

MISSION LINK

United Methodist Women, California Nevada Conference, El Camino Real District, Vol. 32, No. 4, December 2020



El Camino Real
District UMW

Annual
Celebration
2020

Our Virtual Annual Celebration

*Keep alert, stand firm in your
faith, be courageous, be strong.
Let all that you do be done in
love. I Corinthians 16:13-14*

BY BONNIE HOME
ALMADEN HILLS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

On a pleasant Saturday, October 24, from 10 a.m. to noon, our computer screens were filled with faces from all over El Camino Real District. The opening and closing music was “Shackles,” singing that everything that could go wrong has gone wrong all at the same time and asking God to “take the shackles off my feet so I can dance. I just wanna praise You.” After Wanda Garrett’s quick lesson in using the Zoom tools for the day’s voting, Sandra Nesheim led a yoga breathing exercise to clear our brains of anxieties and worries. Our breath is more important than ever during the pandemic, the wildfires, and the memories of brutal arrests.

The morning’s guest speaker, Dr. Mary Cheng, offered a message titled “Courageous Love for a Time Such as This.” She recalled the mystic Julian Norwich who lived through the Great Plague of 1348-1350. Half of the people infected died in the first wave, and 20% died in the second wave. There was economic disruption and a peasant revolt. At age 32, Julian became critically ill, and in her delirium saw visions of Jesus. She asked, “Why did you allow sin?” Jesus answered, “It was necessary, but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.” Julian walked through a time such as ours, but knew that each of us is in the loving hands of God.

We live in stressful times with a loss of social trust throughout the country. Our



Guest speaker Dr. Mary Cheng

speaker remembered our UMW foremothers who had the courage to go to lynching sites and protest the hangings. She said that she herself is not courageous by nature, but urged us to practice having courage until we become good at it.

Three things can bridge the divisions in our country:

- **PRAY DOWN** – Jeremiah 29:7 told the Hebrews to pray for the Babylonian cities where they were forced to live, “for in its welfare you will find your welfare,” and we should pray in such humility. Mary planned daily prayer for the days leading up to the November election.

- **STEP OUT** – A woman in Paducah, Kentucky, realized that she was too comfortable in her all-white church. She intentionally traveled to another part of town to meet with a group of people who were unlike her, and whose work was to welcome newcomers to their city. Our UMW cultural traditions as well as our congregation’s familiar practices may be uncomfortable to newcomers. Don’t let them feel out of place.

- **SPEAK UP** – Interrupt meanness, falsehoods, and offensive jokes and comments. As we pursue racial justice, we

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FINDING PEACE IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD

BY BONNIE HOME, ALMADEN HILLS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Four years ago, the **Mission u** committee began planning for the Summer 2020 classes to be held at their annual event. Little did the committee know that their choice for the Spiritual Growth class would be so relevant for us this year.

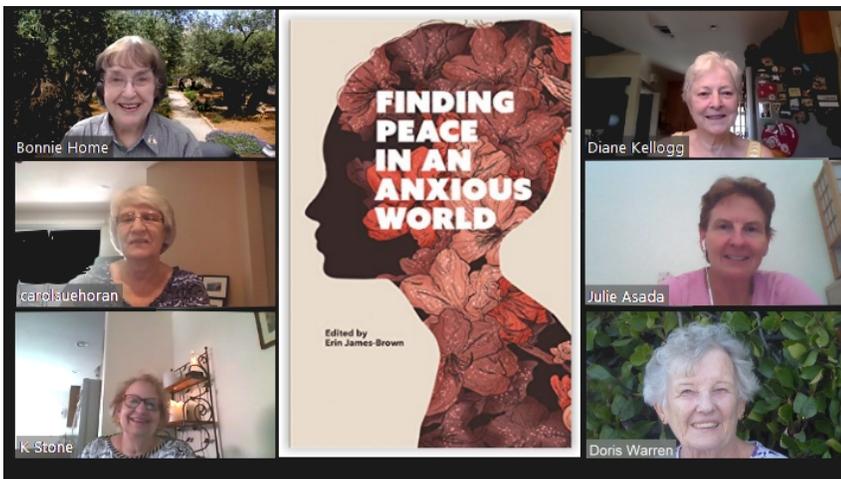
The title chosen was *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*. Mission u was cancelled for this year, but the planning and the study book have not gone to waste. Various United Methodist Women's groups are meeting online for four sessions, after reading the study book, the online Companion Guide, and watching the short online videos made for the class.

The book's four chapters are based on the Book of Proverbs and on the Serenity Prayer. Each chapter is written by a different pastor of the Urban Village Church in Chicago whose congregation is often greatly stressed. The titles are "Serenity," "Acceptance," "Courage," and "Wisdom."

You may form your own Mission u class at any time and at your own convenience, and you could invite women from your sister churches to join you, as well as people from your own congregation.

Resources are available at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/finding-peace-in-an-anxious-world>:

- The Companion Study Guide
- Tips and resources for virtual meetings
- Supplemental videos
- Study leader resources in English, Spanish, and Korean



"Finding Peace" study group at Almaden Hills UMC

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

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<<https://elcaminorealumw.org>>

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SECRETARY: (OPEN)

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CAROLYN BIRCHER

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WESTERN JURISDICTION GUIDE (CLIMATE JUSTICE):
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COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

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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.

Mission Link is published quarterly. Each issue is also available on the El Camino Real District UMW website <<https://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, 2021. The deadline for articles and photos to be submitted for this issue is Thursday, January 28, 2021.

To subscribe to the District UMW *Quick News* emails, please go to
<<https://elcaminorealumw.org/subscribe-to-quick-news/>>.



A Prayer for Change, a Wish for a Blessed and Love-filled Advent

For this issue of Mission Link, I'm sharing this "Prayer for Change," which I found in the Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church.* I found it especially fitting at this time in our world.

We Are Not Alone: A Litany

Dear God,

Bless you for coming down and walking among us. You know it's a trial to be black, but it's a trial to be a woman, too. Thank you, God, for giving us sisters to remember when we're low.

We hug their necks and say, "Sisters, we are not alone."

You gave us our Freedom Fighters – the one whose name was Truth, the two Harriets, and Miz Tubman. And you gave us their Daughters, Muslim and Christian, who carry their husbands' names – Shabazz, Evers-Williams, and King. You gave us Rosa's words first and then her example, and you gave us Ella Baker and her shock troops, Fannie Lou, and Angela.

