



THE UMW APPALACHIAN DISTRICT NEWS

3rd Quarter 2020

President's Message:



Greetings!

To the right I have included a picture taken at the August Celebration in 2019 when Joanie Strohm, WNCC UMW VP, installed Annette Echard as VP and me as President of the Appalachian District UMW. Together we serve, representing you, our local units. So far we have had an unprecedented year. As we look at our 2020 year we have been “waiting”! We have waited to meet on the conference level, except for those events we have participated in virtually by whatever means possible. God is still in control but we are definitely on the flight hold pattern. We have our seat belts buckled for landing but so far we are circling the airport. The fog may have started to lift but it still is pretty dense outside the walls of our “Stay Safe” refuge. In light of the world around us, we have a long way to go to feel safe in public. With the pandemic we have progressed into the Social Action issues of prejudice and hatred. The racial inequities are evident and we must stand for what is fair and good for all. We, as United Methodist Women, are prayer warriors, so let us go to God in prayer. When I cry out to the Lord, He gives me comfort. I pray I can be the person He wants me to be. I am weak, but He is strong. I do not understand, but He is all knowing. I am limited, but He is all powerful. My God is an Awesome God! Amen!!!



With the changes we have had for the year, we as the Executive Board and Judy Sipe our Spiritual Growth Coordinator have decided to combine the Memorial Service for Appalachian District UMW from 2019 with the 2020 Memorial Service at the 2021 Prayer Breakfast.

Attention!!! We will not meet at Wilkesboro UMC on August 29. As the conference has discussed this with officers and executive board members we will be meeting on August 29 for our VIRTUAL Zoom Webinar Appalachian District Annual Celebration. You MUST register online. We will vote on the 2021 Annual Budget including the A&MD and the Pledge. We will also vote on the 2021 officers with Nancy Reigel installing officers. This is a new venture and ALL Districts in the Western North Carolina United Methodist Women will meet during the week of August 21-29, one of the eight districts each day. Please note our Hands on Mission for Agape, Bethlehem Center, and UMCOR kits and collection points listed on page 8 of this newsletter. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please send those to Nancy Johnson at 661 Teague Towne Road, Taylorsville, NC 28681, and designate whether it is for Agape, the Bethlehem Center, or UMCOR.

If you have not sent in reports for the year 2019 and if your local unit has not reported your slate of officers for 2020 please do so now. If you have not been in touch with your Nurturing Partner, please reach out and give her a call or send an email now. If you have not reported your local Pledge to Nancy Johnson for 2020, please send in your pledge amount for the year to her now. Thank you!

Stay Safe and keep those around you safe. It takes each of us to guard and protect all of us.

Faith, Hope and Love in Action,

Sherry Summerlin, (828) 234-0850

sherrysummer@charter.net

Vice-President:



Sisters in Christ,

The COVID-19 Pandemic has changed our world. To stop the spread of this virus, we have been asked to Stay at Home, and if we have to go out wear a Mask.



As United Methodist Women, are we letting our Light Shine in our communities? Are we sending cards, notes, calling our neighbors or our sick & shut-in to see if they are okay or have needs? We are God's eyes, hands and feet on earth. Let's keep prayers going up.

Most of our United Methodist Women's meetings have been cancelled for the rest of the year. We are working on developing a virtual District Annual Celebration to be held on Saturday, August 29th, 2020. Also, the Installation of Officers will be held and units will be recognized for their 2019 achievements.

This year we will have one certificate with all of our unit accomplishments except the Reading program. Reading Program participants will be recognized with an individual certificate.

Thanks to our president, Sherry Summerlin, for getting the Zoom App set-up for our Executive Board meetings. United Methodist Women, thanks for all you do.

Love and Blessings,
Annette Echard



Spiritual Growth:

As I greet you today, I hope you are safe and well. You, like me, are probably getting a little "antsy" and wanting to get out and be with your friends.

During my stay-at-home time, I have cleaned, read, cleaned read---you get the idea. While cleaning I did go through some back issues of our UMW letters and found the 2018 District Annual Celebration theme "Celebrating Sacred Spaces" and started to think about all the space in my house. I started writing down special Bible verses and devotional sayings and placing them around the house so I could read at any time. I began to realize that through pen and paper I was talking with someone other than my stuffed cat and my house had become a sacred space and it felt good. I say all of this because, hopefully we will be able to talk soon and not just by pen and paper.

