



THE FLAME

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

VOLUME II

June 2019

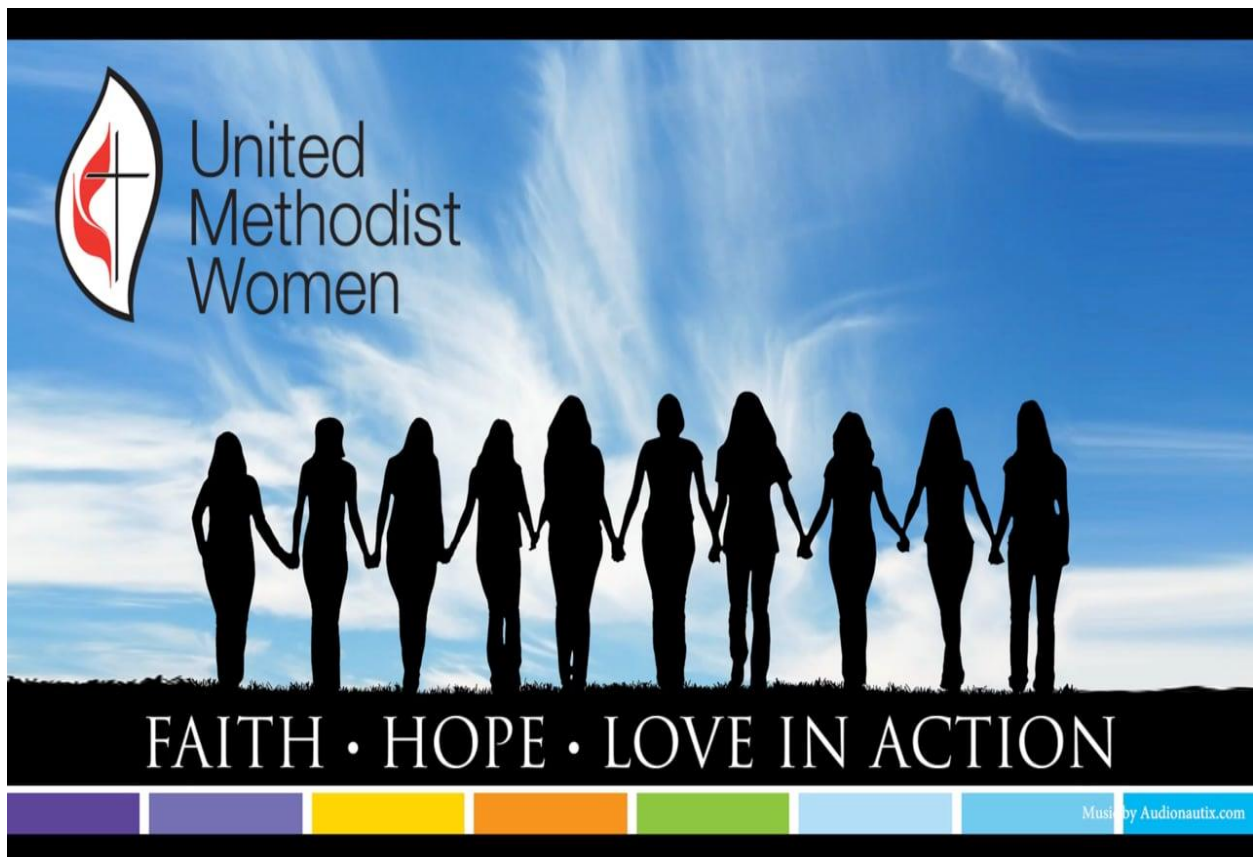


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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear United Methodist Women Sisters,

Spring is here! Even though we have had cool temperatures and lots of rain, the grass and trees are very green and the flowers have been putting on a show that only God can direct. Thanks be to God!

As your President, I have begun my first year by “hitting the ground running.” Invitations to local and district United Methodist Women functions and Conference meetings abound. I want to report that the Legacy Day of Giving Program on March 24th at the Conference Center was well-attended. The agenda included speakers of all ages, telling their stories of how they became involved with United Methodist Women, a presentation of the Legacy skit, prayer and praise. The meal was plentiful and well-received.

Union Memorial United Methodist Women in the Baltimore Metropolitan District extended me an invitation to their UMW Anniversary Sunday service. God was definitely in the house! Worship and music were spirit-filled, and the lunch afterwards was generous and delicious.

