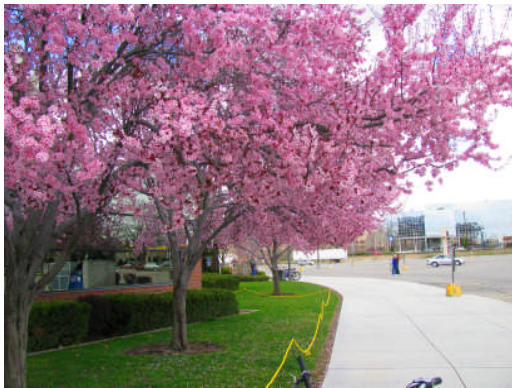


# Pass It On

*Harrisonburg District  
United Methodist  
Women*



## *March 2018*



### Coming Events

**April 12:** Evening Together, *Mt. Tabor UMC, 7 PM*

**April 20-22:** Conference Spiritual Life Retreat, *Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg*

**May 10:** District Executive Committee Meeting, *St. James UMC, 6:30 PM (dinner with unit presidents)*

**May 17-22:** Conference Bus Trip to Assembly in Columbus, OH

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**June 2:** UM Women's Day at Ferrum College

**June 15:** 2nd quarter reports due to Treasurer (Gift in Mission, SMR)

#### **Newsletter Deadline**

**June 15-17:** Virginia Annual Conference, *Hampton, VA*

**June 16:** UM Women's Breakfast at Annual Conference

### From the President

Spring Greetings!

As I write this article, there is evidence of spring all around. What a glorious season God has provided for us. I am writing this just before I leave on my trip to the Holy Land, although I will have returned by the time you receive this newsletter. I am very excited to have this opportunity to see and experience the land where Jesus was born and lived his life. I plan to share my experience at the UMW Prayer Breakfast on September 8 at Evangelical UMC. I hope to have some of the people from the Harrisonburg district who traveled with me to join me for this program.

Our next event will be our "Evening Together," on April 12 at Mt. Tabor UMC at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be Rev. Tommy Crosby, director of Camp Overlook. I hope everyone will join us as Tommy provides our program and updates us on the activities at Camp Overlook.

The Virginia Conference Spiritual Life Retreat will be held at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg this year. The date is April 20-22. A registration form and schedule is included in this newsletter. Contact me for questions or carpool information.

May 10 all unit presidents or a representative from your unit are invited to attend the District Executive Committee Meeting and dinner at St. James UMC. The meal starts at 6:30 PM and is provided by the Executive Committee. Please plan to attend and bring a report of your unit's activities from the past twelve months.

I know that spring is a busy time but I hope you will be able to attend as many upcoming events as possible. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help your units.

Blessings,  
**Sharon Harold**  
 Harrisonburg District President  
[sharold714@aol.com](mailto:sharold714@aol.com)  
 540-879-2270

## From the Vice President

Happy spring (well it's almost here)! Enjoy God's daily creations as the seasons change. Living in the Shenandoah Valley we are very fortunate for the almost mild winter we have been experiencing.

It was my honor to preside over the March Harrisonburg District Executive Committee meeting in the absence of our president, Sharon Harold. I cannot wait to hear about her trip to the Holy Land with Bishop Lewis.

For the May Executive Committee meeting our unit presidents and guests are invited for a covered dish dinner. Those in attendance will share news of mission projects in their local units and communities. This is a special time to hear how each unit puts faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth.

As members of UMW, we need to be

supportive of all future meetings and programs planned for the District. You will meet so many wonderful women and develop deep, meaningful, and lasting friendships.

Please consider joining us at our next event.

Blessings,  
**Gayle Meeks, District Vice President**



## From the Treasurer

Every January welcome letter had enclosed a Statement of Cash Activities audit form. Please give this form to your church's auditor for him/her to complete and return to me NO LATER THAN June 1, 2018.

Note: my email has changed, just like the year: [kittyatr@outlook.com](mailto:kittyatr@outlook.com)

Please remember all monies are to be made payable to Harrisonburg District UMW.

If you have any questions please call me (540-896-5381) or email.

