

East Ohio Conference UMW Officers

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- Communications Coord.—Marguerite Andres
- **MISSION U**
- Dean—Elizabeth Feldman
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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Hello dear sisters in Christ! I hope that we will soon be able to meet and see each other face to face! This pandemic has been long and challenging to all and very tiring. I know some have gotten depressed, but I pray that we understand that our God is with us and loves us still. He is full of care for us knowing that being human has its challenges. I promise He understands and loves you.



Please pray daily for all of our UMW members and missions we support. I have started using the newly revised Prayer Calendar (now titled a Daily Prayer Guide) each day to help me focus my prayers. It has a scripture for each day as well as a focus statement. I encourage you to use our resources for daily devotions. Just think All of our sisterhood could be praying for the same thing on any certain day! That's powerful!

As we journey through this new year, I hope you will write dates for activities on your calendar. Conference team meeting on March 5th, UMW Sunday April 24th, Assembly May 20 - 22nd, East Ohio Conference June 9 - 11, Mission u July (check out dates for classes), Executive Team meeting August 20th and Annual Celebration on October 22nd. These are wonderful ways to connect with our sisters and learn more about being followers of Christ. I hope you will plan to join us! If you are not a Conference Team member ... why not give it prayer and consider where you might serve? Our nominations chair would love to put you on her list to contact! We truly are a team, and give each other support and help. Just think about it.

As you think about serving, look around you. Are there other women who could be team members? One of the things I find rewarding is mentoring younger women by encouraging them and praying for them. Know anyone?

I mentioned Assembly, and I understand if you are not planning to attend - in person. However, there is a way to sign up and be recharged through a virtual registration. Please consider that option if you have not already registered to attend. It is hard to imagine how many women are connected around the world until you attend Assembly. It is inspirational to be among so many mission focused women singing praises to our Lord! Please check it out!

Well, this letter is getting too long, but know that I appreciate each and every one of you. I feel so very blessed to have so many sisters! Stay safe and know you can contact me anytime!

Judy Kidder, President EOC UMW



2022 EOC UMW Calendar

All meetings via Zoom - unless otherwise noted.

January 22 (4th Saturday) -10:00 AM EOC UMW Mission Team “Retreat”

February 26 (4th Saturday) -10:00 AM Finance Team (Includes District Treasurers)

March 5 (1st Saturday) -10:00 AM Executive Team (Includes District Presidents)

With Mission u Meeting

1:00 PM Conference Committee on Nominations

1:00 PM Charter for Racial Justice Committee

1:00 - 2:00 PM Planning for UMW Sunday (Includes all District Vice Presidents and District Spiritual Growth Coordinators)

April 17, 2022 - Easter Sunday

April 24, 2022 - First Sunday after Easter (Recommended UMW Sunday)

May 20, 2022 Assembly— Orlando, FL

June 9-11, 2022 Annual Conference

July Mission u

August 20, 2022 - (3rd Saturday) - 10:00 AM Executive Team (Includes District Presidents)

