



United  
Methodist  
Women

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# Circuit News

South Central District – Iowa  
Winter 2019

## A Message from the President

Penny Warren  
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Happy New Year! I hope everyone is ready for another great year in the South Central District.

I'm so excited to be your new SC District President replacing the irreplaceable Sandy Oswald. Sandy has been a wonderful mentor and has helped me in the past four years in my role as Spiritual Growth Coordinator. Although I have met many of you over the past four years, I plan to make a concerted effort to visit some of your units and get better acquainted. I'm interested in what you expect from me as your president and how I can be a resource for your unit. Please don't ever hesitate to contact me.

For those of you who don't know me, I will briefly tell you a little about myself. I live in Bloomfield where my husband was a teacher/counselor at Davis County High School and I was a nurse educator at Indian Hills Community College. We are now both retired and loving it! Our four sons are married and have blessed us with twelve grandchildren. When we are not attending our grandchildren's activities, we are involved in volunteering at the Lord's Cupboard, Welcome Center and the Bloomfield UMC. I've been a member of UMW since we moved to Bloomfield forty-three years ago. I am passionate about the mission of UMW. We have a long (150 years!) tradition and purpose to serve the needs of the "least of these".

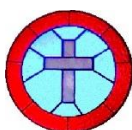
How is your local unit celebrating the 150th anniversary of UMW? I think it is important to make our churches aware of the longevity of UMW, as well as the many mission, education, and spiritual growth activities that are integral to our organization. You might consider holding a church-wide birthday party, writing an article about UMW for your bulletin or newsletter, organizing a mission project in recognition of the 150th year, or giving a brief presentation during your church service. Other ideas? I will be interested to hear how you share about the legacy of UMW.

I believe in God the Father, Jesus Christ his son, and the Holy Spirit.

"May the Lord of all bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; May he lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."  
Romans 6:24-26

## A Message from the Vice-President

Anita Martin  
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Leviticus 26:10 *You shall eat old grain long stored, and you shall have to clear out the old to make way for the new.*

As I began to prepare my message for this newsletter, I began to think about leaving the SC District Board. This will be my last year, and yet, we are starting a NEW year. I wanted to know what the Bible said about OLD and NEW and how it might relate to me this year. I have served in my current office for 3 years, so not really "long stored". But this year I must plan and prepare for the person who will take my place. I want them to be fully aware of the tasks of this office. At the same time, I still must perform those tasks one more time. Making way for the "new" and hoping I do the best in allowing the next VP know and understand what lies ahead. As I begin the task of preparing for our Annual meeting in the fall, I realize there is still much to do. Each task when completed will be for the last time. Clearing out the old to make way for the new. I am ready to prepare. If anyone is interested in knowing more about the tasks involved, email or call me. As I have been rewarded many times over, I would be happy to encourage you in this position!



## A Message from the Secretary

Susan Godfrey  
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Osceola, IA 50213-8347  
641-342-1289  
suegodfrey@hughes.net



Happy winter? What a winter we are having. The snow is beautiful to look at, but not good for stepping foot outside. I'm guessing some of you are busy as usual while some have slowed down to a treading water pace waiting for weather more agreeable for venturing out. Thanks to your efforts at getting officer updates in last fall info on local units was in in time to be shared with conference officers. To keep you up to date on UMW events, please continue to send any changes in officers or contact information as they occur throughout the year. Thanks again! Stay warm and safe!

Thank you to all and have a safe winter!!!

## A Message from the Treasurer

Emily Haase  
221 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St  
Pella, IA 50219-2364  
515-208-2364  
ehaase2011@gmail.com



*"If you choose not to find joy in snow, you will have less joy in your life but still the same amount of snow."*

Winter Greetings!

I hope this note finds you warm and in good health and spirits! The snow does bring challenges, but I find it quite beautiful! Attached you will find the most up-to-date Remittance Form for all Treasurers. Let's go over it:

Please write your Local Unit at the top.

### Mission Giving:

1. Pledge to Mission (your pledge – some units send all at once, some biannually, some quarterly – all methods are fine).
2. Special Mission Recognition (\$40 pin – please attach the SMR order form. You can also

designate money toward this for 5 Star Giving even if you don't want to order a pin, just jot down a note that that is your plan).

