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Change Service Requested

THE BOOK NOOK

Greetings from your new UMW West District Secretary of Program Resources. I hope this message finds you well and not too cold from the weather. A good way to stay warm is to stay home and curl up with a good book. It is never too early to begin on your reading program. Do it individually or challenge your fellow UMW women to a friendly read-off.

There are some wonderful new books available for 2015. In fact, *Tough Cookies: Leadership Lessons From 100 Years of the Girl Scouts* (Leadership Development) by Kathy Cloninger is a wonderful book—especially for all you current and former Girl Scouts. Check it out. I have just started reading *Not Just a Pretty Face: The Ugly Side of the Beauty Industry* (Social Action) by Stacy Malkan and it is bit scary. You'll have to read it to see what I mean.

For your information, a complete list of books for the reading program can be found here: http://www.inumc.org/files/file_share/umw/2011-2015readingprogramlistofbooks.pdf

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

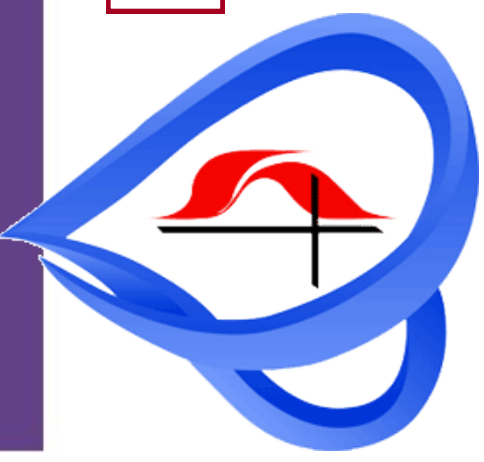
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Agape Newsletter

A publication of the West District
United Methodist Women

**March
2015**



**United
Methodist
Women**
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

From Your President - Kathie Hart

In early January my local UMW hosted a ladies' luncheon after church and invited all the women, young and old alike, to attend. We had nearly 30 females ranging in age from 7 - 83 attend and had a great time celebrating the mission of United Methodist Women. After the luncheon and program, one young woman, whose 6th grade daughter attended with her, came up to me and said, "Wow, UMW is way cooler than I thought it was. I might have to get involved." Of course, that was precisely the response we were hoping for.

We used the Passport to Mission Program that was presented at our Annual Conference in October 2014 and then presented again at our West District Leadership Development Day in November. Through this program we "traveled from continent to continent" and discovered what United Methodist Women are doing in our own country and around the world.

~We learned that 56 Roma (Gypsy) men and women directly benefitted from a Literacy Program in Serbia established by a UMW and Church World Service partnership, and that 280 others (family members, neighbors and friends) indirectly benefitted from this same Literacy Program.

~ We learned that UMW partnered with the Center for the Victims of Torture to provide direct mental health care to over 200 women who have survived the horrors of torture due to the protracted civil war in Somalia. They did so by extensively training 9 torture victims to become the primary mental health workers in the Dadaab Refugee Camp and are meeting with great success.

-We learned that in 2013, 1,247 individuals were able to attend one of 4 special camps designed to meet the needs of individuals with mental and physical disabilities at Camp Aidersgate in Arkansas because of United Methodist Women dollars.

Additionally, an amazing 938 volunteers contributed over 34,000 hours of service to make this happen.

I could go on and on, and we only learned about a fraction of the ministries which UMW is helping to support and fund. UMW has 97 National Mission Institutions and has 121 International Mission Projects. One of the best ways to keep up to date with

Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation

A little spark ignited in my heart in July 2013. It was a spark that since has fanned into flame a passion and devotion for the work of United Methodist Women. Where and how did this happen? It happened when I attended my first Mission U. I came to find myself at DePauw because of a scholarship form, lovingly passed to me on multiple occasions by a friend, who urged me to consider giving my children the meaningful experience ChiMiCa would offer. At the time, I was in a spiritually dry, thirsty place, a worn-out Mom with little energy to give anything other than daily demands. It was a leap of faith when I filled out the form, hoping I would have a meaningful experience.

