



Winter 2012

UMW News

For United Methodist Women of Church Street UMC

Upcoming Events

UMW Exec. Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 3, 10:00 AM
Murphy Builders' Classroom

Church Women United
Friday, January 6
10 AM: Coffee; 10:45 AM: Program
Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church
546 College Street

UMW General Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 11:00 AM
Parish Hall

UMW Sunday
Sunday, January 29

UMW Executive Committee
Day Retreat
Tuesday, February 7
Details to come soon.

Young Women's Retreat
Sat. and Sun., March 3-4
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee



FIVE STAR WOMEN

Congratulations to those women who completed the requirements for being a Five Star Woman. These women have the opportunity to donate through various channels of giving, and a significant portion of our mission dollars come through Five Star Women.

2011 Five Star Women

- Dawn von Weisenstein
- LaNoka Rhodes
- Sue Piper
- Lou McNutt
- Verna McLain
- Judy Grubb
- Nancy Carmon
- Pat Bellingrath

From the President

During the holiday season, we often hear the story of the three wise men who came to see the baby Jesus, bearing gifts for him. I like to think of United Methodist Women as wise women who also come bearing gifts. During 2011, you brought so many gifts to those who needed them most. You prayed, saved pennies, cooked, sewed, created cards, made phone calls, cared for the environment, shopped, pledged, read, listened, acted, and committed yourselves to the service of the One who loves you the most.

The blessings we all received this past year are immeasurable, and I look forward to this new year in which we will continue our service, our love for others and our belief that we can indeed make a difference in many different ways and in many different places. **The best gift we gave is the gift of hope—can you imagine receiving a better gift than that?**

—Pat Bellingrath

Programs for 2012

Sue Piper, Vice-President of Program, has scheduled wonderful, informative, and enlightening programs for 2012. Below is a list of the dates and topics. Put these dates on your calendars now so that you won't miss a single one!

- ◆ **Tuesday, January 10, at 11:00 a.m. in Parish Hall**
Anita Henderlight, Executive Director, Africa ELI
This will be a very timely report from Mrs. Henderlight as South Sudan has recently declared its independence and much is happening in that country. It is an exciting and challenging time for this new country, and we want to be informed about the people and their hopes and dreams as they struggle to create a new land of opportunity. Lunch will be served after the program and reservations will need to be called into the church office by Thursday, January 5th.
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 13, at 11:00 a.m.**
The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
The Internet as Ministry, Roger Redding, Executive Director, Holston Foundation
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 10, meeting time to be announced later**
Joint meeting with the Shannondale Circle
History of UMW
- ◆ **Tuesday, May 8, at 11:00 a.m.**
Hiwassee College Update
from President Robin Tricoli
- ◆ **Tuesday, July 10, at 6:30 p.m.**
Evening Picnic
- ◆ **Tuesday, September 11, at 11:00 a.m.**
Dr. Tina Shepardson, University of Tennessee
The Politics of Biblical Translation
- ◆ **Tuesday, November 13, at 11:00 a.m.**
Fran Ansley, University of Tennessee School of Law—*Welcoming the Stranger*
- ◆ **Tuesday, December 4, 2012**
Christmas Program and Festive Luncheon



Membership for UMW

Make a pledge to yourself that you will invite at least one person this new year to a circle or general meeting. The more hands we have, the more work we can accomplish. We all benefit from making new friends and reaching out to new members will be a blessing for us and for them.



Human Trafficking, Labor Violations, and Chocolate

Read and Respond

Most of us rarely go through a week without indulging in a little chocolate, and we probably do not give much thought as to where the chocolate comes from. Cocoa production is a HUGE industry and unfortunately, one that is rife with forced labor, human trafficking and abusive child labor.

Hershey's products with cocoa account for 42.7% of the U.S. market, and this company has its share of labor problems. Hershey's suppliers are located throughout the world, and it is in the supply chain that the serious problems occur. Hershey's must deal with the labor issues, the human trafficking and the child labor abuses that occur with the suppliers. Hershey's has said that because people in the supply chain are not actually its employees, there is not much it can do.

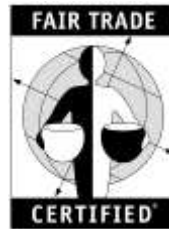
United Methodist Women disagree and believe that this powerful company can indeed do something to change the way that these workers are being exploited.

Please take a moment and send a postcard, letter or email to Hershey's to let them know that we do care, and that we expect this company to care for the employees whether they are direct employees or in the supply chain.

The Hershey's Company
100 Crystal A. Drive
Hershey, PA 17033
(800) 468-1714

(to email Hershey's, go to the website: www.hersheys.com)

Remember that your dollar can speak loudly and can make a huge difference. Vote for fair wages and healthy, safe workplaces by buying products that are Fair Trade Certified. This certification ensures that workers were paid fairly and that the item was produced sustainably.



For more information, go to www.transfairusa.org. Learning more about this can be life changing for you and life changing for many who need our involvement and our commitment.

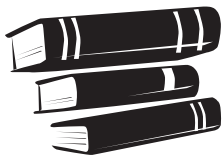
ACT. It matters.

Conference Project for 2012

The Henderson Settlement, located in Frakes, Kentucky, is the conference-designated project for 2012. It is a Mission Agency of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. In 1925, Methodist minister Hiram Frakes went to the Laurel Fork Valley in southeastern Kentucky. He had a dream of education, economic, and spiritual reform. One hundred twenty-three acres were donated by local families, and Frakes started a school for the area. The school opened in the fall of 1925 with thirteen students, and that was the beginning of the Henderson Settlement. Today the local community benefits from many programs and activities provided by the Henderson Settlement.

UMW Reading Program

Many of us spent a good part of 2011 reading, reading, reading! There are many interesting, informative, inspiring and moving books in our library. New ones have been ordered from the 2012 Reading Program list. If you have any questions about the Reading Program or if you are looking for a particular book from the list, please contact Marilyn Ivey (688-9393). Members who completed a reading program plan for 2011 are:



Marie Brabson
Judy Grubb
Elizabeth Reagan

Plan I

Betty Dotson
Marilyn F. Ivey
Donna Schroeder

Plan II

Pat Bellingrath **Dawn von Weisenstein**

Plan IV

Verna McLain

Special kudos to Verna who read 33 books from the Reading Program!! We are so proud of her extraordinary effort.



We are extremely grateful to **Sylvia Davis** for our 2012 yearbook. Sylvia has been producing the yearbook for the past 26 years, and it is a tremendous undertaking. We thank her for this wonderful and much used contribution to Church Street United Methodist Women.

Penny and a Prayer Offering

For almost a year, United Methodist Women said a prayer and placed a penny in a container each day. The pennies were collect during our November General Meeting, and the total amount of our offering was \$243.95. This money was given to the Church Street Benevolence Fund which benefits people in our community who need assistance for things such as rent, bus fare, food, gas, and utility expenses.



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

