

# MUMC UMW

## 1st Quarter Newsletter



United  
Women  
in Faith



### Letter from the President June DeWeese



#### Editor's Note:

In the June newsletter there will be much more information and focus on the most recent name change of our beloved **United Methodist Women** organization, which has had more than **25** name changes in their many years of mission. There are currently many excellent sources of information and inspiration surrounding this historic change, including in the current issue of **response** magazine and the **UMW National E-News**.

#### National UMW e-News and Newsletter:

[https://  
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/)

#### response Magazine

[https://  
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/  
response](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response)

#### Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

(English Standard Version)



Greetings UMW members,

There are many changes in the world at this moment. Our prayers, our gifts, our service, and our witness are all needed more than ever before as we move forward through each day.

I am thinking as I write this message that this will probably be the last time that I write "United Methodist Women." Our organization has recently changed its name to **United Women in Faith**. In my opinion, the title change doesn't change who we are or what our purpose continues to be: **"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."**

Forty persons attended our March Unit meeting. **Rev. Kim Jenne** spoke about the upcoming changes in the United Methodist Church. It is important that we continue to learn, to think, to ask important questions, and to prepare for change.

While preparing for change and experiencing change, we must also continue doing the work we are called to do. **UMW** circles are meeting, projects are being planned, and fundraising plans for 2022 are being made. **Festival of Sharing** work is continuing. We are working at the **Wardrobe** and other places that need us. We are welcoming new sisters into our circles and sharing fellowship and work each month.

I will continue to pray for the people of **Ukraine** each day. I will watch the news in various media and pray that there will not be another world war. And, I will pray for each of you as we start and end each day. May we continue to live and work together in peace and love.

**June DeWeese**, President of MUMC UMW

## Searcy-Feely Circle

The **January** meeting for **Searcy-Feely Circle** was held via Zoom. With a vacancy in the position of circle chair, **Caryl Bryan** volunteered to fill that position until our summer break.

In **February** we held an in-person meeting at the church. The program was given by **Dr. Mary Hendrickson** from the **Division of Applied Social Sciences, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, University of Missouri-Columbia**. Her topic was *Food for Thought? - Thoughts on Food; Five Things to Know About Food*. Through a fascinating look at how we have access to food, Dr. Hendrickson explored the path of food from field to table addressing pertinent questions such as:

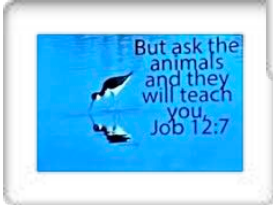
*Where is food produced; Who produces the food; and How will food be produced?*

**Dr. Mary Hendrickson**

UMC College of Agriculture,  
Division of Applied Social Sciences



**Sharon Curry** presents the March program.



The meeting in **March** was done as a hybrid gathering with members gathering in-person and linking virtually via Zoom. **Sharon Curry** presented the program, **“Wintering in the Valley of the Sun,”** Sharon shared wonderful pictures and information about their time spending winters in Mesa, Arizona. Pictures of cacti, flowers, mountains, and wildlife were interspersed with scripture as Sharon highlighted the beauty of God’s world.

During the business meeting, the circle decided to explore the sale of pecans again with the hopes of selling this fall.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. The program will be given by **Jim Bryan** sharing the history and stories of the sanctuary windows.

Submitted by **Diana Revelle**



## January, February, March 2022 Breakfast Circle

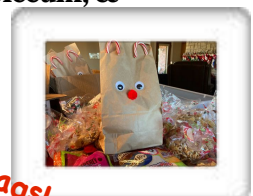
Although the **Breakfast Circle** has not been able to meet monthly since Covid started, we felt the need to help others especially at Christmas time. So we searched for a project which included talking to representatives of the **Coyote Hills** group. When asked what would help their children ages 3 to 18 years old, they suggested preparing “Christmas Goodie Bags” for **50** children. Since this could be done by our creative members without undo exposure to Covid, we agreed.

The pictures with this article show some of the members meeting to fill these bags. Members volunteered to make Rice Krispie Treats, popcorn balls, and scrabble. Others donated candy canes, nectarines and large amounts of candy. One member even made small beautiful ornaments. Several members took time to decorate the sacks to look like a reindeer. Believe me, **50 bags** are a lot to decorate. In mid **December** we met and filled the bags (see picture) Thanks, June, for attending and helping to fill the bags. We hope the Coyote Children enjoyed the bags half as much as we did the feeling of **“GIVING”** in a world full of challenges. We hope we can continue to emphasize “giving and concern for others” in our small way.

Submitted by **Phyllis Miller**, Circle Chair



L to r: **Patty Snellen, Carol Evans, Carol Allsman, June DeWeese, Jane Biccum, & Dorothy Dittmer.**



*Festive Reindeer bags!*

## Wesley Circle

### January

For our January meeting a group from **Wesley Circle** met at the **Food Bank** after a lunch at Cheddar's Restaurant.

\*The **Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri** is a regional disaster and hunger relief network that acquires and distributes millions of pounds of food annually to partner agencies across a 32-county area.