The Mission U Scholarship I received, as well as the ChiMiCa scholarships for my children, gave all three of us a rare opportunity: first, focused time to spend on our relationship with God. And second, time to grow our hearts for mission; to learn how, where and with whom we could partner to spread God's love in the world. For me, it was a life-giving experience, opening to me new avenues of growth, worship, and means to exercise my faith.

May I share some practical hints, from my own experience, for encouraging a young woman or mother with children to attend Mission U?

Give her the scholarship form early and share it on multiple occasions. Summer vacation for public school children has dwindled down to precious little time, so she likely needs to plan in March for what she will be doing in July. She will also need to know **why** this investment of time is worth it—share with her what Mission U has brought to your life (or feel free to share my story above). She may, like me, need to see the form a few times before committing.

Ensure her questions are answered. What are her concerns? Does she have questions about the schedule? Housing? Meals? Transportation needs? It's helpful, as a mom, to understand what ChiMiCa & YoPeMiCa is all about. Be certain she has adequate info regarding her child's experience needed to make the commitment.

Be positive. Explain she and her child will be studying the same material, each designed with age appropriateness—an ideal means to spiritually grow together! Share with her the joy of fellowship at meal times (and mention, too, the delicious food!) Share with her the spirit of camaraderie you've observed among ChiMiCa. Tell her the blessing of listening to the children share in the ChiMiCa and YoPeMiCa's led worship services.

Invite her to pray about making the commitment to attend Mission U. And share that you'll be praying for her, too.

Perhaps the most meaningful take-away from my first Mission U was a palpable sense of the love UMW offered me, giving me time to rest, reflect, worship and grow. UMW ensured my children were well fed, lovingly encouraged, and mightily inspired. I hope many new women will experience the same this July!

Feel free to send me any questions or concerns—I'm glad to help!

Email me at mthomaso@indiana.edu pr (812)606-0232 (cell).



Lucille Raines Residence

This winter a crisis occurred with the boiler at Lucille Raines. Thanks to many of you who donated money to this cause (undesignated or as needed) , a new boiler was purchased and extra monies are also now available to Raines for other heating and cooling issues in the future as we as many other needed maintenance items. Thank you! Thank you!

To hear about this and all of the other ways that your mission dollars are helping people at Raines consider at TTL (talk, tour, and lunch). The cost is now \$8.00 a person, but well worth the price for a delicious lunch and an informative, inspirational day. Youth groups have found the time valuable as well. When visiting, you can bring items for the "bathtub ministry". There is an ongoing need for toiletries, small food items etc. to help the residents.

Raines will have a booth at the Flower and Patio Show in Indianapolis again this year, March 14-22. This is an opportunity to tell the Raines story, which some have said is "the best kept secret in Indianapolis", and to sell Lucinda Pins. Please look for our booth if you are there. If you would like to help, please contact me and I will give your information to Jodie Baker.

Cozette McColgin
Lucille Raines Board
Member representing West District



Expectations were exceeded by all who attended the first Limitless event in June, 2014 at Ulindy. This national program seeks to involve more young women in United Methodist Women to make it a truly multigenerational organization. Young women ages 15-75 all overwhelmingly agreed they loved being with the broad mix of ages. There was much fun and enthusiasm as the group grew in their knowledge of United Methodist Women: its PURPOSE and mission, including a worthwhile, fun hands-on project. Their short time together melded the group into a wonderfully supportive community who soon acknowledged they were "called for such a time as this". Together they created a fun video that tells a bit about their experience. It can be viewed at <http://voice.adobe.com/v/AyyJk4vp3zf>. We are sorry the video cannot be downloaded or copied. Don't miss the 2015 Limitless!

