

A message from District UMW Vice President, Carolyn Barnes



With a lot of help, we were able to make lemonade from lemons! There is nothing like being together, but since we were handed the "lemon" of COVID-19, we were able to have a successful Spiritual Life Retreat on Zoom, our "lemonade". We were blessed with a wonderful speaker, Mary Jane Rawley, past Conference President. Her message was timely, personal, and inspiring. The choir from Asbury UMC was a blessing. Jennifer Fletcher from Blacksburg UMC conducted our communion service, and we are so appreciative. Phyllis Geoghegan led the meeting and filled us in on Mission Encounter. We thank Helen Watson for delivering a heartfelt tribute to Lou Talbot, a District Past President, who recently passed away. We thank Shirley Brown and Karen Dinkins for their contributions. And last but far from least, a huge thanks to Cindy Martin who collected all the parts of the program and put them together! Hopefully, the over 30 who attended were fulfilled.

We are still looking for a District President! If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Connie Young, Louise Miller, or Sylvia Bishop.

Treasurer, Helen Watson

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful Spring weather. The second quarter remittance is due on June 5th. Please make your checks payable to Roanoke District UMW and mail them to Helen Watson, 3207 Mapelawn Ave. NW, Roanoke, VA 24012. Enclose your remittance form with them.

We collected \$500 for Kids Soar from the District Zoom Spiritual Life Retreat and this was sent to them. Thanks to all who donated. The Executive Team has donated \$195 to be sent as a Gift in Memory for Lou Talbutt. If anyone else would like to donate, please send this to me by June 5th so it can be submitted with the June Quarter Report. Please make the check payable to Roanoke District UMW and mark it in memory of Lou.

Have a great summer.



United as One Annual Conference 2021 Community Cans and Kits



This year we will be doing things a little differently. The collections will be kept on a district level. We need your support, so please read the instructions carefully.

First – We will have TWO collection sites, and each site will be collecting specific items.

Huntington Court UMC – 3333 Williamson Road, Roanoke

Blacksburg UMC edges Campus - 706 Harding Ave., Blacksburg

Second – The collection times at these sites will be from **2:00 to 4:00 PM on June 19.**

Third – Please carefully read the items collected at each location. Email Rev. Jeff Wilson at JeffWilson@vaumc.org with any questions.

Collected at the Roanoke site: Huntington Court UMC

Collected for the Roanoke Rescue Mission

Food items

- Canned goods
- Peanut butter
- Canisters of oats and grits
- Salt and pepper
- Spices,
- Sugar and brown sugar
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- BBQ sauce,
- Mayonnaise
- Napkins
- Coffee
- coffee creamer
- Ziploc bags - all sizes

Adapted Hygiene kits

(assembled into a large Ziploc bag)

- Washcloth
- Bath Towel
- Comb
- Fingernail clippers
- Soap/Body wash
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Disposable razors
- Shaving cream
- Deodorant

Collected for Kids Soar

Adapted School Kits

(assembled into the Ziploc bag)

- One pair blunt scissors (round tip only - no plastic scissors)
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24-count boxes are accepted)
- Three one-subject notebooks (spiral are acceptable)
- One pack of loose-leaf paper (100-200 page packets –wide or college rule are acceptable)
- One hand-held pencil sharpener (1-inch or longer, removed from packaging)
- One ruler (12 inches or 30 centimeters long made of sturdy or flexible material accepted)
- Six unsharpened pencils
- One eraser (two inches or larger)
- One two-gallon re-sealable plastic bag

Collected at the Blacksburg site: Blacksburg UMC edges Campus

Collected for the Giles County Christian Service Mission (512 Food Pantry)

Food items

- canned goods and nonperishable food

Collected for First Pembroke UMC's "Back to School Bazaar" ministry

Adapted School Kits

(all components assembled into the Ziploc bag)

- One pair blunt scissors (round tip only-no plastic scissors)
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24-count boxes are accepted)
- Three one-subject notebooks (spiral are acceptable)
- One pack of loose-leaf paper (100-200 page packets -wide or college rule are acceptable)
- One hand-held pencil sharpener (1-inch or longer, removed from packaging)
- One ruler (12 inches or 30 centimeters long made of sturdy or flexible material accepted)
- Six unsharpened pencils
- One eraser (two inches or larger)
- One two-gallon re-sealable plastic bag

The **Rescue Mission of Roanoke**, with the mission statement "helping hurting people in Jesus' name," is a comprehensive crisis intervention center for men, women, and children. They offer life-saving services aimed at transformation and restoration. Since 1948, the Rescue Mission of Roanoke has been in ministry with the needy in the Roanoke community, providing meals, shelter, medical care, job training, counseling and so much more.

