

UCC WOMEN OF MICHIGAN

AN INVITATION TO FALL GATHERING



SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2025

Friday evening thru Sunday morning

Theme: "Be Still and Know That I Am"

Scriptures: Exodus 14:14; Zephaniah 3:17; Luke 10:41-42

JOIN US FOR OUR CONTINUING ADVENTURE!

We are excited to announce

The 2025 Fall Gathering will be held again this year at

The Lake Huron Retreat Center Located at 8794 Lakeshore Rd, Burtchville Twp, MI

Register For The Gathering 2025



Our Keynoter Is Sharon Hiller

Sharon Sue Hiller is a spiritual person. She lives with her husband in Rochester, Michigan. She has two married children and five grandchildren. Singing music that honors God is her passion. She enjoys painting, traveling, one-on-one conversations with others, and serving God in various ways. She is a retired educator, Stephen minister, and life coach. God spoke to her in her quiet time, some of these writings were included in her book "Come Live Love" by Emmanuel Lord/Sharon Hiller.

Registration Brochure Is Available!

Please watch your email, check on the UCC Women of MI Facebook page, or the MI Conference UCC e-newsletter & website.



Co-Chair: April Reh

586-291-8827

a.rehofcolor@gmail.com

Penny Lowes

248-762-5551

revpen73@gmail.com

Registrar: Shari Hoppe

614-403-2364

sfhoppe@gmail.com

!! REGISTRATION DUE BY — FINAL June 25th !!
— *EARLY BIRD Discount (-\$20) by May 30th for Full-time Attendees only* —

Please complete this entire form and mail with a check or money order for the *full registration fee you select below*—
make check payable to UCC Women of Michigan to: **Shari Hoppe, 708 Clark Xing SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506-3300**

Name (as you want it to appear on your nametag) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____ Email _____

Handicap access needed? _____ Diet allergy-other (need to request ahead of time) _____

Are you a clergywoman? (\$25.00 discount) _____ Are you a first time attendee? _____ Home Church _____

Roommates— Preferred that Registrations forms/checks be sent in the same envelope _____

_____ or provided to Registrar prior to June 25th.

***Single registrants will be included with other women in available rooms.*

_____ *Night Owl* _____ *Early Bird (check)*

PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE OF ACCOMMODATIONS

Rooms are limited, assignments will be done to accommodate as many choices as possible.

Full Time— September 5-7 2025 – 2 nights, 5 meals

4/ room	3/room	2/room
\$210 /person	\$230 /person	\$250 /person
<i>\$190 /person</i>	<i>\$210 /person</i>	<i>\$230 /person</i>

****EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT FOR FULL-TIME ATTENDEES ONLY (-\$20)**

_____ Raglan Lodge —[8] Standard rooms (4 twin beds, private bath

_____ Littleton Lodge - [13] Standard rooms — (1 queen bed, 2 twin beds, private bath)

[Single room— please contact Registrar directly for availability and registration fee]

----- **One-day Only Saturday 9/7/25:** (all day, includes all programing and meals B L D) **\$125.00/single day (no discount)**

****Financial assistance may be available from your local church, Association, or the UCC Women of Michigan
(contact **Pres. Susan Grant** (adonaldgrant73@gmail.com) for financial assistance information).**

SOLO choices— Please number your choices 1, 2, and 3. See full descriptions in Brochure page #5. (*1st come/1st serve*)

Additional activities may be added as registrations are received & noted in informational packet sent to registrants.

Morning Session

_____ Chat with the Keynote Speaker — Sharon Hiller
_____ Coffee From Around the World! -Simone Campau
_____ Gentle Chair Yoga — Penny Lowes
_____ Essential Oils Today & in Biblical Times —
Liz Reamulto Dobie and April Reh
_____ Quiet Room Available — Diane Baker
_____ TIME ALONE WITH GOD

Afternoon Session

_____ Church Chat & Networking — Cynthia Harmon
_____ Contemplative Prayer & Meditation — Kris Abbe
_____ Introduction to Mah Jong! — Susan Grant
_____ Rock Painting — Penny Lowes
_____ Quiet Room Available — Diane Baker
_____ TIME ALONE WITH GOD

**In case of emergencies, requests for a refund must be
made by June 25, 2025 -- directly to:**

Shari Hoppe —Registrar
708 Clark Xing SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506-3300
(614)403-2364 or sfhoppe@gmail.com

**Registration Brochure available on the Michigan
Conference UCC Website at: www.michucc.org/**

***Join us for an uplifting time with Old Friends and
the opportunity to welcome New Friends!***

ABOUT THE GATHERING

The GATHERING is a weekend of retreat, renewal, relaxation, and recharging. It is a time to greet old friends and make new ones. There will be Friday evening entertainment and vespers. Saturday's activities give you many opportunities to either stay busy or simply enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Lake Huron Retreat Center. Sunday offers a very meaningful worship service. And of course, we will have our Annual Business Meeting somewhere in all the activity. Lake Huron Retreat Center is located on the shores of Lake Huron. The accommodations are comfortable and the food is scrumptious and abundant. In short, it's your weekend. Come and enjoy!!

