

THE SIGNAL

Inside this Issue

Big/Little Sister List...	1
2019 Five Rivers Officers..	2
Vice President Report	2
2019 Calendar	3
Journey in Faith.....	4
President's Report.....	4
Treasurer's Report.....	5
Program Resource.....	5
Secretary's Report.....	6
Com Coord Report.....	6
METour.....	7
Mission u.....	8
District Meeting	
Registration Form.....	10

BIG SISTER

Liz Hemphill
Rosalea DeMott
Dorothy Miller
Rogene McPherson
Ruth Jansen
Nancy Rockers
Donna Grigsby
Rachel Wegener
Shirley Benjamin
Roberta Selvy

LITTLE SISTER LIST

Clearfield, Edgerton, and Wellsville
Ives Chapel, Lawrence First, Melvern, Plum Creek,
Osawatomie, and Richter
Blue Mound, Parker, and Turkey Creek
Ft. Scott First, Fulton, Hammond, Hiattville, Pleasanton,
Prescott and West Liberty
Eudora, Princeton, Ottawa Trinity, Richmond, and
Welda
New Lancaster, Paola, and Uniontown
Colony, Elsmore, Garnett, Humboldt, and Yates Center
Baldwin First, Lawrence Centenary, Lawrence Central,
Vinland and Worden
Gridley, Iola, Lyndon, and Vassar
Beagle, Fontana, La Cygne, Lane, Mound City, and
Ottawa First

Five Rivers District UMW
Elizabeth Hemphill, Communication Coord.
1679 N 600 RD. Baldwin City, KS 66006

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Great Plains Conference
Office in Topeka:

1207 SW Executive Dr.
Topeka, KS 66615

Response & New World
Magazine
1-877-881-2385

Great Plains UMW Website:

Five Rivers District Office
704 8th Street
Baldwin City, KS 66006

(785) 841-4804
5riversdistrict@greatplainsumc.org



2019 LIST OF OFFICERS

President: Rachel Wegener,
4210 W 26th Terrace, Lawrence, KS 66047,
(785) 766-9598, drwegener@reagan.com,
Class of 2023

Vice-President: Rosalea DeMott,
755 Maple St., Pleasanton, KS 66075,
(913) 352-8301, rosaleademott777@gmail.com,
Class of 2021

Secretary: Dorothy Miller,
23723 NW Mitchell Rd., Garnett, KS 66032
(785) 448-3007, rdmillr62@gmail.com,
Class of 2019

Treasurer: Donna Grigsby,
PO Box 661, Iola, KS 66749
(703) 403-8257, donna.grigsby46@gmail.com,
Class of 2022

Communications Coord.: Elizabeth Hemphill,
1679 N 600 Rd., Baldwin City, KS 66006,
(785) 594-3356, lizziesranch@yahoo.com,
Class of 2023

MISSION COORDINATORS

Journey in Faith: Nancy Rockers,
PO Box 37, Greeley, KS 66033,
(785) 867-3933, wrock21@aol.com,
Class of 2021

Journey in Action: Rogene McPherson,
12921 Faucett Rd., Centerville, KS 66014,
(913) 579-6379, rkj.mcpherson65@yahoo.com,
Class of 2022

Journey Giving and Learning: Shirley Benjamin,
21757 SW Maryland, Garnett, KS 66032,
(785) 214-3966, No E-mail,
Class of 2022

Journey in Growth: Ruth Jansen,
741 S Tremont, Ottawa, KS 66067,
(785) 242-1917, ruthjansenZ13@gmail.com,
Class of 2019

Program Resources: Roberta Salvy,
601 W 14th St., Pleasanton, KS 66075,
(913) 352-8360 rlselvy@gmail.com,
Class of 2023

NOMINATIONS

Chair: Dianne Throop,
214 Arizona St., Lawrence, KS 66049,
(785) 841-1408, d.throop@sbcglobal.net,
Class of 2021

Member: Janice Rodriguez,
1009 Augusta Lane, Ottawa KS 66067,
(785) 214-8956, jcooperrodriguez@yahoo.com,
Class of 2021

Member: Julie Ward,
701 Arkansas St. Lawrence, KS 66044,
(785) 749- 4605, cell: (785) 749-4605
jward@usd497.org,
Class of 2022

Member: Kimi Wilson,
910 Brown Ave, Osawatomie KS 66064
(913) 594-2470, wilsonkimis@gmail.com
Class of 2023

Vice President's Report: Rosalea DeMott

We have begun our UMW year of 2019 with a wonderful Executive Team meeting. I am pleased to be the Vice President. We are planning our Spring meeting at Ottawa, on April 6. I am looking forward to seeing all of you. We will have training for the officer of the local units. I encourage everyone to attend with open minds and hearts as we come together for fellowship and training.

