



UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Janet Henke

Happy New Year to all! Not only do we have a full, new year ahead of us for new challenges and new friends but 2019 is a Bazaar year! Every two years we anticipate November and the Bazaar. Recognizing that this is a Bazaar year for us means that planning starts now! The initial plan is to scale back some in what we offer but maintain the quality people have come to expect. Already people are calling the Church and asking members if this is the year. At the January 28th Executive Board meeting we will discuss in some detail the plans for the event. Circles will know which booth they will be working on. Collections for the Bazaar will start in late summer. The dates are: July 26, August 23, September 6, September 21, October 4 and October 19. Times will be announced later.

As we start the New Year, I have a challenge for each member. Every year we publish the budget and the amount of a pledge for each member. Some of you promptly support the UMW with your pledge. Others wait until the end of the year to make their pledge. We appreciate your support. However, our budget, especially the portion that is due to the York River District is paid early in the calendar year and is based on the total number of members on our roster. So, what is the challenge? Well, I would encourage each of you if you are able to pay your pledge in the first quarter of the year, so the Treasurer can make payments to the York River District and still have operating funds for other projects we have budgeted. Payments made at any time during 2019 count for the 2019 tax year! Also, remember that you can become a Rainbow giver. Contact me or any officer for more information if you are interested. Be the first Circle to have 100% of the members pay their pledges!

SOCIAL ACTION

Karen McPherson

By the time you read this, several members from the trip to Capitol Square in Richmond, meetings with state Senators and Delegates, an issue briefing provided by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, a lunch at Bon Air, and an afternoon discussion about the issues and about advocacy in general. With

issues such as health care, wage justice, equal rights for women, the environment, gun violence, education, and immigration in front of the General Assembly this year, this yearly event provides an important opportunity for members of the United Methodist Church from across Virginia to put their “faith in action.” church will have attended United Methodist Day at the General Assembly, on Thursday, January 31, 2019. Hosted by Bon Air United Methodist Church in North Chesterfield (just south of Richmond), this event included a breakfast at Bon Air UMC, a bus

CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

The **Carol Scott Circle** met on Tuesday, January 8. There were 12 members and 2 guests present. Linda Upshaw gave a brief description of the 2019 budget. Cindy Freeman presented the program in which she described her second career as a novelist. Ruth Anderson presented the devotions and introduced Cindy.

The **Clarke-Heritage Circle** met on Tuesday, December 4. Twenty members were present. Meghan Roth Clayton shared her path to the ministry with us. We discussed Christmas memories and sang carols. The January meeting was held on January 8. Fifteen members were in attendance. Rev. Bill Jones was the speaker and talked about the tour of the Wesley sites in the United Kingdom.

The **Friendship Circle** met on December 11. Nine members were in attendance. We celebrated the holiday season with a pot luck luncheon and lots of happy conversation. Then we played Dirty Santa with much laughter. Everyone went home with a White Elephant.

The January meeting was held on January 8 with 9 members and 1 guest present. After brief business and a Response moment, we began our task of wrapping gifts for the Shepherd's Fold Lenten boxes. With wrapping paper spread out, hundreds of gifts on the table, tape and scissors available, we wrapped and talked, sharing our Christmas news and bringing folks up to date.

The **Jean Craig Circle** met on Tuesday, January 8. Three members were in attendance. Mary Spence presented a program on “Becoming Prayer Partners.” The group discussed setting time aside each day for

The Sisters in Faith Circle

In December, Sisters in Faith gathered at the Ford's Colony Swim and Tennis Club on Wednesday, December 12th, for our annual Christmas party. There were 34 members and guests in attendance. We enjoyed a potluck dinner followed by singing and a gift exchange.

When the group met for January on Tuesday the 8th, there were 20 members and 3 guests present. Susan Sallwasser gave a presentation on her November 2018 Mission trip to Guatemala.

Susanna Wesley Circle met January 2, 2019 at 10:00am in room 309. 13 members were present. The program was Christmas fun and Traditions. Each member told about their family tradition and what they did this Christmas. We had lots of fun and laughter hearing about everyone's different experiences. We support FISH with food items and socks and underwear, we deliver the socks and underwear twice a year. It was reported that we took 94 pair of socks, 131 pair of underwear and 1 coat to FISH for December.

We continue to collect can tabs for Ronald McDonald house and items for Avalon.

The **Williamsburg Landing Circle** met on Tuesday, **Susanna Wesley Circle** January 15. Five members attended. The Circle collected items for Avalon. They discussed the new member Handbook and the budget for the upcoming year. Ruth asked each member to share a Christmas memory and the group finished with a game.

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Phyllis Lee of Clarke Heritage Circle and Terry Donnelly, Nancy Donnelly's husband. Nancy is also a member of Clarke Heritage,

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

January 28 UMW Board Meeting 7 p.m. Room 309
January 31 UMW Day at the General Assembly
February 9 York River District Training Wesley UMC, Hampton
February 27 UMW Board Meeting 7 p.m. Room 209