It was a pleasure to visit Community UMC in Laurel, MD, in the Annapolis District for the installation of UMW local officers. This unit has just recently become re-activated and the members are excited to begin anew their journey to live out our Purpose through Faith, Hope and Love in Action to women, children and youth.

I attended my first meeting of The United Methodist Women Board of Trustees in April. The Board helps fund Conference Projects throughout the year. A report from the President of the Board, Geraldine Whitley, is included in this newsletter.

Fun was had by all who attended the Susanna Wesley House fundraiser of “Porgy and Bess,” at the Meyerhoff on April 12. (It was my birthday, so I invited my husband to come along with me!)

I have again had the opportunity to interface with the Conference United Methodist Men’s President, Hampton Conway, and Spiritual Advocate, Bryon Gould, to plan the program for the Annual Conference UMW/UMM Collaborative Luncheon, being held on Thursday, May 30. In addition to our Luncheon, the United Methodist Women were asked to assist the United Methodist Men with answering telephone calls (prayer requests) in the Prayer Room at Annual Conference. Many of you volunteered and I thank you so very much!

The Baltimore Suburban District UMW Annual Spring meeting on April 27 was an exciting event for me....in addition to the music, worship and communion, the guest speaker, Deborah S. Phelps, Executive Director of the Education Foundation of

Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc. was none other than Michael Phelps' mom! As she passionately spoke of her role as Executive Director and former teacher in the school system, it became evident where her Olympic Gold Medal-winning son got his determination!

The same day had me traveling from Towson to Baltimore City to the Baltimore Parish Works luncheon and program, held at St. Matthews – New Life UMC in Baltimore. One of the highlights was the performance of a new liturgical pantomime group of young ladies, Pearls for Girls.

Our Conference is hosting the United Methodist Women Northeastern Jurisdiction gathering next April 24-26, 2020, at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore. Your Conference President and other Leadership Team members are attending planning meetings under the direction and guidance of Denise Snyder, NEJ President, and Mikele Haskins-Delmore, NEJ Vice President.

As your Conference United Methodist Women President, I am also a member of the following Conference United Methodist Church committees: Conference Nominations Committee, Sessions Committee, Connectional Table, Conference Commission on Religion and Race, Seeds of Security, and the Scholarship Committee, some of which hold regularly-scheduled meetings. I attend most meetings when there is no conflict with other committees or the United Methodist Women scheduled meetings. (I try to give priority to my UMW sisters!)

I invite each of you to mark your calendars with the following events:

Mission u – July 26-28 Marriott Hotel, Pooks Hill Rd, Bethesda, MD

Conference UMW Annual Celebration – Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Good Hope Union UMC, Silver Spring, MD

May you all experience the bountiful love and blessing of our Lord, Jesus Christ, today!

Linda S. Yost, President

LJYost@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT

During these times of uncertainty, political upheaval, stress, and distress, know one thing, **God is bigger than any situation, problem or adversity.** Philippians 4:6-7 “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

How do we as United Methodist Women make a difference during these unprecedented times? In order to change what is going on around us, we must first change ourselves. The best way to make any positive changes in ourselves, is to prepare for the change we want to see. Prepare yourself to receive a message from God. Prepare yourself to be a blessing. Prepare yourself to receive a blessing. You may be wondering “how do I prepare for all of this?” Paul talks about Christians being called to share in suffering, holding fast to Scripture and truth while pursuing Godliness. “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from these things he will be a vessel for honor sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work” (2 Timothy 2:21). Imagine being prepared to do God’s work. Imagine having the ability to change your neighborhood, to change your community. How wonderful would that be?

And after the preparation, formulate a plan and put that plan into action. You may ask yourself, where do I start? Start closed to home. Think about what the needs of your community are. What are the needs of the homeless in your community? What are the needs of the downtrodden and the poor? Think about the needs of the youth in your community. Ask, how can I make an impact on our UMW Projects? Where is the hope in these people?

I propose, that their hope is in you and me. Their hope is in the consciousness of those in the Christian community. They are quite aware of our sense of community. They are quite aware that God has placed an onus on us to live and do as he did. They are aware of what is written in 1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light”.

They know that our sense of a global commission of mission leads us and convicts us to emulate the work of Jesus. As those a part of the royal priesthood, the church, they know we are willing to bear another's burden, they know we are willing to intercede, they know we are willing to advocate for their needs. They know we are willing to suffer with them, to cry with them, and to extend mercy and kindness to them. They know that God directs us, that our salvation guides us and that we have been given the task to carry out the work of Jesus. They know that we put Faith, Hope and Love into Action.