We hug their necks and say, "Sisters, we are not alone."

You gave us wordwomen – Zora and Gwendolyn, Bell, and Nella – you gave dignity to Alice Walker and sass to Alice Childress, and we are grateful for their endurance. You gave us eloquence in Barbara Jordan, and you gave us music in the angelsingers – Mahalia and Aretha and Josephine, Miriam Makeba, and Sweet Honey in the Rock.

We hug their necks and say, "Sisters, we are not alone."

You gave us fighters like Mary Church Terrell, teachers like Mary McLeod Bethune, and lawyers like Constance Baker Motley. You gave us businesswomen, like Madame Walker, born Sarah; flyers like Bessie Coleman, and wisewomen like another Bessie and her sister, Sadie, born Sarah, too.

We hug their necks and say, "Sisters, we are not alone."

You gave us white sisters who fought for abolition – Susan and Elizabeth and Lucretia – and white sisters who never gave up – Pearl Buck and Eleanor Roosevelt and Lillian Smith. And you gave us Jesus, your son, who saw us women when no one else dared, who listened to us and fed us and fought for us. In his spirit, we do the same. It is in Jesus that we know we are not alone.

We hug His neck and pray, "We are not alone. Amen."

K Stone, President
El Camino Real District UMW

* Found in the Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church:

<<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/praying-for-change-daily-prayers-for-anti-racism>>.

Martha K. Baker, from *Race and Prayer: Collected Voices, Many Dreams*, edited by Malcolm Boyd and Chester L. Talton (Morehouse Publishing, 2003), 154



Our Virtual Annual Celebration

Continued from page 1

will make mistakes. Like everything else, this takes ongoing practice, and is not easily accomplished. Mary looks forward to the day when she can spend time with her adorable granddaughter, Abby. Her question – Will the world be hospitable to this child?

The beautiful *Singing Gently* video by Eric Whitacre’s Virtual Choir 6 was played for us, sung by 17,572 singers in 129 countries.

Carolyn Lamcke read the names of our UMW saints who passed away this past year, with Betty Spencer Dickey ringing the singing bowl after each name. Debbie Ow reminded us to mail our Celebration offering, which will help to replace the \$30,000 wheelchair lift at Mary Elizabeth Inn in San Francisco. Beulah Project funds are also being donated to the project. Debbie read the prayer printed on page 46 of the September/October *Response* magazine, praying for those abandoned in the midst of abundance and saying that the plague is a call to come together in new ways in order for all to survive and thrive well.

A new *Mission Springs Retreat* trailer video was shown, reminding us of the wonderful times we have spent there.

Certificates and awards were presented for activities and achievements by local groups. Conference Social Action Coordinator Connie Hunter installed our District UMW Team for 2021. She recalled courageous women from the Bible and from today’s headlines. Our Leadership Team has said “yes,” even during times when our best intentions get lost in our busyness, and our nation’s Achilles heels are exposed. “Hash out your dreams for UMW,” she said. “You’ll have the time of your life!”

After the closing, the Zoom meeting was left open for an additional half hour so that everyone could “un-mute” themselves and visit with each other.

Videos of the meeting, plus meeting resources, are available at
<<https://elcaminorealumw.org/2020-district-annual-celebration/>>.

2020 READING PROGRAM

BY CAROLYN BIRCHER

Reading Program participants read from each of five categories, and regularly read *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
 - Plan III Darlene Dyer
- Cupertino Good Samaritan**
 - Plan IV Carolyn Bircher
- Marina**
 - Plan II Helen Green
 - Plan IV Mary H. Adams
- San Jose, Almaden Hills**
 - Plan I Julie Asada, Bonnie Home, K Stone, Doris Warren
- San Jose, Cambrian Park**
 - Plan I Debbie Ow
- San Jose, Willow Glen**
 - Plan I Ruth Ann Granfors
- Santa Clara**
 - Plan I Selma Chung, Donna West
 - Plan II Lisa Hatchet
- Santa Cruz**
 - Plan I Barbara Fields
- Sunnyvale First**
 - Plan I Eleanor Barskey
 - Plan II Ruth Riley
 - Plan IV Linda Morse

Learn more:
<<https://elcaminorealumw.org/educate/reading-program/>>



SAINTS THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE WE MET LAST YEAR

BY CAROLYN LAMCKE

- Campbell**
 - Evelyn Buck
 - Fran Sneed
- Cupertino, Good Samaritan**
 - Dianne May
- Fremont, St. Paul**
 - Trudy Del Gaizo
 - Clara Hu
 - Neva Lance
 - Nora Molina
 - Billie Thoresen
- Los Altos**
 - Merle Boxill
 - Carol Bunn
 - Janet Moller
- Los Gatos**
 - Carol Orr
- Palo Alto, First**
 - B. J. Coleman
- San Jose, Almaden Hills**
 - Carolyn Hitt
- San Jose, Alum Rock**
 - Judi Hoppe
 - Joyce Warton
- San Jose, Cambrian Park**
 - Kathy Romero
- San Jose, Wesley**
 - Chiyo Fukuda
 - Helen Masuda
 - Mae Tokiwa
- San Jose, Willow Glen**
 - Kay Champion
 - Eva Fisher
 - Patricia Madsen
- Salinas, First**
 - Kathy (Kay) Gandee
 - Bette Winters
- Santa Clara**
 - Linda Eserini
 - Barbara Shaw
- Santa Clara, Bethel Korean**
 - Grace Chaeun Chon
- Santa Cruz**
 - Alyne Fisher
 - Vickie Sutherland
- Watsonville**
 - Debbie McCauley
 - Mildred vonSchell
 - Rebia Westbrook



Continued on page 5

DISTRICT CELEBRATION

Continued from page 4

2020 MISSION TODAY

BY K STONE

These UMW units have met eight of 17 criteria that:

- encourage the use of the mission resources available through United Methodist Women;
- increase contact between the local unit and mission projects and personnel to gain an understanding of how our Mission Giving through United Methodist Women is used;
- expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission;
- energize United Methodist women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study, and action.

Learn more about Mission Today:

<<https://elcaminoREALumw.org/leadership/>>.

Learn more about Charter for Racial Justice:

<<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice/>>.

