

PRESIDENT

What a wonderful opportunity it was to be able to attend the Mission u workshop "Welcome Home" on ZOOM during the month of January. There were participants from all over the state of Michigan, one lady joined us from Florida, the presenter Steve Taylor and a couple ladies were in North Carolina. I attended at North Branch First UMC with a group of 8 ladies from 4 different local units, we were our own small group during "breakout" sessions. I am looking forward to the in-person Mission u workshop "Hope as Resurrection People" that will be held on July $17^{th} - 19^{th}$ at First UMC in Mt. Pleasant.

I love to visit local units within our East Winds District. In December I was invited by the Davison UMC local unit for their potluck and to install their officers which was followed with a memorial service. In October I visited the Laingsburg UMC local unit and gave them information on where the money goes that is given towards mission giving. I enjoyed learning about what their unit does to be in mission in their community. One of the many things they do is "Ugly Quilts" which are sleeping bags for the homeless. I shared with them that this is something that the Goodrich UMC ladies do as well. They gave me a large bag full of fabric scraps to share with Goodrich UMC, which they appreciated receiving. It is wonderful to be a part to the sisterhood that is our United Women in Faith, the connections between our local units, and to be in friendship, fellowship, and mission together!

Blessings,

Cyndy Rossman, president Phone # (586) 757-5146 E-mail: cynrosjam@hotmail.com

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Happy New Year! I hope you found time in 2024 to read selections from our reading lists. The 2025 reading list is available online, and there are some exciting possibilities. The Romeo reading group just finished <u>A Right Worthy</u> <u>Woman</u>, the story of Maggie Lena Walker, the first Black woman to become president of a bank. She also worked to establish an emporium and other needs in her community in Virginia later became known as Black Wall Street.

These cold and snowy days are a perfect opportunity to get comfortable with a book and a cup of tea. I have found that the books we have read give me a better understanding of our history and other cultures.

The reading form is included in this mailing. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Becky Laseke 11425 Kilarney Washington, MI 48095 586-337-1361 melaseke@gmail.com

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

Welcome to your new issue of the Breeze. I hope that you enjoyed last year's issues. Because our budget is going to be so tight this year, if you are willing to share newsletters or get them by e-mail please let me know! I would love to receive your latest list of officers, and the blank form is included in this issue. Kathy Freeland, PO Box 195.

Mayville,MI 48744 **Phone** – 989-843-5247 **E-mail** – ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net

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SOCIAL ACTION

I honestly have put off writing this because I am overwhelmed with causes we as Christians should stand up and be heard on. No matter where you stand politically you should be aware of and respond to the needs of those that are down and out. (my opinion from acts of Jesus). Now do you respond at your local community, the state, National or international level. That is what you and your ladies need to discuss. I guess the question becomes can you make a difference and how do you go about it? If you Believe, yes, you can make a difference. Small acts of kindness make such a difference for many people. We can't solve world peace but we can get it started right now, right here!! It only takes a spark.

God Bless each and every one of you as you follow Jesus Judy Chasney. 989 553-0076 jmchasney@gmail.com

Pass It On Lyrics

It only takes a spark To get a fire going And soon all those around Can warm up in the glowing That's how it is with God's love Once you've experienced it You'll spread His love To everyone You'll want to pass it on

What a wondrous time is spring When all the trees are budding The birds begin to sing The flowers start their blooming That's how it is with God's love Once you've experienced it You'll want to sing It's fresh like spring You'll want to pass it on

I wish for you my friend This happiness that I've found You can depend on Him It matters not where you're bound I'll shout it from the mountain top I want the world to know The Lord of Love Has come to me I want to pass it on

I'll shout it from the mountain top I want the world to know The Lord of Love Has come to me I want to pass it on

[https://st-takla.org]

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Praise the Lord. God has allowed us to see another year. Hallelujah. As we embark on the beginning of this new year let us focus on our Spiritual Growth and its impact on our lives and the lives of others. It embraces the journey of personal growth and the understanding of the Spiritual aspect of one's life.

