

MISSION **LINK**

United Methodist Women, California Nevada Conference, El Camino Real District, Vol. 30, No. 3, September, 2019

The Climate Crisis | “For God so loved the world” ...



Betty Spencer Dickey, Western Jurisdiction Environmental Guide, led participants to work through environmental and social tradeoffs in a Climate Justice simulation.

BY BETTY SPENCER DICKEY, WESTERN JURISDICTION ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDE

On Saturday June 1, 2019, the District UMW presented a Climate Care/Climate Justice event at Los Gatos UMC. Betty Spencer Dickey spoke as the Western Jurisdiction Environmental Guide, and Rev. Charlotte Bear spoke as a representative of the Climate Reality Organization.

The day was divided into three parts:

- Presentations by our two speakers
- A climate simulation program that used a role play of real characters to solve a climate issue
- Some participated in an action at a Ford dealership at the end of the day.

Our young people are telling us to stop the actions that are leading to this crisis. They are calling us out! They are calling out big business that pollutes with no thought to the damage they do. Students are marching and taking Fridays off from school because they believe that if we do not fix this that they will be the ones who suffer in the future, and they are right.

In the morning, our speakers told of the Climate crisis that surrounds us, and how too much CO₂ contributes to catastrophic storms along with floods and fires that bring more death and disease. We are left with destroyed crops, homes, businesses and the need to migrate to other areas, and give up our homes. This is happening all over the world, and our own John Wesley spoke about it hundreds of years ago.

Wesley said, “We are now God’s stewards. We are indebted to him for all we have. A steward is not at liberty to use what is lodged in his hands as he pleases, but as his master pleases.... He is not the owner of any of these things but barely entrusted with them by another, ... “ *Sermon 51, “The Good Steward.”*

In addition, our UMC Social Principles tell us what our responsibility to the earth is. “All creation is the Lord’s, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God’s creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. God has granted us stewardship of creation. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect.” *UMC Social Principles- S1601 The Natural World*

ARE WE DOING THIS? ARE WE CARING FOR THE EARTH? IT DOESN’T LOOK LIKE IT.

What ever it is, whatever you can do whether large or small, think about what you are doing to the earth everyday. These few things are easy!

- **Do not buy** another gas-guzzling car.
- **Stop using** so much plastic and one-use-only items that continue to fill up our landfills and our oceans. Only 20% or less of one-use items and plastic ends up being recycled. We can do better!
- **Reduce** your use of petroleum products. Methane that leaks from refineries and pipelines is causing illness in local communities.

We must stop acting as if the problem is too big for us. A United Nations report* tells us that we have 12 years to work on this crisis before it gets to the catastrophic phase, so we have to start now.

- **Vote** for legislators who actually believe in science.
- **Search out** environmental organizations online.
- **Join or contribute** to an organization that is working on some of the problems.

THERE IS HOPE OUT THERE. MAY GOD HELP US WITH THIS.

For more information:

* Learn more about the United Nations report here <www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12131.doc.htm>

See our District UMW Climate Justice webpage <elcaminorealumw.org/unit-resources/green>

Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach

CAROLYN LAMCKE

WE HONOR THE SAINTS OF OUR DISTRICT UMW

In preparation for the District UMW Annual Celebration, now is the time to send me a list of the Saints from your unit for the last year. These Saints are those wonderful ladies in your UMW who have passed away since October 2018.

By September 1, please send me the list by email. (If I receive it after September 10, it will be applied to the next year.) We would truly like to join you in honoring and remembering them.

BE COUNTED IN 2020 WITH UMW CENSUS

Similar to what we did earlier in 2019, we are requested to fill out a UMW census, to be done by March 2020.

This year the census will be a little different. I'll send each unit a printed copy of the census form, so you can fill it in using a pencil/pen. Then you or someone else can enter it into the online version of the form.

The last date the census forms will be accepted is *March 29, 2020*. This year, several units submitted the census too late and they were not counted, sadly. (Only 15 of our El Camino Real District UMW units were represented.) I suggest you arrange to have it entered (online) by at least a week before the deadline. If you are having trouble entering the data into the online form, please call me and over the phone I'll put it on the computer for you. This year I'm hoping you fill out the entire census, not just the initial summary information.

