

# Mission Messenger

INDIANA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## From the President

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*"I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you."*  
11 Timothy 1:5

Perhaps like me you are using this time of social distancing after the stay-at-home order to catch up on some chores around the house. Recently, while going through a box of old pictures and documents, I ran across a WSCS membership card which had belonged to my mother. The above scripture came to mind as I remembered her devotion to the Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church and later United Methodist Women after the merger. My mind jumped from that to my grandmother who enjoyed attending School of Christian Mission. So to paraphrase, I could say "a faith that lived first in your grandmother Maude and your mother Alice and now, I am sure, lives in you."

The legacy that my grandmother and mother have left me has brought me many years of growth and joy through my involvement with United Methodist Women! So many wonderful women have inspired me to take up the mantle and work for justice for women, children and youth. Being able to serve as your president is my way of giving back to the best of my ability for all the ways that these sisters have supported and nurtured me.

In these troubled and difficult times, I am so proud of the ways in which our Indiana United Methodist Women have stepped up to make a difference. Many local units have produced thousands (yes, that's THOUSANDS!) of masks for medical personnel as well as friends and families. Others have prepared and distributed food packages to

help needy families, especially those with school children.

A good number of you have been writing notes of encouragement to the residents of Lucille Raines. Monetary gifts have been donated to LRR to help those who are out of work and prayers are being offered for those who cannot attend the AA, NA, or CA meetings needed to aid in their recovery.

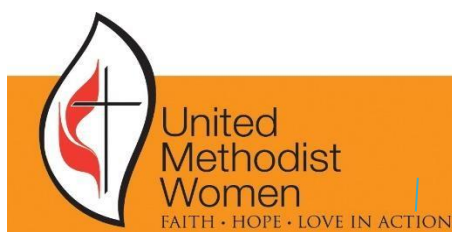
Even though many of our meetings had to be canceled, some local units have held Zoom meetings to stay in touch. Northwest District held their spring meeting via Zoom and hosted women who had not attended a meeting before.

Two online units have been established. The Ruth Group at Taylor Chapel UMC in Fort Wayne had its first virtual circle meeting with 10 ladies on the Zoom. Warsaw First UMC has also organized a virtual UMW. Many others have, I am sure, been doing innovative things. Please let me know how you are thinking outside the box in your Districts and local units.

Although we are always saddened to learn of units and churches that have had to disband, we are looking into ways to organize district units. Look for more information on this in the future.

One of the many blessings of United Methodist Women is our supportive community. Since learning of my husband's Covid-19 diagnosis, I have received an outpouring of love through cards, telephone calls and prayers. God is giving me strength for these uncertain days through all of you! You are demonstrating so beautifully faith, hope and love in action as we continue in a sisterhood of grace. Thank you!

KATHIE CLEMENZ | CONF. PRESIDENT  
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# Vice-President

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## Greetings Sisters!

More than ever, I hope this newsletter finds each of you well and feeling loved. What a challenging spring this has been! I'm sure each of you reading this article is well aware of the numerous cancellations our national, conference, district, and local teams have needed to make. The decision to cancel April's Spiritual Growth Retreat and Mission u were not easy ones in some ways because of all the work we had done preparing for them, but we all knew what was best once we focused on our most precious assets: our ladies! I'm sure UMW National and Indiana Conference UMC felt the same way about summer events during the COVID-19 pandemic.

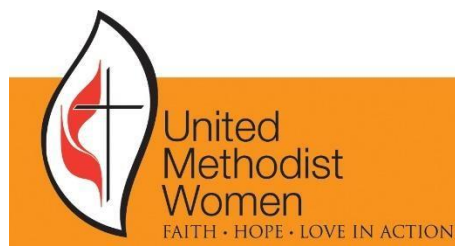
Event planning definitely takes a team—and as vice president, I lead those efforts as chair of the Committee on Program eliciting the input, feedback, and assistance of the conference team. Our conference events reflect the work of many officers. According to the United Methodist Women website, the role of the Vice President (aka Program Coordinator) is described as a leader who works cooperatively with the president and assists the conference in fulfilling the Purpose and this is accomplished as the vice president:

- Guides the Leadership Team in its responsibility for planning and implementing program and events to strengthen mission and fulfill the Purpose.
- Serves as contact person for the district program coordination designee or vice presidents, provide resources and conduct training at least annually.

