



THE CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Rappahannock River District United Methodist Women

Number 001

January 2019

Linda Hamilton, Editor

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year, my dear UMW Sisters! By the time you read this, 1/12 of 2019 will be in the books. I hope that January has been a great start to the New Year for you.

2019 is an exciting year for United Methodist Women. This year we celebrate 150 years of an organization of women dedicated to mission to women, children, and youth! 150 years! What an accomplishment! We need to do something big to celebrate this wonderful anniversary. I would like each local unit to send me an idea of “something” we can do at the September 28 District UMW Annual meeting to highlight & celebrate our 150th anniversary. Included with this newsletter is a form for your unit to use to share your idea. Please return this form to me no later than the end of February so that the Mission Team has time to implement the chosen plan. In the meantime, I encourage each of you to plan an event in your local unit to celebrate the 150th anniversary. Let’s have some fun with this! ☐ ☐

Please continue to keep the Legacy fund in mind. In 2018, the Conference UMW Vice President, Karen McElfish, sent out a challenge each month as a

consideration for giving to the legacy fund. I tried to forward these to the local president. Some months I was more successful than others. For January, the challenge is to donate \$1.50 for every New Year’s resolution you made. Personally, I only made one resolution this year, so I think this is a challenge I can handle! What about you?

Your District UMW Mission Team has some great events planned for you in 2019. Please put all the District UMW events on your calendars NOW so that you may participate in all of them. I’m looking forward to being with all of you at each & every one of the events.

See you around the Rappahannock River District!

Blessings,

J.M. (Julia-Meade) Gallier
540-775-2027
Jmcg5580@va.metrocast.net



FROM YOUR VICE-PRESIDENT

Greetings my fellow United Methodist Women,

Some of you may remember that I served as the District's Social Action Coordinator back in 2012 – 2013 before relocating to Florida with my husband, Tony.

We have been back in Virginia for the last 4 years so when I was approached about serving on the Rappahannock River District, I just could not refuse to serve in a ministry that is very near and dear to my heart. It felt as if the LORD was nudging me in the ribs to become active again. (Truthfully, I was sitting by Nokomis and presumably God was using her elbow to nudge me.)

I'm excited about serving in the RRD and hope that I can be an asset to our District President, and that my service will glorify the LORD.

Please feel free to contact me via email or by telephone if you have any questions regarding Program Resources, upcoming events, or if I can provide any assistance to any of our local units.

In loving service,

Maria Fortune
RRD Vice President

TREASURER

I have been active member of the United Methodist Church since I joined as a teenager in 1985. Prior to that, as an Army brat, I attended the protestant church on the Post my father was

assigned. I have been a member of Tabernacle United Methodist Church for the last 17 years and an active member of the United Methodist Women at Tabernacle for 16 years. I am so thankful for that lady 16 years ago that invited me to attend a meeting! The United Methodist Women, for me, are an amazing group of mission minded ladies that are changing the world and I am thankful to be a part of this group of extraordinary women. Besides being part of the United Methodist Women, I have been a cardiac nurse, a stay at home mom, a quilt maker (and quilt teacher), and avid book reader. I am married and have a daughter 22, and a son 17 (I'm soon to be an empty nester as he graduates from high school in May!). I am thankful for this opportunity to serve.

Blessings to all of you in 2019! As I start this new role as your Rappahannock River District treasurer, the first thing I can think to write to you today is **WOW and THANK YOU!!!!** 2018 came to a close, and as a district, you came through in a mighty way and met the district pledge of \$40,000 to missions in 2018!!!! That is fantastic!!!! Also, as a District, in 2018 we had the most Rainbow Givers of the all the districts in Virginia! Again—**THANK YOU!!** That is fantastic! On behalf of the mission team we thank you for your generosity and your hearts of love for the missions the United Methodist Women support!

There are many new things for me to learn and process as the new district treasurer. I am thankful for Jerri Anne Cooper, the outgoing treasurer, who is mentoring me and is always available to work with me through any questions I

have. Our district is very blessed to have her in our midst, as am I.

For 2019, I am in a new place of “learning” in the new treasurer role I have taken on. At the same time, I also strive to “be present” in 2019. What does that mean? It means whatever I am a part of I want to fully “be present” in my commitments—old or new ones. The Rappahannock River District has shown me this idea of being present by its unfailing commitment to always meeting its pledge to mission and to faithfully support the 5/6 channels of giving.

The 5 channels of giving to the United Methodist Women are: Pledge to Mission, Gift in Mission, Gift in Memory, Special Mission Recognition and World Thank Offering. The 6th Channel of giving is Candleburning. Candleburning is a special event that honors/remembers someone for their love, service, and commitment. For every 60 cents given in honor/remembrance of someone during a “candleburning” the candle burns for 1 second as that is the amount per second it costs to support the missions of the United Methodist women.

There are also other giving opportunities to help support the mission of the United Methodist Women, such as being a Rainbow giver (a \$60 donation that is broken down into the 5 channels of giving) or donating to the Legacy Fund (donations to the Legacy Fund will help support future years of the United Methodist Women Missions).

Whatever learning, journeys, or adventures you have planned for 2019, the Rappahannock River District thanks

you for your unfailing commitment to the financial needs of the UMW. Your continuing faithfulness to give in 2019 will ensure the Rappahannock River District United Methodist Women can meet our pledge to mission in a way that only can happen through faith, hope and love in action. Your generosity in meeting this pledge shows love to the world. Please remember that as a unit your first quarter pledges are due by March 10th. I am here any time you have a question.

