

AUTUMN 2016

## *Missouri River District United Methodist Women*

# *Dialogue Newsletter*

### **ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2016**

Mark your calendars to attend the Missouri River District United Methodist Women Annual Fall Meeting on Saturday, November 19, 2016 at First United Methodist Church, 1023 First Avenue, Nebraska City, 68410. The church is handicap accessible and there is an elevator. Please let us know if you will need Child Care when you RSVP, you will need to provide a sack lunch for each child in attendance. Registration and Hospitality begins at 8:30 am, Business Meeting at 9:00 am. The morning will include the following activities:

- ◆ Recognition of retiring District officers
- ◆ Installation of District officers for the coming year
- ◆ Memorial Service for UMW members
- ◆ Presentation by the “Big Garden”, a United Methodist Ministries program - offering will benefit the “Big Garden”, gifts in kind will be accepted as well. See list on page 2 for useful “Big Garden” in kind donations to bring to the meeting
- ◆ Training for unit officers
- ◆ Assembly of health kits for those not participating in officer training - see list on page 2 for items to bring in bulk for assembly at the meeting
- ◆ Communion
- ◆ Lunch at a cost of \$8.00 each will conclude our day together.

Please send your reservation with your RSVP and \$8.00 (checks to Nebraska City United Methodist Women) by Monday, November 7, 2016 to:

Keitha Thomson  
708 Centennial Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
[dthomson4@gmail.com](mailto:dthomson4@gmail.com)  
402-873-7889 or 402-209-1334

or

Joyce Jacobson  
815 Second Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
[joycekj1953@yahoo.com](mailto:joycekj1953@yahoo.com)  
402-873-3087 or 402-229-2108

Please contact either Keitha or Joyce with questions. Hope to see you there!

## **BIG GARDEN NEEDS LIST - BRING TO NOV. 19 MEETING!**

- Canning supplies: pots, 4 oz. -12 oz. mason jars, lids, funnels
- Paper plates, cups, etc.
- Forever US postage stamps
- Multi-purpose copy paper
- Menards gift cards: used for lumber, hardware, tools
- Gift cards for Seed Saver's Exchange & Johnny's Selected Seeds (both available online)
- Quality garden hoes, hand-held trowels & shovels
- Mailing labels Avery 5160
- Sharpie markers-every type
- Children's paint brushes
- Magic markers
- Cardstock—65 lb
- Construction paper
- Manila or colored file folders
- 13-gal drawstring kitchen bags
- Gift cards from Paradigm Gardens (Omaha), Indian Creek Nursery (Omaha), Earl May, Office Max

The Big Garden also accepts garden equipment donations of all shapes and sizes in running condition, or near running condition (tillers, wheelbarrows, etc.). Questions regarding this list? Contact the United Methodist Ministries/Big Garden office at [info@BigGarden.org](mailto:info@BigGarden.org) or 402-898-9862

## **HEALTH KIT ITEMS - BRING IN BULK TO NOV. 19 MEETING!**

- Hand towels - 15" x 25" to 17" x 27", kitchen, cleaning & microfiber towels not acceptable
- Washcloths
- Combs - need to be sturdy & longer than 6", no pocket combs or picks. Rattail combs & combs without handles are acceptable with a minimum of 6" of teeth
- Metal nail files or clippers, no emery boards
- Toothbrushes - adult size only, do not remove from original packaging
- Adhesive bandages - 3/4" to 1" size, common household Band-Aids
- Plastic bags - one-gallon size sealable bags only
- \$1 to purchase toothpaste

Important notes! All items must be new. Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used. Remove all packaging except for toothbrushes.

We will assemble the health kits at the November 19 District UMW meeting in Nebraska City.

## **COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS – KRIS GENIER & JUNE ETHRIDGE**

The Committee on Nominations is seeking UMW members with the gift of leadership for positions on the Missouri River District UMW Leadership Team for the coming year.

- Treasurer - access to a computer and the internet is needed
- Spiritual Growth Coordinator
- Nominations (multiple)

Please consider sharing your gifts as a member of the Missouri River District UMW Leadership Team. Contact Kris Genier or June Ethridge, Committee on Nominations

## **SOCIAL ACTION - ERMA PHARAOH**

There are a number of issues that have our attention in Nebraska right now.

