

United Methodist Women - Oregon-Idaho Conference

# Crater Lake District Messenger

April 2020

## MISSION u 2020

**Due to the Coronavirus, there will not be a face-to-face Mission u this summer.**

However, the Mission u team and the conference UMW team will be looking at ways to **bring the spiritual growth study "Finding Peace in an Anxious World" to our members in an online format.** We will have **more information about this at a later date.**

Also, for those who were planning on taking the study "**Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools,**" please know that this study **will be offered next year (2021)** at Mission u.

Your Mission u team asks for your prayers and patience as we determine how to bring Mission u to you in a new format.



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This is but one more example of how our lives have been impacted by this pandemic. Here are some important words from United Methodist Women's National office:

"United Methodist Women members are responding the Coronavirus pandemic by supporting our households, our congregations and communities, and ourselves while also reaffirming our commitment to Social Justice Advocacy for women, youth and children. The pandemic has made visible the fractures in our society, where the most marginal communities are already being hard hit. This is true of many people in our nation, among them Native American tribes, Asian Americans facing racist vitriol, low-wage workers facing lay-offs with inadequate safety nets, women facing domestic violence while in quarantine, incarcerated people in close quarters unable to protect themselves from the virus, frontline workers, poor families who do not have reserves to stock up on groceries, people without homes to shelter in, undocumented immigrant workers who face job loss and cannot access federal programs, farm workers who pick our food yet don't get paid sick leave or decent wages, children who do not have computers and internet to continue their schooling online, people with other chronic illnesses who continue to need medical care, and many, many others...."

To read the rest of the article and access links for additional ways we can respond, [CLICK HERE](#)



Happy Easter Season!

No...Easter is NOT cancelled!

I have been asked this question by many of my church friends knowing they actually mean church services. But it got me thinking...will we allow our isolation (be it now during this virus or in normal times) to believe that the resurrection doesn't include us? That the Easter experience is reserved for one weekend in either March or April on the calendar?

Well, my thought is that we are the Resurrection People all year long.

In a 2018 article written by Derek Vreeland, *Four Ways to Walk in Love as Resurrection People*, he outlines how to become a family as citizens of God's new world with a new identity. We are cross-shaped people. We are resurrection people.

I have paraphrased and condensed below the Four Ways to Become Resurrection People, as taken from his article:

#1: *Prioritize the other* - Jesus calls us to orient and prioritize our lives around love for God and love of neighbor. We demonstrate our love for God by our love for other people. We do this by prioritizing others over ourselves.

#2: *Love your enemies* - Jesus shows us a better way. Jesus teaches us to love not only people like us, not only people who love us, but even people who are different, people we are supposed to be against. We love them by seeing the world from their perspective. We love them by showing respect, even in the face of disagreement.

#3: *Reject codependency* - Creating emotional and relational boundaries can feel like hate to those who are on the other side of the line. However it isn't motivated by hate, but by love, allowing both people to understand who they are and what they are each responsible for. Sometimes love in the way of Jesus means saying "no."

#4: *Extend mercy* - For Christians, the way of love implies that when we don't know what else to do, we love by extending mercy. Love is the answer to all of our questions.

*What about people of a different religion? Love them.*

*What about that Muslim family in my neighborhood? Love them.*

*What about people of a different sexual orientation? Love them.*

*What about immigrants? Love them.*

*What about the poor? Love them.*

*What about donkeys and elephants? Love them!*

*We do need to communicate the truth. But instead of "taking a stand for truth," communicate the truth about Jesus in the context of mercy made known by... love.*

So I offer this small lesson during these trying times in history to remind us that we are Easter People, Resurrection people all year long. And as the song goes, "You will know we are Christians by our love, by our love...yes you'll know we are Christians by our love."

Sharon Smith  
Crater Lake District President

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There are hardly words to express my thoughts and feelings at this catastrophic time. I often wonder if the universe is trying to tell us something. We have been forced to slow down. With fewer planes in the skies & fewer cars on the roads, the earth can breathe a bit easier. We aren't in control of our world as much as we think we are. Yes, we can spread this virus but we can also spread love, kindness & positivity. Use this time to join the millions around

the world who are spending time in collective prayer. I know of several groups who are encouraging people to join them at specific times but simply spending time in prayer will help.