(cont. From Your President—Kathie Hart)

how our UMW money is being used is to regularly read the UMW response magazine.

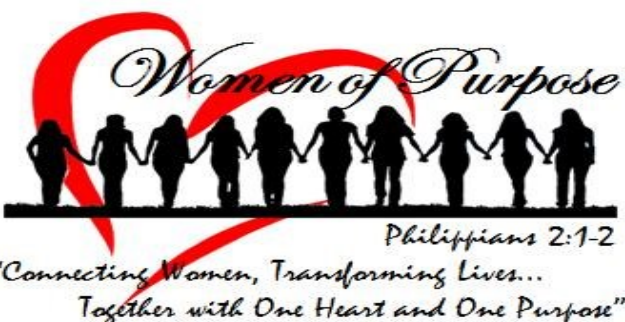
Last year West District UMW pledged \$25,000 to help support of these National Mission Institutions and International Mission Projects. We fell short of our goal by a little over \$1,900, and while I'm eager to celebrate that we made 91.7% of our pledge, I wonder who will miss out on that \$1,900.

This year we decided to keep our pledge at \$25,000 and work a little harder to tell our UMW story -- to get the word out about the amazing things that are being done in the name of Christ because of generous women who believe that it's important to put their "faith, hope and love in action." I hope you'll join me this year in our effort to make a difference on behalf of women, children and youth here and around the world who need our support. We CAN make a difference. We ARE making a difference.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

Matthew 25:40

Save the dates: June 26-28, 2015
(8 pm - Fri. Sun. am) United Methodist Women of Indiana will return to the University of Indianapolis (Ulindy) June 26-28, 2015, for the 2nd Limitless event. Each district is asked to send two (2) young women ages 14 to 40 and one over age 40. Registration information will be available soon. Please let your West District UMW President, Kathie Hart, know if you are interested, so she can get the information to you when it's ready.



FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY:

HELLO:

I would like to explain a little about the Sister Church concept. First of all the West District officers are here to answer any questions you may have about Missions of the UMW. Each officer is assigned local churches. We will be contacting you to just let you know who we are and keep you informed on events happening in the West District and the Conference level. See below the assigned churches. Blessings, Barbara Johnson, West District Secretary

JOANNE BOWEN bowen@indiana.edu 812-876-6368

Ellettsville UMC
Gosport UMC
Pleasantville UMC
Shiloh/Wesley UMC

LINDA PROFFITT slacy@cvfmmc.org 765-376-7781

Covington UMC
Crawfordsville UMC
Crawfordsville Trinity
Hillsboro UMC
New Market UMC

KATHIE HART kphart85@hotmail.com 812-345-0876

Bloomington Fairview UMC
Darlington UMC
Milgrove UMC
Terre Haute Centenary UMC

JEAN ROWINGS jrowings@yahoo.com 765-653-6053

Bainbridge UMC
Benson Chapel UMC
Brazil Bethel UMC
Lena UMC
Putnamville UMC

BARBARA JOHNSON barbara71244@yahoo.com

812-829-0253

Folsom Memorial UMC
Freedom UMC
Mineral UMC
Newberry UMC
Prairie Chapel UMC

MARY THOMASON-SMITH mthomaso@indiana.edu

812-606-0232
Bloomington Arlington UMC
Carlisle UMC
Shelburn UMC
Simpson Chapel UMC

LISA KELLEY ls1125@yahoo.com 812-829-5948

Brazil Union UMC
Fillmore UMC
Spencer UMC

CAROL SWEET sweet1244@msn.com 765-653-8674

Cloverdale UMC
Ebenezer UMC
Gobin Memorial UMC
Veederburg UMC

DEANNE PETTYJOHN Deanne@pettyjohn.org 812-236-7769

Terre Haute Memorial UMC
Terre Haute United Temple UMC
Wayside UMC



(cont. 2015 WEST DISTRICT OFFICERS)

Nominating Committee:

Mary Wood, Fillmore UMC, Putnam Co., 201 Long Castle Dr #3 Greencastle, IN 46135-2425; 765-653-6050 emmwood2@gmail.com
Nancy Barnett, Bainbridge UMC, Putnam Co., 517 E CR 825 N Greencastle, IN 46135-9521; 765-522-1464 nbarnett@tds.net
Barbara Aker, Lena UMC, Putnam Co., 2729 S CR 800 W Greencastle, IN 46135- 8378; 765-653-4438

MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE AND OUTREACH

"It's not too late to send in your Local Membership Census Forms! There's still a few outstanding that I'd love to receive. This is my first time in this position, and I'm hoping for a 100% response. My home church is Terre Haute United Memorial Methodist Church in Terre Haute.

Please email them to deanna@pettyjohn.org or mail them to:

Deanna Pettyjohn
10938 Ole Foxe Road
Terre Haute, IN 47803-9400. Phone: 812-236-776

(cont. calendar)

SEPTEMBER

26 * Sat. West District Fall Celebration

Registration 9:30AM @ Cloverdale UMC

**** West District Executive meeting following Fall Celebration ****

OCTOBER

9 – 10 * Fri Night – Sat. Annual Meeting, Grace UMC in Franklin

NOVEMBER

14 * District Leadership Development, St. Andrew UMC in Indianapolis

West District in green IN Conference in purple * Registration required

2015 UMW WEST DISTRICT OFFICERS

President 2014-16	Kathie Hart	Arlington/ Monroe	4020 W. Shadow Wood Dr. Bloomington, IN 47404-9557	H: 812-935-7315 C: 812-345-0876 kphart85@hotmail.com
V.P. 2015- 18	Lisa Kelley	Spencer/ Owen	5475 St. Rd. 246 Spen- cer, IN 47460-6292	H: 812-859-3766 C: 812-829-5948 dis1125@yahoo.com
Secretary 2014-16	Barbara Johnson	Freedom/ Owen	6425 Gentry Rd Free- dom, IN 47431-7144	812-829-0253 barbara.71244@yahoo.com
Treasurer 2012-15	Carol Sweet	Gobin/ Putnam	705 Kirkwood Dr. Greencastle, IN 46135 -1107	H: 765-653-8674 C: 765-720-2894 Sweet1244@msn.com
Spiritual Growth 2014-16	Linda Prof- fitt	Crawfordsville First/ Montgomery	900 S. Washington St. Apt 58 Crawfordsville, IN 47433-3574	765-376-7781 slacy@cvfurnc.org
M.N.O. 2015-16	Deanna Pettyjohn	Terre Haute Memorial/ Vigo	10938 Ole Foxe Rd. Terre Haute, IN 47803-9400	812-236-7769 deanna@pettyjohn.org
Social Action 2011- 15	Barbara Lane	Spencer/ Owen	239 W. Franklin St. Spencer, IN 47460-1608	812-821-4246
Education & Interp. 2015-16	Mary Thomason- Smith	Arlington/ Monroe	3829 E Tamarron Dr. Bloomington, IN 47408-2820	mthomason@indiana.edu 812-606-0232
Program Resource 2015-16	Jo Anne Bowen	Ellettsville/ Monroe	115 Ridge Springs El- lettsville, IN 47429-1013	bowen@indiana.edu (812)876-6368
Communi- cation 2015- 16	Nancy Wagner	Covington/ Fountain	719 Liberty St. Coving- ton, IN 47932-1534	765-793-4432 covingtonnunc@shccbbal.net
NOM. Chair	Jean Row- ings	Lena/Putnam	1735 S CR 900 W Greencastle, IN 46135-7743	765-653-6053 jrowings@yahoo.com

COMMENTS FROM THE DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT

Just want to remind you to plan on attending the Spring Celebration April 25th with Anne Bunch presenting "Be Just, Be Green." Check out the scholarships being awarded and plan to make this a great day with your unit.!! So talk it up and get the excitement going! Don't miss out.

