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If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.
James 1:5;19-20 (NRSV)

We are constantly bombarded with information from all sides. We receive input from those who seem to know – or at least would attempt to convince us that they know. I recently came across two quotes that speak to the foundation of confusion. The first is a Jewish Proverb which says: *No one is as deaf as the man who will not listen.* The second has seen several rebirths but began in an article written by Roy Durstine who reported hearing: *My mind is made up. Don't confuse me with facts.* Human nature causes us to listen and make decisions with agendas in mind. Our own experiences, thoughts, beliefs, and practices sometimes can guide us to conclusions which are not necessarily correct. The book of James reminds us to turn to God for wisdom; and in that wisdom, be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. May we strive to create a world that works toward that end.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note that due to the changes created by the current health situation, some of these dates are different from those found in the yearbook and others may be amended as the summer progresses and the fall begins.

- WARDROBE DATES** -----SEE NEWS ARTICLE
- August 5, 2020 ----- UMW Executive Committee, 8:45 a.m.
 - September 2, 2020 -----Executive Meeting, 8:45 a.m.
 - September 2, 2020 -----Fall Unit Meeting 10:30 a.m., MPR
 - September 19, 2020 -----Fall District UMW Meeting
 - September 25, 2020 -----3rd Quarter Newsletter Article Deadline
 - September 25-26, 2020 ----- UMW Annual Meeting, Joplin
 - October 7, 2020 ----- Executive Meeting 8:45 a.m.

FROM THE PERSIDENT

As we sit in our homes in isolation, thinking and praying about everything that is happening in our world today, may we continue to rejoice in the strength that comes from being United Methodist Women.

I went to the national UMW website a moment ago and the first thing I saw was what I wanted and hoped to see. In the boldest of letters, the boldest of statements.

Black Lives Matter to God and Black Lives Matter to United Methodist Women.

As I read further in the press release, here is a paragraph that I want to share in its entirety. "United Methodist Women condemns the culture of White supremacy and the racism it nurtures. We decry the criminalization of Blackness as it shows up in these most extreme, fatal cases *and* as it appears in the everyday harassment that disrupts everyday life—from coffee shop meetings to street corner catchups to, most recently, even solo birdwatching. Such racial harassment exhausts the mind, body and spirit of many in the family of God."

There is really nothing more than I can say, other than that we must work together to live and act upon the words in the paragraph above. Every day and in every way we possibly can, we must do all that we can to stand for peace and justice. And,

we must say that Black Lives Matter and we must act upon those words every day.

Stay safe. Stay committed.

Love to all of you, June

June DeWeese, President MUMC UMW

CIRCLE NEWS

Gibson Circle

Liz Bailey

The Patsy Watts Memorial Fund

Upon the passing of Patsy Watts, December 4, 2018 while in Arkansas, her husband Gary and family asked that memorial donations be sent to Gibson Circle, UMW. Patsy was a long time and faithful member of Gibson Circle UMW and Missouri United Methodist Church. She was honored in 2007 with the UMW Special Mission Recognition.

The memorial fund grew to \$1,800 and Gibson Circle members recently voted to use her gift to support 3 local agencies serving children. Patsy served as Director of the School for Exceptional Children in Helena, Arkansas for many years and loved helping children. In May 2020, checks of \$600 each were sent in Patsy’s Memory to: **Coyote Hill Children’s Home; The Wardrobe**, for the Shoe Project; and **The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri** for the Buddy Pack Program. We hope with the gifts in Patsy’s name, these three agencies can make a difference in the lives of local children.

Searcy-Feely

Marsha Sergent

Searcy-Feely was able to meet in May thanks to Zoom and Diana Revelle. We had a productive meeting and enjoyed being together, albeit in an unusual fashion. We made the decision not to try and sell pecans during these uncertain times and felt we might each figure out what we usually spend to support our mission projects of geraniums and pecans and send that money to Carole Babel, UMW treasurer, as our regular support. We do not know if mums will be sold in the fall; but if not, we plan to support one way or the other.

Searcy-Feely does not usually meet in the summer, but this year, we will have a Circle chat at the same day and time as Circle so that our members can stay connected and support one another. We will hold these chats via Zoom.

We have our 2021 Meeting facilitators all lined up and will plan to hold all meetings at church, if possible. No field trips for us in 2021, but we are prepared for inclement weather or pandemic developments and will be able to have Circle and be together no matter what. This gives us all comfort and strength during these uncertain times. It has been gratifying and thrilling to watch our Circle members meet the challenges of these days.

Val’s Circle

Due to a scheduling conflict with the supplier, Val’s Circle will not be selling Mums this fall.

Wesley Circle

Suzanne McDavid

Due to social distancing Sondra Flaker and her family assembled 40 Easter Story egg cartons for Wesley Circle’s April project. These will be given to MUMC youth when church services begin.