Conference Nominations Committee

Representative West Side Community House

October 22, 2022 (4th Weekend) -Annual Celebration



District Spring Meeting Dates

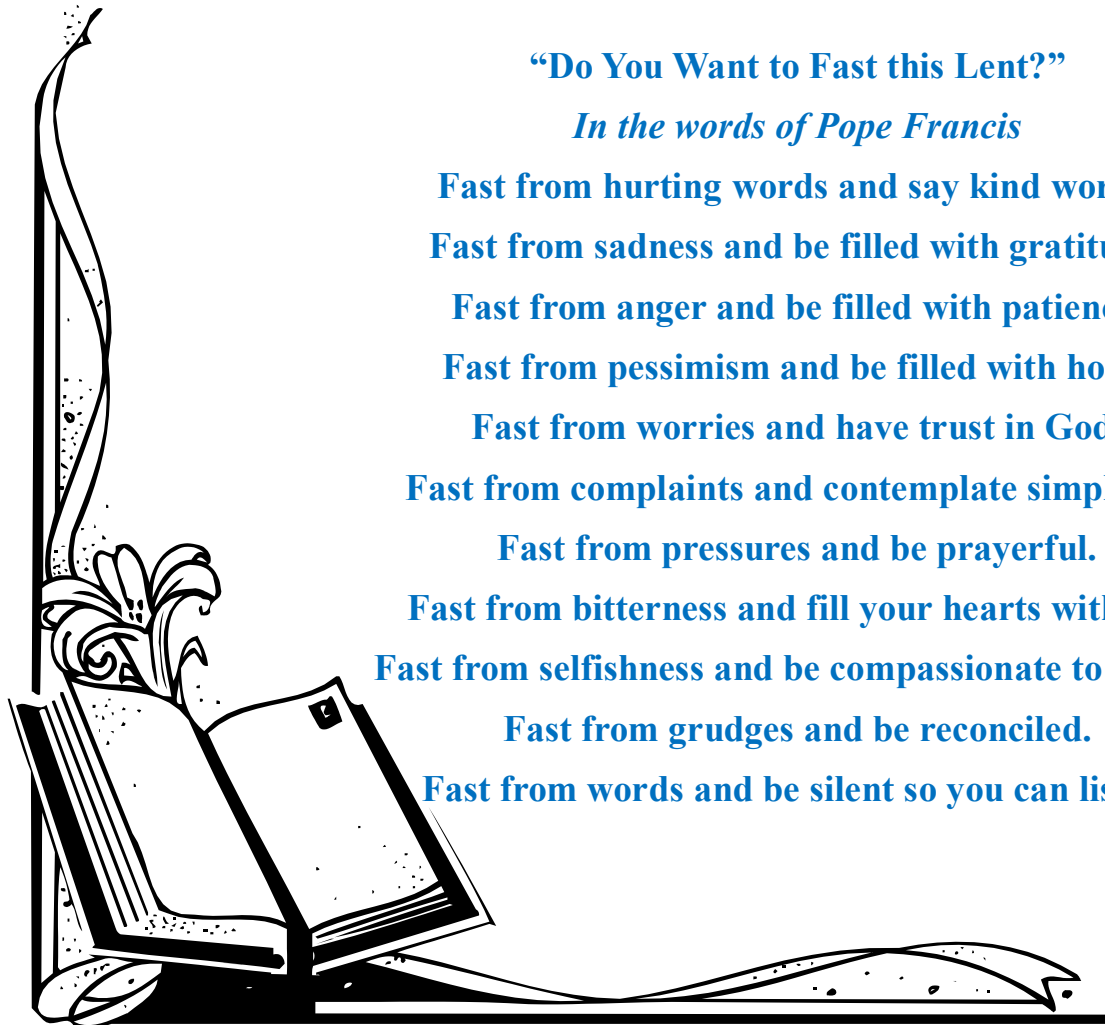


Districts	Date	Church	Meeting Start
Canal			
Firelands	March 26, 2022	Norwalk First UMC	1:00 PM
Mahoning Valley	April 26, 2022	Smith-Corners UMC	9:00 AM
Mid-Ohio	April 9, 2022	Mt. Gilead Trinity UMC	10:00 AM
North Coast			
Ohio Valley	None planned		
Southern Hills			
Three Rivers			
Tuscarawas	April 30, 2022		
Western Reserve	April 23, 2022	Harpersfield UMC	10:00 AM

Fasting during Lent

Dear Sisters,

Last Spring my sister-in-law shared a message on Facebook taken from one of Pope Francis Ash Wednesday messages. I copied it onto a notecard and added it to my collection on the refrigerator.



“Do You Want to Fast this Lent?”

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

We could look at this list every day and see something different to contemplate.

Please prayerfully “listen” to whom God wishes you to encourage today.

