



PRESIDENT - Rae Wallis

Recently I heard on Moody Radio a song sung by Selah that is very meaningful to me. It is called "Into My Heart" by Harry Clarke and was written in 1924. The first few lines go:

Into my heart, Into my heart, Come into my heart Lord Jesus.

Come in today, Come in to stay. Come into my heart Lord Jesus.

This hymn always reminds me to take time from my busy daily activities to be still and ask Jesus to come into my heart. In Ephesians 3:17, Paul's prayer for us is that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith as we are being rooted and grounded in love. (NRSV). We can embody this love of Christ through our UMW Missions with love in action.

My favorite issue of Response Magazine is the February issue in the even years where much of the issue explains the Missions of UMW. It's where our mission money goes! As Shannon Priddy, our National UMW President and member of our Central District and North UMW says in her "Message From the President" in the February 2018 Response, "Mission Giving and the mission maps bring our world to life".

The maps show the UMW Mission Giving to 304 women's, children's and youth ministries, community centers, schools, women's residences, and human trafficking programs plus other missions internationally and in the US. In the US, and territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, there are 144 sites who receive Mission Giving money. Through Mission Giving we can all help to improve the lives of women, children and youth in our country and around the world. Many of these missions work with the problem at the source. One such program that received grant money from UMW Mission Giving is located about 5 hours from Central Indiana. It is the Maternal Infant Health Outreach Workers Program (MIHOW) at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, in Southeastern Kentucky. This is one of the most poverty stricken areas in the US. The program is parent to parent intervention for mothers of young babies and children. Vanderbilt University Nursing students train young mothers in the area regarding nutrition, child health, child development and parenting practices. These trained mothers then train other mothers and can be local mentors to these young moms.

In This Issue

President	1
Vice President	2
Secretary	3
Program Resources	3
2017 Participants	3
MNO	5
E&I	6
Spiritual Growth	6
Racial Justice	7
Important Dates	8
2018 Assembly	8
Conference Events	9
Mission u	9
District Need	9
Units	9
Avon UMW	9
Limitless Flyer	11

We can express our love to God through helping those less fortunate. As Shannon also said in her President's Message "Don't leave your Response on a shelf. Share the good news about what United Methodist Women has been doing for almost 150 years!" Through Mission Giving we are spreading Faith, Hope, and Love in Action throughout the world! Giving is a way we can express God's love. With God in our hearts, we can do anything.

From your District Officers

VICE PRESIDENT - Lori Chambers

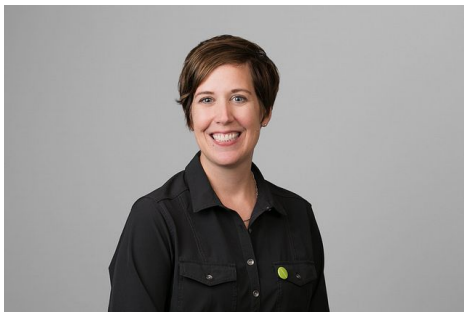
We enjoyed a lovely time at our Spring Leadership meeting that was held at Greenwood UMC this past February. The local unit did such a nice job in hosting the event. Thanks again Greenwood UMW for your support!

We had a very moving Racial Justice Prayer time where we tied pieces of cloths together so that everyone was joined in a giant circle, and then we prayed.



Please save the date for Saturday, September 22nd. Our Central District Annual meeting will be held at Old Bethel UMC, 7995 East 21st St., Indianapolis, IN 46219. Registration will be between 8:45 - 9:15 a.m.

Shannon Priddy, who serves as the President of United Methodist Women's Board of Directors and the Program Advisory Group, will be our speaker. The Board of Directors carries fiduciary responsibility for the organization of United Methodist Women. The Program Advisory Group serves as a point of communication, input, sharing and advocacy regarding the program activities of the national office with leaders from across the United States.



I hope you are looking forward to our Assembly being held May 18th-20th in Columbus, Ohio this year. We can be assured that we will be inspired with the "Power to be Bold!"