Kids Soar is a faith-based organization whose focus is on empowering children and families in the Roanoke Valley to end the cycle of poverty in their families through literacy education. One of the foundational keys to a child's successful future is the ability to read. At Kids Soar, they believe that every child should be able to read. Now serving children and families in two Roanoke locations.

The **Giles County Christian Service Mission: 512 Food Pantry** is an outreach ministry serving the neediest families/individuals; who have a chronic need due to low, fixed income or emergency need due to sudden loss. They are an inter-denominational, non-profit outreach ministry that has been serving for over 50 years. The work of the Mission is made possible through the generous support of churches, businesses, individuals, and civic and community service organizations.

First Pembroke UMC Back to School Ministry
The Back to School Bazaar is possible because of the support and donations of several different individual community volunteers, organizations, and churches in and around Giles County. As a result of this support, they have been able to serve over 300 students each year; blessing them with school supplies, backpacks, and other necessities for starting each school year.

Membership, Nurture and Outreach, Phyllis Geoghegan



For Membership Development, Spiritual Nurture and Missional Outreach, I can think of nothing better than our Mission Encounter event we have every year! Mission Encounter this year is virtual and the registration is online at www.vaumc.org/me. Please register and participate this year from your own home. No traveling involved and you can have snacks and beverages as we learn and grow together. We are treating it like a Thursday night Bible Study during the month of July with our closing worship and communion/love feast on August 5, all classes together. Please read the Mission Encounter information carefully and join us for virtual fellowship and preparing to use the classes in your own churches...share the knowledge and fun.

Studies Available

- **Finding Peace in an Anxious World** by Erin James-Brown
- **Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools** by Monique Morris
- **Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church's Moral Witness Through Radical Discipleship** by Darryl Stephens
- **Youth: Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence** by Jay Godfrey
- **Children: Responding to Violence** by Sue Raymond
- **Serving 101, The Mission of God's People** by Christopher Wright

Frequently Asked Questions

Mission Encounter Purpose statement

Mission Encounter prepares United Methodists for faithful living and action by participating in a transformative education program based on biblically grounded curricula in order to be in ministry for a more just and equitable world – locally and globally. Mission Encounter lives out our Virginia Conference vision, “to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve.”

What is Mission Encounter?

Mission Encounter is a joint effort between VAUMW and Serving Ministries, inviting members to be involved in the mission of God. In other conferences, this gathering is known as Mission U, hosted by the United Methodist Women. Uniquely in Virginia, however, we made it a joint event and call it Mission Encounter. We pray that every member will hear the call of our Lord to be part of the mission and be sent to the world!

What happens at Mission Encounter?

For participants, Mission Encounter is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society based on current social justice and mission related topics. Participants grow in understanding the mission of the church in the current world context; conference events are open to all. Mission Encounter is a cooperative event sponsored by the Virginia Conference Missional Ministries Board and the VAUMW.

Is CEU available?

2 CEU credits are available. Serving 101 also qualifies as a Lay Servant advance course.

Cost? \$10 per person to register plus the cost of the book you order on your own.

Social Action, Suzanne Bell

UMW Priorities:

Mass Incarceration/Criminalization of Communities of Color focuses on interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline Campaign (a 2021 Mission Encounter study)

Climate Justice with a focus on *Just Energy 4 All* campaign. Learn more about Climate Justice by subscribing to the Virginia Interfaith Power and Light communication at vaipl.org.

Update from General Assembly. Issues that Passed:

Abolition of Death Penalty
Water is a Human Right Resolution
Minimum Wages for Farmers

Prenatal Care for Immigrant Women
Paid Sick Days (5) for Essential Workers

These are the issues that UMW and Virginia Interfaith Center of Public Policy (VICPP) worked on together, and you can learn more by going to virginiainterfaithcenter.org. I have additional information and would be happy to share it with you.

Church and Society of the United Methodist Church has joined other UMC General Secretaries and Agencies to support "Our Climate Commitment to Net-Zero Emissions by 2050."

The Governor and Virginia Council on Women have created the Statewide Maternal Health Strategic Plan to eliminate disparities in maternal mortality by 2025. VICPP continues to work toward eliminating disparities that are resulting in Black women dying in Virginia at a rate 3 to 4 times higher than their counter parts. This requires addressing cultural competency and implicit bias in health care settings (from Virginia Interfaith Center newsletter).

God bless and have a great summer!



