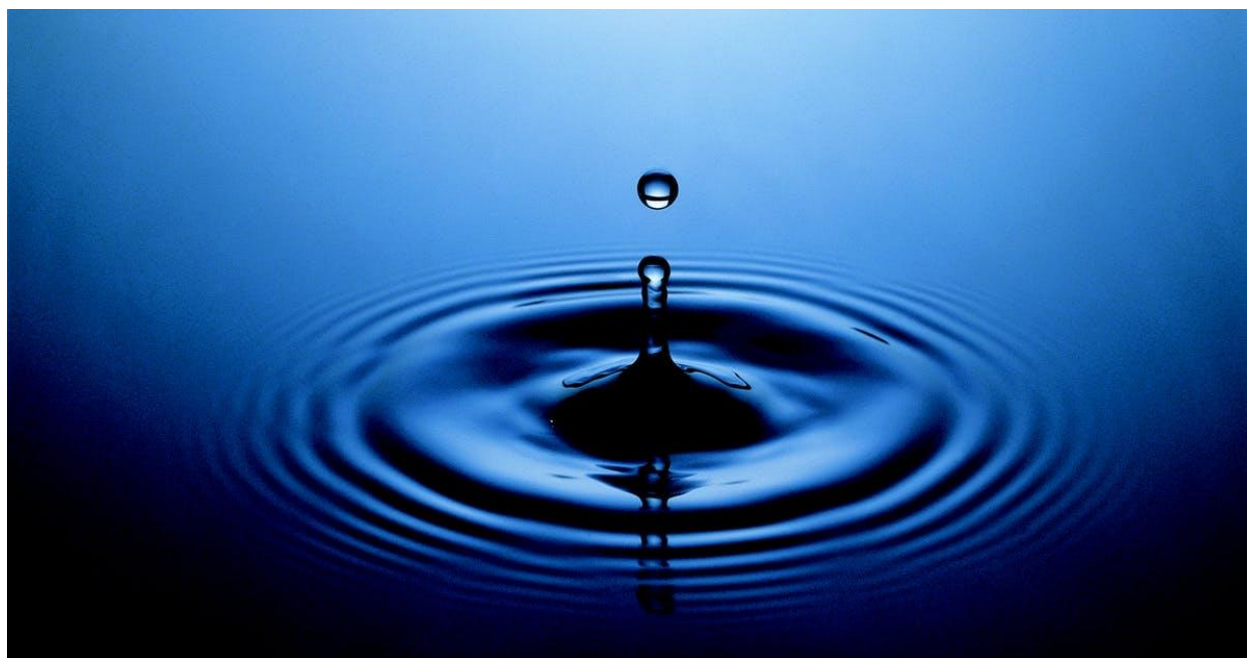




## The Ripple Effect



*Blue River District United Methodist Women  
Spring Event – April 17, 2021 Elmwood St Paul UMC*

# Purpose of the 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 fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Michelle Chesnut

Michelle Chesnut is a Local License Pastor for the United Methodist Church. She grew up on a farm South of Hay Springs, Nebraska. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from Doane University and was a US-2/Global Fellow where she served in the first restaurant style soup kitchen in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been a youth director, a drug treatment technician, a case manager and a campus minister. She is currently serving Elmwood St. Paul and Murdock Ebenezer UMC in Elmwood and Murdock Nebraska. She lives in Murdock with her husband Nick, and their four boys, Emerson (6), Earl (4), Easton (2) and Emmett (2).

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## **Blue River District Spring Event 2021**

**Gathering Music** - Laurel McReynolds, pianist

**Welcome** - Carol Wilhelm, President Elmwood St Paul UMW  
Call to order – Sue Orwen, BRD President  
UMW Purpose – Jane Nider, BRD Secretary

### **Mission Updates**

Big Garden - Jaimee Trobough, Dir. Of Communications  
Epworth Village - Jan Hauser, BRD Journey in Action  
Della Lamb – Jan Hauser, BRD Journey in Action

**Mission Project** – Sondra Buell, BRD Journey in Faith

### **Awards and Remembrances**

Memorial Service – Marletta Stark, BRD Journey/ Learning  
Dedicated Light – Stacey Brandenburgh, BRD Treasurer  
Attendance – Jane Nider, BRD Secretary  
Reading Program and Book Drawing – Marletta Stark  
Tribute to Esther Hay – Sandy Blankenship Chair of Nominations

**Call to offering** Lynette Broderick, BRD Journey in Giving

Leader: I can toss a pebble into the pond,

**Others:** And watch wheels of water circle around.

Leader: I can give out of my abundance, and like ripples in a pond,

**Others:** Watch the effects of my giving spread far beyond my immediate reach.

### **Special Music**

Angie Friesell and Sondra Buell  
"Down To The River To Pray".

