

The Purpose

Winchester District
United Methodist Women on a Mission



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

January 2020

FROM YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

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As I sit to write this on a bright sunny but very cold winter day, I am reminded of the seasons of year and how each reflect what we do as United Methodist Women. In the winter we celebrate Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, and then we rest for a few weeks. As the world brightens and days begin to lengthen, we turn our thoughts and actions to the New Year and all the programs and ideas that we need to share to fulfill our Purpose as United Methodist Women. We look forward to treasured events such as the Prayer Breakfast to be held on March 7 at the Clarion Banquet Room in Winchester. There is further information regarding the Prayer Breakfast throughout this newsletter. You will be hearing of other events throughout the spring and summer. I encourage each of you to take advantage of all the opportunities that are available to you. The opportunity to learn, share ideas, worship, meditate, to actively participate in the mission of UMW is available to each of us throughout the year. Please watch our Facebook page and the District and Conference websites for information on upcoming events. I would like to especially remind you to save the date for our district Spring Event on April 25, to be held at Bethany UMC in Purcellville. The Social Action team will be sharing information about this event with each of you. Another important Save the Date is for the Conference Spiritual Life Retreat to be held May 1-3 at Smith Mountain Lake.

As we move through the late winter and spring, please keep our beloved church in your prayers as we move toward General Conference in May. I would simply ask that you join me in daily prayer for all those involved in General Conference and for the church.

Peace and Love, Carolyn.

Carolyn Woodrum, District UMW President
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FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

First, greetings to all local unit vice presidents from your new district counterpart.

Next, I want to alert you to save the date March 7 for the district Prayer Breakfast. If you have never been to one of these, I encourage you to attend. It is truly something very special. Full details are printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Lastly, I have some hard questions for you:

- *Are you your unit president's "right-hand woman"?
- *Does she pick your brain for ideas? (If she doesn't, she should.)
- *Do you ask her questions about UMW matters?
- *Do you help her look for opportunities to serve women/children/youth?
- *Do you look beyond your local community/county for project ideas?
- *How much do you know about your local UMW organization?
- *Have you ever gone with your president to a district function?
- *If your president cannot attend a district function, do you go in her stead?

Your job as vice president should involve in a lot more than just presiding over a meeting in your president's absence. Please take time to think about the above questions. Also, talk them over with your FL ("Fearless Leader"), and get her take on them as well.

Blessings,

Mary Preston, District Vice President
home: 540-338-4152
email: K4LJH@comcast.net

FROM YOUR NEW DISTRICT TREASURER

Welcome to 2020, Ladies. I bring you greetings at the start of this year and a new decade! As your new District Treasurer, I look forward to serving you in the years ahead in my latest position with the Winchester District Unit Methodist Women. I hope to get to know many of you better and particularly the treasurers a lot more as we work together on "money matters". Now, let's get on to 2020 new beginnings, where I'll start with news and reminders.

District Pledge for 2019

SAVE THE DATE

- **Thursday, February 6th**
 - United Methodist Day at General Assembly (Richmond, VA)
- **Saturday, March 7th**
9AM-12PM
 - District Prayer Breakfast (Clarion Inn Conference Center, Winchester)
- **Sunday, March 29th**
2-5PM
 - Executive Committee Meeting Zone III (Fairview UMC, Stephens City)
- **Saturday, April 25th**
9AM-12PM
 - District Spring Event (Bethany UMC, Purcellville)
- **Friday - Sunday, May 1st-3rd**
 - Conference Spiritual Life Retreat (Smith Mountain Lake, Moneta, VA)

For 2019, we only met 91.4% of our district pledge. We contributed \$49,330.20 of the \$54,000, so thank you. Our goal is 100%, so all of our units working together are charged to make 2020 a strong year. With our 2020 district pledge the same as last year, we have another chance to work even harder to meet our \$54,000 mark. We can do it!

Unit Pledge for 2020

You're late, you're late for that very important date (last October) if you haven't turned in your unit's 2020 pledge amount, yet. Please let me know by January 31st what your pledge will be. It is a big hope that most units will be sending some or all of its pledge in the first and second quarter.

