Greetings! Once again I must share with you that United Methodist Women played a role in my summer activities. The cactus pictured here was worn as one of our group identifiers by all the women of the Desert Southwest Conference who attended the 2018 Assembly held May 18-20th in Columbus Ohio. It was noted that this assembly was historic in that the very first United Methodist Women Assembly was held in 1948 in Columbus, Ohio. The theme of assembly this year was "The Power of Bold; Inspire, Mobilize, Activate”. I must say that just being in the presence of over 6,000 bold women was rewarding, inspiring, mobilizing, and activating.

I chose to arrive a day early to participate in my first UMW Ubuntu day of service. I was selected to participate in one of many service projects offered throughout the Columbus area. I worked at the Lincoln Park Elementary School, where we assisted students who were planting a community school garden. Those who know me personally know this was right up my alley, as I love playing in the dirt in a garden. This activity allows me to be grounded in God’s creation. We worked side by side with students to prepare the soil and then helped the students plant eggplant, peppers, lettuce, carrots, and strawberry plants. We even planted some marigold flowers in the garden to help ward off those pesky garden pests. The students will maintain the garden and later harvest the fruits of their labor. We shared stories, lunch, and laughter with the young students. We actively participated in community.

After our Ubuntu project concluded we got on a bus and joined other Assembly participants on the steps of the state capitol in Columbus to rally and call for a living wage for all. We held up signs, sang songs, shouted our support, and requested that the legislators pass a bill requiring a living wage. This was the first rally I have ever participated in and I experienced a feeling of being part of something much bigger than myself. I was actively mobilized and engaged. I had the blessing of again meeting and observing Paul Jeffrey, Senior Correspondent of Response magazine in action. His stories and photos published in response magazine are always informative and relevant to the purpose, vision, and mission of United Methodist Women.

Throughout the weekend there were opportunities to participate in over 90 workshops and town halls. We also had the opportunity to participate in the Experience Hall, where over 50 exhibits and information booths were available to educated and enhance our awareness and knowledge of United Methodist Women priority issues relating to economic inequality, climate justice, maternal and child health, and the criminalization of communities of color. There were interactive activities available and booths that offered fair trade items for sale. The Desert Southwest Conference Rock-a-Thon fundraising activity was turned into an interactive booth, where people could actively participate in the Legacy 150 fundraiser by rocking in one of two rocking chairs available in the booth. It was rewarding to see how a seed planted in North District spread to all districts within the Desert Southwest Conference, took root and continued to blossom in ways unexpected.

We gathered together as an entire group many times for singing, storytelling, and fellowship. It was always rewarding. The guest speakers were so informative and passionate about their topics. Marian Wright
Edelman, President of the Children’s Defense Fund, Micelle Alexander, author of The New Jim Crow, Katharine Hayhoe, who is a Climate Scientist, Tamika Mallory, national co-organizer for the Women’s March, Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Laureate, and Hannah Bonner, United Methodist Pastor. Plays and skits related to Mary, Mother of Jesus and how she was a Bold and Courageous Woman. We are also called to be Bold.

As Alisha Gordon, United Methodist Women executive for spiritual growth, stated and it became a mantra that was repeated throughout the weekend, “We assemble because we must,” “We gather, and collect, and congregate and convene. We meet, and we rally. We construct and we build, because we must.” “Because women, children and youth are depending on us.”

I had such a wonderful experience. I would encourage you to mark your calendars now for the next United Methodist Women Assembly, in Orlando, Florida, May 20-22, 2022.

Blessings to each and every one of you.

Eileen

(Editor’s note: See the September 2018 issue of response for full coverage of Assembly 2018, especially see page 12 for a “Rock-a-Thon” story in Desert Southwest Conference.)

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DESSERT SPRING UMW 2018 CRAFTS AND ART FAIR

Alison Kerr, President
Desert Spring United Methodist Women

The Crafts & Art Fair is shaping up to be a successful event! We’ll have a variety of vendors, our traditional baked goods sale, an activity for children, and lunches available from our United Methodist Men.

Every hour during the Fair we’ll ‘draffle” a gift basket created by our circles and other church groups. The main “draffle” will be a color HDTV television! Tickets will be available a few weeks in advance.

Got a special someone who loves handcrafted gifts? Desert Spring Church is the place to go on October 6th, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
2018 NORTH DISTRICT ANNUAL CELEBRATION

**WHO:** YOU are invited - Calling all United Methodist Women to help us connect our dots.

**WHAT:** The 2018 North District United Methodist Women Annual Celebration

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018 – Check in 8:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Trinity United Methodist Church, 6151 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146

**THEME:** Connecting the Dots…….. (between United Methodist Women Priority Issues, between local organizations, district and conference; between what you see on TV and what we’re doing in United Methodist Women; and most of all, how The Purpose connects all we do!)

