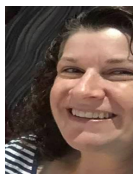




Middletown Newsletter

JAN/FEB 2022

Program Note: Members will be sent a Zoom invitation through emails. Non-members who wish to join the Zoom meetings should contact Mel Worbis at worbismm@gmail.com to receive the link.



Diversity in the Workplace

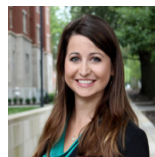
Monday, January 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual presentation on Zoom

Rev. Carrie Kreps Wegenast (she/her) is an ordained clergywoman in The United Methodist Church. After serving local churches for ten years, she answered a classified ad for a manufacturing chaplain’s job with Tyson Foods. She figured the best way to learn what this was would be to apply and interview. She got the job. Exchanging a robe and stole for steel toed boots, Chaplain Carrie provides the emotional, mental, and spiritual care to over 800 team members. Her work includes walking through the manufacturing plant, and also she greets and counsels team members in the breakroom or her office. She provides resources fro barriers to employment, such as transportation, housing, child care, health or mental health. Her plant’s workforce includes people from cities and rural communities, people ages 18 to mid-70s, people from a dozen countries, and people speaking American sign language, Arabic, Congolese, English, French, Hmong, and a variety of Spanish dialects.

While a Christian by birth and practice, Chaplain Carrie encourages team members to use their own spiritual values to navigate their current crisis. In addition to her ministry in the plant, Chaplain Carrie serves on several area Boards addressing concerns that impact the workforce. She is a mom (to Marti Kreps’s grandchildren), wife to a pastor from Germany, and long distance runner. She is currently working on a doctor of ministry degree in Interfaith Chaplaincy.

Adjusting to Change

Saturday, February 12, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Virtual presentation on Zoom.



Tamika Tompoulidis is a Public Speaking Adjunct Professor at the University of Kentucky. In her role as a career and personal development counselor, she offers services including interview preparation, leadership development, resume writing, and team building. In her current position, she counsels over 500 students in personal and career development.

Tamika is a former kindergarten student of Chris Buchert and a former high school student of Debbie Worbis. Also, she is the niece of branch member Maria Langendorf. We enjoyed her presentation last year about “Checking Perceptions Before Making Conclusions.”

We are pleased that Tamika has agreed to speak to our branch again. We all experience change as we enter each stage of our lives. We have had to make many changes in our lives over the months of the pandemic. We have invited Tamika to share thoughts about adjusting to changes in our daily lives, and understanding and accepting how different personalities deal with change.

Calendar of Events

PENS group Jan. 6, and 20, Feb. 3, and 17: 1pm: Meet in study room #110 at Gardner Harvey Library (GHL) on the Middletown Campus of Miami University.

Monday, January 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Topic: Diversity in the Workplac
Carrie Kreps Wegenast will discuss her work as a chaplain to a diverse workforce. She is a spiritual resource for diverse cultural groups including Hmong, Muslim, and Buddhist. Virtual presentation on Zoom
Board meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m. Connect on Zoom for the meeting.

Joy Luck Book Club: Thursday, Jan. 21, 7pm

Saturday, February 12, 2022, 10:00 a.m

Topic: Adjusting to Change
Tamika Tompoulidis, Career Counselor, Public Speaker, and Instructor at University of Kentucky, will share thoughts about adjusting to changes in our daily lives, and understanding and accepting how different personalities deal with change. Virtual presentation on Zoom

Board meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. Connect on Zoom for the meeting.

Joy Luck Book Club: Thursday, Feb. 18, 7pm

Note for 2021-2022 programs: Due to the continued concern with the COVID19 virus please keep up to date with any possible changes in our programming venues. Also, be prepared to wear masks during meetings, in certain locations, it is currently required for everyone to wear masks. Each month's newsletter and reminder event emails will provide the latest updates on changes to our meetings or mask requirements.

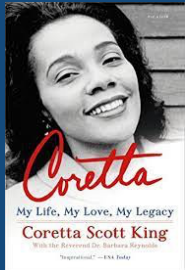
Joy Luck Book Club

Thursday, January 20 at 7:00 pm

My Life, My Love, My Legacy

Coretta Scott King

Need host



American author, activist, civil rights leader and Antioch College alumna, Coretta Scott King played a fascinating part in history and the life of her husband, Rev. Dr.

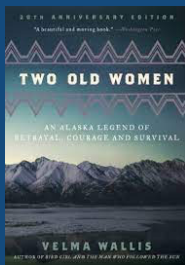
Martin Luther King, Jr. Her book is a love story, family saga and the memoir of an extraordinary black woman in twentieth-century America. It was named a Washington Post Book to Read, a New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice and USA Today "New and Noteworthy" Pick.

