

THE CHALLENGER

THE CHALLENGER
FALL 2018

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT, GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Challenger is published by the United Methodist Women, Kansas City District, Great Plains Conference. At District expense it is printed and mailed upon request to the elected officers of the Great Plains Conference and local unit presidents. The editor is Kathy Fowler 9725 Slater Ln, Overland Park, KS 66212 e-mail: kathfowl@sbcglobal.net

Greetings from your KC District UMW president!

First, before I go any further, have you heard about the GP UMW Annual Meeting in our district on September 14-15? I am so excited and hope I see each one of you there. If you need financial assistance to attend, there are scholarships available. If you haven't already received this information, contact your local unit officers – or contact me!

Second, have you ever attended a National UMW Assembly? I attended my first one this Spring – and was quite impressed. It struck me how significant our mission and organization are. From local units here in the US to those in other countries, we organize for mission. We send our mission money in support of national mission organizations here in the US and to support grants and organizations all over the world. One of the guest speakers at Assembly made this point (which I paraphrase): No action we take is insignificant. It's like ripples in a pond. One "ordinary" life touches or impacts perhaps four others – and each of them help four (now we are up to 17) – and so on and so on. There are no ordinary lives of faith.

Therefore, if you don't know what United Methodist Women do, not just at the local level, but beyond, find out. If you aren't telling the UMW story to others, particularly other women who will take up the mantle themselves, you should be. Invite others to be part of this amazing organization that is nearly 150 years old. Claim our United Methodist Women legacy and identity of daring and compassionate movement that empowers women and communities around the world.

See you at GP UMW Meeting in September. In Mission Together, Jean Gaslin, KC District UMW president Jean000000@aol.com

UMW PURPOSE

The organized unit of 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 creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PROGRAM RESOURCES ACTION LEADER PLEDGE CARD	2
VICE-PRESIDENT UPDATE	3
2019 BUDGET	4- 5
GIVING LEADER	6
SHE'S A GEM UNIT HAPPENINGS	7
GP ANNUAL MEETING	8
REGISTRATION FORM	9
KANSAS CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS	10 -
SCHOLARSHIP FORM	11

Great Plains Annual Meeting and Celebration

150 Years – Our Past, Our Present, Our Future, Our Legacy

September 14-15, 2018 at Church of the Resurrection

Registration Information on Page 8-9

Followed by the Kansas City District Fall Gathering

**“BECOMING”
BOOKS**

Ladies, if you're not reading the books on the UMW 2018 recommended book list, you're missing out on some great ones! Everyone I know who has read The Book of Joy (about the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu) would recommend it as one of the best UMW books ever! Also, we would highly recommend A House in the Sky (about a young female reporter taken

hostage in Somalia), and On Pluto (the author's story when diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's.) We had some great discussion after reading Born on Third Base (the author born into the top 1% is an agitator for committing to the common good). We just finished Without You there Is No Us, which was so timely and insightful (the author is undercover teaching English to North Korea's elite). There are multiple copies of each of these titles available from the Johnson County Library.

I mention a few of the UMW Reading Program books, because I hope to entice you to check the UMW Reading Program books out! I want you to feel the same excitement, the sense of **being** and **becoming** that others are feeling when reading these books! Paraphrased, Jennifer Crumpton, author of Femmevangelical says, **being** is a constant process of **becoming**. And it is on the edge of becoming where you feel most alive, find authentic purpose and push yourself to the next level of hope, bravery and action." So, ask a couple of friends to join you in reading a UMW book. Let these stories touch your "old dry bones" and bring them to life; miraculous things could happen!

If you have any questions, please email me.

