

Kalamazoo District UMW
to Renee Putt

Mon, Feb 15 10:31 AM

The Flame - Spring 2016

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The Flame

Newsletter of the Kalamazoo District United Methodist Women

BE A VISIBLE UNIT!

Is your UMW Unit visible in your church family? in your community? Let's get out of the kitchen/basement/ or where ever we meet. Show people who we are. Lead by example.

Did you see the #UMWumbrellas pictures? If your Unit took a picture, I can still post it on the Kalamazoo District UMW Facebook page and send them on to the National UMW site. Just email the picture to me. (Take the picture during fellowship time after worship.)

I have to say something about Westwood UMW in Kalamazoo. They are offering a once a month Friday night Film and light supper. Each month the film will

be on a different social issue. January was on Human Trafficking with a local speaker and the film. Good food and good turnout of women and men---way to go Westwood!

Are you planning to have a UMW Sunday at your church in 2016? I hope so! We can help you with the planning, just give any District Officer a call. Here are some starters:

- get a date on the church calendar--maybe a day when the pastor is away
- we have a speaker list or use one of your own choice
- choose your hymns, *Response* magazine has great prayers,

sayings, etc.

- set up a display during 'coffee hour' showing what your Unit is doing and some history of the Unit (pictures, program booklets, mission projects, books).

Make UMW Sunday one of your goals for 2016.

Does someone write a paragraph for your church newsletter promoting UMW and projects like making one handled school bags or upcoming District Events?

BE VISIABLE AND GROW. Read on. Your District Team is excited about the events and projects for 2016. Be excited about your Unit.

Cindy Thiele
Kalamazoo District
UMW President

Spring Fling Tea Time

Sponsored by Kalamazoo District United Methodist Women



Saturday, March 12, 2016

Registration at 12:30 p.m.
Event 1:00-3:00 p.m.



Portage Chapel Hill UMC
7028 Oakland Dr. Portage

\$7.00 \$5.00 Girls 5-12

(girls should be accompanied by an adult)



- Hear the History of Tea
- Sample Tea & Tea Foods



- Browse the Book Table
- Listen to a Children's Bell Choir

Register by March 5:

Mail: Adele Paxson, 1332 Royce Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49001

E-mail: adelepax@charter.net and bring your payment to the event

Online: <https://squareup.com/market/kalamazoo-district-united-methodist-women>

Make checks payable to: Kalamazoo District UMW

PLEASE NO PERFUME DUE TO ALLERGIES

(name)

(phone # or email address)

(church)

_____ GLUTEN-FREE

Register for Spring Fling On-Line

Spring Fling Flier

Spiritual Growth

The Kalamazoo and Heartland Districts are retreating together! This is a great opportunity to get to know fellow United Methodist Women AND to check out Wesley Woods Camp! There are many options to make this event work for you. If you are unable to stay the night, you can commute for only \$25. (This includes one lunch and both days.) Plan to attend this Spiritual Growth Retreat hosted by the Heartland District. We look forward to seeing you there!



(This map shows the church locations and the area covered by the Heartland District)

Spiritual Growth Retreat

The next retreat will be April 29-30, 2016 at Wesley Woods Camp, 1700 Clear Lake, Dowling, Michigan.



There are two styles of lodging, one being a motel-style with two people sharing one room and 4 people sharing a bathroom. There is room for 34 guests. The other style consists of two



Dormitory-style lodging

dormitory-style rooms in the main lodge that sleep 79 people. Home-cooked meals are served daily in the dining hall. Coffee

and hot drinks are available 24 hours a day.

The retreat leader will be Pastor Devon Herrell, who is

currently the Director of the Wesley Foundation at Ferris State University. She led the Spiritual Growth study on Happiness at Mission U last July. She will be presenting this same topic at the

spring retreat. Everyone who has heard her speak highly recommend her and have enjoyed time with her



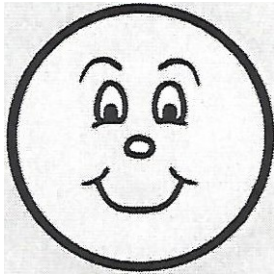
Motel-style lodging

immensely. Please pray about and make your plans now to attend this spring's Spiritual Growth Retreat. Invite your friends and family to join you.

