A World of Love and Care



Saturday, March 21, 2020

Grand Haven Church of the Dunes

717 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, Michigan

9:30 a.m. Registration • 10:00 a.m. Welcome • 3:00 p.m. Send-off

Details will be announced about the keynote speaker and break-out sessions as information is confirmed.

Registration Cost: \$10 by March 5th, \$12 after the date.

Use one form per person. Please print.

Name: _____ Church: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____

_____ Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Special Dietary Needs: _____

Daycare needed? _____ If yes, # of children and ages: _____

Cost: \$10 by March 5th, \$12 after March 5th.

Make checks payable to: *Midwest District UMW*

Send registrations to:

Sue Van Portfliet, 1333 Ravanna Drive SE, Grand Rapids MI 49508

SOCIAL ACTION: WASTE REDUCTION – “DO WE NEED THIS?”



Did you know that Climate Justice is one of the four areas of mission focus for UMW? In fact, waste reduction is UMW Principle 11 and its objective is to reduce waste going to landfills by careful purchasing decisions as well as promoting reusing, recycling and composting.

When asked to do an article on Styrofoam for this newsletter I discovered there is much more than one type of material but a much larger effort on our part is necessary.

The UMW website has pages of information and examples of how groups and individuals can work towards reduction of waste.

In addition, Cambrian Park UMC (<http://www.cambrianparkumc.org/ministries/green-ministries.html>) has one of the best local church sites and explains what is being done and why in the area of waste reduction.

The UMW website shares "How-tos" for use at your own church. Here are a few recommendations:

- Before buying an item for your church kitchen or for personal use, ask *"do I need this?"*
- MINIMIZE handouts!
- Place recycle bins where they are visible and encourage their use.
- Donate left over food (using reusable-able containers).
- Serve food and drink in reusable containers when possible.

The complete list is available at the UMW website:

(<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/climate-justice/sustainability/waste-reduction>).

As I read about other countries and cities who have adopted and practice waste reduction policies, my question becomes more personal. What are WE doing as an individual or church or community to practice waste reduction policies?

Jody Pratt, Social Action Coordinator, prattgji09@gmail.com

“Some people, in order to discover God, read books, but there is a great book: the very appearance of created things. Look above you! Look below you! Read it. God, whom you want to discover, never wrote a book with ink. Instead He set before your eyes the things that He made. Can you ask for a louder voice than that?”
- St Augustine (354-430), De Civit Dei, Book XVI

MIDWEST DISTRICT LAY SERVANT CLASSES

Winter 2020 Classes:

Saturdays: January 11 and 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Northlawn UMC, Grand Rapids

Cost: \$25 includes lunch and materials

Class offerings:

Basic Class, Worship Planning/Design, Pastoral Lay Care Giving

Registration deadline: December 20th.

Email Sara Wolfson at saraw1104@gmail.com or follow this

link to register: <https://michiganumc.org/event/midwest-district-lay-servant-classes-winter-2020/2020-01-11/>



Certified Lay Speaker Certification

Saturday, March 7, 2020

St. Paul's UMC, Grand Rapids

Registration Deadline: February 22, 2020

Candidates must provide a record of class completion, local church approval, and present a 5-minute message for certification. To apply for certification, make an appointment with Sara Wolfson, saraw1104@gmail.com before February 22, 2020.

DISCOVERY MISSION 2019-2020

Our team is collecting bras and vitamins (any kind) for the youth DISCOVERY Mission to Arequipa and Miramar, Peru. The team of eight youth and adults from Michigan and Wisconsin will be working on a VBS and completing light construction projects in both areas by invitation from the local United Methodist Churches in the area. I can make arrangements to pick up your donations until December 20, 2019. Michigan will be sending another team to work for healthcare in October 2020. Bras and vitamins are always needed and will also be gathered by this group.

Jody Pratt, Michigan Volunteer in Mission Coordinator, prattgji09@gmail.com

DISTRICT SEEKS EQUALIZATION MEMBERS FOR 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Midwest District is accepting applications for Lay Equalization Members to Annual Conference (AC) in 2020. You must be available to attend AC 2020 which is May 28-31, 2020 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City.

