

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

VOLUME III

September 2020

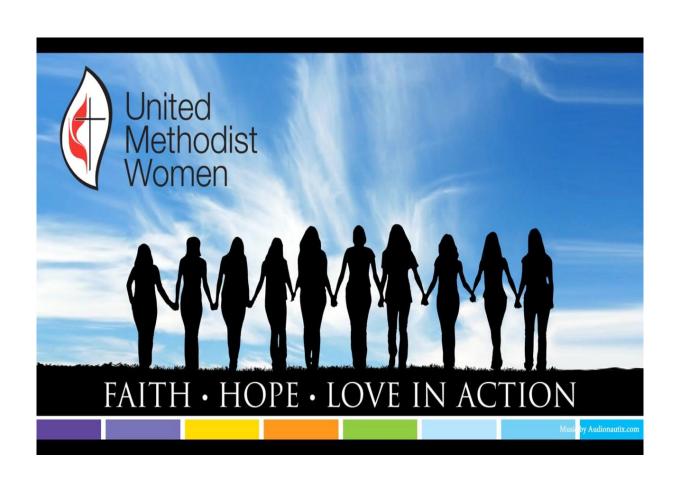


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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear UMW Sisters,

I greet you in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord, and with joy and thanksgiving as we continue to move forward within our world, notwithstanding this pandemic that continues to persist. I pray that you and yours remain safe and well, even as many of us venture out to the grocery store, doctors' appointments and other necessary destinations.

Your Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW Leadership Team has continued to meet and plan for our Annual Celebration which will be hosted by the Baltimore Suburban District and held on Saturday, October 24. 2020, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. via ZOOM. The theme this year is "Celebrating Children and Youth" and we will be worshiping, singing, remembering our loved ones who have gone on to Glory, announcing the winner of our Mission Today Crystal Award, voting in our Slate of Officers (included within this Newsletter), celebrating our UMW Legacy, and much more! The Zoom and registration link will be sent out soon to all United Methodist Women within our Conference. If you cannot join with the video portion, you will be able to call in and listen.

One of our current United Methodist Women initiatives is "Disrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline." Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW has partnered with a Maryland-based non-profit organization, "The Clarion Call" (see flyer below) to provide volunteer Learning Coaches to help our school children who are behind in their reading skills. All coaching will be done via computer and volunteers will be trained, step-by-step, in how to provide this service. There will be two webinars available to provide information for anyone who may be interested in learning more about The Clarion Call and/or becoming a Learning Coach: the first is Thursday, August 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., and the second is Saturday, September 19, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Are you familiar with "The Charter for Racial Justice'? If not, you may use this website: https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/download-resources/charter-for-racial-justice-english or go to the United Methodist Women's website directly. During this time of racial awareness, The Baltimore-Washington Conference United Methodist Women Leadership Team has re-established the Charter for Racial Justice Committee. We are actively seeking **young women** to join with us in planning events, seminars

and discussions to promote more awareness of racial justice issues. You may contact me or our BWC UMW Nominations Chairperson, Pamela Aulton palexana@hotmail.com if your heart is leading you to be part of this already pro-active committee.

I wish to send a huge THANK YOU to our BWC UMW Communications Coordinator, Kim Marie Walker, for all her efforts in forwarding information to you for your education and participation. There is a great deal going on this summer, and likely something will be of interest to you. Take a look!

Please know that your District Leadership Teams are going through the planning process for their fall Annual Meetings. You will be receiving information from them in the near future.

May you continue to be safe and secure within the knowledge that Jesus loves you and cares for you. I pray that we will "see" each other in October and actually be in each other's presence sometime in 2021.

In Christ's Love,

Linda S. Yost 443-605-8295

LJYost@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Peace and blessings to my Sisters in Christ,

This time of the year brings happy memories and excitement for the upcoming season. The fall season brings vibrant orange, deep brown, burgundy red, and golden yellow. It is at this time I am reminded of the profound majesty of God. The manner in which at the blink of an eye we can see the green, pink, and blue colors of summer turn into fall hues. This amazing turn of events could only come from God. God's works show us that anything is possible when we have faith. When we believe that though Jesus anything is possible, there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

As United Methodist Women, we are called on to do the hard and sometimes what some consider the impossible. But we serve a God that proves impossible is merely a word. We can do all things through Jesus who strengthens us. I pray that in the upcoming season and the upcoming year we will tap into our faith and continue to do the good works we are charged to do.

I pray we can turn, just as the colors of fall turn, into the people of God we are destined to be. People who follow the teaching of Jesus. People who reach out to help those less fortunate than ourselves. People who adhere to words in the gospel of Matthew "feeding the hungry, taking in a stranger, and visiting the sick".

Matthew 25:40 states, "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."' This is why we work so hard to carry out missions throughout our communities and the world. We strive to fulfill the scriptures, to be obedient and to be good stewards over everything God has blessed us with.

Please save the date: October 24, 2020 for our Annual Fall Meeting. The Baltimore Suburban District will host the meeting and it will be a virtual meeting. More details to follow.

I pray you and your families will be blessed with good health and happiness this season.

Ruthella Lievers Ralievers1@comcast.net



SECRETARY

What a challenge 2020 has been! Fall is almost here and we are still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and our "new normal" and it looks like it will be extended into 2021. Most of our UMW activities have been cancelled this year and sorely missed. Thank God for conference calls and Zoom!

The hardest part for me is being unable to see all of your beautiful faces at UMW activities. I was looking forward to seeing many of you at NEJ and Mission u. I am honored to serve as the UMW Conference Secretary but will be so happy when we are able to meet in person once again. Hopefully, many of you will be on Zoom for the BWC UMW Annual Celebration on Saturday, October 24, 2020.

May God continue to bless all of you as we serve women, children and youth through Faith, Hope and Love in Action.

Grace and peace,

Janice Crowe

Conference UMW Secretary

janice.a.crowe@comcast.net

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father; who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

I pray that you find hope and encouragement from the words above from Thessalonians for these days of COVID-19, racial tension, school openings and fair election worries.