I point these things out because the roles of district officers closely reflect those of their conference counterparts. So, have you been assisting your district vice president? What is your role in event planning? I encourage you to take some time and explore the UMW Handbook for tips for you and your team as we all need to consider how we can fulfill our PURPOSE effectively (the handbook is even accessible at this [link](#) if you don't have a printed copy). Every time I go to it for something, I end up "in a rabbit hole" learning things I "didn't know I didn't know"! Perhaps it will be a helpful resource for you too!

Take a look at the updated 2020 UMW of Indiana Calendar in this newsletter. Despite Mission u being canceled for this summer, UMW North Central Jurisdiction meeting details still pending (but not taking place this month in Sioux Falls), and INUMC Annual Conference having a different look this year, we are pushing forward with plans for this fall's UMW Annual Celebration, the Silent Retreat, and Leadership Development/Officer Training. Why? Well, I like to say we are women of faith and we can proceed with our eyes, ears, and hearts open to however we need to adjust our plans.

I don't think I've ever been prouder of our Indiana Conference UMW team than I was when we met in March. Our team did not meet at Benedict Inn for our March 13-14 meetings—we met via a modern alternative: teleconferencing! About 24 hours before women would be driving to our Indianapolis meeting location, President Kathie and I concluded that we needed to cancel our reservation at the retreat center, setup two conference call lines (since some meetings occur



(Vice President continued)

simultaneously), and inform nearly 50 meeting participants of plan to pivot and connect in a different way: our own scheduled times. So, at 7pm Friday evening, the district presidents “gathered” on one conference call as the Program Committee met on another. At 9am Saturday morning, the Committee on Nominations met on one line while the Finance Committee met on another. Then, the Leadership Team, which includes National President Shannon Priddy, the conference officers, and district presidents met 9-3 with a brief lunch break. Lastly, the Mission u Team “gathered” at 4pm. Did we miss seeing one another? Sure, we missed the fellowship and hugs. However, our meetings were still engaging, lively, and fruitful. We still had work to do---and we did it! The biggest surprise of the weekend for me was when a motion was made, discussed, voted on, and passed unanimously to hold our meetings next March remotely as well! Wow, we

can get creative, and we can be open-minded to try new things when we need to! So, how about getting creative and keeping an open mind when someone has an idea that is different than how we’ve always done it? It may be a great step forward for UMW!!

We have some great things going on in Indiana UMW, and we may have to come up with creative ways to accomplish these things. During these times, it’s important to love and be kind. I remind you of the words of Paul the apostle, in Philippians 2:4, *do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others*. Sisters, continue your faithful service in ways that may stretch us to be flexible and creative. I know you can if you pivot and don’t give up. Let’s try new things. Let’s do this together...for God’s glory.

FELICIA STEWART | VICE-PRESIDENT  
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## From Piloting Faith by Cameron Wiggins Bellm

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those who are most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or paying their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

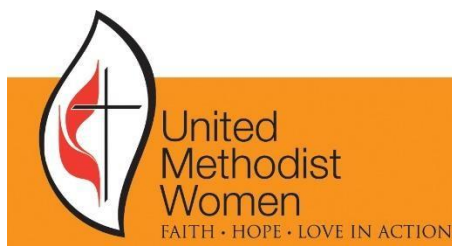
May we who have had to cancel our trips remember those who have no place to go.

May we who are losing our investments, remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time, when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us each find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen

From Northern Illinois United Methodist Women’s weekly online devotional



# National President

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## A Time to Celebrate

Dear sisters,

Ecclesiastes 3: <sup>1</sup> *“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”*

The season of fear is over. Yes, there is grief over the people, events, and normalcy we have lost. But now is the season of celebration. It is hard to think about celebrating during this year but this year, we need it more than ever. As women faithful to a risen Christ, it is Christian to celebrate in the loss.

We know how to decrease the spread of the virus. We know how to work remotely and meet across great distances. We know how to put faith, hope, and love into action. While we grieve the losses of this year, let's celebrate the successes of this year, too.

