

**N E W M E X I C O C O N F E R E N C E
U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T W O M E N**



The Word Sower

JORDAN RIVER RAMBLINGS

-President's Message

I am writing this on the day of the solar eclipse. Several commentators have responded to this incredible event by observing that everyone is “looking up”! I am struck by that observation as a wonderful inspiring comment. We as United Methodist Women are looking up...and forward...and onward to be the best we can be in doing the work of United Methodist Women and fulfilling our Purpose.

Times are troubling right now....but haven't they always been in some way. Praying and prayers for our world, our country, and ourselves seem more essential than ever. We must not lose faith in our fellow man and our relationships with each other.

It was a great Mission u and many thanks to those who spent countless hours preparing and planning and those who stepped up to a task that had to be done. I know it is a labor of love! The setting at Sacramento Methodist Assembly is always inspiring in itself. Mission u is the best fellowship...and food in the world every year!

Plan on attending in July, 2018. It only gets better each year!

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Annual Meeting is just around the corner! It will be at First United Methodist in Odessa, Texas, October 27-28, 2017. There are many exciting and different plans for programming that we have never done before... be prepared to be inspired, enlightened, and experience opportunities in very unique ways.

I continue to hear good news about mission work of local groups and individuals in the name of United Methodist Women. Keep up the great work!

I remain deeply honored and grateful to be your president. Please call on me anytime in any way I can be of service.

I always feel Autumn is a new beginning. Keep on being the hands, feet and voices of Christ in the world.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in October in Odessa!

Cheryl Ferguson, President

libzavala@yahoo.com

432 559-7647



“All Things New”

Theme from Titus 3: 4-7

It's time to register for our 45th Annual New Mexico Conference of United Methodist Women Meeting. This year we will meet at First United Methodist Church in Odessa, Texas, on October 27-28. The address is 415 N. Lee Ave., Odessa. President Gene Johnson and her UMW Committee have planned an impressive, spiritual and informative conference.

There are many parts that come together to make a successful experience. Please share copies of the registration form that is included in this Word Sower so all will have a chance to attend. First UMC has an impressive ministry and will have a special room set-up with various displays. We will, also, have a work morning for those who want to volunteer at the West Texas Food Bank on Friday. And if you arrive early and have any free time, I recommend the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum and the Ellen Noel Art Museum.

You may pick up your packets and name tags Friday, October 27, from 2-4 p.m. or Saturday from 8-9 am at the church.

Volunteering to work at the West Texas Food Bank will be for those arriving early or by Friday morning. We will meet at FUMC at 9 am to leave for the Food Bank on 411 Pagewood Ave. in Odessa. We will work until noon and then will have a Dutch-treat lunch. The Texas Food Bank is a nonprofit-non-government hunger relief organization. It covers 19 counties across 34,000 square miles. The Food Bank proudly distributes donated and purchased food to children, families and seniors through a network of more than 65 Partner Agencies.

I highly recommend the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, the nation's largest museum dedicated to the petroleum industry and its pioneers. It is an amazing journey through over 230 million years of history. It has welcomed over 1,000,000 visitors worldwide. The museum is located at 1500 Interstate 20 West, Midland, Texas. Exit 136 (North service road). Admission is Adult: \$12 Senior: \$8.

There are several museums in Odessa if you would like to learn more about this part of the Permian Basin. The Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 East University Blvd, Odessa, is highly recommended as a museum for all. Admission is free. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 am-5 pm. and Sunday 2-5 pm. An Andy Warhol exhibit is currently on display.

Directions to First United Methodist Church: If you arrive via Interstate 20, you will be on 2nd Street. Turn North on Grant. Turn West on 4th Street and you will see the church. OR: If you are traveling on Highway 385, you are on Grant Street. Travel to 4th Street and turn West. You will see the church. There will be several well marked parking lots at First UMC. Greeters will meet you at the Parking Lots.

