



## FLAMING FORTRESS




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### News from the President

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Hello everyone, I hope your summer has gone well. Mind has been busy. Now is the time to focus on United Methodist Women. We have work to do! Our first focus this fall is the District Annual Meeting, on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at Mason City First. Our speaker for the day is our Conference President, Linda Nickelson. Please come and hear what Linda has to share. We will also be having "Local Officer Training Event", "LOTE", so please have your officer's plan on attending as the District Officers will be sharing a lot of new information for the coming year. Come and meet old friends and make some new ones. Car loads are welcome!

Please keep in mind the Iowa Conference United Methodist Women Annual meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup> at Clear Lake, and our fall Mission Study on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at Alden Methodist Church; more information about the

study is in the news letter. We will have one scholarship available for the fall "MEE Event" at Marshalltown, Oct. 28-30. The studies are available in three languages, English, Spanish and Korean. The focus study is "All Things Made New", and the country study is Haiti. This is a good study for those who missed School of Christian Mission.

Please keep the District officers in your prayers as several have health and or family concerns at this time. We are looking forward to seeing you at the District Meeting on Sept 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Marla Norman*

1950- 170<sup>th</sup> St.  
Rutland, IA. 50582-8823  
[jdnorman@ncn.net](mailto:jdnorman@ncn.net)  
515-332-4861

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### News from the Vice President

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Do you have your calendar marked for Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>? That is the date of North Central District meeting at Mason City First. There is an agenda in this Fortress along with a registration form for lunch. Please tell your local unit and bring a car load. We will be having a Silent Auction with the proceeds going to Hawthorn Hill and Shesler Hall and would like each Unit to bring something for it.

The Annual Conference United Methodist Women will be held October 1<sup>st</sup> at Clear Lake United Methodist Church, that flyer is also in the news letter. October 12<sup>th</sup> we are holding our Mission Study for the year, we were without our Education & Interpretation officer this year, but have a wonderful instructor Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck who taught a class at SOCM this summer and will be sharing her instruction with us at Alden. We are looking forward

to it. Please bring a salad per car to share with the group. Study will begin at 9:30 with coffee at 9. Later in October, the 28-30, will be our Mission Education Event (MEE); the fall session at Iowa Valley Community College in Marshalltown. If you were unable to attend in July you still have a chance. The summer session was wonderful, great teachers, studies and fellowship with ladies from all over Iowa. Hope to see you this fall and may God Bless your local Units.

*Marlene Johnson*

PO Box 368  
Jolley, IA 50551-0368  
712-297-5081  
[jmjolley@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jmjolley@iowatelecom.net)

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## News from the Secretary

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In this newsletter you will find a form to complete listing the 2012 officers for your unit. I would appreciate having this returned to me in a timely manner so that I can give the district officers the lists at the November executive meeting. You will find that the form is slightly different this year but the same basic information is requested.

Local units sometimes have difficulty contacting sister units or sending guest day invitations. Many churches do not have an office or even a post office box, which means that the letter can't be delivered. In order to solve this problem there is a space on the form to list the name and address of a contact person for your unit. This should be someone who isn't a

snowbird and willing to be the contact. The list of all the contacts will be in the January newsletter.

I can't stress enough the importance of sending the officer information by the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. We (the district team) want all the information current and appreciate your diligence in completing the form.

Blessings,

*Judy Timan*

72 Court Square

Pocahontas, IA 50574

712-335-6007

[jrtiman@mediacombb.net](mailto:jrtiman@mediacombb.net)

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## News from the Treasurer

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I'm getting back into the swing of things after a glorious 9 day vacation with my three daughters. We visited my niece (their cousin) in England, and with a personal guide it was so much more meaningful. We were able to visit the church my Great Grandfather attended in the 1840-1850s before he immigrated to the United States. It is about 1000 years old! The seating looked very uncomfortable!

District meeting will soon be here and I hope to see many of you in Mason City.

1. When you come to Local Officers Training Event at the annual meeting please have a pen or highlighter to make notes on the material I give out to you.
2. We will be taking Mission Possible/Love Gift money that day in addition to a gift for Bidwell Riverside. The gift to Bidwell is in addition to the 75 cents per member we request each year. Our Iowa National Missions are always in need of additional funds. If possible, please send these

two donations in with a remittance form before the meeting. It is a big task to get the money counted and eat lunch in time for the afternoon session.