VP

Think about your story that needs to be told, or your units story come and fellowship with other units. As we heard from the spiritual growth retreat we all have a story to tell, and many want to have someone to share their story with. How do I see Gods presence in the world? I had a wonderful experience, I want to share and listen to other's stories during this new year.

I hope to see you April 25th. If you need anything let me know God Bless

Lisa Kelley



COMMENTS FROM THE DISTRICT TREASURER

Historically, the bulk of our Indiana Conference and West District UMW Pledge to Mission gets turned into the District and Conference treasurers in the last 6-8 weeks of the year. This can create both cash flow difficulties and undue anxiety for those who are depending on our mission dollars each year to keep their ministries and programs operating fully. Please playfully consider, if at all possible, sending in 50% of your pledge by mid-year and 75% by September to District Treasurer Carol Sweet. (contact info. on officer list)

Blessings to you all,

Carol Sweet, District Treasurer

Spiritual Growth

At the West District UMW Spring Celebration April 25th we will once again be celebrating the lives of United Methodist Women who have entered into eternity. To include women from your churches who passed away in 2014 in this celebration of life and service, please turn in their names to VP of Spiritual Growth, Linda Proffitt, by April 15th. (contact info. on officer list)

Linda Proffitt

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth



2015 Mission u

Save the Date! Mission u 2015 will be July 21-24 Tuesday - Friday and the Saturday Sampler will be July 25th. Both will be held at DePauw University in Greencastle, IN

Mission u is the primary mission education event for the Indiana Annual Conference and is planned and implemented by United Methodist Women of Indiana. In addition to the adult programming for ages 17 and up, there are two components:

ChiMiCa (Children's Mission Camp) for ages 3 through 5th grade completed (childcare is provided)

YoPeMiCa (Young Peoples Mission Camp) for middle and high school aged youth

The youth and children's studies parallel the adult studies to create an intergenerational program. Studies are always Biblically-grounded, promote spiritual growth, educate and challenge participants to become more actively engaged in mission.

2015 Mission u Studies:

~Spiritual Growth: *Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God*

~Geographic: *Latin America: People and Faith*

~Issue Study: *The Church and People with Disabilities*

~Children's Study: *Life and Faith in Latin America*

~Youth Study: *Latin America: Places, Culture and Faith*

On-line registration will be open by the first of April at www.inumc.org/UMW. Contact any West District Officer if you need help.

WEST DISTRICT UMW 2015 CALENDAR

MARCH

12 Thu – Legislative Day 9:30 – 3:30

North UMC, 3810 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN

APRIL

17 – 18 * Fri-Sat 7PM – 2:30PM Spiritual Growth Retreat

Leader, Rev. Corinne Boruff, @ Don Hall's Guest House, Ft. Wayne, IN

25 * Sat. West District Spring Celebration

Registration 9:30AM @ Fillmore UMC, northeast of Greencastle, IN.

Speaker, Anne Bunch, North Central Jurisdiction Guide for the UMW's "Be Just. Be Green." Team.

****West District Executive meeting following Spring Celebration****

MAY

15 – 17 * Fri-Sun 7PM – 12 Noon Silent Retreat – Sarto House, Evansville, IN

JUNE

26 - 28 * Fri 7PM – **Sun** 11:30 Limitless Event -- UIndy, Indianapolis

JULY

21 Tue – 9:30AM **** (BEFORE Mission u)** West District Executive meeting –

Put together 2016 Budget & review 2016 Slate of Officers**

21 – 24 * Tue-Fri Mission u, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN

25 * Sat. Mission u Saturday Sampler, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN

2015 Studies: 1) Spiritual Growth, Finding Joy in Christian Living
2) Geographic, Youth and Children – Latin America
3) Issue Study – The Church and People with Disabilities.

West District in green IN Conference in purple *Registration required

