

Gleanings News

MARCH | 2021

DAY APART EVENT

HATS! Hats? HaTs!

What HAT or HaTs are you wearing?

Shady Grove United Methodist Church

LIVE ON ZOOM @ 10AM

MARCH 06, 2021

SPEAKER: JESSICA BRODIE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FORTHCOMING

MARCH 23

LEGACY FUND DAY OF GIVING

APRIL 24

THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

VIRTUAL

MAY 15

COME TO GETHER, BE TOGETHER

VIRTUAL

DAY APART EVENT SPEAKER



Jessica Brodie is an award-winning Christian journalist, author, blogger, editor, and devotional writer. For the last decade, she's been the editor of the South Carolina United Methodist *Advocate*, the oldest newspaper in Methodism, which has won 118 journalism awards during her tenure. She is the author of *Feed My Sheep: A 40-Day Devotional to Develop a Heart for Hunger Ministry* (2019) and *More Like Jesus: A Devotional Journey* (2018) and editor of *Called By God: 30 Inspiring Call Stories from United Methodists* (2020) and *Stories of Racial Awakening: Narratives on Changed Hearts and Lives of South Carolina United Methodists* (2018), all from her newspaper's Advocate Press. She is a seasoned speaker and contributor to Crosswalk, [Christianity.com](https://www.christianity.com), and the United Methodist News Service, among many others. She has a weekly faith blog at [JessicaBrodie.com](https://www.jessicabrodie.com) and is part of the team at Wholly Loved Ministries. Represented by Bob Hostetler of The Steve Laube Agency, she is the author of two contemporary women's fiction novels awaiting publication, *The Memory Garden* and *Tangled Roots*. *The Memory Garden* won the 2018 Genesis Award for Contemporary Fiction from American Christian Fiction Writers. Married, Brodie has four children and stepchildren and lives in Lexington, South Carolina.

Columbia District
United Methodist Women's
2021 Day Apart Event

HATS! Hats? HaTs!

What HAT or HaTs are you wearing?

Shady Grove United Methodist Church

Saturday, March 6, 2021

- 10:00am** **WELCOME** - Debra Schooler - President Columbia District UMW
Bridgette Gruber, Shady Grove UMC
- AND**
- Reverend Tammy Grey of Shady Grove UMC
- Opening Prayer** **Reverend Tammy Grey** - Shady Grove UMC
- Devotional** Bridgette Gruber - Spiritual Growth Columbia District
- Hymn** Here I Am Lord (performed by Chelse Lawson)
- Introduction of
Speaker** Debra Schooler - President Columbia District UMW
- 10:15-11:00am** **Jessica Brodie** – Editor of the *ADVOCATE*
HATS! – What HAT or HATS do you wear?
- 11:00am** **Sending Forth** - Carrie Murray - Vice President Columbia District UMW

OFFERING WILL BE GIVEN TO WALLACE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Send Love Offering to Tiffany Phillips 2336 Hard scrabble Rd. Columbia, SC 29223

Message From Your President...

Greetings Ladies:

I can't believe it is already the end of February! Even in a pandemic, time still flies by me. I hope and pray all of you are well and safe. I look forward to the time when we can meet in person and enjoy our fellowship together.

February is Black History Month and many of our United Methodist Women hosted celebrations and programs to educate and honor this part of our history. Grace United Methodist Women and Bluff Road United Methodist Women hosted a Black History Month – Call to Prayer and Self Denial featuring Africa University. Washington Street UMC held a book study on “Stories of Struggle, The Clash over Civil Rights in South Carolina.” Francis Burns UMW held a skit entitled "Knitted Together Against Violence." The more we learn, the more we can grow in unity with all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I hope everyone has attended some or all of the Legislative Advocacy Days. “Jesus, Justice and Action” was the theme, and the workshops were informative and very timely.

Spring is coming, if it doesn't get rained out!!! We are busy preparing for our Day Apart Retreat that will be held on March 6th at 10:00 am. Shady Grove United Methodist Church will be hosting us, virtually of course!!! We are very excited to have Jessica Brodie, the editor of “The Advocate” as our speaker. Our theme this year is “HATS! Hats? HaTs! What HAT or HaTs are You Wearing?” Wear your favorite hat as we enjoy this time together.

We have lots to look forward to (virtually) this spring. The Spiritual Growth Retreat will be held April 24th, 2021 at 10:00 am. Rock Hill District will be hosting this virtual meeting. It promises to be a spirit filled time for us.

On May 15th, the Come Together Be Together event will be held at 10:00 am. Anderson District will be hosting, virtually, and they are working hard to have a great meeting with several workshops that sound very exciting and relevant.

Registration forms for both of these events will be sent to you once they are available.

Wow, even in this Pandemic, we can make a difference. We can learn, participate in these events and support our UMW sisters as they work hard to help us embrace the mission of the United Methodist Women.

God is love and let us spread our love and blessings to all we encounter as we go forward in this new year.

Blessings to each of you!!

Debra Schooler, President
Columbia District



Notes from the Vice President

Greetings United Methodist Women Sisters in Christ:

How grateful we are that the Lord has blessed us to see a new year – one filled with endless opportunities to make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth.