The checks are to be made out to the North Central District United Methodist Women and note where the money is to go on the check and the remittance sheet. I deposit the money and send the checks to the Iowa Conference United Methodist Women and she sees that the money goes to the proper place.

3. In addition, if you wish to send money for the storm damage in Iowa please note that, as I have a special account that it will be forwarded to.

I hope you survive all of this hot weather and that we'll see you in Mason City.

*Jane Coughenour*

722 West St.

Colo, IA 50056-1008

677-377-2769

[ikejane@netins.net](mailto:ikejane@netins.net)

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## News from Program Resources

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Thanks to ALL who sent in your Reading Program Forms. Keep encouraging others to read and record the titles. While we are waiting for the new titles @ the Sept 23 meeting, remember the titles from 2007 thru 2011 are still "current". If you didn't have time to read all those titles yet, this is a good time to get started on your reading program for 2011-2012.

*Lavonne Shearer*

2007 Aldrich Ave

Boone, Ia. 50036-4443

515-230-1406

[lmshearerboone@hotmail.com](mailto:lmshearerboone@hotmail.com)

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## News from Membership, Nurture and Outreach

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Joyce has been spending a lot of time in Rochester since May taking treatment for acute myeloid leukemia. Please continue to keep Joyce and her family in your prayers. The following is taken from the Caring Bridge website.

"As always, thank you for the prayers, notes, and cards. They are a much needed pick-me-up. She's disappointed that she's going to miss the United Community reunion, but we'll just have to have another one when she gets home.

*Romans 8:38-39 "I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us."*

Joyce Safly

2260 220<sup>th</sup> St.

Ames, IA 50014

[joysafly@aol.com](mailto:joysafly@aol.com)

515-292-3296 – cell: 515-231-6540

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## News from Spiritual Growth

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I would like to share this email I recently received with each of you. It really spoke volumes to me.

A young couple moves into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbor hanging the wash outside.

"That laundry is not very clean", she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap."

Her husband looked on, but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this."

The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

Did you think of Luke 6:37-42 and verse 41 in particular where we read "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your own eye?"

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

I wish each of your God's blessings.

LAVonne Hartman

24474 445<sup>th</sup> St.

Lake Mills, IA 50450

641-592-2577

[fhartman@wctatel.net](mailto:fhartman@wctatel.net)

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## News from Social Action

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I was baking cookies the other day so I turned on a movie of Abraham Lincoln's train ride from Illinois to Washington. Lincoln had been elected President of the Union. There was a plot to assassinate him and the movie's story line was of several people on the train. One of the characters was a matronly woman who was very upset about the state of the union. She spoke her mind very openly. "When I get to Washington I'm going to talk to that President Lincoln". I pictured her as one of the women who took a leap of faith and stood up for equal rights (remember she could not even vote). SHE WAS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. Are we doing our part for Social Justice, as the women founders of the Mission Society did. Remember one of our founders was instrumental in feeding the soldiers of the Civil War with organization and used sanitation. Let us

continue in their path.

Choose one thing this year that you can do extra.

Think of all the service men that are coming home to Iowa. Send them a thank you card or better yet deliver a "thank you" basket.

Should your unit NOT have a Social Action Mission Coordinator please bring someone from your unit that is interested in Social Action to the District Meeting in September for the LOTE (local officers training event). I have new hand outs and information

Joan Hanson

68547 200<sup>th</sup> St.

Colo, IA 50056-8593

641-377-2890

[wjhanson@netins.net](mailto:wjhanson@netins.net)

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United Methodist Women  
***North Central District Annual Meeting***

Friday, September 16, 2011  
Mason City First United Methodist Church  
119 South Georgia Street  
Mason City, IA 50401



**"A Vision for the Future"**

Theme Verse: Faith – Hope – Love in Action  
Song: Hymn #408 The Gift of Love  
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Speaker – Linda Nicholson, Conference President  
Also the new Director from Bidwell Riverside, Rev. Dennis Coon and  
Marsha Gerot, Conference Education and Interpretation Officer

*Silent Auction with proceeds to Hawthorn Hill & Shesler Hall*  
*(We would like each unit to bring a basket with produce, baked goods or white elephants.)*  
PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR LOCAL UNIT.

