



CASCADIA SPIRIT



Cascadia District United Methodist Women

November 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Have an attitude of gratitude! Every year during the season of thanksgiving there are a flurry of posts on social media from people who are reflecting on their daily gratitude. This season of thanksgiving seems different. Many of us are in mourning. Many have lost jobs, lost loved ones, and lost familiar routines. For many of us Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations will look quite different this year.

In the middle of our losses there is also a climate crisis with floods, fires, and devastating winds. Cries for racial justice have been heard across our country. We are in the middle of an election cycle. An attitude of gratitude might just be what we need right now.

During these socially distanced days I find myself appreciating the little things in life so much more than before. Last year at this time I had never heard of Zoom and now we hold United Methodist Women's meetings on a regular basis on this platform. I am grateful for the ability to connect with others! It is wonderful to step outside and walk around the neighborhood. I am grateful for the sunshine and fresh air. I am grateful to have a roof over my head and food to eat while so many people are houseless and suffer from food insecurity. A new partial lockdown went into effect yesterday and I am grateful I thought ahead to have extra rolls of toilet paper in the cupboard. And the list goes on...

As we search our daily lives and find little blessings all around us, "Be joyful always: pray continually: give thanks in all circumstances" (1Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Have an attitude of gratitude!

Penny Hodge

SOCIAL ACTION

During this pandemic, wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing are the most relevant social actions in which any of us can engage. However, also during this time when we are spending more time at home, we have additional time to explore the topic we are emphasizing in the Cascadia District, Climate Justice. The national organization of United Methodist Women is presenting webinar opportunities to learn more about Climate Justice and particularly emphasizing the issue of energy production and distribution as it relates to climate change. On the third Wednesday of every month from 12 to 1:30 PT there are sessions on the topic “Just Energy for All”. You do not need to have attended earlier sessions to engage in this or future sessions. To register or learn more about this series contact climatejustice@unitedmethodistwomen.org

Submitted by Jane Storey

Treasurer's Report

Where has 2020 gone? The year has been a challenge but we have survived and 2021 better look out because here we come. It's not too late turn in your pledge, World Thank Offering, gift to mission or any other donation your unit would like to turn in. We know that Cascadia will not meet our pledge for 2020 but every penny counts!! The deadline for 2020 credit is December 15th.

Now on a personal note. It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Cascadia District treasurer for the past three years. Your love and support has been a blessing to me. Come January 1, 2021, Carolyn Forbes will be your new district treasurer. She will get her contact info out to all local unit treasurers in January and I'm always available to answer questions or point you in the right direction.

Happy Holidays!
Janelle Bolt
Treasurer

Reading Program

Greetings to my Sisters,

I hope you are all well and healthy and have been reading. For those of you who are reading books for the reading program, that deadline will be Friday, January 22nd 2021. It would be a great help to me if you could send your record of books snail mail (my printer does not work, sorry). For anyone new to the reading program, and does not know the different plans, I will write them up here.

Plan I is to read 5 books per year. One book from Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing and Community, Social Concern, and Spiritual Growth and regular reading from the Response Magazine. Selections can be from the 2014-2019 reading lists if not including in previous reports (including Children and Youth titles). If you don't have a listing check with your local United Methodist Women's President.

Plan II is to read 10 books per year, 2 books from each of the 5 previously category mentioned, plus the Response magazine.

Plan III is to read 15 books per year, two books from each of the 5 category, plus five additional books from any category. Response Magazine.

Plan IV is to read 20 books per year, two books from Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth. Plus 10 books from any category and the Response magazine. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at (503-930-9267) or email me at (barba@wvi.com), my address is 148 Bayview Way NE Apt 103, Salem, Or 97301

HAPPY READING! Barbara Alexander

A message from Membership, Nurture and Outreach

As the Conference Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach I want to make you aware that the UMW Census had changed focus and the name and is now called the 2020 Unit

Survey. The due date is March 30, 2021 and you can now complete the survey at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2020 There will be more information in the Oregon-Idaho Conference UMW December Newsletter *Our Two Cents*.

