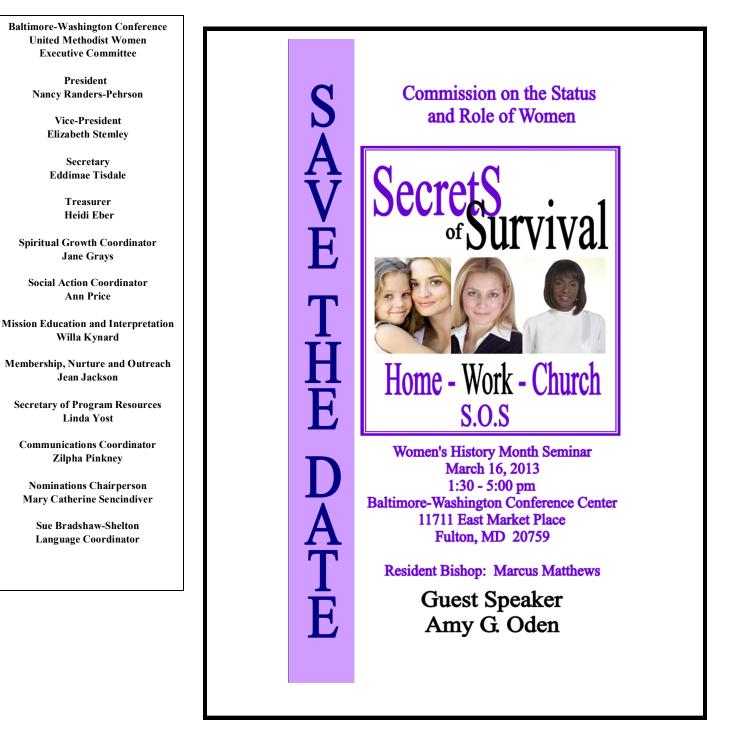


# The Flame

Volume IV

December, 2012

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



# The School of Christian Mission to Be Called Mission u!

Effective 2013, the School of Christian Mission will change its name to Mission u: Learning Together for Transformation of the World.

Why the name change?

1. Schools of Mission are historic to United Methodist Women and predecessor organizations. While this identity remains important, the term "school" can be a deterrent to participation, particularly to those of younger generations or those new to the organization.

2. The name "Mission u" keeps the identity with mission and reflects the personal learning experience (u as in university and u as the text and Web language for you).

3. The suggested tag line reflects the community aspect of learning and the mission goal of transformation.

4. Mission u offers a short and succinct appeal with many possibilities for promotion and publicity.

5. The name change is keeping with the vision and outcomes of the strategic plan for the organization.

## — New name continued life-changing learning!

United Methodist Women FAITH + HOPE + LOVE IN ACTION PAGE 3

VOLUME IV

### **REFLECTIONS FROM THE UN SEMINAR**

#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." And the Lord said to Samuel: "See I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle.

#### 1 Samuel 3:10-11

As Christians, we are charged with listening and obediently responding to God's Holy Word. One Sunday morning, a member of Asbury United Methodist Church extended an invitation to attend the Baltimore Washington UN Seminar, which the United Methodist Women held November 19-20, 2012. The seminar's title is "Human Trafficking: Global Challenges for Today's World."

The United Nation's Office on Drug and Crime indicates "Human trafficking is the second largest global organized crime today, generating approximately 31.6 billion USD each year. Specifically, trafficking for sexual exploitation generates 27.8 billion USD per year." It involves the buying, selling and smuggling of men, women and children by forcing them into what amounts to modern-day slavery. These victims are often beaten, starved and forced to work as prostitutes and/or domestics.

When reflecting on the seminar's events, I feel blessed to have experienced opportunities which encouraged:

Sharing through the inspirational opening and closing worship services;

Broadening awareness and knowledge of human trafficking through well-prepared presentations; Openly exchanging ideas with other believers;

Translating and displaying meaningful graphic art ideas;

Contacting the President of the US of America and legislators via letters and electronic media; Fellowshipping with United Methodist Women in the Baltimore Washington Conference; and Continued bonding with others to minimize human trafficking and exploitation.

To my Sisters in Christ, "without your support, encouragement, and love I may have missed this worship experience".

Delois Baskin, Asbury United Methodist Church



THE FLAME

VOLUME IV

# PICTURES AND POETRY FROM 2012 UN SEMINAR

Lord, we have heard the voices of our sisters and brothers.

We have heard the cries of the children

Held - Captive- against their will.

Lord we have seen the faces of the profiteers,

The perpetrators and violence through enslavement.

Lord, we have felt the pain inflicted on our sisters, on our children.

Too numerous and growing even as we speak

They are held, Lord, against their will.

We refuse to dismiss the pain inflicted by human trafficking.

We will raise our voices, we will shout to the rafters.

We will wage war against the perpetrators of violence, estrangement, separation.

Our voices will be heard.

We will work with energy, passion, determination to rid our world of human slavery.

We will not cease the battle till all are freed.

Lord, we beseech you to raise us from idleness and apathy.

Move us to advocacy.

To wage war against the disease of human trafficking.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Amen.

Josephine Stith Tuesday, November 20, 2012 United Nations Seminar





#### THE FLAME

VOLUME IV

#### PICTURES AND POETRY FROM 2012 UN SEMINAR, cont.

A LAMENT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING BY MICHELLE PROPST

Dear Lord, have you forgotten me? Can you see me Lord? Why must I struggle and juggle the day? Enslaved, concaved, I am depraved, I am alone and kept at bay.