*As a member of Feeding America, The Food Bank is able to work with manufacturers, wholesalers, processors, growers, retailers and restaurants to secure donations and food at reduced costs.*

*The Food Bank partners with more than 145 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other agencies to ensure food gets into the hands of those who need it most. The Food Bank also works with more than 180 schools to help students receive nutritious food. **We provide food at no charge to our partners, which means hunger-relief organizations across our service area can afford to operate.** \*taken from the Food Bank website*  
**Mary Ouart**, Program Facilitator



From l - r: **Elisa Sims, Suzanne McDavid, Linda Keown, Nancy Franklin & Cathy Holle**



From l - r: **Suzanne McDavid, Carole Adams and Donna Buchert**

### February

**Wesley Circle** met February 10 with 18 attendees, including 2 new members. We

welcome **Michelle Green** and **Joan Sullivan** to our group. Our program was



presented by **Rev. Amy Bowers**,

who spoke of her new role as the **Older Adult Ministry director for MUMC**. This program primarily focuses on serving those who are unable to attend and actively participate so that they can continue to feel connected to the church, but includes much more. It was an enlightening program which allowed us to see and embrace the positive aspects of aging, while becoming more familiar with an important ministry of **MUMC**.

Submitted by: **Pam Thomeczek**, Program Facilitator

**Wesley Circle** meeting in the **MUMC Parlor** with **Amy Bowers**, Older Adult Ministry director for **MUMC**.



The **March** meeting was canceled due to last minute weather conditions.



## Esther Circle

**January** and **February** have found us very busy. We completed **23 adult bibs** for the **VA Hospital** and several quilts for **Epworth** and local children in need. We worked on the ongoing **Patricia Project** and boxed up supplies and the project to take to Brunswick for completion. We are very fortunate to team with **The Wardrobe** to receive supplies they can't use with their patrons for use with our projects.

**March** sees us finishing up the **Bell Choir bags** and serging tablecloths for use here at MUMC with fabric donated to us. We are also starting on the **21 Confirmant stoles** and **stoles for our clergy**.

We have been commissioned for a new project, completing the **UMW bulletin board**. It has been a bit of a slow start but have been brainstorming some new ideas. If any of our Circles would like to be highlighted on the board, please submit to **Ester Mendoza** or **Barb Sanders** any upcoming events to observe OR pictures and comments from any past events.

Submitted by: **Alicia Henderson**, Circle Chair



gg59881445 GoGraph.com

*We welcome heavier upholstery fabric that can be made into school bags, as well as clean but used terry cloth (older towels), cotton sheets and miscellaneous fabric. Universal sewing machine needles are always welcomed and spring-loaded scissors (easier on the hands.)*

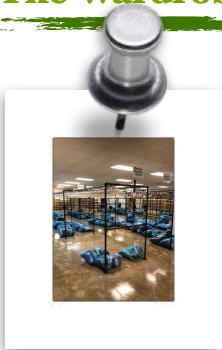


**l-r: Barb Sanders (and at right), Lauri Murphy, & Esther Mendoza**



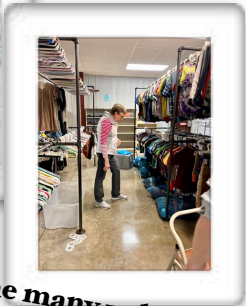
**Beautiful new quilts ready to be donated!**

## The Wardrobe



Thank you to all of you that helped with hanging Spring/Summer clothing at The Wardrobe. **We had a huge volunteer turnout and finished in record time!**

Thanks!  
**Evette Nissen**, Wardrobe Coordinator



**Bare racks ready to be filled with clothing for the a new season!**

**Cecile Bentley, one of the many volunteers, and Evette Nissen**

## Gibson Circle

In the fall of 2018, **Gibson Circle** started sponsoring a student from Nicaragua through the **Rainbow Network**. Our student's name was **Katherine Massiel Jarquin Rostran**. Our monetary sponsorship made it possible for her to go to high school. We were able to correspond back and forth with her through Rainbow Network who translated our letters. In December 2021, Katherine graduated from high school. Here are pictures of her and her parents:



Submitted by:  
**Evette Nissen**, Circle Chair

## Bratton - Cunningham Circle

**Bratton-Cunningham (Lenoir) Circle** meets on the third Wednesday mornings at Lenoir Woods. In **January**, **Rev. Sally Robinson** was our Program Presenter and she talked about Church Women United here in Columbia. Sally is President of **CWU** an **Interracial group of Church Women United**.

For our **February** Program **Rev. Peggy Jeffries** talked about the history of the United Methodist Church and changes that may be taking place within the next few years. We had good interest from the 11 members present with a good discussion to follow.

For **March** one of our members, **Ann Johnstone**, shared how she had worked with two other women to start a program in Odessa where she was living at the time for unwed teenaged high school mothers entitled "**Baby Grace**". This program has grown and now includes many young mothers and their babies. We figured we could not do much physically, but could help purchase diapers, formula, and other essentials.

