



St Marks UMW Update- March 2019



“St Mark’s United Methodist Women” monthly gatherings take place September through May. They are held the second Tuesday each month.

Morning meetings: 9-11 am. Evening meetings: 7-9 pm. Childcare is provided! To register for childcare, please click on the link below:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignup/10c094ba9a722a13-childcare>

All are invited to join us for fun and fellowship!

thankful for those who have been committed and connected for over 15 years AND welcoming those who are new to UMW as an organization. This requires concerted effort on all fronts. As one who spends most of my professional life driving the right change, I am so thankful for the individual effort of every women in this organization doing their part as led by our Christ Jesus. It is the classic example of the powerful change that can occur when we each do our part and come together for one cause. Praise Jesus for your everyday energy to His cause and in His name.

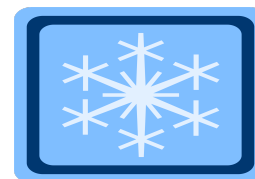
Holly Moore, UMW President
Hem2912@aol.com

The President’s Corner

While in some ways it seems winter has drugged on forever, here we are in the Lenten season!

UMW at St Marks is alive and well. Making our mark in new mission needs supporting women and girls who are victims of sex trafficking which Susan Salter was bringing to our attention for the last five years.

UMW at St Marks is impacting this challenging mission through The Hope Center and Ascent 121 in marked ways. At the same time, our loyalty to Brightwood Community Center and East Tenth St Youth Center continues with vigor. This is the challenge. Right? Continuing to support those missions that count on us while at the same time responding to new needs that catch our attention and passion. I am so



Rides to meetings/carpools

It's still winter time unfortunately, and it is especially a time where some members would really appreciate carpooling or may need rides to meetings. We have members who have

signed up in our survey to provide rides, and we would be happy to coordinate this with those who need rides. Please let me know if you need a ride to the day meetings contact Sarah Lasbury 219-718-5957 sblasbury@comcast.net. For evening meetings, Sonjia Clodfelder 765-744-6035, clod1725js@aol.com

2019 Pledges for UMW

Through the UMW channels of mission giving, we can help to provide hope and security to marginalized people both locally and beyond. In this season of giving, UMW members can thank God through our service, prayers, pledges and offerings. Your 2019 Pledge will help support the numerous mission programs of St. Mark's UMW.

Cash donations or checks are welcome. Checks should be made payable to St Mark's UMW. For questions, please contact Karen Demler, UMW Treasurer @ 317-407-2339 or karend21856@gmail.com. We are thankful for the enthusiastic, involved members of St. Mark's United Methodist Women.



UMW Reading Program "Your Windows to the World" St Marks Church Library

Every year the United Methodist Women's National Office recommends a diverse range of books with the

intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts. This program organizes books into five categories. Our UMW Reading Program group selects a book from each of the categories and meets five times a year for fellowship and book discussion.

The five categories are:
Education for Mission
Leadership Development
Nurturing for Community
Social Action
Spiritual Growth

The next UMW reading program meeting is Monday, March 25 at 7 PM in the church library. The topic is leadership.

The other 3 dates for 2019 are:
April 29, August 26, October 28

You are welcome to attend and learn more about the program even you have not read a book.

Check out the National UMW Reading Program website at:
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram>

Do not hesitate to contact Susan Salter at Sbf5salter@att.net or 317-848-1194 if you have any questions.

Update Articles

Please submit all articles for the "Update" to Peggy-Anne Hoy at pahat664@gmail.com

Distribution List Changes

Please submit any changes to Laura McCloughan at laura.mccloughan@gmail.com

Social Action: Human Sexuality and Our Faith

As the United Methodist Church grapples with how to welcome and include LGBTQ people in the life and ministry of the church, we are reminded by Jesus' commandment *"that you love one another as I have loved you."* (John 15:12)

Sadly, LGBTQ youth often feel unloved; at home, at school and in their community. They are frequently victims of bullying and threats of violence. Subsequent feelings of fear and shame often lead to higher rates of depression and suicide. LGBTQ youth are:

- *6 times more likely to experience symptoms of depression than the general population.*
- *4 times more likely to attempt suicide than their straight peers.*
- *8 times more likely to have attempted suicide if rejected by their family after coming out.* (Sources: The National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Center for Disease Control)

As a church we *"deplore acts of hate and violence against groups or persons based on sexual orientation or gender identity."* (UMC Social Principles, P162). And as followers of Jesus Christ we are called to be in ministry for and with all people, especially the rejected and marginalized.