Certainly, our communities have been ripped with unprecedented pandemics. Each of these crises mandates that we find creative ways to take care of ourselves and each other and to advocate for justice and equality. Thank God for United Methodist Women!

Local UMW units continue to become knowledgeable about social issues by engaging in activities and events that knit us together as we prepare ourselves for God's good work.

As your Vice President, I have been involved with the following activities:

Columbia District United Methodist Women Virtual Local Unit Officers Training

With the help of the district team, I planned the Virtual Officers Training held January 16th at which I presided. The host church was Grace UMC. The event addressed the theme, Readiness to Serve.

The program consisted of two parts. Part 1 was a plenary, a spiritual opening with greetings, devotion and special music that set the stage for equipping women to serve as leaders. Part 2 was Leadership Development Breakout Sessions facilitated by members of the Columbia District Leadership Team and special guest, Eunice White, Conference E&I Coordinator. There were local unit officers in each of the twelve workshops with a total of 103 participants. Thirty eight (38) of the participants filled out the evaluation form. 87% of the responses were very favorable (4's and 5's); 13% were less favorable (3's and 2's) with a few suggestions for improvement.

Church Women United (CWU)

I attended the following CWU events:

- (1) Executive Board Meeting January 8, 2021;
- (2) Annual Meeting January 22 at which time I was installed as the United Methodist Denominational Coordinator. The guest speaker was Elizabeth Van Harn, Associate Organizer for M.O.R.E. Justice;
- (3) CWU Annual Bible Study, February 5th with facilitator Rev. Angela Ford-Nelson who focused on the theme: Build on a Strong Foundation;
- (4) February 5th Executive Board Meeting that followed the Bible Study.

South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women Legislative Advocacy Day

Women across South Carolina would gather by Zoom on four days during the month of February to explore issues of advocacy and justice. At the time of this writing, I had attended the first Zoom workshop **Wednesday, Feb 3**, from 10-11:30 a.m. on Juvenile Justice Reform conducted by Dr. Aleksandra Chauhan, Juvenile Defender Advocate for the South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense. She gave an update on the status of reform and proposed legislation in South Carolina. Other workshops were held **Feb. 9th, 18th and 27th**. I hope many of you had an opportunity to zoom in. Please share info with members of your local unit.



A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial

During the first few months of each year, preferably, **January, February or March**, United Methodist Women are encouraged to commemorate **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial** through learning, prayer and giving. A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial encourages women to step out in faith and bring the love of Christ into a hurting world through their prayers and selfless giving. 2021 theme is **She Leads: Empowering Women to Make a Difference**. I hope that all local unit vice presidents who are in charge of programs will add this event to your program calendar. You may want to invite other unit(s) to join you.

Black History Observance

February is designated **Black History Month**. The theme for 2021 is **The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity**. I encourage all units and individuals to set aside moments to explore the adjustments, changes, movements, and innovations many people of African descent have made in the United States.

Women's History Month

Every year **March** is designated **Women's History Month** by Presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.

The theme for 2021 Women's History Month is ***Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced***. Find opportunities to highlight the dedicated work of United Methodist Women.

Reminder: Join **United Methodist Women** members around the country on March 23, 2021 for the Annual **Day of Giving** to The **Legacy Fund**. The **Legacy Fund** is a permanent endowment to support the work of future generations of **United Methodist Women**.



Blessings,

Carrie R. Murray

Vice President

Columbia District United Methodist Women

cmrmurra@bellsouth.net



From the Secretary's Desk

The Columbia District United Methodist Women Executive Committee met January 16, 2021 via Zoom.

President Debra Schooler called the meeting to order at 12:18 and extended a welcome to all attendees.

Persons in attendance included Debra Schooler, Diann Selph, Carrie Murray, Tiffany Phillips, Rhonda Washington, Sharee Washington, Bridgette Gruber, Patricia Armstrong, Karen Fur, Mary Nell Trussell, Pat Hoesly, Linda Kennedy, Christine Porter, Stella Chisholm, Vilma Cobb, Robin Andrews, Vanessa Key, Faye Love, Sandra Love, Jane Scott, and Flo Johnson.

Absentee members were Becky Travis, Evelyn Neal, and Mary Anne Dewitt.

Bridgette Gruber led the devotion and prayer. Each member was asked to introduce themselves.

Secretary Carrie Murray reported that the minutes were printed in the October 20, 2020 Gleanings which were received and adopted as information.

New Business/Announcements

- All attendees voted to purchase a Zoom account and the Local Unit will be able to use this account as well. Funds from the Columbia District United Methodist Women treasure will be used to purchase this account.
- Carrie Murray made a motion to combine MNO/E&I for officers training and was second by Sandra Love. The motion was carried and so ordered.
- Church Women United World Day of Prayer is scheduled for March 5, at Jones Memorial AME Zion, 2400 Barhamville Rd., Columbia, SC 29204 or via Zoom.
- The Church Women United Spring Luncheon is scheduled for April 10, at Brookland Baptist Banquet Center, 1066 Sunset Blvd, West Columbia, SC 29169- (May be cancelled due to COVID-19).