So when you get weary while doing good, know also that in due season you shall reap. Keep up the great works you are doing in your communities, and globally on behalf of The United Methodist Women and God. God bless you and all that you do.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruthella Lievers,
Vice President

Ralievers1@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Greetings Sisters,

Please keep our secretary in prayer as she prepares herself for her new ministries.

Sherie L. Koob

Secretary

sheriekoob@hotmail.com

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Greetings Sisters, I pray you were able to adjust to the up and down temperatures we have experienced this spring.

As I write this article on a chilly May day, I am preparing for the Conference sponsored spiritual June retreat. I pray you are planning to join us, if not, please pray that the event will be spiritually uplifting to those that attend (and that we'll have good weather). The retreat is planned to focus on one of last year's Mission u studies, "Embracing Wholeness." Time will be spent focusing on our relationship with creation, with others and what the Bible says we ought to do in order to live faithfully.

As a member of the Mission u team, I am also helping to plan for that annual July event. Please see the flyers elsewhere in this newsletter. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone and meeting with Spiritual Growth Coordinators during the time for leadership update during the weekend. Please remember that all study books need to be ordered prior to coming to Mission u this year.

Finally, I would like to encourage all Spiritual Growth Coordinators to use the Prayer Calendar. It is a wonderful tool for personal reflection and for use to begin unit meetings. Did you know that you could follow the Prayer Calendar on Facebook at **[facebook.com/umwprayercalendar](https://www.facebook.com/umwprayercalendar)**? The site gives the Mission focus, birthdays and scripture readings for each day.

Have a blessed summer,

Rita Green,

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

ritamgreen@hotmail.com

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Hello Ladies,

United Methodist Women was founded in 1869. On March 25, 2019, the Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women celebrated its 150 year legacy at the Conference Center in Fulton, Maryland. What a rich heritage we have! On Saturday June 8th the Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women will be hosting a Spiritual Retreat at Camp Manidokan, in Knoxville, Maryland. As in previous years, the 2019 Mission u will be held at the Bethesda Marriott, in Bethesda Maryland, July 26, 2019 thru July 28, 2019. If you have not already done so, please be encouraged to participate in the upcoming Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women events.

The Mission Projects supported by the Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women are dedicated to improving the well-being of women, children and youth. Our Mission Projects address essential needs in the areas of scholarships; missionary support and assistance; human trafficking; domestic violence; homelessness; mentoring; educational programs; job training; counseling; parenting classes; afterschool programs, etc. To ensure the on-going support and success of these vitally important resources and services, there must be a renewed interest and dedication to **Mission Giving** through the Pledge to Mission. Please note: United Methodist Women District Treasurers are to send monetary contributions from Local Units regarding Mission Projects through the usual process to the Baltimore-Washington Conference United Methodist Women Treasurer, Sabrina White. So please be encouraged to give.

Please be reminded: "In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the LORD JESUS for HE Himself said, it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35

Barbara Terry
Education and Interpretation Coordinator
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MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

The Baltimore Parish Works held its annual Business Meeting and Luncheon at St. Matthews New Life UMC on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Many of the projects that receive support from BPW gave reports of their activities. Girls to Pearls, one of the groups supported by BPW, presented a Liturgical dance and Mime to the song Trust in You.



Daphne L. Hurd, Coordinator, daphnelhurd@icloud.com

COMMUNICATIONS

To My Sisters in Christ:

Communication is so important among people of all ages. Misunderstandings can be avoided, and great things can be accomplished when there is open communication. Words can hurt or they can encourage, they can teach or they can tear down, but no matter what they are very powerful. They are also a huge reflection of what is in our heart.

As Christians, the Lord has given us some basic guidelines in his word about how and what we should speak, so here are the seven Bible verses that I refer to about good communication.

Psalm 19:14 (ESV) “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.”

Psalm 37:30 (ESV) “The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice.”

Proverbs 12:25 (ESV) “Anxiety in a man’s heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.”

Proverbs 25:11 (ESV) “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.”

Matthew 12:37 (ESV) “...for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Ephesians 4:29 (ESV) “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.”

Colossians 3:8 (ESV) “But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.”

I have vowed to serve as your UMW Conference Communications Coordinator to ensure that we share collaborative good communications on the conference and district level.

Kim Marie Walker
Communications Coordinator-BWC-UMW
Burrwalker123@gmail.com

NOMINATIONS

GREETINGS FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE



The Nominations Committee continues to seek STARS for our Leadership Team. We are looking to immediately fill the position of Social Action Coordinator. We are also seeking nominees to be considered to serve on the Program Advisory Group of the United Methodist Women national organization (Northeast Jurisdiction (NEJ)).

