



CIRCUIT RIDER

GETTING THE NEWS OUT TO THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN OF THE
EAST DISTRICT
DESERT SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

June Hanson
President

September
2019

Bev Sechrist
Editor Pro Tem

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East District Annual Celebration

United Methodist Women

CELEBRATION:



150 YEARS AND COUNTING

October 12, 2019

Keynote speaker: Judith A. Nibbelink

United Methodist Women Western Jurisdiction president

**North Scottsdale United Methodist Church
11735 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85254**

Check-in 8:30 - 9:15 A Program 9:30 A - 2:30 P

The registration form for this event may be found online. [Click here](#) or go to <https://dscumc.org/event/east-district-umw-annual-celebration-2/>

Please note: The registrations and accompanying fees must be received by the registrar no later than October 7th. Per the Standing Rules, the registration may be transferred to another person, however, no refunds will be given after this date. Cost \$15 per person - includes lunch.

Questions: email Cris Bass cris.bass@yahoo.com



Dear Sisters in Christ,

IS IT THAT TIME ALREADY? It seems just like yesterday I said, “Hello, Hello” as leader to a great group of girlfriends in the East District United Methodist Women as Arvilla was saying, “Goodbye.” Now, I am saying, “Goodbye”, and Bonny will be saying, “Hello, Hello.” It has been a great four years - four years of faith, hope, and love in action to remember with pride and joy. I am beginning to miss you already.

Please continue to listen to your heart and whispers from God as you carry out our mission in your local units. I have been impressed with how the members of the United Methodist Women share their study materials, ideas, and vision with others in the District and beyond. I do so love each of you.

Of course I will be around long after my term has ended in December. My mantra until then is “keep the faith, stay as strong as you can, and remember, there are many women, children, and youth around the world who are counting on us!” May God be glorified and may you be blessed as you continue this ministry.

I am expecting to see many of you at the East District Annual Celebration on October 12.

Most sincerely,
June Hanson, president
East District United Methodist Women.

Money Matters

Our Annual District Celebration will be on October 12, 2019 at North Scottsdale UMC. There will be a lot of things going on – a presentation of the district’s budget for 2020 and the local organizations will present their pledges for 2020. Our district pledge for 2019 is \$48,300.000 (an increase of \$300.00 over 2018).

At the East/West District Mission u, I took the study “Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission.” It was interesting to hear about women “who stepped out of their places” to participate in mission societies at the turn of the 20th century. These societies recruited missionaries (including some of their members) and raised money to send and financially support them internationally. Encourage your unit to honor the founding women of United Methodist Women and give generously towards our district pledge to help women, children and youth who are much less fortunate than we are in parts of the world that we may never set foot in.

Blessings,
Linda Moore
East District treasurer





come along,
be the pebble!

**Desert Southwest Conference
United Methodist Women
Annual Celebration**

**Come and learn how you can be the pebble that starts a ripple
in your local church, community, and world.**

**October 26, 2019
9:15 AM—4:00 PM**

Sun Lakes UMC 9248 E. Riggs Rd, Sun Lakes, Arizona

**Note: The meeting is in East District this year -
we need to have a good showing of attendees.**

Join us as we explore the United Methodist Women Issue Priorities

- ▷ Maternal and Child Health**
- ▷ Criminalization of Communities of Color**
- ▷ Economic Inequality**

[Click Here](#) to Register Online

[Download](#) Registration Form

Registration deadline - October 16. (Mail in registrations must be received by then.)

Questions: Contact Carla Whitmire — cmwhitmire@gmail.com



Celebrate!!

**150 years of being
organized for mission
1869 - 2019**



This summer I attended a family reunion. My mother passed away a year ago and we decided as sisters (three of us) to get our family together this year. Why we waited 11 years from our previous reunion, I cannot answer. But I am so glad we did!