Blessings, Peace, Prayers, and Hugs,

Rita Kyser

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

FROM THE LAPTOP OF THE UMWEOC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Over the last few years our lives have changed in many different ways. It was once said, the only thing that we can be sure of is change. To keep current with the times, the UMW is trying to find the best ways to keep our membership informed, especially for the 2022 Reading Program. Technology has helped us stay connected and also allows us to keep current with materials and send information through email, texts and specific links. I realize that not everyone is connected to the internet and has the resources to print. How do we keep ALL of us connected? We must find out who needs to receive hard copies of our materials and who will receive the information electronically. Not only will we save money by drastically cutting down our mailing costs on the local, district, and conference level, but also for the national office. On January 18 I attended a virtual conference for all Program Resource Coordinators around the country. There were about 117 attendees with just under 50% new to the office. Yes, our title has changed. At this point we can call ourselves Program Resource Coordinator/ Coordination/Manager/Management. National is still working on it. As for specific changes to the Reading Program for this year, here are the current changes.



- ⇒ Books that will count for the 2022 program year encompass lists from **2015 to 2022**. Since they couldn't meet in person and didn't have enough reviewers, they extended the dates.
- ⇒ Andrew Cheu, our session leader, reported districts can give certificates in two ways: they can give a separate certificate to readers for each the 2021 year and the 2022 year. If they prefer, they can give certificates for 2021-2022 to get more participants to read and enjoy the great books.
- ⇒ Faith Talks podcasts: If you watch 2 podcasts online, this counts for reading 1 book; 3 podcasts count for reading 2 books. List them under Spiritual Growth category. If you miss the live podcast, you can also watch them online available about 1 week after the recorded session.
- ⇒ Mission u study books also count as Bonus Books.
- ⇒ Check the lists because other books have been indicated as Bonus Books.
- ⇒ Movies/Documentaries: *Just Mercy*, *The Hate U Give*, and *Pushout* movies each count as one book. Put them under the category that the books by the same name are listed.
- ⇒ **All books** count for **all readers** in the program. For example, adults can also read youth and children's books and youth can read adult and children's books.

- ⇒ **All can take part in the UMW reading program!!** This means men, women, church members, nonmembers, friends, neighbors, etc. can participate. Wouldn't it be a great way to spread our faith through books about faith and social action?
- ⇒ UMW resource center is not carrying the books anymore. Check with your public library to see if they have any of the books on our lists and ask them about SearchOhio where books from other public libraries can be sent to your local library. You can get together with other churches in your area to see if you can share the books each has purchased. Details can be worked out with the groups. Order books from Amazon at amazon.com, From Barnes and Noble at bn.com or other sources. If you have 5 people reading the books for plan I, let each one buy a book to pass around so all will fulfill the program.

If you have questions, comments, or want to talk about how you encourage participants to read and share books, or other reading program topics, please contact me. Mary Lou Henneman, 321 Wildwood Dr., Boardman, OH 44512; englishfestival@yahoo.com; 330-559-6993 (cell) (Leave a message and a good time for me to call you.)



MORE NEWS FROM NATIONAL

1. The prayer calendar has been replaced by the daily prayer guide. There are some items that have been deleted due to security concerns: addresses for the missionaries have been eliminated; the exact birthday information except for the month has been deleted.
2. The program book is now digital. You can still get a print copy if you contact the national office.
3. The annual sampler will not exist for 2022. It is not known at this point if it will return. They are trying to change everything to digital.

Andrew Cheu: Communications, Operations Director, Staff Liaison, Program Resources
United Methodist Women 475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor, New York, NY 10115
New Phone: 332.240.2823 SMS/TXT 516.690.6511

SPECIAL NOTE: They are having problems with the 800 number for Mission Resources. You can call them direct at 972-905-0827.

SPECIAL NOTE TO DISTRICT PROGRAM RESOURCE COORDINATORS:

I need your help. I want to see how many people in your units are reading the books for the reading program and the level (1, 2, 3, 4) on which they are participating. Please send the information to me. I hope to be able to answer questions and share your successes with other coordinators. We are all part of this faith community.