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Ender Austin III - Community Activist, Youth Pastor at Bethesda Church of God in Christ, father of two young sons

**MISSION PROJECT:** Please bring canned goods such as a meat, veggies, or peanut butter for Trinity UMC’s St. Stephen’s food pantry.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** $18. (After Oct. 5 deadline: $20)
REGISTRATION FORM
North District United Methodist Women
ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2018
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018
Trinity United Methodist Church
6151 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146

CONNECTING OUR DOTS
Check in begins at 8:30 a.m.
Afternoon Session concludes at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker Ender Austin III
Community Activist, Youth Pastor Bethesda Church of God in Christ, father of two young sons

Registration Deadline is October 5, 2018
Registration Fee $18.00 if paid by deadline Late registration $20.00

Mission Project: We are asking each person to bring canned goods such as a meat, veggies, or peanut butter. Items collected will be given to Trinity UMC St Stephens food pantry.

Complete a registration form for each person
If a unit pays, please submit check with registration forms.
Please make checks payable to North District United Methodist Women
Send to Terrie Shipman, 501 Palmhurst Dr., LV, NV 89145

NAME OF PERSON ATTENDING
OFFICE or AREA OF INTEREST

ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________
Street City State Zip Code

PHONE ________________________ EMAIL _____________________________

CHURCH ________________________ Check #__________________________

EMERGENCY CONTACT
Name ____________________________ Relationship ____________ Phone __________

Do you give permission to be photographed and authorize photos to be used in United Methodist Women newsletters and other publications, promotional material and/or social media? ___ Yes ___No

Do you need child care? _____Yes _____No Number of Children ____ Age(s) ____________

*Note: If childcare is needed please provide sack lunch for your child.

Do you have any dietary restrictions? _____No _____Yes If yes, please describe ____________________________

________________________________________________________________________
DESERT SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Annual Celebration - *Pondering Possibilities with Hope and Help*
October 26 – 27, 2018
Desert Spring United Methodist Church – Las Vegas, Nevada

For the registration form for the event, please go to our web page (https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/) and scroll to the yellow orange box on the left or click here. Be sure to note the deadlines when the registration forms must be submitted.

**SCHEDULE**
**Friday, October 26**
5:00 p.m. Dinner ($13.00)
5:45 p.m. A conversation about The Way Forward

**Saturday, October 27**
8:30 a.m. Check-in
9:15 a.m. Music begins in Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Lunch and Mission Fair
1:00 p.m. Return to Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Safe travels home
3:30 p.m. Bus leaves for AZ

**Childcare** will be provided if the child is registered by **October 12**. See the adult registration form. Please bring food and supplies for your children.

**Bring** your name badge holder if you have one, and a sweater if you think you might be chilly in an air-conditioned area.

**Hands-on-offering** – bring hygiene items for women veterans to be given out through VFW Post 149. (ex. toothpaste & brushes, deodorant, soaps, lotions, razors, shaving cream, shampoo, tampons, sanitary napkins, powder)

A **refund** can be made if cancellation is received by the event registrar **fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting**; after that date, there can be no refunds. A registration may be transferred to another person. (Per Conference Standing Rules)

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**UMW Purpose**
United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.
2018 MISSION U IN NORTH DISTRICT

Mission u is an annual event across the country. This year’s North District event was on July 13-14. The Spiritual Growth study was Embracing Wholeness, led by Rev. Khalif Smith. The Issue study was “What About Our Money?” led by Sharon Scobie. There were 25 participants in each class.

Advent women were great hosts. Eileen, Gracie, Allie First Henderson UMW was well represented at Mission u.

Three first-time attendees were awarded Marilyn Jean Chapman scholarships. They are Ollie Lynch, Trinity UMC; Betty Brewer, Desert Spring UMC; and Kim Jacques, First Henderson.

MY MISSION U EXPERIENCE
By Ollie Lynch, Recipient of Marilyn Jean Chapman Scholarship

The study of Embracing Wholeness: from an Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living by Jessica Stonecypher, was an eye-opener for me as well as very rewarding. This was also a perfect teaching tool that spoke volumes to us on how to live and how to maintain a covenantal relationship with God and all his creation. It was even more special to me because the study was led by my Pastor from Trinity UMC, Khalif Smith!