MISSION TODAY UNITS

Campbell
Salinas First
San Jose, St. Paul's *
Santa Clara
Sunnyvale Trinity

* This unit also supported the Charter for Racial Justice

2020 5-STAR MISSION GIVING

BY DEBBIE OW

There were 21 units achieving 5-Star status this year, a record for our district. I would especially like to congratulate our newest unit, the Watsonville Mujeres Methodistas Unidas for attaining this very special status in their very first year.

The units listed here have participated in all five channels of Mission Giving, which support mission projects for women, children and youth in over 120 countries.

- 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:

<<https://www.unitedmethoDISTWOMEN.org/5channels/>>.

5-STAR UNITS

Campbell
Fremont First
Gilroy
Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley
Livermore Asbury
Los Altos
Marina
Salinas First
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz
San Jose Almaden Hills
San Jose Alum Rock
San Jose Cambrian Park
San Jose First
San Jose St Paul's
San Jose Wesley
San Jose Willow Glen
Sunnyvale First
Sunnyvale Trinity
Watsonville First
Watsonville Mujeres Methodistas Unidas

Treasurer

DEBBIE OW

FINANCIAL REPORTS

At our District UMW Annual Celebration, we reported our financial status with a Mission Giving report and a Budget Variance report. In general, our Mission Giving in 2020 has been ahead of what we received for 2019, even though local groups are unable to meet in person and hold traditional fund-raisers.

Great job, United Methodist Women of the El Camino Real District! You are totally amazing!

Our administrative budget for 2020 is \$13,500. As of September 30, we had spent only \$1,599 due to program cancellations because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Travel expenses have also been reduced because meetings are being held virtually. Funds that were supplied by the Conference UMW this year are being retained for the Mission Springs retreat that will hopefully occur in 2021.

We approved an administrative budget for 2021 that's the same as 2020, expecting that we will again be able to hold in-person events for at least a portion of next year.

MISSION GIVING

Undesignated Gifts	2019 Jan-Dec	2020 Jan-Sep
Pledge to Mission	\$ 30,079.67	\$ 30,471.00
Gift in Memory.....	560.00	960.00
Gift to Mission	385.00	930.00
Special Mission Recognition (pins)	880.00	675.00
World Thank Offering.....	2,663.21	1,778.90
Total Undesignated	34,567.88	34,814.90

Designated Gifts

Call to Prayer and Self Denial..... 1,483.00 877.21

Supplementary Gifts

Total Designated, Supplementary 10,803.88 7,582.50

TOTAL GIVING.....\$45,854.76 \$43,274.61

ADMINISTRATIVE SPENDING, BUDGET vs. ACTUAL 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER

	Budget	YTD '20
District Weekend Retreat	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13.00
Mission u.....	3,500.00	0.00
Annual Celebration	1,050.00	35.00
District Team Expenses.....	1,000.00	657.00
Connect and Learn	750.00	279.00
Membership event	500.00	0.00
Social Action event	500.00	275.00
Newsletter	500.00	190.00
Audit.....	500.00	0.00
Mary Elizabeth Inn & Gum Moon	200.00	150.00
TOTAL.....	\$13,500.00	\$1,599.00



Annual Celebration workshops promote care of earth, care of self

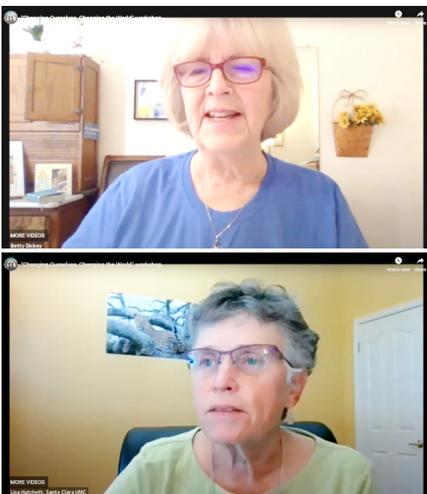
BY WANDA GARRETT, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Since this year's District UMW Annual Celebration was held in the unusual venue of Zoom, the workshops that are normally part of Annual Celebration also had to be done differently. This year, instead of having multiple concurrent workshops, the workshops were hosted on subsequent Saturday mornings.

Several people were able to attend all three workshops, which would not have been possible with our usual in-person format. In addition, the workshops included participants from throughout our District as well as from San Francisco, Modesto, and Galt in California, and Oregon, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina.

Feedback from the workshops was very positive. Attendees got a lot out of each workshop, and appreciated being able to participate safely from home.

Workshop: CHANGING OURSELVES, CHANGING THE WORLD, October 31, 2020



From top: Betty Spencer Dickey, Lisa Hatchett

Betty Spencer Dickey, our UMW Jurisdictional Climate Guide, and Lisa Hatchett, President of Santa Clara UMW and a chemical engineer, offered an informed multimedia presentation about the impact of global warming and what we can (and should) do about

it. During the breakout sessions, attendees were invited to identify habits that should change to improve the health of our planet, and select one action that they would personally commit to doing to help the planet.

For more information, including a video of the workshop and related resources:

<https://elcaminorealumw.org/oct-31-2020-workshop/>

Workshop: FINDING PEACE IN A TRAUMATIC WORLD, November 7, 2020

Sandra Nesheim, licensed clinical psychologist and our District UMW Spiritual Growth Coordinator, calmly walked us through several practical ways to foster peace within ourselves. She showed how focus on breathing, on scripture, and on song can reduce the impact of the world's noise on our well-being. In breakout sessions, she invited participants to discuss what scripture, song, place, or ritual brings them peace, and how to share that peace with others.



Sandra Nesheim

For more information, including a video of the workshop: <https://elcaminorealumw.org/nov-7-2020-workshop/>

Workshop: DEVELOPING RESILIENCE THROUGH COMMUNAL SPIRITUAL PRACTICE, November 14, 2020

Dr. Mary Cheng, former UMW Director of Transformative Education, and Julie Taylor, Executive Director of National Farm Worker Ministry and former UMW Executive for Spiritual Growth, discussed how resilience (the capacity to persist, adapt, or transform in the face of change, without losing our identity) can be built with spiritual practices in a group. They demonstrated several spiritual practices, including breath prayer, mindful movement, *lectio divina*, and communal prayer. In the breakout sessions, attendees were invited to share their worries and laments, as well as images of comfort, then identify what builds their spiritual strength.