Reports were given from the following officers:

- **President** Debra Schooler - reported that she had been working on the Officer Training meeting and did not have any more to report. She did welcome everyone and is encouraged by what a wonderful team we have in the Columbia District.

- **Vice President** - Carrie Murray reported that she attended CWU Executive Board Meeting January 8, 2021. She will be installed at the Annual Meeting January 22 as the United Methodist Denominational Coordinator.

With the help of the district team, she planned the Virtual Officers Training Event held January 16th at which she presided. The host church was Grace UMC. The event addressed the theme, *Readiness to Serve*. She thanked the Columbia District UMW Team for serving as workshop facilitators during the training.

- **Treasurer** Tiffany Phillips - reported the Check book balance as of 12/09/2020 was \$5,506.33, received from churches (12/10/2020-1/15/2021) \$9,365.82, total in account \$14,872.15.
- **Communication Coordinator** Sharee Washington - Articles and Reports for the March *Gleanings* will be due Feb. 10, 2021.

We will remove officers' phone and mailing address from the *Gleanings*. We will only include name, role, church, and email address.

Within the next 2 quarters, we will transition to a newsletter format of the *Gleanings* using MailChimp. This will allow the *Gleanings* to be sent automatically to everyone's email address. ~~By~~ Allowing people to opt-in and opt-out will allow us to have a current email list. We will also update the mailing list to include all District Officers, Local Unit Officers (Pres, V. President, Treasurer, Secretary/Communications), and paid membership (\$4/year per person).

Communications was approved to create a District Zoom Account that will allow for 3 licenses (Rhonda Washington, Sharee Washington, Debra Schooler) to host meetings. Any local UMW unit and/or Circle can use the accounts.

- **Spiritual Growth** Bridgette Gruber - stated they had a quiet year. The Annual Retreat is scheduled for April 24, 2021 via Zoom; Day Apart is scheduled for March 6, 2021 via Zoom; and she is asking everyone to wear a hat of their choice.
- **Social Action** Patricia Armstrong - Legislative Advocacy Day will be a virtual event taking place over 4 days at various times. Registration information is in the last Advocate and on the Conference website. National body of UMW adopted two priority mission focus areas, Climate Justice and Mass Incarceration/Interrupting the School-to Prison Pipeline

- The Columbia District was asked to select a mission focus. The leadership team voted to adopt Mass Incarceration/Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline.
- **MNO** Debra Schooler - reported in Mary Anne's absence that Mary Anne would be getting in touch with everyone about the census due by March 31.
- **Education and Interpretation** Rhonda Washington - Logistical information as to where to send stamps and tabs will be included in the March 2021 issue of *Gleanings*.

Units have been asked to promote the Mission Emphasis months during their local meetings.

Units have been encouraged to complete at least 10 out of 15 items on the Mission Today Form. As E&I Coordinator, I will email "The Mission Today Form" to the E&I training attendees. The form will also be included in the March 2021 issue of *Gleanings*.

- **Program Resource** Mary Nell Trussell - asked that each member read one book out of each category.
- **Chair of Nominations** Linda Kennedy - asked that members from the Local Units fill out the Local Unit Officers information form and send to the Secretary.
- **Historian** Pat Hoesly - asking for more pictures and if anyone have any ideas please let her know.
- **Cluster Reports** were received from the following Leaders: Cluster 4: Faye Love; Cluster 5: Tiffany Phillips; Cluster 6: Sandra Love.

Closing prayer was given by Sandra Love. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM.

Please complete the Columbia District Local Unit Officer Report below and return to me as soon as possible so we can make a directory for our District.

Diann Selph

Columbia District Secretary

Selphdiann@yahoo.com

Columbia District Local Unit Officers 2021

Print or Type

Contact Person _____

Name of Church _____

Please provide the **name, address, phone number(s) and email address** of each officer in your local UMW unit that is listed below. If I have already received your information, please accept my thanks.

Office	Name	Address	Phone Number(s) Home and Cell	Email Address
President				
Vice President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Communications Coordinator				
Spiritual Growth Coordinator				

Social Action Coordinator				
Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator				
Education and Interpretation Coordinator				
Secretary-Program Resources				
Historian				
Chair of Nominations				
Circle Leader				

Send info to
Diann Selph
117 Summerhill Drive,
Columbia, SC 29203
Selphdiann@yahoo.com

A Note From Our Treasurer:

Thank you, ladies, for your contributions to help the missions we support as UMW. During this pandemic, your help made a difference!!!!

Please remember to send in your 2nd Quarter remittances for reporting period March 1, 2021-May 31, 2021 by **June 5, 2021**. If the remittances are not received by June 5th, 2021, they will be counted in the 3rd Quarter reporting period - 06/01/2021- 08/31/2021.