We were, of course, missing my mother and two of her great grandchildren, due to work commitments. Otherwise, everyone was there, even a cousin and his family, for a total of nearly 40 people. We stayed at a YMCA-sponsored lodge in eastern Missouri. All our meals were buffet so none of us had any cooking or cleanup duties the entire week. We were able to “play” and enjoy each other’s company and we did it to the highest extent! We had a blast! My sisters and I used our inheritance from our mother’s estate to pay for everyone’s trips. And after all the bills were paid, we had money left over. My mother’s frugality and foresight gave us the opportunity to experience the joys of our family together in a marvelous way!

The United Methodist Women has been in existence for 150 years. Starting with just a few pennies and with donations and frugality and foresight throughout those years, our organization has been able to send missionaries, deaconesses and aide to millions of people around the world. We have a legacy fund which will assure this kind of mission work will continue in the years to come. What amazes me about United Methodist Women is that we do this mission work above and beyond the work of The United Methodist Church. The women who started this movement are so like the woman who started my family. They/she had a lot of love to share, a lot of care to give and the foresight to give beyond their own lives.

I know my mom looked down upon her family that week that we were together and she was pleased. The United Methodist Women past can also look down upon their legacy and be pleased as their work continues throughout the future.

Cris Bass, vice president

Membership Report

I hope that all of our United Methodist Women’s units have had a good summer and enjoyed each other’s fellowship. It is hard to believe that fall is just around the corner.

Part of our October celebration involves remembering those **women in our units who have passed away since October 1 of 2018**. In order to remember them, please **email me** the following information **prior to September 15, 2019**.

- Church name
- Deceased members names in alphabetical order by last name. Please check for typing and spelling errors.
- The name and contact name of the person making the report.
- Even if you have had no deaths to report, please let me know that information.

Women who have passed away between September 15 and October 1, 2019 may also be added to the report by contacting me.

Marilyn Seese, membership chairperson 602-275-3960, mjmermer7@aol.com



Hi. I have been living in AZ for two years this past April. I have been to the last three mission u weekends; even before I had a home church! I had only been on the district nominating team one year when we retired and moved. Both our sons and grandkids live in the area.

When you are involved in such a warm, friendly, powerful organization as United Methodist Women, it is the natural way to join in community after you move. So after a year of getting comfortable at my local church United Methodist Women, it was time for me to join the district team here. This is the next step in involvement if you already go to all the events and gatherings put on by United Methodist district and conference teams. So I have been a part of the district nominating team in 2019 and will continue to be a part of this team through 2020.

I love the fellowship at the events. You get to see people from lots of other churches. It is rewarding to put your joy into action by helping to put on the events because you have joined a team, another part of the United Methodist Women's organization! My enthusiasm for being a part of the bigger whole is making me a stronger advocate for United Methodist Women sponsored concerns and projects. I feel like I can do more, am more, accomplish more through my time with my sisters in Christ.

Debbie Kuhn, district committee on nomination team, Red Mountain United Methodist Women



The **Committee On Nominations** wishes to thank all of you who have said yes to the call to serve on **the 2020 East District leadership team**. We are blessed to have you join us.

A shout out of thanks to those who considered a position but for one reason or another were not able to serve on our team at this time. Each you of you is a blessing to us and we trust you will find a place to serve in the future.

The following officers Will be elected:

President: Bonny Sloane (Dayspring UMC)

Secretary: **TBA**

Program resources coordinator: **TBA**

Communications coordinator: Beth Cadman (Dayspring UMC)

Coordinator for mission education : **TBA**

Coordinator for social action: **TBA**

Committee on nominations: Toni Kirsh--Class of 2021 (Grace UMC)

Kaye Roundtree-- Class of 2022 (Mesa First UMC)

We do have vacancies on our team as you can see. If you feel you have gifts that would fulfill these positions, secretary, program resources coordinator, and social action, and would like to be apart of our East District leadership team...please contact us.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Heinecke, chairman for committee on nominations (cyndi.heinecke@yahoo.com)

Cyndi.heinecke@yahoo.com



Calling u Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women

The registration website is now open for the Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women Quadrennial Meeting in Tempe, Arizona on April 17-19, 2020. You can go to wjumw.com to get all the information on this exciting event. Calling U is the theme for this event. It is being planned as a MINI ASSEMBLY with Ubuntu activities, workshops, a Native American cultural evening, a climate change action event and exciting worship around women in the Bible. Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, one of the five top atmospheric scientists in the world will be the keynote speaker. Harriett Jane Olson, our CEO, and Shannon Purdy, UMW National President, will share on United Methodist Women.