Some ways to increase your Spiritual growth include deepening your prayer life, studying religious text, practicing more mindful meditation, increasing your empathy and compassion towards others, engaging in acts of service and you can also seek a deeper understanding of your beliefs. Think about how you want to increase your Spiritual Growth in the New Year. God has truly blessed us.

Our annual Prayer Breakfast is April 26, 2025 at Columbiaville United Methodist Church. It will begin at 9:30 am. The speaker is Pastor Carol Freeland.

Linda Moore, Spiritual Growth Phone number 810-986-0573 E-mail - <u>linhen60@gmail.com</u>

MISSION COORDINATOR FOR EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Thanks so much for the few units that have sent me their 2024 Unit Objectives. Even though the February 1st deadline has passed, please send them to me anyway. It's not just the Certificate you will receive or mention in the Annual Meeting Program, but it's also a time for your unit to learn and grow. Yes, it might seem like a lot of work to invite your Shepherd to attend one of your meetings, or just a lunch out with your group.

But your Shepherd and even a District Officer would love to meet all of you so please, just give one of them a call and not only can you check off one more of the Objectives on the form, but you'll meet somebody new and learn more about your District officers. Try it, you'll like it!

Michele L. Weston, Mission Coordinator Education and Interpretation 810-624-1184 mweston38@att.net

Please note that the 2025 Mission Today Objectives Form is included in this document!

TREASURER

Happy New Year, Sisters! Many women begin the new year with a Word for the Year - an inspirational or uplifting word to align intentions, growth or new focus in their lives. My word is always JOY. 😳 Call me uncreative, but with abundant JOY, just about anything can be accomplished or overcome. This year another word popped into my mind - POWER. It happened as I was finishing up the financial reports from 2024, and seeing what we, as the East Winds District of United Women in Faith, accomplished. By our giving we are a beautiful force in the lives of Women, Children and Youth all over the world. That is POWER. And in 2024, that POWER was explosive, as we exceeded our pledge to the Conference. Many thanks to all the Units who faithfully (Yay!) completed a pledge and 5-Channel giving, and to the 33 5-Star Women!!

The missions we support through United Women in Faith is phenomenal (just read one issue of "response magazine" to get your heart wowed!). The programs we have to keep us organized, educated and growing in faith are also important. My prayer for 2025 is that we can continue to grow in faith and become better disciples of Christ through our "creative, supportive fellowship", while increasing our POWER in the world through our giving. (Joyfully).

I would also like to encourage all units to participate in District meetings and events. It's how we develop our relationships and learn from each other. Everything we do is to make us better sisters in a life-altering organization. Please reach out at any time (a phone call or text is best) with guestions or needs.

Kathie Abke, Treasurer, 251 Weitzel Drive Bad Axe, MI 48413 989-269-8388 (Cell) kabke@hotmail.com

2025 PLEDGE FORM January 1, 2025 thru Dec. 31, 2025

Address
Phone
Email
Unit Name
Church
Pledge Amount

Unit Treasurer

Please fill out form and mail to Treasurer by Nov. 30, 2024. Kathie Abke, 251 Weitzel Dr., Bad Axe, MI 48413 989-269-8388 (cell) kabke@hotmail.com

NOMINATIONS

This column comes to us from the Central Bay District Nominating Committee, courtesy of Joy Clark and originating from Julia Paradine-Rice, former conference president!

"Why am I a UWFaith member?"

I was invited. I love the fellowship. I trust and believe in the mission. My mother told me to. There will be many good organizations that you can contribute your time and money to, but none of them will have the impact on you and others that UWFaith will."

This is a wonderful time of year to do just that – invite, enjoy fellowship, expand mission, listen and talk to those you care about, and trust the impact you are making in our world. Through a pandemic, redistricting, disaffiliations, and more, we have overcome and celebrate those who are still with us. We welcome to our leadership team more new faces – those who want to make a difference. What are you passionate about? What new area would you like to explore? Could you consider the following areas to support the mission of UWFaith? Or encourage a friend?

Please prayerfully consider either of the following positions – the district team is a wonderful place to meet new friends, explore mission work and just have a sisterhood like no other!

