



Faith * Hope * Love in Action

THE FLAME

BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

VOLUME II

MAY 2014

Baltimore-Washington
Conference
United Methodist Women
Leadership Team

President
Nancy Randers-Pehrson

Vice President
Elizabeth Stemley

Secretary
Eddimae Tisdale

Treasurer
Linda McNeil

Spiritual Growth
Coordinator
Zilpha Pinkney

Social Action
Coordinator
Judy Smith

Education and
Interpretation
Coordinator
Willa Kynard

Membership, Nurture
and Outreach
Coordinator
Jean Jackson

Secretary of Program
Resources
Linda Yost

Communications
Coordinator
Gertrude White

Nominations
Chairperson
Pamela Randall

THE PRESIDENT

Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." (Matthew 15:28, NIV)

Dear Ones:

Greetings: Thank you for your great faith! The United Methodist Women (UMW) are making a difference and helping to make disciples and change the world, especially for the people on the margins of life--the women, children and youth. Recently I have returned from the 2014 UMW Assembly held April 25-27, in Louisville, Kentucky. As I worshiped with about 7,000 women from around the world, and a few men including our Bishop Marcus Matthews, I felt the love of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit surround us. Alone we can be a mighty vessel for the Lord, but bonded together we are a mighty force. About 170 women attended this event from the Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW returning inspired, enriched, and well nourished. Hillary Clinton was our keynote speaker and having grown in the UM Church, was very supportive of our mission.

In reference to the scripture above, with great faith the courageous Canaanite woman spoke truth to power on behalf of her sick daughter. That is our mission: to speak and stand for justice, for ". . . even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." (Matt 15:27) As we share the bread of life, the Gospel, and show acts of mercy and kindness to our neighbors, we are also building hospitals, shelters, schools and supplying needed resources to God's children everywhere. I urge you to continue putting your Faith, Hope, and Love into Action. Remember to help us meet our pledges first in your givings, so that our existing ministries here and around the world can be sustained.

President's Report (Cont'd.)

Our UMW Conference GOALS for this year of 2014 are:

- 1. To improve communication between Conference, Districts, and Local Units.***
- 2. To improve awareness of the Mission Projects.***
- 3. To implement the Charter for Racial Justice. (Ask your District/Local President about the new Diversity Today Unit Program)***
- 4. To live out our purpose and to add one new Local Unit to each District.***

The UMW Purpose: The United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative and supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Please pray continuously and if you are up at 6 AM, please join the morning prayer line:

Dial 605-475-4700, Access: 640162#

Save the dates:

May 30 UMW/UMM Luncheon at BWC Annual Conference

Aug 8-10 Mission u

Sep 27 Susanna Wesley House Luncheon (please donate baskets)

Oct 25 BWC UMW Annual Celebration Meeting at the Conference Mission Center

Nov 22 Conference Training for District Officers at the Conference Mission Center

Nov 23-25 UN Trip

Thank you so much for all you do for God's glory!

Blessings,

Nancy M. Randers-Pehrson



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



The Baltimore Washington Conference UMW and its local leadership teams are making it happen through, Faith, Hope and Love in action as well as Mission Outreach into the Community. As a conference we must give voice to the women, children and youth we serve and allow the Holy Spirit to guide our actions. We support the vision to serve as building blocks from the individual to connecting with our partners and one another helping to grow spiritually in God's grace. We must strive to show rational hospitality in welcoming women, children and youth from different ages, races, languages and cultures as a body of Christ whose purpose is to know God. John Wesley once said three rules were imperative to Christian Life: Do no harm, Do well and attend to the ordinances of God. In this light, our purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole person through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concept of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. We will move forward:

UMW/UMM Collaboration Luncheon on Domestic Violence and Abuse Thursday, May 30, 2014, 12:00-1:15 pm Waterfront Hotel in the Kent Room. The program will emphasize the second phase of the collaboration plan developed in 2012, which outlines difference strategies to use for fighting against this social issue. Annapolis District Leadership Team will show case their efforts in Domestic Violence and Abuse.

