

## **SIGNAL for Hays District United Women in Faith January, 2023**

### **President Cheryl Metcalf**

Blessings to all United Women in Faith of the Hays District. I hope this Newsletter reaches you at a time that you are looking forward to another year, a New Beginning for 2023! Our Great Plains Conference President, Janice Elmore has scheduled a Winter Leadership Team Meeting by ZOOM on Saturday, January 14 for all Conference Officers and District Presidents. I plan to be part of that meeting, so I might share any conference news that might come up with you. Meantime, our Hays District Officers will meet in Colby on January 28 at 10:30 to prepare for the UWF Annual District Meeting in October, also to be held in Colby.

### **GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE UWF-----2023 CONFERENCE CALENDAR**

Feb. 19-20 – Kansas LEAF, Topeka, KS (Virtual) Deanna Nech, Hays District Social Action Chr.

March 11-Conference Spring Leadership Team Meeting

March 23-National Day of Giving for the Legacy Fund - Can woman members give \$18.69?

March-Woman's History Month

April 1-METour Registration Deadline. Please ladies, think of some fine young girls from 16-22 to take part in the METour and get them registered. Help them pay the fee.

June 16-25-METour will begin at the Big Garden, Omaha and travel to Louisville, St. Louis, and the Red Bird Mission. Mary Ellen Kilmer of Mitchell, NE is one of the leaders.

June 23-24-Summer Leadership Team Meeting, McPherson, KS

July 1-Eunice Harrington Award Nominee Deadline

July-Mission u-Grand Island, NE; Wichita and Topeka KS

September 16-Great Plains UWF Annual Meeting, McPherson, KS

October-Midwest Mission Distribution Mission Trip, Illinois

### **HAYS DISTRICT 2023 CALENDAR**

Jan. 28 – Hays District Exec. Mtg. in Colby

Jan. 15 - Send Mission Do Forms to Dolores Romeiser

Send Membership Census Report to Phyllis Stull

Feb. 15 – Reading Program Reports due to Janet Reynolds

Feb. 19-20 – Legislative Event in Topeka (LEAF)

March 23 – National Day of Giving – for Legacy Fund

April 1 – METour Applications Due Online

April 14-15 – Spiritual Growth Retreat at Camp Lakeside (registration in this Signal)

June 16-25 – METour to Southeast USA

July TBA – Mission u at Topeka, Wichita and Grand Island, NE

Oct. 1 - Local Officer Report of Elections due to Secretary Marsha Zimbelman

Oct. 7 – Hays District Annual Mtg at Colby

Dec. 10 – Treasury Funds due to Distr. Treasurer Deanna Castle

### **Teresa Albert, District Vice-President**

I hope you are staying well and enjoyed the holidays. Our 2023 Annual Hays District Meeting will be held October 7 in Colby. Watch for the registration form in the next Signal.

Thank you to those who sent their program books to share at the 2022 meeting. I so enjoyed reading of your program ideas and social/fellowship gatherings as well. I also appreciate taking time to fill out the evaluation sheets to know what you want from our meetings so that we might improve. The

Quinter ladies did a wonderful job of decorating, feeding us and serving our needs. We enjoyed hearing speakers from both Ember Hope and Epworth Village missions.

Cheryl Metcalf, Deanna Castle, Margaret Thomas, Carolyn May and I attended the Great Plains United Women in Faith Conference in Kearney last September. It was a rewarding time spent at the Legacy Fund Banquet and with excellent speakers, workshop leaders and conference officers. Carolyn May, Margaret Thomas and Kathy Koehn from our Hays District all serve on the Conference level.

Please share Signal items with your units or direct as to how to find our District page. Thank you to DeAnna James for sharing notices and photos on our Facebook page. Any unit is welcome to post their activities on the page. Have a great day!

### **Treasurer Deanna Castle**

Greetings UWF Treasurers,

I hope each of you were able to enjoy time with family and friends for our Blessed Christmas season. Could have waited to bring in the extreme cold weather that accompanied our holiday time as far as I am concerned, but it is what it is.

I want to thank each of you that got your final remittance sent to me in time to get to outgoing treasurer, Barbara Smith. Our new Conference Treasurer is Lorraine Hahn from Missouri River District in Omaha. Looking forward to working with her after meeting her at the Great Plains Conference Annual meeting.