3. Gift to Mission
4. Gift in Memory (you can also designate an amount toward this for 5 Star Giving even if you don't have any Memorials for the year).
5. World Thank Offering (just be sure to send before December 10<sup>th</sup> every year to count for 5 Star Giving).

\*Pledge Other (any other collections like Penny-A-Day or Love Gift can go here).

### Designated Gifts:

1. Please note that we **NO LONGER** need to send \$1 for the Magazine Fund.
2. Also **DO NOT** send money for the **Legacy Fund** or **World Communion Scholarship** to me, your District Treasurer. This money needs to be sent directly to National. Last year I forwarded this one for you, but this year I will send your check and remittance form back to you if there is money on the remittance for these items. If you need the address for National, please contact me.

Please fill out all the information at the bottom. I do check often to make sure your contact information is up to date.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns! I do work full time night shift (7pm to 7am) as a RN at Pella Regional Health Center, so I might not be able to get to you right away, but I do try my best to return calls and email promptly.



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Winter 2019

## A Message from the Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

Reta Freihage  
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Ellston, IA 50074-0064  
641-772-4257  
retafae46@gmail.com



We have enclosed a flier for the next Spiritual Retreat.  
Please share and post the flier.

The spiritual retreats and mission studies are always rewarding.

Our speaker will be Mary Morris  
Mary has been active with UMW for many years, including positions on the South Central  
District Officers panel. Mary will be discussing the 150 years of United Methodist Women

When: **March 22 9:00-2:00**

Where: **Pella United Methodist Church**, 1414 University, Pella

### Bring Finger Food to Share

Who: You and a friend! Car pool with a group from your area.

## A Message from the Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

Susan Weight  
911 James Ridge  
Creston, IA 50801  
641-202-4408  
w.weight@mchsi.com



Save the date!!!

The next district mission study will be held on **Monday, April 22, 2019**, at **Ottumwa First United Methodist Church**. Our speaker has not been finalized, but we anticipate a wonderful day full of inspiration and information.

Our mission day will begin with registration and refreshments from 9:00am-9:30am. We will have devotions at 9:30am, and then the program will commence after devotions.

Lunch will be from 12:00pm to 1:00pm. Please bring finger foods to share for lunch.

Our program will continue after lunch, and we will dismiss no later than 2:30pm.

Please save this date, and I will send out fliers with more information at a later date.

Just think how beautiful the weather will be at that time!

*The Lord is merciful! He is kind and patient and his love never fails. Psalm 103:8*



### A Message from the Mission Coordinator for Program Resources

Lou Ann Willis  
2323 140<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Knoxville, IA 138-8724  
Phone 641-943-2492  
louannwillis@yahoo.com



**Read Pray Act**

Greetings! I am the new person filling this position. Thank you to Mary Morris for assisting me in getting started. I know she will continue to be a great resource.

I have ordered 12 books from the 2019 Reading Program list. These new books, along with current books, will be available to check out during District events throughout the year.

A reminder: You will no longer be able to order books on the Reading Program lists from United Methodist Women Resources. You will be able to purchase books from Cokesbury, Amazon and other major retailers, often at less cost than offered by Mission Resources. If you purchase through the Amazon Smile program ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)), a donation is made with each order and goes to United Methodist Women. (Choose the United Methodist Women in NewYork, NY to support the national office.)

Please contact me if you have questions regarding the Reading Program. We can learn together.

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies.....The man who never reads lives only one." George R.R. Martin

### A Message from the Mission Coordinator for Social Action

Sue Clausen  
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Leon, Iowa 50144-4716  
Phone 641-446-6627  
jnstruik@aol.com



*"It is well with my soul." Horatio Spafford*

I have been singing this phrase from this familiar hymn after hearing it at the funeral of a friend.

It reminds me that no matter our circumstances we can find peace in our faith.

Our primary issues:

**Mental Health** – We support all people including adults, youth, and children, when they suffer either the long or short term effects of mental illness. We honor life and seek to prevent suicide at any stage of life.

**Poverty** – We support legislation that will equip the poor to achieve self-sufficiency.

**Gun Violence** - The UMC is in favor of legislation that prevents children, the seriously mentally ill, criminals, and terrorists from having access to handguns and automatic weapons.

