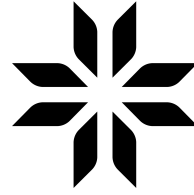


# Heritage Vine

The Newsletter of the Heritage District  
United Women in Faith  
January 2025



United  
Women  
in Faith

We believe love in action  
can change the world.

## President's Note

Joy Coyle

2025 is here! Perhaps a little cooler than we were expecting, but it is winter! I hope you had a good Advent season with your family and friends.

Our family has had a couple of close deaths that affected our celebrations, but also brought good memories. The closest one was my Mother-in-Law. I had known her for 52 years, Doris Coyle Chrisman. She lived in FL, and our family was there for her memorial ceremony at the Sarasota National Cemetery on Jan 10. Thanks for those of you who knew and prayed for us.

By the time you read this, our Local Unit Training may have already happened (Feb 1st by Zoom). If you need to catch up, please email me to schedule a time with our contacts. I also need your 2025 list of local team leaders, whether you have sent those in the past or not. Again, an email to me, [brcoyle@aol.com](mailto:brcoyle@aol.com) would be fine. If by chance it is before Feb 1, I can send the Zoom link to you to join us. This is for anyone interested in the future, not just present members.

Our next large group gathering for the Heritage District will be on Sat, April 5th at Saline UMC. Pastor Amy Triebwasser will be our leader that day. It will be a morning Prayer Brunch. A registration form is available elsewhere in this newsletter, or contact Shirley Carpenter ([carpshirley3@gmail.com](mailto:carpshirley3@gmail.com)). We welcome Shirley as our new Registrar, and thank Sue Jacoby and Kay Lambright for their years of service. Shirley is also our Social Action person.

I hope that some of you had time to participate in the Mission u offerings on the Thursday evenings in January. If you missed it last summer, or just want to go over the topics again, it is a great time to do it by Zoom.

Looking farther ahead in the fall, the Heritage Annual Celebration will be on Saturday September 20 with Rev. Faith Fowler as our keynote speaker. She will fill us in on what is happening with the Tiny Houses project. This will take place at Ypsilanti First UMC.

The Heritage team leadership is listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks to Jenn Ridley ([jenn@hauntedfrog.com](mailto:jenn@hauntedfrog.com)) for continuing to put this publication together. We have several openings if you are so inclined to try something different and fun! Please contact Donna Kleiver at [dmkleiver@gmail.com](mailto:dmkleiver@gmail.com) or me for more information. We are God's hands and feet, and through UWFaith, we can support women, children, and youth around the world. Come and join us!

The all-new Michigan Conference United Women in Faith website should be up and running! Find it at [UMWMichiganConference.org](http://UMWMichiganConference.org). On the left side, way down, you will see the link for us, Heritage District. Not all of the information has been updated, but we are getting there! Also check us out on Facebook!

God's blessings to each and every one of you!



Joy Coyle  
6720 Spring Creek Lane  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
248-921-9587  
[brcoyle@aol.com](mailto:brcoyle@aol.com)

## Vice President/Program Coordinator

Judy Christie

Happy New Year 2025 Heritage District UWFaith Units. It has been a cold winter, stay safe and warm.

A few notes on events from the past months:

The Annual Celebration of the Heritage District UWFaith Jackson 1st with Jackson UWFaith unit hosting. The Guest Speaker was Julia Paradine-Rice. Thank you to all that attended, SERRV, and hosts.

Heritage District UWFaith held their first event of 2025 on January 4. Thank you, Mason UWFaith Unit, for hosting our first Epiphany Celebration. Our guest speaker was Rev Julia Nygaard. It was well attended by 40 ladies from nine different Heritage Units. The weather pretty much cooperated for all.

I am looking forward to meeting more UWFaith ladies from the Heritage District and attending your unit meetings. I am finding just by talking to units that they are involved in so many different projects, and I am eager to learn about them. Please invite a Heritage District Team member to your unit meeting or special event.

Our Prayer Brunch will be held at Saline UMC and hosted by Saline UWFaith unit. As described in the flyer, you can register all on one sheet, just list names and send check or checks to our registrar Shirley Carpenter. Rev Amy Triebwasser has agreed to be our guest speaker. The Mission Focus is Ypsilanti Hope Clinic. We will be collecting donations of diapers (any size, but sizes 4&5 are very much needed), baby wipes, and laundry soap. We will have a Bring a Book/Take a Book table .

The upcoming Annual Celebration will be at Ypsilanti First with UWFaith unit hosting. The Guest Speaker will be Rev. Faith Fowler, speaking on Tiny Houses Program. It will be September 20, 2025. Mark it on your calendar to Save the Date.

Our 2nd Annual Epiphany Celebration will be January 3, 2026 at North Lake UMC (near Chelsea).