I learned to enjoy cooking again. I painted rooms in my house. I hung local works of art on my walls. I am a coffee drinker. I love coffee. I love the flavor and the warmth. In the first two weeks of sheltering at home, my coffee maker broke. I learned to make French press coffee. I listened to the birds every morning as I did not need to wake before them. I prayed for people I would never meet and only knew them by their profession. I started naming my prayers. I got closer to God.

None of these are extraordinary successes or celebrations but I am thankful for each one. I am thankful for every United Methodist Woman, named and unnamed. I am thankful for the doers

who need no recognition and just want to serve. In this time, we've seen more and more of this happening and we are part of it. Let us celebrate the grocery workers, hospital cleaners, delivery people, minimum wage workers, who are just trying to make a living and have now been seen by the rest of us.

Let's celebrate that, “the way we've always done it,” no longer has meaning. We cannot do things the way did just three months ago. Schools, workplaces, and churches can be like nothing we have seen in the 21st century. Let us celebrate that. We have the opportunity to be better at connection, leadership, and change. Now is the time to demand more of our leaders than the status quo, me included.

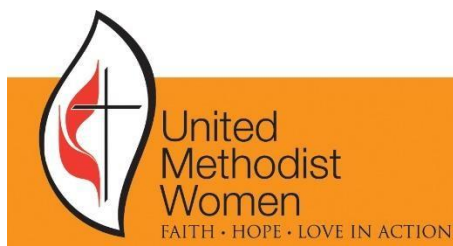
So, United Methodist Women of Indiana, I implore you. Use your knowledge, your faith, and your courage to try something different. Invite someone new. Offer a program you never would have before because you were afraid it wouldn't be welcomed. Lead your church, your community, your family to new connections and new celebrations.

Mark 6:11 *“And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”*

Stay safe and stay in love with God.

Sincerely,

SHANNON PRIDDY | NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
[priddysh@gmail.com](mailto:priddysh@gmail.com) | 317-610-6899



# Secretary

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## Devotions That Spoke To Me

I will profess that I am not the greatest writer. I am more of a reader. Also, math was my subject in school. Ask me to write a story and I cringe and my heart starts beating too fast and I get this weird feeling in the pit of my stomach. So, for my newsletter article, I found two devotions that spoke to me.

### Always On Time

*I wait for you, O Lord; you will answer, O Lord my God. Psalm 38:15.*

I hate to wait. It's so hard, especially when I'm waiting on the Lord. Sometimes He seems to be sooooo slow. But I've learned over the years – and sometimes still forget! – that waiting is an essential part of spiritual discipline. In fact, it can be the ultimate test of our faith.

In Psalm 27:14 David says, *"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." If you wait on God, you will be blessed.* But we get impatient and take things into our own hands, and that's where we get into trouble. Like Abraham, who waited ten years for a son and couldn't wait any longer – and so had Ishmael.

Are you waiting on God for something? Keep waiting! God is always on time.

We will see the answer to this pandemic.

### The House of Wisdom

*Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. Proverbs 9:9.*

The commencement speaker for our local community college recently pointed out that the number of men and women over the age of 30 who are now attending college is more than double what it was 10 years ago. Because of rapid technological advancement, education is no longer a "one time proposition." Those who do succeed must now be committed to a continual updating of their job skills and, if necessary, even a change of careers.

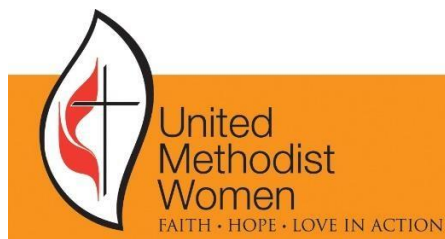
Christians need to recognize that this same principle can also apply in their spiritual lives as well. Paul warns that *"our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but . . . against powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"* (Ephesians 6:12). Such a battle can never be won with a complacent attitude and a peripheral knowledge of God's Word.

Those who are wise will make the continual study and application of Scriptural truth a number-one priority in their lives.

This year, I am part of a Facebook group started by my pastor to read the bible all the way through but chronologically. I realized that I needed structure and a plan around my study of the bible. I now read almost every day.