The purpose of this event is to elect two women from our jurisdiction to serve as directors to United Methodist Women National. The Western Jurisdiction Leadership will also be elected at this time.

You may register online for the event and the hotel. God is calling each of us to take time and celebrate who we are and whose we are. Come hear the stories of the bible women and take time to share your story.

Four scholarships will be awarded to first time jurisdiction attendees who have not served UMW beyond the local unit. Forms are available from your district president or Judi Nibbelink at judiannaz@msn.com or 520 818-6766.

Judi Nibbelink
Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women president

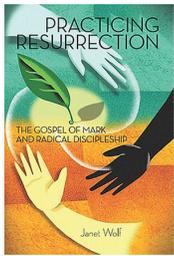


United Methodist Women needs your **plastic grocery bags!** The **Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women Quadrennial Meeting** is coming April 17-19, 2020 to Tempe, AZ. Friday is the Ubuntu day and one of the events is to crochet plastic bags together for sleeping mats for the homeless.

It takes 500 to 700 bags to saving your bags now! The them at the October East District Celebration and Development Event. An easy way to contain the lay 49 bags inside of one to carry them. We will balls of plastic strips from them at the jurisdiction Ubuntu meeting. We will be using size N hooks to make the bag strips into mats. Please bring your scissors and crochet hook with you if you have this size. We will double the plastic strips to make the mats stronger!

make one mat!! So please, start East District will be collecting at the January East District bags is to fold them in half and show you how to cut and make

Thank you for your help and see you in April 2020, with your bags at the Doubletree Hotel on the SE corner of Broadway and Priest in Tempe, AZ!



The spiritual growth study for Mission u this year was based on the Gospel of Mark and radical discipleship. The book for this study was ***Practicing Resurrection*** by Janet Wolf. The author suggests that Jesus throughout his lifetime turned the world upside down and right side up.

The Gospel of Mark was the earliest of the synoptic gospels and was probably written about 40 years after Jesus was crucified. Then, as now, most people in the world were living in poverty. During the Roman occupation there were few opportunities for the Jewish people to prosper. The Roman rulers preserved their power and privileges at the expense of the poor. Jesus challenged their authority and became a threat to their existing lifestyle.

God's justice requires a radical change of orientation from ministry *TO* or *FOR* those who are in need to ministry *WITH* those who are struggling. Often times even our own religious institutions prop up the powerful and oppress the vulnerable. Mark urges us to change our outlook and view the vastness of God's world to include all genders, ethnicities, and socio-economic groups in our ministry.

Mark emphasizes that we should all practice amazement every day. After witnessing Jesus' miraculous healing of the paralyzed man, Mark 2:12 states, "they were all completely amazed and praised God saying, 'We have never seen anything like this.'" It is helpful for all of us to jot down at least one specific moment of amazement that we encounter each day.

During the class, we discussed in depth some of Jesus' miraculous healings that are recounted in the chapter of Mark. Jesus was always willing to help the sick, weak, and poor - even if it meant upsetting those in power. Mark's gospel is intended to startle and awaken us and show us how we are often complicit in the exploitation of the poor, especially when we try to maintain the status quo instead of helping the powerless.

John Wesley was convinced that when the Methodist churches started investing their money in property and buildings, we would become too affluent and no longer identify with the poor. He felt that as the church increases in riches, the essence of our Christianity would decrease in the same proportion. A former South African bishop believes that The United Methodist Church seems to have lost its prophetic voice because it has become a church of the affluent and comfortable, and no longer identifies with the downtrodden.