My contact info is Sherri Stadler, 540-548-1629, djnrook@yahoo.com.

Blessings and peace,

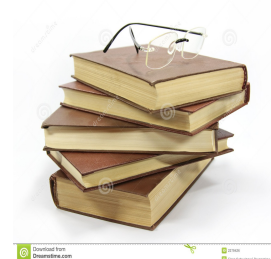
Sherri

SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

I am pleased to be the new Secretary of Program Resources for the Rappahannock River District UMW. Books for the 2019 reading program can be found at: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/rp/2019list.

If you have any questions or I can assist you, please feel free to contact me.

Karen Snyder
(540) 907-8912
coca-cola-19@hotmail.com



NOMINATIONS

Ladies,

Your Nominations Committee would like to ask a favor of you. We would like to have a list of your unit officers and their contact information. If your president or vice president or secretary could send that information to a member of the nominating committee, it would be so helpful. If you have circles with separate officers, that would also be helpful. We are trying to determine what officers each unit has. We promise not to share your information. Telephone numbers and/or e-mail addresses will do. In advance, we thank you so much.

Blessings,

Karen Robison, Chairman
karenwrobison@gmail.com or

(540)895-5094

Pam Hunter – pamkhunter@aol.com or
(540)840-4814

Peggy Clark – wildbill725@aol.com or
(804)3706011

Pam Smith – ephs289@yahoo.com or
(804)633-5414

Diane Zeigler – diane@saunders.net or
(540)659-1257



SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR

Happy New Year! As we serve together in 2019, I'm excited for the opportunities to share the goodness of Christ and embracing our pursuit to reflect our purpose as United Methodist Women. Lord, let us use all that you have equipped us with to share your love and bless those in need! Call upon the Lord, and as we all know he will supply our every need! My challenge to myself for 2019 is to stay grounded in my faith and trust in the Lord! This is my prayer for you as well. When we feel there is no way....He is the way!

I look forward to our service together,

Blessings in Christ

Nokomis (Nokie) Lemons
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

COMMUNICATIONS-NEWSLETTER

Hello Ladies and, because it can never be said enough, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I'm going to try to follow in Debbie Dietrich's footsteps as the Communications Coordinator for the Newsletter. It has been my experience that when starting a new job, if you make a mistake, try again. Well, I'm brand new to this job and I've already made my first mistake – I neglected to remind you that articles should be submitted no later than January 15. I'm correcting that mistake now and reminding you that articles for the next newsletter should be submitted by April 15 and will be sending additional reminders on April 1.

If you have any questions, or need another day or two to get your articles together, I can be reached at (540) 373-4050 or lindajo54@yahoo.com.

Linda Hamilton

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

Praying that your mission work continues. Your unit and/or church may have special projects. You may be providing support to a project beyond your Pledge to Mission. Maybe you are supporting a missionary with prayers, correspondence and supplies or money. Keep up the great work.

Take time and plan for the spring. Be sure to save the date for our Districts 2019 MISSION SATURDAY, April 13. We will be at Peace UMC, 801 Maple Grove Drive, Fredericksburg VA 22407. Our topic is What About Our Money. Rev. David A. Rash of Stewardship Matters of Virginia will be our presenter. The full class will be offered at this year's Mission Encounter, July 26-28 2019 at the 4H Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake.

Keep your Living into Our Purpose forms nearby, check things off as they happen. It is also full of great ideas.

Blessings,
Barbara Swingle
(703) 580-6408
tswingle@aol.com

CORRECTION TO HANDBOOK

Page 5 – Peggy Clark, **change** phone number to (804) 370-6011

Page 10 – Under April 13 RRD UMW Mission Fair, **replace** Leader: TBA to Leader: Rev. David A. Rash

Page 13 - **EBENEZER-STAFFORD**
Ve Laurer, **change** phone number to (540) 752-0450 HM and (540) 623-5827 cell

FREDERICKSBURG
Jillian Levis, **change** phone number to (540) 538-3650

Page 14 – **HENDERSON**, Add Point of Contact (POC) for email, Ruby Albrite, rubbyalbrite@verizon.net

KILMARNOCK, President's name should appear as JO MANSON (the first N was missing)

REMEMBER, IF YOU FIND ANY ERRORS, report them to Cheryl Johnson in order for them to be in our 2nd Newsletter.

For those units who had no representative at our meeting on January 19, your packets were mailed the following week.

Blessings,

Cheryl Johnson
cherylljohnson@comcast.net

UPCOMING EVENTS – DON'T FORGET!

- March 9 RRD UMW Spiritual Day Apart
Host: Shepherds UMW
Leader: Rev. Dr. Teresa Smith
- April 13 RRD UMW Mission Event
Host: Peace UMW
Leader: Rev. David A. Rash
- May 3-5 VA UMW Spiritual Life Retreat
UMW Day at Ferrum College
- June 21 UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference - Roanoke
- July 26-28 Mission Encounter
- September 28 RRD UMW Annual Meeting
Host: Trinity (King George) UMW
Speaker: Mary Jane Rawley, VA Conference UMW President
- October 26 VA UMW Annual Meeting
Speaker: Harriet Jane Olsen, UMW CEO
- November 2 RRD UMW Harvest Prayer Breakfast
Host: Afton UMW
Leader: Barbara Jacobs
- December 7 RRD UMW Advent Prayer Breakfast
Host: Register Chapel UMW
Leader: Karen Sloop



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United Methodist Women
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Ladysmith, VA 22501



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.