



April 5, 2017

Spring, Issue #2

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Letter from the President Lynne Grandstaff

A WIG for Central Texas Conference UMW

(That's a WILDLY IMPORTANT GOAL!)

Being president of Central Texas Conference comes with a packed calendar and a number of hats! I'm still getting used to the work and the various partnerships that I've assumed along with the role. One of those hats is the one I wear to attend the Central Texas Conference UMC Connectional Table. What a privilege it is to represent you at this group established to ensure that those in leadership positions in our conference have information about Bishop Lowry's and his cabinet's thoughts and concerns, and a common base from which to operate in our individual contexts.

So, recently, I attended the Connectional Table and heard about the WIG- the Wildly Important Goal- for the CTC UMC. I learned that statistics show that our tendency is to create long lists of goals, when what we should be doing is selecting a few Wildly Important Goals; Goals that are very specific and compelling; Goals that demand our focus and inspire our devotion and commitment to ensuring they are accomplished.

Once you have decided on the WIGs, it becomes much easier to plan and evaluate, to decide if the activities and projects on which you are spending your time, energy, and resources are moving you toward the WIGs, or simply using your time, energy and resources.

I found that the WIGs of CTC UMC relate beautifully to the work of United Methodist Women.

The Wildly Important Goal is to increase the number of Disciples of Jesus during the next 10 years through

- ◇ New Faith Communities
- ◇ Clergy & Lay Leadership Development
- ◇ Mission Focused Discipleship

I would say that our UMW WIG is the same, to increase the number of Disciples of Jesus, undergirded by these strategies:

- ◇ New Local UMW groups
- ◇ Leadership Development at all levels of UMW
- ◇ Mission Focused Discipleship

I pray that this WIG will influence your decisions and guide your work as you consider your plans to put faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth.

Blessed to serve with you,

Lynne Grandstaff, President

Greetings Sisters in UMW!

I hope you are enjoying Lent. The season of Easter will soon be upon us. I hope you experience Easter in a fresh new way this year.

I am excited to report that we are busy working on the Annual Fall Gathering. It will be fresh; new and busy. This year we will gather at Killeen FUMC on October 7. We will be having a one day event which means Officer's Training will be held in the afternoon in a breakout group. While Officer's Training is going on we will be offering various breakout groups for those attending. In the morning session we will have our business meeting along with Installation of Officers and a speaker.

This year we will be focusing on Economic Injustice. One of the areas we will be looking at are wages the wait staff make. We all go out to eat and have an impact on the restaurant business. One of the breakout groups will be focused on the book, *Behind the Kitchen Door* by Saru Jayaraman. We are asking those planning on attending to pick up a copy of this and read it ahead of time. The book can be found in many of our local libraries, on Amazon for around \$10.00, or Half Price Books. It was one of our books we were to read on the reading program. A brief description of the book is as follows, "How do restaurant workers live on some of the lowest wages of America? And how do poor working conditions - discriminatory labor practices, exploitation, and unsanitary kitchens - affect the meals that arrive at our restaurant tables? Sariu Jayaraman, who launched the national restaurant workers' organization Restaurant Opportunities Centers United, sets out to answer these questions by following the lives of restaurant workers in New York City, Washington D.C, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Miami, Detroit and New Orleans." I think the discussion will be informative and eye opening. Please pick up a copy today and start reading.

From the Desk of the Conference Secretary of Program Resources

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work.

For 140 years, United Methodist Women have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. The purpose of the program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

- * Expand understanding of and participation in God's mission.
- * Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.
- * Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.
- * Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
- * Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge.
- * Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

Take note that this year you can read any books from the 2011-2017 reading programs as a part of your reading plan. Please take advantage of the expanded selection.

Respectfully Submitted,
Corliss F. McBride

CTCUMW library

The CTCUMW library is growing slowly. It was suggested that a good way to make our books available to those who need a source for the reading program books is to contact Christie Roberts to request shipment of one of the books we hold in the "library," and then return it at a conference meeting or by mail to Christie.



If your unit has any books that everyone in the unit has read but are still part of the active year's lists, CTCUMW would accept the loan of those books and return to your church upon retirement.

The list of reading program books that are still an active part of the reading program this year is attached. Books indicated * are books that are in our library.

If you have any questions, suggestion or offerings for this program being offered through CTCUMW contact:

Christie Roberts
CTC UMW Librarian
817-279-3760

A Bonus Book counts in its category and one other category where you think it fits.)

✧In CTCUMW Library

EDUCATION FOR MISSION

2017

- *Boundless What Global Expressions of Faith Teach Us About Following Jesus* by Bryan Bishop
- *Faith Ed. Teaching About Religion in an Age of Intolerance* (**Bonus Book**) by Linda K Wertheimer
- *Liberating Black Church History – Making It Plain* by Juan Floyd-Thomas
- *Love Casts Out Fear, A Jihad Survivor's Journey from Revenge to Redemption* by Brother Nathan & David Culross
- *Wherever the River Runs, How a Forgotten People Renewed My Hope in the Gospel* by Kelly Minter
- *A History of Religion in 5 ½ Objects* by S. Brent Plate

2016

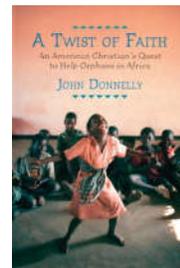
- *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land* by Ruth Everhart
- *Coffee, Tea, and Holy Water- One Woman's journey to Experience Christianity Around the Globe* by Amanda Hudson
- *Unbound: The Transformative power of Youth Mission Trips* (**Bonus Book**) Jann Treadwell
- *The Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance on Afghanistan* by Jenny Nordberg
- *Uprising: A New Age is Dawning for Every Mother's Daughter* by Sally Armstrong (**Bonus Book**)
- *Hope Runs* by Claire Diaz-Ortiz

2015

- ✧ *Chasing Chaos- My Decade In & Out of Humanitarian Aid* by Jessica Alexander
- *Faith & Struggle on Smokey Mountain; Hope for a Planet in Peril* by Benigno P Beltran (**Bonus Book**)
- *The Golden Cage- 3 Brother, 3 Choices, One Destiny* by Shirin Ebadi
- ✧ *Good God, Lousy World & Me – the Improbable Journey of a Human Rights Activist From Unbelief to Faith* by Holly Burkhalter (**Bonus Book**)
- *What's So Blessed About Being Poor?- Seeking the Gospel in the Slums of Kenya* (**Bonus Book**) by Kirk Byron Jones

2014

- *Awake: Doing A World of Good One Person at a Time* by Noel Brewer Yeats
- *A History of the Romani People* by Hristo Kyuchukov
- *On this Spirit Walk* by Henrietta Mann
- *Radio Shangri-La* by Lisa Napoli
- ✧ *A Twist of Faith* (**Bonus Book**) by John Donnelly
- *St Marks & Social Gospel* by Ellen Blue
- *Zimbabwe Bound* by Larite Kilian

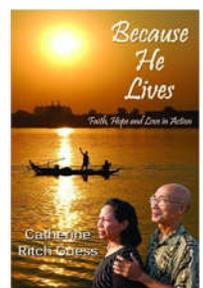


2013

- *Becoming a Justice Seeking Congregation: Responding to God's Justice Initiative* by McElvaney
- *Everyday Justice: The Global Impact of Our Daily Choices* by Julie Clawson
- *How Coffee Saved My Life And Other Stories of Stumbling to Grace* by Ellie Roscher
- *Rubble Nation – Haiti's Pain, Haiti's Promise* by Chris Hurlinger and Paul Jeffrey (**Bonus Book**)

2012

- ✧ *Beaded Hope* by Cathy Liggett TWO COPIES AVAILABLE
- ✧ *Because He Lives* by Catherine Ritch Guess (**Bonus Book**)
- *Cesar Chavez: A Photographic Essay* by Ilan Stivans
- ✧ *Forgotten Girls: Stories of Hope and Courage* by Kay Marshall Strom & Michele Rickett
- ✧ *It's Easier to Reach Heaven Than the End of the Street: A Jerusalem Memoir* by Emma Williams
- *We Wait You: Waiting on God in Eastern Europe* by Taryn R. Hutchison
- *Bamboo People* by Mitali Perkins



