



### **Our 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 a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.*

### **~ ~ ~ President's Message ~ ~ ~**

Greetings to all!!! I am really looking forward to our Spiritual Retreat to be held at Camp Horizon March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. We will be led by Leah (Rankin) Hartman who is a lay person that lives out her calling through mothering, homeschooling, and writing. She loves to serve individuals, families, and local churches through teaching and encouraging them to faithful living. Leah lives in Arkansas City, KS with her husband and three children. She blogs at leah-hartman.com. I hope you will make plans to attend!

I also want to encourage you to look online - [greatplainsumc.org/umw](http://greatplainsumc.org/umw) to find the information and registration form for the METour, and find a young woman that will go! It will be an awesome and inspiring mission opportunity!

As the special session of the UMC General Conference approaches (Feb. 23-26), we anxiously wait for what happens next. Please continue to pray for God's will to be done and the Holy Spirit to move in that space. No matter the outcome, our 2019 activities will be held.

I pray God's blessings on you all and I encourage United Methodist Women to follow the words of John Wesley: *"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can."*

Dixie Brewster, Wichita West District President

### **~ ~ ~ Vice President's Message ~ ~ ~**

The month of February is always so fickle. One day it's cold and snowy. The the next day is warm and breezy. We never know how to dress. Let's think about those that don't have warm clothes and blankets. Maybe it's a good time to clean out your closet and donate to your local thrift store.

March will be here before we know it. This year the Spiritual Retreat at Camp Horizon is March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Please put that on your calendars and get your registrations in by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings to all,

Gaylene McConnell, Wichita West District Vice President

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## Great Plains Conference United Methodist Women 2019 Calendar

<b>January 11-12, 2019</b>	Winter Leadership Team Meeting – Concordia, KS
<b>February 9, 2019</b>	NE Ecumenical Legislative Day – Christ UMC, Lincoln, NE
<b>February 17-18</b>	Kansas L.E.A.F. – Topeka, KS “Unity of Spirit”
<b>March 15</b>	<b>Spiritual Retreat registrations due</b>
<b>March 23</b>	National Day of Giving – 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Legacy Fund
<b>March 29-30</b>	<b>Wichita East &amp; West District Spiritual Retreat – Camp Horizon, Arkansas City, KS</b>
<b>March 30</b>	Local Unit Membership Census due to National UMW
<b>April 1</b>	Registration Deadline for METour
<b>April 1-5</b>	Midwest Mission Distribution Center Mission Trip – Chatham, IL
<b>May 3-5</b>	GP Conference Spring Retreat “Sensible Shoes” – Camp Comeca, Cozad, NE
<b>May 29- June 1</b>	<b>Great Plains United Methodist Church Conference – Topeka, KS</b>
<b>May TBA</b>	GP UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference?
<b>June 1-11</b>	METour –SE USA (UMCOR Sager Brown, Red Bird, Upper Room in Nashville, Cookson Hills Center)
<b>June 28-29</b>	Summer Leadership Team Meeting – Scottsbluff, NE
<b>July 1</b>	Eunice Harrington Award Nominee deadline
<b>July 14-18</b>	Mission u Weekday Event – Salina, KS
<b>July 26-28</b>	Mission u Weekend Event – Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE
<b>August 9-10</b>	Mission u – Countryside UMC, Topeka, KS
<b>September 20-21</b>	Great Plains United Methodist Women Annual Meeting – First UMC, Lincoln, NE
<b>September 28</b>	<b>Wichita West District Annual Meeting – Milton UMC, Milton, KS</b>
<b>October 14-18</b>	Midwest Mission Distribution Center Mission Trip – Chatham, IL
<b>March 26-29, 2020</b>	South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting – Little Rock, Arkansas
<b>May 20-22, 2022</b>	National UMW Assembly – Orlando, Florida

### ~ ~ ~ Greetings from the Wichita West District Secretary ~ ~ ~

I hope that all of you are staying warm during these cold winter days. And enjoying those frequent days of sunshine and warmer temperatures.

We would like to encourage every unit to hold their election of officers prior to October 1<sup>st</sup>. This would enable the units to provide the list of newly elected officers to the district secretary by October 31. One of the duties of the District Secretary is to have the Directory ready for distribution in January. If the units do not hold their election of officers until January, the secretary does not receive the list of officers until late in January which makes it almost impossible to have the directory ready for distribution. Installation of officers could still be held in December or January.

