



# Mission Tapestry

Arlington District United Methodist Women

Vol. XXXIX, No. I

January 2018

## PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women

The organized unit of 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.

The Mission Tapestry is a publication of the Arlington District United Methodist Women. Its goal is to keep units at the local/ congregation level informed about opportunities for living out our PURPOSE. It is published quarterly—January, April, July, and October.

Articles for publication are welcome and should be directed to ArlingtonDistrictUMW@gmail.com by the 1st of the publication month.

Check out our website at [www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org](http://www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org)

## District President's Message

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a Good Christmas and a Happy New Year. As the year ends and a new one begins, we think back over the past year and look forward to the fresh start of the New Year. Some of you will be taking **a step out in faith. Maybe it's a new position in your unit, on the district, in your church, or a new job. Whatever the "new thing" is in your life, it takes courage, faith, hope and love to begin the journey.** When I started this job last year I definitely needed all four of the above and still do.

**So, let's start the year with District Training Day, January 27<sup>th</sup>, at Community of Faith, in Herndon, from 9 to noon.** We will have Program books for those Units who have not picked them up yet, books and resource materials, training for officers, a short program and of course refreshments. Please encourage your members to come.

**It's also time for the 2017 UMW Census.** As presidents it is our responsibility to see it gets done. You can do it or ask someone else to do it for you. It is easy. They have a step by step tutorial on-line and it only takes about 15 minutes. Go to United Methodist Women, click on Census 2017 and there you are. They ask a number of questions and as it is a census, they want to know how many members are in your unit, new members and deceased, or others who have left. They also ask about what social media you

**use. It doesn't matter how small the Unit, your information is important.** The deadline is March 30, 2018. **January is usually a "slow" month, so let's get it done!**

UMW Quadrennial Assembly is coming up May 18 to 20, in Columbus, Ohio. As most of you know, Assembly happens every four years and brings together our sisters from all over the world. It is an amazing experience and I urge you to consider going. The drive to Columbus is about six to seven hours, depending on how low you fly, so it could be done in a day. It might be possible for some of you to carpool. So, if you know someone who is driving or wants to go, let me know and I will get you in touch with each other. The first time I went to Assembly was in a car with three other women and we had a great ride.

**I don't know about you but my calendar for 2018 is already filling up, so take a look at the UMW calendar for our District and Conference events.** We need your support and I look forward to seeing you at Training Day.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Blessings,  
Doris

**"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."**

## Secretary

Janet Keener



Dear Sisters,

I trust that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year - a time of sharing and loving with family and friends! Let us now look forward and continue to love and share with church family and friends, United Methodist Women mission activities, spiritual life retreats, learning more about UMW through its history, Training Day, and more!

Speaking of Training Day, our Arlington District UMW will have ours on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Community of Faith UMC in Herndon. It is not an event for officers only; everyone is invited to attend to share the love of learning more about UMW and what each of us can do as a member OR an officer. We are Sisters-in-Christ and his Love! My position as Secretary of the Arlington District UMW will emphasize responsibilities of the office, of course, plus, learning from you. Hopefully, you will join us to learn more about each office and realize that we have a spot for you to share your talents!

Moving forward, we have events each month which encourage us to become more sharing, loving, spiritual, and mission focused as stated in our UMW Purpose. February reminds us of **Love with Valentine's Day**. In March we have our **Spring Prayer Breakfast at Wesley UMC in Vienna**. The Virginia Conference UMW has its Spiritual Life Retreat in April. Be sure to check the ADUMW website ([www.arlingtondistrictumw.org](http://www.arlingtondistrictumw.org)) and the VAUMW website ([www.vaumw.com](http://www.vaumw.com)).

I look forward to seeing you at Training Day!

Love and  
God Bless,

*Janet*

[janet\\_keener@cox.net](mailto:janet_keener@cox.net)



Spiritual



Mission & Sharing



History



## Outgoing Treasurer

Frances Ellis

For 2018, we approved a budget of \$3160 from Administration and Membership Development Funds, and kept our Pledge steady at \$30,000.