EOC UMW Program Resources Coor., Mary Lou Henneman, 321 Wildwood Dr., Boardman, OH 44512; englishfestival@yahoo.com;

2022 Call to Prayer and Self Denial

Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call

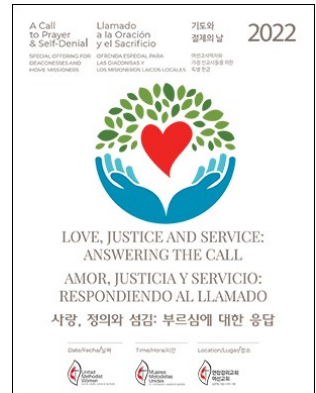
In 2022, we will come together around the theme “Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call.” This year’s offering will support the vital and vibrant ministry of deaconesses and home missionaries, consecrated laity who have dedicated the entirety of their lives to vocations of love, justice and service. These vocations include social work, education, health care, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, antiracism efforts, firefighting, legal justice and more.

Women are encouraged to give thoughtfully to support the education and training of deaconesses and home missionaries as well as retired deaconesses who continue to make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth.

We welcome you to come pray, learn and offer your gifts that will make a real change in the lives of women, children and youth around the world.

Host an observance this year or give online to support women, children and youth in your community and around the world. Click on “Designate to where it is needed most” and select “Call to Prayer and Self-Denial” to make your donation.

One hundred percent of the offering will go directly to fund these projects.



Greetings From Your MNO Coordinator

Hello everyone. I hope everyone is staying safe and warm in this cold weather. I am taking this time to read more books and think about what I can do for our district in the coming year. The 2020 survey revealed some unpleasant realities regarding our membership. Our membership is shrinking. We have experienced church mergers and closings in the past years. With the survey showing our membership is mainly over the age of 60 we need to make plans to think outside the box and reinvent our units. The pandemic has changed the way we meet and how we raise funds which further forces us to think outside of what we have done in the past. It is a time to put our thinking caps on and work together to recruit new members and have different events to raise funds and be able to meet safely.

The 2021 Survey by National will be available in April. I encourage everyone to sign up with MYUMW and I do have a list of people in our conference that have already signed up. If you need help in our district with signing up with MYUMW or completing the survey when it comes out, please contact me.

I understand that there will be units becoming inactive and I remind everyone that there is a process that must be followed for units to become inactive. I can also help out with that process.

Lets make this an exciting year to be a UMW member in East Ohio.

Lets make this an exciting year to be a UMW member in East Ohio.

Margaret Harvey

Membership Nurture and Outreach



Guiding Us Through the Changes



Hello My Sisters,

We all have been going through turmoil, confusion, questions, and challenges over the past few years, but we are still united as WOMEN serving those in need. There is considerable debate about UMC as preparations are underway for the General Conference, if it happens in 2022 decisions will affect the future of our church. All our prayers are needed. For those of you who have been reading UMW's Response magazine or taking UMW online courses, you have learned about changes occurring within the UMW such as newly elected members of the board of directors, newly organized 2020-2024 program advisory group, and soon to be released brand changes, innovative programs, and event for serving the most vulnerable. I am so grateful that I was chosen to be a part of the program advisory group of the northcentral jurisdiction so, no matter what happens at the General Conference women within our churches will still need all of us. Anticipating change, the UMW has altered our bylaws to ensure all women of faith will continue to be a part of UMW.

As you know change has always been part of UMW's history and is also part of the future. We see the future as a new season of growth through rebranding, expanding our outreach toward an even greater sisterhood of faith leaders. I am excited to experience with you the new services offerings and support systems for our sisters as we move towards transforming ourselves toward continuing to answer God's call to action for women, children, and youth.

Sandra Hodge

EOC-UMW Representative for Program Advisor Group North Central Jurisdiction UMW.

"START WHERE YOU ARE. USE WHAT YOU HAVE. DO WHAT YOU CAN."

I would like to say Happy New Year to all the ladies of East Ohio Conference. We found that 2021 was just as hard of a year as 2020. With the pandemic still going strong I am pleased to see that the ladies of East Ohio Conference are finding ways to meet and support women, children and youth in various ways.