Peace,

Lynn Bain

KCD Program Resources Coordinator

Educate, Educate, Educate! There are many social issues swarming around us every day - immigration, health care, gun control, abortion, addictions and the list goes on. UMW has a history of nearly 150 years of taking action to cause a change. Before any change can be considered, facts must be learned. I know each unit in our district is heavily involved with learning new information on a variety of social justice issues. Select those activities or discussions that especially focus on racial issues. Then, Presidents, please contact me or request someone in your unit to contact me briefly describing one or more ways your unit has addressed racial issues. These also include activities related to other religions. Asbury UMW members recently attended a service at the Islamic Center of Johnson County to learn more about the Muslim faith. What an amazing an informative experience! Thank you for continually uplifting any social justice issues. I hope many units will be recognized next spring for including racial/religious injustices in your annual planning.

Janelle Johnson

Journey in Action Leader

913-980-3246; jdjflute@gmail.com

Pledge Card 2019

2019 Pledge to Mission

(unit) _____ **United Methodist Women**

Prayerfully pledges _____ **to Kansas City District,**

Great Plains Conference United Methodist Women

Treasurer (name) _____

(email) _____

(phone) _____

(Please bring to Fall Gathering)

Vice-President Update:

Please mark your calendars to attend the Great Plains Conference Annual meeting on September 14 and 15 at Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Avenue, Leawood, KS, Building B. Registration will begin at 1:30 on the 14th. Complete details as well as on-line registration are available at this link: <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/2018greatplainsumwannualmeeting>

Here are a few highlights to entice you:

- Programming begins on the 14th at 3:30 pm with a Della Lamb service project and prayer walk.
- Dinner (KC BBQ) will be served at 5:30 pm.
- The worship service begins at 7:00 pm. Our keynote speaker will be Harriett Jane Olson, National UMW CEO. You may have seen her editorials in *Response* magazine.
- On the 15th, continental breakfast will be available at 7:30 m, with our business meeting beginning at 8.
- Two breakout sessions, addressing timely topics, will run from 10:15 to 11:00 and 11:15 to noon. Training for district officers will be held during this time.
- Box lunch will be served at noon.
- Our in-gathering will support Della Lamb. If you choose to participate, please bring new hats/gloves for men or women, or sweat suit tops/bottoms, infant sizes through size 14 (either boys or girls).

The registration fee is \$40. Scholarships are available through the district. Please see additional information about the scholarship program on Page 11 in this newsletter.

Please plan to attend to hear inspiring speakers and to connect with women across our conference. Since the meeting is being held at a church in our district this year, it is an excellent opportunity to attend without making a long drive or booking a hotel room.

Because the annual meeting is being held in our district, we will not have a separate Fall meeting this year. Instead, we will have a short business meeting at the conclusion of the annual meeting. After you pick up your box lunch, please join us in Room 252. We expect the meeting to conclude by 1:30 pm. It is possible to just attend the district business meeting if you are not available for the conference meeting. If you want to do this, the registration fee is waived, and lunch will not be provided. Please arrive by noon. We will not conduct district officer training at this meeting; stand by for more information.

Speaking of training, I am updating our "Program Ideas" document and would love to hear from you. If you have had a program that was well-received by your unit, please let me know so that I can share with all units in the district. As an example, our unit watched the movie *Wonder* at one meeting (the book was on the reading list a few years back), then discussed it at our next meeting. There are lots of discussion resources available on line.

Hoping to see you on September 14 and 15!