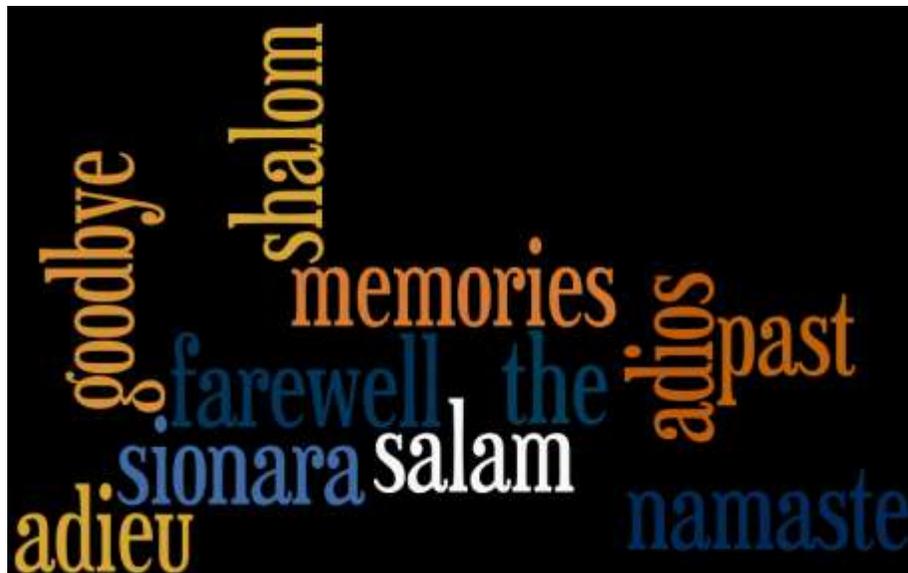
In 2017 we paid \$27,366 toward our pledge of \$30,000. This is 91%. Please remember that even though there are many other organizations that do a lot of good work, as UMW members our priority needs to be to support The UMW.

Beth Meserve from Sterling UMC was installed as the new treasurer for 2018. Her address is 507 N. Brighton Court, Sterling, VA 20164 and checks should be sent to her now.

I have enjoyed being Treasurer, but I have had this position for 5 years and it is time for someone else to take over. I am continuing on as the Communication Coordinator who publishes the newsletter and keeps the website up to date.

Holding a district office, or even just attending district events, is a great way to get to know other women who are committed to supporting women, children, and youth.

Frances Ellis  
2933 Fox Mill Road  
Oak Hill, VA 20171  
fwellis@aol.com  
703-476-1127



## Education & Interpretation

Beth Meserve

Happy New Year! The phrase implies a fresh start, full of renewed purpose and hope. I am excited about the coming year, and the opportunities it will bring!

If you attended the Mini-Mission Encounter in November, 2017, you were blessed to hear from Don and Donna Meyer about the work being done at Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. This is one of the Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States, and the need there is great. Each year at Christmas, Red Bird Mission gives out Christmas boxes for the children in the area, and they include a Bible in each box. We collected 53 Bibles to send with Don and Donna to **help fill this need. We are grateful for the work they are doing in God's name.**

**I hope you are working on your "Living Into Our Purpose" forms. You can review and print a copy of the form at the Virginia conference UMW website VAUMW.com. These will be due by the end of August, 2018. Be aware that we have a new E&I Mission Coordinator for the Arlington District for 2018, so the forms will be sent to her, not me.**

**Don't forget Arlington District Training Day on Saturday, January 27 at Community of Faith United Methodist Church, 13224 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon, VA. Snow date is February 3, 2018. This event is not just for new (or continuing) officers. Anyone who wants to know more about UMW and how it works is welcome. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the United Methodist Women organization, and to fellowship with women from other churches in the area.**

In the next issue of the Tapestry, you will be hearing from me in my new position as Arlington District Treasurer. I am looking forward to serving you in this new capacity.

May God bless you all in the coming year.

Beth Meserve  
507 N. Brighton Ct.  
Sterling, VA 20164  
[beth.meserve@gmail.com](mailto:beth.meserve@gmail.com)  
703-404-0542



**Living Into  
Our Purpose**

# Education & Interpretation

Dana Connor

I hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas and New Year.

