



The Connecting Link

Newsletter of
The United Methodist Women
Mahoning Valley District
East Ohio Conference

Fall 2011

News from the president Judy Yungbluth

Greetings and Blessings!

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

Today it is 87 degrees outside and hard to think that summer is almost over and time to plan for our Fall District meeting. Fall with the beautiful colors and the crisp, fresh air. Fall, when planning meetings, Church dinners, choir practice and everything else resumes. Are you ready for it? Take a deep breath and get revitalized, it will soon be here. God gives us strength to do His work.

What a blessing I received at School of Missions. Our teacher, Walt Merrill, made the Country

of Haiti come alive for us. It was disappointing that only 17 women from our district were able to attend. Those who were unable to be there missed a wonderful weekend of fellowship, fun, good food and learning about mission in action. Mahoning Valley District had several youth and teens attending. What a great experience for them. I would encourage every unit to try to come next year.

Our annual FALL DISTRICT TRAINING MEETING is coming up soon. Vice President, Gretchen Reed is working hard to make it a meaningful worship experience and also a learning time. Unit officers, don't miss

The real purpose of our existence is not to make a living, but to make a life—a worthy, well-rounded, useful life.

this valuable opportunity to expand your knowledge of your office and to share ideas with our new officers. We look forward to seeing our old friends there and some new ones.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION is just around the corner. I hope you are making plans to attend. It promises to be a wonderful, uplifting experience. Don't forget our deal with the District Superintendent. We need 100 ladies from Mahoning Valley District to attend so that we can see him dance. See you in October at Church Hill United Methodist Church.

May God richly bless you as you work for and through Him.

MAHONING VALLEY

FALL DISTRICT MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

@ TOD AVENUE UMC

RESERVATIONS DUE: SEPTEMBER 9TH

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Remember: I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something; and what I should do and can do, by the Grace of God I will do.

...from Program Resources Linda English

Well, we sure have been having a HOT summer this year. I know there have been many days I have stayed indoors and enjoyed the air conditioning. You can only watch so much TV and you start seeing programs over and over again. So this would be a good time to read some of the books from the Reading Program.

I can't begin to tell how much information I have found while reading the many books from our Reading Program. I have learned about different cultures and the countries of many people. It is a wonder what people have done and what their lives have endured.

Remember to add each book to the form from the Reading

Program. If you place them on the form as you complete each book, reporting will be very easy to record for the Reading Awards we give at the Spring District Meeting. Your Unit can send them to me any time after the first of the year. I will need the record of your Unit by March 1, 2012.

Continue to enjoy reading and God Bless. Send reports to:

Linda English or
ladyonwing@aol.com
2866 Penny Lane
Austintown, Ohio 44515
330-799-8603

You can call if you have any questions or if you want to have any special books, to be able to purchase at our Fall District Meeting.

...from Nominations Margaret Whitacre

Hello to all our United Methodist Women. It's time again to elect some new officers as others leave a district office.

If you have held an office in your local unit, why not try that same office on a district level. You will meet new people, reconnect with some you already know, and have a great time making decisions and hearing the news in the Mahoning Valley!

We have an opening for the Nominations chair and we have a great team to help you with your position. If you are interested, contact me at 330-654-4246.

...from Dean of SoCM Regina McAlister

What a wonderful time we had at Mt. Union in July. The weather was great! The ladies were great!. The studies and study leaders were great! And the food was great!

I can't say enough good things about the wonderful conference team that helped make this year's SoCM a full success.

Please note that we are trying to hold SoCM on the 4th weekend in 2012. The Conference team will be very busy on the 3rd weekend With the East Ohio hosting the UMC Jurisdictional Conference in Akron. This will not be finalized until November, but I wanted to give you a heads up.

I would like to thank all who have kept my son lifted in prayer. After 8 weeks in the hospital, he was home for a week and will now spend 4 days a week for 4 weeks in Cleveland with outpatient chemo. He is tolerating the chemo well so far. He has much ahead of him, but with your prayers and God's amazing GRACE, we are sure everything will be OK.

...from the secretary Barbara Beach

I come to you reminding you of our **GOAL: MISSIONS.**

Galatians 2:10 tells us to remember the poor.