We are looking for meeting locations in the Central District for 2019 for the February Leadership and the September Annual meetings. Please let me know if your local unit would like to host one of these events.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our Central District meetings at lochambers@sbcglobal.net or cell 317-696-5965.

Lori Chambers
Central District Vice President

SECRETARY - Vicki Bridges

On January 6th I attended my first meeting as the new Central District Secretary. My head was spinning when I left that meeting! There were so many women to meet and names to remember, some great upcoming events to talk about, a time of looking back at 2017 and much planning to do as we look ahead to 2018. It will be an exciting year for us all!

As “keepers of the UMW history,” secretaries maintain member lists, meeting records and correspondence for each local unit and so much more! Thanks to all of you who answered “Yes” when asked to serve as local unit secretary whether you’re new or have served for many years. I look forward to meeting many of you as I serve as Central District Secretary.

I very much appreciated you getting your local unit officer information in early this year so the membership records could be updated.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

Vicki Bridges
Central District Secretary
vbridges@outlook.com 317-442- 2829

PROGRAM RESOURCES - Ruth Ann Morrell

In this newsletter I am very excited to recognize the women (and men) in our district who participated in the UMW reading program for 2017. We had 45 participants which is over a 30% increase from last year. Each of those ladies received a handmade bookmark compliments of Lynn Bonfils at the February meeting. (Thank you for your time and effort, Lynn.)

The basic reading plan requires 5 books, one in each of the listed areas of Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth. We had 14 members who completed Plans 2-3 which required reading 10-20 books. Through this reading program our members are able to be better informed on topics of interest to our membership. The names of all participants are listed below.

As a reminder for this year, book that has been on the reading list from 2013-2018 is eligible to be included in your reading if you have not read it in the previous years. Be sure to check dates and areas of reading. If there are questions about eligible books, please feel free to contact me so I can assist you, or go online to www.umwmissionresource.org. There is a listing of all eligible books there.

If you have read a book on the list that you feel was especially interesting and/or informative for you, please write a short review and send it to me for sharing. As much as I would like to say I have read them all, I haven't. Your input may help others make a decision of what book they are interested in reading. These reviews will be included in upcoming newsletters. We are also going to try an exchange program at future district meetings, a bring one-take one program. You can bring a book that is from the eligible books from 2013-2018 and leave it for others. Then take one you haven't read that someone else has brought. This is something new we are going to try at the fall district meeting, so look around for any books you or your unit has already read that you would like to exchange.

Congratulations to all the readers for 2017 who participated and happy reading in 2018.

Ruth Ann Morrell, Program Resources
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Central District Reading Participants 2017

Avon UMC	Franklin Grace UMC	Old Bethel UMC	Southport UMC
Plan 1	Plan 1	Plan 1	Plan 1
Patsy Fleener	Barbara Angotti	Rev. Robert McMillen	Melody Bigler
Kathy Haviza	Helen Cutshaw	Plan 2	Dorothy Deupree
Norma Little	Barbara Demaree	Carol McMillen	Barbara Emmack
Peggy McCoy	Violet Money		Vimi Gershom
Betty Vogel	Joyce Sauer	Plainfield UMC	Elizabeth Harmon
Plan 3	Plan 2	Plan 1	Sarah Lindley
Kyle DeWeese	April Moss	Mary Winters	Ann Morrison
	Joella Patterson	Plan 2	Lou Ellen Sears
Barnes UMC	Plan 4	Shirley Overton	
Plan 4	Joy Stuckey	Plan 3	St. Andrew UMC
Loma G. Barnhill		Eleanor Vermillion	Plan 2
	North UMC		Sally Sutton
Broadway UMC	Plan 1	Rosedale UMC	Plan 3
Plan 1	Carol Tiller	Participated	Barbara King