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

2017

- *Called to the Fire-A Witness for God in Mississippi* by Chet Bush
- *Falling Into Place: a Memoir of Overcoming* by Hattie Kauffman
- *High Yield- Seven Disciplines of the Fruitful Leader* by Lovett Weems, Jr & Tom Berlin
- *Not Safe for Church: Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations* by F Douglas Powe, Jr & Jasmine Rose Smothers
- *Global Girlfriends* by Stacey Edgar

2016

- *The Andrew Paradigm: How to Be a Lead Follower of Jesus* by Michael J Coyner
- *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education & Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai
- *The Weight of Mercy :the Novice Pastor on the City Streets* by Deb Richardson-Moore
- *Lean In* by Sheryl Sandberg

2015

- *Fulfilled: Living & Leading With Unusual Wisdom, Peace & Joy* by Kirk Byron Jones
- *The new Feminist Agenda: Defining the Next Revolution for Women, Work & Family* by Madeleine M Kunin
- *Sum It Up* by Pat Summitt
- *Tough Cookies: Leadership Lessons From 100 years of the Girl Scouts* by Kathy Cloinger
- *Get Off Your Donkey!* by Reggie McNeal
- *Vital Voices* by Alyse Nelson

2014

- *Back to Zero: The Search to Rediscover the Methodist Movement* by Gil Rendle
- *Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond* by Lilly Ledbetter and Lanier Scott Isom
- *King Peggy* by Peggienelene Bartles
- *Women, Spirituality and Transformative Leadership* by Kathie SchAAF
- *The Student Leadership Challenge* by James M. Kouzes & Berry Posner

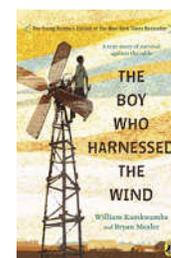


2013

- *Do it Anyway – The New Generation of Activists* by Courtney E. Martin
- *Her Place at the Table – A Woman’s Guide to Negotiating Five Key Challenges to Leadership Success* by Deborah M. Kolb, Ph.D., Judith, and Williams, Ph.D., Carol Frohlinger, J.D.
- *Outcasts United – An American Town, A Refugee Team, And One Woman’s Quest to Make a Difference* by Warren St. John
- *This Will Be Remembered of Her – Stories of Women Reshaping the World* by William B. Erdman Publishing Co.

2012

- *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba
- *Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus* by Mike Slaughter
- *More Bad Girls of the Bible* by Barbara J. Essex
- *Old Testament Prophets for Today* by Carolyn J. Sharp
- *Women Lead the Way* by Linda Tarr-Whelen



NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY

2017

- *Broken & Blessed-God Changes the World One Person & One Family as a Time* by Jessica LaGrone
- *Launch Your Encore-Finding Adventrue & Purpose Later in Life* by Hans Finzel & Rick Hicks
- *Money on Purpose- Finding a Faith-Filled Balance* by Shayna Lear
- *Seamless Faith- Simple Practices for Daily Family Life* by Traci Smith
- *Slowing Time* by Babarra Mahany
- *The Age of Dignity* by Ai-jen Poo
- *I'll Be Right There* by Kyung-Sook Shin

2016

- *Dreamers: An Immigrant Generation's Fight for Their American Dream* by Eileen Truax
- *House of Purple Cedar* by Tim Tingle
- *I Love Growing Older, But I'll Never Grow Old* by J Ellsworth Kalas
- *Miss Brenda & the Loveladies: A Heartwarming True Story of Grace, God & Gumption* by Brenda Spahn & Irene Zutell
- *Not Worth Saving: How a Severly Handicapped Boy Transformed Lives* by Ann Joyner
- *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice & Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson
- *In Capable Arms* by Sarah Kovac
- *This Far By Faith* by Faith Fowler

2015

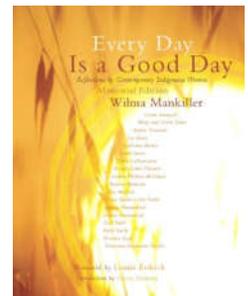
- *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe
- *January First- A Child's Descent into Madness & her Father's Struggle to Save Her* by Michael Schofield
- *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich
- *Whatever Happened to Dinner? Recipes & Reflections for Family Mealtime* by Melodie M Davis
- *When Pastors Prey* by Valli Boobal Batchelor
- *Have You Seen Marie?* by Sandra Cisneros & Ester Hernancez (illustrator)
- *Journey Out of Silence* by William Rush

2014

- *100 Simple Things You Can Do to Prevent Alzheimer's and Age Related Memory Loss* by Jean Carper
- *Please Look After Mom: A Novel* by Kyung-Sook Shin
- *Simply Salsa: Dancing Without Fear at God's Fiesta* by Janet Perez Eckles
- *Small Things With Great Love: Adventures in Loving Your Neighbor* by Margot Starbuck
- *Up: A Mother and Daughter's Peak Bagging Adventure* by Patricia Ellis Herr
- *Bury Me Standing* by Isabell Forseca
- *I Speak for Myself* by Aria Ebrahimji & Zahara T. Suratibela
- *Red Sky in the Morning* by Elizabeth Laird

2013

- *A Country for All – An Immigrant Manifesto* by Jorges Ramos
- *Alone and Invisible No More – How Grassroots Community Action and 21st Century Technologies Can Empower Elders to Stay in Their Homes and Lead Healthier Happier Lives* by Allan S. Teel, M.D.
- *Every Day is a Good Day – Reflections by Contemporary Indigenous Women* by Wilma Mankiller
- *Love in a Headscarf* by Shelina Zahra Janmohamed
- *Mind on the Run – A Bipolar Chronicle* by Dottie Pacharis
- *Radical Welcome – Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation* by Stephanie Spellers



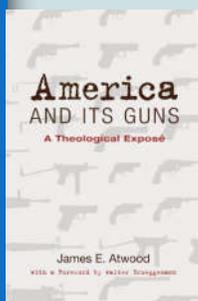
2012

- *Allow God to Wear Your Face: Spiritual Care for Those Who Are Ill* by Alice G. Knotts
- *Asylum Denied* by David Nagaruri Kenney & Philip G. Schrag
- *Breathe* by Nicole Braddock Bromley
- *I Am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced* by Nujood Ali
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

SOCIAL ACTION

2017

- *America & Its Guns (Bonus Book)* by James E Atwood
- *Building A Movement to End the New Jim Crow* by Daniel Hunter
- *Class Lives* by Chuck Collins, Jennifer Ladd, Maynard Seider, Felice Yeskel
- *Pre-Post-Racial America* by Sandhya Rani Jha
- *Snake Oil- How Fracking's False Promise of Plenty Imperils Our Future* by Richard Heinberg



SOCIAL ACTION

2017 (continued)

- *Stand Your Ground-Black Bodies & Justice of God* by Kelly Brown Douglas
- *Wage Theft- Crime & Justice #1* by Jeffrey Odell Korgen
- *What We're Fighting for Now is Each Other* by Wen Stephenson (**Bonus Book**)
- *Understanding & Dismantling Racism* by Joseph Brandt
- *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (**Bonus Book**)

2016

- *Rewilding Our Hearts* by Marc Bekoff
- *We Shall Not Be Moved: Methodist debate Race, Gender & Homosexuality* by Jaane Ellen Nickell (**Bonus Book**)
- *The White Umbrella: Waling with Survivors of Sex Trafficking* by Mary Francis Bowley

2015

- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichien
- *Behind the Kitchen Door*, by Saru Jayaraman
- *A New Dawn in Beloved Community* by Linda Lee & Safiyah Fosua
- *Ecoliterate* by Daniel Goleman, Lisa Bennett & Zenobia Barlow
- *Kind of Kin* by Rilla Askew
- *Not Just a Pretty Face: The Ugly Side of Beauty Industry* by Stacy Malkan
- *Against a Tide of Evil* by Mukesh Kapila & Damien Lewis
- *The Enough Moment* by John Prendergast & Don Cheadle
- *Hunting Season* by Mirta Ojito

