I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Leadership Training at Christ Church, (corner of Charles & West Grace) co-hosting with Laurel Park UMW.

This is a great opportunity for units to get training that will help them have a smooth and fulfilling year. Our guest speakers are great community leaders who are taking time out of their very busy schedules to share some great information with us. It is a time to come together and meet each other – outgoing & incoming District Officers who will help you in the coming year.

Jesse Swann
Yes, our Autumn Season has arrived and there are so many special activities that are on our calendar that I must tell you now! AND, many dates are booked for 2017 so you can go ahead and fill in those dates on your New 2017 Calendar before that Christmas rush arrives.

BUT first, I wish to thank all of you for your attendance at our District Annual Meeting as Worship & Praise UMC gave us a gracious and warm celebration along with John Hatcher proclaiming the legacy of Our Wesley Community Service Center. It was indeed a morning we left with high spirits feeling we are indeed ‘Growing In Blessedness’ as we communicate one with each other doing His work together!! Thanks to all!!

Our trips to Ferrum College and the 2 to Shalom Farms are now history for 2016, but we anticipate those locations next year. It’s great to be learning, worshiping and working together in Mission Together..... This year is not over yet...so let us continue living and proclaiming our Blessedness with one another.

I, also, wish to thank all for your support of Our UMUMR Auxiliary with selling over 200 flats pf pansies a few weeks ago -Hurrah! I wish to remind you of their upcoming meeting on Nov. 10th at Ginter Park UMC. There will be a short meeting to wrap up the year and then a luncheon celebration. Please bring finger foods to share.

Our next District Meeting November 12th, 2016 - Leadership Training at Christ Church, 6818 W Grace St with Laurel Park UMW being co-host. Registration – 9AM with Program & Training 9:30-11:30AM. Dominic Barrett, Executive Dir., Shalom Farms, and a representative from ‘Grey Haven Project’ which serves victims of Human Trafficing are our guest presenters. Our schedule is really going to be very informative: One sharing how he came into leadership and his developing leadership in the community, one discussing leadership in a needy world and then breakout sessions: ‘Who You Gonna Call?’ and ‘You Want Me to Do What?’ Hoping to see you with us on the 12th!!

December 3rd, Our District Advent Service will be held at Huguenot UMC, 10661 Duryea Dr., Richmond, VA. Registration at 10AM & Service at 10:30-11:30AM. We are honored to have Karen McElfish, Conference UMW Vice President as our speaker.
Our Special 2017 Dates:

January 14<sup>th</sup> – Celebrate 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UM Day at General Assembly. Starts at Noon luncheon at Centenary UMC. Put this special celebration on your church calendar. A special historical day for our UMW and our Annual Conference. Much is being planned, hope to see you. More information will be coming!!

January 21<sup>st</sup> - “Day Apart” at Richmond Hill Retreat Center. This will be a day retreat. Come and join us!! There will be limited seats. $20.00 for the day.

February 2<sup>nd</sup>- Day at General Assembly. We’ll have the same schedule as previous with some special highlights at Bon Air UMC.

February 11<sup>th</sup> – Our Hearts for Racial Justice Tea will be held at Mechanicsville UMC.

April 15<sup>th</sup> - Our District Prayer Breakfast at Providence UMC(Chesterfield).

April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Our 1<sup>st</sup> ‘On The Road Again In Mission’ Express to Wesley Community Service Center, Portsmouth, VA.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Our 2<sup>nd</sup> trip on Our Express will be heading to Roanoke & Rocky Mount for Mission work & to Ferrum College for ‘UMW Day at Ferrum College’.

September 23<sup>rd</sup> - District Annual Meeting at Asbury(Church Hill) UMC.

November 11<sup>th</sup> - District Officer Training And Leadership Development Day at Chamberlayne Heights UMC

December 2<sup>nd</sup> - District Advent Service at Skipwith UMC

We will expand on the above calendar with our next issue.