I found it very difficult to condense so much information into a “brief” article! I was faced with many challenges as to how to put into practice what God has commanded us to do. The reflection of “Love” was accentuated by teaching us the depth of how to love God, ourselves, our neighbors and God’s whole creation, human as well as non-human. The study taught me how to emulate God’s love. I felt so much inspiration as we moved from chapter to chapter. The study of the theology of the soil was first and foremost one of the things that resonated with me the most. I felt that it came up very close and personal to me. Perhaps, this may have been because I was born on the ground (soil) in the cotton field on a farm and that I was raised on that farm from birth to age sixteen. This was my first encounter with the soil. Learning about the soil from a theological standpoint was both educational as well as inspirational to me because I never looked at it from that perspective. The knowledge that I gained through this study was immeasurable!

As I continued the study on Embracing Wholeness, I could feel the challenge that was ahead of me. I could feel myself growing spiritually stronger, learning that God wants us to develop healthy relationships with all his creation. I accepted this challenge as my responsibility. I began to intentionally concentrate on being intentional about developing better relationships with others, myself and God. I was still having a
problem, struggling with a relationship with some non-humans of God's creation. I am making more of an
effort and praying God will help me to develop a stronger attitude in that direction.

As I sat in my backyard and heard the tweets and chirping of the birds, I see the pigeons humbly
conversing as couples, dogs barking over the fence, the insects-ants walking hurriedly across the ground
trying to get from point A to point B, bees and butterflies getting nourishment from the pollen of flowers. I
have begun to show greater appreciation for God's non-human creation. They too are embracing
wholeness and life as God intended them to. As I look at the trees and plants and all their uniqueness,
sizes and shapes and beauty and resources that they provide for us-food sources, oxygen, to just name a
few. I see many teachable moments in this study which has taught me how to live faithfully and love
selflessly. The scriptorial references have given me a new perspective and has broadened my horizon on
new views that would take me far beyond where I never dared to go.

As I reflect on the study, to grasp the true meaning of Embracing Wholeness, I knew I was in for a
challenge. This was an awesome study overall and has led to my being even more spiritually enriched
than I could have imagined. I was touched in a deep and meaningful way. I hope to be able to touch
others in this transformation.

I enjoyed the “how” to embrace wholeness together as a group. I felt the inclusion, welcoming and the
love of other attendees that I met

At Mission u, the food and fellowship time provided an atmosphere of love and fellowship that allowed me
to not only be with my group from Trinity UMC, but to be able to mingle with other people that I met for the
first time.

Finally, and most importantly, the prayer time and devotional time connected me with His power and love
and drew me closer to His Holy Spirit. He uses imperfect humans like you and me to do the work of the
Kingdom. It takes willingness and our surrender to be used by Him.

As a first-time attendee of Mission u, I want to thank Desert Southwest Conference for affording me this
opportunity and scholarship to attend Mission u this year. Thank God for the Marilyn Jean Chapman
Scholarship fund!

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MISSION U FOLLOW-UP

Sharon Scobie

I hope many of you were able to come to Mission u this year. Advent UMC did a wonderful job
hosting the event. Kudos to them.

I enjoyed teaching the class, “What About Our Money?” If you would like supplementary reading for
follow-up to this class, I would suggest “Born on Third Base” by Chuck Collins. No, this is not a book
about baseball; it is, however, one of our reading program books. Another book I enjoyed in
preparation for this class was “Always With Us? What Jesus Really Said About the Poor” by Liz
Theoharis. The first book gives you insight into that top 1% of wealth and the second book gives you
insight about those who are in the lower classes. Allie Lakey just suggested another book, “God vs.
Money” by Clif Christopher. Another suggestion would be to do the online money autobiography from
Faith and Money Network, available through www.faithandmoneynetwork.org This will tell you a lot
about your own background and ideas about money.
**2017 CENSUS UPDATE**
United Methodist Women - North District
Total members reported: 431
If each local organization in North District increases its membership by just a few, and we start a new unit or two, we could be 500-strong in the 2018 Census!!
Come on! We can do it!
Contact me for tips for reaching new members.
Allie Lakey, Educating Members for Mission, Desert Southwest Conference
United Methodist Women, 702-217-5585, alliel@cox.net

**PLANS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**
Sharon Scobie, Treasurer

Summer is rapidly ending with fall just around the corner and the holidays not far behind. So far we are doing fairly well with funds coming in from units. We have sent in $9,000 of our pledge so are halfway there. **First Henderson UMC has already reached five-star status.** I am hoping that all of our units will reach that goal this year.

Plan to come to **North District Annual Celebration at Trinity UMC on Saturday, October 13.** It is always great to be together and to share with each other. We can learn so much from each other when we share what our units have been doing throughout the year.