Money Sent to Conference January 1,2020-December 9, 2020 :

(Money Received from Local Churches/ Love Offerings)

Pledges:	\$46,778.96
Wallace Family Life:	\$6,999.00
Bethlehem Columbia:	\$4,851.00
Bethlehem Spartanburg:	\$3,993.00
Killingsworth:	\$6,643.00
Special Mission Recognition:	\$1,440.00
World Thanks Offering	\$4,261.58
Call to Prayer and Self Denial	\$3,607.20
A Brighter Future for Children	\$95.00
Assembly Offering	\$50.00
Conference Love Offering	\$145.00
Crusade Scholarship	\$45.00
District Love Offering	\$85.00
Gift in Memory	\$865.00
Gift in Mission	\$650.00
Magazine Fund	\$45.00
Scarritt-Bennett Center	\$45.00
UMCOR	\$450.00
Legacy Fund	\$150.00
Total	\$81,198.74

Mission Special Emphasis:

February - Wallace Family Life Center

April - Columbia Bethlehem Community Center

September - Killingsworth

November - Bethlehem Center Spartanburg

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Tiffany Phillips

Columbia District Treasurer

2336 Hard Scrabble Rd

Columbia, SC 29223

Social Action Coordinator Report

Greetings My UMW Sisters,

I think 2020 has shown us that we are stronger than we probably would have imagined; we are more than conquerors through Him that loves us. It's a "new" year. We continue to live in unprecedented times. I'm trusting we will move forward in fulfilling our mission in 2021 with the same zeal we did in 2020. We did things differently, but we got things done. Thank you Columbia District United Methodist Women!

The national body of UMW have selected two mission priorities, Just Energy and Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline. Columbia District has selected Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline as a priority focus mission.

Ctrl & Click on Icon to Download Document 

The school-to-prison pipeline is a term describing how children and youth of color are rerouted by systems and institutions and funneled away from educational success towards the criminal justice system.

To successfully interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline, we must resist efforts to criminalize children of color and move towards comprehensive, community-rooted solutions that offer genuine safety for all children.

We encouraged UMW units to take advantage of the different digital media such as ZOOM to join with other UMW units to educate ourselves on the issue, take steps to increase awareness of the issue and work together to address this mission priority. The UMW national website is a great resource <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/racial-justice/school-to-prison-pipeline>.

A new year with new opportunities. The ending of the old year didn't bring an end to the COVID-19 global pandemic or the nation's social unrest or the cry of the needy... Many challenges still await us. Still so much uncertainty but we can take comfort in knowing we serve an omnipotent, loving God who remains the same.

Please check the United Methodist Women page on the www.UMCSC.org website for links to recordings of the Legislative Advocacy Day sessions and updates on our Legislative Activity. You are also encouraged to email LVE2551@sccoast.net to be added to the Legislative Alert email list."

The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8.

Peace and Blessings

Patricia Armstrong

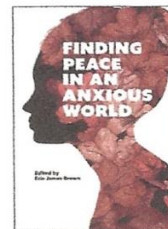
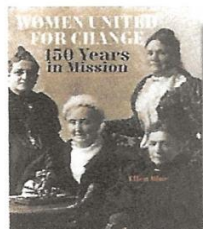
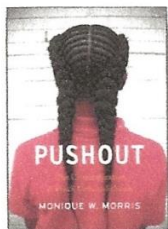
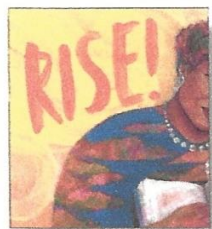
Columbia District Social Action Coordinator

Program Resources Report

I hope everyone is enjoying reading books from the UMW Reading Program. I am including in this report the books from our reading list that are available at the Richland County and Lexington County Libraries. I hope many of you will take advantage of this free resource for our books.

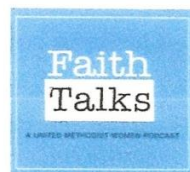
Let me encourage you to read books designated as Bonus Books. As always Bonus Books count as two books. For 2021-2022, a few of the Bonus Books are also current mission studies for Mission u. For more information about *Women United for Change* and *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*, visit unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-studies.

- *Rise!: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People*, Maya Angelou by Bethany Hegedus counts as two books in the category Leadership Development.
- *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* by Monique W. Morris (as well as the Leader's Guide by Vanessa M. Wilson) counts as two books in the category Social Action.
- *Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission* by Ellen Blue counts as two books in the category Nurturing for Community.
- *Finding Peace in an Anxious World* edited by Erin James-Brown counts as two books in the category Spiritual Growth.
- Listen to three Faith Talks podcasts (see details below) and the trio will count as two.



FAITH TALKS: A PODCAST JUST FOR YOU ...

Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope and love into action. Check out interviews with United Methodist Women mission studies' authors and more at: unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks



Mission studies are United Methodist Women curricula for Mission u, a transformative learning program offered around the country; to learn more, go to unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-u.