2019 Great Plains UMW Calendar



March

March 23 National Day of Giving – 150th Anniversary Legacy Fund

March 30 Local Unit Membership Census due to National UMW

April

April 1 Registration Deadline for MET/Tour District Spring Events

April 1-5 Midwest Mission Distribution Center Mission Trip – Chatham, IL

May

May 3-5 GP Conference Spring Retreat “Sensible Shoes” Camp Comeca, Cozad, NE

May 29- June 1 Great Plains United Methodist Church Conference, Topeka, KS

May TBA GP UMW Luncheon or Breakfast at Annual Conference?

June

June 1-11 METour –SE USA (UMCOR SAGER Brown, Red Bird, Uper Room Nashville, TN, Cookson Hills Center)

June 28-29 Summer Leadership Team Meeting – Scottsbluff, NE

July

July 1 Eunice Harrington Award Nominee deadline

July TBA **Mission u** Weekday Event – Salina, KS

July 26-28 **Mission u** Weekend Event – Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE

August

August 9-10 **Mini Mission u** – Countryside United Methodist Church, Topeka, KS

September

September 20-21 Great Plains United Methodist Women Annual Meeting – First UMC, Lincoln, NE

September 28 Five Rivers District Fall Meeting—First UMC, Lawrence, KS

October

October District Annual Meetings

October 14-18 Midwest Mission Distribution Center Mission Trip –Chatham, IL

2020

March 26-29 South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting, Little Rock, Arkansas

May 20-22 National UMW Assembly – Orlando, Florida

President's Report: Rachel Wegener

Hi I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Rachel Wegener and you may remember me as being the Communications Coordinator for the Five Rivers District UMW. I was the Communications Coordinator for three years and now I am your incoming Five Rivers District UMW President. I live in Lawrence, Kansas and am a member of First United Methodist Church in Lawrence and I am also the UMW President at my local church. I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet and get to know the UMW members of our Five Rivers District.

A little background about myself. I was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. I worked at Standard Insurance Company, The Benjamin Franklin Savings & Loan, and Bank of America. My husband and I got married in April of 1994 and we moved to Lawrence, Kansas where he had a job as a District Sales Manager with Monsanto. We have lived in Lawrence, KS ever since except for two years in St. Joseph, MO at the request of Monsanto. We will be celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary in April.

I worked as the Administrative Assistant for First United Methodist Church in Lawrence for 16.5 years before retiring from that position. I continue to stay involved by volunteering at my church, serving on UMW both locally and at the District level. I am also the Treasurer for the Great Plains Professional Association of the United Methodist Church Structure group.

I am passionate about Hospice care and I do patient visits for Great Lakes Caring Hospice. I have taken special training to do By Your Side visits providing support while a patient is actively dying.

I look forward to seeing you at our Five Rivers District UMW Spring meeting at Ottawa First United Methodist Church, 203 E 4th Street, Ottawa, KS 66067 on Saturday, April 6. The meeting will begin with food and fellowship at 9 a.m., with the program following at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to attend!

If you have questions or need to contact me directly, I can be reached via e-mail at: drwegener@reagan.com or by phone at: (785) 766-9598.

Journey in Faith: Nancy Rockers

Greetings! I am the new Journey in Faith officer for Five Rivers District. I am following Carol Shobe. Carol is a member of UMW who I have not met, but of whom I hear nothing but positive comments. I will attempt to carry out the duties of the Journey in Faith office to the best of my ability. Thank you to Carol and all the previous UMW Five Rivers District officers for their volunteer time that promotes for foreign and local mission work.

Nominations: Dianne Throop

The Nominations Committee thanks everyone for your support of the Five Rivers District Board. This year your committee has all new members:

Chair: Dianne Throop, Lawrence, d.throop@sbcglobal.net
Members: Julie Ward, Lawrence, jward@usd497.org
Janice Rodriquez, Ottawa, jcooperrodriguez@yahoo.com
Kimi Wilson, Osawatomie, wilsonkimis@gmail.com

If you are interested in serving in a district position or have a recommendation, please feel free to contact one of us.

From Our Treasurer: Donna Grigsby

Welcome to new local treasurers and all returning treasurers of our Five Rivers District. If you are new this year, please email me your contact information and let me know if you need the Local Remittance form for sending me your contributions.

