News from the President, Chris Grabert:

Greetings Mahoning Valley District United Methodist Women.

As I turn to my Women’s Devotional Bible, I read Phillipians 4:4. In Philipians 4:4, Paul says, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! “

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy. A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of Christ risen.

But the longer I live, the more I realize that the ability to find joy in life really is tremendous strength.

This year let us remember to “Rejoice in the Lord always”.

Our Spring Meeting is not far away. Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Poland UMW is hosting us again this year. Our theme for this meeting is: “JOY”. Our speaker is Rev. Mary Pryor. Please join us— we are anxious to see all of you— old friends & new faces.

A registration form is attached to the back of this issue with all the info on it. Questions? Please feel free to call me: h-330-726-9131, c-330-720-9461 (can text); or call any other district officer (as I will be out of town till end of Feb.).
Mahoning Valley District
Officers:

Nom. Chair Linda Martin
4503 Kirk Rd. Apt. B19
Austintown, Oh 44515
C 330-787-1857

Spiritual Growth Barbara Beach
194 Argyle Dr.
Boardman, Oh 44512
H 330-782-5950
bbeach2015@gmail.com

Social Action Lucy M. Smith
3000 Flo-Lor Dr. Apt. 1
Youngstown, Oh 44511
C 330-770-9320
tennisrambo@yahoo.com

Edu. & Interp. Jocelyn Buxman
7574 Yellow Creek Dr.
Poland, Oh 44514
H 330-757-9816
C 330-716-1991
JRPlace@aol.com

MNO Cathy Harvey
510 Murray Hill Dr.
Youngstown, Oh 44505
H 330-759-7278
C 330-506-5192
chharvey@ameritech.net

Program Res. Anne Beck
2973 Palmarie Dr.
Poland, Oh 44514
H 330-757-4886
dabeck656@gmail.com

Communications/Newsletter
Linda English
2866 Penny Lane
Austintown, Oh 44515
H 330-799-8603
C 330-719-0905
aladyonwing@aol.com

News from the President, Chris Grabert cont.:

As I close this message, I want to thank each and
every one of you that work, plan and help make UMW the
wonderful, Christ-inspired organization that it is. We are a
TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More). Let us be a
community of women who work together for the Lord,
develop supportive fellowship and expand the concepts of
mission, as we Rejoice in the Lord..

"May you be richly blessed by God."

SPRITUAL growth/development
Barbara Beach

These things I have spoken to you, that My joy remain in
you, and that your joy may be full. John 15:11
What was the joy Jesus had? Joy should not be confused
with happiness. The joy of Jesus was His absolute self-
surrender and self-sacrifice to His Father, that joy of doing
that which His Father sent Him here to do. I delight to do
your will, O My God. Psl 40:8
Jesus prayed that our joy would be fulfilling through Him.
Have we allowed Jesus Christ to introduce His joy to
us??????

BUT the first thing to hinder our joy is the subtle irritability
caused by giving too much thought to our own
circumstances. Jesus said "the cares of this world become
unfruitful."

Mark 4:19

Having the right relationship with God, finding your joy there,
and out of you will flow rivers of living water. John 7:38
In His presence and mercy, Barbara Beach
A short personal P.S. I have surrender and there is a joy and
peace in my soul that brings me to share this message with
YOU.
I am pleased to announce we have given $19,934.90 of our pledge to missions. It is under our 2016 pledge of $22,500 by $2565.10. However, our other giving to Mission recognition, gift to mission, gift in memory, and World Thank Offering was $2370.22. Also, we gave $395.85 to Self-Denial. This means our overall giving was 22,700.97. All blessings and praise to each of you and the things you are doing each day.

In Christian Love,
Rita Newbery

A reminder ALL CHECKS must be made out to MAHONING VALLEY DISTRICT UMW. Anything made out to Rita Newbery will be returned for correction. The bank will not allow me to deposit the check into the UMW district treasury account. Thanking you in advance for your help.

God’s blessings and praise to each of you and the things you are doing each day.

In Christian Love,
Rita Newbery

Irene Zutell has authored several other books.

Brenda Spahn grew up poor, then became an entrepreneur & business women. Wealth was a lifestyle- until a brush with the law threatened to send her to prison. In those dark moments, Brenda made a promise to God. Because she was spared incarceration, Brenda glimpsed into the lives of women working to establish successful lives outside of prison walls. Brenda is married & has 4 adult children and 1 young child that lives at home.

Irene Zutell has authored several other books.

Brenda Spahn is founder and executive director of the Lovelady center, the largest and most successful nonprofit transitional center for women in the country. It serves 450 women and children every day, providing substance abuse counseling, drug rehabilitation, meals, childcare, career counseling, and job opportunities to women working to establish successful lives outside of prison walls. Brenda is married & has 4 adult children and 1 young child that lives at home.

Brenda Spahn grew up poor, then became an entrepreneur & business women. Wealth was a lifestyle- until a brush with the law threatened to send her to prison. In those dark moments, Brenda made a promise to God. Because she was spared incarceration, Brenda glimpsed into the lives of women serving time in one of the worst places in America- the Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women in
Wetumpka, Alabama. She had a God-inspired vision—she took ex-cons into her home and helped them navigate the strange world on the outside. It is the story of the first seven women who came to call her “Miss Brenda”. It is a story of the power of faith & how God changes hearts everyday.

