

MISSION LINK ON

United Methodist Women, California Nevada Conference, El Camino Real District, Vol. 30, No. 4, December, 2019

2019
El Camino Real District
Annual Celebration

THE POWER OF **BOLD**: RESCUING OUR EARTH



BY KAT TERAJI

Bold women from throughout the El Camino Real District came together on October 26th at Good Samaritan United Methodist Church in Cupertino, California, to celebrate! This year's Annual Celebration theme was "The Power of Bold: Rescuing Our Earth." We recognized our District women's commitment throughout 2019 to step out of their comfort zones to advocate, march, and speak out for justice in bold ways, seen in the power of their "BOLD Action for Justice, and Advocacy and Compassion for women, youth, and children in our communities and around the world!" in the words of our bold president, K Stone.

Kicking off the event was Susan Stephenson, the Executive Director of The Regeneration Project and California Interfaith Power and Light. She is an advocate for environmental issues and has been responsible for implementing proactive campaigns that have resulted in landmark legislative victories in the fight against global warming.

One of her examples of change was the success of the campaign to get a law put into place requiring semi-trailer trucks to pass smog checks. Before this legislation, trucks were not required to meet any pollution limits. Susan was part of a panel discussion that was held at the event discussing environmental justice and how to ensure a livable world for our future. She gave us a feeling of hope for the future and the positive changes that are possible.

The panel also included Betty Spencer Dickey,
continued on page 6

Above: District UMW officers were installed by Sally Wenzel, incoming President of the CA/NV Conference UMW.

Right: Climate Justice panel discussion with Jenny Green, Betty Spencer Dickey, and Susan Stephenson





Mission Springs Spiritual Retreat

March 13-15, 2020

Mission Springs Conference Center
Scotts Valley, CA

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: tba
 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:
 Elizabeth Antolin
 Kat Teraji
 (open)

Patricia Madsen



Our past San Jose District UMW president, Patricia Madsen, passed away October 21, 2019.

Patricia was a devoted and active lifelong United Methodist Woman. She had great enthusiasm and ideas for her local unit at Willow Glen UMC, as well as for our District UMW. Those who attended the District UMW Spiritual Retreat at Mission Springs will remember her leading the “Wake Up Warm Up” morning exercise sessions.

The memorial service for Patricia was November 16, 2019, at Willow Glen United Methodist Church.

Born in Palo Alto, Patricia died suddenly and far too soon at home in San Jose. The oldest of five, she graduated Woodside High and San Jose State with a degree in Physical Education. She married Roger Madsen and together they raised a son. She worked at Western Mountaineering and later taught PE and Special Ed.

Patricia had a fun-making, life-giving spirit that touched everyone she met. She loved and cared for her family, collected friends, and advocated for others. She faithfully served her church and the United Methodist Women. When she wasn’t helping someone else, she enjoyed hiking, camping, gardening, baking, playing card games, and making pine needle baskets. She was a light in many lives and found a home in many hearts. Our hearts are hurting now.

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 February, 2020. The deadline for articles or photos to be submitted for this issue is Monday, January 27, 2020.

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

Greetings Sisters, and the Joy of Advent



Reflections ~ on looking back thru 2019:

Leadership, Learning, Empowerment, Personal Growth
Legacy ... 150 years!

Developing Relationships, New Friends

Using our hand, feet and voices for Justice, Communities, Missions

Ignited ~ looking forward for 2020:

Engaged and excited to continue as before

Together, we build Our Legacy for the next 150 years

Widening the circle of United Methodist Women

Sharing our ministry for outreach and missions

Much love and wishes for a beautiful Holy Season!,

K Stone, President

El Camino Real District UMW

Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach

CAROLYN LAMCKE

COUNT ME IN!

THE “COUNT ME IN” PROGRAM, e.g. UMW Census, has already started! It must be completed by March 30, 2020. One representative of each unit or local group should submit it – ideally, the president or main contact, but anyone else may do it on behalf of the president.