I am Dana Connor and I was newly elected into the role of Education and Interpretation during the District Meeting in September. I was delighted to be proactive and needed to educate myself on this role first and foremost.

As the President of the Aldie UMW, I always knew that the work we did was important and for **missions benefitting Women, Children and Youth. It wasn't until I attended my first Annual meeting of the Arlington District (we had just become a member not too long ago) that I realized just how important and far reaching our mission giving was. It was time for "my education" and I found that the purpose of the Education and Interpretation Leader is to "empower women to understand, interpret and participate in United Methodist Women's mission with women, children and youth, and outreach of the church, as well as engage in raising funds for mission and outreach."**

While we had been doing much of the fundraising and outreach all along at the local level, doing this at a district level and helping other women with this mission, and in this role, seemed to be a natural next step.

While there are dates of importance for all UMW members, a few stand out for me.

2018 Spiritual Life Retreat is scheduled for April 20-22, 2018 at Eagle Eyrie.

Mission Encounter 2018 is scheduled to be held July 27- 29, 2018 at the 4H Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. There is so much to learn, do, see, participate in, grow. Take a moment, now to learn more by going to <https://www.vaumw.com/events/mission-encounter/>. Registration will be available soon. And the website offers a lot of information to get us started learning about mission work and to keep us going and challenged along the way.

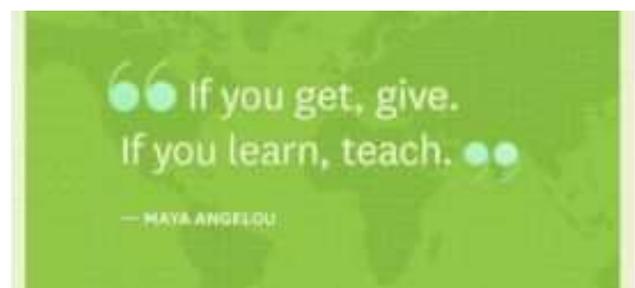
Go the website to learn more about the 5 Channels of mission giving here: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/5channels>.

**May all we do be in God's name.**

Dana Connor

Education and Interpretation

571-926-2800



# Social Action

Lisa George

Welcome to a new year of social action opportunities! In the recent issue of the VA Conference Newsletter “The Link”, our Conference Social Action Coordinator sets forth the Quadrennial Issue Priorities for 2017-2020. These are Climate Justice, Criminalization of Communities of Color, Economic Inequality, and Maternal and Child Health. If your Unit is currently working on one of these priorities, feel free to continue that work. If your Unit wants to try another priority issue for the next year (or four years), please feel free to go to the VA Conference Web Site – [vaumw.com](http://vaumw.com) – and check out the Social Action page where you will find more specific information on these priorities.

Coming up on January 27, 2018, from 9:00am until noon, is our annual Training Day at Community of Faith **UM Church in Herndon**. **There’s a flier in this newsletter for your information. Snow day is February 3. I will be there with more information on the Priorities, links to places to find UMW and other Action Alerts, and I will be available to answer your questions. Signing up for these Action Alerts and sharing issues with your Units will also fulfill part of the Living Into Our Purpose form. But that’s not the only reason to sign up for them.**

If you are not receiving my emails or if you have a new email address, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at Training Day and I will be sure to add you to the list of recipients.

Also, February 1, 2018, is United Methodist Day at General Assembly in Richmond. This is a great opportunity to meet with your elected state Senators and Representatives to discuss current issues in Virginia that need attention and action. It is best to make an appointment ahead of time with your elected officials, as the day is attended by quite a few people and it is hard to catch them between their meetings and appointments. **Personally, I’m following the Atlantic Pipeline and the effect it will have on communities of color around the pumping stations, the “incineration zone” around the pumping stations, as well as the environmental impact around the entire pipeline, especially if there is a leak or break in it. If you’re interested, please let me know. I’ll have some information and links at Training Day.** UM Day at General Assembly is a great opportunity - but space is limited this year due to the renovation of the Capital building in Richmond. You can go to the VA Conference website – [vaumc.org](http://vaumc.org) – and register online. There is a small fee to cover the cost of lunch.