Mark calls us to radical Christianity where we get out of our comfort zones and go into communities where people are struggling to meet their daily needs. We need to work in partnership with them to change the systems that are exploiting them and help to bring into being God's justice, love for all humanity, and abundant living, thus becoming a resurrection community.

Linda Munsil, mission coordinator for spiritual growth



Did you know that anyone can receive the district and conference newsletters? Recently at Mission u several women inquired how they and/or other members of their unit could receive the United Methodist Women newsletters.

A little background: districts usually send their quarterly newsletters to all local officers via email or a link to their newsletter, which is on the web. Each year the conference adds the names of the new local presidents and secretaries (or alternate officers) of each local unit to their monthly e-news distribution list. Names are never removed from the lists, unless requested to do so. Therefore, the lists continue to build. Any time anyone asks to have their name added, it is place on the appropriate list.

Signing up is easy. To have someone or a group of names added to the East District mailing list please send a request to: edumwomen@gmail.com

To receive the Desert Southwest Conference United Methodist Women's monthly e-news, the Southwest Winds, sent right to your computer's inbox, send an email to: umwomen@dscumc.org

Please note – before you send in a list of names please be sure it is okay with everyone on the list to be included.

Our United Methodist Women's conference web site pages hold a wealth of information, including recent and back copies of the district and conference newsletters. Be sure to check it out:

<https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/>

Bev Secrist, communications coordinator
Desert Southwest Conference United Methodist Women

Some of our members don't have computers and/or printers so it is important that those of us who do be willing share the newsletters and registration forms with those who are unable, for whatever the reason, view or print them.

Worried about the cost of color ink? Almost all printers have the capability of printing only in black & white. Also - if you are printing off the newsletter, you can select to print certain pages. You wouldn't necessarily have to print off a page full of pictures.

Remember: If the word isn't getting out, United Methodist Women are losing out.



“May the circle be unbroken, bye and bye, Lord, bye and bye.”

Do you think that book clubs may have been the original “Circles?” Or maybe the image should be more beautiful, like daisy chains? It is a wonderful bond for us as we read together, or separately, or communally, or. . . How many different ways do we read?

My horoscope for today says, “The way you tell a story shows what you care about. It’s not so much the facts of what happened, but how you prioritize them.” Wow! I’m trusting that we will be sharing more stories for a long, long time.

Good news! The United Methodist Women’s Sampler, the easiest way to receive basic United Methodist materials painlessly with perfect timing, is better than ever. Samplers can now be ordered now or anytime before April 2020, and the materials will be delivered precisely when they are needed.

The Prayer Calendar is an actual calendar so it begins January 1. The program book, like the traditional “school year,” offers program materials from September through May and then provides ideas for retreats and other ideas appropriate for the summer. Last year’s samplers were a bargain at \$40.00. This year’s Samplers cost only \$30.00! The only explanation I’ve heard came from one of the employees in Atlanta. She said there is only one Spiritual-Growth study book for Mission u in 2020.

It is important that you use a home address for delivery that will still be valid in early September, 2020, when the second packet of materials will be delivered to your door – whether you are still living there or not. If you might have a change of address before September, giving your address as in care of your church might be wise.

Thank you all for taking this four-year-long reading journey with me. I have treasured our time together. Hoping we’re all looking forward to sharing ideas and thoughts and books through circles and chains and whatever awaits us ahead.

Very gratefully,
Judith Humbert
East District secretary of program resources, 2015-2019

The 2020 Reading Program list is now available to download online at:
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/rp/2020list>

Be sure to check out all the other information available about the Reading Program, lists, report forms, how to recommend a book for the list and more at:
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram>



Church Women United

Church Women United (CWU), founded in 1941, is a worldwide women's movement that is culturally racially, and theologically inclusive, celebrating unity in diversity. CWU brings together many denominations, encouraging us to work together for a world of peace and justice.

United Methodist Women is a significant part of Church Women United. Each unit is encouraged to send at least one woman to attend all CWU leadership council meetings and their three yearly celebrations.