Barbara Beldon	Plan 3	Carolyn "Jane" Hathaway	
Phyliss Newton	Leah Richmond-Jones		University UMC
	Plan 4	Scott UMC	Plan 1
Cumberland UMC	Frances Cain	Plan 1	Joyce Flight
Plan 1	Amy Sell	Cynthia Akers	Participated
Betty Bowen	Participated	Plan 2	Barbara Hill
Janet Moore	Sharon Hatfield	Mary Duffy-Lewis	
Ruth Ann Morrell			

MISSION, NURTURE, OUTREACH - Edna M May

Greetings UMW of Central District/ Indiana Conference

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow!! Special Thanks to all UNITS that have gone online and completed the Census!!! I'm asking all the other UMW Unit Presidents to go online or have your unit secretary go on line, please, and complete the Census 2017 for your unit. It does not take a long time. This information is needed by our national UMW. After going online, if you have a copy of the 2017 UMW Membership Census Form (3656) please complete this form with your Membership Numbers and send it to me (Edna May, MNO CENTRAL DIST.) My address is on the form and below. If you do not have a Membership Census Form, please email your Membership numbers to me (emjmay@hotmail.com).

Make sure that you have sent me the form (3656) or emailed your Membership Numbers.

As members of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, we are all engaged in the Lenten Season. We are getting prepared for our most important holiday, EASTER. On Easter, we will celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. As followers of Christ our UNITED METHODIST WOMEN are in constant mission to improve the lives of women and children, here and around the world. Thank you ladies for all your hard and diligent work on behalf women and children.

Special Thanks to all the UMW PRESIDENTS of Central District who completed our 2017 UMW MEMBERSHIP CENSUS for your UMW local unit. Engaging our members with outstanding programming and caring relationships will help to build our membership numbers. Many churches are struggling with trying to continue in service, but their membership is aging and no one wants to step-up to become officers. Let us all be in prayer that God will strengthen and touch the hearts of the ladies in struggling Units. We will also be encouraging units to band together and create CLUSTER UNITS (two or more church units come together to be in mission).

We are proud of the ladies of POPLAR GROVE UMC who were determined to restart their UMW unit under their new PASTOR. His lovely wife assumed leadership and now they have 22 members! PRAISE GOD!! Castleton UMW was determined to maintain their unit by reorganizing! We're here to support and help!!

We remember that we are the hands and feet of our Lord and Savior in helping women and children!

I really do appreciate your time and effort!!

Peace with love and generosity,

Edna M May

Central District MNO Coordinator

emjmay@hotmail.com or 6926 Bluffridge Pl, Indianapolis, IN 46278 or 317-291-6926

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION - Betty Bowen

Welcome to 2018!! I hope all units have their 2018 Mission Today Reports. If you don't, let me know and I will get one to you. We really didn't have many turned in for 2017. The Mission Today Reports are to increase contacts between units and mission personnel. They also help members understand where our monies go, as well as to expand on the use of mission resources. The report isn't very hard to fill out. I am sure we all complete many items without realizing it. If for some reason you can't check every item or make it to a gold, silver or bronze category, we now have honorable mention. Filling out the Mission Today Report helps us fulfill and understand our UMW Purpose. Talk with your unit/circle and work together to complete items. Resources that help are Response magazine, UMW calendar and UMW Program book. Help is also available at the the UMW of Indiana web page - <http://www.inumc.org/UMW>. If you need any help call me or email me at the number / address below.

Thanks and prayers.

Betty Bowen, E and I District Coordinator,

317-908-8015 bbowen86@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL GROWTH - Cecelia Whitfield

Increasing in Favor, By Joel Osteen

(Psalm 8:4-5) "What is man that YOU are mindful of him/her, and the son of man/woman that YOU care for them? Yet YOU have made them but a little lower than God (or heavenly beings), and YOU have crowned us with glory and honor."

(Psalm 5:12) "For YOU, Lord. Will bless the righteous: as with a shield YOU will surround us with goodwill (pleasure and Favor)."

Amplified Bible.

"God has crowned us with glory and honor." The Word honor could mean Favor, and Favor means "to assist, to provide with special advantages and to receive preferential treatment."

We can believe God for provision and protection for our family and grandchildren.