**I’d love to know what you’re doing in your Unit. Units are doing incredible mission projects in their neighborhoods and the surrounding area. It would be my pleasure to share these projects and your accomplishments with the other Units in the District. Please let me know what you’re up to. You just might inspire another Unit to take on an additional or new project.**

Please send me any questions you may have, and suggestions on how to better run the Social Action network in **Arlington District**. **If I don’t know the answer to your questions I will do my best to find out what you need. If you have a specific interest, please let me know and I’ll see what I can find out before Training Day, and will try to have information or links on the topic.**

**Keep in touch! I’m looking forward to seeing everyone at Training Day.**

Lisa George  
Arlington District UMW  
Social Action Coordinator  
7401 Eastmoreland Rd #810  
Annandale, VA 22003  
[lgeorge7@cox.net](mailto:lgeorge7@cox.net)



# Spiritual Growth

Phyllis Kirkman

This is my first year as District Spiritual Growth Coordinator and I have some ideas that hopefully will help you. I would also like feedback from you. So if you can, please give me contact information.

As this officer in my local unit, I did devotions often. To that end, I have a few books I would like to recommend. Leaves of Gold and Apples of Gold are very good. Ideals magazines are still available on Amazon. Jesus Calling is very good. Don't forget the Upper Room. I have gotten several good books from the library; check out their books sales too. I'm not sure Guideposts works too well but check out prayers in your hymnals.

**It is my intent to send you devotions to use on a monthly basis. We'll see how it goes. To do so, I need to create a group, so if you will send me your e-mail, that would be appreciated. Please put Spirit on the subject line.**

I would also like you to let me know about any Spiritual Life events your unit holds.

## Happiness

Happiness is as a butterfly, which when pursued, is always beyond our grasp, but which if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you. Hawthorne

Happiness is like Manna; it is to be gathered in grains, and enjoyed every day. It will not keep; it cannot be accumulated; nor have we got to go out of ourselves or into remote places to gather it, since it is rained down from Heaven, at our very doors. Tryon Edwards

Both of these are from Leaves of Gold. Also many units like to use the prayer calendar during devotions because they offer a mission emphasis each day, pictures from kids, and missionary birthdays.

Please let me know if there are any other ways I may help you.

Phyllis Kirkman  
umwspirit@gmail.com



# Program Resources

Phyllis Kirkman

**Welcome to a new calendar year!! Make a New Year's resolution to up the ante. Last year I challenged you to read at least one book during the year. Those of you who are readers, try to raise your level. Try to read one more than last year or aim for one more plan.**

Many of you read books last year but did not report them. Please make an effort to do this. If your unit purchases books for the unit, I assume you have a way of tracking who has them. Use this system to track your readers. For those of you who have circles, perhaps you could have someone in your circle track this. I keep my own list listing title and category and using symbols for each plan level. At the end of the year I simply send that list to our unit officer.

To make this easier for you, you can send me something monthly or quarterly and I will track it. I would like contact info for each of you.

Remember we also have a children and Youth program with books for both. Children 6 and under count when the books are read to them. These books count for adults too. We also have large print titles. **And don't forget the library.**

Hope to see you soon.  
Phyllis Kirkman  
umwspirit@gmail.com

## HAPPINESS IS



*...knowing that you have  
enough reading material  
(for the next few weeks at least).*



# Arlington District United Methodist Women 2018 Calendar

**PURPOSE**  
of the United  
Methodist Women  
The organized  
unit of  
**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.

