Hello Ladies of the James River District UMW,

"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." I read this on a page of a magazine, tore the page out, and have had it on my work desk at home since then. It really has struck a chord in my life. I am thankful for everything that has come to me over my entire life including the things that people may think why? I am especially thankful for all of the wonderful women that I have met and worked with since I got involved in the UMW. The care and the love that is shown over and over brings peace now and a vibrant vision for the future. Yesterday, your mission team met to plan for 2018. We were successful! You will hear about the spring retreat soon as well as other activities. I am excited. I am hoping to see some of your at the UM Day at the General Assembly in February and then the spring retreat in March. And....the 150th birthday of the Methodist women united together is fast approaching. At this year’s district annual meeting, we will have the beginning of our celebration. To prepare, we would like individuals to jot down their story of being an UMW member, maybe you started when we were called by other names. Bring them with you at our different events or send them to me (email or mail), just print your name, address and print your story.

Keep up the wonderful work and continue to pray for those in mission within our country and around the world.

The UMW census time is once again here. This year our district will handle it differently. Within a short time, the president or contact person for each unit will be mailed a form. Please take a few minutes to answer the questions and then return it in the addressed and stamped envelope. I will then enter the information online. What will be needed is the name of your church, name of your unit (if different), # of members, # of lost members, and a few other questions. Please print and remember to include your appointed minister as she or he is an automatic member of your unit. Knowing this information, is necessary for your district, conference and the national office. We thank all of you for your participation.

Have you read a good book yet? Do you or someone in your unit subscribe to Response (UMW mission magazine) and/or New World Outlook? Have you ever participated in the UMW reading program? If you have, that is fantastic! This is an excellent opportunity to learn, think and pray about mission and spiritually grow. If you need information about the program, you can find it on the conference website (vaumw.com) or the national site (unitedmethodistwomen.org). At the spring retreat, we will have printed catalogs of this year’s books in the different categories. You can read from this year’s list and the previous five year’s list. Books may possibly be found at local libraries, shared with others, some are e-books (check Amazon, etc), hard copies bought and borrowed from the conference’s lending library. Let us know of any problems or any questions you might have.

Diana Harbarger
James River District UMW President
westielover1@verizon.net
**NEWS FLASH!**

United Methodist Day at the General Assembly of Virginia is February 1st. The deadline to register is January 12th and they have limited the number of attendees as there is construction at the Capitol Square. The cost is $40 and includes hot breakfast, boxed lunch, afternoon speakers, transportation to and from the Capitol and a reusable bag with an information packet. Please visit the VAUMC.org webpage for more information.

In May 2018, Joyce Winston, the VA UMW President is coordinating a trip to Columbus, Ohio for the big UMW Assembly Day. See the previously attached flyer for details.

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The Conference Needs Your Stories!

You are invited to participate in the 150th Anniversary Celebration of United Methodist Women by telling the stories of women or institutions in your conference who have made a difference in the lives of women, youth and children in your community and around the world.

2019 is a milestone year for mission work in The United Methodist Church. United Methodist Women and Global Ministries are partnering to celebrate the 150th or sesquicentennial anniversary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and the 200th or bicentennial anniversary of the Missionary Society in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mission and legacy stories that you provide about women and national mission institutions past and present who put Faith, Hope and Love in Action can be featured on both the websites of United Methodist Women, [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org) and Global Ministries, [http://methodistmission200.org](http://methodistmission200.org).

When submitting your mission stories include as much detail as possible, with names, dates, photos, sources, articles, or video.

To share your inspiring stories simply click on our google form [https://goo.gl/forms/ZO3dD10zyDcAXwEd2](https://goo.gl/forms/ZO3dD10zyDcAXwEd2), send an email to jkrueger@unitedmethodistwomen.org, or mail to: United Methodist Women, Attn: J. Krueger, 475 Riverside DR, 15th FL, New York, NY 10115.

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Do you feel called to work in the United Methodist Church? There are several positions posted on the VAUMC.org Job Opportunities page including Administrative Assistants, Preschool/Daycare Workers, Director of Youth Ministries, Music and Choir Directors. The Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth is looking for an Executive Director (this is the only nationally recognized mission in Virginia).

In JRD- Chester UMC has posted for a Director of Children and Family Ministries.
HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone. I hope that your Christmas season was a blessing spiritually and a restful, healthy time.

Now is the time, we can start our new year with new energy. We need to help wherever and whenever we are able. There is so much need.