Positions currently open for 2025:

Nominations – While we currently have 3 folks on our nominating team, including Mary Allen as chair, all of these wonderful ladies have served on the team for many years. We welcome Sally Hoard as one of our new members, but would love to welcome a couple more! This is a way for you to meet others in the district (which is now very large). People that love mission and are willing to approach others to see if they will come aboard are always needed!

Vice-President – While this is a challenging position, all of those on the board help in many ways. You will be responsible for running the meeting if the president is absent, and you will be asked to help plan and run the District Annual Meeting! Now don't be afraid – there are many who will be by your side and years of programs already in place to make this job easier.

If you are interested in either of these positions, please consider calling Mary Allen, chair of nominations! Her phone number is listed in the back along with her email address!



East Winds District United Women in Faith Prayer Breakfast and Spiritual Growth Event ''Just Do It!.....Pray that is.'' Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.



Guest Speaker: Rev. Carol J. Freeland Pastor, West Vienna and Otisville United Methodist Churches

Pastor Freeland will cover the Who, What, When, Where and Why of Prayer. Pastor Freeland explores: To whom do I pray? What do I pray for? When do I pray? Where and why do I pray? Get the answer to these thought-provoking and soul-searching questions. Pastor Freeland will also be teaching some simple and practical prayers. We will spend time praying for our world, family, friends, neighbors and loved ones. The more we pray the closer we draw to God.

Columbiaville United Methodist Church 4696 Pine Street, Columbiaville, Mich. 48421

Please send reservations by April 22, 2024, to:	Linda Moore, 327 Allendale Place, Flint, MI,
48503, 810-233-5070, linhen60@gmail.com	

, ,	
Name	
Church	
If you are responding for your local unit, how many in your group?	
Phone number	
Email	
Dietary restrictions? (Gluten Free?)	

ADVOCACY DAY 2025 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025 LANSING, MI FOCUS: Modifications to state auto insurance laws that have created a crisis in access to care

Advocacy Day Activities Include:

- Meetings with legislators
- Poster making for press conference
- Letter writing
- Prayer in the rotunda
- Prayer in the sanctuary
- Public witness on the Capitol lawn (art display and resource table)
- Introductions in the House and Senate chambers

On average, six people suffer serious injuries in crashes on Michigan roads every single day. Driving or riding in a car is likely the riskiest activity people engage in on a daily basis.

Lawmakers passed legislation in 2019 that changed Michigan's longstanding laws that protected people seriously injured in a vehicle crash by providing coverage regardless of who was at fault. Unfortunately, because of these changes in law, Michigan drivers must select from Personal Injury Protection (PIP) coverage options that can be confusing and have terrible consequences when a vehicular crash causes serious injury requiring long-term care.

Available care for survivors has become drastically reduced and is often unavailable. As a result, seriously injured Michiganders are being stripped of their inherent worth and dignity and even dying. Faith leaders have been asking state policymakers to resolve this humanitarian crisis, amplifying the concerns of medical professionals.

Our Advocacy Day will focus on two pieces of legislation that would (1) provide sustainable reimbursement rates for medical providers and (2) increase the number of hours that family caregivers can be reimbursed. This is a bipartisan and moral issue. The facts are clear, but legislation to correct the 2019 laws has yet to pass. We believe bringing people of faith together will help raise awareness and get this done.

Registration is still open – go to https://michiganumc.org/register-now-for-advocacy-day/





2025 Mission Today Unit Objectives United Women in Faith - Michigan Conference

Please print clearly!		
Name of Unit	District	
	()	
Name	Telephone	
City	State	Zip
Email		

A unit will receive a Certificate of Achievement upon completion of one of the following categories between <u>January 1 through</u> <u>December 31</u>, to be presented at their District Annual Meeting the <u>following</u> October. Check the numbers completed.

- Units completing any 8 or more objectives will be a "FAITH" unit.
- Units completing <u>9</u> or more objectives, with 8 asterisks (*) will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" unit.
- Units completing <u>17</u> or more objectives, with 10 asterisks (*) will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" "JOY" unit.
- Units completing <u>25</u> or more objectives, with 12 asterisks (*) will be a "FAITH" "HOPE" "JOY" "LOVE" unit.