2014

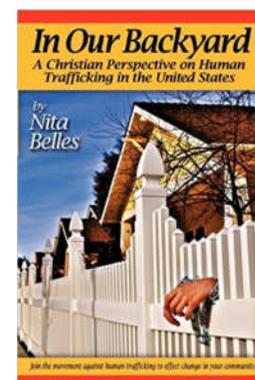
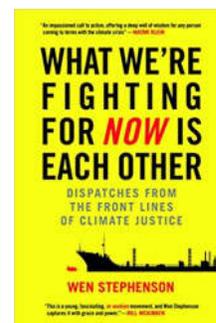
- *Break the Cycle: Healing From an Abusive Relationship* by Tracy Deitz
- *Dear White America: A Letter to a New Minority* by Tim Wise
- *Finding Higher Ground (Bonus Book)* by Amy Seidl
- *A Place at the Table* by Chris Seay
- *Year of Plenty* by Craig Goodwin
- *Our God is Undocumented* by Ched Myers & Matthew Clowell

2013

- *A Hopeful Earth – Faith, Science, and the Message of Jesus* by Sally Dyke & Sarah Ehrman
- *Get Up, Stand Up – Uniting Populists, Energizing the Defeated, And Battling the Corporate Elite* by Bruce E. Levine
- *In Our Backyard – A Christian Perspective on Human Trafficking in the United States* by Nita Belles
- *Make Poverty Personal – Taking the Poor as Seriously as the Bible Does* by Ash Barker
- *The Power of Half – One Families' Decision to Stop Taking and Start Giving Back* by Kevin Salwin
- *Why Africa Matters* by Cedric Mayson (**Bonus Book**)
- *The Whistleblower – Sex Trafficking, Military Contractors, and One Woman's Fight for Justice* by Kathryn Bolkovac

2012

- *Color-Blind: The Rise of Post-racial Politics and the Retreat From Racial Equity* by Tim Wise
- *The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands* by M. Regan
- *Moral Ground* by Kathleen Dean Moore & Michael P. Nelson (**Bonus Book**)
- *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander (**Bonus Book**)
- *Rediscovering Values: On Wall Street, Main Street and Your Street* by Jim Wallis
- *The Slave Next Door* by Kevin Bales & Ron Soodalter
- *The Bite of the Mango* by Mariatu Kamara



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

2017

- *Femmevangelical The Modern Girl's Guide to the Good News* by Jennifer D Crumpton
- *Fully Awake & Truly Alive* by Rev. Jane E Vennard
- *If Eve Only Knew* by Kendra Weddle Irons & Melanie Springer Mock
- *Soul Repair: Recovering from Moral Injury After War* by Rita Nakashima Brock & Gabbriella Lettini
- *Wild in the Hollow* by Amber C Haines
- *The Blessing and Bling* by Sheron C Patterson
- *Worry Less So You Can Live More* by Jane Rubietta

2016

- *Cured But Not Healed* by Kymberley Clemons-Jones
- *Key United Methodist Beliefs* by William J. Abraham & David F. Watson
- *My Life & Lesser Catastrophes* by Christina Schofield (e Book only)
- *Things Your Mother Never Told You* by Kim Gaines Eckert
- *Tilly: A Story of Hope & Resilience* by Monique Gray Smith
- *On God's Side* by Jim Wallis

2015

- *Eat With Joy* by Rachel Marie Stone
- *Finding God In A Bag of Groceries* by Laura Lapins Willis
- *No Longer Silent* by Susan Dehn Matthews
- *Praying to Change Your Life* by Suzette R Caldwell
- *The Seven Paths* by Anasazi Foundation
- *Shopping* by Michelle A Gonzalez
- *Living into Hope* by Joan Brown Campbell

2014

- *A Faithful Heart: Daily Guide for Joyful Living* by Sally Dyck
- *Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent* by Enuma Okoro
- *Strong Was Her Faith: Women of the New Testament* by J. Ellsworth Kalais
- *You're Already Amazing: Embracing Who You Are...* by Holley Gerth
- *Embraced by God: Celebrating Who and Whose You Are* by Babbie Mason
- *New Wine, New Wineskins* by F. Douglas Powe Jr.

2013

- *From Preparation to Passion – Devotional and Reflective Meditations* by Eleanor Cooper Brown
- *In from the Wilderness – She-r-man* by David E. Weekley
- *Morning Coffee with James* by Renea Brumbaugh
- *Praying for Strangers – An Adventure of the Human Spirit* by River Jordan
- *Reluctant Pilgrim – A Moody Somewhat Self-Indulgent Introvert's Search for Spiritual Community* by Enuma Okoro
- *Signs of Life – Back to the Basics of Authentic Christianity* by David Jeremiah & Thomas Nelson
- *The Path of Justice* by Becca Stevens
- *The Path of Love* by Becca Stevens
- *The Path of Peace* by Becca Stevens

2012

- *All Creation Sings: The Voice of God in Nature* by J Ellsworth Kalas
- *Hidden In the Rubble: A Haitian Pilgrimage to Compassion and Resurrection* by G. T. Straub
- *Laugh Your Way to Grace: Reclaiming the Spiritual Power of Humor* by Susan Sparks
- *Ostriches, Dung Beetles and Other Spiritual Matters* by Janice McLaughlin
- *Wasabi Gospel: The Startling Message of Jesus* by Shawn Wood
- *Outlive Your Life: You Were Made to Make a Difference* by Max Lucado
- *Francis the Saint of Assisi: A Novel* by Joan Mueller
- *True When Whispered: Hearing God's Voice in a Noisy World* by Paula Escamilla

Special Print Books

2017

- SG- *Wild in the Hollow* by Amber C Haines (Kindle)
- LD- *Sally Ride* by Lynn Sherr
- SG- *Extraordinary Grace* by Gary Chapman & Chris Fabry
- SG- *Living into Hope* by Joan Brown Campbell
- EM- *Journey With J.W.* by Daphna Flegal (children)

2016

- LD- *Girls with Swords* by Lisa Bevere
- SA- *In Defense of Food* by Michael Pollan
- NC- *A Waist is a Terrible Thing to Mind* by Karen Scalf Linamen

2015

- NC- *Many Mountains* by Yangzom Brauen
- SA- *That Used to Be Us* by Thomas Friedman & Michael Mandelbaum
- ✧SG- *Help, Thanks, Wow* by Anne Lamott
- SG- *The Well Women* by Ladine Housholder

2014

- EM- *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon
- LD- *Lord, I Love the Church and We Need Help* by Virginia O. Baseford
- NC- *The Power of Serving Others* by Gary Morsh
- SA- *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schroff
- ✧SG- *Jesus: A Biography From a Believer* by Paul Johnson
- *Being United Methodist* by J. Ellisworht Kalas

2013

- EM – *I Am Hutterite* by Mary-Ann Kirkby
- NC – *Plain Wisdom – An Invitation into an Amish Home and the Hearts of Two Women* by Cindy Woodsmall and Miriam Floud
- SA – *One Simple Act – Discovering the Power of Generosity* by Debbie Macomber
- SG – *When Christians Get it Wrong* by Adam Hamilton

2012

- ✧LD – *Why Women Should Rule the World* by Dee Dee Myers
- ✧NC – *Creative Aging: Rethinking Retirement and Non-retirement in a Changing World* by Bankson
- ✧SA – *Green Church: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rejoice!* By Rebekah Simon-Peter
- SG – *Seasons of Salt: Meditations* by Millie Horlacher

LARGE PRINT

SA = Social Action

SG = Spiritual Growth

NC = Nurturing for Community

EM = Education for Mission

LD = Leadership Development

YOUTH BOOKS

2017

- EM- *Live to Give* by Austin Gutwein
- NC- *The Perfect Place* by Teresa E Harris
- LD- *Pig Park* by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez
- NC- *Remember Dippy* by Shirley Reva Vernick
- NC- *#Stolen* by Jessica Fralin
- SG- *The Reason* by Lacy Sturm

SA = Social Action

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YOUTH BOOKS

2016

- LD- *Nature Girl* by Karen Whiting & Rebecca White
- NC- *Crazy* by Linda Vigen Philips
- NC- *Dreaming in Indian* by Lisa Charleyboy & Mary Beth Leatherdale
- SA- *Blue Gold* by Elizabeth Stewart
- SG- *Coaltown Jesus* by Ron Koertge
- SA- *Every Last Drop* Michelle Mulder