**Alice Reisch, District Treasurer**



## Spiritual Growth

As gray skies and periods of sleet reigned in New Market, the inside of Manor Memorial UMC painted a different scene. The atmosphere was cheery and bright as we gathered for the District Spiritual Life Retreat. Our program “Come Join the Song,” was led by Louise Miller. Her warm and bubbly spirit was infectious. The retreat was centered on the hymn, “Woman in the Night,” page 274 in The United Methodist Hymnal. Are you familiar with this hymn? We were not!

The title alone leads most clergy to skip over it! As we sang each verse we were challenged to think of the women in the New Testament about whom the verse was written.

We discovered the eight verses of “Woman in the Night” focused on the following groups of women who furthered the cause of Christ.

- 1 – Mary, mother of Jesus (Luke 1: 26-28)
- 2 – The woman in the crowd with the blood issue (Luke 8:42b-48)
- 3 – The Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:5-26)
- 4 – Mary Magdalene (Luke 7:36-50)
- 5 – Mary, sister of Martha (Luke 10:38-42)
- 6 – The women on the road with Jesus and the disciples (Luke 8:1-3)
- 7 – The women at the foot of the cross (John 19:25)
- 8 – The women at the tomb on Easter morning (Luke 24:1-11)

After sharing the scripture references, Louise suggested a word(s) that described the actions and lives of the women respectively: obedience, faith, forgiveness and acceptance, giving, witnessing, nurturing, courage, and loyalty.

Using our Bibles and hymnals we worked in small groups creating additional words to describe each woman and listing hymns that represent that quality. As we visualized the experience of the woman assigned to us, we thought about how United Methodist Women also demonstrate that quality. Many examples were shared of our local units in mission - in the church, the community, and the world. From food pantries to kits for UMCOR, United Methodist Women are found serving the needs of women, children, and youth. We also support and nurture one another. Our PURPOSE states:

*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.*

Today we need the qualities of these women as we live out the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women: obedience, faith, forgiveness and acceptance, giving, witnessing, nurturing, courage, and loyalty. Can you picture yourself with these qualities?

As “Woman in the Night” changes from a minor to major key we are reminded that the women portrayed in this hymn lived in darkness until the Son came!

II Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

***Donna Myers, for Barbara Phillips***  
**Spiritual Growth Coordinator**



**Reminder for all Unit Presidents: Please enter your 2017 Membership Data for the 2017 United Methodist Women Census. Again this year you must enter your data on-line at the following web site: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017).**

**The final deadline for reporting is March 30, 2018. Please contact Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator, Doreen DeVore, at 540-433-8086 or president, Sharon Harold, at 540-879-2270 if you have any questions.**



## Education and Interpretation

It is hard to believe that almost a quarter of 2018 has come and gone. Since the bitterly cold days of January, I have been looking forward to the advent of spring and one of my favorite times of year—Daylight Savings Time. Seeing crocuses blooming and daffodils ready to open makes any day better.

Hopefully, during those cold days you were busy checking off the items you have completed on the Living Into Our Purpose form. I know all of our units do amazing things each year. I suggest setting aside a few minutes at each meeting to check off the items that you have completed thus far. September 10, the deadline for submitting forms to me, will come much quicker than we wish.

If you have questions, the best way to contact me would be by email [kimberlydsampson@yahoo.com](mailto:kimberlydsampson@yahoo.com). I am at a busy and transitional season of my life so it may take a day or two to get back to you.

Blessings for a beautiful spring!

**Kimberly Sampson, Education and Interpretation Coordinator**

## Social Action

A blessed spring to everyone! If you have not already heard, our new Social Action priorities include: Climate Justice, Criminalization of Communities of Color, Economic Inequality, and Maternal and Child Health. These topics will be our focus through the year 2020.



Our church is facing a difficult situation concerning human sexuality. I highly recommend the study [The Bible and Human Sexuality: Claiming God's Good Gift](#), by Ellen A. Brubaker. I participated in this study with Rev. Myrtle Frances Hatcher. Unfortunately, Rev. Hatcher went to be with the Lord on February 8 this year.

This study explores the Bible and human sexuality as two essential parts of our Christian faith. The Bible is the foundation of our faith. Human sexuality is part of who we are as human beings, created by God and called good. The study explores the scriptures and our various understandings of it in light of human sexuality.

The Lord will keep us in perfect peace if we keep our mind stayed on Him.

