



Agape Mission

West District United Methodist Women

Volume 1, Issue 2, Summer 2010

COLOSSIANS 1:3-6

Assembly, Assembly what an experience. I came away with United Methodist Women overload. If you think you know what UMW means or what we do, that is only the beginning. It is so expansive and touches so many lives in ways that are unimaginable. I came away with the fullness of the spirit of God and how thankful I am to be a part of United Methodist Women. I am so very thankful to have such wonderful United Methodist Women here in our West District who are so willing to give of themselves to support the "Purpose" of UMW and praise our Lord for this privilege to serve Him. I thank God for all of you.

What fantastic visitations I have had. You all have really opened my eyes on how diversified we are in fundraising and in helping in such different ways the needs in our communities. So for those that I have visited— Gobin, Freedom, Harmony, Seelyville, Fillmore, Lena, Arlington, Maple Ave., Ellettsville, Temple, Wayside, and Spencer— you all as United Methodist Women are very supportive and much appreciated by all that you do in service of our Savior. I thank God for all of you. And for the nine other units who I have scheduled

to visit this year, I am looking forward to the inspiration you depart to others also, and I thank God for all of you too. If your unit has not scheduled a visitation with me, please do so. I will be more than happy to meet you any time and any where, and I thank God for all of you also.

I hope everyone is excited about going to Red Bird Mission in October. I know I am. I was fortunate to meet Tim Crawford, Development Manager for Red Bird Mission, at Assembly in St. Louis. He is looking forward to telling us about the history and needs of their mission in the Appalachia area.

I have a DVD about Red Bird titled "Mission Appalachia". It is about 60 min. long. If you would like for me to come and show the DVD or mail it to you, just give me a call or e-mail. Also remember you can read more about Red Bird Mission in the book "Telling Our Stories" on page 86. Perhaps that will help in your decision about going to Red Bird. Lisa Kelley is our Trip Coordinator, and she has more information in this newsletter. So look it up, and I pray that you will sign up. I thank god for Red Bird Mission and Tim Crawford for all they do to serve. (cont'd on pg. 2)

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PURPOSE of United Methodist Women

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 the participation in the global ministries of the church.

COLOSSIANS 1:3-6 (Cont'd from pg. 1)

School of Christian Mission is just around the corner: July 13-16th for the Weekday and on the 17th for the Saturday Sampler. I do hope you will be able to go and take part in one of the schools at Anderson University in Anderson, Ind. I will be there, and I hope to see you

there too. I thank God for the School of Christian Mission and all they do to educate us spiritually.

Have a safe and exciting summer and enjoy the life that God has created for us!

Blessings,

Nancy Barnett

President West District
United Methodist Women
517 E 825 N
Bainbridge IN 46105
(765)522-1464

United Methodist Women "FAITH-HOPE-LOVE IN ACTION" Assembly 2010

Everyone signed this huge board



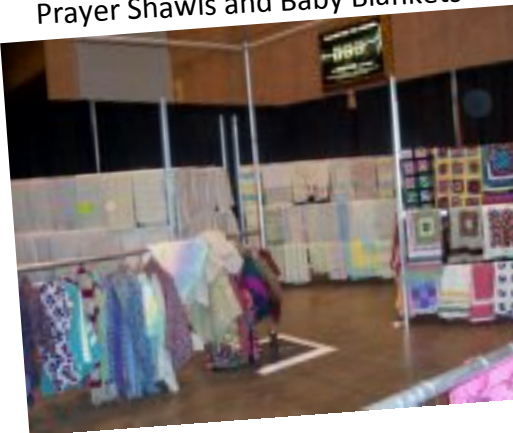
"Couture with a conscience"



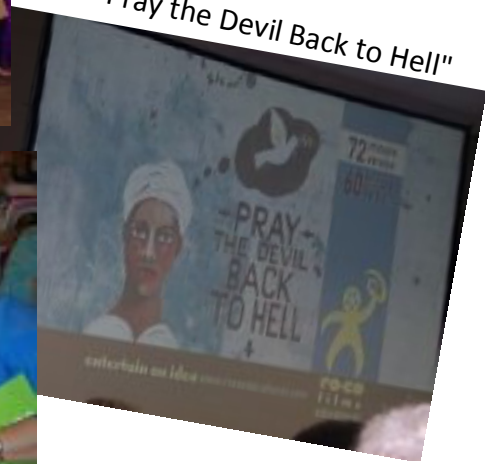
More Prayer Shawls



Prayer Shawls and Baby Blankets



"Pray the Devil Back to Hell"



