



## UMW Appalachian District News 2nd Quarter, 2021



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Hello! We, the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women received a Mission Giving 2020 Award in recognition of reaching 101% Mission Giving in 2020! Congratulations to all! I am so thankful for each of you.**

**This Appalachian District Newsletter is filled with information. The Western North Carolina Conference UMW Virtual Spiritual Growth Retreat "You Lift Me Up" is June 18-19. Mission u Virtual Event is July 15-16. The Appalachian August Annual Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, August 21, 2-4 PM. Mark your calendar!**

**The adjusted Mission Today Criteria is available through the QR Scan code or online at [wncumw.org](http://wncumw.org). Modifications have been made during COVID for local units to still be able to receive recognition.**

**Check out how to register for events on line at [wncumw.org](http://wncumw.org), You can find instructions for how to put together Hygiene Kits and School Kits for Hands On UMCOR Mission online and a link for giving to the Legacy Endowment Fund and to the Love Offering.**

**Please remember to check in with your Nurturing Partner and invite her to a local unit meeting. Get involved with the Reading Program and read! You may be interested in the Faith Talks. I encourage you to take the needed steps to learn more. We are all blessed to have so many wonderful opportunities to share and to grow. Faith, Hope and Love in Action!**

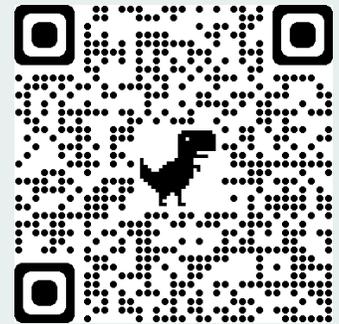
**Blessings,**

**Sherry Summerlin, Appalachian District President**

**(828) 234-0850**

**[sherrysummer@charter.net](mailto:sherrysummer@charter.net)**

Using your smart phone, scan the QR code below to see the new Mission Today criteria amended for covid.



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### **SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

- Spotlight On First Taylorsville UMW
- 2019-2020 Memorials

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

Greetings,

With spring well underway and summer just around the corner, we are looking to the future with hope and enthusiasm. As we look at all the beautiful flowers and listen to the birds singing, we are reminded that, even though we have gone through some rough times, there is still hope. We have just celebrated Easter and we rejoice in the risen Lord who gives us hope.

On March 20, 2021, we had a very uplifting virtual Spiritual Renewal Gathering and Memorial Service. Through the Memorial Service, entitled "Unique, Useful and Different --- All in God's Light," we remembered forty-one of our beloved sisters who gained their heavenly home in 2019 and 2020. We will remember the legacy that each of these ladies left for us; they are "Precious Memories." Following the Memorial Service, Sandra Williamson, from the Northern Piedmont District, brought us a very inspirational and uplifting message. Thank you Sandra.

Now we need to focus on the rest of the year. Looking ahead, please put the virtual Spiritual Growth Retreat on the calendar for June 18-19. The program is entitled "You Lift Me Up." Then in July you won't want to miss the virtual Mission u. Mark your calendars for July 15-18 for this event.

Now as I close, I want to say that even though we are working under unusual circumstances, we are still a very strong group of women doing God's work. So let's stay the course and "expand concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church" (Purpose).

Your Friend in Christ

Judy Sipe, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

*So let's stay the course and "expand concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church" .*

**Climate Justice**  
CAMPAIGN:  
**JUST ENERGY FOR ALL**

Be stewards of God's creation: Work with companies and governments for clean, renewable energy through a just and equitable transition.

A major contributor to air pollution is the **BURNING** of fossil fuels.

**500,000** school days missed annually by U.S. children are due to ozone pollution from fossil fuels.

The #1 contributor to climate change is greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels used for electricity, transportation and heat.

**100%** 100 cities in the United States and 100+ companies have already committed to move to 100 percent renewable energy.

**TAKE ACTION:**  
unitedmethodistwomen.org/climate-justice

## Social Action

United Methodist Women calls for sound stewardship of the earth and environmentally friendly lifestyles that preserve creation for the benefit of present and future generations.

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## MISSION EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION:

Spring is definitely here and I love it (actually, would love it more without the heavy pollen!) I hope many of you were able to attend our virtual District Spiritual Growth Renewal (such a beautiful tribute to our ladies who have moved on to their Heavenly homes) and our virtual District Mission Study (where we heard such encouraging, inspiring, and persistent words from Rev. Lisa Beth White). We announced the Hands on Mission project for Spiritual Growth as school supplies for the Bethlehem Center, Winston Salem; and UMCOR Hygiene or School kits for the Mission Study. If any unit has collected items, please contact Sherry Summerlin or me and we will arrange to pick up the items and get them delivered.