Event	Date
Arlington District Training Day @ Community of Faith	January 27, 2018 (Feb. 3 snow date)
United Methodist Day @ the General Assembly, Richmond	February 1
Arlington and Alexandria Districts Day Apart @ <b>St. John's UMC, Springfield</b>	February 10
Arlington District Spring Prayer Breakfast @ Wesley UMC. Vienna	March 10
Conference Spiritual Life Retreat @ Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg	April 20-22
UMW Assembly @ Columbus, OH	May 18-20
UMW Day @ Ferrum College	June 2
UMW Breakfast @ Conference, Hampton	June 16
Arlington District Potluck and Vespers @ St. Lukes UMC	June 23
Mission Encounter @ 4-H Conference Center, Smith Mountain Lake	July 27-29
<b>Conference Young Women's Event @ Camp Overlook, Keezletown</b>	September 14-15
Arlington District Annual Meeting @ Sterling	September 22
46th Conference Annual Meeting @ Chestnut Memorial UMC, Newport News	October 27
Arlington District Mini-Mission Encounter @ tbd	November 10

## Arlington District United Methodist Women Officers for 2018

### ELECTED OFFICERS

#### President

Doris Douglass  
7213 Vellex Lane  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-642-0661  
DorisDouglass@msn.com

#### Vice President

*Vacant at this time*

#### Secretary

Janet Keener  
1803 Midlothian Court  
Vienna, VA 22182-3428  
703-281-7685  
Janet\_Keener@cox.net

#### Treasurer

Beth Meserve  
507 N. Brighton Ct.  
Sterling, VA 20164-3919  
703-404-0542  
beth.meserve@gmail.com

### MISSION COORDINATORS

#### Education and Interpretation

Dana Connor  
39400 Buchannon Gap  
Aldie, VA 20105  
571-926-2800  
office@aldieumc.org, dana@siblingtunes.com

#### Social Action

Lisa George  
7401 Eastmoreland Rd #810  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-623-8071  
LGeorge7@cox.net

#### Membership Nurture and Outreach

*Vacant at this time*

#### Spiritual Growth

Phyllis Kirkman  
8234 Winder St  
Vienna, VA 22180-6962  
703-281-1305  
umwspirit@gmail.com

#### Secretary for Program Resources

*Vacant at this time*

### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

*Vacant at this time*

### APPOINTED OFFICERS

#### Editor of the *Tapestry*

Frances Ellis  
2933 Fox Mill Road  
Oak Hill, VA 20171-1527  
703-476-1127  
fwellis@aol.com



For general information about Arlington District UMW, e-mail  
[arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com](mailto:arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com)



# ARLINGTON DISTRICT UMW TRAINING DAY JANUARY 27, 2018



January 27, 2018

Snow Date: February 3, 2018

9:00 AM-NOON

Community of Faith  
13224 Franklin Farm Rd.  
Herndon, VA



Bi-District Day  
Alexandria & Arlington  
United Methodist Women

# MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH A UMW PRIORITY

A program sponsored by the  
Alexandria District United Methodist Women

**Saturday, February 10, 2018**

**11:00 AM – 3:30 PM**

**St. John's United Methodist Church**  
5312 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Bethany House of Northern Virginia**  
**Friends of Guest House {Northern Virginia}**  
**Maria Delpizzo, RN**  
**Suzanne Dorick, RN**  
**Deirdre Dorsey, RN**  
**Karen McElfish, MD**

Registration Fee: \$15 (make check payable to Alexandria District UMW)  
By mail: Marty Bickford, 3561 Martha Custis Dr., Alexandria, VA 22302  
By e-mail and pay at the door: [martyb@martfour.com](mailto:martyb@martfour.com)  
**Registration cut-off date is February 8, 2018**

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**A Day Apart – Alexandria/Arlington Bi-District Day**  
**Saturday, February 10, 2018**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee: \$15 – includes lunch (make check payable to Alexandria District UMW)**



ARLINGTON DISTRICT  
**SPRING PRAYER  
BREAKFAST**

WESLEY UMC, VIENNA

**DATE: MARCH 10, 2018**

**TIME: 9AM TO NOON**

SPEAKER: SARAH CALVERT  
BI DISTRICT REVITALIZATION AND LEADERSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE COMING



## SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 20 – 22, 2018

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

FINDING PEACE THROUGH THE PSALMS

Retreat Leader: Rev. Dr. Teresa Smith

Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center

1 Eagle Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503

1 (434) 384 - 2211

Registration form will be available soon at [VAUMW.COM](http://VAUMW.COM).

