



*Sangamon River District*

# *HI LITES*

*August 2017 Volume XXV I I Issue 3*



**President – Carol Sims**  
**217-899-2880 [csims@igrc.org](mailto:csims@igrc.org)**

I thank God for UMW!

I'm just back from the Mission u experience and 10 days prior to that a mission trip to Liberia. I'm tired. But I'm thrilled by what we are doing here and around the world. The world needs God and God needs all of us to spread the word, the faith, the actions and love to all we encounter. We are our Lord's hands and feet on this Earth. So whether it's by our presence, or our cards, our checks, our prayers; individually or as units, we CAN and DO make a difference.

Mission u was a wonderful, uplifting experience. If you have not participated in Mission u, please add it to your calendar for next year. It is a mission immersion as you attend two classes; one as a large group spiritual study, and the other by choice between a geographic study or a social action study. Women gather from all over the conference and it's awesome!

Speaking of gathering from all over the conference, the IGRC UMW annual meeting will be on Saturday, October 7, at Springfield First UMC. Bishop Beard will be the keynote speaker and you will not be disappointed. We are once again blessed to have a good speaker and strong supporter of UMW in the Bishop's office.

September 20 will be our Fall Gathering as a district. Please plan on attending. We will gather at 9:00 and begin our program around 9:30. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Mary Alice Cunningham, now the pastor at the Maroa UMC. Mary Alice is a woman of many talents and I believe that you will be blessed by her message. We will be meeting at the recently remodeled Chatham UMC. At the conclusion of our meeting, we will have an optional lunch with a variety of soups for you to enjoy. Homemade soup seems most appropriate in the Fall and we can all use new recipes for our collection. Stay around and enjoy. A donation basket will be available and proceeds will go into our district mission fund.

During this September 20 meeting, we have our time of remembrance in a brief Memorial Service for those UMW members who have passed since last September's gathering. Please submit any names from your unit to me by September 5 if possible. My e-mail is [csims@igrc.org](mailto:csims@igrc.org) or my home address is 2316 Makemie, Springfield IL 62704. Thank you!

Blessings on you and all you do!

.....Carol

**Calling all United Methodist Women!**

**Sangamon River District**

**Fall Gathering:**

**SEPTEMBER 20**

**At the Chatham UMC**

**9-12:00**

*Keynote Speaker: Rev. Mary Alice Cunningham from Maroa UMC*

*Memorial Service remembering all our members who have passed on from life to  
Life since last September.*

*Election and installation of new District Officers.*

*Report updates from our Children's Agencies.*

*Bring your gifts for CCA and LBDNA.*

*Optional soup luncheon and shared recipes.*

*All are Welcome!*





**Social Action – Virginia McQuiston**  
**217-877-2217 tvmcq83@comcast.net**

When I was a child, my grandmother gave me a bookmark with this saying: A wise old owl sat in an oak. The more he saw, the less he spoke. The less he spoke, the more he heard. Now wasn't he a wise old bird.

Although my friends now won't believe it, but this saying contributed to my being a quiet, more reserved young woman. I've changed. Now I strongly believe that, yes, we should listen, but it is also a time to speak out, and to speak loudly.

Have you contacted your Illinois congressman or woman regarding the school funding issue? Do so! This is too important for you to keep silent. Although you and I don't have all the information, we can express the urgency to work toward resolution. And these persons do listen. I called my representative to thank him the day after he broke rank and voted to pass the budget. Later that day, he called me back to thank me for thanking him! They need positive reinforcement for encouragement in difficult times. (Should this have passed by the time you get this, please be sure to call and thank for their hard work on a difficult issue.)

On the national level, Bread for the World is urging us to contact our senators and representatives to oppose budget cuts to critical programs that can

help end hunger including SNAP, Medicaid, and international development. Hungry people at home and abroad need nourishment in order to become self-sufficient. (See [www.hungerreport.org](http://www.hungerreport.org))

Decatur's newspaper, August 10, reports on the scarcity of Section 8 housing which provides an opportunity for low income working people to find affordable housing. President Trump's budget proposal would cut \$7 billion from the \$48 billion HUD budget. This includes a cut of about \$1 billion to Section 8 nationwide. Is this a good decision at a time when the income of the top 5% of the population has increased 49% while that of the bottom 20% has decreased 12%?

President Trump has also proposed a repeal of the Johnson Amendment – a law that prohibits churches from endorsing or opposing a political candidate at the risk of losing their tax exempt status. Please research this further and make that phone call requesting that this NOT be repealed.

“What does the Lord require of you: to be fair and just and merciful and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8. (Please share this with your unit! There is much work to be done.)

.....*Peace and blessings, Virginia McQuiston*



**Secretary – Barbara Norem**  
**217-454-8091 mnorem2@comcast.net**

**(see attached form for local unit officers to be submitted by September 20th)**



**Program Resources – Ruth Johnston**  
**217-825-5533 rkjohnston2@comcast.net**

Scriptural Base for Reading Program Proverbs 8:11 – The Gift of Wisdom  
*“.....for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.”*

2018 Reading Program Lists will be available at the Fall Meeting in Chatham. ....Ruth



**Chairperson of Nominations – Leanne Roseberry**  
**217-585-8279 leanneroseberry@comcast.net**

The Nominations Committee needs your help! We are looking for women to serve the following positions on the District Executive Team: President, Vice President, Communications, one Cunningham Children's Home Rep, and 4 people to serve on Nominations. I ask you to prayerfully consider this opportunity. If you are interested, or have a suggestion, please let me know. Remember, we are women called to put our faith, hope, and love into ACTION! .....Leanne



**Treasurer – Joanne Randolph**  
**309-287-8428 joannetracylong@gmail.com**

Tickets available at the Fall Meeting for the Conference Annual Gathering at Springfield First UMC on October 7.