Climate
Justice



Criminalization
of
Communities
of
Color & Mass
Incarceration

Days for Girls, Mission Opportunity

DAYS FOR
 GIRLS

Northview UMC's Days for Girls group is still sewing individually, but we haven't been able to send feminine hygiene kits in a year due to mission teams not able to travel and go to areas where kits are needed. If you are a member of woman's group that meets on Zoom, we are willing to share information.

Learn more about Days For Girls at:
<https://www.daysforgirls.org/>

Jean Broyles, LVQDAY@aol.com

Program Resources/Reading Program, Mona Tolley

With warmer weather upon us, we look to be kicking off socks and shoes and slipping into sandals and flip-flops! So what does that have to do with the Reading Program – well, it has lots! Now, we can head outside to our decks and porches, or stay inside on the couch, and enjoy the sun shining down on us – and leisurely read some of our great Reading Program books.

As a reminder, our books currently run from 2016-2022. Last month, over 30 additional books were added to the 2021-2022 list. You can find these book titles and other information within the Reading Program section of www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram.

When we log into the Reading Program on the UMW website it reflects what we already know: “Our Reading Program is a cherished UMW tradition that brings together members in mission as they explore, share and discuss the books”. So let’s continue to cherish this opportunity to learn and share.-- there is something for everyone!

I also have copies of our 2020-2021 program book, “Knitted Together for God’s Good Work”. It is chocked full of really good programs that can be used at any time. If you would like a copy, let me know – the copies are FREE -- and I will get it to you !!

Questions – please feel free to e-mail or call me.
Happy Reading to you all !!



Education and Interpretation, Karen Dinkins

LIVING INTO OUR PURPOSE FORMS

This form is a tool to keep UMW units focused on the mission of UMW. The core of UMW is the calling of mission, and each step should lead us down this path. Seize this opportunity to make a difference in lives both near and far; in a clothes closet or backpack program, supporting a missionary, or wherever you are called. Updated Living Into Our Purpose forms can be found at:

<https://www.vaumw.com/conference/education-interpretation>. Contact me if you have any questions.

Communications, Cindy Martin

An abundance of information is available :

National UMW news:

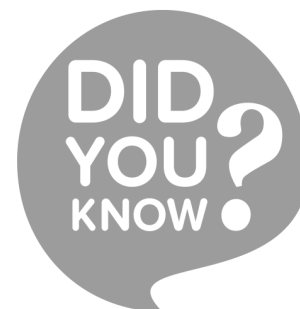
<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>

Virginia UMW news (including the *The Link* newsletter)

<https://www.vaumw.com/>

District UMW news:

<http://roanokeumc.org/page.php?pg=missions>



Some important UMW dates for 2021

Roanoke District

- June 5:** Deadline for Unit Treasurer to send report/funds to District Treasurer
July 17: District Team Finance and Planning Meeting - 9:30 AM (tentatively at Northview UMC)
August 15: Deadline to submit articles for quarterly District Newsette
August 22: District Open Executive Team Meeting - 3:00 PM (tentatively at New Castle UMC)
September 1: Deadline for Unit Treasurer to send report/funds to District Treasurer
September 15: Deadline for Reporting to Reading Program, Living Into Our Purpose and Deceased Members to District team
October 9: District UMW Day– 8:30 AM at Northview UMC
November 15: Deadline to submit articles for quarterly District Newsette
December 5: Deadline for Unit Treasurer to send report/funds to District Treasurer

Virginia Conference

- June 12:** Pre-Annual Conference Virtual Get Together 10 -11:30 AM
July 1: Mission Encounter via Zoom begins
September 10-11: Conference UMW Young Women's Retreat via Zoom
October 23: Conference UMW Annual Meeting via Zoom

United Methodist Women of the Virginia Conference invite you to a
Pre-Annual Conference Virtual Get Together

(BYO brunch or cup of coffee!)

Date: Saturday, June 12, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**Guest Speaker: Renyatta Banks,
Executive Director of Wesley Community Service Center, Inc.**

As we are not having in-person meetings where we would “pass the plate”, units and individuals are invited to send a donation to be divided between **WCSC and UMW Mission Giving** to Conference Treasurer, Linda Borrer, 849 Grim Rd., Stephens City, VA 22655.

Registration Link will be sent out in late May!

Contact Francis Ellis at vaumwsecretary@gmail.com for more information.

Your Roanoke District UMW Team 2021

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Nominations Committee

Sylvia Bishop (Asbury)
Louise Miller (Raleigh Court)
Connie Young (Cave Spring)



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 participation in the global ministries of the church.