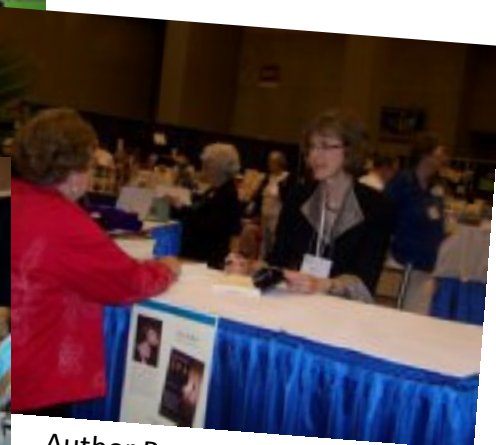
Nancy Barnett, Jean Rowings,
Kathy White, and Judy Foulke



Indiana Luncheon at Assembly



Author Rev. Lisa K. Sykes signing her book "Sacred Spark"



TREASURER'S TIPS

"Think about Mission Giving.... It Makes Missions Possible! This is the theme chosen at our conference financial meeting for all of us treasurers to help get across the message of how we reach others for the Lord by sharing the blessings He so richly bestows on us. Money is our most versatile possession. It can open a Christian daycare for underprivileged children, buy sewing machines and teach women how to use them so they can have a job, provide a shelter and Christian support for people working to get their lives back on track, provide milk for starving children of the world, and provide prayer shawls, baby blankets and knit caps for infants. God's guideline for us for how to handle our blessings of money is simple. As it says in 1 Timothy 6:18, "Command them to do good."

Thank you so much for the gen-

erosity you have already shown! At the first West District spring meeting several boxes of milk and bags of t-shirts were donated. Also a wonderful offering of \$437 was donated to the Kissy Milk Project in Africa. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

DO YOU KNIT? This summer at the School of Christian Mission we will be collecting knitted baby caps and blankets. I have the instructions for what you need to complete one or more of these projects. To get the information either by e-mail or mail just contact

me by using my information at the bottom of Treasurer's Tips.

Our West District mission trip to Red Bird still has a few places open for those of you wishing to attend. If this is not something you can attend but you would still like to participate, we are going to be taking school supplies with us for Red Bird to use in their school program. You can contact me or any of the West District officers and we will get more information to you.

Christine DeForest

West District Treasurer
Phone #(812)340-0520 cell
Phone #(812)825-7412
5523 S. Cardwell Road
Bloomington, IN 47403
cdeforest@bluemarble.net

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Greetings fellow UM Women,

Welcome to my first edition of the West District newsletter, Agape Mission. It's nothing fancy, but hopefully you'll get some good information about all the upcoming opportunities that abound within the United Methodist Women's organization.

My name is Denise Thede, and I am a member of Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church. I was born in Ohio and raised ELCA Lutheran. I graduated from the University of Toledo and met my husband, Scott Thede, there at college. He and I have been married for 16 years. I taught 7th and 8th grade middle school math while my husband got his Master's and PhD. After we moved to Greencastle, Indiana, for my husband to accept a job at DePauw University as a Computer Science professor, I worked through Manpower and was a secretary for the

Hamilton Center in Greencastle. Then we decided to start a family, and I decided to be a stay-at-home mom. Between taking care of my kids and being the Coordinator of Children's Ministries as well as helping in any way at Gobin, I became the busiest stay-at-home mom that didn't work for pay outside of the home.

I have two active boys: Michael is 8 and will be entering 3rd grade in the fall and Andrew is 6 and will be entering first grade. Wow!! They are growing up quickly!! They keep us busy with soccer in the fall and spring and with all their school activities.

Since last August when our previous church secretary was eventually found to have committed forgery and theft, I was asked to come on board as our Administrative Secretary. That has been a big adjustment for my family and me, and I have had to begin to say

"No" a lot more often.