Conference equalization members shall have their basic expenses paid for by the Annual Conference. Anything that exceeds the basic expenses, detailed by the Commission on the AC Session, will be the responsibility of the Equalization Member.

Application deadline is January 15, 2020. More information is found on the 2020 Annual Conference website: <https://2020.michiganumc.org>

WESLEY PARK UMW CELEBRATES 150 YEARS!



Julie Riemersma and Lynda Edsall celebrate 150 years of UMW at Wesley Park UMC.

The women of Wesley Park UMW celebrated 150 years on Sunday, September 29, 2019. We had Jenn Amo as our speaker. She gave her personal testimony and shared her ministry "Warning Lights." She teaches kids, youth and young adults the warning signs of human trafficking and she has dedicated her life's work to this mission. She makes people aware that human trafficking goes on right under our noses here in West Michigan. Human trafficking is the second largest growing organized crime in this country. Our youth are so fortunate she is fighting for them.

We celebrated UMW's 150th Birthday by telling our congregation about the history of UMW, showing maps of UMW influence around the world, and even had a birthday cake at the potluck following the service. We invited all the

women of the church to join us in our quest. I let them know that, yes, we are small, but when in mission with all of the other chapters of UMW, we are mighty. It is a legacy to be proud of and an honor to be part of.

It was a great service, welcoming new members to our church family, and offering new interest in UMW.

In His Name we work,
Lynda Edsall, Wesley Park UMW
Wyoming, Michigan



Paula Heartly and Delores Sanford, Wesley Park UMW.

THANK YOU! FROM JULIE RIEMERSMA

To all my UMW sisters, I am so thankful to have served on the district team as Vice President, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator and Nominations Chairperson for over 10 years. What an honor to work side by side with a wonderful group of ladies. I have met some lifelong friends. We have been to Mission u, training classes, and Assembly (four times!).

I have to thank all my UMW sisters at my old church (Olivet UMC), and my Grandma Ruth, Imogene, Mom, my step-mom Arla as well as my dear friends Carla, Bunny, Nan, Toni, Dela, Mary, Connie, Kryz, Judy, my Supportive Sisters, Wesley Park UMW and all the ladies who loved and encouraged me along the way. You helped make me who I am in UMW and in life. Thank you for all your guidance and support for all these years.

Thank you, also, for buying t-shirts and collecting health kits and school kits. All together we sent about 275 kits to UMCOR this Fall. Good job! People we have never met are feeling loved. I'll see you around. Take care my UMW sisters.

Julie Riemersma, former District Nominations Chairperson

SAVE THE DATE! SPRING FLING

Saturday, March 21, 2020, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.



Church of the Dunes, Grand Haven
Registration fee: \$10 (lunch included)
Program topic :
 Women & Children's Health
Look for the registration form in this
newsletter on page 7.

**UPcoming
EVENTS**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SPRING SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, 2020

Check-In Friday at 4 p.m., Send-off Saturday at 3 p.m.

DeWitt Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI

Watch for registration details in the March newsletter.



*Midwest District leaders celebrate UMW
at the Conference Annual Meeting in October.*

MIDWEST DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2020 BUDGET

PLEDGE TO MISSION	\$	35,000
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ADMINISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (A&MD)

OFFICER EXPENSES:

(Those not associated with District or Conference Events)

100	Postage	\$	50	
101	Supplies/Printing		50	
103	Mileage		800	
106	Bank Expenses		75	
107	Audit		150	
108	Dependent Care (not at event)		100	
109	Officer Resources/Subscriptions		50	
	TOTAL OFFICER EXPENSES			1,275

CONFERENCE EVENT EXPENSES (Those associated with events including travel, meals, child care, scholarships, when not covered by Conference):

200	Annual Meeting		200	
202	Mission u		1,600	
203	Other		-	
	TOTAL CONFERENCE EVENTS			1,800

DISTRICT EVENT EXPENSES (Those associated with events including travel, meals, supplies, printing, child care, honoraria, scholarships for local women):