*Sheryl Aydelott*

### **Prayer for a Pandemic**

By Cameron Wiggins Bellm

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making the rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those that have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money remember those who have no money at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,  
Let us choose love during this time.

When we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other.

Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen



The information below is from our Conference Resource Room Managers and was shared with all District Resource Room Managers.

Resource Room Managers  
Conference Executive Team  
United Methodist Women  
Update - March 2020

Like much of the country, and world, Mission Resources has been in a bit of a state of flux.

Rumors have been rampant:

- there will be no more Gift to Mission cards and the only way to get them is to print them from the .pdf files online,
- Mission Resources is closing its doors,
- the Reading Program is coming to an end, *and*
- many more we haven't yet heard.

Well, it is with extreme pleasure we are able to report that **all of the above are false**. In speaking with Andrew Cheu at the United Methodist Women offices in New York, we were advised of the following:

- Gift to Mission cards are one of our Channels of Giving, and they will continue to be available through Mission Resources. Several of the cards are out of stock, but are being reprinted, and new cards are in the design process.
  - What is new is that the cards are now available in a PDF format and can be printed on a home/office printer. The purchase procedure is the same as with our customary cards. The upside: they are immediately available. The downside: You will have to purchase envelopes.
  - Gift to Mission cards are also available as Ecards. You will purchase them with a credit card when you go on-line to send the card.
- Mission Resources will continue to be available for the purchase of all United Methodist Women merchandise. The ordering process is unchanged.
- The Reading Program is alive and well; just a little different.
  - The catalogs will no longer be available as free printed materials from Mission Resources. Instead, the catalog can be printed from a PDF file found in the Reading Program tab of the United Methodist Women website, or, for those that don't want to print it, a virtual copy is also available. Simply double click to open and page through it as you would a printed copy. What you won't find in the catalog are stock numbers or an order form and shipping information.
  - Because books can be ordered for less cost than would be available through Mission Resources, it was decided that books would no longer be warehoused by Mission Resources, but members could obtain them through less expensive third parties, i.e., libraries, bookstores, online, Kindle. However, this does pose a challenge to our districts in that there are units where none of their members have a computer, others where members have never, or won't, order merchandise online, and churches without units where members would still like to be aware of the Reading Program book selections. Ann and Carol will be in contact with districts to brainstorm ways these units can be accommodated.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Program Planner

Joyce Barber



Hi all! May God bless you and keep you safe from this Coronavirus. Hopefully all will be back to normal by September 26th for our Crater Lake District Annual Meeting of United Methodist Women.

We are fortunate to have Gloria Marple as our keynote speaker for this event. She will be speaking about the School to Prison Pipeline. Mark your calendar for this event which will be held at Lebanon First United Methodist Church.

Blessings to all,  
Your sister in Christ,  
*Joyce Barber*

## Resource Room

*(Continued)*

- More detail regarding the Reading Program and ordering books can be found online at:

[unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram).

Carol Richard  
Ann Murchison  
Resource Room Managers  
Oregon/Idaho Conference  
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## Social Action

Charlotte Sutton

The title of my office is Social Action. So that usually means I am urging causes that United Methodist Women support such as climate change or prison justice or maternal health. We have a powerful voice speaking out for action in the areas where we see need. However, this day I am calling for social inaction! In this time of social distancing and pandemic, it would be hypocritical of us to be out advocating for, or against, our latest issue. Stay home folks! Many of us are in the vulnerable category even if we are currently healthy. Be willing to be isolated. Use your phone or computer to stay connected with others, take walks alone, watch too much TV, but take care of yourself. The time will come when we can once again congregate, sing, pray and share together, but for now social inaction is our byword.

*Charlotte Sutton,*  
*Social Action.*  
541-344-4085





**THE MEMBER WHO NEVER CAME BACK**

**A Role Play Presentation on Membership**

**STAGING and PROPS:** *Two copies of the script, a pen, an envelope, a plain piece of paper, two telephones. The two people stand back to back. PERSON #1 is writing a letter to PERSON #2. In actuality, PERSON #1 is reading the script and writing along while reading. As PERSON #1 is reading and writing, PERSON #2 is reading the letter to herself, as if she’s just received it in the mail.*

**PERSON #1:**

Dear (name of PERSON #2) ...