Blessings,
Vicky Burrows,
Heartland District UMW
Mission Coordinator for
Spiritual Growth

Spiritual Growth Retreat Flier

2016 Spiritual Growth Retreat



HAPPY

Created for Happiness: Understanding your Life in God

- Develop the happiness habit!
- Seek happiness in God
- Examine the understanding of happiness and how to live the life that God calls us to

Retreat leader: ***Rev. Devon Herrell***

Friday & Saturday, April 29 & 30

Friday: Registration: 1:30-2:30p.m. Registration: 4:00 - 5:00p.m.
 Session One: 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Session Two: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
 Dinner: 6:30p.m.

Saturday: Join us for a day of fellowship and spiritual growth
 Sending forth 3:00 p.m.

Where: Wesley Woods Camp, 1700 Clear Lake Rd.
 Dowling, MI49050



Lodging: \$60.00 lodge -bunks, bring your own bedding
 & towels, communal shower
 \$80.00 motel – linens/towels provided, shower,
 2 /room, 4 /bathroom

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 Please return this portion no later than April 25, 2016;
 to Registrar: Darlyn Turner, 1145 Lakeview Drive, Clare, MI 48617
 Questions? darlynt@hotmail.com or 989-621-6828
 Please make checks payable to: Heartland District UMW

Cost: ___ \$60.00 Lodge ___ \$80.00 Motel

Name: _____ church: _____

Address: _____

Phone & e-mail: _____

Nominations

The Kalamazoo District Team has a full slate of officers for 2016. They are working diligently to make this year's District events meaningful, informative and entertaining for all. For next year my nominations committee will be searching for a new secretary as Elyse



Alice Reissmann

Connors will be completing her four year term in that position. There are four team meetings each year for which minutes are taken. Also minutes are recorded for our District Annual Meeting in the fall. A yearly District Directory is also completed by the

secretary; training is provided by the present secretary and the Conference for all tasks. If you have ever thought about joining our District team, you will be most welcome. You will be helping to plot the course for our district for the next year as well as making lifelong friends on the team. Come join us.

Alice Reissmann
Nominations Chair

Mission u

“Learning Together for the Transformation of the World”

SAVE the DATE:
July 14-16, 2016 to visit the beautiful campus of Albion College (a United Methodist college). Everyone will be taking the Spiritual Growth class, as well as a choice between the two other studies. The Spiritual Growth study is “The Bible and Human Sexuality.” We are excited to report that the author of the study, the Rev. Ellen Brubaker, will be leading us through this fascinating and challenging material.

The geographic study, *Latin America*,

People and Faith, will be repeated; and the new social issue study is *Climate Justice*. Which will you choose?

Children and Youth (newly added) will also study *Climate Justice*. Remember that the registration fee for children and youth who are accompanied by a registered UMW is waived. Consider bringing the whole family. Also, remember that MEN are ENCOURAGED to attend.

Childcare (for pre-school age) will be available at no charge. Scholarships are always available. Please check with the District and

Conference Mission Coordinators for Education and Interpretation about the details.

In 2016, the In-Gathering will be UMCOR School Kits.

As always, there will be a silent auction, a used book sale, videos and some surprise fun and festivities to complete your Mission u experience!

All we need is YOU to make a successful Mission u in 2016.

Blessings,
Sue Emmons, Dean
(*The DOVE*, Issue 39 Volume 1, page 3)

2016 Mission u Studies

2016 Kalamazoo District Challenge

The new challenge for our District is underway; we are making one-handed school bags. The pattern can be obtained from midwestmissiondc.org. I have recently returned from the distribution center

in Chatham, IL with two bolts of book bag fabric. I will have it available at the Spring Fling event at Portage Chapel Hill. If you want to start sooner, make sure to use a heavy duty fabric; the pattern gives

some suggestions. Make sure to follow the directions TO THE LETTER. Bags that are not made as specified will not be accepted. So get your sewing groups formed and your sewing machines ready; the challenge has begun!!! Contact me with questions at: areissmann1998@gmail.com 269-621-6138.