Our conference ended the year with falling short of our pledge to the National UMW again in 2021. The positive news is we did send 126,000.00 dollars to the National UMW, which was 3,500.00 dollars short of what we pledged, but more than what we were able to send in 2020. We also paid all our other expenses this year in full.

I would like to thank all the District Treasurers for all their hard work during this year. It is an important part of the district team and I really appreciate all your time and effort you put into this office. The District Treasurers will have an in-person meeting on February 26, 2022, at Seville United Methodist Church. The church is located at 74 High St. Seville.

If you are unable to attend let me know at 330-571-5830.

Blessings,

Kelly Korb, EOC UMW Treasurer





mission u 2022

Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Great news— COMMUNITY is God's desire for us! Please join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

This year, as we study Luke 13, we find ourselves in a period of disruption and uncertainty. In the midst of a devastating pandemic, divisive political climate, unaddressed systemic racism, ecological crises and economic turmoil, we turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia.

Our hope is that we will leave Mission u with a bigger and broader vision of the community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tend to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Our newly designed Mission u 2022 is more flexible and intergenerational than ever— with curricula for youth, children and adults focused on the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Luke.

The curricula we will be using is available at: <http://www.umwmissionresources.org/>. Each book is \$10.

- ⇒ ***Who Can We Be Together?*** A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13, the 2022 adult curriculum by Candace Simpson brings participants deeper into Jesus' teachings in this chapter of Luke to explore what it means to be in community. As the author notes, "For followers of Christ 2,000 years later, it's important for us to sit with the range of emotions we have in response to these words. It's not easy to build and sustain communities, especially when there are forces that drain us, exhaust us, and even push us to act uncharacteristically. And yet, we are called to act on the most ethical principles of our faith so we can witness the kin-dom of God on earth."
- ⇒ ***Community in the Midst of Challenging Times***, a youth curriculum for 2022 by organizer and minister Kenya Cummings, brings facilitators and participants on a journey through stories that have anchored Christian communities for millennia, through both stability and times of turmoil and tragedy. Using study, prayer, reflection, and sharing, participants will examine the meanings of the kingdom of God, while beginning to utilize the language around the "kin-dom" of God. In the midst of a devastating pandemic, a divisive political climate, and economic turmoil, we will examine the dynamics of power and empire in light of the gospel. Through these sessions, youth will also grow in their ability to interpret scripture for today's world and deepen community connections through inter- generational dialogue.
- ⇒ ***The Growing Tree***, the children's curriculum for 2022 by social justice advocate and educator Ilka Vega, is a journey of spiritual growth and community building that helps children recognize the diversity of their capacities, spiritual gifts, and talents as well as their responsibilities to care for one another and for all of God's creation. Through Bible study and reflection, transformative activities, and spiritual practices, participants will find hope, joy, and empowerment in the featured scriptures; grow their spiritual gifts and talents; and find support in their journeys of self-love, building the beloved community, and stewardship of God's creation. Children will also be encouraged to develop their capacity to interpret scripture in multiple ways and deepen their learning through intergenerational conversations and connections.

Will you join us?

Adult Study will be via Zoom: July 9 and 10 AND July 16 and 17: two hours each session.

Saturday sessions will be from 10am to Noon and Sunday sessions from 7-9pm.

PLUS an In-Person Retreat July 22 and 23 at Mt. Union University.

Child and Youth Studies will be held In-Person during the Retreat.



Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Mission u 2022

You may register online or by mailing your registration form. Details later.

Adults, join us via Zoom on July 9/10, and July 16/17: Saturdays from 10am to noon, Sundays 7-9pm

Children and Youth will meet in-person July 22/23 during the In-Person Retreat at Mt. Union University.

