

WOMEN AT THE WELL

**March 2019**

**President**

Well I hope everyone had a joyous and blessed holiday season. With the new year here it’s time to continue with doing God’s will.

Last year was my first year serving as your District President and I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. I want you all to know that any one of the District team members is available to attend your unit meetings, any event, or UMW Sunday. We are here to assist you in any way we can. If you need help with fundraisers or have questions about anything, please feel free to contact any of us. We are here for you. If you have any information you would like the District to know just contact Terry Robideau and she will get it in the next newsletter which will be sometime the end of July. Her contact information is also in this newsletter.

I am inviting all to consider joining our team. We meet once a month and it will be worth every minute of your time. We work together on all projects and I have to say my team is always there to help each other. They are absolutely the best. With that being said, we would love for you to join us. If you are interested all you have do is contact any one of the District members. Their contact information is in this newsletter.

Mission u this year is being held at Otterbein College in Columbus July 18-21. Again, there will not be a week-end session but there will be a day session on Saturday July 20th. I cannot stress enough how much you would enjoy this time. The books we study and the fellowship with ladies across West Ohio will be a time like no other. If you have never attended Mission u you can apply for a scholarship to attend at no cost. Every year we have scholarships that are not used. Please take advantage of this opportunity, you will not regret it.

Our Spring Event will be held on April 13th at Braden Methodist Church located at 4725 Dorr St. Toledo, Ohio. Attendance at these meetings has been very low so I hope you will consider attending. Not only do you get to visit various churches throughout the district, but you get to know so many ladies who love serving the Lord as you do. See the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

Please be sure to read the entire newsletter as there is so much information for everyone and we do not want you to miss out on anything. Thank you for letting me serve as your District President.

Vicky Allen 419-575-1808

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**MNO**

150 UMW ANNIVERSARY!!!

As Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator, I bring greetings to all

our United Methodist Women. WHAT A MIGHTY GROUP WE ARE!!!

Ecclesiastes Chapter 3: " 1. tells us: there is a time for everything, and a season for

every activity under heaven, 3. ...a time to tear down and a time to build, 7. a time

to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, 8. a time to love and

a time to hate...”. God gives us a time for United Methodist Women to take a stand on

what we feel is right and what is wrong. There has been so much controversy recently

re racial problems, which means we must practice Racial Justice. We must learn to

love more and be less judgmental.

It's wonderful that we have different seasons for all to enjoy. We have certainly

had various temps during this winter season. Living across from the river, I have seen the

ice boaters, and those on snow mobiles. We will always have those who go north for skiing.

and, of course, the snow birds who go south for warmer temps. So, a time for all!

NOW, I’m asking each of you to support UMW by attending our Spring Event to be

held at Braden United Methodist Church, 4725 Door St., Toledo, OH, on April 13th,

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Celebrating UMW’S 150th ANNIVERSARY is a big deal! And we

plan to make it just that. A BIG DEAL! You won't want to miss this!

Any deceased members from your unit from May 1, 2018 to April 1, 2019 please, report to Barbara so they are included at the Memorial Service on District Day April, 13,2019.

We certainly need to BUILD Up and not TEAR Down our UMW groups. We continue

to have groups who "Disband" for many reasons and we certainly understand this.

We need to make our meetings more exciting and fun. One way to do this is to encourage

your members to attend the District Spring and Fall Events. I look forward to seeing you on

April 13th at Braden UMC for a day of fun. Thanks! and God bless!

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**Program Resources**

We would like to go over a few specifications for anyone who doesn’t know about the Reading Program. There are four plans for readers:

Plan 1 – Read 1 book in each category

Plan 2 – Read 10 books 2 in each category

Plan 3 – Read 15 books 3 in each category

Plan 4 – Read 20 books 4 in each category

The categories are: Education for Mission ( you can use your Mission u) Leadership Development; Nurturing for Community: Social Action; and Spiritual Growth (use your Mission u study book). Response Magazine is also something that needs read each month.

The reading selections, as usual, are diverse and interesting. There are books that are eye opening to the reality instead of stereotypes of other beliefs. There are instructional books and study books. Do you need re-energized and new ideas on how to reach out and meet people where they are? You may find just that in the selections offered. These books may answer questions on our existence, and some may bring you hope for the future. There are books with humor and books that will make you cry.

Whatever you want you can find this year in the suggested reading. Be sure to pick up one and be transported to a place you may not even know you wanted to go. You may be surprised where God will lead you as you read…ENJOY! Any questions you may contact:

Terry Robideau 419-644-2563 or [tlr909@yahoo.com](mailto:tlr909@yahoo.com) for information

JoAnne Craft 419-704-8912

[jocraft1953@aol.com](mailto:jocraft1953@aol.com)

**Treasurer**

**Honoring Our Foremothers' Legacy**

It’s almost here! On March 23, 2019, UMW celebrates 150 years of changing the lives of women, children and youth. The foundation of our organization began in Boston, Massachusetts, on March 23, 1869, when eight women, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, met to discuss the health care and educational needs of women in India. This meeting led to the formation of the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society; ultimately the successor to this society is United Methodist Women.