BWC UMW/UMM and Faith Trust (A Domestic Violence Initiative of the UMW-Office of the Child and Family Advocacy) are working together under a Pilot agreement for free training in domestic violence and abuse, under the leadership of Sumayya Coleman, Consultant. The 8 districts will be invited to select a team of 6 people to make up a district leadership team. This team shall be composed of two UMW, two UMM, two Youth age 16 plus, (high school/young adult or mature youth leader). The team must reflect diversity in makeup. A one day training event is scheduled for October 11, 2014, 9:00 am-5:00 pm, cost \$10. 00, at Historic Sharp Street Memorial United Methodist Church, 1206 Etting Street.

BWC UMW Annual Celebration, Saturday. October 25, 2014, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm hosted by the Central Maryland District Leadership Team. The Baltimore Washington Conference Center will serve as the gathering place for the event Information will be sent when details are finalized.

Grant award for \$5, 895.32 received from US Charitable Gift Trust/Tress Charity located in Florida was received on October 29, 2013, the funds are to be used to meet the needs for women, children and youth. Funds will be divided between eight of the conference projects including Susanna Wesley House.

The District Leadership Teams are encouraged to Make It Happen! - hands on ministry events in the community serving those in need. Let's prepare our members from inside out to make it happen. YES WE CAN!

Peace and Blessings,

Elizabeth M. Stemley

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR



As we prepare for our Mission u event, this summer we will be studying “The Church and People with Disabilities; Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy.” How does this relate to Spiritual Growth?

In our Christian walk, we must be all inclusive. It is imperative that we understand that we are all God’s children and have a right to participate in praise and worship. Are you prepared in your local unit for someone who is hearing impaired, blind, unable to maneuver steps, or wheelchair bound? These are just some disabilities, there are many more. How are we dealing with disabilities in your church? If your church is not handicap accessible, then maybe you could hold your meeting somewhere other than in the church facility to insure that everyone is included.

As United Methodist Women, it is our duty to promote the awareness of disabilities, to provide accessibility to those who have disabilities and always be advocates as well. So whenever we plan our Bible studies, retreats, ceremonies and celebrations, remember that it should be all inclusive and every women should be able to participate.

Your registration forms and applications should ask if anyone has special needs so that you can accommodate all.

Zilpha Pinkney
Spiritual Growth Coordinator
(301) 868-8324

DEACONESSES CONSECRATED IN ASSEMBLY CLOSING WORSHIP

Twenty-six women from 19 conferences were consecrated as United Methodist deaconesses during the closing plenary worship of the United Methodist Women’s “Make it Happen” Assembly in Louisville, KY, April 27, 2014.

Deaconesses and Home Missioners are women and men called by God to lay vocations in life-time relationship in The United Methodist Church. Their work alleviates suffering, eradicates causes of injustice and all that robs life of dignity and worth; facilitates the development of full human potential; and shares in building global community through the church universal. . . .

From *Response Magazine*, Issue 2/ April 27, 2014 by Yvette Moore

Submitted by Gertrude White
Communications Coordinator, B-W Conference UMW

WESLEY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

The Wesley Learning Resource Center (WLRC) will be held the week of October 13 -16, 2014. Chapel will be Tuesday, October 14 at 11:00 am. The Retired Bishop Violet Fisher will be our preacher for the hour.

In addition to the October Learning Center at Wesley, the committee has agreed to work toward two "hands-on" sessions in July, with the VA Conference Task Force members chairing the first on July 11, and the Baltimore Washington members responsible for one on July 25.

We chose as our theme: "UMW is our name; Mission is our game!"

Our next meeting will be June 2, 2014 at 10:30 am at the Wesley Theological Seminary, if you would be interested in joining this committee. We will need additional people to help us in July when we do our "hands-on" sessions in July. If interested, contact our Conference President, Nancy Randers-Pehrson.

Zilpha Pinkney
Wesley Learning Center Committee



SOCIAL ACTION REPORT



The most exciting new development is the planning of the Charter for Racial Justice Seminar, headed up by Sabrina White. This will include all conferences in our Jurisdiction, and be held in Blackstone, VA, at the Blackstone Conference Center on May 15 - 17, 2015. Our BWC president, Nancy Randers-Pehrson, and Education and Interpretation Coordinator, Willa Kynard, are on the planning committee, as well as Kathleen Charters, Ann Price and me, when I return from Nicaragua.