2022 Mission u Class Fees: Each age level will be \$30.

Family Discounts

Adult Study & 1 Child or Youth Study \$50 Youth = 7th grade through 12th grade

Adult Study & 2 Child or Youth Studies \$75 Child = Kindergarten through 6th grade

IN-PERSON RETREAT – July 22/23 at Mt. Union University

Adult or Youth: Shared room, one night plus three meals: \$75 plus class fee

Child sharing room with two adult/youth (on floor mattress) plus three meals: \$30 plus class fee

Adult or Youth: single room, one night plus three meals: \$95 plus class fee

EAST OHIO MISSION u 2022 REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____

Preferred Telephone: _____ - _____ - _____ Cell ☐ or Land Line ☐

Email: _____

Church: _____ District _____

Have you used Zoom? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Your Church Role (please check all that apply): ☐ United Methodist Women member ☐ Clergy ☐ Laity

☐ Lay Servant ☐ Lay Speaker ☐ Lay Minister ☐ Local Pastor ☐ Member of Annual Conference

☐ General Conference delegate ☐ Jurisdictional Conference delegate ☐ Lay Leader

☐ other role(s): _____

May the National Office contact you for a brief survey after Mission u? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Adult Study online \$30

☐ Youth Study in-person \$30

☐ Child Study in-person \$30

☐ Adult plus one Child or Youth \$50

☐ Adult plus two Child or Youth \$75

☐ Commuter fee \$45

☐ Double Room \$75

☐ Extra Child in Room \$30

☐ Single Room \$95

Name of Roommate _____

Donation for:

East Ohio UMW Pledge: _____

UMW Legacy Fund: _____

World Thank Offering: _____

Support Mission u costs: _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Being in Mission

This year Is filled with great opportunities to be active in mission for those in need near and far. As United Methodist Women we can be God's hands in acts of Love.

This is achieved by giving to UMW's five areas of General Mission giving- our Pledge, Gift in Memory, World Thank Offering, Special Mission Recognition and Gift to Mission. Please contact me for more information about any of these.

If a unit gives in all areas, they are a Five Star Unit and meet one of the Mission Today Goals. Gum Moon community center in San Francisco's Chinatown started in 1868 by a Methodist missionary to provide shelter, education and vocational training for Chinese girls rescued from human trafficking. Today the center provides after school tutoring, temporary and transitional housing, and Job training. UMW continues to support Gum Moon and many community centers in United States and internationally. This year *response* will have a "map" issue showing all the places receiving funding from UMW. Please have a *response* moment and a reading from *Prayer Guide* - formerly Prayer Calendar.

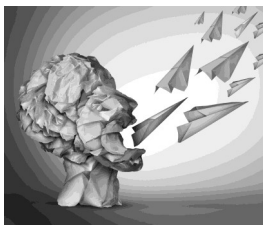
Doing this informs the women of Faith, Hope and Love in action by UMW.

There is a gold mine of information on UMW's web site unitedmethodistwomen.org if you do not have internet access, your public library is a valuable resource.

Have you registered for THE UMW Assembly May20-22 at the Orlando convention center? You can register at Assembly2022.org for either in person or virtual attendance. The Assembly gives you chance to be with thousands of faith filled women for spiritual renewal, hear mission stories; attend workshops; explore the exhibit hall and learn of the many programs of UMW.

Blessings as you continue to be in mission. Emma Dixon, Education and Interpretation, 740-369-3521 land line, 614 -209-1183. E mail deladoc@yahoo.com

Emma Dixon EOC UMW Education and Interpretation



Information Please!



I would like to share information about our United Methodist Women local units and district teams. If any one has news about events going on in their districts or home churches, please send details to :

Wendy Gallaway 1820 Adams Road Route 2 Mansfield, Ohio 44903

or to winksbywendy@gmail.com

Thanks in advance!

Wendy Gallaway, EOC UMW Historian

Ripe-Ness



Is it ripe yet?

As I revise this meditation from my book: *101 Helps for Helpers*, I reflect on the last year. Who would have thought of being on hold for soon to be two years as we navigated the COVID-19 pandemic? We keep asking, is it time to ditch the masks, the social distancing, and the restrictions that were meant to keep us safe?