They sell, I yell, in a cell, and rebel Give away, Get away, Stay away Help me, save me, love me Don't look at me and leave You know don't you Believe, receive and set me free.







### PRESIDENT

What good is it my brothers [and sisters] if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? (James 2:14)

#### Dear Ones,

The United Methodist Women continue to turn *faith*, *hope*, *and love into action for women*, *children*, *and youth around the world*. I thank you for your perseverance, dedication, and service to others, especially those on the margins of life. We have had a very active and fruitful year. Remember that all that we do is for God's glory. In the Book of James, Chapter 2:17, it states, "...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." I can sense the Holy Spirit moving among us as we step out in faith to make a difference and to change the world.

Our Bishop Marcus Matthews and his lovely wife Barbara attended our BWC UMW Annual Celebration held at Hereford UMC and he officiated over the Sacrament of Communion with our Baltimore-Suburban District Superintendent Karin Walker. I thank you for your attendance and for your donations of health kits for Haiti and canned goods that will help to nourish local families. Canned goods were also collected at many of our Annual District Meetings and donated to the MD Food Bank, as part of the BWC Change the World Program.

I have been asked by a member of our Conference Justice and Mercy Committee, Rev. Sonia King, to obtain the names of the churches now involved in a prison ministry. If you do have one, please let your District Social Action Coordinator or District President have the name and a POC from your church or UMW. I attended training in November called Baltimore Healing Communities Training where I learned more about how our congregations are affected by the criminal justice systems, including defendants, prisoners, victims of crimes, or people coming home from prison (returning citizens), and their family members. If any of you would like to take this six-hour training, to see how your church could be "doers of the faith" in this mission area, which costs \$25 each, please contact Rev. King at 410-255-4602. (Reference: UM Connection, October 10, 2012, page 7.) Another prison mission opportunity is called KAIROS where volunteers are trained and go into MCI-W in Jessup Women's Prison for a three-day retreat to share God's love and witness the transformation! If interested, you may obtain an application on line by going to KAIROS in Maryland.

Recently a telephone conference was held to discuss a future inter-generational event and to find ways to encourage younger women's participation in our UMW. Your local units (groups) will be receiving a questionnaire to assist us in this endeavor. Also in November, we had our first face-to-face meeting to join with the United Methodist Men in confronting the social issue of Stopping Domestic Violence, after our ribboncutting ceremony this year at the 2012 Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference. We are planning to take some actions in the near future to help to stop the cycle of violence, passed on from one generation to another.

We have been blessed by Bishop Matthews with an office space in the Conference Mission Center. When you see him next be sure to thank him for his support and generosity.

I have given you a taste of what our UMW Conference is planning for the future. As you read the other articles in The Flame, you will be amazed at all of the activity. We indeed are "doers" of the faith. Our next Conference Mission Team Retreat is January 5th, 9-4:30 PM, at the Conference Mission Center. Thank you once more for all your support.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Nancy M. Randers-Pehrson

# **NOMINATIONS 2013 CONFERENCE MISSION TEAM**

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<u>Two Members</u> Barbara Shew 18 Concord Drive Brunswick, MD 21716 (301) 834-9734 bashoe99@aol.com

Colleen L. Cates 5493 Moores Run Drive Baltimore, MD 21206 (410) 488-5369 craftyme@yahoo.com PAGE 10

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings! to you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ our redeemer. We are a body of women whose purpose is to know God and to serve Him through providing services to women, children and youth around the World. Thank you for your support and participation in the success for the Annual Celebration on October 27, 2012, at Hereford United Methodist Church, Monkton, Maryland. The comments from the evaluations gave high praises to the question, What did you like most? Members reported the following: Mission Storytelling from the various districts and units were excellence; The spirit of worship service was wonderful; Everything was well planned; Food was awesome; Loved sharing; Meeting the Bishop and his wife; Reports from districts were informative as Mission in Action; Storytelling is s great way to learn what other districts and churches are doing to fulfill their Mission; Location , atmosphere and the program setup good; and the program was planned very well planned.

As a follow-up from leadership training with Vice Presidents' at the Annual Celebration a spiritual retreat will be planned for a date to be announced in March 2013.

One main goal for the BWC UMW Mission Team is to develop and encourage Intergenerational relationships in the work for mission between young and mature women (Inspired Young Women to Serve). As a first step an invitation was sent to each district president for circulation among their membership. And the second step a face-to-face meeting and conference call held on November 9, 2012 at the Baltimore Conference Center. The participants discussed how to reach young women and get them involved in mission services to families, youth and children. The committee agreed to draft a survey to gather feedback from women about their interest in United Methodist Women. The collected data will be used to motivate participation based up on their passion to serve. The final survey will be presented at the planning working retreat on January 5, 2013.

The UMW/UMM have actively engaged in the discussions about Domestic Violence and Abuse as a problem which affect all families, through conference calls and a face-to- face conversations held on November 11, 2012. The meetings are held at the Baltimore Washington Conference Center and future meetings are planned. Sumayya Coleman, is facilitating the process and engaging the team in developing strategies for education awareness and prevention. The presidents and vice presidents from the districts are invited to participate in this effort. We need support and participation from each district to make positive changes in the fight against Domestic Violence and Abuse.

