

United Methodist Women

West Market Street United Methodist Church

UPDATE

November 1, 2009



December United Methodist Women Luncheon:

Monday, December 7, 2009

Luncheon will begin at 11:30 AM

Guest Speaker: Elizabeth Fisher

Sharing a very special Christmas story!

Join us for a festive luncheon! We will hear Elizabeth Fisher tell her wonderful, heartwarming Christmas story. And, we will celebrate our Fripp Award honoree. You will not want to miss this general meeting...make plans to be there! Invite your spouse and friends to join you!

HANDS-ON PROJECT: See article at right about our 2009 UMW Christmas Project.

RESERVATIONS: Cost of luncheon is \$7.00 per person. Reservations for lunch are required, and must be in by Sunday, November 29th. Call Grey Wood (299-2729) or Merrimon Gravely (294-2503) to make your reservations. Reservations not cancelled by November 29th will be expected to be paid. **Childcare is available, by reservation only**, due also by Sunday, November 29th.

The executive committee will meet prior to the General Meeting, at 10:30am.



Elizabeth Fisher

2009 UMW Christmas Project

As Christmas approaches, we enter a season of celebrating gift of the birth of Christ, and a season when we are especially intentional about sharing that gift by giving gifts to others. Our UMW Christmas project provides us with a special opportunity to make gifts that will make a difference in the lives of persons who are less fortunate than ourselves. **Our hands-on project will be wrapping supplies for the Christmas Store, and our financial project will support the Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund.**

Hands-On Project: Let's wrap it up!! During November & early December, we will be collecting new rolls of wrapping paper, bags of bows, and gift tags to help out the Christmas Store on December 12th hosted by WMSUMC to help families in need experience a joyous Christmas. Last year, there was a shortage in these supplies and UMW can help ensure that the Store is well prepared and ready for business in 2009! (Continued on back)

From the President...A Season of Giving Thanks, and Sharing

November is a wonderful time of year...the crisp fall air, the beautiful fall colors, and the anticipation of time with family and friends in the approaching holidays. It is also a season to reflect and ponder on the bounty of blessings that we enjoy each and every day. As United Methodist Women, it is a season when we make gifts to mission out of gratitude for God's abundant grace and blessings...through the **World Thank Offering**.



In October, I attended the fall meeting of the **Women's**

Division board of directors, which is the national policy making body for United Methodist Women. It was a busy several days, with reports, committee meetings, continued strategic planning, and more. You can read news & information from the fall board meeting at www.wnccumw.org.

Last week, I again joined two other United Methodist Women on what has become an annual trip to take a load of donated items to **Henderson Settlement**, one of our national mission institutions, in Frakes, Kentucky. Henderson Settlement serves a very poor area in the mountains of

eastern Kentucky.

Henderson Settlement is just one of the nearly 100 national mission institutions that **YOU** help to support each time you make a gift through **Mission Giving** for United Methodist Women. Vital ministry, sharing the love of Christ, happens in those national mission institutions and in other places around the world because of your generosity and commitment. **Thank you!**

Tell the story of United Methodist Women to a friend, and invite her to your next circle meeting!

Shalom,
Lynne Gilbert

Our Mission Giving...



A Report from Our Treasurer

(Based on Gifts Received through October 31, 2009)

Amount Pledged	\$9,578.00
Number of Members Pledging	109
Amount Paid on Pledges	\$8,057.00
Circle Special Projects	\$450.00
Gift to Mission/Gift in Memory	\$477.00
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	\$349.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$255.00

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

A channel of Mission Giving... **World Thank Offering**

Each year, United Methodist Women across the country participate in the World Thank Offering. The gifts are usually collected in

October and November, but in many units, the collected offering represents spontaneous giving by members over the course of a year, or maybe a special month. One of the five channels of undesignated Mission Giving through United Methodist Women, the World Thank Offering is an opportunity to make gifts out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life. Every single day, we are surrounded by the abundant grace of God...we have so much for which we can be thankful.

Give generously...your gifts will make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth around the world.



Mission Giving

THE READING PROGRAM

Your Window to the World

Calling all West Market Street Readers! It's time to catch up your Reading Program book list on the reporting sheets in the UMW Section of the Church Library. All Reading Program participants should plan to complete their 2009 reading by early December. **Readers need to have their reporting sheets filled out and turned in by December 10, 2009.**

If you haven't been reading this year, you are invited to join the readers' group anytime. Better yet, stop by the Reading Program section on Sunday, check out a book and start reading now for 2010!

If you have questions, talk with Carol Betts or Peggy Joyner...they will be glad to help you!

Christmas Project (Continued)

Please bring any of these items to the December General Meeting, or drop them off in the designated box in the Gathering Space.

Financial Project: You may bring your financial gifts for the ECC Scholarship Fund to your December circle meeting, the December general meeting, or send them directly to Norma Funderburk, UMW Treasurer. Make checks payable to *West Market Street UMW*.

If you have questions about our Christmas project, contact Pam Hughes at 275-6779 or Dianne Druce at 668-4599.

Many thanks for all you do to make this season a happier time for persons in need!

PLANNING DATES FOR 2009

Nov. 7 Greensboro District UMW Officer Training for Local Officers, 9am-12pm, St. John's UMC

December 7 UMW Executive Meeting

December 7 UMW General Meeting, Christmas Celebration

PLANNING DATES FOR 2010

Apr. 30-May 2 Assembly 2010, St. Louis, Missouri. Info: www.wncumw.org.

KNITTING AT RANDLEMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Members of the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** recently received an invitation to enjoy a group of after school knitters at Randleman Middle School. These young teens participate in Shandra Williamson's art class. Shandra, a member of the Thursday night prayer shawl knitters, has been teaching the fundamentals of knitting, using dowels which she has crafted into needles.

The students have inspired members of the faculty who also want to learn. The result has been an after school "Teach the Teacher" day, where faculty and students work together to put yarn and needles to work on various projects.



On October 15, Teri Smith, Betty Betts, and Sarah Hester visited the after school group and presented them with gifts of knitting needles and bags of yarn. They enjoyed the opportunity of meeting these enthusiastic knitters, which also includes two boys who are learning to ply their skills and knit rope. They students have requested that their teacher extend this portion of their curriculum so they can continue to meet and sharpen their skills. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is pleased to support this great group of young people and their teacher.

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.