

# CONNECTION

## OHIO RIVER VALLEY UNITED METHODIST

ISSUE 8

August 2018



### PURPOSE

**United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as a whole person through Jesus Christ. To develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.**

### DISTRIBUTION OF CONNECTION

Each Unit will receive up to 4 copies mailed to them. If more copies are needed, we are asking either the President or Secretary to make copies for the other members. We are doing this to save Mission dollars

### President

The summer is almost over- how can that be? Time just keeps happening. Since our last newsletter I have attended “The Power of Bold –UMW Assembly”. I attended gatherings and workshops encouraging all that it is not enough to just be the church. We need to act now. The four priority areas of learning and action are Criminalization of Communities of Color; Economic Inequality; Climate Justice’ and Maternal and Child Health. There were worship opportunities and learning opportunities everywhere. That was in May.

In July, Mission u was held at Ohio Northern University. The study courses were Embracing Wholeness, a study about the responsibility that God gave humans for taking care of the earth; What About Our Money, a study about money and why it is spoken of so much in the Bible; and Missionary Conferences of the United States, the study of those Conferences that have so much need among the groups of people living there. Each class brought the opportunity to think seriously about our

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lives as Christians and how and what we might do to live and care better. Should any Unit want a program, short or long, about these studies, contact me and I will gladly find one of the officers to come and give a program.

Now we are getting ready to talk about what comes next. I want to invite all of you to attend the ORV UMW Annual Meeting at Loveland UMW on September 29. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for the particulars. Come and enjoy fellowship with UMW members from throughout the district. We will have a program during the morning about prison ministry. Our speaker is a leader in that effort. During the business meeting we will have our Pledge Service for the 2019 Pledge as well as election of officers for 2019.

Another meeting to which all of you are invited is the Conference Annual meeting on October 20 at Lancaster UMC. See the announcement in this newsletter and plan on coming to hear Bishop Palmer's talk in the morning session.

I wish to call to your attention that there are reports that need to be prepared this fall. We need your Unit Membership report- due in December; your Unit Officer lists- due right after your elections; Mission Today report about what your unit has accomplished in 2018- due in December; and of course, your payment of Mission Giving and designated giving monies to our treasurer by Thanksgiving. I have just highlighted these things. Please refer to each officer's message for more detail.

Blessings to all.  
Elaine Powers

ORV President

## Vice President

Greetings! I hope you all have had a wonderful summer. Now the kids are headed back to school and it is time for the United Methodist Women to gear up for fall. On September 29th we will be having our Annual Meeting at the Loveland United Methodist Church. Our speaker will be Reba Collins, and her topic will be:

“Shutting Down the Prison Pipeline One Person at A Time”.

Reba serves as the All in Community consultant for the West Ohio Conference, and in that position, she trains, equips, and connects Methodist churches and groups so they can embrace people who have been affected by crime and incarceration. This topic has not been presented in a long time, and a lot is happening. Join us for an interesting and informative day.

If you have not scheduled a District officer to come to your unit, this would be a great time to do so. We just came home from Mission U, and we would love to come and share a program with you. In addition to Mission U programs, we can also install your new officers, do a pledge service, give a World Thank Offering program, or follow through on a topic you suggest. Remember, invite us to do a program and check off two places on your Mission Today form. Hope to hear from you soon!

Lynn Hoff

Vice President ORV

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## Secretary

It is so amazing how fast time flies. Last time I sent in my report for the Connection was April, now it is mid -July. I had the privilege to attend Assembly for the first time. So many women, such an eye-opening time.

So much to learn and take in.

Next was Mission U it was always go, go, go. It is also so wonderful. I do highly suggest you try to attend both.

