



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION



St Marks UMW Update- February 2021

“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.

Due to Covid 19, the Feb gathering will be done via Zoom.

NEW  **Zoom Link**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84198854746?pwd=SzltYW1WbXd2WXIRK2d0Mk9mRlk4dz09>

Meeting ID: 841 9885 4746
Passcode: 795233

Remember to write down the passcode as you may have to enter to join the meeting. If you have difficulty joining, please call the following people: Morning meeting- Steff Mabe at 317-374-2529, Evening meeting- Trisha Staneart at 317-430-4490 for technical assistance.

President’s Corner

Ah, February! The month of love. Nobody can escape from Cupid and his arrows of love, colorful butterflies, and chocolate. We often see images of red hearts used to depict love. Instead of using a heart to symbolize love, use a cross to symbolize true love.

When asked “How Big is the love of God?”, here’s what a couple of children said about God’s love.

“God’s love is so big, almost nobody can explain it,” says Jamie, age 8. “It’s bigger than 999,999,999 gallons of chocolate milk. No one really knows how big his love is, but all I know is that he loves us no matter what.”

“God’s love is bigger than people’s love, dogs’ love and everyone’s love,” says Catherine.

“I think God shows us love by providing pets that love us. I know my dog loves me, and I love him.”

“God’s love will never end.” Says Kasey, 8.
“It’s bigger than a hundred trillion, billion elephants! If I compare God’s love to anything, God’s love would be bigger.”

“There are two kinds of love. Our love. God’s love. But God makes both kinds of them.” – Jenny – age 8

During this month, pause to praise God for loving us. Make it a daily goal to put others first and to love them generously. Love is one of the many attributes of God. It is an inherent characteristic of who He is.

Hearts will stop beating but God will never stop loving.

Steff

UMW President
Steffmabe@yahoo.com

Pledges for 2021

You can send your 2021 Pledge to the church or my address:

Sarah Lasbury
17319 Wetherington Drive
Westfield, IN 46074

There is still time to send a pledge if you have not already done so. If it is easier to email the amount to me, that is fine also. (sblasbury@comcast.net).

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



UMW Reading Program

“Your Windows to the World”

February will be an “off” month for our reading group so our next meeting will be Monday, March 29 via Zoom. Jennifer Cloud-Buchner will be our host at 7:00. Leadership is our category for March and books in St. Mark’s library will have a yellow tab on their spine. At stmarkscarmel under the library tab, you can see the books on the UMW shelves. Our church library is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings during office hours. If you can’t get there while it is open, you can send an email to the office with the book you need. The office will check it out for you and send you a message it is ready in the pick-up shelf inside Door 2.

A list of all books in this category can be found at Unitedmethodistwomen/readingprogram. You will find a catalog of books for 2021-2022 as well as in-depth info about the reading program.

One can request a book on-line for pick-up from the Carmel Library and the West annex should they be closed due to COVID.

I will be needing to send a list of books you have read in 2020 and their category to send to the Conference. So start compiling your list to send to me. because of the COVID will have **TWO** years to meet our requirements for 2021-2022.

Blessings to you all. Call or email me w questions. Looking forward to seeing everyone on March 29!

Questions? Please call me, Susan Salter 317.848.1194 or email sbf5salter@att.net.

Social Action and UMW

“Upholding the Cause of the Poor & the Oppressed” “As a church we are called to support the poor and challenge the rich. To begin to alleviate poverty, we support such policies as: adequate income maintenance, quality education, decent housing, job training, meaningful employment opportunities, adequate medical and hospital care, humanization and radical revisions of welfare programs, work for peace and efforts to protect creation’s integrity” (United Methodist Social Principles, ¶163.E) This year, the Social Justice committee invites you to learn more about socioeconomic disparities. As United Methodists, we are called to challenge the systems and practices that have led to economic inequality, poverty and hunger. Look for some announcements about upcoming conversations with fellow St. Markers and experts in the field of socioeconomic disparities. Get started by reading one or more of the following books: • Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (and how to reverse it) by Robert D. Lupton • Born on Third Base by Chuck Collins • Having Nothing Possessing Everything: Finding Abundant Communities

