



THE UMW APPALACHIAN DISTRICT NEWS

4th Quarter 2020

President's Message:



Greetings!

As we begin to think about fall, we realize that spring and summer have passed and we have survived so far and we have grown, we have learned new ways of doing things, we have been faithful to our calling and we have continued to stay in touch, support mission and smile. Prayer has been a constant and as it says in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, in the

[Contemporary English Version](#), "Whatever happens, keep thanking God because of Jesus Christ. This is what God wants you to do."



We are now looking toward our Leadership Development Day (LDD) and the date is November 14! Register at the wnccumw.org website as we join together with the conference in the Opening Session. We will then go to our respective Appalachian District for sharing the guidelines for the coming year 2021 as officers and mission coordinators in our local units. 2021 is a new year with new possibilities and new ideas. Just imagine what we can do after learning all about how to survive "out of the box" in 2020! As your Appalachian District President, I anticipate with "butterflies of excitement" this new adventure. The End of Year Reports are due in December and will be available on-line. I will be sending you a hard copy also if needed. Just let me know your needs. You, the local unit members, are the heart of our mission. Also, the treasurers will have a separate breakout session per usual for their training. Note the information in Appalachian District Treasurer Nancy Johnson's article.

Join us virtually on November 14 at 10 AM. You will receive a blessing.

Love, peace and joy,
Sherry

(Sherry Summerlin, 120 Shady Oak Terrace, Hudson, NC 28638; sherrysummer@charter.net; stopac69@gmail.com ; (828) 728-4936 or (828)234-0850)

Vice-President:



Oh, how we miss our in-person fellowship opportunities. Whether we meet in person or virtually, we as United Methodist Women stand firm on our responsibilities and commitment to women, children, and youth. The district team has engaged in virtual meetings to keep our units informed of what is happening on both the district and conference levels; we also held our Appalachian District Annual celebration virtually.

A special thank you to Lynn Gilbert and the district technology team for their support and guidance as we maneuvered through the virtual experience. It was indeed a learning process for us all. Thank you to our district president, Sherry Summerlin, and our conference president, Julia Willis, for your involvement and leadership.

Currently the district team is working on our Leadership Development Day to be held on November 14, 2020. We ask that all unit officers please join in the meetings to learn more about your duties as an officer of the United Methodist Women. If you have questions, please contact Sherry Summerlin or myself, Annette Echard.

Love and Blessings, Annette Echard

Spiritual Growth:



Greetings,

As we all know, we are fast coming to the end of the year 2020, and what a year it has been! During 2020 we have experienced many new challenges through COVID-19. At the beginning "cancelled" became the word of choice. We learned that 6ft. apart was called "social distancing". Sheltering in place became the new norm. Cleaning and sanitizing everything then became our new hobby. We learned to make and wear masks, of which I have seen some really unique ones. We all learned to conduct meetings and worship service on-line (just let me say that was a Big challenge for me) and some of us even had worship services outdoors in the parking lot. But all of these things did not keep us, United Methodist Women, from doing our work for missions; simply by staying strong in faith.

So, as we close out the year of 2020 with our virtual Appalachian District LDD on November 14th, let us pray that 2021 will bring less social distancing and more hugs and smiles. Stay strong in faith, stay safe and we will see you in 2021, hopefully in person.

Blessings from your SG Coordinator,

Judy Sipe

Nominations:



First, thank you to the Appalachian District United Methodist Women who were installed as our District Executive Board on Saturday, August 29 at our District Annual Celebration Virtual Event! We look forward to working together to strengthen our Appalachian District UMW!

We do still have one District Coordinator position open, **Membership, Nurture & Outreach**. What does she do? She attends virtually/in-person the District Executive Board meetings, writes a brief article on membership for the 4 District newsletters, keeps a tally of

the District team's contacts with local units and unit's membership information and suggests ideas for membership.

Please prayerfully consider serving in this important coordinator position. If you feel led to serve, please contact Brenda Kimberlin at bkimberlin@caldwellschools.com or Penny Ledbetter at pennygrietje@gmail.com.