This summer, the National UMW gave every Conference Coordinator of Membership Nurture and Outreach a copy of the 2019 UMW Census results for their Conference. Maybelle Henry (for our Conference) shared it with us Membership Nurture & Outreach (MNO) District Coordinators. It was fun to look at and interesting.

What struck me most were:

- The small number of reporting units that speak a language other than English;
- The large number of members that attended a Mission u event;
- The large number of units doing programs and work related to climate justice.

Let's make sure our units and members are all represented in the 2020 UMW Census next spring!

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.

MISSION LINK is published quarterly. Each issue is also available on the El Camino Real District UMW website <elcaminorealumw.org>. Please send address changes to El Camino Real District UMW President K Stone.

Please direct items for publication in Mission Link to Wanda Garrett, Communications Coordinator. If you provide photos of recognizable individuals, please be sure you have obtained permission from those individuals to publish their picture. The next issue will be published in December, 2019. The deadline for articles or photos to be submitted for this issue is Saturday, November 16, 2019.

MISSION LINK

is published quarterly by

EL CAMINO REAL DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

<elcaminorealumw.org>

Wesley United Methodist Church

Attn: K Stone, President

El Camino Real District UMW

566 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA 95112

2019 DISTRICT TEAM

PRESIDENT: K STONE

VICE PRESIDENT: LYNN HERMOSO

TREASURER: DEBBIE OW

SECRETARY: open

SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES:
CAROLYN BIRCHER

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR,
WEBSITE EDITOR: WANDA GARRETT

MISSION COORDINATORS

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: SANDRA NESHEIM

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH:
CAROLYN LAMCKE

SOCIAL ACTION: KATHERINE KIM

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION: open

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

CHAIRPERSON: BETTY SPENCER DICKEY

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Kat Teraji

open

open

open

To contact any District Team member, send an email to <communication@elcaminorealumw.org>. Please include on the subject line, the Team member to whom your message should be directed.

To subscribe to the District UMW "Quick News" emails, please send a request to Wanda Garrett at <communication@elcaminorealumw.org>.

Notes from the President

Share Our Story

Tell our story? Put me in your story?

Share a life changing experience?

Share how my/our group made a difference to our community?

I've noticed, recently, how many advertisements I've received. Marketers are so eager to tell us about their fabulous, latest and greatest invention, what we can't live without! All the benefits...

Share Your Story, your group's story of service and advocacy!

Do we as United Methodist Women have a difficult time in sharing our stories? We have found our way to United Methodist

Women, an organization which empowers women to share their stories and to make a difference in the world.

Perhaps your path has crossed with that of Betty Dickey's. She brings her passion and message of the importance of saving God's beautiful world, globally or close to our back door, and how we can be more involved. Through her work on Climate Justice, **Betty shares her story!**

I know we **ALL** have stories to share. Perhaps they are life stories, or current projects to improve the lives of women, children and youth nationally and internationally, or advocacy work on peace and justice, education, the rights of children, human rights.

We, as United Methodist Women, have inspiring stories to tell, beautiful prayers, poems and songs to share, as well as program and fundraising ideas to help us all put our faith, hope and love into action.

Sharing My Story

BY K STONE

MY PERSONAL STORY is of childhood memories are of radical hospitality and caring for those in need. Around our dinner table, quite often, were more than our family of four. Sometimes I'd return from school to find that my mother had a group of women in our home, praying for and working towards a solution for the community. There was also fundraising for a school or hospital, to improve the lives of women, children and families. My story is one of seeds planted at a young age to help me put faith, hope and love into action.



Past District UMW Presidents have passed to K Stone (at right) their legacy of leadership. From left, Connie Hunter, Patricia Madsen, Betty Dickey, Sally Wenzel, K Stone.

I invite you to **Share Your Story** of how your group has been in service and advocacy. Please consider writing a couple paragraphs describing what you did toward support of the Charter for Racial Justice, and submit to me by September 13, to for inclusion in the Annual Celebration. You can reach me at <kstone09@gmail.com>.

Our Program Book for next year is titled "**Let Your Light Shine - IGNITED FOR JUSTICE.**"

What are our stories and our "light" to pass on?