It’s important for all local units/groups to submit their census information. The results are reflected in programs and resources that are being developed by the National office – so tell them what’s important to you!

How to be counted:

- Using your web browser, search for “United Methodist Women Census 2019”, or go to <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2019>
- You’ll see the introduction to “United Methodist Women Census 2019” with the form below. I recommend printing it out, then filling in the printed copy with pen/pencil. This gives you the flexibility to fill it in as you have time, or to ask



others in your group to help with the answers.

- Then go to your computer, back to the Census you found before. Type in your answers.
- It’s easy. After it’s filled out correctly and submitted, you will see “Thank you.”

If you need help, call me and I’ll do it for you over the phone.

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

KATHERINE KIM

UPCOMING: CA/NV CONFERENCE UMW SOCIAL ACTION EVENT

Date, Time
April 25, 2020, 9:30am-3:30pm

Place
Sacramento Japanese UMC

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CONNIE HUNTER, our new Social Action Mission Coordinator for CA/NV Conference UMW, we have a preview of the plans for the Conference UMW Legislative/Social Action event. It will be different than in past years, and promises to be very engaging and relevant.

Program: The morning Bible study will explore the issue of racial disparity and the ways it manifests itself.

Lunch will be served by Plates Cafe. A part of the

non-profit organization *Saint John's Program for Real Change*, Plates Café is a social enterprise which supports the employment training of Saint John's clients - 100% of the proceeds from Plates Café directly supports women working to recuperate and re-engineer their lives, providing job training and supportive services to women in need.

In the afternoon, we will have two groups of workshops. Topics will include black parallel school boards, prison ministry, and mass incarceration.

This is a great opportunity to invite young women to attend with you.

ECRDUMW REPRESENTS IN SILICON VALLEY YOUTH CLIMATE STRIKE

BY WANDA GARRETT



Betty Spencer Dickey wore her UMW "Climate Justice" T-shirt in the Climate Strike and Rally.

SEVERAL MEMBERS of our El Camino Real District UMW, including Betty Spencer Dickey and Connie Hunter, participated in the September 20, 2019 Climate Strike and Rally in San Jose. In this youth-led event, the dire consequences of the climate crisis were highlighted. They used social media and word-of-mouth to spread the word, and invited adults to join with them.

One of the organizations marching in this rally was *Mothers Out Front*, of which our VP Lynn Hermoso is a member. A representative of *Mothers Out Front*, Jenny Green, also was part of our panel discussion at the ECRDUMW Annual Celebration. We are glad to share with you an honor that they



recently received, the "2019 United Nations Global Climate Action Award: Women for Results." (See article below.)

THE UNITED NATIONS RECOGNIZES MOTHERS OUT FRONT



doing to combat climate change. *Mothers Out Front*

MOTHERS OUT FRONT, a national movement of over 24,000 mothers mobilising for a liveable climate for their children, is a recipient of the "2019 United Nations Global Climate Action Award: Women for Results." The United Nations presents these awards help to shine a light on some of the most practical examples of what people across the globe are

was the only recipient in the United States.

Kelsey Wirth, *Mothers Out Front* co-founder and chair said, "We are profoundly grateful to receive this recognition from the United Nations. Each day our mothers wake up determined to protect their children from the growing threat of the climate crisis. We know that we have until 2030 to cut carbon emissions by half. We will only accomplish this if decision-makers begin to take bold action on climate. This is a question of justice — for our children, and for those communities currently suffering the impacts of climate injustices."

For more information:

See the press release and more about the award at the United Nations site: <unfccc.int/news/winners-of-the-2019-un-global-climate-action-awards-announced>.