Alice Reissmann

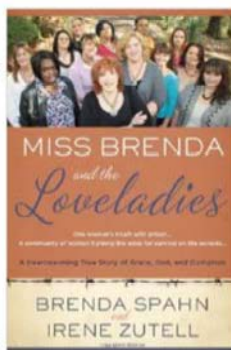


One Strap School Bag Pattern

Reading Program

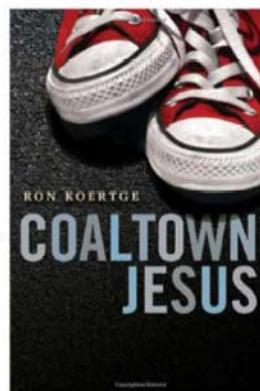
Just a word from the Reading Corner: Program Resources has two recommendations for your reading list considerations. Both books are on the 2016 list.

Miss Brenda and the Loveladies is a heartwarming true story of a business woman who turned her home into one for several female prisoners. This story not only changed Brenda's life, but through the grace of God, also the lives of the prisoners. It is listed under Nurturing for Community.



Coaltown Jesus is a Youth book which you can count on all levels of the Reading Program. Walker, who lives in a nursing home his mother runs, has

prayed for God to help his Mother who has cried for two months ever since his brother died. Still, he is surprised to find Jesus standing in the middle of his bedroom. This book is written in poetry



style and one of my friends enjoyed reading it aloud. It is a quick read and is listed under Spiritual Growth.

Hope you find a book from the Reading List from 2011-16 to curl up with on some snowy winter day.

Berrienne Provost & Adele Paxson
Program Resources

2016 Reading Program Book List



One Strap School Bag for MMDC

Sewing Instructions

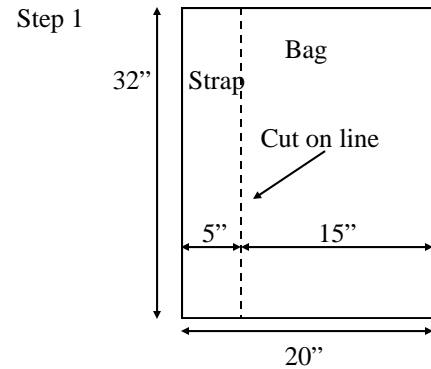
Finished Size: 14" wide x 14¹/₂" tall

Suitable fabrics: denim, corduroy, sailcloth, med.-heavy drapery fabric, light upholstery; NOT double-knit.

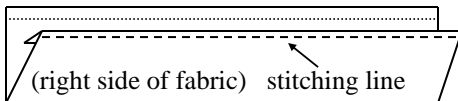
Step 1: Cut the fabric

Use one piece of fabric 20" wide by 32" long and cut a 5" strip off of the long side for the handle (strap). **OR**

Cut a piece 15" wide by 32" long for the bag, then cut a coordinating piece 5" wide and 32" long for the handle (strap).



Step 2

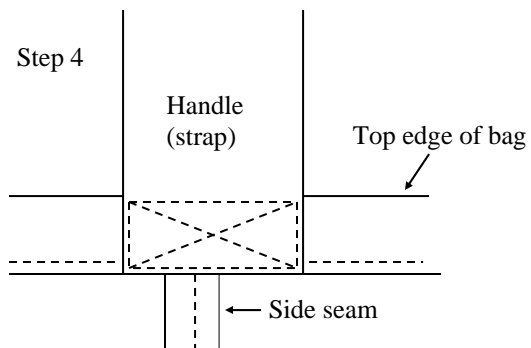
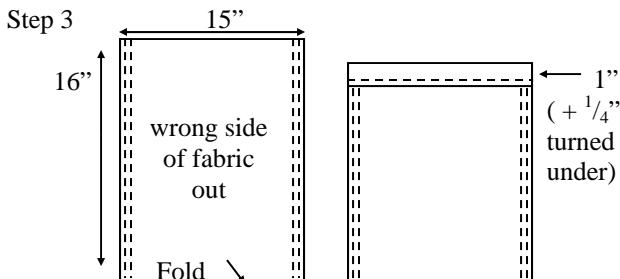


Step 2: Make the Handle (strap):

Press under 1/2" on each long side of the narrow 5" piece. Fold in half lengthwise with the right side out, and press. Sew along the long open edge of the handle.