Social Action Coordination

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/members-leaders/responsibilities/social-action>

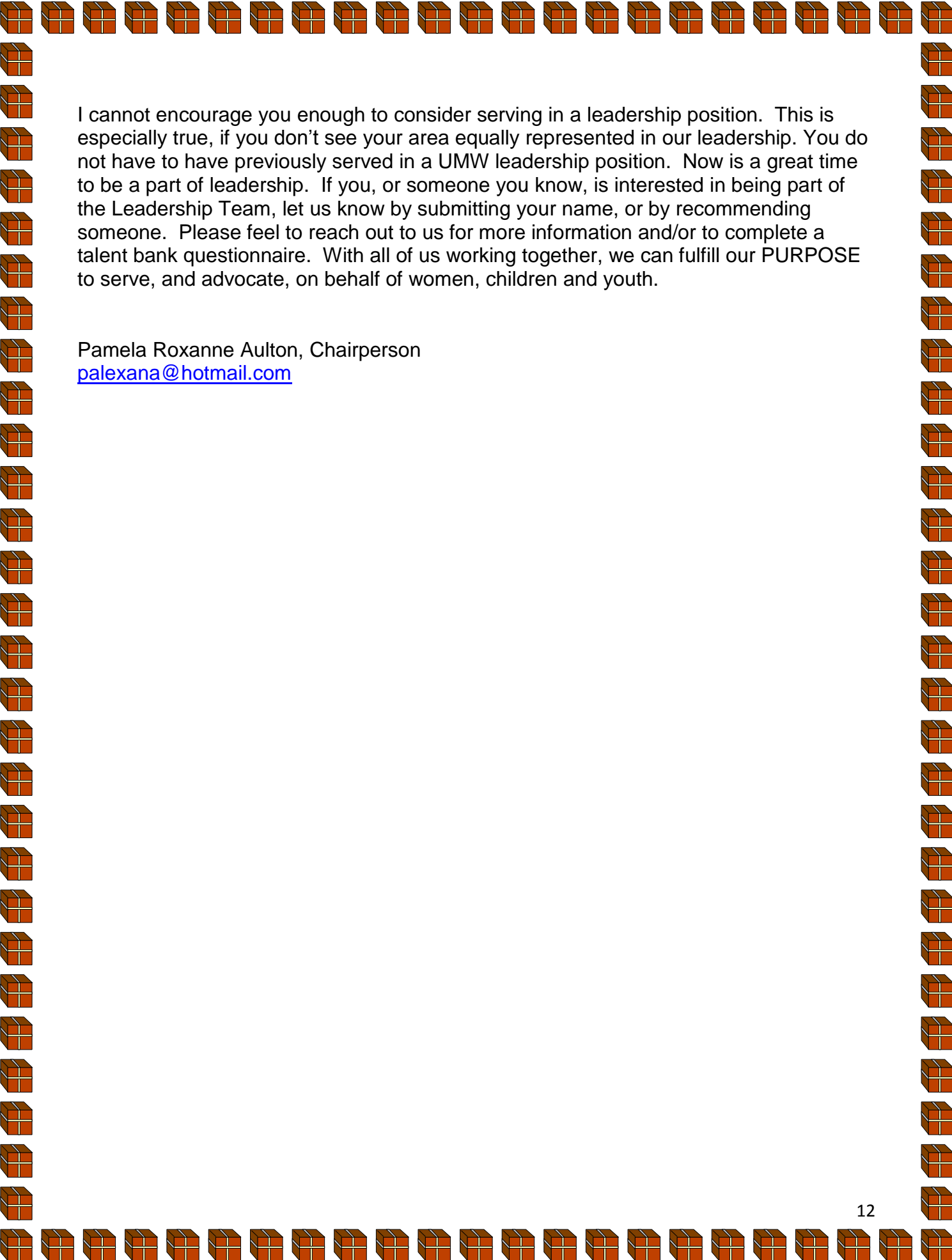
Leader works with the Leadership Team to engage members in service and advocacy for justice as it is rooted in our biblical tradition. Part of her responsibilities include:

- (a) serve as a member (or members) of the Leadership Team;
- (b) work with the Leadership Team and United Methodist Women national staff to create a four-year plan of action on one or more of the national issue priorities;
- (c) work closely with district Social Action leaders to plan district-level work on the issues, including district educational events, district-wide research on local concerns and discernment of how to respond locally;
- (d) serve as the main contact to catalyze local and district work, to gather insights from the districts, to enable districts to learn from each other and help them to locate resources from United Methodist Women and encourage them to attend Leadership Development Days, as well as offering skills training in service and advocacy around conference priority issues.