It is with regret that I have to tell you that the Appalachian District Annual Celebration scheduled for August 29th at Wilkesboro UMC has been physically cancelled. At this time we are working on a Virtual version, information to come later. The Memorial Service scheduled for that time has been postponed until next year and at that time we will be remembering those beloved UMW who have passed in 2019 and 2020. There will be more information on this at a later time. We just felt it was in the best interest of all to stay safe and well during this time. Thank you for your understanding.

In closing, stay safe, be patient, and stay healthy. We are UMW standing strong together. "Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death" a saying based on Hebrews 10:39.

Blessings from your SG Coordinator,
Judy Sipe

Nominations:

Hello ladies, hope you are safe and healthy. With all the changes and chaos in the world today, it gives me hope and peace that some things in the world are constant. UMW is still working around the world to help women and children and God's love is always constant. Let us continue to love others through our service. The following ladies have committed to serve next year as District Officers. You will vote on the officers (in bold) new to the position during the Virtual Appalachian District meeting. You must register online. Go to wnccumw.org and click on District Annual Celebrations by Zoom Webinar August 2020. The Appalachian District Zoom Webinar is at 10:00 am on Saturday August 29. The office/position italicized indicates it needs to be filled.

Slate of officers for 2020				
Office	Name		Office	Name
President (continuing)	Sherry Summerlin		Co-Nominations Chair (continuing)	Brenda Kimberlin
Vice President (continuing)	Annette Echard		Co-Nominations Chair (continuing)	Penny Ledbetter
Secretary	Janice Chester		Nominations Committee 2021 (continuing)	Micki Earp
Treasurer (continuing)	Nancy Johnson		Nominations Committee 2021 (continuing)	Sherry Mabry
Spiritual Growth (continuing)	Judy Sipe		Nominations Committee 2022 (continuing)	Pamela Harshaw
Mission Education and Interpretation	Jan Taylor		Nominations Committee 2022 (continuing)	Kimberlee Witherspoon
<i>Membership Nurture & Outreach</i>	<i>Open</i>		Nominations Committee 2023	Roberta Walker
Social Action	Sherry Mabry		Nominations Committee 2023	Jane Long
Communications	Denise Harris		Member At Large (continuing)	Lori McKay
Program Resources (continuing)	Micki Earp			

As you can see, we still need someone for Membership Nurture & Outreach. Most of us don't know exactly what this position does, so here is a brief job summary: Maintain membership lists; develop ways to attract, welcome, and maintain new and current opportunities. If you are a nurturing person or have good ideas for nurturing others or attracting new members, please contact a member of the nominating committee. I am a reluctant leader, which means I have to be asked before I will take a position. If you are a reluctant leader or know of someone who would be perfect for this position but is a reluctant leader please contact a member of the nominating committee.

Blessings,

Brenda Kimberlin, (828)728-0371
bkimberlin@caldwellschools.com

Mission Education and Interpretation:

Greetings!

I pray all is well with my all my UMW Sisters.

My heart is heavy right now with all the violence that's going on across this country. Our land is in need of "healing" and we must unite as one! Yes we have differences, but if we don't find a solution to this problem we can't go forth.

So I have asked myself just what is my "mission"?

My mission is to.....tell someone about the Love of Jesus

My mission is to.....spread the Love of Jesus

My mission is to.....show someone the Love of Jesus

As the Body of Jesus Christ we must love one another and PRAY for one another.

To all my UMW Sisters this must be our MISSION!

Let us also continue to be in prayer for all those going through the Coronavirus.

Please go to our district and conference websites for updates about our events.

I leave you with this Scripture from John 13:35

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

Be Blessed,

Roberta Walker

Program Resources:



We are in a trying time and reading some of our UMW books on how we can deal with this will certainly give us some minor sense of peace. I hope you are staying home, keeping safe and being good neighbors.

I know that many of you are ordering books online. If you order through Amazon, please go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) first and select a charity to direct 5% of your qualified sales.