*L.O.T.E. – Local officers are encouraged to attend*

8:30 a.m. – Registration & Coffee      9:30 a.m. – Meeting Begins  
12:00 Noon – Lunch  
1:00 pm. – Meeting Resumes      2:30 p.m. – Dismissal

------(Cut and Mail Back) -----

Lunch Reservations

Name of Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lunch reservations times \$7.00 equals \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

Menu: Cranberry Chicken, Green Beans, 7up Salad, Roll, Pumpkin Bar Desert

Send Reservations by Sept 9<sup>th</sup> to Carolyn Mott, 1 Regency Lane, Mason City, IA 50401

**IOWA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
2011 ANNUAL MEETING**

**Saturday, October 1, 2011**

**First United Methodist Church  
508 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North  
Clear Lake, Iowa**

Directions: Take exit 193 from I35 toward Clear Lake. (.3 mi)  
Turn left onto 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue S. (IA-106) (1.2 mi).  
Turn right onto S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street (.4 mi).  
Turn left onto 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North (0.1 mi. Church is on the right.

*“All Things Made New”*

*Keynote address given by Bidwell Riverside Staff*

Registration and Coffee 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Worship  
Special Music  
Displays & Reports  
Program Resources  
Workshops  
Election and Installation of Conference Officers  
Communion

Come join us for fellowship – surprises and fun!!

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Send registration form and lunch payment no later than September 19, 2011 to:

Rachel Wood  
916 Main Street  
Clear Lake, IA 50428  
1-641-357-4280

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
# of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.00 each  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child Care Needs \_\_\_\_\_ Number and ages \_\_\_\_\_  
Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_ Sack Lunches Welcome

**WORKSHOP CHOICES (CHOOSE 3)**

Book Review  More About Bidwell  
 No More Dirty Looks  Justice For Our Neighbors  
 All About National Seminar  Program Resources

2011

MISSION EDUCATION EVENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

North Central District

APPLICATION DUE – September 17, 2011

Mail Applications to:  
Marla Norman  
1950 170<sup>th</sup> St.  
Rutland, IA 50582-8823

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mission Education Event – October 28-30, Marshalltown Community College, Marshalltown, IA

Scholarship includes registration, books and most meals. Recipient supplies own transportation and overnight accommodations.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mission Education Event for a first timer  
(Applicant would be attending for the first time)

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Choose one:

\_\_\_\_\_ Joy to the World: Mission in Age of Global Christianity      \_\_\_\_\_ Haiti

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My reason for wanting to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**  
*Officers Continuing for 2012*

**PRESIDENT**

*Marla Norman  
1950-170<sup>th</sup> St  
Rutland, IA 50582-8823*

**VICE PRESIDENT**

*Marlene Johnson  
PO Box 368  
Jolly, Ia. 0-50551-0368*

**SECRETARY**

*Judy Timan  
19495-620 the St  
Pomeroy, Ia. 50575-8011*

**TREASURER**

*Jane Coughenour  
722 West Street  
Colo, Ia. 50056-1008*

**SOCIAL ACTION**

*Joan Hanson  
68547 200<sup>th</sup> St.  
Colo, Ia. 50056-8593*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*Kathy Pettinger  
1027 South J Ave  
Nevada, Ia. 50201*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*Roberta Fullerton (2012)  
511 S. Clinton St.  
Boone, Ia. 50036*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*M. Jean Houston (2012)  
1530 Quill Ave.  
Madrid, Ia. 50156-7579*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*Myra Gochenour (2012)  
408 7<sup>th</sup> ST NE  
Belmond, Ia. 50421-1252*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*Nancy Wessling (2012)  
806 North St.  
Churdan, Ia. 50050*

***NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN***  
***Nomination Ballot for 2012***

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

*Linda Stauffer*  
*Humboldt, Ia*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*OPEN*