Mothers Out Front <www.mothersoutfront.org/>

El Camino Real District UMW 2020 CALENDAR

JANUARY 18 District UMW Leadership Team Meeting
Almaden Hills UMC
San Jose, CA

January 27 * Mission Link articles, photos due

FEBRUARY 1 * District UMW Connect & Learn
St. Paul's UMC
San Jose, CA

MARCH 13-15 * Spiritual Retreat
Mission Springs Conference
Center, Scotts Valley, CA
San Jose, CA

APRIL 11 District UMW Leadership Team Meeting
Almaden Hills UMC
San Jose, CA

APRIL 17-19 * Western Jurisdiction UMW Assembly
Theme: "Calling u"
Tempe, Arizona

April 20 * Mission Link articles, photos due

APRIL 25 * California/Nevada Conference UMW
Social Action Event
Sacramento Japanese UMC
Sacramento, CA

MAY 30 * District UMW Social Action Event
Location tba

APRIL 20 District UMW Leadership Team Meeting
Almaden Hills UMC
San Jose, CA

JUNE 26-27 * Mission u 2-day event
Location tba

JULY 18 * Mission u 1-day event
Location tba

AUGUST 7-9 * Mission u 3-day event
Location tba

JULY 18 District UMW Leadership Team
Meeting
Almaden Hills UMC
San Jose, CA

August 10 * Mission Link articles, photos due

SEPT. tba District UMW Leadership Team Meeting
Almaden Hills UMC
San Jose, CA

OCTOBER 16 D'LTE: Leadership Team Meeting for
District UMW Team members
Location tba

17 * California/Nevada Conference UMW
Annual Celebration
Location tba

24 * El Camino Real District UMW Annual
Celebration
Location tba

November 21 * Mission Link articles, photos due

DECEMBER tba District UMW Leadership Team Meeting
Location tba

* Note: Members of UMW across our District are encouraged to participate in this event

Unit Report

Connectional, Outreach Mission: Butterfly Project

BY MAYEN VILLANUEVA, UMW SALINAS FIRST UMC

THE "BUTTERFLY PROJECT" is a UMW-sponsored ministry of the United Methodist Women of Salinas First UMC, in partnership with UMW of Watsonville First UMC. Since it began in 2014, the project goal has been to raise funds and other support for the annual Philippine Mission trip. Target beneficiaries are selected marginalized children and their mothers from various mission points and outreach communities served by our two Philippines mission partners, the Outreach Ministry of Marikina United Methodist Church and the Kapatiran Kaunlaran Foundation, Inc. (KKFI). The mission team are Mayen and Rod Villanueva, who will be leaving for Manila on November 30, returning December 22.

To support the project, folks may purchase a butterfly image or multiple butterflies for \$5 donation each to provide children with a backpack filled with school and hygiene supplies.

Besides school backpacks, the children are given love gifts of stuffed animal toys. In addition, prayer shawls are given to those in need, e.g., the sick, the elderly and home-based members. Prayer shawls are handcrafted by the gentle hands of the UMW members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry led by Gaile Patton and blessed by the congregation of the Salinas FUMC. Stuffed toys are mostly donated by the ladies of the UMW and their families and friends.

To provide monetary support or a donation to this ministry, please make a check out to: "United Methodist Women-Salinas" (memo line: "Philippines Mission 2019"). And send the check to:

UMW- Salinas, c/o Karen Hall
Salinas First United Methodist Church
404 Lincoln Ave., Salinas, CA 93901

For additional information, please contact Karen Hall or Mayen Villanueva through the Salinas First UMC office. You may also learn more about the Kapatiran Kaunlaran Foundation at <www.kapatiran-kaunlaran.org/>.



United Methodist Women of Salinas FUMC and Watsonville FUMC join to support children and families served by the Kapatiran Kaunlaran Foundation, Inc. of Manila, Philippines.



Above: The very animated table where Susan Stephenson sat (2nd from right) during the Climate Justice simulation - she knew the true story firsthand that was being

Right top: These young women from Watsonville 1st UMC are part of the new Mujeres Metodistas Unidos. Above this photo is the custom-made reusable utensil set.

Right middle: The Climate Justice workshop seated us in tables of eight, and we role-played as people living in environmentally threatened communities.