in Unexpected Places by Michael Mather • Evicted by Mathew Desmond Social justice doesn’t stop with education. Check out these organizations that are actively working to eliminate socioeconomic disparities and look for ways to take action along with the Social Justice committee during 2021. • Bread for the World Institute: www.bread.org • Pathway Resource Center: www.pathwayindy.org • Indianapolis Urban League: www.indplsul.org • Global Rich List: Allows you to see where you are amongst the richest people in the world. Howrichami.givingwhatwecan.org • General Board of Church and Society www.umcjustice.org/

Social Action Coordinator- Donna Schwartz.

UMW will join together via Zoom on Tuesday, February 9th, at 9 am or 7 pm for our general meeting. Interest Groups will be meeting after the general meeting via Zoom If you are new to UMW, Welcome! To join the meeting, contact Mary Etta Yoho at maryetta.yoho@gmail.com with your email address. If you need information on how to connect to Zoom, contact Steff Mabe at steffmabe@yahoo.com Looking forward to seeing you next Tuesday, February 9th!

TAKE NOTE:

PLEASE note that the MAKE IT, TAKE IT interest group has been suspended until fall. You are welcome to join another interest group. It’s not too late! Books can

be ordered or shared with a book buddy!

The Color and Chat facilitators have given us links to free coloring books that can be printed. If you don't want to color, you are welcome to join in the chat.

Morning Groups

BOOKWORMS (via Zoom) with Gail Lee

February 2021 The Long Way Home
by Saroo Brierley (CCL Books in a bag)

March 2021 At The Edge of the Orchard
by Tracy Cevalier (CCL Books in a Bag)

April 2021 Sourdough by Robin Sloan (CCL Books in a Bag)

Gail will obtain and distribute "Books in a Bag"

SPIRITUAL GROWTH (via Zoom) with Rev. Mary Ann Moman

This study will use *Finding Peace in an Anxious World* by Erin James-Brown. Based on a sermon series at Urban Village Church in Chicago, the text states: "The purpose of this study is to recognize the prevalence of anxiety today and its impact, as well as to explore ways to find peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ, using "The Serenity Prayer" as a scaffold.

The text is available on Kindle from Amazon. Paperback is available from UMW resources at a cost of \$10.00.

MAKE IT AND TAKE IT (via Zoom) - Facilitators: Kathy Dycus

kldycus@comcast.net and Marilyn Roberts marilyn.rob@comcast.net.

This is on hiatus until the fall. Please join one of the other interest groups in the meantime.

COLOR AND CHAT (via Zoom) with Deirdre Robinson and Cathy Brinkman

Coloring isn't just for kids! Come enjoy fellowship while coloring with UMW friends. If you are new to this group and need something to color, here are some links you can download for free coloring pages before the meeting. If you don't want to color, you are welcome to join in for the chat. Choose your own kind of coloring pens, pencils or crayons.

<https://coloringfaith.com/free-coloring-pages/>

<https://www.rocksolidfaith.ca/printable-bible-verse-coloring-pages/>

<https://bloggersforthe kingdom.com/printable-bible-verse-coloring-pages/>

<https://www.sarahtitus.com/christian-coloring-pages/>

Evening Groups

BOOKMARKERS (via Zoom) - Facilitator: Debbie Skinner dskins25@hotmail.com or call 317-574-1997 with any questions.

The evening Bookmarkers read anything and everything, and enjoy lively discussion, fellowship and support.

The February book selection is The Midwife of Hope River by Patricia Harman.

March- The Woman in the Window by AJ Finn.

April- The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead.

May- Becoming by Michelle Obama

Summer- My Dear Hamilton by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

Facilitator: Holly Moore

Spiritual Reflections will study "Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Growing in Christlikeness" by Christopher J.H. Wright. Pastor Wright invites us to live a life in step with the Spirit by cultivating the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23): Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control. Wright offers online companion videos that are easier to access in a virtual environment as well as discussion questions. Books have been ordered and will be available in the church office or mailed to you upon request the week of September 14th. Contact Holly Moore, holly.e.moore693@gmail.com to receive a book. This study is VERY doable via Zoom until it's safe to be together in person.