My hope for each and everyone - A Harvest Basket Filled With Overflowing Blessings of Thanksgiving for you and your family!

God Bless You As We Serve Together!

Ruth Wilkinson
UMW District Calendar 2016 - 2017

**NOV 12**  
**UMW DISTRICT OFFICER AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAY**  
Christ UMC, Co-host Laurel Park UMW  
6818 W. Grace St., Richmond, VA 23226  
Registration: 9:00 a.m. Program & Training: 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Interest Groups and Speakers: TBD  
Mission Emphasis:

**DEC 3**  
**UMW DISTRICT ADVENT SERVICE**  
Huguenot UMC, 10661 Duryea Dr., Richmond, VA 23235  
Registration: 10 a.m. Program: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
Speaker: Karen McElfish, VA Conference Vice President  
Mission Emphasis:

**JAN 14**  
**Special Celebration** of the 25th Anniversary of United Methodist Day at the General Assembly will be held at Centenary UMC beginning with lunch at Noon  
**FEB 2** –  
**Annual United Methodist Day at the General Assembly**  
Bon Air UMC. Concluding with a 25th Anniversary tribute

---

**Spiritual Growth**

**Christ the Solid Rock**

On a trip to Massachusetts my husband and I visited Plymouth Rock an iconic symbol in the United States.  
It is traditionally thought to be the place where Pilgrims who traveled to America on the Mayflower in the 1620’s first set foot. While we enjoyed learning about its significance we were surprised and disappointed that it is so small. We learned that due to erosion and people chipping off pieces it is now just one third its original size.  
The Bible refers to Jesus as a rock (1Cor. 10:4) who never changes, can never change, will never change. He is the Solid Rock on which we can build our lives. The church (the body of believers) is built on a foundation with Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. In Him all believers are joined together (Eph. 2:20-22). Jesus is the solid rock we can cling to when the storms of life blow against us, and that they will. (Matthew 7:25)  
Writer Madeline L. Engle said “It’s a good thing to have all the props pulled out from under us occasionally. It gives us some sense of what is rock under our feet and what is sand.” Plymouth Rock is an interesting mass of minerals with an intriguing historical significance, but Jesus is a precious cornerstone and those who trust in Him will always have a solid rock to depend upon.  
Cindy Hess Kasper –  
O build on the Rock forever sure  
The firm and true foundation  
Its hope is the hope which shall endure  
The hope of our salvation

Christ the Rock is our sure hope.  
Hilda Watson
Richmond District United Methodist Women  
Administration & Membership Development  
2017 Budget

**Conference Meetings**
- Spiritual Life Retreat: $200.00
- Mission Encounter: $200.00
- Conference Annual Meeting: $200.00
- National Assembly: $100.00
- SEJ Conference: $100.00

**Scholarships**
- Youth attendee at Mission Encounter: $100.00
- Conference Young Women UNDER 40 Retreat: $100.00

**Officer Expenses**
- Postage, Printing, Supplies, etc: $116.00
- Mission Sampler Subscription: $120.00
- Mission Resource Book table expenses: $250.00
- Special Mission Recognition/Memorials: $120.00
- Audit: $150.00

**Program Expenses**
- District Day Apart (Jan): $100.00
- Hearts for Justice Team (Feb): $250.00
- Prayer Breakfast (Apr): $250.00
- Mini Mission Encounter (Sept): -
- District Annual Meeting (Sept): $300.00
- Officer Training (Nov): $330.00
- Advent Service (Dec): $200.00

