



Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.
Hebrews 12:1 (NLT)

This year, we have been focusing on our heritage celebrating 150 years of the work of women in the denomination called Methodist and 138 years at MUMC. We cannot celebrate ourselves without first recognizing the shoulders on which we stand. The courageous and dedicated women who came before us inspire and encourage. May we strive to honor their legacy as we strive to create a continued legacy that will inspire those who follow us.
 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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2 - 8:45 a.m. _____ Executive Committee
 October 13 _____ UMW Sunday and Candle Burning
 October 25 _____ Yearbook Information Deadline
 November 6 – 8:45 a.m. _____ Executive Committee
 November 27 _____ All UMW Wardrobe
 November 28 _____ Thanksgiving
 December 4– 8:45 a.m. _____ Executive Committee
 December 4 – 10:30 a.m. _____ Unit Meeting
 December 20 _____ Newsletter Article Deadline
 December 25 _____ Christmas
 January 2020 _____ NO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

CIRCLE NEWS

Breakfast Group

At our July meeting twelve members of the Breakfast Circle assembled seven food boxes which were delivered to the Conference Center. Two new members, Patty Snellen and Jane Biccum, were welcomed by circle members. Carol Evans headed up this project along with the help of her grandson, Zane Santoro from Chicago and Carol’s husband, Joe.



Esther Circle

Esther Circle works year-round on school bags for World Service as well as women’s reusable sanitary pads (Patricia Project). We also try to make and donate a quilt to the Festival of Sharing every year. Ester sometimes finds a new banner to make and we make stoles for confirmands in the spring. We definitely keep busy!



Gibson Circle

Gibson Circle worked at the Festival of Sharing office making fleece throws. Two pieces of fleece were laid together then strips were cut down the sides which were tied together for binding. The circle completed two throws which will be given out at Festival of Sharing sites.



Searcy-Feely

Searcy-Feely does not meet in June, July, or August; however, during the summer, the circle participated in two service opportunities. On July 13th, the circle provided the meal for Loaves and Fishes. On August 21st, circle members continued a project begun by the Sophia Circle and polished brass in the Chapel. At their first fall meeting on September 19th, circle members engaged in service for the Festival of Sharing folding over 4,000 rice recipes to be distributed during Share Fests along with bags of rice. The next meeting on October 16th will be a field trip to the Museum of Art and Archaeology.



Val’s Circle

Val’s Circle completed another successful mum sale in September netting \$700.00

Prayer Shawl Ministry

On Sunday September 15th prayer shawls were displayed and dedicated at all three services. These shawls represented a fraction of the number of shawls that have been lovingly prepared over the years. Participants in this ministry create knitted or crocheted shawls to offer to those who are in need of peace and comfort. Anyone can request a shawl to share when a need arises.



The Wardrobe

Evette Nissen reported at the August 7th UMW Executive Committee meeting that during the shoe referral program, 3,339 shoe coupons were given out – the largest number to date – and the program serviced 739 families.

On Wednesday, September 25th, 10 UMW members representing 5 circles staffed the Wardrobe which was the first day following fall change-over. This is usually a very busy day servicing many customers which was evidenced by the days take-in of \$1,736.00.

UMW Book Club

The UMW book club met Wednesday, September 11th discussing the book, *Nomadland* by Jessica Bruder. The next meeting will be on Wednesday November 13th at 10:00 In the Fireside Room in the Lenoir Community Center. The book will be *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks. All are invited to attend.

Mission Coordinator for Social Justice Melissa Clarke

Gun violence has become way too common in today’s culture. Our children are growing up in a world where gun deaths are a part of their lives and adults live with increasing fear that someone we know will be the next victim. As God’s people we are called to “live into the reality of God’s dream of shalom as described by Micah, we must address the epidemic of gun violence so “that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in God’s paths.” The 2016 Methodist Book of Resolutions is our church’s official statement on social policy. Regarding gun violence one thing it calls for is universal background checks for all gun purchases and asks United Methodists to prayerfully address gun violence in their local context.

Many of us are asking what else can I do. We should all be informed about current laws regarding purchase of guns. Currently federal laws required background checks when you purchase a gun from a licensed dealer. Private sales have no such requirement thus allowing guns to be in potentially unsafe hands. The US House of Representatives passed a bill requiring universal background checks for all gun purchases. It is currently stalled in the senate. Sending a message to your senator asking for this bill to be passed in the senate is an important step to get guns in the hands of responsible citizens. Go to the website for Senator Blunt’s and Senator Hawley’s contact information, call and leave a message saying you support universal background checks. The only way change will happen is if we stand up and speak out.

