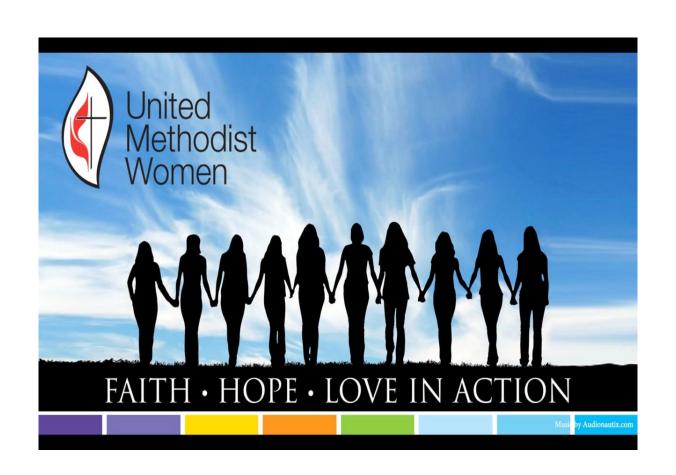


## BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

VOLUME IV December 2019



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**BWC United Methodist Women Scarves** 

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#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Greetings, UMW Sisters!

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy." *Philippians 1:3-4* 

Joy often comes in the morning, but praying for others is an all-day experience! As we come to the end of another year, let us remember our United Methodist Women sisters who have journeyed before us through the veil and are now experiencing unimaginable joy with our Lord Jesus Christ. Please continue to pray for all of your UMW Sisters, and may God continue to bless those of us who remain here to continue the work that God would have us do.

Looking forward, we must be vigilant in keeping our Purpose foremost in our minds and hearts as we strive as a community to develop a creative, supportive fellowship within new and revitalized UMW local church units and district teams. May God be praised!

Your newly-elected Conference Team will be holding District Officer training on Saturday, January 4, 2020, from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. at the Conference Center in Fulton, MD. We look forward to sharing our knowledge with our wonderful District Leadership Teams! Following training, we invite you to stay for our Conference UMW Leadership Team planning session, from 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. If you stay for the entire day, please bring a bagged lunch. Dessert and beverages will be served. And......although I thoroughly dislike the "S" word, if the weather is inclement, our Snow Date is Saturday, January 11, 2020, same times, same place. You will be notified via email by no later than 6 a.m. on Saturday if we need to postpone to January 11<sup>th</sup>. Or you may call me at 443-605-8295.

Our new Social Action Coordinator, Jeannie Panesi, and last year's committee have begun planning for our Maryland Legislative Advocacy Day in Annapolis, MD, which will be held this year on Thursday, March 5, 2020. Stay tuned for more details and registration information.

District Presidents, kindly forward all of your event dates and other pertinent meeting dates to our Conference Communications Coordinator, Kim Marie Walker. She needs to have this information ASAP in order to compile our

Conference UMW Directory, which we will distribute at our Planning Meeting on January 4, 2020. Kim will have more details in her article below.

Have you registered for Northeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Women gathering on April 24-26, 2020? If not, now's the time to go online at NEJUMW.org.

It is my heartfelt wish that each one of you will have a very blessed Christmas and an awesome New Year! May our God of all wonder and might continue to reside in your homes and hearts, now and forever.

Linda S. Yost, President BWC United Methodist Women LJYost@verizon.net



#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

The wonderful Christmas season is weeks away and symbols of the season are everywhere. One of my favorite symbols is the Christmas wreath. "The wreath has significant meaning for the season. Its circular shape represents eternity, for it has no beginning and no end. From a Christian religious perspective, it represents an unending circle of life. The evergreen, most frequently used in making wreathes, symbolizes growth and everlasting life. Holly branches have thorns. When used in a wreath it represents the thorns on Jesus' crown when he was crucified. Bright red holly berries symbolize Jesus' blood that was shed for us". The story of the wreath reminds us of the love that God has for us and the sacrifice of Jesus. During the holiday, take time to consider the blessings from God as well as those less fortunate than ourselves. Be generous, speak words of kindness, and show the world the light of God that dwells within you.



Respectfully submitted,

Ruthella Lievers, Vice President Ralievers1@comcast.net

#### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**



This year the first Sunday of Advent is also the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of December. I encourage you to use an Advent wreath and/or an Advent Devotional to help you to focus more on the birth of Jesus Christ into our lives anew, and less on all the "stuff" we feel we must do to celebrate Christmas. I'd like to point out that the November/December 2019 edition of our informative **response** magazine contains reflections that could be used for each Sunday of Advent. They are on pages 7, 11, 15, 37. The reflections remind us to continue to be ambassadors for the One whose birth we celebrate on Christmas. Please make time to read and reflect on them as you move through Advent. Page 46 has a beautiful Christmas poem written by Louise Manning Hodgkins in 1887.

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District Spiritual Growth Coordinators, please let me know if you are continuing or leaving your position. If you are leaving, please provide contact information for who will be replacing you. I also hope to see you at training on January 4.

Best Wishes for a blessed Advent and Christmas Season,

Rita Green,
Spiritual Growth Coordinator
ritamgreen@hotmail.com

#### **PROGRAM RESOURCES**

Reading is to the mind, as exercise is to the body.