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2015

- EM- *A Girl Called Problem* by Katie Quirk
- LD- *This Girl is Different* by J.J.Johnson
- NC- *Bully.com* by Joe Lawlor
- NC- *Vicious* by Hope Vanderberg
- NC- *The Power to Prevent Suicide* by Richard Nelson & Judith Galas
- *SA- *Refuse to Do Nothing* by Shayne Moore & Kimberly McOwen Yim
- SA- *Return to Sender* by Julia Alvarez

2014

- EM- *Growing Up Muslim* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali
- LD- *A Native American Thought of It* by Rocky Landon
- NC- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- SA- *Which Side Are You On?* By George Ella Lyon
- SG- *Esther* by John Piper

2013

- EM – *Cry of the Giraffe* by Judie Oron
- *LD – *Do Hard Things – A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations* by Alex & Brett Harris
- NC – *Fatty Legs – A True Story* by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton
- NC – *THINANDBEAUTIFUL.COM* by Liane Shaw
- SA – *Free?– Stories About Human Rights* by David Almond, et al
- SG – *Permission to Speak Freely – Essays and Art on Fear, Confession, and Faith* by Anne Jackson

2012

- SG – *Lacey and the African Grandmothers* by Sue Farrell Holler
- SG – *Thunder Over Kandahar* by Sharon E. McKay
- SA – *Branded* by Eric Walters
- SA – *Going Blue* by Cathryn Berger Kaye & Philippe Cousteau
- SA – *Sold* by Patricia McCormick

CHILDREN BOOKS

2017

- EM- *Journey with J.W.* by Daphna Flegal
- LD- *The Courage to Be Yourself* by teens - Al Desetta (editor)
- LD- *Just Like I Wanted* by Elinoar Keller, Naama Peleg Segal
- LD- *Rad American Women A-Z* by Kate Schatz
- NC- *Animal Beauty* by Kristin Roskifte
- SG- *Just for Today* by Saint John XXII

CHILDREN BOOKS

2016

- EM- *Twenty-two Cents* by Paula Yoo & Jamel Akib (Illustrator)
- LD- *Because I am Girl* by Rosemary McCarney & Jen Albaugh
- NC- *Lend A Hand* by John Frank & London Ladd (Illustrator)
- SA- *The Soda Bottle School* by Laura Kutner, Suzanne Slade & Aileen Darragh (Illustrator)
- SG- *Before We Eat* by Pat Brisson & Mary Azatian (illustrator)
- EM- *Our Rights*, by Janet Wilson

2015

- EM- *Deep in the Sahara* by Kelly Cunnane * Hoda Hadadi (Illustrator)
- EM- *My Name is Blessing* by Eric Walter & Eugenie Fernandes (Illustrator)
- NC- *Because Amelia Smiled* by Dabid Ezra Stein
- NC- *The Chickens Build a Wall* by Jean-Francois Dumont
- SA- *The Eye of the Whale* by Jennifer O'Connell
- SA- *The Promise* by Nicola Davies, Laura Carlin (Illustrator)
- SG- *I Can Pray* by Suzette T Caldwell & Nikkolos Smith (illustrator)
- SG- *Nasreddine* by Odile Wuelersse & Rebacca Dautremer (Illustrator)

2014

- EM- *Tara's Lookout* by Eugene Caputi
- LD- *The Herd Boy* by Niki Daly
- LD- *Yours for Justice*, Ida B. Wells By Philip Dray
- LD- *Traveler: A Story of Trust, Faith, and Hope Encircled by Love/* Mary Alice Parmley
- NC- *Silent Star: The Story of Deaf Major Leaguer William Hoy* by Bill Wise
- NC- *Unplugged: Ella Gets Her Family Back* by Laura Pederson
- SA- *Puffing Patrol* by Ted Lewin
- SG- *Sheila says We're Weird* by Ruth Ann Smalley
- NC- *Rolling Along* by Jamee Riggio Heelan
- NC- *Rusty & Mr Earle* by Pershail Catherine Young

2013

- EM – *One World Kids Cookbook – Easy, Healthy, and Affordable Family Meals* by Sean Mendez (**Bonus Book**)
- EM – *Mali Under the Night Sky – A Lao Story of Home* by Youme
- LD – *Agatha's Feather Bed* by Carman Agra Deedy
- NC – *The Smell of Old Lady Perfume* by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez
- *NC – *Violet* by Tania Duprey Stehlik
- SA – *Only the Mountains Do Not Move- A Maasai Story of Culture and Conservation* by Jan Reynolds
- SA – *The Mangrove Tree – Planting Trees to Feed Families* by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore (**Bonus Book**)
- SG – *Psalms for Young Children* by Marie-Hélène Delval
- NC – *Rolling Along – The Story of Taylor and his Wheelchair* by Jamee Riggio Heelan
- NC – *Rusty and Mr. Earle* by Pershall Catherine Young

2012

- EM – *14 Cows for America* by Carmen Agra Deedy & Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah
- EM – *Faith* by Maya Ajmera, Magda Nakassis & Cynthia Pon
- NC – *Amazing Faces* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- NC – *What Will You Be Sara Mee?* by Kate Aver Avraham
- SA – *Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace* by Jen Cullerton Johnson
- SG – *The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights* by Carole Boston Weatherford

SA = Social Action
 SG = Spiritual Growth
 NC = Nurturing for Community
 EM = Education for Mission
 LD = Leadership Development

"A focus on MEMBERSHIP

by Billie L Ray, Secretary of Membership, Nurture & Outreach

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES!

What is United Methodist Women?

United Methodist Women is a supportive, inclusive Christian membership organization where women grow spiritually, develop as leaders and serve and work to create a world in which all women, children and youth thrive. United Methodist Women is celebrated as the women's ministry of The United Methodist Church.

Who can join United Methodist Women?

Any woman who commits herself to the "PURPOSE" of UMW and to engage in mission, study, personal growth and social action can join. You don't have to be United Methodist, meet an age requirement, or pay dues to be a member.

Why should you join United Methodist Women?

United Methodist Women is a community of women committed to mission. As a member one can take advantage of many opportunities, including the following: Prayer, Bible study and spiritual retreats; Hands-on mission in local communities; Mission education experiences; Leadership development and training opportunities; Supporting work with women, children and youth; Partnership with women in mission in U.S. and around the world; Advocacy for social justice issues, including those pertaining to the environment, domestic violence, immigration and the many other concerns that impact lives of women, children and youth.

We are FAITH, HOPE & LOVE in Action. Invite someone to join us today!

Coming Soon! C Y B E R C I R C L E S

The **Cyber Circle** will include women from all over Central Texas Conference whose

From Beth Dorcas, CTC UMW, Spiritual Growth:

In Lent we are given a particular opportunity to come once more face to face with what Christ has done for us.

Suggested Lenten devotional:

"If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17

Go to: <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/gift-of-forgiveness>

I am so excited to serve as the CTC UMW's Young Women Liaison this year. As my title implies, my concentration is going to be on bringing the younger and future generations of women into our folds. If we take a look around at our events and gatherings, we can clearly see that this is a timely and important area in which to focus; but, this statement isn't meant to discourage you. Instead, it's meant to ignite a passion in you! It's meant to rouse a strong desire in you to see our legacy passed on. To share the fellowship of our Sisterhood of Grace. To encourage the next generation of women in their faith. To partner together to share the good news throughout the world. This is our heritage as United Methodist Women! We have been doing this for almost 150 years! Let's not stop now. Let's fan the flame and pass on the faith, hope and love in action!