Have a safe trip! Blessings, Patty Coulter, Conf. Vice President

45TH Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Conference of United Methodist Women
October 27-28, 2017

First United Methodist Church 415 N. Lee Avenue Odessa, Texas

REGISTRATION FORM

"All Things New"

Registration Deadline is Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Each person registering MUST use a separate form. Please make copies. Registration fee is transferable but non-refundable. Send form and money to Conference Treasurer, Peggy Arensdorf, P.O. Box 53429, Albuquerque, NM 87153.

NAME	CHURCH/DISTRICT		
ADDRESS:	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
PHONE	EMAIL		
<i>Circle age group:</i> 13-17 18-35 36-55 56-70 70+			
Registration	\$25.00	\$ _____	
District Supper	10.00	_____	circle hamburger or veggie burger
Saturday Lunch	10.00	_____	
Dinner	20.00	_____	
Total Registration/Meals	\$65.00	\$ _____	

Special Dietary Needs: _____ Special Accommodations needed: _____ Food Allergies: _____

Childcare Needed: Yes _____ No _____ Number of children: _____ Ages: _____ Provide food for them or order at the above prices.

Each person is responsible for their own housing arrangements. See hotel information in Word Sower. If volunteering at the West Texas Food Bank, meet at the church at 9 am on Friday, Oct. 27, to travel to the Food Bank on 411 Pagewood Ave.

2017 New Mexico Conference United Methodist Women Ballot

Vice-President

Linda Finch

2017-2019

**Chair of Committee
on Nominations**

Cheri Burch

2017-2019

**Members of Committee
on Nominations**

Alice Fenton

2017-2019

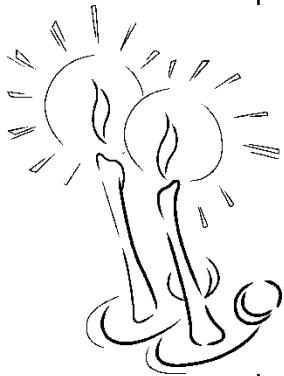
Ellen Lipsey

2017-2019

Do you like to be in control? Don't you want to see your name printed on this ballot in a position of **POWER**? Volunteer to serve on the Committee on Nominations for the New Mexico Conference United Methodist Women and all your dreams will come true!! Just "go ask Alice"—

2017 MISSION CANDLE ORDER FORM

Gifts of any amount from \$5.00 and up are accepted. The name of the person honored or memorialized and the name of the person giving the gift will be listed on the Mission Candle handout at the Conference Annual meeting.



Name of your church _____

Example: Name of Person: Jane Doe
In Honor of Memory: Memory
Name of person/unit giving the gift: First UMW Any town
Amount of the gift: \$5.00

1. Name of Person: _____
In Honor or Memory: _____
Name of person/unit giving the gift: _____
Amount of the gift: _____

2. Name of Person: _____
In Honor or Memory: _____
Name of person/unit giving the gift: _____
Amount of the gift: _____

3. Name of Person: _____
In Honor or Memory: _____
Name of person/unit giving the gift: _____
Amount of the gift: _____

4. Name of Person: _____
In Honor or Memory: _____
Name of person/unit giving the gift: _____
Amount of the gift: _____

(Please make extra copies of this form if you have more than 4 individuals to honor.)

Individuals: Give this completed form along with your gift to your **Unit Treasurer**

Unit Treasurers: Please make 3 copies and send:

One copy to the District Treasurer, with money, made payable to your district.

One copy to the Coordinator of Mission Candle (Peggy)

One copy to keep for your unit's records.

Please have all requests for memorials/honors to the coordinator (below) **no later than October 13.**

Please note: Money given in memory counts as a GIFT IN MEMORY and money given in honor counts as a GIFT TO MISSION towards your "Mission Giving Star".