To purchase mission studies, go to: umwmissionresources.org



Mary Nell Trussell

Columbia District Program Resources

2021 Reading Program Books in the Lexington County Library

Education for Mission

The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan by Joan DiCicco

Leadership Development

Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism by Carolyn B. Helsel

#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women by Lisa Charleyboy & Mary Beth Leatherdale

Rise: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou by Bethany Hegedus

Nurturing for Community

The Bird Boys: A Delpha Wade and Tom Phelan Mystery by Lisa Sandlin

The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

Indian No More by Charlene Winning McManis with Trad Sorell

Sulwe by Lupita Nyong'o

Galapagos Girl by Marsha Diane Arnold

Let's Work: Mexican Folk Art by Cynthia Weill

Our Celebracion! By Susan Middleton Elya

Social Action

For Such A Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness After the Charleston Massacre by Rev. Sharon Risher

Girl Gone Missing by Marcie R. Rendon

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

Social Action

Crocodiles Crossing: A Search for Home by Yoeiri Slegers

Spiritual Growth

Adamant: Finding Truth in a Universe of Opinions by Lisa Bevere

They Call Me Guero: A Border Kid's Poems by David Bowles

God, Where are You? Finding strength and purpose in your wilderness by John Bevere

2021 Reading Program Books in the Richland County Library

Education for Mission

The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan by Joan DiCicco

Leadership Development

Failing Boldly: How Falling Down in Ministry Can Be the Start of Rising Up
by Christian Coons

#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women edited by Lisa
Charleyboy & Mary Beth Leatherdale

The Path Between Us by Suzanne Stabile

Nurturing for Community

Galapagos Girl by Marsha Diane Arnold

The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

Indian No More by Charlene McManis with Traci Sorell

Sulwe by Lupita Nyong'o

The Storm-Tossed Family: How the Cross Reshapes the Homes by Russell
Moore

Social Action

Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community by
Leah Gunning-Francis

For Such a Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness After the Charleston
Massacre by Rev. Sharon Risher

Girl Gone Missing by Marcie R. Rendon

Rest in Power by Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin

Social Action

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

Spiritual Growth

Adamant: Finding Truth in a Universe of Opinions by Lisa Bevere

Beyond Loneliness: The Gift of God's Friendship by Trebor Hudson

Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home by Traci Smith

One Day I Wrote Back: Interacting with Scripture Through Creative Writing
by Jane Herring

They Call Me Guero: A Border Kid's Poems by David Bowles

Reading Program Books at the Richland County Library

2020 Leadership Development

Vital Voices: The Power of Women Leading Change Around the World

By Alyse Nelson

Which Way Lord? By Robert Fuquay ebook

2020 Nurturing for Community

Glory Happening: Finding the Divine in Everyday Places by Kaitlin B. Curtice

Tilly and the Crazy Eights by Monique Grey Smith ebook

2020 Social Action

Loaded: Disarming the Second Amendment by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz ebook

Storming the Wall: Climate Change, Migration and Homeland Security

By Todd Miller ebook

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Olue Bonus Book

The Water Walker by Joanne Robertson

What Comes with the Dust by Gharbi M. Mustafa ebook

Where Will I Live by Rosemary McCarney ebook

2020 Spiritual Growth

God Unbound: Wisdom From Galatians by Elaine Heath ebook

The Magnificent Story: Uncovering a Gospel of Beauty, Goodness and Truth

By James Bryan Smith ebook

Reading Program Books in the Lexington County Library

2020 Nurturing for Community

Owen and Eleanor Move In by H.M.Bouwman

2020 Social Action

Midnight Teacher by Janet Halfmann

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

Where Will I Live? By Rosemary McCarney

2020 Spiritual Growth

The Watcher by Nikki Grimes

2019 Education for Mission

Threading My Prayer Rug by Sabeeha Rehman

2019 Nurturing for Community

The Same Sky: A Novel by Amanda Eyre Ward

Audio and ebook

2019 Social Action

Where Do We Go From Here by Martin Luther King

The Feathered Bone: A Novel by Julie Cantrell (Large Print)

2019 Leadership Development

Hands on the Freedom Plow edited by Faith L. Hosaert

2018 Education for Mission

A House in the Sky by Amanda Lindhout & Sara Corbett

Without you, There is No Us by Suki Kim

2018 Nurturing for Community

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

The Book of Joy by Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu

2018 Spiritual Growth

Adventure of Ascent by Luci Shaw

Tattered and Mended by Cynthia Ruchti

News from Education and Interpretation



Wallace Family

If your church wanted to help them build a ramp, write a check payable to Columbia District UMW, put **Wallace** in memo, and mail to:

Tiffany Phillips, Columbia District Treasurer
2336 Hard Scrabble Rd
Columbia, SC 29223

Used Stamps & Soda/Pop Tabs

Please email me or call me at 803-629-4503. I can meet your unit to pick up the used stamps and/or tabs.

Note on the stamps - Trim the used stamps 1/4 of an inch around perforation.

Cool Fact about the soda/pop tabs: The tabs go to the Ronald McDonald House Greenville, where they make unique bracelets. The money made from selling the bracelets helps a family stay for one night.

I have attached The Columbia Bethlehem Center winter newsletter and a report from the Spartanburg Bethlehem Center showing us what they are doing for their community.

I have also attached the Mission Today Form for your guidance as you go forward in this new year.

Rhonda Washington

Columbia District Education and Interpretation Coordinator



AN INSIDE LOOK:



During the midst of a global pandemic, Columbia Bethlehem Community Center remained true to its mission to meet educational, cultural, recreational and spiritual needs of children and families in the Midlands while encouraging them to use their individual gifts to make a positive difference in their lives and in their communities.



We adapted to the needs of those in the communities we serve and created programs that would benefit them throughout this unique and difficult time.