If you are eager to get started, but don't know where to begin in reaching the young women around you, I have good news for you. We are in the midst of planning a workshop centered on the idea of "Building a Sisterhood of Grace through Mentoring" and we believe that this simple practice is one way we will be able to engage and bring in new women into UMW. Whether you are interested in reaching out to younger women or just interested in growing your local unit we would love to have you join us. We will be studying biblical examples of mentoring, brainstorming the best ways to apply this in local units and setting goals for what this initiative aims to do in the CTC UMW. As the Leadership Team solidifies our plans for this event in the coming weeks we will be sure to pass on the date and all the details. Please prayerfully consider joining us. Young women are all around us - in our homes, churches, offices, and neighborhoods. Many are in desperate need of the community we offer, they desire to learn more about our faith, and they want to be part of the hope we are spreading. So, the question becomes - are we willing to reach out? Are we ready to step out of our comfort zone to reach them? I can't help but think of Jesus' words to his disciples in Matthew 10:37 when he says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Ladies, the harvest is plentiful and I pray that the Lord puts it on your heart to work the fields and bring in the harvest.

Grace and blessings,

Natalie McKnight

De Elizabeth Dorcas, CTC UMW, Crecimiento Espiritual

En la Cuaresma se nos da una oportunidad particular de venir una vez más cara a cara con lo que Cristo ha hecho por nosotros.

Devocional sugerida de Cuaresma:

Romanos 5:17

Pues, si por la transgresión de un solo hombre reinó la muerte, con mayor razón los que reciben en abundancia la gracia y el don de la justicia reinarán en vida por medio de un solo hombre, Jesucristo.

<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/porque-tanto-amo-dios-al-mundo>

Ve también al: Hebreos 12:1-3

Cristo es el autor y consumidor de nuestra fe. Hebreos 12: 1-3.

Treasurers Notes

Summer is fast approaching and now is the time to check to be sure you are a Five Star Giving Unit. To be a Five Star Unit you must participate in each of the areas of Mission Giving, Pledge, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering. The deadline for Five Star Unit is August 15. The period covered is Fourth Quarter 2016 through First, Second and Third Quarters 2017. Most of us do not meet in the summer so now is the time to check what you are missing. Burning of the Candle deadline is also August 15. Now is the time to promote Burning of the Candle, the form is in your 2017 CTC Handbook and on the CTC UMW website. These contributions can be sent to me any time during the year.

Thanks for all the ways you support United Methodist Women.

Betty Foster
CTC UMW Treasurer

Be a part of the Legacy of United Methodist Women!

Do you love being a member of United Methodist Women? Do you want to be a part of United Methodist Women continuing for generations to come? Then you want to join me and others in supporting the Legacy Fund, a permanent endowment that will support the energy and creative work of United Methodist Women for the next 150 years making life better for women, children and youth.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Society, our predecessor group, began in 1869 so a gift of \$18.69 would be appropriate to donate or you can donate more. Even a gift of \$150 would have meaning because United Methodist Women will be celebrating 150 years in 2019. Any amount in between or even more would be appreciated. I have an enameled 150 year pin for you when you let me know you've made a donation to the Legacy Fund. You can make an online donation at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150 or a gift marked Legacy Fund can be sent directly to:

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER
475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor
New York, NY 10115

Want to know more? Contact the Legacy Fund Committee including:

- ⇒ CTC UMW treasurer, Betty Foster at brdfoster@sbcglobal.net (Legacy Fund Chair)
- ⇒ Linda Hutchings at billyhutchings@sbcglobal.net
- ⇒ Nancy Dobbs at dobbsn@charter.net
- ⇒ Charlotte Everett achurchmouse@sbcglobal.net

Please consider being a part of the Legacy of United Methodist Women!

Linda Hutchings, CTC UMW Historian

Be Bold and Courageous!

It's time to start planning for Assembly 2018! We'll gather in Columbus, Ohio May 18-20 next year, so now is the time to make your plans to attend, save your money, find others who will come with you, and search out help for those who'd like to come, but need help getting the funds. And now is the time to pray that we United Methodist Women will be Faith, Hope, Love in Action in all that we do. All conferences are being asked to increase their attendance at Assembly by 30% and for the Central Texas Conference that would be 81 women. I sure hope you'll be one of the 81+ women coming to Columbus to celebrate the 150th Birthday of United Methodist Women. Be sure to go to unitedmethdistwomen.org for more info and sign up.

It's especially exciting to go back to Columbus for Assembly because an important part of our history is there. In 1942 leaders of our predecessor organization moved the Assembly from Saint Louis, Missouri to Columbus, Ohio because St. Louis would not allow white women and black women to congregate in the same space. That was a Bold and Courageous move! May we be inspired by our foremothers as we look forward to Assembly! May we be willing to speak truth to power in Bold and Courageous ways!

Please put it on the calendar now! I always say if you get something on the calendar there's a real chance it might happen! So write it down - I'm going to Assembly 2018, May 18-20". I'll be looking for you! Be Bold and Courageous!

Cynthia Rives



WHEN WOMEN UNITE, BOLD AND COURAGEOUS ACTIONS HAPPEN

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ASSEMBLY MAY 18-20, 2018
GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER
COLUMBUS, OH

United Methodist Women Assembly 2018 is a time for fellowship, it is also an opportunity to empower faithful women to be stronger discipleship leaders in their communities. Through moving worship, inspiring speakers, immersion experience exhibits, riveting workshops and town hall-style meetings, members will leave Assembly with the knowledge, courage and determination to change the world as part of a daring and compassionate 150 year-old movement.

OUR PRIORITY ISSUES



Maternal & Child Health



Climate Justice



Mass Incarceration



Economic Inequality

To Register for updates, go to umwassembly.org and [COUNT ME IN](#).

WHEN

MAY 18-20, 2018

WHERE

GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER COLUMBUS, OH

WHY SHOULD I

ATTEND?

Assembly 2018 will be a forum for United Methodist Women members, new friends and partners to gather, worship and learn about the needs of women, children and youth in the 21st century. We will be claiming our 150-year history as women who know how to organize and serve and are willing to be challenged to grow in our faith as we build deeper connections with one another, church leaders and partners in the work of justice for all God's children.

Assembly will offer an incredible personal faith journey through community building, training for action, and visioning a movement for the future. Bold and courageous ventures await us!

WHY COLUMBUS?

The 2018 Assembly is particularly momentous in that it marks both the official celebration of the organization's 150th anniversary and a return to the location of the first Assembly in 1942. St. Louis was the original site for that first Assembly, but the women moved their meeting to Columbus because St. Louis would not allow white women and black women to congregate in the same space. They boldly united and switched to a location where ALL women could meet, worship, and stay together. That location was Columbus!

Columbus also meets the strict green standards that United Methodist Women require. The convention center is a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) registered facility. Additionally, the Hilton Hotel connected to the center is a LEED Gold Certified Hotel. By using these facilities, the carbon footprint of 8,000 women will be greatly reduced.

PRICE

~~\$330~~

\$295 EARLY REGISTRATION

The early registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$295 with a November 30, 2017, deadline. After that date, regular registration fee is \$330. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

Assembly is a great value at \$295 early registration fee. Few other faith-based conferences offer Worship/Plenaries infused with music and performing arts, quality Workshops & riveting Town Hall Meetings with important leaders, Action opportunities and Experience Hall with educational immersion experiences for such a low fee.

SAVE THE DATE! JANUARY 28-30, 2018

United Methodist Women's Legislative Event

Austin, Texas

It's been nearly 30 years since a small group of faithful women across Texas came together to launch a new project: an annual event where United Methodist Women could learn about legislative issues related to our United Methodist's Social Principles and the priorities of UMW. This event has become a touchstone to the legislative engagement of women of faith, with 190 participants in January 2017.

Coordinated with Texas Impact, this gathering for Texas UMW (or potential UMW!) from all 5 Texas Annual Conferences is to learn about and engage in policy issues and proposed laws, experience fellowship with our Sisters in Grace, and meet with elected officials to discuss the legislative priorities that are decided by the participants' caucus process. It starts on Sunday afternoon, and you may stay the entire time ending Tuesday at noon with visits to your legislator, or participate in 1 or 2 days of learning if you can't attend all 3 days.

Come and be part of the movement in 2018 - mark the date and investigate funding options now so that you may participate! Scholarships are available with priority for younger and first-time attendees. Talk to your unit about possibly providing a scholarship. What a blessing to connect across our state on issues that matter to all of us!

What should you expect @ UMW Legislative Event?