Coordinator of Mission Candle:

Peggy Arensdorf
PO Box 533429
Albuquerque, NM 87153

Date Received: _____

Unit Treasurer: _____ Phone: _____

UPDATES

MISSIVE FROM
THE TREASURER

Greetings

Ladies don't forget to fill out the 2017 Mission Candle Order Form to honor or memorialize someone at the conference annual meeting. The form is enclosed in the Word Sower. For those Clovis units please send your information to me, Peggy Arensdorf PO Box 53429 Albuquerque NM 87153. United Methodist Women provide \$12,812,028.00 in mission dollars for 2017. It takes \$24.38 dollars a minute to support this effort. All monies in honor or memory will go toward the unit, district and conference mission giving for 2017. Please provide your forms to your district treasurer by 13 October 2017. If you have any questions please let me know. I can be reached at (505) 237-8933.

Peggy Arensdorf

NMCUMW Treasurer

Mission u: I want to thank the Mission u team and the women , teens and children that attended, for making 2017 a wonderful experience. Linda Finch will be 2018 Dean With Diana Fessler as Assistant Dean. They will make next years event wonderful. Please give them your support. Thank you for giving me the chance to serve in a position that I really enjoyed.

2017. Dean. Kay Martinez

The Albuquerque District had about twenty five attending Mission u in July. It was a very good school, thanks to all the hard work of everyone who has a part in Mission u.

Albuquerque District United Methodist Women have provided nine frozen dinners for the Saranam families who have moved into that program this month. Vicki Kerley hopes to be able to plan a hands on event some where and Carolyn Begay is hoping to develop a spiritual retreat.

I hope the District will be planning now to attend Assembly. I believe it will be an extra special occasion of celebrating 150 years of United Methodist Women and their predecessors. Information is to be on the website September 1.

We are also looking forward to attending Annual Meeting in Odessa. We very much appreciate the work these women are doing to prepare for our special time together.

Let us also be in prayer for our country and world. We need wisdom and courage to stand up to the evils of racism and violence that are being exhibited in so many ways. At the same time, I am very proud of the people of faith who are leading others to overcome evil through the Grace of God as they make their stands.

With Faith, Hope, and Love in Action,

Betty Jo Nye, President

Albuquerque District

United Methodist Women

nmbjnye@yahoo.com

Hi everyone. I Would like to ask for your help I need to find someone for the spiritual retreat next spring , March 9,10,11 . Since I am new and haven't gotten to know people all over the state could you help by letting me know who would make a good speaker?

Thanks for your help.

You can reach me at 402-640-4836, julieclay@abbnebraska.com, or 3505 Calle Cuervo NW, Apt 1311 Albuquerque NM 87114

THE READING PROGRAM LEADS TO ACTION

The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. Here are a few suggestions to assist you:

Pray. Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings.

Host a program. For example, a locally-sponsored program on climate justice could help the church and community explore ways to be better stewards of God's Earth.

Organize. You and your group can contact the Office of Community Action to work on social action plans for your local group and church. To obtain resources for community organizing e-mail Carol Barton at cbarton@unitedmethodistwomen.org.

Action Suggestions

- Encourage youth to read and review titles from the reading lists.
- Continue your actions on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies of The United Methodist Church
- Promoting the Reading Program in local and District groups.
- Form an action team to take action on an issue addressed in one or more books.
- Start a reading group of adults and/or children or youth.
- Present book reviews of Reading Program books at United Methodist Women meetings.
- Take Reading Program books and issues of **response** to retirement and nursing homes and read regularly to residents.
- Inform parents, grandparents and others with children and youth that books for children and youth are available through the Reading Program.
- Develop displays to encourage book sales, especially around holiday seasons.
- Let pastors, church leaders and Sunday school teachers know of the books available through the Reading Program.
- Highlight large print and other special format books to include a wider variety of readers.
- Honor those who participate in the Reading Program; present Reading Program certificates (PDF) to those who complete plans.
- Show special recognition to units or individuals who complete Plans III and IV.