The **planning Working Retreat** scheduled for January 5, 2013 is a good opportunity for the Mission Team to reflect, plan, discuss and dream about the work to be done on behalf of families, youth and children for the next two years. I encourage you to evaluate the scope of your of mission responsibilities and identify what improvements need to be enhanced to support the purposes for UMM. A challenge for you is to mentor a young woman and invite her be a part of the growth for UMW over the next year.

#### VICE PRESIDENT, CONT.

Again, thank you for all your hard work through using your gifts, talents and graces to the glory of God. May the work you do in United Methodist Women speak for you and also, may God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless, preserve and keep you in His love and care.

Peace and Love,

Elizabeth Mitchell Stemley, VP

443, 850, 8544

#### **TREASURER**

#### MY TWO CENTS

I hope you enjoyed our recent annual celebration as much as the Mission Team did. The offering at this gathering totaled \$531.10 for Mission Giving, going directly towards our Pledge to National. Many thanks to all who contributed financially. And kudos as well to those providing Material Resource items to our local Mission Resource Center Hub. Not far from Hereford UMC (our gathering host church) is Hub #23 of Mission Central. The week following the gathering (and right after the Super Storm swept through) I delivered on your behalf, 120 Health Kits and over 20 Blankets/shawls to the Hub. The Hub coordinator, Fred Sipes, was very pleased to receive our material gifts, as well as the dollar contributions that were enclosed. The Hub is very well organized; gathering, storing, and shipping out to Mechanicsburg's Mission Central numerous Flood Buckets, Layette Kits, Health kits, and more! They assured me that they welcome visits from units and churches that would like to see their base of operations. They are located in the Educational Building of Bentley Springs U M Church, at 419 Bentley Road in Parkton, MD. Do not hesitate to contact them if you would like to visit, tour, or contribute your time in any way. Fred can be reached at 410-967-9134.

God blesses the wonderful things we do for mission when we pool our resources!

Heidi Eber



Women's Division 475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor New York, NY 10115 www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

November 13, 2012

Dear sisters:

I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. At the 2012 General Conference, United Methodist Women was allowed to separate from the General Board of Global Ministries to become an official independent organization within the United Methodist Church. Some of you have been inquiring about how this historic action will impact local units of United Methodist Women.

While the 2012 General Conference adopted changes related to the structure of United Methodist Women on the district, conference and national levels, it **did not** approve any changes to local units of United Methodist Women. Local units will be continue to abide by *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2008* and the United Methodist Women handbook.

The 2013-2016 United Methodist Women Handbook, which will soon be off press, contains the following language to guide local United Methodist Women organizations.

#### Local United Methodist Women Organization

United Methodist Women are organized according to the group's need and size. Most United Methodist Women groups relate to a local church. Each local organization of United Methodist Women should have a Leadership Team, which **at minimum** consists of a **president**, **vice-president**, **treasurer**, **secretary and chair**, **committee on nominations**. (*The Book of Discipline*, 2008, paragraph 256.5) Additional leaders are chosen and committees or task groups are formed as needed.

#### Organizational Options and Opportunities Subgroups/Circles

Forming subgroups or circles allows members an opportunity to focus on special mission interests in smaller groups. They provide greater flexibility and freedom for participation, nurture and leadership development. Some women find that their circle is their primary connection for prayer, study and spiritual growth.

Subgroups and circles may relate to the local organization by selecting representatives to be members or connect with the Leadership Team and/or other committees, as appropriate.

1 | Page

#### Cluster or charge groups

Smaller groups in a local church may be strengthened by joining with United Methodist Women members in other churches to form a charge, cluster or other regional group.

#### **Online Connections**

Social networking through UMWOnline.net provides yet another way to organize and connect with others with a passion for mission. The primary purpose of the Online Community is to enhance the ways in which we connect and communicate with one another.

#### Leadership

Accepting a leadership role requires a commitment of time, energy and effort. But in return, you develop a deeper understanding of mission, grow spiritually and are sustained by the knowledge that you are making a difference in the lives of women, children and youth and unjust systems.

#### Leadership Team

The local organization should be structured so that the work of administration, finance, program planning, planning for mission, record keeping and nominations can be carried out. A member must be named president, and she or someone named by the team must serve as the contact person for the district organization and serve on the local church council.

The Leadership Team assigns responsibilities for all basic functions. It includes the following persons:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Chair, Committee on Nominations
- Member(s) at large, as needed
- Pastor (ex-officio, Discipline, para 256.5, Article 4)

Other persons may also be recruited to plan programs of spiritual growth, mission education and advocacy work according to the needs of your group and community. Others might organize programs for individual study and hands-on mission. Each organization should recruit leaders needed to make sure that opportunities for spiritual growth, mission education, leadership development, service and advocacy are available to members throughout the year.

#### Elected Leadership Responsibilities and Duties

The president, treasurer, chair of the Committee on Nominations, and secretary of the local organization each have a counterpart in the district and conference organizations of United Methodist Women. Your district counterpart will be available to give you practical advice

about how to carry out your duties and will be a source of support as you learn more about being a leader of United Methodist Women. They will provide training and give advice.

#### Term and Tenure of Elected Leaders

Leaders are elected for terms that are determined by their local or district unit. Tenure, or the maximum amount of time a woman may serve is described in the bylaws of United Methodist Women.