I just got back from a 4-day trip to Fond du Lac, WI, where my a cappella barbershop quartet and chorus competed in the Area 4 Contest. It was a blast! The chorus earned 1st place and my quartet, well, we had fun and learned a lot. I LOVE music, and play piano (not as often as I'd like), love to sing, ring hand bells at Gobin, like to garden with flowers, and have kept very busy with coordinating activities with the children of Gobin.

Thanks for allowing me to communicate on behalf of the West District. I welcome any suggestions, comments, or ideas, and I hope to meet the rest of the West District team in the near future!!

Denise Thede

Communications Coordinator
denise.thede@gmail.com

THE BOOK NOOK

School is out and children are encouraged to keep reading over the summer. Are you and your unit keeping up with your reading program for 2010? When we have our Fall Gathering, September 11th at Crawfordsville First, school will be back in session, and we need to be ready to purchase new material for 2011. I'll be placing my order the week of August 2nd. If I can save you tax, and shipping and handling please let me know what I can order for you. Remember to think about Program Books to help with your lessons next year, Date-books, Prayer Calendars, Purpose posters, etc. Also some materials are available in Spanish and Korean. If you need this, please let me know.

At our last District Executive meeting Ellen Rhoades, our conference treasurer, recommended the new United Methodist Women's Bible for approximately \$22.95, saying that it is really nice. Hopefully I'll have some for you to purchase.

For the first time, there is a promotion for two special conference reading plans this year. Please check out elsewhere in the newsletter for information on this plan titled "2010 CELEBRATION READING PLANS." Sounds like a good way to get a lot of people involved.

I was truly blessed by receiving a scholarship for first time attendees to go to Assembly in St. Louis last April/May. One of the perks was being able to browse at the many books and material and meet some of the authors. It brings to our attention how much help is needed in so many ways but also lets you know how much has been accomplished.

Hopefully you will all remember when you work out your budget for the new year to include an allowance for new book purchases. There are four categories so picking one from each is ideal. Don't forget your cloth bags to carry them home.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your orders or any questions. Remember to contact me by August 2nd.

Peace and prayers.

Judy Foulke,

Secretary Program Resources

765-655-2300

cmmfoulke@aol.com

AND NOW . . . A REMINDER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Just a reminder that I need information about your unit and what they do for missions, what projects you do to raise money for either local, state, national or international missions, and how you help in nursing homes, child care facilities, schools, local food pantries, or whatever it is you do. It would be nice to have a picture too if you have one. I need this for School of Christian Mission. Each District President has been asked to have a display of what the district is doing for missions.

I do have a deadline for you to get them to me, and it is June 30th. That will give me time to make the display. I only have one in at this time, and I have heard from others, so I hope to hear from you soon.

Nancy Barnett

President

(765)522-1464

nbarnett@tds.net

**WEST DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2010 CALENDAR**

* denotes that registration is required

JULY

*Tues. 13– Fri. 16 School of Christian Mission Weekday
*Sat. 17th School of Christian Mission Sampler
Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana

AUGUST

Sat. 14th West District Executive Meeting 10:00am at Bainbridge UMC
Fri. 20– Sat. 21 Conference Executive Meeting, St Joseph Center, Tipton, IN

SEPTEMBER

Sat. 11th West District Fall Gathering 9:00am at Crawfordsville First UMC
Kaye Mykrantz, Indiana Conference Co-Lay Leader, will be the guest speaker

OCTOBER

Sat. 2nd West District Executive Meeting 10:00am at Bloomington Fairview UMC
*Fri. 8 Mission Day in Indy
*Sat. 9 UMC Annual Celebration at Castleton UMC, 10am-3pm
*Fri. 22– Sun. 24 Red Bird Mission Trip

NOVEMBER

Sat. 13th District Officers Training, Plainfield UMC

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER - SIGN UP NOW!!!

2010

School of Christian Mission

United Methodist Women of Indiana

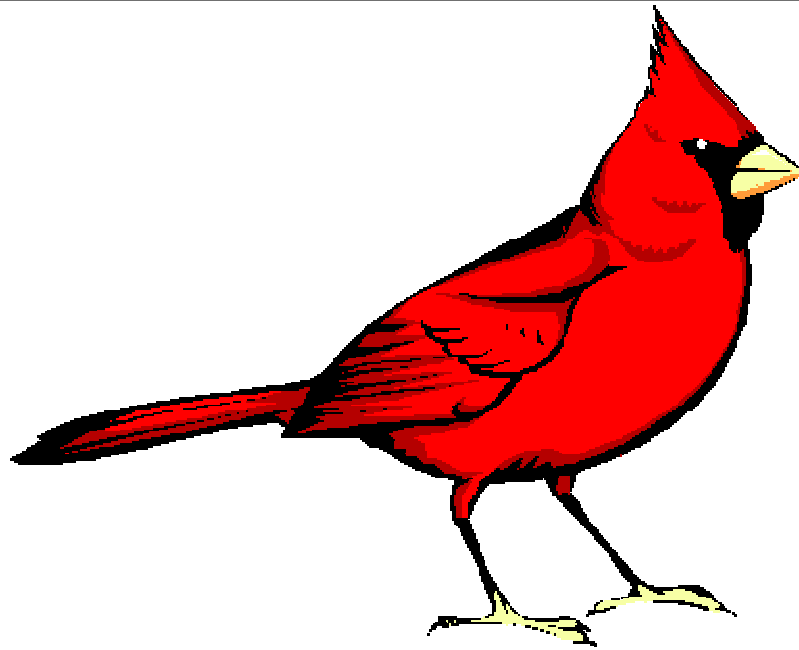
Weekday School, July 13-16, 2010

Sampler Event—Saturday, July 17

Anderson University, Anderson , IN

[Registration Form](#)

Come for Great Instructors -- Mission Education for all ages



Red Bird Mission Trip

We need 40 people to make this trip possible.

We have 10 spaces left.

Don't delay, reserve today.

Call Lisa Kelley at 812-829-5948 or bls1125@yahoo.com.

Dates: October 22-24th, 2010

Cost Per Person: \$130

(This includes lodging at the camp in dorm rooms,
six meals, bus fare, and the tour.)

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Hello all you lovely ladies and gents of the West. (I hear that flattery will get you everywhere.) I need your help!! In order for me to fill these newsletters, I need to hear from YOU about what great mission projects, worthy causes, meetings, or great ideas you have for me to brag about you and your UMW units. I'd love to feature your UMW unit with a great picture, a funny story, or something you'd really like to share with all the rest of us in the West District. Now, don't be shy. Just think of anything that you've done recently—a book you read together and loved, a mission project where you joined in with others to make lives better, etc. Share your joys, share your good news, or a field trip you've taken. I'd LOVE to hear all about it. And, beat the fall rush and send it soon to me at denise.thede@gmail.com.

Thanks, and have a wonderful day!!

Denise Thede

denise.thede@gmail.com

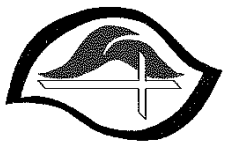
*Making Disciples for
Jesus Christ through
Mission Opportunities for
Youth and Young Adults*

❖ Youth and young adults receiving funds from the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund may be asked to share their experiences with units of United Methodist Women or the conference organization.

❖ Scholarship recipients' contact information may be obtained by contacting the Youth & Young Adult Scholarship Committee

Local units may contact youth to set up a time to share their story.

❖ The Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund is funded by the giving of each local unit of United Methodist Women.



2010

Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund Committee

Ellen Rhoades
6210 Ruby Circle West
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
260-432-7500
emr7962@comcast.net

Jeanie Park
2139 S 445 E
LaGrange, IN 46761
260-463-3525
jpark@embarqmail.com

Mary Duffy-Lewis
2815 Halifax Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46222-2240
317-924-3770
mary.duffy-lewis@shpcglobal.net

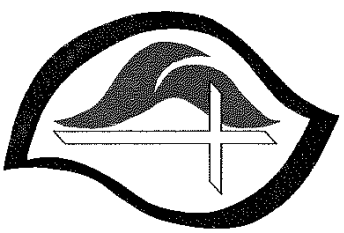
Mail applications to:
Ellen Rhoades
6210 Ruby Circle West
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Questions?
Contact: emr7962@comcast.net



**Youth & Young Adult
Service Scholarship Fund**

**United Methodist Women
Indiana Conference**



*Mission Scholarships
for Youth & Young Adults
A Project of United Methodist Women
of Indiana Conference*

Web site: <http://www.gbgn-umc.org/indumw>



Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarships

✦ Criteria for applying:

- ✦ *Youth & young adults ages 13-25*
- ✦ *Qualifying persons must participate in work, study, or travel experiences and develop leadership in the Youth & Young Adults Ministries of the United Methodist Church of the Indiana Conference*
- ✦ *Project must be supported by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, Conference Advance Specials, or other projects at the discretion of the Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund Committee*
- ✦ *Amount of scholarship shall be determined by the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Committee*



United Methodist Women
of Indiana Conference
<http://www.gbym-umc.org/indumw>

Application Form - Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarships

Individual's name or Group: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Name or Youth Leader's Name: _____

Group Leader's Phone: _____

Applicant's UM Church: _____

Church Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Church Phone Number: _____

Offices held in home UMC or UMYF: _____

Mission Project: _____ Cost: \$ _____

Sponsor: _____ Dates: _____

Location: _____

Project Objective/Work Goal: _____

A letter of reference from Youth Leader or local church pastor must accompany the application.
Interested applicants: Please type or print plainly the above application form. Mail completed form to the Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund Committee at the address on the reverse side of this form.

Form may be duplicated as needed or available online at: <http://www.gbym-umc.org/indumw>

AND NOW . . . A LITTLE BIT OF INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SECRETARY

My name is Carol Sweet, and I live in Greencastle where I am a member of Gobin Memorial U.M. Church. I'm originally from Minneapolis but have lived down here for quite some time now. We originally lived in Greenwood when my husband worked at the Indianapolis Airport then he was transferred to Terre Haute. I worked in Indy so we settled on Greencastle—about halfway between the two. I am now retired from the mortgage loan industry and take care of my husband who suffered a stroke in 2006. He is up and about but is unable to do much around the house like he used to do—plumbing, electrical, mechanic, carpenter and the list goes on however, I do not do these, I now have to hire them out. I have three children and one 14-year-old granddaughter. My son is married and lives in California where his wife is stationed in the Navy. My oldest lives in Indy and

has a job after being laid off for 6 months—for the 5th time. My other daughter and granddaughter live with us.

As for my “aspirations” with U.M.W., I just hope to do a good job as your secretary and that I will learn about U.M.W. and what it is all about. Even though I have been in a church circle for many years I really didn't know anything about U.M.W. except for what my mom would tell me about what her U.M.W. was doing at her church. I didn't even know that I could attend the unit meetings—I thought it was just for officers from the circles and the executive committee.

We are almost to the halfway point of our first year as the “West District” and we are surviving. I have published the directory of officers for all of the West District Units, so that is a big job that is complete. I do have one church that I know of

that I still need information from, but otherwise it is done—until corrections and changes need to be made. If you have an addition, correction, or change that you need made, please email me with the change to sweet1244@msn.com. Thanks!

Don't miss singing up for the trip to Red Bird Mission in October. Sounds like a great getaway.

If anyone in your unit wants to be included in receiving minutes and any other pertinent information I send out I would be more than happy to include them in my email list. Just send me their email address, and I will get them included.

Have a great summer!

Carol Sweet

Secretary
765-653-8674
sweet1244@msn.com

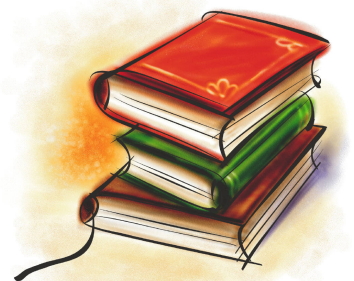
2010 CELEBRATION READING PLANS

In addition to the 4 Reading Plans designed by Women's Division, we will have two special conference plans for our first year:

READ TO ME – Over the course of the year, a woman reads to or with a child any 4 of the children's books on the eligible reading program lists. This could also be extended to reading to a church-run preschool, daycare or nursery school class or a Sunday School class. When you turn in the 2010 participants' Lists, give the name of the woman, her church and town, and the child's name plus the titles of the four books. If it is a class, give the woman's name, church and town, the information for the class, and the titles of the four books.

ONE CHURCH, ONE BOOK – As a church project choose a book from any of the eligible reading program lists and read together as a church. Be sure that the pastor is involved! Sunday school classes, small groups, and UMW circles could be invited to use the same book as a discussion starter. When you turn in the 2010 participants lists include the name of the church, town, pastor's name, local unit president's name, local unit secretary of program resources' name, and the title of the book plus any additional information about activities related to the “One Church, One Book” reading.

*How is
your UMW's
Reading Program
stacking up?*



SOCIAL ACTION : WOMEN OF WEST!

When our new President, Nancy Barnett suggested using this acronym for our new district, I really liked the thought of wonder women in the West District. Then we settled down to the process of inventing a “new” district , and formulating the vision. Yes some things will still remain the same. We are still governed by our Constitution and Bylaws. We still have offices to fill, programs to plan, and missions to enable. We constantly look to involve and include every woman that wants to serve in our local units, District, and Conference positions. We do not always know at the local level what each mission coordinator does. Sometimes with the changing of officers, we forget or overlook these duties and positions. It is not always possible for everyone to attend our training events, and I feel that, as a W.O.W., I sometimes must be reminded of my job duties and responsibilities. Maybe this will help...

What is a.....Mission Coordinator?

In each local unit there shall be persons designated to work as a team to develop programs of study and action in the mission areas of Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Education and Interpretation, and Membership Nurture and Outreach. ***In a unit operating with a minimum function or a basic structure, the Executive Committee shall assume and/or assign responsibilities for these areas of mission.*** In a unit operating with an expanded structure, persons may be elected especially to promote one or more of the areas of mission. Such persons are called MISSION COORDINATORS.

Each MISSION COORDINATOR shall work actively with the Executive Committee to fulfill the PURPOSE. She shall:

- a. assume responsibility for personal preparation related to her area of mission emphasis through study and training opportunities;
- b. promote and utilize the Reading Program, Response and New World Outlook magazines, the Prayer Calendar, the Program Book, and other printed or audiovisual resources from the Women's Division;
- c. maintain contact with the corresponding district mission coordinator;
- d. relate to the appropriate work area chairpersons and/or commissions of the Council on Ministries or alternative structure in the local church;
- e. serve on the Executive Committee and, where they exist, the Committees on Program and Finance. 1

1 <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/umw/about/organization/united-methodist-women-structure/local-officer-job-descriptions/>

✓ **In each unit a.....**

MISSION COORDINATOR FOR SOCIAL ACTION shall coordinate the unit's programs of study and action relating to current local, national, international and global social issues. She shall:

- a. work with the Executive Committee to select several priority social issues on which to focus local unit prayer, study and action, taking into consideration district and conference priorities;
- b. coordinate the public policy and legislative activities of the unit;
- c. promote and interpret the biblical basis for social action and the position of The United Methodist Church on social issues, utilizing the Social Principles (The Book of Discipline, 2004 , ¶¶160-166, and The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2004);
- d. cooperate with the work area on church and society or its equivalent;
- e. serve on the Executive Committee and, where they exist, the Committees on Program and Finance. 2

So now we know what my position as Social Action Coordinator is about, I have a question for you. How can I help your unit?

→ **W.O.W. District will come to present programs for you.**

→ **Action Alerts**

Involve your units through action alerts on key congressional legislation and public policies

(05/05/2010 In March, the House of Representatives passed House Resolution 1081, to affirm its support for awareness and prevention of teen dating violence.)

→ **Keeping you informed and involved**

(UMW Facebook) <http://www.facebook.com/UMWomen>

(United Methodist Women) <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw>

(Indiana Conference) <http://inumc.org>

(Womens Division On line) <http://umwonline.net>

Let's define what the wow factor *is* in the W.O.W.! I want to be part of it, don't you?

Patricia Cosby-Wilkins

Social Action

525 South Fourth Street

Clinton, In. 47842

(765-832-8225)

pwilkins01@hotmail.com

2 <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/about/organization/united-methodist-women-structure/local-officer-job-descriptions/>



**West District
United Methodist Women
Fall Gathering
September 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.**

**Crawfordsville First UMC
212 E Wabash Ave
Crawfordsville, IN**

**Kaye Mykrantz,
Indiana Conference Co-Lay Leader, will be
the guest speaker**

***We request every participant bring
Powdered Milk, T-Shirts of Any Size, or Shoes
for the Kissy Clinic***

**Summer 2010
Volume 1, Issue 2**

Agape Mission is a quarterly
publication of the
United Methodist Women
of West District.



Gobin Memorial UMC
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