For more information on how you can make a difference in the lives of LGBTQ youth in our community, visit the Indiana Youth Group (IYG) at <http://www.indianayouthgroup.org/>. There you will find opportunities for

advocacy, volunteerism and giving to *"create safe spaces, provide wellness programming, and educate LGBTQ youth and the community."* (IYG Mission Statement).

Submitted by Kate King

March Mission Focus:

Letters of Encouragement for the Teens of Ascent 121

Many of the teen human trafficking survivors served by Ascent 121 live in a secure residential recovery center for six to twelve months. Recovery can be lonesome and discouraging. Scripture and words of encouragement are sincerely appreciated by the girls.

Consider sending words of encouragement to these girls. You can include a message, a prayer, scripture verses, scripture coloring pages, or a bookmark.

You can use a card of your own or pick one up at the March meeting. You can return it at the March meeting or leave it in the UMW box in the church office.

Write Ascent 121 Teen on the outside of the envelope.

PLEASE, DO NOT SEAL THE ENVELOPE! The notes will be delivered to Ascent 121 at the end of March.

Ascent 121 Prayer Journey

The Ascent 121 Prayer Journey is an opportunity for you to drive through the near east side of Indianapolis and pray for areas affected by trafficking and exploitation.

Through this experience, you will learn about the different social systems and recovery services available to survivors. Guided prayer stops allow you to pray for survivors, teens at risk, and those involved in the many social services that serve these young people.

St. Mark's UMW is sponsoring a Prayer Journey on Saturday, April 27 from 9 am to 12 noon. The journey begins at West Morris Street Church. We will leave St. Mark's at 8:20, if you would like to go with a group. The Prayer Journey is best experienced with small groups in a car. Each person needs to sign up individually by visiting ascent121.org and clicking on "Get Involved".

For more information, please contact Linda Schenk at lschenk@att.net.

Brightwood Meal

Thanks to everyone who helped with the February meal at Brightwood. The kids always enjoy our Mexican taco salad. The next meal UMW will serve will be Thursday, March 21. The sign-up genius will come out about one week before that. We will be leaving church at 3:00 and should be back by 6 if anyone wants to go serve. Contact Kathi Hall, khall7401@sbcglobal.net with questions.

MIND, BODY and SPIRIT- Mental Health Awareness

The **final book discussion** in this series will be Andrew Solomon's The Noonday Demon, an Atlas of Depression. This book is very accessible and can also serve as a well-indexed reference on depression. We will listen to one of Andrew's podcasts prior to the discussion on Saturday, March 16, 2019 also at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mark's Rooms B/C.

UMW Interest Groups

A good portion of our monthly gathering is dedicated to breaking into small groups each with it's own topic of interest. These groups offer an opportunity to get to know fellow UMW members with common interests to share, learn and grow as fellow Christians.

The following interest groups normally meet each month following our regular meeting.

Morning Interest Groups

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

This group will be studying the book *Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living* by Jessica Stonecypher. The study will explore our relationship with creation, others and ourselves. We will engage in conversations with Biblical texts, current realities and possible ways to respond. Facilitator: Mary Ann Moman

BOOKWORMS

Bookworms is the UMW morning book discussion group. The book selected for March is ***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Book Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows**. While the books are seldom of a religious nature we will ask the question, "Do you see God's grace or redemption at work in the book?"

Facilitator: Gail Lee

MAKE IT AND TAKE IT

For the month of March, we will be finding our "Irish". ✿ Our project will be stamp painting. Come join us! Facilitated by Marilyn Roberts and Kathy Dycus.