Follow-up on our MD Legislative Action Day -- Although the Paid Safe and Sick Leave Act did not pass this session. Melissa Broome, our speaker from Working Matters on Legislative Action Day, reports "our work has not been in vain. There is clear recognition throughout Annapolis that Maryland will pass a paid sick days standard – just not in 2014. It is only because of the overwhelming strength and perseverance of this remarkable coalition that the Earned Sick and Safe Leave Act received so much attention this year." A recent poll determined that 80% of Marylanders favor the bill.

Follow-up news on two of the immigrants who told their stories and participated in the Civil Disobedience in front of the White House in February, along with me, Harriet Olson, two other UMW New York staff and two Methodist bishops: Herminia has been reunited with her 20 year old daughter, who had been incarcerated for months in Arizona simply because of being undocumented. Pilar is still fighting for her husband, a tax-paying father of two young girls, incarcerated in Morristown, PA simply for lack of documents. We are told by the immigrant organization we worked with that our action in solidarity with them on President's Day has been helpful in influencing slight changes in these and other situations and perhaps in President Obama's thinking.

The Washington East District held a very successful program on Human Trafficking and Slavery at a luncheon on April 12, 2014 in Forestville, MD. They had several impressive speakers. Good work Nona Colbert and Michelle Dixon. This is one of our UMW focus issues for 2014.

I attended Assembly for the first time in April and found it a very powerful experience. The march for economic justice in partnership with the low-income community of West Louisville was an example of putting our faith in action. We walked and sweated and yelled together for a more just society. Another high point for me was the workshop on Faithful Living in a Climate-Challenged World, where we were joined to Bill McKibben, founder of the global climate change movement 350.org by video conference who challenged us to speak truth to power by pressing policy-makers to take urgent

SOCIAL ACTION (Cont'd.)

action on curbing greenhouse gas emissions. When I went to the 350.org web site, I was directed to a petition that Sherie Koob's (chair of Board of Church and Society) husband Mike has initiated for our BWUMC Conference to divest of stocks of the biggest carbon producing companies. Go check it out yourself and consider signing. I did. The issue will come up for a vote at Annual Conference.

I am afraid that I will be away from you July – December, as my husband and I will be teaching in Nicaragua, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Evangelical University, a contact made when our church, Chevy Chase UMC, went there on a Mission trip. I should have lots of stories to share with you when I get back and resume my position in January. Thanks to Ann Price and others who will be filling in for me.

With love and prayers,
Judy Smith, Social Action Coordinator

REPORT FROM BWC UMW BOARD OF TRUSTEES



I am pleased to announce that we have a full slate of volunteers which means that we have a representative from each District in the Baltimore Washington Conference. Terri Carney is with Annapolis, Lorraine Mayo with Baltimore Suburban, Barbara Shew with Frederick, Margaret Pennington with Central Maryland, Geraldine Whitley with Greater Washington, Darcia Smith with Baltimore Metropolitan, Mary Jefferson with Cumberland-Hagerstown and me, Susan Howes with Washington East.

Our investments did very well and we were able to provide the Conference with \$10,600.00 to provide for scholarships and the Susanna Wesley House. We are so grateful to Mr. Douglas Potter for his financial wisdom. Our Lord continues to bless us.

Susan Howes, Chair
Board of Trustees
Baltimore Washington Conference
United Methodist Women

REPORT ON APPALACHIAN MINISTRY NETWORK SPRING



"The mission of the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network is to partner with annual conferences, districts, local churches and general agencies to develop and support leaders within the United Methodist Church in Appalachia."