Continue to pray for all of us as we work for the James River District.

Peace,
Pam Crandol
Vice President

Happy New Year to each of you. I am trusting God is using you in a mighty way as United Methodist Women. I feel Him at work in me. One of those ways is humbling. I ask you apologies for any mess ups you might run across in your contact information of the 2018 JRDUMW Yearbook. Please check your entry if you haven't and let me know if there is an error. I have identified two (2) corrections - Page 20, phone number for Dianne Wright, Asbury UMC, should be (804) 478-4130. The second correction is on page 21 - zip code for Rookie Hale, Ivey Memorial UMC, should be 23831. Again ladies, I am sorry I missed typed your information.

As I come into 2018 I think of how I might help secretaries with their duties as I work on mine. First and foremost I think we need to remember we are to keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the unit and its Executive Committee and give notice of these meetings. Page 23 in the 2018 Yearbook has an excellent description of duties for all unit officers. Please take a moment to read this information.

I am highlighting the duties of the Secretary - page 23 in the year book here:

The Secretary shall:

a. Keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the unit and its Executive Committee and give notice of these meetings;

b. Serve as custodian of all records and official papers;

c. Sign, with the president, all orders on the treasury and all official and legal papers, making certain each is properly dated;

d. Keep an accurate up-to-date roll of membership;

e. Send the completed Officer Form for the next year to the district Secretary by Nov. 1st;

f. Send the name of the newly elected President and Secretary of Program Resources to the Mission Resource Center;

g. Serve on the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, and Membership, Nurture and Outreach Committee, if one exists.
When you record your minutes and then finalize your report, think of this as a calling from God. You were selected to record the workings of God's women. He has provided you the talents and gifts to do this important position. Worship Him in thought and deed as you serve.

I find encouragement with Proverbs 16:3 'Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.' I pray for each of you a very successful 2018.

*Candee Speirs*

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**TREASURER**

Marie Hawks

434-246-3609

mathmumma@yahoo.com

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Happy New Year!! Just a couple of reminders from your treasurer for this first quarter remittance.

First of all, please use the updated forms that were included in your packet. It is easier to process your payments when I know where to look for each item. If you do not have them, please contact me and I’ll get some to you ASAP.

Secondly, please remember to remit your payment for yearbooks ($2 per book ordered) and Administration and Membership Development (A&MD). This money ($2 per member) is used to support our district budget. Please send with your first quarter payment.

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Blessings to you all...

Marie Hawks, Treasurer

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**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

Carolyn Beale

757.635.8244

cwjbeale@gmail.com

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From all reports the Advent Retreat was a great success and many thanks to Newsoms UMW for hostessing such a lovely event and delicious meal! It was good to see so many of you venture into the country villages of Southampton County and we hope to get you back real soon!

As I sat at the piano and listened to our members sing so beautifully on December 3 at our Advent Retreat, I knew we must start developing a District UMW Choir. SO, let me hear from you if you are interested in meeting in the morning prior to the Spring Retreat and rehearsing an anthem for the Retreat. Send me your name, email address, and your voice (soprano, alto, tenor) to my email which is : cwjbeale@gmail.com I will need this info no later than March 1 so that I may plan the selection/s and locate the music. I will send you an email in early March with all the information and the time for our rehearsal. This should be a fun adventure so please respond if you are interested. Just showing up will not be satisfactory. Let me hear from you!! Please, Presidents, forward or communicate this info to your members!!!
Be watching for information about the Spring Retreat which is in the planning stages! The date is March 17 but the time and place is still being planned. Should be a wonderful day!

Carolyn Beale, Spiritual Growth

**SOCIAL ACTION**
Vacant

Our District Committee is in need of a Social Action Chair.

**NOMINATIONS**
Betty Finklea

We are still searching for a replacement for Sally McGrath who was the Social Action Chair. If you hear God’s call for this position, and have interest in serving on the District Mission Team please email me at bettyfinklea@gmail.com

Thanks for any consideration and God Bless.
Betty Finklea, Nominations Chairperson

**MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH**
Mary Ellen Renney

A joyful time celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. Christmas is an opportunity to spend time with family and friends, special celebrations, choirs singing joyful noise. Taking time to remember those we love and care for.

But why not keep that same celebration and joy in our daily lives throughout the year.

Let us take the opportunity to make 2018 a year expressing gratitude through works and prayer.