Gun safety is also important. Guns injure or kill an average of 51 children daily. An information table was available in the Connector on Sunday September 29th. The table highlighted information made available through the organization, Moms Demand Action. This national organization has designed a program for the education of adults and children on the importance of Gun Safety.

The acronym in the Be Smart program highlights the basic premises of gun safety: **S**ecure all guns in your home and vehicles; **M**odel responsible behavior around guns; **A**sk about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes; **R**ecognize the role of guns in suicide; **T**ell your peers to be SMART. If you were unable to stop by the table but would like information, you can contact me at 573-881-7384.



Members of Moms Demand Action display program information; Carol Evans and Melissa Clark share information regarding gun safety and violence prevention.

UNIT NEWS

UMW Sunday and Candle Burning

UMW Sunday and Candle Burning has been scheduled for Sunday October 13th. A donation sheet was included in the bulletin on Sunday September 29th. The sheet will be available on Sunday October 6th, but it will not be in the bulletin. Donations should be in the office by noon on Monday October 7th in order for names and donations to be noted in the bulletin

and recorded for candle burning. The cost of one minute of mission this year is \$22.77. Please make checks payable to UMW and write Candle Burning on the memo line.

UMW Reading Program

UMW reading program reports should be sent to Diana Mooney by November 15.

Pecan Sales

Searcy-Feely Circle will have pecan sales again this year following the same procedure as last year – no preorders are necessary. Pecans will be available for purchase on Friday and Saturday, November 8th and 9th in the Connector and on Sunday November 10th in the Parlor if any are left.

Fall UMW Unit Meeting

On Wednesday September 4th, the fall unit meeting was held focusing on the historical celebration of 150 years of UMW and its predecessor organizations and 138 years of the women’s organizations at Missouri United Methodist Church. 70 people gathered to take part in the celebration.



The table decorations honored the 21 circles that have been part of our unit over the years sharing a picture where available and background on the person, concept, or event for which the circle was named. Members of Gibson Circle and the Cunningham arm of Bratton-Cunningham Circle were recognized as being part of the two oldest existing circles in the unit dating back to 1916. In addition, a memorabilia table was set up featuring pictures and documents throughout the years and noting four additional prominent women from the unit. The meeting was followed by a wonderful lunch including a celebratory birthday cake.

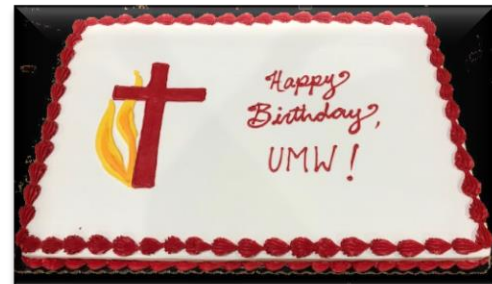
The guest speaker was Yvette Richards. Yvette is currently the Director of Community Connections for St. James UMC in Kansas City, Missouri. She served as the National President of UMW 2012-2016; on the General Board of Global Ministries 2011-2016; and on the General Commission of the Status and Role of Women 2008-2012.



Yvette Richards speaks to the group about the legacy of U M W and the hope for the future of the organization.



A resolution was passed at the General Conference of 2016 and placed in the Book of Resolutions, recognizing the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women and affirming their legacy and their future.



Church Women United

Listed below are the upcoming meetings for CWU:

Friday October 4 at 9:30 a.m. - Shared Lunch
Community UMC, 3301 Broadway
Overview of Community Services
Bring items for Silent Auction

Sunday, November 3 at 2:30 p.m.
Friendship Baptist Church, 1707 Smiley Lane
World Community Day
The Time is NOW, Resolve to Love
Election of Officers and Leaders

Friday December 6 at 9:30 a.m. – Shared Lunch
Mt. Celestial Baptist Church, 1410 Grand Ave.
Celebrating Christmas in Faith and Friendship

DISTRICT and CONFERENCE NEWS

DISTRICT MEETING

The Fall meeting of the Mid-State District UMW was held on Saturday September 21st at Harper Chapel UMC in Osage Beach. Fourteen units were represented in the 42 participants in attendance including ten members from MUMC UMW. Diana Mooney was recognized as a 1st time attendee.

The district treasurer reported a total for mission giving of \$10,381.41 for the district as of the end of the 2nd quarter. She reminded the units that all monies must be sent to her by December 1. For us, that means that all unit members should have pledges turned in to Carole Babel by mid-November to enable Carole to pay our 4th quarter pledge on time.