**Brian Tracy** 

**Education for Mission** 

**Leadership Development** 

**Nurturing for Community** 

**Social Action** 

**Spiritual Growth** 

Please click on the link below, and exercise that mind today...

https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram

Email Tangela Terry <a href="mst2136@yahoo.com">mst2136@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary of Program Resources

#### **EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION**

#### May GOD be the glory, great things HE has done!

Hello District Education and Interpretation Coordinators,

Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who participated in the **2019 United Methodist Women, District Mission Today Competition.** Congratulations!

## First Place and the Grand Prize Winner of the Rotating Crystal Award: Washington East

President: Diane Shorts; Education and Interpretation Coordinator: Rosetta Daniels

#### **Second Place Winner: Baltimore Suburban**

President: Robin Henry; Education and Interpretation Coordinator: Carolyn Nichols

#### Third Place Winner: Baltimore Metropolitan

President: Gwendolyn Brooks; Education and Interpretation Coordinator: Darcia Smith

#### **Honorable Mention:**

**Greater Washington –** President: Kunda Musonda; Education and Interpretation

Coordinator: Vacant

**Annapolis** - President: Emma Krouser; Education and Interpretation Coordinator:

La'Sonia Nick-McGriff

**Please note**: The First Place Winner will hold the Rotating Crystal Award for one (1) year. In preparation for the 2020 United Methodist Women, District Mission Today Competition, see the attached flyer.

JESUS is the reason for the season! Enjoy your Holiday!

Barbara Terry, Coordinator Babswrightterry@gmail.com

#### BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



#### **2020 Mission Today District Competition**

Winner Must Have the Highest Percentage of Active Local UMW Units Qualifying in the Mission Today Unit Checklist Program

First, Second and Third Place Prizes Will 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.

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

#### **MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH**

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NIV

As I close out my tenure as Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator for the BWC-UMW, I want to take this opportunity to say thank you. It has been exciting because I have had the chance to visit so many units and meet so many people. However, it has also been a challenge, especially with National United Methodist Women implementing an online database to collect membership count.

I want to quote a passage from the *response magazine*, November 2018, from Shannon Priddy, President of the United Methodist Women. She says, "In this time, it is about more than money. It is about membership, decision making, and building community." Each year, as we celebrate and commit support as United Methodist Women, I would like to encourage the Conference President and District Presidents to renew their commitments to build and rebuild the membership of this great Conference. Over the past five years our membership has declined, but there are units and churches waiting to be re-invited, re-visited and re-united with the Purpose and Goals of the United Methodist Women. Sisters, you can make it happen by working hard as a team and by renewing your efforts to increase our membership count for the purpose of empowering and helping women, children and youth of the world to overcome injustice, inequity and violence.

Tara Barnes, editor of *response*, puts it this way, "We need one another, and the world needs women organized for mission." You are those women, putting Faith, Hope, and Love into Action.

#### **PAST STATISTICS**

The following statistics represent a brief summary of the BWC-UMW Census/Membership Count

| Year | Total Membershi |
|------|-----------------|
| 2018 | 2,542           |
| 2017 | 3,438           |
| 2016 | 2,272           |
| 2015 | 7,019           |
| 2014 | 4,613           |

#### **CENSUS 2019**

National United Methodist Women send greetings! United Methodist Women is celebrating 150 Years! Throughout the past (2) years your guidance and input has been invaluable as United Methodist Women position themselves for the next 150 years of mission.

This year's census is focused on giving information and sharing ideas for sustainability and growth! However, we still need your full participation and count!

The 2019 Census Portal is open and may be found by visiting <a href="https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org">www.unitedmethodistwomen.org</a> and selecting the Census 2019 button. Local Unit Presidents are asked to complete this form for the 2019 United Methodist Women census. Closing date for the 2019 Census is March 30, 2020

#### myUMW

The myUMW portal is open year round. If you have not applied for your personal UMW card visit <a href="www.unitedmethodistwomen.org">www.unitedmethodistwomen.org</a> and select <a href="myUMW">myUMW</a> and complete the application.

God's grace be with you,

Daphne L. Hurd, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator daphnelhurd@icloud.com

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**



Who in this world does not love the Christmas holidays? It is one of the greatest times of the year when you can get together with everyone, present gifts to others, celebrate the occasion with feasts and parties, go on vacation trips, and so on.

However, communication is key while you are busy preparing for gift shopping, big meals, holiday plans and other stuff. It is important to establish effective communication with family members during holidays in order to cope with stress and avoid sour exchange of words.

Communication is the art of nurturing relationships and building new ones and a crucial part of a successful holiday. Make your holiday better by focusing on improving the way you interact and communicate with others.

In a season of holiday hustle and bustle, Advent calls us to slow down and prepare ourselves to communicate and share the message of light and hope. Keep the lines of communication open and spend a wonderful time with everyone you love, be it family or friends.



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

#### **NOMINATIONS**

#### **GREETINGS FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**



The Nominations Committee would like to thank all who participated in this year's election process. Those who were voted into position at the annual meeting will take up their duties January 2020. District training will take place on **Saturday**, **January 4**, **2020**, **9:00-11:30 a.m.** at the Baltimore-Washington Conference Center.

Due to irregularities in our voting process, which was not in sync with the National Office UMW Constitution and By-laws, or our BWC Standing Rules, the October 26 voting was delayed until November 16, 2019. In addition to the slate presented to the membership in October, the following names were nominated from the floor at the October 26 meeting:

Daphne Hurd - Nominations Committee and Program Advisory Group (PAG)
Hilda James - Nominations Committee
Janice Crowe - Secretary
Willa Kynard - Program Advisory Group (PAG)

On November 16, we were able to complete the voting process with 66 members casting votes. Three non-Nominations Committee members were tasked with counting the ballots. One person sorted. One person read out the tallies. One person wrote down the results. Attendance sheets were collected to confirm the number of people in attendance and matched the votes placed. Two members confirmed the number. Nominees needed to receive 51% of the vote (34 votes).