**EDUCATION & INTERPERTAION**

*Phyllis Warren*  
*Gilmore City, Ia*

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*OPEN*

**MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH**

*Jan Carpenter*  
*Fort Dodge, Ia*

**North Central District Committee  
on Nominations**

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Roberta Fullerton, Chairperson

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Sheila Ruka, Belmond, IA

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Myra Gochenour, Belmond, IA

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M. Jean Houston, Madrid, IA

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Nancy Wessling, Churdan, IA

## LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS – 2012

Complete this form even if there are no changes and return to the District Secretary by **October 15, 2011**. Send to: **Judy Timan**

72 Court Square  
Pocahontas, IA 50574-1607  
or e-mail information to: [jrtiman@mediacombb.net](mailto:jrtiman@mediacombb.net)

**Instructions:**

- Print
- Use correct mailing addresses including post office box
- Include the ZIP CODE + 4
- If you have snowbirds, please indicate the dates they will be gone
- If your unit does not fill a specific office, write "None"
- If an office is filled later or other changes occur, please send updated information
- Include the area code for telephone numbers (we have these area codes in our district)
- Include an e-mail address if available – a huge help to the district officers!!
- If an office is shared, please attach additional information.

Address information is critical. Newsletters that are returned and then resent with the correct address cost the district almost \$1 each!

Name of Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members that attend unit meetings regularly \_\_\_\_\_ When do you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Name _____	Name _____
Mailing Address _____	Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip+4 _____	City/State/Zip+4 _____
Snowbird Information _____	Snowbird Information _____
Phone # _____	Phone # _____
E-mail _____	E-mail _____

<b>Chairperson, Committee on Nominations</b>		<b>Mission Coordinator – Spiritual Growth</b>	
Name	_____	Name	_____
Mailing Address	_____	Mailing Address	_____
City/State/Zip+4	_____	City/State/Zip+4	_____
Snowbird Information	_____	Snowbird Information	_____
Phone #	_____	Phone #	_____
E-mail	_____	E-mail	_____
<b>Mission Coordinator – Education &amp; Interpretation</b>		<b>Mission Coordinator – Social Action</b>	
Name	_____	Name	_____
Mailing Address	_____	Mailing Address	_____
City/State/Zip+4	_____	City/State/Zip+4	_____
Snowbird Information	_____	Snowbird Information	_____
Phone #	_____	Phone #	_____
E-mail	_____	E-mail	_____
<b>Mission Coordinator – Membership, Nurture &amp; Outreach</b>		<b>Secretary of Program Resources</b>	
Name	_____	Name	_____
Mailing Address	_____	Mailing Address	_____
City/State/Zip+4	_____	City/State/Zip+4	_____
Snowbird Information	_____	Snowbird Information	_____
Phone #	_____	Phone #	_____
E-mail	_____	E-mail	_____

**NEW: Please include the name, etc., of one person to** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**receive communications from other units.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**This information will be in the January newsletter.** \_\_\_\_\_ **City/State/Zip+4** \_\_\_\_\_

# North Central District Mission Study

October 12<sup>th</sup>

*Alden United Methodist Church*



## *Mission in the Age of Global Christianity*

Lead by Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck

Naomi is a Native of Minnesota, is the Leadership Development Minister of Social Justice and Mission for the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. In July she taught this class at SOCM.

9:00 Coffee,  
9:30 Mission Study,  
45 minute lunch break  
Dismissal 2:30

Each car please bring a salad to share.  
Bring your Joy to the World study book.

Hope to see you.

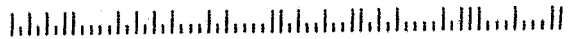
First United Methodist Church  
1036 Seventh Street  
Nevada, IA 50201-1907

Return Service Requested

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Nevada, Iowa

DENNIS TEVIS  
620 SECOND ST  
WEBSTER CITY, IA 50595-0000

5059594439 0005



North Central District  
United Methodist Women

AUGUST 2011  
FLAMING FORTRESS

**PURPOSE**

*The organized unit of 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.*



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**Inside this issue:**

- District Annual Meeting (LOTE)
- Conference Annual Meeting
- Officer ballot
- Local unit officer form
- MEE Scholarship Application
- Fall Mission Study flyer

“... I now remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you...” II Timothy 1:6