Blessings,

K Stone, President
El Camino Real District UMW



BY BONNIE HOME, ALMADEN HILLS UMW

If the world has ever needed a guide, it needs one now. Betty Dickey is the UMW Western Jurisdiction Environmental Guide, and for the Climate Justice event on June 1, she put together a morning of presentations called “Climate Care, Climate Justice,” packed with information on the subject. The seminar was held at Los Gatos United Methodist Church.

A ferocious Mama Bear defends her precious planet Earth



Rev. Charlotte Bear encourages all to understand what’s happening in our world’s ecology, and do our part to be responsible stewards.

Guest speaker Rev. Charlotte Bear became for the morning a ferocious “Mama Bear,” furiously defending her precious planet Earth from disastrous damage coming in as few as 20 years from now. Charlotte says that the current movement for climate justice is led by young adults who demand that we not kick down the road the “can of worms” that will lead to the Earth’s demise. We may think that the youth alone will save the Earth sometime in the future, but here

isn’t enough time left for that. The time for action is now. Young adults are angry, and are calling us out. They want us to feel uncomfortable, to feel the fear of our situation. The “Sunrise” movement is building an army of young people to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process.

Some people say, “Where is the church in this?” Both our Bible and our United Methodist Social Principles cry out for us to act.

We are in the midst of a Climate Catastrophe

The People’s Climate March is intergenerational and spans all groups including the indigenous, the military, and the legislators. What we have is no longer a Climate Crisis, it is a Climate Catastrophe. We are in the midst of the 6th Great Extinction, and 50% of the Earth’s animals have disappeared in the last 100 years.

Some of the morning’s information was new to some of us –

- Not only is the Great Pacific Ocean Garbage Patch larger than the state of Texas, but it is also surprisingly deep. There are five such patches in the oceans.
- Hot, wet weather fosters diseases, including the Zika mosquito and the malaria mosquito, spreading them away from their original locations. Beetles, aphids,

We cannot do everything, but we can do something, and we can begin now.

E.E. Hale

ticks and wheat leaf rust thrive in hot, wet environments.

- Earth’s atmosphere is thin. If the Earth were an M & M, the atmosphere would be the candy shell. We add 110 million tons of carbon dioxide to

the atmosphere every 24 hours, the equivalent of 400,000 “Hiroshimas” every day.

- Heated oceans evaporate and cause “rain bombs.”
- The underground water table is not raised by that excessive rain, because the heat of global warming in turn sucks the water out of the ground.
- Corn and wheat yields are lower and contain less nutrition when grown in super-hot summers.
- The melting permafrost releases prehistoric viruses against which we have no immunity.

Both Betty and Charlotte not only “talk the talk” but they also “walk the walk.” Betty was among the 1800 United Methodist Women who signed letters which were delivered to Chevron in San Ramon, insisting that the company reduced the amount of methane that its refinery releases into the air. During the afternoon of our June 1st meeting she planned to take signed notes to the local Ford dealer, encouraging the company not to step back from the “clean air car standards” promise that Ford had made earlier. “Faith to Ford” is a nationwide UMW campaign.

Use our voices and votes to get things done

Betty read the E. E. Hale quote, “We cannot do everything, but we can do something, and we can begin now.” As Rev. Barber of North Carolina said, “The right time to do good is right now.” Betty urged us to use our voices and our votes to get things done.

Charlotte is a trained member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps, which was founded by Al Gore and is a collection of activists, cultural leaders, organizers, scientists, and storytellers committed to building a sustainable future together. Charlotte involves herself in civic panels and commissions that make decisions affecting our quality of life. She is the chaplain for the volunteer fire department in her Santa Cruz mountain neighborhood. Her son is in college majoring in environmental studies, and is a climate activist.

The morning concluded with the Climate Justice Simulation Experience, which is a role-playing exercise focused on three environmentally-degraded communities – (1) Indigenous Lands; (2) The Coal Industry’s

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

KATHERINE KIM

Mountaintop Removal; and (3) Industrial Zones in Major Cities. Participants took on the identities of people who have mixed emotions about the areas in which they live. Everyone became quite attached to the new personalities they adopted, and in the end tried to find ways that their alter-egos could find justice and live in a clean, wholesome environment while still supporting themselves financially.

Doing nothing will result in enormous and wide-reaching cost

Can we afford the monetary cost of improving our energy generation? Doing nothing will result in enormous and wide-reaching cost. We cannot afford to be penny wise and pound foolish.

