



FAITH . HOPE . LOVE IN ACTION

# THE FLAME

## THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

VOLUME I

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### **THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

To God be the glory for all the things He has done in the lives of women, children and youth. The Baltimore-Washington Conference United Methodist Women's Planning Retreat was held on January 2, 2016, at the conference center and was filled with hope and excitement.

" Getting back to Basics " was the main thrust of the retreat as we were reminded of our Purpose: that we are a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We explored how to be leaders in times like these in a world that changes daily. Our vision is turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world. The scope of our work can be viewed through a variety of channels for mission such as: education, spiritual growth, advocacy, leadership, mentorship, resource development, and providing an arena for voices of women to be heard.

We know that as a community of women, we must live out the vision through hope, empowering women to take a stand against social justice issues which hinder opportunities for growth. We must also show love to every person we serve as well as become deeply rooted by putting faith into action.