The Appalachian Ministry Network Spring Meeting was held on April 3-4, 2014 in Charleston, West Virginia at the Blessed John XXIII Pastoral Center. (The Executive Committee met on April 2.) I arrived on April 2 because the meeting started at 9 a.m. on April 3. The evening of April 2, I was invited to attend a discussion with members of the Executive Committee on several issues they were considering:

- The next AMN Assembly is 2016. There were concerns regarding probable attendance.
- Discussion on the lack of continuity because of structure and shifting membership. While there are 139 slots and 43 named members, only 21 were in attendance at the Spring meeting. (31 have been in attendance in the last quadrennium.) Note: The BWC UMW did not fund attendance at the fall 2013 meeting, one of two yearly meetings, the BWC representative was not present to continue work with the UMAMN.
- The group discussed best practices for boards including making changes to the make-up of the board, changing to an invited board or a designated board.
- Concerns were voiced about GBGM which gave UMAMN a grant of \$5000 two years ago. This funding may be designated for training. There is rotating representation that reports to the jurisdiction.
- What would be the impact of changes on the finance committee.

The primary tasks of the meeting were the selection and announcement of the new executive coordinator, the meetings and work of the 5 working groups, and reports from the Finance Committee, Nominations Committee and Personnel Committee. (The group with primary responsibility for the selection of the new executive coordinator.) The five working groups are Assembly (for which a new chair was selected), Advocacy (which did not have a chair), Hunger and Poverty, Resourcing/Networking, Governance.

During this meeting I chose to work with Resourcing/Networking because there was only one member, the chair present (UMW representative). I volunteered to work on an information flyer for use at upcoming annual conferences. I prepared two versions and submitted them to

Report of Appalachian Ministry (Cont'd.)

the chair and the executive coordinator. I continue to work with the chair and the executive coordinator on this project and have asked that the committee be included in this project.

I served on the Hunger and Poverty Working Group in the Spring 2013, however, because they had several members in attendance and had worked together at the October 2013 Fall meeting, I decided to work with Resourcing/Networking where I thought I could make the best contribution.

I will separately email: the agenda, the announcement of the new executive coordinator, and the executive coordinator report to the UMAMN Spring meeting. The UMAMN would like us to display the final flyer at Annual Conference 2014.

The next UMAMN meeting is set for Sept. 11-12, 2014, tentatively in Knoxville, TN.

Cynthia Taylor, Representative
Cynthiaataylor1@verizon.net



EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR



W

We have just returned from Assembly 2014: Make It Happen! This wonderful Assembly, held in Louisville, Kentucky at the Kentucky International Convention Center, boasted more than 7,500 persons worldwide in attendance. Included in this number were 168 persons from The Baltimore-Washington Conference, with many being first timers. We were happy to have Bishop and Mrs. Marcus Matthews and family, Bishop and Mrs. Felton May, Bishop Violet Fisher and many other Baltimore Washington Conference local pastors.

In addition, to plenary sessions, activities included a scavenger hunt; creating derby hats, intention beads, prayer cards, prayer stones, and tambourines; Open Mic Night; and Beading with Kristen Vincent, author of *Beading and Prayer*.

National Mission Institutions were also present: Bethlehem Centers Nashville, Community Development for All People, Crossroads Urban Center, Cunningham Children's Home, Epworth Children and Family Services, Gum Moon Women's Residence, Henderson Settlement, Houchen Community Center, Mary Elizabeth Inn, McCurdy Ministries, Open Door Community House, Red Bird Missionary Conference, Tacoms Community House, Wesley Community Center, Wesley Community Center (Ohio), Wesley House Community Center (Tennessee), and numerous exhibitors.

Various workshops included Birthing a Healthy World, Building Multicultural Congregational Partnerships – The Role of United Methodist Women; Communicating Faith in the 21st Century; Fair Trade; Ending Domestic Violence; and Creating a Healthy Environment for children and Families in your Local Church; and many more.

The daily schedule incorporated morning worship at 9:00 and evening programs at 8:00. The first night's presentation was from Rev. Bridgett Ross. Her message was phenomenal, which set our spirits on fire. We were all very proud of her – it was a great way to end the night. Thousands of United Methodist Women left our Assembly meeting in the relatively affluent East

Louisville downtown to stand with low-income neighbors on the city's west side. We marched several blocks to Baxter Square Park, near the Beecher Terrace public housing complex, carrying signs that read: "economic injustice = economic insecurity." This reality was visible to the marchers as they crossed from one neighborhood into the other, just a few blocks apart.