Step 3: Make the body of the Bag:

Fold the large piece in half with the wrong side out, making a 15"x16" bag. Stitch up the side seams with a 1/2" seam then stitch again for strength. If the fabric ravels, please zig-zag the edge of the seam, too. (OR use a serger) Fold down the top of the bag 1/4" toward the outside, press in place. Fold it down another 1" and press. Stitch near the edge as shown. Turn the bag right-side-out and press.



Step 4: Attach the Handle (strap):

Center the ends of the strap over the side seams, on the inside of the bag. Pin in place. Stitch a box around the edges of the strap, then sew an X to the corners of the box, as shown.



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

West Michigan Conference

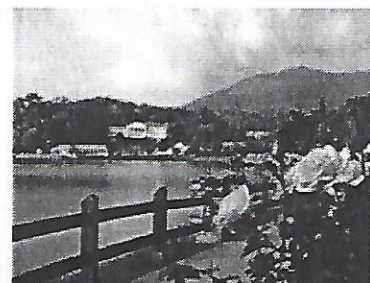
Faith Journey[™] to Lake Junaluska

October 26-30, 2016

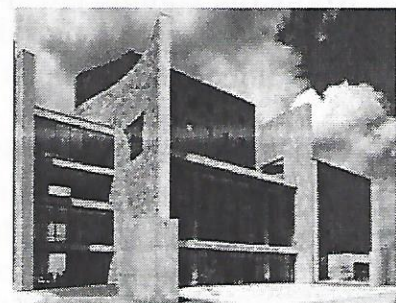
(Wednesday - Sunday)

Our Tour Includes:

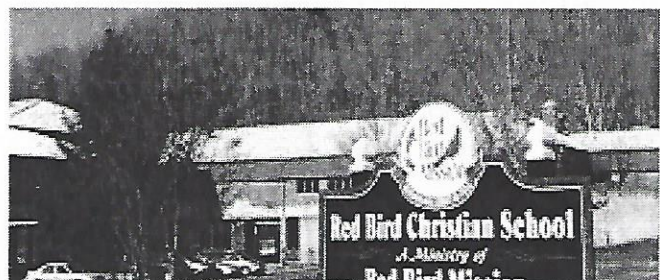
- Transportation via deluxe highway motor coach
- Countryside's 'breakfast to go' bag
- Two nights accommodations at first class hotels and two nights at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center
- Five breakfasts, three lunches, and four dinners
- Guided tour at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
- Tour of the Red Bird Mission and shopping at the craft shop
- Guided tour of the Brooks-Howell Home and time to get to know Deaconesses
- Shopping at the Folk Art Craft Center on the beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway
- Time to enjoy Lake Junaluska
 - The World Methodist Museum
 - Shopping at The Lake Junaluska Bookstore (Cokesbury)
 - Ice cream social at the historic Lambuth Inn
 - Walk the path around the lake
 - Relax in the Susannah Wesley Garden
- A tour of the Scarritt Bennett Center which includes the labyrinth and a Belle Harris Bennett Fellow's presentation
- View the Last Supper wood carving and the stained glass World Christian Fellowship Window at The Upper Room Chapel. Stroll in the sculpture and symbol garden representing Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Your visit includes some time for shopping at the gift shop.
- Taxes and tips for all inclusions (driver's tip appreciated)



*Lake Junaluska Conference
& Retreat Center*



*National Underground
Railroad Freedom Center*



Red Bird Mission

Your Price:

\$839.00 per person, double occ.
\$994.00 single occupancy
\$789.00 per person, triple occ.
\$669.00 per person, quad. occ.

