

United Methodist Women

West Market Street United Methodist Church

UPDATE

January 1, 2009



Time to Make our Pledges for Mission Giving

As we begin a new year, it is time once again to make our pledges to support mission through United Methodist Women. Your giving makes mission possible. Giving supports institutions and programs empowering and improving the lives of women, children and youth in the United States and around the world.

Mission Giving provides food, shelter, education, employ-



Mission Giving

ment, healthcare, and human rights advocacy for many living on the margins of society. Mission Giving supports United Methodist missionaries and deaconesses. Mission Giving

also funds spiritual growth programs, leadership development events and mission education opportunities for United Methodist Women members.

Prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year... and give generously. YOU are making a difference, every day, in the lives of women, children and youth around the world.

Thank you!

From the President... Happy New Year!



Happy New Year! And, blessings as we begin a new year for United Methodist Women! I hope your Advent & Christmas season was filled with peace, hope, joy, and love as you celebrated God's most precious gift.

Thank you for your generous giving in 2008. Our unit met our pledge, gave in all five channels of undesignated Mission Giving, supported the Call to Prayer & Self Denial designated offering, and supported a number of local mission projects right here in Greensboro. Because of your generous giving, we were also able to make a special \$600.00 year-end gift to the Early Childhood Center scholarship fund, and donate

38 new coats to the District Christmas Store hosted at West Market. In addition to your financial gifts, you responded generously to each of our hands-on mission opportunities. **Thank you! You make mission possible!**

January is the month that we once again make our pledges to support mission around the world through United Methodist Women. I encourage you to prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year... and to once again make a commitment to give generously. The need in our hurting world is greater than ever...so our conference has set a goal of increasing our total giving through the five channels of Mission Giving by 1% in 2009.

Check out the planning dates in this update and mark your calendar for upcoming events.

Our first general meeting for 2009 will be Monday, March 2nd.

Thank you for your commitment to mission as a member of United Methodist Women. Through that commitment, YOU are making a difference, every day, in the lives of women, children, and youth around the world.

Shalom,
Lynne Gilbert
lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net

Thank You! UMW Christmas Projects

Thank you for your support of our United Methodist Women Christmas Projects!

A wonderful variety of items for the Greensboro Urban Ministry Clothing Bank & the Pathways Center were received, and \$158.00 was received for the Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund.

Tell the Story: Invite a Friend to your Circle Meeting!

What does being a member of United Methodist Women mean to you? Are things like the following important to you?

...the caring & supportive community

...the opportunities for spiritual growth & mission education

...being part of a group of women that is organized for mission...making a difference around the world by sharing the love of Jesus Christ

You can surely name more reasons that you are a part of United Methodist Women. Share that story with someone you know who is not a member of United Methodist Women, and invite them to come with you to your circle meeting!

CHRIST
THE SAVIOR
IS BORN!

Our Mission Giving...



A Report from Our Treasurer

(Based on Gifts Received through December 31, 2008)

Amount Pledged	\$9,895.00
Number of Members Pledging	116
Amount Paid on Pledges	\$10,431.00
Circle Special Projects	\$1,626.00
Sale of Gift to Mission Cards	\$555.00
Call to Prayer & Self Denial	\$547.00
World Thank Offering	\$470.70
Guatemala Infant Formula	\$392.00

Martha Faye Robbins, 2008 Treasurer

Norma Funderburk, 2009 Treasurer

Phone: 379-9257

Email: nfunderburk@triad.rr.com

Spiritual Growth Retreats

June 19-20/20-21, Lake Junaluska

The **2009 Western North Carolina Conference Spiritual Growth Retreats for United Methodist Women** will take place June 19-20 and 20-21, at Lake Junaluska. The theme this year will be "**Encounters with Jesus**", led by Rev. Dr. Mary John Dye. There is no advance registration for the retreats, but housing reservation requests for housing in Lake Junaluska hotels can be mailed on February 9, 2009. The retreats are a wonderful 24 hour get away for inspiration and renewal. If you are interested in going, contact Lynne Gilbert (Phone: 207-3479; Email: lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net) for a housing reservation form. More information is also available on the conference UMW website at www.wnccumw.org.



PLANNING DATES FOR 2009

February 21	Greensboro District UMW Mission Study/Luncheon, 9am-2pm, Centenary UMC
March 2	UMW Executive Meeting
March 2	UMW General Meeting
April 18	Greensboro District UMW Prayer Breakfast, 8am, Mt. Pisgah UMC
May 4	UMW Executive Meeting
May 4	UMW General Meeting
June 19/20 & 20/21	Spiritual Growth Retreats, Lake Junaluska
July 16-19	School of Christian Mission, Greensboro College
August 22	Greensboro District UMW Annual Meeting/Breakfast, 8am, St. Matthews UMC
Sept. 11-13	Annual Meeting, Lake Junaluska
October 5	UMW Executive Meeting
October 5	UMW General Meeting
Nov. 21	Greensboro District UMW Officer Training for Local Officers, 9am-12pm, St. John's UMC
December 7	UMW Executive Meeting
December 7	UMW General Meeting

Warm Up with a Good Book! UMW Reading Program



The cold winds of January are howling, and ice and snow are forecast. Warm up with an inspiring book from our UMW Reading Program collection! Below is a list of new books that have been added to our collection recently. Librarian Peggy Joyner will be glad to help you locate them...stop by the library!

New Books: *Let The Children Give: Time, Talents, Love, and Money* by Delia Halverson; *Send Me! The Story of Salkehatchie Summer Service* by Arlene Andrews; *Creating a Habitat for Humanity: No Hands But Yours* by Jonathan Reckford; *In the Beginning: 50 Devotions for Teens on Genesis* by Laurie Polich; *The 51 % Minority: How Women Still Are Not Equal and What You Can Do About It* by Lis Wiehl; *Angels Among Us* by Leena Lane; *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* by Donald Kraybill; *Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom* by Tim Tingle; *Recovering the Sacred: The Power of Naming and Claiming* by Winona LaDuke; *Acts of Faith* by Eboo Patel; *Peace in the Storm* by Maureen Pratt; *Walking the Choctaw Road: Stories from Red People Memory* by

Tim Tingle; *The Gift of Change: Spiritual Guidance for Living Your Best Life* by Marianne Williamson; *William Henry Is a Fine Name* by Cathy Gohlke; *"They Take Our Jobs" and 20 Other Myths About Immigration* by Aviva Chomsky; *Holy Stuff of Life* by Heather Elkins; *A Little Piece of Ground* by Elizabeth Laird; *Inner Healing for Broken Vessels* by Linda Hollies; *The Making of Isaac Hunt* by Linda Hargrove; *A Perfect Love (A Study of Wesley's A Perfect Love)* by Steven Manskar; *Mrs. Hunter's Happy Death: Lessons on Living From People Preparing To Die* by John Fanestil; *Sharing Food: Christian Practices for Enjoyment* by Shannon Jung; *Miniskirts, Mothers, and Muslims: A Christian Woman in a Muslim Land* by Christine Mallouhi; *Lifting Up Hope; Living Out Justice - Methodist Women and the Social Gospel* by Alice Knotts.

And, **congratulations** to our members who completed plans in the Reading Program for 2008:

Plan 1 (4 books): Lynne Gilbert, Mary Belle Gilbert, Emily Johnston, Carolyn Russ

Plan 2 (10 books): Peggy Joyner

Plan 3 (15 books): Bettye Thompson

The PURPOSE of United Methodist Women

The organized unit of 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, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.