There is some good news to report.

- Many coal mines have been shut down.
- India and China are fighting their extreme pollution with solar and wind energy. India plans in ten years' time to produce only electric cars.
- Santa Clara County's "Community Choice Energy" is largely generated by solar and wind.
- There are new solar generators that are bird-friendly, made with cups where birds can roost.
- Organic food and plant-based food are no longer just for hippies and "tree huggers." They are the smart choices for everyone.

"Hope" is a verb in action. Do your research. Realize that change comes through policy and money. Vote for the people you know will work to protect the earth. When there is a climate change event, show up for it.

Be the change you want to see.

SOCIAL ACTION EVENT: CONTROLLING THE SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE

The California-Nevada Conference UMW Annual Social Action Event was held at First UMC Sacramento on Saturday May 4, 2019. The subject was "School to Prison Pipeline." The guest speaker was Julius X. Van Hook from "Global Innovator, People Motivation."

We had close to 100 people, and it was well received.

Mr. Van Hook was very knowledgeable, and helped us learn more about the what is called the School to Prison Pipeline. He described how the problem starts at the school. When a child makes trouble at school, he/she goes directly to police custody instead of working with the school counselor. It's likely that the next time there's a problem, the child will again be in the legal system, ending up eventually in prison. This damages the future of the child, and causes great harm to their families and communities.

Schools, communities, faith organizations, police departments court systems, and legislators must work together to tear apart this pipeline.

Read more about this topic: <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/rejecting-the-criminalization-of-communities-of-color>.

UMCOR EMERGENCY KITS AND SUPPLIES



UMCOR Hygiene Kits benefit people in emergency situations and disasters around the world.

Each Hygiene Kit contains hand and wash towels, comb, soap, toothbrush, and bandages in a one-gallon plastic "ziplock" bag.

At the same time, we shipped three boxes of Relief Supplies for the migrants coming to the U.S. from Central America via Mexico. These supplies include children and adult blankets, baby sweaters, hats, socks, etc. They were requested by Deaconess Sonia Cruz from Westlawn UMC in San Antonio, Texas.

For more information:

UMCOR <www.umcmmission.org/umcor>

UMCOR Relief Supplies <www.umcmmission.org/umcor/serve/relief-supply-network>



Julius X. Van Hook spoke about "School to Prison Pipeline" at the Conference UMW Social Action event.

Treasurer

DEBBIE OW

ECR DISTRICT BUDGET 2020

Here is our proposed budget for 2020. It is pretty much the same as last year, except that the Social Action and Membership events are broken out.

The budget is given to our Conference UMW, for funding our activities through the year. (Your unit's contributions are not held in our District, but is passed along to the Conference UMW, who forward it to the National UMW where it is disbursed to the many organizations that support women, children and youth throughout the world, including our Conference and District.)

At the District UMW Annual Celebration in October, we will vote to adopt this budget.

Events:		
Membership	\$	500.00
Social Action		500.00
Mission Springs Retreat		5,000.00
Connect and Learn		750.00
Mission U		3,500.00
Annual Celebration		1,050.00
Total Events		11,300.00
Administrative:		
Executive Expenses		1,000.00
Newsletter/Website		500.00
Audit		500.00
Total Administrative		2,000.00
Gifts:		
Mary Elizabeth Inn		100.00
Gum Moon		100.00
Total Gifts		200.00
Total Budget 2020	\$	13,500.00

2019 "5 STAR GIVING" DEADLINE

In preparation for the upcoming Annual Celebrations for CA/NV Conference and ECR District UMW, we sent out an August "Quick News" email requesting your 2019 pledge monies, and "5 Star Giving" status, be sent to me by September 1. As you read this issue of Mission Link, it's likely that deadline has passed.

If your unit's Treasurer sends contributions after the September 1 deadline, your unit's contributions will still be counted as being for 2019, but unfortunately will not receive an award at the Annual Celebration.

As a district we have contributed over \$20,000 (in 2019 alone) to support UMW missions around the world. WOW!

Please send your contributions to me as soon as possible, to make sure they get counted in our 2019 totals. If you have questions, please contact me.

Already, 12 units will receive "5 Star" recognition.

Is your unit among them?



