

UMW Winter 2020 Newsletter

President's Letter

Hello Women of UMW,

It is easy to be worried about the state of our world. I worry about climate change and the immigrants all around the world fleeing for safety and to be able to feed and educate their children. I worry about minorities, women and LGBTQ individuals who are harassed and abused and denied basic rights. I worry about species becoming extinct and can the planet even support all of the people?



United Methodist Women gives me hope. We are supporting missions that help people. We learn about the problems through Mission U and the Reading Program and UMW events. We raise money that goes to programs around the world. UMW's current four major initiatives are:

- **Climate Justice**
- **Economic Inequality**
- **Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration**
- **Maternal and Child Health**

I want to thank you all for the work you do. As I am writing this, our holiday sale has concluded and many of you baked and sewed and knitted to give to the work of UMW. Many of you have made donations to UMW.

A very big thank you to Tina Alee for printing our UMW handbook.

It was a busy time of year with celebrations and advent. I hope you will experience the joy of the season with family and friends and church.

Thank you so much,

Marilee Woodworth

Upcoming Events:

- February 22, 23-UMW Weekend-Topic: Racial Justice
- March 28-UMW Prayer brunch, 9:00-Noon @ Dixboro UMC
- April 4-Keep Making Peace, 9:00-3:00 University UMC, East Lansing



Mothers Too

A group that discusses personal and church issues in a nonjudgmental, caring way. Meetings are on the Second Sundays at 11:00 AM. Upcoming dates are: January 12, February 9, March 8, and April 12. Contact: Sarah Nooden, snooden@umich.edu or 734-663-5667.



UMW Heritage District Dates

- **March 28:** UMW Prayer Brunch, 9:00-Noon, Dixboro UMC, 5221 Church Rd, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105
- **April 4:** Keep Making Peace, University UMC, East Lansing.
- **July 18-**One day Mission U, Big Beaver UMC, 3753 John R Rd, Troy, Mi 48083
- **August 13-15** - Three day Mission U and H.O.M.E. Lake Huron Retreat Center
- **September 26:** 9:00-3:00 PM, Saline UMC
Heritage District Annual Celebration and Meeting

The 2020 Handbook will be mailed to all members early in 2020. Please check your information to make sure it is correct. If there are errors, please contact Ann Hanton at dahanton@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 734-580-2107. The UMW handbook was printed at the church with a lot of extra effort by Tina Alee. This saved UMW over \$300 in printing costs

You are considered to be a UMW member if you are now or ever have been in any group in UMW. We would hope to have all women of the church as UMW members. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please contact our President, Marilee Woodworth, at marileewoodworth@gmail.com or our Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator, Mary Danforth at m19danforth44@gmail.com.

Birthdays

January

1 Frances Wicks
 6 Joan Stark
 7 Janice Leach
 9 Tina Alee
 11 Helen Ryan
 13 Dee Chapell
 14 Angelina Garner
 17 Anne-Marie Ilgen
 19 Mary Dalzell
 19 Sue Johnston
 22 Sarah Christensen
 23 Joan Cooch
 23 Ann Hanton
 23 Carol Phillips
 24 Moni Dressler
 27 Yomiko Sanford
 30 Lisa Berlanga

February

3 Annamarie Asher
 3 Elaine Fisher
 5 Karen Hetrick
 6 Carol Spaly
 7 Karen Donahue
 8 Roberta Asplund
 8 Jean Eridon
 9 Phyllis Dillon
 9 Diana Dyer
 9 Jeannine Huff
 9 Beth Moore
 10 Kim Garver
 10 Chris Reik
 11 Carole Starnes
 13 Tori Booker
 16 Cynthia Lee
 16 Christine O'Haver
 18 Joan Roth

February continued

18 Dawn Rudnik
 19 Mary McClusky
 19 Sherry Root
 20 Jamie Mayo
 26 Jan Radak
 27 Pam Gee
 27 Pat Wilson
 28 Stella Steiner

March

5 Spring Jackson
 6 Ginny Bentz
 6 Carol Fast
 6 Carol Teener
 7 Ellen Meader
 7 Katy Sanderson

March continued

11 Christine Kleinhessel
 11 Mary Danforth
 11 Janis Detlefs
 15 Cindy Schoolcraft
 19 Janet Chen
 22 Jill Miller
 23 Meg Gower
 24 Amy McNulty
 26 Elaine Shaw
 27 Susan Elliott
 28 Kristina Hall
 30 Maria Bertram
 31 Sandy Hultquist

Uncommon Threads

We are a group of FUMC women who knit or crochet prayer shawls and sew prayer quilts to give to those in need of comfort. We meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 1:00 – 3:00, at Green Wood. Upcoming meetings are :January 13, 27, February 10, 24, March 9, 23 and April 27. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact :

Sandy Hultquist at slhultquist@comcast.net or 734-663-8890.