Education and Interpretation (Cont'd.)

The United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) announced a joint initiative on maternal health during the April 25 Assembly evening plenary worship. This initiative aims to help save lives of women and their children, according to the committee. This initiative will contribute to women's health globally by raising awareness of the challenges and by strengthening maternal health programs.

Another highlight of the Assembly was that twenty-six women from 18 conferences were consecrated as United Methodist deaconesses during the closing plenary worship of the United Methodist Women's "Make It Happen!" Assembly. One of our own, Jane O. Grays, Outreach Aide, McKendree-Simms-Brookland Outreach House, and Washington, DC was consecrated. We are very proud of Jane.

Hillary Clinton encouraged us as she shared her love and gratitude to all the United Methodist women in her life and then challenged us to go out and "make it happen." At our Saturday morning worship service, she said that United Methodist women have a great tradition of rolling up their sleeves and taking the social gospel into the world. Mrs. Clinton also declined the honorarium offered by UMW and paid her own expenses. She began by telling us about the influence her United Methodist family had on her life. She urged the church to continue its social witness for the world's children and to cultivate "a new sense of caring" about its responsibilities to the larger society. "This has been a wonderful assembly," she said. "It just shows how great United Methodist Women are."

The response magazine is the official magazine of United Methodist Women, the voice of women in mission and the go-to-for inspirational reflections, spiritual growth opportunities and discussion of current social issues. Every member of the United Methodist Women should be a subscriber.

This is just a small part of what went on at the Assembly, just make sure that you go in 2018!

Willa Kynard

Education and Interpretation Coordinator



**Baltimore/Washington Conference Attendees
at the
United Methodist Women's Assembly
Louisville, KY
April 23 -27, 2014**



**Photo by Colleen Cates, Secretary
NE Jurisdiction United Methodist Women**

SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES



Dear Friends in Christ,

The spring we have all longed for has finally arrived! The birds are chirping, the flowers are showing their blaze of color, and the temperatures are such that we can now sit out on our decks or in our yards and **READ!** Some of you may have completed or almost completed the five books required for Reading Program Plan 1, or may be closing in on Plan 2 or higher. If you aren't sure which book to read next, here are some suggestions of books I enjoyed:

Education for Mission: "The Dressmaker of Khair Khana" by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. Five sisters, one remarkable family, and the young woman who, by picking up a needle and thread, risked everything to keep them safe from the Taliban.

Leadership Development: "King Peggy" by Peggielene Bartels and Eleanor Herman. An American secretary from Silver Spring, MD, her royal destiny, and the inspiring and often funny, story of how she changed an African village.

Nurturing for Community: "Up" by Patricia Ellis Herr.

The adventures of a mother and daughter's climbs up all 48 New Hampshire's highest mountains. An emotionally honest story of a mother's determination to foster independence and fearlessness in her daughter, and "that small doesn't necessarily mean weak."

Social Action: "Dear White America" by Tim Wise.

This amazing and thought-provoking "letter" includes history, facts and insight into the disturbing phenomenon of institutional racism and how it is affecting all of us today.

Spiritual Growth: "Esther" by John Piper.

This beautiful book of poetry awakens wonder as we experience the beginnings and endings of Esther's life and see throughout the purposeful hand of God. With only 64 pages, this book is an easy read.

Remember to complete your Reading Plan by the beginning of September and send in your list to your District Program Resource Secretary so that you may receive a Reading Certificate. It's coming down to the final stretch.....you can do it!!!

Linda S. Yost, Conference UMW
Secretary of Program Resources

P.S. District SPR's, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding placing a Consignment order. You may call me at 410-239-0429.

MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH COORDINATOR



More than 160 rededicated and reinvigorated Baltimore-Washington United Methodist Women have recently returned from the quadrennial meeting of United Methodist Women where women from all over the world worshiped God through song, prayer, scripture, sermons and skits. They attended workshops, town meetings, rehearsals, book discussions and signings; reviewed exhibits, created crafts, experienced presentations of dance, rap, poetry, and music of all genres. There were opportunities to learn about relevant social issues, volunteer for a day of service, and to participate in a demonstration for justice. Our women were among women of all ages, of a variety of religions, from most states, and many countries.