"I want to ask you a favor, I want to ask you to walk together and take care of one another"—Pope Francis

I wish you a safe and Happy New Year,
Mary Ellen Renney

**EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION**
Debbie Elder

I hope each of you are having a blessed new year and are staying safe and warm.

Our financial support and prayers are needed for Wesley Community Service Center. They have been in service as a national mission institution, in a covenant relationship with United Methodist Women, for 78 years. John Hatcher, Executive Director, is retiring and they are losing the support of United Way. Please help with your donations and prayers.
There are several projects involving women’s sanitary products. It is suggested that you contact your local Food Pantry or Shelter to see if they accept these items. These items are very necessary and cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. This might be a local project to support women in your community.

Henry Fork Service Center is assembling another cookbook to celebrate their 50th Anniversary. If you are interested in helping them celebrate, the forms with instructions are attached to this newsletter.

Just a reminder to bring your cancelled stamps and pop tops to the Spring Retreat in March.

Debbie Elder
Education and Interpretation

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
Kelly Mooney
804-350-6420
jamesriverumw@gmail.com

Do you have a Facebook account? If so, Find me and Friend me!! I am the administrator for the James River District UMW page where we can all share events in real time with our sisters in Christ in this District. If you have any events that you want to share with the District, please email me or tag me in a Facebook event and I can add to the District group page. Also, a friendly reminder, if you have any chapter contact updates please let me know so I can send the Compass and any other important notices to the correct contacts.

In Memoriam
★ The Boykins Unit sends their condolences to the family of Fran Edwards, the units Treasurer
★ The husband of Past President Priscilla Simmons (Kenwood Unit)

PAST EVENTS
Have an event your Unit was a part of? Please send a picture or two with a small article and I can add it to the Compass! We can share our works and ideas with the district.

Fall Day Apart
Trinity UMC in Disputanta on November 5th, 2017
The event was lead off with Ebony Velazquez, a speaker from Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force. The task force helps to identify victims of Labor and Sex Trafficking.

For the mission portion of the event, JRD women(with John Wesley!!) put together hygiene kits to be sent to the Virginia Correctional Center for Women in Goochland. The prison does not provide these items to the inmates and they have to buy these types of items (soap, shampoo, lip balm, etc) at the prison store.
The UMW at Woods had a Secret Santa gift exchange at their December/Christmas meeting. Pictured here is Mary Chalkley opening her Secret Santa gift.

Upcoming Local Unit Events
Vendor event at Wesley UMC, 3701 Conduit Road, Colonial Heights, VA 23834
Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 9 AM to 2 PM
Vendors include homemade crafts, jewelry, and direct sales (Avon, Scentsy, Longaberger, ECT)
Proceeds support the missions of the Wesley UMW

Please let me know of any upcoming events for local units to share here and on Facebook

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13th</td>
<td>District Mission Meeting</td>
<td>Carson UMC</td>
<td>10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1st</td>
<td>United Methodist Day at the General Assembly</td>
<td>Richmond- Bon Air UMC</td>
<td>7am-3:30pm</td>
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<td>March 10th</td>
<td>First Quarter Treasurer's Report Due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Send to Marie Hawks. Remember $2 for each year book and $2 for each member for A&amp;MD Fund.</td>
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<td>March 10th</td>
<td>5 Talent Academy</td>
<td>Good Shepherd UMC Richmond</td>
<td>9am-3pm</td>
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<td>March 17th (TBA)</td>
<td>District Spring Retreat - An Introspective</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Look at our Personal Legacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1st</td>
<td>Deadline for The Compass articles to Kelly Mooney</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<td>April 20th - 22nd</td>
<td>Spiritual Life Retreat VA-UMW</td>
<td>Eagle Eyrie (Lynchburg)</td>
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<td>May 17th - 22th</td>
<td>National UMW Conference Assembly</td>
<td>Lexington, KY, &amp; Columbus, OH</td>
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<td>June 2nd</td>
<td>UMW Day at Ferrum College</td>
<td>Vaughn Chapel, Blue Ridge</td>
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<td>Mountain Room</td>
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<td>June 10th</td>
<td>Second Quarter Treasurer’s Report DUE</td>
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<td>Send to Marie Hawks.</td>
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<td>June 15th-17th</td>
<td>Virginia Annual Conference</td>
<td>Hampton, VA</td>
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<td>June 16</td>
<td>UMW Breakfast at Conference</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>July 27th -29th</td>
<td>Mission Encounter VA-UMW</td>
<td>Smith Mountain Lake, 4H</td>
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<td>August 4th</td>
<td>District Mission Team</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<td>August 5th</td>
<td>Deadline for The Compass articles to Kelly Mooney</td>
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<td>September 9th</td>
<td>Deadline for Candle Burning to Diana Harbarger</td>
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<td>Deadline for Living Into Our Purpose to Pam Crandol</td>
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<td>Deadline for reading achievements to Linda Callis</td>
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<td>Deadline for names of deceased members for Carolyn Beale</td>
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<td>Deadline for 5 &amp; 6 Star Info &amp; Rainbow Giver into to Marie Hawks</td>
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<td>Elect officers in local units for next year</td>
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<td>September 10th</td>
<td>Third Quarter Treasurer’s Report Due, Send to Marie Hawks.</td>
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<td>September 14th-15th</td>
<td>Young Women’s Event</td>
<td>Camp Overlook, Keezletown</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>District UMW Annual Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>October 1st</td>
<td>Deadline for The Compass articles to Kelly Mooney</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Conference UMW Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1st</td>
<td>Deadline for submitting 2018 Unit Officer List to Candee Speirs</td>
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<td>November 4th</td>
<td>District UMW “Fall Day Apart”</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>December 1st</td>
<td>Advent Retreat</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10th</td>
<td>Fourth Quarter Treasurer’s Report Due, Send to Marie Hawks</td>
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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE CALENDAR ABOVE:**