THE FIVE CHANNELS OF MISSION GIVING

- Pledge to Mission:** This includes Pledge to Mission and supplementary gifts collected on special occasions.
- Special Mission Recognition:** Order a UMW pin from the District UMW Treasurer to recognize a special UMW member. Pins are available for \$40 to \$2,000, depending on gemstone decoration.
- Gift to Mission:** Recognize special people, or special events in their lives, with a Gift to Mission. Printable gift cards and a link to an online Gift to Mission donation form are available at <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/donate/cards>.
- Gift in Memory:** Remember someone special or honor a life of service with a Gift in Memory. Printable gift cards and a link to an online Gift in Memory donation form are available at <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/donate/cards>.
- World Thank Offering:** In response to God's abundance and grace, your unit may participate in this offering with a special service or program. Information and free resources are available at <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/worldthank>.

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

SANDRA NESHEIM



A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT CHANGE

Change is a given part of our lives. Even a change that is perceived as a positive one is stressful. When I was younger, I was not a fan of changes to my life. As I have become older and hopefully wiser, I learned to adopt at least a neutral response to the changes that come my way.

A small part of my change of attitude is due to my training as a psychologist. I know how to change my thoughts about a situation to begin to change my feelings about it. Changing my thoughts about a situation can be a challenge. That is where the biggest part of my attitude about change comes in.

My faith in God will see me through any situation that confronts me.

I leave you with two scriptures that guide me forward in my life.

*Fear not, for I am with you,
do not be afraid for I am your
God. I will uphold you
with my strong right hand.*

Isaiah 41:10 (TIB)

*I can do all things through (God)
who strengthens me.*

Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)

Committee on Nominations

BETTY DICKEY, CHAIRPERSON

We are grateful to offer you the following names for our slate of officers for 2020. It is unfinished now, but in the months to come God will bring us women who want to learn, to share of themselves, to grow in faith and to act for Justice.

We hope that you will be one of those women. It is a commitment of love and joy to be an officer in the District team and we need you to experience that with us. Be in prayer about how you can experience the excitement of the wider world of UMW.

2020 Slate of Officers

President ... K Stone

Vice President ... Lynn Hermoso

Secretary ... **Open**

Treasurer ... Debbie Ow

Secretary of Program

Resources ... Carolyn Bircher

Communications ... Wanda Garrett

Mission Coordinators

Membership Nurture

& Outreach ... Carolyn Lamcke

Education &

Interpretation ... **Open**

Spiritual Growth ... Sandra Nesheim

Social Action ... Kathy Kim

Committee on Nominations

Chair ... Betty Spencer Dickey

Member ... Kat Teraji

Member ... Elizabeth Agramont-Justiniano

Member ... **Open**

Member ... **Open**

Program Resources

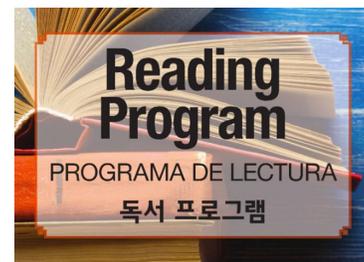
CAROLYN BIRCHER, SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE UMW READING PROGRAM THIS YEAR?

IF YOU HAVE READ at least one book from each of the five UMW Reading Program categories since September, 2018, please submit a list of the books that you read to Carolyn Bircher so you can be recognized at our district celebration. You may use the Reading Program Reporting Form found at <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram> or just send an email with your name, church name and the list of titles read. See my address and contact information on page 2 of this Mission Link issue

You may count books read between September 2018 and now. Books read from lists going back to 2014 may be counted as long as they weren't counted in previous years.

Youth and children's books

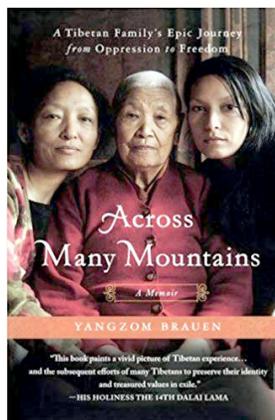


may be counted. *Mission* textbooks also may be counted. The Women United for Change and Practicing Resurrection textbooks count in the Spiritual Growth category. What About Our Money? counts in the Social Action category.