Mary Cheng

Julie Taylor

For more information, including a video of the workshop: <https://elcaminorealumw.org/nov-14-2020-workshop/>

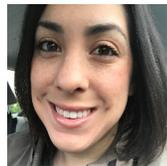
Committee on Nominations

BETTY SPENCER DICKEY, CHAIRPERSON



Nominations: Saying goodbye, welcoming new members

Special Thanks to those women on the El Camino Real District Team who served us all well but had to leave their posts.



Lauren Michelle Stevens was with us for just one year but she helped so much to bring us into more tech awareness through social media and youth focus. We are so happy that she was assigned to a church as a pastor, the next step in her career. Good luck Lauren Michelle.



Carolyn Lamcke was with us for a two year term and she worked so diligently on Membership, Census forms, Saints, and social action issues. We appreciated her leadership in those areas and her striving to improve our work in many justice issues that she took the lead on. Many good wishes for the future.



Ginny Johnson was elected in 2019 and served us for a while but in the midst of moving and losing longtime friends she became ill and was unable to continue. We hope that in the future she will regain her health and come join us again. Many blessings to Ginny for the future.



Esther Aguirre-Ribeiro: was with our Team for a short term as well but had to leave to take care of her mother who needed extra care. We were just beginning to get to know her and had high hopes that she would be a long-term member who shared her special gifts to assist us in the Mission of United Methodist Women.

NEWEST LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

We want to introduce our new Leadership Team members, who were elected at our recent Virtual Annual Celebration in October, 2020.



Karen Hall lives in Salinas and is a member of Salinas UMC. We have known her for many years as one of those women who do so much work at their church that you wonder how she has energy for anything else. Well she does and we are very thankful to have her join us on the Leadership Team. She will begin orientation soon looking at all the various mission areas that we have, learning about District and figuring out where she can best serve.



Angelica Martinez is from Watsonville and is the President of the newest local UMW group, Mujeres Metodistas Unidas in the Watsonville First UMC. She is a wife and mother of five children and still wants to serve God and her community. As she says “I am passionate about learning new things, skills, and sharing them with my community.” We are so grateful that she is willing to learn and share her newfound knowledge and perspective with all of us in UMW.

We are so happy to welcome these new Team members and know that we will all learn and be Sisters together while working within the UMW Purpose.



Safe Havens: Encouraging healthy relationships at home

BY DEACONESS KATHERINE KIM

This El Camino Real District Zoom online event, *Safe Havens: Encouraging Healthy Relationships at Home*, was held on September 26, 2020 from 10 A.M. to noon. During this time of Corona Virus with shelter-in-place, families are spending more time together. The challenges of the family dynamics are hard to avoid. Families hope to feel safe at home, but it is not always possible. In this workshop, we focused on the unfortunate situation of domestic violence.

We had two speakers: Sandra Nesheim, a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, and Dalia Ochoa-Navarro, Education and Community Outreach Advocate from Monarch Services in Watsonville. Watsonville First United Methodist Church Pastor Robin Matthews Johnson sponsored this event. It was in both English and Spanish, with a professional translator. There were break-out groups for discussion. We expected about 40 people. Wanda Garrett was host, and Susan Birkelo was our interpreter. Sandra talked about the basics of Domestic Violence and Dalia talked about the resources of Monarch Services in Watsonville.

During the discussion, our speakers noted that it is the law to report to the authorities any known violence against women or children.

Sandra Nesheim shared a domestic violence story

Domestic violence is a difficult, emotional, and tough topic. It

happens to any family, income, culture, lesbian, bisexual, homosexual. Most women do not want to talk about this because they think it is a shame and disgrace.

Sandra shared a fictional story about Maria. Maria fell in love with her boyfriend; he valued her opinion, loved her. He told her she is the love of his life, a perfect mate, and he was kind to her family. She accepted his marriage proposal. They were happy for a while. Then he tried to control her; discouraging any contact with her family and friends, told her to not work outside but instead stay home, cut off from family, friends, co-workers. She lost her support system, lost her financial independence. When he came home, he would criticize her, complaining even though she tried to meet his expectations. He told her she was never good enough, worthless, all the problems were her fault, etc. She tried to leave, but her family didn't help. Because of her children, she was reluctant to leave. She felt she was stuck, with no one to blame but herself, and she felt hopeless and helpless. She was pregnant. His outburst happened at night mostly.

The impact to children is great; the children knew there were problems, but father bribed them. They were confused, felt anxious, fearful, isolated, sensitive to other children, decreased their school performance, just trying to survive at home. Children are resilient, though, and can survive. But because during their childhood they learn from their parents how

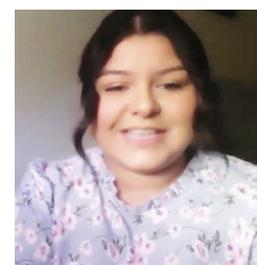
to treat partners, it could lead to teen dating violence.

The cycle of violence made the course worse; there is a "honeymoon" stage, then tension building to an explosion, then the forgiveness stage. The cycle repeats itself. The abused person tries to leave, but it is very hard. For an average woman, it takes about 7th trial to finally leave.

Sandra pointed out that in addition to physical abuse, it may be verbal, emotional, and financial. Violence can be stopped, changed. The woman needs to develop self-confidence and know what she wants to do.

Dalia Ochoa-Navarro spoke about resources and services provided by Monarch Services

At Monarch Services, they provide support and a safe, healthier environment with phone calls



Dalia Ochoa-Navarro

or Zoom sessions. Children who didn't learn healthy communication skills at home can lead to teen violence. They try to solve problems with violence, which is a learned behavior.

How does Monarch help? They provide safety planning, to help their clients prepare to leave the unsafe situation. They give guidance to get ready all the important documents such as birth certificate, Social Security card, driver's license, important phone

Continued on page 9

numbers, make a copy of key for the vehicle. They emphasize the client should call 911 when they are ready. Other tips are to practice saying “NO” to the partner, empower yourself, and start small. Practice self-care, like finding a quiet place and thinking (meditating), calling a support system, checking in with friends.

Other types of assistance from Monarch include:

- Crisis line: Intervention
- Advocate: They help to make report, self-care, healthy coping skills.
- Children’s activities: Art and craft, story-telling.
- Legal assistance: Restraining orders, court hearing, Immigration, and visa help
- Support group: Counseling, English class on Wednesday 6 PM
- Housing program: Help to find housing
- Prevention program: Teen workshop, custody and jail, family services, CPS, probation, etc.
- Shelter in Santa Cruz: Serves 6 families, help survivors to safe place, support system.