Program Advisory Group (PAG) – United Methodist Women National Organization – for presentation at Northeastern Jurisdiction 2020 (NEJ 2020). This vote was taken by ballot due to the addition of nominations from the floor\*\* on October 26, as only the top three candidates, plus one alternate could be selected.

Kunda Musonda - 49 votes received Audrey Alleyne - 45 votes received Emma Krouser - 44 votes received Daphne Hurd \*\* - 38 votes received Willa Kynard \*\* - 18 votes received Jean Shields (alternate) - 62 votes received Board of Directors (DIR) – United Methodist Women National Organization for presentation at Northeastern Jurisdiction 2020 (NEJ 2020). No nominations from the floor. Unanimous voice vote.

Colleen Cates
Tangela Terry

**Robin Henry (alternate)** 

Voting Delegates Northeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting 2020 (NEJ 2020). No vote necessary as they are selected from the Leadership Team.

**Linda Yost** 

**Ruthella Lievers** 

Rita Green

Pamela Aulton (alternate)

2020 Leadership Team (nominations from the floor\*\* on October 26). Unanimous voice vote for each office.

President - Linda S. Yost

Vice President - Ruthella Lievers

Secretary – Janice Crowe\*\*

**Treasurer – Dorothy Medley** 

Spiritual Growth Coordinator - Rita Green

Social Action Coordinator - Jeannie Lee Panesi

**Education and Interpretation Coordinator – Barbara Terry** 

**Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator – Susan Howes** 

**Communications Coordinator – Kim Marie Walker** 

Secretary of Program Resources - Tangela Terry

Nominations Committee Members – Pamela Aulton (Chairperson), Rosalie Foster,

Kia Hicks, Falisha Doby, Yolande Dickerson, Daphne Hurd\*\*, Hilda James\*\*

Congratulations to everyone.

Pamela Roxanne Aulton, Chairperson palexana@hotmail.com

#### **TREASURER**

It's that time of year as I stated in my last newsletter to empty United Methodist Women's treasury. So what happens to the money? I have requested that you read the annual reports. Yes, I know sometime we are so busy we may just have time to read this newsletter. So anyway to help you I have taken parts of the **United Methodist Women's Annual Report 2017** to share with you as follows:

Shannon Priddy (President of the United Methodist Women) states "United Methodist Women continues to speak up against injustice and be the voice of compassion in your church and in your community. As a member of United Methodist Women, you have been transformed through education and have grown spiritually to recognize your roots in God and share the Word. Now is the time for action. Speak out with us against injustice with compassion, together in community."

The United Methodist Women uses funds to ensure:

#### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- United Methodist Women members journeyed through Lenten and Advent devotionals, Bible studies and articles written by members, program advisory board members, and other partners on the United Methodist Women website and in response magazine.
- Women of the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and Americas (MCCA) wrote and published the third Lenten Devotional for Lent 2017.
- United Methodist Women published the 2017 Living as a Covenant Community study, which examines major covenants throughout the Bible and what they reveal about God's character and eternal love.
- Thirty women from the **Baltimore-Washington Conference** attended a seminar, "Solidarity as Kinship," where they explored Matthew 25 and what it means to build Christian solidarity in the midst of a fractured society.
- In 2017, the offering received from A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial observance supported programming and advocacy for the health of mothers and their children.

#### TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

- Connecting Women to One Another and to Their Faith. Mission u creates intergenerational spaces for mission education.
- Generations come together to deepen their faith and understanding of current issues. By laying a biblical and theological foundation for compassionate service and passionate advocacy, Mission u grounds our faith and the work of justice.
- Many United Methodist Women leaders are working to expand access to Mission u.

#### **ORGANIZED FOR GROWTH**

- All eight United Methodist Women regional missionaries partnered with Methodist and United Methodist Women organizations in 21 African countries, 24 annual conferences of the Philippines, 12 countries in and around the Caribbean, and 10 countries of Latin America through program and mission leadership.
- Three regional missionaries worked with United Methodist Women Ubuntu teams alongside the Methodist or United Methodist Women's host organization for programs of cultural and faith exchange in an experience that transformed each woman's life.
- Leaders nationwide launched a campaign for United Methodist Women
  Conversations on a Way Forward with the purpose of being informed about the
  special session of General Conference in 2019 and the work of the Commission
  on a Way Forward; clarifying our thinking on what holds us together as a church;
  and developing leadership in the larger church and General Conference.
- Leadership development was expanded through distance learning, training members and leaders virtually using GoTo trainings, Bridge and other online resources.

#### SERVICE AND ADVOCACY

- United Methodist Women held action in Charlotte, North Carolina on HB2, which had major implications for wage-raise legislation, race and gender equity, sexual orientation and environmental protection legislation.
- With the help of United Methodist Women, National Mission Institutions provided much-needed emergency relief to local families and under-served communities affected by the hurricanes, including in Puerto Rico.
- Thanks to United Methodist Women's support, Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, enhanced the quality of life of 30 participants in its seniors' program.