Follow that up with attending **Desert Southwest Conference Annual Celebration at Desert Spring UMC on Saturday, October 27.** We only get the opportunity to host this conference event every four years so let’s have a good showing of North District members at the event. By the sounds of it, things are going to be different this year. Come and find out what is being planned.

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**LIVING WAGE FOR ALL CAMPAIGN**
Glenda Hill, Mission u Assistant Dean

In the Mission u study, “What about Our Money?” we are called to take action—from our personal choices to the way we engage in ministry, mission and advocacy—for a more just economy. United Methodist Women has a priority focus on economic inequality, to address the deep divide between the very wealthy and the majority.

We need to learn about the efforts of United Methodist Women and the National Farm Worker Ministry in calling on Wendy’s Corporation to sign a Fair Food Agreement with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. The agreement would build toward a living wage and support steps to end violence against women in the fields by creating independent monitoring mechanisms. All the other major fast food restaurants have joined the program.

We had information about this campaign at Mission u in July. The July/August response magazine has an article with more background and information. A bible study, “Laborers in the Vineyard,” in the same issue invites us to think about economic inequality and God’s economy in new ways.

If you would like to learn more, go to [https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/farm-worker-action](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/farm-worker-action).
There are a variety of resources including some videos.
There have been many interesting books on our United Methodist Women Reading Program list. I hope you have been doing a lot of reading and sharing. It is coming close to the end of the year and reports will be due for your reading certificates. Remember, if you read and/or participated in the Mission u study books, they count toward the reading program. *Embracing Wholeness* will be counted as one in the Spiritual Growth category. *What about Our Money* may be counted as one in either Social Action or Nurturing for Community.

I took the class on *What about Our Money*. I was quite surprised about what I learned. Sharon Scobie led the class and did a wonderful job! We CAN live within our means if we follow the teachings in the Bible. Money affects so many aspects in our way of life. There is so much greed in societies. Those with lots of money are not happy with what they already have and want more. People pay to influence others to their way. This is in all aspects of life. How sad.

Money even has its grip on climate justice. There, again, it is in power. Materialism is rampant. Do we really need those extra clothes, shoes, curios? When is enough enough? How can I pay off my debts?

There are so many examples of ways we can cut back, help others in need and still have “enough” to live. In my personal life, I found that I have been using some suggestions from the book. I still have a long way to go. The study encouraged me to “get rid of” (and resist replacing!). I have too much. Why should someone have to get rid of my possessions AFTER I pass away? Let me do it now. What a burden would be lifted from my shoulders.

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**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PROGRAM RESOURCES**

We have received word from Brenda Thompson, Reading Program Specialist, UMW Communications, of a change in practice of sending books “on consignment.” Brenda explains that over the years they have struggled with the consignment process and tried a number of things in an effort to make things easier for people in conferences, districts and local units and more cost effective for all of us. Together, we have solved many issues, yet the consignment process is still complex, time consuming and expensive.

We will be piloting a new effort for UMW annual meetings this fall. The change we will notice at North District Annual Celebration is this: You will be able to order books at the Resource Table, give the order form to Terrie at that time, she will send them to the supplier, and the books and invoice will be sent directly to you.

There will be plenty of free UMW resources at the Resource Table at the district celebration, so be sure to stop by, talk with Terrie, pick up the free items, and fill out your book order forms.

Terrie will explain all this again at the North District Annual Celebration at Trinity UMC, October 13th.
SAve the date
March 23, 2019
Day of Giving
Desert Spring UMW partners with North District UMW
For a Legacy 150 Celebration!
Plan to be part of the party!
Details coming soon!

***APB -- September 1, 2018***

ALL POINTS BULLETIN
has been issued this date by Alma Crenshaw, Chair of Nominations,
North District United Methodist Women,
with full support of North District Leadership Team.

An intense search is on for someone who has the skillset, ability, gifts, and talents to utilize a publishing program to create eye-pleasing editions of North County Breezes, the quarterly newsletter of North District United Methodist Women.

The newsletter is published in March, June, September and December. Articles and photos are sent to the newsletter coordinator by the 15th of the month preceding publication in the requested format. Dissemination of this publication is primarily electronic.

The pay scale and benefits are commensurate with the God Points System!

Members of the leadership team will be supportive and accessible to the Newsletter Coordinator for questions and guidance.

We are seeking everyone’s assistance in this search. If you know of such a talented person, approach with grace and inquire if they might be willing to serve. If you are that talented person, please enter into discernment and consider if this is one way you can help support United Methodist Women of North District.

If you would like further information, know of a person, or be willing to serve as the Newsletter Coordinator, please utilize the hotline: Alma Crenshaw at 702-845-6954 or email her at almalwc@aol.com