It amazes me now to think that United Methodist Women spend so much time looking for new members ... when I was there all the time.

Do you remember me? I’m the woman who was asked to join. I paid my pledge to mission, and then I was asked to be a loyal, faithful member.

I am the woman who came to every meeting, but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have her own friends to talk to and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but no one even introduced herself or acknowledged that I was present.

I kept hoping that somebody would ask me to serve on a committee or to participate and contribute my gifts in some way. But no one did.

Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. No one called to see if I was okay. The next month, no one asked me where I’d been. It didn’t seem to matter very much whether I was there or not.

When it came time for the next meeting, I decided to stay home and watch a good television program instead. At first, I felt a little guilty about staying home because I had made a commitment to be loyal and faithful.

When I returned the next month, still no one asked me where I’d been. No one even noticed me. I began to wonder if United Methodist Women really wanted or needed me.

I’ve always thought of myself as a good person, caring and committed. I am a hard worker, and I love my church and community. You know what else I am? I’m the member of United Methodist Women who never came back.

Sincerely... (Name of PERSON #1)

**PERSON #1 puts down her pen, folds the letter, puts it in an envelope and addresses it.**

**PERSON #2 turns to face the audience. She is visibly upset by the letter. PERSON #1 “freezes” in place while PERSON #2 addresses the audience.**

*(Continued on page 7)*



## Membership Nurture & Outreach (Continued)

(Continued from page 6)

### PERSON #2:

I am so embarrassed. I can't believe this happened in my local unit, and I'm the chairperson of Membership Nurture and Outreach. How could we not have noticed her? Why didn't we help her to become more involved? She seemed so willing, and she tried so hard to get our attention. How could we have overlooked her?

You know what... we have to do something about this. And the six-year Membership Campaign that we're just beginning is a great plan for making sure this doesn't ever happen again.

We are going to reach out to women of all ages, races, cultures, and languages. We are going to increase membership and nurture all our members for active, meaningful involvement in United Methodist Women.

And I am personally going to do something about what happened to (Name of PERSON #1). Maybe she will give us another chance.

***PERSON #2 picks up the telephone receiver and calls PERSON #1. She picks up the telephone receiver when the telephone rings (making ringing sound). PERSON #2 begins the conversation...***

### PERSON #2:

Hello, (Name of PERSON #1) ... this is (Name of PERSON #2) from the local unit of United Methodist Women. I just read your letter, and I'd like to say that I'm very sorry about what happened. Could we get together for a cup of coffee and talk?

### PERSON #1:

I'd like that very much. Thank you for asking.

***Both "freeze" for a moment before ending the role play.***

**Adapted by Cheryl A. Hemmerle  
Executive Secretary for Teens & College/University Women  
General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church  
Women's Division  
October 1996**

**Submitted by Cheryl Drumheller  
Crater Lake District  
United Methodist Women  
Membership Nurture & Outreach**



## Committee on Nominations

**Kathi Hoffer-Riedman**

As difficult as these times are, much growth is happening. We are spending more time with family or learning to be alone without being lonely. We are using less of the world's resources and showing that we could actually reverse climate change with drastic measures. We are learning ways of connecting with others that don't require traveling hundreds of miles. We are valuing the communities we belong to, church, civic clubs, neighborhoods and friends - and being with them on Zoom, FaceTime, Facebook, etc. We are reconsidering what is most important in life and holding it dear. Hopefully a new normal will evolve and the world will be better for having experienced this ordeal. So what does this have to do with the Committee on Nominations?

The Crater Lake District United Methodist Women Leadership Team needs you! This is an opportunity to connect with wonderful women from all over the area, who believe in the power of working together, being Christ's hands and feet, to change the world and make it a better place for everyone, to help evolve that new normal. We have several vacancies to fill: President, Mission Coordinator of Social Action, Mission Coordinator of Education & Interpretation, Mission Coordinator of Membership, Nurture & Outreach, and two openings on the Committee on Nominations. Terms are generally two to four years. Please consider joining this group of amazing women!