Janis Kirkeby

KC District VP

(913)897-7716

Janis.kirkeby@gmail.com

Kansas City District United Methodist Women

2019 Budget

PLEDGE TO CONFERENCE	\$57,000.00	<u>TOTALS</u>
INCOME		
Beginning Balance		
A&MD	<u>\$ 3,800.00</u>	
Other Income	_____	
		<u>\$3,800.00</u>
	<u>A&MD Expense</u>	
District Team Expenses		
Postage	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Supplies	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Phone	<u>0</u>	
Mileage for Team Planning	<u>\$250.00</u>	
Printing/Copies	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Dependent/Child Care	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
SMRs, GTMs, GIMs	<u>\$350.00</u>	
Mission Resource (Sampler)	<u>\$150.00</u>	
Audit	<u>\$200.00</u>	
Officers' Retreat	<u>\$150.00</u>	
Miscellaneous/Other	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Directory/Newsletter	<u>\$300.00</u>	
Total District Team Expense		<u>\$1,700.00</u>
District Program & Events Expense		
Honoraria for Speakers	<u>\$400.00</u>	
Speaker Expense	<u>0</u>	
Mileage for Team	<u>\$ 70.00</u>	
Meals/Lodging for Team	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Printing/Copies	<u>\$300.00</u>	
Dependent/Child Care	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Supplies	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Book Postage/Handling	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Book Give Away	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	
Program Resources	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Honoraria for venue, IT, pianist volunteers, etc.	<u>\$250.00</u>	
Scholarships	<u>\$350.00</u>	
Miscellaneous/Other	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Total District Program & Events Expense		<u>\$1,900.00</u>
Contingency Fund		<u>\$ 200.00</u>
Total A&MD Requested		<u>\$3,800.00</u>

Privilege reserved to re-allocate within the budget.

Respectfully submitted: Libby Schoeni, KC District Treasurer

"The 2019 Budget will be voted on at the Fall District meeting immediately following the GPC meeting at COR."

WOWJuly has come and gone! Here we are well into August and diligently working on plans AND the slate of officers for 2019 Kansas City District Team.

As I mentioned in the last Challenger, the slate for 2019 will show some changes. There are open opportunities for President, Vice President, Journey in Action Coordinator, Communication Coordinator and Committee on Nominations positions.

When I visit with any of the officers on the district team, I believe the one comment that is expressed by each woman is how very much she has enjoyed working with the women on the team as well as all the opportunities to get to know so many women across the KC District.

If you have an interest in getting more involved in developing and organizing opportunities for all women to live out the UMW Purpose, please consider joining the team. The experiences are positive! And definitely rewarding! You will be hearing from me again in a couple weeks. I will provide more detailed information on the positions available and yet again more encouragement to contact me (or any of the district officers) to visit about the great opportunities knocking at your door!

Jackie Lee Jackie-lee@att.net Ph: 816-810-1430

It's a great day to have a great day. Please do!

Great Plains United Methodist Women Seminar

You are invited to join the United Methodist Women's Seminar Program in New York City December 3-5 to bring a faith lens as we critically explore our country's criminal justice system, the prison industrial complex and how our current "War on Drugs" and anti-immigration climate disproportionately incarcerate black, brown and poor whites. What might be our collective role as United Methodists in responding to this crisis?

The seminar will be custom-designed by Jay Godfrey of United Methodist Women for the Great Plains area. The seminar will be an interactive educational study of a complex social issue from a perspective of faith.

The custom-designed seminar provides an opportunity to:

- Explore the issue through interactive exercises, Bible study and discussion.
- Engage with human rights activists, grassroots organizations and religious leaders.
- Learn about the work of the United Nations and government policies.
- Possibly visit local community organizations.
- Act during the seminar and develop actions to take upon returning home.

Seminar information:

- The seminar is open **to everyone**.
- The seminar is a two and half day event at \$12.00 per person per day.
- Transportation to and from New York City is on your own.
- A lodging list is available at www.greatplainsumc.org/umw
- Evenings will be free for enjoying the city.

Scholarships are available, provided by the Great Plains Mercy and Justice Team and the Great Plains United Methodist Women. The application form may be found at The Great Plains United Methodist Women website www.greatplainsumc.org/umw.

To register, send the registration form found at www.greatplainsumc.org/umw with a \$36.00 check, made out to Great Plains UMW, by **November 1** to:

Barbara Smith, UMW Treasurer
14 Mohave Dr.

Lake Winnebago, MO 64034

If you have questions, contact:

Marilyn Zehring
4822 34th St.

We are Women of Action and support missions in many ways.