Our 2019 Spiritual Retreat will be held March 29–30, and this year the 2019 Directories will be available for distribution at the retreat. In order to save on printing expenses, each unit will receive one copy.

If at any time I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact me at 316–516–0764 or beallj60@gmail.com

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at Camp Horizon March 29–30.

Judy Beall, Wichita West District Secretary

~~~~ Message from the Treasurer ~~~~

I want to share with you district and conference results from 2018. Our total mission giving was \$45,681.75, or 76.14% of our Pledge. In addition, we forwarded \$1,993.57 in special giving (or designated giving) for a total of \$47,675.32. Thank you all for your efforts. A special thank you goes out to the units that submitted "extra" giving, which was over and above their pledge. The better news is that the Great Plains Conference forwarded \$646,254.26, or 103.4% of our Pledge of \$625,000.00. Thank you for all your support and hard work.

Our 2019 District Pledge is \$55,000.00. Complete budget information is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. I have also included information about Mission Corsages and Dedicated Lights, which are the two additional requirements for 7-Star Giving. Please let me know if you have questions about these special avenues of giving.

Also printed elsewhere in this newsletter is information about the upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UMW. I hope your units are planning a special celebration on or around March 23rd. A good way to do that would be to make a donation to the Legacy Fund, either as a unit or as an individual. Donations can be made by email, text, phone or by mail directly to UMW National in New York City. Please note Legacy Funds are no longer sent through district and conference channels. Complete information is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you are a new unit treasurer and are in need of assistance or have questions, please let me know. All treasurers should have a treasurer's packet that contains order forms and information/directions for doing the unit treasurer's job. Please contact me if you are in need of a treasurer's packet.

Terri McGinn, Treasurer Wichita West District UMW  
2460 N. 231<sup>st</sup> St. W. Andale, KS 67001  
Cell: 316-619-8161 Email: tnmcginn74@gmail.com

\*\*\*\*\* Giving Tidbits \*\*\*\*\*

\*\* Legacy Fund information:

Online: unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund  
By Phone: 800-278-7771 (Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm EST)  
By Text: LEGACY150 to 41444  
By Mail: Make checks payable to United Methodist Women  
475 Riverside Drive  
Treasurer's Office  
New York, NY 10115 (write "The Legacy Fund" in the memo section)

\*\* Mission Corsage:

Mission Corsages are made for the Great Plains Conference by the Women Helping Women Inside (WHWI) unit at the Topeka Correction Facility. Corsages are available at all district functions and can be purchased through the District Treasurer at any time. They can be used to honor individuals at UMW meetings, on UMW Sunday, or for servers at funeral dinners. They can also be used to honor individuals within the church, i.e. Baptisms, Confirmations, Mission Teams, Graduating Seniors, new pastors and spouse, and church staff.

Mission Corsages cost \$1 each. 10 corsages are required to fulfill the 7-Star requirement

\*\* Dedicated Light:

The Dedicated Light is a tradition brought to the Great Plains Conference from the Nebraska Conference. The Dedicated Light service was first inaugurated by the Women's Society of Christian Service of the Nebraska Conference Methodist church in 1958. Since 2014, the tradition has been growing in the Great Plains Conference. Individuals and units may honor a person through a \$45 gift "In Honor" or "In Memory". Honorees receive a certificate from the District Treasurer, and a candle is burned for one minute at the District and Conference meeting for each named person.

