

March 2021 Signal from Hays District UMW

Communications

We've had a break down in communications EVERYWHERE the past year. Dates and activities canceled. Meetings and elections disrupted. Due to all that we have not had a Signal newsletter for several months. Putting the March 2021 Signal online instead of a mailing was discussed at the last Hays District Executive Zoom meeting Feb. 6, 2021. Please direct each member of your units to read this information.

Included are updates in 2021 District officers, Connecting Links, Calendar Dates (including cancellations), Annual Meeting info and registration form plus Conference Information from Carolyn. Calendar Dates are listed at the end so although it's a bit long please read to the end.

Hays District Officers for 2021

President – Cheryl Metcalf

Vice President – Teresa Albert

Secretary – Janae Tuttle

Treasurer – Deanna Castle

Faith – Coralee Thornburg

Growth - Phyllis Stull

Action – Deanna Nech

Giving – Dolores Romeiser

Learning – Janet Reynolds

Communications – Kathy Koehn

Historian –

Standing Rules Committee – Deanne Ficken and Roberta Schaepli

Nominations Committee – DeAnna James Co-Chair and Glenda Rothchild

Co-Chair

Nova Bates

Crystal Stapleton

Great Plains Conference Officers from Hays District

Hays District President – Cheryl Metcalf

Journey in Giving – Margaret Thomas

Standing Rules Committee – Carolyn May, Chr and Margaret Thomas

Hays District Superintendent – Rev. Don Hasty

Nominations

We are still looking for one or two to serve on standing rules committee and historian. Glenda Rothschild and I are Co-Chair. The other two people on Nominations committee are Nova Bates novabates@yahoo.com and Crystal Stapleton crsmaestap@gmail.com.

Thanks,

DeAnna James

Co-Chair. of Nominations

2021 Hays District Connecting Links

Cheryl Metcalf	Jennings, St. Francis
Teresa Albert	Bunker Hill, Hays
Janae Tuttle	Norton, Smith Center
Deanna Castle	Colby, Atwood
Coralee Thornburg	Healy, Otis
Phyllis Stull	Ellis, Bison
Deanna Nech	Agra, Rose Valley
Dolores Romeiser	Ness City, Quinter
Janet Reynolds	Bogue
Kathy Koehn	Sharon Springs, Paradise
Deanne Ficken	Utica
Roberta Schlaefli	Kirwin, Lebanon
DeAnna James	Downs, Osborne
Glenda Rothchild	Alton, Long Island
Crystal Stapleton	Hill City, Stockton
Nova Bates	Hoxie
Margret Thomas	Oberlin
Carolyn May	Goodland

Mission Do Form

Has your unit sent in this form? I know it has January 15 as the due date, but I would still accept any more!!

Dee Romeiser, Giving

Greetings from Teresa Albert, District VP

I hope you are all staying well and keeping warm. Reminder: Please send a copy of your program book to Vice-President, Teresa Albert at 14091 160 Road, Smith Center, Ks. 66967 that we might share ideas on unit programs and activities. We will display them at the annual District meeting also. Thank you. I look forward to meeting you in Oct.

Though 2021 still brings cancelled events and Zoom meetings, we are once again hoping and planning for our Hays District annual meeting in Atwood on October 2. We will plan to have breakout sessions in the afternoon for all unit officers. Secretary and Membership will be combined since the two officers work hand in hand.

Camp Lakeside will be our “Ingathering” this year. A representative from the Camp will be there to speak. A list of items needed can be found at greatplainsumc.org/camplakeside as well as monetary contributions. Also, Deanna Nech, Action Team leader will present a program on Climate Justice. She attends the February Legislative meetings in Topeka and always has an informative talk.

For officers and those who wish to travel to Atwood the night before, I have 3 places:

1. Bed & Breakfast, Connie Peckham, 900 S. Railroad, 785 626-9516, Cash or Check
[No credit cards] 2 single rooms, double beds/shared bath. Two upstairs and 2 down.
1 King-sized & 1 Queen-sized/shared bath. Single cost \$61.19 [tax included]. Double \$72.31.
2. Bed/no breakfast: Cameron’s Colonial, Dale Reuber, owner, 507 Plumb, 620 727-1618.
Rooms: 3 with queen, 1 with king upstairs. Queen in basement. Elevator. \$55 + tax per night, per room.
3. “It’ll Do” Motel, 205 Grant St. [HYW. 36] 785 626-9615, 10 rooms, Single-\$66.30, 2-\$88.40, 3-\$149.18

See you there. It is always an enjoyable day of fellowship and information.