As always, I want to thank all who sent in their officers list for 2018. For those who have not you can send it now. This will be the last time for this year. I will be stepping down from secretary this year. 2019 you will have a new secretary. It would be a big help to her if everything is up to date for this year. If you need an officer's form please let me know. My e-mail is [cindyrahn1@gmail.com](mailto:cindyrahn1@gmail.com). My home address is 1561 Madison Ave. Cincinnati, Oh. 45231. My cell # is 513-205-2760. Have a blessed, safe end of summer.

Cindy Rahn            ORV Secretary

## Treasurer

Hello everyone,

It is amazing how fast the end of this year is coming. I pray that each of you has been enjoying the summer. The weather has kept us guessing, that is for sure! As the end of the year closely approaches, I would like to give you a little update on how we are doing as the Ohio River Valley. While we are not where we were last year at this time as a group, we have plenty of time to bring it back. After two years as your treasurer, I find we are very much like the Bengals, (not in a bad way) they play much better when

they are behind. Thus, the name, the Come Back Cats. Well that is how we have been in the past, and we have consistently brought it back near the finish of the year. I ask that each of you pray for a strong finish and continue to pray until we reach the goal line. It is only with God's divine direction and strength that we persevere in this journey. I look forward to your run for the finish line! All money is due to me by November 19, 2018. I must have all my books, tallied, closed, finished, and submitted to Sylvia, the Conference Treasurer, for the year by the first week of December. I encourage you to pray without ceasing for our District,

He will hear our prayers, He always does,

Blessings to all of you,

Lynn Hartley, ORV District Treasurer

## Mission Coordinators

### **Education and Interpretation and Racial Justice**

What a wonderful experience I had at Mission U! As a first-time attendee, it is hard to express what a fantastic time I had, both in fellowship and class experience. The days were long but so enriching you didn't notice until the end of the day. I would encourage anyone who has considered or are considering going next year to put it on your calendar NOW. You will not be sorry.

Now on to matters of upcoming importance, I hope everyone is working getting their Mission Today Reporting Form filled out. You still have time to complete items such as having a district officer attend a meeting, use a Mission U study as your

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monthly program or have at least two members subscribed to Response magazine. Reports are due to me by December 15, 2018.

I know this is early for 2019 Calendars but please place this on yours May 4, 2019 there will be a West Ohio Conference UMW Racial Justice Event held in Columbus, Ohio

I hope everyone has had a blessed summer.

Wanda Lewis      Mission Coordinator

## **Spiritual Growth and Membership Nurture and Outreach**

To be good stewards of our lives, we must take seriously the responsibility we have to pursue our passions, gifts and talents for the betterment of the world.

When Pharisees asked Jesus about the two greatest commandments, he replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and your entire mind. And you must love your neighbor as you love yourself."

When we love ourselves well, we are able to love others well and when we fail to take care of ourselves; we are less able to care for others in a healthy way.

There is more than one way to live a faithful and beautiful life. It is important to do the internal spiritual work necessary to learn to love ourselves as God loves us. Spending time in silence with God rewards us with gifts of the spirit. Scripture tells us that these gifts are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Accepting and

using the special gifts that God has given us will allow us to work to care for God's human and nonhuman creation.

- From Jessica Stonecypher, EMBRACING WHOLENESS: AN EARTH PERSPECTIVE FOR COVENANTAL LIVING
- Mission u Study Book

Note: The membership forms are included in this newsletter. They must be in to me by December 31, 2018.

Marian Miller  
Membership and  
Mission Coordinator

## **Nominations**

GOOD LEADERS DO NOT EMERGE,  
THEY MUST BE  
RECOGNIZED, NURTURED AND  
ENCOURAGED

The responsibility for our worldwide network of mission rest equally on the shoulders of each member of United Methodist Women. Accepting a leadership role requires a commitment of time, energy and effort. But in return, you develop a deeper understanding of mission, grow spiritually and are sustained by the knowledge that you are making a difference in the lives of women, children, youth and unjust systems.

Today we are seeking courageous women to step forward to lead our organization into the future...in our districts and in our conference. You are out there!!!