Right bottom: Good Samaritan UMC Tai Chi class demonstrated their traditional martial art with swords.

*Continued
from page 1*

a Western Jurisdiction UMW Climate Guide with the National Environment Office, and Jenny Green, a volunteer with Mothers Out Front, a national organization of mothers and others who are mobilizing to

ensure a livable climate for all children. It was Jenny's first time giving a public speech to an outside group like ours, and she was a passionate and compelling speaker.

Our UMW hosts at Good Sam continued with our bold theme when they served us an environmentally healthy lunch. Our host, Carolyn Bircher, described the delicious meal: "The Celebration food was Mediterranean cuisine (falafel & salad in pita bread) and was all vegan."

We appreciated the support that all the ladies from Good Sam gave to this event, welcoming us in the morning when we arrived with an array of delicious treats, handmade silk-flower corsages, a beautifully set up social hall, and help with our displays.

And were we even more impressed when we heard Carolyn say, "There were 17 of us there to help even though we are just restarting our UMW after taking a break for several years." Bravo to the Good Sam UMW!

A highlight was the Good Samaritan UMC Tai Chi Class performance, complete with a high energy sword exercise!

During the business meeting, nominees to the District UMW Team were elected: Ginny Johnson (Secretary) and Lauren Michelle Stevens (Education & Interpretation). The 2020 slate of officers was elected; the 2020 Budget was approved, and the new slate of District Officers was installed by

Sally Wenzel, Vice President of our Conference UMW (and incoming President). We also celebrated the accomplishments of our local units, including 5-Star Mission Giving and Mission Today units, and those who participated in our highly touted Reading Program.

The offering collected at the event went to the Women's Carbon Fund, an organization that is dedicated to projects that lower CO2 emissions and that help enable women, families, and communities whose lives have been affected by climate change to adapt to new conditions.

We participated in a workshop called "The Climate Justice Simulation Experience." Dividing up into six tables of eight persons, we took on the roles of individuals living in environmentally degraded communities. The conversations that occurred connected us to different perspectives as we acted out these real-life cases, focusing on "win-win" solutions. My table dealt with how to improve a decimated Appalachian community being poisoned due to mountaintop removal by a mining company.

We were blown away by the realistic role-play of those in our group, including adding regional accents, as we discussed their environmental challenges. We became the residents, brainstorming how to better our health and find ways to support ourselves with more renewable energy jobs.

Proving that our young people really do care about the environment, Angelica Martinez, a young woman from Watsonville First UMC, brought her own reusable utensil set to the event that she had made herself. She carries it with her rather than always using disposable utensils when eating out. Angelica was part of the group of women who formed a new UMW unit after attending "Bienvenido," an outreach event for Hispanic women in our District held this spring by the District UMW at Salinas First UMC.

We were thrilled to have the newly chartered "Mujeres Metodistas Unidos" from Watsonville First with us at the Celebration, and they were asked to come forward at the Celebration to be honored with gifts.

El Camino Real District United Methodist Women continue to step out of their comfort zones to boldly better the lives of women, youth, and children, which

THE POWER OF *BOLD*

in turn better the lives of men and families and whole communities. As we make up part of our CA-Nevada Conference UMW, our Western Jurisdictional UMW, and our National UMW, we will reach out in 2020 to boldly better our world!



Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

SANDRA NESHEIM

In Him (the Word) was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1: 4-5

I WILL NEVER FORGET the first time that I attended a candlelight Christmas Eve service. It was my senior year of high school. One of my friends wanted to attend one so I invited her to the one that took place at my church each year. We were late getting to the church so we squeezed into seats in the back of the sanctuary. After singing carols and hearing the Christmas story, midnight arrived. The church was darkened so that only the candles from the Advent wreath were shining. Slowly as the light from the Christ candle passed from person to person, row by row the whole church was enveloped by a warm glow of light. It was amazing to see the darkness flee as the light spread.