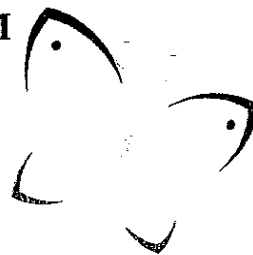
We also have responsibilities to remember to fill out forms for our Reading Program, members that have passed, list of new officers, and your goals for missions dollars.

Especially remember to send your new officer list to me as soon as possible. I have to send them on to Conference and they have to send them on

to Division before the end of the year.

It is my responsibility to keep the district mailing list up to date for the Communication's person, Regina. In sending out the last newsletter many were returned and we had to pay to get them back for address corrections. This uses mission dollars better spent in missions. Therefore, please make sure I have your current officers' addresses and e-mail addresses. I appreciate any and all correspondence. **PLEASE** keep me informed!

ANNUAL CELEBRATION REGISTRATION FORM



Must be postmarked by September 30, 2011

Please fill out one form for every person attending. Send your Unit's reservations together in one mailing. Tickets will be at the registration table.

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS (Street, City, Zip) _____
Email _____ Church Unit _____
Name of Unit Voting Delegate _____ District _____

Indicate Special Dietary Needs (What need?) _____

- No. of Adult Reservations @ \$16 each _____ (This includes Friday snack & Saturday lunch.) Please include youth age 13 and older.
- Number of Reservations @ \$10 each for children age 5-12 _____
(This includes snack with Friday movie, Saturday study, craft and pizza lunch.)

I will be attending (please check one): _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____ Both

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

_____ CHILDCARE for children under 5 years of age. (Please check if needed) Circle: Friday Saturday Both; Bring a sack lunch and beverage for each child in childcare for Saturday's meal. (Ages of children _____) Young children **MUST** be preregistered.

REMINDER: Please complete a form for EACH person attending!!

Send completed registration form and check payable to East Ohio Conference UMW to:

Regina McAlister

5479 Caldwell-Sonk Rd.,

Fowler, OH 44418

Questions? Contact by email: mcAlisterregina@yahoo.com 330-637-9586 or 330-442-1223

Hotel: Quality Inn and Suites 4055 Belmont Ave., Youngstown (330) 759-3180 / 1-800-860-7829
Check in time is 3 PM. Each room has two double beds. Rate is \$59 plus tax. We recommend two to four persons per room. Inform hotel when making reservation that you are with United Methodist Women of East Ohio Conference.

Charges include snacks, food, expenses of building, programs, mailing, and guests participating.

The goal of the Mahoning Valley district is to have over 100 UMW ladies at this event which we are hosting for the East Ohio Conference. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dan Bryant, has promised us that he will dance for all, if we get over 100 there from our district. We should really surprise everyone by having 200 there. There is a trophy for the district that has the most there in the least number of cars. So pile in and enjoy the company coming and going too. See you here after we see you at the district gathering on September 20th.



...from the editor
Regina McAlister

To save extra money for mission, our goal at the district level is to send more newsletters by e-mail. When you send in your officer list for each year, please include the e-mail addresses of everyone that has an e-mail address.

I would love for you to send any information you may have about your unit that you would like to share with the district to be placed in the newsletter. New ideas are always welcomed by our units. Also, any special programs you have had and loved would be helpful. Let us help each other out as our goal is the same: (see our PURPOSE on the back of the newsletter.) Please have your news to me by the first of February or the first of August.

Thanks for all you do and may God Bless YOU as you strive to serve Him!

Dates to Remember:
Reservations for Fall Gathering:
Due Sept. 9th
District Fall Gathering:
Tues. Sept 20th
EOC Annual Celebration:
Fri. & Sat. Oct 28th & 29th
New officer info due: Dec. 1st
Pledge money due: Dec. 10th
Goal sheets; Reading Program sheets; Memorial lists: Due after the first of the year

EAST OHIO CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2011 ANNUAL CELEBRATION
“ALL THINGS MADE NEW”

WHEN: October 28-29, 2011

WHERE: Churchill United Methodist Church

189 Churchill-Hubbard Road, Youngstown 44505

FRIDAY: 6:15 P.M. Registration and get acquainted time

7 P.M. Children age 5-12 snacks & crafts Judy Kidder

Motivational Speaker: Ms. Juanita Pasley,

Director of the United Methodist Community Center

Skits by each District

Singing, games, dancing and snacks.

