

Columbia Explorer

Columbia District United Methodist Women

February 2020



Climate Justice

Just Energy For All

District Theme—2020

Calendar of Events —2020

- Feb. 29 Reading Program Reports Due**
Mail to: Judi Hanson
11960 SW Edgewood Portland, OR 97225
- March 28 Every Member Enrichment Event**
Oak Grove United Methodist Church
14700 SE Rupert Dr. Oak Grove, OR
- April 24 & 25 Spiritual Retreat**
Collins Retreat Center
Facilitators: Melanie Mott & Staci Lieuallen
Theme: *Worthy: Finding Yourself in a World Expecting Someone Else.*
- July 13 & 15 Mission u** Nazareth Retreat Center,
Boise, ID
- July 31 & Aug. 1. Mission u** Montavilla UMC
Portland, OR
- August 7 & 8 Mission u** Albany UMC
Albany, OR

Purpose of United Methodist Women

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.

President's Message

United Methodist Women Sisters:

"This is how you pray continually – not by offering prayer in words, but by joining yourself to God through your whole way of life, so that your life becomes one continuous prayer."

St. Benedict the Great

I can't imagine a United Methodist Woman praying any other way!

For the past two years, Columbia District United Methodist Women have been focusing on Economic Inequality. We've had EMEEs and Annual Meeting speakers on this subject and learned a lot about how we can be more proactive in helping those who are impacted by this.

Now, as we begin 2020, the Executive Team decided to change our focus to *Climate Justice*.

"They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountains, says the Lord." For the next year at least, our EMEE and Annual Meeting speakers will be bringing us information on this topic and showing us how we can make a difference in the world God gave us. I am very excited about the speakers we have lined up for our Every Member Enrichment Event, March 28 at Oak Grove UMC.

I am looking forward to seeing you at many of our upcoming events; information for all of these are in the newsletter. So — get out your calendar (what would we do without calendars?) and plan to attend as you are able.

If anyone has ideas and suggestions for our district, the Executive Team would love to hear from you. Likewise, we would love to have YOU on our Team! If you would like to volunteer – let us know.

In Christ's Love,
Janice Stevens, President
Columbia District United Methodist Women

Columbia District Every Member Enrichment Event

March 28, 2020

Oak Grove United Methodist Church

14700 SE Rupert Drive —Oak Grove, OR



- 9:00 am** Registration and Snacks
- 9:30 am** Opening Devotions and Meeting
- 10:45 am** **Program of 4 Panelists on Climate Justice**
Mario Mijares: *Columbia River Keepers*
Jeremy Crows: *Columbia river Inter – Tribal Fish Commission (CROTFC)*
Anissa Pemberton: *350 PDX*
Leader from: *Portland First UMC*
- 12:15 pm** **Salad Lunch.** Oak Grove UMW will also be serving soup. To keep with being “Green” we are asking each person to bring their **own table service, including soup bowl and drink container.** Montavilla UMW will be providing cloth napkins for the day. **Local Officer Training** will happen during Lunch. Officers will sit at the table with other like officers, such as all Presidents at one table.
- 1:15 pm** **Enrichment Event**—Tables will be set up for
Speaker information;
Reading Resources;
Quilts for Annual Conference;
Green table for Units to bring an example of things that their Unit or Congregation is doing.
- 2:20 pm** **Closing Circle and adjournment.**

Collecting #6 Styrofoam

We will be collecting #6 items at our **Every Member Enrichment Event** on March 28th for recycling. We will be taking them to AGILYX, Inc. in Tigard, OR. They will take all forms of clean polystyrene including Styrofoam for recycling. Polystyrene plastic is found expanded into foam products such as :

- coffee cups
- block packaging
- meat trays
- to-go containers
- non-expanded in rigid products such as
- CD cases
- wine-tasting cups
- creamer shells
- anything marked with # 6 or "PS" stamp.

Agilyx is committed to demonstrating not only the economic viability of their technology, but also the environmental value. They have completed an extensive Life Cycle Analysis on their process to measure carbon impact against traditional forms of crude oil extraction, with the results indicating a significantly favorable environmental impact. For more information on Agilyx; www.agilyx.com

Get the word out to your congregation, and have them collect items for you to bring.



Things to bring to the EMEE

- Yourselves and a carload of women.
- A Salad and all table service needed.
- Quilts for Annual Conference.
- Recycled #6 items.
- Money for offering for Gift to Mission.
- Item for the “Green” table.