Mission Giving

- 1. *Made and met its Pledge to Mission.
- 2. *Became a 5-Star Unit by contributing to all 5 channels of undesignated giving.
- 3. Donated to local women's shelter or children's/youth program.
- 4. Offered scholarships to *Mission u* and/or other United Women in Faith activities.

Spiritual Growth

- ____5. Observed a Call to Prayer and Self Denial.
- 6. Participated locally in a retreat, prayer vigil or Bible study.
- 7. Attended a District Retreat, Spiritual Day Apart, or Prayer Breakfast/Brunch.

Membership

- 8. *Added one new member from women who have joined the church in the current year.
- 9. *Added one new member not included in above.

Attendance

- 10. Invited a District or Conference officer (other than a member of the unit) to one meeting.
- 11. Had a combined meeting with another United Women in Faith unit.
- 12. Attended Church Women United or other ecumenical group activity.
- 13. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attended a conference *Mission u*.
- 14. *At least two members (other than conference or district officer) attended the conference or district annual meeting/celebration.
- 15. *At least one member (other than conference or district officer) attended the *District Elected Leadership Training*.

Mission Education

- 16. *Unit or circle conducted at least one *Mission Study*.
- 17. *Two members completed a *Reading Program Plan* and reported on one of the books.
- 18. Participated in but did not complete the *Reading Program*.
- _____19. *Used two programs from the *Program Book*.
- _____20. *Used the *Prayer Calendar* regularly in unit meetings.
- 21. Communicated with five persons listed in the *Prayer Calendar*, one from Michigan Conference.
- 22. *Unit had two members reading *response* each month.
- 23. *Unit included a *response Moment* during its meeting using an article to tell our mission story.
- _____24. Unit had one *Social Action* program.

Mission Action

- _____25. *Participated in a District or Conference ingathering project.
- _____26. Had a member of United Women in Faith present a mission program for youth or children in the church.
- _____27. Had at least one member visit a United Women in Faith Project and report to the unit.
- 28. *Had at least one person receive and respond to legislative information from the United Women in Faith's Action Network.
- 29. Unit or member participated in a workshop, seminar, or book study related to social concerns that stimulated and enriched the total community.
- 30. *Unit participated in the *Campaign for Children* in at least two ways. Possibilities are:
 - Co-sponsored with the local church, a Children's Sabbath.
 - Involved with mentoring, tutoring or "big sisters" programs.
 - o Communicated with representatives advocating for children's issues.
 - Attended a school board meeting.
- 31. Made a pledge to care for God's creation and worked to become a "green" United Women in Faith Unit.
- 32. *Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice policies in at least one way during the year. Possibilities include:
 - Read books and articles about another race or culture.
 - \circ Sponsor an inter-ethnic event between two or more units.
 - Recruit women of color to be members or officers of the unit.
 - Correspond with elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, civil rights, and programs for low-income persons, etc.
- 33. Sent this completed form to your District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation by *deadline date:* February 1, 2026

This year our Unit qualified as a Mission Today FAITH HOPE JOY LOVE unit. (Circle all that apply)

Send to your District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation:

Michele L. Weston 5158 Sandalwood Circle; Grand Blanc, MI 48439 <u>Mweston38@att.net</u> (810) 624-1184

Spiritual Growth			Social Action		Nurturing for Community	Leadership Development		Education for Mission	PLAN CHOSEN:	REPORT OF COMI (Send completed form to your secretary of program
I have also read response regularly. response Check bill the issues you have	I CITY, STATE, ZIP	ADDRESS	PRINT NAME	CONFERENCE	DISTRICT		ted	I I have completed the required reading	N: I II III IV CURRENT YEAR:	REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS (Send completed form to your secretary of program resources or equivalent according to your conference's schedules.)