It has been brought to my attention that a Unit had a bit of a problem with their bank when adding the "dba United Women in Faith" to their account. So all three forms that any bank could possibly want were included in the president packets from the District meeting back in October at Quinter. If you need another copy let me know. Please feel free to contact me with any questions that may arise concerning this change.

I did enjoy getting to visit with several of you at the Hays District Annual meeting in Quinter this fall. Next fall, I hope many more of you will be able to attend the District Annual meeting in Colby. I encourage each of you to contact me with any questions or needs you may have, especially any new treasurers. I would love to hear from to get your contact information. We can work together to get the answers if I don't have them right off.

Please feel free to contact me if needed at [dmc7432@msn.com](mailto:dmc7432@msn.com) or call or text 785-475-7253. In His Service

### **Social Action, Deanna Nech**

Hello, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season in spite of the cold. I don't have any information yet about Kansas L.E.A.F. (Legislative Event for Advocacy in Faith) which is usually in January. I don't know if it will be in person, online, or both. Last year all of the sessions were posted on the Great Plains website; easy to access the sessions you are interested in. It was all still available to watch as of this writing.

Below are our areas of concern for social action, which will extend through at least 2024, along with some links to more information. I will post other social action opportunities from time to time on the Hays District Women in Faith Facebook page.

## **School-to-Prison Pipeline**

Key advocacy opportunity: Support Protecting Our Students in Schools Act - <https://p2a.co/xODEK7y>

### Other Advocacy Opportunities

Support The Ending PUSHOUT Act -- <https://p2a.co/XeXHw8b>

Support The Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act – <https://p2a.co/6fkUn0z>

## **Just Energy for All**

Key advocacy opportunity: Urge Congress to oppose the unjust pipeline and fossil fuel permitting deal: <https://p2a.co/4YIvEbO>

### Other advocacy opportunities

Use this link to contact Congress about climate justice: <https://p2a.co/fpd9ujd>

You can find Healthy Air is Health Care postcards and instructions

here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TjmFdKJo59IQABDWXWkmPvtECzXT0IQJ69x8IHLR3IE/edit?usp=sharing>

## **Spiritual Growth – DeAnna James**

I am excited to start my new adventure in the Spiritual Growth position. This will be a growing experience for me that I am needing in my personal spiritual walk.

The dates for the 2023 Spiritual Growth Retreat at Camp Lakeside are April 14-15, 2023. Our hosts are the Dodge City District Ladies.

As I start this year, I am going to focus on the word FAITH. What is Faith? The dictionary says FAITH simply in one definition - a strong belief in God. Think about what FAITH means to you!

### **Proverbs 3:5-6**

#### **New International Version**

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart

and lean not on your own understanding;

<sup>6</sup>in all your ways submit to him,

and he will make your paths straight.

## **Great Plains Conference Standing Rules Chr. Carolyn May**

Greetings. Thank you for all you do in Christ's name. I hope you will participate in the following opportunities to grow in faith and knowledge offered by the Great Plains Conference United Women in Faith.

LEAF (Legislative Event for Advocacy in Faith) will be held again only ONLINE beginning at 10 a.m. central time on Monday, February 20. It is free. The theme is "For the Love of Neighbor" in reference to Galatians 5:14, "For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Register online at the Great Plains LEAF website to receive a link. Included at the event

will be legislative updates, a keynote speaker, presentations and workshops. The event will be archived for those who cannot attend or who want to watch all the workshops. I attended LEAF online last year. It was an insightful and valuable experience for me.

The Great Plains UWF will hold a Soul Care Retreat, hopefully to be held this spring. The topic is "Women of Strength--Holding the Light." We were selected by National as the only conference in the South Central Jurisdiction to be partially funded for this event. Please contact Janice Elmore, UWF Conference President, for more information and if you wish to attend. The limit is 36 participants.

The METour (Mission Education Tour) will begin in Omaha to travel to Red Bird Mission in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky on June 16-25. Encourage your young women, ages 15-20, to participate in this life-changing experience. Scholarships may be available. The deadline to register is April 1.

