

# VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## James River District UMW



# THE COMPASS

**January 2021**

VACANT, President

Kelly Mooney, Editor

Hello Ladies of the James River District,

I am writing this letter at times that our country has never faced before. First a pandemic here in the US and all around the world .... the COVID-19 virus. It seems as if it is unrelenting with schools, churches, businesses, government offices and so many other things closing. I know about this first hand with a very close friend and co-worker passing due to the virus in April and myself contracting the virus in December, not being able to have Christmas with the family. Nothing seems the same and I am sure many of you have similar experiences also.

With the above, having other personal health issues and helping my Mom out, I need to do the one thing which seems to hurt the most. I need to leave the position of president of the James River District UMW. It is not easy to write this decision out in this letter. Being part of the district's mission team when we were the Petersburg and Suffolk districts and now the James River District, has been some of the most wonderful years in my life. I first want to thank Glenn Harrison of Bermuda Hundred who "tapped" me on the shoulder one fall day with a phone call and said "how would you like to be the mission coordinator for mission education and interpretation. You would do a great job". A day or so passed and I called her up and said ... OK. then down the road, the next call was "would you be president of the district?" and I said yes.

So today ends this part and another will open down the road which I know will happen! God has plans for all of us. We just have to open our eyes, ears and our hearts to whatever God might have us to do.

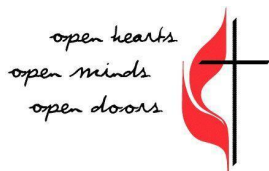
So now our district needs a new president. The position is what you make of it. Last year and into this year so much is different, with on-line meetings and phone calls, the conference's usual annual meetings being canceled or postponed. But the primary job is being there for the women of the district, helping to unite all of us, helping to make decisions with careful conversations with God and all of us. There is a team, though small in number at this time who are there for you. There is the conference mission team that can be called on for questions and council. There is the national umw web site which has wonderful information and recommendations.

So I pray that one or more of you will search your heart and listen to God that this might be something you can do.

**With all of my love (and I will see you around...I am not disappearing!)**

Diana Harbarger  
Former James River District UMW President

## **NEWS FLASH!**



Bishop Lewis lost her mother, Mrs. Alethia Lewis, before Christmas.

Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

**Send Cards to:  
Episcopal Office  
P.O. Box 5606  
Glen Allen, VA 23058**

**Please be safe**

**Wash your hands**

**Practice social distancing**

**Read your Bible or other devotional**

**Pray for the workers on the front line**

**Help others when you can**

**We are in this together**

Do you feel called to work in the United Methodist Church? There are several positions posted on the VAUMC.org Job Opportunities page <https://vaumc.org/jobs/> including Administrative Assistants, Preschool/Daycare Workers, positions in Youth Ministries, Music and Choir Directors.

**VICE PRESIDENT  
VACANT**

**SECRETARY  
Candee Speirs**

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*Your James River District Mission Team opened their January meeting with a devotion entitled "Cushioned Sins". Based on the verse from Jerimiah 22:21 "When you were prosperous, I warned you, but you replied, 'Don't bother me.' Since childhood you have been that way - you simply will not listen!" Lori Z. Scott, author of the devotion, spoke of a time when she curled her daughter's hair, helped her dress and took her to the auditorium where she would participate in her dance recital. Sitting in the auditorium with other parents waiting for the program to begin they heard the fire alarm begin to blare. They didn't smell smoke and no one wanted to give up their much-coveted seat for 'the best viewing spots' so no one moved until the ushers forced them to evacuate. She left us with this question 'Will I give up my well-seated sins and comfort and follow Christ tomorrow?' Ladies of the JRD UMW we are in this spot right now. Will any of us give up our well positioned comfort of wanting district events to continue for all to attend? Without a slate of officers there will be no programs to offer. Where is God calling you to step out and serve?*

*The Mission Team made the decision to not print 2021 Yearbooks in light of the current situation with COVID-19. Those units that sent updates to their unit's officers, you are greatly appreciated. We are offering the attached addendum to District Officers (and lack thereof), an abbreviated calendar of events with reminders of items due the district through the year as well as the dates state conference has events listed, the budget, and the listing of all unit presidents / coordinators of the local units. Please see the slate of James River District Officers, calendar of events and branch / unit pages in this newsletter.*

*May you be blessed mightily in 2021 as you serve God in mission.*

*Candee Speirs, JRD UMW Secretary*

**TREASURER**  
**Marie Hawks**

434-246-3609  
[mathmumma@yahoo.com](mailto:mathmumma@yahoo.com)

Following is a summary of the financial information for the James River District UMW for 2020. This is in no particular order of amounts or importance. Just some facts for you that would have been given at our annual meeting.

#Attached to this newsletter is a listing of our Rainbow Women and our Five/Six Star Units for 2020.

#The James River District was recognized at the Conference Annual Meeting as being 3<sup>rd</sup> in giving for Candleburning.

#We remitted a total of \$32,290.77 to the Conference in 2020. Of that amount, \$26,451.02 was Pledge to Mission and \$5,839.75 was designated gifts. We met 66% of our PTM goal of \$40,000.