I want to congratulate all our units for going the extra mile in giving for 2018. Our District completed 88.6% of our pledge to the Great Plains Conference. That is more than 10% more than we have contributed over the previous three years. If you have not turned in a pledge for 2019 from your unit, please let me know what your unit plans to give toward the Pledge to Mission. This helps us with planning when we have to make a pledge to the Conference.

I would like to remind each unit to have two per

sons who have signature authority on the checking account. This is usually the treasurer and the president. This means that someone is available to sign a check in the absence of the treasurer.

The GP Conference has designated a rotating schedule for giving to National Mission Institutions (NMI). For 2019, the NMI designated for receiving Five Rivers District offerings is **The Big Garden** in Omaha, NE.

When submitting your checks to the District Treasurer, please write them to "Five Rivers District UMW". They can also be written to "UMW, Great Plains Conference". I am requesting that you send me your remittance by the 25th of the month so I can get all recorded in time to mail the check to the Conference Treasurer.

From Our, Program Resource: Roberta Selvy

UMW Reading Program Update

There have been major changes in the Reading Program. In 2018, the UMW Library stopped lending books and in January 2019 the United Methodist Women Mission Resources no longer stocks the reading program books. There are other places that books can be found. Andris Salter, from National Program Resources, says that:

"You will be able to purchase books from Cokesbury, Amazon and other major retailers, often at a lower cost than offered by Mission Resources.

Purchases from Amazon are shipped free if you are a Prime member. If you purchase through the Amazon Smile program, a donation is made with each order to United Methodist Women. To learn more about Amazon Smile, [visit www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). (Choose the United Methodist Women in New York, NY, to support the national office.)"

Check your local library as some libraries carry the Reading Program books, or they may be available through the library's lending program.

There are four Reading Program plans. Each plan requires reading at least one book (or more depending on the plan) from each of the following categories; Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth, along with regular reading of Response magazine.

If you like to read, come join us in reading from the UMW suggested titles. If you need a list of the 2019 suggested titles, call or email me.

Secretary's Notes: Dorothy Miller

Greetings to all of you! Hopefully we're all starting to enjoy the beauty of Spring at the time the SIGNAL is read!

Having missed our Five Rivers Executive meeting in January, I've felt a bit out of touch. I received the minutes promptly from the acting secretary, read them, and learned of all that was discussed at the meeting, as well as upcoming UMW activities and meetings. However, it's not the same as interacting with the other district officers/friends at the meeting, where you not only gain information, but forge friendships. Probably that's true in most everything we experience. We can read about it, hear about it, but if we participate in it, we gain more understanding and information, and develop relationships.

As secretary of our local UMW units, our job includes listening to facts that are discussed, recording those facts in writing, acting on those facts, and saving them for future use. It also includes being a part of an active, mission-oriented group of women. Maybe that is like our spiritual life, not only just looking at it, and writing about it, but realizing the importance of living it out with Christ at the center.

At the Five Rivers April Spring meeting at Ottawa UMC, there will be sessions of officer training, so as secretary of your unit, come with information to share with the group, and questions for discussion.

Hope to see you all in Ottawa in April!

God's Blessings!

Journey in Growth Leader: Ruth Jansen

Greetings from the Five Rivers District Journey in Growth Leader. As of Valentine's Day I have received 2018 UMW Membership Census Report forms from 20 of the 50 local units in our District. This membership information is important for planning programs and allocating resources in our United Methodist Women's organization. I appreciate those units who have submitted their information. If you have questions or need replacement forms please let me know, at ruthjansen13@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting the membership census information is March 30, 2019. Thank you for your help in this important matter.

From Our Communication Coordinator: Elizabeth Hemphill

Hi my name is Elizabeth Hemphill, and I am a member of the Vinland United Methodist church. I am a member of our UMW and the Church Secretary, as well as the Church Membership Secretary. I enjoy belonging to a Bible Study group that meets at a friends house. We are just starting a study of the book of Revelation.

I have lived in several states. My family moved frequently when I was growing up. These states include Wisconsin, my birth state, Oklahoma (twice), New Mexico, (twice), and finally Kansas. I lived in Lawrence, until I married Howard Hemphill on New Years Eve 1971. I have lived in the Vinland community (rural Baldwin City) on the farm where my husband grew up. We raise both Registered Shorthorn cattle and Mini Lop rabbits. I have shown my rabbits on the local, regional, and national levels.

I am looking foreword to being your Communications Coordinator and hope to meet many of you during the year. If you have a communication please send ready to go in word (doc) format to my e mail address (lizziesranch@yahoo.com).

Act Justly

The METour is a mission experience for young women sponsored by the Great Plains United Methodist Women.