Please continue to consider being a host unit for different celebrations or events. We do need units to host our team meetings, usually a couple of hours on a week day.

Any questions that I can assist you with, please contact me!



Judy Christie  
2667 Holt Road  
Williamston MI 48895  
517-294-3321  
jchristie664@aol.com

### **A reminder to all units:**

Please send Joy Coyle your officer list as soon as possible, even if it is unchanged from last year or if it is incomplete.

## Treasurer

Jayne Worthy-Howlett



Happy New Year! My name is Jayne Worthy-Howlett and 2025 starts my third year as the Heritage District Treasurer. I recently discovered the United Women in Faith's vision statement. I am very familiar with the UWFaith's Purpose Statement, but this statement was new to me. It reads as follows: "A world in which women, children, and youth can thrive and reach their full potential."

The pledges your units contribute are vital in supporting this vision. In addition, leadership training and spiritual growth opportunities sponsored by the district and conference are underwritten through your pledges.

I have included the updated 2025 Pledge Form in this newsletter. Remittance, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission/Gift in Memory forms will be available on the District Website, or contact me. Please recycle your older versions of these forms and use the updated ones.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or if you need hard copies of these forms.

Jayne Worthy-Howlett  
45416 Holmes Dr  
Canton, MI 48187  
jwh255@yahoo.com  
734-474-5314

### **United Women in Faith resources and information**

on the UWFaith website and Mighty Networks:

[UWFaith.org](http://UWFaith.org),

[UWFaith.mn.co](http://UWFaith.mn.co) (Mighty Networks)

Here are a few more places to see what UWFaith are doing:

[facebook.com/uwomenfaith](https://facebook.com/uwomenfaith)

[youtube.com/uwomenfaith](https://youtube.com/uwomenfaith)

[uwfaith.org/flickr](http://uwfaith.org/flickr)

So, if you have lots of spare time (HA!) check these out!!

- Joy

## Nominations

Donna Kleiver

The year 2025 has just begun and we are already looking at 2026 for Nominations. The Heritage District Nominations Team is always looking for women who are interested in United Women in Faith and want to make an impact for the organization. We are looking for **YOU!**

Even though we have already started 2025 we have positions that can still be filled and 2026 will be no different. The District Team needs your help in filling the positions so that we can provide the meaningful programs that you want. These programs assist UWF in committing to and achieving our goals for Women, Children, and Youth in communities at the local, state, national, and world level. World events continue to change and we need to provide programs and information to keep you informed to follow Christ's lead of love for your neighbor. With more hands involved the easier our goals will be accomplished.

Below you will see the current positions open for 2025. Please prayerfully consider your skills and gifts to discover where you might be of assistance. Even if you have already completed a tenure term, you can be considered for the District Team again. We are willing to look at options to make these positions workable for you. Even making a few phone calls or contacts will be greatly appreciated.

### **2025 Open Positions:**

- Secretary
- Communications Coordinator
- Program Resources, Education & Interpretation
- Membership Nurture & Outreach
- Three Nominations positions
- Registrar #2
- Historian

Donna Kleiver

517-648-6119 or [dmkleiver2016@gmail.com](mailto:dmkleiver2016@gmail.com)

Heritage District UWF Nominations

Michigan Conference UWF Nominations Representative for Heritage District

Donna Kleiver 517-648-6119    OR    Joy Coyle 248-486-6686

### **Unit officers:**

Gift in Mission and Special Mission Recognition order forms are available on the District website or by contacting Jayne Worthy-Howlett. The Remittance form for Treasurers is also there.

**Michigan Conference United Women in Faith Heritage District**  
**2025 Leadership Team**

**President**

Joy Coyle (22)  
6720 Spring Creek  
Plymouth 48170  
Plymouth First UMC  
248- 921-9587  
brcoyle@aol.com

**Vice President/Program Coordinator**

Judy Christie (24)  
2667 Holt Road  
Williamston MI 48895  
Webberville UMC  
517-294-3321  
jchristie664@aol.com

**Secretary**

**OPEN**

**Treasurer**

Jayne Worthy-Howlett (26)  
45416 Holmes Dr  
Canton 48187  
Dixboro UMC  
734-474-5314  
Jwh255@yahoo.com

**Communications Coordinator**

**OPEN**

**Newsletter Editor**

Jenn Ridley 2016 ongoing  
14383 Fairway Drive  
Chelsea 48118  
North Lake UMC  
734-475-8648  
jenn@hauntedfrog.com

**Mission Coordinators:**

**Spiritual Growth**

Patty Puckett (24)  
Apt 201  
2530 Marfitt Rd  
East Lansing 48823  
University UMC  
517-285-9424  
[Woodstone1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Woodstone1@sbcglobal.net)