Thursday, February 17 at 7:00 pm

Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival

Velma Wallis

Need host



Based on an Athabascan Indian legend passed along for generations from mothers to daughters of the upper Yukon River Valley in Alaska,

this brief, best-selling novel is the suspenseful, shocking, ultimately inspirational tale of two old women abandoned by their tribe during a brutal winter famine.

Both selections are available at libraries and in paperback. They tie in to MLK Day, Black History Month and winter in general, and provide access to diverse viewpoints.

Mel Worbis worbismm@gmail.com Middletown Branch President's Letter

Hello everyone, I hope you had a great Holiday time and have had a chance to put together some items away for the next Holiday bazaar or the spring garage sale. Our next meeting is Monday, Dec. 10, 2022, at 7pm. Our February meeting is also a Zoom meeting. That meeting will be on Saturday, Feb. 12, 22, at 10am. A separate email will be sent out to members for the zoom link.

Thank you again to Jan Runkle for the information on finding ways to invest and how to work to create a nest egg for one's retirement and just to have savings available. Thank you to Becky and Chris for helping to run the meeting. I have been sick off and on and I just found out I have a kidney stone that will be blasted and hopefully removed in the month of January. Our hostess chairperson, Mary Millard is looking for some individuals to help with refreshments for the March and April meetings. Please reach out to her if you would be willing to help!

Nominating committee to be formed anyone willing and able to help, please reach out to me to let me know your willingness to help or to take on one of the roles of officers and committee chairs.

The Board meeting will be on Zoom, on Jan. 18, at 7:30pm and Feb. 15, at 7:30pm. Articles for March are due on Friday, Feb. 18, 2022.

Thank you,
Mel Worbis

worbismm@gmail.com

AAUW SALES

As you know, the 2021 Holiday Bazaar was successful. NOW IS THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE 2022 HOLIDAY BAZAAR!! As you are decorating and preparing for this new year, and work on putting away holiday décor, PLEASE get a box, label it AAUW Holiday Bazaar and set aside NOW the items you no long desire, use or want. We love having decorations for all the holidays not just the Christmas season so keep this in mind for the year. This will make it much easier next November when it is time for the 2022 Holiday Bazaar. PLEASE ALSO NOTE, the SPRING GARAGE SALE will be June 10 & 11 AND June 17 & 18.

[stay connected](#)

aauw.org

aauwoh.org

middletown-oh.aauw.net

Named gifts

Jackie Lankfer and Kristen Mulligan are our Named gift recipients this year. \$2000 was sent to the National AAUW Greatest Needs Fund in their honor.

Jackie has been a dedicated member. She served as Program Vice President, Membership Vice President and Finance Officer. She has worked tirelessly preparing for book sales, garage sales and holiday bazaars. She even comes right in to help after each trip to Michigan. We appreciate Jackie's friendship and ability to serve in a multitude of ways.

Kristen is a newer member who has served as Program Vice President and Finance Officer. Her skills and knowledge have brought about a new contract with Middletown Community Foundation that will help us build a legacy of our AAUW scholarships. She has set up the financial records so the budget, expenses and income can easily be kept up to date. She also helped us understand our fiduciary responsibilities in regards to our AAUW branch being part of a national organization. We appreciate Kristen's friendship and helping make our branch stronger.



Mission statement of AAUW: AAUW seeks to promote inclusion and awareness for all members to create an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive membership reflective of today's world.

AAUW Middletown Branch Officers

This list is provided to help any members reach out to the correct person in case of any questions, like how to help someone join AAUW.

President:
Mel Worbis

President Elect:
Eleanor Yeager Stewart

Program Co-Chair:
Beck Ward

Program Co-Chair:
Debbie Worbis

Membership Co-Chair:
Mary Millard

Membership Co-Chair:
Jackie Webster

Finance Co-Chair:
Kristen Mulligan

Finance Co-Chair:
Katie DeVilling

Public Policy:
Robin Becker

Communications:
Virginia Palmer

Communications:
Judy Florence

Secretary:
Joyce Trick

Diversity:
Marti Kreps

College University Relations:
Katie McNeil

Scholarship:
Beth Miller

Newsletter Editor:
Suzanne Tadych

AAUW Funds: Chris Buchert

Garage Sale/ Holiday Bazaar
Co-Chair: Chris Buchert

Garage Sale / Holiday Bazaar
Co-chair: Carole Schul

Garage Sale/ Holiday Bazaara
Co-Chair: Rose Grau

Joy Luck Book Club:
Sharon Williamson

PENS: Becky Ward

Book sale Co-Chair: Tina Newlin

Book Sale Co-Chair: Libby Abele

Book Sale Co-Chair:
Sharon Dowden