- Human trafficking - Omaha has a Coalition on Human Trafficking with members from law enforcement, social services and religious organizations. Law enforcement & social services staff gave an informative presentation about human trafficking in the Omaha community at last year's District meeting.
- Nebraska Death Penalty Repeal Referendum - read the language carefully on the ballot Nov. 8.
- Immigration and its impact on families

## **CO-PRESIDENTS – SHARON OSTLUND & CAROL MICHAELS**

The 2016 Great Plains Conference UMW Annual Meeting and Celebration were held on September 16 and 17 at Countryside UMC in Topeka, KS. The theme was "Go Forward" – Exodus 14:15 Then the Lord said...go forward. Tours were available to a limited number of participants to the Women's Prison in Topeka. There are two UMW circles at the prison, and some of the circle members were present at the Friday evening gathering. The circle members create jewelry in prison to sell to fund their pledges and UMW mission projects. The UMW members that sponsored the circles and the members of the circles in prison are amazing women! Friday night activities included worship and hearing the Keynote Speaker, Yvette Richards, National UMW President. Saturday morning, the schedule included a business meeting and district officer training.

Please fill out and return the attached 2017 Missouri River District UMW directory to Carol Michaels by November 1, even if the officers have not been installed yet. As long as you know who they are please turn in the information so the Directory can be typed, proofed and printed by the District Meeting November 19, 2016 In Nebraska City. Thank you!

## **PROGRAM RESOURCES - MARGERY BOILESEN**

The Missouri River District UMW board recently voted to discontinue the office of Program Resources Coordinator. It has become expensive for the District to pay for the shipping of the reading materials. Reading program books are available for UMW units to directly purchase or borrow from several sources:

1. ON LINE [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org)
2. BY PHONE [1-800-305-9857](tel:1-800-305-9857)
3. BY MAIL United Methodist Women Mission Resources, 1650 Bluegrass Lakes Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30004
4. LOCAL PURCHASE Urban Abbey, 1026 Jackson St., Omaha, NE 68102
5. ON LINE Amazon.com
6. BORROW Great Plains Conference UMW Lending Library, Attn: Mary Ann Bede, Christ United Methodist Church, 4530 A Street, Lincoln, NE 68510  
Phone: 402-421-8274, [stringbedes@windstream.net](mailto:stringbedes@windstream.net)
7. Your local public library

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work.

Keep reading!

## **NOTES FROM THE TREASURER – NANCY RAMSEY**

Thank you for all of your generous donations! Your gifts go to support and improve the lives of women, children, and youth all over the world.

Remember that you have until December 15 to send in money towards the 5 & 7 Star Awards for 2016. Since we have gone to the fiscal year ending in December, we now honor the 5 & 7 Star Units and Dedicated Light honorees at our Spring meeting (so those named in 2016 will be honored in Spring of 2017).

Please call or e-mail me if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing all of you in Nebraska City at Fall Meeting/Officer Training.

Nancy Ramsey      402-274-1586      [dr52717@outlook.com](mailto:dr52717@outlook.com)

## **SPIRITUAL GROWTH - DARLENE HICKS**

United Methodists across the Great Plains Conference are encouraged to lend a hand to Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. as he begins his ministry in Kansas and Nebraska by participating in 100 days of prayer, beginning Sept. 1. The prayers in 10-day increments are for transition, family, relationships, vision, wisdom, leadership, self-care, renewal, hope and boldness.

Please complete the enclosed Unit UMW Deceased Members Report and return to me by October 1, 2016. These members will be recognized at the District Meeting on November 19th in Nebraska City.

The following was shared at the most recent Missouri River District UMW Board meeting:

### **A WOMAN CONSIDERS TIME**

(Paraphrase of Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 9)

By: Virginia Lee Schwab

From: *The Methodist Woman*

For every woman there is a time for every purpose under the heavens...

A time to be Martha... a time to be Mary; a time to work diligently... a time to relax and find joy in the world about me.

A time to destroy any shreds of intolerance and prejudice that may be hiding within me... a time to heal any misunderstandings I have caused through careless words or thoughtless actions.

A time to break down the barriers of my pride... a time to build up my resources through study and prayer.

A time to reflect and ponder about my own shortcomings... a time to laugh when I begin to take myself too seriously.

A time to cast away cares and worries of the past... a time to gather strength and courage to face the problems that may beset me in the future.