**Social Action**

Shirley Carpenter (23)  
8228 Bothwell  
Morenci 49256  
Hudson First UMC  
517-458-7367  
carpshirley3@gmail.com

**Program Resources**

**OPEN**

**Education/Interpretation**

**OPEN**

**Membership Nurture & Outreach**

**OPEN**

**Committee on Nominations**

**Chair:**

Donna Kleiver (25)  
8905 Petrieville Hwy  
Eaton Rapids 48827  
517-648-6119  
[Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com](mailto:Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com)

**Committee on Nominations**

**Member 1: OPEN**

**Member 2: OPEN**

**Member 3: OPEN**

**Appointed Positions:**

**Green Team**

Elaine Ferris (ongoing)  
417 Sycamore St  
Mason 48854  
Mason First UMC  
517-676-4175  
[ejferris@toast.net](mailto:ejferris@toast.net)

**Historian**

**OPEN**

**Registrar #1**

Shirley Carpenter (25)  
8228 Bothwell  
Morenci 49256  
Hudson First UMC  
517-458-7367  
[Carpshirley3@gmail.com](mailto:Carpshirley3@gmail.com)

**Registrar #2**

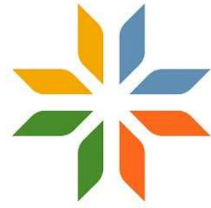
Donna Kleiver (25)  
8905 Petrieville Hwy  
Eaton Rapids 48827  
[Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com](mailto:Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com)  
517-648-6119

**Conference Connections**

Sharon Smith, President (25)  
Holt UMC  
[Sharonanddicksmit@gmail.com](mailto:Sharonanddicksmit@gmail.com)

Donna Kleiver (22)  
Grace UMC-Lansing  
[Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com](mailto:Dmkleiver2016@gmail.com)

# Heritage District – Michigan Conference



United  
Women  
in Faith

## 2025 Heritage District Unit Pledge Form

Name of Local Unit / Church \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2025 Pledge Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Treasurer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Return To:

Jayne Worthy-Howlett  
45416 Holmes Dr  
Canton, MI 48187  
jwh255@yahoo.com

# ***SAVE THE DATE***

Heritage District United Women in Faith

## **PRAYER BRUNCH**

**April 5, 2025 9am-12:30pm**

Saline UMC, 1200 N. Ann Arbor St, Saline, MI 48176

**Guest Speaker: Rev Amy Triebwasser**

**“Living Out Your Faith on Purpose”**

**Mission Focus: Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti** Please bring Baby Wipes, Diapers, all sizes (4&5 especially needed), and Laundry Soap

**Bring a Book/Take a Book Table**

REGISTRATION: \$15, check-in 8:30am (You may include an additional sheet with more names and multiple checks if necessary.)

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Church\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Check payable to MI Conf UWFaith and include Heritage District in the memo line. Registrations should be sent to Shirley Carpenter, 8228 Bothwell, Morenci MI 49256 517-458-7367 email: carpshirley3@gmail.com

**Further information** will be distributed in early February. Any questions, please contact Judy Christie, 517-294-3321

## Green Team

Elaine Ferris

### Sharing the Wealth (of knowledge) with your community.

Today's talk is about sharing resources. Over the past several years, we have had some changes in our community that have resulted in rearranging how our churches can help change lives and pull in community to help. As you know, many of the congregations are aging and just not able to physically do as much as in previous years. But...we have a wealth of knowledge available that needs to be passed on. And as the saying goes "many hands make light work".

Our church has run a clothing bank for over 50 years. Recently, a volunteer from another church asked to take over the clothing bank. They organized a building rental – right beside the also-volunteer food bank – and after initial fundraising and setup, offered the opportunity to all the area churches to volunteer. It is open three times a week and one Saturday a month. In addition to in person visits, items are collected for a yearly coat distribution (by the local Catholic church); baby boxes for Haiti; a homeless shelter in Jackson and several other organizations. Through social media, the clothing closet asks for what is needed – and the community helps get it to them and helps spread the word. Speaking to service clubs also helps raise awareness of needs. Staffing comes from at least three churches and other volunteers in the community.

The center later added in a diaper bank, to obtain supplies and then give out diapers and wipes to families in need. With a building came other opportunities, to tie into the State 211 system, organize tutoring sessions, etc. In spring, the 211 system trains volunteers to offer tax help. Many underserved people don't think they need to file, but have discovered they get funding back which helps greatly with other needs. Tutoring for K-5, a class in GED (finishing high school after leaving without a diploma) for the tri-county area, back to school and seasonal programs are also offered. The group requested a van for medical transport from the local 100 Women Who Care chapter, as there is very little public transport available. Clients can also use the van for picking up at the food bank. Volunteer drivers are trained and insured. A bulletin board space in the foyer has a display of information and brochures about local services available. Donations of furniture and housewares are stored offsite and offered to people moving to a new apartment or home after homelessness or other catastrophe.