#### Tasks of Mission

Mission is and has been at the heart of the organization for over 140 years. Our mission tasks grow out of the Vision and Outcomes as described in Living the Vision for 2010-2020, and offer a way for United Methodist Women groups to organize themselves.

I hope this is helpful.

Sincerely,

Sally L. Vonner Assistant General Secretary Membership and Leadership Development <u>SVonner@unitedmethodistwomen.org</u> Telephone: 212-870-3723, Fax: 212-870-3736

### United Methodist Women Mission Resources

As a member of United Methodist Women, you have probably ordered something from one of our resource centers, whether from the Service Center in Cincinnati or Mission Resource Center in Dallas, there has been a place for you to find resources for mission.

#### Why do we have a resource center?

The reason is rooted in our PURPOSE. United Methodist Women continually develops resources that help expand concepts of mission. These resources are a valuable part of the spiritual formation, transformative education, leadership development, service and advocacy that organize us for growth and form the foundation of this 140-year-old organization. We have a center because we need a place to put the resources!

As technology changes, the national staff has worked to make sure our resources are cared for in the most efficient and economical way possible. The production and distribution of resources should pay for itself, so the staff continually researches best practices for the caring and delivery of these items.

Our research has shown that there is a better way to equip women for mission, and the mission resource center is moving and expanding to meet your needs.

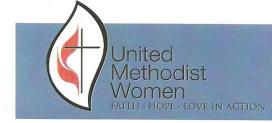
We are pleased to introduce a new and improved resource center: United Methodist Women Mission Resources!

On Monday December 17 we will be going live with a new resource center: United Methodist Women Mission Resources. We'll be working with PBD Worldwide in Duluth, Ga., to provide you with a fantastic new site. The all-new, easy-to-use e-store will be accepting orders at www. umwmissionresources.org on this date, with delivery after January 7, 2013.

As a bonus, all orders placed online are processed without additional cost to us. By ordering online, you make the most of mission dollars.

United Methodist Women Mission Resources will carry the mission products you have come to know and rely on:

- The Reading Program helps people chart their own course of continuing mission education. By purchasing through the resource center all profit on sales go to mission.
- response magazine is the magazine for women in mission. It is available by subscription, with archived copies available at the resource center.
- The mission, spiritual growth and geographical studies help give fresh perspectives and deepen our understanding of the world around us.

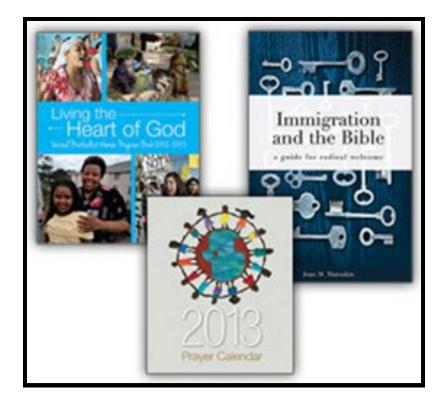


- The Program Book helps guide groups through a spiritual understanding of current issues and lifts up the work that your mission dollar makes possible.
- The Prayer Calendar invites people to a daily discipline of prayer and awareness of the many people united in the work of mission every day, around the world.
- Promotional materials, many of which are available for free, help you promote and celebrate the work of United Methodist Women.

So check us out online or give us a call. The customer service team will be waiting for your call on December 17, 2012.

> Call toll free: 1-800-305-9857 Fax: 1-770-280-0061

December 13, 2012, will be the last date in 2012 to place your order with the current Mission Resource Center in Dallas, Texas, whether by phone, fax or through the e-store.



PAGE 17

THE FLAME

#### SOCIAL ACTION

#### **Racial Justice in 2012**

Racial justice should be of concern to everyone. We are all aware of the historical prevalence of racism in our country. Many thought race relations would improve with the election of Barack Obama as the US President in 2008. Unfortunately, much remains to be done in this arena. And, in this era of globalization, we find that racism is more visible, and its existence is in evidence almost everywhere.

United Methodist Women has always worked to secure human rights and dignity for all people. We have a history of being at the forefront in the fight against racism and associated injustices.

Several recent actions on the part of United Methodist Women highlight the fact that we keep the Charter for Racial Justice in focus as we work to promote racial justice here and around the world. One is our recent Hershey Fair Trade signature campaign and associated meetings and events, which reflected our position against child labor within the cocoa industry, especially on cocoa farms in West Africa. In another, the United Methodist Women's National Office reacted to anti-Muslim hate speeches reflected in signage with the placing of counter signs in New York City subway stations and in Washington, DC Metro stations.

Created by United Methodist Women in 1978, the Charter for Racial Justice was subsequently adopted by the United Methodist denomination in 1980. It connects personal beliefs to actions designed to help eliminate racism and racist attitudes within the church. We are encouraged to make the Charter an integral part of our modus operandi at all levels within United Methodist Women. Let us seize this opportunity to help bring faith, hope, and love into action, as we work to implement the purpose and missions of the United Methodist Women.

#### Ann Price, Social Action Coordinator

#### History

Schools of Christian Mission began in the mid-1930s by the Woman's Home Missionary Society. Every year more than 20,000 people participate in the Schools of Christian Mission.

