

The Purpose

Winchester District
United Methodist Women on a Mission



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

April 2021

FROM YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

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Happy Spring, ladies! Winter is over at long last! I wish we could say the same for Covid 19, but we can't, at least not yet. Take heart, though -- the pandemic may have slowed us down, but it hasn't stopped us. As United Methodist Women we continue on, for we know there are those who still need us. As you plan, please keep in mind that if UMW money stops, the dire needs of many women, children, and youth will go unmet. Many are dependent on us and us alone, for they have no other support.

Regarding our district project with UMCOR kits, you can read about the final outcome in the Vice President's column. The Virginia Conference UMC has not yet publicized plans regarding this year's kits – either what kind of kits are needed or how/where they are to be collected. Keep checking the Conference website for updates: vaumc.org.

I know that some of you have come up with some creative ways to fundraise. I would love to hear about them. Good ideas are meant to be shared. For example, one unit asked each of its members to contribute 50 cents for every pair of shoes she owns. I'm told that one member of that unit even counted her boots and slippers, and that another member, while she had many pairs of shoes, didn't think that 50 cents/pair was enough, so she rounded her contribution up to a whopping \$50. It just goes to show that given the opportunity, generosity will abound!

Included in this newsletter is information about a resource called **Online Training & Learning via Bridge Platform** (sometimes referred to as "the bridge"). This is a valuable tool to learn more (or review what we already know) about United Methodist Women -- and it's FREE! Originally used at only national and conference levels, it is now available for everyone on district and local levels. Be sure to check it out!

Regarding these challenging times, hang in there, ladies, and keep on keeping on. A witty columnist once wrote, "If you don't have everything you want, be thankful for all the things you don't have that you didn't want." Something to think about.

Blessings,

Mary Preston, District UMW President
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FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

District UMCOR Kit Project- We are pleased to announce that 1,147 UMCOR kits (305 school and 842 hygiene) were assembled, collected, temporarily stored and then transported to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg, PA. This effort was coordinated by the Winchester District UMW. Four vehicles driven by Mary Preston, Carolyn Woodrum, Jason Adcock, and Mark and Megan Paugh transported the kits to Mechanicsburg on March 19th. \$600 was also raised for shipping costs and given to Mission Central along with other monies that were sent directly to UMCOR by the individual units. All in all a great effort by all involved. We wish to thank everyone for all their efforts, especially the drivers and Braddock Street UMC and Harmony UMC which served as temporary storage places.

More information will be in the next newsletter concerning UMCOR kits for 2021.

Thanks again everyone!

Debbie Jones, District Vice President
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SAVE THE DATE

- **April 24th @ 9:30-11:30 am VIA Zoom**
 - Winchester District Spring Event.
"Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline"
 - Zoom logon information will be provided to all unit presidents closer to the date.

- **May 15th @ 9am-1pm VIA ZOOM**
 - Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat.
 - *"Peace Be With You"*
 - Register by May 3rd

FROM YOUR DISTRICT TREASURER

Welcome to Spring 2021! It's that time for your Treasurer to share the 1st quarter 2021 aspects of our district "money matters". So, check out the news and reminders below.

District Pledge for 2021

For the 1st Qtr., we're at 19% of our \$48K Pledge. We were just a wee bit under my quarter goal of at least 20%. Thanks to the 23 units who got us off to a decent start. Our pledge to mission remittances are key to supporting our UMW Purpose and mission, which helps others near and far.

Unit Pledge for 2021

Some units still have not specified their 2021 pledge amount. Knowing each unit's pledge helps to predict whether we'll meet our district pledge. I think most units do have an unpronounced pledge because you actually submit a uniform quarterly pledge to mission amount.

Now to speak of a blessing, seven units have fully paid their 2021 pledge to mission -- Whoot, Whoot, Thank You! I hope and pray other units will be blessed to do the same in the second quarter. Many units are on track with their quarterly pledge amount already. I hope the few units that had not met to discuss their 2021 pledge amount or other finances have convened by now or will find a way for this to happen soon.

Over half of our units already paid their A&MD for 2021 in the 1st quarter--Thank You. The A&MD money is what allows the district to pay the bills for expenses and events. Few district expenses were paid last year, but expenses and costs are coming back now this year as events are being planned and things are happening again. Glory to God!

2nd Quarter Remittance and Form

Reminder... If you need a quarterly remittance form, contact me and I'll email/mail it to you. Please mail your 2nd quarter remittance to arrive in my mailbox no later than June 8th. It takes at least 2-3 days for your postmarked letter to reach me via mail. Treasurers sometimes miss the deadline, so that remittance can't get recorded in that quarter. Meeting the due date means I get the District remittance check mailed to our Conference Treasurer on time.