In the spring of 2020, we implemented the Community Feeding Program. On June 15, 2020, we opened our doors up to offer FREE lunch and breakfast for students under 18 and their parents - meaning that anyone in need of a meal was welcome to CBCC. We prepared an average of at least 60 meals per day. During the months of June, July and August we served at least 6,300 meals, these included breakfast and lunch for seven days a week to over 50 families.

This initiative is powered through Francis Burns UMC. Annually we host this program, this year we are using a grab and go method in addition to offering our participants food for the

weekend as well. This was an option for families in the area throughout the summer and fall months.

In partnership with Junior League of Columbia and Delivering Goods, we hosted a clothing drive to benefit working women, teachers, students and families in Columbia. New clothing items were available at no cost to men, women and children of all sizes. Community members were welcomed to come shop at our invite-only boutique style set up.

With adjustments, we will continue to offer some signature programs to the community, such as "Ready, Set, Read", Bible Study, and holiday community gatherings.

Stay tuned for more events, programs and ways to get involved by connecting with us on Facebook. If you have any questions or if you would like to donate or partner with us, please email cbccexecutive@umcsc.org.



308 McRae Street
Columbia, SC 29203



[facebook.com/CBCCServes](https://www.facebook.com/CBCCServes)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Greetings Community Partners & Friends,

I hope that this New Year brings happiness, peace and health to you and your loved ones.

Like most of you, we had to make major changes in our 2020 programming due to COVID-19. We continue to manage our programs around the evolving needs of those in our community.

Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

As things continue to change, CBCC is open to working together to impact those in need.

We appreciate the confidence that all of our donors, volunteers and supporters have placed in us and in our work. We will strive to be better each day and look forward to working with you in 2021.

Please continue to stay safe,

**KARA P.
SIMMONS**

The Bethlehem Center – Spartanburg

February 2021

Greetings and virtual hugs from the Bethlehem Center-Spartanburg. In November, we participated virtually in the Sertoma Club's Annual "Auction for a Cause" fundraiser for non-profits. We had 88 entries and all were bid on. While we did not receive money from ticket sales or a percentage of the beverage bar, we were still able to raise just under \$9,500.

Our After-School Christmas celebration was conducted as a "drive-through" event with the gift bags prepared by board members handed out to the children through their car windows. The Highland Community sponsored a Christmas bike give-away at the Center and were able to gift 148 bikes, scooters and Big Wheels, to children in the community.

Our Board of Directors have been meeting virtually and will continue to do so thru March. At that time we will re-evaluate the status of the virus and make plans accordingly. Due to the loss of several board members, we are currently seeking new board members who can bring a fresh perspective, new energy or have business/community contacts who can help us meet our needs. Current Board members were asked to set a personal goal for 2021 and submit it to Sue Owens, our Board Chair.

Ms. Cecelia McAlister has been hired as the Director for the Highland Early Learning Center. While we are awaiting approval of the renovation plans for the building, which is across the street from the Center, Ms. McAlister has been busy compiling all of the many manuals, handbooks, schedules, job descriptions, and handouts that will be needed when the Center opens up this summer.

Our S.O.A.R. After-school and Virtual Voyagers programs have resumed for the second half of the 2020-2021 school year and our seniors have been able to return to the center for their "Sewing to Sow" program but are being limited to six (6) attendees as a safety precaution.

Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic March 2020 thru January 2021, the Center has been able to assist 725 individuals with \$37,270.90 worth of food, toiletries, paper products, diapers and more. Through the Cares Act Funding, which was awarded by the City of Spartanburg, the Center has been able to assist 25 residents with over \$6,465.00 for rental assistance. These individuals were directly impacted by Covid and were at risk of becoming homeless. Most suffered from job losses or a vast reduction in hours due to the pandemic.

On behalf of the Center, I would like to thank each of you for your continued support and prayers. I am also looking forward to the time when we can once again come together in body and spirit and NOT by looking into the camera eye of our electronic devices.

Grace and Peace

Barbara Holley, Conference Representative

The Bethlehem Center-Spartanburg

MISSION TODAY ACTION FORM

Unit President: _____ Date _____

Unit Name _____ Number of members in unit _____

Units, which include all circles, must complete at **least 10 of the following items**. All units must complete #1.

Your unit

- ___ 1. Made and met its Pledge to Mission.
- ___ 2. Used the Prayer Calendar at each General Membership Meeting of the unit to pray for people in mission and for our mission work with women, children and youth.
- ___ 3. Added at least one or more members to its roll.
- ___ 4. Had at least one member who subscribes to Response Magazine.
- ___ 5. Had at least one member (other than a conference or district officer) attend Mission u and/or a district or local mission study.
- ___ 6. Had at least one member (**other than a conference or district officer**) attend the District Annual Meeting.
- ___ 7. Had at least one member (**other than a conference or district officer**) attend the Conference Annual Meeting.
- ___ 8. Had at least two members who wrote to at least five people listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once during the year.
- ___ 9. Participated in the Campaign for Children.
- ___ 10. Is a Five Star Unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving.
- ___ 11. Had at least one person complete one of the plans in the Reading Program.
- ___ 12. Invited a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one-unit meeting during the year.