Up-to-date information on important policy issues of state government

Grounding in how the UM Social Principles and UMW Priority Issues relate to the Texas Legislature

New ideas about connecting faith and public life in YOUR local community, and Fostering relationships with your elected representatives and their staff.

REGISTRATION/INFO WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITES BY MAY 1ST.

Look for the current Legislative agenda and pictures from 2017 event @ www.ctcumw.org or www.texasimpact.org

Questions? Need a creative note for requested vacation days? Or just a pep-talk?

"Be the change you want to see in the world"...

Contact Rebecca Lucas, CTC UMW Social Action Coordinator

lucasfam09@gmail.com

Heard About Paragraph 4, Article 4?

While I attend the Program Advisory Group Meeting in Nashville early in March, I learned about “Paragraph 4”. Please read the information below to learn about this amendment and then make an intentional effort to encourage all the lay delegates to Annual Conference from your church, district, and conference and all the clergy you know to vote in favor of Paragraph 4. The new language gives more people a place at “the table”.

Blessings,

Cynthia

Paragraph 4 is referring to an Amendment to “The Constitution” found in The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church- Paragraph 4, Article 4.

All Annual and Central Conferences will vote in 2017 and 2018 on changes approved at the General Conference 2016 to Paragraph 4, Article 4 of “The Constitution” contained in the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. No amendments will be allowed. The proposed amendment reads as follows:

In The United Methodist Church, no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, ability or economic condition, nor shall any member be denied access to an equal place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church because of race, color, gender, national origin, ability, age, marital status, or economic condition.

What do these changes mean?

ABILITY

Adds ability to the list of categories constitutionally protected from exclusion in the Church; the Church cannot discriminate based on a person's physical or mental circumstances.

Adding this word to "The Constitution" means that a person may not be denied membership privileges based on their abilities (abilities are God-given gifts versus skills which are learned behaviors).

GENDER

Adds gender to the list of categories constitutionally protected from exclusion in the Church; the Church cannot discriminate against a person because they are male or female.

Throughout The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, gender is used when addressing fair treatment of both men and women, this language is consistent with The Discipline.

AGE

Adds age to the list of categories constitutionally protected from exclusion in the Church, the Church cannot discriminate based on a person's age.

This reminds us that the Church is a multi-generational community, all ages are important.

MARTIAL STATUS

Clarifies that status refers to marital status in the list of categories constitutionally protected from exclusion in the Church; the Church cannot discriminate against a person because they are single, married, divorced or widowed.

These words prevent unfair treatment of a person based on their marital status.

Ask me about Article 4....

"Article 4" refers to a constitutional amendment to Paragraph 4 of The Book of Discipline. The amendment passed at the 2016 General Conference and will now be voted on in all Annual and Central Conferences in 2017 and 2018. This change must be approved by two-thirds of all voting United Methodists across the conferences. The proposed amendment reads as follows:

In The United Methodist Church, no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, ability or economic condition, nor shall any member be denied access to an equal place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church because of race, color, gender, national origin, ability, age, marital status, or economic condition.

United Methodist Women along with the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, Discipleship Ministries Office on Aging & Older Adult Ministries, and the United Methodist Disability Ministries Committee have come together to resource and support Annual Conferences as they consider this important proposal.

What do these changes mean?

These additions mean that a person may not be denied membership privileges based on their abilities, gender, age, or marital status.

The amendment speaks to membership, not qualifications for ministry and therefore would not impact things such as education requirements or mandatory retirement age for United Methodist clergy.

It also does not impact gender or age specific ministries within the UMC, such as UMW, UMM, youth groups or senior adult ministries

How can I help?

Watch our website, www.UnitedMethodistWomen.org, for more information and resources to share with your conference, particularly lay member to Annual Conference along with active and retired clergy.

Connect with your conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women to strategize for getting the word out to Annual Conference members.

Consider having information at district meetings or your Annual Conference display table

Contact Mollie Vickery, mvickery@unitedmethodistwomen.org, for more information or resources about Article 4.

Save the Date!

The Central Texas Conference
United Methodist Women

Spiritual Growth Retreat 2018

will be **March 2 -3, 2018**, at Arrowhead Camp & Retreat Center, 5236 N FM 199, Cleburne, TX 76033. This is the same beautiful location where we have retreated for the past two years.

What is the CTC UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat?

It is a **spiritual journey** in which the participants' primary interest is in drawing closer to God, knowing Christ better and seeking deeper connections with God, with our God-given purpose and with people. It is a spiritual journey with a single spiritual leader which culminates in sharing communion together.

It is a time for prayer and meditation, to explore Scripture, and to learn personal, practical applications for our lives.

A single speaker leads us in 3 or 4 sessions and communion.

The sessions are a process for opportunity for spiritual growth. The process culminates in worship and Communion. The retreat is designed as a complete package from Friday afternoon to Saturday afternoon. Each session is dependent on the last session. It is designed as a spiritual journey.

For a one day retreat experience, each District offers "A Day Apart" annually.

For a variety of speakers, CTC UMW offers *Sing-A-Rainbow* the first weekend of February.

The 24-hour Spiritual Growth Retreat is a unique opportunity. Please join us in prayer for the retreat and mark your calendar for March 2 and 3, 2018.

¡Reserva la fecha! **El Retiro de Desarrollo Espiritual de La Conferencia Central de Texas, de las Mujeres Metodistas Unidas 2018 será del 2 al 3 de marzo de 2018**, en el Campamento Arrowhead y Centro de Retiros, 5236 N FM 199, Cleburne, TX 76033. Este es el mismo lugar hermoso donde nos hemos retirado durante los últimos dos años.

¿Qué es el CTC UMW Retiro de Desarrollo Espiritual?

Es un viaje espiritual en el que el interés primordial de los participantes es acercarse a Dios, conocer mejor a Cristo y buscar conexiones más profundas con Dios, con nuestro propósito dado por Dios y con las personas. **Es un viaje espiritual con un solo líder espiritual que culmina en compartir a la comunión juntos.**

Es un tiempo para la oración y la meditación, para explorar las Escrituras y para aprender aplicaciones personales y prácticas para nuestras vidas. Un solo orador nos conduce en 3 ó 4 sesiones y en comunión. Las sesiones son un proceso de oportunidad para el crecimiento espiritual. El proceso culmina en la adoración y la comunión. El retiro está diseñado como un paquete completo desde el viernes por la tarde hasta el sábado por la tarde. Cada sesión depende de la última sesión. Está diseñado como un viaje espiritual. Para una experiencia de retiro de un día, Cada Distrito ofrece "A Day Apart" cada año. Para una variedad de oradores, CTC UMW ofrece *Sing-A-Rainbow* el primer fin de semana de febrero.

El Retiro de Crecimiento Espiritual de 24 horas es una oportunidad única. Únase a nosotros en oración por el retiro y marque su calendario para los días 2 y 3 de marzo de 2018.



Transformed

Romans 12:2 Revised Standard Version (RSV)

² Do not be conformed to this world^[a] but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect^[b]

This is the logo of Project Transformation

Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women Annual Conference Luncheon will be held June 13, 2017 from 11:45 AM- 1:45 PM at Walnut Creek Country Club located at 1151 Country Club Dr, Mansfield, TX 76063.

Tickets will be available online and by mail. The cost for lunch will be \$20. The sit down lunch will include salad, entrée, sides, dessert, and beverages. Vegetarian and Gluten Free options may be requested when ordering tickets. Child care will be available and must also be reserved in advance by June 6.

Julie Harding, Executive Director of Project Transformation, will be our featured speaker. This project came to Central Texas Conference this year and has as its mission to “engage young adults in purposeful leadership and ministry, support underserved children and families, and connect churches to communities in need.”

As part of our luncheon, we will be collecting books for Project Transformation Libraries at Bedford, Meadowbrook, and University United Methodist Churches where the program is being conducted this summer. Please bring a new or gently used children’s book. For those attending annual conference, Mansfield Methodist Church is hosting a Scholastic Book Drive and you may purchase a book there. For every book purchased, one will be given to Project Transformation.

Please go to our website www.ctcumw.org to reserve and pay for your ticket. You may register for a group as well. Or you may mail in your reservation, using the form in this newsletter.

