



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Williamsport District Newsletter

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Message from our co-presidents

Dear United Methodist Women members,

Winter is upon us. We hope you are doing well and staying warm.

Spring is just around the corner. Spiritual Enrichment Days are scheduled throughout the district. See information elsewhere in this newsletter regarding dates, locations and times. We hope to see many of you at one of them so mark your calendar.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact one of us.

Sincerely,

Polly Walker & Kay Rhinehart, CoPresidents

Purpose

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Letter from our Treasurer

Greetings to the members of the Williamsport District UMW:

I wish to report to you regarding the financial giving for 2017 by the units of the Williamsport District. Thirty units from the district made a Pledge to Mission at the beginning of last year. Twenty nine of those units paid their entire pledge. In addition most of those units made payments in other categories of giving. In addition six units that did not make a pledge paid in the Pledge to Mission category plus other categories. Our District Pledge to Mission was \$25,000. I am sorry to say that we did not make this goal, but through all of your efforts we paid \$21,987.69 on the pledge. This is about \$350 more than we paid in 2016. As I mentioned before, many units also paid on other categories which UMW supports, so our total giving for the year was \$24,432.89. This is about \$400 more than we gave in 2016. You are to be commended for all of your hard work in 2017.

The District Executive Committee set our Pledge to Mission for 2018 at \$21,000. The Committee felt that this is a realistic goal for our District. I urge each unit to strive to meet your individual Pledge to Mission and to do as much as possible to help the district meet our goal. If your unit has not yet made a Pledge to Mission for this year, please do so as soon as possible. If you don't have the paperwork just put the amount of your Pledge to Mission, the name of your unit and the treasurer's name and address on a sheet of paper and mail it to me at Helen Nace, 155 Crawley Street, Hughesville PA 17737.

I hold each of you in prayer throughout the year. May each unit be open to the paths that God lays out and opens for you. May you have a year filled with joy and peace that overflows, so that you can share it with all that you meet.

Helen S. Nace Treasurer, Williamsport District UMW

Our 5 Star Units



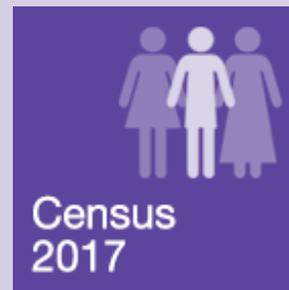
Bethany - Hughesville
Christ - Hughesville
Jersey Shore First
Mansfield
Muncy First
Pennsdale Trinity
Pine Street - Williamsport
Roseville
Spring Hill
St. Paul/Calvary
Ulster
Wellsboro
White Pine
Williamsport First

Earn Your 5 Stars in 2018! Here's How...



2017 Census

The president of each unit should complete the 2017 Census for their members online by visiting www.unitedmethodistwomen.org. On the home page, click on the link as shown here to the right. Fill in all requested information in the fields on the form and click 'submit'.



Census Submission Deadline is March 30, 2018

A Note from Helen

Before we know it, Spring will be upon us, and so will Spiritual Enrichment Days. There will be 3 events within our district this year, and plans for these events are well underway. All the details of each event are described on the following page by our cluster leaders. The program for each event will center around the wonderful study that was done last summer at mission u. The name of the study is 'Living as a Covenant Community', written by Evy McDonald.

The introduction to the book tells us "Covenants are found in the Bible from the moment God created man and woman until the last page of Revelation. This study examines major covenants throughout the Bible and what they reveal about God's character and eternal love for us. It will enhance your understanding of how God works with us, in us, and through us."

"Living as a Covenant Community will engage you with our covenant God, will help you grow in your love for God, for each other, and for your neighbors near and far!" (All rights reserved. Used by permission).

Your local unit president will soon be sent information for your group. Please seriously consider setting aside a date for one of these Spiritual Enrichment Events. Plan to take a group. See you there.