**Environment** - We support care of the earth which will preserve the environment for the benefit of all.

More information is available at <https://www.iaumc.org/advocacy>



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## A Message from the Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Lou Ann Willis  
2323 140<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Knoxville, IA 138-8724  
Phone 641-943-2492  
louannwillis@yahoo.com



Happy 2019! We have completed another year and it is time for your unit to report membership data for 2018. **The absolute deadline for reporting is March 30, 2019.**

If possible, please go to <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census> 2018 and enter data. Remember anyone can enter this data for the unit.

If this is not possible, please complete the Membership Reporting Form found in your District Meeting Packet and mail it to me. Thank you to all who have already reported your data.

The District Friend assignments will be delayed until the Spring Newsletter. Be watching! The District Friends look forward to meeting with all of our friends in the South Central District in 2019.

Proverbs 27:17 "As one piece of iron sharpens another, so friends keep each other sharp."

## A Message from the Committee on Nominations Chairperson

Dawn Egbert  
214 E 8<sup>th</sup> St  
Lamoni, IA 50140  
Phone 641-784-7577  
Cell 832-298-9157  
dawnlumc@yahoo.com

As we welcome in the New Year with lots of cold and snow, we also “warmly” welcome Susan Weight back on our District officers as Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation. Mary Jo Johnson and I are very happy to have Mary Morris with all her wisdom to join us on the Nominations Committee. We look forward to working with our district UMW units to continually reach new potential District Officers. If you are interested in an office or know of anyone interested, please let us know.

Philippians 1:3 “ I thank my God every time I remember you.”

## A Message from the Historian

Gracie Fort  
1413 20<sup>th</sup> Place  
Pleasantville, IA 5022  
Phone 515-848-3278  
Cell 515-249-3744  
graceanna1930@gmail.com

Recording events for history can be a challenge. As hard as I try to gather information, I can only be in one place at a time. You can help...

Please send pictures taken at United Methodist Women events. Include the date and title, with a brief description or names of those in the photo. You may also create your own scrapbook page and send that to me for the District books.

## A Message from the Communications Coordinator

Julie Gethmann  
15550 280<sup>th</sup> St  
Lamoni, IA 50140  
Phone 641-442-5050  
umwiascd@gmail.com

Please forward this newsletter to all who may be interested.

If you or someone you know would like to be included in the email list please send your request to me with your name, email address and associated church or parish.

Email me with events and dates to be included in the next newsletter. Please use the email address [umwiascd@gmail.com](mailto:umwiascd@gmail.com)



## LOCAL UNIT FORMS DUE IN 2019:

January 30 Membership Reports to be submitted online. Online address is:  
[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2018](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2018)

June 30 Reading and Mission Reports to your Chairperson  
October 1 Local Officers list for 2020 to District Secretary  
December 15 Pledges and monies due to District Treasurer

Calendar	
January 30	Yearly Membership Reports Due – Send to Lou Ann Willis or submit online
February 27	Special General Conference
March 22	Spiritual Retreat, Pella UMC, 1414 University, 9-2:30 , Bring finger food
March 23	Day of Giving <a href="http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund">www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund</a> 800-278-7711
April 22	Mission Study – Ottumwa 1 <sup>st</sup> – 9:00-2:30
June 1	Pledge to Mission – send to District Treasurer, Emily Haase
June 9	Iowa Annual Conference UMW Event 5:00-7:00 Wesley UMW
June 30	Reading Reports due – send to Lou Ann Willis
June 30	Mission Study Reports due – send to Susan Weight
July 21-23	Summer Mission U
September 7	South Central District Annual Meeting Osceola UMC
October 1	Local Unit Officers list due to District Secretary (Sue Godfrey)
October 5	150 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Iowa UMW Annual Conference Meeting, Des Moines
October 18-20	Fall Mission U
December 15	All pledges and monies due – send to Emily Haase, Treasurer
	More to come for 2019



### Potential Leaders for Service in South Central District Officer of the United Methodist Women

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: (to be filled out for yourself or for someone else you see as a leader)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience on local, district, conference UMW; local church service in community:

Areas of special interest and concern:

Positions I recommend:

\_\_\_\_ Any position on the district

\_\_\_\_ Specific positions (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Nothing this year, but please keep my name on file and contact me another year.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

My address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to any member of Committee on Nominations or district officer.