Departure Points and Times:

6:00 am Grand Rapids:

Park & Ride Lot, I-96 and the Beltline

7:00 am Holt

Holt United Methodist Church, 2321 N. Aurelius Road

Tour Arranged By Countryside Tours, Inc
For More Information Call
616.636.4628 or toll-free 800.784.3828

2016 Friend List

Cindy Thiele
673-4515
Glenn, Ganges, South
Haven*, Burnips (no unit),
Fennville (no unit)

Joyce Mitchell
925-4528
Stevensville, Arden (no
unit), Berrien Springs (no
unit), Bridgeman Faith (no
unit), Hinchman (no unit)

Elyse Connors
303-1226
Keeler, Lawrence,
Riverside (no unit), Silver
Creek (no unit), Three
Oaks (no unit)

Cheryl Rumery
628-4894
Hopkins, Otsego, Almena
(no unit), Gull Lake (no
unit), Trowbridge (no unit)

Adele Paxson
343-2903
Kalamazoo First,
Parchment,
Pathfinder,
Vicksburg,
LifeSpring (no unit)

Berrienne Provost
327-7181
Portage Chapel
Hill*, Westwood*,
Northwest (no
unit), Paw Paw (no
unit)

Nancy Snell
630-926-1235
Bangor Simpson*,
Kendall, Plainwell (no
unit), Kalamazoo
Sunnyside (no unit),
Townline (no unit)

Clare Olney
906-1230
Allegan*, Casco,
Lacota (no unit),
Monterey Center (no
unit), Pearl (no unit)

Delberta Troutman
621-3663
Marcellus*, Scottdale,
Coloma (no unit),
Kalamazoo Milwood (no
unit), St. Joseph (no unit)

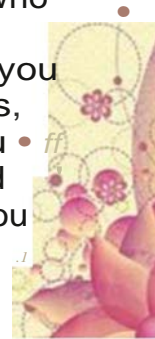
Angie Mather
684-1785
Buchanan Faith, Buchanan
First, Water 's Edge, Galien
(no unit), Olive Branch (no
unit)



A friend is one who

strengthens you
with prayers,
blesses you
with love and
encourages you
with his

presence.



Alice Reissmann
621-6138
Gobles*, Oshtemo,
Lakeside (no unit), Sodus
Chapel Hill* (no unit),
South Monterey (no unit)

Jane Rainey
427-8403
Hartford*, Breedsville (no
unit), Bloomingdale (no
unit), Oronoko (no unit),
Portage Prairie (no unit)

Laura Knepple
445-0849
Edwardsburg Hope, Niles
Wesley, Pokagon*, Morris
Chapel (no unit), Niles
Grace (no unit)

Sally Messner
646-7791
Dowagiac First,
Schoolcraft, Cassopolis
(no unit), Lawton St. Paul's
(no unit), Wakelee (no
unit)

2016 Kalamazoo District UMW Officers

President
Cindy Thiele
269-673-4514
cindatthiele@gmail.com

Vice President
Joyce Mitchell
269-925-4528
joycemitchell56@gmail.com

Secretary
Elyse Connors
269-303-1226
elyseconnors@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Cheryl Rumery
269-628-4894
milllake@frontier.com

Mission Coordinators:
Spiritual Growth
Clare Olney
269-906-1230
clareolney55@gmail.com

Social Action
Nancy Snell
630-926-1235
nsnell997@gmail.com

Education & Interpretation
Delberta Troutman
269-621-3663
dtroutman1@comcast.net

Membership, Nurture & Outreach
Angie Mather
269-684-1785
camather2@comcast.net

Program Resources
Adele Paxson
269-343-2903
adelepax@charter.net

Berrienne Provost
269-327-7181
ber-lanprovost@sbcglobal.net

Nominations Chair
Alice Reissmann
269-621-6138
areissmann1998@gmail.com

Nominations Members:
Jane Rainey
269-427-8403
janerainey214@gmail.com

Laura Knepple
269-414-1780
lksras1124@gmail.com

Member at Large
Linda Dunn
269-492-5758
lcdunn2000@gmail.com

Flame Editor (appointed)
Sally Messner
269-646-7791
kdumwfame@gmail.com

West MI Conference Officer
Spiritual Growth
Simmie Proctor
269-637-6053
simmiepr@hotmail.com