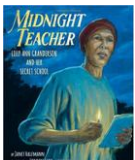
Two charities that are already listed are North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women and also Boone United Methodist Women. Then all you do is order under the website of Smile Amazon. Also remember that Kindle books can be ordered this way.

We still can't get together to exchange books, even within our own units so remember to make an arrangement to leave books for other local units. Now is a good time to download some of the online books. Google "umw reading program 2019" and you will see numerous books for the Kindle.

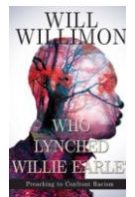
If you are ordering books, I recommend two books to help address the needs of our society.

"Who Lynched Willie Earle" gives a synopsis of a sermon from 1947 that suggests that we revisit.

Another book, a children's book is "The Watcher" about the struggle of bullying within our schools.



During our latest District Executive meeting, suggested books were, "Midnight Teacher" (another children's book) about how during slavery times, black teachers had to hide their teaching because they were not allowed to know how to read. A



bonus book that is good is "So you Want to Talk about Race". The National office has a companion teaching guide for this book. This might be a good book to use for a local study when we can again meet face to face.



Micki Earp (828) 632-6769

13micki@gmail.com

Social Action:



Allow me to introduce myself; I am a member and president of Wilkesboro UMC. I'm a retired social worker with special concentrations in families, domestic violence, child abuse & neglect as well as human trafficking. I am submitting this article as Donna Hill is working diligently in other areas at this time and I have accepted a nomination for the 2021 Social Action Coordinator.

I don't know about you but this time of social distancing and being quarantined has been really tough for me. God created us to be social beings and I am a hugger, so not being able to hug those I love and my brothers and sisters in Christ has been extremely difficult for me. I have had a hard time concentrating on any one thing. I will jump from one subject to the next and then back again. During this time of unrest - marches and protests in our counties, country and around the world - it is hard to keep up with it all.

Historically UMW have focused their work in human trafficking, global migration, domestic violence, climate change, gender justice, racial justice, economic justice, health care and food justice. For the current quadrennium (2016-2020), our four issue priorities are: 1) climate justice, 2) maternal & child health, 3) criminalization of communities of color & mass incarceration and 4) economic inequality. As each unit works independently, we also work together regionally, nationally and globally. We always wonder if what little bit we do can make a difference and the answer is "Yes." Every prayer lifted up, every dollar donated and our volunteer hours are making a difference.

Unfortunately, over my lifetime it seems to me that we are going backward in racial justice. Being white and having the privileges that come with my skin color have allowed me the blindness not to see what I didn't want to see - so maybe instead of going backwards, I was just blind to the truth of what was happening around me. I have family members of different ethnic backgrounds and skin colors and it could be because of that truth my eyes have been opened. I know one thing and that is that God created us equally and equality is our human right; we cannot ignore this anymore.

We must look around and stand firm working toward equality for all and stop riding the fence. Jesus never said we should ride the fence. I'm pretty sure He shared quite graphically how He felt about the lukewarm church.

For more information on our areas of social justice and mission efforts you can find many resources at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/what-we-do>.

Sign up for Social Action Alerts at:

https://secure3.convio.net/umw/site/SPageNavigator/Social_Action_Alerts.html

Sherry Mabry, (336) 927-4332
mabrysh@gmail.com

Membership – Nurture – Outreach:



As we, United Methodist Women, continue to navigate this pandemic and the re-openings in our area, let us rely on each other and our Lord for strength and guidance. Since we are still social distancing, let me encourage our units to stay connected. Consider Zoom meetings, Google "rooms", Facebook and good old fashioned note writing. Reach out to those in your area that may be potential members and let them know you are thinking of them. Also consider reaching out to our young moms wearing many hats as they work from home with little ones.

Check out our Facebook pages and let's help our membership continue to grow stronger! I am available by phone or email. Call if you need me!

Until we meet again,

Denise Harris, (704) 437-2794
denise.harris2105@gmail.com

Secretary:



Greetings to all,

Talk about a year of constant change! This is definitely teaching us to be flexible and patient (two things I personally need to improve!) Please note our latest changes with a virtual District and Conference Annual Celebration (page 7), proposed UMW Appalachian District 2021 budget to be voted on at our Annual Celebration (page 8), and Conference On hand Mission support (page 8.) Just a reminder – 4th quarter newsletter articles are due by September 4th. Stay safe and continue to pray for our country and our world.