#A joint decision was made by Conference and District leaders to set our 2021 Pledge to Mission as \$30,000

In closing, I want to thank you so very much for doing what you can in these uncertain times. Our district is in a rebuilding stage and that CANNOT be done without your help. Please pray for the leadership of our district and continue to support us as you can when you can. The four of us are committed to “make this work” as best as we know how. Again, thanks for your prayers and support.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Marie Hawks, Treasurer

804/586/4350; mathmumma@yahoo.com

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**  
**VACANT**

**SOCIAL ACTION**  
**VACANT**

**NOMINATIONS**  
**VACANT**

**MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE**  
**& OUTREACH**  
**VACANT**

**EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION**  
**VACANT**

**SECRETARY OF  
PROGRAM RESOURCES  
Linda Callis**

434- 848-3250  
[lcallis@yahoo.com](mailto:lcallis@yahoo.com)

Read while you can. The United Methodist Women encourage life-long learner to be readers. The link to information about the reading program is [United Methodist Women - 2020 Reading Program](#)

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/2021readingprogramtitles.pdf>

You can download the catalog and explore your reading options. If you have questions contact Linda Callis [[lcallis@yahoo.com](mailto:lcallis@yahoo.com)].

Happy reading!

Linda Callis, Sec.of Program Resources

**COMMUNICATIONS  
COORDINATOR  
Kelly Mooney**

804-350-6420  
[jamesriverumw@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**\*\*Important\*\*** Please consider using email to communicate with the District!! Could you designate one member as the email contact? Please distribute copies of the Compass at your UMW meetings and contact me for any changes to the local units contact info.

## **PAST EVENTS**

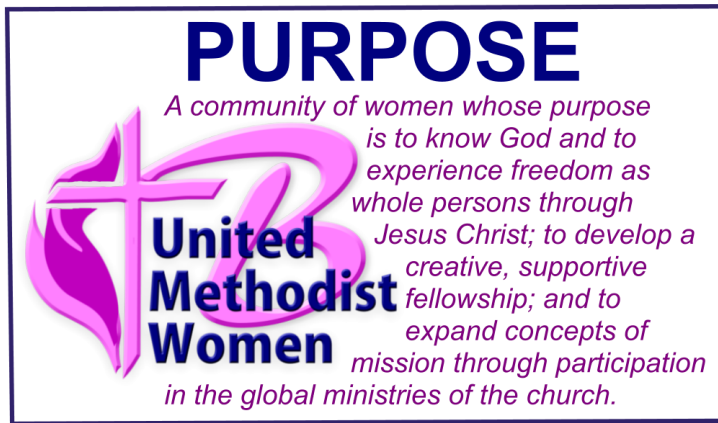
Have an event your Unit was a part of? Please send a picture or two with a small article and I can add it to the Compass! We can share our works and ideas with the district.

## **Upcoming Local Unit Events**

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

## **FROM THE DISTRICT**

Please do not send in Stamps for Missions at this time, there is no one collecting them.



\*\*\*\*All Calendar Dates are Tentative and are Subject to Change\*\*\*\*

## 2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Place	Time
January 22	United Methodist Day at the General Assembly, Richmond		
February 15	Census Information due to UMW <a href="http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org">www.unitedmethodistwomen.org</a>	Look for orange box labeled Census 2020	
March 10	1 st Quarter Treasurer's Report due	send to Marie Hawks (\$2.00 for each member for A&MD Fund)	
May 15	Spiritual Life Retreat	via Zoom	

### **2021 dates from State Conference**

<b>January 9, 2021</b>	<b>UMW Mission Team Meeting - Virtual/Zoom</b>
<b>January 18-22</b>	<b>VICPP/UM Week at the General Assembly - via Zoom</b>
<b>March 27</b>	<b>UMW Executive Committee Meeting - Virtual/Zoom</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>UMW Spiritual Life Retreat - Virtual/Zoom</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>UMW Day at Ferrum College</b>
<b>June 18</b>	<b>UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference - Hampton</b>
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Mission Encounter - Virtual/Zoom</b>
<b>September 10-11</b>	<b>UMW Young Women's Retreat - Camp Overlook, Keezletown</b>
<b>October 2</b>	<b>UMW Budget Meeting - UM Center</b>
<b>October 22</b>	<b>UMW Executive Committee Mtg. – Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center</b>
<b>October 23</b>	<b>UMW 49th Annual Meeting - Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center</b>

**RAINBOW WOMEN – 2020**

**TOTAL = 13**

Bermuda Hundred	Judy Clark; Betty Forbes; Glenn Harrison; Barbara Miller; Doris Morefield
Grace Memorial	Lou Anne Davis; Cindy Carr
Magnolia	Mary Anderson; Sylvia Kowalski
Main Street – Suffolk	Ann Shappell
Ocran	Brenda Brandon; Vicky Heller
Trinity – Disputanta	Pattie Arwood

**FIVE STAR UNITS – 2020**

**TOTAL = 1**

MAIL STREET – SUFFOLK

**SIX STAR UNITS – 2020**

**TOTAL = 7**

BERMUDA HUNDRED

COURTLAND

GRACE MEMORIAL

MAGNOLIA

MAIN STREET – EMPORIA

OCRAN

TRINITY – DISPUTANTA