If you found any of the books to be particularly inspiring, please add a sentence to tell us how it moved you. I'm looking forward to receiving your book lists. Reports received before **September 15** will be recognized at the Annual Celebration. Anything received after that will be recognized for 2020.

Book Review

BY CAROLYN BIRCHER



ACROSS MANY MOUNTAINS: A TIBETAN FAMILY'S EPIC JOURNEY FROM OPPRESSION TO FREEDOM

A Memoir by Yangzom Brauen

Santa Clara UMW hosted a wonderful program in August featuring a Buddhist monk. During the question and answer period, several people asked about what life looks like for Buddhist nuns. That discussion reminded me of a book from our Reading Program!

"Across Many Mountains," from the 2015 Reading Program, is a memoir of three generations of strong, determined women,

the grandmother being a Buddhist nun. It tells about her decision to become a nun, her practices as a nun and her treacherous escape to India when life became unbearable in Tibet.

This book may be counted for one more year to get credit in the Nurturing for Community category of the UMW reading program. It is available through most of the local public library systems.



Evergreen Valley UMW offers fellowship, supports community

BY MARILYN TANNER, PRESIDENT,
EVERGREEN VALLEY UMW

The Evergreen Valley (San Jose) UMW has about eight faithful members, expanding up to 15 for special events. They have a powerful ministry through regular fellowship events, and connect and care for the community in many ways.

Our group gathers for fellowship twice each year. In January we have a “meet with the Pastor” (often at the Olive Garden), and then in May we have an after-church luncheon at the Villages Country club. Both events are attended by about 20 women. It is a nice time to bring in a new church member or even just a friend.

We also enjoy hosting an annual tea, for up to about 60 women, limited by the size of our sanctuary. This year, on Saturday, October 5, for our 8th annual tea, a vocal octet from the San Jose State Chorale will perform

some of their favorite pieces. Past guest speakers have included a CEO from a Muslim group, a person from the Buddhist faith, a missionary, and others.

At the tea we put a lot of work into hostessing, but it is rewarding when women want to bring their mothers and friends.

We have supported many causes over the years. Currently we help the “starving students” program at San Jose State University. In the recent past we supported Katherine Parker’s missionary work in Nepal. We also keep the pastor supplied with food coupons for people down on their luck needing immediate help.

I am a faithful *Response* Magazine reader and am very inspired by the women who lead us. God calls us to do very important work, even if it is just a cup a tea at a church event.



*This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:24*



CA-NV Conference United Methodist Women Annual Celebration

Saturday, October 19, 2019

8:45am - 3:00pm

Registration 8:00am - 8:45am

Merced UMC

899 Yosemite Pkwy, Merced, CA 95340

Keynote Speaker: Debra Brady, Central Valley District Superintendent

Registration: \$23/person (includes lunch)

Registration deadline: October 12, 2019. \$25 after Oct. 12.

Registration will be available soon.

LEGACY: Celebrating in the Holy Spirit

Join us for a day filled with song, praise, worship, “Legacy Moments,” and lots of opportunities to share with your United Methodist sisters!

Calling U

Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event

Tempe, AZ
April 17-19 • 2020

Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women Quadrennial Event

April 17 - 19, 2020

Tempe, Arizona

Join us at the 2020 “Calling u” Event for Service, Spiritual Care, Social Action, Networking, Leadership Development, and Enrichment!

Registration is open!!!

See all information at <www.wjumw.com>

- Event registration
- Hotel reservations (those seeking accessible rooms are encouraged to register early!)
- Scholarships
- Info on speakers Prof. Katharine Hayhoe, Deaconess Molly James-Vickery, UMW President Shannon Priddy, Former UMW CEO Harriet Jane Olsen
- Enrichment and Ubuntu opportunities

ECR District UMW represented in *Response*, the official magazine of the UMW!

El Camino Real District in *Response* Magazine

BY BONNIE HOME, ALMADEN HILLS UMW

What a surprise to open the July/August 2019 *Response* magazine, the official magazine of the United Methodist Women, to find on pages 12 and 13 in the “Bright Lights” section a two-page spread about our El Camino Real District UMW celebration of the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women. There are three color photos, too, one of the “cake” featured at Mission Springs this year. The article talks about our celebrations at Mission Springs, as well as local church celebrations at Almaden Hills UMC and Cambrian Park UMC, and the Willow Glen UMC celebration which included guests from four other area churches. The UMW in Napa, California, also sent an article to this issue of the magazine.