Also, Wesley has been having circle meetings via Zoom and had a two-week Bible study via Zoom



UMW Book Club

UMW Bok Club will meet on Wednesday July 8 at 10:00 via Zoom. The book to be discussed is The End of Your Life Book Club by Will Schwalbe. Barbara Robinson will be the facilitator. If you are interested in attending and have not yet participated in the group, contact Diana Revelle for a Zoom meeting invitation: revellediana@gmail.com

**UNIT NEWS
ZOOM - ZOOM – ZOOM**

June Unit Meeting

Thanks to the marvels of technology, the June unit meeting of United Methodist Women was able to take place. The program entitled, “Nadir as Zenith, Poetry for a People in Exile” was presented by Reverend Kim Jenne, Conference Director of Connectional Ministries. Reverend Jenne discussed the importance of poetry and art during the time of exile for the Israelite people and how that same outlet can help us in this strange time of isolation.



The Executive Committee met prior to the meeting. Several members joined by phone with no picture including Reverend Fred Leist.

President June DeWeese shared that our unit received three certificates of recognition at the spring UMW District Meeting:

- Recognition as a Five Star Unit
- Recognition as a continued holder of the Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice
- Recognition in the *LOVE* category for achievement in Mission Today Goals



UMW members joined the Zoom meeting. Only 25 pictures were visible at a time on the Zoom screen, but others participated.



Reverend Kim Jenne presents the program via Zoom.



ZOOM MEETINGS AND STUDIES

Wesley Circle and Searcy-Feely Circle have been utilizing the Zoom format for meetings which has allowed for socialization during this time of isolation. In addition, UMW members have been engaging in Bible Study via Zoom. Groups have engaged in four studies since April. The next study will begin on July 6, using the book, *Three Simple Rules* by Bishop Reuben Job. If you are interested in becoming part of these study sessions, contact Diana: revellediana@gmail.com



UMW Members studied the Gospel of Matthew in June

UMW INFORMATION BOARD

The UMW Information Board is located by the elevator near the entrance to Whittler Hall. This board is for the use of any UMW projects or topics needing a display area or place to advertise the projects of any UMW Circle. The board has been maintained when church was open. For more information or for space availability, contact Marsha Sergent: marshasergent8@gmail.com

THE WARDROBE

Evette Nissen

The Wardrobe will re-open on July 1st, but with limited hours. We will be open for shopping and donations on Wednesdays from 11-2 and Saturdays from 9-12.

On Mondays we will take donations and hang from 9-12. We have added Thursdays as an additional day for volunteers to come in and hang from 9-12.

We will not be having referral days on Tuesdays until we see how well the general public follows the procedures we are requesting. We are taking the following precautions:

Everyone must wear a mask while in the building. This includes volunteers and customers. Customers will not be allowed in the door without a mask.

We will be limiting the number of shoppers in the building to 20 at any one time. Dressing rooms will be closed. Customers will not be allowed to try clothes on.

Tubs will be sanitized after each use. Door handles and countertops will be sanitized often.

Six feet social distancing will be in place. We will have marks on the floors at the checkout desk and on the ramp coming in the building to reinforce this.

For the groups that normally work on Thursday or Friday, if you are interested in helping a group on Wednesdays that doesn't have enough workers, please contact Letitia DenHartog to be placed on a substitute list: teenlibrz@gmail.com. You can also volunteer to help hang on either Monday or Thursday from 9-12.

Wednesday, July 22 is the next date MUMC UMW is responsible for staffing The Wardrobe. We do not have a circle scheduled to work that day, so I need to have 5 volunteers contact me if they are available to work from 11-2.

If anyone has any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at 573-864-9232 or enissen57@gmail.com. Thank you for continuing to volunteer at The Wardrobe, and for any help you can give at this time.

MAKING MASKS

Members of the Esther Circle have been busy making and donating masks to groups, organizations, friends, family, church and medical facilities in Columbia. Many have also been sent to people in need out of state. Barb Sanders has completed over 200 masks and is still sewing. Ester Mendoza has made dozens of masks to distribute and has also participated in the program at University hospital to supply mask kits for other volunteers. Many thanks to all who are supplying such a great need.



Barb Sanders makes and displays masks.



STANDING RULES

The Standing Rules for MUMC UMW are under review as per the timeline laid out in the current Standing Rules. An updated set of Standing Rules will be printed in the 2021 UMW Yearbook.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Gift in Memory

Gift in Memory is another of the five channels of mission giving through United Methodist Women. The MUMC UMW unit gives a gift of \$25.00 in memory of a member who has died. Anyone can honor the memory of someone special by giving a Gift in Memory. Your financial gift should be sent to the unit treasurer who will send the donation and the name of the remembered recipient to the District. Cards are available to accompany the gift.

DISTRICT NEWS

District UMW is facing difficult scheduling decisions as are local churches and organizations. Current plans for the District meeting scheduled for September 19 and UMW Annual Meeting scheduled for September 25-26 are being discussed. For now, those dates are in place as decisions about place and format are being evaluated. June DeWeese and Diana Revelle will share information as it becomes available.

The District UMW is in the process of finding officers for next year. If you would be willing to share your gifts of leadership, please contact Diana Revelle – member of the nominating committee: revellediana@gmail.com

Offices needed are as follows:

- Vice President
- Secretary of Program Resources
- Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach
- Communications – publication of a quarterly newsletter
- Chair of the Committee on Nominations
- Members of the Committee on Nominations

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.gbmg-umc.org/umw/act/network/>

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