

BOLD WOMEN

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWSLETTER



Mission u FROM THE DEAN, ONA CALVO

The 2018 Mission u was held July 12-14 at Hamilton Park United Methodist Church. We are looking forward to a great series of study, learning, worship, and fellowship.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. This year we are offering three adult studies. Our Spiritual Growth Study is Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective being taught by Rev. Jo Biggerstaff and Linda Elms

Reverend Preston Weaver taught the Issue Study What About Our Money? A Faith Response.

Peggy Larney returned to teach our second year of the Geographic Study The Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States.

Snacks were graciously provided by each of our Districts, and lunch was catered by Hamilton Park UMC..

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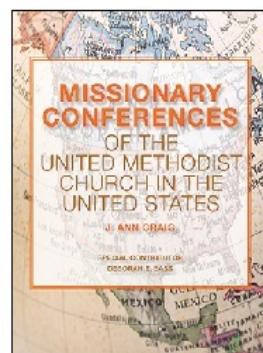
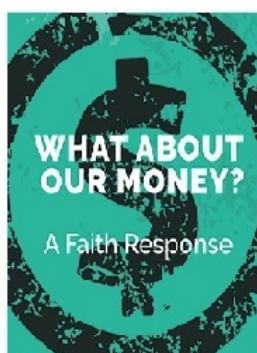
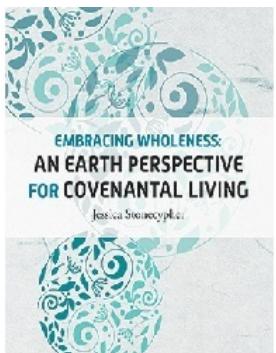
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VOICES FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO ASSEMBLY2018



Words from Anna Jo Isaacs

The theme of the 2018 UMW Conference was the Power of Bold and over 6,000 bold women assembled in Columbus Ohio to take part in it. We participated in workshops, listened to some interesting speakers and gathered together for community worship.

Ubuntu

The Conference officially started Friday, May 18, but many women gathered the day before with a mission to serve at many of the local non-profit organizations in the city. This was an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus and over 600 women chose to participate, doing everything from planting vegetables in community gardens to working in thrift stores sorting clothing and assisting customers.

Women from all over the world gathered for this event and with many wearing native dress and apparel, the venue was vibrant and full of energy.



Choir groups from different countries performed, and listening to their songs helped provide a sense of how connected we are with each other around the globe. In spite of the distance separating us we are all working together to improve the lives of that most vulnerable segment of our population – women, children and youth.

Together we really do make a difference.

This was my first opportunity to attend the Conference and it was my pleasure to meet Ms. Elaine Jenkins who works with Africa University (AU). From her I learned that AU is a private university located in Zimbabwe and has more than 1,200 students from 22 African countries. It was established in 1992 by the United Methodist Church and has about 8,800 graduates to date. Women make up more than 50% of the University enrollment. Ms. Jenkins's passion regarding all the University has achieved inspired our UMW group to plan our November program learning more about AU. We have invited the Chairman of the AU-Tennessee board of Directors, Mrs. Lisa Tichenor, to speak at our meeting and she has kindly agreed.



Learning about AU and many other missions that United Methodist Women support was such a valuable part of the Conference. This information provided a visible sign of some of the things we accomplish all around the world to help improve the lives of our sisters. It is inspiring to know that by working together we as women are making a difference in the world.

When women unite, bold and courageous actions happen!

Eye Opener



Inspire... Mobilize...Activate...

By Sandra Jesberger

UMW Assembly 2018 was an eye opener for me in more ways than one. I am a newly elected president of the UMW at my church, First UMC Garland, and being in that role I decided attendance at Assembly was a must. I was late with registration so my workshop choices were limited, but WOW. The first workshop I attended on Friday was a Screening and Conversation entitled "DNA is Not Destiny." We viewed a fascinating video about the effect of nutrition and environment on the human body from infancy and beyond. The video highlighted, in particular, the effect on DNA. While DNA never changes, nutrition and environmental factors can leave behind chemical tags that change the way our DNA behaves resulting in, for example, obesity. My takeaway from this workshop was that the poorest children are the most vulnerable to these changes and left me thinking about ways in which our country is addressing this issue. I have a better understanding of why Maternal and Child Health is one of the four priority social justice issues being addressed by UMW.

The second workshop I attended on Saturday addressed the UMW priority social justice issue Economic Inequality. "The Spiritual Discipline of Standing WITH Farm Workers Who Feed Us" included a video about citrus farm workers. These workers oftentimes do not earn a minimum wage despite agreements to the contrary. Many are paid by the piece sometimes resulting in workers carrying bags of oranges up to 90 pounds up ladders just trying to get the maximum amount of oranges picked for a higher payout.