It isn’t often that the West Coast is included among the *Response* articles. Yippee!

The magazine has several other articles about 150th anniversary celebrations in such places as Florence, Mississippi, in Pittsboro, North Carolina, and in Scott City, Kansas.

As I continued to read the July / August *Response* magazine, I found K Stone’s name in it again! This time it is on page 28 in an article about the

UMW 150th anniversary celebration in Boston. The third column says that during lunch sev-



eral people spoke about what UMW meant to them, and K Stone, president of El Camino Real District United Methodist Women in California, was named among them.

Wow!

Right: Mission Springs Spiritual Retreat participants created a 150th Anniversary “cake” featuring wishes and prayers for UMW

Lower right: Cambrian Park UMW hosted a 150th birthday

Below: Bonnie H. and the Almaden Hills UMW celebrated UMW’s 150th anniversary in March 2019.



For more information:

Learn about *Response* magazine here: <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response>

Find someone in your local unit who receives the *Response* magazine to read these articles in full.

El Camino Real District UMW
2019 **ANNUAL CELEBRATION**
INFORMATION FLYER

See News & Events at <www.elcaminorealumw.org>

El Camino Real District UMW
2019 **ANNUAL CELEBRATION**
REGISTRATION FORM

See News & Events at <www.elcaminorealumw.org>



Mission u

Mission u in Santa Rosa

Mission u provides UM Women opportunities to study current issues impacting society

BY BONNIE HOME,
ALMADEN HILLS
UMW

Saturday, August 3, found 120 women from all over the California-Nevada Conference in Santa Rosa for the one-day Mission u event.

The morning began with stories of women who had lived out the goals of United Methodist Women. One of them, Cecelia Whitfield, started small, using her own van to transport wives and children of prisoners to visit their family members in prison when they had no other way to get there. “I used what I had,” she said. She thought of the program because own son had been incarcerated. Twenty years later her “Use What You’ve Got Prison Ministry” is “a driving force for families.” She and her volunteers drive families to fifteen prisons and juvenile centers. Studies show that prisoners who keep in touch with family are more successful after they are released as “returning citizens.” The organization also planned retreats for the mothers of prisoners, and toy and clothing giveaways at Christmas for the children. You may read about this ministry at www.usewhatyouvegotministry.org/.

After a wonderful lunch skillfully prepared in the Santa Rosa church’s large kitchen, the women divided up among three classes. The “Spiritual Growth” class

was led by missionary Katherine Parker who has just finished her third year as a missionary to Nepal. The class was based on the book, *Practicing Resurrection – The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship* by Janet Wolf. Katherine chose two stories from the book of Mark – the healing of the Syrophenician’s daughter and the healing of the demoniac. In small groups, the women studied the stories through “participatory Bible study,” with each group acting out the story from the point of view of only one of the characters. It was an enlightening experience.

Rosie Kumar’s class featured the book, *United Methodist Women in Mission: 150 Years and Beyond* – so timely since 2019 is the 150th anniversary of UMW. Lynette Lee led the “Social Issue” class, using the book *What About Our Money? – A Faith Response*. All three study books can be applied toward a UMW reading program certificate.



Above: Mission u participants gathered together in worship, fellowship, and education.



Missionary Katherine Parker led the Spiritual Growth class.



Right: The dynamic Maya Parmar invigorated and challenged the teens participating in the Mission u youth program.



Right: Rosie Kumar led the thoughtful, uplifting study of the work of faithful UMW sisters throughout our 150-year history

Asbury Livermore UMW highlights mission, ministry on fifth Sundays

BY LORRAINE MAGEE

Far right: Asbury Livermore UMW celebrates 80th+ birthdays!

Drawing on the inspiration of a United Methodist Women member, who shared her unit's use of 5th Sundays during a Leadership Training Event, Asbury Livermore's unit started a FABULOUS FIFTH SUNDAY program. Our idea was to highlight UMW to our congregation, to have them engage in the mission projects, and to encourage others to join our unit.