Mission u will be offered at three locations and twice online. The Salina location has changed to Wichita and is tentatively planned to be held in July. The reason for the change is the expense of holding Mission u at Kansas Wesleyan. Mission u will be held at Grand Island, Nebraska on July 21-23 and in Topeka on August 4-5. Bonnie McCord will teach online in October 2023 and in March 2024. It is free when taken online. I was very impressed when Bonnie taught online last year. The title of the study book this year is Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma. I am looking forward to this study. You may wish to share the videos that are available online about Mission u to encourage others to attend.

Mark your calendars for September 15-16 to attend the annual UWF conference meeting in McPherson. You will hear more about this later.

The Standing Rules Committee plans to meet soon to begin working again on the Standing Rules, the Addendum and the Policies and Procedures of the Great Plains Conference UWF. The current documents are found online. Please contact me if you have questions or comments about it.

This year's UWF program resource book's title is Mosaic of Faith: We are All Part of God's Story. The Daily Prayer Guide 2023 states on the front cover, "Reflecting on God's Faithfulness." Let us thank God for His faithfulness as we share God's Story as followers of Christ and United Women in Faith.

You may find additional information on the Great Plains Conference UWF site. If not yet there, it may be there soon. Please contact me--or another conference officer--if you have questions. If I don't have the answer, I should be able to connect you to the person who can answer your questions.

The United Women in Faith at the Colby United Methodist Church invite you to the Hays District UWF Annual meeting on Saturday, October 9. Please mark your calendars. We hope you and your friends will attend.

Carolyn May, Colby UWF President (January 1 – April 30)  
Kathy Calliham, Colby UWF President (May 1-August 30)  
Patty Dible, Colby UWF President (September 1-December 31)

**DODGE CITY DISTRICT HOST**  
**UWIF SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT**

April 14 -15, 2023

**LIFE CHANGING C'S**

**PATTY BULTMAN – PEACE HOUSE DIRECTOR**

Camp Lakeside United Methodist Center, Scott City, KS

Registration at retreat begins on Friday, April 14th at 4 p.m.

Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm followed by an evening of fellowship

Opening Session will begin at 7:30 am on Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting will be over on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> by 3:00 pm.

PLEASE BRING A JOURNAL OR NOTEBOOK WITH YOU

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**Reservations are due April 3<sup>rd</sup> and should be sent to**

Nancy Anton, District Treasurer

2268 Road II

Satanta, Kansas 67870

**REGISTRATION FORM**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Fee (Lodging and Meals) \_\_\_\_\_ (Money must accompany reservations)

<b>REGISTRATION FEES:</b> Overnight Cost	\$40.00 _____
Friday Meal	\$12.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast	\$10.00 _____
Saturday Lunch	\$11.00 _____
Total Registration	\$73.00 _____

If you are a District Officer, check the line at the end of this sentence and your fee will be paid by the District Treasurer. \_\_\_\_\_

## **HAYS DISTRICT UWF 2023 OFFICERS**

### PRESIDENT

CHERYL METCALF  
312 N Elk, Oberlin, KS 67749  
785-475-2251 CELL 785-475-7056  
[scmetcalf@hotmail.com](mailto:scmetcalf@hotmail.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

TERESA ALBERT  
14091 160 RD, Smith Center, KS 66967  
785-282-3553  
[tkalbert@hotmail.com](mailto:tkalbert@hotmail.com)

### SECRETARY

MARSHA ZIMBELMAN  
1560 ROAD 10 ST. FRANCIS, KS 67756  
785-332-5481  
[mzimbelman@yahoo.com](mailto:mzimbelman@yahoo.com)

### TREASURER

DEANNA CASTLE  
409 W Elm St, Oberlin, KS 67749  
CELL 785-475-7253  
[dmc7432@msn.com](mailto:dmc7432@msn.com)

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

DEANNA JAMES  
604 W. LOGAN ST. LOGAN, KS 67646  
785-302-1650  
[deannajames20@hotmail.com](mailto:deannajames20@hotmail.com)

### MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE, OUTREACH

PHYLLIS STULL  
8 Prairie Dr., Ness City, KS 67560  
785-798-3794  
[rpstull@gbta.net](mailto:rpstull@gbta.net)