LOOK WHAT WE HAVE FOR YOU!

- ***Flamboyant Fashion Strut Saturday Evening Just for fun!*** Last year we had a resale shop fashion show. This year we are encouraging ladies to dress *flamboyantly* for dinner and then participate in the *Flamboyant Fashion Strut* in the chapel prior to the Saturday evening program with Amy. Flamboyant means ostentatious, exuberant, vibrant, vivacious, extravagant, showy, shwash buckling, dashing. In other words: FUN! Dress as you want to dress and make it as wild as you like! Maybe a favorite Halloween costume, favorite activity clothing such as fishing, riding your motorcycle, favorite resale shop find or an exotic dress, etc. **Whatever - you decide! Just have fun with it.**
- There will be clergy women available all weekend if you have a care or concern you would like to discuss privately with one of them.
- The **Worship offering** is taken on Saturday afternoon. Half is donated to a cause yet to be determined and half is retained by the UCC Women.
- The **Silent Auction** is a fun and useful fund-raiser to help offset the overhead costs of the Gathering. Please bring one new or gently used item to place in the auction. And then plan on bidding on several special items! Cash and checks to UCC Women accepted.
- *Please do not bring any food or other items that are perishable or that needs refrigeration.*
- We will be participating in collecting non-perishable food items for the Lake Huron retreat Center charitable project.
- Enjoy the opportunity to order special bread goods offered by the staff at Lake Huron Retreat Center in support of the special programs for

REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR 2025 GATHERING

NEW THIS YEAR, we are offering an **"Early Bird"** option for **full-time attendees**

Please see the attached registration form.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSING ON MAY 30TH — FINAL REGISTRATION CLOSING ON JUNE 25th!

For the 2025 Gathering we are requiring the full registration fee to be mailed in with the Registration form. As noted, please include the names and Registration/checks for everyone who are rooming together.

The Registrar cannot accept any registrations after June 25, 2025

Lk Huron Retreat Center needs a definite count of participants at least 2 months before the event.

If you register before June 25th but need to cancel due to an emergency only, it may be possible to receive a refund up to June 25th.

Any questions, please contact Registrar Shari Hoppe directly asap

at 614-403-2364 OR sfhoppe@gmail.com

2025 UCC WOMEN'S GATHERING — DAILY SCHEDULE

Friday, September 5

3 p.m. Registration and Check-in begins in Littleton Lodge Foyer — Shari Hoppe

Pick up folder—Room assignments, pick-up keys

3:45p.m. First-Timers meeting—Littleton Lodge fireside area — Nancy Fay

4-5p.m. Explore the Lake Huron Retreat Center facility

Drop off Silent Auction Items and fill out form.—Vita Green

5:30 p.m. Dinner: Please be prompt!

7:00 p.m. Gather in Chapel: Nancy Fay led sing-a-long

Introductions and house keeping: April Reh, Penny Lowes,

April Reh — Jeopardy Game

8:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker introduction—Sharon Hiller

Choir for Worship Info.

8:15 p.m. Vespers & Welcome of First Timers

9:00 p.m. Free time/Red Tent

And/or games, puzzles, campfire?

Saturday, September 6

7:30 a.m. Morning Watch

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Keynote - Sharon Hiller

10:30-11:30 a.m. **SOLO** (*Seek Out Laughter, Lake, Learning Opportunities*)

Guided Activities or free time

12:00 pm **Noon Lunch**

1:00 p.m. Gather in Chapel: Nancy Fay sing-a-long

Business Meeting: Susan Grant, President & Team Members

"Dreaming—past, present, future"

2:30-3:30 p.m. **SOLO** (*Seek Out Laughter, Lake, Learning Opportunities*) **Guided Activities or free time**

3:30-5:30 **SOLO** **On your own/ Choir Rehearsal**

Games, walk the camp, puzzles, Manicure Center, take a nap

5:45 Dinner (**Flamboyant Fashion**)

7 p.m. Gather in Chapel- Evening Activity

Flamboyant Fashion Strut

"Touring with Amy Buse"

8:30 p.m. Vespers & Service of Remembrance

9:00 p.m. Free Time/ Red Tent And/or games, puzzles, campfire?

Sunday, September 7

7:30 a.m. Morning Watch

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9-10 a.m. Pack up and sign out of rooms — *Turn in Room Keys by 10am!*

10:00 a.m. Gather in Chapel

Closing Words: Susan, April, Penny

10:15 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Depart for home. Lunch on your own.



**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 2025 GATHERING — HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME —
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2026!**



ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sharon Hiller



Our keynote speaker this weekend is Sharon Sue Hiller. Sharon grew up in a loving Christian family, going to Sunday School and First Congregational Church in New Baltimore regularly. When her children were small, she started a deeper walk with God reading the scriptures and praying from the heart. Prayer partners and Fourth Day Emmaus

Reunion groups provided spiritual support for her. She continued to learn through book and Bible studies, learning the most as she leads. She has journaled for many years and started writing what God told her in her quiet time around the year 2010. Some of these writings were included in Come Live Love by Emmanuel Lord.