How wonderful it was to see our Bishop Marcus Matthews and Mrs. Matthews along with so many Baltimore-Washington Conference United Methodist Women at the 2014 Assembly of the United Methodist Women in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of April. Several of our Baltimore-Washington clergy were also in attendance. Our Baltimore-Washington Limitless Team was in attendance and participated in a reunion with other Limitless teams from across the country as a follow-up to their Duke University experience of August 2012. After such an inspiring and spirit filled gathering, I am sure we are all returning with the determination to “Make it Happen for Women, Children, and Youth” through faith, hope and love in action.

Congratulations and God’s blessings to our very own Jane Grays who was one of 26 women consecrated as Deaconesses at the 2014 Assembly. Jane has served in many capacities as a United Methodist Woman in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, and from 2007 – 2008, served as the president of the Greater Washington District before the reorganization.

As we approach summer, we can transfer our enthusiasm from Assembly to Mission u which will not occur until August this year. It will be held in Bethesda again, as last year. Let’s make an effort to bring at least one young woman and one young adult woman from each UMW unit this year. There is still time to recruit and finance them (if necessary)! I look forward to seeing many Baltimore-Washington Women there.

When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.”

But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.”

Mark 6:35-37

(taken from 2014 Assembly theme scripture)

Grace and peace,
W. Jean Jackson
wjbjackson@att.net
301-336-8452 C-301-775-4840



CHAIR OF NOMINATIONS

ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?

This question is being asked of every woman. God wants us to be ready and willing to do His will. We are looking for women ready to support the Purpose of the United Methodist Women, and our mission to support children, youth, and women. This could be you.

The Conference UMW vacancies for 2015 are:

1. President
2. Secretary
3. Membership, Nurture, & Outreach Coordinator
4. Education & Interpretations Coordinator
5. Secretary of Program Resources
6. Chairperson of Nominations

Nomination Committee: Three vacancies for Class of 2018.

Charter for Racial Justice Committee: Three year term – two vacancies for 2015.

If you need more information about these positions, or a Talent Bank Form, please contact:

Pamela Randall
Chairperson of Nominations
Home: 410-257-7132



BEAUTIFUL MAIL FROM JESUS

*If you never felt pain,
then how would you know I am a Healer?*

*If you never had a trial,
how would you know that I am a Deliverer?*

*If you never felt sadness,
how would you know that I am a Comforter?*

*If you never made a mistake,
how would you know that I am a forgiver?*

*If you knew all,
how would you know that I will answer your questions?*

*If you never were in trouble,
how would you know that I will come to your rescue?*

*If you never had a problem,
how would you know that I can solve them?*

*If you never had a suffering,
then how would you know what I went through?*

*If you were perfect,
Then what would you need me for?*

Submitted by Sallie Henderson

Gertrude White
Communications Coordinator
trudytil@aol.com

**BALTIMORE METRO VOICE
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**



Turning **FAITH, HOPE** and **LOVE INTO ACTION** for women, youth and children.

Mark 6: 41- 43 *“Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.”*

The Baltimore Metropolitan District has successfully accomplished the following:

- Joined the 2014 UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 19th QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY in Louisville, KY. MAKE IT HAPPEN! And did it happen. What a glorious experience. Quite a bit of information was brought back such as joyful workshops, inspiring plenaries and new friendships along with greeting the ones we knew. Our keynote speaker was former U.S. Secretary of State and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton who encouraged the UMW to “Wake Up the World.”
- Improved communications between Conference, Districts, and Local Organizations
We have attempted to improve communications by utilizing our newsletters and verbal statements at our Mini Mission u and Leadership Training.
- Improved awareness of the Mission Projects. We have itemized these projects in the District's newsletter and verbalized them at the Mini Mission u and Leadership Training event.
- Implement the Charter for Racial Justice. No attempt has been made for this 2014 goal yet.
- Live out our Purpose and to add one new Local Organization to each District. We have continued to live out our Purpose by knowing God (worshiping), developing a supportive fellowship (planning events) and expand concepts of mission (health kits, backpack lunches, prayer shawls, pillowcase dresses, prison ministry, SWH, homeless shelters, Imagine No Malaria and elementary schools). One new Local Organization has been added to the District.
- For the District's social concerns, our Social Action Coordinator has been in close contact with the Conference counterpart in disseminating data by means of the District's newsletter. Local Organizations were instructed to secure information from the National website. For attempting to stop Domestic Violence, we have acquired resources from the local government organizations for church presentations. No actions have been taken in reference to Immigration Rights and Environmental Justice.
- The Baltimore Metropolitan district will have representation at the UMW/UMM Luncheon at the Annual Conference.