**THE POWER OF BOLD**  
ASSEMBLY 2018  
FAITH. HOPE. LOVE IN ACTION.

JOIN US @ [www.UMWAssembly.org](http://www.UMWAssembly.org) 2018

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ASSEMBLY**  
May 18-20, 2018 • Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio

Photo by Mike Dubois, UMMS



#### WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND:

Assembly 2018 will be a forum for all women. Assembly will offer an incredible personal faith journey through community building, training for action and visioning a movement for the future. Worship/Plenaries infused with music and performing arts, quality workshops and riveting Town Hall meetings with important leaders, action opportunities and Experience Hall with educational immersion experiences await you.

When women unite, bold and courageous actions happen!

#### PRICE:

The early registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$295 with a Nov. 30, 2017, deadline. After that date, the regular registration fee is \$330. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

Assembly is a great value at \$295 for early registration. Few other faith-based conferences offer such high-quality programming for such a low fee.

#### HOW CAN I SAVE FOR ASSEMBLY?

Start now! Add up the amounts below for your location and divide by 12 for a monthly savings amount. Now it doesn't seem so daunting. The unforgettable experience of Assembly will feel very worth it.

- \$295 for early registration fee — Starting Sept. 1 through Nov. 30, 2017 deadline
- Hotels range from \$139 to \$159 per night for up to four people (Double/Double room)
- Travel expenses
- Breakfast and Dinner expenses only for Friday and Saturday; Breakfast only for Sunday



[www.UMWAssembly.org](http://www.UMWAssembly.org)

Go to [www.UMWAssembly.org](http://www.UMWAssembly.org) to register.

# UMW Day at Ferrum College

June 2, 2018



Speaker: Gary Ziegler, retired United Methodist pastor whose passion is to share the story of some of our Methodist Circuit Riders



# Mission Encounter 2018

## Learning Together for Transformation of the World

### July 27-29 2018



The location of Mission Encounter 2018 is the 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. Considered by many to be one of America's leading 4-H Centers, the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center is located just minutes from Roanoke, Virginia. Located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains and nestled neatly along the shores of Smith Mountain Lake, the spacious facilities and beautiful 120 acres along the lake that features forests, streams, and fields offer the perfect getaway. There are over fourteen recreational areas as well as several miles of beautiful hiking trails.

Mission Encounter is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society with particular attention to the responsibilities of women in fulfilling the mission work of the church. Participants grow in understanding the mission of the church in the current world context. Conference events are open to members and non-members of United Methodist Women. Each year, United Methodist Women prepare for faithful living and action by studying mission studies. Mission studies offered each year are— a geographical, topical, and spiritual growth study. These studies motivate, inform, and enrich our commitment to global ministry. See the next page for details about the studies for 2018.



# Mission Encounter 2018

(continued)

Learning Together for Transformation of the World

July 27-29 2018

Mission Studies 2018

## Spiritual Growth: Embracing Wholeness

The 2018 Spiritual Growth Study, *Seeking Health and Wholeness* is the second in a two-part series about covenantal living. Part 1, *Living as a Covenant Community* by Evy McDonald explores the scriptural definitions of covenant in order to bridge these definitions with their application and their implications for the modern church. Part 2, *Seeking Health and Wholeness* is designed to build on this work. It explores the ways God has called us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation and challenges readers to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation, their communities, themselves, and God.

## Geographic: Missionary Conferences of the US

The aim of the study is to give an overview of the three missionary conferences in The United Methodist Church, the contexts out of which they grew and their current engagements: The Alaska United Methodist Conference, Red Bird Missionary Conference, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference are a hybrid of home and international missionary work.

## Issue Study: What About Our Money?

*What About Our Money? A Faith Response* explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. Through this connection between our faith and our money, readers discover how to live closer to **God and God's people, even in our North American culture that is so deeply defined by money.** She explores the biblical foundation of abundance (sufficiency), which stands in opposition to the scarcity narrative our culture tells us from the time we are very young. The focus of this study is both personal and communal. Readers will explore their own relationship with money, the money choices available to us, and how we individually and collectively respond in light of our faith. The text takes into account that we are all in different places, in different financial circumstances, health, family structure, race, age, and stage of life, and each of us has our own values and capacities.