To celebrate the legacy of the women who founded this mission movement and the legacy which we will leave for future generations, the Legacy Fund Endowment was launched in 2014. The goal is to raise $60 million so that the mission of *faith, hope, and love in action* can continue for years to come. To date, $24,155,315 has been raised. If you would like to contribute to this Fund, you can do so in three different ways:

* **Give by Mail:** Checks should be made payable to United Methodist Women and mailed to UMW National Office, ATTN: Legacy, 475 Riverside Drive 15th Floor, New York, NY 10115. Please note “Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign” in the memo line. Such gifts are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law.
* **On-Line:**Make a secure gift by credit card by visiting[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund). Your gift can be made in honor or in memory of someone special. An e-card is available.
* **Text to Give:** Text "41444" on your cell phone and enter "Legacy 150" in the message area.

**Please consider celebrating our 150th year by donating to the Legacy Fund.** **“**Imagine what is achievable, what is possible, if United Methodist Women had the resources to deepen and expand its mission to transform lives and ignite change in places near and far.” (UMW national website)

(NOTE: All donations to the Legacy Fund should be sent directly to the UMW National Office; please do not send the money to the District Treasurer! I will, however, have some mailers available at the District’s Spring Meeting.)

**DISTRICT GIVING**

Thank you everyone for your generous mission giving in 2018. The Maumee Watershed District forwarded $23,228.43 in undesignated giving dollars to the Conference UMW last year. Although we did not meet our district pledge, we did send about $1000 more in 2018 than we did in 2017. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Remember – you can forward monies to me at any time of the year. As of February 10, I have received $5,524.78 toward our 2019 district pledge of $28,000. That’s almost 20% of our goal! Keep those envelopes coming – my mailbox looks forward to getting envelopes from you!

Marsha Klingbell 419-476-1145 [mklingbeil@daviscollege.edu](mailto:mklingbeil@daviscollege.edu)

935 Cloverdale Road

Toledo, Ohio 43612

**Friendly Center News**

The Friendly Center, a national UMW mission in Toledo, is pleased to announce we have a new executive director. Rev. Steve North starts February 1st as the part-time director. Pastor Steve also is the part-time pastor at Lifeline, a new church start in the same area. We look forward to having him at the helm, bringing increased and improved services to the north Toledo area around The Friendly Center. We are grateful to volunteer Terry Robideau and full-time employee James Bolden for manning the mission the past three months while we were without an executive director.

At Christmas, The Friendly Center was blessed by Aldersgate UMC in Toledo with 25 boxes and bags of food and personal hygiene items. Included were large hams, eggs, butter, milk, baking items, canned goods, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc. These were given out on December 21st. The number of items was so great a couple of the recipients cried to see the generosity displayed in their baskets. Excess canned goods helped to boost the food pantry inventory. Thank you, Aldersgate!

The Friendly Center still struggles with financing, although our financials have improved. High heating bills bite into the budget. A new door is needed. We always welcome any donations, which can be sent to 1324 Superior St., Toledo, OH 43604, or paid online at their website: friendlycentertoledo.org

Janis Kleine, Interim Board President

**Secretary**

Hi, I am the new District Secretary; and prior to this position I served 2 years on the Committee on Nominations. I have been a member of Sylvania First United Methodist Church for over 20 years. I am looking forward to serving as the new District Secretary.

Deb Hennie [dhennie@bex.net](mailto:dhennie@bex.net)

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**Spiritual Growth**

I am very honored to be serving my second year as Spiritual Growth coordinator on the Maumee Watershed District UMW leadership team. What an exciting year for us as United Methodist Women celebrating our 150 years in mission. In honor of this special celebration I have been previewing one of our 2019 mission u study books, Women United For Change, 150 Years in Mission by Ellen Blue. In this book are many stories of women who answered God’s call to work for justice. Women have done some of the most amazing ministry the church has ever accomplished, and reading this study is meant to inspire us with a hope that the Holy One still has work for UMW to do and will give us the courage, creativity and persistence to accomplish it. There are many passages in the Bible that tell of the limited roles of women, but the words and actions of Jesus himself in the Gospel reveal his affirmation of women and his openness to their participation in ministry. For 150 years women have taken seriously Jesus’ command to feed the hungry, heal the sick and touch those on the margins of society. Jesus has appointed his followers to be the light source in this dark world. (Matthew 5:14-15) But what good is light if it is not shining? Particularly in this celebration year as we learn more about the women in our history who have left such a wonderful legacy for us today, may we be more intentional about leaving a continuing legacy for those who will follow us. Let your light shine!