Have a great day!

Teresa Albert

Forty-eighth Annual Meeting

October 2, 2021

“Knitted Together for God’s Good Work”

“We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose” – Romans 8:28

Atwood United Methodist Church

200 N. 4th Street, Atwood, KS 67730

Registration & Hospitality Time 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Meeting 9:30 – 3:30 p.m.

----- cut and send -----

Registration Form

Name _____ Unit _____ Church _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

Luncheon \$9.00

Registration \$3.00

Morning Speakers: A Representative from Camp Lakeside (Ingathering).

Deanne Nech, ACTION Team Leader

All unit officers Workshops will be in afternoon.

Check here if you are a District or Conference Officer _____ (send no \$ / District pays)

Reservations due by Sept. 20, 2021. Money must accompany reservations.

Send to: Nancy Jackson, 109 W. Court, Atwood, KS 67730

785-626-3807 auntnancy@atwoodtv.net

Nursery provided. Please send a sack lunch with your child.

I will need child care for _____ (number and ages of children)

Growth

It is time for an update on our UMW Growth, so the following is charting our progress for the year 2019.

All membership census reports were received from all 34 units. One unit has closed which was Luray. We have gained 68 new members and this came about because one small group had been meeting but had not been counted and another unit counted what they referred to as a service group. We lost 27 member by transfer or other reasons and 34 members were lost by death. The total number of members lost was 61. The total membership reported for 2019 was 1022 which was 22 over that reported in 2018.

I am sending out the census report forms and a survey from National for 2020 on February 23. Hopefully all units will respond by the deadline of March 12, 2021. I will be sending these forms to the secretaries and MNO's as I have done in the past. Since some of the units may not have been meeting I would ask that the president of each unit would be in contact with the secretaries to help answer the survey questions. Thanks to all of you and keep looking up.

Phyllis Stull Growth

President's Report

Hi everyone! Please keep the following UMW – related persons in your prayers: Deanna Castle, back problems; Coralee Thornburg-shingles; Kathy's daughter Renee Thomas-medical issues; and Deanna Nech's niece following a breast cancer surgery.

I forwarded information to the Unit Presidents about "The Big Garden" needing help with their plant tags! Oberlin unit did this some time ago, and it was a quick and easy project to do! Some emails went to Spam and I will try to send them to the Pastor or other officer in that unit.

Thanks,

Cheryl Metcalf

Greetings UMW Ladies from Treasurer

I hope each of you are keeping well in this exceptional time in our lives. We all have found that we can't always do things as we used to, but we can still continue, just in new ways. I just want to let you know that as the new Hays District Treasurer I hope to get to a point quickly that I can be a help to

each unit when needed. For the time being, we will be learning together, if you are new in the position for your unit as well. For you experienced treasurers, we may need to lean on you at times. Please feel free to contact me if needed at dmc7432@msn.com or call 785-475-7253. Together we will keep keeping on to share in the work of United Methodist Women in the purpose of mission together for women, children and youth. Keep your chins up and keep in mind that Spring will be here before we know it.

In His Service

Deanna Castle

Hays District Treasurer

Spiritual Growth

There will not be a Hays/Dodge City District Spiritual Retreat spring of 2021 but plans are in the making for Hays District to host and provide snacks in spring of 2022 at Camp Lakeside.

Hays District Spiritual Growth Retreat, April 8-9, 2022

Leader-Billy Blaire and Title-Fill My Cup

Spiritual Growth Leader and Organizer-Coralee Thornburg

Learning

Certificate of Recognition for the Reading Program for the year 2019 are being compiled and will be mailed to each unit. If you have not reported your reading levels for your unit please do so for the years 2019 and 2020. 2020 certificates will be handed out at the fall meeting when we are together.

Janet Reynolds, Secretary of Program Resources

Action Report

Hello, I hope that by the time you read this that the super cold weather will have ended. Each year national UMW selects some social campaigns to focus on; this year the main areas of emphasis are Climate Justice and Criminalization of Communities of color and Mass Incarceration: Interrupting the school-to-prison pipeline. These may sound familiar because they have been ongoing for several years.

I hope that we will all be back to a semblance of normalcy by mid-year. Some of your churches may be having in-person church services and meetings; some of you may be communicating with your church

electronically. There is a wealth of information on the UMW website relating to UMW Action:

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/action>

If your unit has a program or a presentation in church that connects to any of these Action topics, I would be glad to know about it so I can report to the district.