#### 2012 Report - Ann Price, Coordinator for Social Action

#### "...to do justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God..." Micah 6:8

During this, another productive year for the B-W Conference Social Action Program, we continued to support issue education and awareness activities, district and local United Methodist Women's program events, and Conference United Methodist Women's advocacy activities.

We prioritized three issues among those prioritized by the United Methodist Women's National Office for 2012: Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence and Abuse, and Immigration Reform. We engaged United Methodist Women in advocacy actions by interfacing the Conference Mission Team, district presidents, and district and local United Methodist Women's social action coordinators. My major contacts with district social action coordinators included quarterly telephone conferences, e-mail / hard copy transmissions, and leadership updates / training sessions. District and local UMW units provided programs/events on Immigration, Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence and Abuse.

One interesting 2012 advocacy action included helping to spearhead the NE Jurisdiction UMW's Hershey Fair Trade Campaign, which ended in June 2012. We designed the postcard, gathered signatures, helped plan for and attended a Hershey Company meeting and a Devotional Service recognizing the "International Day against Child Labor". Interestingly, an October 3, 2012, Hershey Company press release announced that Hershey "will ensure all of its chocolate products are certified by 2020"!

#### Successful 2012 activities and upcoming events include:

-- B-W Conference UN Seminar 2011, held in New York City, November 20-22, 2011 was another exciting event. Fortytwo persons participated in the Seminar: "A Domestic and Global Challenge: Violence and Abuse against Women and Children."

---Following the Seminar, we implemented a B-W Conference United Methodist Women-sponsored Prayer Vigil in concert with the Rutgers University's International 16 Days Campaign against Violence against Women and Children.

----UN Seminar 2012 is scheduled for Nov 18th -20th, in New York City. The theme for 2012 is "Human Trafficking: A Global Challenge for Today's World".

-- MD Legislative Advocacy Day 2012, Annapolis, Maryland, co-sponsored by B-W Conference United Methodist Women and Social Justice and Missions Office was attended by about 100 persons. Three issues of emphasis for the successful day included Human Trafficking, Immigration Reform, and Poverty.

---We are now planning for MD Legislative Advocacy Day 2013, which will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Asbury UM Church, Annapolis, MD.

-- The B-W Conference United Methodist Women participated in the Women's Division's 2011 national Immigration Survey; results are posted on the United Methodist Women national office Web site.

#### Additional 2012 social action advocacy activities (limited):

-- Presented a briefing, "From Passion to Action", Youth Session, NE Jurisdiction UMW Meeting, Hershey, PA, June 15, 2012

-- Led Focus Group, "The Charter for Racial Justice", School of Christian Mission 2012, Bethesda, MD, August 2012 -- Participated in a Task Group, Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act and interfaced Conference United Methodist Women to garner support for the MD DREAM Act on the November 2012 Maryland General Election Ballot (<u>Note</u>: Marylanders approved the MD DREAM Act during the November national election.) -- Advocated in support of and engaged United Methodist Women to actively support voting rights leading up to the upcoming election

-- Engaged Conference United Methodist Women in support of a Women's Division education petition campaign, emphasizing less reliance on standardized testing, including a signature campaign

-- Participated in other activities / events, including North Atlantic Regional School Nominations Committee; Conference Board of Church and Society and Connectional Table; and the MD Legislative Agenda for Women; among others

Our activities in the social justice arena are based on guidance which emanates from biblical perspectives. This accommodates the guidance for the United Methodist Church included in the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church, and the Books of Discipline and Resolutions of the United Methodist Church.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

#### BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE, INC.

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Mission statement for the Board of Trustees is to manage income from invested funds for the United Methodist Women of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Inc. It is composed of one woman from each of the eight districts. A member of the Baltimore Parish Work and the President of the Baltimore - Washington Conference are represented with no voice or vote.

The officers of the corporation consists of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Committees consist of investment and nominations members. The meetings of the Board of Trustees are held on the second Tuesday of April and September. Investment committee meetings are held separately approximately within two weeks after each regular meting.

The responsibilities of the investment committee is to review, evaluate, and approve recommendations, with advice from Mr. Douglas Potter of Lombard Securities, regarding the portfolio of investments for the Deaconess Home Fund and the United Methodist Women Fund. Interest from these funds are utilized advocating for women, children and youth through Faith, Hope and Love in action through conference projects and scholarships conference wide. This committee in return reports to the general board of the investment decisions made.

Upcoming plans are to be inclusive of the modern technologies as suggested by the United Methodist Women's National Office. We will perform a conference call in the near future.

The Board of Trustees are requesting donations with bequests in wills.

#### **District Representatives**

Annapolis Margaret Cullings

Baltimore Metropolitan Janice Mason

Baltimore Suburban Lorraine Mayo

Central Maryland Mary Jefferson

Cumberland Hagerstown Margaret Pennington

Frederick Mary Catherine Sencindiver

Greater Washington Geraldine Whitley

Washington East Susan Howes

Barbara Daniel Baltimore Parish Work

Nancy Randers-Pehrson President BWC UMW

Douglas Potter Lombard Securities

Members at Large

Ruth Giles

Barbara Lowis Lehmann

PAGE 20

#### **Central Maryland District Bees**

A fun time was had at the Central MD District's Annual Meeting Celebration on October 20 at Fairhaven UMC in Gaithersburg, MD. There were skits, photo displays, a rap song, a power point and other various presentations from different units on some of their mission projects. We learned about a unit sponsoring a young lady in Haiti; unit sending letters to soldiers; units collecting school supplies, supporting scholarships and shelters; making prayer shawls; raising money by selling grocery store cards; collecting food for Manna; and working at SERV to name a few.