Program Advisory Group

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/members-leaders/responsibilities/jurisdiction>

The United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group (PAG) brings program recommendations to the board of directors. The 70 to 80 members of the PAG are from a variety of positions within United Methodist Women and the church. They meet at least once a year to study issues and prepare recommendations to the national board regarding mission priorities, mission education work and program guidance for United Methodist Women.



I cannot encourage you enough to consider serving in a leadership position. This is especially true, if you don't see your area equally represented in our leadership. You do not have to have previously served in a UMW leadership position. Now is a great time to be a part of leadership. If you, or someone you know, is interested in being part of the Leadership Team, let us know by submitting your name, or by recommending someone. Please feel to reach out to us for more information and/or to complete a talent bank questionnaire. With all of us working together, we can fulfill our PURPOSE to serve, and advocate, on behalf of women, children and youth.

Pamela Roxanne Aulton, Chairperson
palexana@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Is it time to give to the United Methodist Women?

If you attended the Finance Meeting in February you would have learned that it is always a good time to give to United Methodist Women. The local units usually meet September –June, with members attending Mission u in July and, in some local units, the Executive Team meets in August to plan the calendar for the upcoming year. As United Methodist Women our pledge is over and above our local church tithes and offerings. The **Pledge to Mission and other Mission Giving funds that are part of the five channels of giving**, are used for mission with a focus on women, children and youth through national office, except for administration and membership development (A&MD) funds kept at the district and conference levels. Through our generosity United Methodist Women members help empower and improve the lives of women, youth and children in the United States and around the world. The mission work of United Methodist Women is very important therefore it is always a good time to give.

Your Mission Giving!

What is mission and mission support?

National Mission Institutions, international ministries projects, scholarships, grants, current and retired deaconesses and home missionaries, Reading Program, print and media resources for mission education.

What is membership and leadership development?

Leadership Development Days, Mission u, Assembly, Voices, National Seminar, Limitless, Seminar Program, ecumenical connections.

What are administrative costs?

Expenses that apply to running the overall organization, to keep it moving forward—any expense that is not a direct cost of the mission but of the organization. (In other words, money that still also supports mission!)

Read our annual report at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/ to learn more! See below a breakdown of our giving:

Administrative Costs 9%

Membership and Leadership Development 15%

Mission and Mission Support 76%

United Methodist Women members have long been proud to support the specific ministries with women, children and youth that **are funded only through their giving to United Methodist Women's five channels of giving.**

Submitted by,
Sabrina White, Treasurer,
BWC United Methodist Women
sve2042@hotmail.com

SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

Greetings All,

Greetings from Program Resources

Have you ordered your study guides for Mission U yet? I have attached the order form below for your convenience. We will not be selling any material at Mission u this year.

You can also use this link to place your book order:

<https://www.umwmissionresources.org/>

Please note the web address to order books previously listed on the website and on the flyer for Mission u was incorrect.

The correct web address to order books is: www.umwmissionresources.org.

The phone number for Mission Resources is 800-305-9857

**Tangela Terry,
Secretary of Program Resources
mst2136@yahoo.com**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Highlights from Program Advisory Group Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting

The United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group (PAG) (includes Directors & Program Advisory Group members) met March 28-30 (followed by Board of Directors meeting March 30-31) at Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, TN. Climate Justice was the theme as we gathered for worship and work together to ensure women, children, and youth are a priority for the church. Attendees participated in speaker coaching (Most of us made a 1-2-minute video about UMW and must critique ourselves), a joint workshop on ending institutional racism (Colleen was a panel member), educational sessions on Climate Justice, and Deaconess Clara Ester (Vice President) reported on Deaconess & Home Missioners (for more information visit www.dhmumc.org).

The **2019 special session of General Conference** was discussed. Working groups also discussed United Methodist Women legislation to be brought to the 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis (Children's Sabbath, The Girl Child, Status of Women, Voting Rights).

****Conference Officer Support Liaisons:** I will be working with Conference Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinators. **Board/PAG Liaison Roles** • Work with staff to build capacity as needed and develop curriculum for in-person and bridge training. • Provide leadership at training events and in online/phone gatherings. • Build relationships/mentor women in their various roles, particularly as they get started. • Assist with "trouble-shooting" as needed.