Our activities, so far, have included:

- A piece of pie or cake bake sale, after church, with money going to our mission outreach.
- A summer collection of children's books to be given out during the community-wide Christmas Store, for low income residents. We collected over 600 books.
- An 80th Birthday celebration, honoring all 80 and older with cake and ice cream. (We used 80 candles of all sizes along six tables).
- An After-Christmas White Elephant sale. The money collected was sent to a pastor and his wife who lost their home in the Camp Fire.
- A "150 UMW" celebration. This included showing



short YouTube films during church, displaying articles made for children, quilts for VIM groups, old records of meetings, and a scrapbook of many of our activities throughout the past ten years.

Our plan for our Sixth Fabulous Fifth Sunday is an Ubuntu Day, pairing members of the congregation to address needs of our community, such as window cleaning, mending, meal prep for a special occasion, computer and cell phone help, letter writing, stair repair etc. Our unit may be small, but we try to think big and carry on the 150-year tradition of our foremothers.

Korean UMC celebrated its 15th year of Senior Ministry

BY KATHERINE KIM

Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley celebrated its 15th anniversary of its Senior Ministry program on July 31, 2019. We planned a big celebration; worship, singing, line dancing, recognition awards, and a special lunch.

I started the Older Adult Ministry 15 years ago, with \$2,000 of my own money, and a Beulah Grant from the CA/NV Conference United Methodist Women.

It commemorated my commissioning as a deaconess, and my retirement from Kaiser Permanente Medical Group as a pharmacist for 36 years.

In this ministry, I concentrated on worship, nutritious lunches, singing, dancing, picnics (twice a year), and plenty of gifts for all occasions. My favorite memory is that every year in May, I invited all the senior mem-

bers to my big house in Morgan Hill for a lunch and Mother's Day gifts.

After ten and a half years, I decided to retire from the Senior ministry. Mandy Choi took over and changed its name from Older Adult Ministry to Wednesday Ministry. Now this program overflows with young people in the Beulah ministry. In my appreciation for the generous support of the Beulah Grant that helped start the ministry, I have donated \$1,000 to CA/NV Conference UMW. When my son, Peter, heard about the story, he also donated \$1,000 to the Wednesday Ministry. God is good, all the time!

I thank you God for the wonderful opportunity. Thank you for all the people who helped me to celebrate 15 years of Senior Ministry, and made a difference for the seniors at my church.

For more information: Read the article about this program, by Kat Teraji at

www.sanbenito.com/2011/06/09/teraji-program-a-worthy-investment/.



Kathy K., front, participates in exercises at the Senior Ministry at Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley (photo by Kat Teraji)

**EL CAMINO REAL DISTRICT UMW
CALENDAR**

2019

**OCTOBER 19 Calif/Nev Conference UMW
Annual Celebration**
Merced UMC, Merced, CA

**OCTOBER 26 El Camino Real District
UMW Annual Celebration**
Good Samaritan UMC
Cupertino, CA

*NOV. 16 Mission Link articles and
photos due for Winter issue*

2020

*JANUARY 20 Mission Link articles and
photos due for Jan/Feb issue*

FEBRUARY 1 Connect & Learn
Leadership Training Event
Location tba

MARCH 13-15 Spiritual Retreat
Mission Springs Retreat Ctr
Scotts Valley, CA

*APRIL 16 Mission Link articles and
photos due for Spring issue*

**APRIL 17-19 Western Jurisdiction UMW
Quadrennial Event**
Tempe, Arizona

**MAY tba Calif/Nev Conference UMW
Social Action Event**
Location tba

**MAY 30 ECR District UMW
Social Action Event**
Location and event title tba

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El Camino Real District UMW
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San Jose, CA 95112

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September, 2019

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El Camino Real District UMW website
<elcaminorealumw.org>

El Camino Real District United Methodist Women



**The Power of Bold:
Rescuing Our Earth**

Annual Celebration

Saturday, October 26, 2019

9:00am – 3:00pm

8:00am Check-in Opens

8:45am Gathering Music in Sanctuary

Lunch is provided (including vegetarian option)

Good Samaritan United Methodist Church

19624 Homestead Road

Cupertino, CA 95014



Guest speaker:
Susan Stephenson
Executive Director of
The Regeneration Project
and California Interfaith
Power and Light

Register before October 19. Registration is \$12.

See information and registration flyer in this issue, and online at <elcaminorealumw.org/annual-celebration-2019/>