## **Doxology**

### **Dedication of Offering** – Lynette Broderick

(The Big Garden will be the recipient of our offering)

(+ ***Please write checks to “The Big Garden”*** and mail to the BRD

Treasurer,

*Stacey Brandenburgh, PO Box 247, Raymond, NE 68428*, by May 1. She will then bundle and forward the contributions to The Big Garden.)

Doxology

**Prayer of Dedication** (together): Loving God of all our earthly gardens, accept our offerings in the trust that they will further your will to be done through our community of United Methodist Women. These gifts are anchored in faith, founded on hope, and shared through love in action. Amen

### **Worship Service:**

**The Ripple Effect** Rev. Michelle Chesnut, Elmwood St Paul

**Closing Prayer:** Rogene Silletto, BRD Vice President

**Offering for The Big Garden** - The Big Garden was founded in 2005 by United Methodist Ministries through funding from the USDA’s Community Food Project. The initial goal was to create 12 community gardens in three years. As of today, The Big Garden has helped to establish more that 170 community gardens in urban and rural communities throughout Nebraska, Kansas, and Southwest Iowa.

The Big Garden’s mission is to cultivate food security by developing community gardens, creating opportunities to serve, and providing education on issues related to hunger.

The goal is to reduce hunger by increasing access to fresh, healthy produce and teaching people to grow, cook, and preserve the bounty of their own gardens. Much more information can be found at: [BigGarden.org](http://BigGarden.org)

## CEREMONY FOR LIGHTING THE DEDICATED LIGHT – 2020

During the year of 2020, \$1,170.00 was received “In Memory” of friends of the Great Plains Conference United Methodist Women. Local units or individuals send a \$45.00 gift through their local treasurer “In Honor” or “In Memory” of a loved one, friend or mentor. This undesignated Mission Giving becomes a part of the Pledge to Missions. At the District meeting, a Dedicated Light candle is burned for the combined total received from all units.

**Leader:** The dedicated light service is a tradition of the Great Plains Conference United Methodist Women. The Dedicated Light is symbolic of the light of Jesus shining in the dark places, bringing joy and hope to those who walk in darkness. The gifts that were received from individuals and local units give additional support to the mission work of United Methodist Women.

**People:** The monetary gifts that we have given symbolize our commitment to the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women. As God’s women, we continue to be faithful through prayer, study, service and gifts of money for mission work nearby and around the world.

**Leader:** Today we join our Dedicated Light gifts to honor and remember the women and men who are and have been significant in the lives of United Methodist Women throughout the Blue River District.

**People:** The burning of our Dedicated Light symbolizes gifts for mission given on behalf of the persons we love and admire.

**Leader:** We each have the opportunity to give “In Memory” of those who lived among us and have now become part of the great cloud of witnesses.

**People:** We give thanks for those who had the vision and those who have nurtured and sustained the vision. We also give thanks for opportunities to study and worship, and for our PURPOSE that calls us to turn our prayers and study into action on behalf of others.

**2020 Dedicated Light Recipients  
January 1 through December 31, 2020**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Aldersgate UMW</b><br/>In Memory of Lillie Rockenbach<br/>In Memory of Linda Shafer</p>  | <p><b>Centenary UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Grace Notes praise band</p>   |
| <p><b>Christ UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Phyllis Maurer</p>  | <p><b>Crete UMW</b><br/>In Honor of April Chambers</p>  |
| <p><b>Dorchester UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Shirley Kasl</p>  | <p><b>Elmwood St Paul UMW</b><br/>In Memory of Marge Clements<br/>In Memory of Marietta Vogt</p>  |
| <p><b>First UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Pastor Pam Savery</p>  | <p><b>Lincoln St Paul UMW</b><br/>In Memory of Marcia Russel<br/>In Memory of Anna Marie Bretthorst<br/>In Memory of Lillian Easley<br/>In Memory of Dee Borg</p> |
| <p><b>Hopewell UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Dorothy Keebler</p>   | <p><b>Milford UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Beverly Ratzcliff</p>   |
| <p><b>Raymond UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Kim Gerdes</p>   | <p><b>Seward UMW</b><br/>In Memory of Margo Gisch</p>   |
| <p><b>South Gate UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Stands of Love<br/>South Gate Quilters</p>  | <p><b>Unadilla UMW</b><br/>In Honor of Michelle Huber</p>   |
| <p><b>Waverly UMW</b><br/>In Memory of Alice Doane<br/>In Memory of Lon Hoppel<br/>In Memory of Mary Sharpnack<br/>In Honor of Silver Spoon honorees</p> |   |