The country club will seat 250. Reservations will remain open until all seats are sold. Please do not wait to reserve your place at this event!

Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women
Annual Conference Luncheon Registration

“Transformed”

Featured Speaker: Julie Harding, Executive Director of Project Transformation

Date June 13, 2017

Time 11:45AM - 1:45PM

Location Walnut Creek Country Club

1151 Country Club Dr, Mansfield, TX 76063

Cost \$20

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Local Church _____ District _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Registering a Group: Please include full name of each person

Total Number Registered _____

Meal Request: (If registering for a group, please indicate total number of each.)

Regular Menu ____

Vegetarian Option ____

Gluten Free Option ____

Child Care Needed (Available from 11:30AM -2:00PM)

Details regarding Childcare will be sent to those who register.

Please bring a lunch for your child.

List Child's Name(s) and Age(s)

Mail check to:

Cheri Baxter

1507 Highland Dr.

Mansfield TX 76063

For additional information, please call Lynne Grandstaff at 214-738-7301.

Books, Books, and more Books!!

Are you taking part in the Reading Program? If you are, please send your book recommendations and reviews to k4j@sbcglobal.net. We, the leadership team, would love to spread the word on what everyone is reading. We have 2 book reviews so far. We know that there are more of you out there reading the books. We heard several of you discussing the books at the Spiritual Growth Retreat. Please send us your reviews.

There are several ladies at FUMC Burleson and FUMC Joshua that are joining me on the road to finish Level I of the Reading Program. There is still time and room for others to join. What have you got to lose? More importantly, what have you got to gain?

If you need a list of what books are eligible for the Reading Program, Christie Roberts was kind enough to provide us with a complete list. You can find it on pages 4-11 of this newsletter.

Hope to see you all at the Autumn Gathering!!

Jennifer Higgins

BOOK REVIEWS

A book that changed my life was "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks". This is hands' down, one of best I've read. It is difficult to capture exactly what makes this book so outstanding and so captivating, but I'm going to give it my best shot.

Her name was Henrietta Lacks but scientist knew her as HeLa; she was a poor southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors – yet her cells – taken without her knowledge – became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first immortals human cells grown in culture and they are still alive today. HeLa cells were vital for developing the Polo Vaccine, in which I myself benefited from when I was a child. Also they uncovered secrets of Cancer, in which my mother and my whole family benefited from – viruses, the atom bomb's effects, in vitro fertilization, cloning and gene mapping, just to mention a few. This book is an extraordinary journey from the "Colored" Ward of Johns Hopkins Hospital in the 1950's to stark white laboratories. To East Baltimore today where her children and grandchildren live and struggle with the legacy of her cells. The family is still dealing with the lack of compassion of the science world and everyone other than the family has made money off of these cells but the family of Henrietta Lacks. Read this amazing story of all that was done and what is being done today.

You can find it in the 2012 – Nurturing for Community reading program.

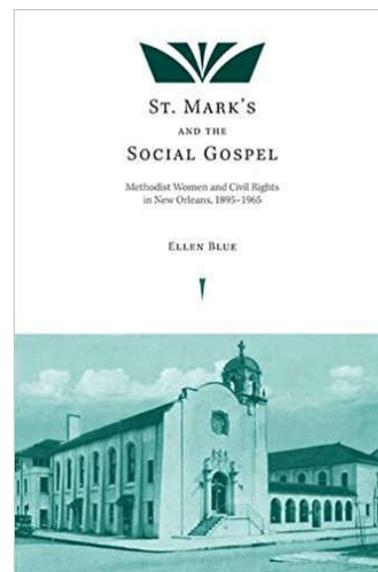
Charlotte Everett

As part of the celebration our Racial Charter, I recommend the following book which is new to our reading program.

St. Mark's and the Social Gospel: Methodist Women and Civil Rights in New Orleans, 1895–1965 by [Ellen Blue](#)

Review

“This is a fascinating history of working within a system to bring about social change. By concentrating on female reformers at St. Mark’s Community Center and nearby St. Mark’s Methodist Church for more than one hundred years, the author presents a powerful and convincing critique of the traditional understanding of the social gospel era that relies heavily—nearly exclusively—on male figures and the theology and institutions they created to express it, almost completely ignoring women’s social gospel work.” —Carolyn DeSwarte Gifford, co-editor, *Gender and the Social Gospel*



Book Description

The impact of St. Mark’s Community Center and United Methodist Church on the city of New Orleans is immense. Their stories are dramatic reflections of the times. But these stories are more than mere reflections because St. Mark’s changed the picture, leading the way into different understandings of what urban diversity could and should mean. This book looks at the contributions of St. Mark’s, in particular the important role played by women (especially deaconesses) as the church confronted social issues through the rise of the social gospel movement and into the modern civil rights era.

Ellen Blue uses St. Mark’s as a microcosm to tell a larger, overlooked story about women in the Methodist Church and the sources of reform. One of the few volumes on women’s history within the church, this book challenges the dominant narrative of the social gospel movement and its past.

St. Mark’s and the Social Gospel begins by examining the period between 1895 and World War I, chronicling the center’s development from its early beginnings as a settlement house that served immigrants and documenting the early social gospel activities of Methodist women in New Orleans. Part II explores the efforts of subsequent generations of women to further gender and racial equality between the 1920s and 1960. Major topics addressed in this section include an examination of the deaconesses’ training in Christian Socialist economic theory and the church’s response to the Brown decision. The third part focuses on the church’s direct involvement in the school desegregation crisis of 1960, including an account of the pastor who broke the white boycott of a desegregated elementary school by taking his daughter back to class there. Part IV offers a brief look at the history of St. Mark’s since 1965.

Shedding new light on an often neglected subject, *St. Mark’s and the Social Gospel* will be welcomed by scholars of religious history, local history, social history, and women’s studies.

BURNING OF THE CANDLE – 2017

Based on United Methodist Women members giving from previous year and approved budget, the calculations to in-terpret the cost of mission for the coming year has been determined to be **\$26.49 for one minute to support mission** work with women, children and youth in the United States and in countries around the world.

The information requested on the form below (except the amount given) will be printed in the Resource Book provid-ed at the Conference Annual Autumn Gath-ering.

Checks, Money order, or cash must accompany this form. SEND ANYTIME! \$26.49 FOR ONE MINUTE. Please consider rounding up to \$30, \$35, \$40 or even more.

Checks are made payable to:
CTCUMW or CENTRAL TEXAS CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Mail to:
Conference Treasurer,
Betty Foster,
5421 Appalachian Way
Fort Worth 76123
Phone # 817-294-4192 / 817-846-4341 ©
email: brdfoster@sbcglobal.net

DEADLINE FOR BURNING OF THE CANDLE – AUGUST 15, 2017

Submitted by:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (____) _____

UMW Unit / Local church _____

City _____ **District** _____



INVEST *in a* **CHILD'S SUMMER EXPERIENCE**
AND THEIR FUTURE.

DONATIONS START AT \$320

Camperships - Summer Education Enrichment Program

This summer, United Community Centers will host 300 children for a 10-week Summer Education Enrichment Program. During the summer children enjoy fun and safe activities such as arts and crafts, music and exciting field trips. It is so much more than just summer camp; students benefit from United Community Centers' educational programs offered during the school year to minimize learning loss.

This year, we must raise \$90,000 to provide a summer of Educational Enrichment and memorable experiences. With your help we can make a positive impact in a child's summer! By giving the gift of a Campership, you can provide a child the opportunity to attend this summer learning program with a one-time generous scholarship of \$320. This gift helps pay for facilities, staff, daily activities, three meals and two snacks a day. This scholarship also covers continued education for children over the summer to ensure that they don't fall behind on the progress they've made over the course of the school year.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child this summer contact Ashley Johnson for more information at 817.927.5556. You can help make this summer a memorable one for a Fort Worth child!

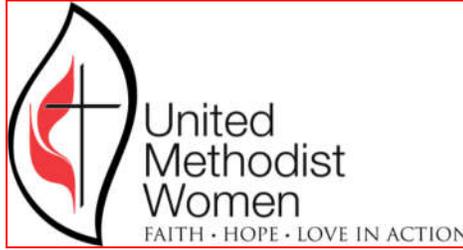
Volunteer

United Community Centers was founded by volunteers. Each day a team volunteers help us fulfill our mission. Individuals and groups can assist with one-time projects or ongoing activities on either a full-time or part-time basis. To register to volunteer at one of the centers, go to <https://www.unitedcommunitycenters.org/copy-of-volunteer> and choose the center you would like to volunteer at to see what opportunities are available.