PM³

PM3 is a group of women who meet on the fourth Friday of the month, in the downtown Asbury Room, from 1:00-3:00 for refreshments, a program, fellowship and sharing. Upcoming meetings are: January 24, February 28, March 27, April 24.

For more information about any *PM³* meeting, contact Sandy Hultquist at slhultquist@comcast.net or 734-663-8890.



Memorial Receptions

Memorial Receptions is a UMW group that gives compassionate care to grieving families by providing receptions following memorial services at our church.

Members provide homemade cookies, cheese/crackers and fruit and work at the receptions to set them up, serve and clean up afterward. Some of the tasks are to make coffee and punch, put tablecloths on the tables, arrange plates of food, replenish food plates and wash dishes afterward. There is much camaraderie as people enjoy working together and become fast friends.

For each reception an email is sent out and those who are available send a reply saying how they can help. Some help at each reception and others are available only occasionally. If this sounds like something you would enjoy doing, please contact Ann Hanton at dahanton@sbcglobal.net to volunteer.

Sarah's Sisters

We had a wonderful gathering at Moon Winks with 12 of us around our big table. Kathryn Grammel, Marcia Chesney and her daughter, Jen Schulz, Jan Radak, Sarah Nooden, Janet Fogler, Olivia Fanning, Deborah Nicholas, Helen Ryan, Janet Chen, and Dee Chapell.

Jen talked about the Xmas party for the children. They had a wonderful time. The parents and those who are helping children were at the party. We learned a lot about how things work for children to get help. We are grateful for all that Jen does for the children who need help in Washtenaw and counties which are nearby.

Our next gathering will be Tuesday, January 21, 1:15 pm at Moon Winks. Olivia will be there while Dee is in Florida.

Happy New Year to all!

News from November-December Response

The issue of Response is full of news -- more about UMW's 150th Anniversary and a call for funding, news from projects in two foreign counties, racial justice here at home, and action for Just Energy.

As we approach the Christmas season, Tina Barnes, Response's editor, challenges us to remember what Jesus told his disciples: "...You will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." She writes: "Together is how we follow the Spirit's leading...and understand what church God would have us be."

UMW's 150th Anniversary was celebrated across the country from Atlanta to Alaska, from New England to Colorado and California. "The history is a foundation, but the future is what we make it," was a statement from Boston's 150th anniversary celebration. To this end, UMW's Legacy Fund is soliciting contributions. They can be reached at 475 Riverside Drive, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10115. People can make one-time contributions or plan monthly contributions.

UMW's work in Portugal, a country in which Catholicism was the state religion until 1910 is varied. There the Methodist Church now has a membership of only 2000 people.

But with the help of UMW's Mission Giving Program local UMWs work to enrich communities with efforts such as preschool and afterschool education, lunches for indigent school children, help for elderly people at home, Sunday schools, and an annual summer camp for retirees. The scholarship programs helped 19 young women with secondary school or university education; these women have gone on to be heavily involved in giving back in efforts to help others. UMW has touched each generation "with their hard work and giving spirit ... training women to be leaders and inspiring their communities so the next generation of women will be brave, well-prepared and generous."

In Sri Lanka, many women were widowed and men were wounded and crippled because of religious wars from 1958 to 2009. Between 40,000 and 70,000 civilians were killed! More results were poverty, negative effects of climate change, and suicides because of debts. Among UMW's efforts to help are counseling of widows, digging of wells so women to not have to walk miles for water, and sewing classes; these services were offered without considering the religion of those being helped. The UMW counselors assert that they let people "feel our love and concern for them in our work. We try not to drag

them in Christianity, but ...want them to know God in our caring work in their own life experiences.”

The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church (2016) states, “The aim for our United Methodist Church is nothing less than an inclusive church in an inclusive society.... it calls upon its people to perform those faithful deeds of love and justice in both the church and community that will bring this aim into reality.” An article describes the work of Lauren Irby of the Charlottesville Virginia’s UMW who led efforts to enhance local efforts to take action against racism and build affection and understanding among Charlottesville’s clergy and faith leaders. They now work and pray to-

gether and work for positive changes in their community.

Finally, an “act” section reminds us of the many dangers of climate change – an issue upon which our local UMW recently led a workshop/study session. We all need increase our efforts to be good stewards by recycling, reusing, and, reducing – as well as pray and advocate for state and national efforts to make our country more amenable to efforts to enhance climate justice for our world.

Submitted by Jean Shaw.

2020 Pledges can be mailed to treasurer

Betsy Kincaid
235 Katherine Way
Dexter, 48130



or placed in the UMW Mailbox outside the church offices. Thank you.