The Pledge Form for 2018 is below. Fill out, tear off, bring to the district meeting, leave it at the altar, or mail it to me. (13758 Whitetail Court, Bloomington, IL 61705)

Thank you, Joanne

.....

The \_\_\_\_\_ unit of the Sangamon River District United Methodist Women pledge for 2018 is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# Local Officers for Sangamon River District

## For 2018

Name of Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
President: e-mail:		
Vice President: e-mail:		
Secretary: e-mail:		
Treasurer: e-mail:		
Spiritual Growth: e-mail:		
Social Action: e-mail:		
Education & Interp: e-mail:		
Membership N&O: e-mail:		
Sec. of Program Resources: e-mail:		
Nominations Chair: e-mail address:		
Nominations: e-mail address:		
Nominations: e-mail address:		
Nominations: e-mail address:		

Please send the list of new officers by the September district meeting to:

Barbara Norem  
 mnorem2@comcast.net  
 3420 S. Marilyn Dr.  
 Decatur, IL 62521



**Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood Reps.**  
**Linda Schneider 217-735-3756 [sitnknit@comcast.net](mailto:sitnknit@comcast.net)**  
**Jeanne` Sims 217-498-7187 [pjsims@comcast.net](mailto:pjsims@comcast.net)**

The Annual Back to School Celebration is planned for August 19<sup>th</sup> at the East St Louis Family Development Center. This year they will have a "Main" stage with several groups performing, including youth that have been involved in the summer programs. There will be food, games, dental exams and lots of vendors.

The children and youth attended their last day of Summer Programming at Neighborhood House on July 28. The last several years the Teen REACH programs have not been offered at the 1200 N. 13<sup>th</sup> St. location. However, this year, with the renovation to the basement, they had about 50 children and youth attending each weekday.

Last week the Senior Circle Café celebrated its One Year Anniversary! Last year they were facing financial obstacles at Neighborhood House. They were forced to close several programs because of the Budget Impasse with the state of Illinois. So they were thrilled when they were asked to implement the congregate meal program for seniors. This program is for seniors (60 years and older). They can have breakfast and/or lunch each weekday. Most days the staff and volunteers provide activities between the two meals including exercise, bible study and games.

Items requested to be brought to Fall Meeting are diapers (sizes 4-5-6) wipes and blue ballpoint pens.

*Jeanne` Sims and Linda Schneider  
District Representatives*



## **CUNNINGHAM CHILDREN'S HOME REPS**

**Helen Kershaw 217-875-0818**

**[kershaw@ameritech.net](mailto:kershaw@ameritech.net)**

**Cinda Pringle 217-468-2265**

**[Cjp7685\\_2002@yahoo.com](mailto:Cjp7685_2002@yahoo.com)**

Hope Begins Here!!

We are so excited the New ERC building will have a ground breaking ceremony on Aug 20th at 3 pm. All are invited. Please continue the prayers and financial support for this ministry as they move forward to meet the needs of these kids entrusted in their care.

The **Annual Festival of Quilts** is scheduled for April 13-14, 2018.

Love gifts suggested to be brought to Fall District meeting are men's white ankle socks and gift cards, box top labels, and the most sought after gift cards are Amazon, Walmart, Dollar Store, Target, T J Max and McDonalds.

If you have not had or it has been a while since you've had a program on Cunningham, please reach out to your District Representatives. We would love to come visit your units or church to present our story.

.....*Helen Kershaw and Cinda Pringle, Sangamon River District Cunningham Reps*

**BALLOT**

**2018 SANGAMON RIVER DISTRICT OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

\_\_\_\_\_

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ruth Johnston  
Springfield, IL  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CUNNINGHAM REP.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Cinda Pringle  
Oreana, IL  
\_\_\_\_\_

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

\_\_\_\_\_

**COMMUNICATIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_

**LESSIE BATES DAVIS**

**REPRESENTATIVES**

Linda Schneider  
Lincoln, IL  
Jeanne Sims  
Rochester, IL

**SECRETARY**

\_\_\_\_\_ Barbara Norem  
Decatur, IL  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHAIRPERSON OF NOMINATIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Joan Lawrence  
Taylorville, IL

**TREASURER**

\_\_\_\_\_ Joanne Randolph  
Bloomington, IL  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lena Banks (2018)

Taylorville, IL

\_\_\_\_\_ Gloria Jones (2018)

Taylorville, IL

\_\_\_\_\_ Pam Dufour (2019)

Auburn, IL

\_\_\_\_\_ Joan Lawrence (2019)

Taylorville, IL

\_\_\_\_\_ (2020)

\_\_\_\_\_ (2020)

\_\_\_\_\_ (2021)

\_\_\_\_\_ (2021)

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

\_\_\_\_\_ Carol Sims  
Springfield, IL

**EDUCATION & INTERP.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Pat Howard  
Illioopolis, IL  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH**

\_\_\_\_\_ Leanne Roseberry  
Springfield, IL

**SOCIAL ACTION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Renee Myers  
Blue Mound, IL

Ruth Johnston, Dist. UMW Newsletter  
Chatham United Methodist Church  
104 W. Chestnut St.  
Chatham, IL 62629

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**Sangamon River District**  
**UMW**  
**2017 - 2018**

**Fall Gathering:** September 20  
*At the Chatham UMC 9-12:00*

**Conference Annual Gathering:** October 7  
*At the Springfield First UMC*

**Conference Spiritual Growth Seminar:** February 23-24  
*At the Chatham UMC*

(stay connected: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org))