As part of this year's Annual Celebration in October, we will be participating in a Love Feast. In her March 26 letter to the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Bishop Easterling wrote, "A Love Feast, created and encouraged in a time in our history when circuit-riding preachers could not always be present to consecrate the bread and wine, draws people together around a simple, shared and holy meal. Today, people might come to a common virtual table online or by phone, pray together, offer blessings, and eat crackers or fruit or bread and drink juice or water. It is the gathering, and the intentional bonding in community – the love, rather than the feast—brings meaning.

"Love Feasts are not intended to replace Communion, one of the sacraments of the church. But they do invoke God's presence in our midst, reinforced by the sharing of food and drink, prayer, Bible readings, and caring for one another in agape love. In times when clergy cannot always be present to bless the elements, a Love Feast is a ritual that evokes many of the same spiritual blessings."

In preparation for our Annual Celebration:

For the Love Feast—

- Be prepared at the time of the Annual Celebration to join in the Love Feast by having something to eat and drink. At the time of the Love Feast we will show what we will be eating.
- Have a personal witness to God's grace or accounts of what God has been doing in the lives of others ready to share either via the chat feature of Zoom, or verbally (there will be a limited number of verbal sharing).

For the Memorial Service, please forward the following information to me by September 15:

- The names of members of your units that have made the transition from this life to the next since October 2019.
- The names of any children and youth that have made the transition from this life to the next since October 2019. (Praying there won't be many)

I would encourage you to listen to the Faith Talk podcasts presented by the National office. They have been quite informative, and the recordings of them can be found at https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks.

Grace & Peace, Rita Green Spiritual Growth Coordinator ritamgreen@hotmail.com

PROGRAM RESOURCES

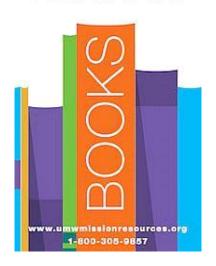
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2020 READING PROGRAM

2020 UNITED METHODIST WOMEN READING PROGRAM



READING PROGRAM

Reporting Form
Formulario de Información del
Programa de Lectura
독서 프로그램독서 프로그램



Please click on this link www.umwmissionresources.org or call 800-305-9857

Contact: Tangela Terry
Secretary of Program Resources
443-694-0468
Mst2136@vahoo.com

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through HIM who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of GOD in CHRIST JESUS our LORD."

Romans 8: 37

Hello District Education and Interpretation Coordinators,

I pray that this correspondence finds you safe and well. During these difficult times, United Methodist Women are encouraged to remain connected, as we stay focused on our Purpose and Mission. With resiliency, we move forward as women of faith.

Because of issues of safety and concern associated with COVID 19, United Methodist Women have had to think outside of the box with developing innovative ways to stay connected. Some United Methodist Women meetings have been delayed, while others have been canceled. Yet, United Methodist Women continue to move forward with faith and confidence. United Methodist Women are encouraged to be flexible and versatile with meetings. Conference calls and on-line virtual meetings such as Zoom, Google Meet, Skype and Periscope are suggested options for United Methodist Women Meetings. Many of these options are already currently being utilized. The Mission Today Checklist and the Diversity Today Checklist will be updated to reflect the various options available to meet.

With that said, we are moving forward with the 2020 Annual Mission Today District Competition and we will play it by ear moving forward. **"We are more than conquerors."**

Barbara Terry, Coordinator Education and Interpretation babswrightterry@gmail.com



BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



2020 Mission Today District Competition

The Winners Must Have the Highest Percentage of Active Local UMW Units for The Mission Today Unit Checklist Program

Prizes to Be Awarded at the 2020 United Methodist Women Annual Celebration



Rules of the Competition:

- Submit The Total Number of Active UMW Local Units and,
- Submit The Total Number of Active UMW Local Qualifying Units for The 2020 Mission Today Checklist Program, Due On or Before September 15, 2020.

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

Below you will find the final report for 2019 Census and Analysis. On August 11th and 13th the National Office had ZOOM meetings to review the data and update Conference MNO's on upcoming events and changes. There will be a number of projects, events and strategies that they will be presenting shortly.

The meeting started with Membership Engagement sharing the 52 conferences' 2019 Census Data. The full PowerPoint will be made available in about ten days, however, when reviewing the Census Data, Baltimore Washington Conference was the lowest Conference on the chart <u>-see</u> <u>below</u>. Also below is a chart showing age representation.

The BWCUMW Districts and Leadership Team must be aggressive in collecting membership count from the local units. This is a vital tool to help the organization to continue to grow. During the meeting several Conference Presidents and MNO's discussed strategies they used to collect membership/census. Many conferences presidents talked about the aging of their units, but everyone agreed that they must keep the members already committed to being an organized unit. Several conference presidents reported having "newly formed virtual units", online units, a growth in clusters and senior only units, they are in senior residence and nursing homes.

Listed below are a few things that are being planned:

- 1) Census collection for the future (2021) and what it will look like, there will be changes;
- 2) A virtual "Soul Care Retreat", to address spiritual and self-care for UMW, some of the activities may be virtual painting, candle making, meditation, more details will follow;
- 3) Workshops/seminar/training with specific targeted audiences, still in the design stage, however, specific audiences will be targeted, i.e. women of the same generation, women who are social action leaders, more to follow;
- 4) A new giving Tuesday will be launched;
- 5) COVID19 has given National Office a chance to re-think and regroup and find other ways to keep women engaged, old as well as new members. They are looking at what works and what can be changed. The Peninsula-Delaware Conference reported that they will be hosting a Spiritual Growth Retreat using the book "Finding Peace in an Anxious World" and the other conferences thought that this was a great idea;

- 6) National and Membership Engagement have been conducting interest surveys to gather insight regarding member's interests, needs, and recommendations.
- 7) Census 2021 will have a new look, more information to follow, however, the 2020 Census will not change just some of the questions;
- 8) myUMW will remain the same with some of the questions tweaked/modified; and
- 9) A virtual presence to connect with the United Methodist Women will remain in effect until further notice.

Finally, National reports that membership is down and they cite among other things COVID19 kept many people from reporting because they did not have access to a computer and other reasons, although the Census portal stayed open until the end of April, therefore they are looking at what the myUMW statistics and GCFA reports to get a better picture of the total number of members. There will be another ZOOM meeting to share updates.

