



St Marks UMW Update- February 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!

The President’s Corner

Sisters in Mission,

I came across a prayer this week that I’d like to share. I’ve made a few changes but must give credit to this site for much of this. I pray it inspires you as it has me:

“Father, praise You for the gift of unity that the Spirit creates in our relationships! You place others perfectly in our lives, and inspire us as Christians to work together with the gifts that we have been blessed with. When we look at this special group through Your eyes, we see Your gifts fostered in us to further Your plans. The church doesn’t stand on any one person’s shoulders. Not one of us can further Your plans on our own. But together, we can complement each other’s strengths and cancel out our weaknesses. As a unified body focused on the gospel of Christ, we can do great things in Your honor as we

were purposed to do. Thank You for the courage of each voice that stands to be heard on some difficult issues in our troubled world. Lord, we believe that You will provide for us. We look forward to the ways that You will surprise and amaze us with Your faithfulness. The lives that You will touch and the people in this group You will use to brighten dark spaces and lift sad hearts. Our passion for discussion today is fueled by You, our Father, who with the same note of passion created us to be light to the world... color to dullness... life to dead places... and love to lost faces. Bless our work and our time. Guide our steps and our progress. Grant us the power of Your Holy Spirit to work together because it’s impossible to see past our human stubbornness without You.

Bless us Lord, as we leave here today, to take Your passion with us. Fan its flame after we part and inspire our best contributions. Remind us always of Your love, as we see our plans unfold and accomplish the goals inspired by You. Use our lives, Lord, to reach those who desperately need to know You love them. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.”

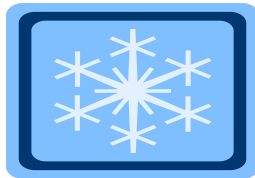
Holly Moore, UMW President
Hem2912@aol.com

Source: <https://www.crosswalk.com>

NOTICE

The United Methodist church will be having a special conference in St Louis Missouri on Feb 23 - 26, 2019 to decide on a plan regarding same sex marriage and the acceptance of LGBTQ clergy in the church.

To send an email to the 16 Indiana Delegates to the Special General Conference Feb. 23-26 is:
2019gcdelegation@inumc.org



Rides to meetings/carpools

It's winter time, 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 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

Announcement

Laura McCloughan has agreed to take on the role of WebMaster to help keep the distribution list updated.

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

February Mission Focus: Hope House Indy

UMW is continuing to support the women of Hope House. When human trafficking survivors arrive at the Hope House, they are in need of new and gently used clothing of all sizes. This can include new undergarments and socks. Look for a large tote marked for Hope House Clothing; it will be placed outside the church office. Clothing will be collected until the meeting on Tuesday Feb 12th. For questions, contact Linda Schenk at 812-454-0661 or lschenk@att.net

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 S.t 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 February is William Kent Krueger's *Ordinary Grace*. 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

In February we will be cooking a Valentine treat for your special valentine! Come and join the fun! 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 **February** is **Waking up White by Debby Irving**
List for the season:
March – *Five Quarters of an Orange* by Joanne Harris
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

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



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

Julie Gren, Jennifer Howell, Lori Roberts & Vicki Snyder 2/1
Barbie Schmenner 2/2
Becky Beckman, Joanne Herman 2/4
Mary Bennett, Anna Flohr, Joan Holtzberg & Dana Lawrence 2/5

Pam Bollier 2/7
 Jackie Rowell 2/8
 Ada Hoffmaster 2/9
 Judy Kline 2/10
 Holly Moore & Jennifer Fogo 2/13
 Jenny Wilkins 2/14
 Deb Ranek & Connie Tingley 2/15
 Jennifer Cawthorne, Karen Demler,
 Deb Forbes Jody Hooks &
 Jen Weeks 2/18
 Debbie Skinner 2/20
 Peggy Nicolai & Cathy Wilkinson 2/21
 Judy Bonnet 2/22
 Mary Gospel 2/25
 Bev Hendricks 2/26
 Rita Chreist 2/27

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

Please let us know if we left anyone out. We look forward to hearing from you. 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.

Upcoming Events



Dessert Extravaganza

YOUR SWEETHEART BAKE SALE
DESSERT EXTRAVAGANZA♥
ANNUAL UMW BAKE SALE on
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019
Ladies, please put on your thinking caps,
and think of your favorite baking
specialty and donate it to the annual bake
sale. We will be collecting baked goods
from 10:00 -Noon on Saturday, February
9. Donations may also be dropped off in
the narthex kitchen on Friday. This
fundraiser provides monetary resources
for our mission work!
Thanks for your help! For questions,
please contact Sandy Melin at
sandymelin01@gmail.com

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.

Spring Retreat

Trinkets and Treasures

Friday 5/24 and Saturday 5/25

It is a great time to start thinking about Spring Cleaning and decluttering your house. This is UMW's largest fundraiser!!! Clothing can be bagged for "Collect and Connect" which is on the Saturday.

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



A retreat will be held at Teter Organic Farm in Noblesville on Saturday June 1st from 10 am to 5 pm. The farm is an outreach program for Noblesville First UMC – their vision is “Rooted in Love, Connecting People, Planting Seeds of Hope”. We are hoping to tour the farm, do some volunteer work, hike the trails to the White River and enjoy our faith journey with other St. Mark’s women. In the meantime, check out teterorganicfarm.com.



2019 St Mark's UMW Board

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Vice President of Interest Groups & Programming
Vice President of Fund Raising
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Mission Coordinator/Spiritual Growth (AM)
Mission Coordinator/Spiritual Growth (PM)
Mission Coordinator/Education & Interpretation
Mission Coordinator/Membership Nurture & Outreach AM
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Karen Demler
Ada Hoffmeister
Kathy Deakyne
Miriam Taylor
Linda Shenk
Sarah Lasbury
Linda Mitchell-Powell
KathyLentz/Susan Salter
Teresa Ilten
Marilyn Roberts
Kathy Lentz/Barbie Schmenner
Peggy-Anne Hoy
Cathy Wilkinson/ Janice Presley
Kathleen and Kit Zelner
Kathleen Zelner
Pam Whitehead
Pat Parks
Lydia Fourman
Laura McCloughan
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

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| FEB 10 Camp Aldersgate, Little Rock, Ark. | FEB 10 Haniel Garibay (DHMR), Maria Maine (R), Alfred Nyan Zigbuo (DHMM) |
| FEB 11 Columbia. Clinton Rabb Clinic of the Methodist Church. Health Training for Women – training women in basic healthcare and economic survival skills. | FEB 11 Rukang Chikomb (M) |
| FEB 12 Sierra Leone. Council of Churches in Sierra Leone. Women’s Empowerment – helping Christian women in Sierra Leone work together to address gender-based violence within churches and communities. | FEB 12 Yelitza Aleman (S), Lucie Fortier (DHMR), Rachel Gabler (M), Enock Gustave (DHMR) |
| FEB 13 Uganda. Days for Girls. Sustainable Feminine Hygiene Production – helping the Uganda Days for Girls program gain full sustainability in the production of washable hygiene kits for girls. | FEB 13 |
| FEB 14 Bolivia. Health Projects in Bolivia. Providing health services and clean water for improved health. | FEB 14 Larry Kies (M), Florence Ogugua Mefor (M) |
| FEB 15 Bolivia. National Christian Formation and Children’s Ministry. Creating and publishing contextualized Bolivian Methodist Children’s Sunday school curriculum. | FEB 15 Amy Fuselier (S) |
| FEB 16 Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga | FEB 16 Andrew Lee (M), Sonia McDanile (S) |

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.