She should act as a liaison between CWU and United Methodist Women. Currently, the Mesa unit of Church Women United is represented by First UMC-Mesa, Grace UMC, Red Mountain UMC, and Velda Rose UMC. We would encourage all other United Methodist Women in the East Valley to send a delegate to CWU meetings. There is also a CWU unit in Phoenix that holds celebrations in the Phoenix-Metro area. The three celebrations are World Day of Prayer (which is no longer under the auspices of CWU, but still supported by them), May Friendship Day, and World Community Day. These gatherings are usually held on the first Friday of March, May, and November respectively.

Most United Methodist Women units participate in the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) which was started in 1958 by Shanti Solomon of India. She envisioned women praying for each other across national boundaries and giving their least coin as a symbol of their sincerity. The monies collected go to the central FLC Fund in care of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland. Then these funds are dispersed to various projects around the world that help and support women and children.

For further information you may contact Linda Munsil (lindamunsil@cox.net).

response **the magazine of women in mission**

response, an award-winning publication, is the official magazine of United Methodist Women and is published by the national office. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul, and challenge your mind. Topics and issues cover spiritual growth, mission outreach and reports on our local, national and international work.

The magazine includes spiritual growth opportunities, highlights about various mission projects, stories about what units are doing, program suggestions, and much more.

Why not subscribe today for yourself or give a subscription as a gift. For more information [click here](#) or go directly to subscription service by [clicking here](#).

You can also find a limited amount of articles from the current and past issues of **response** by going to this web site: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response/articles>

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 - 2020

All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. God has granted us stewardship of creation. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect. **(Social Principles, ¶ 160)**

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.

A CONSUMERS PRAYER
by Joyce M Shutt

Throwaway bottles,
Throwaway cans,
Throwaway friendships,
Throwaway fans.

Disposable diapers,
Disposable plates,
Disposable people,
Disposable wastes.

Instant rice,
Instant intimacy,
Instant ice.

Plastic laces,
Plastic flowers,
Plastic faces.

Lord of the living,
Transcending our lives
Infuse us with meaning,

Did You Know?

- If just 10% of United Methodist Women members (80,000 women) used a reusable water bottle for 365 days rather than buying water in a bottle, we would save at least enough energy to power an average household for 552 years!
- Discarded paper accounts for about 35 percent of municipal solid waste (before recycling).
- Disposable diapers take about 500 years to decompose.
- Fake plants are more than synthetic eyesores collecting dust in office windows and hotel lobbies. They are manufactured from petroleum products that smell weird and are never decompose.
- Two million plastic bags are used per minute.

Looking for a program for your unit? Check out <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/climate-justice> and the various links on that page.

One such resource is:

Just Energy for All 101 Webinar Series - September 17, 24, October 1, 2019 2PM EST

Learn more about United Methodist Women's climate justice campaign, "Just Energy for All," and how your United Methodist Women unit/circle/group can be involved.

Join us for three, 75-minute interactive webinars:

-Session 1: We will begin with biblical reflection on one of the most famous passages of scripture and explore how well we are caring for God's creation.

-Session 2: We will examine what just energy is or is not, what we mean by just transition and equity, and dig into US and our personal energy-consumption patterns.

-Session 3: We will examine how we as United Methodist Women can be part of advocating for energy that is cleaner and more just for God's people and creation at the national, state and local level.

Sign up at: <https://umwomen.wufoo.com/forms/z1hbcxa110el5xr/>

2019



October 12, 2019 - District Annual Celebration - North Scottsdale UMC
Check in begins at 8:30AM Program - 9:30AM to 2:30PM

October 26, 2019 - Conference Annual Celebration - Sun Lakes UMC 9:15AM - 4:00PM

November 15, 2019 - Articles due for the December *Circuit Rider*

2020

January 18, 2020 - Leadership Enrichment Event - Red Mountain UMC 9AM - 2PM

April 17-19, 2020 - Western Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting - Doubletree Hotel, Tempe

October 10, 2020 - East District Annual Celebration - Location TBA

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.



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

East/West Mission u