Legacy Fund

This quarter, two members contributed to the Legacy Fund endowment in March; their funds were received in time to be corporate matched. For those who wish to send a donation direct to New York

(instead of through your district treasurer), the address and instructions are on the conference website www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund.

Become a Rainbow Giver. Two “early bird” members became Rainbow Givers already this year! The 2nd quarter is usually the time when Rainbow Givers are signing up, so will you make it a commitment?

Being a Rainbow Giver lets you personally give to five of the six channels of Mission Giving with your gift of \$60. Try to do this early so you receive your Special Mission Recognition Pin and Gift to Mission and Gift in Memory cards in time for those upcoming special times of remembrance. You can get the form from your unit or District Treasurer. Fill out the information and send the form along with a check for \$60 to your unit treasurer or send directly to the District Treasurer. The Rainbow Giver form is also included in this Purpose newsletter. All Rainbow Giver forms and money must get into the District Treasurer’s hands no later than **August 10th**.

Cruising into 2021, most of our units have adjusted and are successfully getting back to business and getting things done via email or in new ways. This year continues with the uncertainty and challenges of conducting events and activities. We’re meeting more via Zoom video conference, phone/teleconference, or other means. So, let’s look to the different, exciting ways we have now to stay in touch and committed to our mission work and helping others.

Contact me if you have questions. Blessings!

Angela Lane, District UMW Treasurer
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We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 1:3)

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH (MN&O)

Easter Greetings:

I am greeting each unit with love and appreciation for the effort and support shown to me through your response of this past year's Census/Survey report – thank you, thank you and blessings! I did get all 32 units submitted just in time and am so proud that our District accomplished this.

I think each unit will be requested to submit your own report in the coming year. Of course, there would be training and if your unit is unable/unwilling to do so, the District MNO chair would gladly do that for you – no worries.

Things to remember:

- **Count your Pastor (even if a male) as a member of UMW, but if that Pastor serves 2 or more churches, they are only counted one time and one unit only.**
 - **Keep accurate membership roll. Enter the name, address, and phone info.**
- **Update rolls as of December 31 current year. Submit report to District MNO and/or online (guideline coming).**

God is Good – even through these Covid 19 restrictions and we must persevere. And remember each **Member**, **Nurturing** one another and **Outreach** in love and concern.

Love and Blessings!

Pauline Skiles, Membership Nurture and Outreach
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SOCIAL ACTION

Perhaps you have been hearing about the School to Prison Pipeline. What is it? What does it have to do with United Methodist Women? Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline is one of our social justice priorities. What can our District do? Your unit? YOU? The first step to confronting this issue is to learn more about it. You can do that on April 24th in the comfort of your own home.

The Winchester District UMW Spring Event, *Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline*, will be held Saturday, April 24th, 9:30-11:30 am via Zoom.

Speakers will be Jeanette Yoh, Virginia Conference Social Action Program Coordinator, and Emily Jones, National UMW Executive for Racial Justice. The program will also include special music.

Zoom logon information will be provided to all unit presidents closer to the date. Please plan to attend. It will open your mind and your heart.

Rita Biggs, Social Action Coordinator
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PROGRAM RESOURCES

Spring has sprung, but the pandemic is still with us, so let's continue to read or begin reading. My name is Patti Page Brown, the new Secretary of Program Resources and the vice president of the AGAPE unit in Purcellville. I'm new to this position but will do my very best to be successful in moving the resource program in the right direction.

My understanding is the resource program is not supposed to be done in seclusion, so let's reach across the units and invite others to become readers. For the next two years the program will have not only books to read but also a few movies as well as Faith Talk podcasts. I'm excited about the program and the things that our United Methodist Women will be doing, such as sharing the books we are reading or have read and starting a book club that will include women from different units.

As the operations officer stated, anyone can participate in the Reading Program- church members, spouses, and friends.

Patti Brown
Secretary of Program Resources
Email: pbrown8291@gmail.com

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Sue Boltz has held conference and jurisdictional positions with the UMW. I asked her to share an experience with us. *"Many years ago, I participated in a worship drama which starred women with problems – an abused wife that no one knew was abused, a runaway child and a slut drug addict. I, of course, was the slut. The day of the program I went nicely dressed to the meeting but slipped out, applied more makeup and changed clothes. I was leaning against the back doorway of the auditorium waiting my entrance when the minister approached me to see if he could help (and I think to at least*

remove me from the meeting). It was great to know I could play the part. I have loved playing to parts!" The drama had been performed by our conference officers at our annual meeting. Glenna Hudgins played the slut there. In real life Glenna was wife, mother, UMW officer, plus she and her family sheltered abused women on occasion.

