



The Purpose

Winchester District
United Methodist Women on a Mission

APRIL 2018

How Can I Make a Difference

District Spring Event

Saturday April 28, 2018

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Braddock Street United Methodist Church

115 Wolfe St, Winchester, VA 22601

Reminder: Call Megan Pugh (540-662-4738)

to let her know how many will be attending from your unit by April 20, 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

April 20-22, 2018 - Friday-Saturday - Spiritual Life Retreat

Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, 1 Eyrie Dr., Lynchburg, VA 24503

April 28, 2018 - Saturday - District Spring Event, 9:00-Noon,

Braddock Street UMC, 115 Wolfe St, Winchester, VA 22601

June 2, 2018 - Saturday - UMW Day at Ferrum

Ferrum College, 215 Ferrum Mountain Road, Ferrum, VA 24088

July 8, 2018 - Sunday - Executive Committee Meeting- Zone II, 2:00-5:00PM

Montague Ave UMC, 102 Montague Ave, Winchester, VA 22601



Note from Communications:

We now have a Facebook Page : **UWM.Winc.VA**

The Facebook Page is a closed site for the use of all local units. Some items to consider are the posting of events, ride sharing, book reports, book sharing, photos of Units events. Please ask all your members to **LIKE US!**

We have a spot on the Winchester District Web page: www.WinchesterDistrictUMC.org/UMW

On the Web Page you now have access to District Forms,

Names of Officers, Date's of Events and Links to National and Conference sites.



WESLEY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

“the only UMW national mission institution in Virginia”



You've heard that said many times before, but what do you know about it? Do you even know where it is? Well, now is the perfect time to tell you, because **John Hatcher**, the Center's longtime executive director, is retiring.

First, what is so special about Wesley CSC? What do they do there to make this place worthy of nation-wide UMW support? The Center, established in 1937 in Portsmouth, VA, operates programs and services aimed at empowering the powerless and poor in Portsmouth's Southside communities through Christian-based services which improve the quality of life. It

works to convey the message of human dignity and worth supported by the love of God.

Here is list of the kinds of things that happen at the Center:

- *food assistance (weekly free food distribution, emergency food boxes, weekly meals on wheels to homebound)
- *financial assistance to prevent utility shut-off
- *guardianship services
- *income tax preparation
- *notary public services
- *coordination of holiday assistance for area needy
- *literacy tutoring
- *GED test preparation
- * parenting programs
- *summer camp, which ensures neighborhood children have a safe, healthy place to go
- *gardening program in the sum

Now then, what's so special about John Hatcher and why is his retirement noteworthy? Mainly, it's his commitment to service and his dedication to this place where **he has served for 48 continuous years**. It is John's commitment to serve in this job for so many years has helped the Center become the special place that it is today.

You are invited to a **Celebration of Retirement** for John, to be held at the Center on Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. You and your UMW unit are also invited to bring or send a gift to the Wesley Community Service Center in honor of John's 48 years of service. What better way to honor John than to help ensure the continuance of the ministries to which he has dedicated so much of his life!

Persons/units who wish to honor John may mail a contribution directly to Wesley Community Service Center, 1701 Elm Avenue, Portsmouth, VA 23704. Make your check out to the Center, and put on the memo line "in honor of John Hatcher." Your envelope should be marked either "Attention: Vanessa" or "In honor of John" <https://www.wesleycenterportsmouth.com/>



FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

As I sit down to write, I again think of the seasons of the year, and today wonder if spring is just a figment of my imagination or memory. I remember with warm thoughts the Prayer Breakfast that we shared earlier this year, moments of joy and inspiration as we heard the music of The Agape Choir and the inspiring words of Lisa Nichols of Henry Fork Service Center, and beautiful prayers shared by our clergy women.

As I think of spring, I look forward to our Conference Spiritual Life Retreat to be held at Eagle Eyrie Baptist Retreat Center in Lynchburg, VA. Further information and registration for this event is in this newsletter. Spring also brings our District Spring Event to be held April 28 at Braddock Street UMC. Further information about this event is in the newsletter. I hope each of will encourage your members to attend this important and timely event.

I recently attended the Conference Executive Meeting in Portsmouth at the Wesley Community Service Center. We had the opportunity to spend time with the Center's director John Hatcher. John has been the director of the Center for 48 years and is retiring April 30. There is a special article on page one of this newsletter celebrating the Center and John's ministry there. We are truly blessed to have the opportunity to share in this mission and ministry.

As spring, hopefully comes, and moves into summer, we look forward to events in our district and local units including UMW Day at Ferrum College on June 2. This will afford us the opportunity to meet the new president of the College. In continuing to look forward, please save the date for the following: June 16, 6:45 a.m. UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference, ticket price \$20.00. I have tickets available, deadline date is May 28. Rev. Keary Kincannon, pastor of Rising Hope UMC is the speaker.