Often this results in worker injuries and health issues. There was also discussion of workers who harvest lettuce and tomatoes and some of the immigration issues surrounding farm workers. Obtaining a living wage for farm workers who provide us with the food we eat to sustain the bodies our God has given us seems to me to be one of utmost importance.

Overall, Assembly opened my eyes to numerous issues that UMW is seeking to address and many issues already being addressed head on. The information I gathered from the workshops, the community gatherings and the experience hall were invaluable. I have already shared much of what I learned with the UMW members at my church. I hope to eventually share more about UMW and the important work we are doing with my entire congregation. Thanks to Assembly, I feel much better equipped to do so.



Something for Everyone!

An account from Debbie Centrone

The 2018 United Methodist Women's Assembly in Columbus, Ohio had something for everyone.

Do you like pageantry? The parade of banners and lights from each conference worldwide made your eyes light up and standing to cheer for your conference. Maybe different cultures and languages is something you like. You could see representatives from all over the world. I had the privilege of meeting Reverend Hikari Chang the month before the conference and it was great to see her on stage at the conference.

How about crowds of people? Well, crowds can feel intimidating so I opted to meet up with some ladies from my conference at the first gathering but these are United Methodist Women so it did not take long before I was making new friends. The first was Tabitha from Zimbabwe who I sat close to and we talked about hearing a sacred voice calling to you. But if small groups are more to your liking the focus groups, tables at lunch (where I sat with my new friend Wilma from California) or spending time in the checkout line at Cokesbury can give you an opportunity to meet new sisters, find out what their church is doing, areas they support and how they are adapting to be of service to the community.



Friday had us hearing greetings from Bishop Palmer on behalf of the 1,000 churches of the West Ohio conference. Since I was born and raised in Ohio this felt like coming home. Maybe history is more appealing? The greetings to the Native Americans included recognition of injustice and a heartfelt apology.

The women who organized to send a doctor and teacher to India to assist women and children, Leyman Gbowee a Nobel Peace Prize winner, Michelle Alexander and Marian Wright Edelman and the cost they have paid to be bold were all examples for us.

A special interest of mine is songs, dance or entertainment. There were thousands singing praises and glorifying God. There were also groups who sang and danced and it was hard to choose a favorite between a South Pacific group who sang from Handel's Messiah, an Asian group who danced and sang or a group of ladies from Africa who entertained in the halls between sessions and not part of the program. The dancing of biblical passages, a tap dancing angel, the hilarity of Jesus and his mother at the wedding in Cana, and the physical athleticism at the closing gathering were all stunning. Are you a person who loves freebies? Assembly had John Wesley fans, tee shirts, cd's and information about the groups we support, groups within the United Methodist church, cards about areas in UMW like climate justice, social action, economic inequality etc. There were even gifts to remind you of your regional quadrennial meeting in Little Rock Arkansas March 26-29, 2020.

As I said there is something for everyone at Assembly. Listen for more details as the Power of Bold surges through programs in our units, districts and conference. You are an integral part of this power.



Make the most of summer reading

Dallas Public library has the following titles:

- Threading My Prayer Rug by Sabeeha Rehman
- The Same Sky: A Novel by Amanda Eyre Ward
- Red by Jan de Kinder
- All around Us by Xelena Gonzalez
- We Are all fast Food Workers by annelise Orleck
- Where to Go from Here by Martin Luther King
- All The colors We Are by Katie Kissinger
- No One Else Like You by Siska Goeminne
- Unified We are Force by Joerg Rieger E-book
- Hands on the Freedom Plow edited by Faith S Hosaert
- The Feathered Bone: a Novel by Julie Cantrell

Pres Ida Pimentel, Program Resources, urges you to peruse a variety of subjects for our 2019 Reading Program. See more details on umwnorthtexas.org

“It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people.” — John Wesley

Annual Meeting

October 27, 2018

At Lovers Lane UMC, 45 years ago, the North Texas Conference of United Methodist Women began. This year's event at LLUMC includes a morning of uniting to hear our speaker, Rev. Joy Carol, a silent auction to benefit NTC UMW scholarships, and an afternoon opportunity to participate in conversations on A Way Forward.

Attendees are urged to bring a new or lightly used article for the silent auction, any used item that you would be comfortable giving to a good friend is appropriate.

Register soon on umwnorthtexas.org



Vicki Busby Honored at Annual Conference

The Harry Denman Evangelism Award program honors United Methodists in each annual conference who demonstrate exceptional ministry of evangelism, bringing people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. Vicki Busby of Grace UMC Sherman was named the laity recipient of the Denman award for her contributions to racial equality via workshops and programs for UMW.