SAMS (School Age Moms)

We are continuing our new group for Moms. SAMs (School Age Moms) will meet two Tuesdays a month. There will be a discussion group for the UMW morning and evening gatherings, and then we will meet the last Tuesday of the month. We will be using "*Where Moms Connect*" as our guide. Facilitator: Ali Lemberg

Evening Interest Groups

BOOKMARKERS

Join us at BookMarkers, the evening book discussion group. We read anything and everything, and enjoy a lively discussion, fellowship and support. Please come, even if you haven't had a chance to read the book. We add an extra meeting in May and in the summer. The book for **March** is ***Five Quarters of an Orange* by Joanne Harris**

List for the season:

April – Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
May – Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig
Summer – The Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Relly

Contact Deb Skinner,
dskins25@hotmail.com or call
317-574-1997 with any questions.

SAMS SCHOOL AGE MOMS)

Same format as morning group.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

Facilitator: Applying Biblical study to our everyday lives. This group uses a series of videos and study guides to help us apply the teachings of Jesus to our life challenges. We will be using the DVD *Israel's Mission* by Ray Vander Laan which explores welcoming strangers and prodigals the Lord longs to embrace. Facilitator: Beth McGill
Beth McGill



United Methodist Women would like to wish a very happy birthday to all those who are celebrating this month:

Diane Smith 3/3
Joyce Click & Lisa Smith 3/7
Leigh Ann Braley 3/9
Rodene Gosselin 3/10
Elaine Lentz 3/12

Katie Kelly Katie 3/15
Gayla Breslauer 3/21
Connie Bell & Jan Gappa 3/23 Becky
Bultemeier 3/27
Nyla Johnson & Marilyn Kruger 3/28
Trish Boger 3/29
Debra Uhl 3/30

**Please let us know if we
left anyone out.**

ASK A FRIEND

This year the Membership, Nurture and Outreach Ministry has been working on extending invitations to other women to attend a UMW meeting, become involved in a project of UMW or come to an event.

The year is over half way through, and we want to remind members to think about someone who might be interested in being involved with St. Mark's United Methodist Women. It is such a great way to carry out missions, interact with other great members and just enjoy the group.

Ask a Friend so they can benefit as we do in the joy of being a member.

. With faith, hope & love, Membership, Nurture and Outreach Chairs Sarah Lasbury, Linda Mitchell-Powell and Sonjia Clodfelder



We would like to welcome the following:

Erin Adams

Karen Dodd

Lori Eber

Liz Goodenough

Say hello to them when you see them.

Dessert Extravaganza

A huge thank you to all of you who baked, priced, sold and/or bought the delightful desserts to make the Dessert Extravaganza a success. We raise 505 dollars for missions!!!!

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, letters, hugs, donations and everything else you have done for me at this difficult time. I especially appreciate everyone who helped with the meal after the service on a day when there were so many other things going on at church. I am so thankful for my St. Mark's family and all the love you have shown.

With Sincere appreciation,

Kathi Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Mother /Daughter/Friend Banquet
Tuesday May 14th 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Wesley Hall
“A Purse Full of Blessings”- more details to follow.

Trinkets and Treasures

Friday 5/24 and Saturday 5/25

I have been asked to explain what Trinkets and Treasures is. We realized not all ladies are aware of this mission.

Trinkets and Treasures is UMW's largest fundraiser. It is a giant rummage sale held Friday May 24th 8am to 4 pm and Saturday May 25 8 am to noon.

Belongings can be brought to the church starting the Sunday May 19th. It is a monumental undertaking to sort, price and display all these treasures which is done Monday through Thursday. If you have an hour or two to spare, all help is welcome. A perk of working is that if you see something that you *must* have, you can purchase it before the sale to the public starts on the Friday.

We do not accept clothing. Clothing can be bagged for “**Collect and Connect**” which is held on Saturday May 25th. For every bag of clothing that we collect for Goodwill, we get a voucher which we give to donate to missions such as IHN.

Trisha Staneart has offered her garage to store your treasures if you do not have room.