Also Save the date for: Conference Mission Encounter July 28-29, to be held at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center.

It is an exciting time to be a United Methodist Woman as we continue to move closer to our 150th anniversary in 2019. The Legacy Fund will help to assure that the mission and ministry of United Methodist Women continues for the next 150+ years. Please continue to be generous in your gifts to this endowment.

Thank you for your continued support. I encourage you to invite members of the executive team to your units. We are available and would love to visit you!

Blessings,

Carolyn Woodrum, Winchester District United Methodist Women President
home: 540-535-0369 cell: 540-336-4680 email: CayRay36@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Jeri will be back next issue.

Keep our Sister in Christ in prayer as she prepares for surgery.

Jeraldine Ridgway, Vice President Phone: 540-635-5483



SOCIAL ACTION

Ladies, it is April and time for the Winchester District UMW Spring Event . I hope you and members of your local units are planning to attend.

As we work together for positive change on our social action priorities: *Economic Inequality, Climate Justice, Criminalization of Communities of Color and Maternal and Child Health*; I ask myself how I can make a difference. Do you ask yourself that same question?

It seems so overwhelming! This year the Spring Event's focus is Advocacy-How I Can Make a Difference.

Kim Bobo, Executive Director of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, will be our speaker. Kim will talk about issues in the General Assembly and how our representatives have done this year. We will learn how advocacy makes a difference, how we as individuals and as a group can make a difference.

Mark your calendar for: Saturday April 28, 2018

Braddock Street United Methodist Church

115 Wolfe St. Winchester, VA

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Parking lot corner of Wolfe and Braddock will be open

Please respond to Megan Pugh (540-662-4738) with the number attending from your unit by 4/20/18.

Let me know if you have any questions and I hope to see you on April 28th.

Judy T Smith, Winchester District United Methodist Women Social Action Coordinator

email: forrest@visuallink.com Phone: 540-667-0836 or 540-539-2566

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT



We currently have an immediate opening for one position. **Membership, Nurture and Outreach**. Consider letting Jean Brown know if you know of someone out there who would be interested. Our position goal would be to welcome new people and new ideas and share the love thru gifts of mission to missions supported by United Methodist Women. The bonus is, if you accept this position, would be a connection with other units for ideas, events and certainly friendships.

Jean Brown, Nominations Chair jtjmbrown@gmail.com (540) 631-9185 cell: (540) 660-2847

MISSION ENCOUNTER

Greetings to all and a reminder to save the date.

Christ is risen, Christ has risen indeed.

Saturday , September 08, 2018 our District Mission Encounter will be held at Stephens City United Methodist Church from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The following studies will be offered:

Spiritual Growth study: Embracing Wholeness

Geographic Study: Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States

Issue Study: What About Our Money

Study Leaders are being contacted and will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.

This event offers a wonderful opportunity for your whole congregation to come alive to mission by attending.

Registration forms will be available in the newsletter and on our UMW Facebook in near future.

Remember to save the date.

Blessings.

Lillian B. Sloane

Jeraldine Ridgeway Co-Chairs

Lillian B Sloane and Jeraldine Ridgeway, Co-Chairs

Phone: 540-635-2623 lsloane@centurylink.net

Committee members: Jeraldine Ridgeway, Carolyn Woodrum, Linda Borrer, Judy Smith, Mary Preston

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

From time to time, reference is made of "Bible Women". For a long time I gathered they were some kind of missionary for the UMW but I didn't know and an opportunity to ask didn't happen.

Bible Women are and were natives of Eastern or Asian countries who have been trained as evangelists. In 1861 the first Bible Woman was hired by Methodist women in India. Her salary was paid by Woman's Union Missionary Society. A negative attitude toward hiring native women as evangelists prevailed. However, they were cheaper to support and more effective than western women - who eventually did only the training. By 1909, the woman's missionary movement had employed 441 missionaries as evangelists but it had hired 6,154 Bible Women. Today the training includes not only Bible Study, but also, literacy, health/nutrition, economic development and human/women's rights. You can learn more by googling "United Methodist Women - Bible Women".
Janice Webb

Janice Webb, Historian
webbjshw@Verizon.net

(703) 777-3316 (recorder on 5th ring)

FROM YOUR DISTRICT TREASURER

A big THANK YOU, ladies....

...for enabling our district to meet 23% of this year's pledge by the end of the first quarter.

...for contributing \$340+ in gift cards and \$180 in monetary gifts to Henry Fork at Prayer Breakfast.

...for all the goods you brought to Prayer Breakfast for Mobile Hope and the two C-CAP's.

I've always said that UMW ladies are a giving bunch, and you ladies truly are! Thank you!!

A few reminders:

*Your 2nd quarter remittance is due June 8.