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

 Approximately 776 people participated in Leadership Development Days in North Carolina, Missouri and Arizona. Participants were equipped through worship, plenary and workshop sessions for their leadership roles, spiritual growth and membership growth, building relationships, service and advocacy.

#### Through your giving:

"When we help each other, we accomplish amazing things. United Methodist Women scholarships have helped recipients become the first women to have key leadership positions in their home countries or even continents. Other successes start smaller but are no less important: Flory Atieno, whose story is also recounted in the pages of **response magazine**, received a scholarship from United Methodist Women to attend college, where she studied community development. She went on to start Operation Hope to help vulnerable women in her community become self-sufficient, growing into a leader helping women in her community own their own businesses.

This is one of tens of thousands of women you and all our foremothers have helped through United Methodist Women scholarships. We build families, communities and hope in the world. How can we survive and thrive in uncertain times? By continuing to be the source of hope that we have been for the last 150 years.

Flory's story is but one example of the grace and our great faith that lead United Methodist Women to give of themselves for our collective mission and ministry with women, children and youth. She brings into clarity the reason that we work and give in our time-honored service of showing others who Jesus is in our lives today. God gives us the grace and vision to offer love in action.

Go and be the hope for the world. Take a sister with you.

Amen and may it be so!" by Martha Sherman Knight

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

#### **Board of Trustees Report**

It gives me great pleasure to report that the Board of Trustees had a fruitful financial year for 2019. The Board granted financial assistance to the Baltimore Parish Works, United Methodist Women –BWC, and the Susanna Wesley House. The financial assistance received from the Board of Trustees enabled these service ministries to provide a brighter future for all involved in outreach mission projects for women and children within the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

The Trustees fund was established by the Conference United Methodist Women years ago through the sale of the Deaconess Home in Baltimore City, and monies from this fund have been and continue to be used only for outreach mission projects for women and children within the Baltimore-Washington Conference. To keep the fund intact, as nearly as possible, the Board of Trustees disburses the interest generated from the securities within the securities portfolio to the designated receivers as requested. Therefore, it is crucial that these funds be managed with integrity and transparency. As a result, at the September 2019 meeting the Board of Trustees reviewed the performance of selected investments to determine the overall health of the investments. After this review, the Board voted to sell some stocks and to purchase others.

The Board of Trustees is optimistic that the constant reviewing of these securities will enable the Board of Trustees to make sound financial decisions in managing these financial investments. In compliance with the requirements of the Board of Trustees' original charter, the Board of Trustees meets in April and September each year to review these funds and to make decisions on best practices for managing these funds. The Board of Trustees gives thanks to God for His help in managing these financial resources.

Submitted by: Geraldine Whitley

President, United Methodist Women, Board of Trustees



#### **United Methodist Women Celebrating 150 Years in Mission!**

Congratulations United Methodist Women! You have been walking in God's light for 150 years and still counting. You are showing love to embody the unconditional liberating love of Jesus that transforms the world!

United Methodist Women is here for the long haul, regardless of what decisions are made in the wider church. Women still need to **organize for mission**!

Highlights of our organization during 2019:

- United Methodist Women is innovating and reinvigorating programs to respond to the changing times and needs of current members and the many women who will be joining this mission journey.
- Through Mission Giving, during this quadrennium, over \$30 million has been allocated for member development programs, support for more than 90 National Mission Institutions and projects, and international ministries and scholarships, as well as worked on our priority issues- (Climate Justice, Disrupting the Schoolto-Prison Pipeline, Securing Healthcare for women and children, Ending Criminalization of Communities of Color, providing Living Wages and Economic Justice, Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence).
- United Methodist Women prepares women for leadership for such a time as this: members were ready to boldly step up to leadership this year, throwing their hats into the ring as candidates for the 2020 General Conferences of the United Methodist Church. We salute you for stepping up, regardless of the outcome of our annual conference elections.
- United Methodist Women is bringing four pieces of legislation to the 2020 General Conference for adoption:
  - **Children's Sabbath**: adds the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in October to the church's calendar as the United Methodist Church's U.S. observance of Children's Sabbath.
  - The Girl Child: calls for the church to engage in advocacy to rectify conditions that limit girls from reaching their fullest potential in healthy environments.
  - The Status of Women: Towards Realizing Human Rights for All Womencalls on the church to work for women's global equality in education, health, violence against women, etc.

• Voter Rights Protection in the U.S.: calls attention to the disproportionate impact of voter suppression and for all communities to have access to full and equitable rights in the voting polls.

We applauded the <u>Baltimore Washington Conference United Methodist Women</u> for all the work you do on the front lines and behind the scenes as you continue to put "**Faith**, **Hope**, **Love in action!**"

We wish each of you a happy, safe and wonderful holiday season!

Colleen F. Cates and Esther Barkat, Directors

Colleen F. Cates <a href="mailto:craftyme53@gmail.com">craftyme53@gmail.com</a>
Esther Barkat eunica99@aol.com

#### MISSION u

## Baltimore–Washington Conference United Methodist Women & Wellness and Missions Partnership

Dear Study Leader:

The Baltimore –Washington Conference and Wellness and Missions partnership, will again sponsor Mission u 2020, at the Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, July 24, through 26, 2020. This is a weekend school commitment.

We are searching for study leaders with experience related to the following studies:

<u>Adult Spiritual Study- Finding Peace in an Anxious World</u>: This study will recognize the prevalence of anxiety today and its impact, and to explore ways to find peace through scripture and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God's grace. The goal is to practice peace as a way of life.

