

Columbia Explorer

Columbia District United Methodist Women

August, 2020



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Book Report *So You Want to Talk About Race*

Did you Know? Name of local woman who was an early leader in UMW and who was an outstanding Bible studies lecturer (hint: scholarship named in her honor)

Doctor Gertrude Boyd Crane

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.

Columbia District Annual Meeting September 19, 2020

Zoom from 10:00 - 11:30 am.

Theme: *School to Prison Pipeline : What's Happening to Girls/Women of Color?*

Speaker: **Gloria Marple**

Zoom Link: Will be available in September.

The School-to-Prison Pipeline refers to the school policies and procedures that drive many of our nation's schoolchildren into a pathway that begins in school and ends in the criminal justice system.

Behavior that once led to a trip to the principal's office and detention, such as school uniform violations, profanity and "talking back," now often leads to suspension, expulsion, and/or arrest. Today, largely as a result of "zero tolerance" policies that mandate harsh punishments for even minor misbehavior in schools, 3.3 million children are suspended or expelled from school each year, approximately double the rate of the 1970s. Further, harsh school discipline policies disproportionately impact students of color, students with disabilities and students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer/questioning (LGBTQ)

There had been a Mission u study planned for this year on this topic. Hopefully this presentation will give you a start on this very timely topic. Using the book, PUSHOUT (by Monique W Morris) information will be shared as well as some options to start working on this issue now. The study is planned for next year.

Gloria Marple

Gloria Marple:



Gloria was born in St. Helens, Oregon where her father was pastor. At the age of 5 (and after serving at Medford) they moved to Blackfoot, Idaho. She lived in different towns in Idaho as her father was called to Pastor. Eventually she moved with her parents to Portland where she married Raleigh Marple in 1973. And in 1986 they adopted two Special Needs sons, Josh and David. They lived in northeast Portland for many years, until Raleigh and Gloria moved to Yamhill, Oregon in 2012.

Gloria was a Mental Health Counselor at the Washington County Jail in Hillsboro, Oregon for almost 20 years. She conducted different cognitive groups for the both women and men in the Jail. She retired on December 31, 2018 from the Jail.

Gloria was also Lay Assigned at Wilshire United Methodist Native American Fellowship (now known as Great Spirit) at quarter time from 2011 until 2016. Great Spirit is located in northeast Portland. At most recent count, there are over 38,000 urban Natives in Portland. She learned a great deal from her work with the Native American people.

She served on the Conference UMW team from 2004 to 2010. First as Membership, Nurture, and Outreach person and then as Vice President. She also served as President of the Metro District from 2010 to 2011. She has most recently served as Spiritual Growth person for Columbia District.

In 2012, Gloria was consecrated as a Deaconess of the United Methodist Church. Besides her ministry being her work in the Washington County Jail, she also became a Life Coach for the new Deaconesses and Home Missioners coming in the Order. She is still continuing that work with a group to be consecrated at the 2021 General Conference,.

President's Message

As a youngster I would begin letters to my Grandmother: "Dear Grandma; I am fine, how are you?"

So, Dear Sisters in Christ:

I am fine, how are you? I pray that you are all fine and your families and friends are as well. And I really am fine, too.

"Standing at the edge of the waters of change can be scary-even, as Exodus tells us, when the Promised Land waits for us on the other side. As women of faith, we find our hope and strength in one another and in knowing God is with us in all transitions." response Magazine, July/August issue

I so enjoy reading each issue of response, and try to take time for the Bible study. The current issue's study talked about "change," and "transition." Change is a given, whether we like it or not. Transition is more about how we respond to that change.

As we continue to live with change and transition, I encourage you to take time for self-care and prayer, and be open to change and transition in your life. We are blessed to be women of faith, "knowing God is with us, always."

Our Annual Meeting is on September 19, 10:00AM – 11:30AM, via Zoom. There will be information closer to the meeting date on how to access Zoom on your computer or how to participate on a cell phone. I hope that everyone who is able will attend. We will honor those women who have passed away since our 2019 meeting, worship, and vote on our slate of officers and budget for 2021.

Unit Presidents, please send the names of women who passed away to me by September 1 so they can be listed in our agenda.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Meeting even though we won't be sharing hugs!

I keep you all faithfully in my prayers...

In Christ's Love,

Janice



Healthy, Vital Units Recognition

Our Oregon/Idaho Conference sponsors a healthy, vital unit program with criteria and certificates typically awarded at the Every Member Enrichment Event. Unfortunately, that event was cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions, so we are implementing Plan B.

This important program provides specific criteria to measure connection to UMW organization and purpose and stresses spiritual growth, education and interpretation of mission, social action and membership nurture and outreach.

Highlight recognition is given along the way to those activities that particularly generate leadership development. OR/ID Conference uses an athletic metaphor to express accomplishments, so the unit is awarded a Healthy, Athlete or Olympian rating with coach whistles for leadership achievements.