God's blessings,

Helen Keister, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

The Neighborhood Center in Downtown Harrisburg, PA

The Neighborhood Center of the United Methodist Church has served a multi-ethnic uptown neighborhood, as well as the total Harrisburg community, since 1910 with educational, cultural, social service, basic needs, leadership, and recreational programs for children and their families. The Center specializes in helping young people discover and develop their capabilities, so that their lives and the life of the community can be enhanced.



www.neighborhoodcenterumc.org

2018 Spiritual Enrichment Days

Living As A Covenant Community

This study examines major covenants throughout the Bible and what they reveal about God's character and eternal love for us. It will enhance your understanding of how God works with us, in us, and through us.

This program is offered three times throughout the district. Please attend any or all events as your schedule allows. Paper product donations will be delivered to the Neighborhood Center in Harrisburg PA

Saturday March 24th

East & West Lycoming County Clusters

Pine Street United Methodist Church

441 Pine Street, Williamsport

Breakfast & Registration 8:45 - 9:30 AM

Program 9:30 - 11:30 AM; Speaker Karen Barraco

Contact Kathy Whipple for more information. (570) 220-5527 or ksbwhip@windstream.net

Please bring paper towels and monetary offering .

Saturday April 7th

Potter/Tioga County Cluster

Sweden Valley Faith Community UMC

1450 East 2nd St., Coudersport

Registration 9:15 - 9:30 AM

Program 9:30 - Noon; Panel presentation

Lunch to follow

Contact Barbara Williard with count by April 2nd. (717) 991-7776 or donnapron2@outlook.com

Please bring toilet tissue and monetary offering .

Thursday April 12th

Bradford County Cluster

New Albany United Methodist Church

591 Front St., New Albany

Registration 9:30 - 10:00 AM

Program 10:00 - Noon; Speaker Karen Barraco

Lunch to follow

Contact Eloise Corson for more information. (570) 363-2122 or ecorson@epix.net

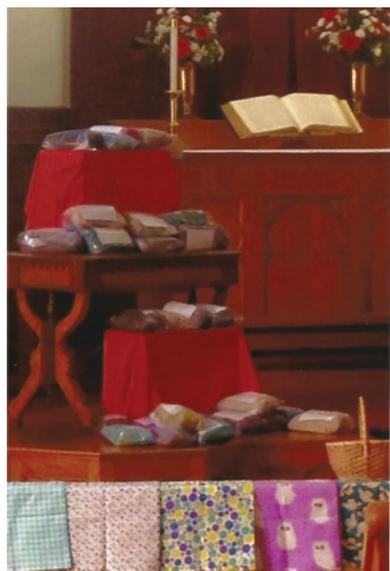
Please bring paper plates, cups and monetary offering (no styrofoam).

Around the District

Members of the Wellsboro unit of the United Methodist Women gathered on Saturday, January 28th to participate in a Paint & Pray event instructed by Mary Wise. The women enjoyed the company of each other while trying their hand at art. "Art can create a spiritual connection," says Mary. "Not only were the participants learning something new, they were also connecting with each other."



Pat & Lori creating their masterpieces.



Gifts for Mission Central at the altar.

If you would like to include information about what your UMW unit or cluster is doing in the next newsletter, please have your submissions in by April 23rd to: jeanecummings@gmail.com

The United Methodist Women of The Beacon in Hughesville worked hard last summer and fall to compile a load for Mission Central. The group sent 36 receiving blankets, 30 burp cloths, 45 school kits, and 40 hygiene kits. All items were blessed during a morning worship service by Pastor Jane O'Borski.

We are very excited at the new Beacon, a United Methodist Church in Hughesville as Bethany and Christ churches have unified to create the new church. With that, both United Methodist Women groups have also unified to become the United Methodist Women of The Beacon. Officers were installed on January 2nd by Cathy Berkey, president of the Susquehanna Conference of the UMW.

Mark Your Calendar

May 18th - 20th

UMW Assembly
Columbus, OH

May 31st - June 2nd

Susquehanna Annual
Conference
Hershey, PA