<u>Issue study- Mass Incarceration-School-to-Prison-Pipeline – The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools</u>: This study will use the book *Pushout*. A multicultural team will address this issue as they dive deeper into the causes of school pushout and criminalization of children of color through a biblical and theological lens.

The Youth Study-Walking with Jesus in Anxious Times; Managing Anxiety The main purpose is to understand how anxiety shows up in the lives of young people and enable them to experience God through spiritual practices so they are effective followers of Christ in their area of influence.

If you have acquired skills and demonstrative experiences in any of the studies above, kindly send your bios by December 16, 2019 to:

Elizabeth M. Stemley, Dean, <a href="mailto:estemley1190@comcast.net">estemley1190@comcast.net</a>

Sharon G. Milton, Youth School Dean, <a href="mailto:law2be@hotmail.com">law2be@hotmail.com</a>

Thank you for your interest. I look forward to your response.

Peace and Love.

Elizabeth M. Stemley, Dean

#### **Northeastern Jurisdiction**

Calling all Phenomenal Women of The Baltimore Washington Conference! The Northeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team sends greetings of grace and abundance to you. Your Jurisdiction team has been hard at work putting the finishing touches on what we promise will be an outstanding, faith, spirit and fun-filled Quadrennial Event **April 24-26, 2020 in Baltimore, Maryland!** Come for the fellowship, come for the food, and come for the fun!

In October the team met in the beautiful mountains of Bloomsburg, PA to begin finalizing the schedule, worship experience and legacy program so please stay tuned. We will be publishing the finished schedule in its entirety to the website (www.nejumw.org) soon and greatly appreciate your patience while doing so. In the interim here are a few dates and times to get you started. Event registration kicks off at 8:00am on Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> with Ubuntu experiences starting promptly at 9:00am at some of the historical places of American Methodism: The Susanna Wesley House, Lovely Lane UMC, Sharp Street UMC and Old Otterbein UMC. We also have an Ubuntu experience at the hotel for those who would like to work on gathering, sorting and packing items for the mission project which is The Neighborhood Well.

For those attendees who are not participating in an Ubuntu experience, don't worry! We've got something for you! Come tour our exhibit area for all kinds of interactive displays and vendor spaces along with networking with new and old friends. Of course Cokesbury will have a space set up! We wouldn't have it any other way! And as always we are looking for a few good people so if you are interested in volunteering please contact us at <a href="mailto:northeastern@unitedmethodistwomen.org">northeastern@unitedmethodistwomen.org</a>. Emails will be going out soon to those who have already volunteered, communicating schedules and assignments, so please watch your email for more info. Registrations have been brisk and a few of our programs have sold out but not to fret! We've added two new workshops so please visit <a href="www.nejumw.org">www.nejumw.org</a> to register for the event and hotel stay. Cost is \$350 for the event, which includes many of your meals so please register before the price increase which happens at the beginning of the new year.

As I close this letter I can't tell you how excited I am to be celebrating the legacy of 150 years of United Methodist Women putting Faith. Hope. And Love in Action and I want to do so with you. So grab a sister/friend and sign up to share in what I hope and pray will be an **AWESOME** event. Here's to 150 more years!

God Bless You,

Mikele Haskins-Delmore, Northeastern Jurisdiction UMW Vice President

### \* \* \* \* **DISTRICT PRESIDENTS** \* \* \* \* \*

#### **ANNAPOLIS DISTICT**

The Annapolis District has jumped headlong into fall (although, it feels more like winter). Our Units haven't missed a beat, many of them are participating in the Warm Nights program to provide a warm shelter to our homeless brothers and sisters during these chilly nights. When we extend the hand of welcome to those who are a little less fortunate than we are, we please God.

Matthew 22:9 states, "Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find."

We had our Annual Meeting last month, and I'm happy to say that most of the positions that were vacant last year are filled. Deaconess Gertrude Dailey presided over our Officer Installation service, and she made an appeal for people to "step up" to those positions that were vacant. When she appealed, we got a Secretary, two ladies to serve as co-chairs of our Nominations Committee, and a Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator. However, we're still looking for someone to be our District Treasurer. This is a critical position that needs to be filled so we can conduct the District's financial business. If you know of anyone that you could recommend to us, we would really appreciate it. We're trusting and believing in God to fill this position for us, and I know He will.

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." – Philippians 4:6

Many of our Units are celebrating their anniversaries, holding World Thank Offering services and preparing for the holidays. Our District is on par to meet its Pledge to the Conference, and we're excited. District officers are visiting and we are providing whatever they request of us.

The Cluster leaders are working diligently to identify Units that have kind of left the fold. I have to recognize Daisy Farmer and Arleathea Hackett for reaching out to Units in their clusters and making the effort to bring them back into the fold. We had our last meeting at one of those churches and some members have already volunteered to work on certain projects with us. To God be the Glory for the great things He is doing in our District.

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus." – Colossians 3:17

We're getting things lined up for the 2020 Alice S. Anderson Bryant Scholarship Fund. We want to invest in our young people and make sure they have what they need to reach their education goals. As God blesses us, we pass those blessings on to those who need them.

#### "You are good and what you do is good." - Psalm 119:68

We're coordinating with the Anne Arundel County NAACP to see if we can work with them on a combined Voter Registration Drive. Training was held in August and we're ready to move.

We continue our mission work with, Faith. Hope. And Love in Action.