We can believe that God has our best interests at heart. He has a plan to bless us in all areas of our lives. Because we are the righteousness of GOD through Christ Jesus.

We are blessed and walk in Divine Favor in Christ Jesus name. Amen. Praise The Lord.

Amen

Blessings to all

Cecelia Whitfield

Central District Spiritual Growth Coordinator

RACIAL JUSTICE - Lynn Bonfils

As United Methodist Women we have chosen to take action to eradicate racial injustices. There are so many facets of the issue. There are little things in our lives that we are not even aware of that contribute to racial injustice. How many of us are willing to explore ourselves and trust the Lord to help us to see His truth? Whenever I think I have something covered, the Lord will always show me how wrong I am.

This fight against racism is the same fight that we face daily with our own sin. The Lord tells us to love one another.

We can ask ourselves, how do we love another and show love to all men. We are all created equal in the sight of God. When we have fear of others it causes us to sin. And the bottom line is that racial injustice is rooted in fear.

We may say to ourselves that we don't have fear. But it is usually buried so deep that we don't even recognize it. But it is a "button", when pushed, that we react too. The reality is that all of our hidden fears are open for the discerning person to read and fear controls reactions to responses of real and perceived threats.

When we let our feelings and fears control our lives we are showing Jesus that we have no faith or trust in Him.

So I am issuing a challenge: that we the members of the United Methodist Women, will pray: "Dear Heavenly Father, Show us our fears, heal our wounds that we may learn to love as You do. Help us to stand up for others, seeing them as equals, as children of God - that we may erase the seeds of racism and build a community that works for the development and implementation of social action that protects the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of all people. We realize that we can do nothing in our own efforts. Help us to pray, help us to listen, give us courage, and spark the passion within each of us to do Your will. Give us understanding and discernment to do Your will. We pray that there will be peace in our hearts and evidence of the joy, that we are doing Your will. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN"

Believe that we can change hatred for love. Listen to Jesus, He tells of the power He gives us.

Believe, take heart, and do all things, so as to give God all the glory. I want to give thanks to God for the members of the United Methodist Women that are making a difference, in all kinds of ways. Let us support them in prayer and attitude.

For Racial Justice resources visit the website <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice>

Become informed, if we do not understand the issue, we become powerless. If we ignore the issue, we become a part of the problem.

I am asking for all prayer warriors to come together.

Please contact me, Lynn Helene Bonfils at – prayerwarrior.1950@outlook.com

With God on our side, who can stand against us? Please share this article with the local unit groups. God bless all of you, you are a part of God's blessing to us.

Submitted by Lynn Helene Bonfils

Social Action Coordinator for the Central District of the United Methodist Women

IMPORTANT DATES - National, Conference and District

Be certain to add the following dates to your calendars!

- May 18-20 -- United Methodist Women [Assembly 2018](#) in Columbus, Ohio ... *The Power of Bold*
- See more at: <http://www.inumc.org/umw/#sthash.XQ6MMtgJ.dpuf>
- June 22-24 -- Limitless -- Indianapolis, IN
- July 17-20 -- Mission U -- DePauw University - Greencastle, IN

There will not be a Saturday Sampler this year. The registration form will be on the UMW Conference web site soon at www.inumc.org/umw. The scholarship form for first time Mission U attendees is on this web site at this time.

- September 22 - District Annual Meeting -- Old Bethel UMC, Indianapolis, IN
- October 5-6 -- Conference Annual Meeting -- Garden of Gethsemane - Muncie, IN
- October 26-28 -- Silent Retreat -- Sarto House - 4200 North Kentucky Avenue, Evansville, IN
- November 2-3 -- Leadership Team Meeting - Friday 7pm; District Leadership Development and Officer Training - Saturday 10am-3pm - Greenwood UMC - Greenwood, IN

ASSEMBLY 2018 – THE POWER OF BOLD – FAITH, HOPE, LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Assembly is just around the corner. It will be Friday, May 18 – Sunday, May 20, 2018 in Columbus, Ohio. If you have not been to Assembly, it is a very uplifting experience. Registration on-line is \$330. This includes 2 healthy lunches. The Assembly website is www.umwassembly.org. For more information check the Indiana UMW website at www.inumc.org/umw. If you need more information or help, please contact the Indiana Conference Assembly coordinator Rita Gaither-Gant at 317-549-3574(home) or 317-752-6464(mobile) or gaitrgantm@aol.com.