7 Channels of Mission Giving

Through their generosity United Methodist Women help empower and improve the lives of women, youth and children in the United States and around the world.

5 Star and 7 Star Unit Giving Recognition

1. Pledge to Mission

A United Methodist Woman pledges any amount to her local unit to help fund the District Pledge to Mission that goes to the Conference to help fulfill the Purpose of United Methodist Women.
Any and all Pledge to Mission offerings go to the district.

2. Special Mission Recognition Pin

A meaningful way to honor members who have dedicated time and effort to service.
Available from the district treasurer (\$40 minimum)

3. Gift to Mission Cards

Cards for a variety of occasions including Congratulations, Thank You, Thinking of You, Birthday, etc.
Available from the district treasurer and at district gatherings (\$5 minimum)
Must be purchased during that calendar year to qualify as a channel of giving for that year.

4. Gift in Memory

A card to honor someone who has passed.
Available from the district treasurer and at district gatherings (\$5 minimum)
Must be purchased during that calendar year to qualify as a channel of giving for that year.

5. World Thank Offering

Opportunity to respond to God's abundance and grace with a gift of gratitude in any amount.

6. The Dedicated Light

Opportunity for mission giving "in honor of" or "in memory of" award
At the Spring District Gathering a Dedicated Light Candle burns for 1 minute in honor of the awards.
\$45 represents the cost of one minute of mission work.
Available from the district treasurer (\$45)

7. Corsages for Mission

Each Corsage for Mission is \$1 and goes toward pledge to mission.
Available from District Treasurer and at various UMW gatherings.
The corsages are made by Women Helping Women Inside at the Topeka Correctional Facility

Your unit record of annual giving (Jan – Dec) is tracked by the District Treasurer working with your unit treasurer.

Questions: Giving Journey Leader, Pat Matthews, pamatthews94@gmail.com

STARS and GEMS



Last year the KC District officially had three 5 STAR units and eight 7 STAR units. I am guessing that there were more units that qualified for recognition but didn't realize they did, or failed to report. So FYI--

Requirements to be a 5 STAR Unit:

- Make a Pledge to Mission through the KC District
- Give a Special Mission Recognition Pin (\$40 minimum)
- Give at least one Gift to Mission Card (minimum \$5)
- Give at least one Gift in Memory Card (minimum \$5)
- Participate in the World Thank Offering through the KC District

Requirements to be a 7 STAR Unit:

- Meet the above requirements for a **5 STAR UNIT**, and
- Give a Dedicated Light in Honor or Memory of someone (\$45)
- Give Corsages for Mission (\$1 each, minimum of \$5)

Then by the end of the year, be sure to report your qualification for **5 Star** or **7 Star** Recognition to Libby Schoeni, KCD Treasurer.

This year "**She's a Gem**" is our new way of recognizing an individual woman's giving. A member chooses her level of giving, keeps her own records, and at the end of the year verifies with her local Treasurer who submits the information to the District Treasurer. She may choose her gem: Pearl, Sapphire, Amethyst, Emerald, or Ruby.

(Minimum Requirements)

PEARL	SAPPHIRE	AMETHYST	EMERALD	RUBY
Pledge	Pledge	Pledge	Pledge	Pledge
1 Gift to Mission Card	1 Gift to Mission Card			
1 Gift in Memory Card	1 Gift in Memory Card			
World Thank Offering	World Thank Offering	World Thank Offering	World Thank Offering	World Thank Offering
	1 SMR* pin	1 SMR* pin	1 SMR* pin	1 SMR* pin
		5 Corsages	OR 1 Dedicated light	5 Corsages
				OR 1 Dedicated Light
				5 Corsages

(*SMR – Special Mission Recognition)

Be a **STAR** unit or a **GEM** woman and support our 2018 Kansas City District Mission Giving! Libby Schoeni, District Treasurer

DeSoto UMC will have our Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 6th from 9am-2pm

We will be selling homemade Jellies, Jams, Preserves, Cookies, Candy, Cakes, Breads. Handmade Crafts, Gifts, Holiday Items

Lunch will be offered from 11-1 featuring Chicken w/ Wild Rice Soup, Ham and Beans, Potato Soup, and Chili, Hotdogs & Brats, Cinnamon Rolls and Home-made Pie!