TRISHA STANEART | SECRETARY

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# Treasurer

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The pandemic that we are living through has made us physically distant; however, we are finding new ways of communicating and working. I'm now using Zoom and Google Duo more than I ever used it before the pandemic. There is a lot of talk about "new normal", but there are some things that have not changed. The need to give to others. We are finding that community resources are very important now as people have lost jobs, steady income and now have a lot of uncertainty in their lives. Food pantries and community centers are hard at work in our communities. Schools are providing meals to students even though classes are not meeting. There is work to be done and United Methodist Women are well equipped to help women, children and youth during this pandemic.

If you are able, your pledge is needed for United Methodist Women to help others nationally and internationally. Your conference pledge is needed for our conference help to Lucille Raines Residence, Mission u and the Youth and Young Adult scholarship. I understand that not everyone can give. That these times have affected you, someone you love, your unit, your church and giving monetarily may not be an option right now and that is ok. You can offer the gift of a prayer, a smile through a video call, a written note of congratulations to the graduate you may know or call someone you know that needs to hear a good word. We can be there for each other and make this "new normal" better than the old.

JACKI MOORE | TREASURER  
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# Social Action

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## Sending my Greetings to Fellow Indiana UMW Members!

I pray that you and your family are well.

It is very important that everyone registers to vote by mail. We do not want anyone taking any chances being within close proximity to others as has happened in other elections. Please also tell others to go to: [indianavoters.in.gov](http://indianavoters.in.gov) or call (866) 461-8683. VOTE BY MAIL OR TRAVELING BOARD - VISIT MY VOTER PORTAL.

Anyone age 65 or older may apply for an absentee ballot without any reason, but if you are younger I would advise you to still apply for one. For the primary all Marion County residents were able to vote using an absentee ballot without any reason.

This 2020 election is a "very important" election to elect officials who will listen to our concerns and vote on issues that follow our priority and advocacy issues!!! Please ask others if they are registered to vote. They may even register to vote at the same site: [indianavoters.in.gov](http://indianavoters.in.gov)

CAROL TILLER | SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR  
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# Committee on Nominations

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We are looking for a few good women. We are not the Marines but we do have some similar traits. We are hardworking Ladies for the Lord.

The Nomination Committee is looking for participants willing to serve in the following positions:

- ♥ Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation
- ♥ Language Coordinator
- ♥ Assistant Dean for Mission U 2021

Also needed are Committee on Nomination district representative members from:

- ♥ North and Southeast (term ending 2020)
- ♥ West (term ending 2023)
- ♥ Northeast and Northwest (term ending 2024)

We would like to thank Kathy Byerly for her service with Mission u as Dean and Asst. Dean! Ann Cashner will be Dean of Mission u for 2021 and 2022 which leaves Mission u Assistant Dean an open opportunity. Please let me know if you have any questions.

The Committee on Nomination will speak to the ladies about the offices. We are in need of names and phone numbers.

With Love,

HEATHER LEWIS | CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS  
[heatherdawnlewis@gmail.com](mailto:heatherdawnlewis@gmail.com) | 812-786-0332  
@heatherdsp

## Legacy Fund

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A message from United Methodist Women National Office.



In 2019 United Methodist Women turned 150 years old. Let's continue in our anniversary celebration by giving to the Legacy fund, a permanent endowment to ensure the mission of United Methodist Women continues another 150 years and beyond. We encourage every member to give in increments of 1869 or \$20.00 monthly to help meet the campaign goal of \$60 million. You can give online at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund) or call 800-278-7771.

Thank you!  
The Legacy Fund Campaign  
Liaison Chair  
Rita Gaither-Gant  
4102 N. De Quincy Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46226-4563  
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<https://www.inumc.org/engage/adults/united-methodist-women/>

# Membership Nurture and Outreach

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As I sit here thinking about what I want to write, I have the sun shining, birds singing and a warm breeze coming in my window! What a beautiful world God has created for us!