Panelists Groups at the EMEE

Columbia Riverkeeper is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the Columbia River. Riverkeeper recognizes that one of the biggest threats to salmon survival and Columbia River communities comes from climate change.

350 PDX — Mission is to build adverse grassroots movement to address the causes of climate disruption through justice-based solutions by inspiring, training and mobilizing people to action.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) Mission to ensure a unified voice in the overall management of the fishery resources, and as managers, to protect reserved treaty rights through the exercise of the inherent sovereign powers of the tribes.

Portland First UMC Climate Justice Team. Drawdown for Creation: A 50 day prayer and action practice that will reduce your carbon footprint.



Quilts for OR/ID Annual Conference in June

The United Methodist Women are working on quilts from knitters, quilters, fleece blanket makers and crocheters to take to the combined Annual Conference (Pacific Northwest, OR/ID and Alaska) on June 11-14. Our OR/ID Conference goal is 160, 40 from each district. If you have a finished quilt by March 28th, you are invited to bring it to the Every Member Enrichment Event. We will have a table to display the quilts. If you haven't started one yet, you still have time to get one done by June 8th. Those of you who will be bringing a quilt to the EMEE can either take it back home and have someone in your congregation take it to Annual Conference, or you can leave it for one of our Team Members to take to Conference. For those of you still wishing to make a quilt or blanket, the suggested dimensions for the final quilts are: 45" x 45" and 45" x 60". We will have labels for the quilts available at the EMEE. Labels will also be sent to Unit Presidents to hand out to quilt/blanket makers for EMEE and Annual Conference.



Spiritual Retreat

April 24 and 25

Collins Retreat Center

Facilitators: Melanie Mott &

Staci Lieuallen

Theme: *Worthy Finding Yourself in a World Expecting Someone Else.*

More details to come later.



Healthy Vital Unit Surveys

DEADLINE EXTENSION: The deadline to submit the Criteria for Healthy, Vital Unit survey has been extended to March 15. This survey gives you a full picture of areas you could be using in your meetings and provides the opportunity for recognition of a job well done. If you have lost your survey blank form with return information, email donaletcalf@comcast.net. Thanks for participating, it encourages others...

Submitted by Donna Metcalf



Welcome to our 2 New Executive Team Members

Loretta Milton — Nominations (Left)
Donna Metcalf — Education & Interpretation (Right)



Greetings to my Columbia District Sisters,

I am Donna Metcalf, your new Education and Interpretation Coordinator. I was inspired to volunteer when I heard it was about interpreting and creating a broader understanding of UMW mission projects. There is nothing more important than advocating for those who struggle to meet their daily needs or need opportunity for education, health support or leadership training to build a stronger future.

I have long had a heart for mission in all parts of the world and find this a perfect fit for my passions and growing fascination with diversity in all its nuances. I have gone to mission and followed the *response* magazine for many years and see education as a springboard to inspiration, action and problem solving. Educating others really lights a fire in me and calls on all my skills for sure!

I've been attending my church, Oak Grove UMC in the Milwaukie area, for over 20 years and have been active in UMW since retirement in 2010. I serve as my unit president and find program development and encouraging others in leadership the best part of my job. The UMW mission of growing spiritually, enjoying fellowship with my Christian sisters and serving global missions is a perfect combination to help me give back and yet grow in faith. I have a warm, helpful unit in which to serve...

I'm already finding being part of your Columbia District leadership team is very exciting and filling me with exciting possibilities. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve and feel free to contact me anytime at 503-655-9049 or donnalmetcalf@comcast.net. I would love to hear from you!

Holy Spirit give us wings...

Donna Metcalf

Greetings,

My name is Loretta Milton - a long time resident of NE Portland, growing up in Roseburg, OR. I am a mother of 3 and grandmother of 5, married for 42 years, losing my husband in 2011. I retired from a 30 year teaching career in the Portland Public and Reynolds School Districts. I attend the Great Spirit UMC in NE Portland.

I am shaped by decades of connection to the kindness and dedication of the UMW community, inspired by bold and brave women who continue to grace the pathway....helping to "bend the arc of history toward justice".

Loretta Milton

The Year in Review— 2019

We celebrated our 150th year as United Methodist Women. Combining all the Unit, District and Conference events, we ate a lot of CAKE!

We paid \$31,259.17 to our Pledge to Mission, our goal was \$40,000! Suzanne is still taking Pledges from Units that have not been turned in.

We said "good by" to 2 Active Units this year. The Dalles and Pendleton. Sorry to see them go.

We made a presence at the State Capitol in Salem at the Oregon Advocacy Day last February.