Janice Webb, District UMW Historian
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SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Blessings to all! This has been a difficult year with the COVID 19 Pandemic interrupting our normal lives and turning our lives upside down. But God's love never changes. He loves us and will continue to guide us through this time if we take His hand. As the song In The Garden states "I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses and He walks with me and He talks with me and He tells me I am His own."

The Conference UMW 2021 **Spiritual Life Retreat** will be conducted via zoom on Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theme is *Peace Be With You*. A flyer with all other details is included in this newsletter.

The Conference UMW 2021 **Mission Encounter** will be conducted via zoom sessions during a period starting July 1 and ending August 5.

Dates and times:

July 1, 7:00 – 8:00 PM Worship/Plenary/Introduction of Staff

July 8, 7:00 – 9:00 PM Session 1

July 15, 7:00 – 9:00 PM Session 2

July 22, 7:00 – 9:00 PM Session 3

July 29, 7:00 – 9:00 PM Session 4

Aug 5, 7:00 – 8:00 PM Closing Worship

Classes:

Pushout, The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom, Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical

Discipleship

Finding Peace in an Anxious World

Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence, A Curriculum for Youth Leaders

Responding to Violence, A curriculum for Children's Facilitators

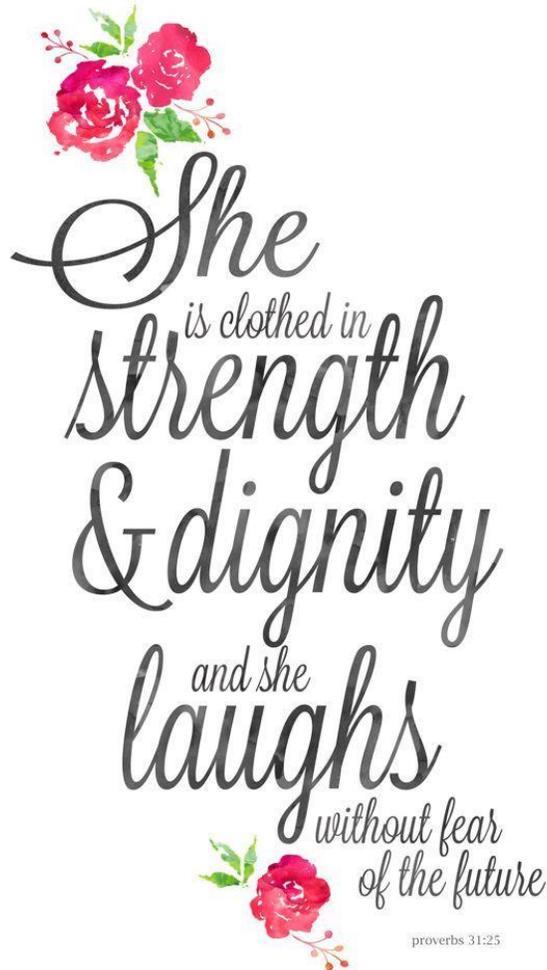
Serving 101, Mission of God for the People of God, Missional Leadership through our Connection and Experiential Missional Discipleship

Peace with Christ,

Doris Miller, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

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Become a Rainbow Giver 2021

The Virginia Conference United Methodist Women started the Rainbow Giver program in 2010 to provide an opportunity for you, as an individual, to personally give to five of the six channels of Mission Giving.



Your gift of \$60 will make you a Rainbow Giver:

\$ 5 is for Pledge to Mission

\$40 is for a Special Mission Recognition pin (to honor someone special)

\$ 5 is for a Gift to Mission card*

\$ 5 is for a Gift in Memory card *

\$ 5 is for World Thank Offering

**Card will be mailed to you for you to give to the person of your choice.*

It's easy to become a Rainbow Giver. Just fill out the information called for below and give this form to your unit or district treasurer along with a check for \$60. Be sure to write "Rainbow Giver" on the check's memo line. All components must be submitted to your unit treasurer at one time. While it is not mandatory, we suggest that your Rainbow Giver gift be in addition to your regular Pledge to Mission and World Thank Offering.

Anyone can become a Rainbow Giver -- church members, spouses, friends -- all are welcome to participate in UMW Mission Giving. *(Please note that a unit may not be a Rainbow Giver -- it's for individuals only.)*

DEADLINE: Your Rainbow Giver gift and form should be given to your unit treasurer in time for her to get it in the district treasurer's hands no later than August 10.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOU, THE RAINBOW GIVER (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NO. _____ EMAIL _____

NAME OF YOUR LOCAL UNIT _____ CHECK # _____

NAME OF PERSON TO RECEIVE THE SMR PIN _____

(If you haven't decided on the recipient yet, put on the line "Leave Blank." Pin and certificate will be mailed to you, the Rainbow Giver, for you to fill in and give to the person of your choice.)