Penny Ledbetter

Nominations Committee

Secretary:



It is so hard to believe that 2020 is nearing an end. I do hope and pray that in 2021, we will be able to experience, as Judy put it, more hugs and 'in person' smiles. Please note the updated Mission Today Criteria (revised due to COVID-19) on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter. On page 7 is a list of 2021 Nurturing Partners, noting the unit contact person for 2020 (if the contact person info is incorrect for your unit, please let me, Sherry Summerlin, or Annette Echard know.) Lastly, please note information on page 8 regarding the 2020 Mission u virtual online study on October 26-29 and information regarding Leadership Development Day on November 14th. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Secretary and Communications Coordinator for the past four and five years. Stay healthy and keep smiling!

Blessings,

Jan Taylor, j.kay.tay@gmail.com/336-468-0313

Mission Education and Interpretation:

Greetings!

I hope your summer has been a blessing! I pray you have been safe as well, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic. I have missed being in the presence with so many of my UMW sisters, but with God all things are possible.

Thank you to all the units who sent their items for the Bethlehem Center, the clothes for Agape and the kits for UMCOR.

Since we will not be joining together as a conference for Ubuntu this year, please find a local ministry who may need a helping hand. Another suggestion for our Ubuntu if you are not comfortable physically lending a helping hand is to spend the day in prayer - seeking the Lord for His direction and guidance.

In closing, I would like to say "Thank you" to the Appalachian District UMW for having faith in me to serve as your MEI Coordinator. I have been so blessed serving in this position! I love you all from the bottom of my heart.

Take the name of Jesus with you as you go along the way....

Blessings to you!

Roberta Walker

Program Resources:



Annual Celebration is over and we have received recognition for 2019. There were 43 who completed the Reading Program. There were 23 that completed Level I; 9 completed Level II; 2 completed Level III and 8 completed Level IV. It was refreshing to see that we had one child/youth to complete our program. That is a great way to get new members...start them out early. Let's try extra hard to read these great books to our children and youth. The information will help to raise informed members of our global world. Let's increase these numbers in 2020. We have had time to read more so let's all raise awareness of our mission issues by telling others about our books.

Very shortly, we will be turning in records for 2020. The books for 2021 are already online, so the Reading Program resource person can peruse them and order books that suit your local unit's preference. There are many good books this coming year. Check them out. Use a group record keeping book and have everyone turn up their lists every month. That way at reporting time, everything will be all together and handy.

The Reading Program is a cherished United Methodist Women tradition that brings together members in mission as they explore, share and discuss the books.

As you read, consider taking one or more of the following actions: **Share the program** with United Methodist Women members and members of the community. **Connect with local and district groups.** Start a book club, download books onto an e-reader to pass around and share, present book reviews at group meetings. **Display a progress chart in your church** for all who wish to participate, and post displays to encourage book sales. **Advocate for tangible change.** Many Reading Program books address issues such as climate change, mass incarceration, immigration and racism. Organize a task force to address these issues in your community. Then above all **Pray.** Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings.

Micki Earp, District

Program Resource coordinator

Membership – Nurture – Outreach:



Who knew in February that we would still be in the pandemic this fall? Unfortunately, we are still social distancing and trying to keep things moving!

Let me encourage our units again to stay connected. Consider Zoom meetings, Google "rooms", Facebook and good old fashioned note writing as ways to reach out! Try to contact at least 1 person/unit each week just to say "Hello"! Don't forget our local officer training in November.

As always, remember to send me your visits, and membership numbers.

As we close this year, let us remember to trust in the Lord, each other, and our church families.

Until we can meet again,

Denise Harris, Appalachian District MNO
(704) 437-2794

denise.harris2105@gmail.com



Treasurer:

The pandemic has changed the way we have done many things in our everyday lives, but as United Methodist Women we must not let it change our support of women, children, and youth around the world through Mission Giving. The first half of 2020 (1st and 2nd quarters), the Appalachian District gave \$22,353.50 to Undesignated Giving (Five Channels of Giving), and the third quarter the amount was \$7,873.25. Clearly not being able to meet has made an impact on our giving. I urge you to encourage your unit to give as generously as they can and if at all possible to meet their Pledge to Mission. If your unit has not made a pledge, it is not too late. If you do not have the "Pledge and Officer Information Form - 2020" (yellow sheet) I mailed with the first quarter treasurer letter, just write it on a note, on the Remittance Form, or email the pledge. Just make a pledge! Making and meeting a pledge is possibly the most powerful action we take in support of the Mission of United Methodist Women.

Leadership and Development Training will be totally different this year. It will be a virtual meeting held on November 14, 2020 with a general session led by the Conference and break-out sessions for each District. There will be a break-out room just for treasurers of the Appalachian District. More information will be available on the Conference website (wnccumw.org) in the near future.

