



United
Methodist
Women



Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:6-7 (NRSV)

History reports a story from the records of Mormon pioneers that has come to be known as the Miracle of the Seagulls. In 1848 their crops were in danger of being destroyed by hordes of insects. The future of the settlers depended on the crops, and the people were threatened with starvation and ruin. As the people prayed earnestly for a miracle, the sky was darkened by flocks of seagulls appearing as from nowhere. The seagulls ate the insects, saving the crops and the people. I love this story! True or not, it exemplifies the promises found in Scripture of the provision of God. No one explanation can be given as to why sometimes seagulls come and sometimes, they don't. No one explanation can be given as to why these challenges come to some and not to others. What we know is that in this uncertain time, faith and trust are our strength. Let us pray for seagulls from the heavens and manna in our wilderness. May the peace of God that is greater than our understanding truly guard our hearts and minds.
Diana Revelle, Editor

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.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

UMW President's Article

As we learn new ways to stay in touch with each other, to hold each other close in our hearts if not in our arms, and to care for each other from a distance, I hope we will keep in our hearts and minds that UMW as an organization is here for all of us. For anyone who is not a Facebook friend of mine, please send me an invitation if you would like to be one. I forward articles regularly from UMW organizations, especially Mid-State District and Missouri Conference ones.

I have encouraged circle chairs and other members of the Executive Committee to call their circle members and to keep in touch by email, phone, or text. Whatever works for the individuals involved. We can do this. UMW is strong and caring and we will look to each other in these times of uncertainty.

June DeWeese, President UMW
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DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 1 - Executive Committee, 8:45 – ZOOM Meeting
- April 22----- All UMW Wardrobe - Cancelled
- April 25 ----- Midstate District Meeting Cancelled
- May 6-----Executive Committee TBD
- May Geranium Sales----- TBD
- June 3-----Executive Committee TBD
- June 3-----UMW Unit Meeting TBD
- June 19----- Newsletter Article Deadline

CIRCLE NEWS

Breakfast Circle

The sale of Geraniums usually scheduled for May is under discussion. An announcement will be made closer to time.

Esther Circle

Our need right now is cutting terry cloth. We will provide the materials if you can provide the scissors and time. We decided instead of doing a workday, we would make up kits for people to take home and cut. If you are interested, in helping, please contact Barb Sanders, Lauri Murphy or Ester Mendoza. We will make arrangements to get the kits to you. Our contact information can be found in the church directory and the UMW Yearbook. Thanks.

Barb Sanders

Searcy-Feely

Searcy-Feely Circle was able to meet in January and February. Our meeting space has been changed to room 107 in the CLC for better program availability. In January, the program was given by Dr. A. Kate Trusler, Anthropologist and professor at Missouri University. Her program was entitled *Where's the Loo? An Examination of Sanitation in the Roman World*. This extremely interesting program shared little known information about the development of sanitation systems in and following the Roman Empire.



In February, Mary Ann Shaw led discussion on the book, *Slowing Time: Seeing the Sacred Outside Your Kitchen Door* by Barbara Mahany. Circle members read the book in advance and came prepared for a wonderful discussion.

The meeting in March was cancelled as is the upcoming meeting in April.

Sophia Circle

Sophia Circle's Ladies' Tea

Sophia Circle hosted a delightful Ladies' Tea on Saturday, February 29th. The event was opened to all ladies of any age. Approximately 100 women, youth, and children enjoyed a delightful afternoon.

Participants were served finger sandwiches, scones, pastries, and fruit with – of course – a lovely assortment of hot tea choices. David Lawson provided enjoyable mood music throughout the afternoon.

Proceeds were donated to help fund the spring mission trip planned by the college age youth – The Neighborhood. The amount raised totaled \$1,706.00.



Each participant was given a tea bag to take home with encouragement to share a cup of tea the following Saturday to remember the fellowship of the day.

Members of Sophia Circle



NOTE:

The mission trip to Puerto Rico to which the proceeds from the Tea were donated has been cancelled. An article appeared in the March issue of the *Messenger* stating that all donations that had been made to the trip will be held and applied to a trip that will be planned for 2021. The post-trip event that was to be held on April 28 has been cancelled as well.

UMW Book Club

The next meeting of the UMW Book Club is currently scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th at 10:00 in the Fireside Room at the Lenoir Community Center. The discussion for May will be the UMW Reading Program. Each participant at the meeting will give a short description of the book chosen.

Given the uncertainty of the ability to gather, **PLEASE WATCH FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE MAY MEETING.**

UNIT NEWS**Wardrobe**

The Wardrobe is currently closed. The April 22nd date has been cancelled and there has been no determination when the facility will be able to reopen.

Church Women United

MUMC UMW hosted the January meeting of CWU on Sunday, January 12th. Refreshments were served and unit members acted as hostesses. During the meeting, the theme of the year was shared, and officers were installed.