Your unit treasurer or district treasurer have order forms for the Dedicated Light.

## Wichita West District UMW Pledge and Budget 2019

**PLEDGE to CONFERENCE: \$55,000**  
**Total A&MD Requested \$5900.00**

**District Team Expense:**

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Postage                            | 100.00           |
| Supplies                           | 50.00            |
| Phone                              | 10.00            |
| Mileage                            | 500.00           |
| Printing                           | 50.00            |
| Child Care                         | 50.00            |
| SMR, GTM, GIM                      | 400.00           |
| Mission Resource                   | 350.00           |
| Audit                              | 200.00           |
| District Special Project           | 100.00           |
| Miscellaneous                      | 90.00            |
| Directory/Newsletter               | <u>600.00</u>    |
| <b>Total District Team Expense</b> | <b>\$2500.00</b> |

**District Program & Events Expense:**

|                                           |                  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Honoraria for Speaker                     | 900.00           |
| Speaker Expense                           | 100.00           |
| Mileage for Team                          | 100.00           |
| Meals/Lodging for Team                    | 600.00           |
| Printing/Copies                           | 300.00           |
| Dependent/Child Care                      | 50.00            |
| Supplies                                  | 400.00           |
| Book Postage                              | 10.00            |
| Book Give Away                            | 50.00            |
| Honoraria for Venue                       | 500.00           |
| Mission u Scholarship                     | 300.00           |
| Miscellaneous                             | <u>90.00</u>     |
| <b>Total Program &amp; Events Expense</b> | <b>\$3400.00</b> |

### ~ ~ ~ Journey in Action Leaders ~ ~ ~

There is plenty of possible action for local Journey in Action leaders. You know and serve local needs and do a great job. You also support area UMW programs.

The United Methodist Church has called a Special Session of the UMC General Conference which will meet February 23-26 in St. Louis. Delegates will receive the Commission on a Way Forward report and make decisions about the church's future ministry with LGBTQ individuals and church unity. Delegates are listed on the Great Plains Conference site. Dixie Brewster, our Wichita West District President is a delegate. Please pray for her and all delegates. Share your thoughts about the proposed plans for the church with Dixie. You may follow the general conference at <http://www.umcom.org/news/q-a-2019-special-session-of-the-general-conference>.

Blessings as you love and serve others.

Eunice Proctor, Wichita District Journey in Action Leader



Dear UMW Sisters,

This year nominations committee is searching for a few good women to serve on the executive committee. Would you please be in prayer and consider serving as Journey in Learning/Program Resources, Journey in Action or on the nominations group?

Please join us at Spiritual Retreat, March 29th & 30th, to learn about each position on the committee. If you have any questions, please ask anyone on the nominating panel.

Brenda Carpenter, Chair [jbcarp620@gmail.com](mailto:jbcarp620@gmail.com) or 620-243-2942

Phyl Asher [lpasher@earthlink.net](mailto:lpasher@earthlink.net) or 316-772-5795

Betty Hodson [bjpkhodson@cox.net](mailto:bjpkhodson@cox.net) or 316-943-6923

Helen White [helenw@gmail.com](mailto:helenw@gmail.com) or 620-440-1852

Marilyn Houlden, ex officio [Jmhoulden65@gmail.com](mailto:Jmhoulden65@gmail.com) or 620-863-2464

Anne Rush, ex officio [rushes@havailandtelco.com](mailto:rushes@havailandtelco.com) or 620-326-0511