Respectfully submitted,
Daphne L. Hurd
Membership Nurture and Outreach (appointed)

COMMUNICATIONS



COVID-19 has brought uncertainty and emotional disruption to our lives and the lives of our families, our friends and our United Methodist sisters.

How we communicate with our families, our friends and our United Methodist sisters should help support, mentor and build resilience to result in positive change.

The coronavirus has created great uncertainty, elevated stress and anxiety, and prompted tunnel vision, in which people focus only on the present rather than toward the future. During such a crisis, when information is unavailable or inconsistent, and when people feel unsure about what they know (or anyone knows), there is an increased human desire for transparency, guidance, and making sense out of what has happened.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a crisis situation unlike any other we've experienced in living memory, affecting almost everyone around the globe. During a time like this, it's critical for us to make consistent communications a priority.

In doing this we must ensure that we have the right tools to keep others well informed, which gives us a better chance to stay on course and to keep **our** mission.

PRAYER, PRAYER and MORE PRAYER.

Daily communication with GOD!

Kim Marie Walker Communications Coordinator-BWC-UMW burrwalker123@gmail.com

NOMINATIONS

GREETINGS FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE



As we wind down one exceptional conference year, and prepare for another, I would like to extend congratulations to the NEJ team. Of the candidates we submitted for consideration, Sister Colleen Cates was elected to be on the Board of Directors 2020-2024. Congratulations are also in order for Sister Mikele Haskins-Delmore, who will serve as the NEJ President 2020-2024. Below, is the complete team list for the Northeast Jurisdiction.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2024

Denise-Nicole Stone
Valerie Clark
Hazel McIntosh
Colleen F. Cates

Western Pennsylvania Conference
Upper New York Conference
New York Conference
Baltimore Washington Conference

ALTERNATES:

Denise Snyder Peninsula Delaware Conference Yvonne Bouknight Greater New Jersey Conference

JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM 2020-2024

Mikele Haskins-Delmore, President
Gail Douglas-Boykin, Vice President
Janet Evans, Secretary
Mary Brooks, Treasurer
Marilyn Powell, Chair Nominations

Baltimore Washington Conference
New York Conference
Eastern Pennsylvania Conference
Western Pennsylvania Conference
Greater New Jersey Conference

Nominations Committee:

Carolyn Burrows

Donna Lowe

Marsha Banks

Mew England Conference

West Virginia Conference

Susquehanna Conference

Upper New York Conference

Locally, on the Conference level, we are preparing to vote in a leadership team at our annual meeting to be held on Saturday, October 24. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, the meeting will be conducted via zoom. Registration, and other information details, will be sent in September.

In the meantime, in this issue of The Flame, you will find the proposed voting slate. In addition to the slate, you will see the form for nominations from the floor. Nominations from the floor **must be submitted no later than September 30.** Elected members will begin their work January 2021. If you are a lover of Christ, and want to be a servant leader, we will be very happy to welcome you as part of our executive leadership team.

Do not be deterred by this current pandemic situation in which we find ourselves. Whether you live alone, or not, please make sure to stay positive during these difficult times by keeping in touch with family and friends. Most importantly, stay in prayer, and meditation, for we have a risen Savior in whom our faith tells us will get us through this terrible situation. I pray you find comfort in the lyrics of this worship song:

William Becton & Friends - "Be Encouraged" - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kW-12AkEAyg

Pamela Roxanne Aulton, Chair palexana@hotmail.com

CANDIDATE SLATE FOR OCTOBER 24, 2020

The Conference UMW Committee on Nominations presents the following slate for leadership on the Baltimore-Washington Conference United Methodist Women Leadership Team for 2021.

Leadership Team Candidates:

President - Linda S. Yost

Vice President – Ruthella Lievers

Secretary - Janice Crowe

Treasurer – Dorothy Medley

Spiritual Growth Coordinator – Dr. Esther Barkat

Social Action Coordinator – Jeannie Lee Panesi

Education and Interpretation Coordinator – Barbara Terry

Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator – **VACANT**

Communications Coordinator - Kim Marie Walker

Secretary of Program Resources – Tangela Terry

Nominations Committee Chairperson - Willa Kynard

COMMITTEE ON CHARTER (CFRJ) FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Committee on Charter (CFRJ) for Racial Justice Members 2021

In light of all the racism concerns happening around the country, we feel it is necessary to reconstitute this committee.

The Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies is a committee that has a membership of seven members, one-third of whom shall be of color if possible.

The seven members shall include the president of the Conference Mission Team, who will serve as the chairperson, the mission coordinator for social action, and the chairperson of the Committee on Nominations.

Four additional members shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations. They shall be one district president, one member of the Executive Committee and two members selected to ensure inclusiveness and/or special expertise in the skills necessary to accomplish the task.

The committee shall:

- 1) develop and recommend to the Executive Committee
 - 2) plans for the implementation of the Charter
- 3) monitor conference-approved action plans to implement the Charter
- 4) regularly evaluate progress made on conference, district and local implementation plans.

Mikele Haskins-Delmore -- mhdelmore@yahoo.com

Jeannie Panesi-- <u>jeannie5314@yahoo.com</u>

Sabrina White -- sve2042@hotmail.com

Linda Yost-- LJYost@verizon.net

Sharon Milton -- law2be@hotmail.com

FLOOR CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS FOR OCTOBER 24, 2020

Baltimore-Washington Conference 2020

Election Submission Deadline: September 30, 2020

The United Methodist Women's bylaws allow for nominations from the floor. Please use this form for nominations from the floor for this year's BWC-UMW Conference Officers' election. If you want to make a nomination for more than one office, you must complete a form for each office.

Send all Nominations from the Floor to: Pamela Roxanne Aulton at palexana@hotmail.com by September 30, 2020.