There are times when there seems to be much darkness in our lives and in the world. When I pause and remember that Christmas Eve, the conviction returns that Jesus is the light of the world and the darkness cannot overcome Him.

Education & Interpretation

MISSION TODAY UNITS FOR 2019

MISSION TODAY is a program of the Women's Division. The purpose of Mission Today 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.

To become a Mission Today unit, the local unit must satisfy a certain number of criteria, some of which are required. The officers of El Camino Real District UMW are eager to work with you to ensure your unit becomes a Mission Today unit. If you have questions or if there is something you need, please call on us.

Local UMW units at the following churches have met the requirements and are 2019 Mission Today units:

Campbell	Salinas First
Livermore	Santa Clara *

* This unit also supported the Charter for Racial Justice

For more information:

Mission Today:

<elcaminorealumw.org/unit-resources/mission-today/>

Charter for Racial Justice:

<www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice/>

Program Resources

CAROLYN BIRCHER, SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

2020 READING PROGRAM: WHAT WILL YOU READ THIS YEAR?

OUR 2020 READING PROGRAM is now published! Following the five topic categories of the program, we have a nice variety of new books to choose from.

Go to the UMW Reading Program page < <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram>> to find two versions (printable and online-book style) of the Catalog for 2020. The Catalog has a description of the Program, and summaries of the books for the five categories. Note that the Program includes books for children & youth, and books in Spanish and Korean languages. The Mission study books are “bonus books” – they count for double! In addition to the 2020 list, books from lists of the 5 previous years qualify for this year’s program.

I’ve prepared a condensed 2020 book list, available on our District UMW website, which also shows nominal pricing and our regional library availability.

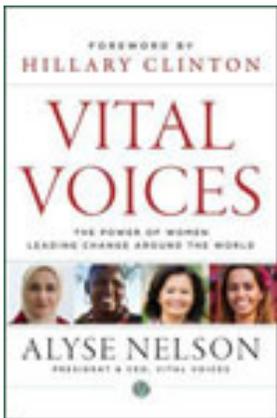
For more information:

<elcaminoalumw.org/unit-resources/reading-program/>



Book Review

BY CAROLYN BIRCHER



VITAL VOICES: THE POWER OF WOMEN LEADING CHANGE AROUND THE WORLD

By Alyse Nelson

This book tells about what makes some women exceptional leaders. It outlines five characteristics of world-changing leaders:

1. A driving force/sense of mission
2. Strong roots in a community
3. Ability to connect across divides
4. Bold ideas and bold action
5. Resolve to pay it forward (train future leaders).

Each chapter featured a few women who exemplified the points being made. They are amazing women

who are changing the world and have benefited from training by Vital Voices, an organization started by Hillary Clinton, founded on the concept that when women progress, whole societies move forward.

The women in the book made changes on a national or even global level, but these characteristics can scale to the family, the church, or a work environment. After reading this book, I found myself wanting to learn more about some of the organizations started by the women featured. At the back of the book there’s a list of them, which enables that.

I was able to borrow a copy of this book at my local public library. I’m glad I did. It was inspirational. Apparently the national UMW thinks so too because it is being repeated this year after being on the 2015 Reading Program list.

2019 READING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

At the District UMW Annual Celebration, we recognized individuals who participated in the 2019 Reading Program. This year, we had 28 readers from nine local units. Two units had people who did Plan 3 or 4 – that’s 15 or 20 books read during the year!

The following participants read books from each of five categories, and regularly read the *Response* magazine.