~~~~ **Historian's Message** ~~~~

We need all UMW Units to send a short History of their Unit. It doesn't have to be long, just when the Unit was started and maybe highlight some things the Unit does.

Thank you for your help.

Please send it to:

Jeanine Bevan,

312 N. Market, Caldwell, KS 67022,

or email it to: [jbtractor2003@yahoo.com](mailto:jbtractor2003@yahoo.com).



~~~~ **Program Resources Message** ~~~~

Start the New Year out right by committing to a UMW Reading Plan in 2019!!

The 5 Categories are: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, Spiritual Growth.

PLAN I: 5 books, PLAN II: 10 books, PLAN III: 15 books, PLAN IV: 20 books.

The Reading Program Unit Reports are to be sent to:

Sharon Kessler, 2228 W. Hadden, Wichita, KS 67217.

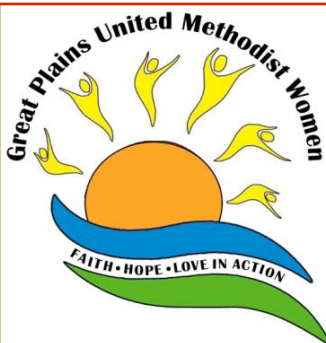
## **METour**

The Mission Education Tour or otherwise known as the METour is an AWESOME experience for any young lady between the ages of 15-20. Local United Methodist Women have the opportunity to sponsor and support young women who are interested in going on this Mission Experience that lasts for 10 days. The 2019 METour will go the Southeastern United States. (UMCOR Sager Brown, Red Bird, Upper Room in Nashville, Cookson Hills Center) The dates for the METour are June 1-11.

The registration deadline for the METour is April 1, 2019.

The METour Registration Packet is now on the Great Plains UMW website!

[www.greatplainsumc.org/umw](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/umw)



### **Check out these websites and links to other sites:**

National UMW website: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)

Great Plains UMW webpage: [www.greatplainsumc.org/umw](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/umw)

Wichita West District UMW: [www.greatplainsumc.org/wichitawestdistrictumw](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/wichitawestdistrictumw)

Mission Resources: <http://www.umwmissionresources.org>

Great Plains Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Great-Plains-United-Methodist-Women-220417121468509/>

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/UMWWomen](http://www.twitter.com/UMWWomen)

*And what does the Lord require of you?*

*To act JUSTLY, To love MERCY, and To walk HUMBLY with your GOD.*

*Micah 6:8*



*The Shepherdess assigned to your UMW Unit is available for answering questions about information you might need for your group. They will come meet with your group, suggest programs and provide support as well as answer questions and provide help if needed. She will also be in prayer for your unit throughout the coming year. If you or your Unit have questions or need something in particular, please contact her.*

### 2019 SHEPHERDESS Assignments

| Shepherdess       | Units                                           |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Phyl Asher        | Caldwell - Cedar Chapel                         |
| Judy Beall        | Conway Springs - Milton - Sedgwick              |
| Dixie Brewster    | Corbin - Kiowa - Wellington - First UMC         |
| Jeanine Bevan     | Pleasant Valley                                 |
| Brenda Carpenter  | Cheney - Pratt                                  |
| Eileen Hawkins    | West Heights                                    |
| Sharon Kessler    | Bethany - St. Paul's                            |
| Gayleen McConnell | Cunningham - Haysville - Medicine Lodge         |
| Terri McGinn      | Clearwater - Goddard - Valley Center - Woodland |
| Connie McPherson  | Aldersgate                                      |
| Eunice Proctor    | Iuka - Kingman                                  |
| Kay Sewell        | Coats - Penalosa - Zenda                        |

✂✂✂ Happy 150th Anniversary! ✂✂✂ Let's Celebrate! ✂✂✂

On March 23, 2019 we will celebrate our 150th year as women organized for mission. Consider organizing a celebration of United Methodist Women that lasts for the entire weekend March 22-24. Ideas and resources can be found on the Legacy Fund website: [unitedmethodistwomen.org/150](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/150).

### Honoring Our Legacy

On March 23, 1869, in Boston, Massachusetts, Clementina Butler and Lois Parker informed six women members of the Methodist Episcopal Church about the desperate health care and educational needs of women in India. Their Call to Action raised funds to send Isabella Thoburn, a teacher, and Clara Swain, a doctor, to India. The meeting in March led to the formation of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the first of many Methodist women's mission organizations to address the injustices imposed on women and girls in the 19th century. United Methodist Women is their successor, and we celebrate 150 years of changing the lives of women, children and youth.

**2019 SPIRITUAL RENEWAL RETREAT**  
**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN EAST AND WEST DISTRICTS**  
**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MARCH 29 & 30, 2019**  
**CAMP HORIZON UNITED METHODIST CENTER**

Program to be presented by LEAH HARTMAN, "Roots to Fruits"

**Schedule:**

**OVERNIGHT - (Bedding & Towels Provided)**

Friday, March 29  
4:00 PM Gathering Time & Registration  
5:15 PM Dinner  
6:15 PM "Roots to Fruits"  
7:17 PM District Officers Meeting

**ONE-DAY RETREAT**

Saturday, March 30  
8:00 AM Breakfast  
9:00 AM "Roots to Fruits"  
10:00 AM Break  
10:15 AM "Roots to Fruits"  
11:15 AM Communion  
  
11:30 AM Skit by Wichita West UMW  
  
11:45 AM Dismissal and Lunch

\*\*\*\*\*

Registration Form due by March 15, 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Your church name \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preference \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if you are a District officer Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST: **Overnight: \$53.00** (includes registration, room, dinner, breakfast and lunch)

**One-Day: \$25.00** (includes registration and lunch)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to Wichita West District UMW

Mail registration and check by March 15 to: Terri McGinn  
2460 N. 231st St. W.  
Andale, Ks. 67001

Questions - Contact:  
JoEtta Branch, Wichita West District Journey in Faith  
316-519-0978  
jbranch1213@gmail.com