*Kathi Hoffer-Riedman*  
*Chair, Committee on Nominations*

## Treasurer

**Kirsten Allam**

I am so grateful for United Methodist Women and our faith in God to carry us through these challenging times. I pray for your health and wellbeing. The Bible is filled with encouraging words. Whatever challenge lies ahead of you, know that God is with you and He will carry you through the journey.

One of my neighbors posted a sign in their window "Proverbs 3:5-6". Which reads *'Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.'*

You may also look to our Gift to Mission cards for encouragement for a friend or family member. The Gift to Mission Cards and Gift in Memory cards are available to download and print from your computer at home.

Go to [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org) scroll down to the bottom of the page. Under "Where the Money Goes," select "Treasurer's Resources," then select the big green button "Mission Resources." This will take you to the selection of cards available to download and print.

*Blessings my friends, stay well,*  
*Kirsten Allam*  
*Treasurer*





**Legacy report Recap – March 2020**

Totals raised as of December 31, 2019:

	<b>OR-ID Conference Totals</b>	<b>National Totals</b>
<b>Outstanding Commitment:</b> (total unfulfilled pledge amts)	<b>\$2,004.01</b>	\$233,259.19
<b>2019 Contributions</b> (cash rec'd & 2019 new pledges)	<b>\$12,881.27</b>	\$1,415,698.94
<b>2019 Total Payment Received:</b> (total actual funds rec'd)	<b>\$12,974.78</b>	\$1,214,273.43
<b>Cumulative Contributions Inception to Date:</b>	<b>\$71,024.68</b>	\$20,009,648.47

**Re: March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Day of Giving**

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, Day of Giving gifts may be made online or via mail through **APRIL 20, 2020**.

Online giving via <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/#legacyfund>

Via mail (475 Riverside Dr. 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10115)

Phone 212-870-3705 – Development Staff will answer 9 am – 5 pm

Significant match from anonymous donors will leverage gifts received

**Quilts and Blankets for Greater Northwest Area Annual Conference**

*While we don't know yet if we will have an in-person Annual Conference, keep making those quilts and blankets; they will still go to some child or teen in need.*

The Greater Northwest Area Annual Conference (Alaska, Pacific Northwest, and Oregon-Idaho), is scheduled for June 11-14, 2020 at the Washington State Fairgrounds Showplex Center in Puyallup, Washington.

We have a friendly contest about which conference will have the most quilts/blankets.

Quilt/Blanket Sizes: (sizes may vary): 45" X 45"; 45" X 60"; 56" X 84" (twin bed size)

Keep your quilts and blankets in a safe place until close to the Annual Conference dates. Be sure to count them.

Your pastor(s) and/or lay delegate(s) can transport your quilts/blankets from your church to Puyallup. Oregon-Idaho Conference United Methodist Women will have several tables. Each table will have a list by District with each church name and space to record the number delivered. The quilts will be displayed throughout the conference. On the last day, the quilts will be blessed. Your District President will pick up the quilts for her district. Your District will decide where the quilts will be distributed. The request is that they be given to agencies who will give them to children and youth who are at risk.

Want to be sure that your quilt gets back to your district? Please attach a small card (2" by 3" or less) using a safety pin to your quilt/blanket that indicates your church name, your district name, and Oregon-Idaho United Methodist Women. The plan is to donate 10 quilts from each district to Tacoma House, our local Mission Institution.





## **PURPOSE of the 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.

**Be sure to read the 2020 Spring edition of the United Methodist Women Oregon-Idaho Conference Newsletter "Our Two Cents."**

**It contains interesting and informative articles.**

[Click here for your copy.](#)

## **Calendar of Events**

### **2020**

September 11-13

Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event, Calling u, Tempe, AZ

September 26

Crater Lake District Annual Meeting @ Lebanon First UMC

October 16

District Leadership Training Event @ Boise First UMC, Boise, ID

October 17

Conference Annual Meeting @ Boise First UMC, Boise, ID