Plan I: 5 books per year

Plan II: 10 books per year

Plan III: 15 books per year

Plan IV: 20 books per year

Reading Program Participants

Campbell

Plan I Patty Henderson, Susan Sargent, Melinda Knepp, Daelene Groff, Sally Wenzel

Cupertino Good Samaritan

Plan IV Carolyn Bircher

Livermore, Asbury

Plan II Lorraine Magee, Martha Fields

Plan III Edie Lamb

Plan IV Diane Larder

Los Altos

Plan I Anne Akey, Jean Fickett, Ginny Lau

Palo Alto, First

Plan I Mary Lu Wood, Bernice Smoll, Kathy Orse

Plan II Nancy Olson

San Jose, Almaden Hills

Plan I Julie Asada, K Stone, Doris Warren

Plan II Bonnie Home

San Jose, Cambrian Park

Plan I Debbie Ow

Santa Clara

Plan I Linda Eserini, Ivana Heang, Dawn MacDonald

Sunnyvale First

Plan I Ruth Riley, Eleanor Barskey

Plan II Linda Morse

For more information:

Go to the District UMW Reading Program web page, <elcaminoalumw.org/unit-resources/reading-program/>

Treasurer

DEBBIE OW

TREASURER'S REPORT: REMITTANCE TO CONFERENCE 2018, 2019

Below is the report of our District UMW remittances to Conference UMW as provided for the Annual Celebration. All monies have been forwarded to the Conference treasurer. Additional monies received by Dec.31 will count towards the 2020 5-Star Award program.

Undesignated Gifts	2018 Jan-Dec	2019 Jan-Sep
Pledge to Mission.....	\$ 51,451.00.....	\$ 27,607.00
Gift in Memory.....	1,430.00.....	400.00
Gift to Mission.....	530.00.....	360.00
Special Mission Recognition (pins).....	1,190.00.....	795.00
World Thank Offering.....	4,582.59.....	1,261.10
Total Undesignated.....	59,183.59.....	30,423.10
Designated Gifts		
Call to Prayer and Self Denial.....	2,834.90.....	1,458.00
Supplementary Gifts		
A Brighter Future for Children and Youth.....	1,145.00.....	352.50
Asian Rural Institute Advance #220450.....	300.00	
Assembly Offering.....	50.00	
California Fires, CA/NV Conference.....	550.00	
Climate Change Fund.....		532.00
Gum Moon Women's Residence.....	2,740.00.....	2,965.00
Haiti UMCOR Advance #418325.....	600.00	
Kapatiran-Kaunlaran Foundation		
Advance #3020581.....	100.00.....	125.00
Legacy Fund.....	807.38.....	60.00
Mary Elizabeth Inn.....	4,211.50.....	3,315.00
Mosquito Nets Advance #982009.....	200.00	
Nepal Mission—Katherine Parker		
Advance #151872.....	500.00	
Red Bird Mission.....		200.00
Scarritt-Bennett Center.....	50.00	
Tengokuya Café Advance #3021663.....	100.00	
Toberman Settlement House, San Pedro, CA... 97.88		
UMCOR (undesignated).....	1,158.00.....	1,670.00
Total Designated, Supplementary.....	12,511.88.....	9,317.38
TOTAL GIVING.....	\$74,530.37.....	\$41,198.48

5-STAR MISSION GIVING UNITS FOR 2019

These units were recognized at our October Annual Celebration as having participated in all five channels of Mission Giving, which support mission projects for women, children and youth in over 120 countries. The five channels are:

- Unit Pledge to Mission;
- Gifts to Mission honoring special events in church members' lives;
- Gift in Memory honoring those who have died;
- Special Mission Recognition to outstanding servants of the Lord in their congregations;
- World Thank Offering out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life.

Learn more: <www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/5channels>

Our 2019 5-Star Units

Campbell UMC	Marina UMC	Santa Clara UMC
Gilroy UMC	Salinas UMC	Sunnyvale First UMC
Livermore, Asbury UMC	San Jose Cambrian Park UMC	Sunnyvale, Trinity UMC
Los Altos UMC	San Jose, Willow Glen UMC	Watsonville First UMC
		Valley Faith UMC



BEULAH FUND SUPPORTS SERVICES FOR SENIORS

BY DEBBIE OW

AS A MEMBER OF THE BEULAH FUND BOARD, a part of United Methodist Women in the California/Nevada Conference, I had the pleasure of presenting a grant of \$11,200 to Mt. Tamalpais UMC in Mill Valley on November 10, 2019.