I plan to attend the virtual Legislative Event for Advocacy in Faith conference (LEAF,) February 22nd and 23rd. There are several interesting topics on the program, and the events will be recorded and posted on the Great Plains website eventually.

<https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/2021KansasLegislativeEventforAdvocacyinFaithLEAF>

I am also registered for a Just Energy for All webinar. It will be via Zoom, every two weeks beginning Feb. 22. If you are interested, contact me for details at: deannanech@gmail.com If we are able to have our Hays District meeting this fall, I hope to give a presentation about Climate Justice.

Deanna Nech, Action

Carolyn May, Chair Conference Standing Rules

This is new or updated information from the conference leadership team meeting January 16, 2021, which pertains mainly to the calendar. Please contact me if you have questions about journey teams, persons to contact or other questions or concerns.

March 30 membership census due

LEAF—held Feb 22 at 6 pm via a Webinar. Workshops will be available to go thru at your convenience – even to possibly show at local meetings.

Mission u-Barb Wright (chair) has not heard from national but plans are for the study to be online via ZOOM. Mission u studies will be a repeat of last year's two studies. Also "Bearing Witness in the Kin Dom" taught by Bonnie McCord. There will be Adult, Children, and Youth sessions. Check district newsletters and website later for info. Will have it this summer but may not

be in July. (Carolyn May has all three books for this study—2 from last year - Finding Peace in an Anxious World edited by Erin James-Brown and Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique Morris on mass incarceration. The new study is Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship by Darryl Stephens.)

METour—The METour committee has announced that there will once again be no METour due to Covid-19.

Joyce Solomon—It was decided that the UMW conference annual meeting will meet via ZOOM on Saturday, September 18.

Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat--Ann Cerveney (chair) Probably not face-to-face retreat. Discussed having a retreat on video such as ZOOM for several hours. Has been successful with other groups. Some local churches have had a four-week study of the spiritual growth book, Finding Peace in an Anxious World. If not a study, it was suggested that local organizations have a speaker talk about the book.

Louise Niemann (National Director of UMW Board of Directors)—National Assembly is planned for May 20-22, 2022 at Orlando, FL.

Lisa Maupin—SCJ Committee on Nominations Chair; no report pertaining to the UMW calendar but as Great Plains Conference Lay Leader, she is leading the GP conference laity summit on March 20. First 200 people who register will receive a kit. Lots of UMW influence in this conference, i.e. Linda Burton will be leading a workshop. Bonnie McCord will lead Finding Peace in an Anxious World, Rev. Julius Dotson, General Secretary Discipleship Ministries—former minister in Wichita and dynamic speaker--is keynote speaker. Register online.

Midwest Distribution—2021 spring trip canceled; Oct 4-29 is unknown if will be scheduled.

Racial Justice—Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations, online virtual celebrations via live stream at noon or watch at 6 pm Monday, kingday.org. Also celebrations will be in Wichita. February is Black History month—will be a Maya Angelou doll for Black History month. Quote from MLK:

“Nonviolence means avoiding not only external physical violence but also internal violence of spirit...You not only refuse to shoot a man, but you refuse to hate him.”

South Central Jurisdiction Nominations Committee

Lisa Maupin shared that she has been participating in monthly meetings with the SCJ committee. She reported on the upcoming Laity Summit. It will take place on Saturday, March 20, 2021, from 9 am to 3 pm virtually. This is for lay servants, speakers, ministers, leaders and for anyone discerning a call to leadership. It will be a one-stop virtual leadership event for church and community leadership. The overall theme for the gathering is “Building a New Normal.” The keynote speaker is Rev. Junius Dotson, General Secretary for Discipleship Ministries. There will be worship, workshops, and networking. Registration is available on the Great Plains United Methodist Church website: www.greatplainsumc.org/laity-summit.

Mark Your Calendar - Conference Events

- March 13 – Great Plains UMW Spring Leadership Meeting
- March 20 – Laity Summit
- Midwest Distribution – spring trip canceled
- June 26 – Great Plains UMW Summer Leadership Meeting
- September 18 – Great Plains United Methodist Women Conference Annual Meeting
- Midwest Distribution – Fall trip unknown
- National Assembly – May 20-22, 2022, Orlando, FL

Hays District Events

- March 12 – Membership reports due to Phyllis Stull
- April – Hays/Dodge Districts Spiritual Retreat CANCELED
- May/June METour CANCELED
- Mission u – online via ZOOM Date TBA
- October 2 – Hays District Annual Mtg in Atwood
- April 8-9, 2022 – Hays/Dodge Districts Spiritual Retreat, Lakeside