If you need help:

- Monarch Services, 24-hour hotline: 888/900-4232
- Monarch Services, Watsonville office: 831/722-4532
- Monarch Services, Santa Cruz office: 831/425-4030
- Community Solutions (South Santa Clara County): 408/683-4118

For more information and to see the video of this event:
<<https://elcaminorealumw.org/havens-2020/>>.

Social Action

Green Notes: New year, renewed attention to nature

BY NANCY OLSON, PALO ALTO FIRST UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

As we close out one year and open a new year, it seem appropriate to quote from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church: “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. Economic, political, social, and technological developments have increased our human numbers, and lengthened and enriched our lives. However, these developments have led to regional defoliation, dramatic extinction of species, massive human suffering, overpopulation, and misuse and overconsumption of natural and nonrenewable resources, particularly by industrialized societies. This continued course of action jeopardizes the natural heritage that God has entrusted to all generations. Therefore, let us recognize the responsibility of the church and its members to place a high priority on changes in economic, political, social, and technological lifestyles to support a more ecologically equitable and sustainable world leading to a higher quality of life for all of God’s creation.”

WOW. The only thing left out is to remember to love one another.

I really relate to the church’s social principles, even when the church is grappling with how it is to relate in love with one another - to ALL God’s children.

As good stewards of God’s creation, we have to be watchful for threats and opportunities to take action. Currently drilling rights in Alaska’s pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge are being auctioned off. The call for bids that were published last week let companies pick land to bid on during an upcoming lease sale on the refuge’s nearly 1.6 million acres. The area provides habitat for the world’s remaining Southern Beaufort Sea polar bears, 250 musk oxen, and 300,000 snow geese.

There are things we can do to protect nature:

- Help friends, family, neighbors and coworkers understand the importance of biodiversity. The extinction crisis is real but also fixable, and it will make the environment around us better for everyone now and into the future. To do this, we need policies and programs, but we also need people to choose to live more in balance with Earth.
- Pay attention to what you eat. For example, avoid products containing palm oil — rain forests are being cut down to grow palm oil plants. Buy local to reduce greenhouse gases associated with transportation, and if you eat seafood, make sure it is sustainable.

We obviously do not know what the morrow brings - but I am wishing each of us a happy, healthy new year.

Unit Reports

SANTA CLARA UMW OUTREACH TO JW HOUSE



Participating members were (from left) Emma Cruz, Maria Brillante, Kimberly Del Aguila, Lisa Hatchett, Rich Hatchett, Jerry Brillante, and Berta Schenaker (not pictured)

BY LISA HATCHETT,
PRESIDENT, SANTA
CLARA UNITED
METHODIST WOMEN

Representatives from the Santa Clara UMW local unit cooked and served dinner to residents and guests at JW House in Santa Clara, CA on March 10, 2020.

JW House is a non-profit organization that provides free meals and guest rooms for families of patients at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Santa Clara. It is a place for warmth, support and hope for those families. The UMW ladies (and spouses) cooked a meal of salad, tuna noodle casserole (plus vegetarian option) and dessert and helped serve dinner. We ate and prayed with those attending the dinner and were touched by their stories.

UMCOR HYGIENE KITS

BY DEACONESS KATHERINE KIM, KOREAN UMC OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) provides humanitarian relief and disaster response in the U.S. and internationally. Their efforts are targeted in places where natural disasters, war, or conflict have done so much damage that communities are unable to recover on their own. Specific programs address issues of health, sanitation, poverty, sustainable agriculture nutrition, and food security.

UMCOR Hygiene Kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Hygiene Kit are valued at \$12.00 per kit. Other kits that can be assembled are Cleaning Kits (\$5 each) and School Kits (\$11.00 each). With donations from eight women's groups at Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley, I sent 100 Hygiene Kits to the UMCOR West Depot.

Each Hygiene kit contains one hand towel (15x25-17x27 inches), one washcloth, one comb, one toenail/fingernail clipper, one bath-size soap, one adult toothbrush, 10 adhesive bandages, packed in a 1 gallon size re-sealable plastic bag. I also included the requested \$2.00/each kit for the cost of tooth paste and shipping to its destination.

For more information about UMCOR Hygiene kits, go to <<https://umcmmission.org/umcor-hygiene-kit/>>.

You may also give directly to UMCOR at <<https://umcmmission.org/give-to-umcor/>>.

SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE

In the context of implicit bias, historical and current structural racism, white supremacy, white privilege, and mass incarceration.

BY BETTY SPENCER DICKEY
CAMBRIAN PARK UNITED METHODIST
WOMEN

Cambrian Park UMW presented this program on February 8, 2020, one month before we started shutting down for Covid 19. Our speaker, Deborah St. Julien, was trained by SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) in San Jose. She described herself as just someone who was interested in the topic, and not a professional.

Ms. St. Julien shared a detailed program with charts, graphs and references for books to read that would help us in our own education on the topic. Women from many different local units attended, some from as far as the Central Valley.

We all enjoyed getting to know each other better and had good discussions led by Deborah. We touched on Structural Racism, Implicit Bias, and White Privilege. In addition, we talked about why children of color and those with disabilities are more often restrained at school and suspended while white children are not. Those that are suspended often drop out, and those that do are three times more likely to be arrested.

We found the topic interesting and disturbing, but one that needs continuing study and action.

Some of the books she recommended are:

- *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson
- *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander
- *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in The Cafeteria?* by Beverly Daniel Tatum.

For more information:

- UMW Racial Justice Advocacy and Education <<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice/>>
- Charter for Racial Justice <<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice/>>
- SURJ Bay Area <<https://www.surjbayarea.org/>>



Book Review

BY CAROLYN BIRCHER
SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES



GUM MOON

By Jeffrey L. Staley

This historical novel takes place at the Gum Moon home in San Francisco. It is a coming-of-age story about a girl who was sold into a

brothel at the age of three and was later rescued by the Methodist women. It has enough suspense to make you want to keep reading. The descriptions of the early 1900s lifestyle are nostalgic but also portray the racism endured by the "Oriental" children who seemed "almost American," the corruption that allowed city leaders to overlook the suffering of the women in the brothels, and safety hazards that made the 1906 earthquake so deadly.