The money will be used for a program called "Spiritual Care for Seniors." This wonderful program is directed by Norma Jean Powell. Norma Jean provides worship and spiritual services on a weekly basis at two retirement facilities in this community: Redwoods Retirement Residence and Aegis Living. She is also planning on expanding her work to include the Casa Fairview Residential home for intellectually disabled adults.

In case you are not familiar with The Beulah Fund, it was established in 1988 with the goal of promoting "the independence and dignity of the older adult through social services and housing programs." The funds were generated by the sale of the Beulah Home Retirement Facility in Oakland and is administered by a board of directors consisting of UMW members in California. Since its establishment, the Beulah Fund has provided over \$2.5 million for projects which benefit seniors in our communities.

I have a special connection to Beulah Home because my grandfather, a retired Methodist pastor, lived there for several years before it closed. I visited him many times and saw first-hand what a great place it was. My family was very sad when it closed, but I feel that I am continuing the work of caring for seniors by serving on the Fund's Board of Directors.

While at Mt. Tamalpais, it just happened that a gentleman was present who had just completed a remodeling of the old Beulah buildings in Oakland. He said that it had been turned into 49 apartments, eight of them being for low income residents. I am glad that Beulah Home has received a new lease on life and continues to house families and the elderly in the Oakland community.

For more information:

<canvunitedmethodistwomen.org/beulah-grants.html>

BEULAH GRANT SUPPORTED MINISTRY AT SAN JOSE KOREAN UMC

BY KATHERINE KIM, SOCIAL ACTION MISSION COORDINATOR

WITH HELP OF A BEULAH GRANT, I started a Senior ministry in June 2005 for my deaconess ministry. We celebrated the program's 15th anniversary in October 2019. I received a recognition from my church for the Senior ministry work. I couldn't have done it without the Beulah Grant.

You can receive a grant of up to \$10,000 for three years on, then off three years, then you can apply again. Many Korean churches benefited from this program. I appreciate the Beulah Grant program a lot for doing good work for Seniors.

Committee on Nominations

BETTY SPENCER DICKEY, CHAIRPERSON

WELCOME OUR NEW OFFICERS

This is the time of year we acknowledge District UMW Team members who are leaving the team, and welcome those who are coming on for 2020. Earlier this year, we said “goodbye” to Secretary Suzanne Dougan, who had to resign for personal reasons. We’re excited now to welcome new members Ginny Johnson and Lauren Michelle Stevens.

Ginny has just moved back to the Bay Area after being in Colorado for a couple

of years. She was in UMW before the move, and graciously agreed to join us again to help us in our missions. We love that kind of commitment, especially when it comes with an attitude of joy. Ginny will be our District Secretary, and hopefully keep us and our meeting minutes straight. Welcome back, Ginny.

Lauren Michelle has also just moved back to our area after being in school and working in Louisiana for a few years. She is only 29 and is very busy already work-

ing with Embrace Church in Oakland on the weekends. She has also been elected a lay delegate for the June Western Jurisdiction meeting. We know that she will learn from us but also that we will learn from her. She is our new Education and Interpretation Coordinator, and will help us with information about UMW education opportunities and spreading the word to churches about Mission U events in the summer. Welcome, Lauren Michelle.

SECRETARY: IT’S GOOD TO BE BACK

BY GINNY JOHNSON

I have been a United Methodist Woman since 1991 when I met Myra Wight who steamrolled me to my first meeting and I realized I was home. As a result I am a firm believer in steamrolling!

I have served as President of a local unit, a Vice President of a local unit and as secretary of the district

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION: HELLO!

BY LAUREN MICHELLE STEVENS

Hello! I’m Lauren Michelle, and I look forward to serving as Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation in the El Camino Real District!