**Frances Scott, Social Action Coordinator**

**VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST  
WOMEN**

**SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT  
April 20-22, 2018  
Finding Peace Through the Psalms  
Retreat Leader:  
Rev. Dr. Teresa Smith**

**Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center  
1 Eagle Drive  
Lynchburg, VA 24503  
434-384-2211**

**Rev. Dr. Teresa Smith**

A gifted writer, inspiring speaker, passionate witness, she is pastor of New Hope United Methodist Church and director of New Pathway: Guiding People from Suffering to Healing via Spiritual Direction workshops and keynote speaking. Rev. Dr. Smith earned a doctor of ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2006, is married to the District Superintendent of Rappahannock District Rev. Ted Smith, and they have an adult daughter.

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**Mission Emphasis for Retreat:** Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth, the only national United Methodist Women project in VA, needs **gift cards** in any amount from **Walmart**. The cards allow the Center to offer assistance for food or pharmacy items. Please bring a gift card(s) to the retreat.

**Other items to bring to retreat:** Bible, pen/pencil, paper, money for offering and ice cream social, appropriate clothing for warmth or coolness, umbrella, and cash or checks for the BOOK ROOM and LOGO ITEMS.

**April 20-22, 2018 SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT TENTATIVE Schedule**

Friday evening

4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Registration, Voight Center (maps available)  
4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Book Room open  
6:00 p.m. Dinner, English Hall  
7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Book Room open, etc.  
**7:15 p.m. Small Group Leaders meeting**  
8:30 p.m. Vespers, Dogwood Hall

Saturday morning

7:30 a.m. Devotions, Dogwood Hall  
8:00 a.m. Breakfast, English Hall  
9:00-9:45 Free Time, Book Room open, Registration Voight Center (maps available)  
9:45 a.m. Musical Praise, Dogwood Hall  
**10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Session I**  
**11:15 to 12:15 p.m. Small Group I**

Saturday afternoon

12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Lunch, English Hall  
**1:45 to 2:30 p.m. Focus Groups, Voight Center**  
Free Time, Book Rm. open  
2:45 p.m. Musical Praise, Dogwood Hall  
**3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Session 2**  
**4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Small Group 2**  
5:15-6:00 Book Room open

Saturday evening

6:00 to 7:00p.m. Dinner, English Hall  
7:15 p.m. Musical Praise, Dogwood Hall  
**7:15 to 8:30 p.m. Session 3**  
**8:35 p.m. The Box Skit**  
9:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social

Sunday morning

7:30 a.m. Devotions, Dogwood Hall  
8:00 a.m. Breakfast, English Hall, and packing  
**9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Session 4**  
**10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Small Group 4**  
11:15 Musical Praise, Dogwood Hall  
**11:30 a.m. Worship and communion**  
  
12:30 p.m. Lunch, English Hall/Depart

**Virginia Conference United Methodist Women  
Spiritual Life Retreat  
April 20-22, 2018**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Teens: Age \_\_ Grade \_\_ Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a Young Woman (age 18-40)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
Are you a first timer? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
*Any condition requiring special room assignment, diet, etc?*

**Overnight Attendance:** please check-in when you will arrive;  
linens, soap, TP provided  
\_\_\_\_ Friday through Sunday (with Friday dinner) \$155.00  
\_\_\_\_ Friday through Sunday (without Friday dinner) \$145.00  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday (Sat. lunch at 12:30 - Sunday lunch) \$110.00  
\_\_\_\_ 16 Voight Center room requests \$210.00

**Private room requests honored on 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> serve basis.**

Total for **Overnight registration** remitted: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: ABOVE PRICES DO INCLUDE ROOM, MEALS, AND \$20.00 REGISTRATION FEE.**

**Day Attendees:** \$20 registration fee **plus cost of meals;**  
participation begins upon arrival  
\_\_\_\_ Friday dinner \$15.00 \_\_\_\_ Saturday lunch \$15.00  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday dinner \$15.00 \_\_\_\_ Sunday breakfast \$ 9.00  
\_\_\_\_ Sunday lunch \$15.00  
Total for **Day registration** remitted: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form and check for the total amount payable to Virginia Conference United Methodist Women to the registrar:

**Joyce Winston:** 2411 Pembroke Ave., Hampton, VA 23664-1243, 757-851-6897,  
buckrowbeach@gmail.com

**Registration deadline: April 13, 2018**



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# Pass It On

Harrisonburg District  
United Methodist Women Newsletter  
40 Southgate Ct., Suite 101  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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March 2018