It is a big order all around, but some units have reported on 2019 as follows:

- Portland First UMC** **Olympian with 10 coach whistles**
- Montavilla UMC** **Olympian and 9 coach whistles**
- Parkrose UMC** **Healthy and 5 coach whistles**
- Oak Grove UMC** **Healthy and 6 coach whistles**
- Gresham UMC** **Athlete and 9 coach whistles**
- Aloha UMC** **Honorable Mention and 1 coach whistle**
- Tabor Heights UMC** **Honorable Mention and 2 coach whistles**

I'm sure this only represents the tip of the iceberg in our productive activities in all the units. We are blessed with creative and giving hearts as we turn our efforts to God's work.

If you wish to post a certificate or have a question, please email me at donnalmetcalf@comcast.net to confirm mailing address or otherwise respond.

A big congratulations on all your efforts and I know God is blessing and multiplying all your work.

Donna Metcalf, Education & Interpretation

Columbia District United Methodist Women Slate of Officers - 2021

- President**Janice Stevens
- Vice President**Lydia Henry
- Secretary**Clarice Kruschwitz
- Treasurer**Suzanne Wardenaar
- Social Action**Claudia Roberts
- Spiritual Growth**Donna Metcalf
- Communications**Clarice Kruschwitz
- Resource Room Manager** OPEN
- Education & Interpretation** ..OPEN
- Membership & Outreach**OPEN

Nominations From the Floor

Nominations will be open and accepted from the floor. If you or anyone you know, would be willing to accept any of the open positions, please present them at our Zoom meeting.

Book Report

I decided that I didn't have any business being a part of the Black Lives Matters rallies, so decided to do some reading of the issues instead. I read *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijema Oluo. This is one of the books in the United Methodist Women's Reading Program. I consider that I am not racist, but learned that I really don't know what it is like to live in black or brown skin, every day, year and decades. I don't know what it feels like to try to fit into a white world, with jobs, being a person of suspect, and even down to people wanting to touch my hair!

Instead of reading this book I listened to it on an audio book, that I checked out of the Multnomah County Library. It was read by a woman of color, so it was like the author was speaking to me. This book is a Bonus book, so counts as two Social Action books. Two thumbs UP.

Clarice Kruschwitz



2020 Unit Pledge to Mission

Pledge Amount \$ _____

UMW Unit Name _____

President's or Treasurer's Signature _____

Please return this form to the Columbia District Treasurer, Suzanne Wardenaar by mail at 420 NW 11th Ave. #501, Portland, OR 07209. Please send these in by September 15th.

UMW Annual Meeting Offering

Since we are unable to have an offering at our Columbia District UMW Annual Meeting in person this year, you are encouraged to send in an offering to Suzanne Wardenaar at the address above. That will help the district to come closer to our Mission Pledge of \$40,000 for the year.

Mission u

Since Mission u has been cancelled for the year of 2020, the Mission u team is offering this possibility for study this year.

The adult spiritual growth study, [Finding Peace in an Anxious World](#), has been adapted for use either at home or in virtual small groups. Videos and a participant's guide are available for free download on the United Methodist Women website unitedmethodistwomen.org. Using the Serenity Prayer and the book of Proverbs, participants can explore ways to discover peace through Scriptural and spiritual disciplines and to live fully as disciples of Christ.

Quilts for UMC Annual Conference



Pictures of Quilts for the UMC Annual Conference will be shown at UMC Annual Conference as well as Columbia District Annual Meeting and OR/ID United Methodist Annual Meeting. Please send your digital pictures of your quilts to Claudia Roberts at clarobb@juno.com

A decision will be made in the near future about where to send the quilts.

Minutes of the 2019 Columbia District United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting

We will not be able to have the minutes of our United Methodist Women's Annual meeting in 2019 in printed form at the meeting. The following pages are minutes of the UMW Annual Meeting of 2019. Please review the minutes, if you notice any additions or corrections that need to be made, then bring those corrections to our Zoom UMW Annual Meeting on September 2019.

OR/ID United Methodist Women Annual Meeting

October 17, 2020 at 10:00— Noon, Pacific Daylight Time by Zoom. A link for the Zoom call will be sent in September.

Oct. 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm. PDT a Practice Zoom meeting for those not familiar with Zoom.

Theme: *Peace in an Anxious World.*

**2019 COLUMBIA DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Fremont United Methodist Church
September 14, 2019**

Gathering and Worship

President Janice Stevens welcomed the group and made introductions. Hymn Singing and Worship was led by the District Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Gloria Marple. Eleven member's names were read in remembrance of those United Methodist women who have gone before us in 2018-2019.

Call to Order of Business Meeting

President Janice called the Business Meeting to order at 10:00 am. The *Purpose* was recited by all attending.

Attendance

Secretary Clarice Kruschwitz took the attendance of those there by their Units. 30 United Methodist Women were present, from 9 Units and 1 without a Unit. It was determined that it was a Quorum.

Minutes

Minutes of the 2018 Columbia District Annual Meeting at the Great Spirit United Methodist Church were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections, hearing none, the 2018 Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Suzanne Wardenaar presented the Treasurer's Report for the year 2018. She reported that we have not been able to meet our Proposed Pledge to Mission (\$40,000) to the OR/ID Conference United Methodist Women for several years.