**BLUE RIVER DISTRICT SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION PINS**

JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 30, 2020

(All Basic Pins except where indicated – 26 total)

| GIVEN BY:              | HONOREES                 |                 |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Aldersgate UMW         | Pat Marshall             |                 |
| Beatrice Centenary UMW | Nicole Allen             | Julie Homolka   |
| Christ UMW             | Dean Faubel              | Kerry Florell   |
| Crete UMW              | Karen Drevo              |                 |
| Dorchester UMW         | Paixao Baptista          |                 |
| Elmwood St Paul UMW    | Michelle Chestnut        | Tasha Cox       |
| First UMW              | Sharon Johnson           | Mike Sterns     |
| Hallam UMW             | Connie Taylor            |                 |
| Hopewell UMW           | Leila Beaver             |                 |
| Lincoln Saint Paul UMW | Barbara Jo Burns         | Don Finney      |
|                        | Nancy Flader             | Jennifer Snyder |
| Milford UMW            | Shirley Dunlap           |                 |
| Raymond UMW            | Thomas Cook              |                 |
| St Mark's UMW          | Ron Dahlke               | Chris Riner     |
|                        | Eileen & Dick Vautravers |                 |
| Seward UMW             | Susan Walsh              |                 |
| South Gate UMW         | Rev Amy Slater           |                 |
| Unadilla UMW           | Rose Marie Halvorsen     |                 |
| Waverly UMW            | Joyce Miller             |                 |

**2020 Reading Program**  
**Congratulations to everyone who completed the program.**

**Beatrice Centenary**

**Plan I**

Merna Greer

**Plan II**

Sue Orwen

**Plan III**

Jane Nider

Judy Zabel

**Crete Grace**

**Plan I**

Marletta Stark

**Dorchester**

**Plan 1**

Vera Mazour

**Lincoln Aldersgate**

**Plan I**

Nelda Boswell

Jeanette Fagerberg

Marjorie Glow

Sheila Kellenbarger

Patricia Marshall

Phyllis Nelson

Kathy Dombrowski

Mavis Ganzel

Shirley Hanley

Stacey Lienemann

Ruby Minert

Gaylene Nutzman

**Lincoln Christ**

**Plan I**

Mildred Gardner

Julie Kullbom

Louise Mountford

Jacque Scholz

Ardie Wilcher

**Plan II**

Lorna Dearmount

Carol Duncan

**Plan III**

Mary Ann Bede

**Lincoln First**

**Plan I**

Ermal Collister

Peggy Hall

Peggy Loos

Carol King

**Lincoln Saint Paul**

**Plan I**

Mary Brittenham

Millie Corkill

Marjorie Lamberson

Marilyn Moore

Mary Starr

Ann Cerveney

Carol Knolle-Faulkner

Lynn Lux

Rogene Silletto



**Lincoln St. Mark's**

**Plan I**

Donna Dornbusch  
Vicky Harris

**Seward**

**Plan I**

Carole Briggs  
Maxine Moore

**Plan II**

Sue Dickinson

**Waverly**

**Plan II**

Carolyn Chrastil  
Jeanene Cordes  
Loa Folts  
Gayle Heiden  
Kathy Hoppel  
Wilma Lowell  
Pat McGill  
Fern Spencer