December 8th, we will be selling Cookies by the Pound from 9am -2pm

Come out and fill up a box with an assortment of beautiful homemade cookies and candy

Leawood UMW will have their annual Marketplace for Mission on Saturday November 11 from 9-3. We will be selling hand-crafted items and home-baked items.

Wesley United Methodist Church is having a fundraiser on Sept. 16. We will have an art auction and brunch. The paintings were donated by a local artist Florence Wright. Auction and brunch following services at 9:15. Come enjoy art, good food and fellowship. Wesley is located at 32nd. and Barnett in KCK. More info call Beverly at 913.961.3476.

150 Years – Our Past, Our Present, Our Future, Our Legacy
Great Plains United Methodist Women Conference Annual Meeting

September 14-15, 2018 Church of the Resurrection Leawood, KS

Friday options; on your own, no sign-up required

Della Lamb—hands on mission;

*in-kind giving as follows: *new hats/gloves for men and women,

*new sweat suit tops/bottoms infant sizes through size 14 (girls and boys)

Self-guided Prayer Walk

Tour of Church of the Resurrection

Friday Dinner: Kansas City Barbeque

Friday Keynote speaker: Harriett Jane Olson, General Secretary, United Methodist Women

Saturday: Business Meeting

Conversation on “A Way Forward”

Saturday Breakout Sessions, in addition to Officer Updates

“Not Worth Saving” Author/Presenter: Ann Joyner

When faced with traveling down a path she never imagined taking, Ann Joyner with God's help, turned her son's life into a life filled with hope, joy, and inspiration.

#SocialMedia – Share your message with a few easy steps

Learn how to reach your audience and share your message instantly... Presenter: Abby O'Neill, Women's Ministry and Special Event Program Director

Prayer is a four letter word Presenter: Debbie Smith, Prayer Ministry at Church of the Resurrection. Discover what prayer brings to our lives...

Holistic Health Care for the “Least of These” Presenter: Dave Sanford, CEO, Grace Medical Health Clinic A United Methodist Outreach Ministry delivering quality medical care with focus on physical, mental, and spiritual health services ministering to the whole person.

Prison Ministry Presenter: Teresa Tuchsherer Ministry with the Women's Prison in Topeka with two United Methodist Women Units.

Charter for Racial Justice: presenter to be named later

Immigration Issues Presenter from Immigration Legal Center

Thirsting for Justice; The Politics of Water Presenters: Marilyn Zehring and Louise Neimann How far can you carry a jar of water on your head?

Questions: Contact Joyce Solomon via email at solomon.joyce@gmail.com

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ cell/home

I am a ___ Conference Officer ___ District Officer ___ other _____

___ I need a single room Friday (cost \$55.00 for officers) ___ I need a double room Friday

Roommate requested _____

Saturday Breakout Session #1**For District Officers (select one)**

___ President ___ Vice-President ___ Secretary ___ Treasurer

___ Committee on Nominations ___ Communications

Other Attendees (select one)

___ Not Worth Saving ___ #SocialMedia-Share your message ___ Holistic Health Care ___ Prison Ministry ___ Charter for Racial Justice ___ Immigration

___ Thirsting for Justice; The Politics of Water

Saturday Breakout Session #2**For District Officers (select one)**

___ Journey in Faith ___ Journey in Growth ___ Journey in Giving ___ Journey in Action

___ Journey in Learning

For Other Attendees (select one)

___ Not Worth Saving ___ #SocialMedia-Share your message ___ Holistic Health Care ___ Prison Ministry ___ Charter for Racial Justice ___ Immigration