This spring's initiative is on "Filling in the Gap", training interested people to learn about the resources available through state, county, and nonprofit agencies. There are literally dozens of these resources available, and each has their own focus: senior housing; pregnancy education; financial literacy; first time home buying and how to assess the condition of a house; dealing with wiring, plumbing, and structural issues; building wheelchair ramps, are only a few. Much of this information is available to everyone, but only a few people know that it's there – the idea is to spread the information and contacts more widely to be more effective and supply a succession of knowledge.

So yes, we're "recycling" knowledge – to continue in service to people who need perhaps just a leg up – from clean clothing, a stable housing situation, or whatever is needed. In a previous job, I worked on a "reverse directory", where the subject came first and the place to find out the answer followed: Get diapers – call Mason Community Services – (hours) and phone number/online contact. Would that idea be useful in your church/community?

The Mayor of Kalamazoo – back when the oil spilled into the water supply – happened to be on vacation. But her staff was well trained, and had established contacts with the relevant agencies in their area, and were able to get cleanup started immediately. Just a daily contact kept her updated until she could return. But the personal contacts with state, local and county officials and regulatory agencies were in place long before they were needed. Likewise, we can develop, document, and share contacts, resources, and available services ahead of any need, making them readily available so that anyone can be prepared to offer help in deeds as well as prayers. (James 2:17-23)

I hope this inspires you to prepare – and to pass on exactly what knowledge is needed to carry on the good work! There are so many already doing such great works, from food and clothing banks to baby supplies and home repairs – let's be proactive and help pass it forward! Thanks to all who are working for others.



## Coordinator for Social Action

Shirley M. Carpenter

Happy New Year to ALL,

Looking forward to an exciting New Year. Hope the Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations were enjoyable for everyone.

I attended the Epiphany Celebration at Mason First United Methodist Church on January 4, 2025 and I felt it was good group of ladies for our district, and an uplifting program.

The Thursday before, January 2, 2025, *Faith Talks with Jennifer Farmer* was on Project 2025. The speakers, Pastor/Dr. Iva Carrithers and Susan Smith, spoke on how this will affect women's rights. They stated we must take this day by day, step by step and see what impact this will have on our rights and be ready to mobilize if your rights are taken away. On January 16, 2025, the program will be on Estate and End of Life Planning.

I have read one of the books chosen for Mission u. A very good book by Michelle Obama *The Light We Carry*. I have not received a list of books to evaluate this year but I enjoyed the seven I evaluated last year for the 2026 Reading Program.

Blessings to all.



Shirley M. Carpenter  
8228 Bothwell Hwy  
Morenci, MI 49256  
517-458-7367  
Carpshirley3@gmail.com

### Dates and Deadlines:

All units should submit a current officer list to Joy Coyle

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Newsletter Article (not just Leadership Team – send in event and program information!)	Jan 15, April 15, August 15 due to Jenn Ridley
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Pledge to Mission for 2025	September 1 due to Jayne Worthy-Howlett
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Deadline to send monies to Treasurer	December 1 due to Jayne Worthy-Howlett
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Reading Program for 2025	
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Mission Today for 2025	
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Coordinator needed

Most reporting forms are available on the district website, or by contacting the appropriate Leadership Team member.

## Heritage District 2025 Calendar

Feb 1 Saturday	Zoom 9:30am-1:30pm	Training for Local Units by Heritage team
March 19	To be determined	Heritage Leadership Team Meeting – In Person
April 5 Saturday	9:00 am	Prayer Brunch – Saline UMC
May 1 – Thursday	3 pm	Heritage Leadership Team Meeting – In Person
May 29-June 1 (probable dates – not announced yet)		Michigan Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church – Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, MI
July 17-19		<u>Mission u</u> – Mt. Pleasant First UMC
Sept. 11		Heritage Leadership Team meeting – In person, Ypsilanti FUMC
Sept 19 – Friday	4:00 pm	Heritage Team Meeting – Set up for Annual Celebration Ypsilanti FUMC
Sept 20– Saturday	9:00am	Annual Celebration/Business Meeting – Ypsilanti FUMC
Oct. 17 – Friday	4:00 -8:00 pm	Michigan Conference Leadership Training
Oct. 18 – Saturday	9:30am	Michigan Conference Annual Celebration/Business Meeting/Sally Vonner, CEO
Nov 19 Wednesday	3:30pm	Leadership Team meeting
Jan 3, 2026	TBA	Epiphany Service – North Lake UMC