

TIMELY REFLECTIONS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2021



THE PURPOSE

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 to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the United Methodist Church.

PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

As I was pondering what I might say to you, the words of the Apostle Paul spoken not once but twice to the Corinthians kept coming to mind: "but we do not lose hope." We know we are "bold" and "courageous" women with a Purpose. To say the past year has been difficult is an understatement. Yet, as I have been in conversation with United Methodist Women virtually, and occasionally in small groups, I have witnessed their spirit, their faith, their dedication to fulfilling our Purpose.

We continue to "know God" through prayer, devotions, Prayer Calendar, Reading Program books in the Spiritual Growth category, an upcoming virtual Spiritual Retreat. We support one another through prayers, calls, emails, cards, and virtual hugs! We expand our concepts of mission through our Prayer Calendar, Response Magazine, Reading Program Education for Mission category, connection with and support of our National Mission Institutions. We find creative ways to fundraise in order to fully support our Pledge to Mission and other budget obligations.

Participate in Retreat. (See registration and information on page 5.) Together, virtually, we will be spiritually fed and have renewed hope for the journey.

Blessings,
Judy Dirks, President
208-661-9752
judydirks@meadowcrk.com

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We are into another year of the coronavirus pandemic. You need to contact your District Superintendent to see if you can have Rummage Sales. My unit at Bonners Ferry, Idaho got to have their first one last year before Covid hit and were able to have our second one with permission. We also have been able to have our meetings so did Call to Prayer and Self Denial last week.

Unit treasurers need to contact members to send you their pledges for Pledge to Mission, to be sent to me. I haven't received copies of any Audits from the unit treasurers. I had mine done a couple of weeks ago.

Try to come up with creative ways to raise money. Some ideas from the district team were: Hold a rummage sale outside. Have a no-bake bake sale. Have a bake sale, take orders in advance and have pick-up at the door. Spokane Valley had a drive-thru dinner, with orders taken in advance.

Charlene Mullis, Treasurer
charlenemullis@gmail.com
208-267-9262

So You Want to Talk About Race **By Ijeoma Oluo**

This book is about one of our most current topics. There are 40 reviews printed with the book. They range from praise of the authors writing ability to her knowledge of the topic.

I especially liked the National Book Review which stated that this book gives to all people, “the language to engage in clear, constructive, and confident dialogue with each other about how to deal with racial prejudices and biases”.

This book is not an easy read. There are 17 chapters and each one is packed with many thought-provoking ideas. Chapter two discusses what is racism. Her definition states, “Racism is any prejudice against someone because of their race, when those views are reinforced by systems of power.” I found the latter part of this very interesting as I would have not included it. She makes you look at things from a different angle.

The last chapter gives 13 very concrete ideas of what we can do next. But her most important idea is to continue talking. She states, “Until we dismantle the system of White Supremacy and racial oppression, we will always need to talk about it”. So read this book and talk about it with your family, friends and anyone who will listen. Then plan with other UMW women what you can do.

Linda Hansen
Social Action Coordinator
208-620-0158
tweetiword@yahoo.com

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN: 2020 UNIT SURVEY

The United Methodist Women census has moved beyond a numbers reporting tool to more of a questionnaire about the health and vitality of your units. This year the unit presidents are being asked to select the area(s) in which their members and units are thriving. **The deadline is March 30, 2021.** The unit survey is easy to do and can be found at the link unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2020.

Sue McGovney
Inland District Membership Nurture and Outreach
smcgovney@gmail.com
509-924-1555

Timely Reflections is the newsletter of the Inland Missional District United Methodist Women. It is published four times per year. Complimentary copies are sent to the following: Pacific Northwest Conference Leaders, Conference UMW officers, Inland District UMW officers, other District Presidents in the PNW Conference, Local Inland District Unit UMW officers, Inland District Superintendent, Inland District Pastors and the PNWC office.

This newsletter is available online at pnwumc.org/umw. If your address changes, or you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact Sharon Stovall at timelyreflections@peoplepc.com.

Did You Know that Bonus Books count as two books?

For 2021-2022 a few of these Bonus Books are also current mission studies, providing even more of an incentive to select these books as part of your reading plans.

The Bonus Books are:

Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou by Bethany Hegedus counts as two books in Leadership Development.

Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique W. Morris (as well as the leaders guide by Vanessa M. Wilson)

Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission by Ellen Blue counts as two books in the category Nurturing for Community.

Finding Peace in an Anxious World edited by Erin James-Brown counts as two books in the category Spiritual Growth.

Listen to three Faith Talks podcasts and they will count as two books in the category Spiritual Growth. Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women. Check out the interviews with United Methodist Women mission studies authors and more at: unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks. Please join me in curling up with a good book.

Sue McGovney
Inland District Program Resources
smcgovney@gmail.com
509-924-1555

“PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE QUILTING PROGRAM”

Thirty years ago Vera Zimmerman, past Pacific Northwest Conference United Methodist Women President, received a call from a pastor describing a quilt project for AIDS babies. He suggested United Methodist Women might make quilts for the California-based non-profit. Vera wrote in her March 1999 article that it made little sense to her to send quilts to California when there were many needs in Washington and Idaho. The in-Conference project that would supply quilts for small children and babies-at-risk was affirmed by the Pacific Northwest Conference United Methodist Women Executive Committee in April 1991. The process would be that each District would research groups and agencies in their District of the Conference that serve such children and babies and who would be willing to gift the quilts to them. They would then be distributed by the Districts. The project would emphasize the Campaign for Children. The goal: gifts of compassion and unconditional love and also better understand the problems facing such children.

That fall of 1991 quilts were displayed at District and Conference meetings. 143 quilts were brought to and displayed at the June 1992 United Methodist Church Annual Conference at University of Puget Sound.

Lois wrote, “Bishop McConnell said that the 1992 Conference session had been gentler, in greater harmony and showed more goodwill than usual.” Each subsequent year quilts have been displayed at Annual Conference. In 2020 a virtual Annual Conference was held but quilts were still made and distributed by Local Units to places in their communities serving at risk young children and babies. Some Units have made hundreds. Lois wrote in an article in March 1993 that she thought over 2,000 quilts had been made and gifted.

Today the need continues as does this project. With the 2021 United Methodist Church Pacific Northwest Conference to be held again virtually, let’s keep on quilting and plan to share warmth and our prayers and love for children and babies-at-risk in our communities wherever the need exists. Our Faith, Hope, and Love will surely be known by this Action.

Judy Dirks, Inland Missional District President

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2021 Inland Missional District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2021 at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, Spokane Valley, WA. The theme for this year is Micah 6:8 “What does the Lord Require of You?”

Save the date and plan to join us for a wonderful time. There is a possibility that we will have to do another Zoom meeting but we are hoping for an in-person meeting. More information will be posted at a later date as activities and a guest speaker are scheduled.

Patsy Charlton, Vice President.

1patches@gmail.com

208-263-8545

NOMINATIONS

There are two new members of the nominating committee, Linda Jones, president of Rockford UMW and Tana Truscott, social action coordinator from Clarkston UMW.

The committee is looking for new leaders on the Inland Missional District team. Needed in September will be Secretary, Treasurer and Education and Interpretation coordinator.

Members, Committee on Nominations

Linda Jones

20815 E. Stoughton Rd.

Rockford, WA 99030-5011

509-291-3193

lljones745@gmail.com

Tana Truscott

2620 6th Ave

Clarkston WA 99403

509-295-1626

tntruscott@gmail.com

2021 Pacific Northwest Conference

United Methodist Women Spiritual Retreat

“What We Need Is Here”

PRACTICING THE HEART OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

MARCH 19—MARCH 20, 2021

VIA ZOOM

Why Attend: Are you looking for an ever-deepening relationship with God? Are you finding challenges to growing spiritually? Plan to attend and let God be your Teacher in discovering the “givens” which will demonstrate how Jesus is enough. It offers just what you need to flourish in your life with God! Your days will include laughter, sharing, presentations, reflection, and worship. Take this time to retreat and find exactly what you need to draw nearer to God.

Spiritual Leader: Rev. Brenda Tudor -- “I credit the development of my church leadership skills to the United Methodist Women units and faithful who encouraged me to become an ordained elder. My passion is for social justice, education, and improving the lives of all people.”

