

## **The Purpose of United Methodist Women**

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.

# **NORTHERN FLOW DISTRICT**

## **MISSION LINK Spring 2016 NEWSLETTER**



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LEAH MAE CARLISLE

PRESIDENT [leahtomc@verizon.net](mailto:leahtomc@verizon.net)

Greetings to all our UMW Sisters in Christ,

Spring is coming! My snow drops are vigorously pushing up through the ground! Hallelujah! Easter is almost here and that means our Northern Flow District United Methodist Women's spring gathering is coming soon. We look forward to seeing you our sisters in Christ.

This has been a season of change in our family. Our daughter has needed us to help with child care. This means being more away at her home than here at our home. It means getting to know our grandchildren in much more depth than ever before. What a joy that is! It means helping them get on the bus in the morning and being there to meet the bus in the afternoon. It means learning what 10 year old twins like to do. Surely not homework... Yes to having a friend over, playing computer games, eating ice cream, playing in the school band and orchestra and singing in chorus, making new friends at Wednesday night church for middle schoolers. Oh how exciting!

It makes me think about our Lenten path, our growing toward Jesus. Maybe it is the unexpected, the unplanned that helps us grow the most. Maybe this is what it takes to help us appreciate the closeness of our Lord and Savior. The Lord must look at us and wonder why it took us so long to figure out how available Jesus is. How near He is. When tomorrow is full of unknowns, we can be assured that there is one totally dependable one: Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Our Spring Gathering Speaker will thrill you. She is Amber Ormasen from Gouverneur. She will share with us what she is doing to engage young women and help them open themselves to Jesus. Be sure that you clear your calendar and come to be with us May 7 at Sandy Creek. You will be glad that you did!

Your District Mission Team gives praise for each one of our local UMW Units, each of our district members and each church contact person. Each one of you contributes to your communities where you are in loving, responsive ways. We give you praise and thanks for all that you do in the name of United Methodist Women. If we can be helpful to you in any way, please call on us.

Blessings to all,  
Leah Mae Carlisle

Attention all readers: Read this Newsletter and win a prize! The first two people to find the name of a UMW president in the text of an article & contact Carlene Doane, Communication Coordinator, win a fabulous prize when you attend the Spring UMW District Meeting at Sandy Creek UMC on May 7, 2016!

**Northern Flow District UMW 2016 Directory** - Watch your unit mail for the new directory. If you do not get one, contact me and let me know. Leah Mae Carlisle 315-778-7511 or [leahtomc@verizon.net](mailto:leahtomc@verizon.net)

# **Growing in Blessedness**

**Northern Flow District United Methodist Women**

**Saturday, May 7**

**9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

**Sandy Creek UMC**

**2031 Harwood Drive, Sandy Creek, NY 13145**



**Speaker: Amber Ormasen**  
**Connecting with Young Women**

**Reservations for Lunch (\$6.00) and child care  
by May 1st. to Sandy Comstock 315-387-3640 or  
scomstock6@twcny.rr.com**

ELAINE PIECRE, PROGRAM RESOURCES

**UMW READING PROGRAM**

**THE TOP FOUR REASONS FOR NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE UMW READING PROGRAM**

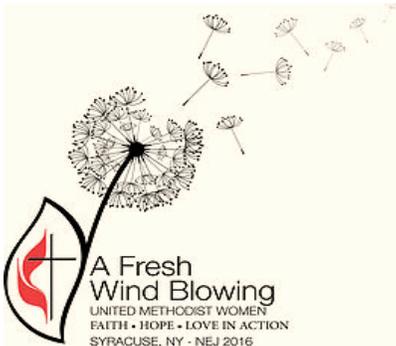
1. I don't have the Reading Program brochure.  
Wrong. - Any method of letting me know is fine - the back of your shopping list, the notes part of your church bulletin, a phone call, an email, Morse Code, etc.
2. I only read one book. Hey, that's a great start. Think of what you gained by reading just that one book.
3. I read a great book, but it wasn't on the Reading Program list. Did that book expand your knowledge of our world and/or the people in it? Did it provide you with a better understanding of others? Did the book make you grow? Guess what? You can list it as one of your books.
4. I forgot where to send my list. Here's help



Don't forget to send me your Reading Program lists even if you have read only one book.  
Send them to: [efpierce55@gmail.com](mailto:efpierce55@gmail.com), 315-298-4086 or to Elaine Pierce, 42 LaCelle Drive, Lacona, N.Y. 13083

Seriously, we all benefit by being exposed to something new and reading is one of the best ways for this to happen. I will close with a quote from our UMW President Yvette Kim Richards in her message in the December 2015 issue of RESPONSE. "I love that United Methodist Women is always providing information for continuous learning, helping you not only transform the world but transform yourself. *Elaine*

## Northeastern Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting On Center, Syracuse, NY- June 16-18, 2016



The theme is A Fresh Wind Blowing based on John 3:8- The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit.