Mission Giving: 26 conferences met or exceeded their Pledge to Mission in 2018, up from 2017. Total Mission giving for 2018 was \$11.4 million.

150th Anniversary: We celebrated with cake, guest appearances of Isabella Thorburn and Clara Swain, dressing up for photo-ops, and more.

Board of Directors Meeting March 30-31

Directors heard financial reports, received recommendations from the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group and were updated by Wespeth on the organization's investments. Directors re-designated endowment funds to better serve current mission work and approved the following:

- **2020 Reading Program** list (will be released summer 2019)
- **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial** theme- **"We Rise: Meeting God's Call to Transform Communities"** to support the work of National Mission Institutions, international partners and regional missionaries.
- 2020 General Conference legislation and updates to bylaws. Directors also approved grants, sales of property and property policy changes.

- \$112,336 in grants to recipients: United Methodist Women-supported National Mission Institutions.

Deaconess Garlinda Burton (author of Mission u study book Human Sexuality) was our guest speaker for our closing worship, shared how the transformative education she received through United Methodist Women shaped her commitment to the church and to doing justice in the world.

Legacy Endowment Fund Campaign: Over 3,500 gifts came in for **Day of Giving** (March 23) which amounted to a total of **\$496,451** raised for this very special 2019 Day of Giving! This is an increase of 84% from 2018 and is the largest Day of Giving total to date for United Methodist Women! Our conference collected approximately **\$1,750** for one day of giving!! Your gifts help to ensure our future growth. During our PAG meeting all members gathered donated towards the Legacy Fund.

Colleen F. Cates craftyme53@gmail.com
Esther Barkat eunica99@aol.com
Directors

MISSION u

Baltimore Washington Conference- United Methodist Women

Mission u Report

Greetings to you on this beautiful day that the Lord has made. We are to rejoice, be glad and celebrate the presence of the Lord in our lives. Come and fellowship with Mission u in the beauty of Holiness.

The cooperative Mission u school is important in the spiritual growth and development for women, children and youth. It equips and empowers us to know and experience God's loving action in our lives. A key component is our relationship with God through showing faith, hope and love in action for the people of God. This is an opportunity in learning together for the transformation of the world.

The Mission u School is scheduled for July 26, 27, 28, 2019, at The Bethesda Marriott Hotel, Bethesda, MD 2124. The school will offer the following experiences: **The spiritual growth theme is Practicing Resurrection- The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship, What About Our Money and Women United for Change- 150 Years in Mission.** The Youth school study is **Who Do You Say That I Am? Meeting Jesus through the Eyes of Mark** for grades 7-12. Mission u will provide two scholarships to be used for each of the 8 Districts. The process for payment is for District presidents to send completed application for 2 names to Rita Green, Registrar, who will post payment for double or quad accommodations. Each youth must have a chaperone.

The Mission project for 2019, will support the needs for incarcerated women with children and families living in shelters. Donation list: Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Tooth paste/brush, travel sizes only. New female/male white cotton under wear for all sizes, flip flops, and socks. You may bring these items with you to the hotel.

God call us to be in mission and we respond to God's call through study, service and advocacy. We invite districts and local units to support Mission u, by encouraging participation from your various communities and local units to learn more about God's call in our lives. Let's work together in the transformation of the world in Jesus' Name.

In God's Grace,

Elizabeth M. Stemley, Dean
Mission u

estemley1190@comcast.net

* * * * * **DISTRICT PRESIDENTS** * * * * *

ANNAPOLIS DISTRICT

Sisters in Christ:

It's a wonderful time to be a servant of God. As the Annapolis District entered Spring, we celebrated our Purpose for being United Methodist Women.

We would like to welcome the United Methodist Women's unit of Community UMC in Laurel. They have reestablished their unit and we look forward to working with Abril and her unit. We're grateful to increase missionaries that are working for Christ on behalf of women, youth and children in our local communities, around this nation and around the world.

We celebrated our annual Spring Brunch in April at Pasadena UMC, highlighting our theme for this year: **Economic Inequality**. Sabrina White, the Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women's treasurer was our guest speaker. Sabrina related to those gathered how the system works against those who are trying to earn a living wage, but those in the upper echelons continue to be enriched.

We are thankful for the UMW at Pasadena UMC; they hosted our brunch and were very gracious and hospitable. They prepared a wonderful fare and anticipated our every need.