In the midst of this pandemic, we need to stay positive! A special thanks to our dear UMW sister, La Donna Weber, for our daily chuckles on Facebook! Many have brought me to tears in a good way. I love a good belly laugh! We are bombarded by so much contradictory news that people don't know who or what to believe. Please turn off your news, pick up your Bible and read words from the One we can believe! I have chosen to follow our state guidelines out of the love for others that God has commanded us! So during this time, may I suggest that we show our love to others...crafty people are making masks, cooks are sharing their food with those in need, prayer warriors are praying and anyone with a phone are calling friends.

As UMW, we know our mission and have practiced it for 150+ years! While our circles find new ways to mission, please share your ideas on our Facebook page for others to learn. Let us know what's happening in your "neck of the woods"!

I believe most of us have prayer chains that can become friend chains. Call your UMW sisters to give encouragement! If you're not a "phone call" person, send a text, send a card or write a letter. Keep in touch! To those of you sending cards, please consider using a Lucille Raines card and make a donation at the same time. I have the cards and will gladly send you some (they are free.)

God bless you. Stay safe and keep in touch until we meet again!

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your minds in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:6-7

BARBARA BUGHER | MNO  
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## Save the Date!



The Silent Retreat  
At the Sarto House in Evansville  
October 23-25  
Friday 8 PM - Sunday Noon

*Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ~1 Kings 11-12*

Save the Date / SAVE THE DATE /  
**Save the Date**



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# Language Coordinator

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Toenails eventually need to be clipped. The dead part of the nail does not automatically drop off. While clipping my toenails, I listened to the snippets leaving the nail. They sounded brittle when clipped, and hollow as they fell. All life was gone from them. They no longer gave service to the living nail. The dead falls while new life continues to form.

*"So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown in the earth is subject to decay, what rises is incorruptible. What is sown is ignoble, what rises is glorious. Weakness is sown, strength rises up. A natural body is put down and a spiritual body comes up."* 1st Corinthians 15:42-44

In this time of uncertainty, with the COVID-19 virus taking its toll around the world, one cannot help but feel the forces of life and death. We all know of people who have been stricken with the horrible virus, and have died. Often death calls us before we believe our time is due.

My mother, nearing 94 years of age, is facing a natural death. She has lived a righteous life while

raising six children on a farm with the responsibilities of gardening, canning, chickens, preparing meals and welcoming guests. She lived a life of humble servitude to husband, family and church. Now she finds great joy in sleeping, receiving a card, and an unexpected phone call or visit. She lifts up prayers of gratitude and expectation for her heavenly life to come. It is through her steady faith in God, that she looks forward to the journey and is preparing us to accept her transition.

As a toenail falls to earth, the base nail continues to grow. As the virus kills, souls are freed. As my mother dies, her great-grand child is born.

"Destination"

"My vessel has left the port of this world.

Do not sink my boat with sadness

But let your love and gladness

Be the wind in my sail that speeds me

to the other shore."

(Author unknown)

LEANORE REGENSBURGER | LANGUAGE COORD  
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## 2020 Calendar of Events

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**Indiana UMW Annual Celebration** | October 2-3 | Friday evening to Saturday 3PM

St. Andrew UMC | 2560 Villa Avenue | Indianapolis, IN

**Indiana UMW Silent Retreat** | October 23-25 | 8 PM Friday to 12 Noon Sunday

Sarto House | Evansville, IN

**Indiana UMW Leadership Development and Officer Training** | November 7 | 10 AM to 3 PM

St. Luke's UMC | 700 E Southway Blvd. | Kokomo, IN

**INUMC Annual Conference** | August 15 | Indiana Wesleyan University | Marion, IN

October 10 | Indianapolis St. Luke's UMC

**UMW North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial** | TBA

**UMC North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial** | TBA

**UMC General Conference** | August 29 – September 7, 2021

Minneapolis Convention Center | Minneapolis, Minn.



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# Spiritual Growth

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Dear Sisters in Christ,

How have you been coping with the 'shelter-in-place' recommendations as well as the daily newscasts with the lead story being the COVID-19 pandemic? And, how is your prayer life? I admit mine has been up and down and all over the place. There are days when I'm full of praise and thanksgiving and intercession, and others when everything is a lament for the city, state, and world – and me. Other times there are just no words. I know God hears the groanings of our hearts and I am so very thankful for that promise.