I’ve been active in churches within the El Camino Real District since I was a little child, and am lucky enough to call Good Samaritan UMC my home. Growing up at Good Sam UMW was a part of my church life. Whether it was meetings after church on a Sunday,

or attending Mission U before it was even called that, my faith journey has been shaped for the better by the United Methodist Women.

Despite having never moved as a child, I’ve moved a lot since I turned 18. I’ve lived in five states outside of California, and three countries outside of the US. I studied Irish in undergrad, once lived in an area where the predominant language was Irish, and am working on improving my Irish language skills again now that I’m done school. My BA in Environmental Studies is from St. Mary’s College of CA, over in the East Bay, and I still proudly cheer on the Gaels basketball team

board. I have sold books, made enchiladas, served countless meals and fund-raised with the best of them! I am passionate about social justice and growing the UMW.

After being in Colorado for two years, I am moving back to California with my granddaughter and husband and, though I am leaving good friends there, I will be grateful to be back with my old friends and grandchildren in California!

every chance I get. I received my Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C., and am currently in The UMC’s ordination process to become a pastor. For the last three and a half years I worked as a hospital chaplain, and right now I am working part time in student ministry as the Next Gen Ministry Director at Embrace Church in Alameda.

I love animals, and have five pets, all of whom are rescues. Two dogs (Remmy and Buford), two cockatiels (Sierra and Lucky), and one hamster (Kaylee). I also love wild animals, and swam with three shark species during my time in the Caribbean. In addition to sharks, I have a particularly soft spot in my heart for possums and bats, both seriously misunderstood animals who do so much to make our world a better place!

There are a multitude of topics and causes that are close to my heart, but in particular providing agency to those who are too often silenced, particularly those with disabilities. I am always learning to recognize areas in which I allow ableism to exist unchecked, and then make changes. In addition, I am passionate about marine biology and environmental justice, particularly relating to corporate actions and responsibilities.

I thank you for the privilege of serving as part of the El Camino Real District UMW, and look forward to connecting with y’all in person!



Lauren Michelle Stevens

El Camino Real District UMW
2020 CONNECT & LEARN
REGISTRATION FORM

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

CALLING U

Western Jurisdiction UMW

Quadrennial Event

CALLING U

**April 17 - 19, 2020
Tempe, Arizona**

Register before January 31
for best pricing

All info at <www.wjumw.com>

- Event registration
- Hotel reservations
- Event Speakers Prof. Katharine Hayhoe, Deaconess Molly James-Vickery, UMW President Shannon Priddy, Former UMW CEO Harriet Jane Olsen

- **Scholarships are available!**

Deadline to apply:

DECEMBER 20, 2019

Find application form at

<elcaminorealumw.org/wj-calling-u/>

Wesley United Methodist Church
Attn: K Stone, President
El Camino Real District UMW
566 North Fifth Street
San Jose, CA 95112

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United Methodist Women

December, 2019

*Please share this
newsletter with the
members of your
Local Unit*

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El Camino Real District UMW website
<elcaminorealumw.org>



Let Your Light Shine!

Connect & Learn

El Camino Real District UMW
Connect & Learn 2020

offers resources, ideas, and inspiration for
local church United Methodist Women.

Breakout groups will prepare women for
leadership roles in UMW, and to explore
what UMW is about. Breakout groups to be
offered: *President; Secretary; Treasurer;
UMW in Mission/Social Action; Program
Planning; Teaming Up to Grow UMW; and
Knowing God.*

**All women are invited and encouraged to
come.** Whether you are an officer, or curi-
ous about UMW and its mission, ministry,
and involvement in social action issues,
there will be something here to rekindle your
spirit.

February 1, 2020

8:30am Registration & Check-In

9:30am - 12:30pm Program



Guest Speaker:
Rev. Jennifer Goto

St. Paul's UMC

405 S. 10th St., San Jose, CA

Register by January 25.

There is no registration fee.

For more information and to register ONLINE
<www.elcaminorealumw.org.org/connect-learn-2020/>