**God Bless,**
**Anne Beck**

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**Geography:**
The Missionary Conference of the UMC

If you have someone who has never gone to Mission U, there are scholarships available.

For those of you who have children, they have children’s programs available while you are at the adult program.

I hope all units have sent me their 2016 Mission Today Unit Goals form. If it has not been received we cannot recognize your unit.

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**Communications**

For any Unit wanting information about UMW Sunday, go to:

EOC-CANAL District → Ministries → UMW → UMW → 2017UMW SUNDAY

Due to the fact this information is a 20 page download, we are giving you where to find this information. This is available for you to use if desired. Hope it can help.

Thanks again to all for your wonderful articles.

I can use articles from anyone. You can send to me or President, Chris Grabert. You can talk about your UMW UNIT or special events in your church. You don’t have to compile an article with your information. Just send the information and we will incorporate it into the newsletter.

Send articles or any information you want to go into the newsletter, about 2 months before our Spring and Fall UMW District Gathering.

I can be reached at: 330-799-8603 or 330-719-0905. Address: 2866 Penny Lane, Austintown, Ohio 44515.

To send an email: aladyonwing@aol.com

**God Bless,**
**Linda English**
Membership 
Nurture and Outreach

Cathlene Harvey

As I get older it continually amazes me how short a year has become. The weeks and months of 2016 flew by so quickly, and it seems like all of a sudden 2017 was here! On the other hand, the challenges we all faced with the long, contentious election season and many tragedies worldwide, at times made the year seem to drag on endlessly. Regardless, we must remain thankful and offer praises to our Lord for bringing us through to see another year. My prayer for the world, the church and UMW is that God will bless us all abundantly throughout 2017 and beyond.

My first year as District Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach was one primarily focused on learning and understanding the responsibilities of the position. I now look forward to working with the other members of the District leadership team, as well as many of you as we together promote the mission and goals of UMW. I am sure we all recognize the challenges inherent in trying to grow our membership at the same time that many in our current membership age (albeit gracefully!) and become less able. Let us keep UMW in prayer and ask God to guide us in the way we must go in order to grow and continue.

Reminder: If you haven’t already done so, please be sure to complete and send to me your unit’s 2016 Local Membership Census Form. On the form you will see that the line “Number of Members as of 01-Jan-16” contains the number reported for December 31, 2015. Therefore, it is the number you began with January 1, 2016. **You should not change that number.** Instead, add to it the “number of new members added” by the end of 2016; then subtract the “number lost by death or other reasons” in 2016. That will give you the total number of members as of December 31, 2016. The same number will apply for January 1, 2017. I need to receive all forms by January 30, 2017. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns: Cathlene Harvey, 330-759-7278; chharvey@ameritech.net; text to 330-506-5192.

District Mission Coordinator

MEMBERSHIP

Prayer to Use Our Gifts Wisely

Lord, give me each day the wisdom to see which things are important, and which things are not. Show me how best to use the time and talents you have given me. Help me to use all my opportunities wisely, that I may share, through service to others, the good gifts I have received from you.

Amen.
## DISTRICT UMW CLUSTERS 2017

**District Officers:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chris Grabert</td>
<td>330-726-9131</td>
<td>Ann Beck</td>
<td>330-757-4886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardman First</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Western Reserve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockwood</td>
<td>Struthers</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linda English</td>
<td>330-799-8603</td>
<td>Joyce Buxman</td>
<td>330-757-9816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin Center</td>
<td>Ohltown</td>
<td>Smith Corners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canfield</td>
<td>Palmyra</td>
<td>West Austintown</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Jayne Brown</td>
<td>330-757-0057</td>
<td>Lucy Moreland-Smith</td>
<td>330-770-9320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fowler</td>
<td>Warren First</td>
<td>Yo. Trinity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Martin</td>
<td>330-792-6236</td>
<td>Pat Kendig</td>
<td>330-533-1082</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Palestine Emmanuel</td>
<td>Salem</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rita Newbery</td>
<td>330-793-5123</td>
<td>Barbara Beach</td>
<td>330-782-5950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Liverpool First</td>
<td>Lisbon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>East Fairfield</td>
<td>Wellsville</td>
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They will help your units when needed and answer questions you may have.
SPRING 2017 DISTRICT GATHERING REGISTRATION

DATE: Wednesday, April 26, 2017

RETURN BY: April 18, 2017

PLACE: Poland UM CHURCH
1940 Boardman-Poland Rd. (Rt. 224)
Poland, OH 44514 (ph: 330-757-1553)

TO: Rita Newbery (ph: 330-793-5123)
4510 New Rd.
Austintown, OH 44515

THEME: “JOY”
Guest Speaker: The Reverend Mary Pryor
Time: Registration 9:00 a.m.
Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

CHURCH NAME: ________________________________

Reservation #_______@ $8.00 each:___________ Total Amount enclosed: $___________

Names of those attending: (please print)

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*Please make checks out to Mahoning Valley Dist UMW

**Please have your reservation in on time so that our host church can adequately plan for lunch. Make a note if anyone has special dietary considerations. We will make every effort to accommodate them. Thank you for helping us plan a smooth running day.