INDIANA CONFERENCE UMW EVENTS

Mission u

2018 Mission u will be July 17-20, 2018. The Spiritual Growth Study is "Seeking Health and Wholeness". The Geographical Study is "Missionary Conferences in the UMC in the United States". The Social Issue is "What About Our Money? A Faith Response". More information will be available later at the website www.inumc.org/umw

DISTRICT Need

The United Methodist Women of the Indiana Central District is asking that you prayerfully consider helping the "Use What You've Got Prison Ministry."

Part of the mission of "Use What You've Got Prison Ministry" is to furnish transportation so families of incarcerated people can visit their loved ones. We have a lady who needs picked up in Michigan City the 1st Saturday of each month at about 6:00 p.m. and taken to her home in Lafayette.

For more information and to hear of other ways to help - email Ceclia Whitfield - cecelia63.whitfield@gmail.com

Or go to the site below to learn about the ministry.

<http://www.usewhatyouvegotministry.org>

UNIT EVENTS

Avon UMC, Avon, IN

"Hope Springs from the Heart"

UMW Spring Tea

April 15th

2:00 - 4:00

Bring your favorite teacup and a friend!

This year's Spring Tea speaker will be Liz Pitcher from All Worthy of Love. AWOL is a justice focused non-profit in Indianapolis that reaches out to men and women enslaved by street-prostitution. Their mission is to restore broken dwellings, based on the teachings of Isaiah 58. They rescue victims of trafficking through weekly outreach and restore victims of trafficking through partnerships with local organizations that offer safe housing and restorative care.

Child care will be available anytime during the tea or program.

Please contact Karen Stephens (317-698-8794) or Vicki Bridges (317-442-2829) to reserve tickets
(\$3.00 - 12 and under free)

Please RSVP by April 9th

Tea~~Cookies~~Sandwiches~~Door Prizes

Hands on mission items will be collected for AWOL's hygiene kits

washcloths
razors
toothpaste -travel size
toothbrushes
deodorant - travel size
shampoo & conditioner - travel size
soap - travel size
nail files
chapstick
small hairbrush
travel size mirror
band-aids
Neosporin

Limitless 2018: The Mission Crawl



**June 22 - 24
2018**

Limitless 2018: The Mission Crawl is a chance for young women (ages 15-40) and experienced mentors to make a difference in the Indianapolis community. Participants will be spending a few hours at a variety of non-for-profits around the metro area and learning how they impact the community. Be prepared for cleaning, painting, manual labor and laughs! The evenings and mealtimes will be spent at the lovely University of Indianapolis. Let us live out John 15:16 I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures.

Registration includes meals and double occupancy accommodations at the University of Indianapolis Friday at 5pm through Sunday at noon

Register online at: www.inumc.org/limitless

**Early Bird Registration ends April 15: \$50
Registration after April 15: \$60**

**Registration Deadline
May 25, 2018**

Contact: Teah Aldred-Ash IN Conference UMW Young Women's Coordinator
teah.aldredash.umw@gmail.com or 260-403-1766



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The Central Link
Central District United Methodist Women
Sharon Moore, Communications Coordinator
Union Chapel United Methodist Church
2720 East 86th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Dated materials included

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.*

Please feel free to make copies of any article or form in this newsletter and share with others who might be interested in the contents.

It is also very important to notify Sharon Moore (317-445-4475 / CentralDistrictCommunications@gmail.com) or Vicki Bridges (317-442-2829 / vbbridges@outlook.com) of any changes in members' contact information (name, office, address, telephone number, and/or email address).