Read more about her accomplishments and future plans at ntcumc.org.



A Report and Request from our Historian, Jane Morris

On Wednesday, May 23, President Mae Alexander, Vice-president Greta McKelvey and I visited the archives of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church in the Bridwell Library on the campus of Southern Methodist University. We were looking for information and materials to use at the NTC UMW Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 27 at Lovers Lane UMC where in May 1973 the group of women organized for mission in our conference became "North Texas Conference United Methodist Women." Frances Long, archivist (and member of the UMW of First UMC Richardson), showed us the UMW archives. Soon I shall visit the Lovers Lane UMC archives with Anne Todd, member of Lovers Lane, past NTC UMW president, and current member of the NTC UMW Committee on Nominations. If you have memorabilia from the May 1973 event that you are willing to share in a display on October 27, please contact me at (214) 368-2627.

Another item of historical interest:

Wesley-Rankin Community Center is seeking volunteers to sort pictures and assemble a timeline of its history. Those interested should contact Jane Morris at the phone number above.



Conversations on A Way Forward

Did you know that there is a Special Session of General Conference scheduled in February 2019? Do you know what it is about? If not, set aside some time to learn about what is happening. The United Methodist Church Special Session in 2019 will revolve around the issues of Human Sexuality and the church. Harriett Jane Olson, General Secretary and CEO of United Methodist Women (UMW) has tasked the UMW Directors and Program Advisory Group with reaching 50% of the UMW membership.

So get ready, Get Ready,
GET READY!

Three opportunities to learn more and be in conversations with other United Methodists

- 1) Listening for "The Way Forward" for the United Methodist Church Sponsored by Lay Servant Ministries and the Board of Laity of the North Texas Conference
 - DATE: August 18, 2018
 - TIME: 9:00 AM – 2:15 PM
 - PLACE: Aldersgate UMC, 3926 Old Denton Rd, Carrollton
 - COST: \$20 (Includes lunch)
 - Register online at ntcumc.org/laity or call Susan Anderson, 940-497-2707
- 2) At the North Texas Conference UMW Annual Meeting on October 27 at Lover's Lane UMC with an afternoon session.
- 3) UMW Districts interested in scheduling a conversation are encouraged contact Cynthia Rives

If your district UMW or local UMW unit would like to have a personal session please feel free to contact Cynthia Rives, National UMW Director, at cynrives@yahoo.com or Camille Harry, National Program Advisory Group Member of UMW, at cmharry_09@hotmail.com. We would love to hear from you and look forward to working with you!

Blessings,
Camille Harry, National Program Advisory Group Member of UMW

NTC UMW 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

current as of 0619/2018; check umwnorthtexas.org for updates

August 2018

- 11 NTC UMW Mission Team Meeting (Time: TBD) Whaley UMC – Gainesville, TX
- 15 Deadline: Local Unit Annual Reports* due to District Officers
- 15 Deadline: District Five Star and Five Star + 2 Units Confirmed with District Treasurers
- 31 Deadline: District Officers' Annual Reports due to Conference Officers
- 31 Deadline: District Treasurers' Five Star and Five Star + 2 Reports due to Conference Treasurer

September 2018

- 8 Northwest District 2018 Annual Meeting Location: TBD
- 22 East District 2018 Annual Meeting First UMC – Kaufman: Kaufman, TX
- 22 North Central District 2018 Annual Meeting First UMC – Plano: Plano, TX
- 29 Metro District 2018 Annual Meeting Location: TBD

October 2018

- 5 Third Quarter (Q3) Remittance due to District Treasurer Local Unit Treasurers
- 27 NTC UMW 2018 Annual Meeting, Lover's Lane UMC, Dallas

November 2018

- 3 NTC Mission Team Meeting (Time: TBD) Walnut Hill UMC: Dallas, TX

December 2018

- 5 Fourth Quarter (Q4) Remittance due to District Treasurer Local Unit Treasurers
- 15 Fourth Quarter (Q4) Remittance due to Conference Treasurers District Treasurers
- 17 Deadline: NTC UMW 2018 Mission Team Officers' Annual Reports due to NTC UMW Secretary

January 2019

TBA Leadership Development & Training (District & Local Unit Officers)

Location: TBD

*Reports: ♦ Charter Club Rpt. ♦ Memorial Listing Rpt. ♦ MN&O Rpt. ♦ Reading Program Rpt. ♦ NTC UMW Special Recognition Rpt.



Did your
unit pledge
five?

See details under Mission Project 2018 on umwnorthtexas.org