NO nominations from the floor will be accepted as valid after September 30, 2020

If you have questions, contact Pamela Aulton at email above.
For which office is your nomination?
□President
□Vice President
□Secretary
□Treasurer
□Spiritual Growth Coordinator

□Education and Interpretation Coordinator

□Communications Coordinator

□Social Action Coordinator

☐Membership, Nurture, & Outreach

□Program Resources Secretary

☐Member, Committee on Nominations (3)

□Chair, Committee on Nominations

□Member, Committee on Charter (CFRJ) for Racial Justice (2)

Nominee's Contact Information (REQUIRED)

1. Name:

Address:

City:

Zip Code

	Email Address:
2.	Please enter the nominee's home, cell and work numbers. If she does
	not have one, or it is unknown, please enter "NONE" in the space.
	Home Phone Number:
	Cell Phone Number:
	Work Phone Number:
3.	Please identify the age range of the nominee. (Optional)
	□ 18-30 years
	□ 31-40 years
	□ 41-50 years
	□ 51-65 years
	□ 66-70 years □ 71 and over
4	Please identify the ethnicity/race of the nominee. Choose all that
•	apply. (Optional)
	□ African
	□ African-American or Black
	□ Asian-American or Asian
	□ Caribbean
	□ Caucasian or White
	☐ Hispanic or Latina
	□ Hmong
	□ Native American
	□ Pacific Islander
Nama:	☐ Please write in your own preferred description
	nator Information (REQUIRED) Please let us know who you are Nominator Contact Information
٦.	Name:
	Address:
	City
	Zip Code:
	Email Address:
Plea	se identify the local church to which the nominee belongs. (REQUIRED)
6.	Local Church:
	Include nominee short bio (35 words) (REQUIRED) and a picture (head
photo	o). (OPTIONAL)

Committee on Nominations

Membership

The committee will be composed of no fewer than three (3) members, including the chairperson.

- Functions
 The committee will:
 - a. Gain an understanding of the mission emphases and organizational form of the unit and the responsibilities of each office.
 - b. Work throughout the year to identify women for leadership roles in the local unit.
 - c. Ensure that the elected leaders of the unit and members of the committee on nominations reflect the diversity of the membership within the unit. Elements of this diversity include but are not limited to age, race, marital status, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, sexual identity, gender expression, disabilities and employment in and outside the home. (Representation for racial and ethnic groups in proportion to their membership should be seen as a minimum requirement.)
 - d. Secure leaders for subgroups as requested by the leadership team.
 - e. Make nominations to fill vacancies that occur ad interim.
 - Meetings The committee will meet at least semiannually and on call of the chairperson.

Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordination

Leader works actively to fulfill the Purpose and find creative ways to nurture current members and cultivate new members. She will:

- a. keep the Leadership Team informed about needs and concerns of membership;
- b. chair the Committee on Membership and recommend to the Leadership Team plans for membership cultivation;
- c. work with district mission coordinators or person responsible for membership nurture and outreach to organize new district and local units and receive information about units in jeopardy of going inactive and follow up with necessary intervention, nurture and support;
- d. serve as the contact person for district mission coordinators or those responsible for membership, nurture and outreach, as well as provide resources, conduct training at least annually, as determined by the Leadership Team, and promote data collection through the membership census and member profiles;
- e. work with the Leadership Team to become a supportive community, provide regular creative fellowship activities for the team and work with them to create and encourage mentoring strategies;
- f. include time and space for women to share their concerns and experiences with one another at gatherings of United Methodist Women members;
- g. stay in touch with and support members through life's joys and struggles;

- h. work with the Leadership Team to value the inclusion of women of different cultures and life stages; and
- i. serve on the other committees as determined by the Leadership Team. https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/members-leaders/responsibilities/membership-nurture-outreach

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS 2021 Falisha Doby Yolande Dickerson Hilda James Daphne Hurd

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PODCASTS:

Faith Talks podcasts are monthly conversations exploring themes and resources that empower women (and men) to put faith, hope, and love in action.

http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org or https://podcasts.apple.com

- Emotion and Anxiety with Trudy Rankin; Caring for the Body with Ghylian Bell; Education Inequality; Mass Incarceration; Grief
- Coronavirus, Faithfulness & Online Worship; Paid Family Leave; And One-on-One Talks

Response (magazine) podcasts feature audio versions of some of the articles from each issue. Currently there are approximately 50 articles available.

http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/responsepodcast

MEETINGS

As the quadrennial slowly comes to an end (by the next organization meeting in October), the board is still actively working. Of course our meetings are being held virtually. These are the meetings I have attended since May 15, 2020:

Planning and Assessment Committee has been meeting monthly and this committee works with the Transformation Officer, Sally Vonner, and other staff leading us through the Strategic Plan: Position, Engage, Mobilize and Public Relations & Marketing. We have piloted a new way of giving, which was a one-day targeted giving campaign around funding for our NMIs (National Mission Institutions) in the work they are doing to help communities during the time of COVID-19. Over \$50,000 was raised for Giving Tuesday Now.

 Leadership Development Days (LDD) will transition into a virtual event scheduled for late Jan/early Feb 2021. Plans are for an innovative, engaging experience focused on new officers and supporting them, and there will be time for past and current officers to gather for networking and sharing of best practices.

• The staff are being responsive to meeting the needs of members during COVID-19 pandemic through ongoing outreach: resources, virtual and print communications and guidance to officer groups of the conference leadership team.

- The committee (along with 3 local members per committee members) participated in a survey about "What Matters Most." Questions included:
- o How has United Methodist Women enhanced your spiritual growth?
- o What do you need most from United Methodist Women at this time?
- To what extent has membership in United Methodist Women impacted your leadership skills, abilities, and comfort levels?
- What is most important for United Methodist Women to consider to sustain its mission over the next 5-10 years?
- Along with "United Methodist Women Stronger Together post-COVID-19", a follow-up survey

Board of Directors (also meeting monthly)

Some of the discussions held are in confidence and cannot be released at this time.

- Download Resources: 2021-2024 Handbook covering Constitution and By-Laws; Funding the Mission: Finance Policies and Directions. Forms for the Treasurer are available for download. The complete Handbook will be available digitally and in printed form after General Conference 2021 and will incorporate changes from General Conference decisions.
- **National Mission Institutions**: working very closely with NMIs, some have received emergency grants
- **Jurisdiction Meetings** were cancelled due to COVID-19; the meetings will not be rescheduled in 2021. The next jurisdiction meeting will be held in 2024. During the Jurisdiction meetings, Directors are elected. This year elections will be done virtually. The Northeastern Jurisdiction election was held July 17, 2020.
- The extended governance committee, comprising of board governance committee members, along with the president, vice-president, secretary of the board and chairpersons of other committees of the board, has sent nominees for the five additional board members and

for the board officers to be elected at the organizational meeting, currently set for October 8-11, 2020.