A few weeks ago I remembered a book I read and the theme of a Silent Retreat a few years back. *Praying in Color – Drawing a New Path to God* by Sybil MacBeth was on our reading list in 2010. When feeling distracted, this book offers a method for working through our frustrations through prayer.

With some colored pencils or markers or crayons; sheets of paper; a list of the names for God; and your doodling skills, you are ready. On your paper – probably in the center, but anywhere is fine, write a name for God. Draw a shape / cloud / blob around this name. Ask God to be a part of your prayer session. Write and/or doodle around your name for God. List the characteristics of this name. Do this through scallops around your shape, or rays – like those that radiate around the sun, or in concentric circles around your shape. You can include words in your description, but they are not necessary. The purpose is to get still on your inside and to listen to God. If names of people "pop-up", write them down on your paper,

allowing space to draw/doodle around each of them. Give yourself 2-3 minutes to spend with God alone.

Next, we want to pray for those people and situations we wrote around the name for God – and more will probably "pop-up". Add them to your page as they do, then go back to the name you are praying for at the time. Take time to draw and color a shape around each name and situation. Often, we are praying for someone we really don't know. Then I remember the verse from Jeremiah – God has a plan and purpose for each person. We just must believe that God knows what He is doing! Again, as you draw / pray, using words in your head or writing them down, draw a design around the name. Add words if you want, but they aren't necessary. We are offering this person or situation into God's care. We are spending time with them and with God by drawing. Repeat this process as often as you need at one time. Each dot, each line, and each stroke of color becomes another moment of time spent with that person in the center, and with God. When your prayer time is complete, you will have a page – or two or three – of family and friends and situations formed into a colorful community of designs on the page. At the end of your prayer time, you may want to say 'Amen'. Keep a notebook of your prayer drawings so you can write the date the prayer was answered.

If you can scribble or draw a lop-sided shape, you can pray in color!  
Hugs and Blessings,

BARBARA KING | SPIRITUAL GROWTH  
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# Education and Interpretation

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As Coordinators of Education & Interpretation look at the year ahead, I encourage you all to give yourself grace as we navigate the pandemic and all the ways that it is affecting our lives. I know that I am struggling with moving forward. Our normal tasks would be to share the opportunity of youth, children and first-time adult scholarships for Mission U which has now been canceled.

It is important to continue supporting our local church youth and young adults as they serve in mission service projects. Indiana United Methodist Women have given seven 2020 Scholarships. We have shared with each Youth & Young Adult Scholarship recipient that each group should keep those funds and use later in the year or next year. Until travel is safe again the Youth & Young Adult Scholarship team is suspending new scholarship grants.

As I have read emails from our church youth leaders, most are planning to use their scholarship funds in 2021. Other youth leaders are hopeful that their mission project can continue later in the summer. Rhonda Ladd, Delphi United Methodist Church, shared with me their plans to still be supportive in mission: "I wanted to share with you what we plan on doing for the Jamaicans this year. Christian Service International employs Jamaicans who help build the houses and support the teams going to Jamaica. This year, Delphi UMC has decided to send funds to build one house in our absence."

Some of the ways we can continue to serve:

1. Develop and promote strategies for engaging in and growing Mission Giving at all levels of United Methodist Women; a) Encourage participation with Lucille Raines – Share that Amazon Prime and Kroger have rewards where you may assign a percentage. In-kind and monetary gifts count on Mission Today Report Form; b) Encourage Mission Today Items and, after receiving your report forms from the units, provide the information annually to the Conference Mission Coordinator.
2. Promote and utilize United Methodist Women print, online and audiovisual resources to tell the mission story.

Sincerely,

LISA G. MORRIS | EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

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Columbus First Youth Mission Trip to Guatemala



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# United Methodist Women Reading Program

READ A BOOK NOW.....SHARE ALL ABOUT IT LATER!

"Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are." - Mason Cooley

What are you reading? All the extra time at home from COVID-19 has given me an extra chance to read more. It is a perfect time to read some books from the UMW Reading Program list and then use them later for a lesson or program when we get back together in our UMW groups. Many of the books are available in Kindle form too so you can get them online and download them immediately to read. For eBooks free of charge, check your local library, Google eBookstore, Project Gutenberg or Open Library. Also, the Mission u books are available to read even though Mission u is cancelled for this year. This year the current mission studies will count as two books like the bonus books do. Copies of *Pushout* are also available since it will be used next summer also. Send your name, address, and a check for \$12 written to 'UMW Mission u' to Barb McCoy at 1025 Brandon Way, Fort Wayne, 46845-2390, and she will send it to you!