1st Quarter Remittance

This first remittance should be arriving in my mailbox no later than March 8 to allow me time to submit the remittances to conference. Keep in mind that it takes at least two days for your letter to reach me via "snail mail" if you're sending it from "the other side of the mountain" as I'm east of the Blue Ridge. If all possible, please send in your unit's Administrative and Membership Development (A&MD) fee in this first quarter. This money is what allows the district to pay its bills, and there is a large expense coming up for our March event.

Important Due Date!!!!

1st Quarter Remittance

March 8th, 2020

Remittance and other Forms

Updated forms will be in the units' presidents' packets available at the Prayer Breakfast on March 7th. If you need a remittance form before then, it can be found on the district UMW website along with other forms like the Rainbow Giver. Go to www.WinchesterDistrict.org/UMW; or contact me and I'll mail it to you.

What's NOT on the Remittance Form

From time to time, a unit will send in a donation for a mission project that's not listed on the form -- namely, United Methodist Family Services, Nothing but Nets, and Virginia Hurricane Relief. You will now need to send these mission donations, including UMCOR now, direct to that mission without going through the Treasurer. If such a donation is received by me, I will promptly send it back to you. Please let me know if you need help finding any of these or other mission addresses.

Legacy Fund

If you're wondering, United Methodist Women are still contributing to the Legacy Fund endowment even after the splendid 150th anniversary in 2019. For those who wish to send a donation direct to New York (instead of through your district treasurer), the address and instructions is on the conference website. You can also contact me for it.

As your new Treasurer, please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Angela Lane, District UMW Treasurer

1110 Huntmaster Terr. NE, Apt 301, Leesburg, VA 20176
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***Sharing a thought...** “You’re just one step away from starting a new beginning – make it a leap.” Angela L. Lane*

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH (MN&O)

Greetings for a Blessed 2020 personally, spiritually and physically – God is so good- all the time!

As we begin a new year with all our UMW’s good endeavors and works let’s begin with getting it started with our 2019 Membership Census Report that is due January 31, 2020. A form was placed in the unit packets passed out at the District Annual meeting. I, also, sent a reminder form to each unit via email and the correct beginning # from last year’s report.

Important Due Date!!!!
2019 Membership Census Report
January 31, 2020

FYI Report – Total Membership for Winchester District

2016 - 865 2017 – 826 (33 units) 2018- 814 (32 units)

Again, let us keep the prayers coming for strength and for the holy spirit guidance as we continue to grow in membership and the good works of the UMW.

Blessings, Pauline Skiles

Pauline Skiles, Membership Nurture and Outreach
home: 540-545-8779
email: apskiles@comcast.net

SOCIAL ACTION

For over 150 years United Methodist Women have been putting their faith into action. One way to do this is by learning about issues and making our voices heard.

The Virginia General Assembly is now in session. Do you know who your legislators are, how to make contact, and what is happening? You can learn the answers and more at viriniageneralassembly.gov

The 2020 session will be considering many topics that touch on our United Methodist Women’s priority issues.

Economic Justice:

- Paid Sick Leave
- Wage Theft Reform
- Payday Lending
- Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit
- Raising the Minimum Wage
- Removing Exemptions to Minimum Wage
- Misclassification of Employees

Environmental Justice:

- Codifying the Environmental Justice Council
- Incorporating Environmental Justice into State Agencies
- Lower Energy Burden on Virginia’s most vulnerable

Save the Date Winchester District Spring Event: April 25, 2020

Rita Biggs, Social Action Coordinator
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 Email: biggs40@gmail.com

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Happy New Year and blessings to all!

I always love the beginning of a new year and this year is no different. Yet, I know many things will change this year that I may not fully understand. One thing I do know is that we as UMW will continue to reach out to those in need and that need continues to grow.

I recommend that you start looking at your living into purpose forms on a monthly basis so that it will be completed by the time it is due. Time has a way of catching up to us!! Also, continue to collect stamps.

I look forward to working with everyone this year and fulfilling our mission as we continue to be the hands of God.

Respectfully, Norma O’Donnell

Norma O’Donnell, Coordinator for Education and Interpretation
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 email: nfodennell1@gmail.com



DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!!!!