*Rainbow Give forms and money must be in my mailbox by August 10. If you wait and send it in with your 3rd quarter remittance, you will have waited too late.

*Re Legacy Fund donations: If you send me any contributions from individuals, please remember to list on the back of your remittance form the name of each donor and the amount that each one gave. Also, if you send any Legacy Fund donations directly to the New York office, please let me know about that, too.

Questions? Feel free to contact me any time.

Mary Preston, Winchester District UNITED METHODIST WOMEN Treasurer

email: K4LJH@Comcast.net

540-338-4152

Membership Nurture and Outreach (MNO)

Greetings. Thanks to 2018 UMW Presidents/membership persons for getting your 2017 Year End Membership Report back to me. Unit information was reported on the website by the deadline. There was an overall decrease in total district membership from 865 to 826. 12 units had no membership change; 8 units had at least a 1 member increase; and 17 units suffered a membership decrease. Special kudos to those units who have grown. We also appreciate the units who are continuing to do good works and keeping their units engaged.

The next UMW report that will be due in August is the deceased member report for the period Sept 1 2017 to August 31 2018. Please recall/jot down any names now ahead of the end of August reporting.

I am happy to see that there are events being added to our District Facebook page, which gives other units an opportunity to know about the events and happenings of other units. This is another way that units are participating in outreach efforts and creating awareness. Keep it up!

As I always end, let's keep each other, our leadership, and all our local circles and units in prayer with a renewed commitment to our mission, our membership and growth and staying strong and motivated to continue do God's work. Go, seek, and nurture new members.

Blessings. Angela Lane, email: angln46@comcast.net, ph 703.298.4068

SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

This is the web link on the Conference website. You can down load a PDF on 2013-2018 books on the reading and the reading log. <https://www.vaumw.com/ckonference/program-resource>

(note from editor: Keep our sister in Christ, Janice Schaeffer in prayer as she recovers from surgery.)

Janice Schaeffer - District Program Resource Secretary email: Tampayaya2@aol.com.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Know Jesus' love. We just celebrated Easter and the joy of the resurrection of our risen Christ. What a mighty sacrifice Christ made for us all with His death and promise of eternal life to those who faithfully serve Him. We thank Jesus for the Holy Spirit He left behind to be with us, to remind us of his love, and guide us on the pathway to eternity and back to a home with God.

Our District Prayer Breakfast in March was a wonderful time of fellowship. It was great to see so many of our United Methodist Women from around the district. Guest speaker Susan Nichols, Director of the Henry Fork Service Center gave a heartfelt and inspiring message. It was a blessing to hear Lisa speak about her journey to and commitment to the center and express her gratitude for UMW mission support to the center. The Agape UMC choir worshiped and praised with beautiful music. The donated items collected for Mobile Hope, CCAP, and the Henry Fork Service Center ministries were exceedingly generous and much appreciated.

Don't forget... the deadline to register for the upcoming Conference Spiritual Life Retreat on April 20-22 at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in Lynchburg is April 13th.

Food for Thought... To understand the things of God, one must seek to have the Spirit of God within them. The knowledge obtained from the Spirit of God comes when you have experienced its workings yourself. You know it because the Spirit is real and made evident through the senses. Having the Spirit of God gives you a feeling of kinship and a presence with Jesus and the Almighty Father. Your life will be enriched when you cultivate a heart that becomes in tune with the Holy Spirit. With the Spirit of God leading and guiding you, you can have peace and joy untold. *"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 1 Corinthians 2:12"*

Cultivate the presence of God by spending time with Him each day. In doing so, you will find His wisdom, peace, joy, and favor abundant in your life.

Angela Lane, Spiritual Growth Coordinator Email: angln46@comcast.net, Ph. 703.298.4068

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Word of the day: Hospitality

Luke 10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two[[a](#)] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. **2** He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. **3** Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. **4** Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

5 "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' **6** If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. **7** Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

8 "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. **9** Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Norma O'Donnell **Winchester District Education and Interpretation Coordinator**

nfodonnell1@gmail.com cell: (540) 327-9839

Winchester District Office
Virginia Conference of
The United Methodist Church
21 S. Kent Street
Winchester, VA 22601

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 28, 2018.

THE DISTRICT UMW SPRING EVENT

9:00 a.m. -Noon

Braddock Street UMC, 115 Wolfe St, Winchester, VA 22601

Guest Speaker --Ms. Kim Bobo,

Executive Director of Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy.

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."(Genesis 2:15
Newsletter articles due to me by Monday July 2, 2018. Wanted 3 volunteers to help compile the
newsletter for mailing on Tuesday July 10, 2018 at the District office, contact Janice Coon.

Janice Coon, Communications Coordinator

Janice.Coon@Gmail.com

703 - 477- 8940 Cell/text