• **National Office**, with the board's vote, applied for the Payroll Protection Program (PPP); and was granted. They will also apply for the forgiveness of loan application.

• The **National Legacy Steering Committee** met to review Campaign Goals and Accomplishments as of May 21, 2020. The overall goal is to raise \$60 million dollars. As of 08/10/20 the total raised is \$29,165,341 (49% of the total goal (includes cash + \$5,794,174 in planned gifts. Many thanks to the women of the Baltimore Washington Conference for their donations to the Legacy Endowment Campaign.

Legacy Fund Campaign Goal 2020	\$32,000,000
Endowment Balance	\$22,460,384
Funds Raised Planned Gifts	\$ 5,793,174
Total	\$28,253,558
Funds to Raise	\$ 3,746,442

Day of Giving Goal (March 23 rd)	\$350,000
Gifts Received	\$179,791.31
w/ \$125K Matching Gift	\$125,000
Total:	\$304,791.31 (87% of Goal)
Revenue to achieve goal	\$46,000.00

Major Giving Goal (\$10K or more)	\$750,000.00
Major Gifts/Pledges Goal	\$750,000.00
Closed Major Gifts/Pledges	\$201,738.00 (27% of Goal)
Funds to Raise	\$548,262.00
Anticipated Value of Closed Gifts	\$806,500.00

2020 Planned Gifts Goal (1869 Society)	\$1,000,000
Closed Planned Gifts:	\$ 50,000 (5% of Goal)
Funds to Raise:	\$ 950,000
Anticipated Value of Planned Gifts	\$5,233,490
Planned Gifts Raised (May 2018- April 2020)	\$5,793,174

Every Member Campaign Goal	\$1,200,000.00
Gifts Received (January – April)	\$ 308,770.74 (25% of Goal)
Funds to Raise:	\$ 891,229.30

Legacy Builder Goal (\$18.69 or more mthly)	\$100,000.00
Monthly Revenue (May 7, 2020)	\$ 16,546.00
Legacy Builder Funds/Annualized (May – December 2020) \$16,546 x	\$115,824.00
7 months	
Projected Total (December 2020):	\$132,370.00 (132% of Goal)

As my four years come to an end, I have been honored and blessed to serve my conference as a National Director. I have attended more meetings, seminars, leadership events nationally and have still been able to serve within my conference and Metropolitan District as well as my local unit. Thanks to all of the Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women, pastors and especially the School Committee for their love and support. I hope I have represented you well.

Colleen F. Cates Director

NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION

Greetings Phenomenal United Methodist Women of the Baltimore Washington Conference! Alas, this is my final report as Vice President of the 2020 Northeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Women. Before moving ahead with the business at hand I wanted to thank you all for the opportunity of serving you these past four years. I, like yourselves was greatly looking forward to having the quadrennial meeting here in our conference, but Ms. Corona had other plans that hijacked our event! I want to thank the Conference team in totality for all of your support spiritually, physically and financially but would like to express an extra thank you to Colleen Cates, Daphne Hurd, Willa Kynard, Sheila Grier, Linda Yost, Ann Price, Daisy Farmer, Shanae Als, Sarah Ford, Judy Smith, Deaconess Patricia Marks and Rita Green for the extra touches and hard work that you provided in working to ensure that our event would go off without a hitch. You've ALL gone above and beyond and am most proud to be a part of the Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW.

Now onto business. As you know the most important reason for holding a jurisdiction event is to implement the election process for the United Methodist Women's national board of directors. Through much training and testing, the National Office hosted the virtual election held on Juy17th via Zoom with the help of Ubiqus, the voting company. Election results are posted on nejumw.org and are as follows:

Northeastern

Denise-Nicole Stone, Western Pennsylvania Valerie Clark, Upper New York Hazel McIntosh, New York Colleen F. Cates, Baltimore-Washington

Alternates:

Denise Snyder, Peninsula Delaware Yvonne Bouknight, Greater New Jersey

Leadership team:

President: Mikele Haskins-Delmore Vice president: Gail Douglas-Boykin

Secretary: Janet Evans Treasurer: Mary Brooks

Chair of nominations: Marilyn Powell

Nominations committee: Carolyn Burrows, Donna Lowe, Marsha Banks,

Melanie Keith

Congratulations to our second term Director Colleen F. Cates!

For those ladies who've registered for the jurisdictional event and paid by check you should have received a refund check from the NEJ treasurer, Leeda Marsh. If you have not received your checks please let me know. For those individuals who paid by credit cards you will receive a reimbursement check from the National Office's business manager. Those may take a little extra time in coming but please know that you will receive them.

I'd also like to mention that the next event coming up will of course be Assembly which will be held in Orlando, Florida, May 20-22, 2022 and we hope to see you there! Blessings to each and every one of you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Mikele Delmore, VP NEJ 2020

ANNAPOLIS DISTRICT

Greetings from the Annapolis District,

We pray that everyone is staying safe and healthy. And we pray for those who are battling COVID-19. Our prayer is that God will heal and restore them to health. As we embrace the "new normal", let us remember to check on each other to make sure our UMW sisters are doing ok.

The Annapolis District has adjusted to the "new normal". We have learned or are learning to adapt to holding meetings on Zoom or by conference call. We know that even in the midst of a pandemic, the mission still goes on. We are on the mission field for God advocating for women, youth, and children.

While we were unable to hold our Annual Spring Brunch, we still held our baby shower and managed to provide baby items to Mary's Center in Glen Burnie for churches in our North and East clusters, and St. Matthews for churches in the Annapolis and South clusters.

We are doing everything we can to make our pledges to the Conference, and even during the pandemic, our units are recruiting and welcoming new members to the UMW family. Thank God for that wonderful blessing. There's always a ray of hope in everything we do to the Glory of God.