### SOCIAL ACTION

DEANNA NECH  
PO Box 408, Kensington, KS 66951  
785-476-5016  
[bnech@ruraltel.net](mailto:bnech@ruraltel.net)

### EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

DOLORES ROMEISER  
PO Box 311, Bison, KS 67520  
785-356-4514  
[romacres@gbta.net](mailto:romacres@gbta.net)

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

JANET REYNOLDS  
145 Main, PO Box 82, Agra, KS 67621  
785-638-2415  
[jreynolds@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:jreynolds@greatplainsumc.org)

## COMMUNICATIONS

KATHY KOEHN  
PO Box 535, Quinter, KS 67752  
785-299-0270  
[kathykoehn@hotmail.com](mailto:kathykoehn@hotmail.com)

### STANDING RULES CHAIR.

DEANNE FICKEN  
2211 CR 290 BISON, KS 67520  
H: 785-356-2425 C:785-356-1424  
[fickenangus@yahoo.com](mailto:fickenangus@yahoo.com)

### DAWN THOMAS

410 BLUNT ST. DOWNS, KS 67437  
785-545-8117  
[dawnthomas41989@gmail.com](mailto:dawnthomas41989@gmail.com)

### ROBERTA SCHLAEFLI

1305 PRENTISS ST. DOWNS, KS 67437  
H:785-454-3883 C:785-545-6134  
[rschlaefli@nckcn.com](mailto:rschlaefli@nckcn.com)

### CORALEE THORNBURG

7853 CO. RD. A. UTICA, KS 67584  
785-731-6728 H:785-391-2263  
[cthornburg37@yahoo.com](mailto:cthornburg37@yahoo.com)

### COMMITTEE OF NOMINATIONS CHAIR.

GLENDA ROTHCHILD  
418 Ross St., Downs, KS 67437  
785-454-3524  
[dgrothchild@nckcn.com](mailto:dgrothchild@nckcn.com)

### CRYSTAL STAPLETON

221 N Elm, Stockton, KS 67669  
620-770-6531  
[crysmastap@gmail.com](mailto:crysmastap@gmail.com)

### JANAE TUTTLE

2130 CO RD 80 QUINTER, KS 67752  
CELL 785-673-3313  
[janaehoward\\_10@hotmail.com](mailto:janaehoward_10@hotmail.com)  
(underscore before the 10)

### DONNA ARNOLDY

51 S. 50<sup>TH</sup> AVE. DOWNS, KS 67437  
785-454-1016  
[nicsmomjj2@yahoo.com](mailto:nicsmomjj2@yahoo.com)

## CONFERENCE OFFICERS

### JOURNEY IN GIVING

MARGARET THOMAS, NORTON  
[mv4thomas@hotmail.com](mailto:mv4thomas@hotmail.com)

### STANDING RULES CHAIR.

CAROLYN MAY, COLBY  
[cmay@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:cmay@greatplainsumc.org)  
NOMINATIONS  
KATHY KOEHN, QUINTER  
[kathykoehn@hotmail.com](mailto:kathykoehn@hotmail.com)

## 2023 Hays District Connecting Links – Shepherdess Program

Cheryl Metcalf	Colby & Hoxie
Marsha Zimbelman	Oberlin
Deanna Castle	St. Francis & Sharon Springs
DeAnna James	None
Phyllis Stull	Hays
Deanna Nech	Norton
Delores Romeiser	Ness City
Janet Reynolds	Kirwin & Downs
Kathy Koehn	Goodland
Deanne Ficken	Quinter
Dawn Thomas	Smith Center
Roberta Schlaefli	Long Island
Coralee Thornburg	Otis & Bison
Glenda Rothchild	Alton & Lebanon
Crystal Stapleton	Jennings
Janae Tuttle	Healy & Utica
Donna Arnoldy	Lebanon
Margaret Thomas	Stockton
Carolyn May	Atwood

The purpose of this program is to assign each of the Hays District Officers to a local UWF unit. **PRESIDENTS** – please be sure to ask your Shepherdess to join you for at least one of your meetings this year. As District officers we want to nurture the local units, stimulate interest in the total organization of United Women in Faith and continue to build a supportive community. **DISTRICT OFFICERS** – Please contact your assigned unit(s) and offer your services if they would like to have you come.