1

2025 Local Elected (or) Nominated Officers East Winds District, United Women in Faith

Please Print in black or type	
Name of Church	UMW Membership Count
Church Address	
City & Z8ip Code	
UMW Meeting Day & Time	
Please List all officers. Return to your District President no later than Decemb your UWF unit and church.	er 1, 2024. This information is needed for communication with
President	_Telephone ()
Address	E-mail
City & Zip	
Vice-President	Telephone ()
Address	
City & Zip	
Secretary	_Telephone()
Address	_E-Mail
City & Zip	
Treasurer	Telephone ()
Address	E-Mail
City & Zip	
Any other officer you may have list below	
Officer	_Telephone ()
Address	_E Mail
City & Zip	
If there are other leaders in your unit, please list on separate pa	
Please return by December 1, 2024 to Cyndy Rossma Phone – 586-757-5146. You can still submit these! V files!	

A Letter from your Shepherds -

Greetings to all the UWF Units in the East Winds District,

Happy New Year! This is to let you know that your United Women in Faith District Officers are your Shepherds. While our name has changed, our Mission and Vision has not changed, and our ministry for Women, children and youth all over the world is still happening mightily. We all need each other – perhaps more now than ever before, as a "creative, supportive fellowship". Your District Shepherds are here for you!

Here is some information to help you continue to be the dynamic group of women that you are called to be while connecting with your District for encouragement and assistance.

Our East Winds District Treasurer for 2025 is Kathie Abke. Beginning in January this year, all money (5-Star unit categories, supplementary funds, or other monies that you collect and send to the District) needs to be sent to Kathie. As you all know, each district relies on these funds to continue to do the mission work that is so vital to United Women in Faith. We want to make sure this prayerful commitment to giving continues through 2025.

Upcoming events for our East Winds District are: <u>March 12</u>, Advocacy Day at the Capital in Lansing, <u>April 26</u> – Prayer & Spiritual Growth Breakfast, Columbiaville UMC, and, of course, our East Winds District Annual Meeting on <u>October 11th</u> at Davison UMC featuring Rev. Faith Fowler. The MI Conference Annual Celebration is October 18 at Bethany-Clio in our own district, featuring Sally Vonner, current National UWF CEO!. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for information and updates.

** Forms found on: UMWMichiganconference.org and The Breeze newsletter				
Report	Due Date	Send to		
1. Mission Today Objectives 2025	Feb.1, 2026	District E&I Chairperson		
2. Reading Program Form (2025)	Feb.1, 2026	District Program Resources Chair.		
3. 5-Star Giving for Year 2025	Nov.15, 2025	Local Unit Treasurer to		
		send to District Treasurer		
4. 2025 Officers	Dec. 1, 2024	District President		
5. 2025 Pledge	Nov. 1, 2024	District Treasurer		
6. 2025 Monies	Nov. 1, 2025	District Treasurer		

Here's a list of Reports for 2024 & 2025, when they are due and to whom they are sent: ** Forms found on: UMWMichiganconference org and The Breeze newsly

This information is on each form. It helps to have all the forms printed and in order of Due Date.

Your Shepherd would love to come and visit your unit whenever it's possible or meet together with a group of churches in your Shepherd's area, to get to know you better, answer questions and encourage you to continue in the great things you already do!

Your Shepherd is listed in this issue of *The Breeze*. Again, we are here for you! Please get to know us, and help us to get to know you.

EAST WINDS DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SHEPHERDS LIST 2025

Shepherd Zone 1: Kathie Abke & Judy Chasney

Bad Axe: First, Cass City, Harbor Beach, Port Hope, Hayes, Owendale, Pigeon First, Port Austin UPC, Pinnebog, Sebewaing: Trinity, Kilmanagh

Shepherd Zone 2: Kathy Freeland & Sally Hoard

Millington, Sandusky: First, Capac, Vassar: First, Watrousville, Mayville

Shepherd Zone 3: Cyndy Rossman

Brown City, Columbiaville, Davison, Fostoria, North Branch: First, West Deerfield, Oregon, Elba

Shepherd Zone 4: Linda Schramm & Kay Fuller

Avoca, Jeddo, Lexington, Marysville, Port Huron: First, Port Huron: North Street, West Berlin, Yale

Shepherd Zone 5: Becky Laseke Algonac: Trinity, Lake Orion, Macomb: Faith, Richmond, Washington, Romeo

Shepherd Zone 6: Michele Weston Clarkston, Goodrich, Holly: Mt. Bethel, Oxford, Paint Creek, Howarth, Thomas