Several of us participated with the Annapolis District United Methodist Men in their Thursday Night Prayer service. It was a wonderful experience to spend an hour or so in praise and worship with men and women from around the Baltimore Washington Conference. We all need prayer and what an awesome way to connect.

As we prepare for our Annual Meeting next month, we are first out of the chute with a virtual meeting. We will highlight our theme: Child and Maternal Health. Again, I will ask the women to donate baby items to their closest baby pantry. There is a great need in our communities, especially with people losing their jobs and having other commitments. Let us do our part to lighten their load where we can.

The children and youth in our District are preparing to go back to school, and we need to do our part to assist them with the necessary supplies to begin the online/virtual semester. Our goal is to help the children and youth get off to a wonderful start to the school year. We are not sure whether they need us to donate backpacks as in previous years, but our Vice President is coordinating to see how we can best support our students. Some children and youth find it challenging to adapt to the virtual/online learning environment because some need that in-person interaction. We need to keep the students, teachers, staffs, and administrators in our prayers.

Let our constant prayer be for God to hear our prayers and heal our land.

Emma M. Krouser President, Annapolis District e5m7krou2@gmail.com

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

Greetings from the Baltimore Metropolitan District where we are committed to honor the **PURPOSE** of the United Methodist Women. The mission team and I continue to pray for the safety and wellbeing of every one during this time of uncertainty.

Since we have not been able to meet in person, we have been relying on electronic means. Our District now has our own Zoom account so we will be able to have regular meetings. We have a meeting scheduled to plan our annual meeting for 2020. Pray for us, like many others, this is a new experience.

I know that many of us continue to communicate through video conferencing (ZOOM) and other electronic means. (Facebook, Instagram, snap chat, etc.) But I was thinking, this may be a good time to go back to some of our "old" means of communication. Like sending cards or notes of love and concern via snail mail. *Pray for our postal Service*. Whatever we do, it is so very important to continue to keep in touch with one another.

I know there is talk about getting back to "normal", but I caution you all to **go slowly** and continue to seek God's guidance through prayer to restore our hope, renew our joy and to give us strength and peace. Remember we are all in this together.

Don't forget to VOTE!!

Love & blessings

Gwendolyn Brooks President – Baltimore Metropolitan District gwndlynbrooks@aol.com 

Greetings to you!

Some of you are already aware, so please excuse this repeat of information.

My big iMac was out of commission since COVID (knowingly) began its existence here in the US. This shut down our CMD UMW Twitter and FB accounts temporarily. I hope all of the issues have been resolved, so please look for the accounts.

For many of you, these sights will be new to you. Please add them to your lists of sights that you view on a regular basis. I add items to these accounts 1 - 7 + times / week, depending.

Our Twitter account is https://twitter.com/md_cent or CentMdDistUnitedMethodistWomen@md_cent or

@md_cent

If you have a Twitter account, the latter seems to work the best. For this page the images are of a basket of inspirational messages on river rocks and rows of lighted votive candles.

For Facebook, we are:

Central Maryland District United Methodist Women (images at the moment host 2 large images of flowers - pink, red and yellow).

Please search for and intentionally look for the accounts each time you log on until it naturally evolves to your page. This allows to see how many people are being reached.

Please pass along this information to your friends, colleagues and fellow UMW leaders and UMW girlfriends, family and anyone else who might be interested.

Once events are up and running again, please pass along any events or information you would like posted. I'll gladly get this information on both social media platforms.

I hope all of you are having a wonderful day. And some day we will all meet again face-to-face. Won't that be a great day!

be well, everyone.

Cindy S Waugh c.smithwaugh@icloud.com

FREDERICK DISTRICT

Dear United Methodist Women of the Frederick District!

I hope and pray this finds you all well. These past five months have been extremely challenging to many of us. To those that have encountered any type of loss, our hearts and prayers are with you.

Although, many of us have used the time to get creative, clean out the basements and redecorate, I hope that you had time to strengthen your relationship or reconnect with the Lord, family, friends and to rest. I was scheduled to be off for the summer and I had planned to get out to meet as many of you as possible, but between pandemic and a new job that started in June from home, it simply was not possible. We will meet in person as soon as it is safe! However, be on the lookout for a Zoom invitation to meet virtually and by phone.

This pandemic has altered our lives in many ways and based on the calls and correspondence that I have received; you have adjusted as well as could be expected. As we continue to move forward, we must be as diligent as possible with our safety always in the forefront. Many events have been cancelled or postponed but I encourage you to meet via conference call, Google Meet or Zoom. Please look for additional correspondence from me soon.

We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds our future. Stay in prayer, be encouraged, and know that we are all in this together!



Continue to be awesome on purpose!

Yours in Christ,
Angela Fossett
Frederick District President
United Methodist Women
301-639-1569
frdistumw@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/frederickdistrictumw/

GREATER WASHINGTON DISTRICTBe Encouraged! We have got work to do!

As the summer of 2020, comes to and end this year will go down in history. The COVID -19 pandemic has tested our mental health, our faith and our families. It's has been difficult being quarantined to our homes for months, watching the news and seeing the death count of innocent people tick up every day. But we must remember that God is still sitting on the throne and in times of distress go to God in prayer, he will take care of our burdens. *Psalm 46: 1-3*

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea," The Psalmist reminds us to praise God for being our source of power, strength and salvation in times of trouble. Let us not lose focus on WHOSE we are, remember "For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7". In this time, we are to draw our strength from God as He is our ROCK that we can lean on. Yes, we are faced with fear, worry and uncertainty but we have been given a spirit of courage and not of fear, and in due time this pandemic will pass. Secondly, I would like to stress the importance of the upcoming November general election. This election is perhaps the most consequential election in our collective lives. We need to vote for candidates on the local, state and federal level who believe in the rule of law, basic values and justice for the

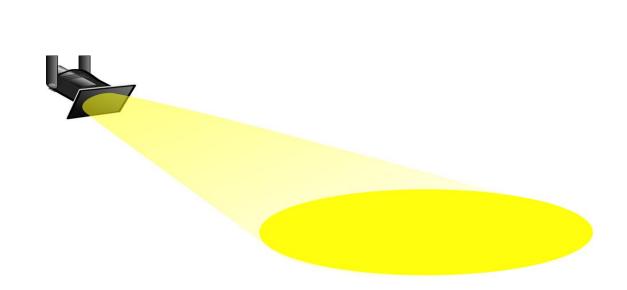
downtrodden. We need leaders who will take this pandemic seriously and not use items like a face mask as a politically divisive symbol. We need leaders who will lead with empathy and compassion. This November, vote for candidates up and down the ballot who embody the values of equal justice, compassion and empathy. Thirdly, I would like to stress the importance of completing the **2020 United States Census**. Participating in the census provides critical data that is used in providing all the necessary services that are needed in our communities. These services include the building of hospitals, schools, fire departments and other resources that are funded by money received from the federal government.

