

# United Methodist Women

West Market Street United Methodist Church

## UPDATE

March 1, 2009



### Baby Recognitions to be Presented at May 4th General Meeting

Do you have a special baby you would like to honor with a **Gift to Mission** at our May 4th General Meeting luncheon? Maybe you have a new child, or grandchild, niece or nephew, or a special friend that you could honor? Or, maybe your circle would like to honor a new baby born during the past year.

For a gift to mission of at least \$5.00, you can honor a child, and we will present the Gift to Mission card at our meeting. We hope that many of the children being honored will be able to come that day...it is a tradition that we look forward

to every year!

**If you would like to honor a special baby, contact Laura Judy**, Co-Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach, at 286-9507 or ljudy@trone.com. Laura will need the following information along with your gift: the baby's full name, the names and address of the parents, and the name of the person(s) or circle making the gift.

Let's honor our babies...what a neat way to honor a special child, and at the same time, make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth



**Baby Gift to Mission Card**

Inside Card: *To celebrate a new life, a gift to mission has been given in your honor through United Methodist Women.*

around the world through the Mission Giving of United Methodist Women.

**Thank You!**

### From the President...Happy Birthday United Methodist Women!

Wow...it's March! As I write this, I am looking forward to our March general meeting. By the time you receive this UPDATE, we will have had an exciting evening, with over 80 members and guests present to hear our guest speaker, Dr. Frances Alguire. What a great way to begin the year!

I hope you are finding special ways to nurture your spiritual journey during this season of Lent. I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities at our church for worship, study, and service during this season of reflection as we prepare for the glory of Easter. As United Methodist Women, part of our PURPOSE is "to

know God, and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ". Our faith journey is central to who we are, and everything we do as women organized for mission. Participate in worship and Bible study, pick up a Reading Program book from our library, use our Prayer Calendar to pray for mission personnel and projects around the world, participate in our Call to Prayer & Self Denial offering, find a new way to volunteer and serve...the possibilities are unlimited, and all will enrich your faith journey.

March 23, 2009 is the 140th anniversary of the beginning of the organization that we now

know as United Methodist Women. In 1869, eight women gathered on a stormy night in Boston, and committed themselves to making a difference for women & children in need. They funded and sent two women missionaries (a doctor & a teacher) to India later that year.

Thank you for your commitment to mission as a member of United Methodist Women. Through that commitment, YOU continue the legacy of those special foremothers from 1869, and you are making a difference, every day, in the lives of women, children, and youth around the world.

Shalom, Lynne Gilbert

### YOUR Mission Giving Makes a Difference!

YOU are making mission possible, many times in places where these things would not otherwise be available:

- By providing medical care, including joining the fight against the scourge of HIV/AIDS in Africa,
- By providing scholarships, and education & enrichment opportunities for children and youth
- By helping to meet basic needs, like clean water, food, and housing
- By providing support for national and international mission institutions and programs
- By working against injustice
- And, more....these are just a few...**YOU are in mission around the world!**
- **Thank You!!**



## Our Mission Giving...



A Report from Our Treasurer

(Based on Gifts Received through February 28, 2009)

Amount Pledged	\$8,518.00
Number of Members Pledging	94
Amount Paid on Pledges	\$3,686.00
Circle Special Projects	\$108.00
Gift to Mission/Gift in Memory	\$80.00

Our circles will be receiving the **Call to Prayer & Self-Denial Offering** at our March circle meetings. The theme for 2009 is "Creating Communities through Information Technology", and the offering will be used to fund grassroots projects that support local communities with opportunities for computer literacy, information technology training, English-as-a-second-language classes, and career enhancement & job-seeking skills.

**Have you made your pledge to mission for 2009?** It is not too late. Talk to your circle treasurer, or contact Norma Funderburk.

Norma Funderburk, Treasurer

Phone: 379-9257

Email: [nfunderburk@triad.rr.com](mailto:nfunderburk@triad.rr.com)

## New Gift in Memory Cards

A Gift in Memory honors the memory of a much-loved family member or friend by making possible additional mission work in the United States and around the world. Gift in Memory cards represent a gift of a minimum of \$5.00. We have a supply of both cards, just contact Lynne Gilbert or Norma Funderburk. You can get the cards for free initially, so that you will have one when you need it. When you actually use a Gift in Memory card by sending it to a family member or friend, you send your gift & the tear-off stub to our treasurer, Norma Funderburk. It is wonderful way to honor someone.



## Need a Good Book to Read? Visit Our Library!

**Visit the United Methodist Women section of the church library!** You will find a wide variety of subjects...inspirational, educational, & challenging. There are four categories: *Spiritual Growth, Nurturing for Community, Education for Mission, and Social Action.* To participate in the United Methodist Women Reading Program...you can complete Plan I by reading just one book in each of the four categories. A number of people at West Market have been reading *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. *Three Cups of Tea* is on the 2009 UMW Reading list! Visit the library and get started reading...you will be glad you did!



## Scholarships Available for Conference Events

Have you ever attended our conference School of Christian Mission (held right here in Greensboro at Greensboro College), or our conference Annual Meeting? We have some scholarship money set aside in our budget to help with the expenses for a first timer to either of those events.

The **School of Christian Mission** this year will take place July 16-19, with the theme of *Together at the Table*, and mission studies being offered on "Food and Faith" (led by Rev. Angela Pleasants), "Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival", and "The Beauty & Courage of Sudan".

The conference **Annual Meeting** will take place September 11, 12 & 13 at Lake Junaluska, with this year's theme being *Sisters with a PURPOSE*. Annual Meeting is a great way to learn more about the total program of mission that is United Methodist Women, and it is an opportunity to share in worship, celebration & fellowship with women from across our conference.

We have \$50 available for a School of Christian Mission Scholarship, and \$70 available for an Annual Meeting scholarship. If you are interested in going to either of these events for the

## PLANNING DATES FOR 2009

April 18	Greensboro District UMW Prayer Breakfast, 8am, Mt. Pisgah UMC
May 4	UMW Executive Meeting
<b>May 4</b>	<b>UMW General Meeting Luncheon, Program: Infant Gift to Mission Celebration!</b>
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
<b>October 5</b>	<b>UMW General Meeting, Guest Speaker: Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College</b>
Nov. 21	Greensboro District UMW Officer Training for Local Officers, 9am-12pm, St. John's UMC
December 7	UMW Executive Meeting
<b>December 7</b>	<b>UMW General Meeting, Christmas Celebration, including Elizabeth Fisher sharing a Christmas story</b>

first time, just send a letter or email request to Norma Funderburk, our unit Treasurer.

Read more about these events at our conference UMW website:

[www.wnccumw.org](http://www.wnccumw.org)

**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.