Turella Woods

Marquam United Methodist Women

Faith, Hope, and Love *In Action* in the time of COVID-19

Hospice Care of the Northwest received a donation of twenty-four lovingly made prayer shawls from the Marquam United Methodist Church Prayer Shawl Ministry. The United Methodist Women who created and donated these shawls include Edith Allen, Sachiko Basteuschek, Elaine Daniels, Saunders, and Glenda Walch. These shawls will be gifted to hospice patients, with priority given to those who have Covid-19 or are residing in care facilities with Covid-19 outbreaks.



Thankfulness for our new leadership team!

Chris Mitchell, Nominations Chair

United Methodist Women is a laywoman's Mission organization, completely dependent on volunteer leadership. As Nominations Chair, I would like to express my gratefulness for all of the women who are serving on the team this year. I am especially thankful for the three new leaders that have joined our district leadership team.

1) Emilie Kroen is our new Spiritual Growth Coordinator, who lives in Tualatin. Although Emilie has been a part of UMW for a long time, this is her first time serving at the district level in UMW. We look forward to the passion and enthusiasm that she brings to the team.

2) Gloria Marple is our new Vice President, who lives in the hills outside of Yamhill. She has recently established Cascadia District as her residence and brings many years of District and Conference UMW service to our team. In addition, she is a Deaconess of the UMC.

3) Carolyn Forbes is our new treasurer, who lives in Tigard. She officially takes over the job on January 1. Being a treasurer takes a special skill set and we are so blessed that she has willingly offered her leadership talents to us.

These three women join Penny, Jane, Marilyn, Norma, Barbara, Chris, and ????? as your UMW Leadership team. You may ask, why the question marks? We still are lacking one important member of our team....a communications coordinator. We need your help in locating a woman with computer and writing skills who could help us with communications and publicity. If you or someone that you know would be willing to serve as communication coordinator, please contact me. United Methodist Women needs you!

Our United Methodist Women General Secretary Harriet Jane Olson closed her November/ December Response remarks with this thought. *"As Paul says in his letter to the Ephesians, I too do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. May God bless us with grateful hearts, may our attention be focused on God's action in the world and may our actions flow from the confidence that, even now, God is with us."*

In Mourning

This has been a year of mourning. Mourning the limitations that COVID-19 has placed on our lives, mourning the racism and division that is so apparent in our country; and mourning especially for 250,000+ lives lost to this pandemic. Even more so, the grief of loss is palatable as we mourn the passing of these steadfast United Methodist women in recent months. While we were not able to read them at our district annual meeting this year, please take a moment in silence to honor each one of them for their years of faithful service to UMW.

All of these people were “extra-ordinary” blessings to the world and are remembered with our love.

Clarkes UMC’s Unit

Marilyn Jacobson, 9/19

Pastor Thomas L. Truby, 3/20

Kay Kagy, 7/20

Tigard UMC’s unit

Ruby Hix, 9/18

Lana Burch, 9/18

Nancy Parkins, 12/18

Olive Ann Becker, date not provided

Rogene Regher, 5/19

Jean Haldorson, 5/19

Karen Gardner, 6/19

Tualatin UMC’s Unit

Mildred Wells, 9/20

We only received information for the 3 units noted above, so please take a few moments of silence to honor those whose names were not noted, but are also mourned by many.

And conclude praying this prayer of remembrance:

We bless your holy name, O God,

for all your servants who, having finished their course,
now rest from their labors.

Give us grace to follow the example
of their steadfastness and faithfulness,
to your honor and glory;
through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

A prayer for All Saints Day found in the United Methodist Book of Worship

-Submitted by

Emilie Kroen, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Cascadia District, United Methodist Women

2020-21 Cascadia District UMW Shepherdess Units

Barbara Alexander

Canby

Wilsonville

Penny Hodge

Astoria

Seaside

Sherwood

Chris Mitchell

Salem Open Door Churches

Stayton

Gloria Marple

Forest Grove

Tigard

Jane Storey

Carus

Clarkes

Molalla

Emilie Kroen

Bend

Madras

Carolyn Forbes

Marquam

Woodburn

Marilyn Edmonds

Newberg

Nehalem Bay

Norma Sohn

Tualatin

McCabe

Save the Dates

February 20	Every Member Enrichment Event	Virtual event
April 10	Spiritual Retreat	Virtual event
May TBD	Legislative Event	
September 25	Cascadia District Annual meeting	TBD

Mission U and Oregon/ID annual meeting dates will be available soon on the website

<https://www.umi.org/UMW>