Plan 1: 5 Books Per Year

One book from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth, Selections can be from all current reading lists if not included in previous reports. Regular reading of **response** and **New World Outlook** magazines.

For plans 2 through 4 add 5 books each plan and visit the website for selections in all categories.

<http://www.umwmissionresources.org/t/categories/reading-program/2017>

FIVE CHANNELS OF MISSION GIVING

Through their generosity United Methodist Women members help empower and improve the lives of women, youth and children in the United States and around the world.

About 70 percent of Mission Giving funds from members go to programs and projects supporting women, children and youth. Around 20-30 percent stays with the local, district, and conference organizations of United Methodist Women for local mission. Only 9 percent covers administrative costs.

GIFT TO MISSION

Make a gift in honor of someone and send a card to the honoree. The following cards are available: Congratulations, Thank You, A Baby, In the Service of Christ, A Special Day, Thinking of You, Happy Birthday and assorted Christmas cards.

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION PINS AND CERTIFICATES

These pins offer a meaningful way to honor members who have dedicated so much time and effort to service. Gift amounts range from \$40 to \$2,000. Pins are purchased through a treasurer.

GIFT IN MEMORY

Give a gift in memory of a member, a friend or anyone, in any amount of \$5 or more. Gift in Memory cards, available free, may be sent to the family of the deceased.

PLEDGE TO MISSION

An individual member's Pledge to Mission is the amount a woman gives to her local unit to help fulfill the Purpose of United Methodist Women.

The conference United Methodist Women pledges a specific amount to United Methodist Women's national office for mission with women, children and youth and retains a designated percent to be used for district and conference administration and membership development expenses.

WORLD THANK OFFERING

Spontaneous additional gifts can be given out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life.

The World Thank Offering is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through United Methodist Women's national office in the United States and around the world.

COMMUNICATIONS

I encourage you all to explore the [unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org) site and sign up for the national e-newsletter.

The link below has event planning tools and helpful literature to utilize when hosting invitation events. Tools to help build membership downloadable from the UMW site.

<http://www.umwmissionresources.org/sp/downloads>

In efforts to be green anyone still receiving a paper copy of the Word Sower that would like to go to the email version send an email requesting the switch to tanya_72@comcast.net. Also please share your events and mission projects with me so you may inspire fellow women to keep the legacy alive and growing. Any information about local opportunities for advocacy or events can be sent out to our email list or share via our Facebook page. Like us if you haven't already. [Www.facebook.com/New-Mexico-Conference-United-Methodist-Women](http://www.facebook.com/New-Mexico-Conference-United-Methodist-Women)

Photo by Mike DuBoise, UMNS

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND:

Assembly 2018 will be a forum for all women. Assembly will offer an incredible personal faith journey through community building, training for action and visioning a movement for the future. Worship/Plenaries infused with music and performing arts, quality workshops and riveting Town Hall meetings with important leaders, action opportunities and Experience Hall with educational immersion experiences await you.

When women unite, bold and courageous actions happen!

PRICE:

The early registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$295 with a Nov. 30, 2017, deadline. After that date, the regular registration fee is \$330. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

Assembly is a great value at \$295 for early registration. Few other faith-based conferences offer such high-quality programming for such a low fee.

HOW CAN I SAVE FOR ASSEMBLY?

Start now! Add up the amounts below for your location and divide by 12 for a monthly savings amount. Now it doesn't seem so daunting. The unforgettable experience of Assembly will feel very worth it.

- \$295 for early registration fee — Starting Sept. 1 through Nov. 30, 2017 deadline
- Hotels range from \$139 to \$159 per night for up to four people (Double/Double room)
- Travel expenses
- Breakfast and Dinner expenses only for Friday and Saturday; Breakfast only for Sunday



www.UMWAssembly.org



NMC-UMW Communications
9301 Volcano RD NW #164
Albuquerque, NM 87121



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