During the brunch, Vera Miller, our vice president, prepared a demonstration regarding just how hard it is for low income wage earners to make ends meet. Vera enlisted the help of six UMW to help show the disparity of someone who earns minimum wage, and the lengths they would have to go to make ends meet. And sometimes the ends did not meet. On the other hand, she showed how families with several wage earners were able to literally just get by, and if not come out ahead, at least break even. It was an eye-opening experience for those who attended.

As the District does, the UMW brought an abundance of baby items for our baby shower. We were able to distribute baby food, diapers, wipes, clothes, bottles and other accessories to three centers that help pregnant women and mothers in need. The ladies who actually take the items to the centers were overwhelmed by the amount of support we received.

Also, at the Brunch, the women signed postcards that will be sent to Wendy's Company to get them to join other major companies to join the Fair Food Program in order to guarantee farm worker's human rights in its supply chain. United Methodist Women are a force to be reckoned with, and always stand up for what's right.

We're leaning forward as we prepare to go to the Conference's spiritual retreat on June 8 and Mission u in July. As we leap forward into summer, let's remember why we serve, and that Jesus came to serve and not to be served. Let's serve those who need us and do it with the heart of GOD!!!

Blessings,

Emma M. Krouser
Annapolis District President

e5m7krou2@gmail.com

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

Greetings from the Baltimore Metropolitan District, where we are committed to honoring the **PURPOSE** of the United Methodist Women. The mission team and I continue to be committed to using our time, energy and effort to help make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth who are living in an unjust society. I continue to thank God for our collective spiritual growth and for a deeper understanding of how important the United Methodist Women are.

Our District Spring Meeting was successfully held on April 27th at Union Memorial United Methodist Church. We were blessed to have celebrating with us, our former Conference President, Elizabeth Stemley, from Sharp Street United Methodist Church. In addition, we continued to be blessed to have Colleen Cates (Board of Directors Member), who brought us greetings from our UMW National Organization and Barbara Terry our Conference Education & Interpretation Coordinator. The meeting was spirit-filled and fruitful. This year we celebrated the 150-year anniversary of the United Methodist Women with a birthday party. The women made a scrap book to commemorate the occasion and we had cupcakes.

Each time I have the opportunity, I continue to feel compelled to make this statement. **“Like many Districts we continue to struggle to get some of our units more involved. It is very true that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Matthew 9:37. There are so many areas of need in our communities and in our world. Women children and youth are crying out for help. I and my team members are praying to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers. Women of the Baltimore Metropolitan District that have not been very active, please contact me or any District team member as soon as possible to get involved. WE NEED YOU!”**

As a District we still continue to reach out to local units to assist in starting and or reinstating units. Several units are also asking for “refreshers” and the team is more than willing to do any of the above. Have a blessed and safe summer!

Love & blessings

Gwendolyn Brooks, President
Baltimore Metropolitan District
gwendlynbrooks@aol.com

BALTIMORE SUBURBAN DISTRICT

Women's Annual Spring Meeting

Topic: Building a Thriving Generation of Children and Youth

Guest Speaker: Deborah (Debbie) Phelps

Musician: Ms. Jennifer McDonnell (Fork-Waugh UMW)

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Providence UMC

1318 Providence Road

Towson, MD 21286

Thank You to everyone who attended the Spring Prayer Breakfast. Our Speaker was Debbie Phelps from "The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools". The BSD UMW collected school supplies that were donated to Melissa Baedeker at "Baltimore Teacher Supply Swap" These ladies are doing great things to support our teachers and students. Thanks to Providence UMC for hosting our meeting and lunch!

Here are pictures from the Event

BSD UMW TEAM and Guest Speaker



Alice Collins, Cindy Thomas, Shasta Kornegay-, Carolyn Goutos, Mary Alice McClintock, Debbie Phelps, Zhasta Mosley, Kristen Brown, Robin Henry, Michele Sparklin and Judy Broadnax

Debbie Phelps from “The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools”.



Melissa Baedeker at “Baltimore Teacher Supply Swap” The BSD collected school supplies to support the mission



Robin J. Henry, President
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WASHINGTON EAST DISTRICT

Peace and blessings from the Washington East District (WED) United Methodist Women. As we enter into the 2nd quarter of our journey to promote the Purpose and Mission of the United Methodist Women in our District, it gives me great joy to work closely with all the units of WED.

Our Annual Prayer Breakfast was held on May 18th at Nottingham-Myers U.M.C. The theme "Women Who Serve like Christ" describes each lady that was present to support such a powerful event.