WHICH GIFT TO MISSION CARD DO YOU WANT? _____

(Choose from: baby, birthday, Christmas, congratulations, in the service of Christ, peace, special day, you, thinking of you. Your unit treasurer has a picture of what these cards look like.) *thank*

If you have any questions, please contact your district UMW treasurer:

Angela Lane, 1110 Huntmaster Terr., NE, Apt. 301, Leesburg, VA 20176

Email: angln46@comcast.net Cell: 703-298-4068

One added note: When you become a Rainbow Giver, your unit also gets credit for each of those five Mission Giving categories and automatically becomes a 5-star unit.

United Methodist Women

Resource:

Online Training & Learning Via Bridge Platform

Bridge is an online learning management platform that United Methodist Women, national office, has been using as part of their national and conference UMW leadership development. The free, web-based training and learning opportunities are now also available to districts and local members to use for learning more about or reviewing what we already know about United Methodist Women.

Although there are several courses already developed (see below), access to the courses is not yet available on the UMW website. Each person taking courses must set up an account through Alana Walls, Distance Learning Coordinator at the UMW national office. There are two ways to do this:

(1) A district or unit contact can make a list of those interested using the template below and then submit it to Alana at AWalls@unitedmethodistwomen.org; include submitter's name and phone number; or

(2) Individuals can register themselves at <https://umwomen.wufoo.com/forms/mie6xb30qw4ph/>. The completed form will go to Alana or her colleague who will create the account.

Either way, each registrant will receive a confirmation email including the link to the Bridge.

The UMW national office plans to develop more courses over time. In the meantime, there is much to learn from the choices below.

SOCIAL ACTION COURSES (as of 3/25/2021)

- Introduction to the Role of Social Action Coordinator COURSE / 20 MINS
- United Methodist Women Social Action Campaigns (2016-20) COURSE / 30 MINS
- United Methodist Women Social Action Campaigns (2021-2024) COURSE / 30 MINS
- Living Wage for All: An Introduction to the Campaign COURSE / 60 MINS
- An Introduction to the School-to-Prison Pipeline COURSE / 30 MINS
- Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline (Course 2) COURSE / 30 MINS
- Climate Justice and Climate Change: Why Creation Care Is Important COURSE / 20 MINS
- *(Check below also)*

ALL OTHER UMW COURSES VIA THE BRIDGE (as of 3/25/2021; more to come)

- UMW 101 - This 5-part program provides an overview of the WHAT, HOW and WHY of United Methodist Women:
 - Why You Matter 2021 COURSE / 22 MINS
 - Why United Methodist Women? 2021 COURSE / 27 MINS
 - How Mission Is Funded 2021 COURSE / 60 MINS
 - How Mission Works 2021 COURSE / 8 MINS
 - What United Methodist Women Does 2021 COURSE / 21 MINS
- Spiritual Growth Coordinators Training 2020-2021 COURSE / 15 MINS
- So you want to talk about race (Book Self-Study) PROGRAM / 10 STEPS
- Communicating Across Generations COURSE / 60 MINS
- Legacy Liaisons COURSE / 43 MINS
- Mission Giving: Getting to the Heart of the Matter COURSE / 60 MINS

Winchester District UMW Virtual Spring Event

Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline

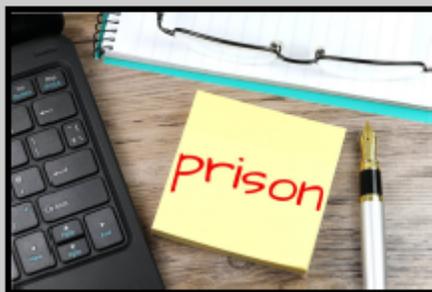
Saturday, April 24, 2021
9:30-11:30 am

Guest Speakers

Jeanette Yoh, Conference Social Action Coordinator
Emily Jones, National UMW Executive for Racial Justice

Special Musicians

Damon Moore & Ann Stewart from Harmony UMC
Sandra Holloman from John Mann UMC



A Zoom link will be emailed to all unit presidents that can be shared with unit members. For more information contact Rita Biggs, Social Action Coordinator 540-683-9068 or biggs40@gmail.com

Saturday, MAY 15, 2021
Virginia Conference United Methodist Women
Spiritual Life Retreat
Peace Be With You



Our Speaker: Rev. Ileana Rosario
Pastor of Lower United Methodist Church

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Agenda:

Greet One Another
Welcome and Zoom Tips
Opening Music and Prayer
Four Sessions followed by Break-out Groups:
Receiving Peace in My Heart
Sharing Peace within the United Methodist Church
Upholding Peace Despite Division
Spreading Peace Throughout the World
Closing Worship
Parting Words

Please register by May 3, 2021 by clicking on this link:

[Spiritual Life Retreat registration](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.