The 2020 Theme is “Learning and Leading...Using the Principles of God’s Word.” Priorities for the year are as follows:

- Priority 1: Human Rights
- Priority 2: Hunger and Poverty
- Priority 3: Health and Wellness
- Priority 4: Diversity and Inclusiveness

Meetings which were scheduled for this quarter of the 2020 calendar are as follows:

- Friday, April 3 CANCELLED
- Friday May 1, 5:30 p.m. – May Friendship Day
WHETHER OR NOT A MEETING WILL OCCUR
ON THIS DATE IS YET TO BE DETERMINED

For updated information, you can contact our unit CWU representative: Rene’ Rau – rau1004@yahoo.com

DISTRICT NEWS**District Meeting**

Due to the sheltering order announced by our Mayor and the limited gathering guidelines announced by the Governor, the spring Mid-State District UMW meeting that was scheduled for April 25th has been cancelled. Certificates that were to be awarded and information that was to be shared will be sent to unit presidents.

CONFERENCE NEWS**Missouri Conference UMW Legislative Event**

The Legislative Event is planned and presented every other year by the Mission Team of the Conference UMW. The purpose of the gathering is to become more acquainted with current social issues and needs.

This year’s Legislative Training event was held on March 10th and 11th in Jefferson City. Julia Goodell, Melissa Clarke, and Joy Block attended. Experts discussed our mandate as Christians to be good stewards of God’s grace through social justice action. Opportunities to promote social justice as an individual, through the leadership of our UMW groups and by legislative efforts were topics of the workshops. For more inform about UMW’s social justice priorities go to <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/action>.



Melissa Clarke and Julia Goodell at the Legislative Event. Joy Block is not pictured.

Festival of Sharing

The numbers for the 2019 Festival of Sharing are in. In 2019, \$530,694.77 in cash and contributions was donated to Festival of Sharing state-wide. MUMC will be collecting donations for various kits this year. The kit chosen for collection is announced in the bulletin and in the *Messenger*. To contribute, checks can be written to MUMC with the notation of “Festival of Sharing” and the name of the kit for which money is being donated. Sophia Circle coordinates the donations for MUMC

2019 UMW Conference Financial Report

In 2019, Missouri Conference UMW pledged \$175,902.50 to Missions and \$39,750.00 for Other Mission Giving for a grand total of \$215,652.50. Those pledge amounts were met and surpassed. Below is the 2019 Conference UMW giving report. See report below:

(2019 UMW Conference Financial Report)

Category	Amount
Pledge to Missions	\$181,812.51
Special Mission Recognition	8,593.35
Gift to Mission	3,844.73
Gift in Memory	6,329.17
World Thank Offering	21,130.94
Call to Prayer & Self Denial	12,736.45
Supplementary Gifts	5,815.00
Total Mission Giving for 2019	\$240,262.15

GENERAL NEWS

Where the Money Goes?

In the 1st quarter newsletter from 2019, we looked at the path that money follows when given to mission. In each subsequent newsletter in 2019, we highlighted an organization in Missouri that benefits from our giving. In the 4th quarter newsletter from 2019, we highlighted what it meant to make a pledge to mission which is the first and largest of the five channels of giving. You can see from the chart above how individual contributions in each category combined with the contributions of others across the conference become a significant offering.

Each quarter this year in this section, we will be focusing on one of the remaining of the five channels of financial giving.

Special Mission Recognition

Another of the five channels of giving is the Special Mission Recognition. Each year, members are invited to nominate recipients for a Special Mission Recognition pin. Money for the purchase of these pins is set aside as part of the UMW unit budget. This money is not taken from the Pledge to Mission.

Nominations usually come from the list of members of UMW, but often included are men from the church or women who may not be UMW members who are supportive of the work of UMW and have contributed time and energy to the mission of the organization.

Names of the recipients and the year(s) recognized are listed in the back of our UMW yearbook. Recipients in 2019 were Pat Martin, Suzanne McDavid, Mary Quart, and Marsha Sergent.

THE UMW CONNECTION

District UMW Newsletter

Shirley Link: dilink@ktis.net; 573-295-4640

Conference UMW Newsletter: *The Mission Voice*

The Mission Voice is a bi-monthly publication of the MO Conference UMW. The paper subscription rate is \$5 for the year. To update your address or to subscribe, contact Kelly G. Loeb, editor at: kellygloeb@gmail.com
Visit online at: www.moumethodist.org/

Missouri Conference United Methodist Women

www.moumethodist.org/umw

Link to UMW page on the Missouri Conference

<https://www.moumethodist.org/unitedmethodistwomen>

South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women

www.umw.scj.org

United Methodist Women – National Site

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

UMW Reading Program

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram

SOCIAL ACTION

Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice

www.moumethodist.org/unitedmethodistwomen

UMW Action Alert websites

<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/network/>

<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/alerts/> Sergent.