If you have any question and/or concerns, or need more information about UMW giving to share at your meetings, please let me know. You may email, call or TXT.

In His Service,
Nancy Johnson, District Treasurer
nananurse85@charter.net
828-612-6142





Mission Today 2020 – Revised due to COVID-19

United Methodist Women Western North Carolina Conference

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Become a Mission Today Unit!!

NEW IN 2020: (Changes are highlighted in yellow.)

Mission Today Gold – Complete 10 criteria: 6 with asterisks (*) and 4 other.**

Mission Today Silver – Complete 8 criteria: 4 with asterisks (*) and 4 other.**

Mission Today Bronze – Complete 6 criteria: 4 with asterisks (*) and 2 other.**

****Note: "Other" may also include items with asterisks (*).**

The purpose of promoting a Mission Today Unit is to:

Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action. Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so the United Methodist Women understand where their money goes. Encourage the use of mission resources through United Methodist Women. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a Unit?

A unit is any organized group of United Methodist Women within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles, which periodically get together for a unit meeting.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?

In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, (Gold, Silver or Bronze) UMW units must complete a number of the following criteria as indicated above. Activities conducted between January 1-December 31, 2020, will be recognized at annual meetings in 2021. This is an ongoing program, so strive to become a Mission Today Unit!

CRITERIA:

***1. The Unit will make a Pledge to Mission.**

- *2. The unit will use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting or circle meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and our mission work with women, children and youth. A new Prayer Calendar is printed each year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *3. The unit will use at least two programs from the Program Book during the year. A new Program Book is printed every year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *4. The unit or circle will conduct or participate in at least one mission study each year. Contact your district or conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn what the studies are for each year. (If members of your unit attend the conference Mission or your District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study, Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc., your unit will meet this criteria.)
- *5. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to **response** (1 member subscribing with units less than 15 members; Local unit subscription may count as one.) Order information is printed at bottom of page 2. \$24.00 for a one-year print subscription (includes digital subscription); \$20 for a one-year digital only subscription.
- *6. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year. Possibilities are:
 - a. Have members read and discuss books and articles about other races and cultures;
 - b. Sponsor or attend an interethnic event between two or more units;
 - c. Intentionally recruit women of other ethnic groups to be members and officers of the unit;
 - d. Use the Resources for Racial Justice Available on our conference website on the "Downloads Available" page under "Mission Resources."
 - e. Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, low-income programs, civil rights, etc.If you are a "Justice Today" unit, you have met this criteria. See "Downloads Available" on conference website.
- *7. The unit will have a program and/or complete an action addressing one of the Issue Priorities for 2016-2020. These are 1. Climate Justice; 2. Maternal and Child Health, 3. Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration; and 4. Economic Inequality. Find information at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/general-conference/issuepriorities2016-20
- *8. The unit will add at least two new members (one member for units with less than 15 members) to its roll.

- *9. The unit will have one program from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020. Available at www.Cokesbury.com for \$3.99 plus tax and shipping.
- *10. The unit will contribute to all Five Channels of Mission Giving.
- *11. The UMW Purpose will be recited at each general and/or circle meeting.
- *12. The unit will contribute \$186.90 or more to the Legacy Fund in 2020.
- 13. At least one member of the unit will attend Mission u and report back to the unit on classes and events they experienced. **Virtual participation qualifies as attending.**
- 14. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend the district or conference annual meeting and report back to the unit about the event and what they experienced. **Virtual participation qualifies.**
- 15. The unit will have at least one person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. To join, contact the United Methodist Women Washington Office, 100 Maryland Avenue NE, Room 100, Washington, DC 20002. Phone #: 202-488-5660 or Visit: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/action Attach the issue and action that was taken to Mission Today report.
- 16. Members will correspond with five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once a year.
- 17. The unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a Children's Sabbath. (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children.) The United Methodist Women National Office and the Council of Bishops support this effort. Children's Sabbath materials are on our national website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org Type "Children's Sabbath" in the search box.
- 18. Each unit or circle meeting will include a "**response** Moment" where an item from **response** magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
- 19. The unit will sponsor one teen member (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman member (ages 18 to 39) to at least one conference event during the year.
- 20. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend a district Prayer Breakfast, district Day Apart, conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, or any other special district or conference event other than Ubuntu Day. **Virtual participation in any of these events qualify as attending.**
- 21. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will participate in an Ubuntu Day Event. **Units may develop their own UBUNTU event in their communities.**
- 22. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will complete Plan 1 of the Reading Program and give a report to the unit on one of the books read.
- 23. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year and/or for their United Methodist Women's Sunday. This Qualifies as a Local Unit Visit (LUV).
- 24. The unit will add one new teen (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman (ages 18 to 39) circle during the year, or one new teen member (ages 12 to 17) or one new young woman member (ages 18 to 39) during the year.
- 25. 100% of the unit's active members will make a gift of at least \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund
- 26. The 2020 Conference Financial Goal is: To increase unit pledge giving by at least \$5.00 per member. The unit will help accomplish the goal by increasing giving in this channel by at least \$5.00 per member over 2019.
- 27. Each unit will be responsible for supporting at least one local mission project and participate in one Conference Hands-on Mission Project during the year. The local project should be listed on your Mission Today report.