The book for required reading is: *What We Need is Here, Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality*, by L. Roger Owens. It is available for purchase from Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble. Contact Janice Catrell, our Program Resource Secretary Coordinator, if you are having difficulty getting a book. Her E-mail is: jcatrell@yahoo.com and her phone# is 360-223-5938. E-mail your registration forms to: Susan Chamberlain at susancchamberlain@yahoo.com

You can also reach her at 360-859-3740. Susan will send you the link to the Zoom Retreat after you register.

Harriet Jane Olson, CEO of United Methodist Women, will be joining us on Saturday morning.

Harriett Jane Olson has served as chief executive officer of the United Methodist Women’s national administrative and policymaking arm



since 2007. United Methodist Women is a nearly 800,000-member organization within the United Methodist Church in the United States. United Methodist Women members give about \$15 million a year for work with women, children and youth in the United States and around the world. United Methodist Women operates and/or owns the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City, a retirement home for deaconesses and missionaries in North Carolina, a publication and distribution network, and a series of mission education and leadership development events annually. Through these events and our connections around the world, United Methodist Women staff and members are inspired, prepared, encouraged and celebrated for their direct service and advocacy for justice.

A Harvard Law School graduate, Ms. Olson practiced real estate and environmental law (1983-96) at a New Jersey law firm that is now part of Day, Pitney, before working for the church full-time. From 1996-2007, Ms. Olson was senior vice-president for publishing, editor for church school publications and United Methodist Church book editor at the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville, Tennessee. Ms. Olson has a bachelor's degree from Houghton College in Houghton, New York, where she serves on the board of trustees.

United Methodist Women Spiritual Retreat

“What We Need Is Here”

Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality

March 19—March 20, 2021

6:30 to 9:00 PM on Friday &

8:45 to 11:00 AM on Saturday

Via ZOOM

SPIRITUAL LEADER: REV. BRENDA TUDOR

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

**HARRIET JANE OLSON, CEO OF UNITED METHODIST
WOMEN**

PRIOR TO THE RETREAT, PLEASE READ THE BOOK,
WHAT WE NEED IS HERE BY L. ROGER OWENS
AVAILABLE THROUGH AMAZON OR BARNES & NOBLE

REGISTRATION FORM FOR ZOOM SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

District _____ Church _____

United Methodist Women Officer Yes No

Please list local/district office. Local _____ District _____

Registration Deadline: March 12, 2021

Email Registration form to: Susan Chamberlain at susancchamberlain@yahoo.com

Phone: 360-859-3740

Inland Missional District
United Methodist Women
3928 N. Howard
Spokane WA 99205

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT UMW 2021 CALENDAR

March 18, 2021 PNWC UMW Exec Meeting—Zoom
March 19, 2021 Spiritual Retreat—Zoom 6:30-9:00 pm
March 20, 2021 Spiritual Retreat—Zoom 8:45-11 am
March 23, 2021 Day of Giving—to the Legacy Fund
March 30, 2021 2020 Census due--On line (local units)
May 1, 2021 Inland Exec Mtg—Bonners Ferry 9am,
May 15, 2021 Inland District Newsletter deadline
June 10-13, 2021 UMC Annual Conference -- TBD
July 28-29, 2021 PNWC UMW Exec Meeting—Selah UMC
July 29-August 1, 2021 Mission u—Wesley UMC, Yakima
August 7, 2021 Inland Exec Mtg—SVUMC 9am-2:30 pm
August 15, 2021 Inland District Newsletter deadline
September 18, 2021 Inland District Annual
Meeting—SVUMC 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
October 14-15, 2021 PNWC UMW Exec meeting—TBD
October 15-16, 2021 PNWC UMW Annual Meeting TBD
November 6, 2021 Inland District Exec Meeting---Zoom
November 15, 2021 Inland District Newsletter deadline
May 20-22, 2022 Assembly—Orlando, FL
2024 WJ Quad Meeting



OUR FACEBOOK PAGE helps us promote upcoming District, Conference, Western Jurisdiction and National Events. It is also a great place to share and learn about Social Issues and Action Alerts. Help us utilize this tool in our mission work by sharing local events or social issues that you are aware of.

Find this information and more at our website:

<http://pnwumc.org/umw>

Other UMW websites include:

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

facebook.com/UMWWomen

facebook.com/pnwumw

Instagram.com/UMWWomen

www.wjumw.com

Pinterest.com/UMWWomen

Twitter.com/UMWWomen

Youtube.com/user/UmWWomen

Flickr.com/photos/UMWWomen