***What Interests You???* If there is an interest group you would like to see offered or you would enjoy facilitating,**

Contact Mary Etta Yoho at 765/215-7773 or maryetta.yoho@gmail.com

United Methodist Women would like to wish a very happy birthday to all those who are celebrating this February and March



Julie Gren, Jennifer Howell, Lori Roberts & Victoria Snyder	2/1
Barbie Schmenner	2/2
Becky Beckman & Joanne Herman	2/4
Anna Flohr & Joan Holtzberg	2/5
Pam Bollier	2/7
Jackie Rowell	2/8
Ada Hoffmaster	2/9
Pastor Julia Gonzales	2/12
Jennifer Fogo, Holly Moore, Ann Pritchard & Jane Roberts	2/13
Jenny Wilkins	2/14
Deb Ranek & Connie Tingley	2/15
Karen Demler, Deb Forbes & Jody Hook	2/18
Debbie Skinner	2/20
Peggy Nicolai & Cathy Wilkinson	2/21
Jody Bennet	2/22
Linda Duncan & Sharon Roach	2/24
Mary Gospel	2/25
Rita Chreist	2/27
Joyce Click & Lisa Smith	3/7
Leigh Ann Braley	3/9
Rodene Gosselin	3/10
Elaine Lentz	3/12
Katie Kelly	3/15
Gayla Breslauer	3/21
Jan Gappa	3/23
Becky Bultemeier	3/27
Nyla Johnson & Marilyn Kruger	3/28
Trish Boger	3/29
Carole Browning & Debra Uhl	3/30

Let us know if we have left anyone out.

***To receive reminders about UMW activities,
please send a note & your We look forward
to hearing from you.***

With faith, hope & love,

Membership, Nurture and Outreach Chairs:
Marilyn Roberts and Sonjia Clodfelder

February Theme from MNO

“I am leaving you a gift-

Peace of mind and heart.

And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give.

So, do not be troubled or afraid.”

John 14:27

The Lord opened Lydia's heart and she and her entire household were baptized as she offered hospitality to Paul and his missionaries.

Reminder- The Mission Messenger which is the Indiana UMW newsletter is available via link on the St Mark's UMW website.
<http://www.stmarkscarmel.org/umw>

spring! The 3-D cards are handmade keepsake-style cards, made with high-quality cardstock and beautiful accents. There are 4 designs, including Mother's Day and Father's Day, plus two all-occasion cards. You will be enchanted with these unique cards!

Once again, all come with custom envelopes and will sell for \$8.00 each. The cards are being made in limited quantities, so please order early to avoid disappointment. To order, call/text Peggy Nicolai at 513-374-1371, or email at panicolai@aol.com. Pick up will be in early March at the church; you will be contacted with details in late February. Remember, all proceeds will go to UMW-supported missions.

UMW Spring Card Sale



The Trinkets and Treasures fundraiser for 2021 is tentatively scheduled for May 28th & 29th

Trisha Stanearth has offered space in her garage for storage, but you must transport it there.

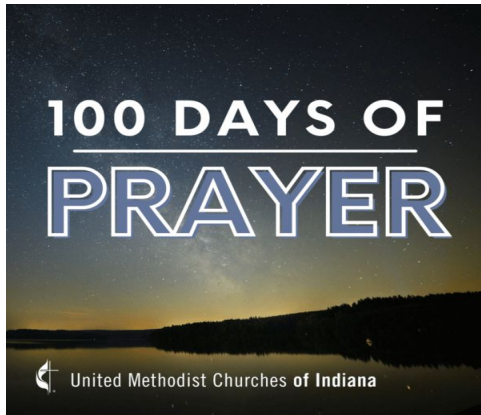
Questions- call **Trisha** at 317-430-4490

The UMW winter card sale was so popular, the board decided to have a sale again this



Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women hosted by Jennifer R Farmer, Spotlight PR. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope and love into action.