___ Thirsting for Justice; The Politics of Water

Return this form with your \$40 registration payable to "Great Plains United Methodist Women" and mail to: Michelle Funk, Registrar, GPUMW Annual Meeting, 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS 66224

Registration deadline is August 31, 2018

Hotel Information (for those other than Conference and District Officers) To be made and paid for by the attendee. Hotels are near Church of the Resurrection. \$109.00 for a double, \$89.00 for a single for Great Plains United Methodist Women Annual Meeting

Courtyard Kansas City, Overland Park/Metcalf phone – 800-321-2211

11301 Metcalf Ave., Overland Park, KS 66210

Courtyard Kansas City South phone – 816-941-3333

Kansas City District Officers 2018

President:

Jean Gaslin
Jean000000@aol.com

Vice President:

Janis Kirkeby
janis.kirkeby@gmail.com

Secretary:

Kendee Seymour
seydude@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Libby Schoeni
tschoeni@everestkc.net

Journey in Faith:

Jill Hershberger
hershberger1969@gmail.com

Journey in Action:

Janelle Johnson
jdjflute@gmail.com

Journey in Growth:

Susan Cockrum
ehcribs@aol.com

Giving Leader:

Pat Matthews
pamatthews94@gmail.com

Learning Leader:

Emily Weems
weemsemily@hotmail.com

Program Resources Coordinator:

Lynn Bain
lynnbain@yahoo.com

Communication Coordinator:

Kathy Fowler
9725 Slater Ln
Overland Park, KS 66212
913-642-2264 kathfowl@sbcglobal.net

Chair of Nominations:

Jackie Lee
jackie-lee@att.net

Committee on Nominations:

Linda Prather
pratherl36@yahoo.com

Michelle Lentell
mlentell@att.net

GPC UMW Annual Meeting Scholarship Application – Kansas City District United Methodist Women

The Kansas City District United Methodist Women is offering scholarships to the 2018 Great Plains United Methodist Women Annual Meeting to be held September 14-15.

Application, Approval, and Reimbursement Process:

- All applicants must complete their own registration to include \$40 payment for the Annual meeting. <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/2018greatplainsumwannualmeeting> or [UMWGPC](#)
- Scholarship application must be submitted to the KC District UMW president, Jean Gaslin, by August 23. Standard amount of scholarship is \$20.
- Scholarships will be awarded in the order in which they are received. Scholarship recipient will be notified of approval/disapproval by August 30.
- Scholarship recipient must attend the entire meeting to receive reimbursement. At the completion of the Annual meeting, the scholarship recipient must sign a voucher (acknowledge receipt) with the KC District treasurer, Libby Schoeni, in order to receive reimbursement.
- Checks must be picked up on-site at Church of the Resurrection from the KC District treasurer at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. No checks will be mailed.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Numbers _____

E-mail Address _____

Local Unit _____

Amount of Scholarship requested: (Standard amount is \$20. If you need more, please explain.) _____

Are you requesting a scholarship from your local unit or any other source? If so, from whom and for how much? _____

Have you attended a previous Conference UMW Annual Meeting? Is so, when? _____

Deadline is August 23, 2018. Mail or email application to: Jean Gaslin,
jean000000@aol.com,
 703 Cottonwood Drive,
 Lansing KS 66043

THE CHALLENGER

Calendar 2018

September 14-15 Great Plains UMW Annual Meeting Church of the Resurrection, Leawood

September 15 Kansas City District Fall Gathering following the GP Annual meeting
(Remember Unit Pledge Cards as we meet this Fall)

December 1 Turn in reports in a timely manner

December 3-5 United Methodist Women's Seminar Program, New York City

Calendar 2019

February 17-18 LEAF Topeka, KS

Date TBD- Kansas City District Spring Meeting

Metour June 2-11, 2019 (Red Bird Mission, Beverly, KY; Upper Room, Nashville;
Cookson Hills Center; and more)



United
Methodist
Women