

BE A GOOD STEWARD; MAKE COPIES OF THIS ISSUE FOR YOUR UNIT!

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THE PREZ SAYS... "Greetings!"

A lot is going on in our district and I am sure I am not aware of everything that is happening. The attendance at our Officer Training and Mission Study have set new records for my tenure as President. The work of our District Team and Local Unit Officers with God as the leader is showing. The changes that have been made have had a positive response. New interest has come from many of you. If you need help or have any questions contact your district counterpart officer or call me.

The upcoming event that needs to be addressed is the Mission Education Event in July. You will find an application form in this newsletter along with a scholarship application. Please make copies to share with the ladies in your unit and in your church. Our District assignment is Communion and assisting Bishop William W. Morris with his Study. Assisting means: keeping the attendance records and making notes on a flip chart or providing copies of materials, etc. I would like to hear from anyone that would be interested in helping. This is our District's assignment not just mine. Please note there are evening classes available for those who work in the daytime.

Each District has been asked to bring a *Reach for the Stars* membership campaign display. Someone has graciously volunteered to make it and bring to the study.

The Conference executive team met in early May. It is always an exciting time for me. The plans for Spiritual Life Retreat were discussed. It is GREAT to know that the participants won't be limited. The new building has been completed and is ready for use. I saw it in March and we will have plenty of room.

On a personal note please note my change of address and a home phone number.

Salud Y Paz,

Barbara Lampley, District President

PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of 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 expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE 2007 CALENDAR

TN Conference Website: www.gb-gm-umc.org/tnconfumw/

June 23-26th – South Atlantic Regional School, Norfolk, VA

July 18-21st - ** TN Conference UMW Mission Education Event, Scarritt Bennett Center

September 7-9th –** Conference Spiritual Life Retreat, Beersheba Springs

October 6th – Conference Annual Meeting Madison Street UMC, Clarksville

November 16-18th – Leadership Training Event, St. Louis, MO

** Registration form attached. A full-scholarship is available from the Cumberland District. Applications will be available from District UMW Secretary-Debator Troupe.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT 2007 CALENDAR

Meals are \$6.00 w/ registration and \$7.00 at the Door

ALL MEETINGS START AT 9:00am

July 28 – District Executive Team Meeting
Slater's Memorial UMC, (Goodlettsville)

August 15 – Reports due to appropriate Officer.
Reports must be completed to receive
recognition at Annual Meeting.

September 22 – District Annual Meeting, Key-
Stewart UMC (Gallatin)

November 3 – District Executive Meeting,
Hendersonville First (Hendersonville)

RESOURCEFUL RAMONA –

"There are many other urgent tasks to accomplish: the work of worship, evangelization, healing of church divisions, alleviating worldwide poverty and hunger, and defending human rights. But all of these tasks are closely connected with the task that stands above them all: making peace. Making peace today means giving a future to humanity, making it possible to continue our life together on this planet."

This is a quote from Peacework by Henri Nouwen. It is in the Spiritual Growth category on this year's reading list.

Peacework was written at a time when the Cold War tensions were on the rise, but it offers Christians today a way to embrace peace in our terror filled world post 9/11.

Nouwen gives us a three part plan to become peacemakers. He encourages us to begin with a life of prayer in order to move closer to God. The second part of his plan is resistance. He asks us to resist our own selfishness to things of the world. The last part of Nouwen's plan is to work to build loving, healing communities in the world. "This community, whose members boast of their weakness but trust in God's strength, can offer true resistance against the forces of darkness."

When filling out your reporting forms for the reading plan, remember that we report for a calendar year; you have until December 31st to complete the plan. I hope to see an increase in the number of women participating in the plan this year across the district. If you have not started and want to participate you still have time! Keep reading!! Peace to you,

Ramona Wright, Secretary of Program Resources

DISTRICT OFFICERS: * please note changes

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SECRETARY – Debator Troupe

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***EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION –**

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Member of Key-Stewart

LUV Units: Key, Pleasant Grove, Ruth
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SOCIAL ACTION

Directors of the Women's Division of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries (The Women's Division is the policy-making arm of United Methodist Women) called for comprehensive actions toward Middle East peace at their April 20-23 meeting in Stamford, Conn.