Submitted by:  
**Carolyn Steinhouse**, Circle Chair

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Pastor Troy** blesses the newly completed prayer shawls while draped with a shawl containing the colors of the Ukrainian flag. That shawl, like all of the shawls, are created to comfort people in times of bereavement or serious illness.



Submitted by:  
**Cecile Bentley**

From l - r: **Pastor Troy, Linda Robb, Betty Dillard, Dorothy Dittmer and Janet Tegerdine**



# UMW March Unit Meeting

January, February, March 2022

New and returning members of the **UMW Executive Committee** met on **March 2** in the Coffee Shop area before the Unit Meeting. Available meeting rooms were limited due to the **True/False Festival** organizers, but it helped create a very positive energy that reminds us that the pandemic is becoming more manageable for our church, our community and our **UMW** circles!



Photo taken by **Diana Mooney**

The program for the unit meeting of **United Methodist Women** that was held on **Wednesday March 2** was presented by **Reverend Kim Jenne** who is the **Director of Connectional Ministry for the Missouri Conference, United Methodist Church**.

Reverend Jenne centered her program on the current discussion of challenges within the United Methodist denomination around the topics of human sexuality identification as it relates to the leadership of the church. She explained that such decisions can only be made at the denomination's quadrennial meeting which is General Conference. General Conference has now been postponed twice: first due to the pandemic and then again from difficulties with travel and attendance following restrictions brought on by the pandemic. Unfortunately, she explained, such postponement has created added difficulties, fears, and disappointments, some of which have encouraged churches to desire to withdraw from the denomination. Reverend Jenne led the participants through the details that were known and the possible ramifications, encouraging us all to lead with love, patience, and acceptance as the denomination walks through this difficult struggle.

Submitted by **Diana Revelle**



Greetings from our District Superintendent

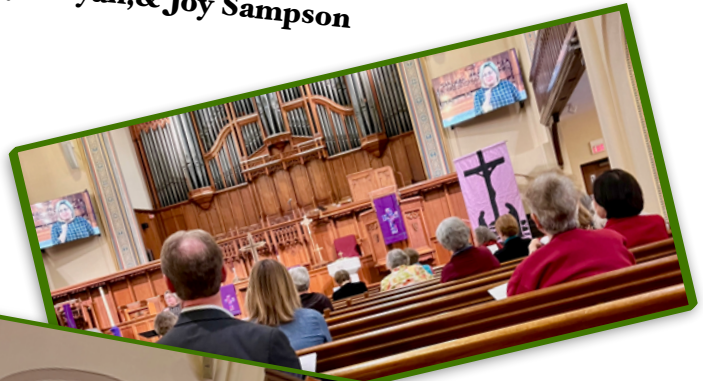
**Rev. Mi-Hyeon Lee**



**June DeWeese, Caryl Bryan, & Joy Sampson**



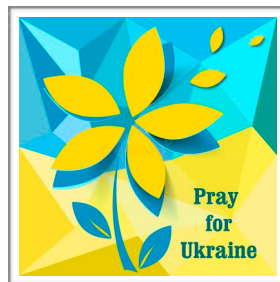
**Rev. Kim Jenne**



All of us have eyes and ears and hearts open to the war being waged by Russia in Ukraine. **United Women in Faith** has taken action! The organization formerly known as **United Methodist Women** has given an emergency grant to a women's center in Ukraine. The center, which wishes to remain anonymous, plans to use the grant to help provide food, water, medicine and other necessities to people, especially women and children, who are currently living in bomb shelters. Isn't it awesome to know how far-reaching the funds and the work of our organization are?

Related to the war, and all wars everywhere, is **Resolution #1325** which came out of the United Nations Security Council in October of 2000 where it had been unanimously approved. **UWF** considered this resolution in deciding on the grant. Known by the title "**Women, Peace, and Security**", this resolution can be summarized: Recognizing that there is a disproportionate and unique impact of war on women and girls, a gender perspective is to be made when considering needs during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration, and reconstruction.

With so many problems in the world, **UWF/UMW** is often there to put faith into action.



Submitted by **Caryl Bryan**,  
**Social Action Coordinator**



## MUMC Book Club

**MUMC Book Club** met on **Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 via Zoom. We discussed the book, *Coffee, Tea and Holy Water* by Amanda Hudson. **Caryl Bryan** led the discussion that focused on the author's journey to five countries - Brazil, Wales, Tanzania, China, and Honduras – experiencing the practice of Christianity in each country. This book fulfilled the UMW unit's completion of participation in the **Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice for 2022**.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 via Zoom. In **May**, the book club celebrates the United Methodist Women's Reading Program. Each participant chooses a book from the suggested reading list and gives a short summary of the chosen book.

All are invited to attend. If you are interested, please contact **Diana Revelle** for a Zoom link and/or more information: [revellediana@gmail.com](mailto:revellediana@gmail.com); 573-489-2228.

### 2022 Dates to Remember:

April 23	Spring District UMW Meeting	Trinity UMC, Moberly
June 1	Executive Committee Meeting, 8:45 am	CLC 107/109
June 1	MUMW Unit Meeting, 10:30 am	CLC 107/109
June 24	2nd Quarter Newsletter Deadline	