We celebrated our 5-Star units: Alberta Gary, Asbury, Ashton, Bethany, Damascus, Emory Grove, Fairhaven, Goshen, Locust, Mt. Gregory/St. Luke, Mt. Zion (Brookeville), Oakdale Emory, Providence, Sharp Street, Wesley Chapel, and Wesley Freedom. We recognized our Mission Today units: Bronze-Ashton; Silver-Mt Gregory/St. Luke, and Goshen; Gold-Alberta Gary. There were many ladies who participated in the reading program and 5 churches were recognized has having members who completed Plan I and above: Ashton, Fairhaven, Goshen, Mt. Gregory/St. Luke, and Wesley Freedom. We call our ladies 90 years old and over our "Queen Bees" and 36 of them were recognized. We were excited to note that 10 units have at least one member under 40! Of course new officers were elected and installed. We were honored to have Elizabeth Stemley, Vice President of the BWC-UMW, install the officers: President, Kathleen Charters (Alberta Gary); Vice President, Georgina Sherman (Epworth); Secretary, Edna Johnson (Mt. Gregory/St. Luke); Treasurer, Tamara Hull (Goshen); MNO, Mercy Arkorful (Alberta Gary); E&I, Marcia Marcellus (Locust); Nominations, Mary Jefferson (West Liberty) and Pennie Adams (Damascus); Program Resources, Doris Byrd-Watts (Goshen); Spiritual Growth, Cheryl Gooden (Community of Faith); Social Action, Cindy Waugh (Wesley Freedom).

Five Central Maryland ladies (Rita Green, Kathleen Charters, Doris Byrd Watts, Doris Coplin, and Cindy Waugh, and one man (Rev. Gerry Green) participated in the UN Seminar in New York City. In addition to wonderful fellowship, we were enlightened about the troubling topic of Human Trafficking. We will be sharing what we learned with our local units and with the district as a whole.

This is my last article as president of the "Buzzing Bees of the CMD." I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as president during the transition from the Washington West District to the Central Maryland District and I thank God for the wonderful ladies who have served with me on the Mission Team. I am also thankful for all the wonderful ladies of the district and for all they do in the way of missions for women, children and youth. I pray we will continue *BEEing* a blessing for years to come.

Rita Green, President Central Maryland District





**Deaconess & Home Missioner Ministry** 

THE FLAME

### Baltimore Metropolitan District Flame Newsletter Report for November 15, 2012

#### BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN VOICE

### BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Guiding our faith, hope and love in action for women, children and youth.

Gracious and Compassionate God, give us the courage to be compassionate to stand with those who are oppressed and against injustice. Open our eyes to the many people who need to know they are not alone. Amen. (Prayer Calendar 2012)

The Baltimore Metropolitan District has progressed quite well as the year draws to an end. We will continue to be servants of God advocating for women, children and youth while expanding concepts of mission during the upcoming year.

Throughout the year, the Baltimore Metropolitan District UMW participated in the North East Jurisdiction, School of Christian Mission and the Annual Fall Meeting for the Conference. We were very pleased with those who were first timers.

Our accomplishments were very inclusive and productive. Our Annual fall Meeting was held at Towson United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 29, 2012. Special guests included Rev. William Chaney, District Superintendent; Rev. Rod Miller, pastor of Towson UMC; Nancy Randers - Pehrson BWC UMW President who rendered a beautiful installation service and Colleen Cates Secretary NE Jurisdiction 2012 and past District President. Other past District Presidents present were Beverly Boston and Elizabeth Stemley. Thirty - three (33) churches were represented and received their recognitions for the *Reading Program*, 5 Star and Mission Today. Officers and Coordinators were nominated and installed by Nancy Randers-Pehrson.

Our mission projects included collecting from the local units: 294 flip flops, 12 T shirts, 32 health kits, 6 layette kits, and 32 prayer shawls for this year.

Our Mission Team Members were well represented at the Annual Fall Meeting and Leadership Training sessions for the Baltimore Washington Conference at Hereford United Methodist Church. At this meeting the district members presented a dialog skit in reference to accomplished mission work in our local communities. The title "Soaring Into

The Future With United Methodist Women" was pinpointing such items of transformations for the future UMW such as other possible places of gathering. We not

cont.

#### Baltimore Metropolitan District, cont.

only support the eight Conference Projects, but we also, as servants of God, sustain prison ministry, nursing home ministry, Mother - Daughter Tea, soup kitchens, clothes closets, after school mentoring programs, blanket programs, helping hands, pink bag luncheons, scholarships for students in their churches, computer classes on Saturdays, voter registration at Change the World event, prayer shawl ministry, Human Trafficking forums, poverty, domestic violence programs and the "Rock " youth event.

We experienced our first Conference Call and invited Rev. William Chaney, District Superintendent of the Baltimore Metropolitan District to join with us. He shared his outlook on meeting the concerns of young men and women. This possible mentoring experience, with the cooperation of theDistrict United Methodist Men, would incorporate a free carwash/oil change for single parents. He also shared with us his connection with women of South Africa and their endeavor to utilize natural resources to sustain their lives.