Many of you attended last year's virtual Mission u when we learned ways of Finding Peace in an Anxious World. This year's Mission u will also be held virtually, July 15 – 18. The curricula will include:

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom:

Pushout -Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools.

These curricula are intended to motivate, inform and enrich our commitment to be in ministry for a more just and equitable world, locally and globally. Mission u is where we learn together for the transformation of the world; I hope that each of you will prayerfully consider attending this virtual event. As more information becomes available, it will be posted on the WNCUMW website; you will also be able to register to attend on this conference website. Remember that attending Mission u and reporting information back to your unit and participating in one local and one Conference Hands-on-Mission project are both criteria that count toward earning your Mission Today Unit Award. You can find all 2021 Mission Today criteria by scanning the QR code on page 1 of this newsletter.

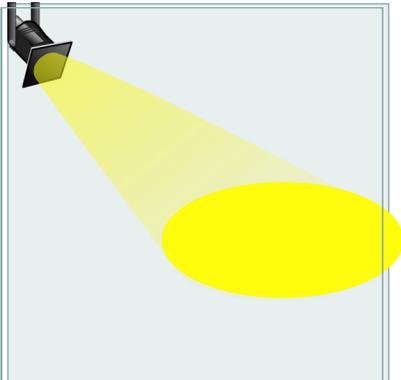
If you have any questions regarding UMW missions or need my help, please don't hesitate to call me!

Love and Blessings to all....

Jan Taylor,

336-468-0313 (cell) or email: j.kay.tay@gmail.com





## FIRST TAYLORSVILLE UMW SPOTLIGHT

Although our First Taylorsville UMW has not met in person very often since March of 2020, we have remained active. We are blessed with ladies who have learned to use Zoom to meet, although many of us are in our 60's or older.

programs which included our Pledge Program and other programs from our UMW Program Books. We also had a Zoom meeting with a guest speaker from Shelter Home and another meeting when we viewed the Virtual Conference Spiritual Growth Event.

We are also blessed with an outside covered area at our church which allowed us to meet in person a couple of times last spring. We followed the WWW's (Wash, Wear, Wait) and made Hygiene Kits and School Kits for UMCOR, as well as some Hygiene Kits with a few items added, for women who needed to use the service of Shelter Home of Caldwell County. We are in Alexander County; however, we don't have a shelter here and our ladies who need this service are taken there.

We have been so blessed to be able to remain in Mission and stay in touch even during this pandemic and we were even able to meet our Pledge to Mission! Thanks Be To God!

~Linda Rice Greer



Our Local Unit along with guests from other units who came to learn to make Prayer Beds



We have had quite a few Zoom meeting

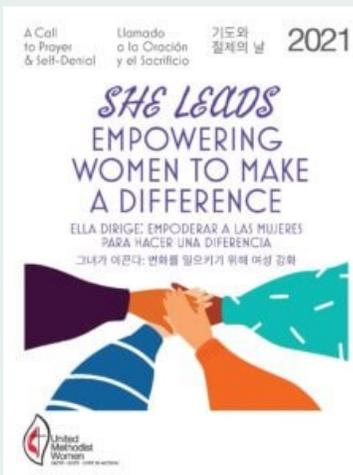


Photo of our Local Unit prior to COVID, with Nan Meyer who taught us to make Christian Prayer Beads

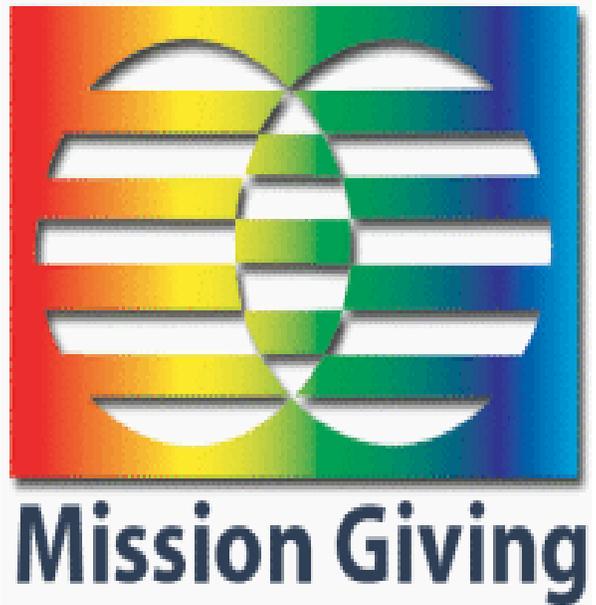
L to R: Linda Graham, Brenda Glad, Nan Meyer, Traci Snyder, Linda Greer

YOUR MISSION GIVING DOLLARS AT WORK!

WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE TWO NEW VIDEOS THAT HELP TO TELL THE STORY OF YOUR MISSION GIVING RIGHT HERE IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA. BETHLEHEM CENTER CHARLOTTE, AND BETHLEHEM CENTER WINSTON-SALEM ARE NATIONAL MISSION INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTED BY THE MISSION GIVING OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN. EACH IS A PLACE TURNING FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE INTO ACTION...TOUCHING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

MANY THANKS TO JULIA WILLIS, CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, AND LYNDA MORRIS, METRO DISTRICT PRESIDENT, FOR HELPING US TO TELL THE STORY OF OUR BETHLEHEM CENTERS!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK OF THESE SPECIAL PLACES, AND SHARE THESE VIDEOS IN YOUR LOCAL UNIT AND CIRCLE! THEY ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE ([wncumw.org/mission-giving/](http://wncumw.org/mission-giving/)), AND ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL.



*Get Ready for Mission U  
These books count for the reading program too*

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Greetings To each of you,

A few notes to inform you of our next two programs. Please put these dates on your calendar and join us. Other dates will follow in next newsletter. All meetings will be Virtual (Zoom).

United Methodist Women - Western North Carolina Conference

Theme: "You Lift Me Up"

Spiritual Growth Retreat: Friday, June 18th, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Spiritual Growth Retreat: Saturday, June 19th, 2021 10:00am (Morning Session)  
2:00pm (Afternoon Session)

"Mission u"

Theme: Bearing Witness in the Kingdom and Pushout

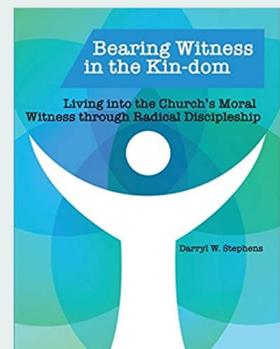
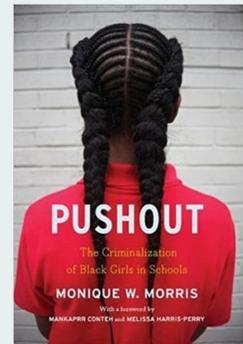
Thursday, July 15th through  
Sunday, July 18

Again, put these dates on your calendars. All Unit Presidents, will you please make sure all your members are aware of these dates and times. If you don't have the Zoom App, you will need to download it to join in meetings.

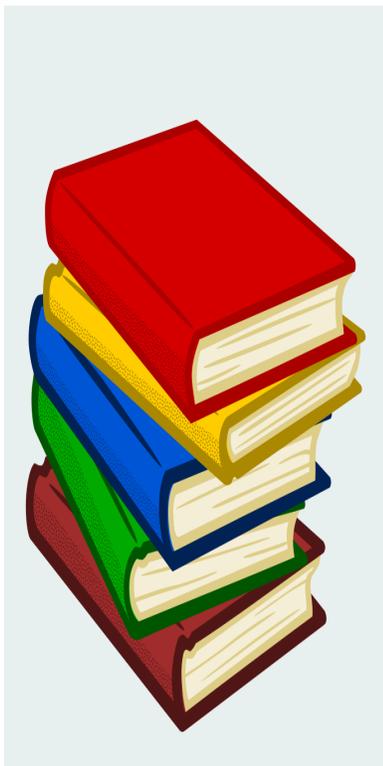
For any questions you may have, contact me:

Annette Echard @ 828-754-5526 or

[EcHardSr@bellsouth.net](mailto:EcHardSr@bellsouth.net)

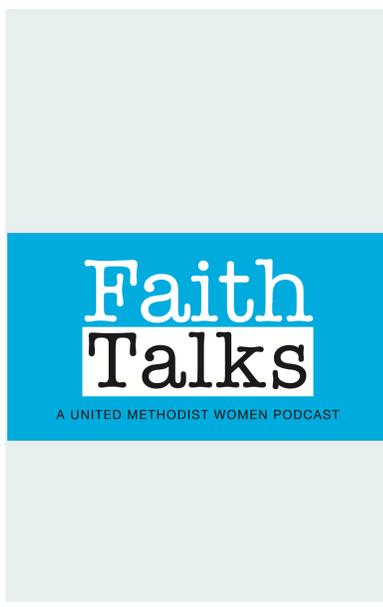


# UMW Reading Program



The Reading Program is a cherished United Methodist Women tradition that brings together members in mission as they explore, share and discuss the written word. To participate, select one of the four plans—and start reading! From captivating mysteries and heartfelt biographies to urgent messages about issues like immigration, racism and mental healthcare, there’s something for everyone. Reading Program books are divided into one of five categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth. Books are available for people of all ages and reading levels. Books that are suitable for children or youth will be listed among the five categories; look for “Suitable for children” or “Suitable for youth” following book descriptions. As you read, track your progress using the reporting form on page 24. When you complete a plan, you will be recognized with a Certificate of Recognition. Earning your Certificate of Recognition is just one way to show what you’ve gained from the Reading Program. The Reading Program is not meant to be completed alone, even when social distancing. As you read, consider taking one of the following actions:

- Promote the Reading Program. Share the program with United Methodist Women members and members of the community on listservs, online message boards or on social media. Help people obtain books and distribute this guide.
- Connect with Local and District groups. Start a virtual book club over Zoom, Google Hangouts, or another videoconferencing platform. Download books and present book reviews at virtual meetings, share a spreadsheet tracking progress (through Google Docs, for example), and post information in online groups.
- Pray. Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time.
- Advocate for tangible change. Many Reading Program books address important social issues. And many address racism. Take action with United Methodist Women’s anti-racist guide: [unitedmethodistwomen.org/ antiracistresource](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/antiracistresource)
- If you’re not able to engage in protest and other in-person activities, organize a remote task force to discuss ways to impact your community virtually



## 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](https://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](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-u). To purchase mission studies, go to: [umwmissionresources.org](https://umwmissionresources.org)

Western North Carolina Conference  
**United Methodist Women**  
*Spiritual Growth Retreat*



**2021 SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT**

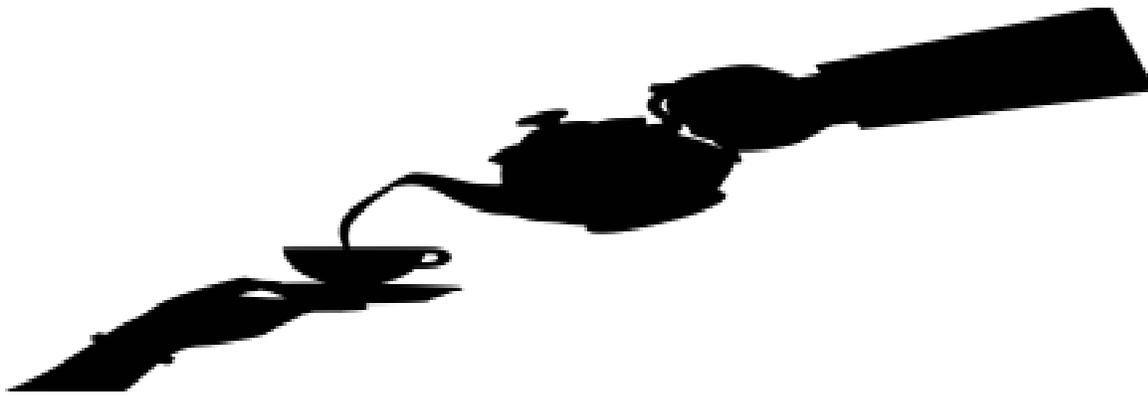
June 18-19, 2021, Virtual Event

**Theme: You Lift Me Up**

Retreat Leader: Rev. Lisa Beth White

Tabernacle, Blue Ridge District

**Zoom registration and  
other information coming soon**



## List of Memorials for 2019 & 2020

In remembrance of each unique UMW listed.

“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor and power for thou hast created all things.” Revelation 4:11

Arbor Grove: Dora Schulthorpe

Barbara Heck: Sue Roberts

Boone: Venita Peterson, Virginia Bingham, Marjorie Zelif, Frances Dean, Jean Bard

Broadstreet: Lib Connolly, Charlie Fae Collie, Carolyn Ammon

Colliers: Barbara Drum Poarch, Mary Lee Rector, Pam Pilkenton

First UMW Taylorsville: Nita Wagoner, Bernice Griffin

Friendship: Cloise Williams, Aileen Daniel

Gamewell: Gloria Jean Baker, Irene Suddreth

Granite Falls: Dorothy Jones, Precious Kelly, Ila Stallings, Jean Hudson, Peggy Loudermilk

Hiddenite: Billie Matlock( Age 106), Anna Wright

Hudson: Miriam Carolyn Haas Sain, Janice Phillips

Littlejohn: Janice Hartley, Harriet Greene

Mt. Bethel: Mae Teague

New Beginnings: Joanne Holcolmb

North Wilkesboro: Patricia Ann Snee, Mary Lee Culler, Maxine Winstead

Shiloh: Emma Lee Wyatt

Sparta: Bonnie McMillian Vaughn

Stony Point:Helen White, Effie Queen

Wilkesboro: Ruth Forrest, Gordon Smoak