Be a Mission Today Unit!

Mission Resource Center

Website: www.umwmissionresources.org UMW Mission Resources, PO Box 742349, Atlanta, GA 30374-2349;

Phone: 1-800-305-9857 (toll-free); Fax: (770)280-0061; e-mail: cs@umwmissionresources.org

Magazine Circulation (For response Toll Free 1-877-881-2385 • FAX: 1-845-267-3478

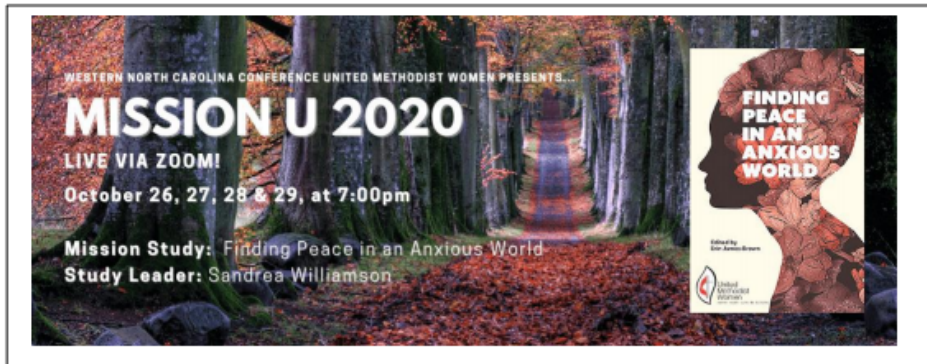
Magazines with a Mission • PO Box 395 • Congers, NY 10920-0395