A time to embrace friends with thoughtfulness and concern... a time to refrain from forcing my opinions and advice on others.

A time to seek out the lonely and offer them companionship... a time to lose myself in the service of those who need me.

A time to keep precious hours set aside for my family... a time to put away extraneous activities that clutter my life.

## A WOMAN CONSIDERS TIME (cont.)

A time to be silent and listen for the voice of God... a time to speak out and tell the world of his great love.

A time to love and express my appreciation for those who love me... a time to hate and discard the indifference and impatience I so often show them.

A time for war against the selfishness and pettiness that prevent my being a true follower of Christ... a time for peace, "the peace that passeth all understanding"... the peace that is mine only when I surrender myself fully to him and accept his Divine Guidance.

For what shall I, the woman, gain from all my good works if Christ is not the center of my life?

## MISSOURI RIVER DISTRICT UMW 2016 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Co-Presidents        **Sharon Ostlund** 402-331-1893 [persistentlady@centurylink.net](mailto:persistentlady@centurylink.net)  
                             **Carol Michaels** 402-734-0857 [carolmich4@msn.com](mailto:carolmich4@msn.com)

Secretary            **Mary Savage** [nunu.1950@yahoo.com](mailto:nunu.1950@yahoo.com)

Treasurer           **Nancy Ramsey** 402-274-1586 [dr52717@outlook.com](mailto:dr52717@outlook.com)

Spiritual Growth Coordinator    **Darlene Hicks** 402-333-5763 [bodar51@cox.net](mailto:bodar51@cox.net)

Social Action Coordinator   **Erma Pharaoh** [erma\\_pharaoh@q.com](mailto:erma_pharaoh@q.com)

Education & Interpretation Coordinator **Allison Brown-Corson** [abrowncorson@gmail.com](mailto:abrowncorson@gmail.com)

Program Resources Coordinator   **Margery Boilesen** [lboilesen0349@msn.com](mailto:lboilesen0349@msn.com)

Communications Coordinator    **Gail Allbery** 402-491-3301 [allbery.gail@gmail.com](mailto:allbery.gail@gmail.com)

Committee on Nominations Chair   **Kris Genier** 402-733-7229 [keg1940@hotmail.com](mailto:keg1940@hotmail.com)

Committee on Nominations   **June Ethridge** 402-292-1279

2017 Missouri River District Directory form – to be filled out and returned by November 1, 2016

Please return form to: Carol Michaels, 1915 S. 44th Street Apt 124, Omaha, NE 68105 Phone [402-734-0857](tel:402-734-0857) or [carolmich4@msn.com](mailto:carolmich4@msn.com) by NOVEMBER 1, 2016. Please fill out and return by then even if the officers have not been installed yet. As long as you know who they are, please get the information to me so that we can get the Directory typed, proofed and printed by the District Meeting November 19, 2016 In Nebraska City. Thank you for your help.

Church (Unit Name)

	Phone #'s	Email	Address	City	State	Zip
President						
Name						
Vice President						
Name						
Secretary						
Name						
Treasurer						
Name						
Social Action (Journey in Action)						
Name						
Spiritual Growth (Journey in Faith)						
Name						
Education and Interpretation						
Name						
Membership, Nurture & Outreach						
Name						
Program Resources Secretary						
Name						
Communications						
Name						
Chairperson of Nominations						
Name						
Committee on Nominations						
Name						
Name						
Pastor						
Name						

**UNIT UMW DECEASED MEMBERS REPORT**

To: Unit Mission Coordinators of Spiritual Growth (or Unit Presidents)

Please return this form to me (District Mission Coordinator of Spiritual Growth) by October 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have no deceased members, just check the line at the bottom and return to me.

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mission Coordinator of Spiritual Growth, or President

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

List of Deceased (Please send a photo of each deceased, if possible, and date of death)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you have no Deceased Members this year. (Sept. 1, 2015 – Sept. 31, 2016)

Send to: Darlene A. Hicks (District Spiritual Growth Coordinator)

Address: 9205 Western Ave. #316 , Omaha, NE 68114-2245

Telephone: 402-333-5763 Email: bodar51@cox.net

**Thank you for getting this report and the photos to me before October 1<sup>st</sup> , 2016. Materials submitted after this deadline may not be included in the 2016 United Methodist Women Missouri River District Meeting report. If you have no photos, you may Email me with this information or call if you like.**