Blessings, Jan Taylor

Treasurer:

Good News!! Mission Giving is **Alive** while we are "Social Distancing!" If your unit has not met during this time of "social distancing," the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women (WNCC UMW) has set up an online mission giving option. Go to the WNCC UMW website: <https://wnccumw.org/online-mission-giving/>. Just follow the directions - click - you have given to missions! The information will be sent to me, your district treasurer, and your unit will receive credit for your giving.

I apologize to the following units for not listing them as giving in all Five Channels of Mission Giving in 2019 in the 2nd quarter newsletter:

Cool Springs	New Covenant
Friendship - Statesville	Scott's Chapel
Hiddenite	

Due to the District Prayer Breakfast cancellation, as your District Treasurer I need to know from the following units if your unit wants a refund for the registration or the funds to go toward your unit's Mission Giving:

Baton	Hiddenite
Broad Street	Monticello
First North Wilkesboro	Union Grove
First Taylorsville	

The Annual Meeting Love Offering brochures were mailed with the 2nd quarter Treasurer's letter. As stated in



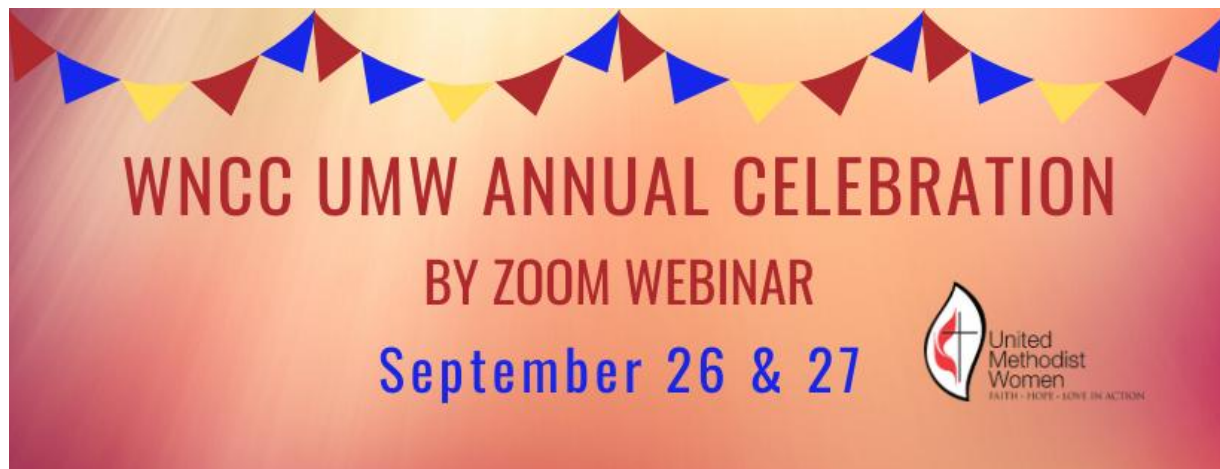
the brochure, the 2020 Love Offering will be a Gift to Mission *Honoring and Affirming Clergywomen: Past, Present and Future*. The best way to give this Love Offering is to attend the Virtual Annual Celebration September 26 - 27, but if this is not an option for you and/or your unit, mail the Love Offering to the WNCC UMW Treasurer, Nancy Reigel, 375 Troy Norris Rd., Boone, NC 28607. Make checks payable to: Treasurer, WNCC UMW. Love Offerings can also be made online at www.wnccumw.org. Just click on the "DONATE NOW" icon in the Love Offering section by Dec. 31st. District Love Offerings normally collected at the District Annual meeting/celebration may be given on line or you may send checks to Nancy Johnson at 661 Teague Town Road,

Taylorsville, NC 28681. Make checks payable to: App District UMW.

*Giving is a way for United Methodist Women to give expression to their faith.
Giving is a privilege – a gift of God's grace. ...from United Methodist Women in Mission*

If you have any question and/or concerns, or need more information about UMW giving to share at your meetings, please let me know. You may, email, call or TXT.