**Administration**
- WORD Newsletter: $900.00
- District Yearbook: $300.00
- Graphic Designer: $150.00

**Total**  
$4,536.00

2017 Recommended Pledge to Mission: $52,000.00
UMW Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation

As I reviewed the “Living Into Our Purpose” forms submitted by your units, I was so proud to be part of a group of women doing so much good in our area and so humbled by the fact that, no matter what the size of the unit, each one submitting a form was “Growing in Blessedness”, actively being the hands and feet of Christ in a hurting world. At our annual meeting, certificates went to 16 Gold Units, 6 Silver Units, and 5 Level I Units. I know that other units are working for the Kingdom and can also check items on the form, so I hope every unit in our district will use the form, a copy of which is in this edition of The WORD, as a guide as you plan your year. I hope also to see each unit represented at our Leadership Development on Saturday, November 12, at Christ UMC, 6818 Grace St., Richmond, beginning with registration at 9:00 a.m. There will be presentations to provide guidance for unit leaders and information about mission projects in our area.

Blessings,
Barbara Tuttle
btuttle48@verizon.net
804-271-2289

Membership Nurture and Outreach, MNO

As we organize our records for 2016, let us not forget to get our Unit UMW membership rolls in order and have our census numbers ready to enter on the internet again this year. In this addition of the WORD there is a copy of the on-line membership census form. I urge you to read through the document thoroughly, write on the document all the names, addresses and numbers you will need to complete the form. Then, if you are not comfortable entering the data yourself, you could possible ask your church secretary or a friend who has access to the internet to help you enter your information.

We will also have handouts at the Leadership Training Session on Saturday, November 11, 2016 for both the Unit Census form and a new myUMW form which help the national office specifically send you information in your areas of interest.

It has been my pleasure to serve you these last two years. Ms. Kathy Dictor will be your incoming MNO coordinator beginning in January 2017.

Blessings and Peace,
Scotty Doyle 804-74-3034 sdoyle22@verizon.net
Nominations Committee

RICHMOND DISTRICT UMW OFFICERS 2016-17

PRESIDENT            SCOTTY DOYLE
VICE PRESIDENT       RUTH WILKINSON
TREASURER             ROSA LEWIS
SECRETARY            STUART JOERG
SECRETARY OF RESOURCES MARILYN BELL & JUDY GINDHART
ED. & INTERPRETATION BARBARA TUTTLE
MEMBERSHIP            KATHY DICTOR
SPIRITUAL GROWTH     HILDA WATSON
SOCIAL ACTION         WENDA SINGER
COMMUNICATION COR.    LLOYDETTE DIGGS
MEMBER AT LARGE       ELIZABETH DICKERSON
NOMINATIONS-CHAIR     KAY SMITH
COMMITTEE:            JUANITA CAMPBELL, GAY CAUTHORN, HORTENSE MACON,
                        DENISE HAYDEN
Richmond District UMW  
Checklist of Due Dates for 2016  
ONLY 3 more deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>To Whom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 22, 2016</td>
<td>2016 Officer List for Units</td>
<td>Jessie Swann&lt;br&gt;9011 Dorothy Ln.&lt;br&gt;Mechanicsville, VA 23116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 5, 2016</td>
<td>Unit’s Pledge to Mission for 2017</td>
<td>Bring to Advent Service for Pledge Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 31, 2016</td>
<td>2016 Unit Membership Report Form from 1/1/2016-12/31/2016</td>
<td>Scotty Doyle&lt;br&gt;3202 Huntsbridge Ct.&lt;br&gt;Midlothian, VA 23112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UMW District Communication Coordinator & Other District News

*Great News!! The 2017 Richmond District Yearbook will be distributed at the December Prayer Breakfast!* We will have 4 books per unit with extras if you need more. Please be sure to attend.

Reminder - the conference UMW website as [www.vaumw.com](http://www.vaumw.com). Information on “Faith, Hope & Love In Action” for District & Conference upcoming events, etc. are also posted there for your reference with registration information. Another great site for resources is [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org)

LIOP & Instructions for Membership Census printed separate or find online.
Richmond District United Methodist Women
Communication Coordinator
Lloydette Diggs  cmclloydette@comcast.net
8996 Midway Rd.
Henrico, VA  23229