300	District Annual Meeting		1,000	
301	Local Unit Leadership Training		-	
302	District Spiritual Growth Retreat		1,500	
304	Other:		1,000	
	\$400 TBD			
	\$600 Evening/Day Apart (2 locations)			
305	Spring Fling		1,000	
	TOTAL DISTRICT EVENTS			4,500

OTHER EXPENSES:

400	Anchor/Meeting Program/Directory		2,000	
401	Program Resources/Books (includes sales tax)		300	
402	District SMR, Gift in Memory, etc.		80	
404	Miscellaneous		50	
	TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES			2,430

TOTAL BUDGETED A&MD EXPENSES	\$	10,005
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MIDWEST DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2020 LEADERSHIP TEAM

PRESIDENT:

Sue Rietman, Middleville UMC [2017]
15 Market Street, Middleville, MI 49333
(269) 795-7644, susan.rietman45@gmail.net

VICE PRESIDENT:

Jean Sherman, Fremont UMC [2017]
7447 W. 44th Street, Fremont, MI 49412
(231) 519-2542, sherdairy@att.net

SECRETARY:

Nancy Duiven, Caledonia UMC [2018]
9100 84th Street, Alto, MI 49302
(616) 891-1404, grannyd2@charter.net

TREASURER:

Betty VanderWal, Cedar Springs UMC [2014]
11644 Townsquare Blvd., Rockford, MI 49341
(616) 813-5684, bettyvwal@gmail.com

REGISTRAR:

Sue VanPortfliet, Cornerstone UMC
1333 Ravanna Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508
(616) 246-7183, suezeeeque@gmail.com

MISSION COORDINATORS**SECRETARY OF PROGRAM****RESOURCES (Reading Program):**

Connie Swinger, Wyoming Park UMC [2018]
255 Brown Street SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 813-4670, connieswinger@att.net

**MEMBERSHIP NURTURE &
OUTREACH:**

Open Position – Your Name Here? 😊

SOCIAL ACTION:

Jody Pratt, Middleville UMC [2013]
2984 Fifth Street, Shelbyville, MI 49344
(616) 292-4908, prattgji09@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS:

Sara Wolfsen, Fremont UMC [2018]
7476 Orchard Circle, Fremont, MI 49412
(231) 830-4092, saraw1104@gmail.com

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION:

Judy Huynh, LeValley UMC [2019]
2101 Clarksville Road, Portland, MI 48875
(269) 838-1804, judyhuynh@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

Ann Scott, Cedar Springs UMC [2018]
4014 Russell Road, Cedar Springs, MI 49319
(616) 696-1567, momice4014@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Chairperson:

Sue Rietman, Middleville UMC
15 Market Street, Middleville, MI 49333
(269) 795-7644, susan.rietman45@gmail.net

HELP WANTED

Would you like to serve on our district team? Leaders for these important roles are needed:

- Membership Nurture & Outreach

If you would like to learn more about a role, or would like to nominate a friend, please contact a board member.



The ANCHOR, Midwest District United Methodist Women newsletter is published four times yearly – February, May, August and December.
Copy deadlines: 2/10, 5/10, 8/10, 11/10

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saraw1104@gmail.com

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The PURPOSE of United Methodist Women:

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 community; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church.



2020 IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE:

✂ clip and save ✂

- **February 1**, Mission Today Unit Reports are due (page 3-4)
- **February 10**, deadline for Spring newsletter articles
- **Saturday, March 21**, Spring Fling, Church of the Dunes, Grand Haven
- **May 1-2**, Spring Growth Retreat, St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI
- **July 8-11**, Mission u of the West, Albion College, Albion, MI
- **Saturday, September 19**, Midwest District Annual Meeting, (location to be determined)
- **Saturday, October 25**, Michigan Conference Annual Meeting, Kalamazoo 1st UMC
- **November 2020**, Day and Evening Apart, details to be announced