Is God calling you to serve in a leadership role? Pray about serving, let God be your guide. He will provide you with the time and

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Copies are available: WHAT DOES A DISTRICT OFFICER DO? POTENTIAL LEADERS INFORMATION FORMS AND POTENTIAL LEADER

RECOMMENDATION FORMS for you to complete yourself or recommend a woman you respect as a potential leader.

May our future be bright as we serve our Lord through United Methodist Women.

Mary Kercheval Short Chairman of Nominating Committee

## Class of 2019 Nominating Committee

Hello UMW Sisters! I hope this finds you enjoying your summer. So far, the highlight of my summer was attending Mission u. It is a joyous time of fellowship and learning. Isn't that what UMW is about? A creative, supportive fellowship for improving the lives of women, children and youth. I was privileged to be able to attend both Assembly 2018, in Columbus, and Mission us this year. Assembly is a great reminder to us of our connection to the world outside of our local area. But, it takes people, working together, to make it happen. As we approach fall, we are looking to fill leadership positions at the local, district and conference level. We need YOU! I specifically am looking to fill positions on the District Leadership Team. If you have an interest or know of someone who would be good at doing one of these jobs, please contact me, Frellie Easterling, or Mary Kercherval Short. If you would like to help, but only locally, be sure to let your local officers know that you are interested. Blessings,  
Pam Fugett, Committee on Nominations

Pam – 513-267-8126 or  
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Mary – 513-794-0359 or  
mkercherval@earthlink.net

## Program Resources

The reading program of the United Methodist women is a large part of the program resources. I never thought I would be interested in reading the kind of books that are in the reading program. I began slowly and now can't wait to see what kind of books are included for the following year. There are books for Education in Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action Issues, and Spiritual Growth. Some are novels, some are history some are memoirs, the books sometimes address controversial issues and make you think. They are especially good to keep our minds active and thinking as we age. TRY A BOOK TODAY!

Some of the 2019 books will be for sale at the ORV annual day on September 29th at Loveland United Methodist Church. We will also have available 2019 program books and prayer calendars as well as free handouts. Hope to see you at the reading table in September

Reading program reports are due to me by December 31st.

- Level 1      5 books one of each category
- Level 2      10 books two of each category
- Level 3      15 books two of each category plus five to choose
- Level 4      20 books two of each category plus 10 to choose

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Each level may include children's and youth titles and you are also to read the response magazine regularly.

You can email or send me a copy to get your reading certificate. Choose one person from your group to send a list of names and how many books they have read.

Thank you  
Judy Grigsby ORV Program Resources.

## Communications

I hope you keep the Flyers and reports in this newsletter to return to the proper officers at the end of the year and to sign up for the annual day of the Ohio River Valley and West Ohio conference.

Please read the revised bylaws of the Ohio River Valley as we will be voting to accept these at our Annual day in September.

The bylaws also tell you the duties of the district officers. Look them over and see if you might like to join us and be a district officer. There are some perks like Mission u and Assembly registration paid for in return for serving and sharing your knowledge with other units.

Judy Grigsby ORV Communications

## Calendar 2018

### September

September 29, 2018 Loveland UMC  
Saturday 9:30am – 2:30pm

### October

October 20, 2018  
Crossroads Event Center Lancaster, Ohio  
Saturday 9:30am – 3:00pm

### November

November 19, 2018 All monies due to  
Treasurer: Patricia Lynn Hartley

### December

December 15, 2018 Local Officers  
Lists due: to Cindy Rahn

December 31,2018 Mission Today  
forms due: to Wanda Lewis

December 31, 2018 Membership Lists  
due: to Marian Miller

December 31,2018 Reading Lists due:  
to Judy Grigsby

All forms can be emailed or sent

Extra forms are located on UMW web site

**WestohioUMW.org under Ohio River  
Valley**

## **2018 Ohio River Valley UMW Officers List**

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