To access Faith Talks podcasts, go to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and look for Faith Talks in the blue box.

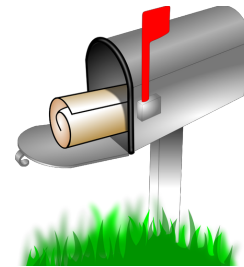


Bishop Trimble invites United Methodist lay, clergy, and neighbors to commit to being in prayer for the next 100 days for the safety and future of our nation and its leaders. More information can be found at the North Central District website.

northcentral.district@inumc.org



JULIETS (Just Us Ladies into Eating Out) are **ON HOLD**. Look for the schedule in March. Contact: Barb Johnson 317-863-2689 or timberblj@gmail.com



Missi Koenig is hoping to connect people one-on-one with the long standing communication tool of pen pals.

Did you know that at the 1964/1965 World's Fair, the Parker Pen Company featured a computer that paired pen pals? Can she pair you with a St. Mark's pen pal? If you are interested in participating, email her at mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org.

Once people are paired, they can determine the method and frequency of communication. When we are able to start gathering again in person, we will have a pen pal party for people to meet in person. If you are looking for ways to stay connected at St. Mark's, she would love to help you find new opportunities. Please don't hesitate to contact her.

mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org 317-846-4912

2020/2021 Calendar - St. Mark's United Methodist Women

FEB 2/9/21 9 am and 7 pm- UMW meeting via Zoom

MAR 3/2/21 7 pm - UMW Board meeting

3/9/21 9 am & 7 pm - UMW meeting

APR 4/6/21 7 pm - UMW Board meeting

4/13/21 9 am & 7 pm - UMW meeting

MAY 5/4/21 7 pm - UMW Board meeting

5/11/21 9 am & 7 pm - UMW meeting

5/28 & 5/29 Trinkets and Treasures Sale (tentative)

*Indicates off-site events, Update & other newsletters available via link: umw@stmarkscarmel.org

2020 -2021 St Mark's UMW Board

President

Steph Mabe

Vice President of Interest Groups & Programming

Mary Etta Yoho

Vice President of Fund Raising

Peggy Nicolai

Recording Secretary

Trisha Stanart

Corresponding Secretary

Beth Montag

Treasurer

Sarah Lasbury

Assistant Treasurer

Cathy Wilkinson

Mission Coordinator/Spiritual Growth (AM)

Kathy Deakyne

Mission Coordinator/Spiritual Growth (PM)

Michelle White

Mission Coordinator/Education & Interpretation

Linda Shenk

Mission Coordinator/Membership Nurture & Outreach AM

Marilyn Roberts

Mission Coordinator/Membership Nurture & Outreach PM

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Hospitality Coordinator AM

Lucy Sheehan/

Louise Snyder

Hospitality Coordinator PM

Kathleen and Kit Zelner

Pianist AM

Pam Whitehead

Pianist PM

Pat Parks

Songleader, AM

Lydia Fourman

Webmaster

Laura McCloughan

Members at Large

Kathi Hall

Kathy Dycus

Miriam Taylor

Prayer Calendar

The “social distancing” required by the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 challenged faith communities and even families to find ways for members to be together while apart. It was an extreme experience of uncertainties and separations that life often holds in relation to loved ones and friends and life itself. Church groups understandably turned to technology to achieve in virtual worship and study of oneness—of unity and kinship—that faith in Jesus Christ promotes.

Prayer is a steady means of experiencing the unity—the togetherness—of the church as the body of Christ in an imperfect, struggling world. It needs no sanctuary and no technology, although it was a central focus of Christian solidarity as the coronavirus health crisis unfolded. World Christian leaders responded to the declaration of the pandemic by urging believers to join in the Lord’s Prayer at stipulated times, each praying in their own language. Prayer as a symbol of faith and supplication also unifies families and groups in times of grief, pain and fear.