In May 2018, Joyce Winston, the VA UMW President is coordinating a trip to Columbus, Ohio for the big UMW Assembly Day. See the previously attached flyers for details.
United Methodist Women
Stamps for Mission.

Saving postage stamps can benefit missions. Even common used postage can have value in bulk. The stamps will be sold and 100% of the proceeds donated to UMCOR. Below are some tips if you, your church or your UMW unit would like to collect stamps for Mission.

1. All stamps from just a few to entire collections, canceled or uncanceled are useful; old ones are extra good.

2. Trim paper around used stamps attached to envelopes leaving a ¼ inch paper border around the stamp OR you can turn in the whole envelope.

3. If you have postcards, turn in the whole card; don’t cut or tear the stamp off the card!!

4. Leave rows of stamps in tact.

5. For the best value, send trimmed cancelled stamps, envelopes or postcards with stamps, and any albums of stamps by hand to a Conference UMW event whenever possible. Often district officers are willing to hand deliver them to a conference event, so you may want to take them to a district event. Often mailing the stamps costs more than the worth of the stamps to missions.

6. If you need to mail the stamps, use stamps, not a meter, for postage on the package and send to: Mike Davis, P.O. Box 100, Jetersville, VA 23083

If you have addition questions contact the VAUMW Stamp Liaison, Rev. Mike Davis

Call (804) 304-0256

Email mtdpastor@me.com
Henry Fork Service Center is assembling another cookbook!

As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we are asking for your assistance. We hope to publish a 50 year remembrances and recipes cookbook. Please go to the HFSC website (www.henryforkcenter.org) and download the recipe and remembrances page, and send us your recipes and remembrances. We have heard many wonderful stories of Charlotte Seegars, Susan Putnam, and others, and hope you will share those stories with your favorite recipes. There’s only one condition—the story must be told in 375 characters or less; that’s 4 1/2 lines of type. Of course, we could continue the story, but you have to send more than one recipe!! Forms will also be available in our office and on the website, and we will be glad to send you one or several. Please call us at 540-483-2819 with any questions. Thanks!

Here’s an example of my remembrance:

One of my favorite activities at HFSC is hiking. One day each week during the summer program, the classes go hiking. We go all over Franklin County – the Rec Park, Waid Park, Grassy Hill Slope, Booker T. Washington Park, and others. The students spend time out of doors, learn that we can get tired and recover, and have conversations with friends about everything. (368 characters)

( below is a copy of the Entry Form)
Thank you for sharing your remembrances and recipes with Henry Fork Center for our 50th Anniversary Celebration cookbook. Please know that your remembrance is limited to 375 characters (4 ½ lines). Please list the ingredients for the recipe, then the directions for the dish. Use the back of the page or another page if necessary. The deadline for submission is August 1, 2017, but earlier is always better!

Since Henry Fork Center works with children and youth, consider sharing your family’s favorite recipes or child-friendly recipes. Thank you!

My remembrance of the Henry Fork Service Center:

My recipe

From: Name____________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________________________________

Email address ________________________________Phone)______________________

Church or UMW affiliation ________________________________________________