The program includes daily worship services with dynamic music throughout the time together. The purpose is also to elect women to the board and there will be time for workshops, which include topics of Maternal Health, Poverty, Racial Justice, and Ubuntu opportunities, which is working at area missions. For more information and registration go to <http://nejumwomen.wix.com/nejumwomen>. Registration includes Friday meals of a boxed lunch and banquet. Regular registration is open until April 30, 2016 - \$200 and late registration is \$250 closes May 15, 2016.

Phyllis Doane, NEJ UMW President, from Canton, NY would like to invite you to come and celebrate the legacy of United Methodist Women. Don't miss this opportunity to meet your sisters and brothers in Christ from Maine to Virginia, to worship and pray together.

### NORTHERN FLOW DISTRICT UMW 2016 Scholarship Application Mission u

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend Mission "u" at:

\_\_\_\_\_ Cazenovia College (July 15-17)

\_\_\_\_\_ Asbury Camp and Retreat Center (July 21-23)

\_\_\_\_\_ Silver Bay YMCA (September 9-11)

**Deadline June 1<sup>st</sup> for any venue.**

Possible funds available up to 1/2 of the cost of the Mission u event.

I have \_\_\_\_\_ have not \_\_\_\_\_ attended a Mission "u" before.  
(Formerly Conference School of Christian Mission)

My reasons for wanting to attend this event are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I will be using the information in my local church

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

I serve in the capacities of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not write in this space.

Amount of Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of Event \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit application by June 1<sup>st</sup> to:

Sandra Comstock

P.O. Box 439

Sandy Creek, NY 13145

JANE HILL, VICE PRESIDENT

As Dist. VP I wish to greet you and wish God's blessings on each of you.

I have gone over each Annual Report and am amazed and impressed by the things you are doing in your groups. I hope to have a brief time at the Spring Dist. Meeting to allow a sharing of ideas.

I truly enjoyed speaking to many of you on the phone to finalize the reports and hope to see you at our meeting. I think you will be amazed with our guest speaker and impressed with what she has to say. I will quote what the title of Pastor Green's sermon was one Sunday, "Come and See". *Blessings Jane*

**Membership Cares:** The District UMW Mission Team would like to invite individuals to be part of a group that helps with individual tasks. Some things are follow up with units on year end reports or Mission Today,

creating our directory, program planning for Spring & Fall meetings, or even visiting another UMW group. Do you have some time to commit to one task? Please Dorothy Campbell, nominations or a team member.

## United Methodist Women Northern Flow District - Dates for 2016

### District Gatherings:

#### Spring - May 7 - Sandy Creek UMC

**Theme: Growing in Blessedness**

**Speaker: Amber Ormasen - Reaching Younger Women**

Reservations for lunch (\$6.00) and child care to Sandy Comstock by May 1st.

315-387-3640 or scomstock6@twcny.rr.com

Gathering 9:00 - 9:30 a.m., Program 9:30 a.m., Lunch by 12:30 p.m.

#### Fall - September 24 - Canton UMC

**Speaker: Sandy Soroka, Executive Director of Neighborhood Center of Utica** - Sandy will share all the wonderful new things that are happening at the Neighborhood Center.

### Northeast Jurisdiction United Methodist Women - June 16 - 18, 2016 - Syracuse, NY –

"A Fresh Wind Blowing" For information and to register go to: [uppernymw.org](http://uppernymw.org)

### Mission u: See [uppernymw.org](http://uppernymw.org) and click on the Mission u tab

**Studies:** The Bible and Human Sexuality

Climate Justice

**Places: Cazenovia College - July 15 – 17 (includes young adult, youth, children and child care programs)**

**Asbury Camp and Retreat Center - July 21 – 23 (offers one day sampler)**

**Silver Bay - September 9 - 11**

*Everyone try your best to attend one of these Mission u opportunities.*

## Celebrating Women 2016

Have some fun. Go to <http://umc-gbcs.org/faith-in-action/women-trailblazers-in-medicine-quiz>

Take the quiz. You don't need to know the answers. The quiz will tell you who they are and what they did. It is really neat! You will learn about our foremothers. Be proud to be a woman. Where there is a need.... a woman will step up! Tina Newcomb

To the UMW district members,

As chair of the nominating committee, I am asking for volunteers to fill the offices. We are a group that enjoys ourselves when gathered but understand the purpose of UMW. We do this as a group and ask that you help us fulfill the mission on a district level. If you are interested to know more contact me or another district team member. Please pray fully consider where you can serve.