Your unit, circle, or subgroup

- ___ 13. Included a Response Moment where an article from Response Magazine was lifted up as a way to tell the mission story in at least three meetings
- ___ 14. Had at least two programs from the Program Book.
- ___ 15. Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least two ways.

Report due August 19, 2021.

Please send completed reports to: **Rhonda Washington, 131 Hawks Nest Court, Columbia, SC 29212** or email to: **rhondawashington@hotmail.com**

News from Membership, Nurture, and Outreach

URGENT: Local Presidents and MN&O Coordinators Please Read Carefully

We don't have a current MNO officer, so I am filling in for her and please send any questions or information to me, Debra Schooler.

Below is a note from our New York office about completing the 2020 Census! It is so important that we are all counted!

“This year we will be changing the name of the census and testing the name “Unit Survey”. Over the past 5 years, the form has taken shape to be more than a number reporting tool and more of a questionnaire regarding the health and vitality of the unit. The past (3) years we have asked questions about what does it mean to be a thriving unit and what attributes do you relate to thriving. This year, we are asking the unit presidents to self-select in what area(s) their members/units are thriving. This will help influence what it means to “thrive” at the district and unit level as well as inform the national office and conference leadership on strengths and areas for improvement”.

From Maria Rodriguez!

If you need help with completing the census, please let me know; so I can help. Let's be diligent and be counted. We want Columbia District to shine.

Here is the link to the census survey. Remember: The survey has not been accepted until you receive a thank you from the National Office.

2020 Unit Survey Link: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2020

The final deadline for reporting will be March 30, 2021.

I look forward to working with you as we get this information recorded and counted.

Thank you for all you do!!!

If anyone is interested in serving on the Columbia District UMW team as the MN&O officer, please talk with the nominations committee.

Debra Schooler, President
Columbia District

The conference is looking for a few good women! If you are interested in serving as a conference officer, please fill out the attached form and send to Kathy Roys!!

**South Carolina Conference UMW
Potential Leader Form**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

District: _____ Ethnicity _____

Age: 20's___ 30's___ 40's___ 50's___ 60's___ 70's___ 80's___

Employed?_____

Professional Skills/ Job Experience: _____

Offices held in United Methodist Women:

Local Unit _____

District _____

Conference _____

Jurisdiction/National _____

Additional experience within the church or community other than UMW:

Which offices are of most interest to you?

President___ Vice President___ Secretary___ Treasurer___ Nominations___

Communications___ Spiritual Growth___ Social Action___ Program Resources___

Education & Interpretation (Missions)_____ Membership, Nurture & Outreach_____

Charter for Racial Justice Committee_____

Are you able to participate in online meetings? _____

Are you able to travel for meetings and events? _____

When would you be available to serve? _____

Are you able and willing to use your gifts and talents to uphold and strengthen the Purpose of United Methodist Women? _____

Please return this form to a Committee on Nominations member or send to:

Kathy Roys (Chair of Nominations)

107 Hickory Trace Dr.

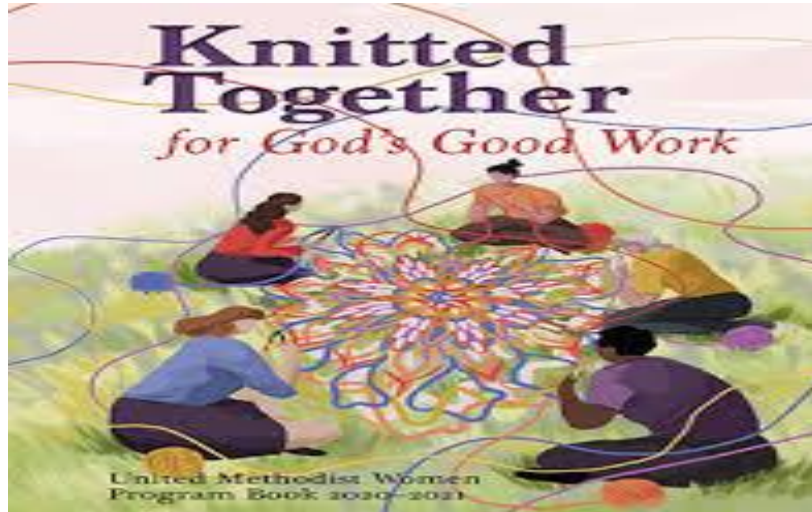
Goose Creek, SC 29445

Kathy5339@att.net

Annual Women's Day Celebration

Sponsored by Francis Burns United Methodist Women

Theme:



Scriptural References: John 15:1-8; Romans 8:28



Virtual Worship Service

Live stream on Face Book and YouTube

Sunday, March 21, 2021

9:00AM

Speaker: Mrs. Carrie R. Murray

Vice President – Columbia District United Methodist Women

All ladies are asked to contribute \$100 to help support United Methodist Women Mission Projects that advocate for women, children and youth.

Francis Burns United Methodist Church

5616 Farrow Road

Columbia, SC 29203

Rev. Geneva Stafford, Pastor

Save the Date!

Join us for a **Limitless** party on **July 3rd, 2021**. We are planning to have a party to reconnect with our Limitless young ladies and celebrate with games and surprises for our girls. The zooming fun will begin at 10:00 am!!!!