Love Mercy

METour participants have the opportunity to engage in mission, learn about United Methodist Women and experience the United Methodist connection by visiting and working at National Mission Institutions, Volunteer in Mission sites and United Methodist-related agencies. It's so much more than a mission trip!

Walk Humbly

METour is open to young women in the Great Plains Conference ages 15-20. Local UMW organizations have the opportunity to sponsor and support young women on the tour. A gift of \$450 will give a lifetime experience.

With God

Be part of METour 2019!

Register by April 1st at www.greatplainsumc.org/umw
Have questions...
metourdrector@yahoo.com

See you in June, together we'll put faith, hope and love in action.
Sharing God's blessings.

Peace, Venedith Vargas

METour Director



METOUR



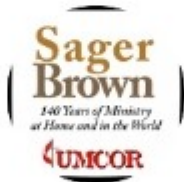
Mission Education Tour

2019
What does the Lord require of you?
Micah 6:8

June 1st - 11th



Oklahoma



Louisiana



Tennessee

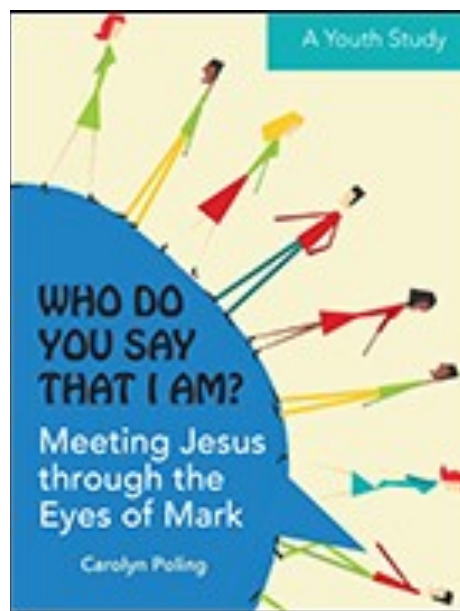
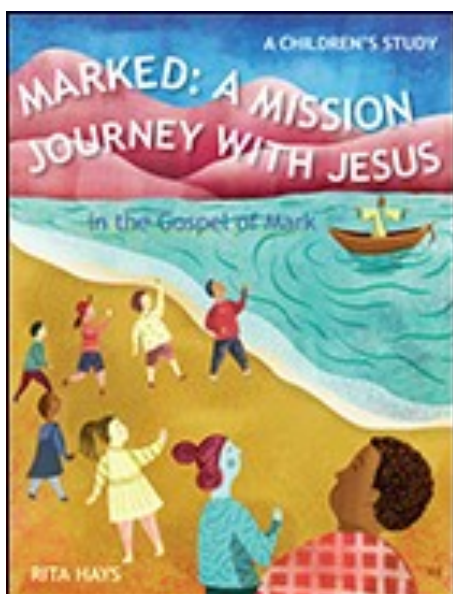


Kentucky



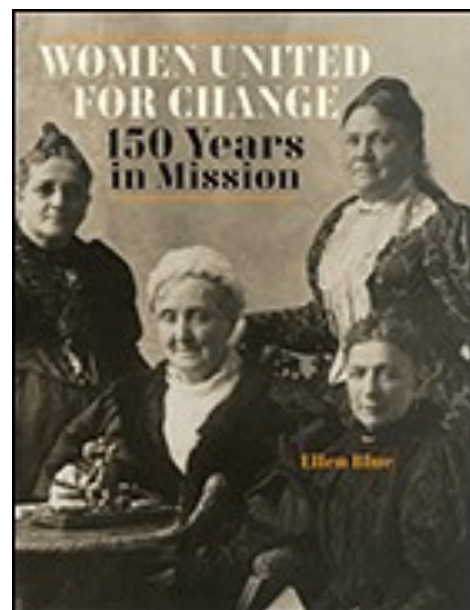
**2019 Mission u—
July 14-18 in Salina KS,
July 26-28 in Kearney NE,
Mini Mission u August 9-10 in Topeka KS**

Studies will include *"Practicing Resurrection - The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship"* with study leader, Rev. Jerry Brabec, and *"Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission"* with study leaders Karen Dunlap, Lisa Maupin, and Barbara Jo Burns.



2019 Great Plains Conference Cooperative Mission u is sponsored by United Methodist Women & Mercy & Justice Team and is open to everyone: clergy, laity, men & women, children & youth "Learning Together for the Transformation of the World"! Mission u offers three opportunities: A weekday study in Salina, KS, **July 14-18th** for adults, children, and youth; a weekend study in Kearney, NE **July 26-28th**; and a mini Mission u at Countryside UMC in Topeka, KS **August 9-10th**.