Our speaker and special guests from left to right:

- Karen Hunt**, Mid-State District UMW Vice President;
- Yvette Richards**, Guest Speaker;
- Marilyn Henegar**, UMW Conference President;
- Mi-Hyeon Lee**, District Superintendent, Mid-State District,
- June DeWeese**, President, MUMC UMW



Cleo Kottwitz, Mary Ann Shaw, and Barbara Robinson explore pictures and historical items in the memorabilia display



Carole Babel and Betty Dillard oversee the sale of *A Legacy of Mission*, the recently published history of our UMW unit.

Julia Goodell was honored as being named the UMW Mid-State District woman of the year. Those attendees from MUMC were especially proud at the Mid-State District meeting when later in the meeting Julia was elected to be the district president of UMW.



Julia Goodell accepts her Woman of the year award. She is pictured with Gwen Blodgett, Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture, & Outreach.

LaVonne Patterson led the service of installation of officers. 2020 officers were installed for Mid-State District as follows:



Left to Right: Sally Dorrell – Spiritual Growth; Julia Goodell – President; Karen Hunt – Vice President; Gwen Blodgett – Secretary; Barb Dearing – Treasurer; Linda Mealy – Social Action; Joni Troyer – Resource Secretary; Nettie Cherrington – Out-going treasurer; Brenda Sells – Committee on Nominations; Diana Revelle – Committee on Nominations

After lunch, the program was given by Diana Revelle from MUMC and Becky Kreek from Trinity UMC in Moberly. Using building blocks, Diana shared the history of UMW building the organization from its beginnings through the history of the church and developing women’s organizations.



Becky Kreek followed the history with a look at UMW currently and its possible future in a presentation she entitled, *Peeling Paint and Possibilities*. Looking at our foundation and our history, she discussed the possibilities of further growth, change, and adaptation.



On Saturday September 28, the annual meeting of the Missouri Conference UMW was held at Community UMC in Columbia. Bishop Robert Farr was in attendance greeting the attendees and recognizing United Methodist Women for the 150 years of faithful service that has been our foundation.

Julia Goodell was recognized among the other district Women of the Year winners from across the conference.



Bishop Farr greets attendees of the Missouri Conference UMW Annual Meeting



Julia Goodell with the other Woman of the Year winners from across the Conference

The Spring meeting and unit officer training for the Mid-State District will be on Saturday April 18, 2020 in Prairie Home.

MID-STATE DISTRICT REPORT DEADLINES

November 1 - Local Unit Officer Report to District Secretary

December 1 – All monies to district treasurer

December 31 – Reading Report to Resource Secretary

January 15 – Mission Today Reports to Coordinator for Education & Interpretation

January 15 – Unit Census and membership count to Coordinator of Membership, Nurture & Outreach

GENERAL NEWS**Where the Money Goes****Candle Burning**

Candle Burning is one of the additional revenue streams for UMW mission beyond the five channels of giving: Pledge to Mission; World Thank Offering; Special Mission Recognition Pins and Certificates; Gift to Mission; and Gift in Memory. Each year, the national office of United Methodist Women estimates the cost of doing mission around the world. The cost is calculated down to the second. Units are encouraged to honor the work done through mission by having a ceremony of Candle Burning. MUMC UMW has traditionally done this on UMW Sunday through donations made in honor and memory of people who hold a meaningful place in our lives. The total received is divided by the cost of a mission minute, and a candle is burned for that length of time.

Epworth Children and Family Services, St. Louis

Epworth was founded as a mission agency of the United Methodist Church to care for Civil War orphans, and it continues to work in partnership with both the community at large and the church to meet the needs of contemporary youth. Today, Epworth is an independent agency serving all children and families, regardless of religious affiliation. For over 150 years, Epworth children and Family Services has provided the St. Louis community with essential youth development services that have helped thousands of children overcome severe emotional and behavioral challenges caused by abuse or neglect.

Susanna Wesley Learning Center, East Prairie, MO

Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center is located in Mississippi County. It is a grassroots organization located in East Prairie, Missouri whose mission is to build healthy families. Community residents raised initial funding to begin the operation in March of 1992. It initially began as a pilot project of Epworth Children's Home in St. Louis, Missouri. By 1998 the center's programs had grown so exponentially that the center went out on its own, became its own 501c3 and changed its name to Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center. The name "Susanna Wesley" was selected because she is often referred to as one of the best examples of parenthood.

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/>