Central Texas Conference
INDIVIDUAL GIVER – ANY

United Methodist Women
ONE PERSON

FIVE-STAR GIVER



A FIVE-STAR GIVER is an individual- man or woman, UMW member or non-UMW member, who gives to all five channels of giving:

- \$40 to give someone special a Special Mission Recognition Pin
- \$ 5 Pledge to Mission
- \$ 5 Gift to Mission card
- \$ 5 Gift in Memory card
- \$ 5 World Thank Offering
- \$60 Total amount paid to local treasurer as a one time gift.

Your \$60 offering must specify that you are giving to the above five channels and designate if possible to whom your pin will go, and that you are giving the \$60 as a **FIVE-STAR GIVER**. You cannot simply give \$60 to your Local treasurer - you must state that it is for **FIVE-STAR GIVER** and complete this form.

Special Mission Recognition Pin: \$ _____, if requesting pin of value more than the \$40 regular SMR

In Honor of: _____
(Name of person being honored)

If giver wants pin sent directly to recipient include the address in space provided.

To: Name _____

Address _____

Gift to Mission - Which card to send? _____
(A Special Day, Baby, Birthday, Christmas, Congratulations, In Service of Christ, Thank You, Thinking of You)

Given by:
FIVE-STAR GIVER'S Name _____

Address: _____

(Include city, state and zip)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Church: _____ District _____

All components must be submitted to your Local UMW Treasurer at one time. It is suggested that the **FIVE-STAR GIVER** gift be given in addition to your regular Pledge to Mission. Submit to Local Treasurer by August 15

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
CENTRAL TEXAS CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

(Event)

(Event Date)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Local UMW _____ District _____

Ethnic Background _____

Age Group: Child _____ Youth _____ College _____ Adult _____ Senior Citizen _____

Please respond to these questions:

Why do you wish to attend this event?

How will you share your experience with your local unit?

Have you attended this event before?

**Please return 30 days prior to the event to:
Central Texas UMW Scholarship Committee Chair**

Pam Pinkerton
2111 Madison Dr. #1099 817-798-0373
Arlington, TX 76011 pinkerton.pamela@yahoo.com

*Scholarships are provided for:
Legislative Event
Spiritual Growth Retreat
Mission u (formerly Cooperative School of Christian Mission)*



Days for Girls

Did you know millions of girls worldwide miss two months of school every year without access to a solution for their monthly cycle. Days for Girls International believes that the poverty cycle can be broken when girls stay in school. A sustainable feminine hygiene kit which can last about three years with proper care gives girls back those 3 – 5 days every month which gives them the opportunity for uninterrupted days in school.

The feminine hygiene kits contain 2 – one gallon zip lock freezer bags, 1 drawstring cloth bag, 2 moisture

barrier shields, 8 absorbent tree-fold pads, 1 wash cloth, 1 travel size soap, 2 pair of panties, and a visual instruction sheet. See <https://www.daysforgirls.org/whats-in-a-kit>

Every girl and woman has inherent worth and dignity and the kits empower girls and women. Could there be girls in the United States who miss school or work because they can't afford feminine supplies? What about homeless women and women and children in shelters? SNAP (Special Nutrition Assistance Program) more commonly know as Food Stamps doesn't allow hygiene products such as soap, toilet tissue, sanitary pads, etc. to be purchased with this program.

The 2016 – 2017 Program Book “A Call to Community” has two interesting articles concerning this opportunity for mission. Please read pg. 141 “A Story of Our Work” and pg. 144 “From Sanitary Pads to Gender Parity.”

These kits can change a girl's life in so many ways. When girls and women have health education and opportunity communities and our world becomes stronger.

Judy Graham

Spiritual Wellness

Beloved, I pray that in every way you may succeed and prosper and be in good health physically just as I know your soul prospers spiritually. 3 John 1:2

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely the absence of disease. Health comes from the old English word “hale” meaning wholeness, being sound or well. Expanding on that concept of health is wellness which can be defined as “the integration of mind, body, and spirit or “a state of optimal well-being that maximizes a individual's full potential. Wellness is multidimensional, holistic, positive and affirming.

There are seven dimensions of wellness:

Social wellness: The ability to relate and connect with other people in our world. To establish and maintain positive relationships with family, friends & co-workers

Emotional wellness: The ability to understand ourselves, to acknowledge and share feelings both positive and negative & to cope with life challenges

Environmental Wellness: The ability to recognize our own responsibility for the quality of the air, the water, and the land and that we can make a positive impact on the quality of our environment in our homes, communities, and the planet.

Occupational Wellness: The ability to get personal fulfillment from our jobs or chosen career fields while maintaining a balance in our lives. Sometimes finding a balance when you are bored, under valued or under employed results in looking at positive things about your employment like good relationships with co-workers, benefits or educational opportunities. Our avocation can be a great diversion or distraction to our “ho hum” daily living. Hobbies, pastime pursuits, & passions add pleasantly to our wellness when kept in balance.

Intellectual wellness: The desire to learn new concepts, improve skills, seek challenges and new experiences contributes to expanding our minds which helps with our self-satisfaction and productiveness in the community.

Physical Wellness: is met through the combination of good exercise, eating habits, DNA and other factors. Sound nutrition leads to physical benefits of looking good and feeling terrific which leads to psychological benefits of enhanced self-esteem, self-control, determination and sense of direction

Spiritual Wellness: Gives meaning and purpose for our human existence, establishes peace and harmony in our lives. Helps develop congruence between values and actions and to realize a common purpose that binds creation together. Faith is a tremendous gift from God. In the busyness of our daily lives it takes extra effort to maintain spiritual wellness. Jesus set an example for us boost our spiritual well-being. He engaged in solitude, silence, simplicity, service, study, prayer, worship and fasting.

There is no standardized list of prescribed spiritual practices, but many Christians find the following 10 disciplines or habits helpful in boosting their spiritual health.

Prayer- silence and solitude: It's a privilege and gift to commune with God.

Listening to God: Paying attention to God's whispers in our hearts and other reminders that God is active in our lives.

Private and Corporate Worship: Praising God opens us to the Holy Spirit , reorders our priorities and redirects our paths.

Bible reading and study: Which keeps us focused and allows God to speak and guide us.

Obedying God commands: Putting our faith into practice increase our joy. Submitting to God helps us find our self and frees us.

Loving God and our neighbors: Surrendering to God leads us to a life of love. God is love, and when we live and serve in Christ, we experience love ourselves.

Stepping out in faith when urged to do something: Trusting God's guidance strengthens our faith. When we dare to step out in faith, we learn that God is with us wherever we go and that God is more powerful than our fear.

Fasting: Not necessarily from food-perhaps from TV, twitter, the internet or something else. Finding time or space to pay attention to God by giving up something else blesses us beyond measure. We need to guard our hearts as well as our time from distractions.

Serving others: Reorienting our attitude away from self keeps us on the right track. Following Jesus in serving others heightens our own experience of grace.

Fellowship with other believers: Building and being part of a Christian community equips for sharing and caring, within and beyond that community. UMW is one of those communities where we receive support and encouragement in order to truly live as Christians.

These disciplines are not an end in themselves but more of a means of knowing God more deeply. A means to be alive and vibrant in Christ.

“You've been raised on the Message of the faith and have followed sound teaching. Now pass on this counsel to the followers of Jesus there, and you'll be a good servant of Jesus. Stay clear of silly stories that get dressed up as religion. Exercise daily in God – no spiritual flabbiness, please! Workouts in the gymnasium are useful, but a disciplined life in God is far more so, making you fit both today and forever. You can count on this. Take it to heart. This is why we've throw ourselves into this venture so totally. We're banking on the living God, Savior of all men and women, especially believers.” 1 Timothy 4:6-10 (The Message)

Judy Graham
North District Spiritual Growth Coordinator