Please send the names of your youth to Debra Schooler, debrajschooler@gmail.com so the team can send an invitation to the girls!! All Districts are invited and encouraged to participate.

Anyone interested in joining our Limitless Team, please let Lavonne James or Debra Schooler know!! We need some young people to take leadership roles as our Limitless Team moves forward this year.

Blessings to you!!

Debra Schooler
Limitless Group Leader

Columbia District United Methodist Women Officers 2021

President.....Debra Schooler (Lebanon)
schooldeb4@aol.com

Vice PresidentCarrie Murray (Francis Burns)
cmrmurra@bellsouth.net

Secretary.....Diann Selph (I. DeQuincey Newman)
Selphdiann@yahoo.com

Treasurer.....Tiffany Phillips (Rehoboth/Columbia)
tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com

Communications Coordinators.....Rhonda & Sharee Washington (Francis Burns)
rhondawashington@hotmail.com & shareewash@hotmail.com

Spiritual Growth Coordinator.....Bridgette Gruber (Shady Grove)
chesterj.gruber@outlook.com

Social Action Coordinator.....Patricia Armstrong (Wesley)
aggie8711@aol.com

Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator.....Vacant

Education & Interpretation Coordinator.....Rhonda Washington (Francis Burns)
rhondawashington@hotmail.com

Secretary, Program Resources.....Mary Nell Trussell (Mt. Hebron)
mntrussell83@gmail.com

Historian.....Pat Hoesly (Northeast)
pathoesly@yahoo.com

Members Committee on Nominations

Class of 2021 Chairperson.....Linda Kennedy (Francis Burns)
lhkhome@sc.rr.com

Class of 2022.....Christine Porter (Mt. Hebron)
hcporter@sc.rr.com

Class of 2024.....Stella Chisholm (Francis Burns)
starrjackson8@yahoo.com

Class of 2024.....Vilma Cobb (Rehoboth/Columbia)
Vilma29223@live.com

Class of 2024.....Becky Travis (Union)
mail@bobtravis.com

Cluster Leaders

Cluster 1.....Robin Andrews (Lexington)
robinandrews1956@aol.com

Cluster 2.....Vanessa Key (Brookland)
vangekey1@aol.com

Cluster 3.....Evelyn Anne Neal (Chapin)
mamaneal@aol.com

Cluster 4.....Faye Love (Bluff Road)
nfayelove.com

Cluster 5.....Karen Furr (Bethel/Columbia)
smoak041093@hotmail.com

Cluster 6.....Sandra Love (Grace)
slgtar@aol.com

COLUMBIA DISTRICT CHURCHES BY CLUSTERS

COLUMBIA DISTRICT CHURCHES BY CLUSTER

CLUSTER 1

Robin Andrews

robinandrews1956@aol.com

Beulah (Gilbert)

Boiling Springs

Faith

Gilbert

Lexington

Mt. Horeb

Pond Branch

Red Bank

Rehoboth (Gilbert)

Shiloh (Gilbert)

CLUSTER 2 Vanessa Key

Vangekey1@aol.com

Brookland

Cayce

Green Street

Main Street

Mt. Hebron

Platt Springs

St. Mark

Trinity (West Columbia)

Washington Street

Wesley

CLUSTER 3 Evelyn Ann Neal

mamaneal@aol.com

Ashland

Chapin

Grace

ID Newman

Salem (Ballentine)

Shady Grove

St. John

Union

Virginia Wingard

CLUSTER 4

Faye Love

nfayelove@aol.com

Asbury

Bluff Road

Heyward Street UMC

Lebanon

McLeod

Mill Creek

Shandon

Suber Marshall

Trenholm Road

Whaley Street

CLUSTER 5 Karen Furr

smoak041093@hotmail.com

Bethel (Columbia)

College Place

Francis Burns

Northeast

Rehoboth (Columbia)

St. James

West Kershaw

(Ebenezer, Salem, Smyrna)

Windsor

CLUSTER 6 Sandra Love

slgtar@aol.com

Bethel (Winnsboro)

Beulah (Blythewood)

Fairlawn

First

Greenbrier

Gordon Memorial

Mt. Pleasant

St. Luke

Trinity (Blythewood)

2021

Calendar of Events

March 6 th	Day Apart Retreat	Virtual
April:	Columbia Bethlehem Center Special Emphasis	
April 20 th	District Executive Committee Meeting	Virtual
April 24 th	The Spiritual Growth Retreat	Virtual
June 15 th	District Executive Committee Meeting	Virtual
May 15 th	Come Together Be Together	Virtual
July 24 th , July 31 st , & August 7 th	Mission u	Virtual
September:	Killingsworth Special Emphasis	
September 18 th	District Annual Meeting	Virtual
October:	Bethlehem Center Spartanburg Special Emphasis	
October 19 th	District Executive Committee Meeting	Virtual
November 6 th	Conference Officer Training	Virtual





Columbia District UMC

Rhonda & Sharee Washington

4908 Colonial Drive
Columbia, SC 29203

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FIRST LAST

TITLE

COMPANY

ADDRESS

CITY, st zip

Rhonda & Sharee Washington, Columbia District Communications Coordinators

"She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong." Proverbs 31:16-17



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION