



August 2011

Mission Voice

of the MO Conference
United Methodist Women

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MO Conference UMW Eighth Annual Meeting September 24, 2011

"Peace is a many colored thing"

"Live at peace with everyone" Romans 12:18

First UMC of Blue Springs

301 SW Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, MO 64013

We are on our way to Blue Springs this year for our Annual Meeting on September 24, 2011. We will have worship, a key note speaker, focus groups, tours and a time to meet and eat and some awesome fellowship with each other as well completing the business of the Conference UMW.

We will start our time together with tours of mission agencies near Blue Springs on Friday, September 23rd at 2:00 p.m. We will meet at 1st UMC of Blue Springs where we will get into vans and busses from local churches to go tour your choice of Della Lamb, Spoffard, New house or ReStart. You will need to make your 1st and 2nd choice on your registration form.

Supper is on your own. Then from 6-8 p.m. we will have our fellowship time with "Meet and Eat" which is a time of light snacks provided by the three host Districts of Heartland Central, Heartland North and Pony Express in room 117 at 1st UMC Blue Springs. Anyone that is involved in the program on Saturday is expected in the Sanctuary at 8:00 p.m. for practice.

Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. registration begins in the foyer of the church. Just outside the doors to use are the church bell and "Welcome Home" sign. There are stairs at this entrance so if you need the use of the elevator or wheelchair entrance, those doors are on the south side of the church where the flags are posted. During registration time you will be able to fellowship with light snacks, visit the program resource room, visit the Mission Corsages booth or the History room which will have a display of our history

presented by our Historian, Carol Smith. Registration will be until 8:45 a.m. when we will gather to sing in the Sanctuary followed by opening worship and the business meeting.

During the business meeting we will elect our officers for 2012, accept the proposed budget and hear reports on events that happened this year and will happen in the next year. We will honor our Women in Mission of the Year also during the morning session.

After lunch, catered by the local unit, we will present your choice of two different focus groups. You have asked in the past that we show you how to use the program book. So, this year we are basing the focus groups on the 2011 program book "Finding Peace" and other current topics.

You will need to make your 1st four choices on the registration form. You will only attend two, 45 minute focus groups but we will be limited in space in the rooms we will be using for the groups. We will try to get everyone into their first two choices but the groups will be filled as the registration forms are turned in to the registrar. After the focus groups we will gather again in the Sanctuary for the Pledge Service and Key note speaker. Our key note speaker this year will be the host church's Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sally Haynes. She will bring a message that will inspire and bless all in attendance and will lead us in communion after her message.

Our Ingathering this year will be the needs of the mission projects we will be touring. Those items needed are: Dove or Ivory Soap, Soap Containers, 1" or 2" white binders, Diapers Sizes 4-6, Shower Curtains, Shower Shoes and travel size toiletries. At this meeting we will be a designated collection point for the Little Dresses for Africa. The pattern and material list can be obtained on the website or at www.nancysnotions.com

The Mission Voice is a bi-monthly publication of the MO Conference UMW. The paper subscription rate is \$5 for the year. To update your address or to subscribe, contact Katie Willis, Editor at:

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Visit online at:
www.moumethodist.org/umw



2011 Annual Meeting Very Important Information
 Postmarked Deadline is September 14, 2011
“Finding Peace”

WHAT TO EXPECT

We will

- conduct official business of the Conference
- approve a budget for 2012 and conduct a Pledge Service
- elect officers and install the incoming officers
- experience meaningful worship services
- learn new ideas and information in programming

Suggested Hotels:

When you call for reservations, indicate you are with MO Conference United Methodist Women and/or Paula Ackerson

- Courtyard by Marriott 1500 NE Coronado Drive, Blue Springs, MO 64014 phone # 816-228-8100
room rates \$69.00
- Comfort Inn and Suites Blue Springs 1501 NW North Ridge Drive, Blue Springs, MO 64015 Phone # 816-224-2899
room rates \$75.00
- La Quinta Inn and Suites Blue Springs 3402 NW Jefferson Street Blue Springs, MO 64015 Phone # 816-988-9980
room rates \$99.00
- Holiday Inn Express 19901 East Valley View Parkway, Blue Springs, MO 64015 Phone # 877-410-6667
Current Rate \$119.00

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN

Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning at the church. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. Workshops will be held in the afternoon followed by the closing Worship Service with our keynote speaker, Dr. Sally Haynes, Sr Pastor at Blue Springs UMC. Service will conclude with communion. The meeting will adjourn at 3:30 p.m.

Resources will be available in the Program Resources room for those wanting books and program ideas for mission. Everyone is invited to bring her own recycled bag to carry home the resources and information from the meeting.

In Gathering: This year will be needs of the Mission Agencies we will be touring. The items needed are: Dove or Ivory Soap, soap containers, 1” or 2” white binders, Diapers Sizes4-6, shower curtains, shower shoes and travel size toiletries.

Friday's Activities

Those who arrive Friday will have two optional activities to participate in:

Mission Agencies Tours:

We have arranged to have tours lined up at Della Lamb, Spofford, New House and ReStart. Please note on Registration form your first and second choice. Meet at the church at 2p.m. to get bussed to the various agencies.

“Meet and Eat”

First UMC of Blue Springs is hosting a social event for us from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will be a chance for us to visit with each other. Please note that it is not a meal, but a light snack.

Workshop Descriptions

A Peek Between the Pages: Two of the books in the Reading Program will be reviewed by Linda Page.

Making Peace with Mother Earth: How to be green and help our Earth. Presented by Rachel Bachenberg

VIM and the Joplin Experience: How to deal with disasters and how it helps bond the human spirit. Presented by Jeff Baker

Finding, Giving and Living Peace: How help the UMW by contributing to Missions and why it is important by Carolyn Celestine

Women's History Month, UMW Style and Deaconesses: How we as UMW can make the world a better place by Gail Davis

Finding Peace through Actions – Bring a Friend: How to be a contagious Christian and to bring friends closer to God by Alexis Robison.

Writing a Program-UMW Sunday: How to write a meaningful and spiritual program for UMW Sunday by Shari Scott

REGISTRATION FORM

Missouri Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting
SEPTEMBER 24, 2011
First United Methodist Church of Blue Springs

301 SW Woods Chapel Road

Blue Springs, MO 64015

Please copy this form and submit a separate form for each person attending.
Send to registrar by September 14, 2011. This form is for registration and lunch only.
Hotel reservations should be made directly.

General information can be found with this form and/or in the "Mission Voice" UMW Conference Newsletter.

Name _____ Phone _____

Postal Mailing Address _____

E-Mail Address _____ Confirmation letter will be sent by e-mail, if this blank if
completed. Those without e-mail will receive a confirmation letter in the postal mail.

Check all that apply: _____ Local Unit Member _____ District Member _____ District Officer
_____ Conference Officer (Please indicate office) _____
_____ I am age 35 or under. _____ This is my first time to attend a UMW Annual Meeting.

Name of Local Unit (Church) _____ Name of District _____

Child Care will be available on site if requested. Only PRE-REGISTERED children will be accepted. Please make
notation of each child on a separate form. There is no reduction in registration fee for children. Meals for the children
are the parent's responsibility. Please bring all items your child(ren) will need while in child care.

Registration Fee \$30.00 _____ Amount enclosed

I wish to take the Friday tour to one of the following Mission Agencies: Please mark a 1. or a 2. For your selection:
_____ Spofford _____ Della Lamb _____ New House _____ ReStart
_____ Yes, I wish to attend the Friday night social "Meet and Eat."

Please indicate your first 4 choices of workshops on Saturday afternoon. Every effort will be made to assign you the
workshops you pick. Your Confirmation Letter will indicate your workshops. You will be attending 2 Focus Groups.

- Finding, Living, Giving Peace _____
Making Peace with Mother Earth _____
VIM and the Joplin Experience _____
Women's History Month, UMW Style and Deaconesses _____
Finding Peace Through Action - Bring a Friend _____
Writing a Program - UMW Sunday _____
A Peak Between the Pages _____

Complete registration form and mail with registration fee.

Make check payable to Missouri Conference UMW.

Mail check and registration form to registrar:

Jean Schlegel 6701 Cherry Kansas City, MO 64131 816-523-2089 E-mail for questions only: jeanschlegel@yahoo.com

Mabel's Muse

~Mabel Unser

It's summer! Did anyone else notice? For me it has meant HOT, HOT, HOT! But it has also meant attending Regional School and sharing with others in study, worship and renewing friendships. Now it is time to prepare for our Missouri Conference Cooperative School of Missions. We look forward to our time together in Fayette from July 28 – July 31. Come prepared to learn, worship and play together.

God has blessed me with making a mission trip with the youth from my church to New York City. We stayed at St. Paul & St. Andrew UMC on the upper west side. Some of the activities included working in the food pantry which last year served over 1 million people. We helped prepare meals for the homeless and made some relationships with the people who were a part of that community.

Grow in Christ!

~Shari Scott

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.
(Ephesians 4:32 HCSB)

The Journey is the Bible study for our Cooperative School of Christian Mission this year. I have just started to read the study book and I feel we will share a very soul searching look at restorative justice, reconciliation and forgiveness when we come together at Central Methodist University.

For those of you that were able to attend the Spiritual Grown/Social Action Retreat this year, we learned about reconciliation and forgiveness. *The Journey* will continue to explore the Bible and its message of reconciliation and how it frees us.

Plans are also underway for our 2011 Annual Meeting on September 24th in Blue Springs. If you are looking for ideas on how to plan your UMW Sunday, there will be a focus group just for you. We will be going over the basics of how to plan for UMW Sunday and sharing program ideas. I hope to see you there.

May God be with you each and every day!

One afternoon took us to the Women's Division Building (Church Center for the United Nations) across from the UN where we met with Jay Godfrey. Jay leads the Seminar Programs and gave our youth information about the UN. He also spoke of World Hunger and what the United Nations is doing to help on this issue.

Also while there we had a chance to speak to Sung-ok Lee, Assistant General Secretary of Christian Social Responsibilities. She told the youth about all of the areas of Social Action that she was responsible for.

I would be happy to share with anyone the importance of the trip to me and also to the youth.

Being God's Feet

~Carolyn Celestine

Being God's Feet

Our 5th Annual Walk for Mission this year was again a success. To date, approximately \$3,732 has been collected. Congratulations to the Missouri Conference for "Being God's Feet" for Mission.

In 2011, the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial theme is "A Gift of Love" and the offering will be used to replenish the Retirement Benefits Fund for retired missionaries and deaconesses for whom the Women's Division is responsible.

We have passed the half-way mark for our Mission Giving for 2011. As of June 30th, \$104,996 was received for Mission Giving. Our pledge for 2011 is \$420,000, which means we have given only 25% toward our pledge. Historically, the bulk of our giving has been in the last quarter of the year. This trend makes it difficult for Women's Division to conduct year-round planning because of an uneven cash flow. In other words, less money is given during the first half of the year. Because of the current economic climate, we have not increased our pledge for the past 3 years and I thank you for your support and continued generosity in spite of the economy. I encourage you to give as much as you can for all those in need.

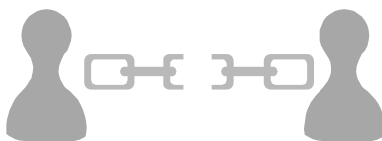
When running or walking a long distance race, it is important that you keep an even pace in order to finish successfully. The same is true when you send your pledges and gifts. Our mission money offers hope to thousands of women, children and youth. Let's put our best "feet" forward for mission.

Speaking Out Against Human Trafficking(.....)Making Connections!

Wednesday and Thursday,
August 24-25, 2011, Saint
Louis Area. Arlington
UMC
Bridgeton, MO

Friday and Saturday, August
26-27, 2011 Broadway
UMC in Kansas City, MO

A 2-day event will be avail-
able in Kansas City and St.
Louis. \$10 fee will cover
registration and lunch if
mailed and \$15 at the door



Contact Person:

Rachel Bachenberg,
MO Conference Social
Action Coordinator

Dolphinbach@hotmail.com
816-547-3975

First Evening:

6:30-7:00 pm ***Gathering Together***

7:00-9:00 pm ***Making The Connections With Our Community***
Introductions/What is Human Trafficking/
Learning About Our Area Resources

Second Day:

8:00-8:30 am ***Gathering Together***

8:30-12:00 Noon
Making The Connections With Our Faith
Why Do United Methodist Women
Connect With Others Based on our Faith

12:00-12:45 pm Lunch

12:45-3:45 pm
Making The Connections With Our Action
Network
How We Learn to Work with Others to Make a
difference in a Local and Global Context

Registrar

Carolyn Celestine
9529 Outlook Drive
Overland Park, KS 66207

Please send in registration form
and check made out to MO Con-
ference UMW



MO Conference
United
Methodist
Women

Regional School Pictures in Abilene, Texas



Harriet Jane Olsen speaking on Changes to Women's Division!

Awesome Music!



Here is the awesome Missouri Conference UMW team!

Here is are School Dean, Sally Holston, praise dancing.



Meet the Nominees for the 2011-2012 MO Conference UMW Mission Team!

President: Mabel Unser is the mother of two children, Beth Lesemann and John Unser. She is proud of the five grandchildren her daughter and son provided her.

She is active in her local church, Arlington UMC in Bridgeton, Missouri. She has served as Chair of the Pastor Parish Committee, Administrative Council Chair and as delegate to Annual Conference. She enjoys singing in the choir and playing the hand bells. Participating in mission trips with the youth and adults has been important to her.

Through the years she has been active in UMW serving many offices in her local unit. She has been secretary and treasurer of the District. She has served both as Social Action Coordinator and Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Missouri Conference.

Other activities she has participated in include attending the National Seminar for UMW at Scarrett-Bennett in Nashville and going as a sponsor to Chicago for the National Gathering of Teen and College Women in 2000. She also has served on the Regional Mission School Committee and on the Conference Mission School Committee. She has served eight years on the Legislative Event committee, with two of those years leading as chairperson. During her tenure as Social Action Coordinator she attended the Legislative Briefings in Washington, DC two years.

In March of 2008 she planned the worship services for the South Central Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

As can be perceived from her list of activities, keeping active in the life of the church and United Methodist Women is important to her.

Secretary: Kathy Rolan has been an active member of the UMW for over 40 years. She is currently serving as secretary. She is also very involved with Church of the Shepherd and holds the secretary/treasurer for the local unit. Prior to moving to the Gateway Regional area, she was active in the "Old St. Louis North District" where she held positions as Social Action Chairperson and Secretary of Program Resources. She also held local positions as. Kathy retired from State Farm Insurance and has been married to Ray, who is a scientist for Boeing. They are members of Church of the Shepherd in St. Peters. They have one son, Sean, and daughter-in-law, Brandy, and three grandchildren, Jessica, Christian and Kristina, who live in Overland, MO.

Social Action Coordinator: Theresa Dixon is an active member of St. James UMW local unit for over 20 years, She has held every position except President. In 1998-1999 and 2004-2005, She held the position as District Treasurer in Kansas City Central District. When she attended the National Seminar in 1999, it sparked her interest in Social Action.

She has been a widow since 2003, but has two children and 4 grandchildren and retired from City of Kansas City in 2006.

Her interests include travel, exercise, reading and volunteer work.

Communications: Katie Willis is 33 years old and has been married to Robert for 10 years. They have no two legged children, just canine and feline children. She graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a degree in Biology in 2000. She is currently attending school to become a Certified Veterinary Technician. Katie is a Veterinary Technician for St. Charles County Animal Control and has been for 11 years.

She is an active member of Church of the Shepherd in St. Peters. She is currently helping lead the local unit with Kathy Rolen. She has been active since 2001 in the local unit. Then became a Gateway Regional District officer back in 2006 as the Communications Coordinator. She became the Communications Coordinator for MO Conference in 2009. She also enjoys scrapbooking, quilting and reading "anything I can get my hands on".

Spiritual Grow Coordinator: Ruth A. Pirch grew up on a dairy farm near Lee's Summit, MO. She attained her BS and MS degrees from the University of Missouri.

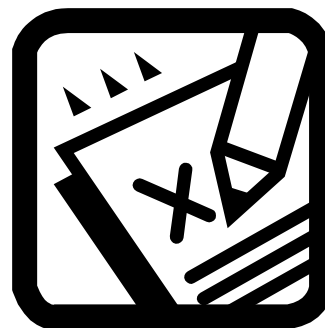
Her professional career of about 40 years was spent with the University of Missouri Extension Service as a Home Economist and Child and Family Development Specialist.

She has been married to George, a retired teacher and coach for 45 years. She has two daughters and four grandchildren.

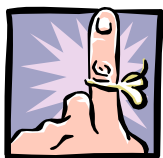
Following her retirement; a United Methodist Women-friend suggested her name as a possible District Spiritual Growth nominee. That began her journey as a Spiritual Growth Coordinator, having served in that capacity in two Districts.

She is currently serving her local unit, Oak Grove UMC as president. She has served in several offices of her local unit as well.

Committee on Nominatons: Verlee Gilkerson is married to Donald Gilkerson and has two adult children and has two grandchildren. She holds a Global Information Systems Certificate and currently is a professional Volunteer. Her interests include history and dogs. In her spare time she likes to knit, hike, travel camp, read and dance. She also is an avid fan of Facebook and other computer uses. She lives in Kearney, MO and member of Kearney First UMC. She is in the Heartland North District where she is currently on the committee on Nominations. She has held several positions at the local as well as district level. She has been a communications coordinator for Heartland North as well.



Committee on Nominations: Nancy Mountain retired as a Personnel Management Specialist for the US Air Force in 1995. Since that time she has been very active in her local church as well as other work within the Missouri Conference. As Lay Leader in her local church she served on several committees as well as leading worship and other small groups. She has filled most of the offices in her local United Methodist Women Group, serving as President more than once. At the District Level, she served as UMW President, Vice President and Spiritual Growth Coordinator. She has filled a seat on the Heartland South District Council for the last 8 years. She was a leader at a District Retreat and taught at a Mission Study event. She has been a Member-at-Large of the Missouri Annual Conference for the past 9 years. At the Conference Level, she served on the Global Connections Team, 4 years, and then on the Creative Ministries Team. She has been Registrar, Dean, and Assistant Dean of the Cooperative School of Christian Mission. She is Conference Certified Lay Speaker.



Don't Forget!
Sept 10 Deadline: Mission Voice Articles
Sept 24 Annual Meeting

St. Louis Area:
Arlington UMC
3770 McKelvey Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044
August 24-25, 2011

REGISTRATION FORM
Speaking Out Against Human Trafficking
Missouri Conference United Methodist Women

Kansas City Area:
Broadway UMC
406 W 74th Street
Kansas City, MO 64114
August 26-27, 2011

*Please copy this form and submit a separate form for each person attending.
Send to registrar by August 15, 2011. This form is for registration and lunch only.*

General information can be found with this form and/or in the "Mission Voice" UMW Conference Newsletter.

Name _____ Phone _____

Postal Mailing Address _____

E-Mail Address _____ Please select location: _____ St. Louis _____ Kansas City

Check all that apply: _____ Local Unit Member _____ District Member _____ District Officer

Name of Local Unit (Church) _____ Name of District _____

Registration Fee \$10.00 At the door \$15.00
_____ Amount enclosed

Mail check and registration form to registrar:
Carolyn Celestine 9529 Outlook Drive, Overland Park, KS 66207

For Questions or problems call: Rachel Bachenberg 816-547-3975 dolphinbach@hotmail.com



Return Service Requested

Katie Willis, Editor
1568 Highway J
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