One proposal for the upcoming year includes contacting the local school administrators and inquiring about the students who are in homeless shelters. UMW would then provide them with backpack meals for the weekend. Another proposal is to provide a free car wash/oil change for the single parent. Coordinating with high school and/or college students to be mentors to the elementary school age students to assist in Math, Reading and Science skills is another proposal.

The Young Women's Circle list of brainstorming ideas incorporates supporting voter registration, HIV/AIDS and breast cancer awareness.

As president of the district, I am obligated to attend the board meetings at Susanna Wesley House and to visit local units.

The Baltimore Metropolitan District United Methodist Women will continue to be servants of God by reaching out to women, children and youth.

Janice D. Mason, President

NEWS AND EVENTS

Assembly!! United Methodist Women will gather April 25-27, 2014, in Louisville, Kentucky.

PAGE 23

#### GREATER WASHINGTON DISTRICT

The GWD had a successful Annual Meeting at Gethsemane UMC on October 13, 2012. The Voices of Gethsemane rendered wonderful music and Ms. Ellen Little was the musician of the morning. Caroleann Myers, former Conference UMW President, of Glenmont UMC installed the 2013 officers.

There were 10 Bronze, 9 Silver and 4 Gold Mission Today Certificates awarded by Dorothy Stubbs, Education & Interpretation Coordinator. Andrea Ross reported twenty-three units with 124 total members 40 & Under. Certificates were presented to Ninety-Plus Year Members totaling 127. A Memorial Service was held for our Deceased Members for year 2012.

#### **Program Resources**

As this fruitful and beneficial 2012 Reading Program grows to an end, we rejoice that forty-one readers from ten United Methodist Churches in the Greater Washington District collectively read four hundred and seven books. What delights me the most is that from, these books the readers found new ways to be in small group ministries for Christ in their local churches. The readers expressed delight in the many choices of subjects found in the following categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. There were subjects of interest for all readers.

The 2013 Reading cycle promises to be even more rewarding. I strongly suggest that readers read as many books as possible from the Leadership Development category. Leadership Development provides books that serve as a guide for women to enhance their management, negotiating, leadership, advocacy skills, etc. Again, there is new practical and useful knowledge for everyone. As women the United Methodist Reading Program is geared to help us reshape our lives to make a positive difference in the world.

This is my last note to you as Secretary of Program Resources. I wish you the best as you use the information you will learn as you develop your reading selections for 2013. I hope your cup over flows with new found knowledge. Have a wonderful year of reading in 2013. May you continue to make a positive difference in your local churches, your communities, and your world. I leave you with hope, joy, and love. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Geraldine J. Whitley Secretary Program Resources

GWD (2013) Training takes place on December 1, 2012 at Colesville UMC, Silver Spring, MD. The Annual Legislative Seminar takes place at Woodside UMC, 8900 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Topics TBA. There will be a continental breakfast served. Registration is \$12.00 per person. <u>Registration Deadline is February 15, 2013</u> to Sandra Chambers, Treasurer, 8312 Rambler Drive, Adelphi, MD 20783.

Gertrude White, President



### HELP SUSANNA WESLEY HOUSE KEEP ITS MISSION ROLLING

# Wheels for Susanna Wesley

New Vehicle Donation Program

We're excited about this new opportunity for our friends to support our organization. It's a simple way of raising additional funds for our mission to serve homeless women and their children.

Through this vehicle donation program, the Susanna Wesley House, Inc. offers a highly specialized program where you can donate a car, truck, trailer, recreational vehicle, boat, etc. The Susanna Wesley House, Inc. is a 501(C)3 nonprofit charitable organization, so you also qualify for tax deductions with your donation.

When you donate a vehicle to Susanna Wesley House, Inc. you also benefit in the following ways:

- Qualify for your lawful IRS tax deduction (full amount of auction revenue)
- Avoid confusing Department of Motor Vehicles paperwork or Smog hassles
- Get free vehicle pick-up whether your donated car is running or not (restrictions apply)
- Avoid all the headaches of selling a used car; no expensive want ads, no taking phone calls, no showing the car repeatedly, no price haggling...

TO LEARN MORE or TO DONATE TODAY, CLICK 'LEARN MORE' or VISIT OUR WEBSITE at <u>WWW.SUSANNAWESLEY.ORG</u> and CLICK 'WHEELS FOR SUSANNA WESLEY.'





EPWORTH HOUSE MISSION PROJECT COMMITTEE EXPANDING CONCEPTS OF MISSION AT WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY Sponsored by: The United Methodist Women of the Greater Washington District and the

Washington East District

Theme: "Living the Heart of God" Join us for our Annual Epworth House Spring Luncheon Saturday, April 20, 2013, 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Holiday Inn College Park 10000 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740 \$35.00 per person Registration Deadline: March 20, 2013

Name Church

(List addiitional names on the back)

Special Needs:\_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to Epworth House

Mail to: Alveta S. Jones, Treasurer

3113 Amador Drive, Landover, MD 20785-2446

(The proceeds from this event will assist in sponsoring the Missioner-In Residence for the next school year).

We regret walk-ins cannot be accepted

•The church with the highest number of members from the eight Districts will be recognized.