#Completethe2020Censustoday#becounted#shapeyourfuture Finally,

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Sincerely,

Kunda Musonda- President Greater Washington District careercoachk@gmail.com

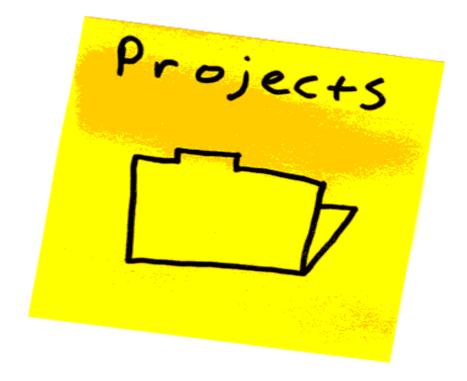


Spotlight on the Districts

Annapolis District Annual Celebration October 2020

Frederick District Annual Celebration Oct 17, 2020 10 am to 12 N

Baltimore Metropolitan Annual Celebration — September 26, 2020



Conference Projects

EPWORTH HOUSE

On behalf of the Epworth House Mission Project Committee, and in a Conference-wide effort to continue supporting this Mission Project, please find below, the biography of our new Missioner-in-Residence at Wesley Theological Seminary and the form for giving to our (Gift in Honor/Memory) fundraiser to the Missioner.







Epworth House Mission Project Committee

Melinda Paczari-Pongor

The New UMW 2020-21 Missioner-in-Residence, Wesley Theological Seminary

My name is Melinda Paczari-Pongor. I am a 25-year-old Hungarian student. I came to study at Wesley Theological Seminary because of a scholarship program that was established by the Hungarian Reformed Church D.C. and Wesley Theological Seminary. While studying at Wesley, I am serving the Hungarian congregation, which I am doing happily. I have the chance to meet new people with new views on how to look at the world, but I am also able to meet those Hungarians who left their country for many reasons, but never abandoned their faith. It is a blessing for me to be a part of both of these communities.

I decided to study theology because I was interested in the Bible and in Christianity, not only because I believed in what they teach, but also because both of them are fascinating pieces of humanity and its history. I grew up in a non-Christian family, but I got in contact with the church in my early teenager years. I immediately felt attached to the way the people interacted with each other. I started to attend the events there because of the congregants, and slowly, even without realizing when and how, I became a believer. Ever since those months, I wanted to serve the Lord through serving my fellow humans.

After high school, I spent a year in the United Kingdom working as a volunteer in a Catholic home for disabled adults. The experiences I gained during the volunteer year strengthened my faith and made me more interested in theology.

I had studied theology for four years in Hungary at Debrecen Reformed Theological University before attending Wesley, but I am still learning new ways of how to look at the world through the lenses of Christianity because of this seminary. I feel blessed to be able to meet new people here and learn how they think about our faith and how they are in contact with each other and God.

I am married. My husband, Andras, is a reformed pastor. He is in the final process of his Ph.D. program at the moment. When we have free time, we like to read, but our favorite activity is walking. We firmly believe that a good walk is a gift from God.

Washington, DC, August 17, 2020



Flag of Hungary

EPWORTH HOUSE HONOR/REMEMBRANCE DONOR

If you wish to honor/remember someone at the Epworth House Annual meeting November 10, 2020, please fill out the form below and send with five dollars for each name. You can donate as a unit or as an individual.

Print or Type All Information

Church Name	Contact Person	Telephone	
Name of the Person Honored/Remembered:		Person making donation:	
Ex. Remembering my mother Flora Thompson		Jane Grays	

Make checks payable to *Epworth House Mission Project*, and mail by *November 1, 2020* to:

Jane Grays
7118 Piney Woods Place
Laurel, MD 20707-9457
Ladyjanegra@aol.com

Epworth House Mission Project Committee Annual Meeting November 10, 2020

The Epworth House Mission Project of the United Methodist Women of the Baltimore-Washington Conference provides financial support to our International sisters attending Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

The annual scholarship is administered through the Seminary, and there is an opportunity for you to become involved. You can make a \$5.00 donation for each special person you want to honor/remember. The patron names will be included in a booklet. All patron sheets must be mailed by **November 1**, **2020**.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Please make checks payable to **Epworth House Mission Project** and mail to:

Jane Grays 7118 Piney Woods Place Laurel, MD 20707-9457

Please contact <u>Ladyjanegra@aol.com</u> for additional information.

SUSANNA WESLEY HOUSE

Susanna Wesley House, Inc. Chronicles

The mission of Susanna Wesley House, Inc. is to assist women in need and their dependent children; to provide a safe, clean home, and to ensure a viable program for the residents to obtain independent living.

Thank you so much for your continued support through your financial and supply contributions! As United Methodist Women and Friends of Susanna Wesley House **you** play an integral role in the mission of SWH. The board especially wants to lift up the family and friends of Eloise Bright, who gave donations in her memory.

SWH and Coppin State University have developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a Social Work Intern covering seven years for field placement experience. We were blessed to have Lynelle Cook as our first Social Work Intern. Ms. Cook's last day in field placement was May 13th. She will graduate later in May with a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree. Ms. Cook's experiences included: case monitoring, individual and group discussions, and has done research to determine community resources available for the residents. She would like to volunteer at SWH after graduation.