Spring Retreat

2019 St. Mark's UMW Retreat

Saturday, June 1st

10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Teter Lodge at Teter Organic Farm

10980 E. 221st Street, Noblesville

Want to get your hands dirty? Join with other women of St. Mark's in our faith journeys as we help at the farm, enjoy the beauty of Mother Nature and plant “seeds of hope” in our souls. Mark your calendar and set aside time for You! Submitted by the UMW Retreat Committee

Reminder- The Spring Mission Messenger which is the Indiana UMW newsletter is available via link on the St Mark's UMW website.

2019 St Mark's UMW Board

President	Holly Moore
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Vice President of Fund Raising	Kathy Dycus
Recording Secretary	Trisha Stanearth
Corresponding Secretary	Beth Montag
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Assistant Treasurer	Ada Hoffmeister
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Mission Coordinator/Spiritual Growth (PM)	Miriam Taylor
Mission Coordinator/Education & Interpretation	Linda Shenk
Mission Coordinator/Membership Nurture & Outreach AM	Sarah Lasbury
Mission Coordinator/Membership Nurture & Outreach PM	Linda Mitchell-Powell
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Presley	
Hospitality Coordinator PM	Kathleen and Kit Zelner
Bulletin Board Coordinator	Kathleen Zelner
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Pianist PM	Pat Parks
Songleader, AM	Lydia Fourman
Webmaster	Laura McCloughan
Members at Large	Kathi Hall
	Mary Etta
	Sandy Melin

Prayer Calendar

This year, we celebrate United Methodist Women and the General Board of Global Ministries as we consider how the legacy of mission compels us forward. Amidst the harsh demands of the world, mission offers a vision of a full and abundant life for all individuals and communities in partnership with the God of Shalom. Shalom, a Hebrew word, is often translated as "peace," but also implies harmony and wholeness. Missionaries proclaim good tidings through their words, deeds and sometimes their resistant silence. Often working against challenging forces in their community, culture and even church,

missionaries continue to seek shalom and to pursue fullness of life – for the transformation of the world. In this new year, let us all respond to God’s call to work for shalom in our own contexts.

MISSION FOCUS	BIRTHDAYS
MAR 10 Della Lamb Community Services, Kansas City, Mo.	MAR 10
MAR 11 Russia. United Methodist Women of Russia. Susannah Wesley Care Center – offering women transformative education, counseling, legal and financial advice, life skills training and spiritual growth experiences.	MAR 11 Juliet Choi (DHMR)
MAR 12 Antigua. Gilbert Agricultural and Rural Development Center (GARD). Youth Empowerment – offering professional training to Caribbean youth in agricultural, business and entrepreneurial skills.	MAR 12 Martha Knight (S), Pierre Diamba Many (M), Elizabeth McCormick (M), Cristian Schlick (GMF Intl)
MAR 13 Democratic Republic of Congo. Global Network of Women Peacebuilders. Economic Empowerment in the DRC – providing job-readiness skills and business community connections to young women in South Kivu, DRC, and advocating programs of economic justice.	MAR 13 Tatiana Dwyer (S), Janet Horman (M), Marilia Alves Schuller (M), Tinashe Tembo (GMF Intl), Julian Uzumefune (S)er (M), Tinashe Tembo (GMF Intl), Julian Uzumefune (S)
MAR 14 Central African Republic. Central African Republic Mission Initiative. Supporting mission work through church partners wherever there is the greatest need.	MAR 14 Valeria Deltreggia (S), Glen Kernell (S)
MAR 15 Chile. El Vergel Methodist Agricultural School Construction. Building two new classrooms and a dining hall in a 90-year-old school.	MAR 15 Osias Segura Guzman (M)
MAR 16 Dulac Community Center, Dulac, La.	MAR 16 Nan McCurdy (M)

Field of Work Categories: CCW = Church and Community Workers, DHMR = Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner, GH = Global Health, GMF Intl = Global Mission Fellows International, GMF US-2 = Global Mission Fellows US-2, HM = Home Missionaries, M = Missionaries, REPM = Racial Ethnic Plan Missionaries, RM = Regional Missionaries, S = Staff.