EXCELLENT WAY TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH UMW EVENTS

TYPE *UMW.Winc.VA* IN THE SEARCH BAR

THEN ONCE YOU FIND OUR PRIVATE GROUP

CLICK JOIN GROUP

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Happy New Year Everyone!

I am the new Program Resource Secretary this year which includes the Reading Program so if you have any questions you can reach me at drdjonesy@yahoo.com or 540-869-5468 and I will do my best to find out the answers.

Please encourage your members to read the books on the UMW Reading list including the children. Sunday School teachers can read to their (younger) classes and all the children can get credit or the older ones can read to each other or check out books to take home and read. For Level One you need to read one book from each category for a total of 5 books per year and regular reading of our wonderful Response Magazine. My local unit at Stephens City UMC purchases a subscription each year which we pass around and share. It really does a great job of keeping us informed of all the wonderful UMW sponsored missions and activities in the USA and around the world. The 2020 UMW Reading Program which includes all books from 2016-2020, runs until August 31 so there is still plenty of time.

Happy Reading! Debbie Jones

Debbie Jones, Secretary of Program Resources
home: 540-869-5468
email: drdjonesy@yahoo.com

DISTRICT MISSION ENCOUNTER

Happy New Year to all of you.

May each of you be richly blessed as we continue to be in mission and live out our purpose as United Methodist Women.

District Mission Encounter

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, September 12th

We are excited to remind you to, Save the Date, Saturday, September 12, 2020 for our Winchester District Mini Mission Encounter.

The following studies have been approved by our organization:

Spiritual Growth Study-Finding Peace in the Midst of Anxiety

UMW's History Anniversary Study-continued from 2019

Issue Study-Mass Incarceration

It is my sincere prayer that you will plan to attend and that you will invite your Pastor, congregation, family and friends to attend this event.

We will do our best to get Study Leaders and a Plenary Speaker that will inspire us to have a study back at our units and churches throughout the District. There will more information to come in the next newsletter.

For now, please mark your calendar. Save the Date.

Blessings,

Lillian B. Sloane, lsloane@centurylink.net -540 635 2623
Jeraldine Ridgway, Co-Chairs, budd3@comcast.net 540-635 5483

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Instead of history from the past, today I'm alerting you to history making in the future. At the General Conference in May, United Methodist Women will bring four new pieces of legislation to be included in the Book of Resolutions. The current titles are "Children's Sabbath", "The Girl Child", "The Status of Women" and "Voting Rights Protections in the United States". You can read the texts of each petition at unitedmethodistwomen.org/gc2020. All delegates (862) and legislation (probably more than 1000) at General Conference are assigned to committees before attending GC. Petitions that pass in committee come to the full body for a vote. One can stay updated on the UMW website or at umcgc.org.

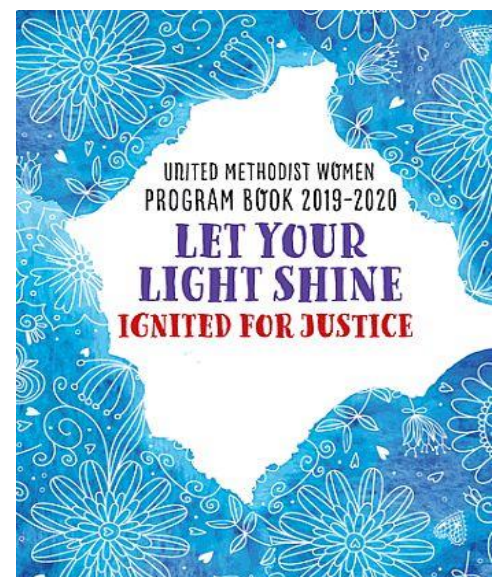
Janice Webb, District UMW Historian
home: 703-777-3116 email: webbjshw@verizon.net

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Peace, love and joy to you in the New Year. Greetings! I want to introduce myself to you as the new District Spiritual Growth Coordinator. I look forward to serving the Winchester District UMW in my new role over the next few years. My predecessor, Angela Lane, left some big shoes to fill and she did an excellent job over the past few years.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual District Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 7th, 2020 at 9 AM - 12 at Clarion Inn Conference Center in Winchester. Our guest speaker will be Dr David Johns, President of Ferrum College. The theme will be "Let Your Light Shine – Ignited for Justice." Music will be provided by Refuge UMC.