Social Action

Winter is certainly upon us, and many of you will be headed South for a bit of respite from the cold. No matter where we are, however, there is social justice work to be done! Isn't it wonderful to be a part of a worldwide faith organization that knows no boundaries, and that continues to stand with the poor and disenfranchised, and with women and children everywhere?!

February is Black History month. United Methodist Women have kept a very important issue – mass incarceration – at the forefront of our minds for many years now, and the general public is becoming more aware of the racial disparities and social implications of the U.S. criminal justice system. We should be asking: What does race have to do with incarceration in America today? Why is it

that a black boy born in 2001 has a 1 in 3 chance of going to prison in his lifetime? Why has the federal prison system grown over 500%

over the last 30 years? (The private prison system is certainly profiting immensely)... And why are nearly 80% of people in federal prison for drug offenses people of color when studies show that they are no more likely to use or deal drugs than white people? There are 2.7 million children today growing up in households in which one or more parents are incarcerated. A drug conviction also imposes a lifelong ban on many aspects of social, economic, and political life, including the right to vote

in many states. The U.S. has the highest incarceration rate in the world. We have less than 5% of the world's population, but yet over 25% of its incarcerated population.

The UMW Reading Program lists two wonderful books that address this subject: *The New Jim Crow* (2012 list) and *Just Mercy* (2016 list). Another great book is Ta-Nehisi Coates' book *Between the World and Me*, which was written as a letter to his teenage son. Also the main speaker at the "Keep Making Peace Day" in East Lansing on Saturday, April 16 is *Detroit Free Press*

columnist Rochelle Riley. The theme of the event will be "Mass Incarceration: Locked In, Locked Up, and Locked Out".

Let's get out UMW women there en masse! I hope to see you there.

Blessings on all you do in this broken, but still lovely world.

Nancy Snell
Social Action

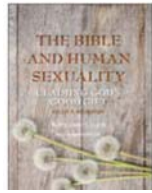


Isn't it wonderful to be a part of a worldwide faith organization that knows no boundaries!

Keep Making Peace Day 2016

New Mission u Studies

Spiritual Growth
*The Bible and
 Human Sexuality*,
 by Ellen
 Brubaker;
 Participants
 Guide by M.
 Garlinda Burton



This study explores the Bible and human sexuality as two essential components of our Christian faith. The Bible is part of the foundation of our faith. Human sexuality is part of who we are as human beings, created by God and called good. The study invites us to explore

the complexity of the biblical text and our varied understandings of it in light of human sexuality.

Social Action
*climate Justice:
 A Call to Hope and
 Action*,
 by Pat Watkins

This study invites you to understand climate justice, which means setting right our relationships with each other and the earth. Climate injustice is the result of climate change. The study will challenge



you to see what needs to happen for climate justice to become a reality in the world today. The church

needs to more powerfully model a way of doing it differently. This will entail not just focusing on the environment, but also asking hard questions regarding financial profit, a growing economy, our independent way of thinking and our understanding of efficiency.

(The DOVE, Issue 39 Volume 1, page 10)

Important 2016 Dates:

- March 12 – Spring Fling
Portage Chapel Hill UMC
- April 22-23 – Spiritual Growth
Wesley Woods UMC Camp
- June 15 - Mission Day
Gobles UMC
- June 24-26 - NC Jurisdiction
Grand Rapids
- July 14-16 – Mission U
Albion College
- August 13 – Short Study
Cassopolis UMC
- September 17 - District Annual
Water's Edge UMC
- October 15 – Conference Annual
Muskegon Central UMC

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Marcellus, MI 49067

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