Dismissal to hotel SLEEPOVER with talking permitted!!!

SATURDAY: 9:30 A.M. Registration for those not registered

10:00 AM Processional with District banners

Children gather for their program:

Necessary Business for adults

Lunch

WORSHIP SERVICE **“All Things Made New”**

Ms. Jeanette Kraus, Speaker

Women’s Division Director

Installation of Officers

Training for District Officers/Focus Groups (for those not receiving training)

Focus Groups: Human Trafficking, Amanda Marshall, presenter

Racial Justice, Dr. Gloria Brown, presenter

3 P.M. Closing

Childcare will be available with pre-registration for children under 5.

It will not be available without advanced notice.

Voting Procedure: One delegate from each local unit receives a ballot for voting.



**...from the Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Joan Gearhart**

BACK TO SCHOOL FOR THE CHRISTIAN:

As youngsters of the Mahoning Valley prepare for the beginning of the new school year, they are admonished to follow basic rules:

GET ENOUGH SLEEP; EAT A HEALTHY BREAKFAST; FOLLOW THE RULES; DEVELOP GOOD WORK/STUDY HABITS; and above all **TRY YOUR BEST.**

As a Christian we, too, should follow some tips as we strive to return to serving the Lord. Psalm 37:7 says *Rest In The Lord*, making us fit and ready to face each day. **HEALTHY PRAYER** and Personal Devotions will fuel our hearts and minds. **USE OUR BIBLES** as guides for our daily lives. This will surely encourage us to watch for

areas where we can assist others. **FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS.** Many older adults are at times unable to join in activities because of lack of transportation or lack of funds. Any ideas of how you can help them? **START A BIBLE STUDY GROUP** at someone's home or in a local nursing home. **KNOW CHRIST MORE.** We need to know what Christ expects of us; how can we grow if we do not know what our Lord wants of us.

Most teachers prepare lesson plans, bulletin board displays, and visuals to entice the students to want to learn. They **WORK** to make learning fun. Perhaps by preparing ourselves much as the teacher does for her students, we, too, can be

ready to serve the Lord. Set yourselves up to follow a rigorous schedule devoted to strengthening your Christian behavior. Strive for a life of prayer. Become aware of and receptive to

God's presence in all things. This way we can discern/recognize his "nudges." Continue to read your Bible daily and join in Bible Studies directed at and focusing on Spiritual Growth. Setting aside a particular time of the day to actively "work" at one or more of these "tips" will without a doubt prepare you to have fun as you work for the Lord. (excerpts from Julia Bettencourt, Creative Ladies Ministry)

**Directions to:
Tod Avenue UMC**

**From:
South:**
Take 11 north to St. Rt. 82 west, then 82 to 422 (They run together on the other side of Warren)

Turn right at the Hot Dog Shop. Church is on the left.

West:
Take 80 east to 11 north and follow the directions from the south.

MVD Officers

- President**
Judy Yungbluth
5380 Wilson Sharpville Rd
Fowler OH 44418
330.638.3814
jyungbluth@stanwade.com
- Vice President**
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GRTeach320@aol.com
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- Nominations Chairperson**
Margaret Whitacre
17847 Mill Rd
Lake Milton OH 44401
330.654.4246

**MVD UMW
Fall MEETING**

Date: Tuesday,
September 27, 2011

Place:
Warren Tod Avenue
155 Tod Ave.
Warren 44485

Theme:
"For the Love of God"

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Valerie Stultz,
Canal D.S.

Time: Registration:
9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Meeting:
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



**...from the treasurer
Barbara Edwards**

Today is August 1st, another beautiful day, another gift from God. The summer is just zipping by and we are preparing for our Fall Meeting. It will be held at Tod Ave. United Methodist Church in Warren, Ohio.

Reservations are to be in by Friday, September 9th. Remember I am only a phone call away. You can call me for any last minute changes at (330) 638 - 5538. Just leave a message and a phone number.