Conference Website: www.wnccumw.org

Updated August 2020

2021 NURTURING PARTNERS

Unit	Nurturing Partner	2020 contact person	Unit	Nurturing Partner	2020 contact person
Arbor Grove (Purlear)	Jan Taylor	Sandra Bell	Hiddenite (Hiddenite)	Nancy Johnson	Carolyn Meadows
Banner Elk (Banner Elk)	Sherry Summerlin	Marcia Alford	Hudson (Hudson)	Kimberlee Witherspoon	Sherry Summerlin
Barbara Heck	Roberta Walker	Louise Sale	Littlejohn (Lenoir)	Annette Echard	Brenda Kimberlin
Baton (Granite Falls)	Brenda Kimberlin	Cathy Hollars	Maple Springs	Jan Taylor	Kim Lackey
Bethelview (Boone)	Sherry Mabry	Lenore Jamison	Millers Creek (Millers Creek)	Jan Taylor	Mary Edna Faw
Bethlehem (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Barbara Lippard	Monticello (Statesville)	Linda Greer	Linda Johnson
Boone (Boone)	Jan Taylor	Denise Stanley	Mount Bethel (Hickory)	Sherry Summerlin	Judy Sipe
Broad Street (Statesville)	Linda Greer	Laura Spencer	Mount Hermon (Lenoir)	Sherry Summerlin	Estelle Tolbert
Calvary (Fleetwood)	Jane Long	Jeanette Sharp	Mountain View (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Cindy Summers
Cedar Valley (Lenoir)	Sherry Summerlin	Elaine Hatley	New Beginnings (Jonesville)	Judy Sipe	Terri Williams
Chapel Hill (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Mary Stewart	New Covenant (Lenoir)	Lorraine Burns	Kimberly Witherspoon
Charity (Elkin)	Pam Harshaw	Nan Yale	Piney Creek (Piney Creek)	Kimberlee Witherspoon	Carolyn Garland
Christ Boulevard (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Edith Rummage; Kelly Johnson	Pine Grove	Janice Chester	Lana Saxton
Clifton (Warrensville)	Nancy Reigel	Rosetta Everhart	Providence (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Sheila Overcash
Colliers (Lenoir)	Sherry Summerlin	Anita Wilson	Rose Chapel (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Lisa Elledge
Cool Spring (Cleveland)	Micki Earp	Barbara Page	Scott's Chapel (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Cecelia D. Moore
Cox's Chapel (Mouth of Wilson)	Jane Long	Julia Bonham	Shiloh (Sparta)	Sherry Mabry	Cynthia Dixon
Deerfield (Boone)	Roberta Walker	Dana Holden	Smethport (West Jefferson)	Janice Chester	Ann Burge
Ebenezer (Elkin)	Pam Witherspoon Harshaw		Snow Creek (Statesville)	Denise Harris	Becky Mishoe
Ebenezer (Granite Falls)	Kimberlee Witherspoon	Kim Ellis	Sparta (Sparta)	Sherry Mabry	Beverlee Scott
First (Elkin)	Roberta Walker	Steva Bledsoe	Stony Point (Stony Point)	Nancy Johnson	Micki Earp
First (Granite Falls)	Judy Sipe	Sandra Reid	Trinity (Lenoir)	Brenda Kimberlin	Sybil Green
First (Lenoir)	Annette Echard, Denise Harris, Sherry Summerlin		Union Grove (Union Grove)	Penny Ledbetter	Penny Ledbetter
First (North Wilkesboro)	Jan Taylor	Lori Burke	Wesley Chapel (Hamptonville)	Roberta Walker	Carolyn Ellis
First (Taylorsville)	Linda Greer	Traci Snyder	Wesley Memorial (Troutman)	Judy Sipe	Erika Reid
Friendship (Statesville)	Penny Ledbetter	Kathy Nunez	West Jefferson (West Jefferson)	Roberta Walker	Pam Bard
Gamewell (Lenoir)	Brenda Kimberlin	Burla Willis	Wilkesboro (Wilkesboro)	Annette Echard	Sherry Mabry
Grace Chapel (Granite Falls)	Sherry Summerlin	Margo Bowman			



More Information

Coming Soon!

Registration will open

October 1, 2020

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for
Mission U LIVE via Zoom!

**Mission u Spiritual Growth
Study:**

**Finding Peace in an Anxious
World**

Study Leader: Sandra Williamson/Music provided by Catherine Ritch

October 26-29, 2020 7:00-8:15pm

Virtual Online Study via Zoom Meeting

Online registration for the Zoom Meeting will open on October 1, 2020.

We also expect to live stream each session on our YouTube page.

Please read the text book: Finding Peace in an Anxious World,
continue to pray and sign up for the study.

Finding Peace in an Anxious World resource page on the United Methodist Women website

The book is available in paperback (\$10.00) from the UMW Mission Resources E-Store,
and also as a Kindle book (\$5.95).

At this time of COVID-19 we are surrounded by much uncertainty and anxiety all over the world. We are not able to "Pass the Peace" at our houses of worship, our children are not able to attend school, so many lives have been lost and many are facing economic uncertainty. Across the country there are marches everyday demanding justice and calling for police reform following the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others. The stress level for many of us is at an all-time high. Sandra will lead us through the study using the Serenity Prayer as a guide to help us **de-stress and refresh** so we may continue to live out our **Purpose** as United Methodist Women.

*God, Grant me the Serenity
To accept the things I cannot change
Courage to change the things I can
And the Wisdom to know the difference
Author: Reinhold Niebuhr*



In our efforts to care for the safety and well being of all of our members, WNCC UMW has planned a **virtual All District Leader Development Day for Local Unit Officers, Circle Chairs, and other leaders for 2020.**

Mark this page (<https://wnccumw.org/districts/lddlocalunitofficers2020>) as the place you can get complete information about Leader Development plans for ALL EIGHT districts. We all look forward to the day when we can again gather safely in person!

Using Zoom Meeting, we will have a brief gathering time with all eight districts together, and then divide into breakout Zoom Meeting rooms by District. Handouts by District should be available on this site by November 9th.

Registration is required for these free Zoom meetings, and **registration is now OPEN**. Just click on the **Zoom Registration** button on the WNCC UMW website. **Register TODAY!**