Shepherd Zone 7: Sandy Kitts Fenton, Flint: Bristol, Lake Fenton, Grand Blanc, Halsey, Linden

Shepherd Zone 8: Mary Ann Grace

Burton: Open Door, Burton: Christ, Flint: Asbury, Flint: Bethel, Flint: Court Street

Shepherd Zone 9: Mary Allen

Birch Run, Chesaning: Trinity, Clio: Bethany, Flint: Calvary & Flint: Hope, Flushing, Mt. Morris: First, United in Christ UMC, West Vienna, Otisville

Shepherd Zone 10: Linda Moore

Corunna, New Lothrop: First, Juddville, Faith Community, Henderson, Gaines, Laingsburg, Middlebury, Owosso: First, Vernon

2025 EAST WINDS DISTRICT UWF LEADERSHIP TEAM

OFFICE NAME & CHURCH A

Cyndy Rossman

Brown City UMC

ADDRESS

4273 Grant St.

Brown City, MI 48416

PHONE & E-MAIL

586-757-5146 cynrosjam@gmail.com

Vice-President VACANT

President

Secretary	Sandy Kitts	5047 N. Seymour St.	810-625-2124
	Flushing UMC	Flushing, MI 48433	sbkitts1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kathie Abke	251 Weitzel Drive	989-269-8388
	Bad Axe First UMC	Bad Axe, MI 48413	kabke@hotmail.com
Spiritual	Linda Moore	327 Allendale Place	810-233-5070
Growth	Bethel UMC	Flint, MI 48503	linhen60@gmail.com
Education &	Michele Weston	5158 Sandalwood Circle	810-624-1184
Interpretatior	Asbury UMC	Grand Blanc, MI 48439	mweston38@att.net
Social Action	Judy Chasney	129 Bartlett St.	989-553-0076
	Harbor Beach UMC	Harbor Beach, MI 48441	jmchasney@gmail.com
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Mary Ann Grace Calvary/Hope UMC	4344 Cayuga Trail Flint, MI 48532	810-733-6221, C-810-394-2755 marydg@comcast.net
Program	Becky Laseke	11425 Kilarney	586-337-1361
Resources	Romeo UMC	Washington, MI 48095	melaseke@gmail.com
Nominations Chair	Mary Allen Bethel UMC	4287 Cayuga Trail Flint, MI 48532	810-732-1021 C-810-516-0402 marylynn081376@aol.com
Nominations	Kay Fuller	2813 Gratiot Ave.	810-334-0581
	Bethel Comm. Church	Port Huron, MI 48060	fullerk04@sbcglobal.net
Nominations	Linda Schramm	244 South Elk St.	810-404-4698
	Sandusky UMC	Sandusky, MI 48471	<u>lars@greatlakes.net</u>
Nominations	Sally Hoard	2076 1 st St.	989-670-4122
	Watrousville UMC	Vassar, MI 48768	salinwatrous@centurytel.net
Nominatins	VACANT – could you help	?	
	Kathy Freeland	PO Box 195	989-843-5247
	Mayville UWF	Mayville, MI 48741	ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net

East Winds UWF		Non profit org
Kathy Freeland PO Box 195		U,S Postage Paid Port Huron MI
Mayville, MI		48060
48744		PERMIT #951
	CURRENT RESIDENT OR	
	2025 DATES TO REMEMBER	
Jan 14	Articles due to K. Freeland and C. Rossman	
Jan 18	EWD UWF Leadereship Team meeting by Zoom	
Mar 12	Advocacy Day - Lansing	
Apr 20	Easter	
Apr 26	Prayer Breakfast & Spiritual Growth event—Colur	mbiaville UMC
May 29-June 1	Michigan Annual Conference – Traverse City	
June 21	EWD UWF Lead Team Meeting—North Branch U	MC
July 17-19	Mission U, Mt. Pleasant First UMC	
Aug 11	Articles due to K. Freeland	
Sept 13	EWD planning meeting—Davison UMC	
Oct. 11	EWD Annual Meeting—Davison UMC	
Oct. 18	Conference UWF Annual Celebration – Clio: Beth	any
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