One of the ways to fulfill our PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women is striving to meet and/or exceed our pledge to mission giving. So far, funds received towards our 2011 pledge of \$40,000 is as follows:

1	Pledge to Missions	\$11,741.50
2	Special Mission Recognition	800.00
3	Gift to Mission	140.00
4	Gift in Memory	400.00
5	World Thank Offering	417.87
	TOTAL TOWARDS PLEDGE	\$13,499.37
6	Call to Prayer	743.00
7	Japan Recovery Aid	50.00
	TOTAL GIVING	\$14,292.37

**Reminder
End of Year
Pledges
due by
Dec. 10th**

Barbara Edwards
3073 Yo/Kingsville Rd.
Cortland, OH 44410
330-638-5538

At the end of the second quarter we have

only met 33.75% of our pledge for this year.

Third quarter pledges should be received by September 15th. End of year pledges should be received by December 10th. Thank you so much for your continued support of the mission work

**...from SoCM childrens' director
Judy Kidder**

A very big **THANK YOU** to all the mothers, grandmothers, aunts and friends who brought children to the Mt. Union University School of Christian Mission! Mary Beth and I were so pleased with the children who came. We had a great time learning about Haiti with them and having fun at the same time. All of them were

so well behaved we had no major issues. (Our biggest "Yuck!" was the taste of fresh coconut milk after we cracked it open. I can't imagine why?)

My goal, as director for the children, is for them to learn how very much all children of the world are alike, while studying how their lives are different. We learn that God

made us all and loves us all.

The UMW Annual Meeting will be held in October (check this newsletter) and again, children are invited to attend. We will continue to learn about children in another country (Russia) and have a good time too. Please consider bringing a child or two.

Thank you, again, and I look forward to seeing you in Youngstown October 28 / 29!



Fall District Gathering Registration

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Place: Warren Tod Avenue UMC
155 Tod Ave. Warren 44485

Theme: "For the Love of God"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Valerie Stultz, Canal D.S.

Time: Registration: 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Meeting: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Return by **April 12, 2010** to:

Barbara Edwards 330-638-5538
3073 Youngstown Kingsville Rd
Cortland, OH 44410

Church Name: _____

Reservations @ \$8.00 each: _____ Total amount enclosed: _____

Names of those attending: (Please Print)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Number of children for nursery care: _____ Ages: _____

(Please bring a sack lunch for your child) BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IF THE CHILD WILL NOT BE COMING AFTER THE RESERVATION DEADLINE

...from the vice president Gretchen Reed

**Please bring mission money for
health kits to be purchased.**

Greetings Mahoning Valley United Methodist Women!

Our Fall District Meeting will be held at **Warren Tod Avenue United Methodist Church**, 155 Tod Ave. N.W., Warren, Ohio on **Tuesday, September 27, 2011** from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Registration will be from 9:00 until 9:30. Theme for the day will be "For the Love of God-The Epistles of John". Our speaker will be Rev. Valerie Stultz, District Supt. of Canal District who also taught this

Bible study at Mount Union School of Missions in 2010. She is a gifted leader and teacher and you won't want to miss hearing her presentation.

Your registration form is in this newsletter and is due **no later than Sept. 9.** Please be prompt about this to aid our friends at Warren Tod Avenue.

New district officers will be installed and pledge cards from each unit will be received with the offer-

ing. Officer training will be held in the afternoon with a special session for others in the sanctuary at the same time. Encourage your officers to attend so that they can benefit from this training.

I look forward to seeing familiar faces and to meeting new UMW members. Remember, "We love Him, because He first loved us." Be sure to enjoy the remaining days of our beautiful summer.

Mailed on: 8:10/2011

The MVD EOC UMW newsletter is mailed bi-annually to local unit and non-unit churches.

Mahoning Valley District
United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women
P O Box 11260
Youngstown OH 44511

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The United Methodist Women
Mahoning Valley District
East Ohio Conference



Come to Me for all that you need. Come into My Presence with thanksgiving, for thankfulness opens the door to My treasures. When you are thankful, you affirm the central truth that I am Good. I am Light, *in whom there is no darkness at all*. The assurance that I am entirely Good meets your basic need for security. Your life is not subject to the whims of a sin-stained deity.

Relax in the knowledge that the One who controls your life is totally trustworthy. Come to Me with confident expectation. There is nothing you need that I cannot provide.

Jesus

Taken from: Daily Devotional: Jesus Calling by Sarah Young; published by Thomas Nelson; 2004

**If man has any religion,
he must give it up
or give it away.**

Our Purpose

The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.