The author did a great job of getting inside the mind of the young girl, Chun/Maud. She was a talented, curious, sensitive child, trying to understand why those she loved most kept disappearing from her life. I loved how Maud compared President Theodore Roosevelt to the Wizard of Oz, from her favorite book. Mainly, this book left me in awe of the deaconesses who devoted their lives to caring for the children in the Methodist home.

This book counts in the Education for Mission category of the Reading Program. It is not available in public libraries but, but is worth purchasing to learn the history of a local project supported by our mission dollars.

For more information:

<<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/41549424-gum-moon>>



YOUR NATIONAL PAG REPRESENTATIVE: MARLENE WARD

My CA-NV UMW Sisters,

I wanted to share with you that I will be your CA-NV UMW representative on the UMW National "Program Advisory Group" (PAG) for 2021 - 2024. I received official confirmation of my election to this position in October 2020.

I have started to receive emails and postings from the Western Jurisdiction and National UMW on just what is involved in this position. And yes, some of the details of who and what the PAG is are still being developed!

I do know that I will be working on the *Legacy Steering Team* and I have been told that there will be one other smaller Team that I will be assigned to: *To Be Determined!* Beyond this, my "Purpose" as all other PAG members is "to ensure communication between members of United Methodist Women in conference, district, and local organizations and its national leadership. PAG will provide programmatic recommendations to the United Methodist Women board of directors and staff and will communicate with conference, district, and local organizations about the work of United Methodist Women."

So ... I am your link with National UMW via PAG which consists of between seventy and eighty voting members (National Directors of UMW, Jurisdiction Presidents, conference representatives, representation from General Board of Global Ministries, representation from UM agencies, representatives from the Deaconess/Home Missioner/Home Missionary Community, plus a few more!)

I have met via Zoom with Western Jurisdiction PAG representatives and also present at this meeting was our new National UMW President – Ainise Isama'u from the Cal Pac Conference and our new Western Jurisdiction President – Bonita (Bonnie) Miller from the Alaska Conference.

The full PAG will be meeting in March, 2021 and between now and then my work will begin on the Teams that I am assigned to.

This is new territory for me, but I look upon this opportunity to expand my connection to all of you and pass on to the next level what CA-NV UMW are focused on and what you hope to see happen in the broader UMW.

I ask for your prayers and please know that I look forward to working, once again, with the CA-NV UMW Conference Team so that I am up-to-date and informed on just what CA-NV UMW is up to!!!

Grace & peace, forgiveness & love,
Marlene Ward





In the fall of 2011, the CA-NV Conference UMW initiated the ‘Campaign for Racial Justice’, a campaign inviting local organizations of UMW to study the ‘Charter for Racial Justice’ and to adopt one action in pursuit of racial justice. Over the years we have read books, hosted representatives from different faith traditions, worshipped with African Methodist Episcopal (AME) churches, marched for the end of unwarranted police brutality towards people of color and lots, lots more.

What is the ‘Charter for Racial Justice’? The United Methodist Women predecessor organization drafted and adopted the ‘Charter for Racial Justice’ in 1978. It was submitted to General Conference in 1980 and adopted by the entire church. It has been readopted every eight years since. The Charter lists faith based reasons we must work for racial justice, e.g. racism is the rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ – and then proceeds to identify ways in which we, a faith based organization, will respond, e.g. establish workshops and seminars in local churches to study, understand and appreciate the historical and cultural contributions of each race to the church and community.

The Charter was adopted in 1978. Yet, in the year 2020, it is still evident that work remains to be done. In the wake of the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and more, our eyes are wide open – and

there is a cry across the land for racial justice, for that long-awaited day when people will be judged not by the color of their skin but by their character.

In 2020, during our Annual Celebrations we recognized five local organizations for their participation in the ‘campaign for racial justice’. One of the units is actively engaged in helping immigrants get established in their community, several had held a program on some aspect of racism, for example the criminalization of girls of color. There are lots of ways you can respond to the issue, from becoming informed to actively responding.

I urge you to begin talking about and exploring what you can do in the year ahead, now. Don’t let another moment go by, let alone another year, without finding some way to engage in this urgent ‘Campaign for Racial Justice’. It is never too late. Ibram Kendi, author of ‘How to be Anti-Racist’ says there is something that every one of us can do to promote racial justice. Ijeoma Oluo, author of ‘So You Want to Talk About Race’ urges all of us to have a conversation about racial justice and to do something.

If you have questions or are looking for resources, please contact your district Social Action Coordinator or District President – or contact me, Connie Hunter, CA-NV Conference Social Action Coordinator, at <huntercj@aol.com>. It’s time for a New Year’s Resolution – let’s do something to end racism.

Peace and Joy,
Connie Hunter

Mission Coordinator for Social Action, CA-NV Conference UMW
<huntercj@aol.com>

For more information, and to download or order the Charter:
<<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjusticecharter>>



No Need to Travel for Conference Celebration



BY BONNIE HOME,
ALMADEN HILLS UNITED
METHODIST WOMEN

Have you ever been to the annual California-Nevada Conference United Methodist

reflected in the laments of the Psalms.

To lead with hope, there are four actions to be taken:

1. Promote relationships of mutuality, respect and trust – Value the person rather than desiring always to be right. Allow people to change their previous statements, to change their minds without criticism.

2. Step up and step back – Extroverts need to silence themselves and let the introverts speak.

3. Mentor the newcomer – A Mission u trainer named Jo had decided to retire from that position she had held for years, and send a younger woman named Sarah in her place for the 2019 training session. But Jo was encouraged to attend with Sarah, to mentor her in her new job, and the Conference offered to pay the expenses for both of them. New leaders don't necessarily have to be younger ones. The newly retired person can be just the one who is needed most.

4. Be creative in problem-solving, but let those who are impacted by the problem decide what they need. In Flint, Michigan, a woman contacted her bishop, as well as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and the United Methodist Women, to help energize the residents whose water was tainted with lead. They contacted President Obama for help.

Mary urged us to use this time of crisis as an opportunity to go deeper than we ever have before into important issues. We cannot

Women's Celebration, which is always held in October? You may have attended many ... or only one or two ... or none at all. But in this COVID-19 year, 117 people turned on their computers wherever they were, to be part of this wonderful October 17 event. Katherine Parker, our missionary to Nepal, was our technical advisor. The marvelous JoAnne Neish blessed us with beautiful music.