Vicki Barnes 419-644-3619

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Berkey, Ohio 43504

**Education and Interpretation**

Change can be challenging, can’t it? We have witnessed an extraordinary winter, with amazing weather changes. Today, however, I am thinking about all the changes coming this July and Mission u. Most of you know what Mission u is about. It is a wonderful mission education initiative held annually in conferences using mission studies produced by the United Methodist Women National Office. It is an exciting, busy, fun, and challenging time for all. ***Please carefully read the basic information below because there are many changes. Start planning now!!!***

Studies for women, men, youth, and children, plus an adult class in Spanish. There is worship, music, enrichments, fellowship, and more.

**Where:** Otterbein University, 1 S Grove St. Westerville, OH

**Week School:** July 18-21

**Day Sampler:** July 20

**Spiritual Growth:**  *Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship*

**Topical Issue:**  *Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission*

**Youth:**  *Who Do You Say That I Am? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark*

**Children:**  *Marked: A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark*

***More info about housing, meals, scholarships, and cost at***[*www.westohioumw.org*](http://www.westohioumw.org)

Receive e-news at [www.facebook.com.wocmissionu](http://www.facebook.com.wocmissionu).

Registration will begin in March. (both on-line and mail-in)

Scholarship applications due May 1.

Looking forward to seeing you at Braden this April.

Yours in Christ,

Linda DeNeve (419-508-9211) [lneve46@gmail.com](mailto:lneve46@gmail.com)

**Communications**

Our newsletter will email a different way. I will send 30 at a time with the heading “Women at the Well” and ask you to acknowledge back to me that you received it. There was confusion last time and I hope to fix it this time.

I double checked the returned or denied emails and fixed them but some of you didn’t receive them. I hope this clears up the problem.

We will also mail out copies to the ones without emails and hope this goes well. I only received 3 back last time.

Terry Robideau tlr909@yahoo.com

1200 Wildflower Dr.

Metamora, Ohio 43540

**NOMINATIONS:**

As chair of nominations, we have a few openings coming up and would like to have some new members join the team.

If you are interested in being part of the UMW District Team towards helping and serving please contact the nominations team.

We are open to all ladies in the district and interested even if you don’t have a unit at your church, please contact us. God bless.

Terry Robideau, Chair

Nancy Wright, nominations

JoAnn Craft, nominations

**Social Action**

**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND**

**UNITED METHODIST WOMENS ROLE IN**

**RACIAL JUSTICE IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**(Excerpt from an essay by Daryl Michael Scott, Howard University, for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History)**

As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. DuBois before him, believed that truth could not be denied, and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American’s contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The response was overwhelming: Black history clubs sprang up; teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils; and progressive whites, not simply white scholars and philanthropists, stepped forward to endorse the effort.

By the time of Woodson’s death in 1950, Negro History Week had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration. At mid–century, mayors of cities nationwide issued proclamations noting Negro History Week. The Black Awakening of the 1960s dramatically expanded the consciousness of African Americans about the importance of black history, and the Civil Rights movement focused Americans of all color on the subject of the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture.

The celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation’s bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” That year, fifty years after the first celebration, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story. Since then each American president has issued African American History Month proclamations. And the association—now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)—continues to promote the study of Black history all year.

**The Racial Justice Timeline published by United** **Methodist Women** states “United Methodist Women from its beginnings has tried to build a community and social order without racial barriers.” Racial justice is an onging focus of mission as members work to promote racial justice in the United States and around the world.”

We celebrate Theresa Hoover a great United Methodist and here is a quote from UMW website about Ms. Hoover.

“Theresa Hoover was the first African-American chief executive of United Methodist Women’s national policymaking body. An outspoken advocate for women and children, she was the leader of the Women’s Division from 1968 to 1990.

During Hoover’s leadership, United Methodist Women’s membership rolls totaled 1.2 million. While other Christian faith-based women’s groups were losing financial and organizational autonomy at that time, under the leadership of Hoover, United Methodist Women grew in membership and retained its separate status. As a leader, Hoover made sure to lay solid groundwork for the future United Methodist Women by emphasizing the need to understand its membership and mission. Traveling across the U.S. as a black woman in Jim Crow days requiredsacrifices that others did not have to make, but hersteadfast optimism persevered, and her strong leadership left a legacy of transformation.

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**re**  The organized unit of the 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.

**Return to:**

Terry Robideau

1200 Wildflower Dr

Metamora, Ohio 43540

**Dates to remember:**

April 13, 2019 UMW District Day at Braden UMC, Toledo, Ohio 8:30-3:00.

March 30, 2019 Quarter Auction to support the Friendly Center. Maumee UMC 11:00-2:00.

All money spent that day goes for the new door at the top of the handicap ramp.

Lots of FUN.

July 18-21, 2019 Mission u at Otterbein College.

August 31-September 2, 2019 SCRAP at White Star Park, Gibsonburg, Ohio.

The UMW will have a Pie and Ice Cream sale that all proceeds go to the MWDUMW Pledge and Friendly Center. We need volunteers to help. Please contact Terry Robideau to sign up. 419-343-2120. We donated $300 to Friendly Center and $300 MWDUMW Pledge last year.

Thanks for the support. God Bless.