They adopted "**Steps Toward a Just Peace in the Middle East**".

The measure urges United Methodist Women members to study Middle East issues, reach out to families of military personnel and organize efforts to advocate for a just peace in the region. The measure opposes escalation of the war in Iraq and supports legislative efforts to end funding for the war while providing resources to guarantee the safety of troops as they withdraw. And it opposes U.S. military action against Iran.

E. Judith Siaba of Chicago, chair of the organization's Section on Christian Social Responsibility spoke: "With continued escalation of violence in the Middle East, it is our mandate as Christian women to oppose war and call for peace. We call on the U.S. government to provide humanitarian aid for Iraqi victims of the war. We call on the U.S. government to bring our troops home."

Directors voted to join the **Healthy Child Campaign: Covering All Children in 2007** spearheaded by the Washington, D.C.-based Children's Defense Fund. The campaign advocates health-care coverage for children uninsured because they fall in the gap between the Medicaid program that covers children in poverty and the State Children's Health Insurance Plan, known as S-CHIP. This federally funded program covers children in families with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, equivalent to \$41,300 for a family of four in 2007.

In action on immigration, Women's Division directors endorsed the **Liberty and Justice for All Campaign** launched by the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. The campaign calls on United Methodist Women members to act in defense of the civil liberties of immigrants in the United States.

Other actions approved by directors included:

- The theme for United Methodist Women's 2011 spiritual-growth study theme: "Living Sacramentally and Walking Justly." The study will focus on calling and John Wesley's two-fold thrust on personal holiness and spiritual holiness.
- Approval of the 2008 Reading Program book list, which will be released in September.

Sylvia Massey, Social Action coordinator

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Jo Grafton, our Spiritual Growth leader was in an accident on May 1, 2007 and was unable to submit an article for this issue. Please keep Jo in your prayers as she goes through the process of healing.

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

On April 21st, the Cumberland District UMW sponsored a mission study led by Bishop Morris. We had a record attendance of 55 people with 12 churches represented. Douglass Chapel/Liberty United Methodist Women fed us with a wonderful breakfast and desserts for lunch. We were fed spiritually by Bishop Morris with his study on Shalom, Salaam, Peace. This was a wonderful day with the women learning about how this study can apply to current events. We want to invite all the units to encourage their members to go to the Mission Event this July at the Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville. We hope that all of you will consider sending at least one person to this event so that your unit can have a mission study this year. Please notice that we have enclosed a copy of the scholarship application. The District offers a scholarship. Some local units also help with the expense of the Mission Event. This is such an important year for our mission studies.

Also enclosed is the form for determining if your unit is a platinum or gold, etc. Please take a few moments and determine how close your unit is to making it to the top. It may only take filling out a few forms or just meeting one more requirement. Try to make it up to the top; I know most of our units could be very close. Just give it a try.

Gloria Scott, Education & Interpretation

DISTRICT DOINGS!

FYI: Units are providing Glory to God through Prayer Shawl Ministry. A knitted or crocheted prayer shawl may be given to a person who is ill, in mourning, period of transition or in need of comfort. The shawls are made while prayers are given. Interested persons can contact Barbara Lampley 615 288-4439 for participating unit names or Lois Azar 931 381-0829 for shawl patterns.

SPECIAL REQUEST: Bishop Wills is requesting 200 prayer shawls to use in a service in September. Please contact Barbara Lampley 615 288-4439 if you would like to make a donation to this special event.

WANTED: OH-YOU! (One Hundred Year Old Units) The Tennessee Conference is seeking to honor all units that are at least one hundred years old. Please check your charters for the official dates. A special recognition is being planned.

Notify Barbara Lampley, ASAP at 615 288-4439.