Each District President was introduced and told a little about herself, appearing to pass a candle from one computer screen to another.

Special videos from the day were sent by the United Methodist Women's President Shannon Priddy and the UMW General Secretary and CEO, Harriett Jane Olson. Bishop Minerva Carcaño stopped by in person to give us her brief message.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Mary Cheng, and her topic was "Leading with Hope for Such a Time as This." This is an unprecedented time with the pandemic, the wildfires, the crucial election, and the rise of racial justice awareness. There is an impact of these crises on our psyches – crisis fatigue. Our angst is

Hillsdale UMC youth offered a beautiful dance interpretation of *How Great Thou Art*.



continue with our old ways, and in actuality we are already doing new things. It has been said that the women will be the salvation of The United Methodist Church.

The afternoon's Table Talk with Micheal Pope as moderator brought several women of

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NO NEED TO TRAVEL

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different nationalities around a Zoom table to tell stories from their own lives about racism. Then everyone was divided into “break-out rooms” of five each to discuss what they had heard.

The Celebration closed with the Hillsdale United Methodist Church Youth Praise dancers in native costumes and wearing pandemic masks singing and dancing to *How Great Thou Art*. They had made this video for the California-Nevada Annual Conference in September, and it was a beautiful and touching way to end our day. You may watch it here:

< <https://youtu.be/MX4J2csNFgM> >.

As Micheal Pope told us, “We are physically distancing during the pandemic, but we are not socially distancing.” We are closer to one another than ever.

Yearly Conference UMW Breakfast becomes an online brunch

BY BONNIE HOME, ALMADEN HILLS
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

One of the United Methodist Women traditions is to have a large group breakfast at 7 a.m. during the yearly California-Nevada Annual Conference. When Annual Conference was moved from June (in person) to September (online), the Conference UMW decided to change their breakfast to a 10 a.m. online brunch and scheduled it for September 5, the week before Annual Conference, so as not to interfere with that large business meeting.

The 130 women who attended filled six Zoom screens. Music was by the wonderful JoAnne Neish. Five deaconesses spoke -- Megan who is a school teacher, Ellen who is a social worker, Selina Ruth who is a fire fighter, Katherine who works with seniors, and Heidi who is a hospice care worker. Heidi said that at the hospice she has comforted Buddhists, Wiccans, and Southern Baptists, as well as Methodists, during their final days.

The deaconesses have a covenant relationship with each other and spiritually support one another. The United Methodist Women provide funding to help pay for their work.

For more information about the deaconess and home missionary program, go to <<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/dhm>>.



My Deaconess Story

Deaconess Katherine Kim

Written for CA/NV Conference UMW Breakfast, September 5, 2020

Good morning. I am honored to be here. We had four great deaconess speakers, Megan, Ellen, Heidi, and Selena Ruth, who told us their stories. Thank you.

I would like to share my favorite Bible verse before I start. Micah 6:8 “*What does the Lord requires of you? To act Justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*”

I am Katherine Kim, from the CA/NV Conference, retired pharmacist and retired Deaconess. I came from South Korea in 1963 (57 years ago) with \$50 on my hand, to study pharmacy at the University of Washington in Seattle,

Washington, with minimum English and not knowing anyone in the U.S. My life hasn’t been easy. I apologize to some of you who heard this story before.

I retired from Kaiser Permanente Medical Group as a pharmacist after 36 years of service in March 2004, retiring early at 62 due to my illness. I was commissioned for Deaconess at the same year. Ms. Betty Purkey who is a Deaconess, and was a Deaconess Program officer, helped me to become a Deaconess. At the same time, Korean UMW was promoting Deaconess as well. Our graduating class of 2004 had five Korean Deaconesses out of 23. I also served

Women’s Division Directors from 2008-2012, and

Program Advisory Group from 2012 to 2016. I served General Conference at the same time until 2018. Last Wednesday Sept. 2, 2020, 2008 Women’s Division Directors had a Zoom reunion. They all looked healthy and staying active.

I started my senior ministry at my local church, San Jose Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley, in July 2004 with \$2,000 of my contribution. This is my deaconess ministry. About 30 seniors, mostly

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DEACONESS KATHY KIM

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from my church, met every Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The program started with exercise, morning snacks, worship, group singing, and delicious lunch, then a ride back home by church van. I emphasized offering good food because these seniors may be lacking good nutrition. They are old, lonely, poor, not many friends, not speaking English. My senior program helped them to socialize, helped their needs, and provided good nutritious food, and above all make them happy. During singing time, we sang Korean folk songs which they are familiar with. We also had monthly birthday celebrations. On Mother's Day, each member received red roses. We had twice a year picnic at a local park with games and fun time with prizes.

The challenges for the senior ministry were having not much help from my local church. And young people thought they are not old enough to join the group. CA/NV Conference UMW's Beulah grant helped me a lot financially. Other Korean churches in the Bay Area have been benefitted from Beulah grant. Thank you!

While I was working as a pharmacist, I went back to school and received a B.A. in Psychology, Sociology, and Art at San Jose State University, and continued for a Masters Degree in Social Work. I quit school one semester short of graduation for personal reason ... divorce. My two children were at high school, and we studied together. They are both are doing very well. Sadly they are not attending church now.

A Deaconess serves with love, justice, and service. With the help

of my schooling, I served the seniors with all my heart. They appreciated my service, and I was proud of doing it.

A young capable director took over the senior ministry after my retirement in December 2014 for 10½ years service. I still bake every Wednesday if I am around. The funny thing is that new director changed the name from Senior Ministry to Wednesday Ministry. Now we have more young people coming, a lively ministry now.

Even though I am a retired Deaconess, I am still healthy and I have plenty of work to do. I received so much, I want to pay back. Here are few things I want to do or I am doing now.

1. I am Social Action Coordinator for El Camino Real District. (former San Jose District). CA/NV Conference UMW just finished Social Action program "Interrupting the Cradle to Prison Pipeline" on July 25th and August 15th. It was a great success. Ann Bradeen, who introduced me earlier, recruited one of the speakers, Carl Pinkston for Black Parallel School Board

2. I joined Advocacy/Justice Committee for California/Nevada Annual Conference. More traveling to Sacramento.

3. I am still involved with local and National Korean UMW as advisory capacity. I would like to spend more time to recruit young Korean members. I became new president of Kor-Sage Inc. We try to develop new leaders among Koreans.