Coppin State University and Elizabeth Mitchell Stemley (board member) had been discussing the need to motivate, enhance and improve the living environment for each resident and their family. Coppin State University researched and contacted "My Girlfriend's House" (MGH) about the possibility for volunteering to give our residents' units a "Shelter Room Makeover." This organization is a community of women and young ladies empowering each other to be Better, Stronger and Smarter. My Girlfriend's House's **goal** is to create a comfortable atmosphere that excites residents and makes them feel at home. The makeover is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 7, 2020! More information is forthcoming.

During the COVID-19 pandemic:

• Weekly wellness conference calls are held with the residents. The purpose is to check-in and provide an opportunity for open discussions around how to keep safe in SWH facility.

• COVID-19 guidelines on how to protect yourself and your family during the coronavirus disease pandemic were distributed to the

residents. SWH Board provided cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items to the families as requested.

• The residents express how they are trying to deal with stress during the pandemic; asking for assistance; requesting to have workshops on effective communication, coping skills, GED, and how to manage behavior problems with children and adults. Ms. Cook and Ms. Stemley are looking into resources for them.

Susanna Wesley House is HIRING!

Visit our website at www.susannawesley.org. There are three Part-time, competitively-paid open Positions for immediate fulfillment:

- Residential Aide (work hours 11:00 pm to 7:00am)
- Executive Director/Grant Writer
- Office/Building Manager

All interested persons are to respond ASAP---Contact SWH by Phone at 410-837-3787 to schedule an Introductory Interview/Appointment. If you prefer email, send Communications to: susannawesley@verizon.net.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sabrina White President, Board of Directors

CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

The Census Project Blog

Efforts to #SavetheCensus

Posted: 27 Aug 2020 03:02 PM PDT

As you know, last month, the Department of Commerce abandoned its request to Congress to push back the 2020 Census statutory reporting deadlines, forcing the Census Bureau to rush through remaining counting operations and curtail vital quality check and data processing activities even though the national self-response rate at the start of the door knocking operation was the lowest ever, and the number of homes to visit in person the highest ever. Census stakeholders, nationwide, expressed alarm as indicated by the over 900 national, state, and local organizations that signed an August 6 letter organized by The Census Project to leaders in the U.S. Senate, urging that chamber to include language in its next COVID relief measure that would extend the 2020 Census statutory deadlines for delivering apportionment and redistricting data. (The U.S. House of Representatives already included this language in its last COVID relief package, the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act (H.R. 6800)). Without congressional action, the Administration will be allowed to pursue its plan to rush completion of the 2020 Census—including curtailing quality assurance and data processing activities—and deliver flawed apportionment data by the end of the year.

Now, there is a window to push House and Senate leadership to prioritize including an extension of the statutory data reporting deadlines in upcoming legislation and to encourage Senators to support that effort. If your organization supports this effort, then please consider participating in

efforts leading census stakeholder organizations are conducting currently especially via social media!

It's time to make some noise. TELL CONGRESS: SAVE THE CENSUS. (#SavetheCensus #DontRushtheCensus)

HERE'S HOW TO TAKE ACTION

- Speak Out
 - Send a press release or pitch an open calling on Congress to act (<u>Talking Points on the Census</u> <u>Extension</u>, <u>Federal programs funded using census</u> <u>data</u>, <u>State Fact Sheets</u>)
 - Post on Social Media (<u>Graphics</u>, <u>Patch Through Call</u>
 Number: 1-888-374-4269 to promote and call scripts)
 - Email your members or networks (<u>Talking Points on why</u> the census matters, , <u>Patch Through Call Number: 1-888-</u> 374-4269 to <u>Promote</u>, <u>Code to Create Click to Call Button</u>)
- Share Insights Association grassroots alert to contact members of Congress directly to encourage support for extending the 2020

Census. https://www.votervoice.net/Insights/campaigns/76750/respond

• Incorporate the census extension into your field, text and phone outreach (SMS and Phone Scripts, Leadership Conference Petition)

HERE'S WHAT TO KNOW

- The public health crisis caused significant delays and disruptions to 2020 Census operations.
- That's why the administration, alongside experts within the Census Bureau, asked Congress to push back the December 31, 2020 deadline for transmitting the state population totals used for congressional apportionment to the president, to April 30, 2021.

• In a bid to control how congressional apportionment is calculated, the Trump administration has abandoned its <u>original request</u> that Congress grant the bureau a reporting extension and is forcing the Census Bureau to cut the census short by one month.

- Without quick congressional action, the Census Bureau faces an <u>impossible</u> deadline of December 31, 2020 to count, review, process, tabulate, and report 2020 Census apportionment and redistricting data.
- Rural and tribal communities, people of color, and people with disabilities, and more have been hit hard by this pandemic. Their self-response rates are already low and many will be erased altogether if the Census Bureau doesn't have the time it needs to count them.
- Rushing the count guarantees millions of people will remain uncounted, skewing congressional representation, redistricting, and critical community funding for every state in the country for the next 10 years.
- Congress needs to act before it's too late. People in this country need lasting COVID-19 relief and that bill needs to give the Census Bureau the time and flexibility it needs to complete the 2020 Census.

Resources

- One pager on census extension
 - https://www.insightsassociation.org/legal-article/don%E2%80%99t-rush-2020-census
- The Census Project sign on letter
 - https://censusproject.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/finalcensusproject-sign-on-letter-re-census-extension-in-senate-relief-8-6-20-1.pdf
- Business Community letter
 - <u>https://censusproject.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/biz-letter-</u>2020-census-deadlines-8-11-20.pdf

Thank you for considering this opportunity to #SavetheCensus!

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UMW SCARVES!!!!

You may still place an order for our Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW Scarves. The more scarves ordered at one time, the more the cost is reduced.



The costs are listed below: Checks should be made payable to BWCUMW

Amount	Cost
1-25	\$25.00 each
26-100	\$22.00 each
101-200	\$20.00 each
201 and more	\$18.00 each

Send your orders to:

Colleen F. Cates 5493 Moores Run Dr Baltimore, MD 21206-3703 410-488-539 (home) 410-598-9470 (cell)

ORDER FORM

NAME & TELEPHONE:
E-MAIL:
ADDRESS:
CITY, STATE, ZIPCODE:
NUMBER OF SCARVES:
CHECK/MONEY ORDER AMOUNT (Payable to BWCUMW):