If we can answer any questions, please call:

Alveta S. Jones, 301-772-5594 or Zilpha Pinkney, 301-868-8324

# Maryland Legislative Advocacy Day 2013



# Sponsored By The B-W Conference United Methodist Women And The Board of Church and Society

# SAVE THE DATE!!

# Thursday, February 14, 2013 Additional Information Will Be Forthcoming! For Information, Contact:

Ann Price, pricefa@verizon.net / Beth Reilly, bwc-advocacy@earthlink.net

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
BWCUMW PLAN RETREAT	JANUARY 5	9:00AM-4:30PM	Conference Center
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT	JANUARY 25-27		Tempe, AZ
ROCK	JANUARY 11-13		Ocean City
MISSION U MEETING	JANUARY 14	6:30PM	Conference Center
CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE	FEBRUARY 4	8PM	Teleconference
SOCM MEETING	FEBRUARY	6PM	Conference Center
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY Day	FEB14, 2013	8:30-3 PM	Annapolis, Maryland
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DUE	FEBRUARY 15		Valerie White
BWCUMW FINANCE COMMITTEE	FEBRUARY 16	AM	Conference Center
BWCUMW MISSION TEAM	FEBRUARY 16		Conference Center
BWCUMW PROGRAM COMMIT- TEE	FEBRUARY 16		Conference Center
GWD LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR	FEBRUARY 23		Woodside UMC, SS
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER MAILED	MARCH 1		
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING	MARCH 2	9:30-11:30 AM	Conference Center
BWCUMW MISSION TEAM	MARCH 9	9:00 AM-Noon	Conference Center
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	MARCH 11	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION u MEETING	MARCH 11	6:30 PM	Conference Center
COSROW:WOMEN'S EVENT	MARCH16	1:30-5 PM	Conference Center
NATIONAL GATHERING EAD	APRIL 5-8		Washington, DC
CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE	APRIL 1	$5\mathrm{PM}$	Conference Center
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	APRIL 8	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION u MEETING	APRIL 8	6:00 PM	Conference Center
UMW TRUSTEE MEETING	APRIL 9	10:00 AM-1:00 PM	Conference Center
EPWORTH HOUSE SCHOLAR- SHIP LUNCHEON	APRIL 20	11 AM-2PM	Holiday Inn, College Park
LAITY-CLERGY PRE- CONFERENCE	MAY 4	9 AM—5 PM	Martin's West , Woodlawn, Md
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	MAY 13	5-6:15PM	Conference Center
MISSION u MEETING	MAY 13	6:00 PM	Conference Center
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DUE	MAY 15		Valerie White
BWCUMW MISSION TEAM	MAY 17	6:00-8:30 PM	Conference Center
CENTRAL MARYLAND JOINT RE- TREAT	MAY 18		
WED ANNUAL PRAYER BREAK- FAST	MAY 18		

BWC UMC ANNUAL CONFER- ENCE	MAY 29-31		Baltimore
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER MAILED	JUNE 1		
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING	JUNE 8	9:30-11:30 AM	Conference Center
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	JUNE 10	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION u MEETING	JUNE 10	6:30 PM	Conference Center
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	JULY 8	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION u MEETING	JULY 8	6:30 PM	Conference Center
MISSION u	JULY 26-28		Marriott Hotel Bethesda, MD
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DUE	AUGUST 15		Valerie White
BWCUMW FINANCE COMMITTEE	AUGUST 17	9:00-11:00AM	Conference Center
BWCUMW PROGRAM COMMIT- TEE (CALENDAR 2014 FINALIZE)	AUGUST 17	11:15AM-12:30PM	Conference Center
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER MAILED	SEPTEMBER 1		
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	SEPTEMBER 9	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION U MEETING	SEPTEMBER 9	6:30 PM	Conference Center
UMW TRUSTEE MEETING	SEPTEMBER 10		Conference Center
BWCUMW MEETING	SEPTEMBER		Cumberland/Hagerstown
SUSANNA WESLEY HOUSE FALL LUNCHEON	SEPTEMBER	TBA	TBA
WESLEY LEARNING CENTER	SEPTEMBER (TBA)		Wesley Seminary
UMW/UMM EVENT	OCTOBER 5		
YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	OCTOBER 14	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center
MISSION U MEETING	OCTOBER 14	6:30 PM	Conference Center
ANNAPOLIS DIST ANNUAL MEET- ING	OCTOBER		TBA
GREATER WASH DIST ANNUAL MEETING	OCTOBER		
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN	OCTOBER		Epworth Chapel UMC
BALTIMORE SUBURBAN DIST ANNUAL MTG.	OCTOBER		TBA
CENTRAL MARYLAND ANNUAL MTG	OCTOBER 19	10:30 AM	
CUMBERLAND HAGERSTOWN ANNUAL MTG	OCTOBER		
FREDERICK ANNUAL MTG	OCTOBER		
WASHINGTON EAST ANNUAL MEETING	OCTOBER 19	10:30 AM	
BWC UMW ANNUAL CELEBRATION	OCTOBER 26	9AM—3PM	Cumberland-Hagerstown District
INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT	NOVEMBER 9		
FLAME" NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DUE	NOVEMBER 15		Valerie White
UN SEMINAR	NOVEMBER 24-26		New York
"FLAME" NEWSLETTER MAILED	DECEMBER 1		1
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YOUTH SCHOOL MEETING	DECEMBER 9	5-6:15 PM	Conference Center