Blessings,

Emma M. Krouser Annapolis District President

e5m7krou2@gmail.com

#### **BALTIMORE SUBURBAN DISTRICT**

Peace and Love to all of my UMW Sisters, Happy Autumn!

What a joyful time of the year, the holidays are approaching and we are gearing up for Thanksgiving and Christmas! The BSD UMW wish each of you Happy Holidays and we look forward to spending the New Year with you all!

The BSD UMW has planned the scheduled for fy2020. We are all set for our Annual Spring Prayer Breakfast on April 4, 2020 at Ames UMC. Our theme will be UMW 101 and we will be refreshing all of our Units with new energy for the fy2020. Please come join our District. Contact Mary Alice McClintock, <a href="Mamcclintock33@gmail.com">Mamcclintock33@gmail.com</a> or myself <a href="mailto:robinh386@gmail.com">robinh386@gmail.com</a> for details

The BSD UMW goal again this year will be to rejuvenate the Churches in our District that are not active.

Let's continue to pray for one another and work together in building our Legacy!

Faith, Love and Hope!

Robin J. Henry, President, BSD 443-904-3954 Robinh386@gmail.com

"Listen to yourself and in that quietude you might hear the voice of GOD" Maya

Angelou

#### **CENTRAL MARYLAND DISTRICT**

Greetings Lovey Ladies of the UMW!

I am honored and humble to serve as your CMD President. I appreciate how God opens our eyes for opportunities to serve and gives us the energy and motivation to do his work. The CMD UMW are an awesome group of women to work with. They remain faithful and dedicated to our purpose of working with women, youth, children and our community. They are doing great things in their local units and it is evident we <u>all</u> love the Lord our God and are willing to share our stories of God's love for us.

As we approach the Advent season, some of our personal energies may be running low, but God's love is energizing us for new adventures and opportunities to serve and seek justice in God's name. This team of CMD "God Chicks" continue to be examples of great faith. I thank God for the women who have gone before us and pray for courage each day to follow their examples and to share what God has given me. I am looking forward to completing the remaining year of my two-year term. I believe God is counting on his daughters to build his kingdom by practicing sincere God-driven words of grace seasoned with salt, towards each one with whom we may encounter to purposely transform our relationships. God cares most about what is in our hearts and nothing can separate us from God's love. Don't let your worries get the best of you. Remember Moses started out as a basket case!

Please feel free to contact me via email below or by phone at 410-486-3735. May God bless each one of you and your loved ones.

Peace and Blessings!

Dianna Woodlon, President Central Maryland District wooddelyte@verizon.net

#### **GREATER WASHINGTON DISTRICT**

Why Is Missionary Work So Important?

"Missionary work is the lifeblood of the church and the lifesaving blessing to all who accept its message." Ronald A. Rasband, "The Divine Call of a Missionary," Ensign, May 2010, 51

In order to understand the motivation for missions, we must first know God. If we do not comprehend who He is and how great His love is for humanity, missions will seem foolish and illogical. We must know the creator of life to find the purpose for our life. When we discover the love of God, and His passion for this world, our lives will change. In the New Year 2020, I pray that you will find the desire to go into your communities and do more of God's work.

Please enjoy the On Mission Poem by Amena Brown, a spoken word artist from Atlanta, Georgia.

In His Grace.

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

#### **On Mission Poem**

We find ourselves before the one true God
Hands open, Hearts laid bare and broken We want to serve Him
We want His name to be the very foundation upon which we build our lives
To be the eyes through which we see the world
Our community, ourselves
We want to walk the roads of Jesus with that same dust on our feet
We want to build bridges instead of burn them
We want to love with the kind of love that flips over tables in temples
And dares the religious to cast stones in judgment
And is willing to share a table with sinners and betrayers
This calling is bigger than a career
Extends beyond a job or formal position
This mission is eternal

Bigger than anything we could come up with ourselves We are picking up the mission Jesus left for us We are doing what He told us "Love God Love your neighbor, Love yourself Take up your cross deny yourself Follow Me Make disciples Teach them the way Walk in the Spirit Speak the truth but make sure you live it too" Jesus is still calling His disciples To put down our nets To serve and love our neighbors Next door and across the world Jesus is calling all of us Whether we need to walk across the street Reach across the table Move across the country Make our home across the world Live in community Learn a new language Practice talking less and listening more Pray and discern what God has in store This plow we put our hands to This work we commit our lives to is not easy There is plenty of harvest but very few hands But we will not grow weary in well doing We ask the God who plants and waters and harvests and reaps To send the brave and the wise To send the women and the men and the children To send the leaders and the influencers To send the elders and the young To send artists, engineers, teachers, farmers, preachers, Mechanics, musicians, athletes, architects To send those who will be riend and walk alongside To send those who will again and again offer their lives We will not be a generation who is lulled to sleep By apathy and selfishness and complacency We are the people who will be moved to action To walk humbly and love mercy and do justice We want God to send us To DC coffee shops and surrounding neighborhoods No matter where go When God sends us on mission We will answer with our whole lives

#### **FREDERICK DISTRICT**



Dear United Methodist Women of the Frederick

District!

My name is Angela Fossett and because I am a "Here I am Lord, send me" kind of girl. I was appointed your new Acting Frederick District President on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the annual meeting and I am so excited!

Please join me in prayer for Sis. Sherie Koob, Past Lead Frederick District Organizer, as she is moving on to focus on Earthkeepers through the General Board of Global Ministries with her husband However, Sherie will remain active in her local unit as their President!