Baltimore Metropolitan District (Cont'd)

- The district is anticipating:
 - supporting another district's spring/summer events.
 - planning the fall meeting for 2014.
 - planning the Conference Fall meeting for 2015.
 - participation from the local units to submit prayer shawls, pillowcase dresses, layette kits, back packs, health kits and items for the prison ministry.

Face book address: Baltimore Metropolitan District United Methodist Women

Take away thought: Make room in our hearts to do the will of God. **MAKE IT HAPPEN !**

Submitted by:

Janice D. Mason, President

Baltimore Metropolitan District

CUMBERLAND-HAGERSTOWN DISTRICT



Cumberland-Hagerstown hosted a Spiritual Retreat on May 3, 2014 at the Hancock United Methodist Church. Margee Iddings led the fifteen women who attended through a very meaningful experience. Margee taught some new prayer practices, which she encouraged us to continue practicing upon our return home. I believe each woman who attended was fed spiritually and left with joy and peace in their heart.

Vivian Moore, President

vcmoore@atlanticbb.net

It is small things that, on one set of shoulders,
are sometimes felt to be more than
the strength can bear. Where there is prayer,
there is peace and God who makes every
duty possible, knows, helps, and cares.

The Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all
times in all ways.
II Thessalonians 3:16

SAVE THE DATE



What: Susanna Wesley House's Annual Fall Luncheon & Silent Auction

When: Saturday, September 27, 2014

Time: 11:30 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Grand Historic Venue, 225 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21202

Donation: \$50.00 (includes valet parking)

Contact: susannawesley@verizon.net

Special Request: Please help us by donating a basket or other articles for the Silent Auction

NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL (NEJ) UMW QUADRENNIAL MEETING

What: Northeastern Jurisdictional (NEJ) UMW Quadrennial Meeting

Theme: "A Fresh Wind Blowing" (John 3:8)

When: June 16-18, 2016

Where: Syracuse, NY

Submitted by Colleen Cates
Secretary, NE Jurisdiction United Methodist Women
Craftyme53@yahoo.com

CENTRAL MARYLAND DISTRICT

Dear Sisters in Christ:

Six members of the Central Maryland District Mission Team attended Assembly 2014. We returned from Louisville inspired and ready to take action. We plan to attend the Welcoming during the Baltimore Washington Annual Conference wearing our Assembly 2014 scarves. Our next District event is our Prayer Luncheon. The theme is "Honor Your Mother Earth" and the guest speaker, Liz Feighner, will provide "actions you can take" for environmental justice. We changed the Luncheon date from May 24 to Saturday June 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Luncheon will be at Bare Bones Grill and Brewery, 9150 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD. The cost is \$20 for the meal and includes a donation to mission. If you have questions or would like to attend, contact Georgina Sherman at kun.georgina@yahoo.com or call (240) 460-0794. Our District Annual Meeting Celebration will be Thursday September 25 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The fall retreat, "Persons with Disabilities," will be on Saturday October 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Trinity UMC, 13700 Schaeffer Road, Germantown, MD. We are in the planning process for the Conference Annual Meeting Celebration on Saturday October 25 at the Baltimore Washington Conference Mission Center. There will be several opportunities for interactive activities. Celebrate putting faith, hope and love into action!