Studies will include *"Practicing Resurrection - The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship"* with study leader, Rev. Jerry Brabec, and *"Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission"* with study leaders Karen Dunlap, Lisa Maupin, and Barbara Jo Burns.



Registration is not yet available, but hopefully will be on site toward the end of March. Print off the Health Form to bring with you.



Great Plains Conference United Methodist Women Spiritual Retreat

SENSIBLE SHOE

Spiritual retreat based on the book Sensible Shoes by Sharon Garlough Brown.
Moving story of four women as they embark together on a spiritual journey.

Retreat led by Rev. Billie Blair, Retired United Methodist Pastor, Pratt KS

MAY 3 – 5, 2019



Camp Comeca and Retreat Center, 75670 RD 417, Cozad NE 69130

Registration: Friday, May 3, 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Friday dinner at 6:00 p.m. and session begins at 7:00 p.m. with opening worship. Saturday sessions throughout the day plus time to tour camp, walk a Labyrinth, visit indoor and outdoor chapels and an evening of relaxing, games and more. Sunday morning closing session and worship. Dismissed by noon (lunch on own).



All Women and their Friends in the Great Plains Conference are Welcome to attend!

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____

Accommodation Choices: Includes 2 nights lodging, Friday-dinner, Saturday-3 meals, Sunday-breakfast and the book “Sensible Shoes” that will be mailed when you register so you can read it in advance.

Overlook Lodge: \$145.00/person plus \$25.00 non-refundable fee (Add \$50 for private room) Motel type rooms-2 or 3 beds/room) Few rooms on 1st floor. Rooms on 2nd floor-no elevator.

First floor required due to health _____ (check line if applicable)

Dormitory: \$110.00/person plus \$25.00 non-refundable fee. (One floor). Bunk beds with bathroom facilities. **If willing to be on a top bunk, please check here _____** Bring your own bedding and towels.

Commuter: \$50.00/person plus \$25.00 non-refundable fee. No lodging provided. If motel desired: Rodeway Inn, 809 S. Meridian Ave., Cozad. Tel: 308-784-4900.

Swimming (indoor pool) on Saturday - \$7.00 (in addition to cost shown above)

Roommates desired - list names on reverse of this form (Lodge-1 or 2; Dorm-up to 7). If no roommates, roommates will be assigned.



Special Dietary Requirements (including allergies): _____

Bring snacks to share if desired (NO cinnamon due to an allergy to the taste **and** smell).

NO perfumes or other fragrances please due to allergies.

REGISTER BY FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019

Register by sending this completed form with \$25.00 non-refundable fee to Rena Conner, PO Box 683, Alma NE 68920. Remaining amount due by mailing check to Rena by Apr 19. No refunds after Apr 19. Make checks payable to Great Plains Conference UMW. The earlier you register, the sooner you receive the book and more likely to get desired lodging. Questions? Contact Rena at: rc68920@gmail.com or 308.928.9231.



Five Rivers District Spring Meeting

April 6, 2019

First United Methodist Church

203 E 4th Street

Ottawa, KS 66067

(785) 242-1419

Welcome & Fellowship 9 a.m.
 Meeting 9:30 a.m. until 12 p.m.
Officer training provided at this meeting.

Registration due by March 25, 2019

Registration Fee: \$5.00 (Covers Program Booklets, Church Usage Fees, Honorarium for Speaker and Musician)

Complete form below with check made payable to: Five Rivers District UMW (*in Memo: Spring District Meeting*)
 Mail Bottom portion only to: Donna Grigsby, Treasurer, PO Box 661, Iola, KS 66749

Please designate someone in your unit to pick up all the name tags and Program Booklets.

Name of Local Unit: _____ Contact Person: _____

Print names of those attending:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Non-refundable Registrations at \$5.00 each x _____ = \$ _____

Child Care provided at NO charge. MUST BE REGISTERED.

Children's Names and age: _____



SAVE THE DATE

September 20-21, 2019



**CELEBRATE 150 YEARS OF MISSION
WITH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

First United Methodist Church
2723 N 50th St.
Lincoln, NE

3 p.m. Friday, September 20 – Celebration Begins

Workshops Hands-on Mission
Officer Updates Historical Tours

Special Speakers: Joyce D. Sohl, former CEO United Methodist Women

Lisa Maupin, Great Plains Conference Lay Leader

Worship and Communion with Bishop Saenz

Fun Fellowship

Noon Saturday September 21 – dismiss with a sack lunch for the road

Looking back at our legacy with hope for the future

**“For in hope we were saved...hope seen is not hope...
who hopes for what is seen?...we hope for what we do not see...
wait for it with patience.” Roman 8:24-25**