## **Deceased Members 2020**

**Elmwood UMW:** Marge Clements 12-27-19, Marietta Vogt 1-16-20

**Waverly UMW:** Mary Sharpnack 12-11-19, Helen Munn 11-11-20, Alice Doane 12-3-20

**First UMW Lincoln:** Marge Thibault 1-29-20, Joyce Ryan 6-1-20, Sharon Johnson 7-23-20

**St Mark's UMW Lincoln:** Kay Hobson 3-9-20, Sharon Jones 7-31-20, Carol Lanz 8-27-20

**St Paul UMW Lincoln:** Marsha Russell 5-5-20, Ana Marie Bretthorst 7-8-20, Lilian Easley 9-1-20, Dee Borg 9-29-2020

**Aldersgate UMW:** Lillie Rockenbach 3-23-20; Linda Schafer 12-11-19

**Christ UMW Lincoln:** Clara Bothwell 2-28-20, Dorothy Parks 3-21-20, Dorothy Dunning 5-20-20, Shirley Johnson 5-30-20, Betty Bredemeyer 11-23-20

**Pleasant Dale UMW:** Deloris 'Dee' Andelt 4-16-20, Julie Lee Melichar 9-8-20

**Hallam UMW:** Gladys Harris 11-3-20

**Unadilla UMW:** Mary Gartner 10-18-20, Leona Lewis 11-28-20

**Seward UMW:** Margo Gisch

**Cheney UMW:** Terri Tenney 3-21-20

**Adams UMW:** Delores Robertson 2-19-20

**Wymore UMW:** Clara Theye 5-14-20

**Crete UMW:** Jean Skala 5-5-20

**Murdock UMW:** Ruth Rikli 9-23-20, Jo Livers 10-25-20, Donna Stock 9-29-20, Pat Bornemeier 10-1-20

**Centenary Beatrice** Mable Bogenrief 9-25-20, Ruth Dalke 3-25-20, Marilyn Pfeiffer 9-19-2020, Wilma Sawyer 5-18-1919 to 6-30-2020 (101 years old.).

## **2020 Blue River District “Mission Do” Units**

Beatrice - Centenary  
Crete - Grace  
Dorchester  
Hallam  
Lincoln - Aldersgate  
Lincoln - Christ  
Lincoln - First  
Lincoln - St. Mark  
Lincoln - St. Paul  
Milford  
Raymond  
Seward  
Unadilla  
Waverly

## **2020 Blue River District 5 Star and 7 Star Units**

Beatrice Centenary  
Crete  
Dorchester  
Elmwood  
Hallam  
Lincoln Aldersgate  
Lincoln First  
Lincoln St Paul  
Lincoln Southgate  
Milford  
Reymond  
Seward  
Unadilla  
Waverly

## Communications for Blue River District

Please let us know if your email or mailing address changes! If you no longer wish to receive the Ripple newsletter, email [umwblueripple@gmail.com](mailto:umwblueripple@gmail.com). If there's someone in your unit who would like to receive the Ripple newsletter, please let us know their name, address, email, phone number! If you have events you wish to share with other UMW units, please email [umwblueripple@gmail.com](mailto:umwblueripple@gmail.com)

### Blue River District (BRD) Website:

<http://www.greatplainsumc.org/blueriverdistrictumw>

Great Plains UMW Website: <http://www.greatplainsumc.org/um>

### Calendar of Events:

- May 26 – 29** Great Plains UMC Conference – Grand Island, NE
- July-** Mission U – Zoom meetings more information will be coming
- Oct. 4-8** Midwest Mission Distribution Center Trip – Contact Tina Faubel, trip coordinator. 5201 Bison Drive, Lincoln, NE 68516 402-217-3776 [tfaubel@yahoo.com](mailto:tfaubel@yahoo.com)
- Oct. 16** BRD Fall Annual Meeting, Syracuse UMC (both by Zoom and in person)
- May 20-22 2022** United Methodist Women National Assembly – Orlando

**Thank you** to the many hands that made today's program possible:  
Our speaker, Rev. Michelle Chesnut, Elmwood St Paul UMC  
Our hosts: Elmwood St Paul UMW  
Special Music: Laurel McReynolds, pianist  
Sondra Buell and her Spring Event Committee – Sue Orwen, Jan Hauser,  
Marletta Stark, Stacy Brandenburgh

We are blessed by all that attended in person and by Zoom. Thank you for spending this time with us.

**Please consider being on the leadership team. You can contact our Chair for nominations, Sandy Blankenship and let her know that you are interested.**

**Please consider being a host for either the Spring or Fall 2022 meetings. You can contact any leadership team member. Contact information is in the directory.**