4. I have been working as a Domestic Violence Advocate for the victims for over 20 years. I would like to set up a shelter someday. ECRD had a domestic violence program on Sept 26th for "Safe Havens: Encouraging Healthy Relationships at Home"

via Zoom meeting. Domestic violence is increasing during this corona virus pandemic.

5. I am a globetrotter. I do travel a lot, and I went many Ubuntu Journeys. I usually combine mission trips with my traveling. I look forward to going out more in the future. Last year I went Bolivia in South America. We had a great time with the Bolivians. They are poor, but hospitable and eager to learn. Bolivia has high altitude of 12,000 feet. Because of lack of oxygen, I was in hospital for two days. To my surprise the hospital bill was \$2,300 because it was a Methodist Hospital.

6. Right now I am making masks and doing fundraising for Navajo Indians. I am sending 150 masks and \$800 to New Mexico. It is fun to make masks and a rewarding project. This work is a part of the National Korean UMW network. And 100 masks will be sent to a homeless shelter.* When I finish this mask project, I will start to make 100 UMCOR Hygiene Kits with the help from my local church UMW. We will send the Hygiene Kits to UMCOR West in Salt Lake City. I went there twice, and Baldwin, Louisiana once. We have been sending UMCOR kits last ten years,

In order to do the work I mentioned so far, I need financial help. I am a Real Estate investor, also a stock investor. I am trying to make as much money as I can to accomplish my dreams, like John Wesley said.

God help me. Thank you for the opportunity to share my life and my ministry. Be safe and well. Thank you.

* Kathy Kim offers free masks for anyone who needs them. Please contact her at <katherineokim@gmail.com>.

Mary Elizabeth Inn prepares for winter and 2021

BY LYNN HERMOSO, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT UMW,
LIAISON TO MARY ELIZABETH INN, CA/NV ANNUAL
CONFERENCE UMW

*“The stockings were hung
by the chimney with care...”*



Mary Elizabeth
Inn, San Francisco

There is a calm hustle and bustle happening at Mary Elizabeth Inn, the UMW National Mission in San Francisco. The staff are starting to empty out the storages and

unpack all the well-kept decorations for The Inn to be dressed for the holidays. Many of our residents are scurrying around, decorating their rooms as well.

MEI safe now, plans for good 2021

I just wanted to share the current news about our MEI neighbor before the end of the year. December 31, 2020 will be a much-anticipated date due to new city funding, new city guidelines, and new City Management

staffing, and new staffing at The Inn.

MEI remains open and operational this far into the ordinance. As of this writing, there are no known cases of COVID19 among staff or residents.

San Francisco Food Bank continues to make weekly food deliveries for weekly food distribution to the residents.

Legal change with National UMW pending

There is still a pending transfer of the title of MEI from National UMW to MEI itself. The paperwork/documents were submitted to UMW on May 2020. As of July 2020, MEI has assumed financial responsibility for general liability insurance. UMW has agreed to continue paying property insurance for the Inn until title is transferred.

UMW is proud to continue to support MEI as a National Mission upon transfer of title. The title transfer is a legal change, but all other services and affiliations will remain the same. UMW continues to keep the vision of Elizabeth Glide, MEI Founder, by providing a place to live free from violence,

MEI submitted numerous fundraising efforts and UMW gave generously:

- UMW National Office Covid19 Relief Fund - \$5,000
- UMW Beulah Foundation - \$10,000
- UMW National Office - \$15,000

MEI sends their deepest gratitude to El Camino Real District UMW and your generous donation from the District UMW Annual Celebration offering.

Gifts of Warmth requested

Every year, we have a “Gift of Warmth” drive. We collect gloves, beanies, scarves. Under lockdown, I have learned to crochet. I have hand-crafted 50 beanies to donate to MEI.

Please join in our ECRD drive to donate “gifts of warmth” to our sisters at MEI. Send email: <vicepres@elcaminorealumw.org> for more details.

*“In my eyes are valentines, and
Easter eggs and New Year’s wine
but when my heart finds Christmas,
I hope it finds you too...”*

Harry Connick, Jr.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION OFFERING FOR MARY ELIZABETH INN

BY DEBBIE OW, TREASURER

During Annual Celebration, we held an offering designated for Mary Elizabeth Inn, one of our own UMW National Missions for homeless women in San Francisco. MEI currently needs to replace a wheelchair lift which will cost approximately \$30,000. The Beulah Endowment Fund of the UMW has allocated some funding for this project but not the entire amount. The lift will provide wheelchair access to the auditorium, dining room and community kitchen from the rear of the building.

We have collected \$245 so far, and are still accepting donations. Please send them to your local treasurer, to be forwarded to the District UMW Treasurer Debbie Ow.

Learn more about Mary Elizabeth Inn here:

<<https://meinn.org/>>.

Learn more about the Beulah Endowment Fund here:

<<http://canvunitedmethodistwomen.org/beulah-grants.html>>.

EL CAMINO REAL DISTRICT UMW
CALENDAR 2021

- JANUARY 16 (to be confirmed)**
District UMW
Leadership Team
Meeting
- FEBRUARY 6 (to be confirmed)**
District UMW Connect
& Learn*
Online
- MARCH 12-14 (to be confirmed)**
District UMW Virtual
Spiritual Retreat*
Online
- MARCH 20 CA/NV Conference
UMW Social Action
Event***
Online

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

2021 Connect & Learn



How? and When? Stay tuned!

BY WANDA GARRETT, COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR

Early in the calendar year, District UMW usually holds Connect & Learn, a gathering focused on learning more about being part of

United Methodist Women. It includes training and information about specific roles in the local groups/units, plus ways we can expand our mission and ministry through UMW.

As we go to press, the plans for the 2021 District UMW Connect & Learn event are still being formed.

We are not able to gather in person, due to the COVID-19 shelter-in-place protocols, so your District UMW leadership team is re-imagining this event as an online “Zoom” workshop. The tentative plan is to hold Connect & Learn on the morning of February 6, 2021.

Information about 2021 Connect & Learn will be distributed by Quick News emails. If you do not already receive Quick News, you can subscribe at

<<https://elcaminorealumw.org/subscribe-to-quick-news/>>.

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