I am a lifelong "Fredericktonian." I am married to Pastor David Fossett of Hopehill United Methodist Church. We have three fabulous young adult children and one awesome grandson. I am a Certified Lay Servant; the Safe Sanctuary Support for the Baltimore-Washington Conference and I work at a local high school as the attendance secretary.

I teach Sunday School and lead the women's fellowship at Hopehill. Truth be told, there isn't much that I don't do or have not done in my past 21 years in His service in the United Methodist Church.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone and to see how the Lord is using your hearts, gifts and talents to bless others.

Currently the Frederick District Team consists of myself and Sis. Debra Addison, our Treasurer. Once I can meet everyone, I pray that we can fill all the vacancies on the District Team with a few of you wonderful ladies.

I have provided you with all my contact information, so please do not hesitate to reach out if I can be of any assistance to you. I would greatly appreciate it if you would send me your updated unit information to the email or mailing address below.

Continue to be awesome on purpose!

Yours in Christ,

Angela Fossett

frdistumw@gmail.com
301-639-1569

#### **WASHINGTON EAST DISTRICT**

Greetings and blessings from the Washington East District (WED) United Methodist Women.

Our WED Annual Celebration was held on October 12, 2019 at Clinton UMC. This year our celebration had a theme of "Celebrating God and You". We worshipped God and then to celebrate the many accomplishments of each of our WED units, we had a slide show that displayed what our units have been doing.

When it was time to announce our slate of officers, we were short. But BWC President Linda Yost and I said we were not too proud to beg, SO WE DID!! As a result, we now have the following:

- 2020 Slate of Officers are:
  - President Diane Shorts
  - Vice President Stephanie Willett
  - Secretary Sandra Smith
  - Treasurer Linda Ford
  - Spiritual Growth Pearl Chase
  - Social Action Evangaline Crawford (New)
  - Program Resources Marva Bigelow
  - Membership, Nurture & Outreach Darlene Majors
  - Education & Interpretation Vacant
  - Communications Stephanie Hazell, Chair; Beverly Holman, Co-Chair (Both New)
  - Nomination Chairperson Lauretta Grier
  - Epworth House Representative Korla Frye

We applaud our new members and welcome them with open arms.

My job is made easier because I have an awesome team.

I thank God for you all!

On October 26, 2019 Vice President Stephanie Willett and I attended the BWC annual celebration and to my surprise, one of our newest team members Stephanie Hazell also attended the celebration. WED won first place in the Mission Today Competition. We were given a certificate and a beautiful crystal award for our accomplishment. We also received a certificate of achievement for accomplishing 24 Five Star Units.

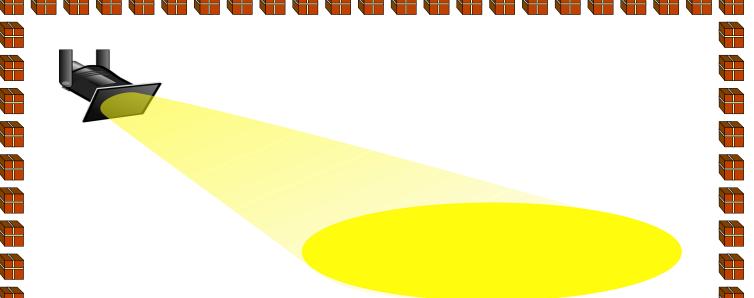
Again congratulations WED, we could not have done it without your dedication and God's Help.

We are continuing our efforts to help our WED units that need assistance and encouragement to stay active and on purpose. 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 <a href="mailto:shwbmd58@gmail.com">shwbmd58@gmail.com</a>.

GOD BLESS,

Diane Shorts, President Minidshorts25@gmail.com

301-442-2814



## Spotlight on the Districts

#### **Frederick District**

Living the Adventure at Bunker Hill UMC

November 2019

#### Special Mission Recognition: UM Women's Salute to Servanthood

Sunday, September 29 was the day that friends and family of Krista Hoffman gathered with the Bunker Hill congregation to worship God and to celebrate how laymen/women can do His work.

With the theme of "You're Never Too Old; It's Never Too Late," attendees concentrated on how Krista's "bucket list" approach to living has influenced her life and her service to the church. The altar arrangements denoted Krista's work with wood products and jewelry. Keyboardist Sandy Beahm's prelude was a medley of children's Sunday School favorites. Later, under the leadership of Pastor Danny, the congregants joined in singing these tunes.

On hand for this special day was Linda Yost, President of the Baltimore-Washington conference UM Women. She brought greetings from the conference and revealed, later, how impressed she was with the Bunker Hill area's recycling maneuvers.

At the close of the service on the hymn "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," Krista led the worshippers to the social room for a luncheon that featured an assortment of croissants and wraps, selection of fruits and vegetables, and fruit parfaits. The tables were accented with floral tributes in small buckets; the large bulletin board was a colorful pictorial tribute to Krista.

From this event came a designated offering that Krista had hoped would fund the acquisition of audio-visual equipment for the children's area and also the renewal of the walls in the nursery. So far, gifts have amounted to \$1,057.00; soon Krista and her team will be working with the Trustees to make her dream a reality. It will be a joy to watch this project unfold and to be a part of the "completion celebration" ahead.