Is it ripe yet?

Growing up in Georgia, we had the glorious option of letting fruit stay on the vine until it was lusciously ripe. We didn't have to buy it green and wait for it to ripen or wait too long as with bananas that end up only being good for banana bread. We picked it when Big Daddy or Big Mama said it was ripe. They could tell the ripe moment by the color, blush, scent, or feel. They knew when each peach or pear or plum or tomato had reached its ripeness. They even had a foolproof method of knowing when watermelons or cantaloupes were ripe. Still today, people use all sorts of techniques such as thumping or smelling when they go to the supermarket to pick a melon that is just ripe. Some even claim to have a method to be able to pick the sweetest melon or fruit.

Is it ripe yet?

Hopefully, finally the time is ripe for us all to reconnect to family and enjoy the many things that made us realize the importance of even simple things, things we took for granted. So, I ask, is it ripe yet? As a member of the North Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women Nominating Committee, I am asking the question: "Is this the time to rethink your involvement and commitment to the United Methodist Women?" "Is this the time for you to be plucked from your "let someone else do it tree" and see how your own seed will develop?"

I trust you are ready to be plucked and will consider serving on the North Central Jurisdiction team as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary or Member of the Nominating Committee. Please contact me at 216-533-4101 or lfchso@msn.com if you are interested. My address is 6727 Chinkapin Court, Oakwood Village, Ohio 44146. Please see the two following forms, one for indicating your interest or one for recommending someone to serve.

Thank you.



United Methodist Women
North Central Jurisdiction
Committee on Nominations
<https://www.umwncj.org>

Recommendation to the NCJ Committee on Nominations

Date _____

I recommend: (please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Age: ____20's ____30's ____40's ____50's ____60's ____70's ____80's+

Race/Ethnicity _____ Languages Spoken _____

Employed: ____Yes ____No

Why this person should be considered (use back side, if needed):

Positions I would recommend this person for:

Office of _____

And/or _____

References:

1. Name _____ Phone/e-mail _____

2. Name _____ Phone/e-mail _____

Person submitting this information:

Signed (your name) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Conference _____

Please return to: Elizabeth Everitt, Chair of Nominations, NCJurisdiction

4460 Jack Pine Trail North

Lake Elmo MN 55042

651-260-5347

e.everitt@comcast.net



United Methodist Women
North Central Jurisdiction
<https://www.umwncj.org>

Tell me more....I may be interested!

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Conference _____

My ethnicity/race (to help us be as inclusive as possible) _____

My Experience in United Methodist Women:

What I might be interested in doing _____

Please return this form to a NCJ CON Team member.

Elizabeth Everitt, Chair
4460 Jack Pine Trail North 7
Lake Elmo MN 55042-9522
651-260-5347
e.everitt@comcast.net

Linda Crowell
6727 Chinkapin Court
Oakwood Village, OH 44146
216-533-4101
lfchso@msn.com

Elizabeth Jayapalan
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Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
847-913-0135
jaybeth76@yahoo.com

Simmie Proctor
3486 8th Ave.
South Haven, MI 49090
h-269-637-6053
c-616-283-6053
simmiepr@hotmail.com

Virginia Coates
12754 Clubview Drive
Hot Springs, SD 57747
h-605-745-4891
c-605-450-9792
edcoates@gwtc.net

Thank you and God bless you!

East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church

United Methodist Women

8800 Cleveland Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Canton, Ohio

**PLEASE PRINT/COPY THIS NEWSLETTER AND GIVE IT TO ALL WHO
WISH ONE. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SPREAD THE NEWS!**

**IF you wish to receive this newsletter by email, send your email address
to:**

**The conference communications coordinator at
eocumwnews@gmail.com**



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Copies emailed to local unit presidents and treasurers, East Ohio Conference UMW District and
Conference Mission Team members.

Questions, comments, additions/deletions to mailing list should be sent to the conference communi-
cations coordinator: eocumwnews@gmail.com.

Fall newsletter article deadline – August 27, 2022