*Yours in Christ, Dorothy Campbell*

**2016 Mission Team**  
**Northern Flow District United Methodist Women**

**President:** Leah Mae Carlisle  
437 Lachenauer Drive  
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**Secretary:** Jan Witter  
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Mannsville, NY 13661  
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315-955-8487 (cell)

**Treasurer:** Sandra Comstock  
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**Secretary of Program Resources:**  
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**Communications Coordinator:**  
Carlene Doane  
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315 - 714-2232

**Mission Coordinators**

**Education & Interpretation:**  
Area Open

**Mission Coordinators - (Continued)**  
**Membership Nurture & Outreach:**  
Area Open

**Spiritual Growth:**  
Marion Lee  
P.O. Box 513  
Dexter, NY 13624  
[mrlfmh@gmail.com](mailto:mrlfmh@gmail.com)  
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315-222-4314 (cell)

**Social Action:**  
Pat Sibbitts  
4675 CR 27  
Canton, NY 13617  
psibbitts@gmail.com  
315-386-1023  
315-267-6043 (cell)

**Committee on Nominations**

**Chair:** Dorothy Campbell – Class of 2016  
867 Fay Rd.  
Malone, NY 12953  
dcampbell005@twcnny.rr.com  
518-483-2936

Becky Gibson - Class of 2018  
Box 101  
Harrisville, NY 13648  
jeterlover49@yahoo.com  
315-543-2095

**Members at Large** - Persons willing to help  
with one or more projects per year:  
Laura Conklin  
1408 US Highway 11  
Gouverneur, NY 13642  
kindcrow41@gmail.com  
315-287-2857

Updated: 3/19/16

MISSION COORINATOR FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

mrlfmh@gmail.com

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me besides still waters, he restores my soul.....” During Lent, I have been reading the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm frequently and daily praying the prayer printed below. Both have been meaningful to me and I share the prayer with you hoping you may have a use for it.

*“Loving God, I trust that who I am today, and where I am today, are the perfect starting points for a closer walk with you. I thank you for the journey so far and I praise you for the journey to come. Walk with me I pray. Help me move ever closer to you as we journey together. Amen”* (Patricia Wilson – as printed in ALIVE NOW, Jan/Feb 2016)



SANDRA COMSTOCK  
TREASURER  
scomstock6@twcny.rr.com



Since it is time for the spring

newsletter it must be that winter is over. Jim and I did absolutely zero snowmobiling this year. First – there was not enough snow most of the time and second – we had charge of twin 2yr. old girls for 3 weeks while mom went on a cruise. We had a great time with them but I am so glad we had our children when we were young.

Last year (2015) we pledged to the Conference UMW \$17,000. Toward the end of the year I had doubts that we would make that pledge. But thanks to all the UMW units that paid their pledge in full, those that gave at the spring and fall district meetings and those that gave toward the 5 star categories we did make our pledge. In fact we sent \$17,336.75. At the fall meeting we voted to pledge \$17,000 again for 2016. It will take each of our 24 units doing their part to make that happen.

This May we will be honoring the (8) units that completed the 5 Star Unit components. They consist of (1) Completing your pledge to the district and (2) Giving to each of these 4 remaining categories: Special Missions Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering. The units are: Beaver Falls, Canton, DeKalb Jct., Malone Centenary, Massena Grace, Sandy Creek, Spragueville and Watertown Asbury. If your unit is not listed and you think you completed the 5 steps please contact me at the above e-mail or phone number.

We will also acknowledge the people that were recognized by their local unit for the Special Missions Recognition in 2015.

Make sure if you are going to Mission u this year to get in your scholarship application by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The June 1<sup>st</sup> date is important no matter which venue you plan to attend since all scholarships are giving out at the same time. If you are late there may not be any funds left. (There is a copy of the Scholarship Application for Mission u elsewhere in the newsletter.)

Sometimes the requirements for the 5-star units or the paperwork for remittances can be a bit confusing. If any of your groups would like me to come to a meeting and try to answer your questions I would love to do that. *Sandy*

### Looking for a Program Idea or just something different?

Go to [www.UnitedMethodistWomen.org](http://www.UnitedMethodistWomen.org) - Our National Organization. Look around on this website. There are many ideas you might find helpful and thought provoking. Check it out!

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Dexter

**Laura Conklin - 315-287-2857**  
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Marilyn Sweet

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**witterjs@hotmail.com**  
Brownville  
Sandy Creek

**Church Contacts – No Units**  
Cape Vincent - Virginia Brown  
Chateaugay - Marie Cowan  
Clayton – Peggy Kalk  
Ogdensburg - Gloria Staie  
Potsdam – Jean Theobald  
West Stockholm – Norma Cyrus  
Three Mile Bay - Rev. Nancy Stanley

Updated: 4/10/15, 1/27/15, 3/19/16  
24 Units  
3 District members  
7 Church Contracts

**Look inside for Details:**

**Spring Gathering: Growing in Blessedness**

**Northeast Jurisdiction in Syracuse (wow how close to our area!)**

**District Team Members Share**

**Mission u events throughout the conference**

**AND MORE !!!**