<i>Beginning Balance (Jan.1 2019)</i>	\$0.00
<i>Income</i>	\$38,679.25
<i>Disbursements</i>	35,519.96
<i>Ending Balance</i>	3,159.29
<i>Pledge to Mission</i>	30,580.63

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Presentation on the Budget for 2020

Suzanne presented the 2020 Budget as presented on page 7 of the Program Book. One change from the 2018 Budget was reducing the amount for Audit to \$300 from \$500. The total District Budget is \$8,280, plus \$600 in the Quadrennial Event Fund, and \$40,000 in the District Proposed Pledge to Mission. Suzanne *moved that we accept the 2020 Budget as presented.* The motion Passed.

Standing Rules

The following Standing rule changes were proposed to the Columbia District United Methodist Women's Standing Rules to comply with the OR/ID United Methodist Women's Standing rules on Honoraria and Love gifts.

D. Honoraria and Love Gifts

1. Honoraria may be paid to keynote speakers and workshop leaders from outside the elected leadership as follows:
 - Not to exceed:
 - \$75.00 for keynote presenter (previously \$50.00)
 - \$25.00 for leaders of one-day workshops from outside the team
 - \$250. For leader of two-day retreat (such as Spiritual Retreat)
2. An amount of \$50.00 to help defer costs may be paid to the local units hosting a District event.
3. A \$10.00 Gift to Mission will be presented to both the church and United Methodist Women unit hosting a District event.

Janice moved that the *Standing Rules for the Columbia District be changed to comply with the OR/ID United Methodist Women's Standing Rules on Honoraria and Love Gifts.* The motion passed.

Nominations

President Janice in the absence of a Nominations Chair presented the positions that are vacant and need to be filled. Becky Warren told a little about the job descriptions of the positions vacant. The positions vacant are: Vice President; Nominations Chair; more names for the Committee on Nominations; Education & Interpretation; Membership Nurture & Outreach. Janice opened nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor for any of the vacant positions.

(p.2 of Columbia District United Methodist Women’s Annual Meeting Minutes—2019)

President Janice moved that the *Columbia District Nominated Slate of Officers become the Elected Slate of Officers for the 2019 year*. Motion passed.

Columbia Slate of Officers for 2019

<i>President</i>	<i>Janice Stevens</i>	<i>Montavilla UMW</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Clarice Kruschwitz</i>	<i>Montavilla UMW</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Suzanne Wardenaar</i>	<i>Fremont UMW</i>
<i>Communication Coordinator</i>	<i>Clarice Kruschwitz</i>	<i>Montavilla UMW</i>
<i>Resource Room Manager</i>	<i>Judi Hanson</i>	<i>Christ UMW</i>
<i>Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator</i>	<i>Gloria Marple</i>	<i>Great Spirit UMW</i>
<i>Social Action Coordinator</i>	<i>Claudia Roberts</i>	<i>Fremont UMW</i>
<i>Member, Committee on Nominations</i>	<i>Loretta Milton</i>	<i>Great Spirit UMW</i>

Installation of New Officers

OR/ID Conference President, Becky Warren, led the Installation Service for these Officers for 2019. Each Officer was given a gift that represented her position.

Legacy Report

Janice gave a report on how the Legacy Fund did in this 150th year. National total from inception of Legacy Fund to June 30 is \$19,312,933.25 toward goal of 60 million. OR/ID Conference has given \$9,816.09 in first 6 months of this year. Total for our conference is \$67,679.09. Legacy Pins were handed to those who had recently given to the fund from our District. National doesn’t send them out to the individuals, but sends them to the Districts to give out. The pins go to the first time givers.

Social Action

Social Action Chair, Claudia Roberts, pointed out the various things on the Social Action table. A couple of things highlighted were the items on the table about a Living Wage and about the drastic cuts proposed in the food stamp program.

Book Review

Program Resource Room Manager, Judi Hanson, gave a review from the 2020 United Methodist Women’s Reading list, *Tilley and the Crazy Eights*, a fiction book in Social Action.

Closing Comments

Janice pointed out several of the last pages of the Program Booklet, including one about the OR/ID UMW Conference Quilt Project, The United Methodist Women Every Woman’s Leadership Potential, and the Evaluation Sheet. Janice adjourned the Business Meeting at 11:00 am.

Keynote Speaker

Following a Break, we heard from Jules Nielsen, Co Pastor at the Portsmouth Union Church, about how their church is working on building an affordable apartment building on their property, and how other churches can work together on using their extra spaces to work towards homes for the homeless.

Closing Worship and Lunch

Gloria led us in singing, devotion and prayer including grace for the meal. A Salad Lunch was enjoyed following the worship.

Clarice Kruschwitz, Secretary of Columbia District United Methodist Women

Columbia District United Methodist Women Addendum to the Annual Meeting, September 16, 2019

Education & Interpretation Member added to the Elected Officers for 2019-2020

A day following the Annual Meeting, President Janice received a phone call from Donna Metcalf from the Oak Grove United Methodist Women’s unit, saying that after she had prayed about taking the position of Education & Interpretation on the Columbia District Executive Team, she would be willing to take that position. Janice got a unanimous *Yes vote* by email from the rest of the Executive Team for her to take the position.