Don't forget to browse back through the older lists that are posted on the [UMW website Reading Program](#) page. You can continue to read books on the lists from 2014 through 2020 and there are LOTS of good ones! I am currently reading *Blue Gold*, a novel by Elizabeth Stewart, from the 2016 Social Action list. It is easy to read and very interesting. Here is a quick synopsis:

Three teen girls on three different continents are linked by a rare mineral called Colton. It is known as blue gold because it is so valuable and used in manufacturing technology for phones and computers, but has caused conflict in the Congo where rogue militia gangs are in the conflict for control of Colton.

Sylvie's family had to flee after her father was killed and now lives in a deplorable refugee camp.

Laiping labors in a Chinese factory, soldering components for cell phones. Factory conditions are crushing, with very long hours, but she sees what happens to those who dare question the electronics company's policies and very strict rules.

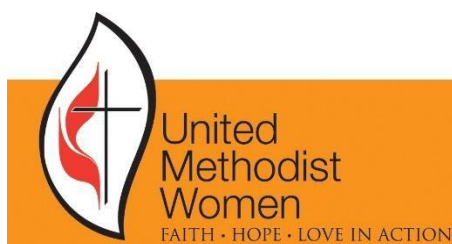
Fiona is a North American girl who, in one thoughtless moment, takes a picture on her cell phone she comes to regret.

And all three teens are unexpectedly linked by these events and one thing - cell phones.

Also something new! A free UMW online course available to use as you read *So You Want to Talk about Race* by Ijeoma Oluo, a 2020 Reading Program "Bonus Book." The book is available in print, Kindle or audiobook and you go through the sessions at your own pace. For exchange of ideas and guides for yourself or a group of UMW sisters, go to <http://umw.convio.net/site/MessageViewer> to find out more and sign up for a free online course.

A quick note to District Secretaries of Program Resources. I still need lists of reading program participants from some districts for your 2019 district local units. Please send a copy to me at [denisesg49@gmail.com](mailto:denisesg49@gmail.com), or 9034 Butt Rd., Fort Wayne, 46818 if you haven't already done so. You will want to recognize your readers at your next district event and encourage others to join in the reading for 2020!

DENISE GELLER | PROGRAM RESOURCES  
[denisesg49@gmail.com](mailto:denisesg49@gmail.com) | 260-625-4786



# Mission u Update

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Hi Ladies!

Mission u update that you should already know, but in case you haven't heard, Mission u 2020 will not be happening. National office has decided that they could not get the training in and the school after everything has reopened. U Indy did not charge us the deposit and were very easy to work with on our on again off again school. They would love to have us back.

As far as next year 2021, National office has not confirmed which classes they will offer. They have gone back and forth on whether to keep the 150 Years in Mission class for its second year, or go to the new series. Ann Cashner will be the new Dean for 2021, and I have confidence in her abilities to carry this job thru. Ann will get her team together sometime in August to get the planning for next year underway, I know she is already working towards next year's details.

Seeing that my job as Dean is over, I would like to take this moment to thank everyone who

contributed and helped our team last year a lot of thanks. There really is not much training that goes with these jobs, but we learn by the seat of our pants, and good notes from the previous Dean and team. Even though you might not be directly on the team, there are many ways you can support your team. First, keep them in prayer! Secondly, be open to new experiences that they might bring back from National Office. Third, help them by giving them names of possible class leaders. That can be the most taxing situation that the Dean has to gather. And always, be open to a new way of doing things. This is where we grow. Stay tuned for more info on our 2021 Mission u School - I know the team will bring back some great ideas and classes for us next year. God bless you all, and thanks again for all of the support you gave me! It was a great experience.