In His Service,
Nancy Johnson, (828) 612-6142
nananurse85@charter.net



The WNCC UMW Program Committee has made the decision to cancel our Annual Celebration at Lake Junaluska for September 11-13, 2020.

Our Annual Celebration will be a virtual event via Zoom Webinar on Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27. It will be necessary to register for the free Zoom Webinars. More information soon on this process. Watch our WNCCUMW website for continuing developments (<https://wnccumw.org/events/annual-celebration-2020/>!)

Lake Junaluska has been very gracious in regard to our agreement. We've had a long relationship with them and we greatly appreciate the understanding they have shown to us. We look forward to the day when we can return to the Lake for another United Methodist Women event!

Julia Willis, WNCC UMW President
Joanie Strohm, WNCC UMW Vice President



All eight District Annual Celebrations will be virtual events via Zoom Webinar. A special page on our WNCCUMW website (<https://wnccumw.org/districtcelebrations/>) has been created where you will be able to find ALL current and developing information about the District Annual Celebrations. Registration will be required for these free Zoom webinar meetings. We will celebrate unit accomplishments; vote on the proposed UMW Appalachian District 2021 budget; and nominate, elect, and install 2021 officers for the Appalachian District UMW. Appalachian District meeting will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2020 at 10:00am.

2021 UMW Appalachian District Budget- The **Pledge to Mission** and **A &MD** budget found on page 8 will be voted on during our virtual Appalachian District Annual Celebration.

**United Methodist Women - WNCC of The United Methodist Church, Appalachian District
Proposed Budget 2021**

Pledge to Mission **\$ 52,000.00**

Administration & Membership Development (A &MD)

Officers Expenses

Postage	\$	400.00	
Supplies	\$	500.00	
Travel (mileage)	\$	300.00	
Printing (letters, handouts, etc.)	\$	200.00	
Total Officer Expenses			\$ 1,400.00

Meeting Expenses

District Annual Meeting	\$	300.00	
District Spiritual Enrichment	\$	200.00	
District Officer Training	\$	200.00	
Other District Events	\$	300.00	
Total Meeting Expenses			\$ 1,000.00

Other Expenses

Newsletter Printing	\$	1,500.00	
Newsletter Postage	\$	550.00	
Resources & Literature	\$	150.00	
SMR, GTM, & GIM	\$	700.00	
Local Women Stipend (3) (3 first-timers to SGR, Conf. Mission u, or Annual Celebration)	\$	450.00	
Miscellaneous	\$	50.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES - A & MD			\$ 3,400.00

\$ 5,800.00

Hands on Mission: Please donate new clothing for children (ages above 2 years) for the AGAPE ministry (do not need to be in shoeboxes); items (any school supplies, glue sticks, pencils, hand sanitizer, markers, and pencil boxes) for the Bethlehem Center in Winston Salem; and UMCOR school kits, health kits, or hygiene kits. Collection points are divided into the following 10 Appalachian District Networks.

Network	Network Area	Collection Point	Contact person	Contact phone #
1	Wilkesboro	Wilkesboro UMC	Jan Taylor	336-468-0313
2 & 10	Elkin & Allegheny County	New Beginnings UMC Jonesville	Roberta Walker	336-835-1939
3	Taylorsville	First UMC Taylorsville	Linda Greer	704-585-6263
4	North Iredell	Union Grove UMC	Penny Ledbetter	704-539-5353
5	Statesville	Broad Street UMC	Denise Harris	704-871-9219
6	Caldwell County	Hudson UMC	Sherry Summerlin	828-728-4936
7 & 9	Avery County & Watauga County	Boone UMC	Nancy Reigel	828-268-0637
8	Ashe County	West Jefferson UMC	Linda Greer (Thursdays)	704-585-6263

You may choose the location closest to you. If you would like to donate, please call the person listed for your area. Items will be collected prior to Wednesday, August 26th to insure time to get them to Wilkesboro UMC by Friday, August 28, between 3 and 6 PM. If you donate UMCOR kits, please remember to check the UMCOR website for any updates to kit requirements and include an envelope separate from the kit with shipping dollars enclosed. Thank you.