During the Baltimore Washington Annual Conference, UMW member Jane Gray will be recognized as our newest deaconess. During the ordination/commissioning service on Saturday May 31, Kathleen Charters will be commissioned as a Deacon. Since the United Methodist Women Handbook 2013-2016 on page 102 states, "Only lay women may serve as elected leaders," the new Central Maryland District President will be Georgina Sherman, effective June 1. Kathleen Charters will continue to serve by supporting UMW electronic communications, participating on the Scholarship committee, the Racial Justice committee, and teaching *The Church and People with Disabilities* at Mission u.

"...perfect love casts out fear... He that fears is not made perfect in love." 1John 4:18

May God Richly Bless You!

Kathleen Charters, President
kcharters@mac.com



CENTRAL MARYLAND LEADERSHIP TEAM

Prayer Luncheon

Saturday, June 7, 2014

**Bare Bones Grill and Brewery
9150 Baltimore National Pike
Ellicott City, MD**

HONOR YOUR MOTHER EARTH

11:30 a.m. Registration

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Worship: Environmental Justice

1:30 p.m. "Actions You Can Take" by Liz Feighner, Emmanuel UMC
Green Team Chair

Due by June 1, 2014

**Central Maryland District Prayer Luncheon Reservation
June 7, 2014**

\$20 for lunch, refillable beverage, dessert, and donation to mission

Name _____

Meal Selection (check one):

☐ Bare Bones Special Salad

☐ BBQ Beef sandwich, seasoned fries, creamy cole slaw

☐ Shrimp Wrap, seasoned fries, applesauce

☐ BBQ chicken white meat, baked potato, baked sweet butter beans

Return check for \$20 per person made payable to **Central Maryland District UMW, and form to: Dianna Kelly Woodlon, 4317 Bedford Road, Pikesville, MD 21208.**

Questions? Call Georgina Sherman at (240-460-0794)

GREATER WASHINGTON DISTRICT



Dear Easter People of the United Methodist Church/ UMW,

It is with great pleasure that I write you to express the Greater Washington District's praise and thanks for the opportunity to be in service through mission for Jesus Christ. As I reflect, on these opportunities, I sing God's praises for the following outpouring of opportunities as listed below:

The Greater Washington District had five Team Members attend the 2014 Annual Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky, April 25-27, 2014. To actually, see, hear, feel, and experience Faith, Hope, and Love in action through the eyes and ears of thousands of women from countries around the world, we experienced the mighty acts of God through friendship and Christian Love. We actually felt the process of making disciples for Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18b-20 NIV), through prayers and devotions, songs of praise, videos, witnesses of Jesus greatness, arts and crafts, walking the Labyrinth etc. In other words, the Annual Assembly 2014, provided opportunities to "Make It Happen!"

On Saturday, May 17, 2014, GWD held it's annul Prayer Breakfast at Jones Memorial United Methodist Church, 4625 G Street SE, Washington, DC 20019, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Theme: "A Calling for This Time." This was a successful spiritual outreach in prayer, song and dance for all of God's children throughout the world.

Greater Washington District continues its mission through its Annual Meeting on October 18, 2014, at Good Hope Union UMC, 14680 Good Hope Road, Silver Spring, Maryland. The District is prayerfully seeking replacement leaders for those dedicated workers who have served their term in office. We pray that God's work in, through, and around us in this effort.

Another outreach in social ministry is being held at the Bright wood Park UMC, 744 Jefferson Street NW, Washington, DC, invites United Methodist Women to its All Seasons Tea, on June 7, 2014, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Donation is \$10.00. For tickets call: Vanessa Robertson at 301-559-1890.

Finally, The Greater Washington District is thankful for the opportunity to be of service in the United Methodist Women's Organization and look forward to being a candle in the darkness for mission.

To God we give the Glory. Praise be to God!

Geraldine J. Whitley, President
Greater Washington District



Bishop Violet Fisher and Jane O. Grays, Newly Consecrated Deaconess at the UMW Assembly,
Louisville, KY – April 24 – 27, 2014

Photo by Jean Jackson
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator
BWC-United Methodist Women



Deaconess Jane O. Grays, Bishop Marcus Matthews, Nancy Randers-Pehrson, President, Baltimore/Washington Conference Leadership Team and Mrs. Barbara W. Matthews at the 2014 UMW Assembly, Louisville, KY.

Photo by Jean Jackson