Prayer Breakfast Flyer is included in this Purpose newsletter, posted on our District UMW webpage and Facebook page. The Prayer Breakfast Flyer is for you to copy, announce, and post in your churches and has the details and a list of mission projects that we will support this year by collecting gift cards from Target and Walmart. These are: **Northwestern Regional Educational Programs (NREP)** in Clarke County, Frederick County and Winchester, **Red Wagon Ministry** in



Winchester, **Phoenix Project** (Domestic Violence) in Front Royal, and **Una Familia (One Family)** on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Food for Thought...

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.

Psalm 27: 13-14

In studying Psalm 27, it reminds me of the importance of being intentional about looking for God's goodness each day. We all know He's good, but how is that goodness showing up in our lives? When I see His goodness, I approach the day with more gratitude and find that waiting on Him is a bit easier. I can rest in knowing that He causes all things to work together for good for those who love Him. We are called according to His purpose: to be conformed to the image of His Son. (Romans 8:28-29).

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


Doris Miller, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Cell: 540-303-3135

E-mail: dorismiller@yahoo.com



PURPOSE
OF 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.



**Winchester District United Methodist
Women
Annual Prayer Breakfast
March 7, 2020**

WHERE: Clarion Inn and Conference Center
711 Millwood Avenue, Winchester, VA. 22601

TIME: 9:00 a.m. until Noon **COST:** \$13.00

THEME: "Let Your Light Shine – Ignited for Justice"

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr David Johns, President, Ferrum College

MUSIC MINISTRY: Refuge UMC

****Prayer Breakfast Reservation Deadline is February 25, 2020****

Our UMW Prayer Breakfast is **ticketless now!** Unit attendee names will be recorded to reserve their seats. The units' table number will be assigned upon receipt of its unit reservation list and payment. Each unit should mail the Reservation/Purchase Form, with a check, to Special Events Treasurer, Cathy Brown at 2273 Senseny Rd, Berryville, VA 22611. Give your unit and your name at the door and get your assigned table number.

This year we will be accepting Donations of Gift Cards for Target and Walmart instead of items to support local mission work in the Winchester District and Virginia.

The Donated Gift Cards can also decorate your table as a creative centerpiece!

The missions are:

Northwestern Regional Educational Programs (NREP) in Clarke County, Frederick County and Winchester. It provides cost effective, quality programming for school-aged (K-12) students with autism, emotional disabilities, hearing impairments, multiple disabilities and traumatic brain injury.

Red Wagon Ministry in Winchester. Their mission is to share the love of Christ with others by providing disposable diapers and wipes to low-income families. Through the principle of good stewardship we endeavor to share the blessings supplies to our organization with the local community.

Phoenix Project (Domestic Violence) in Front Royal. The goal is to ensure freedom from all forms of domestic violence.

Una Familia (One Family) serves primarily Hispanic /Latino families on Virginia's Eastern Shore. It responds to the needs of this poor, marginalized and underserved community. This ministry lives out the love of God and neighbor by serving with those who are "the poor, the foreigner, women and children."



RESERVATION / ORDER FORM FOR

2020 WINCHESTER DISTRICT UMW PRAYER BREAKFAST

“Let Your Light Shine, Ignited For Justice”

Saturday, March 7, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Clarion Inn and Conference Center (formerly Best Western)

711 Millwood Ave., Winchester, VA

UMW unit/church	
Contact Name	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Please Reserve	_____ places at \$13.00 each
Please PRINT CLEARLY the names of persons planning to attend.	
ATTENDEE NAME	ATTENDEE NAME

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

Make checks payable to: Winchester District UMW

Mail this form and check to:

**Cathy Brown
2273 Senseny Road
Berryville, VA 22611**

Phone: 540-955-1085 Email: yamom4@hotmail.com

As an option, the order form can be emailed with the check for payment to promptly follow.

RESERVATION/ORDER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020