So what *is* prayer? Prayer is a relationship, wherein we humbly communicate, worship, and sincerely seek God's face, knowing that He hears us, loves us and will respond, though not always in a manner we may expect or desire. Prayer can encompass confession, praise, adoration, supplication, intercession and more. The Washington East District is launching a **Prayer and Praise Network** for the local units through our Turtle Newsletter. How powerful it will be to not only have ~~more than~~ your congregation, family and friends praying for you or a loved one but to also have all of the prayer warriors in our units praying as well! James 5:16 says 'Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man or woman availeth much.'

But that's not all.....we will shout to the Lord when HE answers the prayers and the praise party begins as we leap for joy because our prayers were heard and answered.

The Epworth House Luncheon was a great success! Esther Inuwa is a wonderful woman to meet and it would be great if our WED units would have her at a meeting to tell her story. Having a missionary at a meeting is a great way to understand one of the ways the United Methodist Women help others around the world. I pray that this time next year, we will be more excited and willing to participate in the Epworth House mission. I praise God and thank Him for all of the WED participants who attended.

We are preparing for our Annual Celebration and will be recognizing all the accomplishments of our units. WED units are being encouraged to share photos and details of each of their events that were held throughout the year. Our celebration will be held at Clinton UMC in Clinton, MD on October 12, 2019. All are welcome to attend. Registration will be forthcoming.

We are making a real effort to help our WED units that need assistance. If any other districts are providing additional training or have other ideas about how to re-energize their local units, please feel free to contact me at the contact information below or the WED Vice President, Stephanie Willett at shwbmd58@gmail.com.

GOD BLESS,
Diane Shorts, President
Minidshorts25@gmail.com
301-442-2814

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE SCARVES!!!!

As you plan for the Northeastern Jurisdiction in Baltimore MD April 24-26, 2020, don't forget to place your order for the BWCUMW scarf, we want to be seen from all over the Marriott Waterfront Hotel Harbor East! Orders can be taken at any time. The more scarves ordered at one time, the cost is reduced.



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

Amount	Cost
1-25	\$25.00 each
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EPWORTH HOUSE MISSION PROJECT COMMITTEE

**Of the
Baltimore-Washington Conference, United Methodist Women
Expanding Concepts of Mission at Wesley Theological Seminary**

On May 4th, at the annual luncheon, Holiday Inn, College Park, MD, the Epworth House Committee did present a \$5,000.00 check to Wesley Theological Seminary to assist Esther Inuwa, the new Missioner-in-Residence, in her studies. We were entertained by the All Natural African Dancers and Drummers, directed by Carol E. Powell, Jr. Some ladies wore ethnic clothing of their heritage. The theme was: "A Sisterhood of Rainbows."



2019 Commencement Countdown: Graduating student looks toward future

To say that Heuresse Kaj is busy would be a complete understatement. In her last semester at Wesley, Kaj laughs when listing her course load. "I have Ethics, Systematics 2, Old Testament Exegesis, Worship and Ecology, Worship and Preaching for Special Occasions, a Consortium class in Covenant Theology, plus PMM, Chapel Choir and Community Engagement," she said.

Following Commencement on May 13, she will relocate to be with her husband Ivan Milosi, who is currently serving a congregation in Lincoln, Kan. Both Milosi and Kaj graduate this month with their Master of Divinity degrees. The couple is also expecting their first child in July.

Kaj, who is currently working toward ordination in The United Methodist Church as an Elder, knows that this final push to graduation will be difficult but the goal can be accomplished. "I'll have a chance to sleep once I graduate," she laughs. "Lincoln is small but very community oriented and, with the baby on the way, that will be a lot of transition from the busyness of D.C."

While studying, Kaj also served as a Community Engagement Fellow as part of the seminary's Community Engagement Institute. "I was looking for something that involved being present in the community," she said. "I previously served as a young adult missionary in a shelter, so the Fellows program at Wesley really drew me. Dr. Sam Marullo and Dr. Doug Powe were very helpful in choosing my project and also Dr. Miles," she said.

During her three years as a Fellow, Kaj developed a project centered around anti-sex trafficking work. "I developed rituals to aid in the recovery process mainly for sex trafficking survivors," she said. "These resources can also be used by the church to better understand what sex trafficking is and to raise awareness of how they can best help, as well as how to pray for those who are trafficked."

Gertrude White, President, Epworth House Mission Project Committee
Susan Howes, Vice President, Epworth House Mission Project Committee.