# Conference Projects



#### Report of the BWC UMW Epworth House Mission Project Committee

The Epworth House Mission Project Committee of the BW Conference held their Annual Meeting and Luncheon on November 12, 2019, at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. We were proud to have Rev. Dr. David McAllister Wilson, President of Wesley, give the opening prayer and remarks, followed with remarks by Brian McCollum, Vice President of Development. Esther Inuwa, Missioner-in-Residence, gave very inspiring greetings and was presented with a beautiful clergy robe as a gift from the Committee. There were seven Wesley students in attendance. Marci Matthews, the daughter of Seminary Bishop-in-Residence, Rev. Dr. Marcus Matthews, read from John 4:23-30, and gave a stirring devotion story.

Gertrude White, President, BWC UMW

Korla Frye, WED

**Epworth House Mission Project Committee** 

**Epworth House Representative** 



Zilpha Pinkney; Gertrude White, Pres.; Lynn Davenport, VP; Ellen Davis, Nom.; Linda Yost, BWCUMW Pres.; Esther Inuwa, MIR; Stephanie Willett, WED VP/Secy.; Jeanette Tolbert Campbell, Treas.; Korla Frye, E&I; and Gladys Carter, GWD VP. (Not pictured--Elizabeth Stemley, former BWC UMW Pres.; Kunda Musonda, Pres. GWD UMW; Diane Shorts, Pres., WED UMW; Rosetta Daniels, Nom.; Susan Howes, Hosp.; Alveta Jones and Willa Kynard.)



**President Gertrude White** and Esther Inuwa



Linda Yost and

**Esther Inuwa** 



**Esther Inuwa holds** 

her new clergy robe

#### EPWORTH HOUSE MISSION PROJECT COMMITTEE

of

Baltimore-Washington Conference, United Methodist Women Fifty-Sixth Anniversary Celebration and Silent Auction

at

Holiday Inn College Park 10000 Baltimore Avenue College Park, MD 20740

Hosted by the Greater Washington & Washington East Districts

Save the Date: May 2, 2020 - 11:30 AM



We are asking each UMW Unit to participate by making up a Basket or Shoebox with a special theme to be auctioned off at the end of the luncheon. All proceeds will go towards the Scholarship Fund for our Missioner-in-Residence, Wesley Theological Seminary

#### Committee Members for Silent Auction are:

Susan Howes, Hospitality Chair, 1-410-257-3210 - showes@chesapeake.net Gertrude White, President, 301-656-9116 - trudytil@aol.com
Korla Frye, E&I Coordinator, 301-333-9257 - fryekorla@ymail.com
Willa Kynard, Member, 202-716-8898 - msk3334@yahoo.com
Ellen Davis, Nominations Chair, 202-431-4804 - davisellen39@gmail.com
Elizabeth Stemley, Member, 1-443-850-8544 - estemley1190@comcast.net

#### EPWORTH HOUSE SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 2, 2020 11:30 a.m.

Holiday Inn College Park, 10000 Baltimore Avenue College Park, MD 20740

The Epworth House Mission Project of the United Methodist Women of the Baltimore-Washington Conference provides financial support to an International Sister attending Wesley Theological Seminary, 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 published in the Epworth House Program booklet at the Spring Luncheon, Saturday May 2, 2020

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Please make check payable to Epworth House Mission Project and mail to:

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

Patron sheets (see below) must be received by April 13, 2020.

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

#### **Print or Type All Information**

Church Name\_\_\_\_\_Contact Person\_\_\_\_

2020 to:

| Telephone                                      |               |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Name of the Person Honored/Remembered donation | Person making |
| Ex. Remembering my mother Flora Thompson       | Jane Grays    |
|                                                |               |
|                                                |               |
|                                                |               |
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|                                                |               |
|                                                |               |
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|                                                |               |
| ,                                              |               |

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

Please make checks payable to Epworth House Mission Project and mail by April 13,



November 18, 2019

**Greetings United Methodist Women!** 

I am writing you on behalf of the Susanna Wesley House, Inc. As the Christmas Season approaches we are working hard to help our residents have a very happy holiday. In this effort we are planning our annual Christmas Celebration here at the house on Friday December 13, at 6 pm. This wonderful celebration is an evening of food, gift giving and celebration that ensures each family will have needed items on Christmas Day. We are asking for your help with this event by adopting one family and providing the items on their wish list. Our families range in size from a mother and baby, to mothers with up to three children. If your unit is willing to adopt just *one* family, it would make a world of difference for their Christmas. What better way for us to show our love for Jesus Christ than by caring for His people in need. Jesus said that whatever we do for the least of them we do for Him (Matthew 25:40). By helping us you are fulfilling our mission to assist these women in need and their dependent children.

If you would like to help please reply to the email below and I will forward one family's wish list. We are also in need of refreshments for our celebration on December 13 and would appreciation your help in that area if you are unable to adopt a family. You may also reach me by phone at 410-837-3787.

We also have tickets to CeCe Winans and the Morgan State University Choir Christmas Concert on December 20, 2019 at 8 pm at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. Tickets are \$45. This event sells out each year and we have a limited number of tickets. When you purchase your tickets from us a portion of the proceeds goes to help us continue our mission 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 for your past, present and future support of Susanna Wesley House, Inc.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Bryant
Executive Director/Grant Writer
susannawesley@verizon.net



Back by popular demand, renowned gospel singer and twelve-time Grammy® Awardwinner CeCe Winans joins the BSO and the Morgan State University Choir for a rousing Gospel Christmas program of holiday favorites.

JOSEPH MEYERHOFF SYMPHONY HALL 1212 CATHEDRAL STREET, BALTIMORE, MD, 21201

#### **BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UMW 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 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): |