KATHY BYERLY | DEAN, MISSION U  
[kjpbyerly@yahoo.com](mailto:kjpbyerly@yahoo.com) | 812-767-1611

## Communications Coordinator

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Some say "be careful what you ask for." I often pray for patience and the last three months have been a test I couldn't have imagined. I hope you all continue to stay safe and well as we navigate this unusual and difficult time.

George Bernard Shaw once said "The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place", and he has a point. Remember playing "telephone" when you were a child? It was fun to assume your message would be received and understood, but it always turned out to be something else. That was fun when we

were kids, not so much now.

Communicate, communicate, communicate! Make the extra effort to make sure your 'who, what, when, and where's' are correct and getting to the people who need to receive them. With all the changes we are experiencing with this pandemic, it's so important to inform others of how you are meeting and serving safely together.

Blessings,  
BONNIE ELAM | COMMUNICATIONS COORD.  
[Bllelam21@comcast.net](mailto:Bllelam21@comcast.net) | 260-341-1687



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# Lucille Raines Residence

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God continues to bless the ministry of the Lucille Raines Residence in the midst of these unusual times. UMW units, churches and individuals have continued to support the ministry in a variety of ways. Please keep the residents of Raines in your prayers. Because of the covid-19 restrictions the support groups have not been able to meet. The support group meetings are a vital part of the recovery process for anyone overcoming addiction.

Over the years of Raines ministry there have been many stories of the difference Raines has made in the successful recovery of residents. A recent incident highlights the significance Raines has in supporting the lives of those in recovery. The Crawfordsville Trinity UMW wanted to do something to encourage the residents at Raines and decided to send each resident a note and include in it a twenty dollar bill. The notes were delivered to each resident by Mariea, the Raines Program Coordinator. One woman resident came to Carolyn Marshall's office and insisted on donating her gift to Raines. She is so grateful for the ministry of Raines in her life that she wanted to help it continue. This woman works at a restaurant that is closing soon and she is looking for a new job. Knowing that makes her gift to Raines even more generous. When the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Rome he wrote these words: <sup>1</sup> *We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; <sup>2</sup> for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.*

<sup>3</sup> *For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, <sup>4</sup> begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints.* ~Romans 8:1-4.

We become generous people when we recognize how much God continually gives to us. God calls us to generosity and we respond, not because of what we can see and know, but because we are a people of faith, and trust God to care for us in all circumstances. When God led the Israelites into the promise land the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant were instructed to walk into the flooded, raging river. Only when their feet were wet did God part the waters and lead the people safely to their destination. God will always lead us safely through when we live by faith. It is our joy that God invites us to help provide the way through for others by our loving, sharing, giving, and helping.

Addiction is a major issue in our nation and world. The ministry of Raines is more needed than ever. Your prayers, presence, gifts, and service to Raines, and your witness to others about Raines are needed to continue and strengthen the ministry of the Lucille Raines Residence.

REV. PAULA YOUNG MAYBERRY | PRESIDENT, LRR BOARD

[pmaybe7042@aol.com](mailto:pmaybe7042@aol.com) | 765-386-5515



"Rebuilding Lives-  
Committed to Addiction Recovery"



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# Lucinda Pins RESALE Event



## Trade in your used Lucinda Pins!

We know. You bought that pin to go with that jacket/blouse/sweater and the clothing wore out and now the pin doesn't go with anything!! So, bring in your pin, we'll sell it to someone else for \$10 (... fundraiser for Lucille Raines Residence) and you can buy someone else's previous loved pin (for just \$10 ... fundraiser for Lucille Raines Residence) to go with your new jacket/blouse/sweater!! WHAT A DEAL!!

**Lucinda Pin Resale Event ~ OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
UMW Annual Celebration @ St. Andrew UMC in Indianapolis



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# Mission Messenger

INDIANA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Bonnie Elam  
United Methodist Women of Indiana  
6919 Forest Glen Court  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

***Share this newsletter with others!***

Save printing and postage costs- request to  
get the newsletter and announcements sent to  
your email---sign up at this [link!](#)  
Or send an email to [blelam21@comcast.net](mailto:blelam21@comcast.net)

*As United Methodist Women, we encourage all members and  
friends to recommit to The United Methodist Church's Charter for  
Racial Justice and resist racism in our hearts, our homes, our  
communities and our country.*



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