Prayer represents relationships within the “kin-dom” of God—the family of love and compassion created by the grace of God in Jesus Christ. Prayer is both relationships with God and among people with our great and wonderful diversity.

The 2021 Prayer Calendar highlights the value and necessity of love-centered relationships that withstand all separation and adversity. It celebrates lives devoted to God’s mission and to projects that are witness to our togetherness in Christ, even in times of physical distance. It invites us to pray as one people responsive to God’s call to relationships of caring, connecting and healing in a world of uncertainty—uncertain in all but the love of God. Prayer is a pathway to this sense of unity.

MISSION FOCUS

BIRTHDAYS

<p>FEB 7 Camp Aldersgate, Little Rock, Arkansas. Providing facilities for camping and dedicated to serving children with disabilities, youth and senior adults in a camp environment.</p>	<p>FEB 7 Sonia Cruz (DHMR), David Kennedy (DHMR), Lorry Mpindu (S), Charlynn Parker (S)</p>
<p>FEB 8 Sierra Leone. The United Methodist Church Africa Central Conference, Youth Adult Network. Supporting the mission of the United Methodist Church at Harford Girls School in Sierra Leone.</p>	<p>FEB 8 Quynh-Hoa Nguyen (M), Idelia Ulmer (DHMR)</p>
<p>FEB 9 Zambia. Ecumenical Development Foundation. Supporting the drilling of a borehole, pump installation and seeds for new crops in a district affected by a severe drought, as well as training in organic farming and crop production.</p>	<p>FEB 9</p>
<p>FEB 10 Scholarship recipient Bethany Lauren Lewis. Scholarship to pursue an A.S. in biology at Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, South Carolina.</p>	<p>FEB 10 Haniel Garibay (DHMR), Maria Maine (DHMR)</p>
<p>FEB 11 Tanzania. Church Construction and Development Lake Zone. Striving to equip the church to be self-leading, self-replication, and self-sustaining.</p>	<p>FEB 11 Rukang Chikomb (M), Patricia Moreira Marques (M)</p>
<p>FEB 12 Democratic Republic of Congo. Fresh Water for Central Congo. Providing fresh water wells for villages in Central Congo.</p>	<p>FEB 12 Yelitzta Aleman (S), Lucie Fortier (DHMR), Enock Gustave (DHMR), Effie McGil (DHMR)</p>
<p>FEB 13 Navajo United Methodist Center, Farmington, New Mexico. Providing transitional living for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.</p>	<p>FEB 13</p>

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.

My Pledge to Mission for 2021 (calendar year January 2021 through December 2021)

Name:

Phone:

Email Address:

Date:

I pledge \$_____per month. \$_____ X 12 = \$_____ Total Pledge for 2021.

I will pay: Monthly_____ Quarterly_____ Another Way _____
 (please describe)

Thank you for your commitment to support United Methodist Women’s local, national and global mission outreach. May we continue to be a blessing to others as we serve God.

PLEASE CUT AT DOTTED LINE ABOVE AND RETURN THE TOP PORTION OF THIS FORM TO THE UMW TREASURER. (You may drop this off at church, specifying it for UMW, email your pledge to sblasbury@comcast.net, or mail it to: Sarah Lasbury, 17319 Wetherington Drive, Westfield, IN 46074)

THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS FORM IS FOR YOUR RECORDS:

My pledge to St. Marks’s United Methodist Women is \$_____per month.

Month	Amt Paid	Date Paid	Month	Amt Paid	Date Paid
January			July		
February			August		
March			September		
April			October		
May			November		
June			December		

All cash donations should be put in an offering envelope with your name clearly written on the outside of the envelope. If your contribution is in the form of a check you do not need an envelope for the offering plate. Checks should be made payable to St. Mark’s UMW.

Mailing Address: St. Mark’s United Methodist Women -Attn: Sarah Lasbury
 4780 E. 126th Street
 Carmel, IN 46033

Please contact Sarah Lasbury, UMW Treasurer at 219-718-5957 or sblasbury@comcast.net with questions.