Singing is Sharon's passion which has led her to be a part of church choirs, Praise Teams, singing solos to praise the Lord, and singing in nursing homes. In quiet times, she has heard a couple songs that she has written down and sung at church.

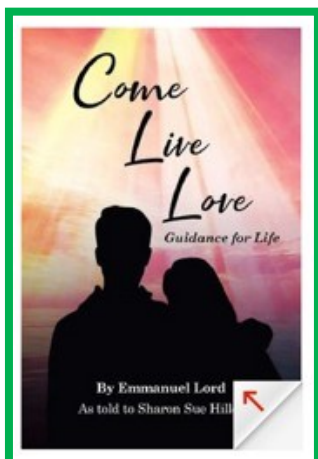
Caring for others, Sharon is a volunteer at Rochester Area Neighborhood House, she helps those who are less fortunate to get registered for food and clothing. She is a Stephen Minister at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. She is a trained life coach through Whole Life Healing Center.

Professionally, Sharon is a retired educator who was an elementary music teacher, elementary classroom teacher, and elementary principal in Anchor Bay Schools. She was a curriculum director at Richmond Community Schools. Her last assignment was as the Director of School and Field Services at Oakland University where she supported students learning to be teachers and their supervisors.

Sharon lives with her husband, John, in Rochester, Michigan. They have two married children and five grandchildren. She enjoys painting, traveling, one-on-one conversations with others, and serving God in various ways.

Overview

Have you ever wondered what God is trying to tell you? Do you get quiet enough to listen? This book is a compilation of thoughts that came during quiet times over a period of three years. They help to explain some things in the world; to show a better way of living; to extend love and grace; and to bring people into relationship, peace, and joy. It is an intimate time of Emmanuel Lord speaking to all who will listen. May you ponder these words and share them with others. Come! Live! Love!



AM SOLOS

Seek Out Learning Opportunities (a.k.a. workshops)

Scripture References: Exodus 14: 4, Zephaniah 3:17, Luke 10:41-42

1. **Chat with the Keynote Speaker** — Leader: Sharon Hiller
Meet with Sharon Hiller following her keynote address and continued discussion of her book.
No limit.
2. **Coffee From Around the World!** — Leader: Simone Campau
Explore and sample a variety of coffees from around the world. Learn of their special features and characteristics. Learn how to make a better pot!
Materials fee: \$5
Class limit: 10-12
3. **Gentle Chair Yoga** — Leader: Penny Lowes
Gentle stretches for mature women. No experience necessary.
Wear comfortable clothing.
Class Limit: 15-20
4. **Essential Oils Today & in Biblical Times—**
Leaders: Lis Reamulto Dobie and April Reh
Discover historical essential oils from the Bible. What are their special properties? Are any of these still used today?
Materials fee: \$5
Class limit: 10-12
5. **Quiet Room Available** — Leader: Diane Baker
Self guided instructions included.
6. **TIME ALONE WITH GOD**

Flamboyant Fashion Strut Saturday Evening Just for fun!

Last year we had a resale shop fashion show. This year we are encouraging ladies to dress *flamboyantly* for dinner and then participate in the **Flamboyant Fashion Strut** in the chapel prior to the Saturday evening program with Amy.

Flamboyant means ostentatious, exuberant, vibrant, vivacious, extravagant, showy, shwash buckling, dashing. In other words: FUN! Dress as you want to dress and make it as wild as you like! Maybe a favorite Halloween costume, favorite activity clothing such as fishing, riding your

PM SOLOS

Seek Out Learning Opportunities (a.k.a. workshops)

Scripture References: Exodus 14: 4, Zephaniah 3:17, Luke 10:41-42

1. **Church Chat & Networking** — Leader: Cynthia Harmon
A time of positive sharing about our respective churches activities, celebrations, ideas for overcoming challenges, and general sharing about our beloved churches!
No limit.
2. **Contemplative Prayer and Meditation** — Leader: Kris Abbe
A time of guided learning for meaningful prayer and meditation techniques.
3. **Introduction to Mah Jongg!** — Leader: Susan Grant
Participants will learn the basics to playing Mah Jongg and will actually play as many games as possible.
Class Limit: 20-25
4. **Rock Painting** — Leader: Penny Lowes
Choose a rock from the Huron Shore to paint and take home as a special memento to beautify your garden or serve as a paper weight. Paints and instructions provided. No experience necessary!
Materials fee: \$5 per person
Class limit: 12- 15
5. **Quiet Room Available** — Leader: Diane Baker
Self guided instructions included.
6. **TIME ALONE WITH GOD**



UCC WOMEN OF MICHIGAN LEADERSHIP

President— Susan H. Grant

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First Vice-President— Nancy Fay

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Treasurer — Shari Hoppe (2025 Registrar)

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